



# the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

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The Official News Magazine of the Connecticut State Grange

August 2023

## From the Master's Desk



**Robert Buck**  
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president@ctstategrange.org

While observing birds at the Bent of the River Audubon Center the other day, I was passing through the area known as the Cedar Field and chanced to look up into a snag (dead tree) and saw a blip on a thin branch. I pass through here frequently and was about to ignore it but upon reflection knew deep down it had to be something as I hadn't notice that blip before. Checking with my binoculars, it turned out to be a tiny hummingbird courtship display by a male Ruby-throated hummer in this area so it made sense they had nested nearby. I would have missed it had intuition had not sent me back to observe more carefully what I chanced to notice. This brought to mind part of Pomona's charge in the Second Degree: "That life may be profitable, laden with good fruits, let all endeavor that youth be studious and virtuous, replete with the blossoms of observation and study – the promise of future wisdom and usefulness." Two days later, I observed a hummingbird in the same location a little earlier in the afternoon, likely the same bird, because I looked for him.

Thanks to the impetus of Jody

Cameron and Todd Gelineau, our first Leadership Academy continues with great thought provoking sessions as we have completed session five as I write this. Attendance has been great and the program well-recieved by enrollees. Sessions are kept to about an hour and discussions and input by attendees are very valuable. The presenters have been fantastic, knowledgeable Grange people (Chris and Duane Hamp from Washington State among them). I hope to see more sign up for future iterations of the course. National President Betsy Huber has tuned in as well.

The 139th Annual Session of the CT State Grange is coming up quickly and I hope to see many of you there. National Grange representatives

have been requested. Hopefully, you are writing resolutions for the delegates to consider. Please understand that the rising costs of everything have forced an increase in the prices of registration and rooms for the session. This is unavoidable.

Resolution number 10 from the last session about the use of alcohol in Granges has resulted in the adoption of an Alcohol Policy by the State Grange Board of Directors. It outlines the specific procedure to follow in order to have consumption of alcohol on Grange premises for Grange events and non-Grange events hosted by the Grange. All Secretaries have received this written policy and it must be followed to protect the Grange at all levels. The State Grange does not advocate for or against the use of alcohol in our facilities, but realizes

...Continued on page 2

## The "Mysterious" Grange Plot

*Dave Roberts, State Lecturer*

For decades, I had heard stories about the mysterious "Grange Plot" located somewhere within Peoples State Forest in Barkhamsted. For me, I think of East River Road and Mathies Grove picnic area as Peoples State Forest. What I forget is that Peoples State Forest has over 3,000 acres and covers a substantial portion of land in the Town of Barkhamsted. For those that don't know, Peoples State Forest is a Connecticut state forest occupying 3,059 acres along the West Branch of the Farmington River opposite American Legion State Forest. It is managed for forest products, wildlife habitat, and recreational uses that include hiking, hunting, fishing, and snowmobiling. The forest was dedicated in October 1924 with a riverside pageant attended by Governor Templeton and another 3,000 persons. The Civilian Conservation Corps made recreational improvements in the 1930s through the laying out of roads and trails and

...Continued on page 3



**Connecticut State Grange**  
A part of the National Grange



**NEXT ISSUE . . . Articles Due August 15**

# From the Master's Desk

*Continued from page one...*

this gives our Granges another option in terms of fundraising with the increased risk that it entails. A resolution will be presented at our 139th Annual Session to amend the by-laws in regards to the adoption of the alcohol use policy (resolution printed in the July issue).

Another important matter regarding the meeting forms taken by various Granges, varying from

full traditional ritual to informal gatherings, concerns the IRS requirement to maintain our non-profit status. Per those regulations, we are required to keep the rituals of the Order. I know there are a variety of meeting styles and don't mean to imply the IRS is going to demand pulling your charter, but be advised of what is LEGALLY required for that non-profit status to be valid.

Terri Fassio does much to help us publicize our events, and I would like to remind you all to be respectful of her by allowing reasonable lead time with your requests for her services. She has much on her plate with her full-time job besides Grange work and personal issues, and while happy to assist you, cannot do it at the last moment. Do not ask her to make brochures, etc. a few days before events.

Another issue of confusion has been with Granges requesting grant money which is then forwarded to the Connecticut State Grange Foundation, our 501(c)3 non-profit. Granges are getting grants and they are arriving at State Secretary Todd's desk without any information to connect them with a specific Grange because the Granges applying for them in some cases haven't informed Todd that the money was applied for and that he should be expecting these checks. Unattributed checks cannot be processed and funds distributed until they are linked to the grantee Grange (and the funds properly requested for payment to the Grange from the Foundation). If your Grange is applying for grants that will go through the Foundation, please let Todd know of such or you will not see your money promptly.

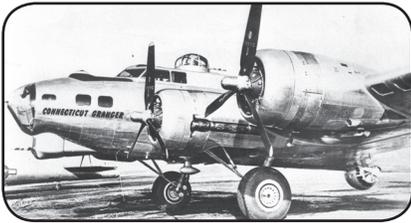
As I am memorizing the Master's

part of the Sixth Degree for the October Session, I am struck by some of the ritual and forced to reflect on it as I observe activities and goings on in various Granges I have been made aware of some conflicts of personality among Grangers. As our numbers have grown some as of recent, that is positive, but our State Grange is a shadow of what it was when I joined in 1988. Shrinking numbers tend to force us into closer proximity and stresses increase as less do more work. In the sixth degree Obligation, candidates pledge to promote the welfare of the Order and advance the interests of all members. While we can't all agree all the time, I would plead with all to seek common ground and compromise on issues, especially contentious ones. This means no strong-arming of one's will as a Grange leader on the other members. Anything coming before a Grange as business should be discussed and voted on if it concerns your Grange and its property. We are after all a democratic organization. By the way, even if you haven't taken the sixth degree, this is still a good maxim to follow and the sentiment can be found in other degrees as well.

As I continue to visit Granges, I am touched by the dedication of our Grangers and all that you do for your communities and the Grange in general. Even those Granges struggling to keep open are fighting hard to carry on. I hope that our Membership Committee can help these Granges to procure new members and become stronger. It is easy to become discouraged and give up, but I hope for a better tomorrow with gains in membership continuing. The Committee has some very capable people on it with proven track records. Thank you all for your dedication!

