



The Granite State Granger

Volume 38

Number 2

2008

June



Welcome back, Peterborough Grange!

When State Secretary Carolyn Ross calls the Roll of Granges at the Annual Session this October, Peterborough Grange #35 will be included in the list for the first time in 28 years, as it will once again be eligible to send delegates to the State Convention.

On April 2nd, State Master Beth Merrill and Past State Master John West attended an informational breakfast meeting at the request of an informally established group of area farmers who were interested in becoming a Grange. News of this meeting spread rapidly and the hostess, Ruth Holmes, was amazed with the number of people who came that had not previously participated in the group's meetings. John West gave a concise, yet detailed account of the Grange's history, and then both he and Beth answered many questions from the group. A first meeting date was set for April 6th for the purpose of reorganizing Peterborough Grange.

The first several organizational meetings were held at the home of Dan and Ruth Holmes. A total of 26 Charter members, representing eight area towns, were accepted and obligated into membership. The four officers elected at the first meeting were: Master, Ruth Holmes; Overseer, Brad Miller; Secretary, Lindsay Johnson; and Treasurer, Emily Drury. All other officers were elected at a subsequent meeting.

A committee formed to search for a suitable permanent meeting location was investigating the Peterborough Town House as a possible meeting location at press time. A 5:30 p.m. pot luck supper precedes each 6:30 p.m. meeting on the first and third Sundays of the month. The new members are planning to attend the degree day in Keene on June 21st, and plans are underway for a "coming out" party later in the summer.



Grange Day at the State House

The second annual Grange Day at the State House will be **Friday, June 13, 2008**. We will meet in Concord at the Daniel Webster statue in front of the State House at 11:45. If it rains, meet in the Hall of Flags. We will go to the Cafeteria in the basement of the State House for lunch. Buy your own. The Visitors Center will conduct a tour at 1:00. Following the tour, the group will meet in a committee room in the Legislative Office Building across the street from the State House. Invited guest Senator Ted Gatsas of Manchester will join us there for a discussion on the process of taking an idea and making it into law.



Degree Day

Sponsored by

Cheshire County Pomona #6

June 21, 2008

at 1:00 PM

MOOSE LODGE

570 Park Avenue, Keene

Dinner to Follow the 4th Degree



How exciting it has been to be in the position of your state leader this spring! What an amazing period of change and growth there has been since my last column.

The Spring Fling Grange Month Kickoff Event on March 29th was a fun and rewarding day of learning and fellowship. For a first-time event, I was pleased with the attendance, and several favorable comments were received as to the quality of the programs that were offered. Many thanks to Jim Tetreault, Legislative Director and NH State Representative, Henry Parkhurst, for their informative workshop on the Grange's role as a grassroots organization; Field of Dreams Therapeutic Riding Director, Theresa Brown, for an inspiring presentation on the physical and emotional benefits of her services to her clients; Marie Hall, State Lecturer, for her always helpful program suggestions; Carolyn Ross, State Secretary, and Gail Turcotte, State Treasurer, for their enlightening tips and hints for Grange Secretaries and Treasurers; Jane Heath for her prowess with a crochet hook and her patience for teaching that skill; and to Rural Vermont for their loan of the video "Hemp and the Rule of Law" which held the viewers attention for almost an hour and then sparked a lively discussion period following its conclusion. Also, I thank General Deputy, Tricia Taylor and her assistants for providing the lunch, which had to be stretched a bit in order to feed the larger than expected group. It seems that this would be a worthwhile event to reschedule for next year and I'd gratefully accept any suggestions on how to do it bigger and better.

When Rusty Hunt, National Grange Leadership/Membership Director, was in NH in January, he gave a workshop on a training program that has been implemented in his home state of Washington. The priority of the program is to train a team of members who can bring a plan of revitalization to Granges throughout the

state as requested by them. A secondary benefit is the positive change and growth created within the Granges that are involved in the initial training session. Rusty's workshop intrigued me to the point that I decided to act upon it right away. I asked for and received approval and funding from the Executive Committee, and by the time you read this column the first phase of the training will be completed. Under Rusty's tutelage, twenty NH Grangers met in May for a weekend of team building, leadership training, and personal growth. During the process, the group broke up into four teams and each was sent to one of these Granges: Blow-Me-Down, Meriden, Mont Calm, and Park. The Leadership Team presented a program which assisted the Grange in renewing its purpose, vision, and activity level in the community. Due to publishing deadline restrictions, we will have to wait for a final report of the weekend in the next issue of the GSG.

Two items on my "to do" list this year are the study committees that were requested at the 2006 State Session. A committee to study the possibility of forming a 501c3 foundation is well under way under the guidance of past State Treasurer, Rodney Huntoon. That committee will have a thorough report for the delegates' review at this year's convention. Next on the list is a new study group on the subject of Pomona Granges, as recommended by the 2006 Pomona Study Committee. A letter has gone out to each Pomona soliciting a representative to participate in a frank and open discussion, which will be held on July 19th at the State Grange Building.

Following some serious research done by State Treasurer, Gail Turcotte, it's been discovered that inadvertently, the State Grange has drifted away from proper

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

procedures in regard to the State Grange Trust. Several adjustments have been made to get us back on track, including the re-establishment of the Trustees of the Trust. No longer lumped under the heading of Grange Services, the trustees elected by the Executive Committee are Camilie Twiss, Chairman; Debra Patten, Secretary; Elizabeth Cotsibas; Ann Leger; and Diane Collins; with Gail Turcotte fulfilling the duties of Treasurer of the State Grange Trust. Many thanks go to these ladies as they carry out the duties of this important facet of the NH State Grange.

Previously, August 4th had been selectively announced as the meeting with Ed Luttrell, National Grange Master, rescheduled from our snowed-out date in January. For those of you that have this date in your calendars be advised that there has been a change, due to Brother Ed's hectic travel schedule. As of our printing deadline, no new date has been set.

Upon the closing of Miller Grange in Temple, Grand Monadnock Pomona was left with only two Granges in its jurisdiction, so that Charter was revoked. To appreciate the sadness of this event, please read Pomona Master, Camilie Twiss' parting prose on page 3. Oddly enough, the same night that these two Granges closed, the first of a series of events occurred that resulted in the reorganization of Peterborough Grange #35. This exciting event has generated some very positive publicity for the Grange including NH Ag Commissioner Lorraine Merrill's uplifting article in a recent column of the Weekly Market Bulletin. Her article has been reprinted with permission on page 8 of this paper.

