



the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

Published Monthly

Vol. 65, No. 2

The Official News Magazine of the Connecticut State Grange

November 2024

From the President's Desk



Robert Buck
State President
Bethlehem Grange No.121
president@ctstateGrange.org

This month's "Speak Like a Champ" phrase from National Grange President Chris Hamp is "Situational Awareness." This refers to one's ability to be cognizant of your surroundings, to know what is going on around you, so that you may better use your judgment to fulfill your goals and objectives. This relates back to our personal interactions with people in our Grange dealings too. One can also take this awareness of surroundings out into the "wild" world as I do while birding. It was such awareness that allowed me to observe two Peregrine falcons a couple of days apart in late September and three bald eagles in one week in early October. Some of you may have seen these species at some point in your life and some may have not. They are there if you know where to look and are observant. Because of proximity of two of the eagle sightings, I can sure two of the three are the same bird while I know the two falcons are different birds because I know where each one lives. This is situational awareness in a nutshell. Try applying the principle to your interpersonal relationships and in the Grange.

Once again, the National Grange

sponsored Bonding Program payments have come due. It is imperative that your Grange officers be bonded. The State Grange pays these premiums to the National Grange and each Grange should pay their appropriate amount to the State Grange. Get your payments to the State Secretary Todd Gelineau

promptly.

It has come to my attention and yours that Normand Manning of Higganum Grange #124 went missing on October 6 and was found deceased on October 12 in Cockaponset State Forest. Our condolences to out to his family. I first met Normand while inspecting Central Pomona in Meriden while I was a Deputy. He was a dedicated

...Continued on page 2

National President visits Winchester



National Grange President Christine Hamp speaks to the members of Winchester Grange #74 at their Oct. 22 meeting. Hamp was accompanied by her husband Duane (Past President of the Washington State Grange). Winchester President Patrick O'Brien is pictured at right.

Todd Gelineau, Editor

Winchester Grange had the special honor of welcoming National Grange President Christine Hamp and Brother Duane Hamp to their October 22 meeting. Brother and Sister Hamp were in Connecticut for a few days after visiting the Maryland

State Grange Convention before traveling to the State Conventions in Vermont and New York. While in Connecticut, she and Duane wanted to visit a Community Grange in our state.

The evening began with a potluck
...Continued on page 2



Connecticut State Grange
A part of the National Grange



NEXT ISSUE:
Articles Due November 15

From the President's Desk

Continued from page one...

Grange member and former Camp Berger Trustee.

Terri Fassio recently held a Grange Virtual Social Hour on Artificial Intelligence and its uses for Grange work. For all the work Terri does to assemble these programs, it would be nice to see more attend them. AI can be very useful when used productively although lately we hear of some of its nefarious uses as well. This program will be posted on the CSG YouTube page so you can view it there.

As I write, I am anticipating our 140th Annual Session to begin tomorrow in Norwich, the National Representatives are Roger and Melanie Bostwick from Kansas. Roger is the High Priest of Demeter so I guess I better do well in my ritual work! We have 18 resolutions to consider. I just got a text from the National President wishing us a great Session, and I think it will be. We have election of officers this year. I won't say these two years of my term as President have flown by as there have been several challenges along the way. I will say it has been an honor and privilege to serve the Connecticut State Grange as your President and hope I am elected to serve another term. I will cut off here and complete this after the Session...

The 140th Annual State Session was great and thanks to everyone who made it so. Jeff Barnes picked up our National Representatives in Providence and Jody dropped them off again on Sunday for their return flight home to Kansas. Brother Bostwick brought the Sacred Record of the Assembly of Demeter so people had a chance to see it. In his address to the Delegates, he shared his thoughts with us. We had a total of 20 resolutions. Ten people received the Sixth Degree. Congratulations to

them! Maggie and I thank Family Activities Director Dawn Percoski and her committee for the nice gifts. Election of officers produced 1 change. We have a new Gatekeeper, Aili McKeen of Wallingford Grange #33. Ted Beebe will continue as a Deputy.

I want to announce the Pomona Honor Granges here: #1 goes to Nutmeg Pomona #16, #2 goes to Mountain Laurel Pomona #15, and #3 to Eastern Connecticut Pomona #14. Two Community Granges submitted Honor Grange reports but neither qualified for the award.



