



*American Values.
Hometown Roots.*

MAINE STATE GRANGE

ABSTRACT

A resource book for those who are interested in communicating the Grange message effectively.

Walter Boomsma

Communications Director

COMMUNICATIONS HANDBOOK

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Communications Handbook

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2 INTRODUCTION

The position of Communications Director was created in 2014 with at least several goals in mind:

- To create a more integrated system of communicating and a greater consistency of content and style,
- To develop an economy of effort with a focus on improving internal communication throughout our organization,
- To decrease the amount of time required for information to be distributed throughout the organization,
- To increase the amount of information available to members and the public, and
- To raise professionalism and delivery of information both within and outside the organization.



These broad goals are a welcome challenge to me personally—and I would challenge every Granger to adopt them. Communication is a powerful tool that can contribute to the growth of our Granges at all levels.

This handbook focuses on some of the more fundamental aspects of communications with the media and is based in part on a program I developed several years ago called “Media Relationships for the Non-professional.” I also relied on and recommend the *Grange Communication Handbook* published by National Grange in 2012. (Available for download from the National Grange website.) Serious journalists also consult the *AP Stylebook* as most media outlets follow it. While these resources emphasize the public relations aspect of communication, one challenge we face is improving communication among our members—particularly as new technologies become available.

Credible estimates are that over 90% of Maine households own or have access to a smartphone or computer device. However, that number drops significantly based on age. Just 49% of residents aged 65 or older own a smartphone. And, while that number is increasing, the older demographic often is using the smartphone in more limited ways.

As an organization seeking members, we cannot ignore these trends. It is not my intention as communications director to “leave out” those who have not and will not adopt this technology. To the extent practical and possible, we will continue using “multi-media” communication approaches.

Media use continues to change rapidly. During an onsite event covered by a major television news team we discussed some of the realities, including the “instant” nature of news. While the team was located over fifty miles away from the broadcast studio, small, portable equipment made it possible to broadcast live. It wasn’t too long ago that a huge truck with a satellite tower would have been required.

Section three of this handbook looks at how the changing media landscape impacts local Granges, particularly when publicizing events and news with media outlets. Social media does play a role in “getting the word out,” but it is a limited role. Evaluating Facebook’s value in sharing credible information against traditional media highlights a fundamental conflict between **engagement-driven distribution** and **editorial verification**. While Facebook excels at speed and individual reach, research shows that its core architecture compromises its ability to deliver credible information compared to traditional outlets. In short, platforms like Facebook want people “connecting and clicking.” Distributing

accurate information barely makes the list of desired accomplishments. When you read a news story on a traditional publication's website, your trust relies on that specific brand. On Facebook, information is filtered through a middleman—the friend or politician who shared it and Facebook's own algorithms.. Studies indicate that consuming news through this secondary layer lowers the perceived credibility of the original article, as users heavily filter the information through the lens of their biases or feelings toward the person sharing it.

As we move forward, we should keep exploring ideas to improve communication and engage both members and prospective members. Whether you are building a website for your Grange or writing a press release or media advisory, please do not hesitate to ask if you'd like help or to brainstorm ideas.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Walter Boomsma', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Walter Boomsma

Email address: Webmaster@MaineStateGrange.org

Home address: 17 River Road, Abbot, ME 04406

Cell Phone: 207 343-1842

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3 THE CHANGING MEDIA LANDSCAPE

3.1 CHANGING STRUCTURE

If you've tried to send a press release to the same paper you've used for years and gotten no response — or worse, a bounced email — you're not imagining things. Maine's weekly newspapers have gone through more consolidation in the last decade than in the previous fifty years combined, and the contact list you've been using is probably out of date. Here's what changed, and how to work with it.

Maine Trust for Local News, a nonprofit that bought most of publisher Reade Brower's papers in 2023 — this includes many of the old “Sun Media Group” and “Forecaster” weeklies.

Bangor Publishing Co., owner of the Bangor Daily News, has folded several Aroostook and Piscataquis County weeklies into a shared regional hub.

Seacoast Media Group (part of Gannett/USA Today Network), owns the York County papers.

A handful of still-independent papers — some family-owned for generations, some recently merged with a neighbor to survive.

3.2 CONTACTING THE MEDIA

Don't trust an old contact list, including this guidance. Media contacts turn over often, and consolidation has caused mergers, renamed papers, and shared regional hubs. Before you send anything, check the paper's own website for a current “Contact Us” or “Submit News” page.

A dead email doesn't mean the paper is gone. It may just mean the outlet consolidated its newsroom. Search the paper's name plus “merger” or “owned by” if an email bounces — you'll often find it folded into a sister publication that's still very much alive.

Some papers now share one newsroom for several towns. If your submission doesn't get picked up, ask whether there's a regional editor covering multiple communities rather than one dedicated to your town.

Independents still want strong, well-written local content. The smaller the paper, the more likely a well-organized submission from a known community organization will run close to as-written. This is Grange coverage's best opening.

Follow the paper's format, not your own habit. A press release that worked for one outlet ten years ago may not fit today's submission system — some now prefer a web form over email entirely

3.3 CURRENT PROCESS

Look up the current contact right before you send, not from memory or an old list.

Keep it short and lead with the newsworthy fact — what, when, where, why it matters to readers — in the first sentence or two. (See the inverted pyramid.)

Include a photo if you have one. Many papers, especially the smaller ones, are far more likely to run a submission with a usable image.

Send it early. Weeklies plan pages days in advance; a release that arrives the day before has little chance of being included.

Follow up, politely, if you don't hear back — newsrooms are smaller than they used to be, and things get missed.

None of this is a reason to give up on local coverage — if anything, it's a reason to be more deliberate about it. Fewer editors are covering more towns, which means a well-prepared, ready-to-run submission from a community organization is more valuable to them now than it was when every town had its own dedicated reporter. The Grange, and organizations like it, are exactly the kind of steady, community-rooted story these papers still want.

