



# Connecticut Granger



Vol. 51, No. 8

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

MAY 2011

## We need to be diverse and adapt



**Jody A. Cameron**  
State Master/President  
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***"Since God placed man on earth, agriculture has existed."***

— Installation Ceremony

Agriculture is a fundamental foundation on which our organization was founded and like agriculture, the Grange has needed to be diverse and adapt to the changing times. In some cases this is true. As I visit, I am seeing Secretaries using laptops to record minutes; Granges having open houses and providing educational programs; Granges pushing the envelope and thinking outside of the box. These Granges are growing and are prospering. There are Granges that are very traditional and are very good at their Grange work and take extreme pride in their presentation of the ritual when presented very well. These Granges too are growing.

I have visited Granges that meet around a table, don't have a quorum, that are aged to the point they have exhausted their membership. These Granges are not growing. Can these Granges grow? My answer is yes! But do they want to grow? Are they complacent? Are they just to the point where they don't know what else to do?

I defended the ritual in one of my previous articles.

Let me clarify something. I defended your Grange's right to utilize either format of the ritual that they choose.

I challenge every Grange to utilize that ritual to its potential and with the ritual's intent. We cannot allow ourselves to be crippled by our interpretation of the ritual. If we believe the ritual is crippling us, we do not have the choice not to use it.

The only Granges that are allowed to deviate from the traditional Manual or the Alternative Manual are those Granges that became Action Granges under the Gray and Prelli administrations.

All other Granges must utilize one of these two formats. Brothers and Sisters, this is not my ruling. This is clearly outlined in the Digest. Each Grange must avail themselves to the most current edition of the Digest. The Digest is downloadable from the National Grange website or can be purchased directly from the National Grange.

Granges that are not utilizing the approved ritual, set up in full form, meet regularly and have a quorum (seven members of your own Grange) must comply with this as soon as possible. If you are unable, you must contact me, your State President, as soon as possible. There is no reason why we should be losing Granges in 2011. We have the skills, the personnel in place to assist any Grange, community or Pomona, if requested.

Brothers and Sisters you need to **want** your Grange to succeed **for** your Grange to succeed. I am responsible for Ekonk Community Grange. You individually

are responsible for your community Grange. I cannot wait for someone else to help Grow Ekonk Community Grange. I must assume that responsibility personally and do everything I can to make it succeed. If many of our members felt this way, our problem right now would be "What do we do with all of these new members?" The power of one, becomes the power of many and becomes unstoppable.

We belong to the Grange at probably one of the most exciting times to be a Grange member. Our members are excited by the programming, which is evident in their support of the events that have taken place to date. Our members believe in their organization and ensuring its longevity by the members they are taking in. I am hearing about classes of five or more candidates coming into the Community Granges.

We no longer have to wait until October and April to bring in new members. We utilize the Obligation Ceremony and Welcoming Ceremony in Connecticut and that has proven extremely successful. What a novel concept! Someone wants to join and they are able to join in a timely manner. Changes have been made to the ritual over the years that truly strengthen and enhance our abilities to function as a Grange and these are but two of the examples. There is no reason for a Grange to close in 2011.

## Snow dampens clean-up



Todd Gelineau Photo

**Nancy Weissmuller, member of North Stonington Grange No. 138, is shown cleaning the window sills of one of the Camp Berger cabins on April 23.**

*Todd Gelineau, Connecticut Granger Editor*

It is sometimes said that if three snowflakes fall in Connecticut, two of them will fall in Winchester Center. Early morning snow greeted the members arriving for the annual Camp Berger Clean-Up Day on April 23. The snow was followed by a steady rain that limited activities to sweeping out cabins and sprucing up the Dining Hall. Raking of leaves was not on the agenda this year as a landscaping company will be brought in later to clean-up and dispose of them. The dedicated members who braved the chilly weather were supplemented by some members of the Camp staff and campers as well.

Plans are now moving towards the annual Open Houses to be held on Sunday, May 22 and Saturday, June 25 from 12:00 to 3:00 P.M.

More information about Camp Berger inside!

## Governor Malloy issues Grange proclamation

*Terri Fassio, Public Relations Co-Director*

The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Connecticut State Grange has been formally recognized by Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy, stating via letter received on April 16, "through its leadership in legislative efforts, education and service projects, the Grange has remained committed to its cause."

Organized in June 1885, the Connecticut State Grange is celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout 2010 - 2011. Originally formed to help farmers recover from the

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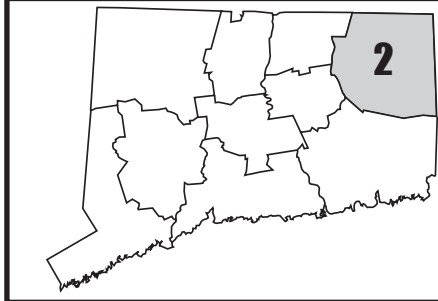
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**Deadline for the JUNE 2011 issue of the Connecticut Granger: MAY 5**



### Quinebaug Pomona No. 2



- Senexet No. 40
- ✓ Brooklyn No. 43
- ✓ Wolf Den No. 61
- ✓ Ekonk No. 89
- Ashford No. 90
- Putnam No. 97
- Killingly No. 112
- ✓ Echo No. 180

**BROOKLYN GRANGE #43**  
*Corr: Louise Salmon*

Oct. 2010- Remembering school days, Myrtle Morse told us a most interesting story about when she taught in a one-room schoolhouse 60 years ago.

Nov. 2010- We sang seven patriotic songs in honor of veterans. We then sang “We Gather Together” for our Thanksgiving song. All were accompanied by our talented musician, Peg Seguine at the piano.

Dec. 2010- All enjoyed dining out and socializing at our favorite restaurant. Joan Perry presented Robert Parkhurst with his 65 year seal.

Jan. 2011- Plainfield’s Senior Chorus entertained us with a beautifully performed musical Christmas Nativity Pageant and a sing-along.

On May 10, we look forward to another concert by the Plainfield Senior Chorus.

On Aug. 9, we will have a Country and Oldies Sing-along with Linda Jean Catino from Webster, MA.

**WOLF DEN GRANGE #61**  
*Corr: Elsie Johnson*

**May 11:** Memorial & Deaf Committee- Ref. All

**May 25:** Potluck - Entertainment

**June 8:** Agriculture Committee, Ref. Strawberries

We had a taste of spring-then winter came back. Pussy willows, snowdrops and crocus are up and daffodils and tulips are sticking their heads out. What is Mother Nature saying? Wait and see!

The Deputy, J. Allen Cameron, visited and had a school of instruction also. State Master Jody Cameron also visited. The March Pomona meeting was held here. Tabs are still coming in but not so much and labels too. Time to start garden seeds. I’ve got pepper and tomato seeds up. Put out ads and flyers and made “call up” for the April 2nd Tag and Bake Sale. Tree tapping for maple syrup was good, the heavy snow didn’t make it easy. That heavy snow gave some people some problems.

And damage is costly. We have 1 sixty year, 2 sixty five and 1 seventy year seal to give out. Good work!

Everything seems to be more of a challenge these days. Happy birthday-happy spring!!!

**EKONK COMM. GRANGE #89**  
*Corr: Sue Gray*

**May 2:** “Memorialize” mtg/prog 7:30 pm

**May 14:** Roast Beef supper-beginning at 5pm

**May 21:** Square Dance 7:30-

**June 6:** “Paint the town Red!” mtg/prog 7:30pm

We have two more youth added to our roles by the time you read this. We are thrilled to have Rep. Mae Flexer and Christopher Sebastian as members of our Grange. Chris was a Junior Granger since he was five. He is also on the Youth Drill Team, lending his expertise from experience in the Plainfield High School Marching Band (where he not only marches, but carries and plays a 45 pound instrument)! We are excited that the Youth Drill Team is using our hall for its rehearsals and the kids are doing an exemplary job under tutelage of Mike Molodich and Jody Cameron. The Drill Team will have a raffle at each of our suppers to help earn some of the money necessary to attend the New England Youth Conference in Maine in July! We donated to Relay For Life and Brandi Hawkins will walk with the Killingly High School National Honor Society. Our Grange has stepped up to the plate to help raise money for the “Home for Homeless Veterans” slated for construction in Jewett City.

A committee of David and Sue Griffiths, Jody and Jodi Ann Cameron and Russell and Sue Gray, was formed to get the ball rolling! Our Grange and Youth Drill Team will sell Strawberry Shortcakes at Brooklyn AG Days June 4th & 5th. We supported the team of Jaimie and Jodi Ann Cameron in the Bowl Across America with a \$25.00 donation. We established our own Grange Web site: this is a progressive

move in keeping with the times. Because we ran out of food after 45 minutes at our corn beef supper (120 pounds of corn beef GONE in 45 minutes!), David Griffiths suggested “rainchecks” be given to people who come and the food is gone-wonderfully simple & effective plan-Russell Gray will have \$2.00 off coupons for these people. Ed Lutrell will be in CT at

attend the State FFA Convention (at the invitation of Victor Salazar). He will be in Sterling for the Family Day Steak Supper and at Ekonk that evening, spending the night with the Camerons. Special hello to our friend, Kay Ruff, who has moved back to Glastonbury; and to Marion R. Emmons. Happy Spring!

**ECHO GRANGE #180**  
*Corr: Gloria John*

Not much activity with all the snow and ice we had. Alma Graham has donated 14 beautiful pillowcases to Limos for Kids. We are sure they are appreciated. We are planning a public supper on May 14, 2011. We are still collecting pennies at each meeting.

## Grange opposes USPS position



Do you see some problem that needs addressing? Maybe you have a suggestion to make something better or want to suggest a change in something. If you do have an idea, now is the time act. The strength of our Grange comes from you. A recent press release from the National Grange described the Grange as being founded in 1867 to help Civil War ravaged farmers recover. The Grange has evolved into being our nation’s leading rural advocacy organization and a major benefactor to local communities. The basic precepts of the Grange are its “grass roots” policy developments. Write your idea in a form of a resolution and ask your Community Grange to support it. Then pass it on to your Pomona Grange for their support.