Besides the new members we've gained from Peterborough Grange, I've heard reports of several Granges that are also taking in new members. With just one month to go in this last quarter of the membership year, let's all work hard to make a net gain in membership for this quarter a reality. If ever it's going to happen, it will be now! Remember, if every Grange is responsible for bringing in one new member for each loss, it is a very manageable goal!

Support the Granite State Granger with your donation.



All About Youth Chris Heath

It's hard to believe that summer is now upon us, and the Grange year is half over. The Youth team has been busy providing activities for the Youth, attending Youth nights, and participating in many activities across the state. On April 19th, the Youth Team provided an activity table at the Family Fun Fair in Milford NH. This event is sponsored by Parenting NH and is open to the public for a nominal fee. The Team helped participants at the fair plant marigolds. These were gifts for the attendees to take home and plant in their yards. The table was crowded all day, and we handed out over 175 flowers to children aged 2 to 14. Many parents stated how much they like our table because it gives the children an activity to perform, and they reap the rewards all summer long. This is a great way to have public interaction and attract families to our organization.



Requiem for a Pomona Grange

[This essay was written and read by Camilie Twiss on March 11, 2008, when, due to the closing of Miller Grange in Temple, Grand Monadnock Pomona no longer had enough Subordinate Granges to meet charter requirements.]

It is with great sadness tonight that I witness the closing of Grand Monadnock Pomona Grange. As Master for the past several years, I feel some responsibility for what is happening. Responsible, yet unable to prevent the inevitable. I remember joining Grand Monadnock Pomona. I remember the honor of being the youngest Pomona Master in 1960 as I was embarking on my college career. The installation was performed by Scott Eastman and was held in the gymnasium of my high school, Appleton Academy.

The team would like to thank everyone who attended the Glow Bowling on April 19th. We were pleased to have youth from four states represented for the event (Rhode Island, Vermont, New York and NH). Youth who attended the pre-gathering were entertained with a Nintendo Wii and plenty of food. Seventeen youth bowled to raise \$150 dollars for the Caroline Hall Grangers Care project, and 75 percent of the contributions are given to a charitable organization. This year our donations will go to the New Hampshire Food Bank.

On May 16th, four members of the NH State Grange Youth and young at heart participated in the annual Tom Fairchild Friends of NH 4-H Golf Tournament. The tournament was held at the Canterbury Woods Country Club Golf course. The team consisted of Patrick Bailey, Bob Haefner, Mark Collins, and Chris Heath. A good time was had by all, and the Youth Team would like to thank the guys for representing the Grange.

Besides the upcoming Youth Nights listed on the State Grange web site (www.nhgrange.org), the next event on the schedule is June Youth Rally. The team worked hard at finding a facility to host us, but because of high costs and unavailability,

Back then twelve Granges made up our Pomona. They were: Monadnock (Dublin), Jaffrey, Silver Lake (Chesham), John Hancock (Hancock), Marshall P. Wilder (East Rindge), Trojan (Troy), Watatic (New Ipswich), Marlborough, Fitzwilliam, Miller (Temple), and Peterborough.

Grand Monadnock Pomona was established in 1952 with Raymon Willard as Master. Other Masters were Norman Eaves, Herbert Capron, Carroll Allen, Maurice Tuttle, John Perry, George R. Standley, Olive Bourque, George M. Standley, Leonard Twiss, and others I can't think of.

One by one the twelve Granges fell away and slowly our Pomona lost its lifeblood. Slowly we bled away like so many other Granges we have lost. We grieve tonight for our Pomona, and for Miller Grange. We remember with respect and love all the devoted Masters, officers, and members who added to the richness and scope of our Grange. We are thankful for the hands that set up the wonderful old halls,

we have decided to hold the rally at the New Hampshire State Grange Building. By now you should have received the information on the weekend. The Team hopes that there will be a good turnout for the weekend. Please see the schedule for events for the weekend and plan to come and enjoy some good Grange fun.

The weekend of July 11th through the 13th, a contingent of youth from New Hampshire will be attending the North East Regional Youth Conference. This year the conference will be held in Rhode Island. We are still awaiting information on this conference. Once the information is received, it will be sent out to everyone. Early rumors say there may be 4 teams competing in the Drill competition at this year's conference. The conference is also a great time for the youth to experience a regional conference and make some new friends in the process.

Due to the heavy precipitation earlier this year, the Team had to cancel our annual Moon Stomp. In its place the team has chosen to have a Harvest Party. The plan is to make it a day full of fun activities that the whole family will enjoy. More information will be coming out to let you know the location and schedule of events.

the hands that prepared the suppers and refreshments that strengthened our bodies and nourished our hearts, the hands extended in friendship and fraternity to all our members, the hands that drove cars full of members throughout the expansive area that was our Pomona.

It is impossible to mention each person who gave of themselves during the 56 years of our existence, but those of us who are here tonight remember them and thank them for their contribution to our history, and we apologize for letting our Pomona go.

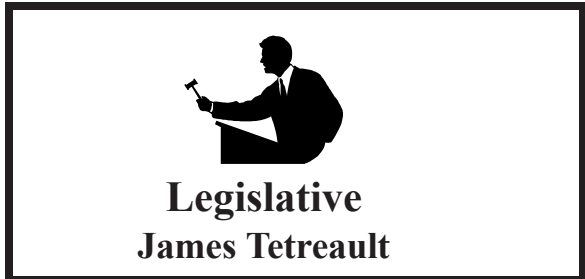
Taps

Fading light dims the sight, and a star gems the sky, gleaming bright; From afar drawing nigh, falls the night.

Day is done, gone the sun from the lake, from the hills, from the sky; All is well safely rest, God is nigh.

Thanks and praise for our days 'neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky; As we do, this we know: God is nigh.





I hope all the Grange members are enjoying the nice weather, which has finally come to us. On March 29th at the State Master's Spring Fling at the Fire Academy the Legislative Department hosted a Q&A session about the Legislative Department and Legislative affairs. We also hosted guest speaker Representative Henry A.L. Parkhurst of Winchester who talked about the importance of citizen input into the Legislative process. If you missed this event, you missed a lot.

Don't forget to be finding ways for your Grange to be involved in Legislative activities in your town. Most town meetings have finished.. Do you offer to provide a meal for your community election? Did you think to host a Q&A session for your town's warrant? Don't forget we have a state primary coming up in September and a presidential election in November.

