



"Whitepine Whispers"

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

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November 2022

Flagpole to be dedicated Nov. 11

Whitepine Grange's first-ever flagpole will be dedicated Friday, Nov. 11, at 11am. The public is encouraged to attend.

The event will feature an official military ceremony and will include a dedication speech by Whitepine Grange Vice President Carolyn Nesbitt. The Trout Creek School children's choir will also perform. Coffee and cookies will be served.



The flagpole project was funded by First Security Bank of Thompson Falls. Volunteers Don Manning, Tim Greene and Monte Nesbitt designed and constructed the flagpole from a larch harvested from Jim and Kathy Hill's property west of the Grange.

A solar light sits atop the pole, making it possible to keep Old Glory flying day and night.

SCHOLARSHIPS
for
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Grange scholarship apps are due by February 23!

The Montana State Grange has scholarship money available for high school seniors and GED grads to continue their education in college or certified trade schools. The application for applying is Feb. 23.

Applicants need not be Grange members, but must meet other criteria including a 2.5-point grade point average. The applicant must be a high school graduate or have an equivalent GED at the time the scholarship is paid. At the time the scholarship is paid, the applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student (based on the educational institution's definition of full-time for under-graduate or graduate studies). Proof of registration must be provided at the actual time of the scholarship payment.

For complete judging criteria and an official application form, email Jan Manning at whitepinegrange@gmail.com. Remember that applications must be sent to the Montana State Grange secretary in Helena and **postmarked by Feb. 23**.

Don't let this money go unclaimed! The Grange works hard to provide this financial assistance for Montana's young graduates, and we want to insure that it goes to deserving individuals.

From the president:

Giving is *much* more fun!



Even as small children, most of us learned that giving gifts was at least as much fun as getting them. Think of all those bottles of Old Spice you proudly wrapped up for your dad each year, even though he already had a life-time supply. Or the expected chocolate-covered cherries you knew would always make your brother smile. Or the Coty bath powder your aunt always appreciated...or at least pretended as much.

The selecting, the purchasing, the wrapping, and the giving were part of the excitement of the holiday season.

It's the spirit of giving—not getting—that creates the warm fuzzies in all of us. And things are about to get fuzzier than ever as Thanksgiving and Christmas lurk just ahead.

The Grange is into giving year-round but, like everyone else, our giving goes on steroids this time of year because it feels so good. As members of Whitepine Grange, here's what you can look forward to in the next few weeks:

- 1. BINGO for Grange members and their guests on Nov. 22.** It's free, but we'll be taking donations, which we'll split 50/50 with the Community Harvest Food Bank in Thompson Falls. We're going to start doing more fun-raisers like this and sharing the profits with your favorite nonprofit groups, so let us know what they are and we'll put them on the list for future events.
- 2. Our "adopted family," chosen by Sanders County Coalition of Families.** We'll be sending out a list with specific wants and needs of an anonymous family in crisis. You shop for the items, deliver them unwrapped to the SCCF office by Dec. 9, and SCCF gets them to the right people.
- 3. Greeting cards for the deployed military.** Ruth Tucker is asking for greeting cards of appreciation and encouragement for anonymous military personnel, particularly Special Forces and Special Ops troops serving in unconventional assignments. Let them know you care, tell them something about your life here in Montana, and thank them for their service to our country.

