

Happy  
Easter

Address Service Requested, Periodicals Postage Paid in Winsted, CT 06098



# Connecticut Granger



Vol. 53, No. 6

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

MARCH 2013

## Sandy Hook aftermath



**Jody A. Cameron**  
State Master/President  
president@ctstategrange.org

None of us can imagine how everyone in Newtown's lives has changed since the morning of December 14th. My heart goes out to everyone affected by this tragedy. I understand how vulnerable this event has made many feel, but we cannot heal from this tragedy if we hastily and emotionally implement laws and regulations without examining how and why such an event happens.

I recently had the opportunity to meet a Grange member whose spouse works at Sandy Hook Elementary School and as I spoke with him I understood how important the current debate now going on in our state and nation regarding gun control is. There was an immediate call for bans on all assault weapons. People panicked and gun sales skyrocketed

in anticipation of what everyone expects to be sweeping new regulations, bans and controls.

I challenge everyone to approach this subject intellectually and not emotionally. There are far more factors to this tragedy than gun control. While I agree there is a need for this debate, I caution our legislators to preserve the intent of the 2nd Amendment. I urge our legislators to look at the mental health issue one poses to plan and execute a horrific act such

as this past December. I urge our legislators to work closely with all educational institutions in Connecticut to develop robust security plans and policies that insures the safety of our children while not creating a "prison" atmosphere. I urge our legislators to strengthen the penalty for anyone convicted of planning and or executing such a vicious act.

Nothing can change what happened on December 14th, but we can ensure such an act doesn't happen again.

## Plan special events for Grange Month in April

April 2013 has been declared Grange Month by National Grange President Ed Luttrell. Community Granges throughout Connecticut are encouraged to participate in the month-long celebration by opening their doors to the public for family-oriented events focused on the contributions of the Grange in their communities.

The Connecticut State Grange will be hosting a number of events in April, including a State-wide Charitable Tag Sale Event being held simultaneously at Pomona Grange locations across the state on April 27th with the proceeds benefitting the Connecticut Food Bank, a Public Relations Workshop on April 7th at Good Will Grange Hall in Glastonbury, a Youth-sponsored Grange Bowling event at a date to be announced, and a Grange Online Chat on April 30th.

Community Granges will be celebrating Grange Month with open houses, lectures and programs, citizens' awards, service projects, community displays, traditional pot-luck suppers and more. Be sure to check out the complete Calendar of Events on the Connecticut State Grange website at [www.CTStateGrange.org](http://www.CTStateGrange.org).

National Grange has distributed their packets via

*Continued on page 2*

## Discovering the Leader Within



**REMINDER!!**

**Workshop by Guest Speaker  
Carmen Brickner**

**Bring an open mind and courage!**

**Saturday, March 9th - 10 AM - 2 PM  
Good Will Grange Hall, 43 Naubuc Ave., Glastonbury**

**\$5 Registration Fee - Luncheon will be served  
Reservations were required by March 1st.**

**Space may or may not be available after March 1st by contacting  
Jody Cameron - [president@ctstategrange.org](mailto:president@ctstategrange.org) or 860-564-7614**



## National Grange blasts Congress for USPS problems

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In February, the National Grange blasted Congress for its failure to provide reforms for a struggling United States Postal Service following an announcement by USPS that the agency will no longer deliver mail on Saturdays, yet continue delivering packages.

In recent months, the National Grange - America's oldest advocacy organization for rural America and agriculture - has encouraged Congress to relieve the USPS of their requirement to prepay future retiree health benefits, a mandate that costs the USPS \$5 billion annually, as well as liberate the USPS to a private entity, free of congressional control.

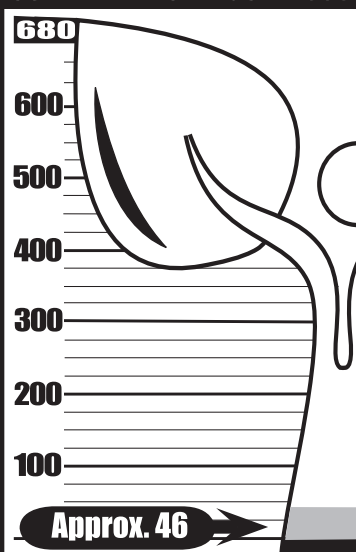
"For several years now, our legislators in Washington have watched the Postal Service spiral into financial ruin and done little to stop this inevitable downfall. This comes as no shock to the American people who are growing increasingly frustrated with Congress' lack of action towards anything," National Grange President Ed Luttrell said Wednesday. "The Grange has strongly urged USPS to continue six-day-a-week mail service so rural Americans - who often don't have access to high-speed internet used by those in urban and suburban areas to conduct professional and personal business - wouldn't suffer."

National Grange Legislative Director Grace Boatright said elderly Americans living in rural areas could stand to lose the most should more drastic steps be taken or requested by the USPS to remedy its failing financial condition.

"The postal service provides delivery of medicines for many of our citizens in remote areas or who are less-than-agile, along with delivery of medications for livestock. Without dramatic reform from Congress, the USPS may be forced to continue eliminating much-needed services," Boatright said.

Boatright said the Grange has a long and storied history in supporting rural mail delivery and considers this a key issue of equitability and access for rural Americans.

### OUR MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 680



### IN THIS ISSUE...

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Central No. 1           | 5  |
| Quinebaug No. 2         | 6  |
| East Central No. 3      | 7  |
| Mountain County No. 4   | 8  |
| New Haven County No. 5  | 9  |
| New London County No. 6 | 12 |
| Excelsior No. 7         | 3  |
| Fairfield County No. 9  | 4  |
| Do You Remember         | 10 |
| Junior Grange           | 12 |

Scan this QR Code and join us on the web!



**Deadline for the MARCH 2013 issue of the Connecticut Granger: MARCH 5.**



A part of the National Grange  
*American Values,  
Hometown Roots*

# 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

### MISSION STATEMENT

To cultivate and nurture the flock while encouraging their advancement to the degree of Pomona.

#### NEW LONDON CTY. POMONA #6

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

**Mar. 9:** Talent and A Number Run-Off North Stonington Grange May 11: Fifth Degree

We hope to have a good showing at North Stonington Grange on March 9 at the Talent and A Number run-off. The theme for the A Number contest this year is "Gardening in Connecticut." Numbers will be judged on presentation, quality, audience appeal, appropriateness of theme and originality. Both contests have a time limit of 6 minutes. Winners will compete at Cheshire Grange on Sunday, June 9.

Please start talking to all your fourth degree members about taking the beautiful 5th degree on May 11. Spring flowers will be blooming and days will be long and mild. Please come.

*The winter is almost over,*

*And spring's just around the bend.*

*It's time to get back to Pomona;*

*And, please, won't you bring a friend?*

#### COLCHESTER GRANGE #78

Corr: Cathy Russi

Colchester Grange is planning an 8 day trip to the Canadian Rockies by Rail - August 18-25, 2013. Highlights cover Banff, Yoho National Park,

Icefields Parkway, Jasper, VIA Rail's The Canadian and Vancouver. The price includes round rip air from Bradley International Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, hotel transfers and 11 meals and much more. The rate is \$3,749 per person, double occupancy. Contact Cathy at 860-887-9621 if you would like an itinerary flyer or have any questions regarding the trip.

#### N. STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

**Mar. 8:** "Miscellanea" "Three Cheers for the USA"

**Mar. 9:** We host New London County Pomona A Number & Talent Run Offs

**Mar. 22:** N. Stonington Youth have the program

At our January 11 meeting we welcomed two new members to our Grange; Amy Koeniger and Marcia Smith. Both "girls" have been a big help in our food booth for a long time and we are so happy they finally decided to join us. The program for the evening was "Stump the Grange." Sue Pianka did just that with her boiled egg topper (invented by a relative) and her great uncle's hearing aid. The members were too smart for the rest of us. Our Jan. 25 meeting had to be cancelled due to extra frigid weather and snow arriving

at just the wrong time.

New London County Pomona will hold the run-offs of A Number and Talent at their meeting on March 9. Please come out and support your Pomona. Meeting starts at 7:30.

We will be treated to the Lecturer's State program on March 8. Sue has won this competition two years in a row, so we are looking forward to a great evening. The Youth will present their program on March 22 (Postponed from Jan. 25). This should be a very enjoyable evening and should not be missed. And if spring will just come a little early this year, next time I'll tell you about fabulous February.

#### LYME GRANGE #147

**Mar. 7:** CWA struts their stuff - Bake Off

**Apr. 4:** Is it too early to think about planting? Agriculture

**May 2:** Graces & Chaplain. Will we have company?

May 18: Third Annual Plant & Food Sale

Our March meeting was sparsely attended but such a friendly group- we accomplished much. Dan Mutchler and Ron Purinton visited Hillstown Jr. Grange and presented them with new song books. We discussed the storm of "76". Everyone had tales to tell. Since we all are expecting a big snowstorm the day after our meeting, it was appropriate. Wonder if that's the reason so many stayed home. Our Deputy sent a message regarding when we will be inspected. May seems to be a popular month. At least our hall was warm. But then it was warmer outside, of course, it always warms up to snow.

Show and tell brought antique food choppers, knitted items, antique

backpack baskets, and whirligigs made from pictures of furry children. soda cans.

Oh, and of course, airplanes It was a fun meeting.

# PR Boot Camp

Do you want to get your Grange into the press? Are you confused about how or where to start? Learn what makes the media interested in your Grange when the Connecticut State Grange PR Committee launches its "Public Relations Boot Camp: Essential Communications for Your Grange" Interactive Workshop.

The event will be held at Good Will Grange Hall from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM on Sunday, April 7th. Good Will Grange Hall is located at 43 Naubuc Avenue in Glastonbury, CT.

The workshop will include hands-on training for all Granges, and is designed to teach the power of communications through various mediums and the benefits to their Granges. Participants will learn the basics of publicity, promotions and communications through press releases, media interaction, social media, and both traditional and gorilla marketing strategies.

Now is the time for Granges to learn the importance of public relations to their Grange. All Granges can benefit from the Public Relations Boot Camp. For additional information on this event, please contact Public Relations Co-Directors: Terri Fassio - 860-626-5074 - information@ctstategrange.org or Robert Charbonneau - 203-237-4617 - publicrelations@ctstategrange.org.

**CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS BOOT CAMP**

**Essential Communications for Your Grange**

**Sunday, April 7 • 2 PM**

**Good Will Grange Hall**

**43 Naubuc Ave., Glastonbury**

**Topics to include:**

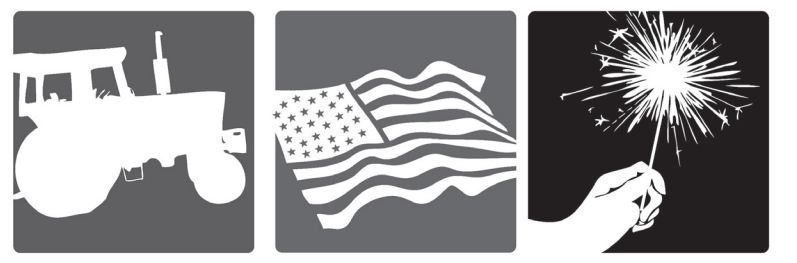
- Promoting Your Grange
- Working with the Press/Media
- Grange Branding & Marketing
- Social Media - Facebook/Twitter

Terri Fassio - 860-626-5074 - information@ctstategrange.org  
Robert Charbonneau - 203-237-4617 - publicrelations@ctstategrange.org  
Visit us on the web: www.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!**

(USPS 563-220)  
**"Connecticut Granger"**  
 is published monthly except combined July-August issue for \$3.00/yr. by:  
 Connecticut Granger, Inc.,  
 100 Newfield Road, Winchester Center, CT 06094  
**(Do not send mail to this address)**  
 Second Class postage paid at Winsted, CT 06098  
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:  
 Connecticut Granger,  
 P.O. Box 127, Winsted, CT 06098-0127

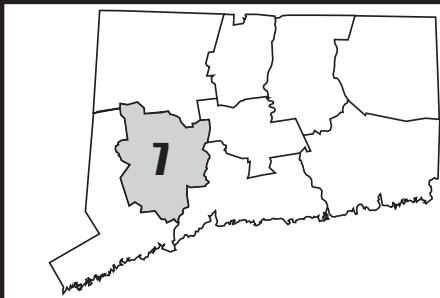
**DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS**  
 News is due on the **5th Day** of each month and should be sent to:  
 Connecticut State Grange  
 P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033  
 or  
 Todd Gelineau, Editor  
 170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790  
 Granger@CTStateGrange.org  
**Connecticut Granger Staff**  
 President/Editor . . . . . Todd Gelineau  
 Vice President . . . . . Brian Carptenter  
 Secretary Treasurer. . . . . Edith Schoell



# Grange Month

Continued from page one...  
USPS mail promoting Grange Month. The Connecticut State Grange Public Relations Committee will also be distributing information to each Community Grange to help in their Grange month promotions. If you need help promoting your Grange's Grange Month events - such as writing press releases and articles, designing posters and more - the PR Committee is just a phone call or an e-mail away!

## Excelsior Pomona No. 7



- ✓ Beacon Valley No. 103
- ✓ Bethlehem No. 121
- ✓ Watertown No. 122
- ✓ Prospect No. 144
- ✓ Bridgewater No. 153
- ✓ Wolcott No. 173
- ✓ Oxford No. 194

### MISSION STATEMENT

Excelsior Pomona's collective voice is used as an effective tool to further the Grange's good works locally and throughout the state.

### EXCELSIOR POMONA #7

Corr: Jean Meehan

The March 20, 2013 meeting will be at Bethlehem Grange Hall. We will have our Pomona School of Instruction by the State Master and General Deputy.

Also, this is the time all our Granges were asked to put on their A Number for judging which has a theme of Gardening in Connecticut. The judging on the state level for these A Numbers will be June 9 in Cheshire.

A degree is being planned for April 20, 2013 at Beacon Valley Grange at 2 P.M. Excelsior Pomona has put together degree teams for this purpose. If you have candidates or new members have that have not seen the degrees, you are cordially invited to come and participate.

### BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Beacon Valley Grange next meets on Friday, March 8. Our program is titled "Little Green Men." Carole Mancini is the hostess for the evening. I'm sure we will be having Irish Soda for refreshments. Her's is the best. At least that's what this Irish lass thinks.

We will be collecting items to send to the military. Please bring something to include in the boxes.

Suggestion for our "Citizen of the Year" should be brought to this meeting.

### BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Al Maddox

Mar. 25: 7:30 P.M., Faith Korpalski, Ref.

Don't forget our Flea Market, Sat. Apr. 6, 2013, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

We donated \$50 to the Conn. State Grange Foundation for the Sandy Hook Angel's Fund and \$50 to the Woodbury FFA for the program they did at our November meeting.

### WATERTOWN GRANGE #122

Corr: Diane Barbieri

Mar. 1: March Madness

Mar. 15: Irish Celebration

Happy St. Patrick's Day/ Happy Easter everyone. We have one busy month starting with St. Patrick's Day, then St. Joseph Day and ending with Easter weekend. Our first meeting is March 1st with March Madness, just in time for basketball's championship games. Hope the UConn women's team wins this year's championship. Go Huskies! Our second meeting is March 15 and is Irish Celebration. Just in time for St. Patrick's Day. Hope everyone is Irish, if not, hope you celebrate Irish day anyway. We are having our winter/spring tag sale on March 2.

### PROSPECT GRANGE #144

Corr: Jean Meehan

At our March 13 meeting the CWA will be in charge of the program and the baking contest will be judged. All members are responsible for the refreshments. A country store will be held.

We are still collecting slightly used coats, sweaters and clothing to be donated to the local homeless shelter along with non-perishables for the Prospect Food Bank.

Plans for our annual awards day during Grange Month are in the works. Our Citizen of the Year has been chosen along with our Public Service Award recipient. This will be held on April 28 at the Prospect Senior Center at 2 P.M. Everyone is invited to come help us thank those who have given their time and talents to our community.

### OXFORD GRANGE #194

Corr: Phil Rowland

Mar. 1: Game Night

Mar. 15: Pizza Party/ Planning Meeting

Winter's a bummer anyhow and it naturally

affects Grange attendance. Several of our normally regular members have been missed recently because of winter-related problems. Audrey Wellner was ill, Jeanne Vaill feared she might be carrying a contagious bug, and the Haineses had car trouble.

We wish everyone well who is under the weather.

Meetings carry on despite low attendance. Those who were ailing recently missed an interesting Program about history of fraternal organizations, including the Grange, with an accompanying display

of various regalia. A surprising number of such organizations have existed.

The March schedule listed above looks interesting. Additionally, an effort is being made to find projects beneficial to the local area for Grange initiatives. Sounds good to me.

# Congress agreed on few things



Alma Graham  
Legislative Director  
Legislative@ctstategrange.org

Just before the holiday break in December Congress agreed on a few items to lessen our fall from the fiscal cliff. They did not agree on much. The debt ceiling and mandated cuts (sequestration) were merely pushed off for a couple of months. They should be coming up again for discussion soon. Grace Boatright, our National Grange Legislative Director, emailed the state directors a summary of what they did agree on. She also brought us up to date on the Farm Bill. Agreed on was:

- Individuals making \$400,000 or more will see their tax rates increase from 35% to 39.6%. Same for couples earning over \$450,000 a year.
- Capital gains taxes will increase from 15% to 20%.
- The tax rate on estates will increase from 35% to 40%, although the \$5 million exemption for individuals

and \$10 million exemption for couples will remain for estate taxes.

• The American Opportunity Tax Credit (education) has been extended for 5 years. Unemployment benefits for 2 million Americans have been extended for another year.

• Payroll taxes will increase back to the prior rates from 4.2% to 6.2%.

Many people thought that taxes for most middle class Americans would not go up with this agreement. Their INCOME tax won't go up but they will be paying more because of a 2% rise in payroll tax deductions. This increase will remain in place unless officials in Washington agree to extend the payroll tax cut of 2010.

With the passing of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, an extension has been granted to most of the farm programs in the 2008 Farm Bill. Boatwright noted that this is not ideal and certainly not what we were hoping for. They now have until September 30, 2013 to figure out and pass a new Farm Bill. The Dairy Security Act was not included in this extension but Senator Leary from Vermont pulled off a last minute deal which extends

this act at it pre-September payment levels.

At the beginning of February the Postal Service (USPS) announced that it will no longer be delivering mail on Saturdays starting in August 2013. Note that this is not a done deal. The USPS is under congressional authority and they may not have the right to just stop Saturday deliveries without first getting approval from Congress. What they plan to stop would be the delivery of letters, magazines, cards etc. They would still deliver packages and prescription medicines. Post Offices would still be open with mail being delivered to Post Office boxes.

The National Grange sympathizes with the USPS and blames Congress. The way that USPS is currently structured ensures that an eventual downfall will occur. USPS is under Congressional control and is not a separate entity, which it needs to be to be able to operate efficiently. Congress has known this for years and has not done anything to save it. USPS is simply trying to do what it needs to enable it to survive. National Grange feels that the ending of Saturday delivery won't be enough to save the USPS.

# Extensive Blizzard damage in State

Collette Roy, Connecticut Farmland Trust

Two weeks ago, we were all watching the weather reports as a giant Nor'Easter approached the state. By the next day, Connecticut had recorded accumulations of between 23 to 40 inches. We have some snow banks and slick spots to deal with today, but for many Connecticut greenhouse farmers, the damages from the storm are still adding up.

"As of now, we are tracking the loss of nearly 250 greenhouse structures at 43 farms across Connecticut due to the weight of blizzard snows. We estimate it will take between \$12 million and \$20 million to replace them-and that's not counting the equipment inside, nor damage to plants inside, nor the loss of future income. But Connecticut's greenhouse industry rose to become half of

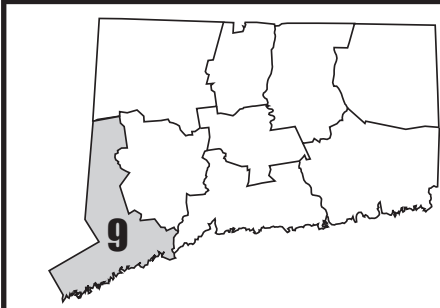
all of Connecticut agriculture because of its innovation and resilience. They've endured hardships before, and they'll recover from this." Bob Heffernan, Executive Director, CT Green Industries Council

One of our protected farms- Cold Spring Brook Farm in Berlin- was badly damaged during the storm. You can follow their progress on Facebook as they rebuild.



One of many collapsed greenhouses statewide

## Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



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

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Fairfield County Pomona* is made up of Community Granges with a special interest in leadership development, who come together to share information and fellowship and through legislative action addresses the needs of all its members and communities.

### FAIRFIELD COUNTY POMONA #9

*Corr: Bob Sendewicz*

**Mar. 6:** At Harmony Grange, 6 P.M. Supper

**Apr. 3:** At Redding Grange, 7:30 P.M.

Hope everyone is getting through the winter all right. Although our March meeting is still during winter we will keep our fingers crossed that the weather will be good. Marge and I will not be worrying about the weather though as we will be in Florida at this time and it should be spring when we get back.

There will be a 6:00 P.M. potluck supper and a country store after the meeting. The program will be the Wonders of the World.

On April 3, we will confer the Fifth Degree as part of our Pomona inspection. See you then.

### REDDING GRANGE #15

*Corr: Bob Sendewicz*

**Mar. 11:** Mardi-Gras

**Mar. 25:** Spring

**Apr. 8:** April Fool

The repairs on our building are finally completed. The outer hall has been rebuilt as well as the kitchen wall. The stairway has been repaired and the dining area has been repainted. We have new cabinets in the kitchen and a new refrigerator.

The members of Redding Grange wish to thank everyone who made donations for the repair of our hall and to all those who took part in our raffle. We appreciate all your help and hope you will visit us sometime to see what you have accomplished.

We are pleased to announce the winners of the raffle recently held to raise funds for the repair of

our hall following damages from Hurricane Sandy:

Stop & Shop Gift Card - Beth Harper of NJ

A&P Gift Card - Pat Valys of Senexet Grange

Home Depot Gift Card - Derek Crofut, Redding Grange

Twin Size Afghan: Richard Bergquist, Redding Grange

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and congratulations to the winners!

Weather permitting we will have at least one meeting in March. We should be up and running by April, unless another tree falls through our building. Spring and summer are great times to visit us. You will not believe how beautiful Fairfield County is in the spring.

### GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

*Corr: Dennis Rich*

**Mar. 18:** "Wearin' the Green", 7 P.M., Meeting

Illness and the "flu bug" took its toll on our January meeting. We are determined to stay on track. The Community Garden will be one of a limited number of places selected to be a plot dedicated for "American Selections" varieties of flowers and vegetables.

An ongoing project of this correspondent is "Animal, Vegetable, Mineral", a formula for self-employment that will emphasize renewable resources, by which an individual or family can develop a sustainable business. More information will be forthcoming.

We are wishing everyone including Deputy Geno Piacentini, our Lecturer who is recovering from a stroke, a return to the best

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

### NORFIELD GRANGE #146

*Corr: Ruth L. Hickcox*

**Mar. 12:** St. Patrick's Day Celebration, Corned Beef and Cabbage Supper, 6:30

**Apr. 9:** Celebrate Grange Month, Open House: 6:30

May 14: Spring meeting

You could say that our new year at Norfield Grange began with toy bears and a crazy rabbit. At our January meeting Sue Sulla, Lecturer nonpareil, displayed a variety of very old teddy bears, one of which, a Steiff, had been dearly loved by her own son many years ago. She explained that all such bears had been named after Teddy Roosevelt! We were fascinated.

The crazy rabbit, of course was Alice in Wonderland's Mad Hatter. A Mad Hatter Tea Party was held during our Farmers' Market on Jan. 12. Thirty-five tea enthusiasts, many of them Girl Scouts, wearing a wide variety of hats, were treated to a tasting of four teas provided by Loose Leaf Tea Company. The teas were accompanied by cream, sugar, finger sandwiches and baked delicacies. Ewe Ojoravska, Grange member and tea etiquette consultant and sommelier, designed custom booklets for each contestant. Just to show you how "mad" it all was, one of the four winners was Lexi Gray, a faithful farmer at the market, who wore a hat topped with a flowering cloth beet!

The end of January proved to be as much fun at the beginning. Norfield hosted a "Bring Your Dog to the Market Day." The winner was Riley, a rescue Golden Retriever owned by Granger Roland Poirier, who went home with a bag of Molly & Murphy Irish Dog Biscuits from Trumbull.

Finally, we had our first Fair Planning meeting. Kevin Parker is the new chairman. And now we have 94 members. It promises to be a great year.

### CANNON GRANGE #152

*Corr: Don Offinger*

**Mar. 7:** CWA Program - Making the craft projects together

**Mar. 16:** Silent Movie Night with live piano - double feature at 7:30 PM

**Mar. 21:** Agricultural Program

**Apr. 4:** Environmental Program

**Apr. 18:** Neighbor's Night - supper at 6 PM

The bitter cold of January and February has been a deterrent to our regular meeting schedule, however we're back on track with our regular programming and activities.

Please plan to enjoy our Silent Movie Night on March 16th. This is an annual event at our Grange, and one for which we are well known in town and draw standing-room only crowds. We'll be hosting a double feature with the first short movie rolling at 7:30 PM. Our own member, John Mucci provides the movies, the commentary and the piano accompaniment. Plan to come have a very entertaining evening as we watch the antics of Charlie Chaplin on our big screen.

At our first March meeting we will be tackling the state Craft Projects when we will all get together to assemble the entries and enjoy background music, refreshments and good conversation. If you would like to join us, plan to come enjoy the craft projects with us.

We enjoyed our evening of book reports in February, and learn that many of us are now enjoying a good book on various electronic devices: Androids, Kindles and Nooks in addition to the traditional hardback and paperback books. However you enjoy reading a book, we courage everyone to read everyday for at least 20-30 minutes. It's good for your brain!

Our annual agricultural fair is being planned for Sunday, August 18th this year....it will be our 81st. Please circle the date on your calendar so you don't miss it.

We have been working with the local Police Department since last Summer with a request for a painted crosswalk in front of our Hall to the commercial village across the road. We've been informed that it is now official, that the Police Commission agreed with our request. The new crosswalk will have the lines painted and the pedestrian signs installed this Spring when the weather turns fair. This will be a welcome safety feature for all of our visitors, friends and members to our Hall.

Please take note of our event schedule. Visit us on the web, FaceBook, Twitter or better yet, in person. Visiting Patrons are always welcome--won't you join us?

# SILENT MOVIE NIGHT

HOSTED BY CANNON GRANGE NO. 152

## SATURDAY, MARCH 16 • 7:30 PM

FEATURE PRESENTATION:

### CHARLIE CHAPLIN "IN CITY LIGHTS"

with live piano music played by Wilton's John Mucci

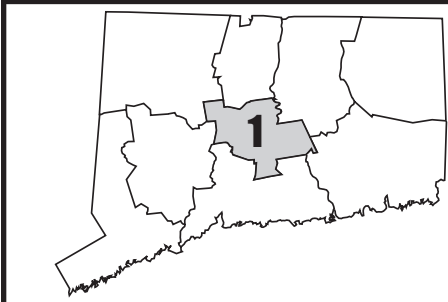
**CANNON GRANGE HALL**  
25 Cannon Road • Wilton, CT

Parking available at the Cannondale RR Station, the Cannondale Village and at Cannon Grange Hall.

**ADMISSION:**  
\$8 PER PERSON • \$15 FOR TWO PERSONS  
\$5 FOR STUDENTS THROUGH 12th GRADE  
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR OR BY CALLING 203-762-1900  
Visit us on the web: [www.CannonGrange.org](http://www.CannonGrange.org)

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

## Central Pomona No. 1



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

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Central Pomona No. 1* will support its Subordinate/Community Granges through programs and activities by actively contributing its talents and resources. Central Pomona supports local, State and National charities; educational and youth programs.

### HIGGANUM GRANGE #124

*Corr: Barbara R. Smith*

The Higganum Grange made valentines filled with goodies for Shailorville Manor and for shut-ins to be given out for Valentine's Day.

Also, Faith McKenzie who was a Golden Sheaf Seventh Degree member passed away recently.

### HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

*Corr: Maureen Sanborn*

**Mar. 8:** Nutrition Counts. We will have a nutritionist to help answer any questions you may have. Refreshments will be healthy.

**Mar. 22:** Water & Sewer. Rick Kelsey will present a program on Portland Water and Sewer.

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meetings.

# The best laid plans...



**Joanne Cipriano**  
Social Connection Director  
social@ctstategrange.org

April 27th. The time is up to each Pomona. We hope we have the same kind of co-operation we had last year. Everyone really came through.

As I write this column, we have 237 days and counting to our Christmas Party. The date Saturday - September 21st. We hope you will put it on the calendar and plan to attend. We are not trusting the weatherman, so we are

having our party early. It will be a fun evening with food, presents, favors, a visit from Santa Claus, Christmas activities and more.

We are planning to have finger foods for refreshment and a country store to pay for the use of the hall. We have plenty of time but we need donations of items for both.

Please plan to attend.

## Join us on September 21st!



# William Saunders role in establishing orange industry

National Master, Ed Luttrell recently took the time to visit the parent naval orange tree that was donated by William Saunders (one of the seven founders of the Order). The tree (one of the original two trees donated) resides in Riverside, CA. The trees helped jump start California's now large and successful citrus industry.

The trees came to be donated at the insistence of Eliza (Lovell) Tibbets, a spiritualist who cultivated the appearance of Queen Victoria, according to local historian Tom Patterson, Eliza "indulged in seances and other exotica."

The first naval orange trees were imported to the United States by William Saunders of the Department of Agriculture (and National Grange founder) in 1870. Before leaving Washington, Eliza persuaded Saunders, a friend, to ship two of the navel orange trees that originated in Bahia Province, Brazil, to the Tibbets home in Riverside. The trees were planted in 1874-5. Anecdotes have it that Eliza nurtured the little trees with her dishwater. "Upon maturing the fruit was found to be superior in every way. Bud sales were brisk, and the two trees, ringed with barbed wire, became famous. Although officially called the Bahia, the fruit was soon dubbed the Riverside Navel, and its popularity eventually made Riverside a citrus center and prosperous showplace." Eliza's dishwater story pointed to the early colony's most important commodity - water.

The rise of the citrus industry is more the doing of the Tibbets's neighbor, Samuel McCoy, who with his partner, Cyrus Cover owned 20 acres next door to Eliza and Luther. McCoy cut a bud from one of Eliza's trees and grafted it to an orange seedling of his own and it fruited before the original trees. Cover and McCoy budded about 10 acres as soon as they could get buds and the navel industry was on its way.

The plaque reads: "To honor Mrs. Eliza Tibbets and to commend her good work in planting at Riverside in 1875 THE FIRST WASHINGTON NAVEL ORANGE TREES in California native to Bahia, Brazil proved the most valuable fruit introduction yet made by the United States Department of Agriculture - 1920."

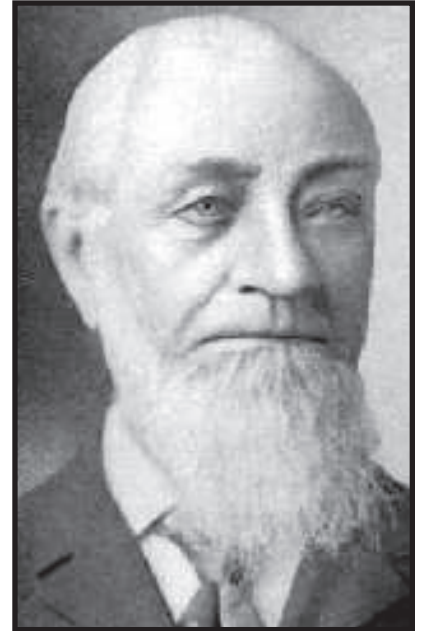
*Material for this article was compiled by the CT Granger from a short posting by Haley Tonner, National Grange Intern in the National E-Newsletter and from the website of the Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery in California.*



The orange tree in Riverside as it appears today.



Barbed wire encloses the trees in the early 1900s.



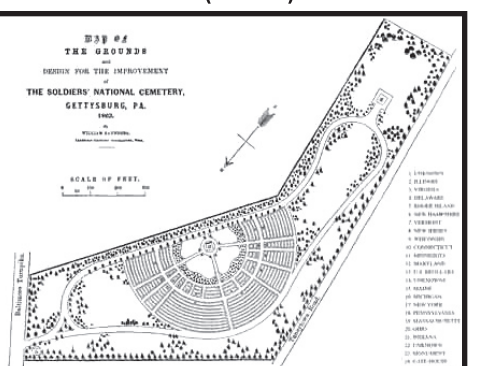
William Saunders



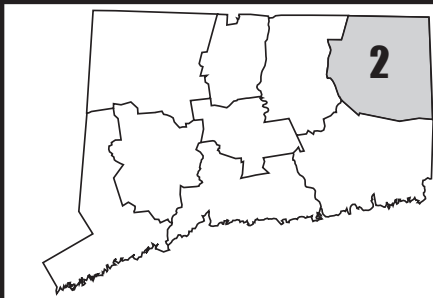
Eliza (Lovell) Tibbets

## Did you know...

Did you know ... William Saunders was a Landscape Designer who was in great demand. He created the design for the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, PA. The Cemetery was dedicated on November 19, 1863. Brother Saunders was also the Landscape Architect for the grounds of the U.S. Capitol.



## Quinebaug Pomona No. 2



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

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Quinebaug Pomona* supports and assists the communities within its jurisdiction through a financial and physical presence. We offer the Community Granges assistance and support for their programs and activities.

### QUINEBAUG POMONA #2

Looking for a fun evening out? Add Quinebaug Pomona to your calendar as they are hosting a Fun Game Night on Saturday, March 2nd at Wolf Den Grange.

This is an Open Meeting of Quinebaug Pomona Grange, and will begin with a Potluck Supper at 6:00 PM. Teams of four are invited to participate. Games will include use of a Wii System. Visitors are welcome to cheer on the teams!

Attendees are asked to RSVP to Tom Perry at (860) 963-8912 or via e-mail at [iggs7771866@sbcglobal.net](mailto:iggs7771866@sbcglobal.net).

Wolf Den Grange Hall/Pomfret Senior Center is located at 207 Mashmoquet Road (Route 44), in Pomfret Center.

### SENEXET GRANGE #40

*Corr: Diane Miller*

**Mar. 20:** Read Across America- Jr. Committee in Charge

We are keeping busy this winter. Always working to keep the hall in good order for use by others.

We catered the annual meeting of the Woodstock Agricultural Society. They have a new president for the Labor Day weekend fair. Our food booth there is very successful and we always have an exhibit in the building. This is great promotion for the Grange.

Pie Sales will continue and meetings are monthly. CWA did the last meeting on Benjamin Franklin. We welcome the members from Brooklyn.

### WOLF DEN GRANGE #61

*Corr: Elsie M. Johnson*

**Mar. 13:** Spring Sprung; Ref. Irish Cookies

Well, we had snow for Christmas, wasn't that nice? The old saying was- a snowstorm would change

the air- with so many people sick I hope it does. Getting ready to tap maple trees for syrup. Seed catalogs coming in and making out list for coming year gardens. While out walking- be careful of wild animals.

Wolf Den will change the May 22nd meeting to May 29th. Stay well.

### EKONK COMM. GRANGE #89

*Corr: Sue Gray*

**Mar. 16:** Corned Beef & Cabbage Supper, 5 P.M.

**Apr. 1:** Richmond Grange Visits & Brings the Program

We will have baskets for needy families around Easter time; many are in need and the smiles we bring to those in need are thanks enough! Our young people will be rehearsing their 2013 Drill by the time that you are reading this, their enthusiasm is certainly catching. Our 2013 Fair President Link Cooper, conducted a planning meeting of the Committee. Two members of the Civil War Battery B Militia Unit of Northeast Topographical Engineers attended the meeting; our August 10th Fair will feature an "Encampment" of this unit.

Historical Societies, Fire Departments, Scouts, 4H, FFA are all invited to participate. This committee has a lot of new ideas and are energized!

We voted to confer a degree this year in the manner our Founders would be proud of (we hope)! Jody Cameron is in charge.

Thanks to Jan Cooper for the bright, yellow, gingham curtains that grace our hall windows. With the new blinds and new hall light, one might think we are preparing for something special - our 125th Anniversary perhaps?

April Fool's Day we look forward to extra fun when our

dear friends from Richmond, RI come for a visit and bring us a program.

See you around!

### KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

*Corr: Glenna Bruno*

**Mar. 4:** Innocence of Spring

**Mar. 18:** Principles of Friendship. Neighbor's Night

Before the old year ended, we at Killingly Grange had a few setbacks. Several members were on the sick list. Our water heater sprung a leak and a contractor or plumber would not be available for a few days. Recently also a truck (big rig) came barreling down (easterly) the hill- crossed the road and a business lawn (another road) Dog Hill and hit the front entrance, bounced off the front step and hit the small house next door to the Grange, doing much damage to the house. The people moved. The house was pushed from the foundation. All is back to normal, repairs made thank goodness.

Our December meeting was well attended with a potluck supper and instead of a gift exchange and Master's gift, it was decided to donate a Christmas basket to one of our needy families. Enough was collected for 2 baskets which included a favorite recipe from our members. Ten Killingly members attended the Quinebaug Pomona Christmas Party at Ekonk Grange. We still are counting our Community Service hours with 116 plus hours.

At this writing I was awaiting word about our Lecturer Eleanor Davis, who has been hospitalized with pneumonia and is now recuperating at a local convalescent home, so she is on the mend. This correspondent was down with the flu- the whole Christmas and New Year holidays. So for the next few months, beware!

### ECHO GRANGE #180

*Corr: Gloria John*

We have donated dictionaries to 3rd graders in Mansfield Schools, Annie Vinton, Southeast and Dorothy Goodwin. The children seem to enjoy getting them. One of the

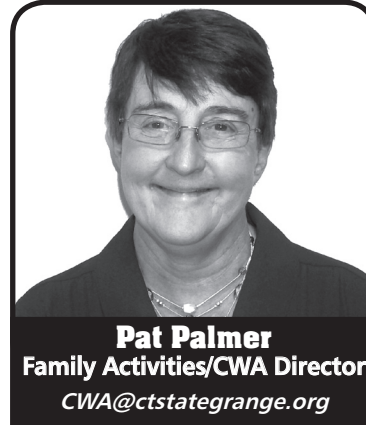
students said, "My sister got a dictionary in her third grade and now I have my own."

We are sending a donation of our penny collection to the CT State Grange Foundation for the Sandy Hook Angels

Fund in Newtown.

Our members visited the shut-ins and brought them Valentines made by our members last meeting. We are thankful for the weather this winter so far. We hope it keeps up.

## Quilt Square Contest



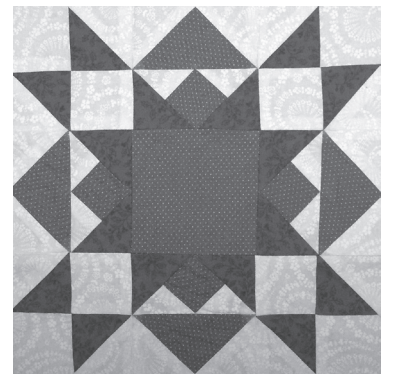
**Pat Palmer**  
Family Activities/CWA Director  
[CWA@ctstategrange.org](mailto:CWA@ctstategrange.org)

Again this year the National Grange is sponsoring a quilt square contest.

This year's contest will be a Christmas Star. Reference page 66 "501 Rotary Cut Quilt Blocks". Size will be 12 1/2" x 12 1/2" unfinished so it will be 12 inches when finished.

The colors will be red, green and white. No names should appear on the front of the block but the name of the entrant should be pinned to the back of the square. The quilt squares need to be brought to State Session in October for judging. Judging will be held Friday morning at 10 a.m. The quilt squares will become the property of the State Grange Family Activities Committee.

I hope everyone is taking advantage of being cooped up from the blizzard and are hard at work on their other entries.



The Christmas Star pattern

## Toasted Coconut Shortbread Recipe



### CT STATE GRANGE CWA/FAMILY ACTIVITIES 2013 BAKING CONTEST (Enter 8 cookies)

- ½ cup sweetened flaked coconut
- 2 sticks butter, at room temperature
- ¼ cup confectioner's sugar
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 ¼ cups flour
- ¼ teaspoon kosher salt

Heat oven to 250°. Spread coconut evenly on a baking sheet and bake until golden about 10 minutes. Set aside to cool.

Beat butter, coconut and sugars until smooth and creamy. Add flour and salt, and beat well.

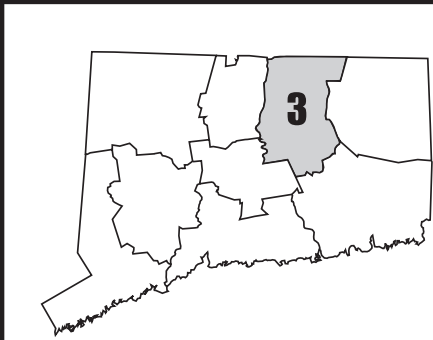
Form the dough into a 1 ½ inch diameter log and cover with parchment paper.

Place the log in a plastic bag and refrigerate at least 1 hour.

Heat oven to 325°. Cut the log into ¼ to ½ inch slices and place 2 inches apart on baking pan. Bake until the edges of the cookies begin to brown, about 20 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack to cool. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

Open to Grange members, children and grandchildren of members and Junior Grange members. Judging for the baking contest is held in the Subordinate/Community Grange with the winners baking again for the State Judging.

## East Central Pomona No. 3



- Stafford No. 1
- Granby No. 5
- Tunxis No. 13
- ✓ Glastonbury No. 26
- ✓ Manchester No. 31
- ✓ Tolland No. 51
- ✓ Vernon No. 52
- Coventry No. 75
- Hillstown No. 87
- ✓ Enfield No. 151

### MISSION STATEMENT

*East Central Pomona* supports the Community Granges by helping one another; through legislative advocacy and by supporting community service efforts.

#### GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

*Corr: Jean Accornero*

**Mar. 7:** Meeting 7:30 p.m., Welcome Spring - Pot Luck Supper 6:00 p.m.

**Mar. 9:** Monte Carlo Whist Card Party 7:00 p.m.

**April 4:** Meeting 7:30 p.m., Spring Baskets, CWA Baking Contest, Skit Night Pot Luck Supper, 6:00 p.m.

**Apr. 13:** Monte Carlo Whist Card Party 7:00 p.m.

The January Thaw has finally arrived. I have been waiting patiently for that.

Our special committee "The Focus Group" has been meeting and discussing various ways to raise some money. Their suggestions will be voted on at our February 7th meeting. We do need to raise some funds.

If you haven't checked the handbook, our March 7th meeting is preceded by a pot luck supper. Just make your favorite dish and join us. The pot luck supper is at 6:00 p.m.

At the April 4th meeting the CWA bake off will be held for the "Toasted Coconut Shortbread" cookies. Do try them, they are delicious. The recipe was in the recent newsletter that you received from Kay.

Remember, March 9th we have our monthly Monti-Carlo Whist Card Party at 7:00 p.m. The remaining dates are April 13th, May 11th and June 8th. Jot the dates down and join us. We could use your support.

The 2012 - 2013 Needlework Contest is in progress. If you enjoy making doilies, baby sets, work with plastic canvas, counted cross stitch, etc., consider entering the grange needlework contest.

Non-members are also

welcome to enter this contest. For further information contact Kay at 860-315-5336.

We have contacted the Glastonbury Social Service Department and they tell us that they can use items for the Food Pantry such as tuna, peanut butter, jelly and mayonnaise. They also desperately need toiletry items. We will collect these items until our June meeting.

The Youth Committee is once again collecting animal bedding for Veterinarian Beckett. Don't throw old blankets, towels, etc. away. They can use them.

We are still making newborn baby hats for Manchester Hospital. We deliver them to the hospital when we have collected 2 dozen. Your help with this project would be most welcome. We also remember the residents of Gilmore Manor on holidays with table favors. If you have any ideas for making table favors please let Kay know. All suggestions will be most welcome.

#### MANCHESTER GRANGE #31

*Corr: Leona Wilson*

**Mar. 5:** Hats and Hats

**Mar. 19:** Coventry is Coming!

On Feb. 5 Sister Ruth Herbele did a wonderful program about the presidents. On Feb. 19 we talked about "Did You Know?" More on that subject later. On March 5, Sister Leona Wilson will teach us about "Hats and Hats." If you have a special hat, please bring it to the meeting. On March 19 we will have visitors from Coventry Grange. Please join us for an evening of fun.

#### TOLLAND GRANGE #51

*Corr: J. Jordan*

#### Mar. 5: Presidents 21-25

Tolland Grange will meet on Tuesday, March 5 at St. Matthew's Church for a 7:30 P.M. meeting. All are welcome to attend. Our Grange wishes each of you a Happy St. Patrick's Day, Happy Spring and Happy Easter.

#### VERNON GRANGE #52

*Corr: Nancy Strong*

**Mar. 1:** Beware of March

After a couple of cancellations in Feb., Vernon finally had its Valentine's meeting. We hope to hold our March

meeting on the first. As always, call or email before you visit. We hope you don't have to "Beware of March"!

#### ENFIELD GRANGE #151

*Corr: Irene Percoski*

**Mar. 9:** How Green It Is! Ref. Elaine, Richard & Michael

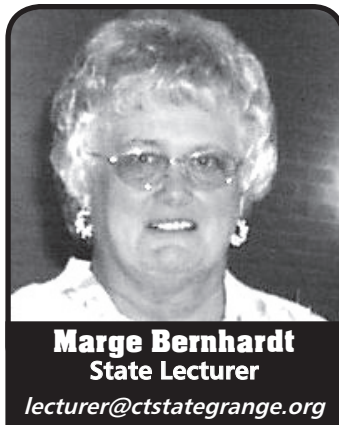
**Apr. 13:** Emblem Ceremony - Ref. Irene & Dawn

Not having a quorum for January we made do with an executive meeting in order to pay the bills. I do hope the weather cooperates better from now on. We have decided

to extend the time limit to get recipes in, but we do ask that if you have some, please don't wait. Get them to a committee member as soon as possible.

On January 14 our Grange lost one of the finest ladies I have ever had the honor to know. She was the Grange. She worked, helped, taught and gave of herself in everything she did. Louise was 101 when she quietly entered the Great Grange Above and she is missed by all so very much. Our deepest sympathy to her family.

# A review of the rules for the Talent contest in June



**Marge Bernhardt**  
State Lecturer

[lecturer@ctstategrange.org](mailto:lecturer@ctstategrange.org)

I would like to start this month with a sincere Thank You to everyone who took a few minutes out of their busy life to send me a card after my recent surgery. Sometimes the worst part of the whole thing was boredom. I'm not used to sitting around doing nothing and the cards and phone calls were a welcome diversion. Hopefully by the time you read this I will be getting out and visiting with you again.

To all of you who never took a typing class in high school and now find the computer a part of your daily life, you have my admiration. I can't seem to find the keys one-handed that all my fingers have

always found so easily.

It's that time of year again. We should all be getting our acts together for the "A Number" and Talent Contests. The title for the "A Number" this year is Gardening in Connecticut. Any number suitable for a Grange meeting is appropriate.

Last year there was confusion over the rules for the Talent Contest so I am printing them here so everyone has access to them.

1. All performers being judged must be Grange members. Groups performing may include Junior Granges and/or children too young to hold Junior Grangemembership. However, at least half of the performers in the group must be Subordinate members.

2. Participants need not be from the same Subordinate Grange but must be from Granges within the same Pomona.

3. The act judged at State must be the same act

as judged at Pomona.

4. Taped accompaniment for vocal acts must be instrumental only. No additional voices in the background.

5. When the accompanist is only the accompanist and not a performer in his/her own right, it is no longer required that the accompanist be a Grange member.

6. Time Limit: There will be no minimum time. Maximum time is six minutes. Two points per minute, or portion thereof will be deducted from the total points for performances going over the maximum time limit.

7. Scoring: Acts will be judged on Stage Presence, Appropriateness of Dress or Costume, Preparation and skill of presentation, Suitability of number and Audience Appeal.

These contests will be judged as part of Grange Sunday beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 9th at Cheshire Grange Hall.

# Time to check membership records



**Edith Schoell**  
State Secretary

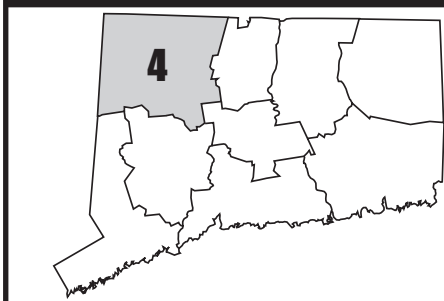
[secretary@ctstategrange.org](mailto:secretary@ctstategrange.org)

There isn't too much to report at this time. Snowstorms have had an impact on meetings for several of our Granges. I hope you have been able to reschedule and plan activities for coming months.

This is a good time to look over membership records to see if seals are needed, or twenty-five year (Silver Star) certificates. Are your reports up to date?

Spring should be around the corner.

## Mountain County Pomona No. 4



- ✓ Cawasa No. 34
- Whigville No. 48
- Eureka No. 62
- ✓ Winchester No. 74
- ✓ Taghannuck No. 100
- Litchfield No. 107
- Beacon No. 118
- ✓ Riverton No. 169
- Cherry Brook No. 210

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Mountain County Pomona No. 4* has strong leadership, a keen sense of community and many skills and talents which we use to promote and support our local Community Granges through citizenship, legislative and agricultural policies within our Pomona.

#### MOUNTAIN COUNTY POMONA #4

*Corr: T. Gelineau*

**Mar. 23:** (SATURDAY) Pomona Meeting at Riverton Grange, NOON, Schools of Instruction (THIS IS A CHANGE TO THE SCHEDULED DATE).

Weather has not been kind to Mountain County Pomona. The Feb. 10 Litchfield Grange Open House and the Feb. 11 Pomona meeting at Whigville both had to be postponed and canceled respectively because of the "Blizzard of 2013." A new date for the Litchfield Open House has not yet been set, but we are hoping to find a date in a more weather friendly month!

The next meeting of Mountain County Pomona has been rescheduled for SATURDAY, MARCH 23 beginning at noon with a luncheon served by the members of Riverton Grange (\$5 per person). The meeting will begin as soon after the meal as possible. Those planning to attend are encouraged to contact Todd Gelineau at (860) 626-0326 or email - Granger@CTStateGrange.org to let us know how many to expect for the meal. It is not required but is greatly appreciated! Those not planning to have lunch should plan to arrive between 12:30 and 12:45.

The program for the afternoon will be the Community Grange and Pomona Grange Combined Schools of Instruction conducted by State Master Jody Cameron and General Deputy Todd Gelineau. It is not necessary to be a Fifth Degree member to attend this meeting, so ALL Grange members are encouraged to attend the meeting.

#### CAWASA GRANGE #34

*Corr: Maggie Schofield*

We had a nice "IRISH" meeting with Soda Bread. Bruce's Birthday is March 17th so we had to celebrate his month.

Cawasa Grange is going to do a cookbook this year, so if you have any recipes, please send them to the Secretary (Maggie) at 23 Thayer Avenue, Collinsville, CT. 06019

Helen Kilburn is in the Hospital for now, soon to go to a rehab, Get Well Soon, Helen!

Hope March is not too Windy or cold. Spring is on it's way, I hear the birds during the day singing, that's a sure sign.

Have a good month

#### WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

*Corr: T. Gelineau*

**Mar. 12:** A Green Month

Mar. 16: Roast Pork Dinner, 5 P.M.

**Mar. 26:** CWA

**Mar. 30:** Cabin Fever Craft & Bake Sale, 9-2

**Apr. 14:** 125th Anniversary Celebration

**Apr. 20:** Jr. Grange Open House, 2 P.M.

Winchester Grange is planning a flurry of events in celebration of our 125th Anniversary and Grange Month. DINNERS ARE BACK AT WINCHESTER GRANGE! Our first foray back into the dinner business is a Roast Pork Loin Dinner prepared by our Chef Wayne Hurlbut. Side dishes will include mashed red potatoes, salad, bread, and dessert. Anyone who has enjoyed Wayne's cooking before will not want to miss this meal. Serving will begin at 5 P.M. Please call Todd Gelineau at 860-626-0326 or email at info@winchestergrange.org to reserve your seats.

Also coming up is our annual Cabin Fever Craft & Bake Sale at the hall on Saturday, March 30 from 9 to 2. The tables are nearing sell-out, but there's still a little time to get in if you would like a table. Call or email (listed above) to find out more.

Looking into April, we are planning two very special events in celebration of our 125th Anniversary. The first is the Anniversary Celebration to be held at the Hall on Sunday, April 14, 2013 beginning at 2 P.M. There will be special entertainment, speakers, a special skit from the Marion Beecher archives and a special look back at Winchester Grange through the years. ALL MEMBERS from across the Pomona and State are welcome to join us as we celebrate this special milestone.

A new Winchester Grange cookbook is in the planning stages and within the first couple of weeks of collection, we have already received well over 100 recipes-- keep them coming. We can use any and all recipes-- they can be your own or a favorite recipe you have "acquired" from elsewhere! You can send them to our Lecturer Ramona Fassio or send them to the Master at the contact info above.

An Anniverary Calendar has also been printed and is available for a donation to the Grange treasury. Contact the Master to get your calendar.

The next weekend (Sat., Apr. 20) will be the kick-off of our drive to re-organize Winchester Jr. Grange #32. We will hold an open house to welcome children (and parents) from the greater Winchester Center area interested in being a part of the new Winchester Junior Grange. Children and grandchildren from neighboring/area Granges are also welcome to join us as we plan to have a Junior Grange that will serve Mountain County as well as Winchester Center. Leader Nichole Miller is planning a fun and informative afternoon-- so please join us, we expect this event to begin

at 2 P.M.

Our Spring Super Prize Party is planned in early May and our Spring Tag Sale is planned for later in the month.

#### TAGHHANNUCK GRANGE #100

*Corr: Myrtle Hayden*

**Mar. 14:** Spring Ahead

**Mar. 28:** Music

At our Jan. 20 meeting we draped our charter for our Sisters Jean Lundeen and Josephine Vail.

Our program was on bullying in schools with a lively discussion on what can be done to fix the problem.

In March we go back to holding two meetings a month- still at 7:30 until April, then back to 8 P.M.

#### RIVERTON GRANGE #169

*Corr: Shirley Moore*

**Mar. 1:** Reg. Mtg.; Program: Legislative Committee; Ref.: George & Sharon Russell

**Mar. 15:** Pot-luck Supper 6:30 Bill & Tillie Jackson; Program: LET'S DANCE

At the Jan. 4 meeting, members were greeted with a cold hall so the meeting and the program were rather hurried. Those present were invited to the home of Gail Prelli for further discussions and refreshments. Thank you, Gail. For those who were present, it certainly must have been a pleasure to be warm.

On the 18th, Riverton had its annual birthday supper

and celebrated its 105th year of organization. Master Peter Keefe introduced all past masters and lecturers from Riverton as well as officers from visiting granges. Phil Prelli spoke briefly about the Grange, its history and what we stand for today. George Russell, Master of Mountain County Pomona, spoke about the goals of Pomona and also about the open house at Litchfield Grange on Feb. 10.

Mary Lou Keefe, Riverton's pianist presented a program entitled BROADWAY HITS. Four members from her choir at the Canton Center Church were present and sang several songs including PUT ON A HAPPY FACE, MARIA, ADELAIDE'S LAMENT and OL' MAN RIVER. The singers were Jerry Alonzy, Judy Robinson, Paul Stansel and Jim Todd. We are certainly grateful for Mary Lou and her choir's talents. The 45 people (including 14 non-grangers) who were present that evening thoroughly enjoyed the supper and the entertainment.

Riverton invites anyone to join us for our regular meetings or the pot-luck suppers. We do try to have something special after the suppers and on Mar. 15 the program will be LET'S DANCE.

You are cordially invited to the

125th Anniversary  
Celebration

of  
Winchester Grange

Sunday, April 14  
2:00 p.m.

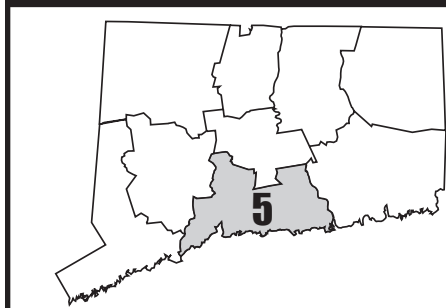
Winchester Grange Hall  
100 Newfield Road  
Winchester Center, CT



For more information:  
Phone: (860) 626-0326  
info@WinchesterGrange.org  
www.WinchesterGrange.org



## New Haven County Pomona No. 5



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

### MISSION STATEMENT

New Haven County Pomona through the strength of its Community Granges offers collective wisdom and experience to enhance the individual leadership skills, pride in Grange ritual and camaraderie to all citizens in the communities in which we serve!

#### CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: A. Ruel Miller

**Mar. 6:** CWA Program-Speaker from the Ct. Agricultural Station

**Mar. 20:** Competitive Program-Men vs Women

The weather has effected a lot of meetings for the Granges and Cheshire is no exception. Why do we live in New England?

Plans continue for our upcoming fund raising events mentioned in our February news. We have an annual dinner for one of our hiking clubs in late March. We have been doing this dinner for more years than most of us can remember, the same for another hiking club in April. We continue with sending packages to our troops and always look forward to their responses. They are most appreciative Visitors are always welcome to join us on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

#### WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

Corr: Daniel Lauttenbach

**Mar. 17:** "St Patrick's Day"

**Mar. 28:** "Spring Planting"

Jan 10- This was our movie night. Bowls of freshly popped popcorn, hard pretzels, Good-n-Plenty and Raisinet's candy was ready for the movie. From Wal-Mart's \$5 dollar DVD bin a documentary about the Titanic was viewed. Since there were many hours of film on the DVD we only viewed only a portion about the survivors of the sinking.

The first part of the movie covered the building of the Titanic and about its sister ships the Olympia. A surprising number of survivors were interviewed in the early 1990's and one of the one's that made an impression was a purser who was 18 years old at the time of the sinking. He managed to jump off the fantail at the rear of the ship before it sank. He

had a life jacket and even though it was sinking it was still a great drop to the water and managed not to hit anything in the water when he jumped. Though there was a lot of blame to go around for the sinking a few things stand out. He questioned why the British Admiralty Board would only require only 16 life boats for a ship of its size (1000 Ft long, 46 thousand tons and 3 thousand passenger capacity). Why the owners didn't see a need for more life boats even at the board of inquiry after the sinking. Why did they think it was unsinkable and therefore further enforce their belief for only a limited number of life boats? So a lot of covered in this little portion we watched but all of us were fully engaged in the movie.

Jan 24- The meeting was called off because by the time 7pm was to roll around the temperature was in the single digits and was predicted to get even colder which ended up being.

#### OLD LYME GRANGE #162

Corr: Barbara C. Kulisch

**Mar. 8:** Complete Program "Three Cheers For The USA"

**Mar. 22:** Program Title TBA

**April 12:** CWA night with Guest Speaker-Open Meeting

We continue to talk about ways to earn money for our treasury and to also get new members to join in with the Community Service in our town as well. We will have held our February "Bag It" program to collect non-perishable food for the Shoreline Food Pantries by the time you read this Granger.

We will be having an Open House on Friday, April 12th at our meeting hall at 7:30pm with a speaker from New London Fire Department who will talk about the Burn Center in Bridgeport. Open to anyone as this center is for the entire state of Connecticut. Sister Shirley Dill Brown says HI to everyone from Florida. She continues to do community service work with the VFW while living in Florida.

## CHESHIRE GRANGE



presents

### "Beside The Sea"

Our annual Family Activities Committee Program featuring a presentation by

## Dr. Wade Elmer, Plant Biologist

from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station speaking on

### "Shoreline Vegetation Dieback"



**Wednesday, March 6 • 7:30 PM**

**Cheshire Grange Hall**

44 Wallingford Road, Cheshire, CT

For More Information Contact Jane Miller - 203-272-8255 or jfrm888@gmail.com

[www.CheshireGrange.org](http://www.CheshireGrange.org)

## DEPUTY TEAM

INSPECTIONS RITUAL CODE READING SUPPORT INSTRUCTION

Todd A. Gelineau, General Deputy

The School of Instructions keep rolling along, despite the constant threat of disruption by the weather. There are still quite a few Schools yet to be held, so we encourage all members to take part in both the Pomona and the Community Grange Schools when held in your areas. Masters should especially be present to receive their copies of the new Connecticut State Grange Master's Handbook. This Handbook has been developed to give new and experienced Masters helpful tips and information they can use to grow their Granges. These first drafts are being provided to each Master free of charge and we encourage them to pass them down to their successors as there will be a \$5 charge for any additional books. Any members wishing to have their own copy of the book may obtain them for said charge by contacting me.

There are a great number of Executive Committee reports still outstanding. If your books closed on September 30, 2012, your report is now over 60 days overdue. Please forward your completed (signed, dated & sealed-- both sides should be completed) Executive Committee report to me as soon as possible. Granges whose books closed Dec. 31 have until the end of March to submit their reports. Please feel free to contact me if you are having difficulties completing it or if you have questions. We can't help if we don't know there is a problem.

Please keep one copy for your records and have an additional copy ready for the Deputy when he/she inspects your Grange this spring. Inspections will not be completed until the EC report is received by the General Deputy.

## Riverton goes Broadway



Four members of Mary Lou Keefe's choir at Canton Center Church presented a program of Broadway Hits at the January meeting of Riverton Grange. Hits included "Put On A Happy Face," "Maria", Adelaide's Lament," and "Ol' Man River." The singers were (l to r): Judy Robinson, Jerry Alonzy, Paul Stansel and Jim Todd.

## SUPPERS & DINNERS ARE BACK!

### WINCHESTER GRANGE

# ROAST PORK SUPPER

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16**  
**5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

**WINCHESTER GRANGE HALL**  
**100 Newfield Rd., Winchester Center, CT**



#### ADVANCE RESERVATIONS:

\$10.00 Adults  
\$7.00 Children Under 12

**AT THE DOOR:** \$12.00 per person

**For Reservations & Information:**  
(860) 482-2733 or (860) 626-0326  
info@WinchesterGrange.org



[www.WinchesterGrange.org](http://www.WinchesterGrange.org)

## Do You Remember?

### EVELEYN NORMAND

by Betty Jane Gardiner

I've said it before, and I'll say it again - Connecticut has been very fortunate in choosing Lecturers for our State Grange - and Evelyn Normand is a prime example. She moved from Lecturer of Fairfield County Pomona to the State position and did so with a quiet confidence proving she was the right person for the office. She was someone with many ideas, good at working with people and dependable as the day is long. Her husband, Charles, was a person of strong personality, outgoing and clever at making things. Both were friendly, and likeable- Evelyn the strong Lecturer and Charlie her steady helper. They were wonderful to work with.

Trumbull was their Subordinate Grange where they were active on a number of committees and serving in office - Charlie as Master- Evelyn as long-time secretary.

They had a beautiful Siamese cat called Tanny who was their pride and joy! Charlie had built an outdoor screen room at the back of their big house. All Tanny had to do was go out of the window and there was a complete "penthouse" built like a tree with platform seats at each level, all kinds of equipment for a very spoiled cat- and of course, an eating station. This was a great safe enclosure and was an example of how they did everything - well planned and built to perfection!

Charlie died very suddenly from an illness resulting from working for a company which used a lot of asbestos. (We were just beginning to be aware of that serious problem). Evelyn was never the same following her loss.

She carried on her Grange work, but her heart just wasn't in it. She decided to move "back home" to Whitehall, NY where she had a nephew- about her only relative. She found Grange work in another state different from that in Connecticut, so she never became really active there. She kept in touch with her friends here and did come back to visit once in a while. Those of us who knew her well will always remember how pleasant it was working with her and what a capable person she was.

Do Remember Evelyn!



At Ledyard Grange (left to right): Isaac Geer, Virginia LaPutz, Annie Tubbs and State Lecturer Evelyn Normand.



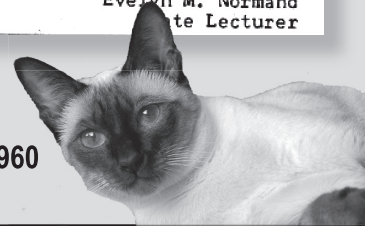
(l to r) State Lecturer Evelyn Normand, State Master Kingsley Beecher, State Jr. Superintendent Gertrude Wyble and unknown Brother.

#### FROM THE STATE LECTURER'S CORNER.

Now is the time to build the Grange. All of us know how vital the Lecturer's program is to the life of the Grange, but do you ever stop to realize that in developing your programs, you have a wonderful opportunity to develop leaders and to train citizens for tomorrow! The talents of our members are developed by program participation - by participating in musical numbers, solos, bands, taking part in dramatics, discussions, demonstrations, leading recreation, stunts and games. Let us use the talent in our Grange - develop it, encourage it, and most of all - appreciate it. The Grange provides an excellent opportunity for discussion of issues of the day, issues of the community, of the state and of the nation. Remember too, that the Grange is a great family fraternity. Use all ages and especially use family groups. Remember that the family that plays together, stays together. Try to have programs which will develop people, promote cooperation and unity, and which are enjoyable.

Evelyn M. Normand  
State Lecturer

From the  
Connecticut  
Granger c. 1960



## We are working to improve delivery of the Connecticut Granger

Todd Gelineau, Editor

First, let me thank all of you for your patience as the Connecticut Granger attempts to improve distribution of the paper. Unfortunately, much of the trouble is beyond our control. A prime example of my frustration was the delivery of Brother Brian Carpenter's January and February issues. Brother Carpenter received his January issue (let's say) on a Friday and received the February edition the very next day. The February issue had taken just two days to arrive in Enfield (starting out in Winsted) while the January issue had taken well over ONE MONTH to arrive.

There also seems to be some confusion about the stickers that are placed on the bundles of Grangers when they are mailed. The top paper in each bundle has to have a sticker on it indicating how many zip codes are included in that bundle. These stickers will have one of four different letters or numbers on them:

S - State- all one state (outside Conn.)

MS- Mixed states

3- All papers in the bundle share the same first three digits but not the same 5 digits

5- All papers in these bundles have the same five digit zip code

These stickers do not indicate the class of mail, they only facilitate the delivery of the paper. The Granger is mailed under the

"Periodicals" rate-- used by other newspapers/magazines.

While it is difficult (if not impossible) to speed the paper through the Postal Service there are a couple of things the Granger can do to speed up delivery and to make sure news is received in a timely manner.

First- the time between delivery from the printer and the delivery to the Post Office will be shortened as much as possible. However, there are months (especially during holidays) when the printer is shut down or the calendar otherwise prevents our normal printing schedule from being followed. The mail preparation of the Granger is a 6-8 hour process-- so finding enough time all at once to get this completed quickly is challenging at times.

Second - we will permit Granges to submit calendar listings extending into the first half of the following month to make sure there is overlap. For example, for the April issue (Deadline March 5), Granges will be permitted to submit events for the month of April and the first two weeks of May. We hope this "overlap" will allow more members to get advance notice of your Grange's events.

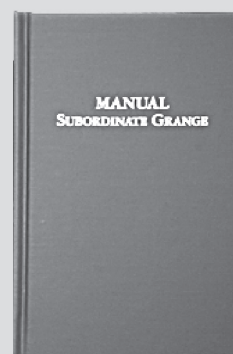
You're not alone! As Editor, I always send one copy to myself, so I can gauge when most members are receiving their copies. My January issue NEVER arrived, causing me to

panic, but soon found out that most members (except Brian) had received their papers soon after mailing.

As the Postal Services' financial troubles continue to mount, service delays and consolidation of sorting/processing units will further lengthen the time in transit for all mail.

Again, we thank you for your understanding and hope the steps we are taking will help the situation. Please, always feel free to contact me with your questions, comments, complaints, etc. We can't improve if we don't know there's a problem!

## National publishes 2013 Grange Manual



The 2013 edition of the Subordinate (Community Grange) Manual is now available from the Grange Store ([www.NationalGrange.org](http://www.NationalGrange.org)). Cost is \$10 per Manual. The new edition includes the Alternative Manual, Welcoming and Installation Ceremonies in one convenient volume.



## Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

# Marketing & Communications are Key

*Marketing and communications are key to your Grange*

Let's start with the facts:

- The public does not know what goes on behind the doors of your Grange unless they are informed.

- Members who do not regularly attend your Grange's meetings and events do not know what happens at those meetings and events unless they are told.

Marketing for Granges means informing your members, the local community, and the general public about your organization and its events, activities and projects, and also finding ways to not only grow, but keep, your member base. In one word - communication. You can have the best Grange ever with wonderful ideas and growth potential, but if you can't market your Grange and communicate the worth of your Grange to others, you barely have a Grange at all.

Many Granges operate under the assumption that the support of their members and the support of the public-at-large will automatically come because the Grange is a good organization. Many Granges believe that their programs, activities, projects - and their very existence - will promote themselves based on their history and their worth. The public needs to be made continuously aware of your Grange's existence, as well as the Grange's mission and goals.

General communication builds awareness. Effective communication builds support. Consistent communication builds sustainability, and thus, growth.

### Communication elements to market your Grange:

- **Define your Grange audience.**

Is your Grange's audience just your local community or does your Grange extend its reach into neighboring towns? Does your Grange want to attract younger members? Is your Grange interested in gaining members of all ages? Does your Grange want to raise funds for a project? Or reach out to other organizations? Adapt your approach to your audience.

- **Maintain consistent communication.**

Develop a timeline of Grange activities and events a year ahead of time, then promote them far in advance of their dates and repeatedly. Update your Facebook

page at least once a week - if not more frequently. Send out quarterly newsletters and mailings to your members. Send out e-mail updates to members after every meeting. Have members call other members who may not be able to attend meetings to keep them in the loop. Send press releases, photos and articles to your local newspapers on a regular basis. Consistent communication keeps your Grange name on the tip of everyone's tongues.

- **Create a visual identity.**

Use the Grange Name and the Grange Logo on all of your Grange communications, such as letters, posters, postcards, flyers, signage and more. Develop visually appealing and eye-catching communications pieces. A professional look validates your Grange to the public, and shows responsibility, dedication and intent.

- **Repetition is just as important as variation.**

Your audience will begin to recognize your Grange if they frequently see the Grange name, logo, and message reiterated in different types of communication. For example, a potential member may read your Grange's press release about an upcoming event in the newspaper, then see the poster for the same event in the grocery store, then see the sign out in front of your Grange Hall when they drive by. That person will recognize the repetition through variation, and your Grange name will stick in their minds.

- **Awareness builds over time.**

When a potential member reads your Grange name frequently in the newspaper, sees Grange event posters regularly all over town, notices that the sign out in front of your hall changes for different meetings and events, stumbles across shared posts on their Facebook timeline, receives postcards in the mail about your upcoming Grange events, and maybe even overhears others talking about your Grange, that person's awareness is raised. Their attention is captured and they instinctively want to learn more about YOUR Grange.

Be persistent and consistent with your Grange marketing and communications, but most importantly, be patient. In time, your Grange will be rewarded with an active and growing membership.

# What's your recipe for success?



Do you have a successful membership recruitment tactic/event? What about a profitable fundraiser that you think other Granges could replicate? Have you had an interesting lecturer's program that got local residents or media members into your halls and interested in the Grange? Is there a community service program your Grange has taken on that has made a positive impact in your hometown that you want to share?

The National Grange Communications Department seeks information from Granges at all levels to create a "Recipes for Success in the Grange: A Resource Guide" 3-ring style notebook that includes information on proven lecturer's programs, membership recruitment efforts, fundraising, advocacy, media attention and other efforts. We hope to produce this volume by the 2013 convention and have it available as a resource for every Grange at every level.

These will be written as recipes, as the name of the book implies. Each recipe should consist of at least the following:

Name of Project

Type of Project (fundraiser; advocacy effort; membership effort, etc.)

Grange Name, State, Number

Submitted By

# of People: (a range is fine)

\$ Required: (again, a range is fine)

Other Resources Required (Ingredients):

Time Required:

Skills Necessary:

Mix: (This should be about 200-500 words and tell - as a recipe does - the steps of the process from brainstorming to completion)

Notes/Hints: (here is where you can put information like "if you try this project, it may be best to invite a State Deputy" or "You may have to learn about different types of insurance in your area for such an event" or whatever)

Yield:

Please send all submissions to [abrozana@nationalgrange.org](mailto:abrozana@nationalgrange.org). Submissions can come with digital photos (in fact, we encourage it) or links to websites that showcase the Grange in action. ALSO: If you are citing a fundraiser by an outside company/vendor, please include their website.

**JUNIOR GRANGE**



**Contact:**  
Jody Cameron, State Master  
president@ctstategrange.org

**EKONK JR. GRANGE #101**

Corr: Rebecca Gervais

At our February meeting, the girls had the program. 19 Junior members were present, and the total count was 42!! Carly had a skit, Jenna and Ally ran games, Lillian played the piano, and Maria and Emily had them all design cards for each other. We have some pretty creative kids! I can't wait until I can tell you what the boys came up with as they have the program for our March meeting.

The Family Fun Night, run by the Subordinate Grange was a LOT of fun! An inexpensive night, topped off with an auction. The auction is always a big hit. Where else can you buy a 6 pack of Coke for \$3,000?

The Windham County Trailblazers 4H Club is running a 6 week tractor safety course at our Grange. 6 of our members are taking part. Most KNOW how to drive a tractor, but safety is such an important part that many of us overlook.

We passed out sashes for our badges. A big thanks to Verna Cole for all of the sewing that she did. We are looking into getting our names embroidered on each sash.

We have three kids waiting to join. Two of them will be old enough

by our April meeting. Feel free to stop and visit!

**WINCHESTER JR. GRANGE**

Corr: T. Gelineau

While Winchester does not currently have an official Junior Grange, plans are well underway to change that! Winchester Grange will hold an Open House to promote and recruit for the new Winchester Junior Grange on Saturday, April 20, 2013 at 2:00 P.M.

Membership will not be limited to the Winchester Center community... children will be welcomed from throughout the area, but especially neighboring Granges in Mountain County. For more

information, please contact Master Todd Gelineau at info@winchestergrange.org or by calling 860-626-0326.

**In Memoriam**

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Louise Taylor         | Redding Grange #15     |
| John Burrirt, G.S.*   | Redding Grange #15     |
| Doris Nobes, G.S.     | Redding Grange #15     |
| Edna Pressmar         | Redding Grange #15     |
| Carl Langer           | Senexet Grange #40     |
| Llewellyn Berry       | Senexet Grange #40     |
| Mary Thomes, G.S.     | Winchester Grange #74  |
| Esther Jalkanen, G.S. | Ekonk Community #89    |
| Josephine Vaill, G.S. | Taghannuck Grange #100 |
| Sue Dupre             | Killingly Grange #112  |
| Faith McKenzie, G.S.  | Higganum Grange #124   |
| Louise Kamay, G.S.    | Enfield Grange #151    |

\*Charter member of Redding Grange #15

Please keep us notified of deceased members. Use the email or the regular mailing address listed in the Granger Staff list in this issue.

**Chaplain's Message**

**Barbara C. Kulisch**  
State Chaplain

chaplain@ctstategrange.org

**Easter is the Gift...**

Easter is the gift of HOPE  
Easter is the gift of PEACE  
Easter is the gift of LOVE  
Let us rejoice in Him,  
Who gives them all.

May God bless you at Easter,  
And keep you all year through.  
May God give you all the faith it takes,  
To make your dreams come true.  
May His love and wisdom always help,  
To guide you on your way.  
May His light shine down upon you now,  
To bless your Easter Day.

**WINDOW TO THE PAST**

Photographs are a treasured part of Grange history. Many of them, unfortunately, do not come neatly labeled on the back with names, dates, people or places. These photographs have a story to tell... but about whom or what? Please help us solve the mystery of the faces and places as we look through the Window to the Past. You can contact us by calling (860) 626-5074 or on the web by emailing [submissions@ctstategrange.org](mailto:submissions@ctstategrange.org).

**This Month****Last Month**

February 2013 Photo - "The two gentlemen in the photo are Gene Nierowicz and Oscar (Whitey) White." - Jane and Ruel Miler, Cheshire Grange #23

"The photo in this month's issue of the Connecticut Granger is of Oscar White sitting with his arm on the lumber near the fence at the old Mad River Grange parking lot. Eugene Nierowicz is the person in the front of the photo. I think the photo was taken around 1979." - Jean Meehan

We've also heard from Janet Haller and Amy Wilson with the answers.

**Southern CT Past Masters**

The Southern Connecticut Past Masters will hold their March meeting on the 9th at Cheshire Grange. A pot luck supper will be enjoyed at 6:30 followed by a short meeting and program titled "Leprechauns"

in charge of Cindy Legg Vice-President.

On the agenda is Election of Officers. Nominating Committee is: Jean Meehan, Randy Miller and Ronald Gunther.

See you in Cheshire.

**thank you**

I wish to say "Thank You" to all of the grangers that sent me a "Shower of Cards" for my 75th birthday. It certainly was a total surprise. I really did enjoy opening all of them and reading all the special notes. Again "thank you one and all".

Kay Ruff

