



the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

Published Monthly

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The Official News Magazine of the Connecticut State Grange

July 2021

Our Granges Are Open



George Russell
State President

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As the Fourth of July approaches and our Granges are opening their doors and meeting in-person, let's celebrate with family and friends. We must keep in mind that those who are not vaccinated must still wear a mask inside when we do hold meetings, events and agricultural fairs and fundraisers.

In June we held our third Zoom Pink Sash meeting and invited the Subordinate Presidents to attend. We had close to 40 members in attendance. We went over the surveys the Granges filled out and ended up with 29 out of 35 surveys sent out. For the Granges that own halls the average cost is about \$8,000 to \$9,000 per year. Most of our Grange Halls do not pay property tax because they put on a Grange Fair and are exempt from town taxes. Three of the Granges reported they pay property tax in which the highest amount was \$26,980 of which \$21,300 went for property taxes. The largest expense for these Granges are their liability insurance and heating oil. The majority of Granges have an average dues amount of \$30-\$35 per year with a couple of Granges that charge \$50. Thank you to all the Granges that took the time to fill out the survey

and get them back to me.

I would like to thank Phil Prelli for leading the discussion on the National Grange Diversity Task Force. It turned out to be a controversial subject. A copy of the report is included in this issue of the Granger on page 14.

It has been announced the Eastern States Exposition (The Big E) in Springfield, MA will return at full capacity. The fair runs from September 17 to October 3. The New England Grange Building store will also be open. We will be

Influential Connecticut Grangers...

Lillian S. Frink

by Todd A. Gelineau, Editor

Connecticut has proudly elected many women to prominent offices through the years. Ella Grasso became the first woman to be elected governor in her own right in 1974. State and Congressional representatives, Lt. Governors, Secretaries of State, and many other high offices in the state have been held by women. Today it is so commonplace that few raise an eyebrow when a female candidate runs for office.

This was certainly not the case 100 years ago. Connecticut, the "land of steady habits", was considered to be one of the last bastions where men held nearly all prominent offices. This was especially the case in the General Assembly.

looking for volunteers to staff the store for the 17 days of the fair. If you are interested in working, you can contact Noel Miller or myself.

After several years of discussion, it was finally decided by the Northeast Connection to hold a joint Leadership Conference. This will include the Leaders' Conference, Lecturer's Conference and the Youth Conference in one gathering. Maine will host the first combined conference in March 2022. There will be more information on this as it gets closer.

In closing, I hope everyone has a good Fourth of July and hope to see you all soon.



Lillian S. Frink, second from left

1920 was the first year of women's suffrage, giving them the right to vote and the right to run for elected office. Thirty-four women ran that year, among them were 28 Democrats, 3 Republicans, 1 Socialist, 1 Farm Labor Party and one independent candidate. From that field, 5 were elected to the

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Connecticut State Grange
A part of the National Grange
American Values. Hometown Roots.



NEXT ISSUE . . . Articles Due July 15

Influential Connecticut Grangers

Continued from page one...

House of Representatives, Mary Hooker (R) of Hartford; Emily Sophie Brown (R) of Naugatuck; Rev. Grace Edwards (R) of New Hartford and a 35 year-old Grange member and housewife from Canterbury, Lillian S. Frink (R) of Canterbury.

Their first day in the House of Representatives was on Jan. 5, 1921 and the story was reported more outside of Connecticut by papers

in New York and Boston with front page stories. *The Boston Globe's* Jan. 6 edition had the following to say:

"The House adjourned at 1 P.M. for luncheon. The women members had their lunch in the House Restaurant a la cafeteria today, owing to the rush of business. Miss Brown who reads character by handwriting, led the way to the counter, followed by Rev. Miss Edwards... [Miss Brown and Rev. Edwards] had set their mind on creamed oysters, but the 'lady waiter' behind the counter said they were all gone... 'all we've got is beans and sandwiches,' said the waitress. 'I'll take the beans and coffee,' said Representative Miss Brown. 'I'll take the same,' chimed in Rev. Miss Edwards. Think of an old-time politician banqueting on beans and coffee!' The other three women members backed away from the cafeteria and went outside for their lunch. All were back to the House Chamber in time to hear Gov. Lake deliver his inaugural, after which the House adjourned to next week when the Speaker will announce the committees."

When asked about her day, Lillian Frink responded, "I have been wonderfully impressed with what I have witnessed today. I'm sure we are all proud of the honor of associating with such a fine body of men as sit in the House."

Later in life, Mrs. Frink was interviewed by the *Bridgeport Post* giving her reflections on her first days as a State Representative. "Mrs. Frink said when she and four other women who won seats in the legislature and appeared at the Capitol for the 1921 session, the men seemed puzzled. 'They seemed to avoid us. After all, they'd had the place to themselves for a long time. But we told them they could smoke all they wanted to - women didn't smoke in those days - and before the session was over they got



Unfortunately, few photos of Lillian Frink survive. The above was taken on her first day in the General Assembly.

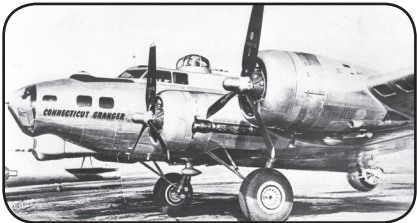
used to it, in fact,' she said." In the weeks following the election, *the Boston Globe* ran another front page story entitled "Connecticut Refused to Give Women Vote, But See What They Did When They Got It!" In the article, Connecticut was described as "the last-ditch stronghold of the anti-suffragists". 'No Madam, you can't vote!' declared venerable Gov. Holcomb and the Republicans in power."

The article goes on... "And now that suffrage has come in spite of the opposition, what have the women of Connecticut 'gone and done?' They have elected more women in the Connecticut Legislature than were elected in any other State in the Union!"

"Mrs. Lillian Frink of this place [Canterbury] is one of the five women, all Republicans at the election in November, and in the opinion of old liners of the Republican party in Windham County, Mrs. Frink will make an ideal Representative. Mrs. Frink is well-known all over the county, especially among Grangers. She has been Master of the Canterbury Grange for the past three years. She was a schoolteacher before her marriage to Clinton E. Frink, who conducts a grocery store and is

...Continued next page

the Connecticut Granger
Published Monthly



WW II Flying Fortress "Connecticut Granger"

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town clerk in Canterbury.”

“Mrs. Frink, when talked with by a [Boston] Globe reporter, said: ‘My being elected has not turned my head in the least. I had more votes than any of the five candidates, there was no ‘dark horse,’ so to speak, and I was not elected by women alone. I shall be very glad if I can be of any service to my town in the next two years, and I mean to consider conscientiously the needs of my people. I know the problems of the farmers and of the rural school, having taught five years.’”

