



# the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

Published Monthly

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The Official News Magazine of the Connecticut State Grange

July 2023

## From the Master's Desk



**Robert Buck**  
State President  
Bethlehem Grange No. 121  
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We can all learn a lot just by listening to other what other people say. Maggie and I are friendly with a couple in our area. The gentleman of this couple has the misfortune to have metastatic prostate cancer for which he is receiving chemotherapy for several years now. The treatment has a rather unpleasant side effect; however the tradeoff is that he is still alive.

In talking to the wife one day this past winter, I was asking how the husband was. His wife said to me "I am so proud of <husband's name>. He has taught me so much;" this being a reference to how he has dealt with his health problems. I got to thinking and realized that whenever I talk to the husband, I value the conversations so much. He came to the USA from another country, served in our military, and went on to have a rewarding career teaching. Despite his health difficulties as of late, he remains one on the most gracious and upbeat people I know. He is thankful for the life he has. I too learn from our conversations.

The importance of listening is

brought home in the charge to the Master in our Grange Installation Ceremony wherein the Master being installed is cautioned by the installing officer to "Decide all questions with calmness and

## 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Session approaches

*Todd A. Gelineau, State Secretary*

It may be July but planning for the 139th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange is in full swing. This year's session will return to the Holiday Inn Norwich where we have been for the last few years with the session opening on Thursday evening, Oct. 19 at 7:00 P.M. with meetings and events planned through Saturday, Oct. 21.

There was considerable discussion last year regarding the State Grange budget the expenses related to the annual session. For many years the State Grange has absorbed cost increases rather than increasing the cost to our members.

I'm sure you all have experienced the high cost of everything from food, utilities, travel costs, and just about everything else in our daily lives. Our convention is not immune to inflation. The cost of hotel rooms, meals and many other things associated with the session have gone up considerably this year.

In an effort to minimize (but not eliminate) the effects of these increases, the State Grange Board of Directors voted to increase the

firmness, granting the right of appeal courteously, and abiding all decisions against you cheerfully." Sounds like advice to listen and appreciate and learn from other's opinions. I know we all want to do what is best for our Granges. Remember the importance of  
...Continued on page 2

cost of registrations and the banquet at State Session. The increase will likely cover the meal cost for the banquet while the added registration fees will only offset a portion of the session expense.

In addition, there has been a change in the cost of hotel rooms for this year's session. Since COVID-19, the cost of hotel rooms has increased considerably throughout the industry. This is due, in part, to the losses these businesses experienced during the pandemic.

Room rates for this year's session will be \$109 (plus taxes & fees) for Thursday, Oct. 19 and \$129 (plus taxes & fees) for Friday, Oct. 20 and Sat., Oct. 21. I can't emphasize enough how reasonable these rates are for this hotel in this location. The rate for Thursday is the same as last year. The Holiday Inn has no difficulty renting rooms to the general public with Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods Resorts so close. There is a premium involved in holding a large block of rooms at a hotel that is routinely sold out each day/week/month.

...Continued on page 3



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



**NEXT ISSUE . . . Articles Due July 15**

# From the Master's Desk

Continued from page one...

listening to others and respecting feelings and opinions. Compromise is better than members being ostracized with hurt feelings because a vote on an issue didn't go their way. Leaders also ought to realize that important decisions should come to a vote rather than being decided unilaterally.

I want to encourage people to register for and attend State Session

in Norwich. The attendance has been shrinking in recent years. It is your chance to observe the workings of the Connecticut State Grange and have an input in those workings. If you don't like the way something is done, write a resolution on it. It is also a great time to connect with brothers and sisters from other Granges and the National Grange representatives and learn from them new ideas to try out in your own Granges. Also consider attending National Grange in Niagara Falls as it won't be this close for several more years.

With the Eastern States Exposition, AKA the Big E, coming up, keep busy producing those items for sale in the Grange Building as they keep it going. Also, plan on attending the event, and spend some time sitting in the Connecticut room to greet visitors. It is a good way to connect with Grangers from the Northeast region.

I hear comments from time to time that some people don't think the State and National Granges do anything for them. Budget considerations mean that materials are not sent out in the mail like 30 years ago from the various departments. However, if you go to the National Grange website, there are resources galore on programs, materials you can download, and Zoom meetings by the Membership/Leadership and Communications Departments. The monthly meetings with Amanda Brozana-Rios and Phil Vonada from these two departments are great and these folks are willing to talk to you and help you in these areas. All you need to do is ask.

There are a plethora of benefits from National Grange; some may be of use and some not-check it out. The State Grange has the loan

program available to allow Granges whose halls need repairs and improvements borrow money at a low rate. There is also the bi-annual \$1000 grant from the Connecticut State Grange Foundation.

This year, we offered the first ever Leadership Academy program. Turnout has been good and I hope to continue this program in the future. Next time, I want to see even more people enrolled.

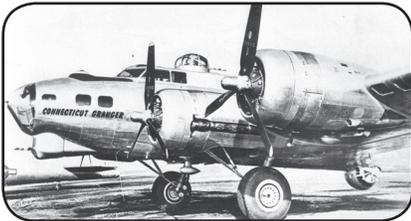
A recent Communications Department Zoom call focused on Granges having what is called a Community Action Roadmap. Some of you will remember years ago, a State Grange team traveled the state and talked to Granges about writing Mission Statements. This is in the same vein and requires some level of analysis on the part of the Grange. It involves ideas such as networking with other groups, the scope of your outreach in the community, and setting achievable goals.

Goals should be specific, relevant, attainable, and measurable. The process involves identifying community resources to achieve those goals. Publicity options figure into the process as well. The entire plan must be monitored so success can be measured and where goals aren't met, you might need to step back, re-evaluate, and change plans to allow goals to be met in new timeframes. Remember that member retention can be as simple as expressing thanks and gratitude to reward hard work. Inviting non-members to help in projects even if they don't actually join the Grange can be valuable community resource. Some may later decide to join. Above all, think outside the box.

Thank you all for the warm welcomes received on my visitations! Hank says thank you as well.

