



Connecticut Granger



Vol. 50, No. 8

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

MAY 2010

State President



Robert Sendewicz
State Master/President
president@ctstategrange.org

What did your Grange do for Grange Month? Did you invite the public to your hall and have a presentation on the importance of the Grange in your community? Did you have a program pointing out the advantages of being a Grange member? Is your Grange making a concerted effort to acquire new members? I hope that the answer is yes to some of these questions.

On April 9th, the National Master visited our state and I am proud of the turn-out you made at that meeting. You filled Hemlock Grange Hall and were a very enthusiastic audience. For those of you that missed the meeting Brother Ed Luttrell spoke to us on the importance each one of us has to our own Community Grange

The clock is winding down



Gordon Gibson
Legislative Director
legislative@ctstategrange.org

The 2010 regular session of the Connecticut General Assembly is down to crunch time as I write this. The regular session must adjourn no later than midnight on May 5, so it

and what we as officers are responsible for. It was a lively presentation interspersed with humor that drove his point across.

The second part of the presentation was an explanation of what the National Grange agenda is and how it affects the Community Granges in the country. He gave us an understanding of what each department at National does and how they interact with Community Granges. He presented a pie chart on the finances of the National Grange and the importance of the Name Protection Program. From what he told us I realize what a terrific job the staff at National does.

Many left with a better understanding and a renewed enthusiasm as to what we have to do to grow our Grange. So if you didn't do anything special for Grange Month you have a second chance. Everything I mentioned at the beginning of this article you can still do. So get together with your members and plan an event. You have the remainder of the year to do it. Find out what other

Granges have done and what their results were and then do something special. When you see the positive results you will want to do

it again and again.

Now that the Pomona Inspections and Grange evaluations are in full gear, many Granges are looking

for help at their meetings. If you are asked to lend a hand I hope your answer will be "I'd be delighted".



National Master visits Conn.



National Master Ed Luttrell
speaking at Hemlock Grange.

Todd Gelineau, Editor

National Master Ed Luttrell visited Connecticut on Friday, April 9 as part of his national speaking tour of State Granges. The meeting was held at Hemlock Grange Hall in Portland and was attended by over 70 members and guests, the best turnout of any single meeting nationwide.

Brother Luttrell introduced his theme for the Grange year - "The Second Seven." This theme refers to the original seven founders of the Order and the idea that we all have the opportunity to be the "Second Seven" to carry the Grange forward into the future.

The talk was divided into topics such as the financial condition of the Grange, growth, communication, discussion of the name protection effort and a question and answer period.

The first part of his talk focused on the duties of all Grange officers and stressed the importance of responsibilities that are both written and unwritten. Empowerment of members, grooming members to take our places and providing value (Wow Factor) to our Granges through newsletters, dinners, and simple connections to other members were discussed as ways to help grow the Grange.

A great deal of Brother Luttrell's talk focused on the
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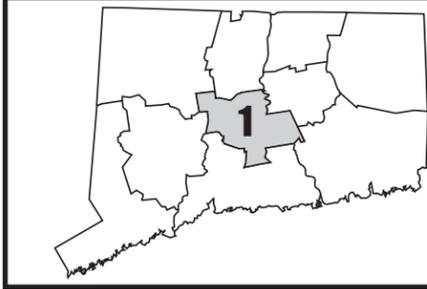
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Deadline for the JUNE issue: MAY 5.

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Central Pomona No. 1



- ✓ Southington No. 25
- Meriden No. 29
- Westfield No. 50
- Higganum No. 124
- ✓ Hemlock No. 182

CENTRAL POMONA #1
 Corr: Dianna Clark
June 11: "Let's Have Music"

Central Pomona Grange No. 1, June 11th, Thursday in Higganum at 7:30 P.M. The name of the program is "Let's have music, open meeting." All bring a musical number, share musical sing-a-long with Carl Manning. The co-hose is Hemlock Grange.

The CWA table is picnic supplies for all Subordinate Granges bringing in 3 items.

It is an open meeting so bring a friend for the music night.

SOUTHINGTON GRANGE #25

Corr: Lisa Lamoureux
May 10: Business Meeting
May 24: Agriculture/ Gardening
 Greetings from

Southington Grange! Southington Grange will again host with the Southington Redmen, a Pasta Dinner night to benefit the Southington Grange Scholarship Fund. This event will be held on Saturday, May 1, 2010 from 4:30 to 7:00. Tickets are only \$6.00/adults and \$3.00/kids under 12. Where can you take a family of four for dinner that is under \$25? Why not treat the family to a dinner out and help out a great cause as well. Tickets can be purchased by contacting any Southington Grange member or at the door the night of the event.

On May 10th we will hold a regular business meeting. On May 24th we are going to be treated to a program done by Mickey Kurtz of the Southington Grange on agriculture and gardening. I am speaking

from experience when I say this is one program that you will not want to miss. Mickey gives lots of information that is so useful even to a seasoned gardener. Why not come out and maybe learn a new trick for your veggie or flower gardens. It will not be a wasted trip.

As always, our doors are open for anyone and everyone who would like to join us for a meeting. Remember we meet on the second and fourth Mondays at 7:30 P.M. (Except January, and February - 2nd Monday only unless it is snowing. Then meeting is canceled and rescheduled for the 4th Monday of that month) at the Southington Grange Hall located at the corners of Summit Street and Knowles Avenue in the Plantsville Section of Southington.

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn
May 14: Honor Mothers
May 28: Decade, Roaring Twenties
 Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Clock winding down

Continued from page one...

to make pickles and salsa in their home kitchens for later sale at farmer's markets and farm stands provided all the ingredients were grown on the farm where the pickles and salsa were made. This bill will also allow poultry producers to take their birds off the farm to be butchered and dressed, then bring them back to the farm for retail sale.

The other bill we are following closely is House bill 5446, generally referred to as the Mass Gatherings Bill. Due to a change in the mass gatherings law made last year, any outdoor event that will attract more than 2,000 people and will last for twelve hours or more in a single day must get many permits from their local officials before the event takes place. Previously events that lasted less than 18 hours in any one day were exempt from this law. The changes made last year make most of the larger fairs subject to the law. House bill 5446 will make technical changes in the law so it will not unreasonably burden the fairs that already have good working relationships with their local officials.

We are also watching what the General Assembly may do regarding the State budget. A bill has passed the Senate that will make adjustments in the budget for the 2009 fiscal year which ends June 30, 2010, but changes are still needed for the 2011 fiscal year which begins July 1, 2010. Several proposals have been made to transfer money from the Community Investment Act fund into the general fund, which the Grange opposes.

The Community Investment Act funds come from a surcharge on all deeds, mortgages and other documents recorded in the local land records and are used for farmland preservation, open space preservation, historical preservation and affordable housing. We have successfully stopped all the attempts to tap the Community Investment Act funds so far, but there is always the next round of budget talks.

Both major political parties in Connecticut will be holding conventions soon to nominate candidates for various state offices. Four of the six top state officials are not seeking reelection to their present positions and Senator Dodd has announced that he will not seek reelection to the United States Senate. As a result, there are several people from each party who have announced plans to run for these open positions. Both parties will choose one person to run for each office at their conventions, but it is very likely that at least some of the people who are not chosen will get enough votes at their party's convention to force a state wide primary if they choose to do so.

In previous columns I have pointed out that it is permissible for a Grange to hold a public meeting where all the candidates for a particular office are invited to participate. However, a party primary is an entirely different matter. The party is holding an election to determine who will be their candidate for the office in question. Although both parties may be holding primaries on the same day to each choose a candidate who will run against the other for a given office in November, the two primaries are completely separate partisan affairs. At all levels, the Grange cannot have anything to do with a political party's primary campaign or vote, just as we cannot allow a political party to use the Grange Hall as a campaign headquarters or stuff envelopes for a candidate at a Grange meeting. Individual Grange members may participate in their political party's nominating convention and primary elections at whatever level and in whatever capacity they choose, but the Grange as an organization must not be involved in any way in these partisan political activities.

Elections of Officers



Edith Schoell
 State Secretary
 secretary@ctstategrange.org

As we approach the months of May and June, many Granges will be holding elections of

officers. Every member should be willing to hold an office- every member has something to offer... ideas for new projects, helping with a program, etc. According to the Digest, 4-10-2 (G) "In all elections of officers, the voting must be by ballot, and a majority of all ballots cast shall decide the election."

Please notify your younger members that scholarship applications

are available for those having completed their first year at college. Plan ahead in order that all the information needed is submitted with the application.

Also, student loan applications are available through the Central Office, 43 Naubuc Ave., Glastonbury, CT 06033; Tel. 860-633-7550; Email: secretary@ctstategrange.org.

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!

