

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED FORTY NINTH
ANNUAL CONVENTION

Maine State Grange

P of H

1874 – 2023



October 20 & 21, 2023

Auburn Masonic Hall

102 Turner Rd., Auburn, Maine

Organized April 21, 1874

ROLL OF HONOR
PAST MASTERS OF THE MAINE STATE GRANGE

*Nelson Ham	Organization to December 1877
*Daniel H. Thing	1877 to 1881
*Frederick Robie	1881 to 1889
*Rufus Prince	1889 to 1891
* Martin B. Hunt	1891 to 1893
*Edward Wiggin	1893 to 1897
*Obadiah Gardiner	1897 to 1907
*Clement S. Stetson	1907 to 1915
*William J. Thompson	1915 to 1923
*John E. Abbott	1923 to 1929
* Harry B. Crawford	1929 to 1935
*F. Ardine Richardson	1935 to 1943
*E. Carroll Bean	1943 to 1949
*Lewis C. Guptill	1949 to 1953
*Maynard C. Dolloff	1953 to 1961
*J. Merrill Hatch	1961 to 1965
*Arthur M. Perkins	1965 to 1969
*James E. Shores	1969 to 1977
*Curtis Lombard	1977 to 1985
*Clyde G. Berry	1985 to 1997
Philip A. Herbert	1997 to 2001
Steven Verrill	2001 to 2007
**James Owens	2007 to 2011
Patrick Brewer	2011 to 2013
**Victoria Huff	2013 to 2015
**Richard Grotton	2015 to 2017
**Sherry Harriman	2017 to

*Deceased

**Present at Session

OFFICERS OF THE MAINE STATE GRANGE
FOR THE YEAR 2023

Master – Sherry A. Harriman
Overseer – Adrian Griffin
Lecturer – Margaret Morse
Steward – Steven Haycock
Assistant Steward – Richard Grotton
Lady Assistant Steward – Roberta Meserve
Chaplain – Clayton Collins
Treasurer – Victoria Huff
Secretary – Sharon Morton
Gate Keeper – Benjamin Edgerly
Ceres – Kathleen Gowen
Pomona – Laurie McBurnie
Flora – Debra Ivers

Executive Committee

James Meserve
Darrell Huff
James Owens
Nathan Pennell

Musician

Linda Cobb

Soloist

Carolyn Van Horn

WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

Margert Henderson
Arlene Flood Cynthia Maxwell
Deborah Lancaster
Debra Ivers Laurie McBurnie

CREDENTIALS, SIXTH DEGREE

Mavis Lane Betty Huff

AGRICULTURE

Willie Grenier
Robert & Agnes Nelson Henry & Sharon Morton
Robert & Agnes Nelson Nathan Pennell
Karen Hatch Gagne Terry & Harriet Spencer

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR & WEBMASTER

Walter Boomsma

COMMUNITY SERVICE &
FAMILY HEALTH AND HEARING

Christine Corliss
Linda Cobb Cassandra Corliss
Benjamin Edgerly Carolyn Van Horn Victoria Huff
Laurie McBurnie Anne Staples Holly Welch

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Norma Meserve
Ruby Bryant Linda Cobb Steven Haycock
Sharon Kirker Sharon Morton Merton Ricker

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Robert Smith
Clayton Collins Adrian Griffin James Meserve
Roberta Meserve Robert & Agnes Nelson
James Owens

HISTORIAN

Stanley Howe

Gerald & Patricia Libby Barry Tracy

JUNIOR DEPT.

Betty Young

Marilyn Stinson Terry Lacombe Stevens

Helen Brooks Caroline Young-Coffin

Kathy Gowen Christine Hebert

C J Stinson Roy Terry & Tim Wilson

LECTURER'S COMMIMTTEE

Margaret Morse

Melissa Baldwin Ruby Bryant Allison Colson

Leslie Guy Norma Meserve Darlene Miles

LEGISLATIVE DEPT.

Linda Weston

James & Mary Annis Adrian Griffin Steven Haycock

Stanley Howe Darrell Huff James Owens

Nathan Pennell

MEMBERSHIP DEPT.

Richard Grotton

Ruby Bryant Benjamin Edgerly Adrian Griffin

Rolf Staples, Sr. Timothy & Terry Wilson

MEMORIAL FUND

Clayton & Elmira Collins

YOUTH DEPT.

Contact State Grange Office

TRUSTEES OF EDUCATIONAL AID FUND

HOWES NURSES' SCHOLARSHIP

President: Gerald Libby

Vice President: Carolyn Van Horn

Sec/Treas.: J. Patrick Elwell

Trustees

Darlene Miles Kathy Gowen

Ex Officio Sherry Harriman

Ex Officio Margaret Morse

STAGE

Debra Ivers

David & Kath Gowen Judy Meserve Henry Morton

Terry Spencer Maynard & Gladys Chapman

SUBORDINATE/COMMUNITY GRANGE DEPUTIES

Chief Deputy/Androscoggin No. 1

Maynard Chapman

Cumberland No. 15

David Gowen

Excelsior No. 5

Robert Smith

Hancock No. 13

Contact State Master or

Maine State Grange Headquarters

Lincoln No. 19

Holly Welch

Oxford No. 2

Steven Haycock

Penobscot No. 8

Phillip Parsons

Piscataquis No. 11

William Bemis

Sagadahoc No. 9

Benjamin Edgerly

Somerset No. 6

Harriet Spencer

Waldo No. 12
Margaret L. Henderson
Washington No. 16
Dale Holst
York No. 14
Melissa Baldwin

SPECIAL DEPUTIES

Steven Verrill
James Owens
Victoria Huff
Richard Grotton

**MAINE STATE GRANGE
150th ANNUAL CONVENTION
OCTOBER 20 & 21, 2023
Auburn Masonic Hall, 1021 Turner Rd**

**Friday, October 20, 2023
8:00 A.M.** Set up for the Session

10:00 A.M.
Registration Opens

1:00 P.M.
Opening in the Sixth Degree

The first day of the 150th Annual Session of the Maine State Grange was called to order by Maynard Chapman, Chief Deputy of the Maine State Grange, with the presentation of the Officers of the Maine State Grange and opened in full form in the Sixth Degree by Worthy Master/President Sherry A. Harriman.

Roll Call of Officers

Roll call found the following Officers/Directors/Chairmen absent: Executive Committee Member: Nathan Pennell; Women's Activities: Deborah Lancaster; Community Service & Family Health & Hearing Director: Christine Corliss; Ag Director: Willie Grenier; Historian: Stanley Howe; Trustees of Education Aid Fund & Howes Nurses Scholarship: President: Sec./Treas.: J. Patrick Elwell

Lowering to the Fourth Degree

The Session was lowered to the Fourth Degree to allow the entrance of all members to our Annual Session.

Presentation of National Representative, Cindy Greer, Ceres of the National Grange and Secretary of the Colorado State Grange.

Sister Cindy Greer was introduced as our honored guest and was escorted to the Master's station. Sister Greer said she was happy to be here again and brought greetings from National President, Betsy Huber.

Report of the Credentials Committee (Partial)

Mavis Lane, Chair, of the Credentials Committee gave the following report:

30 Subordinate Granges represented with 53 voting delegates

10 Pomona Granges represented with 20 voting delegates

Total voting delegates of 73

Formal Presentation of the Maine State Grange Deputies

Chief Deputy

Androscoggin Pomona 1

Maynard Chapman

Cumberland Pomona 8

David Gowen

Oxford Pomona 2

Steven Haycock

Sagadahoc Pomona 9

Benjamin Edgerly

Somerset Pomona 6

Harriet Spencer

Waldo Pomona 12

Margaret Henderson

Washington Pomona 16

Dale Holst

York Pomona 14

Melissa Baldwin

A heartfelt thank you was given to all for their dedication to the Maine State Grange.

Distribution and Acceptance of the Order of Business

Acceptance of the Order of Business: A motion was made, seconded and ordered that the Order of Business be accepted with changes as necessary. So ordered.

Report of the Auditor/Treasurer

The Auditor's Report submitted by J. Patrick Elwell was read and accepted and ordered printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed and will be brought before the delegate body at Saturday's session for discussion and acceptance.

Report of the Secretary

The Secretary's report will be brought before the delegate body Saturday's session for discussion and acceptance.

Presentation of the 2023-2024 Budget

Discussion and vote will be done at Saturday's session. Please read the documents for the Maine State Grange and Headquarters budgets as well as the Treasurer's and Secretary's reports.

2:00 P.M.

State Master's Annual Address

State Overseer, Adrian Griffin, introduced Sherry A. Harriman, Master of the Maine State Grange for her Annual Address. (The Address will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings) The Committee on the Master's Address is Laurie McBurnie, Chair; C. J. Roy and David Gowen.

2:30 P.M.

Break for preparation for the Memorial Service

January 30, 2023

To: National Officers – Cindy Green, State Master, Barry Hatton, Delegates and Members of the Active State Orange

Dear National Officers and Members of the Active State Orange: Treasurer, Eric Sauer, and I go on to court and Kayla will be on the Active Executive. The list of a few properties Springs Farmstead, Farmstead, and the Key Bank Properties.

Following is a list of properties that are currently being sold out of the State Orange for the Orange:

1. Oak Hill, Florida
2. De Land, Florida
3. Jacksonville, Florida
4. Sebring, Florida
5. School of Law, Florida
6. Avon, Florida
7. Orlando, Florida
8. Jacksonville, Florida
9. Sebring, Florida

The properties being sold out of the Active State Orange for Oranges will be merged. Proceeds from the sale of the properties will be placed in an account in the name of the merged Orange and managed by the State Master and Executive Committee.

The other seven (7) properties proceeds will be placed in the "Closed Orange Account" and held for seven years from the date the Orange closed.

All eight properties are considered assets that must be maintained, incurring expenses such as liability insurance, state filing fees, etc. Additional details can be found in the Active Orange and Closed Orange Reports.

and I will never tell you I'm a "strong" person. I'm Da... This
is a great thing you can do for me in the world of "strong" people. My "strong" Disposition
is not a cure, there will be more surgery or the need for more. Thank you for those
who have been with me on this journey and continue to support my crazy life.
Thank you to the Members of the "Strong" Club for your confidence in my
strength and integrity!

Love,
Da...

Victoria S. Hill

Da...

Victoria S. Hill

2022-2023
Balance Sheet

	A	B	C	D
40				
41		Committee Accounts		\$20,873.55
42		Conant Granges		\$439,571.49
43		Merged Granges that have sold assets and cash need to be set up		\$16,749.98
44				
45				
46			Available Funds	\$1,045,808.71
47				
48				
49				
50	our		Balance remaining	
51		Arbutus		\$3,074.41
52		New England Grange Building		\$1,500.00

Statewide Budget

2010-2011

	2010-2011	2010-2011
	4,170,000	2,213,711
7	900,000	450,000
8	2,110,000	1,153,711
9	1,000,000	500,000
10	1,000,000	500,000
11	1,000,000	500,000
12	1,000,000	500,000
13	1,000,000	500,000
14	1,000,000	500,000
15	1,000,000	500,000
16	1,000,000	500,000
17	1,000,000	500,000
18	1,000,000	500,000
19	1,000,000	500,000
20	1,000,000	500,000
21	1,000,000	500,000
22	1,000,000	500,000
23	1,000,000	500,000
24	1,000,000	500,000
25	1,000,000	500,000
26	1,000,000	500,000
27	1,000,000	500,000
28	1,000,000	500,000
29	1,000,000	500,000
30	1,000,000	500,000
31	1,000,000	500,000
32	1,000,000	500,000
33	1,000,000	500,000
34	1,000,000	500,000
35	1,000,000	500,000
36	1,000,000	500,000
37	1,200,000	1,400,000
38	1,500,000	845,900
39	1,200,000	1,189,640
40	2,500,000	2,425,000
41	148,160.00	170,195.22

Headquarters Budget

11/20/2022

	A	B	C
		Proposed 22-23	Actual 2022-2023
1			
2	Utilities		
3	Electricity	\$ 9,100.00	\$ 7,230.00
4	Maine State Orange Water	\$ 38,200.00	\$ 62,502.66
5	Miscellaneous Utility	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 8,500.36
6	Total	\$ 48,300.00	\$ 78,093.02
7			
8	Expenses		
9	Property Taxes	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,626.99
10	Insurance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,786.00
11	Electricity	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,787.81
12	Rent	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 22,205.00
13	Janitorial Service	\$ 1,000.00	
14	Repair & Maintenance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 31,551.27
15	Waste	\$ 200.00	\$ 197.99
16	Sanitation Sewer and Storm Water	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 1,597.18
17	Waste Removal	\$ 850.00	\$ 1,001.09
18	Snow Removal	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,075.00
19	Supplies	\$ 300.00	\$ 269.69
20	Miscellaneous	\$ 200.00	
21	Total	\$ 48,200.00	\$ 78,093.02





