

# PROGRAM HELPS AND INFORMATION

## JULY – AUGUST 2009

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Hi Everyone,

Congratulations on your election or re-election as Lecturer. I want to start with a review of what's happening.

### UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2009

TALENT AND "A NUMBER CONTESTS" will have been judged by the time you see this. Our Talent Winner will represent Connecticut in the Northeast Talent Run-offs at Lecturers' Conference.

COMPLETE PROGRAM The title this year is "As American as Apple Pie". I have some entries in already. The deadline is October 1<sup>st</sup>. You must be prompt. The way the calendar falls, State Session falls early and I have to get them judged. Complete rules are in the Blue Book and were included in a newsletter on a sheet of violet colored paper.

SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE Deadline October 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a very worthwhile project. And, work done at the homes can be included in your Community Service Report. Report forms for this are included in this packet. If you need more, you can let me know or just use a blank sheet of paper making sure you cover all the questions.

A WORD FROM HOME Report due October 1<sup>st</sup>. Remember this should be letters or packages that include letters that are done in the name of the Grange. Many soldiers have never heard of the Grange, so why not write a little about what our organization stands for in your letter.

ESSAY CONTEST Topic this year is "What the Grange Means to Me". Deadline is October 1<sup>st</sup>. Please Note – you are allowed 100 words.

LET'S CELEBRATE will be held July 25<sup>th</sup> at Good Will Grange Hall. Our photo contest will be judged at this time. Pictures may be mailed to me ahead of time or brought to the hall between 9:00 am and 10:00 am on Saturday July 25. The program will start promptly at 2:00 p.m. with refreshments to follow. The Juniors will be serving soup, sandwiches and etc. for those around at lunchtime. Why not use this day to introduce your friends to the Grange. All are welcome.

HONOR LECTURER report forms will be included with the September-October Newsletter

THE NORTH EAST LECTURERS' CONFERENCE will be held August 3 – 6 at Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, Massachusetts. It will be hosted by the Rhode Island State Grange. Connecticut's program will be on Wednesday, August 5. Our program is on Halloween. If you have any numbers we can use or any costumes we can borrow, please let me know. If you haven't received the information on the conference, please let me know. Most importantly, deadlines will be enforced, and all forms must be sent by July 10<sup>th</sup>.

### PLANNING AHEAD TO 2010

Complete information on 2010 will appear in the November – December Newsletter. But, for now, here is a heads up on what to expect....

TALENT CONTEST There will be minor changes in the rules. A complete set of rules for next year will be sent out this fall. The main change will be that signing will be permitted.

"A NUMBER" The title next year will be "The Great Outdoors"

COMPLETE PROGRAM This contest remains the same next year

SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE Will remain the same.

A WORD FROM HOME These letters should be written in the name of your Grange. Packages sent should also include a letter from the Grange.

ESSAY CONTEST 100 words on "The Grange In Our Community".

PHOTO CONTEST will remain the same.

LECTURERS' CONFERENCE is scheduled to be in Vermont.

I hope that this information will be of help to you. Most importantly, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

See you around the State....Marge

## SHARED NUMBERS...

### A GREAT SPEAKER ON ALZHEIMERS

With thanks to Sue Pianka

North Stonington had this speaker and reports that she was great.

Patty O'Brian, BS, North Regional Director of the Alzheimer's Association.

She was an excellent speaker, and the facts are mind-boggling. Lots of handouts too...

She can be reached at [Patty.o'brian@alz.org](mailto:Patty.o'brian@alz.org)  
Or Connecticut Chapter Alzheimer's Association  
279 New Britain Road  
Suite 5  
Kensington, CT 06037

860 828-2828 (local)  
860 356-5502 (24 hour help line)  
860 828 2417 (fax)

And there is a web site [www.alzct.org](http://www.alzct.org)

### THOSE FABULOUS FIFTIES

with Thanks to Ekonk Community Grange

It is said today, that in the 1950's, people saw life through "Rose-Colored Glasses".. Well, Judge for yourself. Do you remember this...

- \*When Kool-aid was the only drink for kids, other than milk or soda.
- \*When it took 3-5 minutes for the "Family" television to warm up.
- \*When Mom was always home when kids came home from school.
- \*When 10 cents was the average allowance (for a week)!
- \*When men teachers wore a necktie every day and lady teachers always wore a dress.
- \*When eating out at a restaurant was a rare privilege.
- \*When parents disciplined their kids.
- \*When teachers actually did hold kids back a grade for failing.
- \*When children actually believed in Santa Claus, The Tooth Fairy, policemen, firemen and their parents.

### A LITTLE MIXED UP

with Thanks to Simsbury Grange

Just a line to say I'm living,  
That I'm not among the dead;  
Though I'm getting more forgetful  
And more "mixed up" in the head

For, sometimes I can't remember  
When I stand at foot of stair  
If I must go up for something  
Or I've just come down from there.

