

# Green Mountain Granger

**AUGUST 2023**



## MASTER'S MESSAGE

Here we are, hopefully seeing an end to all the destructive storms. I hope we can find ways to support our food producers if nothing more than to purchase what stores they have left. Reaching out to families in need with what you can.

This was far from the opening I imagined. I've just spent Monday through Saturday in the hospital fighting a serious UTI, kidney, and blood infection. I'm home and recovering. How generous it was for my neighbor to come over and mow my hayfield of a lawn. Can't thank him enough.

Grange events are fast coming upon us. Notices for State Grange will be out soon. Any correspondence requiring a deadline, please adhere to it/them. Our people are working hard to make the event a success, especially since we are on new ground.

**The 6th Degree is scheduled for October 21st at Bridgewater Grange #284. State Officers will bring a bag lunch for noon and then go into rehearsal for the 6th Degree. The exemplification of the 6th Degree will commence at 2:00 p.m. The awards banquet will follow. The menu is pork tenderloin and gravy, mashed potatoes, apple sauce, green beans rolls, and apple pie and beverage at \$14.00 per person.**

Program books have been examined. Results and awards need to be ready for the day of the 6th degree.

Take care of yourselves. Hope to see you soon.

Kendal Holden  
Master VSG

## STATE GRANGE SCHEDULE

State Grange is scheduled for October 27-28<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion in Middlebury. Information about lodging was in the last GMG. Friday at 9 am the committees will meet and review the resolutions and the policy books. At 10:30, the Grange will open in the Sixth Degree but will be lowered to the Fourth Degree for conducting business. During Friday and Saturday reports from the various State Officers, Trustees, Committees, and Departments will be presented as well as the reports and voting on the resolutions. Presentation of State Grange Budget is scheduled for 2 pm Friday with vote 24 hours later (Saturday). At 3:15 pm Friday will be the State Master's address.

Chaplain's Message and Memorial Service will also be on Friday. Dinner is scheduled for 6 pm and the entrée will be Roast Pork. Cost \$20. Reservations required as we are having meals catered.

Saturday the 152<sup>nd</sup> State Session will open at 9 am. After opening, reading and adopting the minutes, and credential report, election of officers (2 Executive committee and 2 Educational Aid Committee members) will take place followed by installation of executive committee members. Reports will continue until all are complete.

There will be a Silent Auction so please bring nice items to donate. Last year we were able to give nice checks to David's House in Lebanon, NH and Ronald McDonald in Burlington, VT. Bring your checkbook and bid generously! Distribution will be after closing on Saturday afternoon. The session is scheduled to end on Saturday this year. No Sunday.

## REGISTRATION FOR MEALS AT STATE SESSION

We are having the meals catered by Pratt's Store in Bridport and need numbers for meals by October 15. Please contact Deborah Ploof before October 15 for reservations.

- Mail a note with a check made out to Vermont State Grange, Inc. Address: 3965 Crown Point Road, Bridport, VT 05734.
- Email [deborah.ploof@outlook.com](mailto:deborah.ploof@outlook.com); Title of email -Reservation for Meals; you should receive a confirmatory email. Please plan to mail check or give at registration desk at session.
- Call 802-989-3237. Please plan to mail check or give at registration desk at session.
- Only if extra meals are available will tickets for meals be available at Registration. Meal order has to be to the caterer 2 weeks before session.

**Friday Lunch \$12 – Make your own Sandwich or Salad; dessert.**

**Friday Dinner \$20 – Roast Pork, Stuffing, Mashed**

**Potatoes; Green Beans; Cake**

**Saturday Lunch \$12 – Meat and Vegetable Lasagna, Salad, Italian Bread, dessert**

Beverages will be available during coffee breaks and during meals! Coffee, iced water, milk, and hot water for hot cocoa and tea.

## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

I **hope** this heat and humidity lets up. I **hope** the rain stops for a while. I **hope** everyone can get the help they need after this flood damage to their homes and businesses. Is your heart full of **hope** for the future?

There is **hope** in our lives if we keep a positive attitude, right? Ben Affleck says, "Your life improves so much if you are lucky enough to work with people who make you feel good to be around them." And Michael J. Fox says, "Optimism is sustainable. If you can find something to be

grateful for, then you can find something to look forward to.” Where does your **hope** come from? We look to the Bible in Romans 15:13 and read, “May God, the source of all Hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in Him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

We also see that in Roman 15:4 it says, “Everything written in the scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the scriptures give us.”

Our Grange forefathers set us up to realize that with faith in God, we can nurture that hope in our lives and the life of the Grange. Have patience with Mother Nature. Pray for the folks whose homes and/or farmland and crops have been devastated. Have patience in the rebuilding of our state and its people. Do your part and dispense charity through physical help and funding, as you are able. May we stay Vermont strong. Amen.

Your Chaplain, Jenny Nelson

### **LECTURER'S PAGE**

I'm writing this from a soggy Jr. Camp. We are safe, but damp. It has been great with so many here. We are cooking for 42 each meal. I received some great entries for the various contests and I hope to get them judged as soon as I return from Jr. Camp.

Did you enter any contests? Too late this year but it is time to get started for next year. Start reading those books or writing an essay or short story. Why not get out and take some pictures? If you do it now, it will be done for next year.

I look forward to seeing you at State Session, being held in Middlebury this year or maybe at the 6th Degree in September.

Alice Daley, VT State Lecturer

### **NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

There have been two meetings of the Executive Committee since the

last publication of the Green Mountain Granger.

May 28, 2023

- The disposition of Maple Valley #318 Grange Hall is moving forward.
- Reports from the Grange Center come in regularly. It was reported that the work on the well has been completed.
- Work is being done on the transfer of ownership of Upper Valley Grange Hall. All seems to be on track so far.
- Scholarship requests have been received, read, scored and winners chosen. VSAC has been notified as have the winners.
- Discussions were held on an Associate Membership resolution that will come out of the Executive Committee
- A formal application for a Youth Delegate at State Session
- Discussion at the National Level of the future of Pomona Granges are continuing
- Work on finding a location for the Sixth Degree is moving forward
- A discussion was held on the Century Farm program as well as possible guest speakers for State Session
- Report that work on the new Program Book is coming along nicely.

June 25, 2023

- Ruth Hovey-Sicely, Grange Center Chair, attended the meeting that was held via ZOOM. Several leaking pipes were found in the Winter Building and the Shower Building. The pipes are being worked on. It was reported that the dish washer in the Butler Building was not working. Ruth noted that a couple of the weekend renters were given a discount on the rental fee due to the water situation. The fireplace in the Butler Building is in need to repair.

- A Youth Delegate application was approved by all. It will take effect in July 2024.
- Work was done on the scholarship criteria for the Cossingham Scholarship. It was voted that the letter of recommendation from a faculty member needed to come from a current faculty member from the attending school.
- After some discussion, it was agreed that the Awards Banquet would be held at the Sixth Degree. Program Directors will be asked to go through the Program Books during the weekends of July 23 and 23 and July 29 and 30.
- A second Delegate to National Grange Session was confirmed—Brother Errol Briggs. A review of the budget was done. Brenda Rousselle, Secretary

### **EDUCATIONAL AID FUND**

We are finished scoring scholarships. We still have grants available as well as loans. Information is on the webpage and in the program book. This is a slow time of year for us. Thank you for your support. Lois Wakefield, Chair

