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November December 2024

President's Column

Sandra Green



The 152nd Annual New York State Grange Session is now complete. Thank you to all the delegates for taking their responsibility of steering the legislative policy for the next year seriously. Thank you to all who put in so much effort to ensure that this Session was a success. I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did.

We were honored to have two National representatives this year. Joan Smith shared lots of information about the Grange Foundation and Reaching Rural Surgical Seniors. She was so enthusiastic about getting involved with our activities. President Chris Hamp offered to visit our Session when she knew she would be in the area. I thank her for reaching out to us. I hope Chris's first time leading the National Session will be as enjoyable and smooth as my first time presiding over a New York State Session.

Grangers really are remarkable. Can you think of any other group in which people of different views could calmly discuss their differences on such a wide variety of political issues? And, what other large organization insists that the members decide the stance taken on issues cover-

ing fiscal responsibility, health, agriculture, education, and more? As I mentioned in my address at Session, we need to share this view of dealing with topics and situations with other people. Let them know that for over 150 years the Grange has been able to deal with tough issues without letting them drive us apart.

By the time you read this, I will have, God willing, attended my second National Grange Session as a delegate. I feel it is my duty to look at the resolutions there through the lens of the delegates at our State Session. I will speak on and vote on resolutions in a way that reflects New York State Grange's stance, set by actions taken at our Session, be they stated or implied. I take my position as your delegate very seriously.

During this new Grange year in New York State, let's work together to shine our light on our world. Let us continue to work with whomever is in office at each level of government. Let us continue our community service. Let us strive to improve our communities, even if we can only do small things. Let us work for the good of all. Let us be an organization within which everyone can feel respected. Let us be a political force to which anyone can turn for help in reaching out for the good of communities, government, and individuals.



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

**152nd Annual Session
New York State Grange**



This years State Grange session held in Oswego, NY has successfully concluded. By all accounts it proceeded smoothly. All of the resolutions were addressed, the Sixth Degree conferred, officer elected and all reports received and approved.

This was the first session for our new State Master, Sandra Green. It was also the first session for several other State Grange officers. Worthy Master reported that her first year was challenging. Learning just how much is expected of the State Master was quite an experience. She appreciated her Executive Committee helping her through these first few months and also the notes left by Past Master Coye. Steve could not attend the session this year because of attending the wedding of his daughter.

The State Grange Secretary reported that 83 Grangers received 25-70 year certificates of longevity and additionally the were 6 - 75 year members and 4 - 80 year members. 27 Granges had net gains in membership, one with and increase of 41 members. There was also a reorganization of one Junior Grange. 11 Granges achieved 150 years of existence.

The State Grange banquet was well attended. Prime Rib of beef and Chicken Piccata were on the menu. Joan Smith, President of the National Grange Foundation and NYS Dairy Ambassador Evelyn Kersmanc were special guests at the head table. Also honored at the head table were Kelly Frost, Deb VanLare and Virginia Dehner who were hosts for the convention. They were able to secure many donations from Granges and individuals for the convention. The Lecturer's program was about Jazz. Anna Ritchey, Carol Baily, Laura Magrum and Karin Croucher did a short history abut Jazz. A Jazz Trio then played a variety of Jazz numbers.

Joan Smith, President of the National Grange Foundation was the speaker prior to the 6th degree. She told about the sale of the National Grange headquarters. The Grange has secured a short term lease with the new owner of the building. The Executive Committee needs to see haw the investment of the sale money does before finding a permanent location in the Washington DC area. Joan told about the different areas of the Foundation and what kind of work they do.

Joan also did a workshop regarding the medical program developed by the Foundation. The program is aimed at providing information especially for senior citizens. The program can also be used by local Granges in their areas. There are brochures that can be distributed around the community. There are also presentations that can be used in other organizations. By participating in the program Granges can receive money from the Grantor for helping to take important information to rural areas that are especially the forte of Granges.

Agriculture Commissioner Richard Ball reported about the condition of agriculture in New York State. There are some new milk processing plants being built on the state that will provide markets for New York dairy farmers for many years. He made it very clear how important the Farm Bill is for the future of agriculture.

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FFA President

Note— Jeff was not able to have his speech in the Gleaner so is printed here for your convenience

Good afternoon everyone and thank you so much for having me here today. My name is Jack Beyer and I am currently serving as the New York FFA State President. I was born and raised on a small family dairy farm up in Lowville which is where I found my passion for agriculture. My 7 years in FFA has allowed me to learn about all the different facets of agriculture while traveling the country and meeting tons of new people. I just got back from the National FFA convention in Indianapolis and it was overall a great experience for the nearly 70,000 people there. One of my favorite parts of the national convention was making new connections with those who have different backgrounds. The more people I met, the more different agricultural experiences I heard about, and the more differences I heard about, the more I realized that every member has something in common, a passion for agriculture, and the want to make a difference. I see that same commonality here in New York through all the youth agricultural organizations. Each organization has that same passion for agriculture and want to make a difference.

I often get asked “Why are organizations like FFA and Grange and 4-H important?” and my answer is always pretty similar. I explain how we’re seeing an increasing divide between those who grow up with an ag background and those who don’t, so educating students about where their food comes from is more important than ever. Agriculture programs such as FFA allow youth to have those hands-on experiences even if they don’t grow up on a farm or have an agricultural background. These organizations can open students up to a new career path, inspire self sustainability, and give students a greater appreciation of the agriculture industry while developing their leadership skills. Our students are not the future leaders, we are the current leaders, working to be better leaders. With the population increasing and the arable farmland decreasing, someone is going to have to feed the world, and it’s going to be our students. But how are our students going to feed the world one day? Well it starts with a yes.

Yes. Three little letters and the choice to commit to them make an incredible difference in our lives. No matter where you are in life or where you want to go, adventure starts with a yes. Opportunity starts with a yes. Growth starts with a yes. Your future - in any possible direction - starts with as

yes.