ALL Community Grange resolutions need to be passed through their Pomona Granges before being sent on to State Grange. The Pomona Grange is the legislative

body of the Grange. This adds another set of eyes to refine resolutions and clarify their meaning if needed. It also educates other grangers in your area as to the need which can increase support when it is presented to the delegates at the State Grange session. Remember that Pomona Granges do not meet as often as Community Granges, so don’t wait to submit your idea. If you are not sure how to write a resolution, go to the State Grange website under the Legislative page. Select the ‘Tools Available for Download’ and look for the ‘How Grange Policy Works Flyer’. This flyer instructs you how to compose a resolution. You can also contact any member of the State Grange Legislative Committee for assistance.

The National Grange has reacted to the Postal Regulatory Commissions advisory opinion regarding the United State Postal Service’s (USPS) recommendation to reduce mail service from 6 to 5 days a week as a cost savings measure. The Regulatory Commission felt that projected savings were overstated and that the USPS neglected to evaluate the impact on customers and businesses in rural communities. Broadband,

making high-speed internet available or affordable, has not reached all rural areas so many people still rely on the USPS for communication. The Grange recommends that the USPS look more closely to the impact that reducing this service will have on rural communities and take that into consideration before any action is taken.

The Connecticut General Assembly is in its final month of its session. The State Budget is still the main topic of conversation. Governor Malloy has spent quite a bit of time traveling around Connecticut to convey his budget message and asking for input from state residents. Past history has shown that the budget is normally brought to the floor and passed in the last days of the Legislative Session. Many negotiations are taking place behind the scenes to finalize the budget and usually continue right up to the final vote. In the meantime, many other bills will have been passed from the committees through the Legislative Commissioners Office for review and sent on to the floor of either the House or Senate for action. As these bills come up for vote, we may be contacting Granges for support or opposition of these bills as they are acted upon.

**PLEASE! Do not send correspondence or any other mail to the Newfield Rd. address listed below. This is the address for Winchester Grange #74 and is only listed to satisfy USPS requirements. Please mail to the Editor’s address listed below, right. Thank You!**

(USPS 563-220)

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**DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS**


News is due on the **5th Day** of each month except July and should be sent to:  
Connecticut State Grange  
P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033  
or  
Todd Gelineau, Editor  
170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790

**Connecticut Granger Staff**

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Vice President . . . . . Brian Carpenter  
Secretary Treasurer. . . . . Edith Schoell



### East Central Pomona No. 3



- ✓ Glastonbury No. 26
- ✓ Manchester No. 31
- ✓ Coventry No. 75
- ✓ Hillstown No. 87

**EAST CENTRAL POMONA #3**  
Corr: Noel Miller  
May 7: Roses for Winners - Talent Run-Off

Our Worthy Chaplain Norma DePietro has broken her hip at the end of March. Hopefully she will be out of rehab. in Salmon Brook by the time this is printed. Best wishes for a speedy recovery. Quackers, our snow-buried duck was found on March 24 after many thoughts of being stolen, lost, driven over by the FFAers, he stuck his beak out of the snow pile. Congratulations to Victor Salazar for picking the nearest date for Quackers to come out of the snow bank.

May 14 at 10:00 A.M. East Central Pomona #3 will have a Degree Day at Good Will Grange Hall, anyone who wishes to join us, please contact Noel Miller, 860-742-8839 by May 6th. Join us in friendship and feast to instruct new members.

**GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26**  
Corr: Kathryn Ruff  
May 5: Memorial Service meeting 7:30 p.m.; Ref: Ann Gilnack, Martha Baribault  
May 7: FOOD SALE & UNIQUE BOUTIQUE 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
May 14: Monte Carlo Whist Card Party 7:00 p.m.  
June 2: Election of Officers 7:30 p.m.; Ref: Priscilla Schmdartz, Mary Baribault, Amlanda Kean

As I am typing this article to send to Todd I am looking out the window at snow. April 1st, this must be an April Fools joke. I thought we were done with this type of weather. But I guess not.

Our May meeting is our annual Memorial Service. Sister Jean always plans a nice program for the 3 Graces to present. Do try to be there to witness it.

May 7th is the FOOD SALE AND BOUTIQUE SALE. It is one of our good fund raisers and we need everyone's help. I am sure phone calls will be made. I hope you all will be able to assist in skome fashion.

May 14th is the next Monte Carlo Card Party. Mark your calenday and try to attend and bring a friend or two with you. It has been

suggested that we run them into and perhaps thru the summer. WHAT DO YOU THINK ? I think it would be a good idea. I would be there.

Sister Norma DePietro recently suffered a fall and is now doing rehab at Salmon Brook in Glastonbury. We all wish her a speedy recovery. Should there be any others in Glastonbury that I do not know about that need a get well wish I send them all a big "GET WELL". Hopefully when you read this Norma will be back home.

**MANCHESTER GRANGE #31**  
Corr: Diane Small  
May 18: Moms and Grandmoms  
June 1: Elections  
June 15: Smell the Roses

Spring is officially here and waiting in the wings is the summer season. Time to shed those winter coats and gloves and bring out all those nice light and airy summer duds. How about buying some new strappy sandals, paint your toe nails, and remember wearing ankle bracelets..

May gives us two holidays -- Mothers Day and Memorial Day. Mothers Day has a collection of moms of all ages. Being a mom requires you to be a mediator, chauffer, head chef, maid, kisser of boo-boos, bring a mother-of-the bride and eventually a grandmother. Don't forget to remember mom on her day.. Memorial Day is important to all of us. We need to pause and pay tribute to all of the service people that have proudly served and are now serving in the armed forces so that we can 'Live Free'. Fly your flag everyday, always stand for the Star Spangled Banner and shake the hand of a military person and say thank you. In spite of many shortcomings, we live in a truly marvelous country.

Plantings have been done or started. These will produce some great vegetables and fruits. Flowers are starting to bloom also. Of course, this means that the lawns will need to mowed. O the joy of spring!! Cookouts are coming into full swing. Don't those hot dogs and hamburgers just taste so much better cooked outside...

**COVENTRY GRANGE #75**

Corr: Noel Miller  
May 5: Summer is Soon  
May 19: Got those gardens planted yet?/Evaluation

Coventry Grange #75 is saddened by the death of 70 year member Lucy Smith Haloburdo, Past Master for 16 years. Lucy was a true Granger in everything she did. She will be missed very much. May 5th we will present our members with awards for years of service. Dan Ridzon and Robert Johnson join those members of 50 years of service.

## Many spring events planned



At long last winter has lost its grip and spring is on the way. I have reports from some Grangers that things are beginning to look, and feel, better, and are ready to take up coming projects. Don't be bashful about

**HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87**  
Corr: Rita Schaefer  
May 12: May Flowers  
May 26: "Let's Remember" - Memorial

It's so good to see the sun, but rain and snow flurries are in the forecast. I guess we have to accept it but wait, the hot weather is in the forecast. Our Grangers have been busy with our Corned Beef Dinners and will be trying to repair a few things that have to be repaired.

They are working on getting some new members.

asking your newer members and friends to help in your community service projects, clean-up, dinners, etc.

For our youth... applications are available for scholarships. You need to have completed one year at an accredited college. Student loans are available to those having complted a semester. Please contact the CentralOfficeforinformation at (860) 633-7550 or Secretary@CTStateGrange.org.

There have been many activities during the month of April celebrating Grange

Maybe the farmers will be getting busy and the hills will be all glorious with the budding of trees and early flowers. My crocus and tulips said hello and goodbye with the snow storms we had.

Our sick list should be getting less and less and the older members can make the meetings.

I guess this is all the news for this month. Will probably be more this coming month. Happy Easter from all the members of Hillstown Grange.

month. I hope you took advantage of the fun and fellowship at Rally Day, bowling, and the Mystery Night.

Looking ahead, plan to attend Let's Celebrate on June 12th at Cheshire Grange; mark your calendars for July 16th- another get-together, an "Old Fashioned Grange Picnic" planned by the Rhode Island and Connecticut State Granges at Washington County Fairgrounds in RI!

I hope to see you at these events!

## Have some old fashioned fun!

The Connecticut and Rhode Island State Granges have announced they will be co-hosting an Old-Fashioned Grange Picnic as part of National Grange Nationwide Gathering Celebration to be held on Saturday, July 16, 2011.

The picnic will be held at the Washington County Fairgrounds, Route 112, Richmond, Rhode Island. More details on this event will be announced in the upcoming weeks. The National Grange Nationwide Gathering Celebration is overseen by the National Lecturer's office, who will be

compiling information from the various events for a presentation at the National Grange Convention in November. The intent is to build on the energy and enthusiasm that is building within Granges across the country. Granges across the country will be holding special events bringing Granges and Grangers together within their communities.

For more information on the nationwide celebration, visit the Event Page on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=197713706929388>

# Old Fashioned Grange Picnic

Sponsored by the Rhode Island & Connecticut State Granges

## Saturday, July 16, 2011

Washington County Fairgrounds  
Rte. 112, Richmond, RI

More on our part of the nationwide celebration to be announced in coming weeks!

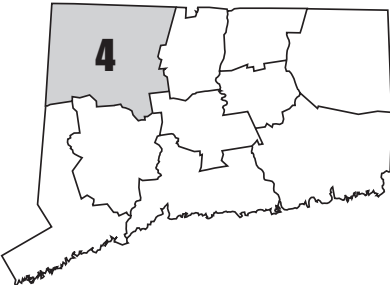
A part of the Nationwide Grange Gathering to be held on July 16, 2011



Save the Date!



### Mountain County Pomona No. 4



Whigville No. 48  
Eureka No. 62  
✓ Winchester No. 74  
Taghannuck No. 100  
Litchfield No. 107  
Beacon No. 118  
✓ Riverton No. 169

MOUNTAIN COUNTY POMONA #4

Corr: Todd Gelineau  
May 8: Fifth Degree Rehearsal at 7 P.M., Winchester Grange  
May 9: Fifth Degree Conferral with paid Supper beginning at 6 P.M., Winchester Grange Hall.

The next meeting of Mountain County Pomona will be held on Monday, May 9 beginning with a supper prepared by the members of Winchester Grange. Cost will be \$5.00 per person. Candidates always receive a free meal on degree night and are our guests along with the inspecting Deputy.

