



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

from the Connecticut State Grange

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Connecticut Granger



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November 2017

Another great State Session



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

The 133rd Session of the Connecticut State Grange is behind us now. The changes to the schedule were an improvement in the attendance and participation, but we are still running short on the number of Granges attending and non-delegates sitting on the sidelines to see what goes on at State Session.

Our National Representatives Claire and Steve Logan were well received and I thank them for accepting the invitation to visit with us. I congratulate all the Granges and members who won awards. Your hard work pays off in the end. There weren't as many entries in the Honor Grange Program. And the Pomona Honor Grange was close to the end with Mountain County Pomona #4 taking first place. This year we only had 14 resolutions for the committees to work on and we had a final count of 17 resolutions (with substitutes and committee resolutions added in).

The Celebration Banquet was well attended and entertainment had us all singing and shaking. Thanks to Marge Bernhardt for a job well done. I wish to thank the CWA for the centerpieces and gifts at the Session. I thank the Junior

and Youth Committees for the work that they did during this past year. I hear the Junior tour was enjoyed by all, seeing that old technology. The FFA President gave us many things to think about and we will see him in the future for a leadership or membership workshop.

The Sixth Degree was on a new day and time and it seemed to work better, although we only had three new candidates, we were concerned that the number was to be zero. I thank Flora Debbie Barnes for the Court and the return of the Rose Drill Team with many praises and cheers go to the men and women who marched around the hall, well done.

The State President of the FFA Zach Duda talked about the meaning of words to describe action that we take in doing something. He told us that we don't use the word "SERVE." We talk about community service, and Grange service, but we don't use the word serve. In the 1990's the volunteer fire departments in the State underwent new state regulations with OSHA, Blood Borne Pathogens and Hazmat. This increased training was met with resistance because of the time needed for extra training to conform with the new requirements. The phrase was "I Volunteer," meaning I do what I can do and no more. This phrase "I Volunteer" found new meaning, I volunteer to fill the application to join but when I am accepted I accept those requirements I need to better serve my community, fellow members

and department.

The Grange needs to follow this example, when I join the Grange I will serve the Order, when I become an officer I will serve the best I can. When I volunteer I will serve for the good of the Order. Think about it and have a discussion at your next meeting. It makes sense and it is easy to do.

I wish to thank Don Offinger for helping with the Public Relations Committee. He has asked to be released and I have asked Barbara Chapman of Simsbury Grange to fill this position. I have also asked Faith Quinlan of Winchester Grange to fill the vacancy on the Membership Committee.

National Grange's 151st Convention will be in Spokane, Washington November 7-11. It is one day shorter but we have done many things via video conferencing before the convention.

The new Pomona Granges will all have had their first meetings and hopefully will have their new by-laws ready for the next meeting. It is important that everyone keeps an open mind as we move forward with these new Pomona Granges. If we fail then there will be no Pomonas in Connecticut. I know that we will all set aside the fighting and negative and work together for the good of the Order. Remember, I am here to SERVE.

Happy Thanksgiving to all. Noel.

State's Ash Trees Endangered

By Kurt Moffett, Waterbury Rep.-American, 10/26/17

They couldn't stop this tree killer. Now, municipalities and tree-cutting services are preparing for the burials – the expense of thousands of dead ash trees statewide.

A combination of disease and the spread of the emerald ash borer beetle is slowly killing the ash tree in Connecticut. The state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) does not keep count of the number of dead or dying ash trees, or calls to tree services, but it does estimate that forests are home to 5 percent to 15 percent of all ash trees in Connecticut.

"It's safe to say the number of (ash) trees is in the tens of thousands," DEEP forester Christopher R. Martin said.

In Goshen, the town increased its tree-removal and trimming budget from \$6,580 to \$15,000 in the 2017-2018 fiscal year. And this winter, the town will have a logger remove 483 ash trees that align too closely with trails at Camp Cochepianee.

The winning bid of \$46,805 went to R.J. Beeham

Continued on page 2

Pomona Changes

Todd A. Gelineau, Editor

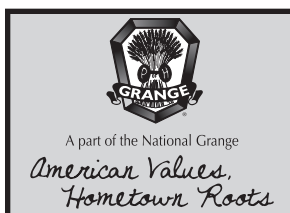
Planning for the new Pomonas is moving along with all three Pomonas having had their initial meetings at the time of printing. Two have drafted their by-laws and they are now going out to the Community Granges for their review.

Two Pomonas have begun discussing names and all three are looking forward to their next meetings to be called by their State Grange Mentors.

Meanwhile, all seven of the existing Pomonas have reached the October 31 deadline for wrapping up business operations and are in the final stages of closing accounts and transferring their treasuries to the State Grange for safe keeping until the new Pomonas are fully organized.

Having attended my own Pomona A meeting and having attended Pomona B's meeting as a Mentor, I can say discussion has been very productive and nearly all members are approaching the process with an open mind and are ready to get down to the work of organizing their new Pomonas.

With the changes in the Pomona structure in Connecticut, changes in the way we present Grange news had to evolve. You will notice all Granges are now grouped according to their new Pomona alignments. We may not be "done" tinkering with the layout and presentation of the new Pomonas but we do hope you will bear with us as we "reorganize."



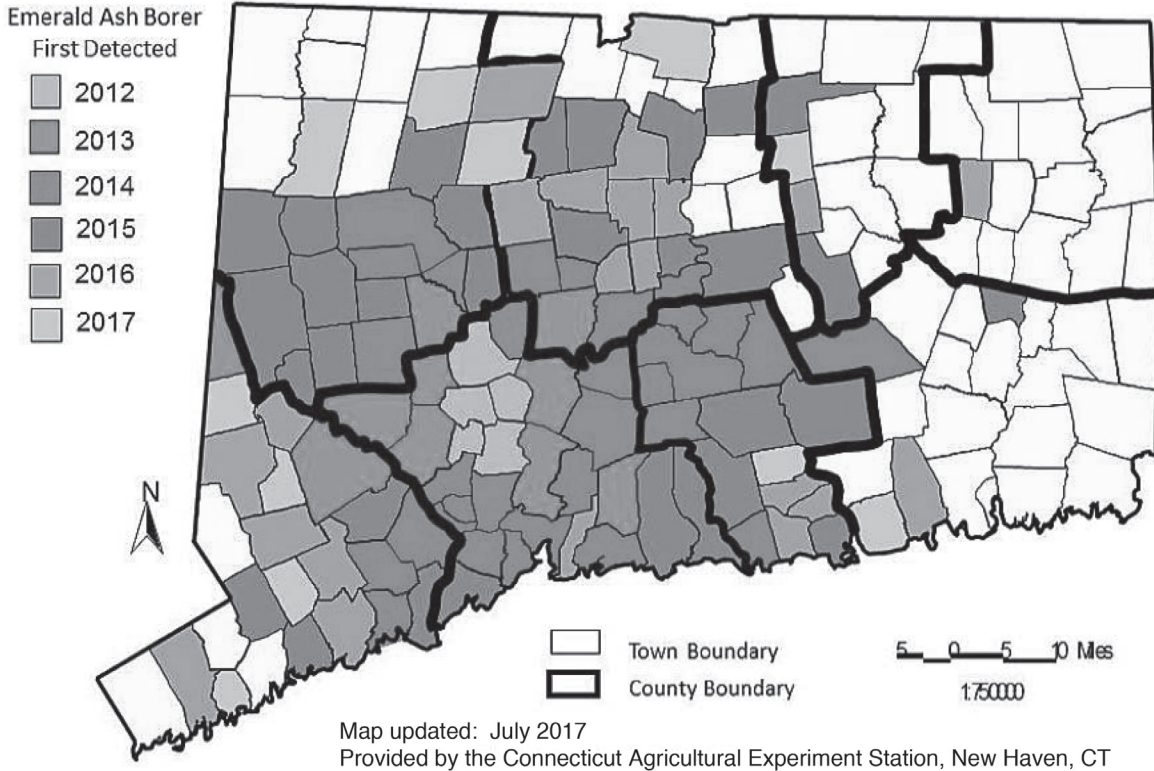
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Articles Due Nov. 15



Emeral Ash Borer spreads



Continued from page one...

Forest Products of Ashley Falls, MA. The idea is to eliminate the trees before they become a liability, Public Works Superintendent Garret Harlow said. He said his staff also is keeping an eye on the 2,762 ash trees with a diameter of 5 inches or more that lie within right-of-ways around town.

“That could become a significant problem as we start to see these trees die off,” Harlow said.

Dead ash trees have been a problem in Middlebury for the last couple of years. First Selectman Edward B. St. John said early this year the town has been dealing with an average of six dead trees per street.

Last week, he estimated the town has removed 100 trees over the past couple of years, and more than 200 will need to be soon.

Middlebury traditionally has budgeted just \$3,500 per fiscal year for tree removal. St. John said he wants to increase that to \$100,000, but he cannot while the state is withholding education aid because it cannot (at the time of this writing) pass a budget. So the town has to curb spending elsewhere to make sure the schools stay fully funded.

This leaves the town with a potential hazard. Ash trees become brittle when they die and sometimes they just crumble, arborists say.