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DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS
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 Secretary Treasurer. Edith Schoell

financial condition of the National Grange. The chart below illustrates the sources of income that sustain the National Grange. The largest single source continues to be the National Grange Building itself (celebrating its 50th year of service to the Order in June). Dues and fees are a close second to the building in providing income to the National Grange. The building has provided an 83% return on investment. Its location one short block from the White House makes it a prestige or status symbol for businesses and organizations able to call 1616 H St. NW as their address in Washington, D.C. This building is owned "free and clear" with no mortgage or other encumbrances placed on it.

National Grange INCOME SOURCES	
6%	Supportive (Western Insurance program)
8%	Misc. (Grants/Donations)
38%	Dues & Fees
4%	Sales Department
44%	Building

Expenses for the National Grange (see chart below) are unusually low compared to similar nationwide organizations. The battle over name protection (notably Tyson) caused legal expenses to climb to over \$448,000.

National Grange EXPENSES	
26%	General Administration
1%	Legislative
2%	Sales Department
3%	Communications
22%	Building
5%	National Convention
2%	Youth/Junior Depts.
1%	Membership Dept.
4%	Officers (travel, expense)
34%	Staff Salary/Benefits

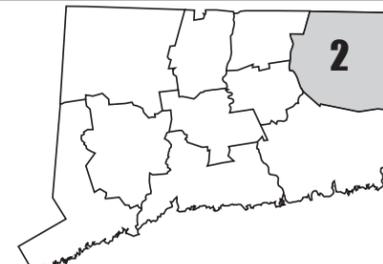
Last year's budget was \$109,000 in the red. When budgeting for the year, \$275,000 in donations was forecasted to come in and help with the fight over name protection. \$67,000 actually came in and all donations basically stopped when word of Tyson dropping their suit spread across the country. Deficits in National's budget have been taken from reserve (cash) funds that are nearly depleted. Moving forward, National is working to look at new funding sources along with setting priorities for the new year which include 1) Development and implementation of training and materials. 2) Working to develop new and re-organized Granges.

All departments of the National Grange have worked hard to save every nickel and dime to offset the budget shortfall. An example cited by Brother Luttrell involves the upcoming celebration of the National Grange building. In the past, it has been commonplace to produce large numbers of commemorative items. The items would be put on sale at a "full price" and then would be put on sale at a dramatically reduced price to help clear out all of the extra items that did not sell at full price. Only 100 sun catchers have been produced for the anniversary celebration and it is unlikely additional catchers will be ordered unless they are sold out well in advance of the June celebration. In addition, the program of sending National Representatives to State Grange Sessions across the country has been suspended for the current year, unless States are able to make requests for National Representatives that don't cost National money.

Brother Phil Prelli was asked to take over the presentation regarding Communication. His talk highlighted the evolution of communication in today's world which focuses more on electronic information from sources like Facebook, Twitter, blogs, podcasts, YouTube, etc. He also emphasized the need to get our members talking to one another and the need to actually listen to what they have to say.

The last part of Brother Luttrell's prepared remarks centered on the ongoing name protection program. As mentioned above, Tyson has withdrawn its suit and the Aldi supermarket chain has agreed to cease use of the Grange name by December 31 of this year. The battle continues with scores of companies worldwide which continue to use the Grange name. A new food company out of Canada has expressed its desire to use the Grange name and has little concern for American law.

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

SENEXET GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

May 19: Election of Officers

May 29: Rhubarb Festival

May 8: Pie Sale, 9-1

May 8: Dusty Adams Country Music, 7 P.M.

We held a successful pie and bake sale in April for Easter. We also held a public Easter dinner.

We are making plans for a special booth at the Woodstock Fair for its 150th Anniversary.

We took a large amount of baby clothes to Care Net for our CWA and Community Service projects.

We are still discussing having a family night event each month. Perhaps a stew and movie night.

We are also continuing to get the Junior Master Gardener Project to our hall.

Visit us.

WOLF DEN GRANGE #61

Corr: Elsie M. Johnson

May 12: Memorial & Deaf Program, Ref.- Ladies, Music- Dick

May 26: Potluck 6:30, Entertainment

Spring coming- maybe!

Some have started seeds- I've got tomatoes and peppers started on a window sill.

Nice to hold our meetings back in our Grange Hall with inspection coming in May. We held a bake sale on April 3. It's spring and that means picking up sticks blown from the trees during all of those winter storms.

The fruit trees are pruned and sprayed, hoping

for a good crop this year. Farmers are spreading and doing their work. Noisy birds!

We are planning a possible Pancake Breakfast for June 5-- we'll let you know if that's confirmed.

We draped our charter in memory of Sister Muriel Brundrett.

Last month's competition- Men vs. Women was a tie!

EKONK COMM. GRANGE #89

Corr: Sue Gray

May 3: "Cultivate with Hope" meeting/program 7:30 pm

May 8: Annual Plant Sale on Grange grounds 9am-2pm (Junior Grange)

May 15: Family Day Roast Beef Supper at the Grange 5-7 p.m. \$12.00

May 15: Square Dance Ekonk 7:30-11pm (Joe LoPresti caller)

May 23: Sterling Memorial Day Parade

June 7: "Growth of knowledge and wisdom" 2nd Degree conferred/ Deputy visits, 7:30 pm

June 12: 116th annual Strawberry Supper 5-7 pm \$12.00

Our April meeting could be described as "bittersweet". We draped the charter in a beautiful service for our devoted member, Barbara Cameron and a few minutes later, Jaimie Cameron (Barbara's granddaughter) joined our Grange. It was an emotional evening, with Jody doing an exemplary job as Chaplain, Jodi Ann, LAS and J. Allen, our President: they are to be

congratulated on a job well done!

We thank those who worked making Chowder N' Clamcakes: the money added to our treasury was welcome, the chowder was tasty and the clamcakes delicious!

Our furnace decided it had served us long enough and it cracked: we had water everywhere! Our new kitchen floor had to be pulled up, the lower kitchen cabinets were destroyed and wallboards in both bathrooms as well as the furnace room need to be replaced! We had a new furnace installed immediately; the new floor was laid the afternoon after Barbara Cameron's Memorial Service and at this writing we are awaiting the new cabinets and wall board repairs.

Jody and Jodi Ann were part of the CT delegation to travel to NY for the National Grange Advanced Leadership Training Conference in April.

We will be working at Ag Days at Brooklyn Fairgrounds the first weekend in June: making breakfasts and desserts. Not only helping our treasury, but having our Grange a presence there.

Sterling was just one of many towns in CT to suffer flooding damage in March and Russell Gray shared numerous pictures of the damages at the April Grange meeting.

Make it a point this summer to travel scenic Ekonk Hill, stop at Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm for ice cream and at Betsy's Farm Stand for vegetables and Clifford Gervais' for dahlias! They are all active Grangers!

ECHO GRANGE #180

Corr: Gloria John

June 8: Picnic

June 22: Summer Solstice-Potluck Supper

We received several letters from the students at Goodwin School. We sent them 144 dictionaries and they sent the cutest letters to thank us.

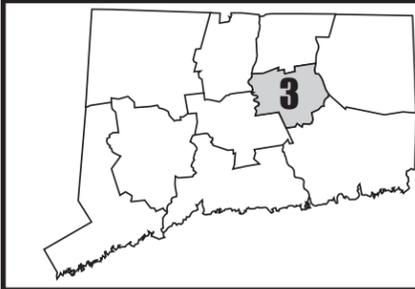
We are getting ready for our Cake Contest in July. They will be judged on July 13th. By now, everyone is out in this nice weather starting to plant their gardens.

The trees and flowering bushes are so beautiful this year. It must be the warm weather that brought them out.

Moving forward, the National Grange is working on changes to be made to the Digest outlining the process to be used for all Grange subsidiaries using the name. National will continue to defend all challenges to our trademark-- if we don't defend it, we risk losing it permanently. Filing will begin on trademark sub-categories and legislation protecting the Grange name will move forward in the future. It has been placed on hold for now due to the bitter atmosphere in Washington following passage of the new healthcare reform bill.

Grange Growth has been a major focus of the CT State Grange over the last year. A report will be given next month by Jody Cameron outlining the steps that will be taken to achieve some of the goals outlined above by Brother Luttrell.

East Central Pomona No. 3



- ✓ Glastonbury No. 26
- ✓ Manchester No. 31
- Coventry No. 75
- ✓ Hillstown No. 87
- Marlborough No. 205

EAST CENTRAL POMONA #3

Corr: John Waterhouse

May 1: 7:30 - Talent Run-Off

June 5: 7:30 - Election of Officers

East Central Pomona #3 will meet on May 1st at Good Will Grange Hall for our annual Talent Run-Off. The meeting will start at 7:30 P.M. Please join us for a fun evening.

As we celebrate Memorial Day, let us remember those who fought to keep us free! Pray for those doing the same today!

