



The Granite State Granger

Volume 36

Number 3

2006

September

Our National Reps Jimmy and Anita Gentry



Jimmy and Anita Gentry met through the Grange when they were both attending State Youth Activities. They have been

married for 31 years and have two daughters, Jennie Gentry and Terri Gentry Wilson, and a son-in-law Mark Wilson.

Anita became involved with the Corriher Grange as a Junior. Her friends belonged to the Grange, and she nagged her parents to join so she could be a Junior Granger. Currently, Anita is a chartering member of the Troutman Grange in North Carolina and she serves as the Program Director. She is the State Youth Officer and First Lady for the North Carolina State Grange. At the 2004 National Grange Convention, she was elected Flora of the National Grange. Anita is a registered nurse. She is a member of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and the Pianist for the Praise & Worship Team.

Jimmy became involved with the Little Mountain Grange by going to Youth Camp. Since his days as a Youth, he has gone as far as one can go in the North Carolina State Grange – he currently serves as the President. He has held the positions of Assistant Steward, Executive Committee Member, and Youth Director at the state level also. He is also a chartering member of the Troutman Grange. Before becoming the State Grange President, Jimmy was a retired school administrator. He is a member of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. At the Church, he is the Music Leader, Treasurer, and Member of Church Council and Executive Committee. He is a member of the South Iredell FFA Alumni Association.

Visit the State Grange Website at
www.nhgrange.org.

Make Way for Whistle Stop III!

The 2005 Whistle Stop Workshops proved fun and helpful to the lucky NH Grangers who attended, and a third round will be offered at four locations around the state this fall. Training sessions will be on Community Service, Publicity, and Leadership, all areas where Grangers everywhere need to grow their skills and techniques for promoting and improving our wonderful organization. The workshops will be offered four times, so pick the one most convenient for you.

Two will be held on Sunday, October 15, one at the Surry Town Hall, home of Prentice Hill Grange, and the other at the Community House Annex in Littleton, hosted by White Mountain Grange. In Surry the workshops will start at 1:00 PM and be followed by a meal at 4:00 PM for a \$5.00 donation. In Littleton, White Mountain Grangers will serve a meal at 1:00 for that same cost, and the training sessions will follow.

Then at 1:00 PM on October 22nd, the workshops will be repeated, one at the East Kingston Town Hall and the other at the Northfield Town Hall, where Friendship Grange holds its meetings. Food will be offered at each of these meetings, too. Don't miss this opportunity to gather with other Grange friends and build new shine into your Grange's future!

**The 140th Annual National
Grange Convention
November 14-19, 2006
In the Land of Lincoln, Springfield,
Illinois**

(See a copy of *The New Grange* for forms and details. Reservations are due in October.)
Will we see you there?

New at 2006 State Session

This year at State Session the events of Sunday, November 5, will be held at Stonewall Farm instead of at the convention center. The Church Service by State Chaplain Hugh Clark will begin at 10 a.m. State Officers will be installed at 10:45 a.m. with a reception for the new slate of officers to follow immediately. It would be extremely helpful and considerate for anyone planning on attending this event to RSVP to Gwen Yardley, 361 Valley Road, Walpole, NH 03608, phone 756-3677, or email grayreiner@aol.com, so that the hosts will have an accurate idea of how much food to prepare.

Stonewall Farm is located at 242 Chesterfield Road, Keene. Just follow Route 9 west toward Brattleboro for three miles and watch for the sign.

Attend the "Big E"

The Eastern States Exposition, often called the "Big E," is held each fall in West Springfield, MA. This year's dates are September 15, to October 1st. Grangers from NH will host the Blueberry Pie Booth in the NH Building on opening day and again on September 28th. Further along the Avenue of States sits the New England Grange Building, a handsome white colonial structure built in 1938 as a Grange center on the grounds. Today the main floor of the building is home to handiwork displays, a beautiful agricultural display on the stage, and a successful Country Store and craft sales operation to raise funds to support this great Grange promotional venture. The acres of educational and business displays, food, rides, parades, and all the other features are well worth the trip. Try it; you'll like it!

133rd NH State Grange Session
Best Western Sovereign Hotel
Keene, NH
See page 3 for schedule & details



My days as the engineer of our Grange train are drawing to a close, but the trip is not over! Let's look at the route we've taken and the tracks ahead as well.

Brave Grangers tried something new by venturing to Cornish Fair Grounds for a fun Grange Family Weekend and Youth Rally Day. The food was good and the sociability super! As old minute books often concluded, "A fine time was had by all!" Then Grangers from throughout the region worshiped together at the annual New England Go-to-Church Sunday at the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, hosted by NH State Chaplain Hugh Clark.

Next stop was the Northeast Youth Rally in Randolph Center, VT. The conference went well, and NH folks made us prouder than ever. The Youth Drill Team placed first this year, and Marie Hall won the chance to represent the region at National Grange with Best of Show in both Public Speaking and Sign-a-Song competition. As Best of Show in the NH State Lecturer's Talent Show as well, Marie will be on stage often in Springfield, IL, in November. Donations to the State Lecturer's Talent Fund help to pay our winner's way. I hope you were generous!

Speaking of the State Lecturer, what a successful event Brother Jim Tetreault hosted in Nashua in August! Rivier College proved a wonderful place to meet, and lucky Grangers enjoyed great shows, fine workshops, and good meals throughout their stay. Marie Hall placed third in regional talent competition. As National Chaplain I offered devotions at the start of each day, and, as State Master, I was proud to present Brother Jim with a well-earned gift made possible by the generosity of Granges throughout NH. If you weren't there, you should have been!

Looking down the tracks between now and the next GSG, there's a lot going on. Hannah and I represented the National Grange at the South Carolina State Session in August and will travel to the Colorado, Ohio, and Massachusetts State conventions

in October and New Jersey in early December. With our own session beginning on November 2nd and National Grange only a week later, life in the West household will be very hectic, especially as the National Chaplain leads the National Memorial Service and participates in the 7th Degree on stage.

