



THE CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE LECTURERS' NEWSLETTER July - August 2017



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Congratulations...

Yes, congratulations. If you are receiving this it means you have been either elected or re-elected as Lecturer of your Grange. If you are new to the office, thank you for taking on the responsibilities associated with being Lecturer of your Grange. If you are returning for another year, thank you for continuing on. If you have been out of the Lecturer's Office a year or more, welcome back. You are all greatly appreciated by the Grange.

This can be a fun and rewarding job, but it also carries with it a lot of responsibilities. A Lecturer can make or break a Grange. I know we have a lot of talented Lecturers out there. Please use your talents to help our Granges grow. And remember, if you ever need help I am as close as your phone, computer or mail box. Please do not hesitate to ask.

I hope that you have received this information in a timely manner from your Pomona Lecturer or other representative. I know that you are planning ahead to next year's activities, so I will review what is left to do this year and share with you some of what will be happening during the 2017-18 Grange year.

At our last Lecturers' planning meeting we set things up for two years. All our contests and projects will continue the same in the coming year. In case you don't have a Bluebook or a copy of last year's requirements, I am enclosing one in this packet.

Okay, let's review what still needs to be done...

Things left to do this year...

Complete Programs should be mailed to me by October 1st. Remember these have to be presented at your Grange before you can submit them. This year's theme is "Looking in the Rear View Mirror". Explore all the possibilities and use your imagination. It can be historical, what you see driving down the road or anything else that fits the category.

Essay Contest. Write an essay that is 150 words or less entitled "My Favorite Food". I'm told that all Grangers love to eat so this should be an easy topic. Why not have your members write these as part of your program one meeting. These also have to be to me by October 1st.

Report forms for Should Auld Acquaintance are included in this packet. These will be good either this year or next. This program was started nearly 50 years ago by Rita Whipple and through it Grangers in CT have brought cheer into the lives of thousands of residents of convalescent and rest homes. Let's keep this going. Talk to any recreation director or to some of the residents themselves and you will find out how much you are appreciated.

Have you sent any letters to our service men and women in harms' way yet? Staying at a hotel in the future. They like the small toiletries that are left for us. I am hearing that many of the exchanges are not well stocked and many items are hard to come by. Unfortunately those serving and protecting us are having trouble getting snacks and toiletries. Why not have everyone bring something to a meeting and send these items along with your letters. If you don't have a name I can help you find a needy group to send to. Or have someone in your Grange go on line. I use anysoldier.com to get names to send to. You can read their requests, choose where you want to send your package and decide who you want to send items to.

The report form for Honor Lecturer will be mailed with your next newsletter on or about September 1st. Please return it even if you don't qualify. This is where I find out who has done some of the other projects. If I don't know that your Grange has sent a letter overseas, I can't make out the appropriate certificate.

As always, if you have any questions or need help, please be sure and ask.

See you around the State.

Marge

SHARED NUMBERS...

A PRESIDENTIAL QUIZ with Thanks to Ekonk Grange

1. Who was the only President to be elected unanimously? Ans. George Washington
2. Who was the only President to have a job as a hangman? Ans. Grover Cleveland. He was once a sheriff of Erie County New York, and twice had to spring a trap at the hanging.
3. President Harry Truman had an "S" in his name. What did the "S" stand for? Ans. Nothing
4. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams once travelled to England to visit William Shakespeare's birthplace. While there, they used a knife. What for? Ans. They used it on one of Shakespeare's chairs so they could take home some wood chips as souvenirs.
5. Who was the only American President who had been a tailor? Ans. Andrew Johnson. He would only wear suits he had made himself.
6. Who was the first US President to speak on a telephone? Ans. James Garfield.
7. Who was the first President who refused to accept his Presidential salary? Ans. George Washington
8. Which President was known as "Old Kinderhook"? President Martin Van Buren was known as "Old Kinderhook" because he was raised in Kinderhook, N.Y. This is where the term OK comes from. OK clubs were created to support Van Buren's campaigns.
9. Who was the first President to visit all 50 States and also visit China? Ans. Richard Nixon
10. Who was the first US President to go on record as seeing a UFO? Ans. Jimmy Carter.

A CLOSING THOUGHT

Forgiveness is a funny thing, it warms the heart and cools the sting.

