



## MASTER'S MESSAGE

As I begin this message, I join the National Grange in congratulating Marion Porter of Riverside Grange #455 for her 80 years of consecutive membership! She is an inspiration and example of unwavering dedication.

I have not visited as many Granges as I would have liked, but what I have seen, and what I have heard from my deputies indicates that there are too many instances of ritual not memorized, or ritual read poorly. I have been a strong proponent of memorization. I'd much rather the speaker look me in the eye than me staring at the top of his or her head, nose buried in the manual or a piece of paper. It takes a lot of work for me to memorize.

This past Fall I discovered my abilities to remember new material seems nonexistent, and I had to read those parts. I hope I read them with expression and made eye contact as much as possible.

Opening and closing, conferring degrees, ceremonies, all require becoming very familiar with the language of the Grange so that delivery is smooth and purposeful.

I am curious as to your take on the 2025 National Grange Session occurring on a cruise. Email your thoughts to

kendalholden188@yahoo.com or holdenkendal517@gmail.com.

There are many issues with the Grange Center. Please stay alert to future messages concerning the Grange Center.

Our Grange year will be coming to a close and I hope you have been keeping records of your activities, ready to report using the forms in the program book.

Last GMG I seemed to have a lot to say. This time I'm emulating Calvin Coolidge. I hope you're having a great Grange year!!

Kendal Holden, VSG Master

## STATE SESSION and SIXTH DEGREE

State Session is scheduled for October 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> at Capital City Grange Hall in Berlin, VT. It will be an election year for the majority of the state offices. Elections will be on Saturday. Please be sure your Grange sends 2 delegates to this important event where your delegates can vote on VSG budget, officers, and resolutions. Resolutions are due to the State Secretary by August 1<sup>st</sup>. **There will be NO SILENT AUCTION this year.**

## BIDS NEEDED for SIXTH DEGREE and AWARDS BANQUET

**The VSG Executive Committee in an effort to reduce expenses and reduce time spent at the annual state session has voted to have the degree and banquet in a Grange building in Vermont. The following are the requirements for submitting a bid:**

1. A Grange Hall that can accommodate (large enough) the Sixth Degree.
2. The Hall needs to have a stage with stairs up to the stage in the front. They need to be safe. The stage needs to have a curtain and a way to open/close it.
3. **It must be possible to darken the Hall, i.e. dark curtains over all windows.**

4. We have to know if there is a tuned piano. If not is there power for musician's keyboard.
5. The Hall needs to be available several hours before the start time, either same day or the day before, to give Flora time to set up her stage.
6. I believe we want a dinner--or depending on the timing--a lunch that is served. The hosting Grange will keep the money for the meal. Reservation will be encouraged,
7. The preferred date is in September or early October.
8. Bids should include:
  - a. Date and time
  - b. Menu and Price
  - c. Piano and/or power
9. Bids being accepted until August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, for plans to be made and members notified. Send bids to State Master.

**2024-2025 Program Book** will be in the hands of every Grange Master by July 1. There are many new programs and contests, and, in most cases, Pomona Grange has different requirements for points than the Community Granges **emphasizing the leadership/communication role Pomona Chairs are charged with.** It will be put on the Vermont State website AFTER Family Camp. See [www.vtstategrange.org/](http://www.vtstategrange.org/) under heading **DOWNLOADS**. Current program book is there now for your reports due in July 2024.

## CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

'To have faith in God, to nurture hope, and to dispense charity' is to be a good Patron of Husbandry. Wow! Sounds easy, huh? Oh, and don't forget "to be noted for Fidelity". We ask that of our membership, our fellow brothers and sisters. It is an uneasy time in our world, but when we look to God's creation and the many blessings, he bestows on us--our family, our friends, our homes and community, we know we have a lot to be thankful for.

I saw a Hallmark movie a while back called "The Blessings Bracelet" with four beads on it. Each time this single mother, waitress, and her longtime high school friends were down, they would look at the bracelet and then quickly come up with four things to be thankful for. It soon became a blessing that spread to many others and a way for a whole community to put a smile on their faces, even in hard times. I guess you would say, it helped them to prioritize what was really important in their lives.

The Bible has lessons we can learn from. The Good Samaritan is one. I always say, when I think things are rough, you can always find someone else who could use a helping hand, a prayer, a hug. Love your neighbor! Homelessness is or should be a big concern for all of us. Find a way to be helpful. Have understanding. Unless we have walked in their shoes, how do we know what led them to this place in their lives? And "do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Matthew 7:12."

