

Let's Celebrate Day!

Sunday, June 12 • Cheshire Grange, 44 Wallingford Rd., Cheshire, CT
Grange Sunday Service, 11 A.M., Lunch at Noon, Program at 1 P.M.

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Connecticut Granger



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June 2016

State Master



Noel T. Miller
State Master/President
president@ctstategrange.org

June is that time of year when our Granges are electing new officers. We look around our halls to see who will take an office or who will move up, or stay the same. I finally see what past President Jody Cameron was preaching during his term. Are we training and teaching for our replacements in the future? As our older members decline and we fail to have people in line to replace them we are all doomed. I see this in my own Grange and Pomona. Who will take the reins and lead us now. This may be the factor that determines the survival our Pomona or Community Granges, so we should all have a discussion on this subject real soon.

This past month my mother passed away and it gives me time to reflect on her and my father's lives within the Grange. My father joined first to get to know people in town and was told it was a good group for town politics. My mother joined when the older kids were old enough to join with her. My father had 56 years and my mom was at 48 years in the Grange. Both were past Masters of Coventry Grange. My father brought from Grange community service, giving back and hard work. While my mother lived the salutations with Faith, Hope, Charity, Fidelity and Perseverance. She worked and gave to family and strangers because it was the right thing to do. As I reflect on my 43 years in the Grange and those I

have met and knew, I see that we have not filled the shoes of those who left us. I remember saying at a funeral that this person had big shoes to fill, but we can use many people to fill those shoes not just one person. Let us have discussion on this topic in our Granges. How are we going to meet the challenge of the future if say our Master doesn't run or our Secretary wants to retire after 40 years of being Secretary? Who will take the challenge or will we just give up?

June is also a busy time of year for Grange activities. June 11 is entry day for Let's Celebrate at Cheshire Grange. June 12 is CT Grange Sunday and Let's Celebrate Day, starting at 10:00 A.M. (Church Service at 11 A.M.). June 26 is New England Grange Sunday at Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, NH. This is a lovely area for an outdoor service, or indoors if it is raining, put on by the New England State Chaplains. It's also a nice day trip.

I have heard that a generous donation was made to Mountain County Pomona #4 and to Camp Berger from a Granger from Taghannuck Grange in Sharon. I thank this member for remembering the groups that he was fond of. We remind members that in your estate planning you can leave a donation to your Grange or Pomona, State Grange, State Grange Foundation or Camp Berger. No amount is too small and it would be greatly appreciated by those members, or groups.

We all have a love of our Grange experience but we all need to expand, broadcast, scream, promote our beloved Grange. For if we don't we will lose our Grange in Connecticut. As we look into our crystal balls we can see an end to our organization. We must change that sighting and it starts now.

Granges continue partnership



For the sixth consecutive year, Bethlehem Grange #121 and Oxford Grange #194 have donated seed potatoes and bean seeds to the school garden of the Ellis Clark Regional Agri-Science and Technology Program at Nonewaug High School. On Monday, April 24th, Grange members Albert "Skip" Maddox (President, Bethlehem Grange), Eloise Osuch (Treasurer, Bethlehem Grange), Robert Buck (Secretary, Oxford and Lecturer, Bethlehem Grange), and Maggie Buck (President, Oxford Grange) presented one hundred fifty pounds of seed potatoes and two pounds of bean seeds to instructor Tom DiMarco's local food production class. For a number of years now, this particular class has overseen the planting and care for a substantial garden. Much of the produce is donated to the local food bank in town. Some of the vegetables grown even make their way to the school cafeteria for the students' consumption. We are told that they like to eat French fries made from the potatoes they have grown themselves. Last year, about 300 pounds of potatoes were raised.

New buildings rise at Kelley Farm

By Joni Astrup, Star News (MN)

A \$14 million multifaceted construction project is well underway at the historic Oliver Kelley Farm in Elk River, Minnesota. Construction began last fall. A new visitor center and five other smaller buildings will be completed by August 2016 and a grand opening is planned for May 2017, according to Bob Quist, the farm's site manager.



General contractor is Keu Contractors Inc. from Watkins.

The buildings are going up between Highway 10 and the historic core, which includes the Kelley house and barn that date to the 1800s. That historic area is not being impacted, Quist said.

The new facilities will allow the farm to tell the broader story of agriculture

— yesterday, today and tomorrow. The traditional programming highlighting farm life in the 1860s with costumed interpreters and live animals will continue and new programs and features will be added.

"Instead of being all we have, it now becomes part of what we have," Quist said of the existing programs.

Agriculture has a long history in Minnesota and it's a dynamic, complex story, he said.

"We're just going to tell that story, from the past to today," he said. "That's what this is about, is creating a platform to tell that story."

The new visitor center is a key part of the project. It replaces the old earth-sheltered ... Continued on page two

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NEXT ISSUE ... JULY



A part of the National Grange

*American Values,
Hometown Roots*

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CT State Grange Master Stephen O. Bowen



Stephen O. Bowen was born on April 8, 1840 in Eastford, Connecticut. He was the son of Oliver Bowen and Betsey Horton Bowen.

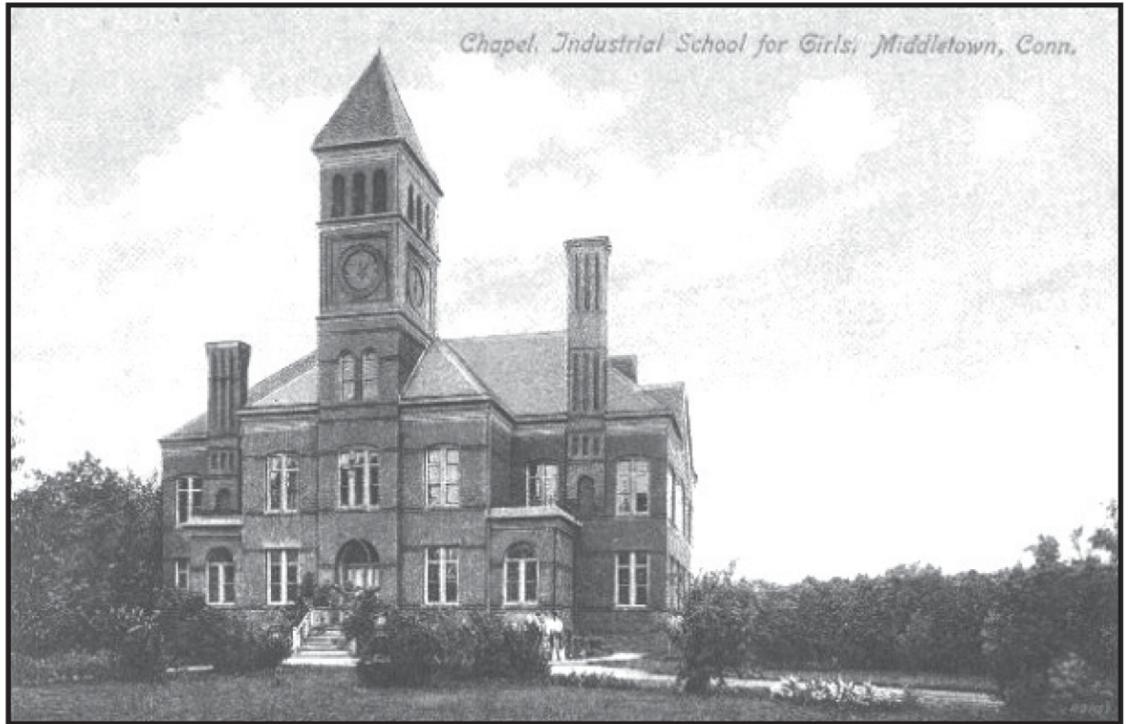
"Besides the education of the common school of his town, Mr. Bowen was a pupil at a select and also the State Normal School."*

In 1864, he married Miss Abbie Lea Spencer.

To them were born four children, which were as follows: O. Earle; George S.; A. Etta; and Jesse S. Bowen.

Between 1860 and 1870 he taught school, after which he carried on a general merchandise business, dealing much

in livestock, to which was added farming. He represented his native town in the General Assembly of 1876, and was chosen by his citizens as Judge of the Probate Court for several towns, likewise assessor, town clerk, Town Treasurer and a member of the School Board for over thirty-five years. He was a Trustee of the Connecticut Agricultural Society, a director of the Girl's Industrial School at Middletown and president of the Woodstock Agricultural Society. He was the first Master of his own Grange, the second Master of Quinebaug Pomona No. 2. He was one of the few members of the State Grange Executive Committee who became Master after having served upon the Executive Committee, the years of service upon that committee being as follows: 1890-95. He was the fourth Master of the present State Grange during 1896-1899. He was Priest Herald of the Assembly of Demeter of the National Grange during 1888 and 1889 and was Chaplain of the National



Chapel of the Industrial School for Girls in Middletown, CT

Grange during 1897-1901.

He personally organized Woodstock Grange No. 150 and the following Granges were organized during his administration: Lyme Grange No. 147, Westport Grange No. 148, Easton Grange No. 149, Enfield Grange No. 151, and Cannon Grange No. 152.

In Grange work, he had been equally earnest and efficient. Although coming

to the Order as Master after the first flush of enthusiasm and impulse had passed away, he proved a bullwork against the growing tide of indifference and inactivity.

During his administration partly due to his idea and partly due to the recommendation of others the Deputy system was more or less discontinued or discouraged. Some think it proved an asset, others did

not agree with the lack of inspection which followed the breaking down of the Deputy system. The results are interesting to those who compare a period of growth against that of another.

He passed away on September 21, 1908 in Pasadena, California.

*A normal school is a 19th century term for a school or college that trained teachers.

New buildings rise at Oliver Hudson Kelley Farm

Continued from page one... visitor center that dated to 1979 and was demolished. The new visitor center is rising in the same location.

Also under construction are a maintenance building, animal husbandry building, guest animal building, picnic shelter and multipurpose building. The multipurpose building will include a four-season classroom to provide a lunch area for about 100 students and a launching point for education programs.

The visitor center, meanwhile, will be 15,000 square feet in size- three times the size of the old one, Quist said.

