



"Whitepine Whispers"

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

Published by Friends of Whitepine Grange

August 2023

Can you hear us now??

Grange finally gets phone and Wi-Fi *after 60 years!*



Phone/Wi-Fi expand the Grange's possibilities

Now that Whitepine Grange has its own landline phone, you will be able to check in more easily on Grange activities. Call any time and leave a message. We will be checking phone messages daily.

The new phone also brings high-speed fiber optic internet to the Grange. This enhances our opportunities for meetings, classes, presentations and many other events..

The wide-screen TV donated by grange members Patty English and Guy Engbretson also expands our capabilities. Many thanks to Patty and Guy, and also to Mason and Trish Cottrell who mounted the TV on the wall.

Finally, big thanks to Kathy Hill for coordinating the phone installation project!

Grange volunteers are greatly appreciated!

**Whitepine
Grange's phone
number:
(406)
827-0102**

Got questions about upcoming events?

Want to rent the Grange hall for a private function?

Got suggestions for activities you'd like to see at the Grange?

Need to talk with someone about Grange business?

Call and leave a message. Phone messages will be checked daily!

From the Grangemaster:**Our past makes our future great**

The Grange has a rich history as an organization that promotes community service and the rural, agricultural lifestyle. Those qualities were needed back then when it was formed in 1867, and they're just as greatly needed today, right here in Sanders County in 2023.

While the mission hasn't changed, our way of accomplishing that mission is indeed evolving. Not all the "old-time" Grangers are happy with the changes, but they are being made in order to keep the Grange relevant to today's rural Montanans.

Communication is one of those changes. Instead of relying on a weekly newspaper or party-lines to spread news, we have cell phones and other pocket computers. We have this newsletter, distributed electronically to hundreds of area folks all at the same time and for virtually no cost. We have emails, texts and other electronic means that enable us to share important news quickly.

That's why we're so excited to get a phone and internet into our Grange. It will help us accomplish our mission faster and better than ever before.

You, the members, have let us know that you appreciate the changes. Time that used to be spent on lengthy rituals at meetings can now be used more productively.

You, the members, have made us realize the importance of installing a second restroom, ADA compliant, so we can accommodate more people including our disabled patrons.

You, the members, have expressed your desire to move FORWARD as a Grange, rather than glorifying in the past. Today's "good old days" are NOW.



Jan Manning

The Patrons of Husbandry, or the Grange, was founded in 1867 to advance methods of agriculture, as well as to promote the social and economic needs of farmers in the United States.

The PAST is to
be LEARNED from
not LIVED in

Special thanks this month . . .

- *Kathy Hill, phone project
- *John & Melissa Haakenson, mowing & sign moving
- *Don Manning, driveway posts
- *Mason & Trish Cottrell, mounting the TV on the wall
- *Tom Mason, picnic table
- *Carolyn Nesbitt, donations
- *Patty English & Guy Engebretson, donating the TV
- Sue Marsh, teaching the recorder class
- Taylor Etienne, teaching the recorder class
- * Grange members

**Whitepine Grange #102
Officers 2023****President:**

Jan Manning

Vice-President:

Carolyn Nesbitt

Secretary:

Patty English

Treasurer:

DonaPope

Executive Committee:

Gene Pope

Debbie Mason

Ruth Tucker

MOVING AHEAD

HuckFest will spotlight our “Whitepine Warblers”

The **Whitepine Warblers** recorder group will play at Huckleberry Festival on Sat., Aug. 12, at a yet to be determined time. Stay tuned for an email with the details!

The Warblers have been practicing diligently for the past several weeks, in classes at the Grange, preparing a collection of recorder favorites like “Hot Cross Buns,” “Merrily We Row Along,” and “Old McDonald.”

Taylor Etienne and Sue Marsh, the children’s instructors, have been using a teaching program called “Recorder Karate.” As each student learns a new song, he or she is presented with an upgraded karate “belt, which they can attach to their recorder case. The “belt system” is designed to keep the kids motivated to improve, and it works!

Come and enjoy the mini-concert onstage at the park pavilion on Sat., Aug. 12, at 3:30pm. And **BE SURE** to clap and cheer as loudly as you can! These kids have earned your praise!



Young James is one of 11 “Whitepine Warblers” who will be performing onstage at Huckleberry Festival on Sat., Aug. 12, at 3:30pm. Don’t miss the show!!