Lillian Frink’s candidacy was due, primarily to the urging of Grange members. “The Town of Canterbury is entitled to two Representatives in the General Assembly. Before the Republican caucus, held early in October, Mrs. Frink was not one of the candidates. Her friends in the Grange, however, ‘boomed’ her for one of the places. It was ‘some caucus’ according to many who attended it, lasting until 2 o’clock the next morning.”

In March of 2021 the Hartford Courant printed a feature story on women who were “Legislative Trailblazers.” The Courant admits that the paper was “less than impressed with the barrier-breaking milestone. A December 1920 headline touted the fact that 85 farmers had won seats in the General Assembly that year; in smaller type, the newspaper noted that five women also were among the new legislators...In a story published in the Boston Post a few weeks after the 1920 election, Lillian Frink was described as a



Gov. Ella T. Grasso signing the proclamation for 1978 Grange Week in Connecticut. From left, State Master Frank Warner; Ag. Commissioner Leonard E. Krogh; and Carl H. MacLaurin.

‘small, nervous woman... who says she’s not a suffragist or anything of the sort.’”

Among her work in the General Assembly was one piece of legislation that was well ahead of its time. According to the Hartford Courant, “In 1955, Frink made headlines for a proposal to restrict the manufacture and sale of toy pistols. The ‘Frink Bill’ as The Courant termed it, would set a maximum fine of \$100 for anyone who manufactures, distributes, transports or sells a realistic looking toy pistol.” The legislation was ultimately withdrawn under tremendous pressure from the Middletown based J & E Stevens Co., a leading manufacturer of toy pistols.

Lillian’s service to the people of

Connecticut was far from fleeting. She served as a Representative for five terms (2 terms in the 1920’s and 3 terms in the 1950’s). In addition, she served on the Republican State Central Committee and was Canterbury Town Clerk for 25 years.

When looking at the public career of Lillian Frink it is very clear the Grange played a pivotal role in her leadership development and the push of Grangers for her selection at the Republican Caucus and eventual election to the General Assembly with the enthusiastic support of her brother and sister Patrons.

Mrs. Frink lived a long life of 92 years, dying in 1974, the year Ella Grasso picked up the torch becoming the first female Governor,

further inspiring women to serve Connecticut just like that first group of five women who arrived at the Capitol in 1921.

CT State Grange History Book Project: We Need Your Help!

Memories, Memories, Memories! We are asking our members to jot down a few of their favorite Grange Memories to be used in the CT State Grange History Book Project. These recollections are important as we tell the story of the Connecticut State Grange and it’s Granges through the eyes of our members. Here’s the list of possible topics:

Dairy Dinners
CT State Grange Annual Sessions
Rose Drills
Neighbor’s Nights
CT Agricultural Fair / Fair Queens
Camp Berger
“Kissing Cousins”
Lecturers Conferences
Youth Conferences

Youth Drill Teams
Leaders Conferences
1976 Grange Bicentennial Celebration
CT State Grange Fashion Show
Youth Coronation Ball
Grange Bowling & Softball Leagues
Degree and Installation Teams
2-4-5 Club
Past Masters / Past Deputies Associations

Choristers Concerts
Grange Picnics and Potlucks
Grange Field Days
Grange Sunday
Contest Entries and Events
Farm Aid Festival
Habitat for Humanity Builds
Degree Days
Traveling Gavel

CT Granges at the Big E
Banner Raids
Mystery Rides
Grange War Efforts
Centennial Weekend
Grange Anniversary Celebrations

... and any other Grange memories you wish to share!

If you can help us, or know someone who can lend a hand, please send a note to Terri at information@ctstategrange.org or Roy at aststeward@ctstategrange.org. Thank you!!

Session around the corner



Todd A. Gelineau
State Secretary
Winchester Grange #74
Secretary@ctstategrange.org

It is exciting to see activity in our Granges once again. It's been a long 15 months. We're not completely out of the woods with this virus but we have come a long way. With each day that passes we are seeing that the decision to hold an in-person State Session was a good one.

By now each Grange should have received their delegate cards. Please select your Grange's delegates to State Session as soon as possible. **PLEASE DO NOT DELAY** and get the return card back to the State Grange. Also... please make your reservations at the Holiday Inn Norwich. Our hotel is one of the closest properties to the casinos. Because of this, rooms are high in demand as people are "vacationing" closer to home. The rate remains at \$105.00 plus taxes and fees, a great bargain considering what the "rack rate" is at this hotel. So... reserve your room early!

Resolutions are starting to come in and we should have a healthy amount of legislative work to do at Session. While it is preferred that resolutions go through Pomona before coming to State Grange, it is not required. Community Granges may also send resolutions they have adopted directly to State Grange.

The State Master plans on scheduling Zoom meetings in advance of State Session for the purpose of the Session Committees meeting to discuss resolutions. To make this happen, resolutions need to be in well in advance of State Session.

Please keep in mind that resolutions **MUST** be adopted by a Grange. They cannot be submitted by an individual without first being adopted in a Community or Pomona

Grange. A notation of when the resolution was adopted and by what Grange will be most helpful.

In early August we will be sending out the annual Call to State Session with official registration forms. Please return these to the State Grange as soon as possible. Advance planning for this Session is imperative. Last minute registrations will be difficult for us as there are so many logistics involved in planning a convention in these COVID times!

We have had questions about the counting of affiliate members. Do they get added in to the total membership. The answer is yes. They are counted like any member of your Grange. They pay the same dues to your Grange and have all the same voting rights and privileges. The only exception is they cannot hold the same office in two different Granges. When affiliates join your Granges, please make a notation at the time they join that they are an

137th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange



affiliate on the Quarterly Report Form.

We remind Secretaries that membership awards are available through the State Grange Office. Awards are available for 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 & 75 years of continuous membership. Forms were recently sent to each Grange. If you have any questions please let me know. Instructions are printed on the back for those awards issued by the National Grange.

Until next time... enjoy the beautiful summer weather!

Make your reservations at the Holiday Inn Norwich today!



October 21-23, 2021

Make your reservation by calling **860-889-5201** and mention the Connecticut State Grange to receive our **Convention Rate of \$105.00** per night (plus tax & fees). Please do not call the Holiday Inn corporate reservation line. Let us know if you are quoted any other price other than this one. Rooms will go fast, especially in early September when our block of rooms close.



Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

Summertime Opportunities for your Grange

By Terri Fassio, Public Relations Co-Director

Summer is finally here and after a year-plus of lockdown and inactivity, the summer of 2021 is going to be filled with fun! How is your Grange going to capitalize on this opportunity to get back into the eyes of your community?

