

## STATE GRANGE



### Worthy President

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## NEWS FROM STATE

### GRANGE RITUALS

Rituals give meaning to our lives. We create our own rituals in how we prepare for the day in the morning, combine our lives with others in marriage, and how we celebrate the holidays. The Grange is no different and has its own rituals to start and end meetings and introduce members to the story of the Grange and its symbols and teaching.

Mark your calendars now for the degree day on April 6th at Charlton Grange Hall starting at 9:30 a.m., especially if you haven't seen the first four degrees of our Order. Teams from each region of the state have been working hard to learn the parts and are excited to put on the degrees. Do join us for your first or two hundredth time seeing the degrees. The meaning of the Grange's symbols and teaching are worth learning and re-learning.

The Grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots actions, service, education, advocacy and agriculture awareness

*This article is an excerpt from the Massachusetts State Grange News, the official Monthly Publication put out by the Massachusetts State Grange and can be read online at <https://www.massgrange.org/state-grange-news>*

### Mission Statement:

The Massachusetts State Grange brings people together to build stronger communities by encouraging agriculture and environmental sustainability, community service and fostering future leaders.

## CHARLTON GRANGE PAST MASTERS

### 1875 thru 1933

W. Lewis Prindle  
Osgood Freeman  
Esther D. Moriarty  
Merton Hubbard  
Everett S. Adams  
Doris H. Adams  
Joanne V. Grniet  
Richard Bowers  
Lewis C. Prindle  
A.M. Dodge  
Carlos Bond  
Harris M. Dodge  
Chauncey W. Pike  
H. F. Clark  
George R. Taylor  
Henry H. Baker  
Edward M. Bowers  
Loren Stevens  
William Casey  
John G. Hammond  
Myron P. Baylies  
Ernest Rich  
Rosa E. Bowers  
Joseph Carrington  
William E. Taft  
Albert Freeman  
Rufus Brown

Walter Bates 1934  
Cyrus Bond 1935  
Herbert Gale 1936-38  
Raymond Davidson 1939-40  
Lincoln Adams 1941-42  
Rodney Fiske 1943-44  
Marion Martel 1945  
Rodney Fiske 1946  
Edith Hammond 1947-49  
A. Warren Carpenter 1950-52  
Mathilda Sheridan 1953  
Florence Carpenter 1954  
E. Dorothy Smith 1955-56  
William Walker Sr. 1957-58  
John Wright 1959  
L.F. McCloud Sr. 1960-66  
Lester V. Stanley 1967-68  
Raymond Davidson 1969-86  
William Walker Sr. 1987  
Ruth Davidson 1988-91  
Gertrude Lacey 1992  
Raymond Gilbert 1993  
Mildred Gray 1994-97  
George Tucker 1998-2005  
Norma Bouchard 2006-09  
Barbara Zajac 2010-11  
Rhoda Taylor 2012-13  
★Roland Parent 2014-21



★ living Past Master

## CHARLTON GRANGE OFFICERS 2023-2024

### Worthy President / Master

Eric Borgeson 508-248-1001



### Vice President / Overseer

Scott Herbert 508-847-4493

### Lecturer

Rich Laba 508-505-5159

### Steward

Eric Willard 774-334-1973

### Asst. Steward

Joel Desrochers 508-248-3082

### Lady Asst. Steward

Jayne Kackley 508-248-7813

### Chaplain

Craig Bellisario 508-410-3122

### Treasurer

Evelyn Seelig 774-200-1694

### Secretary

Matt Carlson 774-200-6754

### Gatekeeper

Joseph Gaucher 774-239-1604

### Ceres

Elizabeth Herbert 508-847-4493

### Pomona

Melissa Borgeson 508-248-1002

### Flora

Brodi Willard 402-699-9448

### Musician

Evelyn Sellig 774-200-1694



## CHARLTON GRANGE #92

THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

CHARTERED APRIL 6TH, 1875

## MARCH 2024 COMMUNICATION



Monthly Business Meeting  
First Tuesday of Each Month

A MEMBER OF

SUNRISE POMONA GRANGE #9

MASSACHUSETTS STATE GRANGE



# GRANGE HAPPENINGS

## GRANGE MONTHLY MEETING

During our February business meeting, Charlton Grange member and State Vice President Chris Szkutak performed an Obligation Ceremony on two new Grange members. Emerson, son of Worthy Master and Pomona, Eric & Melissa Borgeson, and EJ, son of Steward and Flora, Eric & Brodi Willard, took their obligation with nervous anticipation. Those in attendance who have not yet had the chance to see Grange degree work noted they learned much and look forward to the Charlton Degree Day on April 6th.

