



the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

Published Monthly

Vol. 60, No. 1

The Official News Magazine of the Connecticut State Grange

October 2019

From the President's Desk



George Russell
State President

Riverton Grange No. 169
president@ctstategrange.org

Here we are in October and the Connecticut State Grange Session is rapidly coming upon us. Where did the year go! With the State Session starting on October 17 we are busy making the last-minute tune-ups to run a great session. I'm hoping that all the Community Granges are well represented at this State Session. There will be a rehearsal for the Sixth Degree on Sunday, October 13 at 2 P.M. at Cheshire Grange Hall. All Officers, Deputies and ladies of the Court should be present. The Sixth Degree will be conferred on Saturday, October 19 at 3 P.M. at the Holiday Inn Norwich, Connecticut. We hope we have a good class of candidates to take this year's degree.

I have heard that several Grangers have brought in new members. Several of them have taken the Fifth Degree so to those members- don't stop now! Take the 6th Degree in October! By the time you read this article, the 17 day run of the Big E will be over. We hope that the New England Grange Building will be sold out of all the jams and jellies and homemade articles that were for sale during the Fair. I would like to thank all the members of the Connecticut State Grange that put time and effort in running the store during the fair, especially the two days that Connecticut was assigned. This year's quilt was made by Alma Graham of Connecticut. It will be

raffled off at the end of the Fair and all the proceeds collected will be donated to the Wounded Warriors. I'll have more information on the fair and raffle in my next article once the fair is completed.

Sharon and I will be attending the National Grange Convention in Bloomington, Minnesota. We will be leaving on Sunday, November 3 and returning on Sunday, November 10. Sharon will be serving on the Education and Insurance Committee and I will be serving on the Conservation Committee.

Be Aware of Bees

Irene Percoski, Ag. Committee

Pollinators like bees are crucial in agriculture, affecting one out of every three bites of food we eat. It's important for gardeners to support them by growing native plants and avoid insecticides. Honey bees live in hives with a very strict social structure composed of three groups: queens, workers, and drones. There is only one queen in healthy hives, plus 2,000 to 60,000 female worker bees that collect pollen and keep the hive running, and up to 500 larger drones whose main job is to mate with the queen bee. Queen bees are the only females that reproduce. The pheromones they release prevent worker bees from making eggs, so the queen remains the mother and star of the hive.

On any given day, a queen is able to lay as many as 2,000 eggs. The life span of a bee depends on where it falls in the colony. Queens live up to seven years; workers born in spring or early summer live only

five or six weeks. Honeybees have four wings which allows them to fly up to 20 miles per hour, and their stamina and speed lets them forage for pollen as much as two miles away from the hive. There are between seven and eleven species of western honeybees, and more than twenty subspecies of which

Ekonk Community Grange will be recognized for a Distinguished Grange for the 8th consecutive year at the National Grange Convention. Congratulations to all the officers and members of Ekonk Community Grange!

Brianna Gervais will represent Connecticut at the National Grange in Minnesota as Junior Grange Ambassador. Brianna is a member of Ekonk Community Junior Grange. Good luck Brianna on your run for National Grange Junior Ambassador.

Hope to see you in Norwich at the Connecticut State Grange Annual Session.



Continued on page 7



The Connecticut State Grange

A part of the National Grange

*American Values,
Hometown Roots*

**NEXT ISSUE ...
Articles Due October 15**

National Representatives to the 135th Annual Session

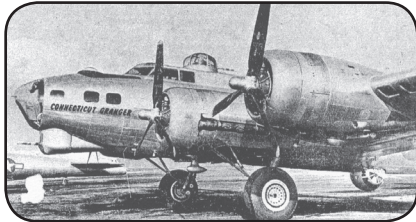
The Connecticut State Grange is pleased to welcome Dwight and Kathy Baldwin of Iowa as National Representatives to the 135th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange. Brother Dwight currently has served as Master of the Iowa State Grange for the last eight years. He is a third generation member for nearing 50 years of continuous membership in Amboy Grange in Kellogg, Iowa. He also serves as Treasurer of the National Grange and enjoys having the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people and visit other states. "No matter where you go there is a Grange member nearby if you need help whether you know anyone or not.

Dwight and his wife, Kathy, have been married for more than 40 years and have a son, Doug, and daughter, Kristy, a granddaughter, Lizzy, their beloved collie, Maggie, and a number of feline companions. Dwight is also a U.S. Army Veteran.



the Connecticut Granger

Published Monthly



WW II Flying Fortress "Connecticut Granger"

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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
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Winchester Center, CT 06094
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(USPS 563-220)

the Connecticut Granger

is published monthly for \$10.00/yr. by:

Connecticut Granger, Inc.
100 Newfield Road, P.O. Box 4
Winchester Center, CT 06094

Periodicals postage paid
at Winsted, CT 06098

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:
Connecticut Granger,
100 Newfield Road, P.O. Box 3
Winchester Center, CT 06094



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer
Cheshire Grange #23
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It's a new year. Everyone gets a fresh start. Remember you do not have to be the Lecturer to enter our contests or take part in our projects. I have been asked to review all the projects and contests in this column. My choice for this month is "A Word From Home".

A WORD FROM HOME -- Write to a service man or woman serving overseas in harms' way. Let's let our troops know that we care. These can be sent to someone from

your area, you can get addresses at www.anysoldier.com, or you can get them to me. Letters must be done in the name of your Grange. Packages should also include a letter.

At present I would suggest that letters be sent to either Iraq or Afghanistan. But, you never know, the situations around the world can change. I like to send the letters to Company Chaplains as they will see that they get to those who don't receive mail from home.

If your Grange has a new Lecturer I would appreciate it if you would let me know so I can send them newsletters.

Hoping to see a lot of you at State Session...



Grange members (including many from Connecticut) wait for the beginning of the Big E Daily Parade on Grange Day, Sept. 22.

The information enclosed in each issue of The Connecticut Granger is for information 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 therein.

135th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Ballroom, Holiday Inn, 10 Laura Blvd., Norwich, CT

- 7:00 P.M. Opening in form in the Sixth Degree
Introduction of National Rep., Dwight Baldwin, Treasurer of the National Grange & Sister Kathy.
Roll Call of Officers, Deputies, Comm. Lower Grange to Fourth Degree
Presentation of 4th Degree Delegates
Roll Call of Granges
Report of Credential Committee
Session Committee Announcements
Introduction of Business to be referred without debate.
- 8:00 P.M. Address of State Master George Russell
Report of Overseer Noel Miller
Report of Secretary Todd A. Gelineau
Report of Treasurer Jody A. Cameron
Report of Executive Comm./Board of Directors
Report of Lecturer
- 9:00 P.M. Closing
- 9:15 P.M. Committee Work Begins

Friday, October 18, 2019

- 9:00 A.M. Opening & Introductions
Roll Call of Officers
Minutes of Previous Day's Session
Introduction of Business to be referred without debate.
- 9:15 A.M. Special Order of Business: Election of two members of the Executive Committee (and any other vacancies)
- 9:30 A.M. Report of Legislative Committee
Report of Agriculture Committee
Report of General Deputy
Reports of Pomona Deputies
- 10:45 A.M. BREAK
- 11:00 A.M. Presentation by Membership Director Faith Quinlan
- 11:45 A.M. Report of *Connecticut Granger*
Report of Conn. State Grange Foundation
Business Session (Resolutions)
- 12:00 P.M. Luncheon (*Nutmeg Ballroom*)
Hosts: TBD
- Blessing by Chaplain Charles Dimmick
- Family Activities Awards & Report
- Membership Awards
- Public Relations Awards
- Agriculture Contest Awards
- 2:00 P.M. Recognition of Past Voting Delegates

