



"Whitepine Whispers"

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

Published by Friends of Whitepine Grange

September 2020

Volunteers are making it happen!

The Whitepine Grange's facelift continues, thanks to the efforts of volunteers who recognize the importance of preserving and utilizing this historic building.

Here's what's been done in the past month:

The kitchen has been repainted. (Thank you, Sue Marsh and Nanette Blake.) Cupboards have been painted. Dishes and utensils were culled and cleaned. The rotting linoleum has been scraped up. LED lights brighten the once dingy room. (Thank you, Mike Bingham.) The kitchen now looks and smells CLEAN. All it lacks is new linoleum (which should be coming soon).

The main hall has been cleaned and repainted. (Thank you, Nan and Sue.) The walls are a brighter white. The back wall is a light green. Clean, new, white folding chairs and tables now line the walls. (Thanks to Kiewit Corporation for donating several like-new banquet tables to the Grange when they wrapped up the Trout Creek Bridge project.) The old musty smell is gone! LED tubes brighten the room like never before. (Thank you, Mike Bingham.) We anticipate getting linoleum donated to cover the old particle board floor (thanks in advance, Chris Stough.)

The entrance hallway is painted a bright, clean white.

providing a museum-like look into the Grange's rich past.

The coat room has been refurbished. The rickety coat rack is gone, replaced by a sturdy, modern rack (donated by Carrie Greene). The dust has been cleaned from the corners. The storage area above the bathroom has been cleaned. (Thanks, Jan Manning.)

The bathroom itself still needs work. The linoleum needs replacing, we need a new faucet set in the sink (the current one drips), But the walls have been painted a cleaner, brighter off-white. An LED bulb has replaced the one incandescent bulb in the ceiling. (Thanks, Jan Manning.)

The front porch railing has been repaired, (thank you, Joseph Altmann), as well as several boards in the deck. (Thank you, Bill Beck.) It's been pressure washed and will undergo staining later this week. (Thank you, Carrie Greene.)

The back porch has been completely replaced with a new, safer structure that will probably outlast the rest of the building. It, too, will be stained this week or next. This engineering/carpentry project was volunteered by Don Manning, Bill Beck, and Tim Greene.

All in all, the Grange Hall is in better shape right now than it has been in decades! We are just about ready to start promoting it for multiple community uses again. Just a few more projects to go, and then we will plan an "Open House" so everyone can see the "new" old Grange.



Waiting on the IRS....

In August, we applied to the IRS for nonprofit 501.c.3 tax status under the name of "Friends of Whitepine Grange." This group is not legally connected with The Grange, but rather has been formed solely to raise funds for the renovation and preservation of the Whitepine Grange building. This separate fund-raising group is necessary because the Grange organization generates virtually no revenue and receives no aid for maintaining and/or improving the building.

Why are YOU receiving this newsletter?

You are on the mailing list for Whitepine Grange 102 because you have either expressed an interest in the renovation project or have been identified by me (Jan Manning) as someone who may have value (time, expertise, and/or monetary donations) that could greatly benefit the Grange. "Friends of the Grange" is not yet a 501.c.3 but we hope to get this done by next year. This will help us with funding of large projects like the roofing and siding. Meanwhile we are forging ahead, not waiting for perfect conditions.

Life as we knew it is still on hold. No one knows whether the change is temporary or permanent, but the COVID virus has wreaked havoc on nearly all phases of our normal lives.

We can either give up and let these changes forever damage our lives, or we can surge forward with the American spirit that helped us establish the best country on earth.

That's what we plan to do with the renovation of our historic Whitepine Grange 102. We may not be ready to hold potlucks, square dances and bazaars again yet, due to government mandated restrictions. But we're going ahead and getting it ready for the day when we control our own lives and destinies once again.

If you would rather not receive email updates about the Whitepine Grange 102 renovation project, just drop me a line (sandersagility@gmail.com). If you have SUGGESTIONS for our project, please do the same!