Account Number	Account Name	Debit	Credit	Balance
20	2/16/2023 Key Bank CC			1100
21	2/21/2023 Richard Koss, Attorney	1,280,231.29		
22	2/21/2023 The MSA Group	1,989.00		
23	2/21/2023 Law Office of Susan E. Deem	1,099.00		
24	2/28/2023 Harris, Colby & Inc	1,837.00		
25	Key Bank CC		1,000.00	
26	2/29/2023 NCM Insurance	657.00		
27	3/13/2023 Harris, Colby & Inc	200.00		
28				
29	2nd Qtr	45,127.00	4,200.00	171,020.40
30	Total			
31				
32	308 CR 1020	40.00	50.00	171,020.40
33				
34	2/31/2023 Key Bank CC		100.00	
35	8/29/2023 Key Bank CC		100.00	
36				
37	4th Qtr Total	1,410.00	1,000.00	171,020.40

Richard Koss, Attorney

1,280,231.29

Account Number

2/21/2023 The MSA Group

1,989.00

Law Office of Susan E. Deem

1,099.00

Harris, Colby & Inc

Key Bank CC

1,837.00

NCM Insurance

657.00

Harris, Colby & Inc

Key Bank CC

200.00

2nd Qtr

45,127.00

4,200.00

Total

171,020.40

308 CR 1020

40.00

50.00

2/31/2023 Key Bank CC

100.00

8/29/2023 Key Bank CC

100.00

Account Number

4th Qtr Total

1,410.00

1,000.00

171,020.40

1	Date	Name	Location	End	Comments
2	10/19/2022	Sergey	Sergey	10/19/2022	Dexter Kent
3	10/27/2022	Fred (alright)	Fred	10/27/2022	Sundance Kennesaw Valley
4	10/24/2022	Eaton, Folly & Day	Salem	10/24/2022	Legu Jones, Inwood #17720 Gardner
5	10/14/2022	Robert Brown	Salem	10/14/2022	Dexter Kent
6	10/27/2022	Dexter Kirby Disher	Salem	10/27/2022	Sawyer R Wafer for Dexter
7	10/27/2022	Dexter Kent	Salem	10/27/2022	Dexter Kent, Barberson, Trudy Moore & Sr. Walters
8		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
9		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
10		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
11		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
12		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
13		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
14		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
15		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
16		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
17		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
18		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
19		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent
20		Salem	Salem		Dexter Kent

ALL group ends to Salem
Dexter Kent

STATE SECRETARY

Sharon Morton

To Sherry Harriman, President/Master of the Maine State Grange, Cindy Greer, National Grange Ceres, Officers of the Maine State Grange and Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange

Our Community/Subordinate Granges have continued to meet and continue their presence in their respective/surrounding communities.

REPORT ON OUR COMMUNITY/SUBORDINATE GRANGES

Our total number of Community/Subordinate Granges as of June 30, 2023 is 82 which shows a decrease of Community/Subordinate Granges from June 30, 2022 which was 84 Community/Subordinate Granges.

September 30, 2022 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges	84
Number of Granges Organized	
Number of Granges Reorganized	
Number of Granges Dropped	
Number of Granges Consolidated	
Total Granges	84
Total Membership 2,412	
Golden Sheaf 202	
Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf 267	

December 31, 2022 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges	84
Number of Granges Organized	
Number of Granges Reorganized	
Number of Granges Dropped	
	2
East Eddington 301 St. Albans 114	
Number of Granges Consolidated	

Total Granges 82

Total Membership 2,389

Golden Sheaf 186

Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf 279

March 31, 2023 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges 82

Number of Granges Organized

Number of Granges Reorganized

Number of Granges Dropped

Number of Granges Consolidated

Total Granges 82

Total Membership 2338

Golden Sheaf 199

Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf 265

June 30, 2023 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges 82

Number of Granges Organized

Number of Granges Reorganized

Number of Granges Dropped

Number of Granges Consolidated

Total Granges 82

Total Membership 2,334

Golden Sheaf 193

Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf 265

As I write this yearly report, I like to provide the September 30, 2023 Quarterly Report status. As of October 11, 2023 I have received sixty-five Quarterly Reports for September 30, 2023.

Membership 2023

This year I am pleased to announce that 19 Community/Subordinate Granges have had an increase of membership. These Granges will be recognized at our Banquet. Thank you to all members who worked to increase their respective Grange membership.

Pomona Granges

Our number of Pomona Granges remain at 13. The annual reports have been received from 11 of the 13 with Hancock Pomona 13 and Penobscot Pomona 8 as those still outstanding.

Junior Granges

The Maine State Junior Grange No. 17, under the leadership of new Jr. Director, Betty Young had a successful year.

They had meetings at Enterprise 48, Danville Jct. 45, State Grange Headquarters with new membership increase of 1 making total membership of 13. Meetings planned for the northern part of the State and Grange Camp were not held this year.

Membership Recognition Certificates

I am always amazed with the requests for Continuous Membership Recognition Certificates each year.

Bangor 372

50 Years Elizabeth Vanidestine

Bauneg Beg 382

50 Years Sherry A. Harriman

Chelsea 215

50 Years James Meserve

Community 593

40 Years Tammy Lane

45 Years Mavis Lanae

Danville Jct. 65

25 Years	Steven Haycock Gayle Patry
60 Years	Ralph Lashua
65 Years	Fred Field
70 Years	Kathy Thayer
75 Years	Donald Proctor Shirley Hatch

Dirigo 98**Seven Star 73**

50 Years	Margaret Henderson
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Excelsior 5

25 Years	Kimberly Verrill Louise Roberts Ryan Sherman
50 Years	Lynne Pomerleau

Highland Lake 87

50 Years	Laura Macomber
55 Years	Claryton Collins
60 Years	Cornelius Small, Jr. Elmira Collins
70 Years	Robert Gordon
75 Years	Nancy Gowen

Medomac Valley 175

50 Years	Peter Quimby
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No. Scarboro 495

40 Years	Patricia Searles
50 Years	Gary Walls Mark A. Matteau
55 Years	Adrian J. Griffin
70 Years	Charlotte Douglas
80 Years	Barbara Griffin

Old Town Riverside 273

50 Years	Stephen W. Call
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Penobscot View 388

50 Years Ava Allen

St. George 421

50 Years Sally Jo Kinney

Topsham 37

50 Years Diana Henton Gorham

70 Years Corley Ann Byras

75 Years Alice Ponziani

Victor 49

55 Years Marilyn B. Tozier

70 Years Everett Barnard

Willow 366

25 Years Allan Roberts

40 Years Richard Parlin

50 Years Joanne Bernier

Gerard Lupien

Nancy Lupien

Deborah Willette

55 Years Jon Moody

Marjorie Turner

60 Years Norman Hunt

70 Years Lillian Dolloff

Technology

I want to say a huge **THANK-YOU** to Sister Sherry and her support and hard work in developing our new Grange data base. I find that it is going to be very user friendly and without her dedication this would have taken longer for me to do alone. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. So, I am asking that **all secretaries** please take the time to update your membership list using the membership list that Sherry has sent you. Mail them to State Grange Headquarters or email them to maine@stategrange.org or maine@stategrange.org or directly to Sherry at 280 Kennebunk Road, Sanford ME 04073 or her email address sherry@stategrange.org.

Maine Grange Store

Each year the Maine Grange Store, comprised of Granges of Androscoggin Pomona 1 and members of the Maine State Grange Agriculture Committee run a booth at the Fryeburg Fair having for sale farm fresh vegetables, fruits, Amish jams, jellies, pickles, maple syrup, honey products, eggs, milk, cheese, apple crisp, apple cider dry beans and a nice variety of home-made items of crochet, quilted and wooden. This year was busy as the weather was great, hot, but made for a very successful week. I would like to thank Maynard & Gladys Chapman for all the traveling they do to get supplies; Steve & Sue Verrill for providing vegetables, getting other supplies to the fair when needed. Our dedicated workers: Norma Meserve, Cynthia Maxwell; Maynard & Gladys Chapman, Steve and Sue Verrill; Ruby Bryant and Mary Ann. The week wouldn't have run as smoothly as it did without the Manager of the Farm Stand, Henry Morton. Thank you!!

In Conclusion

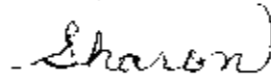
I would like to thank all the Community/Subordinate Secretaries for getting your information to the office on time. This year is coming to a close and with that with new ideas and the hopes for the best year to come for all of our Granges.

I love enjoy working with all of you and visiting with you as I travel the State of Maine.

I am leaving you with this thought:

"The thought that leads to no action is not thought – it is dreaming."

Fraternally submitted;



Sharon Morton, Secretary
Maine State Grange

MASTER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

Worthy National Representative Cindy Greer, Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange,

It is an honor to present the 2023 Maine State Grange Annual Address at the start of our 150th anniversary year as a State Grange. We can only imagine what effort it took for that first group of people to meet together, just the challenge of getting there, what dedication. We are here today because we have a similar dedication to the principles of our organization and the heartfelt desire to continue to be helpful and keep it going. We as an organization, have accomplished great things in the 150 years of our existence and the opportunity is ours to continue that tradition for a very long time to come.

Jim Owens and I represented Maine last November as the delegates at the National Grange in Sparks, Nevada participating in all work and activities. I was assigned to the Agriculture committee and Jim assigned to Grange Law. We did our advance work by zoom before the convention on the Present Policy, Policy Statements, and reviewed Resolutions.

Richard and I will be the delegates at the 2023 National Grange Convention which will be hosted by the Northeast Region held in Niagara Falls, New York November 12th – 19th. The 7th Degree will be conferred on Saturday November 18. This region hosts every five years. Richard has been assigned to the Labor, Judiciary, & Transportation Committee and I have been assigned to Citizenship & Taxation. Again this year, we will do updates from home by zoom to Present Policy, Policy Statements and review Resolutions this saves considerable time before the session opens. The 7 regional states have a good handle on the plans for that event. Volunteers will be needed for the convention, for different activities, please help out if you can. We still have 2023 National Convention T-shirts here for sale.

I work at the office in Augusta and continue to do a lot of Grange work from home and camp. I have communicated directly with the Subordinate & Pomona Masters/Presidents answering questions, calls & emails, creating, printing & sending assorted information, if one person asks a question I share the answer and info with all. I have sent letters to the Granges, State Officers, Deputies and Directors and others on a variety of subjects, and written a monthly article for the bulletin.

Richard and I attended 11 informational and instructional meetings, all over the state, answering questions and providing copies of materials to everyone present. Sharon also participated in most meeting, presenting information to the Secretaries. I have continued to update the paperwork describing ritual floor work and 'how-to' information in more detail and making it easier to understand. I hosted Instructions for Deputies, Officers and Directors during the year, gaining a lot of input and ideas from those attending. I traveled to closure or consolidation meetings when required or was invited, presented certificates, signed paperwork for deeds and contracts for the sales of buildings, etc. There are 6 halls available for sale.

In addition to the updating the instructional guidelines, roster, state session & budget and other items I work on, I have worked on getting a new database completed. I typed in all the information for our 82 Granges, 2,359 names, addresses and other information into a more user friendly format that can be accessed without internet. The basic information has been compiled, and copies sent to the Grange Secretaries for corrections, additions and deletions. Yes, I can hear the grumbles but it needed to be done, if I am spending this much time putting it back together from older versions provided by the State Secretary, your assistance is greatly appreciated. Each of you, as an individual member can help by checking your information, is your name spelled correctly, is your address up to date, if not, then please correct whatever may be required. I am most interested in the date you joined the Grange, and the Granges you have belonged to, many of the dates or previous membership in a different Grange (because of closure or consolidation) are not listed. Some are listed as Golden Sheaf members (50 years of **continuous** membership) but do not list the date of joining or where. Most Granges exempt all Golden Sheaf (50 year) members from paying dues to their respective Granges and the Maine State Grange does not charge dues on any Golden Sheaf members but the Maine State Grange must still pay dues to National on them. Golden Sheaf membership attained before Jan 1, 2001, the Maine State Grange does not pay dues to National Grange on those members. Golden Sheaf membership attained after Jan 1, 2001, the Maine State Grange must pay dues to National Grange on those members.