HuckFest is an annual tradition here

For those who are new to our large, rural community, Huckleberry Festival is an annual event you won’t want to miss! Held at the Trout Creek Park, HuckFest features arts and crafts, a variety of stage performances, a parade, a huckleberry pancake breakfast, pie-eating contests and much more. Vendors set up on Friday, and festivities start Saturday morning with the pancake breakfast.

HINT: Come over Friday night for a brief glimpse of the many vendors’ wonderful craft items. Some vendors WILL be open Friday, and the crowds and temps will be lower.

Arts & Crafts Fair
 Dozens & Dozens Of Booths!
 Demonstrating Artists
 Parade ~ Entertainment
 Auction ~ Run For Fun
 Horseshoe Tournament
 Pancake Breakfast
 Dessert & Jam Contests
 Children’s Activity Pavilion
 Archery Demo ~ Pie-Eating Contest
 Jumping Jackelope Axe Throwing
AND MUCH MORE!
FREE ADMISSION
 Family Friendly, Alcohol & Tobacco FREE
 Dogs Welcome - MUST be on a leash

August 12-13, 2023

In the park at Trout Creek!
 “Huckleberry Capital of Montana”

Doggy school bell is ringing

It's "back to school time" for the dogs, with manners classes starting up again Sept. 12 and 13.

The "Doggy Boot Camp," Jan Manning's long-standing signature class, teaches manners, self control, socialization, and basic obedience commands. The class is mainly for dog "parents" who want a better relationship and better understanding and communication with their canine kids. Better dog behavior is an automatic byproduct of this knowledge. The class is four weeks long, meeting one day a week. The Sept. 12 class meets at 10:30am. The Sept. 13 class meets at 6pm.

Dogs should be at least 4 months old for this class. All family members are encouraged to attend together. Classes are kept small (4 to 6 dogs) so everyone gets the individual attention they need. Fee is \$80, which is a donation to Whitepine Grange. The fee includes unlimited repeats at no charge for the life of the dog.

For more information, contact Jan at sandersagility@gmail.com, or simply call Whitepine Grange, 406-827-0102.



Coming to the Grange Oct. 24, 7pm:



"A Taste of Honey"



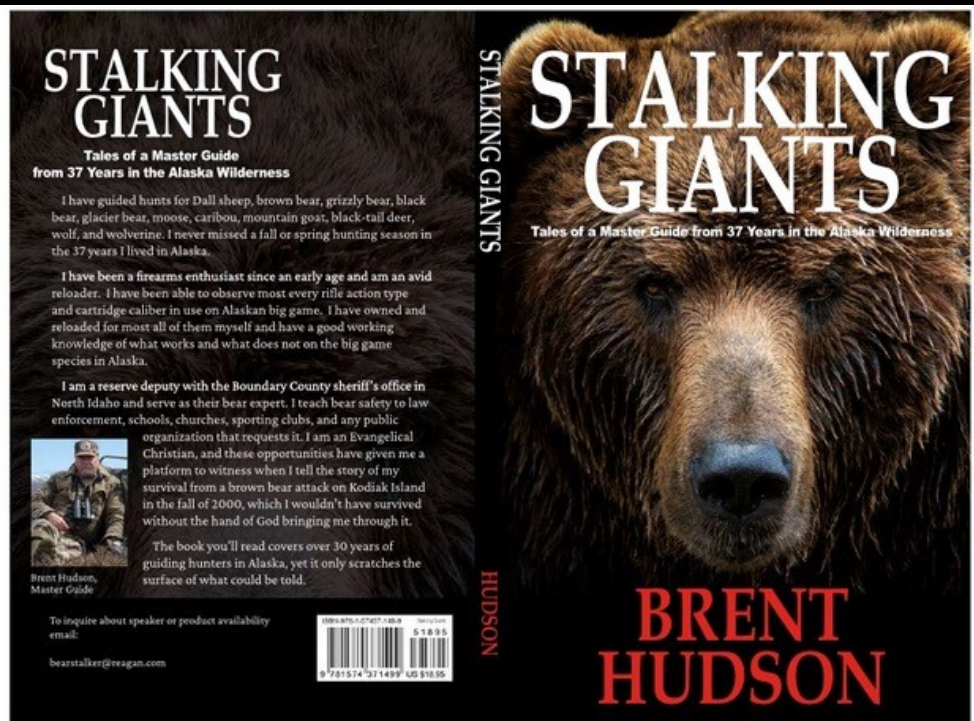
We're hosting a honey-sampling event! Come taste 20 different varieties of honey, with many produced by local bees. Learn the differences and become a "honey snob!" \$5 participation fee. Open to the public! Door prizes! Let us know if you'll be there so we can save some honey for YOU! Call Whitepine Grange, 406-827-0102 to RSVP!