“Ash trees are just tough to do because they just break apart,” said Keith Sprague, owner of Keith’s Landscaping/Expert Tree Removal in New Hartford. “Any alive tree, when you cut them down, the branches flex when they hit the ground. But with

ash trees, if you’re up in the tree and you’re dropping branches, because they’re so brittle and dry, they just explode into a thousand pieces and that makes the job a lot harder.”

Sprague said the number of calls he’s received for cutting down dead ash trees is up 30 percent.

Scott Stoeckle, owner of Affordable Tree Service in Torrington, said he has not seen an increase in dead ash trees. And he thinks the dead trees he does see- meaning all kinds of trees- are due more to the chemicals in the winter road maintenance products than the emerald ash beetle. He said he said he has seen a lot of downed maple trees.

Martin said sightings of the emerald ash borer have been confirmed in 110 municipalities, or 65 percent of the state, though the federal Animal, Plant and Health Service has quarantined the entire state.

“Western Connecticut has been having the infestation now for several years and is experiencing significant ash mortality,” Martin said. “Not much is being reported in Eastern Connecticut yet.”



An adult emerald ash borer is 1/3 to 1/2 inch (8 to 13 mm) long, slightly smaller than a nickel. Photo courtesy of Eric R. Day, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Bugwood.org.

Past Master Sidney G. Hall



Sidney Gillette Hall was born on February 10, 1899 in Ledyard, Connecticut. He was the son of Joseph Kellogg Hall and Mary Gillette Hall.

He was educated in the public schools of Preston, in Wheeler School, North Stonington and graduated from Norwich Free Academy.

On November 12, 1928 he married Marion White. She was the daughter of Past

Deputy E. Frank White and Mabel (Woodward) White.

He has been very active in town and community affairs, some of which are as follows: A member of the Advisory Board of the Connecticut State Department of Agriculture, put on in 1953 as a 6 year term of office; President of the Holstein Friesian Breeders Association of the State of Connecticut ; Director in the Eastern Connecticut Farm Loan Association; Trustee of the Bill Library Association; a member of the Board of Finance of the Town of Ledyard; is a member of the Preston City Congregational Church of which he now Clerk and Deacon; Past President of the New England Officers Conference, held each year at Boston; and Past Director of the Patrons Fire Insurance Company of Glastonbury, CT.

He has been Master of his local Preston City Grange; Master of New London County Pomona; Deputy of New London County Pomona during 1934-1937; Gatekeeper of the CSG 1938-1939; Assist. Steward of CSG 1940-1943; Steward of the CSG 1944-1946; Overseer 1947 and the 19th Master of the Connecticut State Grange from 1948-1949 and member of the Executive Committee. Sister Hall was a very pleasant helpmate to Brother Hall. She held many Grange offices, being Master of her own local Grange.

Brother Hall personally organized Hanover Grange #202. The following Junior Granges were organized during his administration: Pachaug #4, Middlefield #11, Highland #15, Stonington #16, Konomoc #43, Riverton #62, Whigville #63, Hemlock #64, Plainfield #65, Salem #66 and started the organization of Roxbury #67.

Brother Hall was a very serious Grange worker and always held agriculture above all other interests.

October Feedback

The following note was received from Arline Tolette (formerly North Haven Grange) regarding last issue’s Past Master articles:

Nice articles in Granger about Harry Page and Gov. Woodruff.

Here is more information to add to your historical notes about Grange history.

Gov. Rollin Woodruff joined North Haven Grange #35 in February 1907, shortly after he became Governor. (Perhaps we were the first Grange to confer Degrees after his inaugural?).

He was listed as a member through 1917. I read in our minutes there was a large attendance on degree night.

I enjoy the stories of the past State Masters. Now you have reached my era.

Keep up the good work.

Thank you for your comments, feedback is appreciated and helps us plan future features for the Connecticut Granger. Members are encouraged to contact us if you have suggestions or (if you dare) would like to write a feature for the newspaper.

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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It's always a bit of a let-down to spend weeks and months planning an event only to have State Session go by in a blink of an eye! And so it was for the 133rd Session of the Connecticut State Grange. Again, the Holiday Inn was the perfect venue for us with great food, ample space and an attentive staff to care for all of our needs. I hope all members who attended

enjoyed the experience and are energized for a new year of Grange work.

Our numbers for this year were up a bit, especially the Celebration Banquet with 107 members and friends in attendance. The change is primarily due to three factors: the change in the day for the banquet, supporters of this years Granger of the Year recipient and family members attending to support scholars receiving records awards (\$5,000 each).

We all need to work very hard to encourage members (especially non-delegates) to attend State Session even if it is only for one session or event during the convention. It's vitally important to the future of the State Grange to have new members coming up through the ranks to become deputies, committee members and officers. Leadership development is an important part of what we do in our Granges and is one of the greatest individual benefits of rising through the Community/Subordinate Grange, Pomona Grange, State Grange and National Grange.

At State Session I announced the decision of the Board of Directors to change the way 990N E-Postcards are filed. All 990s will now be filed on the behalf of your Grange by the State Grange due to the difficulties we have had with the IRS and Granges in getting accurate filings completed. In the coming weeks each Grange will receive a form from me asking all of the same questions asked by the IRS on the 990N website. Please, please, PLEASE return these completed forms as soon as possible. One way or another, these filings MUST be completed in a timely manner in early 2018 and your prompt returns to the Central Office will be greatly appreciated.

We again had the Grange Store at State Session and members bought lots of merchandise. Please keep in mind that Grange jewelry, t-shirts, supplies, and promotional items are available throughout the year by contacting me at the Central Office. You don't have to wait until next year's State Session. Don't look now but Christmas is again right around the corner!

Until next time, have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Social Connection



Joanne Cipriano
Social Connection Director
Social@ctstategrange.org

Congratulations to Norman Stitham, Steward of Lyme Grange #147, who was chosen to receive the 2017 "Granger of the Year" Award. He designs and prints a Grange calendar, quarterly newsletter and posters just to name a few. All of these are beautifully laminated.

For the Animal Rescue Shelter Project he collected: 89 towels, 16 blankets, 4 bed cushion sets, 20 lbs. of kitty litter and numerous other items. Lyme Grange is fortunate to have him as a member.

As we come into the home stretch, for the Social Connection's Helping Others Project we are asking each Grange to fill a white sock with toiletries and other useful items to be donated to the West Haven Veterans Hospital.

We have started plans for our annual dinner. We started with a mystery dinner and we will be ending with a mystery dinner. More on this later – check the Connecticut Granger.

From the Social Connection we wish you all a very happy Thanksgiving.



GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

P.R. Contest Winners

by Terri Fassio, P.R. Co-Director

The Public Relations committee offered three contests for 2017. The Video Contest and the Cooperative Partnership Contest both had zero entries. This is too bad, especially with the Cooperative Partnership Contest, as we know of a number of Granges who actually had a Cooperative Partnership with another organization during the year, but did not enter the contest. Let's hope the contests have a few entries next year.

The Social Media Participation Contest was the third Public Relations Contest for 2017. Granges were automatically entered into this contest by effectively and actively managing a proper Facebook and/or Twitter Page. The winner are as follows:

Facebook Winners:

- 1st: Cheshire Grange
- 2nd: Ekonk Community Grange
- 3rd: Winchester Grange

Twitter Winners:

- Tie: Cannon & Winchester Granges

All Granges with Facebook and/or Twitter Pages will receive a special participation certificate. Winning certificates will be mailed to each Grange.

The Public Relations committee is again offering the same three contests for 2018, all with a deadline of October 1st. It's easy to participate. Let's take a quick peek at each one.

1) Promote Your Grange Creative Video Contest: Create a video promoting your Grange. The video can be any length, and of any theme. New this year — the video must be created by the Grange (or a member of the Grange) and not be produced by a non-Grange entity.

2) Best Cooperative Partnership Contest: An integral part of Grange public relations is partnering with other local groups and organizations. This could be a co-hosted event, a co-sponsorship of a project or initiative, a project to benefit or honor a group/organization, and so much more! Write a description of how your Grange has integrated/utilized a Cooperative Partnership, and include a photo to accompany the description if appropriate.

3) Social Media Participation Contest: Create a Buzz about your Grange, its projects, activities and events by managing a proper Facebook or Twitter Page. This contest is open to all Community Granges and Junior Granges. Pages must be active at any point within the period of November 1, 2017 - October 1, 2018.

All of the details, rules, and information for the contests can be found on the Connecticut State Grange website at www.CTStateGrange.org, and are available in the Blue Book. Entries should be mailed to Robert Charbonneau, 102 Spring Street, Meriden CT 06451, or sent via e-mail to publicrelations@ctstategrange.org.

New State Masters in ME & MT

MONTANA

During the 79th Annual Montana State Grange Convention in early October, Marilyn Johnson was elected State Master/President. Johnson previously served as State Master from 1995-2001.

She is a 50 year member, currently belonging to Plains Grange #101 with her husband, Bill. The couple lives in Kalispell, Montana, and are both retired. She was employed with the U.S. Forest Service for 30 plus years. They have one grown daughter. She was National Flora from 1999-2002.

MAINE

At their recent State Convention, Sherry Harriman was elected Master of the Maine State Grange, following the two-year term of Rick Grotton.

