



the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

Published Monthly

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The Official News Magazine of the Connecticut State Grange

September 2023

From the Master's Desk



Robert Buck
State President
Bethlehem Grange No. 121
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Maggie and I just got back from a vacation trip to Illinois. Traveling there and back was interesting as we saw 900 miles of America, two times, coming and going. I was reflecting on how great our country is in its diversity of people and production. We even witnessed a series of grain barges being pushed on the Illinois River by a tug. Lots of grain elevators abound. We saw a number of horse farms and visited friends who own one of them. Another day, we went horseback trail riding at another one of those farms called Cedar Creek Ranch. While in Illinois, we had the opportunity to visit the Abraham Lincoln Museum, home and tomb - all testaments to one of the greatest Americans to ever live. Here in CT, we have a rich history as well. Agriculture is not quite on the scale of Illinois but nonetheless important to our economy: the greenhouse and bedding plant market, aquaculture, horse farms, orchards, wineries, etc. Horse farms fall into an odd place in the agricultural realm as they provide a service rather than hawking a commodity and thus

are often overlooked as a part of the agricultural landscape. Where else in a free country (other than Canada) can you travel 1,000 miles, converse in a common language, and share very similar customs with the people you meet? America is great and the Grange is part of that greatness, a unifying force if there ever was one.

With State Grange Session coming up quick, please plan to

Connecticut welcomes the Hamps

The Connecticut State Grange is pleased to welcome Chris Hamp and her husband Duane as the National Representatives to the 139th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange in October.

Christine E. (Chris) Hamp, a fourth-generation Granger, was raised on a dairy farm homesteaded in the 1880s by her great-grandfather in Monroe, Washington. Chris joined Tualco Junior Grange #341 at the age of 5 and then Tualco Grange #284. Today, Chris serves as Secretary at Five Mile Prairie Grange #905 in Spokane County, where she is an affiliate member.

In 2021, Chris was elected Vice President of the National Grange, having previously served as National Lecturer from 2016-21, National Lady Assistant Steward from 2013-16 and National Pomona from 2011-13. Earlier in her Grange life, Chris was named the

attend. Calls have gone out in the mail and will be in your hands by the time you read this. I hope to see many resolutions on matters important to you all. This is YOUR chance to make a difference in YOUR country.

I regret that I could not make the Family Day at Hillstown Grange as Maggie and I were returning home from Illinois that weekend. I trust that the event was fun and a success. Thanks to all who organized the event.

...Continued on page 2



Christine & Duane Hamp

Washington State Outstanding Junior Granger in 1981, the Washington State Outstanding Young Granger in 1986, National Youth Ambassador in 1986 and President of the National Youth

...Continued on page 3



Connecticut State Grange
A part of the National Grange



NEXT ISSUE . . . Articles Due Sept. 15

From the Master's Desk

Continued from page one...

As you have read in the previous Granger, the Grange Plot has been found and will be properly marked due to the efforts of your State Lecturer Dave Roberts. Thanks, Dave!

Now, I wish to address a couple of housekeeping items. It has come back to me that one Granger showed up at the workplace of a State Grange officer with Grange

business in hand pertaining to that member's Grange. This is not appropriate and should have been handled outside of the officer's workplace with a phone call and the US mail or other arrangements if papers needed to be transferred between parties. Another issue is asking for projects and paperwork to be completed at the last minute. Please allow people appropriate time to perform those tasks you are asking of them whenever possible.

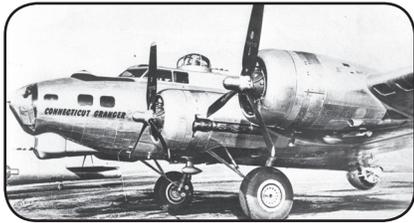
The final item I wish to address is in the application of grant money by Subordinate Granges. A Grange recently requested a sizable grant from a well-known foundation in Connecticut by using CSG Foundation information but in the name of the Subordinate Grange. The check came in made out to the Grange instead of the Foundation so it can't be cashed and sent on to the Grange. We in the CSG Foundation soon will be implementing a checklist of procedures for Granges submitting applications for grant money so that they are requested properly and can be processed by the Foundation properly. In the meantime, if your Grange is applying for a grant, it would be expedient of your grant

writer to talk to Todd, Jody or me so we can guide you through the process. It also helps Todd when he gets a check to know who and what Grange applied for the grant. Some checks do come in without identifying information or improperly made out and may be stale dated before they can be cashed by the Grange. This has become a major problem and we in the State Grange Foundation and Board of Directors wish to clear things up so Granges may get these funds available to them through Grants.

The Leadership Academy is progressing nicely with great sessions full of fantastic discussion. We have involved several National Grange leaders including National Vice President Chris Hamp and former National Membership Director Rusty Hunt. Turnout has been about 25 per session. We are already thinking about the 2.0 version. I encourage everyone to take advantage of National Grange programming. Just look up the website. Links to Zoom meetings for the various departments and other materials can be found there. Grange leaders across the country are only a phone call away and so willing to help. All it takes is a call or email. We truly do live in a great country! God Bless the USA!

the Connecticut Granger

Published Monthly



WW II Flying Fortress "Connecticut Granger"

STAFF

President/Editor Todd A. Gelineau
Vice President Terri Fassio
Treasurer Jody Cameron
Secretary Noel Miller

DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

News is due on the
15th Day of each month
and should be sent to:
Connecticut State Grange
100 Newfield Road
P.O. Box 3

Winchester Center, CT 06094
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How to book your room at the



Holiday Inn®

NORWICH

- 1) Call the Holiday Inn Norwich (not the Corporate Reservation line) at 860-889-5201.
- 2) Tell them you are reserving a room in the Connecticut State Grange room block.
- 3) The rate they quote should be \$109 plus taxes for Thursday, \$129 plus taxes for Friday & Saturday nights.
- 4) Make your reservation before September 26, 2023. If there are rooms left after that date they will be at the standard "rack" rate, not our special group rate.
- 5) Call the State Secretary if you are charged a different rate or if you have any difficulties.

Chris Hamp

...Continued on page 3

Officer Team in 1996. Chris also served as the Washington State Grange Lady Assistant Steward from 1990-95 and as a Washington State Grange Special Deputy from 1999-2011.

Chris served as a member of the National Grange's Strategic Planning Task Force initiated in 1999 and led the most recent review of the National Grange mission statement as well as the development and revision of the Washington State Grange mission statement. Currently, Chris is the chair of the National Convention Advisory Work Group tasked



with identifying how to make our national convention the most important Grange event of the year.

Chris retired in early 2023 as a chief officer in the fire service after more than 30 years in state and

local government.

Currently, Chris is proud to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Quilts of Valor Foundation, a position she has held since 2022.