Grange Calendar November 2022

Sun., Nov. 6	Agility Classes, 2 and 3:15
Mon., Nov. 7	Rally Dog Class, 10am Tumbling, afternoon
Tues., Nov. 8	Line Dancing, 3pm
Wed., Nov. 9	Rough & Rowdy Dogs, 10:30 Rally Dog Class 2pm
Thurs., Nov. 10	Rockin' Walkin' 10am
Fri., Nov. 11	Flag Dedication, noon
Sun., Nov. 13	Agility Classes 2 and 3:15
Mon., Nov. 14	Rally Dog Class 10am Tumbling, afternoon
Tues., Nov. 15	Boot Camp Make-up, 10:30 Line Dancing, 3pm
Wed., Nov. 16	Rough & Rowdy Dogs, 10:30 Rally Dog Class 2pm
Thurs., Nov. 17	Rockin' Walkin' 10am
Sat., Nov. 19	Craft Bazaar, 9 to 3pm
Sun., Nov. 20	Agility Classes, 2 and 3:15
Mon., Nov. 21	Rally Dog Class, 10am Tumbling, afternoon
Tues., Nov. 22	Line Dancing 3pm GRANGE MEETING 7pm BINGO!!!!
Wed., Nov. 23	Rough & Rowdy, 10:30
Wed., Nov. 27	Rally Dog Class 2pm
Sat., Nov. 29	Santa photos, noon to 3pm
Sun., Nov. 30	Agility Classes 2 and 3:15

You can put your cards and notes in a plastic zip-lock bag and deliver them to the Grange. If no one is there, leave them on the porch outside the front door, and we'll be sure to get them to Ruth.

We'll be helping Ruth load up and send out troop care packages early next year. For now, all she is requesting is the personalized cards and notes from you.

- 4. We're launching a "Keep In Touch" (KIT) program early in 2023.** Whitepine Grange will be adopting shut-ins and other individuals in need of a visit, a ride somewhere, or a basket of cheer. If you know people living in isolation for whatever reason, let us know how we can reach out to them in friendship and support. If you'd like to volunteer in our KIT program, be sure to let us know.

Deputy April Phillips accepts “Most Valuable” award from Whitepine Grange



There was an elephant in the room the night Sanders County Sheriff Deputy April Phillips accepted her award for “Law Enforcement Officer of the Year” from the members of Whitepine Grange.

The “elephant” was that yet-to-be-asked question: when will YOU, Deputy Phillips, run for sheriff?

Phillips is wise beyond her years. She readily admits she’s not ready for a position like that; she lacks the experience and years. Yet she’s gunning for a leadership position in law enforcement, and she loves Sanders County. Just give her a few more years.

In a ceremony attended by several dozen supporters, Phillips accepted the award and talked about her work and training in crisis intervention as a means of de-escalating a volatile criminal situation.

In attendance that evening was sheriff candidate Shawn Fielders. The admiration and respect Fielders had for Phillips was evident. Fielders, of course, is in a hotly contested sheriff’s race which will be decided Nov. 8. Phillips is ready to adapt to a new regime, regardless of the outcome.

“The best part of my job,” she shared, “is interacting with the public and being of service to them whatever way I can. I feel a real connection with the people here.”



Whitepine Grange’s 2022 Hometown Heroes

Citizen of the Year: Liz Stender, Trout Creek Community Improvement Assn.

First Responder of the Year: Brad Stewart, Thompson Falls Ambulance Service

Educator of the Year: Maurita Crew, Trout Creek Adventist School

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year: Deputy April Phillips, Sanders County Sheriff’s Office

OMG, It’s Membership Renewal Time

Annual dues for Whitepine Grange membership are due. Guess what!!! They’re not increasing, even though everything else on the planet costs more. Your Grange dues are still a paltry \$35/year or \$70 for a family. If you don’t think it’s worth it, you’d better read through this newsletter again!! Membership form is on the last page.

Do something awesome for your neighborhood; join Whitepine Grange!

Whitepine Grange #102 Officers 2022

President:	Jan Manning
Vice-President:	Carolyn Nesbitt
Secretary:	Patty English
Treasurer:	Kathy Hill
Advisor:	Peggy Carlson
Chaplain:	Susan McFarland
Greeter:	Arne Carlson
Executive Committee:	Gene Pope, Debbie Mason Ron Kilbury

Whitepine Grange has a FANTASTIC year ahead of them....classes, seminars, get-togethers, neighborhood projects, exercise classes, dog training classes, dances, etc., all designed to UNIFY our rural neighborhood/county. **Become a supporter. Become a member.** Become a part of history and heritage! Whitepine Grange membership is \$35/year or \$70 for families.

