

THE EMPIRE STATE GRANGER

American Values, Hometown
Roots



- Our Vision!**
- Initiator of Community Action
 - Facilitator of Leadership Development
 - Advocate for Families
 - Trusted Conveyor of Issues to Legislators



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September October 2024

President's Column

Sandra Green



As we are ending our Grange year, let's be sure we reflect on all that we did during the year. Each project should be studied to determine what went right, what went wrong, and whether it should be tried again. Successes need to be celebrated! Missteps need to be noted to help prevent them in the future. The projects we have always done, *may not be* something that is planned for next year. Things we have never done, or not done in a long time, may be good to add to the schedule of events.

Before New York Grange's Annual Session, we all have things that need doing. Reports need to be filled out and sent to State Grange. Delegates need to be selected and travel and lodging plans finalized. Baking contest entries and Jr. projects need to be completed, and transportation plans to get them to State Session need to be finalized. While these may seem tiresome, each of these things is a way to celebrate good times in our Grange year.

Think of reports as a way to brag about the accomplishments of your Grange. How can leaders at the State level compliment your hard work if you don't tell us what you have done. Read

these reports at local meetings. Share them in mailings to members. It is good to remind all the members what has been accomplished throughout the year. Keeping copies of your reports can help plan future activities. Review them when setting up next year's schedule.

If your Grange didn't do anything to put on a report, change that next year! **Community Service** can be as simple as buying a box of Valentine's, taking them to a Grange meeting where those present sign them "From *We Can Grange*", and getting them to the local Senior Center or school. **Lecturer's** need only do one program to have a positive report. A Grange need not GO BIG to be a positive Grange that can fill out positive reports. And, you may inspire another Grange! Remember, the report forms are available throughout the year. They can be filled out as you work on projects. Though few of us like filling out/writing reports, it is difficult to keep track of activities without them. Remember, every Grange, every officer, every committee member has done something during this last year. Let us all hope each of these things was positive. Regardless, all must be noted. How would delegates to State Session feel if the Master or Treasurer did not make a report? While you may feel your report isn't significant, it is to the one asking for it. I will prepare my report for National Grange. I will prepare my report for State Session for the delegates and all interested Grangers. Will it be fun? I can think of things that are much more fun. Will it be worth my time? I sure hope so. I know your reports will be worth your time. The ones who ask you for your reports will be very glad to receive them.



**Be a star and
add a few new
members to
your Grange.**

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State New York Grange

152nd

Annual Session

Lake Ontario Event and Conference Center

October 25 - 29, 2024

Coordinated by Kelly Frost, Virginia Dehner, and Allison Bolio with assistance from the Granges and Grangers

of New York State

Program of Events

General Session

The 152nd General Session of the New York

State Grange will be held in the Lake Ontario

Ballroom (A&B) at Lake Ontario Event and Conference Center.

Session Committee rooms will be available on the lower floor of the Convention center. **Committee Rooms will be announced from the President's Podium.**

No committee meetings will take place while guest speakers are giving presentations.

Session Pianist ~ Irene Fassett

Friday, October 25

10:00am-5:00pm Registration

Convention Center Pre-event area

3:00pm - Hotel check-in

(earlier as rooms are available)

1:00pm Session Committee Chairs

1st floor Break out Room 3

2:00pm Grange Issues Committee

1st floor Break out Room 3

5:15pm Milk Punch "Meet & Greet"

Convention Center Pre-event area

Served by NYS Dairy Ambassador

6:00pm Annual Banquet

Lake Ontario Ballroom (A&B)

State Grange Lecturer's Program

Setup Meeting room

Lake Ontario Ballroom (A&B)

Saturday, October 26

7:00am Lecturer's Breakfast - Side Room at

Best Western Plus Breakfast Area

7:00am - 8:30 am Junior Projects check-in

Lake Ontario Ballroom (C)

7:30AM State Officer's Practice

8:00am Registration

Convention Center Pre-event area
8:30am Baking Entries check-in - Best Western Plus, 4th floor conference room

9:00am **Opening of the 152nd Annual Session of the NYS Grange in the Sixth Degree**

Finger Lakes Ballroom (A&B)

Lower to Fourth Degree

Recognition of Past Masters, First Ladies, Honored Guests, Officials

Quorum Call

Report of the State Master

Sandra M. Green

Five Minute reports

Ryan Orton, Secretary

Kenneth Smith, Treasurer

Daniel Woolley, Chair

Executive Committee

Virginia Dehner, Chair

Audit Committee

11:00am Recess

Session Committee meetings, as needed

Locations to be announced

11:15am Sixth Degree Rehearsal

Finger Lakes Ballroom (A&B)

Saturday, (continues)

1:00pm Committee Meetings continue as needed - Locations as announced

1:00pm - 3:00 Cold Buffet Officers and Delegates

(by ticket only)

3:00pm Reconvene General Session

Five Minute Reports of Departmental, Project and Program

Chairs:

