



# *The Granite State Granger*

**Volume 44**

**Number 1**

**2014**

**March**

## **National Master Coming to Spring Fling**

**April 5, 2014**

### **Tilton Northfield United Methodist Church**

A diverse array of topics has been arranged for your enjoyment at the Seventh Annual Spring Fling, and the Jr. Department is hosting separate activities for the kids! All workshops are open to the public, so if there is a topic you think is of interest to someone you know, go ahead and invite them! Please check the official mailing to your Grange, or go to [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org) for the finalized list and schedule! These are the workshops that were confirmed at the time of this GSG deadline. Topics: Flower Basket Quilt Block, Cardmaking, Learning Grange History through Literature, Wildflowers, Youth Achievement Awards, Community Service, NH Agricultural Statistics,

There is only one workshop scheduled for the first morning time slot this year. Ed Lutrell, Master of the National Grange who will talk about Grange Policy and its Development, Grange Policy and its Implementation, and Grange Policy and Members: Differences and Disagreements, Finding Common Ground, Member Relations from a Policy and Principles Point of View". Some time is planned at the end of the workshop for general Grange questions. If you have a burning question about something to do with National Grange history, procedure, programs, etc. now is the time to ask!

Brother Ed will also be assisting Arthur Merrill in a second morning workshop, which will be a sort of book review on the various Grange history books that are available for all you history buffs. Have you heard of the new e-books that are available from National Grange that are available ONLY as e-books?

The second session of the morning



### **Harmony Grange #99 Celebrates 130 Year Anniversary**

will offer a choice of workshops, but of special note is "Seven to Save". Shared Field Service Representative, Maggie Stier will give information on how Granges who own halls that need restoration and/or maintenance can take advantage of resources offered by the NH Preservation Alliance, since they were added to the Seven to Save list last fall.

Registration starts at 8:45 and the first workshop begins at 9:00 a.m. The final assembly ends at 3:30 p.m.

Registrations are recommended, but not required and are most helpful if received by March 28th. A suggested voluntary donation of \$10 per person, which includes lunch, is being asked to help defray the expenses of the day and is payable on the day of the event. Families are encouraged to set their own donation amount. Do not send payment with your registrations, please! If at the last minute you realize that you can attend, please come even if you are not registered! We will make every effort to accommodate your attendance at this event.

Please make plans to join your fellow Grangers from around the state for this unique, fun, and educational day of membership enhancement. And don't forget to bring your friends, too!

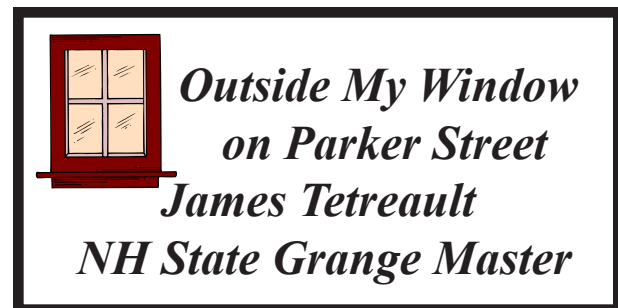
Harmony Grange #99 celebrated its 130th anniversary while hosting the Christmas gathering of Merrimack County Pomona. Pictured above are Vicki Hussman, Master of Harmony Grange, Richard Currier, Deputy Neil MacDonald and his wife Dale in front of a display of memorabilia gathered by Richard Currier, Harmony Grange #99 Historian.

Members of Harmony Grange and Merrimack County Pomona (shown below) filled tins with holiday candy for shut-ins at the local NH Veterans Home in Tilton, NH, truly a sweet and fun holiday activity for all participating. The evening ended with all enjoying a delicious cake commemorating Harmony's 130 years.



**Support the Granite State Granger with your donation.**





As I look out the window in my dining room where I sit to compose this column for the Granite State Granger, all that I see in the back yard is a covering of white! I sit here and think about all of the spring activities that will soon happen as the weather turns warm!

Winter is a tough time for all of our Granges. I know that I look forward to being in the warmth of my own home and sometimes the thoughts of going out are unappealing, but the warmth that our Brothers and Sisters bring to our meetings certainly helps me overcome my apathy about attending my local Grange meeting.

This time of year offers great opportunities to promote the Grange. Your Grange can offer to host "Meet the Candidate" events or facilitate Town Warrant discussions. A fundraising activity is also a possibility. Has your Grange ever put a refreshment table out at town elections and Town meetings? We need to remember these are opportunities to promote our Granges in our local communities.

The Grange Growth Seminar hosted by Chichester Grange was a big success with twenty plus members attending. Brother Michael Martin conducted an informative session to help all the Granges in attendance grow the Grange in their Community.

A big thank you goes out to our State Grange Membership Promotion Committee for doing an outstanding job at promoting the Grange at Farm and Forest Expo on February 7 & 8 at the Center of NH in Manchester. We were pleased to have won first place in the educational exhibit category. I was also pleased to have met the Governor that evening as well.

We look forward to seeing you all at some of the upcoming events like Spring Fling in April and the Degree Day in May. Look at your calendar of events for specific dates and locations for these events.

### We Did It!

by Beth Merrill, Regional Coordinator,  
147th National Grange Convention

The 147th Session of the National Grange has come and gone in a whirl. "How Sweet It Was!" This article will attempt to acknowledge and thank everyone who had a part in what seems to have been a successful endeavor for our New Hampshire and Northeast Grangers.

Many Thanks to These Financial and In-Kind Donors to the 2013 National Convention

(In no particular order)

Region Raffle Artists - Diane Gutgesell – two painted sap bucket lids; Betsey Congdon – Walpole Grange #125, painted sap bucket; Ruth Pelton – Hampton Falls Grange # 171, painted sap bucket  
Youth Tour Sponsors - Wicwas Lake Grange #292, Walpole Grange #125, Antrim Grange #98, Cheshire County Pomona #6, Hillsborough County Pomona #1

Hospitality Room – Soliciting Corporate Donations – Gloria Davis, Antrim Grange & Diane Collins, Park & Claremont Granges, Kerriann Heath, Centennial Grange

Grange Bucks Donors – Rodney Hunt-oon, Ann Leger, Bob Glover, Hannah West, Gloria Davis, Arthur Merrill, and many others!

Shirt & Merchandise Sales – Beth & Arthur Merrill, Antrim Grange; Chris Heath, Centennial Grange; Grangers Everywhere who purchased these items!

