



# "Whitepine Whispers"

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

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April 2022

## We're just getting warmed up....!

*As the days lengthen and the soil warms, Whitepine Grange continues to blossom!*

### Leaps of faith . . .

Young students in Melissa Evans' (right) tumbling class at the Grange build confidence and agility to last a lifetime. Melissa, a former gymnast, started the class in March and plans to continue the Monday afternoon activity due to its overwhelming popularity. If you're interested in enrolling a child 6-12 years old, contact Melissa Evans at the Trout Creek Adventist School. Below, Melissa helps a youngster get into good form for a cartwheel.



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From the  
president:  
**Grange  
meeting  
format is  
changing**



If you've been to a traditional Grange meeting since 1867, you know the Grange membership begins and ends its monthly meetings with a ritualistic ceremony. This is typical of many fraternal organizations, like Masons, Elks, Oddfellows, Eastern Star and countless others. Traditions, customs and rituals are important, but not if they get in the way of a group's mission by alienating people from joining or attending meetings.

When I assumed responsibility as Whitepine Grange president (traditionally called "Master") five months ago, I felt a need to revive the Grange in its previous form—the one that served its members from 1938 (our chartering date) to the early 1990s when Whitepine Grange lost its momentum and went dormant for 30 years.

Now, almost two generations later, people's priorities and values have evolved. In an age of immediacy and action, we're not willing to sit through rituals and listen to words that have seemingly little relevance to the business at hand. **This is not just my opinion; it is direct feedback from you—our members, our guests, our speakers.**

Hence, Whitepine Grange is going to change, streamline and modernize its meeting formats. After lengthy discussions with our chapter's officers, we have decided to forego most of the formalities. We will still open with a prayer and we'll still honor our flag with The Pledge of Allegiance. You'll still have to hear me tap the gavel every now and then as a signal to stand or sit. But we're going to dispense with ceremonial marching, formal verbiage and lengthy dissertations written by well-meaning Grangers nearly two centuries ago.

I want our members to come to meetings so we can accomplish things and enjoy camaraderie. With active, eager members, we can continue to grow and flourish. Growing good things is what the Grange is all about, and I am hoping we can keep our membership reaching skyward to the sunshine.

Always eager to hear your thoughts....reach me at [whitepinegrange@gmail.com](mailto:whitepinegrange@gmail.com).

—Jan Manning, Whitepine Grange president

## Grange Calendar April 2022

Tues., March 29	Doggy Boot Camp, Wk 1, 10:30 NO LINE DANCING THIS WEEK
Wed., March 30	Ruff 'n' Rowdy (Pack Walk), 10:30
Wed., March 30	Rally Drop-In Class, 3pm
Thurs., March 31	Walk Off Winter, 9:15am
Mon., March 28	Tumbling Class, 4:30
Tues., April 5	Doggy Boot Camp, Wk 2, 10:30
Tues., April 5	Line Dancing, 3pm
Wed., April 6	Ruff 'n' Rowdy Class, 10:30
Wed., April 6	Rally Drop-In Class, 3pm
Thurs., April 7	Walk Off Winter, 9:15am
Mon., April 11	Tumbling Class, 4:30
Tues., April 12	Doggy Boot Camp, Wk 3, 10:30
Tues., April 12	Line Dancing, 3pm
Wed., April 13	Ruff 'n' Rowdy Class, 10:30
Wed., April 13	Rally Drop-In, 3pm
Thurs., April 14	Walk Off Winter, 9:15am
Tues., April 19	Doggy Boot Camp, Wk 4, 10:30
Tues., April 19	Line Dancing, 3pm
Wed., April 20	Ruff 'n' Rowdy Class, 10:30
Wed., April 20	Rally Drop-In, 3pm
Thurs., April 21	Walk Off Winter, 9:15am
Sat., April 23	Highway Clean-Up, 11am
Tues., April 26	Doggy Boot Camp, Wk 5, 10:30
Tues., April 26	Line Dancing, 3pm
Tues., April 26	Grange Meeting 6:30
Wed., April 27	Beginning Agility, Wk 1, 10:30
Wed., April 27	Rally Drop-In, 3pm
Thurs., April 28	Walk Off Winter, 9:15

***The Grange strengthens individuals,  
families and communities through  
grassroots action, service,  
education, advocacy and agriculture  
awareness.***

***Not yet a member? Join today!  
Membership form on page 7  
[www.whitepinegrange.com](http://www.whitepinegrange.com)***

Adopt  
A Highway  
Litter Control  
Next 2 Miles

WHITEPINE  
GRANGE

## Grab your gloves and let's go!

When you drive down our Montana highways in the spring, do you notice all the trash that reveals itself when the snow melts? Doesn't it make you want to get out there and clean it up so it looks pretty again?