Brenda Noble, Lecturer

Cindy Benson, Legislative

Cindy Benson, State Fair Building

Maryanne Campbell, Family Activities

Barton Snedaker, Leadership/ Membership

Nelson Eddy, Museum Board

Lori Lee Previty, Fund Raising

Bruce Croucher, Grange Foundation

Bruce Croucher, Information & Empire State Granger

Carol Bailey, Historian

Bruce Dehner, Sports

Committee Reports - Delegate Action

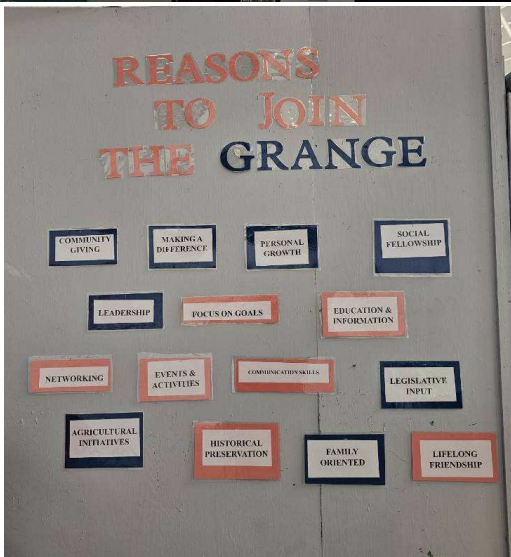
5:30pm Closing in the Fourth Degree

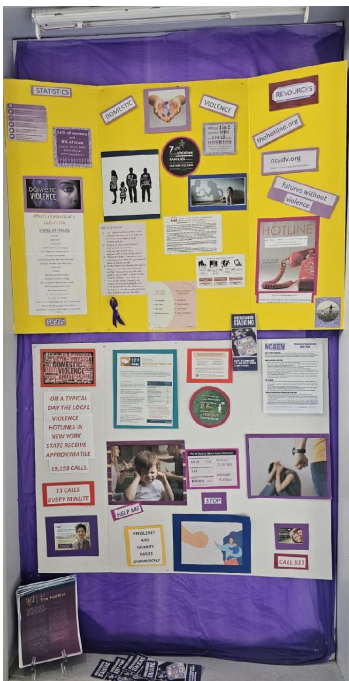
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New York State Fair

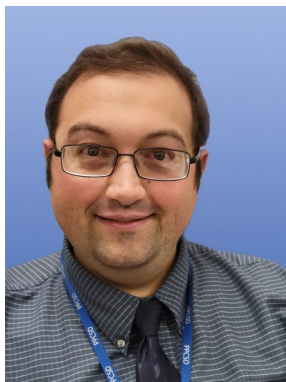
Grange Exhibit Building

The State Grange has been actively involved in the State Fair from its inception. One of the earliest building was donated by the Grange. The Grange exhibit building has been located in several places around the fair grounds. It currently in a portion of the poultry building. For several years the Grange ran a food concession called "Ye Old Ox Roast". Recently the fair has changed its feelings regarding food service and the competition for space has made it impossible for Grange to continue that business. The Grange still operates its exhibit building where displays of Grange program areas are highlighted. Daily entertainment is also provided, one of the most popular is clogging groups. Following are several photographs provided by Heidi Henderson for you to visit the building from the comfort of your home.





State Grange Secretary



Ryan Orton

The 152nd Annual Session of the New York State Grange will be here before we know it, and there's a lot to do to get ready for another outstanding Session! Here are a few reminders to Grange Secretaries, Delegates, and State Officers/Directors:

Subordinate Grange Secretaries: Please make sure your September Quarterly Reports are on time! Membership numbers from these reports will be included in my Annual Report at State Session. It would be great if all Granges were on time with their Quarterly Reports!

Subordinate & Pomona Grange Secretaries: Please make sure to send in your Officers List for the 2025 State Grange Directory by September 15th! If there are no changes to your Officers or Committees, just send me an e-mail stating this and save a stamp! Then we know we have the most current contact information for your Grange.

Pomona Grange Secretaries: I'm still missing a few Delegates Lists! Please forward them to me ASAP so your Po-



mona can have voting representation at State Session in Oswego!

State Grange Delegates: Know when your Session Committee will have their Zoom Meeting to review resolutions submitted for this year's State Session. Reminders will be sent out from the State Grange. Even if you don't have a computer or internet, you can access a Zoom Meeting via phone. It's important for all Delegates to have the opportunity to actively participate when reviewing resolutions so the Committee can give an educated recommendation to the Delegate Body as a whole regarding each resolution.

If you are a First Time Delegate to State Grange, a Zoom Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 18th at 7 p.m. to review the entire Delegate process for State Grange and answer any questions you may have.

State Grange Officers & Directors: Please send me your report *electronically* as a Word Document by October 15th if possible! Word Documents are much easier to include in the Journal of Proceedings. Also, don't forget that it's our turn to bring items for the Silent Auction at State Session!

If anyone has any questions about State Session, please don't hesitate to ask!

