



“Whitepine Whispers”

News of Whitepine Grange #102

9 Faro Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874

Published by Friends of Whitepine Grange

March 2023

Weather owes us a re-do on the Mardi Gras party

At 4:45pm on Feb. 21, the evening of our Cajun Mardi Gras party, Mother Nature unleashed a memorable snow/ice storm that virtually forced everyone to stay off the roads that night. Hence, our fund-raising party at Whitepine fizzled with only a few diehards braving the icy roads. Those who came had a great time and enjoyed the traditional Cajun feast and music. However, we postponed our efforts to raise money for the **Cancer Network of Sanders County** and decided to hold this fundraiser again when the weather is more agreeable.

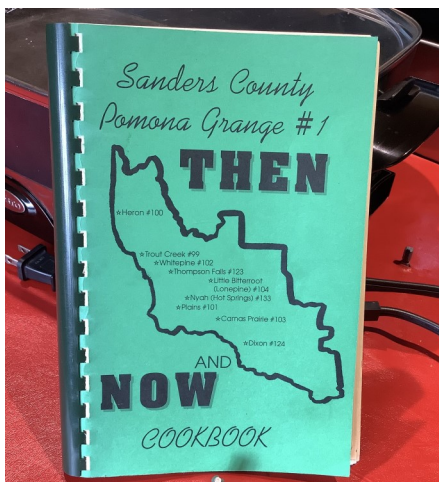
The tentative date for our next Cajun party is Saturday night, June 17. Watch for announcements and bring your friends for a dinner of traditional Cajun gumbo, music and merriment the way it's done in Louisiana's bayou country, where every Saturday night is like Mardi Gras!

Meanwhile, sincere thanks to all those who made donations to help cover costs for the event. Special thanks to Trout Creek Local Store and Harvest Foods for their generous donations of gift cards for out game winners. We saved the cards and will award them to the winners at the June 17 party!



Above: Grange member Melissa Porcaro (right) gets into the spirit of Mardi Gras, despite wintry Montana weather.

Left: Spicy gumbo and warm companionship made up for the snowstorm outside.



Rediscovered: A Taste of Yesteryear!

A former resident of Heron found this vintage cookbook while sorting through her late mother's books, and she decided Whitepine Grange needed to have this in its library.

It's a cookbook full of recipes from all the Granges in Sanders County from 1936 to 1994. At one time there were nine Granges in our county, including Heron, Trout Creek, Whitepine, Thompson Falls, Little Bitterroot (Lonepine), Nyah (Hot Springs), Plains, Camas Prairie and Dixon. Today only three remain: Whitepine, Thompson Falls, and Nyah. But the memories of potluck dinners and social get-togethers remain, with many of them recorded in this little

(continued on page 4)

REAL FACETIME HERE

From the president:

It's been a LONG winter. We hear that every year, yet it seems to hit home more and more as we age. Every winter from hereon in will be "longer." Now I understand why so many older adults migrate to warmer climes for at least a few weeks this time of year. It's not so much a "want to" as a "need to."

For those of us who choose to weather through these cold months right here at home, isolation can become its own disease. Humans are gregarious; they need togetherness. Without true face-to-face socialization with other humans, we can become vulnerable to depression and other maladies that go along with it.

Being involved in the Grange, where you have opportunities to interact with neighbors and community members on a regular basis, may be one of the healthiest things you can do for yourself during these winter doldrums. It's better than Facetime, Zoom meetings and video calls.

On page 3 of this newsletter, you'll see Whitepine Grange's calendar of events for March. They include classes in exercise, breadmaking, barn quilt painting, dog training and more. During unscheduled times, the Grange is available to rent for parties, receptions and meetings. This is a place where people can get REAL FACETIME.

The Grange has always been a gathering place for individuals and families can safely meet, learn, network, and strengthen their community. Be sure to take advantage of it!

—Jan Manning, Whitepine Grange #102



"Wasn't that a party!"

Whitepine Grange hosted **three** birthday parties in one week last month! It was the perfect place little ones to run around, make lots of noise and eat cake! A dancing rooster even made an appearance at one of the celebrations!

If you'd like to rent the Grange for one of your celebrations, call 406-827-6385 or email Whitepinegrange@gmail.com.



Whitepine Grange Schedule March 2023

Whitepine Grange is the perfect facility for parties, dances, receptions, meetings, dinners and classes.

Rental fee \$35

Located at the corner of Hwy 200 & Faro Lane, near MM38, between Thompson Falls & Trout Creek.