**Finally, I ask my fellow Chaplains to talk up and encourage your Grange members to come to the NE Grange Connection Worship Service at our own VT Grange Center in Brookfield on Saturday, July 27th at noon. Remember that you need to register and also the program is in the middle of the day, but you are encouraged to come early and even spend Friday and Saturday nights in cabins or your own camper! The picnic is at noon and our Worship Service and Memorial Service at the "Chapel in the Trees" begins at 1:30pm. Check last GMG for registration form or our website. Please come share the day!**

Jennifer Nelson, VSG Chaplain

## LECTURER

I am getting ready for the first Lecturer's Conference to be held since Covid. It will be held in Norwich, CT from June 21-23. If you plan to attend, wear green for opening on Friday night. Program books are due by noon at Family Camp. Have you been doing some

crafts and reading some books? I know several have already turned in their book reports. How about you?  
Alice Daley, VSG Lecturer

## EXECUTIVE MEETINGS UPDATES

The Executive Committee met via ZOOM on May 15, 2024. At that meeting an update was given on the fire insurance situation for the Grange Center. An update was given on the well system. It was moved and passed in the affirmative that the renters for the Grange Center be notified about the kitchen situation.

Updates were provided for several Granges: Maple Valley 318, Taconic and Battenkill, Milton, Cobble Hill, Lake View, Gassetts, Tunbridge, Bridport, Caledonia and Moss Glen. It was noted that work is continuing on the new Program Book.

An update was provided by the Committee Chair for Resolution 15, Grange Center Study Committee.

Deborah Ploof noted that her committee has been formed.

Members are: Debbie Ploof, Chair, Errol Briggs, Kathleen Paglia, Beth Morse, Ruth Hovey-Sicely and Tim Swartz.

A discussion was held on the possibility of the Vermont State Grange securing a credit card to be used for expenses. Planning has started for the Sixth Degree, which needs to be held prior to State Session.

At this meeting, Sister Linda Sanderson submitted her resignation as Overseer for the Vermont  
Submitted by: Brenda Rousselle, Secretary

## EDUCATIONAL AID

The Educational Aid Trustees will be meeting on June 30, to score the 70+ scholarships which we just received in late May. We will also have a short meeting to fulfill our requirement of two meetings per year. Remember we have loans, scholarships and grants available for those that are continuing their studies.

Lois Wakefield, Chair

## FALL FESTIVAL

As we plant our gardens it is time to think about what we want to enter into this year's competition at Fall Festival. To see how to display your produce to its best advantage go to [www.vtstategrange.org/fall-festival](http://www.vtstategrange.org/fall-festival). Now let's pray we only get the rain we need

to help our gardens grow this year. I have made some changes to the Fall Festival pages of the Program Book; added veggies that were accidentally left out last year. Thank you to those who pointed them out to me. Also, I have added some items to the arts and crafts section and clarified (I hope) how many items can be submitted. It seems there was some confusion last year. Example: there are 12 Classes within the Category I – Arts & Crafts, 4 of those classes has 4 sub-classes each. So ultimately one person can submit up to 24 items, one per class or sub-class. Let's say that Jane does all 24. She could submit a knitted skirt, knitted Baby blanket, knitted mittens, knitted pillow, crocheted skirt, crocheted baby blanket, crocheted mittens, crocheted pillow, sewn skirt, sewn baby blanket, Sewn mittens, sewn hat, sewn pillow, quilted vest, quilted baby blanket, quilted slippers, and a quilted wall hanging all for the first four classes. Then one each for the next 8 classes. The reason I have done it this way is because over the years I noticed that some people have submitted multiples of one type of item. Example could be three pairs of mittens all different sizes. Now let's imagine this person has a greater skill than the others who also submitted mittens. This person could potentially win all three ribbons. I have heard people say something like – "Oh, she has made several pieces of jewelry to enter. Don't bother entering anything in that class, she will get all the prizes. So, to make things as fair as possible I have limited what can be submitted. You can pre-register your items by August 26th, send a copy of your entry form to Beth Morse 92 Happy Valley Rd Middlebury, VT 05753 or

morbe8@live.com. This is to ensure a smoother process.

All entries will be accepted starting at 5pm on Friday of the Festival and no later than 10:00 am on Saturday. If you have not pre-registered your items that is ok, we will still except them. Exhibitors of all ages are welcome and do not need to be Grangers. All entries must be created, grown, or prepared by the person entering within the 12 months prior to the 2024 Festival. A complete entry form

**must** accompany all items to be displayed. Items will not be accepted without an entry form. Indicate on the form if the item is or isn't to be donated to the auction.

