

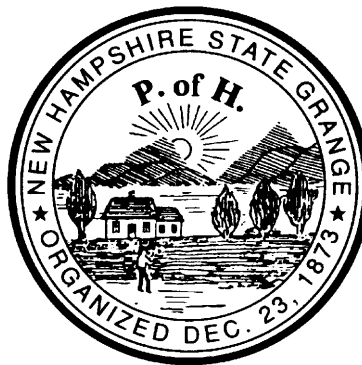
PROCEEDINGS

of the

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIXTH  
ANNUAL SESSION

**NEW HAMPSHIRE  
STATE GRANGE**

*Of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry*



Held in

Hampton Beach, NH

October 29, 30 and 31, 2009

Carolyn J. Ross, Secretary

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# STATE GRANGE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Organized December 23, 1873

Incorporated July 2, 1875

## ROLL OF HONOR PAST MASTERS

1873	Dudley T. Chase*	Claremont
1879	George A. Wason*	New Boston
1883	William H. Stinson*	Goffstown
1886	Charles McDaniels*	Springfield
1891	Nahum J. Batchelder*	East Andover
1903	Herbert O. Hadley*	Peterborough
1909	Richard Pattee*	Laconia
1913	Wesley Adams*	Londonderry
1917	Fred A. Rogers*	Meriden
1921	Herbert N. Sawyer*	Atkinson
1925	James C. Farmer*	Keene
1929	John A. Hammons*	Gilford
1933	Arthur W. McDaniel*	East Barrington
1937	William J. Neal*	Meredith
1943	Charles A. Rollins*	West Alton
1947	Charles R. Eastman*	Kensington
1953	J. Thornton Tripp*	Rochester
1955	George F. Clement*	Landaff
1959	Asa H. Morgan*	Bow
1963	Carl S. Adams	Lebanon
1967	John L. Saturley	Chichester
1971	E. Norris Hall*	Nashua
1975	Alton F. Carpenter*	Canaan, VT
1977	B. Franklin Hayes	East Rochester
1980	Philip A. Shattuck*	Brookline
1984	Everett H. Poore*	Littleton
1988	Philip J. Estes*	Rochester
1990	Paul W. Davis, Sr. †	Loudon
1994	Richard W. Patten †	Concord
1998	Daniel P. Bascom †	Rochester
2002	John H. West*	Chichester

\* *Deceased*

† *Present During Session*

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY  
ASHWORTH-BY-THE-SEA, HAMPTON BEACH, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**Thursday, October 29, 2009**

New Hampshire State Grange Officers marched in to officially open the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Session at 7:00 p.m.

State Master Beth Merrill called the session to order with the Grange opening in the Sixth Degree. The Grange was then lowered to the Fourth Degree. The roll call of officers found all present.

State Steward Chris Heath announced that National Representatives, Ed and Celia Luttrell were our honored guests in waiting. The Luttrells were escorted to the Master's Station. National Master Ed Luttrell brought greetings from the National office and Celia was asked for a quick greeting.

State Master Beth Merrill introduced our special guests from the State of Connecticut: Dan Mutchler, Master of New London County Pomona and State Agriculture Committee and Ron Purinton, Overseer of New London County Pomona.

The roll call of Granges found a quorum present.

State Master Beth Merrill called a brief recess to prepare for the Memorial Service.

The Grange was called back to order with the gates closed.

State Chaplain Matt Clark conducted the Memorial Service.

**Grange Memorial Service**

**Call to Worship:** ..... Psalm 121

**Remembering our troops:**

**Veteran's Day Tribute**

When America had an urgent need,  
These brave ones raised a hand;  
No hesitation held them back;  
They were proud to take a stand.  
They left their friends and family;  
They gave up normal life;  
To serve their country and their God,  
They plowed into the strife.  
They fought for freedom and for peace  
On strange and foreign shores;  
Some lost new friends; some lost their lives  
In long and brutal wars.  
Other veterans answered a call  
To support the ones who fought;  
Their country had requirements for  
The essential skills they brought.  
We salute each and every one of them,  
The noble and the brave,  
The ones still with us here today,  
And those who rest in a grave.  
So here's to our country's heroes;  
They're a cut above the rest;  
Let's give the honor that is due  
To our country's very best.  
*By Joanna Fuchs*

**We Walked Among the Crosses** ..... Matthew Clark

We walked among the crosses  
Where our fallen soldiers lay.  
And listened to the bugle  
As Taps began to play.

The Chaplain led a prayer  
We stood with heads bowed low.  
And I thought of fallen comrades  
I had known so long ago.

They came from every city  
Across this fertile land.  
That we might live in freedom  
They lie here 'neath the sand.

I felt a little guilty  
My sacrifice was small.  
I only lost a little time  
But these men lost their all.

Now the services are over  
For this Memorial Day.  
To the names upon these crosses  
I just want to say,

Thanks for what you've given  
No one could ask for more.  
May you rest with God in heaven  
From now through evermore.

### **Prayer for troops**

### **Service message:**

Let us pause and pay tribute to those who have left us for a while and remember:  
There is never a night without a day, nor an evening without a morning, and the darkest hour as the proverb goes, is the hour before the dawning.

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Delegates, Patrons all; as fall is coming to a close and winter is fast approaching, it is fitting that we should pause to pay tribute to the memory of our fellow workers, who, having finished their labors, have laid down their implements on earth, to enter the paradise, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. We know that our order is richer because they have lived and labored amongst us. May we be forever grateful for the heritage that is ours, and let us be worthy to carry on the work that they have so well advanced.

God, who made the world, set the example of labor and sanctified it and made it the necessity of his creatures. Every good thing that we now enjoy is the fruit of honest labor. We must recognize our debt to those who came before us and our obligation to carry on and enlarge the works they have established.

Our debt to the past can only be paid to the future. The close ties of fraternity that have long existed in our Order make it perpetual. The loyalty that comes from working together, the fraternal handclasp, and the personal sacrifice create ties of friendship that are lasting and sincere.

As we recall the memory of those no longer with us, it should not be in a spirit of mourning, but rather of thankfulness that we were privileged to have known them and to have worked with them. Death is not the end. Our faith tells us that our friends have not ceased to exist, they have only passed from one life to another, for; somewhere back of the sunset, where loveliness never dies, they live in a land of glory, with the blue and gold of the skies.

**Song:** ..... "Mansion over the Hilltop"

The Flower tribute was led by State Flora Diane Collins, assisted by State Executive Committee Chairman Donald Ross. State Ceres Kathy Yardley and State Pomona Rachel Bailey lighted candles, as State Secretary Carolyn Ross read each name of our departed members.

**2009 MEMORIAL LIST**

Gilman #1	Jeanne G. Higgins	Past State Secretary, Pianist, Membership Director & Special Pomona Deputy Past Master East Rockingham Pomona #11 Past Master Ocean Side #260 & Gilman #1
Aurora #235	Donald Mitchell	Master Aurora #235
Aurora #235	Donna Gray	Past State Youth Committee, Past Master Aurora
Baker's River #290	Anbarth Andersen	Past Subordinate & Special Deputy Past Master Grafton County Pomona #13 Past Master Rumney # 188
Blackwater #152	Frances Huntoon	Past Master Blackwater #152
Chichester #132	Scott Edmunds	Past Master Chichester #132
Ocean Side #260	Margaret Barker	Past Master Winnicutt #170
Ocean Side #260	Mary (Hale) Howe	Past Master Ocean Side #260
Reunion #303	Eugene F. Nute	Past Master Nute Ridge #316
Rochester #86	Constance Rippet	Past Master Banner #265
Rochester #86	Sumner H. Foss	Past Master Rochester #86
Sunapee Lake #112	Arlene Bagley	Past Master Sunapee Lake #112
Sunapee Lake #112	Frances Ward	Past State Fair Committee Chairman & Contact Comm. Past Master Sullivan County Pomona #9 Past Master Sunapee Lake #112
Walpole #125	Phyllis Howard	Past State Home Economics Committee Past Master Cheshire County Pomona #6 Past Master Silver Mountain #196
Wattannick #327	David Wells	Past Master Wattannick #327
Wingold #308	Benjamin Condran	Spouse of Past Master Florence Condran, Wingold #308
Winthrop #315	Joan Wilson	Spouse of Past Master David Wilson, Northern NH Pomona #5 & Winthrop #315

**Reading:** ..... One By One

One by one the links are severed, from the golden chain of love  
 One by one our Grange is forming, in the Master's house above.  
 Let our deeds be pure and noble, may our lives be not in vain;  
 So that when the links are welded, complete again will be our chain

**Song:** ..... "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

**Closing prayer**

State Chaplain Matthew Clark thanked everyone who assisted with the Memorial Service.

Hugh Clark was escorted to the altar and was presented with a Past State Chaplain pin and a Chaplain Emeritus sash by State Master Beth Merrill. Hugh was asked to give some words of wisdom.

After the Memorial Service was concluded State Master Beth Merrill asked all first time delegates to approach her station. Jim Brady – Jeremiah Smith, Lucy Woodes – Hampton Falls and Allissa Estes – Eastern NH Pomona were escorted to the Masters station and presented with an Anniversary plate.

State Master Beth Merrill then recognized all past delegates to National Session. Escorted to her station were:

Carl Adams..... 1963 – 1967  
 Paul & Rhoda Davis ..... 1990 - 1994  
 Dan & Kim Bascom ..... 1998 – 2002  
 Hannah West ..... 2002 – 2006

Master Beth Merrill thanked all past delegates for their years of service.

State Master Beth Merrill called a short recess to make preparations for the Conferral of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree under the direction of Deputy Ralph Russell, Sr.

### Conferral of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree

Master	Ralph Russell, Sr	Henry Wilson
Overseer	Judy Bailey	Rochester
Lecturer	Joan Garland	Henry Wilson
Steward	Kim Bascom	Rochester
Assistant Steward	Dan Bascom	Rochester
Lady Assistant Steward	Anne Boisvert	Chichester
Chaplain	Arlene Fall	Somersworth
Treasurer	Dana Hall	Gilman
Secretary	Frances Towne	Joe English
Gatekeeper	Howard Towne	Joe English
Ceres	Grace Leone	Rochester
Pomona	Rhoda Davis	Pembroke
Flora	Dot Haskins	Daniel Webster
Musician	Lester Gibbs	Grafton Star
Soloist	Donald Ross	Wingold
Harvest Gleaners	Wilber & Jane Heath	Centennial
	Bob & Jane Trombi	Warren Pond
	Chris Heath & Ann Leger	Centennial & Winthrop Grange
Marching Candidates	Jim Brady	Jeremiah Smith
	Lucy Woodes	Hampton Falls

State Master Beth Merrill announced that the Convention Theme was TEAMWORK. *“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”* by Helen Keller.

A teamwork video was shown, illustrating various points of teamwork.

### Lecturer’s Program

State Lecturer Marie Hall said that there is no such thing as “I” in teamwork.

Lesson in teamwork – ACHOO led by State Lecturer Marie Hall

Song #11 – “Pass It On,” sung by all

Chris Heath was the narrator for a driving skit, assisted by the following:

Larissa Grant, Bob Trombi, Greg Trombi, Allissa Estes, Norman Brandt, Marty and Ann Boisvert, Judy Bailey, Matt Clark and our Connecticut guest – Dan Mutchler.

State Lecturer Marie Hall showed all how to make the sounds of a rainstorm.

#### Announcements:

- ❖ A teamwork contest is being run throughout State Session.
- ❖ Release forms need to be signed by those participating in the Patron’s Plunge.
- ❖ There will be a Silent Auction as a fundraiser at this State Session.

- ❖ Flora's Court will be decorated tonight. *Many hands make light work!*
- ❖ Greg Trombi is celebrating his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday today.
- ❖ Special Session Coordinator Ken Berry said that the breakfast tickets are based on the night you checked in. The café will open at 6:00 AM on Friday and you will need a ticket to get your breakfast.
- ❖ DO NOT park at the Kentville Hotel! Your car WILL BE TOWED!
- ❖ Teamspeak is on the fourth Thursday of the month, and is usually hosted by National Master Ed Luttrell.

The first day of the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the New Hampshire State Grange closed at 9:15 PM.

### **Friday Morning, October 30, 2009**

The second day of the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the New Hampshire State Grange was called to order at 8:30 AM. Roll call of officers found all present. The roll call of Granges found a quorum present. The minutes of the Thursday evening session were read and approved by the delegates.

State Master Beth Merrill recognized Ed and Celia Luttrell, National Master and the first lady of the National Grange as our honored guests.

Also introduced was Walter Elwell, Co-chairman Director of Agriculture from Rhode Island and Norma Elwell, Co-chairman Director of the Agriculture Committee.

The National Masters official message was seen on a video.

State Master Beth Merrill announced the following session committees:

**Master's Address Committee:** Norman Brandt, Chairman, Jim Brady, Vicky Hussman and Frances Towne.

**Credentials Committee:** Pat Izzo, Chairman, Lucia Savage and Ken Berry.

**Resolutions Committee:** Rick Bailey, Chairman, Wayne Turcotte, Anne Boisvert and Arthur Merrill.

**Parliamentarian:** Donald Ross

### **New Hampshire State Grange 2009 Resolutions**

**Resolution #1 – Submitted by Hudson Grange #11**

**Subject: Support of New Hampshire Dairy Farmers**

**WHEREAS:** The NH Dairy industry is the anchor of NH Agriculture, which not only supports rural communities, but enhances other sectors of agriculture, providing open space for recreation, sportsmen and women, and tourism; and

**WHEREAS:** The Dairy industry provides an economic impact of an estimated \$1400 per cow per year, primarily in the local economy; and

**WHEREAS:** The lack of stable prices, concentration of process and capacity, outdated regulations and labor shortages are creating a crisis in the industry; and

**WHEREAS:** a significant loss of capacity would create a dependence on foreign or out of region milk and other dairy products and reduce our food security; and

**WHEREAS:** The NH dairy farmer generally has smaller herds than much of the country because of geography and higher costs than some parts of the country because of the New England weather, and

**WHEREAS:** The 2008 Farm Bill creates a review process for Federal Milk Marketing orders;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The Hudson Grange and the New Hampshire State Grange urge our Congressional Delegation and the Administration to acknowledge the importance of the Dairy industry to New Hampshire:

- Funding and implementing the federal milk marketing order study as outlined in the 2008 Farm Bill with regional representation from Producers and state policy makers; and
- Implementation of tariffs on foreign dairy solids; and
- Setting of regional prices to reflect accurately and realistically the cost of production; and
- Addressing the problems of labor shortages in the dairy industry by providing training and education as well as a fair and sensible approach to imported labor; and



**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to our Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Chair of the NH House and Senate Agriculture Committees, the NH Commissioner of Agriculture and the NH Farm Bureau.

**Resolution #2 – Submitted by Rochester Grange #86**  
**Subject: Associate Membership**

**WHEREAS:** The original intent of the Associate Membership was for a person or business whose interest in the Grange was primarily financial support of that Grange, and

**WHEREAS:** National Grange has no distinction between individual and business Associate membership:  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that Article XII, Section 4 – Associate Membership of the By-Laws of New Hampshire Granges be deleted and replaced with:

Section 4 – Associate Membership

A person or business with an interest in the advancement of agriculture and improvement of rural life may become an Associate member. Such a member shall be entitled to receive Grange information, the *Granite State Granger*, and any other Grange services determined upon by the State Executive Committee. Application can be made to any Subordinate or Pomona Grange or directly to the State Grange if the applicant so chooses. In such cases the State Executive Committee will be empowered to act on the application.

When application is made, the application fee, \$5.00 minimum, will be collected. The Annual dues for Associate members will be \$50.00 per year (\$20.00 for the Subordinate or Pomona, \$20.00 for State, \$10.00 for National). Dues will be collected in the same manner as regular dues. At least 50 percent of the State portion of the Associate dues collected will go to support the *Granite State Granger*.

The State Secretary will provide applications for Associate memberships. Applications for Associate membership will be accepted and voted on in the same manner as regular membership. However, Associate members cannot attend any closed meetings, hold office, have voting rights, or participate in any Grange sponsored contests that are designed for Grange members only. Associate members are not allowed to receive any degrees (Subordinate, Pomona, State or National) unless they apply for regular Grange membership, which they may do at any time. An Associate member applying for membership in a Subordinate Grange shall have their application fee waived.

Associate members are subject to all laws, rules and regulations in the Constitution and Bylaws of the New Hampshire State Grange and the *Digest of Laws of the National Grange*.

**Resolution #3 – Submitted by Rochester Grange #86**  
**Subject: Subordinate Family Membership Dues**

**WHEREAS,** the Delegates at National Grange increased the amount of Subordinate dues payable to National Grange effective January 1, 2010;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** the dollar amounts in the NH State Grange Bylaws Article XIV, Section 3 – Duties and Rights of Members, Division 1, page 12 be changed and the wording clarified to read: “The minimum regular annual dues in a Subordinate Grange shall be \$20.00 (\$20.00 paid to the State Grange of which \$12.00 goes to National Grange) paid in advance, and each Grange may otherwise regulate its own dues. The minimum dues required of a family unit membership are \$40.00 (\$40.00 paid to State Grange of which \$24.00 goes to National Grange). A family unit membership is defined as consisting of three or more Subordinate Grange members with one or two parents and their dependents, which are under the age of 23 and live in the same household or are absent due to illness, education, or military service.”

**Resolution #4 – Submitted by Rochester Grange #86**  
**Subject: NH State Grange Non-voting Members**

**WHEREAS,** The National Grange Bylaws state in Chapter 4, Article VI, 4.6.9 (B) page 18, “Non-voting members – All Fourth Degree members in good standing of active Subordinate Granges who have received the Sixth Degree and are within the jurisdiction of a State Grange shall be non-voting members of such State Grange”, and

**WHEREAS**, the NH State Grange Bylaws Article III Members page 3 states “The Membership of the State Grange shall consist of the Masters and Past Masters of the Subordinate and Pomona Granges and their wives or husbands who are Patrons”, **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NH State Grange Bylaws Article III Members page 3 be changed to read “The Non-voting Membership of the State Grange shall consist of all Fourth Degree members in good standing of active Subordinate Granges who have received the Sixth Degree and are within the jurisdiction of the NH State Grange.”

**Resolution #5 – Submitted by Park Grange #249**

**Subject: Return to Agriculture Awards**

**WHEREAS**, the cost of fertilizer and transporting food is skyrocketing, and  
**WHEREAS**, as NH can grow most of its own food according to NOFA, and  
**WHEREAS**, landowners are more motivated to sell off land for housing developments thus losing valuable agricultural land,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**: that the NH State Grange collaborates with other agricultural organizations like NOFA-NH, NH Farm Bureau or the Extension Service to present awards in each county through the Pomona Granges to landowners who return their land to organic/sustainable agriculture.

**Resolution #6 – Submitted by the NH State Grange Executive Committee**

**Subject: Second Delegates at National Grange**

**WHEREAS**, the New Hampshire State Grange is entitled to two voting delegates at the National Grange, and  
**WHEREAS**, the By-laws of the New Hampshire State Grange do not address how a second delegate should be chosen if the State Master is not married, or if the State Master’s spouse is unable to attend the National Grange Convention,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New Hampshire State Grange By-laws be amended by adding Article IX, Sec. 6, “If the State Master is not married, or the State Master and/or the State Master’s spouse is unable to attend National Grange Convention, the Executive Committee will select the alternate and/or second delegate to represent New Hampshire at the National Grange Convention.”

**Resolution #7 – Submitted by Antrim Grange #98**

**Subject: Industrial Hemp on Pine Ridge Reservation**

**BE IT RESOLVED**: that the NH State Grange become a signatory to the following petition to be sent to US President Barack Obama, and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**: that the petition be forwarded to the National Grange for its consideration: We the following groups and individuals urge you, President Obama, to support, by all means possible, the Oglala Sioux nation on the Pine Ridge Reservation in their efforts to grow, harvest and sell industrial hemp in accordance with the signed treaties of 1851 and 1868 with the U. S. Government in order to supply employment to the indigenous peoples whose current unemployment rate is upwards of 85%.

**Resolution #8 – Submitted by Antrim Grange #98**

**Subject: Alcoholic Beverages at Grange Halls**

**WHEREAS** the current Article 10.11.1 in the National Grange Digest states that ‘All Granges are prohibited from having alcoholic beverages either in the Grange Hall or on any Grange property during any Grange meeting, nor can any Grange lease or rent its hall or its property for functions that may include the sale or use of alcoholic beverages or for any other purposes prohibited by Grange Law; except that a State Grange may allow the use of alcoholic beverages at functions other than Grange meetings in the Grange Hall or on any Grange property by vote of the State Grange at its Annual Meeting.”  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**: that Article 10.11.1 be amended to read: “All Granges are prohibited from having alcoholic beverages either in the Grange Hall or on any Grange property during any Grange meeting. Granges that meet in buildings or on property not owned by the Grange may not allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages during any Grange meeting.” and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the following articles be added to this section of the National Grange Digest:

*Article 10.11.2* "All Granges are prohibited from having alcoholic beverages either in the Grange Hall, on any Grange property, or any other venue that the Grange has legal use of during any Grange sponsored activity; except for activities that are designed to promote the portions of agriculture that include the production of alcoholic beverages."

*Article 10.11.3* "All Granges may have original-sealed containers of alcoholic beverages at Grange meetings and activities for use as demonstration aides, gifts, or fund raisers. Such containers shall remain sealed at such Grange meeting or activity.

*Article 10.11.4* "No Grange shall lease or rent its hall or its property for functions that will include the sale or use of alcoholic beverages or for any other purposes prohibited by Grange Law; except that a State Grange may allow the use of alcoholic beverages at functions other than Grange meetings in the Grange Hall or on any Grange property by vote of the State Grange at its Annual Meeting, or by vote of the State Grange Executive Committee."

*Article 10.11.5* "No Grange shall apply for or hold a license to sell or serve alcohol."

**RESOLUTION #9 - Submitted by State Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Federal Food Safety Legislation**

**WHEREAS**, the House of Representatives of the United States has passed H.R. 2749, The Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, The Council of State Governments' Eastern Regional Conference (CSG/ERC), and its affiliate the Northeast States Association for Agricultural Stewardship (NSAAS), recognize that American consumers deserve the safest food possible, whether domestic or imported; and

**WHEREAS**, although the U.S. food production system is among the best in the world, we understand that improvement is a critical goal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northeast's rural communities are made up of many small farms that have been successfully adding value and diversifying; and

**WHEREAS**, diversification has resulted in producers adding processing and marketing to their activities; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of Northeast food producers to maintain the confidence of consumers that their food is safe; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recognized that both state and federal fiscal resources are limited and should be utilized efficiently and wisely to ensure food safety without unduly impeding economic activity; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New Hampshire State Grange urge Congress to consider the unintended consequences of a one-size-fits-all fee system on small value added producers and processors; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that existing USDA regulations on farmers continue to exempt farms from additional Food and Drug Administration regulations and inspections; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that producer operations registered with the Department of Homeland Security as facilities, specifically maple sugar and honey, should receive the same treatment as all farmers under federal food safety legislation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the inclusion of intensive record keeping in any federal regulation should include funding and technical assistance to small producers and processors for compliance; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that scale appropriate regulations, fees and penalties be included in any federal food safety legislation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that existing state inspection programs should be given consideration in the development of any federal food safety regulations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all members of the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee, the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee, all members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House Agriculture Committees, each member of the U. S. Senate and House that represents the states that comprise CSG/ERC, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Food and Drug Administration, and the chairs of the Northeast states' House and Senate Committees that oversee agricultural and rural affairs.

**RESOLUTION #10 - Submitted by the State Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: State Efforts for the Dairy Industry**

**WHEREAS**, the consumer demand for fresh milk products in the Northeast has been sufficient to sustain a dynamic and stable industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the dairy industry is a keystone industry in the Northeast, providing open space for recreation, sports, tourism, water recharge and wildlife areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the dairy industry provides direct economic impact of an estimated \$14,000 per cow per year, serving as an anchor for all Northeastern agriculture, rural communities and economics; and

**WHEREAS**, outdated federal policies and the consolidation of both cooperatives and processors have resulted in an economic crisis for the nation's dairy farmers and threatens the region's food security, and

**WHEREAS**, the Northeast has lost more than 30% of its dairy farmers in the last decade;

**WHEREAS**, the farm gate price for milk has collapsed by more than 50% from one year ago, in part because of continuing flaws in federal policy; and

**WHEREAS**, farmers now face prices that are less than half the cost of production; and

**WHEREAS**, assumptions that the milk price collapse is related to a surplus of milk in the market are not supported by data that show the U.S. importing record amounts of product and increased commercial disappearance; and

**WHEREAS**, Northeast states have been proactive and innovative in responding to the continuing volatility in the pricing of milk with programs providing direct producer support, farmland preservation, business planning assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, states are facing a fiscal crisis and cannot continue to fund many of the programs needed to prevent the collapse of the dairy industry;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The New Hampshire State Grange, urge Northeast state policy makers to work toward developing state milk pricing policies similar to Pennsylvania and Maine, that capture funding from the marketplace, rather than state general budgets, when federal policies fail; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The New Hampshire State Grange urge Northeast state policy makers to ensure that state law identifies that ownership of milk changes when milk is comingled with milk from other farms; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The New Hampshire State Grange urges Northeast state policy makers to review processes in which farms are charged for hauling product that they no longer own, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the chairs of the Northeast states Senate and House committees that oversee agriculture and rural communities, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretaries and Commissioners of Agriculture that represent the states that comprise the CSG/ERC.

**Resolution #11 - Submitted by the State Legislative Committee**

**Subject: Federal Response to the Economic Crisis of the Dairy Industry**

**WHEREAS**, the dairy industry is a keystone industry in the Northeast region, providing open space for recreation, sports, tourism, water recharge and wildlife areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the dairy industry provides a direct economic impact of an estimated \$14,000 per cow per year, serving as an economic anchor for all Northeastern agriculture, rural communities and economies; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of stable prices and concentration of processing capacity are creating a crisis in the industry; and

**WHEREAS**, a significant loss of dairy farmers would create dependence on imported milk and other dairy products and reduce our region's and nation's food security; and

**WHEREAS**, there is broad public concern in the assurance of stable supplies of locally produced fluid milk for all of the Northeast; and

**WHEREAS**, in the year 2000, the U.S. Department of Agriculture changed the historical basis for pricing milk to one that uses Chicago Mercantile Exchange prices and National Agricultural Statistics Service surveys, neither of which is free market nor acceptable to processors or farmers from the Northeast; and

**WHEREAS**, there are essentially only two cooperatives operating in the region and the milk processing industry is dominated by two companies, creating unhealthy concentration in the processing of milk in the Northeast; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northeast has lost more than 30% of its dairy farmers in the last decade; and

**WHEREAS**, the farm gate price for milk has collapsed by more than 50% from one year ago; and

**WHEREAS**, farmers now face prices that are less than half the cost of production; and

**WHEREAS**, assumptions that the milk price collapse is related to a surplus of milk in the market are not supported by data that show the U.S. importing record amounts of product and increased commercial disappearance; and

**WHEREAS**, Northeast states have been innovative and active in responding to the continuing volatility in the pricing of milk with programs providing direct producer support, farmland preservation, and business planning assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these efforts have been hampered by downturns in state budgets and continuing flaws in federal milk policy; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the New Hampshire State Grange urge the Congressional and Executive Branches of the federal government to recognize their primary responsibility of sustaining the viability of dairy farming in all regions of the United States and thereby assure consumers of an adequate, local supply of fluid milk through the economic sustainability of our nation's dairy farmers; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the New Hampshire State Grange urge Congress and the Executive Branch to ensure that all dairy producers receive, with reasonable advance notice, the information related to any referendum on the Federal Milk Marketing Orders and have the opportunity to cast individual ballots on such referendum; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the New Hampshire State Grange urge Congress and the Executive Branch to require Milk Protein Concentrates (powdered milk products), regardless of their country of origin, to meet and document the same quality, animal health, inspection and production standards as U.S. products; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the New Hampshire State Grange urge Congress and the Executive Branch to cooperatively address changes to the Federal Milk Marketing Order that returns consideration of regional costs of production in the federal milk pricing formula as provided by the 1937 Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act section 608 I as well as the actual consumer price of milk, acknowledging that this policy change would be at no cost to consumers and save taxpayers money on MILC payments, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the New Hampshire State Grange urge the Department of Justice and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to pursue renewed inquiry into the concentration in the milk processing sectors of the Northeast industry and to determine whether anti-competitive conduct is working to the detriment of producers and consumers, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the New Hampshire State Grange urge the Attorneys General of the Northeastern states to review the concentration in the dairy industry within their state borders for possible antitrust action and provide such information to the U.S. Department of Justice, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the U.S. Department of Justice, the Commodity Futures Exchange Commission; the chairs of the Northeast states Senate and House committees that oversee agriculture and rural communities, each member of the U.S. Senate and House that represent the states that comprise the CSG/ERC and the Attorneys General that represent the states that comprise the CSG/ERC.

#### **RESOLUTION #12 - Submitted by Cheshire County Pomona #6**

**Subject: Single Payer Health Care**

**WHEREAS**, the cost of healthcare is rising 6% every year, and there are over 40 million Americans currently without health insurance, and

**WHEREAS**, the current system of health care in America is subsidizing insurance companies who make money by not providing health care, and

**WHEREAS**, the health insurance industry spends billions of dollars in political campaign contributions and in lobbying Congress and administration officials, protecting their stronghold over Congressional Committees and the testimony they are allowed to hear, and

**WHEREAS**, true health care reform should cover everyone and maintain fiscal integrity without subsidizing insurance and pharmaceutical companies and breaking our nation's bank,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the NH State Grange and the National Grange support legislation that would expand Medicare and create a not for profit, Single Payer System that provides affordable health care to every American.

#### **Resolution #13 - Submitted by Cheshire County Pomona #6**

**Subject: Casino Gambling**

**WHEREAS:** The State of New Hampshire is struggling financially through this recession and we have a revenue problem rather than a spending problem; and

**WHEREAS:** Neither the Legislature nor the Governor have the political courage to enact either a sales or income tax to ease the burden on property tax owners, and continue to enact fee increases on the general public to ease the budgetary problems; and

**WHEREAS:** Casino gambling or off-track betting has the potential of generating up to three hundred million dollars in revenue for the State of New Hampshire;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the New Hampshire State Grange go on record as being in support of casino gambling and make it one of our legislative priorities for the next legislative session.

**Resolution #14 - Submitted by Arlington Grange #139**

**Subject: Veterans Designation**

**WHEREAS,** veterans who were disabled in the first Gulf War and the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, by statute RSA 261:157, do not qualify for disabled veterans' plates nor waiver of the registration fees; and

**WHEREAS,** Servicemen and women who have become disabled in the service of their country deserve the same rights and privileges as men and women who served in earlier conflicts and wars,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the New Hampshire State Grange support and seek a change to RSA 261:157 to include disabled veterans of the Gulf War as well as the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Resolution #15 - Submitted by Hudson Grange #11**

**Subject: Encourage School Districts to Participate in Agriculture in the Classroom and/or Farm to School**

**Whereas:** NH Farms are small businesses that hire local people, pay taxes and contribute to NH's economy.

**Whereas:** NH Farms provide safe, fresh, good tasting, and nutritious, local foods.

**Whereas:** NH Farms provide open space at no cost to the taxpayers.

**Whereas:** NH Farms protect the environment.

**Whereas:** NH Children need to learn good nutrition choices.

**Whereas:** NH Children need to know where their food comes from.

**Whereas:** NH Children need to taste the difference between fresh local and other foods.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Hudson Grange # 11 and the NH State Grange encourage all school districts in the state of NH to adopt elements of the Agriculture in the Class Room and / or a Farm to School Program. That may include all or some of the following:

- Classes visit Farms: Dairy, Fruit, and Vegetables
- Farmers visit schools to explain what they do.
- Teach agriculture techniques, as part of the science curriculum.
- Teach healthy nutrition choices
- Learn to identify fresh foods
- Jr. Iron Chef Competition using local foods
- Cafeteria that features local foods, buy during the summer and preserve for winter use.
- An all NH Food day
- Target elementary, middle and high school ages.

The State Secretary read three resolutions that were presented to her at session.

**Resolution #16 - Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**

**Subject: Oversight of Farm Products**

**WHEREAS** the Farm Safety Act, HR 2749 has been passed by the House of Representatives and is in Senate Committee, and

**WHEREAS** this bill deals with food safety for food delivered from the producer to the customer, and

**WHEREAS** this bill has both good and undesirable issues for both the large farms and small farms, and

**WHEREAS** the good points deal with large industrialized farms and the food coming from other countries and whose facilities have the manpower for the necessary record keeping, and

**WHEREAS** the undesirable issues concern mostly the smaller local farmer in that unannounced inspections and considerable record keeping and he / she does not have the time, the money or the facilities needed, and

**WHEREAS** the regulations to implement this resolution have not been clearly defined, and  
**WHEREAS** the attending members of the Northeast Legislative & Agriculture Committees voted in the affirmative to oppose the Food Safety Act HR 2749 on September 27, 2009, and  
**WHEREAS** the Council of State Governments – Eastern Regional Conference delivered a resolution in opposition to the Food Safety Act HR 2749 in August, 2009.  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Policy of the NH State Grange be that all food products on the farm, at farms stands and farmer’s markets, be under the sole oversight of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and  
**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that this resolution be forwarded to the National Grange together with a recommendation for appropriate action therein.

**Resolution #17 - Submitted by Hillsborough County Pomona #1**  
**Subject: Change National Grange’s Industrial Hemp Policy**

**WHEREAS:** numerous products made from industrial hemp, as well as the raw materials are imported, manufactured, produced and marketed in the United States and there are no laws that prevent this commerce, and  
**WHEREAS:** locally produced hemp would be a valuable rotational crop requiring minimal pesticides while improving the soil and provide the raw material for thousands of consumer products including but not limited to fiber, textiles, paper, construction materials, plastics, cosmetics, foods, animal bedding, and biofuels,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the National Grange adopt the following policy in regard to industrial hemp. “The National Grange supports research, production, processing and marketing of industrial hemp.”

**Resolution #18 - Submitted by Squam Lake #258**  
**Subject: State Grange Building**

**WHEREAS:** for the past several years the annual income of the New Hampshire State Grange has failed to meet expenses, in turn requiring withdrawals from invested funds; and  
**WHEREAS:** the expense of maintaining the building located in Hooksett, owned by the New Hampshire State Grange requires a disproportionate amount of the financial resources of the Grange; and  
**WHEREAS:** that building has neither space nor facilities to hold most of the events and activities of the State Grange and its committees, provides minimal benefit to the State Grange and no benefit to the majority of members,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the building in Hooksett owned by the New Hampshire State Grange be sold.

State Secretary Carolyn Ross read the Convention Rules.

**Standing Rules of the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**  
New Hampshire State Grange of the  
Order of Patrons of Husbandry

136<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
Ashworth by the Sea Hotel  
Hampton Beach, NH  
October 29-31, 2009

1. All persons, except special guests, shall be registered. Nametags and programs shall be issued.
2. Admission to the meetings shall be by nametag and password only. Upon giving proper password, the meeting Deputy will provide a colored sticker for the name badge to eliminate the need for giving the password again at this Session. If you are not wearing your nametag, you will be refused admittance.
3. At least fifteen delegates shall constitute a quorum of the State Grange.
4. Every Subordinate and Pomona Grange in good standing shall be represented by the Master or his/her alternate and one other delegate from said Grange.
5. The voting body of the State Grange shall be all registered delegates.

