



# Connecticut Granger



Vol. 50, No. 11

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

September 2010

## State President



**Robert Sendewicz**  
State Master/President  
president@ctstategrange.org

We waited so long for summer this year and now it is ending. I know how school children are feeling as they rush to enjoy their last days as they are fading fast. Well that's how I am feeling now. It seems I have missed so much I wanted to accomplish this summer.

I have gone over the evaluation reports and the news is not good. Most of the Granges are continuing their Grange and community work but there has not been a large influx of new members. I can point out the few Granges that had success stories but you have already heard them. In 2008 we had a great year for membership so I know you can do it. Please contact our Grange Growth team for assistance on how to accomplish this.

Sister Marge and I have just returned from

the Northeast Lecturers conference. What a great time we had. I'm sure you will hear more about it in the Lecturers column, including the fact that the largest group there was from Connecticut. I may be biased but I think the best program was also from there.

Sister Marge and I are spending most of our time now helping out at or visiting the many Grange fairs around the state. These are a great culmination of the work the Granges do all year long and the results are wonderful to see. The food is great also, along with the other activities they provide. The sad part is that we can't get to all of them as many are held on the same date. There is always next year.

Grange Day at the Big E is in the near future. I have stated that I will give tickets and car passes to any member that wants to attend on Grange Sunday and march with the State Granges in the parade. I was disappointed last year because less than half the people I gave tickets to showed up. This year I will keep a log and if you do

not show your chances of getting tickets next year will be slim to none.

To improve our appearance in the parade this year the trustees of the NEGB are having a float contest for the parade. The rules will be posted elsewhere in this paper.

With summer ending and all the fairs going on that means that our State Session is not far off. The mailings are going out and your Grange should be receiving them soon. Please fill out the paperwork and make your reservations as soon as possible so there are no problems.

There are changes this year but if we all cooperate and do our best this can be a great Session. Get your resolutions in on time remembering that changes in the by-laws need to be in thirty days before the start of the session. This year will feature election of officers so try to have two delegates attending from each Grange. There are also many reports to be done including the Honor Grange reports, so why not do them now.

In your spare time, enjoy the rest of the summer. I look forward to seeing you at the Big E and the State Session.

a certain amount of money on their own without accepting more than \$100 from any one person and did not accept any campaign contributions from businesses or lobbyists. The idea behind this was to give people of modest means an opportunity to run for public office without having to accept large campaign contributions from businesses or lobbyists to whom they would feel obligated after

they were elected. To be fair, many lobbyists liked the law because it meant they no longer had to make significant contributions during the campaign in order to have a connection to legislators and state officials.

The amount of state funds available depended on the office the candidate is seeking. Each candidate had the option to accept the terms of the law and

... continued on page 6

## NE Lecturer's Conference



Many Conn. members were on hand to help present the "Texas Alphabet" during the Conn. program at Northeast Lecturer's Conference at Vermont Technical College in Randolph, VT. Left- State Assistant Steward Noel Miller dons festive gear for the Lecturer's Conference.

Marge Bernhardt, State Lecturer

My sincere thanks to all who helped in any way with Lecturers' Conference. Connecticut had 44 present (this was the largest number from any state) and you were all just great. Even with last minute changes and lots of stress, the program went off without a hitch thanks to all of you. I also want to thank everyone for the lovely gift I received.

Connecticut's entry in the Northeast Talent Runoffs, Robyn Lee, brought home the 2nd place award. All of Connecticut can be proud of her and the whole gang who represented you at the conference.

Now that the 2010 conference is over we are already planning for 2011. It will be held in Massachusetts. The theme of the conference will be "Season It". Our program will be Season It Spicy. This can pertain to anything, not just food seasonings. So, once again, if you have or know of any appropriate numbers, please let me know.

Let's Celebrate was held July 24th at Cheshire Grange Hall. There have been lots of comments about it being the best one yet. If you weren't there you missed seeing the great exhibits, a superb luncheon and some great entertainment.

... continued on page 3

## Your vote does count!



**Gordon Gibson**  
Legislative Director  
legislative@ctstategrange.org

A few years ago Connecticut passed a law authorizing state funds to candidates for state offices provided they first raised

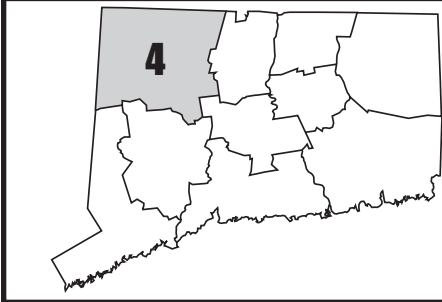
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**Deadline for the OCTOBER issue: SEPTEMBER 5.**



### Mountain County Pomona No. 4



- ✓ Whigville No. 48
- Eureka No. 62
- ✓ Winchester No. 74
- Taghannuck No. 100
- Litchfield No. 107
- Beacon No. 118
- Riverton No. 169

#### MOUNTAIN CTY. POMONA #4

Corr: T. Gelineau

**Sept. 13:** Celebrate Fall, Beacon Grange Hall, 7:30 P.M.

**Oct. 11:** Welcome, 5th Degree, Supper \$5, 6:30pm, Winchester Grange Hall

The next meeting of Mountain County Pomona will be held on Monday, Sept. 13 at Beacon Grange Hall. It's been a while since we've been able to meet there -- and there's no chance of snow interfering this time... I hope!

Please remember the Fifth Degree is coming up on October 11 at Winchester Grange. We would love to have new members join Pomona.

#### WHIGVILLE GRANGE #48

Corr: Walter Murray

Whigville Grange will hold its annual agricultural fair on Saturday, September 25, 2010 from 10 AM through 3 PM. The fair is at Grange Hall, 153 South Main Street, Burlington, CT. The fair features agricultural contests, a bake sale, games for children and live music. Admission and parking are both free. We welcome all our fellow Grangers to come out to the fair. Additional information is available via e-mail to: [pofhgrange@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pofhgrange@sbcglobal.net).

We are dedicating this year's fair to our beloved Sister Augustina "Gussie" Poglitsch, who recently passed. At the age of 103,

Gussie was Burlington's oldest resident and held several offices at Whigville Grange over the years, most recently as Chaplain.

When you get to the fair, you will be able to see the fabulous work done at the front of our hall by the Boy Scouts of Troop 23. The Scouts removed our crumbling front sidewalk and replaced it with a beautiful paved brick walkway. They also reseeded the front lawn and replaced shrubs and planting in the front beds. The project was conceived, designed and overseen by Boy Scout Cameron Dickson as a community service project as he works toward Eagle Scout, Scouting's highest rank. Local contractor Andrews-Perry Corporation assisted in the project.

#### WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: T. Gelineau

**Sept. 14:** Regular Meeting

**Sept. 18:** Super Prize Party

**Sept. 21:** Installation of Officers

It's been a busy summer at Winchester Grange! Our annual Grange Fair & Flea Market was held on August 14 with perfect weather and great crowds in attendance. During the last couple of years we have lost many of our longtime Flea Market vendors. Through increased publicity and support by the Waterbury Republican-

# 1,770 Years of Service to Winchester



Winchester Grange honored members for years of service at the Aug. 24 meeting. The total number of years represented was an amazing 1,770. Back "row" from left to right: Barry Beecher (50), John Waterhouse (50), Virginia Chatfield (50), Shirley Lemieux (60), Charlie Cooper (70), Sue Kline (25), Linda Devanney (25), Joseph Cannavo (50), Ernest Bengston (50), John Bolus, Jr. (25), Marie Kitch (25), Larry Hurlbut (75), Jack Cable (60), Wayne Hurlbut (receiving 85 yr. for his father), Arline Cote (65). Seated: Sandra Phillips (55), Jean Hurlbut (60), Angela Bolus (65), and Blanche Sewell (50).



All three of King Beecher's kids (Barry Beecher, Sandy Phillips & Shirley Lemieux) received awards.



Wayne Hurlbut (left) and Bob Hurlbut accompany their mom, Arlene, as she receives an 85 year award for her husband Winfred.

American, we were able to "re-stock" and improve the variety of vendors. In addition, the exhibits of fruits, vegetables, flowers and baked goods was better than ever. We thank everyone for their support.

Our second meeting in August was our annual Indoor Picnic and Awards Meeting. This year was especially big with Winchester recognizing over **1770 YEARS OF GRANGE MEMBERSHIP.**

There were 41

Winchester members, held from the inception of the department 64 years ago. He is not only the longest serving fire chief in the state, but the entire country. Congratulations, Larry!

Looking ahead, we will hold our Fall Super Prize Party on Saturday, September 18 at the Grange Hall. Doors open at 6:00 P.M. Drawing of prizes will begin at 7:00.

If you're still not sure what a Super Prize Party is, it's a really be teacup auction with "super" prizes added to the wide array of food, kitchen items, knick-knacks and other valuable items. Please join us! It's a lot of fun.

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**PLEASE! Do not send correspondence or any other mail to the Newfield Rd. address listed below. This is the address for Winchester Grange #74 and is only listed to satisfy USPS requirements. Please mail to the Editor's address listed below, right. Thank You!**

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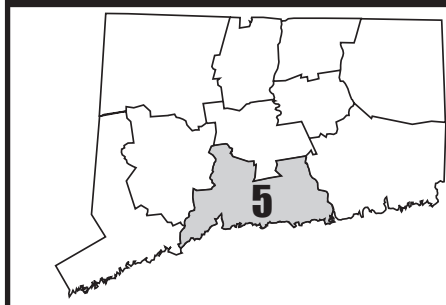
**DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS**  
News is due on the **5th Day** of each month except July and should be sent to:  
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P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033  
or  
Todd Gelineau, Editor  
170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790  
**Connecticut Granger Staff**  
President/Editor . . . . . Todd Gelineau  
Vice President . . . . . Brian Carptenter  
Secretary Treasurer. . . . . Edith Schoell

### UConn Invasive Plant Symposium

The Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group is sponsoring a symposium- "Challenges and Successes: Working Cooperatively to Manage Invasive Plants."  
The symposium will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2010 at the UConn Campus at Storrs. It runs from 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Pre-Registration \$40/\$55 after Sept. 18, 2010. Keynote speaker: Dr. Bernd Blossey of Cornell University- "The Power of Choice: New Frontiers in Invasive Plant Management and Conservation."  
Anyone interested in invasive plants are invited to attend. For more information, contact: Donna Ellis at 860-486-6448 or [donna.ellis@uconn.edu](mailto:donna.ellis@uconn.edu).



