



the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

Published Monthly

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The Official News Magazine of the Connecticut State Grange

September 2025

From the President's Desk



Robert Buck
State President

Bethlehem Grange No. 121
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As summer is winding down, I see changes in birding as to who is getting ready to migrate away or maybe already has, and who is most active. Hot steamy days and the insects they bring make the flycatchers happy, while the goldfinches are in their breeding season so you'll hear them singing. Typically Granges slow down a bit in summer and plan for the following year. Likewise, the Grange is changing and as time changes the world we live in, the Grange MUST change to keep up with it.

The State Grange hosted the Family Activities Day at Hillstown Grange #87 and the Grange Plot Dedication in Peoples State Forest in Barkhamsted this summer in August. I was glad to see them well attended. With the Annual State Session coming fast, anyone who has looked at the schedule will have seen the Membership and Public Relations presentation entitled "When Tradition Meets Reality", aimed at addressing changes we are seeing creep into how our various Granges are being operated on the spectrum from traditional to non-traditional and the implications therein for the future of the Order. Another change mentioned

previously was the moving of Mountain Laurel Pomona's Fifth Degree from May to August, both to relieve a conflict in schedules, and to hopefully allow late year Grange joiners an additional chance to take the Fifth Degree before State

Session. The hope was to gain more candidates for the Sixth Degree by spacing out Fifth Degree conferrals.

Being that we are approaching a change of seasons, it is good time to think of making changes in your Grange. Look to your past but tried and true successful programs and plan to continue them but

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Grange Plot Dedicated



State President Robert Buck speaks to the crowd gathered at the new Grange Plot monument in Peoples State Forest in Barkhamsted on Sunday, Aug. 24.

Todd A. Gelineau, State Secretary

In 1930, the members of the Connecticut State Grange collected \$500 to purchase 20 acres of land to be donated to the new Peoples State Forest in Barkhamsted, CT. The plot of land was then known as the King Farm.

Decades later, in 1976, members of the Grange gathered at the Forest in celebration of the Bicentennial, joined by National President

John Scott and his wife Dorothy. During the celebration, a Norway spruce was planted with a plaque commemorating the planting of the tree and the celebration.

In 2023, State Lecturer Dave Roberts returned to the Forest to take pictures of the plot for the upcoming State Grange History Book. Unfortunately, the tree and its plaque, along with memory of

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Connecticut State Grange
A part of the National Grange



NEXT ISSUE:
Articles Due September 15

From the President's Desk

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maybe with some minor changes or additions to freshen things up a bit. Look to other Granges and local groups for new ideas. The Oxford Historical Society, of which I am also President, has held a Peach Festival for some years wherein we serve peach shortcake and have an extensive display of captioned historical photos from Oxford's past. The town, believe it or not, has quite a history in peach farming with the former Hale Orchards (Past President of the CT State Grange).

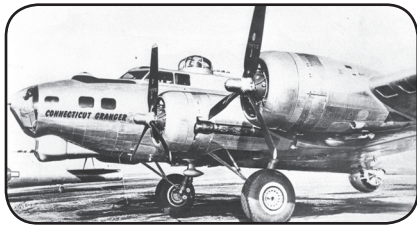
This has been very successful, as has our April Fiber Festival. A couple of years ago, we added an October tractor show because those with older tractors love to show them off. We are also getting programs up and running centered on our relocated and restored Mr. Munn's one room school house. The point is that you should be trying out new things in our Granges to appeal to your local residents and bring them into your halls where you can talk membership.

Some time ago at a Board Meeting, Nancy Strong invited us to attend the Fun Day at Strong Family Farm, so on Aug. 16, Maggie and I drove out to spend several hours with Grangers at Vernon. I was glad to hear of several, including Alma Graham, who preceded our arrival. Hank heard "farm" and was in the car waiting with baited breath for our departure! We all had a great time looking around at the chickens, ducks, the farm store (the fudge we bought was great!), the gardens, and watching kids doing crafts with Dawn Percoski and having a great time. What a great place the Strong Family has developed. Agricultural tourism or "agri-tourism" is part of the newer face of agriculture everywhere.

With all the changes in society, one that bothers me is the lack of apparent respect for motor vehicle laws. When I took drivers' education classes in Hamden High School, one of our classroom sessions was taught by our resource police officer. He explained the necessity of stopping at STOP signs in this way: STOP, he said means to STOP or cease motion of the motor vehicle. It does not mean to merely slow down and he emphasized his point the following way saying that if he apprehended one (a law breaker, hopefully) and commenced to beat on that individual and the person was to cry STOP, that plea indicated the person wanted a CESSATION of the beating, not a slowing down of its intensity. A "rolling stop" is not a STOP at all. In regards to the Grange, we have our Digest of Laws and various By-Laws of the State, Pomona and Subordinate Granges. How many of us are committing the "rolling stop sin of commission" in our interpretation and carrying through of our by-laws? Remember that to be a Grange member, one must be initiated into membership in one of the accepted ways. Our membership rosters should not be lists of people making donations but never initiated. Read over your by-laws and familiarize yourself with them as we should all be following them or end up risking our Charters.

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
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P.O. Box 3

Winchester Center, CT 06094
or Todd Gelineau, Editor
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(USPS 563-220)

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Chaplain, Second Degree

Grange Plot

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their location had faded into history.

Following extensive research by Dave Roberts, Janet Haller (Cheshire Grange) and Paul Hart of the Barkhamsted Historical Society, the plot was relocated and efforts were made with the cooperation of Park Rangers to mark the parcel for generations to come.

In keeping with the original purchase of the land, individual members were asked to contribute money towards the new marker, rather than having the State Grange purchase the plaque outright. Over 30 donors stepped up to donate the funds to purchase the plaque which ended up costing more than double the original cost of the land in 1930.

Judy Doyle of Riverton Grange selected a suitable boulder that was found on the plot. The boulder was moved by the Town of Barkhamsted to its new site along Park Rd. and the new plaque was permanently affixed.

On Sunday, August 24 nearly 50 members gathered at the monument for the unveiling by State President Robert Buck and Paul Hart.

In his remarks, Mr. Hart gave history of the previous owners of the property along with the King family. Some attending the unveiling recalled passing by this property when the brick farmhouse was still standing and the driveway was where the new monument stands.