6. Members attending as non-delegates may take part in discussion, with permission from the chair, but shall not make motions and shall not vote.
7. A member wishing to speak shall wait for recognition by the Master, and upon provision of a working microphone shall announce his/her name and Grange he/she is representing.
8. When two members rise to speak at the same time, the chair will first recognize the member seated the furthest distance from the Master's station.
9. No delegate shall speak more than two minutes on any question under discussion nor may speak a second time until all others who wish to speak have had the opportunity to do so.
10. All reports and other material for the permanent record, immediately on presentation, shall be given to the Secretary and /or the Journal of Proceedings Special Committee.
11. The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the meeting in all cases where they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws and these Standing Rules.
12. These Standing Rules shall be presented to the members for adoption; a 2/3 vote shall be required for adoption.

Chris Heath made a motion to adopt the Standing Rules and Gloria Davis seconded it. The motion was approved.

State Treasurer Gail Turcotte was called upon to give her report.

### **Treasurer's Annual Report**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Associate State Officers, Members of the Pink Sash Family, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters:

I am pleased to bring you my second report as State Treasurer. I will not give you complete details of our finances, as those will be printed in the Journal. These are some highlights that I would like to share with you now.

I will begin my review with our financial position as of September 30, 2008. Our beginning market value on October 1, 2008 was \$835,458.61. Income was \$31,995.48 or roughly 4% after management fees were deducted. We received contributions of \$13,127.32 and withdrew \$282,123.93 with \$200,000 being reinvested with new firms. Non-cash Changes were -\$402.15. Realized Gain/Losses were -\$6,633.58 and Unrealized Gain/Losses were \$37,641.99, resulting in a market value of invested funds with TD Wealth Management at the close of the year of \$629,063.74. The breakdown of securities at year-end with TD was 57.3% in fixed income, 35.8% in equities, and 6.9% in cash & equivalents.

We continue to carry the value of the State Grange Building at the purchase price of \$87,500.00. Our Account Receivable remains at \$1,280.00 with no changes during the year.

A quick review of the special funds shows the Education Loan Fund granting scholarships in the amount of \$5,900. The Randall Richardson Memorial Youth Fund received donations of \$62 and returned unused \$339.50. Expenses incurred for Youth Work amounted to \$600.

We received a very generous anonymous donation in the amount of \$10,000 this year towards the expenses of a new roof for our building in Hooksett. Unfortunately, our overall expenses continued to be far greater than our income and a total of \$18,000 in principal was withdrawn from our invested operating account during the year.

Recognizing that this trend could not continue the NH State Grange Executive Committee met repeatedly this year to discuss finances including a special meeting with all State Officers and Directors. The difficult decision was made to request an increase in dues at a Special State Grange Session and meetings were held with three professional financial advisors during the summer. We presently have money invested with two additional firms on a one-year trial basis. We have begun a five-year fiscal plan and a fiduciary audit file as well as implementing a conflict of interest policy and an investment and spending policy.

Fiscal year 2008 was the first year that all Subordinate and Pomona Granges were required to file the new 990-N report with the Internal Revenue Service. Most Granges were able to comply with this new rule by the deadline of February 15<sup>th</sup> although three Granges were just able to file this month due to problems with the IRS that had to be resolved. Thank you to everyone for your patience during this first



“learning” year. Filing this report is an annual requirement with each year’s report due to the IRS by February 15. I do have some of the 2008 paper version 990-EZ forms available for those few Granges that are unable to file electronically.

All NH Granges should renew their incorporation with the State of NH during 2010. This reincorporation occurs every five years and notice is usually sent to the name and address submitted on your previous report. Please check with the person most likely to have filed your Grange’s report in 2005 and ask them to forward the notice to the correct person if needed. I strongly encourage every Grange to check the incorporated name of your Grange on this paperwork to be sure you are using your full legal name and not the short version commonly used.

I would like to thank Don Ross, Chairman of the Executive Committee for serving as my “sounding board” on many occasions this year as we faced many challenges. Thanks also to Carolyn Ross for continuing to handle her part of our shared financial duties in a timely and efficient manner. Carolyn and I are always looking for sales on office supplies and we have been able to pay several bills in a timely manner thus earning a cash discount for the State Grange.

Fraternally submitted,  
Gail M. Turcotte, Treasurer  
New Hampshire State Grange

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
CHECKING ACCOUNT**

October 1, 2008	TD Banknorth Checking Account	2,828.46
	Income- Exhibit B	90,951.31
	Expense- Exhibit C	-87,839.26
September 30, 2009	Balance	5,940.51

**Accounts Receivable**

October 1, 2008	Balance	1,280.00
September 30, 2009	Balance	1,280.00

**State Grange Building**

October 1, 2008	Purchase Price	87,500.00
September 30, 2009	Purchase Price	87,500.00

**EXHIBIT B  
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Income**

**Investments**

TD Wealth Management Income	8,197.48
Withdrawals from Invested Funds	18,000.00
Defunct Granges Income	1,753.45

**Other Income**

Accounts Receivable	0.00
Bonding Fees Subordinate & Pomona	2,383.00
Donations	100.00
Dues & Fees	30,804.75
Eastern States/Blueberry Pie	1,400.00
<i>Granite State Granger</i> - Donations	744.25
National Grange Session Assessment	1,619.00
Operations:	
Family Weekend	513.39
Fund Raising	3,645.50
Printing/Postage/Supplies	197.49
Sixth Degree Fees	40.00
State Grange Building Use Donations	2,965.00

State Session	5,657.56
Supply Department	742.57
Funds Past Junior Director	472.02
Lecturer Fund	100.00
Membership Department Budget	200.00
Membership Training Refund	65.00
Spring Fling	480.00
Starr King Treasury	55.85
Walk thru Ashworth by the Sea	440.00
State Grange Building Fund Donations	10,375.00

**Total Income** **90,951.31**

**EXHIBIT C  
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Expenses 2008-2009**

Date	Paid to	Account Charged	Check #	Amount
10/06/08	Wensley & Jones PLLC	Legal Fees	1159	87.50
10/06/08	Concord Monitor	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1160	316.56
10/06/08	Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1161	120.00
10/15/08	Hooksett Sewer Comm.	State Grange Building	1162	72.00
10/15/08	NH State Grange	Supply Department	1163	6.00
10/20/08	Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1164	32.50
10/22/08	Rodney Huntoon	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1165	14.24
10/23/08	P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1166	89.22
10/23/08	Kenneth Berry	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1167	29.98
10/23/08		Void	1168	
10/23/08	Diane Collins	State Session	1169	60.00
10/24/08	Jim Tetreault	State Session	1170	46.96
10/25/08	Matt Clark	State Session	1171	40.00
10/26/08	Kim Bascom	State Session	1172	140.00
10/26/08	Dan Bascom	State Session	1173	68.00
10/26/08	Sherrill Bokousky	State Session	1174	90.51
10/26/08	Echo Farms	State Session	1175	108.00
10/26/08	Courtyard Nashua	State Session	1176	2,334.96
10/27/08	Courtyard Nashua	State Session	DC-4	4,317.80
10/28/08	NH Secretary of State	Legal Fees	1177	25.00
10/30/08	Jimmy R Hueber	State Grange Building	1178	5,599.00
11/03/08	Grafton Star No. 60	Lecturer Fund reimburse	1179	100.00
11/05/08	Business Card	St Sess/PPS/Supply Dpt	1180	1,686.62
11/08/08	Hooksett Vlg Water Prec.	State Grange Building	1181	51.00
11/18/08	P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1182	81.72
11/18/08	Shaker Regional School Dist.	Leader's School-December	1183	100.00
11/19/08	Yankee Candle Fund Raising	Fund Raising	1184	1,672.59
11/22/08	Jimmy R Hueber	State Grange Building	1185	5,599.00
11/22/08	Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1186	32.50
11/26/08	National Grange	Dues- National Grange	1187	4,467.50
11/30/08	NH State Grange Publicist	Publicist	1188	100.00
12/01/08	Business Card	P/P/S & Anniversary Fund	1189	69.52
12/01/08	Wensley & Jones PLLC	Legal Fees	1190	36.18
12/01/08	Business Card	P/P/S & Supply Dept	1191	220.60
12/11/08	Leone, McDonald & Roberts	Income Tax Preparation	1192	167.00
12/18/08	Beth Merrill	Master's Expenses	1193	1,000.00
12/18/08	Carolyn Ross	Secretary/Treasurer Exp	1194	750.00
12/18/08	Gail Turcotte	Secretary/Treasurer Exp	1195	250.00
12/18/08	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1196	101.85

12/18/08 Family & Community Svcs	Department Expenses	1197	450.00
12/18/08 Grange Services	Department Expenses	1198	100.00
12/18/08 Junior Department	Department Expenses	1199	100.00
12/18/08 Lecturer Department	Department Expenses	1200	550.00
12/18/08 Legislative Department	Department Expenses	1201	450.00
12/18/08 Membership Department	Department Expenses	1202	200.00
12/18/08 Trustees of Trust Funds	Department Expenses	1203	100.00
12/18/08 Youth Department	Department Expenses	1204	550.00
12/20/08 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1205	100.06
12/20/08 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1206	32.50
12/23/08 Hannah West	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1207	297.62
12/27/08 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1208	80.00
12/27/08 National Grange	Sixth Degree Fees	1209	10.00
12/27/08 Chichester Grange # 132	Operations/Fundraising	1210	120.48
12/27/08 Daniel Webster # 100	Operations/Fundraising	1211	5.44
12/27/08 Gilman Grange #1	Operations/Fundraising	1212	61.60
12/27/08 Golden Rod Grange # 114	Operations/Fundraising	1213	30.72
12/27/08 Halloween Grange # 317	Operations/Fundraising	1214	27.20
12/27/08 Lower Intervale # 321	Operations/Fundraising	1215	39.84
12/27/08 Meriden Grange # 151	Operations/Fundraising	1216	20.80
12/27/08 Mont Calm Grange # 70	Operations/Fundraising	1217	12.16
12/27/08 Riverside Grange # 137	Operations/Fundraising	1218	48.16
12/27/08 Rochester Grange # 86	Operations/Fundraising	1219	42.56
12/29/08 Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1220	1,396.98
12/31/08 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1221	240.00
12/31/08 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1222	21.13
01/03/09 Junior Department	Funds Past Jr Dept Dir.	1223	472.02
01/06/09 Concord Monitor	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1224	316.56
01/06/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1225	40.00
01/16/09 TD Wealth Management	State Bldg Fund Donations	1226	5,000.00
01/16/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1227	80.00
01/16/09 Hooksett Sewer Comm.	State Grange Building	1228	109.00
01/21/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1229	68.35
01/21/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1230	32.46
01/23/09 Leo Belisle	State Grange Building	1231	110.00
01/23/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1232	40.00
01/26/09 National Grange	Bonding Fee St/Sub/Pom	1233	2,592.00
01/28/09 Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1234	520.00
01/28/09 Tricia Taylor	General Deputy	1235	150.00
01/28/09 Business Card	P/P/S & Supply Dept	1236	604.03
02/02/09 MSA Group	State Grange Insurance	1237	2,201.00
02/04/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1238	40.00
02/04/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1239	60.00
02/04/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1240	5.86
02/04/09 Gail Turcotte	State Grange Building	1241	69.99
02/05/09 Wensley & Jones PLLC	Legal Fees	1242	350.00
02/05/09 Hooksett Vlg Water Prec.	State Grange Building	1243	45.50
02/12/09 Leo Belisle	State Grange Building	1244	55.00
02/12/09 Leone, McDonald & Roberts	Income Tax Preparation	1245	1,006.00
02/20/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1246	76.45
02/20/09 State of NH-Criminal Records	Legal Fees	1247	70.00
02/24/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1248	40.00
02/24/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1249	40.00
02/26/09 Eastern Propane & Oil	State Grange Building	1250	75.00
02/26/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1251	40.00
02/26/09 National Grange	Dues- National Grange	1252	4,460.00

03/03/09 Hannah West	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1253	296.51
03/05/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1254	32.17
03/07/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1255	120.00
03/07/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1256	19.38
03/11/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1257	40.00
03/11/09 Concord Monitor	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1258	316.56
03/12/09 Carolyn Ross	Secretary/Treasurer Exp	1259	750.00
03/14/09 Leone, McDonald & Roberts	Income Tax Preparation	1260	483.00
03/16/09 Richard Belisle	State Grange Building	1261	40.00
03/18/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1262	48.40
03/23/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1263	32.17
03/23/09 Kenneth Berry	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1264	37.14
03/27/09 Lorna Bates	Lobbyist/Advocate Training	1265	386.00
03/27/09 Beth Merrill	Master's Expenses	1266	1,000.00
03/27/09 Gail Turcotte	Secretary/Treasurer Exp	1267	250.00
03/30/09 Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1268	102.20
03/30/09 Business Card	P/P/S & Supply Dept	1269	261.10
03/31/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1270	120.00
03/31/09 Wensley & Jones PLLC	Legal Fees	1271	41.84
04/04/09 Josh Arnold	Spring Fling	1272	40.00
04/14/09 Hooksett Sewer Comm.	State Grange Building	1273	72.00
04/17/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1274	45.76
04/17/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1275	32.03
04/25/09 Robert Trombi	Operations/Family Weekend	1276	500.00
04/25/09 Postmaster	Bulk Mail Permit	1277	180.00
04/27/09 Business Card	P/P/S & Supply Dept	1278	374.51
04/27/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1279	120.00
05/03/09 Ashworth by the Sea	Walk Thru Ashworth by Sea	1280	439.34
05/04/09 Hooksett Vlg Water Prec.	State Grange Building	1281	45.50
05/10/09 Jimmy R Hueber	State Grange Building	1282	150.00
05/10/09 NH State Grange	Supply Department	1283	16.00
05/16/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1284	32.13
05/16/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1285	41.91
05/18/09 National Grange	Dues- National Grange	1286	4,367.50
06/08/09 Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1287	413.16
06/08/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1288	120.00
06/08/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1289	30.83
06/08/09 Hannah West	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1290	290.55
06/08/09 Concord Monitor	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1291	316.56
06/12/09 Anne Boisvert	State Grange Building	1292	43.41
06/12/09 Shaker Regional School Dist.	Spring Fling	1293	225.00
06/16/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1294	32.13
06/16/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1295	45.64
06/19/09 Family & Community Svcs	Department Expenses	1296	450.00
06/19/09 Grange Services	Department Expenses	1297	100.00
06/19/09 Lecturer Department	Department Expenses	1298	550.00
06/19/09 Legislative Department	Department Expenses	1299	450.00
06/19/09 Trustees of Trust Funds	Department Expenses	1300	100.00
06/19/09 Youth Department	Department Expenses	1301	550.00
06/19/09 Beth Merrill	Master's Expenses	1302	1,000.00
06/19/09 Carolyn Ross	Secretary/Treasurer Exp	1303	750.00
06/19/09 Gail Turcotte	Secretary/Treasurer Exp	1304	250.00
06/20/09 Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1305	132.07
06/29/09 Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1306	166.99
06/29/09 National Grange	National Session Assessment	1307	2,427.00
06/29/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1308	120.00

07/10/09 Hooksett Sewer Comm.	State Grange Building	1309	72.00
07/17/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1310	84.69
07/17/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1311	32.14
07/17/09 M.S.A. Group	St Grange Other Bldg Ins	1312	790.00
07/21/09 Wensley & Jones PLLC	Legal Fees	1313	155.00
07/28/09 NH State Grange	Supply Department	1314	21.50
07/30/09 Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1315	229.05
08/05/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1316	120.00
08/05/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1317	11.99
08/07/09 Hooksett Vlg Water Prec.	State Grange Building	1318	20.00
08/12/09 V.M. & Sons Plumbing	State Grange Building	1319	421.41
08/14/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1320	32.21
08/19/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1321	83.07
08/22/09 Corporate Div, Dept of State	Legal Fees	1322	25.00
08/26/09 Anderson the Florist	Misc- Cathedral of the Pines	1323	150.00
08/26/09 National Grange	Dues- National Grange	1324	4,350.00
08/26/09 Tricia Taylor	General Deputy	1325	75.00
08/30/09 Business Card	P/P/S Supply Dept/St Sess	1326	210.25
08/30/09 Eastern Propane & Oil	State Grange Building	1327	7.15
09/07/09 Hannah West	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1328	374.50
09/14/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1329	120.00
09/14/09 Concord Monitor	<i>Granite State Granger</i>	1330	316.56
09/19/09 Fairpoint Communication	State Grange Building	1331	32.21
09/19/09 Beth Merrill	Master's Expenses	1332	1,000.00
09/19/09 Carolyn Ross	Secretary/Treasurer Exp	1333	750.00
09/19/09 Gail Turcotte	Secretary/Treasurer Exp	1334	250.00
09/19/09 P.S.N.H.	State Grange Building	1335	133.21
09/19/09 NH Farm & Forest Expo	Farm & Forest Expo	1336	95.00
09/19/09 Lavallee Oil Incorporated	State Grange Building	1337	1,679.30
09/19/09 Statewide Fire Extinguisher	State Grange Building	1338	25.00
09/19/09 Best Western Sovereign Hotel	State Session Deposit	1339	850.00
09/28/09 Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1340	67.15
09/28/09 Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1341	223.60
09/28/09 Claire Gagne	State Grange Building	1342	120.00
09/28/09 Marylin Machia	Deputies	1343	100.00
09/28/09 Jean Abbott	Deputies	1344	100.00
09/28/09 Ida Hutchins	Deputies	1345	100.00
09/28/09 Rhoda Davis	Deputies	1346	100.00
09/28/09 Arlene Fall	Deputies	1347	100.00
09/28/09 Arthur Merrill	Deputies	1348	150.00
09/28/09 Kathy Yardley	Deputies	1349	100.00
09/28/09 Ralph Russell, Sr.	Deputies	1350	100.00
09/28/09 Donald Ross	Deputies	1351	150.00
09/28/09 Jerry Leclerc	Deputies	1352	100.00
09/28/09 Dorothy Haskins	Deputies	1353	100.00
09/28/09 Anne Boisvert	Deputies	1354	100.00
09/28/09 Neil MacDonald	Deputies	1355	100.00
09/28/09 Jane Trombi	Deputies	1356	100.00
09/28/09 Tricia Taylor	General Deputy	1357	75.00

**Total Expenses**

**87,839.26**

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
Operating Account**

October 11, 2008	Balance	148,616.60
	Income	6,208.55
	Defunct Granges	8,501.13
	Transfer Interim IMA	.75
	Deposit	5,000.00
	Quarterly Income Paid	6,669.50
	Withdrawal from Principal	-18,000.00
	Transfer	-100,000.00
	Realized Gain/Loss	-9,172.94
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	6,812.29
October 9, 2009	Ending Market Value	41,296.88
Footnote:	Transferred 100,000 to new investment account <i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
EDWARD JONES  
Operating Account**

August 26, 2009	Balance	100,000.00
	Income	122.92
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	2,048.37
September 25, 2009	Ending Market Value	102,171.29

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
Defunct Granges**

October 11, 2008	Balance	37,955.17
	Income	1,837.31
	Withdrawals	-1,723.39
	Transfer	-8,501.13
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	238.10
October 9, 2009	Ending Market Value	30,383.74
Footnote:	One eligible account was closed and transferred into operating account during year <i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
Escrow Accounts**

October 11, 2008	Balance	486,641.89
	Income	24,223.58
	Realized Gain/Loss	-15,217.05
	Paid to Granges	-30,427.48
	Transfer	-100,000.00
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	23,664.00
October 9, 2009	Ending Market Value	388,884.94
Footnote:	Transferred \$100,000 to new investment account <i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
MORGAN/STANLEY/SMITH/BARNEY  
Escrow Account**

August 26, 2009	Balance	100,000.00
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	-470.84
	Management Fees Paid	-143.83
	Change in value	3,662.26
September 30, 2009	Ending Market Value	103,047.59

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
Randall Richardson Memorial Youth Fund**

October 11, 2008	Balance	19,258.53
	Income	889.52
	Contributions	401.50
	Realized Gain/Loss	.01
	Withdrawals	-600.00
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	543.62
October 9, 2009	Ending Market Value	20,493.18
Footnote:	<i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
Education Loan Funds**

October 11, 2008	Balance	110,525.39
	Income	5,968.56
	Realized Gain/Loss	0.01
	Scholarships	-5,900.00
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	3,702.63
October 9, 2009	Ending Market Value	114,296.59
Footnote:	<i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
NH Grange Trust**

October 11, 2008	Balance	40,443.61
	Income	2,143.08
	Paid to Grangers	-625.50
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	1,327.31
October 9, 2009	Ending Market Value	43,288.50
Footnote:	<i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
NH Grange Trust- Blaisdell Fund**

October 11, 2008	Balance	9,426.20
	Income	496.63
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	307.32
October 9, 2009	Ending Market Value	10,230.15
Footnote:	<i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE GRANGE TRUST  
CHECKBOOK SUMMARY**

October 1, 2008	TD Banknorth Checking Account	113.24
Income	Donations	0.00
	Budget from State Grange	200.00
	Transfer from trust/aid to member	<u>225.50</u>
Total Income		425.50
Less	Aids paid to members	225.50
Expenses	State of NH- charitable filing fee	75.00
	Photocopying	<u>9.10</u>
Total		-309.60
September 30, 2009	Ending balance	229.14

The Treasurer's report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Secretary Carolyn Ross was called upon to give her report.

## SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

Worthy State Master, National Representatives, Ed and Celia Luttrell, Associate State Officers, Committee Members, Delegates and Patrons:

At the moment everything from our last State Session seems to be a blur for me. A year ago just the day before State Session, I had to get Past State Secretary Jeanne Higgins situated into a Rehabilitation Center. Little did I know that within 1½ weeks after the close of our 2008 State Session that Jeanne would pass on to the Great Grange Above. With the passing of Jeanne I never realized how hard it was going to be for me not to just sit around and do nothing but think about the good times with Jeanne. Anyway I never accomplished all of the projects that I had intended to do through out the year. Ever since I was elected Secretary it was always my desire to show Jeanne that I was following in her footsteps as a State Officer.

This past year we have had to close Starr King and Moultonborough Granges. As of September 30, 2009 Sullivan Grange and Brookline Junior Grange were declared closed. On Saturday, October 10, 2009 we were saddened to see Sullivan County Pomona close. There are still more Granges out there that are considering or already planning on closing or consolidating with another Grange. As a member of the State Grange Executive Committee, I fully realize that such a large dues increase that was passed in August will make it necessary for perhaps even more Granges to close, as they can no longer afford to stay open.

As of June 30, 2009 there were 12 Pomona Granges in the state with a total membership of 917, of which 295 are Golden Sheaf members. The largest Pomona is Merrimack County Pomona with 139 members.

As of June 30, 2009 there were 71 Subordinate Granges with a total membership of 2287, of which 578 are Golden Sheaf members. The largest Subordinate Grange is Wingold Grange with 76 members.

As of June 30, 2009 there were only 2 Junior Granges on the rolls – Brookline Junior and Granite Junior Grange. As of September 30, 2009 there is only 1 Junior Grange in the state as Brookline Junior Grange was declared closed on September 30, 2009.

By authority of the National Grange, I have issued the following membership awards:

Silver Star certificates – 19	55 – year seals - 22
Golden Sheaf – 20	60 – year seals - 30
30-year seals – 16	65 – year seals - 15
35 - year seals – 12	70 – year seals - 14
40 – year seals – 12	75 – year certificate - 6
45 – year seals - 7	80 – year letters - 3

Now about the 2008 Journal of Proceedings, I have to admit that I was the one that dragged my feet the most. My enthusiasm for this project was at an all time low this past year because of losing Jeanne so unexpectedly and a few health issues of my own, but the good news is, the Journal is now completed. The Executive Committee and I have decided in order to try and save money that Mark Collins (my faithful computer guru) would put the Journal out there on the website. You can now download the 2008 Journal just by going to [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org). For those of you with no access to a computer or printer all you have to do is contact me and I will print and mail you a Journal. However to help defray the costs of printing, postage, etc I will be requesting \$7.00 per booklet. I have heard that I have promised to have the 2009 Journal of Proceedings finished by December 1, 2009. It's hard to believe that I accepted the challenge but it must have been one of my weak-minded days. I do need to say "thank you" to Linda Neilson of Arlington Grange for putting the Journal together, not to mention Linda having to wait for me to get parts of the Journal to her.

After the end of this State Session I have decided that I need to set some goals for myself. From time to time we all need goals in order to be more productive and hopefully have less chaos in our lives. I bet you can already figure out what my first goal will be – Yes, number 1 will be:



1. Complete the 2009 Journal of Proceedings by December 1, 2009.
2. Have the 2009 Roster ready for Leaders School in December.
3. Work with Secretaries to clean up the membership database.
4. Reorganize my office at home.
5. Start an inventory of supplies on-hand.

I don't think I want to go any further with goals, as I do not want to overwhelm myself. From my work experience you always want to have a few projects on the back burner just in case you start to run out of projects. My guess is that I will not run out projects until someone else is elected to the Secretary's Office.

We need remember that there will be another dues increase as of the March 2010 quarter. Subordinate dues paid to the State Grange will be \$7.25 per quarter and Pomona dues has increased to \$2.00 per quarter.

A very special thank you goes to the Credentials Committee, this year chaired by Patricia Izzo. Also on her team are Lucia Savage and Ken Berry. I was having a really hard time to find coverage for the Registration table. I did not want to have to use any Grangers who would be delegates. Much to my surprise back in September, Pat Izzo came to me and asked if there was anything that she could do for me. My eyes must have lit up and I said "well I am really very desperate to find someone to run the registration table for me." What a relief that was when Pat said she would handle the job for me!

Many thanks to Marie Hall for helping me to put the 2009 Rosters together back last December. Marie was also kind enough to once again do the 2009 program for this State Session. From time to time Marie gets the brunt of my whining but I must say that she is a very good listener.

Another big thank you goes to my brother, Ken Berry as he gets to do my errands that I am unable to take care of during the day. Ken has learned very fast how fussy I am about putting packets together in a professional looking fashion.

Now there is Donald who gets to do all of the lugging and lifting of boxes, the computer and printer and numerous trips up and down the cellar stairs as I have so much "stuff" that I need to store. Occasionally the air gets a little blue in the house, as we do not always agree on certain subjects. Somehow it always works out in the end.

Thanks to State Master Beth Merrill for not bugging me when due dates were missed and most of all for not criticizing me when something went wrong. Beth has had many tough challenges through her term as Master but she never fails to impress me with how well she handles herself in explosive situations. Beth is a great credit to our organization.

Last but not least I owe my biggest thank you to Gail. Gail has always cheerfully and graciously answered all of the questions I still have. Lately both of us seem to have those senior moments when neither of us can remember what we did the year before. I rely on Gail for her advice and someone who will listen to me when I am overwhelmed and whinny.

To the Pomona and Subordinate Secretaries- never be afraid to ask a question. If you call me, I will do my best to call you back in a timely fashion. E-mail is always good (I do read mine more than some others) and again I will respond to you just as soon as I can.

My wish to all is for a healthy and prosperous 2010.

Fraternally,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
NH State Grange Secretary

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Another video was shown concerning marketing.

State Executive Committee Chairman Donald Ross read the minutes of the September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 25<sup>th</sup> meetings as they have not yet been sent out to Granges.

## Report of the Executive Committee

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Fellow State Officers, Brothers and Sisters:

The State Executive Committee had another extremely busy year! We met 15 times beginning on October 26, 2008 through October 25, 2009. In between those dates our State Grange lost one of its long time devoted members. Past State Secretary, Jeanne Higgins passed away on November 5, 2008. Jeanne will among other things be long remembered for her excellence as an accomplished pianist/organist, she was one of the finest musicians in the state.

Subordinate Granges continue to either close or consolidate. It is a continuing education for these Granges to follow proper procedures when it has become necessary for them to close. As of today, several Subordinate Granges have either closed or consolidated this past year. Worthy State Master Beth Merrill has sent out GRIT teams to some of the weaker Granges in hopes of revitalizing them.

The State Grange Building in Hooksett now has a new metal roof at the cost of \$11,200.00. An anonymous donor gave \$10,000.00 towards the cost of the roof. A great many thanks to whomever the generous donor was for your monetary assistance given the financial crunch we have been under this past year.

Hannah West has graciously continued as the State Grange Publicist as she passes on E-mails of importance and interest to all.

With the closing of Starr King on December 31, 2008, the NH State Grange took over the upkeep of their hall. I have made several trips to Jefferson over the past several months to deal with Jefferson's town fathers as now the Starr King Grange Halls belongs to the State Grange. I have dragged my brother-in-law, Ken Berry along with me, both to keep me awake and free labor when help was needed to clean up the Starr King Grange Hall. We needed to clean the hall in order to be able to place the building in the hands of a realtor for the purpose of selling the building. Originally Northern NH Pomona had expressed interest in the hall but their money resources and manpower were lacking. A non-Grange member of Jefferson has been very helpful as a local contact and has also helped to maintain the grounds of the Starr King Grange hall at NO COST to the State Grange.

In an effort for the State Grange Executive Committee to become better educated about investment options, I had John Habig, Senior Vice President Wealth Management Financial Advisor with the Smith Barney agency come in and present us with a free talk explaining the difference between stocks, bonds, mutual funds, annuities, money markets, etc. In turn we had 3 investment firms come and present us their proposals for invested funds. We also invited the Trustees of the Trust Funds to join with us for these proposals.

We had a bequest of \$100,000.00 from the Clarence Sprague estate (FL), which has been given to the State Grange Educational Loan Fund as long as we had a 501-C-3 fund. We are currently starting to form a committee for the purpose of starting this fund. We are no longer sending our rosters, journal and other large printing jobs to a printing co. as the State Secretary is using the State Grange computer and printer to help cut on costs. This year for the first time the 2008 Journal of Proceedings can be found on-line just by visiting the NH State Grange website. For those Granges with no access to a computer you can just contact the State Secretary and she will print a Journal for your Grange. However to help cover some costs the State Secretary is asking for \$7.00 per Journal. We have saved thousands of dollars over the past two years by doing our printing in-house instead of sending all print jobs to a printing firm. Our State Master, State Treasurer and State Secretary for this year are paying for their own rooms at State Session to help with our budget crisis. The State Grange in the past has paid for their rooms as another way of thanking them for all that they do for our organization.

To our Worthy State Master Beth, we owe many thanks for her timeless efforts on behalf of the State Grange. Beth has traveled many miles, written many letters of her well-versed pearls of wisdom. Anger at times, frustrations abound but she never harbors a grudge. When in doubt she does not hesitate to ask for help. Although Beth does admit that sometimes it is lonely at the top. Beth can be found working many nights, late into the wee hours of the morning on Grange issues. But through it all Beth continues to persevere. We all should commend Beth for her brilliant idea of a fundraiser by using one of our natural beauties on the seacoast of NH. Right that's the ocean! The lucky participants (or is it stupid) have the

Patron's Plunge to look forward to later in the session, walking or running into the icy waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

To our Worthy State Treasurer Gail, you too have dedicated many countless hours to your position as keeper of our Grange funds. Gail has done double duty this year, as she is Treasurer of the Trust Funds trying to get the assets unfrozen and much time calling our Wealth Management Co. working to get the information she needs to accomplish her tasks. Gail is also working closely with the NH State Attorney General's Office, meeting with new prospective investment firms and keeping us on track at our Executive meetings. Many times the Executive Committee is thinking as the hour is getting late, what is she saying now that we have overlooked? Through all of our trials this year Gail has always had the interests of the Grange at heart.

To our Worthy State Secretary Carolyn (who just happens to be my wife), she too has worked countless hours up-dating the membership records and just keeping day to day phone calls and requests for information up-to date. Carolyn works exceptionally well with the State Treasurer, making sure that all correspondence, monies and bills are sent to Gail in a timely fashion. This way the Treasurer is able to take advantage of any discounts for some accounts that are paid within a certain number of days. I marvel of how quickly Carolyn gets orders out to Secretary's upon request, usually by the next day after an order is received. Carolyn is patient with me in deciphering my handwriting when I need an E-mail sent out. As the ritual states "the duties of your office are most arduous of all requiring judgment, promptness and efficiency. Well-done, Good and Faithful servant.

In closing, I would like to say that it has been an honor and privilege to serve as the Chairman of the Executive Committee. Although the road ahead may continue to be bumpy at times, through perseverance we will overcome our obstacles working together in unity and as a **TEAM**.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald R. Ross  
Chairman State Grange Executive Committee

#### **Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, October 26, 2008**

Present were: Dan Bascom, Don Ross, Paul Davis, Hannah West, Mark Collins, Beth Merrill, Carolyn Ross, Jim Tetreault and Gail Turcotte.

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Dan Bascom. Dan welcomed new members Hannah West and Mark Collins. Donald Ross was elected chairman for this year and Gail Turcotte was appointed as secretary.

The committee voted to appoint Hugh Clark as Chaplain Emeritus. Appropriate regalia are readily available from material left from new state officer sashes. Carolyn will check on the availability of a pin while at National Session next month. Master Beth Merrill will inform Brother Clark of his new appointment.

Gail reported transferring \$10,000 from the operating fund to help cover roof expenses. Hannah reported she has several keys to the State Grange building that were in John's briefcase. The Treasurer of the Trust Funds requested a key for access to the trust file cabinet stored at the building.

Beth reported Contoocook would be discussing the possible sale of their building at their next meeting Monday October 27 at 4 p.m. Paul agreed to attend the meeting with Beth.

We noted that Terry Knowles presented conflicting information about filing 990-N reports during her workshop yesterday. Gail will follow up with Terry.

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 AM.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

## Executive Committee Meeting November 30, 2008 – Hooksett

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Ross at 1PM. Present were Don Ross, Dan Bascom, Paul Davis, Hannah West, Mark Collins, Beth Merrill, Jim Tetreault, Carolyn Ross and Gail Turcotte. Minutes of October 19 were accepted as read. Minutes of October 26 were corrected and accepted.

Master's Agenda-

**Local Grange Issues** were discussed including-

Cornish- the date of closing is October 18 by consolidation into Park Grange.

“**Curtains without Borders**” project was mentioned briefly. There may be an article in *Hippo* magazine about old Grange Hall curtains. Beth noted she was asked to explain what the Grange is for the article.

**National Grange Session-** Beth reported all state granges would be assessed \$1 per member including Golden Sheaf Exempt as of June 30 beginning in 2009 by National Grange. The money will be used for future National Session expenses and will not be available until 2012. There is no known end date for the yearly assessment at this time.

This was the second year vote on associate membership proposed bylaw change. The proposed change was defeated so the present National bylaws are still correct.

This was also the second year vote on our resolution from last year about adding real estate agents to sale of grange hall requirements. The proposed change passed.

National committees for an alternative installation ceremony and student granges will be created. National now requires only two subordinate granges for a Pomona to exist. However, as our bylaws require 3 the higher number takes precedence.