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4 Fundamental Media Concepts

4.1 DEFINITIONS

Media is a broad category of forms of communication: radio, TV, print (newspapers, magazines, newsletters), and the Internet.

“The press” has historically referred to representatives of the media engaged in print, although many people use the terms “press” and “media” interchangeably.

For our purposes, we might apply a third term—**news outlets**. A significant trend to acknowledge is that more and more news outlets are using a multimedia approach. Newspapers are creating websites. Many newspapers have weekly supplements resembling magazines. And in significant markets some are developing collaborative relationships with local television stations.

But no matter how they deliver the news, the press isn't in the public relations business. The press is in the business of making money. We might think he was a bit jaded, but some years ago a newspaper editor told me, “The only reason we print news is to get subscribers, and the only reason we get subscribers is so we can sell advertising.” That doesn't mean the news is unimportant, but it does create perspective.

4.2 MEDIA RELATIONS

I am often surprised to discover many people have an outdated image of newspaper reporting that includes a large bevy of reporters waiting for something to happen so they can write about it. When I was young and lived in a rural area, every town had at least a part-time reporter, sniffing out local news and often writing what resembled a gossip column. Today, reporters are few and far between—and there's significant competition for their attention. Even the “major” newspapers are working with less and less staff. Unless it is a truly big story, we have to get the news to them.

One way to increase the likelihood of getting your story published is to “make it easy” for the reporter to use it. This includes writing effectively, proofreading and spell-checking, and delivering your

story in a timely fashion with some sensitivity to deadlines and publication schedules. If, for example, your local paper is delivered on Wednesday, submit your article by the previous Friday. Tuesday is too late... and unless the story has some longevity, you've missed the opportunity.

Effective media relations require that you

- Know who you are
- Know who "they" are
- Know what's important to them

4.3 MAKING NEWS

News has value, but how much? You've probably heard that it's not news when a dog bites a man. But if a man bites a dog, that's news! In this case, the value is the novelty—it's unusual for a man to bite a dog. Some of the elements that create value and encourage editors to include your news are:

For most people, it's usually easier to make news than it is to write press releases.

Walter Boomsma

- **Impact:** This is often found in sheer numbers. The more people affected, the greater the impact. A snowstorm dropping two feet of snow has more impact than a few inches.
- **Proximity:** "close to home" events have greater value. This is particularly true for smaller community publications.
- **Timeliness:** In the old days, newspapers would publish an "extra" edition with a late-breaking story of high impact. In today's world, news becomes stale very quickly.
- **Prominence:** The public cares about celebrities more than average citizens.
- **Novelty:** Unusual events, first and last or once in a lifetime happenings have greater news value than the commonplace.
- **Conflict:** In the ultimate sense, "if it bleeds, it leads." There's a saying among freelancers: Controversy sells!
- **Usefulness:** Information that can be used by readers can have great value, particularly in the home, business, travel, etc. sections.
- **Human Interest:** An interview with a fascinating person can have value, even if it's not earth-shattering and doesn't meet the other criteria.

4.4 WRITING THE STORY

The inverted pyramid is used as a metaphor to show how the most substantial information always comes first in a story. This approach allows the reader to stop reading at just about any point in the story and still understand it. The approach also gives rise to the phrase “cut from the bottom.” Editors who need to save space will most often start from the end of the article and work backward.

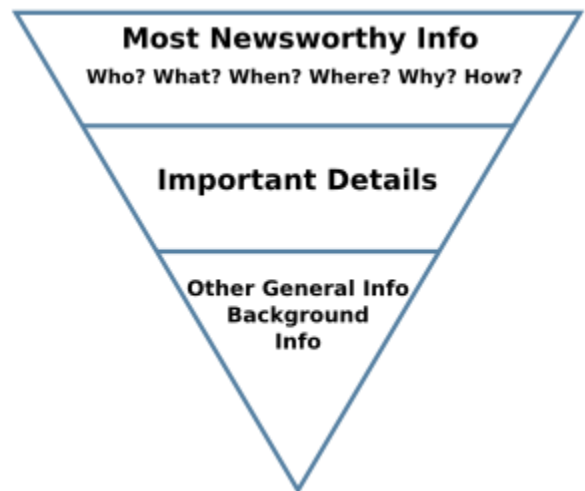
The lead must capture the interest of the reader quickly. It tells the reader what the article is about in a short, exciting, and informative way. You hook the reader by including the most important or most exciting information in the first sentence and try to cover the five w’s in the first paragraph or two.

The term “nutgraph” is a contraction of the two words “nutshell paragraph.” The nutgraph answers the questions “What is the point?” and “Why am I reading this?” The nutgraph typically appears three or four paragraphs into the article to keep the reader’s interest.

Quotations can add vitality to a story. The writer outlines the main points while the quotes allow others to “talk” to the reader. A direct quote will always appear inside quotation marks and must be the source’s exact words. (Walter said, “I’m happy to be here.”) Indirect quotes do not require quotation marks but must accurately convey the meaning of the speaker. (Walter said he was happy to be present.)

*I keep six honest serving-men
(They taught me all I knew);
Their names are What and Why and When
And How and Where and Who.*

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5 TOOLS OF THE TRADE

The **Media Advisory** is a combination of an announcement and an invitation. “Here’s what’s going to happen and why your reporter(s) should attend.” Send it to all your media contacts, even those without reporters or staff. Sometimes they’ll reply and tell you what they’d like you to send them after the event.

The **Press Release** is a reporter/editor friendly document, provided to the media when there is no expectation a reporter will attend the event. Many papers will run the story exactly as written.

(page is

A caption for the photo to the right would merely list names. A cutline might read, “A Happy Betty VanDyke is flanked by her daughters Lois (left) and Ginny at her 90th birthday celebration held recently at... with over fifty well-wishers attending...”



