



THE CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE LECTURERS' NEWSLETTER

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Greetings...

I attended a meeting of the Northeast Grange Lecturers Association a couple of weeks ago. I'm sure you remember that it was announced at the end of last years' Lecturers' Conference that there would not be a Northeast Lecturers' Conference in 2018. This is still the case. However one is being planned for 2019. It will be held in Massachusetts with Massachusetts the host State. There hasn't been a decision yet on exactly where in MA it will be held but their State Lecturer, Janet Segur, is trying to find a place in the center of the State. This would be great for all of us in Connecticut. My guess would be no more than a two hour drive for any of us.

The Title of the conference will be "Down on the Farm". Don't be fooled by this title. Do you eat? Do you knit or crochet with wool yarn? Do you sleep between cotton sheets? None of these things would be possible without the farmer.

The conference will take on a new look with things being done differently. If the new format works out conferences will be held every odd numbered year with New Hampshire hosting in 2021 and Connecticut in 2023. As soon as I have more details I will get the information out to you.

Your State Lecturers are also in the process of putting together a Program Help book. Previously you had to buy these books. This year they will be mailed to all Lecturers in the Northeast. As soon as all the States get their information in, I will compile ours and get them in the mail to you. I have seen some of the information already and think it can be a lot of help to you.

Please don't forget that all Talent and "A Numbers" go directly to the State for judging. Hopefully we will have a good turnout for "Let's Celebrate". We do have a lot to celebrate. The Grange is a fabulous organization, but we all need to keep working to make it better. By participating in the various projects and contests you are doing your part.

My congratulations to Charles Bierce of Riverton Grange for taking 2nd place in the National Grange Photo Contest. Get your photos ready. They will be judged Sat. June 9th at Cheshire Grange as part of Let's Celebrate and will be on display on Sunday along with the CWA contests.

Hopefully when you read this, Spring is in the air. Have a Happy St. Patrick's Day, a Joyous and Happy Easter and be sure and enjoy April Fools Day.

Hope to see you around the State,
...Marge

SHARED NUMBERS...

FUN HOT DOG QUIZ WITH THANKS TO VERNON GRANGE

1. Why did the detective take the hot dog back to the station?
Ans. To grill him
2. Did you see the movie about the hot dog?
Ans. It was an Oscar Wiener
3. What do you call a hot dog race?
Ans. Wiener takes all.
4. What did the Buddhist monk say to the hot dog vendor?
Ans. Make me one with everything.
5. What do you get when you cross a chili pepper, steam shovel, and a Chihuahua?
Ans. A hot, diggety dog.
6. Why did the hot dog turn down a chance to star in a major motion picture?
Ans. None of the rolls were good enough.
7. What do you call a frozen frankfurter?
Ans. A Chili Dog
8. What did the Mama Hot Dog say to the little frankfurter?
Ans. Ketch-up

APRIL FOOLS' DAY (April 1st)

April Fools' Day, also known as All Fools' Day, can be traced back several centuries but its' exact origin is not known.

There are several different theories:

Some believe that April Fools' Day dates back to the mid 1500's when France switched calendars. Previously the New Year started on April 1st but the new calendar called for it to start on January 1st. Back then news was slow to travel and many did not realize the new year had started. These people were looked down on while others played jokes on them. One favorite joke was placing a paper fish on their backs. They were called an April Fish which symbolized a young, easily caught fish or gullible person.

Some believe it is connected to a Roman Festival held at the end of March where people dressed up in various costumes.

Others believe it is celebrated because it was once the first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, and the weather was always unpredictable.

April 2, 1700, English pranksters became actively involved by playing practical jokes on each other.

In Scotland, people were pinning fake tails or "kick me" signs on each other.

Times have changed but we now have more elaborate tricks. In 1957, the BBC reported that Swiss farmers were experiencing a record spaghetti crop and showed farmers harvesting noodles from trees. In 1996, Taco Bell claimed they had bought Philadelphia's Liberty Bell and renamed it the Taco Liberty Bell. In 1998 Burger King advertised a "Left-Handed Whopper," which many people ordered.

Have some harmless fun and enjoy your day.

BLACKOUT SKITS

(These are a great way to get your members involved in the program)

Joe & Bill

Joe: Do you believe in love at first sight?

Bill: I'll say one thing, it saves a lot of time.

Esther & Edith

Esther: So Tony and you are getting married? Why, I thought it was just a mere flirtation.

Edith: So did Tony.

Lucy & Lois

Lucy: What happened when you showed your new engagement ring to the women in the office? Did they admire it?

Lois: Better than that – four of them recognized it!

Sue & Sally

Sue: Has anyone ever asked you to get married?

Sally: Sure, lots of times.

Sue: Oh really? Who asked you?

Sally: My Mother and my Father!

Laura & Tom

Laura: Tom, do you love me with all your heart?

Tom: Uh-huh

Laura: And do you think I'm the most beautiful woman in the world?

Tom: Uh-huh

Laura: Do you think my lips are as soft as rose petals?

Tom: Uh-huh

Laura: Oh Tom, you say the most beautiful things.