**National Grange 501c3 foundation-** National Grange has an existing 501c3 foundation that is available for us to use with a 2-3% fee by National. Hannah moved to not continue with establishing our own board of directors for our 501c3 until we receive more documentation from National on existing options. Carolyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Name badges-** we agreed that a general department badge without individual names would be best. The badges will be the property of the state grange and can be reused. Any future costs such as replacement of lost badges will be the responsibility of the department involved.

**State Grange Building-** Paul reported the new roof is complete and Gail noted the bill is paid in full. The chimney leaks water near the clean out door in the basement. The windows were painted 2 coats before the decision to put on colored metal. Doors will have to wait until spring. We would like to organize another workday in the spring. Two loads of leaves were cleaned up and hauled away.

Hannah reported that our new building coordinator Marty Boisvert would like to inventory the keys to the building.

Dan reported that the toilet in the ladies room is leaking as of yesterday November 29. The plumber has been contacted.

**Secretary quarterly report-** for September 30 was presented. Dan moved and Paul seconded to accept the report as presented. Motion carried.

**2009 Roster-** Carolyn plans to have the roster ready for distribution at Dec. 13 Leader's school.

**2008 Journal of Proceedings-** Carolyn requested and received permission to dedicate the Journal in memory of John West and Jeanne Higgins with appropriate office titles and dates.

**Quarterly report forms-** Carolyn advised the committee that new forms are needed for subordinate granges because of the dues increase and for Pomona granges because of low supplies on hand. The forms are needed for the March 2009 quarter.

**2008 bylaws changes-** Carolyn reported she has still not received the resolution changes to the bylaws from the bylaws committee.

**Bonding-** Carolyn requested a decision from the committee for any granges to be dropped from the new bill.

**NH Grange Trust Fund-** Gail updated us on the status of the new contracts for the two funds. The end of year report has been filed with the AG office.

**NH State Grange incorporated name-** the legal incorporated name is New Hampshire State Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. Gail noted that it is the responsibility of each subordinate and Pomona grange to use that name with the addition of their number and own name when they reincorporate in 2010.

**NJ membership conference bill-** we have still not received the refund.

**Listing of NH State Grange bank account info-** Gail reported still needing information for Junior and Grange Services as well as publicity.

**Sale of commemorative coins-** Gail reported Lester Gibbs sold two coins to collectors for a total of \$100.

**IRS 990-N-** Gail reported she contacted Terry Knowles and the confusion during the workshop was because Terry did not have specific information about the grange's status. There are no changes to the instructions previously mailed to all granges.

**Randy Richardson Fund-** Gail reported the gas/gift cards have been resold and cashed in and all money has been sent to TD Wealth management for investment.

**Lobbyist training-** Lorna Bates did attend training during National session and she will submit a bill.  
Chairman's agenda-

Included ongoing Grafton Star issues, Membership budget, safe for storage of paperwork at State Grange building, form to record ongoing committee projects, and old office equipment.

**Publicist-** Hannah has agreed to continue with our present E-mail grapevine updates. She discussed how John used to handle submitting newspaper articles. Hannah suggested perhaps the articles could be written about grange events and then the new Pomona membership chairmen could submit the article to their local newspaper.

Our next meeting will be held Saturday January 3, 2009 at 11 AM at Hooksett. Meeting adjourned 4:36PM. Following the meeting department books were examined.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **Executive Committee Meeting January 3, 2009- Hooksett**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Don Ross at 11:11AM. Present were Don Ross, Dan Bascom, Paul Davis, Hannah West, Mark Collins, Beth Merrill, Jim Tetreault, Carolyn Ross and Gail Turcotte.

Secretary's Agenda-

Carolyn reported that the copies of the state officer's **rosters** have been mailed. The Granges' copies are being distributed with the quarterly report forms.

We also discussed the \$1 per member **assessment by National Grange** to help support the cost of National Sessions.

**Executive Committee Minutes-**

We reviewed the November 30 minutes and approved them as presented with one spelling correction.

Master's Agenda-

**Charlestown-** their charter was revoked by State Master Beth Merrill on December 31, 2008. Members were reassigned to Walpole Grange.

**Starr King-** their charter was revoked by State Master Beth Merrill on December 31, 2008. Members were reassigned to Winthrop Grange.

**Deputy School Makeup Meetings-** January 24- Deputies, Membership and Grange Services at Hooksett. January 18- Lecturers at Hooksett. January 4- Youth/Junior and Family & Community at Hooksett. No date yet for Legislative.

We also discussed possibly using the deposit for Dec 13 for our Spring Fling event on April 4. A banquet is also being considered for that date.

**Brayshaw Financial Meeting-** possibly January 17- we were asked to keep the date open.

**Tyson Foods-** State Masters are expecting a letter from National soon. Beth is considering talking about this issue at our Farm & Forest booth next month.

**Overseer's Agenda-**

Jim presented a sample of the proposed form for tracking our ongoing projects. We all agreed with the format and Jim will continue to update the form for us.

**Chairman's Agenda-**

Don told us we have received an anonymous **donation** of \$10,000 towards the cost of the new roof.

**Starr King-** Don retrieved a set of keys to the building along with 2 old dues books from the early 1900's to 1950's. We are considering a lease of possibly one year or multiple years to Northern NH Pomona if they are interested in using the hall.

**2009 State Session Walk-thru-** we are planning to hold this on Sunday April 26 at the Ashworth by the Sea. We propose an executive committee meeting at 10:30AM with optional luncheon at 12:30PM and tour at 2:00PM. Carolyn will send out appropriate notices and spouses are welcome.

Treasurer's Agenda-

**NH State Grange Trust Fund-** we are still waiting for the trustees to sign the contracts for the new mutual fund accounts.

**The NJ Grange Membership Conference** refund has been received.

**December quarterly report** was accepted as presented. Gail also provided information on the operations department fundraisers and the state grange building income and expenses.

**State Building repairs-** the ladies room commode has been repaired. The chimney has not been fixed yet due to bad weather.

Dan Bascom and Paul Davis will set a date for a **spring workday** at the state grange building.

Ongoing project form- was reviewed and will be E-mailed to all EC members as soon as it is updated.

Our next meeting will be April 26 at 10:30AM at Ashworth by the Sea in Hampton Beach, NH.

We adjourned at 1:23PM

Gail Turcotte, Secretary

NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **Executive Committee meeting March 21, 2009 at Hooksett, NH**

Called to order at 10 AM with all members present.

#### **Chairman's Agenda-**

Jeremiah Smith Grange- Jaffrey- Starr King- Sullivan Grange- issues reviewed and discussed.

New bank accounts for membership and junior departments- update by Treasurer.

Mileage- our new policy will be reimbursement at .30 per mile for any travel authorized by Master or EC.

Trust Funds- funds still frozen- we discussed what is the responsibility of the EC and the Trustees on this issue.

Walk Thru for State Session- Carolyn has the letter ready for mailing this week with full details.

Secretary Quarterly report for December- accepted as presented

Assessment fee of \$1 per member for National Session expenses- we discussed Pomona Granges being given responsibility to collect or raise the money for all Subordinate members in their jurisdiction. This policy was approved. Beth is responsible for letter to Pomona Granges. Total amount due is based on June 30, 2009 membership figures.

State Bylaws- full copies have been sent to officers, directors and deputies. Grange copies will be distributed with March quarterly reports.

Mark would like a copy of any Subordinate or Pomona bylaws in electronic form so a template can be created for our granges to use if needed to write their own.

New secretary's quarterly report forms were examined. Carolyn will print enough for 1 year as we have pending resolutions that may change the forms again next year.

#### **Master's Agenda-**

Mountain Laurel- Warren Pond, Halloween, Londonderry, White Mountain, Wicwas Lake and Cocheco and Prentice Hill local issues were reviewed.

Spring Fling- Beth updated us on reservations and speakers.

Tyson Foods- National has spent \$110,621.78 as of November 30<sup>th</sup> on legal expenses. They have received \$55,946 in donations or about 20% of their goal. More money is still needed and National is considering legislation with Congress that will give us similar name protection that Boy Scouts have.

Michigan State Grange has extra regalia etc available if anyone needs anything contact the Michigan State Master.

The new National Grange website is still in progress.

The EC approved space for a representative of community calendar fund-raising project at fall session.

Scholarship donation- no update at this time.

#### **Treasurer's Agenda-**

EC agreed after some discussion that a serious attempt at preparing a budget that does not rely so much on withdrawals from principle should be created. We will meet on April 26 at 1PM at Hooksett with State Officers and Directors to discuss a new budget.

We also discussed the need for more education on investments. Tentative dates for a meeting are April 30 or April 23 at Hooksett.

We briefly reviewed the ongoing project sheets and updated several as closed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:03PM.

Gail M Turcotte, Executive Committee Secretary

## **NH State Grange Building- Hooksett, NH**

April 23, 2009

The NH State Grange Executive Committee met at 7pm for an informal meeting with John Habig, Senior Vice President – Wealth Management and Financial Advisor with Smith Barney Agency in Portsmouth, NH. The Trustees of the Trust Funds were also invited to attend this meeting.

Our goal for this meeting was to become better-educated consumers of professional investment services. John presented a general overview of different financial plans and answered many questions for us. He advised us to always ask for the disadvantages of any plan as well as the advantages. Some common terms such as equity and treasury were explained as well as what types of investments are insured by the government under FDIC. He made recommendations for performance reviews for any plan we select as well as the need for diversity and for a 5-year portfolio plan.

John explained the differences between stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and annuities. He suggested we research our present contract to determine if we have any exit fees and if an electronic transfer of assets is possible should we desire to change management firms.

Gail Turcotte, Executive Committee Secretary

## **NH State Grange Building – Hooksett, NH**

April 26, 2009

The NH State Grange Executive Committee met with the NH State Grange Officers and Directors as well as other interested State Grange Leaders at 1pm for a budget review.

We reviewed our approved proposed income and expenses for 2009 comparing both to the actual income and expenses for the first two quarters. Our proposed income budget called for 15,546.50 to be withdrawn from principal and during the first two quarters we have had to withdraw 14,000 despite receiving a very generous donation of 10,000 towards the cost of the new roof on our building. State Treasurer, Gail Turcotte explained that the value of our invested operating account has dropped by about 50% during the past five years due to principal withdrawals as well as the economic crisis our country as a whole is currently experiencing. We further learned that it is estimated our invested operating account will be depleted within 6-7 years at our present rate of principal withdrawal.

We next examined a budget proposal for 2010 that included zero withdrawal of principal. As expected this proposal called for drastic cuts in services to our members from both the state grange officers as well as our departments. After discussion by those present we determined that we would like to pursue a three-pronged solution to our current financial problems. We would like to increase our income by holding additional fund raising activities and by increasing dues and we would like to reduce our expenses wherever possible.

The Executive Committee will discuss a special state session for a dues increase vote at their next meeting on May 3.

Gail Turcotte, Executive Committee Secretary

## **Executive Committee meeting May 3, 2009 at Ashworth by the Sea, Hampton Beach, NH**

Called to order at 10:33AM with all present.

### **Master's Agenda**

Local Grange Issues- Beth updated the committee on several issues.

National Session 2013- Ed Luttrell has requested our list of hotels again. Beth has been in contact by E-mail with Jessica in DC and she copied her message to Ken Berry. Ken now has a detailed list for Seventh Degree requirements. Beth's summation is that progress is being made.

Election of Trustee of Trust Funds for remainder of Camilie Twiss term of office. By majority vote of the NH State Grange Executive Committee Rodney Huntoon was elected to serve as Trustee of the Trust Funds with term to expire in 2009. Master Beth Merrill will notify Rodney. Trustee Secretary Diane Collins is trying to organize a meeting date of May 14 at 6PM at Hooksett for the trustees.

## **Secretary's Agenda**

Journal of Proceedings- The 2008 Journal will not be ready by the deadline. Linda Neilson is waiting for Carolyn's minutes for Saturday and Sunday session. After discussion the Executive Committee decided money could be saved by making the Journal available on the NH State Grange website rather than printing and distributing copies to each Grange. Carolyn will explain this new procedure in her June quarterly letter to each Grange.

March Quarterly Report- we received a preliminary list of Granges owing dues for this quarter.

Family Membership- The Executive Committee and State Master's interpretation of the bylaws is that a minimum of three members is required for a family unit. We suggest an explanation of Family Membership requirements be included in the *Granite State Granger*.

We noted that Rochester Grange has submitted a resolution about family membership and we suggest their resolution might be revised to more clearly explain this definition.

Junior Grange Quarterly Reports- Carolyn stated the reports will now be annual based on a report copy provided to her by Beth. Carolyn is still working on the report form.

NH State Bylaws Article XV Junior Granges, Section 5, page 17 states: "The Leader shall complete and mail the quarterly report blanks furnished by the Secretary of the State Grange within fifteen days after the close of each quarter, together with the quarterly dues of 25 cents per Junior member."

NH Arms Collectors- Carolyn has not sent the letter and bill for 4 months rent yet. It was noted that they may have lost our contact information.

## **Overseer's Agenda**

2010 Session- we presently estimate the room costs at the Best Western Keene will be \$117 plus tax.

We note that the NH State Rooms and Meals tax may increase to 8.75%. Jim reports that the Winchester Town Hall could be available for the state session meeting. It is about a 20-minute drive from the town hall to the Best Western in Keene. He also reports that the Keene Baptist Church might be suitable for session and suggests the Super 8 Motel could be an alternative location for rooms. The church might be willing to provide meals and the banquet. If the town hall is selected meals would have to be provided by outside local groups.

The Executive Committee instructs Ken Berry, Session Coordinator to pursue actual cost figures and then we will discuss a deposit.

2009 Session- Carolyn reports that East Rockingham Pomona will host the hospitality room. Jim will ask Cheshire County Pomona to host the hospitality room in 2010. Mark Collins moved that the NH State Grange not pay the hotel room expenses for the 2009 State Session for the Master, Secretary and Treasurer. The State Grange will only pay for the National Representative's room. Hannah West seconded the motion. Motion approved. Carolyn Ross moved that Gilman Grange will pay for the costs of the Sixth Degree for the 2009 State Session. Dan seconded the motion. Motion approved. Gail noted that detailed bills for session expenses will be needed to determine the cost of the degree.

## **Dan Bascom**

Reunion Grange- Dan reported that Reunion Grange has contacted him for advice, as they would like to begin discussing closing their Grange. Dan advised them a letter to the State Master is required first.

Special Session 2009- Beth Merrill moved we hold a special session on August 22 at Daniel Webster Grange. Dan Bascom seconded. Motion approved. By common consent we later add the reason for the session is a Subordinate and Pomona dues increase. By common consent we later add delegate registration fees will be waived for this special session. By later discussion we also agreed to vote on the 2010 budget at this meeting.

## **Chairman's Agenda**

Chimney repairs at State Grange Building- no update from JR Huber Building and Remodeling.

Yard Sale request by Hooksett Grange- by E-mail discussion since our last meeting we decided to permit Hooksett Grange to hold a yard sale. Hannah reports that Hooksett voted at their last meeting not to hold a sale this spring.

Dairy Resolution submitted by Hudson Grange- by E-mail discussion after our February meeting the EC approved this policy. The resolution will be submitted at state session this fall.

Recess for lunch at 12:40PM. Resumed at 2:40PM following tour of facilities. Dan Bascom absent for remainder of meeting.

Youth Department- Director Chris Heath requested permission to use the small spinet piano at the State Grange building for Spotlight on NH this year. By common consent the EC approved this request. There are no concerns about tuning this piano either before or after the event.



## **Treasurer's Agenda**

Operation Department- Gail presented updated figures based on her research on previous year's projects dating back to 2000. We reviewed proposed income amounts from Yankee Candle sales noting the need for a longer lead in time for sales, the craft fair noting more advertising is needed for this event, and the suggested golf tournament. It was suggested that a well-advertised golf tournament with sponsors for some of the holes and costing participants a \$100 entrance fee could earn up to approximately \$5,000. We learn that an average course fee is \$35 per golfer and that sponsors are sought for the prizes awarded. We do not feel that we have enough time to successfully prepare for an event of this size this summer but suggest it should be considered for summer of 2010.

Beth Merrill suggests we consider a "Penguin Plunge" challenge for State Officers at State Session in 2009, as we will be at the ocean.

Five Year Financial Goals- We review the suggested items Gail has prepared and note that many are ongoing already. We agree that this is a beginning for us and further work should be done on the plan.

Dues Increase Proposal- the revised membership figures are reviewed as well as proposed budgets with zero dues increase, \$4 Subordinate and \$2 Pomona increase and \$9 and \$2 Pomona increase. After discussion the EC decides to pursue the \$9 per year Subordinate and \$2 per year Pomona dues increase and the proposed budget with that amount of income.

Special Session continued- having decided on the amount of dues increase to request we next prepare the resolution required for the change in NH State Grange Bylaws. Mark Collins moved to submit the resolution as written. Beth seconded. Motion approved. Mark and Beth volunteer to write a letter of explanation to be mailed with the notice of special session. Carolyn will also mail the proposed 2010 budget with the notice and letter to all State Officers, Masters and Secretaries. Mark Collins moved to set the opening time for session at 2PM. Hannah West seconded. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Quarterly Report- Mark Collins moved to accept the quarterly report for March 31 as presented. Beth Merrill seconded. Motion approved.

**Chairman's Agenda** continued

Financial Planning Educational Meeting- our consensus is the meeting with John Habig was helpful. We now have a better understanding of investment plans. We suggest continuing by pursuing actual proposals from professional investment advisors. We select Smith & Barney with John Habig, Brayshaw Financials with Ben Brayshaw and TD Wealth Management with Tim Woodhouse and Eva Albano. We note that we are not presently satisfied with the 5% total return concept and unitized accounting and would like to know what else TD Wealth Management can offer. We suggest dates for Thursdays at Hooksett at 7pm. We select June 25, July 2, and July 9, with fallback dates of June 11 or July 16.

Project Sheets- we reviewed and updated our sheets.

Our next Executive Committee meeting will be the first financial proposal meeting. We will conduct any necessary business at each financial meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:03PM.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

## **NH State Grange Executive Committee meeting June 11, 2009 at Hooksett, NH.**

Called to order at 8:25 pm with all present.

Prior to the meeting NH State Grange Education Loan Fund Treasurer/Secretary Rodney Huntoon updated the committee on a bequest from the estate of Clarence E. Sprague.

Prior to the meeting we also listened to a presentation from John Habig, Senior Vice President – Wealth Management Financial Advisor with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney. This presentation is the first of three planned from financial advisors and will help us determine if we need to change our present investment plan.

## **Master's Agenda**

NH Historical Agricultural Structures Committee- "the Barn Committee"- Abbott Rice has served as our representative but due to ill health has been unable to attend recent meetings. Beth was asked if we would like to select another representative.

Local Grange Issues- Beth updated the committee on several ongoing issues.

### **Secretary's Agenda**

2008 State Session Saturday and Sunday Minutes- Carolyn has E-mailed copies to us and asks that we proofread them before our next meeting. We discussed how the Resolutions should be printed in the Journal and agreed that they are always printed as submitted at the beginning of the Journal. Beth stated she prefers to have any amended resolutions printed in full as they were amended in the Saturday minutes portion and others can just be listed by number followed by the committee's suggestion if any and the action taken by the delegates.

2008 Journal Update- Carolyn has received a copy of the Journal on disc this evening from her typist. She plans to have the Journal ready before Special Session on August 22. We noted that per our decision at the May 3 meeting the Journal will be available on the NH State Grange website rather than printing and distributing copies to each Grange. One printed and bound copy is needed for the historical archives. Any additional printed copies requested will be available at cost.

March 31 Quarterly Report- the report was reviewed and corrected as needed. We discussed unpaid dues and registering delegates at Special Session. Granges with dues paid through the March 31 quarter will be able to register delegates. Those owing dues will not be permitted to register. Granges will be able to pay their dues that day and still register. Carolyn will notify those Granges owing dues of this policy during the month of July.

Grange 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries- Beth reported that plaques are still available from National Grange and that she orders them as State Master.

NH Arms Collectors- Carolyn mailed a letter May 30 to our last known contact person regarding the hall rent owed.

### **Treasurer's Agenda**

Fundraising suggestions- Beth states that her preference as State Master is that all fundraising suggestions be given to our Fundraising Chairman Kim Bascom before any discussion by the EC.

National Grange Session Assessment- Beth reads part of a letter she recently received from Ed Luttrell on this topic. We learn that the membership figures to be used are June 30, 2008 for the 2009 payment. Our payment to National Grange for this year is \$2,427 and is due by June 30, 2009.

### **Chairman's Agenda**

Starr King Grange Hall Insurance- Don updates the committee on this ongoing issue.

Local Grange Issues- Don updates us on several ongoing and new issues.

By E-mail since our last meeting we have agreed to change the starting time for Special Session on August 22 to 10AM.

Our next meeting will be Thursday July 9 at 7 pm at Hooksett and we will hear a presentation from TD Wealth Management by Tim Woodhouse.  
Meeting adjourned at 10:08 pm.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **NH State Grange Executive Committee and Financial Planning meeting July 9, 2009 at Hooksett, NH**

All EC members and Trustees of Trust Funds present.

Tim Woodhouse, Senior Portfolio Manager for TD Wealth Management gave our second financial planning presentation at 7pm. TD Wealth Management is a triple A rated financial institution and we have used their services for about 10 years. We learned they use the Smith & Poore's 500 index as one of their performance guides as this includes the top 500 US stocks. We learned we should look for a steady increase in interest from bond accounts.

Our present unitized accounting system can be changed if we choose different risk tolerance levels for different types of accounts such as escrow vs. operating fund. Tim recommends mutual funds if we choose different spending policies for our accounts. We were reminded that our present 5% total return concept can invade the principal during bad economic times such as the present recession. We can choose a different spending level other than 5% and Tim suggested 3.5 to 4.5% as a range for us to consider. If we choose to change our investments to mutual funds for greater diversity as recommended the management fees will increase to about 1.6% rather than the 1% we presently pay. There are no additional fees to change. Tim was not sure if there are any end account fees and suggested we contact Eva at TD Wealth Management for clarification.

Tim answered many questions from the members and explained briefly what Exchange Trading Fund (ETF) is. This plan invests in the entire S &P market and is considered passive management. We presently have active management for investing meaning after professional analysis certain stocks are selected for investment. ETF is considered an index approach and is often used by those with only small amounts of money to invest in the markets.

Tim recommends quarterly or at least twice annual performance evaluations. These evaluations can be done more than one way such as direct presentation to a small group such as a finance committee or they can be set up as printed reports such as we received this evening and mailed to us. We learned that we can exclude specific companies from our investment portfolio if we choose.

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 8:57pm. Rodney Huntoon updated us on the status of the Sprague Living Trust bequest by reading the correspondence he has received thus far. After discussion we raised the question "Is the NH Charitable Foundation an alternative to forming a 501c3 corporation for this bequest? Beth will obtain contact information for the Foundation from Terry Knowles at the AG office and Rodney will contact the Foundation for more information. We also discussed the possibility of creating a 501c3 that would have more than one purpose such as the education bequest and also funding for Grange hall renovations and restorations. We also noted that fund raising from corporate sponsors for events such as golf tournaments could be easier if we have a 501c3 corporation. We also raised a second question "Will the Sprague Living Trust lawyer and Trustee accept the NH Charitable Foundation or will they require us to form our own 501c3 corporation to receive this bequest?" We hope to have more information for our next meeting.

### **Secretary's Agenda**

#### Journal of Proceedings 2008 Session

Session 2008 minutes for Saturday and Sunday were accepted as corrected. Carolyn plans to have the Journal ready for distribution by August 1.

Uncollected quarterly dues- we received an updated of list of the Granges owing dues and the number of quarters owed. We learned that Deputy Merrill has assisted in collecting dues and bonding owed from one delinquent Grange. Carolyn will mail letters to the Master and Secretary of any Grange that still owes dues as of the March 31 quarter informing them they will not be eligible to register delegates at the special session on August 22 unless those dues are paid.

Friendship Grange- their March quarterly shows that their membership has now fallen below the 13 required members and Carolyn will send them a letter reminding them of this rule. A revitalization team plans to meet with them later this month.

### **Chairman's Agenda**

Starr King Grange Hall- Don reported that he has been advised by Northern NH Pomona that they are not able to purchase the hall at this time. Beth moved we sell Starr King Grange hall in Jefferson, NH. Paul seconded. Motion was approved. Don has volunteered to contact a local realtor that handles the Jefferson area and request mutual listing of the property. We discussed the need to obtain the current assessment of the property from the selectmen or assessor's office. We also noted that Peter Estabrook expressed interest in the property at an earlier meeting. Beth has his contact information. We noted that per National Grange bylaws the net assets from the sale of the property will go into a Defunct Grange Account. We have still not received a bill for the insurance.

Financial Planning decision- we decided to meet on Thursday July 30 at 7pm at Hooksett to discuss the three presentations and to decide if we will change our present professional investment advisors. We noted that the Trustees of the Trust Funds may want to meet at the same time to make their decision.

### **Treasurer's Agenda**

Quarterly Report- the June 30 reports were accepted as presented.

5-year plan and Fiduciary Audit File- Gail presented initial proposals for both and requested they be reviewed and added to our ongoing project sheets.

Updated 2010 Budget- Gail asked for help with estimates for several figures in the budget. We discussed the need for more money for legal fees especially if we pursue a 501c3 corporation. It is estimated the filing fees alone will be \$850 plus any legal counsel we require. We agreed to change this figure to \$3,500. We will leave the estimated income from blueberry pie day at \$700 and hope to learn soon if we will have any days to work at the Big E. Gail will follow up with Ken Berry for banquet costs. We discussed the national session assessment figure and agreed upon \$2,000 as the projected income. Hannah suggested she could place a notice on the "grapevine" for us.

Printing costs- Gail asked for clarification of our plans for printing the 2009 Journal, Roster and Bylaws if needed. After much discussion and review of existing bylaws we agreed that all three items would be made available on the NH State Grange website and that all three plus Grange Department programs would be provided to each Grange Master and Secretary on computer disc. We will print and bind two copies of the Journal for our archives and the National Master. Any additional printed copies of the Journal will be available upon request for a fee of \$7 each. Printed copies of the Roster will be available for \$7 and the bylaws for \$3.50 upon request. We expect that all four items will be available for distribution by early December preferably for Leader's School. These cost saving measures are planned only if the requested dues increase is not passed.

Resolutions Committee/ Journal of Proceedings- our discussion of printing costs led to a discussion of how we would like to handle the minutes from session. We want to try once again to have the Journal ready for proofreading before we leave the hotel at the end of session. All resolutions should be prepared for the Journal and be ready to be forwarded to National if needed by the end of session. Please note- we will need to request all department and officer reports on computer disc and daily minutes will need to be approved the following morning including Saturday session minutes.

### **Project Sheets**

We reviewed our ongoing projects noting that several were completed and can be listed as closed. We also added new items as needed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50pm.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **NH State Grange Executive Committee – Hooksett, NH July 16, 2009**

Financial Planning presentation by Chris Hooper Financial Advisor with Edward Jones Agency in Rochester, NH. Trustees of Trust Funds were also invited to attend the presentation. We learned that Edward Jones is the largest privately held Investment Company in the US and that Chris has owned his own agency in Rochester for 13 years. He does not offer any proprietary products and has prepared a mostly advisory investment plan for us rather than the managed plan we presently use. He prepared his proposal with long-term investments in mind as they are less volatile and he has used a conservative approach. Parts of the proposal are based on incomplete analysis and are intended to serve as an example of the type of service he can provide. This is a mutual fund proposal and the management costs for the advisory accounts are 1.15% on a monthly basis less the MF 12B1 fees that are rebated and any revenue sharing fees are also rebated. We would receive monthly statements for any account that had activity otherwise quarterly statements are prepared. Individualized advisory statements are also prepared quarterly. He does offer on-line account viewing that is password protected etc. Chris recommends quarterly performance reviews, which could be handled by phone and full board in person reviews two times each year. Our smaller accounts that need to be handled separately would be placed into a non-advisory mutual fund program with management costs of .25% and sales charges to purchase. There are no charges to sell. These include the defunct grange accounts, both trust funds and the Randy Richardson Fund.

Chairman Ross called the EC meeting to order at 8:35pm with all members present. Rodney Huntoon updated us on the Sprague Living Trust bequest. He read another e-mail communication from Florida and reported on his contact with the NH Charitable Foundation. The Foundation is

concerned about the rules for a trust governed by Florida law and they also advised us the IRS would not accept such a small group of applicants as we presently receive for our existing Education Loan Fund. All fees charged by the Foundation are deducted before income is allocated. They will file the required annual report. The spending policy would be 4 ½ %. Rodney's Foundation contact has offered to meet with us if requested to further explain their program. Beth reported she has sent an e-mail to Attorney Frazier outlining our situation and is awaiting a reply.

### **Secretary's Agenda**

Journal of Proceedings, Roster and By-laws- Carolyn requested we discuss this issue again. She asked the question "Is our present policy decision to change to computer disc format in the best interest of our members and for the good of the order?" We discussed in more detail how the Mass State Grange prepares their Journal and questioned if and how we could use similar procedures for our own. We decided that the decision to print paper copies or not would be held until after special session when we will know if we will have a dues increase or not.

We also discussed the need for more correct and thorough preparation of the results of action on resolutions during sessions. Carolyn would like to have a meeting with the Resolutions Committee before session. She has been instructed to prepare written guidelines for the purpose of instructing the Resolutions Director what the State Secretary needs from him before his report at State Session can be accepted.

Carolyn also noted that she needs a new state grange seal for her office and we decided this would be an expense from our printing/postage/supply account.

### **Chairman's Agenda**

Starr King Grange Hall- we have received both the policy and the bill for the insurance since our last meeting. We reviewed our plans to sell the hall and noted that Beth will write a letter to Mr. Estabrook. Don has obtained a copy of the assessors office report noting there is no well, no septic system, there is a furnace, it has a dirt cellar with one foundation wall crumbling, the roof is sagging and the land is basically just what the building sits on with room for 2 or 3 cars to park in front. We also noted the abutters should be contacted and perhaps the realtor can handle that for us. Dan moved that Don Ross, Chairman be empowered to act as agent for the NH State Grange Executive Committee to sell the building known as Starr King Grange Hall in Jefferson, NH. Beth seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

### **Master's Agenda**

Moultonborough Grange- Beth reported that Paul went with her to their last meeting and that a quorum was not present. State Master Beth Merrill has revoked their charter as of July 13, 2009. Mt Livermore Grange has voted to accept the former members of Moultonborough Grange. There are no known assets and their dues were only collected through June 30, 2009. Their quarterly report to the State Grange for the June 30 quarter has been filed. We noted that the closure of this Grange now leaves Carroll County Pomona with only two Granges in their district.

National Session in 2013- Beth reported that we are one step closer to having session in NH as the National EC recently voted to hold session here in 2013. Contracts have not been signed yet.

Dorchester Grange- is planning an event on August 8 or 9 and anyone interested may attend. Beth has been asked to present an award.

State Session locations- Beth suggested we keep larger, possibly newly-built church halls in mind when planning future sessions, as there are some that might be suitable for our needs.

**Next Meeting**- Gail requested that everyone not only review the material we have received from our three financial presentations but to also make notes about both the positive and negative items from each for more efficient discussion on July 30. She noted we also need to review our spending policy and hopes we can decide on both our investment plan and spending policy that night as both will impact the amount of invested income included in the proposed budget to be discussed and voted on at special session. She also noted that our proposed expenses have been reduced as much as possible and suggested we need to consider fundraising proposals next to balance the proposed budgets. We will meet on July 30 at 7pm at Hooksett and the Trustees of the Trust Funds are invited to meet then also.

Jim gave each member present an updated copy of our project sheets noting we now have more closed items than open ones.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55pm.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Executive Committee

### **NH State Grange Executive Committee Meeting July 30, 2009- Hooksett, NH**

Chairman Don Ross opened meeting at 7pm with all members present. The Trustees of the Trust Funds were also invited to attend.

We compared the three financial planning proposals previously heard listing some of the features we liked and disliked for each proposal. After discussion by all present Mark Collins made a motion to continue with TD Wealth Management. Hannah West seconded the motion. The vote was taken verbally by roll call. Beth Merrill-yes; Mark Collins-yes; Carolyn Ross-yes; Hannah West-yes; Donald Ross-yes; Paul Davis-yes; Dan Bascom-yes. Ann Leger Trustee moved they also remain with TD Wealth Management. Elizabeth Cotsibas seconded the motion. Their vote was also taken verbally by roll call. Ann Leger-yes; Elizabeth Cotsibas-yes; Diane Collins-no; Rodney Huntoon-yes; absent- Omer Ahern Jr. Chairman Don Ross announced that by our vote we would continue with TD Wealth Management.

We noted that the Executive Committee needs an annual conflict of interest policy and a sample of the policy that the Trustees use was examined. We also need to write a spending policy and an investment policy. We need to decide if we will continue with our present 5% total return concept. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday August 13 at 7pm at Hooksett.

The Executive Committee portion of the meeting was called to order at 8:55PM.

#### **Master's Agenda**

Dictionary Project- Beth noted a recent letter from David Boynton states the new coordinator for the project in NH will be Suncook Valley Pomona with Hannah West as contact person. We noted that this is not a State Grange project.

501c3 Foundation- Beth reported three Grange members have agreed to serve as Directors thus far; Jean Abbott, Marie Hall and David Boynton. Dan Bascom moved that we highly encourage 1 Director be a non-member. Mark Collins seconded. Motion was approved. Beth is open to suggestions for the remaining two directors.

Brookline Junior Grange- Beth reported that the charter and a box of items was delivered to Sherrill Bokousky and then turned over to Junior Director Rhonda Lambert. Beth has been unable to contact Leader Barbara Collins.

Special Session Fundraising- Beth has received a request from Dot Haskins on behalf of Merrimack County Pomona to hold a bake sale fundraiser on August 22. Merrimack County will be providing the lunch that day at a cost of \$5 per person. They may also provide coffee and donuts in the morning. The general consensus was to permit them to hold the bake sale fundraiser.

Grafton Star- Beth noted that Lester Gibbs contacted her requesting copies of all Executive Committee minutes that include mention of their Grange since 2003. We provided them with as much as we could.

Trademark Enhancement Research- National sent a letter with 18-page report form requesting information in several categories. Beth has contacted Dick Patten, Historian for assistance. She also plans to contact Dave Szacik. Hannah has forwarded Beth's e-mail to all members on the grapevine list for help.

2009 State Session- Our national representative will be Ed Luttrell. We are not sure yet if Celia will be able to attend. Thursday session will begin at 7pm. Beth has asked for ideas of things for Ed to do for us during his visit. We suggested a possible communication workshop.

2013 National Session- Beth announced that National Grange has signed the contract for session with the Radisson in Manchester, NH.

NH Room at Eastern States Exposition- Beth reported renovations have been started with new lilac colored paint above the wooden paneling. The trustees are looking for a stage curtain for the building.

Carroll County Pomona has been granted an exemption by Beth to exist with only two granges, Tuftonborough and Lake Shore.

We discussed the need to prioritize Granges we will be dealing with so that GRIT will not be overwhelmed. Hannah suggested that Membership Director Stephen Tracy be kept in the loop on these issues.