## New Haven County Pomona No. 5



- ✓ Cheshire No. 23
- ✓ Wallingford No. 33
- ✓ North Haven No. 35
- ✓ Old Lyme No. 162

### NEW HAVEN COUNTY POMONA #5

*Corr: Charleen Dimmick*  
**Oct. 11:** Regular Meeting at Wallingford

The judging for the sunflower contest will be held at this meeting.

We were saddened at the death of Sister Huena Wetmore. She gave generously of herself to the Grange for 63 years. She will be greatly missed.

### CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

*Corr: Charleen Dimmick*  
**Oct. 6:** Post Fair Social. Open Meeting. Bring a Friend

**Oct. 20:** "The Owls Hoot Tonight" Bring food for the Cheshire Food Drive

The members of Cheshire Grange met again at the Bernhardt's for the annual picnic. We thank Carl and Marge for their hospitality.

Sadly, Sister Huena Wetmore died this summer. She had been a member of the Grange for 63 years. After Hamden Grange No. 99 merged with Cheshire, we were so fortunate to have her as a member. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

### WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

*Corr: Dan Lauttenbach*

**Sept. 9:** Fair Work Night

**Sept. 19:** Our Fair with a Chicken Barbecue from 4:30 to 6:30 P.M. Please support our Fair by putting an entry in it. Contact our Fair Secretary Janet Haller @ (203) 269-6675 for entry forms.

**Sept. 23:** Installation of Officers

Greetings from Wallingford Grange,

June 10 - We had a planning meeting to decide on next year's programs to go into the Pomona book.

June 24 - Business meeting. Some of the items discussed: A Farmer's Market will be held downtown in Fishbein Park from July 16 to September. Janet says she will take Fair Ads but needs them in quickly. Also Joan Olschefski did a beautiful job of restoring an old paino scarf that graces our paino. She saved the lace that had encompassed the outside of it. She estimated the lace was at least 100 years old based on how finely it was made.

July 15 - We postponed our picnic from July 8 because of the heat. Vern Grant made sure we had plenty of hot dogs and hamburgers. In addition

there were side dishes that all the members had brought with them. There was plenty of food to go around and we had good attendance. We also got to see some of our friends we haven't seen in awhile: Alan and Sue Eddie; and Bill and Barbara Austin.

### NORTH HAVEN GRANGE #35

*Corr: A. Tolette*

**Sept. 7:** School Daze

**Oct. 5:** Harvest Time

Talk about a long hot summer. We sure had one this year. But, have faith, I heard katydids a few nights ago. (I was not the only one, friends in other parts of the state heard them too.)

Dorothy Neubig was presented with her 50 year Golden Sheaf certificate by Master Ed Borrelli. What a great time we had reminiscing about the Good Old Grange Times. Ruth Randall has received a 55 year seal. Way to go, Ruth. Two of our Brothers, Ruel Thompson and Harry Tancreti have now gone to the Grange above.

We are sorry our neighbors in Totoket have closed up.

We are happy to have some of the members of Totoket joining our "merry little band."

### OLD LYME GRANGE #162

*Corr: Barbara Kulisch*

**Sept. 10:** Grandparents Day!

**Sept. 24:** Installation of Officers

Worthy Master, Ross Stands, finally got to present Sis Shirley Dill Brown with her 60 year seal on July 9th. Her daughter & son-in-law, Lois & Joe Judkins, were also present to help us celebrate all those years! Lois & Joe have been reinstated on our roles as they have moved back to Connecticut & we are so delighted to have them back amongst family here at Old Lyme Grange #162!

Our Memorial Service was held in July in Memory of: Sis Edith MacDonald, Bro Keith Davy & Bro. Henry O. Kulisch, Jr.. Amongst them were a total of 189 Grange years!

I will have been to the Lecturer's Conference in Vermont by the time

you will be reading this article & have renewed old friendships & made new friends as well. I have always looked forward to attending these conferences.'

We, Doris & I, attended the Let's Celebrate Day in Cheshire, on a very hot & humid day, & did well in the contests held this year, especially in the photo department & Poster contest, a first for us! Thank you Bro Stitham for entering these contests! We are winding down our

Community Service project for the year & finishing up with the CWA Foster Care projects as well. Guess it will be time to start thinking about a new project for next year.

We were saddened by the sudden passing of our Handicap Ramp Contractor in June, so once again, we are not handicapped accessible.

Our door is always open on the 2nd & 4th Fridays & we meet at 7:30pm., so come on down!

## NE Lecturer's Conference

*Continued from page one...*

The winners of this year's Photo Contest are as follows:

**America The Beautiful:** 1st - Barbara Perry, Stonington Grange; 2nd- Charlene Blount, Norfield Grange; 3rd- Norman Stitham, Old Lyme Grange

**Animals:** 1st- Kenneth Dolce, Stonington Grange; 2nd- Barbara Perry, Stonington Grange; 3rd- Cathy Russi, Colchester

**Grangers In Action:** 1st- Lois Evankow, Llyme Grange; 2nd- Polly Leonard, Colchester Grange; 3rd- Norman Stitham, Old Lyme Grange

**Family Celebrations:** 1st- Denise Barbieri, Watertown Grange; 2nd- Lois Evankow, Lyme Grange; 3rd- Barbara Foskett, Cheshire Grange

**Historic Places or Events:** 1st- Irene Percoski, Enfield Grange; 2nd- Andrea Brown, Whigville Grange; 3rd- Lois Evankow, Lyme Grange

**(Junior Winners) America The Beautiful:** 1st- Angelina DeDominicis, Hillstown; 2nd- Shannon Mathews, Hillstown

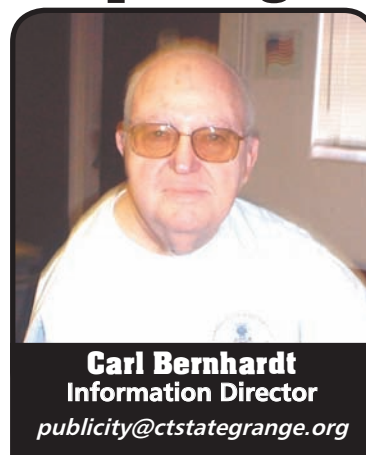
**Animals:** 1st- Luc Lacasse, Hillstown; 2nd- Angellina DeDominicis, Hillstown; 3rd- Mary Burlette, Hillstown

**Grangers In Action:** 1st- Victoria Tackett, Hillstown; 2nd- Madison Tackett, Hillstown; 3rd- Mary Burlette, Hillstown

**Family Celebrations:** 1st- Shannon Mathews, Hillstown; 2nd- Angelina DeDominicis, Hillstown; 3rd- Isabella Marino, Cheshire

**Historic Places or Events:** 1st- Angelina DeDominicis, Hillstown

## Preparing for State Session



**Carl Bernhardt**  
 Information Director  
 publicity@ctstategrange.org

Here it is the beginning of September, have you prepared your Community Service Report? The deadline is September 1st. There are other reports due by the first of October. The Information/Publicity Committees Best Single Article Contest entries are due no later than October 5th. We hope that each of the Granges submits their

entries in this Contest.

Our Committee would like to thank everyone who submitted their Posters in the Publicity Poster Contest. They were judged at the State Granges Lets Celebrate event on July 24th. The winners were:

**Subordinate-Hand Drawn** - 1st- Barbara Foskett - Cheshire Grange #23; 2nd - Lois Evankow - Lyme Grange #147; 3rd- Vivian Shaw - Granby Grange #5

**Subordinate-Computer Drawn:** 1st - Wayne Marsden - Colchester Grange #78; 2nd - Norman Stitham - Old Lyme Grange #162; 3rd - Marge Bernhardt - Cheshire Grange #23

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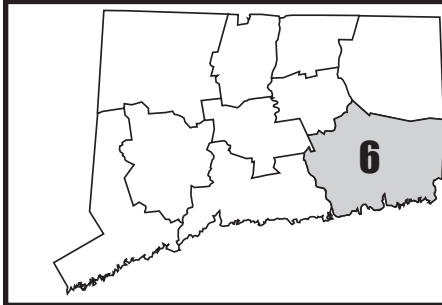


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## New London County Pomona No. 6



Lebanon No. 21  
Colchester No. 78  
Pachaug No. 96  
Preston City No. 110  
✓ N. Stonington No. 138  
✓ Lyme No. 147  
✓ Stonington No. 168  
Norwich No. 172

### NEW LONDON COUNTY POMONA #6

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

**Sept. 18:** Installation of Officers, North Stonington Grange #138

We will be installed by Jody Cameron's Installing Team on September 18th at North Stonington Grange. (Please note change of date). Jody, Jeff and their team do a beautiful job of installing officers. Please don't miss it.

Three of North Stonington's Junior Grangers will be enjoying a week at Camp Berger this year. The money Pomona raised on our quilt last year will pay for a scholarship for one of them.

At this writing we are hoping for good weather for our annual picnic at Devil's Hopyard State Park. More on this in our next issue.

The new year is beginning.

Our hopes are riding high.

Good programs, food and fellowship

On that you can rely.

### N. STONINGTON GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

**Sept. 12:** "Aquarius" from "Hair"

**Sept. 24:** I'd love to visit Italy

The summer has been busy. Election of Officers re-elected Robert Miner as Master. Most officers returned to their offices. Miriam Shabunia, our faithful Pomona for many years, has decided to retire; but we hope to see her lovely smile at many of our meetings just the same. Our annual picnic was well attended, with great food and fun and games until darkness brought out the mosquitoes. The North Stonington Agricultural Fair enjoyed good crowds and some beautiful fireworks this year. Our little food booth provided food for the New London County 4H Expo as usual. MANY THANKS to all

who spent so many hours working there.

