



Grange Beacon

Volume 68

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December 2023



Master's Message

Walter Hartley
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Greetings from the 157th Annual Session of the National Grange Session in Niagara Falls, NY. My apologies for no Master's Message. We'll see you all at the State Wide Information Day at Roger Williams/Rumford at 2 PM.

From the Overseer

Eileen Hebert

I decided to let Walter off the hook and pinch hit for him as he travels to Niagara Falls, New York for the 157th Annual National Grange session. (And I needed to fill this space) This has certainly been a busy year for Walter. Besides serving his first year as State Master, he spends his spare time in leadership roles in his union at work and the Knights of Columbus. He uses the rest of his spare time to escort Miss Annette Hartley all over the country as she performs her duties as National Grange Junior Ambassador.

The Corn Dog booth had another incredible amount of sales this year. This is the major source of funding for the state grange. It pays our bills, funds the department programs that everyone enjoys participating in, and helps to cut the costs of members attending state session. Walter, Danielle and Nettie Hartley are a big part of this success and the State Grange sends them a huge "Thank You" for all their work.

This year, we finally returned to the Radisson Hotel for our state session, after meeting at granges during the Covid years. There were also concerns about conditions at the hotel during that time, but the problems have been resolved, and we had a wonderful session.

We are embarking on a new grange year, with new ideas and new programs. The focus is again on increasing membership. Many granges are struggling not only with membership, but also with attendance at meetings. I would like to encourage members who have not attended their grange meeting in many months/years to go to a meeting, and bring a friend!

By the time you are reading this, we will have another National officer from our little state of Rhode Island. Our Worthy State Master Walter Hartley was elected Assistant Steward for the National Grange at its recent annual session. Congratulations to Walter!



990-N time is just around the corner...

Reminder to all granges:

Filings of 990-N or 990's are due by January 15th.

There are consequences with the IRS if these are not filed.

You can use the 990-N if your gross receipts are less than \$50,000.

If you need help with the 990-N, call or text me.

If you need help with the regular 990, call an accountant.

RISG Treasurer - Dennis Robidoux 401-651-6241

Email dwrobidoux44@gmail.com

Don't mess with the IRS!

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Juniors Judi White

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juniors.rigrange.org

I can't believe another Grange year as come and gone. While the leaves may be falling off the trees and the weather turning colder; this is my favorite time of the year as we celebrate the Juniors' accomplishment in the Junior Program over the last year.

The RI State Grange Junior Awards Banquet was held on October 1st, it was again held at The Lodge at Camp Westwood. We had a gorgeous warm October day. Thank you to all who came out and supported the Juniors. Awards were handed out for the contests held by the Junior Department during 2023 as well as all the crafts the Juniors worked very hard on. Awards were also handed out by all the other RI State Grange Department Directors who hosted contests for the Juniors. The Providence Grange Awards was given to Moosup Valley Junior Grange #27. The 2023 Master of the Year was awarded to Brooke Houle of Moosup Valley Junior Grange #27. The 2024 RI State Grange Junior Ambassador was awarded to Juliana Gerlach of Moosup Valley Junior Grange #27. Cohen Piers of Moosup Valley Junior Grange #27 was crowned to RI State Grange Mini Prince.

On Saturday of the RI State Grange Session the Junior Grange Graduation Ceremony was held for the 3 graduating Juniors: Annette Hartley, Brooke Houle, and Madison Sherman.

As of the writing of this article we are impatiently waiting for The National Grange Convention to happen so we can find out the results of the many entries that our Juniors have submitted to National Junior Program contests.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Juniors of Rhode Island. A Huge thank you to the Junior Leaders and the parents for encouraging the Juniors to participate in events and contests. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Junior events throughout 2024.

Don't forget to keep checking the Junior Department website for all the updated information relating to the department.