One of its most prominent features is a commercial-grade learning kitchen with seven cook stations suitable for classes, workshops and daily programs.

The visitor center also will include a community room and two classrooms separated by walls that can be moved to create one larger space, as well as exhibit space, a museum store, office area, a small conference room, staff locker rooms, restrooms for visitors, and a large porch overlooking the farmstead.

The building will have geothermal heating and cooling system and the goal is to have it LEED certified. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental

Design and is a green building certification program.

Other features that will be added near the new buildings include:

- Six to eight acres of modern crop land to allow visitors to learn about crops grown in Minnesota today, such as corn, soybeans, wheat, sugar beets, and potatoes.

- An outdoor interactive exhibit trail with five nodes- dairy, protein, grain, vegetables, and fruit-based on the Department of Agriculture's My Plate healthy eating program. The trail will explore where food comes from and tell stories about Minnesota food.

- Livestock programs at the guest animal building that will give visitors access to modern-day visiting farm animals. The possibilities could range from cattle to llamas to rabbits, Quist said.

- A one acre demonstration garden.

- Machinery hill, located just outside the visitor center, will feature modern farm equipment on display and will change with the seasons and be analogous to what is being used on the historic farm at the time. When the Kelley Farm staff is plowing with oxen, for instance, there may be a current tractor and disc on display, Quist said.

Kelley Farm faced closure in 2002

The Kelley Farm building project represents a turning point for the farm, which nearly closed in 2002. Quist said the farm was one of six Minnesota Historical Society sites proposed to be cut that year. It was saved when a citizen's group organized, calling itself the Friends of the Kelley Farm, and the community came up with the money to keep the farm open.

"We came out of that stronger than we went in," Quist said.

Now the site is not only open but expanding its role in telling the story of agriculture, Minnesota's second-largest industry.

In 2014, the Minnesota Legislature approved \$10.5 million for the Kelley Farm project; Quist said they have been working for the last year to raise \$4 million to cover the balance of the project costs and are nearly there.

"We're well-received in many places," he said.

Private donors as well as foundations, agricultural groups and corporate sponsors have been supportive, he said.

The Friends of the Kelley Farm, meanwhile, remains active today.

Additionally, the farm has a community advisory committee made up of business and community leaders that meets quarterly.



The new visitor center rises at the Oliver Kelley Farm in Minn.

Farm draws 30,000 visitors a year

The Kelley Farm draws about 30,000 visitors a year, including 15,000 students on field trips.

Quist said their goal is to double visitation within the next five years.

There are 4 million people living within a 45 minute drive of the Kelley Farm, he said, so the potential is vast.

The farm opens for the season in May, with weekend hours during May and extended hours starting Memorial Day weekend.

Summer hours are 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 5 P.M. Sunday and closed Monday and Tuesday.

The farm is located at 15788 Kelley Farm Road .

For more information go to www.mnhs.org.

About the Kelley Farm

With 189 acres of farm fields, prairie and woods, the Kelley farm is recognized as the birthplace of organized agriculture in America.

In 1849, Oliver Kelley homesteaded the Kelley Farm land and, in 1867, founded the Grange - a national organization designed to bring farmers the latest agricultural and marketing techniques. The farm was donated to the Minnesota Historical Society by the National Grange in 1961 to ensure the preservation of the land, the buildings and the important story of agriculture and farming in Minnesota.

Welcome to our newest Granges

Tygart Valley Grange #553

The National Grange is proud to welcome Tygart Valley Grange #553, West Virginia. The Grange, chartered with 34 members, is located in Randolph County. The county traces ties to the Civil War and is home to many natural wonders.

Please make them feel a part of our wonderful family fraternity by sending a letter of welcome.

Send letters to: Tina Carrel, Sec., 23695 Seneca Trail, Valley Head, WV 26924. Email: tinacarrel92872@gmail.com. (Subject: Grange Greetings from YOUR GRANGE NAME).

Log Cabin Unity Grange #2110

Pennsylvania State Grange has grown one Grange larger with the addition of the Log Cabin Unity Grange #2110 in Otter Creek Township, Mercer County. The charter was signed in February and there were 18 charter members, including Master Virginia Straub. Recent census data says Otter Creek Township has 611 residents. It is located on the PA/OH border, about an hour and a half north of Pittsburgh. Please send them a quick hello to welcome them to the Grange family.

Send letters to: Vernice Brocklehurst, Sec., 605 Marysville Rd., Greenville, PA 16125.

Elmer Junior Grange #67

New Jersey reorganized Elmer Junior Grange #67 as they were working to raise money to rebuild their hall. The Junior Grange, located in Upper Pittsgrove Township, Salem County, New Jersey, whose population is about 3,500. Located 40 minutes south of Philadelphia, PA and 40 minutes east of Wilmington, DE, Upper Pittsgrove Township is a leader in NJ's agriculture community and farmland preservation. More than 9,300 of a total of 25,000 acres of township are preserved farmland. There are nearly 18,000 active agricultural acres in the township. The Elmer Junior Grange is led by Carol Evans as the Junior Master is Karley Sickler.

Send letters to: Carol Evans, 170 Woodstown-Daretown Rd., Pilesgrove, NJ 08098. Email: carolevans70@gmail.com. (Subject: Grange Greetings from YOUR GRANGE NAME).

High Desert Junior Grange #22

A new Junior Grange was organized with 39 charter members in the city of Fallon, Nevada in March. The Junior Leader of High Desert Junior Grange #22 is Gloria Montero and the Junior Master is Emma Parsons. Fallon is the county seat of Churchill County, and is located about an hour east of Reno, with an estimated population of just over 8,300 people. This is an agricultural area, whose principle crop is alfalfa. Many of Fallon's residents are employed or otherwise affiliate with the Naval Air Station Fallon, a training airfield that has been home of the U.S. Navy's Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center including the TOPGUN training program since 1996, located in Fallon. Send letters to: Gloria Montero,

Hardin County Junior Grange #1075

Junior Grange is growing all across the nation. In addition to the previously reported new Junior Grange in Nevada (first ever), and reorganized Granges in Elmer, NJ, the National Grange received paperwork and is proud to welcome back the reorganized Hardin County Junior Grange #1075 in Ohio. The Junior Grange, with eight charter members is located in Dudley Township, and was reorganized by Jennifer Russell, who serves as co-leader along with Sheri Flowers. The sponsoring Grange is Harding County Pomona Grange #43.

Hardin County was named after American Revolution officer John Hardin and is located in the northwest quadrant of the state. It is home to about 32,000 people. Kenton, the county seat, was the hometown of Jacob Parrott, the first recipient of the Medal of Honor.

Greetings may be sent to Jennifer Russell, JG Leader, 20325 CR 190, Mt. Victory, OH 43340. Emails 3sjrussell@gmail.com: (Subject: Grange Greetings from YOUR GRANGE NAME).

Remember, many Junior Granges use your cards and notes to learn more about the Grange, the communities in which Granges are located and basic US Geography and history.



Did you know?...

By Terri Fassio, Public Relations Co-Director

Did You Know ... The best way to get your Grange's message out may be to tell it like a story? On the surface, Public Relations is similar to a non-fiction book, or even your favorite documentary movies - truth told in a story-like context. Tell your Grange story with the same structure and elements of all the greatest stories, and the message will be heard!

Did You Know ... the best way to overcome writers block is to keep your press release short and to the point? Start with the facts, and follow the natural progression of the story - from most important at the start to least important at the close.

Did You Know ... there is a difference between Public

Relations and Advertising? There is a popular saying that sums it up - "Advertising is what you pay for, publicity is what you pray for." An article published in *Forbes Magazine* has the perfect definition - "Advertising is paid media, public relations is earned media. This means you convince reporters or editors to write a positive story about you or your client, your candidate, brand or issue. It appears in the editorial section of the magazine, newspaper, TV station or website, rather than the "paid media" section where advertising messages appear. So your story has more credibility because it was independently verified by a trusted third party, rather than purchased." (July 8, 2014 edition, "The Real Difference Between PR

And Advertising" by Robert Wynne)

Did You Know ... that Public Relations has a "Gatekeeper" just like the Grange does? In the field of Public Relations, the Gatekeeper is the individual who controls the flow of information to the public, from the media's perspective. Basically - the person who chooses what articles are published or broadcast, using a set of criteria to do so.

Did You Know ... 70 percent of news in the media is generated by public relations? Granges need to take advantage of this statistic to promote their events and activities, share news, celebrate an anniversary or other notable event, build recognition, and even generate excitement about the organization.

Bridgewater debates new Grange Hall

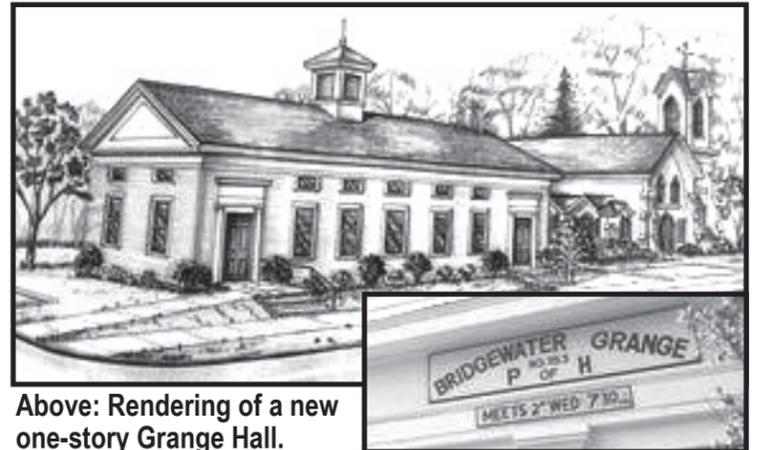
By Susan Tuz, Waterbury Republican-American (5/23/16)

Despite assurances from the Board of Selectmen that the circa-1860's Bridgewater Grange is in "terrible condition," some residents at the annual town meeting on Friday night argued against demolishing the structure and erecting a new one-story building in its place.

