

# Grange Sunday

June 13 • 11 AM • Good Will Grange Hall  
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# Connecticut Granger



Vol. 50, No. 9

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

JUNE 2010

## State President



**Robert Sendewicz**  
State Master/President  
[president@ctstategrange.org](mailto:president@ctstategrange.org)

We had a beautiful day for the cleanup at Camp Berger and a great crew to do the work. All the work was done with enough time left to get cleaned up a little and head up to Winchester Grange.

Before the dinner I had a meeting with three of the camp trustees, the camp director and several members of the State Board of Directors. The camp director presented his plans for the camp this year and we discussed the responsibilities of the trustees in the relationship of the five year plan we had set up. We have a great program for this

year and are expecting an outstanding camping season.

As usual, the members of Winchester Grange prepared and served a delicious dinner to a large and hungry crowd. I want to thank them for their efforts and also the many members who came for the Pink Sash meeting.

The meeting followed dinner and many items were discussed. State Overseer, Jody Cameron, gave a presentation on the Grange Growth program that is being conducted in the state. He laid out the plans on how we will grow the program and how we will grow the membership in our state.

Board of Directors Chairman, Phil Prelli, explained the revamped agenda for this year's State Session. He went into great detail of what our plans are and why. He also went over what the frequently asked questions were and what their answers were. These

details should be in this month's publication.

We in the board are doing this in the hopes of increasing participation of delegates and members in our State Session and to make it a really great session to showcase and honor the hard work we all have done the past year. If we keep this in mind I think we will all enjoy the session this year.

Earlier I mentioned Camp Berger. At the last Board of Directors meeting it was decided to make one of the Camp Trustees the Director of the Trustees. With the approval of the Board of Directors I have appointed Linda Coad the Director of the Camp Berger Trustees. We are sure she will do an excellent job in working with the Trustees and the Camp Director in making our camp great again.

Now that spring is really here get out and enjoy it. I have already attended two spring fairs and there are many more Grange activities to enjoy.

## 50 Year Celebration in D.C.

On June 29, 1960, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, National Grange President Herschel Newsom and over 1500 Grange members from across the country were on hand for the dedication ceremony of the National Grange Building located at 1616 H Street, NW in Washington, DC. A 50th Anniversary celebration and rededication ceremony, including tours of the building, is planned for June 2010 honoring this historic occasion. The National Grange Building Rededication Ceremony will take place on Saturday, June 26, 2010 at 1:00 PM at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Hall of Flags located at 1615 H Street, NW, Washington, DC. National Grange Building Tours will take place before and after the Rededication Ceremony at the Grange headquarters at 1616 H Street, NW, Washington, DC. Tours will last approximately 30 minutes. Groups of a maximum of 15 people will begin tours every 15 minutes. Tickets to the tours and

ceremony are free, but space is limited so advance reservations are required.

As part of the celebration, a special Junior Grange and Youth and Young Adult program will take place June 24th through June 27th. This program includes lodging at the 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland, a meal package, in-town transportation and museum/monument tours. To celebrate this special event the National Grange is offering a limited edition commemorative hand pressed glass souvenir. Quantities are limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

Throughout the second half of the Nineteenth Century, the National Grange's presence in Washington, D.C. came in the form of the homes of founders Oliver Hudson Kelly, John Thompson, and John Trimble. As Grangers began to recognize the need for a more permanent

... continued on page 4

## Lyme Grange celebrates



Lyme Grange held a birthday party in honor of the 80th birthday of Cub Scouting in America. 49 members and guests enjoyed the April 8 meeting held at Lyme Grange Hall.

## New State Session format announced

*F. Philip Prelli, Chair, State Grange Board of Directors*

The Board of Directors has been looking at the restructuring the Annual State Grange Session to make it more convenient for members to attend and to add some excitement and enthusiasm to our session. Over the last few years attendance at the pre session Banquet and the session itself have fallen off. We have also seen less discussion on resolution and enthusiasm during the session.

This year's session will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in East Hartford where it has been held in the past. Room rates are the same as last year and we are working to keep the cost of the Banquet low while still having a sit down meal. As with any meeting there are still some points to be worked out.

At last year's meeting, a proposed revision was distributed for comments and concerns. We heard from many of you and have tried to address many of these concerns. A revised draft schedule is in this month's Granger. Some of the major changes are; the Sunday Morning session has been dropped, the Installation is planned for Saturday afternoon after the Closing of the Annual session and prior to the new Celebration Dinner and Evening of Excellence Saturday Night, the opening Thursday Night will include more reports as well as the Opening in the 6th degree and Committee assignments and which resolutions are assigned to each Committee

... continued on pages 2 & 3

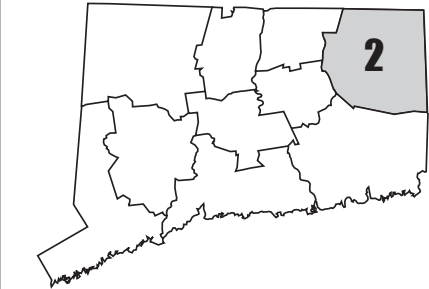
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**Deadline for the JULY/AUG. issue: JUNE 5.**



### 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

**WOLF DEN GRANGE #61**  
*Corr: Elsie M. Johnson*  
**June 9:** Election Night, Agriculture Night Comm.  
**June 23:** Potluck, 6:30 P.M.  
**July 14:** Neighbors Night  
Still having up and down weather. Some flowers bloom but don't stay too long. Come and go. Fruit trees full bloom- hope to get plenty of fruit. Nice to see fields being plowed.  
We have some of the vegetable garden started. Peas are up. More unwanted animals around out there- have had opossum around chicken yard. Skunks have made themselves known too.  
Our bake sale was well attended, had a good selection of goodies and all went. Thanks to all who helped. Tabs and cans still coming in.  
Plans are being made for a pancake breakfast June 5, Saturday. More later.

**EKONK GRANGE #89**  
*Corr: Sue Gray*  
**June 7:** "Growth of Knowledge and Wisdom" 7:30 meeting/program  
**June 12:** 116th annual Strawberry Supper 5-7 pm \$12.00  
**July 5:** "The Flowers of Good Works" 7:30 pm meeting/program  
May found us reminising as we held a Memorial Service honoring the lives of David Orr and Barbara Cameron.  
As we all learned more

about what happened in May, we were treated by Russell Gray & Jody Cameron and their tribute to American patriot, political activist and actor, John Wayne. Jody recited John Waynes, "You ask me Why I Love America! I Love Her! Well, give me time and I'll explain"...this is truly a moving poem...As of the May meeting, apple pie sale profits had reached \$449.00 and we sold two more at the meeting: excellent fundraiser. Thanks to Betsy Molodich & her "team" of volunteers of all ages the Roast Beef supper was a great success. Strawberry Supper: JUNE 12TH 5-7 pm!  
Jody Cameron announced the "Cameron Family Award" to be made at 2010 state Grange: the Grange that makes and donates the most baby hats & lap robes will receive a \$50.00 prize in tribute to his mother, Barbara. Thanks to Carrie Molodich, who chaired a fundraising Grange Tupperware Party, selling over \$800.00 worth of products. Our FFA Appreciation supper was a rousing success with over 70 in attendance. Victor Salazar gave a truly inspirational speach comparing the Grange and the FFA and we donated \$100.00 to the Killingly High School Vo-Ag Scholarship Fund! We voted to sponsor our 3 FFA/Grange girls in the

Relay for Life Walk: Brandi Hawkins, Katie Hermonot and Katie Molodich. Thanks to Rebecca and Trevor Gervais and Mason Gray for maintaining the hall grounds. If you come June 7th-come at 6:30 for supper first. We will also be conferring the 2nd degree that night and Jacob Gervais, Junior President, will be joining. This will make 4 generations attending our Grange meetings! Visit us anytime; summer is an awesome time of year to travel scenic Route 49! We'll be looking for you!

**KILLINGLY GRANGE #112**  
*Corr: Glenna Bruno*  
**June 7:** Elections  
**June 21:** Put On A Happy Face  
**July 19:** Picnic and Fun. Summer Potluck Supper at Grange, 6 P.M.  
Well, our degrees are all over. We had various masters for the different degrees. First and third Degree- Dan Mutchler. Ron did the second degree and Dick Dufresne, Overseer of Wolf Den did Fourth Degree.

Four candidates were from Stonington Grange #168. State Jr. Director Joan Perry filled in for Steward. Our own Cranston and Mildred Briggs were the Asst. and Lady Asst. Stewards for all the degrees- a task they have carried out for many years.  
We were honored to have Vermont State Pianist Lester Gibbs with us providing piano music. It was so nice to have all those marchers with good old march music.  
Gert Blain also provided the tableaux for the degrees. She does a great job.

We will be draping our neglected cemetary in the area.  
It's beginning to be a busy Grange year. Though many of us are 50 plus, we still try to keep our Killingly Grange #112 going strong. Come visit sometime.  
We will be draping our neglected cemetary in the area.

## State Session Format

*Continued from page one...*  
will be announced in the Granger prior to the session. As stated at last year's session, we are still planning for a registration fee (currently looking at \$30- 35 depending on final cost of lunches as well as a lower one day registration) and planned lunches to present awards.

**SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**  
**Q: If I am only coming to take the Sixth Degree will I have to be registered and pay a registration fee?**  
A: No, those that are taking the degree or participating as part of the degree do not need to register.  
**Q: If I am only attending the Installation and/ or the Night of excellence will I need to register?**  
A: No but you will miss out on the important parts of the rest of the session.  
**Q: Will I have to attend the banquet to see the "Night of Excellence" including the Lecturer's Program?**  
A: Again no, but seeing that the evening will be set up in a banquet format those attending the banquet will have preferred seating.  
**Q: What is included in the registration fee?**  
A: Attendance at all the sessions, tickets to the Luncheons (if one day registration the luncheon that day) and easy access to the meetings.  
**Q: Is the banquet included in the registration fee?**  
A: No the banquet is a separate ticket.  
**Q: Will Junior Grange Members need to register to participate at the Junior Luncheon and Awards?**  
A: No, we are still working on a possible lower cost for the luncheon and also a kid's lunch for the Saturday Luncheon to make it more attractive to the Junior Members.

Hopefully this helps explain the proposed changes. I know that we are always nervous about changes and how they will go. I am sure there will be some minor issues but with all of us looking at this as a positive move which will bring new life into the session, I am sure that it will be an exciting and memorable time. All the members of the Board are looking forward to seeing you at the session.

**PLEASE! Do not send correspondence or any other mail to the Newfield Rd. address listed below. This is the address for Winchester Grange #74 and is only listed to satisfy USPS requirements. Please mail to the Editor's address listed below, right. Thank You!**

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**DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS**

News is due on the **5th Day** of each month except July and should be sent to:

Connecticut State Grange  
P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033

or


Todd Gelineau, Editor  
170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790

**Connecticut Granger Staff**

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


You may or may not know that a group of ravens is called a murder. A group of eagles is a congregation. A group of sea birds is a wreck. A group of salmon is a run. What is a group of 12 or more cows called? If you think you know, send your answer to: granger@ctstategrange.org or mail a note to: Todd Gelineau, 170 Scoville St. #14, Torrington, CT 06790. Answer in the next issue.

*Question submitted by Joanne Cipriano*





### East Central Pomona No. 3



- ✓ Glastonbury No. 26
- ✓ Manchester No. 31
- ✓ Coventry No. 75
- ✓ Hillstown No. 87
- ✓ Marlborough No. 205

**EAST CENTRAL POMONA #3**  
*Corr: John Waterhouse*  
**June 5:** 7:30 P.M., Regular Meeting  
**July:** No Meeting

On June 5th East Central Pomona will elect officers for the next two years. The meeting will start at 7:30 P.M. at Good Will Grange Hall. How fast these past two years have gone.

Many of our members attended the installation of officers of Vashti Shrine #2 of the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem. They meet in our hall and over the past year we were also invited to their Christmas Party. A good time was had by all.

**GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26**  
*Corr: Kay Ruff*  
**June 3:** Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Election of Officers; Ref: Priscilla Schmartz, Myrtle & Win Jensen, Phoebe Ahearn  
**June 12:** Monte Carlo Whist Card Party 7:00 p.m. (Maybe - Call me 860-974-0603 or Jean Accorner 860-633-1059 to verify)  
**July 1:** Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Happy Fourth of July, Ref: Martha Baribault, Thor Hyyppa, Lara Gardiner

I hope you are all enjoying your summer. It is my favorite time of year. I think it is much easier to mow the lawn as to shovel snow.

Several of our members have been on the sick list for some time now. I hope that Jean Accornero, Zella Ferrando and Myrtle Jensen are feeling much, much better. If I have missed anyone, I am sorry, but certainly wish them well also.

Please try to attend the June meeting. It is Election and we need you all there to help select who will serve as Glastonbury Granges officers for the coming year.

As I am typing this article we just had the Food and Boutique Sale, May 1st. It was a success and I want to thank you all for your wonderful support. I hope that we have the same

success at our Public Pasta Supper that will be held May 15th.

I wish you all a wonderful summer. The next Ct. Granger I will be tell you all of our late summer and fall activities.

**MANCHESTER GRANGE #31**  
*Corr: Diane Small*  
**June 16:** Fun in the Sun  
**July 7:** Ring for Liberty  
**Aug. 18:** Off to the State Fair

Summer is coming closer and closer. It will be time for fun in the sun, picnics, and just enjoying those lazy, hazy days of the good old summertime. Vacations are in the future for many. When doubt for something to do, check out all the things that are available right here in the state. One of the things that I find interesting, hopefully will get a chance to see, is the new science center in Hartford. Don't forget your sunscreen when you are out in the sun for an extended period of time.

Wishing all Dads and Granddads a Happy Father's Day!!!! Just think of all the lawns that get mowed. The little league, football, soccer and any other sport that dad is the transporter, and just being Dad. I'm sure he could use another tie, how about a nice batch of homemade cookies and as always, a new handmade picture.

Flag Day is June 14th. Fly one, no matter the size, it shows everyone our Patrioism and that we are all proud to be an American. With 4th of July coming, again remember to display the flag. It's a grand old flag and truly is part of Americana. I have a son in the service and I am very, very proud of him and all the other sons, brothers, daughters, sisters and any other family members that are serving our country with pride.

Hope all of your CWA projects are near completion. Judging is closing in and Appreciation Day will also be here soon.

It's interesting that as we get older, time seems to run much faster. It seems there are times, when the days just don't seem long enough.

**COVENTRY GRANGE #75**  
*Corr: Ethel Harris*  
**June 2:** Hooray for Summertime; Ref. Williams  
**June 17:** We All Scream For...; Ref. Harris, Hill  
Happy Spring, finally!

Mother nature does her own thing! It's great to get outdoors and enjoy the flowers and budding trees... the tiresome chore is cleaning up and picking up after old man winter.

Renovation of our hall is going along well and we can set a date for our Tag/Bake Sale.

By the time you read this we will have presented 124 dictionaries for the Words for Thirds project. I have had some favorable responses form some teachers.

Hope you had a great May Day. Get out for a Memorial Day Parade. Fly your flag, thank a service man/woman.

Open Meeting- May 27- 7:30 for anyone interested in forming an Agriculture Commission in the area.

**HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87**  
*Corr: Rita J. Schaefer*  
**June 10:** Red, White & Blue  
**June 12:** Baked Chicken & Strawberry Shortcake Dinner  
**June 24:** Award Night  
**July 8:** Member Picnic

Would you think of putting air conditioners in the windows? But I don't mind the heat if we don't have those crazy storms we are having all over the state. The farmers surely like good weather to get their crops started. I don't think anyone got their peas in the ground as they say they should be planted by March 17th.

Our talent and skit run-offs were held on Saturday night at our Pomona meeting with first prize for skits going to Manchester and Hillstown won second. The talent contest resulted in Edie Schoell of Manchester taking first prize and second went to Hillstown with one of our Juniors taking part in a dance step.

Our Chicken Dinner will be held on June 12th and is open to all. On July 8th

we will have our member picnic and then comes some rest to prepare for our fair in the fall.

We now have lost two older members since our last writing, Luby Carpenter and Eugene Roy.

Our shut-ins have been progressing. It was good to see Jean Hansen at our Western Night after her serious illness. Our Western Night was well attended.

I guess I'll sign off as that is all the news I have for now!

**MARLBOROUGH GRANGE #205**  
*Corr: Ruth K. Posuniak*  
**June 3:** 11:00 AM

Marlborough Congreg. Church Youth Room, Ref: Men in Charge, Program: White Elephant Swap

Marlborough Grange had our Awards Night on May 14th and are happy to say that we had Three who applied for the \$2,000.00 Scholarship Award. The winner was David Fitol from East Hampton High School who has been accepted to Roger Williams University.

The Grange also honored two Citizen of the Year 2009. Hebrons Citizen was Edward "Ned" Ellis and from Andover Dianne Grenier. Pauline Collette received her twenty-five Award and pin from Marlborough Grange.

## 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange

**Thursday, October 21 - Saturday, October 23, 2010**  
**Sheraton Hotel, East Hartford, Connecticut**

### Thursday Evening

7:00 P.M.	Open in Sixth Degree at the Sheraton Hotel - East Hartford Roll Call of Officers Roll Call of Granges Introduction of National Representatives Committee Assignments Introduction of Business without Debate
8:00 P.M.	State Master's Address Report of State Secretary Report of State Treasurer Report of Exec. Comm./Bd. of Directors
9:00 P.M.	Closing
9:15 P.M.	Committee Work Begins

### Friday

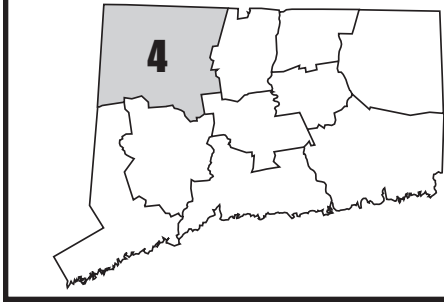
9:00 A.M.	Open & Introductions Roll Call of Officers Minutes of Previous Day's Session
9:15 A.M.	Report of Legislative Committee Report of Agriculture Committee
9:30 A.M.	Election of Officers
10:00 A.M.	Report of General Deputy Report of Pomona Deputies Report of Camp Berger Report of Connecticut Granger Business Session
12:00 P.M.	Luncheon CWA Presentations & Awards Membership Awards Information/Publicity Awards
2:00 P.M.	Business Session
5:00 P.M.	Closing
8:00 P.M.	Sixth Degree Conferral

### Saturday

9:00 A.M.	Opening & Introductions Roll Call of Officers Minutes from Previous Day's Sessions
9:15 A.M.	Memorial Service
10:15 A.M.	Business Session
12:00 P.M.	Youth/Junior Recognition Luncheon
1:45 P.M.	Business Session
3:30 P.M.	Installation of Officers
5:00 P.M.	Closing
7:00 P.M.	Celebration Banquet Lecturer's Program Scholarship FFA Agricultural Awards Community Service Past Deputy Raffle



### 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*

**June 28:** “Celebrate Summer” at Taghannuck Grange Hall

The next meeting of Mountain County Pomona will be held (as has been our tradition) on the **FOURTH MONDAY** of the month on the 28th. The program will be “Celebrate Summer” and we will also hold our annual Spring Gift Drawing. This is the only fundraiser the Pomona holds all year and we remind all officers to bring their gifts to this meeting along with all of those sold tickets! Tickets are still available in all of the Granges and from any of the Pomona officers. This will also be the first time Mountain County has ever met at Taghannuck Grange. As #100 was previously a member of Housatonic Valley Pomona, it took a while for us to work them into the meeting schedule but we are excited to finally get out to Sharon for a meeting. Please join us!

Our May 10 meeting was the annual conferral of the Fifth Degree and we welcome our new members and hope they will make Pomona meetings part of their regular schedule each month. We also thank the members of Winchester Grange for hosting and for preparing the delicious lasagna dinner prior to the meeting. It was also nice to welcome Pomona Deputy East Jim Palmer as the Inspecting Deputy along with his wife Pat, Deputy of Quinebaug Pomona No. 2.

**WHIGVILLE GRANGE #48**

The Whigville Grange will hold a flea market and tag sale on Saturday, June 5 from 9am until 2 pm at the Grange Hall on South Main St., Burlington. South Main St. is off of rte 69, just north of Bristol. Inside and out side spaces

are available for \$20. Admission is free. There will be food available. For a space or information please call Debbie at 860-582-9863 or b\_gary@sbcglobal.net.

**WINCHESTER GRANGE #74**

*Corr: Todd Gelineau*  
**June 8:** New or Old (Election of Officers), Ref. Shirley Lemieux  
**June 20:** Strawberry Festival, 2:30 to 5:00 P.M., Grange Hall  
**June 22:** Umbrellas (CWA & Memorial Program)

Winchester Grange is coming into the busiest part of the year with several events on the boards. First up was our Spring Super Prize Party. The publicity (signs and media attention) were excellent. The prizes were over abundant and of excellent value. Unfortunately the attendance is not what we had expected, especially compared to our Party held last spring. We learned there was a competing teacup auction in Torrington on the same night, possibly explaining for the lack of attenance. We still turned a profit, just not the profit we had hoped for.

The next event is a Spring Tag Sale on May 30. This sale features items donated by members only and is not the huge Flea Market event that we have held in the past. The idea was to make a little money for the Grange treasury while participating in the village-wide tag sale held at the Congregational Church and on front lawns all over the neighborhood.

June features our ever-popular Strawberry Festival, “Take Dad Out For Dessert.” As always, the festival his held on Father’s Day, Sunday, June 20 at the Grange Hall. Come and join us for the largest servings of Strawberry Shortcake in the area made from fresh

strawberries, cream and home baked baking powder biscuits. Mouth watering? Good-- please join us!

**TAGHHANNUCK GRANGE #100**

*Corr: Myrtle Hayden*  
**June 10:** Rummage Sale Set-Up  
**June 17:** Rummage Sale Pick-Up  
**June 24:** Election of Officers/Memorial

We draped our charter in memory of David Epperson. We had our Citizen of the Year Award with many attending.

We are preparing for our annual Rummage Sale.

The following article was written for the CT State Grange Website:

David “NASCAR” MacMillan enjoys helping others, and people are beginning to take notice.

MacMillan was awarded the Taghannuck Grange 100 Community Citizen Award during a ceremony Thursday in recognition of the hours of time and commitment he gives to the Sunday in the Country Food Drive, his main interest. State Rep. Roberta B. Willis, D-Salisbury, also presented him with a citation from the state legislature.

“I was flabbergasted,” said MacMillan, a modest man from Millerton, N.Y., who avoids the limelight. “I never thought the food drive would get so big it would be recognized by the Grange and the state.” He said it’s nice to be appreciated, but emphasized that all the volunteers who help him throughout the year with a wide variety of fundraisers should get an award, not just him.

The food drive has impressive numbers. The Grange award honored him for “tire less efforts in raising over \$130,000 in the past three years,” but the longer picture is even more amazing. He estimates the project has raised close to \$500,000 since its beginnings 18 years ago when he and Robert J. Chatfield at radio station WKZE and decided to each give a turkey to a needy family for Thanksgiving.

Today, the drive spans 16 towns in Litchfield County,

eastern Dutchess and 540 last year alone. Columbia counties in New York state and Sheffield, Taghannuck Grange Mass., giving fixings for full master Barbara B. Prindle dinners at Thanksgiving said MacMillan “is a good and Christmas — a total of neighbor on a grand scale.”



## National Headquarters

*Continued from page one...*

voice in Washington, members began advocating for permanent headquarters. Thomas Atkeson, Former National Overseer and first Legislative Director for the National Grange, worked out of a location at 303 Seventh Street, now regarded as the first official headquarters of the National Grange. But the organization was growing at an unprecedented rate, proving the location on Seventh Street quickly inadequate.

In 1921, National Grange took occupancy of the second floor of a building owned by the National Bank of Washington. That space had also become too small to accommodate the growing organization, so in 1936, the National Grange moved into what would be its last rented space at 1343 H Street, NW.

In 1943, the first headquarters owned by the National Grange was purchased. Located at 744 Jackson Place Northwest, the new Grange home stood eight stories tall and faced the White House from across Lafayette Square. Having the building gave the National Grange added credibility, and it was right where National Master Albert Goss and others felt it belonged.

Although the location of the headquarters on prime real estate was good for the Order, it also made the building the envy of certain agencies within the Federal Government that had other plans for the block. Under a law known as the Public Buildings Purchase Contract Act of 1954, the GSA acted on their perceived power to condemn and seize any private property needed for the conclusion of a project. The GSA attempted to seize the property at Jackson Place, but the National Grange was not going down without a fight.

On July 24, 1958, the National Grange and the Federal Government reached an agreement. The GSA and the National Grange would switch land sites, and a new Grange headquarters would be built. The Federal Government gave the property to the National Grange on August 11, 1958, as well as an additional \$360,000 in compensation.

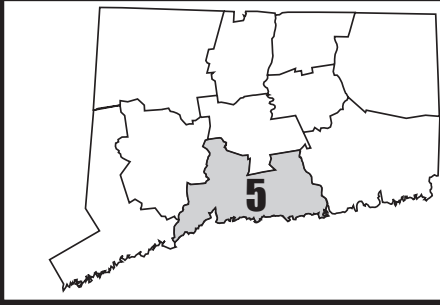
The new and current headquarters had a planned completion of early 1960. The Groundbreaking Ceremony was on January 8, 1959. Master Herschel Newsom and members of the Building Committee turned the first spade of earth. National Officers and representatives of 17 State Granges were present for the ceremony, and by April, work had begun on what was supposed to become a narrow brick structure 110 feet tall in the 1600 block of H Street, NW.

Today, due to its prime location, the building rarely has vacant office space. Approximately 45% of the organization’s operating budget comes from the building’s tenants. In addition, the building provides the organization with an important presence in Washington, D.C.

For details on the anniversary celebration, tickets, and more, please visit [www.nationalgrange.org](http://www.nationalgrange.org)



### 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  
June 14: Regular Meeting at Cheshire. Election of Officers. Gift Card Drawing  
Aug. 23: 6pm-Picnic at Bernhardt's. Pot luck dinner at 6:30.

At our May meeting, we welcomed Bob Buck, General Deputy, who was the Inspecting Officer.

The Fifth Degree was conferred on Samantha Hewston of Wallingford. We welcome Sister Hewston and hope that her Grange journey will long and rewarding.

**CHESHIRE GRANGE #23**

Corr: Charleen Dimmick  
June 16: Mystery Ride  
July 7: Omit  
July 21: 6pm - Picnic at the Bernhardt's. pot Luck dinner at 6:30  
Aug. 4: Omit  
Aug. 18: Ice Cream social

Our second meeting in April was CWA Night. We were entertained by Ron Gagliardi, local wit and historian. Mr. Gagliardi is a former school teacher and former member of the Town Council; he was the recipient of our Community Citizen Award several

years ago.

Our first meeting in May was Competitive Night. A good time was had by all, and it was nice to see Grangers from other Subordinates.

For refreshments, we had the entries in the Men's Bake-Off.

**NORTH HAVEN GRANGE #35**

Corr: A. Tolette  
June 1: Election of Officers  
July 6: Sizzling Summer Spring has surely sprung. Everything here has bloomed much too early.

We survived our evaluation night. Emily had another great program. This one was about going fishing. It's amazing what you can catch with a magnet.

**OLD LYME GRANGE #162**

Corr: Barbara Kulisch  
June 11: Who leads us forth for the next two years?  
June 25: Young at Heart-- Youth Night, Visitors  
We held our CWA Baby Shower at the April meeting which netted us 50 items of clothing to diapers! Our program was anything used by a baby/ toddler & we all had fun

remembering what our children once used!  
Our April 23rd meeting was our CWA program with the Calico Muffin bake-off. We had 5 entries & the two men who entered they came in 3rd-Ross Stands, 2nd- Marilyn Stitham & 1st- Peter Smith! A fun evening entitled "Catnip Capers" gave us much information about Cats! We had 18 visitors & 14 of our own members out that evening.

By the time you read this Granger, our hall will be handicapped accessible. It has been a long time in coming & we all thank Sis Doris Johnson for all her hard work in getting all the permits, attending the extra meetings & all the follow-up that needs to be done with a project this big. Some of our "Winter Birds" have already returned & the rest will be heading home the 1st

of June. We have sent Sis Eleanor Chapman Norton her 55 year seal as she now lives in Florida. Congratulations Sis Eleanor! We will be presenting Sis Shirley Dill Brown with her 60 year seal upon her return from Florida in June.

We wish you all a "Happy & Healthy Summer" & know that the door is always open at Old Lyme Grange #162!

# Grange Growth Update



Members of the Grange Growth team at Ravena Grange

*Todd Gelineau, Editor*

Seven representatives from Connecticut attended the recent Advanced Team Training program produced by the National Grange and presented at Ravena Grange in Coeymans Hollow, NY. This writer along with Jody & Jodi Ann Cameron, Victor Salazar, Jeff & Debbie Barnes and Joan Perry made the trip to the small town near Albany, NY. There were representatives from the states of Connecticut, New York, New Hampshire, Maine, Rhode Island, Maryland and North Carolina. The format of the program is very similar to the Grange Growth Summits that were attended last year. The difference in this program is the focus on leadership and team training.

The intense three day program began on Friday, April 16 with an introduction and a personality test. Each member took the personality test to determine what type of personality they have and to understand how personality effects the dynamics of a group. Selection of group members based on personality, among other things, can ensure better results from that group.

The Saturday session featured workshops and an offsite team activity. The offsite activity turned out to be a scavenger hunt that required groups of 4 or 5 people to fan out over a pre-determined area to find "a public service official" or a veteran, a child under 10, etc. and have them sign the scavenger hunt sheet. Only two hours was allotted for this activity. All of the members participating found it to be a lot of fun and learned a lot about the strategies involved in asking the general public to participate in something without any prior knowledge. For example, the North Carolina delegation learned that shoppers at a local Wal-Mart really are not interested in giving up any time to anyone asking for help outside the store no matter how cute their accent might be! In contrast, shoppers at a small shopping

plaza nearby could be heard saying, "anything for the Grange."

Sunday featured a more relaxed morning session focused on evaluating each state's needs and beginning the process of outlining a program that would work for each. Connecticut's team

has created a proposal for the State Grange Board of Directors that involves less training outside of the state. Instead, members that have already received Grange Growth Summit, Advanced Team Training and hands-on experience through revitalization meetings in the state will train new team members "in-house."

Instead of calling the team the "Revitalization Team" we have selected the name "Grange Growth Team" to reflect the broader focus of this group. The team, as proposed to the Board, would be comprised of a Steering Team that would manage the program with a Revitalization Team, a Grange Organization/Re-Organization Team, a Junior Grange Organization/Re-Organization Team, a Ritual Team and a Youth Recruitment Team. As we have explained in earlier articles, the process involved in each of these areas requires multiple visits to Granges. A team handling even two or three Granges can expect to add at least 18 or more meetings to their schedules over a 3 or 4 month period as teams need to follow up with Granges and help them through the revitalization process. Clearly there is a limit to the number of Granges a single team can handle and the plan outlined above makes the process much more manageable.

In the coming weeks and months the members of the existing Grange Growth Team will invite members they have identified as potential candidates for slots on these teams to attend meetings to introduce them to the program. Afterwards training will begin and we will then be able to roll out a more comprehensive program to benefit the Connecticut State Grange. Right now, the program is being outlined and defined by the team with the support and input of the State Grange Board of Directors. More information on this exciting program will be announced as it becomes available.

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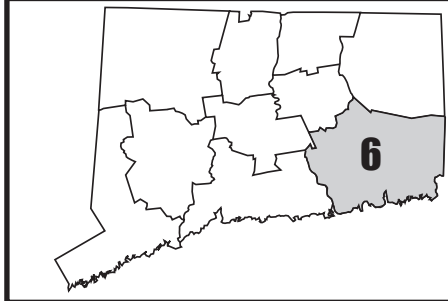
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### New London County Pomona No. 6



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, Pachaug Grange

Please come to Pachaug Grange on the third. Pachaug is lovely at this time of year, and your Pomona needs your help. Some of our officers have to leave the area and new officers are needed. We meet four times a year for regular meetings and once for Degrees. You can spare five nights away from that little black box in the living room, can't you? Debbie's programs are always great and the refreshments are outstanding. What more could you want?

So come out to pastoral Pachaug,

Get an ice cream cone on the way.

You'll have a great time at Pomona.

Bet you'll find that you want to stay.

N. STONINGTON GRANGE  
#138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

**June 11:** "Tomorrow" from "Annie" Election & CWA Program

**June 25:** "Summertime" from "Porgy & Bess" Annual picnic followed by games

Neighbor's Night found us catching butterflies that looked a lot like ping-pong balls, finding out some fascinating facts about the Civil War and Earth Day, remembering old advertising slogans and listening to some lovely music. Then all our guests got to guess the objects in the pillowcases, being rewarded with the object inside if they were correct. Jason and Andy each read a spring poem; "And a good time was had by all!"

On April 23 we honored long-time members and our Community Citizen. High Priest of Demeter Emeritus, Woody Tucker, and wife

Marge were on hand to help present awards. Woody praised Gene and Alice Speck, recipients of their Golden Sheaf Certificates, for their many years of assistance with the Seventh Degree. Gene and Alice labored diligently for years, not only within our Grange, but also with the North Stonington Agricultural Fair. Anita Ames, Ellie Banker, Meredith Pappadia, Clarence Bradley and Mark Senior (for his dad, Dick) were also present to receive seals and reminisced about the fun at Grnage in "the old days."

Our Community Citizen, Donald Howell, was praised for his dedication and service to the North Stonington Volunteer Fire Department.

Our annual picnic will be held on June 25. Bring a dish and enjoy a hamburger or hot dog and a drink provided by the Grange. There will be games for the young and young-at-heart until dusk. And if that pileated woodpecker calling in my back yard will just find a mate and build a nest, next time I'll tell you all about merry May.

LYME GRANGE #147

**June 3:** Color Us Navy Blue- Graces & Chaplain

**July 1:** Color Us Red, White and Blue- Show Your Colors

At our April meeting, we hosted a birthday party for Lyme Cub Scout Troop 32. Lyme Grange has sponsored them for over 40 years. April was the 80th birthday of the founding of the Cub Scouts. We had 31 guests between the parents, leaders and scouts. Our own members numbered 18 making a total of 49 in our hall. Our walls were vibrating. Games were played and a skit was performed by the scouts-costumes and all. Lots of food and a huge birthday cake followed. May brings the General Deputy to our

hall. We hope all will go well. It is music night-our color is canary and we expect guests. Part of our refreshments will be the calico muffins as it is bake-off night.

June features the program by the Graces and Chaplain.

We made our bi-annual donation to Hillstown Jr. Grange. It is our second year of adopting them.

Hope all you mothers had a simply wonderful mother's day and you dads will have a great Father's Day.

STONINGTON GRANGE #168

Corr: Jeff Barnes

Our April meeting was a special evening for us. We honored six Stonington residents who, as members of the local National Guard unit, served oversees in Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq at various times. Friends and family were present as they each shared stories of their experiences in the Middle East. One told of how the military had turned his life around and from a high-school dropout with no direction he became a successful contractor in civilian life. Coincidentally one of his high-school teachers was an awards presenter and testified to this.

We also had a husband and wife who met two weeks before deployed to Iraq and served with her father! The father was also one of our honorees. Others told of leaving family for a year and how the community helped support their loved ones. Another is currently serving as an volunteer General Manager for the Connecticut College radio station. He publicizes local events of families overseas, and also has helped by installing and ramp and roof for a fellow soldier he served with, in conjunction with other soldiers. Another told of how he proposed while he was overseas to his now wife. We also heard of the uncomfortable conditions of being deployed.

The evening was a surprise when we found out that each of the five branches of our military was represented by someone in the hall. It was a very informative evening, full of

surprises by persons who have served, each with their very own story.

Our Lecturer introduced each individually at the altar with a short biography, State Lecturer, Marge Bernhardt, presented the award from our Grange and Stonington 1st Selectman Ed Habereck, and 2nd Selectman George Krause presented citations from the town.

Afterwards, we were highly entertained by John Banker, a master entertainer with a huge array of novelty, folk, inspirational and patriotic songs. Every toe

was tapping and every face was smiling as his keyboard came alive. We believe that our Grange was very well represented to our guests that evening. Thanks to all who participated.

Our May program will be presented by Tanya Sylvestre, one of our newer members. She has asked a local farmer to talk about their farm which has many programs for the community, including making cheese and a camp for children during the summer. A good agricultural theme. Life is good!

## N. Stonington Grange



43rd District Representative Diana Urban of N. Stonington presents Donald W. Howell with a citation from the General Assembly in recognition of his selection as North Stonington Grange's Community Citizen of the Year. The presentation was mat at the April 23 meeting of N. Stonington Grange.



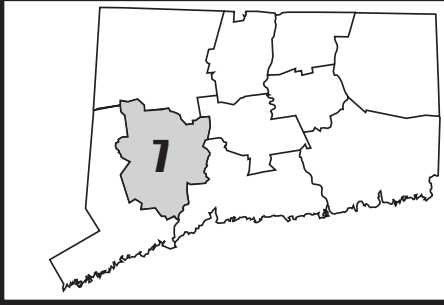
The Bromley family has long been a cornerstone of North Stonington Comm. Grange. Gene Bromley, far left, holds the record for the number of terms as Master of North Stonington Community Grange and is still an officer and executive committee member. His sister, Meredith, third from left, was honored with a membership award. Her husband, Joseph Pappadia, a non-member, is at far right. Cecile McGrath, second from left, is a long-time member.



Woodrow W. Tucker (second from right), High Priest of Demeter Emeritus of the National Grange and Sister Marge Tucker pose for a photo with Eugene and Alice Speck at a recent meeting of N. Stonington Grange. The Specks were among other members honored for their years of membership and service to the Grange.



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*  
**June 16:** Let's Go Camping

Excelsior Pomona will meet on June 16, 2010 at Wolcott Grange at 7:30 P.M. The theme for the program is called "Let's Go Camping" by Lecturer Jean.

Excelsior Pomona does not meet in the months of July and August, so we wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

**BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103**

*Corr: Joanne Cipriano*  
On Friday, June 11 we will be celebrating our 121st anniversary. An entertaining program is being planned. Final plans have not been made so we will have to report what happened in the next issue. As always, visitors are welcome.

On June 25 we will have our Officers planning meeting. This is a very important night as to plan the activities of our Grange for the whole year we need the brains of all our members. We will have a dinner before the meeting at 6:00 P.M.

Our program for July 9th is "Ducks" and August 13th "Dogs". This will be our annual picnic.

We wish all our Grange friends and their families an enjoyable and healthy summer.

**BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121**

*Corr: Linda Coad*  
**June 28:** 7:30 PM, Election of Officers, Ref: Shirley Petrillo  
**July 26:** 7:30 PM, Too Hot!, Ref: Evelyn Maddox

Our March meeting opened with ALL officers present. Worthy Lecturer, Rob Buck put on an interesting program on "Horses".

The Annual Flea Market was a success again this year. Many of the vendors return every year with

several new ones trying out for the first time. Many "Thanks" to those who helped or contributed.

April 26th was our annual inspection by Worthy Deputy Jean Meehan. We hope we did good. The meeting was preceded by a Pot Luck Supper. Everyone knows pot lucks are the best meals and this was no exception. Lecturers program was on "Wild Turkeys". We learned many facts and the words to a great country song.

**WATERTOWN GRANGE #122**

*Corr: Mary Dubay*  
**June 4:** Red, White and Blue- Flag Day  
**June 18:** Here Comes the Bride

In June we have Father's Day, and we wish a happy day to all the Dads, also Flag Day and the start of the summer season.

Our first meeting in June is called Red, White and Blue, Flag Day, so fly the flag for the troops still overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Our second meeting will be "Here Comes the Bride" and will be in charge of the Past Masters. It is also Neighbor's Night. Lecturer Diane to send out invitations.

We had our evaluation of the Grange on April 16 by Deputy Jean Meehan. Remarks by the Deputy, all books in order and all Chairmen handed in their reports.

We draped our charter in loving memory of Lorraine Cook who went to her heavenly home on April 29, 2010. We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to her family.

Now that the weather is nice, time to enjoy the outdoors.

**WOLCOTT GRANGE #173**

*Corr: Cindy Legg*  
**June 7:** "Father's Day" (Refreshments Ceres)  
June 21: Agricultural

(Refreshments Country Store  
Flora)

Our first meeting will be June 7th. We will be honoring our Fathers Our second will be a program on Agricultural. Pearl always does a good job on this one, giving us lots of good information on planting our gardens.

We have been busy lately, having the reconstruction team come to our Grange, making suggestions on how to get some new members. We had a dinner for the public, and a display in the library, and have invited the public to our Community Awards Night. This is just a start.

I suggest if your Grange is having trouble getting new members, you get in touch with the State Master to begin working with the State Grange Growth Team. They are a big help.

Remember we meet the first and third Mondays of most months at our Grange hall near the center of Wolcott. Come visit any time. Enjoy the spring.

**OXFORD GRANGE #194**

*Corr: Phil Rowland*  
**June 4:** Mystery Ride  
**June 18:** Picnic at 6:30 P.M.

The calendar looks fine, and hopefully it will prove to be correct. Our last mystery ride was instead a mystery walk- to a nearby country music concert- which everyone enjoyed greatly. We'll see what surprise Lecturer Jeanne Vaill has come up with this time.

Recent programs have been well received, especially the gardening series which was open to the public. Also, Rob Buck's video showing how DNA testing has revealed human travel history was outstanding as well.

The charter has been draped in honor of 65 year member Harold Tilquist who passed away recently. Our condolences to his family.

Finally, we wish to thank Southington members Cindy and Ray Legg for cheerfully filling in as officers when we were short-handed. Good Grangers, indeed.



*Marge Bernhardt, State Lecturer*  
It may not be 1938 when Grangers met to give their Lecturers a royal send-off to the New England Lecturer's Conference, but you will travel in better style and with greater speed to the 95th Annual Northeast Lecturer's Conference this August 2nd through 5th at Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center, Vermont. Information on the Conference has been sent to all Lecturers and those who attended last year. Anyone else wanting this information and registration forms should let me know. Connecticut will rehearse their program at 1:00 P.M. on Tuesday with the program beginning at 2:15 P.M. Our program is on Texas. If anyone else has a number relating to the State please send it to me. This is Connecticut's program. I cannot do it without your help.

Grange Sunday is June 13 at Good Will Grange Hall (the home of East Central Pomona No. 3 and our State Grange Central Office) beginning with Amy's Church Service at 11:00 P.M. This will be followed by a Lasagna Dinner put on by the Youth. Then at 1:00 P.M. we will hold our Talent and "A Number" Contests. Hopefully every Pomona will be represented that day. The "A Number" Contest is a State Contest and ends here. However, the winner of the Talent Contest will go on to compete in the Northeast Regional Contest to be held as part of the Lecturer's Conference. The Talent part is scheduled for Tuesday evening at Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center, Vermont.

Let's Celebrate will be held on July 24 at CHESHIRE GRANGE. The State Grange Photo Contest will be a part of the festivities. If you haven't already taken your pictures, now is a good time to do so. Entries for the photo contest may be mailed to me ahead of time, left at the State Grange Central Office allowing enough time for me to make a run up there to pick them up, or they may be brought to Cheshire Grange on Friday, July 23 between 9:00 & 11:00 A.M. They will be judged Friday afternoon. This will allow both the CWA and myself more time to set up and have an attractive display for all to see. On Saturday, the hall will open at 11:00 A.M. The Junior Department will be hosting a Meatloaf Dinner with continous servings from 12:00 noon to 1:30 P.M. Tickets are available throughout the state for the cost of \$7.00-- you can also contact Jr. Director Joan Perry for more information on tickets. The program will begin at 2:00 P.M. We will not only be celebrating New Orleans style, but will be featuring a Barbershop Quartet as part of the entertainment.

Best wishes to all for a safe and enjoyable summer. I hope to see you all around the state and in Vermont this August!

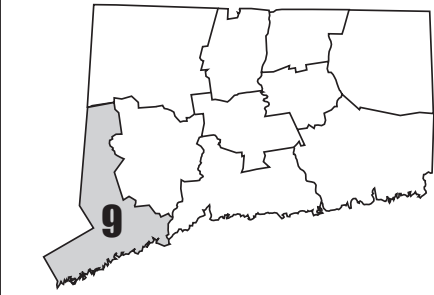
# Summer is Here!

*Edith Schoell, State Secretary*  
Summer is almost here, and many have made plans for vacation. Has your Grange thought about giving a campership for a needy youngster? A partial or full campership could go towards making a youngster carefree and happy at Camp Berger for a week. The camp is a wonderful place to get away from the TV and use your talent at sports, crafts and making new friends.

Hope to see you at Grange Sunday, June 13th at Good Will Grange at 11:00 A.M. Lunch will be prepared by the Youth and the Talent Program will follow. A day of inspiration, fun and fellowship.



### Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



- ✓ Redding No. 15
- ✓ Harmony No. 92
- ✓ Greenfield Hill No. 133
- ✓ Trumbull No. 134
- ✓ Norfield No. 146
- ✓ Cannon No. 152

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY POMONA #9**  
*Corr: Karen Macdonald*

This is a busy time for the Grange with Camp Clean up, Evaluations, contest results brewing, always something happening at the Grange! Geno and I had the opportunity to visit the National Grange in Washington, and enjoyed our tour and seeing how they are preparing for their 50th celebration. Hope you all have a chance to visit there someday, sure makes you proud to look directly at the White House from the Grange building. Our next Pomona meeting is June 2 at Cannon Grange, 6:00 for a Pot Luck Dairy Supper. Contest entries for Talent and A Number will be performed. Hope you can make it!

**REDDING GRANGE #15**  
*Corr: Marge Sendewicz*  
**June 14:** CWA Night  
**June 28:** Game Night  
**July 12:** Picnic 6:30 p.m.

On May 1 we had our spring fair and what a glorious day it was. The sun was shining and the birds were singing. The people that attended had a great time and we enjoyed meeting with them. If you missed it we will have a harvest fair in Sept.

On our CWA night we will have the judging of the baking contest and information on all of the CWA activities that are coming up. We will also be doing all the things that make our meetings fun.

Our meeting on the 28th is a game night. That sounds like fun, so come and see what it's all about. Bring a game and enjoy yourself. You will find a lot of people to play along with you.

On July 12th, we have our annual picnic. Everyone likes picnics so come and join us and enjoy the food. There will also be the judging for our Pomona needlework contest so bring the entries from

your Granges to have them judged.

This is the time of year to get out and enjoy the different festivities, so just do it.

**GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133**  
*Corr: Dennis Rich*  
**June 6:** "Summer Plans"/ Election of Officers, 2 P.M. Meeting

A display of recent seed catalogs was on view at our April meeting. Efforts to obtain new members and increase attendance at our meetings was taken up. Membership is crucial!

In June, we will elect our officers and plan our summer activities as well as outline our calendar for the next Grange year.

Please note that we are meeting earlier in the month than usual to avoid conflict with Father's Day and other Grange activities.

**TRUMBULL GRANGE #134**  
*Corr: Sue Sulier*

Hi, fellow Grangers and welcome to the month of June, the gateway to summer. The season which unites friends and families together through summertime activities, including BBQ's, vacations and swimming, etc. My husband Tom and I are in the process of planting our seedlings, which we tenderly nurtured for the past month. We grow a few varieties of fragrant and colorful vegetables, herbs and flowers on our tri level property, overlooking Cook's Pond. Like many of you, we consider gardening a labor of love and take pride in making our property a source of beauty and functionality.

Now onto the Grange stuff – During our April meeting we celebrated "April Showers Bring May Flowers" and "Earth Day". My little helper, Lauren Malatesta, joyfully presented everyone with a potted flower. Louise

Malatesta, informed us Val and Henry Barrachina were not feeling well (Update - As of this writing both Val and Henry are improving).

Our Featured CT AARP Column#10- With financial fraud and scams on the rise, AARP Connecticut and the State Department of Banking's Securities Division have joined forces to launch the Free Lunch Monitor program, which gives individuals an opportunity to report possibilities of investment fraud in their communities. If you've received an invitation to a free lunch investment seminar and plan to attend, you can download a checklist from AARP to help assure that both the products promoted at the seminar, as well as the promoters, conform to securities laws and regulations. Information from the returned checklists will be forwarded to state securities regulators for evaluation. For more information about the Free Lunch Seminar Monitor Program and to download the monitor checklist, please visit [www.aarp.org/nofreelunch](http://www.aarp.org/nofreelunch).

I hope you all stay cool and have a safe and pleasurable summer!

**CANNON GRANGE #152**  
*Corr: Don Offinger*

**June 3:** Business Meeting  
**June 17:** Election of Officers for the next year  
**July 1:** Picnic by the River - Program: History Lessons  
**July 15:** Business Meeting  
**Aug. 5:** Picnic by the River - Program by CFA  
**Aug. 22:** 78th Annual Cannon Grange Agricultural Fair

We celebrated our 111th anniversary at our May 6th meeting with a great turnout of members, plus a delightful BBQ beforehand. As part of the celebration we conducted the Business Meeting according to the Ritual, something we have not done since becoming an Action Grange many years ago.

Our Fair committee is hard at work with making plans for the Fair which will be held one week earlier than we had previously announced. This year's event will take place on

August 22nd. Our Fair Committee includes Doug Shepherd, Judy Kane, Meg Campbell, Lori Kaine, Rita Caruso, Julie Wanamaker, Shelley Dempsey, BillieSue Hollingsworth and Don Offinger. Please circle the date to enjoy an authentic agricultural fair in a beautiful setting along the Norwalk River.

We recently participated in our town's Go Green Festival at which we sponsored our own booth on sustainable living through gardening. We handed out

packets of bush string bean plants. Inside the packet we included directions for planting PLUS the date of our fair with an encouragement to enter their string beans. In addition, we signed up two new members at the Go Green event and welcome Narci Arteaga and Jim McGorty. We're growing!

Please note our meeting schedule provided above that goes through the entire summer. visiting Patrons are always welcome--won't you join us?

## Developing leaders... Get them involved!

*Cynthia Charbonneau, State Membership Comm.*

It's a funny thing about going to Grange meetings: you go through the meeting, have a social hour afterwards and then leave for home. Over the years, or so, you tend to get into this routine. It's inevitable. Then comes election night – the cold chill of panic starts to run down your back: Who's going to run for office, who's going to rise up in the chairs? Who's going to be the next president of your Subordinate or Pomona Grange?

If you, as a leader of your Grange can't answer that, then perhaps it's time to start thinking about developing the next leaders in your Grange. It's not that hard. It usually starts with finding out member's strengths and weaknesses, what are their interests or hobbies, where would they like to see themselves in the next five years? Urge them to join or head a committee. Ask them to run a special event or fair. In other words – get them involved.

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We **UPDATE DAILY** with Articles, Photos, Events, etc.! Sign-up for MyGrange, visit the Scrapbook, rate the Articles, view the Calendar, Downloads, and so much more!



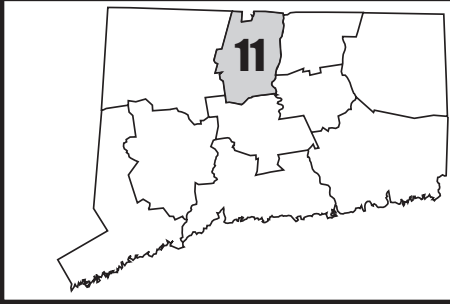
## [www.CTStateGrange.org](http://www.CTStateGrange.org)



## Deadline for the Next Issue: JUNE 5!



### 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 VALEY POMONA #11**  
*Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner*

**June 21:** Flowers in Bloom

We want to thanke everyone who assisted in the conferral of the Fifth Degree last month. Special thanks to Sara Bement, Pomona of Mountain County Pomona for serving in the position for us. We welcomed Pomona Deputy West Todd Gelineau on his annual inspection visit. It is nice to have him with us.

Our June meeting will be held in West Suffield with their members hosting. Come join us.

Sympathy has been extended to Jane Wendell and family on the loss of Thaddeus. He will be missed by all.

**GRANBY GRANGE #5**  
*Corr: Vivian C. Shaw*

**June 17:** Dairy Potluck Supper at 6:00 P.M.

Open Meeting at 7:30 P.M. Program by Commissioner of Agriculture, F. Philip Prelli, who is also Secretary of the National Grange Executive Committee. We will also award 25 and 50 year membership certificates.

Deputy Doris Shaw came to evaluate our Grange with the help of State Membership Committee member Ted Beebe. Lucian had amde signs in Granby Center for our May Tag Sales. For Lectuer’s April program Terri-Ann gave a poem by Past Master Betty Palmer. Joe made a quiz for all. Ron gave several piano songs which were really enjoyed.

**TUNXIS GRANGE #13**  
*Corr: Pamela Covington*

**June 1:** On the Farm

Tunxis Grnage has lost a member who was very faithful and enjoyed coming to meetings until her health would not let her. Marilyn Long, Chaplain and 60 year member, passed away on April 1st. Marilyn also had a great love of animals

and would tell us about her current cat and always had an interesting tale. Our sincere expressions of sympathy go out to Marilyn’s friends and sister.

Both Doris Shaw and Al Foster have been ill, and we hope that they are feeling better and will be able to be with us at the next meeting.

If you want to come and visit us, please contact Doris Shaw to be sure we are meeting.

**CAWASA GRANGE #34**

*Corr: Marguerite Schofield*

“The Holy Passion of friendship is so sweet and steady and loyal and enduring a nature that it will last through a lifetime, (ifnotaskedtolendmoney)!” Mark Twain- Pudd’nhead Wilson’s character

We were saddened by the loss of Thad Wendell. Our prayers go to Jane and her family at this time.

**SIMSBURY GRANGE #197**  
*Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner*

**June 9:** Gardens in Bloom, Agriculture Committee in Charge

We are back in our hall for meetings on the second Wednesday with brown bag lunch (dessert furnished) at noon and regular meetings at 1:00 P.M.

Our spring food sale was well supported and added a bit to our treasury.

Deputy Doris Shaw will be with us in June for evaluation.

We have lost a good and faithful member, Thaddeus Wendell. Sympathy and love have been sent to Jane and family and our Charter was draped in his memory.

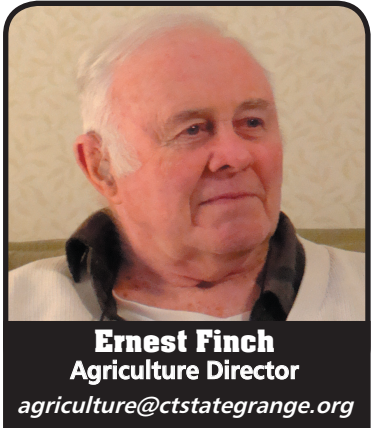
**WEST SUFFIELD GRANGE #199**  
*Corr: Pamela Covington*

**June 8:** We Remember-Memorial Program

We are very sad that Earl Colson, a 60 year Grange member, has passed away. Earl was currently the Steward in our Grange.

Earl comes from a Grange family as his sisters Gert Greer and Beatrice Phelps are members of our Grange. They have been very hard workers for the Grange, and we extend to them our sorrow and condolences in their loss.

# AgNews



*Dennis Rich,*  
*State Agriculture Comm.*

Biodiversity is a word tossed about in many circles today. It involves preserving, conserving, and ensuring the sustainability of the widest possible variety of plant and animal life for its own sake and that of human benefit. It has been extended beyond concern for wildlife to include domestic plants (including trees) and farm animals. There are efforts, not limited to North America, to ensure survival of once common varieties of plants, grains, and fruit, and livestock including poultry.

Organizations have arisen, in the last four decades, with the purpose of preserving and furthering our sue of old or heritage vegetables, fruit, grains, and breeds of livestock by gardeners, farmers, consumers, chefs and bakers, and living historical farms and sites. The Seed Savers Exchange, based in Decorah, Iowa, is involved with collecting and reproducing vegetable and grain seeds. It maintains a huge garden, a fruit orchard with numerous varieties of apples, and even a herd of white Park cattle! There is a related flower and herb exchange. Both publish their own listings of known varieties. Meanwhile the North American Fruit Explorers are active with their specialty.

In April, our program was “Spring Flowers.” We heard about some of the different flowers that are growing in the spring, and also what each member felt was his or her favorite flower.

We are sorry that Gert

The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy deals with the rescue and conservation of older breeds and strains of farm animals (equines, cattle, sheep, goats, swine and rabbits) and poultry and chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys and fowl). A breeders directory is published on an annual basis. The ALBC also monitors populations of these breeds with respect to the level of danger of extinction. As a footnote there is the Society for the Preservation of Poultry Antiquities (SPPA) that specializes in that portion of animal husbandry.

The Heritage Wheat Conservancy, while relatively new and small, has important international

Greer, our Secretary, has been ill, and we will be hoping that she will be well soon. We miss you, Gert!

We are now meeting back at the Grange Hall, and we love visitors, and hope you can come and visit us! We love visitors!

Their aim is to foster use and production of food that would be wholesome and be safely consumed, being made without artificial ingredients and additives. Renewing America’s Food Traditions (RAFT) is an alliance of advocates coming together to identify and use foods and recipes from our diverse regional and cultural traditions. The US Ark of Taste is a growing collection of over 200 (800 worldwide) foods in danger of extinction. The goal is perpetuating their use and continued production by niche market growers. A process exists for nominating those heritage foods with unique taste and/or stamina to be “loaded” on to the “Ark”. The ALBC contributes animal breed nominations and focused on taste at last year’s annual conference themed “Crucial Cuisine: Putting Rare Breeds on the Table.”

The United Nations has declared 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity. Many organizations and governmental agencies in many countries are concerned with rare breed and plant/seed protection. There continues to be interchange and cooperation with their American counterparts.

For information go to [www.seedsavers.org](http://www.seedsavers.org); [www.albc-usa.org](http://www.albc-usa.org); [www.growseed.org](http://www.growseed.org); (Heritage Wheat); [www.slowfoodusa.org](http://www.slowfoodusa.org); or web search for biodiversity in agriculture. Lastly, educate yourself and make wise choices.



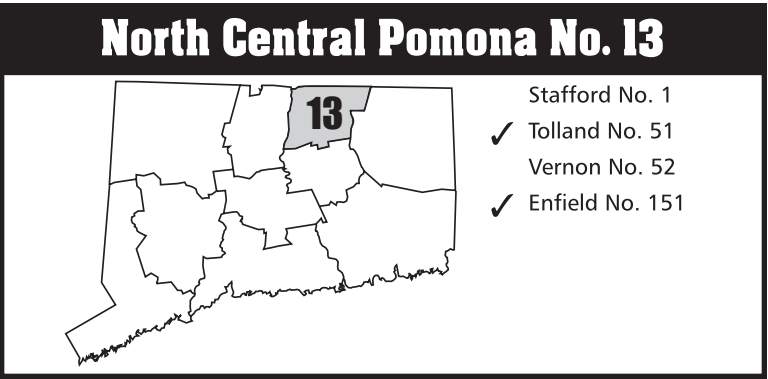
contacts. They are involved with saving cultivars of wheat and other grains and encourage their planting by farmers. There is an ancient form of wheat with very low gluten content. With research pointing toward glutens in inflammation related illnesses including arthritis, the potential for reintroduction of this cultivar could have a great impact on preventative medicine.

Slow Food USA is the American counterpart of an international effort to unify consumers, producers, growers, and culinary practitioners.

## New England Grange Sunday

Cathedral of the Pines  
Rindge, New Hampshire  
Sunday, June 27 @ 3:00 P.M.





**NORTH CENTRAL POMONA #13**  
*Corr: J. Jordan*

**June 10:** The last Pomona meeting for North Central Pomona No. 13 until September will be held as guests of Vernon Grange. The Fifth Degree will be conferred and inspection will take place. All reports should be ready.

**TOLLAND GRANGE #51**  
*Corr: J. Jordan*

Gardens should be maturing as we speak. If you were unable to tend a garden this year, make an effort to go to the Farmers' Markets in your town to take advantage of freshly grown vegetables. The markets in Tolland Grange's tri-town area are fantastic!

Our program for the month will be on plans made for the summer. It will be interesting to see what or where everyone is doing or going. Happy summer!

**ENFIELD GRANGE #151**  
*Corr: Irene Percoski*

**June 12:** "Empire" into the oven. Election of Officers-Potluck at 12 Noon

**July 10:** Celebrate the Stars & Stripes, Pasta Lunch - 12 Noon

**Aug. 14:** Ice Cream Social – Open meeting, Bring a Friend

We were evaluated at our April meeting and hope we made a good impression on Deputy, Walter Forrest. It was our sad duty to drape the charter for George Simons, Jr. a member that came to us from Wapping Grange. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family.

It was good to be back in the hall, even though it may not be for too much longer as the Town has finally come to a decision and we will have to find a new meeting place. I have to admit that

my apple theme for the year has pretty much run its course and only a few ideas are left. It was a big challenge, but I'm already thinking about new things for programs.

Election of Officers is upon us, and we need to think about who will lead us for the next two years. Please come and be part of that process.

Its only 40 degrees this morning as I write this report and most of the colorful spring trees and bushes have all turned a lush green. Fields have been newly plowed and spring firmly established. We placed our trust in God and now we nurture hope. Hope for a good growing season, hope for a bountiful crop, and hope for renewed work for the Grange.

Our CWA contest of calico muffins proved very popular with our members and the winner was really a toss-up. They picked me as the winner but I'm glad I didn't have to vote because they all tasted the wonderful to me. I do not envy the judging at Celebrate!

Master Brian Carpenter is home and starting therapy, no word yet when he will be able to resume his activities, keep all the cards and get well wishes coming.

This month we honor our National flag and we are all asked to wear something in patriotic colors. We will be leaving our hall and the Town of Enfield will then take it over. Plans so far are to board the building up until a new tenant can take it over. We will have a few months to vacate, and are looking for a place to meet. In August an ice cream social at an open meeting should be fun. Bring your friends and family.

# Barbara Cameron honored by family

Ekonk Community Grange member Barbara Cameron was a spirited woman whose beautiful handiwork produced more than 5,000 lap robes and baby hats, all of which she donated to many local hospitals and nursing homes. Her handiwork won numerous awards and trophies at the Brooklyn Fair and in Grange competitions over the years.

When Barbara passed away this March, her family decided to honor her by creating a project that continues to bring comfort and joy to those she dedicated countless hours for. As a joint venture between the Community Service and Women's Activities committees, Subordinate Granges throughout Connecticut are urged to have their members make lap robes and baby hats, and donate them to local hospitals

and nursing homes. The only rule is that the pieces must be handmade and not purchased.

The Subordinate Grange that donates the most lap robes and baby hats before the September 1st deadline will be given a check for \$50.00 in memory of Barbara by the Cameron Family. The Grange will be recognized and check presented at the Connecticut State Grange Annual Session in October.

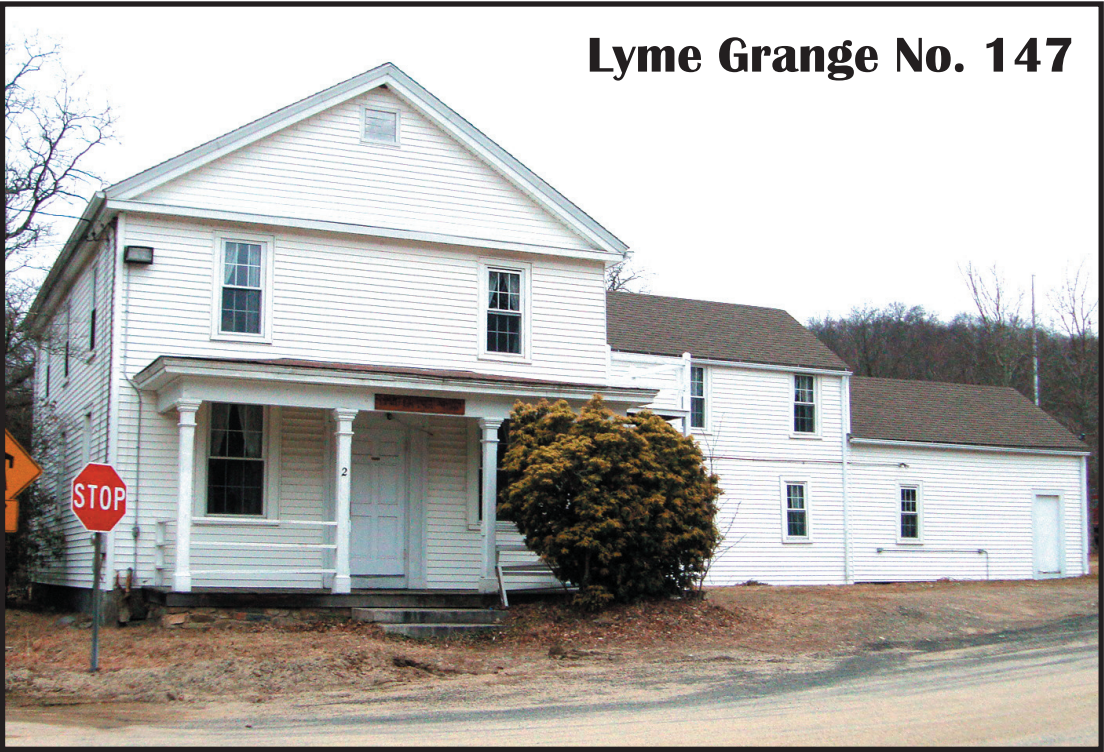
Reports are to be submitted to Women's Activities Director Betty Jane Gardiner by September 1, 2010. Granges can download a report form from the Connecticut State Grange website at [www.ctstategrange.org](http://www.ctstategrange.org) (on the Downloads page), or by contacting either the Community Service or Women's Activities committees.

## Mystery Meeting Place



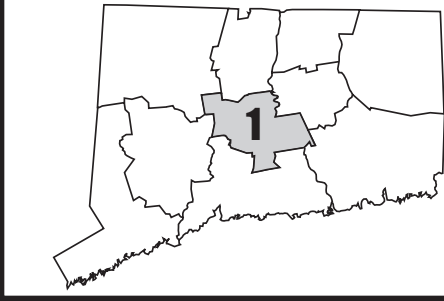
For our June Mystery Picture, we would like to know what Grange meets in this building? If you know or have any idea, please let your Information Director know by telephone, postcard or e-mail. Just mail your answers to: Carl H. Bernhardt; 424 Cedar Lane; Cheshire, CT 06410, or call (203) 272-4620. Our e-mail address is: [mbcb76@cox.net](mailto:mbcb76@cox.net). We would like your answers by July 1st. The names of everyone who gives us the correct answer will be printed in the September issue of the Connecticut Granger.

The Mystery Picture shown in the April issue of the Granger is Lyme Grange Hall. The following individuals correctly identified the hall: Lois Evankow of Lyme Grange, Ann & Doug Evans of Lyme Grange, Diane Godin of Beacon Valley Grange and Cindy Harding Fogle of Lyme Grange.





### 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*  
**June 14:** Memorial Program  
**June 28:** Citizen Award/Scholarship  
Greetings from Southington Grange!!! Where does time go to these days!!!! On June 14th we will have our Memorial Program and then on June 28th our Citizen Award and Scholarship. Why not come

out and see who our 2010 recipients are this year? I am sure that everyone will have a good time.  
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 CANCELLED AND RESCHEDULED FOR THE 4TH MONDAY OF THAT MONTH) at the Southington Grange Hall located at the corners of Summit Street and Knowles Avenue in the Plantsville Section of Southington.

**WESTFIELD GRANGE #50**  
*Corr: Phyllis Redford*  
**June 3:** “O Promise Me”  
July & Aug: Picnic Dates to be Announced

At the April meeting, each member received a sweet basil seedling and a special recipe for Pesto using the leaves of this common herb. Either fresh leaves, or dried, can add a special taste to any food

with tomato as the main ingredient.  
Also on the program, we learned a bit about the common dandelion, known historically as the dandelion (Fr) because the yellow petals on the “head” might resemble the sharp teeth of the “King of the Beasts.” Yankee’s “Colonial Cookbook” provides directions to prepare fried dandelion blossoms, dandelion greens salad, and to wash that all down, try homemade dandelion wine... that requires one gallon of dandelion heads only, one gallon water, four pounds sugar, white of one egg, two oranges, one lemon, and to make it work, put one half ounce

yeast on a slice of bread. Mix this well, and after one week strain and bottle the fluid, then be patient... this libation needs six months to age. It seems that our colonial ancestors found some interesting ways to enjoy the native flora. But the ??? where did these folks get the necessary oranges, lemons and yeast? Sugar???

**HEMLOCK GRANGE #182**  
*Corr: Maureen Sanborn*  
**June 11:** Dave K, Music Night

**June 25:** Election of Officers  
Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

# Almost time to “Celebrate”!



**Betty Jane Gardiner**  
Women's Activities Director  
[cwa@ctstategrange.org](mailto:cwa@ctstategrange.org)

Don't get caught “Cat Napping” on your Catnip Capers! Our CWA year is “Catapulting” along! Summer brings our busy outdoor living season and vacations and some of our Granges meet less often. With this in mind, I'd like to offer some reminders.  
This is a good time to look over your WA Report Forms-- blue for

Community Granges, green for Pomonas. Determine which requirements for your Certificate of Excellence you still have time to meet. This report is due to the State Director, Betty Jane Gardiner by September 1st.  
Have you made your donations to the Student Loan Fund, the Connecticut Granger Trust Fund and the Camp Berger Maintenance Funds? Is anyone making items for the sales tables in the New England Grange Building at the Big E?  
There's still time to get entries for our various CWA contests. Remember all state judging will be on Friday, July 23, 2010 at Cheshire Grange Hall. Items will be received

between 9-11 A.M. and Judging will begin at 1:00 P.M. Contact anyone on the State WA Comm. or your Pomona Chairman if you need to have the items brought to the judging. We will be happy to help you out.  
There seems to be quite a bit of enthusiasm in our Granges for our Covenant to Care project- the “Baby and Toddler Shower” with many Granges making this a festive party! If you haven't done anything for this project yet- your summer Grange picnic might be the answer! Any items that babies and toddlers use are welcome- bibs, pacifiers, baby lotions and powders, socks, onesies, outfits, sweaters and hats-

keep your eyes open for the sales! The items don't have to be expensive and should be left unwrapped.  
Don't forget our Foster Kids project! This year it's “the pick of the litter!”- any of the things we have done in the past three years. These include Christmas stockings and “stuffers,” Comfy Covers, “Catnip” pajamas, memory books, backpacks and school supplies and gift cards (\$5.00 and \$10.00) to WalMart, Target, Old Navy, McDonald's, Wendy's, etc. or a monetary donation to offset expenses for school trips, proms, etc., for the older kids. You can choose one or as many as you want. We also promote donations to shelters, food banks, convalescent

homes, VA Hospitals, etc. in your communities by your Grange to earn credit for your Certificate of Excellence.  
We would encourage you to send any of the items for Covenant to Care and Foster Kids to State Session in October, with your Grange delegate. They will be presented during the session.  
We will be looking forward to seeing everyone at our “Let's Celebrate Day!” on Saturday, July 24, 2010 at Cheshire Grange Hall. All contest entries will be on display from 11:00 A.M. to 2 P.M. with a Meatloaf luncheon (\$7.00) served by the Junior Deputies, followed by some great entertainment at 2:00 P.M.

## Poster Contest

Carl H. Bernhardt, Publicity Director

This is to remind our members of the Information/Publicity Committees Poster Contest. We should all be preparing our posters to be judged at the Lets Celebrate event at Cheshire Grange Hall. The rules of the contest are as follows:  
The members of each Subordinate and Junior Grange should submit their posters advertising a Grange sponsored event. There will be four categories: A. Subordinate-Hand Drawn; B. Subordinate-Computer Drawn; C. Junior-Hand Drawn; D. Junior-Computer Drawn.  
The Exhibitor should label their entries on the back with their Name, Grange and Class. Each Exhibitor may enter one poster in both the Hand Drawn and Computer Drawn Classes.  
Entries may be mailed or given to a members of the Information/Publicity Committee ahead of time, or may be brought to Cheshire Grange Hall on Friday, July 23, 2010, between the hours of 9:00 am and 11:00 am. All entries will be on display on Saturday, July 24, 2010 beginning at 11:00 am at Lets Celebrate at the Cheshire Grange Hall.

## 2-4-5 Club Annual Meeting



Bill Sanborn receives the banner for Hemlock

Thirty-one members of the 2, 4, 5 Club met at Old Lyme Grange on April 30, 2010 for their 60th Anniverary meeting. Way back in 1950, Granges meeting on the second and fourth Fridays decided it would be fun to meet on a fifth Friday once a year. In this way they could neighbor with Granges they could not otherwise visit. After a few meetings a banner of blue and gold in the shape of a triangle was created. It is presented each year to the Grange having the largest attendance at the meeting. The collection is always sent to a worthy cause. This year, at the suggestion of Barbara Kulisch, members voted to add a Country Store to the festivities this year. The meeting is all in fun, with Lecturers of the various Granges presenting part of the program and all the Granges contributing refreshments. Next year's meeting will be held at North Stonington Grange on April 20, 2011. All are welcome!





**Joan Perry**  
Junior Director  
[juniors@ctstategrange.org](mailto:juniors@ctstategrange.org)

**HILLSTOWN JR. GRANGE #87**  
Corr: Rita Schaefer  
June 18: Summertime

They have been holding their regular meetings. During their vacation the group went bowling. At their next meeting they will be doing crafts.

In June they will wind up their meetings until the fall.



**Donald Lanoue**  
Youth Director  
[youth@ctstategrange.org](mailto:youth@ctstategrange.org)

# Alaska’s “View from the Hill”

The following short article appeared on the website “Alaska Dispatch” regarding a program on local Alaska television entitled “View from the Hill.” Upon learning about this program, the National Grange sent a letter to the program asking them to cease use of the name “View from the Hill” as it infringes on the name of the National Grange Legislative Departments long-standing and popular newsletter of the same name.

“When Channel 11 reporter Matt Felling spoke with Sen. Mark Begich this week, their conversation focused on oil spill politics... The conversation was a part of Felling’s “View from the Hill” the reporter’s weekly interview with one of

## 1985

Edith Schoell, Historian

Twenty-five years ago- 1985 plans had been made for a gala celebration for the 100th anniversary of the Connecticut State Grange. Perhaps you remember the fundraisers we had... there were ceramic dishes, cups, bells and the anniversary plate displaying the Grange emblem, the state and a rose. On the reverse is written “One Hundred Years of Dedicated Service to our Fellowman. Faith, Hope, Charity, and Fidelity- the words which form the “Tie that Binds” all Grange members with a common goal of a better world.”

The celebration was held at the University of Hartford Campus on June 21 and 22 and featured exhibits by the departments of the State Grange. A large

Alaska’s representatives in Washington, D.C. While the interviews will continue, the name will not: The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry (no joke) asked Felling to stop using the title. Apparently the national agricultural organization has used the name for at least some of its 143 years, and it didn’t feel like sharing with an Alaskan.

In an email, Felling said “As soon as I received the letter from the National Grange’s attorney, I sent an email to their President in Washington, D.C. I told him as the son of a Missouri dairy farmer, I would make the change without delay -- and that, actually, we could’ve saved some billable hours by chatting about it directly.”

mural was borrowed from Granby Grange, which depicted Grange life.

A banquet was held on Friday evening and a capacity crowd enjoyed a buffet meal. National Lecturer Kermit Richardson and Margaret were honored guests; travel problems delayed the arrival of National Master Edward Anderson and Darlene, but they were present for the pageant on Saturday. The pageant covered many of the accomplishments over the years: Service in two World Wars, establishing the Agircultural College, Grange Hall and scholarships, establishment of Camp Berger, the Connecticut Agricultural Fair and more were included in the trip down memory lane.

We must now look to the future and plan to build more memories for all to enjoy.

# Junior Grange

**EKONK JR. GRANGE #101**  
Corr: Sue Gray

The trip to the Oyster Farm in Kingston, RI was scrapped and a full day of fun, closer to home, was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended! First stop: Riverbend Campground in Oneco: 10 Juniors mined for gold and panned for gems! Then everyone went to the Hawkins Goat Farm on Pine Hill Road in Sterling and delighted in the many, friendly baby goats “jumping” around.

Back at the Grange Hall, everyone enjoyed a special lunch followed by

“mulching” around the Grange Hall (making for a much improved look) and setting up all of the chairs for the annual Olde Tyme Fiddlers Concert. Again, Juniors came to the aid of Subordinate by waiting on tables at the Roast Beef Supper (we could NOT do suppers without these great kids)! In early June we will be having our annual Fishing Derby (call Betsy for details 860-564-1117). In June, Jacob Gervais, Junior President, will be joining Subordinate Grange!

## Youth Report

Hi Everyone! I hope that you have been enjoying your spring. I hope that everyone will be attending Grange Sunday on June 13 and in between the church service and the Lecturer’s program come and enjoy a lasagna dinner. The price is affordable and the food is plentiful. Any money raised will go for the youth

activities. Another upcoming event will be the Northeast Youth Conference on July 9 -11, this event will be held in Massachusetts. If you would like to join the other youth and juniors for a fun filled weekend please contact me and I will get you the information as soon as it arrives.

## In Memoriam

Marilyn Long, G.S.	Tunxis Grnage #13
Dr. Benjamin Thomas	Winchester Grange #74
Luby Carpenter	Hillstown Grange #87
Eugene Roy	Hillstown Grange #87
David Epperson	Taghhannuck Grange #100
Lorraine Cook	Watertown Grange #122
Mildred Mitchell, G.S.	N. Stonington Grange #138
George Simons, Jr.	Enfield Grange #151
Harold Tilquist, Jr.	Oxford Grange #194
Earl Colson, G.S.	West Suffield Grange #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](mailto:chaplain@ctstategrange.org)

As we look forward to planting and tending our gardens let us think about helping our neighbor. The needs are great and the people willing to help plentiful, but knowing how to be a beneficial presence is the challenge. Many well intentioned

people forge ahead in an attempt to be helpful only to discover that their efforts bear no fruit. In fact, the result can be frustration and the dashed dream of helping another.

The truth is that God is the One who helps and not you or me; although we have our role to play. The monumental challenges of life lie beyond the outstretched hand of another human being, something greater is required. A divine presence must be at work. the good news is that all we need for radiant living is available to us. We dwell in God’s presence, a presence of love, wisdom, life, peace and infinite supply. Everything we need is within us. The question is how do we access it? How does the “imprisoned splendor” in us find its way into the world as a constant help in every need?

This is the human dilemma. Everything we need to rise above our challenges is present. It surrounds us and indwells us, but challenges remain because we fail to realize our partnership with Spirit. We are to be the wicks in the candle that is God’s presence and power. A wick is not solely a human being, it is a human being that is awake to God’s presence. Whenever a person becomes conscious of Spirit, the candle begins to burn. Spirit has an avenue through which it can do its work and render the help that is needed. The light shines a perfect union of wick and wax.

If we are to become wicks in the candle, if we are to help one another, we must first heed the ancient call. “Physician heal thyself.”

I think about God. How else can I awaken to the Presence? This practice reminds me that God is the healer; God is the One who soothes and comforts; God is the One who is wisdom and peace. So you want to help. You can, but first begin with God, become the wick of the candle, and God’s light will shine.