



**THE CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE
LECTURERS' NEWSLETTER
September - October 2018**



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Hello Again,

It doesn't seem possible that it is September already (or almost – I hope to get this out ahead of time).

I have enclosed (or attached – if you get this via e-mail) our 2018 Honor Lecturer Report. I would appreciate everyone filling it out even if you do not qualify. It helps us judge how our programs are working and where we should make changes. It is my hope to be able to honor a large number of you at the State Grange Banquet in October. The report is due October 1st. But, you are welcome to send them ahead of time.

If you haven't received your Lecturers' Packet for the coming year by now please let me know. I can tell you who took them for your Pomona or I can help you track it down.

If your Grange has a new Lecturer please let me know. I would like to get them on my mailing list as soon as possible.

If you have any original numbers that you would be willing to share, I would appreciate it if you would send them to me. I cannot print anything that is copyrighted. This has made sharing numbers much harder than it was before.

Don't forget, if you need help, please do not hesitate to contact me. I enjoy getting out and meeting all of you.

See you around the State.

Marge

SHARED NUMBERS...

A HAPPY MARIAGE from Betty Jane Gardiner's papers

The old man and woman had been married more than sixty years. They had shared everything, talked about everything, and kept no secrets from each other ... except that the woman had a large shoe box on the top shelf of her closet, which she had cautioned her husband never to open or ask her about.

One day the woman became very ill and was taken to the hospital. The doctor told the family that she would not recover.

As her devastated husband sat by her bedside, he said, "Do you remember that box in the closet? I've never asked you about it. But do you think you could tell me about it now? I'd hate to have to open it after..."

"You're right," she whispered. "Go home and get it and bring it here."

So that evening he brought the box with him to the hospital. She told him to open it, and when he looked inside he found two crocheted doilies and a stack of cash totaling almost \$10,00.00 in hundred dollar bills.

"What is this?" he asked, astounded.

"When we were about to be married," she explained, "my grandmother told me that the secret of a happy marriage was never to argue. She said I should learn to talk with you, but if I began to be angry with you, I should just keep quiet – and crochet a doily,"

Her husband was so moved that he had to fight back tears. Only two precious doilies were in the box... after all those years of living and loving. He could hardly contain his happiness.

"Sweetheart," he said, "that explains the doilies. But the money – where did that come from?"

"Oh," she replied, "that's the money I made over the years from selling the doilies."

A NEW TWIST TO SOME OLD SAYINGS with Thanks to Ekonk Grange

1. If at first you don't succeed, don't make a fool of yourself the second time.
2. There's no time like the present to put it off until tomorrow.
3. He who holds his nose to the grindstone is apt to be sorry.
4. Ask me no questions and I'll tell you all about it anyway.
5. A fool and his money are welcome anywhere.

HALLOWEEN FACTS with Thanks to Glastonbury Grange

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

1.9 billion dollars are spent on Halloween candy each year.

90 million pounds of chocolate are sold during Halloween week. This is more than double the amount sold for Valentines Day.

How long should you keep Candy ...

HARD CANDIES should be thrown out after 1 year.

JELLIED CANDIES (UNWRAPPED IN A CANDY DISH) should be thrown out after six months.

CHOCOLATE should be thrown out after one year.

CORN CANDY once opened will last for three to five months.

CLOSING THOUGHT

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
...John15:13

THE HOUSE BEHIND THE HOUSE

'Twas a place to sit and ponder with your head bowed down so low,
knowing that you wouldn't be there, if you didn't have to go.

Ours was a three-holer, with a size for every one.
You left there feeling better after the job was done.

You had to make these frequent trips, whether snow, rain, sleet, or fog,
To the little house where you sat and read the Sears Roebuck catalog.

Oft times in dead of winter the seat was covered with snow.
'Twas then with much reluctance to the little house you'd go.

With a swish you'd clear the seat, bend low and, with shivers in mind,
You'd blink your eyes and grit your teeth as you sat on your behind.

I recall the day that Granddad, who stayed with us one summer,
Made a trip to the shanty which proved to be a hummer.

'Twas the same day my Dad finished painting the kitchen green,
He'd just cleaned up the mess he'd made with rags and gasoline.

He tossed the rags in the shanty hole and went on his usual way,
Not knowing that by doing so he would eventually rue the day.

Now Granddad had an urgent call; I never will forget!
This trip he made to the little house lingers in my memory yet.

He sat down on the shanty seat, with both feet on the floor,
Then filled his pipe with tobacco and struck a match on the outhouse door.

As he took a long puff on his pipe, he slowly raised his behind,
Tossed the flaming match in the open hole, with not a worry on his mind.

