



LECTURERS' NEWSLETTER September – October 2020

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Greetings...

I sure hope this finds all in good health and safe during the trying times we are having.

Enclosed with this newsletter is your Honor Lecturer's Report for 2020. It looks a lot different than previous ones because I realize that most Granges haven't been able to meet and we had to stop some of our normal activities. Please fill this out and return it even if you don't think you are eligible. You may be pleasantly surprised.

I have had several questions about the National Grange Photo Contest this year. We cancelled our local judging when the National Lecturer changed the rules due to the Corona Virus. So, here are the new rules from National...

The 2020 National Grange Virtual Photo Contest came about as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic causing massive changes to our annual National and State Grange conventions. This contest allows for a photo contest even without state contests. All photos entered will become the property of the National Grange and may be used in National Grange publications and virtual media.

RULES ...

A. The National Grange Virtual Photo Contest is open to all Grangers and yet-to-be Grangers.

B. Submitted photos can be of any subject. [Any photograph deemed inappropriate will not be judged or exhibited in the National Grange Virtual Photo Contest.]

C. All entries must be received electronically as a single (1) file no larger than 1GB via Google Forms at [http:// tiny.cc/grange20pubitem](http://tiny.cc/grange20pubitem) by October 31, 2020.

D. There is one division – come one, come all!

E. Each individual is limited to entering three photos.

F. Entries should be no more than one year old.

G. Any entries received after the October 31, 2020 deadline will not be judged.

PRIZES Monetary prizes will be awarded: 1st - \$50.00, 2nd - \$30.00, 3rd - \$20.00.

Hopefully this clarifies the contest for you. If you still have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

As far as Connecticut is concerned if you want to enter please do. Unfortunately I have had several of our Grangers say they were going to enter but are no longer interested. I hope that by 2021 things will be back to normal, but, if not I think we should have our own contest. The Photo Contest has always had really good entries.

Hoping to be able to see you in person in the near future. Remember if you ever need help I am as near as your phone, mail box or computer.

Marge

SHARED NUMBERS...

A HALLOWEEN STORY With Thanks to Joan Perry

A man is walking home alone late one foggy Halloween night, when behind him he hears:

BUMP... BUMP... BUMP...

Walking faster, he looks back and through the fog he makes out the image of an upright casket banging its way down the middle of the street toward him.

BUMP... BUMP... BUMP...

Terrified, the man begins to run toward his home, the casket bouncing quickly behind him.

FASTER... FASTER...

BUMP... BUMP... BUMP....

He runs up to his door, fumbles with his keys, opens the door, rushes in, slams and locks the door behind him. However, the casket crashes through his door, with the lid of the casket clapping.

clappity-BUMP... clappity-BUMP... clappity-BUMP... on his heels, as the terrified man runs.

Rushing upstairs to the bathroom, he locks himself in. His heart is pounding; his head is reeling; his breath is coming in sobbing gasps.

With a loud CRASH the casket breaks down the door Bumping and clapping toward him. The man screams and reaches for something, anything, but all he can find is a bottle of cough syrup! Desperate, he throws the cough syrup at the casket...

and, (hopefully you're ready for this!!!)

The coffin stops.

A SUMMER SUNSHINE QUIZ with Thanks to Vernon Grange

(All answers begin with the letters SUN)

1. Various or miscellaneous (sundry)
2. Tinted eyewear (sunglasses)
3. Inflammation or blistering of the skin (sunburn)
4. Day of the week (Sunday)
5. To break apart or divide (sunder)
6. Ice cream with a topping, perhaps nuts, whipped cream, and a cherry (sundae)
7. Solar time indicator with a pointer that casts a shadow (sundial)
8. A bright cheery flower with edible seeds (sunflower)

BLACKOUT SKIT – THE DENTIST with Thanks to Enfield Grange

Characters – Mr. & Mrs. Jones and the Dentist

Mrs. Jones: (In a loud and demanding voice) "I want a tooth pulled. I don't want any gas or Novocain because I'm in a terrible hurry. Just pull the tooth."

Dentist: "You certainly are a brave woman. Now show me which tooth it is."

Mrs. Jones: (turns to her husband) "Open your mouth and show the dentist which tooth it is, dear."

SOME RIB TICKLERS with Thanks to Cheshire Grange

What is Red and White and falls down the chimney?

Ans. A Santa Klutz

Why did the fisherman throw peanut butter into the ocean?

Ans. To go with the Jelly Fish

What did the Burgers name their daughter?

Ans. Patty

Why did the belt go to jail?

Ans. Because it held up a pair of pants

What did the cowboy say to the Pencil?

Draw, partner

What did the banana do best in gymnastics?

Ans. Splits

Why didn't the eagle get its' hair wet when it went swimming?

Ans. It was a bald eagle

WHAT IS BEHIND SOME OF THE OLD WIVES TALES??

(These would make good cut-aparts)

Have you broken a mirror lately? Some think this brings seven years of bad luck. The Romans thought the reflection was a part of the soul. So, if you broke your soul you would be subject to bad luck. They also believed that the body and soil renewed themselves every seven years.

The four-leaf clover is considered lucky because its' leaves are in the shape of a cross.