Once again during this past year our ranks have been broken with the loss of many special members and good friends. Former State Master, Philip Arthur Herbert passed to the great Grange above in December. We have lost several prominent Deputies, and many other valuable members. Their passing was a difficult time at the Subordinate, Pomona and State levels and these strong notable Grange personalities will certainly be missed by many.

Meetings and Membership

Most of our Granges are doing well, some of these Granges are large and some are the smaller ones doing great things in their communities but we still have other Granges that are struggling. We have a few Granges that are considering consolidation or closure, they have been struggling for some time, invite them to be part of your Grange. Membership, attendance at meetings, participation and finances continue to be the biggest concerns and are vital to our organization. A strong sense of achievement and service to our communities must be developed. Community activities and involvement are important but so is the Grange Ritual. The Grange Ritual (the set pattern that we do things at each meeting) may seem outdated to some or unnecessary, but it is part of this Fraternal Organization and to be considered a **Grange, to use the term "Grange"** certain requirements must be carried out and the ritual **MUST** be followed. Opening the Bible, the Prayer, the Grange Salutation, and Salute to the Flag must be done at every meeting no matter what level you are working in. Some things have been modernized and simplified but the basics are still there. Let's make the effort to be part of it whether in person or by use of technology.

Many more Granges conferred the Obligation Ceremony and several successful degree days were held throughout the state at different times during the year. We had 19 Granges with Net Gains in Membership, that's almost a quarter of our Granges. However, we did not have a net gain overall this year. Maybe next time. Thank you to all who took the time to invite someone to join and to the members who organized and took part in the obligation ceremonies and degree work. I have encouraged Granges to handle degrees and installations on their own and many have reported finding this very satisfactory and easier than they thought. Now let's put the seasoned members AND new members to work with something meaningful for them to do and keep their interest involved. We enjoy going to Grange, but we need to continually work to make our meetings and activities productive and interesting. New ideas came out of necessity, we need to continue with our renewed excitement, new ideas and the positive energy can be contagious. Many public events were held, where we had a manned booth and some unmanned, an ag trade show, fairs, and other events where we publicized Grange.

Membership Director, Rick Grotton writes an excellent column for the Bulletin every month with helpful tips and suggestions, please check it out.

Internal fighting is a problem and hurtful to our Order, we are a collective group working together for the betterment of all, no one or two members should control everything that happens in the Grange. Many problems could have been prevented had our members followed the rules and procedures that we have in place, plus using some tact, common courtesy and respect for each other. Every member in every Grange has a say and a vote on what goes on, whether they agree or disagree with your opinion, each is entitled to that vote. Respectful discussions must take place in the meeting where each can express their views and listen to others views. Decisions are to be made in the meeting, open in full form, with all participating not by a few in the kitchen or grocery store. Reach out to those members who haven't been to Grange for a while, what can we do to get them to return? Is it a matter of a ride, a different day of the week or consider a day meeting?

Headquarters

The Maine State Grange headquarters building in Augusta has had a tough year as you can see from the budget. The pipes froze upstairs, burst and caused damage in that bathroom and ran down into the dining room, causing lots of damage there too. It has been stripped down but not reconstructed yet. Next, the furnace in the garage end of the building finally gave up the fight, and stopped working. A new furnace had to be special ordered and built to replace the old one. In order to put in a new furnace, the chimney on that end needed to have a liner installed. While we were at it, we also had to have all the chimney tops fixed because of the crumbling bricks coming off of them. Now we have a leak in the septic pipe from the upstairs bathroom that runs through the dining room ceiling, luckily it is visible, and now needs replacement.

Sharon and Henry Morton spend a lot of time at our building, doing a whole variety of BIG jobs and extras, like letting in the plumber, electrician, furnace man, and the list goes on and on for the good of the Grange and not because they have to, or are asked to, but because they care about the Grange. Most recently they have been chasing away the vagrants and

cleaning up after them, who have taken a liking to our porches and extra eaves to get out of the rain. The police have come several times and removed people. I don't think these jobs are the Office Secretary's obligation, more a maintenance issue but she is in the office and does them. For all the extra things they do for the Grange and the building, thank you doesn't cover my appreciation for their efforts. THANK YOU BOTH VERY MUCH!

Committees and Departments

Our State Officers, Deputies, Committees and Departments have continued to work promoting programs and events. Many thanks to each of you that are involved. I do have to comment, getting these Officers and Directors to provide a year end report has been challenging like pulling teeth, to say the least. It needs to be sent to me as Master/President in a reasonable time, there is a deadline so we can get them printed for session. Yes, it should go to the webmaster but I need it sent to me.

Many of our current members will continue in their positions and some will change.

If anyone is interested in being a deputy, committee chair or part of one of these committees let us know.

Agriculture

The Agriculture Committee under the direction of Willie Grenier, promotes agriculture with their participation in several statewide events and has met often during the year. The committee gave scholarships again this year to students going to college with agricultural pursuits. They need your help to get the word out to the schools that this program is available and certainly rely on your donations to make these scholarships possible.

Agriculture in Maine continues to have many challenges. It makes more sense than ever to purchase locally, if we do not support agriculture in the State of Maine, it will continue to disappear.

Fairs

Many Granges participated at the Agricultural Fairs with wonderful exhibits or displays. Congratulations. The building Superintendents, appreciate your efforts and need your displays to get people to come in and look around, keep up the good work. Congratulations to Marilyn Stinson for all the fair exhibits she took the time setting up on behalf of the Junior Committee.

The New England Grange Building at the Big E did very well. Thank you Mike, Judy, and Jimmy, for working in the Big-E store for the first weekend. Thankyou Mike for taking the quilt and sales items down. Thank you to all who sent items for the sales tables, they will gladly accept all that you can provide for next year.

Committee of Women's Activities

The Committee of Women's Activities under the direction of Margaret Henderson has been busy with many projects. Their donations toward Home for Little Wanderers and House in the Woods program through your kind contributions is certainly beneficial to many.

Thank you to all who sent items for the State sales tables at the yard sale and here.

Community Service

Director Christine Corliss received 10 notebooks this year and have done such outstanding work in their communities. I know that many more Granges are also doing superb community service in their towns and areas but our Granges need to publicize our helpful deeds better. Promote your good works, no project is too small to brag about. Sister Christine has tendered her resignation as Director. Thank you for serving for 9 years.

Educational Aid and Howes Nurses' Scholarship

This committee continues to award scholarships to deserving recipients but are still in need of your assistance to get the word out that these scholarships are available. Scholarships are now available to non-members. Your continued donations are needed to keep these scholarship programs viable.

Fundraising

Norma Meserve chairman and the fundraising committee have been dedicated in their fundraising efforts and are still work for the good of the Grange. We appreciate what has been done. The meal starters, dessert, gift card and yard sale were fundraising successes.

Junior Grange

Thank-you Junior Director Betty Young who has worked hard to increase the number of active Junior members through the various programs and activities. Distance is still disrupting plans but adjustments were made and zoom utilized a few times. This department needs your support to continue growing.

Legislative

Director Linda Weston, continues to follow legislative issues. I would encourage our Granges and membership to be active in legislative issues in your local community. As in days gone by, the Grange can make a difference, be part of the solution and be an important part of our community, state and nation.

Publicity and Web Site

Our Web Master and Publicity Director Walter Boomsma, works diligently updating and upgrading the website for all of us. I appreciate his input. The State and National Grange websites are very helpful tools for our benefit. Walter will be glad to assist you with publicity, and be delighted to put information, upcoming events and pictures on the web site.

In addition to the web postings, the Grange Bulletin is printed monthly including articles by Officers, Directors and guest writers, which getting them to write a monthly even occasional article, is a battle. These articles keep our membership informed and is sent to the Secretary of each Grange around the 15th of each month.

In Conclusion

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make this job easier and keeping our organization moving and to each of you who do so much to make our Granges grow and prosper. It is hard work, no doubt about it, but the rewards are worth it. I certainly appreciate the efforts of our Officers, Members, Deputies, Directors and Committees who work diligently on behalf of the Grange and wish us all success in the coming year. Thank you to Jim Owens, past Master, for your advice, guidance, counsel and friendship. In addition, 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 State Secretary's job, but needed to be done, doing a lot of behind the scenes work. I appreciate you more than I can say. A special, thank-you Richard for your support and strength through the good happenings and some very difficult Grange situations & decisions

I love the Grange and the people in it, and I am so glad the Grange is a part of my life.

I am looking forward to a successful year in our State Grange and hope all our Granges prosper. I would encourage each of you to do something special to celebrate our monumental anniversary.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sherry A Harriman, Master Maine State Grange

2:45 P.M.
Memorial Service
Clayton Collins, State Chaplain

Maine State Grange Memorial Service – 2023

This program shall proceed without announcements:

Small bare cross is placed on Altar.

Opened Bible upon the altar with one unlit candle in center of altar above Bible.

In silence, Chaplain proceeds directly to the altar, lights the candle, then returns to station in the same line of march.

Reading: Thoughts – “O, Thou Great and Lofty One, who inhabiteth eternity, clouds and darkness are round about Thy throne, but Thou are clothed with light as with a garment.” These words that I have just read are the opening sentence of the Chaplain’s charge in the 6th Degree of our Order. They are meant to impress upon us that when life deals us a set-back, and makes us feel that we are entering a dark stage in our lives, God is always there supplying the light for us to see the way out of the situation that we are in.

The 23rd Psalm states, in part, “even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.”

Grange work, with God’s blessing, is our light. May it work for you.”

Song: “One Little Candle” Debra Ivers, Flora MSG

**Tribute: Arthur Herbert, Former Master, MSG
(Elmira Collins, Former LAS, MSG)**

**Philip Arthur Herbert
Former Master of the Maine State Grange**

In God’s Grace each dawn is a gift and every day a miracle. In Ecclesiastes 3:1 we learn that to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Philip Arthur Herbert, former Master of the Maine State Grange, died on December 12, 2022 in Hudson, Maine at the age of 90.

Phil was born in Bangor and graduated from Old Town High School. He enlisted in the Army in 1952 and served until 1956 as a Supply Sergeant. He worked over the years at Grant's Dairy, Penobscot Shoe Company, Owen-Illinois (Pie Plate Factory) and returned as Supervisor of Maintenance with the City of Old Town Housing Authority. After his retirement, and not wanting to be idle, Phil went to work at LaBree's Bakery as a mechanic. For years, he always provided the donuts for all to enjoy after the 6th degree.

Phil became a member of the Old Town Grange in February 1971. He held many positions in the Subordinate Grange such as Master, Treasurer and others. On the Pomona level he served in various positions and was a past Master. He served the Maine State Grange as a subordinate Deputy for nine years, Pomona Deputy for one year and Chief Deputy for eight years. In 1997 he was elected Master of the Maine State Grange and served for two terms. Brother Steve Verrill, former Master of the Maine State Grange, says that Phil, when he served as State Master, was one of the most organized planners and workers that Steve had seen in that office. Phil was a 7th Degree member.

In 1996 Phil bought a piece of land and built a house on the Penobscot River in Passadumkeag doing almost all the work himself. He enjoyed working outside, planting a garden and working in his greenhouse. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, trapping, tinkering and camping and spending time with his family.

Remember Me
Don't remember me with sadness,
Don't remember me with tears,
Remember all the laughter
We've shared throughout the years.
Now I am contented,
That my life it was worthwhile,
Knowing that I passed along the way,
I made somebody smile.
When you are walking down the street,
And you've got me on your mind,
I'm walking in your footsteps,
Only half a step behind.
So please don't be unhappy

**Just because I'm out of sight,
Remember that I'm with you,
Each morning, noon and night.**

Song: "His Eye Is on The Sparrow" **Debra Ivers, Flora, MSG**
(Page 85 – Grange Song Book, as song is being sung, flowers will be taken to the altar.) (All three verses.)

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:7-9 **Clayton Collins, Chaplain, MSG**

"For God did not give us a spirit of Timothy, but a spirit of power and love and self-control. Do not be ashamed then of testifying to our Lord, nor of me, His prisoner, but take your share of suffering for the Gospel in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not in virtue of our works, but in virtue of His own purpose and grange which He gave us in Christ Jesus ages ago"

Tribute: Subordinate Members Rick Grotton, Assistant Steward, MSG
Imagine the Grange organization as a four-story home, each floor represents the Subordinate, Pomona, State and National Granges. Which floor could we not do without? If you said the first floor or the Subordinate level, you would be correct. Without that level, there would be no second, third or fourth floors. The task weighs upon the shoulders of the Subordinate Grangers. Membership, resolutions and other important decisions which affect all floors of the Home begin here. This is a tribute to all Subordinate Granges who for the last 156 years have given their love in the form of Faith, Hope, Charity and Fidelity to others in order to help and strengthen communities and families.