### **GRANGE CENTER**

What an adventure this has been to get the Grange Center open for business this year!! Our first Clean Up Weekend I wanted to go bury my head – everyone kept coming and reporting problems. When the water was connected in the kitchen it was discovered that there was an inch split in the copper pipe behind the double bay sink. Then there were three leaks in the Winter Building. The toilet in the Nurse's Cabin wouldn't fill up and the toilet in Cabin 8 wouldn't stop running. Oh, and there was a question last fall whether the dishwasher was properly heating during the rinse cycle. When the hose was reattached for startup, it leaked and wouldn't stop! I needed to find a plumber and fast. I ended up having to drain the hot water heater to stop the leak. Prior to that I was having to empty the drip pan often with the wet

dry vac. Beth Morse located one in Randolph. I called and messages were full. Called on off chance they might answer, but no such luck! I couldn't tell you how many plumbers I called. One in Barre I knew wouldn't work because they had an out of state answering service with an automatic response that they would respond to new customers in 4 weeks! I said this is a summer camp that needs to get up and running. I thought I would get a return call from a friendly sounding message in Northfield, but again-no. I had rentals and a building with no showers or toilets, I was fit to be tied! Then I was talking with Leslie Morse-Jones. She offered to fix the leaks in the Winter Building with Jim Morse overseeing the process. I took her up on the offer since no one else was responding to me. It took a bit, but she was able to fix all the broken pipes! And Jim was able to fix (somehow, carefully) all the cross threaded sink traps and get them to work again!

I happened to call Lois Wakefield about something and offhandedly asked if she happened to know a plumber, and she gave me three names from Front Porch Forum. I called the first one and he texted me his business card and said to send an email. I did and no response. Finally, I moved on and to my surprise when I texted on the Wednesday before Family Camp, he said he would be there next day! He didn't want me singing his praises though because he had too much work already. But he was very thorough, and I was very impressed. That took care of the dishwasher and just in the nick of time! Jr Camp and the Northeast Youth Conference were looming big in my mind. We were finally fully in business!! We've had our business meetings and cooked the meals for Family Camp.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to those Granges who have contributed money and mixes to help us with our Rest Area Food Breaks. You have been very generous! By the time this newsletter goes to press, we will

have held our next Food Break on July 29 & 30th.

Our **Chicken Pie Supper** will be held on August 26th at 5pm, with Mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, coleslaw, and Apple Crisp, for \$15/Adults and \$7/Children 10 and under. Reservations to Ruth Hovey-Sicely by August 18<sup>th</sup>, contact information below.

Our **Fall Festival Dinner** on September 9th will be a wonderful variety of Macaroni and Cheeses (some with ham), pork, apple sauce, green beans, coleslaw, and various pies, for \$15/Adults and \$7/Children 10 and under. Reservations to Ruth Hovey-Sicely by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Respectfully Submitted, Ruth Hovey-Sicely, Chair; Telephone 802-223-7961 or [ruthsicely@aol.com](mailto:ruthsicely@aol.com).

### **NATIONAL CONVENTION, NIAGARA FALLS, NY USA**

National Grange had a zoom on Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup>, to go over the schedule which Pete Pompper said there should be very few if no changes by the time Convention gets here. The opening in the 7th degree is 2 p.m. on Tuesday Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. The schedule can be found on [grange.biz/Conventin157](http://grange.biz/Conventin157). it is colored coded into Convention/Youth/Junior/Meals/Degrees; so, it is a bit easier to follow. Vermont still has one room for any 2 Grangers that want to help on Vermont's host day (along with Maine) Saturday Nov. 18th. You would arrive on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> and have lodging for 2 nights assisting Nancy Perkins and Jenny Nelson in the Hospitality room or at the Regional Registration desk. Vermont State Grange will pay milage, round trip, for helping. Please let me know by August 25<sup>th</sup>, so you can register at the hotel and with National Grange by Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>. Feel free to call or email with any questions. 8802-999-3510 or [vtlve54@gmail.com](mailto:vtlve54@gmail.com)  
Linda Sanderson, State coordinator

### **AGRICULTURE/ENVIRONMENT**

Latest word is that 7000 acres of farmland have been impacted by these latest flood conditions here in