Chris earned a bachelor's degree in Public Policy and Administration from Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington; a Master of Public Administration degree from The George Washington University in Washington, DC; and an associate degree of technical arts in Fire Command Administration from Edmonds Community College in Edmonds, Washington.

Chris and her husband Duane, a past President of the Washington State Grange, live outside Spokane, Washington.

Session Comm. Assignments

Credentials/Constitution & By-Laws

Chair: George Russell; Vice-Chair: Robin Hettrick

Bethlehem #121	Hemlock #182
Cannon #152	Taghannuck #100
Glastonbury #26	Oxford #194
Riverton #169	Wallingford #33

Good of the Order/Membership/ Master's Address

Chair: Jaimie Cameron; Vice-Chair: Susan Masino

Beacon Valley #103	Norfield #146
Ekonk Community #89	N. Stonington #138
Granby #5	Wolcott #173
Harmony #92	Senexet #40
Simsbury #197	

Legislative / Insurance

Chair: Noel Miller; Vice-Chair: Karen Macdonald

Coventry #75	Winchester #74
Cawasa #34	Vernon #52
Greenfield Hill #134	Stafford #1
Lyme #147	Hillstown #87
Killingly #112	Hillstown Jr. #87

Agriculture/Conservation/Environment

Chair: Don Lanoue; Vice-Chair: Ruel Miller

Bridgewater #153	Redding #15
Cheshire #23	Preston City #110
Groton Comm.#213	Stonington #168
Higganum #124	Ekonk Jr. #101
Whigville #48	

the **6th Degree**
Saturday,
October 21
10:00 AM

Applications for the Sixth Degree have been sent to the Secretaries of each Grange. You may also purchase tickets at State Session from the State Secretary anytime before the Degree on Saturday morning (\$10 each). Please note the time change: 10:00 AM. Candidates should be at the hotel by at least 9:30 AM. Please contact the State Secretary if you would like to reserve lunch at \$20 per person. Email: Secretary@CTStateGrange.org or call 860-307-1522.

The 7th Degree will be conferred at the 2023 National Grange Convention to be held at Niagara Falls, NY on Nov. 14-18 at the Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls/ Sheraton at the Falls. The Degree is held on the final day of the convention (Nov. 18). To receive the 7th Degree, you must have the 6th Degree.

Additional State Session Resolutions

The following are resolutions received since the last issue of the Connecticut Granger and will be presented for action at the 139th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange, October 19-21, 2023.

RES. #5 RE: PROTECTING PARENTAL RIGHTS

WHEREAS some schools will not tell parents about their children being in transition, and

WHEREAS these schools are grooming the children into transition, and

WHEREAS parents are the ones that are responsible for looking out for what is best for their children. The children do not belong to the government.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that anyone taking such action be arrested and charged with child abuse, fined and serve jail time.

SOURCE: Hemlock #182

REFERRED: Legis./Insurance

RES. #6 RE: PROTECTING TITLE IX

WHEREAS male and female at birth are physically different, and

WHEREAS males as they get older get stronger than females in many different areas, and

WHEREAS transitioning is a choice, and

WHEREAS a birth male is not the best female.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Title IX be enforced that birth females compete against birth females and not against birth males.

SOURCE: Hemlock #182

REFERRED: Legis./Insurance

RES. #7 RE: CONNECTICUT'S TRASH PROBLEM

WHEREAS Connecticut is in a trash crisis. Nearly 40% of Connecticut's trash is shipped out of state to landfills in states like Pennsylvania and Ohio, among others, and

WHEREAS this problem was created by the closing of one of the

State's three trash to energy plants in Hartford due to both the cost to upgrade the plant and the hazards of continuing to burn trash, and

WHEREAS there will come a time in the not too distant future when the remaining two plants will close permanently, and

WHEREAS Connecticut cannot be proud of closing the State's landfills while dumping its trash in other states, and

WHEREAS the General Assembly and the Governor have taken positive steps by expanding the Food Waste Recycling program which will hopefully cut into the large amount of our trash which is food, and

WHEREAS the State has no other plans in development to handle our trash problem in-state without shipping trash out of state.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange encourage the Connecticut General Assembly to appoint a blue ribbon commission comprised of comprised of legislative leaders and industry experts tasked with investigating solutions to Connecticut's trash problem and make recommendations for solutions to the Governor and General Assembly to alleviate this financial and environmental burden.

SOURCE: Winchester Grange No. 74

REFERRED: Agriculture/Conservation/Environment

RES. # 8 RE: LEGISLATIVE POLICY BOOK

WHEREAS the Connecticut State Grange has traditionally produced a Legislative Policy Guide which has been distributed to the General Assembly, State Senate, Governor and Lt. Governor to promote the policies adopted by the

delegates of the State Grange in annual session, and

WHEREAS the resolution process is pointless if we are not publishing the policy book and promoting those policies in Hartford, and

WHEREAS it has been a custom to publish a policy book, not a requirement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange Legislative Committee be required to publish an updated Legislative Policy Book each year for distribution to the State's legislators, Governor, Lt. Governor and any other agencies and departments that can support our legislative policies.

SOURCE: Winchester #74

REFERRED: Legislative/Insurance

RES. #9 RE: CONGRESS BANNED FROM INSIDER TRADING

WHEREAS members of Congress on committees have inside knowledge of filings and loopholes for bills they will vote upon, and

WHEREAS members of Congress have family interests in receiving these funds, and

WHEREAS members of Congress have received these funds with the knowledge of the terms of the written bills, which they have had a hand in writing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange oppose members of Congress using their inside knowledge from obtaining funds from government programs, so small farms and minority farms have a better chance of receiving these needed funds.

SOURCE: Coventry #75

REFERRED: Legis./Insurance

Continued next page...

RES. #10 RE: SUPREME COURT ETHICS RULES

WHEREAS members of the Supreme Court have received gifts and items from wealthy donors or from large corporations, which present the image of influence pedaling, and

WHEREAS the Chief Justice has taken the stance of not establishing a code of ethics for members of the Supreme Court, and

WHEREAS this latest stance and filings of this year's findings of the Supreme Court has the American public questioning the fairness of settled rules, or misguided decisions that have been made.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange urge our members of Congress to establish ethics rules that our Federal judges have to adhere to and make them part of the Supreme Court Code of Ethics, to bring faith back to the court and equal justice for all and this resolution be forwarded to the National Grange for its support.

SOURCE: Coventry Grange #75

REFERRED: Agriculture/Conservation/Environment

RES. #11 RE: STUDENT LOAN CORRECTION

WHEREAS the student loan provision was voted by Congress back in the 1990s under President Bill Clinton, and

WHEREAS on the night before the full vote, a no bankruptcy clause was added without debate by a Representative of Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS this clause has cost many graduates large sums of added loan charges and no opportunity to get out of a large financial burden, and

WHEREAS student loans are the only loan systems that have this no bankruptcy clause forcing students with large student loans no way out of debt, even through death, parents are forced to repay student loans.