And before the frig', so often  
My poor mind is filled with doubt,  
Have I just put food away, or,  
Have I come to take some out.

And there's time when it is dark out  
With my night cap on my head,  
I don't know if I'm retiring  
Or, just getting out of bed.

So, if it's my turn to write you

There's no need in getting sore,  
I may not remember if I've written  
And don't want to be a bore.

So remember...I do love you,  
And I wish that you were here;  
But now it's nearly mail time  
So, I must say "good night dear".

p.s.

There I stood beside the mail box  
With my face so very red,  
Instead of mailing you my letter,  
I have opened it instead!!!

### **ROSES IN GRANGE RITUAL**

With Thanks to Old Lyme Grange

Roses are used in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree – they are given to the Sisters by the Overseer

Overseer: "Brothers and Sisters, your recommendations are good. This degree is emblematic, as will be fully explained. To these Sisters I will give each a ROSE as a tribute for our Altar."

At the Altar, The Master says: "Worthy Sisters, your tribute is accepted. This is God's Holy word, and thereon fair hands, prompted by pure hearts have dropped ROSES, emblems of everlasting love and charity.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree the Chaplain says: "The tears of the compassionate are sweeter than dewdrops falling from ROSES on the bosom of the earth."

Sixth Degree: ROSES are the symbol of the Sixth Degree – known as the Degree of Flora. The rose drill is the highlight of the Sixth Degree. ROSES are pictured on the Sixth Degree certificate.

### **CAT SENSE**

With Thanks to Debbie Perry

A strawberry blonde was weeding her yard and accidentally cut off the tail of her cat which was hiding in the grass. She rushed her cat, along with the tail, over to WAL-MART!

Why WAL-MART???

HELLOOOOOOOOO!

WAL\*MART is the largest re-tailer in the world!!!

### **OUR GRANGE**

with Thanks to Beacon Valley Grange

Members of the Grange are we,  
Good Patrons of Husbandry  
Our pride is in God's land  
From the mountains to the desert sand;  
Our faith is in the soil and the plow  
To all mankind the harvest we endow,  
Our earnest hope is to ensure  
A future good that is secure.  
Our charity in words and deeds  
Are meant to meet our Brother's needs,

Our fidelity's toward every worthy cause,  
While keeping inviolant the Grange laws.  
If to these truths we do adhere  
The meaning of our Grange is clear,  
With co-operation and understanding  
The Grange will ever keep expanding,  
And we members working side by side  
Find faith in the Order justified.

## **THE DATING GAME**

with Thanks to East Central Pomona

Lulu: (Sitting at Table) What a night!

Joan: What's the matter?

Lulu: I had a date last night...

Joan: When I was your age, all a girl had to know about dating was how to say NO.

Lulu: Today, you have to know martial arts.

Joan: How come?

Lulu: All my life I've dreamt of having a storybook romance...

Joan: Yes

Lulu: So far, all my romances seem to have been written by Stephen King!

## **FORTUNE TELLER**

with Thanks to Quinebaug Pomona

*You need a table, 2 chairs, one girl dressed in a gypsy costume, a girl dressed in regular clothes and a glass ball or a ball covered in aluminum foil.*

Fortune Teller: Come in, come in. Would you like me to tell your fortune?

Girl: *(Wearing oversized ring – she keeps admiring it and holding it up for all to see)* Oh, I really would like you to read my palm and tell me my fortune. I hope it is a good one.

Fortune Teller: Hmm, let me look. You have a very long life line with many branches. You have many lovers.

Girl: Oh, No, I'm so much in love with one man and I want to spend the rest of my life with him.

Fortune Teller: I know. He is a very tall man, Yes?

Girl: Yes he is.

Fortune Teller: With dark hair and brown eyes.

Girl: That's right.

Fortune Teller: I see he has a front tooth missing.

Girl: Well, yes he does.

Fortune Teller: He has asked you to marry him.

Girl: O, Yes.

Fortune Teller: And his name is Tom.

Girl: That's marvelous! How can you tell all that from the lines on my palm?

Fortune Teller: It's not the lines I'm telling by, it's the ring you're wearing. I gave it back to the scoundrel two weeks ago!

## **THE OLD MAN**

with Thanks to Joan Perry

*(This is longer than I like to see at a Grange meeting, but once I started to read I couldn't put it down. Perhaps you can use it to help get letters for our "A Word From Home" project)*

As I came out of the supermarket that sunny day, pushing my cart of groceries towards my car, I saw an old man with the hood of his car up and a lady sitting inside the car, with the door open. The old man was looking at the engine. I put my Groceries away in my car and continued to watch the old gentleman from about twenty five feet away.

I saw a young man in his early twenties with a grocery bag in his arm, walking towards the old man. The old gentleman saw him coming too and took a few steps towards him. I saw the old gentleman point to his open hood and say something.