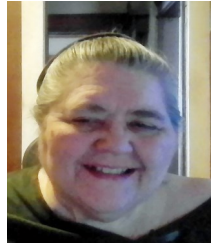
You know it reminds me of this one time when I was 11 years old and pretty stubborn and I was laying around the house and my dad who was out mowing hay called me, I pick up the phone “Hello... There’s rain coming? What does that have to do with me? You want me to come mow hay so you can start wrapping bales before the rain? I’m just the iced tea deliverer. Yeah I don’t mow hay, yeah yeah bye.” To be honest I’m pretty comfy on my porch reading Harry Potter and chomping on popsicles like it’s my 9-5 job. I’m 11, I have zero desire to go out and spend my day in the tractor cab, driving up and down the field doing the same thing over and over again. I try to go back to reading but something just keeps nagging at me and I can’t focus. I start to think about all of the hours my dad spends working so that I can do the things I want to do. I think about the storm approaching and how my whole family is out working trying to get the hay in before the storm arrives. I can’t help but feel guilty that I’m not contributing to my family’s operation so I hop on my dirt bike, I ride up to where my dad’s mowing hay and say “Yeah, I’ll take over”.

Now I didn’t mow straightest lines down the field and I definitely missed a few spots. But when I shut the tractor off and climbed out of the cab, I looked at the dirt on my clothes, I felt the soreness in my back, and looked out over the freshly mowed hayfield. There was something fulfilling about feeling worn out after spending hours in the tractor, helping the farm run and relieving my dad of stress. All because of one simple yes.

By saying yes, we allow ourselves to feel that we have truly accomplished something. We don’t have to wonder what would have happened had we not said yes. But saying yes doesn’t always come by physically saying yes. It can look like participating in community service, or helping out someone in need, or trying something that’s a little bit out of your range of ability. This world is filled with opportunities to say nothing, do nothing, become nothing more than what we already are.... I’m asking you to live a life of the best yes. The future agriculture and the future of the world depends on it. Thank you.



Legislative Column



Cindy Benson-Pollard

The 2024 State Grange session is completed. Overall, the session was very good. There was plenty of discussion and the resolutions that were adopted will help to give the Grange a strong policy book for the coming year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the delegates who agreed to chair the session committees. I know that it can be a daunting task. All of you who did accept the challenge did an excellent job. You were well prepared, and you led your committee meetings well. I would be remiss if I did not thank all the delegates who took part in the Zoom meetings prior to the session. Thank you for taking part in these important meetings. The meetings were well attended, and everyone had the opportunity to participate. Although there may have been a few bumps with the pre-session process for distribution of resolutions, it worked well, and we will continue the same for the coming year.

Enclosed is this issue, we have included the resolved sections for you. Please take a few minutes to read through them to see what your delegates decided at this Session. I hope that your delegates will report on their participation in the meeting and to let you know how your resolutions fared if you submitted them. I encourage you to participate in this important part of your Grange work. Thank you to the counties who submitted resolutions this year.

I would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. May your home be warm with the laughter and joy that this time of year brings. I wish your table be full with loved ones around and plenty of delicious foods that sustain us through the chill in the air.

2024 Resolutions

AGRICULTURE/ ENVIRONMENT

PROCESSING REVIVAL AND INTRASTATE EXEMPTION (PRIME) ACT
RESOLVED that New York State Grange joins the New York State Farm Bureau in support of the Processing Revival and Intrastate Exemption (PRIME) Act or similar legislation that would increase access to slaughterhouses by allowing

small-scale farmers and ranchers to slaughter and process their own animals closer to home at custom slaughterhouses which are small facilities regulated by state law instead of the USDA.

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY LEGISLATION

RESOLVED that New York State Grange is opposed to any Extended Producer Responsibility legislation that would pass the cost and responsibility of recycling packaging on to the farms and food processors who cannot afford added costs of doing business and who need the packaging to sell what they produce.

KELLES FINES BILL

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports the Kelles Fines bill or similar legislation that would increase and standardize fines for many violations of Department of Environmental Conservation laws and direct funds generated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to a specific environmental enforcement fund to be used to help finance the Department of Environmental Conservation and enforce the growing number of environmental conservation laws.

COMBATING ILLEGAL XYLAZINE ACT

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that establishes criminal penalties for the illegal use of xylazine (i.e. for use in humans) but allows for its legal use as a veterinary drug and be it further RESOLVED that such provisions be included to help maintain its availability and tracking mechanisms for legitimate supply.

NEW YORK STATE CROSSBOW HUNTING LAW

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would allow hunters sixty years and older or with a physical impairment to hunt with a crossbow during regular archery season.

BAN SPREADING SEWAGE SLUDGE BIOSOLIDS ON AGRICULTURAL LANDS

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports a ban on spreading sewage sludge biosolids on agricultural lands in the State of New York.

ALL-ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN AGRICULTURE

RESOLVED that New York State Grange and National Grange lobby to stop the push for all-electric agricultural vehicles, and that we work with other farming organizations such as Farm Bureau, Farm Credit, Farmers Union, etc. to do the same.

(Continued on page 3)

State Grange Secretary



Ryan Orton

State Session in Oswego is in the history books! Huge thanks to our Graces – Kelly Frost, Flora; Virginia Dehner, Pomona; and Allison Bolio, Ceres – for coordinating the many parts of State Session to ensure its success. They proved that State Session can be done differently, and we might have to utilize this strategy again in the future depending on if State Grange receives invitations from a Pomona or Region to host. Remember that anything can be done if we put our minds to it! If you weren't at State Session, we had five dynamic speakers. Here are some key points we took away from each of them:

- Joan Smith – Chairman of the Grange Foundation: The Grange Foundation is an important resource that is preserving our history, helping our Youth and Juniors financially, working to provide valuable information through the Reaching Rural Surgical Seniors Program, and providing fun and engaging learning opportunities through a Grange History Kahoot Game.
- Chris Hamp – Master of the National Grange: The only constant is change, and we recognize change is hard. Think of change as a pivot to do what we do better. What was cool 40 years ago may not be cool to young people today. Pivot to try new things to get younger people interested in the Grange. We must constantly look forward, not in the rear-view mirror.
- Jack Beyer – New York State FFA President: Adventure, opportunity, growth, filling a need in our communities, and the future all start with a “yes!” By saying yes, we accomplish something. Let's live the lives of our best “yes!”
- Jeff Winton – Founder of Rural Minds: The Grange is their most important partner because of our longstanding presence in the areas Rural Minds serves. We are the place in rural communities where people go for information.
- Richard Ball – New York State Commissioner of Agriculture: There's plenty of things to worry about, and there are some terrible things happening in our world today. But, at the end of the day, New York has the right resources, best land grant system,

best farmers, good soil, and access to water.