"To salvage the present Grange would be a huge job," First Selectman Curtis S. Read said. "There are so many problems to fix it would be cost prohibitive. It will be easier and more cost effective to take the building down, put in a new foundation and a one-story building with full basement in its place, with a design that harkens back to the original building."

Selection Leo P. Null, a former Danbury building inspector, explained the poor condition of the current building's foundation. It's comprised of stones stacked with no mortar joints, slipping at a 12-inch grade, with a "pond" in the middle where water has collected with each rainstorm or snow melt. Null noted the walls are bowed, and the beams with mortar joints have been pulled apart. He said the floor moves as he walks across it due to the instability of the rotted underlying supports.

For resident Lisa Burns, however, the building should be renovated no matter the cost because it is in the Bridgewater Center Historic District and is listed on the



Above: Rendering of a new one-story Grange Hall.

National Register of Historic Places.

"The Grange is part of a collection of buildings in a cohesive unit, and to take one building out, you destroy that value," Burns said. "It should be kept as a whole. This collection of buildings tells the history of Bridgewater."

Resident Sherry Weatherly expressed concern about transferring \$312,000 from the town's general fund for a project that remains uncertain.

"How can we vote on this amount of money not knowing if we can demolish and rebuild, or if the State Historic Commission will insist the Grange be restored and preserved?"

"I don't think it changes that character of the town," he said. "We do appreciate the town's history, but I don't think a new building with the design proposed will make a difference. The historic district designation is not on the Connecticut Register of Historic Sites. It is not in our (plan of conservation and development) or records. It's an honorific title. There are 61 buildings that are in

the historic district. There is one sheet of paper we found in old files that indicates this designation happened."

Residents David Bennett and Diane McNulty continued to question the motion and the action.

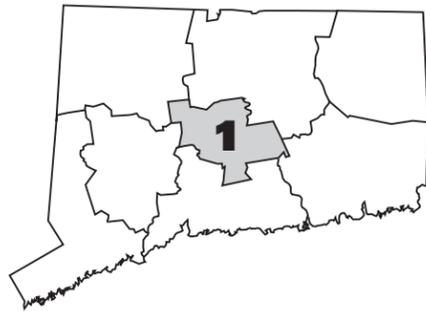
"If we vote yes, we are authorizing the selectmen to spend this \$312,000 at their discretion and demolish and rebuild or restore," McNulty said. "We can't vote again. After careful consideration, I will vote no. We have several places in town for meeting places."

It was decided that while the selectmen have that option, if the State Historic Commission says the Grange can't be demolished, the selectmen would have to bring the issue back to the voters.

"Something's got to be done," resident Sharon Ball said. "We're talking about moving money from one fund to another. We have to do something. Let's transfer some money so we can start this project."

In the end, the transfer of funds was authorized by a vote of 106 to 27.

Central Pomona No. 1



- Central #1
- Southington #25
- Meriden #29
- Higganum #124
- Hemlock #182



HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

June 10: Memorial & Election of Officers

June 24: Omitted, unless regular meeting is canceled

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Quinebaug Pomona No. 2



- Quinebaug #2
- Senexet #40
- Wolf Den #61
- Ekonk Community #89
- Ashford #90
- Putnam #97
- Killingly #112
- Echo #180



EKONK COMMUNITY GRANGE #89

Corr: Sue Gray

The month of June will begin at Ekonk with Junior Grange election of officers on June 3rd. The Juniors meet at 6 p.m. and are an active, inspirational group! Leader, Rebecca Gervais, does an admirable job and has many parents/grandparents helping with special projects. In May, they presented 10 year old Kaycee Chesters and her Sterling family with nearly \$900.00, earned from a spaghetti supper and their Mother's Day Plant Sale. Kaycee is battling cancer, having already lost a leg to the disease. June 4th, the Juniors will have an ice cream social--another fun adventure! June 6th, our Program Director, Link Cooper, will present a program titled, "Weddings, Grads and Strawberry Suppers!" If you have not seen one of Link's programs--plan to--they are outstanding!

June 11th will be our 122nd Strawberry Supper, beginning at 5 p.m. This is always a sensational event with long lines and folks leaving with full stomachs and with complimentary words! The meal begins with baked ham, home baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, rolls & butter and ends with homemade biscuits topped with native strawberries and with gobs of real whipped cream on top! All our meals at Ekonk are all you can eat--it is amazing to watch some folks eat a full, full meal and then two shortcakes!

We completed yet another year of providing all of the food at the Plainfield Relay for Life--on the very same day as our Strawberry Supper! We also held our annual roast beef supper benefiting "TALVHI" (The American Legion VETERANS Housing Inc.) -- this first of its kind housing facility for formally homeless veterans is in Jewett City, CT and our Grange is proud to have been working annually since the facility

prepared to open several years ago. Eighteen furnished apartments provide housing, counselling and training for veterans. Looking forward to July, our annual Blueberry Supper will be Sat., July 16th, beginning at 5 p.m. With the horrific damage to peach blossoms from frost, we will have to give serious thought to the feasibility of holding our annual August Peach Shortcake Supper--farmers are at the mercy of weather and this Spring brought peach farmers to their knees!

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Glenna Bruno

June 6: Cast One Vote - Elections

June 20: Ice Cream Social

July 18: Picnic

On April 18 the meeting was presided over by Past Master Eleanor Davis as the Master, Sec., Treas. and Steward were absent. We discussed upcoming events: a tag sale in May, a silent auction in June. Items will be needed for the auction as there will be theme baskets and gift cards which always go well. Members are encouraged to donate same. Our treasury needs feeding. Call Nancy Arena at 860-455-5083 if you can help in any way. Hopefully a tag sale is being planned for May. Donations gladly accepted.

We held a breakfast on April 20 for veterans. Then a bluegrass concert was held along with a ham and bean supper on the same day. A good crowd was in attendance for both. Thank you to everyone-workers and fans. No more bluegrass until October. Stay tuned for announcements.

On May 16 Killingly Grange will have its annual inspection. Also in June we will hold our Election of Officers. Please members- choose carefully and wisely. It really is not just a title, it is a job. If at any time a members needs a ride to Grange, please call the Master or a member or carpool ride to Grange. We want to see all of your smiling faces. We are back to our regular meeting night - the Chaplain is in charge of the Memorial Program/Meeting.

ECHO GRANGE #180

Corr: Gloria John

June 14: Picnic, 6 P.M.

June 28: Overseer/Stewards

Potluck Supper, 6:30 P.M.

We had to postpone our Ham and Bean Supper on May 14th. We have sent several squares to "From the Heart"

and also some needed items.

We have several members in nursing homes.

We are getting back to our regular meetings this spring.

Grow for the needy



This year's contest is the same as last year. Grow fruit and vegetables to feed the hungry. You can donate food to your local church, food banks, soup kitchens and people in need. All you have to do is weigh the food and report what you have donated by September 20, 2016. You may contact either Chris Bourque at 860-267-8628 or Ted Powell 860-908-4906, nearing06415@yahoo.com. Remember our goal is 20,000 pounds this year!

Family Activities



Irene Percoski
CWA/Family Activ. Director
cwa@ctstategrange.org

Before you know it the Big E will be here and our handmade crafts will be a big draw along with the yummy jams, jellies and sauces offered in the Grange Country Store. If your Grange has items for the store, please contact any CWA Committee member and arrangements will be

made to get them. Your subordinate and Pomona Chairs have several pattern directions for popular items. Please ask them.

Plant Seeds for the Future

Consider leaving a planned gift for the Connecticut State Grange Foundation, Inc.* The size of your gift does not matter. What matters is that we all participate and support the future of the Grange!

Please contact us if you need assistance.

CONNECTICUT
STATE GRANGE
FOUNDATION



43 Naubuc Ave., P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033
Tel. 860-633-7550 • Email: info@CTStateGrangeFoundation.org
www.CTStateGrangeFoundation.org

*The Connecticut State Grange Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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 and should be sent to:
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P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033

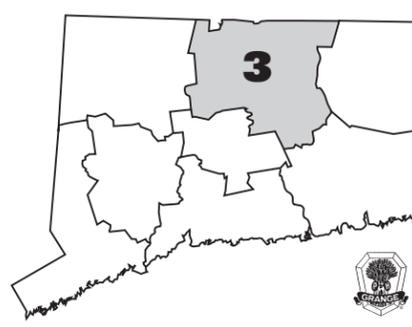
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President/Editor Todd Gelineau
Vice President
Secretary Treasurer. Edith Schoell

East Central Pomona No. 3



- East Central #3
- Granby #5
- Glastonbury #26
- Manchester #31
- Vernon #52
- Coventry #75
- Hillstown #87
- Enfield #151
- Simbury #197

EAST CENTRAL POMONA #3

Corr: Noel Miller

June 4: Election of Officers, Host Vernon and Stafford Granges

June 18: E. Central Pomona #3 Degree Day, 10 A.M.

This meeting will be held at VERNON GRANGE, where it is centrally located and handicapped accessible. It is election of officers so please attend and say "I will be honored to accept."

Reminder: June 18 will be a Degree Day at Good Will Grange Hall starting at 10 A.M. Anyone is invited to attend and a potluck luncheon will be after the four degrees. Information, call Noel Miller.

GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kathryn Ruff

May 5 is fast approaching (as of this writing), so time to get this news in to the Connecticut Granger.

Glastonbury will meet June 2 for Election of Officers. I urge the members to turn out and help elect the members that will serve Glastonbury for the coming year.

June 11th is our final Monte Carlo Whist Card Party for the season. Hopefully we will get a good turnout. They will resume in October.

May 7th was our Bakeless/Foodless Sale. As I am typing this on May 1st cannot tell you the results. I have only had a check from four members. If you did not remember the sale you can send your donation to the Grange Secretary: Kay Ruff, P.O. Box 192, Pomfret Center, CT 06259.

I wish everyone a great spring and summer.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Nancy Strong

June 3: Manchester Grange in Charge!

This is the second year that Manchester Grange

and Vernon Grange have exchanged programs. It was fun for Vernon Grange to visit Manchester Grange in March and now they will be doing the program for us! This meeting is also our inspection of officers with the State Master doing our inspection. We will have many members who will be receiving years of membership certificates, seals and letters from National Grange.