Photo by Walter Boomsma

- **Get close!** Fill the frame with the subject and watch the background.
- **No Feet!** This is one of the funnier rules I heard from an editor who refused to run photos if he could see feet—and it's especially true when taking those obligatory group shots.
- **High Res!** While websites and social media welcome lower resolution and smaller file sizes, print media wants the highest resolution practical.

A word about kids in photographs... the general rule is photographs of kids at public events are accepted for publication without parental release or permission. Remember, however, that events like Grange meetings may not be considered public events. Dictionary presentations at school are not public events and any children's photos must be checked against the school's "do not photograph" list. Ask the teacher or a staff member for assistance.

Personally, I take and recommend a very conservative approach when it comes to using photos of kids. If, for example, I know a child is on the school's "do not photograph" list, I will not use a photo of them even if taken at a public event. Bear in mind there are creative ways to provide a photograph with a news story that doesn't put children at risk.

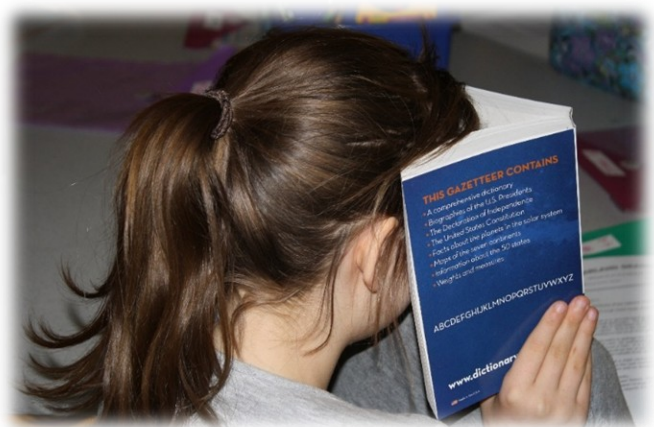


Photo by Walter Boomsma... captioned in part "...third grader gets into her dictionary--literally!"

5.1 MEDIA ADVISORY (SAMPLE)

MEDIA ADVISORY

VALLEY GRANGE TO ANNOUNCE NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION WINNERS

Who: Valley Grange will announce third and fourth-grade winners of their third annual Newspapers in Education contest at Piscataquis Community Elementary School. Assembly will include 100 students and their teachers.

What: The Grange is proud to support art and local business by sponsoring a contest in which third and fourth graders develop newspaper advertisements for the Grange. The winning advertisements will appear in the March 30th edition of the Piscataquis Observer and be used by the Grange in print materials and on their website.

What is the story? Can you describe it in a sentence or two?

When: Tuesday, March 8th at 8:45 AM

Where: Piscataquis Community Elementary School
25 Campus Drive
Guilford ME 04443

It might make sense to give directions... I got a call from a lost news crew on this one because the address wouldn't come up on their GPS.

Please note that media representatives must register at the school office!

Photo Opportunity: Watching the tension and surprised looks when the winners are announced and presented with their awards! The kids are always so proud of their classmates!

Contact: Walter Boomsma, 343-1842 for the Grange or Julie Orton (Principal), 876-4301 for PCES.

Resource for Info: <http://Valleygrange.com>

This may be the most important part of your media advisory, particularly where television is concerned.

5.2 PRESS RELEASE (SAMPLE)

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Note that you can send releases in advance of when you want them published.

For additional information:

Walter Boomsma, Director of Publicity/Program Director

Valley Grange

Cell Phone 207 343-1842

Email walter@boomsmaonline.com

Make it easy to contact the right person... in this example I included a contact from Penquis.

Valley Grange Collaborates with Penquis

Organizations work together to host fundraising supper

Include the town where the event is based... this helps determine where items are ultimately printed

Guilford/Dover Foxcroft—Valley Grange and Penquis are teaming up to raise funds for the Penquis Smart Starts for Students Project Fund in a way that's smart for both organizations, according to Sheree Brown, Project Coordinator. "Valley Grange has been a supporter for several years, but this way we found an even smarter way to help our kids by informally partnering to offer folks in the area another way to help. In what may be our final fundraiser for this year, we'll be offering an Italian Buffet with a build your own salad bar in exchange for a donation to the project."

Walter Boomsma, program director for Valley Grange notes... *(Note in this example, the supper isn't the news; the collaboration is... if it was all about the supper it could be considered advertising.)*

Brown agrees, "Kids' needs are often simple but simple doesn't mean unimportant..." *(This offers a human interest aspect and further develops the news)*

The buffet will be served... *(pertinent details)*

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Use ### or -30- to indicate the end of your copy.

5.3 PRESS KIT AND INFORMATION

Press kits do not necessarily follow any particular format. The objective of a press kit (sometimes called a media kit) is to provide print information that will help the reporter write the story. The first page might include a list of participants, winners, etc. with correct name spellings and possible contact information. You might also attach documents.

When, for example, the story is about a Grange dictionary presentation to third graders, I might attach:

- General information about the Grange—specific information about the local Grange.
- A list of key contacts and participants.
- Background information on dictionary project (The Grange is participating in a program that is international in nature.)
- A sheet describing the role of the Grange in Rural Free Delivery. (This is a point within the presentation, and we use letters that require the use of a dictionary.)
- A copy of the letter sent home to parents.
- A list of upcoming events.

Because school children are involved, I would also include a summary of school policy regarding photos in this press kit—most reporters are aware of the policy and will appreciate any help you can offer, but not all—and I have had reporters ignore it.

5.4 MAINE DAILY NEWSPAPERS

Note that newspapers differ widely in how they will accept press releases and news tips—most will not accept telephone calls and most prefer online submission—either through a website portal or by email. Information was believed to be accurate at the time of publication, but due to frequent changes in ownership and procedure, it cannot be guaranteed.

