

CONNECTICUT GRANGER

Published Monthly

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The Official News Magazine of the Connecticut State Grange

September 2021

Let's work together



George Russell State President Riverton Grange No. 169 president@ctstategrange.org

As we are in the month of September, the State Grange Session will be approaching. Let us work together to have a successful and prosperous session.

have been working sessions committee this vear's assignments. There will be four committees instead of five this year. The committees are: Agriculture/ Conservation and Environment chaired by Noel Miller and Vice Chair Roy Harrington. The Good of the Order/Membership and Master's Address will be chaired by Rob Buck and Vice Chair Jaimie Legislative/Insurance Cameron. will be chaired by Alma Graham and Vice Chair Ruel Miller. Credentials/ Constitution and By-Laws will be chaired by Donald Lanoue and Vice Chair Eloise Osuch.

Each of these committees will have 10 Granges assigned to them which will include the three Pomonas and two Junior Granges. I will be setting up a Pink Sash and Delegates meeting prior to State Session and the committees will be meeting by Zoom prior to State Session. The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be setting up a meeting night for these sessions for the committees to work on the

resolutions. This is something new this year and we are hoping it will save time. We also don't think it is advisable to have large numbers of people crowded into hotel rooms meeting.

The Big E is scheduled to run from September 17 to October 2. The New England Grange Building will be open for the 17 days and we are looking for help to man the store. Let Noel Miller or myself know if you're available for any of those dates; we could usre use your help.

As we are entering September; we are still planning to have an in-person State Session Oct. 21-23 so make your reservations for this conference. We will be following all protocols for COVID-19. Hope to see everyone on October 21.

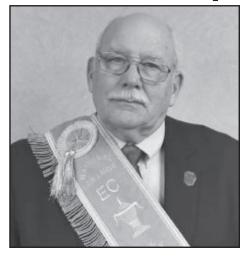
Steve Coye to be National Rep.

The CT State Grange welcomes Steve Coye as our National Rep. to State Session in October.

Stephen, a resident of Ravena, New York, has been a member of the National Grange Executive Committee since 2017 and also serves as President of the NY State Grange (since 2011). A third generation Granger, Coye was born and raised on a 400+ acre dairy farm in Central NY State joining the reactivated Smyrna Jr. Grange in 1951, graduating to the Subordinate Grange in 1958.

Following college, Coye spent four years teaching music at the Georgetown (NY) Central School. Needing a career change, he secured a position with the New York State Senate, relocating to the Albany, NY area. That employment, which he figured would last but a few years, ended up as a 36-year career, retiring in 2009.

Coye is a member of Ravena Grange #1457, and the Albany County Pomona Grange. In addition



to the Grange, he is a member of the Albany-Schenectady-Greene Agricultural Society, currently serving as Superintendent of the Grange Building at the Altamont Fair; the Colonie B.P.O.E., a 65+ year member of the West Smyrna Baptist Church; and the Saratoga Battle Chapter Society Sons of the American Revolution. He has two grown children, Joel S. Coye, and Major AshLee C. Coye, NYARNG.



Make your reservations now

Todd A. Gelineau, State Secretary

As I have feared for some time, the perfect storm of hotel room demand may be an issue for our State Session. We have learned country performer Blake Shelton will be performing at the Mohegan Sun Arena on our weekend as will Nas at Foxwoods Casino. The Holiday Inn is a very popular choice for people wanting to stay in the area without staying on tribal property. Please make

cancel the reservation in advance of the cutoff date.

We have a block of 40 rooms per night of the session. That block will close and all rooms that are unused will be released to the public on September 21. I am sure the hotel will be eager to have any rooms left as they will be able to sell them at "rack rate" rather than our very low conference rate. In addition, it seems unlikely they will have additional rooms to give us if and when we fill up our room block.

Session Registrations rolling at a much faster rate

your reservations now, even if you are uncertain if you are commuting or staying over. You can always cancel the as time ticks closer to October.

Please get your registrations in to me as soon as you can. It's very difficult to plan the session when we are uncertain what our numbers will be. In addition to normal planning, we also have to plan for the special arrangements

...Continued on page 8

Connecticut Granger



WW II Flying Fortress "Connecticut Granger

STAFF

President/Editor Todd A. Gelineau Vice President Terri Fassio Treasurer.....Jody Cameron Secretary Noel Miller

DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

News is due on the 15th Day of each month and should be sent to: Connecticut State Grange 100 Newfield Road P.O. Box 3 Winchester Center, CT 06094 or Todd Gelineau, Editor P.O. Box 1134, Sharon, CT 06069 Granger@CTStateGrange.org

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Session Committee Assignments

Agriculture/Conservation & **Environment**

Chair: Noel Miller Vice Chair: Roy Harrington Eastern CT Pomona #14 Coventry #75 Colchester #78 Lvme #147 Cawasa #34 Hemlock #182 Greenfield Hill #133 Granby #5 Senexet #40 Whigville #48

Good of the Order/Membership & Master's Address

Chair: Rob Buck Vice Chair: Jaimie Cameron Mountain Laurel Pomona #15 Ekonk Community #89 Groton Community #213 Wallingford #33 Ekonk Junior #101 Beacon Valley #103 Pachaug #96 Killingly #112 Stafford #1

Legislative/Insurance

Chair: Alma Graham Vice Chair: Ruel Miller Simsbury #197 Vernon #52 Harmony #92 Wolcott #173 Norfield #146 Cheshire #23 N. Stonington #138 Bridgewater #153 Higganum #124 Preston City #110

Credentials/Constitution & By-Laws

Chair: Don Lanoue Vice Chair: Eloise Osuch Nutmeg Pomona #16 Glastonbury #26 Cannon #152 Stonington #168 Hillstown #87 Taghhannuck #100 Bethlehem #121 Riverton #169 Winchester #74 Hillstown Junior #87



137th Annual Session of the





All Grange members are welcome to attend State Session, not just officers and committee members! You are encouraged to attend all or part of the Connecticut State Grange convention to help celebrate our accomplishments during the past year and set the ground work for an even greater new Grange year.

