JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED FIFTHIETH

ANNUAL CONVENTION

Maine State Grange

P of H

1874 – 2024

October 18 & 19, 2024

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

OFFICERS OF THE MAINE STATE GRANGE
FOR THE YEAR 2024

Master – Sherry A. Harriman
Overseer – Adrian Griffin
Lecturer – Melissa Baldwin
Steward – Benjamin Edgerly
Assistant Steward – Richard Grotton
Lady Assistant Steward – Roberta Meserve
Chaplain – Christine Hebert
Treasurer – Laurel McBurnie
Secretary – Sharon Morton
Gate Keeper – Peter Ivers
Ceres – Betty Huff
Pomona – Kathy Gowen
Flora – Debra Ivers

Executive Committee

Darrell Huff
James Owens
Nathan Pennell
James Meserve

Musician

Linda Cobb

Soloist

Carolyn Van Horn

WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

Margert Henderson

Clair McEwan Cynthia Maxwell

Deborah Lancaster Kathy Ward

Debra Ivers Laurie McBurnie

CREDENTIALS, SIXTH DEGREE

Mavis Lane Betty Huff

AGRICULTURE

Roberta Meserve

Robert & Agnes Nelson Henry & Sharon Morton

Robert & Agnes Nelson Willie Grenier

Terry & Harriet Spencer Nathan Pennell

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR & WEBMASTER

Walter Boomsma

COMMUNITY SERVICE &
FAMILY HEALTH AND HEARING

Brenda Dyer

Cassandra Corlis - Assistant

Linda Cobb Cassandra Corliss

Benjamin Edgerly Carolyn Van Horn Victoria Huff

HISTORIAN
Stanley Howe
Patricia Libby Barry Tracy
Linda Cobb

JUNIOR DEPT.
Betty Young
Terry Lacombe Stevens
Marilyn Stinson
Helen Brooks Caroline Young-Coffin
Kathy Gowen Christine Hebert
C J Stinson Roy Terry & Tim Wilson

LECTURER'S COMMIMTTEE
Melissa Baldwin
Cassandra Corliss Leslie Guy
Darlene Miles Margaret Morse
All Pomona Lecturers

LEGISLATIVE DEPT.
Linda Weston
Margaret Morse Barry Tracy Paul Woodman
Adrian Griffin Darrell & Betty Huff
James Owens

MEMBERSHIP DEPT.
Richard Grotton
All Pomona Masters

MEMORIAL FUND
Christine Hebert

YOUTH DEPT.
Contact State Grange Office

TRUSTEES OF EDUCATIONAL AID FUND
HOWES NURSES' SCHOLARSHIP
President: Carolyn Van Horn
Vice President: Linda Cobb
Sec/Treas.: J. Patrick Elwell
Trustees
Darlene Miles Margaret Morse
Ex Officio Sherry Harriman
Ex Officio Melissa Baldwin

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
Basil Mosher
Hancock No. 13
Sharon Minogue

Somerset No. 6
Harriet Spencer
Waldo No. 12
Margaret L. Henderson
Washington No. 16
Dale Holst
York No. 14
Richard Harriman

SPECIAL DEPUTIES
Steven Verrill
James Owens
Victoria Huff
Richard Grotton

MAINE STATE GRANGE
150th ANNUAL CONVENTION
OCTOBER 18 & 19, 2024
Auburn Masonic Hall, 1021 Turner Rd

Friday, October 18, 2024
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.

Presentation of National Representative, Barbara Foster, National Pomona and President/Master of the West Virginia State Grange.

Sister Barbara Foster was introduced as our honored guest and was escorted to the Master's station. Sister Foster said she was happy to be here and gave us a brief history of her Grange journey 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:

35 Subordinate Granges represented with 56 voting delegates
12 Pomona Granges represented with 20 voting delegates
Total voting delegates of 76

Formal Presentation of the Maine State Grange Deputies

Chief Deputy
Androscoggin Pomona 1
Maynard Chapman
Cumberland Pomona 8
David Gowen
Hancock Pomona 13
Sharon Minogue
Oxford Pomona 2
Linda Allen
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.

Worthy President/Master Sherry Harriman introduced the following past officers of the Maine State Grange.

Sister Linda Sherman, Past Ceres; Sister Kathy Gowen, Past Ceres; Sister Sue Verrill, Past Flora; Richard Harriman, Past Steward and Glenys Ryder, past Executive Committee of the Maine State Grange.

Distribution and Acceptance of the Order of Business

Acceptance of the Order of Business: A motion was made by Vicki Huff; seconded by Debra Ivers that the Order of Business be accepted with changes as necessary. So, ordered.

Report of the Auditor/Treasurer

The Auditor's Report submitted by Richard J. Garcia, EA was read and ordered printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer, Laurie McBurnie and will be brought before the delegate body at Saturday's session for discussion and acceptance.

RG TAX ACCOUNTING & RESOLUTION LLC

October 10, 2024

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, 2023, though August 31, 2024. I will examine the September 2024 records as soon as I am able. In my opinion the treasurer's statements fairly reflect the financial activity of the Grange as of August 31, 2024. I will submit my financial report as soon as it is completed.

The Grange is responsible for filing a FORM 990 tax return, due February 15, 2025. I will have the 990 completed by then.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Garcia, EA

56 Maine St. Brunswick Maine 04011 Phone 207-607-7118 Fax 207-607-7151
www.rgtaxresolution.com | info@rgtaxresolution.com

PROPOSED STATE GRANGE BUDGET
2024 -2025

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	ITEM	ACTUAL 22 - 23	PROPOSED 23 - 24	Actual 23- -24	PROPOSED 24 - 25	
2	INCOME:					
3	DUES (2200 - 425 Golden = 1,775 @ 23)	43,088.00	43,424.00	40,604.42	40,825.00	
4	OFFICERS' BONDS	275.00	300.00	500.00	300.00	
5	RESERVE FUND	135,342.00	121,486.00	111,854.69	121,375.00	
6	SUPPLIES SOLD (INCLUDES POSTAGE)	1,700.00	1,000.00	734.80	1,000.00	
7	MISCELLANEOUS	3,250.00	1,000.00	5,618.47	1,000.00	
8	FUND RAISING	2,600.00	500.00	1,119.50	500.00	
9						
10	TOTAL INCOME	186,255.00	167,710.00	160,431.88	165,000.00	
11						
12	EXPENSES:					
13	DUES TO NATIONAL GRANGE (2100 @ 14)	30,596.00	30,200.00	29,531.50	29,400.00	
14	MASTER'S SALARY	15,000.00	17,000.00	16,833.27	17,000.00	
15	MASTER'S EXPENSE	11,175.00	11,175.00	11,175.00	11,175.00	
16	MASTER'S TRAVEL (Out of state)	2,652.00	1,500.00	2,084.51	2,000.00	
17	LECTURER'S EXPENSE	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,799.96	2,800.00	
18	TREASURER'S SALARY	4,800.00	5,800.00	5,233.30	5,800.00	
19	SECRETARY'S SALARY	6,000.00	7,000.00	6,333.30	7,000.00	
20	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPENSES	514.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	
21	PAYROLL TAXES	5,556.00	5,000.00	5,769.76	6,000.00	
22	STATE OFFICERS' BOND	179.00	250.00	185.00	200.00	
23	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	1,416.00	1,600.00	1,599.93	1,700.00	
24	POSTAGE	2,716.00	3,000.00	3,194.61	3,300.00	
25	STATE OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,924.00	2,000.00	2,208.74	2,500.00	
26	OFFICE EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	6,800.00	5,500.00	6,306.19	6,500.00	
27	OFFICE RENT	73,411.00	53,100.00	52,745.26	46,700.00	
28	GRANGE SUPPLIES FOR RESALE	1,160.00	1,500.00	1,063.00	1,500.00	
29	PRINTING	700.00	1,000.00	745.57	1,000.00	

PROPOSED HEADQUARTERS BUDGET
2024-2025

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	**INCOME:**	PROPOSED 22-23	ACTUAL 22 - 23	PROPOSED 23 - 24	Actual 23 - 24	PROPOSED 24 - 25
2						
3	RENTAL INCOME	9,000.00	9,640.00	9,000.00	9,600.00	9,000.00
4	MAINE STATE GRANGE RENT	38,200.00	73,411.00	53,100.00	52,745.26	46,700.00
5	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,000.00	8,700.00	1,000.00	1,037.00	1,000.00
6						
7	**TOTAL INCOME**	48,200.00	91,751.00	63,100.00	63,382.26	56,700.00
8						
9						
10	**EXPENSES:**					
11						
12	PROPERTY TAXES	12,500.00	12,345.00	14,000.00	13,155.92	14,000.00
13	INSURANCE	6,000.00	5,387.00	7,000.00	7,213.00	7,000.00
14	ELECTRICITY	2,500.00	1,730.00	3,500.00	2,003.96	2,200.00
15	FUEL	17,000.00	23,074.00	25,000.00	17,879.00	20,000.00
16	JANITORIAL SERVICE	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
17	REPAIR & MAINTAINANCE	5,000.00	45,000.00	8,000.00	19,532.81	8,000.00
18	WATER	200.00	192.00	250.00	221.00	250.00
19	SANITATION - SEWER & STORM DRAINS	1,650.00	1,580.00	1,800.00	1,634.21	1,800.00
20	WASTE REMOVAL	850.00	1,008.00	1,000.00	1,068.11	1,200.00
21	SNOW REMOVAL & SALT WALKS	1,000.00	1,075.00	1,000.00	600.00	1,000.00
22	SUPPLIES	300.00	360.00	350.00	74.25	150.00
23	MISCELLANEOUS	200.00		200.00	0.00	100.00
24						
25						
26						
27	**TOTAL**	48,200.00	91,751.00	63,100.00	63,382.26	56,700.00
28						
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riginal 8/1/24
evised 10/3/24

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 Bonnie Clark, Maynard Chapman and Brenda Dyer.

2:30 P.M.

Break for preparation for the Memorial Service

2:45 P.M.