The Divisions have been updated again this year to be in line with the National Grange for Juniors and Youth/Young Adults:

- Juniors I (ages 5 – 7) Be sure to mark Junior entries as these will be judged separately.
- Juniors II (ages 8 – 10) Be sure to mark Junior entries as these will be judged separately.
- Juniors III (ages 11 – 14) Be sure to mark Junior entries as these will be judged separately.
- Youth (14 – 21) Be sure to mark Youth entries as these will be judged separately.
- Young Adult (22 – 30)
- Grangers/Adult (31 – 59)
- Senior (age 60 & up)
- Family – For this division all members of the family must live in the same household. One entry form listing all items and then one entry form for each member of the family should be submitted. If there are any juniors or youth within the Family, please be sure to mark that on their entry forms.

To go along with the update to the divisions I have also updated the prize money to go with it:

- \$25.00 and Master's Cup – (Grange Member only) Member's name will be inscribed on Master's Cup/Plaque.
- \$25.00 to Family - Family must live in the same household and enter under the same exhibitor number,

- \$25.00 to Junior (one prize for each Junior Division). Group entries will be disqualified.
- \$25.00 to Youth/Young Adult (one prize for each Youth/Young Adult Division).

• \$25.00 to Senior (age 60 & up)  
Planning for the day's activities are under way and will be shared in the next GMG. Hope to see you all at Fall Festival.

Beth Morse, VSG Director

### **FAMILY CAMP JULY 12-14**

Come and have a fun time at Family Camp at the VT State Grange Center at 308 West Street in Brookfield, VT on July 12-14. Fun and fellowship. Activities inside and outside – Frying Pan Toss, Rolling Pin Toss. You do NOT have to be a Granger to attend. By Noon on Saturday all Lecturer's Contest entries and Family Activities Needlework Entries as well as entries in Cooking/Baking Contest using Cabot Cheese are due. National Community Service Books and State Notebooks are also due. Details in 2023-2024 Program Book on these contests. Your Master/President has a copy of program book, and it is also on Vermont Grange website. Reservation forms for Family Camp were in April GMG and also at our website at [www.vtstategrange.org/](http://www.vtstategrange.org/).

### **GRANGE CENTER**

Time is flying by, and that's not a good thing! We need to have a Kitchen Hood manufactured and installed to comply with the insurance company's requirements. NEVTEC is a company based in Newport and they have submitted a bid and are creating a new kitchen hood. This hood will contain a fire suppression system. I will be going to Barre to pay a visit to the Vermont Fire Extinguisher Company with the specs and discussing the system with them. A contractor will need to be hired to construct a frame to hold the hood and an electrician needs to be hired to wire everything together. If everything goes to plan, then the hood can be installed on August 6th. It takes 14 weeks to construct the

hood. The kitchen is not useable at all until the completion of the Hood. In the meantime, the plumber has been in to repair a leak in a different part of the dishwasher. Mark has been working on the floors in the kitchen and lady's bathroom. Mark and Dan have been working on tearing down the chimney. The inside has been dismantled and most of the outside has also been torn down. We believe there are enough sheets of tin to fill in the hole that will be created once all the brick and cinder blocks have been removed. The exhaust fan should be able to be installed. There seems to be enough lumber in the barn to complete the project.

A new shut off valve was installed in the pit before the water was turned on this spring. There were no broken water pipes this spring! Hallelujah! However, there was a valve near the campers that wasn't shut off, so the ground got a little soggy before it was noticed and shut off.

The Down Well Camera Inspection has been done and there were no obvious reasons for why we had bad water tests last year. At their direction, a gallon of bleach was put down the well to shock it. Mark turned the water on Saturday night the 1st and took the test Monday, June 3rd, however I got an email they rejected the sample because of chlorine. So, after we do the Rest Area on the 7th, Eunice will have to run the water some more and another test will have to be taken some time next week.

For the Food Breaks at the Sharon Rest Area, we decided to handle it differently since we aren't able to use the kitchen at the Grange Center at all. Each Pomona is now responsible for certain days. The cooking will be done ahead of time and then brought down to the Rest Area. This will take some coordination and planning ahead of time.

We look forward to seeing you for **Family Camp July 12-14 and the 1st Annual Northeast Regional Grange Service July 26-28. Chicken Pie Supper will be held on August 24th.** Any questions, or

to make reservations, contact: Ruth Hovey-Sicely, 270 Eagle Ledge Road, Worcester, VT 05682 or 802-223-7961.