- 2:15 P.M. Address of National Representatives
- 2:45 P.M. Business Session
- 3:15 P.M. BREAK
- 3:30 P.M. Report of New England Grange Building
- 4:30 P.M. Closing
- 7:00 P.M. Celebration Banquet (Ballroom)
Professional Agriculture Awards
Scholarships
Lecturer's Program
Past Deputies' Raffle

Saturday, October 19, 2019

- 9:00 A.M. Opening & Introductions
Roll Call of Officers
Minutes of Previous Day's Sessions
Introduction of Business to be referred without debate.
Junior & Youth Tour
- 9:15 A.M. Memorial Service
- 9:45 A.M. Business Session
- 10:45 A.M. BREAK
- 11:00 A.M. Budget Approval
- 12:00 P.M. Youth & Junior Recognition Luncheon
Hosts: TBD
- Blessing by Chaplain Charles Dimmick
- Junior Recognition
- Youth Recognition
- 1:30 P.M. Business Session
Consideration of Annual Budget
Installation of newly elected officers
- 3:00 P.M. Sixth Degree Conferral, Ballroom (Open to all Sixth Degree members, registration not required to attend)
Opening in form in the Sixth Degree
Escorting of National Representatives
Recognition of Honored Guests and Past Voting Delegates to Nat. Grange
Conferral of the 6th Degree in full form
Rose Drill
Recognition of Golden Sheaf Members
Community Service Report
Honor Grange Awards
Closing in form in the Fourth Degree
March to the Table- Officers & Court

**Candidates for the Degree must be at the Holiday Inn by 2:30 P.M. They must have the Fourth and Fifth Degree Words and the Sixth Degree ticket stub to be admitted to the Degree. Applications are \$10 and can be purchased from the State Secretary.*

*** Program subject to change without prior notice.*

Resolutions for the 135th Annual Session

The following are the resolutions received after the publication of the last issue of the Connecticut Granger. Resolutions No. 1-11 were printed in September. All will be printed in the Session Book prepared for the delegates.

12) RE: CABLE TELEVISION

WHEREAS the cost of cable television increased drastically in the past few years, and

WHEREAS when a problem occurs and a call for assistance is made to the cable provider, and

WHEREAS this call is usually directed to a person from a foreign country, and

WHEREAS most times it is very difficult to understand the instructions from this technician.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission be urged to insist that these calls be responded to by a person of the same language as the caller.

SOURCE: Beacon Valley Grange No. 103

REFERRED: Good of the Order/Membership

13) RE: CLEANLINESS OF TABLES IN FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS

WHEREAS full-service restaurants have servers who attend to the cleanliness of tables before and after customers have been eating, and

WHEREAS "Fast Food" restaurants that have seating areas do not have personal servers to clear and clean tables after each use, and

WHEREAS "Fast Food" restaurants often have high volume of customers and rapid turnover of use of tables, and

WHEREAS the tables, table edges, and seats in "Fast Food" restaurants often appear that they have not been attended to for cleanliness in a timely manner, and

WHEREAS consideration of a need for regular cleaning of eating areas is an important aspect of illness prevention, and

WHEREAS "Fast Food" restaurants do typically have strict policies for cleanliness of their kitchen and public restroom areas, and

WHEREAS Public Health should be considered regarding tables in which food has been handled by customers and possibly spilled, and where individuals may have been coughing or sneezing, and

WHEREAS as a customer takes a seat, it is unknown if the previous occupant of the table had followed practices for personal cleanliness, and

WHEREAS regulations do exist regarding establishments who have food buffets such that "sneeze guards" are required, as a good

example designed to prevent the spread of illness.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange, representing consumer concerns, contact the State Department of Public Health and request that they consider this issue and make recommendations for Fast Food restaurants to design and implement standards and formal schedules related to cleaning the tables and seats in their dining areas.

SOURCE: Nutmeg Pomona No. 16

REFERRED: Good of the Order/Membership

14) RE: BLUE WATER NAVY VIETNAM VETERANS ACT

WHEREAS during the Vietnam War the Federal government sprayed a chemical known as "Agent Orange" to removed jungle foliage, and

WHEREAS this spraying exposed our men and women fighting in this war to Agent Orange, and

WHEREAS it has been found that exposure to this chemical has been linked to devastating health issues

such as non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, various cancers, Type II Diabetes and Parkinson's disease, and

WHEREAS the Agent Orange Act of 1991 empowered the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recognize

these diseases are a possible result of Agent Orange and enabled these veterans to receive disability compensation, and

WHEREAS in 2002 the VA stopped awarding benefits to those veterans who served in the waters off Vietnam and only allowed awards to those with "boots on the ground", and

WHEREAS these veterans who served offshore in the waters of Vietnam now have to file individual applications to be decided case by case, and

WHEREAS even though these veterans were offshore they were still exposed to Agent Orange through seawater polluted with this chemical runoff and many are suffering with the long-lasting effects linked to Agent Orange exposure.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange supports the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act (H.R. 299) or something similar which will restore the disability benefits to those who served in the waters along the Vietnamese coast during the Vietnam War and may not have served on the land as "boots on the ground" veterans, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the National Grange for its consideration.

SOURCE: Coventry Grange No. 75

REFERRED: Legislative/Insurance

15) RE: SUPPORT TOLLS ON CONNECTICUT HIGHWAYS

WHEREAS the General Assembly and the Governor have approved the use of tolls on Connecticut's highway system, and

WHEREAS the Connecticut Highway System is in disrepair due to lack of funding from the Federal Highway Fund and the Connecticut Gas Tax, and

WHEREAS many of our neighboring states have tolls on some of their highways to fund road repairs, and

WHEREAS most state tolls are collected by EZ Pass or by photography of vehicles, and

WHEREAS most toll plazas have been replaced with a Gantry system so traffic flow is not effected by taking tolls.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut Department of Transportation take a common sense approach with a recommendation of placing these Toll Gantries near state borders on I-95, I-84, I-91 and the Merritt Parkway and encourage a rapid installation of these Toll Gantries to start generating revenue for Connecticut's highway funds, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange support this recommendation.

SOURCE: Coventry Grange No. 75

REFERRED: Credentials & Master's Address

16) RE: SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

WHEREAS school buses transport millions of children to and from school each day of the week, and

WHEREAS transportation officials estimate that motorists illegally pass stopped school buses tens of thousands of times each day, and

WHEREAS parents should be confident that their children are being transported to school safely, and

WHEREAS installing cameras on the stop arms of school buses to catch motorists who put students at risk of accidents would act as another tool in enforcing the law against passing a stopped bus.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange Legislative Committee initiate a bill to our State Senators and/or Representatives to have cameras installed on all of the stop arms of school buses, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution be forwarded to the next session of the National Grange together

with a recommendation for favorable action on a national scale to encourage other

...continued next page

states to enact similar legislation.