Junior Grange and the Junior Program are wonderful opportunities for children ages 5-14 to grow and become future leaders, advocates, or whatever else they dream to be. If you know any children 5-14, don't hesitate to get them involved. You can reach out to any Junior Grange Leader or myself for more information.

I'd like to wish everyone a happy, healthy, holiday season and a wonderful New Year!



Chaplain Stephen Logan

statechaplain@rigrange.org

My last three messages were Faith, Hope and Charity, and now this month I would like to talk about Fidelity. One definition of fidelity Is that it is, faithfulness to a person, cause, or belief, which is demonstrated by continuing loyalty and support. And another, the Greek word translated "faithfulness," "fidelity," or "good faith" has the basic meaning of trustworthiness—the characteristic of someone who is reliable. Part of our calling, then, is to be trustworthy—literally, worthy of God's trust.

Fidelity is somewhat complicated. It has elements of trust, loyalty, love and even faith. In the Bible, there are some instances where the Greek word for faith and fidelity is the same. So, what does this tell us? It means faith and fidelity are related, if not the same. One should not have faith only, but it can also be measured through daily experiences. For instance, one can say they have faith in God, but this claim does not show in their daily activities and decisions, they may have faith, but the fidelity is missing. Fidelity is what makes our claim credible. Words and beliefs are difficult to understand for an outsider, but if we see the outward experience and result of that faith, we may even become interested to know more.

So now you have it, a phase that should be very familiar to you: A good Patron has Faith in God, Nurtures Hope, Dispenses Charity and is noted for Fidelity.

As we are approaching the Holiday Season, I would like to Wish You All a Merry, Joyous, and Safe Holliday Season!

Upcoming events - Juniors

March 2nd @ 2pm Lip Sync Contest
Location: Roger Williams – Rumford Grange
Registration from 1:30pm-1:45pm *No Late Registrations*

April 6th @ 2pm Public Speaking & Sign Language Contests
Location: Chepachet Grange
Registration from 1:30pm-1:45pm *No Late Registrations*



State Secretary Roxanne Nelson

Roxie1313@hotmail.com

I hope that everyone is doing well and back in the swing of Grange meetings now that we are well into the fall/winter season.

Unfortunately, we were also saddened by the loss of:

Leo Guertin of Kickemuit Grange #24
Earl Mann of Moosup Valley Grange #26
Helen Dunbar of Moosup Valley Grange #26

Well done good and faithful servants, you will all be missed.

I am happy to announce that we have taken in new members as of last quarter, and they are:

John Szymanski – Perryville #14
Charlotte Hartley (reinstated) – Moosup Valley #26
Kathleen Golden-Bernier – Portsmouth #29

It was great to see so many people at State Session this year.

I mentioned in my report that I am hoping to have an increase in membership awards in the coming year. I am encouraging every Grange to review their records and honor their members with longevity awards. If you are unsure how to go about this process, I am happy to set up time to work with the Granges. National Grange has created awards to members who have belonged for 1, 5, 10, 15, and 20 years to go along with the remaining 25, 40, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75 and special recognition awards that are currently available.

I look forward to working with everyone again this year, and I wish you all a happy holiday season.



Photo by Howard Paster

Four Grange members received Life Membership Cards for 50 years of Grange service. Left to right Kathy Stedman, Roger Stedman, Julie Brodeur and Patty Cottrell.



Youth Walter Hartley **thehartleys@cox.net**

**Eileen Hebert
ehebert94@aol.com**

The Youth Department finished its year at the State Grange Banquet, co-sponsored by the Lecturer and the Youth Department. We presented 2 awards:

Youth Night Report – John A. Lawson III, RW-Rumford Grange

Digital Scavenger Hunt – Celeste Spencer, Exeter Grange

For the coming year, there have been several changes. We will be working with the Junior Department to develop “Grange Baseball”, which is a contest sponsored by the National Grange. No, it doesn’t require and base running, but just a knowledge of Grange facts and trivia. For each correct answer, you are awarded up to four bases.