Programs for the next year are titled "I'd love to visit..." It sounds like we are in for an interesting year. On Sept. 12 we will hear a presentation from the Grange Growth Team. Jeff and Debbie Barnes, are on the team and will help with the presentation. September 24 is a mystery. We're not sure what will happen; but it sure sounds interesting. Hope to see you there. Let's try again for a gain in attendance this year. There's nothing really very good on TV on Friday night. Sue's programs are always fun and the refreshments can't be beat. And if those crazy hummingbirds who are eating like there is no tomorrow will just slow down a little, next time I'll tell you about awesome August.

### LYME GRANGE #147

**Sept. 2 & Oct. 4:** Meeting As this is being written we are in the midst of the lazy, hazy days of summer.

Lyme entered all CWA contests except 2- we entered the Poster Contest. Our Lecturer had five photos in the Lecturer's photo contest.

Two huge bags of homemade items were donated to the CWA for sale at the Grange Building at the Big E.

When the weather cools off a bit hopefully we will make more memory books and we should have at least 25 PJ's bags with contents ready for State Session in October.

Our attendance remains good in spite of the heat.

We hope everyone enjoyed their summer and come September be ready to dig in to Grange work. Full speed ahead.

### STONINGTON GRANGE #168

Corr: Jeff Barnes

Election in June found several changes, including

two of our newest members being elected to office. Change is a sign of life and Stonington is full of life.

Special guests at our annual picnic in July were Jack and Shirley Lawson, RI State Chaplain and Secretary respectively. They had gone to Stonington Grange on their very first date 46 years ago and have returned for a visit every year since without fail. This year they are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. We extend our congratulations and wish them many more.

Our Grange entered six different categories in the CWA contests, plus seven entries in the State Lecturers' Photo Contest. Congratulations to our own George McPherson who won first place on his latch hook rug on the State level. This goes to prove that men can hook, too! Congratulations also to Barbara Perry and

Kenneth Dolce on their 1st place entries in the Photo Contest categories, "America the Beautiful" and "Animals." Nice work!

We will have installation of officers in September and thus begin a new Grange year. Best wishes to all as you begin yours.

## A new idea for new members

Joanne Cipriano, State Membership Director

I attended a meeting of the Connecticut State Grange "Grange Growth" Committee recently. The State Grange is doing everything possible to assist Granges who have a membership problem. There are very few Granges who do not have one. If your Grange needs help contact Jody Cameron, Todd Gelineau or Jeff Barnes. Your Membership Committee is also here to help you. Help is only a phone call or email away.

New members come to us from many sources. Jean Meehan, Secretary of Prospect Grange, had a good suggestion. Each Sunday our newspaper the Waterbury Republican-American prints a section titled "Home". It lists the real estate transactions in Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Canaan, Cheshire, Derby, Goshen, Kent, Litchfield, Middlebury, Naugatuck, New Milford, North Canaan, Oxford, Prospect, Seymour, Sharon, Southbury, Waterbury and Wolcott. These are the towns that were listed in last Sunday's paper. I'm sure many other papers do the same thing. As Secretary, Jean checks the listing for Prospect and sends them a letter telling them about the Grange and inviting them to one of their meetings.

Great suggestion, Jean. If you have a suggestion, please share it with us.

### 126th Annual Session of the

## Connecticut State Grange

### REGISTRATION FORM

Starting with this State Session ALL MEMBERS (Delegates and Non-Delegates) are required to register to attend most sessions/activities of the convention. The only exceptions are the Sixth Degree on Friday Evening, the Installation of Officers on Saturday afternoon and the Lecturer's Program during the Celebration Banquet on Saturday evening. All other events require payment of a registration fee and/or purchase of a ticket. Registration for Friday and/or Saturday also includes admission to that day's luncheon. The Celebration Banquet on Saturday is a separate ticketed event. Please contact the State Grange office if you have any questions.

Grange Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Jr. \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Jr. \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Jr. \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Jr. \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_

### FULL SESSION (Thurs., Oct. 21 - Sat., Oct. 23)

Adult Registration \$30.00 (includes sessions, plus luncheons on Friday & Saturday)  
# of members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Junior Registration \$20.00 (includes sessions, plus luncheons on Friday & Saturday)  
# of Jr. members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

### Celebration Banquet (Saturday Evening)

Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Français # of members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ New England Baked Scrod # of Jr. members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

### Thurs., Oct. 21 & Fri., Oct. 22 (ONE DAY)

I cannot attend the Full Session but would like to attend Thursday/Friday ONLY  
Adult Registration \$15.00 (includes sessions, plus luncheon on Friday)  
# of members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Junior Registration \$10.00 (includes sessions, plus luncheon on Friday)  
# of Jr. members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

### Saturday, Oct. 23 (ONE DAY)

I cannot attend the Full Session but would like to attend Saturday ONLY  
Adult Registration \$15.00 (includes sessions, plus luncheon on Friday)  
# of members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Junior Registration \$10.00 (includes sessions, plus luncheon on Friday)  
# of Jr. members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** = \_\_\_\_\_

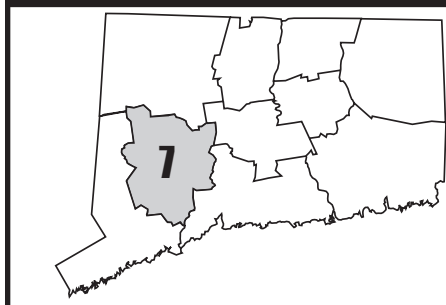
Please make checks payable to: Connecticut State Grange  
Mail to: Connecticut State Grange, P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033  
Questions: Please call 860-633-7550 or email: secretary@ctstategrange.org

### HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Our Hotel is the Sheraton East Hartford, 100 East River Drive, East Hartford, CT. All members are required to make their own reservations directly through the hotel by calling (860) 528-9703. Please be sure to mention the Connecticut State Grange to receive the special convention rate.



## Excelsior Pomona No. 7



- ✓ Beacon Valley No. 103
- ✓ Bethlehem No. 107
- ✓ Watertown No. 122
- Prospect No. 144
- Bridgewater No. 153
- ✓ Wolcott No. 173
- ✓ Oxford No. 194

### EXCELSIOR POMONA #7

Corr: Mary Dubay

Sept. 15: "Presidents"

Excelsior Pomona #7 will meet on September 15, 2010 at Bridgewater Grange #153 at 7:30 P.M.

The program for the evening by Lecturer Jean is called "Presidents."

The following are winners in the Pomona Needlework Contests.

Class A- Afghan: 1- Audrey Wellner, Oxford; 2- JoAnn Muscillo, Wolcott

Class C- Embroidery: 1- Hazel Hallier, Watertown; 2- Pearl Godin, Wolcott

Class E- Plastic Canvas: 1- Joanne Cipriano, Beacon

Valley; 2- Sandra Fitzner, Wolcott

Class G- Adult Garment:

1- Cindy Legg- Wolcott

Class H- Latch Hook:

1- Pearl Godin, Wolcott; 2-

Faith Lucas, Non Member

### BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

I'm happy to see that our members read the Connecticut Granger. I missed writing our Grange news in the last issue. I was politely reminded of it when I met Bob Burns at a Naugatuck Babe Ruth game. Will try to do better in the future.

Sorry to report that our

Pomona Pearl Godin as I write this is in the hospital. Hope she is home soon and we wish her well.

Our next program is a little change from what is in the handbook. The program will be our entry in the "As American As Apple Pie." Come and see what that might be?? Helen Niski will be in charge of refreshments. Looks like a good evening!

### BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Linda Coad

Sept. 27: Pizza - Dutch Treat at Theo's, 6:30 P.M., Installation at 7:30 P.M.

We are currently working on our entry for Bethlehem Fair. 2011 will be a banner year. Stay tuned for further announcements.

### WATERTOWN GRANGE #122

Corr: Mary Dubay

Sept. 3: Corn Shucks

Sept. 17: Picnic's Over

Hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. We begin September with Labor Day, the end of summer activities. Parks begin to close and school begins a new year.

Our first meeting's program is called Corn Shucks by our Lecturer Diane. She attended the Lecturer's Conference in Randolph Center, Vermont as she has done many since she became Lecturer.

Our second meeting is Youth Night and is in charge of our Youth Chairman, Denise Barbieri. She attended the Northeast Conference in Bridgewater, Mass. She has attended many since becoming Youth Chairman.

We draped our charter in loving memory of Susan Fairchild Therrien who went to her heavenly home on July 27, 2010. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family.

Our CWA Chairman Malinda would like to thank the members for bringing in Points for Education, coupons for veterans families and bottle caps that she has been collecting. Much appreciated. Come and join us when you can, we love company!

### WOLCOTT GRANGE #173

Corr: Cindy Legg

Sept. 6: (Omitted for Labor Day)

Sept. 20: "Committees Program" (Refreshments

David) Country Store

Our first meeting in September is omitted because it falls on Labor Day. Our second meeting we be in charge of our different committees.

It's hard to believe that summer is over already. It just seemed to fly by. We all kept busy this summer, with fairs and picnics and concerts on the green. We are all looking forward to the up coming Grange Year. We have several things planned, that I will keep you updated on.

Hope everyone has a wonderful fall season, and gets a chance to enjoy the fall colors. Come see us anytime.

### OXFORD GRANGE #194

Corr: Phil Rowland

Sept. 3: Back to School

Sept. 17: Country Fairs

Oct. 1: Regular meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 15: Regular meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Sorry that program topics are omitted from the calendar, but that usually happens this time of year. Meeting Programs are always worthwhile and enjoyable.

The regular Cross Blood Drive usually scheduled for October was canceled this year because of access problems in the Hall. When this is corrected we may resume this tradition if enough help is available

for sponsorship.