We will also distribute the tickets for our annual Spring Gift Drawing to be

held at the June 27 meeting of the Pomona. Please sell as many as you can as this is the only official fundraiser of the Pomona for the year. Price will be \$1 and all officers and committee members are asked to donate items for the drawing which should be of at least \$5 value. We thank you for your continued support of this very important activity.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau  
May 10: Mother’s Day, Ref. Craig & Sandy Leifert  
May 19: Vegetable Gardening Program at Beardsley & Memorial Library, Winsted, 6:30 P.M.  
May 21: Spring Super Prize Party, Doors Open at 6 P.M.

May 24: May Day, Memorial Program, Ref. Charlie & Fran Cooper

Winchester Grange couldn’t be happier to welcome THREE new members this spring. It also gave members the opportunity to dust off the cobwebs and confer all four degrees for our newest members. While the degrees may not have been perfect we know things will become more polished as we work towards fulfilling the State Master’s goal of 12 new members per Grange, per year! Nine more to go!

We have to give special thanks to Brother Victor Salazar who served as Master for the First and Second Degrees. He always does an excellent job and couldn’t do it without him. Thank you, Victor!

The members of Winchester are taking the new Agriculture contest to heart and are working with the Beardsley and Memorial Library in Winsted to sponsor a vegetable gardening program that will feature the

growing of butternut squash for the purpose of donating the produce to area food pantries. The program will be held on May 19 from 6:30-7:30 P.M. The program will be conducted by Master Gardener and Grange member Sherry LeBlanc. We thank her for helping us promote the State Program and Winchester Grange. Wouldn’t it be great to move even closer to 12 new members with a few from this program as well?

Our annual Spring Gift Drawing is also coming up on Saturday, May 21. The doors will open at 6 P.M. and the drawing of prizes will begin at 7 P.M. For those who may not be familiar, a super prize party is a GIANT teacup auction or country store. We typically have over 200 individual items along with a dozen or more SUPER prizes that have a greater value. It’s a lot of fun and, as always, great refreshments will also be available. Join us!

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Susan Belle-Isle

The first March meeting at the Riverton Grange was held on the 4th with a program on Aquamarines, the birthstone gem of the month. Included was a joke for income tax, a poem for the winter and a pass out of Irish words. Refreshments were under the direction of Sally Dewey, Ginny Butler and Grace Jones.

The next meeting was held on March 18, starting with a potluck supper under the direction of Mathew & Theresa Freund. Shirley Moore of the CWA passed out shamrocks to everyone present. The program talked about St. Patrick, name that food, airline humor and US landmarks.

Jody Cameron, the new State Master and his family were present at the meeting and discussed how everyone can help grow the grange.

On March 8 a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, sponsored by the Riverton Congregational Church, was held at the Riverton Grange with Riverton Grangers helping to sponsor this supper.

Our first meeting in April was held on the 1st, during which degrees were conferred upon Maurice “Moe” Gabelmann and Cat Prelli. Gail Prelli was master of the first degree and Phil Prelli was master of the second degree. The April 15 meeting began with a potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. under the direction of the CWA and was followed by third and fourth degrees being conferred upon our new members.

On May 6 at 7:30 p.m., we will have our regular meeting with a program provided by the CWA. The state cookie contest will be judged at this meeting, with refreshments following under the direction of Betty and Ed Baldwin. On May 20 at 6:30 p.m., we will enjoy a potluck supper under the direction of George and Sharon Russell, followed by a program given by the Cherry Brook Bell Ringers under the direction of Mary Lou Keefe, organist at the North Canton Congregational Church. Mary Lou will give a short history of Bell Ringing. Please feel free to come join us for supper and a very enjoyable program.

Shirley Moore, CWA chairman, reminds those attending our meeting to bring non-perishable items to be distributed to local food banks or soup kitchens. A box is available in our hall to accept donations.

## Bell Ringers’ Program

On May 20th, Riverton Grange No. 169 will be visited by the Cherry Brook Chimes Bell Choir under the direction of Mary Lou Keefe. The choir originates from The First Congregational Church of Canton Center and was begun by the then director, Gail Pedersen, with 11 members and three octaves of bells donated by parishioners of the church. The choir now has five octaves of bells and three octaves of chimes. In addition to performing monthly in their church, they have played at the Bushnell Memorial, the Hartford Civic Center, for the Winsted Boar’s Head Festival, marched in parades, played for local Granges, churches, rest homes and traveled to play such places as Mt. Holyoke, Roger Williams and Ithaca Colleges, and UMass and the University of Vermont to participate in the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers yearly conventions which attract upwards of 900 ringers. They have also participated in the yearly Farmington Valley Bell Festival since 1984 and the Spring Ring for the past two years where they have been one of the soloing choirs.

Sister Keefe took over the duties of Organist and Music Director in 1989 and is currently the pianist for Riverton Grange as well as the State Grange pianist. The evening will begin at 6:30 with a delicious potluck supper, to be followed by a concert. Come and enjoy food, fun, and good conversation with some entertainment included.

# 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 story to tell... but about whom or what? Please help us solve the mystery of the 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).

This month's picture...



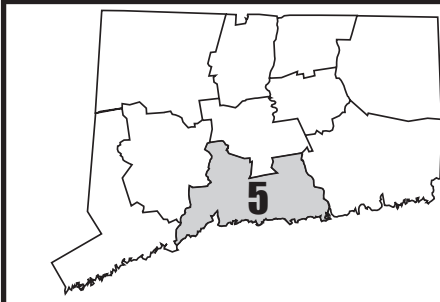
Last month's picture...



We received no information on last month's picture... any ideas? We would love to hear from you about either of these photos. Please call or write to us using the info listed above! You may also used the *Connecticut Granger* address listed on page 2 of this issue.



## New Haven County Pomona No. 5



- ✓ Cheshire No. 23
- ✓ Wallingford No. 33
- ✓ North Haven No. 35
- ✓ Old Lyme No. 162

### NEW HAVEN COUNTY POMONA #5

Corr: Don Lanoue  
May 9: 5th Degree for Inspection  
At our March 14 meeting we held our School of Instruction. This school informed us of the role that Pomona plays in the Grange. Also that evening was our talent and A number competition with Cheshire winning the talent and North Haven winning the A number.

At our May 9 meeting we look forward to being inspected by Pomona Deputy East Jim Palmer. We will have practiced and be in tip top shape for our inspection.

### CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: A. Ruel Miller  
May 4: Fun and Games -Mens Bake off  
May 18: Awards Night, Open Meeting, Teacup Auction

We draped our charter in memory of Helen Ripley, a long standing member of Indian River Grange and more recently of Cheshire Grange. Mary Hale, a Golden sheaf member, died on March 29th. She was a very active

member of Cheshire Grange and will be missed.

Don Lanoue presented his Youth Program on March 2nd We had a fun Competitive Night on March 16th, with Cheshire taking the honors over Wallingford and Southington Granges.

Our CWA Committee's program will be on April 20th with a program on bird's of prey presented by Horizon Wings of Ashford, Ct. We will have live raptors as part of the presentation which is in keeping with the State CWA theme of "Flight" It will be an open meeting along with a teacup auction and refreshments.

In May we will honor our 2011 Community Citizen, Peter DeBisschop a local restaurant owner involved in many activities in the Cheshire Community.

### WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

Corr: Dan Lauttenbach  
Hello Everyone, March 10 - Saint Patrick's Day. This meeting we conducted our normal business plus that was missed during January and February. Since this took most

of our time a short program on St Patrick's Day was presented by Joan Olschefski, our Chaplin. She covered some of the clans in Ireland. Also about a unique sailing vessel called the Galaway Hooker. The Galaway Hooker is a good looking workboat employing a gaff rig that was used for fishing in Galaway Bay in the western part of Ireland. Primary now they are historical vessels people are saving and restoring. March 24 - Once again, winter conspired against us and we canceled the meeting because of a impending snowstorm.

Next Meetings:  
May 12 - "Ritual and Memorial Service Program" Potluck Supper @ 6:15pm. Bring a Brown Bag with a \$5.00 item for our first Brown Bag auction. Please bring someone new to the Grange!

May 26 - "126th Anniversary Celebration and Community Citizen Award Night" Refreshments: All Officers.

### NORTH HAVEN GRANGE #35

Corr: A. Tolette  
May 3: Memories & Inspection  
June 7: Dear Old Dad

Has Spring really sprung? We all hope so. The grass and buds are showing lots of green. It's time to recognize more members who have been faithful members for many years. We have two for 70 years and one for 60 years. We will tell who it is next

time and hope to have some pictures too.

Our Hat Night program should be good. Maybe some of the men will wear Easter bonnets.

### OLD LYME GRANGE #162

Corr: Barbara Kulisch  
May 13: Let's Welcome The Deputy  
May 27: Omitted due to Memorial Day Weekend  
June 10: Summer Days Are Upon Us  
Worthy Master Ross Stands presented his sister Donna-Jean Spellman with her 25 year certificate at our March 11th meeting.

The month of March became our "Bag It" month for collecting food for the local food pantry. We got to try out the CWA cookies at our March 25th meeting and hopefully that encouraged more members to bake them for the baking contest last month!

We will be holding our Needlework Contest on the 13th of May due to the earlier "Let's Celebrate" date in June! Hope we have all been working hard over the long snowy winter! Our door is always open, so come on down!

## Birds of Prey Program



Cheshire Grange recently hosted a program on "Birds of Prey" presented by Horizon Wings of Ashford. The hall was filled to near capacity to see owls, hawks and falcons and to learn more about how this organization is rehabilitating them.



## Do You Remember?

### FRANKLIN L. BEHLMAN, SR.

by Betty Jane Gardiner

Do you remember the hard working, portly gentleman who was Master of Beacon Valley Grange in the 60's?

Beacon Valley and Excelsior Pomona were known for their dinners, and Franklin Behlman was always found in the kitchen playing his role as "chief cook and bottle washer."

Frank and his wife, Anna, labored long and hard in the Grange and for their community. He headed a number of town organizations and projects.