In my previous letter I had announced a trip to the FDR Presidential Library. This trip is being postponed due to the cost. We are going to set it up for next year to hopefully offer some better prices to the members.

Don't forget to be working on resolutions. If you could have them to the State Secretary by August 1st that would be very helpful so we have time to properly review them. Also, we are asking you to provide your source material along with the resolutions.

Another reminder: Don't forget your submissions for the Bob Bodwell Award for Excellence. This is awarded to a Grange who contributes locally in the legislative field.

Don't forget that someone asked you to join the Grange. Have you asked anyone to join the Grange lately?

Treat the world well. It was not given to you by your parents. It was willed to you by your children.
— Kenyan Proverb

A Question to Ponder

by James Tetreault

Is the Grange entering into a new phase of existence? For so long we have talked about falling membership and Granges closing all around the state. But did you hear the news? **We have a rechartered Grange right here in New Hampshire!** Peterborough Grange #35 is again living in the town of Peterborough. New members have been obligated in Walpole, and Rockingham, so Granges are growing in NH. Is your Grange one of them?

Let's face it, with the economy going into a tailspin, gas prices at \$3+ per gallon, people are looking for simpler and more meaningful things to do with their time. **The Grange is what most of these people are looking for.** We all need to go out and ask people to join the Grange! We need to get out of our Grange halls and meeting locations and be seen being active in the community. Now I know some of you are sitting back and saying, "Well, our members are too old to participate in community activities." My own Grange has some of those issues as well, but we are going to be involved in a very important project for the town of Winchester. My town was awarded a community charrette, a community development grant which pays for facilitators who will work with the residents and town officials to help develop a plan to improve our town. Arlington Grange has been asked to put on a community dinner. Now we have the same problems that a lot of Granges do. Our work force is older and somewhat infirm, but we are reaching out to other community groups and to the school to give us a hand so we can participate in this project which is so important for our town. **You can do this, too.** Don't be afraid to ask. We are always afraid to ask for assistance. We think that if we can't do it on our own then we had better not attempt it. But, a little help can turn impossible into possible.



In May a team of some chosen Grangers met for training with Rusty Hunt, the National Membership Development Director, on how to help Granges boost membership. These people will be available in the future to help your Grange if you ask them. The list of trained people will be given to you at a later date either through The GSG or via the Grange email network.

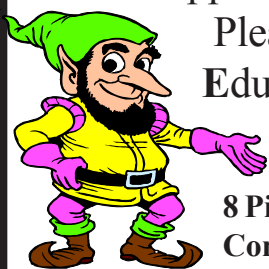
We are still working on Cornish Grange, but we are gaining members due to the reorganization of Peterborough Grange. It was great to see a positive article about the Grange in the Weekly Market Bulletin from the NH Dept of Agriculture. Hopefully that gets more people interested in seeking out a Grange to join. In order for them to find a Grange we need to let the community know that there is a Grange around. Hopefully some of you took my challenge last month and promoted the Grange in your community. I hope to read about some of the ways you accomplished this in the GSG so that others can glean hope and ideas from you.

Some Granges maybe taking the summer off from meeting, but I encourage you as individual members to wear Grange pins, put Grange bumpers stickers on your cars and continually talk up the Grange. Visit your local farmer's market and pass out applications. Carry a membership application with you at all times so that when someone asks you always have info for them. Ask them their name and telephone number so you can follow up with them later, and offer your name and telephone number so they can contact you with questions.

I cannot offer you a 'vacation in paradise' or anything like that for gaining members, but you can have the pride of knowing that you helped save an organization that you love. Till next issue.....happy membership questing!

Support the ELF!

Please send your
Educational Loan Fund
donations to:
Rodney Huntoon
8 Pine Acres Rd., Suite 808
Concord, NH 03301





Your State Grange Services Department offers great value added items for your Grange membership! Learn about them and use them!

Educational Loans of up to \$1000 per school year (up to a maximum of \$2000 outstanding at any one time) are available to members of a Grange or a Grange family in good standing. The interest rate is only 4% while the applicant is in school and 6% after completion of education.

Scholarship Grants, which do not have to be paid back, are available to anyone who has been a Granger for at least one year. A completed application with a letter of recommendation from an academic staff member, employer or manager from the applicant's place of work, or a member of the community and a letter from a Grange officer providing information about the applicant's involvement in Grange activities are needed. In addition, the applicant must provide a letter of intent stating his/her educational aims as well as a transcript of grades from the high school or college last attended (unless out of school for more than five years).

Applications for both Educational Loans and Scholarship Grants are due by July 1st. Those for Educational Loans go to Rodney M. Huntoon, 8 Pine Acres Road, Suite 808, Concord, NH 03301. Those for Scholarship Grants go to Lois Enman, 9 Blake Street, Rochester, NH 03867. Contact them for applications, too.

Don't forget that **National Grange offers terrific benefits, too!** They include discounts on Hertz car rentals, discounts on Beltone Hearing Aids, discount prescription cards through Scrip Pharmacy Solutions; discounts on stays at Choice Hotel Chain facilities, Grange credit cards, Grange Hall insurance, savings on log homes, and website hosting. Ask your Grange Services Department members for further information or visit www.nationalgrange.org.



Hudson Grange Honors Achievers

On April 22nd the members of Hudson Grange #11 observed Community Recognition Night to honor outstanding citizens who have made a difference in someone's life. Following the salute to the flag led by Claire Gagnon, the Reverend David Howe Chaplain of the Fire & Police Departments delivered an inspirational invocation. Pat Bailey, Flora of Hudson Grange, served as master of ceremonies, reading a Grange Month proclamation from the National Grange Master.

Treasurer Rick Bailey presented the Police Award to K9 Corps Officer Kevin Sullivan and his partner Akim. Often the K9 Corps is called upon to apprehend suspects that patrolmen cannot reach. The amount of time required is overwhelming. It's truly a sacrifice that isn't for everyone.

Secretary Pat Lawlor presented the Firefighter Award to Dean Sulin. FF Sulin has taken on the task of maintaining the fleet to assure they are in response-ready condition to serve the needs of our community. As an EMT he provides the highest care and compassion to Hudson citizens.