A member of the Oxford Cultural Arts Commission expressed interest in using the hall for stage production rehearsals. This would provide some extra income to the Grange. A suggestion was made that grants might be available to update the building regarding handicap access.

This year's Citizenship Award went to leaders and members of Boy Scout Troop One, which has benefitted the Grange with many improvements to the Hall. Though the awards meeting was held on an exceptionally hot evening it was well attended. State Master Robert Sendewicz was present to make the presentation, after which our Master Rob Buck lead a fascinating program revealing unusual characteristics of elements in the Periodic Table. Altogether it was a memorable evening.

Congratulations go to our champion baker Jane Haines, who received an Honorable Mention judgement on her Calico Muffins at State Level.

Sadly we report the loss of member Al Vaill, who passed away in July. He was a fine gentleman and will be missed by all. Condolences to his wife Jeanne and his family.

# 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange

Thursday, October 21 - Saturday, October 23, 2010  
Sheraton Hotel, East Hartford, Connecticut

### Thursday Evening

- 7:00 P.M. Open in Sixth Degree at the Sheraton Hotel - East Hartford  
Roll Call of Officers and Granges  
Introduction of National Representatives  
Committee Assignments  
Introduction of Business without Debate
- 8:00 P.M. State Master's Address  
Reports of State Secretary & Treasurer  
Report of Exec. Comm./Bd. of Directors
- 9:00 P.M. Closing
- 9:15 P.M. Committee Work Begins

### Friday

- 9:00 A.M. Open & Introductions  
Roll Call of Officers  
Minutes of Previous Day's Session
- 9:15 A.M. Reports of Legislative & Agric. Committee
- 9:30 A.M. Election of Officers
- 10:00 A.M. Report of General & Pomona Deputies  
Report of Camp Berger  
Report of Connecticut Granger  
Business Session
- 12:00 P.M. Luncheon  
CWA Presentations & Awards  
Membership & Information/Publicity Awards
- 2:00 P.M. Business Session
- 5:00 P.M. Closing
- 8:00 P.M. Sixth Degree Conferral

### Saturday

- 9:00 A.M. Opening & Introductions  
Roll Call of Officers  
Minutes from Previous Day's Sessions
- 9:15 A.M. Memorial Service
- 10:15 A.M. Business Session
- 12:00 P.M. Youth/Junior Recognition Luncheon
- 1:45 P.M. Business Session
- 3:30 P.M. Installation of Officers
- 5:00 P.M. Closing
- 7:00 P.M. Celebration Banquet  
Lecturer's Program, Scholarship, FFA  
Agricultural Awards, Community Service  
Past Deputy Raffle

## Edith is on the mend



Edith Schoell  
State Secretary

secretary@ctstategrange.org

Todd Gelineau, Editor

For those of you who may not already know, Edith fell and broke her hip while at Northeast Lecturer's Conference in Randolph, Vermont in August. Following partial hip replacement surgery and more time in the VT hospital recuperating, Edith was able to come home and is anxious to get back to her normal routine.

Brother John Waterhouse shuttles mail and other necessary materials to and from the Central Office, allowing her to keep up with the many demands of her office.

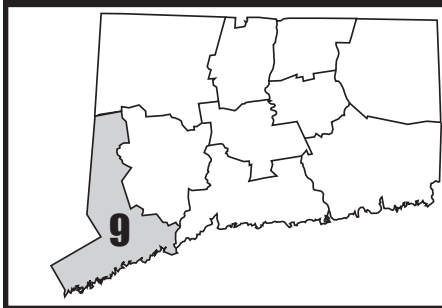
Edith wishes to thank all of the members in Connecticut and beyond for the many notes, cards and calls she has received.

The Call to the Annual Session has been sent out to all Granges by the Secretary with all of the information you need to know about registration, tickets and the hotel. We have printed a registration form in this issue that fully explains the options available. We remind all members that registration and/or tickets are required to attend State Session (with the exceptions of the Sixth Degree, Installation of Officers, and the Lecturer's Program portion of the Celebration Banquet). Admission to the Luncheons on Friday and Saturday are also included with the registration fee for each of the days. State Session is not just for delegates.... ALL MEMBERS are strongly encouraged to attend.

Please contact the Central Office or the State Master if you have any questions about State Session.



## Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



- ✓ Redding No. 15
- Harmony No. 92
- ✓ Greenfield Hill No. 133
- Trumbull No. 134
- ✓ Norfield No. 146
- Cannon No. 152

### FAIRFIELD COUNTY POMONA #9

at a Grange Fair.  
Corr: Bob Sendewicz

**Sept. 1:** at Greenfield Hill Grange Hall, 6:00 p.m. Pot Luck Supper

**Oct. 6:** At Redding Grange Hall, 7:30 p.m. Conferral of the Fifth Degree

We did not have an election of officers this year so there is no installation of officers this September. Our program will be on P.T. Barnum the famous showman. You may know a lot about him, but you will learn more at this presentation. We will also have a country Store.

After having a successful dairy supper in June we took the summer off to relax for awhile. We are back to work now though.

In October we will confer the Fifth Degree. You are welcome to bring your candidates. Please let us know if you do.

### REDDING GRANGE #15

Corr: Marge Sendewicz

**Sept. 11:** Harvest Fair 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Sept. 13:** School Days

**Sept. 27:** Fall Festival

This is a great time of year to visit fairs and we will have our fall Harvest Fair on the 11th of September. If you missed our spring fair you can enjoy this one. There will be all the usual goodies; baked goods, plants, vegetable displays and judging, books, food and of course our famous tag sale. There's something for everyone.

You just may find something you have always been looking for. If not, we do have the fun and fellowship. Come and enjoy the day with us in the heart of beautiful Fairfield County.

We are back to two meetings a month again and the programs are listed above. We will be starting the new year in October so look for some delicious dinners and other events coming up for the rest of the year. Then visit us to enjoy them with us. Maybe we will run into each other

at a Grange Fair.

### GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

Corr: Dennis Rich

**Sept. 19:** "School Days", Meeting at 2 P.M.

**Sept. 25:** Annual Fair, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

It has been a great, although hot, summer so far. Two months in a row we had a harvest of new members. Nine were initiated by means of the welcoming ceremony in June; eleven more in July!

At our August meeting, held on the first, we spent the time planning for our September activities including hosting Pomona's meeting, our own regular meeting, and the revived annual fair.

Our Fair will consist of exhibits of flowers and vegetables, fruits, baked goods and home canning, and crafts. Also there will be a tag sale of "attic treasures." Exhibits may be brought in from 6 to 9 P.M. the evening before, and from 8 to 10 P.M. the morning of the fair. Light refreshments will be available. Activities for children are being planned.

All of our Grange friends are welcome at our meetings and activities.

### NORFIELD GRANGE #146

Corr: Ruth L. Hickcox

**Sept. 14:** Installation of Officers

**Sept. 19:** Country Fair, 10-3

**Oct. 12:** Halloween

COME TO THE FAIR!

Sunday, September 19 is Old Fashioned Country Fair Day at Norfield Grange, where our doors will be open from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M., rain or shine.

We will have judging in nine departments: Art. Photography, Crafts and Collections, Baked Goods, Canned Goods, Sewing and Needlework, Vegetables, Fruits and Flowers. Prizes will be awarded, and Grange membership is not required. Entries will be accepted at the

Grange Hall on Saturday afternoon, September 18, between 2:00 and 4:00, and early Sunday morning.

We will celebrate with games and pony rides for the children and demonstrations by area craftsmen, and will offer

many items for sale in Sue's Attic and at the Treasures Table. Refreshments will also be sold. Be sure to be there for one of the highlights of the day, the auction of prize-winning fruits and vegetables in the afternoon.

We look forward especially to visiting with Grangers from all corners of Connecticut! Come join us- visit with old friends- and celebrate God's gifts and talents in our very special Norfield way!

## Your vote does count!

Continued from page one...

accept the state funds or to waive their right to the state funds and accept contributions of any amount from both individuals and businesses. Lobbyists could not contribute to these candidates either.

Regardless of whether or not the candidate accepted the state money, there was no limit on how much each candidate could spend from their own funds. The law did provide that if a candidate for an office spent an excessive amount of money out of his or her own pocket, the opposing candidate could receive additional funds from the State to level the playing field. Candidates for Governor could receive \$3 million from the State to finance their campaign and up to an additional \$3 million if their opponent outspent them by a large amount.

This year some of the candidates for Governor spent amounts of money during their primary campaigns that had never been seen before. Then they went to court and claimed the law giving additional funds to their opponents was unconstitutional. The judge agreed the existing law was unconstitutional, but wisely turned the whole matter back to the General Assembly rather than tell everyone what could and could not be done in the middle of one of most hectic

campaign seasons ever known in Connecticut.

The General Assembly met in special session and revised the law to say that candidates for Governor who had met the basic requirements for receiving state funds would be given \$6 million, claiming those who had complied with the old law would be unjustly hurt if they were denied the State funds. Governor Rell vetoed this bill on the grounds that the State could not afford to spend this much money on the campaigns, but the General Assembly had enough votes in favor of the bill to override her veto and the new bill is now law.

As in the previous law, candidates for other offices are eligible for lesser amounts. Despite the expensive campaigns waged by the various candidates, the voter turnout for the primaries on August 10 was very small. Statewide, only about 20% of those eligible to vote in either party's primary voted. Some voters said they did not vote because they did not like any of their party's candidates while others said they did not vote for any candidate as much as they voted against a candidate they did not like. Others did not vote because they felt their one vote would not change anything.

This was a big mistake on their part. I have not studied every primary race

in the state, but in one House of Representatives district the final vote, after a mandatory recount, was 1153 for the winner and 1151 for his opponent. A total of 2304 votes were cast in that district, but only two votes determined the winner. In another district, only 759 people cast their ballot and the contest was decided by five votes.