Congratulations to the following **Granges for welcoming new members!**

7 New Members
Lamson Grange #588
 (Onondaga County)
6 New Members

Bethlehem Grange #137
 (Albany County)
5 New Members
Copake Grange #935
 (Columbia County)
Salisbury Center Grange #624
 (Herkimer County)
4 New Members
Colonel Harper Grange #1508
 (Delaware County)
Yorktown Grange #862
 (Westchester County)
3 New Members
Ellery Grange #353
 (Chautauqua County)
Ausable Valley Grange #973
 (Essex/Clinton County)
2 New Members
Susquehanna Valley Grange #1552 (Broome County)
Hamptonburgh Grange #950
 (Orange County)
Brunswick Grange #1337
 (Rensselaer County)
1 New Member
Mayfield Grange #683 (Fulton County)
Adirondack Grange #530
 (Lewis County)
Marcellus Grange #464
 (Onondaga County)
Mount Pleasant Grange #349
 (Oswego County)
Hoosick Grange #1127
 (Rensselaer County)
Milton Grange #685 (Saratoga County)
North Cameron Grange #355
 (Steuben County)
Kendrew Grange #891 (St. Lawrence County)
North Barton Grange #45
 (Tioga County)

I'm a DO-er Youth



Co-Directors
 Johannah Stewart & Sarah Barber

The Youth have been busy since our last article. In July we hosted the Northeast Regional Youth Conference. Due to lack of registrations we decided to move the venue to Stanford Grange in Dutchess County. (Thank you to the members of Stanford Grange for the use of your hall.) We had attendees at the conference from RI, VT, NY & NH. The youth went berry picking, swimming, learned code reading, and how to play dart ball. There was a lip sync/talent show which was enjoyed by all. We worked on our drill and Garrett Phelps led us in a workshop. Thank you to everyone who helped put this event together.

Our next event is just around the corner. We will be in Genesee County helping East Pembroke Junior Grange celebrate its 90th Birthday! We will be helping to put on a Quarter Carnival for all to enjoy. I have never been to a Quarter Carnival so I am looking forward to seeing what this is all about. We are also going to learn some survival training such as making fire and purifying water. I hope you will join us for the fun on September 20 - 22, 2024. I hope you will come to Oswego and join us at State Session October 25 - 29, 2024. The youth will be participating in events on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Saturday evening the youth will perform the Rose drill for the 6th degree. Sunday morning the youth will be filling the seats of the State officers and opening the Grange in full form. Stop by and see them in action. Does your Grange have any youth members that would like to join us for the fun? Could a youth member from your Grange become a delegate for State Session and learn about our legislative action? Contact me ASAP if you will need youth housing at State Session. Rooms are filling up fast.

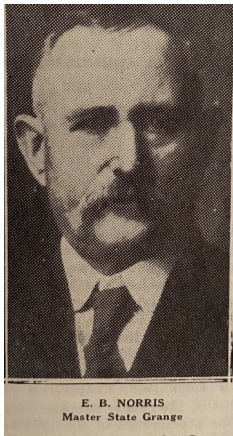
I hope we will see you at one of our events between now and the end of the year.

State Grange Historian



DID YOU KNOW ...

He was a breeder of shorthorn cattle. He was the owner of a fruit farm. He was a Democrat in the State Assembly from Wayne County. A Freemason. He was president of New York State Grange. Elliott B. Norris of Sodus, NY was this man.



Norris was born on June 25, 1845 the son of Rufus and Louise Kingsley Norris. His education began in Sodus and continued at Hillsdale College in Michigan. Eastman

Business School was also part of his higher learning.

He spent two years, 1867-68, as a merchant in Greenville, PA. Back in NY Elliott married Georgianna Chipman of Wolcott in 1868. That marriage produced five children, Mabel, Floy, Amy, Louise and Mark.

His Grange career began as a charter member of Sodus Grange #73 in 1874. He served as president for sixteen years. According to his obituary, Elliott was lecturer and president of Wayne County Grange Council, the forerunner of Pomona. His Grange service continued as vice-president of New York State Grange from 1894-98. At the annual session in 1898 he ascended to the presidency of the state wide fraternal organization. He was a member of the executive committee of National Grange from 1899-1907.

Mrs. Georgianna Norris, his wife, served as Flora of NYS Grange for two years 1894-96. She held the offices of secretary, vice-president and president of Sodus Grange and secretary of Wayne County Grange Council.

His administration continued for eight years during which a scholarship to Cornell was established for deserving students. During his term the Grange had a building at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo for the entire time. Over 36,000 visitors passed through the doors of the Grange building during the exposition in 1901.

Also during his term of office the first Juvenile (now Junior) Grange was organized in the state. The Grange for children

five to fourteen was at Huron Grange. An historical marker notes this fact at the site of the hall on North Huron Rd. The hall is owned by the Town of Huron and is maintained as part of their historical building complex.

On September 21, Huron Day, the Grange and the agricultural heritage of Wayne County will be celebrated. Come and join the festivities arranged by Rosa Fox, historian for the town. Grange members will take part in the afternoon.

Also during Norris' term Grange Day at the NY State Fair was inaugurated. It continues today where members perform. Part of a building is used as a Grange Hall and exhibits, performances, worship, crafts and a refuge for a bit of rest are available.

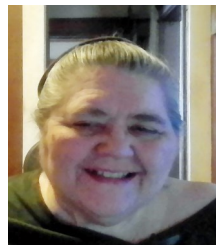
Norris' political career included a one year term in the Assembly of NY in 1891. He was a Democrat in a Republican county. Norris was an unsuccessful candidate for state treasurer in 1898. He was also a Freemason.