Brent Hudson's book now available

If you attended either of Brent Hudson's fascinating presentations on "Bear Awareness" recently at Whitepine Grange, you'll want to order one of his books, "Stalking Giants," which is available for shipping to you Aug. 16. The book tells tales of Hudson's 37 years as a Master Guide in the Alaskan wilderness.

Hudson is selling the books for \$15 each, plus \$5 postage. To get your copy, contact Brent Hudson directly at

bearstalker@reagan.com.



Grant Update:

Grange receives substantial grant to start restroom project

Thanks to a sizeable grant from the **Steele-Reese Foundation**, Whitepine Grange can begin work on construction of a new ADA-compliant restroom for the first floor, and renovation of the existing restroom to also bring it into ADA compliancy.

The new restroom will be located directly inside the front door on the left (where our storage/coat room now exists). The existing restroom will be adjacent to the new one, with a door access directly from the entrance hallway.

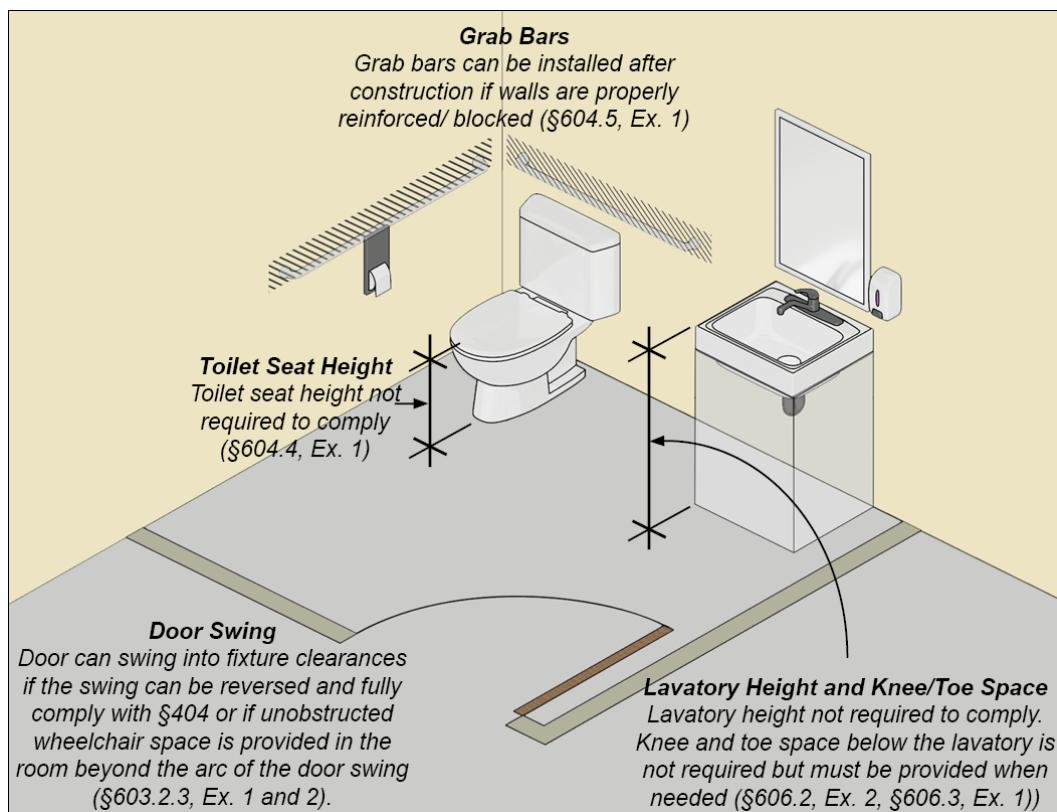
Cottrell Construction, LLC, has been chosen for the project. Mason Cottrell (a Grange member) and his crew have already done the siding, window additions, and new attic insulation. They plan to start work on the new restroom later this year and perhaps into the winter months.