Ruth Hovey-Sicely, Chair

## **AG/ENVIRONMENT**

"Spring has sprung, the grass has riz, I wonder where the flowers is." Where did I hear that, but isn't it true? Vermont is green at its finest! Now along comes the rush to get our gardens tilled and planted! Whether you start plants from seeds, which is certainly cost effective, or you shop for plants and try new varieties, it is always important to have the soil ready, weeded, and try to hold back from overdoing it! I always say we have got to make the garden smaller, or give veggies away, so nothing is wasted. That's a hard thing to do, however. We are all so anxious and determined to stay on top of things, but come late August and early fall, we wonder- why did we plant so much?? Nothing beats working in the garden. Get your hands dirty and stand back and admire a freshly weeded garden. Ah-h! And the first lettuce, the first tomato... you wonder how they can taste so much better than the store-bought shiny veggies sprinkled with water to look so appetizing in mid-winter. Now you know- it was your hard work's reward, right?

Your energy, not that of trucks bringing food from across the nation. And if you haven't the room for a garden or the physical ability to work- bend, pull, shovel, etc., please remember the local farmers who do that work so we can eat fresh and healthy food. Go to your local Farmers' Market. They need your support as well and many are open weekly, even through the winter months.

Happy gardening. Happy eating!  
Jennifer Nelson, VSG Director

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

I have received word from National Grange confirming the Broadband initiative we were promoting for people to receive reduced rates on the internet has run out of money to

fund the program. If you have any brochures, signs, etc. please recycle them.

## **I am hoping you are still collecting socks to bring to State Session in October which will be distributed to homeless shelters in Vermont.**

I am looking forward to collecting your reports at Family Camp and learning what your Grange did for your community over the past year. Remember I need to have a separate book for National and the program book has the forms and the judging criteria which will both help you to prepare your notebooks. See you all at Family Camp!  
Deborah Ploof, VSG Director

## **HEALTH and WELLNESS**

Summer has already begun here in Essex. A quick reminder to stay hydrated and stay out of the sun. Wear sunscreen of at least 50 spf. Re-apply often if you are in the sun, water, or sweating. Don't forget ear lobes!  
Are your program books done? Remember that they are due by noon on Saturday of Family Camp. Call me if you have any questions. It isn't the master or lecturer's job to do the reports, but every committee chair. Use time at your next Grange meeting to complete the reports.  
Alice Daley, VSG Director

## **INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

Hi to All, hoping you are planning several events for your Grange as summer approaches. It has come to my attention as I keep my 'tally' of Granges submitting items to the monthly calendar, that the submissions are dwindling quite a bit. Why is this? Lack of interest? Lack of active Granges? Other? Please contact me with your reasoning. Email: DevilsSister1308@gmail.com or Lois Allen 69 Lily Lane Unti 229 West Lebanon, NH 03784. I'd like to know if it is something I am doing that could be rectified. I look forward to hearing from you.

By the time you read this article, I will have contacted all the Granges that have submitted articles with

their number. The number that you put in your annual report scrapbook on the Information page. Tahtah for now.

Lois Allen, VSG Director

## **JUNIOR AND YOUTH GRANGE CAMP**

Camp is almost here! I want to thank all State Officers who have volunteered to help with the "Interview Extravaganza", where campers will learn what each officer in the Grange is responsible for, and how they positively affect the community. I am looking for volunteers to help with Opening and Closing the Grange. Opening will be Sunday, July 14th in the evening, and Closing will be Friday, July 19th in the morning/afternoon (TBD by the availability of volunteers). Please get in touch with me at [mfalker03@gmail.com](mailto:mfalker03@gmail.com) if you can help. If you have any special talents, hobbies, or jobs that you would like to demonstrate at camp, we would love to have you as a visitor! Contact me with your availability and what you would like to present (the more interactive, the better!). Like last year, if any Subordinate/Pomona Granges would like to donate fruits or vegetables, you may bring them to the Grange Center during Family Camp.  
Melody Falker, Camp Director

## **MEMBERSHIP/LEADERSHIP**

Time to sum up your activities for the Grange year and let the state directors know what you have been doing over the last year. Looking forward to a Membership gain this year. Can we do it???