Riverhill- Marion T Jones who has been working with this Grange has recently contacted Beth. They have about 20 new people that are interested in the Grange. Beth attended a recent casual work on the hall meeting. Beth plans to attend their next meeting when she will obligate the new members and Marion will install the new officers.

Fundraising- Beth discussed the Patrons Plunge at fall session and suggested that perhaps Ed Luttrell would participate. She would like volunteers from the state officers to participate.

### **Secretary's Agenda**

2008 Journal of Proceedings- proofreading copies were distributed this evening to Beth, Gail and Hannah.

### **Chairman's' Agenda**

Starr King building- Don updated us on the hall which is now described as a "white elephant". Don has spoken with Leparr Realtors of Gorham and has the Jefferson town assessment information. He reported that realtors don't want to touch the building because of existing conditions. There is no water or septic system and very little land. There is an indoor "outhouse" and a newer electric toilet. The abutters are a seasonal mobile home and a boarded up structure. We do not know who the abutter is to the rear as the town office was not open when Don was there. The Realtor has met with the selectmen and the building was discussed at their recent meeting. The selectmen have no interest in the building. The realtor suggested we approach the abutters. Don also spoke with Mr. Estabrook who is interested in the building for sentimental reasons. The realtor has advised us to take any offer we receive for the property. We are unable to get water and sewer on the property due to current rules. The property is about .75 acres and the town values it at \$29,300 land and \$94,500 building for a total of \$123,800. Don would like an offer from Mr. Estabrook. The property is not listed at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10pm.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **NH State Grange Executive Committee Minutes- August 13, 2009 Hooksett, NH**

We began at 7:10 PM by reviewing our ongoing project sheets updating notes, reassigning some tasks and closing those that were completed.

Chairman Don Ross called the meeting to order at 7:28 PM with all members present.

We began by discussing the need for a written **investment policy** statement and members shared samples and information they had obtained since our last meeting. We also noted that it is recommended that this policy be prepared with the assistance of a financial professional. Gail reported she is unable to determine our actual present earning rate with TD Wealth Management as Tim Woodhouse is out of the office this week.

We also reviewed the need for a written **conflict of interest policy** and disclaimer statement for all Executive Committee members. We again examined samples members had obtained and determined that some seem very complex while others seem fairly basic. We feel we would like to begin with a basic style and Mark Collins volunteered to prepare a sample policy and disclaimer based on the samples and information collected. Once we have examined Mark's samples the forms will be sent to our legal counsel for approval before we begin using them. We noted the

IRS 990 form we file each year asks if we have such a policy in existence. The IRS and NH State AG Office both strongly recommend that all non-profit organizations have this policy.

We decided what our procedures for handling these forms would be.

- All Executive Committee members will sign the policy each year at the first EC meeting following Installation of Officers.
- The State Secretary will keep the blank policies on hand and provide them when needed.
- The signed originals will be stored in the fire proof storage box at the State Grange building with photocopies on file with the State Master, Secretary and EC Chairman for easy reference if needed.

#### **Treasurer's Agenda-**

Mark Collins made a motion that we reopen the **discussion of financial advisors** based on new suggestions Gail has received since our last meeting. Dan Bascom seconded the motion. Motion was approved with a vote of five yes and two no.

Gail explained in further detail the e-mail notice she had sent just after our last meeting. Both financial advisors contacted her by phone after our last meeting and expressed deep disappointment that they were not selected as our financial advisors. Chris Hooper of Edward Jones suggested that we provide his firm with \$100,000 to invest for one year so we could evaluate actual performance results. John Habig of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney also spoke by phone with both Gail and Don and he is willing to participate in a trial.

After much discussion of the merits of providing both new advisors with some of our money to invest for us Carolyn moved that we split the proposed amount of money to be invested between Morgan Stanley Smith Barney and Edward Jones investment firms. Dan Bascom seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 yes, 2 abstained and 1 did not vote.

Gail Turcotte, Treasurer will contact both firms to establish the new accounts.

**Treasurer's contact information** for the Roster- Gail asked if we should begin asking for this information to be included as there could be a need to contact the Subordinate or Pomona Treasurers for assistance with the 990-N IRS reports and possibly also if Grange Charters are suspended. We decided after discussion that the State Secretary would add space for the information to the Roster update sheets but we would not actually print the listings in the Roster. The Treasurer contact information will be provided as needed and requested.

**Junior Grange Department** bank account update- Gail noted that she had been requested to contact the bank where our existing Youth Department account is held and ask if we could add the Junior Director, Rhonda Lambert as an authorized signer and if we could change the title of the account to include the word Junior. Dan Bascom moved that we approve the account name change and adding Rhonda Lambert, Junior Director as a third authorized signer to the existing bank account. Paul Davis seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

#### **Secretary's Agenda-**

**Pleasant Valley** Grange update- Carolyn reported that Master Pat Libby has contacted her with a request for assistance with preparing their past due quarterly reports. Pat has asked that someone come to her home as she is recovering from knee replacement surgery. Gail has agreed to assist Pleasant Valley. Beth asked that Deputy Ralph Russell be given the opportunity to be present as well if he chooses and if Pat Libby has no objection.

#### **Master's Agenda-**

**State Session Agenda-** Beth provided each member with a proposed copy of the schedule. We noted that each Pomona is to present a report at this session on their activities during the past year. We suggested these reports be presented during the time allocated to the Pomona Study Committee.

**Resolution for appointing alternate or second delegate to National Session if needed-** Hannah moved to accept the resolution as written. Carolyn seconded the motion. Motion was approved and the resolution will be submitted for vote by the delegates this fall.



**Riverhill Grange-** Beth attended a second meeting and she obligated 15 new members. Marion T Jones installed their officers at that same meeting. A current membership list was left with the new Secretary for updating the State Secretary's records.

**Wicwas Lake-** Gail asked if an updated list of members could be obtained.

**501c3-** Beth reported she has contacted Jean Abbott, Ken Berry, David Boynton, Marie Hall and Ruth Holmes to serve as Directors and all have agreed to serve. Mark Collins moved we accept the appointment of these members to serve as Directors. Paul seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Beth has e-mailed the Florida attorney handling the **Sprague Living Trust** bequest a letter referring to the creation of a 501c3 foundation. The attorney requested additional language be added to the letter and Beth complied with his request. A revised copy of the letter was both faxed and mailed to Florida. Beth will provide copies of the letter to the EC for reference.

### **Chairman's Agenda**

**Special Session-** We discussed the planned order of business.

**Starr King Grange hall-** Don reported that since our last meeting Leparr Realtors has declined to accept our business but they have suggested another firm we can contact. Peter Estabrook requested permission to borrow the realtor's key and look at the building. He has previously expressed interest in submitting a bid for the building. When he tried to return the key to the realtor they declined to accept the key so he still has it at this time. Don plans to have further discussion with Mr. Estabrook.

**Fund Raising-** Dan Bascom provided copies of a suggested calendar-drawing raffle that could be held during fall session for our consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 PM. We will schedule our next meeting date after special session.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **NH State Grange Executive Committee Minutes- August 22, 2009- Webster, NH**

Chairman Don Ross called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM following Special State Grange Session at Daniel Webster Grange Hall. All members were present.

Gail briefly reviewed the previously e-mailed information about selecting our **risk tolerance level** for Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Investments. After discussion Hannah West moved we select level 3, with 60% equities and 40% bonds considered a conservative approach. Carolyn Ross seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 yes and 0 no.

We next reviewed the **paperwork required to open an account** with Smith Barney. Dan Bascom moved that the Treasurer, Executive Committee Chairman and Master sign the account application. Paul Davis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 6 yes and 1 no.

Carolyn Ross moved the Resolution Naming Authorized Officers be signed by the Treasurer and Executive Chairman. Hannah West seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 yes and 0 no.

Gail reported the paperwork for opening an account with Edward Jones Agency would be handled differently. They will not be preparing any paperwork in advance; rather it will be prepared at our scheduled meeting on Wednesday August 26 at 1 PM. Gail & Don Plan to attend the meeting. Beth is unable to attend due to a previous commitment. Hannah West moved the Treasurer and Executive Committee Chairman be authorized to sign any necessary paperwork for Edward Jones. Paul Davis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 yes and 0 no.

We reviewed the need for the new **501c3 foundation directors to have funding** for filing the paperwork necessary to create the foundation. Mark Collins moved that the NH State Grange pay all filing fees associated with the creation of the 501c3 foundation. Hannah West seconded the

motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 yes and 0 no. We noted that the directors need a check today if possible for the incorporation fee with the NH Secretary's of State Office.

Carolyn asked how she should **distribute the results of today's special session vote**. It was decided that Carolyn will send a notice as soon as possible to each Subordinate and Pomona Secretary and she will also include the increase in dues information in her next quarterly letter. Hannah will also include the information in the next *Granite State Granger*.

Don reminded us that the \$850 deposit for the **Best Western in Keene for 2010 session** is due by October 31, 2009. Hannah West moved that we accept the Best Western in Keene, NH as the location for our 2010 state session and that we add that information to the brochure for this year's session. Mark Collins seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 yes and 0 no. The Secretary and Treasurer are authorized to pay the deposit at their discretion before the October 31, 2009 deadline.

We briefly discussed the round adhesive backed **custom printed badges** used for today's special session. Carolyn and Gail will look into the possibility of using something similar for future regular sessions rather than the printed ribbons currently used. They need more information before they can determine a cost comparison. Carolyn noted the ribbons for this year's session have already been ordered.

Don reported briefly on **Starr King Grange Hall** stating that Peter Estabrook is no longer interested in submitting a bid for the building. A second realtor has seen the building. Don noted that each realtor is commenting on the condition of the basement/cellar area. There is debris that needs to be removed as well as evidence of rodents and mold. Don requested permission from the EC to have the electricity turned back on at least briefly as he is planning a work day to clean the cellar. Ken Berry, Mr. and Mrs. Estabrook, and Don have all volunteered to clean the cellar noting that the local town dump is open on Saturdays from 8-5.

Don also noted that the town's assessment of the building is too high and he needs to contact the town to request a reassessment.

Mark moved that we authorize Don to obtain electricity by the most cost effective method either portable generator or through the power company to clean the hall. Beth seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 6 yes and 0 no.

Don noted that Peter Estabrook still has the key to the building.

Mark has been working on our proposed **conflict of interest policy** and hopes to have a draft for us to examine at our next meeting. We noted that it would be helpful if someone could prepare a sample draft of an **investment/spending policy** for us to examine at the same time.

Our next meeting will be September 29 at 7:30 PM at Hooksett.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM and was followed by signing the required paperwork for the Morgan Stanley Smith Barney investment account.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **NH State Grange Executive Committee Minutes September 29, 2009 – Hooksett, NH**

Meeting called to order at 7:30PM with all members present.

**Conflict of Interest Policy**- Mark reviewed the policy he prepared using samples we had provided. Dan Bascom moved we accept the policy as written. Carolyn Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried by vote of 7-yes 0-no. We noted that two copies for each person would be required, one copy for our files and one copy for the signer. Hannah agreed to proofread the policy and will forward the corrected copy to Carolyn for use.

**Investment Policy**- Gail reviewed a policy she prepared using a sample previously distributed. We offered one correction and noted that comments from our professional financial advisors should be requested. We noted that this policy would not affect the two charitable trust funds as the Trustees govern both funds. Mark Collins moved we accept the policy as amended pending approval by our financial

advisors. Paul Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried by vote of 7-yes 0-no. Gail will follow up with our financial advisors.

**Spending Policy-** we decided to handle this issue separately even though it is part of the Investment Policy. We noted that our investments with TD Wealth Management have earned an average rate of 3.87% after fees are deducted since the account was opened about 11 years ago. We have been spending at a rate of 5% for that same length of time. All three financial advisors have recommended we select a rate between 3% and 4% of our annual market value and no higher than 5%. After discussion, Beth Merrill moved we select 3 ½% for fiscal year 2009-2010. Mark Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried by vote of 7-yes and 0-no. Gail will notify our financial advisors of our decision.

### **Treasurer's Agenda**

**Trust Funds** – Gail reported that she has been waiting 7 days for a requested check from TD Wealth Management to be delivered by mail from Vermont. She will follow up with our contact for a third time and if necessary ask for a duplicate check to be issued. She also noted that the new contracts are still being signed by the Trustees.

**New Investment Accounts-** Gail reported that both new accounts have been opened and statements for the last few days in August have been received as well as trade confirmations and prospectus information.

### **Secretary's Agenda**

**June Quarterly Report-** As we reviewed Carolyn's report we learned that Ashuelot Grange is in the process of consolidating with Prentice Hill Grange. We noted that Sullivan Grange would be reported as closed by revocation of charter on September 30. Jim Tetreault plans to attend Sullivan County Pomona's final meeting on October 3 and pick up their charter. They will be reported as closed as of that date. We noted this means they will need to file a final quarterly report for the September 30 quarter. The two remaining Subordinate Granges will be assigned to new Pomonas. Park Grange will go to Mascoma Valley and Sunapee Lake to Merrimack County Pomona effective October 30, 2009. Beth Merrill moved we accept the Secretary's report as presented. Dan Bascom seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 6-yes 0-no.

**Special Session Minutes-** we reviewed the corrected minutes and found no further corrections needed. Mark Collins moved we accept the minutes as corrected. Hannah West seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 6-yes 0-no.

**2008 Journal of Proceedings** – We noted that the projected budget for FY 2010 does not balance at this time and additional cost saving measures would be welcome. We decided to use our plan outlined at our July 9 meeting for the 2008 Journal. The 2008 Journal will be made available on the NH State Grange Website and we will print and bind 4 copies and distribute one each to the National Master, State Secretary, State Historian, and State Grange archives. Any additional printed copies of the 2008 Journal will be available upon request to the State Secretary for a fee of \$7 each.

### **Chairman's Agenda**

**Hudson/Wattannick Granges** – Deputy Don Ross reported that he and the State Master have received a letter from Hudson Grange notifying the State Grange they are inviting Wattannick Grange to consider consolidation with them.

**Starr King Grange Hall-** Don reported Peter Estabrook has mowed the lawn several times for us as well as cut back brush near the building. At Don's request Mr. Estabrook has placed a new hasp and padlock on both doors to the building. Don has contacted a new realtor who seems enthusiastic about the listing. Aureore Hood, Realtor in Lancaster has noted that we have several antique benches and stoves in the building and suggests we consider selling them. She knows a local antique dealer she will contact for us. A new appraisal from the Town of Jefferson has been requested and once we have that figure Ms. Hood will send Don her estimate of what price we should ask for the property. Don plans a workday this Saturday October 3 at the building and has arranged for electricity to be turned back on by PSNH. He noted the reconnect fee is \$35 with no disconnect fee and the base rate for service is estimated at \$11.13 per month. This was a more reasonable choice than renting a generator. Don noted there might be an

antique stage curtain in the hall and he will look for it this weekend. Beth Merrill moved we do not sell the curtain at this time if it is found. Dan Bascom seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 7-yes 0-no. We noted that as the curtain may be quite large we might be able to store it temporarily with Ann Leger.

**State Session Coordinator-** Don reported that Ken Berry has received the contract from the Best Western in Keene for 2010 State Session. The contract needs quite a few revisions and Ken is working on them. Ken expects to work on the location for 2011 in early 2010.

**NH Grange Foundation** – Gail reported that the incorporation application has now been approved and the Directors notified.

**State Grange building** use by the Pansy Rebekahs and storage space was discussed.

**Project Sheets** - we reviewed the sheets noting what items could be closed, progress on the open items and adding new as needed. Jim will update the sheets and distribute them to members.

**Banquet Ticket Deadline-** Dan Bascom noted that the earlier than usual deadline this year may make it difficult for the Department Directors to notify their award winners and receive payment for any tickets requested by the award recipients. We noted that award winners would need to be contacted as soon as possible.

Our next meeting will be Sunday October 25 at Hooksett following rehearsal. Rehearsal begins at 1PM and the books of the Secretary, Treasurer, Trust Funds and Education Loan Fund will be audited at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:09 PM.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **Conflict of Interest Policy for the New Hampshire State Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry**

The purpose of the following policy and procedures is to complement the New Hampshire State Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry bylaws to prevent the personal interest of Executive Committee members and designated individuals from interfering with the performance of their duties to, or result in personal financial, professional, or political gain on the part of such persons at the expense of the New Hampshire State Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry organization.

*Definitions: Conflict of Interest* (also Conflict) means a conflict, or the appearance of a conflict, between private interests and official responsibilities of a person in a position of trust. Persons in a position of trust include State Officers, Executive Committee members and others designated by the State Master or Executive Committee.

#### *POLICY AND PRACTICES*

1. Full disclosure, by notice in writing, shall be made by the interested parties to the full Executive Committee in all conflicts of interest, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. An Executive Committee member or designated individual is related to another member by blood marriage or domestic partnership.
  - b. An Executive Committee member or designated individual or their organization stands to benefit from a transaction such as receiving payment for any subcontract, goods, or services other than as part of her/his regular job responsibilities.
  - c. An Executive Committee member or designated individual is working on behalf of any who meets any of the situations or criteria listed above.
2. Anyone in a position to make decisions about spending resources who also stands to benefit from that decision – has a duty to disclose that conflict as soon as it arises (or becomes apparent): s/he should not participate in any final decisions.
3. Following full disclosure of a possible conflict of interest or any condition listed above, the Executive Committee shall determine whether a conflict of interest exists and, if so the

Executive Committee shall vote to authorize or reject the transaction or take any other action deemed necessary to address the conflict and protect all involved parties best interests. Both votes shall be by a majority vote without counting the vote of any interested Executive Committee member.

4. Transactions with parties whom a conflicting interest exists may be undertaken only if all of the following are observed:
5.
  - A. The conflicting interest is fully disclosed;
  - B. The person with the conflict is excluded from the approval of such transaction;
  - C. A competitive bid or comparable valuation exists; and
  - D. The Executive Committee has determined that the transaction is in the best interest of the organization.
6. An interested Executive Committee member or designated individual shall not participate in any discussion or debate of the Executive Committee, or of any committee or subcommittee thereof in which the subject of discussion is a conflict, transaction, or situation in which there may be a perceived or actual conflict of interest. However, they may be present to provide clarifying information in such a discussion or debate unless objected to by any present board or committee member.
7. Each Executive Committee member or designated individual shall exercise care not to disclose confidential information acquired in connection with disclosures of conflicts of interest or potential conflicts which might be adverse to the interests of the New Hampshire State Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. Furthermore they shall not disclose or use information relating to the business of the New Hampshire State Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry for their personal profit or advantage or the personal profit or advantage of their family member(s).
8. Monetary transactions shall be governed by New Hampshire law (RSA 7:19-a).
9. Board compositions shall be governed by New Hampshire law (RSA 292:6-a).
10. A copy of this policy shall be given to all Executive Committee members or other designated individuals upon commencement of such person's relationship with or at the official adoption of stated policy. Each Executive Committee member and designated individual shall sign and date the policy at the beginning of her/his term of service and each year thereafter. Failure to sign does not nullify the policy.
11. This policy and disclosure form must be filed annually by all specified parties.

I have disclosed any potential conflict of interest concerns below and shall adhere to the rules and regulations as outlined in this conflict of interest policy.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I have no conflict of interest to report

\_\_\_\_\_ I have the following conflict of interest to report (specify other organization boards you may be on or any other non-profits that you or a family member are an officer or director of):

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**INVESTMENT AND SPENDING POLICY  
NH STATE GRANGE OF THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY**

**I. INVESTMENT AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY**

As stated in the New Hampshire State Grange By-laws Article IX Section 3 the Executive Committee shall "supervise the investment and disbursement of money's belonging to the State Grange."

**II. PURPOSE**

The purposes of the following investment guidelines, which are to be reviewed annually by the Executive Committee, are to:

Establish the investment objectives, policies, guidelines and eligible securities relating to any investments owned or controlled by the NH State Grange.

- Identify the criteria against which the investment performance of the organization's investments will be measured.
- Communicate the objectives to the Executive Committee, Treasurer, investment managers and funding sources that may have involvement.
- Serve as a review document to guide the ongoing oversight of the management of the organization's investments.

### III. GUIDELINES FOR INVESTING:

The investment goal of the total fund is to achieve a total return (income and appreciation) of 5% after inflation, over a full market cycle (3-5 years). The following guidelines apply to the three main investment asset classes:

#### **Equities: Allowable Range- Minimum 60%; Maximum 70% of total assets**

The equity component of the portfolio will consist of high quality equity securities traded on the New York, NASDAQ, or American Stock exchanges. The securities must be screened for their above average financial characteristics such as price-to-earnings, return-on-equity, debt-to-capital ratios, etc.

It is acceptable to invest in an equity mutual fund(s) adhering to the investment characteristics identified above, as long as it is a no-load fund, which maintains an expense ratio consistent with those other funds of similar investment styles as measured by the Lipper and/or Morningstar rating services.

Prohibited equity investments include: initial public offerings, restricted securities, private placements, derivatives, options, futures and margined transactions.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE PROHIBITED INVESTMENT POLICY MAY BE MADE ONLY WHEN ASSETS ARE INVESTED IN A MUTUAL FUND (S), THAT PERIODICALLY UTILIZES PROHIBITED STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE RISK AND ENHANCE RETURN.

#### **Fixed Income: Allowable Range- Minimum 30%; Maximum 40% of total assets**

Bond investments will consist solely of taxable, fixed income securities that have an investment-grade rating (Baa or higher) that possess a liquid secondary market.

No more than 5% of the fixed income portfolio will be invested in corporate bonds of the same issuer. As well, not more than 20% of the fixed income portfolio will be invested in bonds of issuers in the same industry.

Prohibited securities include: private placements, derivatives, (other than floating-rate coupon bonds), and margined transactions.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE PROHIBITED INVESTMENT POLICY MAY BE MADE ONLY WHEN ASSETS ARE INVESTED IN A MUTUAL FUND (S), THAT PERIODICALLY UTILIZES PROHIBITED STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE RISK AND ENHANCE RETURN.

#### **Cash and equivalents: Allowable Range- Maximum 5% of total assets**

Cash and equivalents will be utilized for the liquidity needs of the portfolio whose objective is to seek as high a current income as is consistent with liquidity and stability of principal.

### IV. PERFORMANCE AND MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

The benchmarks to be used in evaluating the performance of the two main asset classes will be:

- Equities: S & P 500 Index- Goal: exceed the average annual return of the index over a full market cycle (3-5 years).
- Fixed Income: Lehman Brothers Government/Corporate Index- Goal: exceed the average annual return of the index over a full market cycle (3-5 years).

## V. REPORTING

Financial statements shall be issued at least quarterly and may be issued more frequently if needed or desired. Statements shall list current investments, their costs, current values and transaction history.

Performance reviews will be provided at least once annually and maybe more frequent if desired by a representative of each investment service to the Executive Committee.

## VI. SPENDING POLICY

The spending policy should support the level of current spending while growing the size of current investments to keep pace with inflation and support future obligations.

Each year, the Treasurer is authorized to withdraw **up to 3-½ %** of the total market value of the invested funds (market value to be determined as of the last business day of the preceding fiscal year) for the organization's operating purposes. The dollar amount and timing of any distribution(s) from the investment account will be left up to the discretion of the Executive Committee Chairman and Treasurer. All withdrawals are subject to the rules and guidelines presently in effect for each current investment account.

Any withdrawals of principal require the approval of the NH State Grange Executive Committee.

Adopted by the NH State Grange Executive Committee on September 29, 2009 pending approval by financial advisors.

### **NH State Grange Executive Committee Minutes October 25, 2009- Hooksett, NH**

Meeting called to order at 3:29PM with all members present. Prior to the meeting the Executive Committee audited the financial records of the Treasurer, Secretary, Trustees of Trust Funds and Education Loan Fund.

#### **Executive Committee Secretary Agenda**

**Minutes** of September 29, 2009. After brief discussion we decided the minutes would be accepted as written.

**Election of two Trustees of Trust Funds-** Carolyn made a motion to elect Rodney Huntoon and C. Ann Leger as Trustees of the Trust Funds for three-year terms. Mark Collins seconded the motion. State Master Beth Merrill confirmed she had spoken with both trustees and they have agreed to serve if re-elected. Motion approved 7-yes 0-no.

#### **Chairman's Agenda**

**Proposed Budget for 2009-2010-** all members reviewed the proposal prepared by the Treasurer and discussed several line items in detail.

Carolyn Ross made a motion to accept the proposed budget as amended for presentation to the Delegates. Dan Bascom seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-yes 0-no.

**Fidelity Grange-** Deputy Don Ross has met with them again and answered further questions about consolidation of Granges procedures. He instructed them they must send a written letter to the State Master as soon as possible.

**Wattannick/Hudson-** Deputy Don Ross reported that the proposed consolidation is on hold for now.

**Starr King Grange Hall-** Don reported that the planned clean up day did take place and the building is clean now. Don took pictures of the building including the backdrop curtain. He plans to have the pictures available by State Session. He has received a new appraisal from the Town of Jefferson on the property of \$65,600, which is reduced from the former amount of \$108,000. Aura Hood, Realtor from Lancaster will list the property in mutual listings for \$59,500 for 30 days. If no interest is shown after 30 days the listing price will be reduced. Our contract with her firm is for one year. We have not received any bill from PSNH yet. A realtor for sale sign will be placed on the property.

**State Sessions-** the contract for 2010 in Keene still needs corrections. The due date for signing the contract is November 12, 2009 to hold a block of rooms for individual members. It was noted the \$850 deposit already paid is to hold the meeting room only. Ken Berry, session coordinator has requested approval from the Executive Committee to pursue plans for 2011 session at the Town & Country Motor Inn in Shelburne. Beth Merrill moved Ken Berry pursue plans for the T & C in 2011 for session. Hannah West seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-yes 0-no.

### **Treasurer's Agenda**

**Fourth Quarter Reports-** After reviewing the reports Carolyn Ross moved the reports be accepted as presented. Dan Bascom seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-yes 0-no.

**Randall Richardson Memorial Youth Fund-** After discussion two portions of the proposed guidelines presented by Jim Tetreault were amended. Hannah West moved to accept the guidelines as amended. Paul Davis seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-yes 0-no.

Jim Tetreault reviewed our ongoing **project sheets** noting he had started a new sheet for the new EC year. We closed several items and reopened two that need additional work.

The **Patron's Plunge** was discussed by E-mail since our last meeting. Dan Bascom moved we authorize State Master Beth Merrill to solicit donations for the Patron's Plunge in support of National Master Ed Luttrell and any funds raised by Ed's participation will be donated to the National Grange Trademark Protection Fund. Carolyn seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-yes 0-no.

State Master Beth Merrill gave **local Grange issues** updates.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM.

Gail Turcotte, Secretary  
NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **RANDALL RICHARDSON MEMORIAL YOUTH FUND GUIDELINES**

The Randall Richardson Memorial Youth Fund was established in memory of Randall Richardson, who served the NH State Grange in several capacities. At the request of the Richardson family a memorial fund was established in 1968 to be used for Youth Work, especially to help send the Youth to National Grange.

- Individual Granges are encouraged to send donations on a yearly basis to the State Youth Director.



- The NH State Grange Youth Director will transfer annually by September 20<sup>th</sup> all Randall Richardson Memorial Youth Fund donations to the NH State Grange Treasurer for investment into principal of the fund.
- The accrued income from the fund will be used to assist with travel expenses for Youth Ambassadors, Young Couple, National Officer Corps, and contest winners such a Sign-a-Song and Public Speaking.
- Income may be accrued on a five-year cumulative basis. If any first year income is unspent at the beginning of the sixth fiscal year that portion of income will revert to the principal of the fund.
- The distribution of funds shall be at the discretion of the Youth Director. The NH State Grange Treasurer will assist the Youth Director by determining that sufficient accrued income is available for use in those years that National Session is held furthest from NH and anticipated travel expenses will be the greatest.
- These guidelines may be amended by a majority vote of the NH State Grange Executive Committee.

Adopted October 25, 2009 NH State Grange Executive Committee

These reports were accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Donald Ross asked the Assistant Stewards to escort Gail Turcotte to the altar. Donald presented Gail with an appreciation gift for all she has done over the past year for the good of the Grange.

State Master Beth Merrill recognized Alan Gasbar, Veteran's Committee MA State Grange and his wife.

Past State Master Carl Adams was called upon for remarks.

State Master Beth Merrill called a brief recess at 10:05 AM.

After the recess a video was shown on how to *Make it Rain*.

Master Ed Ford told about Mt Livermore's project researching names for the Veteran's Honor Roll memorial.

State Lecturer Marie Hall was called upon to give her report.

### **Lecturer's Report**

Worthy Master, National Delegates, Pink Sash members, Delegates, Patrons all, the NH State Grange has been very busy this year. As the ice storm created such a hardship for all, the normal Deputy School was not held. I had my first ever committee meeting on January 10 and reviewed the program with the Pomona Lecturers who now make up the State Committee. As this is a new concept, we are still learning how to proceed as a team and we welcome any suggestions from our Subordinate Lecturers as to what they may need from us.

The Northeast Leader's conference this year was in Massachusetts. Ed Luttrell, National Master and Rusty Hunt, National Leadership/Membership Director were present and each gave powerful presentations. We welcomed back New York with open arms and are pleased to have them contribute to our region with fresh ideas. It also seems that wherever we visited this year for a conference snow was happy to follow. We received a good 4 inches while we were at the Saturday Night banquet.

Bowling was held on March 8<sup>th</sup> in Manchester. Registration began at 11:00 a.m. and bowling commenced at 12:00 p.m. Forty-six adult Grangers and eight Junior Grangers bowled that day with the following results:

#### **High Single Men's**

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	David Hewes - 101
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chris Heath - 99

#### **High Triple Men's**

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	David Hewes - 296
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chris Heath - 277

B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ralph Russell Jr. - 110
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dan Bascom - 106
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Tom Gotauco - 119
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wilber Heath - 97
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Jason Russell - 64
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lloyd Lessard - 57

B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dan Bascom - 295
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Arthur Merrill - 288
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Tom Gotauco - 279
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ben Russell - 262
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Jason Russell - 164
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Spencer Farrell - 155

### High Single Women's

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary Dowes - 111
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dianne Hoitt - 95
B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Judy Bailey - 90
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dot Haskins - 89
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Stacey Clark - 109
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sarah Russell - 91
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Allissa Estes - 93
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brittany Estes - 81

### High Triple Women's

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary Dowes - 298
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dianne Hoitt - 270
B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Judy Bailey - 261
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dot Haskins - 249
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sarah Russell - 259
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Stacey Clark - 240
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Allissa Estes - 244
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brittany Estes - 220

### Teams

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	Halloween - 1224
B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Henry Wilson - 1268
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rochester - 1231
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Wingold - 1213
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Somersworth - 1002
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Prentice Hill - 1157

2010 will find us again at Lakeside Lanes in Manchester on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The facility has already been booked and I hope that we will find a larger crowd bowling. Cost will remain the same. There is a category for everyone so please don't hesitate to be daring and maybe try something new.

Vermont/NH night in May again did not come to fruition. I am putting out a call to Granges along the west side of the state to come forward and be willing to host this event. The Grange or even Pomona Grange that is willing to host and have a supper before the meeting will get all the proceeds from this event. The date that can be set-aside for this is either May 1, or May 8 whichever is best for the host grange. On May 16, 2009 NH hosted Maine and the event was held at Rochester Grange. A delicious turkey dinner preceded the program and a wonderful evening was had by all.

The first contest that is due is the State Song for the Northeast Lecturers Conference. I am pleased to announce that Jerry Leclerc won that contest this year with a wonderful song.

June 13, 2009, found us at the Bear Brook 4-H Camp for Spotlight NH. Were you there? Spotlight NH is open for every Grange member. You do not have to perform at your Subordinate level first, and then go on to Pomona level and win in order to come to the State Talent Contest and perform. More than one person from your Grange can enter and compete for the chance to represent NH at, first, the Northeast Lecturers' Conference and, second, at National Grange. You do not have to win at the Northeast Lecturers' Conference to go on to National. You are automatically entered into National when you win Best-of-Show in NH. National Grange gives you \$100 just to show up and perform in their Night of Excellence. Here is a list of brave souls who decided that they would lift up their bootstraps, have some fun, and participate in Spotlight NH. I wish to thank these people for sharing their talent with us. I hope to have people come out in droves next year because I know we have a lot of talent in New Hampshire.

### Vocal

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Mary West  
 "In Times Like This"  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Lynn Clark  
 "Friends"  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Brandon Melanson  
 "Realization" An original Composition

### Variety

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Judy McNally  
 "Winter Woes"  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Matthew Clark  
 "The Blooming Cycles"

### Best-of-Show

Mary West - Vocal

"In Times Like This"

I would like to thank all those Granges that have donated monies to the Talent Fund. Because of you, Mary participated in the Northeast Lecturer's Conference and will be performing at National Grange in November, which is being held in Grand Rapids, Michigan this year. I hope you will all let her know that she has our support.

Northeast Lecturers' Conference was held at Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, Massachusetts and was hosted by the Rhode Island State Grange. This year New Hampshire's Program was based on "We Celebrate New Year's." The group from NH included: Beth Merrill, Dot Haskins, Lorna Bates, Hannah West, Mary West, Anne Boisvert, Alice Tuck, and Jane Heath, as well as myself. These wonderful ladies wore many different hats and I am proud of each and every one of them for the excellent job they did in presenting the NH program.

This conference is open to every Grange member, not just Lecturers. I strongly urge those who have not attended to try it. I cannot express enough about the fellowship, fun, education, idea exchanges, sharing, laughter, and inspiration that each individual who attends brings home. It is my hope that those who attend can bring home and share with their Granges some of the enthusiasm they experience, and we can spread it across the State. Hope to see you next year in Vermont.