Harriman, who was Overseer of the State, may be a recognized name in some circles because of her service previously as National Junior Director.

Sherry has been a member of the Grange since 1971 when she joined the now closed Elm

Brook Grange #521, taking her seven degrees in less than a year. Over her Grange journey, she has held every office at the Subordinate level, many at the Pomona level, and chaired or served on committees at all levels of the Grange. Today she is a member of Bauneg Beg Grange #382 in North Berwick, ME, and York Pomona Grange #14.

She previously held positions including State Lecturer for 10 years and twice was State Junior Director. She and her husband of 46 years, Richard were State Young Couple, but have grown now to enjoy their family with three children, five grandsons and three great-grandsons.

She has owned and operated her own business, Sherry's Flag Car, since 1985. She is an escort driver or Pilot Car vehicle for oversized and over-dimensional loads escorting anything high, wide, long, heavy and hazardous traveling 700 miles a day throughout most of the U.S. and parts of Canada.

Sherry said her goals for Maine State Grange "are to strengthen our existing Granges, membership, and ritual practices with how-to instructions." She hopes to see a net gain in

So. CT Past Masters Location Change

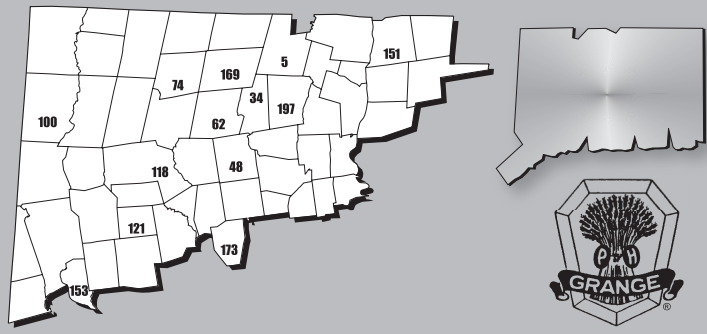
The members of the Southern Connecticut Past Masters travel to Beacon Valley Grange Hall on Saturday, Nov. 11 for their next meeting. Vice President Cindy Legg will present a program entitled "Salute our Vets."

As always, our meetings start with a potluck supper at 6:30 followed by a short meeting, a program and country store.

Come and join us – we love visitors.

membership and a greater partnership with agricultural producers. She also said she would like to see "more involvement in community service and grassroots resolutions for legislative action. I am working on complete job descriptions for officers, guidelines for leaders, director duties and expectations defined."

POMONA A



Granby No. 5
Cawasa No. 34
Whigville No. 48
Eureka No. 62
Winchester No. 74
Taghhannuck No. 100
Beacon No. 118

Bethlehem No. 121
Enfield No. 151
Bridgewater No. 153
Riverton No. 169
Wolcott No. 173
Simsbury No. 197



WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau

Nov. 3: Holiday Super Prize Party & Bake Sale

Nov. 14: Veterans Day, Ref. By Sandy & Earl Philips

Nov. 28: Giving Thanks, Ref. Potluck at 6:30 P.M.

Dec. 12: Christmas (Grab Bag \$5), Ref. All Members (Holiday Theme)

Winchester's final "big" event of the year will be the Holiday Super Prize Party & Bake Sale on Friday, Nov. 3. The doors open at 6:00 P.M. and the drawing begins at 7:00 P.M. It's a huge teacup auction that's lots of fun and the tickets are inexpensive. We would love to see you there!

In September, Winchester Grange worked with the Fire Department, Congregational Church, Historical Association and Little Red Schoolhouse to present the annual Winchester Center Day on the 30th. It was a brisk (translation: cold) fall day but the rain held off for most of the day and attendance was better than expected. The cool temperatures seemed to help apple crisp sales as we sold out by noontime. There was an art show in the upper hall, a tag sale in the dining room, and plenty of hot dogs and knockwurst for sale at the grill. Across the Green, the church presented an antique car show and a live band on the gazebo while the Historical Association had the chapel open for tours. It was a nice day to visit with friends and neighbors while enjoying some of the things that makes Winchester Center a nice place to be.

TAGHHANNUCK GRANGE #100

In the months of November through February we only hold one meeting a month with a snow date on the following week.

November 9th's program is "Motley Observations" with snow date of the 16th.

December 14th's program is "Cookie Exchange" and we invite you to come with 4 dozen of the same kind of cookie to fill plates for Ella's Pantry (food bank).

We also make up plates for our members who cannot get to meetings. It is a fun night with a gift exchange.

ENFIELD GRANGE #151

Corr: Irene Percoski

Nov. 11: Everything Orange.

Dec. 9: Crazy Sock exchange.

We had mixed results at this year's Farmer's market. More cancelations due to weather than usual, cut our income from previous years. Some of our members have volunteered their time working at the Grange building at the Big E. Don't forget to bring items for daycare and pet food for the Enfield Community Cat Project. We will be adopting 2 families for Thanksgiving, let's work on some donations to fill the tubs.

Our non-lecturer has decided to have a crazy sock exchange for our December program. So instead of exchanging cookies or ornaments we will try to outdo each other with weird, crazy looking socks. Sounds like fun.

2017 Community Service

George & Sharon Russell, Co-Directors

As we complete our third year as Community Service Directors we are continually amazed at all the activities that your local Grangers do for the communities they serve. You have done so many different projects that benefit not only the elderly people in our communities but also the children by donating dictionaries as an example. Some of our Granges continue to donate dictionaries to four or five schools in their area. Taghhannuck Grange donated a copy of the Constitution, copies of the Declaration of Independence and Amendments in pamphlet form to the 5th and 8th Graders in four schools. Colchester Grange donated a Connecticut Agriculture Education Book barn for their elementary school library.

Taghhannuck and Colchester Granges received the Connecticut State Grange Grant money for these projects. Riverton Grange collaborated with two Girl Scout Troops in Barkahmsted and started sewing classes to make pillowcases and reversible bib like smocks to be used at a local nursing home. Riverton Grange also received the grant money from the Connecticut State Grange. This year we have given out five \$150 grants to Granges who are starting new projects that their Grange has not tried out in the past. We were extremely pleased with the response to this program and will be eager to see the number of Granges who may take advantage of the opportunity next year.

This year was another successful year for Community Service participation of the notebooks created for judging. Although the number of entries was down from last year, we did receive 20 entries. Even though this was less than last year; the total amount of Community Service hours and the amazing work that was done in our state continued to have a positive impact within all of the communities involved. Our members completed a little over 51,000 hours of service. As we said last year, this incredible amount of hours show the dedication, perseverance and energy of our members to help make the lives of the people in their communities just that much brighter. We would like to congratulate each and every one of you for another year of success and thank you for the accomplishments you

Taghhannuck #100



Taghhannuck Grange's Harvest Dinner and Awards program should have been called a Dinner, Awards & Dance program thanks to The Still Home Grown Band. Eight certificates and seals were awarded to our members.

achieved within your communities.

This year the books were judged in two separate categories: Granges with 50 members or less and Granges with 51 members or more. The results in the category of 51 members or more and the first place notebook was received by:

1st – Ekonk Community #89

2nd – Cheshire #23

3rd – Lyme #147

Granges with members under 50:

1- Prospect #144

2- Colchester #78

3- Bethlehem #121

Best of Show: Ekonk Community #89

We received one Junior Grange notebook from Ekonk Comm. Junior Grange #101. They will receive a first place check for \$50. The Ekonk Juniors put together a comprehensive, well-organized and very attractive book. We would like to congratulate them and say we are very proud of the hard work they did to help their community.

Over the past several years, the National Grange has given one award to an Outstanding Firefighter, one to an Outstanding Police Officer and one award to a selected Teacher of the Year. The

State Grange discussed the program and it was decided to offer this additional Community Service program this year. Unfortunately we didn't have any entries in this new program. We would like to try this program again in the coming year and hope that Grangers will have some nominees. If you need more information or would like some assistance; please contact us and we will help in any way we can.

Once again this year, the National Grange is not issuing certificates for the Granges I have who participated in this year's Community Service program. Our Secretary Todd had certificates printed for our participants so each Grange that submitted a community service report will receive a certificate, next year's report form and the Community Service Grant Program.

We would like to congratulate the Grangers who participated in this year's community service. Without all your efforts we cannot show the National Grange how committed Connecticut State Grangers are to their communities.

Winchester #74



Winchester Grange participated with the Fire Dept., Church, Historical Assoc. and Little Red Schoolhouse to present Winchester Center Day on Sept. 30. Ramona Fassio (left) and Shirley Lemieux pose for a photo after selling out of the Grange's homemade Apple Crisp made from local apples. This event has become a fall tradition in Winchester Center.

51,000
Hours of Community Service!



Many Granges have Thanksgiving-style dinners and potlucks during the month of November. Here's a recipe that is perfect for Grange potlucks or refreshments, and can also be used for Thanksgiving too! This easy Pumpkin Bread recipe is from Jennifer Segal on the Once Upon A Chef Website.