Master Jerry Leclerc, accompanied by Lady Assistant Steward Sarah Leclerc and Assistant Steward Matt Haefner presented the Teacher Award to Gerry Bastien. Sarah and Matt are both music students under Gerry's direction at Alvirne High School. In 13 years Gerry built the music program to include a marching band, a stage band, a concert band, and a jazz ensemble. He's known for his yearly Cabaret, Bronco Belly Bustin' Chili Festival, Community Holiday Concerts, and Local Parades.

Overseer Bob Haefner read the qualifications of Philip Rodgers and Alvin Rodgers for the Community Citizens Award. These brothers, now in their seventies, donated the estimated four million dollars needed to replace the outgrown 100

year old library that voters repeatedly rejected at town meetings. The only stipulation they placed on their offer was that the new library be named in honor of their parents George and Ella Rodgers. Both brothers are recognized as Melvin Jones Fellows, the highest award attainable in the Lions Club International. They served the Town of Hudson well, being instrumental in real estate development as well as volunteer work in town and state government. The brothers winter in Florida and had not yet returned to Hudson so their awards were presented to Robyn Rodgers who accepted it for her Uncle Philip Rodgers and to Gary Rodgers for his dad Alvin Rodgers.

Other dignitaries in attendance were Fire Chief Shawn Murray, State Senator Bob Clegg, Jane Heath representing Nancy Bean the NH State Grange Family & Community Chairman, and board members of the Friends of Music from Alvirne High School.

The door prize went to Donna Sulin. Socializing followed with light refreshments of cake and punch for all to enjoy.



Aurora Grange

On Wednesday, May 7, 2008, Aurora Grange #235 of Pittsburg welcomed Pittsburg School's chapter of Key Club to our meeting. The Key Club representatives explained their goals and projects to Grange members for this year's Grange Youth program. Everyone had a wonderful time interacting and asking each other questions, and we all found out that we share a lot of the same goals for community service. Seen here are the Key Club representatives with the banner that they made explaining their organization.

**More things grow in the garden
than the gardener sows.
— Spanish Proverb**

See you there!
Grange Family Weekend
June 27-29
Cornish Fairgrounds



Elaine Clough, winner of the baking contest for Mount Hope Grange in Landaff, with Nancy Bean, State Family & Community Director

Visit the State Grange Website at
www.nhgrange.org

Agate Election

At the April meeting of the Agate Past Masters Association officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: President Neil MacDonald, Vice President Anne Boisvert, Secretary Dot Haskins, and Treasurer Peg Winton. Ida Hutchins, outgoing president was elected to serve on the Board of Directors for three years. The meeting, hosted by Sqam Lake Grange of Ashland, began with a chicken pot pie supper put on by Lower Intervale Grange to benefit their building fund. The next Agate meeting will be on August 2 in Littleton.

Thank You

On behalf of the family of Claudia Boucher, we wish to thank every one for the cards and calls. Your thoughts and prayers were a comfort to us
 Jim Tetreault
 State Overseer

Grange Bulletin Board

Deadline

Send copy for the September issue of the Granite State Granger to Hannah West by August 8, 2008. Report on events of May, June, and July. Look ahead to October, November, and December.

Calendar of Events

- June 6-8 - Youth Rally, State Grange Building, Hooksett
- June 7 - Spotlight NH, 2 p.m., State Grange Building, Hooksett
- June 13 - Grange Day at the State House 11:45 a.m.
- June 14 - Public Supper Granite Grange, 23 Webster St., Milford, 5 p.m.
- June 21 - Degree Day, 1 p.m. Moose Lodge in Keene
- June 22 - NE Go to Church Sunday, 3 p.m. Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge, NH
- June 27-29 - Grange Family Weekend Cornish Fairgrounds
- July 11-13 - Northeast Youth Conference Exeter, RI
- July 12 - Public Supper, Granite Grange 23 Webster Street, Milford
- July 27 - NE Grange Building Trustees Meeting, West Springfield, MA
- August 1 - Fam. & Community Needlework Judging. Toys for Shriners, and Eastern States Items are due.
- August 2 - Agate Meets at Littleton, 6 p.m.
- August 4-7 - Northeast Lecturers' Conf. Farmington, Maine
- August 9 - Public Supper, Granite Grange 23 Webster Street, Milford
- Sept. 1 - Community Citizen entry due to State Lecturer
- Sept. 10 - Youth Reports due to State Youth Director
- Sept. 13 - Public Supper, Granite Grange 23 Webster Street, Milford
- Sept. 15 - Family & Community Reports due to State Director
- Sept. 12 - 28 - Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, MA
- Sept. 12 - Blueberry Pie Day at "Big E"
- Sept. 21 - Bus trip to "Big E"
- October 1 - Art, Photo, Create-a-Card, & Creative Writing entries due to State Lecturer

Granite Grange Suppers

23 Webster Street
 Milford, NH

5 to 6:30 p.m.

Adults - \$8.00

Children under 6 - \$4.00

June 14 (Open Mike)

Macaroni & Cheese

Hot Dogs, Cole Slaw

Ice Cream & Strawberries

July 12

Barbequed Chicken

Potato Salad, Green Salad

Watermelon

August 9 (Open Mike)

Lasagna and Salad

Brownies and Ice Cream

September 13

Meatloaf

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Corn on the Cob

Fruit Cobbler



Handiwork for Big E

Handmade items to be sold in the Grange Building at the Big E may be given to Nancy Bean any time before September 15.



Help a Brother or Sister in Need
 Consider a Donation to the NH State Grange Trust Fund

According to the provisions of the trust, half of the money you donate can be used for immediate needs and the remainder will go to increase the principal amount in the Trust. The greater the principal, the more interest is earned to be spent on the requests of Grangers in Need. This donation could well be added to the list of usual and customary donations for your Grange or for you as an individual.

Visit the National Grange website at
www.nationalgrange.org



“God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.”

Psalm 46, verse 1

New England Go-to-Church Sunday

June 22, 3 p.m.

Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge, NH

Thank You

I want to express our appreciation to all of the Grangers who sent thoughts and prayers to me and my family at our time of sorrow. They were a great comfort for us.

Mary Tyler



This is not a Grange event, per se, but we are going to have our 7th Annual “I Love Old Tractors” show at the Waterest Campground on Route 175 in Woodstock. This year, it will be on Saturday, July 19. The fun starts at about 9. There will be lots of old tractors, trucks, cars, engines, implements, working demonstrations of haying, blacksmithing, lumber planing, cordwood sawing and whatever else anyone brings. There is no admission charge and all are welcome. There is a tractor parade at 2 PM followed by a bluegrass jam session. The Knights of Columbus does a great job providing refreshments. Contact Lester or Ralph Bradley for further info. 745-8037 or 745-3188 Website for the campground is <http://www.waterestcampground.com/>



In this photo, taken on May 7, 2008, you see Eddie Evarts, Donna Gray, and Master Donald Mitchell. Donna is receiving her 65 year seal as a member of Aurora Grange #235 in Pittsburg. We thought this was a pretty special event.