VT. The loss of veggies, fruits, and flowers after the drought and late starts and reseeding remains to be seen and we already know of the apple crop hit from the late frost in early summer. What a year! Life seems a bit topsy-turvy with the weather we are experiencing, making plans for summer events, traveling even just to visit someone within the state, or trying to keep up with lawns and gardens. It has been reported that our Earth has now had the hottest days on record. Naysayers will say weather patterns go in cycles. This appears to be true, but the extreme temperatures and two 100-years events in less than 50 years should give us pause. "Our little state of Vermont can't single handedly change the climate"; some say. "Everyone must do their part", say others.

As we learn more and become more concerned about the weather changes and extremes, we hear some who talk conspiracies, other believing what scientists say and others just rolling with the punches because they can only deal with so much and someone else has to take charge.

This flood has caused damage to people's lives, our productive land, our infrastructure, our livelihoods whether for additional taxes needed to fund federal, state and local programs and infrastructure repairs or the loss of businesses, jobs, supplies, and merchandise. The time to repair roads and the growing need for transportation of products and commuters working schedules have all been impacted.

I challenge you as Grangers to be open-minded to this changing climate, the reasons and the possible solutions. I used to think that northern New England escaped much of the violent weather known in the south and west with tornadoes and hurricanes and flooding in coastal regions, but we are all seeing the devastation of just what too much rain in our brooks and rivers can do to our little state, snowpack, or no snowpack!

Is the loss of a healthy atmosphere due to too much carbon part of the problem? Are we still using too much gasoline in our cars? Will more solar panels work for individual homes? Can the infrastructure keep up? How do we cool down the oceans? Can we really try harder to conserve and recycle? Can more energy be made from waste - from dump gases or manure? Are we becoming more dependent or less on other questionable countries for our food and fuel? We must work with the new generation of God-given young minds in any way we can to help solve these problems. It will take creative minds and lots of support. It's our hope for the future.  
Jenny Nelson, Director

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

I received enough books at Family Camp so Vermont can participate in the National Community Service Contest. Thank you to all Granges that have submitted their Community Service Book.

The new program books have been distributed to the Granges. Your committee chairs should be telling you about the various new programs at your meetings. You can also go the web and download/print the new book. There are many new activities and contests so be sure to view a copy.

State Session will be the last weekend in October, Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, the 28<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion just off from RT. 7 in Middlebury, VT. ALL MEMBERS are welcome to attend and participate. Delegates are the only ones that can vote, but any member, with permission from the State Master, can participate in the discussion. Please come join us. It costs nothing to attend either day. At the Saturday Luncheon, I will announce the Grange that has donated the most pairs of mittens and socks, and hats for National Grange Community Service project at Niagara Falls, NY. There will be a \$25 award for the Grange with the most donations! We will continue to collect items until Family Camp 2024

and those will go to a local homeless shelter.

Summer is a busy time with gardening, attending fairs, preparing fair booths, and trying to not get beat down by the humidity! Be sure to highlight your Community Service when preparing your exhibit.

See you at Fall Festival or another Vermont Fair!

Deborah Ploof, Director

### **FALL FESTIVAL**

Save the Date! September 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> is Fall Festival! For those who are pre-registering the items they wish to submit the deadline is August 26<sup>th</sup>; pre-registering is not required however it is very helpful for smooth process. Just a suggestion if you do not know yet what you are bringing write it all down, it is far easier to remove an item from the registration form than adding them all in on that day.

Remember the Fall Festival pages of the Program Book have completely been rewritten. There are new divisions, juniors and youth have been broken down to be in line with those departments. I included suggestions for preparing fruits and vegetables for display and created a separate class within Category B – Vegetables, Class 2 Pumpkin/Gourd Art. The first 10 people to enter this competition will be given a free pumpkin or gourd to carve or paint. Within Category 3 – Flowers there is a new class, Class 4 – Wearable Flowers, let's see how creative you can be. Please see the Program Book for details.

