



# Let's Celebrate Day

Sunday, June 10 • Cheshire Grange Hall  
Doors open at 10 A.M.

Address Service Requested, Periodicals Postage Paid in Winsted, CT 06098



# Connecticut Granger

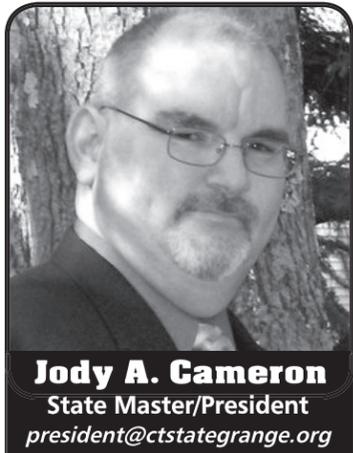


Vol. 52, No. 9

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

JUNE 2012

## Member or Granger?



**Jody A. Cameron**  
State Master/President  
[president@ctstategrange.org](mailto:president@ctstategrange.org)

Image... Is it important to you as a Grange, as a Granger, as a person? Your public image is who people think you are, how they perceive you as a Granger and as a Grange. The image you as a Granger give is received as the total image of all Grangers and Granges throughout the country.

Media coverage is so important to the advancement of our Grange image. Today print media is lagging, while internet and social media is exploding. More and more people have access to our information sooner. This is good, right? I think so, as long as we are sending the right message.

When you have the opportunity to speak to the media, are you telling them of current activities and growth goals? Too many times we read articles that reflect the past, what activities we USED to have, what our membership USED to be. What image of our Grange does this give? Not a true image that is for certain. We are more actively involved in many communities, our Grangers and friends gave around 100,000 hours of their time to their communities last year. Most of our Granges are hosting incredible programs that benefit the quality of life in their communities, how about the 10 new members in Wolcott, 16 in Southington, 8 in Simsbury and 11 taken in by the various Granges in Mountain County and those are just the ones I have been told about. What is better for our image to the public, what we used to do or where we are headed?

For those who own their Grange halls, are they well maintained? Yards well groomed? Is it well lit, does it look vibrant? Do you have good, clear signage on your property? IS IT ACTIVELY USED? How many of us have heard, there used to be a Grange in town, when in fact it is still there and they are still meeting? This is the image we give when we

are not using our property to its potential. We should be presenting our Grange halls and property with pride; they need to be ascetically pleasing to those passing by. They need to continually send a message you are a prominent presence in your town. Is this the image your Grange halls give?

What is the impression of our image to guests and new members? We touched on this last month, is our image one of fostering an atmosphere of belonging, of cultivating LEADERS, of community betterment? If not, change it NOW! Our future, YOUR future depends on it. A Grange that is bringing Grangers into a progressive team atmosphere will be strong and prosperous. Our possibilities are boundless when we embrace this philosophy. I know I am changing the paradigm on our State Grange's approach to true Grange Growth, building our organization not just membership. We are focusing on giving every Grange the tools to bring in Grangers and not just members. This image change will transform your Grange with unimaginable sustainable growth.

Image ... Is it important to you as a Grange, as a Granger, as a person?

## Let's Celebrate!

The fifth annual Connecticut State Grange Let's Celebrate Day will be held June 10 at Cheshire Grange Hall, 44 Wallingford Rd. (one block east of the Town Hall), Cheshire. The Hall will open at 10:00 AM for viewing entries. Admission to this family-fun event is free, and parking is free.

The event will feature contests and displays including needlework, baking and crafts, and photography, in both the adult and junior categories. There will be many activities for the whole family to enjoy. The day will begin with a non-denomination service at 11:00 AM, followed by a Luncheon by the Connecticut State Grange Youth and Family Activities Committees, and then an afternoon of fun. An entertainment program by the Connecticut State Grange Lecturer Marge

*Continued on page 2*

## Meeting Joe Courtney



In mid-May, over 40 Grange members from 12 states converged on Washington for the annual National Grange Legislative Fly-In. As part of the week's activities, members are given the opportunity to meet with members of their Congressional delegations. Above (from left) Gordon Gibson (CSG Legislative Liaison); Congressman Joe Courtney (CT 2nd District); Alma Graham, CSG Legislative Director and Bruce Graham meet in Rep. Courtney's Capitol Hill office.

## 2012 Legislative Session

by Gordon Gibson,  
CSG Legislative Liaison



**Alma Graham**  
Legislative Director  
[Legislative@ctstategrange.org](mailto:Legislative@ctstategrange.org)

The 2012 regular session of the General Assembly has come and gone. Much time was spent debating bills where everyone knew what the final vote would be with the result that more bills than usual died on the Senate and House calendars when time ran out on May 9 when the General

Assembly had to adjourn under the State Constitution. Unlike our State Grange session where every resolution must be considered and voted on before the Grange adjourns, any bills that have not been brought to the floor for debate when the mandatory time for adjournment is reached are automatically defeated and are said to "died on the calendar". However, the General Assembly must still come back for a special session to deal with any bills Governor Malloy may veto and also to consider any bills that are necessary to clarify conflicts in the bills that were passed in the last hours of the regular session.

Among the bills that did pass in the 2012 General Assembly was a bond authorization for \$10 million for the preservation of farmland. This is exactly the right amount to keep the State's farmland preservation program moving forward at its current pace for another year. A bill also passed which requires every town to update their plan of land conservation and preservation at least once every five years with emphasis on preserving 21% of Connecticut's land area for open space. A third bill that passed will phase in on line filing of all State agency rules and regulations so everyone can access them through their computer.

Under the present law the regulations must be published in the Connecticut Law Journal which is usually read only by attorneys and judges. The so-called "Wood Furnace" bill which,

*Continued on page 2*

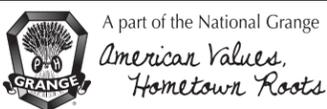
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Scan this QR Code and join us on the web!



**Deadline for the JULY 2012 issue of the Connecticut Granger: JUNE 5.**



# Legislative Session

Continued from page 1...

in its original form would have completely banned the use of outdoor wood burning furnaces from May 1 through September 30 each year did not pass The bill was amended to permit the use of wood burning furnaces used to provide hot water and would also have limited those who could file complaints to people who owned land abutting the property where the furnace was located. This bill still needs some revisions and will probably be back in another form in the 2013 General Assembly.

Another bill which did not pass in the 2012 General Assembly but may be back next year concerned background checks for people working at summer youth camps such as Camp Berger. In the original version every adult who set foot in a youth camp during the campong season would have been required to pass a background check, including delivery people, repairmen and those picking up the trash and garbage. The bill was revised so that only the camp director or assistant director would be required to pass a background check, but excluded all the counselors and other camp staff. The State Grange Board of Directors already requires all staff members at Camp Berger to pass a background check as proposed in this bill.

A bill that would have increased the liability of organizations that allow free use of their land for recreational purposes was defeated due to much lobbying by land trusts and other organizations that own land or hold conservation easements on land. At present an owner of such land who allows the public to enter the property at no charge has a very limited liability if anyone gets hurt on their property. The proposed bill would have removed the liability exemption from land and structures which the owner had created

A highly controversial bill to require very specific labeling of all genetically engineered foods did not pass but will probably be back in 2013. This bill would have required detailed listing of the ingredients in all foods made from genetically modified plants and animals. The problem is the amount of information that the bill required would have been impossible to include on many labels in a format large enough to be read by the average person. One suggestion that was made was to develop a special symbol which could be placed on foods that did not contain any genetically engineered materials. Perhaps this will form the basis of a new bill in 2013

Other bills of interest to Grange members which did not pass would have enabled towns to significantly reduce the taxes on historic barns in exchange for a preservation easement on the barn which could be renewed every ten years, authorized the inclusion of nurseries and greenhouses in farmland preservation programs, created a position UConn for an invasive plants coordinator and authorized an easement to preserve and protect farmland owned by the State at Southbury Training School

So what did pass in the 2012 General Assembly? Much time was spent debating a bill to allow the growing, production and distribution of marijuana for medical purposes. This bill did pass both the House and Senate, but the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency has already notified the State that everything in this bill is prohibited under Federal law. According to DEA, anyone who obtains a permit for any of the activities permitted under the new State law will be subject to arrest and prosecution by the United States Government for violating federal laws concerning marijuana. It was a very interesting session.

# Let's Celebrate - June 10

Continued from page one...

Bernhardt will feature the Talent and "A Number" competitions which will begin at 1:00 PM. Tickets for the luncheon will be available at the door.

Contest entries will be received on Saturday, June 9, 2012 at Cheshire Grange Hall before 9:00 AM for judging.

The many departments and committees

of the Connecticut State Grange have been working together for over a year to ensure this event is a success. More information and complete contest rules are available by contacting the Connecticut State Grange Central Office at 860-633-7550, and by visiting the Connecticut State Grange website at [www.CTStateGrange.org](http://www.CTStateGrange.org).

# The Phil Prelli Roast

On Saturday, May 19 the CSG Social Committee organized a Roast Pork and Roast Phil Dinner at Cheshire Grange Hall. The sold out crowd enjoyed many speakers who took their best shots at Phil. The illustrations below, were created by Terri Fassio to show what Phil's been doing since leaving office as State Master (tongue in cheek!).



Phil & Roast Master Jody Cameron



Phil on "South Park"



Phil & Maureen Prelli



Phil is "Harry Potter"



Phil, Maureen, National Grange Executive Committee Chairman Betsy Huber (PA), Anita Gentry, and Jimmy Gentry, Overseer of the National Grange (NC).