NH Maple Syrup Donors – Yardley Maple, Mexico, NY; McGill's Sugarhouse, Walpole, NH; Brokenridge Farm, Cornish Flat, NH; Taylor Brothers Sugarhouse, Plainfield, NH; Bob & Jane Trombi, Keene, NH; Gowen's Sugarhouse, Acworth, NH; Journey's End Maple Farm,

Pittsfield, NH; Meredith Center Maples of Double D Ranch, NH; NH; James Tetreault, Winchester, NH; Scofield Mountain Farm, Ashuelot, NH

Salute to Agriculture Breakfast – Maple Syrup - Great Brook Farm, Walpole, NH; Bascom's Maple Farms, Alstead;

Eggs – Pete & Jerry's Organic, Cage Free Eggs, Monroe, NH; Bacon/Sausage – North Country Smokehouse, Claremont, NH; Yogurt – Stonyfield Farm, Londonderry, NH; Pudding – Echo Farm, Hinsdale, NH; Cheese/Butter- Agrimark Family Dairy Farms-Cabot Cheese, Lawrence MA; Apples – Alyson's Orchard, Walpole, NH ; Guest Speaker – Steve Taylor, former NH Commissioner of Agriculture, Markets, & Foods

Mitten Tree – Tree design, construction and materials, Mark Collins, Park and Claremont Granges; Baler Twine, Beth Merrill, Antrim Grange; Hats, Mittens, & Scarves - Grangers everywhere

"How Sweet It Is" Welcome Display – Kim & Dan Bascom, Rochester Grange Jr. Grange Snacks – Joann Brandt

Idea Fair - Tables & Chairs, NH State Grange; Transporting of same – Mark Collins, Park & Claremont Granges; Décor & Transportation - Kathy Yardley, Walpole Grange; Scheduling Workshops – Ellen Weist, Manchester Community Grange

Hancock Selectmen – Allowed us to borrow the Grange emblem Painted Curtain rescued from the former John Hancock Grange Hall) for the Idea Fair and assisted in the cost of its restoration.

Rochester Grange – General Sponsor donation and contributed fabric leaves for banquet table décor.

Short List of NH People Who Made the Convention Happen

(In no particular order)

Kerriann Heath - supervised the Host Region Office, making visitors feel welcome and keeping our Host Committee busy and constructive all week, helped solicit items for the NH raffle basket, solicited paper goods and pumpkins from commercial vendor, set up volunteer ser-

See WE DID IT page 3

### WE DID IT

vice at multiple Easter Seals facilities in conjunction with the Youth Tour and was a great listener whenever the Convention Coordinator needed to "spout".

Gloria Davis & Diane Collins - supervised the Hospitality Suite, keeping it well-stocked and efficiently run. We were fortunate that the hotel allowed us to serve whatever we wanted, enabling us to help many Grangers save time and money by offering light meals and unlimited snack items at their convenience. Thanks to all the NH Grangers who supplied food items on New Hampshire's day to stock the hospitality room. Diane was also a big help with a last-minute creation of luncheon centerpieces and favors.

Adam Paquin-Varnum – Due to a late hour illness, the Transportation Coordinator position was vacant until Adam valiantly stepped in and fulfilled the duties of airport greeter. Many folks took the time to mention how friendly and helpful their first contact in our state was. Adam and Bob Paquin-Varnum personally transported a group of west coast youth to the NH coast so they could experience a view of the Atlantic Ocean.

Ann Leger & Tricia Taylor – Chairs of the Host Banquet, managed the guest list, sending invitations all over the country, following up on RSVPs, organizing the head table, and preparing the table décor. This was a great and memorable evening! Santa Croce – This family musical group played their usual set of original and cover songs and graciously learned and performed the Grange tune "The Yellow Corn," which was a huge hit with audience members who had attended the Exemplification of the 1873 Degrees event in Minnesota the previous July. Their charm and wonderful harmonies made the Host Banquet memorable, as evidenced by the audience request for an encore followed by a standing ovation.

Chris Heath – organized the Delegate Tour, aided Manchester Community Grange with the Delegate breakfast, and sold fundraiser shirts pre-convention. Manchester Community Grange – Prepared and served a breakfast for the Delegate Tour and sponsored the Currier Museum of Art workshop at the Idea Fair.

Kim Bascom – Made arrangements for flowers for session room, lobby display, Sixth Degree roses, Celebration Banquet, and made all the boutonnieres and corsages for Youth Officers, Past Delegates, Youth Ambassadors, and Talent Show participants.

Journey's End Farm and the Boisvert/West Clan – Divided the donated syrup and rebottled it for favors at the Host Banquet, and the Ag Breakfast and for pancakes at the Delegate Tour breakfast. Marty Boisvert also arranged for a friend to make remaining syrup into maple candy for Celebration Banquet favors.

Bob Haefner & Tara Sad – Chaired the Salute to Agriculture Breakfast and solicited donations so that the meal consisted of all-New Hampshire products. They made arrangements for Steve Taylor, former NH Commissioner of Agriculture, Foods, and Markets, to be guest speaker. Bob also was instrumental in inviting Senator Kelly Ayotte to address the session, a political first for a National Grange session in decades.

Kathy Yardley – Chair of the Idea Fair. Created the "room" concept, organized layout of exhibit hall, oversaw Best of Show display items, designed lovely entrance displays, transported a lot of STUFF, and filled in as an ex-officio Host Committee member and Coordinator's sounding board whenever needed.

Ellen Weist – Was the visionary and worker bee that set up ongoing activities and workshops for the Idea Fair. Some comments from convention evaluations gave us credit for having the best Idea Fair ever, and it is all to the credit of Kathy and Ellen that this was the case!

Jane Heath, Jane Trombi, Gwen Yardley, Mary Bordeaux, Alice Tuck – Assisted with workshops in Idea Fair.

Dick Patten – Dreamed up and organized a Blood Drive in conjunction with the Idea Fair. He made it possible for WMUR television's Kevin Skarupa to make a per-

sonal appearance and greet the officers and delegates in session.

Joann Brandt – With a mostly-absent National Jr. Director and with the aid of Sherrill Bokousky, Joann took charge of activities for the Jr. Grangers during session. The Junior tour was very popular and several commented that they could have stayed at the See Science Center much longer.

Matt Clark – Took charge of the Youth and General Tours. He managed to convince the national office to change the usual tour schedule to take advantage of an opportunity to visit the MacAuliffe Shepard Discovery Center in a special after-hours format. Maybe this was a one-time event, but Matt was successful in exploring alternate possibilities.

Mark Collins – Designed and constructed the twelve foot high Mitten Tree, transported STUFF to convention, set up sound for Sixth Degree, and is always a great McGyver-type problem solver to have close by.

NH Youth members – Matt Clark served as Master on the National Youth Officers Team and his wife, Lynn Clark was Chaplain. Jordan Durand represented NH in the Evening of Excellence Talent Show, and Daviana Penny represented the Northeast Region in the Public Speaking Contest. Jordan and Davi also were Trumpet Girls for the Seventh Degree, and Mary West was the soloist.

Marie Hall – Represented the Northeast Region with her Sign-A-Song in the Evening of Excellence show.

Dot Haskins, Millie & Henry Ingham, Darlene Oaks, Sandy Greene, Mark Collins - Served as day volunteers on NH's day during convention, i.e. hospitality, registration, deputies, Idea Fair, etc.

