



**THE CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE
LECTURERS' NEWSLETTER
March - April 2015**



**Marge Bernhardt, State Lecturer/Program Director
424 Cedar Lane, Cheshire, CT 06410
Phone: (203) 272-4620 e-mail: lecturer@ctstategrange.org**

Hi All,

Hope you have survived this winter season. It's March 1st. I know we usually get snow in March and even April but we have had enough this year. I'm sure a lot of Granges cancelled meetings because of bad travelling conditions or the extremely low temperatures we had. But, please drop a note or fill out a report form that says cancelled. Otherwise I have no way of knowing whether you didn't meet or just didn't do your report.

LET'S TRY AGAIN...

The Lecturers' Meeting that was scheduled for February 22nd was cancelled. The new date is March 22nd at 2:00 at Cheshire Grange Hall. We will be meeting in the lower hall but the upstairs door will be open if you prefer to come in that way. I am hoping for a good turnout with a lot of new creative ideas. We need to add some spice to our programs. Lecturers play a big part in the success of a Grange. Let's all put our heads together and make our members want to come to meetings.

In a booklet written in 1998, Mary R. Buffington, Past National Lecturer, wrote "You are filling the office which gives you the greatest opportunity to build and strengthen your Grange through increasing the visibility of your chapter, attracting new members and getting members to come to meetings. You help develop and encourage the abilities, talents and interests of your members.

While your role, as noted in the installation charge, is that of educator, you influence your membership in many other ways. Appreciate the trust placed in you through your election to the office, learn and grow personally from your time in office, work to the best of your abilities and enjoy what you're doing."

This was true in 1998 and is still true in 2015. Please try your best – that is all that anyone can ask of you.

With nicer weather coming, please don't forget our contests. All Lecturers should have received the information with the November – December newsletter. If you didn't get it – or can't find it – just let me know and I will get you an extra copy. I will also have them with me on March 22nd.

We heard a lot about getting along together and how we need harmony to keep our Granges strong last October at State Session. The first shared number on the next page is a candle-lighting ceremony from years ago. I hope a lot of you will use this. You can get different colored candles to be lit or make your own adaptation of the script to suit the needs of your Grange.

Hope to see you all on March 22nd and around the State...

Marge

SHARED NUMBERS...

HARMONY – A CANDLE-LIGHTING SERVICE

This was taken from a book compiled by the New England Lecturers in 1983.

Harmony in our Granges is as important now as it was then.

LECTURER: A dictionary's definition of HARMONY is as follows:

"A state of order, agreement, accord". It characterizes unity among persons or things. The word implies mutual respect, regard, goodwill and cooperation. In all our Grange work the characteristics of HARMONY should be prevalent. We work together for the Good of the Order, for the benefit of our homes, our communities, our Churches, ourselves... because certainly a harmonious existence benefits those who live it. Various colors promote harmony and have a particular significance of their own.

RED We all know red stands for bravery. We may never need to fight or shed blood for a cause, but this is a powerful color, which should inspire us to stand for our rights and be brave in adhering to what we believe to be worth keeping.

WHITE We all know white represents purity. Our Bible, on which all our ritualism is founded teaches us to live in HARMONY.

BLUE This color stands for truth, trustworthiness and steadfastness to our cause, not only in the Grange, but in life. Nothing will promote HARMONY in existence more quickly than these three attributes.

LECTURER The three colors above harmonize in a combination of colors with which we are all familiar, and to which Grangers all show reverence and respect... in our Flag.

GREEN That beautiful color which carpets the earth at this time of year with its many varied shades so prevalent in town and country alike speaks to us of refreshing newness of life. Small wonder that the Youth Committee of the Grange takes this for their color... a color which stresses new growth. Growth must not be reserved for Youth alone, our committees and their workers need to grow also, striving for new ideas as well as new goals in our work. Let us also grow in HARMONY with others.

YELLOW This color is repeated over and over again during the seasons of the year, from the pale yellows of the early daffodil to the graceful gold of the forsythia in the spring; then we have the delicate yellow roses and the buttercups of our fields and pastures in the summer months; and the goldenrod and chrysanthemum of the fall. These, combines with the brilliant sunlight of our days and the pale moon of our nights, are constant reminders of the fact that we live in the blessed sunlight of faith and the many varieties of yellow to which we are exposed certainly should remind us to live in HARMONY by the Golden Rule.