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

SESSION REG.
DUE OCT. 1 ST

Registration Form

ROOM RES. DUE SEPT. 21ST

Grange Name				No	
Name	Delegate?	Jr.	Adult	Banquet Choice #	
Name		Jr.	Adult —	Banquet Choice #	
Name				Banquet Choice #	
Name	Delegate?	Jr	Adult	Banquet Choice #	
FULL SESSION (Full Session Reg	istration includes	s lunch on F	riday & Satur	day)	
Adult Regisration: \$30.00		# of Members x \$30.00			
Junior Registration: \$20.00		# of Junior Members x \$20.00			
CELEBRATION BANQUET (FRI	DAY Evening at 7	7:00 P.M.)	# of Peopl	e x 30.00 =	
4) Vegetable Lasagn All entrees include Tosse Vegetables, Vanilla Bear	ed Greens with Dr	•		er, Chef's selection of	
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21 & FF	RIDAY, OCTOB	BER 22 (ON			
				ers x \$15.00	
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23 (ONE I	DAY Registration inc	ludes lunch o	n Saturday)		
			# of Membe	ers x \$15.00	
		# of J		rs x \$10.00	
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Please make ch	ecks payable to	the Conn	ecticut State	Grange	
Please make ch				•	

Mail to: Connecticut State Grange, 100 Newfield Road, P.O. Box 3, Winchester Center, CT 06094 Questions: Please call the State Secretary at (860) 307-1522 or email: Secretary@CTStateGrange.org

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS DUE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

To reserve hotel rooms, call the Holiday Inn at 860-889-5201 and mention the CT State Grange.

Revised

137th Annual Session of the **Connecticut State Grange**



Thursday, October 21, 2021

Ballroom, Holiday Inn, 10 Laura Blvd., Norwich, CT Opening in form in the Sixth Degree 7:00 P.M. Introduction of National Representative SteveCoye, NationalGrangeExec.Comm. Roll Call of Officers, Deputies, Comm. Lower Grange to Fourth Degree Presentation of 4th Degree Delegates Roll Call of Granges Report of Credential Committee Session Committee Announcements Introduction of Business to be referred without debate.

8:00 P.M. Address of State Master George Russell Report of Overseer Rob Buck

8:30 P.M. **BREAK**

> Report of Secretary Todd A. Gelineau Report of Treasurer Jody A. Cameron Report of Executive Comm./Board of Directors

Report of Lecturer

9:30 P.M. Closing

> Sixth Degree Rehearsal (For Officers, Deputies, Court Members) following CSG Foundation Annual Meeting.

Friday, October 22, 2021

9:00 A.M. Opening & Introductions Roll Call of Officers Minutes of Previous Day's Session Introduction of Business to be referred without debate.

Special Order of Business: Election of 9:15 A.M. two members of the Executive Committee (and any other vacancies)

Report of Legislative Committee 9:30 A.M. Report of Agriculture Committee Report of General Deputy Reports of Pomona Deputies

10:45 A.M. BREAK

11:30 A.M. Report of Connecticut Granger Report of Conn. State Grange Foundation Business Session (Resolutions)

12:00 P.M. Luncheon (Nutmeg Ballroom) Hosts: TBD

- Blessing by Chaplain

- Family Activities Awards & Report

- Membership Awards

- Public Relations Awards

- Agriculture Contest Awards

Recognition of Past Voting Delegates 2:00 P.M.

2:15 P.M. Address of National Representative

2:45 P.M. **Business Session**

3:15 P.M. **BREAK**

3:30 P.M. Report of New England Grange Building

4:30 P.M. Closing

7:00 P.M. Celebration Banquet (Ballroom)

Professional Agriculture Awards

Scholarships

Lecturer's Program Past Deputies' Raffle

Saturday, October 23, 2021

9:00 A.M. Opening & Introductions

Roll Call of Officers

Minutes of Previous Day's Sessions

Introduction of Business to be referred

without debate. Junior & Youth Tour

9:15 A.M. Memorial Service

9:45 A.M. **Business Session**

10:45 A.M. BREAK

11:00 A.M. Budget Approval

11:45 A.M. FFA Representatives Visit

12:00 P.M. Youth & Junior Recognition Luncheon

Hosts: TBD

- Blessing by Chaplain

- Junior Recognition

- Youth Recognition

1:30 P.M. **Business Session**

Consideration of Annual Budget

Installation of newly elected officers

3:00 P.M. Sixth Degree Conferral, Ballroom

(Open to all Sixth Degree members, registration not required to attend)

Opening in form in the Sixth Degree Escorting of National Representatives Recognition of Honored Guests and

Past Voting Delegates to Nat. Grange Conferral of the 6th Degree in full form

Rose Drill

Recognition of Golden Sheaf Members

Community Service Report

Honor Grange Awards

Closing in form in the Fourth Degree March to the Table- Officers & Court

*Candidates for the Degree must be at the Holiday Inn by 2:30 P.M. They must have the Fourth and Fifth Degree Words and the Sixth Degree ticket stub to be admitted to the Degree. Applications are \$10 and can be purchased from the State Secretary.