The Subordinate Grange is the groundwork and the backbone of the Grange. Here we enter the front door of our Grange home, embraced by many devoted and faithful Brothers and sisters. As we look around and while listening to our mentors, we find that are filled with Faith; thus, we have learned our first lesson. The room is beautiful. We have been accepted as a member of the Grange family as well. Listen further; Hope, our second lesson, fills us with confidence, excitement and anticipation. We are ready to share ourselves and our interests. This renewal leads us to our Third lesson learned; Charity. We want to go out and help the community and invest our time and energies for the Good of the Order. Our devotion and faithfulness complete the Fourth lesson which is Fidelity.

Now that we have received our lessons in the Subordinate Grange, we are fully prepared to lead and indulge in the projects and events awaiting. This has happened every day since the first days of the Grange. The rituals and traditions have been passed down by Subordinate members throughout times of tribulation and pandemics; times of war and peace; times of upheaval and of calm. Why have we survived? Thanks to the four lessons of the Subordinate Grange and the Subordinate Grangers who have endured many changes and obstacles to keep the Grange alive and strong. We learn about ourselves and of others and leaders are chosen and committees are formed based upon the interests and qualities of the membership.

Let us not forget where resolutions are created. Subordinate Grangers throughout the years have passed on countless resolutions to the upper floors. The resolutions consist of various issues, including agricultural, community, fraternal, and offer of our support or concern of issues affecting our country. Many Granges inspired resolutions that have had significant effects on all of our lives; whether a Grange member or not.

Longevity as a faithful and devoted member is common in the Grange family. How many of us know somebody who has 50 or more years of active membership? Most if not all of us do. There are the ones who share their experience, their stories, and their advice. We learn from them and added with our own ideas, we are able to progress and grow; not just within the Grange but within ourselves.

Let us remember and thank those Subordinate Grangers, past and present, who have had an effect on our lives, directly or indirectly, and have preserved the rituals and traditions of the Grange throughout the years. It hasn't been an easy ride but through Perseverance we have endured, but that is a lesson to be learned as we climb the stairs to the upper floors of our Grange home.

Song: "How Great Thou Art" **Debra Ivers, Flora, MSG**
(Page 104 – Grange Song Book, as song is being sung, flowers will be taken to the altar.) (All three verses.)

Scripture: Psalms 90:1-2

“1) Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. 2) Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, Thou are God.”

Tribute: Deputies/Jr. Deputies James Owens, Executive Committee MSG

Today we pay tribute to our Past Deputies who have completed their duties here on earth and have gone on to the Great Grange Above where dwells the Great Master of us all. We have no doubt they are still being of assistance wherever needed.

Our Deputies are dedicated and faithful members serving as the connection between the State Master and the Subordinate Grange and their members. Our deputies spend many hours traveling throughout the state accomplishing their duties, some of which includes instruction in ritual and procedures, promoting our organization, and being good will ambassadors.

Since our last State Grange session, we are saddened with the loss of the following Past Deputies, representing the Pomona jurisdictions listed:

Gerald Libby – Somerset #6, New Century #20 and North Franklin #22

Gary Lowe – North Waldo #24

Wesley Ryder – Androscoggin #1

Robert Smith – Excelsior #5 and East Kennebec #25

Norma Jean Haines – Cumberland Oxford Union #21

**Happy and smiling and always content;
Loved and respected wherever they went.
To a beautiful long life, came a peaceful end.
They died as they lived, everyone’s friend.**

**Song: “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” Debra Ivers, Flora, MSG
(Page 100 – Grange Song Book, as song is being sung, flowers will be taken to the altar.) (All three verses.)**

Scripture: Psalm 104:24

“How varied are Your works, O Lord! In wisdom You have wrought them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.”

Tribute: **“The Four Chaplains”**

Clay Collins, Chaplain, MSG

The Saga of the Four Chaplains

Many of you may or may not have heard of these four brave men of World War II, let me tell you of the saga of “The Four Chaplains”.

On January 23, 1943, the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, an old coastal steamer quickly pressed into service as a military transport carrying 902 service men, merchant seamen, and civilian workers left New York Harbor bound for Greenland escorted by three Coast Guard cutters. Two patrolled the flanks while the third, The Tampa was 3,000 yards out front.

Most of the men were seasick and green with nausea. The weather was bitterly cold with gale-force winds. Ice was building up on the decks, blowing the Dorchester to ten knots.

Moving among them were four Army Chaplains: Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist Minister; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish Rabbi; Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic Priest; and Lt. Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed Minister. These men of God talked with and listened to the men – soothing apprehensions, offering encouragement, and sharing jokes. By their concern and their camaraderie with the men and one another, they brought solace.

On February 2, 1943, the Tampa’s sonar detected the presence of a submarine; she dropped back and swept the periphery of the convoy, but failed to find the submarine’s position. That evening, the Tampa returned to the patrol area up front, and the other ships followed.

The captain ordered the men to sleep in their clothing, with lifejackets close at hand. They were only 150 miles from Greenland. With daylight, there would be air cover from the American base.

It was just after midnight on February 3, 1943 when an enemy submarine fired a torpedo toward the U.S.A.T. Dorchester’s aging flank. The missile exploded in the boiler room, destroying the electric supply and releasing suffocating clouds of steam and ammonia gas. Many on board died instantly; some were trapped below deck, others, jolted from their bunks, groped, and

stumbled their way to the decks of the stricken vessel. Taking on water rapidly, the ship began listing to starboard. Overcrowded lifeboats capsized; rafts drifted away before anyone could reach them. Men clung to the rails, frozen with fear, unable to let go and plunge into the dark, churning water far below.

The testimony of the survivors tells us that the sole order and the only fragment of hope in this chaos came from the Four Chaplains, who calmly guided men to their respective boat stations. They opened a storage locker and distributed lifejackets. Then they coaxed men, frozen with fear, over the side, soon the supply of lifejackets was exhausted. Several survivors reported watching in awe as the Four Chaplains either gave away or forced upon other young men their own lifejackets.

These four men of God had given away their only means of saving themselves in order to save others. The Chaplains gathered together, and led the men around them in a prayer and a hymn. They linked their arms together as the slant of the deck became severe. And just that way, with their arms linked in brotherhood and their heads bowed in prayer, they sank beneath the waves.

It was a heroic act. It was not the only heroic act aboard the U.S.A.T. *Dorchester*, but it was especially significant because of the identity of these four young men: two Protestant Ministers, a Catholic Priest, and a Jewish Rabbi.

Chaplain Memories

A table is placed in back of the Altar. A white tablecloth is placed on it. Black cloth is placed in the shape of a cross to divide the table into four sections. Each section will have a neatly folded napkin, after each Memory is read, a red rose is placed on each napkin.

I light this candle in memory of Chaplain George L. Fox

George L. Fox, the oldest of the four, knew all about war. Lying about his age in 1917, he enlisted in the Army as a Medical Corps Assistant. He won a Silver Star for rescuing a wounded soldier from a battlefield filled with poison gas, The Croix De Guerre for outstanding bravery in an artillery barrage, and the Purple Heart for wounds. A resident of Vermont, he was a successful accountant and family man when he heard God's call to the ministry. Fox went back to school and later was ordained into the Methodist Denomination. When war came, he once again enlisted, telling his wife, "I've got to go. I know from experience

what our boys are about to face. They need me." Fox began duty on August 7, 1942, and served until that fateful morning of February 3, 1943.

I light this candle in memory of Chaplain Alexander D. Good
Alexander D. Goode was both an outstanding athlete and scholar. Following in his father's footsteps, this young man, known for his laughter and love of life, became a Rabbi. While studying for his calling, he joined the National Guard and kept up an active membership. The return of the body of the Unknown Soldier had a profound effect on Goode. He attended the ceremonies, choosing to walk the thirty miles rather than drive or take a bus, because he thought it showed more respect. Goode married his childhood sweetheart and was serving a Synagogue in York, Pennsylvania, when World War II broke out. He served on active duty from August 9, 1942 until February 3, 1943

I light this candle in memory of Chaplain Clark V. Poling
Clark V Poling was the youngest of the Four Chaplains and the seventh generation in his family to be ordained in the Dutch Reformed Church. When war came, he was anxious to go, but not as a Chaplain. "I'm not going to hide behind the Church in some safe office out of the firing line," he told his father. The elder Poling replied, "Don't you know that Chaplains have the highest mortality rate of all? As a Chaplain you'll have the best chance in the world to be killed. You just can't carry a gun to kill anyone yourself." So, Clark Poling left his Pastorate in Schenectady, New York, and enlisted as a Chaplain. Just before he left for active duty, Clark asked his father to pray for him _ "Not for my safe return that wouldn't be fair. Just pray that I shall do my duty ... and have the strength, courage, and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate." Poling began active duty on June 10, 1942 and served until February 3, 1943.

I light this candle in memory of Chaplain John P. Washington
John P. Washington grew up a poor, scrappy, and determined young man in the toughest section of Newark, New Jersey. One of nine children born to an Irish immigrant family, he was blessed with a sunny disposition, a beautiful singing voice, and a love for music. He also loved a good fight, and was leader of the South Twelfth Street Gang when he was called to the Priesthood. He played ball with the boys of the Parish, organized sports teams and, when the war came along,

went with his "Boys" into the Army. He began active duty on May 9, 1942. His wonderful voice, raised in song and prayer to comfort those around him, could be heard until his final moments on February 3, 1943.

Meditation: Today, we have heard tributes for friends, relatives, neighbors, Military personnel, and we are sad that they are not with us anymore, but aren't they? true, they have physically left our sacred circle, but their memories are still alive and well in our minds and hearts. Keep them close, and never forget their names.

"Speak Their Name"

Someone I love has gone away
And life is not the same.
The greatest gift that you can give
Is just to speak their name.

I need to hear the stories
And the tales of days gone past,
I need for you to understand
These memories must last.

We'll never make more memories
Since they are no longer here,
So, when you say their names to me
It's music to my ear.

Song: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"
(Page 100 – Grange Song Book)

Debra Ivers, Flora MSG

Benediction:

Clay Collins, Chaplain, MSG

Our Heavenly Father, we ask in Thy holy name for:
"Health enough to make our work on earth

A joy and pleasure,
Wealth enough for all our needs
But not Your greatest treasure.

Strength enough to face life's battles
With the will to win,
Grace enough to see, confess,
And forsake very sin.

Patience, too, to help us persevere
In all our labors;
Charity enough to see some good
In all our neighbors.

Love to sweeten life with helpful service
Rendered to others,
Faith to truly trust in You, God
And count all men as brothers.

Hope to purge all anxious fear
From all our future days...
These will bring contentment,
Spreading peace and power and praise."
"Contentment" By Adlai A. Esteb

Chaplain: Worthy Master, this concluded the Memorial Service.

3:45 P. M.

Resolutions – by Committee Reports
Speaker Cindy Greer, Ceres of the National Grange

Resolution 1. Nonsmoking National Grange Events

Committee Report: Ought to Pass Committee Report: Accepted
By delegate vote this Resolution was adopted and will be forward to National
Grange for consideration.

Resolution 2. Activate Cameras at Major Intersections

Committee Report: Ought not to pass Committee Report accepted
By delegate vote this Resolution was rejected

Resolution 3. Automatic Lights on All Vehicles

Committee Report: Ought not to pass Committee Report accepted
By delegate vote this Resolution was rejected
(Resolutions will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings.)

Our speaker for the afternoon, Cindy Greer, Ceres of the National Grange, was introduced and escorted to the Master's station.

Sister Greer spoke briefly and brought greetings from the National Grange.

5:00 P. M.

Close in the Fourth Degree

The first day of the 150th Annual Session of the Maine State Grange was closed in full form in the Fourth Degree.

6:00 P. M.

Banquet "Live in Harmony"

Pine Cone Eastern Star Chapter #26

Junior Program/Presentation; Recognition of Former Officers of Maine State Grange; Awards & Presentations: Community Service, Family Health & Hearing, Outstanding Granger, Membership, Educational Aid and Howes Nurses Scholarships, Home for Litter Wanderers check and donated gifts, House in the Woods plus pennies

After a delicious meal prepared by the Ladies of the Pine Cone Eastern Star Chapter #26, we adjourned to the meeting hall upstairs for our evening presentations.