## 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  
**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  
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Granger@CTStateGrange.org

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### State Session..... cont. from pg. 1

You are strongly encouraged to make your reservations with the hotel as soon as possible. Our block will remain open until September 26 but please do not wait until the last minute to call! As I mentioned, this hotel sells out on a regular basis. If we fill our block prior to the deadline and there are no additional rooms to be added... you may be out of luck.

I have included the telephone number to call at the bottom of the registration form printed on the following page. This is the number of the hotel in Norwich. This is the preferred number to call. However, you can also call the corporate reservation line, if necessary. Make sure you mention the Connecticut State Grange room block when you make your reservations and make sure you are quoted the room rates mentioned earlier in this article.

The registration fee has been increased to \$25 per day. Lunch is included with this fee. The cost of the two lunches will take up the majority of the fee with a very small amount left to offset other session expenses. Again, the balance not covered by fees paid by members, is covered by the State Grange.

We work very hard to negotiate contracts with the hotel and the various vendors needed to put on this convention. Making the annual session as affordable as possible has always been the priority of the State Grange Executive Committee and hope you will understand these absolutely necessary changes.

As 2023 is an "off" election year, the Saturday schedule will be slightly shorter without a full installation required on Saturday afternoon.

The schedule is also a bit lighter with election of officers limited to members of the Executive Committee and any vacancies that may have occurred. This means there will be more time to consider resolutions.

I'm sure our Legislative Director joins me in encouraging all

Granges to work on resolutions for consideration at State Session. Brother Miller is always happy to give you a helping hand in writing your resolutions. Just keep in mind all resolutions must be in to the State Grange by September 15 to be properly assigned to committees and to allow them to meet in their pre-session committee meetings.

The Sixth Degree is scheduled for Saturday beginning at 3:00 P.M. and

hope every Grange is encouraging members to receive their Sixth Degree. This year is extra special with National Grange meeting the following month in Niagara Falls, NY. It will be a number of years before National will again return to the Northeast Region.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about State Session. We look forward to seeing all of you in Norwich!

### How to book your room at the



- 1) Call the Holiday Inn Norwich (not the Corporate Reservation line) at 860-889-5201.
- 2) Tell them you are reserving a room in the Connecticut State Grange room block.
- 3) The rate they quote should be \$109 plus taxes for Thursday, \$129 plus taxes for Friday & Saturday nights.
- 4) Make your reservation before September 26, 2023. If there are rooms left after that date they will be at the standard "rack" rate, not our special group rate.
- 5) Call the State Secretary if you are charged a different rate or if you have any difficulties.



## Thanks from the FFA

For many years, the CT State Grange has sponsored the Forestry Contests at the CT FFA State Convention. We wanted to share some of the thank you notes received from participants.

"Thank you so much for sponsoring the 2023 Connecticut State Forestry Career Development event. This event really helped to further my interest in forestry and I am so grateful that now I have the opportunity to attend the FFA National Convention and further prove myself. Sincerely, *Julia Duval.*"

"Thank you for sponsoring and hosting the 2022-2023 Forestry Career Development event. This has been a very useful and insightful opportunity, and I will use the experiences and information that I acquired to further improve my skills. I'm extremely grateful to have been given the chance to participate in this even with my friends. Sincerely, *Mizraim Perea.*"

"Thank you for hosting and sponsoring the Forestry Career Development event in 2022-2023. I thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity and haveing such an important goal to strive for. This event helped motivate me to work hard to achieve this goal. In this event I learned a lot of skills and knowledge and where hard work can lead you. Again, thank you so much for the opportunity. Sincerely, *Ismael.*"



# 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 20 & FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21** (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 22** (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

# Is this article real or artificial?

“BREAKING NEWS” - THE BEATLES WILL BE MAKING A NEW ALBUM WITH THE LAST SONG WRITTEN BY JOHN LENNON! Wait, isn't John and George dead? How can it be? Paul McCartney says he has the last taping of this song and will use an artificial intelligence (AI) program to produce this new album. AI will enhance vocals and instrumentation on modern technology rather than the tape that was originally used.

New innovations in AI allow the computer to seek, tabulate, write and present information that can change the world. The programmers who developed the technology have raised warning flags concerning what may happen if it is misused.

The good news is that scientists can use photos of say, the Florida Keys Coral Reef that tourists have uploaded to Facebook or other social media to determine the health and stresses on the coral reef. With all of these photos, it can help determine events that may impact the reef. This can be used with other events to help with real time viewing of natural disasters, crop health, spread of pollution, and natural

resources. AI can help people with disabilities to write and express themselves in real time. It may also help in research by gathering information from more resources quicker than before.

The bad news of using AI is the misuse of the technology to write unverified information that is passed on as proven fact. An AI program was used to pass the Bar Exam without taking a class. Another program was used by a law firm for a Federal court hearing. When the judge reviewed the brief and couldn't find the cases presented by the lawyers, he sent it back and their clerks re-ran it through the AI program with the same paper being presented.\*

Can this technology be the next Wikipedia, anyone and everyone can add or delete facts and fictions as true information. The other issue is that AI programs can recreate your voice and image to make family and friends think it is you, to seek funds, family information, and banking information. Red flags have been raised for our government and businesses across the country to review and detect if there is a need to attach guardrails to this science.

The CT General Assembly has adjourned for the summer passing a State Budget which will bring a

tax break to residents. Early voting will be allowed for elections starting in 2024. Money has been allocated for hiring much needed teachers to fill in the vacancies caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are in better shape than many other states, so keep up the good work.

On May 28 we had a workshop on “How to Write a Resolution” with David Roberts, Terri Fassio, and Vince Scholten, VP of the CA State Grange. It was well attended and I hope everyone did get some knowledge for writing a resolution.

On June 11th we had a “Hemp and Cannabis: the True History Behind It” with Vince Scholten of the CA State Grange. This also was well attended and I wish to thank Dave Roberts for setting up these events for all of our Grangers to participate.

Just a note that part of my last article in the June *Granger* was written by an AI program. Could you tell?