Start by asking a few questions --

- When was the last time your members discussed the state of your Grange?
- How easy or hard is it for your Grange to host public activities?
- Do other organizations in your community have the ability to work with your Grange?
- Do you feel that the experience your Grange provides, not only to your membership but to your community, lives up to your Grange's mission and vision?

Perhaps the place to start is to tap into the summer fun by hosting an event just to inspire your members. A potluck picnic or barbecue at a member's home, or a group outing to a concert in the park, the beach, or a Fair or Carnival may be just what your members need to get to know each other again, as well as generate enthusiasm. You can even invite prospective members and introduce them to your group.

Once your members are pumped up about working for your Grange, the next step is to make a plan and focus on growth by reintroducing your Grange to the community. There are a number of easy to deploy ideas that any Grange can do that will place your group directly into the public eye.

Here's some suggestions:

- A Summer Chili Cook-Off (served on top of hot dogs of course!)
- A Summer Field Day. Families will be thrilled to participate in

a good old-fashioned field day this summer. Ask for a minimum donation and be sure to host classic events like a sack race, three-legged race, egg-and-spoon race, water balloon toss, and games of capture the flag, and tug-of-war. Set-up a food booth where the Grange could sell family-friendly pre-packed foods, like cookies, popcorn, and chips.

- A Cornhole Competition. (Also known as a bean bag toss). Cornhole is a great summer activity to design an event around because it's affordable to host and easy to scale. Make the competition elimination style complete with a bracket, so that it moves along quickly and easily. Don't forget to provide food and drinks and offer a series of prizes for participants who make it to each bracket.

- Plan a Summer Concert. Talk with local musicians, and allow them to set-up a booth and sell their merchandise in exchange for playing. Make the event free admission to maximize attendance, and hold a prize drawing to raise extra funds. You can even set-up a VIP viewing area, where you can charge a minimal set price for those closer seats.

- Host a Food Truck Night at your hall. Food trucks have big followings. Contact 4 or 5 local food trucks and set a specific date where they can set-up in your Hall park-

ing lot. Let folks eat on the lawn, in the Hall, or bring their own chairs. Be sure to set-up a booth all about your Grange and how to join. Have a couple of fun drawings like guess the number of candies in the jar, or spin the wheel for a prize. This event could even be combined with the Summer Concert.

- A Car Wash. Pair with a local youth group like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Little League Team, 4-H or FFA for volunteers to wash the cars, set a price, and then split the proceeds as a donation to the youth group. You could even work with the local volunteer fire department, and split the proceeds three ways.

Whatever event or activities you plan, be sure to promote it properly. Write press releases at least 3 weeks in advance and submit to all the local newspapers, radio and TV stations. Set-up a Facebook Event and invite all your members, local press, and Facebook friends. Post numerous times on your Facebook Page about your event and encourage your followers to share. Cross post into Facebook Groups about your community. You could even boost a Facebook post with a 50-mile radius around your location for as little as \$5 a day.

Need help getting the word out about your Grange and its activities? Send a note to information@ctstategrange.org or publicrelations@ctstategrange.org. We're here to help!

Source: <https://www.classy.org/blog/creative-summer-fund-raising-ideas/>



Finch receives 75 year cert.

On Sunday, June 13, at 2:00 PM, Bethlehem Grange #121 held its Annual Awards Ceremony and presentations in Memorial Hall. President Al Maddox presided. Cindy Finch was presented her certificate for 75 years of continuous Grange membership. The Grange honored the Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Department and Bethlehem Ambulance Association with the Community Citizen Award for their service to the town. John Brodie entertained those present.



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

Packages are being filled and soon you all will be receiving some new membership and marketing materials at your Grange. The Membership team has worked with Terri Fassio to redesign the Membership Application to reflect a more personalized form, there is a 4 foot banner to be used at the hall or for events and there will be other materials you may review. Contact Faith Quinlan or Todd Gelineau to request more of any type.

Our hope is to continue putting our message out in the community and open a dialog with others about who we are and what we do. These conversations inspire people to find out more, possibly take action and

Membership tools on the way!



Each Grange will receive a banner similar to the one above.

get them thinking about joining.

Please remember it can take several contacts with the same person before they may finally complete an application. You just need to share what your Grange is doing and be welcoming.

Thank you for all your hard work

as we return to our halls and begin to take action again in our Grange work. I thank you for your continued support and effort. We are on the other side of the most difficult year our country has faced and I want to honor your work and support.

Legislative Session result a mixed bag



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

The 2021 Legislative Session wrapped up early in June with much of its activity being taken up in the last few days. The Capitol and Legislative Office Building has remained closed to the public throughout this legislative session. All committee hearings were held virtually which posed a challenge for the public and lobbyists to meet with the legislators.

As usual the budget bill was presented on the last days of the session. The budget implementation bill had to be approved in a special session a few days after the close of the session.

This session saw some of the major topic addressed and some finally were passed. Tolls were removed from the income generating possibility but the Governor did

get a new fee for truckers that pass through the state.

The Legislature approved the elimination of religious exemptions for required school vaccines for children. This was a very emotional issue with many public protests before the bill was passed.

One bill that will affect many consumers is the expansion of the bottle bill. The deposits fees were doubled from 5 cents to 10 cents per can or bottle. A new fee of 5 cents was added on the miniature alcoholic bottles or 'nips'. The 10 cents bottle deposits will now include individual serving fruit juices, sports drinks, coffee, teas, and other items previously not required. This will not take affect for another year as they must allow vendors to adapt recycling machines to accepts these new products.

The Community Invest Funds was not touched. This is the fund that is generated from a fee on real estate recordings and funds farmland preservations and historical restorations. With the increase of

real estate transactions in the state they anticipate an increase in these funds.

The budget bill did include some wins for the agricultural community. The state received funds from the Federal American Rescue Plan, the third COVID relief pan passed by Congress. Some of this money is being used to fund some food processing and operations across the state. Money is also allocated to administer a CT Grown for Kids grant program which will connect students with local food access.

Bills that were of interest that did not pass this session included one that would have exempted from personal taxes monies received from the sale of land development rights on agricultural lands to the state. Another one would have increased funding to help the State purchase agricultural real estate. There was also provision in the climate change report that would allow towns to establish funds to acquire and preserve open spaces and farmland within their towns.



GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kathryn Ruff

July 1: "Fireworks Galore", 7:30 p.m. This meeting will be held at the Masonic Hall.

Aug. 5: This is our usual summer cookout. But because of Covid, I am not sure that this will be able to be held. As I am typing this, serving refreshments has not been cleared to do. Regular meeting 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 2: Installation of Officers 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall.