THIS SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE.



Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

Building Community Relations



by Terri Fassio, Public Relations Co-Director, CT State Grange

Community relations are an essential part of every Grange - it's their civic responsibility. Granges care about the affairs and wellbeing of the communities where they are located, and want to take an active role of participation within them. Granges work hard to build a positive impression, and mutually beneficial community relationships with others, through their local actions. In essence. Granges are committed to being a good neighbor.

There are many benefits to good community relations: community support for your Grange, a positive public image, local visibility, a reason to be proud of your Grange, a sense of team work with other local organizations, and even improving member loyalty, good will, and morale.

The ideas to build a solid community relations program are endless. Here's a few suggestions:

- Sponsor a local youth sports team, bowling league, or scout troop.
- Get involved with community clean-up and beautification projects.
- Host a lecture or workshop that invokes a specific community interest. For example, a lecture on bears in your neighborhood and how to prevent them from damaging your property, or a workshop on

raising backyard chickens.

- Champion environmental concerns and host a recycling event, plant trees, collect bottles and cans, sell reusable shopping bags, host an Earth Day event or sustainability workshop
- Organize a Cemetery Clean-Up Day.
- Hold an auction, dinner (when COVID mandates allow) or charity drive with the proceeds being split between your Grange and another community group, like the local VFW, Senior Center, Lions, United Way, etc.

- Join the local Chamber of Commerce, and then attend their socials and events representing your Grange.
- Open your Hall and make your facilities available to local groups for their meetings. Your Grange should initiate the contact and issue an invitation.
- Build a local landmark on the grounds of your Grange Hall. You can honor veterans, firefighters and police, local heroes, and more. Make the dedication a community event.

Tips to remember - If your own members don't hold your Grange in high esteem, then why should your community? Work from the inside out. Be sure that your Grange talks "with" your community and not "at" them. Everyone wants to be a part of the conversation. Be sure to seek ideas and feedback from those who wish to interact. It's a great way to build up positivity, and a good way to gain some new members as well.

Need help getting the word out about your Grange and its activities? Send a note to information@ctstategrange.org or publicrelations@ctstategrange.org . We're here to help!

Updates and reminders



Dawn Percoski Family Activities Dir. Vernon Grange No. 52 CWA@ctstategrange.org

Wow! Where did the summer go? A friendly reminder that by now, every CFA Chairman should have sent in their SUBORDINATE and POMONA CFA REPORT FORM 2020-2021 to the State Director. I have also been collecting the craft items that you all so generously make that need to go up to the Big E. Many brought items already to the Pancake breakfast that was hosted by Hillstown Grange in August. So thank you for the head

start! If you need to bring items, one of the committee members that is close to you can meet up so that you don't have to drive quite so far. Just contact us and let us know.

Speaking of the Big E, I have a few updates. Entries are due Tuesday September 14th and I will be sure that they get there on time. Judging will be Wednesday Sept. 15th so that they have time to display all the entries and get the building ready for opening day. The Big E starts on Friday Sept. 17th and runs through Sunday Oct. 3rd. If anyone has time to volunteer in the building, please contact Steve Logan at 401-783-3551 or swlogan102@gmail.com.

Taghhannuck makes internet available to community



Taghhannuck Grange Hall in Sharon, CT

from the Lakeville Journal

The Ellsworth neighborhood is home to Sharon's largest pocket of houses and farms unserved by highspeed, wired internet. That difficult situation just got a little better as members of the Taghhannuck Grange, the long-standing community organization, paid Comcast Xfinity to install high-speed cable internet at its hall and then opened the network to anyone to connect.

You can park yourself outside the Grange Hall at 7 Dunbar Road and connect with your phone, tablet or laptop by searching and selecting "NetGear" in your network settings.

This wifi hotspot took a bit of work on the part of Barbara and Brent Prindle, the master and treasurer of the Grange, respectivelv. who are also Sharon Connect Task Force members, assisted by Meghan Flanagan, co-chair of the

zoom

Task Force. In a story familiar to many of us trying to connect. Comcast at first -- and for months -- told the Prindles that Comcast was not available at 7 Dunbar Road, even though the private home next to it had Comcast Xfinity. Meghan, Barbara and Brent were able to work with a contact at Comcast to get the problem solved and get the Grange Hall wired. We hope this productive relationship continues to grow and we can help others in Sharon with their special situations that have prevented getting connected.

The Sharon Connect Task Force will continue to support efforts to get high-speed, wired internet to each premise in Ellsworth and everywhere in town, but in the meantime, this is a step in the right direction and a great example of community service. The Grange now joins Town Hall and the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon in providing free high-speed wifi connections to those who park near their buildings.







GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kathryn Ruff

Sept. 2: 7:30 p,.m. Installation of Officers Refreshments by ALL

Oct. 2: Bakeless/Foodless Sale

Oct. 7: 7:30 p.m. Fall Harvest Refreshments: Herb and Ruth Grommeck

Oct. 16: Monte Carlo Whist 7:00 p.m. ????

Our SUMMER is flying by so fast. I hope everyone is enjoy their summer activities.

Children will be back in school very soon. Glastonbury Grange collected "backpacks" for the Glastonbury Social Service Department. They will be turned into the town on August 5th. Our August 5th meeting is our Annual Picnic. We will hold a brief business meeting at 6:00 p.m. followed by the picnic.