*\*Editor's Note: The lawyer in this case was fined \$5,000 when it was discovered that ChatGPT was used to generate the brief. The lawyer claimed he was unaware that the program was capable of "hallucinating" or making up fake cases and presenting them as factual.*

## Beetle Bailey

Greg Walker, Brian Walker and Neal Walker



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# Resolutions for the State Session

*The following are the first 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. #1 RE: MAINTAINING OPTIONS FOR CONSUMER USE OF COMPUTER-BASED TECHNOLOGY.

**WHEREAS** technology has evolved quickly in all areas of the consumers' daily living, including home, work and community settings, and

**WHEREAS** many traditional means of communication, business transactions and shopping are being phased out and being replaced by electronic methods and virtual formats, and

**WHEREAS** many consumers in rural and urban communities continue to have little to no access for computer use at home for essential activities such as financial tasks and managing healthcare appointments, and

**WHEREAS** many consumers, including seniors or individuals with functional challenges may not be able to adapt to nor prefer to use new technology, and

**WHEREAS** choices should remain for traditional forms of communication (land line telephone use), financial tasks (hard copy bill writing) and methods for consumer assistance (access to a live person).

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Granges and the National Grange encourage recognition of varied consumer needs related to computer use, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Granges support any policy development that would retain options for traditional methods of communication.

**SOURCE:** Greenfield Hill Grange No. 133; Nutmeg Pomona Grange No. 16

**REFERRED: TBD**

## RES.#2: CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE ALCOHOL POLICY

**WHEREAS** the delegates to the 138th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange adopted the policies of Sections 10.11.1 through Section 10.11.5 of the National Digest and authorized the State Grange Executive Committee to outline application requirements for obtaining temporary liquor permits.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Article XI (General Provisions) of the Connecticut State Grange By-Laws be amended to include:

Section 7. Community and Pomona Granges are permitted to have alcoholic beverages at Grange sponsored activities provided Granges obtain host liquor or liquor liability coverage and follow all requirements outlined by the State Grange Executive Committee if it sponsors any events where alcohol will be served.

Section 8. Community and Pomona Granges are permitted to have alcoholic beverages at functions sponsored by non-Grange groups that rent or lease Grange property.

Such renters must provide proof of host liquor or liquor liability coverage.

Section 9. No Grange shall apply for or hold a liquor license/permit except for temporary permits for special events.

Section 10. The Connecticut State Grange Alcohol Policy does not supersede any policies as outlined by National Digest sections 10.11.1 through 10.11.5.

**SOURCE:** Connecticut State Grange Board of Directors

**REFERRED: TBD**

*\*NOTE: This resolution does not propose new policy. Delegates to the 138th Annual Session adopted Resolution #10 whose resolve states:*

***THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Connecticut State Grange adopt the policies of Section 10.11.1 through Section 10.11.5 of the National Grange Digest of Laws to allow local Subordinate and Pomona Granges the ability to apply for a temporary liquor permit in accordance with the State of Connecticut Liquor Control Commission application requirements and to obtain necessary liquor liability insurance, and approval of the Connecticut State Grange Executive Committee.*

*This resolution formally adds this adopted policy to the By-Laws of the Connecticut State Grange.*

## Conn. Pomona regalia gets new life



The Connecticut State Grange was asked by the Master of the RI State Grange if the CT State Grange had any Pomona regalia that we could provide for Kent County Pomona #3 which was in need of a new set. A set of previously used sashes, scarves and a Pomona rug were sent to them and the above is a thank you photo of the Pomona showing the regalia after initiating four new members!



**EASTERN CT POMONA #14**

*Corr: Noel Miller*

**Sept. 9:** Installation of Officers, N. Stonington Grange Hall (World Peace Day).

Election of Officers was held at our last meeting with Jaimie Cameron of Ekonk Community Grange being elected as President of the Pomona. Ted Powell was elected Vice President. Best of luck to them in the upcoming year. I have been a Pomona Master (East Central Pomona & Eastern Connecticut Pomona) for 33 years and it is time to pass the gavel. Thanks to all that came to Pomona to support it these past years.

**GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26**

*Corr: Kathryn Ruff*

**July 6:** Postponed to July 13th. Fireworks Galore, 7:30 p.m. Refreshments: Beverly Bell

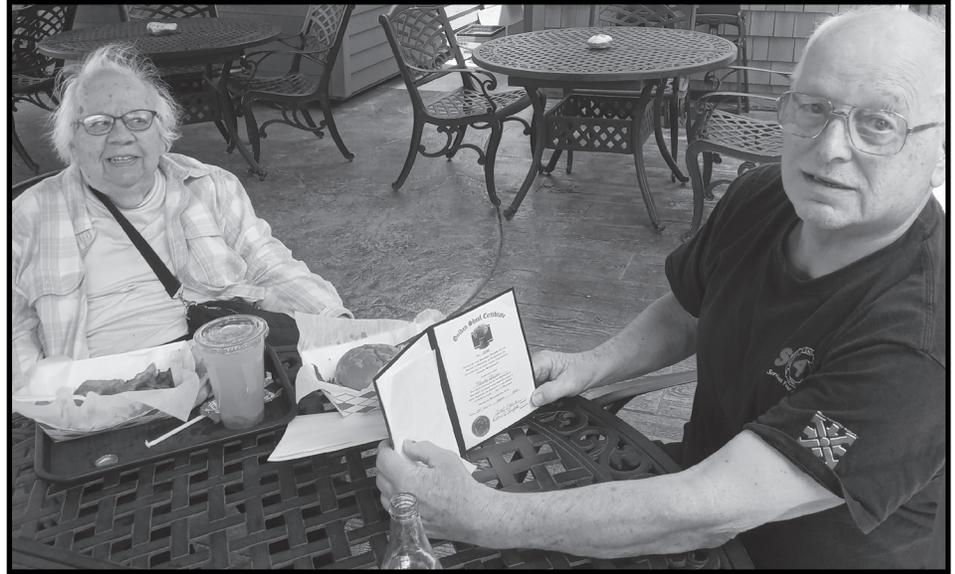
**Aug. 3:** Regular meeting with a member of the CT State Grange Membership Committee. The picnic date will be scheduled at our

**July 13:** Meeting.

Very sorry that we have had to make some changes to our meeting schedule for the summer months.

July 13th we will be inspected by the State Grange Deputy. He was not able to make our July 6th date so we agreed to make the change.