For more info, email:

whitepinegrange@gmail.com

Wed., March 1	Rough & Rowdy Dogs, 10:30am
Wed., March 1	Rally Drop-In, 2pm
Thurs., March 2	Rockin' Walkin', 10am
Sat., March 4	Rally Obedience, 1pm
Sun., March 5	Agility Beginners, 1:30pm
Sun., March 5	Agility Intermediates, 3pm
Mon., March 6	Tumbling, Afternoon
Tues., March 7	GRANGE CLOSED
Wed., March 8	FOR INSTALLATION
Thurs., March 9	OF NEW
Friday, March 10	FLOORING!
Sat., March 11	Rally Make-up, 1pm
Sat., March 11	Private Meeting, 3:30pm
Sun., March 12	Agility Beginners, 1:30pm
Sun., March 12	Agility Intermediates, 3pm
Mon., March 13	Tumbling, Afternoon
Tues., March 14	Doggy Boot Camp, Wk 2, 10:30am
Tues., March 14	Line Dancing, 3pm
Wed., March 15	Rough & Rowdy Dogs, 10:30am
Wed., March 15	Rally Drop-In, 2pm
Thurs., March 16	Rockin' Walkin', 10am
Sat., March 18	Breadmaking, 9am
Sat., March 18	Barn Quilt Painting, 1pm
Sun., March 19	Agility Beginners, 1:30pm
Sun., March 19	Agility Intermediates, 3pm
Mon., March 20	Tumbling, afternoon
Tues., March 21	Doggy Boot Camp, Wk 3, 10:30am
Tues., March 21	Line Dancing, 3pm
Wed., March 22	Rough & Rowdy Dogs, 10:30am
Wed., March 22	Rally Drop-In, 2pm
Thurs., March 23	Rockin' Walkin', 10am
Sat., March 25	Breadmaking, 9am
Sun., March 26	Agility Beginners, 1:30pm
Sun., March 26	Agility Intermediates, 3pm
Mon., March 27	Tumbling, afternoon
Tues., March 28	Doggy Boot Camp, Wk 4 (final), 10:30am
Tues., March 28	Line Dancing, 3pm
Tues., March 28	Monthly Grange Meeting/Program, 7pm
Wed., March 29	Rough & Rowdy Dogs, 10:30am
Wed., March 29	Rally Drop-In, 2pm
Thurs., March 30	Rockin' Walkin' 10am

Join the Grange! Be part of NEW HISTORY!

Membership dues are \$35 for individuals, \$70 for families. We're all about supporting families and our communities! (Plus, we have a lot of fun!) See application on page 7.

Rediscovered: Taste of Yesteryear

(Continued from page 1)

green book titled, "Then and Now Cookbook," compiled by members of all nine Granges which formed a "Pomona" (a formal assemblage of two or more community Granges.)

Also included in this book are brief histories of each of Sanders County's nine Granges. Here's the story of Whitepine Grange #102:

"On Jan. 6, 1938, a group of people met at the Whitepine School house for a public meeting, where Mr. L.E. Kegley, a National Grange Deputy, and Mrs. Beulah Haase, the Trout Creek Grange Master, explained about the Grange and encouraged the group to start a Grange at Whitepine.

"A Grange was organized and three officers were elected at that time. They were Master, Orin Kendall, Secretary, Elsie Weeks, and Lecturer, Ruby Leary. A signed Charter was kept open for several weeks and when closed it contained the names of 41 people. Of those 41 only 2 remained as paid-up members of a Grange family for more than 25 years. They were Orin and Ivy Kendall.

"The first regular meeting of the new Whitepine Grange was held 2 weeks after organizing and then the remaining officers were milled. Material for sashes and pedestals was ordered. The women of the Grange made the sashes, Lila Johnson made the pedestal cloths and Syvert Everson made the pedestals and bases for the staves and flag.

"Although these were difficult times, the Grange carried on even through the war years. They did much for the service men and women. A bronze memorial plaque was placed in the school house with names added as they joined the service. When the Whitepine school house burned, the plaque was lost.

"A Juvenile Grange was formed and was active for several years, until there were not enough members to hold meetings.

"The Grange purchased some land across the highway from the school house and started a basement, but financial difficulties arose and the work was stopped for a few years. Grange met in the school house until there was a need for more room to store properties, etc. The Haases offered the use of the old Section house building until a proper Grange Hall could be built. It was crowded but the Grange members carried on many worthwhile community projects from there. One was building 3 sets of picnic tables and benches which were placed in shady places along the highway. Vandals soon made destructive attacks on them.

"Many times the Grange membership became so low and attendance so poor that it was a question of whether to continue...but there were always those who rallied for continuance. Such loyal supporters as Frank and Flossie Helterline of Plains and many others came to encourage us. State Master Weydemeyer

Whitepine Grange #102 Officers 2023

President:	Jan Manning
Vice-President:	Carolyn Nesbitt
Secretary:	Patty English
Treasurer:	KathyHill/DonaPope
Executive Committee:	
	Gene Pope
	Debbie Mason
	Ruth Tucker

attended our 19th Anniversary meeting on Jan. 7, 1957, and urged us to take a backward look at what the Grange had accomplished and what it would mean to many if we continued. Ray Warner, at the same meeting, encouraged us to obtain many more members; strength in numbers, so to speak.