Pre-Thanksgiving
Craft Fair

Sat. Nov. 19, 9am to 4pm

Whitepine Grange

A “Cornucopia” of beautiful hand-made crafts by local artisans. Find your Thanksgiving hostess gifts, Christmas stocking stuffers, and that extra-special something



just for you!

Whitepine Grange is near MM38 on Hwy 200 between Thompson Falls and Trout Creek. It is on the corner of Hwy 200 and Faro Lane.



BINGO for a Cause

Tuesday, Nov. 22, 6 to 8pm

Whitepine Grange

NOTE: This is ONLY for Whitepine Grange members and guests

Up to 5 FREE BINGO CARDS per player!

Great prizes donated by area crafters and artisans.

**YOUR CASH DONATIONS will be shared 50/50 with the
Community Harvest Food Bank of Thompson Falls**

Popcorn and lemonade available.

No alcohol and no money exchanged. The kids can come!

On Thanksgiving weekend, don't send the grandkids home before this!

Photos with Santa

Sat., Nov. 26, Noon to 3pm

at Whitepine Grange.

Donations accepted!

Get your digital photos delivered by email the next day. Kids, pets, and even adults welcome! Cookies and cider will be served! All proceeds support Whitepine Grange's flooring project. Tax receipts available!



It's Dictionary Time Again for Area Third-Graders

Every third-grader in area schools will receive a dictionary again this year, compliments of Whitepine Grange and Thompson Falls Grange.

The "Dictionary Project" began in 1995 when Mary French, a South Carolina woman, formulated a plan to get dictionaries into the hands of grade-schoolers all over the country. She enlisted the help of several nonprofit service organizations including Grange, Kiwanis and Rotary, asking them to purchase youth-level dictionaries and distribute them to local third-graders. Since then, The Dictionary Project has given out close to 30 million dictionaries. Last year Whitepine and Thompson Falls Grange distributed about 60 dictionaries. This year, with the population influx, more than 70 youngsters will receive the books.



Patty English of Whitepine Grange and Dun Burrell of Thompson Falls Grange handed out dictionaries to eager third-graders last year. They will do the same in local schools on Nov. 18.

Patty English is this year's coordinator of the "Words for Thirds" project, as it's been nicknamed. She will be distributing books to Trout Creek, Noxon, and Trout Creek Adventist Schools on Fri., Nov. 18. If anyone would like to ride along to help, you can contact Patty by email at whitepinelady@yahoo.com.



The Holiday Party's on the horizon!

It's a Christmas and New Year's party all rolled into one, and it's for Whitepine Grange members and their guests on **Tuesday., Dec. 27, at 6pm.**

Festivities begin with a delicious potluck dinner, followed by the briefest possible meeting (so we can elect officers for 2023).

Next we'll play games, including Bingo, and have a **GIFT EXCHANGE. The GIFT should be something small and inexpensive (\$10 or under) with an AGRICULTURAL THEME.** Suggestions: seed packet, gardening trowel, small plant, farm-themed notepads or dish towels...anything that brings to mind the Grange's **ROOTS IN AGRICULTURE.** If everyone brings just one small gift, there will be one to exchange with every person who attends. Gifts will be exchanged through a random draw.

We will contact each of you for R.S.V.Ps as time gets nearer to Tuesday, December 27!



Last year's potluck was sensational. Can we top it this year?

Bear attack survivor expert captivates audience

The one and only time Brent Hudson went into the woods on bear patrol without a weapon, he was attacked and mauled by a record-size Kodiak bear. He survived. It was nothing short of a miracle, according to countless medical professionals who put him back together.

Hudson, now in his 60s, living in Bonners Ferry, Idaho, and retired from his 38-year bear guard profession, spoke to an eager audience at Whitepine Grange, relating his first-hand knowledge of what to do when you encounter a bear in the wild. He delivered his two-hour "Bear Aware" presentation, complete with graphic photos of his injuries, on Oct. 13, just over 23 years since his attack on Oct. 8, 2000, on Kodiak Island.

Nearly 50 people turned out to hear the presentation and learn bear safety in the woods. Hudson saved his bear survival story until the last 10 minutes of the two-hour seminar, explaining that he was more interested in imparting life-saving information than glorifying his own experience.