What would the results have been if even half the eligible voters had cast their ballots? No one will ever know. My point here is that every ballot does count. Elections for state officials, one senator, five representatives in Congress and all the seats in the General Assembly will be held on November 2. We know we will have at least five new state officials and a new Senator in Congress because the incumbents are not running for reelection. We will also have some new legislators in the General Assembly because some of the present legislators are not running for reelection. Soon we will all be seeing and hearing from the candidates, each seeking our votes.

Take the time to find out where the candidates stand on the issues that are important to you. Be an informed voter, but above all, VOTE. Remember, every vote counts.

## New England float contest

The following is a contest being sponsored by the New England Grange Building Trustees. Each state in the Northeast Region will have one float representing them in the Big E parade on Grange Day at the Big E on Sept. 26. To decide Connecticut's entry in the parade contest, there will be a judging of all Connecticut entries. Any members interested in building or working on a float for the New England Grange contest should contact State Master Robert Sendewicz as soon as possible: Robert Sendewicz, 2 Cole Place, Danbury, CT 06810; Tel. 203-744-1656; Email: president@ctstategrange.org.

Guide lines for floats for Grange day at the Big E:

- One float entry per state is to be a non-motorized entry. (people power only)
- Entries can be any size suitable for maneuvering through the parade route at the Big E. The parade route is about one mile long and has an upgrade hill ¼ of the way along. (remember you have

to get your float to and from the fair)

- There is no theme for this year but the word GRANGE needs to be on the float using 4 inch letters.

- Entries must be on the fairgrounds by 9:00 a.m. Grange Day Sunday Sept. 26. Floats will be on exhibit on the lawn of the Grange building from 9:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. at which time they will be moved into position at the start of the parade route.

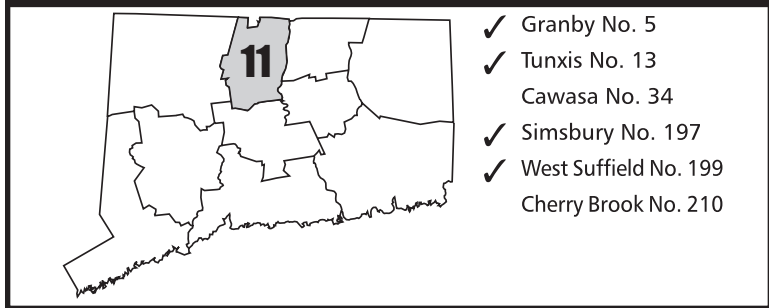
- The prize money will be awarded to the Youth and/ or Junior Committee of the State Grange. 1st- \$200; 2nd- \$150; 3rd- \$100 All other floats will receive \$50 for participating.

- Floats will be judged by a panel of three designated by the Big E staff.

Anyone wishing to participate, contact the State Master so that arrangements can be made for the Connecticut trustees to determine which float will represent Connecticut.



## Farmington Valley Pomona No. II



- ✓ Granby No. 5
- ✓ Tunxis No. 13
- Cawasa No. 34
- ✓ Simsbury No. 197
- ✓ West Suffield No. 199
- Cherry Brook No. 210

### FARMINGTON VALLEY POMONA #11

*Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner*

**Sept. 20:** Get Ready for a New Year

We all were delighted when Joan Kravson (friend of Doris Shaw) placed first at the state needlework judging with her beautiful rose colored knitted afghan. Joan is a good friend to the Grange and has made wonderful baby afghans for us to sell in the country store at the Big E. Congratulations to Joan and to Tunxis Grange for having a first place state winner going on to compete at the regional judging.

We always enjoy the annual Pomona picnic and this year was no exception. Thanks to the gals on Thayer Ave. for their great hospitality and to our Pomona Chaplain for his service preceding the picnic.

Everyone in Farmington Valley was so sorry to hear that State Secretary Edith Schoell had a fall at the conference in Vermont and broke her hip. Edie has been in our thoughts and prayers and we hope she will be back in Connecticut and doing her many jobs by the time this paper comes out or sooner.

### GRANBY GRANGE #5

*Corr: Vivian C. Shaw*

**Sept. 11:** Agricultural Fair and Chicken Barbecue, Fair opens 3 P.M.- Barbecue 4:30 - 7:00 P.M., Auction at 7:00 P.M.

**Sept. 17:** Reports after the Fair

**Sept. 25:** Public Setback Card Party 7:00 P.M.

For Dairy Month June 17 Dairy Potluck supper was held at 6 P.M. We were glad that Bob and Peggy Sheldon from West Suffield Grange. At 7 P.M. there was an interesting program by Phil Prelli, CT Commissioner of Agriculture. Phil is also on the National Grange Executive Committee. He

presented Lyall Shaw a seal for 65 years of membership. Lyall is a Past Deputy for former State Master Frank Prelli.

For the month of August at Granby Center Library by Lecturer Vivian Shaw displayed Granby Grange and Cow items.

### TUNXIS GRANGE #13

*Corr: Pam Covington*

**Sept. 9:** Got a Job?

The newspaper article the the Hartford Courant was very good about Tunxis Grange and Grange in general.

It told the history and about Tunxis Grange and all the problems all Granges are having! Fraternal Orders are all having problems getting people interested!! We hope the tide will turn. Congratulations on a good job representing our Grange, Joan! It was good to see the information on Grange on the front page of the Hartford Courant and seeing the Grange get some publicity.

Tunxis feels bad about having to sell the hall, but we are no longer able to keep it and we do not have the membership to maintain it. It is a sad time for all Tunxis members. We will keep you up to date on what happens!

### SIMSBURY GRANGE #197

*Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner*

**Sept. 8:** Let's Work Together

At this writing we are busy getting ready for our Simsbury Agricultural Fair. We plan to talk with the weatherman and ask him to be kind to us.

Congratulations to Jane Wendell who won third place at State Judging for her lovely rose colored doily! Jane is a very talented lady using her crochet hook to turn out an endless list of beautiful things. She has won many honors over the years.

### WEST SUFFIELD GRANGE #199

*Corr: Pam Covington*

**Sept. 14:** Summer Is Over

West Suffield Grange has lost a wonderful and hard-working member. Beatrice Phelps, a Past Master and Past Lecturer, passed away after being in a convalescent home for

several years. Beatrice came to our meetings regularly and worked ahd for the Grange doing many things over the years. She was a 70 year member. Our deepest sympathy and prayers go out to Beatrice's sister, Gertrude Greer, and the family. Beatrice will be very much missed.

With our aging membership and even with meeting during the day, it has been difficult to have a quorum. It was decided to send a letter to all our members and decide at our September 9th meeting what should be done. We will let you know what happens next month.

# AgNews



**Ernest Finch**  
Agriculture Director  
[agriculture@ctstategrange.org](mailto:agriculture@ctstategrange.org)

*Jon Hermonot, State Agriculture Committee*

What a year it has been for agriculture in the state of Connecticut especially with this crazy weather. June and July were the hottest on record in some areas. Along with decent rain caused fruits like currants, raspberries and blueberries to ripen early and provide bountiful yields. Dairy farmers should be smiling that that their corn crop looks great and soon will be harvested. What a great growing season!

Along with the crazy hot

weather agriculture been the hot topic at the capitol. With the demand for locally grown foods at all time high, the state passed House Bill 5419 known as an "Act Concerning Farms, Food, and Jobs." It had full support in the house and senate and was signed by Governor Rell on July 14, 2010. This bill was a positive step for agriculture on many fronts. The bill will allow CT dept. of Agriculture to inspect poultry farms. This in turn will allow approved poultry farms to process and sell dressed poultry or poultry products directly to consumers, restaurants, and hotels. This is great for poultry producers and consumers in Connecticut, where state regulations had become a barrier to business. Also in this bill acidified foods such as pickles, salsas, and relishes will be allowed to be sold from farm to consumers. Farmer's

Markets will be allowed to set up for single-day events which will provide expanded market opportunities.

These new rules will provide Connecticut farmer's enhanced opportunities to market their farm products. Despite the recession we are facing, there is a growing niche market for locally grown foods. More and more people are looking for ways to eat locally grown foods. It is exciting to see legislative change that helps open doors between farmer's and consumers. The viability of Connecticut's farms as well as the dinner tables of Connecticut's consumers are both winners!

Support for agricultural issues has always started at the grass roots level with organizations like Farm Bureau and the Grange. Thank you to Gordon Gibson for the leadership and hard work that helped to bring positive change to Connecticut agriculture!

## Mystery Meeting Place



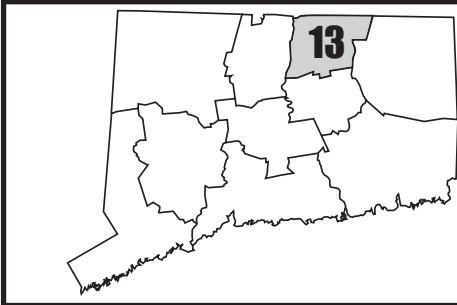
**Oxford Grange #194**

The Mystery Picture shown in the July-August issue of the Granger is Oxford Grange Hall. This is the last of the Grange Halls located in Connecticut. It was enjoyable to go around the State photographing the various buildings.

The following individuals correctly identified the hall: Fred Camp of Bridgewater Grange, Jean Meehan of Prospect Grange, Robert Sendewicz of Redding Grange, Shirley Petrillo of Bethlehem Grange, Diane Godin of Beacon Valley Grange, Karen McInerney-Allen of Oxford Grange, Duane Wetmore of Cheshire Grange, John Osuch of Bethlehem Grange, Cindy Legg of Southington Grange and Olive Rathburn of Beacon Valley Grange.



## North Central Pomona No. 13



- ✓ Stafford No. 1
- ✓ Tolland No. 51
- ✓ Vernon No. 52
- Enfield No. 151

### N. CENTRAL POMONA #13

Corr: J. Jordan

North Central will hold its first meeting of the year on Thursday, September 9, 2010, as guests of Tolland Grange. The program will be Past Lecturers. Join us at the Hall on the Green in Tolland.