Get ready for **Whistle Stop III** at a site near you during October! State Grange leaders will be offering you great workshops with new ideas and information on leadership, publicity, and community service, just what you need to get your Grange moving into a bright future! Watch for notices of times and places, and **BE THERE!** Remember, the State Grange is here to help in any way we can, but **it's up to you right there in your own town to follow up and make Grange work!**

Then it's on to Keene from November 2nd to 5th for the 133rd State Grange Session. Departments will have exhibits, reports on Grange activities of 2006 will be shared, new officers will be chosen, and resolutions will be acted upon. North Carolina State Master and National Board of Directors Member Jimmy Gentry and his wife Anita, herself a Past National Flora, will be our guests. This year people who perform with a polish rarely seen nowadays in Community Granges will exemplify the 4th, 5th, and 6th Degrees on Friday. I urge candidates from throughout NH to come and receive the lessons of these degrees. Don't miss out!

Now, as I guide this train into the station, bear in mind the closing charge in the 4th Degree, and "Let us treasure up the lessons we have learned, both by successes and failures, plan wisely and hopefully for the future, and strive to make our lives as harmoniously beautiful and bountiful as are the works of Nature's God."

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

Where Did You Get That Name?

Jaffrey Grange #135 held a very special night in spring to present an entertaining and educational program on the history of over twenty Granges in New Hampshire who do not share the name of their community in their title. A great deal of research went into the program which was the work of the lecturer Ruth Bassingthwaite.

The program began with a blessing by our Worthy State Chaplain Hugh Clark representing the Reverend Thomas Starr King after whom Starr King Grange is named. The history in back of Grange names such as Crown Point, Aurora, Henry Wilson (a US vice-president), Prentice Hill, Lower Intervale, and others was presented in song, story, poetry, and skits. There was even a picture captured off the Internet of Blow-Me-Down Grange, the name that started the Lecturer on her search.

The program ended with a smash (quite literally) finale of the history behind Joe English Grange. Our Worthy State Master as a poor, persecuted, friend-of-the-white-men Indian was pursued by Priest Archon of the National Grange Tom Severance and our tenor soloist Jack Arnot. "Joe English" came to a very timely end over a cliff conveniently located in the middle of the Grange Hall floor. We thank everyone who took the time to help out by sending information and especially our six Massachusetts Grange friends for helping with the program.

Yankee Candle Sales Drive Planned

Get ready to raise funds for your Grange's many projects ... and help your State Grange, too! Yankee Candle has offered Granges throughout New England a chance to market their popular products with substantial financial rewards for those who participate. The fresh infusion of money to be shared between participating Granges and the State Grange will enable us to do even more great things in our communities. Watch for details of this profit sharing fund drive planned for April, 2007.

The reputation of a thousand years may be determined by the conduct of one hour.
 —Japanese Proverb

133rd ANNUAL CONVENTION

New Hampshire State Grange
of the Patrons of Husbandry
Best Western Sovereign Hotel
401 Winchester Street
Keene, NH 03431

November 2, 3, 4, 5, 2006

Invited Guests

The Honorable John Lynch
Governor of NH
Raymond S. Burton
Executive Councilor, District # 1
Debora Pignatelli
Executive Councilor, District #5
Michael E. J. Blastos
Mayor of Keene
Steven H. Taylor

Commissioner of Agriculture
Wayne Mann, President,
NH Farm Bureau Federation
Dr. William Trumble, UNH
Wendy Brock

4-H Youth Development
Caitlin Cox

FFA State President

Special Guests

Jimmy Gentry, National Grange Executive
Committee Member, and his wife Anita Gentry,
Past National Grange Flora

Thursday, November 2

Registration beginning at 12:00 PM

(\$5.00 Registration Fee – each delegate)

(\$1.00 Registration Fee for all other attendees)

Opening Session – 1:00 PM

Procession of State Officers
Opening in the Sixth Degree
Calling the Roll of Officers
Grange lowered to the Fourth Degree
Introduction of Special Guests
Calling the Roll of Granges
Announcement of Master's Address,
Credentials, and Resolutions Committees
Reading of Resolutions

Reports:

State Chaplain – Hugh Clark
Treasurer – Carolyn Ross
Secretary – Richard W. Patten
Executive Comm. – Arthur Merrill
Historian – Richard W. Patten

Grange Memorial Service 3:30 PM

NH State Chaplain Hugh Clark

(Gates & Registration will be closed.)

Closing the Grange - 4:30 PM**Evening Meal on Your Own****Evening Session – 7:00 PM****State Master's Treat**

A relaxed, informal evening of entertainment
with refreshments

Friday, November 3**Morning Session – 8:30 AM**

Opening in the Fourth Degree
Calling the Roll of Officers
Calling the Roll of Granges
Reading the Minutes from Thursday
Conferral of the Fourth Degree

Reports:

Grange Services– Patrice Lawlor
Legislative –Wilber Heath
Membership/Promotions -
Mark Collins

Operations – Beth Merrill

State Lecturer – Jim Tetreault

State Master's Address

John H. West

Family & Community Luncheon

12:00 Noon – \$12 by advance registration

Hot Turkey Sandwich

Chef's Choice Vegetable

Coffee, Tea, Dessert

Contact Debra Patten, Director, or Department
Members for tickets

Afternoon Session – 2:00 PM**Reports:**

Family & Community Department Debra Patten
General Deputy - David Boynton
3:30 PM

Conferral of the 5th Degree -**Evening Meal on Your Own****Evening Session – 7:30 PM****Conferral of the Sixth Degree**

by the Officers of the NH State Grange
(Deputy State Masters responsible for the gates)
Introduction of Guests
Closing in the Fourth Degree

Saturday, November 4**Morning Session – 8:00 AM****Procession of Youth Officers**

(State Officers to be at their Stations)

Opening in the Fourth Degree
Calling the Roll of Youth Officers
Calling the Roll of State Officers
Calling the Roll of Granges
Reading the Minutes from Friday
Reports:

Junior Department – Joann Brandt

Youth Department – Jane Trombi &

Sherrill Bokousky

Election of Officers – 9:30 a.m.