Sixth Degree – M-Jim Tetreault, O-Chris Heath, L-Hannah West, S-Bob Trombi, AS-Mark Collins, LAS-Jane Trombi, Ch-Matt Clark, T-Lois Enman, Sec-Gerald Leclerc, GK-Gwen Yardley, C-Tricia Taylor, P-Ida Hutchins, F-Ann Leger, EC-Donald Ross, Beth Merrill, Bob Haefner, Wilber Heath, Pianist-Lester Gibbs, Soloist-Donald Ross, Flag Bearer- Kerriann Heath, Court-Gloria Davis, Sherrill Bokousky, Debra Patten, Kerriann Heath, Doris Mitton, Jean Abbott; Rose Drill-see WE DID IT page 5

### THE GRANITE STATE GRANGER

This is a free\* publication to keep Grange members informed of past and up-coming events.

\*(However, donations are accepted.)

This paper is printed quarterly.

Postmaster or anyone else:

Please send all related

correspondence to

Hannah West

3 Depot Road

Chichester, NH 03258

Support the ELF!  
Please send your educational Loan Fund donations to:  
**Rodney Huntoon**  
8 Pine Acres Rd., Suite 808  
Concord, NH 03301



**Home Grown Politics**  
*Across New Hampshire Farmland  
to Concord and Washington*  
**Bob Haefner**  
*Legislative and Agriculture Dept.*

It has been a busy three months since my last column. I have been to the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference to participate in the Agriculture policy committee and where Sister Tara Sad of Walpole Grange moderated a panel on GMO Labeling. In January we both also traveled to Oklahoma City where I spoke as part of a panel on animal and farm protection legislation at the Agriculture Chairs Summit put on by State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL). We won't talk about the trouble getting home because of snow across the country. Sister Linda Lauer, Master of Pine Grove, also traveled to Oklahoma City with us. Although these are both legislative organizations, it is interesting that the NH representatives to agriculture are all Grangers.

In early 2014 our Congress finally passed the 2012 farm bill. Both the National Grange and your State Grange pushed for a compromise bill, and it finally came at the 11th hour. I think the Grange is pleased as are most of the farm organizations to have a bill, although there are things in it that everybody can love and things that everybody can hate. The Rules for the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) are being re-written after there was so much outrage at the rules from smaller farmers, and all farm organizations here in the northeast, including your State Grange and your NH House environment and Agriculture Committee. The rules were really stacked against our small farms in New Hampshire and the rest of the northeast. Rest assured that we will continue to watch the rewrite of the rules and make our influence felt to protect the small farms in our state.

The NH State Grange lobbied the NH House and Senate on two bills, as your State Master, Jim Tetreault, wrote letters in support of the Grange position on both. We supported Livestock Protec-

tion and opposed Labeling of Genetically Engineered foods at the state level. Jim wrote that the labeling issue was a federal issue and in fact unconstitutional at the state level. We have also sent letters on a couple of National Grange efforts including one this morning on Medicare reduction of suppliers for Part D, which will negatively impact Grangers in rural areas of the US.

As I write this, I am mourning the loss of Lester Bradley a 50 + year Granger, a second generation legislator, and my friend. The world is a little better for Les having been here. Congratulations to the NH State Grange for winning best educational booth again at Farm and Forest. Congratulations to Sister Linda Lauer for her appointment as Grafton County Commissioner to fill the vacancy left by the loss of another 50 year Granger, Ray Burton, still another friend gone to the great Grange above. If anyone has any questions or thoughts on legislation before the NH General Court, please feel free to call or email me.

**Trust Fund Assistance Still Available**

The Trustees of Trust Funds still have funds available to assist our members in need. If you or a Grange member that you know is struggling to pay for a health care item such as eyeglasses or is having to choose between buying food or medication and filling the heating oil tank during this long, cold winter, please contact the Trustees.

A simple application form and financial statement need to be completed. You may obtain complete details and copies of the forms either from your Grange secretary, online at the NH State Grange website [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org) or from any of the trustees as listed in the current roster.

Please remember that this fund was established by our brothers and sisters to help our members in need and it is not charity. All applications are kept confidential and the names of members receiving aid are never reported in our annual report to the NH State Grange nor printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Please help us to help our members by encouraging them to apply today for assistance if needed.

**Calendar of Events**

(a work in progress)

- March 9 - Bowling, Lakeside Lanes, Manchester, 12 noon**
- March 22 - Youth Glow Bowling - Merrimack Ten Pin**
- March 22-23 - NH Maple Weekend - Visit a Sugar House near you**
- April 5- Spring Fling, Tilton**
- April 20 - Happy Easter**
- April 26 - Variety Show & Penny Sale Hooksett**
- May 12 - Degree Day - Walpole**
- June 6-8 - June Youth Rally- Copper Cannon Camp, Franconia**
- June 6-8 - Junior Grange Camp - Copper Cannon, Franconia**
- June 22 - NE Go-to-Church Sunday**
- July 1 - Scholarship Applications due**
- July 11 - 13 - Northeast Youth Conf. New Hampshire hosts**
- July 17-20 - Stratham Fair**
- July 23-27 - North Haverhill Fair**
- July 24-27 - Grange Family Weekend**
- Aug. 1 - Needlework entries and Big E items due to F&C Committee**
- Aug. 1 - Junior Grange Recruiter awards due to Jr. Director**
- Aug. 4-6 - NE Lecturers' Conference New York State**
- Aug. 16 - Fisher Cats game - Manchester**
- Aug. 15- 17 - Cornish Fair**
- Aug. 27 - Sept. 1 - Lancaster Fair**
- Aug. 28 - Sept. 1 - Hopkinton Fair**
- Sept. 12-28 - Eastern States Expo.**
- Sept. 19 - NH Day at Big E**
- Sept. 21 - Grange Day at Big E**
- Sept. 25 - Youth Report due to Pomona Chairman**
- Sept. 25 - Youth Report Booklets due to Youth Director**
- Sept. 29 - Lecturer's Contest Entries due to State Lecturer**
- Oct. 1 - Youth Report Forms due to State Youth Director**
- Oct. 3 - State Grange Session Reservations due to Crown Plaza Hotel**
- Oct. 10 - Banquet reservations due with payment of Tricia Taylor**
- Oct. 23-26 - 141st Annual Session of NH State Grange in Nashua**
- Nov. 11-15 - National Grange Session in Sandusky, Ohio**

**Community Service Thoughts**



**Richard Patten**

There are many opportunities for community service with the winter weather we have been having. If you have neighbors that could use some assistance with shoveling the walkway to their home or to the mailbox, please extend a helping hand. The same if they are unable to go shopping due to no transportation. Please be sure to check on people who live alone or a couple who don't drive anymore.

In many communities the fire department has to shovel the fire hydrants throughout the town. If you have a fire hydrant near your home, possibly you could shovel it and save them some time.

