



Winchester Grange No. 74

News from Your Grange

The Walrus said, "The time has come, to talk of many things..."

That's the Lewis Carroll version – but I'm going to tell you "this old gal is going to talk of many things..." about our Grange. Cannot excuse myself for being slow ~ can't get very far in a wheelchair. I'm moving around thanks to friends - both Bud and myself! Whatever would you do without friends?

Last year, I'm happy to tell you, all except 33 members paid dues! Since December I have received 2 of those! Maybe this year it will be even better! And speaking of dues...

Dues are \$20.00 per person, same as before. Pomona dues are \$2.50 per person if you belong. Connecticut Granger, if you subscribe \$3.00. Please try to get the dues paid as soon as you possibly can.

If you can possibly add a little extra to your dues... Never before have we asked that but never before has our Grange Hall needed as much as it does right now. The front pillars need much done as well as the structure underneath the front of the hall. In addition we are anxious to put in a chair lift- in itself a costly project. With our membership we find several people who need help going up or down stairs. We are working on this project



Water damage to the front of the hall has caused most of this column to rot away. Most of the bottom of this column is gone, with only the siding remaining. Also visible are large cracks in the cement. Not visible is a leak into the kitchen underneath this slab.

but we need help! Donations don't have to be big- every little bit helps!



Again in 2007 (as in 2006) Winchester Grange was named Honor Grange of the Year. This is due to many things including the cooperation among the members, hard working brothers and sisters, a good group of officers and an excellent leader in our Master Todd Gelineau. Having attained this distinction, now we must work to keep it.



Before I go further I want to say "Thank You" especially to Todd – as he is printing this letter for me. I cannot make my hands, my typewriter and my brain all work together yet! Better than it was but not good

yet.

Thank you, Todd



I do enjoy getting the stories about the various children of our members. It is so interesting to go back over the years. Maybe we could make a list of members, children and grandchildren. I'll keep it in mind- but no promises! I love to get pictures!



Our Grange Fair & Flea Market in August was very successful with good entries of fruits, vegetables & flowers. We featured a new contest with members entering their favorite collections. There was a great variety of collectibles— maybe you have a collection to enter this year??? Second Saturday in August.



Strawberry Festival and thank goodness, so many people like strawberries and thank goodness so many people will help to prepare those strawberries!

Father's Day in June!



The Grange (all Granges) are community service organizations and should be so recognized. Too often this recognition is unknown.



Did you know Mary and John Sullivan furnish a sing-along with Mary's great piano music every Tuesday night at Laurel Hill Health Center.

Did you know Mary Ann Berlinski makes

tray favors for every person at Laurel Hills.



Did you know a steady stream of cars takes items to Friendly Hands in Torrington and the Open Door in Winsted. We could go on and on. However, this year we are going to keep a little better track of our service to others. Our Master has appointed Mary Ann Berlinski as Community Service Chairman to keep listings of all that is done. She cannot do it without being told! It doesn't matter what you donate... a couple cans of food, an hour at a nursing home, cutting coupons, sitting with patients and so on are all Community Service. Give Mary Ann a call- 482-0893 or send her a note- P.O. Box 171, Winchester Center 06094. The Community Service year ends in August, so you let her know as you go along or you can keep a tally and let her know all at once in August. Keep track of your good work.

Changes do occur and even in our staid Grange we find this is true. The Master is known as the President (at least outside of Winchester Grange); and a variety of other name changes have occurred.

Time Change - Winchester Grange is considering a time change. We currently meet at 8:00 P.M. and have done so for as long as any living member can remember. A new meeting time of 7:30 will be voted on at our February 12 meeting. If voted on favorably, the Grange will then set the date when the new time change will take effect. Please come to the meeting on Feb. 12 if you either want to support or even object to the change. This

newsletter serves as the official notice of the vote for By-Laws purposes.



The new National President (I still like Master) is Edward Luttrell from Oregon. Our own Phil Prelli (of Riverton Grange) was elected as a member of the National Grange Board of Directors.



Ed Luttrell

Note from the Master:

Winchester Grange is very well represented on the Pomona level with many new and returning officers. After many years as Lecturer of Mountain County Pomona, Marion handed over the sash to Susan Addison— and we know that Marion will continue contributing to the Lecturer’s programs. Also after many years as Secretary of the Pomona, Sister Peggy Prelli of Riverton stepped down and Sister Mary Ann Berlinski has become the new Secretary. Big shoes to fill and we know Mary Ann will do an excellent job as will Sue.

Other new and returning officers: Todd Gelineau, Master; Jerry Lemieux, Assistant Steward; Sandra Phillips, Lady Assistant Steward; Sara Bement, Pomona; Kimberly Mele, Ceres and Craig Leifert, Exec. Committee. Congratulations to you all!



Looking for a locksmith? Contact Vinnie Mele - one of the best in Torrington.



Looking for a gift for a boy or a girl? How about a week at Camp Berger this summer? It would be the gift of many memories.



Glad to see Theo Cone out following her surgery and Phil Hurlbut with a new knee!



Do send me little tidbits you have and any pictures!



Any note you send along with your dues or donations would be appreciated and prove more truly the tie that binds!

You belong to Winchester Grange - we do belong together!

Love—
Marion
[Signature]



Winchester Grange

Remaining 2008 Meetings

- Jan. 22 Out the Window
- Feb. 12 Sweetheart
- Feb. 26 Clementine
- Mar. 11 Happy Trails
- Mar. 25 Smiles
- Apr. 8 Join Us - 1st & 2nd Degrees
- Apr. 22 Welcome - 3rd & 4th Degrees
- May 13 White Coral Bells
- May 27 Ties that Bind - Memorial Program
- June 10 Election, Yea or Nay?
- June 24 Put the Kettle On
- July 8 Grand Old Flag
- July 22 Fair Time
- Aug. 12 Out to the Ballgame
- Aug. 26 Grange Spirit
- Sept. 9 Join Us - 1st & 2nd Degrees
- Sept. 16 Welcome - 3rd & 4th Degrees
- Sept. 23 Installation of Officers

Strawberry Festival
Father's Day, June 15

Grange Fair & Flea Market
Saturday, August 9

Mountain County

Pomona

Remaining 2008 Meetings

- Feb. 11 **"Our Associations in Life"**
Litchfield Grange Hall, 7:30
- Mar. 26 **"Love the Country" - Day Mtg.**
10:30 A.M., Lunch at Noon
Riverton Grange Hall
- May 12 **"Words of Success" - 5th Degree**
Winchester Grange Hall, 7:30 P.M.
Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
- June 23 **"Essential Virtues"**
Eureka Grange Hall, 7:30 P.M.
- Sept. 8 **"Work for All"**
Litchfield Grange Hall, 7:30 P.M.



Winchester Grange Dues Form

Name(s) _____

- | | |
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| Winchester Grange Dues (\$20.00 per person) | \$ _____ |
| Mountain County Pomona Dues (if you belong) (\$2.50) | _____ |
| <i>Connecticut Granger</i> Subscription (if you would like to receive it) (\$3.00) | _____ |
| Voluntary donation | _____ |
| TOTAL | _____ |

*Please make checks payable to Winchester Grange No. 74 and send to:
Marion Beecher, P.O. Box 63, Winchester Center, CT 06094*

Thank You!