At our meeting we will have to decide if we are going to hold our Monte Carlo Whist card parties this year. They are scheduled to start on Oct. 16th. BUT the sounds of the Delta Virus increasing numbers does not sound good.

We have also been collecting "non-perishable" food items for the Social Service Department. They are not ready to receive them yet, so we will hold them until they say they can receive them. Probablly mid September or early October. More next month.

SENEXET GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

Sept.15: Childhood Obesity Awareness

Sept. 25: Celebrating Ag exhibit

We continue to hold regular meetings. In July our program was America and we answered questions that are used for persons who want to become American citizens. This was very eye opening to us as we had to think hard to remember the information we learned in school. We continue to have the knitting, crocheting and quilting sessions for the community. We are excited to see that the sunflowers we planted are doing well. On August 4 we held a special evening program to honor the winner of our Helena B. Duffy Memorial Scholarship. Timothy Billings a graduate from Woodstock Academy presented the \$1000 check. He will be attending Nichols college to study accounting. He spoke of his interest in baseball and football that he played all four years in high school as well as his part time job and his family...

On August 14 we held a Farmers Breakfast and served 81. This was held on in conjunction with the Locally Grown Woodstock day. On that day we also held our annual Grange Fair with 21 exhibitors and 117 entries. These exhibits were judged by the three selectmen in our town as well as the town Finance Director. It was good to have them see what the Grange does.

We will be having an exhibit at the Woodstock Fair as well as the Annual Celebrating Ag event in town. These will help us to show what is going on in our Grange as well as the state and national Granges.

Our reusable bag project is going well. We are making them from bird seed and other seed bags.

It is great to see so many in the community getting to know what we are doing.

We will be honoring our long time members at our meeting on October 20. Invitations are being sent to those who will be receiving the awards. We hope that they are able to join us to celebrate together. We are looming forward to the new Grange year.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Irene Percoski

Sept. 3: Music to Our Ears

Oct. 1: Why Ritual? Oct. 15: Craft Night

August meeting was postponed one week because of a few vacation absentees. We're sorry if anyone was planning on being there only to miss us. Our visitor for the evening was Deputy Ted Beebe. September is the start of the school year and the end of the Grange year that means we need to explore the possibility of regular meetings. I believe that most, if not all, have been vaccinated, so if we stay the distance, wear masks and forego refreshments, we should be able to do this. I am definitely getting "zoomed"out. Our Lecturer told us the wonderful story of Henry Ford and the invention of charcoal briquettes. Truly amazing how one invention can lead to another.

October brings us to the start of a new Grange year and our Lecturer questions "Why Ritual?" where we will explore the Obligation Ceremony. State session in October is when awards and prizes will be handed out to Granges and Grangers who have done outstanding work during the past year. Hopefully some of our resolutions will pass. Our Community Service has sent out 2379 stamps to "Stamps for the Wounded", to be used by our veterans in hospitals and rehab units to sort. On October 15th we will have a craft night to make decorations for local nursing homes, not sure if this will be an in-person meeting or a virtual one. Stay tuned.

At this time I would like to express my sincere thanks for all the wonderful get well cards. They brightened my days.

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Penny Bennett

The Killingly Grange is really bouncing back after an understandably long hiatus. On August 14th, Glenna's Cold Deli

...Continued next page

Dinner went off without a hitch. It was another successful event at our hall, where many people enthusiastically partook of the delectable treats made by the extremely dedicated members of the Killingly Grange. It was nice to see everybody working together as a team! We've found that events like this one help promote a lot of community goodwill in Windham County and beyond.

In the spirit of the Killingly Grange's paradigm of helping each other cope with the rigors of the modern world, we have put together a calendar of events-a calendar that includes our fun-filled Big Pumpkin Cabaret on Saturday, October 23rd (from 10:00 am-4:00 pm). We have also planned a host of other events which, we hope, will become an annual tradition. One of these events includes our Open House and Christmas party, at which we will, most likely, have a pot luck dinner, a Yankee Gift Swap, and a Carol Sing. In addition, the members of the Colonial Baptist Church (which rents our hall for their weekly Sunday worship services) have agreed to show the classic Frank Capra Christmas move, "It's a Wonderful Life", starring Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed.

Naturally, all of the Killingly Grange's events are designed to ensure a pleasant and entertaining diversion for everyone involved. In our mind, the main two objectives associated with all of our activities are to recruit as many new members as possible and to make headway in our effort to rejuvenate the Grange. In our time-honored tradition of regularly and diligently sponsoring so many popular events, we are looking to the future by passing along our heritage of sponsoring new activities that will encourage people who express an interest in assuming new leadership positions in the future.

On Saturday, September 25th, Pat's Roast Pork Dinner will be held. Pat always exercises her expertise and passion for cooking for large groups of people. The menu includes roast pork, mashed potatoes with gravy, carrots, a tossed salad, and dessert. The tickets are only \$12.00 per person. Our Annual Grange Fair will take place sometime in September. On Saturday, November 27th Nick Anderson and his band will, hopefully, sponsor an encore performance featuring an almost infinite array of toe tapping bluegrass tunes for everyone's listening pleasure.

Next month, we will publish a list of all upcoming events and lectures. Please be advised that dates and times are subject to change, because sometimes the weather doesn't always cooperate. If the weather doesn't look good, please call John or Penny @ 860-412-9811 to confirm the correct date and time of the event.

Killingly Grange is located on the corner of Route 101 and Dog Hill Road, Dayville (CT), less than ½ mile east of I-395 (Exit 41). So, please don't be a stranger! We look forward to seeing you soon, and we welcome your presence and any questions or comments that you may have regarding the trajectory that you think that our hall should take to ensure its continued success in the future.

N. STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller
Sept. 10: Installation of Officers
Sept. 24: Television

We are happy to report that North Stonington Agricultural Fair, held on our grounds July 8-11, was very successful with excellent attendance even though Friday's fair had to be canceled due to extreme weather conditions. Plans for next year's Fair, scheduled for July 14-17 are already underway.

On July 16 the temperature and humidity made meeting in our upstairs hall extremely uncomfortable. After a great deal of business was discussed and settled it was generally agreed that the program for the evening could be postponed to a later, cooler, date and we all returned to our air conditioned homes with a take-out game to while away the hours.

Our new officers will be installed on September 10th. Come and visit on the 24th and see what Sue has in store for us. And if this strange bird disease will just leave us so we can begin feeding them again, next time we will tell you about awesome August.

Make your reservations now

Continued from page 2...

needed to make our Session as COVID safe as possible.

I'm sure some of you have some hesitance staying in hotels after being sequestered at home for so long. My family and I have just returned from Washington, D.C. where we spent the better part of a week staying at a hotel one or two blocks from the White House where masks are required in all buildings city-wide. I can tell you hoteliers are going above and beyond to provide a safe and clean environment for their patrons and I expect no less from the staff of the Holiday Inn Norwich.

Dues Receipts for 2022 (doesn't that look strange?) will be going out to Granges very soon. We ask Granges to return payment to the State Office as soon as possible. This has been a problem in recent years as it has taken nine months to a year to collect from all.

As always, if you have any questions please call my cell at 860-307-1522 or email me at Secretary@CTStateGrange.org.

The information contained in each issue of The Connecticut Granger is for informational purposes only. The Connecticut Granger assumes no liability or responsibility for any inaccurate, delayed or incomplete information, nor for any actions taken in reliance thereon. The information contained about each individual, event or organization has been provided by such individual, event organizars or organization without verification by us. The opinion expressed in each article is the opinion of its author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Connecticut Granger. Therefore, The Connecticut Granger carries no responsibility for the opinion expressed herein.



MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15

Corr: Todd Gelineau

As of this writing, the August 28 meeting of Mountain Laurel Pomona has not yet happened. It will be a momentous one as it will be the first in-person meeting since before the outbreak of the pandemic. We plan to elect and install our officers for the ensuing two years. There's a lot of catching up to do and even more new business to tackle. If you didn't attend, please think about joining us for an upcoming meeting. Watch this space for more information!

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau
Sept. 14: Regular Meeting
Sept. 21: Regular Meeting

It was wonderful to see our hall and grounds full of people enjoying the 2021 Pandemic version of the Winchester Grange Fair. We were pleased to have a great assortment of entries in the judged departments and were delighted to have so many wonderful tag sale vendors and ECAD with us showing off their service dogs (a great crowd pleaser!). We did not have our usual grill fare but will plan on bringing it back next year. The book sale and prize drawing were well patronized as was the snacks and sandwiches available in the kitchen.

Interest in the Flea Market has waned over the years so it was decided to go in a different direction this year. We held our first Community Tag Sale on the Green.



Winchester Grange members and guests enjoy a picnic at the hall in August.

The community was invited to set up a table and sell their unwanted items at NO CHARGE. As a result a good number attended and we gained an attraction outdoors that brought foot traffic to the Grange Fair in the hall. It was a win-win for all.

On Aug. 24 we held our annual Picnic and Awards Night at the hall. The picnic was held on the front lawn at the hall and the awards were presented in the hall in an open meeting. We congratulate all of the recipients. Most noteworthy are Fran and Charlie Cooper who alone represent 150 years of ACTIVE Grange membership. Fran received her 70 year seal and Charlie received his 80 year letter from the National Master.

Fran and her dancing group demonstrated their line dancing skills for the program. It was a wonferful evening at Winchester Grange and a sign that things can and will get back to "normal."

TAGHHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Barbara Prindle

At our regular Grange meeting in August we had the Obligation Ceremony for two new members, John Brett and Jane Strong. We now have music back in our Hall thanks to John who plays the guitar and did the opening and closing song. We also discussed the first 10 resolutions and seven of them were looked on favorably. I am sad to say that we also thought to be on the safe side, because of the Covid vari-

ant, we are not having our picnic.

Our September meeting will be on Sept. 9th with 7:00 refreshments and 7:30 meeting. The program is "Surprise" with everyone participating.

Debbie Hanlon is planning our booth for the Cornwall Agricultural Fair on Saturday, Sept. 11th from 10:00 to 3:00. She had quite a few members volunteer to help that day. It is the real thing with many old time skills being demonstrated and a big pile of hay bales that the kids love to play on. We will again have the giant bubbles. Come and try your hand at bubble making and also say hello when you are there. Get your picture taken with Luna.

SIMSBURY GRANGE #197

Corr: Susan Masino

Simsbury Grange Agricultural Fair will be held in conjunction with SeptemberFeast on September 10-11 at the Performing Arts Center in downtown Simsbury. This event will also feature the Junior Women's Arts and Crafts festival, a Health Expo, a Business Expo, Food Trucks, and entertainment both days. Check our website for more information.

The Simsbury Grange is proud to share the news that member Nevan Carling was selected to join the Handshouse team (www.handshouse.org) build a portion of Notre Dame in Washington DC this summer. We are looking forward to our 90th birthday on October 1st.