Bangor Daily News

491 Main Street

PO Box 1329

Bangor ME 04401

207 990-8000

<http://bangordailynews.com>

Biddeford Journal Tribune

457 Alfred Street

Biddeford ME 04005

207 282-1535

<http://journaltribune.com>

Brunswick Times Record

PO Box 10

Brunswick ME 04011

<http://timesrecord.com>

Foster's Daily Democrat

150 Venture Drive

Dover NH 03820

603 742-4455

<http://fosters.com>

Kennebec Journal

36 Anthony Street

Augusta ME 04330

207 623-3811

<http://centralmaine.com>

Lewiston Sun Journal

PO Box 4400

Lewiston ME 04243

207 784-5411

<http://www.sunjournal.com>

Portland Press Herald/Sunday Telegram
One City Center, Fifth Floor
Portland ME 04101

<http://pressherald.com>

Portsmouth Herald
111 New Hampshire Avenue
Portsmouth NH 03801
800 439-0303

<https://www.seacoastonline.com/portsmouthherald>

Waterville Morning Sentinel
31 Front Street
Waterville ME 04901

207 873-3341

<http://centralmaine.com>

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6 COMMUNICATING WITH KIDS

One thing we can probably say with some confidence—in the Grange we probably aren’t having enough conversation with kids! They are our future members, and we should be talking with them! As I’ve worked with kids through Valley Grange’s programs like Words for Thirds, Bookworming, and Newspapers in Education, I’ve learned that most kids are hungry for adult interest. I’ve also discovered that we often have communication gaps simply because we do speak and think differently. If “men are from Mars” and “women are from Venus,” there may be a “children are from…” version.

Simplifying this means we need to remember that kids are constantly learning and developing their communication skills and vocabulary. You may need to adjust depending on the age of the child(ren) who are listening to you.

WORDS FOR THIRDS



An area where many Granges have an opportunity to talk with kids is the Words for Thirds dictionary program. At Valley Grange, we’ve been doing this for over a decade, and I’ve had the distinct honor to be the presenter. As a result, we’ve developed an approach and program that I’ll outline briefly, and it can certainly be tailored to your situation. I have the basics in a PowerPoint Presentation and would be happy to share that with anyone interested.

We have two different programs: one we do when the kids visit the Grange Hall and another when we visit the school. Since field trips to the Grange Hall will not be the norm for most, this outline is based on a classroom visit.

You will need the four staves from your Grange and, of course, the dictionaries! You may also want to use a marker and whiteboard or flip chart—these will usually be available in the classroom.

The teacher will likely introduce you after giving the kids a short “lecture” on “good listening skills” and audience behaviors.

I tend to write my name on the board because it’s a fun one for the kids to learn. The important thing at the start is to get the kids engaged as quickly as you can, because they will tune you out if you don’t. I do this by saying “Good Morning, Third Graders” and getting them to respond, “Good Morning, Mr. Boomsma.”

Expect to be interrupted and that the kids will want to go off on tangents and tell you stories that may have nothing to do with your presentation. Don’t fear this—the teacher will likely help you manage it.

Using simple terms and avoiding “Grange Speak,” you can explain what the Grange is and why you are there—so they can learn a little bit about the Grange. I emphasize the importance of agriculture and farming. That leads naturally to the farmers’ tools we have brought. How you do this depends on your comfort level with the kids. I tend to dialogue with them and demonstrate how each one would have been used. The emphasis is that farming is about taking care of things: the land, the animals, the crops.

Each of these tools is helpful. “While the ones we brought today aren’t real, we have them at our meetings to remind us of farming and how we should act.”

Our approach at Valley Grange includes an RFD mailbox with some letters in it, but a simpler version would perhaps involve explaining that farmers, like Grangers, are good stewards, a word that most third graders won’t recognize or be able to define. This leads to a discussion of what we do when we don’t know what a word means. “Look it up!” Write the word “STEWARD” (letter it, do not use cursive as third graders are just starting to learn cursive) on the board or flipchart so the kids can look it up.

Expect bedlam when you pass out dictionaries. When most of the students have found the word (if you have Grangers with you, they should wander around the room helping the kids by showing guide words, etc.) Eventually, you can pick one child to read the definition. He or she may need help with some of the words in the definition, and you’ll want to be prepared to explain the definition.

The dictionary Valley Grange uses defines stewardship as the “wise management of resources.” This requires explaining what management and a resource are... a good third-grade definition/explanation might be “resources are things we can use... like tools... the tools (stuffs) we looked at today are resources... and your dictionary is going to be a tool you can use for a long time. Management is about using those tools.” You can also talk about how a good steward takes good care of tools and they should take good care of their dictionaries.

You can “wrap up” by letting the kids ask questions about the Grange or their dictionaries. Some of the questions I hear about the Grange are, “How many of you are there? Do you have animals? Can I join? Do you live at the Grange? What do you do there?” Sometimes the kids will brag that they’ve been to the hall for a dinner. Relax and enjoy the conversation. If you get stumped, just admit it. The kids will accept “I don’t know.” You might add, however, “I’m going to look that up later!”

One caution: You’ll want to avoid asking the kids any questions that might elicit personal information or create an embarrassing situation. It’s easy to do this without intending. I remember once we had sixth graders attend to talk about how they still have and use their dictionaries. I asked one of them, “Do you have any brothers or sisters?” (My follow-up question was going to be whether they got to use his dictionary.) I knew immediately I’d made an error. The sixth-grader put his hand on his chin and said, “I’m going to have to think about how to answer that.” He recovered gracefully, explaining a somewhat complicated blended family situation, but I should have avoided the topic.

Don’t overstay your welcome. I usually close by reminding the kids to raise their hands and ask, “Who can tell me one thing you learned today?” If you call on somebody who doesn’t have an answer, let it go... give him or her a few seconds, then just call on somebody else. Be patient and smile a lot.



End by thanking the kids for being such a good audience and for letting you come to visit with them. The teacher will take over and likely instruct the kids to thank you. You'll leave a little tired but with the assurance that you've done a very good thing.