Another new contest is the Digital Scavenger Hunt. This will run for 16 weeks, and is open to all members, including juniors, although their parents may have to drive them to find some of the objects. It is highly recommended that you have a digital camera or smart phone. There will be a new item each week, announced via emails to all who have signed up. There was only one entrant last year, but the contest was announced mid-year so it may not have gotten the necessary promotion.

Another new contest is the “Create Your Own Contest,” details to follow.

We will again try to hold the Youth Activity Day, on April 21, 2024 at the Washington County Fairgrounds. Activities will include a Walk-a-thon, Bean Bag Baseball tournament, and chocolate chip cookie contest. Hopefully, Mother Nature will not conspire against us, and the weather will be nice!

Our first activity of the year will be bowling at Old Mountain Lanes in Wakefield on Friday night, March 29, 2024. I apologize that this is Good Friday, but no other Friday was open in March or April. We had a good turnout last year, and hope to have even more this coming year.

Please support youth nights in the state. Each year we have fewer granges having a youth night program. Remember, even if you don’t have youth in your grange, you can invite an outside youth group such as 4H or FFA to provide a program.



Information Howard Paster

paster_howard@verizon.net

I will start with this issue by recognizing all the winners from this past year for the Information Department.

The Juniors had a Creative Bookmark Contest, bookmarks made out of card stock. The Junior Grange Leaders were supplied with card stock for their Junior Grangers to participate. There were three entries, one from each age group. The awards to the Juniors for the Bookmark Contest were all 1st Place winners. The awards were presented prior to State Grange Session on Junior Grange Awards Day on Sunday October 1st at Camp Westwood in Coventry.

Age group

Pre-Junior Mason Houle

8-11 Hailey Fish

12-14 Brook Houle

Juniors Essay Contest, "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle"

They are all 1st Place winners.

Age group

Under 5 Kendall Gotaucio

8-11 Scarlet Gotaucio

12-14 Juliana Gerlach

I worked with Judi White, State Grange Junior Director as the essay theme was also the theme for the National Grange Junior Department. Judi sent the essays to National Grange as well as sending them to me.

Subordinate Grange Entries-Newspaper Photo

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place-

Mary Petrarca, Portsmouth & Perryville Granges
3rd Place-Ann Parks-Kickemuit Grange

Newspaper Photo-State Grange Entry

1st Place-Kathy Stedman

Single Article-State Grange Entry

1st Place-Kathy Stedman

Newspaper Photo-Pomona Entry

1st Place-Desiree Richard-Washington County Pomona

National and State Grange Recognition Certificates for Publicity Chairpersons. I thanked Philip Vonada, National Grange Communications Director for the printing of National Grange Certificates and Judi White for the wonderful job of the printing of State Grange Certificates. The following are the recipients of the certificates.

Julie Brodeur-Richmond Grange #6

Kristen Flynn-Perryville Grange #14

Barbara Rush-Moosup Valley Grange #26

Shirley Lawson-Roger Williams-Rumford Grange #52
Jennifer Lawson-Roger Williams-Rumford Grange #52

These awards were presented during the State Grange Banquet during the State Grange Session. I would like to thank all Grange members for all entries for the Information Department. I appreciate it very much.

At the time of working on this issue, there was a work in progress with photos. I was given a laptop computer to go along with the State Grange camera to develop photos. Hopefully before the next issue, it will be all worked out.

If anyone has any questions or comments with the programs in the Information Department, you contact any of the committee members Paul & Barbara Rush, Peggy Fish, Cathy Kamowski or myself Howard Paster.



Photo by Howard Paster

Installation of Officers, Perryville Grange.

Left to right are Roger Stedman, Kristen Flynn, David Crandall, Cassandra Crandall, Kathy Stedman, Rodney Gilbert, Barbara Gilbert, Katie Martin, and Mary Petrarca. Not in the photo was Harold Stedman, President of Perryville Grange.

