



Connecticut Granger



Vol. 50, No. 7

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

APRIL 2010

State President



Robert Sendewicz
State Master/President
president@ctstategrange.org

It appears that spring is about to begin and with it renewed activities in our Granges. What better way to start than with a visit from the National Master to Connecticut. Brother Ed Luttrell will have a meeting here on April 9th. He will be making a tour of our region then and will spend that Friday with us.

Hemlock Grange, in Portland, has graciously allowed us the use of their hall that night. This meeting will be open to all Grangers who wish to attend. I realize that there are several Granges that meet on that night but I hope that they can work out some kind of arrangement that will allow their members to attend this important meeting.

The exact time has not been set as of yet but I assume it will start sometime around 6:30 p.m. When I know the time I will Email as many as I can. I think it is important to hear what the National Master will speak on and since he finds it important to visit us I think we should do our best to have a great turn out. So pack as many people in your car as you can and come to Hemlock Grange that night.

Is your Grange planning something special for Grange Month this April?

How about an open meeting or other activity whereby you can invite members of your community to visit you and learn about the Grange. Talk this over with your members and see what is best for your Grange. It is spring and people are ready to get out and there are many activities to attract them to your Grange. Let's do it.

You all know what the end of April brings and I don't mean showers. The last Saturday of April is clean-up day at Camp Berger. It is a ritual we go through every spring. The Director of our camp has some wonderful plans for this year and we expect an even greater attendance than we had last year. All we need to do now is make sure our camp is in tip top shape and safe for the campers. The more volunteers we get the easier the work will be so bring as many with you as you can. Winchester Grange has again graciously agreed to serve one of their special dinners for us later that afternoon at a minimal price of \$5.00.

After the dinner there will be a Pink Sash meeting and I would like as many of this group to come as possible. Any of our members who wish to attend either the dinner or meeting, are more than welcome to join us. You are specially invited to the camp clean-up. For new members who have never seen our camp this is your opportunity to get a close up view. Come in your work clothes and bring a rake or broom or whatever and enjoy yourself.



HAPPY EASTER

The New Healthcare Law



Gordon Gibson
Legislative Director
legislative@ctstategrange.org

On March 23 President Obama signed into law a new national health care bill that some people have put on a par with Social Security and Medicare. Now the United State Senate must consider a bill passed by the House of Representatives that would make changes in the new law. If the Senate passes the bill of changes just as the House passed it, the bill will go to President Obama for his signature. However, it is quite unlikely the Senate will not make any changes to the bill, so most likely it will then have to go back to the House to vote on whatever changes the Senate makes, even if they are very minor changes. Most believe differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill say they will not be resolved until late this fall after the

elections. Regardless of the President's political party, it is quite common for the other party to gain a number of seats in both the House and the Senate in the mid-term elections such as will be held this fall. That means it is quite possible the bill of changes to the new health care law will ultimately be resolved by a House and Senate that are significantly different from what they are now.

As soon as President Obama signed the health care bill, the attorneys general in 14 states filed challenges to the

constitutionality of the new law. While it is difficult to predict how the courts will rule on the new law, most everyone agrees the case will ultimately go to the Supreme Court. Those who oppose the new law would like to see the supreme Court rule that it violates the United States Constitution and is therefore invalid. Those who support the new law have welcomed the challenges because they believe the Supreme Court will rule that the new law is constitutional which will

... continued on page 2

APRIL 9

Statewide Meeting with National Master Ed Luttrell at Hemlock Grange Hall, 17 Sage Hollow Rd. (corner of Rt. 17 & 17A), Portland. Scheduled for 6:30 (at the time of this printing).

APRIL 24

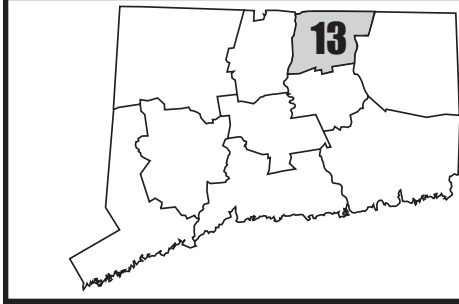
Camp Berger Clean-Up Day, Winchester Center. Dinner served by Winchester Grange in the afternoon following Clean-Up (\$5). Pink Sash meeting to follow.

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Deadline for the May issue: APRIL 5.

North Central Pomona No. 13



✓

Stafford No. 1

✓

Tolland No. 51

✓

Vernon No. 52

✓

Enfield No. 151

NORTH CENTRAL POMONA #13

Corr: J. Jordan

April 8: Time for Skits

Each Subordinate Grange should bring a skit to the April meeting of Pomona. Judging will take place at that time. The place for this meeting has yet to be determined. So, if you wish to attend, please check with Worthy Master Nancy Strong. We may be in Enfield or possibly at the Library in Ellington.

STAFFORD GRANGE #1

Corr: Edward Festi

April 20: Meeting, 7:00 P.M., Gardening

May 18: Meeting, 7:00 P.M., To Be Announced

Old Man Winter canceled our February meeting. Our March meeting is our usual Irish Night, corned beef & cabbage and Irish poetry.

With the time change and hopefully more sun we will enjoy a good program on gardening. It's time for flowers and vegetables.

Keep thinking spring!

TOLLAND GRANGE #51

Corr: J. Jordan

April 6: ????

As I write this column, the sun is out!!! What a nice surprise and what a great way to start the day. Our April meeting will be at the hall on the Green in Tolland. The program is ????. Happy to report that our Master Robert West is doing well after his surgery. It is definitely true that nothing keeps him down. Join us on the 6th. And a happy and blessed Easter to all.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Nancy Strong

April 2: Good Friday- Bring on the Easter Bonnets!

Vernon Grange renovations are coming right along. Bob Hurd, the Historical Architect did an excellent job. It looks like it's always been there. There will be an elevator to the second floor and a bathroom upstairs. We

hope by May all will be put back together. Our next meeting is on Good Friday and it's all about hats. Members will bring their favorite hat and tell its story.

ENFIELD GRANGE #151

Corr: Irene Percoski

April 10: "Northern Spy" Fill the crust. Evaluation. All Comm. have written reports.

February's meeting at Dawn's home was warm and toasty. We conferred the beautiful welcoming ceremony on a new member, Mickey DeLisa. A birthday card was signed by everyone for Ann Smith who turned 90. Happy Birthday, Ann. Get well cards were sent to Elizabeth and Richard. Richard has had his second knee replacement done and we hope to see him hopping around here soon. Our program on apples has taken us in all directions, in February, it included the first ovens and the invention of waterproof rain gar, what will come from The North?

We hope to have the use of the hall for our April meeting and always welcome visitors, but you must call to be sure. Here are some phone numbers. Brian- 860-627-6861, Irene- 860-749-0463, Dawn- 860-749-1328. Happy spring.

Healthcare

Continued from page one...

block further challenges to it.

While all of this is going on in Washington, a committee is studying how Connecticut's laws line up against the new federal law. The committee is required to report to the Connecticut General Assembly no later than May 23 with a list of Connecticut laws and regulations that need to be revised to bring Connecticut into compliance with the new federal law. Then the General Assembly will need to revise the Connecticut laws so we will be eligible to receive as much federal money as possible through the programs created by the new federal law. Many people are asking what is in the new law and how will it affect them, for better or for worse, and when will they see the changes. The answer right now is that very few people, if any, completely understand the new law. Regulations to implement the new law must still be written. The law itself is a little over 1,000 pages long. The regulations, which will spell out everything in minute detail, will probably be well over 2,000 pages long. If, as some people claim, the new law is on a par with Social Security and Medicare, the law and the regulations will be as complex as Social Security and Medicare.

There are so many parts and sub-parts to both Social Security and Medicare that no one person could possibly be familiar with all the details in either program. The same will most likely be true of the new health care law. The basic concept is that everyone will be able to afford medical insurance so they can afford to see a doctor or have a prescription filled whenever they need to. People will no longer have to use the hospital emergency room like a walk in clinic for every minor problem like they have been because the emergency rooms must treat everyone who goes there, regardless of their ability to pay. This will all cost a lot of money which will ultimately come from taxes and penalty fees. The bottom line will be that those who can afford to pay will still have to subsidize those who cannot afford to pay. The only thing that will change is that there will be more regulations from Washington on how everything is done.

The good news is that our system will be nothing like the Canadian system. In Canada, all health care workers are employed and paid by the government. There are no doctors in private practice and medical insurance as we know it in the United States is not allowed. When a person needs to see a doctor, they must go to a government run clinic where they often wait several hours to be seen. No matter what the person needs, the government system decides if and when they will be treated. Under the new system in the United States, people will still choose their own doctor and receive whatever treatment they and their doctor agree on promptly. The only significant change may be that some doctors will choose to retire sooner because they do not want to accept the payments regulated by the system.

A busy time



Spring clean-up, evaluations, degrees. There are many things going on this time of year. I do hope you had candidates for degrees and evaluation night. We need to ask our friends and acquaintances to join our fraternity. It would be great to have an increase in membership this year. It is possible... it takes planning, work, and follow up.

Have you put Grange Sunday at Good Will

Grange Hall on your calendar? June 13, 2010 is the day. 11 A.M. service, followed by lunch and the talent program.

New England Grange Sunday will be held June 27, 2010 at the Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge, NH, 3 P.M. A wonderful place to go on a Sunday.

It may seem a little early, but, scholarship forms are available for those members having completed one year at college. Sometimes school records take longer to obtain than the other information needed. Plan ahead so that you are not scrambling around at the last minute. Loans are also available and applications can be obtained from the Central Office.

New Members

Glastonbury Grange

Louis Tryon
Nancy Tryon

Tolland Grange

Cheryl Robinson

Cannon Grange

Rita Anspach
Katy Curtis

Bridgewater Grange

Frank Giannone

Stonington Grange

Richard Wingate
Dorothy Wingate

Oxford Grange

Karen McInerny-Allen

(USPS 563-220)

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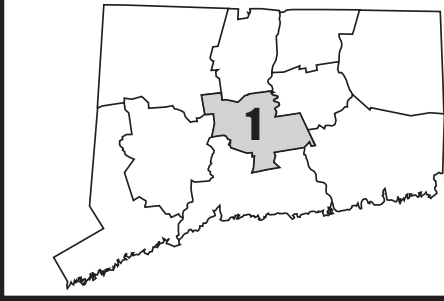
DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

News is due on the **5th Day** of each month except July and should be sent to:
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P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033
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Todd Gelineau, Editor
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Connecticut Granger Staff

President/Editor Todd Gelineau
Vice President Brian Carptenter
Secretary Treasurer. Edith Schoell

Central Pomona No. 1



- ✓ Southington No. 25
- ✓ Meriden No. 29
- ✓ Westfield No. 50
- ✓ Higganum No. 124
- ✓ Hemlock No. 182

SOUTHINGTON GRANGE #25
Corr: Lisa Lamoureux

April 9: 1st & 2nd Degrees-Meriden
April 12: 3rd & 4th Degrees-Southington, Potluck at 6:00 P.M.
April 26: Spring is about to Spring

Greetings from Southington Grange! Well you can always tell that Spring is almost here when inspection season starts! Southington Grange will once again join with Meriden Grange to conduct the 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th degrees. On April 12th, Southington Grange will also host a potluck dinner at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is invited to attend the degrees and come for dinner. There is always something special to try. On April 26th, we will hold a program about spring and what we need to do to get ready for planting season.

As always, our doors are open for anyone and everyone who would like to join us for a meeting. Remember we meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:30 P.M. (except January and February- 2nd Monday only unless it is snowing. Then meeting is canceled and rescheduled for the 4th Monday of that month) at Southington Grange Hall located at the corners of Summit Street and Knowles Ave. in the Plantsville section of Southington.

MERIDEN GRANGE #29
Corr: Dianna Clark

April 9: Youth- CWA
April 23: In the Garden
May 14: Jan Royce, Music

On March 12th we had St. Patrick's Day program. March 28- 5th Degree Rehearsal.

On Valentine's Day we had a Valentine play, and those that didn't exchange baby pictures would do later.

On March 26th we held the First and Second Degrees. On April 9th the youth and

CWA are invited. On April 23rd we will have a program on garden planting time.

We are inviting everyone on May 14 for Jan Royce's music program for our neighbors. Do hope all Granges know it has been changed from April 23 to May 14, and plan all Granges to attend. Their music is fabulous, so come and join us!

WESTFIELD GRANGE #50
Corr: Phyllis Redford

April 1: Dandy Lions and Dandelions
May 6: Inspection and Show & Tell II
June 3: "O Promise Me" July and August picnic dates to be announced.

The March program was directed to those, who in past years, may have looked forward to spring and time to plant the annual vegetable garden. For too many of us those days are gone... but despair not... for those luscious veggies and herbs can easily be grown on the patio, on the porch or even on a kitchen window sill. To be a successful gardener without a garden, one needs two essentials only... a suitable container with adequate drainage and a location with plenty of sun. A fine assortment of "mini" plants is now available, both as seeds or seedlings. Of course, there is no weeding to be done, no bugs to chase and lettuce, for instance, can be harvested in about thirty days from time the seeds emerge. The same is true for radishes. The April program will bring out some interesting facts, and tasty ones too, about the pesky yellow flowered plant that appears like magic on even the best manicured, newly green lawn.

Happy "April Fool's Day"... smart gardeners would never go looking for "drum stretchers" or "White Lampblack."

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn
April 9: Grange Heritage

Keep those needles clicking!



Betty Jane Gardiner
Women's Activities Director
cwa@ctstategrange.org

Ruth Herbele,
State W.A. Committee

Can you believe that Easter has come and gone, and we have had Daylight Saving Time for almost a month? Just because there are more daylight hours and the weather is getting warmer, don't put away that needlework you are working on. July judging will be here before you know it!

Don't forget our members-only contest. We are again having a Dress-A-Doll Contest. The doll will be judged only by how it is dressed. Knit, crochet, or sew something- no ready-

April 23: Safety
Coffee and refreshments

made clothes. Dolls will be judged in Cheshire on July 23rd. You can have your doll back after display on July 24th. It would make a nice Christmas gift.

Another members-only special craft contest is making a scrapbook. It may be any size, any subject, and any design- only one book per person. All entries will be returned to the maker. Judging is in Cheshire.

We are still collecting for the Foster Families. Anything you have done before for them may be done again. Leftover yarn makes great comfy covers. Christmas stockings or gifts, school supplies, and memory books are always welcome. Perhaps your Grange could get together and purchase gift cards for children. If too much of one item is received, we will share it with Covenant to Care, Inc.

For Covenant to Care we would like to have a baby

will be served following the meeting.

shower of gifts for infants and toddlers. Any suitable baby item would be very welcome.

Please bring items for Foster Families and Covenant to Care to State Session in October.

Don't forget the New England Grange Building Country Store. We need all kinds of handmade items to sell at the Big E. This building helps to keep the Grange visible to others.

We haven't forgotten the Junior Granges. A special project called "Nifty Needles" is part of the needlework contests just for them. Any item knitted, crocheted, or sewn may be entered.

Juniors may also enter the baking contest using the same recipe as the adults. To show off the Grange, let us all have many entries in our contests! Keep those needles clicking. Your CWA has entry forms.

AgNews



Ernest Finch
Agriculture Director
agriculture@ctstategrange.org

I hope all Grangers read the February report that Dan Mutchler wrote about raw milk. He did a good job telling the story. The reason I am talking about raw milk is many farmers across the U.S. are trying to sell this milk to the public directly, doing away with the middle men. As I have said before, the dairy farmers were hit hard in 2008 and part of 2009. Things are getting a little better now. In 2008 the price of milk dropped from \$15 per 100 lbs., down to \$9 per 100 lbs. The picture looks a little better now that it is back to around \$15 which is not enough,

because the price should be \$20 per 100 lbs. or more. Farmers were making milk at the cost of \$3.50 and getting paid \$1.00 per 100 lbs. this was a bad thing around the country that many farmers killed themselves. A farmer in New York State was so distressed about the market, that one day he went to his barn and killed 51 cows, then himself. His wife is trying to keep the farm going. Good luck. So much for bad news. Let's look at the bright side of living.

Here in Connecticut, the Women's Agricultural Network was formed in the spring of 2006 in Elaine Frost's kitchen at Frostfire Farm in Goshen, CT. They call it WAGN. This is a support system to help women that are farming or planning to start a farm. Farms operated in the northeast are small in scale with 50% under 50 acres. CT is in a growth mode for numbers of farms, with the

2007 USDA data showing a 17% growth in the number of farms, to 4,917. CT has 2, 928 women operating farms, with 1,466 as the principal operators. CT ranks in the top 10 states with women as farm operators with sales nearly \$29 million.

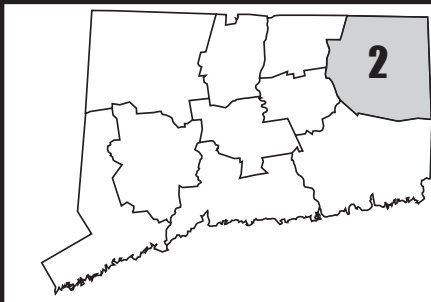
Farmers learn ideas on pricing their products as it may be a long time before pricing changes take effect. Farmers need to work together to help each other.

There was a forum to teach milking a family cow, healthcare, small farm construction, and training animals. This was held at the Congregational Church in Cornwall.

New England Grange Sunday

The 2010 New England Grange Sunday Service will be held on Sunday, June 27 at 3:00 P.M. at the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, NH.

Quinebaug Pomona No. 2



- ✓ Senexet No. 40
- ✓ Brooklyn No. 43
- ✓ Wolf Den No. 61
- ✓ Ekonk No. 89
- ✓ Ashford No. 90
- ✓ Putnam No. 97
- ✓ Killingly No. 112
- ✓ Echo No. 180

SENEXET GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

April 21: Soldiers Remembered- CWA

May 29: Rhubarb Festival

We were busy this winter with planning and doing. We continue to work on the kitchen. Adding new refrigerators and freezers helps to keep us up to date.

Joan and Pat are co-chairing the 1st Annual Rhubarb Festival to be held Sat., May 29. This will be a big event with cooking, contests, demos and outside vendors.

Our baking contest will be held on April 21st.

Good programs were held during the winter.

WOLF DEN GRANGE #61

Corr: Elsie M. Johnson

March 10: Men vs. Women

April 14: Ask Sybil- CWA, Ref. All

April 28: Potluck, 6:30

Winter go away- we've had enough wind, cold and snow and the birds say so too! Pussy willows are now out. Shouldn't wish life away, but would like some sunshine! Did you trim the trees and apply winter spray?

Well, seeds are ordered and in and time to think about starting some. Tabs are still coming in and tin cans too. Some dues still need to be paid.

April 3rd the bake sale-come on bakers we could use some help. Have you been to the renovated hall yet? And the addition? Still a few minor things to fix but nice. A few of us went to visit Charles Holbrook and Master John Carter presented him with his 80 year certificate and he was very pleased. And the visit was nice. Good work, Charles! Happy birthday to all!

EKONK COMMUNITY GRANGE #89

Corr: Sue Gray

Apr. 5: "The germ has life!" meeting/program 7:30 pm

Apr. 17: Roast beef supper 5-7 pm; Square Dance 7:30-11 pm

Apr. 22: FFA Saulte supper 6:30 pm

May 3: "Cultivate with hope!" meeting/program 7:30 pm

We have enjoyed excellent programs and attendance is picking up: spring is in the air on Ekonk Hill! We served a meal following the Memorial Service for 55 year Granger and friend to all, David K. Orr. The hall was full on that sad day.

Memorial donations have been coming in in his memory: thanks to all! Then the very next Saturday, March 13th, we said goodbye to another dear friend and Granger: Barbara Cameron. For her 25 years of membership at Ekonk-she was 25 years ACTIVE and she will be much missed! Again-the hall burst with family and friends paying tribute! It was Barbara's wish too that donations go to our Grange Building Fund. We thank these two Grangers for their years of membership as well as thinking of the needs of the Grange when their journey on earth was complete.

The youth are thoroughly enjoying playing volleyball in the Gym of the Municipal Building on Sunday evenings! Good work outs during the winter months!

Our Grange is still selling homemade apple pies, with Betsy Molodich's native apples: pies and apple crisp are selling for \$9.00 each. Call Betsy at 564-1117 or Sue at 564-2131 to order yours!

When you read "coming events", you saw the dates for our April Square Dance; the March dance was a success and the last in the spring series of Square Dances will be May 15th.

We look forward to listening to the State FFA

Wolf Den Hall near complete



The Town of Pomfret recently completed renovations to the former Wolf Den Grange Hall. The hall is now home to both the Pomfret Senior Center and Wolf Den Grange. A new sign on the addition, at left, lists both organizations as occupants of the building. In return for turning the building over to the town, the Grange has lifetime use of the building.



Wolf Den Grange Master John Carter (right) with Charles Holbrook. Brother Holbrook received a certificate in recognition of 80 years of continuous membership in Wolf Den Grange No. 61.

Vice President, Victor Salazar, address FFA students and alumni on Earth Day (April 22nd). We will have a Spaghetti supper & raffle proceeds will go to the Killingly FFA Scholarship Fund.

The Olde Tyme Fiddlers will be at Ekonk on Sunday, April 25th from 1:30 to 4:30.

Edgar Guest wrote numerous poems. One verse of a poem suits working Grangers well:

"but just buckle right in with a bit of a grin

Just take off your coat and go to it;

Just start to sing as you tackle the thing

That cannot be done, and you'll do it!"

Let's all just do it!

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Glenna Bruno

Our meeting night was well attended and all chairs were filled. Not many on the sidelines. Sad to say. The new word was given out. The reports on our Valentine Tea and Tag Sale was favorable. The tea was nice. We served small tea sandwiches and various teas were available. Some Ladies came with their "Red Hats" and Valentine Decorations.

The Dance was well attended and everyone had a good time and enjoyed all

the refreshments. We also held the bluegrass on Sat. the 27th and another one in March on the 27th.

Pomona is having a movie night and dinner at Killingly Grange on March 6th with a potluck. Hope to see you there.

On March 15 the meeting was "Irish Eyes." We hope you came to the meeting with "Green" dress or money. We always have room for one more. Bring a friend and join in our hilarity at any of our meetings.

ECHO GRANGE #180

Corr: Gloria John

Apr. 13: Community Service

Apr. 27: Evaluation

May 11: Agricultural Committee

May 25: Memorial Program

We have been holding only one meeting a month because of the weather.

We are getting ready for our Tag and Craft sale on May 8th from 9 to 2.

One of our former members, Josephine Eaton, passed away at 101 years old. She was a member for a long time.

It looks like spring is finally arriving.

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East Central Pomona No. 3



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- ✓ Manchester No. 31
- ✓ Coventry No. 75
- ✓ Hillstown No. 87
- ✓ Marlborough No. 205

EAST CENTRAL POMONA #3
Corr: John Waterhouse
April 10: Inspection Meeting, 5:00 P.M.
May 1: Talent Run-Off, 7:30 P.M.

East Central Pomona will meet at 5 P.M. on Saturday, April 10 at Good Will Grange Hall. (Please note this is the Second Saturday in April). Our Pomona Deputy will inspect our Grange. The meeting will start at 5 P.M. We will break for a potluck supper at 6 P.M. and the Fifth Degree will be conferred at 7 P.M.

On May 1st a regular meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M.

Wishing all a very Happy Easter.

GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26
Corr: Kathryn Ruff
Apr. 1: 7:30 p.m. April Showers - Easter Baskets - CWA Bake-Off
Apr. 10: Monti Carlo Whist Card Party 7:00 p.m.
May 1st Food Sale and Unique Boutique 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Happy Easter to All
I am really glad April is here. Certainly by this time the temperature should be warmer, and hopefully the wind has quit blowing. I cannot remember a winter with so much WIND and cold.

Our members will be making an Easter Basket to bring in to the April 1st meeting for judging. They will then all be delivered to shut-in folks in our area for Easter.

April 1st is also the CWA Bake-off meeting for the Calico Muffins. The CWA Committee is hoping to have a good number of brothers and sisters entering the contest.

April is the last meeting to bring in school supplies to be delivered to the Glastonbury Social Service Department. Then from May to September we will be collecting baby shower gifts for infants

and toddlers for Covenant to Care, Inc. They will be delivered to the State Grange Session in October to be delivered to Covenant to Care.

April 10th is our next Monti Carlo Whist card party at 7:00 p.m. Do try to attend and bring a friend or two or three with you. It is a fun evening with plenty of refreshments and door prizes.

May 1st is our semi-annual Food and Unique Boutique Sale. It runs from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This is one event that we really need everyone's support. Do try to help us in some fashion.

MANCHESTER GRANGE #31
Corr: Diane Small
April 7: Seedlings and Garden Plans (Agricultural)
April 21: On the Wild Side
May 5: Happy 125th Anniversary
May 19: Decoration Day

By the time this is read, Daylight Savings time will be here, Spring will have sprung and of course Easter and Passover will have been celebrated. Soon there will be buds on the trees, the usual spring flowers will be pushing up through the soil looking for the sun. It sure has been an interesting winter season. The weather has run a huge spectrum. With some days almost balmy only to be followed by windy, cold and precipitation making us wonder what will be next. Hopefully we will soon be able to put away the winter necessities.

Our programs for April are worth noting. Seeds and the garden is the time to start looking at those catalogs and to check out the local garden centers. Any favorites?? I believe all of us have a wild side. Here is an opportunity for your imagination to kick into gear. What is your secret desire.

May 5th will be our 125th Anniversary. This is a good time to reflect on the many changes that have happened through the years. This meeting will be our baking contest. The 19th of May states Decoration Day. Remember to fly those flags and to pause to remember all our service men and women, past and present. This meeting will be our Evaluation for the year

Don't forget the CWA contests. This past winter has been an ideal time to start a pet project. Don't forget to make something extra for the Big E.

COVENTRY GRANGE #75
April 8: Cup O' Joe, Haloburdo
April 22: Tea for Two, Ref. Ridzon

Are you all as ready for spring as I am? Enough of winter already- although I did get into digging out some closets and corners that continue to fill up with more stuff. And it made time for various CWA projects too.

It will be good to get back to regular schedule and see new and old Grange friends.

Easter greetings to all!

HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87
Corr: Rita J. Schaefer
April 6: Best of Friends
April 22: Yankee Bluegrass Special (Open)

The months really pass quickly. Here it is spring, already. The crocus and daffodils and hillsides will be all in bloom. I hope with that word "spring" that the clouds will go and the sun starts to shine again.

We will be starting to decide to start our projects now that the rules have been presented. By the time you read this column we would have had our Corned Beef Dinner that many have been waiting fore.

Some of our members that have been on the sick list are recovering. Some sooner or I know when better weather comes everyone will feel better.

If this weather keeps coming the way it has our farmers will have late crops again. I know that some farmers are starting their seeds.

This past year the weather

hasn't been good for us and now we have to get down to the Grange work.

Happy Easter everyone.

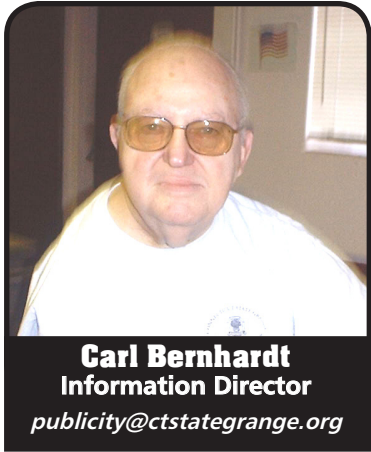
MARLBOROUGH GRANGE #205
Corr: Laura Combs

April 8: 11:00 AM-Meeting Place: Marlborough Congregational Church Youth Room
Evaluation of Marlborough Grange, CWA in Charge

of program, Ref: Marge Church

The CWA theme is Catnip Capers for 2010. It is hoped that all are working on the Needlework articles to be entered for July contests. Next month will be Marlborough Grange's Calico Muffins bake off. It is hoped we will have many entries. Recipes for those who need one, can get them at the April Meeting.

April Showers



Has Spring finally arrived? As I am preparing this article, the sun is shining brightly and the temperature is in the 50's. All we can hope is that winter has left us. We should all be preparing to add new members to our rolls. In April we must use publicity to plant the seed

and make the public aware of the many benefits of Grange membership. It is our task to inform the public of the many contests and projects available in our fraternity. Not only will this attract new members, but it will also awaken the interest of our inactive members and bring them back into the fold. We must advertise ourselves and the good that we do, using all our resources to promote our cause.

Additional laborers and maids are needed. In our fraternity there is work for all, but without the workers, the work cannot be done. Now is the time to plant the seed of publicity, and April showers will help the seed to grow, so we may reap a bountiful harvest.



Membership



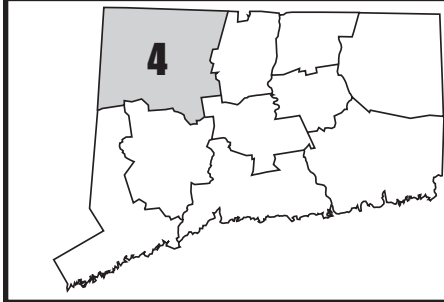
Congratulations to the members of Wolcott Grange who recognized that the had a problem and asked the members of the State Grange Revitalization Committee to come and help them. There are many Granges in the State who have similar problems and are not able to admit it. We are very fortunate to have two of these teams who are waiting for your call to assist you.

Members of the team who assisted Wolcott Grange were Todd Gelineau and Debbie and Jeff Barnes. They made suggestions what they need to do to get them started on the right path. They will be back to assist when Wolcott decides how they want to proceed. As with anything in this life, it won't be easy. But it is well worth the try.

Also present at Wolcott to lend their support were: State Master Robert Sendewicz and Marge. State Lecturer Marge Bernhardt and Carl, Publicity Director; Excelsior Pomona Deputy Jean Meehan and myself.

Does your Grange need help?? Give the Revitalization Team or the Membership Committee a call.

Mountain County Pomona No. 4



Whigville No. 48
Eureka No. 62
✓ Winchester No. 74
✓ Taghannuck No. 100
✓ Litchfield No. 107
Beacon No. 118
✓ Riverton No. 169

MOUNTAIN COUNTY POMONA #4

Corr: Todd Gelineau
April: No Meeting
May 10: Fifth Degree at Winchester Grange Hall. Dinner at 6:30 (\$5), Meeting at 7:30.

June 28: “Celebrate Summer” at Taghannuck Grange Hall, 7:30 P.M.

Mountain County Pomona held its annual Day Meeting on Wednesday, March 24 “Celebrate Spring” at Riverton Grange Hall. The Pomona thanks the members of Riverton Grange for once again preparing a delicious lunch for all of the members present for the meeting. This meeting is always a little more difficult with many officers unable to attend due to work commitments but the meeting is always more relaxed as getting up next morning isn’t a concern.

Victor Salazar is thanked for stepping in as Master for the meeting as Todd Gelineau was unable to be at the meeting. He always does an excellent job no matter which part he is doing and this one was brand new to him.

The tickets for the annual Spring Gift Drawing were handed out at the Day Meeting. Prizes are donated by the officers and members of the Pomona and we remind everyone who is donating, to have those items at the June 28 meeting at Taghannuck Grange. The drawing will be held at this meeting as part of the Lecturer’s program. Please sell as many tickets as you can-- all officers and each Grange has packets of tickets for sale. And if you run out... don’t be shy! Ask for more! This is the only fundraiser for Mountain County and we appreciate all of the effort it takes to make it a success every year.

Before the June meeting, there will be a May meeting for the Conferral of the Fifth Degree on May 10. All committees are reminded

that reports are due at this meeting for the inspection by Pomona Deputy East Jim Palmer. We are not aware of candidates at this point but we do encourage all Granges to let us know if there are candidates ahead of time.

A degree rehearsal will be held at Winchester Grange Hall on Sunday, May 2 at 7:00 P.M. The early date avoids conflict with Mother’s Day.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau
April 13: “Achieve” (1st & 2nd Degrees)
April 27: Neighbors (3rd & 4th Degrees), Harvest Potluck Supper at 6:30 P.M.
May 11: Great Things, Ref. Arline Cote
May 21: Spring Super Prize Party (Doors Open at 6:00 P.M.)

The busy spring season is upon Winchester Grange. Degrees are first up and a few candidates are in the wings. We hope they are able to attend the conferrals and become new members of Winchester Grange. If they are unable to attend, the two meeting dates will be changed to regular meetings. We are sure our Lecturer would almost prefer degrees to having two more programs to prepare and present!

On Saturday, April 24, Winchester Grange will serve a dinner for the Camp Clean-Up Day at the Grange Hall following the completion of Clean-Up. The cost of the dinner is \$5 and we are always pleased to host this dinner and the Pink Sash Meeting that follows the meal. Even if you are unable to be at Camp for the clean-up please join us for dinner and/or the Pink Sash Meeting. All members are always welcome!

We will host our third Super Prize Party on Friday, May 21 at the Grange Hall. Our first spring Super Prize Party was a wonderful success and we are sure that many people will want to

come out on a nice spring night and win some of the many prizes donated by the members and friends of the Grange. Refreshments will

also be available. Doors will open at 6:00 P.M. and drawing will begin at 7:00 P.M. Please join us!

day will be upon us along with the annual Strawberry Festival. Must mean warm weather is coming sometime soon!

State Grange participates in Ag Day



(left) F. Philip Prelli, State Commissioner of Agriculture and member of the CT State Grange and National Grange Executive Committees, addresses the gathering at the State Capitol. (right) Robert Brockett of Granby Grange and Dan Mutchler of Lyme Grange man the State Grange’s booth at Ag Day.



by Terri Fassio

The Connecticut State Grange, along with over 40 other organizations from across Connecticut, celebrated agriculture in Connecticut at the state’s annual Ag Day at the State Capitol.

Governor M. Jody Rell read the official proclamation, and presided over the celebration, acknowledging farming’s contribution to the state over the past 375 years.

“Connecticut is celebrating its 375th Anniversary this year and an essential part of our heritage, what makes Connecticut unique, has always been Connecticut agriculture,” Governor Rell said. “The motto of our yearlong celebration is ‘Industrious, Inventive and Enduring.’ To me that sums up the spirit of Connecticut farming.

“Agriculture Day at the Capitol gives a grateful state the opportunity to say thank you to our farmers and producers,” Governor Rell said. “Agriculture is a \$2 billion

industry in Connecticut that accounts for 50,000 jobs and thousands of acres of open space that enhance our quality of life.”

Connecticut Agriculture Commissioner F. Philip Prelli was also in attendance. Prelli is a Past State Master (President) of the Connecticut State Grange, and is the National Grange Executive Committee Secretary.

“Agriculture Day provides an excellent snapshot of agriculture in Connecticut, highlighting its progress and diversity,” said Commission Prelli. “Agriculture is an economic generator in our state and this day allows us to honor individuals who have contributed significantly to these advances in our industry.”

Commissioner Prelli recognized several award winners during a special ceremony, including the Outstanding Young Farmer Award, which went to Joe Geremia of Wallingford. The Connecticut Agriculture Information Council also presented Agriculture Journalism Awards.

Enterprise membership benefit

The National Grange has recently chosen Enterprise for its transportation needs: Employees and members of the National Grange are eligible to receive the following benefits:

- Discounted rates on our large selection of vehicles, including pickup trucks, minivans, cargo vans, and SUVs.
- No fees for additional drivers at many locations.
- No surcharges at many locations for renters between the ages of 21 and 24.
- No blackout dates.
- 24 hour roadside assistance.
- Free pickup service.

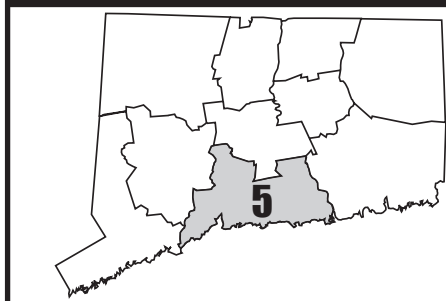
• Discounts valid at any of our 6,300 neighborhood and airport locations.

• Discounted rates available for business or personal use.

Please see the information below regarding account discounts. To receive your special rates, you can do one of three things:

- Book on the internet.
 - Call 1-800-Rent-A-Car, or
 - Contact your local branch.
- ** Renter must have a valid driver's license and major credit card in his/her own name.

New Haven County Pomona No. 5



- ✓ Cheshire No. 23
- Wallingford No. 33
- ✓ North Haven No. 35
- Totoket No. 83
- ✓ Old Lyme No. 162

NEW HAVEN COUNTY POMONA #5

Corr: Charleen Dimmick

May 6: Fifth Degree Rehearsal, 7:30 P.M. at Wallingford

May 10: Fifth Degree at Wallingford

June 8: Meeting at Cheshire, Election of Officers, Gift Card Drawing

At the March meeting the Pomona Run-Offs of the A Number and Talent contests were held. In the A Number contest, the results were 1st- Cheshire, 2nd- Old Lyme and Wallingford, and 3rd- North Haven. Cheshire won the talent contest.

We need members for the Degree in May.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Charleen Dimmick

Apr. 21: CWA Night, Teacup Auction, Open Meeting

May 5: Competitive Night, Men's Bake-Off

May 19: Awards Night. Teacup Auction. Open Meeting

June 2: Election of Officers. Memorial Program. Potluck supper at 6 P.M.

June 16: Mystery Ride

Our second meeting in February was canceled because of the weather.

Our first meeting in March was the Youth Program with the Youth Chairman, Don Lanoue in charge.

On April 21, CWA Night, the program will be "Words, Wisdom, and Catnip Capers" featuring Ron Gagliardi, local author, historian, and humorist. He will discuss his latest book, "Noah's Desktonary and Allmanack," a home for newly coined words, phrases and slogans. It will feature humor and feline references of a comedic nature. This program will be open to the public.

NORTH HAVEN GRANGE #35

Corr: A. Tollette

April 6: Visit from Deputy Dan

May 4: Go Green

Our tour of Connecticut was spared by that storm that wouldn't quit. Let's see what the rest of winter will bring.

We have made our annual donations to the scholarship funds for Lyman Hall High School, North Haven High and the State Grange Fund.

The Antiques Roadshow was fun and interesting. Several items turned out to be whatsits. We still don't know what they are.

OLD LYME GRANGE #162

Corr: Barb Kulisch

April 9: April Showers

April 23: CWA Night with Bake-Off & Visitors

April 30: We Host 2-4-5 Club at 8 P.M.

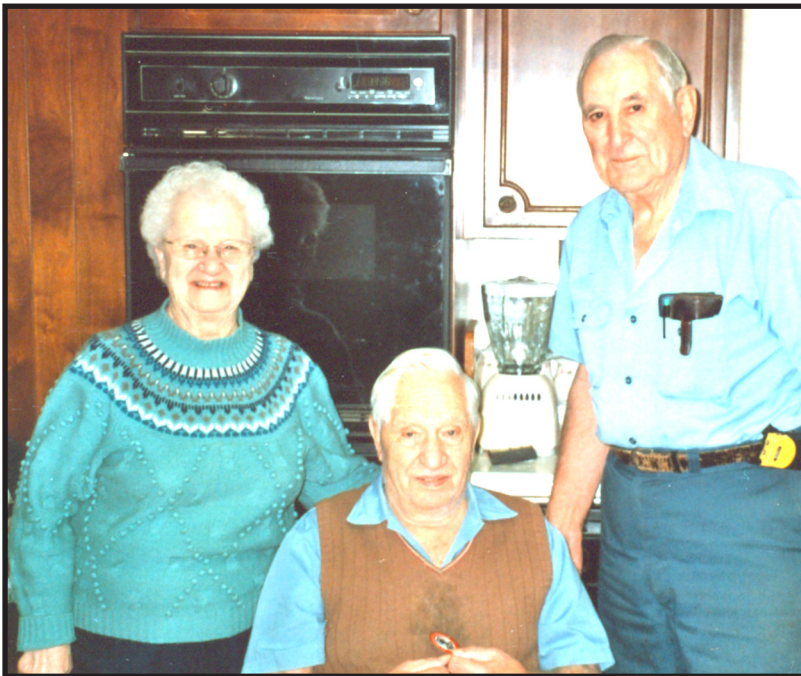
At our February 12th meeting we draped our charter in loving memory of Henry O. Kulisch, Jr. who passed on February 10, 2010 at his home after a 15 month courageous battle with prostate cancer with mets to the spine. He will be missed by all who went down that Grange journey with him. The family wishes to thank everyone who came to his Remembrance Service which was held on the 21st of February.

We had a guest speaker from the Waterford County School at that same meeting and she spoke on how our fulfilling their "Wish List" really makes the children realize just how important they really are. They get to see that people really do care about them and that makes them feel so proud!

We are installing a handicap bathroom in the anteroom of our hall and then we will be getting in the handicapped ramp outdoors... we are getting closer to making us all handicapped accessible.

Old Lyme Grange wishes everyone a blessed Easter.

N. Haven presents awards



Members of North Haven Grange No. 35 recently received awards for continuous membership. Pictured left, Catherine Idone received her 65 year seal and Harry Tancreti (seated) received his 70 year seal from North Haven Master Ed Burrelli.



Reuel Thompson, member of North Haven Grange No. 35, receives is 80 year membership certificate recently from Master Ed Burrelli. The presentation was made at Brother Thompson's home.



Get your "acts" together

I have just come from a meeting with 8 out of 10 Pomona Lecturers. We take this opportunity each year to discuss in detail all of the Lecturers' programs and contests and do some planning for the future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask them. It is time to get your acts together for the "A Number" contest and find someone to enter the Talent Contest from your area. We know we have talent in the Grange. Let's all show everyone what we have.

We also talked about the Lecturers Conference. It should be lots of fun this year. I am looking for skits or other numbers on the State of Texas. Six different flags have flown over the State and we will be honoring each of them.

The Spanish influence was different



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer

lecturer@ctstategrange.org

from the French or Mexican. In addition to being an independent state at one time Texas flew both the Confederate and U.S. flags. Please, if you have a number or know of someone who does, let me know.

WHAT THE GRANGE MEANS TO ME By D.

Emily Alexander- N. Haven Grange
When I first joined, it was a place to go meet people, have fun, learn to work with others and be a team player.

I am older now and it's friendships, good fellowship and working with the community. But, most of all, right now it mean to me the concerns and caring of the members. Not just our Grange but others who cared when I was sick. I will never be able to repay everyone, except to say THANK YOU.

New National Communications Director

After 5 successful years with the National Grange, Jennifer Dugent will step down as Communication Director with the National Grange to start her family. Incumbent Laura Auerbach will fill her shoes.

With more than 10 years in communication, sales, marketing, events planning and graphic design - and more than 5 of those years specifically focusing on nonprofits - Laura will be spearheading the

communications efforts through the Grange. Grangers will continue to see all of their favorite publications, podcasts, and online videos as well as many other new activities and programs to come.

We thank Jennifer for her accomplishments in developing a strong communications foundation for the Grange and welcome Laura to our community. Feel free to send her a welcome message at lauerbach@nationalgrange.org. She would be delighted to hear from you!

New London County Pomona No. 6



Lebanon No. 21
Colchester No. 78
Pachaug No. 96
Preston City No. 110
✓ N. Stonington No. 138
✓ Lyme No. 147
Stonington No. 168
Norwich No. 172

NEW LONDON COUNTY POMONA #6

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

June 3: Election of Officers & Memorial Program- Pachaug Grange

Our “Potluck and Movie Night” on February 6 (the 32nd anniversary of the Blizzard of ‘78) was a big success. Luckily the weather cooperated (although a storm had been predicted). The dishes were varied and delicious and the movie kept us all laughing from beginning to end. Debbie and Jeff had popcorn (buttered or unbuttered) and bags of yummy candy for all to munch on during the show. Many thanks to Norwich Grange for hosting this enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting will be held at Pachaug Grange on June 3 and will be Election of Officers. If you would like to be a Pomona officer please come and make your wishes known. Summer will be in the air and Pachaug Grange is situated near that great ice cream place with the fields of sunflowers. As we watch the snowflakes gently falling outside our window that is a pleasant thought.

We will report on the winners of the Talent and A-Number contests in our next issue.

We’ve made it. We’ve lived through the winter!

The danger of snowstorms has fled.

We’re all looking forward to Pachaug,

And the joys of the new year ahead.

N. STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

April 9: “Let Me Entertain You” Neighbor’s Night

April 23: “Unexpected Song” Community Citizen and Honoring Our Members

On February 12th we were honored to welcome Presidents Washington and Lincoln (a.k.a. Gene and Fritz) to our stage. They discussed the accomplishments of

some of their contemporaries through the ages. George and Harriet also paid us a visit with a new skit. We played a game of Presidential Jeopardy in which Scott once again proved he is the ultimate expert on the subject. On the 26th fifteen courageous souls braved the snowstorm and thoroughly enjoyed the agricultural program. We have such fun at Grange meetings and refreshments are always scrumptious. Wish more of you would join us.

Neighbor’s Night is always enjoyable. We get to see faraway friends whom we haven’t seen for a long time. The weather should be warm and the spring flowers in bloom. Please come and enjoy the evening. On the 23rd we will honor our Community Citizen and present seals and certificates to long-time members. We have three Golden Sheaf, several seals and one 75 year Diamond Certificate to present. And if those pesky deer don’t nip off the tops of my tulips, next time I’ll tell you all about marvelous March.

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Dick Chapman

April 8: Color Us Blue & Gold; Cub Scout Celebration

May 6: Color Us Canary; Music Night

April finds us entering our 114th year of service here in Lyme and also celebrating the 80th birthday of cub scouting. Also an anniversary of sorts is the establishment of the first Connecticut State Grange 135 years ago this month. Another interesting date: National Jelly Bean Day on April 22nd.

Our programs are interesting, committees active, and we are pleased to announce that Dan Mutchler and Ron Purinton are now our official musicians. A reminder to our members that the Calico

Muffin Contest judging will be at our May meeting. We look forward to using the Welcome Ceremony a few

times in the near future. We are growing!

April’s advice: In the words of Andrei Turnhollow-

Mr. Hirst goes to Washington

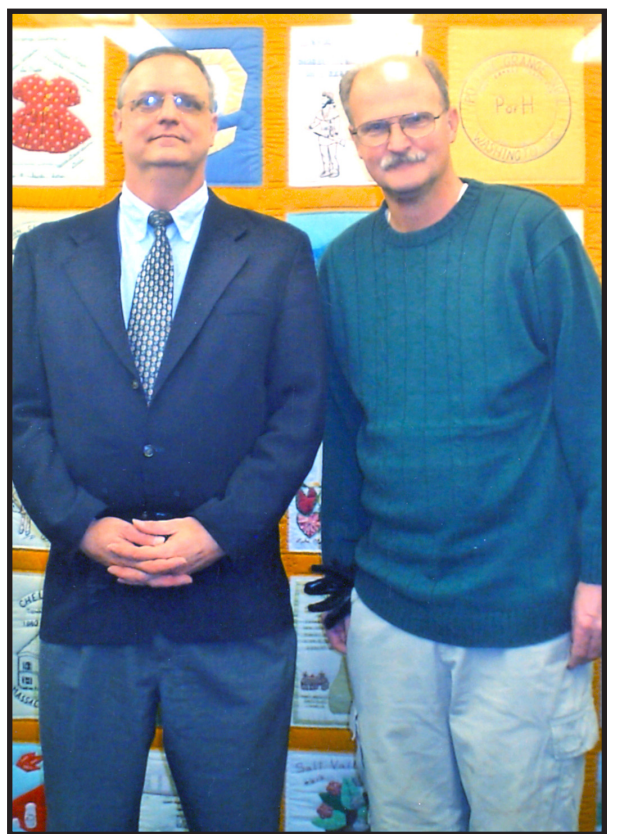


Scott Bill Hirst, member of North Stonington Grange No. 138, recently visited Washington, D.C. to attend a political conference and visited the National Grange Headquarters.

At left, Brother Hirst poses for a picture behind the desk of National Master Ed Luttrell.

Below left, the National Grange Headquarters in Washington, D.C., now in it’s 50th year.

Below right, Hirst with National Grange Legislative Director Leroy Watson.



Moving or refinancing this year?

Benefits available to National Grange members through the Allied Moving Benefits program can save you thousands of dollars on professional moving, real estate and mortgage services, while guaranteeing you world class service from the industry’s top providers. You can learn more about these benefits by visiting the National Grange’s Allied Moving Benefits website at www.nationalgrange.myhomebenefits.com, or call toll free 866-606-1583 to speak to an Allied Moving Benefits representative. Whether you use one service or all three, as a National Grange member the following savings and benefits are available to you:

Moving Services:

- Group discounts on full service, long distance moving and storage with Carey Moving and Storage, an agent for Allied Van Lines. Receive Allied Van Lines most competitive

interstate rates on out-of-states moves as a National Grange member.

- Double the normal amount of Replacement-Value Protection for you possessions, Enhanced transit times, Free written estimates including Allied’s total price guarantee.

- Service Guarantees from the nation’s top moving brand means you won’t have to worry about what your move will cost - in dollars or hassles.

Earn hundreds or thousands of dollars in Cash Back with expert home-sale or home-purchase assistance:

- Expert home-sale or home-purchase assistance through the nation’s top brokerages and real estate agents

- Corporate level service and quality

- National Grange members earn \$500 in cash for every \$100,000 in home value when you buy or sell a home when using a preferred agent through

the Allied Moving Benefits program. (Example: sell a \$200,000 home, earn \$1,000 in cash back, purchase a \$250,000 home, and earn \$1,250 cash back. Do both and earn \$2,250 in cash to spend as you please!)

Hassle-Free Home Financing

- Find the best rates and lowest closing costs from the nation’s top lenders


- Dedicated consultants to offer mortgage guidance

- Fast approvals with minimal paperwork

- \$300 closing cost credit for National Grange members when you finance your purchase or refinance your home through the Allied Moving Benefits program.

If you’re considering moving this year or in the near future, be sure to or call 866-606-1583 or visit www.nationalgrange.myhomebenefits.com and take advantage of the great benefits offered to all National Grange members!

Excelsior Pomona No. 7



- ✓ Beacon Valley No. 103
- Bethlehem No. 107
- ✓ Watertown No. 122
- Prospect No. 144
- Bridgewater No. 153
- ✓ Wolcott No. 173
- ✓ Oxford No. 194

EXCELSIOR POMONA #7
Corr: Mary Dubay

Excelsior Pomona does not meet in the month of April, so the next meting will be on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 and will be the Conferral of the Fifth Degree and Inspection. Time 7:30 P.M. at Beacon Valley Grange Hall.

On Tuesday, May 18, 2010 there will be rehearsal for the degree at Beacon Valley Grange at 7:00 P.M. All officers and members of the court are urged to attend.

reminder to all who have to write a report, the Deputy will be looking for them. The theme for the program is Spring has sprung and is in the charge of the Past Lecturers.

Our Winter Tag Sale that we had in February went well. It was a nice day so we did not have to use our back up snow day. Master Sharon thanks all who helped in any way.

Come and join us when you can. We love company.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103
Corr: Joanne Cipriano

The weatherman has not been very good to us as we had to cancel both of our February meetings. We hope to be back on the regular schedule in March. I'm sure we are all sick of the February and will be happy to get back to meeting with our friends.

Our April meeting is on the 9th with Diane and Victor Godin providing the refreshments following the meeting. We will be having the CWA judging that evening. See Pearl Godin for the Calico Baffin recipe. There are many contests that our stay-at-home members can enter. Please read the department columns in the Granger to see what they are or call any of our officers. We would be most happy to have you enter some of the contests.

WATERTOWN GRANGE #122
Corr: Mary Dubay
April 2: Coloring Eggs
April 16: Inspection

April showers bring May flowers!

Our first meeting's program in April is coloring Easter Eggs. Easter is early this year on the 4th of April and we meet on the second, so just right for coloring eggs. Happy Easter.

Our second meeting is Inspection by the Deputy. A

OXFORD GRANGE #194
Corr: Phil Rowland
April 2: Country Store, Neighbors Welcome
April 16: Open House/Community Citizen Award Presentation. Refreshments - Everyone
April 17: Red Cross Blood Drive

The calendar listings

above represent a work in progress, or perhaps a wish list, of coming events. Therefore, please call ahead for reassurance. Even the blood drive is in question since the Red Cross may use a different site. One

certainly- folks attending on April 16 will be treated to a calico muffin (Grange contest recipe), courtesy of CWA Chair Loretta. So, do come.

Meetings throughout the winter have featured public gardening seminars conducted by Maggie Buck. These have been well attended and very informative- an ideal program idea for this agricultural organization. Happy Easter to All!

Wolcott presents dictionaries



Lou Godin of Wolcott Grange recently presented dictionaries to third graders in three elementary schools in Wolcott.



Wolcott Grange members Lou and Pearl Godin are pictured with Thomas Buzzelli, Principal of Wakelee Elementary School in Wolcott. Wolcott Grange recently donated dictionaries to third graders at Wakelee Elementary School, as well as two additional schools in Wolcott.


Members of Wolcott Grange No. 173 recently distributed over 200 dictionaries to 3rd Graders in three elementary schools in Wolcott, CT.

As part of the Dictionary Project, Wolcott Grange members Louis Godin, Pearl Godin, Ray Legg and Cindy Legg made the presentations to classes at Alcott Elementary School, Frisbie Elementary School, and Wakelee Elementary School.

The Dictionary Project organization was created to provide a dictionary to students to help with their homework and their school work. A dictionary is an essential tool for

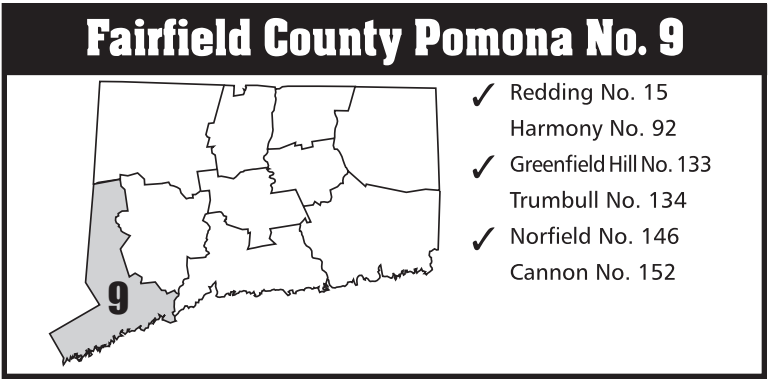
a quality education. A student cannot do his or her best work without one. A child develops his understanding of the world and builds a frame of reference on what he or she knows, a dictionary provides the knowledge to better understand our world and the words to share information.

Wolcott Grange is proud to support The Dictionary Project through the National Grange's Word for Thirds program. Through the tireless efforts of Granges across the country, the organization has presented third grade students with more than 100,000 dictionaries.



Deadline for the Next Issue: April 5!





FAIRFIELD COUNTY POMONA #9

Corr: Karen Macdonald

April is such a lovely time of the year, looking forward to all the joys of Spring and blossoms. Hoping that you have all enjoyed a warm Easter season, and are feeling spiritually renewed. April 7 is our Conferring of the Fifth Degree, a fascinating ceremony, please feel free to visit, is at 7:30 at the Redding Grange. As we all break out of cool weather “cabin fever”, take a ride to lovely Monroe: come to our Pomona Tag Sale, held at Harmony Grange from 9 to 2 on May 8.

REDDING GRANGE #15

Corr: Marge Sendewicz

April 12: Health Awareness
April 26: 3rd & 4th Degree
May 1: Spring Fair—10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
May 10: Mothers day

Now that spring is here we at Redding are ready to work. We’ll start of the month with a program on health awareness. That is something we all should be aware of regardless of our age. What will be covered is not completely known as yet but I wouldn’t be surprised if there weren’t a few tips from Dr. Oz.

Our next meeting is all Grange work. We will be conferring the Third and Fourth Degrees. We hope to have candidates of our own but will gladly accept candidates from other Granges. Degree conferrals are no longer a part of most Granges but they are something we must bring back.

On May 1st we have our first big event of the year, our Spring Fair. We will have something for everyone. Plants, baked goods, books, treasurers, food, you name it we will have it. So bring your friends and family and enjoy the Saturday

at Redding Grange in beautiful Fairfield County where everything is blooming.

GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

Corr: Dennis Rich

April 18: “Planting Time”

In February, we continued developing plans for our Grange, including determining what was need to have a fair in September. The program featured Presidents Washington and Lincoln’s relationships to agriculture. Arecipe for carrot cake, based on that served to General Washington in 1783 at a celebration of the British evacuation from New York and the end of the Revolutionary War.

Garden planning and timing will be the theme of the April program. All of our Grange friends are welcome at our meetings and activities.

NORFIELD GRANGE #146

Corr: Ruth L. Hickcox

April 13: Easter, Memorial Service
May 11: Flowers, Sewing and Talent Contests

The judges have spoken: Sue Sulla’s muffins won first prize in the CWA baking contest in February, and now we will wait to see how she does at the State level this summer. Runners-up were Lyn Kimberly, 2nd, Randy (yup) Randy Miller, 3rd, Betty Miller, 4th, and Kathy Romano, 5th. It was a great turn-out.

Randy Miller’s 6th Grade Sunday School kids will be undertaking the 3-mile Crop Walk in April, with Brenda Maggio coordinating. We hope to participate with them, so stay tuned. It sounds like ground-breaking territory for Norfield.

Also ground-breaking: we will continue to take in new Grange members, thanks to Lyn Kimberly’s quiet persuasions. Again, keep tuned.

National Broadband Plan released

The National Grange commends the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on their release of the National Broadband Plan. The Grange hopes that this plan will become the basis for a comprehensive public/private partnership that will finally assure that the benefits of broadband technology are available to every home, farm and small business in America, regardless of geographic location.

It is evident from the FCC’s recent study on broadband adoption, that rural America still lags behind urban and suburban communities in home, farm and small business broadband connections. Of non-adopters in rural areas, one in ten say they cannot get broadband where they live – more than double the national average. Rural Americans stand to benefit from online applications like telemedicine, distance learning and telework. The entire nation stands to gain from the economic and environmental benefits that integrating national, high-speed internet with farming, tribal and rural communities will bring. It is time for all Americans to have access to these

life-changing opportunities, and the National Grange hopes that the National Broadband Plan will make this possible.

The National Grange thanks President Obama and Congress for their efforts to ensure that all Americans will, some day, live in a fully digitized, connected society, regardless of their geographic location. We also appreciate the FCC’s recognition of the importance that private sector investment must play when developing the National Broadband Plan. Such investment will be necessary to bring broadband to every corner of the country. The National Grange looks forward to working together with both the public and private sectors to make sure that the ambitious goals outlined in the Plan become a reality.

If you have questions or comments regarding this Action Alert, please contact Legislative Program Assistant Molly Thompson by e-mail: mthompson@nationalgrange.org, or by phone: 1-888-4GRANGE, ext. 107. Thank you for your grassroots participation in the National Grange Legislative Program.

National Grange Action Alert

Please participate in the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) Survey on Current and Proposed Legal Mandates Regarding Food Animal Production Practices, as They Impact Food Animal Producers of all Sizes and Their Communities.

Your opinion is requested in the matter of current and proposed legal mandates regarding food animal production practices, as they impact food animal producers of all sizes and their communities.

Background

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST), a non-profit organization composed of scientific societies and many individual, student, company, nonprofit, and associate society members is coordinating a Food Animal Agriculture Symposium, “Sustaining Animal Agriculture: Balancing Bioethical, Economic and Social Issues,” to be held June 8, 9 and 10 in Washington, D.C. They have contacted the National Grange, asking our assistance explaining and distributing a survey to our members. Information gathered through this survey will be summarized and presented on the first day of this symposium. The purpose of the symposium is to explore the intended and unintended consequences of state ballot initiatives, and other legal mandates, regarding animal welfare issues. They will use the information you provide to evaluate how these mandates impact food animal producers of all sizes, their communities, animal welfare, the structure of agriculture, and our food security.

Action Needed

CAST is using a survey system called SurveyMonkey to solicit information they would like to obtain for the

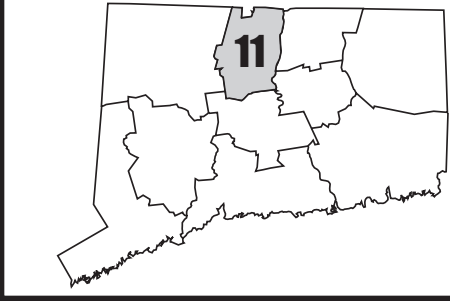
symposium about the views of farmers and others about animal production practices. SurveyMonkey is easy to use and all information will be confidential. The survey responses will only be summarized by state (not a lower level), and according to size and type of farm. If that information is not available then it will only be summarized by state. In no case will it be possible to identify a farm or stakeholder. Participation is strictly voluntary and confidential. However, your participation is greatly appreciated because it will allow a more accurate identification of the impact of intended and unintended consequences of various food animal production ballot, regulatory, and legislative initiatives in the United States. There are 15 multiple-choice questions. It takes only a few minutes to complete. Since your input is critical to this process, please take a few moments to complete the survey.

To participate in the CAST survey and be part of this important symposium please go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/2B2HKJ8, and provide your candid opinions on the topic of ballot initiatives and other legal mandates.

The symposium proceedings will include a summary of these results and will be available on USDA websites and the CAST website: www.cast-science.org.

If you have questions or comments regarding this Action Alert, contact Legislative Program Assistant Molly Thompson by email: mthompson@nationalgrange.org; or by phone at 1-888-4-GRANGE, ext. 107. Thank you for your grassroots participation in the National Grange Legislative Program.

Farmington Valley Pomona No. 11



- ✓ Granby No. 5
- ✓ Tunxis No. 13
- ✓ Cawasa No. 34
- ✓ Simsbury No. 197
- ✓ West Suffield No. 199
- ✓ Cherry Brook No. 210

FARMINGTON VALLEY POMONA #11

Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner

Our February meeting was held at Tunxis Grange Hall and featured love and candy- a sweet combination. The first part of the program was presented by Lecturer Wanda Kansas and gave us thoughts and facts about Valentines. She had made each lady a hand-stitched box containing heart candies. Doris Shaw spoke on candy making and showed the tools and steps needed to create the confections. She had lovely samples for all! It was a tasty evening!

Everything was green in Granby for the March meeting because everyone has to be a bit Irish around the 17th.

Overseer Art Rote has had a difficult winter. We look forward to having him back with us soon.

GRANBY GRANGE #5
Corr: Vivian C. Shaw
April 16: Deputy Evaluation
April 24: Public Setback Card Party, 7:00 P.M.

Three February Cabin Fever Tag Sales.

Feb. 12 President and Safety Program.

Feb. 22 Bloodmobile at S. Congregational Church, sponsored by Granby Grange.

CAWASA GRANGE #34
Corr: Marguerite Schofield

We had a great meeting in March, had a lot of correspondence to read and lots of news. Then we enjoyed our Lecturer’s program.

Sister Maggie wore her green, and Brother Bruce’s birthday is March 17th so we are sure he will wear his that day. Working on a letter for our 2010 scholarship student award this year.

All is quiet at Grange right now; but NOT at home, if it isn’t the goats calling us when they see us come into the house (Lucky

our friend Helen knows someone and each week delivers us a bag of breads- which the goats are waiting for) it’s my cat purring so loud so EARLY in the A.M. - 4-5 A.M. wanting her food- have to give in on that one for sure!!

Enjoy your April, Spring is here!

SIMSBURY GRANGE #197
Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner

We continue to meet at the Simsbury Library. The Graces were in charge of the March meeting and they always come up with something different.

People tell us they miss the Saturday night card parties and we hope to resume them in the spring.

WEST SUFFIELD GRANGE #199
Corr: Pam Covington
April 13: Spring Flowers


I am very sorry to report the death of Past Master Irene W. Phelps on Feb. 26, 2010. Irene was a Master who helped our Grange in so many ways. Always up on what had to be done in the Grange, she worked well with everyone and saw that what had to be done, was. Irene was the one who suggested that we have our meetings at noon, and it has worked out so well. I worked for many years as Lecturer with Irene, and she was a nice and wonderful lady, always there when I needed her as Lecturer. Never had a bad word for anyone, and I can truly say “Well done, good and faithful servant.” We will all miss you Irene!

At our Feb. meeting, we had Committee Night. The CWA, Legislative, Youth and Jr. took part in the program and told what the projects were for the year. We did not have the program in Jan. as a discussion we had went on too long! It was a nice meeting.

Come and visit us at the WestSuffieldCongregational Church.

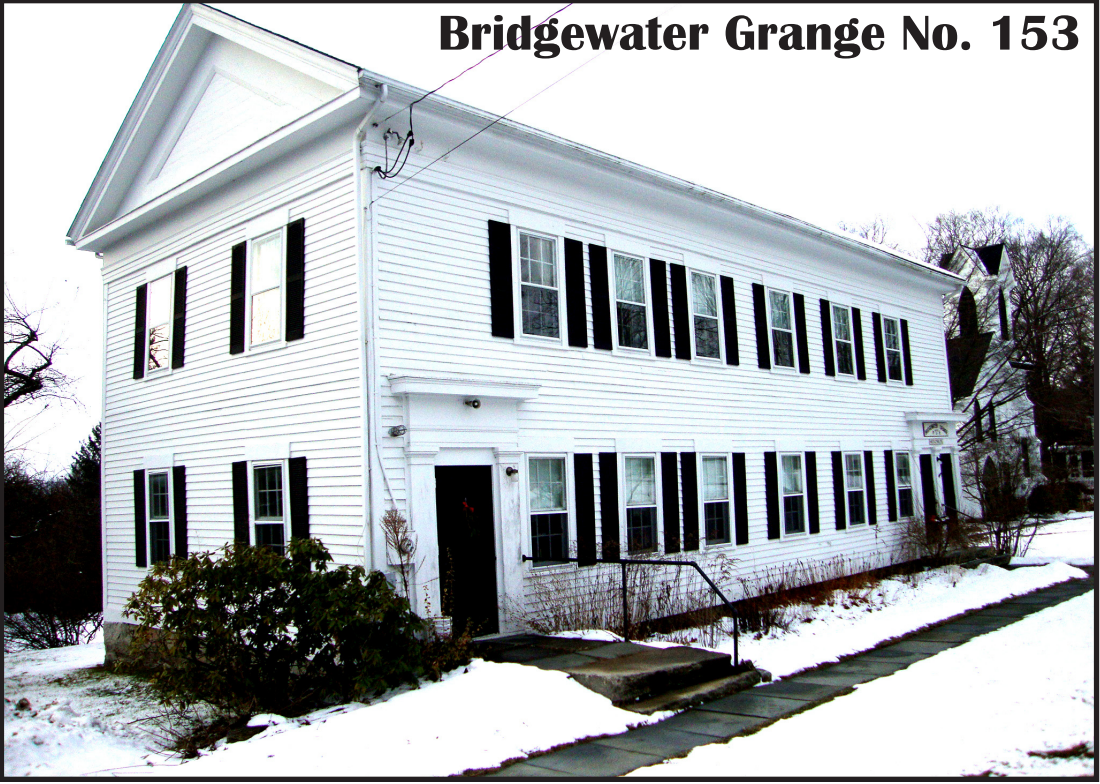
Happy Easter, everyone!

Mystery Meeting Place



For our April Mystery Picture, we would like to know what Grange meets in this building? If you know or have any idea, please let your Information Director know by telephone, postcard or e-mail. Just mail your answers to: Carl H. Bernhardt; 424 Cedar Lane; Cheshire, CT 06410, or call (203) 272-4620. Our e-mail address is: mbc76@cox.net. We would like your answers by May 1st. The names of everyone who gives us the correct answer will be printed in the June issue of the CONNECTICUT GRANGER.

The Mystery Picture shown in the February issue of the Granger is Bridgewater Grange Hall. The following individuals correctly identified the hall: Robert Sendewicz of Redding Grange, Fred Camp of Bridgewater Grange, John Osuch of Bethlehem Grange, Mary Roberts of Bridgewater Grange, Louise Johnson Taylor of Redding Grange, Faith Korpalski of Bethlehem Grange, Martha Babbitt of Bridgewater Grange, Ernie Finch of Bethlehem Grange, Bill & Ruth Schnell of Taghhannuck Grange and Cindy Legg of Southington Grange.



Bridgewater Grange No. 153

CT State Grange ~ 25 Years Ago

Edith Schoell, State Historian

Do you think of the many changes that have occurred in the recent years? Twenty-five years ago Connecticut had a good number of Junior Granges throughout the state. They were active with interesting programs and participating in contests. Junior Grange Day was held at Camp Berger with activities commencing at 11:00 A.M. followed by a potluck lunch and a talent contest in the afternoon. The best of show could compete in the New England States contest that was held that year in Rhode Island.

This was the year the State Grange started the food exchange program with the Eastern Milk Producers. You placed an order for the food and a week or so later the truck would arrive at a designated place for the pick-up. I think the most popular was the ice cream. The program was enjoyed for several years but sadly came to an end when Sam’s Club and BJ’s came into vogue.



Joan Perry
Junior Director
juniors@ctstategrange.org

HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

Corr: Rita Schaefer

April 16: "What are taxes"

The Junior Grange have been holding their regular meetings in spite of the weather.

They will be working on Crafts in the coming meetings. One of these will be "Scrapbooking."

They are looking forward to going bowling during

Junior Grange

their spring vacation. They are still looking for new members. More news next month.

EKONK JR. GRANGE #101

Corr: Sue Gray

Clifford Gervais has been presenting some fun programs and the Juniors are thriving under the continuing leadership of Mike and Betsy Molodich.

The Junior Grange paid for and purchased new towels for the Grange kitchen. We would be hard put to run our suppers without the assistance of dedicated Junior Grangers.

This spring three more Juniors will become members of the Subordinate Grange: Jaimie Cameron, Victoria Royce and Jacob Gervais. Jake will become the 4th generation attending Ekonk Community Grange together as a family!

The Juniors completed their spring fruit & nut sale; this year they expanded the sale to also assist non-Grange 7th graders in their fundraising efforts for the 8th grade class trip to Washington, D.C..

Visit the Juniors anytime on the first Fridays of the month at 6 pm.

In Memoriam

Florence O'Hare	Southington Grange No. 25
Juliette Eddy, G.S.	Senexet Grange No. 40
Muriel Brundrett	Senexet Grange No. 40
Louella Francis	Winchester Grange No. 74
David K. Orr, G.S.	Ekonk Comm. Grange No. 89
Barbara Cameron	Ekonk Comm. Grange No. 89
Teresa L. Manee	Lyme Grange No. 147
Gloria Libera, G.S.	Hemlock Grange No. 182
Irene W. Phelps	West Suffield Grange No. 199

Please keep us notified of deceased members. Use the email or the regular mailing address listed on page 2 of this issue. Thank you.

Chaplain's Message



Amy Whitcomb
State Chaplain
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

As we look forward to the coming of a new season in the year, let us consider how we can forgive ourselves and others. Holding a grudge can have a negative effect on our lives. When we are not absorbed in living our daily lives we tend to turn to thoughts of revenge. We love the anger and plan our

attack so as to make them suffer.

The truth is that underneath we are frightened about the future and our success in the days to come. Our lives are in a constant state of turmoil and we churn with fury inside. Our thinking is muddled and at best we have trouble with even the simplest decisions. We can slip into a deep hole that threatens to pull you deeper with each angry thought.

If you are still harboring angry feelings about anyone in your life, it's never too late to forgive them. The act of forgiveness will bring you benefits that can change your life. Many studies have demonstrated that forgiveness is key to leading a happy life.

Here are some thoughts about forgiveness to consider. We forgive for our own sake, not the other persons. Forgiveness frees us from harboring negative thoughts. Forgiveness does not mean you condone the actions of the other person. Forgiving the other person does not mean you want to have a relationship with the other person. Forgiving releases you from being at the mercy of the other person's actions or their emotional impact on you. Forgiveness does not mean forgetting, you may still have memories but you may think about them and decide to expend your energy elsewhere.

Forgiveness can improve your physical, mental and spiritual health. When we forgive, we take care of ourselves first. Try some simple techniques when those angry feelings come up. Say to yourself, "may I have inner peace and may they have inner peace". You now move on with your life and get busy doing something, preferably something you enjoy.



PROCLAMATION

April 2010 as Grange Month

Now is the Time

WHEREAS through the fraternal bonds of the Grange, members have served thousands of communities throughout the United States of America in significant and critical ways; and

WHEREAS throughout the 143 years of Grange service, our nations' communities have benefited from a multitude of service projects, educational programs, and legislative action that have primarily aided local citizens; and

WHEREAS grassroots involvement in the creation of innovative and hands on solutions to the challenges facing our communities is a guiding principle of the Grange; and

WHEREAS the commitment of the Grange to promotion of family values is reflected in our rules, our policies, and the actions of our members and remains a cornerstone of the organization. Our members understand that when you bring together young and old, men and women, you have an organization more responsive to the local community; and

WHEREAS while the Grange possesses 143 years of experience in benefiting communities, we bring exciting new tools, methods, and attitudes to the solution of the problems of modern America; therefore be it

RESOLVED that April 2010 is hereby proclaimed as Grange Month across America. Now is the time for each member to welcome new members into their Grange. Now is the time for Granges to share the benefits and advantages that Grange membership offers to every person of good character. Now is the time for each Grange to ensure that every member is given the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Proclaimed this day by:

Edward L. Luttrell, President
The National Grange

Attest:

Judy Sherrod, Secretary
The National Grange



Donald Lanoue
Youth Director
youth@ctstategrange.org

Youth Report

Hi everyone I hope that you survived the winter and are looking forward to spring. I would like to thank all that took part in the Bowl-A-Thon or sponsored a participant. This money will go to a good use. Looking ahead to June the Youth Committee with the help of Pat Palmer will be doing the Lasagna Dinner on Grange Sunday.

At this time it is still not too late to register for any of the contests like sign-a-song or public speaking. The winners from CT will go onto the Northeast Youth Conference in Massachusetts. This conference is July 9-11, as I receive more information I will forward it.

Thank You!

We wish to say thank you to all who attended the Memorial Services on Feb. 21 for our beloved Henry. Also for the sympathy cards we received and the donations made in his name. Henry will be missed by all who traveled along with him for 57 years along his Grange journey.

Barb, Karl & Ken Kulisch