Happy May!

GLASTONBURY GRANGE #25

Corr: Kathryn Ruff

May 1: Semi-Annual Food and Unique Boutique Sale, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

May 6: meeting: Memorial Service at 7:30 p.m.

May 8: MontiCarlo Whist Card Party at 7:00 p.m.

May 15: Public Italian Dinner- 5:00 p.m.

June 3: Election of Officers 7:30 p.m.

As I am writing this article it is March 27th and it is a rather cold morning. We had those lovely 70 degree days and it is now 22 degrees this morning. The good thing about it, is that it is the end of March and this colder weather will not last much longer.

For Glastonbury members we can really use your help on May 1st for the Food and Unique Boutique Sale. Whatever you can bake for that morning will be greatly appreciated. Pies sell really good. Should you have something to add to our Boutique Table you can just drop that off. Remember the sale is from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We say "thank you one and all" for your help.

The 3 Graces will have a Memorial Service for our May 6th meeting. May 8th is the next monthly Monti Carlo Whist Card Party

at 7:00 p.m. Why not come and join us for a fun evening with refreshments and door prizes.

MAY 15th at 5:00 p.m. WE ARE HOLDING A PUBLIC DINNER AT THE MASONIC HALL. The meal will be PASTA AND MEATBALLS, SALAD, ITALIAN BREAD, BEVERAGE AND DESSERT for \$10.00. Reservations are recommended. To make a reservation call Jean and Mario Accornero at 860-633-1059.

June 3rd is our Election of Officers. We would love to have you all attend and help elect the officers who you wish to have serve for the coming year.

The Youth Committee is asking members to bring in your older towels, blankets, sheets, etc. that can be used for bedding for dogs and cats. We will be collecting through our June meeting. We will deliver them to a local veterinarian. Thank you all for your help with this project.

I wish all a very happy and pleasant spring.

MANCHESTER GRANGE #31

Corr: Diane Small

May 19: Decoration Day

June 2: Election of Officers

June 16: Fun in the Sun

May 9 is Mother's Day. So much of our lives revolve around Mom. She is the lady that wears many hats. Just think of the times that she gave us hugs, wiped our tears, fixed our boo-boos, read us a story, allowed those noisy sleepovers, made our school lunches, found a lost shoe and in general, made our lives bearable. Take a moment and remember all the good things about your Mom. These are the things that bring a smile and a tiny tear.

Memorial Day is May 31st. This is the time to

remember those who have valiantly fought for our freedom to do so many things. These freedoms give us many choices - choosing your place of dwelling, to worship how we please, to speak out for things we don't agree with and to travel unobstructed to enjoy the many things that this beautiful country has to offer. Remember to fly your flag to show our support for those men and women that help to make our lives complete and enjoyable.

Having read an article on how nature recycles water over and over again, the sciences are ever amazing. The month of March gave us plenty of water to recycle. Sunshine gives us heat which turns water into invisible vapor called evaporation. This vapor rises into the sky, where it cools. It turns into clouds which becomes condensation. As the clouds cool, tiny drops of the water vapor turn into rain, snow, sleet or hail which is called precipitation. Much of this precipitation falls back into the ocean, but some falls on land. As the earth soaks up some of this water it becomes stored in underground aquifers. Communities drill wells into this natural underground storage for their water supply. Most precipitation eventually finds its way back to the ocean for the cycle to begin again.

A reminder that our election of officers is June 2. How about taking an office... Unfortunately, filling some of these offices are becoming more and more difficult.

The month will begin to bring us warmer weather. This weather just makes you want to be outside. Take a walk, ride a bike, tend to those flowers, plant your garden, and savor the moment. Doesn't a barbecue smell and taste good. Somehow those hot dogs, hamburgers and chicken taste so much better when cooked outside. Have you made fresh lemonade lately??

Now is the time to think about changing your wardrobe. Put away those

winter duds, donate what you aren't wearing. Bring out those nice, summery, light clothes. Even the summer colors may you feel great. How about a new pair of sandals or sneakers??!!

Don't forget the contests for the CWA. In just a couple of months, it will be time to judge. Don't forget to make something extra for the Big E.

HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

Corr: Rita Schaefer

May 15: Salute "To Mother"

May 27: How Sweet Thou Art (Memorial Service)

I guess we can say we're having summer and spring weather together.

This is when the agriculture gets started. Seeds should already be prepared for planting. We hope for good weather and an abundant harvest in the fall. The hills are blooming and what a beautiful sight after the winter months.

We had a successful corned beef dinner. The kitchen help was very busy with take out orders. We also should have our "Blue Grass Special" again this year. It's always an enjoyable evening.

Our Fair and Craft Committees have been discussing what to do for this year. Something new, we hope. Time passes quickly.

Our shut-in members that have been ill are progressing slowly. Our thoughts are with them for a speedy recovery.

This is a good time to start house cleaning and get rid of things you don't want and give them to a tag sale.

We worked again this year on delivering Easter dinners for the food bank. There were many dinners needed this year.

There not much news until we start on our projects for the year.

Riverton Grange #169



Riverton Grange members, friends and family enjoying a contra dance presented by expert Jim Todd.

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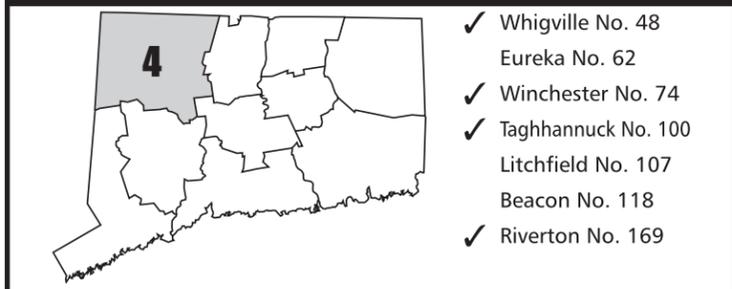
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Mountain County Pomona No. 4



- ✓ 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 10: Fifth Degree, Inspection, Supper at 6:30 P.M.- \$5, Winchester Grange Hall

June 28: Celebrate Summer- Taghannuck Grange Hall, 7:30 P.M., Spring Gift Drawing

We hope there are many candidates in waiting for the Fifth Degree conferral to be held at Winchester Grange Hall on Monday, May 10. The evening will begin with a paid supper at 6:30 P.M., followed by the meeting at 7:30 P.M. A rehearsal for the degree will be held at Winchester on Sunday, May 2 beginning at 7:00 P.M.

Coming up on June 28 will be a first for the Pomona. We will meet for the first time at Taghannuck Grange Hall. As a former member of Housatonic Valley Pomona, it took us a while to work them into our meeting schedule but we are happy they are happy to host us in June. This meeting will feature the annual Spring Gift Drawing. As the only fundraiser of the Pomona we encourage all members to buy tickets and all officers to remember to bring their gifts to the meeting.

WHIGVILLE GRANGE #48

Corr: Joyce Relihan

May 12: Get Ready, Plant the Garden

June 9: Dairy Dinner, Potluck

We are all deeply saddened by the loss of one of our Golden Sheaf Members, Viola Dzielinski. She was a dedicated Grange member and will be missed.

A huge thank you to Girl Scout Troop #66393 for the Thank You Dinner they put on for us and show, it was greatly appreciated. We have sponsored them for quite some time and this was a real treat for us.

We will be having a Flea Market in June, date will

follow. If you would like to rent a table you can call our Master Debbie Brown at 869-582-9863 for more information.

Several of our members have been visiting our neighbors. Hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau

May 11: Great Things- Ref. Arline Cote

May 21: Spring Super Prize Party, 6:00 P.M.

May 25: Everything Grand (Memorial Program), Ref. Mimi Grustas & Barbara Dreger

Winchester Grange was pleased to again host the annual Pink Sash Meeting & Dinner at the Hall on April 24. Our thanks to Sisters Lemieux, Fassio and Phillips for their hard work in pulling the dinner together. Everyone complimented Sister Shirley on her delicious meatloaf!

Spring has sprung and that means Winchester's annual Super Prize Party is just around the corner. The date is Friday, May 21 at the Grange Hall. The doors will open at 6:00 P.M. and the drawing of prizes will begin at 7:00. It's always a fun evening with an over abundance of great prizes for every possible taste. Please join us!

Plans are also underway for our annual Strawberry Festival. Father's Day is always the date and we know the hall will be filled to capacity with eager customers.

TAGHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Myrtle Hayden

May 14: Spring Cleaning In & Out

May 28: Citizen of the Year

On March 25th we draped our charter for David Epperson.

Chris Hopkins and Margaret gave a program on wood carving. Our

March 11 program was all about Cats with skits and music. A fun time for all.

Several members with illness. Priscilla Mauro fell and broke her hip. She is at Rose Haven in Litchfield.