Phil in "Avatar"



Gene Bromley and Nancy Weismuller decide whether Phil likes beans or carrots better.

**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!**

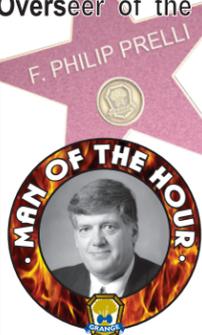
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### DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

News is due on the **5th Day** of each month except July and should be sent to:  
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or  
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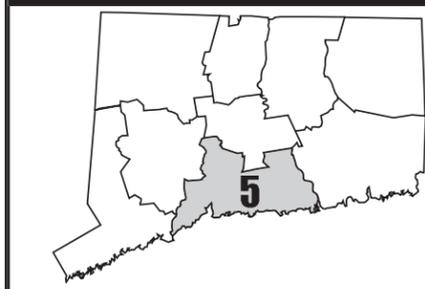
President/Editor . . . . . Todd Gelineau  
Vice President . . . . . Brian Carptenter  
Secretary Treasurer. . . . . Edith Schoell



## Welcome new members

- |                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Anna Kimberly             | Norfield Grange #146  |
| Chatharine Kimberly       | Norfield Grange #146  |
| Betsy Pollack             | Norfield Grange #146  |
| Rodney Anstett            | Riverton Grange #169  |
| Steven Valys (correction) | Senexet Grange #40    |
| Jonathan Warner           | Winchester Grange #74 |

## New Haven County Pomona No. 5



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

### NEW HAVEN COUNTY POMONA #5

Corr: Don Lanoue

**June 11:** Election of Officers, Gift Card Raffle

NewHavenCountyPomona has just completed the Fifth Degree for inspection with Jim Palmer as the inspecting officer. I would like to thank all that filled in at the last minute to help us pull off this degree. The next meeting will be our election of officers and the gift card raffle.

### CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Ruel Miller

**June 6:** Election of Officers and Memorial Service in Charge of the Chaplain. Pot luck Supper at 6:00PM

**June 20:** Mystery Ride- in charge of the Overseer

At our May 2nd meeting we honored Robert deJongh as our Community Citizen of the Year. We had musical entertainment provided by Kim Meyers-Myers Skylight Music, a Tea Cup Auction, a good turnout and excellent refreshments for the occasion.

We did a fund raising dinner in late April for a local hiking club to benefit our treasury, and in early June we will have another card party in early June preceded by a pasta dinner.

We recently delivered May Day flower favors to the Marbridge retirement home in town. Ads are coming in for our August Community Fair book and other plans are

underway for our fair which will be a month early this year, August 25th and 26th.

### WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

Corr: Dan Lauttenbach

Hello Everyone,

April 12 - "Grange Month" Program presented by Jim Lamoureux. Jim reminded us of the reasons for the founding of the Grange and the roles the founders had in getting the early Grange going. He talked about the Grange starting up in Connecticut and of the first subordinate Granges that got started in the state. A short Test Your Knowledge of the National, Connecticut and Grange Month followed.

April 21 - Lisa and Jim Lamoureux and I attended the Bowl-a-Athon. Needless to say none of us are bowling champs but we had fun! I didn't have too many gutter balls.

April 26 - "CWA" Program presented by Janet Haller informed us of the many activities and contests the CWA has this year.

The highlight of the night was the presentation of Janet Mann's 75th Grange membership certificate. Janet was presented with the certificate surrounded by her family: Her son Jeff Mann and his wife Pat, Ruth, Mel and Samantha Hewston, Shirley Ann Warner, Susan Height and Janet Haller. Janet has enjoyed her many years with the Grange: from watching

the Grange hall getting built in early 1932 when she used to live up the street from the hall, to recently helping out during meetings. She has eagerly helped out and now that she has left us for South Carolina, she will be missed, but she is up for another adventure and will thrive again. Good Luck Janet!

April 28 - We had the New Haven County Pomona Tag Sale to benefit the American Liver Foundation at our grange hall. Vernon Grant cooked up the hot dogs in the kitchen starting early in the morning. I can't believe I was eating hot dogs at 10 am in the morning! We had help from John Alexandra from North Haven, Andrea Barlow from Cheshire, Janet Haller, Lisa and Jim Lamoureux and I. We had nice a selection of items and we actually sold quite of bit of stuff. Between the tag-sale, bake sale and kitchen sale items; we will be presenting a check of \$243.

I would to thank everyone who donated items for the tag sale, bake sale and kitchen. Your generosity helps this to be a success.

### NORTH HAVEN GRANGE #35

Corr: A. Tolette

**June 5:** Election of Officers

**July 3:** Vacation Memories

Now that spring has sprung

we are becoming our old selves again. The heels are healing and the ails are not ailing. Now we will concentrate on weeds and grass. We had a good visit from our Deputy and his wife. Am sure that the campaigning for Grange election will be much quieter than the National.

### OLD LYME GRANGE #162

Corr: Barb Kulisch

**June 8:** Inspection/Youth Night

**June 22:** Election of Officers/ Memorial Service

**July 13:** July is...

On April 27th, we had a speaker on "Birds of

Prey", from Horizon Wings in Ashford, CT. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the evening and the four birds of prey! We held a country store that will help defray the CWA yearly donations, plus gift cards for "The Kids Fund!"

We held a "Bag It" to collect non-perishable food for the local food pantry in Old Lyme. 89 pounds was collected, 11 bags were turned over to the pantry. We are planning to serve a Baked Bean, Hot Dog & Cole Slaw meal at the soup kitchen in Clinton in July.

Remember, our doors are always open, so come on down!

## Community Citizen



Marge Bernhardt, Program Director of Cheshire Grange presented Community Citizen recipient Bob de Jongh with his award. Grange president Ruel Miller looks on.

## CT/RI Picnic Date Announced

Celebrate Summer with an Old-Fashioned Grange Picnic July 21

The Connecticut and Rhode Island State Granges have announced they will be co-hosting an Old-Fashioned Grange Picnic to be held on Saturday, July 21, 2012.

The picnic will be held at North Stonington Community Grange and Fairgrounds, 21 Wyassup Rd, North Stonington, Connecticut.

HotDogs, Hamburgers, Watermelon and Ice Cream will be furnished. Connecticut Grangers to bring sides and salads. Rhode Island Grangers to bring snacks and desserts. Featuring entertainment, old-fashioned picnic games, horseshoes, softball and more! Please RSVP by June 15th to the Central Office at (860) 633-7550 or via e-mail at secretary@ctstategrange.org.

Fill your car for a fun day with Grange friends and neighbors from Connecticut and Rhode Island. New Members, Prospective Members and Friends of the Grange are welcome!



## 75 years in Wallingford



Wallingford Grange No. 33 honored Janet Mann with a certificate in recognition of 75 years of continuous Grange membership. The presentation was made by family, son Jeff Mann and his wife Pat.

## Applying for a Scholarship?



**Edith Schoell**  
State Secretary

secretary@ctstategrange.org

A big thank you to those Secretaries who have sent in officer lists and dues receipts needs. If your Grange elects every two years this should be easy to complete.

Have you checked the various contest rules in the Blue Book? Perhaps there is still time for you to complete projects, add more, and get that information in on time.

Many Granges are making plans for a fair. Are you planning to enter your hobby or craft? You might ask if they need help. Of course, the Big E is looking for items.

I have received an application for a scholarship. Students get busy and complete your applications and make certain that all the information is complete.

## 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 7:** Election of Officers, Pachaug Grange

**Aug. 25:** New London County Picnic

Please come to Pachaug Grange on June 7. We will elect our officers for the next 2 years, and will remember lost members with a beautiful Memorial Program. We will also decide on the place for our annual picnic. If you have an idea for a great place, come and tell us about it. We will have a delicious potluck luncheon, and then enjoy lots of games, hikes and good fellowship.

It's time for our annual picnic! It's fun, it's exciting, it's free! So come to Pomona at Pachaug, And find out just where it will be!

### N. STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

*Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller*

**June 8:** "I'd like to visit... oh heck, too many choices!" (Election)

**June 22:** "I'd like to visit... Six Flags"

**June 29:** 2-4-5 Club Meets at Hemlock 8:00 P.M.

On April 13th we were visited by Becki Turner and 16 of her 32 Siberian huskies. We gathered in the Grange yard to listen to her description of training her dogs with an ATV and her races in Maine and Vermont. All went smoothly until a local resident cat decided to pay a visit to the area. Twenty-six spectators truly enjoyed the program.

On April 27th Thurlow Coats, loved by all for his musical talents and his Christmas visits, received his Golden Sheaf Certificate. He's sure there must be some mistake. There's no way he belonged to the Grange that long. Scott Bill Hirst accepted 70 year seals for his mom, Ruth, and his Uncle Frank. Jason Miner accepted his grandma's (Rose Berg) 55 year seal. Other seal recipients were William Smith, 55, and Charles and John Ames, 65.

Please bring the children and grandchildren to our annual picnic on June 22.

The Grange provides the hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. Please bring a side or dessert to augment the menu. After dinner there will be games until dusk. And if these nippy nights don't freeze all those beautiful flowers, next time I'll tell you about awesome April.

### LYME GRANGE #147

**June 7:** June is Bustin' Out All Over

**July 5:** Yankee Doodle Dandy

**Aug. 2:** Picnic Fair Time

**Aug. 17, 18 & 19:** Hamburg Fair

Our April meeting was visited by Noel Miller, Steward of the Conn. State Grange and his wife Marcia. She visited our antique restroom and exclaimed "just like ours!" It was a fun evening. The May meeting was saddened by the sudden death of our Pomona Arlene Dean, that morning. Our sad memorial service was held for her and Rosemarie Fox, a 68 year member, and Felix Tromer.