Memorial Service

Christine Hebert, State Chaplain

Maine State Grange Memorial Service – 2024

Opening Thought: You Never Walk Alone

Reading: "Remember me." Read by Christine Hebert

Song: Nearer my God to Thee

Past State Officers Tribute by Vicki Huff

Past Deputies Tribute by Margaret Morse

2024 MASTER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

Worthy National Representative Barbara Foster, Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange,

150th Anniversary Celebration

It is an honor to present the 2024 Maine State Grange Annual Address at the end of our 150th anniversary year as a State Grange. **The 150th Anniversary Celebration** was a success with about 55 Grangers and 10 Juniors attending. Thank you for attending and thanks to all who helped in any way, cleaning, changing light bulbs, setting up tables, bringing food, setting up, taking part in the program, clearing away, and saving me some goodies. Thank you, Juniors for weeding and sprucing up the memorial garden around the flagpole as a Community Service activity. It was a very casual afternoon with lots of visiting, reminiscing, hugs and big variety of yummy sweets & snacks! Everything was done downstairs throughout the house – our State Grange headquarters and office (the chairlift to the auditorium was out of order). Souvenir 150th booklets were printed for our guests to take, listing all 593 Maine Granges, when they were organized & closure dates; all State Officers & dates they served; Annual State Sessions dates & places; National Sessions in Maine; and Maine Grangers who served as National Grange Officers; and assorted moments in State Grange history. Special 150th pads of paper were also passed out. The booklets and pads of paper are available here.

There were posters, memorabilia, assorted photo albums, and other unique items to look at. The attendees participated in a meet the officers scavenger hunt to fill in a questionnaire with the name of a different officer for each question. Richard and I were very disappointed we couldn't be there because we had been exposed to Covid on Wednesday. Mike G. was MC for the program which consisted of a Welcome by Darrell H., Moments in History by Missy B., membership information by Sharon M., Jim O. talked about the officers albums he has custody of, the Juniors performed a couple of songs, the officer questionnaire was reviewed with much laughter, several folks gave some of their Grange experiences, door prizes were drawn and "It's A Good Thing To Be A Granger" was sung by all. Thanks for making the day a success.

National Grange 2023 and 2024

Richard and I were the registered delegates at the 2023 National Grange Convention which was hosted by the Northeast Region held in Niagara Falls, New York in Nov. However, due to some health issues Richard was unable to attend. I asked Peter Ivers if he would be interested in taking over for Richard as our 2nd delegate, he very readily agreed to the task. I want to commend and congratulate Pete on a difficult job very well done, this is a daunting task when you are familiar with it, but jumping in with no knowledge how things work is even more so. He took a lot of time reviewing the materials for the resolutions, and other items we had to discuss and vote on, listened to all discussions and made decisions he felt best. I was assigned to Citizenship & Taxation Committee. Pete took Richard's place on the Labor, Judiciary, & Transportation Committee and I heard great comments from the other members of the committee about Pete's participation. Well done and thank you very much. Pete is now a past National Delegate and permanent member of the Assembly of Demeter, the highest division of our Order, and was

made?" This includes any request for information. We get complaints at the office, that "I didn't get this mail or that", we also get mail returned regularly, but do we have the correct information, have changes been made? If you don't send something to us, how do we know who to send items to. I have noticed on several of the roster forms I have received, there is a change to the day or time of the meeting. If you are changing the time or day you meet, this is a By-Law change and is required to be voted on at your regular Grange meeting and approved by the State Master before it can officially take effect! **Do you have a copy of your By-Laws or do you know where there is a copy? Do we have a copy of your By-Laws at the office? We should.**

Goals

*More active and involved Subordinate Granges working to improve its individual members and the good of all.

*More involvement in community concerns, family and good ritualistic work for opening and degree.

*Working together as one unit showing mutual concern and respect for others.

*More cooperation and people support for the Grange Leaders, so they don't feel so alone at the meetings and activities.

*Improved programs and projects that keep in step with our changing world and the interests of our members.

*Utilize those people for their skills to assist with training others, in a variety of subjects.

*Improve leadership skills of the Leaders and the members.

*Provide workshops on what is required as a Grange Leader, goal setting, how and what to plan for activities including but not limited to fun things.

*Get a complete data base for all Granges with current membership information.

*Better communication with Leaders from State and National levels.

*Easier communication of ideas and problem solving between Leaders and each other.

*Increase in membership statewide. Net gain in membership.

Passing of our Dedicated Members

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 public 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.

Headquarters

The Maine State Grange headquarters building in Augusta had a much better year as you can see from the budget, but much of the expenditures were related to the issues from last year or paid during this fiscal year. The circulator in the furnace in the front part of the house quit and needed to be replaced, we found this to be the cause of the pipes freezing upstairs last year, all those issues have been taken care of but we have not reconstructed the dining room yet. The furnace in the garage end of the building was replaced in November, all other related work was completed and all is in order.

Sharon and Henry Morton spend a lot of time at our building, doing a whole variety of extras, like letting in the plumber, electrician, furnace man, and the list goes on and on for the good of the Grange because they care. Again this year, they have been chasing away the vagrants and cleaning up after them, who use our porches & extra eaves to get out of the rain and the bushes to hide behind. The police have come several times and removed people. For all **the extra** things Sharon & Henry do for the Grange and the Maine State Grange HQ building, thank you doesn't cover my appreciation for your efforts. THANK YOU BOTH VERY MUCH!

Committees and Departments

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. Thank you to the Executive Committee, for your advice, guidance, counsel and friendship. In addition, Sharon, thank you for all your help and assistance you have given me, doing a lot of things, and behind the scenes work, I appreciate you very much. A special, thank-you Richard for your support and strength through the good happenings and some very difficult Grange situations & decisions.

I certainly appreciate the efforts of our Officers, Members, Deputies, Directors, Committees and Departments who have continued to work diligently promoting programs and events. Several provide a monthly column for the Bulletin and Website. Many thanks to each of you that are involved and thank you for your year end reports!

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

Agriculture

Roberta Meserve, Chairman and committee members Willie Grenier, Sharon & Henry Morton, Bob & Agnes Nelson, Terry & Harriet Spencer, Pete Ivers, and Nate Pennell, promote agriculture with their participation in several statewide events and have met during the year. The committee gave scholarships again this year to students going to college with agricultural

This committee, Pres. Carolyn Van Horn, VP Linda Cobb, Sec/Treas J. Patrick Elwell, Trustees Darlene Miles and Margaret Morse, Ex-Officio Melissa Baldwin and myself continue to promote higher education and award scholarships to deserving recipients. The committee is 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 helpers have been dedicated in their fundraising efforts and are still working for the good of the Grange. We appreciate what has been done. The Visa gift cards and assorted yard sale and session items were fundraising successes. Thanks to each of you for supporting their efforts.

Junior Grange

Thank-you Junior Directors Betty Young & Terry Lacombe Stevens and committee Helen Brooks, Caroline Young-Coffin, CJ Stinson-Roy, Marilyn Stinson, Tim & Terry Wilson, Nicole Nickerson, Kathy Gowen and Christine Herbert who have 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. Thank you to all the Juniors who helped weed the memorial garden at HQ. Thank you for participating in our 150th State Grange Celebration.

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.

In Conclusion

[illegible] effort it took for that first group of people to meet together, 150

Maine State Grange Memorial Service
2023-2024

Submitted by Christine Hebert

Opening Thought: You Never Walk Alone
Reading: "Remember me." read by Christine Hebert
Song: Nearer my God to Thee
Past State Officers Tribute by Vicki Huff
Past Deputies Tribute by Margerate Morse
Past Suboranate Members Tribute by Tina Thurston
Song: Whispering Hope, Solo by Caroline VanHorn
Military Tribute by Christine Hebert
Poem: "A Soldier's Praise" Written by Bettina Franciosi
Song: Veteran's of the USA by the Goads (recording)
Closing Prayer

Opening Thought:
You Never walk alone

You never walk alone, my friend
Though you may think you do,
For in your sorrow and despair
God always walks with you.
There is no hour, no passing day
He is not by your side,
And though unseen he still is there
To be your friend and guide.
Whenever you think you walk alone,
Reach out and you will find
The Hand of God to show the way

Remember Me

To the living, I am gone,
To the sorrowful, I will never return,
To the angry, I was cheated,
But to the happy, I am at peace,
And to the faithful, I have never left.

I cannot speak, but I can listen.
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard.
So as you stand upon a shore gazing at a beautiful sea,
As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity,
Remember me.

Remember me in your heart:
Your thoughts, and your memories,
Of the times we loved,
The times we cried,
The times we fought,
The times we laughed.
For if you always think of me, I will never have gone.

by Margaret Mead

Tribute to June K. Burke

Daughter, Sister, Wife, Aunt, Mother, Cousin, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother, Great-Great Grandmother, Friend and Granger, all words that describe the woman June K. Burke.

June was born June 13th, 1934 in New Durham, NH. She spent more than 80 years of her life in Lebanon, ME. She worked as a mail carrier and Postmaster but ended her career working in the kitchen in the Lebanon Schools. It gave her great pleasure to work in the school that her grand-children attended. She loved all the children as if they were her own.

June was actively involved in her community. She served on several committees, most notably: PTA, the Quarterback Club and the Town of Labanon Bicentennial. She also volunteered on other town celebrations, elections and in the local library.

June set the grandmother bar high by always being present at birthdays, sporting events, graduations, dance recitals, school concerts and any other event that involved her grandchildren. They all felt fortunate to have her in their lives.

For more than 60 years you could find June and her husband Richard "Dick" at Acton Fair. Dick was in charge of the grounds so that meant you could usually find June at Gate 2 either selling tickets or feeding the "crew". It was a family event. June was also in charge of the Miss Acton Fair pagent for many years. It started out as the Miss Apple Princess contest and was part of the nationwide Miss America contest. It evolved over time and is one of the premier events at the

made of family and Grangers that were like family. They traveled to a lot of places doing installations. June was elected Lecturer of the Maine State Grange in 1974 and served until 1981. She and her daughter Laura participated on Rose Drill Teams.

June went to the Great Grange above on November 22, 2023. She is survived by her 4 children, Richard Jr., Michael, Laura and Kelly, 9 grandchildren, 13 Great Grandchildren, 2 Great-Great Grandchildren, a brother and a sister.

"SHE IS GONE" BY DAVID HARKINS

You can shed tears that she is gone
Or you can smile because she has lived
You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
Or you can be full of the love that you shared
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday
You can remember her and only that she is gone
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what she would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

"NO MATTER WHAT" BY DEBI GLIORI

Small said: "But what about when you're dead and gone? Would you love me then? Does love go on?"
Large held Small snug as they looked out at the night, at the moon in the dark and the stars shining bright.
"Small, look at the stars – how they shine and glow. Yet some of those stars died a long time ago. Still they shine in the evening skies… love, like starlight, never dies".