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Sue Belle-Isle

On March 19, Riverton Grange members, family and friends enjoyed a potluck supper followed by

a contra dance. Jim Todd, a dance expert, wrote "Dancing at the Riverton Grange" specifically for the occasion.

Litchfield honors Citizen of the Year

John McKenna, Waterbury Republican-American, 4/23/10

It's not uncommon for Richard Dauphinais to approach a friend and say he's got an idea.

That usually means Dauphinais has hatched yet another plan to assist the needy or someone down on their luck. For Dauphinais, helping others has been a way of life for years.

"I don't turn my back on my neighbors or my community," Dauphinais said Thursday at the Litchfield Grange Hall, where he received the Grange's Citizen of the Year award. "You have to be proud of your community and be there for its people." The award was presented by Grange Master Richard Healy, who described Dauphinais as a pillar of the town.

"Litchfield is truly fortunate to have you and fortunate that you are willing to give so much of yourself," Healy said. Healy, the town's former fire marshal, and Dauphinais, a former burying official, often crossed paths in their roles. Dauphinais did a good job, Healy said, mostly because he treated residents seeking burning

permits equally and fairly.

Dauphinais has been a prolific volunteer, serving as a firefighter for the Litchfield Fire Company and collecting food and raising money for the Community Soup Kitchen of Torrington. He's helped establish bottle and can recycling centers in town and was chairman of the now-defunct Litchfield Chapter of the American Red Cross.

An avid gardener, Dauphinais gives away much of what he grows, to people and organizations who need it more. He's also been involved in municipal government, serving on the boards of selectmen and finance and the economic development commission.

Last year Dauphinais's volunteer activities came to a halt temporarily when he underwent major abdominal surgery. Recovering from the surgery and complications that set in, he said, wouldn't have been possible without the support of his wife of 40 years, Liz.

"Without her love, I don't know if I would've made it," Dauphinais said. "Love is so important, maybe more so today than ever."

Manchester celebrates 125 years

On May 19, 1885, 27 people gathered at the District 6 Schoolhouse, dedicated to the betterment of rural and agricultural initiatives in their community. Lead by James B. Olcott, Frank N. Buckland, and assisted by Sherman Kimberly, Manchester Grange No. 31 was organized. On May 5th, Manchester Grange will be celebrating its 125th Anniversary with an Open House.

All are invited to attend the Open House, which will be held at 7:30 PM at the Zion Lutheran Church, 120 Cooper Street in Manchester. The celebration will honor the history of Manchester Grange, and feature presentations for years of service.

In 1885, the town of Manchester was a leader in silk making, forestry, and other agricultural-based entities. James B. Olcott is historically known for his work establishing the Agricultural School in Storrs, which is now known as the University of Connecticut.

Olcott was appointed to a committee of three to investigate and report on an offer of land and money from Augustus and Charles Storrs to establish a school of agriculture in Storrs, Connecticut. The report from the committee was favorable, and in 1881 the Storrs Agricultural School was established. The organization of the school was entrusted to Olcott, T.S. Gold, and S.W. Johnson. Olcott was a member of the first Board of Trustees of Storrs Agricultural School.

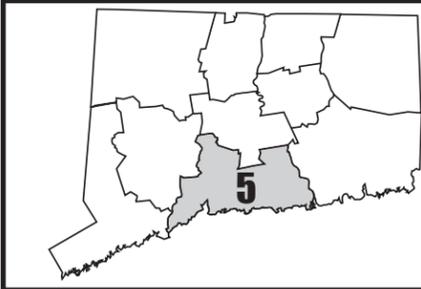
As one of the founding members of Manchester Grange, Olcott offered his home as a meeting locale until the group secured the use of the South Methodist Church Vestry in 1886. At a special meeting to commemorate Manchester Grange's First Anniversary, the group invited the community to an all-day affair at the Town Hall, where they celebrated with a series of speakers, a collection of flowers, and a lecture and extensive display of different varieties and qualities of grass by Olcott. He was known state-wide for his award winning grass displays.

Over the years, Manchester Grange has played an important role in the community. One of their most popular events were Oyster Dinners, held at least once and often twice a year to capacity crowds. They have presented agricultural fairs, sported floats in local parades, hosted pancake breakfasts, chicken barbecues and their famous Sunday Dinners.

Manchester Grange remains an active organization today, with community service projects such as participating in Heritage Days at Cheney Hall, donating to the food pantry, donating clothing to the needy and old blankets/towels to the animal shelters.

One of Manchester Grange's recent projects is participating in the Dictionary Project's Words For Thirds, by donating new dictionaries to third graders at two Manchester elementary schools.

New Haven County Pomona No. 5



- ✓ Cheshire No. 23
- Wallingford No. 33
- ✓ North Haven No. 35
- Totoket No. 83
- ✓ Old Lyme No. 162

NEW HAVEN COUNTY POMONA #5

Corr: Charleen Dimmick

June 14: Regular Meeting at Cheshire Grange

At the June Meeting, we will have the election of officers and the gift card drawing.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Charleen Dimmick

May 19: Open Meeting & Awards Night. Teacup Auction

June 2: 6 P.M. Potluck Dinner, Election of Officers, Memorial Program

June 16: Mystery Ride

July 7: Omit

July 21: 6 P.M., Picnic at the Bernhardt's, 6:30 Potluck Dinner

The CWA baking contest was held at our first meeting in March. The winners were First Place- Tina Marshall, Second Place- Karen Turner and Third Place- Barbara Foskett. Thanks for Helen and Liz Ryducha for judging.

The program was about Spring.

The second program in March was about all things Irish. Caroline Thompson, an Irish dancer, explained her costume and entertained the members.

At our first meeting in April, Jeaff and Andrea Dunn visited us again. They and the Marshalls (Lu and Kent) demonstrated the many varieties of ballroom dancing-- waltz, tango, foxtrot, twist, and other forms. We thank both couples for a most informative and entertaining meeting.

Marge Bernhardt read a letter of thanks from the troops in Iraq to whom the Grange had sent items.

NORTH HAVEN GRANGE #35

Corr: A. Tolette

May 4: Go Green

June 1: Election of Officers!

Spring has sprung! It sure has and we hope that everyone is safe and drying out. It's a good thing that last storm was not snow. We would still be shoveling. Not much going on here just now. We will be presenting more long-time membership certificates and seals soon. Tune in again next month to learn how the grass is growing.

OLD LYME GRANGE #162

Corr: Barb Kulisch

May 10: We head up refreshments for Pomona in Wallingford, 5th Degree

May 14: Complete program "As American As Apple Pie"- Welcome the Deputy

May 28: Omit- Memorial Day Program

April 9th, we held a "Baby Shower" to collect our baby/toddler items for the CWA Covenant to Care project. We all played some "baby shower games" and a good night was had by all in attendance.

We are in hopes of having our handicap ramp installed & the upstairs bathroom finished by our April 23rd visitors night for CWA night!

We continue to fill the Waterford Country School's "wish list" of articles they are in need of for the boys attending school there. We continue to be busy with our community service projects we have taken on this year.

Our "Penny Jar March" has helped us donate money towards the Bowl-A-Thon for the Youth Committee; to Hillstown Junior Grange to help with their projects; & to the Junior Committee's request for helmets, etc..

Cheshire Grange hosts CWA Night



Members of Cheshire Grange participate in a number on cats during their CWA program, directed by Chairperson Jane Miller (standing left).

How are your entries coming?



Betty Jane Gardiner
Women's Activities Director
cwa@ctstategrange.org

Anne-Marie Knochenhauer, State W.A. Committee

I hope everybody has finished, or come close to finishing their entries. Remember each entry has to have a slip on the item telling us who it belongs to, which Grange it represents, and whether it is a Junior or an adult entry.

The different contests you can enter is Needlework, Dress-a-Doll, Crafts, Scrapbooking, and Baking. The Needlework Contest is open to the public and Grange members. The items are returned to the owners after the contest; except 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place which are displayed at State Session. Dress-a-Doll, Crafts, Scrapbooking, and the Baking Contest are for Grangers only and family of Grangers. In Dress-a-Doll and Scrapbooking, the entries are returned to their owners after judging.

In the Craft Contest the theme is "Cat Kapers". There are 2 categories you can enter; one is

"needlework" which pertains to anything with a needle; the second category is non-median which is any thing with out use of a needle for example wood, plastic, metal, styrofoam, etc.... You can enter as many as you want in the crafts, but only once in the other contests. The entry in the Craft Contest does not get returned to the owners; they go up to the "Big E" to be sold. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd go to State Session to be displayed; plus they are used as gifts for state dignitaries and the Master and his wife.

To all the mothers – "Happy Mother's" day.

AgNews



Ernest Finch
Agriculture Director
agriculture@ctstategrange.org

Morris Buck, State Agriculture Comm.

