



**THE CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE  
LECTURERS' NEWSLETTER  
March – April 2016**



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Hi All,

Our Annual Lecturer's Meeting will be held on Sunday afternoon, March 13th at 2:00 p.m. at Cheshire Grange Hall. We will be meeting in the lower hall. All Grangers are invited to this meeting. I would especially like to invite Subordinate Lecturers. We need to revamp our projects and make some changes. It is important that we hear from everyone regarding their thoughts and ideas for changes in our current programs and get input for some new programs. Hope to see you there. *If there is bad weather I will call all Pomona Lecturers. Anyone else please call me. 203 272-4620.*

The 101<sup>st</sup> Lecturers' Conference will be held August 1, 2, & 3 at Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater, Massachusetts. It will be hosted by the Rhode Island State Grange. The price will remain the same as last year. Each State will be putting on a program encouraging people to come and visit them. That having been said, I need some ideas for numbers enticing people to come to Connecticut. Anything you can suggest, would be appreciated. I should have all the forms to mail out by the middle of May.

The seven Northeast State Lecturers have had several long meetings reviewing the questionnaires from last years' conference and discussing ways to make the conference better and more helpful to all concerned. There will be several changes this year and I think you will all be pleased with them.

I have received some questions on the "A Number" and Talent Contests.

\*The numbers do not have to be presented at a Subordinate Grange.

\*The same number and people who win at Pomona must be the ones to bring their number to the State Contests in June. These will be held on Grange Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at Cheshire Grange Hall. The day will begin with our State Chaplain's Service at 11:00 followed by lunch prepared by our Youth Committee. The "A Number" and Talent contests will begin promptly at 1:00.

\*Junior Grangers may take part in the programs, but there is no separate judging for Junior Granges.

Spring should be here shortly. What a great season to take pictures for our Photo Contest. Photos will be judged on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at Cheshire. You are welcome to bring them to the Grange between 10:00 and 11:00 that morning or you may mail them ahead of time and save the trip. Photos may also be brought to the State Office in Glastonbury ahead of time. I get to Glastonbury frequently and will gladly pick them up there. All the photos will be on display on Grange Sunday.

Hope this finds everyone in good health, ready to enjoy Spring and support the many Grange activities that are being planned. See you around the State.

...Marge

# SHARED NUMBERS...

## SIX LITTLE STORIES with Thanks to Irene Percoski

{1} Once all villagers decided to pray for rain, on the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That's FAITH

{2} When you throw a baby in the air, she laughs because she knows you will catch her. That's TRUST

{3} Every night we go to bed, without any assurance of being alive the next morning but still we set the alarms to wake up. That's HOPE

{4} We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That's CONFIDENCE

{5} We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children. That's LOVE

{6} On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 80 years old....I am sweet 16 with 64 years experience. That's ATTITUDE

Have a happy day, live your life like the six stories!

## AN APRIL QUIZ with Thanks to Ekonk Grange

1. What is the origin of the month of April (the name April)?  
From the French word Aprodite which means green or from the Roman word aprillis which means open? Ans. The Roman word Aprillis for open
2. What is the April Birthstone? Ruby, Topaz, or Diamond Ans. Diamond
3. Which happened in April - the first mid-air collision of two passenger planes or the sinking of the Titanic.  
Ans. The Titanic sunk.
4. Which happened in April – Webster published his first dictionary or General Lee surrendered to General Grant ending the Civil War? Ans. Lee Surrendered.
5. Which happened in April 1877 – The Secret Service was established or The first Easter Egg Hunt was held on the White House lawn? Ans. The first Easter Egg Hunt on the White House lawn.
6. What happened April 5, 1976 -- Howard Hughes died or Prince William was born? Ans. Howard Hughes died.
7. What happens most in the United States in April – Births or Tornadoes? Ans. Tornadoes
8. Who was born April 21<sup>st</sup>, 1926 – George W. Bush or Queen Elizabeth II? Ans. Queen Elizabeth
9. What is the flower of the month of April – Daffodil or Daisy? Ans. Daisy
10. April starts on the same day of the week as July, except when? Ans. Leap Year

## EASTER JOKES with Thanks to Glastonbury Grange

Why was the Easter bunny so upset?  
He was having a bad hare day.