COVENTRY GRANGE #75

Corr: Noel Miller

June 2: Flag Day, Ref. J. Hill

June 16: Father's Day, Ref. T. Beebe

Coventry Grange #75 mourns the loss of Past Master Claudia Miller, May 9, 2016, a 48 year member. Donations in her memory may be made to Coventry Grange #75. She will be truly missed for the work she had done for our Grange.

ENFIELD GRANGE #151

Corr: Irene Percoski

June 11: Election of Officers

July 9: Picnic – Salad Days

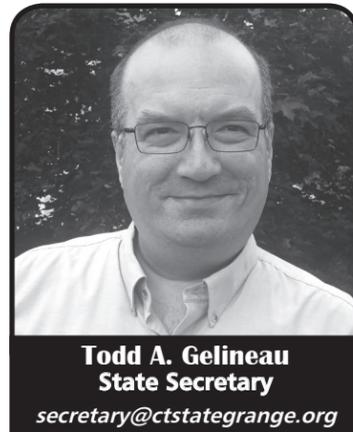
Getting stuck in an elevator was not the greatest experience. I was just very glad someone was able to hear me pounding on the gate and try to get me out in time for our last meeting. From now on I will take the stairs, the elevator needs some work. This month, June, will be election of officers. Let's see what changes are in order. I know there are some who would like to look at the room from a different position. Are you willing to make a move?

Our sincere condolences to Sister Elaine Lietz on the untimely passing of her son John. We all share in our sorrow.

Vernon Grange honors Strong



L-R - Gordon Gibson, Addison Nelson, Nancy Strong, Michael Nelson. At the April Vernon Grange meeting, the Executive Committee surprised Master Nancy Strong with a resolution in honor of her years of service to Vernon Grange as Master since 1983 and 50 years of membership in Vernon Grange.



Todd A. Gelineau
State Secretary

secretary@ctstategrange.org

It seemed like warmer weather would never get here and now that it has, work in the Central Office is moving toward plans for the Fall! Believe it or not, State Session will be here before long. This year we will return to the beautiful Holiday Inn Norwich located at 10 Laura Boulevard, Norwich, CT 06360. Room rates are \$92.00 plus tax. Reservations can be made anytime by calling (860) 889-5201 and by referring to the Connecticut State Grange block.

The meals for the Convention have also been finalized with a Barbecue luncheon on Friday and a deli sandwich luncheon on Saturday. Four entrée choices are available for the Celebration Banquet: Parmesan Dijon Crusted Chicken Breast, Roasted Atlantic Salmon with Shallot Jus, Roasted Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus with Fresh Horseradish Aoli and Vegetable Lasagna for our vegetarian members. Information for purchasing tickets and registrations for the convention will be available in the next issue.

Each year we ask our Granges and members to contribute whatever amount they wish to be put towards a gift to be presented to State Lecturer Marge Bernhardt at Lecturer's Conference. Notes will be sent out to all Granges in the next week,

State Secretary

but if you are interested in sending in something, please send to the Central Office (Connecticut State Grange, P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033) with a notation that it is for the State Lecturer's gift.

Revision sheets for the Annual State Directory have gone out to all Granges. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE send them back to us completed/corrected as soon after your election as possible. This is especially important for Granges that are in the current jurisdiction of Quinebaug Pomona and for Granges in Fairfield County Pomona (#9 hasn't had a handbook of its own in a few years). Keeping this information up to date so we can all communicate is very important.

Scholarship applications have been sent out to those who have requested them along with those who applied last year. If you are interested, please let me know and we will make sure a packet is sent out. Student Loan applications are also available from the office. This is a very under-utilized program of the State Grange. I would love to see us loan a lot more money to deserving student Grangers!

In the last couple of months, we have changed the way we have handled deposits at the Central Office. After a number of checks failed to arrive at the State Treasurer's home through the USPS, we have resorted to hand delivering all deposits. However, prior to that change there may be additional checks of which we might be unaware. If your

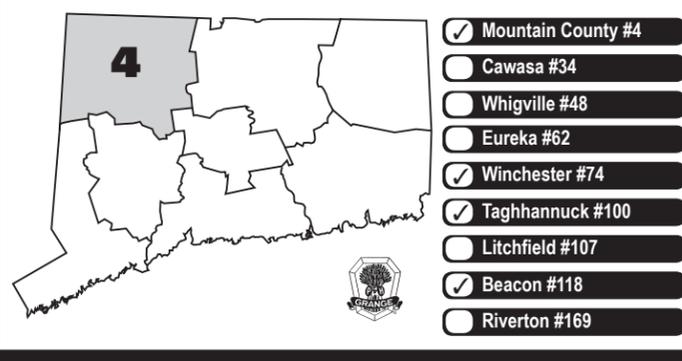
Grange has outstanding checks from more than 45-60 days, please let us know so we can check into it. It's unfortunate that we can't rely on the Postal Service to deliver all of the mail!

A GREAT number of G Bills have been reported to or delivered to the Central Office. It's great to hear so many of our members are having a great time with this program. We would remind you that cash should not be mailed to the office. You may provide an accounting of what you have collected and provide a check for the amount you have collected to date. It's really not necessary for us to handle each and every bill. Money may be brought to the office (please call ahead to see when I will be in) or you may hand deliver to me at Let's Celebrate in Cheshire. We will accept G Bills right up to and at State Session, so keep on looking. Every dollar donated will mean less State Grange money will be needed to pay our obligation towards future National Grange Sessions.

I have received a note from Glenna Bruno of Killingly Grange. Killingly has a set of gowns used years ago for the Fifth Degree in Quinebaug Pomona. They are not the ones used most recently by Pomona but she says they are serviceable if there is a Pomona in need of gowns—a call to Glenna and a trip to Killingly would secure the gowns for your Pomona. Please let me know if you need assistance in contacting her.

Until next time... enjoy spring.... Or summer.... Or whatever it is we're having now! ☺

Mountain County Pomona No. 4



MOUNTAIN CTY. POMONA #4

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

June 27: Meeting at Taghhannuck Grange (Sharon), 7:30 P.M.

Mountain County Pomona was pleased to welcome six new members at our May Degree conferral. Welcome one and all! It was voted at our March meeting to eliminate the Fifth Degree conferral in October in favor of one conferral each year at the May meeting.

The next meeting will be held on June 27 at Taghhannuck Grange Hall on Dunbar Road in Sharon. The Lecturer will present a program and we will elect one member of the Executive Committee. It's a scenic drive up to Taghhannuck so fill up the car and join us for a good time.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

June 14: Election of Officers, Ref. Shirley Lemieux

June 19: Strawberry Festival, 2-5 P.M., Grange Hall

June 28: Dad's Day, Ref. Potluck, 6 PM

A Tag Sale, Super Prize Party, Iceland Affair and our Strawberry Festival round out the activities at Winchester Grange this

spring and early summer. A concert presented by Gerri Griswold featuring artists from Iceland will be at the Grange Hall on Saturday evening, June 18. Tickets are available by visiting the Iceland Affair website/Facebook page. It will sell out so get your tickets early. Winchester Grange sponsors this event with Gerri who handles ticket sales and organization of the event. Not a bad arrangement for us!

The next day (Father's Day) is Winchester's annual Strawberry Festival held at the Grange Hall from 2 to 5 P.M. Enjoy the largest servings of Shortcake around served by Winchester's Laurel Queen and the members of Winchester Grange. It's a wonderful Grange and community tradition that so many look forward to each year. Join us!

TAGHHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Barbara Prindle

Taghhannuck Grange held their Awards Dinner on May 12th and the following membership awards were given out:

John & Janis Downey and Debra Tyler 25 years; Hal Gurnee 35 years; Harvey Hayden 50 years; Linda

Estabrook 55 years and Ed Wathley 65 years. Congratulations to all.

Taghhannuck Grange holds their big fundraising Rummage and Plant Sale on Saturday, June 4th. Both the flowers and vegetables are raised in a green house and ready for planting. Many of the plants are heirloom varieties. The prices can not be beat and people come from far and wide to this sale.

Our June 9th meeting is boxing all leftovers ready to give away to needy people.

Our Jun 23rd meeting will be Election of Officers and a Memorial program put on by our Chaplain. We also will have a power point presentation by Jessica Fowler to show what is happening with broadband availability in the northwest corner of the state.

BEACON GRANGE #118

Corr: Chuck Bezio

Granger Chuck Bezio has created a new official website for Beacon Grange #118, www.BeaconGrange.org. He has also created Facebook and Twitter pages to keep Beacon Grange connected socially to the community.

Jen and Chuck Bezio donated to Beacon Grange an historical artifact that was recently found among Jen's parent's belongings. This historic ribbon from Beacon Grange is rare because of its age, beauty, personal and emotional connection to Beacon Grange. This historic artifact represents a previous era or time period in human society and this Grange. Grangers Bea and Ron are researching the historic value of the ribbon. Photos of this ribbon was posted to the Facebook photo album Awards, Certificates

and Membership.

Ron, Bea, Chuck, Jen and Scott attended Blue Seal and Agway in Litchfield, CT and Stop and Shop in Torrington, CT from 12 to 5 P.M. on Saturday, April 16, 2016 to invite crafters to our Craft Fair and to bring awareness to Grange events.

We will hold our Community Tag Sale on June 11 from 8 A.M. to 3 P.M. Sellers wanted- \$15 per space.

Annual Summer Picnic – July 23 from 11 A.M. to dusk at Northfield Dam on Rte. 254, Northfield. For more info & potluck sign-up, contact Bea at 860.733.5818.

Plans are underway for our Annual Fair in September- Date TBD and our Annual Local Farmer's Market – Date TBD.

Happy birthday to Dan Bezio.

“Primary Math” holds many mysteries



Alma Graham
Legislative Director
Legislative@ctstategrange.org

The Connecticut presidential primary vote was held at the end of April. Both parties are in intense fights for their party nomination to determine who will be the Presidential candidate for that party. This presidential primary season is historical. Usually by the time the primaries are held in Connecticut the field has been whittled down to one major candidate in each major party. Connecticut delegation votes usually have little impact by the time we assign our delegates.