GRANGE QUIZ

1. What Grange is the name of a citrus fruit? ...Lyme
2. What Grange is a light shining in the dark? ...Beacon
3. What Grange is a weapon of war? ...Cannon
4. What Grange is the name of a firearm? ...Winchester
5. What Grange reminds you of Christmas? ...Bethlehem
6. What Grange is a tree? ...Hemlock
7. What new Pomona is the name of a flowering bush? ...Mountain Laurel

APRIL IS NATIONAL GRILLED CHEESE MONTH
APRIL 12 IS GRILLED CHEESE DAY

(How about a program with numbers on Grilled Cheese Sandwiches followed by serving them for refreshments following the meeting.)

For lots of Americans a grilled cheese sandwich served with a bowl of tomato soup was a Sunday night supper tradition. Grilled cheese sandwiches were first introduced in the 1920's. Most were made with Wonder Bread and American cheese and were an economical meal.

Long before that people had been combining bread and cheese. Even Ancient Romans had melted cheese on top of bread. James Kraft was left jobless in Chicago in the early 1900's. He bought a mule and bought wholesale cheese to sell to local grocers. It wasn't long before he realized there was a spoilage problem and the cheese had to be used within a days' time.

In 1915 he invented a way to manufacture a blend of pasteurized cheese. He called it processed cheese. In 1916 he patented his invention and started selling cheese nationwide.

Early grilled cheese sandwiches were made by mixing this grated cheese with salad dressing or white sauce or mustard. This mixture was then spread between two slices of buttered bread and heated. Thus they were first called Toasted Cheese Sandwiches.

During World War I, the United States Army purchased 6 million pounds of Kraft's cheese. School cafeterias purchased cans of tomato soup to go with the cheese sandwiches to include Vitamin C and protein in their lunches.

On a side note, Kraft sold nearly 8 million boxes of its macaroni and cheese during the Depression, claiming you could feed a family of four for 19 cents.

Grilled cheese is making a comeback today. Fancy international varieties are also becoming popular.

A FLOWER QUIZ

Taken from Special Program Helps (1982)

1. For Mother's Foot ... Lady Slipper
2. Fragrant Letters ... Sweet peas
3. A falsehood and a door fastening ... Lilac
4. A Christmas decoration and a bird of prey ... Hollyhocks
5. Lots of sheep ... Phlox
6. A dude and a ferocious animal ... Dandelion
7. A man's name and a feather ... Jonquil
8. The rising sun ... Morning Glory
9. A bird and something worn by a cowboy ... Larkspur
10. Time of day ... 4 O'clock
11. An optic and a part of an arm ... Iris
12. What he did when he sat on a tack ... Rose or Johnny Jump Up
13. Something we all have ... Tulips
14. Quest of a gold digger ... Marigold

DID YOU KNOW

Do You Know the difference between a pinch, a dash and a dollop?

A dash is 1/8th of a teaspoon

A pinch is 1/16th of a teaspoon

A dollop usually refers to a small portion of soft food such as sour or whipped cream.

Did you know a dog hater is probably someone who attended a Halloween Party as a fire Hydrant?

The Pony Express started its first run from, St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, on April 3rd, 1860. It took 10 days to cover the 1,800 miles.

The Titanic sank after hitting an iceberg on April 15th 1912.

George Washington took the oath of office on April 30th, 1789.

McDonald's test marketed Chicken McNuggets in Knoxville, Tennessee in 1980. But, they proved so popular that they had to wait until 1983 to sell them nationally because they couldn't secure enough chicken to meet the anticipated demand.

A chef's hat is said to have a pleat for each of the many ways you can cook an egg.

Bill Gates designed a traffic control system for Seattle, Washington, when he was 15 years old.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE VOTE

In 1776 one vote gave America the English language instead of German.

In 1800, one vote elected Thomas Jefferson as President

In 1845, one vote brought Texas into the Union.

In 1868, one vote saved President Andrew Johnson from impeachment.

In 1876, one vote elected Rutherford B. Hayes president of the United States.

In 1920, one vote made Tennessee the 36th state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment, which gave women the right to vote.

FIVE THINGS YOU CAN'T RECOVER IN LIFE

1. The stone – after it's thrown.
2. The word – after it's said
3. The occasion – after it's missed
4. The time – after it's gone
5. A person – after they die.

RANDOM THOUGHTS TO THINK ABOUT

Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes and come out wrinkle free and three sizes smaller?

I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape. So, I got my Doctor's permission to join an exercise group for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated and perspired for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.

For those of you who have ever forgotten anything ... An irate woman called her local newspaper office complaining that she did not get her Sunday newspaper. The man on the other end replied, Ma'am, that is because today is Saturday. The woman responded, well, that explains why there was no one else in church this morning!

Do you know the difference between weather and climate? You can't weather a tree, but can climate.

How many gallons does a ten-gallon hat hold? A ten-gallon hat holds only about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a gallon. This "gallon" derives from the Spanish gallon, a braid used to decorate hats. It has nothing to do with liquid measures.