In Memoriam

Roger Lord	GS	Aurora
Alice H. Sanborn	GS	Chichester
Edward Leslie	GS	Cocheco
Doris Taylor	GS	Cocheco
Barbara Woodbury		Contoocook
Sarah Jones	GS	Crown Point
Harold Yeaton	GS	Crown Point
Edna Clark		Daniel Webster
Ruth Pratt	GS	Daniel Webster
Richard Perkins	GS	Hampton Falls
Janet Kenny		Hampton Falls
Donald Moses		Harmony
Merle B. Jones	PM	Oak Hill
Robert S. Berry	GS, PM	Ocean Side
Gladys Harris	GS	Reunion
Glendon Nason		Reunion
Ardys Chase	GS	Rochester
Gordon Willey	GS	West Thornton
Alton Benton		West Thornton



A Trip to the Big E.

The deadline for the State Grange bus trip to the Eastern States Exposition on Grange Day, Sunday, September 21, 2008, has been extended to **August 15**. Payment will be due at that time. The cost is \$50.00, which includes transportation, admission ticket, and the tip for the bus driver. Meals are on your own.

There is only one pick-up at Concord Bus Depot at 7:30 a. m. promptly. The bus will depart from the Big E at 6 p. m. at the end of the parade.

Reservations may be made with Rodney Huntoon by e-mail to huntoon7@netzero.net (on the subject line please enter **Big E Trip**) or by phone to 224-4320. Checks should be payable to “New Hampshire State Grange” with a memo line entry of **Big E Trip**. Mail your check to Rodney Huntoon, 8 Pine Acres Road, Suite 808, Concord, NH. 03301-1843.

Come, let us have a great day at the Big E. At the current price of gas you can’t beat this deal!



At the April 28 meeting of Contoocook Grange, John H. West, National Chaplain, presented Overseer Dorothy Caruthers with a 75 year membership certificate. Following the presentation Mrs. Caruthers entertained those present with stories of her Grange activities over the years. She was Secretary of Contoocook Grange for many years and also served on Marion T. Jones’ installation team.

Open Mike

June 14th 6:30 P.M. TO ???

Granite Grange

23 Webster Street, Milford

This is in conjunction with Granite’s public supper which will be Macaroni and cheese, hot dogs, cole slaw; ice cream & strawberries. The meal is \$8.00 for adults & \$3.50 for kids under 6 years old. Open mike price is \$5.00. However , a combined ticket for both events is only \$10.00. Supper is held from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

A Hearty Grange Welcome to the Following New Members

Thomas Wolke	Blow-Me-Down
Alice B. Hilliard	Chichester
Kelly Voedisch	Lake Shore
Karin Tuck	Rochester
Linda Slate	Rochester
Spencer Farrell	Somersworth

List your Grange event On the NH Grange website.

**Contact Mark Collins:
mark-dianecollins@comcast.net**



The Family & Community Services Committee has already received donations of \$160.00. I wish to thank all the Granges that have sent in their donations so far. Please remember to make your check out to: NH State Grange F & C. Our committee is busy visiting Granges around the state for Awards Nights and Gingerbread Contest Nights. If you are one of the few Granges that have not received a visit from our committee, it could be that you are not having these nights, or that you forgot to send in your dates. We are not finished visiting, there are still more dates we plan to cover. It amazes me that gingerbreads can taste so different even if the same recipe is used! Yum! Yum! Yum!

Thank you very much for the response about the Gift Bags and Centerpieces we are sending to National Grange for the Banquet. You came through like true Grangers. Remember to get your Needlework Contest Entries to me by August 1st.

Many of you have been donating aluminum can tabs to the Family & Community Department. We pass them on to the Shriners for the recycling project to benefit their hospitals. Here is a thank you that Shelley Huntoon received in April:

Dear Friends,

The members of Bektash Shrine thank you for your support of our Aluminum Tab Collection/Recycling Project. As of March, 2007, over 573,526 pounds of tabs have been collected since the project's inception seventeen years ago. The collection of tabs has grown due to the efforts of so many people like you. Your donation of tabs has and will continue to benefit the children in the Shriners Hospitals For children Orthopedic and Burns Facilities. Your ongoing support is needed and appreciated. Remember, no amount is too small when the cause is so great!

**Sincerely yours,
Lee Calkins-Secretary
Bektash Shriners**

The State's Granges are Making a Comeback

[This article by NH Commissioner of Agriculture is reprinted from The Weekly Market Bulletin of April 23, 2008.]

We may be seeing yet another leading indicator of the reclamation of our rural values and heritage. Witness the reopening of the Peterborough Grange this month—which happens to be National Grange month. Membership in many local Granges has dwindled and aged in recent times, forcing several to close their doors and put their historic buildings up for sale. Even in Grange families, many members of recent generations have considered the Grange and its rituals to be a quaint cultural throwback.

Nonetheless, the nation's oldest agricultural organization, the Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, has a fascinating history. And on the state and national levels, the Grange has continued a strong legacy of advocacy for agriculture, families, and rural concerns. Timely front-burner issues include support for rural roads and infrastructure, rural telecommunications access, farmland preservation, regional dairy compacts, and rural school partnerships.

In keeping with recent trends of rediscovering rural and traditional cultural values, new Granges have been forming, and each year has seen the reorganization of several lapsed local Granges from Maine to California. Now it's New Hampshire's turn. State Master Beth Merrill of Antrim reports that the Peterborough Grange, defunct since 1969, had been officially closed in the early 1980s. Now an established group of farmers and backyard agriculturists has decided to reactivate the local Grange. One of the organizers, Brad Miller of Plowshare Farm in Greenfield, reports that over 30 people—ranging in age from 19 to late-60s—have attended meetings to discuss reorganizing the Grange. State Master Merrill obligated 17 charter members at a recent meeting of the Peterborough Grange, and more charter members were prepared to officially join this week. "It will be a very agricultural-oriented group," she reports.