Each state has its own set of rules as to how the delegates are assigned to the candidates. How does Connecticut determine how the delegates are assigned and how many do we assign?

In Connecticut the Democrats assign 71 delegates. Of these, 55 delegates are pledged delegates. Pledged delegates are allocated to a candidate in proportion to the votes he or she receives in a state's primary vote. The candidate must receive at least 15 percent of the votes cast in the primary to be eligible to receive any

pledged delegates. There are three types of pledged delegates, congressional districts, at-large delegates and party leader/elected official. Congressional district delegates are allocated proportionally based on primary results in their district. At-large and party leader/elected official delegates are allocated by the state wide primary ballot percentages that the candidate receives. Sixteen delegates are unpledged and will be determined by party leaders and elected officials regardless of the results of the primary results.

The Republicans have 28 delegates that they assign. Fifteen are congressional district level delegates, three to each district. They are

assigned by a winner take all by who wins in the district by district. Ten at-large delegates will be allocated by the percentage the candidates win statewide, but they must receive at least 20 percent of the votes to be eligible. But, if a candidate wins by more than 50 percent of the statewide ballots then they will win all of the state district delegates and all of the states at-large delegates. That means if a candidate wins the state wide elections by more than 50 percent then they will be assigned both the 15 district and 10 at-large delegates for a total of 25. The remaining three delegates are assigned by party leaders to the winner of the ballot results.

Granger Address Changes

Name: _____

Grange: _____ No. _____

OLD ADDRESS: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

NEW ADDRESS: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please clip and mail to:

Connecticut Granger, P.O. Box 1393,

Glastonbury, CT 06033

or email: Granger@CTStateGrange.org

Take Dad Out For Dessert!

Winchester Grange STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

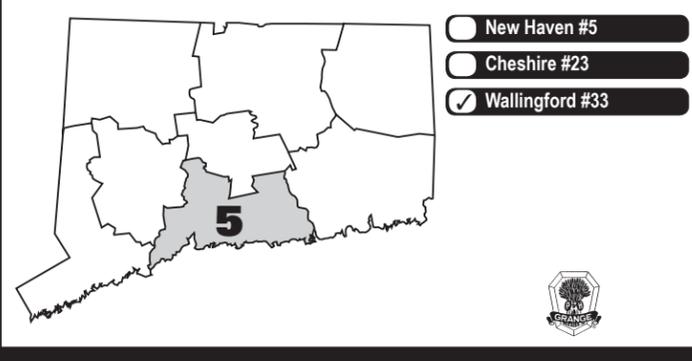
• Father's Day •
JUNE 19, 2016
2:30 PM

Strawberry Shortcake
Adults: \$6.00 • Children: \$3.50
Take-Outs Available

Winchester Grange Hall
On the Green
100 Newfield Rd., Winchester Center, CT

www.WinchesterGrange.org

New Haven County Pomona No. 5



WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

Corr: Dan Lauttenbach

June 9: "Summer Time"

Program: Dan Ref: Jane

June 23: "Election of

Officers and Planning

Meeting" Ref: Janet

April 14: Originally "Guest speaker from the Henry Whitfield Museum: Guilford Stone House", it was postponed to a later date to be announced. We had a business meeting. It was nice to see Barbara and Bill Austin. Under Agriculture, Bill talked about a recent open space user's meeting at the town hall. Janet Haller reported on getting some ads in for the fair. Then Janet did a short program on this year's CWA program "Everything is Coming Up Roses".

April 28: "Baking" Program. Before the meeting started the ingredients for making an American style French bread were gathered together and the oven in the kitchen was fired up to 425 degrees. The ingredients were simple,

just unbleached flour, yeast, a bit of salt and water were mixed together to form a dough and then set aside to rise. Then start the meeting. After about 30 minutes the dough was punched down and placed on a little floured surface and kneaded for about 5 minutes. A little bit of flour was added so the dough wouldn't be a sticky mess and the hands kneading the dough were soaked with water so the dough wouldn't stick. After the kneading was done the dough was formed into a log shape and set aside again for 30 minutes. Then it was placed into the oven to bake for 20 minutes. With the meeting over, there is nothing like hot steaming bread out of the oven. It was cut up and the steam was coming out of it and the pieces were topped with fresh butter. This was just a great simple thing to do and to be able to share with everyone.

Creamer becomes Golden



George Creamer (right) receives his Golden Sheaf (50 year certificate) from Past State Master Russell M. Gray on May 12 at the Mary Wade Home. Originally a member of North Haven Grange, George became a member of Cheshire Grange last year when North Haven closed.

MOJO performs at Cheshire Grange



MOJO performed at Cheshire Grange's meeting on April 20. All enjoyed his music and joined him on the floor to dance.

Cheshire's Citizen of the Year



Ruel Miller, President of Cheshire Grange, presents Michael Pontecorvo, Conductor of the Cheshire Community Bank, our 2016 Community Citizen Award.

Klingberg Family Center donation

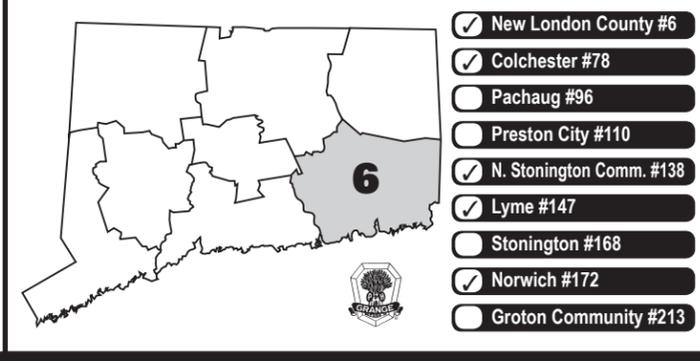


Cheshire Grange donated \$235 in gift cards to Christine Keys (center) from the Klingberg Family Center in New Britain. Also picture are Karen Annis (left) and Jane Miller, both of Cheshire Grange.

Granger of the Year

Every Grange has a member or members who go above and beyond what is expected and make their Granges better through their contributions. The Social Connection Committee is looking for nominations from every Grange in the state. Forms were recently sent to each Secretary along with the revision sheets for the State Directory. Winners will receive their awards and recognition at the Celebration Banquet to be held at the October State Session. Nominations are due to Joanne Cipriano by September 30.

New London County Pomona No. 6



NEW LONDON CTY. POMONA #6

Corr: Nancy Weissmuller

June 4: Needlework Contest, 1 P.M., Lyme Grange

June 4: Dinner, Memorial Program, Election 6 P.M., Lyme Grange

Apologies to Groton Grange for an omission in last month's Granger. Groton did take third place in the A-Number contest with a skit about why hens scratch the ground. Colchester/Lyme took second with a skit about some piggies visiting a restaurant.

Our June meeting will begin with a dinner at Lyme Grange. This will be followed by the Memorial Program and the election of officers. Please come.

Just look at the flowers! Look at the trees!

And listen to all those sweet birds, if you please.

They're saying, It's spring and all is in tune;

So don't miss Pomona that evening in June!"

COLCHESTER GRANGE #78

Corr: Bonnie Trecarten

At our April 11th meeting we welcomed 3 guests. Jim Palmer, Deputy Pomona East, Agriculture and Conservation, Quinebaug Pomona, and Master, Echo Grange. Ted Beebe, State Membership, East Central Pomona, and Master, Norwich Grange. Lois Evankow, Flora East Central Pomona, and Lecturer, Lyme Grange. Thank you to all for contributing to our meetings.

We continue with our volunteer projects at Harrington Court, Apple Rehab, Willimantic soup Kitchen, and Veterans in Jewett City.

A thank you letter was received from the Veterans in Jewett City for the Easter Baskets that we donated in partnership with the Ladies Auxiliary. This is one of our ongoing projects and much appreciated by the Veterans living in the Jewett City residences.

Kathy Culhane and Bonnie Trecarten from our Grange and Ted Beebe from Norwich Grange participated in

the Community Partners Expo on April 2nd held at Cragin Memorial Library in Colchester. The purpose was to give information to the public regarding Grange and answer questions for potential new members. Several attendees filled out forms and indicated interest in membership. We are inviting these individuals to our May meeting.

Don't forget about CWA craft projects in the "Everything is Coming Up Roses" category. New London County Pomona voting to be held at Lyme Grange on June 4th. Decorated Baseball Cap judging to be held on July 30th.

Spring is finally here, hope everyone gets a chance to get out and enjoy it.

NORTH STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy Weissmuller

June 10: "Push On"

June 24: Picnic at 6:30 P.M.

We were honored to welcome our State Master and Steward to our Grange Month meeting in April. First we surprised Nita Kinkaid by awarding her our Community Citizen Award. Nita is a wonderful asset to our town and many of her friends were there to congratulate her. Her list of accomplishments is far too long to enumerate here. Suffice it to say she is eminently qualified to receive the honor.

This was the first year for certificates honoring 30, 35, 40 and 45 year members. Nearly everyone in the hall who isn't a Golden Sheaf member received one. We were happy to see some members who haven't been to a meeting for a while. The certificates are very impressive and we thank the State Secretary for making these available for us.

On June 10 we will elect our Officers for the year and have a program honoring fathers.

Please come to our annual picnic on the 24th, even if you don't regularly attend meetings. The Grange provides hamburgers and

hot dogs and soda. Please bring a dish to share. Sue plans lots of games for the youngsters and it's good to visit with old friends. And if those darn caterpillars don't devour all the leaves up there, next time I'll tell you all about merry May.

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Lois Evankow

July 7: Salute to the Red, White & Blue

Aug. 4: Watermelon Weather, Hot Dog Time, Picnic 6:30

Sept. 1: Summer Capers – Besides the Fair, what else did you do this summer?

Instead of Third & Fourth Degrees, we had a lovely Mother's Day program which everyone enjoyed.

It was omitted in April's report that we draped our charter in loving memory of Peter Smith, who came to us from Old Lyme Grange.