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
JUNE BURKE

The hour of labor is upon us and the work of another day demands our attention. This is the opening statement of the 4th degree and no truer words are spoken about the responsibilities when a Brother or Sister is appointed and presented a deputy's pink sash. Deputies work with Junior Granges and Subordinate Granges throughout the year to inform, and instruct them. Deputies are also responsible and work diligently before, during and after to make sure our State Grange sessions runs smoothly. When our deputies retire and the time comes when their spirit rises upward to that Great Grange above they are welcomed with the plaudit that we all want to hear, "Well done good and faithful servant."

It is now time to pay tribute to our worthy Brother Rolf Staples and Sister Gloria Ross as well as deputies from years past who have gone on before us and who gladly answered the Master's call of service.

We thought of you with love today
But that is nothing new
We thought about you yesterday
and days before that too.

We think of you in silence
We often speak your name
Now all we have are the memories
and your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake
With which we'll never part
God has you in his keeping
We have you in our heart.



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
ROLF STAPLES

Greetings fellow Grange members.

My name is Tina Thurston, I have been a Grange member for a mere three years now. During this time, I have been chaplain, secretary, and now lecturer.

Before that, I had no idea the Grange even existed.

I am so honored to be here amongst such greatness.
to be a part of history in the making.

A tiny piece of a much greater puzzle.

The depth of which is staggering when contemplated.

These thoughts lead me to the realization that every single member that has come before me, has done their part to make this moment in time possible for all of us.

Thus, I want to give a shout out to those who have gone their way to the Pearly Gates.

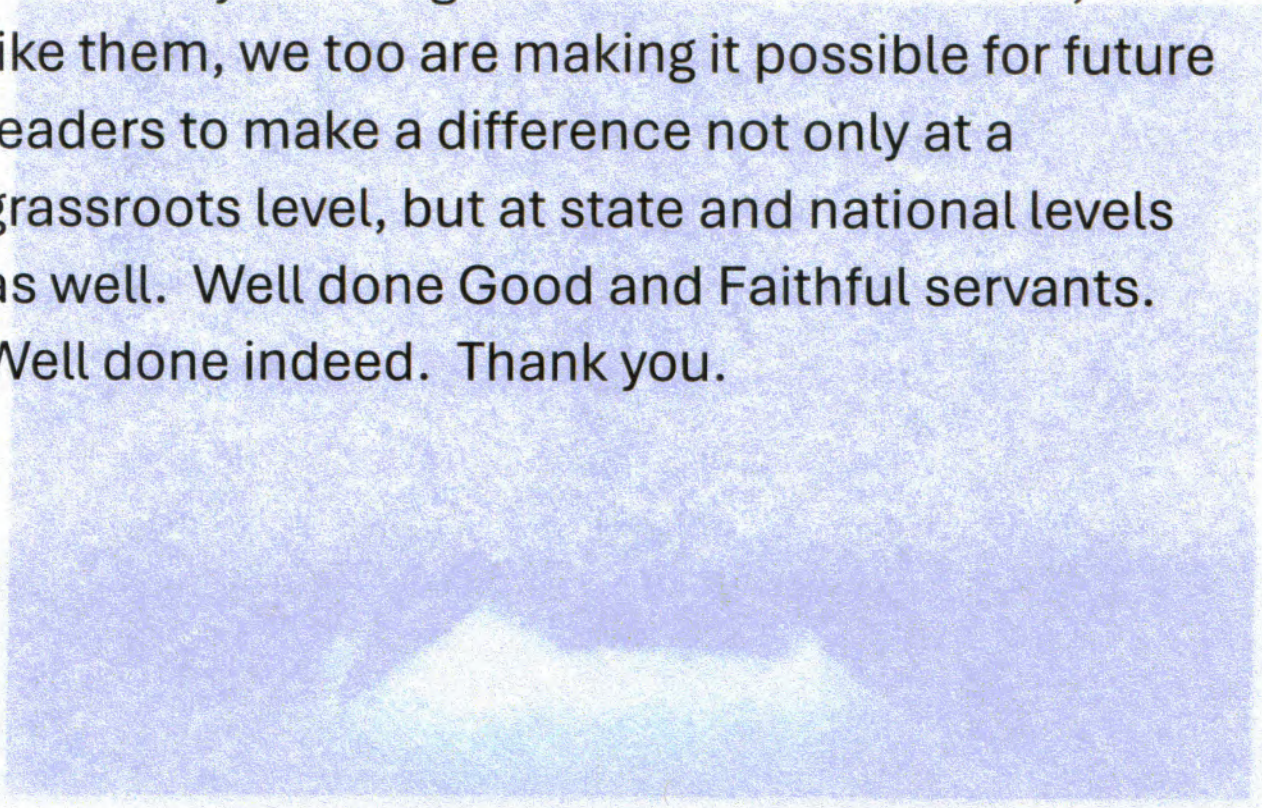
May their legacy be known and appreciated. May their time and willingness to go above and beyond themselves for the greater good be recognized for the example it truly is.

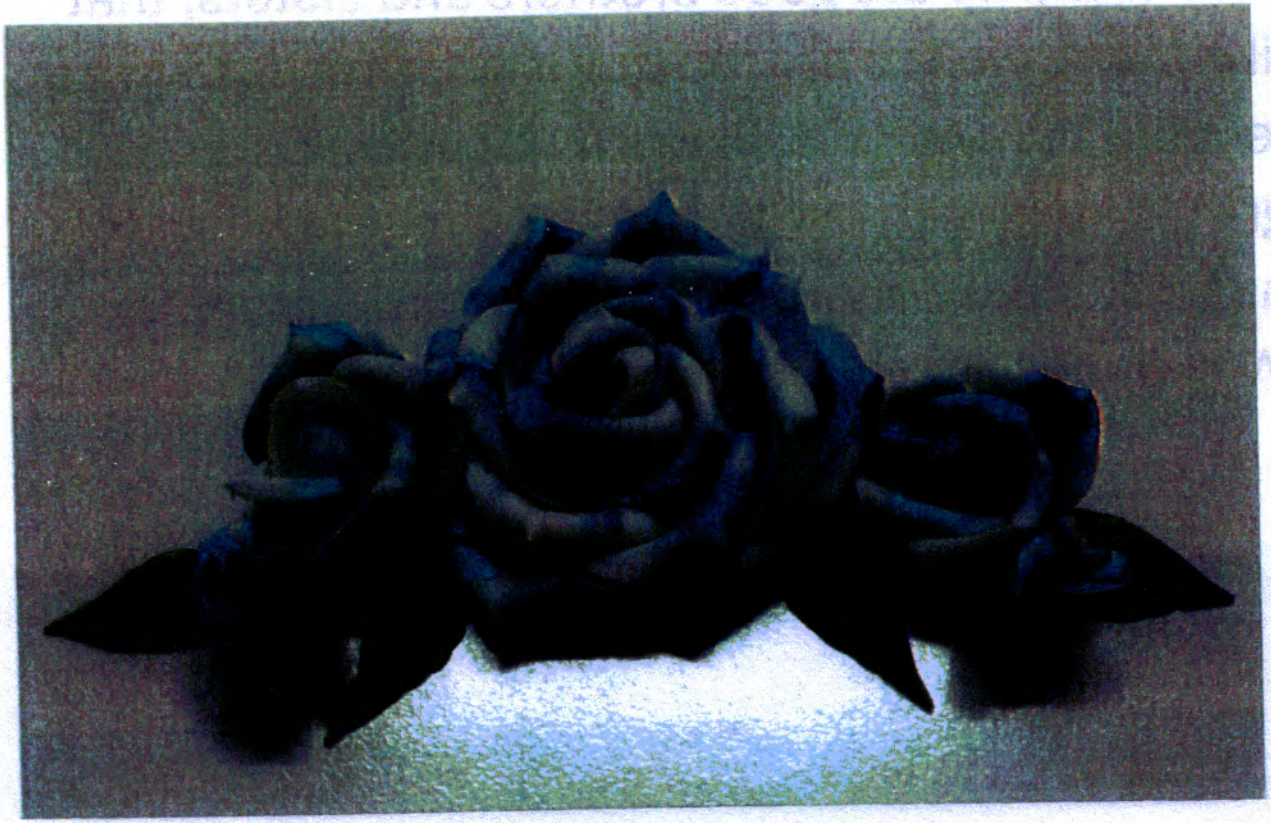
The value of fellowship, belonging, and opportunities to use one's talents for something beyond oneself to change the world makes what we do more vital than ever before.

We wouldn't have this opportunity without those who, throughout time, heard and acted on the call to greater action.

Come to find out, the Grange is a part of my legacy, my story as well.

How lucky we are good brothers and sisters, that like them, we too are making it possible for future leaders to make a difference not only at a grassroots level, but at state and national levels as well. Well done Good and Faithful servants. Well done indeed. Thank you.







HONOR OUR HERO'S!

IN LOVING TRIBUTE TO ALL HEROS

A SOLDIER'S PRAISE

In a field of green, no seeds are sown
But year after year this garden grows
Planted here are hopes and dreams
Futures never to be seen.

Acres of sorrow,acres of pride -
America's heroes! For us they died
They went to war,some barely men
And never made it home again.

Those that did, never came back whole,
What they had seen had scared their souls
While we slept safe inside our homes
They screamed in the night, scared and alone.

Too many "Thank You's" left unsaid;
Only this garden, a monument to our dead.

VETERANS OF THE USA

WE HAVEN'T FORGOT
THE PRICE YOU HAVE PAID
YOU'VE GIVEN US THE FREEDOMS
THAT WE ENJOY TODAY.

AND EVERY DAY I THANK MY GOD
FOR SENDING THOSE LIKE YOU
WHO CARED FOR THE FUTURE
THE DREAMS OF ME AND YOU.

THE RED IS FOR THE BLOOD
THE BLUE IS FOR THE BRUISE
THE WHITE IS FOR THE EYES
WHO FOUGHT FOR ME AND YOU
SO, WE LIFT OUR HEARTS TODAY
FILLED WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAISE
FOR THE VETERANS OF THE USA.

WE THANK THE FAMILIES
WHO GAVE THEIR PRECIOUS GIFTS
THE CAUSE WAS GREATER THAN ALL YOUR FEARS
AND WITH THE FLAG RAISED HIGH

OUR HEARTS ARE FILLED WITH PRIDE
YOU'RE THE REASON AMERICA'S STILL ALIVE.