The Arts and crafts section has been broken down by type with examples under each type. As some things in Classes 5 through 12 could fit under more than one I put it in the main class, (example: a doll decorated as Santa or Mrs. Clause would go under Dolls & Miniatures not Christmas Crafts). I separated Photography, Painting, Drawing and Ceramics/Pottery under its own category, J – Art Gallery.

As the Fair Booth Exhibit really has been a competition, I gave it its own

category, this is the only category that more than one person can work on together. This year's theme is "Vermont Grangers Working in our Communities."

For the baking contests, please submit items on a disposable dish, The Fall Festival Committee and the Grange Center Board will not be responsible for plates or pans.

There are two classes under the Category H – Culinary, one for everyone and one for Juniors and Youth. Please look at the Program book for details.

All entries will be accepted starting at 5:00pm on 9/8 and no later than 10:00am on 9/9. A complete entry form must accompany all items.

Please remember to indicate on the form if the item is or isn't to be donated to the auction. **An entry form is included in this addition of the Green Mountain Granger.**

The games and activities will start at 8:30 both in the Dining Hall and outside. The Games/Activities will be:

- Pumpkin/gourd carving/painting contest
- Cornhole contest
- Horseshoe tournament
- Selfie Picture Booth
- Pumpkin Ring Toss
- Cornhusk doll making
- Rolling pin throwing
- Frying pan throwing
- Checkers Contest
- Cribbage Contest
- Hola Hoop Contest

Other board games will be available in the dining hall for anyone to play. Come and enjoy the day. Food and overnight lodging are available, see the Reservation Form and Grange Center article for more information.  
Beth Morse, Fall Festival Director

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

By the time you read this the Family Activities contest will have been judged and hopefully handed back, along with ribbons, and prize checks. Congrats to the 5 Grangers who entered this year. I heard from several that they just didn't have time to complete many articles this year.

All Family Activity Chair's or Grange Secretaries should have received a

copy of the 23-24 FA program that is in the 2023-24 program book (make sure you read this section as there are new contest for 23-24): FA notes - a little something to help with your meeting reports, instructions for the wheelchair or walker totes, and the medical pillow. I hope you will have some time over the winter to make several of these articles and give them away to those that need them. Check out the cooking contest: it is a recipe using 1 to 2 cups Cabot Cheese (remember to save the wrapper or receipt that says it's Cabot. I am trying to get one of Cabot's cheese tasters to judge this contest for 2024. Winners of the maple syrup cooking contest held at Family Camp are:

- 1st Eunice Crowell-Taconic #491 Maple butter
- 2nd Nathaniel Perkins-Blue Mtn. #363 (sponsored) Maple Cookies with Maple Frosting
- 3rd Janice Rousselle-Blue Spruce #574 creamy maple syrup dressing

Congratulations to all 9 contestants that entered. Deborah Ploof will be putting the recipes into the GMG 4and on the web site.

Linda Sanderson, Director

### **RECIPE for MAPLE BUTTER – First Place – Eunice Crowell**

1 cup maple syrup  
¾ cup (1 ½ sticks) of butter

Cook maple syrup in a small heavy-bottomed saucepan over low heat, without stirring until it reaches soft-ball stage (234° F on a candy thermometer). Stir in butter. Pour mixture into a deep bowl and beat with an electric mixer until thick and creamy which takes about 4 minutes. Makes 1 ¾ cups.

### **NORTHEASTERN NEEDLEWORK CONTEST AT THE BIG E**

I have asked most of the FA contestants if they would mind if I didn't send their first-place articles down to the Big E, but instead take the milage money I would have had for the round trip and add it to the

State premiums. Most thought this was a good idea as first place at the Big E is \$15.