Discussion and Action on Resolutions

Lunch on Your Own**Afternoon Session – 1:30 PM**

Election of Officers (continued)
Discussion & Action on Resolutions
Unfinished Business
Report of Credentials Committee
Closing the Grange – 3:30 PM
(or at conclusion of business)
Evening Session – 6:00 PM –
State Grange Celebration Buffet

Dinner

(By Advance Reservation Only)
\$25.00 – Contact State Officers
(Sliced Roast Sirloin of Beef with Mushroom
Sauce, Sliced Roast Turkey Breast with Herb
Stuffing, tossed salad, mashed potato, fresh
vegetable medley, apple pie, rolls, coffee, tea,
soft drinks)

Program:

Welcome by State Master
Introduction of Guest Dignitaries
Recognition Awards
State Lecturer's Talent Winner

Sunday, November 5

Events will be held at Stonewall Farm
242 Chesterfield Road, Keene

10:00 AM : Church Service –by
Hugh Clark, State Chaplain

10:45 AM: Installation of State Officers

11:45 AM: New Officers' Reception

Meal Events

(Advance Registration Required)

Family & Community Luncheon

Friday, Nov. 3, 12 noon

Hot Turkey Sandwich

Tickets \$12 from F&C committee

Celebration Buffet

Saturday, 6 p.m.

Tickets \$25 from State Officers

Reserve Your Room

before October 1.

Best Western Sovereign Hotel
401 Winchester Street

Keene, NH.

(603) 357-3038

November 2-5

Rate: \$89.99 plus tax per night
single or double occupancy
(\$12 charge for each additional
adult in the room)

Be sure to say you are with the NH
State Grange.



**From the Secretary's Corner
Richard Patten**



**Membership / Promotions
Mark Collins**

The information for the upcoming 133rd annual NH State Grange Session will be in the September Quarterly Packets. Also included in the packets will be copies of the resolutions to be discussed by your members and voted upon by the delegates to the session in November. There will be Grange Officer Information sheets for the 2007 Roster. It is so important to complete this information sheet and return it to me so the Roster can be correct. If there are no changes, please mark the sheet "No change" and send it to me. It is so important to have the correct information listed. This is especially true for e-mail addresses and addresses that have been affected by the enhanced 911 change.

I will have supplies from National Grange on sale during the session. These include a variety of books, clothing items, jewelry, and more. They will be available Friday and Saturday of the session. By buying items at State Session you can realize a big savings on postage.

The final date for resolutions concerning by-law changes was September 1. However, resolutions dealing with a variety of issues from legislative to good of the order, cooperative activities, etc. can still be submitted. You must bring 250 copies of the resolution to the session by Friday, November 3rd, at 12 noon. The resolution will be discussed and voted by the delegates. All resolutions received by now have been sent to the Resolutions Committee for their review.

Please don't hesitate to request a copy of your Grange membership records. It has been very helpful in getting the mailing lists corrected. I am always very happy to help whenever requested.

I hope you are all looking forward to a very busy Autumn. I can't wait to start decorating for Halloween!

**He who hesitates is interrupted.
—Franklin P. Jones**

Why do people join the Grange or, for that matter, any organization?" Do we actually know why we are members of the Grange, or do we just wear that title without really thinking about what it means? Webster's Dictionary defines a Member as: "one of the individuals composing a group." It defines a Group as: "a number of individuals assembled together or having some unifying relationship." So the way I read it: Members are individuals who are part of a group that has some unifying relationship.

I have written in the past that a single large statewide project would help with our public perception, but have you thought that we also need to be united internally so that we can work together for our causes? We can be individuals, but we must never cause strife within our group. Nothing will shut down a Grange's activities faster than discord and conflict among the members. We must not forget our motto: "In Essentials, Unity; In Non Essentials, Liberty; In All Things, Charity."

In Essentials, Unity

I hope you haven't forgotten that we are a unified organization in our hearts and minds. We all believe in faith, hope, charity, and fidelity. Those are very worthy ideals to strive for, and I hope you haven't taken them for granted. As an organization we must always be positive and excited when talking to non-Grangers. We must be united in the Grange essentials.

In Non Essentials, Liberty

Just because you are a member of a group doesn't mean that you have to conform to the ideals of others. There will always be an activity or project that you as an individual may not agree with. However, this should not keep you from using your skills and knowledge to help the project along. Focus on the part that you can and will do and let others in your Grange run the project. Who knows, the next activity may be one that you support and you may need the help of others that may not totally agree with it. Don't burn any bridges!

In All things, Charity

Charity can consist of many things, large or small. It could be calling someone to offer help when something bad has happened to them, or a bake sale or raffle to raise money for a good cause. Most of us think of charity as the offering of things or money. Charity is also being lenient in the judgment of others. How often have you heard a tale about someone through the grapevine and helped propagate it without thought of the damage you could be causing or the validity of the information. Always give people the benefit of a doubt, give them a call and find out what is going on and offer them your help.

We are coming to the close of another Grange year and soon a change of administration. I hope that all of you have had a great time in the Grange to this point and that you will support the organization in all its future activities.

Our Own Worst Enemy?

by William Steel, National President

Did you ask someone to join the Grange recently? Was one of the questions asked by the prospect, "Is so-and-so still a member of your Grange?" The implication of the question being that I don't want to join as long as he or she is still an active member of your group. The late leader of India, Mahatma Gandhi, was quoted as saying, "I would be a Christian if it were not for the Christians." Racist Christians had refused to let him into their churches, and had showed him and his people horrible disrespect.

Hopefully none of us is mistreating or disrespecting any member of our community. But how are our meetings held? Is the atmosphere open, positive, and productive? Are issues of concern to many discussed and resolved? Are you sticking to the issues, and not discussing people? Are reports presented, discussed and approved, rather than the hashing of minutiae? Was the program one of enlightenment and interest? At the end of the meeting are you saying, "Great meeting!" And is that still the tone the next morning on those phone calls to friends who were not present, or who are not members?

Many in our communities would be a part of us if only we could all be positive and progressive!



All About Juniors Joann Brandt

The year is almost complete, and there are so many contests the Juniors and non-Juniors are able to finish by the end of September. Remember to check out the last three Grange State Grangers showing the contests for children age 5-14. Please get them to me as soon as possible, but definitely by October 1st. so they may be judged and ready to return at State Grange Session.

Every year the National Junior Grange Department has a theme with resources and information available to Leaders and Directors to use with their Junior Grange Members. This year's theme is **Building a Healthier You**. There will be topics each month (exercise, healthy eating, dental care, healthy snacks) for leaders to use as part of their meeting programs.

I have received some new National Junior contest information and I am sending it now so parents can read and post on their

calendar something to work on with their children during 2007.