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange urge Congress to repair the student loan system to make it fair to students to have fair access to bankruptcy laws, and this resolution go to the National Grange for its support.

SOURCE: Coventry Grange #75

REFERRED: Good of the Order/Membership/Master's Address

RES. #12 RE: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

WHEREAS Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an emerging technology that is popping up in many different areas like academia, publishing, the court system, movies, television, art images and graphics, recording, and

WHEREAS a group of major AI software developers and technology companies (Microsoft, Adobe, Apple, Google, etc.) have formed an advisory council and developed a framework of six key principles for responsible AI: accountability, inclusiveness, reliability and safety, fairness, transparency, and privacy and security, and

WHEREAS these principles are essential to creating responsible and trustworthy AI as it moves into mainstream products and services, and

WHEREAS it is documented that the framework addresses ethical issues, such as inclusivity, accountability, and discrimination, and insures that AI systems can justify their decisions and are in compliance with company policies, industry standards, and government regulations, and

WHEREAS one of the areas that poses the most danger for our society is the artificial creation of videos, sound bites, graphics and other digital media that can easily be confused for the real thing, and

WHEREAS public trust of news, as well as artistic and media sources is low and generally citizens believe current safeguards are insufficient, and that there is a fear of AI taking over human jobs, and

WHEREAS a trusted and transparent AI framework will promote responsibility yet not eliminate creativity and artistic license, and create new employment based on implementing targeted human intervention, and

WHEREAS a bipartisan group of U.S. legislators introduced a bill on June 20, 2023 to create a government commission focused on regulation and adoption of emerging artificial intelligence called the National AI Commission Act,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Congress work alongside the technology companies to establish ethical and sustainable fair-use guidelines for the use of Artificial Intelligence that does not disregard the rights of creators and developers.

SOURCE: Mountain Laurel Pomona #15

REFERRED: Good of the Order

RES. #13 RE: ELIMINATION OF CT GROSS RECEIPTS TAX

WHEREAS, the Gross Receipts Tax on gasoline has had a long, controversial history in the State of Connecticut, and

WHEREAS, the original legislation prohibited companies from passing the tax on to consumers; however, the provision was later struck down in court on the fact that it was preempted by federal law, and

WHEREAS, the gross receipts tax on gasoline is percentage-based, but with a capping mechanism rate of 0.881 % to the wholesale price until that price hits \$3 per gallon, setting its ceiling at 26.4 cents per gallon, and

WHEREAS, this tax was started in 1991 to fund the Underground Storage Tank Fund that offered compensation to gas station owners to clean up their underground petroleum storage tanks in case of a spill, and

WHEREAS, the Underground Storage Tank Fund was disbanded in 2012, yet the gross receipts tax on

gasoline remained in place and the funds now go into the General Fund, and

WHEREAS, Connecticut farmers and all residents rely on gasoline to support their daily jobs and activities, and

WHEREAS, this gross receipts tax unfairly subjects Connecticut farmers and all residents to higher gasoline costs than in the other 49 states hurting our business profits, and

WHEREAS, the elimination of this unfair and obsolete gross receipts tax on gasoline would make Connecticut farmers and all businesses more competitive, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut immediately eliminated the gross receipts tax on gasoline, and

RESOLUTION ASSIGNMENTS

GOOD OF THE ORDER/ MEMBERSHIP/MASTER'S ADD.

- No. 1 Maintaining Options for Consumer Use of Computer-Based Technology
- No. 3 Recognition of Terri Fassio
- No. 11 Student Loan Correction
- No. 12 Artificial Intelligence

CREDENTIALS/ CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

- No. 2 CT State Grange Alcohol Policy
- No. 4 Golden Sheaf Dues Reform
- No. 13 Elimination of the Gross Receipts Tax

LEGISLATIVE/INSURANCE

- No. 5 Protecting Parental Rights
- No. 6 Protecting Title IX
- No. 8 Legislative Policy Book
- No. 9 Congress Banned from Insider Trading

AGRICULTURE/CONSERVATION & ENVIRONMENT

- No. 7 Connecticut's Trash Problem
- No. 10 Supreme Court Ethics Rules

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that rebates be considered for businesses, such as Connecticut farmers, who have been unfairly impacted by this obsolete tax for over a decade, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded

Winners at the Family Fest



Dawn Percoski
Family Activities Dir.
Vernon Grange No. 52
CWA@ctstategrange.org

Winners for 2022-2023 Needlework Contest are as follows:

Class A: Afghan

1st Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire #23

Class B-Doily

1st Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire #23
2nd Diane Calabro, Cheshire #23

Class D-3 Piece Baby Set

1st Shirley Moore, Riverton #169
2nd Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire #23

Class E- Plastic Canvas

1st Joanne Cipriano, Beacon Valley #103
2nd Shirley Moore, Riverton #169

Class F -Counted Cross Stitch

1st Mariellen Baxter, Vernon #52
2nd Sandy Peterson, Lyme #147
3rd Sarah Douyard, Cheshire #23

Class G-Adult Garment

1st Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire #23

Class I-Quilted Wall Hanging

1st Alma Graham, Coventry #75
2nd Sandy Peterson, Lyme #147

Class J-Stuffed Toy

1st Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire #23
2nd Diane Calabro, Cheshire #23
3rd Sandy Peterson, Lyme #147

Class K-baby Afghan

1st Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire #23
2nd Cholie Donihee, Coventry #75
Honorable Mention,
Violet Donihee, Coventry #75

Baking Contest -

Coconut Snowball Cookies

1st Jane Miller, Cheshire #23
2nd Alma Graham, Coventry #75
3rd Marilee Manning, Coventry #75

Sock Creature

1st Diane Calabro, Cheshire #23
2nd Michelle DeDominicus,

to the next session of the National Grange together with a recommendation for favorable action therein to support elimination of this unfair tax in other states.

SOURCE: Riverton Grange #169

REFERRED: Credentials/
Constitution & By-Laws

Hillstown Grange #87

3rd Helene Forrest, Hillstown #87

Snowman theme-Needlework

1st Karen MacDonald, Greenfield Hill #133

2nd Joanne Cipriano, Beacon Valley #103

3rd Barbara Foskett, Cheshire #23

Snowman theme - other medium

1st Janet Haller, Cheshire #23

2nd Judy Doyle, Riverton #169

3rd Ted Powel, Coventry #75

Best in Show: Maryalyce Lee, Cheshire Grange #23 (Doily)

Teacup Contest:

1st Pat Fischer, Beacon Valley #103

2nd Carol Innis, Granby Grange

3rd Diane Calabro, Cheshire #23

Junior Teacup contest:

1st Maureen Donihee, Coventry #75

2nd Richard Donihee, Coventry #75

3rd Violet Donihee, Coventry #75

Junior Stuffed Toy

1st Cholie Donihee, Coventry #75

2nd Violet Donihee, Coventry #75

3rd Marueen Donihee, Coventry #75

Junior Snowman Theme, other med.

