



"Whitepine Whispers"

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

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December 2020

Merry Christmas to all our neighbors and friends!



As this year of change and challenge draws to a close, it's time to remember the things that really matter: good neighbors, loving families, and appreciation for the rich and beautiful rural lifestyle with which we are blessed. Ours is a heritage worth preserving, and the historic Whitepine Grange is a part of it. Thank you for your support this year. We can't wait to see more of you in 2021, at the little white building on the corner of Hwy 200 and Faro Lane in Trout Creek. A Happier New Year to all!!

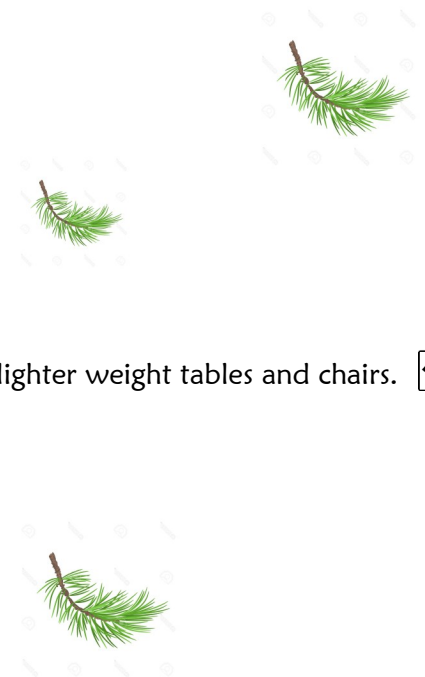
Great news and photos in the following pages!!

Wow, look what we got done this year!

MISSION: to restore and rejuvenate the Whitepine Grange building for the rural community to utilize as a meeting place and multi-purpose neighborhood center as it has been in decades past.

THE PROJECTS:

- Replace old lighting fixtures with energy-saving LEDs.
- Repair the parking lot light.
- Totally clean and paint the kitchen.
- Rebuild a new back porch.
- Repair and stain the front porch.
- Replace old theater chairs and broken banquet tables with new, lighter weight tables and chairs.
- Clean out , paint, and rearrange the storage room.
- Paint the walls of the main hall.
- Paint the entry hallway.
- Paint the restroom.
- New signs for the exterior of building.



These projects were done with volunteer labor and mostly donated materials. Items like chairs, tables and lights were purchased with monetary gifts donated for the express purpose of renovating the Grange. We all have many generous individuals to thank for their time, expenses and hard work! Thank you to all who have helped!

“But wait! There’s more!!!”

Oh yes, of course there’s always more to do. These projects still await completion, and we expect to get them done in 2021:

- Re-roof the building (the funds are available, we’re just waiting for the roofer to get to us).
- New siding for the building. The siding is badly cracked and in need of replacement to protect the structure.
- New bathroom fixture (the old john on the main floor has issues)
- Repairs to the drain field and foundation.
- New flooring for the kitchen, restroom, and main hall.
- Grade and gravel the parking area.
- Purchase a new on-demand hot water heater.

And then....we start on the basement!!



A Pictorial Review of 2020 at Whitepine Grange



Left: Volunteer carpenters Tim Greene, Don Manning and Bill Beck disassemble the old rotten back porch .

Below: Their finished project, a new and safer back porch.



Left: the old front porch with broken railings.

Below: the repaired front porch with new railings and a fresh coat of stain, complements of volunteer Carrie Greene and crew.



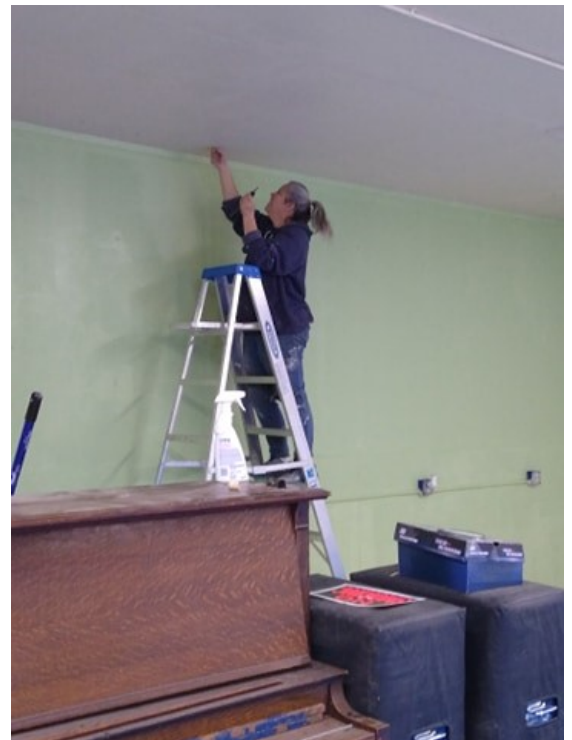


Above: the wonderful cleaning and painting crew, volunteers Nan Blake, Clay Blake and Sue Marsh.

Below: Volunteer Carrie Greene pressure washes the repaired front porch in preparation for staining.



Above: The back porch construction crew of Bill Beck, Don Manning and Tim Greene take a well deserved break on a hot August day.



Right: Volunteer painter Sue Marsh climbs high to reach the top of a green accent wall in the main hall.