NUTMEG POMONA #16

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Nutmeg Pomona will meet at Beacon Valley Grange in Naugatuck on Sunday, September 12 at 2 P.M.

On the agenda will be the election of Pomona. All other officers are in place and doing a good job.

Lecturer Lois Evankow will present a program and CWA Chair Jane Miller reported at the last meeting we will have a Country Store. The Country Stores have been missed at our last few meetings. Beacon Valley will serve "something" for refreshments. With all the restrictions, we don't know what it will be.

Masters are reminded that they should come with a written report of the activities of their Grange. Dues bills were sent to each Grange. We still have some who have not paid this obligation.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: A. Ruel Miller

Sept. 1: Installation of Officers

As I write this a three day heat wave has arrived. We have held our once a month meetings with decent attendance. Our summer picnic in early July was well attended. We drew up our programs for the new Grange year. We plan to go back to meeting on our regular schedule on the first and third Wednesday of the month starting in October. We hope the Covid variant uptick will not effect things. Fingers crossed. We held a one day Cheshire Community fair on August 21st. A far cry from

past two day fairs. Again, Covid concerns made us go the route with a one day fair. Optimistically, we look forward to State Session and our new Grange year.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

We are back to meeting regularly, although our walls are not bulging with the attendance of those attending.

We welcome three new members of Redding Grange and have put them to work: Marianne Nielsen was elected Gatekeeper, Ron Gunther was elected to the Executive Committee and John Taylor was elected to the CWA Committee. Robert Sendewicz was elected Steward.

I hope that in the next issue I can report that our Tag Sale held on Aug. 21 was a success. We have lots of bargains so we hope to have one on the third Saturday of each month.

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Lois Evankow

Nov. 4: Are You Ready for Thanksgiving?

Dec. 2: Potluck, 6:30 P.M.





Jan. 6: Shall We Have Snow?

On a wonderful cool eveing in August we held our meeting with 10 people in attendance.

We voted to send our new master-elect, David Sanford, and our retiring master Kathy Tefft, to represent us at State Session in October, as our delegates.

CWA Chairperson gave a nice report, passed out recipes for the cookie contest and reminded us she needed entries by Aug. 19.

Donations were voted to the charities recommended by the Director.

Cards were solicited for Alione Cone and Norman and Marilyn Stitham.

Our next meeting will be installation as we have a few new officers.

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Sept. 10: Bring a Number

Sept. 24: Omitted, unless regular meeting is canceled

Oct. 8: Fall into Connecticut

Oct. 22: Omitted, unless regular meeting is canceled.

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meetings.



Images from the Cannon Grange Fair, held on August 29. One of their members models their new Grange T-Shirts that premiered at the Fair.

Resolution "Crunch Time"



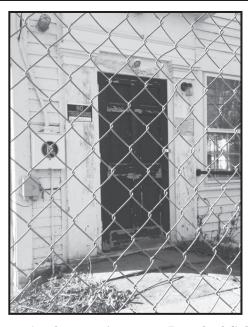
Alma Graham
Legislative Director
Coventry Grange #75
Legislative@ctstategrange.org

With Fall just around the corner, we now need to start focusing on the upcoming State Grange session in October. I hope that you have been working on your resolutions for the upcoming session. We do ask that all resolutions be submitted by September 15 to allow time for them to be incorporated into the session's booklet. The resolutions that have already been submitted are being printed in the Granger for all to review prior to the session. This offers an opportunity for your Grange members to review and express their support or rejection of the topics to your delegates before the State Session.

Resolutions must be presented by a Grange, either Community or Pomona, not an individual. Ideally resolutions should pass through the Community Grange then the Pomona Grange. We recognize that the Pomona Granges have a limited number of meetings during the year and timing of the meetings may make this difficult. You may submit a resolution directly to the State Grange from a Community Grange.

If you find a last-minute issue that you wish to submit as a resolution after the September 15th deadline, send it in immediately to the State Secretary. It may not appear in the sessions booklet but we probably could add it to the list for the session. This is not recommended and we do highly encourage that the resolutions be submitted by the September 15 deadline.

I look forward to seeing the resolution topics and some lively discussions of the resolutions at the State Session.



Bridgewater Grange Hall Saga Continues

by Sandra Diamon Fox, Litchfield County Times

An injunction is being considered by the Connecticut Attorney General against the Town of Bridgewater for its decision to move forward in demolishing the Grange building.

At the town's recent Board of Selectmen meeting, there was a unanimous vote to prepare the bidding documents to take down the Grange. The town will likely go out to bid in early September, after the Sept. 14 Board of Selectmen meeting, according to First Selectman Curtis Read.

The over five-year-long dispute, which has involved the town and a group called the Bridgewater Preservation Association (BPA), is over whether Grange Hall, a historic landmark in town, should be renovated or torn down and have a community center built in its place.

The BPA had presented a plan to purchase the Grange from the town for \$1 and restore it. After a town-wide vote in May against the BPA taking ownership of the Grange, Read said he was under the impression he could then move forward with the town's plan to tear down the building.

In a letter to Todd Levine, historian at the State Historic Preservation Office in Hartford, Read said when taking the building down, he would "salvage usable wood for re-use... save large granite stones, clean up the residual oil contaminated soil... and then fill and level the site as preparation for potential future use(s)."

However, instead of agreeing with Read's plan, Levine requested Read put the Grange up for sale in six months. Levine said the selling price would be the cost of the town's investment into the maintenance of the building over the lifetime of its ownership, or the current appraisal worth, whichever is higher.