Do you say "God bless you" when someone sneezes? During the first recorded plague, sneezing often preceded death. Pope Gregory asked his followers to say "God Bless You" every time someone sneezed.

Where does the superstition saying you should knock on wood to have good luck Come from? In ancient times, many pagan religions worshipped trees, and incorporated them into their Thus you knock on wood to protect yourself from the anger of the gods.

Why do black cats bring bad luck? Ancient pagan cultures worshipped cats. The belief that cats have 9 lives comes from the Egyptian cat-headed goddess Pasht who is said to have had nine lives. In the 1200's Pope Gregory denounced cats as Satan's servants. Cats all across Europe were killed. Unfortunately, the rat population thrived and spread Bubonic Plague in 1348.

A lot of people consider number 13 unlucky? This also goes back to ancient times. When man began counting, he used his 10 fingers and 2 feet to count. Anything more than 12 was considered unlucky. Some believe that Friday the 13th is the unluckiest number of all because Jesus died on a Friday.

As a child were you warned about spilling salt? This started because ancient Greeks and Romans used salt in their sacrifices and to spill it was an ill omen. They claimed if you do spill it you should throw it over your left shoulder, into the face of the devil lurking there.

HALLOWEEN FACTS

41% of adults indulge in sweets from their own giveaway bowls.

1.9 billion dollars are spent on Halloween candy each season.

90 million pounds of chocolate are sold during Halloween week. More than double the amount sold for Valentine's Day

How long can you keep the candy?

Though they won't ever truly spoil (you can thank the generous amounts of sugar for that), sweets will lose their flavor and color. This is when you should toss the goodies out.

Chocolate – Dark and milk varieties can last for 1 to 2 years. Wrap it in foil and store in a dry, odor-free spot.

Jellied candies – Unwrapped in a candy dish, they'll last for 6 to 9 months if kept away from heat and light. If wrapped, they're good for a full year.

Hard candy – This should be thrown out after one year of storage at room temperature.

Corn candy – Unopened packages will last up to 9 months, but stray corns only keep for 3 to 5 months. Store them in an airtight container in a cool dry place.

Gum – Chewable for 6 to 9 months. Keep packs in a cool, dry location to prevent the pieces from drying out.

Caramel – Keep it covered and away from heat and it'll last for 6 to 9 months. Or freeze it and save it for next year.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS CAN YOU GUESS WHO THEY ARE??

1. This "Robin Hood" type of outlaw of Civil War era fame was leader of a "gang" that robbed and gave money back to rebuild the south...

Ans. Jesse James

2. This early American automobile manufacturer was famous for his "Model T"...

Ans. Henry Ford

3. This influential, creative force in the world of rock and roll was born in Lubbock, Texas and died in a plane crash in 1959 at the height of his career...

Ans. Charles Hardin Holley also known as Buddy Holly

4. This lady was a famous country, honky-tonk singer and songwriter. Like Buddy Holly, she too died in a plane crash at the height of her career....

Ans. Virginia Patterson Hensley, also known as Patsy Cline.

5. This Italian born movie star has achieved 2 Oscars, 5 Golden Globes, Grammys and 50 International Film Awards! She was born in 1934 and her last film was in 2009...

Ans. Sofia Villani Scicolone also known as Sophia Loren

6. This native of Maine is a renowned author of suspense and horror. His books have sold over 500 million copies and many have been made into movies...

Ans. Steven King (his real name)

FEELING BETTER?

My wife was not feeling well, so I went with her to see the doctor.

"How tall are you?" asked his nurse.

"I'm 5 feet 8 inches" my wife replied.

The nurse measured her and said, "No you're 5 foot 5."

"How much do you weigh?" asked the nurse.

"I weigh 150 pounds", replied my wife.

The nurse weighed her and said, "No, you're 180."

Then the nurse took her blood pressure and remarked that it was quite high. "Of course it's high!" my wife screamed. "I came in here tall and thin, and you made me short and fat!"

OUR FLAG with Thanks to Irene Percoski

A Fan on a table near the flag can add a lot to a number like this.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I give you the Flag that flew over Valley Forge and was torn in two by the Gray and Blue and bled through two World Wars.

I give you the Flag that burned in the street in protest, in anger and shame, the very same Flag that covered the men who died defending her name.

We now stand together, Americans all, either by choice or by birth to honor the Flag that's flown on the Moon and changed the face of the Earth.

History will show this Flag was a friend to the hungry, the homeless and lost that a mixture of men as common as clay valued one thing beyond cost.

And they've signed in blood from Bunker Hill to Saigon, Kuwait, Bosnia, Kabul, Baghdad, Afghanistan and Toko Ri.

I give you the Flag that says to the World each man has a right to be free.

THREE FOR LUNCH

Three businessmen were having lunch - waitress brings the check

1st Man: I'll pay – it's a business expense.

2nd Man: I'll pay – I'm on cost plus.

3rd Man: Let me pay. I'm filing bankruptcy next week.

SLEEPLESS NIGHT

Wife: Your snoring has become unbearable.

Husband: How bad could it be?

Wife: Well, if you had been sawing real wood, you'd have wiped out half the tropical rain forest.

GET A GRIP

No wonder golf is a sport in which tempers grow very thin. It's the only game in which players are teed off when they begin.