The homeless shelters are filled to capacity. Your Grange should contact them and see if they are in need of food, blankets, books, or games. They might need other supplies instead of the ones I mentioned. The Grange can become the leader in your community in helping the homeless and the hungry.

Don't forget to send St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Passover cards to our homeless veterans at Liberty House or to the Tilton Soldiers Home. There are also many wonderful shelters for the homeless and retirement communities for our senior citizens. Sending a greeting card to someone who lives alone can brighten their day so much.

Easter is a wonderful time to make gift baskets to give to senior citizens who live alone. Your basket might include Easter candy, a small plant, stamps so they can send a letter or card to someone else, nice magazine to read, or a word search book. Don't forget the children. Maybe your Grange could organize an Easter Egg Hunt if your town doesn't have one. How about organizing a town Easter fun day for children by having the Easter Bunny come and visit and serve refreshments?

April is approaching fast. If your Grange celebrates Grange Month, this is a wonderful opportunity to present Community Recognition Awards to deserv-

ing public officials. I have offered every year to help your Grange in contacting the police or fire department, school, suggestions for a citizen of the year, military veterans who are either retired or active duty. You can choose which ones to honor, but every town has people who deserve to be thanked for the services they render. Please submit their names to me for consideration for the overall State awards.

I am very pleased to announce that I am coordinating a Northeast Region Recognition Award for Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year. These must be submitted to me by June 30 with an announcement at the Northeast Lecturer's Conference in New York. Please seriously consider submitting a name. The forms are being sent out to the Granges for the recognition awards. If you don't receive them, please let me know. All entries are due to me by September 10, 2014. However, in the police and fire categories I will need them by June 30.

I hope Granges are doing the Dictionary project. If you know of a community that is not receiving dictionaries, please let me know. I know most Granges are involved in this program and the students look forward to getting the dictionaries.

I will be announcing a brand new project that I am currently putting together the final plans. It will be a Christmas project, and I hope that it will be statewide. I am hoping to partner with several radio stations, have spoken to WMUR TV 9, and other Christmas organizations. I will be talking to the committee shortly and then plans are to launch it July 1. I am counting on Grange Elves to support this program.

Please don't forget your donation to the State Community Service Committee. It is much appreciated.

I will close this article by thanking you for all you do for everyone in your community. No project is too small. Remember that what you do is helping to bring a smile to someone's face.

**It's a strange world of language  
in which skating on thin ice  
can get you into hot water.  
~Franklin P. Jones**

**WE DID IT**

Lynn Clark, Anne Boisvert, Mary West; Regalia Elves-Mark Collins, Bob & Jane Trombi, Bob & Adam Paquin-Varnum Lester Gibbs – Served as pianist for the session room.

Dan Bascom – Served as Priest Archon of the Assembly of Demeter and as such, was a cast member for the Seventh Degree.

Beth Merrill – Served as Lady Assistant Steward for the session, while keeping an eye on plans and progress in the Host Office. Served as Northeast Region Coordinator for the convention.

Tara Sad & Stuart Light – Were marching candidates for the Seventh Degree.

Arthur Merrill – Was the second voting delegate for New Hampshire and was the Priest Conductor for the Seventh Degree.

James Tetreault – Voting delegate for New Hampshire, Master of Sixth Degree, obtained video greeting from Senator Jeanne Shaheen. Congratulations on being elected Lecturer of the National Grange!

**Trust Fund Donation Request**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Trustees of the Trust Funds are requesting that you as individual members and your Subordinate and Pomona Granges all consider making an annual donation to the Trust Fund.

The income earned from the invested funds is used to help our fellow members in need of assistance. Over the years we have provided assistance with purchasing items such as hearing aids and eyeglasses. We have provided assistance with paying medical bills, housing expenses including rent and fuel oil and other expenses that help to maintain the quality of life for our members.

No donation is too small and all money earned is currently being used for assisting our members as our current trustees have chosen to cover all of their expenses themselves.

Please make your check payable to the NH State Grange Trustees of Trust Funds and mail to:

Rhoda Davis, Secretary  
317 Route 129  
Loudon, NH 03307-1326



### Thank You

Richard Patten, his sister Miss Debra Patten, and his wife Debbie would like to thank everyone for the cards, donations, or flowers in remembrance of Clinton Patten who left this world on January 17. Thanks, also, to the State Officers and Committee members who came to do a Grange Service at the funeral home.

Clinton Patten was a Past Master of Pineconia (now Concord) Grange. He served the State Grange as State Agriculture Director for Past State Master Paul Davis, and served as a member on the Agriculture and Membership Committees.

Donations in his memory could be sent to Concord Grange for the 100th anniversary or to the Concord Fire Department Retired Officer's Fund.

### Wingold Grange #308 Ham & Bean Suppers East Kingston Town Hall

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

April 26, 2014

May 24, 2014

June 28, 2014

September 13, 2014

### Meal Includes:

2 types of beans

Cole Slaw

Potato Salad

Spiral Ham

Rolls

beverages

Home made pies

### Upper Coos Pomona

Upper Coos Pomona #14 had a Christmas party with finger foods and conversation. We chose to bring items for the food pantry rather than hold a gift exchange among ourselves. All Granges have distributed their dictionaries now, and Stratford Grange was lucky enough to have their picture in the local paper doing it.

Due to work schedules and weather we are planning a meeting for the spring.

**Remember, someone asked you to join the Grange. Don't forget to ask someone to share the same opportunities that you have received.**

**Flea Market  
Halloween Grange  
32 Hobart St. Penacook, NH  
Saturday, May 3  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

### Blazing Star Grange to Host Scam-Proofing Your Life Presentation Saturday, April 5, at 3 p.m.

Con artists with their scams, Ponzi schemes, bogus investments and fake charities are responsible for Americans losing tens of billions of dollars annually. It is estimated that each year approximately 25 million citizens are victims of consumer fraud.

Volunteer spokesperson for AARP NH Bob Denz, a retired FBI Agent, will speak on what one can do to greatly reduce chances of becoming the next victim in this multi-billion dollar crime business.

According to Denz, prevention depends upon alert, informed and involved citizens who recognize the red warning flags of a scam. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

Blazing Star Grange Hall is on North Road, just off the intersection of Routes 104 and 4, in Danbury. For more information, call 744-2332.



Aurora Grange #235 in Pittsburg has been busy. In November we had our annual Grange/Pittsburg Historical Society Thanksgiving get-together. Everyone enjoyed a fabulous feast. In December, we had our Christmas party and handed out dictionaries to the third graders in both Pittsburg School and Stewartstown Community School. The photo above shows Aurora Grange members Sarah Parker, Ann Gray, Sierra Saari, and Heather Zybas with the happy Pittsburg School third graders.

# Grange Bulletin Board

Outreach Deputy  
Stephen Tracy



Due to weather I have not been able to travel much, and then when I make a BIG effort and go all the way down to Manchester for Farm and Forest I end up losing my brakes at an intersection in the city. Needless to say I was not able to drive it home. I will say the Great Spirit was riding with me as I stayed calm and no one was hurt.