We elected a new treasurer – Nancy Beebe. She has worked hard on our finances while the Deputy here, Jeff Barnes, was kind enough to install her. Thank you, Jeff. Now she is legal.

We discussed at great length our food and plant sale. The church across the street uses our building for the children's stuff for the rummage sale. Since they scheduled it the same day – we voted to share and move our food outside under a tent. Hopefully, the man upstairs will send us a nice day and not rain and wind. The Juniors have been busy with a fishing derby. Keeping their parents and grandparents helping.

The next meeting will feature the blueberry bake-off. Maybe we will have enough to have them for refreshments?

What happened to spring? The shoo flies are out in full force- a nice breeze keeps them away. Guess the shad are running up the Connecticut River spring or not!

NORWICH GRANGE #172

Corr: Kate Tefft

June 8: Election of Officers, Memorial Program

Plans are underway for our annual Grange Fair scheduled for Aug. 6 and four days later the Grange will note their 108th anniversary.

During our June meeting we will note National Accordion Awareness Month by being entertained by our Chaplain Dick Tarryk with his accordion. A real treat!

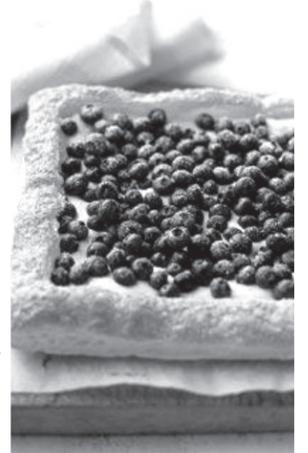
Quotable Quote: To succeed in life you need three things: a wishbone, a backbone, and a funny bone. Reba McEntire



Fresh, flavorful blueberries are the star of this delectable tart. This blueberry tart is so simple to make yet packs a great taste. Everyone always loves this and it is a great way to use blueberries. This is perfect for potlucks, Grange picnics, and refreshments too!

Blueberry Tart

flour for the work surface
 1 8-ounce sheet frozen puff pastry, thawed
 1 large egg, beaten
 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
 1/4 cup heavy cream
 1/2 teaspoon grated lemon zest
 3 tablespoons confectioners' sugar
 2 cups blueberries



DIRECTIONS

Heat oven to 375 degrees. On a lightly floured surface, unfold the sheet of pastry and roll it into a 10-by-12-inch rectangle. Transfer to a parchment-lined baking sheet.

Using the tip of a knife, score a 1-inch border around the pastry without cutting all the way through. Brush the border with the egg and sprinkle with the granulated sugar. Bake until golden and puffed, 18 to 22 minutes.

Using the tip of a knife, re-score the border of the cooked pastry without cutting all the way through. Gently press down on the center of the pastry sheet to flatten it. Let cool to room temperature, 15 to 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, with an electric mixer, beat the cream cheese until smooth. Add the cream, lemon zest, and 2 tablespoons of the confectioners' sugar and beat until smooth. Spread the cream cheese mixture evenly within the borders of the pastry.

Arrange the blueberries in a single layer over the filling and sprinkle with the remaining tablespoon of confectioners' sugar.

Source: <http://www.realsimple.com/food-recipes/browse-all-recipes/blueberry-tart>

Granger Shout Out



Marcia my family and I wish to thank everyone for the prayers and condolences for the loss of our mother Claudia Miller

Submit your Shout-Outs today!

Granger@CTStateGrange.org

They can also be mailed to
 P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Excelsior Pomona No. 7



- Excelsior #7
- Beacon Valley #103
- Bethlehem #121
- Prospect #144
- Bridgewater #153
- Wolcott #173
- Oxford #194



EXCELSIOR POMONA #7

Corr: Jean Meehan

A successful Fifth Degree was held at Beacon Valley Grange in May.

June fifth a Funniest Hat Contest was the program at Bridgewater Grange. Many interesting hats were worn. This was our last meeting until after summer, so we wish all our members a happy and safe summer.

September 21 our meeting will be at Wolcott Grange Hall with the program "Things that Go". Come see what might happen and how nicely Wolcott Grange has remodeled their hall.

BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Al Maddox

June 27: Ref. Shirley & Lucy

Certificates and seals were given out at our April meeting:

75 Years – Frances Whitehead

70 Years – Cindy Finch

70 Years – Jeanne Swanson

60 Years – Ed Leavenworth

60 Years – Linda Coad
Congratulations to all.

We wish Frances Whitehead a happy 100th birthday on May 2, 2016.

Ginny Greco of Bethlehem Daycare received our Citizen of the Year Award in front of many of her family and friends, including our three selectmen. She was very thankful to receive this honor.

PROSPECT GRANGE #144

Corr: Jean Meehan

To celebrate Grange Month, Prospect Grange decided to sponsor an essay contest for the children in the Prospect Elementary School graded 3,4,5. This gives them the chance to use the dictionaries we donated to them over the years.

The essay contest subject would be "What I like about Prospect". We were happy to receive a total of 77 entries. There will be three cash prizes given in each grade. They were judged by teachers from out of town schools.

Prospect Grange was proud to award the following students cash awards for their winning essays. Third

grade winner was Gabriella Volpe from Mrs. Pannone's class with second place going to Alexa Sweeney also from Mrs. Pannone's class and Molly Nichols from Mrs. Caffrey's class. Fourth grade winner was Ava Muharem from Mr. Tuozzo's class with second place going to Michael Belcher from Mrs. Caffrey's class and third to Kyle Egan from Mr. Tuozzo's class. The Fifth grade class winner was Kaitlyn Leonard from Mrs. Hart's class with second going to Samantha Sharkey from Mrs. Hart's class and third went to Timothy Sweeney also from Mrs. Hart's class. They were given cash and a certificate. All other participants were given certificates of participation.

Prospect Grange was honored to present Robert Hiscox as the citizen of the year award for his many hours and years of volunteering his town to town committees and his flags along main street project and the maintenance of the flags. He is very involved with all things Prospect.

We were inspected by Deputy Fisher at our May meeting and had five entries in the Blueberry Muffin baking contest.

Our members made cars for each of the patients at the Regal Care Center. Each patient received either a car or truck, bus or van as a favor along with a sweet treat to celebrate May Day.

BRIDGEWATER GRANGE #153

Corr: Jean Meehan

The annual Bridgewater Grange Community Service Award was given on Friday April 29 at Saint Marks church. The award is given in recognition of outstanding volunteer work and is given every April. The recipients were Joe and Adrian Caruso of Bridgewater. They were honored for their work in beautifying the area with various flower plantings and for their volunteer work with students. The Master of the Grange, Nancy Mascio, gave a talk about the Grange. She then introduced

Joe and Adrian Caruso and told the reasons why they were chosen for this award. Then Adrian gave a talk about their work, giving back to the community and the importance of inspiring young people to do the same. After the ceremony refreshments were served.

Dean Perry - Secretary of the Bridgewater Grange

PS The month of May will be a busy one for the Grange. There will be a meeting on May 11 at Saint Marks starting at 7 PM. We will have a roast beef dinner on Saturday May 14th at Saint Marks starting at 5:30 PM. The town of Bridgewater will have a meeting on Friday May 20th to discuss the plans for the Grange building. We need a presence there. The Grange will have a bake sale on Sat May 21st along with the Bridgewater plant and flower sale. On May 30th we will go in the Bridgewater Memorial day parade.

OXFORD GRANGE #194

Corr: Robert Buck

June 3: Annual Inspection

June 17: Toxins and Environmental Dangers Open Mics (Thurs. night): June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

On April 30th, we held a very successful Second Annual Chili Cook-Off and made just short of \$400. There were about 40 in attendance with plenty of chili to go around. First Selectmen George Temple was our "chili judge" so we did a combination People's Favorite/George's Favorite. The winner was Liz Ryducha of Cheshire Grange, and Marge Sendewicz of Redding Grange placed 2nd. Member Martin Earley provided musical entertainment.

In May, the Grange was involved with the Oxford Cultural Arts Commission's Festival of Arts, Culture, and Entertainment. That was a busy weekend of artistic and musical events centered in Town Hall and at the Grange.

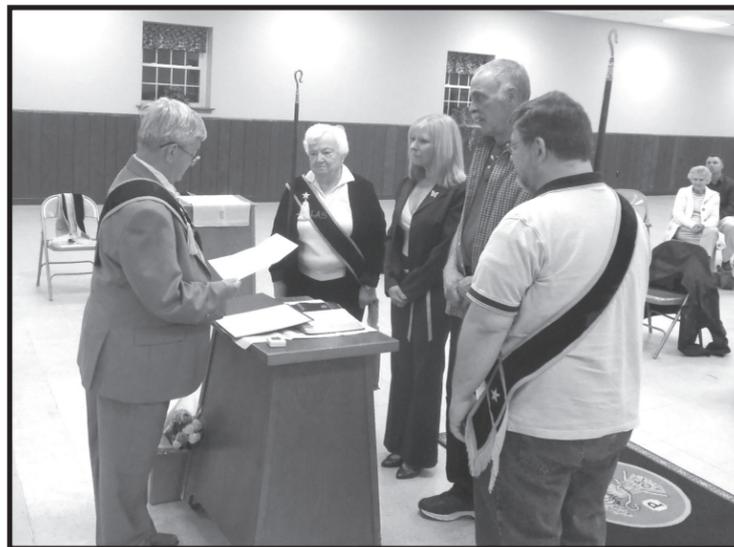
Oxford Grange has combined forces with the Open Mic group formerly of the All-American General Store in Seymour which was owned by husband and wife Kim Dulka and Mike Matthews. After two Open Mics in May, they will be planning to go weekly in June on each Thursday night at 7:00 PM. Several people associated with the Open Mic program have expressed interest in joining the Grange.

Bethlehem Grange #121

On Monday April 25, Bethlehem Grange held its annual Open House and Awards Night. Ginni Greco of Bethlehem was awarded the Community Citizen Award for her 35 years of running the Bethlehem Day Care which has positively impacted the lives of many locals. Also receiving awards were Cynthia Finch of Roxbury for 70 years of Grange membership, and Linda Coad of Southbury for 60 years of Grange membership. Unable to attend was Frances Whitehead of Washington who was honored with a special certificate for 75 years of membership and who will be turning 100 years old on May 2.