2007 Building a Healthier You Program

· **Let's get exercising.** January-September 2007. Juniors will record on a calendar each day that they exercise for 30 minutes or more. Examples: physical education class, walking home from school, playing kickball at recess, going swimming, skiing, skating, etc. Leaders will submit a form to me stating that their Juniors completed the activity. Goal: nine months of exercise with at least 12 completed days each month. Awards: Juniors that complete the project will receive a certificate and a pair of JG shoelaces.

· **You are what you eat.** Draw a picture of yourself on an 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper and then draw around the picture of yourself all the foods you like to eat. Same rules and regulations as this year for the creative art contest. Prizes will be all the same.

· **What can you do to keep yourself healthy?** Creative Writing Contest. Same rules and regulations as this year for the creative writing contest. Prizes will also be the same.

Junior Grange Activities at the National Grange Convention

There are lots of exciting activities planned for Junior Grange Members at the National Grange Convention. We are starting off on Thursday, November 16, with a Pajama Party. Get out your favorite PJ's and join in the fun. We will be having games, movies, popcorn, soda, and just a whole lot of fun. During the Convention there are lots of activities planned for Juniors. We have several tours, workshops, and even a few surprises planned. Please make plans now to attend the National Grange Convention. For more information contact: Anne Kurburski National Junior Grange Development Director.

**The richest man,
Whatever his lot,
Is he who's content
With what he has
got.
—Dutch Proverb**

Arlington Grange



Arlington Grange of Winchester met on July 24th at its new meeting location in the Ruth Coffin Room of the Ellen Lambert Murphy Memorial Community Center. Ten members attended. New members Ken and Linda Neilson were present.

The Grange will have a table at the Annual Pickle Festival. On the table will be a bake sale and a raffle with the raffle proceeds going to the Winchester School and Community partnership program. The prizes will be a hand crocheted afghan as well as two \$15.00 gift certificates to Walmart.

Legislative Chairman Jim Tetreault has contacted the Principal of the Winchester Elementary/Middle School about reviewing the Meth program provided by the National Grange. Copies will be sent to the Winchester Police Department as well as the Cheshire County Sheriff's Department.

Jr. Grange Day

Congratulations to Joann Brandt, Jr Grange Director, for a fun filled afternoon at the recent Jr Grange Day in Milford. After a kid-friendly, welcome lunch provided by the Youth Committee, Granite Jr., and Watatic Granges and served by Cam Twiss, the children broke into work groups.

Sherrill Bokousky and Laura Brandt supervised cookie making and baking. Jane Heath and Carolee Barrett helped the children create cards for the State Lecturers contest with a huge array of stamps, papers and inks. Joann Brandt assisted the making of Native American dream catchers for the Big E, and Sondra Farrell managed the Decorate-a-tee-shirt workshop with the assistance of Sandra Bokousky. A "do it yourself" station allowed the children to make Christmas banners out of wide ribbon and tin punch work. (Have you ever heard multiple hammers pounding nails through tin can covers at the same time?)

Adults attending in addition to the above mentioned were Liz Grant, Jerry Leclerc, Kathy and John Palumbo. Joann thanked all who assisted in any way. She expressed the hope that Subordinate members across the state will consider starting a Jr Grange in their community. She stated that the effort put forth is rewarded beyond expectation.

The baking contest was judged and the following results were announced. In a special category of 2 to 9 year olds there was a tie for first place between Aaron Graham and Page Beckett. Emilie Leclerc took second place and Genevieve Twiss won the third prize. Results of the ten to fourteen year olds saw Emmanuel Gooding, first; Spencer Farrell, second and Brittany Estes third. Prizes were awarded for all winners and the cookies were consumed in record time!

Watch for the other crafts to be on display at state session and please support the Junior program!

Deadline

Send copy for the December issue of the Granite State Granger to Hannah West by November 19, 2006. Report on events of September, October, and November. Look ahead to January, February, and March.



New Hampshire Represented at National Legislative Fly-In

Did you know that the National Grange headquarters is the only privately owned building remaining in Federal Square in Washington, D.C., allowing our organization to have a finger on the pulse of our nation's legislative process? Did you know that the National Grange Legislative department sponsors a Fly-In for Grange members each spring, providing workshops, tours, and congressional office visits? Did you know that any Grange member is invited to attend and that Potomac Grange offers scholarships to youth members and first-time attendees?

This year our State Overseer, Beth Merrill, applied for the Potomac Grange scholarship and was awarded the funds to cover airfare and her hotel room during the conference, Jim Tetreault, former NH Legislative Director and current State Lecturer, also attended and his prior knowledge of the city, the conference, and Capitol Hill was very helpful. In exchange, Beth was able to navigate the way to the Mall where they visited most of the memorial sites during free time.

The first day of the conference started at the National Grange building, where guest speakers gave instruction on a couple of hot topic issues. Then the group headed out to the Metro and traveled to the Pentagon for a guided tour of the largest

office building in the world. Security was tight and the young military guides were courteous, entertaining, and amazingly adept at leading the entire tour while walking backwards. The tour spent some time at a memorial erected in honor of those who gave their lives in the 9/11 tragedy and also viewed many of the expressions of sympathy and support, in the form of various artworks and many beautiful quilts, that were constructed by citizens across the nation. The tour ended at the dining hall where Sister Joan Smith, Master of Potomac Grange and an employee at the Pentagon treated all to lunch. Guest speakers at the luncheon were three members of Joan's staff, who took turns recounting their experience of being in the building when Flight 77 crashed into it on September 11, 2001. They conveyed a sense of the horror, confusion, and ultimate triumph that event caused to the military personnel, civilian employees, and the entire nation. The program concluded with questions from the audience.

The afternoon session resumed at the Grange headquarters where all were instructed on additional topics of concern to Grangers, received an appointment schedule for the next day, then headed off to dinner at a fancy hotel. The keynote speaker, Dr. Mark McClellan, administrator for the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, spoke about the joint effort that his office and Granges across the nation had recently completed in helping seniors to sign up for the Medicare Prescription Card Part D. Dr. McClellan named New Hampshire among the several states that had been most active and successful in supporting elderly citizens in this program.

The second day of the conference was dedicated to visiting the offices of congressional representatives. Jim and Beth were able to meet two of the NH Representatives and one Senator, and saw a very busy-looking Senator Sununu dash through his office while they were meeting with his intern. Brother Tetreault explained five of the top concerns from the Grange's Blueprint for Rural America to the intern/assistant. Some valuable connections were established from these personal visits.