As for Farm and Forest, another great job on the booth, and we got quite a few people to sign up as interested.

I have been in touch with the group in the Ossipee Mountain Grange Hall, still encouraging their interest. Milan will have another meeting in the spring. We had a major fire in Stewartstown with many displaced families. Some of us were able to assist the families afterward with new household stuff in the name of the Grange, and now there is renewed interest there also.

I have copied and distributed the needlework contest rules around in public places, and one of the local newspapers will print them for free. Hope this draws more interest.

I have had several public opportunities to speak about the Grange. I will be filmed by Keene State students doing a documentary on Northern Pass and will be able to speak again.

I am looking forward to spring and the opportunity to get out more often.

### A Hearty Grange Welcome to the Following New Members

Rod Zwirner	Antrim
Andrea Lowry	Centennial
Ilene Massingham	Centennial
Shawn Scanzani	Hudson
Chris Nelson	Lake Shore
Karen Galloway	Walpole
Brielle Jordan	Wingold

You are all cordially invited to attend the Graduation Ceremony for the Walpole Leadership Academy April 4th at 7:00 p. m. at the Walpole Town Hall. Come hear the keynote speaker Brother Ed Luttell, Master of the National Grange.

Daniel Webster Grange Annual Chicken BBQ and Penny Sale Saturday, May 17, at Webster Town Hall

Chicken BBQ, served from 4:30 to 6:00 pm, will include chicken, Home Made Beans, Assorted Salads, Home Made Rolls, Dessert and Beverages. American Chop Suey will be served for those who don't want chicken. Penny Sale tickets will be on sale from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Drawing of the lucky tickets will start at 6:45 pm. David Hewes told us that he would be there this year. Please notice the earlier date.



Mohawk and Stratford Grangers met at the Mohawk Grange Hall in Colebrook on Saturday, Dec. 14, for a Christmas party. Each Granger was encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the local food pantry.

Shown above with donations are Grangers Michelle Hyde, Haven Haynes, Jr., and Lynda Gaudette. Photo courtesy Angela Wheeler/Colebrook Chronicle.

You can still buy tickets for The NH State Grange 1/20 Club Fundraiser now in progress. \$20.00 for a ticket. Twenty drawings (one per week) 4 large cash drawings at the end. All Granges and Grangers are encouraged to buy a ticket.

### Concord Grange Coming Events

Concord Grange # 322 will observe Grange Month with the annual Community Recognition Awards on Monday, April 22, at 7 p.m. at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Hall, 48 Airport Road, Concord Heights. The meeting is open to the public with refreshments served. This will be Richard Patten's 43rd year of presenting community awards to individuals in Concord.

Concord Grange # 322 is making festive plans to celebrate our 100th birthday this spring and summer. Plans are to have a banquet in mid-May when the Grange was organized with a community event in July.

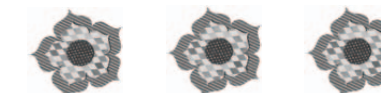
This year is also the 140th anniversary of a Grange being organized in Concord. Mountain Grange # 16 was organized in East Concord and lasted two years. It was the beginning of several more Granges being organized in Concord. Please plan to join us, we would be happy to include you in our events.

### Tuftonboro Grange

Tuftonboro Grange #142 held a mystery auction on November 9, 2013, along with a bake sale during Tuftonboro's town-wide Holiday Festival. The proceeds from the Mystery Auction were earmarked to purchase Pet Oxygen Mask Kits for the Tuftonboro Fire Department.

Thanks to the generosity of the local community, the Grange was able to present three sets of Pet Oxygen Mask Kits to the Tuftonboro Fire Department - one for each station in town. The kits are reusable and each contains three different sized oxygen masks, a leash, and an instructional DVD. The apparatus allows animals access to oxygen at the scene of a fire to help them recover from smoke inhalation.

Visit the State Grange website at [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org)



## In Memoriam

Eleanor Tedford	Arlington
Marion T. Jones	Daniel Webster
Becky G;eorge	Hampton Falls
Alpha Chevrete	Hooksett
Herman Paquette	Mohawk
Phil Chase	Rochester
Patricia Lang	Stratford
Bradley A. Lacross	Sunapee Lake
Joseph Dion	Walpole
John Ward	Wingold
Mary Reardon	Winthrop
Mary Rix	Winthrop

### Blow-Me-Down Grange

The Hometown Meatloaf Supper in January with entertainment provided by Roger Tatro and Don MacLeay was a huge success. Folks enjoyed the choice of a delicious regular meatloaf, barbeque meatloaf and/or turkey meatloaf. Folks joined in on a sing-a-long of old favorites tunes and some even put their dancing shoes to work with a waltz or two-step around the room. Thanks to the members and friends that worked so hard to make this event so special and successful.

The Attic Shop will be open for the season on April 5, 2014, and we will also have our Huge Annual Tag Sale on that date. We look forward to seeing all of you in the spring. We are looking for donations of saleable items for our shop and the tag sale so please keep us in mind if you have some things you would like to give away. Call Millie at 603-709-7049 if you have any questions.

Need space for an event? We have a wonderful warm facility where you can hold a celebration or meeting. Our hall has a great kitchen, new banquet tables (compliments of The Friends of the Grange), and comfortable dining chairs plus a special needs restroom and access ramp. For information call 603-709-7049.

### Deadline

The next issue of the Granite State Granger will be mailed in June, 2014. Please send items for the paper to Hannah West on or before May 10, 2014. Report on events of March and April. Look ahead to events of June, July and August.





I have been pleased with the response I have been getting from various towns which are anxious to receive the Secretary minute books of Granges that were located in their town. I am in the process of getting Dover Grange and Northwood Grange books to new homes. However, if anyone when they are at the State Grange Building takes Grange Books to a town, please contact me as I have a form that needs to be completed by someone from the group receiving them. This helps me to have a record on file in case someone asks where they are. I am looking for Mountain Laurel Grange books, if anyone has information about them.

Winter weather is very hard to predict for Grange meetings. February used to be the traditional starting date for Youth Nights across the state. February, March, and April would find Youth Nights scheduled almost every night of the week. April, May, and June would find Home Economics Nights. They were careful so they would not collide on their dates.

I can remember a Youth Night that I organized at Pineconia Grange in 1969, the second year that I was Youth Chairman. Pineconia always seemed to have the first Youth Night in our area. It was tradition to have it on the fourth Monday in February (traditionally School Vacation Week). Halloween, Bow, Bartlett, Ezekiel Webster, Daniel Webster, Pembroke, Hooksett, and Contoocook Granges would hold their Youth Nights in March and April. Back to Pineconia, the day arrived and to my astonishment, a snow storm. It wasn't snowing hard, but steady. I was getting calls about do we meet or don't we meet? I decided to have it and I had 35 members come, including several from Eastern New Hampshire Pomona (Caryl & Natalie Heath, Gloria Heath, Roslyn Heath, George Hall), several from Bow Grange, Halloween Grange, and Contoocook Grange. There

may have been a couple others. It was a fun meeting and in many ways it was successful.