The cost is estimated to be \$30,000 due to the need for sub-contractors to work on and replace old existing plumbing in the basement, re-wiring both bathrooms, and re-routing some of the HVAC system for heating. Those things, added to the cost of building materials and labor, will increase the cost of this project to around \$30,000, which is more than twice what was originally anticipated. With help from the Steele-Reese Foundation grant, we now have about \$13,000 relegated to the project. Additional grants are being sought, but it's going to come down to individual donations from caring community members.

Can you contribute \$250 to \$500 for this worthwhile community project? Your donations will go to "Friends of Whitepine Grange" and are therefore tax deductible. Before you hesitate, remember that Whitepine Grange has become a going presence in our community once again, and that its mission is to serve the local population with low-cost or no-cost programs that bring us together face to face once again.

Please send your contributions to: **Friends of Whitepine Grange, 153 Childs Rd., Trout Creek, MT 59874.** Or you can send them directly to the **Whitepine Grange mailbox: P.O. Box 1313, Trout Creek, MT 59874.** To get the tax receipt, your checks must be made out to **"Friends of Whitepine Grange."**

We look forward to seeing your contribution in our mailbox! Thank you!



Do you like the things Whitepine Grange is doing? Let us know! We want and need your support to become the Community Center our area needs! Drop a line to: whitepinegrange@gmail.comor call us at 406-827-0102.

Donations sought for Grange's annual Dictionary Project

Each year Whitepine Grange participates in a national program called "Words for Thirds." The Grange purchases dictionaries for local third-graders and presents them to the children as a public service.

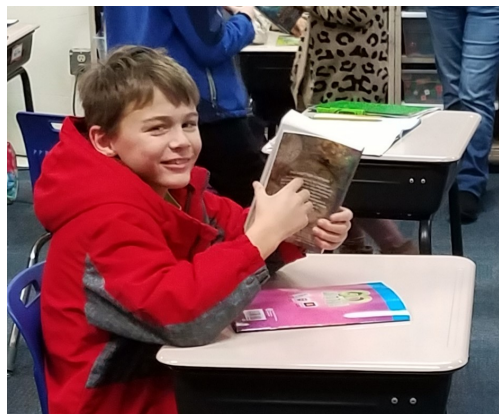
The dictionaries are special "youth editions" chock full of much more than just words. These special dictionaries contain historical dates, state capitols, names of Presidents and lots of other useful information for social studies.

Can you help Whitepine Grange underwrite the cost of purchasing the "Words for Thirds" dictionaries? We need roughly \$275 to purchase enough books to supply Trout Creek School, Trout Creek Adventist School, and various home-

schoolers and private schools in the area. With school just around the corner, we'd like to get them ordered and delivered into the kids' hands as soon as possible.

Please send your contribution to:

Words for Thirds
Whitepine Grange
P.O. Box 1313
Trout Creek, MT 59874



**Happy AUGUST Birthdays to
 these Grange Members!**

Calvin Pomerence 8/10
Charles Robbins 8/11
Karen Knutson 8/15
Justin Knutson 8/22

**Rent the Grange
 for your Event!**

Affordable, convenient!

The Grange now has

Wi-Fi!!

**Call Whitepine Grange,
 406-827-0102**

Join Whitepine Grange today!

For yourself, your family, your rural neighbors & community!

MEMBERSHIP TYPES - Check Box

Individual Membership: \$35/year Family Membership: \$70/year

Name: _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Date of Birth ____/____/____ Phone _____
Email (please print clearly) _____

What are your hobbies? (so we can plan programs of interest to you and maybe utilize your expertise) _____
Signature _____ Date _____

For Family Memberships:

Spouse/Partner's Name _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Date of Birth ____/____/____ Phone _____
Email (please print clearly) _____
Children:

Date of Birth ____/____/____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

Seven winning reasons to join Whitepine Grange:

- Build a support network with your rural neighbors.
- Great monthly programs on topics of local interest.
 - Family friendly activities like potlucks, parties, dances and Bingo.
- Community service projects like highway cleanup, the dictionary program, Family & Friends shut-in outreach, and military care packages.
- Exercise classes for all ages.
- A gathering place for neighbors.
- Your membership dollars help pay for upgrades and maintenance for this historic building. Whitepine Grange was chartered in 1938. The building was constructed in 1961. In 2023 the Grange is still going strong! Join Whitepine Grange #102 and become part of its long, wonderful story!



Please make checks to "Whitepine Grange #102"
Return this form, with payment, to any Whitepine Grange officer, or mail to:

Whitepine Grange #102
PO Box 1313
Trout Creek, MT 59874