"What intrigued and surprised me," Merrill says, "was that when they visited another Grange's meetings to see what meetings were like, they decided they wanted to create a traditional Grange with

all the rituals." The fraternal nature of the organization harks back to the experience of lead founder Oliver Hudson Kelley, a Boston-born politician, journalist and farmer who helped settle Minnesota. Sent into the South to aid the agricultural reconstruction at the end of the Civil War, Kelley found his ties as a Mason greatly helpful in a climate hostile to Northerners. He dreamed of founding a similar organization of farmers that would bond farmers together, and help reunify the country. Kelley's wife's niece Caroline Hall was an enthusiastic supporter and contributed some of the founding ideas—such as including women as equal members right from the beginning in 1867.

Grange symbols were drawn from field, farm and farm home, notes State Master Merrill. The ritual secrets and password were helpful in the Grange's work against the railroad monopolies, she adds. "We are an organization with secrets," Merrill explains, "*—not* a secret organization." Still, some local Granges, including Walpole's, have chosen to become 'Action Granges,' an innovative program responding to the needs and priorities of today's members. Walpole and other Action Granges have pared-down the rituals. Walpole Grange has seen significant membership growth, in recent years. "I just obligated five new members last Tuesday," Merrill notes, and more are on the way. The Walpole Grange has enthusiastically undertaken a buy-local education and resource project to inform community residents where and how to find farm produce and products. Merrill says seeing this kind of growth in membership and activity has been "very fun."

Grange leaders and locals are working on reorganizing a Grange in Keene at Stonewall Farm, and there is also interest in revitalizing the Cornish Grange. Matthew Haefner, a teen member of the Hudson Grange, wrote an article for the Granite State Granger newsletter outlining his ideas for energizing Grange youth activities. The state's Grange members, currently totaling about 2,800, will host the National Grange Convention in 2013—exactly 100 years after the last national convention was held in the Granite State.

Lorraine Merrill, Commissioner



Weiss Hired as Public Relations Consultant

The National Grange is pleased to announce the hiring of Richard Weiss as a Public Relations Consultant for the Communications Department. Dick was Chief Operating Officer of the National Grange from January 2002 to May 2007. For seven years prior to that, he was sole proprietor of The Weiss Consultancy, an issue management and communications firm. The Grange was a communications client from 1999 to 2002. Weiss was Senior Vice President for Public Relations from 1990 to 1995 at the National Dairy Board, the dairy industry's educational and promotional check-off program. From 1980 to 1990 he was Director of Public Relations for the National Paint and Coatings Association, the paint manufacturers' trade association.

Weiss has held marketing positions with consumer products companies such as the Keebler Company, Abbott Laboratories Consumer Products Division and the Alberto-Culver Company. He lived and worked in the Caribbean and South America for seven years.

Weiss is a graduate of Dartmouth College with a bachelor's degree in Spanish language and literature and an MBA from Dartmouth's Amos Tuck School of Business Administration. He has two daughters and six grandchildren.

Lana Wheeler Is Grange Month T-shirt Contest Winner

The National Grange is excited to announce the winner of the first annual Grange Month T-shirt Contest! The winner for 2008 is Lana Wheeler, from West Minot Grange #42 in Maine. Honorable mentions include Sheila Abels, Silvertown Grange in West Virginia, and John & Shirley Lawson, Rumford Grange #52 in Rhode Island.

Back in January, members were called upon to get their creative juices flowing by designing a t-shirt for the National Grange, which would include our

theme for the year, "Moving Forward." The winner would receive 2 tickets to the Celebration Banquet at the 2008 National Grange Convention in Cromwell, Connecticut; recognition in a future issue of The New Grange; one of their t-shirts signed by all of the National Officers; and the honor of knowing that Grangers across the country are wearing their shirt for Grange Month!

The National Grange received 23 entries from around the country, from Grangers of all ages. Lana's special edition design has been produced as a t-shirt that will be on sale through the Grange Store for \$12. To order t-shirts for your members, visit the Grange Store online at www.GrangeStore.org.

The National Grange Fills Position of Sales, Benefits, and Program Manager

The National Grange is pleased to announce the promotion of Samantha Johnson to the Sales, Benefits, and Programs Manager position previously held by DoriAnn Gedris. Samantha has worked at the National Grange office for the past year and a half as the Administrative Assistant to the Legislative and Marketing & Sales Departments. Samantha is excited by this opportunity and looks forward to this new challenge.

Samantha was born in Huntington, West Virginia, and grew up in Mobile, Alabama. She graduated from the University of Alabama with a history degree and received her graduate degree from American University in Washington, DC. To contact Samantha, please call 1-888-4-GRANGE, ext.109, or email her at sjohnson@nationalgrange.org.



Nancy Bean, Family & Community Director, with Roy Stone and Master Mark Collins of Park Grange in Cornish Flat. Roy is the winner of Park Grange's baking contest.

National Grange Membership Tip Be Positive

If you were to look into the mirror and take a look at your Attitude what would you see? If you put on your Grange glasses would you say you have a good attitude about the Grange? Would you say that you have a good attitude about the people in the Grange? What about its Officers/Leaders? What about its activities? Now it is time to face the cold hard truth: What do others see and hear when they look at you concerning the Grange?

Your Attitude is the single most important tool you have to convince people to join the Grange. Attitude is the foundation to all that we do in the Grange. We need to be positive, open and welcoming, and have that "can do" or "find a way" type of attitude. We need to be team focused and, most of all, have fun! If you say good things about the Grange, people are going to want to know more. If you say good things about your fellow Grangers, they will feel more comfortable when they come to Grange functions and Grange activities. If you act like you are having fun working for the Grange and have that satisfied feeling about your time spent at the Grange, others will not be so reluctant to participate with us in our activities.

Now when you ask them to join you have just eliminated any excuse they may have had about the organization. Then you can focus solely on them and their needs. You can tell them they are missing out on a lot of fun, fellowship, and making new friends. You can tell them that they too can feel that positive feeling of doing something good.

We choose our attitude every morning when we get up. We choose if we want to be kind, say "please", open the door for others, help some one, and turn in the wallet/purse we find at the mall. We can choose if we want to be happy in the face of adversity. We can choose if we want to speak positively about our Grange and Grangers and the Grange work we do.

So, when you are looking in the mirror and evaluating your attitude, ask yourself; "Would you like to join the Grange?" "Do you trust the Granger in the mirror?" Do you see a positive Grange image? Make the right choice every time you do or say something "Grange." **Be Positive!**

Has anyone seen my Grange?

by Gerald LeClerc

My Grange has been missing for quite a while. I'm not sure when I lost it and if anyone will even recognize it. I really miss it and hope that someday I'll find it.