If you weren't at State Session this year, you missed an invigorating and energizing time! I hope you'll make plans to join us next year for the 153rd Annual Session of the New York State Grange in Watertown from October 17 – 21, 2025.

Now comes the tasks of completing the 2025 State Grange Directory and the 2024 Journal of Proceedings. These are perfect tasks for Thanksgiving and Christmas Breaks from school as well as the occasional Snow Day when I'm snowed in with a cup of hot chocolate and nowhere to go! Congratulations to the following Granges on welcoming new members:

- 7 New Members: Greenfield Grange #807 (Saratoga County)
- 4 New Members: South Rutland Valley Grange #53 (Jefferson County)
- 3 New Members: Copake Grange #935 (Columbia County)
- 2 New Members: Bethlehem Grange #137 (Albany County)
- Oak Grove Grange #873 (Dutchess County)
- Butternut Valley Grange #1533 (Otsego County)
- 1 New Member: Otselic Valley Grange #1398 (Chenango County)
- Ausable Valley Grange #973 (Essex County)
- Millers Mills Grange #581 (Herkimer County)
- Livonia Grange #1180 (Livingston County)
- Marcellus Grange #464 (Onondaga County)

Youth



Co-Directors
Johannah Stewart & Sarah Barber

The youth committee is happy to report how proud we are of the involvement and persistence of the youth members of the New York State Grange. Their diligent effort in the preparation of the Rose Drill including the design, practice, and performance of the Rose Drill on Saturday at State Session proved to be impressive and enjoyable.

Two of the youth were also marching candidates in the degree.

The group also prepared to open the Sunday morning session which included a seating

drill with the assistance of three juniors. Many delegates were overheard complimenting the efforts of the youth.

We also wanted to thank the Oswego Fire Department for allowing us to use their training room to practice our drills.

Chenango County Pomona will host our winter weekend in their Norwich Hall January 17-19 2025. Cost will be \$30 per person to cover food. Activities for the weekend include a nature hike, cooking workshop, resolution writing, and sign-a-song workshops. We are also having a banquet with some special guests followed by a sock hop.

We would like to invite and encourage any and all youth members and those young at heart to join us for this and

(Continued from page 2) Resolutions

SNAP MINIMUM PROGRAM

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would establish a state SNAP minimum program that would be determined by the difference between the federal SNAP benefit amount and \$95 to help relieve food insecurity for those who would qualify for these enhanced benefits.

REIMBURSEMENT TO SCHOOLS FOR LOCALLY GROWN FOOD

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would simplify the reporting process for schools for reimbursement when they purchase locally grown foods for use in their food service programs by reflecting the actual usage of foods during the school day (breakfast, lunch, after school snacks) rather than base the reimbursement solely on lunches provided to students, thus encouraging schools to purchase more locally grown foods and support local agricultural producers.

NEW YORK STATE FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

RESOLVED that New York State Grange publicize this program to farmers through Cornell Cooperative Extension County offices and to schools through the Rural Schools Program or any other means available.

FEDERAL ISSUES

TRUST ACT

RESOLVED that New York State Grange thanks our United States Representatives for passing HR345 (2023-2024) Transparent Representation Upholding Service and Trust in Con-

gress Act which requires members of congress and their family members to place certain assets into blind trusts and for other purposes. We request our United States Senators to write a companion bill and to pass it and for our United States President to sign it into law.

OPPOSITION TO “KILL SWITCH” IN AUTOMOBILES

RESOLVED that New York State Grange opposes any state or federal mandate that would require automobile manufacturers to implement camera and/or sensor tracking of drivers to allow or disallow operation of an automobile, except in cases where a person has been properly convicted of a related offense and has had such imposed as part of their lawful sentence and be it further

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports the repeal of any existing mandates requiring technology to allow or disallow operation of an automobile, except in cases where a person has been properly convicted of a related offense and has had such imposed as part of their lawful sentence.

EXPEDITING BROADBAND SERVICES

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports the “American Broadband Deployment Act of 2023” or similar legislation to streamline federal, state, and local permitting and regulatory reviews to expedite the deployment of communications facilities regarding the placement, construction or modification of personal wireless service facilities.

PROTECTING WORKERS FROM EXCESSIVE HEAT IN WORKPLACE

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports President Biden's proposed rule that would protect workers from excessive heat in the workplace, thus requiring employers to develop an injury and illness prevention plan to control heat hazards in workplaces affected by excessive heat. Among other things, the plan would require employers to evaluate heat risks and, when heat increases risks to workers, implement requirements for drinking water, rests breaks and control of indoor heat. It would also require a plan to protect new or returning workers accustomed to working in high heat conditions.

PROVIDING CHILD CARE FOR POLICE OFFICERS ACT OF 2024

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports the Providing Childcare for Police Officers Act of 2024 or similar legislation.

STATE ISSUES

ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS MANDATE

(Continued on page 5)

State Grange Historian



DID YOU KNOW...

Since May 1928 seventy-eight loans had been made to young Grangers. This according to an December 1929 issue of The National Grange Monthly. There followed a plea for more money for the New York State Grange Revolving Scholarship Fund. The fund is still helping young people today.

Here are a few more tidbits from that same issue. According to state Secretary F. J. Riley the new addition of the manual was in great demand.

Supply could not keep up with demand! He was waiting for an order of a thousand to be delivered. New fifth and juvenile manual were soon to become available.

Also in the same issue was a book review of "The Harvest" by Liberty Hyde Bailey. The reviewer was Scott Traxler, lecturer, of Scottsburg and Livingston Pomona Granges. The first part provided background on farming and second part was farmers' views on the agricultural depression. Books recommended by state Lecturer Elizabeth L. Arthur were "Psychology and the Day's Work" by E. J. Swift, "This Puzzling Planet" by E. T. Brewster and Dorothy Canfield Porter's "The Brimming Harvest."