Pumpkin Bread

INGREDIENTS:

2 cups all-purpose flour, spooned into measuring cup and leveled-off
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
 1 teaspoon ground cloves
 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 1-1/2 sticks (3/4 cup) unsalted butter, softened
 2 cups sugar
 2 large eggs
 1 15-oz can 100% pure pumpkin (Libby's is suggested)

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 325°F and set an oven rack in the middle position. Generously grease two 8 x 4-inch loaf pans with butter and dust with flour (alternatively, use a baking spray with flour in it, such as Pam with Flour or Baker's Joy).

In a medium bowl, combine the flour, salt, baking soda, baking powder, cloves, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Whisk until well combined; set aside.

In a large bowl of an electric mixer, beat the butter and sugar on medium speed until just blended. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Continue beating until very light and fluffy, a few minutes. Beat in the pumpkin. The mixture might look grainy and curdled at this point -- that's okay.

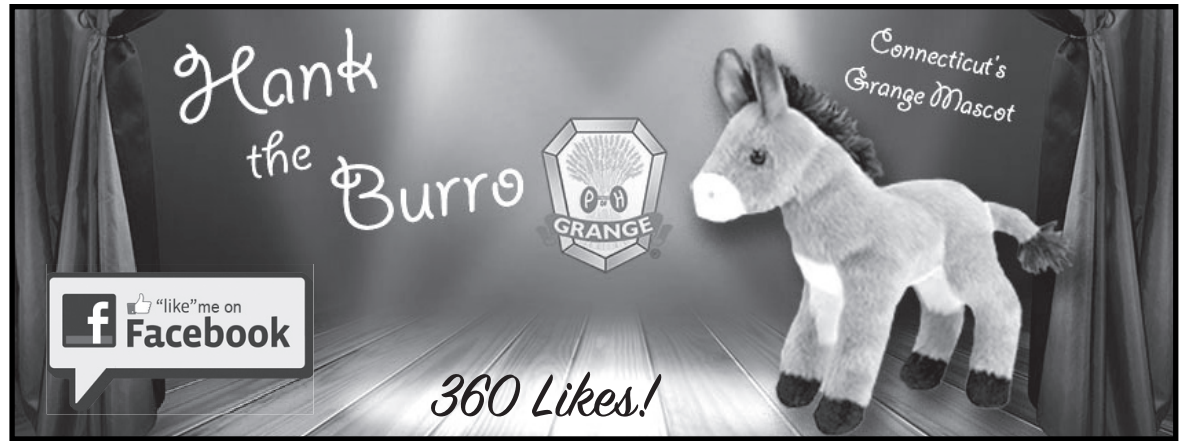
Add the flour and mix on low speed until combined.

Turn the batter into the prepared pans, dividing evenly, and bake for 65 – 75 minutes, or until a cake tester inserted into the center comes out clean. Let the loaves cool in the pans for about 10 minutes, then turn out onto a wire rack to cool completely.

Fresh out of the oven, the loaves have a deliciously crisp crust.

Serves: Makes 2 Loaves

SOURCE: <https://www.onceuponachef.com/recipes/spiced-pumpkin-bread.html>



By Hank the Burro

Hello Grange Friends!

I had a great time at the Big E in the Grange Building in September. I got to take photos of all the Connecticut Entries and winners while Noel was busy setting up displays and working.

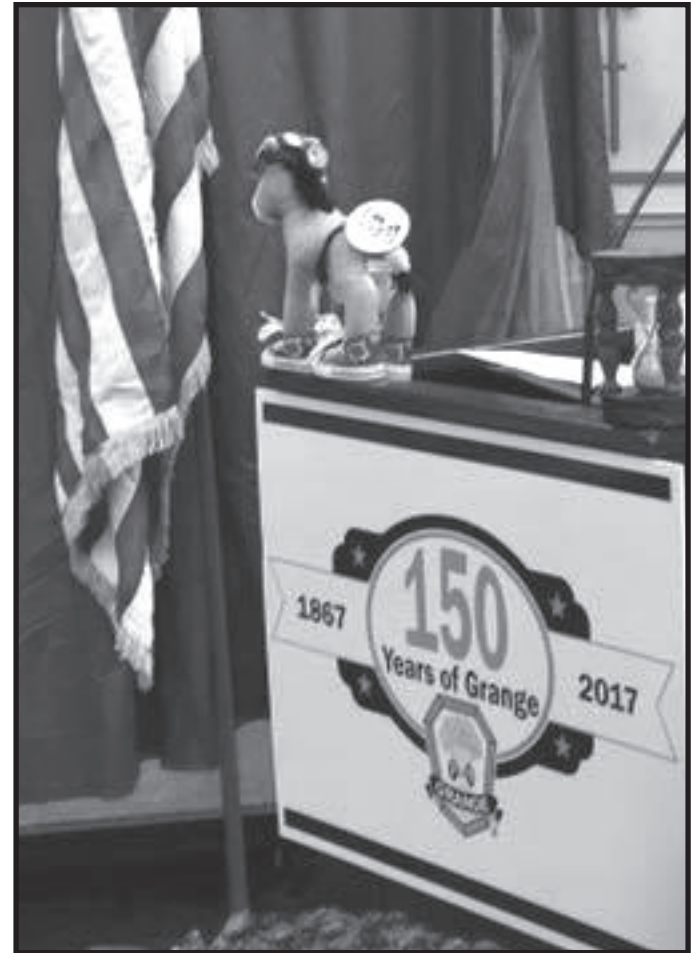
Hard to believe that Connecticut's annual State Grange Session has already come and gone. It was great seeing all my Grange friends, having fun at the Banquet, and watching the beautiful Sixth Degree.

Now I get to travel to Spokane for the National Grange Session and meet some new friends in Washington State! More on that next time.

I'm sorry you don't see many photos of me this month, Noel and Marcia have been SOOO busy!

Be sure to follow me on Facebook for news of my latest travels.

Please take a minute to follow the link and click the "Like" button. <http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro>



Membership Moment

Jody Cameron, Director

I have an associate that always says, "if all you're going to do is put lipstick on the pig, all you're going to have is a pig with lipstick." What does this mean? If all we are going to do is throw "lipstick" on the situation you change nothing. It only makes you think you did something. Why do I say this? Things don't look good, I can't sugar coat it. We have seen the loss in Granges and membership on an annual basis for far too many years. What can we do?

Our committee has committed to supplying customized literature to any Grange that is having an organized membership activity. We have a complete display set-up for you to use, and are ready, willing and able to help your Grange

in any way. Membership is the lifeblood of our organization and without new members we will inevitably cease to exist. We will be doing a presentation this afternoon. Hopefully it adds food for thought.

This year we only had one report on Membership Growth and that was from Beacon Valley Grange #103. They have taken in new members and continue to be relevant in their community. They have already received the custom literature and a banner to hang in their hall, so this year, if they wish, we will have a customized pop-up banner for them to use while promoting the Grange.

Ted and I want to thank everyone who has asked us to help them in any way, that's what we are here for. Remember, we can't be of service if we are not called upon.

Wildfires & hurricanes

This year feels like none other with the mounting losses of life and property by devastating natural disasters throughout our nation.

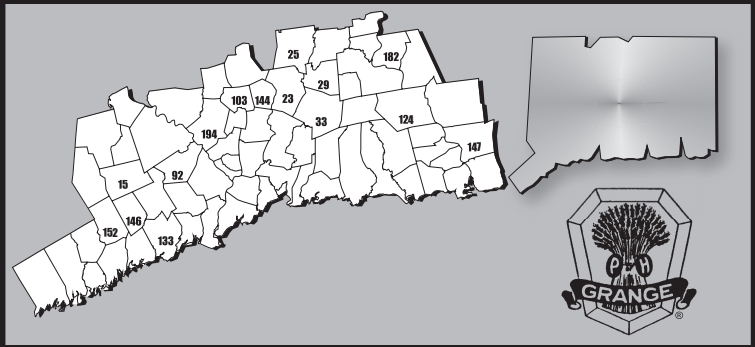
Members in Florida, Texas, and friends in Puerto Rico and other states are still recovering from hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. This morning (mid-October) we are continuing to get updates on losses suffered by those in California. Some of our Brothers and Sisters have left homes and farmlands, which burned to the ground in quick-moving wildfires and many other halls and homes are in the path of yet-uncontained blazes.

The California State Grange is spearheading efforts to help people affected connect with loved ones and shelter livestock in safe spaces. Several Granges are being used as shelters.

We will keep you posted as to efforts and potential needs of our Grange family and thank you in advance for your thoughts, prayers and kindness at this time.

Betsy E. Huber

POMONA B



Redding No. 15
Cheshire No. 23
Southington No. 25
Meriden No. 29
Wallingford No. 33
Harmony No. 92
Beacon Valley No. 103

Higganum No. 124
Greenfield Hill No. 133
Prospect No. 144
Norfield No. 146
Cannon No. 152
Hemlock No. 182
Oxford No. 194

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Ruel Miller

Nov. 1: Neighbor's Night. Bring food for the Cheshire Food Bank

Nov. 15: Thanksgiving Dinner at 6:30 P.M. Open meeting and program.

We are up and running in the new Grange year. Our annual Craft Show was October 28th and a fundraising dinner is set for November 4th. We were represented at State Session and were also represented at the fall meeting of the Association of Connecticut Fairs. Our Monday Night Craft Nights continue making Christmas items for our shut-in members and a local retirement home. We continue to send packages to our troops in Afghanistan. They are well received and acknowledged.

