



"Whitepine Whispers"

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

Published by Friends of Whitepine Grange

July-August 2021

The Grange Is Back in the Neighborhood!

After 20-odd years of virtual dormancy, Whitepine Grange #102 has come back to life with new leadership, lots of new members, and new goals.

On July 20, 13 new members were initiated at the Grange meeting, and new officers were elected. The officers are Jan Manning, president or "master," Carrie Greene, vice-president or "overseer," co-secretaries Peggy Carlson and Patty English, treasurer Kathy Hill, steward Ruth Tucker, greeter or "gatekeeper" Arnie Carlson. Elected to the Executive Committee were Gene Pope, Debbie Mason and Ron Kilbury.

Monthly meetings will now be held the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Members and guests are always welcome!

From the president:

What's supposed to happen...and what *did* happen...at the July 20 meeting:

Grange meetings traditionally follow a ritual that begins with the special set-up of the room. There are certain procedures that occur to open each Grange meeting, not unlike many other fraternal types of organizations. Various Grange officers play key roles in these procedures, which traditionally includes opening of the Bible and the Pledge to Allegiance and opening prayer.

Following the ceremonial moves, the business part of the meeting starts. Minutes, committee reports, unfinished business, new business, etc. There's also a short program coordinated by the program director or "Lecturer." It can be a short reading, a musical performance, or anything of humor, educational value, or interest to the membership.

The meeting is ceremoniously closed with more prescribed rituals, all of which add a sense of beauty, meaning and depth to the Grange's organization and history.

So...what HAPPENED on July 20 was a bit different. Since virtually none of the new members or officers are yet familiar with the opening and closing procedures, we conducted two back-to-back meetings without ceremony. The first meeting was to administer the pledge, or "obligate," 13 new members. Don Burrell of Thompson Falls, a long-time Granger who serves on the State Grange board, did the honors. We then adjourned that meeting and immediately opened a second meeting to elect officers. We closed this meeting a little more traditionally, as Don taught us the official Grange Salutation, and we ended with a short prayer.

We, as new Grange members and leaders, have a lot to learn about the great traditions of the Grange, and we will learn them together. I look forward to getting us into full compliance with all meeting procedures and bylaws so that we can carry on the true Grange traditions that have made this organization so unique.

Why not join us and become part of this "re-birth" of Whitepine Grange #102? There's something in it for everyone in the family—fun, education, social networking, community service, neighborhood improvement. Contact me at 827-6385 or email me at sandersagility@gmail.com and I'll send you a membership form!



Jan Manning, Master



What Deadlines Can Do!



Deadlines are wonderful! They FORCE us to quit procrastinating and take action!

That's what happened when the Torgrimson family contacted us in late June about holding a post-memorial reception at the Grange on July 8.

Until then, we'd been talking, planning, scheming...procrastinating, actually...getting new vinyl flooring for the kitchen and restroom, along with a new toilet. Now it was time to act!

We purchased everything needed at Lowes and Home Depot, which both provided us with military discounts. Kathy Hill donated funds for the new commode, and the rest of the money came from the Grange itself. Carrie Greene contacted Randy Peterson of Trout Creek, who volunteered to lay the vinyl. Sue and Mike Marsh removed the old commode and put up new grab bars, and Randy installed the new commode.

Although we don't yet have sanitary base around the walls in the kitchen and restroom, the most urgent tasks were completed in plenty of time for the Torgrimsons' reception, and the improvements look sensational!

Our NEXT deadline will probably be Old Man

Winter. He'll be knocking on the side of our Grange Hall and trying to break through that old, busted up vinyl siding. Don't let him in! Let's raise some funds NOW to purchase new siding to keep us snug and secure. We will need at least \$7,500 to begin this project. If everyone who reads this



newsletter contributes as little as \$10 to the siding fund, we'd have a big chunk of it. Remember your donations are tax deductible, as

Friends of Whitepine Grange is a 501.c.3 charitable organization. Please make your checks out to "**Friends of Whitepine Grange.**" You may contribute directly to our account at First Security Bank in Thompson Falls, or mail it to: Whitepine Grange, PO Box 1313, Trout Creek, MT 59874.