Our August meeting is generally our picnic. BUT - we have asked for help to try to secure new members. Robin Hettrick is able to attend our August meeting. I felt it necessary to hold a regular meeting for her



Charles Lucier of Coventry Grange, receives his 50 Year (Golden Sheaf) Certificate from Noel Miller as his wife, Betty, looks on.

to be able to talk with us and offer suggestions that we can implement to attract new members. We will schedule the picnic date at our July meeting.

Please be sure to attend the August 3rd meeting and feel free to offer your suggestions with Robin. All ideas are welcome. **SECURING NEW MEMBERS IS OUR GOAL!**

Glastonbury wishes all a very Happy 4th of July and enjoyable summer.

**SENEXET GRANGE #40**

*Corr: Diane Miller*

**July 26:** Regular Meeting

**Aug. 2:** Awards night.

We have had regular meetings with lots to discuss. What kind of programs should we have, how can we get more members involved? We are pleased to be able to offer our hall for other groups. The line dancing group was very popular. Yoga group is also using the hall on a regular basis. Our dinners on Thursday evenings once a month are very popular. After our inspection we have purchased 3 new manuals. We also discussed what we can do to have fun, like attend a local concert or go to a local point of interest. A Locally Grown event on August. The event in 2022 was very popular and many farms and shops

were involved. We will be having our annual Awards night program on August 2. These awards will be given to long time members as well as the scholarship winners. We will welcome any members or guests.

**VERNON GRANGE #52**

*Corr: Irene Percoski*

**July 7:** Midsummer Nights

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

**Sept. 1:** International PeaceDay (World Peace)

As I write this, we are all staying indoors as the pollution from the fires in Canada make breathing a problem. The air looks all hazy and looks like it is twilight.

We honored Polly Schaefer with the Community Citizen's award at our June meeting. Polly has been an invaluable volunteer for veterans, not only in Vernon but many surrounding towns. She has selflessly given her time, with the help of her husband Carl, in providing help with applications for veteran's aid, transportation, delivering meals and securing housing and so much more. Plans for a craft night are in place for July 14 at 6 p.m. Come and be crafty with friends. In August we will honor members with certificates along with the pot luck picnic. Congratulations to Dot Dimmock who recently celebrated her 100th birthday, and get well wishes to Elizabeth, who was in an accident.

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.

By now our junk in the trunk sale will be history and hope everything sells well. I don't know if Midsummer Knights are any different from any other kind of Knight, but stop at our July Meeting to find out. The door is always open and friends are welcome.

### COVENTRY GRANGE #75

*Corr: Noel Miller*

#### July 6: Independence Day

We gave Charles Lucier his 50 year certificate with his family while they were dining at the Maine Moose Restaurant in Columbia. Many projects are on-going at the Grange during the summer.

### HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

*Corr: Frank Forrest*

On Thurs., July 20, Hillstown Grange is having a special Garden Talk "All About Cannabis/Hemp Growing". We are going to cover the laws governing Cannabis/Hemp. Also, some of the how to grow this complicated plant, there is so much to learn.

Hemp was once the prime agricultural product in New England where it was used for rope and sails for sailing ships. Our modern weighing systems were developed to weigh loads of hemp on wagon scales.

The Garden Talk will start at its usual time from 7 to 8:30 and will take place at Hillstown Grange Hall, 617 Hills Street, East Hartford. So come on down. We will also be going virtual via Zoom. Either way bring your questions, ideas for workshops and presentations or quite possibly community outreach projects that might make your neighborhood a little healthier and much friendlier. Refreshments will be available.

For more information on this event or to register for Zoom information call Frank at 860-690-2845 or e-mail: hillstowngrange@aol.com or Dan Gallagher at daninct@yahoo.com.

### N. STONINGTON GRANGE #138

*Corr: Nancy Weissmuller*

Aug. 4 I haven't Got "Operation"  
Aug. 25 I Haven't Got "Battleship"

School is over and Master Robert Miner has presented our \$1,000 Scholarship to a graduating senior



Members and family of Ekonk Community Jr. Grange participated in the Sterling Memorial Day Parade in May.

from Wheeler High School.

Our annual picnic was cozy and delicious. The rain stayed away, Mike did a great job of grilling the hot dogs and cheeseburgers to perfection and there was a variety of pot luck food to tempt every appetite. It was good to see Scott, whose busy schedule has kept him away from meetings for a while. Hope to see him more often.

Please note the date change for our first meeting in August. The New London County 4 H, whose Expo is held on our grounds each year, has moved their date to the second weekend in August; so we are meeting on the first Friday. The ladies will be in charge of the program that night and the gentlemen will provide refreshments. The tables will be turned on the 4th Friday with the Gentlemen providing the program.

Local carpenters have been at work in our hall. A kitchen cabinet has been removed and the big freezer that has spent many years in the downstairs hall has taken its place. This makes the hall appear much bigger and it is more convenient for the kitchen workers. Thanks to all who worked on the project. And if that mountain lion who has been seen lurking around town will just stay away from my yard, next time we will tell you all about Jolly July.

### EKONK COMM. JR. GRANGE #101

*Corr: Rebecca Gervais*

In late-April, we held a pancake breakfast. All of the profits went to Friend's of Assisi, a local food pantry. With our suggestion, it was determined that the money will be distributed as vouchers for local farmer's markets. This way, we are supporting agriculture and our community. We donated \$305.00.

In May our literary program was STEM related. The Juniors decorated and designed wooden paddle boats, points were given for design and buoyancy. Their boats had to be able to 'paddle' a pre-determined distance, and weights were placed upon each boat to see who's boat could take on the most weight before sinking. We determined that weight distribution is very important.

In May we held a Pet Food Drive at Plainfield Agway. We distributed the donated dog food to the local pound and the cat food to Kitty Harbor. Monetary donations that were collected totaled: \$184.38. We voted to donate \$100.00 to Kitty Harbor, and \$100.00 to All Paws on Deck; both local shelters.

In May, we also marched in the Sterling Memorial Day Parade.



**MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15**

*Corr: Todd A. Gelineau*

Mountain Laurel Pomona met in June and held Election of Officers at Riverton Grange Hall. Two notable changes are the new Secretary and Treasurer. Judy Doyle of Granby & Riverton Granges will now be Pomona Secretary and Carol Innes, also of Granby, will be the new Treasurer. Congratulations to them both.

The next meeting of Pomona is scheduled for August 26 at Bethlehem (Bethlehem Memorial Hall) beginning at 2:00 P.M.

**GRANBY GRANGE #5**

*Corr: Dave Roberts*

Granby Grange is grieving the loss of longtime member Thomas Sheldon, who passed away on May 28th after a long illness. Tom was always cheerful and ready to help the Grange and will be greatly missed.

We set up a booth at the Salmon Brook Historical Society Flea Market on May 20 where we sold some of our antiques, flowers, plants and other items. It also gave the community a chance to get to know us better, even though we got rained on halfway through. We also held a very successful flower and plant sale the next weekend.

We planted the leftover vegetables, herbs and flowers and will soon be setting out our pumpkins and winter squash, with a pumpkin patch for the fall. Our former BBQ pit has been dismantled and is now our garden area. We hope to donate vegetables to the Waste Not Want Not food pantry and selling some on our soon to be repaired stand at the front of



Skip Maddox, President of Bethlehem Grange No. 121, delivering potato and bean seed donations to Nonnewaug High School's Ellis Clark Vocational Ag. Program. They will be used in the school garden to grow vegetables for donation to the local food bank.

the property.

Granby, along with Riverton, Wallingford and Simsbury members, participated in the Walk 4 Hearing fundraiser at Dunkin' Stadium on June 10. There were 12 Grangers and one beautiful Finnish dog who walked the bases. We raised over \$800 for the American School for the Deaf in West Hartford.

Our neighbor, Granby Shannon-Shattuck American Legion Post #182, has volunteered to mow our grass as a public service and will also be rototilling our garden area. We are thrilled and thankful for this gesture. Our grounds are looking better all the time with improvements and a growing presence in Granby.

**WHIGVILLE GRANGE #48**

*Corr: Debbie Brown*

The Whigville Grange met with the Whigville Preservation (WPG) group last month. As a result, we have 6 new members, and hopefully more to come. The WPG has been instrumental in keeping the building going. Paint, new well, repairs and more. The new members will be installed next month. This should also open up the opportunity to hand off some officers' jobs, with new members "shadowing" old as they learn about the Grange. Our by-laws have changed. This is to change our monthly meeting date and time to the second Tuesday at 6pm. This reflects

a date and time that more members can attend.

We have been approached by the town of Burlington to provide a space for a park and rec sponsored community theater program for the summer. They no longer have a spot to use. We would charge them for the true cost of using the building, weekdays in July. Does any Grange have a contract that we could copy? I understand about the grange being on a certificate of insurance, but something more specific?

All in all I think we are finally coming out of the doldrums that almost ended our Grange. Planning is underway for our usual fair, Tavern Day booth, and cookie walk.

**WINCHESTER GRANGE #74**

*Corr: Todd A. Gelineau*

**July 11:** Let's Go Swimming, Ref. Sue Addison

**July 25:** In the Good Old Summertime (Country Store), Ref. Rae Fassio

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

**Aug. 22:** Awards Night- Open House, Picnic Supper

**Aug. 12:** Grange Fair & Comm. Tag Sale, 9 to 2.

Winchester's first public event (other than our annual Grange Fair) was held on June 24-- our Super Prize Party (re-branded as the Teacup Auction). The hall was filled with

*Continued next page...*

eager guests and lots of great prizes. Our thanks to Patrick O'Brien who went above and beyond to solicit prizes from so many local businesses. Even the former Mayor donated the use of a pontoon boat with wine and cheese as a prize. Before expenses, the auction raised just over \$1,000.

There was considerable debate at the Grange about bringing back our Strawberry Festival for this year and it was decided to put that off one year and hold the Teacup Auction instead this year. With the minimal amount of work and the donated prizes, our only expense is the snacks and drinks sold. In the end, the profit is much more considering the huge expense of the Strawberry Festival.

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes, worked the event and bought tickets.

**TAGHANNUCK GRANGE #100**

*Corr: Barbara Prindle*

**July 13:** Summer by Ruth Schnell, Ref. by Warren Prindle

**Aug. 10:** Hobby Night by All. Ref. by Bill Beeman

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

Refreshments and social time begins at 7 P.M. with the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Our Plant & Rummage Sale in June was a huge success and raised the most money ever. A big THANK YOU goes out to all who helped with the sale including setting up inside and outside, picking up the plants, people who worked the sale, people who donated to the sale and/or make food for the workers, help with clean-up and everyone else who I have forgotten. We had four articles in two different papers including photos of the set-up and the 2nd day of the sale. The extra vegetable plants were donated to Produce to the People.

We plan on visiting Stanford Grange #808 for their Installation of Officers on July 11th at 7:00 P.M. Would anyone like to join us there? The address is: 6047 NY-82, Stanfordville, NY 12581.

On July 24th we are having Town of Sharon Democratic Caucus take place in our Grange Hall. There will be refreshments afterwards and information about our Grange on display. This will bring new people



A 48 star flag was found among the donations to the Riverton Grange/American Legion Flag Retirement Ceremony. It was last flown on July 3, 1959 prior to the admission of Hawaii & Alaska to the Union. The flag was donated to the American Legion for preservation.

into our hall who live in Sharon and have an interest in our community as this is a municipal election year.

**RIVERTON GRANGE #169**

*Corr: David Roberts*

**July 2:** Honoring our Vet. of the Month, Barkhamsted Sr. Ctr., 6 PM

**July 4:** Barkhamsted Ind. Day Parade, 10:30 start, be in place by 10 A.M.

**July 7:** Meeting & Program, CWA Program. Ref. Dawn & Rode Anstett

On Friday, June 2, Riverton Grange met and received an update on our Hall Renovation Project. The front porch will be restored and missing vinyl siding pieces will be replaced utilizing the ARPA funds received from the Town of Barkhamsted. Judy Doyle informed us that a grant proposal for the NW Comm. Foundation for funds to repair and renovate our historic hall did not make the initial round but may be considered later in the year. New member Chris Wright was thanked for repairing our back door with his excellent skills.