We were honored to have the Riverton American Legion Post #159 color guard on hand to present the colors and to honor the military with a rifle salute.

Following the ceremony, over 85 Grangers, friends and guests enjoyed a pulled pork dinner at Riverton Grange Hall, catered by the Barkhamsted Seniors and served by members of Riverton Grange.



A capacity crowd enjoyed dinner at the Riverton Grange Hall following the ceremony at Peoples State Forest.



(Above left) Paul Hart, Vice President of the Barkhamsted Historical Society. (Above right) The Riverton American Legion Color Guard.





Convention Registration

Thursday, October 16 - Saturday, October 18

HOTEL RESERVATIONS DUE: SEPT. 10

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.

Grange Name _____ No. _____

DELEGATES (Complete this section only if you were selected your Grange's Delegates to Session)

Delegate Name _____
 Sessions: ____ Full (\$50) ____ Thurs./Fri. (\$25) ____ Saturday (\$25) \$ ____
 Attending lunch on Friday? ____ Yes ____ No Banquet Choice # ____ (\$35) \$ ____
 Email: _____

Delegate Name _____
 Sessions: ____ Full (\$50) ____ Thurs./Fri. (\$25) ____ Saturday (\$25) \$ ____
 Attending lunch on Friday? ____ Yes ____ No Banquet Choice # ____ (\$35) \$ ____
 Email: _____

NON-DELEGATES

Name _____
 Sessions: ____ Full (\$50) ____ Thurs./Fri. (\$25) ____ Saturday (\$25) \$ ____
 Attending lunch on Friday? ____ Yes ____ No Banquet Choice # ____ (\$35) \$ ____

Name _____
 Sessions: ____ Full (\$50) ____ Thurs./Fri. (\$25) ____ Saturday (\$25) \$ ____
 Attending lunch on Friday? ____ Yes ____ No Banquet Choice # ____ (\$35) \$ ____

JUNIOR MEMBERS (This section is for Junior Grange and Plus 1 members)

Junior Granger Name _____
 Sessions: ____ Full (\$20) ____ Thurs./Fri. (\$10) ____ Saturday (\$10) \$ ____
 Attending lunch on Friday? ____ Yes ____ No Banquet Choice # ____ (\$35) \$ ____

Junior Granger Name _____
 Sessions: ____ Full (\$20) ____ Thurs./Fri. (\$10) ____ Saturday (\$10) \$ ____
 Attending lunch on Friday? ____ Yes ____ No Banquet Choice # ____ (\$35) \$ ____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

CELEBRATION BANQUET (FRIDAY Evening at 7:00 P.M.)

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) 12 oz. Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus | 3) Stuffed Filet of Sole with Seafood Stuffing |
| 2) Chicken Piccata with Lemon Caper Sauce | 4) Eggplant Parmesan |

Entrees include a Herb Roasted Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Garden Salad, White Chocolate Raspberry Cheesecake.

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 10, 2025

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

Resolutions for Consideration at the 141st Annual Session

The following are all resolutions received to date. Time permitting, any additional resolutions received will be printed in the next issue. Session Committee assignments of these resolutions will be printed in the next issue.

1)RE: SUPPORT FOR ORGANIZ. ADVOCATING FOR PUBLIC ACT NO. 25-33

WHEREAS Connecticut has enacted a new law on May 28, 2025, Public Act No. 25-33 (formerly SB9), passed with strong bi-partisan support, that bans the non-agricultural use of neonicotinoid pesticides on approximately 300,000 acres of lawns, golf courses, and turf fields (which is 10% of the entire state), taking effect in 2027, and

WHEREAS these pesticides are among the most harmful in use as they kill pollinators, contaminate waterways, and contribute to the decline of many bird species, according to the Connecticut Audubon Society, and

WHEREAS according to the Connecticut Audubon Society, birds like the Eastern Towhee, Indigo Bunting, Blue-Winged Warbler, and Field Sparrow have seen population drops of 60-80%, along with even more familiar backyard birds, such as Eastern Bluebirds and American Robins, who are at greater risk, when exposed to this type of pesticide, and

WHEREAS the law aims to reduce the negative impact of these pesticides on all wildlife, particularly birds and butterflies, and to improve the overall environmental health of Connecticut, and

WHEREAS the law also restricts access to second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs), making them accessible only to trained applicators, which aims to protect all wildlife according to the American Bird Conservancy, and

WHEREAS if a request to use neonicotinoid pesticides in Connecticut is submitted to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station will then determine if "no other effective control option is available," and

WHEREAS neonicotinoids can still be used on trees and ornamental shrubs and other agricultural uses but anyone

in agriculture who uses these pesticides must be licensed every five years by the state, and

WHEREAS the Connecticut Audubon Society, the American Bird Conservancy, Surfrider CT, and other conservation groups played a significant role in advocating for the bill's passage through an organization called Connecticut Pesticide Reform whose mission is to "pass legislation that will restrict the use of dangerous pesticides to protect the health of humans, birds pollinators, and marine life, and reduce pollution that is putting the state's waters, wetlands, and wildlife at risk," and

WHEREAS the next steps involve implementation, monitoring, further research of these pesticides on aquatic ecosystems and human health, and potential expansion of restrictions to other areas and uses.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange take a stance that commits to supporting the Connecticut Audubon Society, the American Bird Conservancy, Surfrider CT, and other conservation groups involved in advocacy of this law and further similar legislation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange communicate its support to the Connecticut Audubon Society, the American Bird Conservancy, Surfrider CT, and other conservation groups, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange emphasize the need for raising public awareness about the dangers of neonicotinoid pesticides and how promoting alternative pest control methods is crucial for wildlife and the greater environment in these communities.

SOURCE: Winchester Grange #74; Mountain Laurel Pomona Grange #15

2) RE: CONN. STATE GRANGE SCHOLARSHIPS

WHEREAS the Connecticut State Grange scholarship program offers two different kinds of Scholarships. The first is a \$500 incentive scholarship for first year students. The second is a full scholarship offered to students in their second year and beyond, and

WHEREAS the cost of a college education has increased dramatically

Continued next page

Session Committee Assignments

CREDENTIALS/CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

Chair: Dave Roberts

Vice Chair: Patrick O'Brien

Mountain Laurel Pomona #14

Beacon Valley #103

Cheshire #23

Granby #5

Higginum #124

Norfield #146

Riverton #169

Stonington #168

GOOD OF THE ORDER/ MEMBERSHIP/MASTER'S ADD.