Alione Cone, Ceres, did the program for the graces. It was wonderful. She gathered wild flowers from the woods (7 of them) and we were to name them. It sure showed us how little we know!

Skip Beebe framed our copy of the lithograph presented to us from the National Master. It will hang proudly in our hall. It was for a net gain in membership.

The fence committee gave their report, not like the days of yore- now you need architects and surveyor when you are putting up a new fence on a State highway. Everyone expects to be paid- this doesn't even consider the cost of the fence.

Our bathroom committee is working hard and we can see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Jim Palmer, Deputy East, came and inspected us along with his wife, Pat. Even though we had a few substitute officers, we managed to get through the evening.

We love visitors- come and surprise us!

### STONINGTON GRANGE #168

*Corr: Jeff Barnes*

Our Grange Month observance was presenting our Community Citizen Award to a very deserving lady. Vicki Anderson has been the director of the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center here in town for the past 10 years. Under her devoted leadership the Center has added many new programs and services which help those in need, from young families to senior citizens. Besides the Neighborhood Center she has a large list of accomplishments. She puts on a program two times a week on Comcast called, "Neighborhood"; she is currently serving on the board of the TVCCA and the Executive Board of the Council of the United Way Area Executives. Vicki is known for her dedication and her incredible organizational skills. To top things off she is pursuing becoming a lay minister. A very large turnout of friends, family and co-workers joined in the celebration. Presentations from our Grange were made by Jack Lawson, RI State Chaplain and Shirley Lawson, RI State Secretary. Other presenters were CT State Senator Andrew Maynard and Selectmen from Stonington and North Stonington.

Our Master presented a check from our Grange to the Neighborhood Center. Eighty items for the food bank were collected that evening and were delivered the next day. Great refreshments and excellent entertainment followed the program. Vicki was truly delighted by the honor, and our hall never looked better. Thanks to all for your help.

We welcomed Tom and Lila Cleveland as new members of Stonington Grange. Lila is very involved in community service and volunteers regularly in many projects. They will both be a real asset to our Grange. Our membership is growing. Jim Palmer, Pomona Deputy East, will be inspecting our grange next meeting. Sadly, that evening we will drape our charter in memory of long-time member Nelson (Duke) Brown. Duke was our Steward for many years and had a special knack for the position. He was a great guy.

Carl Mitchell is in charge of the next program which is titled, "May Day". Come join us.

## Community Citizen Award



Stonington Grange recently presented its Community Citizen Award to Vicki Anderson. (l to r): Stonington 1st Selectman Ed Haberek, Debbie Barnes, Jeff Barnes and Vicki Anderson.

## Four generations at Lyme



The fourth generation of Purintons joins Lyme Grange. Ron Purinton's father, Bradford, was a member of Lyme Grange. (Left to right) Marita Rand (great aunt), Rae Purinton (grandmother), Lori Landry (mother), Brianna Landry (new member), Dan Mutchler (obligation Master), Ron Purinton (great uncle).

## Granger Shout Out



- All messages should be NO MORE than 140 characters (roughly 20 words)... the max. length of a Twitter Tweet.
- The editor reserves the right to edit all messages
- The editor also reserves the right not to publish any message deemed to be inappropriate.

### HOW TO SUBMIT:

Email your "Shout Out" to [Granger@CTStateGrange.org](mailto:Granger@CTStateGrange.org) (use "Granger Shout Out" in the subject line). They can also be mailed to 170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790.

Many thanks to Barbara Smith for using her artistic ability to make gifts for elderly members and curtains for Higganum #124

Thanks to Phil Prelli for being such a good sport at his Roast in May and a reminder that it might be "hotter" next time!

Much appreciation and thanks should be extended to Mario Accornero for 65 years of service to Glastonbury Grange, Fire Department and community.

Congratulations to Katie Molodich for being accepted at UConn and receiving a \$1,000 scholarship from the National FFA!

**Submit your Shout-Outs today!**

## Excelsior Pomona No. 7



- ✓ Beacon Valley No. 103
- ✓ Bethlehem No. 121
- Watertown No. 122
- Prospect No. 144
- ✓ Bridgewater No. 153
- ✓ Wolcott No. 173
- ✓ Oxford No. 194

### BEACON VALLEY GRNAGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Lecturer Cindy Legg has titled our June 8th meeting "Here Comes the Bride." We will all be surprised who the bride will be? Hostess for the evening is Harriet Sawczuk and I'm sure her sister Gloria Meholik will be helping her.

On June 22 we will have our annual Officer's Planning Meeting. Anyone who would like to be involved for the coming year is invited to attend. Supper will be served at 6:00 P.M.

Our members participated in the statewide tag sale. All had a good time. We thank those who did not participate but donated items. They were appreciated.

### BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Linda Coad

**June 25:** 7:30, Mystery Ride, ref. Jim Tucker

**July 23:** 7:30, Let's Travel Across the Sea; Ref. Rob & Skip, Country Store

**Aug. 27:** 7:30, Competitive Night, Ref. Shirley Petrillo

Because of problems beyond my control, I now need to play "Catch Up". Bethlehem Grange has been very active, even if I haven't shown it. We had a very successful Flea Market with several new vendors.

Also an open Citizens Award night was held with 90 persons in attendance. The Bristol Olde Tyme Fiddlers entertained the group.

The Scholarship Group has meet and acted on the award in honor of the former Washington Grange to a deserving senior at Shepaug Regional High School. the winner will be announced later.

### BRIDGEWATER GRANGE #153

Corr: Dean Perry

**June 9, Sept. 8, & Oct. 13:** (Saturdays) Roast Beef Dinners, 5:30, Bridgewater Grange Hall

On April 24 we had a spring clean-up of our Grange Hall. It made the place a lot brighter!

On April 27 we had a potluck dinner and Community Service Award. Over thirty people attended and the food was delicious.

Debbie Kuchinski was given an award for her work with the seniors in the town as well as giving people help that have had cancer strike their family. Peter Orenski "The Flagman" of New Milford gave a humorous talk about his work and his life in general.

Our meetings are the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 P.M. from April to November at the Grange Hall off the Bridgewater Town Green. We meet on the first Wednesday in December there. The Hall is closed from the second week of December until April. All our meetings are in members' homes during the winter. All winter meetings are on the second Sunday in the afternoon.

Our biggest events and best attended are the Roast Beef Dinners. We have two in the Spring and two in the fall.

### WOLCOTT GRANGE #173

Corr: Maryalyce Lee

**June 25:** Musical Memorial  
**July 22:** Planning Picnic, 6:30 P.M.

"Spring has sprung, the grass has riz I wonder where Wolcott Grange iz?"

We are busy working outside as well as in to continue to refurbish the Wolcott Grange Hall and grounds. Our new Master Hank Ouimet, and his brother Al, our Maintenance Chairman, are keeping us busy. Now if it would only stop raining on Saturdays.

We hope you will be able to join us either on June 25th at 7:30 P.M. or July 22nd at 6:30 P.M. for some fun and friendship. Our Lecturer, Mary Bathrick has been planning some fun Lecturer's programs.

Our meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. in the Wolcott Grange Hall at 313 Bound Line Road, Wolcott. Hope to see you there.

### OXFORD GRANGE #194

Corr: Phil Rowland

**June 1:** Mystery Ride

**June 15:** Music Night

**June 16:** Tag Sale

Meetings come and go and we always find them enjoyable. Same should

happen this month, with our mystery ride ( always fun) and music night (love music). There are good drivers in the group for our mystery ride, but is anyone talented musically? We certainly hope so!

A couple of important members, Audrey Wellner and Jill Zitnay, have been having medical issues recently. We wish them well.

Finally, it is sad to report the passing of longtime

member Alice Gray. She will be remembered for her devotion to the Grange and her cheerful outlook- she always had a smile on her face. Our condolences to her family.

## Beacon Valley celebrates 123 years



At Beacon Valley's May 25 Anniversary Celebration (top) State Master Cameron presents Linnea Behlman and Patricia Bisson with 55 and 60 year seals, respectively. Bottom left: Naugatuck Deputy Mayor Tamath K. Rossi presents Rosemary & John O'Toole of the College Capers with a certificate from the town in recognition of receiving the Grange's Citizens of the Year Award. Bottom right: Barbara Robert and Joanne Cipriano play housewives recently arriving in Heaven.

## Bethlehem honors community citizen

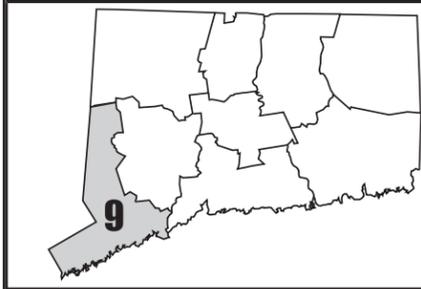


Bethlehem Grange #121 recently held an Open House with a presentation of the Community Citizen Award to Theresa O'Neill, Municipal Agent for the Seniors in Bethlehem. Grange President Al Maddox is pictured presenting the award. Entertainment for the Open House was presented by Connecticut's Bristol Old Tyme Fiddlers.



From Left to right: Robyn Lee, Colleen Kelly, Mary Bathrick, Lecturer, and Mike Batrick take part in "The Price is right", trying to figure out which would save you more money, using cloth towels or paper towels at the April meeting of the recently reorganized Wolcott Grange #173.

## Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



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

### FAIRFIELD COUNTY POMONA #9

*Corr: Bob Sendewicz*

**June 6:** Dairy Supper, 6 P.M.

In May we held our annual fund raiser, a plant, bake and tag sale, at Greenfield Hill Grange. It turned out very well and we will be able to fund our projects for the coming year.

Our June meeting, at Cannon Grange hall, will be a busy one. It starts with a 6:00 P.M. dairy supper. At this meeting we will have the Pomona judging of the CWA needlework and craft contest. We do not elect Pomona officers in even numbered years.

During the Lecturer's program we will have the judging of the talent and A number contests. We will finish the night off with a country store. This meeting should be lots of fun.

### REDDING GRANGE #15

*Corr: Marge Sendewicz*

**June 13:** CWA Night

**June 25:** Graduation

**July 9:** Picnic 6:30 P.M.

We had a successful Spring Fair in May and thanks to all our members who contributed time and items to make it a success. Our next fundraiser will be our Harvest Fair in September on the 22.

We were inspected on May 14 by Deputy Eloise Osuch. Although things started out on the wrong foot, as they sometimes do, everything worked out ok. You would think that by now we would have this down pat.

Our meetings in June are described above. They will be filled with entertainment, information and fun, all in the beautiful country setting of Fairfield County. You all are welcome to join us at any meeting.

On Saturday June 16 the Southern Connecticut Past Masters Association will meet at Redding Grange Hall with a 6:30 P.M. pot luck supper. Anyone can attend these fun filled meetings, you need not be a member.

### HARMONY GRANGE #92

*Corr: Sue Sulier*

Hi fellow Grangers and welcome to June, the month associated with honoring the Dads in our lives.

We held our "Annual Spring Tag Sale" on May 5th. Our thanks to all the Grangers who donated wares and/or prepared breakfast for the volunteers, worked at the set up, sale and clean up and also to everyone who stopped by showing their fraternal support. In the process we hope everyone found a special "treasures" and had a good-ole, fun-filled day with their fellow Grangers.

Member News: Our Master, George Ward is still recuperating from his recent cardiac and breathing problems. Our beloved humorist, Mary Mazur, who will be 100 years young in August, suffered a "mini-stroke" and spent time in the hospital and in rehab. She is recuperating rapidly and hopefully by the time you read this posting, she will be back in her home. Gil Standley is still suffering from his health issues and is now on oxygen. Dot Magyar is mending after fracturing her arm. Mary Bourdeau, former member of Trumbull Grange, had some medical issues, spent time in the hospital and as of this writing she is recuperating in a rehab facility in Ansonia. We hope and pray they all continue on their paths to restored health.

Yours truly and my husband Tom attended 3 of the 5 (Oxford, Wallingford & Meriden) Pomona Tag Sales which were held in April. In Oxford we saw Gail Mas and Barbara Standley rummaging through the huge array of misc. items. I purchased some great household goodies there and in Meriden, Tom filled his belly with a hot dog luncheon, prepared by the members of the Grange. We both had a most enjoyable day and the weather was perfect.

### GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

*Corr: Dennis Rich*

**June 18:** "Spring to Summer" / Inspection Meeting, 7pm

We had a very busy April! In one month, we had a planning meeting, our regular meeting, participated with a Grange display at Fairfield's Earth Day Celebration, and a number of us were able to hear the National and State Masters speak at Good Will

Grange on the 30th.

June will occupy us with planning summer activities including our Fair. Our Grange will be inspected, officers and committee chairs should have their records up to date.

All of our Grange friends are welcome to our meetings and activities.

### NORFIELD GRANGE #146

*Corr: Ruth L. Hickcox*

**June 12:** Election of Officers, Initiation and Rewards

**July 10:** Stars, Stripes and Songs

**Aug. 14:** Summer Picnic

What's the best way to celebrate April "Grange Month"? Right! We added threenewmembers: Catharine and Anna Kimberly, and Betsy Pollack. And what's the worst faux pas this correspondent has committed in quite some time? Right! She forgot to

announce that President Randy Miller won the Baking Contest back on February 14!

But on to other news. On April 22, Norfield joined with The Nature Conservancy, American Wander, and Children & Nature Network to host Earth Day 2012 at the Katharine Ordway Preserve in Weston. In spite of the weather, all in attendance celebrated the world's good food with a picnic- one of hundreds of picnics in over 60 countries on all seven continents!

One week later, a hearty band of Norfield Grangers took part in the CROP Walk in Westport. Norfield donated \$50 to the cause, with one quarter of the proceeds going to the Weston Food Pantry. We will be hosting our second community-wide Tag Sale the first three days of June. Tables are available to rent

inside the hall, outside on the porch and also the lawn. Basically a tag sale, those participating can sell almost anything they want.

Last, and with great sadness, we must report the loss of a dear and devoted Granger. Tom Studwell dies suddenly on April 20, at the age of 93. During World War II he had served in the Army, most importantly at the Battle of the Bulge in 1944. A skilled carpenter by trade, with a first-rate intelligence and a love for forestry, history and genealogy, he seemed to know something about everything. Immensely thoughtful and kind, he never missed a Grange meeting. If anyone were to ask you what the ideal Granger should look like, simply start by saying, "Well, let me tell you about one Tom M. Studwell..."

# Camp Clean-Up June 2

*Linda Coad, Camp Berger Trustees*

The Camp building roofs have been replaced! This was a decision that did not come lightly! Several had problems that needed immediate relief and others that could have waited a year or two. We had discussions on this problem the last two years. We had originally thought of Rich doing this on a cabin by cabin basis. After all, he is on-site and on the payroll. However, it was not the best idea as it would take too long. The contractor that received the job was able to get a crew in and out. Now we just need to pay for

them.

Open House will be June 10th and June 17th. The clean-up date had to be changed to June 2nd with the rain date of June 3rd. However, if anyone would like to go clean June 9th, Rich will be there.

The cost of a week at Camp went up this year to \$350. Dorian suggested a discount to each camper of \$50 if they signed up for two or more weeks. This was a motion that carried. We still have one of the most reasonably priced camps in Connecticut. And it is the most beautiful, in my opinion.

# Plant some spaghetti squash

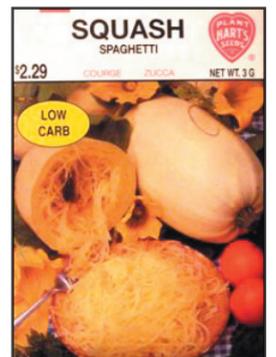


**Jonathan Russell**  
Agriculture Director  
[Agriculture@ctstategrange.org](mailto:Agriculture@ctstategrange.org)

Now is the time to consider the Agriculture Committee's Seed Contest. In our zone, the last frost date is in mid-May.

This is the time that gardeners all around our state start to plant their gardens outside. Start planning your garden by getting all your garden supplies in order. Hart Seeds, located in Wethersfield CT has generously donated squash seed that our committee sent to your granges for two years now. Please visit their site [Hartseed.com](http://Hartseed.com) to find a dealer near you. The Squash variety we are using this year for our competition is Hart's Spaghetti Squash. For you to

participate in the competition, you must use this variety of seed so that we are all growing the same thing. If you have any questions please email me at [agriculture@ctstategrange.org](mailto:agriculture@ctstategrange.org)



# Last call for entries...



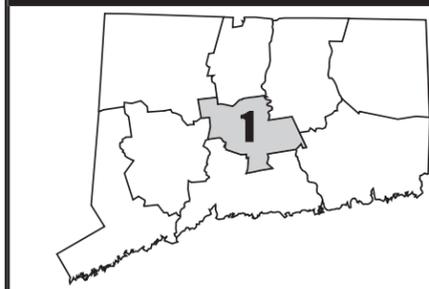
**Pat Palmer**  
Family Activities/CWA Director  
[CWA@ctstategrange.org](mailto:CWA@ctstategrange.org)

This is your last reminder that your entries for the judging must be at Cheshire Grange Hall by 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 9th so that the judging can proceed at 10. I hope that we will have lots of judging to do and I know that the entries will be of the highest quality as always.

Looking forward - we will be looking for the entries for the quilt squares to be brought to State Session in October. They need to be in the log cabin pattern and in a fall color motif and be 10.5 inches by 10.5 inches.

Just a reminder for the Granges to send in their donations for the CWA projects. They should be sent to the Central Office and made out to the CT State Grange. Thank you for your participation and winners will be listed in a future issue.

## Central Pomona No. 1



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

### HIGGANUM GRANGE #124

Corr: Barbara R. Smith

Higganum Grange participated in the dedication of the Haddam 350th Anniversary Time Capsule. Members present were: Sal D’Alessandro, Mardi D’Alessandro, Gail Hanson,

Helen Hanson, Normand Manning, Florence LaTouche, Howard Burr, Carole Prescott and Richard Prescott.

Higganum will be handing out the spaghetti squash seeds to school children to plant and hopefully with good weather for a bumper crop of them to

be entered into the Haddam River Day Fair to be held in early September. Prizes will be awarded.

Plans are underway for the Scarecrow Festival and Contest to be held in October. Our meetings start at 7:30 with refreshments to follow and are open to all Grangers.

### HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

June 8: Memories (Music Night)

June 22: Election of Officers

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.



## Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

# Where the past meets the future

Terri Fassio, P.R. Co-Director

It is often said that knowing our history is so important that we should make more of an effort to preserve our past. The majority of the Granges in Connecticut are either nearing, or older than, the 100-year mark. Do you know your Grange’s past history? Have you seen photos of past Grange Presidents, or of the construction of your hall? Maybe you’ve heard stories and seen photos of events your Grange has held, such as picnics, agricultural fairs, meetings and more. Where are these historical documents and photos stored, and have your newer members seen these photos and been giving a “history lesson” of the milestones in your Grange’s past?

Why is the past so important? Old photos, articles, clippings and documents are messengers from the past. They tell us stories about the Grange and the people who made up the organization. Although these people may have lived a hundred years ago, undoubtedly they had many of the same needs and concerns, hopes and fears, and enthusiasm that we experience in the Grange today.

What is your Grange doing today to document the present for future generations? Are you saving newspaper clippings, writing down important milestones and fond memories, collecting mementoes, and thus preserving history? Are YOU taking photos of your Grange events and activities?

Digital photography is now more popular than using a traditional film camera, both in the amateur as well as in the professional field. Digital cameras are affordable, convenient, durable, flexible, and the quality is constantly evolving. Digital images are now equal to, and often better than those taken with a film camera. Most smart phones have a digital camera built-in. Stores such as Big Lots and WalMart sell Digital Cameras for as low as \$20 or less. Digital photography gives each Grange the ability to not only document their activities, meetings and projects for historical purposes, but explore the art of creativity through photography.

Every Grange should be regularly taking photos. (And don’t forget to always make back-up copies to avoid a digital disaster.) Here’s a few tips on making the most of digital photography for your Grange:

- Always carry your camera to every Grange meeting, activity and event - and even

when you visit other Granges!

- The outside of Grange Halls and meeting places should be one of the items on the top of your photography list. Be sure to capture the location in various seasons, and from different angles.

- Explore your creative side through your photos! There’s a lot of things at every Grange meeting you can take artistic photos of: sashes, station scarves and badges, songbooks, the piano, the flag, the implement box, and even the fruit, wheat and flowers of the Graces. Don’t be afraid to try out new perspectives.

- Don’t forget to photograph special occasions, such as awards nights and presentations. Be sure to get a photo of the Grange President presenting the plaque or certificate to the honorees.

- Activities and events involving food are perfect for taking photos. There’s always the shot of the person holding a plate of food, or the cooks in the kitchen - but don’t forget to photograph the food itself, such as a full table of goodies at a bake sale, a plate of cookies artfully arranged, a beautiful pie or cake, or even a creative shot of a buffet line or the numerous dishes at the potluck supper.

Use your imagination when taking photos, but more importantly - just take photos, and lots of them. Then share your photos at your Grange meetings. Make a Grange Scrapbook. Hang photos on a bulletin board in your hall. Be sure to send your photos to the CT State Grange website to be added into the Virtual Scrapbook. Preserve your Grange memories for the future.

## Social Connection



\$1,724.03. We still have some money yet to come in. Quinebaug Pomona, making the largest amount of \$549.00. What a good job. Special thanks to Joan

I wish I could pick a date and time and tell all of you to pat yourselves on the back all at the same time. That’s what you all deserve from the great response to our statewide tag sale. As of this writing, I have (not an official total-but a grapevine total)

# Central Pomona Tag Sale



Martha Trask (center) supervises the Bake Sale as Mildred Bell (far right) looks on during the Central Pomona version of the Statewide Tag Sale held in late April at Meriden Grange.

## DEPUTY TEAM

INSPECTIONS RITUAL CODE READING SUPPORT INSTRUCTION

Todd Gelineau, General Deputy

Inspection season is rolling along fairly smoothly and all of the Deputies join me in thanking the many Secretaries, Treasurers and Lecturers for being so prepared for inspection night. In many cases, Granges have improved on their work from the previous year. This is especially the case in several Pomonas as well. Keep up the good work.

We intentionally have not announced the prize for this year’s ritual challenge as we wanted to settle on a prize that will have a direct impact on Grange growth. It has been decided that the winner of the 2012 Deputies’ Ritual Challenge will receive a free website (for one year) from the Connecticut State Grange website development program. The top three Granges will also be recognized at State Session and will be awarded certificates.

I’m sure you’re asking what would happen if the winning Grange already had a website. As long as they are part of the State Grange program, they will receive free hosting for their site for one year.

A positive web presence is essential for all businesses and organizations (like the Grange) today as it lends legitimacy and provides a place for the general public to learn more about us. If you would like more information about developing a website through the State Grange program, please contact Terri Fassio at information@ctstategrange.org. She will be happy to hear from you!

As Inspections are completed the reports are forwarded to me for review and then are sent to the State Master for his review before the cover letter and completed reports are sent back to the individual Granges. Please contact me or your Deputy if you have any questions about your inspection or would like to receive assistance from the State Grange.

Perry, the Chairman of their committee.

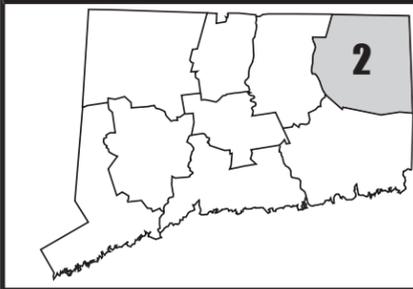
Can’t report on our Phil Prelli Roast as it is two weeks away and two weeks before I write the next article.

Save the date of Saturday, September 15th. This is the date of our next activity. Place: Prospect Senior Center. This will be a Competitive Night, competing the Pomonas in the East against the Pomonas in the West. Theme “Cowboys and Indians.” Refreshments will be hot dogs and beans plus a dessert table. All for the low price of \$5.00. We will also have a Country Store to help defray the cost of renting the hall.

Don’t forget to get your “Granger of the Year” applications in. Send to Director Joanne Cipriano.

# You raised \$1,724.03!

## 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

### QUINEBAUG POMONA #2

*Corr: Carol Hnath*

Quinebaug Pomona hosted a very successful Tag and Bake sale on April 28th to benefit the American Liver Foundation. \$548 was raised during the event held as a part of the State Social Committee's state-wide effort.

We were honored to host the National Overseer, Jimmy Gentry and his wife Anita, at our 125th Anniversary celebration on May 20th.

Election of officers for the next two years will be held on June 2nd at Echo Grange Hall, 8 p.m. Members are encouraged to attend and select the next slate of officers for the Pomona.

### WOLF DEN GRANGE #61

*Corr: Elsie M. Johnson*

**June 6:** Election; Agriculture Comm., Ref. Strawberries

**June 20:** Potluck, 6 P.M.

**July 11:** Neighbor's Night, Ref. All

Oh happy days- everything a buzz with tractors busy in the fields, gardens planted, birds singing, motorcycles noisy, bicycles a go, roads being worked on and yard sales everywhere.

Enjoying this warm weather - birds singing. Oh yes, lawn mowers are out and going. Fishing season opens- gardens are being tilled and plowed. Anxious to get things growing those fresh vegetables.

Well, we had inspection night by Deputy East Jim Palmer. Lecturer's program was about the vegetable (or is it fruit) tomato. We need rain and gas prices to go down. With more backyard activities, be careful of ticks. Stay well.

### EKONK COMM. GRANGE #89

*Corr: Sue Gray*

**June 4:** "Memphis in June" Mtg/Prog 7:30pm

**June 9:** 118th Strawberry Supper 5pm-

Our biennial FFA Appreciation supper was a great success with 62 in attendance and \$95.00 raised for the Killingly High School FFA Scholarship Fund. We welcomed three new members since my last column: youth

members Clifford Gervais and Richard Tavalisky and Joyce Zavistoski! Richard is new to the Youth Drill team too! Our Comm. Dev. Dir., Rebecca Gervais, presented prizes to delighted 3rd Graders at Sterling Com. School in our annual Earth Day poster contest!

When you read this column, we will have marched in the annual Sterling Memorial Day Parade. Link Cooper has been a real asset to our Grange through his carpentry expertise: he built lifts for our coffee pot and cold drink cooler; re-designed our "No Parking" sign; built a rugged Roast Beef Supper sign and much more...volunteering on suppers...wow!

Winners in our State Baking contest were Junior, Lillian Sharpe and Subordinate, Sue Gray. We donated \$20 each to Katie Molodich & Brandi Hawkins (walking Relay for Life in Woodstock). We have been asked to take over the Food Booth (beginning June 2013) at the Plainfield Relay for Life; this would be a MAJOR Community Service undertaking and the Committee of David Griffiths, Link Cooper and Jody Cameron will research the feasibility for a vote at the June meeting!

We will submit an entry in the "Distinguished Grange" program. We set July 22nd (1pm) for our annual Awards Luncheon (3 75 year; 4 50 year; 3 55 year; 1 65 year)!

Special Hello to Program Director, Robin Cousens: you are in our prayers!

Election is in June! Plan a visit to scenic Ekonk Hill in your summer schedule!

### KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Here it is! Spring finally. The sun may be shining but we have the March winds making a cool month.

We voted in a new member and had a welcoming ceremony to officially induct him into the Grange. Mike will be the third man in our Grange, Wow!

Our Lecturer, Eleanor Davis, gave a short history of "St. Pat's" day that started in Boston in 1737. Also Irish

customs for Easter was a cake dance on the eve of Easter Sunday. Jokes and skits were enjoyed from various members.

CWA Chairman Bernadette gave out "Let's Celebrate" Baking Contest recipes and great suggestions for promoting the functions and community service. Bernadette does a great job.

On April 16 we held an Open House with a potluck supper. Secretary Gail and Treasurer Phil were at the helm (stove) with most officers in attendance with a few visitors.