The Norris homestead is on Sodus Center Rd. near the end of Arcadia Zurich Norris Rd. The home was built in 1852 by Rufus Norris, Elliott's father. It is a typical Victorian style farmhouse. It has some remnants of Greek Revival plus a bay window and porch columns. There were originally 80 acres in the farm. Elliott bred shorthorn cattle and had extensive orchards. He was a member of the fruit firm of Case & Norris of Sodus.

A 1979 news article said it currently had 225 acres. Elliott's daughters, Amy and Floy were married in a double ceremony on August 15, 1906 in Sodus and the reception and breakfast was held at the house. On June 24, 1938 a fire destroyed four large barns, two tool sheds, two prize bulls, 100 tons of hay and machinery.

His death occurred on March 20, 1918 and he is buried in Sodus Rural Cemetery.

Legislative Column



Cindy Benson-Pollard

Can you feel it. Fall is here with its cooler weather and beautiful fall colors. Many take the time to drive and look at god's beautiful paintings on the trees. It would be good to invite travelers through your community to learn more about your Grange and its good works.

Thank you to all the counties sent in resolutions for consideration at this year's State Grange session. The packets will be sent

to delegates at large. They will be responsible for sending them to your delegates. Please be sure to review them prior to your committee meetings. Also please remember no resolutions will be accepted at State Grange as committee work will be completed prior to the start of session.

Please note there was an error in the Zoom committee meetings listing in the letter that was sent out with the delegate information. The second Education Zoom meeting is the Health committee.

I hope that you joined us for the annual Legislative Conference on September 28th. Presenters included Assembly woman Anna Kelles, Senator Les Webb, and the Rural School Board Association. Thank you to Cuyler Grange for lunch. Thank you to those who were able to join us for the day. There was a great deal of information shared by the speakers.

If you have any questions, please contact me by email at cbenson81@msn.com. Be sure to put the word Grange in the subject line. I will be happy to help you. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at State Grange.

Reminder

As invited by the Executive Committee, we would like to remind State Grange Officers, Deputies, Junior Deputies, and Directors to provide and item that can be included in Silent Auction Table for 2024. We appreciate your willingness to participate in this annual fundraiser. Directions will be given on Friday evening as to where items are to be delivered on Saturday of Session.

Lecturer



Brenda Noble

We will soon have State Session, which wraps up the end of a busy year. Just a reminder - The photography contest for 2025 will be Grange Halls, as was previously printed in the Handbook. We will have an additional category added for 2025 of State, County, OR Community Fairs. The rules are as printed in the Lecturers Handbook for the Photography Contest.

The Northeast Lecturers' Conference was held in Connecticut in June. There were approximately 50 in attendance. There were 4 of us from New York. I thank Karin Croucher, Laura Magrum, and Marlene Utter for their help with the program. There were seven workshops presented during the conference relevant to programming for Granges. The program after the banquet was an excerpt of fun entertainment by each state. Joan C. Smith, National Grange Foundation Chair, presented on the "Reaching Rural Surgical Seniors" project of the National Grange. If you would like to learn more about this project, please reach out to me for more information! The next Northeast Lecturers Conference will be held in New York in 2026.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at State Session in October. We will have Corey Walts (Jefferson County), and DSP Jazz Trio, for our entertainment after the banquet. Corey Walts is the 2024 New York State Grange Talent Show Best of Show; DSP Jazz Trio is made up of Derek Reiss (trumpet and flugelhorn), Skip Taylor (electronic drum set), and Pete Mark (trombone and vocals). Be sure to join us for an evening of fun!

Family Activities

Maryanne Campbell

Summer is a busy time of the year. Whether taking vacations, attending summer events or working in your gardens. Just being outside, enjoying the sun and warmth is comforting. Often our craft making slows down this time of year, because we are so busy with all of the above family activities.

We seem to always mention baking as a family activity and it certainly is. Our children can get involved at a very early age. Pumpkin bread was the chosen baking item for the contest this year. There is one more contest to go at the State Grange Conference in October. Those of you that took 1st place at the Pomona Level will have the opportunity to bake once again. Our committee wants to welcome all of you and wish you all the best of luck in this contest. Breads will then be available for sale after the contest has been completed at the Family Activities table.

A Family Activities display will be set up in our State

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4) Family Activities

Grange Building at the New York State Fair in Syracuse from August 21st - September 2nd. The display will cover some history of Family Activities and getting back to some of the basics that have been happening for many years. Canning, freezing or drying all those wonderful vegetables, fruits, flowers or herbs you have nurtured throughout the growing season with getting family members involved hopefully has been very successful for you.

Gardening has the capability of becoming a huge family activity. It involves hard work and dedication throughout the growing season. Many people have a flower, vegetable/ fruit or herb garden. Some may have one, others may have all three.

Vegetable/fruit gardens, also known as vegetable/fruit patches or vegetable /fruit plots. They provide produce taken to our tables for meals daily. I have always felt that having any type of garden is like Christmas. When the garden starts to produce depending of the vegetable or fruit it will produce copious amounts of fresh produce.