## the Connecticut Granger

Published Monthly



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  
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**GrangePlot...Cont. from page 1**

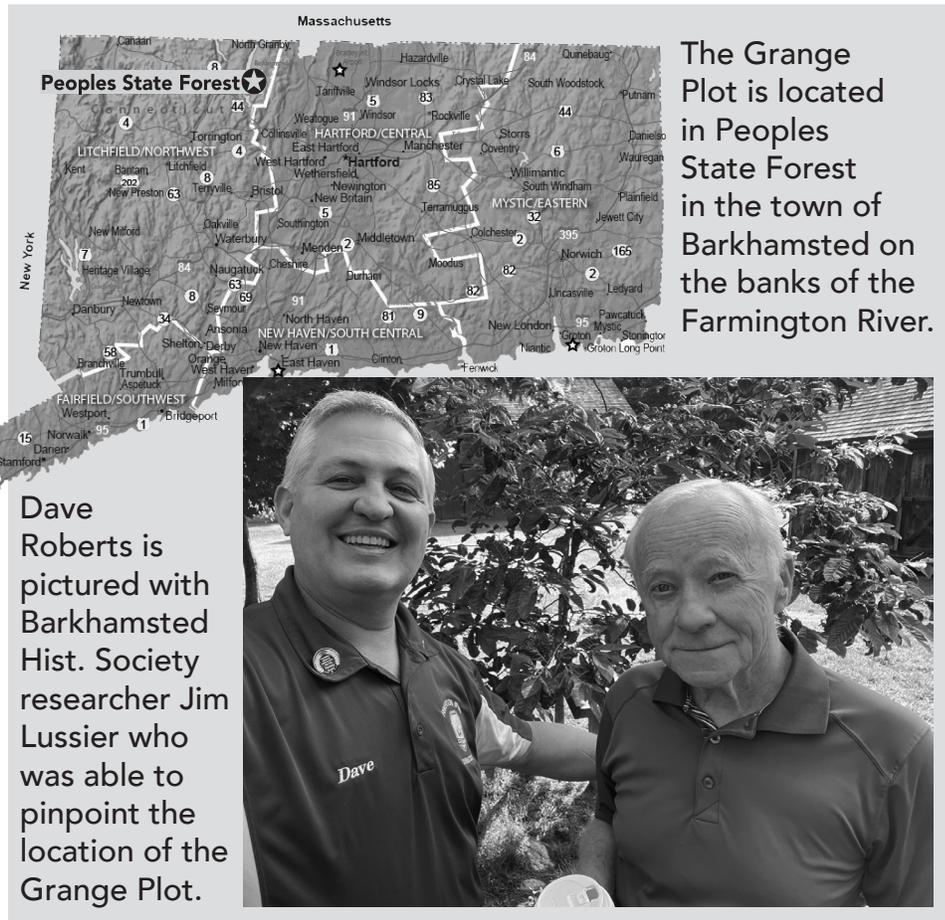
construction of a nature museum with an interior made of chestnut from trees killed by blight. As land for the forest was purchased from Connecticut residents who contributed to the “Peoples Forest Fund”, local resident Agnes Bowen convinced the state to use the funds to buy land in Barkhamsted and thus the name Peoples State Forest.

Connecticut State Grange Secretary Todd Gelineau wrote the following about Peoples State Forest in an August 27, 2018 article in *The Connecticut Granger*:

“It’s summertime in Connecticut and time for many of us to get out of the house and enjoy nature. A favorite for many is Peoples State Forest in Barkhamsted, CT. Did you know there’s a Grange connection to this beautiful place? Lida Ives wrote about the Forest and the Grange connection to it in her book “The Grange in Connecticut.”

At the 45th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange held in January 1930, the following resolution was accepted and adopted: “Brother Albert W. Lillibridge, Chairman of the Legislative Committee, offered a favorable report on a resolution pertaining to the Peoples Forest. Report accepted and the resolution adopted and placed in the hands of the Executive Committee for action.

In the Executive Committee minutes of January 16, 1930, we find that Chairman Allen Cook was instructed to request the State Forest and Park Association to use the appropriation of the State Grange in one plot so that it may be known as the State Grange plot... In the February 17, 1930 Executive Committee minutes we find the following: “As an appropriation was made to aid in the purchase and development of a State Forest more generally known as the Peoples Forest and owing to the nature of the organization, it developed that the \$100 thus appropriated appeared to be rather small and consequently



The Grange Plot is located in Peoples State Forest in the town of Barkhamsted on the banks of the Farmington River.

Dave Roberts is pictured with Barkhamsted Hist. Society researcher Jim Lussier who was able to pinpoint the location of the Grange Plot.

inadequate to purchase a plot worthy of bearing the name of our organization, therefore, the State Master and Chairman Cook were directed to formulate a letter to go to Pomona and Subordinate Granges asking small contributions to the above fund.... Brother Cook later reported that \$484 was available toward a plot in the People’s Forest and presented a diagram of twenty acres located near the highway. Upon motion of Brother Welton, it was voted to direct Brother Cook to take the required action to have the section referred to, designated as the “Grange Plot.” Upon motion duly seconded it was voted to authorize the drawing of an order on the Treasurer for \$16.00 to complete a fund of \$500 to pay for the plot with the anticipation that the \$16 would be collected to reimburse the treasury. Brother Welton was granted permission to invite some of the good brothers in his part of the State to meet him at the plot referred to and clear

some of the brush near the parking space.”

With only this information as a starting point, I spent many an hour hiking all over Peoples State Forest trying to locate “The Grange Plot”. I also talked with many individuals to see if anyone knew about this land. Former State Grange President Phil Prelli told me that he knew about the plot and about attending an event there in 1976 for our nation’s bicentennial. He just couldn’t remember where the plot of land was located. I continued to pursue this quest and one day I was talking with Jim Lussier from the Barkhamsted Historical Society and he told me to send him any information I had on this topic. I did and a few weeks later he called and said that he had found “The Grange Plot”.

So here is the rest of the story... One item that Jim used to identify the site was a program (donated to Connecticut State Grange by Janet

...Continued next page

**GrangePlot...Cont.frompage3**

Haller) from 1976 with the agenda and some history which includes mention of Brother Phil Prelli's father Frank Prelli. Here is the program:

*PROGRAM—2:00 P.M.*

*Welcome – Frank Prelli, Master*

*Conn. State Grange*

*Presentation of Flag*

*Invocation*

*Distribution of Bennington Traveling Flags*

*Dedication of Memorial Tree*

People's State Forest is located in the Town of Barkhamsted, and it derives its name from the fact that more than four hundred individuals and organizations contributed to the drive for funds by the Connecticut Forest & Park Association. It was established in 1923, and was gradually enlarged as the opportunity for purchase of additional land was afforded and the funds available. In 1930 the Connecticut State Grange completed a drive for funds, and the sum of \$500 was given to the Connecticut Park and Forest Commission for the purchase of land.

Two farms were purchased that year, but from what information we could find, it is evident that the plot of land purchased by our gift was the King Farm which comprised about twenty acres in the northwest section of People's Forest.

Thus it is appropriate in this bicentennial year, that we should meet at People's State Forest, and dedicate a tree as a memorial of this event.