At Winchester Grange on Oct. 22: (L to R) Maggie Buck and State President Robert Buck; State Treasurer Jody Cameron and Jodi Ann Cameron; National President Christine Hamp and Duane Hamp.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT...*Cont. from pg. 1* supper where members were able to chat with the Hamps who were accompanied by State Treasurer Jody Cameron and Sister Cameron.

Winchester was also pleased to welcome State President Robert Buck and Sister Maggie Buck and State Lecturer David Roberts.

Sister Hamp congratulated the members of Winchester Grange for having a beautiful hall and for creating a "safe space" for members to talk and work together.

She spoke of our role as leaders to "pass the baton" to the next generation of leaders and spoke

Certificates are to follow soon.

Next, Vice President Ted Powell and I are off to the 158th National Grange Convention in Bettendorf, IA. I am serving on the Citizenship and Taxation Committee. The High Priest of Demeter has asked me to portray the Second Mystagogue in the Seventh Degree.

At lunch Saturday, during the Junior and Youth Committee reports, Angelina DeDominicis of Hillstown Grange #87 and the Junior Committee introduced us to a catchy pop tune by Chappell Roan named "Hot To Go". Is your Grange ready for the new year to come? Are you all Hot To Go?

about change by saying... "If the Seven Founders are looking at us now, they're saying 'Gosh, I hope these guys get it figured out and they keep making the little tweaks and the little pivots you need to make to keep this going.' It was not their intention that whatever they started, darn it, that's what it says, that's the way we're doing it forever. We can't do that, you can't do that. We can't expect different results... keep making this [Grange] relevant in this community."

The meeting was well-attended by members and guests both in-person and on Zoom.



2024-2025 Officers & Committees

With a new term comes a new slate of officers, deputies and committees. While many have returned to their previous positions, there have been some changes. Contact information will be printed in the upcoming State Directory.

OFFICERS

President Robert Buck Bethlehem
 Vice President . . Ted Powell Coventry
 Lecturer David Roberts Riverton
 Steward Jaimie Cameron . . Ekonk Comm.
 A. Steward . . . Donald Lanoue Cheshire
 LA Steward . . . Dawn Anstett Riverton
 Chaplain Charles Dimmick Cheshire
 Treasurer Jody A. Cameron . . Ekonk Comm.
 Secretary Todd A. Gelineau . . . Winchester
 Gatekeeper . . . Aili McKeen Wallingford
 Ceres Jane Miller Cheshire
 Pomona Carol Hnath Ekonk Comm.
 Flora Michelle DeDominicis . Hillstown
 Pianist Mary Lou Keefe Winchester
 Exec. Comm. . . . Ruel Miller Cheshire
 Exec. Comm. . . . George Russell Riverton
 Exec. Comm. . . . Noel Miller Coventry
 Exec. Comm. . . . Alma Graham (Chr.) . . . Coventry
 Exec. Comm. . . . Nancy Strong Vernon

DEPUTIES

General Peter Keefe Winchester
 Deputy Theodore Beebe Coventry
 Deputy Debbie Vail Winchester
 Deputy Earl Phillips Winchester
 Deputy Sandy Phillips Winchester

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Dawn Percoski, Director Vernon
 Claudia Sopstyle Vernon
 Paricia Tarca Simsbury
 Angelina DeDominicis Hillstown

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & RETENTION

Jody A. Cameron, Co-Director Ekonk Comm.
 Jodi Ann Cameron, Co-Director . . . Ekonk Comm.
 Jeffrey Barnes N. Stonington Comm.
 Deborah Barnes N. Stonington Comm.
 Elizabeth Jensen Redding

YOUTH

Dawn Anstett, Director. Riverton
 Jaimie Cameron Ekonk Comm.
 Chloe Donihee Coventry
 Violet Donihee Coventry

JUNIOR

Michelle DeDominicis Hillstown
 Angelina DeDominicis Hillstown
 Desiree Richards Stonington

LEGISLATIVE

Noel Miller, Director Coventry
 Charles Dimmick Cheshire
 Susan Masino Simsbury
 Barbara Prindle Taghhannuck
 Aili McKeen Wallingford

AGRICULTURE

Kristina Donihee, Director Coventry
 Chloe Donihee Coventry
 Violet Donihee Coventry

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Terri Fassio, Co-Director Winchester
 Robert Charbonneau, Co-Director Cheshire
 Roy Harrington Hemlock
 Debbie Hanlon Taghhannuck
 Megan Flanagan Taghhannuck