Recognition of the Former Officers of the Maine State Grange

Masters: James Owens, Richard Grotton

Overseers: Richard Grotton, Vicki Huff and Sherry Harriman

Lecturers: Richard Grotton, Sherry Harriman and James Owens

Stewards: Richard Harriman, Adrian Griffin and James Owens

Assistant Stewards: Clayton Collins

Lady Assistant Stewards: Elmira Collins

Chaplains: Clayton Collins and Gladys Chapman

Treasurers: James Owens

Secretaries:

Gatekeepers: Terry Spencer, Henry Morton and Richard Grotton

Ceres: Linda Sherman, Christine Hebert and Harriet Spencer

Floras: Roberta Meserve, Debra Ivers

Soloists: Debra Ivers, Carolyn Coffin, Lewis Bryson and Margaret Morse

Junior Program under the direction of Betty Young.

The Junior's under the direction of Junior Director, Betty Young, presented a skit entitled "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" which they will perform at National Grange.

The Juniors attending and performing this skit were John Coffin, Mary Coffin, Sebastian Nickerson, Edith Coffin and Laura Coffin. The Juniors were accompanied on guitar by Caroline Coffin, Junior committee member and Nicole Nickerson.

Community Service/Family Health and Hearing

This year's Community Service Winners were:

1st Highland Lake #87

2nd Maple Grove #148

3rd Jonesboro #357

4th Valley 144

4th Saco #53

This year's Family Health and Hearing Winner was:

Highland Lake #87

Lecturer's Department

The following awards were given:

Photo: Best in Show Paula Roberts – Willow #366

People's Choice Terry Lacombe Stevens – Hudson #457

Book Reading contest:

1st Books & Pages – Norma Meserve, Danville Jct. #65
(277 books/60065 pages)

2nd Books & Pages – Margaret Henderson, Dirigo #96
(160 books/48167 pages)

3rd Books - Melissa Baldwin, Hollis #132
(148 books)

3rd Pages – Gay Anderson, Mill Stream #574
(42456 pages)

Sister Margaret stated that she had received 27 entries with over 600,000 pages.

Membership Recognition

Richard Grotton, Membership Director, presented certificates to Granges reporting net gains for Membership Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Net Increase of One

East Sangerville #177
Farmington #12
Lakeside #63
Oak Hill #104
Pioneer #219

Net Increase of 2

Paugus #540
Hudson #457
Rumford #115
Waterford #479

Net Increase of 3

Lamoine #264
Old Town-Riverside #273

Net Increase of 5

Wayside #590

Net Increase of 6

Union Harvest #591

Net Increase of 8

Pleasant River #492
Saco #53

Net Increase of 10

Jonesboro #357

Net Increase of 16

Huntoon Hill #366

Educational Aid and Howes Nurses Scholarship

Maine State Grange
Educational Aid and Howes
Nurses Scholarship Committee
2023 Scholarship Recipients

President, Carolyn Van Horn explained the application procedure for applying for these scholarships.

The following recipients were: Howes:

Sharlah-May Day

Ashley Yager

Educational Aid

Heidi Bryant

Ashley Barfield

Richard Hanscom, Jr.

Jayden Burroughs

Michael Cirello

Genevieve Cirello

Mitchell Bean

J. Patrick Elwell presented the scholarships and we were honored to have four of these recipients join us for our banquet. Gerald Libby was mentioned in memory of being the President of the Committee for many years.

CWA

Margaret Henderson, Director of the CWA, presented a check to Home for Little Wanderers for \$2,790.50 and \$2,915.50 House in the Woods. Richard Harriman accepted the check and pennies that were brought in.

Margaret presented the following Eastern States Northeast Needlework 2022-2023 Contest winners:

Class C: Embroidery 1st place: Gail Butterfield

Class F: Counted Cross Stitch 3rd Place Sharon Morton

Class G: Adult Garment 3rd Place Laurie McBurnie

Class I: Quilted Wall Hanging 2nd Place Kathy Gowen

Class J: Stuffed Toy 2nd Place Karen McCarrick

Class K: Baby Afghan 3rd Place Ellie Collins

Best in Show: Gail Butterfield for her embroidery

All winners of all State Contests will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Sherry Harriman presented Sister Margaret Henderson with her Golden Sheaf certificate.

Closed for the evening and will reopen at 9:00 A.M. Friday morning.

Saturday, October 21

9:00 A. M. Opening in the Fourth Degree

Roll Call of Officers

Reading and Adopting the Minutes of Thursday's Session

Acceptance of the Master's Address

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report

Acceptance of Secretary's Report

Report of the Credential Committee (Partial)

The second day of the 149th Annual Session of the Maine State Grange was called to order for the presentation of the Officers of the Maine State Grange and was opened in full form in the Fourth Degree by Worthy Master/President Sherry A. Harriman.

Presentation of National Representative, Cindy Greer, Ceres of the National Grange.

Roll Call found the following Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs and Committee members absent: Executive Committee members James Owens and Nathan Pennell; Committee on Women's Activities member: Deborah Lancaster; Ag Director Willie Grenier; Historian Stanley Howe; Trustees of Educational Aid Fund & Howes Nurses Scholarship J. Patrick Elwell.

Reading and Adopting the Minutes of Friday's Session

The Secretary read the minutes of Friday's Session and they were accepted as given and ordered printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Acceptance of Master's Address

The following report was given by Laurie McBurnie, Chair of the Committee:

To Sister Cindy Greer, Ceres of the National Grange: Sister Sherry Harriman, Master of the Maine State Grange: Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange:

This committee appreciates the insight given into Sister Sherry's duties at both the National and State levels.

The committee would like to especially commend Sister Sherry for the informational and instructional meetings she held around the state this year. These events were much appreciated by those who attended.

The work Sister Sherry has committed to creating a new useable database for Maine State Grange membership is a huge undertaking and will make the State Master's and State Secretary's work more efficient. Her communications with Subordinate and Pomona Masters on various topics as well as clarifying ritual instructions are much appreciated. This all takes a lot of time and effort. Thank you, Sister Sherry.

The committee appreciated the straightforward account of the issues with the State Headquarters building.

Sister Sherry, your address was well-organized and easy to follow with succinct summaries of the activities of the various committees and programs.

The committee recommends acceptance of the Master's Address.

Respectfully, Laurie McBurnie

CJ Roy

David Gowen

Motion made by Debra Ivers and seconded by Kathy Gowen to accept the Master's Address as given. Voted to do so.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer awaited questions regarding her report. A motion was made and seconded to accept her report as given. By vote so ordered.

Acceptance of the Secretary's Report

The Secretary awaited questions regarding her report. Report was accepted as given. By vote so ordered.

Report of Credentials Committee

Mavis Lane, Chair of the Credentials Committee gave the following report:
Subordinate Granges with 33 represented with voting delegates of 58
Pomona Granges with 10 represented with voting delegates of 20
Total voting delegates of 78

9:30 A.M.

Acceptance of 2023 – 2024 Budget
Election and Installation of Officers
Resolutions by Committee Reports
Acceptance of Written Reports of Officers and Committees

Acceptance of the 2023 - 2024 Budget

The Master entertained motion to accept the 2023 -2024 Budget. Motion was made and seconded discussion was held and without any changes to be made to the Budget as written, the delegate body by vote accepted the 2023 -2024 Budget and the Budget was ordered printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Election and Installation of Officers

The Worthy Master appointed the following tellers: Table 1: Susie Faulkner, Pete Ivers and Worthy Overseer appointed Lili Poors. Table 2: Clay Collins, Judy Meserve and Worthy Overseer appointed Louise Roberts.

The Delegate body of the Maine State Grange proceeded to elect the following:

Election of Officers
Maine State Grange
2023 -2025

Master: Sherry Harriman; Overseer: Adrian Griffin; Lecturer: Melissa Baldwin; Steward: Benjamin Edgerly; Assistant Steward: Richard Grotton; Lady Assistant Steward: Roberta Meserve; Chaplain: Christine Hebert; **Treasurer: Laurel (Laurie) McBurnie**; Secretary: Sharon Morton; Gatekeeper: Peter Ivers; Ceres: Elizabeth Huff; Pomona: Kathy Gowen; Flora: Debra Ivers and Executive Committee for the Constitutional Term of 4 years: James Meserve.

10:30 A. M. Break

10:45 A.M.
Installation of Officers

The Officers of the Maine State Grange were installed by Installing Master: Christine Hebert, former Ceres of the Maine State Grange and the following Installing Team members: Master: Linda Allen; Chaplain: Ellie Collins; Emblem Bearor: Mary Jo Dibenedetto; Regalia Bearor: Cindy Ouellette; Marshall: Tina Thurston and Ellie Waterman; Musician: Linda Cobb and Soloist: Carolyn Van Horn

Vicki Huff, Former Master of the Maine State Grange, installed Maine State Grange Chaplain Christine Hebert.

12:00 P. M.
Ag Luncheon

1:30 P. M. Session called back to Order
Report of the Credential Committee (Final)
Close in the Fourth Degree

PROPOSED STATE GRANGE BUDGET
2023 - 2024

10/14/2023

1

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	ITEM	ACTUAL 21-22	PROPOSED 22-23	Estimated 22-23	PROPOSED 23-24	
2	INCOME:					
3	DUES (2400 - 500 Golden = 1,900 @ 23)	\$ 42,923.95	\$ 43,700.00	\$ 43,088.00	\$ 43,424.00	
4	OFFICERS' BONDS	\$ 725.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 300.00	
5	RESERVE FUND	\$ 78,390.85	\$ 101,660.00	\$ 135,342.00	\$ 121,486.00	
6	SUPPLIES SOLD (INCLUDES POSTAGE)	\$ 1,764.50	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,000.00	
7	MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 1,771.49	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 1,000.00	
8	FUND RAISING	\$ 279.45	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 500.00	
9						
10	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 125,855.54	\$ 148,160.00	\$ 186,255.00	\$ 167,710.00	
11						
12	EXPENSES:					
13	DUES TO NATIONAL GRANGE (2200 x 14)	\$ 31,374.00	\$ 30,800.00	\$ 30,596.00	\$ 30,200.00	
14	MASTER'S SALARY	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	
15	MASTER'S EXPENSE	\$ 11,175.00	\$ 11,175.00	\$ 11,175.00	\$ 11,175.00	
16	MASTER'S TRAVEL	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,652.00	\$ 1,500.00	
17	LECTURER'S EXPENSE	\$ 2,799.96	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	
18	TREASURER'S SALARY	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 5,800.00	
19	SECRETARY'S SALARY	\$ 5,833.34	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	
20	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 514.00	\$ 500.00	
21	PAYROLL TAXES	\$ 2,723.56	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 5,556.00	\$ 5,000.00	
22	STATE OFFICERS' BOND		\$ 400.00	\$ 179.00	\$ 250.00	
23	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	\$ 1,418.35	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,416.00	\$ 1,600.00	
24	POSTAGE	\$ 3,326.77	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,716.00	\$ 3,000.00	
25	STATE OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 2,054.13	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 3,924.00	\$ 2,000.00	
26	OFFICE EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	\$ 5,182.45	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 5,500.00	
27	OFFICE RENT	\$ 18,397.10	\$ 38,200.00	\$ 73,411.00	\$ 53,100.00	
28	GRANGE SUPPLIES FOR RESALE	\$ 3,976.93	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 1,500.00	
29	PRINTING	\$ 876.72	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,000.00	
30	LEGAL	\$ 402.00	\$ 500.00	0.00	\$ 500.00	
31	ACCOUNTING	\$ 1,876.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,920.00	\$ 2,000.00	
32	MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 424.05	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,008.00	\$ 1,000.00	
33	STATE FILING FEES	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	
34	ANNUAL STATE SESSION	\$ 4,671.32	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,741.00	\$ 6,000.00	
35	DEPUTIES' EXPENSE	\$ 335.51	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 399.00	\$ 1,000.00	
36	STIPENDS (\$200 EACH DIRECTOR) CWA, JUNIOR, COMMUNITY SERVICE FFH, LEGISLATIVE, MEMB, AG, COMMUNICATION, FUND AND YOUTH	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 2,000.00	
37	WEBSITE	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 1,350.00	
38	PROMOTION	\$ 1,555.50	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,124.00	\$ 1,200.00	
39	GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE	\$ 1,172.85	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,254.00	\$ 1,200.00	
40	NATIONAL CONVENTION ASSESSMENT	\$ 2,465.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	
41						
42	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 125,855.54	\$ 148,160.00	\$ 186,255.00	\$ 167,710.00	
43						
44	NATIONAL HOST FUND (Regional every 5 yrs)	\$ 4,500.00	\$ -			
45						