June 3rd we had Shelley Cameron and J. Allen Cameron at our first meeting back in the hall at 7:30 p.m. Shelley made a really good presentation on Membership Development & Retention. It gave us much to think about and plan. A new Membership Committee is being appointed and they will be discussing and making plans for what we wish to accomplish in the area of Community Service and Membership during the balance of 2021. Thank you Shelley and J. Allen.

SENEXT GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

July 21: America

We are happy to be able to hold regular meetings and last month had a very good video on Lyme disease. This is a disease that has affected many of our members and families. We have regular sessions on knitting, crocheting and quilting. These sessions are including members of the community.

We are making reusable shop-

ping bags out of feed and seed bags. These will be sold to be a fundraiser.

We had a very successful yard sale on June 5 along with the community yard sale. We are having further discussion regarding the town wide event to promote local farms. This event is in conjunction with the AG Commission and the Economic Dev. Commission. We plan to have an exhibit at the Woodstock Fair that will be titled: "What's in the Stone Building?"

A book club will be held monthly for middle and high school students. We know that it is important to include youth in our programs. We are reviewing our membership list to determine the awards that we can present to the long-term memberships. A barbecue dinner and music program is planned for the end of June. This should be a popular event to be held outdoors. Including the public into our events is so important to make connections and gain membership. Our hall is also available to host events now that the COVID restrictions are eased. Boy Scouts continue to meet here and help with maintenance. Good to be able to hold regular meetings and see the faces of our members.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Irene Percoski

July 2 OR 9: Going to Sea

Aug. 6: Get in the Game

A discussion was held regarding the annual picnic with no clear decision. We will keep you posted. The Lecturer told us about the colors of the flag and where it has flown. She touched on the beauty of the Elizabeth Park Rose Garden (Hartford) and Roses in our degree work. Unless otherwise noted we will still meet on Zoom, as members are divided on meeting in person. Reminder: If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours.

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Penny Bennett

All of us at the Killingly Grange, P of H #112, are excited to once again offer activities which we expect will be of interest to the general public and Grangers all across eastern Connecticut and western Rhode Island. Membership meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 pm, except in the event that the first Monday falls on a holiday or during bad weather, in which case the membership meeting will take place on the third Monday of the month. (Meetings begin promptly at 7:00pm).

Three people have now assumed leadership positions at the Killingly Grange. Glenna Bruno is the new (interim) Master; Dave Griffiths is now the Chaplain; and John Bennett has assumed the position of Lecturer.

On Saturday, August 14th, Glenna's Cold Dinner will be held from 4:30-6:30pm. The menu will include deli meats, a potato salad, a macaroni salad, a garden salad, a gelatin salad (an orange, pineapple and carrot medley) and homemade apple crisp. The cost is \$10.00 per dinner.

On Saturday, September 25th, Pat's Roast Pork Dinner will be held from 4:30-6:00 pm. The menu includes, roast pork, mashed potatoes with gravy, carrots, a tossed salad and dessert. The cost is \$12.00 per dinner.

On Saturday, October 23rd, from 10:00am-4:00 pm we will be holding our annual Last Green Valley Walktober event. We are calling this year's festivities The Big Pumpkin Cabaret. The Cabaret will replace the BIG Little Apple Festival as our signature Walktober event. The BIG-little Apple Festival was inaugurated in 2014 and had been held regularly, except for last year. We are happy to get things back on track. Our members are really enthusiastic about the future of our organization, and we invite all interested parties to stop by at any of our meetings or events.

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The Cabaret will help us honor the life, legacy and minutia of Walktober--a wonderful series of hikes, walks, paddles, and unique celebrations that have generated lots of interest in the natural and cultural heritage of the Last Green Valley over the last 27 years.

The Cabaret will feature the diverse and joyous music of The Usual Suspects; a selection of pumpkin and apple-based culinary delights; a theme basket raffle; an extensive Farmers' Market (featuring pumpkins, mums, apples, seasonal items and primitives) and a scarecrow and sidewalk drawing contest for all the young at heart.

We may have a chicken bar-b-que in August. If this happens, the menu will include a half chicken, a potato salad, a tossed salad, corn on the cob and drinks. The cost for the bar-b-que is \$12.00. There will be an extra charge of \$3.00 for a generous portion of strawberry shortcake.

Looking ahead a bit we have tentatively decided to hold our annual Grange Fair sometime this September. We have scheduled a Valentine's Chocolate Chip Pancake Breakfast for February. Next March, we may have an Irish Breakfast Buffet. The menu will probably include scrambled eggs, rashers, bangers, tater tots, grilled fresh tomatoes, fruit crisp, cinnamon-raisons scones, juice and coffee. The cost for this brunch is \$13.00. Come and enjoy the luck of the Irish!

Everyone is always welcome at any or all of our events and meetings. Be sure to stop by and see us sometime. So do a good turn and volunteer to help us get the word out about who we are what we want to accomplish. We are always looking for new members!

The Killingly Grange is located on the corner of Rte.101 and Dog Hill Road, Dayville, CT, less than ½ mile east of Dayville Four Corners. For more information call John or Penny Bennett @ 860-412-9811.

N. STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy Weissmuller

July 9: Meeting Omitted, It's Fair Time!

July 16: Celebrate America

On May 14 we learned a lot about the meaning of different smiles, then played a trivia game that brought lots of smiles to the participants. On May 28 the Lecturer and Chaplain conducted an impressive candlelight ceremony in which we honored past members, the thousands lost to COVID-19 and those who are laboring in the

fight against it, and military personnel lost in the many wars in which our country has fought.

At this writing, barring any new mandates from the state, the North Stonington Agricultural Fair will take place July 8-11. There will be rides, games, lots of food, pulling contests, animals and fun for all. We are told that there will be a new attraction this year! Wrestling! Hope to see you all at the Fair! And if this darn yellow pollen that seems to be coating the world will just go away, next time I'll tell you all about joyous June.



The Strong Grange Family - L-R Michael Nelson, Nancy Strong, Christian Schirmer, Carol Nelson, Jennifer Nelson Strong. Christian Schirmer received his Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of CT in May. He wants to thank all the CT Grangers for their support over the years in awarding him the Grange scholarships. He will be doing a program this fall for Vernon Grange on how his thesis work in robotic space mechanics has an application to help farmers in the future.

Simsbury Grange Music Series



Simsbury Grange continues to present their ongoing Music Series outside the Grange Hall with wonderful support from the community.



MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15

Corr: Todd Gelineau

Aug. 28: Meeting, 4 P.M., Winchester

Mountain Laurel Pomona recently met on Zoom with a great number of members in attendance. There is still some reluctance to resume in-person meetings but this will change with our next meeting which should be in-person. Plans will be formulated during the summer regarding Fifth Degree. More on all of this soon. Watch for emails from our Secretary Carol Swanson. If you don't currently receive notices from her, send her an email, I'm sure she would love to add you to her list: cjswanson59@gmail.com.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau

July 13: Meeting

July 27: Meeting

Aug. 10: Meeting

Aug. 14: Annual Grange Fair, Community Tag Sale & Pet Parade, 10-3

Aug. 24: Meeting

As you can see from the schedule above, Winchester Grange is BACK! We resumed our regular twice monthly meeting schedule in June and were thrilled to confer the Obligation Ceremony for four new members (two at each meeting). Refreshments have been suspended for a while but we will bring back this much loved tradition in the fall.

Three resolutions were adopted at our second June meeting. All were drafted by our new member (by demit), Debbie Vaill. She comes

to us from the New York State Grange and is already making great contributions to our Grange. The resolutions will now move on to State Grange.

Our first Grange event since last year was a tag sale held on June 12. Thank you to all of the members who worked and/or donated items for the sale. Instead of marking prices on the items we left it to the customer to decide how much the items were worth to them. In most cases people spent more money than if we had marked them 25¢, 50¢, \$1.00, etc. \$338.57 is a decent profit for our first event out of the gate.

Our annual Agricultural Fair will be held on August 14 with a new twist. It has become difficult in recent years to get vendors for the Flea Market so the decision was made to discontinue it for the time being. Instead we will be holding a community tag sale at the Grange Hall and on the Green. Members of the community (they do not need to be Grange members) can request a space and they can set up at the Fair and make a little money. The only thing we provide is the space, you provide any chairs, tables or coverings you might need. A donation to the Grange would be welcome but is not required.

Due to COVID-19 the traditional events surrounding the Laurel Festival were not held again this year (including our annual Father's Day Strawberry Festival). The Winsted Pet Parade was also suspended this year. As our small way of keeping the tradition alive this year we will be having a Winchester Grange-style Pet Parade at the Grange Fair this year. It will be organized by Debbie Vaill and details will be available in our Premium Flyer which should be available soon. Copies will be distributed to past entrants in the Fair, at the Grange Post Office and it will be posted on our website at www.WinchesterGrange.org. It should be a fun day, so join us on August 14 at the Grange Hall and on the Green.

TAGHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Barbara Prindle

At our June Meeting we voted to change our by-laws and have our meetings begin at 7:30PM all year around. The plan is to have a social time with refreshments before the meeting at 7:00PM. July 8th will be our first meeting at the earlier time. Also in June the CWA donated to the Granger Trust Fund, Scholarship Fund, Meals-On-Wheels and Camp Berger. Our Grange Hall was used in a documentary named "Diary of a House" and our treasurer was interviewed about the history of the Ellsworth area where the Hall is located. This will help get our name out into the community.

Master Barbara Prindle and Treasurer Brent Prindle were voted on to be our Delegates to State Session in October. Some members will be going for their 6th degree at that time.

We had a discussion about writing Resolutions for State Session and a few people are writing ones about their interests. They will be brought to our meeting at 7:30PM on July 8th. Also at that meeting the State Membership Chairwoman will have the Program about increasing and retaining membership.

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Dave Roberts

All – Congratulations to everyone who was elected to hold office in Riverton Grange from October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022 and for agreeing to serve. What a surprise to be elected as your President (Master) for Grange Years 2021-2023. My great grandparents (Carlton and Dora Roberts were Riverton Grange Charter Members, my Grandmother Dorothy Roberts belonged to Riverton Grange most of her life – served as pianist and Gatekeeper -- and recruited me to become a Granger in 1975, my late Dad was a Riverton Grange member

...Continued next page

most of his life, and now my daughter Natalee is a fifth generation Riverton Grange member! That's 113 years of Riverton Grange service and history!

What a great team of officers you have elected for the next two years (to serve with me) to build upon our Grange's solid history and reputation. Eleven of our 16 subordinate Grange incoming officers are new to their office this coming Grange Year. Because of this changeover, Brother Phil Prelli recommended, and I heartily agree, that we should host a training session with State President George Russell and Pomona President Peter Keefe for all the

incoming officers prior to our installation on Friday, October 1, 2021. One suggestion is for our training to be held before our regular September meeting on Friday, Sept. 17 at 5:30 P.M. Please let me know if you can attend this training.

I also want to thank Brother Shawn Weeks who has agreed to Chair our Community Services Committee and serve with Sister Jackie Martin. Attached is my June Community Service Committee report so you all can see the extent of planned activities for our Grange (and make plans to participate in many of these events!). I will reach out to other Grange members to

serve on other Committees. I am also looking to appoint someone as our subordinate Grange POC for Membership, even though membership is every member's responsibility to grow our Grange.

Finally, I want to congratulate President (Master) Sue Belle Isle for her dedicated service for multiple terms and her entire team of officers. We look forward to a smooth transition and to continue building a strong Grange presence in our region. Please never hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of service to you.

Updates on Youth Contests



Dawn Anstett
State Youth Director
Riverton Grange #169
Youth@CTStateGrange.org

Youth interested in public speaking or sign-a-song:

Since our region will not have held a conference, the Public Speaking and Sign-a-Song contests

and Grange Baseball are being held virtually. The contests will be held Saturday, August 14th starting at 9am eastern. Attached is the sign-up for these contests. It will be first-come, first-served to sign up for times. If we run out of time slots they will add more as needed.

Remember:

1) It is NOT a national requirement to qualify at the state level to compete at regional contests. Any

Junior or youth/young adult from the region is welcome to enter the contests.

2) Ambassadors/Young Patrons competing at National Convention must do a prepared speech.

3) Youth Officer Team Applicants must do at least an impromptu speech as one of the requirements to apply.

If you are interested in running for Ambassadors/Young Patron or for the Youth Officer Team, please contact Dawn Anstett, CT Grange Youth Director.

Riverton initiative to honor local veterans

BARKHAMSTED — On Sunday July 4, at 6 PM, Riverton Grange #169 will launch a new monthly initiative to honor local veterans who have honorably served our nation. The idea for this initiative was suggested by American Legion National Committeeman Joe Jackson, a 2021 Riverton Grange nominee for the Community Citizen Award. "Because the Grange values the selfless sacrifice given by all our veteran heroes, we think this new initiative is the least that we can do to honor them and say thank you," said Patriot's Program Chair Dave Roberts. "For 113 years, our local Grange has been a valuable organization serving our region and we see this initiative as another way to serve others."

