



“Whitepine Whispers”

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

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December 2021

Dictionary project is a best-seller!

More than 70 elementary school kids in the west end of Sanders County received their very own dictionaries in November, compliments of Whitepine and Thompson Falls Granges.

The two Granges teamed up to purchase the dictionaries designed specifically for third-graders. The “Words for Thirds” project is an annual Grange campaign nationwide. Whitepine Grange used to participate until about six years ago when finances became tight. Now, however, our Grange is thriving once again, so we were happy to take part in the dictionary program after a six-year break.

Patty English, Peggy Carlson and Jan Manning distributed the books to eager students in Noxon and Trout Creek, and were later joined by Don Burrell (Thompson Falls Grange) and Arne Carlson to pass out books to the Thompson Falls kids. We also donated books to the Trout Creek Adventist School.

The books were enthusiastically received by the children at all venues.



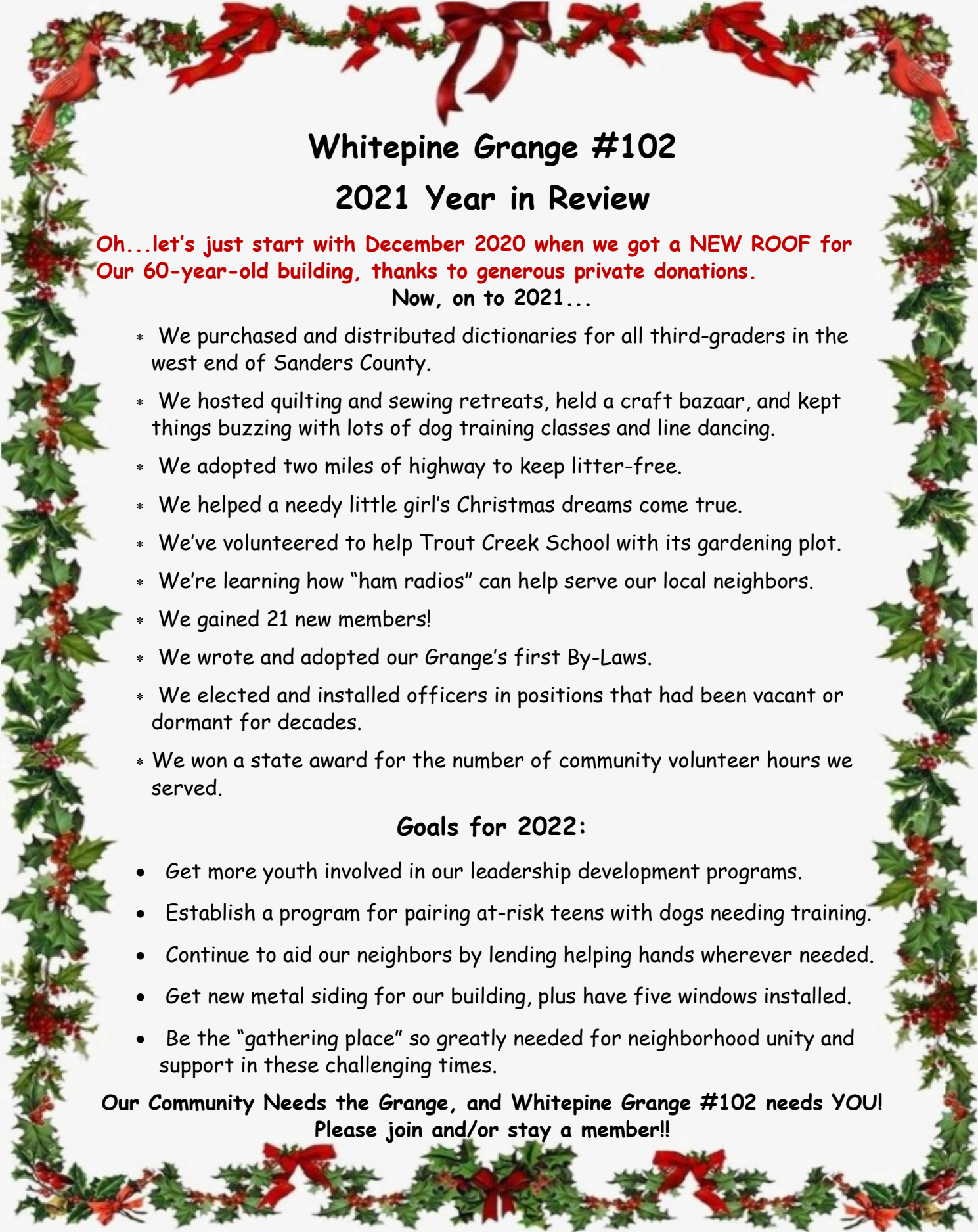
The Trout Creek third-graders were thrilled to receive their dictionaries.



Patty English of Whitepine Grange (center) is flanked by students at the Trout Creek Adventist School who eagerly accepted the special dictionaries designed for children.



Peggy Carlson resumed her role of dictionary presenter after a six-year hiatus. Here, one generation passes along a Grange tradition to another .generation of future Grangers.



Whitepine Grange #102 2021 Year in Review

Oh...let's just start with December 2020 when we got a NEW ROOF for Our 60-year-old building, thanks to generous private donations.