HARMONY GRANGE #92

Corr: George Ward

Nov. 10: Regular Meeting 7:30, Refreshments at 6:30, Lecturer's Program to be announced later

Harmony Grange will have its Christmas Fair on Dec. 2, 2017, 9:00 to 2:00 at the Grange Hall on Hurd Avenue. The hall is accessible on Hurd Avenue but Hurd Avenue cannot be reached directly from Route 110. Hurd Avenue can be reached using roads mentioned in the October issue of the Granger under Harmony Grange. On sale will be many Christmas items as well as other items from the attic. Food will be available. A member has found the recipe for colonial soup. She has suggested the following article be printed in the Granger to further the interest in our Fair.

(Since all Granges are a living vital part of

our country's agricultural history; and to honor this fact Harmony Grange 92 is serving an historical colonial soup as part of our annual Christmas Fair luncheon menu. We will be serving a vegetable soup dating from colonial times updated to be both vegan and gluten free to meet modern dietary needs and trends. Come join us on December 2, 2017 to partake of some delicious soup and celebrate our agricultural present and past.)

Harmony Grange has a new potential member to be voted on and do the Welcoming Ceremony at our November meeting. Harmony Grange welcomes everyone to visit us and we wish all a Happy Thanksgiving as they celebrate with relatives and friends.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

November 10th is the date of our November meeting. Our new Lecturer will present her first program entitled "Veterans Day-Thanksgiving." The social time following the meeting will be hosted by Harriet and Dolores.

On Saturday, November 4 we will have our next tag sale. When you are doing your fall cleaning think of us. We could use donations.

Ron Fischer will hold an open mic night on Saturday, Nov. 18th. Come and enjoy the music or participate.

We had a membership informational table at the town-wide "Mission 22." Sharing information about the Grange, we met many future members- we hope. Thanks to our members who helped on a day the weather

never went above 57 degrees and most of us were there 5 hours. Braving the weather were: Pat and Ron Fischer, Tom Honyotski, Cindy and Ray Legg, Judi Reynolds, Mary Lou Raymond and Joanne Cipriano.

A happy and healthy Thanksgiving from all of us at Beacon Valley Grange.

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Lois Evankow

Dec. 7: Will Santa Come By Sleigh or Car?

Jan. 4: Our Favorite Hobbies - Show & Tell

Feb. 1: Every dog has his day. Woof!

Our October meeting netted us another new member. That makes three in the past two meetings. Also we have two applications and one reinstatement.

We voted a new gatekeeper and member of the executive committee to fill a vacancy.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Houston and Puerto Rico due to the devastation caused by the recent hurricanes.

Such a tragedy, so many people killed or wounded in Las Vegas. When will it stop? Once again, lots of thoughts and prayers to them.

Our Charter was draped in loving memory of Francis Rand who lived the last few years with his son in New Jersey.

We are all set with Master and a delegate to attend State Session. Results announced next month.

Such a beautiful Fall. I'm sure everyone is enjoying all this wonderful weather.

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Dec. 8: Water, Fun in So Many Ways

Dec. 22: Omitted for Christmas

Jan. 12: Winter Wonderland

Jan. 26: Omitted, unless regular meeting is canceled.

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meetings.

OXFORD GRANGE #194

Corr: Robert Buck

Nov. 3: Neighbors' Night - Music Program, 7:30 PM

Nov. 17: Annual

Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner, 7:00 PM

Watch Facebook to see if G.O.M.A.D. will hold an event in November due to the last Friday's proximity to the Thanksgiving holiday.

By this time, the handicapped ramp should have been completed due to the efforts of Oxford Selectman Jeff Haney. As this is being written in early October, construction has just begun. We are looking forward to the increased accessibility this will give the Grange Hall to more people. Other improvements made included several door repairs to bring the building into compliance with fire safety codes back in September. Plans are under way to raise money for other door and window repairs.

The quadrennial report to the town to keep our

tax free status has also been completed. This is the first done by the current secretary and not by former treasurer Phil Rowland who took care of it for many years. Another thing to be learned; it came to me by a rather circuitous route as officials in town hall didn't know where to send it so it was delayed slightly in getting to me.

In early October, representatives of Oxford, Bethlehem, and Beacon Granges met Christopher Cleland of American Senior Benefits and Manchester Grange at the Painted Pony Restaurant in Bethlehem to talk about using his services and knowledge to network better among Granges as well as other local non-profits in order to boost Grange membership and create new programs for the Grange that can enhance public exposure for the organization.

Have a Good Day!

Chris Hamp, National Lecturer

I know each and every one of us is busy, busy. It is fair season, for most of you it is get ready for State Convention time, and of course, it is that glorious time of the year when seemingly everything in our gardens is ready to be canned, frozen, or dried!

I am asking you to encourage your Granges and Grangers to subscribe to our new National Grange magazine, Good Day!

This is a quarterly publication of the highest quality! In my opinion, *Good Day!* is a beautiful, glossy, substantive magazine with a breadth of content and information that can keep any reader interested and absorbed. I'm positive that you will also find a plethora of ideas for Lecturer's programs (bonus!).

Please fill out and return the subscription card below to the National Grange in Washington. Feel free to distribute copies of the subscription card to your members, collect the money/checks and cards and mail them to National Grange in batches or send yours along as soon as you get this to ensure delivery of the next issue.

Be Awesome! Be a Doer!

Make it a Good Day!™

As a Grange member, for only \$14 a year you can receive our new quarterly magazine and enjoy great features, the latest information about the Grange, contests, programs, benefits and more!

Name: _____

Grange Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

email: _____

You may choose to be billed by checking here

To pay by credit or debit card, fill out the information completely. Please note if you have a different billing address than mailing address above.

Card # _____ Visa MC Disc.

Exp. Date _____ CVC Code _____

**Mail subscription card to National Grange,
1616 H St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.**

Year in Review



Alma Graham
Legislative Director
Legislative@ctstategrange.org

The Legislative Committee met following last year's session in order to review and incorporate any new resolutions affecting legislative affairs into the Connecticut State Grange Legislative Policy Handbook. Copies of the Legislative Guide were then sent out to all

Connecticut granges and distributed to Governor Malloy, Lt. Governor Wyman and all members of the Connecticut General Assembly.

Gordon Gibson again represented the Connecticut State Grange at the Capitol. He is well recognized by many legislators and works with other lobbyists in following the bills and communicating our support and/or concerns on the various bills before the General Assembly.

The budget was the hot topic in the legislature this year. The Governor presented his budget early in the session as usual. Both the Democrats and the Republicans did not like it and have been negotiating with the Governor on a compromise budget with little success. The legislature ended the session with no budget and no compromise. Months later, budget negotiations are still ongoing between the legislature and the Governor, making Connecticut the only state that does not have a budget. The Governor has been running the state without a budget which has resulted in tremendous negative impacts on our towns and cities.

Due to the volatile state of the budget this year we did not get the opportunity to testify on any bills. Very few bills actually passed the legislature this past session. One of the few notable bills we watched concerned the Community Investment Funds monies. The bill proposed adding an amendment to the constitution which would create a separate fund in the General Fund in which the CIA monies would be placed. This would keep these funds in a separate non-lapsing account. Unfortunately this bill died in the legislature. One notable bill that did pass was one concerning the siting of solar panels on farmlands. This requires the siting council to take into consideration the impact on farmland and forest lands in their decision.

Gordon and I attended the Connecticut Agricultural Day in March at the Capitol. Governor Malloy stopped by the Grange booth for a photo. I attended a rally at the Capitol to show support of HJ99 which was the bill protecting the Community Investment Act monies.

Gordon Gibson attended the Working Land Alliance annual and regular meetings during the year. The Grange is a partner of this organization. He also participated in a phone town meeting with Representative Joe Courtney where they discussed Connecticut's agricultural needs.

Gordon was invited to represent the Connecticut State Grange at an invitation-only meeting with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue. Secretary Perdue was stopping in states for listening sessions concerning the 2018 Farm Bill. The Grange asked for greater flexibility in national agricultural regulations by asking that states USDA offices be able to modify programs to better serve the farmers in Connecticut. Gordon was quoted in the Norwich Bulletin as saying "one size does not fit all", in which Secretary Perdue agreed. There were also discussions with Perdue on the challenges that the farmers have with the regulations tied to the Food Safety Modernization Act.

I would like to thank our State President, Noel Miller, for giving me this opportunity to serve as your Legislative Director for this year and extend thanks to my committee, Charles Dimmick, Russell Gray, George Ward and Gordon Gibson for their work and support.

50 Years of Service



Nancy Youman was presented her Golden Sheaf Certificate by Cheshire Grange Master Ruel Miller. Nancy is the daughter of Don & Phyllis Beard. Ruel also received his own 60 year seal at a recent meeting of Cheshire Grange.



Tray Favors made by the members of Cheshire Grange #23 for the residents of Marbridge in Cheshire. Tray favors give residents something pretty to look at, a reminder they are cared about, and something to snack on.