In 1972 he was chosen "Granger of the Year."

The Credit Union was fortunate to have him as a charter member and director until his death.

He served the Connecticut State Grange Fair (as it was known then) as President in 1975 and 1976.

When the famous Deputies' Baseball Game (pictured in a recent issue of the Connecticut Granger) was scheduled, Frank's daughter, Joanne was to be umpire. The night before, she became engaged to Joseph Cipriano, so Dad took over.

I remember one year at State Session everybody was impressed when Frank was often paged to the desk. He certainly was popular. Then, we realized the calls were not for our BEHLMAN, but for the hotel BELLMAN!

Franklin died in 1977 in one of his favorite places - in his garden while picking string beans.

Do remember him!


Top Photo: Franklin L. Behlman, Sr. receives the 1972 "Granger of the Year" award from the Connecticut State Grange.

Left: Franklin Behlman poses for a photo.





### New London County Pomona No. 6



Lebanon No. 21

✓ Colchester No. 78

Pachaug No. 96

Preston City No. 110

✓ N. Stonington No. 138

✓ Lyme No. 147

✓ Stonington No. 168

Norwich No. 172

**NEW LONDON CTY POMONA #6**  
*Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller*  
**May 21:** Conferral of the Fifth Degree, North Stonington Grange #138  
**June 8:** I Remember When, Norwich Grange #172

On March 12 we held our Talent and A-Number night. We had A-Number entries from Pachaug, Norwich and North Stonington, with North Stonington’s George and Harriet and the Great Outdoors emerging the winner after a close contest. North Stonington was the only entry in the talent contest as one number was unable to come. Nancy Weissmuller’s “Laverne” will go on to state.

We will be conferring the Fifth Degree at North Stonington Grange on May 21st. This is a lovely Degree and our Pomona officers do a wonderful job on the ritual. Please encourage your Fourth Degree members to join Pomona.

Our June meeting will be the Memorial Service by the Chaplain. After the serious part of the evening is concluded we will have a little fun. Our Lecturer has asked us each to bring something from our past to talk about, or just to talk about something from our past that is meaningful to us. Either way, our presentation should be no longer than three minutes.

*The winter is over! We made it! Yippee!*

*Spring flowers are starting to bloom!*

*Let’s come to Pomona! Yes, everyone come!*

*Let’s all try to fill up the room!*

**COLCHESTER GRANGE #78**

*Corr: Joan Toomey*

Today we watched a pair of hawks in a noisy display searching for a place for its nesting. We seem to have more time to be vigilant now that technology has given us modern machinery to plow, plant and harvest. Even our household chores are much easier, less time spent washing clothes, hanging them to dry, fold, iron and put away. I’ve found a peace evident in God’s plan. It’s rather nice to sit back and watch the wooded areas in back of this old house come alive with sprouting skunk cabbage, cow slips, wild flowers blooming, birds

chirping and observe that the sun is higher, warmer and smiling down on all of us. Brother Mike was here today with a bag of fresh perch and a wonderful supper for us. Bob worked outside most of the day cutting large limbs left from winter’s rage. It becomes the time to hunt for arrowheads in open fields and up at the lake. Soon daffodils, forsythia and the old apple trees in the door yard will bloom.

Colchester Grange is coming alive this spring, too. Under the tutelage of our good Master Jeff and Polly our Overseer and her involvement with local farmers will obligate three new members this month and accompany them to degrees soon after. And we hope to add more new members each month. Our Grange continues to grow and as always we are busy with community work in our towns, churches, and volunteer countless hours combined. I’m very proud of our Grange and the work we do for our towns. Our CWA chair Kathy is always hard at work getting ready projects for judging. All in all we look forward to another successful year of Grange work and we will honor Grange month, too.

Now is time to correct water and drainage problems. Finish pruning, spray and dust for black spot and mildew as soon as leafing appears.

Sow early crops like peas, lettuce, raddishes, and prune late blooming shrubs. Hope you all enjoy the spring and enjoy holidays with your loved ones.

**N. STON. COMM. GRANGE #138**

*Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller*

**May 13:** “I’d Like to Visit... The Kelley Farm”

**May 27:** “I’d Like to Visit... The Holy Land”

We are happy and excited to welcome Crystal Dame as a new member of our Grange. Crystal has been helping with the Junior Grange since her daughter, Jessica, joined a few years ago. We can attest to her culinary skills; and boy! Can she knit!

As we have no Juniors graduating this year, we will move our Community Citizen night to May 13th to be celebrated along with

Grange Heritage Night. Our Memorial Program will be held on May 27th.

On March 11 our Lecturer, Sue Pianka, presented her state program. The Miner and Rauch families starred in this very interesting and enjoyable evening. Looks like another winner to us.

A small but enthusiastic group enjoyed the potluck dinner on March 27th. We were honored to welcome State Master Jody Cameron our First Lady Jodi Ann Cameron, and their daughter Jaimie, of the State Junior Committee, along with a guest form Mystic. The program featured a visit to Ireland with Fran Dipeter as our tour guide.

North Stonington took first in the Talent and A-Number contest at Pomona. Gene and Nancy donated their winnings to the Grange Scholarship Fund. And if this Nor’easter that’s coming will just leave all that snow way up north, next time I’ll tell you about awesome April.

**LYME GRANGE #147**

**May 5:** How about those Graces and Chaplain!

**June 2:** Who will it be?

Lyme Grange celebrated National Grange Month by taking in four new members - 2 adults - 2 under 35 (25 & 15). Our Master performed the Welcome Ceremony. Dan and Ron played the Welcome Song.

Yes, we have daffodils in bloom, spring has finally arrived.

Our Secretary is back from Texas. However, she is very sick- guess she has trouble adjusting to our wonderful New England weather. We had excellent attendance, 22 despite 5 regulars who were sick.

Eighteen of us wrote cards to soldiers- these will be delivered to Frank Forest who, in conjunction with the VFW, will tuck these into boxes of Girl Scout cookies and Boy Scout popcorn being shipped to troops overseas.

**STONINGTON GRANGE #168**

*Corr: Jeff Barnes*

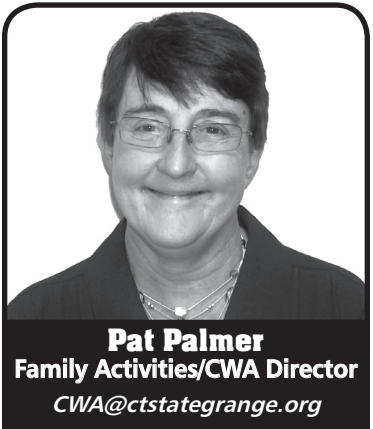
Our March program was “Pop Goes the Weasel.” Carl provided the history of this well-known song and its many different versions. You can go all around the cobblers bench, all around the chicken coop, all around the mulberry bush, or up and down the city road. No matter what route you take it’s always, Pop goes the weasel. In America during the 1850’s the song was called the latest English dance. But even then no-one seemed to know what the phrase meant.

We were entertained by Vern Bailey, who sang his version of Danny Boy and is our entry in the talent contest.

We are planning our Community Citizen program

for April and a special outing for later in the Spring. We continue to collect canned goods for the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center and donations for the Big E.

# Family Activities



Welcome to spring - hopefully.

I would like to thank all those that brought goodies to share on Rally Day. They were delicious.

I also need to clarify a mistake made in the CWA information - my doing - as to when the judging for the CWA will be held. It WILL

be held on Saturday, June 11 when the entries need to be at Cheshire Grange Hall by 10 a.m. They will be available for viewing on Sunday, June 12. Hope this clears up any confusion. If anyone has items for the store at the Big E and you would like to get them out of your house, they can be given to Betty Jane, myself or any member of the committee. Something new this year the CWA/Family Activities Committee will be in charge of the Hospitality Room at State Session. We are not collecting anything yet, but keep it in mind for down the road.

## CHOCOLATE-COCONUT PINWHEELS

- |                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1-3/4 cups all-purpose flour     | 1 tablespoon milk                     |
| 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder | 1 teaspoon vanilla                    |
| 1-1/2 teaspoons baking powder    | 1 3-oz package cream cheese, softened |
| 1/4 teaspoon salt                | 1/3 cup sugar                         |
| 1/3 cup shortening               | 1 teaspoon vanilla                    |
| 1/3 cup butter or margarine      | 1 cup flaked coconut                  |
| 3/4 cup sugar                    | 1/4 cup finely chopped walnuts/pecans |
| 1 egg                            |                                       |

Stir together flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, and salt. In a large mixer bowl beat shortening and butter till butter is softened. Add 3/4 cup sugar and beat till fluffy. Add egg, milk, and 1 teaspoon vanilla and beat well. Add flour mixture and beat till well mixed. Divide dough in half. Cover and chill for 2 to 3 hours or till easy to handle.

- Meanwhile, in a small mixing bowl stir together softened cream cheese, 1/3 cup sugar. and 1 teaspoon vanilla till smooth. Stir in coconut.

- Roll each half of the dough into a 10-inch square. With a pastry wheel or sharp knife, cut each square into sixteen 2-1/2 inch squares. Place 1/2 inch apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. With a knife, cut 1-inch slits from each corner to center. Drop a level teaspoon of the coconut mixture in each center. Fold every other tip to center to form a pinwheel. Sprinkle chopped nuts in center and press firmly to seal.

- Bake in a 350 degree oven for 8 to 10 minutes or till edges are firm and cookies are slightly puffed. Cool on cookie sheet for 1 minute, then remove and cool thoroughly. Recipe makes 32 cookies.


Judging for the baking contest is held in the Subordinate Grange with the winners baking again for the State Judging.



New Riverton Grange members, Cat Prelli and Moe Gabelmann (seated farthest from camera, respectively) are greeted by Past Master Rujo Moore following the Second Degree.



### Excelsior Pomona No. 7



Beacon Valley No. 103

✓ Bethlehem No. 107

Watertown No. 122

Prospect No. 144

Bridgewater No. 153

Wolcott No. 173

✓ Oxford No. 194

**BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121**  
*Corr: Linda Coad*  
**May 23:** Memorial Program & Baking Contest, 7:30 P.M., Ref. Eloise Osuch

**June 23:** Regular Meeting due to change in 120th Anniversary, Ref. Volunteers, anyone?  
**July 10:** Bethlehem Grange

Celebrates 120 Years!