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A note from the editor...

On Sunday, December 3, RISG Department directors will distribute their program books for the coming year. The Master or designated member of each grange will receive the books on that day. If you are a department chairman in your grange, you should ask for your book from your Master. If no one was present from your grange, your deputy will have picked up your books or you can view or download/print these books at www.rigrange.org/books.html

If you do not receive your book, you can contact me at ehbert94@aol.com and I will try to locate it for you.

Programs of the Granges of Rhode Island
December 1, 2023 thru February 29, 2024

Moosup Valley Juniors – 10:00 am
 Providence County Pomona – 4:00
 Washington County Pomona – 7:00
 unless otherwise stated

Newport County Pomona starts at 7:00
 unless otherwise stated

Other Grange meetings start at 7:30 except:

* meeting at 7:00 pm
 ** meeting at 6:00 pm

OM – Open Meeting PL – Pot Luck

Outlined items are state events – the department sponsoring
 the event is listed at the right of the box. In most cases more
 information is found in the column for that department

**<<Note – Due to COVID issues, you should call
 ahead to verify that a grange is meeting>>**

Friday, December 01

*Richmond Christmas Mystery Event TBA

Sunday, December 03

Statewide meeting – 2pm RW-Rumford

Tuesday, December 05

Chepachet WAC program

Wednesday, December 06

*Perryville Christmastime
 RW-Rumford Report of National Session
 “What do you know about Niagara Falls”

Thursday, December 07

*Rocky Hill Christmas Party

Friday, December 08

Slocum Holiday Party & Cookie Exchange

Saturday, December 09

*Newport Cty Pomona Little Compton

Monday, December 11

**Hope Valley Christmas Party

*Kickemuit Christmas Party

Bring \$5 gift and cards to exchange

Wednesday, December 13

Providence Cty Pomona RW-Rumford
 Meeting at 7:00PM no potluck Christmas Greetings

Thursday, December 14

Exeter Merry Christmas

Friday, December 15

*Richmond Christmas Party details TBA

Monday, December 18

*Ashaway Christmas Party
 Contact Master for meeting location

Tuesday, December 19

Chepachet(PL 6:30) Christmas Party
 Bring cards to exchange

Wednesday, December 20

*Little Compton Christmas Dinner (no meeting)
 Old Warwick Christmas Party & Pot Luck
 RW-Rumford(PL 6:30) Christmas Program
 Bring unwrapped gifts for needy children

Wednesday, January 03

*Perryville Aquaculture program
 Moosup Valley Dues are due – Winter Fun
 RW-Rumford “Happy New Year” – Let’s have a Party

Thursday, January 04

*Portsmouth to be announced

Friday, January 05

*Richmond WAC Program

Saturday, January 06

Providence Cty Pomona Zoom meeting-Details TBA

Monday, January 08

**Hope Valley Ag Night

Wednesday, January 10

Kent County Pomona Brrr, It’s Cold Outside

Thursday, January 11

*Newport Cty Pomona To be announced
 Women’s Activities

Friday, January 12

Slocum Birthday Party
 January 26th – snow date

Monday, January 15

*Ashaway Christmas Party
 Contact Master for meeting location

Tuesday, January 16

Chepachet TBA – Zoom if bad weather

Wednesday, January 17

*Little Compton(PL 6 pm) Deaf & Health
 Old Warwick Fruit or Vegetable?