Arthur also had a list of Christmas program ideas from subordinate lecturers. One was using "The Night Before Christmas." Another was a combination Christmas and New Year's party.

National Secretary Harry A. Caton's report showed that New York paid more dues than any other state for the year. It was interesting to note that little Maryland had more than a thousand candidates for the sixth degree. New York had 977.

Here is paragraph indicating the Grange viewpoint on international affairs. "We are opposed to violence in settling disputes and to competition in armament, which unnecessarily burdens the people."

Now for a few bits from the April 1930 edition of the National Grange publication. A "Saunders Day" was proclaimed by National Master Taber for May 2nd and another later for "Kelley Day."

There was a successful conference of masters and lecturers at Geneva. One hundred "wide-awake" Grangers discussed many

topics.

In Delaware County East Branch Grange #1507 and Colonel Harper #1508 were the new kids on the Grange block. They were taking in new members and were enthusiastic about their organization.

A suggestion for a memory garden was made. Flowers would be planted that represented a lost friend or family member or perhaps someone who had moved away.

The Home Economics Committee was working to raise money for the Revolving Scholarship Fund with a goal of \$5000. Another aim was beautification of Grange halls, schools, homes or parks.

This issue of The National Grange Monthly had lots of little reminders of the goal of 12,000 candidates for the national session in Rochester in November, 1930. According to the history book that goal was missed. 11,125 candidates did take the degree in Rochester including Franklin D. Roosevelt. My father was also one of them.

With state session being in Oswego, I checked to see when State Grange had met there. Only one time in 1947 has Oswego had hosted a meeting of State Grange. However there was a special session of the sixth degree in 1930 in Oswego County.

In the report of counties in the 1880 Journal of Proceedings a Mr. Foster reported for Oswego. Some of his comments: day meetings created more interest, literary programs were great attractions, libraries were beneficial and the fire relief association was a great asset.

Family Activities

Maryanne Campbell

Our summer passed by quickly and the fall brought us to the Big E. The Northeast Exposition in Springfield, MA was held September 19th-29th. Eight New York Grange members worked at the New England Grange Building for several days. The members include: Myself, Vernon Starr, Nancy Payne, Shugui Zeng, Steve Coye, Barb Hill, Anna Ritchey, Roberta Halbert. It truly is amazing to see all the craft items in the store. I received a total of 362 items donated by our N.Y.S. Grange Members to be sold in the store. Items included: Afghans, 3 piece baby sets, baby blankets, hats, scarf, gloves, aprons, dish towels, dish clothes, pin cushions, Christmas ornaments, pillow cases, scrubbies and so much more. Thank you to all Grange

Members that donated items to be sold in the store.

Eleven 1st place entries from our State Contest that were sent to the Northeast Exposition: Class A: Afghan-Roberta Hamilton, Onondaga Co., Class B: Doilies-Charlotte Brenon, Jefferson Co., Class D: 3 Piece Baby Set- Beverly Wright, Chenango Co., Class E: Plastic Canvas- Sandra Green, Allegany Co., Class F: Counted Cross Stitch-Letitia Pickering, Monroe Co., Class H: Latch Hook- Lynn Conklin, Chenango Co., Class I: Quilted Wall Hanging-Mary Gates, Columbia Co., Class J: Stuffed Toy- Charlotte Brenon, Jefferson Co., Class K: Baby Afghan-Letitia Pickering, Monroe Co., Class L: Child or Adult Garment Sewn Marlene Utter, Chenango Co., Tea Cup/Saucer: Mindy Joe Eldred Chenango Co. There may be some changes in the Big E contest after we have our meeting. The changes will be announced in The Empire State Granger. The following Grange Members placed at the Northeast Contest:

1. Doilies: 1st Charlotte Brenon, Jefferson Co.
2. 3 Piece Baby set: 1st Beverly Wright, Chenango Co.
3. Counted Cross Stitch 1st Letitia Pickering, Monroe Co.
4. Latch Hook: 2nd Lynne Conklin, Chenango Co.
5. Quilted Wall Hanging: 3rd Mary Gates, Columbia Co.
6. Baby Afghan: 1st Letitia Pickering, Monroe Co.
7. Child or Adult Garment Sewn: 1st Marlene Utter, Chenango CO.
8. Teacup/Saucer: 2nd Mindy Joe Eldred, Chenango Co.

Pumpkin Bread contest will be judged at our State Annual Session on Saturday, October 26th at the Best Western Plus, 4th floor conference room. Entries should arrive at 8:30 am. Judging will start at 9:00 am. Our committee is looking forward to greeting all the contestants and we wish you the best of luck. The pumpkin bread will be for sale at the Family Activities display after the contest is complete. Winners will be announced Saturday when the Departmental Reports are given.

I received 35 Subordinate & 10 Pomona Reports for 2024, with their projects, activities, programs and fund raisers that were completed throughout the year. There were approximately 144 activities, projects, fund raisers and 27 different programs. Many completed by multiple Granges with some including Jr Grange and the community.

Activities:

Park work day, River Sweep, Music, dance, festivals, games, dinners, ice cream socials, holiday activities, making holiday ornaments, Fire Dept Chile cook off, quilting classes, multiple exhibits at the County Fairs,

gift bags for Nursing Home patients & their wish lists being fulfilled, gift bags for the community seniors who live alone, have lost a loved one, shut ins and the lonely. Gingerbread house kits for kids to make with materials donated by Grange Members. Grange members placed 300 flags on the Veteran's graves in May, a Memorial Day program for the village and a flag burning ceremony taking place in November for Grange members and the community. There was tissue paper painting, Mosaic classes, card making, recycling and so much more.

Fund Raising:

Brooks BBQ for a family that lost their home to fire and a fund raiser to assist an sick child. Annual craft sales, pie sales, dinners, afghans, raffled grocery gift cards, yard, garage and rummage sales, which often involved the community, Assisting the Salvation Army, Capital City Rescue Mission, St Jude Hosp, Cancer, Red Cross, Ronald McDonald house.