This last month has been very busy. Thanks to all that helped or donated to our successful flea market. The weather cooperated and a steady stream of customers assed up to a great day. Our Anniversary committee is busy getting the final details set for a great time. Mark your calendars now.

**OXFORD GRANGE #194**  
*Corr: Phil Rowland*  
**May 6:** Inspection

**May 20:** Program of Remembrance

We are pleased to report that Oxford's skit won the "A Number" contest at the recent Excelsior Pomona runoff, and will be competing at state level in June. The skit, called "Chicken Farmer" was suggested by Maggie Buck. This is the first time in many years that Oxford has placed first in A Number contests.

Meeting programs continue to be interesting despite absence of Lecturer Jeane Vaill, who has been idled due to knee surgery. Master Rob Buck has capably filled in with unique programs. A recent one searched origins of the first names of members, some of which found remarkable similarities with their own life experiences. Coincidence?

Now we must plant the butternut squash seeds that were distributed by the Grange. Hope for a great harvest!

# Join the 2011 Legislative Fly-In




The National Grange Annual Legislative Fly-In is just weeks away. There is no better opportunity to meet with your Congressional delegates and advocate for rural America than the Fly-In, slated for May 22 through 24.

Attending Grangers will be scheduled to meet face-to-face with their national representatives, and will take part in expert-led briefings on current legislative issues facing our Congress. Grangers

can look forward to advocating for their values before their Representatives and socializing with like-minded Grange members at events such as the evening briefing with PhRMA Speaker Scott LaGanga from Alliances Affordability and Access with dinner included, a breakfast and issue briefing from a member of the Congressional Rural Caucus and a VIP Tour of George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Garden in Alexandria, VA.

For more information or to register, visit the National Grange web site at [www.nationalgrange.org](http://www.nationalgrange.org) or contact National Grange program assistant Grace Boatright at (202) 628-3507, ext. 107 or call 888-4-GRANGE.

## Riverton Grange



**State Master Jody Cameron outlines his goals and programs for his administration at a recent meeting of Riverton Grange No. 169.**

## Governor Malloy

*Continued from page 1...*

ravages of the Civil War, the Grange is constantly evolving and making new contributions to the State of Connecticut through the efforts of its members in the nearly 60 rural and non-rural communities it serves. Local Granges are committed to bettering their communities through agricultural initiatives, advocating legislation, service projects and sponsoring family oriented activities.


"We are honored to receive this acknowledgement from Governor Malloy," said Connecticut State Grange President Jody Cameron as he extended his gratitude to the Governor. "The Connecticut State Grange and the State of Connecticut have always worked closely together and we look forward to this relationship as it continues to grow over the years."

Governor Malloy, a Stamford native and former Stamford Mayor, was sworn in as the 88<sup>th</sup> Governor of Connecticut on January 5, 2011. Known for his bi-partisan manner, Malloy is committed to strengthening the state's economy, growing Connecticut businesses, and bringing jobs back to cities and towns.

Alma Graham, Legislative Director for the Connecticut State Grange, received the letter in the mail. "We appreciate Governor Malloy's recognition of the strong ties that the Grange has to agriculture as well as the commitment to education and service in our state and local communities," said Graham. "It is this strong foundation which has enabled the Grange to survive for 125 years."

This Gubernatorial honor comes at a time when the Connecticut State Grange and the Granges across the state are experiencing a heightened level of enthusiasm.

"It is exciting to see Grange members become more involved in activities, community service and membership development," Cameron said. "This enthusiasm is evident in the number of new members Granges are taking in throughout the State."



**Dannel P. Malloy**  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

April 2011

*125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Connecticut State Grange*

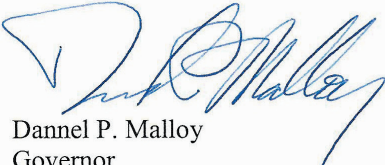
Dear Friends:

On behalf of the State of Connecticut, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate the Connecticut State Grange on its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

For 125 years, the Connecticut State Grange has served the State of Connecticut with distinction. As the oldest surviving agricultural organization in the country, the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry has served American communities since its founding in 1867. Through its leadership in legislative efforts, education and service projects, the Grange has remained committed to its cause. I would like to commend the members of this fine organization for their hard work and commitment. This milestone is a testament to the Connecticut State Grange's dedication to State of Connecticut.

It is a privilege to extend my words of tribute to all. Please know that you have my best wishes for continued success in the future.

Sincerely,

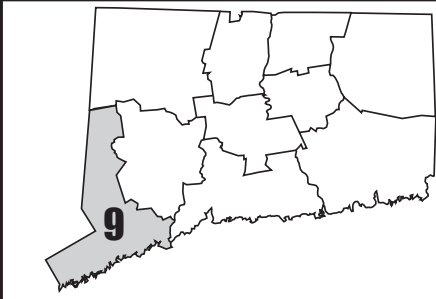


Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor

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## Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



- ✓ Redding No. 15
- Harmony No. 92
- ✓ Greenfield Hill No. 133
- Trumbull No. 134
- ✓ Norfield No. 146
- ✓ Cannon No. 152

### FAIRFIELD CTY POMONA #9

*Corr: Bob Sendewicz*

**May 14:** Pomona Tag Sale 9A.M. to 2P.M.

**June 1:** Dairy Supper 6:00

At our April meeting Fairfield County Pomona was inspected by the General Deputy, Todd Gelineau. The Fifth Degree was conferred on two candidates, Beth and Sally Bradley of Greenfield Hill Grange.

On May 14, 2011 Fairfield County Pomona will have its annual Tag Sale. It will be at Harmony Grange Hall, at the intersection of routes 110 & 111 in Monroe Ct. From 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Included at the tag sale will be baked goods, plants and refreshments. Stop in and enjoy a spring day in Fairfield County.

Our June 1 meeting, at Cannon Grange hall, will be a busy one. It starts with a 6:00 P.M. dairy supper. Then will be the Pomona judging of the CWA needlework contest. The Pomona meeting with the election of officers follows. During the Lecturer's program we will have the judging of the talent and A number contests. Last but not least will be a country store. This meeting should be lots of fun.

### REDDING GRANGE #15

*Corr: Marge Sendewicz*

**May 7:** Spring Fair

**May 9:** Mothers Day

**May 23:** Memorial Service

At our April 11 meeting, our Grange was inspected by Eloise Osuch deputy of Excelsior Pomona. She was accompanied by Albert Maddox, Master of Bethlehem Grange. We did our best to impress her and she seemed pleased. Bob Buck, State Gatekeeper, and Maggie Buck, State Agriculture Committee member, also visited that night. Maggie gave us a presentation on chickens and their eggs. It was very interesting

Spring is finally here and you can really enjoy it in Fairfield County by attending our Spring Fair on May 7th. It will run from 10:00 A.M. till 2:00 P.M. and will have plants and flowers, baked goods, books and of course our famous white elephant sale. There will also be refreshments. So shake off you winter blues and join us for a sunny spring

day.

We will be remembering the holidays of May during our regular meetings. We encourage all to join us for some fun nights.

### GREENFIELD HILL GR. #133

*Corr: Dennis Rich*

**May 16:** "Focus on Agriculture", Meeting 7 P.M.

In March, we were encouraged by the attendance at our meeting by Brother and Sister Buck, who were supportive with their suggestions and comments. The Penny Lane Players did a great job with their performances of Richard III, which ran the last weekend of March and the first weekend of April.

Our May program will feature aspects of agriculture including associations that are supportive of rural endeavors. These consist of regional and national specialty groups.

All of our Grange friends are welcome at our meetings and activities.

### NORFIELD GRANGE #146

*Corr: Ruth L. Hickcox*

**May 7:** Kentucky Derby Viewing Party, 4:00

**May 10:** Blooming of Spring and the Garden Talent Evening

**June 14:** Election of Officers, Initiation and Awards

On a cold March night, new snow on top of old, we gathered to listen to Erin O'Brien from Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge. Her organization's goal is to engage 10% of households with a consortium of 14 towns (including Weston) to set measurable stretch goals of 20% in energy savings and clean energy usage. Weston is high on the energy waste scale, and Ms. O'Brien's message struck home!

Speaking of energy, we must tell you of a beautiful Grange miracle that took place several times this past winter. Many homes were snowed in... and Grange old-timer Ted Coley's home was one of the worst. The Kimberly Family Shoveling Brigade took notice, went into action, and thanks to them and others who helped, Ted always had access to the street. Granger helping Granger: it goes back to the 1800's!

Our Kentucky Derby Party

on Saturday, May 7, promises to be great fun. There will be refresh-mints and a little something to eat, and we'll watch the race on the Grange's Jumbotron. Call 203-226-8233 for reservations, or email [norfieldgrange@gmail.com](mailto:norfieldgrange@gmail.com). And take in the last Farmer's Market before the Derby race. It has been extended to May 7. It features farm fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, jams, meat, eggs, baked goods, cheese, plants, and goat's milk soap products. Be sure to take a peek at our bright newly cleaned and painted kitchen while you're there. It's made an unbelievable change in our hall's facilities.

Tom Kiska, former Master of Norfield Grange and 1994 Master of the Year at Edneyville Grange in North Carolina, died in March at the age of 86. He was a WWII veteran, serving in the Navy as a torpedo man on the U.S.S. Holt. Old-timers will remember Tom's tremendous pride in being a Norfield Granger, and his keen sense of what was right and what was wrong. And if Tom didn't speak up, his wife Helen was sure to do so! He leaves Helen, 7 children, 16 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren!

### CANNON GRANGE #152

*Corr: Don Offinger*

**May 5:** Business Meeting

**May 14:** Neighbor's Night Dinner - 6 PM

**May 19:** Business Meeting program - Learning to make Jams and Jellies

**June 1:** Fairfield Co. Pomona #9 meets at our Hall

**June 2:** Election of Officers for 2011-12

We welcomed over 65 neighbors and friends to our annual evening of Silent Movies on March 26th. All whocameenjoyedthehilarious antics of Stan Laurel & Oliver Hardy, and Buster Keaton in a fabulous double-feature. Our own member, John Mucci, provided a dazzling live piano accompaniment to each of the movies. This wonderful event began our Grange Month festivities. It was great to see all the little kids mesmerized by the action of the movies as they took over the space between the front row and the stage. With our 10' x 10' wall screen, the pictures were "larger than life".