Now, on to 2021...

- * We purchased and distributed dictionaries for all third-graders in the west end of Sanders County.
- * We hosted quilting and sewing retreats, held a craft bazaar, and kept things buzzing with lots of dog training classes and line dancing.
- * We adopted two miles of highway to keep litter-free.
- * We helped a needy little girl's Christmas dreams come true.
- * We've volunteered to help Trout Creek School with its gardening plot.
- * We're learning how "ham radios" can help serve our local neighbors.
- * We gained 21 new members!
- * We wrote and adopted our Grange's first By-Laws.
- * We elected and installed officers in positions that had been vacant or dormant for decades.
- * We won a state award for the number of community volunteer hours we served.

Goals for 2022:

- Get more youth involved in our leadership development programs.
- Establish a program for pairing at-risk teens with dogs needing training.
- Continue to aid our neighbors by lending helping hands wherever needed.
- Get new metal siding for our building, plus have five windows installed.
- Be the "gathering place" so greatly needed for neighborhood unity and support in these challenging times.

**Our Community Needs the Grange, and Whitepine Grange #102 needs YOU!
Please join and/or stay a member!!**

Ham Radios: An old technology generates new appeal

Lynn Lanzoni, vice president of the Clark Fork Valley Amateur Radio Club, was our guest speaker at the November Grange meeting.

Lanzoni, who's had an extensive and varied career in military special operations and law enforcement, explained the concepts behind ham radio. He showed examples of various types of communication equipment, saying the price range was anywhere from \$30 on up, depending on the features desired. He said the local club is eager to sign up and mentor new members so they can eventually get a fully operational communication system throughout the valley. These radios would then be used in times of public emergency when other forms of electronic communication may not be available.

For more info about the Clark Fork Valley Amateur Radio Club, which meets once a month in Plains, contact Lanzoni in Thompson Falls.



Lynn Lanzoni with his drug-detecting dog Max while working for the Sanders County Sheriff's Department.



Our Grange's "Christmas Child"

Whitepine Grange decided to "adopt" an anonymous child for Christmas this year. She was recommended and assigned to us by Sanders County Coalition for Families, an organization that works with abused and underprivileged children and families in crisis.

We were assigned a shopping list for "needed" and "wanted" items, and it looks like we've completed our shopping, thanks to the help of generous Grangers. Among the items needed for the 11-year-old were a winter coat, gloves, and socks in any color other than purple or pink. Her "wanted" list included a hydroflask, a "big fuzzy gray blanket," soccer ball, earrings, an alarm clock/radio, and LED rainbow lights to decorate her room.

We'll never meet our girl, but we know her Christmas will be a bit more magical, as it should be, thanks to the generosity of Whitepine Grange members!

Scholarships available; deadline is February 25

The Montana State Grange offers college and vocational training scholarships of \$500 for qualifying high schoolers graduating in 2022. **Application deadline is Feb. 25.**

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.

This is for students going on to continued education at an accredited college or vocational school. Applicants will be judged on financial need, volunteer work in the community, church or Grange, letters of reference, and other criteria.

For a complete application package, **please contact Jan Manning at sandersagility@gmail.com. And remember, the application deadline is Feb. 25, 2022!**

The Grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy and agriculture awareness. Not yet a member? Join today!

The Gallery: Photos with Santa, 2021

On Saturday, Nov. 27, Santa made a quiet visit to Whitepine Grange for pictures with people and their pets. He parked the reindeer across the road in Reeds' field and disguised them as Black Angus to avoid the paparazzi. He did it all to help us raise money for next year's "Words for Thirds" dictionary project.



Thank you,
Santa and Mrs.
Santa, for
donating your
time!



Thank you, Ron Weygint, for your
gallant and patient help as
"The Man in Red."



Grange Calendar December 2021

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Wed., Dec. 1 | Drop-in Dog Training |
| Tues., Dec. 7 | Doggy Boot Camp, Week 1 |
| Tues., Dec. 7 | Line Dancing |
| Wed., Dec. 8 | Drop-in Dog Training |
| Sat., Dec. 11 | Private Sewing Party |
| Tues., Dec. 14 | Doggy Boot Camp, Week 2 |
| Tues., Dec. 14 | Line Dancing |
| Wed., Dec. 15 | Dog Class Party |
| Tues., Dec. 21 | Doggy Boot Camp, Week 3 |
| Tues., Dec. 21 | Line Dancing |
| Tues., Dec. 28 | Doggy Boot Camp, Week 4 |
| Tues., Dec. 28 | Line Dancing |
| Tues., Dec. 28 | Grange Holiday Party |



The Craft Bazaar on Nov. 20 was a huge hit. Crafters are already planning another fair for next fall at Whitepine Grange.

Christmas Parties

Christmas Party No. 1

The Pomona Grange Party

Sunday, Dec. 5, 1pm

All Grange members and family welcome!!

Thompson Falls Senior Center

Turkey provided; please bring sides.

*Please bring non-perishable canned goods
to donate to the local food banks*

Holiday Party No. 2

Whitepine Grange Christmas & New Year's Party

Tuesday, Dec. 28, 6pm

Potluck!! Gift Exchange! Bingo and Games

All Grange members and family welcome!

Stay tuned for more details! (Watch your email!!)