Thursday, January 18

Exeter SNOW, SNOW, and ICE

*Rocky Hill Dues are due

Ways to save money and still stay warm in winter

Friday, January 19

*Richmond BINGO

Thursday, February 01

*Portsmouth Deaf & Health

Friday, February 02

*Richmond Youth Night

Saturday, February 03

Providence Cty Pomona Zoom meeting
 Details TBA

Wednesday, February 07

*Perryville Deaf & Health Program
 Moosup Valley Love Is In The Air
 RW-Rumford Deaf & Health Program

Thursday, February 08

*Newport Cty Pomona to be announced
 Deaf & Health Speaker

Friday, February 09

Slocum Youth Night
February 23rd – snow date

Monday, February 12

**Hope Valley WAC Night

Wednesday, February 14

Exeter Half off Candy Day

Thursday, February 15

*Rocky Hill US President's Day Theme

Friday, February 16

*Richmond Game Night

Tuesday, February 20

Chepachet TBA – Zoom if bad weather

Wednesday, February 21

*Little Compton(PL 6 pm) Spring arrives 2024

Old Warwick Warwick Castle by Joan Clegg

Saturday, February 24

Washington Cty Pomona Richmond

Meeting at 4PM – dinner will be served

Afternoon – Let's Brainstorm – new fair contest/events

Evening – Fair report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Nettie Hartley's account of enjoyment she experienced from her visits to granges as a National Ambassador inspired me to write.

I had similar feelings as a participant in a Grange program many years ago: an interstate exchange which paired youth from farms with youth from cities or suburbs. As a member of Roger Williams Grange #19 it was an honor to represent Rhode Island during the month of July 1958.

My exchange family was the McFaddens in Grampian, Pennsylvania. I am still friends with my exchange "sister" Janet as well as another girl Bonnie. During the month of July I experienced life on a large dairy farm with a loving Quaker family.

In August Janet came to Rhode Island where she enjoyed the ocean and life in a suburban town. We visited other granges in R. I. and attended a Lecturer's conference in New Hampshire

In retrospect I see that exchange as one of the best things I ever did. I thank the Grange for that.

Judy (MacDuff) Stenberg

HUGS for ALL

by Shirley Lawson



If you haven't found out by now, I am a "hugger". Of course, my husband, for the 52 years of our marriage and about 5 years prior to that, got the brunt of my hugs, but I never heard him complain about them! The Covid pandemic was a very, very difficult time for me as we had to wear masks, couldn't get close to one another, and of course, hugging was

definitely out of the question. I missed all those hugs from my church family and my Grange family as well. At my church, I am very often called upon to be the greeter for worship as they all know they get extra hugs on those Sunday mornings. I believe the first State Grange activity that was held after the pandemic was officially over, was the State Grange Church Service in June of 2021. Boy, did I give and get so many hugs that day! I know there are some people who don't like hugs and like to have "their space," but I want to let you know why hugging is so important.

***Hugs make you feel better!** Hugging makes you feel better because it stimulates the release of oxytocin and serotonin. Oxytocin has antidepressant effects. Serotonin also has antidepressant effects and helps regulate your mood.

***Hugs are important for your physical and emotional health!** Hugging can help to lower blood pressure, reducing the risk of heart disease, heart attack, or stroke. Hugging boosts self-esteem. Touch is a powerful language that we can use to convey feelings of safety, love, and connection to a greater community. (When I heard that last part about connection to a greater community, the first thing I thought about was the Grange! Wouldn't it be wonderful if we as Grangers all hugged more often instead of bickering or complaining!!)

***What happens if you get no hugs?** When you don't get enough hugs, you can become stressed, anxious, or depressed. As a response to stress, your body makes a hormone called cortisol. This can cause your heart rate, blood pressure, muscle tension, and breathing rate to go up, with bad effects for your immune and digestive systems.

So, let's try to give more hugs, making ourselves feel better, as well as those who are the recipients!!



Agriculture
Joyce Bastien
jeh.31@yahoo.com

I would like to thank you for allowing me, once again, to be the Agriculture Director of the RI State Grange. It really means a lot to me to be a part of this wonderful organization. I enjoy the company of each and every member and thank you for your friendship.

This year at WAS, I had my compost, milk bottle bird feeder and bird house contests. I had many amazing entries and the judges had a hard time picking the winners.

