

PROGRAM HELPS AND INFORMATION

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2009

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Hi Everyone,

The colors of fall have sure been abundant this year. What a lovely season it has been. And, with fall comes our annual State Session. It was nice to see so many of you in Meriden. It brought back memories of years gone by. Before the session I had mentioned the year it snowed. I was told it was too early and no one remembered it. Well, it snowed again. How many of you remember the night the gas station caught on fire while we were there? All in all, it was a good session. For those who weren't there on Thursday night, here is a list of the winners in the Lecturers Department.

LECTURER'S APPRECIATION AWARDS

Vivian Shaw, Granby #5	Denise Aubin, Killingly #112
Margaret Sendewicz, Redding #15	Robert Buck, Bethlehem #121
Marge Bernhardt, Cheshire #23	Diane Barbieri, Watertown #122
Doris Monaco, Glastonbury #26	Susan Sulier, Trumbull #134
Dianne Clark, Meriden #29	Susan Pianka, No. Stonington Comm. #138
Marianne Stone, Manchester #31	Frances Maxwell, Prospect #144
Linea Erickson, Cawasa #34	Lois Evankow, Lyme #147
D. Emily Alexander, No. Haven #35	Irene Percoski, Enfield #151
Debby Perry, Senexet #40	Christine Shook, Bridgewater #153
Helena Schwalm, Whigville #48	Barbara C. Kulisch, Old Lyme #162
Joyce Jordan, Tolland #51	Deborah Barnes, Stonington #168
Susan Addison, Winchester #74	Shirley Moore, Riverton #169
Ethel Harris, Coventry #75	Ann Marie Knockenhauer, Norwich #172
Joan Toomey, Colchester #78	Pearl Godin, Wolcott #173
Helene Forrest, Hillstown #87	Nancy McBrien, Hemlock #182
Russell M. Gray, Ekonk Community #89	Jeanne Vaill, Oxford #194
Bruce Jersey, Harmony #92	Wanda Kansas, Simsbury #197
Ann Russo, Putnam #97	Pamela Covington, West Suffield #199
Brent Prindle, Taghannuck #100	Irene Brown, Marlborough #205
Joanne Cipriano, Beacon Valley #103	Brooklyn Grange #43
Helena Schwalm, Litchfield #107	Vernon Grange #52

HONOR LECTURERS

Marge Bernhardt, Cheshire #23	Susan Pianka, North Stonington Comm. #138
D. Emily Alexander, North Haven #35	Frances Maxwell, Prospect #144
Ethel Harris, Coventry #75	Lois Evankow, Lyme #147
Helene Forrest, Hillstown #87	Barbara Kulisch, Old Lyme #162
Russell M. Gray, Ekonk Community #89	Deborah Barnes, Stonington #168
Joanne Cipriano, Beacon Valley #103	

"A WORD FROM HOME" CERTIFICATES

Cheshire #23	Beacon Valley #103	Old Lyme #162
No. Haven #35	Trumbull #134	Riverton #169
Coventry #75	Prospect #144	Hemlock #182
Hillstown #87	Lyme #147	
Ekonk Community #89	Enfield #151	

"SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE" CERTIFICATES

Cheshire #23	Ekonk Community #89	Lyme #147
Glastonbury #26	Beacon Valley #103	Old Lyme #162
No. Haven #35	Trumbull #134	Stonington #168
Senexet #40	No. Stonington Community	Riverton #169
Coventry #75	#138	Norwich #172
Colchester #78	Prospect #144	Hemlock #182

"WHAT THE GRANGE MEANS TO ME " ESSAY WINNERS

- 1st Place – Joanne Cipriano Valley #103
2nd Place – Sue Gray, Ekonk Community #89
3rd Place – Barbara C. Kulisch, Old Lyme #162
HM – Helene Forrest, Hillstown, #187

COMPLETE PROGRAM WINNERS

- 1ST – Russell Gray, Ekonk Community #89
2nd -- Susan Pianka, No. Stonington Community #138
3rd – Marianne Stone, Manchester #31
HM – Barbara C. Kulisch, Old Lyme #162
HM – Debbie Barnes, Stonington #168
HM – Joanne Cipriano, Beacon Valley #103

SOMETHING NEW - - - The Connecticut State Grange is beginning its 125th year. In honor of this occasion each Subordinate Grange is being asked to put on 5 numbers during the year on the history of the State Grange or of their own Grange and how it relates to the State Grange. I will be including suggestions in each newsletter. if you need help with this, please do not hesitate to call me.