THE RED IS FOR THE BLOOD
THE BLUE IS FOR THE BRUISE
THE WHITE IS FOR THE EYES
WHO FOUGHT FOR ME AND YOU
SO, WE LIFT OUR HEARTS TODAY
FILLED WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAISE
FOR THE VETERANS OF THE USA.

AND I KNOW THERE ARE SO MANY OF YOU
STANDING WITH ALL OF US TODAY
WE TAKE THIS MOMENT TO SAY THANK YOU
FOR THE FREEDOM IN THE USA.

Closing Prayer, written by Ester Kilborn

Now may we pause along the way
And bow our heads in prayer
In memory of those who have left us
For a better Grange up there.

Let us decorate our alter
With flowers of brotherly love
As though to strew their path
From here to the gate above.

May they find peace and comfort
When they reach that distant shore,
And join the other Grangers
To continue their work as before.

And when it's God's will, we'll meet them
Let us hope we'll be able to say
That we have done our work on earth
As faithfully and as well as they.

Linda Weston – Chair of the Legislative Committee presented Resolution 1

All Committee recommendations and delegate voting will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Barbara Foster, Pomona of the National Grange was our afternoon speaker. It was an insightful talk and was enjoyed by all.

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 by Sherry Harriman, Master.

6:00 P. M.

Banquet "Road to the Future"

Pine Cone Eastern Star Chapter #26

Recognition of Former Officers of Maine State Grange; Junior Program; Lecturer; Community Service, Family Health & Hearing; Outstanding Granger; Membership; Educational Aid & Howes Nurses Scholarship; CWA presentations for Home for the Little Wanderers and House in the Woods.

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

Gatekeepers: Terry Spencer, Henry Morton, Richard Grotton and Ben Edgerly
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 song "Did You Ever-Down by the Bay" Sebastian Nickerson, Mary Coffin, Edith Coffin, John Coffin and Laura Coffin. The Juniors were accompanied on guitar by Caroline Coffin, and aid by Junior committee member and Nicole Nickerson.

Community Service/Family Health and Hearing

The Community Service Committee would like to thank all Grangers (Community Service Chairperson, committee members, individuals and groups) and non-members (groups, citizens and individuals) for their hours of community service and supporting the Grange. (Infor from reports turned in)

578 Grange members
239 Grange members participation
3002 non-Grange members participation
1401 Hours submitted.

Community Service Notebooks

These notebooks are reports of Community Service Projects. 1-2 pages 3 at most of each project, describing project, planning, advertisement, pictures, thank you per project.

10 Notebooks were submitted.

Winners are:

1st Enterprise 48 $250
2nd Lakeside #63 $200
3rd Highland Lake #87 $150
4th Saco #53 $50

80 Subordinate Granges with 21 reports submitted. 13 Pomona Granges with 2 reports submitted.

Barbara Bush children's Hospital donations increased both monetary and physical (materialistic) items. Great job! House in the Wood, Home for Little Wanderers, Iris Network and Troopons.

Granger of the Year

1. Martha Cox Jonesboro 357
2. Carrie Crouse Saco 53
3. Barbara Griffin No. Scarboro 495
4. Debby Kohler So. Sangerville 335
5. Marilyn Stinson Enterprise 48

Winner: Marilyn Stinson $100.00 for the charity of her choice

Troopons

There were three Granges participating:

1.	Lakeside 63	3,666	11,098.75
2.	Saco 53	1,102	3,551.03
3.	Valley 144	256	791.46
	Total	5,024	15,441.24

Firefighter/EMT

2 entries and both disqualified

-form not completely filled out

-form received 9/24/24 which was due 9/1/24

Police 0 entries

Educator 0 entries

Family, Health & Hearing

1st Highland Lake 87 $50

Participants were: William Stinson-Barone; The Coffins; Carolyn, Dana, Edith, John, Laura and Mary; Carly & Reagan Crockett; Kayla LaCombe, Nicole and Sabastian Nickerson; Terry LaCombe-Stevens; Marilyn Stinson and Betty Young.

$50 was presented to the Maine State Junior Grange.

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, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Net Increase of One
Ammadamast 379
Bingham 237
Cambridge Valley 582
Granite 192
Harraseeket 9
Valley 144

Net Increase of 2
Chelsea 2
Enterprise 48
Merriconeag 425
Parkman 305

Net Increase of 3
Manchester 172
Union Harvest 591

Net Increase of 11
St. George 421 merger w/Penobscot View
Trenton 550

Net Increase of 15
Victor 49

Net Increase of 21
Waterford 479 merger w/Alder River

Net Increase of 24
Tranquility 344

Net Increase of 32
Fairview 342

Educational Aid and Howes Nurses Scholarship

Maine State Grange
Educational Aid and Howes
Nurses Scholarship Committee
2024 Scholarship Recipients

President, Carolyn Van Horn explained the application procedure for applying for these scholarships.
The following recipients were: Howes:

CWA

Margaret Henderson, Director of the CWA, will present a check to Home for Little Wanderers for $605. I have also received donations of diapers, diaper wipes, hats, mittens and toys for them. They are very thankful for the contributions the Granges donate to them. A check of $630 was presented to Richard Harriman who will present this to the people who run House in the Woods.

Margaret presented the following Eastern States Northeast Needlework 2023-2024 Contest winners:

Class B: Doilies 3rd place: Grace West
Class C: Embroidery 1st place: Gail Butterfield
Class E: Plastic Canvas 1st place: Elmira Collins
Class G: Adult Garment 3rd Place: Kathy Gowen
Class I: Quilted Wall Hanging 1st Place: Jackie Morgan
Class J: Stuffed Toy 3rd Place: Ann Burns
Class K: Baby Afghan 2nd Place: Elmira Collins

Certificates were also presented to Granges that had made donations to House in the Woods; Home for Little Wanderers; and Prize money.

The raffle winners were: Fall stitchers and dish clothes: Richard Harriman; $20 Hannaford Gift Card: Roberta Meserve and $100 Visa Gift Card: Sue Verrill.

Thank you to the people who donated these prizes and thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets and supported the CWA projects. It is greatly appreciated.

Lecturer

Melissa Baldwin announced the following contest winners in the Lecturer's Department:

Poetry: 1st place Helen Brooks of Perry Grange
Participation certificate to Barbara Strout from Excelsior Grange

Book Reading: 1st place Margaret Morse of John F Hill Grange – 278 books & 59,532 pages; 2nd place Norma Meserve of Danville Jct. Grange – 202 books & 58,859 pages; 3rd place Ellie Waterman of Waterford Grange – 49,115 pages; Another reader 3rd place - 164 books. Jr. Readers: 1st place Carolyn Heck of Mill Stream Grange – 243 books &58,640 pages; 2nd place Natalie Heck of Mill Stream Grange - 121 books 25,701 pages.

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

Saturday, October 19

9:00 A. M. Opening in the Fourth Degree
Roll Call of Officers
Reading and Adopting the Minutes of Friday'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 150th Annual Session of the Maine State Grange was called

Nurses Scholarship: President: Sec./Treas.: J. Patrick Elwell and Trustee: Margaret Morse.

Reading and Adopting the Minutes of Friday's Session

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

Acceptance of Master's Address

The following report was given by Bonnie Clark, Chair of the Committee
(see attached)

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report

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

Acceptance of the Secretary's Report

The Secretary awaited questions regarding her report. A motion was made by Debra Ivers and seconded by Terry Spencer to accept her report as given. 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 37 represented with voting delegates of 58
Pomona Granges with 12represented with voting delegates of 23
Total voting delegates of 71

REPORT ON MASTERS ADDRESS

150 Anniversary celebration:

It was appropriate to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Grange, as many local granges did this year. Well done to those who participated and those who made it possible.
Good description of the events of the day.

National Grange 2023 and 2024:

Master Harriman and Peter Ivers were our delegates to National convention in 2023 and served on several committees. Sounds like they made themselves very useful. It was great to hear about Peter's rise to the Order of Demeter and the record number of candidates to receive the seventh degree. Well done.
Master Harriman will be a delegate again in November in Iowa, with Mike Grifin and gives a good description of the preparation for the committee work. We will be well represented.

Masters Work:

Master Harriman gave a good description of what she does for us. Many things that probably most of us did not know. It was a particularly good description of what happens with sale of grange halls, and what happens with the money.

Getting an accurate data base together is also a very time consuming job, all grangers need to pay attention to getting accurate information on the reports, and getting them in on time, so that the database is accurate. It is not fun to have mail returned to sender, over and over.

Also, take heed that you are not changing your bylaws by changing your meeting days, Take heed and do a review of your bylaws and follow the process.

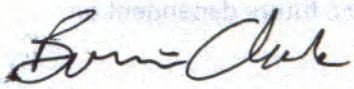
Master Harriman makes it clear that she cannot do everything by herself, she

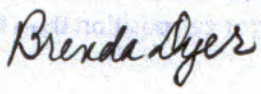
Committees and Departments:

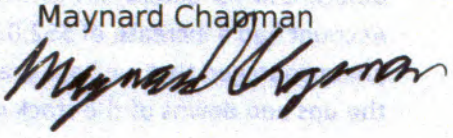
Master Harriman gave credit to all of the officers, deputy's and departments for advice, counsel, etc. and all who have helped her. She described events and work that the various committees did throughout the year and made a request for more help in various positions.

We found the Masters Address to be very informative, interesting and very appropriate.

Bonnie Clark Brenda ~~Debra~~ Dyer Maynard Chapman







October 3, 2024

To National Pomona Barbara Foster, State Master Sherry Harriman, Fellow State Officers, Delegates, and Members of the Maine State Grange:

As your Treasurer, I would like to present the following report for the fiscal year 2023-2024. The State Grange Investments did well this year (for the period 10/1/23-6/30/24). These are with three (3) different firms: Cetera Advisors (Aviso) showed a increase of $2,310.65. Kennebec Savings Investment Account had a increase of $52,037.60. and Key Financial Services showed an increase of $11,750.74. I am encouraged that we have maintained a stronger position than last year with the future dependent on the ups and downs of the stock market.