Original 8/29/23

Revised 10/9/23

PROPOSED HEADQUARTERS BUDGET
2023-2024

10/14/2023

	A	B	C	D	E	F
		Proposed 21-22	ACTUAL 21-22	PROPOSED 22-23	Est-mand 22-23	Proposed 21-22
1	INCOME:					
2	RENTAL INCOME	\$ 32,400.00	30,210.00	\$ 9,000.00	9,640.00	9,000.00
3	MAINE STATE GRANGE RENT	\$ 16,650.00	18,397.10	\$ 38,200.00	73,411.00	53,100.00
4	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	8,700.00	1,000.00
5						
6	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 50,050.00	48,607.10	\$ 48,200.00	91,751.00	63,100.00
7						
8						
9						
10	EXPENSES:					
11						
12	PROPERTY TAXES	\$ 12,000.00	12,058.66	\$ 12,500.00	12,345.00	14,000.00
13	INSURANCE	\$ 5,500.00	5,679.00	\$ 6,000.00	5,387.00	7,000.00
14	ELECTRICITY	\$ 2,500.00	2,499.52	\$ 2,500.00	1,730.00	3,500.00
15	FUEL	\$ 15,000.00	17,839.00	\$ 17,000.00	23,074.00	25,000.00
16	JANITORIAL SERVICE	\$ 3,000.00	2,355.00	\$ 1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
17	REPAIR & MAINTAINANCE	\$ 7,000.00	1,689.00	\$ 5,000.00	45,000.00	8,000.00
18	WATER	\$ 200.00	178.35	\$ 200.00	192.00	250.00
19	SANITATION - SEWER & STORM DRAINS	\$ 1,600.00	1,566.13	\$ 1,650.00	1,580.00	1,800.00
20	WASTE REMOVAL	\$ 750.00	885.71	\$ 850.00	1,008.00	1,000.00
21	SNOW REMOVAL & SALT WALKS	\$ 2,000.00	3,550.00	\$ 1,000.00	1,075.00	1,000.00
22	SUPPLIES	\$ 300.00	306.73	\$ 300.00	360.00	350.00
23	MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00		200.00
24						
25						
26						
27	TOTAL	\$ 50,050.00	\$48,607.10	\$ 48,200.00	91,751.00	63,100.00
28						
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34						
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42						



Final Report of the Credential Committee

To the Worthy State Master, National Ceres, Cindy Greer, Brothers and Sisters of the Maine State Grange.

We wish to report that there were 10 Pomona's represented with 20 delegates. 33 Subordinate Granges represented with 58 voting delegates.

Eight candidates for the Sixth Degree with \$80.00 being collected and turned over to the State Secretary.

We wish to thank Sister Sharon for all her help. Mavis Lane & Elizabeth Huff

The afternoon session of the 149th annual Session was closed in full form in the Fourth Degree.

2:30 P. M.

Open in the 6th Degree

The 150th Annual Session of the Maine State Grange was opened in full form in the 6th Degree for the Conferral of the Sixth Degree.

Officers' pro-tem for the 6th Degree were: Master: Richard Grotton, Past Master of the Maine State Grange; Assistant Steward: James Meserve, Executive Committee member of the Maine State Grange and Lecturer: Melissa Baldwin, Deputy, York Pomona.

The Degree of Flora was conferred on: Beth Burnett, Porter Grange 569; Nathan Burnett, Porter Grange 569; Crystal Burns, Chelsea Grange 215; Jeremy Kalloch, Chelsea Grange 215; Lisa Kalloch, Chelsea Grange 215; Gary F. Lee, Porter Grange 569; Thomas Minogue, Arbutus 450 and Lillie Poors of Arbutus Grange 450

Remarks were made by Cindy Greer, National Grange Ceres and Brother Harry Greer.

Remarks were made by Debra Ivers, Flora of the Maine State Grange, welcoming our newest members and thanking all those who helped in anyway these past two days.

As the work of this day was complete the Worthy Master closed the final day of the 150th Annual Session of the Maine State Grange in the Fourth Degree.

DELEGATES
150th Annual Session
of the Maine State Grange
October 20 & 21, 2023

Alexander 304

Dale Holst

Arbutus 450

Sharon A. Minogue

Thomas Minogue

Bauneg Beg 382

Sherry A. Harriman

Richard Harriman, Jr.

Bingham 237

Lewis Bryson

James Owens

Chelsea 215

Rick Grotton

James Meserve

Community 593

Mavis Lane

Skip Thompson

Danville Jct. 65

Maynard Chapman

Betty Young

Dirigo 98

Margaret Henderson

East Madison 228

James Edgerly

Wanda Hemond

Charlene Gordon (Saturday)

Enterprise 48

Ben Edgerly

CJ Roy

Excelsior 5

Cynthia Maxwell

Norma Meserve

Halcyon 345

Robert Carter

Highland Lake 87

David Gowen

Kathy Gowen

Hollis 132

Vicki Huff

Melissa Baldwin

Hudson 457

Darlene Miles

Terry Lacombe Stevens

Huntoon Hill 398

Henry Morton

John F. Hill 393

Margaret Morse

Cassandra Corliss

Jonesboro 357

Tom Gaddis

Sam Gaddis

Knox Station 579

Agnes Nelson

Robert Nelson

Lakeside 53

Gail Butterfield

Manchester 172

Carolyn Van Horn

Linda Cobb

Maple Grove 148
Susan Farrington

Mill Stream 574
Paul Lavender
Jill Sampson

Mt. Etna 147
Ann Burns

No. Scarboro 495
Adrian Griffin

Norway 45
Tina Thurston
Mary Jo Dibenedetto

Oak Hill 104
Darrell Huff
Elizabeth Huff

Perry 324
Paul Woodman
Benita Gaddis

Pioneer 219
Sherwood Hilt

Porter 569
John Lowry
Maggie Lowry

Valley 144
Walter Boomsma
Janice Boomsma

Waterford 479
Ellie Waterman
Linda Allen

Willow 366
Sharon Morton
Laurie McBurnie

Winthrop 207
Kathy Ward
Jen Pillips

**POMONA DELEGATES
150th ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE MAINE STATE GRANGE
OCTOBER 20 & 21, 2023**

Androscoggin 1

Tracey Small

William Small

Cumberland 15

Elmira Collins

Debra Ivers

Excelsior 5

Skip Thompson

Mavis Lane

Lincoln 19

Paula Roberts

Laurie McBurnie

Sharon Morton (Saturday)

Piscataquis 11

Walter Boomsma

Janice Boomsma

Ben Edgerly

Sagadahoc 9

Ben Edgerly

Marilyn Stinson

Somerset 6

James Owens

Lewis Bryson

Waldo 12

Agnes Nelson

Robert Nelson

Washington 16

Dale Holst

Sam Gaddis

York 14

Melissa Baldwin

Margaret Morse

2023 RESOLUTIONS:

1. NONSMOKING NATIONAL GRANGE EVENTS

Bingham Grange 237

Committee: Good of The Order

Whereas, the 2022 National Grange session was held at a casino where smoke permeates all parts of the casino, convention center, restaurants and hotel, and

Whereas, many Grange members attending the National Grange session have lung issues which are exacerbated by smoking and vaping, therefore be it

Resolved, when future sites for the National Grange convention or National Grange sponsored conferences be chosen, only sites will be considered which are totally nonsmoking.

2. ACTIVATE CAMERAS AT MAJOR INTERSECTIONS

Androscoggin Pomona 1

Committee: Legislative

Whereas, most communities are having trouble hiring police officers, and

Whereas, going thru red lights and speeding are real safety issues, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange support legislation to activate the cameras that are at intersections and install cameras wherever they may be needed.

3. AUTOMATIC LIGHTS ON ALL VEHICLES

Androscoggin Pomona 1

Committee: Legislative

Whereas, Maine State Law requires all vehicles to have lights on when the windshield wipers are on, and

Whereas, vehicles should have lights on at dusk for safety reasons, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange support legislation that all new vehicles have automatic lights.

2023



STATE OFFICERS' REPORTS



STATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

STATE TREASURER



To Cindy Greer - National Rep, State Master - Sherry Harriman, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange. See separate report.

Fraternally,
Victoria S. Huff
Treasurer
Maine State Grange

~~~~~  
TABBUTT'S BOOKKEEPING SERVICE  
PO BOX 56  
SMITHFIELD ME 04978  
October 2, 2023

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

I have completed a preliminary examination of the books and records of the Maine State Grange for the period October 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023. I will examine the September, 2023 records as soon as they are available. In my opinion the treasurer's statements fairly reflect the financial activity of the Grange for the past year and financial status of the Grange as of August 31, 2023. I will submit my financial report as soon as it is completed.

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

Fraternally Submitted,  
*J. Patrick Elwell*  
J. Patrick Elwell

~~~~~

STATE SECRETARY

STATE SECRETARY

To: Cindy Greer, National Rep, the Maine State Grange, Officers of the Maine State Grange and Members of the Maine State Grange.

See separate report.

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

STATE LECTURER

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,

It is an honor to submit my seventh annual report on the activities of the lecturer's department for 2022 - 2023. 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. I would especially like to thank Missy Baldwin and Leslie Guy for stepping in when I was unable to attend the second day of the 2022 session.

In June of 2022 I announced the theme for 2022 – 2023 was going to be "Live in Harmony." By selecting this theme, I had hoped to inspire members to work together for the good of the order.

Throughout the year I have submitted columns that have been posted on the Maine State Grange Website and printed in the Bulletin. I have also sent program helps and information from the National Lecturer to those who have email.

NELC: In late 2022 and early 2023 the State Lecturers of the Northeast region met via Zoom to discuss the possibility of a Leadership, Lecturer & Youth combined conference. During the meetings we discussed plans for our portion of the conference. Unfortunately, the 2023 conference was not held.

Creative Writing Contest: The participation in the creative writing contests, which includes skits and poetry, continues to be limited. I received poetry entries from only two Grangers and skits from one Granger. I sincerely thank them for taking the time to compose these pieces of writing and applaud their accomplishments.

Poetry Awards:

Family: Sherry Harriman, Bauneg Beg Grange #382

Weather: Sherry Harriman, Bauneg Beg Grange #382

Camping: Sherry Harriman, Bauneg Beg Grange #382

Other: 1st Sherry Harriman, Bauneg Beg Grange #382

2nd Barbara Strout, Excelsior Grange #5

Skits: Sherry Harriman, Bauneg Beg Grange #382

Subordinate & Pomona Lecturer's Report: Since State Lecturers are no longer required to send a report to the National Lecturer, it was decided to discontinue Subordinate & Pomona reports. I did receive 2 reports and those Lecturers will receive certificates.

Book Reading Club: Twenty-seven subordinate members sent in reading logs. These twenty seven members read a total of approximately 1744 books and an amazing 619883 pages. Everyone submitting lists will receive certificates as well as bookmarks. The top three readers in each category will receive ribbons and special awards.

Top readers based on Number of Books and Pages

1st Books & pages -Norma Meserve, Danville Jct. Grange #65 (227 books/60065 pages)

2nd Books & pages - Margaret Henderson, Dirigo Grange #96 (160 books/48167 pages)

3rd Books - Melissa Baldwin, Hollis Grange #132 (148 books)

3rd Pages – Gay Anderson, Mill Stream Grange #574 (42456 pages)

Lecturer's Conference : The attendance at the 2022 Lecturer's conference was small. Therefore, this year an invitation was sent to each Subordinate and Pomona Grange in August. In September the invitation was put on the Maine State Website. At this years' conference the Lecturer's Program book for 2023 – 2024 as well as the Creative Writing booklets and information on the duties of the Lecturer will be passed out to all Subordinate and Pomona Granges. New programs will be reviewed, workshops held, awards presented, and door prizes drawn during the conference. There will also be time for sharing.

State Session: is expected to again be a busy time for the Lecturer's Department. I am hoping for a large participation in the Photo contests. Each photo category will be judged and a first, second and third place will be awarded. A Best in Show ribbon will also be awarded. Last year a People's Choice award was added. A People's Choice Photo will be awarded again this year. Any member attending the session may vote for their favorite photo, the votes will be tallied and a People's Choice ribbon will be awarded. There will again be an adult coloring contest this year.