Here's your chance: **Saturday, April 23, members of Whitepine Grange will gather in the Studs parking lot at 11am to clean up litter from MM 48 to 50.** Part of this is on the west side of the bridge, and part is on the east side.

Bring your gloves and any pick-up devices you may have. Large black trash bags and reflective safety vests will be provided.

If you've never done this before, you will find it surprisingly enjoyable and very rewarding. You, as Whitepine Grange members, have "adopted" this stretch of MT HWY 200, so you can take pride in your accomplishments.

The whole project shouldn't take more than a couple hours. **SEE YOU AT STUDS on Sat., April 23, 11am!!**

## "Walk Off Winter" exercise class starts March 31 at the Whitepine Grange Hall

"Walk Off Winter" is Jan Manning's new exercise class starting Thurs., March 31, 9:15am at the Grange. The class is for anyone of any size, shape, age or physical condition who can walk in time to a musical beat. Each session lasts about 45 minutes and is paced to complete the equivalent of one to two miles. Steps are easy, the music is great, and the camaraderie is even better.



The class motto is "MOTION IS THE BEST MEDICINE." Whether it's achy joints and muscles, lack of energy, or lack of initiative, this class will give you a new lease on life and prepare you for a great Montana summer. Class is six weeks long. Drop-in fee is \$6, or buy six sessions for \$30. All money goes to the Whitepine Grange Renovation Fund. Join us on March 31 and for the five Thursdays that follow. Reservations no longer necessary. Just show up!

## Donations now being accepted for June Yard Sale

Wait no longer to clean out your garage, basement and sheds! Gather the good stuff you no longer want or use, and bring it to Whitepine Grange for the **big Yard Sale June 24-25**. We will store it in the basement (assuming we can get it up and down the stairs) until then. Please be realistic, however; if you have doubts about whether something may be too big for the Grange to store for two months, please wait till Yard Sale weekend is closer.

We're looking for GOOD stuff—no odds and ends of kitchen or tool shed junk or large objects you'd rather not dispose of yourself. We'll welcome good furniture, small appliances that work, sports equipment in usable shape, antiques, musical instruments, gently used boots, clean tack...you get the picture. What we don't sell will have to be transported to a thrift store or landfill, and that takes manpower and gasoline. So please only donate items you know will be wanted by someone. Remember the money raised goes to finance Grange improvement projects like driveway, attic insulation, new front door, landscaping and much more.

If you have items to drop off, please clear it first with Jan at 406-827-6385. That way, we can plan on where we will store things until June 24. Thank you!!

Sanders County



# Windows: A 60-year-old dream comes true

Just like today, money was tight back in 1961 when volunteers built the current Whitepine Grange Hall. There wasn't enough money for windows, so the building went without. Occasionally a good citizen would donate money meant for window installation, but it got used to pay more emergent expenses like heat and electricity.

It took 60 years, but the windows are now done, financed by "Friends of Whitepine Grange," a charitable group established



specifically to raise money for Grange improvements, renovations and maintenance. Cottrell's Construction was hired to do the



job, which also included removal of old, cracked vinyl siding and installation of new metal siding. The project was completed in early March. Here are some photos, including "befores" and "afters" of an old building getting a new lease on life. This was a very costly project, and we are still awaiting determinations on grants to help pay for it. And...it is the first of



several costly projects. Our next priority is to repair the driveway and parking area. This will involve scraping, leveling, adding base, and then adding a top layer of good gravel. We hope to have that project completed by late spring!



Can you help us financially? Please donate to "Friends of Whitepine Grange," PO Box 1313, Trout Creek, MT 59874. Together we are readying this old building for many more generations of use.