Chair: Donald Lanoue

Vice Chair: Charles Dimmick

Nutmeg Pomona #15

Bethlehem #121

Coventry #75

Greenfield Hill #133

Hillstown #87

North Stoughton #138

Senexet #40

Taghannuck #100

Whigville #48

Hillstown Jr. #87

LEGISLATIVE/INSURANCE

Chair: Jaimie Cameron

Vice Chair: Ted Powell

Eastern Connecticut Pomona #14

Bridgewater #153

Ekonk Community #89

Harmony #92

Killingly #112

Oxford #194

Simsbury #197

Vernon #52

Winchester #74

Ekonk Comm. Jr. #101

AGRICULTURE/CONSERV./ ENVIRONMENT

Chair: A. Ruel Miller

Vice Chair: Noel Miller

Cannon #152

Hemlock #182

Lyme #147

Redding #15

Stafford #1

Wallingford #33

Wolcott #173

Resolutions

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over the last decade, and

WHEREAS students are increasingly relying on loans to fill the gap between financial aid and contributions from family and savings, and

WHEREAS most of the students applying for Connecticut State Grange student loans are applying for \$10,000 loans each and every year, and

WHEREAS as few as one or two applications are received each year for the \$500 scholarship.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the \$500 incentive scholarship for first year students be eliminated and full scholarships be available to all college students beginning in their first year.

SOURCE: Winchester Grange #74; Mountain Laurel Pomona Grange #15

3) RE: STRONG OPPOSITION TO AN ANNUAL DUES INCREASE FOR ALL MEMBERS

WHEREAS the proposed National Grange Resolution 726, passed in 2024 (Year 1), seeks to amend Chapter IV, Section 4.8.2B, Sec. 4.8.2F and Sec. 4.8.2G of the National Grange By-Laws to implement a significant increase in dues for all members, including an increase in dues for Subordinate Granges, E-Members and Associate Grange members, and

WHEREAS the increase in dues from \$14 to \$20 for Subordinate Grange members and from \$36 to \$46 for E-Members is a substantial financial burden on individuals and families, particularly during times of economic uncertainty, and

WHEREAS the proposed increase of \$1.50 quarterly dues for each Subordinate Grange member and \$2.50 for each family membership starting January 1, 2026, represents a 43% increase in dues for individual members payable to National Grange and a 33% increase for family memberships payable to the National Grange, further straining the financial well-being of members and their ability to participate in Grange activities actively, and

WHEREAS the financial impact of this increase, if passed again in 2025 (Year 2), could lead to decreased membership and participation, weakening the sense of community and shared purpose that the Grange fosters among its members,

and

WHEREAS many members, particularly those in rural and economically disadvantaged areas, may find it challenging to afford the higher dues, resulting in their exclusion from valuable Grange resources and community-building opportunities, and

WHEREAS the Grange has always been committed to ensuring accessibility to all who seek to join and participate, and an increase in dues at this scale contradicts that longstanding commitment, and

WHEREAS the National Grange should prioritize exploring more sustainable and equitable financial strategies that do not place undue financial strain on its members, especially those who rely on the Grange for connection, support, and enrichment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of Riverton, Granby and Whigville Granges strongly oppose the provisions of Resolution 726 proposing the increased annual dues for all members, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the National Grange explore alternative avenues for strengthening its financial position without imposing such a substantial and disproportionate dues increase on its members, ensuring that future resolutions promote both financial sustainability and accessibility for all members, regardless of their economic situation, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED this resolution be formally communicated to the Connecticut State Grange and the National Grange leadership, with a request to reconsider the proposed dues increase and engage in further dialogue with members to assess more equitable solutions to funding the future of the National Grange.

SOURCE: Granby Grange #5, Whigville Grange #48, Riverton Grange #169 and Mountain Laurel Pomona Grange #15

4) RE: VIDEO RECORDING DEVICES ON ALL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS public transportation systems, including buses, trains, subways and paratransit services, are used by millions of Americans each day and are essential to mobility, especially in urban, rural, and underserved communities, and

WHEREAS the safety of passengers, drivers, and transit workers is a top priority, and incidents of violence, harassment, vandalism, and other criminal behavior on public transportation continues to be reported across the country, and

WHEREAS the presence of video recording devices (cameras) on public transportation vehicles has been shown to deter criminal activity, aid in law enforcement investigations, and enhance overall passenger confidence and security, and

WHEREAS many municipalities and transit agencies have already implemented onboard surveillance systems with measurable success, yet the adoption remains inconsistent across regions, and

WHEREAS the National Grange, as an historic advocate for rural infrastructure, public safety, and community welfare, is uniquely positioned to support common-sense measures that improve the quality and safety of public services.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange respectfully request the National Grange advocate for the installation of video recording devices on all forms of public transportation nationwide, with appropriate privacy protections and transparency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the National Grange urge Congress, the U.S. Department of Transportation, and other relevant agencies to prioritize funding, guidance, and incentives to support the deployment of onboard camera systems on public transit vehicles, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted by the Connecticut State Grange to the National Grange for consideration at the next annual National Grange Convention.

SOURCE: Whigville Grange #48; Mountain Laurel Pomona Grange #15

5) RE: FOOD SAFETY AWARENESS

WHEREAS the non-profit, non-partisan group, the International Food Information Council (IFIC), is the preeminent source for food insights through their numerous surveys for over 20 years in the United States and worldwide, and

WHEREAS the IFIC conducted a Food and Health Survey in 2025, gauging

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Resolutions

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how U.S. consumers think, feel and act around food and beverages, with a focus on food and ingredient safety and how that influences purchasing decisions, and

WHEREAS according to the 2025 IFIC Food and Health Survey, American confidence in the safety of the U.S. food supply has hit a record low of 55%, falling from a high of 78% in 2012, across all demographics, and

WHEREAS the results of the survey shows that Americans' Top 5 food safety concerns are: 1) Foodborne illness from bacteria, 2) Carcinogens or cancer-causing chemicals in food, 3) Pesticides/Pesticide residues, 4) Heavy metals in food, 5) Food additives and ingredients (such as food colorings and no-calorie sweeteners), and

WHEREAS the results of the survey shows that the safety of the U.S. food supply is increasingly driven by belief or disbelief that coordination takes place across the food system, and