Fall into Spring
"Tea Talk" Luncheon

Greenfield Hill Grange
1873 Hillside Road, Fairfield

Saturday November 4, 2017

Presentation: ALL ABOUT BULBS
with Guest speaker Eva Chiamulera.
Eva is a designer with Austin Ganim Landscape Design, LLC, and has worked with Colorblends -- a third-generation, wholesale flower merchant with strong relationships with tulip bulb growers in The Netherlands.

COLORBLENDS
WHOLESALE FLOWER BULBS

Reservations call
Steve: 203.367.4373
Jim: 203.259.8023

12:30 - 2:30 pm

\$12.00 reservations required

Menu
Chicken Salad,
Tuna Salad,
Egg Salad Croissants
Tossed Salad
Tea (& coffee, too)
Cakes and Cookies

@GHGrangeFld www.facebook.com/Greenfield.Hill.Grange

Holiday Boutique

November 18th, 2017
10:00 am to 3:00 pm

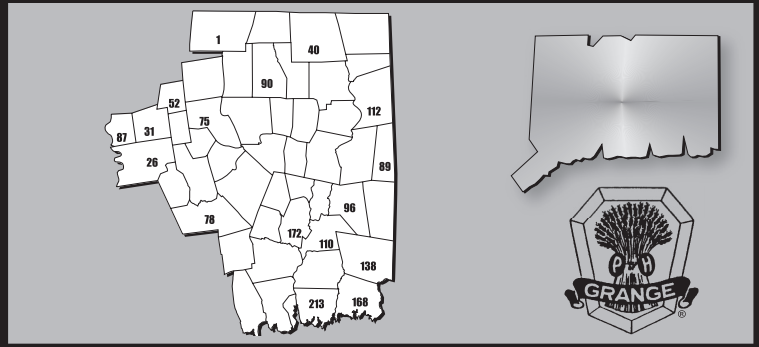
All things holiday
Thanksgiving to Christmas to New Year's
Vendors, Crafts, Food

Greenfield Hill Grange
1873 Hillside Rd.
Fairfield, CT 06824

Breakfast, Lunch,
& Refreshments
available

For info:
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203.367.4373

POMONA C



Stafford No. 1	Ashford No. 90
Glastonbury No. 26	Pachaug No. 96
Manchester No. 31	Preston City No. 110
Senexet No. 40	Killingly No. 112
Vernon No. 52	N. Stonington Comm. No. 138
Coventry No. 75	Lyme No. 147
Colchester No. 78	Stonington No. 168
Hillstown No. 87	Norwich No. 172
Ekonk Community No. 89	Groton No. 213

SENXET GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

Nov. 15: Thanksgiving Program

Nov. 22: Thanksgiving Pie Sale

We were excited to have a very successful Grange Fair on Sept. 16. We had 103 entries. We continue to work on the hall to improve its use. We are renting the upstairs to a group that is painting organ pipes. This is taking all of the space there and we are happy to have them. We will be holding our meetings at 2:30 P.M. on the third Wednesday of the month to accommodate those who do not like to drive at night. We continue to host the meetings of the local AARP. We voted to send our Master Joan Perry to State Session along with Pat Valys.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Nancy Strong

Nov. 3: Remembering Our Veterans

Vernon Grange opened its doors to Rockville High School FFA members at its October meeting. The program was on Agritourism and Biosecurity. We also took in two new members and hope for more. Our next meeting will be November 3 and we will be Remembering Our Veterans. We were saddened by the loss of Calvin Wilcox in August. He was a dedicated Tolland Grange member and then joined Vernon. He had been living with his son in California for many years.

COVENTRY GRANGE #75

Corr: Noel Miller

Nov. 2: Thanksgiving

We have taken in new members for Echo Grange and Lyme Grange and we welcome them all to Coventry Grange #75. At State Grange Session, Coventry Grange #75 won first prize for collecting the most G Dollars for a Grange under 50 members. I thank all of our members who helped achieve this honor. Next year I hear we are collecting "C" dollars for "Connecticut," because there are no more "G" dollars in the State. Good luck to all.

EKONK COMM. GRANGE #89

EKONK COMM. JR. #101

Corr: Sue Gray

Our first endeavor for "Celebrate Ag" at the Woodstock Fair Grounds went extremely well and we are so pleased that they want us next year too! Thanks to ALL who helped in this major event! A \$500.00 donation was voted as a donation to the "Celebrate Ag" Committee for their good works.

The 2018 Sterling Community Calendar will feature the Frink Homestead as the picture; Jan Cooper painted this historic home. This farm is rich in history, dating back to a grant from King George. The farm is now owned by the Hermonot family and they have made it part of their Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm business.

We voted to subscribe to the National magazine, "Good Day" as a Grange as well as be a \$50.00 sponsor for the Gala 150th birthday

celebration of the Grange in D.C. this December 4th.

Our final count for the "G" bill program was \$603.00. While less than last year, we are proud to participate in this fundraiser to help pay for National Grange when it comes to the Northeast, which is next November (VT)!

By this reading, Link Cooper will have applied preservative to the Grange Pavillion and our Grange will have participated in both Sterling Farm Day and the Sterling Spooktacular! 90+ Ekonk Juniors were awarded pins for completed projects at Junior Installation in September! Four Ekonk Juniors have successfully completed ALL requirements to become "Super JG's": Ariella Bessette, Brianna Gervais, Lillian and Russell Sharpe. Four Juniors (by this reading) attended State Grange Junior Day; the tour and the luncheon. Many entered State and National contests this year, perhaps gaining inspiration from time spent with the National Junior Grange Ambassador, Jomni Tarbell in August. The Juniors earned \$345.82 for their homemade cookies & brownies at "Celebrate Ag" in Woodstock. They also helped as runners, etc. throughout the event. Verna Cole (860-564-2388) is taking reservations for 6' table spaces at our December 2nd Christmas Bazaar (10-2). \$10.00 per table. Visit us any first Monday at 7:30 p.m.!

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Glenna Bruno

On Sunday, Sept. 24 we held a business meeting at 3 P.M. The installation of officers at Killingly Grange #112 was performed by Jeff Barnes, Installing Officer, Deborah Barnes, Assistant Steward/Regalia, Patricia Valys, Emblem Bearer, and Jaimie Cameron. All went off without a hitch. Thank you all. It was good work.

Master Eleanor Davis was absent and was recuperating from an illness. We hope she will be up and

about soon. Also Bruce, our Assistant Steward, has been hospitalized and in rehab. for several weeks. As of this writing, he is back home. Get well Bruce.

Our Turkey Dinner (2nd Weds. Of Sept.) was a success thanks to Pat Valys. We served at least 40 people.

We held our Grange Fair and it was a success considering we hadn't done one in a while. Sue Griffith was a big help. Thanks Sue. We do need to update our system. Thanks to all who participated and helped. Big thank you to Gert Blain who took in all entries. Bluegrass shows were held in October.

N. STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy Weissmuller

Nov. 10: Surprise

Nov. 24: No Meeting. Happy Thanksgiving!

Dec. 8: Christmas Party

Dec. 22: No Meeting. Merry Christmas. Happy Holidays!

On September 8 we learned about hurricanes and tornadoes and played some games that kept us on our toes. On Sept. 22 the Cameron/Barnes Installing Team installed our Officers in a lovely

candlelit ceremony. Thank you, Jody, Jeff and team.

We hold only one meeting in November and December. As yet we do not know what the November program will be; but we know it will be fun. Looking forward to December, our Christmas party will be held on December 8. the hall will be decorated for the holiday and Santa will be there to bring cheer to all. Please bring the children; and be sure to bring a wrapped present for each with his or her name clearly written on the package. Leave them in the kitchen and they will find their way into Santa's bag. And if those pesky hurricanes will just stay away from our New England shore, next time I'll tell you all about optimistic October.

ECHO GRANGE #180

Corr: Gloria John

Alma Graham won first prize for her Christmas Quilt at the New England Grange Building Northeast Needlework Contest at the Big E.

This is the last newsletter for Echo Grange. I have belonged to Grange for 72 years and I am sad to see it go. We had our last meeting on Sept. 26th.

Pirates & Treasure



There will be no regional meetings this year as we are into the second year of our 2 year program. The Theme changes to "Pirates and Treasure." Please check the Blue Book for information. The new baking contest recipe is also in the Blue Book for Cross Bones Cookies.

There are some changes to 3 of the needlework categories. Make sure as items will be measured when judging takes place. I have eliminated judging at the Pomona level. **All** needlework and crafts will be judged in the State in June at "Celebrate". Baking will still be done at Subordinate Granges first, with winners going to "Celebrate".

Class A. -Afghans -can be no smaller than twin size.

Class H. -Latch Hook -No bigger than 18 X 18 inches.

Class I. - Quilted Wall Hanging. - No bigger than 18 X 18 inches.

I have some extra report forms if you are missing one. If you need any help, please contact me. I am as close as the phone. Telephone : 860-749-0463, or email: tuba83mom@gmail.com.

The Winners



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer
lecturer@ctstategrange.org

It was nice to see so many of you at State Session. Hopefully we are now rejuvenated and ready to go ahead with another Grange year. Remember, our contests will remain the same.