Now is the time of year to start your seeds in a greenhouse or cold frame. A cold frame can be set in front of a cellar window so that you will have access to it from the cellar. Insulate the box, if possible. Make sure that it is sealed to the house with heavy stakes keeping it in place. It

should also have a way of ventilating it. Dig a section deep enough and loose enough to contain the bottom of the box and use the soil that you removed from the section to seal the edges of the box. Put trays or boxes in the bottom to keep the flats off of the cold ground.

A small greenhouse can also be built to the size that suits your needs. The heat you use in the greenhouse can be tailored to suit your wallet. A propane heater, wood stove, etc. can be used to heat the unit.

Put your benches up on blocks, etc, if possible. Direct the heat below the benches and be able to

ventilate.

Transplant the seedlings to pots when 1-1/2" - 2-1/2", with four leaves. The plants can be put outside daily to harden them up.

Happy Gardening!



Ag Tip: Re-use an old egg carton as a starter tray for your seedlings. Each egg compartment is the perfect size for a single seedling. Try it!

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 COUNTY POMONA #6

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

June 3: Election of Officers and Memorial Program- Pachaug Grange

Congratulations to North Stonington Grange on winning the talent and A Number Competition. Nizhoni and Noah Brown performed two lively numbers on the fife and drum; and George (Gene Bromley) and Harriet (Nancy Weissmuller) had a little trouble with their crusty neighbor, Hiram (Jeff Barnes). Good luck to all at State in June.

While the judges were contemplating the winners two mice, Sniff and Scurry (Art Tylenda and Scott Hirst) and two little people, Hem and Haw (Donna Bartling and Janice Wells) taught us about positive change. Then Deb presented each of us with a Grange Survival Kit.

Election of Officers will take place at Pachaug Grange on June 3. Please come and support your Pomona. We really need you. And remember to keep August 28 open. The Pomona Picnic starts at 12:00 noon. The place will be decided at our June meeting.

Remember those days at Pomona.

When you just couldn't find a chair?

We wish you'd come back to a meeting,

'Cause we'd just love to have you there.

N. STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy Weissmuller

May 14: "Put On A Happy Face"- Grange Heritage Night/Junior Grange Graduation

May 28: "Candle on the Water"- Memorial Program

On March 12 we were entertained by our talent

entry with Nizhoni Brown on the fife and her brother Noah on the drum. This was followed by an enjoyable, old-fashioned program of games, jokes and music on an Irish theme. On March 26 Randy and Jamie Lohr presented an interesting and informative power point program on biofuel. Additives made from soy, canola, palm or used vegetable oils make diesel fuels much safer for our environment and should soon be mandatory in Connecticut and surrounding states.

We continue to support our troops with coupons. If you have any that you don't use, please bring them to a meeting. We also need food for the needy. The basket on the first landing has been looking mighty empty lately. Our food booth will soon be underway again. Volunteers are needed to man the food booth for dog shows and the 4H fair. If you would like to volunteer, please give the Master or Secretary a call.

And if those new daffodils will just remember that they are supposed to have pink blooms like the catalog said, next time I'll tell you all about awesome April.

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Lois Evankow

May 6: Color Us Canary, Music Night

June 3: Color Us Navy Blue- Graces & Memorial

By the time you read this we would have had our April meeting, celebrating the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Cub Scouts, with the Cub Scout Troop Lyme sponsors.

In March we draped our Charter for Terri Manee, a relatively new member. She was so special. She always saw good in everyone. A true Grange member who stood for what the Grange is all about.

We welcomed Barbara Kulisch to our March meeting. It was so good to see her out visiting.

April showers bring May flowers. Hope we don't have the amount of rain we had in March. Floods everywhere.

Our Secretary returns in April from her three month stay in Texas. We shall welcome her with open arms. Several people assumed her duties while she was away. We thank them.

Thought for the day: You have to believe your attitude effects other people.

STONINGTON GRANGE #168

Corr: Jeff Barnes

As of this writing our area is just beginning to recover from the effects of Mother Nature. Five inches of rain in mid March was followed by nine more at the end of the month. Flooding of historic proportions have brought changes to our landscapes and daily lives. Homes and businesses have been lost. Eight important bridges in Stonington and North Stonington were damaged, four of these so severely that they are expected to be closed for months. Travel requires some creative detours and extra time. Our immediate neighbor, Westerly, RI, remains flooded in two large areas and after five days there is still only one practical route from our towns into Westerly. Proving the old adage "no great loss without some small gain", this flood has created work for some unemployed people, while placing others out of work.

Meanwhile at Stonington Grange we are preparing to honor six Stonington residents who as members of the local National Guard unit, served in Desert Storm, Desert Shield and Enduring Freedom in the Middle East. They are our Community Citizens this year. A tribute long overdue.

Next meeting is Tanya's Turn. And if the creek don't rise.....

National Grange Rededication Tours

The New Hampshire and Rhode Island State Granges are planning bus trips to the Rededication Ceremony of the National Grange Building, June 25-27 in Washington, D.C. The New Hampshire tour will pass through Connecticut via I-91 while Rhode Island's group will come through via I-95 giving CT members ample opportunity to join in.

Rhode Island's tour is \$419 single, \$289 double and \$279 triple occupancy with trip insurance available. Cost includes bus, two nights at the hotel in D.C. with 2 breakfasts and bus transportation to the rededication and some side trips. The trip will be June 25 through June 27. Those interested should contact RI State Lecturer Jeannette Kenyon immediately as limited seats remain.

New Hampshire's tour is extended over four days beginning Thursday, June 24 and returning to New England June 27. Cost is \$643 single; \$475 double; \$422 triple and \$398 quad. A \$100 deposit by May 20 will confirm your reservation and will be refunded if tour is canceled. For more information on this tour, please visit NHGrange.org or contact State Master Beth Merrill at bmerrill@nhstategrange.org; Tel: (603) 588-6615 to find out availability and where the pick-ups along I-91 will be located.

Scenes from Camp Clean-Up and Pink Sash at Winchester Grange



State Treasurer Phil Bergquist



The almost-never-ending project of raking leaves around the cabins.



State Lecturer speaks during Pink Sash meeting at Winchester Grange No. 74.

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

EXCELSIOR POMONA #7

Corr: Mary Dubay

May 14: Talent and A Number

May 18: Rehearsal

May 19: Conferral of the Fifth Degree

Excelsior Pomona #7 will have the Talent and A Number Run-Offs, at Beacon Valley Grange on Friday, May 14th at 7:00 P.M. On May 18th there will be a rehearsal for the Fifth Degree at Beacon Valley Grange at 7:00 P.M.

On May 19th will be the conferral of the Fifth Degree and Inspection at Beacon Valley Grange 7:30 P.M. Visiting Pomona members are always welcome.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Our May meeting will be held on the 14th. The program has been changed a little to help the Pomona. We will be having the judging of the Lecturer's "A Number" and Talent Contests. Come and enjoy an entertaining program. Remember, we start our meeting at 7:00 P.M.

On May 19th we will be hosting the Fifth Degree of Excelsior Pomona No. 7.

On June 11 we will be celebrating our 121st anniversary. A little scaled down from last year but we will still be in the celebrating mood.

Members to be honored that evening for milestones in Grange membership are: 70 years Alicia Olson and Charles Curtiss; 65 years- Olive Rathburn and Lois Anderson; 60 years Mary Bridge and Joanne Cipriano; 40 years Diane Godin and 25 years Cynthia Wells and Howard Davidson.

We will also be honoring "Citizen of the Year" but won't know who until our meeting this Friday.

WATERTOWN GRANGE #122

Corr: Mary Dubay

May 7: CWA Contest Judging

May 21: Memorial Program

Two celebrations in the merry month of May. First, we have Mother's Day, and we would like to wish a Happy Day to all you mothers out there. Second, we have Memorial Day, the start of the summer season, with parades, picnics, parks start to open. Nice time of the year.

Our first meeting in May will be judging of the CWA Baking Contest. Chairman Melinda is looking forward to the Contest and hopes that there will be many entries.

Our second meeting will be our Memorial Program for our deceased members and will be in the charge of the Chaplain and the Graces.

Now that the weather is nicer, come and join us when you can. We meet on the first and third Fridays of each month. Our door is always open.

PROSPECT GRANGE #144

Corr: Jean Meehan

Prospect Grange celebrated Grange Month with a Sunday get together to celebrate the accomplishments of several members of our committee both in the grange and in our community.

Prospect Grange was proud to be able to present Inez Bramhall, a very active member with her 75 year certificate. Inez has been active since the day she joined the grange 75 years ago and still is with more than 30 hours a month of volunteering at the Senior Center, Local Convalescent Home and making hats, scarves, bookmarks, and afghans for various charities.

State Master, Robert Sendewicz was on hand to help present this most prestigious award. Frances & Bill Maxwell

also received their 55 year seal, Elaine Graveline and Tina Meehan both received their 25 year certificate. Margaurite Moran received her 50 year certificate.

Several visiting state grange members and subordinate grange members were also on hand to help with our celebration along with approximately 50 non-members were on hand to help celebrate the this event. Representative Vicki Nardello, Senator Joan Hartley and Mayor Robert Chatfield presented special certificates to:

Marty Lautenschlager was presented with Prospect Grange's Public Service Award. Marty is the present Fire Chief of the Prospect Volunteer Fire Department and Theresa Graveline was presented with the Citizen of the Year award for all the volunteer work she does in our town volunteering her time to serve on several town committees and for many school activities.

It is people like them that make our community so great to live in.

Prospect Grange will meet again May 13, 2010 for their evaluation by General Deputy Robert Buck. This will be our

Memorial Service.

We meet at 7:30 P.M. at the Prospect Senior Center on Center Street in Prospect. Visitors are always welcomed.

WOLCOTT GRANGE #173

Corr: Cindy Legg

May 3: "Mother's Day Program"

May 17: "Citizen Award"- Memorial Night CWA Night

Our first meeting in May we will honor Our Mothers. Our Gatekeeper will be in charge of refreshments. Our second meeting May 17th will be giving out our "Citizen's Award", it will also be our Memorial Night where we will honor our members who have left us. It will also be the judging for the CWA contests. Cindy and Pearl will be in charge of refreshments, and we will have a Country Store.

We would like to thank Todd Gelineau and Jeff and Debbie Barnes for coming to our meeting in March to try and help us reconstruct our Grange. We are planning a dinner in April and will invite people in the town we think might be interested in joining. I let you know how it turns out.

Remember we meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays of most

months at our Grange hall near the center of Wolcott. Guests are always welcome.

OXFORD GRANGE #194

Corr: Phil Rowland

May 7: Grange Evaluation

May 21: Remember Our Servicemen and Women

May 31: Memorial Day Food Sale

Our most recent meeting started with a Pizza Party and after everyone had napkined off the evidence. Grange business was undertaken. Featured that night were two presentations- a Past Master's lapel pin to Joyce Iava, and a 50 year Golden Sheaf Certificate to Robert DeBisschop. Our congratulations to both members.

Scout Troop One, which meets at the Hall, has done much to spruce up the building through its Eagle Scout projects. The latest project, planned this year, involves building a rail fence along the side of the building to prevent damage to the lawn by motorists.

We hope for good parade weather on May 31 for our annual food sale.

Happy spring to all!

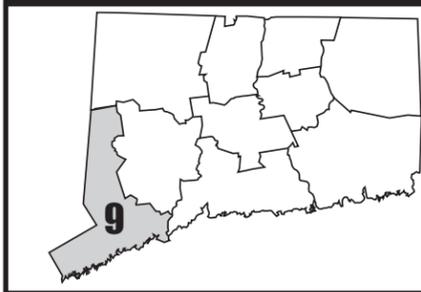
Grange Growth Team



Members of the Connecticut State Grange "Grange Growth Team" pose with National Grange Membership/Leadership Director Rusty Hunt at the Advanced Leadership Training Conference held at Ravena Grange (near Albany) in New York. Pictured from left: Joan Perry, State Jr. Director (Senexet Grange #40); Jody Cameron, State Overseer & Jodi Ann Cameron, State Pomona (Ekonk Comm. Grange #89); Victor Salazar, State Youth Comm. (Eureka Grange #62); Todd Gelineau, State Pomona Deputy West (Winchester Grange #74); Debbie Barnes, Deputy of New London Cty. Pomona and Jeff Barnes, State Steward (N. Stonington Grange #138) and Rusty Hunt.

A complete report on the activities during this intense three day program along with the exciting plans being developed by the Grange Growth Team will be included in the next issue of *Connecticut Granger*.

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 COUNTY POMONA #9

Corr: Karen Macdonald

All the colors and sounds of Spring are now in full bloom, I enjoy keeping track on the calendar of what is blooming when, and which bird visitors stop by each month. Grange Evaluations are under way, an important time to stop and reflect on the past year and think ahead to the future. Time to start making plans for all upcoming contests and Fair entries too! Am dreaming up an "A" Number at the moment...Hope that you can stop by to join us for our Pomona Tag Sale, at Harmony Grange, located in Monroe. It will be from 9 to 2 and includes a Bake Sale. While in the area, the dogwoods will be in bloom just then, in nearby Greenfield Hill in Fairfield, worth a ride from anywhere. Hope to see you soon at our Tag Sale or upcoming Grange Sunday.

REDDING GRANGE #15

Corr: Marge Sendewicz

May 1: Mothers Day

May 24: Memorial Service

June 14: CWA Night (Baking Contest)

We are definitely coming out of the winter. Oh joy oh joy. Life is much more pleasant.

At our April 12th. meeting we had a special visitor at our hall. Dr. Candace Benyie, who is the president of the Fairfield County Farm Bureau and a Trustee of The Eastern States Exposition, better known as the Big E. Bob met her at the Nov. meeting of the Connecticut Trustees and learned that she has a farm a couple of blocks from our Grange hall. He asked her to drop in sometime and she did.

She spoke to us about the importance of farming in Fairfield County and what has to be done to keep farming here. We

enjoyed her presence and she seemed to enjoy our meeting. Hoping this translates into new member.

When you read this our spring fair will have been over. I will give you the results next month. If you came I thank you and hope you enjoyed yourself. If you didn't, we will have another fair in September that will be just as good as the one in May.

Listed above are our programs for the month, do come and join us. Enjoy the beautiful weather, visit a Grange. Many Granges have picnics this time of year. Now that's a good reason to visit a Grange.

GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

Corr: Dennis Rich

May 16: "A Swarm of Bees in May", 2 P.M., Meeting

We were happy to have Robert Sendewicz, State Master/President, visit our Grange in March. He reviewed requirements and certified our affiliate members. Plans for resuming our annual fair were also on the table; it will be on Saturday in late September. Our March program had a short talk on maple sugaring. Two recipes from a recent issue of The Baking Sheet, a King Arthur Flour Company publication, containing maple ingredients were handed out.

In May, we will turn to another sweetener, honey and bees. All of our Grange friends are welcome!

TRUMBULL GRANGE #134

Corr: Sue Sulier

Hi, fellow Grangers and welcome to the month of May, when ALL Americans should remember the sacrifices made by our fallen members of the US Armed Forces.

Now onto the Grange stuff – During our March meeting we celebrated

St. Patrick's Day with a delicious traditional Irish Dinner, lovingly prepared by our Overseer Pat Gerckens and her crew. What a meal, the corn beef, fixings and deserts were a major hit; my personal favorites were Pat's G,'s cabbage soup and Yvonne Wannop's shortbread cookies. We had an Irish sing along which included "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" and "Oh, Danny Boy". Thanks to all involved for the hard work you put forth in planning, preparing the foods, buggylugging the stuff to and fro the meeting (poor Pat G. even got a flat tire and had to borrow a car) and decorating our hall. Thanks to little Lauren Malatesta who gave everyone a special ruler, with pictures of all our presidents and state flags. We were again honored to have State President Bob Sendewicz and First Lady Marge (the birthday girl) attend our meeting. Bob brought a birthday cake and we all sang the birthday song to Marge. A good time and full belly was had by all.

On a positive note, our Henry Barrachina seems to be improving.

Featured CT AARP Column #9 - Get the Facts About Health Care Reform! If you are like most people these days, you are wondering how the recently passed health reform legislation will affect you and your family. AARP has developed a user-friendly guide that explains many of the new benefits and answers questions about how the legislation will impact seniors, those without health insurance, young people, those with pre-existing conditions, etc. You can find information online at: www.healthactionnow.org or request a brochure by calling 1-866-227-7449.

I wish you all a very safe "Memorial Day" & Please say a prayer for our fallen veterans.

NORFIELD GRANGE #146

Corr: Ruth L. Hickcox

May 11: Flowers, Sewing, Talent Contest

June 8: Election of Officers

March 9 was a Neighbor's Night to remember! Over 85 of us sat down to a Cordon Bleu Pot Roast Dinner prepared by Chris and Lyn Kimberly and Connie and Emerson Phillips. During dinner "The Farmer's Voice" was projected on the front wall, a documentary about the state of farming in Connecticut. It was written by Beverly and Steve Corvino of Huntington.

Two special birthday diners were singled out: Robert Massingale-Lamb, who was born exactly nine years ago, and Sue Sulla, who was just turning 96! The keynote speaker was Dr. Matthew Lisy who, along with his wife, Emily, heads the Agriscience program at West Hill High School in Stamford. Also tied into this course of studies is the FFA. Dr. Lisy gave an overview of the program, which now numbers over 80 students. He was accompanied by the current student President and Vice President of the FFA, Sara Halm and Louise Thompson, who shared some of their experiences in the organization.