### STAFFORD GRANGE #1

Corr: Gail Fisher

At our July meeting, we had a very good turnout. The election of new officers was conducted and installation will take place at the September meeting.

A picnic for Grange #1 members was held on August 22, 2010 at the home of Milo and Shirley Bradway.

At the July meeting, we were entertained with the singing of "Oh Danny Boy" by Asia Avery, granddaughter of Myron and Masako Avery and daughter of Arlene Avery. We enjoyed her beautiful voice.

### TOLLAND GRANGE #51

Corr: J. Jordan

Sept. 7: What I did for a living.

As I write this column we are having a heat wave!!! It is 105 outside and the air is definitely heavy.

Here's hoping that on Sept. 7 things will have cooled off a lot. We will be discussing our various careers on the 7th so if you have done something unusual in your work life come share this information with us.

### VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Nancy Strong

Sept. 10: Looking Forward!

Vernon Grange members enjoyed a nice picnic at Sister Linda Niederwerfer's home again this year. It's nice to bring the Grange to her once a year and she enjoyed having us. We thank her for hosting us.

We presented Carol Strong Nelson with her 50 year certificate. It was fun digging out the old minutes of when she joined - who joined with her and who was on the degree team 50 years ago.

Our next meeting will welcome back Mariellen Baxter who is now working in Baltimore, MD. She will be on vacation and attending Grange that night. We will present her with an award for her counted cross stitch from the Let's Celebrate Day, along with other member awards. Jennifer Schirmer's stuffed bunny toy is going on the Eastern States!

## Carol Nelson receives Golden Sheaf



At the August meeting of Vernon Grange, Carol Strong Nelson was awarded her Golden Sheaf Certificate for 50 years of membership by her sister, Master Nancy Strong.

## Thanks for helping us to "Celebrate"



**Betty Jane Gardiner**  
Women's Activities Director  
cwa@ctstategrange.org

Thank you to everyone who attended or took part in any way in "Let's Celebrate." It was a busy two days, but we felt it was worth it to have the pleasure of judging and displaying the wonderful entries in the needlework, craft, and baking contests of the CWA.

### Needlework Contest

**Afghans-** 1- Joan Kravson, Tunxis; 2- Ramona Fassio, Winchester, 3- Irene Percoski, Enfield.

**Doilies-** 1- Mae Chemerynski, Colchester; 2- Carol Nelson, Vernon; 3- Jane Wendell, Simsbury.

**Embroidery-** 1- Edith Schoell, Manchester; 2- Hazel Hallier, Watertown; 3- Pat Conger, Vernon

**Baby Set-** 1- Edna Schneider, Harmony; 2- Irene Percoski, Enfield; 3- Lois Evankow, Lyme

**Plastic Canvas-** 1- Ted Beebe, Manchester; 2- Elizabeth Ryducha, Cheshire; 3- Anne-Marie Knockenhauer, Norwich

**Counted CrossStitch-** 1- Richard Bauchac, Trumbull (non-member); 2- Marianne Baster, Vernon; 3- Sandy Peterson, Lyme

**Adult Garment-** 1- Edna M. Schneider, Trumbull (non-member)

**Latch Hook-** 1- George McPherson, Stonington; 2- Kathryn Ruff, Glastonbury; 3- Pearl Godin, Wolcott

**Quilted Wall Hanging-** 1- Karen Macdonald, Redding; 2- Geraldine Strong, Vernon

**Stuffed Toy-** 1- Jennifer Schirmer, Vernon; 2- Marita Rand, Lyme; 3- Maryalice Lee, Cheshire

**Nifty Needles-** 1- Nicole Stands (age 9), Old Lyme

**Dress A Doll-** 1- Norma DePietro, Glastonbury; 2- Susan Carol Sullier, Trumbull; 3- Ruth Herbele, Manchester

**Junior-** 1- Angelina DeDominicis, Hillstown Jr. #87

### Baking Contest- Calico Muffins

1- Pam Wright, Winchester; 2- Irene Percoski, Enfield; 3- Carole Mancini, Beacon Valley; Hon. Mentions: Jane Haines, Oxford; Alma Graham, Echo; Joan Olschefski, Wallingford.

### Craft Contest

**Needlework-** 1- Lois Evankow, Lyme; 2- Joan Ziegler, Redding; 3- Barbara Kulisch, Old Lyme

**Other Media-** 1- Nancy Standley, Harmony; 2- Nancy Rottman; 3- Barbara Robert, Watertown

**Junior-** 1- Alissa LaCasse, Hillstown Jr.; Angelina DeDominicis, Hillstown Jr.

Congratulations to all the ribbon winners! Keep up the great work you are doing!



First place winner of the State Calico Muffin Contest- Pam Wright of Winchester Grange.



Members enjoy the Junior Committee's Meatloaf Dinner at "Let's Celebrate" in Cheshire.

## GET CONNECTED



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### Stop by our Website at [www.CTStateGrange.org](http://www.CTStateGrange.org)

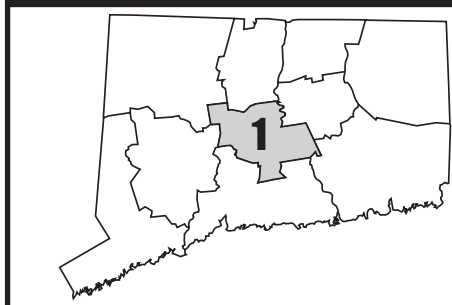
We **UPDATE DAILY** with Articles, Photos, Events, etc.! Sign-up for MyGrange, visit the Scrapbook, rate the Articles, view the Calendar, Downloads, and so much more!



[www.CTStateGrange.org](http://www.CTStateGrange.org)



## Central Pomona No. 1



- ✓ Southington No. 25
- Meriden No. 29
- Westfield No. 50
- ✓ Higganum No. 124
- ✓ Hemlock No. 182

### CENTRAL POMONA #1

Corr: Dianne Clark

Sept. 2: School Days

Sept. 2nd on Thursday in Meriden at 7:30 P.M. program on School Days. Co-Hosted by Higganum. Lecturer Dianne Clark.

Please bring three items of baked goods for the CWA table.

Master Robert Charbonneau hopes you all had a nice summer.

### SOUTHINGTON GRANGE #25

Corr: Lisa Lamoureux

Sept. 13: Business Meeting

Sept. 27: Fall into Autumn

As always, our doors are open for anyone and everyone who would like to join us for a meeting. Remember we meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:30 p.m. (Except January and February - 2nd Monday only, unless it is snowing. Then meeting is canceled and rescheduled for the 4th Monday of that month) at the Southington Grange Hall located at the corners of Summit Street and Knowles Avenue in the Plantsville Section of Southington.

### HIGGANUM GRANGE #124

Corr: Barbara Smith

The Higganum Grange renovations are progressing nicely and should be completed soon.

In July we had a talk on the walking trails in Connecticut and a Mystery Ride and Tour was also held.

August 14 was our Picnic at the home of Master Richard and Carol Prescott.

The Charter was draped for Ann Smigel.

We have 3 new members installed recently: Howard Burr, Helen Hanson and Carol Mulaney. The grange plans to have a booth at the Haddam River Days festival on September 11.

Hope that everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer.

### HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Sept. 10: Instillation of Officers

Sept. 24: Sept. Song, Hymn Sing

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

# Southington Awards Scholarships



Southington Grange presented its annual scholarships in June. Pictured (l to r): Scholarship Chairman Dennis Putala, Southington High graduates Hillery Brown, Sean Roper, Michael Bok, and Master Jim Lamoureux. Each recipient is pursuing a degree in agricultural studies.

# Farmer's Market bill signed by Gov.



Governor M. Jodi Rell signs House Bill 5419: An Act Concerning Farms, Food and Jobs at a signing ceremony held on July 13. State Agriculture Commissioner and Grange member F. Philip Prelli is pictured directly behind the Governor. Ekonk Grange member and owner of Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm, Rick Hermonot is pictured two heads to the right of Phil. State Grange Legislative Director Gordon Gibson is pictured two heads to the left of Phil.

The photo and text of this article were contributed by the Governor's Office.

Governor M. Jodi Rell recently celebrated legislation that allows farms in Connecticut to expand the range of locally produced foods they can sell to include pickles, salsas and hot sauces. The bill also expands the definition of "farmer's markets" so more people can take advantage of opportunities to buy Connecticut-grown products.

"Agriculture in Connecticut is a \$2 billion-a-year part of our state's economic fabric – not to mention a vital part of our heritage," Governor Rell said. "This bill will allow farms greater flexibility in the locally grown and produced products they can sell, offering yet another avenue for our farmers – large and small – to bring in additional revenue. By broadening the definition of a farmer's market, it not only expands opportunities for growers and producers but brings new opportunities for residents and visitors to taste and enjoy the bounty of our state."

The legislation – House Bill 5419, An Act Concerning Farms, Food and Jobs – expands current law allowing the sale of jams, jellies and preserves made from

fruit grown on a residential farm to include "acidified foods" such as pickles and salsa. It imposes a number of safety restrictions – including requiring water quality tests and a requirement that the food preparer pass a food-handling safety course – and mandates that the products carry a label stating "Not prepared in a government inspected kitchen."

The bill also redefines a farmer's market as any cooperative or non-profit enterprise which operates on a given site for any given day or event and includes at least two farmers selling Connecticut-grown produce. Under previous law, a farmer's market was required to operate throughout a season.

In addition to the above, State Legislative Director Gordon Gibson would like members to be aware that this bill also designates the Commissioner of Agriculture as the state official in charge of inspecting any poultry producer that also operates as a poultry processing facility. This is something the poultry producers very much wanted as it will allow them to be designated as, "Approved food sources for household consumers, restaurants, hotels and boarding houses."