Many of you have already been looking at the photos, cards and artwork that are out in the display room. The following is a list of winners:

**PHOTO CONTEST:**

**CLASS I: Traditional**

**A. My Friend/My Companion (Human)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ann Leger - Winthrop
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April Farewell - Mont Calm

**B. Where Am I?**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole
- 2<sup>nd</sup> April Farewell - Mont Calm
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Barbara Dessert - Mont Calm

**C. My Friend/My Companion (Animals)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> James Jacobs - Rochester
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Marie Paoletta - Walpole
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April Farewell - Mont Calm

**D. Any Body of Water**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte - Rochester
- 2<sup>nd</sup> James Jacobs - Rochester
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole

**E. What Is It (What Am I?)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara Dessert - Mont Calm
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Patricia Adams - Mont Calm

**CLASS II: Digital/Digitally Enhanced**

**A. My Friend/My Companion (Human)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kathy Yardley - Walpole
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bonnie Lampman - Rockingham
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop

**B. Where Am I?**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bonnie Lampman - Rockingham
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Judy McNally - Hampton Falls

**C. My Friend/My Companion (Animals)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bonnie Lampman - Rockingham
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wayne Turcotte - Rochester
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop

**D. Any Body of Water**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Wayne Turcotte - Rochester
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bonnie Lampman - Rockingham
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Kathy Yardley - Walpole

**E. What Is It (What Am I?)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bonnie Lampman - Rockingham
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Beth Merrill - Antrim

**JUNIOR GRANGE - CLASS II: DIGITAL/DIGITALLY ENHANCED**

**Where Am I?**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Page Beckert, Granite Jr. Grange

**What Is It (What Am I?)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Page Beckert, Granite Jr. Grange

**CREATIVE CARDS:**

**CATEGORY I - Hand Stamped or Hand Drawn**

**A. Congratulations**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte - Rochester

**CATEGORY II - Computer Generated**

**A. Congratulations**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Jerry Leclerc - Hudson

2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Tyler – Winthrop

**B. Birthday**

1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte – Rochester

**C. Get Well**

1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte – Rochester

**B. Birthday**

1<sup>st</sup> Jerry Leclerc – Hudson

2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Tyler – Winthrop

3<sup>rd</sup> Pamela Kimball – Meriden

**C. Get Well**

1<sup>st</sup> Mary Tyler – Winthrop

2<sup>nd</sup> Jerry Leclerc – Hudson

3<sup>rd</sup> Pamela Kimball - Meriden

**CATEGORY III - Hand Decorated (Lace, Cross Stitch, Photo, Stickers, Etc.)**

**A. Congratulations**

1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte – Rochester

**C. Get Well**

1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte – Rochester

2<sup>nd</sup> Connie Leger – Winthrop

3<sup>rd</sup> Sandra Baker – Pembroke

**B. Birthday**

1<sup>st</sup> Paul Davis – Pembroke

2<sup>nd</sup> Gail Turcotte – Rochester

3<sup>rd</sup> Rhoda Davis – Pembroke

**ART CONTEST:**

**A. Oils & Acrylics**

1<sup>st</sup> Ruth Pelton – Hampton Falls

**B. Watercolors**

**C. Charcoal, Pastels & Pencil**

1<sup>st</sup> Roberta Sliva – Hampton Falls

**D. Multi Media**

1<sup>st</sup> Marion Woodworth – Rochester

2<sup>nd</sup> Pamela Kimball – Meriden

**CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST:**

**I. POETRY – “My Best Friend”**

1<sup>ST</sup> Judy McNally – Hampton Falls

2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Tyler – Winthrop

3<sup>rd</sup> Carl Adams – Mont Calm

**II. TELL THE STORY**

**(What the US of A means to me)**

1<sup>st</sup> No entry

2<sup>nd</sup> No entry

3<sup>rd</sup> No entry

**III READ THE BOOK**

1<sup>st</sup> *Priceless Memories* by Bob Barker – Mary Tyler – Winthrop

2<sup>nd</sup> *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith –  
Camilie Twiss – Watatic

3<sup>rd</sup> *Sisters of the Quilt* by Cindy Woodsmall – Norma Neary – Pembroke

Please stop by my display table to view ALL of the entries into our contests.

Much has been accomplished through the Lecturer’s program this year and I am proud of all who have participated. It’s important to think of what goal or goals you would like to see achieved in your Grange this year. There have been some bumps along the way. The new program of the State Lecturer having a committee has had a little bit of a rough start. Although it has started off rough, a mission statement was formed. I am putting out a challenge to the Pomona Masters to let their Lecturers know that they are entitled to be on the State Lecturer’s Committee and if they (the Lecturer) have no desire to do this then it is the responsibility of the Master to appoint someone in their place. It was requested last year that the Pomona chairmen would become members of the State Committees in order for the Pomona to be a vital link of information between the Subordinate Grange and the State Grange. I believe that this can be

attained but we need the Pomona Masters to be a part of our team by appointing as committee chairs members who are willing to become that vital link.

I would like to thank all the people who have helped me this year. Every Grange member in the State of NH has been a great asset for me. I wish to express thanks to Carolyn Ross for all the help she has been; for being there to bounce ideas off of whenever necessary or to just talk with when I was frustrated. Also I would like to thank Hannah West for graciously placing an article in the GSG when I failed to send her one. My Pomona area has also supported me in every endeavor I have attempted and people all over the State have also given their support.

I would like to thank all the Grangers of the State of New Hampshire for allowing me to serve as your State Lecturer. I am still as excited as when you first elected me. My goal is to fire up as many people as possible to participate in the Grange and to encourage those who have never tried to be a Lecturer to do so and to not be afraid of the position. If you will at least try you will find that the rewards far outweigh any fear you may have.

Fraternally Submitted,  
Marie E. Hall  
Lecturer, NH State Grange

The Report was accepted and was ordered printed in the Journal.

Jim Tetreault was called upon to give the Legislative Report.

### **Report of the Legislative Department**

Worthy Master, Honored Guests and Brother and Sister Patrons:

It is a pleasure to deliver my annual report of the New Hampshire State Grange Legislative Department.

The New Year started out with the annual Northeast Leader's Conference, hosted by the Massachusetts State Grange. This conference is an opportunity for the Legislative Directors of the other six northeast states to gather and discuss common policy issues.

In February the Legislative Committee had the opportunity to meet during the Winter Youth rally to discuss the upcoming legislative session. One of the major initiatives we have worked on this spring is helping to save the NH Department of Agriculture. The governor proposed that the department be combined with several others. The Grange and the Farm Bureau worked together on this. I want to thank all of you who contacted NH House members to spread the Grange's opposition on this important issue. With your help we were able to play a part in attracting over 200 people to attend the hearing; the issue was deemed ITL (inexpedient to legislate).

I was pleased to have had the opportunity to host Connecticut State Grange Legislative Director, Gordon Gibson at the Spring Fling, where he conducted an informative workshop on working in coalition with other organizations. Thank you, Brother Gordon for your assistance.

We have also been focusing on dairy issues; I have written to members of Congress as well as the Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsac on these issues. We are greatly concerned with the conditions of dairy farms in the state of New Hampshire. Thanks to Rep. Bob Haefner, the Grange was represented at a meeting with Secretary Vilsac when he visited NH this spring.

The Worthy State Master, the State Assistant Steward, and I attended the 2009 Legislative Fly-In held at the National Grange headquarters in Washington, DC. What an extraordinary conference this year! Our schedule was very busy. We started on Sunday with a tour of the Seawall/Belmont House and Suffragist Movement Museum. What an interesting tour about a part of history that I was not fully informed on. Our evening ended with a speaker, Megan Keneally, a student at Georgetown University who recently wrote a paper on "How Successful was the Early Grange in Meeting its Founders' Objectives?"

Monday we were presented with a series of issues-oriented workshops:

**Issue #1:** Developing a National Broadband Strategy that includes Rural America, presented by Bruce Mehlman, Co-Chair of the Internet Innovation Alliance.

**Issue #2:** Retirement Security Challenges Facing Family Farmers and Rural Americans in an uncertain Economic Environment, presented by Al Coors, Director of Government Affairs for Retire Safe.org.

**Issue #3:** Expanding of Wireless, “Lifeline Telephone service” for low income Rural Americans presented by Maureen Thompson – senior partner of the Hastings Group.

**Issue #4:** Digital Television Update: “Less than 30 days to go, are we ready?” presented by Mike Diserio, Director of Public Affairs for DTV Transition

**Issue #5:** Health Care Reform: “Bridging the Health Care Gap in Farming and Rural Communities” presented by Jeff Oldham, Deputy Vice President of Pharma.

**Issue #6:** Impact of the Financial Crisis on Financing for Family Farms and Rural Homeowners presented by Tom D. Stenson, Executive Vice President of Agriculture Finance.

**Issue #7:** Renewable Energy and Climate Change presented by Tom Buis, President of Growth Energy.

As you can see, we had to take in a lot of information in one day. All of the workshops were excellent and very worthwhile.

The “big day” is always Tuesday, the day we spend on Capitol Hill. We were fortunate to have the opportunity to meet someone from every congressional office that represents the citizens from NH. I truly believe that everyone is working very hard on our behalf. Our day ended with a nice dinner with lots of conversation about what happened during the day. We also had the opportunity to have our picture taken with Rep. Carol Shea-Porter, who knew that NH Grangers were in the area and actually tracked us down to, say ‘hi’ and pose for a quick picture.

This fall we had our annual Northeast Masters and Legislative Meeting at Eastern States. I was unable to attend this year as my own Grange was having Deputy Inspection that day so Bob Haefner represented me. Discussions centered on the hemp issue with our own State Master providing resource material. Other discussion focused on opposition to legislation that is currently before congress that would place difficult regulation on small family farmers.

This year’s Legislative Awards are being presented as follows Outstanding Legislator-Tara Sad of Walpole for all her work on behalf of Dairy Farmers, the Clesson “Junie” Blaisdell Awards to Dr. Stephen Crawford, NH State Veterinarian and the Robert M. Bodwell Award to Bob Haefner again for his outstanding work on behalf of Dairy issues.

I want to take the opportunity to thank all of my committee members who assisted me this year, with special thanks to Mary West who proofed our resolutions as well as several documents and letters this year. This is such a valuable service especially when you are word-and-grammar-challenged.

Fraternally Submitted,

James M. Tetreault,  
Legislative Director NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Connie Carr was called upon to give the Grange Services report.

### **Report of the Grange Services Department**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Brothers and Sisters:

First, I want to thank my committee for all the help they gave me. Also, Hannah West, her daughter and son-in-law for getting equipment out of the basement to loan out.

We do have personal assistance equipment available for use by members; electric beds, wheelchairs, walkers, canes, commodes and shower chairs. We do not get very many requests for these items. In the coming year the committee will explore ways in which we can maximize the utilization of equipment.

We met in July and discussed the money available and awarded four scholarships for a total of \$5,900.00.

We had one more Pomona and three fewer subordinates that donated this year; income was down by \$1,095.00.

Memorial gifts in memory of five Grangers totaled \$250.00.

We made one loan in the amount of \$1,000.00. There are also available funds for help with hearing aids, eyeglasses, etc. Please feel free to contact any committee member to obtain information.

Respectfully submitted,  
Constance Carr, Director

**Grange Services  
Educational Loan Fund Balance Sheet  
September 30, 2009**

October 1, 2008-Ocean National Bank		\$4880.14
Contributions		
6 Pomonas	\$130.00	
21 Subordinates	675.00	
<b>Total Contributions</b>		805.00
Memorial Gifts	250.00	
Janet Woodbury		
Laura Tyrell		
Evelyn Howe		
Louisa Butcher		
John West (3 donations)		
<b>Total Memorial Gifts</b>		250.00
Income		
Interest Paid	169.00	
Principal Paid	1824.00	
TD Banknorth for Scholarships	5900.00	
Interest, Ocean National Bank	7.26	
<b>Total Loan Income</b>		7900.26
Expenses		
Ocean Bank-checkbook order	16.00	
Scholarships	5900.00	
Postage	59.20	
Printing Annual Appeal Letters	7.64	
One new loan	1000.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		6852.56

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Membership Chairman Stephen Tracy was called upon to give the Membership Development report.

**2009 Membership Development Report**

The year started off with a presentation at Leadership School on what Mark Collins and I learned from Rusty Hunt in New Jersey on building and rebuilding Granges. Feedback was positive and we learned that our presentation was too short to feed the interest.

Again this year we had more GRIT teams trained and put into service. GRIT means "Granges Really in Trouble." Throughout the year we have learned that there are more GRIT Granges than there are trained team members. Rather than accidentally snub anyone this year, I will ask if you are a trained team member, please stand. Thank you for your efforts.

On June 27, a team went to Aurora Grange for Degree Day; there were six Aurora candidates and one from Winthrop. Good job, Aurora and Winthrop. These are two strong and active Granges, and if you miss the ritual like I do, I suggest a visit to these Granges. They have pianists and they do the floor work in grand style.

During one of our leadership meetings, general conversation turned toward Granges bringing in new members. Numbers tossed around were quite positive. It appears that we are on an upward swing. Good work, Grangers!

One thing I spoke of last year was improving our Grange image. From what I am hearing across the state, this is happening in a positive manner. In order to grow, we need to make sure that the community knows we are there and are a positive member of our community.

Some examples of community activities are Granite Grange suppers, Meriden Grange movie and speaker nights, Park Grange fair booth, Halloween Night Open House and breakfasts. Blow-Me-Down Grange has suppers, brunches, flea markets and rummage sales, Christmas bazaar and July 4<sup>th</sup> activities. The community talk has changed; it is no longer "I thought the Grange was dead."

Inspired by the loss of Cornish Grange, three struggling nearby Granges (Park, Blow-Me-Down and Meriden) combined efforts and started a summer agriculture series with speakers and activities held once a month at the three different halls. About ten people were expected but fifty showed up at the first meeting!! Talk about fishes and loaves! True to the Grange image, everyone got something to eat.

In my travels to meetings, I hear excuses why a Grange can't do something. I spoke of this last year as one of our biggest deterrents to growth and activity. Little Park Grange and Blow-Me-Down Grange have proven what a positive outlook can do even with a small and somewhat elderly membership, and Park Grange doesn't even have a full kitchen! This has increased activity among members of Park to the point where more members come out to the breakfasts than to meetings, so the meetings have been changed to follow the breakfasts. For the winter they will have soup and sandwiches with board and card games, and general socializing one Saturday a month.

Due to the number of GRIT Granges in comparison to GRIT team members and requests from other Grangers, I am planning a training frenzy next year. Realizing that we cannot afford Rusty again, the plan is to utilize our capably trained team members at several locations across the state. Our trained members are hardworking and dedicated, but it is too big a job for them. We need more workers in the field. These trainings will be one-day sessions with either a bring-your-own lunch or possibly a meal served by the host Grange. Remember, it is the duty of all members to be good membership stewards.

With all the newly trained GRIT team members, I would like to express Worthy National Master's challenge of growth for next year. Growth can be the number of new members or it can be the revitalizing of old Granges, or starting a whole new Grange, Subordinate or Pomona. Remember the joy when Peterborough Grange came into our midst? I challenge you to at least two new or revitalized Subordinate Granges, and I double challenge you to rebuild a Pomona with the new Subordinate. MAKE MY DAY!!!!

I want to honor some Granges for two different aspects of Grange growth. A positive Grange image in the community is important to Grange growth; a Grange which has 'stepped out of the box' of 'we can't do that' attitude to being an active Grange within its community. Honorable Mention goes to Park Grange; job well done. But the Good Grange Image Award goes to Blow-Me-Down.

Another aspect of Grange growth is new members. A struggling Grange that can work to increase its membership deserves recognition and honor. Although Walpole Grange took in 17 new members, they are a strong Grange. I give them Honorable Mention. I also give Honorable Mention to Aurora Grange. But the Phoenix Award goes to Riverhill Grange; once a struggling-to-meet Grange, they have taken in 14 new members. Riverhill and Blow-Me-Down Granges will each receive \$250 for their efforts.

There may be other Granges who have done well, but I did not hear of their work or read it in the *Granite State Granger*. I want to thank all Grangers for another successful year, and I look forward to the opportunity to serve you again next year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen Tracy



NH State Grange Development Director

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Chairman Rodney Huntoon was called upon to give the report for the NH State Grange Trustees of Trust Funds.

### **Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Brothers and Sisters all:

The past year can be described as one of tremendous turmoil for the Trustees. We have been trying to get in compliance with the new rules and regulations with the Attorney General's office. We had to set a historical value for both the Trust and the Blaisdell Funds at \$40,000.00 and \$9,000.00 respectively. A spending policy of 3½ % was also established rather than the previous 5%.

Our funds fell below the historic values due to the stock market valuations; therefore the Attorney General's office forced us to halt our assistance program for our fellow Grangers. We realize the great need out there, but our hands were tied. We are now above the historic figures and have been able to assist one recipient, who will receive payment in the 2009-2010 year. One applicant received funds in the early part of this year.

We are not being allowed to co-mingle our funds with the larger pool of the State Grange Accounts. In reviewing the investment opportunities for the Grange Funds, the Executive Committee invited the Trustees to meet with our present investor and two other investors. Some of our members were able to attend and then we met to make our final decision. The vote was to stay with the present investment service.

At this time, we are in the process of signing a contract with TD Wealth Management to set up our account separate from the other State Grange Funds. This will also change the type of investments we are allowed.

This past year has been one of frustration and anxiety for your trustees. We are hopeful that when we have our new accounts set up, we will be able to fulfill the mission of assisting our fellow Grangers in their time of need.

Submitted by:  
Rodney Huntoon  
Chairperson, NH State Grange Trustees.

Rodney's report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

### **Minutes of Trustee's Meetings**

#### **October 23, 2008**

Opened in form at 4:30 p.m. by Chairman Camilie Twiss. Other members present were, Diane Collins, Elizabeth Cotsibas, Ann Leger, Rodney Huntoon, and Gail Turcotte. State Master Beth Merrill was also present.

Minutes were approved as revised.

Confirmation of Terms of service

- a. E. Cotsibas - 2011
- b. O. Ahern - 2011—terms reviewed and re- elected by Ex. Comm.
- c. G. Turcotte - 2011—changed to 2010 as she is an elected officer and this is an election year.
- d. D. Collins - 2010
- e. A. Leger - 2009
- f. C. Twiss - 2009

Gail reported that she had a good meeting with Terry Knowles. The Trust funds are still frozen pending official acceptance of Historic Values and until they are separated from the General Funds.

Question of whether now is a good time to be moving funds into a separate account with the market being so low and if we will be "fined" with a withdrawal fee. Yes, now is the time to move the funds into their own separate mutual funds.

Each trustee was given a copy of the Trust Funds and two contracts (one for the bank and one for us to keep in our personal records). We need to take the time to read and "digest" them so that we can sign them as soon as possible.

#### Change in Duties

Secretary - Will send out minutes along with a reminder of the next meeting time and date.

Chairman - Will prepare agendas of meetings

Treasurer - Upon approval of at least 3 trustees the treasurer will send a copy of the donation letter and voting record to the chairman. To be responsible for submitting financial Trust Fund records of all Trust funds for annual audit by the NH state grange and financial reports to the Internal Revenue Service and the NH Attorney General- Charitable Trust Unit.

#### Other Business;

The NH State Grange Ex. Committee audited the Trust fund records.

Donations for immediate needs total \$225.50. A check of \$225.50 was given to the individual who was voted on at the previous meeting, the rest of the \$300.00 allocated for the person will be sent later when we may use our funds.

Worthy Master Beth Merrill updated us on the search for other wealth managers that we may invite in to show us their portfolio management. Brayshaw Financial, Ben Brayshaw, owner, invests using annuities, not mutual funds and the Worthy Master thinks that it would be very beneficial if we would come to a meeting with them. Potential meeting date of December 6th was set up, Jim Tetreault will be in contact with us in a few days to verify the date and time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Collins, Secretary

#### **May 14, 2009**

Present: Ann Leger, Omer Ahern, Gail Turcotte, Diane Collins, Elizabeth Cotsibas, Beth Merrill, Rodney Huntoon

Meeting opened in form by Diane Collins, Secretary at 6:45 pm.

Letter of Resignation from Chairman, Camilie Twiss was read and regretfully accepted.

Announcement that Rodney Huntoon was elected to be a member of the Trustee's by the State Grange Executive Committee. Motion made by Omer to nominate Rodney Huntoon as Chairman, seconded by Ann. Nominations closed. Approved-4, abstain-0

Secretary will stay the same, Diane Collins.

Reading minutes of last meeting: Motion made to accept minutes as corrected by Ann and seconded by Elizabeth. Approve- 4, abstain- 1

Conflict of Interest policy was signed and turned in to the chairman by all members on May 14, 2009.

Latest dollar value of trust funds as of April 10, 2009 was;

NH Grange trust: \$37,736.22

Blaisdell trust fund: \$8,851.94

Both trusts are below the Historic value that was set previously.

Motion made by Omer, that we notify the Attorney General's office 60 days ahead of time to use our funds to fill a request that has shown that the applicant is "suffering substantial hardship", as stated by RSA 292-B. We will be paying the full amount requested of \$400.00 to this applicant. Motion seconded by

Ann. Discussion that the AG office has not approved the Historic value and Spending Policy. We will need more information i.e.; what other avenues applicant has tried to get help, what/who applicant received loan from to pay oil bill, to help prove hardship.

Approved- 4, abstain- 1 to force the issue with the AG office

Diane will follow up with applicant about where they got the loan. Omer will help Diane to write the letter to the AG office. Omer will contact the AG office and find out the status of the Historic value and Spending Policy; he will also inform them of the new chairman. Gail will contact the bank about the change in chairman.

Discussion about NH Charitable Trust

-Omer feels that as long as we have a group of dedicated trustees that we should continue to seek financial investment opportunities.

Financial investments meetings:

There are three financial investment firms that we will be meeting with for information of possible change of investment strategies. The Executive committee will be meeting with us as well.

Smith & Barney- June 11, 2009

Edward Jones – date to be announced

TD Wealth management- TBA

Motion to adjourn made by Omer, seconded by Diane. Vote is unanimous.

Adjourned at 8:07 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Collins, Secretary

### **July 30, 2009**

Present: Ann Leger, Elizabeth Cotsibas, Diane Collins, Rodney Huntoon, and members of the Executive Committee

Absent: Omer Ahern, Jr.

Discussion of the three suggestions of how to invest the Trust funds. Motion made by Ann to “follow the lead of the Executive Committee and continue investing and working with TD Wealth management”. Seconded by Elizabeth.

Roll call:

Ann - yes

Elizabeth - yes

Diane - nay

Rodney - yes

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Collins, Secretary

Kim Bascom read the reports of the Operations Department.

### **Operations**

Worthy State Master Beth, National Representatives Ed & Celia, brothers & sisters;

This is the report of Operations Committee which includes Blueberry pie, Family Weekend, Building, Session, Resolutions, & Fund Raising committees.

### **Fund Raising**

We had a Yankee Candle Sale, which did very well. We sold T-shirts & Sweat shirts at State Session, which promoted National Session in Conn. We had a 50/ 50 raffle at State Session and will do so again this year. In November we had a craft fair at the State Grange Building, which did well. I decided that a

silent auction at State Session this year would be fun as well as profitable so please bid and bid often. I would like each Pomona to consider donating a gift basket for the silent auction next year. Maybe we can turn it into a contest to see which Pomona can raise the most money. Can you believe we are actually taking the Patrons Plunge into the icy Atlantic in October at State Session? It will be a GREAT event. I would like to thank anyone who helped out with any of these events.

Fraternally,  
Kimber Bascom

### **2009 Blueberry Pie Days Report**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests and Patrons all,  
NH State Grange had the opportunity to staff the Blueberry Pie Booth in the New Hampshire building again on two Fridays this year. We had at least thirty participants including a couple of youngsters, ages 9 and 10, who learned some new tasks such as how to make a root beer float. Everyone had a great time and we are looking forward to being involved with this enjoyable fundraiser next year.

Fraternally submitted,  
Gwendolyn Yardley,  
Big "E" Coordinator

### **2009 Grange Family Weekend**

The 2009 Grange Family Weekend was held at the Cornish Fairgrounds on June 26-28, and we had 15 people camping. We enjoyed games, a scavenger hunt, movies, ice cream and fellowship. Saturday evening we had 30 people enjoying a delicious Fiesta themed dinner, prepared by Jane Trombi (and her world famous kitchen crew), and the ever-popular penny sale. Thanks to all who participated and special thanks to all who helped. Family Weekend has proven to be a very enjoyable activity for many years. Unfortunately, attendance has dwindled. If you have never attended (or if it has been a while since you've joined us) I strongly urge you to come on out and join us for a weekend of fun and fellowship. If you have any suggestions for future locations or activities, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Trombi  
Grange Family Weekend Coordinator

### **State Grange Building Report:**

As of last year's session of the NH State Grange, Marty Boisvert became the building manager of the State Grange Building in Hooksett. In November, JR Hueber Building and Remodeling installed a new green metal roof. This led to a much easier winter for maintenance, as the roof never needed shoveling no matter how much snow and ice fell on it. Also during the past year, the seal and the toilet valve assembly were replaced in the women's bathroom. The men's room toilet had been replaced the year before. Assorted ballasts and light bulbs were changed during the year as well as the batteries in the smoke detectors. The light switches in the box in the back of the hall were relabeled to hopefully lower confusion about "which switch is which."

Paul and Rhoda Davis continue to do summer lawn maintenance and the Bascoms continue to maintain the plantings around the building. Claire Gagne continues to clean the building on a regular basis and report any issues to the building manager. The furnace was cleaned this fall.

Hannah West has been taking reservations for the use of the building and arranging for the pick-up and drop-off of keys. So far in 2009, ten groups have used the building for baby showers, birthday parties, and other such gatherings (2008 data not available). Upcoming/ongoing projects include renewing the assembly permit with the Hooksett Fire Department, fixing the inside damage caused by the old roof leaking, and tracking down keys to the building held by people who no longer are in need of them.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marty Boisvert

## State Session Coordinator 2008-2009

Worthy Master, National Representatives, State Officers, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters All:  
Another Grange year has passed and it is time for my second annual report. This year has been busier than I would have ever expected it to be, as you will observe in my report. I have had many meetings here at the Ashworth by the Sea Hotel. As this is my first contract as your Session Coordinator for our annual convention, I am still in the learning process. Kathy Maxwell, Group Sales Manager is the person I contact in regards to the guest rooms. Cheri Halberstadt, the Catering Sales Manager, is in charge of the meeting rooms and banquet functions. When it comes to contracting a hotel you really have two contracts, not just one. It has been a learning experience and a lot to learn. I could not have asked for two greater ladies to work with over this last 15 months. A dear friend in Exeter, who coordinates the State Lions Clubs conventions here at the Ashworth, had already told me that they will make me look very good. After the weekend is over I will be able to tell if this really true or not.

I started working with the Radisson Hotel in Manchester for the State Grange invitation to host the 2013 National Convention. I have been in contact with Jessica Cope, National Grange Convention Planner. I told her what to expect with the Radisson Hotel. We discussed the information packet about the Radisson Hotel. In addition I have stressed that this was the only hotel that could accommodate this type of convention in the state of New Hampshire. We in New Hampshire want all functions of the National Convention to be held in one city and not have to travel to other cities, as has been done in the past. I have also been able to praise our great Manchester-Boston airport.

Jessica called me back in April to let me know that the National Grange Executive Committee would be meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> in New Jersey. Then we waited and waited for a response to find out if the National Grange had accepted New Hampshire's bid for the 2013 Convention.

By the middle of July I received a call from Jessica. She called to inform our State Master, Beth Merrill and me, to congratulate us on receiving the bid for the 2013 National Convention. I am very pleased to say that the 147<sup>th</sup> National Grange Annual Convention will be held November 12-16, 2013 at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester.

I am look forward to meeting with our State Master, Beth Merrill and Dan Bascom, Priest Archon of the Assembly of Demeter, in regards to the staging of the 7<sup>th</sup> degree. I hope in my capacity of State Session Coordinator that I will be able to assist in the hotel portion of the National Grange Convention. It only took 100 years for the National Grange to return to the Granite State.

Next year our 137<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will be held at the Best Western Sovereign Hotel in Keene on October 28-31, 2010. The contract is not complete at this time due the fact of our special meeting and decisions on August 22<sup>nd</sup> as to what was going to happen with the state budget. I would like to take this time to thank the delegates for their support in passing both dues increases. Not knowing what the outcome of the meeting would be, I had to hold off in processing the contract. Next week I will be completing this task.

The State Grange Executive Committee held a meeting on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. At that meeting they approved my selection for 2011 Annual Convention. The 138<sup>th</sup> NH State Grange Convention will be held at the Town & Country Motor Inn in Gorham on Oct 27-29, 2011. I would also like to thank Ann Leger for leading me in this direction.

This year has been a busy one. Dealing with four hotels in one year is not easy. I am already looking at locations for 2012 and 2013 and more information will be out with my report next year.

I would like to thank our Worthy State, Master Beth Merrill for her support. I cannot leave out the State Executive Committee for their many approvals this year.

Fraternally,  
Kenneth L. Berry  
NH State Grange State Session Coordinator

The Operations reports were accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Hannah West led us all in a song.

The State Master was called upon to give her Master's Address.

### **State Master's Address**

Distinguished Guests, Officers of the NH State Grange, Delegates and Patrons:  
It is with honor I present to you now my third Annual Address.

### **Travelogue**

I'd like to open my Address with a quick travelogue and highlights from the past year while serving as your State Master. I wrote details about these in my columns in the *Granite State Granger*, so I won't elaborate here, but would just like to acknowledge my attendance at these events for the record:

National convention in Cromwell, CT; Northeast Leaders' Conference in MA; Farm & Forest Expo; Winter Youth Rally; State Masters' Conference in Fayetteville, AR; Spring Fling Grange Month Kickoff; two meetings of the Grange Building Trustees and the Northeast Connection at the New England Grange Building; National Grange Legislative Fly-In; New England Go To Church Sunday; Family Weekend; Northeast Youth Conference; first meeting of the NH Grange Foundation; Northeast Lecturer's Conference; Summer Deputy School; the Big "E" Grange store volunteer; National Representative to the Illinois and Connecticut State Granges; Dorchester Grange's Curtain Celebration.

### **2008 National Grange**

What a blast we had in Cromwell, CT at the 142<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the National Grange. More than fifty NH Grangers attended at least a portion of the convention, including talent winner, Kathy Yardley of Walpole Grange, sign-a-song winner, Marie Hall of Gilman Grange, Allissa Estes of Somersworth Grange who served as Flora for the youth opening, and Sarah Leclerc of Hudson Grange who was the scepter bearer for the Trumpet Girl March during the Seventh Degree. They all did New Hampshire proud! I enjoyed the duties of the Lady Assistant Steward and also served as Attendant #1 for the Seventh Degree. I appreciated the opportunity to see the conferral from behind the curtain. This year, I'm looking forward to sharing the stage with Dan Bascom, Priest Archon, and Arthur Merrill, who will be Priest Conductor. Many thanks to Hannah West, Allissa Estes, Mark Collins, Tricia Taylor, Jim Tetreault, and Gloria Davis for volunteering to help out on NH's day to host the convention.

### **National Grange 2013**

It was announced this summer that indeed, New Hampshire is to host the 2013 National Grange Convention, which will be held at the Radisson Hotel and Center of NH in Manchester. Much work lies before us all, as we will want to show off the admirable qualities of our state and our people. Plans will be starting very soon, as we want to make a memorable convention for everyone involved just in case it's another 100 years before National Grange comes to our state for their annual convention. You will be notified soon of an upcoming "start-up" dreaming session where anyone interested in sharing some ideas for tour stops, table favors, notable speakers, etc. should plan to come and share their ideas!

### **Tyson Foods\Name Protection**

Well, the threat from Tyson Foods to take our Grange name for their own commercial purposes seems to have subsided. Truly, was this not a modern-day David vs. Goliath story? I want to profusely express my gratitude to the NH Granges that supported the efforts of the National Grange by sending donations to offset the legal costs, and to congratulate our National Master for the first-class leadership he provided in guiding our organization through the maze of lawyers, legal action, and public relations.

While Tyson may now be out of the picture, the issue of protecting our trademark logo and name is morphing into a new campaign to defend us from a number of other business entities who are using the Grange name. Your National Executive committee has a 4-point plan to deal with this issue and our National Grange staff is working hard to put this in motion.

1. At the National Grange convention next month, it is expected that the delegates will adopt a new section in the Digest to set rules on how to gain use of the Grange trademark and who may use it.

2. Continue defending our name against those filing to take it and those infringing on it.

3. National Grange is collecting more information on specific goods and services that the Grange provides. This information will help to enhance the trademark protection and to file additional subcategories under our general trademarks. Your help is crucial to success.

4. Seek federal legislation to protect the Grange name at the same level as the Red Cross, Scouts, Olympic Committee and about 34 others. The National Grange will need your help as in the near future federal legislation will be introduced to provide additional protection that will virtually eliminate the chances of a large deep-pocket company filing against us again. This will be a congressional effort that will require the help and participation of every member.

### **Five Priorities**

The Five Priorities of the National Grange are to:

- \* Increase active membership and participation at each Community Grange
- \* Develop new leaders and give them opportunities at each Community Grange
- \* Revitalization of Community Granges as a State Grange Priority
- \* Organize New Community Granges
- \* Re-emphasize and strengthen the family structure through the Junior and Youth programs

Our State Grange Leadership Team in January 2008 adopted only four of these priorities at that time, rejecting the idea of forming new Granges as a main concern for growth within our State Grange. In a twist of irony, just three months later, Peterborough Grange #35 dropped out of the sky and into our laps.

There have been several small expressions of interest in starting Granges in several areas of the state, and providing that we can assemble some trained members willing to pursue such a lofty goal it would be great to see what can be developed in those little pockets of interest throughout the state.

**Therefore, I recommend that our State Grange reconsider adopting a fifth priority set forth by our National Master that we didn't think applied to our state when first presented with the program in January 2008 and add organizing new community Granges as the fifth priority of focus for 2010.**

### **Youth**

The last of the National Master's Five Priorities of the Grange is to re-emphasize and strengthen the family structure through the Junior & Youth programs. The Youth Department in NH has a high degree of excellence in everything they do – except, it seems in gathering large numbers of youth members to youth events. I hope we all can support the Youth and Junior Directors in finding solutions and new ideas to encourage a higher percentage of participation by youth at State Grange functions. We especially need contacts for parents of children who would like to join a Jr. Grange. The Jr. Director has been authorized to organize a State Jr. Grange, but it's going to take a team to assist her in getting it up and running. We are also in serious need of Grange members who are willing to serve as Junior Leaders so that we can take the opportunity to organize several Jr. Granges over the next few years. Please do what you can to support this important investment into the future of the Grange.

As for the youth program, I would encourage the Granges who are in communities where their high school has an active FFA chapter, please contact them and invite them to make a presentation at your meeting. Learning more about their organization, whose roots of origin are deeply intertwined with the Grange, can plant the seed for future membership in the Grange, especially once their FFA membership expires by the age of twenty-two.

### **State Grange Foundation**

Despite the delegate's approval to start forming the groundwork for establishing a NH Grange Foundation at last year's session, plans to do so were soon abandoned, by vote of the Executive Committee, when we learned that Granges could use the National Grange Foundation to fundraise for certain approved projects. This seemed an easier route to take until we learned later in the year that the State Grange is set to receive a substantial bequest from a deceased member who had benefited years ago when he was

awarded a Grange scholarship. The provision of the bequest is that it be received by a 501c3, and since our State Grange is a 501c8, we were not yet entitled to receive it. So consequently, we have restarted plans to organize our own Foundation and five Directors have been elected by the Executive Committee to work on its creation. You will hear a report from the Chairman of the Foundation, Jean Abbott at another time during this session. We will keep you informed as to whether or not we do receive the scholarship money that Clarence C. Sprague intended us to receive from his estate.

### **Pomona Granges**

The new system of Pomona committee chairmen serving on State Committees got off to a rough start, especially with the 2008 ice storm interfering with our plans to hold an all-inclusive Deputy and Departments School, but I hope things are beginning to get on track. I appreciate the efforts of the few Pomona Masters who are truly making an effort to reach out to the Granges within their district. If any member would like to provide me with feedback as to how the plan of making the Pomona Grange an important link of communication between the State and Community Granges is progressing, I would like to receive it. We plan to continue working out the bugs so that the intent of this program is still intact allowing the Directors to have the assistance they need to carry out their duties.