Also present were various other agricultural groups, who all shared information about their organizations: The Backyard Beekeepers; the Weston High School Garden Project; the Crop Walk; local author and Weston resident Amy Kalafa, who passed around a petition to establish a town farm on the Lachat property in Weston; two local people who just established a new farm in Weston; Red Bee Honey; and our own State President Bob Sendewicz, who spoke briefly about the Grange.

Before the meeting adjourned a \$500 scholarship was presented to Laurie Brock, a high school senior, for her achievements in quilting and sewing. Laurie in turn

presented a lovely quilted pillow that she had sewn for President Randy Miller.

CANNON GRANGE #152

Corr: Don Offinger

June 3: Business meeting with plans for our Fair

June 17: Business meeting and Election of Officers (meeting closed to guests)

July 1: Picnic by the riverside with program, "History Lessons"

July 15: Business meeting

We welcome four new members to Cannon Grange: Lori Kaine, Paula and Chris Sorensen and Judy Kane. All four have come to us through the excitement they have experienced with our annual Agricultural Fair. Each is lending an appreciated hand on our planning committee.

For all of you who enjoy an authentic agricultural fair, please circle August 22nd to come to our 78th presentation of the Cannon Grange Ag Fair. We promise you will not be disappointed.

At a recent meeting, we had a visit, a scheduled visit mind you!, by the Wilton EMS with the town's new ambulance on display. Its arrival was announced with a toot of the bone-shattering Air Horn. Don Offinger, a state-certified EMT with the Wilton EMS was accompanied by Grange friend, Lindsay Eldred, and they described the activities and types of calls the volunteer EMS performs in the community.

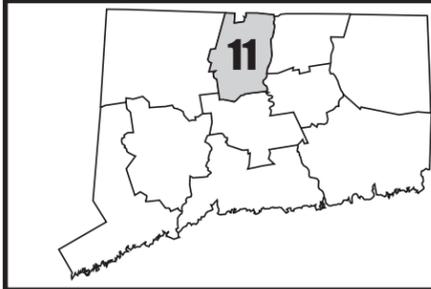
Our president, Doug shepherd, presented a travel program with a video of Italy. It took us all over the country, and showed how unique each geographic area of the country is and the wonderful influences of farmland and the oceans have been on food and culture there. We can't wait for the next travelogue!

Please note our meeting and program schedule.



**Deadline
for the
Next Issue:
MAY 5!**

Farmington Valley Pomona No. 11



- ✓ Granby No. 5
- ✓ Tunxis No. 13
- ✓ Cawasa No. 34
- ✓ Simsbury No. 197
- West Suffield No. 199
- Cherry Brook No. 210

FARMINGTON VALLEY POMONA #11

Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner

May 17: Fifth Degree, 7:30 P.M., Cherry Brook Grange Hall

We were sorry we had to omit the April meeting and program due to a number of complications.

Nature is giving us some nice spring days after a lot of most unusual weather over the past few months.

May 17th will be the

conferral of the Fifth Degree of the Order. Refreshments will be served following the meeting. We will be pleased to have Pomona Deputy West Todd Gelineau with us for the evening.

We hope our Granges will have entries in the various contests of our departments. Each one is worthy of your support.

Master, Doris Shaw, spent some time in the hospital, but we are glad to report she is home again.

Keep feeling better, Doris!

GRANBY GRANGE #5

Corr: Vivian Shaw

May 1, 2 and 15: Tag Sales, 9:00 A.M. -2:00 P.M.

May 21: FFA Program - Open Meeting and Neighbor's Night

May 22: Public Setback Card Party, 7:00 P.M.

March 9- CWA program by Frances Brockett about dogs of many different, even helping blind or deaf people. Fran asked all of our members about their experiences. Fran gave the poem "Gingham Dog and the Calico Cat," and baked and presented to us Calico Muffins (delicious!).

We draped our charter for Sophie Evonsion. She made cookies for blood donors and many pies for

our Grange Fair.

CAWASA GRANGE #34

Corr: Maggie Schofield

Hi Grangers! Our April meeting was quiet, we had our usual Hidden Pictures to do, which keeps it quiet for a while!

Brother Thad Wendell is at McLean's for rehabilitation, he was in the hospital and not doing well at all. Sister Jane said he is awake and doing much better at McLean's now. Prayers for Thad and Jane.

Dictionaries are ordered for the third graders at Cherry Brook Elementary. I will send a picture next month to show you the classes.

Spring is really here now, green grass, May

flowers, and Lin and I are back from Florida from our enjoyable visit with friends and family.

Have a great month!

SIMSBURY GRANGE #197

Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner

May 12: "In Memoriam"- Chaplain in Charge

We have continued meeting at the Simsbury Library, but hope to be back in our hall sometime in May. We plan on having our food, craft and tag sale at the end of the month- hopefully on the 22nd.

Thaddeus Wendell had a trip to the hospital and is now in the convalescent home. We hope he is making good progress and wish him well.

Norfield Grange Neighbor's Night

March 9 was a Neighbor's Night to remember with 85 members and guests sitting down to a Cordon Bleu Pot Roast Dinner prepared by Chris and Lyn Kimberly and Connie and Emerson Phillips. During dinner "The Farmer's Voice" was projected on the front wall, a documentary about the state of farming in Connecticut written by Beverly and Steve Corvino of Huntington.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Matthew Lisy who, along with his wife, Emily, heads the Agriscience program at West Hill High School in Stamford.



Mark your calendars



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer

lecturer@ctstategrange.org

WOW – Time sure does fly. It seems like we just celebrated the New Year and now summer is almost here. Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 13th and be at Good Will Grange Hall

in Glastonbury for Grange Sunday. Our Worthy State Chaplain, Amy Whitcomb, will start the day with her church service at 11:00 a.m. followed by a Lasagna Dinner put on by the Grange Youth at 12:00 noon. At 1:00 p.m. we will have our Talent and "A Number" Contests. Does your Pomona have an entry? The winner of the Talent Contest will compete in the Northeast Contest which will be held at Lecturers' Conference in Randolph Center, Vermont

the first week in August. We all need to put our best foot forward and show off our Talents. This is also a great time to bring along a non-member or two and show them what a great group of friendly people Grangers are.

Speaking about Lecturers Conference – Details are pretty well set. It will be held August 2-5 at Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center, Vermont. A few new ideas are being tested this year. Instead of an

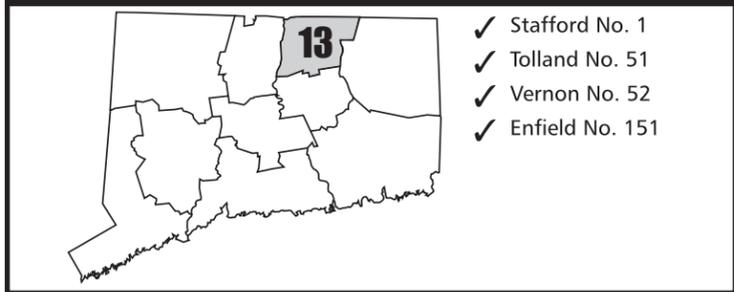
Early Bird Workshop, there will be Early Bird Area Tours (on your own) to an Antique Music Box Company, an Antique Clock Shop, and a Vermont Veteran's Cemetery. More information on this will be available to those attending. Connecticut will rehearse their program at 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, August 3, with the program beginning at 2:15. Northeast Night, which includes the Talent Contest, will be Tuesday evening. The Banquet is entitled "Blue Jeans, Denim, and Calico". Entertainment will be

by the Vermont Fiddlers Association, a barn dance. There will be contests for "Boots, Buckles & Bonnets". If you are a Lecturer or if you attended last year, you should be receiving your packet on the conference about the same time as you read this.

Looking ahead – Don't forget Let's Celebrate on July 24th at Cheshire Grange. We have a Barbershop Quartet to entertain us as we celebrate our Grange successes New Orleans style.

See You Around The State....

North Central Pomona No. 13



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

NORTH CENTRAL POMONA #13 Ecology Committee is in charge of the program.

Corr: Joyce Jordan

North Central Pomona No. 13 will meet on Thursday, May 13, as guest of Enfield Grange No. 151. The meeting will begin at 7:30 P.M. The Safety and

TOLLAND GRANGE #51

Corr: Joyce Jordan

Well, it finally stopped raining and today the sun is out and the water is drying up. Who could ask

for a more perfect day?

Tolland will meet on the 4th of May at the Hall on the Green in Tolland at 7:30 P.M. We remember is the theme for the program. Inspection will also take place.