The main hall was set up with tables and scrapbooks, pictures, and memorabilia from past functions. Old Secretary's reports and later. Stories from present members, who remembered the Fourth of July Clam Bakes, attending and rising in the springtime festival parade and other activities over the years. Denise and Bernadette did a great job coordinating the whole affair.

At our Apr. 20 Easter Meeting, we had a hat parade and this old brain can't remember who won what! Next time! The Lecturer gave the ingredients for an Easter Sedar Meal.

Donations had been collected for an Easter basket to be given to a needy family.

May 7th was Inspection Night.

### ECHO GRANGE #180

*Corr: Gloria John*

**June 12:** Picnic

**June 26:** Summer Activities - Potluck Supper

This year we have been very busy donating to "From the Heart" and "No Freeze Shelter"

Donations to "From the Heart" are: 8 knitted hats, approximately 100 crocheted afghan squares; 6 Christmas stockings, approximately 15-20 Easter baskets and grass, Easter decorations, plastic Easter eggs.

Donations to "No Freeze" Shelter are: knitted hats, toilet paper, microwavable dishes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shavers, shampoo, deodorant and monetary contributions.

We have also donated pillowcases to "Limos for Kids."

Now that the weather is getting warmer everyone will be starting to plant their gardens. Hopefully, we will have a nice summer.

## Quinebaug Pomona celebrates 125 years



Top photo: (from left) National Exec. Comm. Secretary (member of Riverton Grange) F. Philip Prelli; Jimmy Gentry, National Overseer from N. Carolina; State Master Jody Cameron and Quinebaug Pomona Master Tom Perry. Bottom photo: Nick Anderson (right) and the members of Shady Creek entertain guests at the 125th Anniversary celebration of Quinebaug Pomona No. 2 held at Echo Grange on Sunday, May 20.

## Ekonk aids local church



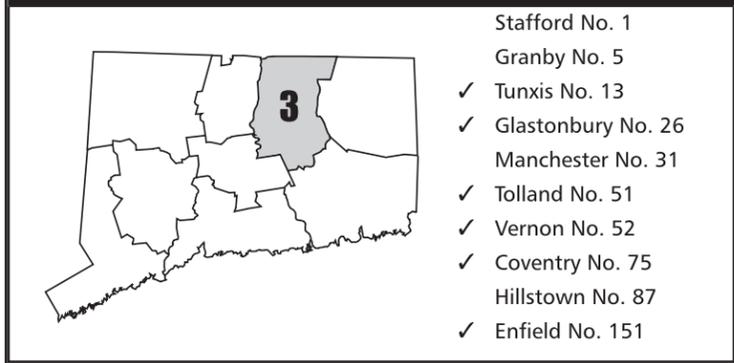
One of three displays and fundraising baskets to help the Sterling United Protestant Church with repairs following flooding of their basement. A Church representative is present at the Grange to answer questions and to sell the tickets.

## 100 Years of Scouting



Sterling First Selectman (and member of Ekonk Grange), stands with a group of Sterling Girl Scouts immediately after presenting each with her own copy of the Proclamation he wrote in honor of the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting. The girls meet at Ekonk Comm. Grange.

## East Central Pomona No. 3



### E. CENTRAL POMONA #3

Corr: Noel Miller

**June 2:** Elections, 6:00 potluck dinner

CWA judging contest that day at 4:00 before meeting son bring your crafts and contest enteries. Sad news has hit our Grange family as Brother Walter Forrest lost his battle with cancer and passed on May 8th, this is after less than a month after learning he had cancer. Walt will greatly be missed as he is our light housekeeper (the man who fixes things around the hall and mows the lawns at Glastonbury as well as Hillstown Grange #87. Our thoughts and prayers goes out to his family.

Elections this month so please come out and vote many openings for those who want to join the fun.

### TUNXIS GRANGE #13

Corr: Pam Covington

At our last meetings in April in May we welcomed Sister Kay Ruff, Deputy of East Central Pomona. We enjoyed having her with us, and everything went well with our inspection.

Our program was "Show and Tell" and we had some very interesting things that were brought in for us to see! A lot of the items were very old, and in good condition. Joan Goetjen made strawberry shortcake and it was so delicious! Everyone had a wonderful time.

We have been so happy to have Sister Doris Shaw, our Master, back after several months of being ill. We missed you so much, Doris, and we all welcome you back! We missed you so much!

We all love visitors and if you would like to visit us, please give Doris a call to verify when we are holding a meeting.

### GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kathryn Ruff

**June 7:** Meeting 7:30 p.m. Election of Officers; Ref: Priscilla Schmartz, Doris Monaco, Jean Accornero

**June 9:** Monte Carlo Whist Card Party, 7:00 p.m.

**July 5:** Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Our Nation's Birthday; Ref: Nancy & Lou Tryon, MaryCharles Howe, Ruth Posuniak

Here we are in June, 2012 already. We did have a nice spring and hopefully summer will be the same.

Our Election of Officers is June 7th. I hope all of our members will try to attend the meeting and help choose the officers that you wish to have serve Glastonbury Grange for the coming year. We need all your input.

June 9th is our last card party for the season. Try to support the card party and bring a friend or two with you.

Glastonbury Grange wishes to extend our best to our treasurer for a speedy recovery from surgery that she is having on her shoulder. If all goes well with Taffy we will be planning on presenting the funds raised for the home for Marine Manny Jimenez to the American Eagle Federal Credit Union around May 28th or 29th. More information will following in the next issue of the paper.

### TOLLAND GRANGE #51

Corr: J. Jordan

**June 5:** Christ the Redeemer Statue in Brazil

Come learn some interesting facts about the statue in Brazil. We are back in the hall on the Green in Tolland. Our meetings start at 7:30 P.M. Congratulations to Bernice West for winning the banana bar contest and special thanks to Elizabeth Robertson for making the quilt block for the State project.

### VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Nancy Strong

**June 1:** Inspection and Update of The Strong Family Farm

The Strong Family is in the slow process of making their farm into a non-profit agricultural education center for people of all ages. Neighbors are welcome to come and hear the story of the last 6 months of work that area friends and family have been working on and where the farm is destined to go in

the future.

### COVENTRY GRANGE #75

Corr: Noel Miller

**June 7:** Flag day and Fathers Day Refreshments Noel and Marcia

**June 21:** Summer (Elections) Refreshments Bill and Claudia

Coventry Grange is finishing it projects this year we have given 136 Dictionaries to the third grades at the George Hersey Robertson School for the four year. our

May Tag Sale was OK but we plan to have another with new items this summer.

### ENFIELD GRANGE #151

Corr: Irene Percoski

**June 9:** Election of Officers - Potluck

**July 14:** Picnic- No Ants We had the pleasure of having our inspection done by Deputy Lin Erickson in April and hope we impressed the heck out of her. Our program was on Umbrellas and Rain. Wish we had more rain so we

could use those umbrellas. Our cookbook is cookin' along so keep them recipes coming.

This is the time of the year we think of as renewal, and what better way to renew our Grange than to bring in new members and new ideas. Reminder to members: Keep thinking hats and mittens for our day care donation. With all the craft fairs throughout the summer and fall look for bargains and bring them in.

# National 2013 News

The state coordinators for the 2013 National Grange Convention met at the Radisson Hotel Manchester (NH) and toured the beautiful facilities where we will be holding the session. At this point all sessions and events will be held at the hotel including the Seventh Degree. We are hoping to have a Facebook page and website created and up soon where you may see and share the latest details concerning the 2013 Session.

We will be holding a contest to design centerpieces for the various breakfasts, luncheons, and the Host Banquet encouraging the use of recycled materials. More information will be available concerning this soon. Mittens, hats, and scarves for the "Tree" may be knitted, crocheted, or sewn. These will be displayed at the session and then donated to various agencies in the Northeast Region.

Girls are needed to serve as Trumpet Girls for the Seventh Degree. There is a size requirement because of the costumes - I can obtain more information if someone is interested.

Please - save the date of November 16, 2013 - we will need many volunteers to host the

Hospitality Room and help with registration since this is one of the busiest days of the Session! The Hospitality Room will be serving a continental style breakfast in the morning as well as offering a quick lunch item in the middle of the day. If anyone would like to volunteer to be our Hospitality Room contact to the committee, please contact Jody Cameron or me.

Tshirts, polo shirts, and sweatshirts are still available. We will be adding additional items soon to help raise the funds needed to host the session. I plan to have these available at Let's Celebrate and other events that may be appropriate.



## Glastonbury Grange at Gilmore Manor



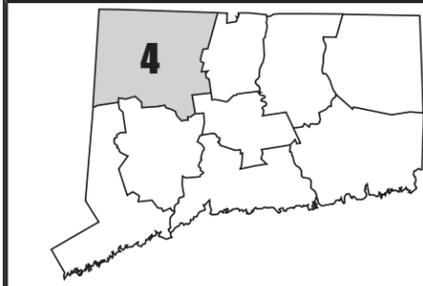
Glastonbury Grange No. 26 presents favors to the residents at Gilmore Manor in Glastonbury at various holidays throughout the year. Pictured here is Norma DePietro with one of the residents at Gilmore Manor. Photo by Kathryn Ruff.

## Installation at the new Simsbury Grange



The newly elected officers of Simsbury Grange #197 were installed by Jody Cameron at their May meeting, making a fresh start for the Grange.