What kind of books do rabbits like?  
Ones with hoppy endings.

Why shouldn't you tell an Easter egg a good joke?  
It might crack up!

Why does the Easter bunny have a shiny nose?  
Because the powder puff is on the other end!

What did the rabbits do after their wedding?  
They went on a bunnymoon.

Why did the Easter egg hide?  
He was a little chicken.

### **WATCH THE CORNERS**

From a National Grange Newsletter in the 70's, but still true today.

When you wake up in the morning of a chill and cheerless day,  
And feel inclined to grumble, pout or frown,  
Just glance into your mirror and you will quickly see,  
It's just because the corners of your mouth point down.  
Then take this simple rhyme,  
Remember it in time:

It's always dreary weather in countryside or town  
When you wake up and find the corners of your mouth turned down.

Of you wake up in the morning full of bright and happy thoughts  
And begin to count the blessings in your cup  
Then glance into your mirror and you will quickly see  
It's all because the corners of your mouth turn up.  
Remember all the time:

There's joy a-plenty in this world to fill life's silver cup  
If you'll only keep the corners of your mouth turned up.  
...Lulu Linton, Washington

### **FLOWER QUIZ**

1. What wild beast wears fine clothes? ...Dandelion
2. What flower is the father of little folks? ...Poppies
3. What ties the hair of little girls? ...Maiden Hair Fern
4. What flower invites a kiss? ...Tulips
5. What flower holds up our house? ...Wall flower
6. What is the scepter of a king? ...Golden Rod
7. What keeps an animal's fingers warm? ...Foxglove
8. What flower is for ambitious girls? ...Marigold

### **TRUE OR FALSE PRESIDENTIAL QUIZ from the Vermont Lecturers Newsletter**

1. In 1954 Ronald Reagan's acting career was going so badly that he took a gig as a Las Vegas stand-up comic for a few weeks? True
2. John Quincy Adams skinny-dipped in the Potomac? True

3. Grover Cleveland married an older women while President? False  
(Actually he was present for his wife's birth)
4. Richard Nixon was taught poker in the Army? False (Navy)
5. Calvin Coolidge had a mechanical horse installed in the White House so he could practice his riding skills? True
6. Warren Harding lost the White House China in a poker game? True
7. John Quincy Adams loved fashion, so he bought a new hat every year? False  
(He was actually a slob and wore the same hat for 10 years)
8. Gerald and Betty Ford were fashion models. True
9. James Garfield was ambidextrous? True
10. Ulysses A. Grant got a speeding ticket on a horse, riding to fast on a Washington Street? True
11. The following Presidents had these pets:  
 Thomas Jefferson.... Mountain Lion... False (two bears)  
 James Quincy Adams... Alligator... True  
 James Buchanan... Camel... False (elephant)  
 Teddy Roosevelt... Zebra... True
12. Chester A. Arthur owned 80 pair of pants? True
13. Thomas Jefferson invented a pasta maker? True
14. Abe Lincoln won a wrestling match? True  
(Jack Armstrong and Abe became best friends after that)
15. William Taft served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court after leaving Office? True
16. Herbert Hoover Spoke Russian? False  
(He and his wife spoke Mandarin Chinese fluently)
17. President Obama collects Batman comic books? False  
(He collects "Spiderman" and "Conan the Barbarian" comic books)

### **BATTLE OF THE SEXES**

*Two Teams Chosen (one all men, the other one all women). All others in Hall are the Cheering Section. Pads provided for teams to write their answers on. Each question is worth 1 point. If a team gets all three questions in a section correct, they get 5 points for that section.*