Another way to help Whitepine Grange 102

If you're not into painting, cleaning, plumbing or remodeling, please consider a cash donation to help pay for these projects. Whitepine Grange receives NO monies for such things from the state or national Grange organization. It is ours, as a community, to use as long as we maintain it. If you would like to mail a check to cover these maintenance and remodeling costs, please make it to **Whitepine Grange 102**, and mail it to **Peggy Carlson, secretary, at 32 Willow Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874.**

Want to JOIN THE GRANGE?
Peggy can help you do that too!!



Whitepine Grange was the first place we voted as new residents of Montana. That was in 2008. What a great memory!



Do you have memories of Whitepine Grange? Please share them!

Send your remembrances to Jan Manning, sandersagility@gmail.com. If you have old photos of past Grange events, please scan and send them too!

Old banquet tables for sale! Make Offer!

The Grange has about five old 8' folding tables that are going to the dump unless someone would like them. They are not in perfect shape, but are certainly useable, particularly if covered with tablecloths. Contact Jan, 827-6385, and make an offer that will benefit the Grange.

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The Whitepine Grange 102 building is available for...



- Group meetings
- Exercise classes
- Dance classes
- Parties
- Receptions
- Celebrations
- Educational presentations
- Craft get-togethers
- Tupperware, Pampered Chef, DoTerra and similar parties
- Potlucks
- 4-H projects
- Community service events

You can rent the Grange for \$25 per day or less.



The Grange has a fully functioning kitchen, restroom, ample off-street parking, and many other amenities. Spread the word! If you'd like to rent the Grange, contact Jan Manning at 827-6385.

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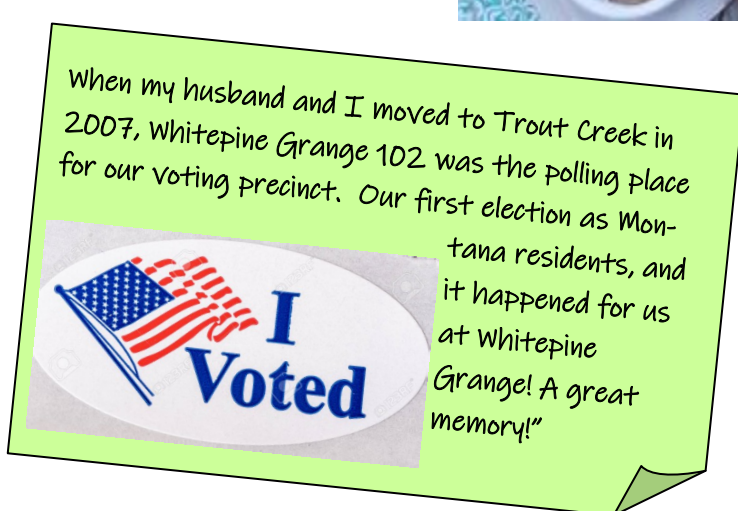
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PROJECT 8: CLEAN UP COAT ROOM



Remove excess items from coat room, clean its shelves, and move what is worth keeping to the basement for storage. Totes will be provided.

PROJECT 9: DE-CLUTTER MAIN HALL



Clear out cabinets and shelves in main hall, and bring unused items to basement for storage. There are several decades' worth of 4H scrapbooks, old décor items, etc., most of which have not been touched for 25 years or more.

PROJECT 10: REPLACE FLUORESCENT LIGHTS WITH LEDs

PROJECT 11: WASH, REPAIR PAINT THE WALLS IN THE MAIN HALL



10. The main hall is currently illuminated with 18 sets of fluorescent light fixtures. We want to replace them with LEDs for better energy efficiency and much better light. We need a savvy person who can come in and do this job. Materials will be provided.

The kitchen also has two of these old fluorescent light fixtures that need replacing.

11. The main hall's walls also need some minor repairs, washing, and a fresh coat of bright, white paint.

When and where to start?

Each of these projects can be tackled immediately and done on your own time. The Grange is currently not being utilized very much, so the schedule is quite open. Contact Jan Manning, 406-827-6385, for details and access information. Email: sandersagility@gmail.com. *Okay, friends, let's get started!!*