The young man put his grocery bag into what looked like a brand new Cadillac Escalade and then turned back to the old man. I heard him yell at the old gentleman saying, 'You shouldn't even be allowed to drive a car at your age.' And then with a wave of his hand, he got in his car and peeled rubber out of the parking lot.

I saw the old gentleman pull out his handkerchief and mop his brow as he went back to his car and again looked at the engine. He then went to his wife and spoke with her and appeared to tell her it would be okay.

I had seen enough and I approached the old man. He saw me coming and stood straight and as I got near him I said, 'Looks like you're having a problem.' He smiled sheepishly and quietly nodded his head.

I looked under the hood myself and knew that whatever the problem was, it was beyond me. Looking around I saw a gas station up the road and told the old man that I would be right back. I drove to the station and went inside and saw three attendants working on cars. I approached one of them and related the problem the old man had with his car and offered to pay them if they could follow me back down and help him.

The old man had pushed the heavy car under the shade of a tree and appeared to be comforting his wife. When he saw us he straightened up and thanked me for my help. As the mechanics diagnosed the problem (overheated engine) I spoke with the old gentleman.

When I shook hands with him earlier, he had noticed my Marine Corps ring and had commented about it, telling me that he had been a Marine too. I nodded and asked the usual question, 'What outfit did you serve with?' He had mentioned that he served with the first Marine Division at Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Guadalcanal. He had hit all the big ones and retired from the Corps after the war was over.

As we talked we heard the car engine come on and saw the mechanics lower the hood. They came over to us as the old man reached for his wallet, but was stopped by me and I told him I would just put the bill on my AAA card.

He still reached for the wallet and handed me a card that I assumed had his name and address on it and I stuck it in my pocket... We all shook hands and I said my goodbyes to his wife. I then told the two mechanics that I would follow them back up to the station. Once at the station I told them that they had interrupted their own jobs to come along with me and help the old man. I said I wanted to pay for the help, but they refused to charge me.

One of them pulled out a card from his pocket looking exactly like the card the old man had given to me. Both of the men told me then, that they were Marine Corps Reserves. Once again we shook hands all around and as I was leaving, one of them told me I should look at the card the old man had given to me. I said I would and drove off.

For some reason I had gone about two blocks when I pulled over and took the card out of my pocket and looked at it for a long, long time. The name of the old gentleman was on the card in golden leaf and under his name..... 'Congressional Medal of Honor Society.' I sat there motionless looking at the card and reading it over and over. I looked up from the card and smiled to no one but myself and marveled that on this day, four Marines had all come together, because one of us needed help.

He was an old man all right, but it felt good to have stood next to greatness and courage, and it was an honor to have been in his presence.

Remember, OLD men like him gave you FREEDOM for America. Thanks to those who served...and those who supported them. America is not at war. The U.S. Military is at war. America is at the Mall. If you don't stand behind our troops, PLEASE feel free to stand in front of them!

Remember, Freedom isn't Free; thousands have paid the price so you can enjoy what you have today.

## **BODIES OF WATER**

with Thanks to North Stonington Community Grange  
(*These make great cut-aparts and are educational too*)

THE ARCTIC OCEAN is the smallest and shallowest of the oceans. It has an average depth of 4,200 feet. It is generally covered by an ice layer around 10 feet thick. Few fish survive in the frozen waters of the mid-Arctic ocean, but Arctic cod, narwhals, and beluga whales swim near the ocean edges. In the summer, algae bloom near the shore, making a delicious dinner for Arctic cod.

THE RED SEA, which separates Arabia and Africa, is growing wider. A volcanic ridge down its center is very slowly moving apart. The Red Sea will one day become wide enough to be called an ocean – in millions of years.

THE SARGASSO SEA is a huge pocket of calm amid the fury of western North Atlantic waters. A greenish-brown weed, sargassum, thrives here.

THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, the second largest ocean, covers about one-fifth of the earth's surface. It is divided into two areas by the equator. The North Atlantic is a thriving shipping area, teeming with fish. The South Atlantic is where the most isolated inhabited island in the world lies – Tristan de Cunha, whose nearest neighbor is 1,300 miles away.

THE INDIAN OCEAN is the third largest ocean. Its' warm waters support a fascinating range of sea creatures, including the rare dugon (a sea mammal) and the coelacanth, a fish once thought to have become extinct 60 million years ago. A coelacanth captured off the east coast of Africa in 1938 proved this not to be the case. The fish, the world soon learned, was popular with people on the Comoro Islands, who use its scales for sandpaper.

THE DEAD SEA, located on the Israel-Jordan border, is the lowest water area on earth. Its surface is 1,286 feet below sea level. It's also the worlds' saltiest sea. Salt makes the water denser, so everything floats more easily, including people.