RITUAL

Donald Lanoue Cheshire
 Peter Keefe Winchester

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Ted Powell Coventry

EDUCATION

Dawn Percoski (Co-Director) Vernon
 Nancy Strong (Co-Director) Vernon
 Aili McKeen Wallingford

FUNDRAISING

Robert Buck Bethlehem
 George Russell Riverton
 Noel Miller Coventry
 Jody Cameron Ekonk Comm.
 Phil Prelli Riverton
 Karen Macdonald Greenfield Hill

COMMITTEE ON STATE SESSION

George Russell Riverton
 Noel Miller Coventry
 Robert Buck Bethlehem
 Jody Cameron Ekonk Comm.
 Todd A. Gelineau Winchester

Resolution Results

A grand total of 20 resolutions were considered at the 140th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange. The text of all resolutions previously printed in the Connecticut Granger are not re-printed here. Only two resolutions written and adopted at the Session. Those resolutions are printed below. The results of the deliberations are as follows:

- 1) RE: Rising College Costs Correction . . .** Rejected
- 2) RE: Controlling Interest Rates for College Loans** Adopted
This resolution requests Federal Student Loan interest rates to be set under 3% and forgive all past high interest rates.
- 3) RE: State Grange Family Dues** Adopted
This resolution changes the amount remitted to the State Grange for each Family Dues plan to \$15.00. This change will go into effect for the Quarterly Report due March 30, 2025.
- 4) RE: Student Loan Bankruptcy Restrictions** Rejected
- 5) RE: Transparency & Accountability Related to Quarterly Dues to CSG** Rejected
- 6) RE: Changes to Recognition of 80 Year Grange Members** Adopted
This resolution has been sent on to National Grange and would establish a more impressive form of recognition for 80 year members (currently a letter).
- 7) RE: Bear-Proof Trash Barrels** Rejected
- 8) RE: Light Pollution** Adopted
This resolution encourages the state to enact policies that would reduce light pollution in the state.
- 9) RE: Protect Critical Habitat.** Adopted
This resolution seeks to preserve headwaters, natural buffers on water, wetlands, and critical habitats such as old-growth forests on public lands.
- 10) RE: Local Farms and Local Food** Adopted
This resolution provides for increased SNAP benefits re-defines CT grown foods as "local whole food".
- 11) RE: Affordable Housing** Rejected
- 12) RE: Student Loan Bankruptcy Restrictions .** Adopted
This resolution requests Congress to re-think the Federal Student Loan program and to allow debtors to bankrupt out of student loan debt.
- 13) RE: Balanced CSG Budget** Adopted
This resolution requires balanced State Grange budgets.
- 14) RE: Hard to Find Policies** Rejected
- 15) RE: Elections by Popular Vote** Rejected

- 16) RE: Initiation of Members Via Electronic Means** Rejected
 - 17) RE: Resolutions to State Grange** Adopted
This resolution requires all resolutions (beginning in 2025 to be forwarded to the appropriate Pomona Grange for adoption prior to submission to State Grange for Delegate action.
 - 18) RE: Submission of Resolutions to State Grange** Adopted
This resolution requires all resolutions submitted to the State Grange to be submitted by the Grange Secretary with the date of adoption and the name(s) of the Grange(s) adopting the resolution clearly noted on the resolutions.
 - 19) RE: President's Address.** Adopted
WHEREAS President Rob Buck gave his 2nd annual President's Address at the opening of the 140th Annual State Session of the Connecticut State Grange, and
WHEREAS he addressed many areas of the Connecticut State Grange and many ideas to form a stronger Grange and even be a stronger Granger.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED we commend him on his address and encourage all members of the Connecticut State Grange to read and reflect on the words of our State President and take those points and ideas and implement them within our Subordinate Granges and Pomona Granges to show we are all Grange Strong.
 - 20) RE: Affordable Housing** Adopted
WHEREAS affordable housing is referred to as a "crisis," and despite a large state budget surplus, there is a years-long waiting list for rental assistance, and
WHEREAS many local farms can house farmworkers (and others) very affordably, and
WHEREAS existing public and private buildings across the state could be repurposed for housing.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Connecticut General Assembly recognizes that immediate and low cost options to provide affordable housing in this crisis include expanding access to full or partial rental assistance, mortgage assistance, workforce housing, and adaptive reuse of current buildings, and the Connecticut General Assembly incentivizes cities and towns that develop such options.
- Start working on your resolutions for 2025 now. It will take more planning to get them ready for State Session as you will have to coordinate with your Pomona Grange's meeting schedule to have them adopted in time.