Thanks to all Grangers who contacted us about our tree in the back of the hall. Our Worthy Master had it taken down.

It is with a great deal of sadness that I report the passing of Walter Feldman, a Golden Sheaf member of Tolland Grange. Walt will be missed by all of us.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Nancy Strong

May 7: Our May meeting will be our CWA program on recipes and cooking. We will have our Calico Muffin baking contest run-off and hope to be back into the Grange Hall after the renovations (see picture). Our Deputy, Irene Percoski, will be present and our judge.

ENFIELD GRANGE #151

Corr: Irene Percoski

May 8: "Pink Lady"- Add some lemon. CWA needlework and baking contest.

Our birthday in March was lots of fun at the Old Town Buffet in Manchester. Last week the hall was reopened from the winter shut-down and given a good scrubbing. It will be good to get back there. Meeting in homes is okay but going

back to the hall is what gets the juices flowing for Grange business. In May we celebrate and pay honor to the CWA department. Make sure you bring your entries for all the contests. We still sit patiently waiting on the disposition of our hall. Whoever coined the phrase about the wheels of justice grinding slowly could also have applied it to decisions of Government. We persevere.

Our Grange is holding several boxes of jams, jellies and sauces from the Eastern States which are for sale. These are the same ones from the Grange Building at the Big E. The State Master Bob Sendewicz has a complete list of what is available. If you contact him or someone from Enfield Grange, arrangements can be made for delivery.

Mystery Meeting Place



For our May Mystery Picture, we would like to know what Grange meets in this building? If you know or have any idea, please let your Information Director know by telephone, postcard or e-mail. Just mail your answers to: Carl H. Bernhardt; 424 Cedar Lane; Cheshire, CT 06410, or call (203) 272-4620. Our e-mail address is: mbc76@cox.net. We would like your answers by June 1st. The names of everyone who gives us the correct answer will be printed in the July-August issue of the CONNECTICUT GRANGER.

The Mystery Picture shown in the March issue of the Granger is Cannon Grange Hall. The following individuals correctly identified the hall: Mary E. Offinger of Cannon Grange, Margaret Sendewicz of Redding Grange, Ray & Cindy Legg of Southington Grange, Marianne Nielsen of Redding Grange and Ron Gunther of Redding Grange.

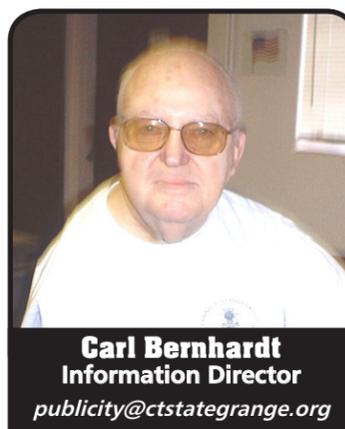


Vernon's New Look



Vernon Grange Hall has a new look. The Vernon Historical Society secured grant funds to help install an addition to the Grange Hall with an elevator to the upper hall with a bathroom upstairs. (photo by C. Schirmer).

Have your seeds matured?



Carl Bernhardt
Information Director
publicity@ctstategrange.org

Have the seeds you have sown in the Springtime nurtured and grown? We hope that your publicity efforts have produced candidates for your degrees. We must continue using publicity to cultivate the minds of our friends and neighbors in the hope of increasing our Grange

membership.

During the months of May and June, many of the Granges will be presenting Community Service awards. Now is the time to publicize these events. We recommend that these meetings be open to the general public. Have your local newspapers print an article about the recipient. Send out special invitations to the friends and colleagues of the recipient. We hope that in so doing, your Grange will be recognized by those present as a civic-minded, community service organization.



Joan Perry
Junior Director
juniors@ctstategrange.org

Junior Grange

Project. A fundraiser that we are having to help support this is going to be held on Celebration Day, July 24, at Cheshire Grange Hall. We will be serving a Meatloaf Dinner from 12 noon to 1:30 P.M. The cost will be \$8.00. We will have tickets available at the Pink Sash Meeting. I hope we will have a successful fundraiser. We have to be a little more creative because we don't have the booth at the Agricultural Fair any longer.

I hope all of you have bailed your property out and don't have much damage. At least maybe the snow is behind us. Happy Spring!

EKONK JR. GRANGE #101

Corr: Sue Gray

Congratulations to Junior Granger, Jaimie Cameron: she joined the Subordinate April 5th! She will continue serving both Granges! The Juniors did very well with their Fruit & Nut Sale; this year we

added Sterling Community School 7th grade students, allowing them to sell the products and each received a percentage towards their expenses going to Washington, D.C.!

The Juniors are looking into taking a trip to Kingston, RI and touring an oyster farm: more details next issue!

HILLSTOWN JR. GRANGE #87

Corr: Rita Schaefer

May 24: Crafts, Crafts & More Crafts

Hillstown Jr. has been meeting on the third Fridays of the month. They keep busy and as the weather gets better, they will be making trips that are educational.

They will also be working on their projects for the coming year. By the time warm weather gets here their sicknesses will all have recovered.

Will have more at the next writing.

In Memoriam

Sophie Evonsion	Granby Grange #5
Viola Dzielinski, G.S.	Whigville Grange #48
Walter Feldman, G.S.	Tolland Grange #51
Muriel Brundrett, G.S.	Wolf Den Grange #61
Hazel Langdon Page	Totoket Grange #83
Vivian Oppel, G.S.	Totoket Grange #83
David Epperson	Taghannuck Grange #100
Mervin Whipple, G.S.	Killingly Grange #112
Terri Manee	Lyme Grange #147
Mary Louise Peterson	Riverton Grange #169
Helen Gotta	Hemlock Grange #182
Thaddeus Wendell, G.S.	Simsbury Grange #197

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

Spring has arrived in the Northwest corner finally and we are all enjoying the weather. As we look forward to June do not forget the Grange Sunday service with the Lecturer's program on June 13th starting at 11:00 A.M.

This month we will consider three steps to take charge of our lives. The expression

"seize the day" is wonderful but the truth is many of us do not know how to seize the moment. If we do not take charge of our lives, someone else will and if we do not have a purpose in life, we end up going whatever way the wind is blowing the strongest. So how can we take charge of our lives?

The first step is to leave home. I am not referring to a teen leaving home. I am referring to leaving the conditioning of our childhood. As adults, we continue to act and react in ways that reflect what we saw or did as children, even when we do not want to. If we haven't done any self-development, we may be using the same interpretive lens we have used as a child to explain what is going on around us. We are all born with a particular legacy. In addition to our genetic structure, we inherited certain beliefs and ways of being in the world. The parts of our legacy which serve us well we can embrace and keep. The parts which do not serve us well, we can release and replace it with something more useful or appropriate.

The second step is go get with God. Learning to commune with God, listening to the still small voice within and growing spiritually are not things we wait to do. God should come first and as we attune ourselves to the Devine, we find the time and energy to do what is ours to do. God can help us take charge of our live. God created us to be insightful, capable, resilient individuals. Remember "that they that wait on the Lord renew their strength, they shall run and not be weary." When we get with God we find meaning and purpose.

Step three, throw your hat over the fence, stepping out in faith. When we make a bold move and put ourselves in an irreversible position, it motivates us to throw that hat over the fence and view things from a different perspective. It may mean that we need to close one door and open another. It may mean we need to be flexible and make adjustments or stand firm. Typically it will mean taking a risk. Change happens when the thoughts become aspirations we act on. The process of change has its beginning in the mind, with an idea and then it must advance to the heart where our emotions reside. We must experience it on the feeling level before it becomes reality. Seize the moment, seize the day, seize your life and take charge!



North Stonington Jr. Grange took a field trip to participate in a New London County Pomona Youth Trip on Friday, March 26. They took a guided tour of the Wheelabrator Garbage-to-Energy Facility in Lisbon, CT. It was pretty neat seeing the 100 foot deep pile of trash from the operating booth where a technician used a joystick to operate a giant grappling hook and fed 6 tons of garbage at a time into a huge furnace. The kids liked getting to see the control room with all of its gauges, dials and computer screens. It was fun and educational and generally a great experience.

- Submitted by N.L. Pomona Master Dan Mutchler

Youth Report

been thinking and hoping that someone would be going to the Youth Conference in Bridgewater, Massachusetts this July and now my wish has come true.

I will forward the applications to anyone who would like one as soon as I receive them. Also while I am talking about the conference- if anyone is interested in sign-a-song or

public speaking contests I need to know by June 1.

I hope that everyone is planning on attending Grange Sunday and staying for the lasagna dinner. I am sure the price will be low and the portions large and there will be plenty for all. This can be enjoyed between the worship service and the Lecturer's program.



Donald Lanoue
Youth Director
youth@ctstategrange.org

Hi everyone! I hope that you are enjoying this July weather. I have