If you have anytime to volunteer in the Store at the New England Grange Building, please contact Noel Miller-building Manager to get on the schedule. Noel Miller, 150 Ripley Hill Rd., Coventry, CT 06238; 860-7420-8839;

[millernoel434@gmail.com](mailto:millernoel434@gmail.com)

The Big E starts on Friday Sept. 15th and runs thru Sunday Oct. 1st. The Avenue of States open at 10 a.m. and close at 9 p.m. during the fair.

I will be going down on Friday 29th and staying through to the end. Vermont Day is Saturday 9/23 and Grange Day is Sunday 9/24 if anyone wants to go down.

Store shifts run 9 am to 3 pm and 3 pm to 9 pm. Ask Noel the particulars about the work shifts and a hotel room, (if you live more than one hour away). In the past, if you have a hotel room you would work the afternoon shift, spend the night, and then work the (1st) morning shift the next day. You will receive gate & parking passes, but meals are on your own. Your Vermont NEGB Trustees are Kendal Holden, Eunice Crowell, and Linda Sanderson. Linda Sanderson, Trustee

### **JUNIOR AND YOUTH GRANGE CAMP**

Junior and Youth Grange Camp is back in full swing! We had 35 campers, with an age range of 5 to 15 years old. Based on the first four degrees, campers were split into four teams for the week. These teams were used for meal setup, cleanup, and activities. Some of our activities included team flag creation, journal decorating, sticker making, planting marigolds, tie dye, mud sculptures, making ice cream, leaf printing, leaf crowns, luminary bags, rock painting, pirate hook making, treasure chest decorating, scavenger hunt, treasure hunt, capture the flag, kickball, swimming, Grange Olympics, an obstacle course, and Twister with a Twist. We ended the week with a Hoedown Dance!

The flooding brought many unexpected challenges, but also a blessing in disguise! It allowed the campers to go Slip n Sliding into the mini lake that formed in front of the Winter Building. By far one of their favorite activities from the week! Despite being unable to leave the center for grocery shopping, we were able to shift around the menu and keep the campers happy and healthy. We created an emergency safety plan for lighting and thunder, and the kids executed it flawlessly every time. Towards the end of the week, we experienced a power outage, but thankfully it was during the night. The Grange Goddesses were certainly looking out for us! Among all the rain, we were still able to have visitors! Chipper Gibbs came to show his Revolutionary War collection. We also had Liz Kenton from the UVM 4-H department come to teach our group about the importance of farming, and how food gets to our plate. Mark Belisle was able to swing by as well, showing the campers his police car. Brenda Rousselle stopped in for a day to help in the kitchen.

I want to thank all of my volunteers who helped out this week: Alice Daley, Elijah Falker, Jessica Falker, Ellen Garneau, Ricky Kenyon, Andrew McMahan, Stephanie McMahan, Dan Mutchler, and Janice Rousselle. I would also like to thank Martha Bissell for her help with this transition. I am extremely grateful for your help; this week couldn't have happened without you! If anyone would like to volunteer next year, please let me know.

Submitted by Melody Falker

### **HEALTH CONCERNS**

I'm here at wet Jr. Camp. I hope you are all having a great summer. Did everyone get their reports in? At my Grange, we plan to have each chair bring info to every meeting and fill them out as we go. Much easier and faster.

Alice Daley, Health Concerns Chair

### **INFORMATION**

Today, I am hoping that all of you are safe and had no bad times with the

flooding. Vermont seems to like to attract nasty weather. I worry a lot about Gassetts Grange hall because of all the issues they had with Irene. The 2022-23 year has come to a close and all Granges that send me info for the calendar have been notified with the number they need to put into their reports. I have started a new tally sheet for the 2023-24 year. If you want to get extra points, be sure to send me information on your happenings. When you have your meetings, when you have breakfasts or dances or just musical nights. Everything works. Deadline is the 27th of the month. (Except February which is the 25th) You will discover when you get your new program books that there are more items available for getting points. AND... there is a special page in each department for Pomona reports. Time will tell if that is a yay or a nay. Guess that's all for now. Until we meet again. Lois Allen, Director