Much time is spent picking the vegetables and fruits, canning, freezing or drying what you have harvested. The finished product is worth all the effort. The maintenance and dedication you have put into your gardens may have a significant saving to the grocery budget.

Flower gardens or floral gardens are often planted for aesthetic purposes. They play a key role in landscape design and architecture. The flowers grow into a beautiful display of color. There are annuals, to be planted every year or perennials that grow for several years. The flowers can be dried and used as decorative displays, such as a wreath. Other flowers are edible and can make very impressive tops for deserts or other meals being prepared. Some flowers are not edible, they can be poisonous. Be sure you check the flower you are planning to use prior to any preparation being used for a meal.

Herb gardens are a very important staple in our cooking menu. Multiple herbs can be planted in a small space. Not only are they edible, but are also beautiful. Almost all herbs require sunny areas to grow. There are several ways to preserve the herbs, air drying, baking, freezing, air fryers and dehydration.

Air drying is one of the cheapest forms of preserving the herbs. Just hang the herb upside down to dry. Some use a brown paper back to place the herb in while hanging for the darkness, to prevent dust from accumulating and to catch the dried pieces.

Baking herbs to dry them is a method that starts with heating your oven prior to placing the herb in the oven at the tempera-

ture suggested. Cooking time will vary with each herb. Just clean, dry and place the herb on a baking sheet laid out evenly. Be sure to review specific instruction in regard to baking each herb.

Dehydration and air fryers are the fastest source of drying your herbs. Again the herbs dry at a specific rate so be sure to check your instruction book for drying times specific to each herb.

Freezing is an alternative to drying the herb. Freezing preserves the flavor, smell, and nutrients. There are advantages and disadvantages and they are generally used for cooking. They do become limp and are not used for garnishing.

Herbs can also be grown indoors, giving you fresh herbs throughout the year. They are low maintenance and have sustainability with a fresh taste.

No matter which method you choose, if the herb is preserved correctly there is a shelf life of 2 years or more that the herb will maintain its flavor. Depending on how frozen herbs are stored they can last in the freezer up to one year. Be sure you always review your preparation technique prior to preserving the herbs.

The Big E is coming up in September. All 1st place craft winners in specific categories from your Pomona Granges will be displayed and judged at the New England Grange Building. The winners at this contest will be announced at the State Grange Conference in October. There is still time to get your craft item to me that you have made for the store. Remember to give our name and the Grange you are from. Please send your item or items to my home address: P.O. Box 294, Norwich, New York.

Hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer. See you at the State Grange Conference. If you have any questions please call, text or e-mail me.

Sports

Director
Bruce Dehner



The bowling tournament was held on June 2nd at Cort Lanes in Cortland with a total of 10 teams participating. That was an increase of 3 teams. Great job everyone. The top 4 teams were 1st Cortland Pomona #25, 2nd Mount Hope Oddballs, 3rd Mount Hope Strikers and 4th Lindwood Ringers. The next event on the schedule was golf that was held on July 7th at Orchard Valley Golf Course in LaFayette NY. Again we had an increase in teams participating, a total of 7. The first place team was Mount Hope Hackers, 2nd place Back Nine (Clifton Springs Grange Ontario County), 3rd place Best Team Ever (Cuyler Grange Cortland County) and 4th place Duffers (Clifton Springs Grange

Ontario County). Our final event for the year was corn hole at State Grange Headquarters on August 3rd, again an increase in teams with a total of 10 teams. The results were 1st place Chuck Wvenst and Debbie Kutch from Dutchess County, 2nd place Doug McCall and Jerry VanDenburg Cortland County, and 3rd place Sal Abbate and Lowell Teller Dutchess County. This concludes all the events for the year. I want to Thank everyone for their support helping me do these events and everyone for participating. We had a great year and are looking forward to another great year.

Community Involvement



Melvin Phelps

As we gear up for State Session I wanted to share two programs that we are hoping your Grange will participate with. The School Backpack Donation Drive and the "c" dollars for Cancer collection.

This year we will be collecting food donations and monetary donations for the Phoenix Central School Backpack Program. Their school works through an organization called Erin's Angels and serves approximately 100 students weekly. Monetary donations can be brought to state session either made out to NYS Grange or Erin's Angels of CNY.

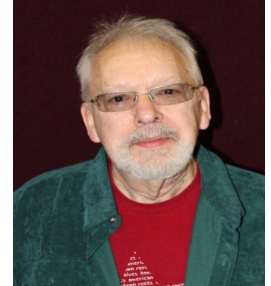
I have included a list of food that could be brought that is the greatest need for their students. Remember students should be able to prepare the food by themselves and do not bring non-food items or expired food items. School programs operate under different guidelines as your local pantry.

- Instant Oatmeal
- Individual bags of chips
- Fruit cups
- Fruit snacks
- Hot Chocolate
- Individual cheese its
- Chewy granola bars
- Canned tuna
- Canned Chicken
- Microwavable chef Boyardee or similar brands
- Pop top cans of soup or spaghetti O's

This year we have been in contact with CancerConnects as our recipients of our "C" Bills for cancer program. CancerConnects provides free programs and services to help facilitate the cancer journey for patients throughout Central & Northern New York. They empower adult cancer patients,

survivors, and caregivers via connections to community resources, support, and guidance. Donations can be made out to the New York State Grange or cash brought to state session.