Frequently throughout the conference there were opportunities to network with members from other state Granges to learn and share. It was interesting to hear how the meetings with their elected officials went. A member from one of our neighboring states explained in great detail at one of his meetings, the pros and cons of the livestock ID program that is being proposed in many parts of the country. His input was invaluable to that office in their comprehension of the dynamics of the proposed regulations. Before the farewell dinner, the group viewed an exhibit of the works of Grant Woods, the painter of "American Gothic". It was a fun and relaxing way to wind down from the day's activities by learning about this quirky artist and his artwork.

Grange is a strong organization in Washington addressing some difficult issues and influencing the course of history. Give some consideration to attending this event next year. Let's use the opportunities our national office is offering to us so that we might elevate ourselves into a higher manhood and womanhood, as intended by our founding fathers.

NH State Grange Building Gets Safer

As a result of an inspection of the NH State Grange Building by officers of the Hooksett Fire Department, some major safety improvements were required there. All paneling has been coated with a special fire retardant, lighted exit signs are in place, materials in storerooms no longer reach the ceiling, the main switch box is enclosed and covered, emergency lighting has been repaired, and rechargeable fire extinguishers have been installed. Soon the propane tank will have safety posts placed around it to prevent possible damage from cars driving along the driveway.

In addition to these safety measures, a new sump pump and a dehumidifier have been installed in the basement storage area to better deal with water and moisture build-up there. The improvements were expensive but will enhance and protect this valuable piece of Grange property.

Support the Granite State Granger with your donation.



All About Youth Sherrill Bokousky & Jane Trombi

It's hard to believe that State Grange is right around the corner and that this Grange year will be coming to an end. This will be our last year as your youth directors and we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for all the support given us over the last six years. It seems like only yesterday that we took on this position. We are very proud of our youth and what they have accomplished and have enjoyed seeing the growth they have made over the years.

June Youth Rally

We held our June Youth Rally this year in conjunction with Grange family weekend at the Cornish Fair Grounds in Cornish, NH. Saturday morning we started with a workshop on Grange knowledge. We had our older youth work with the new youth to help them learn about the Grange; its history and its people. We then held a Grange Jeopardy Game, which everyone enjoyed. After lunch we held our annual youth rally meeting with Matt Clark presiding as Master and other youth officers filling the chairs. We also hosted the ice cream social both Friday and Saturday evenings.



Youth officers: Anne West, Brittany Estes, Laura Brandt, Zach Trombi, Rachel Bailey, Chris Heath, Bekka Courtemanch, Matt Clark, Lynn French, Greg Trombi, Sarah Leclerc, Matt Haefner.



Drill team: Chris Heath, Jerry Leclerc, Lynn French, Matt Haefner, Allissa Estes, Sarah Leclerc, Matt Clark, Rachel Bailey, Zach Trombi, Patrick Bailey, Bob Varnum. Bekka Courtemanch, Brittany Estes, Andrew Savage, Anne West, Greg Trombi.

Northeast Youth Conference

The state of Vermont was our host for the Northeast Youth Conference this year from July 7 – 9 at the Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center, VT. We had a total of 23 attending for all or part of the weekend. The attendees enjoyed workshops, a grange quiz bowl, a dance, and some time to get to know others. The NH youth were in charge of the Sunday morning Inspirational Service, where they did a great job working together. NH had some fine entries in the Public Speaking and Sign – a – Song contests. Matt Clark placed first in his age category for a prepared speech in public speaking and so did Marie Hall. Matt also placed first in the impromptu speech category. Sherrill Bokousky placed first in her age category for the elevator speech. In the sign a song contest, Marie Hall placed first in the Hobbyist category and Sherrill Bokousky placed 3rd in the Novice category.

What's up and coming?

Due dates: September 10th – Youth Reports are due to the directors.

October 1st – Memory Page, Collage Contest entries and Photo Scavenger Hunt photo albums are due.

Youth Activity Day

On October 7th we will hold a Youth Activity Day at the State Grange Building in Hooksett beginning at 10:00 am. Throughout the day we will have rehearsal for youth officers opening at state session, lunch, and activities, and we will finalize our plans for State Grange.

Important National Convention Deadlines For Youth

Applications for the John Trimble Legislative Experience, Youth Officers and Horizon Leadership Ambassadors must be sent to the National Youth Development Director by September 10. Send to Cindy Greer, 7629 CR 100, Hesperus, CO 81326-9311. The applicants must have earned Achievement Awards and secured letters of recommendation as stated in the rules for each program. Contracts for all participating youth are required and due prior to arrival at the convention site in Springfield, IL. Youth housing requests must be received by October 15.

National Convention Youth Tour

The Youth Tour at the National Grange convention will include: Lincoln's museum and Lincoln's Tomb in Springfield followed by a community service activity. This will take place on Thursday of the convention. Friday afternoon the youth will be visiting the Presidential Museum with the Junior Grangers.

Your Favorite Disney Character

The theme of this year's costume party at the National Grange convention is "Your Favorite Disney Character." We hope to see a wide variety at the party. We'll have prizes for the best costumes and a few other prizes with categories yet to be determined.

The Youth will again have a room in which they can just hang out after the parties and evening activities.

A Hearty Grange Welcome to the Following New Members

Shelley Nelkins	Antrim Grange
Tina Mace	Antrim Grange
Mary Hoitt	Halloween Grange
John Dowes	Halloween Grange
Kathy Condon	Henry Wilson Grange
Richard Jackman	Pleasant Valley Grange
Jeanne Jackman	Pleasant Valley Grange
Leanne Bourque	Pleasant Valley Grange
Jamie Brooks	Pleasant Valley Grange
Clement Simoneau	Pleasant Valley Grange
George Meyer, Jr.	Pleasant Valley Grange
Paul Bourque	Pleasant Valley Grange
Camille Bourque	Pleasant Valley Grange
Lester Barthelemy	Rockingham Grange
Cathy Boas	Walpole Grange
Roy Boas	Walpole Grange
Elizabeth Congdon	Walpole Grange
Alta Lawn	Watatic Grange
Cindy Baron	Wattannick Grange



New National Grange Sales Catalog

The new National Grange sales catalog and order form are now available. The official catalog for Grange merchandise and supplies now features photos of the merchandise. To request your catalog, please call 888-447-2643 ext. 103 or e-mail sales@nationalgrange.org

Newly Designed Individual Member Record

The Individual Member Record Extra Sheets, Item #458, is now 8½" X 11" and fits in a standard three ring binder. A Grange three ring is also available from the Grange store. To order, please call 888-447-2643 ext. 103.