### **Industrial Hemp**

This spring I attended the hemp bill hearing in the NH House of Representatives. It was a disappointing year to say the least, as the bill did not even make it out of the House Environment and Agriculture committee. Instead, said committee indicated that this year they will draft a resolution to be sent to Congress stating their support for the federal government to legalize growing of hemp. Last year I challenged every Grange to develop and present programs during their meetings about the historical usage, stigma, manufactured products, environmental benefits, and/or economical impact of industrial hemp that will provide education on the issue in their own communities. Thanks to East Rockingham Pomona for their kind invitation to present a program at a meeting this year. I also have an invitation to speak at Rockingham Grange as soon as we can set a date to do so. **Again, this year, I challenge your Grange to present an educational industrial hemp program.**

### **Spring Fling**

The second annual Spring Fling Grange Month Kickoff Event was held in April and featured a number of workshops on topics varying from sewing a quilt square to sustainable living to code book reading. The comments on the evaluation sheets that day were favorable, some even bemoaning the fact that there weren't more Grangers there to enjoy the multiple learning opportunities provided by the varying workshop topics and speakers. We were honored to have Lorraine Merrill, NH Commissioner of Agriculture as our featured speaker and she generously stayed and answered many questions that our members asked. If there is a topic that you would like to know more about, let me know and we will do our best to make sure that it is included in the 2010 Spring Fling program.

### **The Big "E"**

Last year, I recommended that a committee be formed to visit the New Hampshire room in the New England Grange Building and evaluate the site, propose a redecorating scheme, initiate fundraising for this purpose, and complete the necessary work in a timely manner. Since no members came forth with an indication of interest in serving on the committee, and since fellow NH Grange Building trustees Jim Tetreault and Matthew Clark seemed willing to take on the task, the three of us did some minor renovations of the room, mostly by adding a fresh coat of paint. Our efforts were rewarded by many favorable comments from Grangers and fairgoers alike. Brother Clark will give a more detailed report later and outline some ideas of other things we'd like to add in order to do a better job showcasing New Hampshire attractions and products. An updated map was created for this year's expo, which shows where our current Granges are located. It is available for your viewing in the display room and you will note that the pins are color-coded by Pomona.

### **Painted Curtains**

Many of you may remember the presentation that Chris Hadsel of the Vermont Painted Curtain project gave at a recent state convention at Nashua. She showed slides and explained the necessity and process on how to restore and care for the historic painted curtains and backdrops found at many Granges and Town Halls. Her research and restoration efforts in Vermont are mostly complete, so she is also talking about possibly making this a national project and was disappointed Worthy National Master to not be available to come and speak to you in person about her proposal.

In 2008, "Curtains Without Borders" and the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance began a survey to locate and document New Hampshire's collection of historic scenery. As of June 2009, 105 pieces have



been located and about 30 have been visited. The goal of the project is to raise awareness of New Hampshire's historic scenery and encourage conservation wherever possible. The NH Preservation Alliance is also interested in the condition and preservation needs of the town halls, granges, and other community buildings that traditionally house historic painted scenery. For more information and to contact Chris directly you can visit the website at [www.curtainswithoutborders.org](http://www.curtainswithoutborders.org).

### **Compliance to Digest and By-laws**

One thing I'm learning is that our organization, small and struggling though it may be, needs to be updated and learn to exist in the modern world. Because of our early culture of being an organization that is "secret", we have learned to carry out our business and activities in our quiet little meeting places, doing our service to communities with very little notice or fanfare. We don't ask much from our communities and they often don't think to ask much of us. We assume that this is how it will always be – the Grange carrying out its good works in the community with no interference or hindrance from outside sources, but I see evidence to the contrary. When government struggles to meet its budget, they start looking for sources of revenue everywhere they can think of, even our Granges. You might be saying, "Well, my Grange doesn't have any money or a building, so I don't have to worry about **that**," but can you be sure? Will there be any issues of noncompliance found in the search as government looks for loose change amongst the cushions of the community organization "sofa"? Is your Grange incorporated with the State of NH and are you current with your filings with the Secretary of State's office? Have you filed your 990-N report to the IRS, or has someone done this for you? If an audit of your financial records were requested, would you be ready with clear and accurate accounts? When was the last time that your Executive Committee audited your accounts? Does your Grange have a quorum at your meetings? Do you meet at least once every month? All monies received by a Grange should be given to the Secretary, who then records the receipt before handing it over to the Treasurer. Since it then falls upon the Treasurer to give the Secretary a receipt for the money received before making a deposit, isn't it obvious that the Secretary and Treasurer must not be the same person? This prevents the check and balance system of Grange bookkeeping to function properly. And whether your Grange elects a full slate of officers or if you consider yours to be an "action Grange", this is the standard procedure for operating a Grange. These are just a couple examples of things I'm learning that we should be aware of as potential hazards to our continued good standing in the community.

### **Closing Granges**

This is truly one of the worst parts of the job of State Master, especially when I am told that a Grange has already closed, without any prior notification to the State Master or Executive Committee. Brothers and Sisters, I refer back to my earlier comments about being compliant with state and federal regulations. This also applies to the by-laws of the State Grange, which specifically outlines how to close a Grange, the first item of which is to notify the State Master that you are just **considering the possibility** of closing. It is a violation of Grange by-laws to disperse any funds once the idea of closing has been introduced, but something happens to our psyche during this process that makes us feel the need to have the final say on the dispersal of assets to the point where we forget, or ignore the pledges we made throughout the process of initiation to abide by the Constitution, rules and regulations of the Grange at all levels. Members in these Granges often adopt an attitude of "they" when feeling frustrated or threatened by the specified process. "How can 'they' tell us what to do?" "How can 'they' tell us what to do with our money?" "Who do 'they' think they are?" Along the same line, a recent letter I received made the statement, we "do not understand why National should be able to tell us how many members we need in order to keep our charter."

**In an effort to refresh our memories and gain a better understanding of the inner workings of our Order, I recommend that every Subordinate Grange have a portion of the by-laws read and clarified at each meeting under the order of business "Grange Services".**

### **Closings and Consolidations**

I am sad to report that Charlestown, Starr King, Moultonborough, Sullivan and Brookline/Wilton Jr. Granges have consolidated or closed and currently, two others are in the process of consolidating. As a result of the loss of Sullivan Grange, Sullivan County Pomona was reduced to just two Granges, so consequently has been closed by the State Grange, per Article XIII, Section 1, Division 3 of the New Hampshire State Grange by-laws. This is definitely my least favorite part of being your State Master, especially since I am often notified long after said Grange has begun the process on its own. When procedures are not followed, when our own governing by-laws and Digest are cast aside, chaos and disorder reign supreme, often with the possibility of fraud in the mix. In this time of great scrutiny from

outside governmental agencies we must be diligent in observing and practicing the very same rules that we have created for ourselves. The existence of our Grange depends upon it!

### **Compensation**

While visiting at the Connecticut State Grange session earlier this month, I noted that one of the resolutions adopted was for their State Grange to match the compensation money offered by the National Grange to new and reorganized Granges, (providing they meet certain criteria) up to \$400 for new Granges and up to \$200 for reorganizations. **I would recommend also that our State Grange consider offering a similar reward for new and reorganized Granges in New Hampshire.**

### **State Master's Award for Excellence in Teamwork Rochester Grange**

I commend Rochester Grange for taking to heart this same challenge that I first issued last year. No other Grange has reported to me that they did, indeed, study parts of our By-laws at their meetings. As a result of those studies, they found some areas that needed clarification and followed through the process by submitting resolutions to make appropriate changes. The State Master issued the challenge and the Grange addressed the issue. I'd say that is a great example of Teamwork for the improvement of the organization, so I honor Rochester Grange's spirit of Teamwork with the State Master's Award for Excellence in Teamwork.

### **Executive Committee**

Each year it seems, the Executive Committee has more and more work to do requiring us to meet with increasing regularity. We met three times just in July! This year we handled many complicated issues, number one being the state of our invested funds. This required several sessions with invited financial advisers who made proposals to us and answered all our "Investing for Dummies" questions. While at times it seemed as though we were meeting often with nothing getting accomplished, we can now refer to our worksheets, designed by your Worthy Overseer, Jim Tetreault. At a quick glance I am able to look at the worksheets and be amazed at how much we did accomplish in just one year.

Because the Executive Committee has met so often and worked so long and arduously this year, they have proven their worthiness to be recognized as an Outstanding Team of the NH State Grange for 2009 and I would like to recognize each one of them with a special Master's Outstanding Teamwork Award at this time.

### **Anne & Marty Boisvert**

Anne and Marty designed a brilliant booth for our Grange exhibit at the Farm & Forest Expo in February. It was attractive, it carried out the theme of the expo with great clarity, and it gave booth workers great opportunities to interact with the public, especially by way of the unique, handmade gifts that were distributed. Those handouts created a need for the recipient to follow through from their visit and log onto the State Grange website to get directions on how to plant their Grange logo which was printed on a special copy paper embedded with flower seeds. So clever was this exhibit that the judges there awarded the State Grange booth with the best Educational Exhibit Award, which entitles us to a free booth space at next year's expo. Undeniably, Anne and Marty Boisvert are receiving the Master's Outstanding Teamwork Award!

### **Gilman Grange**

In this year when our financial standing has been under great scrutiny, Gilman Grange #1 stepped up to the plate and offered to fund the expenses of the Sixth Degree. With declining numbers of candidates who come to take the degree, the expense of putting it on is often one of the first lines in the budget to be questioned as to its cost vs. necessity. Having this Grange sponsor our Sixth Degree later this evening was a great example of "teaming up" to get an important job done. On behalf of the State Grange I thank you for your support of the Sixth Degree. I now award them with this Master's Outstanding Teamwork Award.

### **Ralph Russell**

This was the third year that I assigned a deputy the task of supervising the Degree of the Year at State Session. Each year I have challenged the deputy to fill the offices with as many Grangers as possible that have not ever had the opportunity to be on a degree team at State Grange. From what I could casually observe, I think that last night's Third Degree team was the closest so far in trying to achieve that high standard and they certainly received very high marks from me for their limited reliance upon the manual in presenting their charge. Brother Russell exemplified a great show of teamwork in assembling the team

and in executing some excellent ritual, so I now present him with this Master's Outstanding Teamwork Award.

## **New Growth**

There is lots of buzz around the state with promises of new growth and regeneration. Walpole Grange is growing and transforming as it tries to meet the needs of its growing membership. They have taken in over fifteen new members this year, not counting the membership transfer from Charlestown Grange when it closed. Peterborough has had a net gain in membership in their first year of existence. A slew of new members have joined Riverhill Grange with a focus on preserving their historic building.

The Membership Director is overseeing several revitalization teams and one reorganizing team that are working with five Granges. Success in these areas is essential: for each Grange, for the morale of the team members, and for the successful completion of the goal that I, as your State Master at the National Session, made toward growing Grange across the country in 2009. I pledged NH to organize one new Grange, reorganize one new Grange, revitalize three Granges and organize one new Jr. Grange. The National Grange has presented a series of Grange Growth Summits around the country to provide training and support to help us achieve our goals. All we have to do is ask for it.

I have faith in the dedication and skill of our members and know that although lofty, this is indeed a doable goal. I look forward to working with you all as we create the successful TEAM that will ignore the negatives and take all the positives and GROW the GRANGE in 2010.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Merrill  
State Master, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master declared a recess for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 1:30 p.m.

Richard Patten was called upon to give the Historian's report.

## **Report of the State Historian 2009**

Worthy State Master, State Officers, Honored Guests and Patrons all!

It is a pleasure to present my report as your State Historian. I enjoy this position so much because of the information I find every time I read a Journal. I am in the process of updating or writing a different version of our important history. There is so much in our history that many people will never learn about. I am pleased with the telephone calls, email messages or letters from people asking for information about members of their families who held Grange membership. I have been asked about former Granges, and the dates they were in existence. How many of your Granges have a written, recorded history? We hear updated versions read at special meetings such as anniversary nights, open house or award nights, but where does it go after it is read? Is it compiled, with the possibility of a book in its future? I would be happy to assist any Grange to write their history and help get it printed, regardless of whether it is a Junior, Subordinate or Pomona Grange. I enjoy hearing people say they never knew the Grange did so much in their community.

Once again we have lost members of our organization to the Great Grange Above. They wrote so much history in their Subordinate or Pomona Granges, as well as Junior Granges. I wonder if they realize the contributions they were giving to their Grange. Many of our members were appointed to a position on the State level along with serving their Subordinate and Pomona Granges and were concerned that they do the best job they could. They weren't concerned with having their names printed or getting well-deserved recognition. In addition, they were there for their brothers and sisters in good and bad times, despite personal differences. They wanted to show the community that this was an organization in which it was an honor to be a member. They wrote so much history without knowing it, by: fixing the Grange hall roof, raising funds for furnace repair, holding countless public suppers to raise funds for Grange projects or to help a family in need, or to help build a fire station or help buy equipment for the police department. Who were these members who left us to work in the Great Grange above? We can't name them all, but some who will be missed are:

**Jeanne Higgins**, who served as State Pianist, State Secretary, Special Deputy and a committee member. She and her late husband John were well known on the seacoast; first in Ocean Side Grange and then Gilman Grange. She was an active member in several other organizations and in church. She was faithful to her fellow Grange friends and was not afraid to voice her opinion.

**Donna Gray** served on the State Youth Committee and her travels throughout the most northern sector of the state were most appreciated. She and her late husband Bob traveled miles to represent the Grange at Subordinate, Pomona and State events. I remember when Aurora Grange was having their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and Donna participated in a very funny dance routine.

**Jim Rice** never served on the state level, but that didn't stop him from attending and supporting Grange events throughout the state. He and his family worked tirelessly in keeping Wattannick Grange an active organization in Hudson.

**Hazel Drown** was a member of Pineconia Grange; she always projected a quiet influence. She didn't hold any offices in her Subordinate Grange, but she would come to State Grange and help wherever needed. She might help to sell different goods to raise money for one of the causes selected by Marion Jones. Many in the Concord area didn't realize that Hazel graduated from NH Technical Institute at the age of 75.

**Anbarth Andersen** served the State Grange as a member of the Deputy Force from the Plymouth area. It was nothing for him to have 15 Subordinate Granges in his district to visit for spring instruction and then return for fall inspection. He and his family were very much involved in Grange work.

**Phyllis Howard** was another Grange member who traveled many miles as a member of the State Home Economics Committee. She traveled to Granges in her district representing the director at special meetings. Phyllis and her daughter entered canned food, sewing and knitting in many of the county fairs. It's important to remind ourselves how we would like to be remembered when our days are completed on Earth and it's time to join that Great Grange Above.

As I bring my report to a close, I would like to thank our State Master for the honor of serving as State Historian. It is a position that I enjoy very much. I am working on a new type of history book for the State Grange. I look forward to talking with many of you as I compile my history book. I am writing this from 1966 - 2009, offering a different version of our history, including some fun times as well as convention notes and people who made such a difference during those years. I was not asked to do this, but felt that it would be an enjoyable project.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone who has helped me through the difficult times during the past two years. Many times, it was difficult to reach out to someone, not knowing if they understood what was going on. Many thanks to our State Master for the honor of serving as Historian; it is a position I enjoy so much.

Dick Patten  
State Historian

His report was accepted and ordered to be printed.

State Master Beth Merrill presented Richard with a Past State Secretary's pin.  
Past State Secretary Richard Patten was asked to speak to the members.

Hannah West was called upon to give the report of the Media Department.

## **Media Report**

### **Farm & Forest Expo Coordinators**

This was a proud year for Anne and Marty Boisvert at the Farm & Forest Expo. Their exhibit for the NH State Grange won the coveted Battles Award, which entitles the winner to a free booth at the next year's Expo. The judges were impressed with how well every aspect of the Grange exhibit coordinated with the Expo theme "Growing Opportunities: NH Agriculture and Forestry Today." The Grange exhibit had a garland of flowers as the backdrop with a large colorful flower for each of the State Grange Departments

and a sign reading "Harvest the Opportunity: Grow a Grange In Your Community." Passers-by were encouraged to look through the scrapbook of Grange halls compiled by Paul and Rhoda Davis, see new Grange growth in the photo of the charter members of Peterborough Grange, find out information about the Dictionary Project, and ask questions of real live Grangers. At the front of the exhibit was a tree from which people could "harvest" a card with the NH State Grange mission statement on it. Attached to each card was a Grange symbol printed on paper embedded with wildflower seeds. Recipients were encouraged to let the Grange grow symbolically and literally by actually planting the Grange symbol when they got home. A note directed them to [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org) for planting instructions. You may see the prize ribbon, some pictures, and a downsized version of the exhibit in the Exhibition Room during this convention.

Each year Grangers are needed to help man the exhibit during open hours on Friday, Friday evening, and Saturday. Anne and Marty are grateful to those who volunteered in 2009 and hope to see both old and new faces in 2010. Each exhibiting group is required to supply an item for the auction held during the Expo. Suggestions for what the NH Grange should give and donations toward it would be truly appreciated.

### **Grange Photographer**

NH State Grange Photographer Mark Collins has continued to record as many Grange events as he possibly can. For most major events he puts a sampling of the pictures on the website. In most cases there are hundreds of other pictures that are not displayed on the site, so if you are looking for a particular picture that may have been taken at an event, please ask him. If he has it, he will send you the original digital image. Please note that the images displayed on the website have been pared down so they don't take up as much room, and don't take as long to download, for those who have dial-up connections to the internet. You can print the pictures from the site, but they are not usually of very good quality. Please ask for the original images if you want to get good quality prints.

Unfortunately, Mark is not always able to attend every event. If you notice that he is not present, and you have a digital camera with you, please feel empowered to act as state photographer in his place. Please take many pictures and then send them to Mark on a CD or give them to him the next time you see him.

### **Grange Webmaster**

One of Mark Collins' other hats is administrator of the State Grange website. He will be the first to admit that he knows very little about site administration, but he has done his best to keep the website updated with new information as it comes to him. If you want your Grange events to be posted on the website, please send Mark an e-mail with the information at least two weeks before the event. If you have an interest in administrating the site or helping with specific portions of the site, please let Mark know. Any and all help is appreciated.

### **Granite State Granger**

Again this year four issues of the *Granite State Granger* have been published, both in print and on the website. Comments and donations received indicate that our NH State Grange newspaper is well received by New Hampshire Grange members and by readers in other states. Some readers have expressed interest in receiving the GSG electronically. We will try to introduce some form of this option in 2010, but only for those who request it.

Editor Hannah West is always pleased to receive news items, pictures, and announcements from any Grange or Granger who sends them. E-mail is the best way to send in news, but if it arrives in an envelope that is fine, too. Please note that photos clipped from newspapers cannot be used. Also, obituaries are not published, other than the In Memoriam list, except in rare circumstances.

This report would not be complete without a heartfelt thank you to those folks who work hard four times a year to fold, wafer, and label the GSG for mailing. Paul and Rhoda Davis, Anne and Marty Boisvert, Shirley Waters, Norma and Melvin Neary, Fred Carlson, Mary West, and Kevin Belval have worked in varying combinations to see that the paper makes it to the post office in a timely fashion. Then it is matter of interest to see whose zip code is delivered first.

### **Publicist**

The position of Publicist has become more internal than external under the direction of Hannah West. She puts out announcements of Grange events and the personal triumphs and tragedies of individual Grangers to a list of e-mail addresses, which she is calling the Grange Grapevine. Contact her at

[gowest@tds.net](mailto:gowest@tds.net) if you have news of general Grange interest that should be distributed statewide. Another aspect of the Publicist position is to supply membership brochures and pencils for public events as the small budget allows.

Fraternally submitted,  
Anne and Marty Boisvert, Farm & Forest Expo Coordinators  
Mark Collins, Webmaster & Photographer  
Hannah West, *Granite State Granger* Editor & Publicist

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Wilber & Jane Heath to give the report of the Family & Community Services.

### **Family and Community Services Department**

Worthy State Master, State Officers, National Representatives and Grangers all:

It has been our pleasure to serve as your Family and Community Directors this year. With the State Master's decision to make the Pomona Chairs the State Committee, we have some new faces this year along with those that have served previously. It helped us have a new outlook on the entire program and to come up with some new ideas as well as modifying some of our older programs. Our current list of active members include the following; Linda Neilson, Joann Brandt, Joan Garland, Rachel Bailey, Connie Carr, Richard Patten, Edythe Craig, Ann Leger, Dale MacDonald, Norma Neary, and Lena Falconer.

We did not attend as many Home Economics nights as we had hoped to because of Janie's knee replacement in January, and the extended recuperation period. I want to personally thank my son Chris for acting as chauffer while we were unable to drive.

This year we again made Christmas Baggies of trinkets and goodies for 109 residents at Glencliff Home in Warren, and also gave items for the stockings of 12 children at the Philbrook Center in Concord. These were for children that could not go home at Christmas time.

Linens and other miscellaneous items for the NH Coalition Against Rape and Domestic Violence may be placed in the exhibit room. Please sign the name of your Grange on the sheet on the table as you leave your items so that we may send the list with the items when we turn these over to the local group out of Portsmouth. Staff from the Portsmouth shelter, A Safe Place, will pick up the donations on Saturday afternoon. This is a very worthy cause that helps clients start over when they are victims of violence and need a new start at a new home. We gave last year to a shelter in Nashua and hope to continue this at each community where we hold our State Session.

There were over 344 craft items from 12 Granges donated to the Grange Building at the Eastern States Exhibition. Our best sellers are always our scrubbies and mittens and they love them there.

The end of the year Home Economics report form asked for the number of toys, mittens and Eastern States items, rather than just a yes/no. Based on the numbers listed on the report forms, there were over 466 mittens donated from Subordinate Granges to schools, shelters, nursing homes, etc. Our mountain of mittens, which has currently 114 hats, and mittens, will add to this overall total giving us almost 500 items donated throughout the state.

We commend the Granges that are involved in the Dictionary Project and the number that is going out to many schools throughout New Hampshire. For those of you that are involved in this, we challenge you to spread out to other communities and give what you can. There are other organizations and businesses that are willing to make donations to help pay for the dictionaries, all you need to do is ask. Some day it is hoped to cover most of the state with these dictionaries.

This year we encouraged all Granges to turn in a Community Service report form. There were 39 Granges that did send in reports, which qualified us to receive award money from National Grange. The top four Community Service winners were;

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Joe English # 53

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Pine Grove #298

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Watatic #36

4<sup>th</sup> Place – Hudson #11

As a result of community service throughout the state, there were contributions to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other locations. These donations included calendars, unused occasion cards, gifts, favors, baked goods, slippers, shawls, and lap robes among many other items. Homeless shelters received sleeping bags, mittens, scarves, and hats. Granges also sent hats and socks over to our military personnel serving in the Mideast.

In the needlework area we had 61 items sent in for judging. Our judges this year were Donna Kay, needlework designer and teacher, Katrina Rhodes, quilting instructor and owner operator of the Fabric Garden, and John Andrade, owner operator of New England woodwork. The top ten blue ribbon winners were sent to Eastern States Exposition where we had three entries that won ribbons. We had two red ribbons, one white ribbon and one honorable mention.

#### **Needlework entries and their placing:**

##### **A) AFGHAN**

1<sup>st</sup> – Happy Pelton, Rochester  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Helen Lynam, Lake Sunapee  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Gail Turcotte, Rochester  
Honorable Mention -, Ralph Russell Sr., Henry Wilson  
Claire Gagne, Hooksett  
Norma Neary, Pembroke  
Marc Van Sant, Winthrop  
Judith McNally, Hampton Falls  
Marjorie Burnett, Wingold  
Claire Gagnon, Hudson  
Pat Izzo, Wingold  
Joan Debutts, Crown Point

##### **B) DOILIES**

1<sup>st</sup> – Patrice Lawlor, Hudson

##### **C) EMBROIDERY**

1<sup>st</sup> – Dorinda Louise, Henry Wilson  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Barbara Wentworth, Henry Wilson  
Annette Lemieux, Rochester

##### **D) THREE PIECE BABY SET**

1<sup>st</sup> – Joan Garland, Henry Wilson  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Claire Gagnon, Hudson  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Judith McNally, Hampton Falls  
Mary West, Chichester  
Brownie Moore, Fidelity

##### **E) PLASTIC CANVAS**

1<sup>st</sup> – Sandra Fogarty, Somersworth  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Lois Enman, Rochester

##### **F) COUNTED CROSS STITCH**

1<sup>st</sup> – Constance Leger, Winthrop  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Pat Izzo, Wingold  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Rose Marie Van Sant, Winthrop  
Sandra Fogarty, Somersworth

##### **G) ADULT GARMENT**

1<sup>st</sup> – Marie Paoletta, Walpole  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Mary West, Chichester  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Ann Leger, Winthrop

**H) LATCH HOOK**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Claire Gagnon, Hudson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Annette Lemieux, Rochester

**I) QUILTED WALL HANGING**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Linda Lauer, Pine Grove
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dorinda Louise, Henry Wilson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Norma Neary, Pembroke

**J) STUFFED TOY**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Dell Betts, Grafton Star
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dorinda Louise, Henry Wilson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Claire Gagne, Hooksett
- Barbara Dessert, Mont Calm
- Joan Garland, Henry Wilson

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE NEEDLEWORK CONTEST**

**CLASS #1: TIED QUILT**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Dorinda Louise, Henry Wilson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Linda Lauer, Pine Grove
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – April Farewell, Mont Calm
- Lois Enman, Rochester
- Happy Pelton, Rochester
- Joan Garland, Henry Wilson

**CLASS #2 SEWN GARMENT**

- Adult 1<sup>st</sup> – Dorinda Louise, Henry Wilson
- Child 1<sup>st</sup> – Charlotte McIver, Blazing Star

**CLASS #3 MISCELLANEOUS NEEDLEWORK**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Claire Gagnon, Hudson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Marjorie Burnett, Wingold
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Joan Garland, Henry Wilson
- Honorable Mention: Helen Lynam, Lake Sunapee
- Barbara Wentworth, Henry Wilson
- June Moody, Henry Wilson
- Joan DeButts, Crown Point
- Annette Lemieux, Rochester

**CLASS #4 WOODWORKING**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – June Moody, Henry Wilson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Matthew Enman, Rochester
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Melvin Neary, Pembroke
- Robbie Izzo, Gilman
- Mary West, Chichester

**BAKING CONTEST**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Rhoda Davis, Pembroke
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Frances Towne, Joe English
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Ruth Weeks, Baker's River

We received 39 Year End Home Economics Reports. The top subordinate Grange winners for 2009 are 1) Rochester #86, 2) Wingold #308, 3) Pembroke #111, 4) Grafton Star #60.

We received 8 Year End Pomona Reports. The top Pomona Grange winners for 2009 are 1) East Rockingham Pomona #11, 2) Suncook Valley Pomona #12, 3) Pemigewasset Valley Pomona #18.

The Family and Community Department participated in the Spring Fling this year by putting on two workshops. Wilber Heath demonstrated the Bowtie quilt square. Attendees were set up with sewing machines, given fabric, and instructed how to assemble their own squares. Fabric was also passed



out to attendees in hopes of receiving quilt squares from which we would assemble a quilt to be raffled off at State Session. This project did not happen, so we are going to try to attempt this project one more time in hopes of having a quilt to raffle off next year. Again the colors will be purple, lavender and lilac. Our second workshop was a presentation by Michelle Oakes, the activities director at Glencliff Home and her son Jesse. We enjoyed her talk and her video presentation of the Glencliff Home. There will be a newspaper article in the display room if you would like to check out the facility. Glencliff Home has been one of the ongoing projects of the NH State Grange.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wilber and Jane Heath  
NH State Family & Community Directors

The report was accepted and ordered to be printed.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Tricia Taylor to give the General Deputy report.

### **Report of the General Deputy**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Honored Guests, State Officers, Delegates, Brother and Sister Patrons:

As you have already heard this has been yet another year of ups and downs with some Granges closing and others taking in large numbers of new members. It's always heartening to hear that there are those people out there who want to join the Grange. The other day the State Master and I were talking and one of the topics of conversation was an email she received from a gentleman in Bristol, NH who said he had an application but needed to know how much the application fee was. He also said he had asked around and found out that there wasn't a Grange in his town and asked what it would take to start one. Later that evening I emailed him letting him know that Danbury was near by with an active Grange and we would welcome him. He is planning to attend our November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and I believe we will be gaining a new member. Now, some of you should be wondering how this all came about. It seems that he was at the Big E and picked up an application while he was there. Kudos to those hosting at the NH room! To me this reiterates the point that there are people out there who just need to be asked and offered an application.

However, in order to make sure there is a Grange for people to join we need to step up to the plate. In the past two years I have talked about auditing the books, paying quarterly dues in a timely manner, following the bylaws and the need for liability insurance for all Granges. We've heard tell of Granges with less than 13 members, Granges that are no longer meeting, and Granges that are giving all their money away in preparation for closing. We all know about Granges that can't get a quorum together for their meetings but working just as hard as they can for their community. But given the state of the economy and the various ways in which our government at each level is attempting to increase their income all of our Granges need to get back on track. We stopped the scoring process quite a number of years ago and it seems that may have been a mistake. It's easier for a Grange to avoid making time for these things when they are not being held accountable. It's kind of like knowing it's time to balance your checkbook and household budget when you get the second phone call from the bank saying your mortgage is overdue. And unfortunately there is a lot of that going around these days.

Have we seen some improvement? Yes. Last year only 17 Granges were reported as having been audited. At last count (this morning) 28 community Granges reported that they had been audited this year. Of course that still leaves about two-thirds of our Granges that haven't been. Only four of our Pomonas reported being audited. There are fourteen Community Granges that checked 'No' on the liability insurance questions and well as 4 Pomona Granges. Of course there are a number of Granges at both levels who didn't check anything. Both of these issues are very important to our wellbeing. If someone gets hurt at a meeting and decides to sue the Grange hosting the meeting there will be considerable fallout. I know, most of you say well the Subordinate Grange has insurance so we use theirs, or the Town if you meet in a Town Hall, or the library or whoever owns the building you meet in. That's not good enough. We have a lawsuit happy society and when the lawyers get involved and start a lawsuit they sue everyone involved at every level. That includes the Grange; Community level or Pomona level! Liability Insurance is very necessary. And if this happens and you don't have liability insurance can you imagine the results if you haven't been auditing your books? Talk about a mess.

Okay, you get my drift, let's move on. When I was reviewing the reports I started looking at the average attendance at meetings. A few Pomonas are averaging attendance between 17 and 20. Others are struggling with the quorum but no Pomona average is below seven. Fifteen of the Community Granges reporting have an average attendance below the quorum but I can tell you that most of them meet at least eight times a year and are active in their communities. Including the Granges that have not reported we have six that are not meeting. The State Master, the Executive Committee, the Deputies and GRIT Teams have all been involved with these Granges with varying degrees of success. Some want to be helped, some don't. Two other granges have only met three times this year. One of these, plus another has been reported by their deputies as wanting a GRIT team to visit them. Other calls have come in this year asking for GRIT teams. We could double the number of people we have trained and still not have enough teams. Of all the Community Granges that have reported there is a handful with a membership between 13 and 20. Only one Grange has reported a membership below 13. This Grange is one of the ones being worked with. Of course I know that membership numbers don't usually agree so maybe this isn't entirely accurate but one Grange below the thirteen is enough for me.

I really don't enjoy being the voice of doom and gloom up here. We are making progress – people are joining the Grange, some Granges that were in really bad shape are now reported by their deputies as doing well, being active in their communities, etc. At least two deputies reported Granges where members who have been inactive for a long time are coming back. There are brand new members becoming secretaries and masters. More power to them. Let's support them to the best of our ability. It's always scary when new blood comes in and appears to be taking over. If that's the way you feel step up and work with them so they can learn what Grange is really all about – teamwork.

Fraternally submitted,  
Tricia J. Taylor  
General Deputy, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered to be printed.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Matt Clark to give the Eastern States Trustee's report.

### **Eastern States Grange Trustees Report**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Delegates, Patrons all. As a trustee to the New England Grange Building I thought it might be a good idea to let you know what is going on at your building on the grounds of the Eastern States Expo. I brought the idea to the other New Hampshire trustees and they said it would be a good idea and since I brought up the idea I should deliver the report. The New Hampshire trustees took a good long hard look at the New Hampshire Room and decided it was time to update the room. Taking some of the pictures and paintings off the wall we discovered that most everything was placed there in the 1960's. We decided that the room needed to be painted, the map showing the location of current granges, which was over the window that looks out at the stairs, needed to come down and be replaced with a smaller and more current map. The idea of having some talented grange painters paint scenes depicting the seasons or the heritage of the Granite State was considered. We all left that day with some good ideas. Paint chips were selected for our next workday and after looking closely at the choices it was decided to go with the 'rhapsody lilac' color for the walls and a cream color for the trim. The three trustees spent the morning painting the walls and then had a meeting in the afternoon. I would like to thank the crew that traveled down just days before the fair started to finish the painting. I would encourage all of you to visit your New Hampshire Room and would look forward to hearing your ideas of what could be done.

As many of you know there is a country store located on the main floor of the building, which sells jams, jellies, crafts and other items. Due to the popularity of the jams, and jellies the trustees decided to increase the order by 10% over last year. As for the handmade crafts, we saw seven full totes in storage before the fair started after the display was set. At the end of the fair only three totes remained. The hats and mittens were popular this year thanks to the help of Mother Nature who provided chilly weather. When the final deposit was made we saw \$27,276.19 put in the bank. Thanks to the help of the country store the New England Grange Building is for the most part self-supported.

A few projects that are being worked on currently are an Internet connection to the building that is reasonably priced. This last year we purchased a laptop computer and along with the Internet we would have access to the National Grange web site and then we could link the other states so if anyone had an

interest in the grange we could provide them with local contacts. We are also looking to make a slide show of grange activities throughout the New England region, so if you have any pictures that could be used that would be great. You may email them to Matthew Clark or put them on a cd and get that to me. There is a wish list for the building that is included in the complete report or I have it here to view. If there is anything you notice that should be changed, or done to better the building please let one of the trustees know and we will bring it to the next meeting.

**New England Grange Building 09  
Report of Director  
October 8, 2009**

2009 Fair:

Well the weather didn't really cooperate (well the cold weather did help to sell hats and mittens this year). I spent 2 days getting ready and 12 days down at the Big E this year. There were 6 days with record breaking attendance. Jeanne Giauque of "Things by Jeanne" spun wool 2 Saturdays and 1 Sunday. She interacted with the customers very well and many photos were taken of her. Sue Rottoline again set up and had crafts for children for 3 days. Children painted or glued their choice of a craft with Sue's assistance. On the second Saturday Eva Capalli (Watershops Band-- just getting started) performed and will be back next year as the customers really enjoyed them. Linda Chase suggested that Mr. Jim Lasalle provide plants for the stage. Mr. Lasalle actually only brought 4 potted palms so I filled in with a few mums. Again only Connecticut's room was hosted every day of the fair.

Building:

The new set of doors on the Avenue work great except when it's rained a lot and very humid then the left door sticks on the bottom some. The doors look really nice and add to the avenue side of the building. People are still tripping coming in from the Avenue when it's really bright out, but most are not looking where they are going. I saw no one actually fall down this year, but a few dozen or so caught them before they did. On those rainy days the kitchen still floods, so several mop so others don't slip. All of the emergency lights had to be replaced as they had all blown out at the same time. The big professional coffee maker died this year so two Mr. Coffee's were purchased, one for hot water and one for coffee.