1st Richard Donihee, Coventry #75

2nd Kris Donihee, Coventry #75

3rd Maureen Donihee, Coventry #75





139th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange

HOTEL RESERVATIONS DUE: SEPT. 26

SESSION REGISTRATIONS DUE: SEPT. 30

ALL MEMBERS are required to register to attend most sessions/activities (excluding Sixth Degree and Lecturer's Program on Friday evening). All other events require payment of a registration fee and/or purchase of a ticket. Lunches are included in the registration fee and the Banquet is a separate ticketed event. Contact the State Secretary with any questions.

Registration Form

Grange Name _____ No. _____

DELEGATES:

Name _____ Junior _____ Adult _____ Banquet Choice # _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Name _____ Junior _____ Adult _____ Banquet Choice # _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

NON-DELEGATES:

Name _____ Junior _____ Adult _____ Banquet Choice # _____

Name _____ Junior _____ Adult _____ Banquet Choice # _____

FULL SESSION (Full Session Registration includes lunch on Friday & Saturday)

Adult Registration: \$50.00 # of Members _____ x \$50.00 _____

Junior Registration: \$20.00 # of Junior Members _____ x \$20.00 _____

CELEBRATION BANQUET (FRIDAY Evening at 7:00 P.M.) # of People _____ x 35.00 = _____

Meal Choices (indicate the number of each person's choice above):



- ① Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus with Horseradish Aioli
- ② Mushroom Ravioli over Sauteéd Spinach with a Parmesan Cream Sauce
- ③ Chicken Marsala with Portabella Mushrooms in an Italian Wine Sauce
- ④ Stuffed Filet of Sole with Seafood Stuffing

All entrees include a Tossed Salad, Warm Rolls & Butter, Vegetables, Cheesecake, Coffee, Tea, Soda, Water.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 & FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 (ONE DAY Registration includes lunch on Friday)

Adult Registration: \$25.00 # of Members _____ x \$25.00 _____

Junior Registration: \$10.00 # of Junior Members _____ x \$10.00 _____

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 (ONE DAY Registration includes lunch on Saturday)

Adult Registration: \$25.00 # of Members _____ x \$25.00 _____

Junior Registration: \$10.00 # of Junior Members _____ x \$10.00 _____

TOTAL: _____

Please make checks payable to the Connecticut State Grange

Mail to: Connecticut State Grange, 100 Newfield Road, P.O. Box 3, Winchester Center, CT 06094

Questions: Please call the State Secretary at (860) 307-1522 or email: Secretary@CTStateGrange.org

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS DUE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

To reserve hotel rooms, call the Holiday Inn at 860-889-5201 and ask for the CT State Grange block.



EASTERN CT POMONA #14

Corr: Noel Miller

Sept. 9: Meeting, 7:00 P.M., Ekonk Comm. Grange

The next meeting will be installation of officers as Jaimie Cameron will be installed by her father Jody as the new Master of Eastern Conn. Pomona. Please join us at this joyous event.

GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kay Ruff

Sept. 7: "Welcome Fall" 7:30 p.m.

Ref. Ann Gilnack & Dan Posuniak

Oct. 1: Semi-Annual Bakeless/Foodless Sale

Oct. 5: Boo to You, 7:30 p.m. Ref. Ann Gilnack & Priscilla Schmartz

Glastonbury Grange recently made a donation to the Killam & Bassette Farmstead in South Glastonbury. They suffered a large loss due to the recent heavy rain storms that flooded parts of town. We hope we have made, in a small way, a little help in their efforts to recover. We wish them well.

I know as I am writing this that I have received a 75 year certificate from National Grange. We will be presenting this to Doris Monaco at our September meeting. "Congratulations Doris". We will have a brief Installation of Officers that evening and she will be installed as our Ceres.

SENEXET GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

Sept. 27: Regular Meeting 6PM.

Sept 23: Booth at Celebrating Ag.

We have been very active in the last month. We held our annual Grange fair on August 5 with many entries. We had a breakfast also on that morning. This event was in coordination with the Locally Grown Day event in Woodstock. Many farmers hosted programs at their farms. This was a very popular source to get the surrounding community to visit the local businesses with farm products that are offered in Woodstock. The annual awards night was held on August 2. We honored long time members. Eddie Duhamel and Diane Miller were awarded with seals for the 65 years of membership Other long-time members are Georgia Ballard 80 years, Ronald Esterbrook 75 years and Helen Atocha 65 years. We also awarded college scholarships to 4 high school senior students. One was Bryn Miller a member who will be pursuing a pre-med program. 3 others will be going to college to study business and accounting.

We also honored the memory of long-time members Mercedes Robbins, Sally Newcombe and Elsie Johnson.

The local Conservation Committee will be helping us plant a pollinator garden on our property. We also will have a booth set up at the Celebrating Ag event to be held at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds on Sat. Sept. 23

We voted to submit an application for parking lot repair. This is from the Jewett Savings Bank.

It is very important to show the community what the Grange is all about.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Cherie Robinson

Sept. 1: Resolution Writing Workshop

Oct. 5: Vernon Grange presents Program at Coventry Grange

Oct. 6: Witches Seen, Tis Near

Halloween

It is true; Grangers make great food. We enjoyed great food at our potluck picnic before our August meeting. We learned about the history and future of dice and played some dice games.

At our September meeting we will fine-tune our resolutions for State Session. We are doing a program exchange at Coventry Grange in October, then we will be back in Vernon on October 6th. Our door is always open, we welcome your visit and hope to see you soon.

COVENTRY GRANGE #75

Corr: Noel Miller

Sept. 7: School Days

Coventry Grange #75 lost a member, Catherine Russi on 8/10. While only a member of Coventry Grange, she was a 20 year member of Colchester Grange #78. She was Treasurer and CWA Chair., and ran the trips and raised money for Scholarships to Bacon Academy students for Colchester Grange. She organized donations from the Grange for the Veterans of Jewett City and the Haitian Health Foundation of Norwich. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Big shout out to the Coventry members who won at the Let's Celebrate contest with entries in Wall Hangings, photo contest, tea cup art, and snowball coconut cookies, good time for those who attended, if you didn't go you missed out.

HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

Corr: Frank Forrest

Hillstown Grange's 135th Agricultural Fair will be held on Saturday, September 9 th, 9 am to 2 pm. Hillstown Grange is located at 617 Hills Street, East Hartford, since 1888.

Craft people, artists, gardeners, and cooks of all ages are encouraged to enter their best items to be judged for our fair. Judged items may be awarded ribbons and cash prizes. All entries must be brought to the Grange Hall Thursday,

The information contained in each issue of The Connecticut Granger is for informational purposes only. The Connecticut Granger assumes no liability or responsibility for any inaccurate, delayed or incomplete information, nor for any actions taken in reliance thereon. The information contained about each individual, event or organization has been provided by such individual, event organizers or organization without verification by us. The opinion expressed in each article is the opinion of its author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Connecticut Granger. Therefore, The Connecticut Granger carries no responsibility for the opinion expressed herein.