### **MEMBERSHIP/LEADERSHIP**

#### **Continuing the series with Step 4 of "Four Steps to Successful Recruitment of New Members".**

The information is taken from the National Grange Brochure, [Recruiting Members by being a Grange Ambassador](#). I talked about **Setting the Stage** in February, April was about **listening and learning** about the person and their interests and needs. June Issue was Step 3, which was **"Fill the Need"**. The final installment is **Step 4: Ask them to Join** No matter how well you do with the first three steps, the fourth step is critical. After you have shared how the Grange can fill their needs you must ask the person directly if they would like to join your Grange family. Ask directly so that they must say yes, no, or maybe. If they say yes, have an application for them to fill out there. Offer to deliver the application and their dues and fees to the secretary of the Grange. Follow up to ensure that the entire family has the opportunity to join. Let them know you're excited about

them joining our family. Follow up before the next meeting. If they are not sure or want to think about it, ask for their phone number or e-mail address. Offer to bring them some Grange brochures or newsletters so they can learn more and invite them to a public Grange function. Carry and give them a Grange business card. Thank them for their time and follow up later. If they decline and don't want to share their contact information with you, thank them for their interest and time. Give them a Grange business card or brochure or invite them to your next event. Remember that you have planted a seed that may result in a new active member in the future. Deborah Ploof, Co-Director

### **YOUTH DEPARTMENT**

The Northeast Regional Youth Conference went off with a hitch! Unfortunately, the severe weather prevented most of the states from attending; but we had six youth members, five older adults, and two judges that persevered to be present. Activities included tie-dyeing t-shirts, swimming, Grange Olympics, and awards, making blankets for the UVM Children's Hospital, a campfire and smores, and drill team practice. Winners of the Sign-A-Song Contest were: First Place: Mikayla Piers (RI), Second Place: Juliana Gerlach (RI), Third Place: Melody Falker (VT). Winners for the Prepared Public Speaking were: First Place: Mikayla Piers (RI), Second Place: Juliana Gerlach (RI). Winners for the Impromptu Public Speaking were: First Place: Mikayla Piers (RI), Second Place: Melody Falker (VT), and a tie for Third Place: Jasmine Richard (RI) and Desiree Richard (RI).

### **POMONA REPORTS**

#### **HEART OF VERMONT**

**POMONA** - By the time you read this, Heart of Vermont Pomona's '50's day will be in the history books. That will be (or was) on August 5th. The Lecturer has planned a big day. Come dressed like you did in the

'50's, eat food like you did in the '50's, good '50's music, etc. There will be a judging to see who is wearing the best costume. Also in August, we plan to set up the 2023-24 program year. Hopefully we will get this done during lunch. If we don't, we'll have to get the State Grange Zoom Guru to set up a date so we can do it online. Next meeting is scheduled for October 7th. Good question what will take place that day. I THINK it will be at Chelsea, but nothing has been confirmed yet. Later...Lois Allen reporting

### **COMMUNITY GRANGE REPORTS**

**BLUE SPRUCE GRANGE:** by the time you read this, we will have exemplified the Third Degree. It is fun to hear the degrees again. For many of us, it's been a while. We are now preparing for the Champlain Valley Exposition. We will be making and designing comfort pillows this year. Look for some new exhibits in the Grange/Ware building. Hope to see you at the Fair and at State Session. New location which should be fun. Alice Daley reporting

**LAKE VIEW GRANGE** is trying to get along with their various functions, but Mother Nature is not being kind. After the flooding earlier this week, we ended up with a few inches in our basement. Nothing new there. It has been happening from time to time, but not bad this time. That's why we took up the tile floor and put down a painted floor. Now all we have to do is suck up the water with a wet vac. The night of the flooding, we were scheduled to have a visiting officer's night. This meeting was cancelled because of the water everywhere. Maybe we can try again soon. It was going to be fun. This is something Granges used to do years ago, and we thought it would be grand to revive the tradition.