Riverton Grange has partnered with Riverton American Legion Post #159, the Barkhamsted Senior Center, the Town of Barkhamsted, the Barkhamsted Lions Club and the Northwestern CT Cyber Lions Club. On the first Sunday of each month, at 6 PM, an American Flag will be raised at the Barkhamsted Senior Center at 109 West River Road in Barkhamsted and flown for one month honoring a nominated local veteran. At the end of the

month, the flag will be lowered, folded by an American Legion honor team, and presented along with a National Grange Patriot's Certificate of Honor to the veteran (if living) or their family (if the veteran is deceased). Honorees are on a first come, first served basis. A brief ceremony will be held each month at the Barkhamsted Senior Center flagpole with patriotic music, remarks about the veteran being honored, and light refreshments. All are welcome to attend.

The cost for the first year of this initiative have been underwritten by the Royal Coachman Tavern at the Old Riverton Inn. Co-owner Danamarie Towers is a veteran herself and she and her husband jumped at the chance to be the sole sponsor.

The first honoree on July 4th is 96-year old WWII veteran Douglas Roberts of Riverton who saw action in Europe. Roberts served as a radar operator in Troop D, 25th Calvary, Resonance Squadron for the U.S. Army from August 31, 1943 – April 17, 1946. If you would like to honor a local veteran, please contact Community Services Chair Dave Roberts at either dave@daveroberts.org or 858-775-9241. - Reprinted from the Register Citizen, June 8, 2021



NUTMEG POMONA #16

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Nutmeg Pomona held it's first in-hall meeting in a year on Sunday, June 13th at Cheshire Grange. Attendance 23. The one thing that would make our meetings better is Representatives from more Granges. We thank Cheshire Grange for hosting the meeting.

Special Elected results: Steward Joe Bernhardt, Treasurer Maryalyce Lee, Gatekeeper Ron Gunther, Flora Pat Fischer and re-elected to the Executive Committee Robert Sendwicz. We still need a Pomona. A birdie told me we have someone who will now take this station.

We voted to support two resolutions presented by Hemlock Grange.

Special thanks to Robert Charbonneau for supplying all the music. Good job!

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday September 12th at 2 o'clock at Beacon Valley Grange. Until then, enjoy the summer months.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: A. Ruel Miller

July 7: Annual Picnic at the Millers, Pot Luck, 6 P.M.

As mentioned earlier, we will continue to meet on the first Wednesday of the month until the fall. Our in person meetings continue and are well attended. We elected our officers for the coming year at our June 2nd meeting. We elected a new treasurer and made updates to our Executive Committee

and Board of Directors. Our Chaplain, Charles Dimmick presented his annual Memorial Service. Plans for our August fair are under way. It will be for one day only on August 21st. I attended the June 6th State Grange zoom meeting where the State Master reviewed the surveys on our halls and National Grange Overseer, Phil Prelli reviewed the report from his committee on diversity in the Grange which was commissioned by our National President, Betsy Huber.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

We have now had two in-hall meetings both with the same attendance -10. Not bad for all the members we lost. Everyone seems happy to be back to meetings and willing to help wherever needed.

We were lucky to have Bob Sendewicz join our Grange and he has been elected Steward. Carol Brooks, a merger from Prospect, has agreed to fill the Pomona station. We still need a Lecturer and Secretary.

Our tag and rummage sale scheduled for June 19th was postponed until August 21st because of the extreme heat. We are still collecting item for the sale and also used clothing. We thank everyone who has already donated. Keep cleaning you might find something else.

GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

Corr: Jim & Lori Golias

Here's hoping Covid will quickly be behind us. We started returning to in-person meetings with our April and May meetings.

On Good Friday, we held a reservation only, eat in/take out Fish Fry and it was a great success. The feedback: the fish and the fries were phenomenal! THANKS to all the volunteers who made this event a success!

THANK YOU! On April 10, Boy Scout Troop 90 cleaned up the Grange grounds and basement. We

treated them and their parents to a luncheon. As always we are grateful for their dedicated service to our Grange.

THANK YOU! Nancy Olson and Bill Kruppenbacher brought the goodies we collected to the VA hospital in West Haven. Included: individually wrapped packs of snacks, books and puzzles.

On May 1, we hosted a very successful Flea Market and Tag Sale.

On May 22, we held a Chicken Parmesan dinner. We played a few games of BINGO!

We had special guests from Hemlock Grange -- who attended all three events, our meeting, our flea market, and our dinner. Roy and BJ Harrington made the trek all the way from Portland CT! Thank you for attending.

Currently, we are working on getting history and information on our Grange together for a new book that is in the works about Connecticut Granges.

Looking ahead to the summer: Hopefully, our outdoor movie nights will be starting soon. They were a huge success in 2020. Thanks to members Jen and Jack Damon and Lori Golias. "Beethoven" starring our local actor/comedian Charles Grodin and "Sonic" are two films that could light up the big screen!

ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL FAIR - Our fair is set for August 28, 2021 from 10 to 3.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcomed three new members who applied in May. Kathy Raynor, Jimmy Van Ness and Fran Piewola. Associates Geno Piacentini and Karen Macdonald became full members of Greenfield Hill Grange.

That's it for now. Happy trails!
Stay safe and God bless!

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Lois Evankow

Aug. 5: Meeting

Sept. 2: Meeting

Oct. 7: Meeting

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Lyme had a wonderful in-house meeting with Roy and Betty Jane Harrington in attendance.

Our election brought forward few changes. We have a new Master... David Sanford. Congratulations to David for taking the helm of our Grange.

Our Plant Sale was a success held in May, realizing \$1,200 profit.

Many people came and worked as well as many making donations. As the saying goes, "many hands make for light work."

Even though things are getting better – remember – be careful and practice hand washing and practice the rules we learned this past year.

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

July 9: Picnic

July 23: Omitted, unless regular meeting is canceled

Aug. 13: Seek the Cool Places

Aug. 27: Omitted, unless regular meeting is canceled

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meetings.

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Join us at Hillstown



Dawn Percoski
Family Activities Dir.

Vernon Grange No. 52

CWA@ctstategrange.org

We come to the closing of another year for our needlework, craft and baking contests. Just checking with everyone to see if you have finished your projects and if not, you still have a few weeks to do so. I know that a lot of you may be busy with your own fairs, so to assist you, there are a few options for getting your entries to us. Either give your entries to one of our committee members **before** Friday, August 20th. Or you can bring them directly to the Hillstown Grange Hall between 4 and 7 pm Friday evening. If for any reason

you cannot do either of those options, we will be at the hall starting at 9:00 am Saturday. The judging begins right at 11:00 so be sure to get them there before that so we have time to get them written up and entered.