September 7th between 5 and 7 pm. and picked up between 1 and 2 pm on Saturday, September 9th.

Garden categories include vegetables, fruit, flowers, and our "Special Contests". There is an adult and youth level. Kitchen categories include baked goods, canned goods, jelly and jams. We are the only local agricultural fair in the area for entries in the Connecticut State Fairs competitions and we had one winner going all the way to win the State title of 'best apple pie'. Both at our fair and the State level is open to all with both an adult and

a youth level. Crafts, hobbies, and photos can be entered at adult and youth levels. Please see our entry form for number of items needed to enter. The Hillstown Grange Ag Fair program guide is available on our web site or by contacting us.

Special Flower contest is most colorful Marigold bouquet, and our Special Vegetable contest is nicest looking collection of string beans on a 9-inch paper plate.

Lunch is available with our famous grilled hot dogs and hamburgers topped with peppers and onions and will be available

from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., weather permitting we will have indoor and outdoor seating for lunch. Raffle numbers will be pulled at 2pm. A farmer's market and craft zone will be held outside weather permitting. Free vendor spaces available.

The Hillstown Grange Fair is the Hartford area's closes Agricultural Fair, serving the towns of East Hartford, Glastonbury, and Manchester for 135 years, come and feel the history.

Our parking lot is used for the Fair activities so all parking will be on-street parking.



Celebrate Community with Communications

by Terri Fassio, CT State Grange Public Relations Co-Director

For over 150 years, Granges and their members have played active roles in their communities. In the 1800s and early 1900s when many Granges were first founded, while agriculture was the focus of their interests, members gathered together to make a difference in their communities with the important topics of their time, including rural mail delivery and electricity, food, fuel and textile production, and more.

Today's Granges still stand by the same mission and vision as their forefathers.

"The Grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy and agriculture awareness." (National Grange Mission Statement)

Community Service has now become a strong cornerstone of the Grange, and each Grange is in a unique situation as it celebrates its own community. Just as no two communities are the same, no two Granges are the same.

Projects can be on a large scale, such as saving a local zip code by housing the post office to a small scale, such as collecting non-perishable items for the food bank or blankets for the local

animal shelter. All are equally as important and vital.

Yet they all share one thing - that Grange members are proud to be working together to give back to their individual communities.

So why aren't members busting down the doors to join? One reason may be a lack of communication.

Communication is a key component of any organization - internal and external. Members should be encouraged to share their ideas and concerns, giving the sense that they are valued. Happy members are productive members. When members are undervalued, they tend to only offer minimum contributions, thus leading to a reluctance to further volunteer their time or ideas. Unclear responsibilities and time pressures are the most common ways members are miscommunicated with. External issues such as missing media deadlines, lack of focus, or ignoring external communications in general are also common. So you can see how a hole in communications pipeline can just snowball.

People are social and like to feel as if they belong. As members, they want to be involved and make a difference locally. They want to celebrate their community. We encourage you to take the initiative to strengthen communications in

your Grange. Here's a few ideas --

- Start a Grange newsletter and email / mail to all members.

- Decorate your Hall or meeting location with a Bulletin Board, and keep it updated with information on upcoming events as well as meeting information.

- Choose a member of the month - and spotlight that person and their interests. Then write an article about the member and send it to the local newspaper.

- Start a Facebook page for your Grange and keep its updated.

- Be sure to send out press releases for all important meetings and events.

- Ask people who don't often attend meetings to perform specific tasks - such as lend a hand with refreshments or help out with the literary program - or even just be the "greeter" for the evening.

- Call or text members to remind them of upcoming meetings and events.

- Take a survey of members and their interests, and then use the findings to develop future programs. Granges who make an effort to strengthen their communications will find their community efforts are strengthened as well.

Need help with growing your Grange membership? Send Membership Director Shelley Cameron an email at membership@ctstategrange.org to get started.

Need some help strengthening your Grange communications? Send an email to Bob at publicrelations@ctstategrange.org or Terri at information@ctstategrange.org.



MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

Mountain Laurel met on Aug. 26 in Bethlehem with a decent number of members present. There was quite a bit of business to get through.

The December 2 meeting of the Pomona will be held at Winchester Grange with a catered lunch served at 12:30 P.M. We ask that anyone planning on attending contact Todd at Secretary@CTStateGrange.org or by phone, 860-307-1522. This will help us give an accurate number to the caterer. This is also the meeting when we ask members to bring mittens, gloves and new underwear for donation to area schools. Please do not donate hats. Schools have asked not to receive hats as they cannot be accepted.

The Pomona Handbooks are in the process of being compiled for this year. If you are a Subordinate Secretary in Mountain Laurel Pomona PLEASE send your information in to me as soon as possible (but no later than Sept. 15) to allow time for the book to be set up and printed. It is our hope to get these into each Grange in the Pomona by the first of October. As it was done last year, the books will be paid for entirely by the Pomona. This is an important part of keeping our Granges within the Pomona united and working together- what Pomonas should do.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

Sept. 12: School Days

Sept. 26: Installation of Officers, Ref.

Patrick O'Brien & Angela Cain

WOW! Winchester Grange was blessed with a perfect day for its Grange Fair & Community Tag Sale on Aug. 12. Attendance was excellent and the fair generated a very good profit. Thanks goes to all who donated their time and items for the tag sale, book sale and the judged entries upstairs. It was a rare day when all were in agreement including the vendors on the green.

We start September with a program on School Days on Sept. 12. Refreshments will be handled by those who are called on to help as Sister Cooper has been under the weather. Our Sept. 26 meeting will be installation of officers and we look forward to having a number of members take new offices this time around.

BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Dorothy Fairchild

Our grange will meet on September 17th. We Just had our planning meeting for the coming year. Our theme will be "Animals".

Bethlehem Grange dues are to be increased for the 23-24 year. When State Grange increases dues, our Charter states that we must also increase. So, from \$30.00 to \$40.00 for membership fees, plus Pomona \$5.00. We gratefully accept donations that we receive, especially from Golden Sheaf members as the cost incurred to retain membership of our deserving Patrons has increased through the years. Donations will help with our projects and community service.

We hope to see you at our town's Bethlehem Fair.