My Grange was last seen years ago as an organization that not only cared for rural life and the community but also for one another. It was a large group of people that all worked together as a team to achieve a common goal. No one individual stood out, nor did one individual take all the credit for the work of the team. All ideas and suggestions were welcomed and seriously looked at. No idea or question was considered stupid or silly. Even the individual Granges worked together. **They were there to help each other and asked for nothing in return.** It was a force to be reckoned with.

My Grange had four degrees, used to teach our new members the lessons and importance of the seasons of the year. It also had a fifth degree that further taught the lesson of perseverance. These degrees used to be impressively conferred with pride at least once a year. Parts were always memorized and floor work was done as outlined. Few complaints could be heard about the degrees and those that were, were usually because someone was not happy with their own performance. There were times when candidates were blindfolded and led around the hall that represented a farm field. The sound or the suggestion of riding a goat was always hinted to the unsuspecting candidate. All this of course was done in fun and had been passed on for generations.

My Grange also had other ceremonies such as the annual Installation of Officers. This was usually the highlight of the year where my Grange would celebrate the passing of the gavel on to the new Master and the new slate of officers. It was time for renewal or rejuvenation. Anything was possible and the sky was the limit. This was usually an evening of elegance and sophistication. The ladies would wear long dresses and the gentleman their best suits. Grangers would travel for miles to celebrate with their Brothers and Sisters and then share in a bounty of homemade refreshments. No one ever left hungry.

My Grange used to be an exciting place to go to be with people who you could call friends or even consider a part of the immediate family. You went to meetings and events to be with these friends, not because you felt obligated or wanted to be seen. When attending events, the members used to be a full participant, not just a warm body in the room to meet the number requirements. Time was not important, and the need to get home to watch a favorite show was never an issue.

My Grange had many active Youth and Juniors who shared in the uniqueness of the organization. They never took any thing for granted. They earned recognition and were always willing to help. The youth of My Grange were eager to learn from the older members and never questioned authority. Respect for themselves and each other was a given and always observed. They were proud to be members and brought in many of their friends.

My Grange had a presence in the community. Everyone knew where the Grange Hall was, as it was used for many community events. You never heard, "What's the Grange?" If the community needed something done, you can be certain that My Grange was doing it.

So I ask you again, has anyone seen my Grange? It has to be out there somewhere!

Chichester Grange Celebrates 120th Birthday

Chichester Grange was organized on April 16, 1888. With this year's second meeting in April falling on the 16th a celebration was clearly in order. Guest speaker Larry Berkson told the Chichester Grangers about George R. Drake, the State Grange Deputy who persuaded Chichester to organize a Grange in 1888. Berkson had recently researched George R. Drake for the Pittsfield Historical Society's Hall of Fame and was able to provide many details about the energetic man who did much to advance the cause of the farmer in New Hampshire and beyond.

In honor of their special anniversary Chichester Grangers donated 120 dollars to the NH State Grange Trust, a fund which helps Grangers in need. The evening ended with ice cream and cake as refreshments.

Community Night at Mt. Pistareen

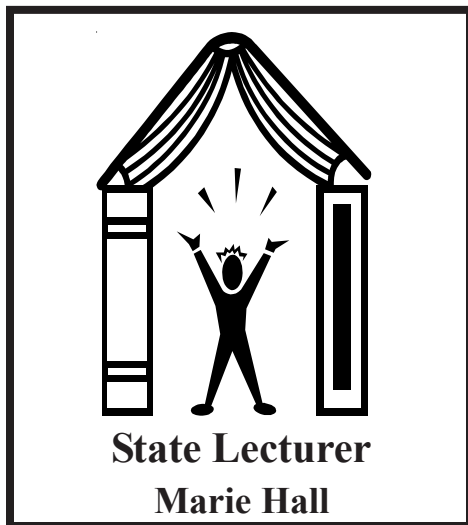
In celebration of national "Grange Month", Mt. Pistareen Grange of Spofford hosted its annual Community Night on Monday, April 8, 2008 at the Chesterfield Town Hall. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Grange's "Citizen of the Year" award to West Chesterfield couple Gary and Margaret Winn.

Over 120 people including family, friends, community members, NH State Grange Master Beth Merrill, and NH State Grange Deputy Kathy Yardley were in attendance to honor the Winns. Additional highlights of the Grange's Community Night included an opening flag ceremony led by members of Boy Scout Troop 286, a performance by the award-winning barbershop quartet "Stateline, and a Chocolate Bake-Off. Thanks to the help of volunteers from the Chesterfield Girl Scouts, the Grange also raised money for re-siding and painting of the Mt. Pistareen Grange building through a 50/50 raffle and spring bulb sale.

Mt. Pistareen Grange of Spofford has a long history and was incorporated in 1889 with the purpose of promoting and supporting the local agricultural community. Today, the group has over 25 members who participate in a number of community service projects including the National Dictionary Project, during which the Grange donates dictionaries to all third graders enrolled at Chesterfield and Westmoreland elementary schools. The organization also hosts food drives for Joan's Pantry, a Chesterfield food bank, participates in the New Hampshire DOT Sponsor-A-Highway program through the sponsorship of a 2-mile section of Route 9A along Spofford Lake, and hosts guest lecturers on a number of subjects.



Margaret & Gary Winn



With spring here, let's really move with Grange activities! Visit neighboring Granges, enjoy their activities, and help each other while you're at it. Invite State Officers to your meetings and make use of their many talents. Don't forget to encourage your own less-active members to come refresh their memories about what we have to offer. Publicize the good you do and the fun you have every chance you get.

Looking down the trail, don't forget the great contests you have available. The first one is the Talent Contest at 2:00 PM on June 7th during the Youth Rally and Spotlight NH being held at the State Grange Building in Hooksett. Contestants should arrive at least half an hour early, so we can go over the rules and settle on the order of appearance. It'll be a great day for fun, fellowship, and entertainment! The "Best of Show" talent winner will go on to regional competition during the Northeast Lecturers' Conference in Farmington, ME, expenses paid! It is your Talent Fund contributions which pay to help send the NH Talent Winner to the Lecturers' Conference and perhaps to National Grange as well, so urge your Grange to donate generously.