From further research by Jim Lussier, the King Farm was located on Park Road and annotated as parcel C-43. We learned from Barkhamsted Heritage history book that around 1830, a house was built on this property by Abner Slade 2nd, who died here in 1881 at age 91. In 1871, Slade's wife, who was Fanny A. Stanclift of Halifax, Vermont, died on October

18 and the farm later became the property of their son, Albert, who never married. In 1901, Albert deeded the farm to Fred H. King, on condition that King care for him for life. In 1908, Slade died at the age of 79, and King retained possession of the farm through 1916. In 1916, Fred King, son of Charles and Sarah Slade King owned the property. The land was purchased as part of Peoples State Forest in 1930 and the house was occupied up until 1973 by Albert O. Goldstone. Around 1974, the brick house was auctioned off and moved off the property. It is interesting to note that Albert O. Goldstone was this writer's first work supervisor in 1977.

On June 14, Granby Grange Lecturer Judy Doyle and this writer journeyed with members of the Barkhamsted Historical Society to see the property. The house's

foundation is still evident on the property and there are numerous stone walls. There is a large open field where the house and yard once were located. The driveway up to the former home has grown over and is not passable today. We could find no evidence of the tree which was dedicated in 1976 or of any marking designating this property at "The State Grange Plot".

So, the mystery has been solved and now we know where the "State Grange Plot" is located about 1/10th of a mile south of the intersection of Park Road and Slade Road in Barkhamsted. Kudos to Jim Lussier and the Barkhamsted Historical Society for helping solve this mystery! Our next mission is to work with the Friends of American Legion and People's State Forest to add the designation of this donated piece of property to the map of the area.

## Resolutions for State Session

*The following are the next two resolutions received for consideration at the 139th Annual Session of the CT State Grange in October. We will print additional resolutions as they are received and will update you on the committee assignments as they are made.*

**RES. #3 RE: RECOGNITION OF TERRI FASSIO**

**WHEREAS** Terri Fassio contributes many uncompensated hours of work on Connecticut State Grange activities and programs, including the *Connecticut Granger*, the Big E as well as Zoom meetings for a number of meetings, posters, banners, and all the work she does for Subordinate Granges, and

**WHEREAS** we think it would be fitting to give a gift of appreciation for her dedication and har work above and beyond the call of duty, and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Connecticut State Grange recognize Terri Fassio to show our appreciation for her dedication and hard work in support

of activities and programs of the Connecticut State Grange and that the Connecticut State Grange honor Terri Fassio with a gift of \$2,000.00.

**SOURCE:** Taghannuck Grange  
**REFERRED:** TBD

**RES. #4: GOLDEN SHEAF DUES REFORM**

**WHEREAS** many Subordinate Granges are in financial difficulty, and

**WHEREAS** these Granges are now assessed \$7.50 per member, per quarter (total of \$30.00 per year, per member), and

**WHEREAS** Subordinate Granges have to pay for Golden Sheaf members.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Connecticut State Grange forgive payment of Golden Sheaf dues from Subordinate Granges, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Connecticut State Grange lobby the National Grange to also forgive Golden Sheaf Payments.

**SOURCE:** Beacon Val. Grange  
**REFERRED:** TBD



# 139th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS DUE: SEPT. 26**

**SESSION REGISTRATIONS DUE: SEPT. 30**

ALL MEMBERS are required to register to attend most sessions/activities (excluding Sixth Degree and Lecturer's Program on Friday evening). All other events require payment of a registration fee and/or purchase of a ticket. Lunches are included in the registration fee and the Banquet is a separate ticketed event. Contact the State Secretary with any questions.

## Registration Form

Grange Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

**DELEGATES:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Banquet Choice # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Banquet Choice # \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**NON-DELEGATES:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Banquet Choice # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Banquet Choice # \_\_\_\_\_

**FULL SESSION** (Full Session Registration includes lunch on Friday & Saturday)

Adult Registration: \$50.00 # of Members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Registration: \$20.00 # of Junior Members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**CELEBRATION BANQUET** (FRIDAY Evening at 7:00 P.M.) # of People \_\_\_\_\_ x 35.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Choices (indicate the number of each person's choice above):



- ① Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus with Horseradish Aioli
- ② Mushroom Ravioli over Sauteéd Spinach with a Parmesan Cream Sauce
- ③ Chicken Marsala with Portabella Mushrooms in an Italian Wine Sauce
- ④ Stuffed Filet of Sole with Seafood Stuffing

All entrees include a Tossed Salad, Warm Rolls & Butter, Vegetables, Cheesecake, Coffee, Tea, Soda, Water.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 & FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20** (ONE DAY Registration includes lunch on Friday)

Adult Registration: \$25.00 # of Members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Registration: \$10.00 # of Junior Members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21** (ONE DAY Registration includes lunch on Saturday)

Adult Registration: \$25.00 # of Members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Registration: \$10.00 # of Junior Members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the Connecticut State Grange

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 26, 2023**

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



**Noel Miller**  
Legislative Director  
Coventry Grange #75  
millernoel434@gmail.com

# Thoughts on the Supreme Court

When it rains it pours! July 4th was the hottest day in the world, two days later New York and New England had major rain storms, some areas with 7 inches of rain. Roadways washed out, rivers overflowed and crops were under water. More storms are expected as this article is written. The Connecticut River is overflowing and trees, boats, and docks are making their way to Long Island Sound. Many crops will be lost and roads and rail traffic will take months to get back to normal after repairs. Tourism will take a bit hit as summer travel is the major income in many areas hardest hit. One thing that comes out of these disasters is the helping hand of neighbors to work side by side to clean up this mess.

At the close of the Supreme Court session, the justices decided on the cases of affirmative action in college enrollment and decided that race cannot be a factor in acceptance into college, this can have great impact into minorities having a chance at getting into colleges. With this ruling I feel that segregation of the 1960's is rearing its ugly head from the grave.

They are also allowing business to refuse to provide services to LGBTQ people because of religious beliefs. This case was presented by a person without a business presenting a "What If?" situation. Court rulings are based on set laws. This case should have never made it to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has wavered from its duties to protect the people and not to give into money or religious beliefs. The Trump appointed justices during the hearing promised that Roe v. Wade was set precedence,

so they can't overturn it, yet they voted to overturn Roe v. Wade last year on the last day of the 2022 session, causing outrage and resulting in Republicans losing in the 2022 elections. The justice who wrote the leaked draft opinion referenced 1500's England which lawyers referenced to overturning this policy which was the law of the land for fifty years. The justices who pledged Roe v. Wade was set precedence lied and voted to overturn this set precedence. I think perjury comes to mind?

Some of the justices have received many gifts and cash through the years while sitting on the bench. This is bad business and questions arise as to why they are above the rules. How can we get fair and honest rulings if judges are in kind with rich friends. Where are the ethics that we adhere to? It seems that term limits and ethics training are needed for the Supreme Justices. "Justices sit on a bench and not a throne."