1. The U. S.
1. In what state is the Cincinnati Airport?  
Kentucky
  2. What President was responsible for the Interstate Highway System?  
Eisenhower
  3. What state has the highest percentage of minorities?  
Hawaii

2. Local Government
  1. Who is Mayor or 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman of Your Town?
  2. Who is Governor of Connecticut? Dannel Malloy
  3. Who are the US Senators from Connecticut? Richard Blumenthal & Chris Murphy
3. Your Team (Team with this person gets point)
  1. The Oldest Person
  2. The Youngest Person
  3. The Tallest Person
4. Measurements
  1. How many pounds in 3 1/2 Tons?  
7,000
  2. How many Tablespoons in a Cup?  
16
  3. How many feet in a mile?  
5,280
5. Eating Etiquette

Each team picks a representative. They are then given chop sticks and a bowl of identical items to eat. See who can finish first using the chop sticks. Winner gets 5 points.
6. The Grange
  1. Who is National Master?  
Betsy Huber
  2. Who is State Overseer?  
George Russell
  3. Who is Pomona Lady Assistant Steward?
7. Literature
  1. Who wrote Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court?  
Mark Twain
  2. Who wrote The Canterbury Tales?  
Geoffrey Chaucer
  3. Who wrote Ivanhoe?  
Helsinki
9. US History
  1. Arizona the 48<sup>th</sup> State was admitted to the union in what Year?  
1912 (Feb. 14)
  2. What was the 49<sup>th</sup> State?  
Alaska
  3. Name the original 13 States.  
Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia, New York, North Carolina and Rhode Island.
10. Name That Tune

*Pianist plays three tunes. Team guesses name of them.*

### **SPRING FEVER with Thanks to Glastonbury Grange**

Four high school boys afflicted with spring fever skipped morning classes. After lunch they reported to the teacher that they had a flat tire. Much to their surprise the teacher smiled and said, "Well, you missed a test this morning so take seats apart from one another and take out a piece of paper." Still smiling she said "The first question: Which tire was flat?"

**MY GARDEN – LOOK WHAT CAME UP**  
From Easy Grange Programs by Ruby Moeller

I Planted

A Watch  
A Calendar  
A Ball  
A Coat  
Precious Medal  
A Kitten  
A Cow  
The Seashore  
A Consonant  
A Couple  
A Pinch of Quinine & a Lump of sugar  
Charred remains of a cigar

What Came Up?

Four-O'Clock  
Dates  
Rubber Tree  
Fir Tree  
Goldenrod  
Pussy Willow  
Milk Weed  
Beach Tree  
Peas (P's)  
Pears  
Bittersweet  
Ash Tree

**QUOTES ABOUT FRIENDSHIP**

*These make good cut-aparts*

A tree is known by its fruit; a man by his deeds. A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love. ...Saint Basil the Great

Friendship should be a private pleasure, not a public boast. I loathe those braggarts who are forever trying to invest themselves with importance by calling important people by their first names in or out of print. Such first-naming for effect makes me cringe.

...John Mason Brown 1800-1859, American Militant Abolitionist

Two persons cannot long be friends if they cannot forgive each other's little failings.

...Jean De La Bruyère 1645-1696, French Classical Writer

The rule of friendship means there should be mutual sympathy between them, each supplying what the other lacks and trying to benefit the other, always using friendly and sincere words.

...Buddha

Friendship is a strong and habitual inclination in two persons to promote the good and happiness of one another. ...Eustace Budgell

That is what friendship means. Sharing the prejudice of experience.

...Charles Bukowski 1920-1994, German Poet, Short Stories Writer, Novelist

Love is only chatter, friends are all that matter.