WHEREAS the top reasons for the lack of confidence include believing profit is prioritized over safety (reported by 59%), not believing everyone across the food system is working together to ensure safety (54%), not believing the federal government's regulations on safety are strict enough (46%), and the belief that there are too many recalls (43%), and

WHEREAS according to the same IFIC survey, to increase confidence in the safety of the U.S. food supply, Americans want to know more about what is being done to keep food safe, and

WHEREAS: Understanding food safety is crucial for protecting public health, ensuring consumer confidence, and promoting sustainable practices, and

WHEREAS this understanding helps prevent foodborne illnesses, enhances product quality, and minimizes economic losses; and also contributes to the building of trust with consumers, complies with legal requirements, and can even contribute to global trade.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange support the benefits of food safety, which includes reduction of medical costs due to illness and prevention of product recalls, and

as such increases consumer confidence through stronger regulations and transparency about how food companies and the government keep food safe, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Connecticut State Grange takes action through communication to the regulatory body in the state - The CT Department of Consumer Protection - and encourage the promotion throughout Connecticut of public food safety understanding and its contributions to protecting public health, enhancing consumer confidence, and reducing food waste, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: That this resolution be forwarded to National Grange for their support and action for food safety understanding on a National level through communication with the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Food Safety Administration Inspection Service (FSIS).

SOURCE: Winchester Grange #74;

Mountain Laurel Pomona Grange #15

6) RE: TOLLS ON CONNECTICUT INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS

WHEREAS Connecticut interstate highways do not have tolls on them, and

WHEREAS other states have tolls on their interstate highways for road repairs and lost gas taxes from electric vehicles. Maine, New York, Ohio, Indiana, and other states have tolls, and

WHEREAS today's electronic tolls do not cause slowdowns at toll plazas, and

WHEREAS revenue from gas taxes is being reduced due to electric vehicles and reductions in federal funding which is used to repair our interstate highways.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange urge the General Assembly to install tolls on the interstate highways that enter the State of Connecticut; I-95, I-91, I-84, I-395 for increased funding for lost revenue.

SOURCE: Coventry Grange #75; E. Connecticut Pomona Grange #14

Are your members Granging?



**Jody & Jodi Ann
Cameron**
Membership Co-Dir.
Ekonk Comm. Grange No. 89
membership@ctstategrange.org

Oh boy have some of the Granges been Granging. The Connecticut State Grange saw a net gain in the 2nd Quarter. How did they do it? It's simple. They showed relevance in their communities. They were present in their communities. They ASKED!

Many of our Granges own their own halls, are your halls lively? Are they being used for other events than your meetings? Are they being used for your meetings? Are they clean and safe? Do your members take pride in their Grange? We hope the answer to these questions is yes. Please understand the Grange is more than a building.

Far more importantly, are your members Granging? What does it mean to Grange? Well, in our opinion it means you are focused on the needs of your community. You're

offering leadership opportunities to your members. You're offering leadership training to members by encouraging them to lead, give them the opportunity to lead.

We are here today to ensure our Granges are poised for success not only today, but especially tomorrow. It is our duty to be training our successor(s) so your Grange can celebrate many anniversaries in the future. If your Grange is not growing, not relevant in your community, it is purley because you lack leadership and vision. If you feel this is your Grange, the State Grange can help. We can offer guidance and training for your officers and members. We can help you develop a purpose and plans to execute the needed activities to meet those purposes.

We are here to support, not manage or do the work. We are here to HELP you be successful, for your success is the Grange's success.

Your State Grange Membership Committee is only a phone call away, call us.



VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Cherie Robinson

Sept. 8: Fair Time

Oct. 2: Vernon Visits Coventry Grange

Oct. 3: Witches

A great time was had by all who attended our annual picnic. We had the most delicious salads, and our Master did a great job as grill master, perfectly cooking hotdogs. Such good food and great company!

We had fun with a program on ice cream. We laughed when the Lecturer told us of the personality traits supposedly correlating with our favorite flavor.

We are looking forward to co-sponsoring Sunday Funday with Eastern CT Pomona at Strong Family Farm on August 17th. We will tell you all about it next month.

HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

Hillstown Grange's 137th Annual Agricultural Fair will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 9 am to 2 pm. The Hillstown Grange is located at 617 Hills Street, East Hartford, CT, since 1888.

Craft people, artists, gardeners, and cooks of all ages are encouraged to enter their best items to be judged for our fair. Judged items may be awarded ribbons and cash prizes. All entries must be brought to the Grange Hall Thursday, September 11th, between 5 and 7 pm. and picked up between 1 and 2 pm on Saturday, September 13th.

Garden categories include

vegetables, fruit, flowers, and our "Special Contests". There is an adult and youth level. Kitchen categories include baked goods, canned goods, jelly and jams. We are the only local agricultural fair in the area for entries in the Connecticut State Fairs competitions and we had one winner going all the way to win the State title of 'best apple pie'. Both at our fair and the State level is open to all with both an adult and a youth level. Crafts, hobbies, and photos can be entered at adult and youth levels. Please see our entry form for number of items needed to enter. The Hillstown Grange Ag Fair program guide is available on our web site or by contacting us.

The Special Flower Contest for 2025 is "Any Small Floral Bouquet" and the Special Vegetable Contest for 2025 is "Your personal Best in Show Vegetable" (this entry would be your best single vegetable or fruit specimen.)

Lunch is available with our famous grilled hot dogs and hamburgers topped with peppers and onions and will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., weather permitting we will have indoor and outdoor seating for lunch. Raffle numbers will be pulled at 2pm. A farmer's market and craft zone will be held outside weather permitting. Vendor spaces available.

For more information contact: Frank Forrest at hillstowngrange@aol.com or 860-690-2845.

NORTH STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

Sept. 12: Installation of Officers

Sept. 26: Autumn and Other Things

It is my sad duty to report we have lost a dear friend and good Granger. Scott Bill Hirst, Past President and Golden Sheaf member passed away on June 29th, one day before his birthday. Scott always presented the most interesting quizzes on various aspects of history, on which he was a master. We mostly failed them because our knowledge of the subjects was definitely lacking; but they were fun. Scott will be missed.

We had a very successful Fair in July. Weather threatened but turned out to be fine. There were new and interesting things to see and do, with more promised for next year. The Scottish Games are scheduled to take place on our grounds on the 26th and we have hopes that this will become an annual event.

