

Outside My Window on Keene Rd

We have certainly had a mild winter this year. Has this helped your Grange? When looking at the Fall Deputy Report, we should see very few missed meetings this year due to weather. Are you taking the opportunity to have fun this winter? I am very excited that Cheshire County Pomona will have its 2nd annual Uno night at its February meeting. Now anyone that knows me knows that I am horrible at cards, but colors and numbers I can handle. We found last year that we had fun. When was the last time your Grange had fun?

Pomona Secretaries, are you reaching out to your Subordinate Secretaries? Part of the goal in my Master's Address last year was to improve communications. When you get communications from Sister West are you passing them on? Members who have E-mail, are you bringing this information to your meeting to share with the other members of your Grange? Pomona Masters, have you reached out to struggling Subordinate Granges in your Pomona? What is your plan for helping them to succeed? If you have not selected the Grange or Granges you are going to work with, get your Grange Growth Team together to set this as a priority. We are trying to grow the Grange in New Hampshire this coming year. Last year we had 17 Granges with net gains in membership. Let's see if we can make that 20 Granges for this year.

Our Area meetings were very successful this year. A big thank you goes out to the members of Centennial Grange, Golden Rod Grange, and Riverside Grange for being our hosts this year. Attendance was down this year, but two of the three weekends we had snowy weather. Next year look for a revamped program. Someone asked me, "Why are you doing area meetings again?" My response was, "It's an opportunity to bring the State Grange closer to our Grange members."

At the end of February, Sister Beth Merrill and I will be traveling to Atlanta, Georgia, for the State Masters Conference. This will be an opportunity to share leadership issues with other State Masters and enhance our leadership skills. I am also looking forward to some travel time. *Gone with the Wind* is my favorite movie, so I am really going to enjoy seeing some of the tourist attractions in Atlanta.

If the State Grange can do anything to assist you or your Grange, please feel free to contact me or any member of the State Grange family.