**Jody & Jodi Ann
Cameron**
Membership Co-Dir.
Ekonk Comm. Grange No. 89
membership@ctstategrange.org

We've all been told no or at least should have! That little word has affected us differently based on the context. When we were little, we were told "no" to protect us. "No, don't touch that, that's HOT." "No, you can't pack the cat in the suitcase so he can meet Mickey too!" Ok that one's extreme, but I am sure it's been said before.

As we get older no can just become an easy excuse or an out. "Are you going to the meeting?"



"No, too busy." "Are you going to be home on time?" "No, busy." "Are you going to eat the last donut?" "YES! I'm not a fool, who would say no to the last donut!"

We've all been told no, and from that we've learned something. What have we learned from being told no when asking capable, qualified people to join our Grange? Now, there is a difference between listening and learning. We may listen to the reason for no and we may not. Did you ask if there was any way your Grange could

change that into a yes? Did you compile the NO's and have an open candid discussion with your active membership on how you can adjust programming to accommodate and overcome the NO? Did you LISTEN to the prospective member and understand what they would be looking for to convert the NO into a YES?

There is no magic wand we can wave and get people banging on our doors asking to join our Granges, it takes thoughtful planning, execution and effort. We challenge each of you to commit to developing a real plan on growing your Grange.

Over the next couple of months, we will be introducing opportunities for Grangers to develop skills and confidence to be able to grow their Grange. Tis will be through these articles, ZOOM and hopefully some in-person training. Keep an eye out for what lies ahead.

**the
Connecticut Granger**
Published Monthly



WW II Flying Fortress "Connecticut Granger"

STAFF

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

DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

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

Winchester Center, CT 06094
or Todd Gelineau, Editor
P.O. Box 1134, Sharon, CT 06069
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Community Service

*Ted Powell, Community
Service Director*

2024

Service Hours:

50,801

I would like to thank all the Granges for reporting their Community Service hours this year. There were 50,801 hours

reported this year... great job! We had 7 Granges with 50 members and under send in books, 2 Granges with 50 or more members send in

books. Our two Junior Granges sent in books and we had one plus one entry. I am asking all of you to send in your community service hours again this year and I hope to see more books this year. Granges that have Plus 1 members, please send in books. Thank you all for your support.

WE DESIRE A PROPER EQUALITY, AND FAIRNESS; PROTECTION FOR THE WEAK; RESTRAINT UPON THE STRONG; IN SHORT, JUSTLY DISTRIBUTED POWER. THESE ARE AMERICAN IDEALS, THE VERY ESSENCE OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE, AND TO ADVOCATE THE CONTRARY IS UNWORTHY OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF OUR REPUBLIC. Grange Declaration of Purposes

FFA Team Places 7th in Indianapolis



In the September issue, we shared the thank you notes received from Olivia Lipps and Caleb Tefft. Olivia and Caleb participated in the Forestry Contest sponsored by the Connecticut State Grange at the Connecticut FFA Convention.

Olivia and Caleb are students at E.O. Smith High School which is part of the Storrs Regional FFA and competed in the National FFA Forestry Contest held in Indianapolis in October. We congratulate the team for receiving a gold medal and for placing 7th in the nation!

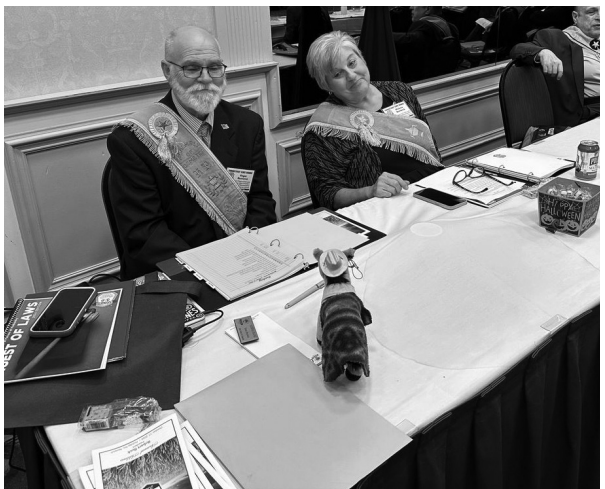
Left to Right: Mackenzie Bond, Olivia Lipp, Jesus Meza Diaz and Caleb Tefft.