Programs:

Nursing home care, Domestic Violence, Rural Health, Defensive Driving, Fire Kitchen Safety, 988 Suicide Mental Health, Youth Prevention Awareness programs, Myasthenia Gravis, Reaching Rural Surgical seniors, Corona Virus, Tick Program, Hunter Safety Courses, Medicare Advantage & lack of coverage in areas. Health Dept Flu/Covid program, Physical/Occupational Therapy in Recovery, Hospice, Housing, Heath care Proxy, Living wills and MOLST forms. (MOLST Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment)

Family Activities provided a display at the Syracuse State Fair. The Domestic Violence Program was presented at our April Contest, Morris Fair, Syracuse State Fair, Health Fair in Cortland and will be on display at our State Conference. There is a great deal of information, safe areas to look over on the computer and purple ribbons. Our goal was to present a program that would offer information to Grange and the community.

We are adding a new category to our contest in 2025. Recycling old calendars, so use your imagination and enter a craft item you have made from old calendars. We have a display of items made by our committee & others to give you an idea.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the contests. The craftsmanship, time, precise needle work and baking items submitted reveals the hard work and time you each put into the items submitted.

(Continued from page 3) **Resolutions**

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would repeal section 3638 of the education law which concerns the electric school bus mandate, and all references to the mandate for electric school buses in law, and direct the New York State Energy and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to conduct their study and make recommendations on the feasibility of converting school bus fleets in the state of

(Continued on page 7)

Sports

Director
Bruce Dehner



I would like to thank everyone who participated in the sports events this year. We had great turnouts. Here is the schedule for next year. Dart ball will be held on April 27th at state headquarters, bowling will be June 1st at Cort lanes in Cortland, golf will be July 13th at Orchard Valley golf course in Lafayette NY, and corn hole will be August 2nd at state headquarters. I would like everyone to start thinking about getting your team organized as the early bird catches the worm. I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays and look forward to seeing you all next year.

Community Involvement



Melvin Phelps

This past year we implemented more guides for you to facilitate your program and hopefully make it easier and more manageable to develop those projects. The project planning guides were used and shared with some of the yearbooks and it is nice to see them be useful. I would strongly suggest taking a look at these guides and use them as a tool to help you plan and implement your projects. I would also like to highly encourage Granges to fill out the annual report no matter what you do or if you don't have the ability to do a project please let us know. I would also ask that when filling out your report you make sure you include the total number of hours on for your Grangers and community members. This is where I get the information for my annual report and there were several reports that left this blank so we could not

include that information in our 1.4-million-dollar impact.

I would like to take time to recognize the Granges that submitted high quality yearbooks this year, please stand to be recognized if you are here today. You can pick up a certificate of accomplishment from the Community Service Table. I will list them alphabetical order:

- Beaver Falls #554 Lewis County
- Butternut Valley #1533 Otsego County
- Colonel Harper #1508 Delaware County
- Corfu #142 Genesee County
- Kirkland #684 Jefferson County
- Lamson #588 Onondaga County
- Marcellus #464 Onondaga County
- Stanford #808 Dutchess County

After the reports were scored I am pleased to announce this year's winners of the New York State Grange Community Service Yearbooks. I will have your awards and certificates available after this session at the Community Service Table. I would also ask that the reports be picked up right after we recess.

- 4th place – Beaver River Grange #554 Lewis County
- 3rd place – Colonel Harper #1508 Delaware County
- 2nd Place - Stanford Grange # 808 Dutchess County
- 1st place and representing NYS Grange at National Grange Session is: Butternut Valley Grange #1533 Otsego County

Lecturer



Brenda Noble

We are off to a good start in the new Grange year! It was so good to see so many at State Session this year. We are looking forward to our Lecturers/Family Activities weekend on April 26, 2025. It is a day of meeting with Grangers from across the State and learn new things to use in your own Granges at home. We will be having the Talent Contest. We will have categories for Vocal, Group, and Variety with two divisions – Subordinates and Juniors. The Photo Contest will have two categories: Grange Halls; Community, County or State Fairs, with three Divisions for each – Subordinates, Juniors age 10-14, and Juniors age 5-9. The writing piece is a Worksheet

or Puzzle to be used as a fun activity at a meeting. We look forward to seeing everyone in April! Let me know if you have any questions.

Junior Grange



Sherri Horner

This summer has been as exciting time in the Junior Grange Department! Walton Grange #701 was officially reorganized this summer. I look forward to seeing their new members grow and become leaders in the Grange. Also, East Pembroke Grange #324 celebrated 90 years of being an active Junior Grange! Congratulations to East Pembroke Grange for making a difference in the lives of so many children over the past 90 years! I look forward to another successful 90 years! East Pembroke Junior Grange celebrated this milestone by hosting a Quarter Carnival at their Grange Hall. Many people came to enjoy an afternoon of playing games and eating carnival type foods. It was such a successful afternoon that they plan on hosting a Quarter Carnival again next year. If you have a chance to go, you will be in for a wonderful afternoon!

The 2025 Big E Junior Craft Contest is an Egg Carton Craft. They can use any or all of the egg carton to create their craft. The size limit is 6"x6"x6". I will have more information on a date to have the Big E craft finished and submitted for judging in the near future.

Thank you to all of the Junior Granges that have sent in their quarterly reports. I truly enjoy seeing everything that your Junior Granges are doing. Many of you are busy creating your projects, working on membership development, learning more about corn through the Agricultural Awareness Program for this year and doing Community Service through the "Kids Helping Kids" Program. By doing all of these activities, you are promoting the Junior Grange program in your community. The more that you promote the Junior Grange, the more children will become interested in Junior Grange, thus helping our membership grow throughout New York State.

Junior Crafts 2025 Junior Grange Craft Projects

All projects will be judged in groups as follows: Ages 5-8, 9-11, and 12-14, the group that the projects will be judged in will be based on the entrant's age as of January 1 of the current year.

All crafts need to be labeled with Name, age, Junior Grange, County

Note: Each Junior Grange is allowed to send a total of 15 craft projects to State Grange for state-level judging, along with any OJAY* crafts. Please send one entry per age group for each of the five projects, Junior dues MUST be up to date.