Super JG Award

This award is intended to honor Juniors that have excelled in their Junior Granges. There are eight requirements. The application is available online at NationalGrange.org. All Super JG Award winners will be honored at the National Convention during the Saturday Awards Ceremony and breakfast. For more information contact: Anne Kurburski, National Junior Grange Development Director.

National Junior Grange Contests

Make sure your Juniors enter the National Junior Grange contests. The theme for 2006 is Building Communities. The two contests are: (1) Creative Writing. Write about your Junior Grange Community—What role do you play within your Junior Grange, and (2) Creative Art. Draw a picture of your Community. Cash prizes and certificates will be awarded. For more details contact your State Junior Director or Anne Kurburski, National Junior Grange Development Director. Entries must be submitted to the National Director by October 1, 2006.

Visit the National Grange website at www.nationalgrange.org.



Can you believe that summer is almost over? Where has the time gone? Before you know it, we'll be packing up and heading to the Best Western in Keene, NH for State Grange! Speaking of State Grange, don't forget to stop by our display and pick up information on the services available to you just because you belong to the Grange.

Today I thought I'd highlight just a few of the benefits made available to you by National Grange.

Choice Hotels Discount Program

National Grange members can save 20% at over 4,000 Comfort Inns, Comfort Suites, Quality, Sleep Inns, Clarion, MainStay Suites, Econo Lodge and Rodeway Inn Hotels. Call (800) 258-2847 and provide the ID# T00211660 and you're on your way to savings!

Grange Hall Insurance Program

The National Grange has an insurance program for Grange Halls. The program offers Property Coverage as well as Liability Coverage. It will provide Grange's with coverage for all real and personal property under a comprehensive policy form at competitive prices. Log on to www.nationalgrange.org to find out more.

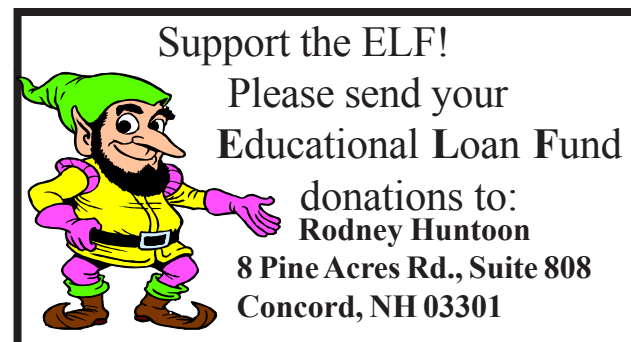
Web Hosting Service

The National Grange has a Web Hosting Service for Subordinate, Pomona, and State Granges. The cost is as little as \$19.95 per month, plus a set up fee of \$79.00. Log on to www.grangehosting.com to find out how easy it is to get started!

Beltone Hearing Products

Beltone has an agreement with the National Grange to supply hearing aid products to Grange members at a 15% discount through Beltone dealers. For information call (800) BELTONE or (800) 235-8663.

If you don't want anyone to know,
don't do it.
—Chinese Proverb



Discount Prescription Card

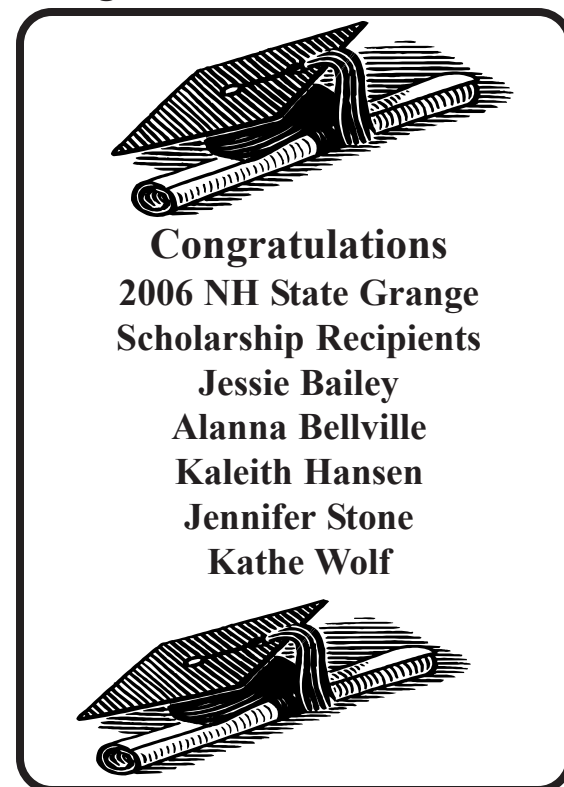
The National Grange offers savings on prescriptions for members through Scrip Pharmacy Solutions. All major pharmacies participate in the program including major chains. Discounts are good on retail purchases as well as mail order purchases of up to 3 months of maintenance drugs. Contact a member of the State Grange Services Department to obtain a card.

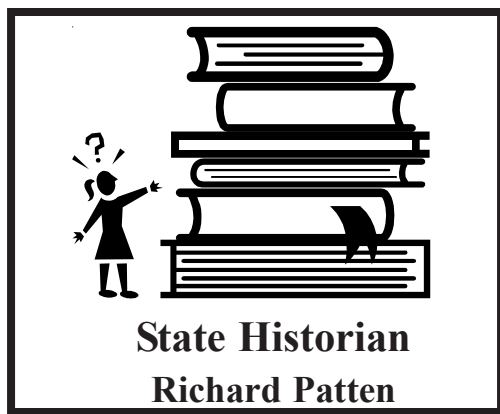
There is an overview of a number of other programs that have been developed to help individuals with the cost of prescription drugs on the National Grange website. Just log on to www.nationalgrange.org to find out more.

Hertz Rental Car

Did you know that Grange members can now receive discounted rates on Hertz rental cars as well as other promotional offers? Just contact a member of the State Grange Services Department to obtain a Hertz Member Savings Card. If you are making reservations online at www.hertz.com or by telephone at (800) 654-2200 the CDP# for the discount is 1516203.