The most popular contest this year was the Essays. The theme was "My Favorite Food". There were duplicates but people seemed to like Chocolate

Cake from scratch, Hash, Corn, Pasta, Ice Cream, and anything this Granger doesn't have to cook. Ice cream got the most votes. What is your favorite? It's not too early to write your essay for next year.

This years' winners are as follows:

ESSAY CONTEST

- 1st – Nancy Weissmuller, No. Stonington Grange
- 2nd – Jeff Barnes, No. Stonington Grange
- 3rd – Sue Gray, Ekonk Grange

COMPLETE PROGRAM CONTEST

- 1ST – Susan Pianka, No. Stonington Grange
- 2nd – Joanne Cipriano, Beacon Valley Grange

THE FOLLOWING GRANGES ALSO RECEIVED AWARDS:

- Redding Grange** – Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Cheshire Grange** – Should Auld Acquaintance Award, A Word from Home Certificate
- Glastonbury Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award, Should Auld Acquaintance Award, A Word from Home Certificate
- Manchester Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Cawasa Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Whigville Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Vernon Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Colchester Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award, Should Auld Acquaintance Award, A Word from Home Certificate
- Hillstown Grange** – A Word From Home Certificate
- Ekonk Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Taghannuck Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Bethlehem Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Beacon Valley Grange** – Should Auld Acquaintance Award
- Killingly Grange** – Should Auld Acquaintance Award
- N. Stonington Grange** – Honor Lecturer Award, Lecturer's Appreciation Award, Should Auld Acquaintance Award
- Prospect Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Lyme Grange** – Honor Lecturer Award, Lecturer's Appreciation Award, Should Auld Acquaintance Award, A Word from Home Certificate
- Enfield Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award, A Word from Home Certificate
- Hemlock Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award
- Oxford Grange** - Lecturer's Appreciation Award

Celebrate Ag



U.S. Representative Joe Courtney (right) poses with Ekonk Grange Member Link Cooper at the Celebrate Ag Breakfast served and organized by Ekonk at Woodstock Fairgrounds on Sept. 23.



Michelle DeDominicis
State Junior Grange Director
juniors@ctstategrange.org

Junior Grange

Wow how time has flown. It seems as though we were just here in Norwich celebrating the 2016

Grange year and like sands through Noel Miller's hour glass, these are the times of our lives.

Our Juniors are as busy as ever with school, sports, scouts and community service projects, we must always try our hardest to include all of them in our Grange meetings and activities.

BUT before doing such, we must insure that our Granges are a positive and productive place for all ages as our actions are usually reflected in the impressions we emit.

Today's kids are growing up in a stressful and volatile environment – with politics, bullying, gender identity all mixed up in a constant state of social media and technology – their upbringing does not have them same hardships as we had growing up. Therefore, we have the opportunity where the Grange can become a familiar and safe place where they are always welcomed with open arms.

WE are fortunate, as Junior Grangers can be boys and girls together – like what other organizations are trying to

implement like the scouts (but that is for another speech...)

As hard as it may be to do – we must learn to delegate – start by delegating those tasks you may find easier – trust me – it has made my life easier not having to put tablecloths on the tables, cooking the sausage and drying the dishes at our Granges pancake breakfasts – smile – Before you know it, you too will be like my mother – able to "Work" at our breakfasts by walking around talking to our guests – like many of you – your time and efforts are always applauded and welcome – but you have earned the right and HONOR to accept thy worthy plaudit.

This coming year – along with Kathy Tefft my Co-Director of the State Junior Committee, we will be promoting the Plus 1 Program – creating some guidelines at a state level to encourage our Granges to take advantage of not only this program but all the benefits of being a Junior Granger.

EKONK COMM. JR. #101

Corr: Rebecca Gervais

We continue to stay busy. Our installation and badge ceremony were held at our September meeting. We have Juniors who are interested in being on the Youth Drill Team. Our garden will soon be harvested.

I think the photos submitted for this issue covered most of our events.



Lillian Sharpe gets installed as President of Ekonk Comm. Jr. Grange. Her mom, Deborah, escorted her and her grandmother, Sue Gray installed her.



Ekonk Jrs. went to a local grocery store and learned about the depts. and healthy food choices.



Some of our Juniors who earned badges in the last 2 years. Almost 90 badges were earned!



Our 4 Juniors who are working for their Super JG pin. They organized a lemonade stand and bake sale for those who were affected by Hurricane Harvey. They raised almost \$200!

East Central Pomona Farewell



The officers of East Central Pomona pose for a farewell photo at their last meeting in October.

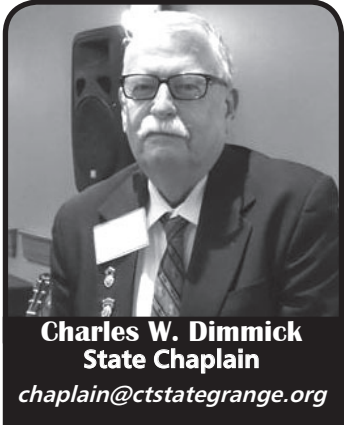
In Memoriam

Calvin Wilcox
Francis Rand

Vernon Grange #52
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.

Pay it Forward



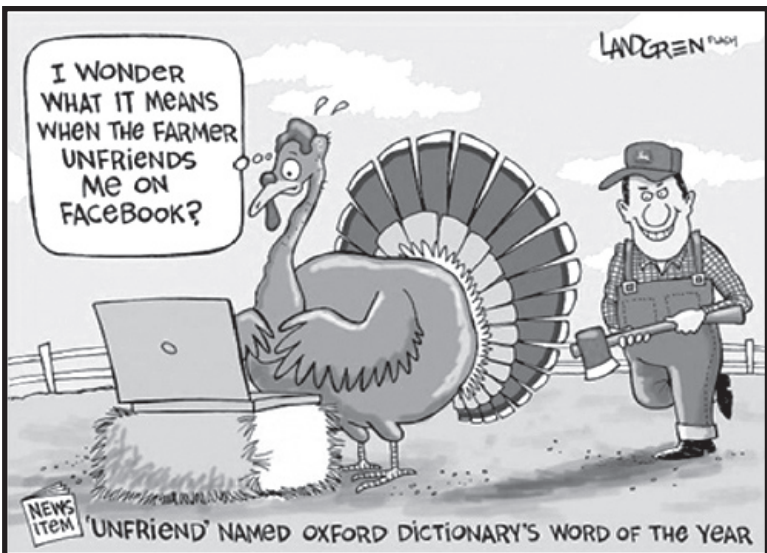
Charles W. Dimmick
State Chaplain
chaplain@ctstategrange.org



Being thankful for blessings is only the first step. Yes, as your mother taught you, you should always say “thank you”, but don’t end it there. There are additional obligations. It is much more important to show thankfulness by deeds than by words. Do you remember Jesus’ parable in Luke about the two men who went up to the Temple to pray? The Pharisee thanked God that he was not like other men, and then started bragging about all the ways that he was righteous, fulfilling all the mandates of the law. Not one word passed from his lips about penitence, about petition for God’s grace and mercy, about having the strength and will to do good to others to show his thankfulness for the benefits he had received. In Luke 12:48 Jesus tells us: “From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.” But there is another side to this. Later, in Luke 19, Jesus says “to everyone who has will be given more, and from him who has not will be taken away even that which he has”.

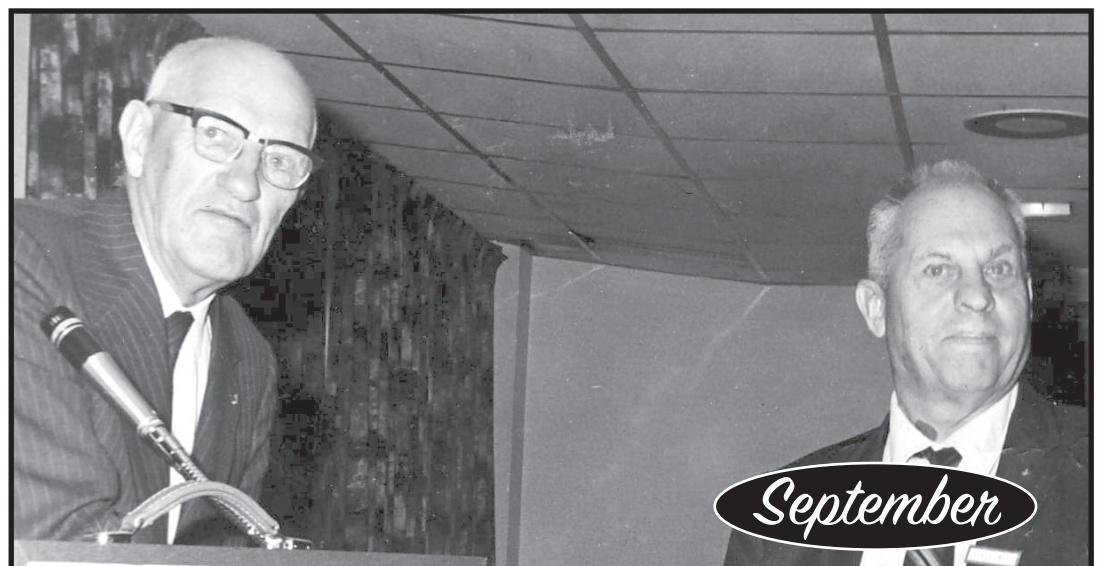
Remember the parable of the Talents. A rich master going on a long journey gives each of his three servants an incredible amount of money before leaving. One talent in silver is worth about a million dollars in today’s money, and yet he gives one servant ten talents, one servant gets five talents, and the last gets one talent. The first two servants take their freely given money and use it to greatly increase the value of their holdings; the third servant, in fear, buries his talent so that it cannot be lost. The master, upon his return, is very pleased with the actions of his first two servants and rewards them accordingly, but is much displeased with his third servant and takes away his gift. The lesson for us is that when God gives us good things we should in thankfulness use these gifts in outreach to help others, and as a result will eventually receive much more in reward.