THE PACIFIC OCEAN covers 32 percent of the globe – about a third of it. That's more than all of the land masses combines. The Pacific is the largest ocean, a little under twice the size of the Atlantic.

THE CARIBBEAN SEA covers an area a little over a million square miles. It is home to about 14 percent of the world's coral reefs.

THE ANTARCTIC (OR SOUTHERN) OCEAN includes all waters south of latitude 55 degrees South. It surrounds the continent of Antarctica, the coldest and windiest place on earth, with average temperatures along the coast of minus 22 degrees F. and winds over 190 miles per hour.

THE BEARING STRAIT connect the Arctic and the Pacific oceans. Thousands of years ago, a land bridge connected North America and Asia. Today, because the sea rose, that land bridge is beneath the sea, hence the Bering Sea.

**I'M AN AMERICAN FARMER**  
with Thanks to Whigville Grange

I'm an American farmer, I work hard with my hands  
I am proud to be a part of this land  
I'm up early in the morning to milk the cows  
And in the afternoon I work with my plows  
I mow the grass, I bale the hay  
I sweat in the sun 'til the break of day  
I plant the oats, I plant the corn  
From the late sunset 'til the early morn  
It's a half past eight and it's getting kind of late  
I've got to get those cows a headin' toward the gate  
There's always work to be done  
And there's not much time for fun  
But I'm proud to be a farmer to feed this land I love  
I mow the grass, I bale the hay  
I sweat in the sun til the break of day  
I plant the oats, I plant the corn  
From the late sunset ' till the early morn  
We've got to work hand in hand  
To save this great land  
We've got to save the American farm  
From any kind of harm  
So buy the farmer's products, And help the farm survive  
Let the farmer know you love him, And stand by his side

**HANDY LITTLE CHART - GOD HAS A POSITIVE ANSWER:**

With Thanks to All who sent this to me.

YOU SAY

GOD SAYS

BIBLE VERSES

You say: 'It's impossible'

God says: All things are possible

(Luke 18:27)

You say: 'I'm too tired'

God says: I will give you rest

(Matthew 11:28-30)

You say: 'Nobody really loves me'

God says: I love you

(John 3:1 6 & John  
3:34 )

You say: 'I can't go on'

God says: My grace is sufficient

(II Corinthians 12:9 &  
Psalm 91:15)

You say: 'I can't figure things out'

God says: I will direct your steps

(Proverbs 3:5- 6)

You say: 'I can't do it'

God says: You can do all things

( Philippians 4:13)

You say: 'I'm not able'

God says: I am able

(II Corinthians 9:8)

You say: 'It's not worth it'

God says: It will be worth it

(Roman 8:28 )

You say: 'I can't forgive myself'

God says: I Forgive you

(I John 1:9 & Romans  
8:1)

You say: 'I can't manage'

God says: I will supply all your needs

( Philippians 4:19)

You say: 'I'm afraid'	God says: I have not given you a spirit of fear	(II Timothy 1:7)
You say: 'I'm always worried and frustrated'	God says: Cast all your cares on ME	(I Peter 5:7)
You say: 'I'm not smart enough'	God says: I give you wisdom	(I Corinthians 1:30)
You say: 'I feel all alone'	God says: I will never leave you or forsake you	(Hebrews 13:5)

### **WE ARE UNDER ATTACK**

Have you noticed? -- Stairs are getting steeper. Groceries are heavier. And, everything is farther away. Yesterday I walked to the corner and I was dumbfounded to discover how long our street had become!

And, you know, people are less considerate now, especially the young ones. They speak in whispers all the time! If you ask them to speak up they just keep repeating themselves, endlessly mouthing the same silent message until they're red in the face! What do they think I am, a lip reader?

I also think they are much younger than I was at the same age. On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am. I ran into an old friend the other day and she has aged so much that she didn't even recognize me.

I got to thinking about the poor dear while I was combing my hair this morning, and in doing so, I glanced at my own reflection, well, REALLY NOW - even mirrors are not made the way they used to be!

Another thing, everyone drives so fast these days! You're risking life and limb if you happen to pull onto the freeway in front of them. All I can say is, their brakes must wear out awfully fast, the way I see them screech and swerve in my rear view mirror.

Clothing manufacturers are less civilized these days. Why else would they suddenly start labeling a size 10 or 12 dress as 18 or 20? Do they think no one notices?

The people who make bathroom scales are pulling the same prank. Do they think I actually "believe" the number I see on that dial? HA! I would never let myself weigh that much! Just who do these people think they're fooling?

I'd like to call up someone in authority to report what's going on -- but the telephone company is in on the conspiracy too: they've printed the phone books in such small type that no one could ever find a number in there!

All I can do is pass along this warning: WE ARE UNDER ATTACK! Unless something drastic happens, pretty soon everyone will have to suffer these awful indignities.