The defense budget was passed by the House with many amendments attached to it... stop aid to Ukraine, assist with reproductive service for military families, rights for LGBTQ members in service. And a Senator is holding up military promotions because he wants abortion and reproductive rights taken away from service members. This hostage tactic is the new Republican plan, "If I don't get what I want delay, delay, delay." This cannot be the way of working together. We are tired of hearing about WOKE. What it is, nobody knows and nobody cares. To me WOKE means "It's anything the Republicans don't like." What a shame you are willing to take away fellow American's rights, under the Constitution, because you don't like them. FEAR, FEAR, FEAR.

In closing read this in the paper "As I get older my eyesight weakens, but my seeing through people is getting stronger." Let's pray for our farmers and those affected by the floods and have a safe summer.

## West Nile found in Wethersfield

The State of Connecticut Mosquito Management Program (MMP) announced that mosquitos trapped in Wethersfield on July 17 tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). These results represent the first WNV positive mosquitoes identified in the state by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) this year. Connecticut residents are reminded to protect themselves from mosquito bites and mosquito-borne diseases.

"The first West Nile virus positive mosquitoes of the season have been identified," said Dr. Philip Armstrong, Medical Entomologist at the CAES. "The recent rainfall, high humidity, and warm temperatures have increased mosquito activity and West Nile virus is expected to build-up in the weeks ahead. We will continue to closely monitor mosquitoes for virus amplification from now through October."

"This serves as a reminder for people to take steps to protect themselves from mosquito bites," said Dr. Jason White, Director of the CAES. "We encourage everyone to take precautionary measures such as wearing mosquito repellent and covering bare skin, especially during dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active."

To reduce the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes residents should: Minimize time spent outdoors between dusk and dawn. Be sure window and door screens are tight-fitting and in good repair. Wear clothing that will minimize exposed skin for bites. Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors and consider use of an EPA approved repellent.



**EASTERN CT POMONA #14**

*Corr: Noel Miller*

The September 9 meeting of Eastern Connecticut Pomona will be held at Ekonk Grange Hall at 7 P.M. This is a change from the previously published location.

We had our summer meeting at the Cameron's house to plan out the new year. Many new ideas, come and see.

**SENEXET GRANGE #40**

*Corr: Diane Miller*

**Aug. 12 - Grange Fair**

**Aug. 23: Regular Meeting**

We continue to have regular meeting and discuss what we can do to increase interest in our Grange. We have a very good group of members who would want to help. Our hall is available to the community for events and meetings. We will hold our annual fair at the time of the community locally grown event on August 12. The event is held at area farms, farm stands and other ag related venues. We will be having our annual awards night on Aug. 2, There will be many long term members honored. We hope to have some events in the fall like dinners and other fundraising programs. It is important to keep the community involved to see what is happening with the Grange.

**VERNON GRANGE #52**

*Corr: Irene Percoski*

**Aug. 4: Potluck Picnic – Get In The Game**

**Sept. 1: International PeaceDay**

(World Peace)

**Oct. 6:** Witches seen- Tis near Hallween. Stay tuned for location.

A Mid century Knight was a very special kind of person. Selected at a young age and raised and carefully trained as they prepared to follow a strict rule of conduct. Knights were usually sponsored by the Lord of the castle and expected to protect and defend it with his life. To gain distinction they decorated their shields with symbols to indicate what they stood for, thus called a coat of arms. This was the beginning of family crests which many families today still use.

As part of the program each of us was asked to create our own Family crest with materials our Lecturer provided. We all had fun designing them. A few sad puns and a funny skit rounded out the program.

A donation was made to the Historical Society in appreciation for the use of the building, and one member of the Exec. Comm. was elected. Next Month will be our annual picnic. Either here or at the Strong farm, depends on the weather. Contact Nancy for more information. This is a plea for all members to please make the effort to come to the picnic and celebrate some milestones for long time members.

**COVENTRY GRANGE #75**

*Corr: Noel Miller*

Cleaning up after a tree fell next to the hall. Trying to beat the heat and storms.

**HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87**

*Corr: Frank Forrest*

Hillstown Grange is holding a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday August 13, 2023, doors open at 8:30 AM until 11:00 AM.

Breakfast of Pancakes including sausage, coffee, tea and juice, all for just \$6, \$3 for kids under 14. This month's special is "Piña Colada" pancakes, and these may make you feel like getting lost in the rain with coconut pancakes with pineapple topping. Plain and chocolate chip pancakes will be available.

In addition to the breakfast, our hall is showcasing the Connecticut Northeast Needlepoint Contests and the exhibits on display include a variety of needle point, sewing, knitting, crocheting entries and much, much more including a raffle. Come to browse, eat, or just visit the historic Hillstown Grange Hall. Free Admission.

Hillstown Grange is located at 617 Hills Street, East Hartford, CT. Located in the Hillstown corner of East Hartford, Glastonbury, and Manchester since 1888. The Grange is one of the oldest Agricultural and Community Service groups in the United States.

For more information on this event: Frank at 860-690-2945 or e-mail: hillstowngrange@aol.com.

For more information on Hillstown Grange, visit the Grange's website at [www.HillstownGrange.org](http://www.HillstownGrange.org)

**N. STONINGTON GRANGE #138**

*Corr: Nancy Weissmuller*

**Sept. 8:** Spanish Exploration

**Sept. 22:** Roanoke Colony and Jamestown

The program for our one meeting in July was conducted by Cheree Miner and we had a lively game of Trivial Pursuit, one side of the hall against the other. Cheree also provided the delicious ice cream sundaes for refreshments. Our programs for next year will be based on wars through the years.

A local carpenter removed one end of one the counters in the kitchen making it possible for us to move the big freezer out of the dining hall. This makes it more convenient for the kitchen crew and gives more room in the hall.

The Miner family and Jeff Barnes have planted the big planters in front of the Rec building, significantly brightening up the landscape along Route 2.

The North Stonington Agricultural Fair was a success despite the fact that they had to cancel Sunday due to the threat of dangerous storms. And if that red-tailed hawk that likes to sit on the outdoor fireplace will just find another place to hunt next time we will tell you about awesome August.

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 organizers 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.

# Enter your photos



**Dave Roberts**  
State Lecturer  
Riverton Grange No. 169  
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As Lecturers, we are always searching for new opportunities to engage our community Grange members. Recently, our State Grange Lecturer's Department was awarded a \$1,000 deaf awareness grant from the National Grange Foundation to collaborate with the American School for the Deaf, the oldest school of its kind serving Pre-K to Grade 12 since 1817. Currently, Judy Doyle of Riverton Grange and Carol Innes of Granby Grange are working with me on this deaf awareness initiative. We have had two planning meetings with leaders at the American School for the Deaf (ASD) in West Hartford, and we are tentatively planning a public event on Sunday, October 29, from 11 AM to 3 PM. Connecticut Lions and the United Nations Association of Connecticut have also expressed an interest in partnering with both ASD and CT State Grange on this public event. Watch for updated details in the near future!