Right: New chairs and lightweight tables have replaced the old theater chairs and broken banquet tables.





Above: Dog training class student Casse Mortenson practices the “curb” command at the back door with her dog Genesis. Dog classes taught by Jan Manning have generated about \$1500 in revenue for the Grange this year. Weekly line dance classes led by JoAnn Pruett have also been an important revenue source for the Grange.



Above: Volunteer Mike Bingham installs the new LED light fixtures in the main hall, replacing the old fluorescent tubes. A rebate from NLI helped pay for the new lights.



Left: Volunteers Mike and Sue Marsh strip the kitchen and prepare for cleaning and fresh paint.

Above: the finished product now just awaits new vinyl flooring.



Above: A large, bright sign now makes the Grange more visible from the highway.



Above: Volunteer painter Nan Blake was not afraid to climb high to the hard-to-reach wall sections around ductwork.



Above: It's been a few years since a Christmas tree graced the Grange hall. Jan Manning's dog Spade poses in front of this year's tree, donated by Thompson Falls resident Sandra Lack.

Below: Santa volunteered for a photo shoot again this year to raise funds for the Grange. Thank you, Ron Weygint!



Right: Blasts from the past are displayed in the entryway pay tribute to the history and activities of past generations at Whitepine Grange. The middle pennant is from 1953.





Left: Jan Harris of Sanders County Dog Training Club assists a young man with his reading skills, with the help of her Australian Shepherd, Buddy, who gets to listen to the stories being read. The clinic was held at the Grange earlier this year.



Right: The Grange emblem now hangs in a prominent position on the walls of the main hall as a reminder of the Grange's original purpose.



Above: Whitepine Grange will be getting a new roof very soon, thanks to the generosity of donors from our area.

The *Grange*, officially named **The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry**, is a fraternal organization in the United States that encourages families to band together to promote the economic and political well-being of the community and agriculture.

Whitepine Grange #102 is still fulfilling that obligation! Join us!
Dues are just \$30 per year.
Whitepine Grange 102
P.O. Box 1313
Trout Creek, MT 59874

Right: The refurbished Grange hall was an ideal setting for Santa's volunteer photo shoot this year. This was the second year for this fun and successful activity, which we plan to host again in 2021.



Right: Peggy Carlson of Trout Creek has served tirelessly as secretary of Whitepine Grange 102 for decades. If you would like to **JOIN the Grange**, contact Peggy at 827-4504, or send a note to her:

Peggy Carlson
 Whitepine Grange 102
 P.O. Box 1313
 Trout Creek, MT
 59874



IRS awards “Friends of Whitepine Grange” nonprofit status

In September, “Friends of Whitepine Grange” filed an application with the Internal Revenue Service requesting nonprofit status as a 501.c.3 organization. In November, that coveted status was granted.

The nonprofit classification makes it possible for donors to receive tax deductions for their contributions to “Friends of Whitepine Grange.” This provides higher motivation for people to give substantial donations. As a result, we now have sufficient money to pay for a new roof on the building. We are grateful beyond words for the donors who have helped us reach this point!

The 501.c.3 status will also make it easier for “Friends of Whitepine Grange” to pursue grants for preservation and maintenance of the building and grounds.

As stated on the IRS application, the mission of “Friends of Whitepine Grange” (which is separate from the Grange organization itself) is to “support the maintenance of the historic Whitepine Grange 102 building at 9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, Montana.”

“Friends of Whitepine Grange” collects donations to accomplish this mission. Our goal is to bring the Whitepine Grange building back up to speed as a safe, attractive community center, meeting place, reception hall and classroom for various neighborhood groups.

“Friends of Whitepine Grange” has a bank account at First Security Bank in Thompson Falls. Donations can be made to the account, and donors will get receipts for tax purposes.

For more information on donating to the Grange improvement projects, please contact:

Friends of Whitepine Grange

Jan Manning, Secretary

153 Childs Road

Trout Creek, MT 59874

Email her at sandersagility@gmail.com

Thank you, 2020 donors!

Gene and Dona Pope
Jan and Jack Harris
Joe Altmann
Patty English
Carrie and Tim Greene
Guy Engebretson
Debb McNary
Linda and Ron Weygint
Jan Manning
Tom and Debbie Mason
Debbie O’Toole
Clay and Nanette Blake
Maureen Morkert
Kathy Hassan
Heather Saint
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Bill Beck
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Rebecca Sink
Wes Sink
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Eileen and Ron Turk
Carol Susic
Sanders County Dog Training Club
Susan Sweatman
Shelly Hussey
Bob Hofmeister
The Crew Family
Lori Wigen
Rick Kendall
Wendy Dossantos
Sandy and Steve
Joanna Smith
Paul Chambers
Kayla Mosher
JoAnn Pruet
Maureen Carpenter
Ruth Tucker
Rachel Fairbank
Toni Adams
Brandi Shaneybrook

Whitepine Grange is available to rent!

A great place for your next reception, meeting, seminar, clinic or crafting get-together! Rent the building for as little as \$25 per day, which includes access to kitchen and restroom. Some nonprofit groups may qualify for even lower rental rates. Please contact Jan Manning, 827-6385, or Peggy Carlson, 827-4504, for scheduling and rental information and rates.