Following is a list of the pieces of property currently for sale due to the closing and merging of Granges:

Alder River (in East Bethel)*

Escutarsis (in Lowell), land and building** Sale Pending

Fort Fairfield, small land lot only**

Garland, land and building (listed with realtor)**

Indian River (in Addison), land and building**

Penobscot View (in Rockport), land and building (listed with realtor)*

2023-2024

State Grange Accounts

	A	B	C	D
1		**Financial Institution**	**Account Name**	**Balance 09/30/24**
2		Key Bank	checking	$112,472.97
3		Key Bank	Savings	$176,191.00
4		Kennebec Savings	Savings	$10,841.74
5				
6	**State Grange Dedicated Accounts**			
7		Kennebec Savings	CD-Reserve	$6,830.01
8		Kennebec Savings	CD-Camp Fund	$49,583.73
9		Kennebec Savings	CD-Host Fund	$51,867.96
10		Kennebec Savings	CD-Livermore Goodwin	$50,492.75
11		Kennebec Savings	CD-Memorial Fund	$22,648.86
12		Kennebec Savings	N. Clifford Scholarship	$3,179.00
13		Kennebec Savings	V. Clark Youth	$2,344.44
14	**Total**			**$186,946.75**
15				
16	**State Grange Accounts**			
17		Kennebec Savings	CD-Reserve	$62,094.86
18		Kennebec Savings	Queen City	$32,040.64
19		Bangor Savings	CD-4280	$181,842.99
20		Bangor Savings	CD-4279	$85,851.76
21		Kennebec Savings	CD-Naples	$6,648.31
22		Kennebec Savings	CD-Eastern Star	$5,456.84
23		Kennebec Savings	CD-Machias Valley	$30,227.21
24	**Total**			**$404,162.61**
25				
26	**Investment Accounts**			**As of 6/30/24**
27		Cetera Advisors		$48,219.72
28		Kennebec Savings		$296,481.53
29		Key Bank	FDIC Insured Deposits	$0.15
30			Delaware Life	$277,712.51
31			MassMutual Ascend Life	$76,054.89
32			Jackson National Life	$218,562.16
33	**Total**			**$917,030.96**
34				
35				
36		**Total Assets**		**$1,620,699.28**

List of Dormant Granges

Grange	Closed	Assets	Comments
Garrison Hill #497	Dec. 2017	$13,855.50	SOLD
Minerva 383	Mar. 2018	$6,086.69	SOLD
Verona 206		$90,594.54	SOLD
Woolwich 68	Jun. 2018	$23,301.05	SOLD
Seven Star #73	Sep. 2018	$19,588.05	SOLD
Harvest Home 52		$26,197.65	
Total 2025		**$179,623.48**	
Indian River 330	Mar. 2019	($2,267.35)	
Escutarsis 231	Mar. 2019	($2,249.75)	SOLD
Mystic Tie 58	Mar. 2019	$30,386.19	SOLD
Arlington 528	Mar. 2019	$20,818.00	SOLD
Bear Mountain 62	Jun. 2019	$33,600.30	
Greenwood 363	Jun. 2019	$32,910.95	SOLD
Schoodic 420	Jun. 2019	$18,951.25	SOLD
Riverside 465	Jun. 2019	$15,243.25	SOLD
Total 2026		**$147,392.84**	
Waterboro 432	Dec. 2019	$0.00	
Aurora 202	Dec. 2019	$24,644.50	
North Haven 496	Jun. 2020	$57,209.78	SOLD
Total 2027		**$81,854.28**	
Cape Elizabeth 242	Dec. 2020	$400.10	
Total 2028		**$400.10**	

STATE SECRETARY
Sharon Morton

To: Sherry Harriman, President/Master of the Maine State Grange, Barbara Foster, National Grange Pomona, Officers of the Maine State Grange and Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange.

It is with pleasure that I am once again presenting my annual State Grange Secretary report.

Our Community/Subordinate Granges are continuing to meet and grow their membership. They are busy within their communities with special projects, public suppers, letting of the hall for the Community use and in return are gaining new members.

REPORT ON OUR COMMUNITY/SUBORDINATE GRANGES

Our total number of Community/Subordinate Granges as of June 30, 2024 is 80 which shows a decrease of Community/Subordinate Granges from June 30, 2023 which was 82 Community/Subordinate Granges.

September 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	2,301
Golden Sheaf	201
Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf	265
Family Membership	15

June 30, 2024 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges 81
Number of Granges Organized
Number of Granges Reorganized

Number of Granges Dropped

Number of Granges Consolidated 1
Alder River 145 consolidated with Waterford 479

Total Granges 80

Total Membership 2,266
Golden Sheaf 163
Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf 270
Family Membership 15

As I write this yearly report, I like to provide the September 30, 2024 Quarterly Report status. As of October 10, 2024 I have received 57 Quarterly Reports for September 30, 2024. I also am reporting that there are four which are late in filing their quarterly dues reports for more than September 30, 2024. **Dues are due postmarked on or before the 5th of the month following each quarter which are: March 31st, June 30th, September 30th and December 31st.**

Membership 2024

This year I am pleased to announce that our Community/Subordinate Granges have had an

Mt. Etna 147

50 Years	LeeAnne Tulley
75 Years	Sylvia Young

No. Scarboro 495

40 Years	Patricia Searls

Willow 366

60 Years	Diane Newcombe
	Robert Perry
65 Years	Katherine Hutchins
80 Years	Errol T. Clark
	Arlene Cole

Winthrop 209

50 Years	Arthur Wells
	Heather Brigham
65 Years	Jacquelyn Prescott
70 Years	Wanita Baker
75 Years	Leslie Gilman
	Arthur Elvin
	Harolyn Prescott

Technology

Our new Grange membership data base is up and running and I am now able to update your membership list. Our data base can only be as correct as what you as Secretary furnish. I am going to enclose a membership list for your review with the December Quarterly Dues report and to return them to State Grange Headquarters with your quarterly report for December.

Maine Grange Store

This year the Maine Grange Store, comprised of Granges of Androscoggin Pomona 1 and members of the Maine State Grange Agriculture Committee ran 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, just a busy as last year, 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 and Sheila Bosse. The week wouldn't have run as smoothly as it did without the Manager of the Farm Stand, Henry Morton. Thank you!!!

9:30 A.M.

Acceptance of 2024 - 2025 Budget
Election and Installation of Officers
Resolutions by Committee Reports
Acceptance of Written Reports of Officers and Committees

Acceptance of the 2024-2025 Budget

The Master entertained motion to accept the 2024 - 2025 Budget. Motion was made and seconded to amend line 17 by an increase of $7,000 on proposed Headquarters Budge (Repair and Maintenance)discussion was held and with the amendment accepted, the Headquarters Budget as amended, was adopted by vote of the delegate body and with the adoption of the amended Headquarters Budget the 2024-2025 State Grange Budge was amended to show line 6 changing from 121,375.00 to 128,375.00 Total Income (line 10) changed from 165,000.00 to 172,000 and under expenses line 27 changed from 46,700 to 53,700 and Total Expense (line 41) changed from 165,000.00 to 172,000.00. The 2024 – 2025 Budgets were adopted and ordered printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Election and Installation of Officers

PROPOSED HEADQUARTERS BUDGET
2024-2025

	A	B	C	D	E	F	
	INCOME:	PROPOSED 22-23	ACTUAL 22-23	PROPOSED 23-24	Actual 23-24	PROPOSED 24-25	
	RENTAL INCOME	9,000.00	9,640.00	9,000.00	9,600.00	9,000.00	
	MAINE STATE GRANGE RENT	38,200.00	73,411.00	53,100.00	52,745.26	~~46,700.00~~	53,700
	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,000.00	8,700.00	1,000.00	1,037.00	1,000.00	
	TOTAL INCOME	48,200.00	91,751.00	63,100.00	63,382.26	~~56,700.00~~	63,700
	EXPENSES:						
	PROPERTY TAXES	12,500.00	12,345.00	14,000.00	13,155.92	14,000.00	
	INSURANCE	6,000.00	5,387.00	7,000.00	7,213.00	7,000.00	
	ELECTRICITY	2,500.00	1,730.00	3,500.00	2,003.96	2,200.00	
	FUEL	17,000.00	23,074.00	25,000.00	17,879.00	20,000.00	
	JANITORIAL SERVICE	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
	REPAIR & MAINTAINANCE	5,000.00	45,000.00	8,000.00	19,532.81	~~8,000.00~~	15,000
	WATER	200.00	192.00	250.00	221.00	250.00	
	SANITATION - SEWER & STORM DRAINS	1,650.00	1,580.00	1,800.00	1,634.21	1,800.00	
	WASTE REMOVAL	850.00	1,008.00	1,000.00	1,068.11	1,200.00	
	SNOW REMOVAL & SALT WALKS	1,000.00	1,075.00	1,000.00	600.00	1,000.00	
	SUPPLIES	300.00	360.00	350.00	74.25	150.00	
	MISCELLANEOUS	200.00		200.00	0.00	100.00	
	TOTAL	48,200.00	91,751.00	63,100.00	63,382.26	~~56,700.00~~	63,700

ginal 8/1/2
vised 10/3/2

PROPOSED STATE GRANGE BUDGET
2024 - 2025

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	ITEM	ACTUAL 22 - 23	PROPOSED 23 - 24	Actual 23 - 24	PROPOSED 24 - 25	
2	INCOME:					
3	DUES (2200 - 425 Golden = 1,775 @ 23)	43,088.00	43,424.00	40,604.42	40,825.00	
4	OFFICERS' BONDS	275.00	300.00	500.00	300.00	
5	RESERVE FUND	135,342.00	121,486.00	111,854.69	~~121,375.00~~	128,375.00
6	SUPPLIES SOLD (INCLUDES POSTAGE)	1,700.00	1,000.00	734.80	1,000.00	
7	MISCELLANEOUS	3,250.00	1,000.00	5,618.47	1,000.00	
8	FUND RAISING	2,600.00	500.00	1,119.50	500.00	
9						
10	TOTAL INCOME	186,255.00	167,710.00	160,431.88	~~165,000.00~~	172,000.00
11						
12	EXPENSES:					
13	DUES TO NATIONAL GRANGE (2100 @ 14)	30,596.00	30,200.00	29,531.50	29,400.00	
14	MASTER'S SALARY	15,000.00	17,000.00	16,833.27	17,000.00	
15	MASTER'S EXPENSE	11,175.00	11,175.00	11,175.00	11,175.00	
16	MASTER'S TRAVEL (Out of state)	2,652.00	1,500.00	2,084.51	2,000.00	
17	LECTURER'S EXPENSE	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,799.96	2,800.00	
18	TREASURER'S SALARY	4,800.00	5,800.00	5,233.30	5,800.00	
19	SECRETARY'S SALARY	6,000.00	7,000.00	6,333.30	7,000.00	
20	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPENSES	514.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	
21	PAYROLL TAXES	5,556.00	5,000.00	5,769.76	6,000.00	
22	STATE OFFICERS' BOND	179.00	250.00	185.00	200.00	
23	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	1,416.00	1,600.00	1,599.93	1,700.00	
24	POSTAGE	2,716.00	3,000.00	3,194.61	3,300.00	
25	STATE OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,924.00	2,000.00	2,208.74	2,500.00	
26	OFFICE EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	6,800.00	5,500.00	6,306.19	6,500.00	
27	OFFICE RENT	73,411.00	53,100.00	52,745.26	~~46,700.00~~	53,700.00
28	GRANGE SUPPLIES FOR RESALE	1,160.00	1,500.00	1,063.00	1,500.00	
		700.00	1,000.00	745.57	1,000.00	

10:30 A. M. Break

10:45 A.M.
Installation of Officer(s)

Vicki Huff, Former Master of the Maine State Grange, installed Maine State Grange Carolyn Van Horn to the office of the Executive Committee of the Maine State Grange for the constitutional term of 4 years. The following helped in the installation: Rick Grotton – Emblem Bearor; Roberta Meserve – Regalia Bearor and Marshall-Adrian Griffin

At this time Merton Ricker, former musician of the Maine State Grange was recognized.

Resolutions by Committee Reports

All Committee Reports and voting on resolutions will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Acceptance of Written reports of Officers and Committees will be noted and ordered printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

A general discussion was held and it seemed to go very well.

11:15 A.M.
Discussion

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

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

Final Report of the Credential Committee

To the Worthy Master, National delegate Barbara, State Officers , Brothers and Sisters,

We the registration committee would like to give our final report.

There were 38 Granges with 61 delegates. Pomona represented with 12 with 23 delegates.

Sixth degree with 5 candidates with $50.00 turned in to the State Secretary.

We wish to thank sister Sharon for all her help.

Mavis Lane

Betty Huff

2:30 P. M.

Remarks were made by Barbara Foster, National Grange Pomona.

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.

2024

STATE OFFICERS' & COMMITTEE REPORTS

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See Separate reports for Master, Treasurer and Secretary

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STATE LECTURER

Melissa Baldwin

STATE LECTURER ANNUAL REPORT

Had a busy 23/24 year. Elected and Installed Maine State Lecturer at Annual Session in October in Auburn.

Had 1st zoom meeting in December with my fellow Lecturers from the 7 Northeast states to start planning for our 2024 North East Lectures Conference.

Attended my 1st North East Leadership Conference January 12-14, which was hosted by New Hampshire in Concord. As part of the Conference, got to sit down face to face with my fellow Lectures setting meal plans, along with making other tentative plans for our conference hosted by Connecticut.

Continued meeting monthly to finalize plans for our conference to be held at the Holiday Inn in Norwich.

North East Lectures Conference was held June 21-23, with just over 50 in attendance.

Friday night we opened up with our Sprit Parade, with Maine attendees sporting our Yellow colors. Followed by various games lead by each State Lecturer. We ended the evening with a lively game of Kahoots.

JUNIOR COMMITTEE



MAINE STATE JR GRANGE COMMITTEE REPORT 2024
COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024
Betty Young, Co Director
Terry LaCombe-Stevens, Co Director
Kathy Gowen, ME State Grange Pomona
Marilyn Stinson, Emerita
Nicole Nickerson
Caroline Coffin
Dana Coffin
Terry Wilson
Tim Wilson

To: Master/President Sherry Harriman, Distinguished Guests, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange,

The Maine State Jr Grange, started an exciting year with a trip to the National Grange Convention in New York. Maine State Grange, paid for most of our entire trip. Thank you Master/President Harriman for coordinating this and for our Jr Grange pins. We will wear them with pride. We went to the Niagara Power Vista, we learned so much about power. The Hospitality Room, at convention was very well supplied and a fun time was had by all. This was such an EXCELLENT opportunity for our Juniors.

We have been scheduled to meet every month but weather, medical leave and other commitments have been difficult. We have two 6th generation Grange families with Jrs, as well as a 1st generation. A small diverse background of families.

The Coffin Family, with the help of Co Director Betty Young and Marilyn Stinson, set up several fair displays and our JR's won many BLUE ribbons. Thank you Dana and Caroline Coffin for that. Next year, we would like everyone to choose at least one fair to set up and send pictures to the director for our Jr Maine State Grange best Jr display contest. Parents will participate and JR's/Youth helping will raise your score. More details to follow as we prepare for our 2025 year.

Jrs attended our Sesquicentennial 150th at ME State Grange, we enjoyed Pizza, birdhouse painting, chocolate bars provided by Past Jr William (Thank you) We had a fun opportunity to sing a song (Thank you, Caroline Coffin for sharing your music degree/expertise with us) and help eat Sesquicentennial Celebration food with attending members. (Thank you, Secretary Sharon)

Thank you to the entire Highland Lake Grange, the Ivers and Gowen families, for hosting our Campout and providing lots of the food and tablecloths. (Sincere Condolences) We visited a horse rehab center, camped, had a talent show, ate delicious food left for us, played games, did air clay for Big E and made HUGE bubbles, ate Smores and two big kids camped in tents. Next year it would be fun to add tents for Jrs and camp outside. If you need to dispose of any camping equipment, please advise.

Our vision for 2025, We would like to continue our Jr Grange and add Youth, as families with younger children can blend nicely together. (they grow fast enough) All participate in a(several) fair(s) of your

U of M

EDUCATIONAL AID AND HOWES NURSES' SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Carolyn Van Horn, President

Educational Aid and Howes Nurses' Scholarship Funds

Annual Report October 1, 2024

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

This year the scholarship committee opened the application to all students who had completed at least one year of post-secondary education. As a result, we received seventeen applications. We met on September 29, 2024 and selected one student to receive scholarships from the Howes Nurses Scholarship fund and eight to receive scholarships from the Educational Aid Fund. These awards will be for $500 each. The presentation will be made at the State Grange annual session on October 18, 2024.

Thank you to all who contributed to the funds so that we make these awards. Our contributions have been considerably less the past couple of years, but we are still giving out $4,500.00 in scholarships. We respectfully ask you to continue to support the committee as we assist our students and please promote the scholarship program in your areas.

Respectfully Submitted

J. Patrick Elwell

J. Patrick Elwell, Secretary/Treasurer

Educational Aid and Howes Nurses Scholarship Committee

Carolyn Van Horn, Pres	Manchester
Linda Cobb, Vice Pres	Manchester
J. Patrick Elwell, Sec/Treas	Fairview
Darlene Miles	Hudson
Margaret Morse	John F. Hill
Melissa Baldwin, Ex Officio	Hollis
Sherry Harriman, Ex Officio	Bauneg Beg

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MAINE STATE GRANGE EDUCATIONAL AID FUNDS

Statements of Receipts and Disbursements

10/1/23 – 9/30/24

RECEIPTS FROM CAMPAIGN:

Educational Aid	$ 327.50
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MAINE STATE JR GRANGE COMMITTEE REPORT 2024

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024

Betty Young, Co Director

Terry LaCombe-Stevens, Co Director

Kathy Gowen, ME State Grange Pomona

Marilyn Stinson, Emerita

Nicole Nickerson

Caroline Coffin

Dana Coffin

Terry Wilson

Tim Wilson

To: Master/President Sherry Harriman, Distinguished Guests, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange,

The Maine State Jr Grange, started an exciting year with a trip to the National Grange Convention in New York. Maine State Grange, paid for most of our entire trip. Thank you Master/President Harriman for coordinating this and for our Jr Grange pins. We will wear them with pride. We went to the Niagara Power Vista, we learned so much about power. The Hospitality Room, at convention was very well supplied and a fun time was had by all. This was such an EXCELLENT opportunity for or homeschooled Jrs.

We have been scheduled to meet every month but weather, medical leave and other commitments have been difficult. We have two 6th generation Grange families with Jrs, as well as 1st generation. A small diverse background of families.

The Coffin Family, with the help of Co Director Betty Young and Marilyn Stinson, set up several fair displays and our JR's won many BLUE ribbons. Thank you Dana and Caroline Coffin for that. Next year, we would like everyone to choose at least one fair to set up and send pictures to the director for our Jr Maine State Grange best Jr display contest. Parents will participate and JR's/Youth helping will raise your score. More details to follow as we prepare for our 2025 year.

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Our vision for 2025, We would like to continue our Jr Grange and add Youth, as families with younger children can blend nicely together. (they grow fast enough) All participate in a(several) fair(s) of your choice, possibly find a Director that would like to plan the events, I enjoy doing it but it is my time with grandchildren/children so I would like to help, possibly giving my daughter a day off. I do have permission to continue. Co Director Betty Young, has four grandchildren who attend and we make sure they all get their chocolate and our children understand the reason for sharing. We would like to have a simplified mthly schedule, as to what we COULD be working on at home, deadline(s) for State, Big E, National, meet quarterly and another fun trip to National Grange. Our Grangemobile has been serviced and thus far works great. We will start planning this ASAP when our 2025 committee is established, agreed upon and confirmed.

Please, stop by our JR table at Maine State Convention and take a chance on our 50/50 or a chance on our raffle baskets. Thank you to Marilyn Stinson, Enterprise Grange 50/50 and Basket, Searsport Grange (2-baskets), Tranquility Grange, Lincolnville(basket), Hudson Grange #457(basket) and Committee member Nicole Nickerson and her son Jr Granger Sebastian for helping. Please note: We may add helpers after this report!

Thank you for the honor of being your 2024 Co Directors and working with our Jrs,

Terry LaCombe-Stevens, Co Director

Betty Young, Co Director

Maine State JR Grange 2024

COMMITTEE OF WOMENS ACTIVITIES

Margaret Henderson, Director

2024 Annual Report

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

The State Grange CWA Committee had a meeting in April to make plans for next year. We have two new members on our Committee, welcome Kathy Ward and Judy Meserve. We chose the new ideas for nest year's craft project, woken craft project and baking contest. This was a very productive meeting.

I want to give these ladies a big thank you. They were all very helpful for the conference that was held in August. We had a demonstration on mosaic arts and crafts and we all got to make something. Thank you Kathy for organizing this part of the program. Everyone enjoyed doing this.

This year's winners:

Baking: Blueberry Cake _6_ entries (the judges enjoyed all of them!)
1st Carl Moon, 2nd Emily Paula Roberts, 3rd Helen Stinson also participating Shelia Basse; Rachel Nelson; and Sue Farrington.

NEEDLEWORK:

Class A: Afghan 3 entries 1st Elmira Collins; 2nd Darlene Judkins; 3rd June Allen
Class B: Doilies 2 entries 1st Grace Weste; 2nd Nancy Gowen,
Class C: Embroidery 2 entries 1st Gail Butterfield, 2nd Jackie Morgan,
Class D: 3 Piece Baby Set 1 entry 1st Nancy Gowen
Class E: Plastic Canvas 3 entries 1st Ellie Collins, 2nd Ann Burns; 3rd Karen Small
Class F: Counted Cross Stitch no entries
Class G: Adult Garments 2 entries 1st Kathy Gowen, 2nd Mary Jane McLoon
Class H: Latch Hook no entries
Class I: Quilted Wall Hanging 1 entry 1st Jackie Morgan
Class J: Stuffed Toy 3 entries 1st Ann Burns, 2nd Jackie Morgan, 3rd Karen Marquis
Class K: Baby Afghan 2 entries 1st Ellie Collins, 2nd Pauline Spencer
Class L: Children's Garments 1 entry 1st Laurie McBurnie
Class M: Table Runners 2 entries 1st Rachel Nelson, 2nd Jackie Morgan
Class N: Miscellaneous Items 4 entries
1st Rachel Nelson, 2nd Jackie Morgan, 3rd Karen McCarrick, 4th LuRae Bell
Class O Decorated Item – Ornament 4 entries
1st Sherrie Applebee, 2nd Darlene Miles, 3rd Karen McCarrick, 4th Kim Verrill
Class P: Wooden Item 2 adult entries 1st Phillip Parsons, 2nd Norma Meserve
1 Junior entry Sebastian Nickerson
Class Q: Tote Bags 3 entries 1st Kathy Gowen, 2nd Ann Staples, 3rd Sherrie Applebee

Reply to:
Walter Boomsma, Communications Director
17 River Road
Abbot ME 04406

Maine State Grange

146 State Street
Augusta Maine 04330

2023-24 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 tenth 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 fourteenth 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. There have been 17,985 site views from September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024—an average of nearly 1,500 monthly. However, these visits do not include subscribers receiving the posts without visiting the site. While this represents a significant decrease from the previous year, the number of actual visitors hasn't changed much. One could rightly conclude that a similar number of visitors are viewing less pages and posts.

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, the Grange Event Calendar received the third most visits.

• Continue to 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

http://mainestategrange.org

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COMMUNITY SERVICE / FAMILY, HEALTH & HEARING

Brenda Dyer, Director

2023 - 2024

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange:

Community Service

The Community Service Committee would like to thank all Grange members and non-members for their hours of volunteering and hard work. The following totals were taken from reports submitted.

There were twenty (20) reports submitted out of a possibility of eighty (80).

_____ Total Grange Members
_____ Members participating in Community Service
_____ Non-members participating in Community Service
_____ Total Hours involved in Community Service

Remember these are from the paperwork filled out properly and the proper reports turned in.

There were ten (10) Community Service Books submitted.
This year's Community Service Winners are

1.
2.
3.
4.

A lot of projects are being done throughout the state! Tremendous work! A great shout out to the Granges that took the time to put a notebook together. The judges were very pleased.

Granges continue to support:

The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital (BBCH)
House in the Woods
Home for Little Wanderers
Iris Network

Troopons (coupons for military families)

1. _____ coupons.
   $_____value.
2. _____ coupons.
   $ _____value .
3. _____ coupons.
   $ _____value.

$$$ FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE $$$

Norma Meserve, Chairman

Fundraising Committee Annual Report
2023-2024

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,

The following is the annual report of the Fundraising Committee of the State Grange.

Our sales table at the annual state session in 2023 was busy but not as successful as in past years. We had a great raffle and many Grange sale items available. In all, we cleared $325.00.

As spring arrived, we started discussing plans for the annual State Grange Yard Sale. Due to several reasons, it was decided to forgo making and selling "take-out" meals this year. Instead, we chose to have a raffle for 2 $100 VISA gift cards and a sales table. We sent raffle tickets in advance to Granges, Pomonas, State Officers and Committee members and asked that they sell them. A big Thank-you to those Granges or individuals who sold tickets or bought tickets. Your help is always appreciated. We also made the decision to let Manchester Grange oversee renting the table spaces for the sale and let them keep the profit as they very generously let us use the hall each year for this event free of charge. There were 15 tables rented and everyone had a great day. Between the raffle and the sales table, we brought in$714.00.

During Fryeburg Fair in October of 2023, we were again able to have our State Grange cookbooks for sale. We made $80.00.

At the Annual State Session, we will once again be having a table. In addition to our raffle, we will have many Grange sales items available, including tote bags, fans, magnets, tote bags, and travel cups to celebrate the Maine State Grange's 150th Anniversary. Also, for sale we will have Grange magnets, cookbooks, t-shirts, and packs of Grange note-cards (including Get Well, Sympathy, Thinking of You, and several blanks). Something for everyone. We hope you will stop by and visit our table and pick up a few items, buy some raffle tickets, or just say hello. And please, if you have any questions fundraising ideas, we would be happy to hear them.

In closing, I would like to thank all the Granges, Grange members and non-members who helped in any way this year. Many thanks to Master Sherry for all her support and help keeping things on track.

Remember that the money we raise from our events goes to the State Grange to help in whatever way it can. Our profits may not be huge, (although we are always hopeful!), but, as you know, every little bit helps. So please support our efforts in any way you can and thank you for doing so.

Respectfully Submitted,
Norma Meserve, Fundraising Comm. Chairman

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Junior 1+ Program

1+ Program- Individual Junior Membership Class

At the 2013 Annual Session of the National Grange, in Manchester New Hampshire, the delegates adopted changes to the By-Laws allowing an individual membership class for Junior Grange age children (5 to 14) to become members of a Subordinate/Community Grange when no chartered Junior Grange exists.

Purpose of the 1+ Program

The 1+ program allows your Grange to build a Junior Grange program one member at a time. These individual members become the core group to build a chartered Junior Grange Program. Many children have not had the opportunity to participate in the Junior Grange program because of the number of children required to charter a Junior Grange.

The 1+ Program allows children (age 5-14), the opportunity to become an individual Junior Grange member within a Subordinate/Community Grange. The children do not have a vote in the Grange, but are eligible to participate in all Regional, State, and National programs, contests, and activities on an equal status with members of the chartered Junior Granges. This would also include the National Youth Fair program where it has been adopted within a State.

Sponsorship

For the 1+ Program, the Subordinate/Community Grange will:

- **Appoint a Junior Grange Leader**
- **Provide a meeting space**
- **Provide financial assistance as necessary**
  - **Granges may dedicate specific fundraising projects for the Junior Grange Program**
- **Occasionally provide meeting time for the individual Junior Grange member(s) to report on their projects**
- **Organize a chartered Junior Grange when there are sufficient individual members to meet that requirement. The individual members shall automatically become members of the newly organized/reorganized Junior Grange. (Please refer to National Grange By-Laws, section 4.6.2 for complete details)**

How to become a 1+ Program Junior Member

- **An individual child, age 5-14, will complete a Junior Grange membership application and submit it to the sponsoring Grange.**
- **The Junior Grange applicant shall be obligated by the Master/President of the Subordinate/Community Grange. This is completed by using the Obligation Ceremony for Individual Junior Grange Membership, printed in this program book.**
- **Once obligated, the Subordinate/Community Grange secretary will enter the new Junior Grange member on the rolls of the Grange.**
- **Minimum dues for Junior Grange members are $1.00 and are subject to change per individual State Grange policies.**

Administration:

Leaders

- **Qualifications**
  - **Subordinate/Community Grange member, in good standing**

Candidates:

"It is."

Master: *(Direct these words to the parents/guardians of the Junior Grange member(s) facing where they are seated in the Hall)*

"To the parents and guardians of our Junior Grange candidates, your support and guidance is most important of all. We commend you for your foresight in allowing your children to become Grange members. We ask for your continued encouragement and assistance in their participation and growth in the Grange"

Master: *(Face the Candidates at the Altar)*

"With your election to membership in this Grange, it is my pleasure to give you the Junior Grange Pledge. The Pledge is a simple promise which you freely give to become part of the Grange Family and to live a good life. In turn, the members of this Grange promise to help and support you as you grow into future leaders in your schools and communities."

"Please place your right hand over your heart. I will give the Pledge so that you may clearly understand it"

(Master gives the entire Pledge slowly and distinctly)

"I Promise – that I will obey – all the rules of the Order, -- and will treat – my fellow members – with respect. – I will try to follow – the good advice – of my parents and teachers – and will do my best – to avoid bad company – and harmful habits."

Master:

"I welcome you as members of this Grange. Remember, promises are an important commitment. As part of your Grange Family, we promise to encourage you as you continue to grow and learn. We ask you to contribute to our meetings by sharing your discoveries with us. In this way we may learn from you. We want you to know about the Grange; its past, its present, and, most of all, how you can influence its future."

"When you turn 14 years old, you will graduate from the Junior Grange Program and once again stand at this Altar, taking the next Pledge as a Subordinate Grange member. From this time until then, you have our promise to encourage you along life's journey."

"We extend to you a heartfelt Welcome to our Grange."

"Worthy Assistants, please escort our new members to their seats, introduce them and return to your stations."

The Assistants will pass by the Master, who will shake each members' hand as they pass. After the last member has passed by, the Master will return to his Station.

The Assistants will escort the new members to their seats, introduce them, and return to their Stations.

American Values
Hometown Roots

Maine State Grange Website Handbook

2024-2025

This handbook has been prepared to aid users in taking full advantage of the Maine State Grange website.

Walter Boomsma, Communications Director



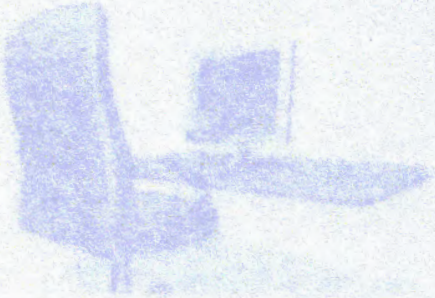
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 1
Visiting the site 2
- Basic Layout 2
- Pages, Posts, Events 2
- Searching For Information 3

Subscribing to the site 4
Submitting information 4
- Submitting From the site 5
- Submitting by email 5
- Submitting events 6

Social media 6
Subordinate and Pomona Grange sites 7
Website Policy 7
- Website Disclaimer 7
- Privacy Statement 8
  - Information Automatically Collected 8
  - Use of Contact Form 8
  - Subscription Feature 8
  - External Links and Third Parties 8
- Posting Policy 8

National Grange Website and electronic social media Code of conduct 9



INTRODUCTION

One might certainly wonder what the founders would think if they could somehow come back and look at the world today. While they did succeed in creating an organization with permanence, it is doubtful they could have imagined the technology we now take for granted. Remembering the campaign to get mail delivered to rural areas, they likely did not envision a day when we'd have email at our fingertips.

As an organization that values ritual and predictability, our relationship with technology is guarded—perhaps more guarded than that of society in general. That's not a bad thing, but we must also adapt to the times for if not we will surely be left behind.

Rather than debate the relative merits of the technological abilities we now have, let us adapt them to our good use to the extent we are comfortable. Perhaps more importantly, let us understand that if we are to have relevance to future generations, we must speak their language using media they have adopted.

The Maine State Website is far from being on the leading edge—somewhat by design. When the site was totally rebuilt in 2010 we agreed to use a structure that would

- Encourage prompt posting and maintenance of resources,
- Control the posting process with some degree of moderation and quality control,
- Allow users to find basic information such as applications, manuals, etc. readily and,
- Allow users to subscribe to and receive email versions of posts.

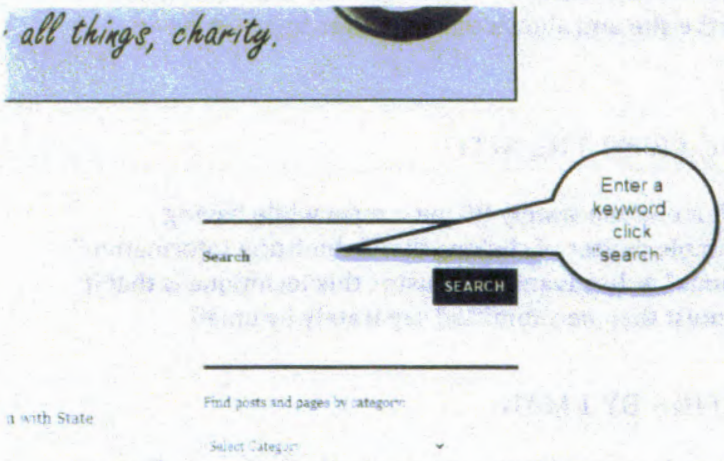
This structure has served us well and will continue. The challenge we have faced is, simply, participation. We need increased use of the structure in place. The increased use must come from all levels of the organization. State officers and directors must increase the content and frequency of communication to the membership and members must increase the amount of news and information submitted for sharing. This handbook has been designed to assist those who are willing to explore the electronic aspect of our fraternal organization. It is by no means a detailed user's manual nor does it purport to cover every possible scenario. Suggestions and questions are always welcomed!

Please note: The site will undergo significant design changes and some portions will look differently than in the diagrams and photos contained in this manual. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Fraternally,

Walter





There are at least two ways to find things on the site. (Three if you count wandering around aimlessly.) Both are located at the top of the site in the header area. The first is a key word (or words) search. Here you can simply enter a term and click the black search button. If, for example, you enter the name of a Grange, you'll get all posts and pages where that Grange is mentioned.

A second type of search is a category search. Most of these categories relate but are not limited to committees. When a post is made one or more categories may be assigned. A drop down menu allows you to select from the list of available categories.

In case you haven't noticed, pages haven't been mentioned and that is where you will find most documents. Categories and tags do not apply to pages. Finding documents and program books requires some wandering, but it doesn't have to be aimless. At the top of the site, there is a tab called "Program Books and Information." Clicking this tab opens a page where we've listed departments and committees in alphabetical order with any books or documents below the department/committee.



The "Conferences and Dates" tab lists any Grange Conferences (national, state, regional and special local events) in date order with a link to any documents such as registration forms, programs, brochures, etc. Committees hosting conferences are encouraged to submit detailed information for posting here.

We continue to search for ways to make as much information as practical available and easy to find. Please understand we can only post what we know and what we have.

There are two ways to submit information and either is acceptable. You can submit using the site's tab at the top. This method allows you to fill out a form which is then emailed to the webmaster. The second method bypasses the need to visit the site and allows the submitter to just send an email to webmaster@mainestategrange.org.

SUBMITTING FROM THE SITE

The advantage of submitting from the site is that one can simply fill out a form while having guidelines and suggestions right there. It's a simple matter of clicking the "Submitting Information" tab, filling out a simple form and clicking "submit." A disadvantage of using this technique is that it does not allow for submitting photos. Photos must then be submitted separately by email.

SUBMITTING BY EMAIL

The good news is submitting by email is quick and easy, but that may also be the bad news. Please take the time to:

- Think about the submission—if it is a newsy item, write it in an upbeat and positive manner, don't just recite facts.
- Be accurate and complete—spell names correctly, include the name of the Grange and the name and title of the person reporting.
- Use a spell-checker and pay attention to grammar.

When submitting photos, please make certain they are of reasonable quality, in good focus, etc. One thing that helps immensely is when the submitter takes the time to resize photos to a reasonable size. However, this is a double-edged sword, because reducing the size (in bytes) can also reduce the quality. The most basic guideline is "if it doesn't look good on your screen, it probably won't look good on the site."

In most cases we will post a maximum of 2-3 photos with a news story, so be selective!

Note that we will not post photos of minors without written parent/guardian permission. A form for this is available from the website.

Whenever possible, please submit documents (program books, forms, etc.) as PDF files. This avoids compatibility issues and is an industry standard—we will only post PDF files to the site. (Flyers and posters are sometimes converted to jpg files (pictures) so they can be embedded into the post.

Photos and PDF files should be attached to the email. Information can also be submitted by "snail mail," but understand this creates a time lag, and with documents and photos it means they must be scanned before posting. Snail mail submissions to Walter Boomsma, Webmaster at 17 River Road, Abbot ME 04406. Email to webmaster@mainestategrange.org and use a subject that makes it clear you are submitting to the site.

If the page is identified as a "Grange page," one person's opinion should not be represented as Grange thinking.

Note that these guidelines apply to websites as well. Regardless of the venue, we need to keep our Grange Face smiling and positive. That's not to say there is no room for "healthy debate"–in fact (lecturers note!) I've had one or two folks suggest we might consider more debates as part of our programming.

One additional thought: The National Grange Style Book includes the statement, "For external purposes, you may refer to the Subordinate Grange as a Community Grange or pluralized as local Granges." We truly do have our own language in the Grange... but we might well consider the impact our language has on others. Step outside tradition and habit and ask yourself if most people would be more inclined to be involved in a "Subordinate Grange" or a "Community Grange."

I thought so! Want to take it one step further? I actually had someone (not a Granger) recently explain that she thought "Grange Meeting" meant members only, but that a "Grange Program" was for everyone. So just maybe instead of Subordinate Grange Meetings we ought to be promoting Community Grange Programs!

SUBORDINATE AND POMONA GRANGE SITES

Subordinate and Pomona Grange websites (using a simplified version of the same software as the Maine State Grange site) are available through National Grange. These sites are user friendly and are recommended for those Granges who recognize the need for a web presence. As time allows, the MSG webmaster will assist individuals who are willing to work on those sites. Support is also available from National Grange.

WEBSITE POLICY

WEBSITE DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this website is believed to be reliable and while every effort is made to assure information is accurate the Maine State Grange and affiliates disclaim any implied warranty or representation regarding its accuracy, completeness or appropriateness for any particular purpose. This includes but is not limited to information provided by any third party which is accessed through this site via a hyperlink.

Those persons who access this site assume full responsibility for the use of said information and understand and agree that the owner of this site is not responsible for any claim, loss or damage arising from the use of any information contained in the site.

Any reference to products, companies or services does not constitute or imply recommendation or endorsement by the Maine State Grange.

We hope that makes all the lawyers happy! Now enjoy the site and make use of the information!

the state. We will also not post events that are not directly Grange related or sponsored. If, for example, a marathon is being held in the area to benefit a charity, it would not qualify for posting unless it is sponsored by the local Grange or the Grange membership is participating as a group.

We will attempt to keep information regarding State Grange activities and policies current, but it must be noted that directors and officers are ultimately responsible for providing current information.

We reserve the right to refuse to post information submitted.

We will use extreme caution when posting photos that include children and expect the submitter to be absolutely certain that parental/guardian permission is secured before submitting photos for posting. Please bear in mind that many Grange Meetings and events do not qualify as "public events," and attendees would likely have a reasonable right to an expectation of privacy.

We will also follow the "Grange Website and Electronic Social Media Code of Conduct" adopted February 25, 2011 by the National Grange Executive Committee.

NATIONAL GRANGE WEBSITE AND ELECTRONIC SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT

All websites, Facebook groups or pages, and all other internet based social media platforms representing the Grange must be under the jurisdiction of a Subordinate/Community, Pomona, or State Grange.

Each website must be clearly identified as being a Grange website and must have contact information on or within one easily identifiable click from the home or index page.

Each Facebook or other social media platform must be clearly identified as being a Grange sponsored page or group and have a Grange contact person easily identified on the page.

No partisan or sectarian comments, opinions, statements, or endorsements may be posted on the website or the page.

No negative or inflammatory (designed to insult or belittle) comments, opinions, or statements toward any Grange or level of the Grange or toward any member of any Grange may be posted on the website or page.

No inflammatory (designed to insult or belittle) statements, comments, or opinions toward any the public, including public officials, may be posted on the website or page.

All policies of the Grange posted on the website or page must be clearly labeled as to which Grange or level of the Grange has adopted the policies.

All content, including advertisements, must be within the guidelines of the Digest, By-Laws of the State Grange with jurisdiction, and By-Laws of the Grange operating the website or page.

Adopted February 25, 2011 by the National Grange Executive Committee.

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