We are having Hillstown provide one of their famous Pancake Breakfasts with a surprise specialty pancake! We invite you all to come and have breakfast on Sunday August 22nd between 8:30 and 11:30 am. You may see people whom you have not been able to talk with in person for quite some time! Then you can take a look at all of our entries and winners. During the breakfast we will be holding a teacup auction! Winners will be announced at the end of the pancake Breakfast.

We hope you will make a trip to Hillstown Grange and do a little socializing, have some great food and see some fine needlework done by our members. We have missed seeing you! And to all those entering the contests, best of luck to you all!

CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE
Family Activities Committee

Grange Contest Weekend

Friday - Saturday - Sunday
August 20-22, 2021

Hillstown Grange Hall
617 Hills Street, East Hartford

August 20: • Contest Entry Drop Off (Times to be announced)

August 21: • Contest Entry Drop Off (Prior to judging)
• Judging and Display/Exhibit Set-Up

August 22: • Pancake Breakfast by Hillstown Grange
Serving 8:30 - 11:30 AM
• Display/Exhibit Viewing
• Tea Cup Auction & Raffle
• Contest Entry Pick-Up
(First Place Winners go on to the Big E)

For more information: Dawn Percoski at cwa@ctstategrange.org

CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE

Virtual Social Hour

Put On Your Barbecue Best

Thursday, July 29th
7:00 PM

GRILL TIME

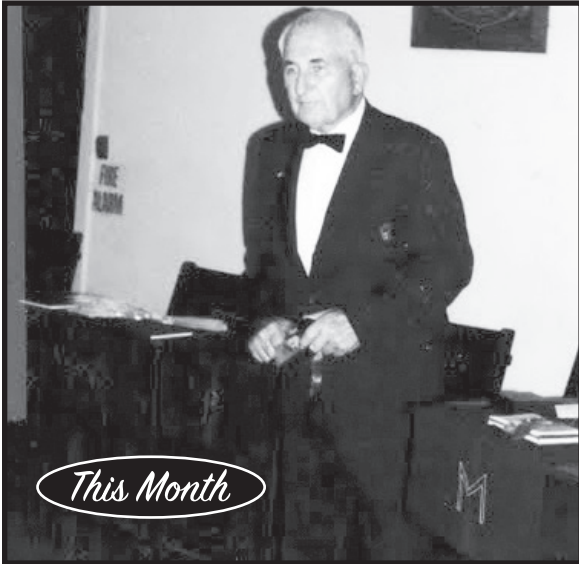
Grab a burger or hot dog and join us for a fun and casual social gathering. Stop by and say Hello!

Send an e-mail to information@ctstategrange.org or membership@ctstategrange.org for the Zoom Meeting Access Information

zoom

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.



From Kay Ruff: After studying "This Months" picture I do think that the woman standing on the right is Bertha Guay from Stafford Grange. I do believe she and her husband, Felix belonged to Stafford. Just cannot identify anyone else.

From Irene Percoski regarding the May Photo: The only one I recognize, of course, is Joe Bell. I do not know the other women. The man in front strongly resembles Peter Smith from Enfield Grange.




By Hank the Burro


Hello Grange friends!

It's so nice to see old friends as we begin to travel around and see our Grange friends! And I still like visiting on Zoom too! Don't forget to let George know when your Grange is meeting - in person or on Zoom - and we might just stop by and see you!

Granges are planning their summer and fall events, and this is wonderful to see. The CT State Grange Session will be upon us before you know it, and it will feel good to be in the hotel again.


Want to follow my travels? Please visit my Facebook page, and then click the "Like" button to keep in touch. <http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro>

CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE 

 A Special Zoom on the Connecticut State Grange History Book Project

Thursday, July 15th
7:00 PM

Join us for a discussion on the history of the Connecticut State Grange and learn the details on the History Book Project. Stop by and say Hello!



Send an e-mail to information@ctstategrange.org or membership@ctstategrange.org for the Zoom Meeting Access Information

National Grange Diversity Task Force Report

The Diversity Task Force was established by the National Grange President, Betsy Huber, to study our ritual, rules, and customs to make sure we are not unintentionally showing any signs of prejudice or discrimination in the Grange. The Diversity Task Force was comprised of the following members, F. Philip Prelli, National Grange Vice President as the Chairperson, and the following active members, Sharon Croucher NY, Edgar Hicks NE, Raymond Hayes NC, Jini Reynolds CA, Robert Beamon PA, Rick Grotton ME, Edna Mae Guerra TX, and Yeseña Rangel TX.

The history of the Grange has always shown our strong support for major social issues with an open policy of membership. This is a very appropriate time for the National Grange to undertake this action; not only because of the social unrest and tension in our country but as it is the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to our Country's Constitution, granting women the right to vote. From the beginning of our organization, women were equal members with the right to vote at our meetings and we worked tirelessly to help in the passage of the amendment. We should now be just as vigilant in ensuring that we investigate and eliminate any barriers that could imply or show any signs of prejudice or discrimination in our organization.

The task force held several virtual meetings. The members reviewed the manuals of our order from the Junior thru the Seventh Degree as well as the promotional and instructional materials provided by the National Grange for membership both in the Subordinate/ Community and Junior levels. Lengthy and lively discussions were held on many points. The task force members understand that the authority to

make changes to our manuals and bylaws of our order belong with the delegate body of the National Grange and in some instances also with the Assembly of Demeter but offer the following findings and recommendations.

Findings

The major and most discussed barrier over several meetings were the titles of Master and Overseer. The group felt that even though these titles can be explained as their relationship to the English Farm on which they are based, the first impression is to their use on plantations during the slave era. It was also pointed out that these generate negative connotations in both the Hispanic and Native American cultures. This not only had an effect on the Subordinate/ Community membership level but also at the Junior level. With the changing generations this could continue to grow as a barrier. The use of the title Master also has a negative effect on certain Christian sects as they feel "they only serve one Master". First impressions are important, especially when promoting our organization and asking people to join. We must remember as we have been told many times in membership seminars, "You only have one chance to make a first impression". To a lesser degree, the titles of the Stewards and Gatekeeper were also discussed.

Barriers can be characterized several ways and we must consider how others will perceive the concepts and ideas being presented. One area discussed was the lack of diversity in the stock photos used in many of our promotional materials. It was also pointed out in some of the promotional material, that the sentence "Traditional family values are promoted and woven into Grange activities and events", though understood by our members, could act as a barrier to some

individuals. The intent is to instill family values in our programs, but many will not get past the concept of only accepting "traditional" families.