Because I love the Dictionary Project and working with kids, I'm always willing to assist any Grange who wants to get a program started. There's a lot to like about this program. In addition to helping the kids, teachers, and schools, we are also helping ourselves. Valley Grange has found community support for fundraisers has increased dramatically because we hear people say, "Oh you are the ones who give kids dictionaries. What a great program!" Many of our Grange members look forward to "Dictionary Day" every year—for some, it's one program they won't miss!

There are so many ways to make this fun and meaningful. When the kids visit the Grange Hall, we usually arrange for Civil War Re-enactors to come and talk with the kids. We often teach a game called "the dictionary race." For several years now we've had a few older kids (fifth/sixth grade) come and talk about how much they have used their dictionaries.

Somewhere between just dropping off a box of dictionaries at the school and having the kids make a field trip to the Grange Hall, there is a program that will work for you and your schools and teachers. The one minimum requirement is that you get started! Please let me know if you're interested and would like some help.



Note: The Communications Department has created an extensive section of Words for Thirds Resources on the website. We can even provide you with a logo customized to your Grange.

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7 LOGOS AND BRANDING

7.1 GRANGE LOGO

The National Grange treats its logo as a protected trademark. In practice:

- State and local Granges may use it as chartered parts of the organization, but they cannot give third parties permission to use it.
- Businesses, fairs, derivative entities, and other third parties generally need a trademark license.
- The Grange Logo must include the registered trademark symbol.
- Do not modify the logo in any way, including AI-generated variants.



Additional information is available on the [National Grange Trademark License Page](#).

7.2 GRANGE BRAND

The word "Grange" should always be capitalized. The National Grange Communications Handbook clarifies a number of practices that support protecting the Grange Brand.

7.3 MAINE STATE GRANGE "LOGOS"

The MSG Communications Department creates several images to support local Granges and their programs. Many of these incorporate the Grange Logo. These logos give an organization a recognizable visual identity. It helps people quickly identify its communications, builds trust through consistent presentation, distinguishes it from other groups, and can convey its values or mission at a glance.

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8 COMMUNICATION TIPS AND SAMPLES

The following section includes tips and samples of communication techniques and ideas used by some of our Granges. As such, they are “field tested!”

8.1 PROMOTING EVENTS WITH A MEDIA CALENDAR

By Grace Lommel, Wayside Grange

I read with interest your/Grangers’ need for communications tips. I’d like to share what I do to publicize the Wayside Grange and Theatre.



Grangers helping Grangers... its' the Grange way!

The most important step for promotion, I believe, is to set up a media calendar ASAP and enter all deadlines. I have two calendars: one handwritten on a wall calendar for visual planning and the other entered into my mail server’s calendar. Google calendar would work, too, if you have many people involved.

On the electronic calendar, I also set up reminders, usually three days prior to each deadline to give me a heads up. These notices pop up when I open my email. Google does this for Gmail accounts, I believe.

Wayside’s media calendar is set up roughly as follows for every event:

- Four to five weeks prior to an event, posters of the next concert/supper are hung up at the current event. We want these people most of all to know what’s coming next! Forty posters are hung at grocery and convenience stores, restaurants. I design the posters on Word, send the file to the printer, it’s converted to a PDF and then I convert it to a JPEG. Kelly Printing in Newport does this for \$12.50, the extent of our monthly advertising budget.
- Three weeks prior, print news releases are emailed with a good quality photo (at least 150kb but best is 1+mg). The photo is named appropriately (“DSN6987092” is not good. “Castlebay promo photo” is good.) The caption for the photo (L-R Tom Thumb, Dick Cheney, Harry Truman) is clearly identified in the release. Depending on the music genre, I’ll also email the Maine Country Music Association, DEFFA, etc. The band is also copied. We don’t do attachments; the release is right in the email body.

- Two to three weeks in advance, online releases are entered. These are rehashes of the same print release and same photo. I do this for the major papers (Bangor Daily News and Morning Sentinel (which also includes the Kennebec Journal and Portland Press Herald)). Radio and TV stations are also included. Tedious, yes, but very effective.
- We don't have a web page (yet), but we do use Facebook. The newest event photo JPEG becomes our profile picture. FB event pages are created as soon as our schedule is confirmed, and the band/contact is named as a co-host. The print news release is copied into the event body and the band promo pic used. I try to post as often as I think of it, in both the event and home page. Ten days, five days, three days and one day before an event, a MailChimp email is sent to our list, which includes Grangers. It might seem obsessive, but reminders help tremendously in this busy world. And MailChimp social cards post automatically on our FB page, too.
- The day of the event- pack camera, tripod, a smile and boundless good humor because it's going to be a GREAT event!
- The day after an event, we post on FB, thanking the audience, band and Grangers. Recently, bands have taken a picture of our audience from the stage. People like to see themselves and it gives a good idea of the size and set up of the theatre. Also posted are photos of the band playing, candids of Grangers working during the show, our desserts, whatever looks good.

Because our events are one month apart, there is some overlapping. For example, one week prior to event one we are sending the poster for event two to the printer. You can see why a media calendar is a necessity! This Wayside season contains four events, two weeks apart! Will I be busy? You bet. But it's under control 'cause it's all calendared! And it's all FREE! Except for the posters.

My goal is to make everything easy for everyone else to copy/share/pass on the info. And it's working!

9 PHOTOS AND CUT LINES

By Walter Boomsma, Valley Grange #144

However unfortunately, many people admit they “hate to write” and, as a result, our Grange Stories go untold. One potential solution is to submit photos with cutlines to your media sources. Here’s an example of a photo that was submitted to the local paper with a short cutline. (Think of the cutline as an expanded caption. The “cut” is the photo; the line is the caption, which explains the photo in very brief terms.)

Note how the cutline tells the story in a very compact way. The sentence starting “Walter Boomsma, Program Director...” could be deleted without harming the story. I included it to make the article and story “bigger.” The reporter/editor opted to run it as submitted so it appeared as about one third the width of the page.