THE DEGREE OF FLORA from Betty Jane Gardiner's papers

*"A bright spot of each year is the conferral of the beautiful 6th Degree.
A book of poems written by Benelia Case of Bloomfield and published in 1892
contains the following – called 'The Degree of Flora'."*

Oh! How beautiful and solemn
Is this lovely sixth degree
With its sacred hidden lessons,
All portrayed for you and me;
Oh! The impressiveness that floats
Through the chambers of the mind,
As one enters through Flora's gate,
Surpasses any of its kind.
May we nurture all her seedlings,
For knowledge gives us power,
Produces growth from ignorance,
Like plant-life from a shower;
So may we reap, when harvest comes,
From her many pearly seeds,
An ample yield, whose sheaves contain
Loving, rich, and golden deeds.
Oh! The sweet and lovely tribute,
Received from Flora's own hand,
With her golden words and precepts,
Make ours a most precious band;
As we go refreshed from her court,
Treasuring those words of cheer,
We say, down in our inmost heart,
"The Grange grows dearer each year."

AN EGG QUIZ from Betty Jane's papers.

"Eggsactly" how would you serve eggs to the following?

1. Someone Full of mischief? ... Deviled
2. A Jogger? ... Runny
3. An Illegal Hunter? ... Poached
4. A Pampered Child? ... Coddled
5. A Taxidermist? ... Stuffed
6. A Traitor? ... Eggs Benedict
7. An Optimistic Meteorologist? ... Sunny side up
8. A Callous Person? ... Hard Boiled
9. An Acrobat? ... Over Easy

NAME THE MONUMENTS from A Complete Program 1989-90

Countries erect monuments for many fascinating reasons.

Some of these monuments have become so famous that our minds can't think of the countries without thinking of their monuments at the same time.

1. Stretching more than 1250 miles this remarkable stone structure was built more than 2000 years ago to keep out invaders. Ans. Great Wall of China
2. Named for Sir William, "Big Ben" Bell, this 13½ ton bell first boomed out in 1859 from the clock tower of the Houses of Parliament. Ans. Big Ben, London England
3. Built in 438 B.C. to honor the goddess Athena, this classic Temple is considered an architectural triumph even today. Ans. Parthenon, Athens, Greece.
4. With the head of a man and the body of a lion, this 240 foot high monument is made entirely of stone. It honors an ancient Pharaoh. Ans. The Sphinx, Giza, Egypt
5. This wrought iron tower rises 984 feet. Built for the Paris World Exposition in 1889, it holds a restaurant and a weather station. Ans. Eiffel Tower, Paris, France.
6. Built in 79 A.D. for sports and events and exhibits, the building still stands as a tribute to the Golden Age of Rome. Ans. The Colosseum, Rome, Italy.
7. With its eight onion shaped domes, this 400 year old cathedral is among this country's most popular tourist attractions. Ans. St. Basil's Cathedral, Moscow, Russia
8. This monument was built in the 17th century as a tomb for the emperor's wife.
Ans. Taj Mahal, Delhi, India.
9. This gift from France was dedicated in 1886. Ans. Statue of Liberty, New York, New York
10. This beautiful bell tower started to lean shortly after its completion in 1372. Built of marble it stands 177 feet tall. Ans. Leaning Tower, Pisa, Italy.

THE DOG

Announcer: The scene is the (your town) Green and a young boy is sitting on the bench waiting for the bus.

Man enters

Man: Could you tell me how to get to Town Hall?

Boy: Across the street, Sir. (Points) Go around to the back of the building. That's where the door is.

Man: That's a pretty dog there.

Boy: Yes, sir. He's a UConn Husky.

Man: You mean like Sgt. Preston and his wonder dog, Yukon King?

Boy: No, like UConn and its wonder basketball team.

Man: Does your dog bite?

Boy: Oh, no, sir. My Dad calls him the burglar's friend. He might lick you to death, but he'd never bite.

Man: Well, thanks for the directions, (Starts to walk away)

Boy: It's a good thing you're walking. The parking over there is horrible.

Man stoops to pet dog, jerks away, and yells in pain. He storms back to where the boy is sitting.

Man: You lied to me! That mangy mutt bit me!