Concluding our Grange Month events, we are participating in the town-wide festival on Sustainable Living, at the Go-Green Festival. Billie Sue Hollingsworth and Don Offinger will be manning our booth giving out packets of Green Bean seeds with

planting instructions and a note our Agricultural Fair and membership in Cannon Grange.

We'll be celebrating our 112th anniversary at the Business Meeting on May 5th, and learning to make jams and jellies on May 19th. We'll actually make a batch of jam in the kitchen that night, with attendees being given a sealed jar to take home, along with the instructions and list of necessary supplies. Come

learn the lost art of homemade jams and jellies....it really isn't that hard to do.

On Saturday, May 14th, we'll be hosting our annual Neighbor's Night dinner. The menu will be baked chicken parts, vegetables, salad and dinner rolls.

Please take note of our meeting schedule and events. Visiting Patrons are always welcome--won't you join us?

## Grange Grocery House

Edith Schoell, State Historian

In the Proceedings of the Twenty-First Session of the Connecticut State Grange, there is an ad for The Patrons' Grocery House.

Thornton Barnes, Wholesale Grocer, 223 North Water St., Philadelphia, PA. was the authorized grocery house of the Connecticut State Grange.

It reads "We are pleased to inform the Patrons that our house is the authorized Grocery House of the Connecticut State Grange, being under contract with the Executive Committee to supply the Patrons of Connecticut with groceries, sugars, syrups, molasses, teas, coffees, spices, etc., in fact, everything in the grocery line, at the lowest wholesale prices. We fill all orders from Granges or Patrons when the same are under seal of Grange and signed by the Master and Secretary of the Grange, and, upon receipt of the goods and found satisfactory, payment can be made within thirty days from date of bills; we do not expect payment until you receive the goods and find them satisfactory..... We guarantee to please you in quality of goods, and at the lowest wholesale price. We are now filling many orders for groceries from Patrons in Connecticut. If you desire information in regard to our manner of doing business with Patrons, or prices on groceries, or freight rates, do not fail to write us, as we endeavor to answer all letters promptly."

Sounds like a good deal. Too bad this type of business did not survive. In case you are wondering about the date, it was in 1906.

*Serving our  
Connecticut policyholders  
since 1833.*

**The Patrons Group  
is now part of the  
State Auto Insurance Group**

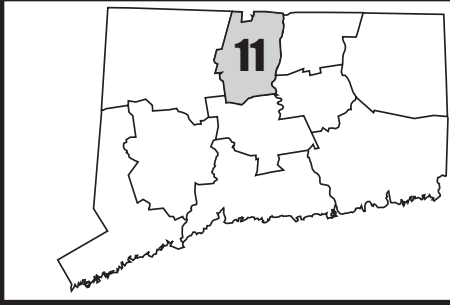
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Farmington Valley Pomona No. 11



Granby No. 5

✓ Tunxis No. 13

✓ Cawasa No. 34

✓ Simsbury No. 197

Cherry Brook No. 210

FARMINGTONVLLYPOMONA #11

Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner

May 16: “Fifth Degree”

Four of our Granges have been assigned the task of bringing a number for the program each meeting. It has worked very well so far. Just like having a “potluck” program- little bits of everything- and very tasty!

Last meeting Cawasa folks had us saying “Good-by to winter” and told us how to age gracefully. We had fun with a paper and pencil game from Simsbury. Granby led us in a sing-a-long of three Irish tunes. Tunxis gave a very nice story of a little known event following 9-11 and closed with an Irish blessing.

We voted to assist (in turn) each of our Subordinates with one of the Community Service projects. Items for the town food bank in Granby will be brought to our next meeting.

We have missed our Overseer, Art Rote. He is making progress and we hope to have him back with us soon.

TUNXIS GRANGE #13

Corr: Pam Covington

Tunxis Grange was very sorry to hear of the death of Dorothy Nelson, a 70 year member of the Grange. When Dorothy was active in the Grange, after the meetings she would play the piano and everyone would sing and at times would square dance. Everyone would have a good time at these meetings. We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Dorothy’s family and friends. It is very sad to have a member go to the Great Grange above who has been with our Grange for so many years!

So far, we have a couple of offers for the hall, and we are waiting to see what will happen. Time will tell where they will go, but we hope this can be resolved soon.

We hope the Grange members have a very Happy Spring. It seems so good to see spring flowers and green grass after such a long, hard winter!

CAWASA GRANGE #34

Corr: Maggie Schofield

Hope you all had a wonderful Easter. We had fun doing little Easter cakes, with coconut and jelly beans on top for the Food Bank.

Time to get ready to do your planting for May. I tried that once or twice and now I go to Meadowview Farm in Southwick, MA and purchase the plants and pop em’ in! Sure is a lot easier and the plants are very inexpensive and beautiful.

We are busy planning our next endeavor for the food bank, and getting ready to order our dictionaries for the 3rd graders.

Getting our website together now too! Should be fun working on it... Have a wonderful spring!

“Last night I dreamed I ate a 10 lb. marshmallow, and when I woke up, the pillow was gone.” Tommy Cooper.

“You have to stay in shape; my Grandmother started walking 5 miles a day when she was 60! She’s 97 today and we don’t know where the heck she is!”

SIMSBURY GRANGE #197

Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner

May 11: Memorial Program

With the arrival of spring we are looking forward to getting back into our hall. Plans are being made for a bake, tag and plant sale on May 21st at the hall from 10 to 2 o’clock. We are thinking ahead to see what other projects we can pursue.

It was a long hard winter for everyone. Our Lecturer, Wanda Kansas, has struggled through it all and has kept up her Community Service efforts making and donating her beautiful lap robes to the convalescent homes.

Squash seeds from the State Committee have been given out and we are hoping for some successful “harvests.” What a great idea it is to give any extras to a local food bank. Hope everyone will have a “green thumb.”



Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

Press Release *Essentials*

Understanding how the media works, what makes news and how to make the news, is valuable knowledge for any Grange. Favorable media exposure means recognition in the community, acknowledgement of Grange activities, services and accomplishments and a higher profile of your Grange among potential members. The perfect place to start is with a well-written press release.

An engaging press release with an interesting, “hook,” or angle is an excellent way to gain exposure for your Grange and can lead to not only publication in newspapers, magazines and on the internet, but media interviews with appearances on television and radio stations as well.

The objective of a press release is to capture the attention of your audience, whether this is within your community or state-wide, and to educate the reader on not only on the activities of your Grange, but on the Grange itself.

We cannot stress enough the importance of a well written press release. We constantly come across inaccurate, poorly written or unedited press releases that simply will not be read by the media. They become a waste of time to journalists who are already bogged down with information overload. And some releases are just not publishable. A poorly written press release will be a very fast turn off for any journalist or editor and will reflect negatively on your Grange’s efforts. Although some of the best writers will occasionally miss grammatical errors or typos, by making sure you read, edit and re-edit your press release, you drastically reduce the chance for error.

So our advice? Write a strong, well written press release and be sure to proof-read and

edit before submitting it. The following tips will help you with writing your press release:

- 1.) Make sure the information is newsworthy.
- 2.) Tell the audience that the information is intended for them and why they should continue to read it.
- 3.) Start with a brief description of the news (called the “hook”) then distinguish who announced it, and not the other way around.
- 4.) Ask yourself, “How are people going to relate to this and will they be able to connect?”
- 5.) Make sure the first 10 words of your release are effective, as they are the most important.
- 6.) Avoid excessive use of adjectives and fancy language.
- 7.) Deal with the facts.
- 8.) Provide as much contact information as possible: Individual to Contact, address, phone, fax, e-mail, website address.
- 9.) Make sure you wait until you have something with enough substance to issue a release.
- 10.) Make it as easy as possible for media representatives to do their jobs.

In the ever-expanding 24/7 online and traditional media world, reporters and journalists are hungry for authentic original sources and stories. Pitch yours professionally, and you have a chance at media coverage and reaching many more people than you ever thought possible.

If you or your Grange needs help writing press releases, please contact the Public Relations Committee.

We’re here to help!



News from the Deputy Team

Inspections • Code Reading • Ritual • Ritual Challenge • Support • Instruction

Todd Gelineau, General Deputy

Schools of Instruction are almost complete and the spring Inspection season is in full swing. There are several areas that need clarification regarding the inspection process.

**INSPECTION SCHEDULING** – Deputies are now on a year-long inspection calendar. That means they are no longer required to inspect during specific times of the year or on the dates that Granges print in their handbooks. Deputies will contact your Grange to schedule a date and it may not be when it has been done in the past.

**REPORTS FROM YOUR STATE MASTER** – We have promised a quicker turn-around in the reporting to Granges following inspections. Every effort will be made to get reports back to Granges in a timely manner. However, there are several things that may hold up your report and your assistance is greatly appreciated. If a Grange has not prepared properly for the inspection by having all records and information available on the

night of inspection, the inspection will not be considered complete. If there are errors on the inspection report (either on the part of the Grange or the Deputy) the report will be returned for correction, taking more time.

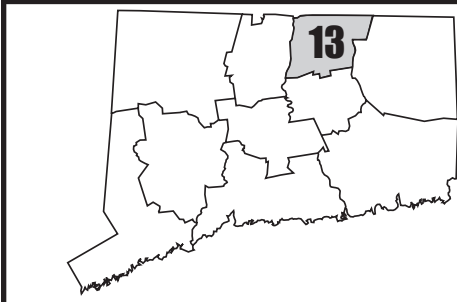
Most importantly, **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS** must be **BALANCED**. This means the total derived from adding and subtracting the September 30, 2009 “Cash”, “Receipts” and “Disbursement” sections at the top of the form **MUST MATCH** the total of the September 30, 2010 Cash section on the bottom. Imbalanced reports will be returned to Granges for correction and the inspection will be on hold until complete. **If a corrected E.C. report is required, please file an amended copy with the State Secretary as well.**

We know this inspection cycle will be a learning process for everyone and know that things will be much easier for all next year as we are more accustomed to the process.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and warm welcomes to the Deputy Team!