ORANGE A more intense color than yellow, this is found in our summer flowers, but is especially prevalent in the flowers and foliage of the autumn season. Should not this color encourage us all to strive more intensely for HARMONY among our Brothers and Sisters in the Grange and to broaden our own scope of working harmoniously with others in our community?

INDIGO This beautiful shade of deep violet-blue seems to be reserved for some of our loveliest of flowers, such as the violet, tulip and delphinium. We see it in the afterglow of a sunset, and occasionally it is reflected on the ocean waters at dusk. The depth of this color should remind us of the richness of our opportunity as Grange members... we should use this opportunity to work together in HARMONY, not only in fun and lightheartedness, but with serious consideration for important items in our Grange work as well. In spite of the fun we have in our organization, let us remember our responsibility to be serious when the occasion warrants it.

VIOLET The soft beauty of the lilac is immediately brought to mind when we think of this color which has added a harmonious touch to many homes over the years. Can you imagine a set of farm buildings without lilacs? Of all the colors in the spectrum, Violet represents, to many, a reminder of days gone by, but also a Harmonious blending of the old with the new... a means by which we of today can relate to our Brother and Sister Grangers of years gone by and can continue HARMONY and understanding of our own aims and objectives, realizing that they are basically the same as were theirs of long ago.

LECTURER Now we have combined the colors of the spectrum in perfect harmony – red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. May we all pledge to work together in HARMONY, not only in our special Grange projects, but as Grangers all!

Remember the definition of HARMONY: A state of order, agreement, accord, unity among persons or things, mutual respect, regard, goodwill and cooperation. A WORTHWHILE GOAL FOR THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

THE LORD'S PRAYER BY CANDLELIGHT

Twelve people are needed to do this. Items needed consist of 11 candles one of each of the following colors: white, blue, green, purple, brown, yellow silver, red, black, orange and pink.

LEADER: The Lord's Prayer is composed of 66 words. The prayer was given by Christ to His Disciples on two different occasions; the first in connection with the Sermon on the Mount; the second, after two years when the Disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. It is the Ten Commandments turned into prayer, the Commandments to teach God's law being converted into prayer to enable us to keep that law.

SOFT MUSIC: "Sweet Hour of Prayer" is played as the eleven people form a semi-circle around the Altar. Each person carries the appropriate colored candle, which is already burning.

WHITE CANDLE: Let this tall white candle stand for the words "Our Father". Our God is the light of the world and the ages. How dark this world would be if this light were to grow dim and go out. However, God is Our Father and He has promised He will never leave us and we are told in this prayer to ask Him for the things we need. Prayer brings to our side "Our Father in Heaven" and he can and will help us.

BLUE CANDLE: "Who Art in Heaven" reminds us of the heavens above us and is represented by a blue candle. God is beyond the blue, by His light is everywhere, and from his throne in heaven is ever watching us.

GREEN CANDLE: "Hallowed Be Thy Name." Now we bring a green candle for green is the everlasting color. The name of God is "Everlasting". It will endure forever. So long as this old earth shall stand, His name will be spoken, and by human hearts be supremely loved.

PURPLE CANDLE: "Thy Kingdom Come." These words are represented by the royal color. The robes of the Kings are purple. The decorations of the throne are in this majestic color. May God hasten the coming of the royal purple day. Whenever we help one another, we are faithful to and true to God. Whenever we let our light shine, we are helping God to bring His Kingdom.

BROWN CANDLE: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." This candle represents the earth, and the brown ground of the world. When our will and the Father's are absolutely one, we shall know that all things work together for our good.

YELLOW CANDLE: "Give us this day our daily bread." Yellow is the color of the golden grain from which we make our bread. This is the prayer for physical needs. The Greek word for bread means "food" so this is the prayer for all our temporal needs to sustain the present body.

SILVER CANDLE: "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Silver is the color of the coin by which we pay our debts. This is the hard prayer. It contains a commandment of Jesus that we are to forgive one another 70 times seven.

RED CANDLE: "Lead us not into temptation." Red stands for temptation to which we must not yield. We all have some kind of temptation. God had a son but not without temptation.