Another big winter storm raised havoc with the State Youth Winter Rally. How many of the baby boomers remember this event at the Pembroke Conference Center in 1972? The Pembroke Conference Center was located on a big hill off Route 3 in Pembroke. You had to travel up a winding road to the top. Once you reached the top, there were several buildings including a large meeting hall, and a swimming pool. The State Youth Committee would hold the summer youth rally in early June there as well. This certain weekend in February started off nice with a beautiful Friday evening, clear sky, stars lighting up with the moon and quiet. Saturday morning, pow! It was snowing very hard and I, being State Prince was expected to attend. My dad drove me down and attempted to drive up the hill. That was a big failure! It seemed the town of Pembroke plows couldn't keep up with the snow falling and had a difficult time plowing that road. The attendance was very small. If you wanted to attend, you would have to park your car at the end of the road and walk up the hill. I guess you know not many attempted to walk up the hill.

I was doing some research and found some bits and pieces that I thought were interesting. Did you know the NH State Grange has had a big influence in the State Legislature? I found that for over thirty years from the 1920's to the 1950's, there were over 110 members of the Grange serving as Legislators. Today there are about 25 members of the Grange serving in the General Court.

In 1964, the late Freeland Yardley was Youth Master for the closing of the first day session of the NH State Grange, held in Claremont. Other notables were: William Gerald, Gatekeeper; Donna Ashford (Shattuck) Kimball, Lady Assistant Steward; Leonard Twiss, a member of the Executive Committee; and Mrs. Gwendolyn Yardley, Ceres. The Young Couple of the Year was Freeland and Gwendolyn Yardley. The State Prince was Laurence Upton of Marlboro Grange; The State Princess was Miss Cathleen Maiocchi of Pelham Grange.



Greetings to all. I hope you are weathering this New England Winter.

I hope all Grangers have received the annual appeals letter for a donation to the Educational Loan Fund (ELF) from Brother Rodney Huntoon. Donations from Grangers or individuals help this Department to provide scholarships to our members that are continuing their education. Our department can also offer loans to students while in college. These loans must be paid back after they have completed their college degree. So please help us support them with a donation to this fund.

This is an **early reminder** to all high school seniors/ college students. Your **complete** scholarship application with several letters of recommendation is due by **July 1, 2014**. The two (2) forms are available on the web site at [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org) under the Grange Services Department or you may request them from a committee member.

As I have mentioned in these articles before there are **many** benefits and services offered by National Grange to any member. This information is listed on their web site at [www.nationalgrange.org](http://www.nationalgrange.org). Please take some time to check them out. You will need to remember the annual word to open any information.

Our Sam's Club Partners with Members Program has a new certificate that will allow you a new membership or you may renew your existing membership when it comes due. The new certificate is **good for one year**, ending in January of 2015. The certificate is available on the NH Grange website under Grange Services. A letter to all Granges was sent in February to your secretary with complete information and the certificate that can be copied. A representative of Sam's Club will be at the State Lecturer's Variety Show to be held on Saturday, April 26th, at the State Grange Building in Hooksett.



The number of Junior Grangers is still growing. I have had an email of two more children to become members of the State Junior Grange. My theme this year is "Let's celebrate! 125 years - Seeding the future with Junior Grange." Teach the young and you will grow your Grange as they graduate from the Junior Grange.

We had a great day in Hooksett on February 1 with five Juniors and two future Juniors in attendance. Everyone began the day learning how to do a Sign a Song under the capable direction of Kathy Yardley. The children then prepared the no-bake oatmeal cookies that are our baking contest this year. Samples were enthusiastically received by all who tried them! The recipe is on the State Grange website: [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org) under Juniors. Photos are there, too!

Again this year the children decorated and the youth filled 100 brown bags with candy, cookies, and candy cane hearts for the NH Food Bank as a Community Service Project. Lunch was enjoyed with Macaroni and cheese, sandwiches and soup thanks to Camilie Twiss, George Stanley and Debbie Greene from Watatic Grange.

The afternoon workshop was making beanbags. Each child filled their bags and sewed them shut; even the five-year-olds were successful with this and played an active game of beanbag toss. Many thanks to Gloria Davis for her help with this and other projects for the day.

Floor work is the same for all, and the workshop on Grange floor work was for Juniors, Youth and young at heart. Opening with opening the Bible and the flag presentation, presenting guests and then retiring the flag and closing the Bible were all done with questions from all present. This was great for the Juniors to see and helped us learn to do better Grange work. Thanks to Norman Brandt for supplying marching music for the floor work.

Coming up soon will be the Bowl-

ing in Manchester on March 9 at 12 Noon. There will be bumpers for Juniors while the adults also bowl. This is a family organization so why not all come to bowl, cheer on your team and visit with other Grange members.

Spring Fling is April 5 in Tilton. I will be bringing some activities for anyone wishing to learn some plastic needlepoint, and I am working on another workshop. Please be sure to let Beth Merrill know if you are bringing children 5-14 years old so I can have enough materials for all who come. I always bring more than the count so come if you forgot to let her know.

Adults can help out with the Junior crafts by saving some of their lids and other items that may help Juniors make an entry. Our Junior Craft for Eastern States Exposition is:

#### **2014 Big E Junior Contest Recycled Plastic Lid Craft**

May use one or more plastic lids from items such as margarine tub, coffee can, 2 liter bottle, spray can, etc. May decorate with any medium (paint, yarn, buttons, fabric, etc.). Not to exceed 10" x 10" x 6". If hanging type, must have hanger, magnet, etc. for display. **NO KITS.**

#### **Junior Grange Camp**

June 6 - 8 will be the Summer Youth Rally at Copper Cannon Camp in Franconia. Please mark all these dates in your calendar and come and enjoy the outdoors. Juniors will be able to come and we will do our activities while the Youth have their activities. I have not finalized the activities but watch for information on the Website. If you don't go online, call me with your name and address and I will mail you the information.

#### **NE Regional Conference**

On July 11-13 the older Juniors (Age 11 to 14) will have activities and contests in sign- a- song, and talent to be held at the Northeast Regional Youth Conference in Nashua (this year) at Rivier University.

**A happy family is like a baseball team — with Mom pitching, Dad catching, the kids fielding, and everyone taking a turn at bat.**  
Author unknown

### **A Note from Jim Tetreault National Grange Lecturer**

As I embark on this new facet of my Grange leadership career, I have reached out to some of the State Lecturers to find out what types of programming they are looking for. I think back to my time as a Subordinate and Pomona Lecturer, and I remember the great discussion topics that were provided by the National Grange. So let me ask you, what types of programming would you like to see from the National Lecturer's Department?