Contributed Photo

VALLEY GRANGE CONTRIBUTION—As part of their Community Care Program, Maine Highlands Federal Credit Union recently presented a donation to Valley Grange. Employees contributed based on their “dress down” Fridays with the proceeds being distributed to local community organizations. Walter Boomsma, Program Director for Valley Grange noted, “Through no fault of our own, we recently lost part of the funding of our [Words for Thirds Dictionary Program](#), so this is perfect timing and will help us to continue to give a dictionary to every third grader in four area districts. Thank you!” From left is Sonya Smith of the credit union, Boomsma and Valley Grange Master Jim Annis.

9.1 TALKING WALLS

By Heather Retberg, Halcyon Grange #345

Our 'Talking Walls Project' is inspired by the creative homeschooling Master mama at the Union Harvest Grange in Montville, Bridget McKeen. She had written some beautiful Grange principles down on large recipe cards using Sharpies™ and posted four or five around their dining hall. I brought the idea back to Halcyon to see what members thought of using our walls to help us communicate to guests and event attendees, just what the Grange is really all about and what is it, anyway? Grangers were enthusiastic about the idea. So, I gave everyone some homework to take home the manual, sent them links to the Grange Constitution and Declaration of Purposes and asked them to each send me a few of their favorite guiding principles. What a response! This was also a great way to get seasoned and newer members alike familiarize themselves with Grange principles and the Grange manual. Members chose principles ranging from good animal care to small business attitude to care of soil to true patriotism. It was great to have all those principles pulled and highlighted. Member Elise Schellhase has great graphics skills and will be putting them all into posters for the hall as we get into fall months and all is not so intensely busy. Anyways, I think this would be fun for other Granges and help others demystify their local Granges, too. People are curious and often ask: Just what is the Grange about anyways? We think this is a great way to answer them while they eat or enjoy music or educational programming

9.2 FAIR COMMUNICATIONS

By Walter Boomsma, Valley Grange

For several years, we've set up an information booth at the Piscataquis Valley Fair that introduces fair-goers to the Grange in general, but includes specific information about Valley Grange. Fortunately, we can create an "open" display where people can actually "enter" and spend some time reviewing the information. Several chairs are available for folks to "rest their feet." A stand holding informational panels is "homemade" and could be made to fit almost any space. The four panels include photos and information regarding Valley Grange activities. One panel includes the entire Declaration of Purposes.

Postcard-size coupons featuring upcoming events at various Granges are available on a table, and we truly focus on information.

We've considered attempting to staff the booth with members, at least during the high-traffic times. We do encourage members who are at the fair to stop by and make use of one of the chairs. This has resulted in some very interesting conversations and opportunities.

9.3 KEEPING MEMBERS INFORMED

By Larry Bailey, Master of Ocean View Grange #463

This is an example of a basic but effective way to keep members and friends informed. Larry sent this out as an email. The "by date" method helps keep things organized and allows for done and doing! It's very easy to lose track of how active your Grange is... an occasional reminder is great!

I thought it was time to send out an update of our activities so far this year and what is coming up.

May 12 – St George Road Clean-up – We participated in our annual St George Road Clean-up Day. We adopted the same stretch of road and had a nice turnout to help. It always leaves you with a good feeling to look at the difference you made.

May 19 – Veterans Grave Flags – Placing American Flags on veterans' graves is another service that we provide which is both enjoyable and humbling. We were joined by members of the Port Clyde Sailing Club...many of whom are also Grange members.

May 26 – Flea Market – The Flea Market held at the Grange was very successful. The public seems to anxiously anticipate and appreciate the Flea Market and enjoy the luncheons. The group that puts this on includes Grange members and others and provides a nice donation to the Grange.

June 2 – Bean Supper. – What would life in Maine be without a great, traditional Maine Bean Supper? It was very successful and, as a thank you to our military veterans, they dined free. The public never fails to say how much they enjoy the food, the camaraderie and the chance to break bread (brown bread and biscuits) with friends and neighbors. Many ask as they are leaving, "When is the next one? I don't want to miss it!"

June and July are busy with several rentals for weddings, parties, receptions, and memorials. Our Grange Hall is seen as a wonderful venue for family and commercial gatherings.

Farmers Market is open every Tuesday at 9 am and has been enthusiastically received.

July 9 – Grange Inspection – Sister Sherrill Snowdeal attended our meeting and conducted her annual inspection. She praised our ritual performances saying that we are among the best she has seen, and we are one of the few Granges which Presents the Flag. Our meeting was further enhanced by having to vote on six (6) new members.

June 15 – Words for Thirds – We presented 22 dictionaries to the third-grade class at St George Elementary School. This is our second year and, just like last year, we found the students were excited to get the books. The interest in our Grange and what we do was clear from their questions. This is a worthwhile project which we will continue in the future.

July 10 – Library Literary Series – As a community service, we donate the use of our Grange to the local library, Jackson Memorial Library, where a series of authors present and read from their books. The meetings are usually Standing-Room-Only. They have programs on July 17 and 24.

July 28 – Flea Market – This is the 2nd one for the year. Hours are from 9 am to 2 pm.

Aug 7 – Irish Music – Last year we hosted an evening of traditional Irish music performed by Gabriel Donovan. Almost everyone who attended said they want more. We have asked him back again and he and his wife will be here on Aug 7th. There is a donation at the door. Look for hours etc. on our Facebook page.

Sept 6 – Flea Market – Third one for the year.

Oct 6 – Flea Market

Nov 10 – Bean Supper – All the favorites will be served and veterans are welcomed to a dinner on us. 5 pm to 8 pm.

We want to give recognition to our members who cut trees and brush adjoining the Grange for safety and moisture purposes. Thank you, Brothers Ben Norton, and Joss Coggeshall. Also, it should be noted that Sister Sharon Harmon and a FOG (Friend of the Grange) Brenda Armstrong have given much time and effort to our beautiful flower gardens at the Grange.