...Frank Gelett Burgess (1866-1951, American Writer, Humorist

It's much easier to turn a friendship into love, than love into friendship. ....Proverb

The worst solitude is to be destitute of sincere friendship. ...Sir Francis Bacon

It's what each of us sows, and how, that gives to us character and prestige. Seeds of kindness, goodwill, and human understanding, planted in fertile soil, spring up into deathless friendships, big deeds of worth, and a memory that will not soon fade. . . . ...George Matthew Adams

A real friend is someone who walks in when the rest of the world walks out. ...Proverb

I keep my friends as misers do their treasure, because, of all the things granted us by wisdom, none is greater or better than friendship. ...Pietro Aretino (Italian poet)

There is no friendship, no love, like that of the parent for the child. ...Henry Ward Bee

Friendship gives wings to the heart. ...Kathy Kay Benudiz

Friendships multiply joys and divide griefs. ...H. G. Bohn

"Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read."  
...Groucho Marx

"The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans are suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're okay, then it's you."  
...Rita Mae Brown

False friendship, like the ivy, decays and ruins the walls it embraces; but true friendship gives new life and animation to the object it supports. ....Sir Richard Burton 1821-1890, Explorer

A single rose can be my garden... a single friend, my world.  
...Leo Buscaglia, American Expert on Love, Lecturer, Author

Friendship is like money, easier made than kept. ...Samuel Butler

Friendship without self-interest is one of the rare and beautiful things of life.  
...James F. Byrnes 1879-1972, American Judge, Secretary of State

A friendship can weather most things and thrive in thin soil -- but it needs a little mulch of letters and phone calls and small silly presents every so often -- just to save it from drying out completely  
...Pam Brown

A good friend who points out mistakes and imperfections and rebukes evil is to be respected as if he reveals a secret of hidden treasure. ...Buddha 568-488 BC, Founder of Buddhism

Give me one friend, just one, who meets the needs of all my varying moods.  
...Esther M. Clark, American Poet

Friendship is a sheltering tree. ...Samuel Taylor Coleridge

And what a delight it is to make friends with someone you have despised.  
...Sidonie Gabrielle Colette, French Author

Friendship, of itself a holy tie, is made more sacred by adversity.  
...Charles Caleb Colton, British Sportsman Writer

True friendship is like sound health, the value of it is seldom known until it be lost.  
...Charles Caleb Colton

Of all things which wisdom provides to make life entirely happy, much the greatest is the possession of friendship. ...Epicurus c.341-270 BC, Greek Philosopher

## **TO REPAIR OR NOT** (*A Blackout Skit*)

Mechanic: Hmm

Customer: Is it that bad?

Mechanic: Hmm

Customer: Can't you change the oil and everything will be okay?

Mechanic: My advice to you is, keep the oil and change the car!!

### **QUIZ – SUPERSTITIONS**

1. Why is it unlucky to spill salt?  
Because the ancient Greeks and Romans used salt in their sacrifices, and to spill it was an ill omen.
2. Why is a cat said to have nine lives?  
Because the Egyptian cat-headed goddess Pasht was so endowed.
3. Where do we get the belief regarding the lighting of three cigarettes from one match?  
Russia
4. How should a horseshoe be hung to bring good luck?  
Open side up
5. Which jewel is considered unlucky?  
Opal
6. Why is the four-leaved clover considered lucky?  
Because its four leaves are in the shape of a cross
7. In putting shoes on, which should go on first to bring good luck?  
The right shoe
8. According to superstition, which day of the week is best for a wedding?  
Wednesday
9. What is the origin of the superstition that it is unlucky to break a mirror?  
The reflection was thought to be a part of the soul and to break the substance on which it was reflected was to injure the soul itself.

### **WHAT DO THESE AUTOMOTIVE ACRONYMS STAND FOR?**

From the Massachusetts State Lecturers Newsletter

ABS - anti-lock braking system

VIN – vehicle identification number

MPG – miles per gallon

RPM - revolutions per minute

LED – light emitting diodes

HVAC – heating ventilation air conditioning

MIL – malfunction indicator light

ACC – adaptive cruise control

SUV – sport utility vehicle

GPS – global positioning system

PSI – pounds per square inch

HUD – heads-up display

SRS – supplemental restraint system

FFV – flexible-fuel vehicle

ECM – electronic control module

VVT – variable valve timing