Also included along with this newsletter is a copy of what has been sent in to be in the **bluebook** this year. Hopefully this will give you a chance to get started before the books are printed.

SHARED NUMBERS....

FROM THE JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS...

"ORGANIZATION OF CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE -- June 24, 1885

In pursuance of a call from State Deputy Sherman Kimberly, of West Torrington, delegations from the sixteen Subordinate Granges in Connecticut met in Convention at the Academy Building, South Glastonbury, June 24th, 1885

After partaking of a bountiful repast, provided by the Glastonbury Grange, the Convention was called to order by Brother Kimberly, who, after stating the object of the

Convention, viz.: the organization of a State Grange in Connecticut, introduced Worthy Master James Draper, of the Massachusetts State Grange, and placed the Convention in his charge. Arthur Sikes, of Suffield, was appointed Secretary *pro-tem*."

Delegates present were from Granby, Tariffville, West Torrington, West Simsbury, Cheshire, Berlin, Glastonbury, Southington, Suffield, South Windsor, Meriden, Buckland, South Manchester, West Cornwall and Wallingford.

"After the opening examination, all Fourth Degree members present were obligated in the Fifth Degree.

A ballot for Master of Connecticut State Grange was ordered, resulting in the election of J. H. Hale, of Glastonbury, on the seventeenth ballot. Brother Hale declining to serve, T. S. Gold of West Cornwall, was elected on the eighteenth ballot. Brother Gold declining to serve, balloting was continued, without result, till the twenty-first ballot, when it was voted, on motion of Brother Wilson, That a recess be taken, that the electors may confer together.

At the expiration of recess, Brother Draper called to order, and balloting was continued, resulting in the election of Sherman Kimberly, of West Torrington, on the twenty-second ballot."

THE 7 UPS! With Thanks to Irene Percoski

1. Wake Up!! - Decide to have a good day. 'This is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.' Psalms 118:24
2. Dress Up!! - The best way to dress up is to put on a smile... A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. 'The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.' I Samuel 16:7
3. Shut Up!! - Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking. 'He who guards his lips guards his soul.' Proverbs 13:3
4. Stand Up!! for what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything. 'Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up... Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good...' Galatians 6:9-10
5. Look Up!! to the Lord. 'I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me'.
Philippians 4:13
6. Reach Up!!for something higher. 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.'
Proverbs 3:5-6
7. Lift Up!!your Prayers. 'Do not worry about anything; instead PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING.'
Philippians 4:6

AN ANONYMOUS POEM with Thanks to Farmington Valley Pomona

There's more, much more to the Holidays, Than candle-light and cheer;
It's the spirit of sweet friendship, That brightens all the year;
It's the thoughtfulness and kindness, It's hope reborn again
For peace, for understanding, And for goodwill toward all men.

THE AMAZING CUCUMBER with Thanks to Joan Perry

This information was in The New York Times several weeks ago as part of their "Spotlight on the Home" series that highlighted creative and fanciful ways to solve common problems.

1. Cucumbers contain most of the vitamins you need every day, just one cucumber contains Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B5, Vitamin B6, Folic Acid, Vitamin C, Calcium, Iron, Magnesium, Phosphorus, Potassium and Zinc.
2. Feeling tired in the afternoon, put down the caffeinated soda and pick up a cucumber. Cucumbers are a good source of B Vitamins and Carbohydrates that can provide that quick pick-me-up that can last for hours.
3. Tired of your bathroom mirror fogging up after a shower? Try rubbing a cucumber slice along the mirror, it will eliminate the fog and provide a soothing, spa-like fragrance.
4. Are grubs and slugs ruining your planting beds? Place a few slices in a small pie tin and your garden will be free of pests all season long. The chemicals in the cucumber react with the aluminum to give off a scent undetectable to humans but drive garden pests crazy and make them flee the area.
5. Looking for a fast and easy way to remove cellulite before going out or to the pool? Try rubbing a slice or two of cucumbers along your problem area for a few minutes, the phytochemicals in the cucumber cause the collagen in your skin to tighten, firming up the outer layer and reducing the visibility of cellulite. Works great on wrinkles too!!!
6. Want to avoid a hangover or terrible headache? Eat a few cucumber slices before going to bed and wake up refreshed and headache free. Cucumbers contain enough sugar, B vitamins and electrolytes to replenish essential nutrients the body lost, keeping everything in equilibrium, avoiding both a hangover and headache!!
7. Looking to fight off that afternoon or evening snacking binge? Cucumbers have been used for centuries and often used by European trappers, traders and explores for quick meals to thwart off starvation.
8. Have an important meeting or job interview and you realize that you don't have enough time to polish your shoes? Rub a freshly cut cucumber over the shoe, its chemicals will provide a quick and durable shine that not only looks great but also repels water.
9. Out of WD 40 and need to fix a squeaky hinge? Take a cucumber slice and rub it along the problematic hinge, and voila, the squeak is gone!
10. Stressed out and don't have time for massage, facial or visit to the spa? Cut up an entire cucumber and place it in a boiling pot of water, the chemicals and nutrients from the cucumber will react with the boiling water and be released in the steam, creating a soothing, relaxing aroma that has been known to reduce stress in new mothers and college students during final exams.
11. Just finish a business lunch and realize you don't have gum or mints? Take a slice of cucumber and press it to the roof of your mouth with your tongue for 30 seconds to eliminate bad breath. The phytochemicals will kill the bacteria in your mouth responsible for causing bad breath.
12. Looking for a 'green' way to clean your faucets, sinks or stainless steel? Take a slice of cucumber and rub it on the surface you want to clean. Not only will it remove years of tarnish and bring back the shine, but it won't leave streaks and won't harm your fingers or fingernails while you clean.