Albert "Skip" Maddox, Cindy Finch (70 year award), Linda Coad (60 year award), and Ray Johnstone



Albert "Skip" Maddox, Cindy Finch, Ginni Greco (Community Citizen of the Year Award) and husband John Greco, and Ray Johnstone

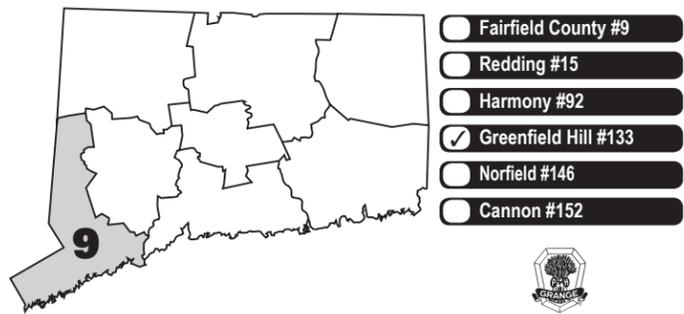
75 Years of Membership



By Rob Buck

I was pleased to attend Fran Whitehead's 100th birthday party with my mother Katherine and brother Rick at Salem Covenant Church in Washington on Saturday. It was an even greater honor to present her with her 75 year Grange membership certificate as this lady has known me for all my 55 years; our families have known each other for about 125 years. Below are some pictures. If it wasn't for the Whiteheads asking me and my parents to join the Grange in 1988, I might not have had the opportunity to do so.

Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

Corr: Dennis Rich

June 20: June Jam/Exec. Comm.

July 18: Fair Planning I, Picnic 6 P.M., Meeting 7 P.M.

Aug. 15: Fair Planning II, Meeting 7 P.M.

Aug. 27: Annual Agricultural Fair, 10-4

Community spirit helped us with our April and May events. Members of the Hungarian language class helped with distribution of flyers on the Hungarian dinner. Meanwhile the Fairfield Public Library

produced a poster for May's seed and seedling exchange. Many thanks to Cindy Wakeman-D'Andrea, our Secretary, for her work on the Hungarian Dinner. She also heads up the Youth and Junior Grange Departments. She may be reached at 203-243-1887.

Tentative plans are for inspection to take place in connection with our June meeting. July to August will be devoted to getting ready for our Annual Fair. Special extra garden oriented events will be held and notice will be given to our members.

Working on entries?



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer
lecturer@ctstategrange.org

Final Notice! It's almost here. June 11 & 12 will be here before you know it. We will judge our Photo Contest on Saturday, June 11th. The categories are: America the Beautiful, Animals, Grangers In Action, Family Celebrations and Historic Places or Events. You can enter one photo in each of the categories. Photos may be mailed to me so they arrive by Friday, June 10th or

may be brought to Cheshire Grange Hall between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 11th. If you are in the Glastonbury area, you can leave them with Todd at the State Office a few days in advance and I will go and pick them up. Our Best in Show entry will go on to National for Judging.

I hope you have saved Sunday, June 12th, for Grange Sunday. Our State Chaplain, Charles Dimmick, will have his Grange Service at 11:00 a.m. at Cheshire Grange Hall. This will be followed by lunch served by our State Youth Committee. Then, beginning promptly at 1:00 p.m. we will hold our "A Number" and Talent competition. Our Talent winner will have their expenses paid at Lecturers Conference where they can perform on Tuesday night. I hope that every Pomona has an entry in both contests. This is a great day for all our members and a way to show people that we are still going strong.

If you need a street address for your GPS system, Cheshire Grange is at 44 Wallingford Road, Cheshire.

As I write this I have not received the information on this years Lecturers' Conference, but hopefully by the time you read this I will have it. I will mail it to all Granges and others who attended last year as soon as I receive it.

Wolcott Tag Sale

Wolcott Grange Hosts Community Tag Sale

Do your spring cleaning and make money on June 18, 2016 - 8 A.M. - 4 P.M. Set up starts 6:30 A.M.

We will handle the advertisement, signs, and flyers. You bring your items to sell! Only \$10 to reserve your space. First Come, First Serve!

Mail \$10 donation to Wolcott Grange Tag Sale, 313 Boundline Road Wolcott, CT 06716. Please include name, address, phone number or email.

Save the Date and Don't Wait
Free to shop. Open to the Public.

American Senior Benefits ON THE AIR



Fellow Grange members,

American Senior Benefits is now on the radio! We will be talking all things Medicare, Medicare Savings Programs, Protecting Assets, Estate Planning and more!

We will be appearing on the Brad Davis Show airing on WDRC AM 1360 / FM 102.9, WSNG AM 610, WWCO AM 1240, and WMMW AM 1470.

The dates for our appearances on the Brad Davis Show will be June 13, July 25, August 15, September 12, October 17, November 14 and December 12.

The great Danbury State Fair remembered

It was a night to rediscover and reminisce at the Greenfield Hill Grange #133 in Fairfield. The May dinner was a buffet with a variety of delicious foods. After dinner, there was a presentation by Newtown author, Andrea Zimmerman. The topic: "The Great Danbury State Fair." Her presentation covered the 112 year history of the fair, complete with memories and historic photos. Her book is the only published work on the fair and features hundreds of pictures and memorable accounts of the bygone era. "The Great Danbury Fair" is available on Andrea's website www.apzimmermann.com.



Author Andrea Zimmerman



There's a Fair near you this season!

It's fair season! With 39 fairs of all sizes around the state, there's at least one near you. Below is a chronological listing of fairs by their classification. More information on Connecticut fairs is available at the Connecticut Association of Fairs website: CTAgFairs.org.

Major Fairs

- N. Stonington Ag. Fair July 7-10
- Lebanon Country Fair . . . Aug. 12-14
- Bridgewater Country Fair . Aug. 19-21
- Wolcott Country Fair. . . . Aug. 19-21
- Brooklyn Fair. Aug. 25-28
- Chester Fair Aug. 26-28
- Terryville Lions Ctry. Fair. Aug. 26-28
- Haddam Neck Fair Sept. 2-5
- Woodstock Fair Sept. 2-5
- Goshen Fair. Sept. 3-5
- Hebron Harvest FairSept. 8-11
- North Haven Fair.Sept. 8-11
- Bethlehem Fair.Sept. 9-11
- Four Town Fair (Somers, CT) . . Sept. 15-18
- Guilford Fair Sept. 16-18
- Orange Country Fair Sept. 17-18
- Durham Fair Sept. 22-25
- Berlin Fair Sept. 30-Oct. 2
- Harwinton Fair Sept. 30-Oct. 2
- Portland Agric. Fair Oct. 7-9

District Fairs

- Hamburg Fair Aug. 19-21
- Wapping Fair Sept. 8-11
- Ledyard Fair Sept. 9-11
- Riverton Fair Oct. 7-9

4H Fairs

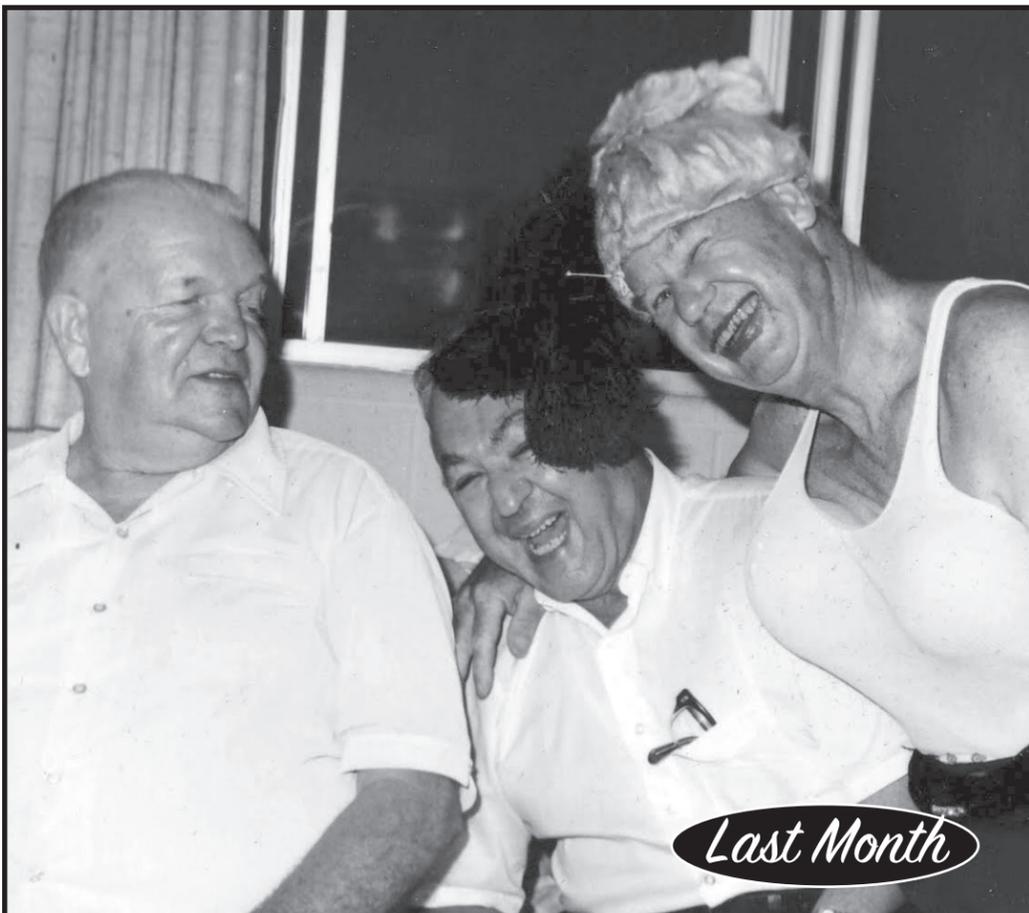
- New London Cty. 4H Fair . July 22-24
- Litchfield County 4H Fair . July 30-31
- Middlesex & New Haven County 4H Fair Aug. 5-7
- Windham County 4H Fair . . . Aug. 5-7
- Tolland County 4H Fair . . Aug. 12-14
- Hartford County 4H Fair. . Aug. 19-21

Local Fairs

- Ekonk Grange Fair Aug. 13
- Winchester Grange Fair & Flea Market Aug. 13
- Southington Grange Fair. . . Aug. 13
- Harmony Grange Fair Aug. 13
- Riverton Grange Fair. Aug. 20
- Greenfield Hill Grange Fair . . Aug. 27
- Cheshire Grange Comm. Fair Aug. 27-28
- Cannon Grange Ag. Fair Aug. 28
- Beacon Grange Fair Sept. 10
- Meriden Grange Fair. Sept. 10
- Hillstown Grange Agricultural Fair. Sept. 17
- Simsbury Grange Agricultural Fair. Sept. 17
- Wallingford Grange Fair . . . Sept. 17

WINDOW TO THE PAST

Photographs are a treasured part of Grange history. Many of them, unfortunately, do not come neatly labeled on the back with names, dates, people or places. These photographs have a history to tell... but about whom or what? Please help us solve the mystery of faces and places as we look through the Window to the Past. You can contact us by calling (860) 626-5074 or on the web by emailing: submissions@ctstategrange.org.