It has been an interesting 2 years; but we have learned all we can learn about America's wars. This year's programs will bring offerings from our members as well as Sue's well-planned, interesting ideas. Please come and join us. The refreshments are always delicious and the company is warm and friendly. And if cooler weather will just come to visit us, next time we will tell you all about awesome August.



Family Activ. members Dawn Percoski & Pat Tarca at the Family Fest.

Needlework Contest Results



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

Dawn Percoski, Family Activ. Dir.

Please remember you only have until Sept. 30 for collecting G Dollars. No money should be sent in. Give all your dollars to your Secretary for deposit. Then the secretary should send a check to State Secretary Todd Gelineau. May the odds be ever in your favor!

Class B- Doilies

- 1- Diane Clabro, Cheshire
- 2- Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire

Class D- 3 Piece Baby Set

- 1- Betty Blackwell, Harmony
- 2- Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire
- 3- Ellen Pettit Winchester

Class E - Plastic Canvas

- 1- Joanne Cipriano, Beacon Vly
- 2- Irene Percoski, Vernon

Class F - Counted Cross Stitch

- 1- Mariellen Baxter, Vernon

Class G - Adult Garment

- 1- Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire

Class I - Quilted Wall Hanging

- 1- Alma Graham, Coventry
- 2- Karen Macdonald, Green. Hill

Class J - Stuffed Toy

- 1- Sandy Roman, Beacon Vly.
- 2- Irene Percoski, Vernon
- 3- Diane Clabro, Cheshire

Class K - Baby Afghan

- 1- Ellen Pettit, Winchester
- 2- Betty Blackwell, Harmony
- 3- Irene Percoski, Vernon

Class M - Teacup Craft Contest

- 1- Ellen Pettit, Winchester
- 2- Sue Addison, Winchester
- 3- Diane Clabro, Cheshire

Baking Contest

- 1- Barbara Foskett, Cheshire
- 2- Carol Innis, Granby

Gnome Theme, Needlework

- 1- Patricia Fischer, Beacon Vly.
- 2- Karen Macdonald, Green. Hill
- 3- Irene Percoski, Vernon

Gnome Theme, Other Medium

- 1- Ellen Pettit, Winchester
- 2- Violet Donihee, Coventry
- 3- Judy Doyle, Granby

Recycle Craft Contest

- 1- Diane Calabro, Cheshire
- 2- Walter Miller, Hillstown
- 3- Jean Meehan, Beacon Vly.

YOUTH CONTESTS

Youth Recycle Craft Contest

- 1- Maureen Donihee, Coventry
- 2- Richard Donihee, Coventry
- 3- Briana Andres, Harmony

Youth Gnome Theme, Needlework Contest

- 1- Carol Andres, Harmony
- 2- Aaron Andres, Harmony
- 3- Briana Andres, Harmony

Photography Contest Results



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

The Connecticut State Grange Lecturer's 2025 Photography Contest concluded with a colorful display of talent and creativity during this year's State Grange Family Festival on August 3rd. Grangers from across the state submitted 41 of their best shots in a variety of categories, showcasing the beauty of America, agriculture, animals, and more. Judging took place on Sunday, August 3rd, at Hillstown Grange in East Hartford, with all entries arriving by 9:00 AM. Our thanks go to judges Pat Tarca and Irene Percoski for their thoughtful review of each photo.

The contest was open to all Grange members—Junior, Youth, 1+, and Adults—with two distinct competitions for Adults and Junior-level participants. Winning entries

will be proudly displayed at the 2025 State Grange Convention in October at Norwich before being returned to their photographers. Cash prizes are being awarded for First (\$6), Second (\$4), and Third (\$2) place in each category.

ADULT DIVISION WINNERS

America the Beautiful

- 1- Dave Roberts (Riverton)
- 2- Judy Doyle (Granby)
- 3- Irene Percoski (Vernon)

Agriculture/Farming

- 1- Michelle DeDominicis (Hillstown)
- 2- Carol Innes (Granby)
- 3- Dave Roberts (Riverton)

Say It With Flowers

- 1- Wally Oliver (Riverton)
- 2- Barbara Foskett (Cheshire)
- 3- Dawn Percoski (Vernon)

Bridges

- 1- Diane Calabro (Cheshire)
- 2- Dawn Percoski (Vernon)
- 3- Judy Doyle (Granby)

JUNIOR, YOUTH, AND 1+ DIVISION WINNERS

Animals/Pets

- 1- Manny Oliver (Granby)
- 2- Natalee Roberts (Riverton)

Water

- 1- Joe Roberts (Riverton)

Best of Show

Wally Oliver (Riverton) – Say It With Flowers (Iris)

Congratulations to all our participants and winners! Your creativity continues to reflect the values and beauty of Grange life. We look forward to seeing even more entries next year! A special shoutout to Cheshire, Granby, Hillstown, and Riverton, who once again strongly supported this competition this year. And thank you to Hillstown Grange for hosting the 2025 Connecticut State Grange Family Festival this year for both the Family Activities and Lecturer Department Activities. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Granby Veggie Stand



Granby Grange: Our vegetable stand is open for business! Come check it out! All locally grown produce. Some organically grown too!

Hank back on the Farm



Hank the Burro visited the Eastern CT Pomona Fun Day held recently at the Strong Family Farm in Vernon.

Game Night

@ Whigville Grange #48 (153 South Main Street, Burlington)

Wednesday, September 17th 6:00-9:00P.M.

*Cozy Sweater and Flannel theme; Get into the fall time spirit and wear your favorite cozy sweater or flannel! *

All ages welcome

Food and drinks will be available for purchase

Admission fee: \$2 per person, \$10 max per family

GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE

BI-MONTHLY ROUND TABLE LUNCH-TIME DISCUSSIONS

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

A SERIES OF 6 LUNCHEONS AND DISCUSSIONS FOR LOCAL GARDENERS, FARMERS, AND EATERS (BEGINNERS AND EXPERIENCED)

SEPT 20

12:00 NOON - 2:00PM

HARVESTING, WEEDING,
WATERING, TRELLISING,
AND STARTING A
FALL GARDEN

FUTURE DISCUSSION TOPIC:

11/15 CLEANUP AND WINTER PREP

CORNELIA OLSEN

GRANGE MEMBER AND BACKYARD FARMER

JAMES FLINT

GRANGE MEMBER, GARDENER, AND COMPOSTER

THE SPEAKERS WILL TELL YOU HOW THEY DO THEIR GARDENS AND THERE WILL BE OPEN DISCUSSIONS OF EACH TOPIC, WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO FOLLOW THE GARDENING YEAR.