We also held our election of officers who will be installed on September 15.

While sorting through the 1,000+

donated flags donated for retirement, a 48 star American flag was found and donated to the Shannon-Shattuck American Legion Post #182. This flag was flown on July 3, 1959 prior to the admission of Alaska and Hawaii into the Union. The flag was in good condition and organizers of the flag retirement felt it should not be retired. Due to the demand, Riverton Grange is offering this ceremony twice a year open to the public, once around Flag Day and once around Veterans Day.

The 34th Annual Riverton Grange Fair will be held on Aug. 19 from 10 to 2., free to the public. Entries can be submitted online, by mail, or in person. Deadline is Aug. 15. Juniors are also welcome to exhibit. Visit our website [rivertongrange.org](http://rivertongrange.org) or contact our Fair President Judy Doyle at [msjudysemporium@yahoo.com](mailto:msjudysemporium@yahoo.com).

**BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121**

*Corr: Al Maddox*

**July 9:** Sunday, 2:00 P.M., Pizza Night

**Aug. 13:** 2:00 P.M.

Potatoes and string beans were given to Nonnewaug High School's VoAg program. Carol W. won the baking contest.



**WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33**

*Corr: Kathy Aubrey-Bergonzi*

**July 13:** Fair Committee meeting 6p & Regular Monthly meeting 6:30pm – Writing a Service member

**July 15:** Grange Family Potluck & Cookout. Last names: A-K brings a side dish, L-Z brings a dessert

**Aug 7:** Teacups are due back at the Grange for transportation to the Festival

**Aug 10:** Fair Committee meeting 6p & Regular Monthly meeting 6:30pm  
Sept 13: Working Meeting for the Fair 6pm

**Sept 16:** The 86th Fair!!!! Noon – 6 pm (You won't believe all we have scheduled!)

Wallingford Grange is still plowing away (see what I did there?). We remain very busy cleaning and refurbishing our grand ol' building. She has a such sparkle underneath all those layers of time.

Our regular monthly meeting is the second Thursday of each month. Each meeting and our outreach to members includes the Heirloom program as we are newer in membership. During the June 8th meeting, the Lecturer Program introduce the Families Activity – Teacup Arrangement. A donation of teacups and saucers were available for all to take. Drop off to the Wallingford Grange is on August 7.

In June, our Fairbook Cover Contest concluded. The fair committee reached out to all our 3rd graders in town in both public and private schools, asking them to draw what "Community" meant to them. We picked a cover winner and two inside centerfold winners.



A beautiful *Cercis Canadensis* (Eastern Redbud) tree was planted on Earth Day by the Puches and Duke families in the name of Cannon Grange.

The remaining entries will be hung with pride in our Hall the day of the fair. This will be an annual contest for us to share with our youngsters in Wallingford. A great way to introduce us to them.

June also kept us busy with fundraising. A clothing drive was held on both June 24th & 25th. On June 28th a fundraiser was held at Center Street Brewery (24 Wallace Ave Wallingford). Center Street Brewery has been such a huge supporter of ours. We are truly blessed by them.

**BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103**

*Corr: Joanne Cipriano*

For the first time since the pandemic we had visitors for our 134th anniversary on June 9th. We were honored to have our State Lecturer Dave Roberts, Chaplain Charles Dimmock and Robert Charbonneau of the Public Relations Department visit us. Robert was our Musician for the night.

Continuing with our theme for the year, June flower is the Rose. The hall was decorated with many vases of roses. In front of the Altar was a huge basket of crochet roses made by Grange women when Joanne Cipriano was Flora of the Connecticut State Grange 40 years ago. They were stored in her attic for the past 32 years and looked like they were made the day before the anniversary.

Our semi-annual raffle was a

success. This thanks to all who donated gifts, sold or bought tickets. Next raffle will be held in Decembers. Any and all donations of gifts will be appreciated.

We are continuing with our Spring cleaning. In the last Granger, I said we needed a window washer. Happy to say most of the windows have now been washed.

July 14th our program will be "Water Lily" and we will have our officers planning meeting. Our August 11th program will be "Poppy" and will be our annual picnic with a pot luck supper at 6 o'clock.

We continue with a tag sale the third Saturday of each month from 9 to 3 and Open Mic the same day from 2 to 5. Our Grange door is always open.

**GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133**

*Corr: Stephanie Thompson / Jim & Lori Golias*

Welcome Summer! The Pollinator Pathway was a great success. The event was well received by all that attended. Our engaging speakers were very knowledgeable. The topic: planting a pollinator garden and the awareness of the importance of all pollinators.

All our local nurseries -- also participants of the Pollinator Pathway -- were quite generous with donations of all kinds of plants that attract pollinators.

These plants were raffled off  
*Continued next page...*

along with many other “themed” items. A delicious lunch was served, and there were items for sale also. A small container of Wildflower seeds and a decorated card with helpful hints about the principles of pollinating were given to all in attendance as a thank you from the Grange.

Our Annual Agricultural Fair will be held on Aug. 26, from 10-3. We will be hosting a Lobster Fest on Sept. 9. Our Pumpkin, Mum, Bulb and Bake Sale will be held on Sept. 23. Happy growing and hope to see you at the Grange!

**CANNON GRANGE #152**

*Corr: John Kriz*

The Cannon Grange POH #152 celebrated its 124th birthday with a tree planting along the nearby Norwalk River. With a generous donation from Patricia & Frederick Quell and the volunteer help of the Puches and Duke families, multigenerational planters, a beautiful *Cercis canadensis* (Eastern Redbud) was planted April 21 2023 -- Earth Day. This ornamental pollinator tree is fitting for its riparian buffer edge of the river, and it has a history that is perfect for Cannon Grange’s mission. This native tree has both nutritional value with its edible flowers, and medicinal uses with a long history in North America and Eurasia. Cannon Grange’s historic 1899 building owns over 100 linear feet of Norwalk River waterfront by the Cannondale Bridge. This precious waterfront resource will be replanted over time as we slowly remove its many invasives as Cannon Grange celebrates its 125th in 2024.