Many Granges are planning their annual Agricultural Fairs and this is a great time for you to visit and support other community Granges. My advice is to visit as many fairs as you can, meet your fellow Lecturers, and pick up new ideas for impactful programs that you might implement at your Grange.

Speaking of impactful programs, the Connecticut State Grange Family Activities Committee (chaired by Dawn Percoski) and the Connecticut State Grange Lecturer's Department are again co-hosting the Connecticut State Grange Family Festival on Sunday, August 13th at Hillstown Grange in East Hartford. For more information, email [familyactivities@ctstategrange.org](mailto:familyactivities@ctstategrange.org) or email [lecturer@ctstategrange.org](mailto:lecturer@ctstategrange.org). The State Grange Lecturer's Department will again be sponsoring our annual Photo Contest

with some great prizes. The details are below and we hope that you will share this information widely with your members.

## PHOTO CONTEST

This contest is open to all Grangers (Junior, Youth, 1+ and Grange). Judging will be held at the State Grange Family Festival on Sunday, August 13, at Hillstown Grange in East Hartford from 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM. Photos can be dropped off on Friday, August 11, Saturday, August 12, or prior to 8:30 AM on Sunday, August 13. Winning photos will be displayed at the State Grange Convention and then returned to their owners. For 2023, there are four categories: My America/Grange Activities, Animals, Old Trucks/Barns, and Let's Make a Snowman.

### Rules:

1. Only prints accepted.
2. Participants may enter all four categories, but are limited to one entry in each category.
3. Entries must have been taken by the participant since the last State Grange photo contest judging.
4. No glass or frames are allowed on photos.
5. Print may be processed commercially, but it must have been

taken by the entrant.

6. Size of photo/backing (if used): No smaller than 4"x6" or larger than 11"x14".

7. Entrant's name, contest category, Grange name/Grange number, and phone number must be placed on the back of each entry.

On June 17th, our Department hosted our 6th Lecturers' Roundup on Zoom to share and connect. Over one dozen Lecturers and other Grange members participated to hear updates on "The Connecticut State Grange Plot" which was recently found in Peoples State Forest; updates on hearing awareness; details of the 2023 State Lecturer Contests; and updates from Community/Pomona Grange Lecturers. Our seventh Lecturers Roundup will be held via Zoom on Sunday, September 17, from 7:00 – 8:00 PM.

It is such an honor and privilege to serve as your Connecticut State Grange Lecturer again this year. Under the leadership of State President Rob Buck and his team, we are energizing some of our Granges and re-opening some doors! Watch this column and the State Grange website as we continue to promote programs and creative ideas for all our Granges.

## New England Grange Building readied



Board of Trustee members and volunteers were hard at work on July 23rd. After cleaning the building, they sorted last year's craft inventory. They also generously accepted the challenge to sit and mark the new items that were brought in. It's a job much to big for only a couple of people. Job Well Done! Stay tuned for our next day which will be setting up the craft side of the building and of course marking new items. — Dawn Percoski



**MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15**

*Corr: Todd A. Gelineau*

**Aug. 26:** Reg. Meeting, Bethlehem Memorial Hall in Bethlehem.

**WHIGVILLE GRANGE #48**

*Corr: Debbie Brown*

The Whigville Agricultural Fair will be held on Sat., August 26, 2023 from 10am until 2pm. The fair will take place at the Whigville Grange, S. Main St., Burlington. Easy to reach off of rte. 69. Free admission and parking. Food, music, contests including produce, flowers, baking and hobbies. Children may also enter. No fee to enter for adults or children. Come enjoy one of CTs oldest agricultural traditions, a Grange fair! Info: b\_gary@sbcglobal.net

**WINCHESTER GRANGE #74**

*Corr: Todd A. Gelineau*

**Aug. 8:** Fair Set-Up, Ref. by Pam W.

**Aug. 12:** Grange Fair & Community Tag Sale, Grange Hall & Green, 9-2 P.M.

**Aug. 22:** Awards Night - Open House, Picnic Dinner at 6 P.M., Grange Hall

**Sept. 12:** School Days, Ref. by Fran Cooper

Come one, come all to the 2023 Winchester Grange Fair & Community Tag Sale at the Grange Hall and the Green in Winchester Center. Spaces in the tag sale are free and available on a first come, first served basis. We will also have our judgings of fruits, vegetables, and baked goods along with a chance table, book sale and food all day from



**Members of Taghannuck Grange traveled to Stanford Grange #202 (NY- Dutchess County) to help install their new members on July 11.**

Café 74. We would love to see you there!

**TAGHANNUCK GRANGE #100**

*Corr: Barbara Prindle*

**Aug. 10:** Hobby Night by ALL (bring your hobby). Ref: Bill Beeman

**Sept. 14:** Autumn by Barbara Prindle. Ref: Megan Flanagan

**Oct. 12:** Hallow's Eve Party by Debbie Hanlon. Ref: Debra Tyler

Refreshments and social time begin at 7:00 PM with the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Our big news is that our Hall is painted inside and outside and we are getting "Oh Wow" from members and neighbors. There is more to do and we have applied for the \$1000 Capital Grant from CT State Grange which will not cover all that is left to do but will be a big help getting there.

At our July meeting we voted to participate in the National Grange "Roots of Connectivity for the Affordable Connectivity Program". This will be an extension of our interest in broadband internet in the town of Sharon. It also is our new community service project for this year in partnership with the library outreach program in several of the surrounding towns in the NW Corner. We are waiting to hear back from the Navigator Team.

Taghannuck also voted to send two delegates to State Session this

year. We voted to send our first Resolution into the State Secretary to be voted on at State Session.

Our July meeting ended strangely and quickly. Some of our members got a tornado alert on their phones a short time after the meeting began but the sky looked good so we kept on keeping on. A little later they got another tornado warning for Sharon the sky was getting iffy. We had just gotten to the lecturer's program. At that point we all wanted to leave and packed up, put the food away and left. No lecturer's program and no closing of the Grange. The A.S did close the bible. I was home (3 minutes from our Grange Hall) and the sky started to flash and rumble about 10 minutes later and NO we did not have a tornado.

On July 11th six of our members went to Stanford Grange #202 for neighbor's night and to help them install their new officers before having their business meeting. It is always interesting to see how other Granges do things and this was no exception. They are very well organized and have a lot of younger members.

**RIVERTON GRANGE #169**

*Corr: David Roberts*

**Aug. 4:** Meeting & Program, "Favorite Vacation Memories!" Ref.

*Continued next page...*

Cindy & Mark Prelli.