SOURCE: Mountain Laurel Pomona No. 15
REFERRED: Legislative/Insurance

17) RE: CONNECTICUT TO BAN DECLAWING (ONYCHECTOMY)

WHEREAS cats are digitigrade, which means they walk on their toes. Their back, shoulder, paw and leg joints, muscles, tendons, ligaments and nerves are naturally designed to support and distribute the cat's weight across its toes as it walks, runs, and climbs, and

WHEREAS cat's claws are used for balance, and

WHEREAS cats stretch their muscles by digging their claws into a surface and pulling back against their own claw hold. This is the only way a cat can exercise, stretch and tone the muscles of its back and shoulders, and

WHEREAS declawing is an extreme measure in which the entire last part (digit) of the ten front toe bones are amputated, and

WHEREAS according to Dr. Nicholas Dodman (Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine) "declawing fits the dictionary definition of mutilation," and

WHEREAS complications, including infection, and hemorrhage are common immediately after surgery (approx. 50%), and

WHEREAS 19.8% of declawed cats develop complications after release, including long term pain, bone protrusion into the pad of the paw, prolonged intermittent lameness and abnormal stance, and

WHEREAS 33% of declawed cats developed long term behavior changes. Cats may become withdrawn, introverted, nervous, fearful, and/or aggressive often resorting to their only remaining means of defense, their teeth, and

WHEREAS in some cases, when declawed cats use the litterbox after surgery their feet are so tender they associate their new pain with the box, and

WHEREAS some declawed cats that can no longer mark with their claws, mark with urine instead resulting in inappropriate elimination problems, which in many cases, results in relinquishment of the cats to shelters and ultimately euthanasia, and

WHEREAS alternatives to declawing exist, such as trimming their nails, nail caps and providing appropriate surfaces to scratch (sisal or cardboard scratching boxes, catnip), and

WHEREAS declawing serves no useful purpose, only causing pain and mutilation, and

WHEREAS on June 4, 2019 the State of New York passed legislation banning onychectomy, as have some US cities and

many European countries.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange urge the General Assembly to demand putting an end to this barbaric and inhumane practice of performing onychectomy (feline digital amputation), partial or complete phalangectomy (removal of toes), or tendonectomy (removal of tendons) on a cat except when medically necessary. Failure to comply to be punishable by sizable fines, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that cosmetic or esthetic reasons and convenience do not qualify as medically necessary.

SOURCE: Vernon Grange No. 52

REFERRED: Agriculture/Conservation & Environment

18) RE: REPEALING PUBLIC ACT 19-24-AN ACT STREAMLINING THE LIQUOR CONTROL ACT

WHEREAS PA 19-24 was passed at the last state legislative session is the biggest loss for farmers with the creation of new manufacturing classification permit for wine, cider and mead, and

WHEREAS Connecticut wineries had worked diligently since the 1970s to modify the State's restrictive liquor permits and regulations with the goal of expanding and enhancing the state's wineries, and

WHEREAS these successes generated included on-farm direct retail sale to the public, on-farm wine tastings and distribution to retail outlets with the stipulation that a majority of the grapes are grown on the farm, and

WHEREAS the new winery permit does not require a Connecticut winery to grow or use any Connecticut grown fruit, and

WHEREAS removing this locally grown requirement will allow new wineries to open as soon as 2020 and compete with existing Connecticut farm wineries that have already heavily invested in land, vineyards, buildings and equipment, and

WHEREAS this newly created permit grants new wineries will have none of the capital expenses most Connecticut farm wineries carry nor will they have any obligation to purchase Connecticut grapes, and

WHEREAS a new excise tax has been increased for CT wineries, cinderies and all other liquor manufacturers in the state, and

WHEREAS this legislation undermines the incentive to grow fruit for wine production in Connecticut and could divert land out of agricultural production.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut State Grange work in collaboration with the CT State Farm Bureau Association and other organizations and farms to address this act and push legislators to change this legislation back to prior

requirements that benefit the CT vineyards and orchards.

SOURCE: Vernon Grange #52

REFERRED: Agriculture/Conservation & Environment

19) RE: MANUFACTURERS OF FIREARMS

WHEREAS there are frequent shootings of innocent people in schools, shopping areas and public and private businesses, and

WHEREAS the most often used firearm is an assault rifle with a large clip and rapid fire, and

WHEREAS local, State and Federal government bodies are loath to adopt regulations regarding their manufacture and sales of these types of weapons to the public.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED this State Grange strongly urge our Granges and members that hold any investments or mutual funds in any publicly traded gun manufacturer to voluntarily divest these from their portfolios as a personal protest against the continuing violence, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution be forwarded to the next session of the National Grange with a recommendation for favorable action.

SOURCE: Mountain Laurel Pomona No. 15
REFERRED: Constitution & By-Laws

20) SALE OF GRANGE PROPERTY

WHEREAS the By-Laws of the National Grange Sec. 4.11.1(G) limits the amount a Grange may retain after the sale of property to \$1,000 with the remainder to be kept in trust by the State Grange, and

WHEREAS this section has not been updated in several years and value of property has risen dramatically over those years.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the first sentence of Sec. 4.11.1(G) be changed to read:

"When a sale of real property is concluded, the selling Subordinate or Pomona Grange shall account

for the net proceeds of the sale received at the time of settlement and shall remit all but the sum

of \$1,000 \$10,000 of such net proceeds or the net proceeds whichever is less to the State Grange having

jurisdiction to be held in trust for the said Subordinate or Pomona Grange.

SOURCE: Riverton Grange No. 169

REFERRED: Constitution & By-Laws

21) RE: BLACK BEAR INCIDENTS

WHEREAS there is an increase in the number of Black Bear in the State of Connecticut especially in Litchfield and Northern Hartford Counties, and

WHEREAS there are no natural enemies to control the bear population, and

...continued next page

WHEREAS there is currently no hunting season for bears in Connecticut and this has aided in the bears having no fear of humans, and

WHEREAS over the last few years there have been numerous accounts of bears entering houses and garages looking for food.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to study and implement procedures to control the black bear population and its interaction with people, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one of the alternatives to be suggested to the Legislature be a pilot bear hunting season in Litchfield County.

SOURCE: Riverton Grange No. 169

REFERRED: Agriculture/Conservation & Environment

22) RE: REMOVAL OF PUBLIC MONUMENTS MEMORIALIZING NOTABLE PEOPLE FROM PUBLIC SPACES

WHEREAS there has been much controversy over the removal of monuments memorializing notable people for actions taken by said persons which are interpreted as offensive by a segment of the population, and

WHEREAS many of these notable people have made significant contributions to the American culture in their respective fields, and

WHEREAS in many cases the overall good of their contributions to American culture should be considered to outweigh an otherwise isolated incident of negative publicity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange at all levels from Subordinate to National stand in support of American citizens in the arts and sciences that have made overall positive contributions to the culture of the United States of America in their lifetimes that relatively outweigh any negative connotations of said actions, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Grange support maintenance of these monuments in their public spaces when appropriately positive cultural contributions have been made by the memorialized one, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to National Grange for their consideration and adoption in support of that attempt to maintain American history in all its diversity without attempting to rewrite the story therein.

SOURCE: Bethlehem Grange #121

REFERRED: Legislative/Insurance

Committee Assignments

The following assignments are as of the date of printing of this issue. Changes may still occur. Committee assignments are not official until they are announced on Thursday evening of State Session.