The Eastern Redbud is an ornamental multi-stemmed tree with striking pink-lavender spring blossom and butter yellow fall color. It enjoys a riverside location in partial sun and shade. It is a draw for butterflies and other pollinators. It is a recommended tree of the New England Wildflower Society for such sites, offering spring flowers, fall colors, fragrance and shade. It offers nectar for hummingbirds, butterflies



Cheshire Grange Family Activities Chair Jane Miller, put together a display showing the projects their committee has worked on this past year.

and bees, nest sites for birds, and food for caterpillars. It is a magnet

# Don't forget your reports



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

on trips, please don't forget to start filling in your reports. They are not due yet, but you can get a head start and see what areas you still need to complete.

Have you put on at least one program? You still have time. Have you made the monetary donations to the State Secretary? As we get ready for the Needlework contest next month it's hard to believe we are getting ready to close out another year of activities!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the CT State Grange Family Festival August 13th to celebrate our accomplishments for this year as well as reading your reports. Stay safe and have a wonderful summer.



Barbara Robert is honored as Granger of the Year at the 134th Anniversary of Beacon Valley Grange in June. Joanne Cipriano, Master, presented.

for many other species. Beloved for its colors in April and May, it offers heart-shaped leaves that turn butter yellow in the fall. It has a small stature and can therefore grace locations under utility lines. Most of all, it loves the edges of woodlands and a location such as the river edge one Cannon Grange provided here.

**HEMLOCK GRANGE #182**

*Corr: Maureen Sanborn*

- July 14:** 6:00 Picnic and Meeting
- July 28:** Omitted, unless regular meeting is canceled
- Aug. 11:** Hazy, lazy days
- Aug. 25:** Omitted, unless regular meeting is canceled

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.



# Grange resources available

by Terri Fassio, Public Relations Co-Director

The CT State Grange, and in particular the Public Relations Committee, offers a number of resources to Granges and their members.

Here's just a few:

• Did You Know... that past issues of the Connecticut Granger are available in digital form online? Issues are made available for download as PDF files on the CT Granger section of the CT State Grange Website (<http://www.ctstategrange.org/grangerdownloads.asp>) a month or so after the current issue has been mailed. This service has been

offered since 2008, and now includes older archival issues as well, dating back to the very first issue of the CT Granger!

• Did You Know... that past Master's Addresses are available on the CT State Grange website? Complete versions of past Master's Address are available dating back to 1998 by following this link <http://www.ctstategrange.org/MastersAddress.asp>, and then selecting the year from the dropdown box.

• Did You Know... that Resolutions and their results as acted upon at the CT State Grange Annual Session are available online, dating back to 2003? Follow this link <http://www.ctstategrange.org/Resolutions.asp>, and then select the year from the dropdown menu.

• Did You Know... that the CT State Grange website has a list of all the Past State Masters/ Presidents, with photos, dating back to Harvey Goddard, the first Master of the CT State Grange in 1875? Visit <http://www.ctstategrange.org/paststatemasters>.

asp# to view the list - and each photo is clickable to a larger image too!

• Did You Know... that there are over 300 forms, flyers, promotional materials, booklets, resources and more available as digital downloads from the Downloads page on the CT State Grange Website? From the latest Executive Committee Form to Blue Books, Journals of Proceedings and Legislative Handbooks, to promotional posters and much, much more are all available for download. Visit this link - <http://www.ctstategrange.org/downloads.asp> - then select a category from the drop down menu to view all of the different sections of downloads available.

• Did You Know... that the Public Relations Committee offers custom graphic design and printing services to all Connecticut Granges in black/white and color at low costs? Custom Brochures, Flyers, Posters, Banners and Signs and much more are available! Contact Terri or Bob for the details!

• Did You Know... that photography and videography services are available from the Public Relations Committee for awards nights, special meetings, programs and events at your Grange? All we ask is that you give us plenty of advance notice to ensure we can fulfill your needs. Email Bob at [publicrelations@ctstategrange.org](mailto:publicrelations@ctstategrange.org) and discuss the details of your needs.

These are just a few of the many resources available - and the list is continually growing! Contact any member of the committee, or e-mail us at [information@ctstategrange.org](mailto:information@ctstategrange.org) or [publicrelations@ctstategrange.org](mailto:publicrelations@ctstategrange.org) for more information.

**CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE**



**GRANGE CLEAN-UP & Marking Day @ THE BIG E**

**SUNDAY, JULY 23rd Starting at 10:00 AM**

**The New England Grange Building on the grounds of THE BIG E**  
1305 Memorial Ave. West Springfield, MA 01089

- cleaning up the stage area
- checking the inventory from last year
- sort everything and be sure that all items are marked
- repair anything that needs a little TLC

Please RSVP to CT State Grange Family Activities Chair Dawn Percoski at [cwa@ctstategrange.org](mailto:cwa@ctstategrange.org) as lunch will be provided.

For more information: [cwa@ctstategrange.org](mailto:cwa@ctstategrange.org)

**King Beecher Article Correction:** Craig Leifert was listed as King Beecher's grand nephew. He is King's grandson.

# Contests & Projects



**Dave Roberts**  
State Lecturer  
Riverton Grange No. 169  
Lecturer@CTStateGrange.org

We hosted a webinar titled “Just the Fact: Hemp & Cannabis” on June 11, open to all Grange members. The purpose was to share information about hemp and cannabis and the history behind it, including its various agricultural products and uses. Special guest was Vince Scholten, CA State Grange VP. In addition, State President Rob Buck welcomed all attendees.

The Connecticut State Grange participated in the June 3 Walk4Hearing fundraiser at Dunkin’ Park in Hartford. Five Granges (Cawasa, Granby, Riverton, Simsbury and Wallingford) supported our team with either walkers or donors. Fifteen members walked the ballfield and a great time was had by all. Over \$850 was raised for donation to the American School for the Deaf in W. Hartford.

The CT State Grange Lecturer’s Dept. was awarded a \$1,000 deaf awareness grant to collaborate with the Amer. School for the Deaf. Judy Doyle and I plan to meet with representatives of the School to discuss implementation of our event. If you are interested in participating, please let me know.