## North Central Pomona No. 13



- ✓ Stafford No. 1
- ✓ Tolland No. 51
- Vernon No. 52
- ✓ Enfield No. 151

### N. CENTRAL POMONA #13

Corr: J. Jordan

At the March meeting of North Central Pomona, Worthy State Master Jody Cameron, Junior Chair of Quinebaug Pomona #2 Jodi Ann Cameron, General Deputy Todd Gelineau, Director of Family Activities Pat Palmer

and Pomona Deputy East Jim Palmer were present and discussed the plans for Connecticut Granges in 2011.

North Central Pomona will not meet in May but will meet in June.

### STAFFORD GRANGE #1

Corr: Gail Fisher

### May 17: Meeting

The evening of March 15, 2011 started out with a wonderful Irish dinner cooked by Milo & Shirley Bradway and Masako and Myron Avery. Refreshments were furnished by the rest of our members. Everyone enjoyed the meal and company of friends.

We were honored with the visit of guests at our meeting. State Secretary Edith Schoell and Ken Herbele, Gatekeeper and Ruth Herbele, Secretary of East Central Pomona #3. They informed us of some important dates and happenings coming up. Also Irene Percoski, Deputy of North Central Pomona filled

in for our Secretary.

Shirley Bradway of the Women's Activities passed out a cookie recipe to be made and judged at the next meeting. The winner will bake again for the judging at "Let's Celebrate" Day in June.

Milo Bradway, Agriculture Comm. announced that the Hart Seed Co. is donating seeds for us to grow Butternut Squash. Some will be decorated for the Grange State Session. One can use their imaginations and hope to win.

### TOLLAND GRANGE #51

Corr: J. Jordan

May 3: Vermont

Join the Grangers in Tolland at their monthly meeting to learn bits and pieces about Vermont. The meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M. at St. Matthew's Church on the Green in Tolland. Let Worthy Master Robert West know if you will be attending. Congratulations to Elizabeth Robertson for receiving her 50 year Pomona membership card.

### ENFIELD GRANGE #151

Corr: Irene Percoski

The May meeting of Enfield Grange has been changed from May 14 to MAY 17.

# Meet the members of the Agriculture Committee



**Jonathan Russell**  
Agriculture Director

Agriculture@ctstategrange.org

is something we don't have. Hopefully he will be back in the fall.

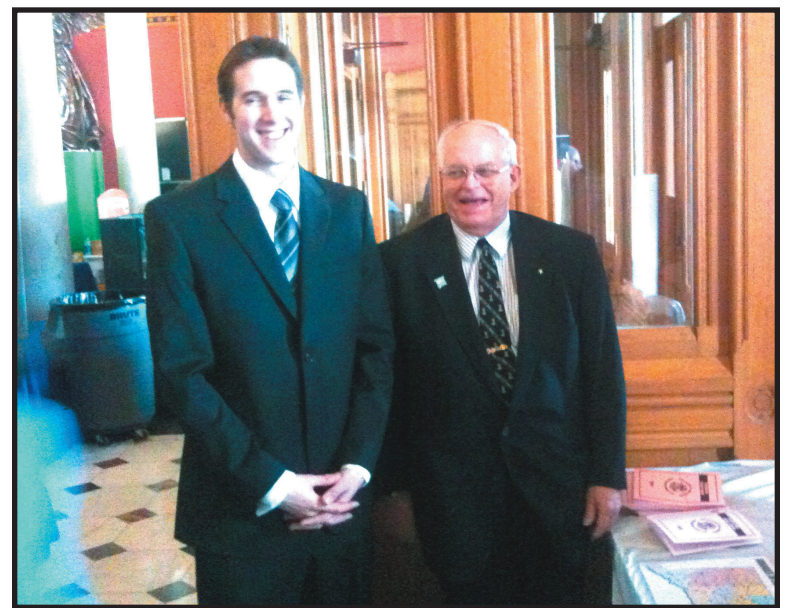
**TED POWELL** - I started off showing swine for my grandfather at the age of 5. I was a 4h leader for 14 years, my kids farm name was Avonlea Farm and we show swine, goats, cows, sheep, rabbits, and chickens. As a kid I worked on a dairy farm and poultry farm, I work now on the largest pheasant farm in New England and have been there for 20 years. I also work heavily in the fair industry.

**ROBERT MINER** - I grew up on a Dairy Farm and have always enjoyed the lifestyle. I am in a partnership with my uncle on a Dairy farm with around 100 head of cattle. I received the CT State Grange Outstanding Young Farmer Award in 1997. I live in North Stonington with my Wife, Cheree and my son Jason. I am happy to serve on the CT State Grange Agriculture Committee.

**JONATHAN HERMONOT** - I have a strong passion for agriculture and am excited about what the future holds. Growing up on my parent's dairy farm I learned the value of hard work at a young age. When I was in high school I partnered with my family and we started Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm. In our farm store we specialize in selling pastured raised turkeys, homemade ice cream, and fresh meats, along with other locally grown products. In the last couple years we have grown our farm by adding a corn maze and promoting a CSA program. I graduated from the University of Connecticut with an

Associate's degree in animal science and a Bachelors' degree in Agriculture and resource economics. From there I started working at Maple Lane Farms/ Connecticut Currant which is a diversified farm. We specialize in growing Black Currants, hydroponic lettuce and cut your own Christmas trees. I manage the bottling plant where we bottle our own black currant juice. Finally my fiancé and her family have a dairy farm where I enjoy giving a helping hand! Being involved in different aspects of agriculture I've learned that the most successful farms are progress and forward thinking!

**JON RUSSELL** - I have been involved in Agriculture my whole life and seem to be drawn to it. I worked on a Dairy Farm in the Northwest corner throughout High School and College. I went to school for Agriculture and Natural Resources and received a Bachelors from The University of Connecticut. I have since started The Online Greenhouse - a business selling garden supplies online and through a catalog, go to www.TheOnlineGreenhouse.com to request a catalog. My goal is to help people grow their gardens more sustainably by offering environmentally friendly and organic products that are all made locally in the Northeast United States. I have had the great pleasure of working with such a diverse committee and welcome all members suggestions and concerns for agriculture in the state of Connecticut.



State Grange Agriculture Director Jon Russell poses for a photo with State Grange Legislative Liaison Gordon Gibson during Ag Day at the State Capitol in Hartford.



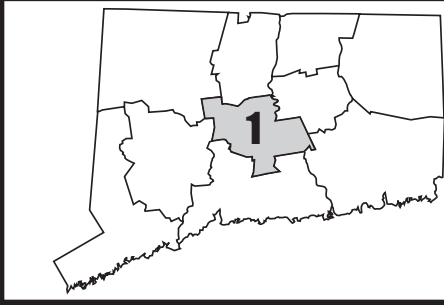
The Connecticut State Grange provided an informational booth at the 2011 Winter Conference of the CT Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) at Manchester Community College in early March. Pictured (l to r): Jody Cameron, State President; Jon Russell, State Ag. Director; and Victor Salazar, Deputy of Mt. County Pomona and State FFA President.

## Degree Day

East Central Pomona No. 3 will hold a Degree Day on Saturday, May 14 beginning at 10:00 A.M. The First & Second Degrees will be conferred in the morning, followed by lunch and then the Third & Fourth Degrees. All Granges are invited to bring candidates to the conferral. To help in planning for the day, please contact Master Noel Miller with the number of members and candidates planning to attend (Tel. 860-742-8839).



### Central Pomona No. 1



Southington No. 25

Meriden No. 29

✓ Westfield No. 50

✓ Higganum No. 124

✓ Hemlock No. 182

**WESTFIELD GRANGE #50**  
*Corr: Phyllis Redford*  
**Apr. 7:** Easter Traditions  
**May 5:** The True Meaning of Memorial Day

The March program was “All Things Irish” ... winter was very much with us on this Grange meeting day, but on St. Patrick’s Day, March 17th, the sun truly smiled on all the sons and daughters of Erin... and all who became “Irish” for

the day.

The program opened in song “When Irish Eyes Are Smiling” (acapella, of course), a biography of St. Patrick (389?-463). As a Deacon, it is possible that he visited Rome and may have returned with some relics. His bell may be shown in the Museum of Science and Art in Dublin. The St. Patrick’s Day parade in New York City is said to

have more “Irishmen” than are in Ireland itself. The shamrock is part of the familiar clover family... the three leaves represent the Holy Trinity... according to St. Pat himself. To celebrate the holiday, Grangers learned how to make a colorful and inexpensive greeting card featuring the shamrock. Handouts. Patterns. Again, we were in fine voice to honor “McNamara’s Band”... Thomas Moore (1779-1852) was probably the most famous Irish poet... certainly the best known. Members present were invited to examine a book, leather covered, gold leaf on three sides, in perfect condition, published in London in 1834, containing the “Ten Ballads” with footnotes by

the composer himself... a real treasure to celebrate the Irish holiday. An Irish prayer concluded the program.

Our Overseer, Ila Smalley is recovering slowly from burns suffered during the fire which destroyed her home. Her new address is Stonegate Apts. #109, 1160 South Main St., Middletown, CT 06457. Special guest at the March meeting was Past State Master and Secretary of the National Grange Executive Comm., Phil Prelli. Spring?? Has anyone seen a robin yet?

contest to grow them. In September at the Fair, the participants will exhibit their Butternut squash for the largest (weight) and we will donate the squash to the food bank.

Our next meeting will be held on the third Friday in May due to conflicting events being held on our usual night so mark your calendars for May 20th.

At the May meeting we will have a talk on edible herbs and how to grow them.