Agriculture/Cons. & Environment

Chair: Noel Miller

Vice Chair: Charles Dimmick

Greenfield Hill #133

Colchester #78

Whigville #48

Pachaug #96

Cheshire #23

Taghannuck #100

Lyme #147

Cawasa #34

Eastern Connecticut Pomona #14

Good of the Order/Membership

Chair: Jaimie Cameron

Vice Chair: Jody Cameron

Stafford #1

Killingly #112

Senexet #40

Hemlock #182

Beacon Valley #103

Ekonk Community #89

Simsbury #197

Groton Community #213

Wallingford #33

Nutmeg Pomona #16

Resolution Assignments

Agriculture/Cons. & Environment

1) Banning Round Up Products

4) Elimination of Styrofoam

17) CT to Ban Declawing

18) Repealing P.A. 19-24- Act

Streamlining Liquor Control Act

21) Black Bear Incidents

Good of the Order/Membership

6) Digital Coupons

9) Payment for Delegates

12) Cable Television

13) Cleanliness of Tables in Fast Food Restaurants

Constitution & By-Laws

Chair: F. Philip Prelli

Vice Chair: Jeff Barnes

Glastonbury #26

Bethlehem #121

Meriden #29

Cannon #154

Riverton #169

Stonington #168

Winchester #74

Credentials & Master's Address

Chair: Peter Keefe

Vice Chair: Robert Sendewicz

Granby #5

Prospect #144

Norfield #146

Redding #15

Oxford #194

Wolcott #173

Higginum #124

Preston City #110

Mountain Laurel Pomona #15

Legislative/Insurance

Chair: Gordon Gibson

Vice Chair: Alma Graham

Vernon #52

Beacon #118

Eureka #62

Harmony #92

Coventry #75

North Stonington #138

Enfield #151

Bridgewater #153

Hillstown Jr. #87

Constitution & By-Laws

5) Gun-Free Grange Meeting & Event

8) Felons Shall Not Be Eligible for State Office in Connecticut

10) Connecticut Granger

19) Manufacturers of Firearms

20) Sale of Grange Property

Credentials & Master's Address

7) Opposing Tolls in Connecticut

11) Language

15) Support Tolls on CT Highways

Legislative/Insurance

2) Connecticut's "Invisible" Residents

3) Overhaul of Connecticut DMV

14) Blue Water Navy VN Veterans Act

16) School Bus Safety

22) Removal of Public Monuments Memorializing Notable People

Be Aware of Bees

Continued from page one...

none are native to North America. They have spread here after being brought from Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Honeybees are of huge economic importance, vital for the pollination of many fruit, vegetable and seed crops. Also a wide variety of important products are made from the honey, beeswax, pollen, royal jelly and propolis that bees produce. Honeybees are one of the most important pollinators for both wild and domestic plants. They visit more flowering plant species, including many native plants, than any other bee. In many countries honeybees are crucial for agriculture because they pollinate a wide range of cultivated food plants. Some plants rely on wind to provide pollination, and others are self-pollinating, however most flowering plants require the services of natural pollinators, such as honeybees, to do the work. A good pollination system is part of a healthy eco-system.

Honey has been harvested for food by humans since prehistoric times. It is used as it is or as an ingredient in meals, baking and drinks. Honey contains a lot of sugar and should be eaten in moderation. Honey has been used a folk medicine for thousands of years. It is useful for soothing sore throats and suppressing the urge to cough. It is a mild salve for treating skin conditions, burns, cuts and abrasions. Mainly due to its acidity honey is anti-bacterial. Manuka honey, a product from New Zealand, is particularly efficacious and in tests has proven to kill over 250 types of bacteria. It is an antioxidant and as such may help in the prevention of cancers and also may reduce the ravages of the ageing process. Honey naturally contains bacteria and yeasts/fungi. This means that it may be unsafe for people with a weakened immune

system.

Beeswax is a bi-product of the honey industry but in many ways it is more useful and probably more important as a resource than honey. It is flammable and has been used to make candles for millennia. Its waxy properties make it a useful sealant from moisture. As a coating on leather or fabrics it keeps moisture out. As a salve/moisturizer on skin, leather or wood it helps keep moisture in. It also acts as a sealant to prevent air and moisture from metal tools. It is not toxic and edible (albeit indigestible), so it also works as a seal on cheeses and preserves. It is also a good lubricant. A nail or wood screw will be easier to insert if they are coated with beeswax. Likewise thread is often waxed to make it easier to sew. A sticking drawer or cupboard door can be fixed with a little beeswax.

Propolis is a resinous material that bees use to seal small cracks and gaps in the hive. It's made when bees collect resin from trees etc. and mix it with a little bit of honey. Like its cousin, beeswax, propolis has been found to offer numerous health benefits. In ancient cultures,

propolis (or bee resin) was often used for abscesses and minor wounds. Bees, in an effort to close gaps in hives, use propolis as a precautionary measure to keep out dangerous microbes and fungi. Some findings have confirmed its potent action against many harmful pathogens.

Bee pollen is pollen balls that are collected and stored by bees as a food source for the bees. Likewise is an excellent source of vitamins, minerals and amino acids for humans.

Royal jelly is a milky secretion produced by worker honey bees. It contains water, proteins, sugars, fats, vitamins, mineral salts, and amino acids. Its composition varies depending on geography and climate. This product gets its name from the fact that bees use it for the development and nurturing of queen bees. Whilst its efficacy as a medicine is unproven Royal jelly is used for asthma, hay fever, liver disease, pancreatitis, sleep troubles (insomnia), premenstrual syndrome (PMS), stomach ulcers, kidney disease, bone fractures, menopausal symptoms, skin disorders, and high cholesterol.

Grange Hall WiFi Grants

Noel & Marcia Miller, Chairpersons

I hope that all your reports are turned in so they can be judged for Community Service, and Firefighter, Police and School Teacher Awards. Many Granges have listed many activities on Facebook and local newspapers so I hope you take the time to fill out the forms.

BREAKING NEWS! The Community Service Committee has been entrusted with a NEW GRANT this fall. Any Grange wanting to install internet access to their Grange Hall, the Community Service Dept. will provide a \$250.00 up front grant that will help you get it installed with the equipment. The monthly bills after that will be your



Grange's responsibility. Interested Granges should contact Chairman Noel Miller for information. This is a great venture to gain access to all of our Grange halls. Check it out.



GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kay Ruff

Oct. 3: Meeting and Lecturers program "Falling Leaves".

Oct. 5: Our fall "Bakeless/Foodless Sale".

Oct. 19: Our first Monte-Carlo Whist card party at 7:00 p.m. They will run the 3rd Saturday of each month through June 2020.

Our Nov. 7th meeting is 7:30 and the program is "Thanksgiving Traditions"

Several of our members were on the "sick" list at our September meeting. I sure hope all are improving and will be with us in October.

The Glastonbury Historical Society will be featuring Glastonbury Grange on November 3rd. The days event will begin at 4:00 p.m. at the Masonic Hall. Gardiners Market is preparing a catered buffet dinner, featuring baked ham, potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw, tossed salad, rolls butter and assorted cookies and beverage. The dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. The evenings events will be by reservation only. You can make your reservation by calling the Historical Society of Glastonbury at 860-633-4572 and then forwarded the check to them for \$25.00 a person to 972 Main St., South Glastonbury 06073 Dr. Brian Chieffer, from the Historical Society is heading the event. He has located old video's of the fairs and the construction of the Glastonbury Grange Pool and is reconfiguring them to use in today's equipment for all to view during or following the dinner. We are locating old

pictures and ribbons etc. of the old fairs and building of the pool to put around the hall for all to view. The hall holds 80 people So call now and make your reservation. Grange members come first, the the Historical Society and then the public We figure the program will wrap up around 7:30 p.m. It should be a pleasant and fun evening.