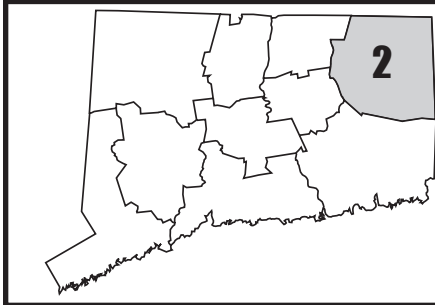
# Southington honors Community Service



Southington Grange Lecturer Martha Trask presents Southington High School Vocational Ag. Science teacher Marion Stannard with the 2010 Community Citizen Award.



## Quinebaug Pomona No. 2



- Senexet No. 40
- ✓ Brooklyn No. 43
- ✓ Wolf Den No. 61
- ✓ Ekonk No. 89
- Ashford No. 90
- Putnam No. 97
- Killingly No. 112
- ✓ Echo No. 180

### BROOKLYN GRANGE #43

*Corr: Louise Salmon*

On March 9, Marvin Wilbur and Joan Perry assisted us in draping the Charter for our beloved Chaplain, Rev. Ralph Seguire. His presence will be greatly missed.

On April 13 Glenna Bruno displayed her collection of Easter Bonnets and modeled some of them for us. She also showed us some very old and unusual hat boxes.

On May 18 the Plainfield Senior Chorus entertained us with an hour of lively Country Music with several specialty acts. A most enjoyable program.

On June 8 all enjoyed a sing-along with our musician, Peg Seguire at the piano.

Joan Perry presented our Overseer, Minnie Halbach, with her 40 year seal and a bouquet of flowers.

On July 13 we look forward to dining out and socializing at our favorite restaurant.

### WOLF DEN GRANGE #61

*Corr: Elsie M. Johnson*

**Sept. 15:** Installation

**Oct. 2:** Bake Sale Plus on Saturday

**Oct. 13:** Harvest Time

September, the month of installation, and changes to come.

Also a month of fairs. Schools have started once again. Vacations are over and another winter to come and plans being made for another year. Gardens are winding down. Canning and freezing are being done. Our picnic- night out was a lot of fun. The pancake breakfast we had was very good and plan another for September 18th and the proceeds to go to the Pomfret Food Pantry. The Senior Center is

having a spaghetti supper and we will give a helping hand. The Senior Center has air conditioning and with all the humid weather we had we enjoyed many an afternoon there. Good luck- best wishes to all.

We had inspection in April and it went well. We had a Pancake Breakfast in June and donated proceeds to the Pomfret Food Pantry. We may have another in the fall. Master John Carter presented a bond and engraved plate to Katherine Rivers at Pomfret Community School at graduation in June.

Tabs are still coming in- Marvin Wilbur sent in pounds and pounds.

We draped the charter in memory of Lois Brandt who is very much missed. We took 24 little stuffed animals to Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford. Much appreciated. 406 Campbell's Soup labels were taken to Pomfret Community School for their project. As for the gardens- some very good seed- seed germination is not so good. Strawberries were early and big but didn't last long. Blueberries are great and

big. Vegetables are coming on fast. Fruit too. Our eat-out night is coming up. No one wants to cook in the heat we've had.

Happy birthday to all.

### EKONK COMM. GRANGE #89

*Corr: Sue Gray*

**Sept. 11:** Sterling Family Day!

**Oct. 29:** Halloween Party 6:30pm (family fun)!

**Nov. 20:** Turkey Supper 5-7 pm

We draped our charter in loving memory of 80 year Grange member, Silvia E. Burdick. Russell Gray presented her with her 80 year Grange membership certificate and she fondly recalled wonderful Grange memories! The Norwich Bulletin did an article and took pictures: these made the front page! On the morning of her 98th birthday, Silvia went to her reward. Our Grange assisted the Oneco Methodist Church in providing food for after Silvia's Memorial Service.

Thanks to those who worked at the Blueberry Supper and the Peach Shortcake Supper! We will have a booth at Sterling Family Day Sept. 11th: the Grange will be selling onion rings!

The Farmers's Market's are adding between 50 and 60 dollars a week to our Treasury. We will continue to set up at the Plainfield Market on Route 12 every Tuesday from 4-6 pm through Columbus Day: come on down and say hello to fellow Grangers. Our booth has an attractive Ekonk Community Grange banner! Thanks to those members who continue to donate baked and canned goods to our booth!

Our Awards meal and program was a huge success, with all recipients attending except Arline Boucher, who was home with pneumonia. Russell Gray presented her with her 70 year seal at her home a week after the awards program.

Scholarships were

presented to J.Allen Cameron and Brianna Davis by Scholarship Chmn., Deborah Sharpe.

We congratulate the following who received awards: Barbara Haynes and Manivald Kurisoo, 50 year certificates; Edwin Benjamin, 55 years; Alton Exley, 60 years. Each recipient was accompanied by family members.

Thanks to the generosity of Marion R. Emmons, the Grange has a new microwave; ours met with a most unfortunate accident! We thank those volunteers who have kept our grounds looking so nice throughout the summer months!

Exciting news in the youth department: we welcomed Ashley Guimond and Sarah Cousens into membership and Katie Molodich announced that Ekonk will have its own Youth Drill Team to compete next year! Rehearsals are scheduled to start this late fall! Katie, J. Allen and Mike Molodich attended the New England Youth Conference Drill competition and were duly impressed and inspired! J. Allen Cameron and Russell Gray will be our delegates to State Grange.

### ECHO GRANGE #180

*Corr: Gloria John*

**Sept. 14:** Work, Work, Work

**Sept. 28:** Surprise

We had a nice picnic at Sara Tormey's home this summer. She was presented with her 60th seal. Also, Lucille Garabedian received her 50th certificate.

Our CWA donated 7 Christmas stockings and several baby clothes to the CT St CWA projects.

Alma Graham won our Calico Muffin contest.

We will hold our annual Ham and Bean Supper from 5 to 7PM on Sept 18th. We do not hold our Annual Fair anymore.

We certainly have had a hot summer, but we need the rain to help our vegetables grow.

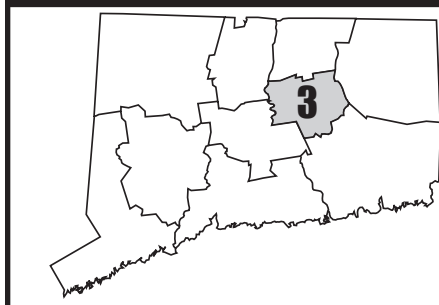
## Wilburs celebrate 45 years



**Past State Chaplain Marvin Wilber and his wife Shirley enjoy the surprise 45th wedding anniversary party thrown by their friends in July.**



## East Central Pomona No. 3



- ✓ Glastonbury No. 26
- ✓ Manchester No. 31
- ✓ Coventry No. 75
- ✓ Hillstown No. 87
- ✓ Marlborough No. 205

### EAST CENTRAL POMONA #3

*Corr: John Waterhouse*

**Sept. 11:** Regular Meeting, 7:30 P.M.

**Sept. 17:** Antiques Appraisal

**Oct. 2:** Meeting, 5:00 P.M.; Potluck Supper, 6:00 P.M.; Fifth Degree, 7:00 P.M.

My Great Aunt Maude would often say, "If it's not broken, don't try to fix it." The members of East Central Pomona No. 3 have felt that way at our June meeting, when most of our officers were re-elected for another two years.

Noel Miller will lead us again along with Edith Schoell as our Lecturer and Ruth Herbele as our Secretary.

Kay Ruff of Glastonbury Grange is our new Overseer, Lois Evankow, of Lyme Grange is our new Flora, and Jon Hykes, of Hillstown Grange joins the Executive Committee.

Sister Rita Schaefer has retired as our Overseer. This dedicated member from Hillstown Grange has served as Overseer for many years. Rita has also filled many other stations in Pomona including Master from 1982-1986.

Thank you Rita for all your dedicated years of service to East Central Pomona No. 3.

An Antique Appraisal Night will be held at Good Will Grange Hall on September 17 from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. The appraiser does a great job identifying items and giving numerous experiences he has had over the years. \$10 for two items and \$6 for one item. Bring in your teddy bear, old doll, or jewelry- you may be pleasantly surprised. This is open to the public.

### GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

*Corr: Kathryn Ruff*

**Sept. 2:** Meeting 7:30 pm. Installation of Officers Refreshments will be provided with the assistance of all members.

**Sept. 11:** Installation of Officers of East Central Pomona#3andGlastonbury Grangeis host. It is a 7:30 p.m. meeting at Good Will

Grange Hall.

**Oct. 3:** Semi-Annual Bake and Unique Boutique Sale from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Masonic Hall.

**Oct. 9:** Monte-Carlo Whist Card Party 7:00 p.m.at the Masonic Hall.

I hope everyone had a very pleasant summer. For me the summer just flew by way to fast. Glastonbury members enjoyed their annual picnic meeting August 5th. We are now getting ready for all our fall activities.

September 2nd is our meeting at 7:30 p.m and is Installation of Officers. That will be followed by our Semi-Annual Bake and Unique Boutique Sale on saturday, October 3rd. It will open at 9:00 a.m. and run until 12:00 p.m. All members will be contacted to help in some way. We can use everyone's help. For your help I will say at this time "Thank you, Thank you, Thank you."

The Dictionaries for the 3rd graders at Nayaug School will be arriving soon. We will contact the school some time around September 15th to set up a delivery date.

October 9th is our first Monti Carlo Whist Card Party for the season. The cardparty starts at 7:00p.m. and there is always plenty of refreshments. Mark your calendar and plan on attending and bring a friend with you. It is a really fun evening and I hope to see you there.

### MANCHESTER GRANGE #31

*Corr: Diane Small*

**Sept 1:** Labor Day --A Holiday? (legislative)

**Sept 15:** Installation of Officers

Summer sure arrived with avengance. The heat and humidity at times unbearable. A high praise to the person who invented the air conditioner!! Fans will at least move the air around, but the air conditionersustains thenice enjoyable cool temperature. The early spring brought in many crops early. The

strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and other fruits were delicious and made great snacks. We musn't forget the great vegetables that come with summer. Fresh corn on the cob with butter taste delightful. How many fresh tomatoes did you eat? Just think of all the other veggies that are offered in the summer. It can almost make you a vegetarian.