BLACK CANDLE: "But deliver us from evil." Black stands for sin and the wages of sin are death. Pure thoughts will make our lives right and we will not do evil things.

ORANGE CANDLE: "For thine is the Kingdom and the Power, and the Glory forever." The orange candle stands for the glory of God, as it is the dominated color in the glorious sunset. The great painters of the Middle Ages represented the flame in the burning bush as a bright orange color, which in this day was understood to stand for Jehovah.

PINK CANDLE: This last sentence is as a great benediction sung at the close of our prayer.

**Here you can put any appropriate song of your choice. When the song ends the candles are blown out and all take their seats.

A LETTER FOR A WORD QUIZ

Can you match a letter to these descriptions?

A Beverage ... T
A Vegetable ... P
A Body of Water ... C
An Insect ... B
A Bird ... J
Part of the Face ... I
A Golf Term ... T

A Part of a House ... L
What the Eyes Do ... C
A Line of People ... Q
A Female Sheep ... U
An Exclamation ... O
A Girls Name ... K
A Verb ... R

Words made with two letters...

- A Girls Name ... LC
- An Indian Dwelling ... TP
- A Creeping Plant ... IV
- Not Difficult ... EZ
- A Cold Condition ... IC
- Jealousy ... NV

IT'S GREEN

(All answers to this quiz have green in them)

1. Name of a city in Wisconsin that supports a football team. Ans. Green Bay
2. Farmers use this to control weather conditions for plants. Ans. Greenhouse
3. You can see reruns of Eva Gabor and Eddie Albert on this TV show. Ans. Green Acres
4. Mints come in this flavor. Ans. Wintergreen
5. These trees stay green all year long. Ans. Evergreen
6. The State of Vermont. Ans. The Green Mountain State
7. Our paper money is sometimes called this. Ans. Greenbacks
8. An island in the North Atlantic. Ans. Greenland
9. The left field wall at Fenway Park. Ans. The Green Monster

IN THE KITCHEN

(All the answers are found on the kitchen table.)

1. Found at home base in baseball. Ans. Plate
2. One of the most important players on a baseball team. Ans. Pitcher
3. Something found in a road. Ans. Fork
4. Used in making windows. Ans. Glass
5. Used on 4th of July. Ans. Crackers (Fire)
6. What do people like to do in alleys? Ans. Bowl
7. What do young couples like to do in the moonlight? Ans. Spoon
8. Used by a golfer when driving off. Ans. Tee (tea)
9. Given on the 25th Wedding Anniversary. Ans. Silver
10. What a sailor is often called. Ans. Salt (Old Salty)

WHERE DOES YOUR FOOD COME FROM

Sandwiches – England ... In the 1780's the English Earl of Sandwich was the first to order meat between bread slices.

Coffee – Ethiopia ... This brew was created after Ethiopian goat-herders noticed that flocks stayed awake when they nibbled on coffee leaves.

Hamburgers – Hamburg, Germany ... Originally called "hamburg steaks", these meat patties are named after their home, Hamburg, Germany.

Doughnuts – Netherlands ... These fried cakes were first brought from the Netherlands to America by Dutch settlers. Holes were added in 1847.

Spaghetti – China ... Marco Polo, an Italian, first ate spaghetti in China. He then brought these noodles back to his homeland.

Bologna – Bologna, Italy ... This popular sausage is named for its' hometown. Bologna, Italy.

Croissant – Austria ... These crescent shaped rolls were first baked in Austria to celebrate a victory over the Turkish army in 1683.

Chop Suey – USA ... A nineteenth century Chinese official first made this dish on a visit to the USA.

Ginger Ale – Ireland ... This was the first sweetened soft drink. It was made by Dr. Cantrell of Ireland in 1850.

Chewing Gum – Mexico ... A native tree of Mexico, the sapodilla, yields a gum like juice called chicle. Chewing gum is made from this.

THE REVEREND SPEAKS

The Stage is set like a living room. A man is seated at a table with a phone. The phone rings.

Man: Yes, this is Rev. Brown. How may I help you? (pause) Yes, I'll speak at your meeting. What will my subject be? (Pause) Sex? Did you say I was supposed to speak on sex? (Pause) Well, I guess I could do that.

Wife: Who was that dear?

Man: Oh, it was the Ladies Group. They've asked me to speak.

Wife: That's nice. What is your subject?

Man: Ah, Ah, Sailing.

Wife: Sailing? That's a little bit out of your line, isn't it?

Man: Well, yes, but I'm sure I can manage.

(Man leaves stage. Someone announces it is now a week later. A second lady enters stage)

Lady: Oh, Mrs. Brown, I just had to stop and tell you how much we enjoyed Rev. Brown's talk the other day at our ladies group. He was so well informed.

(Wife looks a little confused)

Wife: Gee, funny you should think so. I mean, he's only done it twice. The first time he threw up, and the second time his hat blew off.

ARE YOU CLUELESS OR HOW MANY CLUES DO YOU NEED

(Give one clue at a time until people guess what it is.)

1. We all have them...
2. Some are larger than others...
3. We like to decorate them in various ways...
4. When clean, they are lovely...
5. Most people dread cleaning them...
6. They are a necessity in our homes...
7. Most of them can be opened and closed.

Ans. Windows

1. We all own several...
2. They are useful in any room in our home...
3. Life without one would be very complicated...
4. Active Grangers and busy people use them most often...
5. They usually come in 12 parts...

Ans. A Calendar

1. Almost everyone likes it...
2. It is sometimes round, sometimes quite long...
3. It is sometimes bright in colors, sometimes plain white or brown...
4. It goes with Christmas and Easter like ham goes with eggs...
5. Sometimes it is good for you, sometimes it is not...

Ans. Candy

1. There is one in this room...
2. It has been mentioned since this meeting was called to order...
3. It is not always the same size...
4. Not everyone owns one...
5. Although it is not very large, it is very important...
6. It is well-known to everyone...
7. It is seen mostly in public places...

Ans. The American Flag

1. I am used by everyone...
2. CWA members find me useful...
3. My use is not restricted to women...
4. Many Grange halls have one...
5. Every home has one...

Ans. Stove

SOME BLACKOUT SKITS

LUCKY MAN...

First Man: I'm awfully lucky.

Second Man: Why?

First Man: I went to a party last night and they played a game where all the ladies had to kiss each of the men or else give him a dollar.

Second Man: Why are you so lucky?

First Man: When I got home I had fifteen dollars.

"T" SHIRTS

Stacy: Did you just put on a wet shirt?

Chris: Yes, the instruction tag says 'wash & wear'.

SEEMS LOGICAL

Teacher: Johnny, what is the difference between lightning and electricity?

Student: You don't have to pay for lightning.

DRESSED FOR WINTER

Customer: May I have a pair of longjohns?

Clerk: Sure. How long do you want them?

Customer: From October to March

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Police Officer: What's your name, cowboy?

Cowboy: Tex

Police Officer: You must be from Texas.

Cowboy: Nope, I'm from Louisiana, but I don't like folks calling me Louise!

WAITER'S RELAY RACE

*You will need two teams of five, 10 sturdy paper plates and 10 paper cups.
Everyone is given a paper plate. The cups are placed in two piles on a table a ways away.*

In turn each player must walk to the far end of the room and pick up a cup and place it on their plate. Then using one hand only, they must walk back to the team and hand the plate and cup to the next person. This person places his plate on top of the cup and walks to the end of the room where he puts another cup on top. This continues, cup on plate, until the last member has returned with the stack. Anyone who drops the stack must start his turn over.

LEMON RACE

You need two teams, two lemons and two sticks or dowels.

The first person for each team must roll the lemon to the finish line and back, then hand the stick to the next member and so on. The crazy wiggly rolling of the lemon is a riot.

OLD FOLKS

Old folks are worth a fortune: with silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet and gas in their stomachs.

I have become a lot more social with the passing of the years; some might even call me a frivolous old gal. I'm seeing five gentlemen every day.

As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me get out of bed.

Then I go to see John.

Then Charley Horse comes along, and when he is here he takes a lot of my time and attention.

When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. (He really doesn't like to stay in one place very long so he takes me from joint to joint.)

After such a busy day, I'm really tired and glad to go to bed – with Ben Gay. What a life!