SENEXT GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

We had a busy summer. We created a very informative exhibit for the Woodstock Fair. Thanks to the help of our new members as well as a potential new member. This exhibit included Killingly Grange. We then held our annual Grange fair on Sat. Sept. 14. We had many exhibitors. It was very successful and we had 100 exhibits. Thanks to all who exhibited. We had exhibits in many categories including many vegetables and handcrafts. This is certainly a big help to our pubic relations. We will be having an informational display that was created by an interested local lady available to the public at various farm stands in our area. Several members would be part of the Celebrating Ag event to help promote agriculture here in The Last Green Valley. We continue to collect food for distribution to those who are in need. Our meeting are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 2:30PM . We welcome any visitors. Our October meeting will be on the 3rd Tuesday as we will be serving dinner to the annual meeting of the Windham County Farm Bureau on our regular meeting day.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Cherie Robinson

Oct. 4: Scary Stuff

Nov. 1: Gathering

Nov. 15: Craft Night

On an evening of perfect weather, we brought a BBQ to the veterans at Phelps Village in Rockville. Grillmasters Theona and Joe did a great job with hamburgers and hot dogs. All enjoyed the food and conversation. Grangers sure do know how to put on a great meal!

We have scheduled many craft nights in the upcoming year. At our first one this year, we made New Year's party favors; enough to supply three area nursing homes. Now on to SWAG bags for the veterans...

At our October meeting, some scary stuff will get us in the mood for Halloween. In November, we will celebrate gathering in and gathering together. Before our November meeting, our meal will be a baked potato bar. You are welcome to join us. Be sure to let us know if you plan to come.

COLCHESTER GRANGE #78

Corr: Catherine Russi

Colchester Grange #78 is very active with community spirit. Recently a thank you note was received from Sarah Praisner and Michael Bear seniors graduating from Bacon Academy, They were very thankful for the \$500.00 each received from the scholarship's the Colchester Grange #78 offered to help further their education.

Leonard Farm donated fresh vegetables for the cooking programs members conduct at Harrington Court Rehab. Center. Monthly members have interesting conversations with residents about their past cooking talents and work with them to create a tasty treat.

Bonnie Trecarten is utilizing her creativity by providing stimulating, interesting programs.

All the Colchester members are very supportive as member Cathy Russi chairs her twelve year for the Make A Difference Program. Nationally, the fourth weekend in October is Make A Difference Day Weekend. The program's mission is to reach out to help others. Our program offers support to the Haitian Health Foundation. The program is looking for donations of flip flops, new underwear for children, hygiene products, sunglasses, socks, hats, dolls and hot wheel cars. People can offer cash or purchase a goat for \$150.00. We have decided to purchase a goat and have a contest to name the goat. Our group will receive a picture of the named goat being presented

to a family in Haiti. The gift will provide a pregnant goat to a rural family in Haiti. The animals are known to be a hardy and adaptive to any terrain. Recipients of a goat are taught how to breed, barter and use the meat as a source of animal protein. Offering a goat to a family gives independence and improves their nutrition while offering a better life for the family.

Colchester Grange #78 hold their meetings the second Monday monthly @ 7:00 at Saint Andrew Church Hall. We encourage members and guest to join us for every meeting. Feel free to contact Cathy Russi at 860-887-9621 or crussi45@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions regarding the activities Colchester is involved with.

HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

Corr: Frank Forrest

Oct. 5: Pancake Breakfast

Hillstown Grange is holding a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 5, doors open at 8:30 A.M. and the Grange chefs will be flipping pancakes until 11:00 A.M.

Breakfast of Pancakes including sausage, coffee, tea and juice, all for just \$5, \$3 for kids under 14. This month's special features "Caramel Apple pancakes with Maple Walnut sauce."

Our upstairs meeting hall has a new library and all books are for sale with space to browse for books, meet and socialize with friends old and new.

Come to browse, eat, or just visit the historic Hillstown Grange Hall. Free admission. Hillstown Grange is located at 617 Hills Street, East Hartford. Located in the Hillstown corner of East Hartford, Glastonbury, and Manchester since 1888.

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Glenna Bruno

Our June Silent Auction and Roast Pork Dinner was good but not as successful as last year. All members were asked to bring a dish for our July picnic. On Aug. 17 we held a cold dinner with peach shortcake for dessert.

We lost one of our recent new members, Nancy McComb and draped the charter in her memory.

We had election of officers on our agenda and elected David Griffiths, who declined. More on that later.

This correspondent has been under the weather again with allergies from all the pollen, etc. from this crazy weather.

N. STONINGTON GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

Oct. 12: Legislative Program

Oct. 25: Halloween Party

August meetings displayed the talents of our members. We had varying programs of jokes, games

and informational items on trains and space. Refreshments were creatively created and enjoyed by Brothers and Sisters alike.

Legislative Chairperson Nick Mullane will update us on town and state political matters on October 12. It's time to start creating your costumes, games for all ages, our annual cup social and spooky refreshments. The hall will be decorated with witches and cats, ghosts and bats. The party begins at 7:30 P.M. with no meeting that night. And if that darn hurricane will just go out to sea and not bother anyone, next time we will tell you about super September.

The power of misplaced words



Alma Graham
Legislative Director
Coventry Grange #75
Legislative@ctstategrange.org

Did you ever hear the expression "Unintended Consequences"? Well that seems to have occurred with the expansion of the taxes on prepared foods. The intent of the bill was to increase the tax on certain prepared foods from 6.35% to 7.35% and was only to increase the tax on restaurant items that were already being taxed. Somehow in interpreting of the bill the Department of Revenue Services (DRS) felt that the language of the bill significantly broadened the base of what meals and beverages would be now be taxed.

The increased tax was described in the budget at a 1 percent surcharge on restaurant foods or on prepared meals. Apparently, the words 'grocery stores' was added to the bill as to where prepared foods could be found. This wording expanded the field of foods to include premade grinders and sandwiches found in convenience stores or supermarkets which would now be taxed at the 7.35% rate. Also included would be the drinks, chips, single popsicles and other frozen

treats, pizza by the slice, packaged salads and even single muffins that you buy.

When the guidelines were released by DRS, it set off a wide spreading public outcry and shocked the legislators as well as the Governor. The Governor stated that the intentions of the bill was to increase the existing tax on previously prepared foods and not to expand the items not previously taxed.

This 'unintended consequence' set off a firestorm from legislators from both sides opposing the expanded tax and calling on the Governor to right it by calling for a special session to adjust the bill. The Governor responded by directing his budget office and the state tax department to scale back the tax. This tax is set to begin on October 1st so it is not giving businesses much time to adjust register programs to charge the proper tax rates. With the possible pull back of the tax, this leaves the businesses hanging a bit. Hopefully by the time you read this the Governor and DRS will have redefined this tax base.

It is surprising what a couple of misplaced words can do. Remember that when writing your resolutions.



WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau

Oct. 8: Cooler Weather

Oct. 22: Music Night Concert & Potluck Supper

We welcome everyone to our Oct. 22 Music Night Concert & Potluck Supper featuring the Cherry Brook Chimes Bell Choir from the First Congregational Church of Canton Center directed by our own Mary Lou Keefe. A community potluck supper will be held at 6:00 with the concert beginning at 7:00 P.M. Bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to area food banks.

TAGHHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Barbara Prindl

Reminder for visitors that Taghhannuck's meetings start at 7:30 for the winter months beginning in October.

September was a very busy month for Taghhannuck Grange members. On August 31st we held a Seed Saving Workshop open to the public and we had a very good showing with a lot of interaction between the Grange members and the audience. We also got 4 names of people who wanted more information on our Grange.

On September 14th we had our exhibit at the Cornwall Agricultural Fair. The theme under the two tents was "photos" with member contributed pictures of Grange events and Grangers. We also had gigantic bubbles and free "nibbles" to attract visitors to our display. The hope was to get new members and we again had the Grange poster "Want to know More?" which has worked well in getting names, addresses and emails.

September 26th was our Awards Dinner with six members getting

50 Shades of Grange Takes First



Enfield Grange's first place-winning exhibit at the Four Town Fair in Somers. Their theme for the exhibit was "50 Shades of Grange."

awards.

October is an even busier month for our Grange.

On October 5th we have 5 members taking the 5th Degree at the Degree Day Festival put on by the Dutchess County Pomona #32.

On October 6th we will have a "Photos" display in Canaan, CT at Friends Open Farm Tours. This will follow the Cornwall Ag. Fair format.

Oct. 10th regular meeting is the Ritual program. It pays to go up into the attic. We found beautiful linen scarves for our stations that were over 55 years old and will use them that night.

We have two delegates and one member going to State Session and at least 2 members taking the 6th degree there. I hope to see some of you there.

ENFIELD GRANGE #151

Corr: Irene Percoski

Nov. 9: Squash, Irene

Dec. 14: Cranberries, Dawn

By the time you read this our Farmer's Market will be over for 2019. Again we have not had the weather Gods doing us any favors. Far too many rainy days, but people were still faithful and did their best to visit our booth every sunny Wednesday. Our display at the Four-Town Fair took first place with the theme "Fifty Shades of Grange". Vegetable bingo was lots of fun at our September meeting as everyone won lots of veggies and fruit.

We will learn all about squash

in November and have a special Thanksgiving lunch after the meeting.

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Dawn Anstett

Riverton Grange officers were installed in September and are working on several events for this fall including our Annual Riverton Fair Dinners, October 12 & 13, 2019 from noon til 1:30. Saturday we serve our famous Turkey Dinner and Sunday it's our equally as famous Ham Dinner served with homemade apple or pumpkin pies for dessert. No reservation needed. Check our Facebook posts for more information. We meet on Nov. 1 and the program will be "Thanksgiving Transitions," and on Sat., Nov. 16 we will host our third annual Veterans' Day Pot-Luck.



Saturday, November 16, 2019

No Charge • All Welcome
Veterans • Family & Friends • Everyone

Riverton Grange Hall
Doors Open at 5:00, Dinner at 5:30

Bring a Dish, if you would like to Share or just come and join us.

RSVP by 11/11/19 to rainepederson@hotmail.com
860-309-3160

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 solve 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.

This Month



Last Month



No answers were received on last month's photo.



NUTMEG POMONA #16

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Nutmeg Pomona #16 met at Cheshire Grange on Sunday, September 8th. General Deputy Peter Keefe was present for our annual inspection. The Fifth Degree was conferred on Kimberly Domouchel Cody and John Cody, Sr. from Mountain Laurel Pomona.

Other guests present were: Mary Lou Keefe, Pianist of the Connecticut State Grange and our Pianist for the meeting, Claudia Sopstyle, State CWA Comm. and Irene Percoski, Chaplain of Mountain Laurel Pomona.

Marge Bernhardt and George Ward will be our Delegates to the State Grange Session.

Our next meeting will be December 1st at Beacon Valley Grange.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Our October schedule is: - Saturday October 5th we will have our 2nd Annual Pre-Holiday Bazaar and Tag Sale. BVG will have a bake sale and snack stand. Table space is available – call Pat at 203-729-2624. We are also having a basket raffle. Call Cindy Legg to buy tickets or to donate a basket.

A regular meeting on October 11th – program is “Switch-a-rue” a ritual program in charge of Joanne Cipriano and Cindy Legg. Refreshments in charge of Diane and Victor Godin.

Saturday October 12th we host the Fun Fair of the Southern Ct. Past Masters in charge of Joanne Cipriano. This year’s theme is “Dogs”. Refreshments will be hot dogs and beans. Call Joanne for a premium book.

Wednesday – October 16th is

clean-up day. We could always use help.

Saturday – October 19th is Open Mic (2 to 5) with a pancake breakfast from 9 to 12. Chef David Knapp

CANNON GRANGE #152

Corr: Donald Offinger

Oct 3: Business Meeting
Oct 17: - Business Meeting
Nov 7: Business Meeting
Nov 21: Business Meeting

Our summer activities culminated with our 87th Agricultural Fair on August 25th. All the planets were in alignment with stunning weather of sunshine and low humidity, beautiful exhibits of horticulture and culinary arts and more exhibits than have been submitted in years. Plus, an enthusiastic crowd all day long of kids and adults to see the exhibits, the concessionaires, hear the live music entertainment and to have wonderful fair-food prepared with loads of veggies provided by several local farms. Truly Farm-to-Fork! This year’s fair was the first in quite some time where all aspects of the event were overseen by Grange members! Thank you to all. The Fair Committee did a great job planning and coordinating the day’s activities: Michele Clark, Deartha Fusaro, Pat Kennedy, John Kriz, Bil Mikulewicz, Don Offinger and Doug Shepherd. A new feature to this year’s fair was “Tent Talks” where a featured expert talked to an interesting subject. We had speakers from the Association of Fairs Baking Contests, the American Chestnut Society, the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Ambler Farm and SCORE.

Our thanks and appreciation to the Clark children for their help all day at the fair: Aaron, Evan and Anna. Incidentally, Aaron had his Boy Scout troop 20 come and help out with running Kids’ Games. Way to go Aaron!!

With our installation of officers, we welcome our new president Deartha Fusaro and look forward to a great year ahead!

We are getting geared up for our regular program year and rentals. As the summer wanes, the last crops of the season are beginning to mature: the butternut and delicata squash. Don Offinger reported that his farm’s sweet corn received great raves from his customers of it’s

super sweet taste. Don also noted that great growing conditions for onions have derived high yields (and size) of both yellow and red onions and similarly for zinnias for cut flowers.

Our meeting schedule is listed above. Visiting Patrons are always welcome -- won’t you join us?

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Nov. 8: Falling Leaves and Thanksgiving
Nov. 22: Omitted unless regular meeting is cancelled
Dec. 13: Friday the 13th
Dec. 27: Omitted unless regular meeting is cancelled.

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

OXFORD GRANGE #194

Corr: Robert Buck

Oct. 2: Business Meeting/Climate Change Program, 7:30 PM
Oct. 16: Social Meeting/Invite potential new members, 7:30 PM
Oct. 25: GOMAD potluck and music. 7:00 PM

By this time, the new back door will be installed on the Grange hall. The Community Through Music program of 09/21 will have come and gone. We are back in fundraising and membership development mode to prepare for the new Grange year. The past year has seen several projects such as the handicapped ramp completion (and final receipt of a C.O. from the building inspector) and a new rear entry door to replace the old broken patched together one. Work on the hall will continue as many upgrades are necessary to keep an old building moving into the future. We keep trying new ideas to remain a viable community organization with something to offer to the town.