Matt Clark brought the new computer down, but after checking with the Big E for net service, the cost was \$300 for installation and \$200 for one year of service. Matt took the computer home and several staffers suggested that a power point program run and as well as the 50 anniversary of National Grange CD and the CD that was made of the Northeast states that was used for the 2008 National session in CT.

Grange Day:

The Contra Banditos played for the day and the hall was packed when they were playing. Our Grange Breakfast consisted of donuts, Danish and muffins, coffee, tea, and apple cider. I estimate that 120-135 passed through the line and several used the chairs that had been set out as it was a cold windy morning. Again we ended up serving less than last year. I want to thank Jim Owens and the Maine crew for pre setting the tables the night before. I did not march in the parade but several states had given out tickets so members could march, it was misty out and actually was raining at the end of the parade. This was one of several shorter parades due to weather.

This and that:

Again the Junior exhibit was not an attractive display. Plans are in the works to move the display area and make a new exhibit stand.

There was no set Ambassador Day but several states came down to help also several Trustees came and spent a day, and asked the staff questions on how to improve things. Thank you.

Jim Tetreault changed out old light bulbs for energy efficient ones in the main hall ceiling lights and also found a surprise in one light. When cleaning in 2010 the glass globes need to be taken down and cleaned.

Several Grangers have asked about the broken window, and I tell them it has been reported at several trustee meetings.

We once again hosted the FFA on the first Sat. of the fair. They have interviews in the State rooms, using 5 of them this year. The Grange provided coffee, juice and cider and they bring donuts, Danish and bagels. FFA's time only takes about 1 to 1 ½ hours out of a regular morning sales that first Saturday.

#### Crafts:

At the start of the fair there were 7 extra tubs of homemade articles put aside until table space could be made for them. At the end of the fair we packed away 3 tubs for next year. A Big Thank You goes out to all our hand crafters for keeping us supplied for this years fair. Your knitted, crocheted, sewed, glued, weaved, etc. articles that you donated helps keep the building in good repair. It was great to have so many rainy cold nights; they helped to sell many hats and mittens.

An estimated 750 scrubbies were made for the Big E and we did not sell out this year. Again big sellers are the cotton dish cloths, hanging towels, aprons, scrubbies, hats & mittens and baby sweaters, hats and booties. The profit from the sale of crafts was about \$13,000. Betty Jane Gardiner will let the State Home Ec committees know (at N E Leaders Conf. in VT this year) what she will need for the 2010 fair.

Our loyal customers continue to come back year after year for our home made articles and jellies and jams. They even put in request for certain items and we try our best to make or get them.

#### Country Store:

Staffing for the evening has improved with the enticement of a hotel room if you work the evening shift and live a greater distance from the fair. The hotel was used 9 out of the 16 nights that were booked. At the start of the fair there were only 5 shifts that hadn't been filled. Jack Cottrell had ordered more products so we only took down one self this year and spread out product on the others. We did run out of many of the items but you can only guess what people will be interested in from year to year. New products were pickles, corn relish, sweet pepper relish, jalapeno mustard and a few different dressings. Customers are still looking for the pepper jelly. About 10 more cases of sugar free jam was ordered but we are finding out the people want the spreadable, that's sweetened with concentrate with no added sugar, over the preserves (that add sugar) and sugar free. Again with new cashiers working there were a few mistakes on the register tapes, but with Dawn Percoski's help she found most of them. This year the store receipts were \$14,000 plus. I want to thank Dawn for coming in after working her day job and counting money and making the bank deposits while I was back in Vermont working during the first week of the fair. My mind can be at ease when I know Dawn is there taking my place. Thank you Dawn!

The note cards with the New England building on them were sold 6 for \$5.00. They look really nice and we used them for the invitations for the Grange Breakfast. Betty Jane will be selling them at the Northeast Leaders Conf. if anyone wants to purchase some.

Total deposit from store and crafts was \$27,276.19

#### Quilt Raffle:

Again big kudos goes to Charles Martin for making the Retro Butterflies quilt which raised \$3,889.00 for the Vermont Veterans Hospital for their Rehab through Recreation project. We had one man who wouldn't make a donation as the free apples we usually have on the table didn't get to the fair until the 27<sup>th</sup>. Beth Merrill presented the check about 4:15 p.m. on Oct 4<sup>th</sup> the last day of the fair. Bonny Krawiec of Manchester, CT won the quilt. New Hampshire will be the recipient of the 2010 raffle.

Scott Davis is the representative at the Big E Avenue of States meetings and Jim Owens takes care of the building Insurance. I would like to see one of the Trustees take over Programs and one the Parade. The New England Grange building needs to be represented in the parade everyday so people know we are on the grounds.

I want to thank all who come and help to clean and fix up the building during the year. We get many nice comments from people when they visit the building, with 40% visiting for the first time and 85% say they will be back next year.

Suggestions/wish list:

ONE person needs to schedule for the store personnel and hotel.

A stereo would be nice so that background music can be played during the day.

Mr. Percoski (Dawn's father) is willing to make the new Junior display.

A cleaning service has been looked into for next year.

We need 50 - 6 inch hooks for the peg board (old junior display will be new mitten board)

Measuring tape for the tool box

Cork board on the 2 columns near the register counter, so staples aren't put into the wood.

Charles Martin will make new curtains for the balcony windows

Cork board (to be put near the mitten display board) so that Granges can advertise up coming event.

Fire escape door needs to be trimmed (sticks really tight when humid)

We need a room with a lock to store items in when not needed. Several items were missing when it came time to use them for this years fair.

Two signs please, with one of these on each side

"Hand made by Grangers"

"Handmade by New England Grangers"

(Because of New York in our Grange region)

Yellow strip on the door step needs painting every year

Would the state rooms please switch over to energy efficient light bulbs if you don't have them already.

New vacuum

New rugs by the doors (medium brown color)

Fix the store window that is broken.

Linda Sanderson

Respectfully submitted  
Beth Merrill, Jim Tetreault, Matthew Clark  
New Hampshire Trustees to the New England Grange Building

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

National Grange Master Ed Luttrell presented a special workshop entitled “ If You’re Not the Lead Dog, Does the View Ever Change”?

State Overseer James Tetreault was called upon to give his report.

### **Report of the State Overseer**

Worthy Master, Honored Guests, Brother and Sister Patrons:

This is my third report as Overseer of the New Hampshire State Grange. The role of the State Overseer is to give support and advice to the Master when requested. The State Overseer is also asked to represent the State Master at different events. This year I represented the State Master at her request on two different occasions, the first time at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Wingold Grange in June and just recently at the final meeting of Sullivan County Pomona.

The State Overseer is a non-voting member of State Executive Committee who is able to give input and suggestions on the topic being discussed. The Executive Committee is charged with the responsibility of running the State Grange between State Grange Sessions so we discuss many topics at these meetings. This year, with the many issues on the plate of the executive committee, the committee has met a total of 14 times.

This year as State Overseer, I have performed the following duties: I served as a Trustee for the New England Grange Building; I spent several days at Eastern States assisting in the building, and the NH State Grange blueberry pie and ice cream day, which is a fundraiser for the State Grange.

Fraternally,  
Jim Tetreault,  
Overseer NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Mark Collins then presented his Executive Committee Officer’s Report

### **Executive Committee Officer’s Report**

Worthy Master:

I have to say it has been a very exciting year. Someone once told me that the Executive Committee had it easy, they only meet a few times year and then they only have to look pretty at state session.

Well I’m here to tell them that at least for this year they are misinformed. Besides attending more Executive committee and financial planning meetings than I care to remember, I was able to do the following.

I attended four days of the National Grange session in Cromwell, CT. Diane and I attended the Winter Youth Rally in Hooksett. I helped man the Farm & Forest booth this year on Saturday. I attended the Spring Fling where I helped present a workshop with our State Membership Director Stephen Tracey and I also attended Family Weekend for part of one day.

Along with all the other State officers I was present at our special State session at Daniel Webster Grange hall. I have also been working with other members on one of our GRIT Teams to help revitalize Warren Pond Grange in Alstead NH.

I would like to thank you all for the trust that you have put in me as one of your Executive Committee members and I will continue to do the best that I can for all of you and for the NH State Grange.

Fraternally  
Mark Collins, Executive Committee

Dan Bascom presented his Executive Committee Officer's Report.

### **Executive Committee Officer's Report**

Worthy State Master Beth Merrill, National Master Ed Luttrell & Sister Celia, State Officers, Brothers and Sisters all:

What a surprise it was to have Brother Don Ross elected Chairman of the Executive Committee, it took me five seconds to realize "hey this is a good thing". I wholeheartedly thank Don for taking over that position and commend you, Brother Don, for a job well done. As members of the executive committee, we don't take our positions lightly. The committee met at least 14 times throughout this past year. This pile of paper represents the paper work we have dealt with this past year (3 ½" thick) versus the last eight years (2" thick). Even though each committee member has their own opinion and we do not always agree, we continue to regard each other as friends. Thank you NH State Grange for giving me the opportunity to serve in this way.

Fraternally,

Daniel P. Bascom  
Executive Committee

Both reports were accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Assistant Steward Arthur Merrill was called upon to give his report.

### **Report of Assistant Steward**

Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters;

It is an honor to serve as your Assistant Steward; the duties of the office are for the most part confined to one week a year. We load the truck on Sunday before session, we unload the truck and set up, and at the end of the session we pack the truck and trailer, then go and unload it again. The rest of the time is spent serving as a Deputy and as part of GRIT teams, presently working with three Granges, all with varying degrees of success. I have installed officers at a number of Granges, and with the State Master, travelled to the Illinois State Session as their National Representatives.

Fraternally,  
Arthur Merrill

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Lady Assistant Steward Jane Trombi was called upon to give her report.

### **Report of the Lady Assistant Steward**

Worthy Master, Honored Guests, Fellow State Officers, Brother and Sister Patrons,

It is with pleasure that I present to you my third report as your Lady Assistant Steward. It is amazing how fast time goes by. For that reason we have to live every day to the fullest and remember to stop and smell the roses.

As State Lady Assistant Steward, my duties are few. My main responsibility is to help return all the State Grange belongings to the State Grange Building in Hooksett following our state convention. Therefore, I was able to serve as a Deputy State Master, attending as many meetings as I could.

Events and meetings that I was able to I enjoy this year were the Northeast Leaders Conference and Winter Rally and another successful Spring Fling. There I took on the responsibility of putting on the luncheon and could not have done it without the help of other state officers. I also enjoyed attending and serving as LAS at two Community Awards nights. Again this year I helped with Family Weekend as my husband Bob was in charge of this event. I prepared the dinner on Saturday night along with the help of other Grangers.

Along with a GRIT team, I have been working on trying to get new members into my own Grange, which like so many, is struggling to get new members. We are hopeful, as we have had some interest from the community.

In closing, I want to thank the delegate body for giving me this opportunity to serve as your Lady Assistant Steward, and I look forward to the coming year.

Fraternally submitted,  
Jane Trombi  
LAS NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Chaplain Matthew Clark was called upon to give his report.

### **Chaplain's Report**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, fellow State Officers, Delegates, Patrons all:

As I bring my first Chaplain's report to you, I am pleased to say that it's been a quiet year for me. I have done my best to send cards to those in need of encouragement over the last year. Once again, the fourth Sunday in June found the six New England states coming together at the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge for the annual Go-To-Church Sunday. At this time, would those who attended please stand? I personally thank you for coming out to support your chaplain in the only event that showcases the office. Thanks go to Hannah, Mary and Ann for laying the memorial wreath and to Lester for providing the music. I am disappointed, however, that the other states had more people attending than did our own state. The sad part is that half of the other states have farther to travel than almost everyone here in New Hampshire.

I participated in the Maine/New Hampshire Night, Public Speaking Contest, and the Talent Show held at the June Youth Rally. I traveled to Schenectady NY for the Northeastern Youth Conference in July, as well as serving as a Trustee for the New England State Grange Building over the past year.

My wife and I welcomed our second son, Seth James, on June 5 of this year. We are not making it "three for three" though, so we will not be introducing you to a new addition next year!

My family and I are looking forward to traveling the state over the next year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew G. Clark  
New Hampshire State Grange Chaplain

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Hannah West was called upon to give her Executive Committee Report.

### **Executive Committee Officer's Report**

I, Hannah West, was elected one year ago to fill a one-year vacancy on the New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee. Many meetings and countless e-mails later, I can say that it has been quite a ride.

Early in 2009, observing the effect that the global economic downturn was having on State Grange investments, the State Master and State Overseer separately but simultaneously went into "we must fix this now" mode. After a flurry of e-mails crisscrossed the airwaves, the entire Executive Committee began a crash course in financial education. There were so many meetings at the State Grange Building that my car now heads there automatically every time I turn south on Route 28 at the Epsom traffic circle.

In the past year I have learned about spending policies, investment policies, and conflict of interest policies. I have learned how much Grangers in the under-forty age bracket care about the Grange. They are the ones who have the most to lose by a dues increase and yet they supported it both verbally and in



the secret ballot at the Special Session in August. Most of all I have learned how much work it takes to keep the State Grange running between annual sessions.

It has been a busy year, a worrisome year, and a rewarding year. Would I do it again? I certainly would!

Hannah West

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Ceres Kathy Yardley was asked to give her report.

### **Report of Ceres**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests and Patrons all:

I don't get a lot of opportunities to wear my sash and represent the NH State Grange as Ceres because my duties as a deputy and as a GRIT (Granges Really in Trouble) team member require me to wear those badges frequently instead. I enjoy visiting and helping the Granges I serve as a deputy; it's rewarding to be able to share my ideas and knowledge with them. My GRIT team experience has been good for me as well, and I thank Worthy Master Beth Merrill for choosing me to be a part of this important program and for having faith in me and encouraging me to step outside of my comfort zone.

I have become a more active member in my Pomona Grange as well and I am encouraged by its activity and growth this year. In August I got a chance to practice one of the duties of my office as Ceres by presenting and retiring the flag during the special session.

Again, I have handled reservations, planned & prepared table favors and decorations and created printed programs for the Celebration Banquet at this year's session. Each year it gets a little easier - I figure by next year I should be a pro!

Fraternally Submitted,  
Kathy Yardley, Ceres  
NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Pomona Rachel Bailey was called upon to give her report

### **Report of State Pomona**

Worthy Master, National Delegates, Brothers and Sisters all,

It is with great pleasure that I present my third report as your State Pomona. The year has been trying for all of us and we look forward to a new beginning. This year brought many activities and though I tried to get too many, there always seemed to be one that I missed. I walked away this past August from the Special Session and realized all of the wonderful things that the Grange has to offer to myself, my family and us all.

This year, as we work to become more financially secure, I would like to encourage all of us to remember the reasons why we are here and recognize all of the wonderful things that this organization has to offer us.

Fraternally,  
Rachel Bailey  
Pomona, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Executive Committee member Paul Davis was called upon to give his report.

## **Executive Committee Officer's Report**

I was kept busy running back and forth to the State Grange Building for Executive Committee meetings and to mow the lawn. The State Grange Executive Committee had more meetings this year than ever. We met with financial planners to help us decide where to invest the funds of the State Grange. Also, there were meetings to get us into compliance with the IRS and requirements of the Attorney General's Office. In five weeks' time, we had four meetings; all but one of them lasted until nearly midnight.

Paul W. Davis, Sr.

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Musician Lester Gibbs was called upon to give his report.

## **Musician's Report**

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This has not been a very active year. In January 2009, I attended the Northeast Leader's Conference and the State Master's Conference. In May, I attended the Community Citizen Award ceremony at Antrim Grange Hall, played organ for the New England Go-To-Church service at the Cathedral of the Pines in June, participated in the New Hampshire program at the Northeast Lecturer's Conference in August, and the Sixth Degree rehearsal this past Sunday in Hooksett.

With a major change in employment and with my continued position as organist for the Woodstock First Congregational Church, Friday and Saturday are my only free days, since my job is from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m., Sunday through Friday morning, and the church position is a full day on Sunday.

Fraternally,  
Lester Gibbs  
Musician, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Marie Hall announced some of the Teamwork Teams.

Dan & Kim Bascom presented an original copy of a letter, a membership in the 1967 Centennial Club commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of National Grange and a club pin to the Grange Museum in memory of Brother John West.

The meeting closed at 4:30 pm.

## **Friday Evening Session, October 30, 2009**

State Master Beth Merrill called the Friday evening session to order at 7:30 p.m., preceded by the marching in of the State Officers. Allissa Estes served as Flag Bearer for the evening.

State Master Beth Merrill opened the New Hampshire State Grange in the Sixth Degree.

State Secretary Carolyn Ross read the application of Robert Izzo and nine other candidates.

## **Candidates for the Sixth Degree**

Emilie Leclerc of Hudson Grange #11  
Robert Izzo of Gilman Grange #1  
Lucy Woodes of Hampton Falls Grange # 171  
Linda Lauer of Pine Grove Grange #298  
Gabrielle Gregoire of Daniel Webster Grange #100  
Larry Gregoire of Daniel Webster Grange #100

Tabitha Gregoire of Daniel Webster Grange #100  
 Timothy Goulette of Watatic Grange #36  
 Barbara Wentworth of Henry Wilson Grange #205  
 Gabrielle Decatur of Wingold Grange #308

The Sixth Degree was exemplified in a most impressive manner.

**Flora's Court**

**Flora** - Diane Collins

Robert Trombi	Greg Trombi
Kim Bascom	Gloria Davis
Ida Hutchins	Connie Carr

**Ceres** - Kathy Yardley

Larissa Grant	Sandra Bokousky
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**Pomona** - Rachel Bailey

Patricia Bailey	Sarah Leclerc
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**Lights** - Wayne Turcotte

**Pianist** - Lester Gibbs

**Soloist** - Don Ross

**Ladies Honor Court**

Hannah West	Past State Ceres, Current Executive Committee, Assembly of Demeter
Marion T. Jones	Past Pianist, Lecturer, Flora, Lady Assistant Steward, Executive Committee
Marie Hall	Past Lady Assistant Steward, Pianist, Flora, Current Lecturer
Gail Turcotte	Past Flora, Secretary, Current Treasurer
Dot Haskins	Past Pomona
Rhoda Davis	Past Ceres, Assembly of Demeter
Joann Brandt	Past Lady Assistant Steward, Flora
Frances Towne	Past Lecturer, Pomona
Pat Bailey	Past Flora, Lady Assistant Steward
Carolyn Ross	Past Treasurer, Pomona, Current Secretary
Ann Leger	Past Flora, Current Gatekeeper
Kim Bascom	Past Ceres, Flora, Lady Assistant Steward, Assembly of Demeter
Noreen Crawford	Past Pianist
Virginia Clark	Past Pomona
Tricia Taylor	Past Lady Assistant Steward, Secretary, Current General Deputy
Elizabeth Cotsibas	Past Executive Committee
Beth Merrill	Past Lady Assistant Steward, Lecturer, Executive Committee, Overseer, Current Master and National Lady Assistant Steward
Linda Chase (MA)	National Flora
Linda Sanderson (VT)	Assembly of Demeter
Brittany DuPrat (VT)	Lady Assistant Steward, Vermont State Grange
Norma Elwell (RI)	Co-Director of Agriculture & Legislative Dept.
Celia Luttrell	National Representative
Maggie Buck, CT	Oxford Grange Gatekeeper

**Male Honor Court**

Carl Adams	Past Gatekeeper, Assistant Steward, Steward, Master, Executive Committee, Assembly of Demeter
Dan Bascom	Past Gatekeeper, Assistant Steward, Overseer, Master, Current Executive Committee, Priest Archon, Assembly of Demeter
Paul Davis	Past Steward, Overseer, Master, Current Executive Committee, Assembly of Demeter
Jim Tetreault	Past Assistant Steward, Steward, Lecturer, Current Overseer
Jerry LeClerc	Past Assistant Steward, Steward, Lecturer
Rick Bailey	Past Assistant Steward, Steward
Mark Collins	Past Assistant Steward, Steward, Current Executive Committee

Chris Heath	Past Gatekeeper, Assistant Steward, Current Steward
Rodney Huntoon	Past Treasurer, Executive Committee
Hugh Clark	Past Chaplain, Current Chaplain Emeritus
Matt Clark	Past Gatekeeper, Assistant Steward, Current Chaplain
Don Ross	Past Gatekeeper, Current Chairman State Executive Committee
Arthur Merrill	Past Executive Committee, Current Assistant Steward
Ed Luttrell	Past Master (OR), Current National Master
Lester Gibbs	Past Master (VT), Current VT State Lecturer, Current NH Pianist
Walter Elwell	Co-Agriculture Director (RI)
Alan Gaspar	Veterans' Committee (MA)
Dan Mutchler	Agriculture Committee (CT), Master of New London (CT) County Pomona
Ronald Purinton	Overseer, New London (CT) County Pomona
William Sanderson	Assistant Steward, VT State Grange
Robert Buck	General Deputy, CT State Grange
Calvin Chase	Master, MA State Grange

### Rose Drill

Allissa Estes	Ann Boisvert	Marty Boisvert
Brittany DuPrat	Matt Haefner	Norman Brandt
William Sanderson		

State Flora Diane Collins extended a thank you to all the Brothers and Sisters who helped set up the Court and decorate the hall.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Ed Luttrell, National Master to speak to the delegate body.

Shelly Huntoon won the first 50/50 raffle for \$95.00.

*Just in case there are any memory lapses, the Atlantic Ocean is waiting for all of you brave souls!*

State Master Beth Merrill lowered the Grange to the Fourth Degree.

State Master Beth Merrill closed the Grange in the in the Fourth Degree at 9:35 PM.

### Saturday Morning Session – October 31, 2009

The third day of the 136th annual session of the New Hampshire State Grange was called to order by State Master, Beth Merrill at 8:05am. The Youth Officers then marched in to their respective stations. The Youth Officers were as follows:

Master	Matthew Haefner	Hudson Grange
Overseer	Sandra Bokousky	Watatic Grange
Lecturer	Anne Boisvert	Chichester Grange
Steward	Greg Trombi	Warren Pond
Assistant Steward	Patrick Bailey	Hudson Grange
Lady Assistant Steward	Allissa Estes	Somersworth Grange
Chaplain	Lynn Clark	Prentice Hill Grange
Treasurer	Andrea Lucas	Watatic Grange
Secretary	Bob Varnum	Antrim Grange
Gatekeeper	Gabby Decatur	Wingold Grange
Ceres	Larissa Grant	Arlington Grange
Pomona	Emilie Leclerc	Hudson Grange
Flora	Sarah Leclerc	Hudson Grange
Executive Committee	Marty Boisvert	Chichester Grange
	Norman Brandt	Wingold Grange
	Laura (Brandt) Gotouco	Wingold Grange
Honorary Pianist	Lester Gibbs	Grafton Star

Roll call of Youth Officers was taken and found all present. Roll call of State Officers was taken and found all present. Roll call of Granges found a quorum present. The minutes of the Friday session were accepted with corrections as noted.

State Youth Steward, Greg Trombi announced Ed Luttrell, National Grange Master and his wife, Celia as our honored guests and in waiting. The Assistant Stewards escorted the Luttrells to the Master's Station and Ed spoke to the Youth of New Hampshire. Celia was also asked for remarks. Walter and Norma Elwell, Co-Directors of the Agriculture and Legislative Committee from RI were introduced.

State Youth Steward, Greg Trombi announced Chris Heath, Youth Team Leader as an honored guest and in waiting. The Assistant Stewards escorted Chris to the Master's Station to give his annual report.

### **Youth & Junior Report**

Worthy Master, National Delegates, State Officers, Delegates, Patrons all:

It is with great pleasure that I stand here and give my third report as the New Hampshire State Grange Youth Team Leader. As you all know by listening to the other department reports, the State Committees were comprised of the Youth Chairmen of all the Pomona Granges. This year's Youth Team was, in addition to me: Rhonda Lambert, Junior Director, Donald Ross, Hannah West, Ida Hutchins, Sarah Leclerc, Allissa Estes and Lynn Clark. Patrick Bailey also attended and participated in the planning process for this year's work. The first Youth event was National Session in Cromwell, CT. Allissa Estes served as a Youth Officer and Sarah Leclerc was Scepter Bearer in the Seventh Degree. Matt and Lynn Clark also attended Session for the Youth Days.

The next event of the year was a "Blahs" Party at the New Hampshire State Grange Building. About 18 people attended; all enjoyed Good food, good fellowship and lots of fun games. Even our State Master enjoyed herself by playing the hand bells on Nintendo Wii. Later in January, Patrick Bailey and I attended the Northeast Leader's Conference in Massachusetts and met with all the Youth Leaders to plan the Northeast Regional Youth Conference. We also met to exchange ideas and program suggestions for the coming year. The weekend after Leader's Conference, three youths traveled to New York to attend a winter Youth Conference. At the end of January, we held the Winter Youth Rally at the State Grange Building. We welcomed a small contingency from New York who joined us for the weekend.

In February, the Team had a table at the 4H Activity Day during the Farm & Forest Expo. Because of its close proximity to Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, we provided a Valentine's Day-related activity.

In March, the Youth converged on the home of State Master Beth Merrill for our annual Moon Stomp. About 12 people enjoyed homemade pizza, drinks and pizza-shaped brownies. After our food settled, we ventured out into the night to enjoy our moonlit stomp into the woods. For some of us, this turned into a moonlit roll!

In April, we held our annual Glow Bowling event. It was held at a different time so that Juniors could attend. Attendance was low because of the change of time and location, but everyone in attendance had a good time.

In April, another small group of youths from New Hampshire attended a Spring Youth Conference in Corning, NY sponsored by the New York State Grange Youth.

On the second weekend in June, the Summer Rally was held at Bear Hill 4H Camp in Allenstown, NH. A small group attended for the entire weekend. The campers began arriving on Friday night and were met with a pizza party and get-acquainted games. Saturday morning, the Youth and Juniors performed a community service project to help the 4H camp clean up some of the grounds. Eight young people helped clean up the area around the camp's main lodge by removing debris and leaves from a 40-foot area around the building. In the afternoon, the annual Spotlight NH Talent/Youth & Junior contests were held; the following is a list of the contestants:

Junior Public Speaking: Stephanie Lambert  
Public Speaking (20-29): Lynn Clark  
Public Speaking (30+): George Lambert  
Individual Sign-A-Song: Marie Hall and Andrea Lucas  
Group Sign-A-Song: Allissa Estes and Christopher Heath

The winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Jr. Public Speaking - Stephanie Lambert
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Public Speaking (20-29) - Lynn Clark
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Elevator Speech (20-29) - Matthew Clark
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Individual Hobbyist Sign-A-Song - Marie Hall
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Individual Hobbyist Sign-A-Song - Andrea Lucas
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Group Sign-A-Song - Allissa Estes and Christopher Heath

After Spotlight NH was completed, the kitchen staff served a delicious barbeque chicken dinner to 30 people. Sunday morning was a wrap-up of the weekend and everyone headed home. I would like to recognize Wilber and Jane Heath for doing all the cooking for the weekend. Everyone who attended had a good time, and the Team is considering booking this facility for this year's Northeast Regional Youth Conference.

In July, a large contingency of NH Grange Youth attended the Northeast Regional Youth Conference in Schenectady NY. Here are the results of the contests from the Conference:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Jr. Public Speaking - Stephanie Lambert
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Elevator Speech - Matthew Clark
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Public Speaking (20-29) - Lynn Clark
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Public Speaking (30+) - George Lambert
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Individual Sign-A-Song Hobbyist - Marie Hall
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Group Sign-A-Song - Allissa Estes and Christopher Heath

Marie Hall won Best of Show and will perform her Sign-A-Song at National Session in Grand Rapids, MI in November.

The Team had planned to have the second annual Harvest Moon Stomp, but due to scheduling conflicts, it had to be cancelled. The Team would like to try and hold the event this year, and more information will be available at NH Leader's School.

The Team was happy to receive entries in the Horizon Leadership Contest for Young Couple and Female Ambassador. As announced the GSG, the Youth Team is pleased to be sending Matt & Lynn Clark and Allissa Estes as representatives from New Hampshire to National Session. At this time I would like to present them with sashes and checks for travel expenses to and from National Grange.

Here are the results of the Youth Contests

- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Memory Book Page, Grange Category - Claire Gagnon, Hudson Grange
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Memory Book Page, Open Category - Alice Tuck, Wet-N-Wild
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Memory Book Page, Open Category - Alice Tuck, Poolside Memories
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place, New Friends
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Collage, Open Category - Alice Tuck, Pease Greeters
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Collage, Open Category - Sandra Bokousky, Cats
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Collage, Open Category - Lynn Clark, Babies

Photo Scavenger Contest

- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Watatic Grange
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Rochester Grange
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Hampton Falls Grange

The Team thanks everyone who competed in the Youth contests. Ribbons and prize money can be picked up at the Youth Table before 3 p.m. today. The Team is looking forward to having an extremely busy year. Youth Programs will be available starting at Leader's School. If you are not going to be attending Leader's School, please contact the Youth Team member from your Pomona. They will have plenty of copies of the program available. Many Granges did not submit Youth reports this past year. This coming year, we will make the report sheet available on the website; all the chairmen need to do is fill in a form online and it will be submitted directly to the Youth Team Leader.

This year's Top Subordinate Grange is Hudson Grange #11.

This year's Top Pomona Grange is Hillsborough County Pomona #1

Congratulations to all the youth from these Granges. The Youth Team applauds you for all your hard work throughout the year. Please keep up the hard work!

Respectfully submitted,  
Christopher Heath and Rhonda Lambert  
NH State Grange Youth Director and Junior Director

The Youth report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

The Youth Officers then retired to the anteroom and the State Officers resumed their stations.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Jean Abbott, Chairman of the 501c3 Foundation Committee to give her report.

### **The New Hampshire Grange Foundation (501c3)**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Delegates and Patrons:

Five Grangers were called into service this summer by our State Master to form a 501c3 qualified foundation that would be able to accept and expend funds for charitable purposes. Our deadline being "today," we quickly went to work. We met August 18 at the State Grange Building and again briefly on August 22 to create this foundation. Our first task was to determine our reason for existence.

**The mission of the New Hampshire Grange Foundation is to raise, receive and distribute funds that allow it to:**

- ❖ provide financial assistance to New Hampshire residents seeking post-secondary education
- ❖ provide financial assistance to New Hampshire residents who seek to broaden their educational pursuits
- ❖ promote interest in and provide financial support for localized agricultural endeavors in New Hampshire
- ❖ promote interest in and provide financial support for projects and programs conducted by Grange divisions in New Hampshire

The last two items will allow committees and departments of the State Grange as well as Subordinate and Pomona Granges to use the Foundation for the purpose of soliciting and expending tax-exempt funding.

We then moved on to Articles of Agreement (Bylaws) and completed the application for filing with the State of New Hampshire for non-profit status, which was accepted as of September 24.

Our immediate goals are to acquire 501c3 status with the IRS and to complete our bylaws. We will then move on to fine-tuning the Foundation's needs and procedures.

Many thanks to the Study Committee, which preceded us, and did so much of the background and legwork for us; they made our task so much easier and smoother.

Fraternally,  
Jean Abbott, Chair; Ruth Holmes, Vice-Chair; Marie Hall, Secretary; Kenneth Berry, Treasurer; David Boynton, Director-at-Large

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

### **Reports of Pomona Granges**

#### **Cheshire County #6**

Cheshire County Pomona Grange #6 met a total of 12 times this year on the third Friday of every month. The home grange is Arlington Grange #139 in Winchester. After a break of several years, we are again meeting traditionally with an opening and a closing. Our big event this year was a fundraiser to assist our local granges with their assessment to National Grange we raised \$135.00 and supplemented the rest out of our Treasury.

We again will be looking at a fundraiser that will assist all the granges in our Pomona for the coming year.

Fraternally submitted,  
Jim Tetreault, Master

### **Eastern NH #2**

Eastern NH Pomona is continuing to hold one meeting every quarter during the year. During the remaining time, the Pomona members are encouraged to attend the meetings of the Subordinate Granges within our jurisdiction. Visitations are made by the Officers to the Subordinate Granges. Each Grange is made aware that if at any time they need assistance, all they need to do is ask and we will help them out when ever they need it. We still have a traditional Opening and Closing ceremony. We did not confer the Fifth Degree this year. We do have most of the officers present at each meeting and usually have at least 10 members present above and beyond the slate of officers. We are proud to have Allissa Estes as our new Master.

Respectively Submitted,  
Christopher Heath, Overseer  
Eastern NH Pomona #2

### **Hillsborough County #1**

Hillsborough County Pomona #1 gained a new Subordinate Grange this year when the re-chartered Peterborough Grange voted to join our Pomona. Unfortunately, we lost Oakhill Grange as a Subordinate when they consolidated with Antrim. We continue to have ten Subordinates rolling up to the Pomona. We continue to have about 130 members. We currently need to fill one office with the untimely loss of Jimmy Rice.

This year we did not do the Fifth Degree, due to a scheduling conflict between the Boy Scouts and Wattannick Hall. We will plan the Degree for the spring of 2010. Pomona did do the First Degree for Peterborough Grange.

This was our Pomona's first full year as a traveling Grange. We had been at Granite for a long while; our new home, or at least where we keep the regalia, is at Wattannick Hall.

Our annual outing was again at Antrim; thanks go to Antrim for the meal. Although the outing was poorly attended, we hope to fix that for next year. Our Pomona had what I think was the best Grange meal ever, when Peterborough hosted Pomona. We served the meal at the Winter Youth Rally, and we had our annual Award Night in April.

This year, as usual, we had Pomona displays at four different fairs.

We assigned our committee chairs to the State Grange Committees. The Pomona Master traveled to some, but not all, of the Subordinates. Those visits will continue until all Subordinates have been visited.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Haefner, Master  
Hillsborough County Pomona #1

### **Mascoma Valley #7** Lester Gibbs (verbal report)

### **Merrimack County #3**

Two of our members, Marion T. Jones and Dorothy Haskins, have assisted in trying to rejuvenate Riverhill Grange. A group of 28 people, including two members of Riverhill Grange, met to discuss the possibilities. They elected a few officers that were installed by Marion, but do not wish to officially re-open until the first of the year. They have made many improvements on the hall and want to continue to do so. Sister Beth Merrill was also present. We hope this will be a success.

The assessment of \$1.00 per member was another topic of concern for us. We asked the Subordinate Granges to pay for each of their own members. For those unable to make this contribution, we elected to pay for them this year only.



Merrimack County Pomona Grange provided the lunch for the Special Session of the State Grange in August.

Submitted by:  
Rodney M. Huntoon, Master  
Merrimack County Pomona Grange #3

### **Northern NH #5**

Northern NH Pomona consists of five Subordinate Granges: Winthrop Grange, Shelburne; Riverside Grange, Dalton; White Mountain Grange, Littleton; Mount Hope Grange, Landaff and Pine Grove Grange in Bath.

We held nine meetings this past year, with a quorum at all but one. Our programs were: membership, recycling, youth night, health & community service and home economics. We participated in the baking contest. In August we welcomed three new members and held our election of officers for a term of two years.

Our goal for the coming year is to increase attendance, attract new members and assist our Subordinate Granges who desire such assistance.

Fraternally,  
Jean Abbott, Master

### **Suncook Valley #12**

Suncook Valley's theme for the year was "Take Time to...." Programs for the year were based on this theme, as was our fair exhibit. We even had fun coordinating our food pantry donations around the theme.