In July I announced the theme for 2023 – 2024. Any theme should set the tone for the year, so after much contemplation I have chosen to use "MANY HANDS ..."as the theme. The phrase was left open ended, on purpose, so that each Grange can complete the statement the way that fits them best.

THANK YOU to all who have supported, promoted, and participated in any of the programs or activities of this department. Again, I would like to thank the members of the Lecturer's Committee who have helped throughout the year. I wish to thank all those in advance who will assist at the Lecturers tables, hanging art and photos, and all the other things that will need doing during the session. I wish to thank State Master, Sherry Harriman for her help and patience when I call her for advice. Also, a heartfelt thank you to my sister, Diane Miller for all her assistance in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Morse, Lecturer

Melissa Baldwin Hollis Ruby Bryant Alder River Allison Colson Benton Leslie Guy John F. Hill
Norma Meserve Danville Junction Darlene Miles Hudson Nathan Pennell Jonesboro

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Willie Grenier, Director

2023 Report State Grange Agriculture Committee

In 2023 the Agriculture Committee of the Maine State Grange met at headquarters with 6-8 members present at each meeting. Karen Hatch-Gagne has retired from the committee and we would love to have additional members. If you are interested please let Master Sherry know.

The scholarship fund started at \$5,980.42 this year and 5 scholarships were approved in the spring. Fundraising and donations will be needed to continue this program. The committee voted to have a raffle for a \$100 gift card and a basket at State Grange session. Maine Agriculture in the Classroom has sponsored 1 scholarship annually and the Grange Store at Fryeburg Fair usually contributes. Last year at State session the raffle and donations raised \$375. The winners were Timothy Wilson and Bert Welch. We appreciate everyone's help!

The groups voted to fund 5 exceptional applications for 2023. Winners are:

- Lily Mae Jaffray from Blue Hill to study Pre-Veterinary Science.
- Emma L. Alexander from Dexter to study Forestry.
- Zachary Dean Skidgel from Newport to study Sustainable Agriculture.
- Grace Cassandra VanBuskirk from Thomaston to study Pre-Veterinary Science and,
- Ashley Nicole Stubbs from Addison to study Animal Science.

2023 Fairs and events calendar was mailed by the State master to judges. The Fryeburg Grange Ag Store moved location last year and had a much better location. Volunteers are needed to work during the week of October 1 -- 8. Let Sharon know if you would like to volunteer next year

The group discussed the 2023 state conference on October 20 & 21 (Friday & Saturday this year) at the Auburn Masonic Hall which is behind the Auburn Mall. It will start on Friday after lunch and include Friday dinner banquet and Saturday lunch. The dining room made it difficult to hear a speaker last year, so the group decided instead to just draw the raffle winners. It will be a very busy session this year!

There are no applications for the Agriculture Enterprise Award. The committee voted to discontinue giving a Tree Farmer of the Year award. The Maine Tree Foundation selects the winner and presents the award in January at the Trade Show. There has been little success getting them to accept another plaque in the fall. We will try the Ag Enterprise Award again in 2024 and then decide if this is worthwhile to continue after that.

MAITC supplied over 800 books to classrooms for both virtual and in-person readings this year. The book was "Honeybee" and was very well received by everyone. The committee will host the MAITC Association Annual Meeting on October 26th at headquarters from 5:30 -- 8:00pm. RSVP at maine@maineagriculture.com before October 22 if you would like to attend.

Best wishes to everyone for another good year for Maine Agriculture!

Agriculture Director

Henry & Sharon Merton	Huntton Hill & Willow
Robert & Agnes Nelson	Knox Station
Nathan Pennell	Jonesboro
Terry & Harriet Spencer	Bingham

2023 Maine Agricultural Fair - Grange Exhibit Results Received
CONGRATS EVERYONE! THEY WERE WONDERFUL! THANK-YOU FOR DISPLAYING!

Monmouth Fair

June 21 – 24

Combined Exhibits 3 (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

1st Winthrop Grange #209

2nd Waterford Grange #479

3rd Enterprise Grange #48

Ossipee Valley Fair

July 6 -9

Combined Exhibits (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

1st Maple Grove #148

2nd Waterford #479

3rd Saco #53

Waterford World's Fair

July 14 – 16

1st Waterford 479

Pittston Fair

July 13 – 16

Combined Exhibits 1 (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

1st Enterprise Grange #48

2nd Chelsea 215

Educational Exhibit 1 1st Maine State Junior Grange

Union Fair

July 26 - 30

Combined Exhibits 3 (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

1st Medomac Valley #175

2nd Evening Star #183

3rd Union Harvest #591

Topsham Fair

August 9 – 13

Combined Exhibits 1 (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

1st Enterprise Grange #48

Educational Exhibit 1 1st Maine State Junior Grange

Skowhegan Fair

August 10 - 19

Combined Exhibits 1 (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

1st Winthrop Grange # 209

Acton Fair

August 24 – 27

Domestic Exhibit 1 1st Saco #53

Piscataquis Valley

August 24 -276

Educational Exhibits 1 1st Valley Grange #144

Informational Display by Piscataquis Pomona #11

Washington County

August 26 – 27

Combined Exhibits 3 (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

1st Jonesboro #357

2nd Perry #324

Windsor

August 28 – Sept 5

Combined Exhibits 4 (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

1st Evening Star Grange #183

2nd Enterprise Grange #48

3rd Winthrop Grange #209
4th Branch Mills Grange #336

Educational Exhibits 1 1st Maine State Junior Grange

Blue Hill August 31 – Sept 4

All 6 entries split the premium awards equally and were not judged individually.

Arbutus #450; Castine #250; Halcyon #345; Jonesboro #357; Lamoine #264; Union Harvest #591

Litchfield September 8 – 10

Combined Exhibits 1 1st Enterprise Grange #48

Educational Exhibit 1 1st Maine State Junior Grange

Oxford County Fair September 13 – 16

Exhibits judged separately in 2 categories:

Agricultural Exhibits 5

- 1st Danville Junction #65
- 2nd West Minot #42
- 3rd Excelsior #5
- 4th Rumford #115
- 5th Waterford #479

Domestic Exhibits 5

- 1st Danville Junction #65
- 2nd West Minot #42
- 3rd Rumford #115
- 4th Excelsior #5
- 5th Waterford #479

Farmington September 17- 23

Exhibits judged separately in 2 categories:

Agricultural Exhibits: 2

- 1st Community #593
- 2nd Farmington #12

Domestic Exhibits: 2

- 1st Community #593
- 2nd Mill Stream #574

Cumberland September 24 – 30

Combined Exhibits (Agricultural and Domestic judged in one display)

- 1st Danville Junction #65
- 2nd Highland Lake #87

Educational Exhibits 1st Haraseeket

Fryeburg October 1 - 8

Agricultural Exhibits: 3

- 1st West Minot 42
- 2nd Rumford 115
- 3rd Waterford 479

Domestic Exhibits: 6

- 1st Mt. Etna 147
- 2nd Maple Grove 148
- 3rd West Minot 42
- 4th Waterford 479

The Fair Building Superintendents request "we need you please continue to put in your displays."

Big E – Eastern States Exposition, in Springfield, Massachusetts Sept 16 – Oct 2

Thanks to Mike G., Jim & Judy M., for helping out in the store.

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## COMMITTEE OF WOMENS ACTIVITIES

Margaret Henderson, Director



2023 Annual Report

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

Our annual Needlework Contest and Conference was held in August. I was pleased to see entries from some members who have not entered before. Please keep participating.

Here is a list of the winners:

Best of Show went to Missy Baldwin for her spectacular 22 piece Plastic Canvas Dollhouse, with furniture, including a toilet that the lid opens, a refrigerator with food inside, a fireplace on the wall & grandfather clock, a car, baby carriage, and a family.

Baking: Chocolate Chip Cookies \_7\_ entries (the judges enjoyed all of them!)

1<sup>st</sup> Paula Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Emily Parsons, 3<sup>rd</sup> Clay Collins

Dress-A-Doll: 3 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Kathy Gowen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Laurie McBurnie, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jackie Morgan

### **NEEDLEWORK:**

Class A: Afghan 1 entry 1<sup>st</sup> Sherry Applebee

Class B: Doilies 1 entry 1<sup>st</sup> Nancy Gowen,

Class C: Embroidery 2 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Gail Butterfield, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jackie Morgan,

Class D: 3 Piece Baby Set No entries

Class E: Plastic Canvas 2 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Missy Baldwin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ellie Collins

Class F: Counted Cross Stitch 1 entry 1<sup>st</sup> Sharon Morton

Class G: Adult Garments 3 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Laurie McBurnie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ann Burns, 3<sup>rd</sup> Nancy Gowen

Class H: Latch Hook 1 entry 1<sup>st</sup> Lila Wilkins,

Class I: Quilted Wall Hanging 2 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Kathy Gowen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lila Wilkins

Class J: Stuffed Toy 3 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Karen McCarrick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gail Butterfield, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Jackie Morgan

Class K: Baby Afghan 4 entries

1<sup>st</sup> Ellie Collins, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sharon Morton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Carolyn Canning, 4<sup>th</sup> Ann Burns

Class L: Children's Garments 3 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Laurie McBurnie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nancy Gowen, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ann Burns

Class M: Table Runners 4 entries

1<sup>st</sup> Lila Wilkins, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jackie Morgan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Rachel Nelson, 4<sup>th</sup> Karen Marquis

Class N: Miscellaneous Items 8 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Kathy Gowen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rachel Nelson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Opal Gardner,

Other entries: Lila Wilkins, Karen McCarrick, Sherry Applebee, Rebecca Elwell, Daniel Myrick

Class O: Decorated Item – Ornament 4 entries

1<sup>st</sup> Norma Meserve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Darlene Miles, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lila Wilkins, 4<sup>th</sup> Jackie Morgan

Class P: Wooden Item (Welcome Sign) 2 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Kathy Gowen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Phillip Parsons

Class Q: Tote Bags 4 entries

1<sup>st</sup> Karen McCarrick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jackie Morgan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Rachel Nelson, 4<sup>th</sup> Kathy Gowen



## QUILTS

Class A: Hand Quilted No entries

Class B: Machine Quilted 1 entry 1<sup>st</sup> Rachel Nelson,

Class C: Hand Tied 3 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Ann Burns, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ellie Collins, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jean Duke

Class D: Pieced by Entrant / Quilted by Someone Else 3 entries

1<sup>st</sup> Kathy Gowen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lila Wilkins, 3<sup>rd</sup> Karen McCarrick

Class E: Baby Quilt 3 entries 1<sup>st</sup> Ann Burns, 2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara Carr, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jackie Morgan

Best of Show went to Missy Baldwin and her marvelous plastic canvas dollhouse with 22 pieces with it.

The winning entries in Classes A – K were sent on to Eastern States for judging in the New England Region. Good Luck to those entries. Last year we had 3 winners from Maine. Keep up the good work everyone. I will look forward to seeing all of your entries next year.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Big E sales table. Thank you to Mike for taking these items down to Springfield, Mass along with the quilt that will be raffled.

Thank you to all of the Granges and individuals who made donations to House In The Woods, Home for Little Wanderers and for Prize money for the contests.

A big "Thank you" to Sister Sherry for typing and printing out next years program booklet. Also, thank you to all of the Committee members for your help.

Fraternally,

Margaret Henderson, CWA Director

### COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Debra Ivers       | Highland Lake        |
| Deborah Lancaster | Old Town – Riverside |
| Cynthia Maxwell   | Excelsior            |
| Laurie McBurnie   | Willow               |

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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

## 2022-23 Annual Report of the Maine State Grange Communications Director

Brothers and Sisters,

It is my distinct honor to report 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 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 thirteenth full year of operation in its current form. The objectives for the redesign in November 2010 were simple. Some of the more important included:

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

We continue to achieve those objectives. Site views have decreased by 3.0% over the previous year. There have been 20,840 site views from September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023—an average of nearly 1,700 monthly. However, these visits do not include subscribers who are receiving the posts without necessarily visiting the site.

Considering the decline in Granges and Grange membership, the site is doing well. Some of that success can be attributed to the site design and content. The site is resource-rich and appeals to both members and non-members. The top pages visited are the information pages, such as the directory of Granges, program books, and information, etc. This year, however, several posts about Community Grange Events and programs received a lot of attention. This tells us how to maintain interest in the site.