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Dave Roberts

Sept. 1: No meeting – Labor Day Weekend

Sept. 10: Honoring Our Veteran of the Month #26 (Barkhamsted Senior Center flagpole, 109 West River Road, Barkhamsted; 6:00 PM)

Sept. 15: Meeting & Program: Installation of Officers. Ref. Jackie Martin & Natalee Roberts

On Friday, August 4, Riverton

Grange met for its monthly meeting both in-person and via Zoom. Three visitors joined us for this meeting and all attendees positively commented on the completed Grange Hall front porch renovation project funded by the Town of Barkhamsted's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) COVID relief grant totaling \$14,700. Trek planking was used to make the porch and steps last longer and maintain its sturdiness. President Dave Roberts championed this project along with the Executive Committee. In addition to the renovated porch, some damaged vinyl siding was replaced by our contractor. In addition, thanks to an anonymous donation, part of our Grange Hall was power washed and the hall is looking GREAT! We have now completed all outside activities for this initial \$15,000 in grant and donor funding!

Our Grange also learned from Grants Chair Judy Doyle that a grant proposal for the Northwest CT Community Foundation for funds to repair and renovate our historic Grange hall's two bathrooms has now been moved up on the funding list and Chair Judy is now working on a \$10,000 grant request. The Foundation has given us a 30-day deadline to complete our application and all financial paperwork. Judy is working with CT State Grange Foundation Secretary Todd Gelineau on specific information needs. Stay tuned for more updates on this exciting improvement!

The Community Service Committee announced that Riverton Grange met the requirements for 2022-2023 to be designated a Golden Grange in Action by National Grange and all paperwork for this recognition has been submitted to Loretta Washington at National Grange headquarters.

Riverton Grange unanimously voted following the second monthly reading of a Bylaws change to Article II to remove the strict setting of meeting dates and times. Instead, the Bylaws will now say that the Grange meeting date and time will be set by the President/Master following

Continued next page...

Mt. Laurel continued from prev. page. consultation with the Executive Committee.

Finally, on August 6th, Riverton Grange hosted its 25th Veteran of the Month Salute for World War II veteran Ted Marolda, a survivor of Guadalcanal. Gunnery Sergeant Marolda, who turned 100 years old this Spring, enlisted on December 8, 1941, the day after Pearl Harbor was attacked. Marolda was surrounded by a large crowd of sons, daughters, grandchildren, great grandchildren, friends and neighbors.

SIMSBURY GRANGE #197

Corr: Marguerite Smith

Our agricultural fair was held on June 10th from 10:00-3:00 and was a huge success! We included informational displays from local farms and non-profits, invited town selectmen/business owners to judge contests and had many fair participants jiving to the Out The Boxx dance band.

Thanks to grange members who helped bake, set up, contact townspeople, serve, prepare spreadsheets, etc. After the fair, president Barbara Friedland hosted dinner to debrief and plan for next year's fair on Saturday, June 8th, 2024.

We are partnering with our local library to register/co-host events held at the grange. These activities include a Storytime and seed activity for preschoolers, a five part film series on Beaver Pond Wildlife, and an out-of-town jazz quintet. Our one hour social event/hors d'oeuvres before events is especially popular.

July 11th - We discussed building maintenance/renovation, ongoing rentals, upcoming events, and possible new events for the fall. Two new members attended.

August 10th - Discussions centered around: the Beaver Pond Wildlife films on Sept 14th and November 9th, two grants received from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and Patronicity, grant writing opportunities and new programming ideas for the fall.

Legislatively Speaking



Noel Miller
Legislative Director
Coventry Grange #75
millernoel434@gmail.com

It's that time of the year when pumpkin spice is in the air and local fairs draw in crowds of people seeking to return to normal after the last three years since the Pandemic. Yet dark clouds are ahead for us all, the economy is doing well, wacky weather surrounds and affects us all, gas, food prices are getting back to normal, supply chain has leveled off. So let's get back to normal and return the 15 crackers you took out of my cracker box and fill potato chips bags back to 2/3 of the bag.

President Theodore Roosevelt was a President for the people. He felt that the Federal government was to work for the common man and not rigged for business, or the wealthy people. So he broke up the big monopolies, strived to save the unions protecting the common man. He felt that respected and happy workers made for a better United States. Just like the history of the Grange who fought the railroads for better fares for Farmer to ship goods and building Co-ops for better buying power and fair pricing for farm products.

Today the report that Tyson Foods is closing five poultry plants in the U.S. and Smithfield is closing a hog plant in Missouri to save money to increase profits. Profits for who? Now is the time for fair food, chicken tenders, wings, nuggets, turkey legs, pulled pork. Shortages will reduce supply yet demand will be high, so you pay more for your fair food, but does the Farmer get money from this shortage, NO, they don't. Does the food service get money from this shortage, NO. They have to charge more. Tyson and Smithfield Corp get the money, and be sure they will be holding the hands out for

government relief to help get the supply shortage to end, oh yes the one they caused. We have seen this time and time again Dean Foods bought up many dairy milk plants, and closed them causing milk prices to rise in the store. Yet Dean Foods collapses and sold off the local co-ops, many of which never reopened. And milk prices paid to farmers have not provided them with a living wage. Many work other jobs off the farms or are forced to sell off their herds. There are only five companies that own all the slaughter houses for beef in the U.S. and they have wrangled the beef supply, yet local producers have lost money, feedlots have lost money yet these slaughter house and supermarket giants reap in the money that should be shared with the farmers to continue a safe and plentiful product.

The 2023 Farm bill looks like it will not be passed on time. Many of the arguments are with the SNAP program (food stamps) and milk prices, and ethanol production. Since the Depression the government has subsidized farmers for their labors to provide affordable food for the Nation. Trade deals have been created for U.S. exports to help our farmers, yet trade has also been used a political tool against countries that abuse their power, the 1980 Grain Embargo against The Soviet Union, for its invasion of Afghanistan, was devastating for the farmers and many went broke because of this. The Trans Pacific Trade Act which was pulled out by Former President Trump brought loss of access to dairy farmers because China has a sweet tooth for Yogurt and Cheese. This cancellation was a big blow to dairy farmers and many have gone out of business and milk prices are well below the operating cost to produce milk, especially the Northeast. Yet farmers were relieved with taxpayer's dollars, while Trump proclaimed that China would pay

Continued next page...

for it with tariffs. We need common sense reform in the Farm Bill that will give a fair deal for our farmers and fair price to the consumer, as was the case when Grangers of the Past fought for it, it's in our blood.

This year is the year of the Union. UPS avoided a shutdown and are giving workers a fair piece of the apple. Hollywood actors and writers are on strike and the night shows have taken a hard hit, especially with all the court cases coming out against Former President Donald Trump. The four indictments against him will be going to trial. The charges against him are serious and a jury must determine his guilt. With this said the trials must be televised for the public to see.

Like the Watergate Hearings, and the Clinton impeachment, we the people must be able to witness these crimes, from January 6th, stealing government security documents, trying to overturn the 2020 elections and interfering with the Georgia Elections. We must be able to witness these hearings to finally answer the big lie.

