

## Valley Grange #144

Patrons of Husbandry

located on Guilford Center Road at Butter Street ® Guilford Maine

Mary Annis Secretary/Community Service Chair 28 Orchard Road Dover Foxcroft ME 04426 207 564-0820

January, 2020

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The Grange is an organization with deep roots and the mission of strengthening local communities.

Valley Grange of Guilford recognizes that community is not defined my town lines. For example, our signature program "Words for Thirds" reaches from Harmony to Monson to Brownville and Dexter, placing a personal dictionary in the hands of every third grader in four school districts\* and fifteen classrooms. Since starting the program eighteen years ago we've given out close to 3,000 dictionaries. Those dictionaries have fed future generations' love of words and reading.

Our hall is available at no charge to local community groups and we sponsor a number of programs and projects throughout the year. A list is attached for your information. Our efforts truly have no geographical or age boundaries as we serve children, veterans, the elderly.

Much like our programs, our financial support is local and our tradition of serving our communities since 1874 has been possible thanks to member efforts and the support of individuals and businesses who supply energy, time, and money. However, escalating costs require us to seek alternative sources of funding.

We are respectfully asking that local citizens consider providing Valley Grange with financial support from your town budget. An amount of \$200 is suggested, but any amount will be appreciated and used wisely. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Annis, Secretary/Community Service Chair Valley Grange #144

\*Districts included in the Valley Grange Words for Thirds Project:

- SAD 4, Guilford and surrounding towns
- AOS 94, Dexter and surrounding towns
- RSU 68, Dover Foxcroft and surrounding towns
- MSAD 41, Brownville and surrounding towns