In the review of the manuals and aspects of our meeting, the task force felt strongly that our ritual was the basis of our organization and did not create any major barriers. That being said, some concerns were raised about the use of Brother and Sister and the effect that may have on some people in the LGBTQ community, the Draping of the Charter Ceremony being Christian only, the idea of only a bible on the altar, and the use of some Christian Hymns in the Seventh Degree.

Recommendations

Resolutions were adopted during the 2002, 2003, and 2004 National Grange sessions for the use of alternate titles for several Officers including President for Master, Vice President for Overseer, Board of Directors for Executive Committee, Program Director for Lecturer, and Greeter for Gatekeeper. Also included in those resolutions was the use of Community Grange for Subordinate Grange. We see the need for taking this to a higher level and making these the primary titles in all of our communications, social media sites, press releases, as well as use in our meetings. Many of us remember the title change from Juvenile Grange to Junior Grange and how many people thought that would destroy that part of our Order. It did not happen, and they are still alive so many years later. Now is the time to take the next step in our Order and address the titles. Does this need to be addressed in our ritual as well? As mentioned above, we strongly support our ritual and leave this suggestion up to the Delegate Body.

When producing promotional and instructional material about our Order we should use more
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diverse photos, whether actual or stock prints. This is especially true in those materials focused on membership of Youth and Juniors. Society has changed with more single parent families, children being raised by grandparents and other family members, adoptive parents, and same sex families. These are all a part of and welcomed in our Granges now. When referring to our values emphasize that they are "Family Values" that include all our families.

When a problem or question arises about referring to a member as Brother or Sister, rather than causing hard feelings, common sense should be used. The presiding officer should speak with the member prior to a meeting and

perhaps use the title Patron or their name to avoid an embarrassing moment.

Not all of our current members are Christians. The Draping of the Charter Ceremony should be modified to allow for a poem or some appropriate verse for the past member's religion to be used in lieu of The Lord's Prayer if that past member was not of the Christian Faith.

Closing

Many of our recommendations may be construed as radical, unnecessary, or going too far by some of our members. We understand that, but as stated above, it has been done before and we must look to the future of our organization. The task force understands that

some of these changes would need approval at National Grange by delegate action. Because we are a Grassroot Organization, this would require resolutions adopted at a Community Grange and State Grange and being presented at National Grange. We ask that this report be distributed to the National Grange Officers as well as the State Presidents.

Our thanks to National President Huber for showing her trust in us and giving us the opportunity and honor to serve on the task force.

Respectfully Submitted,
F. Philip Prelli, Sharon Croucher, Edgar Hicks, Raymond Hayes, Jini Reynolds, Robert Beamon, Rick Grotton, Edna Mae Guerra, Yeseña Rangel

Classic Macaroni Salad with Ham



Summer is in full swing, and Fourth of July picnics and gatherings will sure feel good this year, after not being able to gather for so long. Whether you're gathering with a few close friends or throwing your Grange's biggest potluck picnic, this easy recipe for Classic Macaroni Salad with Ham from Southern Living will guarantee a star-spangled good time!

YIELD: Makes 8 to 10 servings

INGREDIENTS:

3 cups uncooked elbow macaroni
1 cup chopped cooked ham
1 cucumber, peeled, seeded, and diced
1 tomato, seeded and diced
1 small red bell pepper, diced
1 small yellow bell pepper, diced
1 small green bell pepper, diced
1 1/4 cups mayonnaise
1 1/2 teaspoons Cajun seasoning
2 teaspoons lemon juice
Salt to taste

INSTRUCTIONS: Prepare macaroni according to package directions. Drain and rinse with cold water until cool. Combine macaroni and next 9 ingredients until blended. Add salt. Cover and chill at least 2 hours.

SOURCE: <https://www.southernliving.com/recipes/classic-macaroni-salad-ham>

PHOTO CREDIT: Jen Causey



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

Address Service Requested

Forgiveness



Charles W. Dimmick
State Chaplain

Cheshire Grange No. 23
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Familiar words for all of us although, depending on what translation we use we might say “trespasses” or “sins” instead of debts. It also makes a difference whether we use the version appearing in the Gospel according to Matthew (the usual source), or the one in Luke’s Gospel. In Luke, the words used are “and forgive us our sins (Greek hamartia), for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted (Greek opheilonti) to us”

It is unfortunate that many people repeat the Lord’s Prayer automatically, by rote, without really pondering over just what is being said, particularly the part where we ask to be forgiven just as we have forgiven others. If we read Matthew’s gospel, Jesus emphasizes this point when he says, “For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive

others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.” (Matthew 6:14-15). Here, in the original Greek, a third word is used for trespasses, the Greek word paraptoma, which refers to a sin or misbehavior which oversteps prescribed boundaries.

This further instruction about forgiveness is very important and is unfortunately often overlooked. God will forgive our sins, or debts or trespasses if we show true repentance for what we have done [or in many cases for what we have not done that we should have done]. One way that we show repentance

is by forgiving others for what they have done to us or not done for us.

Some will say “I can forgive, but I will never forget.” Whether or not that is OK depends entirely on what is meant by “forget”. If you can “forget” whatever pain or anger another has caused you by their actions or inactions, and only remember that another person has shown human weakness, then you can forgive. Remember that nobody is perfect, and you and I have at times caused pain or anger in others. Forgive others, and then turn and forgive yourself, and God will also forgive you.

Ag Award Nominees Needed

Irene Percoski, Ag. Comm. Member

As time to State Session moves closer our Committee is reminding all members to consider someone who could be named for the Outstanding Agricultural Promoter Award. Nominees for this award should be someone who has demonstrated an excellence in promoting, advocating for, and /or supporting Agriculture in the State of Connecticut. This candidate does NOT HAVE TO BE A GRANGE MEMBER, and can be from any industry as long as they demonstrate leadership and professionalism in the promotion of agriculture.

Your nomination should include Name, Address and Phone No. , the name and number of the Grange, person to contact, phone and e-mail. Send a description of the types of activities for promoting agriculture that the candidate is involved in. describe the difference they have made in their community or Grange and what are the candidate’s goals, including any furthering education. Nominations must be received by September 1, by Director J. Allen Cameron.

The Committee strongly encourages that this award should properly be nominated through each of the Pomona Granges but is not a requirement. This award should not be confused with the Outstanding Young Agricultural Professional Award or Outstanding Agricultural Professional Award.

In the past few years these awards have been very few and far between. We are an agriculture organization and we all should be anxious to bring some praise to young and older members who work in the farming and gardening business. Get busy nominating now.

In Memoriam
Zella Ferrando
Glastonbury Grange #26
“Well done, good and faithful servants.”