We met up with Chris and Duane Hamp at Winchester Grange the other night on their travels through the area on the way to several State Sessions. We all had a great potluck dinner and a fun evening. Maggie joined us on this visitation. State Pianist Mary Lou Keefe is in the background.



It was my honor to wish Shirley Moore the happiest 100th birthday at State Session.



I'm sitting patiently with General Deputy Peter Keefe, waiting for the start of the 2nd day session of the 140th Annual CT State Grange Session.

Getting advice from the National Reps., the Bostwicks, at State Session in Norwich. I hear it's properly pronounced "Naw'-rich."



Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

Elevating Your Grange Bake Sale

by Terri Fassio, PR Co-Director

There's just something about a Grange bake sale that brings communities together. The aroma of fresh pastries, the vibrant array of cookies and cakes, and the chance to indulge in sweet treats all blend to create an irresistible atmosphere. But let's be honest: a basic table with some plastic wrap just isn't going to cut it anymore if you want to rake in the bucks. So, how can you elevate your Grange bake sale and make it truly memorable? Let's whip up some fantastic ideas that will attract buyers and ensure your Grange fundraiser is a smashing success!

Set the Scene with a Theme:

First things first: let's make your bake sale visually appealing. A cohesive theme can transform a simple table into a visually stunning display. Here are a few ideas to get those creative juices flowing:

- **Seasonal Delights:** Tailor treats that reflect the current season. For instance, autumn flavors like pumpkin spice and caramel apples or summer treats like berry pies and lemonade bars can infuse your sale with seasonal charm.

- **Holidays:** Align your bake sale with upcoming holidays. Think red, white, and blue for the Fourth of July or spooktacular decorations for Halloween. Get crafty with your displays — perhaps using wreaths for Christmas cookies or spooky tablecloths for Halloween goodies.

- **Healthy Bakes:** More folks are leaning towards healthy eating. Consider offering gluten-free, vegan, or protein-rich snacks to cater to diverse dietary preferences.

Setting a theme not only beautifies your table but also creates a narrative around your sale, draw-

ing in customers who appreciate the effort.

Showcase Your Creativity

Incorporate unique and visually stunning treats that will entice folks to stop by. Here are some innovative ideas:

- **Mini Versions:** Instead of full-sized desserts, offer mini brownies, cupcakes, or tartlets. They're cute, easy to grab, and encourage people to taste a variety of treats without the commitment of a larger dessert.

- **Customizable Treats:** Set up a DIY station where buyers can decorate their cookies or cupcakes. Providing various toppings like sprinkles, icing, and edible glitter allows customers to express their creativity and makes your event even more fun!

- **Artistic Presentation:** Instead of just stacking cookies in a box, think outside the box — literally! Use cupcake stands, tiered trays, or vintage cake platters to display your goodies. Attractive labeling (perhaps with some handwritten tags) can also add a personal touch.

Create Buzz with Social Media

In our digital age, it's essential to harness the power of social media to spread the word about your Grange bake sale. Here are some tips to maximize your online presence:

- **Sneak Peeks:** Post tantalizing photos of your baked goods in the days leading up to the sale. Use vibrant imagery to showcase your treats, behind-the-scenes baking moments, and your preparation process. Captions like "These aren't your ordinary cookies!" will generate excitement.

- **Engagement:** Encourage your friends and followers to share your

posts. Consider running a small contest where they can tag friends for a chance to win a special treat at the sale.

- **Event Pages:** Create an event page on Facebook or other platforms to detail the where, when, and what of your Grange bake sale. People love knowing what to expect and will be more likely to mark their calendars!

Engage the Community

A Grange bake sale isn't just about selling goods; it's also a chance to foster community spirit. Engage locals with these fun ideas:

- **Invite Local Businesses:** Team up with nearby businesses or craftspeople to create a marketplace atmosphere. You can have local artisans, musicians, or even a face painter to draw in families.

- **Promote Local Brands:** Incorporate ingredients from local suppliers or farms to show your support for the community. Showcase local flavors by grabbing some neighborhood honey or jams to use in your recipes!