Lake View will once again be exhibiting a booth at Champlain Valley Expo. That also means hosting the booths for a day. Hope

you all get to come check them out in the Ware Building.

We will be setting up next year's program schedule soon. We'll see where that takes up. Not sure if this will be via zoom or at an officer's meeting.

We had a very good pound auction to benefit David's House. We raised \$500. We had lots of fun. We are planning another after thanksgiving to benefit the Saint Johnsbury Santa Fund. Put the reminder on your calendar. They are always fun events. And for a great cause. Lois Allen reporting

**TUNBRIDGE GRANGE** - Tony Welch, one of our members spent the hot day on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup> painting the exterior of our hall. This was the same day we held a tag sale. Peggy Willoughby, our secretary donated an abundance of things from her house. Peggy was generous to donate all proceeds from those sales to the Grange to be used toward future kitchen renovations. We have been discussing ideas for future fundraisers. Lester Gibbs will be doing his evaluation at our next meeting on August 9th. The first weekend of August we will be hosting Bingo at the South Royalton Old Home Days. Linda Lazaroff reporting

## **HISTORY**

### **Minutes from the first meeting of Capital City Grange #469**

March 19, 1914

The Capital City Grange #469 was organized on March 19, 1914 under the direction of State Deputy Flint and State Master Cody, with 56 charter members.

The following officers were elected:  
Master-C. O.

Ormsbee; Overseer-Clayton

Caustic; Lecturer-Mrs. Frank Cooley;

Chaplain-Mrs. Geo. Caustic;

Steward-James Holt; Assistant

Steward-Luman Cutler; Lady

Assistant Steward-Mrs. L. L. Cutler;

Treasurer-M. W. Dewey;

Secretary-Mrs. E. H. Lombardi;

Gatekeeper-E. E. Foster; Ceres-Mrs.

James Holt; Flora-Mrs. John Fiddock; Pomona-Mrs. W. d. Murray; Pianist-Mrs. Geo. Goss.

It was agreed that the meetings should be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month.

The W. R. C. Hall was used for our first meeting, and it was agreed to use this hall for the present.

Mrs. James Holt acted as Secretary pro tem. The officers were duly installed by State Master Cody and the O.B. N. given to all members.

**Fall Festival Meal & Lodging Registration Form September 8-10, 2023**

- Friday night – 6:00 pm Potluck (Bring something good to share with everyone)
  - Saturday
    - Breakfast – 7 am (\$7) – Pancakes, Blueberry/Plain), Sausage, Syrup, juice
    - Lunch - 12-1:30 pm (\$10) - Meatball Sub (Veggie also), Macaroni Salad, Chips, Brownies with ice cream
    - Dinner – 5:30 pm (\$15) Macaroni & Cheese (variety) , Pork, Green Beans, Apple Sauce, Coleslaw, Rolls & assorted Pies (from the Board Members)
  - Sunday – 7am \$7 Breakfast – Eggs, Toast, assorted meat, Juice
- Coffee, tea, iced tea, & lemonade all weekend Milk will also be available

<u>Meals</u>	<u>Lodging</u>
_____ # people Friday Potluck	_____ # nights for Camper Hook-Up (\$10/night)
_____ # people Sat Breakfast (\$7 each)	_____ # people in cabin Fri night (\$10 each)
_____ # people Sat Lunch (\$10 each)	_____ # people in cabin Sat night (\$10 each)
_____ # people Sat Supper (\$15 each)	_____ # people Package Fri-Sun (\$45 each)
_____ # people Sun Breakfast (\$7 each)	Total \$ _____

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address & Phone # of Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations due by September 1st to Ruth Hovey-Sicely. Make checks payable to: VT State Grange, Inc. In memo line put: Fall Festival. Call (802) 223-7961 with questions.