I have assembled a team of State Lecturers and interested Grange members to serve as part of the National Lecturer's Advisory committee. We will be working over the next six months to develop a new National Grange Lecturer's program. I want to thank the following people for their willingness to help me out in this new endeavor: Tom Gwin of Washington State, Sherry Harriman of Maine, Betty Lake of New Jersey, Janet Segur of Massachusetts, Christopher Szkutak of Massachusetts, Leroy Watson of Wisconsin, Pete Pompper of South Carolina, and Kathy Wardle of Colorado. I am excited to have these people serve with me during the development process of our new program.

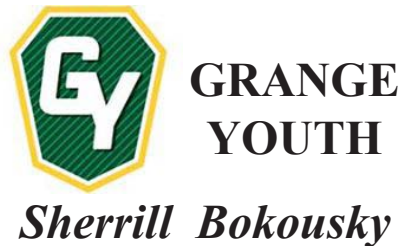
So what do I need from our hard-working Subordinate and Pomona Grange Lecturers? **Ideas!** If you have an idea of something you think would be a great program or discussion topic, please drop me an e-mail at [lecturer@nationalgrange.org](mailto:lecturer@nationalgrange.org).

#### **Quilt Block Contest**

I was asked to put out some more specific rules for the quilt block contest so please contact whoever is handling this in your state for the new rules. Please be aware that the due date has changed from November to September. Also, please see the new categories for quilted table runners and quilted pillows. This contest was developed as part of the planning process for the 150th anniversary to be held in 2016 in Washington, DC. Let's get to work so we can have an awesome display in 2016!!

If I can do anything to assist you please feel free to contact me.





**Sherrill Bokousky**

Hello to all Grangers! The Youth Department has started its work for the year at the Winter Youth Rally on February 1st with an agenda of activities to showcase the contests in the Youth program and to give some understanding of the National Youth Achievements Awards. A workshop on that plus one on Ritual and Sign-a-Song were held during the day. We had the Grange Knowledge Test and sign up sheets for Drill Team and Youth Officers.

The Junior Department was present and Youth and Juniors shared a Community Service Project to create treat bags and fill them for the NH Food Bank. I delivered them on February 10 and the Food Bank was pleased to receive them. Lunch and dinner were prepared and served by Watatic Grange. The Youth Association meeting was held after dinner to round out the day.

I am disappointed to say the numbers present at the Rally this year were lower than last year. If you couldn't be there, we missed you. As the weather gets better I hope you can make it to our upcoming events. There are a few things in the program that are for youth only but a lot of it is for ALL. We have more events happening this year and the information and scheduled dates have been sent out to all Granges. You will also find the youth

program, the Scavenger Hunt and all registration forms on the NH State Grange Website.

We will continue to send emails and Facebook posts, and try to contact as many folks as possible. If you receive a message about an event, please let us know if you can make it or not. It helps me and the Youth Committee to make better plans.

The next Youth event is GLOW BOWLING. It will be held at Merrimack Ten Pin. This is a fundraiser for the Caroline Hall Granges Care. Anyone who bowls and has sponsors will help raise money to give 75% to the NH Food Bank and 25% to the National Youth Leadership Fund. Please see the events planned this year. Thank you for your support of the Youth Program.

**Youth Events to Remember  
Glow Bowling, March 22, 2014**

**Merrimack Ten Pin Lanes**

**Merrimack, NH**

**Summer Youth Rally**

**June 6-8, 2014**

**Copper Cannon Camp**

**Franconia, NH**

**Northeast Regional Youth Conference**

**July 11-13, 2014**

**Rivier University**

**Nashua, NH**



The first membership event this year was National Membership Director Michael Martin speaking in January at the Chichester Grange Hall. The event was quite well attended despite some weather interference. Mike will be back in NH for another talk soon, so watch your mailbox for details.

The first event that the membership committee was involved in was the annual Farm and Forest Expo at the Radisson in Manchester in early February. This year the Grange again had a double booth based on the Expo theme of showcasing agriculture, education, and forestry with the added Grange category of community.

The exhibit also featured our balloon tree and an interactive fundraising goat named Dudley, both created by committee member Norman Brandt. The egg identification display Norman brought was also popular. Beth Merrill and Norman Brandt of my committee worked very hard to make things come together.

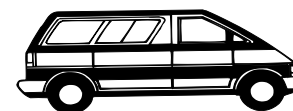
Thank you to Adam Paquin, Steve Tracy, Beth and Arthur Merrill, Norman Brandt, Cherylann and Larry Pierce, Valerie Merrill, Jim Tetreault, Trisha Taylor (and granddaughter), Dot Haskins, Chris Heath, and Omer Ahern who staffed our booth. Noel the Hamster, the State Master's mascot from National Grange, was also present to help out. He and Jim Tetreault were pleased to accept the Joseph Battles award for the top educational display, earning us a free booth space for next year's Expo. More importantly we hope many members of the public learned more about the Grange.

The next membership event will be a degree day in Walpole in the afternoon of Saturday May 10. There will be a lunch at noon followed by the degrees at 1 p.m. Details on the lunch will be included in a forthcoming postcard, but if you know already that you will be coming, Gwen Yardley would love to have reservations at any time. She can be reached at (603)756-3677 or by e-mail at [gyardley@myfairpoint.net](mailto:gyardley@myfairpoint.net).

Vermont Grangers are being invited to attend as well, since Walpole is near the border. Including Vermont in the degree day will be happening in lieu of the usual Vermont/NH night. Anyone who has been accepted for membership at your Grange but not yet initiated is invited to come and participate. Please also take the opportunity to bring any new members (or those who have been members for a while) who have never seen the degrees before.

If you could let your membership director know of any candidates who might be coming, that would also be helpful. I can be reached at (603)435-5127 or by e-mail at [aboisvert@nhgrange.org](mailto:aboisvert@nhgrange.org).

**I have not failed. I've just found  
10,000 ways that won't work.  
~Thomas Edison**



**Family & Community  
Department  
Deb Patten**

Happy Winter! We might as well be happy about it – Mother Nature sure has given us a big punch! Hope you are all staying well, avoiding the flu and colds and staying warm.

**Christmas Goodies**

We delivered 120 goody bags to the residents of Glenclyff Home in December as our service project from Family Services. They so look forward to these treats, and I was told by the Program Director that this is their Christmas stocking on Christmas Day and they munch from it all day long. So that is a great project for all of us.

**Needlework Contests**

This winter season is a great time to get started on your needlework projects. You have all received the rules and the categories in your program booklets that were distributed in October. The rules are a lot lighter than they used to be so hopefully we will get a lot of entries in every category.

**Mountain of Mittens**

Please work those needles to knit mittens and hats for school children as well. We are still working on our Mountain of Mittens. Please help to warm the hands and heads of many school children and youngsters in our state!

