

Outside My Window on Keene Road

This is an exciting time to be a Grange member right now!! We see new members being taken into Granges all around the State!! Is your Grange one of them?

We have had a busy summer with many Grange events. Since my last column our schedule has been filled with many Northeast events. At the end of June, I attended the NE Go to Church Sunday at the Cathedral of the Pines. The Chaplains did a great job. I also challenged them to look outside the box and find another location for next years' service. Northeast Youth Conference was hosted by the Connecticut State Grange at the Eastern States Fair Grounds, New Hampshire had many winners that will be representing the Northeast region at the National Grange, Congratulations to Marie Hall who won first place in the individual sign-a-song contest, Kathy Yardley placed first in her age category with her public speaking entry, and to Kathy Yardley and Beth Merrill won first place in the group sign-a-song.

I want to take a moment to congratulate, State Lecturer Hannah West on hosting an outstanding Northeast Lecturers Conference at Rivier College in Nashua, many people have told me what an outstanding job she did, and how much they enjoyed the conference.

Don't forget that resolutions are due to the State Secretary by September 1st for State Grange. This is your opportunity to make changes in our organization and to add to our Legislative Policies. I hope that many of you will plan to attend State Grange this year in beautiful Hampton Beach. Brother Ken Berry has done a great job of arranging this year's convention. If you have not taken the Sixth Degree this is your opportunity. Don't forget that next year we will host the National Grange convention in Manchester.

The most important message of this column is membership growth, I recently attended Market Days sponsored by the Wentworth Historical society and spent the day along with State Overseer Chris Heath, Ida Hutchins, and Ruth Weeks talking about the Grange. The work that Baker's River Grange has done getting back into their community by getting information into the local papers is outstanding, One lady said to me, "I hear the Grange is coming back" I was excited to hear that, We spoke to many people that day, and we took names of interested future members. Has your Grange actually gone into the community and worked it for new members? That is my challenge to every Grange this coming fall: to set up a membership table and work our local communities for new members, it's challenging, but, it's fun and rewarding when we all have the opportunity to talk about the organization we love!!