

Report of the North Pole Grange for 2013 Alaska State Grange Meeting

Worthy Master, Officers of the Grange, fellow Delegates, Guests, and Visitors, I appreciate this opportunity to present this summary of activities and accomplishments of the North Pole Grange since our last meeting:

North Pole Grange experienced another great year in 2012. Our building, The North Pole Grange Hall, continues to be our greatest asset as well as our biggest burden. Increasing fuel costs associated with winter building usage are our biggest challenge.

The monthly art shows continue to be successful. The North Pole Grange Gallery regularly receives recognition as the best Gallery in the interior by local artists. The event brings many regular participants to our Hall each month along with a few new faces. This monthly event provides the local community with a popular art show on the third Friday of each month with frequent workshops on the Saturday following the show. Flint Hills Resources, the local refinery in North Pole, has come on board as a corporate sponsor of our shows, providing funds to fill our fuel tank each fall. The monthly art events are our largest revenue source, and enable us to keep the building operational.

We have also joined with the Fairbanks Chapter of the Alaska Farm Bureau to conduct an annual Christmas banquet in lieu of our December meetings. Participation has been growing each year and we invite the other Granges in the Interior to participate.

We experienced a major setback in June of this year resulting from vandalism to our building. The damage estimate exceeded three thousand dollars, but the good news is that generous donations of money and volunteer labor from members and friends of the North Pole Grange Gallery have allowed us to re-open. We extend a sincere thank you to all those who helped.

Our membership remains solid, and is growing slowly but steadily.

Respectfully submitted this 28th day in September 2013
by

John E. Poirrier
President
North Pole Grange #6