Greenfield Hill Grange #133
1873 Hillside Road
Fairfield, CT 06824

PARKING IN REAR OF THE GRANGE BUILDING

\$20 PER PERSON PER SESSION
LUNCHEON INCLUDES CHOICE OF
SANDWICH (TUNA OR EGG SALAD),
BEVERAGE, & DESSERT

RSVP AT LEAST 1 WEEK PRIOR
SO WE KNOW HOW MUCH FOOD TO ORDER
CORNELIA OLSEN JAMES FLINT
203-571-8673 OR 203-858-2187
TEXT OR CALL TO RSVP

SEND YOUR \$20 RESERVATION CHECK MADE OUT TO
GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE, c/o JAMES GOLIAS, 60 Oldfield Drive, Fairfield, CT 06824

2ND ANNUAL TOY TAG SALE!



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH
9:00 - 1:00 RAIN OR SHINE!

LYME GRANGE
2 STERLING CITY RD



MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15

Mountain Laurel Pomona met on Aug. 23 at Granby Grange for the conferral of the Fifth Degree and inspection by Noel Miller. Granby has done a wonderful job with their hall clean-up and renovations. The Court was beautiful and the degree was well presented.

We were pleased to have six candidates receive the degree. Michael & Karen Lazzaro, Tim & Melissa Sweeney, Patricia Sansone, and June Conrad were welcomed into the Court of Pomona.

The new Pomona Handbooks were distributed to the Granges present. Thanks to the generous support of our boosters and adjustments in the quantity printed, the cost of the books was reduced from \$925 last year to \$277 this year. Granges not present at the meeting will be receiving them in the mail soon. We do ask Granges to please let us know how many books are needed and to return the changes to officers and meeting schedules in a more timely manner next time around.

Twelve resolutions were on the agenda for this meeting. After considerable debate, five resolutions were adopted and will be sent on to the State Grange for action in Oct.

The next meeting of Pomona will be on October 4 for the Installation of Officers at Riverton Grange Hall, 2 P.M. Please join us!

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

145 Years of Service to Winchester



Above left: The Phillips family gathered at Winchester Grange on Aug. 26 to celebrate Sandy Phillips' 70 year award. (l to r) Pam Salazar, Earl Phillips, Trudy Phillips, Glenn Phillips and Sandy. Above right: Glenn Phillips congratulates Fran Cooper upon receiving her 75 year certificate. Presentation of the awards was made by State Secretary Todd Gelineau.

Sept. 9: National Mushroom Month, Ref. The Millers

Sept. 23: Installation of Officers, Ref. Rae Fassio

Sept. 27: Food Drive, 12-3 PM

Oct. 14: Getting Cooler, Ref. Ellen Pettit

Oct. 28: Halloween Harvest (Neighbor's Night/Country Store), Ref. Terri Fassio

Thank you to everyone who made our annual Grange Fair & Flea Market a great success this year... and we include the weather forecasts. It was a perfect weather day and the hall and Green were busy all day long. Once all bills are paid, we expect to have an excellent profit from the event.

On Aug. 26 we held our annual Picnic and Awards Night. State Secretary Todd Gelineau had the honor of presenting a 70 year seal to Sandy Phillips and a 75 year certificate to Fran Cooper. Congratulations to both of them. This, of course, does not mean they

can retire from Grange work!

Please note our meeting schedule and plan to join us. We have added a new event on September 27 when we will hold a Food Drive from 12-3 PM at the Grange Hall. Non-perishable food items will be collected for distribution to area food banks. You can bring them to the Grange that day or feel free to bring them to our meetings prior to the event.

TAGHHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Barbara Prindle

Sept. 11: Installation of Officers by Installing Team Ref: Tamara Johnson

Oct. 9: Halloween Costume Party by Debbie Hanlon Ref: Debbie Hanlon

Nov. 1: Grange Square & Contra Dance (last one) 7pm-9pm

Nov. 13: Special Health Secrets by Sharon Kroeger Ref: Debra Tyler

Dec. 11: Cookie Exchange – bring 4 doz. of 1 kind of cookie Ref: All

NOTE: Refreshments & Social

Continued next page...

time at 7:00PM with Meeting at 7:30PM unless otherwise noted.

Our "G Notes" collection is over \$100 as of our August meeting.

Chris Hopkins, our Master, introduced and welcomed our visitors James Mele VP of Whigville Grange, Kim Mele Chaplain and her husband Vinnie.

We discussed and got a consensus on 10 of the Resolutions that will be presented to our Pomona. We will do this again after our Pomona meeting where things might change. Our last Square & Contra dance will be held November 1st from 7pm-9pm with a live caller and beginners are welcome and as all dances are taught. Our Grange Hall is located at 7 Dunbar Road, Sharon CT 06069. We will have a booth at the Cornwall Agricultural Fair on September 13th from 9:30am-4:00pm and will again have giant bubbles that will bring everyone to our tent. If you would like to join us the fair is at the Cornwall Town Hall on the green.

Ruth Schnell's grandson had a terrible accident, and we voted to donate \$200 to his Go Fund Me Site to help with the hospital expenses. Deborah Manasse was voted in as a new member of Taghannuck and will be Obligated at our next meeting.

BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Dorothy Fairchild

Sept. 14: Mums - Carol W. Ref. Al M. - Pizza

Our Grange participated in several town activities this year. We assisted with the set-up of luminaries for the historical re-enactment of Paul Revere's ride. Also, we entered a Grange Exhibit into the Bethlehem Fair to celebrate it's "100 Birthday".

At the Fair, we displayed posters providing information about Grange. Historical facts are that Bethlehem Grange#121 was organized on January 6, 1891 with 24 charter members. On October 1891, their first Grange Fair was held in the Town Hall with a stock exhibition on

Riverton Grange Installs Flagpole



Members of Riverton Grange #169 gather at their new flagpole. Located on the south corner of Grange property, it is one of the first things visitors see as they enter the village.

the adjoining grounds. This current "Bethlehem Fair" was started by Grange members in 1925 and evolved to become the Town's Fair.