These are some of the benefits available to you, just because you belong to the Grange. Are you going to take advantage of them?





Being a Grange member, I have always looked forward to the State Grange Session. This year's session will be held in November. It is not the first time we have met in November, but October has been more common in recent years. It still amazes me how delegates could meet just prior to Christmas, which they did for many years in the early history of our State Grange.

Let's take a trip down memory lane to the State Session of 1973, which was 30 years ago. The State Grange met at the NH Highway Hotel in Concord. The late Alton Carpenter was State Master for this 103rd session. The Freedom Gavel, which began in 1974, traveled to many Granges in the state. There was a special ceremony when it was brought to each Grange. At this session the ceremony would be completed. Although 13 Granges hadn't received it, most of them were not meeting. It was decided to complete this task at the session but continue to try and reach the remaining Granges.

Resolutions are always an important feature of any session. In 1976, a very important resolution was presented regarding the New Hampshire Grange Trust. It was felt that more people could benefit through the trust, but there were strict guidelines, which prevented it from being available to most Grange members. In the end, the delegates voted to relax some of the guidelines for the Trust and allow it to help more members. In 1976, the State Fair Committee was created to see that a State Grange exhibit would be placed in fairs around the state. The committee entered an exhibit in five fairs and received a favorable response in each. They were also asked to have a State Fair at the State Session. An adjoining ballroom and several other rooms were filled with crafts, food items, needlework, etc. It was impressive and brought many members and non-members to see the outstanding work entered.

The State Membership Committee adopted the slogan "Oh Yes We Can We Must" for 1977. The committee sponsored a degree-day with 83 new members joining the Grange.

The State Secretary reported the Grange membership in 1976 with 26 Pomona Granges, 5,902 with a loss of 138. Great Bay Pomona had surrendered its charter. There were 195 Subordinate Granges with a membership of 12,926, a loss of 9 Subordinate Granges and 751 members. Bennington #207, Beaver # 283, Hillsboro # 342, Narragansett # 46, Pinnacle # 18, Profile # 259, Rindge # 356, Rye # 233, East Candia # 302, and Westboro # 320 all closed. The Junior Grange report featured 26 Junior Granges with a membership of 430, a loss of 54. Aurora # 118, East Candia # 117, and New Hampton # 33 closed during the year. However Somersworth Junior Grange # 150 was organized and Pineconia # 88 was re-organized.

Who were the youth officers for 1976? They were: Master, Kenneth Berry from Gilman Grange; Steward, Richard Bailey, Chester Grange; Assistant Steward, Dianne Lessard, Sandown Grange; and Lady Assistant Steward, Jeraldine Levasseur, West Thornton Grange. Guy Whipple of Jaffrey Grange was selected as State Prince; Abbie Seaver from New Hampton Grange as State Princess; and Alan and Betty Lamery from Sunapee Mountain Grange, Young Couple. Mrs. Gladys Metcalfe of Keeneborough Grange was selected as Mrs. Homemaker.

The Fourth Degree was conferred by the Carroll County Pomona Team; East Rockingham Pomona conferred the Fifth Degree; and there were 168 candidates for the Sixth Degree. It was noted that two of the candidates were Donald W. and Priscilla R. Ross, parents of Deputy Donald Ross. The class of 1976 also featured Gerald Leclerc and Jean Abbott among its members. The Junior Degree, always a highlight of a state session, featured a combined degree team of Surry and Arlington Junior Granges. Who served as master for this team? Beth Yardley (Merrill)!

Now it's time to return to 2006 and get ready for this year's annual session. See you in Keene!

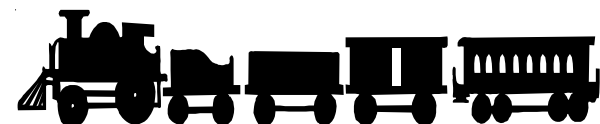
In Memoriam

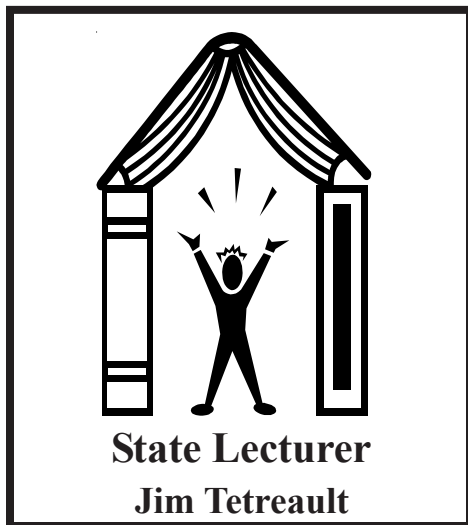
Otis Jordan	GS, M	Blow-Me-Down
Nellie Mullaine		Charlestown
Joyce Bavousett	PM	Danville
John Quincy Adams, Sr.		Dorchester
Grace Dunham		Granite
Arthur McCalvey	PM	Granite
Arthur Huddell		Hampton Falls
Earl Ducett		Henry Wilson
Helen Lundy		Jeremiah Smith
Leonard Wennant		Jeremiah Smith
Helen Byam	GS, PM	Joe English
Daniel Westgate	PM	Meriden
Adele Taylor		Moultonborough
Sylbert Forbes	GS, PM	Moultonborough
Velma Hudgkins		Moultonborough
Beverly Willard	GS	Moultonborough
Ernest Odell	GS, PM	Mount Hope
Joseph Boudreau, Jr.		Pembroke
Hilda Jones		Prentice Hill
Ruth Sceggell		Reunion
Ellen Frizzell	GS	Stratford
Ariel Hampson	GS	White Mountain
Rudolph True	PM	Wingold

Northern NH Pomona

Northern NH Pomona held its "All-Aboard Picnic" on Saturday, July 22, at Bath Village School in Bath, NH. Dignitaries present were State Overseer Beth Merrill; State Lecturer Jim Tetreault; State Executive Committee Chairman Arthur Merrill; General Deputy David Boynton; area Deputies Jean Abbott, Marilyn Machia, and Ida Hutchins; Past State Master Paul Davis and Past Ceres Rhoda Davis; and member of Grange Services Committee George Barter. A nice letter was read from State Master John West, sending his regrets. Other Brothers and Sisters brought the total attendance to 25. Seven past Masters of Northern NH Pomona were presented a red carnation from Host Chris Woods, Lecturer.