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10 MAINE STATE GRANGE BULLETIN POLICY

The Maine State Grange Bulletin serves as an internal communication mechanism that will facilitate sharing information between state leaders and members. In determining what to publish two guiding questions will be applied:

1. Does the information or article submitted have general interest statewide?
2. Does the information or article reflect Grange values?

Publishing priority will be given to articles submitted by state officers and directors, but the *Maine State Grange Bulletin* encourages articles from the membership. The writer's name and contact information for verification must be included. Submission does not guarantee publication. The

Maine State Grange Bulletin reserves the right to make any changes necessary to accepted articles. Anonymous submissions, pseudonyms, and articles dealing with personalities will not be printed. The editor reserves the right to edit articles for style, grammar, spelling, and length. The overriding standard for editing will be good old common-sense fairness.

The State Master and Executive Committee will serve as an editorial policy review board when necessary.

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

The process for submitting to the Bulletin is the same as submitting to the website. There are three options:

1. Use the [SUBMIT] tab at the top of the website. This effectively emails your submission to the webmaster/editor.
2. Send an email using the webmaster@mainestategrange.org email address. Your information/article can be the email itself (preferred) or an attached Microsoft Word document.
3. "Snail mail" your information/article to the editor's home address: 17 River Road, Abbot ME 04406. **Do not use this address for any other State Grange business.** Doing so will delay a reply!

All letters or articles submitted for publication must have content relating to the Grange and be limited to 250-300 words. When submitting future events, please allow adequate lead time and include all the details such as date, time, Grange (and location), and a contact for more information.

Adopted by the Maine State Grange Executive Committee, February 2, 2014

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11 NATIONAL GRANGE WEBSITE AND 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.

In February 2011, the National Grange recognized the growth of social media, and the National Grange Executive Committee adopted the above website and social media “code of conduct.” The code is part of the Maine State Grange Web Policy, but let me share a few points from it with a few editorial comments.

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.

In short, an individual should not just decide to start a Facebook page on behalf of his or her Grange. There are many good reasons for this, but let’s focus on the fact that the page is representing the Grange—not an individual. As such, members should be engaged and involved in order to ensure the page is monitored and posts and comments are appropriate. This also helps if the original member loses interest because there will be others ensuring the page/group is kept up to date.

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

For reasons sociologists are still exploring, many people feel very free to make bold, sometimes outlandish statements on social media. If your Grange has a Facebook page or group, members should be monitoring themselves and the page to make certain inappropriate comments are not being posted. 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 people 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) 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!

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12 MAINE STATE GRANGE WEBSITE

12.1 INTRODUCTION

One might certainly wonder what the founders would think if they could somehow come back and look at the world today. While they succeeded in creating a permanent organization, 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 and text messaging at our fingertips.

As an organization that values ritual and predictability, we guard our relationship with technology—perhaps more than 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. More importantly, let us understand that if we are to remain relevant to future generations, we must speak their language using the 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 to increase 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 welcome!

Please note: The site may 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.

12.2 BASIC LAYOUT

Maine State Grange

Patrons of Husbandry – a website dedicated to the Granges located in Maine

About the Grange ▾ Program Books & Information Grange Events Page Submit Information Submit Events

Resources For Granges ▾ Subscribe! [2026 152nd State Convention](#)



In essentials, unity.
In non-essentials, liberty.
In all things, charity.



FEATURED

Important Stuff!

Events, Grange News, State Convention Information

Grange Activities, Grange Procedure

Leave a comment

Degree Days and Major Events

- September 26, 2026, State Lecturers' Conference at MSG Headquarters, 9:00 am until noon.
- October 30-31, 2026, Maine State Grange Annual Meeting in Orono.

The Maine State Grange Office is located at
36 Anthony Avenue, Suite 102, Augusta, ME 04330
The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9:30 am until 1:30 pm
The email address is mainestategrange@gmail.com.

For website matters, email webmaster@mainestategrange.org.

Share this:

[Print](#) [Email](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [X](#) [More](#)

Like this:

[☆ Like](#)  1 like

Search

Search

TELL US WHY YOU LOVE THE GRANGE!

SUBMIT YOUR GRANGE EVENT

SUBMIT YOUR GRANGE NEWS

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Grange. The information provided is for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be a substitute for professional advice. The Grange and its members do not recommend or endorse the contents of third-party websites.

Find posts and pages by category:

Categories

Select Category ▾

This is considered the main menu.

Powerful! Enter a key word for phrase.

Comment on a post.

Shortcuts make submitting easy.

This makes it easy to share a post.

12.3 VISITING THE SITE

When visiting the site, it may help to understand the difference between a page and a post. The site is based on WordPress blogging software, and these are terms common to blogging.

A page tends to be static and relatively timeless. Pages build menu systems and make frequently sought information readily available. The tabs across the top of the site's home page reflect many of the available pages. Clicking on one of those tabs opens the page in the main window.

A post is truly the heart of any blog. These appear in the main window in the order posted (which will usually be the order received). An exception to this is a "sticky" post, which stays at the top until it is "unstuck." Sticky posts are most often used when we need to keep information at the top of the site for a period of time. One example is "sticking" important items like regional and state meetings.

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 "Grange Events" tab lists Grange events in date order, with links to more information and 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.

12.4 SUBSCRIBING TO THE SITE

Subscribing to the site is one of our best features because it means you don't have to remember to check the site for new information. If you've subscribed to the site, you get a weekly email summary that includes all posts.

Subscribing is also one of the easiest tasks. Just click the "subscribe" tab at the top of the site. There is a second step that many people unfortunately miss! After you subscribe, you'll receive an email asking you to confirm that you, in fact, want to subscribe. That email includes a link you must click. If you do not do this step, you will not be subscribed.