**HEMLOCK GRANGE #182**  
*Corr: Maureen Sanborn*  
**May 13:** Music Night- Dave K.  
**May 27:** Omit-Memorial Day

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

# Community Service



**Jeff & Debbie Barnes**  
Co-Community Service Directors  
[CommunityService@ctstategrange.org](mailto:CommunityService@ctstategrange.org)

*“Coming together is a beginning.  
Keeping together is progress.  
Working together is success.”*  
*Henry Ford*

We are halfway through the year and we’ve already heard of several new and imaginative community service projects being planned or begun by Connecticut


granges. Creating connections with the community is very important in making the Grange known to others in both rural and suburban areas. We need to put our best foot forward in presenting ourselves if we expect our granges to grow.

When the community sees us working to make it a better place to live, our neighbors want to be part of us. You might say that as grangers we win twice. Once for the good feeling of making ours a better community and second for the great promotion we get for our organization.

For those who need more help there are opportunities in every community to partner with other organizations - Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, schools, churches, fire departments and other civic and fraternal organizations. They may be in the same situation and need assistance with their projects.

How many times have we heard, “we used to do those things but we are too old to do them anymore”? Do you go to a senior center? Can you volunteer your time there? Can you collect toiletries for veterans or shelters? Part of the CWA/ Family Activities program is collecting canned goods. They are also asking for donations to the “Kid’s Fund” which is donating small denominational gift cards from Wal-Mart, McDonald’s, etc. Put this toward your grange’s community service. Should Auld Acquaintance in the Lecturer’s program counts towards community service. The Juniors are collecting items for pets and collecting children’s books - lend them a hand. Take part in growing the butternut squash which the Ag Committee has provided. Can’t grow seeds yourself? Ask the community to help out. They would like to take part if they realize this project helps out the Ct Food Banks. Again, a great tool in gaining new members, so publicize this project. Are you involved in the Dictionary Project? So many possibilities!

Your Community Service Chairpersons are not only here to collect reports - we will help you with ideas and advice to help you achieve success. We look forward to seeing your reports and your imaginative ways of creating community connections.



## Send a note to Jeff

As of this printing, we received word that Overseer Jeff Barnes is in the hospital. He will be going for surgery in the next couple of days to repair a broken hip and will then move to rehab. Cards and notes can be sent to Jeff & Debbie’s home address at: 121 Stillman Rd. Ext., North Stonington, CT 06359.

# “Hello friendly neighbors...”



**Marge Bernhardt**  
State Lecturer  
[lecturer@ctstategrange.org](mailto:lecturer@ctstategrange.org)

If you look at page 14 in The Grange Songbook you will see a song entitled “It’s a Good Thing to be a Granger”. The song mentions friendly neighbors. Grangers all across the state are friendly and welcome strangers to their halls. We can renew old friendships and make new ones. But, we have to get out and go visit. Don’t become a coach potato. Just today I brought a picture to someone whose family I have known for more years than I want to admit and also got a hug from someone I only met two months ago. She is moving to another part of the state and was delighted that I was willing to help her get in touch with Grangers near her new home. I know she will be welcomed with open arms at her new home Grange. The song also mentions the good times we will have and how they will make your heart glad. Yes,

there are good times to be had for all, but you have to help too. Suggest a program for your Lecturer. Offer to do a number or even a whole program for her. I heard it said this week that people don’t want to come out just for a reading or song or poem. I agree. We need better programs. We need programs that make people want to come to Grange. Let’s all join together and make this a reality.

It is a good time to be a Granger. There are activities for one and all. Statewide events are being planned. There are Good Grange Dinners being held all over the state. Read the Granger. Check your Pomona handbook. By doing

this not only will you get a good home-cooked meal at a reasonable price, but, you will be helping the other Grange financially. And, I’m willing to bet you will make some new friends while you are there.

The last thing I want is for you to think I have climbed up on a bandstand to lecture. What I want is to see the Grange carry on and have a gain in membership. To do this we have to work together.

There are a lot of events coming up. Check your bluebook, go to the State Grange website, access facebook, or just ask a friend what is going on in your area. See you around the State.



Pomona Deputy West Don Lanoue visits at a recent meeting of Southington Grange No. 25.



# Youth & Junior Grange



**Lisa Lamoureux**  
State Youth & Junior Director  
youth@ctstategrange.org  
juniors@ctstategrange.org

Greetings!!! Well if you did not attend the annual Bowl-A-Thon, you will now have to wait another full year until it happens again. Remember, everyone is young at heart so you should participate in great functions that like this.

Here are some upcoming events for the Juniors and Youth. The Juniors and Youth will be serving you a delicious dinner at "Let's Celebrate". It looks like Pat Palmer's famous lasagna will be the featured item for dinner that day. "Thank You" Pat for helping us out. So make sure that you come hungry to "Let's Celebrate" because you are going to leave full!!!!

Anyone up for a ballgame? We are thinking about getting everyone together for a ballgame. What could be more fun than good Grange friends, a hot dog and a really good baseball game. Look for more details to come.

Another idea that we have is to help out in the New England Grange Building at the Big E. I will need Junior and Youth volunteers to help out in the Connecticut room and down in the store. Please call me at 203-238-1510 if you would like to help out. We are aiming for a Saturday so that no one has to miss school (sorry!). Remember, part of being a Granger is volunteering. I am sure that it will be a fun day. I will have Grange information to hand out and will order a memory for people to take home with them. If anyone has any ideas about an item that we can hand out, please call me or email me (youth@ctstategrange.org) OR (juniors@ctstategrange.org). I would like to get an order into National Grange as soon as possible so put on those thinking caps and let me know. Maybe some kids will see how much fun you have that day at the Big E, that they will want to join.

If anyone has any ideas for a fundraiser or a gathering, or road trip, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Junior or Youth Committees. We are open to all ideas and want everyone to participate. REMEMBER, put on those thinking caps!

## EKONK JR. GRANGE #101

Corr: Sue Gray

With 24 at the last Junior Grange meeting, Leader, Rebecca Gervais had her hands full but rejoiced and welcomed two more new Junior Grange members: Annika Fishlock and Maria Angelone!

The Juniors made Easter crafts, which my this reading, have been delivered to the Convalescent Home. Two Juniors: Maria Angelone and Clifford Gervais, are on the Youth Drill Team. Rules allow for a percentage of members to be Juniors age 10 or over. These two kids LOVE taking part on this team! The Junior Grange will assist the Sterling Historical Society clean up two Sterling cemeteries in May and will assist with lunch by providing beverages and chips; the meal and break will be at the Community Grange Hall too! Spring has sprung and with it the Junior Grange is blossoming! The annual Junior Grange plant sale will be held the day before Mother's Day: plan to come and buy garden plants or flowers (9am-2pm). Call Rebecca Gervais at 860-564-1139 before 9pm if you have any questions on the Plant Sale or anything to do with the Junior Grange.



Russell Gray, First Selectman of Sterling, poses with Sterling Girl Scouts at Ekonk Community Grange- each girl given her own Girl Scout Proclamation signed by Gray.

# Eggs, Eggs, EGGS!!!



Maggie Schofield (Easter Bunny) and Lin Schofield (Little Girl) perform a skit at the Spring Past Deputies' Association meeting. The skit was about a little girl that didn't quite understand the difference between Santa and the Easter Bunny... and was told by the grumpy bunny "I bring Eggs, Eggs, Eggs!". Phil Prelli is now retired as Assoc. President and Bob Sendewicz was elected at the meeting held at Riverton.

## In Memoriam

Dorothy Nelson  
Hans Frederickson  
Mary Riva, G.S.  
Lucy Smith Haloburdo, G.S.  
James McGowan, G.S.  
Thomas Kiska  
Eugenia Thirkield  
Thomas P. Kisko

Tunxis Grange #13  
Manchester Grange #31  
Brooklyn Grange #43  
Coventry Grange #75  
N. Stonington Grange #138  
Norfield Grange #146  
Norfield Grange #146  
Cannon Grange #152

Please keep us notified of deceased members.  
Use the email or the regular mailing address  
listed on page 2 of this issue. Thank you.

## Chaplain's Message



**Amy Whitcomb**  
State Chaplain

chaplain@ctstategrange.org

As we look forward to the season of new birth let us consider seeing the resurrected Christ as ourselves. Resurrection does not require us to believe in life restored to a physical body. Did Jesus' resurrection really happen? Was it a physical as well as metaphysical event? The Scriptures offer a number of accounts of the appearance of Jesus after his crucifixion

I believe that the described post-Resurrection appearances of Jesus were absolutely real to those who experienced them. I have no doubt that to this day people continue to experience a living Jesus today.

"The World" has not seen the resurrected Christ. The "World" cannot have seen, nor can it ever see the resurrected Christ because Resurrection is an event that transcends the world's view of what is real. I feel it is not about a body walking out of tomb.

Resurrection does not require us to believe in life restored to a physical body. Resurrection is a movement in consciousness that lets us see past our perceived limitations and catch a glimpse of the Infinite.

Resurrection offers us a clear, powerful evidence that life it. Resurrection offers us a chance to participate in life, not a limited view of life that must end in death, but rather the Omnipresent, Eternal Life. Eternal life that is one of the qualities of God. Resurrection joyously exclaims that you and I, just as Jesus are the love, the wisdom and the power of God.

Will this be the year that you and I dare to boldly follow Jesus and experience, right here and now the consciousness of unlimited Life that is true Resurrection?

## Camp Berger

Linda Coad, Camp Berger Trustees Director

The hope is this will be the turn around year for the camp. Letters have gone out to Pomona and Community Granges outlining what we would like them to do. However many Grangers do not attend meetings and this is a notice to those members.

We need more kids to attend! Attendance had dropped for many years. Gone are the days when we had a waiting list, and that would be an ideal problem. This will also be the last year at \$300 a week tuition.

The Granges have been approached to award Camperships, and to donate toward some items that need to be replaced this year due to wear.

This is where you all come in. We need members that can add to the campership funds, either at your Grange level or send to the state fund, Connecticut State Grange, marked "Campership", P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033.

Many Golden Sheaf members remember the fun they or their kids had at camp. Whether you still attend meetings or just enjoy this paper to keep up on what everyone is doing, you can be an important part of camp rejuvenation.

The clean up day is over and next on the list are the two Open Houses and Tours, Sunday May 22nd and Saturday, June 25th - tours noon to 3pm. If you can, please come and visit our beautiful piece of property, and see what you can do to help.