The term FAKE NEWS has been proposed since the 2016 election. Whether Russian emails, extreme left tweets, extreme right tweets, AI designed info memes, false flag memes. It is up to you to do the research, don't rely on others, they may be wrong. The FCC needs to clean up these news networks, Propaganda is not news and some

stations should lose their news network standing. Fake news should be called out and off the air.

In the end when the dust has settled your grandchildren will be asking you "What did you do during the 2020's, did you fight to protect your girls rights, protect democracy, give every one the right to vote, give everyone the right to be themselves? Reflect upon this and answer "What did I do?", zone in or zone out.

Enjoy the fairs this fall, I saw a black wooly bear heading south, maybe we are going to have a cold winter, or maybe his GPS was outdated. Get your Resolutions in for State Session.



NUTMEG POMONA #16

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Sorry this news is short, but I have been in the hospital and not very comfortable sitting at the computer.

Just want to remind everyone that the next meeting of Nutmeg Pomona will be held at Beacon Valley Grange in Naugatuck on Sunday, September 24th at 2:00. Watch for the official notice of the meeting which will be sent to each Grange.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Ruel Miller

Sept. 6: Installation of Officers

Sept. 20: Hankie History

Cheshire Grange had a number of entries and winners at the Ct State Grange Family Festival at Hillstown Grange on August 12th and 13th. Congratulations to our State Family

Activities Committee for this event and to Hillstown Grange for a great pancake breakfast on Sunday.

As I write this for the September column, our annual Grange Fair will be history. We hope to hold a fund raising dinner for a local hiking club this fall. Several of us will be attending the Ct State Grange annual session in October

WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

Corr: Kathy Bergonzi

Sept. 16: Wallingford Grange Fair, Noon-6pm, Rain or Shine

We are having an opening ceremony, exhibits, 50/50 raffle to include Chicken Poop Bingo, live music, a children's section of games, white elephant and vendors. Hot sandwiches will be sold.

In August we collected requested items for the ladies of the USS America.

Our clothing drive ended in great success. Collected from our community were 106 boxes of housewares and 239 bags of textiles, approximately 3123 pounds! If anyone would like to know how and what we did, we'd be happy to share it with you. Just reach let us know.

We continue to clean and organize. Getting fair ready. Trees were trimmed opening up the front yard so the building is more visible from the road.

Our next monthly meeting, September 14th will be a working meeting for the fair at 6:30pm- all hands on deck!

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

First, I would like to thank all my Grange friends for the beautiful Happy Birthday and Thinking of You cards. The birthday wasn't very happy as I was in the hospital. Special thanks to Barbara Robert for her meals on wheels. I am now home and recuperating.

I missed our Grange meeting and picnic as well. Can't remember when I missed a meeting. Thanks to all the members who took over. Don't know who all of them were, but I will find out.

Also thanks to Jane and Ruel Miller for bringing all our contest entries to Celebration Day and for all the good news. Pat Fischer placed first in the "Tea Cup Contest" and Joanne Cipriano placed second in the "Let's Make a Snowman" contest and first in the Northeast Needlework Contest - Plastic Canvas category.

Upcoming activities- Sept. 8 meeting - program "Aster" Joanne Cipriano in charge and John Taylor in charge of refreshments. September 13th Tag Sale Work Day- September 16th Tag Sale and

Open Mic- September 23 Bake Sale at WalMart and Sept. 24 we host the meeting of Nutmeg Pomona. My goal is to be up and about by then.

GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

Corr: Jim & Lori Golias

Hope your harvest is plentiful!

The Greenfield Hill Grange is now proudly displaying a new American Flag on a brand new flagpole. Thank you to our anonymous member who donated for this wonderful addition. God Bless America. God Bless our veterans.

A perfect way to mark the 130th Anniversary of Greenfield Hill Grange.

Dates to remember:

We will be hosting a Lobster Fest on September 9, 2023. Reservations a MUST.

Our Pumpkin, Mum, Bulb and Bake Sale will be held on September 23, 2023.

TAG SALE: come SELL or SHOP or Both!!! October 2, 2023. 10-3 Tables available.

To sell or for info: Call Cathy -- 203-259-7627-- \$ 25 per table.

Holiday Boutique. Vendors, Crafts, Food. November 18, 2023. 10-3. For tables or info call Steve 203.367.4373.

Hope to see you at the Grange!

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Sept. 8: Here Comes Autumn

Sept. 9: Tag Sale at Hemlock Grange, 9AM to 2PM at the Grange Hall, 17 Sage Hollow Road (Jct. of Rte. 17 and 17A, behind the gas station). Individuals may join in the tag sale and have a space in the parking lot for a \$10 fee. Individuals need to provide their own tables. The Grange will also accept donations. The Grange will accept most items including small workable appliances. No furniture or clothes will be accepted. For more information contact Betty Jane 860-267-7512. Please leave message with your name and number. Your phone call will be returned.

Sept. 22: Omitted, unless reg. meeting is canceled

Oct. 13: Halloween Costumes

Oct. 27: Omitted, unless reg. meeting is canceled.

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Congratulations Winners



Dave Roberts
State Lecturer
Riverton Grange No. 169
Lecturer@CTStateGrange.org

It is such a joy for my Connecticut State Grange Lecturers Department to partner with the Connecticut State Grange Family Activities Department to host the annual Connecticut State Grange Family Festival which was held on Sunday, August 13, at Hillstown Grange. I want to thank Granby Grange Lecturer Judy Doyle who supported me on this initiative while my family and I were out of town in Washington, D.C.

The Connecticut State Grange Lecturer's Department again sponsored our annual Photography Contest with some great prizes. There were four categories: My America/Grange Activities, Animals, Old Trucks/Barns, and Let's Make a Snowman. Judy Doyle decided to separate the photos into two categories this year: Adult and Junior. Winning photos will be displayed at State Session and then returned to their owners. Here are the photography contest winners for 2023:

My America/Grange Activities

1st (\$5)- Angela DeDominicis, Hillstown

2nd (\$3)- Violet Donihee, Coventry

3rd (\$2)- Michelle DeDominicis, Hillstown

Animals

1st (\$5)- Barbara Foskett, Cheshire

2nd (\$3)- Michelle DeDominicis, Hillstown

3rd (\$2)- Kristina Donihee, Coventry

Old Trucks/Barns

1st (\$5) Ted Powell, Coventry

2nd (\$3)- Kristina Donihee, Coventry

3rd (\$2)- Michelle DeDominicis, Hillstown

Let's Make a Snowman

1st (\$5)- Judy Doyle, Riverton

2nd (\$3)- Ted Powell, Coventry

3rd (\$2)- Angelina DeDominicis, Hillstown

2023 Photo Contest Junior Winners My America/Grange Activities

1st (\$5) Richard Donihee, Coventry

2nd (\$3) Maureen Donihee, Coventry

Old Trucks/Barns

1st (\$5) Maureen Donihee, Coventry

2nd (\$3) Richard Donihee, Coventry

Animals

1st (\$5) Maureen Donihee, Coventry

2nd (\$3) Richard Donihee, Coventry

And our BEST IN SHOW winner was Barbara Foskett of Cheshire Grange (Animals). (See photo 7579 attached.)