## Pomona meeting and baked ham draw a crowd

Any Grange potluck is a 100% guarantee of excellent food, and the Pomona meeting held at Whitepine Grange on March 6 was no exception. This “Pomona” was a gathering of several granges in our geographical area, coming together to discuss matters pertinent to all of us—like Grange policies, news from the National Grange, and plans for future projects. More than 40 people attended the Pomona meeting at Whitepine Grange, including Grange members from Anaconda, Avon, Kalispell, Ronan and Corvallis.

Festivities began with the splendid potluck featuring baked ham provided by Whitepine Grange. A traditional meeting followed.

Five veterans were awarded “Quilts of Honor,” a tradition bestowed upon veterans by a national quilting group. The five receiving quilts this year were Lyman Dean, Rodger Butler, James Borden, Paul Perkins and William Beck.

Whitepine Grange will host another Pomona meeting on June 5. This meeting will be held with all traditional Grange rituals being observed.

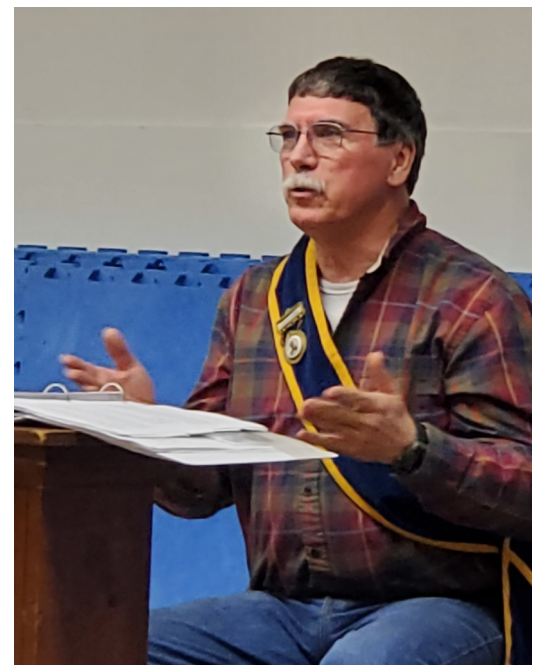
Veterans pictured from left are Lyman Dean, Rodger Butler, James Borden, Paul Perkins and William Beck.



## Naegeli returns to Whitepine Grange as the March meeting's featured speaker

Bill Naegeli literally grew up at Whitepine Grange. His mother, Mary, was a key member who kept Whitepine Grange going for many years. Bill remembers attending Grange meetings as a small child and sleeping under the wooden benches while the adults conducted the long evening meetings.

On March 22 he returned as our guest speaker, to explain the Sanders County Emergency Operations Plan. Naegeli has served as manager there for about 18 years and helped write the current plan, which outlines communications and coordination procedures between multiple state and federal agencies in times of natural or man-made disasters like fires, floods, landslides, power outages and even terrorist attacks.



## WANTED: People who want to play outside

Just imagine....picnic tables, a gazebo, fire ring, horseshoe pit, cornhole sets, kids' games, fried chicken, music and down-home family fun with neighbors....

Long ago, Whitepine Grange offered these things to the its neighborhood, and we could do it again! We have the outdoor space to do it! But we need enthusiastic helpers.

***Are you a landscape specialist?***

***Do you build picnic tables?***

***Can you dig a horseshoe pit?***

***Can you construct a gazebo?***



One person can't be expected to do all these things, but if we band together and form work **PARTIES**, we could get it done. Please think about the talents and tools you could share to help fix up the grounds of our old Grange so they can be enjoyed during these wonderful warmer months. More space = more people, more activities. Let's get it done! Share your ideas here: [whitepinegrange@gmail.com](mailto:whitepinegrange@gmail.com)



***A gift just for the asking...***

**4imprint.com** grants us three deluxe tablecloths

Good things happen to good organizations, like Whitepine Grange. An on-line specialty advertising and printing company called "4imprint.com" offered to give \$500 worth of promotional items to a worthy cause. We (Whitepine Grange) applied and were chosen to receive these beautiful green fabric tablecloths with our own logo on them. 4imprint.com actually gave us THREE, which will be used for special occasions like meetings and conferences.