- **Offer Samples:** Everyone loves a free sample! Keep a few bites ready for those who are just browsing. This encourages browsing and, inevitably, buying. Just ensure to keep things hygienic and grab friendly.

Your bake sale can be a delightful way to raise funds for your Grange projects, activities and causes while bringing your community together. By leveraging creative themes, engaging social media, innovative treats, and community involvement, you can elevate your bake sale from ordinary to extraordinary.

So roll up your sleeves, grab that mixing bowl, and transform your Grange bake sale into an event that everyone will be talking about! With a sprinkle of creativity and a dash of community spirit, you're all set for a successful day filled with smiles, sweet treats, and satisfied buyers.

Happy baking!



Hillstown Halloween Fun

NORTH STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

Nov. 8: Sheep Wars?

Nov. 22: No Meeting - Happy Thanksgiving

We continue to learn about the history of our country through its many wars and rebellions. Sue's programs are very interesting and informative. We wish more of you would come and enjoy them. We are curious to see what the Sheep Wars are all about.

Sending get-well wishes to our members who are under the weather. We miss you.

By the time this column reaches you Christmas will be right around the corner, and if those pesky leaves we enjoy so much in the summer will just blow themselves away when they all over the yard next time we will tell you all about outstanding October.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Corr: Irene Percoski

Nov. 1: Food Insecurity, Grocery Bingo Bring items for prizes. Refreshments - Cherrie.

Dec. 6: This Magical Time of Year

Jan. 3: Sense Of Wonder (ZOOM)

There was a good showing for the Oct. meeting. Six attended and six on Zoom. Family Activities Director gave a report on the amount taken in donations for the VT. Quilt. \$6003.00 which will be used for their Josh Pollatta Fund in Colchester VT. Our 2025 community service book is already starting to fill. Two



Members of Hillstown Grange and Hillstown Junior Grange celebrated Halloween with a party at the Grange Hall in October.

new projects are in the works. There will be something for everyone to do. A motion was made and seconded to send \$300.00 to the NC State Grange Disaster Fund. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to those communities that were so badly destroyed. A thought-provoking quiz about important "Firsts" kept us digging in the past and a beautiful set of readings spelled out the word "Grange". All followed by a

wonderful closing prayer by our new Chaplain. Next month will be our grocery bingo. Please bring at least 3 non-perishable food items which will be used for prizes and also donated to the food shelf. Since our meetings are so early in the month it is hard to plan how many people will attend as this publication usually comes after the meeting. Looking forward to December be prepared for a possible cookie exchange. The rest of the winter will be Zoom through March. Plan accordingly. **Reminder: the deadline for pinwheels is Thanksgiving.**

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

Norfield Grange #146 Hurricane Relief



Thank you to Al's Angels for delivering the much needed supplies to Asheville, NC. And thank you to Kami Evans Candidate for District 26 who helped find 12+ donation locations (1 being the Norfield Grange #146 in Weston, CT)...so proud that we were a collection location for such a worthy cause. Thank you to all who stepped up in Weston & Beyond for our neighbors in NC in need post Hurricane Helene. So glad to be a part of it!!

Wolcott Grange Psychic



It was so nice to have our doors open and lights on again! We had a completely full house tonight for our sold out group psychic medium reading with Julia Jette. Thank you to our community for coming out tonight, we hope you enjoyed the experience. We laughed together, cried together, and found peace together. If you were there tonight, leave us a comment! Thank you to Julia Jette for fundraising for us and for sharing her incredible gift with others.

Night of Wonders

A fantastical evening with performances by several famous magicians

Friday, November 15, 7pm
\$20 advance, \$25 at the door, seating limited at the Wallingford Grange

Grab a friend or significant other - a great night out.

PATTI GRIFFIN

Whispers from Heaven
Psychic Medium

Get your guide

POSTPONED TIL JAN 19
If you've purchased a seat, it will be good for this show
For a refund please call / text/ email

CALL / TEXT or Email
203-521-5806 /
oxfordctgrange@gmail
FOR RESERVATION & GUARANTEED SEAT
WALK INS WELCOME

See Patti at:
The Oxford Grange
482 Oxford Rd
Oxford CT

Join us for "Whigsgiving"

Pot-Luck style dinner.