**Aug. 6:** Honoring Our Veteran of the Month (Barkhamsted Sr. Ctr. 6 PM)  
**Aug. 18-19:** Riverton Grange Fair, Set-up on Friday, fair on Saturday. Comm. Citizen Award Presentation at 12 Noon.

Riverton Grange met virtually on July 7 for its monthly meeting. Our Grange complimented the completed Grange Hall front porch renovation project funded by the Town of Barkhamsted's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant totaling \$14,700. In addition to the renovated porch, some damaged vinyl siding was replaced by our contractor. Our Grange also learned that a grant proposal for the Northwest CT Comm. Foundation for funds to repair and renovate our Grange Hall's two bathrooms has now been moved up on the funding list, so Judy Doyle is now working on a \$10,000 grant request.

We are investigating the possibility of hosting an Oktoberfest-style event with beer and wine at the Riverton Grange Hall during the Riverton Fair. We are working with

the Riverton Vol. Fire Dept. to see if it can be realized this year.

Our planning continues for the 34th Annual Riverton Grange Fair on Sat., Aug. 19th from 10 AM to 2 P.M. continuing our long tradition of showcasing exhibits from local farmers and crafters. This year entries can be submitted online, by mail or in-person. The deadline for submission is Aug. 15. Junior exhibitors are also encouraged to enter. Visit our website at [www.rivertongrange.org](http://www.rivertongrange.org).

**BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121**

*Corr: Dorothy M. Fairchild*

**Aug. 13:** Arrangements for our annual picnic were discussed.

Pizza, accompanied by Italian music was enjoyed by all on July 9. A fun Bingo program followed the meal.

Our very deserving Secretary, Barbara Robert was recognized as "The Granger of the Year" by Beacon Valley Grange. We are so proud of Barbara.

The next meeting of Mountain Laurel Pomona No. 15 will be held at our hall on Sat., Aug. 26 at 2 P.M.

**JOIN US FOR  
CANNON GRANGE'S  
AGRICULTURAL  
FAIR**

**AUGUST 27, 2023**  
**10:00am - 4:00pm**  
25 Cannon Road Wilton

**CRAFT VENDORS  
CONTESTS  
FOOD, MUSIC  
& FUN**

Scan Here to see Ag Fair Book For ALL the Info!

**Eye on Communications**  
GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

# PR Contest Reminders

by Terri Fassio, Public Relations Co-Director

The Public Relations committee is offering only one contest for 2023, with a deadline of October 1, 2023. It's easy to participate. Time is flying by and October will be here before we know it. Let's take a peek at this year's contest details:

Whether you're celebrating Easter, Christmas, Flag Day or even Chocolate Chip Cookie Lover's Day, holidays can be fun to explore, and base themed Grange events, and even a Grange program, on. Whether your Grange has in-person, virtual, or hybrid celebrations, it means thinking outside of the box

to show the impact of your Grange when utilizing holiday themes.

This is a great opportunity to highlight your Grange's holiday achievements, raise awareness of your Grange's mission, thank your members and community, and reveal exciting updates about your future holiday plans.

Submit a detailed written plan on how your Grange celebrated with a Holiday theme, and promoted your Grange through an event, program or more. Then write a synopsis of a your Grange's celebration (must be held within the last year). The holiday celebrated is the choice of the Grange. There are no Holiday

restrictions.

There will be three categories —

1. Grange Holiday Events
2. Grange Holiday Programs
3. Other Grange Holiday Celebration

Submissions should be detailed and not just an abbreviated list, and there is no length restriction. Photos, clippings, and social media and website screenshots are encouraged. Submissions must include the category, Grange name and number, number of years hosting this celebration (i.e. first year or 50 years), and the name, phone number and email of person submitting the entry.

Email your Grange's submission to [publicrelations@ctstategrange.org](mailto:publicrelations@ctstategrange.org). You can also USPS mail the submission to Robert Charbonneau, 102 Spring Street, Meriden, CT 06451.



**NUTMEG POMONA #16**

*Corr: Joanne Cipriano*

Letters have been sent to each Grange in Nutmeg Pomona requesting the information for the 2023-24 handbook. Dues date was August 1st – has your material been sent to the Pomona Secretary Joanne Cipriano?

Our last meeting was June 4th, as this was not an election year we only had one spot to fill. Geno Piacentini was Elected to a three-year term on the Executive Committee.

Our next meeting will be Sunday September 24th at 2 o'clock at Beacon Valley Grange.

**CHESHIRE GRANGE #23**

*Corr: A. Ruel Miller*

**Aug. 2:** Hummingbirds

**Aug.:** Meeting Omitted. Fair Work Week

**Aug. 26-27:** Cheshire Grange Community Fair

On July 19th we held our annual picnic and drew up our meeting schedule for the new Grange year. Refreshment committees were also appointed. Our thrust for most of the summer is preparing for our 138th fair.

The premium books are being circulated around town and we hope to have good participation from the public. We will hold our famous roast beef family style dinner in our hall dining area. Servings will be at 12:15 and 1:30. Adults \$18.00 and children 5-12 \$8.00 and children under 5 free. The fair is our most industrious project of the year and involves a lot of workers. We hope



Top: Wallingford Grange held their first Family & Friends Picnic Dinner on July 15 with a great turnout. Bottom: Wallingford Grange Fair will have the most beautiful handmade ribbons and rosettes anywhere!

you will enjoy the remaining weeks of summer.

**WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33**

*Corr: Kathy Aubrey-Bergonzi*

**Aug. 7:** Drop Off Tea Cup Arrangements at Grange

**Aug. 10:** 6:30 P.M. Reg. Monthly Meeting

**Aug. 14:** 6:30 P.M. Fair Comm. Meeting

**Aug. 18:** 6:45 P.M. Friday Night Front Yard Ice Cream

**Sept. 11:** 6 P.M., Fair Committee Meeting @ Grange

**Sept. 14:** 6:30 P.M. Reg. Monthly Meeting- Working Fair Meeting

**Sept. 16:** Wallingford Grange Fair, Noon - 6PM

**Oct. 7:** Taste of Wallingford

Please excuse our appearance while we're under construction!

Good news has come our way. It's the beginning of our dreams coming true. With funds provided by a grant; a new roof, bathrooms

and single person lift to make our building accessible to all will be on the horizon. We feel blessed and very grateful. Our true blessing is our President Robin Hettrick who put in a big piece of herself, let alone the many hours. Thank you Robin.

The Wallingford Grange fired up its grill and held its first Family and Friends picnic on July 15th. So many attended and shared in good food + good conversation = good times. The hall was filled with laughter and warmth (ok, it was very hot out). Our dreams coming true.

During July and August Aili McKeen (Steward) has been hosting a bi-weekly clothing drive that will end on August 19, 2023. Not only has it been successful with donations it has also helped in reintroducing the Grange to Wallingford. Many people expressed their happiness in the Grange being back. Tours were given and a list of potential members,

*Continued next page...*

“Tell me more” being completed at the door. Our dreams coming true.