## Mountain County Pomona No. 4



- ✓ Cawasa No. 34
- Whigville No. 48
- Eureka No. 62
- ✓ Winchester No. 74
- Taghannuck No. 100
- Litchfield No. 107
- Beacon No. 118
- ✓ Riverton No. 169
- Cherry Brook No. 210

### MOUNTAIN COUNTY POMONA #4

Corr: Todd Gelineau

**June 25:** "New Ideas"-Whigville Grange Hall

We should start this month by congratulating all of the new members of Mountain County Pomona who took the Fifth Degree at the May 14 conferral at Winchester Grange Hall. The inspecting Deputy for the evening was non other than State Master Jody Cameron. We thank him for making the long trip from Plainfield to be with us that evening!

It was voted at this meeting to purchase a website through the Connecticut State Grange website development program. For the low price of \$45 the Pomona will finally have a permanent presence. Times have changed and websites have become crucial in establishing the legitimacy of an organization at least in the minds of those people who use the internet frequently. Terri Fassio, State P.R. Co-Director and member of the Pomona will be designing the website.

Thanks should also go out to all who helped to make Mountain County's version of the Statewide Tag Sale such a great success. While the traffic through Litchfield Grange Hall was not as great as we would have hoped, those who did attend did spend a good amount of money, all of which will go to the American Liver Foundation. The statewide total for the event is well over \$1,600 as of this writing. Thanks should also go out to the CT State Grange for making the hall available to the Pomona for the day.

The next meeting of Mountain County will be on June 25 at Whigville Grange Hall. The program theme will be "New Ideas." Wonder if the Lecturer has any??? We'll see! This will also be the night of the annual Spring Gift Drawing. Tickets were distributed in May to each Grange in the Pomona along with each officer. Please buy as many tickets as you can as this is the only fundraiser specifically for the treasury of the Pomona. The prizes are all donated by the officers of

the Pomona and we remind them to bring their donations to the meeting. Any other members who would like to donate prizes for the drawing are also encouraged to do so. We thank everyone, in advance, for their support.

### CAWASA GRANGE #34

Corr: Maggie Schofield

Cawasa made it through the inspection. Our worthy Sister Irene Percoski came to inspect our Grange. Thank you, Irene, for your patience with us!

We made "sweet" trail mix for our food bank in May.

Our dictionaries are ordered for the third graders, this year we have 152 in Cherry Brook Elementary School.

Our Charter was draped for our Sister Gertrude Caron. A book has been donated in her memory, we decided to get "Canton Remembers" by our own Dr. Larry Carlton of Simsbury.

Have a great June month.

Quote of the month: "Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier." - Mother Teresa

### WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau

**June 12:** Election of Officers, Ref. Shirley Lemieux

**June 17:** Strawberry Festival, 2:30 P.M., Grange Hall

**June 26:** Flags & Fathers, Ref. Arline Cote

As this article is being written, Winchester's annual Spring Tag Sale is in full swing with many "bargains" available. We are now looking forward to the annual Strawberry Festival on Fathers Day, June 17. As always, we feature the area's largest servings of homemade strawberry shortcake for the low price of \$6 each (a meal in itself!). The festivities kick off at 2:30 P.M. and run until we are out of berries and cream! The Festival is also one of the official events attended by the 2012 Laurel Festival Queen and her court. We are honored to have the current year's Queen with us each year to greet festival-goers and Grange members alike. Join us!

We are proud to welcome 5 new members to Winchester Grange. Four received the degrees in April at Winchester along with candidates from several visiting Granges. We will obligate one more member in June with the newly authorized Obligation Ceremony. Our members have taken membership growth to heart with 10 new members joining the Grange within the last 12 months.

### RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Shirley Moore

**June 1:** Regular Meeting, Ref. Moe Gabelmann &

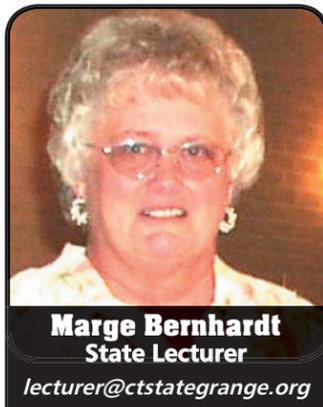
Robert O'Connor; Program: The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere- Peter Keefe June 15: Potluck Supper at 6:30 P.M., Program: CWA

The Grange had a quiet month of April. We did not have a meeting on April 6 because of Easter weekend with Good Friday falling on that day. On the 20th, we conferred the first and second degrees on Rodney Anstett, son of Dawn and grandson of Gladys, all members of our Grange for many years. We welcome Rodney and hope his Grange years will be joyful and beneficial.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Sister Edith Pasquariello whose sister, Anna, passed away recently.

We remind all those in our Grange who are entering contests to let Mary Lou Keefe, chairperson of the CWA, know that you have items, especially those that have to be at Cheshire Grange for judging on June 9. Mary Lou also requests members to bring non-perishable food items to meetings. These will be distributed to Food Banks in the area.

## 2012 N.E. Lecturer's Conference



**Marge Bernhardt**  
State Lecturer

lecturer@ctstategrange.org

The 97th Annual North East Grange Lecturers' Conference will be held July 30th to August 2nd at Rivier College, Nashua, New Hampshire.

The theme of the conference is "Beyond The Earth". Connecticut will present its' program entitled "Moons" on Tuesday morning, July 31st. Our rehearsal is Monday evening after the Formal Opening and New Hampshire's program.

This year you will have a choice of dorms to stay in. The cost will vary from \$220 to \$260 depending on which dorm you choose. We were at Rivier College six years ago and we only heard good reports on the quality of the college and meals. This year there will be a sit-down banquet.

By now everyone should have their information. If you haven't received yours, please let me know and I will see that you get it right away. Don't forget that the deadline for registration is July 10th. This will be strictly enforced. Please note that the conference is one week earlier than usual due to scheduling problems at the college.

I am still looking for numbers and ideas for our program on the Moons. If you have something, or an idea of something we can do, please contact me.

Please also note that next year Connecticut will host the conference. I am looking for a reasonably priced, appropriate place to hold the conference. If you have a suggestion please let me know. Let's all work together to make the conference a success.

I have received all the information on Lecturers' Conference and as soon as I get this newsletter finished, printed, and mailed I will attack the info for Lecturers' Conference. You should have it within the next week. Be sure and read the letter carefully about the rooms. You have several choices this year and the cost will vary from \$220 to \$260 depending on which dorm you choose.

The theme of the conference is "Beyond The Earth". Connecticut will present its' program entitled "Moons" on Tuesday morning, July 31st. Our rehearsal is Monday evening after Formal Opening and New Hampshire's program.

## Positions at N.E. Grange Building

The trustees of the New England Grange Building located on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA are seeking applicants for the following positions in order to enhance the Grange Experience of fair goers during the Big "E", which runs from September 14-30. Anyone wishing to help with this should contact the Chairman of the Trustees, Jody Cameron at president@ctstategrange.org or call him at 860-564-7614 before June 10th.

The following information has been edited for publication here. The complete job descriptions are available on the Connecticut State Grange website: ctstategrange.org, emailing Granger@CTStateGrange.org or by calling Jody Cameron.

### STAFFING OFFICER

The Staffing officer is responsible to obtain a list of all workers, demonstrators, entertainment and information services activities in the New England Grange Building throughout the duration of the Big E exposition. The responsibilities of this position includes making accommodations for those staff who will be staying over to work more than one day if coming from other states.

### SUPPLY STAFF OFFICER

The Supply Staff Officer is responsible to have all supplies necessary to run the Country Cupboard, and the New England Grange Building throughout the duration of the Big E exposition.

The Supply Staff Officer is

responsible and accountable to the Big E Grange Experience.

### NEW ENGLAND GRANGE BUILDING - CLOSER

New England Grange Building - Closer will be responsible to close up the building at the end of each day during the time the fair is running. New England Grange Building - Closer is responsible and accountable to The Director of the Grange Experience.

### NEW ENGLAND GRANGE BUILDING - OPENER

New England Grange Building - Opener will be responsible to open up the building at the beginning of each day during the time the fair is running. New England Grange Building - Opener is responsible and accountable to The Director of the Grange Experience.

# Youth Conference Info.



**Lisa Lamoureux**  
State Youth Director  
youth@ctstategrange.org

The 2012 Northeast Youth Conference will be held on Friday, July 13, 2012 to Sunday, July 15, 2012 at the Eastern States Exposition (also known as the "Big E") Fairgrounds in West Springfield, Massachusetts, hosted by the Connecticut State Grange.

We have a lot of fun activities planned for everyone. Something new this year will be the "Spirit Stick". Connecticut First Lady, Jody Ann Cameron and her father were gracious enough to make this beautiful Spirit Stick. The concept behind this is to see which Junior/Youth State Grange has the most Grange Spirit. It can be by all wearing the same t-shirts that promote the Youth/Junior Program or it can be sharing with other states what you do to get the

word out about Grange. Three (3) Judges will be picked by the Host State (Connecticut) and only those three people and I will know that they are the Judges. So you will never know until Sunday who the judges are until they are revealed. With that said, you have to be on high alert at all times during the weekend because you never know who will be watching. On Sunday, the Spirit Stick will be awarded to the State that showed the most Grange Spirit. They will be able to keep the Spirit Stick for one year (along with the bragging rights!) and will have to bring the Spirit Stick the following year to the conference where it will again be awarded to the State that has the most Grange Spirit. Use your imaginations on how you can show your Grange Spirit.

Friday night will kick off with registration from 4:30 to 6:30. If you think you will not be able to be there by then, please contact us. We will be having a pizza party and movie.