(Continued on next page)

Whitepine Grange March Birthdays

David Orr, 3-2
Susan McFarland, 3-7
Kathy Hill, 3-9
Liz Hudson, 3-19
Debbie Wilson, 3-25

**Happy
Birthday to all!**

A recipe from the old book

TASTY OATMEAL BREAD

Peggy Carlson, Whitepine
Grange #102

Ingredients

1/2 c. warm water
1pkg. Dry yeast
2 c. scalded milk
2 c. instant oats
1/4 c. brown sugar, packed
1 Tbsp. shortening, soft
1 Tbs. sale
5 1/2 to 6 c. flour

In mixing bow, dissolve yeast in water. Combine mil, oats, brown sugar, shortening and salt. Cool to lukewarm. Stir in yeast. Add flour in two additions...mixing first with spoon and then with hands. Turn onto lightly floured board. Cover and let stand or 10 minutes. Knead until smooth and elastic. Round up in greased bowl and bring greased side up. Let rise in warm place until doubled..1 1/2 to 2 hours. Punch down. Divide in half. Shape into 2 loaves. Roll lightly on surface sprinkled with oats. Place in 2 greased loaf pans 9x5x3. Cover with cloth, let rise until doubled. Bake 30 to 40 minutes at 400 degrees until brown.

Good by to that Hello to this!



After 62 years of just a stained, pitted subfloor, our Grange is finally getting a REAL FLOOR!!! Installation begins March 7 and should be completed by March 10. We are ushering in a New Era for Whitepine Grange!

Many thanks to our donors who helped make this possible at last!

Rediscovered

(Continued from page 5)

“In February 1958 an empty house near the Grange owned land was for sale. The members decided to buy it and remodel it to use until the big hall could be built. In the meantime the Grange worked at making money for the construction. In 1961 plans were made for the building of the present hall. Gary Draszt was elected building chairman, and work was begun and eventually finished to the point where meetings could be held in it.

“On Jan. 2, 1963, the Grange held a 25th Anniversary party. Seventy-five grangers from many places attended. Sister Ivy Kendall baked and served a beautiful cake. Brother Orin and Sister Ivy Kendall were presented with 25-year Grange pins. They had demitted to Thompson Falls Grange by then. Brother Edgar Taylor furnished music for the Anniversary party.

“In 1965 a Grange project was to get our local cemetery put on the County tax roll for proper upkeep. An election was held and the vote was unanimous for doing so.

“In 1980 Trout Creek Grange sadly relinquished their charter. Some members demitted to Whitepine. Their loss was our gain. Lester Flanigan, who lived near Whitepine Store was the person who thought of a country carnival event. He and his wife worked hard at making it successful. The Grange “Farm Frolic” carnival events were the best money-maker projects we tried and were held annually for many years. Various games for adults and children were offered along with drawings for valuable articles. Raffles were held. Once we raffled a hunting rifle. The county Sheriff, Wallace (Wally) Britton won it. Lyle Haase made a roulette wheel. It is still hanging in the closet. The children liked it and for a few cents they could win a nice prize.

“A grange Centennial party was held and the hall turned into the DIM-VIEW saloon for the evening with access to a snackbar and punch bowl.

“In 1981 the grange began working for another grange at the Sanders County Fair on Saturday to earn money to fix up the hall. In 1987 and 1988 the Grange hall was enhanced with new siding and front porch with ramp and steps covered with green carpeting and a new Grange sign. In the fall of 1991 a septic system was installed and by February 1992 an indoor bathroom was completed and the old outside privy was burned. The kitchen was changed around. The rear entrance/exit has been built with donated lumber and time by members.

“The Home Start Program has asked if they can use the Grange Hall as a permanent meeting place. It would be a convenient location for western Sanders County. Whitepine is seeking monies via grants and donations to enable them to finish the basement for use and to secure water and electrical systems.

“The Grange has persevered over the years to increase membership, and to help the community as a whole. Our Hall has been used for many events: 4-H meetings, bazaars, sewing contest judging, Rural Electric meetings, SCS meetings, the highway right-of-way meetings, showers, weddings, funeral dinners, a Hunters Ball, Ground Hog feed, Easter breakfast and egg hunts, several Farm Frolic carnivals, dances and a place to vote.”

Fabric and Craft Exchange Sale was a smashing success!!

The Fabric and Crafters' "Stash Sale" in February brought lots of happy traffic to Whitepine Grange. The one-day sale gave local crafters a chance to reduce their inventories of supplies and grab up super deals on other crafters' excess items. Customers of all ages enjoyed the social aspect as well as the great prices on fabric, jewelry findings, beads, stamping, scrapbooking, knitting, cardmaking, oil painting, needlepoint, and many more. Vendors have asked the Grange to host another exchange in the fall. Watch for the date to be announced and start getting your "stash" ready !



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
- Family Membership: \$70/year

{ (Circle the one you choose)

Spouse's/partners' name (opt.) _____

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 2023 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

Reported to State Grange: [] Q1 [] Q2 [] Q3 [] Q4 of 20____