Riverside has taken in many new members. I sent 20 new member kits to them in May. Do any other Granges need kits? Contact me at [Deborah.ploof@outlook.com](mailto:Deborah.ploof@outlook.com) or by calling or texting 802-989-3237. See you at Family Camp!  
Deborah Ploof, VSG Director

## **YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS VERMONT STATE GRANGE YOUTH CONFERENCE**

Vermont Grange Center, 308 West St, Brookfield, VT, 05036  
Sunday, September 8th, 2024, 1pm - 7pm

There is no cost to attend and all are welcome, but please RSVP to the State Youth Director Jessica Falker at JJEM1999@yahoo.com or call/text 802-417-7020 so we know how much food to prepare for the dinner.

- **1 pm** – Welcome games and activities
- **2 pm** - Grange Baseball. This is a trivia competition, but actual baseball.

Questions will be gathered from: The National Grange roster, youth and Junior programs, past trivia challenges, manual, degrees, Grange history books, Digest of Laws, Journal of Proceedings, etc. Anyone can play at the State Conference, but only one winner age 14-25 will be eligible to advance to the National Grange level.

- **3 pm** - Sign-A-Song Competition  
Categories: Individual (1 person) or Group (2 or more people signing together)

Signers will be judged on: 1. Communications Skills- Utilization of communications skills, sign language ability, sign clarity. 2. Expression- Body expression/display of emotion/thoughts, mouthing words for lip reading. 3. Overall Presentation- Dressed appropriately, Confidence, Timing/Uniformity. Anyone who is a professional instructor or receives money for signing is encouraged to participate at the state level for demonstration but will not be eligible to advance to the national competition. Music is optional at the state level but will need to be provided for the national competition.

Any age may participate. One winner will be eligible to compete at the National Grange level.

- **4 pm** - Public Speaking Competition

Topic: Open category- a prepared speech on any topic of the contestant's choosing.

Time: Speeches must meet the minimum requirement of 3 minutes & a maximum of 5 minutes.

Question: The contestant will be asked an impromptu question at the conclusion of their speech, related to the speech topic. The contestant will have one minute to answer.

Contestants will be judged on 1. Text- Content, Composition, Topic. 2. Delivery- Voice, Command of Audience, Stage Presence, Expression & Gestures, Time Limit.

3. Impromptu Answer Response  
Any age may participate. One winner will be eligible to compete at the National Grange level.

- **5 pm** – Pre-dinner games and activities.
- **6 pm** – Awards Dinner  
Jessica Falker, VSG Youth Director

## RUTLAND FAIR

There will be a 25% increase in Grange Exhibit premiums this year at Vermont State Fair, coming up Aug 13-17 in Rutland! Any Vermont Grange member may individually enter any hand-made or home-grown items, and any Vermont Grange or State Grange Department may enter a booth. The booth theme this year is "The Grange: Farm to Table". Set up and exhibit entries are Aug 12 from 1-6pm. For more info contact Jessica at 802-417-7020 or on the fair's website at: <https://www.vermontstatefair.org/assets/documents/premiums/2024grange.pdf>

## GRANGE HAPPENINGS

**NEW HORIZON POMONA** would like to thank everyone that came to help with the Fifth Degree Sunday. I really appreciate all the help to make it a successful day  
Martha Kirchner, Master

## BLUE SPRUCE GRANGE

The Essex Community Historical Society will highlight organizations who helped shape the Essex community at their Harriet Farnsworth Power Historical Museum (Corner of 128 and Route 15, Essex Center) during the summer of 2024. These organizations are the Blue Spruce and Essex Center Grange, the Essex Junction Lions Club, the

Essex Business and Professional Association, and the Essex Rotary. The exhibit will include a history of the organization's contributions to Essex and artifacts from that history. This exhibit is co-sponsored by Blue Spruce Grange and the Essex Junction Lions Club. Watch the Historical Society's web page ([essexcommunityhistoricalsociety.org](http://essexcommunityhistoricalsociety.org)) and face book pages for dates, representatives of these organizations will be at the museum to talk with visitors about their organization. The museum is open Sundays from 1-4 p.m. from June 2 to October 13 and on the 2nd Saturdays from June through October from 1-4 p.m. Ann Gray, Reporting

**BLUE SPRUCE GRANGE** will be exemplifying the Second Degree on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. If you haven't seen it, come join us.

We held a lawn sale to earn money to buy supplies for our many Community Service projects. It was a huge success. Alice Daley, Master

**BROAD BROOK GRANGE #151** in July in Guilford is hosting an old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration in Guilford Center honoring our nation's independence and commemorating the **Subordinate Grange's 150th anniversary year.**

Community residents will gather at the Meeting House that Thursday at 11 a.m. for a reading of the Declaration of Independence by Guilford youth, a welcoming speech by Grange Master Bobbie Fitch Haumann, and a poem reading by local poet Verandah Porche. Meantime, kids can enjoy indoor games and coloring at the library next door.