The fair season is upon us once again. There is something about fairs that just make you want to slow down, check out all those exhibits, and the food just seems to taste better. It is amazing to see all the talents that everyone has to offer. It is a great way to see the animals up close, the vegetables that have been grown and everyone is hoping for a blue ribbon. Something about a ribbon makes you very proud and know that your hard work has its rewards.

I feed the birds in my yard year round. They are such a delights to watch. It is amusing to view the pecking order. I have cardinals, several woodpeckers, finches, mourning doves and sparrows with the ever present squirrel population. I believe I have the fattest squirrels in Vernon. They do make for a calming effect. The birdbath has been an interesting show. It is fun watch the birds take a bath, they don't leave much water when they are through.

A reminder to everyone, the Big E will be here from Sept 17th to Oct 3rd. I know that they are looking for items to sell. Any and all donations will be appreciated. Did you make an extra item?

We have been told that sister Edith fell at the lecturer's conference and suffered a break in her hip. Our well wishes and prays go to her for a speedy recovery.

With fall coming, it is time to get the rakes at the ready. Just think it won't be long for the leaves to start turning and falling.

### COVENTRY GRANGE #75

*Corr: Noel Miller*

**Sept. 2:** Back to the Books

**Sept. 16:** IS CANCELED

We are sadden with the lose of Sister Janice Going, a 54 year member. She has

helped the grange years ago with her cooking skills, she help feed the Coventry Rotary Club for 15 years before retiring to take care of family members. I will miss her because I can see her big smile that twinkle in her eye and that giggle she always share with others, plus her cooking was fantastic. We will be sharing an Installation with Manchester Grange #31 on September 15th at their hall. Just returning from the New England Lecturers Conference in Randolph VT, I am eager to see Marcia but her lesson received to paper. Good Luck Coventry Grange new Officers.

### HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

*Corr: Rita J. Schaefer*

**Sept. 9:** "Reap in the Harvest"

**Sept. 11:** Harvest Fair

I can't believe that

vacation days are over and time to start a new year. It really was a hot summer and I hope all our members tried to keep cool.

We are working on our Fair items and are hoping for a good Fair on September 11. Hours are 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. We are looking for exhibitors. You don't have to be a Grange member. Needlework and hobbies are welcome and baked goods and flowers. For more information, please call Rita at 860-568-6828.

Hillstown has lost another member. She passed away in Wisconsin. Our sick list stays the same, all are progressing. Now it is time to start preparing for harvesting. I hope our farmers have a good yield in spite of the weather.

Not much news for now. Will have more at the next meeting.

## 80 years at Ekonk



Ekonk Grange member, Mrs. Sylvia Burdick, receives an 80 year certificate at her home from Past Voting Delegate Russell Gray. Mrs. Burdick lived in Oneco all her live and worked in the Post Office there for many years.

## Wolf Den Grange



Wolf Den Master John Carter presents a check to Garry Brown for the Pomfret Food Pantry. The donation was made possible by the Grange's Pancake Breakfasts. Left, some of the many toys donated by Wolf Den to the Paul Newman Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford.





**Joan Perry**  
Junior Director

[juniors@ctstategrange.org](mailto:juniors@ctstategrange.org)

Thank you's go to so many people for helping the Jr. Committee realize a profit of \$357 on the Meatloaf Luncheon at Celebration Day at Cheshire Grange. Thanks to my very hard working committee for working on that sooooo hot day, to Cheshire Grange for allowing us to use their kitchen, to Michelle and Rich Bernhardt for doing the dishes, and all of the people who bought tickets and supported our cause. THANK YOU!!!! I hope all of you Junior Grangers



**Donald Lanoue**  
Youth Director

[youth@ctstategrange.org](mailto:youth@ctstategrange.org)

## Junior Grange

are working on your projects for State Session. Looking forward to seeing all of you and your projects then. Enjoy the rest of the summer. Stay Cool.

### HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

Corr: Rita Schaefer

The Juniors are ending their year with a bang. They met in July and had a party.

They entered the contests for the Juniors and did receive some awards. More on this at the next writing.

The Director and Assistant did help out at their dinner on Fun Day.

More about their coming schedule next time.

### EKONK JR. GRANGE #101

Corr: Sue Gray

While the Juniors do not officially meet during July and August, the kids are indeed busy! Several help at Grange suppers and most of the Juniors were busy helping and having fun at the 28th annual Fair in August! Rebecca Gervais took over as Junior Leader in August at Installation. As mother of five, four of whom are Junior Grangers, she keeps busy! She is no stranger to the job of Leader, having served in this capacity before. We all wish her and the Juniors good luck and may an exciting new year be in store. Andrew Molodich is the new President. Mike and Betsy Molodich did an exemplary job as Leaders and we thank them for their dedication and service!

## Youth Report

Hi everyone I hope that you have been enjoying your summer it sure has been a hot one. While you are inside enjoying your air conditioning, this would be a good time to be working on your Grange's Youth report and Youth Night reports I have already received a couple and look forward to receiving more.

I know it is early, but I will be looking for finger food for the youth room. You all know the system if we want a lite snack come visit the Youth at State Session. It always seems to work out to have quite a variety. Thank you in advance for all your help and see you at Session.

## 2010 Session Committee Assignments

### Agric./ Conserv. / Envir.

Chair: *New London Cty. Pomona #6*  
Vice Chair / Sec: *Quinebaug Pomona #2*  
Cheshire #23  
Southington #25  
Manchester #31  
Tolland #51  
Eureka #62  
Ekonk Comm. #89  
Bethlehem #121  
Trumbull #134  
N. Stonington #138  
Simsbury #197  
Ekonk Jr. #101

### Legislative / Insurance

Chair: *New Haven County Pomona #5*  
Vice Chair / Sec: *Gordon Gibson, Legislative Dir.*  
Wallingford #33  
Brooklyn #43  
Westfield #50  
Vernon #52  
Wolf Den #61  
Winchester #74  
Hillstown #87  
Norfield #146  
Norwich #172  
Oxford #194  
West Suffield #199

### Constitution & By-Laws

Chair: *Farmington Valley Pomona #11*  
Vice Chair / Sec: *East Central Pomona #3*  
Granby #5  
Senexet #40  
Coventry #75  
Ashford #90  
Preston City #110  
Killingly #112  
Higganum #124  
Enfield #151  
Cannon #152  
Old Lyme #162  
N. Stonington Jr. #105

### Credentials / Master's Address / Resolutions

Chair: *North Central Pomona #13*  
Vice Chair / Sec: *Central Pomona #1*  
Stafford #1  
Lebanon #21  
Cawasa #34  
Whigville #48  
Harmony #92  
Prospect #144  
Beacon #118  
Stonington #168  
Echo #180  
Marlborough #205

### Good of the Order / Membership

Chair: *Excelsior Pomona*  
Vice Chair / Sec: *Joanne Cipriano, Membership Dir.*  
Tunxis #13  
Glastonbury #26  
Meriden #29  
North Haven #35  
Colchester #78  
Beacon Valley #103  
Litchfield #107  
Greenfield Hill #133  
Bridgewater #153  
Wolcott #173

### Grange Activity

Chair: *Fairfield County Pomona #9*  
Vice Chair / Sec: *Mountain County Pomona #4*  
Redding #15  
Pachaug #96  
Putnam #97  
Taghannuck #100  
Watertown #122  
Lyme #147  
Hemlock #182  
Riverton #169  
Cherry Brook #210  
Hillstown Jr. #87

## In Memoriam

Beatrice C. Phelps, G.S.	Tunxis Grange #13
Herbert Strand	Cheshire Grange #23
Lemuel Combs	Cheshire Grange #23
Myrtle Jensen	Glastonbury Grange #26
Rev. Ralph Seguire	Brooklyn Grange #43
Lois Brandt	Wolf Den Grange #61
Janice Going, G.S.	Coventry Grange #75
Sylvia Burdick, G.S.	Ekonk Comm. Grange #89
Anne L. (Sue) Magyar	Litchfield Grange #107
Susan Fairchild Therrien	Watertown Grange #122
Ann Smigel	Higganum Grange #124
Robert Mitchell	N. Stonington Grange #138
Terri Manee	Lyme Grange #147
Alfred Vaill, GS.	Oxford Grange #194

Please keep us notified of deceased members. Use the email or the regular mailing address listed on page 2 of this issue. Thank you.

## Chaplain's Message



**Amy Whitcomb**  
State Chaplain

[chaplain@ctstategrange.org](mailto:chaplain@ctstategrange.org)

The Grange year is coming to a close and we are about to generate new ideas to fill our programs and stimulate growth for the new year. Imagine the image of a paper cup being filled with new ideas only to be thrown away time after time. We might all try using a pottery cup, saving the ideas and putting them to good use.

The empty cup also serves as a metaphor, reminding me to stay open to new ideas and new possibilities. It is so easy to become an expert in our personal lives that we close ourselves to the possibility of learning new things. I fill my inner cup with what feeds me and discard what does not.

Clearing out old growth, emptying our cup, can offer the same benefits as recycling. Clearing out on the outer level, closets, drawers, or flower beds gives everything more room to breath. Clearing out the old growth from within can be even more rewarding.

Infinite life is ever ready to pour itself into you. In some traditions this is known as the "flow." When we are so full of our own ideas, our own knowing, there is much less room to receive the gift that the moment of "now" offers us.

Emptying and cleaning my teacup at the end of the day is a good reminder to cleanse any problematic thoughts that have occupied my mind and to release the smallest of resentments. If I forget and leave the cup a few days, the cup might get a stain and it is much harder to clean the cup, the same is true for the heart and mind.

It takes conscious intention to use less and recycle more products of our lives. It takes conscious intention to empty our cup and receive something new and unexpected.



Entries in the "Dress A Doll" contest on display at the "Let's Celebrate" Day at Cheshire Grange in July.