Boy: I didn't lie to you. I never tell lies.

Man: You did so! You told me your dog doesn't bite and look at my hand!!

Boy: Mister, that's not my dog. That dog belongs to (Name a good sport from your Grange)

PATRIOTIC QUIZ

1. What is the name of the National Anthem? Ans. The Stars Spangled Banner
2. Which right is guaranteed by the First Amendment? Ans. Freedom of Religion
3. What is the title of the head of a city government? Ans. Mayor
4. Who has the ability to declare war? Ans. The Congress
5. How many full terms may a Senator serve? Ans. No term limits for Senators
6. How many full terms can a President serve? Ans. Two
7. How many years is a full term for a Representative? Ans. Two
8. Who becomes President if both the President and Vice President die?
Ans. The Speaker of the House.
9. How many branches of Government do we have? Ans. Three
10. Who elects the President of the United States? Ans. The Electoral College
11. Who was the President of the United States during the Civil War? Ans. Abraham Lincoln
12. Why did the Pilgrims come to America? Ans. To find religious freedom
13. How many total Senators are there? Ans. 100
14. The Constitution has how many Amendments? Ans. 27
15. In what year was the last amendment ratified? Ans. 1992
16. What is the Official Language of the United States? Ans. There is none
17. Who was the first Vice President of the United States? Ans. John Adams
18. Who said "Give me liberty or give me death? Ans. Patrick Henry
19. How many Presidents were assassinated while in office? Ans. Four
20. On July 4th, 1776, we declared our Independence from whom? Ans. Great Britain

THINGS TO FORGET

From Grange Lecturer's Handbook 1940 – 1941

Forget the Slander you have heard
Forget the hasty unkind word.
Forget the quarrel and the cause
Forget the whole affair, because
Forgetting is the only way.
Forget the storm of yesterday
Forget the chap whose sour face
Forgets to smile in any place
Forget to ever get the blues
But don't forget to pay your dues.

SOME FILL-IN QUESTIONS with Thanks to No. Haven Grange

- Q. How do fleas travel? Ans. They itch hike
Q. What do rodents write on? Ans. A Mouse Pad
Q. Why did the spider move its' home from the window? Ans. It wanted to change websites.

DO YOU REMEMBER with Thanks to Watertown Grange

Sally: I know I was supposed to do something, but I can't remember what. I wrote a note to remind me.

Carrie: So look at the note ... where is it?

Sally: In my purse. (*Goes through great amount of stuff in purse*) Here it is in the bottom of the purse.

Carrie: What does it remind you to do?

Sally: (*Reading Note*) Cleanout my purse!!!!

THE DOG DAYS with Thanks to Whigville Grange

The dog days begin July 3rd and end August 11th. They are the hottest, most sultry days of summer. In the northern hemisphere the dog days are most commonly experienced in the months of July and August. In the southern hemisphere they typically occur in January and February. The name comes from the ancient belief that Sirius, also called the Dog Star, in close proximity to the sun was responsible for the hot weather. They considered Sirius to be the "Dog Star" because it is the brightest star in the constellation Canis Major (Large Dog). Sirius is also the brightest star in the night sky.

OLDIE BUT GOODIE TV SHOWS

Name the show the following characters were in.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Meathead ... All in the Family | 5. The Skipper ... Gilligan's Island |
| 2. Alice ... The Brady Bunch | 6. Ellie Mae ... Beverly Hillbillies |
| 3. Aunt Bea ... Andy Griffith Show | 7. The Fonz ... Happy Days |
| 4. Oliver Wendell Douglas ... Green Acres | 8. Bam-Bam ... The Flintstones |

BIBLE VERSES FROM THE 4TH DEGREE

"Reference to quotation about Naomi and Ruth

Ruth 1:16-17

"Speaking the truth in Love."

Ephesians 4:15

"Who Openest Thine hand," etc.

Psalm 104:28

SOME BLACKOUT SKITS...

George: Do you know the difference between a garage and a swimming pool?

Sam: No. What is it?

George: Heck! I'm not letting you park my car.

Pam: I'll have you know when I was growing up, thirty boys asked me for my hand.

Gerry: No kidding! How much money were you holding in it at the time?

Connie: I found a great way to look young.

Barbara: What's that?

Connie: Hang out with old people.

PLAN AHEAD TO SAVE MONEY THIS WINTER

These would make good cut-aparts.

Move furniture and draperies away from heating units, including radiators.

Close windows tightly near your thermostat. Otherwise, your furnace might continue to work even though the rest of your home is warm enough.

Draw curtains, shades and draperies at night to keep out cold air. During the day, open them to let in the sun's warming energy.

If you have hot water radiators, bleed them often to improve circulation.

Cover through-the-wall air conditioners.

Close vents for central air conditioners.

Close off unused rooms and shut closet doors and doors to unheated areas.

Shut the damper when the fireplace isn't being used.

Wear layers of clothing to trap air between layers and stay warmer.

RITUAL QUIZ

1. During the opening of the Grange, who hands the flag to Ceres?
Ans. The Steward
2. Who takes the word from the Overseer?
Ans. Both the Assistant and Lady Assistant
3. When Draping the Charter, who places the Drape on the Charter?
Ans. The Chaplain
4. In whose protection is the cycle placed?
Ans. Ceres
5. How often must a Grange hold a meeting opened in proper form?
Ans. At least once a month.
6. How many Degrees are there in the Grange?
Ans. Seven
7. Who opens and closes the Bible?
Ans. The Assistant Steward
8. Who is the first one to say "So Be It"?
Ans. The Master
9. Who is presented with an owl staff during installation?
Ans. The Gatekeeper
10. Which degree symbolizes Autumn of the Farm?
Third Degree

APRON APPLAUSE

From Suggestions for Grange Patriotic Programs

When I was a child, Grandma's garments made little impression on me - - with the exception of her apron!

Since Grandma was a woman of ample proportions, her cover-all apron was a big affair of dark printed cotton, slow to soil, edged all around with bias tape. Its uses were limitless. The apron made a "basket" when she gathered eggs from the henhouse late in the afternoon. If there were fluffy, yellow chicks to be carried to the back porch during the sudden cold spells, they made the trip peeping contently in Grandma's apron. When these same little darlings grew into henhood and liked to peck and scratch among Grandma's flowers, she merely flapped her apron at them and they ran squawking to the chickenyard. And I see her yet, tossing cracked corn to the hungry flock from her apron.

Lots of chips and kindling were needed to start fires in the big ivory-colored cookstove in Grandma's kitchen. Sure - - she carried them in her apron. Vegetables and fruits, too - - lettuce, radishes, peas, string beans, carrots, apples, peaches - - all found their way to the kitchen via Grandma's carry-all.

If men working in the field weren't too far away, the apron waved aloft was the signal to "come to dinner". At threshing or company time, when the long dining room table was crowded with hungry fold, Grandma hovered about passing aromatic dishes and flipping the big apron at pesky flies.

When grandchildren came to visit, the apron stood ready to dry childish tears. If the little ones were a bit shy, it made a good hiding place in case a stranger appeared unexpectedly.

The apron was used countless times to stroke a perspiring brow as Grandma bent over the hot wood stove, or hoed the garden under a blistering sun.

In chilly weather Grandma wrapped the friendly apron around her arms while she hurried on an outside errand or lingered at the door with a departing guest. Hastily, and a bit shyly, it dusted tables and chairs if company was sighted coming down the lane.

And, in the evening when the day's work was done, Grandma shed her garment of many uses and draped it over the canary's cage.

"DID YOU KNOW?"

From 1987-88 A Complete Program National Winners

Submitted by Martha Knowlton, Violet Grange, Ohio

1. An apple is nature's toothbrush. One apple removes over 30% more bacteria from the mouth than a three minute brushing plus a garble.
2. An apple is an ideal diet food. The average apple contains about 90 calories, but it is bulk producing, satisfying hunger while its natural sugar gives quick energy.
3. Apples are a great thirst quencher. Two apples equal one glass of water in thirst quenching ability.
4. An apple is nature's most nearly perfect packaged food.
5. The most popular apple in America is the delicious. The most popular apple product is applesauce.
6. Delicious, Golden Delicious and McIntosh make up about 60% of the apples produced in the United States.
7. The annual United States apple crop is about one hundred thirty million bushels.
8. Apple trees belong to the rose family.