Finally, remember the message in Mark 12: 43-44, [read for homework], where we learn that giving of your abundance is an obligation, while giving when you have little to give is a virtue.



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.



Since the last issue, we have received information on the September picture. Robert Barrow (Past Master of the National Grange) contacted Sister Lin Erickson of Cawasa to say that he believes the man on the left is Fred Dole who was either on the Agriculture Committee or the Executive Committee of the Massachusetts State Grange. It is likely this photo was taken at the 1972 National Session in Hartford. Brother Barrow did not know who the gentleman on the right is.

For the October photo, we received a phone call from Robert Hall of Hemlock Grange #182 saying the gentleman in the middle is CT Past State Master Robert Mitchell. Ruel Miller confirmed Bob Mitchell and Mae Mitchell (of Pomperaug Grange) on his right and Ellsworth Covell (Past State Secretary) on his left. He did not know who the Steward is in the foreground. John Osuch, Janet Haller and Marie Schneider contacted us confirming the information provided by the others.

Resolutions Adopted at the 133rd Annual Session

The following resolutions were adopted at the 133rd Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange. We have only printed the resolves for resolutions that have been previously been printed in their entirety in the *Connecticut Granger*. Resolutions written and adopted at Session are printed below in their entirety. Resolutions #4, 10 and 14 have been sent on to National Grange for consideration at the 151st Annual Session of the National Grange in Spokane, WA. The additional information mentioned in the resolve of #10 is not printed here but was provided to the National Grange.

2) RE: CONNECTICUT'S CORPORATE MIGRATION CRISIS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange urge our legislators to make it a high priority to determine what needs to be done to make this state more attractive to new businesses coming in and to encourage the businesses that are here to stay and thrive here and then implement the changes needed.

3) RE: TOWN FUNDING

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Grange support legislation that would require that the formula for distribution of the Education Cost Sharing Grant, Special Education Grant and Town Aid Road Grant be approved by May 15th each year even if the State Budget has not been passed, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the deadline is not met that these grants be established as the same as the previous year plus 3 percent, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the legislation call for an amendment to the State Constitution adopting the above wording to be voted on at the next State General Election.

4) RE: IMAGE LIKENESS RIGHTS OF GRANGE MEMBERS

THEREFORE BE

IT RESOLVED that a statement be added to the Connecticut State Grange Membership Application Form that reads:

"As a Grange member I am a representative of the organization, and as such my image and/or likeness can be used for the purpose of promoting the good works of our Order unless expressly requested not to at any time by myself or legal guardian."

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution forwarded to the next session of the National Grange with a recommendation that they include similar languages on all membership applications and related materials

5) RE: TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Grange be in favor of term limits for U.S. Senators of two terms and U.S. Representatives of three terms. These term limits are to be in effect for the 2020 election.

6) RE: INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS ALONG CONNECTICUT'S INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange urge our legislators to encourage the installation of solar panels along Connecticut multi-lane highways as a revenue venture and a farmland/forestry preservation effort.

7) RE: TAX EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange, through its legislative committee, petition the Connecticut State Legislature to restore the previous Connecticut Sales Tax exemption on all agricultural products that were previously exempt.

9) RE: MANDATORY GMO LABELING – Clear and transparent labeling and the right of the American Public to know what is in their food.

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange urge our legislators to provide clear and understandable labeling to all food products so that the general public can make an informed choice with their purchase, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the 2017 National Grange Session for their approval.

10) RE: CONNECTICUT VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange join in supporting the establishment of a Connecticut Valley National Heritage Corridor within the National Park Service (such as the Blackstone River National Heritage Corridor in Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts) so that this unique landscape may be preserved for future scientific study and the enjoyment by the public, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution and supporting documentation be forwarded to the next session of the National Grange for their consideration and action thereon.

13) RE: STATE OF CONNECTICUT FIXING DAY POND

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED we ask the State of Connecticut to find a way to fund the clean-up of Day Pond.

14) RE: USE OF THE WORD "MILK"

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge the introduction and passage of legislation prohibiting the sale of any plant and/or nut based beverages as "milk", and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the next session of the National Grange.

15) STATE MASTER'S ADDRESS

WHEREAS the Worthy Master has given a comprehensive and detailed account of his stewardship

of the Connecticut State Grange for the past year in his address, and

WHEREAS his address identifies the challenges facing our State Grange in the future,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the delegates of the 133rd Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange commend him for his fine Master's Address, and take positive actions on the recommendations contained therein for the betterment of the Order and of the world.

16) RE: CONNECTICUT'S FIRST FIVE PLUS PROGRAM

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange encourage our lawmakers to pass legislation requiring greater oversight

with viable benchmarks of this Connecticut First Five Plus program.

17) RE: MOTOR VEHICLE PROPERTY TAXES

WHEREAS during this years state budget discussions there is a recommendation on doing away with the local property tax on motor vehicles, and

WHEREAS this would cause an increase on property taxes on property as that is the only way that towns can raise funds, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange encourage our State Legislators to keep the local property tax on motor vehicles unless an equitable new funding method for towns to cover the loss be enacted.

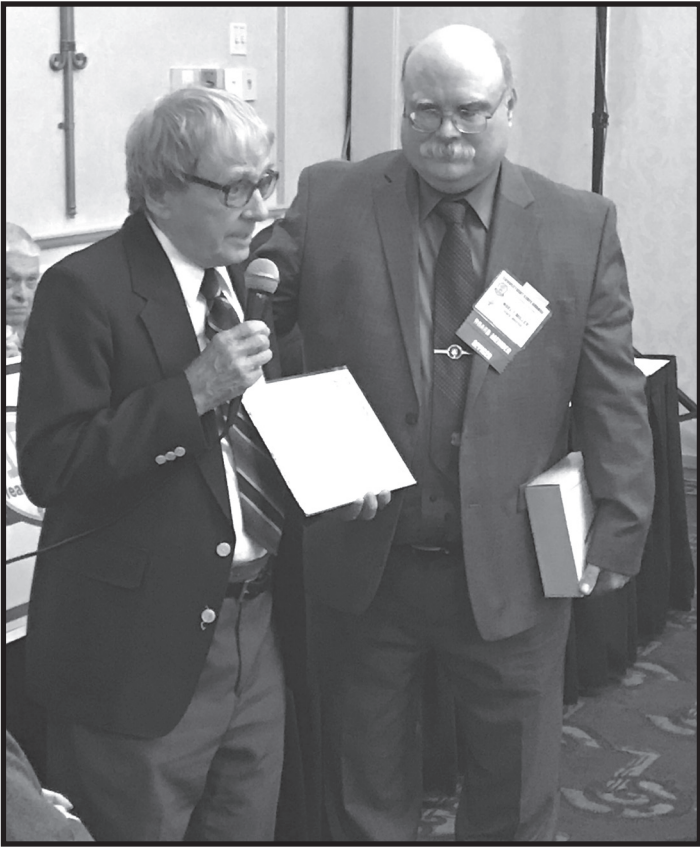
Resolution Action Summary

1) Connecticut's First Five Plus Program	Rejected for Sub.
2) Connecticut's Corporate Migration Crisis	Adopted
3) Town Funding	Adopted
4) Image/Likeness Rights of Grange Members	Adopted
5) Term Limits for Members of Congress	Adopted
6) Installation of Solar Panels Along Connecticut's Interstate Highways	Adopted
7) Tax Exemption for Certain Agricultural Products	Adopted
8) State Grange Accounting Procedures	Rejected
9) Mandatory GMO Labeling	Rejected
10) Connecticut Valley National Heritage Corridor	Adopted
11) Procedures for Dental Patient Expenses	Rejected
12) Pomona Sashes	Rejected
13) State of Connecticut Fixing Day Pond	Adopted
14) Use of the Word "Milk"	Adopted
15) Master's Address	Adopted
16) Connecticut's First Five Plus Program	Adopted
17) Motor Vehicle Property Taxes	Adopted



State Legislative Director Alma Graham presents her report.

133rd Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange



Granger of the Year Norman Stitham of Lyme Grange receives his award from State Master Noel Miller.



Zachary Duda, President of the State FFA, speaks to the Session on Saturday morning.



The 2017 Officers of the Connecticut State Grange



State Flora Deborah Barnes and Flora's Court.



The State Grange celebrated 150 years of Grange with Cake on Saturday.



State Chaplain Charles Dimmick during the Memorial Service.



The officers march in for the opening of the 133rd Annual Session.



State Membership Director Jody Cameron presents his program, "Why?"