**New National Grange Contest**

Very Important – Flower Basket pattern must be used for all entries. Colors: Spring colors and pastels  
Quilt Block 12 1/2" X 12 1/2" unfinished –  
Quilted throw pillow – finished size 18" X 18" and must be finished batted and backed;  
Quilted table runners 17" x 56" also must be finished.

I will be supplying a copy of the pattern and the rules as well as a copy of the judging sheet via mail to the Family Services chairpersons of each Grange. Contest timeframe – January 1, 2014 – September 15, 2014.

All entries must be sent to me or

Jim Tetreault, National Lecturer, by September 1. Any entries received after September 15 will not qualify for judging. None of these entries will be returned to you – they will be considered a donation to National Grange for a charity auction to benefit the National Grange Foundation.

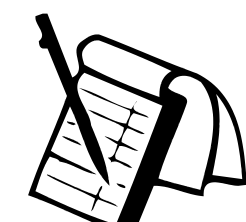
**Galoshes from Grangers**

This is another of our projects. Now is the time to be on the lookout for boots at clearance prices. Soon the boots will be at the lowest prices in the stores so please – if each Grange could purchase 2 pair of boots – just think of the impact we could make. I want to be sure these are NEW boots, please. Please bring these to State Grange in October.

**Baking Contest: NO BAKE Pies**

It is very easy this year. Hopefully you have all put this in your program and plan to participate in your local Granges. The winner should go to Pomona, and then the winner from each Pomona should bring their entry to State Grange for state judging. If anyone is looking for recipes, I have 50 pages of no bake pies in a cookbook.

**State Lecturer  
Hannah West**



I hope that many of you have signed up for the Bowling Day on March 9. Look for the high scores in the June edition of the Granite State Granger. Many thanks to Chris Heath for accepting the responsibility of organizing the event again this year.

The next event coming up is the State Lecturer's Variety Show and Penny Sale on April 26 at the State Grange Building in Hooksett. Please consider entering the show with a solo or group act. The Best of Show entry will have the opportunity to perform at the Night of Excellence at National Grange Session in November. Junior Grange members are encouraged to perform, although they cannot be considered for Best of Show. I am looking for vocal solos or groups, instrumental solos or groups, dance solos or groups, skits, or variety acts such as monologues, recitations, magic tricks,

juggling, or what have you. Entry forms will be mailed to Grange Lecturers in late March or you may unload a form from the State Grange website.

If you do not want to perform in the Variety Show, please consider coming to be part of the audience. Plans for the day include lunch, a Penny Sale, and a visit from a Sams' Club representative with a special offer for Grange members. Proceeds from the lunch and the Penny Sale will become part of the Talent Fund and help to send the Best of Show to Sandusky, Ohio, in November.

Speaking of the Talent Fund, has your Grange made a donation? If each Grange could donate ten dollars, the fund would begin to reach reasonable proportions. Of course, Granges can always give more, and individuals may donate as well. Make the check to NH State Lecturer and note that it is for the Talent Fund.

Now let us think ahead to this summer and the North East Lecturers' Conference in August. This year New York will host the conference at Keuka College in the Finger Lakes Region of New York. It will be about an eight hour drive from New Hampshire, so logistics need to be considered. Our State Master, who is now the National Lecturer, is willing to drive a 15 passenger van from Concord if there are enough passengers to make it worthwhile. I will put together a proposal and send it out with the conference materials in mid-April. Trip costs would include a portion of the van rental, some gasoline money, and perhaps an additional overnight stay. There would be meals on the road as well. If you wish to attend the conference, you should probably start saving the money now.

I hope you have spent some of the stormy days this winter working on entries for the Art, Create-a-Card, or Creative Writing contests. Once spring arrives you can head out with your camera to photograph churches and farm animals. People can be photographed at any time of year. Please consider entering a contest this year.

**"You cannot have everything.  
I mean, where would you put it?"  
Steven Wright**



Adam Paquin-Varnum serving as Master at Winter Youth Rally.



## Wicwas Lake Grange Wins Golden Trowel Award

Wicwas Lake Grange in Meredith Center was recently named the winner of the Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce's Golden Trowel Award. The Greater Meredith Program that earned designation as an accredited National Main Street Program in 2010, nominated the Grange for the award that recognizes outstanding renovations to facilities in 2013. In accepting the award that was presented on January 16, Master Steve Durand said he wanted to make it clear that the Grange would not have been the recipient without the numerous people who volunteered their labor and talents, or donated or discounted materials used to make the improvements.

The Greater Meredith Program partnered in helping to spearhead improvements to the property and donated shade trees, shrubs and picnic tables and helped install them. A community development organization, the GMP works to enhance economic vitality, historical and cultural heritage and encourage town-wide beautification efforts. Chris Williams, a GMP Board Member and local architect, donated his time to create the design and landscape improvements and also designed the two signs installed at each entrance to Meredith Center. Grange member and Meredith Center resident Moe Gouin then used the router in his wood shop to make them, donating his time and materials and overseeing their installation.

The Meredith Rotary Club donated the money raised during their annual fishing derby to purchase shingles and helped other volunteers including area tradesmen strip the worn out roof and install a new one under the supervision of Rotarian Mike Pelczar in May 2013. Supervised by Nancy Lavigne, a professional landscaper, members of the GMP Design Committee joined Grange members in completing the planting once the roof was finished. A granite bench was donated by J&B Granite and the engraving and sandblasting donated by Knut Ingemundsen. The windows were washed and splattered paint scrapped off them by Winnepesaukee Cleaning as a donation.

Many other donations both in money and "in kind" helped the project. Sixteen American flags and a 25 foot flagpole were paid for and delivered to the Grange. The flags, with the cooperation of the N.H. Electric Cooperative, were hung from utility poles along Meredith Center Road. Overall, financial donations from GMP, Wicwas Lake Grange, Meredith Rotary, and the American Legion totaled \$14,900. The estimate of "donations in kind," by Ginny Lovett, Chairman of the Wicwas Task Force was \$27,000.

"Because of this local effort, not only was the building saved and renovations begun, but the Grange membership has increased from seven to nearly 100 in the last three years," wrote GMP Executive Director Liz Lapham in her letter nominating the Grange for the award, adding that Master Durand "could not be

more pleased or proud of the Wicwas Lake Grange, the Meredith Center community, the Meredith Rotary Club and the role the Greater Meredith Program played."

"Everyone pulled together and transformed this old building inside and out. It now has a hundred and eighteen person capacity dining room and kitchen as well as many needed outside and inside structural improvements. We even refurbished the old horse trough," Durand said.

"The renovation of the Wicwas Lake Grange is not only an example of the cooperation and commitment that a community made but also reflects an example of a visible economic improvement in the Lakes Region," Lapham wrote in her successful nomination letter.



**Master Steve Durand and Flora Jeanne Lowrey proudly display the Golden Trowel Award . (Article and Photo courtesy of the Laconia Citizen.)**

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