Due to the showery weather the picnic started inside, moved outside, and then back inside! For fun there were card games, a Frisbee toss, a Silent Auction, and music by Brother Ray Burton of Pine Grove Grange. It was a great time for all. Sorry we missed you.





State Lecturer's Conference

June 3rd, 2006, found us gathering at Daniel Webster Grange for the Annual State Lecturer's Conference and Spotlight NH. The morning session found a dedicated group of Grange Lecturers and members who really took the time to scrutinize and review the current Lecturer's Grange programs. One of the major obstacles was finding something to differentiate the programs between the Pomona and Subordinate Granges. Next year the Pomona Grange will have a completely different focus and different opportunities for programs.

Spotlight NH

The State Lecturer's portion of Spotlight NH found a total of 7 entries in the talent contest and 2 entries in the CPR. Talent winners were as follows:

Vocal

1st Place Marie Hall, Gilman

2nd Place Lynn French, Prentice Hill

3rd Place Matt Clark and Lynn French,
Prentice Hill

Variety

1st Place Neil McDonald, Lower Intervale

2nd Place Matt Clark & Lynn French,
Prentice Hill

3rd Place Janet Mcleen, Wingold
CPR

1st Place Marion T Jones, Daniel Webster

2nd Carolee Barrett, Golden Rod

Best of Show

Marie Hall, Gilman

I want to thank everyone who assisted me in making this annual event a big success.

Reports

Be sure to send your completed Lecturer's Report to the State Lecturer by September 30.

Maine/NH Night

June 17th, 2006, found 39 NH members and 67 Maine members gathering at Bauneg Beg Grange in North Berwick, ME, for a wonderful supper and great evening of fun and fellowship. This was a postponed event from May due to flooding in southern Maine and eastern NH, so we traded the rain for the heat. I think it was a fair trade. Our theme for the evening was "A Picnic." The NH badminton team was victorious, and we had a great scavenger hunt as well as other program items.

NE Lecturers' Conference

On August 7 to 10, 2006, the New England Lecturers' Conference was held in Nashua NH. We had a total of 138 in attendance this year. Workshops were held on Elder Abuse, and Disaster Preparedness, as well as workshops for new Lecturers and experienced Lecturers. The State Lecturers did a skit entitled "The Adventures of Frances Anybody." Our Worthy Master John West had the opportunity to give the daily devotions in his capacity as National Chaplain. Marie Hall represented NH in the regional Talent Contest.

NH kicked off the stage shows with a program on the Middle East. Beth Merrill and Anne West put on Egyptian headgear and turned Lillian Kruszyna of Rhode Island into a mummy, using several rolls of toilet paper. Bob Haefner made his stage debut as "A-hab the A-rab." We all learned that technology has its limitations. Other New England states presented programs on the Far East, Scandinavia, North America, North Africa, and the Pacific Islands. New England Night, with a total of 170 members in attendance, featured the bag pipes of Mark Polifrone of Keene and the talents of Lester Gibbs of Vermont. The weather cooperated, and Rivier College proved to be a fine site. I want to thank everyone for their support and assistance in making New Hampshire's hosting of this conference a huge success.

I want to thank all the New Hampshire Granges for their contributions to the State Lecturer's gift. I have not figured out what I am going to do with it yet, but I am looking at some new end tables for my living room as well as several other pieces of furniture.



Bob Haefner as "A-hab the A-rab" at NE Lecturer' Conference

So What Is "Agate?"

When you read in the GSG that "Agate" has a meeting scheduled, do you wonder what it is all about? Organized on April 24, 1954, and incorporated on February 21, 1957, it is a special Grange group composed of Past Masters of Granges in NH and their spouses. It meets once each quarter in various parts of the state for a delicious meal followed by a short business meeting and an entertaining program. The initial membership fee is only \$1.00, and there are no annual dues! Once you have joined, you continue as a member for life. Among projects sponsored by Agate, Inc., as it is officially titled, is the Dictionary Project. The organization makes special benefit donations to other worthy causes on occasion as well.

Past Masters of any Subordinate or Pomona Grange interested in joining Agate may contact President Barbara Frangione at 603-798-5976 or Secretary Anne West at 603-798-5783. The President's e-mail address is bjf169@tds.net, and the Secretary may be reached at alwest@wildmail.com.



Grange Bulletin Board

92nd Annual DANBURY GRANGE & COMMUNITY FAIR

Sat, Sept 9th (Rain or Shine)

7:30 - 9:30 AM...Pancake Breakfast

Children's Petting
Farm ♦ Crafts ♦ Games ♦ Exhibits

11 AM...Parade

Tractor Pulling ♦ Horseshoe
Tournaments

4:30-6:30 PM.....Baked Beans & Ham
Supper

"All You Can Eat!!" A = \$7, < 12 = \$3, < 3 = Free

7 - 8:30 PM...Live Bluegrass Music
w/ Cardigan Mountain Tradition

8:30 PM.....Live Auction

9 PM – Midnight.....Street Dance
w/ Live Music by Mach Turtle

"Come One, Come All"

Granite Grange Awards Banquet (for membership seals that are due)

Saturday, October 14th

6:00 p.m.

Granite Grange Hall
23 Webster Street
Milford, NH.

Contact Master John Palumbo
at 603-487-3116 for details.

Granite Grange Smorgasord Supper Saturday, October 7th

(Please note date is the 1st Saturday
for this month only.)

5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Adults \$7.00 Children under six \$3.50
Regular suppers on the Second Saturday of
each month will resume in November.

List your Grange event
On the NH Grange website.
Contact Mark Collins:
mdcollins@adelphia.net

Whistle Stop Workshops

(see also page 1)

Sunday, October 15

Surry: Town Hall
workshops at 1 p.m.,
meal* to follow

Littleton: Community House
Annex

meal* at 1 p.m.,
workshops to follow
Sunday, October 22
workshops at 1 p.m.,

meal* to follow

East Kingston: Town Hall

Northfield: Town Hall

*Donation for meal: \$5.00

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THE GRANITE STATE GRANGER

Official Publication of the
New Hampshire State Grange
Patrons of Husbandry
Managing Editor - Hannah West
3 Depot Road
Chichester, NH 03258
Tel. (603) 798-5783