It had come to our attention that food pantry clients need not only food but also household and personal hygiene items, which cannot be purchased with food stamps.

As members brought in items at each meeting, the program suggested baby products for Youth Night and tissues for the Memorial Service.

Committee chairpersons from Suncook Valley served on various NH State Grange Committees to the best of their ability. Norma Neary helped out with Family and Community. Mary West edited resolutions for the Legislative Committee. Claire Gagne was on the Grange Services Committee. Paul Davis and Hannah West attended at least one meeting of the Lecturer's Committee and the Youth Team, respectively.

Suncook Valley Pomona exhibits at three fairs: Stratham, Hopkinton, and Deerfield. Anne and Marty Boisvert prepared this year's exhibit, "Take Time for Grange". It won a blue ribbon at all three fairs and was "Best of Show" at both Hopkinton and Deerfield. We are proud of the fame and glory and pleased with the monetary compensation as well.

Our biggest accomplishment this year was to take over the New Hampshire Dictionary Project from Pemigewasset Valley Pomona. Suncook Valley had been seeking a project for some time, and, when David Boynton's e-mail came through my computer, I pounced. We held a special meeting at the end of June to take a vote. The response from members under 70 years of age was enthusiastic, and the older members were supportive although cautious about how much they could do personally. We now have a bank account especially for the NH Dictionary Project, a three person steering committee, and others waiting in the wings to help out as needed. The orders are coming in, and all is going well at the present time. We would like to thank David Boynton, Noreen Crawford, and Ida Hutchins for their helpful advice and for all they have done to build the client base and the good will which we have inherited.

Is everything perfect at Suncook Valley Pomona? Well, not entirely. Our attendance at meetings has fallen off, due mainly to the advancing age of our active membership. The officers' chairs are not always full, and this year for the first time in my memory we did not exemplify the Fifth Degree due mainly to lack of personnel for Pomona's Court. However, hope springs eternal, and there is always next year. If we can't increase the bodies in the room, perhaps we can adjust number needed for the performance.

Suncook Valley Pomona has only three Subordinate Granges in its jurisdiction, so the membership pool is rather shallow although the driving distance is excellent. Our size may be small, but our spirit of friendliness and cooperation cannot be equaled.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah West, Pomona Master

### **East Rockingham #11**

East Rockingham Pomona attempted to go to quarterly meetings this year, but found that we had much more to accomplish than four meetings would allow. We decided to change our meetings to September, October, December, March, April, May and June. We entered two of the local fairs and did quite well. We have lovingly adopted Pease Greeters as a way to reach out to our armed forces.

Each of the committees from State had the corresponding committee member appointed with the hopes of extending communication between State and Subordinate Granges. We also hope that everyone here is enjoying the hospitality room; we invite you, as there is plenty of food and fellowship left.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marie Hall

State Master Beth Merrill declared the session at recess at 9:33am.  
State Master Beth Merrill called the State Grange back to order at 9:49am.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon David Boynton to give the report for Pemigewasset Valley Pomona.

### **Pemigewasset Valley #18**

Pemigewasset Valley Pomona #18 has active participation from five of the six Subordinate Granges. Efforts to draw the sixth Grange into the fold have not, as yet, been successful.

For the seventh year, we have sponsored the Dictionary Project in schools at Waterville Valley, Campton, Piermont and Haverhill/Woodsville. In addition, each of the Subordinate Granges participates in the project for their local schools.

The new structure of State Grange Committees appears to have created a closer interaction with Subordinate Granges.

This year, we replaced our traditional "Dinner Out" activity with a picnic, for which each attendee contributed an amount roughly equal to the cost of a meal. Fortunately, our Lecturer is in good standing with the god of sunshine, and we enjoyed one of the few good weather weekend days of the summer.

Fraternally,  
Pemigewasset Valley Pomona #18

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

### **Election of two Executive Committee Members for the constitutional term of three years was held.**

The following were appointed as tellers: Neil MacDonald, Lorna Bates and Robert Haefner. Hannah West and Robert Haefner were elected to the NH State Grange Executive Committee. Brother Haefner recused himself from counting ballots when his name was suggested and another worthy patron was appointed in his place.

The tellers were released from the appointed committees.

State Steward Chris Heath was called upon to give his report.

### **Steward's Report**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Pink Sash family, Delegates and patrons all:

It is with great pleasure that I stand here and give my third report as the New Hampshire State Grange Steward. It has been a very long but fast year serving as your State Steward.

It is the responsibility of the State Steward to care for all the property of the State Grange. My year started last year at the end of State Grange Session. With the help of my assistants, Mark and Diane Collins and Beth Merrill, we loaded up the equipment of the State Grange into a trailer provided by Mark and returned it to the New Hampshire State Grange building in Hooksett. In February of this year I took some time to

try and reorganize the storage room so that the flags and Grange equipment was readily available for use at the Farm and Forest Expo. As State Steward I attended many events throughout the year. Spring Fling, Family Weekend, Go-to-Church Service at the Cathedral of the Pines and Special Session are just a few of the events that I attended. I helped load and unload the equipment for this year's State Session and set up the meeting room. I thank the delegates for their faith in me to fulfill the duties of my office and look forward to another year of serving the State Grange in this capacity.

Fraternally,  
Christopher E Heath  
New Hampshire State Grange Steward

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Gatekeeper Ann Leger was called upon to give her report.

### **Gatekeeper's Report**

Worthy Master, State Officers, Honored Guests, Worthy Delegates and patrons all:

This is the third time I have had the honor to stand before you as an integral part of the "setup team". It is the responsibility of the Gatekeeper to guard the outer gate and to make him or herself available to the Steward, Assistants and Flora to help set up the hall for the Degree and to assist in any way possible. The Gatekeeper at State Session acts as the liaison between the hotel function personnel, the department directors and the Lecturer in the matter of setting up and holding the keys to the display rooms. This year the Gatekeeper was called to duty twice, once for the special session in August and again for the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the State Grange. I wish to thank Ken Berry, Session Coordinator for his phone calls and support. I also wish to thank Cheri Halberstadt, Kathy Maxwell and Jeff Smith of the Ashworth by the Sea for making all the last minute changes with a smile. Thank you all for your faith and trust. I look forward to another year of service as your State Gatekeeper.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Leger  
New Hampshire State Grange Gatekeeper

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Flora Diane Collins was called upon to give her report.

### **Flora's Report**

Worthy Master,

As State Flora I attended Winter Youth rally, and part of a day of Family Weekend. After rearranging my work schedule I was also able to make our Special session.

I would like to take a moment to thank you and the members of the State Grange for your confidence and support that I have received. I would also like to thank those who helped set up the court and decorate the hall. This being my second year as State Flora, I was a little more relaxed during the degree this year, and I can honestly say that I am looking forward to next year. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Collins  
NH State Grange Flora

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master Beth Merrill asked B. Richard Bailey, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee to give his report.

## Resolutions Committee

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Brother and Sister Patrons;  
This is the report of the Resolutions and Bylaws committee. We have considered 18 resolutions and make the following recommendations:

### **RESOLUTION #1** – Submitted by Hudson Grange #11

Subject: Support of New Hampshire Dairy Farmers

Whereas: The NH Dairy industry is the anchor of NH Agriculture, which not only supports rural communities, but enhances other sectors of agriculture, providing open space for recreation, sportsmen and women, and tourism; and

Whereas: The Dairy industry provides an economic impact of an estimated \$14,000 per cow per year, primarily in the local economy; and

Whereas: The lack of stable prices, concentration of process and capacity, outdated regulations and labor shortages are creating a crisis in the industry; and

Whereas: a significant loss of capacity would create a dependence on foreign or out of region milk and other dairy products and reduce our food security; and

Whereas: The NH Dairy farmer generally has smaller herds than much of the country because of geography and higher costs than some parts of the country because of the New England weather.

Whereas: The 2008 Farm Bill creates a review process for Federal Milk Marketing orders;

Now therefore be it resolved: The Hudson Grange and the New Hampshire State Grange urge our Congressional Delegation and the Administration to acknowledge the importance of the Dairy industry to New Hampshire:

Funding and implementing the federal milk marketing order study as outlined in the 2008 Farm Bill with regional representation from Producers and state policy makers; and

Implementation of tariffs on foreign dairy solids; and

Setting of regional prices to reflect accurately and realistically the cost of production; and

Addressing the problems of labor shortages in the dairy industry by providing training and education as well as a fair and sensible approach to imported labor; and

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to our Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Chair of the NH House and Senate Agriculture Committees, the NH Commissioner of Agriculture and the NH Farm Bureau; and

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the chairs of the Northeast states Senate and House committees that oversee agriculture and rural communities; and

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretaries and Commissioners of Agriculture that represent the states that comprise the CSG/ERC.

Resolution # 10 and 1 are essentially the same and should be considered together.

We recommend the value in the second whereas be changed to \$14,000 and that the last two resolves in resolution #10 be added to this resolution. The committee recommends the combined resolution then be adopted.

This resolution passed as amended.

### **RESOLUTION #2** – Submitted by Rochester Grange #86

Subject: Associate Membership

The committee recommends adoption.

The resolution passed as written.

### **RESOLUTION #3** – Submitted by Rochester Grange #86

Subject: Subordinate Family Membership Dues

WHEREAS, the Delegates at National Grange increased the amount of Subordinate dues payable to National Grange effective January 1, 2010; therefore be it

RESOLVED, the dollar amounts in the NH State Grange Bylaws Article XIV, Section 3 – Duties and Rights of Members, Division 1, page 12 be changed and the wording clarified to read: "The minimum regular annual dues in a Subordinate Grange shall be \$29.00 (~~\$29.00~~ paid to the State Grange of which \$12.00 goes to National Grange) paid in advance, and each Grange may otherwise regulate its own dues. The minimum dues required of a family unit membership are \$58.00 (~~\$58.00~~) paid to State Grange of which \$24.00 goes to National Grange). A family unit membership is defined as consisting of three or more Subordinate Grange members with one or two parents and their dependents, which are under the age of 23 and live in the same household or are absent due to illness, education, or military service."

We recommend that the value in line 3 of the resolved be changed to \$29.00 and the value in line 6 be changed to \$58.00. The changes are needed due to the changes as a result of the special session held in Aug. With these changes we recommend adoption.

The resolution was amended as suggested by common consent.

The resolution passed as amended.

**RESOLUTION #4** – Submitted by Rochester Grange #86

Subject: NH State Grange Non-voting Members

The committee recommends adoption.

The resolution passed as written.

**RESOLUTION #5** – Submitted by Park Grange #249

Subject: Return to Agriculture Awards

Whereas the cost of fertilizer and transporting food is skyrocketing, and

Whereas as NH can grow most of its own food according to NOFA, and

Whereas landowners are more motivated to sell off land for housing developments thus losing valuable agricultural land,

Be It Resolved that the NH State Grange investigates the possibility of collaboration with other agricultural organizations like NOFA-NH, NH Farm Bureau or the Extension Service to present awards in each county through the Pomona Granges to landowners who return their land to organic/sustainable agriculture.

The committee recommends that the words “investigates the possibility of collaboration” be substituted for the word “collaborates” in the resolved section. With that change the committee recommends adoption.

The resolution was amended as recommended by common consent.

The resolution passed as amended.

**RESOLUTION #6** – Submitted by the NH State Grange Executive Committee

Subject: Second Delegates at National Grange

The committee recommends adoption.

The resolution passed as written.

**RESOLUTION #7** – Submitted by Antrim Grange #98

Subject: Industrial Hemp on Pine Ridge Reservation

The committee makes no recommendation for this resolution.

The resolution passed as written.

**RESOLUTION #8** – Submitted by Antrim Grange #98

Subject: Alcoholic Beverages at Grange Halls

Whereas the current Article 10.11.1 in the National Grange Digest states that ‘All Granges are prohibited from having alcoholic beverages either in the Grange Hall or on any Grange property during any Grange meeting, nor can any Grange lease or rent its hall or its property for functions that may include the sale or use of alcoholic beverages or for any other purposes prohibited by Grange Law; except that a State Grange may allow the use of alcoholic beverages at functions other than Grange meetings in the Grange Hall or on any Grange property by vote of the State Grange at its Annual Meeting.’

Therefore be it resolved that Article 10.11.1 be amended to read: “All Granges are prohibited from having alcoholic beverages either in the Grange Hall or on any Grange property during any Grange meeting.

Granges that meet in buildings or on property not owned by the Grange may not allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages during any Grange meeting.” and

Be it further resolved that the following articles be added to this section of the National Grange Digest:

Article 10.11.2 “All Granges are prohibited from having alcoholic beverages either in the Grange Hall, on any Grange property, or any other venue that the Grange has legal use of during any Grange sponsored activity; except for activities that are designed to promote the portions of agriculture that include the production of alcoholic beverages.”

Article 10.11.3 “All Granges may have original-sealed containers of alcoholic beverages at Grange meetings and activities for use as demonstration aides, gifts, or fund raisers. Such containers shall remain sealed at such Grange meeting or activity.

Article 10.11.4 “No Grange shall lease or rent its hall or its property for functions that will include the sale or use of alcoholic beverages or for any other purposes prohibited by Grange Law; except that a State Grange may allow the use of alcoholic beverages at functions other than Grange meetings in the Grange Hall or on any Grange property by vote of the State Grange at its Annual Meeting, or by vote of the State Grange Executive Committee.”

Article 10.11.5 “No Grange shall apply for or hold a license to sell or serve alcohol.”

The committee recommends adoption. Amended by common consent by omitting gifts, or fundraisers from second line Article 10.11.3. The resolution was tabled.

**RESOLUTION #9** - Submitted by State Legislative Committee

Subject: Federal Food Safety Legislation

The committee recommends adoption.

The resolution passed as written.

**RESOLUTION #10** - Submitted by the State Legislative Committee

Subject: State Efforts for the Dairy Industry

The committee recommends that the resolution be rejected.

The resolution was rejected.

**RESOLUTION #11** - Submitted by the State Legislative Committee

Subject: Federal Response to the Economic Crisis of the Dairy Industry

The committee recommends adoption.

The resolution passed as written.

**RESOLUTION #12** - Submitted by Cheshire County Pomona #6

Subject: Single Payer Health Care

The committee does not recommend adoption.

The resolution was defeated.

**RESOLUTION #13** - Submitted by Cheshire County Pomona #6

Subject: Casino Gambling

WHEREAS: The State of New Hampshire is struggling financially through this recession and we have a revenue problem rather than a spending problem; and

WHEREAS: Neither the Legislature nor the Governor have the political courage to enact either a sales or income tax to ease the burden on property tax owners, and continue to enact fee increases on the general public to ease the budgetary problems; and

WHEREAS: Casino gambling or off-track betting has the potential of generating up to three hundred million dollars in revenue for the State of New Hampshire;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the New Hampshire State Grange goes on record as being in support of **legalized** casino gambling, **and make it one of our legislative priorities for the next legislative session.**

The committee recommends that the word “legalized” be added to the first line of the resolved section after “in support of” and that the entire sentence after “gambling” be deleted. With those changes we recommend adoption.

The recommended changes were made by common consent.

The resolution was defeated.

**RESOLUTION #14** - Submitted by Arlington Grange #139

Subject: Veterans Designation

The committee recommends adoption.

The resolution passed as written.

**RESOLUTION #15** - Submitted by Hudson Grange #11

Subject: Encourage School Districts to Participate in Agriculture in the Classroom and/or Farm to School

Whereas: NH Farms are small businesses that hire local people, pay taxes and contribute to NH's economy.

Whereas: NH Farms provide safe, fresh, good tasting, and nutritious, local foods.

Whereas: NH Farms provide open space at no cost to the taxpayers.

Whereas: NH Farms protect the environment.

Whereas: NH Children need to learn good nutrition choices.

Whereas: NH children need to know where their food comes from.

Whereas: NH Children need to taste the difference between fresh local and other foods.

Be it therefore resolved: that the Hudson Grange # 11 and the NH State Grange encourages all school districts in the state of NH to adopt elements of the Agriculture in the Class Room and / or a Farm to School Program **targeting elementary, middle and high school ages.** That may include all or some of the following:

Classes visit Farms: Dairy, Fruit, and Vegetables  
Farmers visit schools to explain what they do.  
Teach agriculture techniques, as part of the science curriculum.  
Teach healthy nutrition choices  
Learn to identify fresh foods  
Jr. Iron Chef Competition using local foods  
Cafeteria that features local foods, buy during the summer and preserve for winter use.  
An all NH Food day.  
We suggest that the last line be moved and added after "or a Farm to School Program," The committee recommends adoption.  
The resolution was changed as suggested by common consent.  
The resolution passed.

**RESOLUTION #16** - Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee  
Re: Oversight of Farm Products  
The committee does not recommend adoption.  
The resolution was defeated.

**RESOLUTION #17** - Submitted by Hillsborough County Pomona #1  
Subject: National Grange's Industrial Hemp Policy Change  
The committee recommends adoption.  
The resolution was passed as written.

**RESOLUTION #18**- Submitted by Squam Lake Grange # 258  
Subject: State Grange Building  
Whereas, for the past several years the income of the NH State Grange has failed to meet expenses, in turn requiring withdrawals from invested funds; and  
Whereas, the expense of maintaining the building located in Hooksett, owned by the NH State Grange requires a disproportionate amount of the financial resources of the Grange;  
Whereas, that building has neither space nor facilities to hold most of the events and activities of the State Grange and its committees, provides minimal benefit to the State Grange and no benefit to the majority of members therefore be it;  
Resolved, that a study committee be formed on the aspect of selling the current NH State Grange Building and locating a more appropriate facility. The study committee to present a written report at the next NH State Grange Session.

We recommend the resolved be changed to:" Resolved that the Executive Committee be directed to investigate the possibility of selling the NH State Grange Building".  
The committee recommendation was accepted by common consent then the "Resolved" was amended to read:  
Resolved, that a study committee be formed on the aspect of selling the current NH State Grange building and locating a more appropriate facility. The Study Committee to present a written report at the next NH State Grange session.  
The resolution was amended.  
The resolution passed as amended.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on this committee again. Special thanks to Bob Haefner for his special help and advice.

B. Richard Bailey, Wayne Turcotte, Anne Boisvert, Robert Trombi

State Master, Beth Merrill called for a recess at 12:01pm.  
State Master, Beth Merrill called the Grange back to order at 1:32pm.

Past State Master, Paul Davis was called upon to install the two Executive Committee members that were elected. Hannah West and Robert Haefner were installed for the constitutional term of three years. Assisting with the installation of officers were, Matt Haefner and Anne Boisvert, Marshals and Rhoda Davis, Regalia Bearer.

State Master Beth Merrill introduced National Master, Ed Luttrell who talked about voting at State Sessions.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Norman Brandt, Chairman of the Master's Address Committee to give his report.

### **Report of Master's Address Committee**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Officers of the NH State Grange, Delegates and Patrons:

We present the following response to the address of the NH State Grange Master, Sister Beth Merrill. Upon reading the Travelogue, we commend the Worthy Master on all of her time and commitment spent to let the rest of the Grange nation know that NH is here and we are strong.

The Committee also adds our joys in knowing that, even though the National Grange was not held in New Hampshire, New Hampshire Grange was so well represented by our members. We are quite sure that when National Grange falls upon our shoulders in 2013, our hard-working Grange members will have come up with some great ideas of tour stops, table favors, notable speakers and whatever else is asked of them.

We as a committee are relieved that the Tyson Food threat was finally worked out to our benefit. We also understand that the National Grange still has many steps to make, to be certain that any loopholes allowing this situation to occur in the first place will be closed or at least properly plugged. We urge the New Hampshire State Grange and all members to help the National Grange while they do this.

We urge the State Grange, along with the Master, to adopt the fifth priority set forth by the National Master. With so many of our Granges struggling, the time may have come to try to re-organize or even organize Junior Granges. Sadly, the committee members have noticed a lack of any Junior information making its way to the community Granges. Without updates from the Junior Deputy, how can the members know what is needed to bring new Junior Granges about?

As for the youth, we recognize that bringing FFA into the Grange for programs or even to see what Grange is like would help more than it could ever hurt, but we as a committee believe that we cannot just stop at the FFA. Scouting groups, 4H, and many other youth organizations could be just as helpful in building the Grange. Therefore we urge not just the FFA be approached about coming to Grange meetings, but all youth organizations. After all, most of these organizations do have age limits that fit nicely within the Grange Youth membership years.

The Worthy Master also spoke on the fact that a 501c3 foundation was recently formed. The committee applauds this action and feels that it is a very positive milestone in allowing us to accept donations that will help the Grange over time.

The committee is glad to hear that the State Grange is working on getting the "bugs" out of the new Pomona Grange set-ups. It is our pleasure to give some encouraging news that quite a few Pomonas show signs that this new set-up is truly helping.

As saddened as we were that the hemp bill did not make it out of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee, we are happy to hear that they will draft a resolution to be sent to Congress stating their support for the Federal Government to legalize the growing of hemp. We hope that most of the Granges now know all the positive benefits that legalizing US-grown hemp would make for our economy, both locally and nationally.

The Spring Fling is still one of the most useful tools that the New Hampshire State Grange and the Worthy Master have given us New Hampshire Grangers. We urge any member of the Grange who has not attended the Spring Fling to do so.

We commend the Worthy Master for addressing the Painted Curtains Project. We feel it is a great project and hope that the visiting State Representatives and the National Master would bring it into their states to look into, thus furthering the preservation of these historic sceneries.

Closing Granges is a very hard and sad thing to do. This definitely seems harder to do when the Granges are not keeping to the bylaws. We hope that by reading the bylaws during the Grange Services section of the Grange meeting, the Grange members will be better informed on how this should be done properly.



New growth is a great thing for our state, and it shows that with good faith, hope and dedication we can and will persevere. We urge everybody to see that growth is a good thing for not only the local Granges, but also for the State and National Grange. We understand that some growth is desirable, but we remind members that, with growth, some change may be needed; approaching this change with understanding is needed also.

Thank you, Worthy Master for the privilege of serving on this committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Norman Brandt (Chair), Vicki Hussman, Jim Brady, Frances Towne

A motion was made by David Boynton and seconded by Jane Trombi to adopt the five priorities in the State Master's Address. The vote was in the affirmative.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Donald Ross, Chairman of the Executive Committee to present the proposed 2009 – 2010 State Grange budget for the delegates to consider.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Income Budget 2009-2010**

	<b>Proposed 2008-09</b>	<b>Actual 2008-09</b>	<b>Proposed 2009-010</b>
<b>Invested Funds</b>			
Income	10,000.00	8,197.48	5,091.10
Withdrawals from Principal	15,546.50	18,000.00	5,434.31
<b>Special Invested Funds</b>			
Defunct Granges	1,500.00	1,753.45	1,607.27
<b>Other Income</b>			
Accounts Receivable		0.00	
Bonding Fees Sub/Pom	2,389.00	2,383.00	2,259.00
Donations		100.00	
Dues & Fees	35,000.00	30,804.75	38,778.00
Eastern States/Blueberry Pie	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,200.00
<i>Granite State Grange</i> Donations	800.00	744.25	750.00
National Session Assessment		1,619.00	2,000.00
Operations	3,000.00		
Family Weekend		513.39	
Fund Raising		3,645.50	2,000.00
Printing/Postage/Supplies		197.49	70.00
Sixth Degree Fees	50.00	40.00	40.00
St. Gr. Bldg Use Donations	2,000.00	2,965.00	2,800.00
State Session	5,500.00	5,657.56	3,930.00
Supply Department		742.57	
Funds Past Junior Director		472.02	
Lecturer's Fund		100.00	
Membership Department Budget		200.00	
Membership Training Refund		65.00	
Spring Fling		480.00	400.00
Starr King Treasury		55.85	
Walk thru Ashworth by the Sea		440.00	
State Grange Building Fund Donations		2,050.00	150.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>77,185.50</b>	<b>90,951.31</b>	<b>66,509.68</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Expense Budget 2009-2010**

	<b>Proposed 2008-09</b>	<b>Actual 2008-09</b>	<b>Proposed 2009-10</b>
Bonding Fee Sub & Pom	2,389.00	2,383.00	2,383.00
Bonding Fee State Grange	209.00	209.00	209.00
Bulk Mail Permit	180.00	180.00	185.00
Department Expenses			
Family & Community	900.00	900.00	630.00
Grange Services	200.00	200.00	140.00
Junior	200.00	100.00	140.00
Lecturer	1,100.00	1,100.00	770.00
Legislative	900.00	900.00	630.00
Membership	400.00	200.00	280.00
Trustees of Trust Funds	200.00	200.00	140.00
Youth	1,100.00	1,100.00	770.00
Deputies	1,600.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Dues- National Grange	17,960.00	17,645.00	17,787.00
General Deputy	300.00	300.00	250.00
Income Tax Preparation	1,500.00	1,656.00	1,700.00
Leader's School- December	500.00	100.00	250.00
Legal Fees	1,500.00	790.52	3,000.00
Lobbyist/Advocate Expenses	500.00	0.00	250.00
Lobbyist/Advocate Training	500.00	386.00	0.00
Master	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Media			
Farm & Forest Expo	300.00	95.00	385.00
<i>Granite State Granger</i>	2,500.00	2,841.98	2,900.00
Publicist	100.00	10.00	100.00
Miscellaneous	500.00	150.00	500.00
National Session Assessment		2,427.00	2,329.00
NE Grange Building Assessment	475.00	0.00	0.00
Operations			
Family Weekend	500.00	500.00	
Fund Raising		2,081.55	
State Grange Building	17,000.00	17,556.08	7,000.00
State Session	6,000.00	7,304.43	4,196.68
State Session Deposit	500.00	850.00	500.00
Printing/Postage/Supplies	7,000.00	6,058.25	6,000.00
Secretary/Treasurer	4,000.00	4,000.00	
Secretary			2,000.00
Sixth Degree Fees-National	12.50	10.00	10.00
State Grange Insurance	2,160.00	2,201.00	2,250.00
State Grange Other Building Insurance		790.00	800.00
State Grange Other Building Expenses			175.00
Treasurer			2,000.00
Anniversary Fund- sashes		5.52	
Supply Department		742.57	
Lecturer Fund		100.00	
Funds Past Junior Dept. Director		472.02	
State Grange Building Fund Donations		5,000.00	
Spring Fling		265.00	
Walk thru Ashworth by the Sea		439.34	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>77,185.50</b>	<b>87,839.26</b>	<b>66,509.68</b>

A motion was made to combine the Junior and Youth Department expense line items and to change the total amount to \$900. Motion was seconded and passed. A motion was made to accept the 2009 – 2010 budgets as amended. The motion passed in the affirmative.

State Lecturer Marie Hall announced the winners of the State contests that will go on to National Grange for display in November:

Pumpkin Quilt

Dorinda Louise

Henry Wilson Grange

Horse Picture  
Copper Etching

PJ Clark (grandson of State Lecturer Marie Hall)  
Marion Woodworth  
Rochester Grange

A motion was made by Gloria Davis and seconded by Carolee Barrett to authorize the NH State Grange Study Committee to proceed with creating a 501c3 corporation. The vote was in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Arthur Merrill and seconded by Carolee Barrett to authorize the State Grange Executive Committee to approve the minutes of Saturday session. The vote was in the affirmative.

The winners of the State Lecturer's photo contest were:

What Am I? (Frost) – Rhoda Davis                      Where Am I? (Mt. Monadnock) – Matt Clark.

The answers to the State Master's 4x4x4 game were given. The winner with the most correct answers will be announced at the State Grange banquet.

State Master Beth Merrill asked Pat Izzo, Chairman of the Credentials Committee to approach the Master's station to give her report.

### **REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Pink Sash Family and Grangers:  
The report of the Credentials Committee is as follows:

#### **TOTAL VOTING DELEGATES**

Masters - 28  
Wives of Masters - 4  
Husbands of Masters - 2  
Delegates - 47  
**TOTAL DELEGATES - 81**

State Officers - 19                      Deputies - 14                      Committee Members - 56  
Non-delegates - 80                      Special Guests - 15

The members of the Credentials Committee thank the State Secretary for the privilege of serving on the Registration table for the 2009 State Session.

Fraternally,  
Patricia Izzo, Chairman  
Lucia Savage  
Ken Berry

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

The third day of the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Session was closed at 3:30pm to prepare for the Patron's Plunge. The Acting Master for the closing of the Grange was Dan Mutchler from CT State Grange.

#### **Saturday Evening, October 31, 2009 NH State Grange Celebration Dinner**

The 70<sup>th</sup> Annual New Hampshire State Grange Banquet was held at 6:00 p.m. and the Ashworth by the Sea served a delicious dinner.

State Master Beth Merrill welcomed all who attended the Grange banquet. Master Merrill then introduced Lorraine Merrill, NH Commissioner of Agriculture as our keynote speaker for the evening.

State Master Beth Merrill once again introduced our guest dignitaries, Ed and Celia Luttrell. Beth gave the Luttrells a gift bag of NH products. Ed and Celia gave their farewell messages to the Grange members present.

## 2009 Award Recipients

The Firefighter of the Year Award was presented to Helen Cheyne from Hudson.  
The Police Officer of the Year Award was presented to Jimmie Deshaies from Hampton Falls.  
The Educator of the Year Award was presented to Mike Amsden from Bath.  
The Young Farmer of the Year Award was presented to Andy Westover from Walpole.

The 200 - Year Farm Award went to the family of the Great Brook Farm in Walpole and the Century Farm Award was given to the family of the Pomeroy Farm in Mont Vernon.

The State Trooper of the Year Award was given to Trooper Michael Sebor from Troop G in Concord.

State Legislative Director Jim Tetreault then presented his Legislative Awards. This year's Legislator of the Year Award was presented to Representative Tara Sad from Walpole.

The Junie Blaisdell Award was presented to Dr. Stephen Crawford, NH State Veterinarian.

The Robert Bodwell Award was presented to Robert Haefner from Hudson.

Gabby Decatur of Wingold Grange won Saturday's 50/50 Raffle in the amount of \$163.50.

Profit realized from the Silent Auction was \$375.00.

The Patron's Plunge earned around \$2,700.00 for the State Grange. Plunge awards are as follows:

Youngest:	Matt Haefner
Oldest:	Bob Haefner
Longest Time in Water:	Allissa Estes
Most Appropriate Costume:	Rick Bailey
Chicken:	Don Ross
Funniest Costume:	Chris Heath
Most Money Donated:	Hannah West (\$510+)

Winner of the 4x4x4 contest was Gwen Yardley.

The Lecturer's Teamwork Contest winners were announced as a tie for first place between two teams. The teams were 1<sup>st</sup> team- Matt Clark and Arlene Fall, 2<sup>nd</sup> team- Doris Mitton and Ruth Pelton.

National Grange Community Service Award Winners were also announced.

1 <sup>st</sup>	Joe English #53
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pine Grove Grange #298
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Watatic #36
4 <sup>th</sup>	Hudson #11

State Lecturer Marie Hall presented the Lecturer's Community Service Award to Selectman Roger Cachu from Hudson.

State Lecturer Marie Hall introduced this year's Best of Show Talent winner, Mary West from Chichester Grange. Mary will be attending National Session in Grand Rapids, Michigan to sing during the Night of Excellence program. Mary sang a cappella for those attending the banquet.

**SPECIAL SESSION OF THE  
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE OF THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY  
DANIEL WEBSTER GRANGE HALL, WEBSTER, NH  
Saturday, August 22, 2009**

State Master Beth Merrill and the Officers of the NH State Grange opened this Special Session at 10:01am in the Sixth Degree.

Roll Call of Officers found all present.

The Grange was lowered to the Fourth Degree.

Roll Call of Granges found a quorum present.

A motion was made by Matt Clark, Prentice Hill Grange to adopt the Standing Rules as written. Chris Heath, Centennial Grange, seconded the motion. The delegates approved the motion.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Donald Ross, Chairman of the State Grange Executive Committee for comments concerning the State Grange budget crisis.

Secretary Carolyn Ross read the Resolution on Proposed Dues Increase.

**NH STATE GRANGE SPECIAL SESSION RESOLUTION**

**Resolution #1: Submitted by NH State Grange Executive Committee**

**Subject: Dues Increase**

WHEREAS, the NH State Grange has been operating with a deficit budget for many years; and  
WHEREAS, yearly withdrawals of principal to balance the budget combined with the present economic crisis have caused the Market Value of our Operating Account Invested Fund to drop by 50% in the last five years; and

WHEREAS, this drop in Market Value has caused our income to decrease; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following NH State Grange Bylaws changes take effect with the quarter ending March 31, 2010:

1. Article XIV Subordinate Granges, Section 1, Division 2, Line 3, page 11 be changed to read "They should remit dues to the State Grange as follows: **\$7.25** for each member at the close of the previous quarter, including all who have taken one or more degrees, and **\$1.00** for each person initiated during the quarter and **\$1.00** for each person affiliated during the quarter.
2. Article XIII Pomona Granges, Section 5, Division 2, Line 1, page 10 be changed to read "Pomona Granges shall pay **\$1.00** per quarter to the State Grange for each member".

Approved by the NH State Grange Executive Committee on May 3, 2009.

Lester Gibbs, Grafton Star Grange made a motion to address the resolution in two parts. Wilber Heath, Centennial Grange, seconded the motion. The delegates approved this motion.

State Master Beth Merrill explained the order of business for the day. Tellers appointed were Ed Ford, Chairman, Yvonne Crocker and Jerry Leclerc.

State Master Beth Merrill opened the floor to discussion of the Subordinate dues increase resolution by the delegates present.

Howard Towne, Joe English Grange made a motion to amend the dues increase to \$5.50 per quarter.

The motion failed for lack of a second. Matt Clark moved the question at 11:05am. Jim Tetreault, Arlington Grange, seconded this. The delegates approved this motion.

Total number of ballots cast: 73. Necessary for 2/3 vote of approval: 49. 23- NO and 50-YES. The resolution was passed as written.

State Master Beth Merrill opened the floor for the second part of the resolution for discussion on a Pomona dues increase.

Glenn Creighton, Daniel Webster Grange, moved the question at 11:35am. Matt Clark, Prentice Hill Grange, seconded this. The delegates approved this motion.

Total number of ballots cast: 73. Necessary for 2/3 vote of approval: 49. 12- NO and 61- YES. The resolution was passed as written.

State Master Beth Merrill then dismissed the tellers.

State Master Beth Merrill announced that the NH State Grange will host the National Grange Convention in 2013 at the Radisson Hotel, Manchester, NH.

Matt Clark spoke about a National Grange Event that will take place in June 2010 in Washington, DC.

The National Grange will be hosting a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event for the National Grange Building in Washington, DC. We hope to have at least one busload from NH going to this celebration.

State Grange Session Coordinator, Ken Berry asked members to make banquet reservations for State Session at the Ashworth by the Sea Hotel by Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. The banquet will be limited to 90 attendees. Contact State Ceres, Kathy Yardley or State Secretary, Carolyn Ross to make reservations.

State Master Beth Merrill announced plans are being made to have "A Patron's Plunge" as a fundraiser. More details will be available later.

Our National Representative for State Session will be National Master, Ed Luttrell.

Special Session adjourned at 11:55am followed by a luncheon put on by members of Merrimack County Pomona.