Following the business meeting, the Charlton Grange Lecturer, with assistance from the Steward presented a preview of the Massachusetts Grange documentary being produced by State Grange Assistant Steward Niles Larson. It was well received, educating the members on the founding of the National Grange and the beginning of the Grange movement within Massachusetts. We all look forward to watching the final product.

If any member missed the presentation, please reach out to our Steward Eric Willard for a link to the video.

## GRANGE HOSTS ANNUAL SEED SWAP

Our Grange is once again hosting its annual seed swap. As a reminder, this will be in place of the March meeting. This is the fifth year our Grange has hosted this event and is a great way to get the community more involved within the Grange.

Seed swaps are a rewarding way to build community and share information about gardening, plant varieties, and each others' projects. The entire idea behind the seed swap is to get people together to share resources.

This event is open to the public. Refreshments will be provided. An activity for the children in attendance is also planned and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

# GRANGE PHOTOS



*New Member Obligation at the February Meeting*



*Promoting the March Seed Swap*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- March Seed Swap.....March 5th
- Sunrise Pomona Meeting (Upton).....March 8th
- April Meeting.....April 2nd
- Grange Degree Day.....April 6th
- Massachusetts Ag in Action Expo.....April 20th
- May Meeting.....May 7th
- Sunrise Pomona Degree Night (Ware).....May 17th

# AGRICULTURE IN ACTION EXPO

## SPONSORED BY THE STATE GRANGE

### First Annual MAAE Expo

This free-to-attend Massachusetts Agriculture in Action Expo has something to offer the whole family and is a testament to the commitment in supporting and promoting the rich tapestry of agriculture that defines our state. The event will give individuals and families from across the Commonwealth the opportunity to learn and interact with the organizations and farms that define Massachusetts' agricultural and environmental community. There will be workshops led by knowledgeable speakers, a vendor fair giving the attendees the chance to cultivate connections with multiple farms and organizations across the state, as well as fun activities and demonstrations to delight the whole family. Folks are invited to visit the farmer's market and take home a piece of the bounty produced by local farmers and crafters while learning all our growers offer.

The Expo will be held April 20, 2024 at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester at the Hogan Campus Center. The kick-off for the event will be at 9:30 am with the Expo officially opening at 10:00 am and running until 6:00 pm. The farmer's market will run from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm.



## POSITION OF THE MONTH

### What is the role of the Grange Grace, Pomona

Along with the other "Graces", Ceres and Flora, Pomona adds beauty and grace to our meeting by symbolically representing both agriculture and the best virtues of women. Pomona is represented by fruit.

The position assists in ritualistic ceremonies as may be required. Additional duties may also be assigned by the local Grange.

## NECROLOGY

### Past Master Barbara (Reynolds) Zajac

Barbara (Reynolds) Zajac, 102, died January 19, 2019 in Overlook Masonic Healthcare. She was born in Charlton the daughter of Lewis and Lena (Jaskoviak) Reynolds. She graduated from Charlton High School Class of 1932 and Becker Junior College. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting, reading, and crossword puzzles. She was a member of the Charlton Federated Church and sang in the choir. She was a member of the Charlton Grange, the former Southbridge Grange and was a member for 88 years, serving as our Master from 2010-2011.

## NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY

Membership fees for 2024 are now due, please see the secretary to submit payment. Dues cards are currently being mailed out.

## NOTE FROM SUNRISE POMONA

All subordinate Grange members are invited to the next Pomona meeting in the Upton Grange Hall at 26 School St. in Upton at 7:00 pm.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE SOMETHING INCLUDED IN THE NEXT COMMUNICATION

PLEASE EMAIL ERIC WILLARD AT ERWILLARD@GMAIL.COM