Congratulations to all who participated in our photography contest and to our adult and junior winners! We appreciate East Hartford Community Leader Ed Fenton for serving as our Photography Judge this year. And make sure you look for all the winning photos which will be on display at the Connecticut State Grange Convention in Norwich. We also appreciate Hillstown Grange supporting this awesome event and were pleased to join with Family Activities to make a donation to their Grange.

Looking ahead . . . please mark your calendars to join us for our seventh Connecticut State Grange Lecturers Roundup which will be held via Zoom on Sunday, September 17, from 7-8PM This event is open to all Grangers (not just Lecturers). Email me at Granbydavidroberts@gmail.com or call me at 860-469-5067 for the Zoom meeting code.

Hank's Best Summer Squash Casserole



Preheat your oven to 350° F

Ingredients:

- 6 small yellow squash, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 tablespoon dried minced onion
- 1 teaspoon fresh thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 3/4 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 2 tablespoon butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt

Optional Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon Parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon fresh chopped parsley

Directions:

Preheat your oven to 350° degrees F. Lightly grease or spray a 2-quart casserole dish or 9x13-inch baking pan with non-stick cooking spray.

Wash and thinly slice the yellow squash. Place the slices into a large mixing bowl.

In a medium mixing bowl, combine the sour cream, eggs, dried minced onion, fresh thyme, salt, and pepper. Fold in grated cheese then pour over the sliced yellow squash. Mix to combine.

Transfer the squash and cheese mixture into the prepared baking dish.

In a small bowl, combine panko breadcrumbs with the melted butter and garlic salt, plus parmesan and fresh parsley if desired. Sprinkle the

topping mixture over the squash in your baking dish, then transfer to the center of the middle rack in your preheated oven.

Bake for 30-35 minutes or until the cheese is melted and starting to bubble and the topping is lightly golden brown in color. You can also broil on low for the last few minutes to finish browning the panko topping.

Remove from the oven and serve immediately.



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 history to tell... but about whom or what? Please help us uncover the mystery of 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.



There were no answers for the August Window photo. We did hear from George Kotowicz. He corrected the spelling on the name for his answer in last issue regarding the July photo. The person receiving the award is John Carmon (of Carmon Community Funeral Homes - www.carmonfuneralhome.com). We apologize for the misspelling.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
GRANBY GRANGE #5

AGRICULTURAL FAIR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER, 9TH FROM 10 AM - 2 PM



- CONTEST ENTRIES - WIN PRIZES AND CASH
- EXHIBITS, PLANT SALE, BAKE SALE
- VENDORS AND MORE

ENTRIES AND FAIR: OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FREE ADMISSION

LOCATION: GRANBY GRANGE HALL * 212 N.GRANBY RD, GRANBY, CT 06035

WELCOME TO
**HILLSTOWN
GRANGE**
AGRICULTURAL
FAIR

Sat. September 9th
9 am -2 pm
617 Hills St East Hartford



A 10x10 spot will be free, please bring your own tables, chairs, etc. This event will be outside, rain or shine.

WANT A BOOTH?
CONTACT MICHELLE DEDOMINICIS
860-558-4688

SAVE THE DATE



2nd Annual

REDDING GRANGE AGRICULTURAL FAIR

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Redding Grange Hall
399 Newtown Turnpike, Redding, CT




JOIN US

EXHIBITS • LIVE MUSIC
KID GAMES • CONTESTS
CRAFTS MARKET • FUN!

86th ANNUAL

FALL FAIR

RAFFLE! CHICKEN POOP BINGO!

**586 CENTER ST
WALLINGFORD
CT 06492**

NOON TO 6 PM

FREE ON-SITE PARKING!
(FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE)

RAIN OR SHINE!

MORE INFO AT: WALLINGFORDGRANGE.ORG

SEPTEMBER 16



Charles W. Dimmick
State Chaplain

Cheshire Grange No. 23
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

Doing God's Work

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? *Micah 6:8*

We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. *Ephesians 2:10*

We sometimes think that, since God is omnipotent, meaning he can do anything and everything, we humans are unnecessary to do God's work. So why did God create us, and then give us the ability (sometimes called "free will") to mess up what He had made? A related question might be why do people get married and have kids, knowing full well that kids are likely to not be perfect, and sometimes mess things up.

Perhaps God was "lonely", and thought that having created the world, it would be a good thing to have humans to keep him company and to help care for the world He had made. I'm not a professional theologian, so I'm not sure whether or not this is theologically sound reasoning. But scripture seems to say that Man was created to "Glorify God". I'm not quite sure what that means either (but see the next paragraph). However, as

the two scripture quotes that begin this article indicate, Man was also created to do good works, which is to be primarily directed in good works towards our fellow human beings, but also towards the rest of God's creation.

In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (chapter 10), he tells us "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." We can read this as saying that we "glorify" or honor God in all that we do, by dedicating our life to God's work. Much of this appears in the Master's Charge at the end of every Grange meeting: "Let us add dignity to labor, and in our dealings with our fellowmen be honest, be Just, and fear not. We

must avoid intemperance in eating, drinking and language; also in work and recreation, and whatever we do, strive to do well. Let us be quiet, peaceful citizens, feeding the hungry, helping the fatherless and the widows, and keeping ourselves unspotted from the world."

In Memoriam

Catherine Russi
Coventry Grange No. 75

Edward Coffey
Harmony Grange No. 92

Carol Knutson
Taghhannuck Grange No. 100

"Well done, good and faithful servants."

Please donate to the Grange Plot Dedication

At the 45th Annual Session of the State Grange in 1930, a resolution was adopted to purchase a plot of land in Peoples State Forest in Barkhamsted, CT, bearing the name of our organization. Our Grange Bicentennial Celebration was held on this land in July 1976.

In the years since, the land was forgotten about and thus lost. Thanks to the combined efforts of Connecticut State Grange Lecturer Dave Roberts and many dedicated members, the land known as the "Grange Plot" has been identified.

The Connecticut State Grange will be purchasing a plaque as a permanent marker on the property, to be installed on a boulder by the State of Connecticut/Town of Barkhamsted. The cost of this will be \$2000.

We are asking Granges, Grange members, and those interested in preserving this history to generously help fund this project.

Checks should be made out to the Connecticut State Grange and mailed to the following: Connecticut State Grange, P.O. Box 3, 100 Newfield Road, Winchester Center, CT 06094

A dedication will be announced and held once the plaque is installed.

For more information on this project, contact: CT State Grange Lecturer Dave Roberts - Lecturer@CTStateGrange.org or CT State Grange Public Relations Co-Director Terri Fassio - information@CTStateGrange.org