Non-Chocolate Brownies

Using a recipe of your choice, make your favorite non-chocolate brownies. You may make any kind of non-chocolate brownie (oatmeal, peanut butter, blonde, etc.). Each contestant must enter six (6) brownies on a disposable plate. The recipe must be included with the entry.

JUDGING – Flavor – 40% Appearance – 30% Texture – 30%

Picture Frame

Using any material of your choice, create a picture frame to display a photo. Feel free to include your favorite picture from the last year. Not to exceed 10" x 12".

JUDGING – Creativity – 40% Workmanship – 30% Appearance – 30%

Holiday Decoration

Using any materials of your choice, create a three dimensional decoration for the holiday of your choice. Not to exceed 12"x12"x12".

JUDGING – Creativity – 40% Workmanship – 30% Appearance – 30%

Recycled Craft

Take an item that people would normally throw away and transform it into an object that can be used over and over again. Not to exceed 12"x12"x12".

JUDGING – Creativity – 40% Workmanship – 30% Appearance – 30%

Draw String Bag

Create a drawstring bag to carry around books, sports equipment, your electronic devices, etc. No kits allowed. Not to exceed 18" x 18".

JUDGING – Creativity – 30% Workmanship – 40% Appearance – 30%

*OJAY (Older Junior and Youth) Project

Older Junior Grange members (ages 10 – 14), as well as Youth

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

members up to the age of 18, may enter an item such as a scrapbook, banner, poster, report, craft, digital photography, needle-point, wood, sewing, etc. The item must have been completed in the last year. This project may be folded/compacted and able to fit in a 12"x12"x12" space for ease of transport and display. All entries will be judged at the State Grange Session.

JUDGING – Creativity – 30%
Workmanship – 40%
Appearance – 30%

2024 Craft Project Results

Drop Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ages 9 - 11
Ages 12 - 14

1st place – Tryston Hawn, Jefferson County,
1st place – Logan Gonzalez, Albany County
2nd place – Gabriella Wright, Delaware County

Draft Stopper

Ages 5 - 8
Ages 9 - 11

1st place – Logan Tryon, Albany County
1st place – Gabriella Wright, Delaware County
2nd place – Annabel Maring, Washington County
Ages 12 - 14
1st place – Gabby Hubbard, Lewis county

Holiday Luminary

Ages 5 - 8
Ages 9 - 11

1st place – Paige Darling, Washington County
1st place – Annabel Maring, Washington County
2nd place – Liam Adams, Lewis County

Ages 12 - 14

1st place – Becky Hilbert, Delaware County

Stuffed Sock Decoration

Ages 5 - 8
Ages 9 - 11

1st place – Paige Darling, Washington County
1st place - Tryston Hawn, Jefferson County
2nd place – Liam Adams, Lewis County
2nd place - Gabriella Wright, Delaware County
3rd place – Claire Winant, Delaware County
Ages 12 - 14

1st place - Gabby Hubbard, Lewis County

Wooden Table Decoration

Ages 5 - 8
Ages 9 - 11

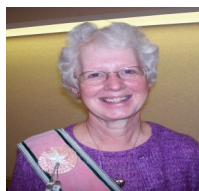
1st place - Liam Adams, Lewis County

1st place - Hannah Sands, Albany County
2nd place – Paige Darling, Washington County
2nd place – Gabriella Wright, Delaware County
3rd place – Annabel Maring, Washington County

OJAY

1st place – Delora Manzer, Delaware County

Chaplain's Corner



Virginia L. Conner

APOLOGY and THANKS

The tulip tree is one of my favorite trees because its leaves are shaped like a tulip flower. During the Memorial Service on Sunday morning at Session, I presented tulip leaves to three people. Dan Woolley received one in memory of his Mom, Neva Woolley of Chautauqua County. Dennis Phelps was given a leaf in memory of his Mom, Myra Phelps of Genesee County. The third tulip leaf went to Ryan Orton in memory of Cora Marie Shook, Dutchess County. All three ladies were very active Grangers in their many years of service to their Community, County and State Granges. Side Note: Sister Shook was Ryan's piano and organ teacher.

The reason for **apology** is: I neglected to use a microphone when presenting the tulip leaves to these three gentlemen and therefore very few could hear my words. I'm sorry, please forgive.

Roger and I would like to thank everyone who helped load the cargo trailer in Cortland and the large group who unloaded in Oswego. I counted sixteen people unloading at the Conference Center !! That number includes the four men the Center provided. In the thirty three years that Roger and I have been trucking the State Grange equipment, I had the easiest job ever – holding the entrance door open !!

THANK YOU TO ALL !!

FOUND: When I did the final sweep at the Center, I found a white hooded zippered sweatshirt size 2X with "Cape Cod" printed on the front. If it's yours, please contact me and I'll send it to you.



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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.

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(Continued from page 5) **Resolutions**

New York to zero-emission vehicles.

BUSINESS DELIVERY SERVICE VEHICLE MARKINGS
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would require delivery vehicles and their operators to display appropriate identification unless the business has fewer than 100 employees and are not making contract deliveries for one or more businesses with over 100 employees.

TRANSFERENCE OF FAMILY HEIRLOOM WEAPONS
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation to amend Penal Law to authorize any weapon as defined in §265.00 (22) (g) and section §265.00 (22) (h) of the Penal Law that are legally possessed and validly registered prior to the person's death to be bequeathed or passed through an intestacy to an immediate family member of the deceased or to be transferred by the estate of such individual to one of his or her immediate family members.

MELANIE'S LAW
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports the passage of Melanie's Law to allow courts to issue orders of protection to "members of the same family or household regardless of age."

SECURITY CAMERAS AT NEW YORK STATE PARK ENTRANCES/EXITS
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would have security cameras that can identify the license plate, make and model of any vehicle entering or exiting the facilities as well as recording the image of any person walking or hiking into or out of the grounds installed in all New York State parks, campgrounds, and recreational facilities entrances and exits.

JUDY'S LAW
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports the introduction of legislation similar to Judy's Law from Ohio which mandates an additional prison term of 6 – 20 years for felonious assault if the offender intentionally used an accelerant in committing the offense and the abuse resulted in permanent disfigurement, permanent substantial incapacity or death.

BENTLEY'S LAW
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports the introduction of legislation similar to Bentley's Law from Tennessee that would order a defendant to pay restitution in the form of child maintenance to each of the victim's children until the child reaches 18 years of age and has graduated from high school or the class of which the child is a member when the child reached 18 years of age has graduated if a defendant is convicted of vehicular homicide due to intoxication or aggravated vehicular homicide.

"SWATTING" 9-1-1 CALLS
RESOLVED that New York State

Grange supports legislation that would expand the penal law to include falsely reporting an incident, such as "swatting", that would include the use of a deadly weapon or dangerous weapon to serve as a deterrent in the prevention of these "swatting" situations to protect the public from these incidents and to limit the cost of sending specialized law enforcement units to the address where the supposed incident has occurred.

KYRA'S LAW
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation such as the proposed Kyra's law that would put child safety first when there is a previous history of child abuse by a parent and ensuring courts assess any risk to their life and safety in child custody and visitation proceedings and requiring court officials to take part in training to handle such cases regarding domestic violence and child abuse.

FREE AIR-CONDITIONERS TO LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports the HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) of free air conditioners or fans to low-income households with an individual 60 years of age or older, a child under the age of 6 or an individual with a documented health condition exacerbated by the extreme heat.

EMERGENCY LIGHTING IN DARK ROOMS
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports state legislation requiring all housing intended to house mobility or visually impaired persons be equipped with some type of emergency lighting, especially in dark places (rooms or corners, etc.) in case of extended electrical power outages.

HEADLIGHTS AND WINDSHIELD WIPER LAW
RESOLVED that New York State Grange encourages the Subordinate/Community Granges work with law enforcement agencies to strictly enforce this law by issuing violations to motorists that do not have their headlights and wipers turned on during inclement weather.

EDUCATION

SAFE TEMPERATURES FOR SCHOOLS ACT
RESOLVED that New State Grange supports the Safe Temperatures for Schools Act to establish a maximum temperature of 82 degrees for school classrooms and that higher temperatures would require that students and staff be removed from the overheated classroom, cafeteria or support service area, and be it further
RESOLVED that the New York State Education Department and The New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) work with school districts to create plans and methods to comply with the Safe Temperatures for Schools Act to improve physical learning envi-

ronments, student cognition and teacher retention.

AGRICULTURAL LEARNING EVENTS
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation allowing students attending/participating in work-based learning events like 4-H, FFA and/or other agricultural programs to count their participation as school attendance. Students would be responsible for obtaining assignments missed while the student was participating in an eligible program and be it further

RESOLVED that we work with legislators to include State and National Grange activities and Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) as part of the bill.
AUTOMATIC EMERGENCY DEFIBRILLATOR IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would require all private schools with a minimum enrollment of 100 students to have an automatic external defibrillator (AED) available in all buildings and its school sponsored events in the case of a student or adult who may suffer a cardiac event.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY EVALUATION PROGRAM
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports passage of legislation that would extend the laws that allow approved multidisciplinary evaluation programs that would evaluate the needs of children ages 0 to 5 years old for disabilities and to develop 4410 programs for their current and future educational needs.

INSTRUCTION IN FINANCIAL LITERACY
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would amend New York State Education Law to establish program requirements in financial literacy for students in 6th through 8th grade; requiring such instruction to include content on budgeting, savings, credit, debt, insurance, investment, and other issues associated with personal financial responsibility by the Education Department.

HEALTH

TELEMEDICINE/ TELEHEALTH FROM OUT OF STATE
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would allow health care providers to provide telemedicine/telehealth services in New York if there is an agreement between New York State and the state of licensure that would help to alleviate the health care provider shortage in New York State, especially in rural areas.

UNHEALTHY USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA/INTERNET
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would provide information to parents, teachers and mental health providers that would help them in

public awareness of unhealthy social media/internet use by young people and the detrimental effects it can have on their mental health and to encourage healthier habits of using their smartphones to connect with others.

CYTOMEGALOVIRUS INFANT TESTING
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would require that all newborns be tested for the cytomegalovirus (CMV) through a simple urine polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test so that infants who test positive can have early intervention treatment of the virus to help limit the loss of hearing or other health problems.

USE OF ZYN NICOTINE POUCHES BY YOUTH
RESOLVED that New York State Grange urges the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Federal Drug Administration (FDA) to investigate ZYN nicotine pouches for concerns relating to health effects and marketing aimed toward our youth on social media, and be it further

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports Senate Majority Leader Schumer in calling for federal action (FTC and FDA) to investigate ZYN nicotine pouches for concerns relating to health effects and marketing aimed toward our youth on social media.

COMMUNITY INPUT FOR HOSPITAL CLOSURES
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports current proposed legislation for community input before hospital closures are considered.

INMATE MEDICAL CO-PAYMENTS
RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would require copayments for medical treatments to inmates in New York State correctional facilities as well as county and local correctional facilities in the amount of \$7.00 from an inmate's personal account, as long as no inmate is refused treatment for lack of ability to pay copayment, and inmates are not charged for psychiatric visits and all money collected is made available for the operation of the facility of incarceration.

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS PROGRAM
RESOLVED that New York State Grange adopts, as a project for the Community Service Department or Family Activities Department, the subject of elder abuse. We suggest that the department works with the local Office for the Aging to obtain information or pamphlets that may be available as handouts which would be used in presentations to their local communities in the promotion of elder abuse awareness.

TAXATION/FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

RENEWABLE INVESTMENT

(Continued on page 8)

Genessee County



The East Pembroke Junior Grange #324 celebrated its 90th birthday with a Quarter Carnival, which Cuba Grange's annual Quarter Carnival inspired. This event offered affordable entertainment with games from recycled materials, snacks, and small prizes. The event was a success with the help of NYS Grange Youth. The East Pembroke Junior Grange plans to do this event again next year.

(Continued from page 7) **Resolutions**

TAX CREDIT

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports inclusion of new construction or rehabilitation of farm housing in the renewable investment tax credit program.