A NEW VERSION OF "T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS"

*'Twas the night before Christmas & out on the ranch
The pond was froze over & so was the branch.
The snow was piled up belly-deep to a mule.
The kids were all home on vacation from school,
And happier young folks you never did see-
Just all sprawled around a-watchin' TV.
Then suddenly, some time around 8 o'clock,
There came a surprise that gave them a shock!
The power went off, the TV went dead!
When Grandpa came in from out in the shed
With an armload of wood, the house was all dark.
"Just what I expected," they heard him remark.
"Them power line wires must be down from the snow.
Seems sorter like times on the ranch long ago."
"I'll hunt up some candles," said Mom. "With their light,
And the fireplace, I reckon we'll make out all right."
The teen-agers all seemed enveloped in gloom.
Then Grandpa came back from a trip to his room,
Uncased his old fiddle & started to play
That old Christmas song about bells on a sleigh.
Mom started to sing, & 1st thing they knew
Both Pop & the kids were all singing it, too.
They sang Christmas carols, they sang "Holy Night,"
Their eyes all a-shine in the ruddy firelight.
They played some charades Mom recalled from her youth,
And Pop read a passage from God's Book of Truth.
They stayed up till midnight-and, would you believe,
The youngsters agreed 'twas a fine Christmas Eve.
Grandpa rose early, some time before dawn;
And when the kids wakened, the power was on.
"The power company sure got the line repaired quick,"
Said Grandpa - & no one suspected his trick.
Last night, for the sake of some old-fashioned fun,
He had pulled the main switch - the old Son-of-a-Gun!
-anonymous*

CLOSING THOUGHTS with Thanks to Enfield Grange

The reason a lot of people do not recognize opportunity is because it usually goes around wearing overalls looking like hard work.

An optimist is a fellow who takes the cold water that was thrown on his ideas, heats it up with enthusiasm, makes steam, and pushes ahead.

A THANKSGIVING PRAYER with Thanks to Simsbury Grange

Oh, God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work, help me to remember the jobless.
When I have a warm home, help me to remember the homeless;
When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer;
And remembering, help me to destroy my complacency and bestir my compassion.
Make me concerned enough to help, by word and deed,
Those who cry out for what we take for granted.

...Samuel F. Pugh

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me..."*

...Matthew 25:35

A JOKE AND SOME RIDDLES with Thanks to Lyme

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked the stock boy, "Do these get any bigger?" The stock boy answered "No Ma'am, they're dead.

Why do turkeys eat so little? Ans. Because they're always stuffed.

What did the mother turkey say to her disobedient children?

Ans. If your father could see you now, he'd turn over in his gravy!

Why did Pilgrims have trouble keeping their pants up? Ans. Cause they wore their belts on their hats.

DID YOU KNOW? With Thanks to Colchester

Benjamin Franklin was opposed to the eagle as our national symbol. He said "The turkey is in comparison a much more respectable bird...a bird of courage (that) would not hesitate to attack a grenadier of the British guards."

This holiday season, Enjoy the Grange – Enjoy your life – But remember:

If you see a fat man, Who's jolly and cute
Wearing a beard and a red flannel suit
And if he is chuckling and laughing away
While flying around in a miniature sleigh
With eight tiny reindeer to pull him along
Then let's face it, Your eggnog's too strong.
Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy 2010 to all.