The blast that followed, I am sure was heard for miles around;
And there was poor ol' Granddad just sitting on the ground.

The smoldering pipe was still in his mouth, his suspenders he held tight;
The celebrated three-holder was blown clear out of sight.

When we asked him what had happened, his answer I'll never forget.
He thought it must have been something he had et!

Next day we had a new one which my Dad built with ease.
With a sign on the entrance door which read: No Smoking, Please.

Now that's the end of the story, with memories of long ago,
Of the little house, behind the house where we went cause we had to go.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HOBOS

Quoting from an encyclopedia we learn that "A hobo is a migratory worker or homeless vagabond, especially one who is penniless. The term originated in the Western—probably Northwestern—United States during the last decade of the 19th century. Unlike "tramps", who work only when they are forced to, and "bums", who do not work at all, "hobos" are workers who wander. Hobos had a language of their own. Keeping in mind that, though similar, hobos in different parts of the country used different words, here are a few of the more popular ones. Let's see how many of them you can guess the meaning of...

Hobo Term	Explanation
Accommodation Car	the caboose of a train
Bad Road	a train line rendered useless by some hobo's bad action
Barnacle	a person who sticks to one job a year or more
Beachcomber	a hobo who hangs around docks or seaports
The Big House	prison
Bindle stick	collection of belongings wrapped in cloth and tied around a stick
Bindlestiff	a hobo who carries a bindle
`Bo	the common way one hobo referred to another
Boil Up	to boil one's clothes to kill lice and their eggs.
Bullets	Beans
California Blankets	Newspapers intended to be used for bedding

Cow crate	a railroad stock car
Crumbs or Graybacks	lice
Honey Dipping	working with a shovel in the sewer
Knowledge Bus	a school bus used for shelter
Mulligan	a type of community stew created by several hobos combining whatever food they have or can collect
Rum Dum	a drunkard

GETTING TO KNOW OTHER PEOPLE

1. What was Martin Luther King, Jr's given name at birth?
Ans. Michael Luther King Jr.
2. Who was the first civilian astronaut launched into space by the US?
Ans. Neil Armstrong
3. What comic strip character did the grateful farmers of Crystal City, Texas, honor with a six-foot high stone mountain in 1937?
Ans. Popeye. Spinach was their main crop.
4. Who said "The hardest thing in the world to understand is the income tax"?
Ans. Albert Einstein.
5. We've all heard of the Ringling Brothers. How many of them were there?
Ans. Seven – John who ran the circus plus Henry, August, Albert, Otto, Alfred & Charles.
6. What did gangster Al Capone's oldest brother Jim do for a living?
Ans. He was a lawman in Nebraska, serving as a town marshal and a state sheriff.
7. What was the name of strongman-bodybuilder Charles Atlas's son?
Ans. Hercules. He grew up to be a math teacher.
8. What well-known millionaire died when the Titanic sank?
Ans. John Jacob Aster
9. What triggered the legendary feud between the Hatfields and McCoys in 1873?
Ans. The Alleged theft of a pig.
10. What was astronaut Neil Armstrong's total annual salary when he walked on the moon on July 20, 1969?
Ans. Just over \$30,000. Mickey Mantle made \$100,000 that year playing baseball.

A FILL-IN NUMBER

This would make a great skit.

If you ever testify in court, you might wish you could have been as sharp as this policeman. He was being cross-examined by a defense attorney during a felony trial. The lawyer was trying to undermine the police officer's credibility

Q: 'Officer --- did you see my client fleeing the scene?'

A: 'No sir. But I subsequently observed a person matching the description of the offender, running several blocks away.'

Q: 'Officer, who provided this description?'

A: 'The officer who responded to the scene.'

Q: 'A fellow officer provided the description of this so-called offender. Do you trust your fellow officers?'

A: 'Yes, sir. With my life.'

Q: 'With your life? Let me ask you this then officer. Do you have a room where you change your clothes in preparation for your daily duties?'

A: 'Yes sir, we do!'

Q: 'And do you have a locker in the room?'

A: 'Yes, sir, I do.'

Q: 'And do you have a lock on your locker?'

A: 'Yes, sir.'

Q: 'Now, why is it, officer, if you trust your fellow officers with your life, you find it necessary to lock your locker in a room you share with these same officers?'

A: 'You see, sir, we share the building with the court complex, and sometimes lawyers have been known to walk through that room.'

The courtroom EXPLODED with laughter, and a prompt recess was called. The officer on the stand has been nominated for this year's 'Best Comeback' line -- and we think he'll win.