Levine's letter also stated that the listing of the Grange will include "the limitations of the site in regards to the septic. The municipality will take care of the oil contamination, as you stated throughout this process. Preservation CT will hire an independent appraiser, so there is no cost to the municipality."

Additionally, Levine wrote if the Grange isn't sold within six months of being on the market, "we will determine that all possible prudent and feasible alternatives have been attempted" and Read would be then able to move ahead with tearing down the building.

"I told them I didn't agree with it," Read said, citing "overreach" as his reason — in regard to Levine's suggestion. "This way, the ball is in their court and they know and they have to be prepared to defend themselves legally." In a recent telephone conversation, Levine said the matter is being taken up by Attorney General William Tong's office.

"Right now, the attorney general's office needs to make a determinationContinued next page

on what they're going to do next," Levine said. "The option is to either do nothing or move forward with an injunction."

The law that's being reviewed by Tong's office is the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act, which states an historic house or building can't be taken down if there are "prudent or feasible alternatives" to save it, Levine said.

According to Preservation CT, the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act allows anyone to sue to prevent "the unreasonable destruction of historic structures and landmarks in the state," defined as buildings on the National Register of Historic Places – which the Grange is on.

Kathleen McWilliams, deputy director of communications at the Office of the Attorney General, said the

matter is now being reviewed by Tong.

Levine additionally said a structural engineer had previously looked at the Grange building "and said the building can be saved."

He referenced the Historic Preservation Council meeting of the State Historic Preservation Office Department of Economic and Community Development in September 2018, of which Hearst Connecticut Media obtained the transcription.

In the document, architects spoke both for and against whether or not the Grange could be saved.

Additionally at the meeting, Brad Schide, circuit rider for the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, said "In 2016, there was a large community meeting vote that gave the First Selectman the authority to either demolish or rehab (the Grange)."

Korean War Vet honored by Riverton Grange



RIVERTON — Those who served will be honored at The Riverton Grange's Veteran of the Month ceremonies every first Sunday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Barkhamsted Senior Center.

On Sunday, July 25, the Grange held a special Veteran of the Month ceremony for Korean War Veteran Paul Haynes. According to event co-organizer and Riverton Grange Community Services Committee Chairman Dave Roberts, the Veteran of the Month was held at a special date on July 25 at the request of the Haynes family who all were in town during the week. "His entire family was up here visiting him and his children all wanted to honor him," Roberts said.

"I think it's really important for us, but also the children and grandchildren of these veterans, to know what sacrifice is all about. We have the freedoms that we have today thanks to the sacrifices made by these veterans."

According to his son Peter, who traveled from Colorado to be with his father at the ceremony, Paul Hayes started his military service in 1951 when he enlisted in the Air Force.

He traveled around with some of his military service in Greenland, and Iceland. "He ended up at Loring Air Force Base in Northeastern Maine, where he met our mother [Marquis]," Peter Haynes said. "While Maine is a lovely state, he brought her back here to Connecticut where they started our family."

"Both Paul and his wife Marquis lived in Barkhamsted for over 60 years and raised their family here," First Selectman Don Stein said. "Paul did what makes America great, and he did what makes us a great town. The Korean War era was not an easy time for the country, but we wouldn't be here if it wasn't for our veterans. Without them, we wouldn't have the freedoms that we have today."

At the event, members of Haynes' extended family all attended along with residents, members of the town's Senior Center, Lions Club, and the Riverton American Legion Post. The Royal Coachman Tavern at the Old Riverton Inn helped to pay for the ceremony, which included a presentation of an American flag to Haynes, a rifle volley, and a performance of the National Anthem as members of the American Legion raised the American flag on a flagpole in front of the Senior Center in Haynes' honor.

"It's the toughest job anyone could have, and I can't thank you enough," an emotional Peter Haynes said to his father. For more information about the series contact Dave Roberts at dave@daveroberts.org or 858-775-9241



Some of the many people who enjoyed the Riverton Grange Fair on Aug. 21.

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 sold 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.





We received an answer from suomispd@aol.com (who didn't leave their name). "I was surprised to see August Granger's Window to the Past! The singing duet is my father, Elmer Pennala (master of the Lyme Grange for 13 years) and my sister, Ellen Pennala Volponi."



Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Cookies

September is both the last blast of summer, and the beginning of fall. This recipe for Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Cookies from Delish is easy - and perfect for any Grange meeting, or just because!

YIELD: Makes 35 cookies INGREDIENTS:

2 1/4 c. all-purpose flour

1 tsp. baking soda

1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice

1/2 tsp. kosher salt

1 c. (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened

3/4 c. packed brown sugar

1/2 c. granulated sugar

3/4 c. pumpkin purée

1 large egg

2 tsp. pure vanilla extract

2 c. semi-sweet chocolate chips

INSTRUCTIONS:

Preheat oven to 375° and line two large baking sheets with parchment paper. In a small bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, pumpkin spice, and salt. In a large bowl using a hand mixer, cream together butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Beat in pumpkin, egg, and vanilla extract until combined, then add flour mixture. Beat on low until no raw flour appears, then fold in chocolate chips. Refrigerate dough for 30 minutes. Scoop 1" balls onto prepared baking sheets, 2 inches apart, and bake until puffed up and golden around edges, about 12 minutes.

Pro tip! Wanna make these look EXTRA chocolatey? Reserve a handful of Chocolate Chips for topping the scooped cookies right before they go in the oven.