August's lecturer program by Barbara R. was entitled 'tomatoes'. She included a quiz and a game of Tic Tac Toe.

The 141st CT State Grange Session will be attended by our delegates Ray and Cheryl Johnstone.

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Dave Roberts

Sept. 7: The 44th Veteran of the Month ceremony at the hall will begin at 6:00 PM and is held in collaboration with Riverton American Legion Post #159. It is open to all, and refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

Sept. 19: Riverton Grange #169's monthly in-person meeting (with Zoom option). Refreshments will be served at 6:30 PM, and the meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 PM. Officers for the 2025-2027 term will be installed.

At our August 1st Membership Meeting, President Dave Roberts adjourned the meeting for five minutes so that some members could journey outside to view our newly completed American Flag project. This project was 117 years in the making, and a story has been submitted to the National Grange about this remarkable journey. The Petersen family was thanked for their contributions to this project, as was Riverton American Legion Commander Tim Sweeney.

SIMSBURY GRANGE #197

Corr: Marguerite Smith

Sept. 1: MUSIC MONDAY! Our monthly music series continues with our own Dave Galt/A Thing Called Dave. Dave is a huge local favorite with fans across the area! Bring your dinner and join us - Doors at 6:30, music at 7:00.

Sept. 21: Sunday at 2:00 at the Grange - A much anticipated presentation by AARP on the Fraud Watch Network. Join us for a fascinating look at fraudulent behavior and learn ways to protect yourself. This presentation is meant to educate people of all ages. We are expecting a large crowd. Register easily with Simsbury Senior Center - <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/senior-center>

Oct. 3: Friday - Beaver Pond Wildlife Film #4 - Late Summer. Join us for a social hour at 6:00pm and Film at 7:00pm. There will be a Q&A after the film with filmmaker, Ray Asselin.

Oct. 6: MUSIC MONDAY! Ava Grom - guitarist and singer - acoustic covers and originals. Doors at 6:30pm, Music at 7:00pm.



Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

Managing Expectations

by Terri Fassio,
Public Relations Co-Director

For over 150 years, Granges have been a cornerstone of their local communities — often adapting to changing times and finding new ways to connect and serve. Granges have deep community roots and long-established ways of doing things, so the rise of social media and digital outreach can be both exciting and confusing as Granges learn to adapt. It's easy to feel a sense of disappointment or misunderstanding when online buzz doesn't translate into expected tangible results. It's important to recognize that perceptions of success have shifted dramatically over the decades.

In the Grange's heyday, a popular event might have drawn 500 or more attendees, filling community halls and creating a buzz that felt unstoppable. Today, the same event might pull only 50 people, and that can feel discouraging. It's important to understand why these changes have happened and how expectations need to adjust accordingly.

The Shifting Landscape of Community Engagement

Traditionally, a large turnout was a sign of community vitality. Today, community priorities have diversified — families are busier, entertainment options are endless, and other commitments take precedence. While digital tools can increase awareness, they don't automatically translate into the same type of well-attended events as past generations experienced.

Social Media and the 1% Rule

A key principle in digital marketing is the 1% rule: even a well-executed social media campaign that reaches thousands

will often yield around 1% in meaningful engagement — whether that's RSVPs, inquiries, or actual attendance. So, if a Facebook post about an upcoming event is seen by 10,000 people, expecting 5,000 attendees is unrealistic, but 75 to 100 attendees is a more typical, attainable goal.

This isn't a reflection of failure but of a different era of community participation, and understanding this helps manage disappointment and maintain enthusiasm.

The truth of the matter is that not all social media views or likes convert into participation. The engagement metrics — likes, comments, shares — are signals of interest, but they often overestimate actual participation. Awareness is a first step, but engagement level, such as event sign-ups or RSVP rates, offers clearer insights into actual interest. Track these specific metrics over time to set more accurate expectations.

Think of engagement as a series of steps where views lead to clicks, clicks lead to sign-ups, and sign-ups may, but not always, lead to attendance. At each stage, individuals may drop off. Analyzing this conversion funnel helps set realistic goals.

But, while numbers are important, remember that the impact of Grange events or programs often hinges on meaningful engagement rather than sheer attendance. A smaller, dedicated group can sometimes have a more significant impact than a large, disengaged crowd.

Bridging the Generational Gap

Our rich history of over 150 years of resilience and adaptability proves that community, service, and shared purpose remain at the

heart of the Grange's mission.

Longtime members should recognize that social media is just one of many tools in a Grange's marketing toolbox. While posting on Facebook and Instagram can build awareness, it won't replicate the huge gatherings of decades past without consistent and dedicated efforts of many members and also keeping realistic expectations through the promotional process.

For younger members, patience and empathy are key. They need to help older members see digital outreach as a complement to traditional methods — like flyers and posters, and even in-person visits, and how those methods still hold value.

Patience and adaptability are crucial as we honor our history while embracing the future. Managing expectations requires a combination of data analysis, thoughtful communication, and strategic planning. By understanding what metrics truly signify and by setting realistic marketing goals, Granges can better allocate their resources and ultimately create more meaningful engagement, thus continuing to serve our communities effectively.

Together, we'll continue to honor our heritage and grow stronger — one step at a time.

CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE

**VIRTUAL
PUBLIC
RELATIONS
BOOT CAMP**

Essential Communications for Your Grange

**Thursday, September 25
7:00 PM**



Topics to include:

- Promoting Your Grange
- Working with the Press/Media
- Grange Branding & Marketing
- Social Media Management



For more information and Zoom Credentials contact: Terri Fassio - information@ctstategrange.org



NUTMEG POMONA #16

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Notices have been sent reminding Granges/Grangers of the next Pomona meeting to be held at Beacon Valley Grange in Naugatuck on Sunday, September 28 starting promptly at 2:00.

This is a great time of the year to go for a nice ride. The heat of the summer is behind us, thankfully, and the cold and the snow will be here before we know it. I hope it takes its time. No need to plan supper as we always have tasty refreshments.

Hopefully Lecturer Robert Charbonneau will be present. Presently he is in a rehabilitation facility following a stroke. We wish him well in his recovery.

As with all our meetings, we will have a country store. All donations are appreciated.