Leadership Membership



Barton Snedaker

It seems that health and wellness have been frequent topics in my life over the past few weeks. My local Grange has been taking part in the National Grange program on rural health care for seniors facing surgery. We have expanded the scope of the program to broaden its coverage to include more rural health care issues. I have been undergoing some medical testing of my own, but that is not the point of this column. The point is the health and well being of your Grange, State Grange and National Grange. From the grassroots up.

We hear all the time that good health relies on at least two aspects - eating well and getting plenty of exercise. Most of us know that food is central to many Granges. There are potlucks, bake sales, and snacks at many meetings, and State Grange sessions begin with a banquet. Food is for the body, mind and spirit. The food I'm talking about is for the mind, for lack of a better way to describe it. Does your local Grange have a subscription to GOOD Day! magazine? It is a publication from National Grange which contains articles of interest to Grangers - stories, recipes, photographs, information on Grange happenings across the country, etc. Published four times annually at a very reasonable price. Another source of Grange "food" is The Patrons Chain. Mine comes via email at least weekly. It is a more frequent reminder of items of interest to Granges and Grangers. Another publication is The View From the Hill. This e-publication focuses specifically on legislative issues of interest to the Grange and will keep you up to date. Who knows - you may even get to read about a resolution which came from your very own Grange. There is also The Heritage Project which offers ways to keep your members and the community educated about the Grange and it's history and effectiveness. Any of these publications can be used as tools for membership and leadership develop-

ment.

Just as I was not talking about real food, I am not talking about real exercise either. In this case I'm referring to activity. Is your Grange active in your community? Are your Grange members active in their attendance? Do you have members active in Pomona and State Grange by their attendance or by writing or suggesting resolutions? These are all ways to exercise your involvement in the life of the Grange. Is your Grange involved in community service activities? Do you hold open meetings or community forums in your hall? Any activity that gets your Grange into the spotlight is worthwhile exercise.

When it comes to the spiritual side of food and exercise I would like to suggest that using the ritual, and opening and closing Grange sessions from the manual are ways to enhance the experience of your Grange's members. Think of the many ways to support the body, mind and spirit of your Grange by developing healthy habits for its membership and leadership.

ketball coach and player once said, "My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person: He believed in me." How do we show our Junior Grange members that we believe in them? We can show our Junior Grange members that we believe in them by:

- providing a positive environment for them to come to
- expecting the best of each one
- challenging the Junior Grange members to their full potential
- giving specific praise to them when they do especially well on an activity
- giving your members choices in what they want to do, show interest in what they enjoy doing
- focus on their strengths
- be a positive role model for all your members
- help them to talk through their feelings and acknowledge their feelings
- show compassion to your Junior Grange members

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secretary@nysGrange.org

Junior Grange



Sherri Taft

Kevin Heath, a gospel singer, once said, "As your kids grow up, they may forget what you said, but they won't forget how you made them feel." When you are working with your Junior Grange members, do you take time to make them feel important? Are you taking the time to talk to each member individually, maybe not at every meeting or activity, but on a regular basis? Make sure that you are letting them know that you are there for them and that they can depend on you at all times. The more that you engage with your members, the more they may want to come to Junior Grange activities. I know that many of today's young people are involved in different activities, but I believe that they would choose the activity that makes them feel the best. Let us focus on our Junior Grange members by listening to them, talking to them and helping them to become the great leaders of tomorrow. We want them to look back on their time as a Junior Grange member and have fond memories of their leaders and friends from Junior Grange.

Jim Valvano, an American bas-

Kids Days Out

Let us all work together to make our current Junior Grange members the future leaders of our community Granges, Pomona Granges and the New York State Grange. By making them feel that they are important and believing in them while they are under our direction, we can guide them to become leaders and keep our organization going for another 150 years and beyond!

Grange Camp
Grange Camp's Kids' Day Out program was very successful again this year. We had 35 attendees, ages 5 – 16, come to Ravena Grange, South Rutland Valley Grange, Chenango Pomona Grange and Corfu Grange. About half of the children attended last year and the other half were new this year. They spent the morning decorating door stoppers, canvas bags and their rockets, participating in an Escape Room, and making cards for people in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. They also brought in canned goods to be donated to a local food pantry. After a delicious lunch, the children participated in an obstacle course, launched rockets, and avoided falling into the "lava". A great time was had by all attendees. Letters have been sent out to Granges to host next year's Kids' Day Out events. Our plan is to have the information available for Kids' Day Out 2025 at the New York State Grange Session in October.