Note: To freeze leftover dough for future use, line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a Silpat and scoop your dough into balls directly onto the tray. Put the entire tray in the freezer and chill until frozen, about 4 hours. Transfer your dough balls to a resealable bag or container and return to the freezer. No need to defrost the dough before baking, just allow a couple more minutes of bake time for your desired doneness.

SOURCE: https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/recipes/a55742/pumpkin-spice-chocolate-chip-cookies-recipe/ PHOTO CREDIT: Parker Feirbach

Cute as a button!



A young fair-goer shows off her button art at the Senexet Grange Fair on Aug. 21 in Woodstock.

We Need Your Help!

We are looking for people to lend a hand compiling information for the upcoming Connecticut State Grange History Book Project. If you have some time to give - please let us know!

- Data Entry into Excel Spreadsheets
- Online Research
- Photography
- Scanning of Photos & Documents
- Visiting Historical Societies
- Writing Articles and Biographies
- Attending Grange Fairs & Events
- Researching at Local Libraries
- Documenting CT Grange Memorabilia
- and so much more~

If you can help us or know someone who can lend a hand, please send a note to Terri at information@ctstategrange.org or Roy at asteward@ctstategrange.org. Thank you!



Irene Percoski, State Ag. Committee

How is that garden coming along? Are you still involving your children and/or grand children? Pictures now should include weeding and hoeing, By the time this article is printed your pictures should be showing some of the harvest. What are you doing with the harvest? Donating or just planning a big feast? Set your photos in order and get them to J.Allen by September 1st. They will all be on display at State session.

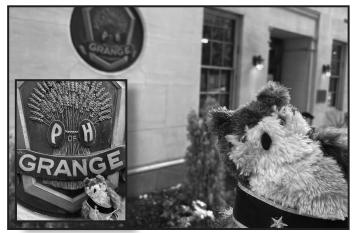


By Hank the Burro

Hello Grange friends! It's so nice to see Granges meeting in person and having activities again. If you see us around at one of the Grange Fairs or events, please say Hi and take a selfie! Time to start getting ready to see all of my friends in Norwich in October, for the State Grange Annual Session. It will be here before we know it.

My fellow herd member, Luna, visited the National Grange in Washington in August to help with the State Grange history project. She's shown below in front of the National Headquarters.

Please visit my Facebook page, and then click the "Like" button to keep in touch. http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro







Help us name the new Grange History Book



We have been stumped on what to name the new CT State Grange History Book, so we are asking our Grange members for a little help. To make it fun, we are going to hold a book naming contest! We want your creative and catchy suggestions and ideas! A good title is what draws readers in. It should be unique, descriptive, provide insight into the content, and be memorable.

The entry names submitted may NOT be either "The Grange in Connecticut" or "The Connecticut Granges" as both of these names were used for previous historical Connecticut Grange publications.

The book, which will chronicle the history of the CT State Grange and its Granges, as well as contain historical highlights, officer and member spotlights, member memories, photos and more, will be released for the 140th Anniversary of the CT State Grange in 2025.

The Contest will open to Grange Members for submissions on September 1, 2021. The CT State Grange will accept submissions through February 1, 2022, and will announce the top 5 submissions as selected by the CT State Grange Executive Board on March 15, 2022.

Public voting (via online form and paper/USPS mailed submissions only - at this point no email submissions will be accepted) will begin on March 16, 2022 and run until May 1, 2022. The title with the most votes will win. The winner will be announced on June 24, 2022.

The winner will be acknowledged as such in the book. We will be honoring the winner at the 2025 CT State Grange Session by presenting them with one copy of the book, then the CT State Grange will provide one additional copy of the book to be donated to the library or historical association/museum of the winner's choice.

For the complete rules and to send us your naming suggestions and ideas via email at:

information@ctstategrange.org

or by USPS mail to Connecticut State Grange P.O. Box 3, Winchester Center, CT 06094

DEADLINE for submissions is: February 1, 2022





100 Newfield Road, P.O. Box 3 Winchester Center, CT 06094

Address Service Requested

Self Pity; Feeling Sorry for Yourself



Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God Psalm 43:5

There are several stories in the Bible about people who feel sorry for themselves because of what has happened to them. Sometimes the events are a result of their own actions, sometimes they are the result of God's actions, and sometimes the events just happened with no apparent cause. But in every case these people feel that the world has been unjust to them, and they are angry about it. One well-know example is the story of Jonah who, when he saw that God did not destroy Ninevah after all, because they had repented of their sins, went into a huge sulk about the matter, rather than rejoicing that God had decided to be merciful.

And then there is the prophet Jeremiah who, when the people would not listen to him and reviled him, complained to God: Why is my pain unending and my wound grievous and incurable? Will you be to me like a deceptive brook, like a spring that

fails? But God answers him, saying: "If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me; if you utter worthy, not worthless, words, you will be my spokesman. Let this people turn to you, but you must not turn to them.

Perhaps this is a form of egotism, saying "I'm so important (or so special) that bad things shouldn't' happen to me." (No, you aren't; you are no more special nor less special in God's eyes.)

In contrast there are people to whom bad things have happened and they take it all in stride and continue to bless the Lord for all the good things that have happened to them and all the other bad things that did not happen. Remember when God allowed Satan to take away all of Job's possessions, and Job's response was:



Mildred (Crafts) Paddock (85 Year Member) Westfield Grange #50

Marilyn Stitham

Lyme Grange #147

Well done, good and faithful servants.

And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:21

Finally, remember the Overseer's charge in the third degree "Look forward to better and brighter days, instead of mourning over the past."



May 4 Wilton CT May 4 Wilton CT Wilton CT

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