No answers were received for last month's Window picture. Have an idea on either photo? Please let us know even if you're not sure!



By Hank the Burro

Hello Grange Friends!
It's been a busy few first weeks of spring! On April 16, we went to Oxford Grange where we welcomed Sandy, their newest member! It was such a fun evening. Great friends in Oxford!

From there we were off to the hills of Granby on April 23rd, where we attended their awards night. Congratulations to Gertrude and Dorothy for 75 years of service!

We had a lot of fun dancing to the Bluegrass music at Hillstown Grange for their music night. There was a surprise visit from Chief (Ken Smith) who is 95yrs young!

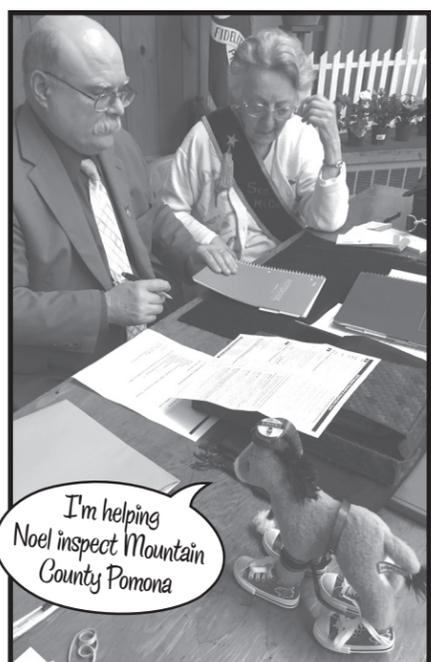
On May 9th it was time for Mountain County Pomona's Inspection Night. I helped Noel with the paperwork - and got to see some of my longtime friends! Congrats to six new members.

Then we were off to a fun evening at the Social Connection Committee's Team Night event. Good food, good friends and lots of fun!

On a sad note, Noel's mom Claudia recently passed away. I am wearing a black band to honor her memory and her many years of Grange service.

Where will Noel, Marcia and I be off to next? Be sure to follow me on Facebook to keep track of all of my adventures. Please take a minute to follow the link and click the "Like" button. <http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro>

Say Hello if you see me around the State!





National Grange Video Contest

Get out your cameras or even your phones and put together your own amazing four-minute movie celebrating Grange! And here's the best part: The prizes sponsored by the National Grange Foundation!

The top three finalists will receive up to a \$200 travel stipend, Friday and Saturday night accommodations at the 150th Annual Session of the National Grange in Washington, D.C., and two tickets to the Celebration banquet where the winning movies will be shown and first, second and third place awards announced!

First Place: \$1,000 Cash Prize

Second Place: \$500 Cash Prize

Third Place: \$250 Cash Prize

All entries will be judged on content, quality, and creativity. The top seven videos will be part of a social media popularity vote September 1 – September 15, 2016, with the top three favorites moving on to the finalist round at National Session in Washington, D.C. on November 19, 2016.

There are no limits to the themes of your four minute movie as long as it showcases Grange! Suggestions to get your wheels turning include – but are not limited to:

How Grange has impacted my life

The Grange Story: Our history and heritage

Why I love Grange!

Grange accomplishments, wins, and successes

Why I joined the Grange, why I stay

DEADLINES:

July 1, 2016: Submissions Open

August 15, 2016: Submissions Close, midnight PST

September 1 – September 15, 2016: Top

seven finalist popularity voting contest

September 16, 2016: Top three finalists announced

November 19, 2016: Prizes awarded at National Grange Celebration Banquet

Late entries will not be accepted

RULES & DETAILS:

- This contest is open to all Grange members.

- Videos must not exceed four minutes in length (not counting credits).

- Individuals may only enter one submission, but may also be included in an additional group submission

- All entries must be accompanied by a completed submission form and waiver no later than midnight (PST) on August 15, 2016.

- All entries remain the property of the creator, but to qualify for any prizes, a waiver allowing the Grange to use the video for promotional purposes must be signed at time of submission.

- Members of Sesquicentennial Committee will qualify the top seven videos to move onto the public voting ground. The top three videos will be judged by a qualified judge outside of the organization's membership.

- Members of the Sesquicentennial Committee reserve the right to remove any entries from judging due to themes, language, or violence deemed inappropriate for an all-ages audience.

Due to large file sizes, submissions should be loaded to DropBox, Google Drive, or similar program. Submissions will be considered complete upon receipt of sharing link emailed with entry form to 150videocontest@nationalgrange.org.

Youth Scavenger Hunt



The Youth Photo Scavenger Hunt is program that has been developed by the 2016 Youth Team to provide a new activity for Grange youth and young adults to share their Grange story.

Photos will be judged by a panel of judges selected by the 2016 National Grange Youth Team. Visit NationalGrange.org for rules, judging guidelines and more. Visit the National Grange Youth website for a full list of Youth Programs.

Programs available from National Lecturer

Amanda Brozana, National Lecturer

The second in the series of ready-made Lecturer's Programs to be released focuses on strawberries: their production, anatomy, diseases and research. This allows Granges who wish to put this program on to tap into the roots of our Order.

This program includes a PowerPoint or PDF version with notes for the Lecturer to use during the presentation. There is also a handout that further details some of the information in the program and recipes for distribution.

This program was developed by Annie Montes, a graduate student in Plant Pathology/Plant Biology at the University of Maryland.

As noted in the previous email with the first "program in a box," looking at the Greenbelt Towns of the New Deal Era, I understand that meeting styles are vastly different from one Grange to another, but the outline, suggested activities and ways to engage further on the topic allowed each Grange to pick what they were comfortable or equipped to introduce to

their membership. The PowerPoint is available if you wish to use it, but the PDF that includes the same material can be used to put on the program. If you are unable to show the slides with pictures of the diseases and plant anatomy, you may wish to print a few copies of the PDF or some of the specific pages with these pictures to hand out to your members.

This time, I have not included a "take home" activity like the word search, but encourage you to create something to excite your members. Maybe ask them to bring a strawberry dish they enjoy to the meeting or to write their own poem about strawberries. There are so many fabulously creative lecturers across the Grange family that I am excited to ask for examples of interactive or take home activities you come up with to go along with this program.

To download the programs and content materials, and to find other programs as they are released, please visit: www.nationalgrange.org/lecturers-programming/

In Memoriam

Carl H. Bernhardt, G.S. Cheshire Grange #23

Claudia Miller Coventry Grange #75

Peter Smith Lyme Grange #147

Please keep us notified of deceased members. Use the email or the regular mailing address listed in the Granger Staff list in this issue.

State Chaplain



The motto of the Grange is *In necessariis unitas, in dubiis libertas, in omnibus caritas* ("In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity"). The phrase was originally coined by a German Lutheran theologian back in 1627, during the Thirty Years War. For the Grange, what are our essentials? They can be found in our tradition and rituals. We pledge at every

meeting that a good Granger "Places faith in God, nurtures hope, distributes charity, and is noted for fidelity".

When we take the first degree we agree to a list of obligations as members, including "I will not knowingly wrong or defraud a Brother or Sister of the Order in word or deed; nor will I permit it to be done by another if in my power to prevent it". In the ceremony for installing officers we are told that "honesty is inculcated, education nurtured, temperance supported, brotherly love cultivated, and charity made an essential characteristic". Furthermore it is stated that we bid welcome to all "who have generous hearts and open hands to help the needy, raise the fallen, and aid in making the labors of this life cheerful".

What about non-essentials? We are assured when taking the first degree oath that it will not conflict with our moral, social, religious, or civic duties. In these, we as Grangers are at liberty to do whatever seems right to us as individuals. Additionally, when Grange officers are installed they pledge "I will not take advantage of the position to bias, in any way, either directly or indirectly, the political or religious opinions of any member of the order."

Reflecting on this pledge, it occurs to me to emphasize that when I write these monthly columns I am stating my own religious opinions, and I most definitely do not want any of my readers to feel that I am trying to force my opinions on them, beyond what is clearly stated as Grange essentials, that is: place faith in God, nurture hope, dispense charity, and be noted for fidelity.

As for the "accidents" of religious practice, I come from an Anglican (Episcopal) background, and thus am used to doing things religious in a particular way, but these ways are objectively no better or no worse than the practices of Baptists, Methodists, Pentecostals, Mormons, Roman Catholics, or Jews. You can be any one of these and still hold fast to the Grange essentials. In closing, remember the words of the prophet Micah: "What does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God".

Thank you

THANK YOU. My sincere thanks to all who showed their love and support these last few weeks. This has been the most difficult I have ever experienced. I appreciate all who sent cards to Carl while he was in the hospital and all who remembered him and me afterwards. I have always said Grangers are the best people and you all proved it again. THANK YOU. ~~~ Marge Bernhardt