"I was saved for a reason," he says. "My obligation now is to help others avoid a similar situation."

Hudson spoke primarily about the two prevalent North American bear species, the black bear and grizzly. In his four decades of working as a professional guide and bear safety officer for various corporations, the Marine Corps veteran has studied and interacted with the top bear experts, authors, and wildlife officials in the country. He says government Fish & Wildlife officials grossly underestimate the numbers of bears in our area. According to Hudson, there are close to 1,000 grizzlies in northwestern Montana, with concentrations in the Bob Marshall Wilderness,



Brent Hudson shares a picture of the Kodiak bear that attacked him.

Mission and Swan Ranges, Cabinets, and Yak. Since 2017 when hunting grizzlies was banned in British Columbia, the population has exploded, resulting in more bears drifting down from Canada into Montana and Idaho.

(Continued on next page)

Hudson advises Judy Joseph on how to work the trigger mechanism on a can of bear spray.



November Birthdays!

David Mitchell 11/5

Paul Lanz 11/9

Sandy Snodgrass 11/16

Beth Chestnut 11/20

Jan Manning 11/22



Fried chicken, anyone?

The Montana State Grange held its annual session in Thompson Falls in October. About 40 Grangers from all over the state came to discuss Grange policies, plan future programs, and, of course, socialize with food involved! The banquet featured always popular fried chicken, fresh and hot from Harvest Foods.

A distinguished visitor to the state convention was the National Grange Vice-President, Chris Hamp. She is a fourth-generation Granger who grew up on a dairy farm homesteaded by her great-grandfather in Monroe, Wash.

Pictured at left is Chris, the most popular person in the building at this moment, as she holds the platter of soon-to-disappear chicken.



Bear attack survivor captivates

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“We have an expanding population of grizzly bears,” Hudson said. “Preservationists took control over the conservationists. The Selkirk Range is a perfect freeway for bears to filter into this country.”

In non-hunted populations, he said, bears are most dangerous because they feel unthreatened by humans and are more likely to act boldly. Hudson covered various reasons that both black bears and grizzlies attack, and explained how to read a bear’s body language to determine whether it is bluffing or ready to attack. “Regardless,” he pointed out, “the only thing predictable about bears is their total unpredictability.”

Hudson addressed bear spray and firearms for personal defense, taking time to explain the pros and cons of each, which type of bear spray canister is best, how to use it, and how to shoot a bear if it becomes necessary. When it comes to firearms, he said, “Use the largest caliber you can handle with accuracy. Use a low-power scope at

lowest setting to see as much as you can up close.” Shoot the bear at center mass. Avoid a brain shot because the skulls are so thick that the bullet may not penetrate. Shoot low rather than high, and don’t waste your rounds. Once you have dropped the bear, keep shooting it until you’re positive the bear is dead.

Handguns for personal defense in bear country are less effective than rifles. “Carry a 44 magnum, or the biggest caliber you can safely handle,” he advises.

“Playing dead” around a bear is never advised, Hudson says. If you encounter a bear, do not turn your back on it, run, or make high-pitched noises. Back away from it slowly, keeping the bear in your vision. Speak in a low tone and low pitch. Try to diffuse the situation rather than escalate it. If a bear is stalking you, yell in a low pitch and make yourself look bigger. If all fails, shoot to kill. “In a nutshell,” he says, “Ready your defense system, stand your guard, and defend yourself.”

Hudson plans to return to Whitepine Grange in the spring to present the same class again. In the meantime, he can be reached by email at

bearstalker@reagan.com

Join Whitepine Grange today!

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

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)

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

- Individual Membership: \$35/year ← (Circle the one you choose)
- Family Membership: \$70/year ←

Signature _____ Date _____

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



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 2022 the Grange is still going strong! Join Whitepine Grange #102 and become part of its long, wonderful story!

This Section for use by Whitepine Grange Secretary Only

Application received on _____ Dues received on _____

Amount of Dues Received _____

Form of payment: Check Cash Other

Type of Membership: Individual Family