New Grange Members

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| Albany Co.
Bethlehem #137
Tina Blaisdell
Brianna Catrini
Bernard Sisson
Paula Sisson
Marcia Zorn
Jessica Flach | Noel Cacchio
Greg Zois | Carolyn Root
Terry Vezzose |
| Chautauqua Co.
Ellery #353
Isabella Rice
Samantha Rice
Victoria Rice | Fulton Co.
Mayfield #683
Grace Seavers | Rennelaer Co.
Brunswick #1337
Ann Byrnes
Paul Mayo
Hoosick #1127
Peyton Meyers |
| Cortland Co.
Cuyler #449
Karen Dodge
Elise Robinson | Herkimer Co.
Salisbury Center #624
Janet Barlow
Richard Foster
Valerie Foster
Karen Muncey
Jean Stack | Saratoga Co.
Milton #685
Jason Poirier |
| Delaware Co.
Colonel Harper #1508
Dorota Paczkawski | Lewis Co.
Adirondack #530
Dixie Dickinson | Steuben Co.
North Cameron #355
Vickie McKlevis |
| Dutchess Co.
Mount Hope #902
Stephen Powers
Lowell Teller
Yorktown #862
Victoria Perrotta
Diane Quast
Nicholas Quast
Walter Quast | Onondaga Co.
Marcellus #464
Michael Forster Sr.
Lamson #588
Susan Culbertson
Ashley Haughton
Matthew A. Haughton
Matthew Haughton
Shelbie Haughton
Jacob Moore | St. Lawrence Co.
Kendrew #891
Patty Biczo
Russ Biczo |
| Essex Co.
Ausable Valley #973
Nancy Birdsall | Orange Co.
Hamptonburgh #950
Lauren Berroa
Abraham Lozano | Tiogo Co.
North Barton #45
John Gennarino |
| | Oswego Co.
Mt. Pleasant #349 | Ulster Co.
Plattekill #923
Teresa Adduce
Chuck Conners
Debbie Deegan
Mark Gibian
Ann Gutowski
Kristi Klag
Kristianne Klag
Emily Martin
Dorcas Roehrs |

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(Continued from page 1) State Grange Program

7:00pm Obligation in the 5th Degree
1st floor Break out Room 3
7:30pm Seating of State Officers
Speaker: Joan C. Smith, National Grange Foundation
Conferring the Sixth Degree
Closing In the Fourth Degree
Setup and Practice by Youth Officers
Lake Ontario Ballroom (A&B)

Sunday, October 27

8:30am Memorial Service
Virginia Conner, Chaplain
9:15am Gerald Eastman Award
9:30am Youth Opening – Fourth Degree
Youth Department Annual Report
Johannah Stewart & Sarah Barber, Co-Directors
Committee Reports – Delegate action
11:30am Recess
1:00pm Reconvene
Junior Department Annual Report
Sherri Horner, Director
Camp Program Report
Sherri Horner & Ryan Orton, Directors

Community Involvement/Service
Melvin Phelps, Director
Food Drive Presentation
\$1.00 'C' Bill Presentation
2:30pm Speaker - Jeff Winton, Rural Minds
Committee Reports – Delegate action
4:30pm Closing in Fourth Degree
5:15pm Museum Board Dinner
Riverfront Reception Room
6:30pm Ice Cream Social – Riverfront Reception Room
7:00pm Workshops – Reaching Rural Surgical Seniors
Finger Lakes Ballroom (C)
8:00pm Music and Entertainment
Lake Ontario Ballroom (A&B)

8:30pm Delegate-At-Large Meeting -1st floor Break out Room 3

Monday, October 28

8:30am Opening in the Fourth Degree
Appointment of Election Committee
(1 member of Executive Committee,
2 members Museum Board Directors, 1 member of the NYS Grange Educational & Cultural Foundation, Inc.)
Committee Reports – Delegate action
11:00am Speaker – Richard A. Ball, NYS Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets
12:00 Noon Recess
1:45pm Reconvene

Committee Reports – Delegate action
5:15pm Recess
7:00pm Reconvene
2023-2024 Budget Approval
Committee reports – Delegate action
Installation of Officers
Closing in the Fourth Degree

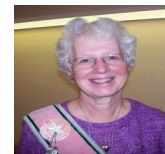
Tuesday, October 29

9:00am Opening - Fourth Degree
Conclusion of Business, if needed
Closing the 152nd State Session of the New York State Grange

Rooms

General Session - Lake Ontario Ballroom (A&B)
Exhibits - Lake Ontario Ballroom (C)
Press room- 1st floor Break out Room 2
Grange Issues Friday - 1st floor Break out Room 3
Baking Entries check-in – 4th floor conference room (Near BW+ lobby elevator)

Chaplain's Corner



Virginia L. Conner

HOPE AND PERSEVERE

The theme of the Fifth Degree has become my guiding phrase the past two months. First another case of shingles struck. Then only three weeks after they cleared, COVID came and sent me to the ER. But the **hope** of the medications prescribed to alleviate the pain and fever kept me **persevering** to reach the goal of better health.

The Fifth Degree Specter has excellent advice: "All through life, let it be a lesson, never to be forgotten, that success in a good cause is gained only by perseverance. Never be discouraged. **Hope and Persevere!**" Right after the Specter's statement, the Grange members in the room repeat **Hope and Persevere** and suddenly the room is filled with **Hope** and courage. The candidates now feel empowered to **Persevere** in their quest to enter the Court of Pomona.