This step makes sense if you think about it! Without it, a "friend" could subscribe you to a lot of sites and newsletters and fill your inbox with emails you don't want.

One other important point about email subscriptions is that the user must maintain the subscription. If you change your email address, you must subscribe using that new address. Please do not email the webmaster to request a change. Remember, the system is designed to ensure that others can't subscribe you and that includes the webmaster!

Also, if a user ever wishes to "unsubscribe," a link at the bottom of every email sent from the site provides that option.

12.5 SUBMITTING INFORMATION

Information is the lifeblood of our site. While the webmaster will occasionally come across some news or general information and post it, by and large we are dependent on officers, directors and members to provide us with relevant information and news. Please review the website policy included in this handbook and understand that there are a few things we do not post. For example, we do not post personal causes or events unless a Grange is formally involved as a sponsor. Submitting information about a community blood drive might seem appropriate, but it will not be posted either as an event or news unless the drive is being held at the Grange Hall or members are participating as a group. This policy exists for two reasons. The primary one is to avoid cluttering the site with "non-Grange" information. We do not want to lose the site's focus—the second reason. We could quickly have a huge volume of posting and maintenance if we just started accepting anything anyone wanted to submit.

That said, no one should feel discouraged from submitting! We have historically accepted almost everything we receive. The webmaster will occasionally ask the submitter to reword an item or give it a different slant. An important consideration is that the site is like an open meeting potentially attended by the entire world. We want to keep our best face forward!

12.5.1 Submitting on the website

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.

12.5.2 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!

We will not post photos of minors without written parent/guardian permission. A form for this is available on 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.

Please attach photos and PDF files to the email. You can also submit information by “snail mail,” but understand this creates a time lag, and documents and photos 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.

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13 LOCAL AND POMONA WEBSITES

Subordinate and Pomona Grange websites (using a simplified version of the same software as the Maine State Grange site) have been available through National Grange. However, it appears that this program is no longer supported.

Setting up a free WordPress-based website is not too difficult. As time allows, the MSG webmaster will assist individuals who are willing to work to do so.

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14 WEBSITE PRIVACY POLICY

Last Updated: September 8, 2026

The Maine State Grange operates this website as a non-commercial service. This privacy policy explains how we collect, use, and protect your information when you visit our site, sign up for our newsletter, or participate in discussions.

14.1 INFORMATION WE COLLECT AND HOW WE USE IT

Subscribers: When you sign up for our news or event updates, we collect your name and email address. This data is transferred to MailChimp to manage our mailing list and send updates.

Comments: When you leave a comment, we collect the text, your name, and your email address. Your name and comment are public, but your email address is kept hidden and is only used for moderation and spam prevention.

Site Statistics: We use the Jetpack plugin to gather basic, anonymous statistics like page views, browser types, and referral links to help

14.2 COOKIES AND TRACKING

Comment Convenience: If you leave a comment, you may opt in to saving your name and email address in cookies so you do not have to fill them in again next time.

Plugin Cookies: Jetpack and MailChimp may use cookies to ensure their features function correctly on our website. You can disable cookies in your browser settings if you prefer.

14.3 DATA RETENTION AND SHARING

No Data Selling: We do not sell, rent, or trade your personal information with anyone.

Retention: We keep your subscriber data until you choose to unsubscribe. Approved comments and their metadata are retained indefinitely so we can automatically recognize and approve follow-up comments.

14.4 YOUR RIGHTS OVER YOUR DATA

Opt-Out: You can unsubscribe from our MailChimp updates at any time by clicking the "unsubscribe" link at the bottom of any email.

Data Erasure: You can request that we delete your subscriber profile or remove your approved comments from the website.

14.5 CONTACT INFORMATION

For any questions about this privacy policy or to request data removal, please contact our webmaster at webmaster@mainestategrange.org.

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15 WEBSITE TERMS OF SERVICE AND DISCLAIMERS

Last Updated: September 8, 2026

Welcome to the official website of The Maine State Grange. By accessing our website, you agree to comply with and be bound by the following terms and conditions of use.

15.1 USER CONDUCT AND COMMENTS

All user comments are moderated before appearing on the website.

Comments must remain civil, respectful, and relevant to the community.

We strictly prohibit the posting of spam, commercial advertisements, harmful links, or illegal content.

We reserve the right to edit, reject, or remove any comment or submission at our absolute discretion without prior notice.

15.2 NEWS AND EVENT SUBMISSIONS

Content posted on this website is for general informational purposes for Grange members and the public.

By submitting suggestions or event notices, you grant us the right to publish and format the information to fit our site guidelines.

15.3 IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER

Event Changes and Accuracy

The website provides information regarding community events, schedules, and news as a convenience to our visitors.

While we strive to keep information accurate and up to date, event details—including dates, times, locations, and cancellations—can change frequently and without prior notice.

The Maine State Grange is not responsible for any inconveniences, travel costs, or losses resulting from changes or inaccuracies in our posted schedules. We strongly recommend verifying event details with local Grange organizers before traveling to an event.

15.4 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The content, layout, graphics, and text published on this website are owned by or licensed to The Maine State Grange. Unauthorized reproduction is prohibited.

15.5 CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these Terms of Service, please contact us at webmaster@mainestategrango.org.

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Washington DC:

Lawrenceville

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17 INTERNET RESOURCES

<http://wboomsma.com> is an informal site with some resources and links for writers.

<http://www.bethkanter.org/> claims to be geared towards non-profits, but just about anyone can benefit from her ideas and comments regarding social media.

<http://newspapers.com/> lists newspapers around the world.

Additional resources can be found on the Maine State Grange Website on the Program Books and Information Page.

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18 YOUR NOTES AND IDEAS

This Communications Handbook was written by Walter Boomsma and formatted by:



Abbot Village Press also publishes “Exploring Traditions—Celebrating the Grange Way of Life,” a book by Walter Boomsma available from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and the author’s online store at <http://wboomsma.com>.