Of course, numbers do not tell the entire story. Members and non-members continue to use 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 them to the appropriate party or parties.

During this past year, I have continued to add resource documents and tools to our collection of communication resources available on the site. There is value in our website.

Several significant accomplishments this year include.

- Added additional "Resources for Grangers" consisting of recorded interviews showing how successful Granges are doing so.
- Completed interviews with media representatives and researchers.
- Added an additional SiteLock® security feature to prevent "hacking" of the site. (This accounts for most of the increase over last year.)
- Completed a significant purge of the website's old posts and images. This makes the site much more manageable and saves server space.
- Continued to work with an editorial calendar to ensure regular, consistent posting.
- Continued to make "under the hood" improvements to the site.
- Continued posting of "special events" being sponsored or hosted by Granges. These events are also added to the MSG Calendar Page.
- Continued to facilitate an email service that allows information to be sent directly to officers, directors, and deputies on short notice. This service also makes website subscriptions possible.

My goal is to keep costs associated with the website as low as possible by using "free" software versions and applying creativity to how things get done. Technology costs continue to rise as software companies look to change from purchased software to subscription software. Website security has become a growing issue requiring additional support and expertise.

Invoiced costs for the website almost totally reflect the expenses Abbot Village Press and I incur. I also apply the director's stipend to expenses. To give a complete picture, I include the stipend as part of the cost of the website and communication department to Maine State Grange and the membership. The past four years are shown in the table below.

| Fiscal Year | Invoiced | Stipend | Total  | % Change |
|-------------|----------|---------|--------|----------|
| 2019-2020   | \$912    | \$400   | \$1312 |          |
| 2020-2021   | \$987    | \$400   | \$1387 | +5.7%    |
| 2020-2022   | \$1275   | \$200   | \$1475 | +6.3%    |
| 2022-2023   | \$1400   | \$200   | \$1600 | +8.5%    |

I would encourage members to visit other state Grange websites and compare the appearance and content. Our site should be a source of pride! If we just use a conservative 21,000 site visits per year, each visit costs us less than eight cents. Currently, it costs sixty-six cents just to mail a first-class letter. Those site visits cost less than eight cents each.

Thanks again to Heather and Phil Retberg of Halcyon Grange for their willingness to continue to share columns for our monthly "View from the Farm."

Looking ahead to 2023-2024, some objectives include:

- Continuing to keep communication positive, helpful, and engaging.

- Investigate the feasibility of sponsoring at least one virtual roundtable discussion. This was not achieved last year due to time limitations
- Research further connections between the MSG website and social media
- Continue searching for resources, including additional guest columnists and regular topical information that can be reposted with attribution.

Our greatest accomplishment is also our most significant need for the coming year. We must continue increasing participation and information, working to build a positive communication program. 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. We impact Maine Communities and beyond while preserving our heritage.

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 encouraging open communication throughout our Order and with the public. We must generate interest and excitement among our communities, prospective members, and ourselves.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you and your Grange.

Thank you for your continued confidence and support.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter Boomsma  
Maine State Grange Communications Director

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COMMUNITY SERVICE/FAMILY, HEALTH & HEARING REPORT

MAINE STATE GRANGE

September 1st, 2023

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 ninth year as the Director of this committee. I would like to thank all of those who have supported this Committee and Director during my time as Community Service Director.

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 was truly worried at the difficulty of the judging for the judges.

This year's Community Service Winners are:

1. **Highland Lake Grange #87**
2. **Maple Grove #148**
3. **Jonesboro Grange #357**
4. **Valley Grange #144**
4. **Saco Grange #53**

Of 84 Subordinate Granges, 10 reports were submitted. We are required to have a 25% participation rate to receive monetary support from National Grange. We did not make it this year. It was a sad day.

Please keep sending them in each year. Let me say the work put into these books is getting so much more extensive. This year's judges were so impressed with the quality of the books that we had to add a sixth judge to our panel for final determination. The top six books were separated by a total of 4 points. We had a tie this year for 4th place and even with 6 judges and me we could not separate the 4th place so we are awarding both of the \$50.00. 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. Our own version of 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 398 lbs. of coupons this year. A little more than last year and we are still moving along.

I am sad to report that we did have any entries in the Fire Fighter & EMT and Educator of the Year Contest this year. I hope that this program can be repeated in the upcoming years.

Four 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. I am very sad to say we did not have any nominees this year.

2017 – 2018 Winner was Victoria Huff

2018 – 2019 Winner was Ann Burns

2019 – 2020 Winner was Walter Boomsma

2020 - 2021 Winner was Rebekah Hodgson

2021 – 2022 Winner is: John Cox Jr. of Jonesboro Grange #357

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. We understand that this has been challenging, but there are ways to bring awareness to your Grange Hall in unique ways.

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 I would like to thank everyone who has supported this committee over the past 9 years. Thank you all for making a difference.

Give yourselves a big round of applause for all that you have done and are planning to do in this upcoming year.

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

Fraternally and Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Corliss, Director

MAINE STATE GRANGE EDUCATIONAL AID FUNDS
 Statements of Receipts and Disbursements
 10/1/22 – 9/30/23

RECEIPTS:

Educational Aid:		
Campaign	\$ 365.00	
Interest	<u>678.67</u>	\$ 1,043.67
Howes:		
Campaign	\$ 290.00	
Interest	<u>183.19</u>	<u>473.19</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 1,516.86

DISBURSEMENTS 0.00
 NET RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS \$ 1,516.86

PREVIOUS AVAILABLE BALANCE 5,358.68
 TOTAL AVAILABLE \$ 6,875.54

2023 Scholarship Recipients

HOWES:
 SHARLAH-MAE DAY (Paugus Grange member)
 ASHLEY YAGER

EDUCATIONAL AID:
 HEIDI BRYANT
 ASHLEY BARFIELD
 RICHARD HANSCOM, JR.
 JAYDEN BURROUGHS
 MICHAEL CIRELLO
 GENEVIEVE CIRELLO
 MITCHELL BEAN

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FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Norma Meserve, Chairman

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange.
Fundraising Committee Annual Report 2022-2023

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,

The year started under rather unusual circumstances at State Grange. After a slow start everyone rallied around, and things carried on relatively smoothly. We had many visitors to our table and our sales items sold well. As in the past, our raffle was very successful, and I want to thank all those who contributed in any way to that success. In total we made \$692.

After the new year we started brainstorming on potential fundraising items for this year. I had several conversations with Master Sherry and it was decided that we should get some sales items to commemorate the State Grange's upcoming 150th Birthday in 2024. We designed a shopping bag and some new handheld fans. In addition, Sherry ordered some Travel Mugs and Web Cam Covers. All of these are on hand and will be available at State Grange.

On June 4th we again held our annual yard sale at Manchester Grange in Manchester. The weather cooperated and it was a lovely day! This was an indoor/outdoor event this year with a number of local individuals and several organizations renting tables. The local Lions Club sold breakfast and lunch. People said they could smell it down the street. Always a good way to bring in a crowd! We had a great sale and raised \$520. I would like to thank those who contributed items for the sale, including Sharon and Henry Morton, Yvonne Johnson and Richard and Sherry Harriman. This is certainly an event we'd like to do again next year and hope to have even more renters.

During Fryeburg Fair in 2021 we were fortunate enough to be able to include our cookbooks and the last of our green Agricultural t-shirts in the Grange Store. We sold almost all of the t-shirts (only 4 left) and a lot of cookbooks. From that we cleared \$265. We plan on selling the cookbooks at Fryeburg Fair again in 2022.

It's now time to gear up for this year's State Grange Session. We hope you will come and visit our table. Along with our raffle we will have many items for sale. We still have 2 types of our Grange cookbooks, Main Dishes and Pickles and Preserving for \$5.00 each. We also have variety packs of Grange note cards, also \$5.00 each. Other Grange items include: Fans- \$2, Web Cam covers- \$2, Magnets- \$3, Bags- \$10, Travel Mugs- \$10 and T-Shirts- \$15.

In closing I would like to thank the members of the committee for all of their support.

As always, if you have a fundraising idea that you'd like to share, maybe something you've tried in your Grange, please feel free to mail or email it to me, or come by the table at State Grange. I'll have a container available for you to put your idea into and maybe I can share some of the ideas in my future columns.

Respectfully Submitted,

Norma Meserve, Fundraising Committee Chairman

Ruby Bryant Aider River Linda Coob Manchester Steven Haycock Danville Junction Sharon Kirker Merriconeag
Sharon Morton Willow Nathan Pennell Jonesboro Merton Ricker Topsham

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## JUNIOR COMMITTEE



Betty Young, Director

Annual Junior Report to Maine State Grange Session October 2023

### Junior Director's Report

First of all I want to thank my committee for all their help. Especially Marilyn Stinson and Terry Lacombe. When I took on the role of Jr Director I didn't know what I was supposed to do. They took me by the hand and provided invaluable assistance.

I did know I wanted to meet in person as much as possible. Weather and schedule conflicts prevented meeting as often as I would have liked.

We met in Danville and voted in and obligated a new member. When we met at Headquarters we elected another new member. One member aged out so we had a net gain of 1. We have 13 members in the State Junior Grange.

We met at Enterprise and planted seeds. Unfortunately our meeting up North did not happen neither did Grange Camp. I hope to do better next year, if I continue.

We plan to sing and present posters at State Session.

We also plan to take some Juniors to National.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Betty Young, Junior Director

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Helen Brooks          | Perry             |
| Carolyn Young-Coffin  | Danville Junction |
| Kathy Gowen           | Highland Lake     |
| Christine Hebert      | Norway            |
| CJ Roy                | Enterprise        |
| Terry Lacombe-Stevens | Tranquility       |
| Marilyn Stinson       | Enterprise        |
| Terry & Tim Wilson    | Bangor            |

## LEGISLATIVE

### Officers and members of the Maine State Grange,

Linda Weston, Legislative Dir Chelsea

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| James & Mary Annis | Valley            |
| Mike Griffin       | N. Scarborough    |
| Steven Haycock     | Danville Junction |
| Stanley Howe       | Alder River       |
| Darrell Huff       | Oak Hill          |
| James Owens        | Bingham           |
| Nate Penneil       | Jonesboro         |

## MEMBERSHIP

Rick Grotton, Director

To the Officers and members of the Maine State Grange

The Membership Department has submitted columns with helpful information in order to attract new membership. Please refer to the website for all past columns and information.

There were no visitations or conferences due to the lingering effects of the pandemic, however, this did not stop this department from answering questions, communicating ideas, and finding new ways to attract members. Two new ideas have formed recently; one is to award new membership for their accomplishments and the other is to have Granges share on the website what they are doing in order to be nominated in their community for a Spirit of America award. The contest that asked Granges to honor their new membership over the past two years yielded no entries. However, there were Granges and individual Grange members who received the Spirit of America award this year. Two recipients were new members of my Grange, I am proud to mention.

Thank you to those who have inspired and pushed me during the past year. Remember, membership is a big concern and we should be continuously working on increasing our numbers for future generations. Hopefully, in the next year we will be able to meet, share our ideas, and build up our membership. In the meantime, keep up the good work, the good service, and continue to be a great Granger!!!

Fraternally,

Rick Grotton

Membership Director, Maine State Grange

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Ruby Bryant        | Alder River       |
| Ben Edgerly        | Enterprise        |
| Adrian Griffin     | North Scarborough |
| Rolf Staples, Sr   | Bangor            |
| Tim & Terry Wilson | Bangor            |

### GRANGES REPORTING NET GAINS

For Membership Year July 1, 2022 -- June 30, 2023

|                       |               |                    |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
| East Sangerville #177 | +1            | Farmington #12     | <del>+1</del> |
| Golden Harvest #33    | <del>+1</del> | Hudson #457        | <del>+2</del> |
| Huntoon Hill #398     | +16           | Jonesboro #357     | +10           |
| Lakeside #63          | +1            | Lamoine #264       | <del>+2</del> |
| Oak Hill #104         | <del>+1</del> | Old Town-Riverside | <del>+2</del> |
| Paugus #540           | <del>+2</del> | Pioneer #219       | <del>+1</del> |
| Pleasant River #492   | +8            | Rumford #115       | <del>+2</del> |
| Saco #53              | +8            | Trenton #550       | +9            |
| Union Harvest #591    | <del>+5</del> | Waterford #479     | <del>+2</del> |
| Wayside #590          | <del>+5</del> |                    |               |

19 Granges had Net Gains = 75 members

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