God's Word has verses with **hope** and **persevere** in them. Hebrews 11:1 – "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen". Ephesians 6:18 – "watching with all perseverance". Our faith in the Lord is our **hope** as Psalm 38:15 says, "For in Thee O Lord do I hope".

Faith, Hope and Perseverance is a win-win formula!
POMONA CHAPLAINS:
Please send to me the names of deceased 6th Degree members of the past Grange year so that I may recognize them in the Memorial Service program.

National Grange Article

Knowing the difference between a legitimate National Grange email and a fake.

With data breaches on the rise, we wanted to take the time to remind you to stay vigilant against phishing attempts.

Hackers use fraudulent practices to spoof people into giving up their data and or money. The most common technique is email phishing. Hackers send messages that appear legitimate or look like they're from someone you trust so that you engage with the message or click on malicious attachments.

The National Grange will never ask for money, gift cards, emergency assistance or any financial transaction via email. It is very important to look at the details of any email to make sure it is in fact coming from the person you believe it to be.

Two factor authentication is enabled for all National Grange email accounts which requires a security code to be sent to the mobile phone of the National Grange President or staff member before allowing access. Cyberattacks are not stopping any time soon, and in fact, are getting more sophisticated.

If something seems fishy...it's probably phishing. Here are some tips to keep in mind to avoid falling victim and to protect yourself against these attacks.

- Double-check that the sender's email address matches who they claim to be. National Grange communication from President Chris Hamp will use the email address **champ@nationalgrange.org**. Any other variation should not be trusted.
- Don't click a link or download from someone you don't know or weren't expecting.
- Don't reply to a suspicious email or message from an email you don't recognize.
- When in doubt, call the person and ask if they sent the email.
- The "Reply" email address should never be different from the person you believe it to be.
- Be cautious of slight changes in the email address.

Albany County



Photo Left: 80-year membership certificate presentation to Pauline VanEtten, on July 2. Sister Pauline, who joined Ravena Grange #1457 in 1944, recently celebrated her 97th birthday. Pictured with Pauline from left to right are: Ismay Payne, Lee VanEtten (her son) Rosemary Court, Stephen Coye, and Ravena Grange President Jo Downey.

Gerald M. Eastman Award

The Gerald M. Eastman Award, first awarded in 1978, is presented annually to an individual Granger or Grange couple who exemplifies Christian principles and influences others in a positive way. This monetary award will be presented during the State Grange Session each October.

Nominations for the Eastman Award should be sent by September 15:
New York State Grange
Attn: State Grange Secretary
100 Grange Place
Cortland, New York 13045

Nominations received after September 15 will not be considered for the current year's presentation. Please forward the following application form as well as supplemental statements that will present the nominee's qualifications and attributes that the award recognizes.

We nominate _____
from _____ Grange # _____
in _____ county.

Nominee Information:

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Nominator Information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Grange & No.: _____

Additional Documentation About the Nominee Is Strongly Encouraged

(please type or write legibly, using the reverse side or additional pages)

Cortland County



This week we celebrated the illustrious conservation career of our former board chairman Eugene Wright. Eugene served on the SWCD Board for 58 years from 1966 through 2023. He served as Chairman of the Board for 56 years before stepping down this year. Eugene is quick to credit staff for being the ones to implement the conservation, but it takes trust and guidance from an educated and engaged board

Wayne County

Three Granges in Wayne County are celebrating 150 years of service to their communities. They are Eureka #46, Lincoln #122 and Newark #366. I have written three articles so far about Grange history in Wayne County for the local and regional papers. There is a float in the Wayne County Fair parade designed and built by the youth. All three Granges have exhibits at the fair. As mentioned above Grangers will be participating in Huron Day. We hope to sponsor a Rural Minds program in the spring of 2025 and a banquet also.

Museum Fund Raiser

Check you one dollar bills, do you have any with and "H" on it? If you do save it for the New York State Grange Museum. "H" is for history of course. You can check \$5 bills for an "M" which we will gladly accept as well.

This new fund raiser was approved at a meeting by the board of the museum on April 20. This fund raiser coincides with the other bills that we save throughout the year. We will collect them at State Grange in October. The board thanks you for participation in this project.

The Board of the New York State Museum

AREAS OF ACTIVITY IN NY STATE GRANGE
Could you lend your talents, knowledge, and time? See list below or offer your expertise in another area.
Teaching Grange Ritual > Many current members have not learned how to properly do it.
Training Leaders > Secretaries, Masters, Information Directors, Youth Committees, Jr. Leaders need instruction on duties/expectations.
Teaching Code Reading > Those who are proficient at deciphering the code book are few; we cannot lose this important aspect of Grange knowledge.
Posting on social media > Please repost NY State Grange posts. Your post may be the only one someone sees. Wouldn't be great to get a new member that way?
Website updating > Do you have the skill and could you donate a small amount of time each month to updating the NYS Grange website?
Sorting > There are many items at the State Grange Headquarters that need to be sorted.
Helping at the State Grange Museum > Contact the Grange Museum Board if you are interested.
Helping at State Session > If you will be at State Grange Session, and would have some time to help, please let me know. There are lots of little things that need doing.