July 29, 2023 we had an all hands on deck cleaning party for the remaining half of the downstairs and the kitchen. Folks were up bright and early at 7 am to beat the heat. By noon, the grill was in full swing with burgers and hot dogs for a job well done. Our dreams coming true.

As always, summer is flying by. Our fair on September 16th is just around the corner. We had a successful 1st time putting a fair book together. Working on the details. I'll share a secret- we have beautiful handmade rosettes for the four best in show. You may recognize the names - Pomona's Choice, Flora's Choice, Ceres' Choice and Minerva's Choice. Can't wait for you to see them in person- come on by! Our dreams coming true.

#### **HARMONY GRANGE #92**

Alice Salvias, a lifetime resident of Monroe, CT passed away peacefully with her loving family by her side. Alice was a proud Grange member for 65 years, first in Trumbull and later at Harmony Grange in Monroe. She was a graduate of Bassick High School class of “53” and a retired secretary of Stepney Elementary School in Monroe CT for 22 years. Alice celebrated her wedding and 50th wedding anniversary in a grange hall. She was an avid reader, enjoyed ceramics, spending time with her family and vacationing at her cabin in Bartlett, NH.

#### **BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103**

*Corr: Joanne Cipriano*

In the last Granger I reported on our 134th anniversary, I forgot two highlights of the meeting. Number 1 – At the meeting of Nutmeg Pomona on June 4th I was given a check from Betty Jane and Roy Harrington as a donation to help pay for our new roof. It was a Check for \$1,000.00.

In my wildest dreams I could never imagined receiving donation in this amount. I was in a state of shock. It was a nice surprise for our members when it was announced at our anniversary meeting. Our

members will forever be grateful. It really will help paying down our debt.

Number 2 - As we did not have a nomination for the “Citizen of the Year” we went with Plan B and had a “Granger of the Year”. Barbara Robert of Bethlehem Grange was chosen to receive this award. Barbara has been a valuable friend to our Grange helping with all our activities especially our tag sale. We thank her for accepting our award and coming to our meeting. Also thanks to Eloise Osuch for chauffeuring our honoree.

Our August meeting is on the 11th and our flower is the “Poppy”. It will be our annual picnic with a pot luck supper at 6 o'clock. September meeting is on the 8th – program “Aster” Joanne Cipriano in charge. Refreshments to be served by John Taylor.

I just came in from our meeting. Our theme for the coming year is “Fruits and Vegetables.” Carol Brooks was elected to the Executive Committee for a 3- year term. All other officers remain the same as did most of the committees.

We had a good size limb fall from one of the evergreen trees. Thanks to Frank Behlman for taking care of this problem and Ron Fischer who takes care of mowing the grass.

#### **GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133**

*Corr: Jim & Lori Golias*

Here's hoping your gardens are on their way to producing a fruitful harvest!

On June 24, the Greenfield

Hill Grange hosted a Strawberry Festival BBQ.

Ribs, Chicken, Corn on the Cob, Homemade Potato Salad and Baked Beans were on the menu; but since June boasts a bountiful bouquet of strawberries, Homemade Strawberry Shortcake was the decadent dessert. We played Brown Bag Bingo and everyone had a great time!

What a fun way to celebrate the start of Summer..

Dates to remember: Our 130th Agricultural Fair will be held on August 26, 2023 from 10-3. We will be hosting a Lobster Fest on September 9, 2023. Our Pumpkin, Mum, Bulb and Bake Sale will be held on September 23, 2023.

Happy growing and hope to see you at the Grange!

#### **HEMLOCK GRANGE #182**

*Corr: Maureen Sanborn*

Sept 9th 2023, Tag sale at Hemlock Grange, 9 AM to 2 PM at Hemlock Grange Hall, 17 Sage Hollow Rd. (Junction of Rte 17 and 17A behind the Gas Station.) Individuals may join in the tag sale and have a space in the parking lot for a \$10.00 fee. Individuals need to provide their own table. The Grange will also accept donations. The Grange will accept most items including small workable appliances. No furniture or clothes will be accepted. For more info contact Betty Jane 860 267-7512. Please leave message with your name and number. Your phone call will be returned. Thank you.

# See you at the Family Fest



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

As I write this article, it's been nothing but rain and heat for a few weeks now. It is a lesson to show us we cannot control Mother Nature. However, we always make due and persevere. There are so many ways in which we can strive to accomplish

anything we wish to achieve. Now is the time to finish up all our tasks. From writing resolutions, gathering for our fairs and enjoying all the fruits of our labors, August finds us busy little bees. I can't wait to see everyone at the CT Grange Family Festival and our work begins at the New England Grange Building.

# Grilled Lemon Herb Mediterranean Chicken Salad



## Marinade/Dressing:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Juice of 1 lemon (1/4 cup fresh squeezed lemon juice)
- 2 tablespoons water
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
- 2 teaspoons dried basil
- 2 teaspoons garlic , minced
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Cracked pepper , to taste
- 1 pound (500 g) skinless, boneless chicken thigh fillets (or chicken breasts)

## Salad:

- 4 cups Romaine (or Cos) lettuce leaves, washed and dried
- 1 large cucumber diced
- 2 Roma tomatoes diced
- 1 red onion sliced
- 1 avocado sliced
- 1/3 cup pitted Kalamata olives (or black olives), sliced (optional)
- Lemon wedges to serve

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Whisk together all of the marinade/dressing ingredients in a large jug. Pour out half of the marinade into a large, shallow dish. Refrigerate the remaining marinade to use as the dressing later.
2. Add the chicken to the marinade in the bowl; marinade chicken for 15-30 minutes (or up to two hours in the refrigerator if time allows). While waiting for the chicken, prepare all of the salad ingredients and mix in a large salad bowl.
3. Once chicken is ready, heat 1 tablespoon of oil in a grill pan or a grill plate over medium-high heat. Grill chicken on both sides until



browned and completely cooked through.

4. Allow chicken to rest for 5 minutes; slice and arrange over salad. Drizzle salad with the remaining UNTOUCHED dressing. Serve with lemon wedges.

## NOTES:

Add 1/2 cup crumbled feta to give the salad an even better flavor!

**CORRECTION:** The July recipe for Easy Carrot Raisin Pineapple Salad was missing one ingredient. Please add 1 lb. carrots.

# 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 uncover 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](mailto:submissions@ctstategrange.org).



We heard from George Kotowicz on the July 2023 photo. He believes that the man on the left receiving the award is John Karmen, the man presenting the award is Donald Shaw, and the Lady Assistant Steward is Jackie Krupa. He spoke with John Karmen and confirmed this, and John said that he was receiving a Citizens Award from Windsor Grange.