S. CT Past Masters

by Joanne Cipriano

The Southern Connecticut Past Masters will meet at Beacon Valley Grange on Saturday, October 12th. It will be our 32nd Annual Fun Fair. In place of the usual 6:30 potluck supper we will have hot dogs and beans - beans being our cooking contest. The regular meeting will begin at 7:30 P.M.

We will have a Country Store.

Premium Books are available by calling Joanne Cipriano.



Faith Quinlan
Membership Dir.
Winchester Grange #74
membership@ctstategrange.org

Membership's Exciting New Plan



With State Session approaching and some big ideas swirling around Membership, I am having trouble writing this month's article without spoiling the surprise about the Membership Program we are launching for 2020. In September I met with an advisory team to discuss some big ideas for growing membership and participation in the Grange. What was developed comes out of the advisory meeting along with some of the discussions we are still having as it relates to membership and our approach to the community.

What I can share is what we used to educate ourselves about what membership organizations are up against these days. To launch a successful, long running, "alive" plan of action that includes retaining new members we need to be creative, educated, realistic and energized. We also need a solid plan to move forward and to think through potential road blocks.

To begin, we all read, "The End of Membership as We Know It" by Sarah Sladek. If you have not read it yet you can find my summary/review of this in the August 2018 CT Granger. It explains why what we have done in the past to grow membership does not work anymore.

I am very hopeful that we can change the direction in which we have been headed on the Membership level. We can also enjoy ourselves along the way. Please join us at Session and learn more about how we can grow with these new tools. If you're not able to attend look for more info in November's Granger.



By Hank the Burro

Hello Grange friends!

We spent a lot of time at the Big E in September. We got to ride in the parade, and greet people at the New England Grange Building, and even got to listen to some music too!

Where will we prop up next? To catch up on all my latest adventures, just follow the link to my Facebook page, and then click the "Like" button once you are on the page. <http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro>



Music making at Oxford Grange



On Sept. 21, Oxford Grange, held its first Community Through Music event, "One More Saturday Night." Thanks to Dan Golias, Dave Foster, Rich Patckofsky who organized the event and set up for our performers: The Wool Hats, and the Matt Rae Trio. It was well attended as the hall was full. Everyone enjoyed themselves and a few even danced to the music. We thank our sponsors: Haynes Materials, and Banko's Music, and New Harvest for providing good food at good prices for our guests. Our sponsors covered the cost of the musical entertainment. Several people expressed interest in joining the Grange and the event raised a good bit of money for our Grange. We hope to continue with more of these events.



Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

The benefits of targeted marketing

Successful businesses market themselves to their target audience. They first identify their customer base, then identify what they expect from them, and finally create a marketing strategy to attract that target audience to their business. People do business with people they know, like and trust. The same theory can be applied to each and every Grange.

What is a target audience? According to the dictionary, a target audience is a particular group at which a film, book, advertising campaign, etc., is aimed; the specific group of people you want to reach with your marketing message. They are united by common characteristics, like demographics and behaviors. In today's times, people are pulled in many different directions, so capturing their attention is often a difficult endeavor. While it may be the first instinct to want to target to everyone, narrowing or focusing to a specific audience is a much more efficient and effective way to market your Grange.

Where do we start? First, look for common characteristics and interests between your Grange's mission, activities and programs and people in your local community. Perhaps your target audience may include backyard farmers or gardeners, housewives or young families, or crafters. Your target audience could be local historians, or community-service minded individuals. Or also educators, musicians and music lovers, or those looking for a purpose. Figure out not only who has a need for your Grange, but also who your Grange needs.

Consider the demographics. Determine how your Grange will fit into your target audience's lifestyle. How and when will your target audience use your Grange? What features of your Grange are most appealing to your target audience? What media does your target audience turn to for information? Do they read the newspaper, search online, frequent social media, or

attend particular events? The better you understand your target audience, the more closely you'll be able to focus your marketing, so you can reach the audience most likely to convert into volunteers and members.

Be clear about the value of your Grange. Understand the difference between features and benefits. Features are what your Grange is or does. The benefits are the results. How does your Grange make someone's life easier, better, or just more interesting? If you can't articulate what your Grange's core values are, how will others be able to recognize them?

If you're not sure exactly how people benefit from your Grange, why not ask them? You might find that current members are getting

creative and using your Grange for purposes you haven't even thought of. That might, in turn, change how you perceive your target audience for the future. An email survey, or a survey passed out at a meeting, can turn up all kinds of great insights, as can asking a quick question or two on your social media outlets.

Defining your target audience is the hard part. Once you know who you are targeting, it is much easier to figure out how to reach them and what marketing messages will resonate with them. For example, instead of sending a mailer/brochure about your Grange to everyone in your ZIP code, send it only to those who fit your target audience criteria. Save money and get a better return on investment by defining your target audience.

If you or your Grange needs assistance in marketing, social media, publicity and more, please contact the Public Relations Committee. We're here to help! E-mail: publicrelations@ctstategrange.org or information@ctstategrange.org.



Roasted Pumpkin Soup



Pumpkin is a delicious and hearty ingredient that can be used for a host of recipes other than the popular Pumpkin Pie. As the weather gets chillier, soup is the perfect item for any menu, potluck or even refreshments! The Things We'll Make website has the perfect recipe.

INGREDIENTS: 2.5 cups pumpkin puree or butternut squash puree

1 onion

1/4 tsp. cumin

2 red bell pepper

2 leaves sage fresh

2 Tbsp. olive oil or ghee or other oil

freshly ground black pepper

1/4 tsp. salt

DIRECTIONS: Peel and cut the onion in half, and slice into thin half moons to get thin ribbons of onions to caramelize. To caramelize the onions, melt the ghee in a pan on the stovetop over medium to high heat. Add the onions, breaking them up into thin strips, and sauté them until they brown. As they begin to stick to the bottom of the pan, add a little water to unstick them as you stir and continue to sauté them and let them get darker and sweeter. I repeat the process several times until they have reached the level of caramelization that I am happy with. Meanwhile, roast your red peppers and peel and de-seed them. Remove the caramelized onions from the pan, and add the pumpkin puree. Add in the roasted red pepper and half of the caramelized onions, along with some water (I used around 2 cups for a thick soup, but add enough to get the consistency you prefer), the cumin, sage, salt and pepper, and begin to puree the soup with a handheld blender. Feel free to adjust the spices to your liking!

Serve in bowls and garnish with the rest of the caramelized onions. You can also garnish with pumpkin seeds, baked prosciutto or serrano ham, or even a bit of greek yogurt!

Important Session Notes



Todd A. Gelineau
State Secretary

Winchester Grange #74
Secretary@ctstategrange.org

State Session is thundering towards us now. There's a million and one details to take care of but we will be ready!

I was made aware of at least one incident where a member was told by Holiday Inn that the Grange Room Block was full and then charged that member rack rate (or full price) for their room. While it was true that the room block was full, our room block is not "closed" until September 30. Normally the block is expanded (if rooms remain available in the hotel) until the closing date.

