



*American Values.
Hometown Roots.*

Valley Grange #144 Patrons of Husbandry

located on Guilford Center Road at Butter Street ☼ Guilford Maine

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November 2023

To: Parents of Third Grade Students:

The GRANGE is a fraternal order known as Patrons of Husbandry, hence the “P of H” in the organization’s logo. It was formed in the years following the American Civil War to unite citizens in improving the economic and social position of the nation's farm population. The Grange has evolved to include non-farm rural families and provide services designed to ensure a strong and viable Rural America.

Your child received his or her Dictionary today as part of The DICTIONARY PROJECT and our Words for Thirds initiative. This project is designed to aid third-grade teachers with their goal to see all their students leave at the end of the year as good writers, active readers, and creative thinkers. The dictionary is for your child to keep with our compliments so he or she can take it into the fourth grade and use it throughout his or her entire school career.

There’s a place for you and your family in Valley Grange. One thing that makes us special is that **we are a family-oriented organization**. Our activities encourage families to participate together instead of “going in all different directions,” as is so often the case these days. We typically meet on the third Friday of every month with a potluck supper at 6 PM and a meeting at 7 PM.

On November 17, 2023, we are sponsoring a Musical Celebration of Rural Life featuring Katherine Rhoda. Katherine plays some instruments many people have never heard of! Doors open at 6 pm with “nibbles” available, the concert starts at 7 pm. Admission is \$15, kids under 12 are free!

Our December 1, 2023, meeting will be “different” with a Fellowship Breakfast at 6 PM (you read that right, breakfast replaces our potluck supper) and a brief Christmas Program at 7 PM. Come in your jammies if you’d like! Our meetings are always family-friendly and kids are welcome. If you can, please bring a breakfast dish to share... and it will help us with planning if you can let us know you are coming! You can call us or check out our website and Facebook Page.

More information about these events and our Grange is available on our website.

We are always looking for like-minded folks to join hands with us! Membership is very affordable. We also welcome “almost members” who help us with specific projects. Please call for more information or simply come to a meeting! For additional information:

Walter & Janice Boomsma at 876-4131 or Jim & Mary Annis at 564-0820

You can also visit the Valley Grange web site at <http://valleygrange.com>. There you’ll find information about our current projects and meetings as well as some resources for you and your family! We also maintain a Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyGrange/>.