This year I also got Arruda Dairy to donate milk and creamers for WAD and Cross Country Bakers to donate about 300 cookies, muffins and brownies. The leftovers were used for the Junior Grange the following week. I sent a Thank you to both of them and they said they were happy to help out.

This year at the Washington County Fair we had 9 scarecrows. They were all very creative and the judges had their work cut out for them. Congratulations to all the winners!

Once the fair was over, I had my coloring and photo contest. Some of these entries were on display at the State Session.

I will have some new and exciting contests this year and hope everyone will enjoy them. If you have any you would like to do, feel free to contact me at jeh31@yahoo.com or my cell, 401-465-9571. Thank You!

Contest Winners

Adults Coloring

1 st	Madison Rathburn	Richmond
2 nd (tie)	Celeste Spencer	Exeter
	Diane Swindlehurst	Exeter
3 rd	Rachel Mesyna	Moosup Valley
4 th	Carol Rathburn	Richmond
5 th	Dottie Moone	Moosup Valley

Photo

1 st	Rachel Mesyna	Moosup Valley
2 nd	Dottie Mooney	Moosup Valley
3 rd	Mikayla Piers	Moosup Valley
4 th	Roxanne Nelson	Richmond
5 th (tie)	Sue Kenyon	Kickemuit
	Laura Gotaucio	Slocum
6 th	Celeste Spencer	Exeter

Birdhouse

1 st	Diane Swindlehurst	Exeter
2 nd	Darlene Pierce	Richmond

3 rd	Celeste Spencer	
4 th (tie)	Christine Andrews	Kickemuit
	Michelle Andrews	Kickemuit

Juniors
 Pre Junior age group

Birdhouse

1 st	Kendall Gotaucio
2 nd	Mason Houle

Milk Jug Birdhouse

1 st (tie)	Kendall Gotaucio
	Mason Houle

Coloring

1 st	Mason Houle
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Photo

1 st	Kendall Gotaucio
2 nd	Mason Houle

Age group 5-7

Birdhouse & Milk Jug Birdhouse

1 st	Cohen Piers
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Age group 8-11

Birdhouse

1 st	Reagan Barrows Richmond
2 nd	Tristan Gotaucio
3 rd	Scarlett Gotaucio
4 th (tie)	Lily Piers & Hailey Fish

Milk Jug

1 st	Scarlet Gotaucio
2 nd	Hailey Fish
3 rd	Lily Piers & Tristan Gotaucio

Photo

1 st	Scarlet Gotaucio
2 nd	Lily Piers
3 rd	Hailey Fish
4 th	Tristan Gotaucio

Coloring

1 st	Hailey Fish
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Age group 12-14

Birdhouse

1 st	Riley Olsen Richmond
2 nd	Nettie Hartley
3 rd	Brooke Houle
4 th	Juliana Gerlach

Compost

1 st	Nettie Hartley
2 nd	Brooke Houle

Photo

1 st	Juliana Gerlach
2 nd	Brooke Houle

Milk Jug Bird House

1 st	Juliana Gerlach
2 nd	Brooke Houle

Coloring

1 st	Brooke Houle
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Agriculture Contest entries

(photos by Joyce Bastien)

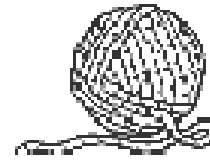
Bird House entries – Juniors



Bird House entries – Adult



Scarecrow winning entry – Diane Swindlehurst



Women's Activities

Kathy Stedman

chipmunkscrafts@gmail.com

We had a wonderful State Grange session this year and here is the list of awards distributed by our department. In the Subordinate Baking Contest the winners were:

1 st place	Julie Brodeur	Richmond Grange
2 nd place	Peggy Fish	Exeter Grange
3 rd place	Dorothy Moone	Moosup Valley Grange
4 th place	Kristen Flynn	Perryville Grange

Participant Ribbons:

Diane Pierce	Richmond Grange
Celeste Spencer	Exeter Grange
Valerie Richards	Richmond Grange
Jasmine Richards	Hope Valley Grange

Junior Grange Baking Contest winners:

Pre- Juniors

1 st place	Kendall Gotaucio	Moosup Valley Juniors
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Ages 8 – 10

1 st place	Scarlett Gotaucio	Moosup Valley Juniors
2 nd place	Hailey Fish	Moosup Valley Juniors
3 rd place	Rebecca Barrows	Moosup Valley Juniors
4 th place	Tristain Gotaucio	Moosup Valley Juniors

Ages 12 – 14

1 st place	Nettie Hartley	Moosup Valley Juniors
2 nd place	Lily Piers	Moosup Valley Juniors
3 rd place	Juliane Gerlach	Moosup Valley Juniors
4 th place	Reagan Barrows	Moosup Valley Juniors

Winner for the Patriotic Center was:

1 st place	Celeste Spencer	Exeter Grange
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Harvest of Handicrafts:

Class G – Adult Garment

2 nd place	Peggy Fish	Exeter Grange
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Class J – Stuffed Toy

2 nd place	Peggy Fish	Exeter Grange
3 rd place	Michelle Andrews	Kickemuit

Class K – Baby Afghan

3 rd place	Michelle Andrews	Kickemuit
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Class Q- Christmas Ornament

1 st place	Ashley Sears	Exeter Grange
2 nd place	Celeste Spencer	Exeter Grange
3 rd place	Kathy Stedman	Perryville Grange

Class R – Decorated Wreath

1 st place	Kathy Stedman	Perryville Grange
2 nd place	Celeste Spencer	Exeter Grange

Class T – Woodworking

1 st place	Roger Stedman	Perryville Grange
2 nd place	Celeste Spencer	Exeter Grange

Class U – Group 1 Diamond Art small items

1 st place	Kathy Stedman	Perryville Grange
1 st place	Mary Hallem	Portsmouth Grange
1 st place	Mary Petrarca	Portsmouth Grange
1 st place	Synda Beron	Exeter Grange
2 nd place	Howard Paster	Slocum Grange
2 nd place	Diona McGrath	Portsmouth Grange
3 rd place	Christine Andrews	Kickemuit

Class U – Group II Diamond art larger items

1 st place	Kathy Stedman	Perryville Grange
1 st place	Howard Paster	Slocum Grange
2 nd place	Christine Andrews	Kickemuit
3 rd place	Mary Petrarca	Portsmouth Grange
3 rd place	Joyce Bastein	Exeter Grange
4 th place	Celeste Spencer	Exeter Grange

Participant Ribbon:

Michelle Andrews	Kickemuit
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Class V – Fashion Accessories

1 st place	Peggy Fish	Exeter Grange
1 st place	Celeste Spencer	Exeter Grange

Awards for the Subordinate Grange WAC reports:

1 st place	Perryville Grange
2 nd place	Portsmouth Grange
3 rd place	Little Compton Grange
3 rd place	Roger Williams – Rumford Grange

Awards for Pomona WAC reports:

1 st place	Newport County Pomona #4
2 nd place	Providence County Pomona #1
3 rd place	Washington County Pomona #2

This year we made 110 diddy bags for the New England Seafarers Mission and presented them with a check for \$155.00. Thank you for all the Granges who participated in this project. Great job!

The Patriotic Centerpieces that were mad were delivered to the Rhode Island Veterans Home in Bristol, Rhode Island along with 20 blankets for the veterans.

Meeting Street School received a check for \$120.00 along with boxes of supplies collected this year for the school.

After session, I delivered boxes of items along with a check for \$235.00 to Ronald McDonald House in Providence.

Thank you to all of you for a great year. Looking forward to a new year with new changes in our department which I hope you will participate in. See you at the Statewide meeting.