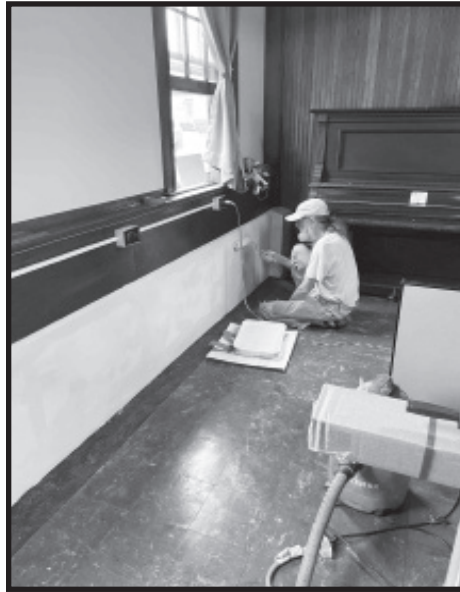
The new Pomona handbooks will be ready for distribution. Thanks to Terri Fassio, CSG Public Relations Co-Dir., for all her assistance. I can send out communications asking for the information, receive it, type what needs to be typed to get it in order, but getting it camera ready is far beyond my scope of knowledge. Bob usually does this job but Terri stepped in and did a great job for us. Please make plans to pick yours up.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Ruel Miller

Sept. 3: Installation of Officers

Wallingford Grange No. 33



(Left) Renovations continue at Wallingford Grange. The dining room is now a light blue. (Right) Sarah Glidden of Bones and Botanicals presented a program on the use of herbs to create teas, syrups and mocktails.

Sept. 17: Autumn is Upon Us

When you read this our 140th Cheshire Grange Community Fair will be over. A great deal of time and personnel contribute to making the fair happen. Our thanks to everyone involved. We have our programs planned for the new Grange year. We have a new Lecturer, Diane Calabro who is taking over for Barbara Kulisch. Barbara has served as our Lecturer for several years. We have enjoyed her programs and can't thank her enough for her contributions to our Grange. We are looking forward to the programs Diane has prepared. Cheshire Grange will be represented at the State Session next month in Norwich. We are looking forward to the new Grange year.

WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

Corr: Stephen Fengler

At Wallingford Grange, we've recently had a major work party weekend focused on continued improvements of the Grange hall. We painted the dining hall, it was very light ivory, now it is very light blue. We also re-hung the window weights

and reglazed two windows, plus fixed the weight in the pull-down for the kitchen pass-through (never seen a weight this large, was probably 12 pounds!) Thank you to all who helped!

Recently, we hosted a community event where Sarah Glidden of Bones and Botanicals presented how to use herbs to create teas, syrups and wonderful mocktails. Thank you to Sarah!

In September to November, some special events Wallingford Grange is looking forward to hosting include our 88th annual Grange Fair (September 13th: 12pm-5pm), Harvesting Honeys and Tastings Event (October 8th: 6pm-8pm), Potato Bar Dinner (October 11th: 5pm-7pm), Pasta and Cultures Event (November 4th: 6pm-8pm), Pancake Breakfast (November 8th: 8:30am-11am and veterans eat free), and Magic Show (November 21st). At the fair, lunch will be served throughout the day. We will have Backyard Shenanigans for the Kids, Live Music, Chicken Poop Bingo, Ol' Coots Giving Bad Advice, Exhibits, Bake/Craft Sale, Educational Interactions, and More!

We hope to see you there!

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Our next meeting is Friday, Sept. 12. Jean Meehan will present the last of our theme programs "animals." Her program is "Cows and Ducks." She will also have charge of refreshments.

Attendance at our tag sales and open mic during the summer months was not as good as in the past but can't blame anyone for staying home in this hotter than hot weather.

Our next Saturday event is September 20- Tag Sale from 9 to 2 and Open Mic 2 to 5 PM.

Our last meeting was our annual picnic. As always you can't beat Grange food.

We will be hosting the meeting of Nutmeg Pomona on Sunday, Sept. 28. It would be nice to have a few more of our members in attendance.

NORFIELD GRANGE #146

Corr: Steve Porter

Norfield Grange Fair: FUN for all ages. Sun., Sept. 7th @ Noon-5 pm - 12 Good Hill Road, Weston. Featuring: Kids Games, Slime Dunk Tank, Snack Bar, Ice Cream, Posh Portable Play & Bounce House, Eating Contests: Donut, Corn-on-the-Cob & Watermelon, Brooke's Bunny Farm, Live Music Battle of the Teen Bands, Raffle Baskets, Local Vendors, Agricultural Contests & More!! DON'T MISS IT!! Free Admission. FMI: NorffieldGrange@gmail.com

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Sept. 12: School Days

Sept. 26: Omitted, unless regular meeting is cancelled

Oct. 10: Knock, Knock Who's There

Oct. 24: Omitted, unless regular meeting is cancelled.

WINDOW TO THE PAST

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting

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.



We heard from Elizabeth Norman on the August Photo. She believes it was taken at Patchaug Grange, but she didn't know when it was taken or the names of the people in the photo.



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

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires are known, and no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit. Episcopal Book of Common Prayer O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: tremble before him, all the earth. *Psalm 96*

O humanity! Worship your Lord, Who created you and those before you, so that you may become mindful 'of Him'. *Qu'ran*

Worship is a central theme in the Bible. It is the connection between God and his followers. True worship involves honoring and adoring God with our whole heart, mind, and soul. The Bible also warns against two kinds of false worship: worshiping that which is not True God, such as idols and other animate or inanimate objects; and pretending worship by outward acts and ceremonies without true devotion within our hearts.

The prophet Isaiah warns us about pretend worship or empty worship when he says: "Do not go on bringing your



worthless offerings. Incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath, the proclamation of an assembly—I cannot endure wrongdoing and the festive assembly." And the prophet Amos proclaims God's hatred of empty worship in these words: "I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The prophets are not saying that having singing and music during a public worship service is wrong; rather the point is that such should be in response to true worship and desire to love

God and do what He commands. Indeed, elsewhere in the Psalms we are told to "Make a joyful noise before the Lord", and in Psalm 68 "Sing to God, sing praises in His Name." In the Gospel of John we read: But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. So, remember the true purpose of worship, and the outward form of worship is then up to you.

Thank You

My family would like to thank everyone who sent cards of sympathy on the passing of my husband Ray.

Irene Percoski & Family