Don’t forget about the 2023 Photo Contest. This contest is open to all Grangers (Junior, Youth, +1 and Grange). Judging will be held at the CSG Family Festival on Aug. 13 at Hillstown Grange in E. Hartford from 8:30 to 11:00. Winning photos will be displayed at the State Grange Session and then returned.

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 five categories, but are limited to one entry in each category. 3. Entries must

have been taken by the participant since the last State Grange judging. 4. No glass or frames are allowed on photos. 5. Prints 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” and no larger than 11”x14”. 7. Entrants name, contest category, Grange name & number, and phone must be placed on the back of each entry.

Complete Program: Subject for 2023 is “America, 100 Years Ago;

subject for 2024 is “The Impact of Women on Grange”. Each year the complete program should be presented at your Grange. The full program must be sent to the State Lecturer by Sept. 30 each year to be considered. Complete details of the program must be included with your submission.. Length: As appropriate, up to 45 mins.

These are just a couple of this year’s contests... the complete list of contests and their requirements are listed in the 2023-2024 Blue Book. Additional copies (including digital) are available by contacting the State Secretary.



CT State Grange members pose with Chompers, mascot of the Hartford Yard Goats baseball team at the Walk4Hearing event held at Dunkin’ Park in Hartford in June. Over \$850 was raised by the Grange for the American School for the Deaf in West Hartford.

## Easy Carrot Raisin Pineapple Salad



- Ingredients:
- 1/2 Cup Raisins
  - 18 oz. can crushed or cut pineapple chunks
  - 1 lb. low calorie mayonnaise
- Directions:

Drain pineapple into a bowl, set aside pineapple. Put raisins in the pineapple juice to soak for 30 minutes, then drain. Grate carrots. Put carrots into a bowl and toss with the mayo. Mix in the pineapple and raisins. Refrigerate and enjoy.

# 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 received a lot of feedback from June's Window to the Past picture (shown again below):**

We heard from Lynette Schaeffer, President of the Illinois State Grange - "I just received my Connecticut Granger today, and saw an IL Grange face! The Window to the past for June, I believe that it is probably November National Grange Session in Denver, CO 1978. Sarah Jeffers (now Jacobsen) was National Princess from IL. Hope that is helpful - I have no idea who the others might be. I enjoy reading your paper. Thanks for a great job."

Then we heard from Cindy Greer (National Grange Ceres) - "In the photo of

the four people. The couple on the right are Kathy and Ken Reeves from Colorado. They were our Young couple in 1978 and were named National Young Couple that fall. If you have access to a 1978 Journal of Proceeding from National you'll probably find the names of the other two. I will look in our supply to see if I can find it." (And in a second note...) "1978 National Digest lists the following: Sarah Jeffers from Washington, Illinois was the National Princess, Michael Martin of Cunningham, Mass was the National Prince, Kathy & Kenneth Reeves, Arvada Colorado were the National Young Couple."

We also heard from Bill Steel (Past National Grange President from PA) - "I recognize Michael Martin as the National Prince, but sorry, I cannot name the others. I've donated many of my collection of the National Grange Journals of Proceedings to a library in Butler County PA since Master Scott was from there, and we served the Grange together during his term as National Master. I have sent the picture too Brother Martin in hopes that he will let you know the names of the others."

And from Michael Martin (Past National Membership Director) - "I still remember when that photo was taken on the stage

in Denver, Colorado at the National Grange Session in 1978. I was National Grange Prince during the 1979 National Grange Session in Lancaster, Pennsylvania! Sarah Jeffers, Washington, IL, National Grange Princess. Her State Master was Russ Stauffer. Michael Martin, Cummington, MA, National Grange Prince. His State Master was Vernon P. West. Kathy and Ken Reeves, Arvada, CO, National Grange Young Couple. Their State Master was Francis Guthrie. Since you saw this in the *Connecticut Granger*, the State Master at the time was Frank H. Warner. And, of course, William "Bill" Steele was our illustrious National Grange Youth Director at that time. Thanks for the memory; I am appalled I am now considered "Past History"!

Fraternally, Michael J. Martin - Currently an active member of Valley Grange #1360, Lewisberry, Pennsylvania"

Then we heard from Paul Forte from Wolcott Grange as well. He thought the person might be James Palmer when he was younger.





**Charles W. Dimmick**  
State Chaplain  
Cheshire Grange No. 23  
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

## Honor the Sabbath

“Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while” (Mark 6: 31). Jesus is inviting his disciples to take part in a much-needed retreat, one might almost say a “Vacation”. The story in Mark shows that they were not successful in that endeavor, but I want to focus first on the original intent. Throughout the Bible there are instructions to us that we should from time to time take a rest. Our word “Sabbath” is only a slightly modified form of the Hebrew word “Shab bath’ ”, sometimes “Shabbat”, originally meaning “rest” or “day of rest”. It, in turn, derives from the verb “Shavath” or “Shabath”, meaning to desist from exertion.

The creation story in Genesis states that God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. The word used in the original Hebrew for “rested” is “Shabath”. Now, God did not rest because he



was tired or weary, but rather it is an indication that his work was done. In Exodus it is stated that he was refreshed on the seventh day, in this case refreshed by the satisfaction of a job well done.

Jesus famously said: “the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath” God tells us to take a day of rest primarily because it will do us good to do so, not because of an arbitrary law. And my personal opinion is that it is not vitally important that the day of rest be a Sunday. For some people, such as clergy, it is necessary to work on Sunday. My mother always chose Wednesday as her sabbath, because she was able to take a break from her chores on that day, go to the Wednesday morning Church service, and spend the rest

of the day relaxing.

Another point about having a day of rest is one should include God in your rest period. Going to Church on Sunday morning is one way to do this, but it is not necessarily the only way. In our Gospel lesson from Mark, Jesus did not tell the disciples that they should “go away”, but rather “come away”. He was going with them. “To a deserted place”, to a place where they could be alone with him, a religious retreat, as it were.

### *In Memoriam*

**Helen Cadwell**

*Stafford Grange No. 1*

**Thomas Sheldon**

*Granby Grange No. 5*

*“Well done, good and faithful servants.”*