A highlight of the Lecturers' year is that great week of fun and learning with National Master Ed Luttrell, National Lecturer Judy Sherrod, National Membership Director Rusty Hunt, and the seven State Lecturers offering inspiring ideas and training in ways to make Grange ever more worthwhile and entertaining. New York will be joining us this year as we pool our resources in the Northeast Region. This year's program theme is "Bring Color into Your Life," and NH's show time will be Tuesday, August 5th, at 2:50 PM. Come




to help with the NH program, enjoy the antique tractor display scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, and stay for Northeast Night and the Talent Competition. Be sure to wear something purple! Remember, everyone is invited! You do NOT need to be a Lecturer. In fact, it's always amazing how much you can glean from everyone you meet at the conference! (Your local Lecturer has all the specifics. Just ask them.)

Other contests to enter are as follows. "Create a Card Contest," the "Photography Contest," the "Creative Writing Contest," and the "Art Contest," with all entries due to your State Lecturer by October 1st. Once again, your own local Lecturer has all the details about topics, materials, and rules, so contact them and show us what you can do!



NH Grange Trust Fund

This article is to inform the reader that the structure of the Trustees of the Trust fund has been revised (see State Master's column on page 2) and to remind the members that (limited) funds are available for help to those who may be in need. Assistance could be used to help pay for hearing aids, dentures, eyeglasses, medical bills or a number of other reasons. Guidelines and applications are available from any Trustee of the Grange web site (Form 301 and 302).

Because needs have been high, our available funds have decreased, and we are asking Granges and/or individual Grangers to consider a monetary donation to the Trust. Granges have been generous in giving to other charitable causes, and for that reason we ask that you think about directly supporting your Brothers and Sisters. Donations should be made payable to "New Hampshire Grange Trust" and sent directly to Gail Turcotte, Treasurer of both the State Grange and the Grange Trust.

Swedish Proverb


Fear less, hope more,
eat less, chew more,
whine less, breathe more,
talk less, say more,
hate less, love more,
and all good things
will be yours.


Granite Grange

Granite Grange #7 held a very successful Open Mike event on April 12th. There was almost standing room only with 9 performers entrancing their audience. This was the third such event for Granite Grange members. Bob Haffner played his dulcimer which was very enjoyable. Matt Haffner and a friend gave a marvelous display of their talents playing the trumpet. Other instruments played were the accordion, violin, piano. There were vocals, too. We all look forward to the next Open Mike on June 14th.

On April 19th Granite Grange #7 proudly hosted the 125th celebration of Hillsborough County Pomona #1. State dignitaries Beth Merrill, Nancy Bean, and John West congratulated Pomona members on their achievement and wished them well in the future. Pomona Lecturer Wally Hooper gave a history of Hillsborough County Pomona's activities throughout the years. We were entertained by a band from Wilton and enjoyed a meal after the festivities. Granite Grange wishes Pomona well in the future.



Sullivan County Pomona

The May meeting of Sullivan County Pomona Grange was held in Sunapee Lake Grange Hall in South Newbury. Deputy Carolee Barrett of Swansey was present.

This also was the occasion for the annual baking contest. Annie Whipple of Sunapee Lake won for the best Gingerbread.

The program highlight was a parade of fancy hats produced by various members with Lecturer Doris Newell offering comments on each one: Picnic hat - Laura Sevene; Vegetable Hat and Spring Hat - Frances Ward; Knitting Hat - Helen Lynam and Annie Whipple; Mouse Hat - Alice Gove; Record Hat - Edythe Craig; Coffee ring, Garden, and Beehive Hats - June Parkinson.

National Grange Convention 2008

Please visit the website at www.nationalgrange2008.com set up by the Connecticut State Grange in support of the National Grange Convention, which will be held in Cromwell, CT, November 11-15. You can log onto the site and sign up to receive notices whenever something new is added to the site.

In the spirit of regional harmony and cooperation, each of the seven states in the northeast has pledged to provide volunteers to assist with running the convention. New Hampshire's day is Monday, November 10th, which is prior to the official opening of the convention. In addition to volunteers needed for setup, office and staff help, and transportation assistance duties, we may also need to provide volunteers and light refreshments on Monday evening at a reception prior to the Welcoming Banquet. Each state is allowed to invite several members to attend this banquet non gratis, so the Monday volunteers from NH will be offered the specified number of tickets before they will be made available elsewhere. This is a by-invitation-only event. Please consider joining the team that will be responsible for providing the best ever convention to all who come to our region for the convention. You can find information on how to sign up as a volunteer on the convention website.

For a fundraising project, the CT State Grange has designed a beautiful 2008 National Grange Commemorative cotton throw, which features the Convention logo and the 7 state quarters from each of the states in the Northeast Region. At \$40 each, they are a wonderful keepsake gift to yourself or others, or could be raffled off to benefit a project for your own Grange. I have a limited supply, so if you are interested in purchasing one, please let me know.

Sarah Leclerc, of Hudson Grange, will be a trumpet girl in the conferral of the Seventh Degree. We congratulate Sarah on this honor and will look for her on stage at National Grange.

Please continue working on items requested by the Youth, Junior, and Family and Community departments, soliciting NH-made products to include in goodie bags, as well as your handmade, gold-themed Christmas tree ornaments, which should be submitted to State Master, Beth Merrill at the NH State Grange Convention.

More details will be forthcoming as the convention approaches. The convention won't be back in our region again until 2013, so mark your calendars and make plans to attend this special convention.

Pine Grove Grange

Pine Grove Grange #298 of Bath held their Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 22, at the Bath Village School. Over fifty children attended, as well as many parents. The Easter Bunny was on hand to meet all the children. Activities included cookie decorating, a coloring contest, guessing games, the Easter Egg Hunt and refreshments. Thirteen Grange members helped, and 1500 Eggs were stuffed.

On April 7, Pine Grove honored Irma Clough of Bath with a 75 year membership certificate. At the same meeting Pine Grove Grange awarded their 2008 Community Citizen Award to Regina Boucher, a long time Kindergarten and First Grade teacher at the Bath Village School.



Front: Debbi Fisher. First Row: (L-R) Christine Woods, The Easter Bunny (Robert Dean), and Albert Fisher. Second Row: Dawn Dean and Beverly Woods. Back Row: Walter Parker, Priscilla Parker, Bill Scott, Linda Lauer, Karen Fesler, Phyllis Lang and Sherry Foster. (Picture taken by Peter Kimball of the Bridge Weekly)

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