We heard from Beth Merrill on the June 2023 photo - "I assume that by now, you have had a response to the June 2023 CT Granger issue's "This Month" photograph, but just in case, I thought I would pass along what I know. Or think I know.... The photo is of the 1978 National Grange (Denver, CO) coronation when Mike Martin, from Massachusetts, was announced as the National Grange Prince. I do not have access to a JofP at the moment, but if memory serves me correctly, the Princess was Sara Jeffers, Illinois. I am not remembering who the Young Couple is in the photo, but it should be easy enough to look up."

We also heard from Nancy Lescarbeau from Williamstown Grange in Massachusetts. She confirmed that the man in the June photo is Michael Martin, who was National Prince in 1979-1980.

# Snapshots from around the state



Hillstown Grange welcomed three new members.



Ekonk Grange food booth at the Sterling Summer Concert.



The Cameron Family at Grange Revival in Michigan.



Harmony Grange exhibited at the local Farmer's market.



Norfield Grange held a Paint & Pizza event.



Family crests made by Vernon Grange members.



**FALL 2023  
LINE  
DANCING**  
at Senexet Grange

**DATES:**  
SEPT. 10  
SEPT. 17  
SEPT. 24  
OCT. 1  
OCT. 15  
OCT. 22

**BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE** - Join instructor Forty Arroyo for this fun, energetic six-week class at Senexet Grange. This class is designed for folks that are brand new to line dancing, as well as those that have a little bit of experience. Beginners will learn basic steps, while intermediate dancers will get slightly more advanced instruction.

Sundays, 1-2:30pm  
Cost per person: \$60

Register online:  
<https://secure.recl.com/CT/woodstock-ct/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTI2NDc1MDM=>

Questions?  
erinlucas@woodstockct.gov  
(860) 928-6595 x333

**WOODSTOCK  
RECREATION**

Senexet Grange | 628 Route 169, Woodstock CT 06281

**10:00 AM to 2 PM**

Riverton Grange #169  
**Agricultural  
Fair**

**Saturday, August 19, 2023**

**FOOD, KIDS  
GAMES,  
AND MORE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT RIVERTONGRANGE.ORG**

**ENTRIES AND FAIR:  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
FREE ADMISSION**

**LOCATION:  
17 RIVERTON RD  
RIVERTON, CT 06065**

**72nd Annual  
WINCHESTER GRANGE  
FAIR**

Community Tag Sale  
Contests & Exhibits • Food from Café 74  
Book Sale • Bake Sale • Fun for All Ages!

**SATURDAY  
AUGUST 12, 2023  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**Winchester Grange Hall**  
100 Newfield Road  
Winchester Center, CT  
[www.WinchesterGrange.org](http://www.WinchesterGrange.org)

You don't have to be a member to exhibit!

**CHESHIRE  
COMMUNITY GRANGE  
138<sup>th</sup>  
EST. 1885  
FAIR**

Sponsored by  
**Cheshire Grange, No. 23**  
August 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - From: 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM  
At the Cheshire Grange Hall, 44 Wallingford Rd.,  
Cheshire, CT

[www.cheshiregrange.org/grangeagfair.asp](http://www.cheshiregrange.org/grangeagfair.asp)





**Charles W. Dimmick**  
State Chaplain

Cheshire Grange No. 23  
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

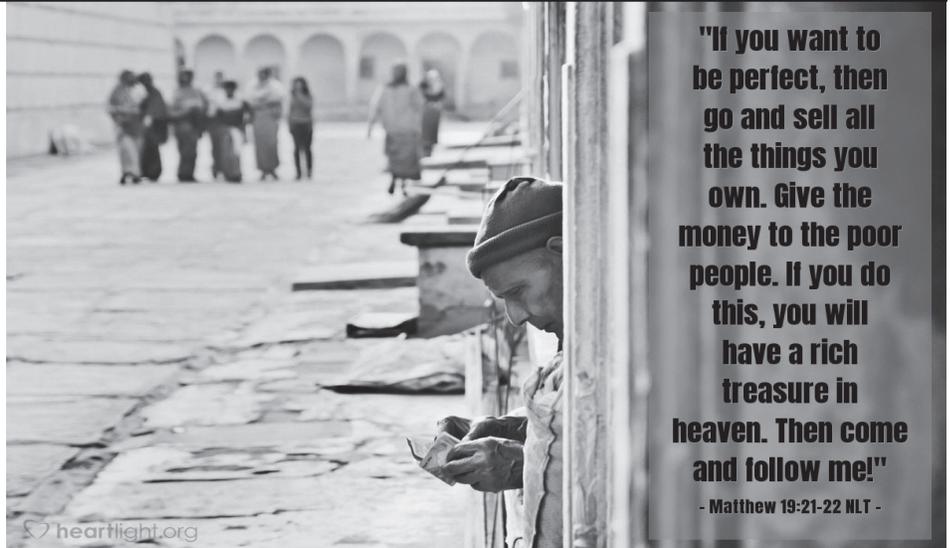
## Too Much Stuff

*Jesus told him, "If you want to be perfect, go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." But when the young man heard this, he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Matthew 19:21-24*

*Better is a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble with it. Proverbs 15:16*

*(Woe unto him) who amasses wealth and counts it a safeguard, Koran, Sura 104:2*

It is easy for most of us to think that some people have far more possessions than they need. However, a bit of serious introspection should lead to the conclusion that even if we are not like the rich young man in Matthew's story, we have a lot of stuff we don't need. As far as I can tell, even the poorest among us may have this problem. There are many reasons for this; perhaps we hold onto some otherwise useless things for a sense of security, or for sentimental reasons. Perhaps we are still influenced by the habits of



**"If you want to be perfect, then go and sell all the things you own. Give the money to the poor people. If you do this, you will have a rich treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me!"**

- Matthew 19:21-22 NLT -

our parents or grandparents, who went through the Depression, and decided to hold onto anything that might possibly be of use sometime, even if the possibility is remote. I know this is one of my problems.

But it is not only too much physical "stuff" which burdens us. There is also the problem of too much non-physical stuff, especially an inability to rid ourselves of grudges, regrets, resentments, and other negativity. What good does anger do you? Except in the heat of the moment it only harms you.

A wise person once said that "Holding onto anger is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die." Resentment? Does resentment help you in any way? Resentful behavior actually causes you to be hurt and victimized again, thus prolonging

the suffering. As for grudges, holding onto a grudge can increase your stress level, leading to high blood pressure and other health problems.

In Grange ritual we are instructed, in the third degree, to "look forward to better and brighter days instead of mourning over the past." So, while cleaning out your closets of all the unnecessary physical items in your life, also clean out your mental closet, and get rid of your angers, grudges, bad memories, and resentments.

**In Memoriam**

Alice Salvas  
Harmony Grange No. 92

"Well done, good and faithful servants."