Together we can meet THIS deadline TOO!!

Grange Calendar, August

- August 3: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
Line dancing, afternoon
- August 4: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
- August 10: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
Line dancing, afternoon
- August 11: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
- August 17: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
Line dancing, afternoon
Monthly Grange Membership Meeting, 7pm
- August 18: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
- August 24: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
Line dancing, afternoon
- August 25: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
- August 31: Dog Training Class, 10:30am
Line dancing, afternoon

Got a special event coming up? Have it at Whitepine Grange!

Grange members may reserve the Grange facilities at no charge. 4H groups may also use it free of charge. For non-Grange members, rental is \$25/day, which includes the kitchen.

Reserve the Grange now for your holiday bazaar, quilting retreat, special classes or receptions! Call 827-6385 for details.

New Grange Members in July

Stephen Cobb	Kathy Hill	Debb McNary
Mason Cottrell	Ron Kilbury	Percy Plante
Tricia Cottrell	Justin Knutson	Gene Pope
Raelyn Cox	Karen Knutson	Ruth Tucker
Patty English	Don Manning	Will Tucker
Carrie Greene	Debbie Mason	
Kathy Hassan	Debb McNary	

SEPTEMBER 11 REMEMBRANCE GATHERING AND PICNIC

Noon to 2pm

Power Park in Thompson Falls

Provided by Thompson Falls Grange

Please bring side dishes and lawn chairs. Contact Bill Beck, 826-4109, for more information.



Cornucopia of Crafts!



A craft fair to prepare you for Thanksgiving and the holidays!

Sat., Nov. 20

Whitepine Grange

What's coming up?

- Bingo** **Dances** Holiday Parties
- Potlucks Pancake Feeds Great Classes
- Neighborhood Meetings* Stuff for Kids
- All at Whitepine Grange #102!**
- Give us your ideas!**

Our most urgent financial need right now:

The vinyl siding on our building is deteriorating. We desperately need new siding on the walls before winter!!

Depending on how much money we can raise, we want to get AT LEAST THE SOUTH SIDE of the building done, since this one is most exposed to the elements. We are planning to pursue steel siding this time. At the same time, we'll put in WINDOWS! This has been in the works since 1961 when the building was originally erected. LET'S FINALLY GET IT DONE, 60 YEARS LATER!



Can you help? Please send a check to: **Whitepine Grange Siding Fund, PO Box 1313, Trout Creek, MT 59874**. The check can be made to **Friends of Whitepine Grange**. Your donation is tax deductible and we will send you a receipt to use for your 2021 taxes. Thank you!



FAQ about Whitepine Grange No. 102



Who owns the Grange building?

The State Grange owns the building at 9 Faro Lane in Trout Creek. If the Grange should default or close its doors, the State Grange claims the property and sells it or disposes of it as they wish.

How does the Grange support itself?

Whitepine Grange is supported through membership fees, building rentals, fundraisers, donations and grants.

Who can join Whitepine Grange No. 102?

Anyone can join. You need not be a farmer or even a neighbor.

What are the advantages to joining the Grange?

You network with your neighbors on projects that benefit all of you. You strengthen family values through Grange activities. You get to use the Grange building for your activities at little or no cost. You make lifelong friends and carry on a tradition in the Whitepine area that's nearly 100 years old .

Do I need to join the Grange to use the building?

No! The Grange hall is available for public use, with a very nominal rental fee starting at \$15.

What is "Friends of Whitepine Grange"?

"Friends of Whitepine Grange" is a nonprofit 501.c.3 organization formed in 2020 for the sole purpose of raising money to support, improve and maintain Whitepine Grange for neighborhood and community use. Since the Grange itself does not have sufficient revenue sources, "Friends of Whitepine Grange" seeks grants and donations, all of which are tax deductible. "Friends of Whitepine Grange" has already funded the new roof, new back porch, new front porch repairs, and indoor cosmetic improvements.