Saturday will be our competitions in the morning and then in the afternoon

we will visit the Springfield Museums (visit [www.springfieldmuseums.org](http://www.springfieldmuseums.org) for a sneak peak) and will have lunch there also. After this, back to the Fairgrounds for a little cleaning up at the New England Grange Building which will be followed by our banquet and awards. Afterwards, the Youth of Connecticut will be in charge of entertainment which I am sure will be a lot of fun.

Sunday will start off by breakfast and then our Inspirational Service. Afterwards, time to pack up and then the Drill Competitions and awarding of the Spirit Stick.

With regard to the competitions, please let me know as soon as possible if your state will have anyone entering any competitions. We will also need a list of their names along with the category of their talent. We need this so that we are all set up for that day and everything runs smoothly.

If anyone has any questions or needs more information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by email at [youth@ctstategrange.org](mailto:youth@ctstategrange.org).

org or by phone at (home) 203-238-1510 or (cell) 203-868-8712. All of the forms and complete information on the contests are available at the Connecticut State Grange website: [www.ctstategrange.org](http://www.ctstategrange.org).

Connecticut Junior/Youth and the Connecticut State Grange look forward to having you as our guests at the Eastern States Exposition and look forward to a fun filled weekend.



## Join Us!

# CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE ONLINE CHAT

**Wed., June 13 • 7:00 PM EST**

All aspects of the Grange will be discussed including: membership, agricultural and legislative initiatives, Grange events, community interaction and more.

State President Jody Cameron, Gen. Deputy Todd Gelineau and committee representatives will be there to answer all of your questions.

**[www.CTStateGrange.org/GrangeChat](http://www.CTStateGrange.org/GrangeChat)**  
Guests can sign-in using their real names or anonymously.



## Do You Remember?

### Harry LaBonte

by Betty Jane Gardiner

Wood as smooth as satin- now what could that be? It was the beautiful hand carving of Harry LaBonte. There were spoons, bowls, household items, all made to perfection! It was his hobby- a labor of love and something he enjoyed sharing. Hours of work done with plenty of care- a real talent.

He loved setting up his carving table at meetings, senior centers, and at the Big E where he could demonstrate his skills and talk about his work.

In addition to a countless number of spoons, he made beautiful bowls and other items. Elsie is especially proud of a pair of cherry wood lamps she still has in her home.

Harry was Mater of Tolland Grange for a number of terms was known for carrying on a special recycling project of collecting newspapers and glass. For a long-time, the Grange Hall (which has high ceilings) was filled from floor to ceiling with stacks of newsprint waiting to be taken away to bring in a good amount of cash. It was a tremendous undertaking- but the funds (although pretty well depleted) are still being used to help the Grange.

Harry and Elsie served several State Masters as Deputies, starting with Al Beckwith. Harry put in many hours at Camp Berger building the Gret-Al Cottage and maintaining the buildings.

The LaBonte's were a part of the Beckwith Installing Team.

Harry was known for making maple syrup. I remember one time we did a sort of "This is Your Life" for Harry on his birthday. One part I did was to tell him how I knew you could make wine by stomping the grapes- and I gave him a branch of my maple tree and advised him to start stomping! I can still hear him laughing.

Do remember Harry!



One of Harry's hand-carved lamps

Elsie and Harry LaBonte



Carving at the 1994 CT Agricultural Fair

# WINDOW TO THE PAST

Photographs are a treasured part of Grange history. Many of them, unfortunately, do not come neatly labeled on the back with names, dates, people or places. These photographs have a story to tell... but about whom or what? Please help us solve the mystery of the faces and places as we look through the Window to the Past. You can contact us by calling (860) 626-5074 or on the web by emailing [submissions@ctstategrange.org](mailto:submissions@ctstategrange.org).



May's Picture

For May, we received responses from Janet Haller, Alma Palmer and Carol Hnath. Here's what Diane says: "The couple in the May 2012 photo YCY are Paul Miller and Diane Miller of Woodstock. The PR on

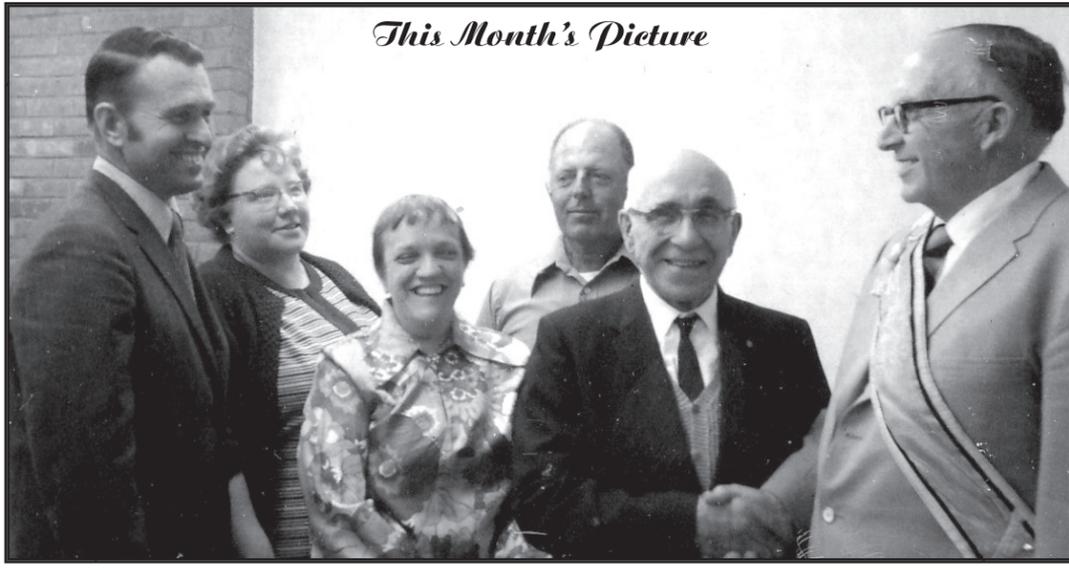
the right is John Halbach from Hampton. I will try to find out who the Princess in the center is. We all went to Boise Idaho for the National meeting. I believe the year was 1970. I will check my old papers to try to get the rest of the info."

We continue to receive responses to the April photo. Betty Jane Gardiner remembers this gathering as one of many "Lecturer Appreciation Dinners" held by then State Lecturer Mervin Whipple at a restaurant (name escapes her) on the Berlin Turnpike. Janet Haller believes the picture was taken in the mid 1970s. Information was also received from Elliott Smith. The contributions of all three are combined together for the picture labels below.

Thanks to everyone who continue to send in answers to the monthly pictures... "Keep them coming!"



April's Picture



This Month's Picture

## In Memoriam

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Ruth Bosworth, G.S.      | Wolf Den #61       |
| Walter Forest            | Hillstown #87      |
| Helen Apicelli           | N. Stonington #138 |
| Thomas M. Studwell, G.S. | Norfield #146      |
| Rosemarie Fox, G.S.      | Lyme #147          |
| Arlene Dean              | Lyme #147          |
| Nelson "Duke" Brown      | Stonington #168    |
| Alice Gray               | Oxford #194        |

Please keep us notified of deceased members. Use the email or the regular mailing address listed in the Granger Staff list in this issue.

## Chaplain's Message

Marvin Wilbur,  
Past State Chaplain



Amy Whitcomb  
State Chaplain

[chaplain@ctstategrange.org](mailto:chaplain@ctstategrange.org)

I remember a former pastor telling me that the things I dislike in another person sometimes are the very things I do. I didn't know what to think. As I remember I thought she was completely wrong. But you know what, I discovered

that most of the time it turned out she was right.

Sometimes I discovered I enjoyed hearing things about others—gossip if you will. I even repeated some of the things I heard. The next thing I knew I thought it was terrible for people to enjoy and repeat stories they heard about others. And I was doing it myself!

I was not very happy with myself. It was then that I made up my mind that I would be more understanding of others and less critical. I have not always followed this, but I do try. I try to be of help by not repeating hurtful things. I try to be more positive. Notice the words "try". I do not always do what I would like to do.

I would encourage everyone to try to be more helpful, especially to our fellow Grangers. Encourage them to do the best they can, to try something new, to do something they feel may be beyond their ability.

It is in Luke 6 verse 41 that we read: "Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?" I find it difficult to look at my self to see if there is anything that should be turned over to God to deal with. But I must do that. I also think we all should examine ourselves carefully before we complain about someone else.



Contact:  
Jody Cameron, State Master  
[president@ctstategrange.org](mailto:president@ctstategrange.org)

### EKONK COMMUNITY JUNIOR GRANGE #101

Corr: Rebecca Gervais  
We collected bags and bags of bottles and cans and all are finally turned in.

We collected \$94.40! We voted to round it to \$100 for an animal

shelter (P.A.W.S.) that deals mainly with cats, and is in Woodstock. We will also be giving old blankets. They will be at our next meeting.

We will be marching in the Sterling Memorial Day Parade again this year. We have elections in June and our Fishing Derby.

Congratulations to Jenna Wesa and her Grandma Kathy! They are our newest members. Jenna has had a part in our last 2 Christmas plays, and has been to many meetings and events!

## Ekonk Junior Grange activities



(Above, Left) Ekonk Community Jr. Grange went to Sterling Community School to present awards to the third graders who won the poster contest. The theme was, save our earth; reuse, reuse, recycle. There are 3 third grade classes, and each class had a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. We gave them \$10.00, \$5.00, and \$3.00 respectively, and all students received small ice cream cups. (Above, Right) Contestants in the Ekonk Jr. Grange Ping Pong Tournament pose for a group photo.