Photo by Howard Paster

At a recent meeting of Perryville Grange, two members received their 50 Year Golden Sheaf Certificates. Eileen Hebert, Past Master of the Rhode Island State Grange, presented the awards to Kathy Stedman and Roger Stedman.



Deaf & Health

Jennifer Lawson

statedeafhealth@rigrange.org

First, I would like to congratulate all the winners from State Session. Thank you for participating in the department. We are planning to keep a few of the same programs, and maybe plan some new ones.

Second, please attend as many of the Deaf and Health Subordinate or Pomona programs as, you can the chairpersons really work hard on them.

Lastly, I am going to stress this year the end of year report, and monthly deaf or health hints. I find that many of the Granges enjoy listening to the health hints.

If you have any questions please feel free to call me or email me.

Spotlight on: Nettie Hartley

BY KARIE BLASINGAME

Senior Communication Fellow

Photo by Lindsay Schroeder



Nettie Hartley, 2022-2023 National Grange Junior Ambassador, has spent her year as Ambassador crossing over six states off her list.

She says she was honored to be able to attend five different State Grange Sessions. She enjoyed three regional conferences, three youth or Junior camps, FarmAid, and traveling to DC for Ag Day with National Grange Outstanding Young Patrons Autumn Whitaker and Gail Switzer.

She claims that her favorite camp that she attended this summer was the first one she was asked to attend just after she was "sashed."

Phil Vonada, PA State Grange Junior Director, invited her in-person as she left the stage and told her that a written invitation would be coming soon. While nervous about being at a week-long camp, Hartley shared that everyone was so welcoming, inviting and she loved it. She plans on attending again in the future as a non-ambassador.

One of the larger events that Nettie attended this year as National Grange Junior Ambassador was FarmAid in Indiana. At FarmAid, Nettie worked with other Grangers to operate a Fruit Stand where concert goers could purchase fresh produce and enjoy it at the event. Hartley was in the state of Indiana for less than 48 hours and most of those hours were working.

The coordinator from FarmAid kept was shocked that Nettie and the three youth from Illinois sold out a specialty fruit, the Paw Paw, that until that morning none of the girls had ever seen, heard of or tasted. They got a knife - as you can not eat the skin of a Paw Paw - and tried it to better be able to explain to customers what it was and what it tasted like. They had Paw Paws leaving the booth in bags as people asked them more about why they were there. Nettie was out front handing out free radishes and having her picture taken with concertgoers who were excited to hear about why she was there and what the organization she was wearing the sash for.

Nettie would like to thank everyone for the support that they have given her throughout the year. Nettie said that one couple who consistently let her know that she was doing a great job of representing the National Grange

Junior Department while she was out traveling was Wayne and Debbie Campbell.

Nettie is especially thankful for her parents, her Dad, Walter who as her travel companion took up to five weeks off work this summer to get Nettie where she needed to go, and her Mom, Danielle, who is her rock, who makes sure that Nettie and her Dad don't fight on long road trips and makes sure that everything at home is okay while they were traveling.



Photo by Howard Paster

Sixth Degree Court and Rose Drill Team – 2023

Court (front row)

Lisa Goodrich – wife of National Rep – Joe Goodrich
 Nicole Ohneck- Ashaway
 Dorothy Moone- Pomona, Moosup Valley
 Celeste Spencer- Flora, Exeter
 Danielle Hartley- Ceres, Moosup Valley
 Joyce Bastien- Exeter
 Kelly Riley- Chepachet

Drill Team (back row)

Valerie Richard- Hope Valley
 Eileen Hebert- Chepachet
 Patricia Cottrell- Richmond
 Desiree Richard- Hope Valley
 Jasmine Richard- Richmond
 Cathy Kamowski-Kickemuit
 Judi White-RW-Rumford
 Laura Gotauco- Slocum

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Submissions for publication can be sent by email (preferred) to:

Eileen Hebert ehbert94@aol.com

Please include the word "BEACON" in the subject

or by snail mail to:

Eileen Hebert

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