Where did the game Chinese Checkers originate? Chinese checkers came from an English game called Helma. It was invented in Sweden and marketed under the name Chinese Checkers in the United States.

What are camel hair brushes made from? Camel hair brushes are made from the tails of squirrels.

Who invented venetian blinds? They were invented by the Japanese.

Postcard to a weatherman: "I just want you to know that I just shoveled three feet of partly cloudy off my driveway."

I am a nobody – Nobody is perfect – Therefore, I am perfect!

MISTAKEN INFORMATION

A nine year old came home from school very excited. "Mother this is the last week of school. I don't have to go anymore." Knowing that this was a mistake she insisted that there was school until the end of June and that it would start again in September. " But Mama" said the boy. "It's true. The teacher sent home a note. It says, All schools will be closed for Good Friday."

WHY SECRETARIES GO TO HEAVEN **From Betty Jane Gardiner's papers**

If a secretary writes a letter, it's too long...
If they send a postcard, it's too short...
If they don't send a notice, they are lazy...
If they attend a committee meeting, they are butting in...
If they stay away, they are a shirker...
If they dun the members for dues, they are insulting...
If they fail to collect the dues, they are slipping...
If they ask for advice, they are incompetent...
If they don't, they are bull-headed...
If they write complete reports, they are too long...
If they condense them, they are incomplete...
If they talk on a subject, they are trying to run things...
If they keep quiet, they have lost interest in the meeting.
 Ashes to ashes, Dust to dust
 If others won't do it, the secretary must.

THE PERFECT WOMEN with Thanks to Glastonbury

A Man was dining alone in a fancy restaurant and there was a gorgeous redhead sitting at the next table. He had been checking her out since he sat down, but lacked the nerve to talk to her.

Suddenly, she sneezed and her glass eye came flying out of its socket towards the man. He reflexively reached out, grabbed it out of the air, and handed it back.

"Oh my, I am so sorry," the woman said as she popped her eye back in place. "Let me buy your dinner to make it up to you."

They enjoyed a wonderful dinner together, and afterwards they went to the theatre followed by drinks. They talked, they laughed, she shared her deepest dreams and he shared his. She listened to him with interest.

After paying for everything, she asked him if he would like to come to her place for a nightcap and stay for breakfast. They had a wonderful, wonderful time.

The next morning she cooked a gourmet meal with all the trimmings. The guy was amazed. Everything had been so incredible! "You know," he said, "you are the perfect woman. Are you this nice to every guy you meet?" "No," she said, "you just happened to catch my eye!"

ROLL CALL SUGGESTIONS

1. What my Grange means to me.
2. My middle name is _____, and it was given to me because_____.
3. What I remember most about my first day of school.
4. The program I liked most this year.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU

1. In which direction do revolving doors turn? ...counterclockwise
2. When you walk, do your arms swing with or against the rhythm of your legs? ...Against
3. On most traffic lights, is the green on the top or the bottom? ...Bottom
4. In Monopoly, which direction do pieces travel around the board, clockwise or counterclockwise? ...Clockwise
5. What is on the center back of a \$1 bill? ...ONE
6. On the American flag, is the uppermost stripe red or white? ...Red
7. In which hand does the Statue of Liberty hold her torch? ...Right
8. The names of what things are "hidden" on the back of a \$5.00 bill? ...You may need a magnifying glass, but the names of 26 states can be found on the back of a \$5.00 bill. Above the columns on the Lincoln Memorial, between the decorative figures that are directly above each column, are the names of 11 states. Fifteen more states appear, in even smaller type, on the top tier of the monument.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR NUMBERS

1. How much is 12 times 12 times 12? ...1,728
2. What year did Charles Lindbergh make his historic flight to Paris? ...1925
3. How many feet are there in a mile? ...5,280
4. When did the Pilgrims celebrate their first feast of Thanksgiving? ...1621
5. The letter "L" is the Roman numeral for what number? ...50
6. How many teeth does the average human adult have? ...32
7. What number do all the spots on a pair of dice add up to? ...42
8. What year was the Grange founded? ...1867
9. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address starts out with the words, "Fourscore and seven years ago" – How many years is fourscore and seven? ...87
10. How many is a so-called "baker's dozen"? ...13

A FUN STRAWBERRY QUIZ with Thanks to Enfield Grange

1. What is a scarecrow's favorite fruit? ...Straw berries
2. What do you call a sad strawberry? ...Blue Berries
3. What did one strawberry say to the other strawberry? ...If you weren't so sweet, we wouldn't be in this jam!
4. What do you call a strawberry that uses foul language? ...Berry Rude
5. What do you call strawberries playing the guitar? ...A jam session
6. What resembles half a strawberry? ...The other half
7. Why were the little strawberries upset? ...Because their parents were in a jam.

A PARTING THOUGHT with Thanks to Ekonk Grange

There is no return to the things we did, in the hours of yesterday, but we can go forward to better things and do them a better way. We cannot retrace the steps we have made, nor call back the words we said. No, we cannot do things over again, but we can do them better instead.