If you'd like to express your gratitude, send an email to Shandi, our sales rep, at [sguzzo@4imprint.com](mailto:sguzzo@4imprint.com).

## Our guest speaker for April:

### **Nan Blake, gardener extraordinaire!**

Gardening is Nan Blake's greatest passion in life. Her second greatest passion is sharing her love and knowledge of gardening with others. She will be our guest speaker at Whitepine Grange's April meeting on April 26.

Nan is more than just a member of Whitepine Grange. In 2021 she and a couple friends took it upon themselves to clean up the grange's neglected kitchen, re-paint it, wash EVERYTHING, and then proceed to wash and paint the walls in the meeting room. Nan is responsible for bringing the interior of Whitepine Grange back to a pleasant, usable condition. We are so grateful to her for that!

She currently lives in Sagle, Idaho, but has consented to being our guest for the evening because of her passion for sharing **all things gardening**.

Now she will share her wisdom about soil, seeds, planting and weeds, and she'll be answering all your questions. If you love gardening, you won't want to miss this presentation: **Tuesday, April 26, 7pm!**



## Heirloom Seeds from the Grange:



Earlier in this newsletter, we talked about changes we're making in our monthly meetings at Whitepine Grange. We have chosen to dispense with many of the formalities, the rituals and the pageantry. In April, when you attend a Grange meeting, you will see only a room set up like any normal club meeting—tables and chairs where we can all see and talk to each other, without special sashes, banners, or implements that seem form. It will just be a friendly neighborhood meeting.

Nonetheless, we **MUST** remember how and why the Grange was formed back in 1867, and the significant role it has played in development of our agricultural nation. We are still a united brotherhood (and sisterhood) with

the mission of growing all things good, whether it's crops or families or civic pride.

That's why it's crucial we pay homage to the heirloom seeds and thoughts of the Grange organization. Here is one of the original seeds for thought:

***"I will not knowingly wrong or defraud a Brother or Sister of the Order or allow it to be done by another if within my power to prevent it."***

This means we value each other, help each other, and have each other's backs. Grangers are the best people, the best neighbors, the best citizens. We stick together to get the job done. Be proud to be a Granger!!

***See you at the next meeting on April 26!***



# Application for Individual Subordinate Grange Membership

To the officers and members of \_\_\_\_\_ Whitepine \_\_\_\_\_ Grange No. 102  
(Please Print Grange Name)

I \_\_\_\_\_ respectfully petition to be initiated and enrolled as  
(Please Print Your Full Name)

a member in your Grange. In presenting this application, I am influenced by no motive other than a desire to unite with others in elevating and advancing the interest of my community through the principles of the Grange and receiving in return such benefits and advantages as may accrue to all who belong to the Grange. I promise a faithful compliance with the By-Laws of this Grange, the By-Laws of the State Grange of **Montana** and the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Grange. I have not applied for and been rejected for membership in any other Grange within the past six months.

Mail with payment to: Whitepine Grange, PO Box 1313, Trout Creek, MT 59874

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Application fee \$ none (must accompany application) Annual Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Individual Adult \$35, Family \$70

Recommended by 1: \_\_\_\_\_ 2: \_\_\_\_\_

This Section must be completed by Applicant			
Street Address:		City	State
			Zip Code
Date of Birth:	Phone Number ( )	Email Address	
Occupation (if retired, please list occupation you retired from)			Retired? [ ] Yes [ ] No

This Section for use by Subordinate Secretary Only			
Application Received On:		Application Voted On:	
		Applicant Obligated On:	
Application Fee Received On:	Amount of App Fee Rcv'd: \$	Dues Received On:	Amount of Dues Rcv'd: \$
Type of Membership: [ ] Fraternal [ ] Affiliate	Gained By: [ ] Application [ ] Demit	If gain be Demit or if Affiliate, list home Grange	
Reported to State Grange: [ ] Q1 [ ] Q2 [ ] Q3 [ ] Q4 of 20 _____			

This Section for use by State Secretary Only		
Application Received On:	Enrolled On This Date:	Member Number Assigned: