



the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

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Stronger for the future



George Russell
State President

Riverton Grange No. 169
president@ctstategrange.org

Let's start the Grange year off on a positive note by getting new members to join us and start to plan our fundraisers for the coming year. After almost two years of restrictions on what our Granges can do and can't do it is time to open up and go forth to make our Granges stronger for the future. The Connecticut State Grange Membership Committee is here to help in any way they can. Just let Faith know. All of our Granges should shoot for a net gain in members this year.

The Membership Committee is working with a group of Redding residents to reorganize Redding Grange. They are scheduled to take the Welcome Ceremony and elect officers at the beginning of this month. Elizabeth Jensen, a resident of Redding, has been working seven months and getting members to join the new Redding Grange. Thank you for all your hard work in getting this Grange up and running.

With the new Grange year, it is time to fill out and send in your Executive Committee reports. Your Secretary and Treasurer, along with your Executive Committee, should be working to get this report

completed and sent in. You can send the report to Peter Keefe or your State President.

By the time you are reading this report, State Session will be history. This report was written before State Session. I had one entry that

qualified for Honor Grange this year and that was Riverton Grange No. 169. They qualified in the Silver Division. I will report more on State Session in my next report.

Sharon and I would like to wish you a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. Time to spend with friends and family.



2020-2021 Officers of the CT State Grange: Front (l to r): Carol Hnath, Pomona; B.J. Harrington, Ceres P.T.; Michelle DeDominicis, Flora; George Russell, State Pres.; Eloise Osuch, LAS; Alma Graham, Ex. Comm. Chair. Back (l to r): Jaimie Cameron, GK; Ted Powell, Steward; Gordon Gibson, Chaplain P.T.; Jody Cameron, Treasurer; F. Philip Prelli, Ex. Comm.; Donald Lanoue, Ex. Comm.; Todd A. Gelineau, Secretary; A. Ruel Miller, Ex. Comm.; Robert Buck, Overseer; Noel Miller, Ex. Comm.; Jodi Ann Cameron, Lecturer. (Missing: Roy Harrington, A.S.)

What can we do with Associate Memberships?

by Faith Quinlan, Membership Dir.

As always, I found State Session very informative. I was also thrilled to see people in-person. Delegates had much forward thinking to consider. My favorite of all the resolutions is about "Associate Membership." The benefits this type of membership offers our Granges and the businesses in our communities are outstanding.

Associate membership is a new tier of membership for Connecticut. It operates quite differently from our Affiliate Memberships. Associate members are more for the support of our Order and do not vote or hold office and are mostly businesses and organizations. As members they should receive newsletters, mailings and event information

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when distributed.

For Granges this could be a source of additional income. It is also a way to gain greater exposure to the Grange as a form of marketing and public relations. Events paired with these members/ organizations or businesses will increase local sustainability while exposing who we are and what we do to more people.

Associate Membership gives members an easy way to show community support. Additional benefits can be provided by your

Grange (your Grange chooses what they prefer, these are just ideas). Let's say a local business has become an Associate Member. Partnering with them, they can go on the Grange website or other social media to encourage more people to go to their business. A window cling could be designed and distributed featuring the Grange logo and give them the opportunity to show their support while also letting your membership know it's a business we should support. You could offer once a quarter or twice a year to hold an event at their establishment, particularly if they are a restaurant.

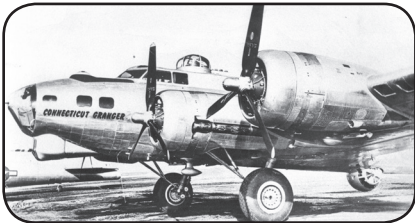
If your Grange offers something that typically collects sponsorships, as associate members they could be offered those sponsorships at a discounted rate (half price), or

added to a T shirt, website, or banners.

It can be also useful when you have an event where you have vendor spaces. An Associate Member business could have the space for free or at a discount.

There are many ideas and benefits to be offered for these types of members and ourselves as a way to get exposure in a much broader sense in our communities. This resolution will not take effect for a little while, but I look forward to the days when we really can get out and make a difference. This type of membership does not replace, in any way, our family and individual memberships. This is really just a bonus tier that has its appropriate audience in each Community Grange.

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WW II Flying Fortress "Connecticut Granger"

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Vice President Terri Fassio
Treasurer Jody Cameron
Secretary Noel Miller

DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

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Norfield Grange gets a fresh coat



Workers giving Norfield Grange No. 146 in Weston a fresh coat of paint recently.

Memories of the 137th Annual Session



Bonnie Burr, of UConn, receives the CT State Grange Outstanding Agricultural Advocate Award from Ag. Chair J. Allen Cameron.



National Representative Steve Coye addresses the members and Delegates. State President George Russell is also shown.



Flora's Court (reduced this year for COVID safety)



Exec. Committee members Phil Prelli (left) & Ruel Miller



2021 Community Service winners (l to r): Dawn Anstett receives for Riverton Grange (1st); Brent Prindle for Taghannuck Grange (2nd) & Gordon Gibson for Vernon (3rd)



Jeff Barnes installs the new officers of the State Grange. Alma Graham was installed on the Executive Committee; Roy Harrington, Assistant Steward; and David Roberts, State Lecturer. Nancy Strong will be installed later as the newest member of the State Executive Committee.

Adopted Resolutions from the 137th Session

The following resolutions are those adopted at the 2021 State Session. Resolutions that have been previously printed in the Granger only have their resolves printed in this issue. All others are printed in their entirety. A summary of action on all resolutions is included at the end of this article.

1) RE: LYME DISEASE

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange encourage legislation requiring insurance companies to pay for Lyme disease diagnosis and treatment in such a manner equal to other diseases and or conditions and treatments they currently cover.

2) RE: TRAFFIC SAFETY

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange encourage legislation requiring pole signs saying stop and slow be used by all directing traffic, including police.

7) RE: MILK MARKET PRICING SUBSIDY

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge our legislators to support the cost of production for each region into the makeup of the new Milk Market Pricing Subsidy Plan so that our dairy farmers are all on an equal playing field and be able to make an honest living for quality milk products, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the National Grange for adoption.

10) RE: ANNUAL GRANGE REPORTS IN THE JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange ask each active Pomona Grange, Subordinate Grange and Junior Grange to submit Annual Master's Reports to the State Grange for printing in each year's Journal of Proceedings for the historical documentation of the projects and activities of each Grange, and
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that

these reports begin with the printing of the 2021 Journal of Proceedings, which will be a record of the 137th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange.

11) RE: WELCOMING DIVERSE MEMBERS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the National Grange establish a standing committee on diversity, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED this resolution be forwarded to the next session of the National Grange together with a recommendation for favorable action thereon.

12) RE: RECOGNITION OF TODD GELINEAU & TERRI FASSIO

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange recognize both Todd Gelineau and Terri Fassio to show our appreciation for their dedication and hard work in support of activities and programs of the Connecticut State Grange and that the Connecticut State Grange honor Terri Fassio with a one-time gift of \$1,000.00.

13) RE: BANNING THE SALE OF FLAVORED VAPING PRODUCTS & MENTHOL CIGARETTES & CIGARS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut State Grange endorse the ban on the sale of flavored products for e-cigarettes and menthol cigarettes and cigars, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Connecticut State Grange Legislative Committee lobby the Connecticut State Legislature to join with our neighbor states Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York in banning the sale of these products, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Connecticut State Grange urge National Grange to promote Federal legislation to ban these flavored vaping products and menthol tobacco products.

16) RE: ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Executive and Membership Committees of the Connecticut State Grange develop a proposal for Associate Membership in our State which would include the process for becoming a member, qualifications, annual dues including any disbursement to the local Granges as well as any State Grange By-Law changes, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED this proposal be submitted to the 2022 Annual Session for Delegate action.

17) INHERITANCE TAX STEP UP BASIS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange, through our Legislative Committee, inform our Congressional Delegation of our support of the current Step-Up in Basis provision for capital gains section of the Inheritance Tax.

19) RE: SALE OF NATIONAL GRANGE HEADQUARTERS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the National Grange Executive Committee draft a complete proposal for the National Headquarters Building including cost estimates for repairs/upgrades along with all options available to them which include (but may not be limited to) sale of the building, rental of space in the metro area, no headquarters at all, and staying at 1616 H St. NW, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the National Executive Committee submit a proposal should it be decided the National Headquarters should be sold outlining SPECIFICALLY how the money from the sale will be used/ invested, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED putting 1616 H St, NW, Washington, D.C. up for sale would require a two-thirds favorable vote of the delegates of the National Grange, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED this resolution be forwarded to the next session of the National Grange for consideration.

20) RE: APPROVAL OF

FINANCIAL PLAN FOR SALE OF NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that should the National Headquarters building located at 1616 H St., NW in Washington, D.C. be sold, a comprehensive financial plan be presented to the various State Granges for adoption by the delegate bodies of said State Granges, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this financial plan include investment plans, plans for the development or restoration of Grange programs, and cost forecasts for the lease or purchase of new National Grange headquarters space, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this plan must receive approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the State Grange delegate bodies before it can move forward.

21) RE: EXEMPTIONS FOR TRUCK MILEAGE TAX

WHEREAS beginning in 2023, all vehicles weighing more than 26,000 pounds will be required to pay a vehicle miles traveled tax for every mile driven in Connecticut, and

WHEREAS the fee will range from 2.5 cents per mile for trucks weighing 26,000-28,000 pounds to 17.5 cents per mile for vehicles weighing more than 80,000 pounds, and

WHEREAS most trucks used for agricultural operations or by companies that support those operations in Connecticut exceed 26,000 pounds, and

WHEREAS companies that are in direct support of agriculture in the state are just as important as those agricultural operations themselves, supplying necessary goods and services that allow the agricultural operations to produce high quality goods, and

WHEREAS this added cost will more than likely be added to the cost of goods sold. If that is a supplier, then the cost could be passed to the producer; and a producer could then transfer the cost to the consumer, and

WHEREAS most producers do not have the ability to pass along the extra expense and will have to absorb these extra expenses.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State

Grange urge legislators to add vehicles used for production and those used in the support of agricultural production in the state, be exempt from the Truck Mileage Tax.

22) RE: WHOLE MILK IN SCHOOLS

WHEREAS whole milk is naturally 97% fat free containing only 3.25% fat and 3.5% protein and all milk on the market is antibiotic free, and

WHEREAS milk fat contains a healthy combination of saturated, monosaturated, and polyunsaturated fats, including CLAs and Omegas, and

WHEREAS milk protein is a complete protein containing all 9 amino acids, and

WHEREAS studies have shown that children that consume whole milk are 40% less at risk of being overweight, and

WHEREAS schools across the United States account for a large portion of fluid milk consumption, and with the limited options for milk in the schools has added to the volume of milk on the open market thus decreasing the value and the amount paid to dairy farms.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange and National Grange support legislation on bringing the whole milk choice back to schools.

23) RE: ACCEPTANCE OF THE MASTER'S ADDRESS

WHEREAS 2021 has seen many Granges, Grange Committees, and Grange members return to normal, and

WHEREAS in his Annual Report, State Master George Russell discussed the success of these returns and this thoughts to continue in supporting all Granges and Committees in the State of Connecticut to returning to normal.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all Connecticut State Grange Committees be urged to look at their section in the State Master's Annual Report to continue improving the committee activities and all their future plans, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED the 137th Annual Convention of the Connecticut State Grange Delegate Body thank the State Master for his

continued service to the Connecticut State Grange during this year.

24) RE: DRAPING THE CHARTER CEREMONY

WHEREAS the Draping of the Charter Ceremony is meant to honor the service to our Grange as well as providing condolences to families as well as the Grange members.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED a sentence in honor of the deceased members' faith be added to the next re-printing of the Subordinate Grange Manual in the suggestions section of Ceremony for the Draping a Grange Charter.

25) RE: GRANGE HALL DORMITORY ROOF REPLACEMENT

WHEREAS members of the Grange donated money for a dormitory, named Grange Hall on the Storrs Campus, and

WHEREAS it has come to our attention that the slate roof is in need of replacement, due to leaks and missing tiles on both Grange and Hicks halls, and

WHEREAS we know that a well-cared-for building will serve future generations, and

WHEREAS the Grange name is associated with this dormitory.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange urge the University of Connecticut to repair or replace the slate roofs on both Grange and Hicks Halls as needed to prevent damage to the structure or residential rooms.

26) RE: ZOOM MEETINGS

WHEREAS this pandemic showed that Zoom meetings can be very useful and has saved many Granges, and

WHEREAS Zoom meetings have allowed snowbirds and students to still attend meetings, and

WHEREAS the Connecticut State Grange Executive Committee uses Zoom to meet and save on traveling, and

WHEREAS the State Grange Convention was held on Zoom and was a success.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we continue to encourage the use of virtual meeting

platforms in addition to meeting in person to be used within the Granges of Connecticut.

27) RE: CONGRESSIONAL TERM LIMITS

WHEREAS these past few years our National House and Senate have failed at working for “We the people,” and

WHEREAS many members in the House and Senate spend more time blocking legislation and fundraising to put more money in their pockets and have used their offices to inside trade and gain outside money which we as Americans can’t do because of laws on the books, and

WHEREAS they spend more time campaigning and fundraising at the taxpayer’s expense.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Grange support term limits for our House and Senate members in the Federal Government so that a member of Congress can serve for no more than 12 years in their lifetime, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the National Grange for action.

28) ROBO CALLS

WHEREAS the number of robo calls continue to increase, and

WHEREAS these calls are annoying and an invasion of privacy to the receiver who pays for this telephone service, and

WHEREAS most people have caller ID and monitor their calls before answering, and

WHEREAS these calls have only a number or say “caller unknown” or something similar which makes it impossible to monitor these calls.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Grange urge the Federal Communications Commission to require that all communication service providers supply an identifying name on all calls.

30) ABOLISH THE ANNUAL PASSWORD FOR CONNECTICUT GRANGES

WHEREAS the annual password from the High Priest of Demeter is issued to determine the status of membership in the Subordinate and

Pomona Granges, and

WHEREAS the annual password is optional by action of the State Grange, under Art. 6.13.1 in the National Digest, and

WHEREAS the annual password is not to be written down or to be communicated by the Master of the Granges, and the annual password is becoming harder for our members to memorize.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National Grange change the By-Laws to abolish the Annual Words for Subordinate and Pomona Granges.

31) RE: HONORING MEMBERS PAST 75 YEARS

WHEREAS many people are living a longer life span, and

WHEREAS for years the National

grange has given out seals and certificates for twenty-five, forty, fifty, fifty-five, sixty, sixty- five, seventy and seventy-five years of service to the grange, and

WHEREAS members have gone onto serve more than years including eighty, eighty- five years and possibly more, and

WHEREAS after seventy -five years of service member only receive a letter for their years of service.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Grange develop a certificate or plaque for eighty, eighty-five years and more in five-year increments to recognize the years of service that these dedicated members have contributed to the grange.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ON ALL RESOLUTIONS

- 1) Lyme Disease Adopted
- 2) Traffic Safety Adopted
- 3) Tax on Retirement Rejected
- 4) Zoom Meetings. Rejected for Substitute
- 5) Annual Word Rejected
- 6) Abolish the Annual Password for Connecticut Granges Rejected for Substitute
- 7) Milk Market Pricing Subsidy Adopted**
- 8) Congressional Term Limits Rejected for Substitute
- 9) Building Assistance Committee Rejected
- 10) Annual Grange Reports in the Journal of Proceedings Adopted
- 11) Welcoming Diverse Members Adopted**
- 12) Recognition of Todd Gelineau & Terri Fassio Adopted
- 13) Banning the Sale of Flavored Vapting Products & Menthol Cig. & Cigars . . Adopted**
- 14) Contemporary Language of the Grange Rejected
- 15) Draping the Charter Ceremony Rejected for Substitute
- 16) Associate Members Adopted
- 17) Inheritance Tax Step Up Basis. Adopted
- 18) Robo Calls. Rejected for Substitute
- 19) Sale of National Grange Headquarters. Adopted**
- 20) Financial Plan for Sale of National Grange Headquarters Adopted**
- 21) Exemptions for Truck Mileage Tax Adopted
- 22) Whole Milk in Schools Adopted**
- 23) Acceptance of Master’s Address Adopted
- 24) Draping the Charter Ceremony Adopted**
- 25) Grange Hall Dormitory Roof Replacement Adopted
- 26) Zoom Meeings Adopted
- 27) Congressional Term Limits. Adopted**
- 28) Robo Calls Adopted**
- 29) Abolish the Annual Password for Connecticut Granges . . . Rejected for Substitute
- 30) Abolish the Annual Password for Connecticut Granges. Adopted**
- 31) Honoring Members Past 75 Years. Adopted**

The Session began with 22 resolutions on the docket. After Committee Resolutions and Substitute Resolutions were added, the Session ended with action on 31 resolutions. Eleven of these resolutions were referred by the Executive Committee to the National Grange for action at the upcoming National Convention in Wichita, Kansas later this month. Resolutions referred to National are shown above in **bold**.



SENEXET GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

Nov. 17: Making Christmas Cards
Dec. 15: Christmas Party and Potluck

We had a great exhibit at the Woodstock Fair titled past, present and future.

We had a information table at the Celebrating Ag event on Sat. 25. It was well received and we thank Amy Monahan for manning the table.

Our Grange continues to hold regular meetings in person. We hosted the local hobby farmers, homesteaders and horsekeepers for informative presentation on manure and nutrient management. Future talks will be in October and November on grazing and soil health for small farms. We are grateful to see those in agriculture coming to these sessions.

On October 13 we hosted the Windham County Farm Bureau for a delicious roast beef and baked chicken dinner. We thank all the volunteers who helped prepare and serve the group.

We continue to make recycled shopping bags for sale. These are made from used seed and grain bags. Our hall is used by a local yoga group as well as the Boy Scouts.

We had a well attended Shepherds Pie Dinner also in October. A free Cosmic Cat Halloween Fair was also held in our hall.

At these events we also display what the Grange is doing and its connection to agriculture and the community.

Thank you to all who make the events possible.

We hope to see more members and future members to our meetings

and events.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Irene Percoski

Nov. 5: Guest Speaker - Christian Schirmer, Machine Learning in Agriculture- Continue Veteran's Day project

Dec. 3: We Need A Little Christmas, Fill a Mug Project

Thirteen members attended our October Zoom meeting. Unfortunately there were no guests. The Lecturer put us through a real quiz about our Ritual. It was very eye-opening to try to think of what the Hall looks like set-up and who does what. Proves we all need to read that Manual again. Cherie explained how Hall Dedication ceremonies started as Farm Home ceremonies and spread from there to hall ceremonies. The first Drill Manual was started in 1913 which clearly showed through drawings all the proper movements through the Hall. This made sure everyone would always be able to attend any meeting anywhere and feel at home. The meeting was concluded with an impressive candlelight ceremony in which all joined in rededicating ourselves to the Grange.

The November meeting will be held in the hall as we have a speaker who will demonstrate how machines are learning agriculture. All are welcome.

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Penny Bennett

In September, the Killingly Grange held its Annual Fair and Pat's Roast Pork Dinner. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves at both of these events. Unfortunately, we had to postpone our Big Pumpkin Cabaret and Open Market due to circumstances which were totally beyond our control. But please rest assured that this event will indeed, take place next October during The Last Green Valley's Walktober initiative! Next year will mark the seventh year that we will have participated in the annual Walktober series of walks, hikes, paddles and events that people have come to love and look forward to year after year.

On Veterans Day (Thursday Nov. 11th) we will hold a Soup Dinner,

where all Veterans eat for free! The menu includes beef stew, corn chowder and sausage and lentil soup. Then, on Sat., November 27, we will welcome back Nick Anderson and Shady Creek. It's our loss that we missed an entire season of his renowned bluegrass music due to COVID-19. A lot of people know that our Grange and his band constitute the longest running live traditional bluegrass music venue in eastern Connecticut. So far, his band has been performing at our hall for a good twenty years or so. Let's hope for another twenty years! Also, on the 27th, a second band, The Bear Minimum, lead by Dave "Tex" Orloski, originally from Canterbury, will perform after a 20-30-minute break. The doors open at 6:00 pm and the concert starts at 7:00 pm. Sandwiches and other refreshments will be available throughout the night. Tickets for the concert are still only \$12.00 at the door.

Then, on a cool crisp Saturday night in December (date yet to be announced), we plan on hosting our Open House and Christmas Party, at which time will have a potluck dinner, a Yankee Gift Swap and Carol sing! We may also have the opportunity to watch Frank Capra's classic Christmas movie, "It's a Wonderful Life," which, we're sure will bring joy to all our hearts.

For more information, or if you have any questions, please call John or Penny at 860-412-9811. Sometimes the weather is bad or plans change due to unforeseen circumstances, so please call ahead to confirm the date and time of any event that you are interested in attending. Thanks again for your interest in making our Grange a vibrant part of our community.

N. STONINGTON GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

Nov. 12: National Parks - Event arranger Debbie Barnes

Nov. 26: No Meeting - Happy Thanksgiving

On September 10 we learned about the beginnings of mystery writing and took a quiz that convinced many of us that we should read more mysteries. On

Continued next page ...

the 24th we played a rousing game of Jeopardy which Sean was ahead but Robert won in Final Jeopardy with Kathy coming a close third.

We have delivered "A Student's Dictionary" to the town's third graders. These are always a great

hit with the youngsters as they give much more information than the meanings of words.

Debbie Barnes will present a program on National Parks at our one meeting in November. Jeff and Deb have traveled to many parks and

this should be a very interesting and enjoyable evening. And if the reluctant trees will just decide to put on their lovely fall dresses next time we will tell you all about ominous October.



2022 Contests Announced

The Public Relations committee is offering three contests for 2022, all with a deadline of October 1, 2022. It's easy to participate. Let's take a peek at each one.

1.) Create a Zoom Program

Plan a program for your Grange Meeting on Zoom to keep your members interested and involved. Record the meeting that your program is presented in. Submit this recording for judging.

2.) Celebrate your Grange's Birthday

Whether you're celebrating seven years or 140+ years of your Grange's existence, each birthday is a milestone that should be acknowledged publicly. Whether your Grange has in-person, virtual, or hybrid celebrations, it means thinking outside of the box to show the impact your Grange has made over the years.

This is a great opportunity to highlight your Grange's achievements, raise awareness of your Grange's mission, thank your members and community, and reveal exciting updates about your plans for the future.

Submit a detailed written plan on how you intend to celebrate and promote your Grange's birthday, or write a synopsis of a past celebration (must be held within the last year). Submissions must include a social media component.

Submissions should be detailed and not just an abbreviated list,

and there is no length restriction. Photos, clippings, and screenshots are encouraged.

3.) Grange Spotlight Contest

Write a press release spotlighting one project or program that your Grange is involved in or sponsors. This should include the following:

- Introduction describing the project or program
- Information on all groups/ organizations involved
- The goal or outcome of the project/program

Are you a member?

If your Grange hosts an annual agricultural fair and is not already a member of the Association of Connecticut Fairs, we urge you to consider joining the Association of Connecticut Fairs (AFC).

As a Fair member, The AFC is your source for up to date information and guidance that is there to assist your Fair. We connect our members with other Fairs across the state (and beyond!) for tips, tricks, and best practices. We also host multiple meetings a year to get acquainted to your industry partners as well as hosting our year end banquet and participating in the Tri-State Convention of Fairs which features a host of educational seminars and round tables. Our web site: <https://www.ctagfairs.org/> will also advertise your fair, so that people around the state will be aware of your event. Membership for Grange fairs is \$50 a year. For more information, contact our web site.

- Date achieved, or of anticipated achievement
- Paragraph explaining your Grange to non-members
- Information on how to join the Grange

Final press release should be no longer than 500 words. Submission may include one photo.

All of the details, rules, and information for the contests can be found on the Connecticut State Grange website at www.CTStateGrange.org, and are also available in the Blue Book. Entries should be mailed to Robert Charbonneau, 102 Spring Street, Meriden CT 06451, or sent via e-mail to publicrelations@ctstategrange.org. Questions can be emailed to information@ctstategrange.org.

FAIR Season
CT's Best Season
JULY - OCTOBER
2021

CT Ag Fairs.org

All member fairs will be in compliance with all local, state, and CDC guidelines.

Please refer to CTAgFairs.org to connect to each fair's website before attending for specific guidelines, fair dates, and any updates.

Association of Connecticut Fairs

The information contained in each issue of The Connecticut Granger is for informational purposes only. The Connecticut Granger assumes no liability or responsibility for any inaccurate, delayed or incomplete information, nor for any actions taken in reliance thereon. The information contained about each individual, event or organization has been provided by such individual, event organizers or organization without verification by us. The opinion expressed in each article is the opinion of its author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Connecticut Granger. Therefore, The Connecticut Granger carries no responsibility for the opinion expressed herein.



MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15

Corr: Dawn Anstett

With so many of our Granges moving toward obligating new members and many of these new members also wanting to receive the Fifth Degree before State Session, Mountain Laurel Pomona held a Degree Day on Oct. 3. We met in the afternoon to confer the first four degrees, initiating 11 new members into the various lessons of the first four Degrees. A pasta supper was held between the Fourth and Fifth Degrees.

We appreciate all the members who dusted off their manuals and prepared to put on these Degrees. We could not have done it without you and a hearty welcome to all the new members. Don't worry if you do not remember everything, there is far more to the Grange than its ritualism, but we hope that you have gained a better understanding of the values and principles we stand for.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

Nov. 9: Meeting

Nov. 23: Meeting

Welcome to our new members. Congratulations to the brand new members and the not-so-brand-new members who were able to witness the Degree Day on Oct. 3. Four of these members were present in Norwich to receive the Sixth Degree at State Session on Oct. 23. Congratulations to Daniel Reeve, Amy Reeve, Mark Dzurnak, Tracie Dzurnak.

If refreshments are your favorite part of Grange meetings, you are in luck. Starting with the second meeting in October, we have



Members and friends of Riverton Grange No. 169 gather for a picture after their Mystery Tour of Squire's Tavern in Barkhamsted.

resumed refreshments after our meetings. If you would like to volunteer to provide (or even fund) refreshments, please let Secretary Sue Addison know. She will be happy to add you to her list.

Don't forget Winchester Grange meets on the SECOND and FOURTH Tuesdays of each month. Once a month Zoom meetings disrupted our normal patterns but our meetings are fully back to normal now. Please join us at 7:00 P.M. at the Grange Hall.

TAGHHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Barbara Prindle

At our October meeting we voted to continue the Dictionary Project for our 18th year. We will be ordering dictionaries to give to every 3rd grade student in the towns of Sharon, Cornwall, Warren and Kent. We are hoping that this year we can again go into the classrooms to explain about grange and what our Grange does. It was a fun time as everyone got to pick a pumpkin from the pumpkin patch and make it into a jack-o-lantern using magic marker with the idea

that when they got it home they could cut it out with a knife.

Our November meeting is on the 11th at 7PM and we will be discussing what happened at State Session. The program is "painting".

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Dave Roberts

The 2021 Connecticut State Grange Convention in Norwich is now part of the history books and Phil, George, Sharon, Dawn, Peter, Mary Lou and I are glad to have attended. I was so pleased to see our Grange receive both Top Honor Grange in Connecticut and Top Community Service Grange. This recognition was earned during the leadership term of President Sue Belle Isle and so many of you helped support her efforts to make this happen. WOW!

Last Sunday, we hosted our first Mystery Tour in decades and 15 Grange members and guests journeyed down windy East River Road and had a personal tour of Squire's Tavern (formerly the Ullman 200-acre farm) hosted by

Continued next page ...

CORRECTION: In the last issue, we reported Arline Cote, of Winchester Grange #74, received her 75 year certificate. Arline actually received her 80 year letter from the National Master. Congratulations, Arline!

Barkhamsted Historical Society President Noreen Watson and her husband Charlie. Shaw Israel Izikson from the Winsted Phoenix newspaper also joined us! Following the tour, we enjoyed Buck's homemade ice cream (donated by Riverton General Store) in the pine grove and Granby Granger Carol Innes brought pumpkin coffee cake and chocolate chip bars. YUMMY! I have attached some photos to make those who didn't attend this Mystery Tour jealous enough to attend next time. It really was fun!

Our next meeting will be Friday, November 5th starting at 7:30 PM. We are moving the social time BEFORE the meeting starting at 6:45 PM. Gail Prelli and Charlie Bierce have refreshments. So please come early during the social time to reconnect. And this will be our first meeting with all new 2021-2023 officers fumbling (me!) in their chairs trying to make the meeting run smoothly. Dawn Anstett will be updating us on Christmas in Riverton and our Riverton Grange's exciting role in the events this year.

We have our next Veteran of the Month recognition ceremony on Sunday, November 7, at the Barkhamsted Senior Center, 109 West River Road, at 6:00 PM. Most of the ceremony will be inside and Bonnie Reynolds will be providing the refreshments.

On Saturday, November 20th, our Grange will be hosting our 4th Annual Veterans Potluck Dinner. Doors will open at 5:00 PM and dinner will be served at 5:30 PM. A flyer is attached and we hope you will promote attendance at this event! Due to the pandemic, this event will be held at the Barkhamsted Senior Center at 109 West River Road. Our committee could use your help, so please join Raine, Jackie, Lorraine and me to make this a memorable event for our veterans and their families.

Finally, we want to make sure that our Grange continues to grow its membership. We are so pleased with the recent additions of Judy, Lorraine and Jackie. We have three more prospective members. If you know of anyone who might like to join our Grange, please have them contact Membership Chair Dawn or me.

BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Al Maddox

Nov. 21: Meeting, 2 P.M. (Date Change)

We are again collecting food for a complete Thanksgiving Dinner basket to be given to a Bethlehem family.

We are planning on going to the Painted Pony on Sunday, Dec. 12 at 2 P.M. for our Christmas Party with a \$10.00 grab bag.

Dictionaries have been given to the Third Grade in Bethlehem.

Our sympathies to the family of Erma Honegger.

The Legislative year in review

The Legislative Committee met shortly after State Session to review the resolutions that were presented this session. Due to the Pandemic and having a virtual session, there were only 10 resolutions that were acted on. The Committee reviewed the Legislative Handbook adding the new resolutions and making adjustments as needed to the handbook. Copies were presented to the General Assembly members, Governor, Lt. Governor as well as to the Connecticut Granges.



Alma Graham
Legislative Director
Coventry Grange #75
Legislative@ctstategrange.org

The Capitol remained in lockdown for the entire 2021 Legislative Session. The General Assembly was called into session but the only ones who could enter the Legislative Office Building or the Capitol were the Assembly members and staff. Bills were presented as usual but all of the public hearings were done virtually. The members attended the sessions and voted virtually from their offices. We did follow a few bills but did not submit any testimony on any of the bills. The Governor still continues running much of the state activities via his emergency powers.

National Grange did hold the Legislative Fly-In this year, but in virtual format. There were three attendees that I was aware of from Connecticut. the Fly-In actually had a larger attendance than normal using this virtual format. The downfall was we were not able to personally visit our House or Senate members.

There were a couple of bills passed by the Connecticut General Assembly this last year that we all should be aware of. Now all passengers in vehicles must wear their seatbelts, not just the front seat passengers. There also is a new pedestrian law that allows anyone who wishes to cross any street to just hold out their hand, then the vehicles must stop to let them cross. Please be cautious while driving until we are used to this new law.

Gordon Gibson has stepped back from his involvement with the Working Lands Alliance and is now an honorary member of that group, but we are still partners with this lobbying organization.

Thanks to everyone who submitted resolutions. This is how we as Grange members can express our opinions and priorities to our legislators.



Master Gardener Carl Salsedo (far right) poses for a picture with Whigville Grange #48 members after his talk at the Oct. 13 meeting of Whigville.



NUTMEG POMONA #16

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Nutmeg Pomona was hosted by the members of Beacon Valley Grange in Naugatuck on Sunday, September 12th. Following the meeting, pizza, beverages and ice cream were served by the members of Beacon Valley Grange.

All officers are now filled with the election of Karen Turner of Cheshire Grange as Pomona.

Delegates to State Session are Master Donald Lanoue and Lecturer Lois Evankow.

Our next meeting will be held at Cheshire Grange on Sunday, December 5th. Please mark your calendars. More details in the next Granger and in the Pomona notice.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Ruel Miller

Nov. 3: Climate Change

Nov. 17: Give Thanks

Our August fair was reduced to a one day event due to Covid concerns. All things considered it went well and the people that attended were pleased to have the fair back after a years absence. We had 140 exhibits. We will be holding a wrap up meeting and looking ahead to next year.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Ryducha who has been installed as our new Treasurer.

When you read this we will have started going back to our two meetings a month. Our year is planned out and we are ready to go. On September 21st, four of our members assisted the Cheshire Food Pantry with their audit of products on their shelves which they have to do periodically. We were represented at the State



Members of Higganum Grange #124 celebrate the 130th Anniversary of their Grange with a picnic. L to R: Gil Pawlicki, Normand Manning, Dan Reynolds, Gail Hanson, Gail Reynolds, Edith Pawlicki, Lindamae Peck, Albie Luk, Howard Burr, Lily and Helen Luk, Caleb Luk (blocked by Cae Pawlicki).

Grange Session last month in Norwich. We look forward to the new Grange year and hope our Granges can return to normal and to move forward.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

The sun is finally shining once again over Beacon Valley Grange after a year of nothing but a big black cloud with the loss of so many of our officers and members. In July we had our Officers' Planning Meeting with lots of interest and input. In August we held our annual picnic with a mini-picnic supper. Our September meeting featured the State of Connecticut and October Pumpkins as our theme.

It was nice to have sixteen in attendance at our September meeting and thirteen in October. It has been some time since we had that many at a meeting. November 12 is the date of our November meeting. Tom Honyotski is in charge of the program and Judi Reynolds is in charge of refreshments.

We received four more applications from Redding Grange for a total of eight. New members Joan Ziegler, Dorothy Joselovitz and Marie and Kevin Parker.

Robert Sendewicz will be our Delegate at State Session.

Our Open Mics are back in business with a lot of good music. Trying to improve attendance, the time has been changed to 6 to 9 P.M. on the third Saturday of each

month. Come and enjoy the music or participate. Hope you saw the picture of our band in the October issue of the Granger. They will be entertaining at our next Open Mic on November 20th.

Our tag sales in August and September were very profitable. We are planning to have one each month. Everyone has been very generous with salable items. We have enough to last us it seems for a lifetime. Our November sale is scheduled for November 20th.

Sorry to hear that Diane Godin had a fall. Hope she is out and about by the time you are reading this.

From this Master to the Members of Beacon Valley Grange, "Thank you for your patience. We knew sooner or later we would be meeting again."

HIGGANUM GRANGE #124

Corr: Grace Bitter

Higganum Grange celebrated its 130th Anniversary on Aug. 20 with a picnic on land formerly owned by its founder, Myron G. Skinner (Feb. 3, 1885 - Jan. 11, 1952). The March 1950 issue of "The Chatter"- the Higganum Grange newsletter at the time, recounts how the Grange began in 1891 as follows:

"It all started with a Rural New Yorker subscription. Mr. Chalker from Old Saybrook visited Myron Skinner for a subscription to this farm paper. In the course

Continued next page ...

of the conversation the Grange was discussed. Mr. Chalker was the Grange Deputy for New London County. When Myron became really interested, he contacted Mr. Dunham, then the Deputy for Middlesex County, and Higganum Grange was organized. Interested people were discovered by conversations and no paper publicity was necessary."

They had good attendance and often they had as many visitors as members. Visitors came especially from Middletown, Killingworth and East Haddam.

Often in the old days, during new business or the Lecturer's hours, questions concerning agricultural problems were discussed. When outside speakers came, the Grange held day meetings with a potluck dinner (at noon).

Myron Skinner had orchards, fields and pastures along the west side of the Higganum Reservoir. He sold milk, apples, pears and peaches. He made strong apple vinegar called

"Skinner Vinegar", excellent for making "Skinner Pickles". After he retired from farming, he opened a small grocery store and gas station. In the back room, he printed name cards, wedding invitations, funeral announcements and business forms. He raised flowers and sold them for weddings and funerals.

Myron served several terms as Master of the Higganum Grange. One daughter, Fannie Skinner Peck, and her husband, Winchester, were Golden Sheaf members of the Higganum Grange. Their son, Leslie Peck, also a Grange member, built his house on one of Myron's former corn fields. The Higganum Grange's celebratory picnic, with a 130th birthday cake, was held on that property as guests of Lindamae Peck, Myron's great-granddaughter and a 4th generation member of the Higganum Grange.

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Lois Evankow

Dec. 2: Potluck Supper at 6:30

Jan. 6: Shall We Have Snow?

Our October meeting was held in regular form with the new Master, David Sanford, in charge. Twelve people were in attendance.

Due to the fact we are having big problems finding enough people to have our Hamburg Fair, it was discussed at great length. An emergency meeting was called by the Fair President, Skip Beebe, earlier in the week brought this problem to our attention.

Our Master and Assistant Steward were our representatives to State Session.

Things are looking up with two new members and three possible new members.

Roy and Betty Jane Harrington were there to cheer us on.

All being well, in the next few months or so we will have a certificate night as there are many deserving people eligible.

Regional Meetings to be held



Dawn Percoski
Family Activities Dir.
Vernon Grange No. 52
CWA@ctstategrange.org

Well, State session has come and gone now and we are well on our way to the Holiday season. I hope that you will all find the time to attend one of our two Regional Meetings. Since we are all getting somewhat familiar with Zoom meetings, I thought it would be best to continue with them this year in hopes that more of you would attend as there is no travel involved. We will have a phone number available for those who are not computer savvy. You would be able to call in like a conference call. The sessions will be held on December 4th at 7:00 PM and December 5th at 2:00 pm. They will not be a long session as this is the second year of our blue book and many of you are able to glean the information from there. I am

looking forward to seeing you, or hearing your voices, as we don't have

to worry about the weather!

The CFA Committee would like to wish all of you a very Happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Northeast Needlework Winners

We have a lot to celebrate! We have quite a few winners at the New England Grange Building.

Class B: doily, 2nd Place is Carol Nelson from Vernon Grange #52

Class D: baby set, 2nd Place is Lois Evankow from Lyme Grange #147

Class K: Baby Afghan, 1st Place is Lois Evankow from Lyme Grange #147

Class J: Stuffed Toy, 3rd Place is Maryalyce Lee from Cheshire Grange #23

Class F: Counted Cross Stitch, 1st Place is Maryellen Baxter from Vernon Grange #52

Class I: Quilted Hanging, 3rd Place is Lois Evankow from Lyme Grange #147

Once again, I congratulate you all for your beautiful work.

Thank You!

Thank you all for your cards and prayers when I recently broke my hip. Your thoughtfulness is sincerely appreciated.

Lois Evankow
Lyme Grange No. 147

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 history to tell... but about whom or what? Please help us solve the mystery of 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.



I am pretty sure this is Phil Vetro former Master of the then Woodbridge Grange. Do not know the occasion – Ruel Miller



Crunchy Sweet Brussels Sprout Salad



Why have plain old boiled Brussel sprouts for Thanksgiving when you can mix it up this year. This receipt from the Food Network is a must-try and so easy to make! Recipe courtesy of Sunny Anderson.

YIELD: 4 Servings

INGREDIENTS:

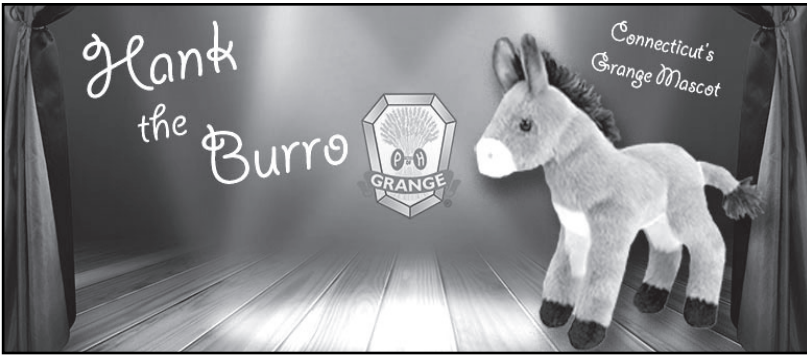
- 1 pound Brussels sprouts
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries

INSTRUCTIONS:

Shred the Brussels sprouts by removing the core

and thinly slicing. Warm the olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the Brussels sprouts, nutmeg, and salt and pepper, to taste. Cook, stirring, until the Brussels sprouts are bright and slightly wilted, about 2 to 3 minutes. Add the walnuts and the cranberries and toss to combine. Turn out into a serving bowl and serve warm.

SOURCE: <https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/sunny-anderson/crunchy-sweet-brussels-sprout-salad-recipe-1949039>



By Hank the Burro

Hello Grange friends!

It was so nice to see all of my friends at the 137th Annual Session of the CT State Grange. It was a busy Session, and we accomplished a lot of work in a short period of time. Now it's time to go to the National Grange Annual Session, this year in Wichita, Kansas. It will be great to meet up with all of my Grange friends from across the country.

I also had the pleasure of being at the Installation of Officers at Riverton Grange. Congratulations and best wishes for a great year ahead.

Want to follow my adventures? Please visit my Facebook page, and then click the "Like" button to keep in touch. <http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro>



Ekonk Meet & Greet

Many residents look on as Jody Cameron serves as moderator for a Candidate Meet and Greet event at Ekonk Community Grange #89 in Sterling.



Riverton Grange No. 169

113 Years of Community Service
1908 - 2021



4th Annual Veterans Recognition Dinner

Saturday, November 20, 2021
Doors open 5:00 PM; Dinner served 5:30 PM

Barkhamsted Senior Center
109 West River Road
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063

Riverton Grange is proud to host our 4th Annual Veterans Dinner which will consist of spaghetti/homemade meatballs, salad, Italian bread and butter, dessert and drinks. Patriotic songs will be sung and story sharing will be encouraged.

This event is **FREE** and all are welcome to attend.

Please **RSVP by Monday, November 15th**, to **Raine Pedersen**, as seating is limited. We are looking forward to seeing you on November 20th for this special event to recognize our veterans and their families.



Raine Pedersen
860-309-3160
rainepedersen@hotmail.com

CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE

Talkin' Turkey

Join us for a fun and casual social gathering.

A Virtual Thanksgiving Social Hour

Thursday, November 18th
7:00 pm



Send an e-mail to information@ctstategrange.org or membership@ctstategrange.org for the Zoom Meeting Access Information



take survey!



Pie & Coffee talks*

BENEFITS THE SENEXET GRANGE!

Contact maura.robie@comcast.net

for hobby farmers, homesteaders and horsekeepers

- THURS, SEPT. 30 - MANURE & NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT FOR SMALL FARMS
- WED, OCT. 13 - FOREST MANAGEMENT
- WED, OCT. 27 - GRAZING ANIMALS 101
- TUES, NOV. 16 - SOIL HEALTH FOR SMALL FARMS

All presentations 6:30 - 7:45 pm online zoom AND limited in-person with refreshments at Woodstock Senexet Grange following CDC & state COVID-19 guidance at time of talk.

*Sponsored by Woodstock Agricultural Commission, Senexet Grange #40 and Eastern CT Conservation District

VIRTUAL

SOCIAL hour

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join us for a fun and casual social gathering. A brief program will be presented. Stop by and say Hello!



You're Invited to Connect!

Send an e-mail to information@ctstategrange.org or membership@ctstategrange.org for the Zoom Meeting Access Information

CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

NOVEMBER:
"Talkin' Turkey"
Thursday, November 18
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

DECEMBER:
Virtual Christmas Party
Thursday, December 16
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

JANUARY 2022:
CT State Grange History Book Project Update
Thursday
January 20, 2022
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

100 Newfield Road, P.O. Box 3
Winchester Center, CT 06094

Address Service Requested

The tongue of a teacher



Charles W. Dimmick
State Chaplain

Cheshire Grange No. 23
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

Isaiah 50:4

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes.

I taught college-level for 40 years. It slowly came to me that, no matter what immortality we achieve in heaven after death, the only immortality here on earth is in the minds of one's students. What one says in a classroom is remembered, and passed on, sometimes for many generations.

Whether one teaches mundane things, as I did, or teaches about religion, ethics, and morality, remember that you are leaving a legacy for future generations. Remember also that students are more impressed with what they see you do than with what they are told they should do. When both your words and your actions support each other, they have the most lasting impression. There is a danger in this, as the letter of James warns. The danger is that we may through



inaccurate speaking or through wrong actions or miscommunication leave wrong teaching in the minds of our students.

I have found that giving practical applications and hands-on experience with what I have tried to teach has been the most effective technique. The same applies to moral and ethical teaching. Don't just tell people how they ought to behave or to act; explain to them

WHY we should do certain things, such as sharing and helping. And also, why we should NOT do certain things. And then give them opportunities to practice what you teach.

We don't have to be in a classroom to be cast in the role of a teacher. For most of us we also become teachers when we instruct our own children or grandchildren in proper ethics and morals. As we are told in Grange ritual, we must be careful to engraft in young minds only such truths as will be guide and teacher when our voices shall be silent on earth, and we have passed to another and a better world.



In Memoriam

Erma Honegger

Bethlehem Grange #121

"Well done, good and faithful servants."

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\$22 per towel - free shipping

\$2 from the sale of each towel donated to the Grange of your choice

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For orders of 5 or more towels, email Ann:

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