I was able to change this member's reservation to the group/Grange rate but there is no way to know if there are other members in this situation. If you were told by the hotel there were no rooms available under the Grange rate (\$105 plus taxes and fees) and were forced to pay a higher rate AND this occurred prior to September 30, please let me know. We should be able to get your room listed under the State Grange rate. We are required, by contract, to meet minimum numbers of room reservations and to have members in the hotel who are not counted in our numbers would be a shame.

Thank you to the many Granges who have sent in their Dues Receipts payments promptly. It is appreciated. Journals of Proceedings for the 2018 Session will be distributed at the Registration table during State Session. Granges not attending Session will receive theirs by mail following Session.

We remind everyone that the Sixth Degree will be conferred at State Session on Saturday, October 19 beginning at 3:00 P.M. Candidates wishing to take the

degree should be at the Holiday Inn by 2:30. Tickets to take the degree may be purchased from me anytime during the Session right up to the Degree conferral. Tickets remain \$10.00 each.

I was pleased to make reservations for 8 or 9 members to take degrees at Dutchess County Pomona's (NY) Degree Day held on October 5 in LaGrangeville, NY. We thank the members of Dutchess County Pomona for inviting Connecticut Grangers to attend their conferral and I invite all to consider taking the Sixth Degree at

Using technology to Grow Grange



Dawn Anstett
State Youth Director

Riverton Grange #169
Youth@CTStateGrange.org

By now you have seen it, or at least you did if you read my article in the last Granger. Just below my article was the line: "Grange Hall WiFi Grants." Why I mention it is I can only imagine how this not just help with not just providing a community service, but help us program better for those Y and Z generations out there? Our youth and young adults.

As someone who belongs to a Community Grange where you can only get internet service on a good day if you stand by the kitchen window, next to the parking lot or go stand in the middle-back of the parking lot. Some may ask I worry about getting on my phone at a Grange meeting or event? For those of us used to Googling answers to almost anything, I can't tell you the number of times I have had to say I will look that up when I get home and it has postponed getting information to members. At Grange

State Session.

The Public Relations Department has re-stocked the State Office with updated materials that are now available for Granges to request. Unfortunately, due to the move to Winchester Center, every piece of promotional material had to be re-done to reflect the new State Grange address. It is hoped that Granges put local contact information with these materials so potential new members know who to contact in their communities regarding Grange membership.

There will be much much more in the next issue after State Session. Until then... we'll see you in Norwich!

events, I often had to take pictures and then drive to post information, encouraging people to come to our events. If only I could have gone live on Facebook or Instagram.

As we all begin our new Grange year, I want to remind you that one endeavor of the Youth Committee is to recognize Granges that promote the growth of youth membership. I am encouraging, particularly those Granges who take advantage of this Community Service Grant, to brainstorm some ideas for how you can use it to provide events for youth, young adults and young families. Events like family movie nights, or social nights where someone accesses online music. Or how about this, empower your youth and young adults to assist older members in finding information or going live for you, to encourage others to come on down for your Grange Fair or to see live music.

The possibilities are endless and I am willing to work with you to help generate these ideas. I encourage anyone interested to reach out to me during State Session or attend our youth meeting on Saturday morning of the conference.

100 Newfield Road, P.O. Box 3
Winchester Center, CT 06094

Address Service Requested

Giving of One's Abundance



Charles W. Dimmick
State Chaplain

Cheshire Grange No. 23
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked. Luke 12:48 NEV

I just checked, and this column will mark four full years since I first wrote a column for the November 2015 Granger. It is not surprising that I will from time to time return to a theme I have used before. In both the December 2016 column and the one from August 2018 I used the phrase "Giving of one's abundance. This time I view it from a slightly different perspective.

The quote from Luke, above, shows that giving of one's abundance is a commandment, not a polite request. If the Lord has given us much, then we are commanded to give away the excess. It should be added that we should not expect either thanks or gratitude for so doing. Instead we should thank God that we have been given so much that we have the opportunity to share and the ability to give.

Our God-given abundance, which we must share, includes time, talent, and treasure. And by treasure we mean not only money, but all material goods. Is your farm or garden producing in abundance? Then share the excess with those who can use it. Have you inherited

a house full of things you already have? Give them away; you don't need them. Or hold a tag sale and give the proceeds to the poor and needy.

As for talent, everybody has something in this line they can share, whether it an ability to help organize and/or run a charitable activity, sing in the Church Choir, or give talks to local organizations about gardening, history, or whatever you are good at. Even if you are homebound, perhaps you have an ability to knit or crochet. There are dozens of charities looking for home-made knitted items.

Which brings us to the last item: time. Here the amount of spare time we have varies tremendously from person to person and from day to day. But if one finds that from

In Memoriam

Ruth Herbele, G.S.
Coventry Grange #75

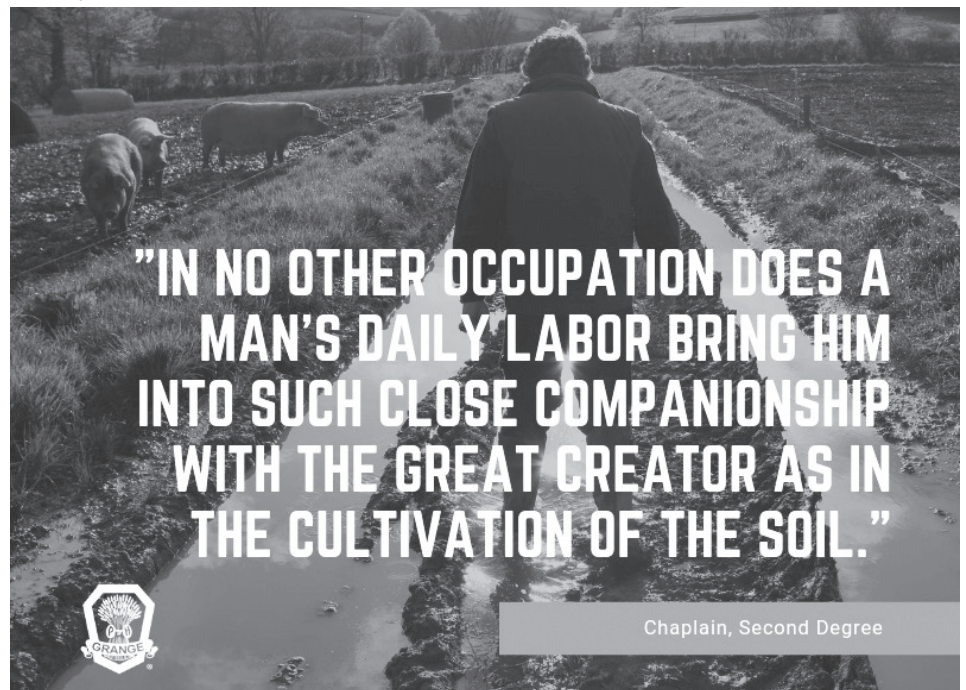
Norma DePietro, G.S.
Hillstown Grange #87

Nancy McComb
Killingly Grange #112

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

time to time one does have time to spare then consider whether you have time for some worthy cause, or even just time to visit those who are lonely, sick, troubled or in any other need of your company.

Thus, in all things, share your abundance with others.



**"IN NO OTHER OCCUPATION DOES A
MAN'S DAILY LABOR BRING HIM
INTO SUCH CLOSE COMPANIONSHIP
WITH THE GREAT CREATOR AS IN
THE CULTIVATION OF THE SOIL."**



Chaplain, Second Degree