This will be followed by a lively procession down to the Broad Brook Community Center (BBCC), where the festivities continue with a BBQ hosted by the Guilford Country Store starting at 11:30 a.m. Also available will be lemonade and watermelon provided by other community organizations and popsicles courtesy of the Guilford Free Library.

Inside the community center from noon to 2 p.m. the Grange will host Bingo and the BBCC Board will serve strawberry shortcake in the dining room, perfect for older folks seeking respite from the summer heat. Those seeking outdoor fun can head over to the Playscape area for yard games organized by the Guilford Recreation Commission. Throughout the day, there's something for everyone: cool off in the sprinkler on the clover lawn, capture precious moments with photo sessions by LifeSketch Photography, listen to live music on the BBCC porch, explore the Group Art Show on display upstairs, or delve into Guilford's rich history at the Guilford Historical Society, and check out a slideshow showcasing the Grange's legacy through old photos. This will be a day of community, camaraderie, and celebration for this 4th of July!

Bobbie Fitch Haumann  
Broad Brook Grange President  
(Master)

## **CAPITAL CITY**

**GRANGE**—Summertime activities rather than regular meetings dominate our summer calendar:

**July:** We are sponsoring a dance event at the Grange Center Junior Camp, on the evening of Thursday, July 18th. We've recruited a dance caller Erin Smith, and the North Branch Trio to provide live music. Please join the campers, from 7:00 to 8:30!

**August:** We are looking forward to our annual Barbecue/Potluck Dinner on August 3rd, hoping for a repeat of the good weather we've had in the past. We also hope that we can get a turnout like last year, of about 100 people, eating outside with Grange cooks on the grills providing hamburgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers—and lots of potluck side dishes/salads/desserts. Music will be provided by the Montpelier Senior Jazz Ensemble, who rehearse every week in our Hall. Please join us, come before the official 6:00 PM starting time to socialize!

August will also begin the annual Challenge Fund Raiser, sponsored by the Montpelier Contra Dance. Generous donors have typically pledged at least \$100 each, with a total "Challenge" amount of \$2,500 pledged last year. The dance community and other Grange supporters are challenged to match that during the month of August, culminating in a festive dance with "potluck desserts" on Saturday, August 31 (Labor Day Weekend), where we hope to reach the match. The contra dance series, whose home has been the Grange Hall since 1983 has been a major supporter of the Hall. The fundraiser provides money to match grants which fund major improvements to the Grange Hall, like the wheelchair lift, basement insulation and renovation, new bathrooms and other big projects. We are also actively planning to host the VT State Grange Annual Session on Oct. 25 & 26 at our Grange Hall.

Tim Swartz, President

**MARBLE VALLEY GRANGE** has taken in 2 new members since the last GMG! We also set up booths and participated in Bark for Life and Relay for Life, events that raise money for the American Cancer Society. We were excited to win an award for our team t-shirts which were designed by one of our youth members. This month we will be working on our reports. Jessica Falker, reporting

## **MIDDLE BRANCH GRANGE -**

Since the fire, Middle Branch Grange has been meeting monthly at the American Legion in Randolph. We held a very successful Easter Bake Sale in the Grange parking lot on March 30. The White Church in Bethel graciously allowed us to use their kitchen and dining room on April 27 so we were able to host our annual Dues Paid Supper. Just last week, on May 26, we did a chicken BBQ, also in the parking lot. We sold 180 meals in about 40 minutes and received several donations. We received the report from the architect

and engineer regarding the feasibility of saving the hall and Master Jillian Dean is working with the Building Committee toward our next steps. The Jr. Grangers continue to meet and participated in Green Up on May 4. We are currently working on the Strawberry Supper which will be June 29. We're planning to do strictly take-out meals. We continue to look for grants that might be available to use and other ways to fundraise. Our next meeting is June 23 and we will be presenting the Community Service Award and our Membership Awards. Donations can be sent to PO Box 296, Bethel, VT 05032 and you can follow our progress on Facebook.

Judy Powell, Lecturer reporting

***Go to Vermont State Grange website for additional information, reservation forms, and copies of program book and past Green Mountain Grangers.***

**[www.vtstategrange.org/](http://www.vtstategrange.org/)**