MANDATED ELECTRONIC TAX FILINGS/PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that New York State Grange request that New York State tax authorities eliminate the mandate for electronic filing and payment for New York State Sales Tax and be it further RESOLVED that no government agency mandates any tax return or tax payment be made by electronic filing.

SOCIAL SECURITY EXPANSION ACT

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports passage of "The Social Security Expansion Act" or similar legislation which would increase Social Security benefits on a sliding scale per year, update the Cost-of-Living Adjustment calculations and ensure Social Security is fully funded for the next 75 years.

LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

RESOLVED that New York State Grange supports legislation that would provide local governments the ability to create and fund a countywide Emergency Medical Service (EMS) and to provide financial incentives to encourage and retain emergency medical ser-

Samantha Murphy of Onondaga County. One other Granger will be added to the team once it has been finalized. This new team recently met to begin its planning and to discuss implementation strategies for this plan. The team has decided that an important element of the developing plans for the Leadership/Membership department is to provide a physical presence to help those Granges and individuals who seek assistance from the Leadership/Membership team to address growth for their Grange or for the creation of a new Grange. The team has begun this approach by reaching out to a Grange that is seeking assistance as their Grange attempts to strengthen its position as an active Grange. We are also contacting an individual who has expressed an interest in building a new Grange in his area. We earnestly hope that this is just the beginning of our efforts in strengthening and building Granges in New York State.

The team is not only planning to help Granges acquire new members but to also discover ways to help new members learn more about the Grange to help these members "Grow into the Grange." This slogan, "Grow into the Grange" will be the theme of our membership acquisition and membership development for this coming year.

The Leadership/Membership team is excited about its plans for this coming year. Areas we wish to explore further will be in a variety of areas. We are looking at ways to help Granges and Grangers strengthen its leadership to include providing instruction in reading the unwritten work and by providing resources for the Presidents/Masters of our Community Granges and our Pomona Granges.

Are you seeking assistance for your Grange as you seek to grow your Grange? Feel free to contact my (Tom's) cell phone at (607) 244-7799 or email me

at Lawtont4@gmail.com if you have any questions or a request for help. You may also contact any of the other members of our Leadership/Membership team.

The National Grange is pleased to announce the

National Grange News CORNER



Rec-
ou-
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families for national recognition. Each fami-
will receive a certificate and feature in the
t National Convention. To learn about the families will
also be published in the National Grange magazine. The deadline for nomi-
nations is September 10, 2004 and should be sent to the

Five Mile Prairie Grange Hosts Inaugural Crock-tober Soup Showdown. On October 7th, Five Mile Prairie Grange #905 in northwest Spokane invited our neighbors to share their favorite slow-cooker soups and compete for the Golden Ladle. Celebrity judges, all with connections to our Grange, tasted and evaluated the entries. They did a seriously great job and loved every minute of it. Our judges, pictured from left to right, represented Mead School District, Spokane Library District, Edible Inland Northwest magazine, Ace Hardware (owner, longtime partner and supporter), and Sengsational Cuisine (restaurantur). Laura Hann earned the Golden Ladle for her Chicken with Rice soup, and Joe Seng took home the People's Choice Award for his Khao Poon. Other delicious entries were Tomato Plum, Sausage Corn Chowder, a second version of Chicken with Rice, South of the Border Chicken, Healthy Hamburger, Vegetable, and Green Curry Chicken Noodle (GF). A great time was had by all. We will definitely be hosting a Second Annual Crock-tober Soup Showdown in 2025.

National Grange Staff

As you read this, the National Grange Staff, State Grange Presidents and delegates, and many guests and friends are on their way to Bettendorf, Iowa for the 158th Annual National Grange Convention. In addition to completing the work of the National Grange, establishing policy and charting a path forward for the Grange, many attendees will have the opportunity to attend workshops and tours, and all there will get to enjoy the Fellowship of the Grange. Although pre-registration has completed, the option to register on-site is available starting Monday, November 11, though no meals will be available to purchase. In addition, there are still some spaces left in tours and workshops that require pre-registration. If you've already registered for Convention, but want to add more, visit <https://grange.biz/158registration>. If you aren't able to make it to Bettendorf, we are thrilled to bring parts of the convention to you! The Communication Fellows will be livestreaming several portions of the convention, including the President's Address, speakers, and more. Check the image below for times (Central), and you'll be able to watch on the National Grange's Facebook page, X (Twitter), YouTube, or LinkedIn. Additionally, many of the Convention workshops will be recorded and released in the upcoming weeks.

The annual convention program is available at <https://grange.biz/158program> or at the QR at the end of the article, so you can stay up to date with everything happening "at the River," and the workshop schedule is available at <https://grange.biz/158workshops> - each of these files may be updated as more information is learned or available. If you're registered for the convention, be sure to stop in the Showcase to shop at the "Oldies but Goodies" table where some unique items from "days gone by" and Grange history will be available, the Grange Store, or visit some of our partner organizations, including the United States Patent & Trademark Office, the Federal Communications Commission, and others.

Museum Fund Raiser

GET YOUR MEMORIAL BRICKS BEFORE PRICE INCREASE.

At the November Museum Board meeting it was stated that the price would be increasing. So now is your chance to get them before prices rise. 4x8 inch are fifty dollars and the 8x8 inch are seventy five dollars. A few more are needed for an order with free shipping. Send your order to Patricia VanLare, 5413 VanLare Rd., Williamson, NY 14589. Email pvanlare2@yahoo.com Order blanks are available from her also.

Please continue to save "H" (history) dollars for the museum. Sixty dollars was turned in at State Grange. This will be the second year for this savings program.

There following officers were elected: President - Barbara S. Lavier, Vice president - Nelson Eddy, Secretary - Carolyn Ostrander and Treasurer - Patricia VanLare.

Leadership Membership

Thomas Lawton

The Leadership/Membership department is presently going through some exciting transitions. The first transition is to name Thomas Lawton of Chenango County as the department's new director. The second transition is the creation of a Leadership/Membership team. The first two members to be added to this team are Karin Croucher of Ontario County and