Email psmaldone@comcast.net with questions or to declare what you are bringing

NEW THIS YEAR!
**We will collect food items for the Burlington Food Pantry in the foyer entrance. *Thank you in advance for your generosity!*

Saturday, November 16, 2024
5:00-9:00 p.m.
Whigville Grange
153 South Main Street
Burlington, CT

National Grange Foundation Accepting Board of Directors Nominations

The **Grange Foundation** will accept nominations for members of the Board of Directors through November 1.

Submit names and bios to ngfb@grange.org and champ@nationalgrange.org.

Election will occur at the National Grange Session on November 11th, 2024.

WINDOW TO THE PAST

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



No answers were received for last month's photo but the person pictured identified herself-- this is Irene Percoski of Vernon Grange dressed as Carmen Miranda at a State Session program years ago. We were able to provide her with the color copy of this photo that she wished she had.

Photo Session With Santa Bill



November 2 & 3
8:30am - 4:00pm

15 Min Sessions
Min. of 4 Images Delivered Digitally
All New Backdrop

Location:
Cannon Grange
25 Cannon Road Wilton

All Fund Collected are Donated to
Local Charities

Sponsored by CT Santa Society

Scan to Register with
Sign Up Genius



\$100 per
registration

SEA GLASS ART CLASS

Hosted by



Saturday, November 30th
12:30-2:30 pm
at the Wolcott Public Library

Cost is \$30 per person and includes everything you need
to make one unique artpiece. Ideas, examples, and
supplies provided.

RSVP to Karen (203)233-1216
Venmo @Karen-Mowad



MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15

Corr: Debbie Vail

Just a reminder that we will have a \$10 Gift Exchange at our December Pomona Meeting to be held on Saturday, December 7 at Winchester Grange Hall beginning with a catered luncheon at 12:30 PM followed by the meeting. Homemade items are always welcome. Last year someone made a dessert in a reusable pan. Everyone was trying to figure out who the gift-giver was.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

Nov. 8: Super Prize Party and Bake Sale, 7:00 PM with doors opening at 6 PM

Nov. 12: National Peanut Butter Lover's Month, Ref. Randy & Kin Carlson

Nov. 26: Sweet Potato Awareness Month, Ref. Pam Wright

Dec. 10: Christmas Gifts & Party, Ref. Pam Wright. \$10 Grab Bag & Christmas Country Store

Dec. 24: Meeting Omitted for Christmas

It's almost time for the Winchester Grange Fall Super Prize Party and Bake Sale on Nov. 8 with the doors opening at 6:00 PM, drawing at 7:00 PM. Join us for great prizes, food and fun!

As was reported elsewhere in this issue, it was a tremendous honor to welcome National Grange President Christine Hamp and her husband Duane to our Oct. 22 meeting. She was gracious and left us with many words of encouragement and some thoughts on the future of our Grange.

Our Secretary thanks all members

Line Dancers at Simsbury



Simsbury Community members Line Dancing at the Simsbury Grange

who have paid their dues and extra thanks to those who included an extra donation.

TAGHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Barbara Prindle

Nov. 2: Grange Square/Contra Dance 7PM-9PM by Dance Committee, Ref. by All

Nov. 14: Baseball by Dennis Jasmine, Ref. Janet Nickson

Dec. 12: Cookie Exchange by All, Ref. Cookies & Milk by all. Bring 4 dozen of 1 kind of cookie to make up plates for the food pantries.

Jan. 9: Wreaths Across America by Bill Dinneen, Ref. by Bill Dinneen

Feb. 1: Grange Square/Contra Dance by Dance Committee, Ref. All

Feb. 13: Love One Another by Ruth Schnell, Ref. by Ruth Schnell

Note: Refreshments and Social Time at 7PM with meeting at 7:30 PM.

Our October meeting had a Halloween theme with costumes optional. Barbara Prindle obligated Andrus Nichols and welcomed her as a new member of our Grange. We discussed our Potluck/Awards dinner to be held on Oct. 24th. Ruth Schnell will receive her 65 year seal. The largest part of the meeting was a lively discussion of all 18 resolutions to be voted on at the Connecticut State Grange Session. We do this so

everyone can say yes or no on each resolution. Then Debbie and I, as delegates, can reflect the vote of our Grange and not just our opinions.

I am writing this as I wait for 250 bicycle riders to stop here at our Grange Hall. They are taking part in the Lime Rock Park Epic which is a cycling event that combines aspects of road cycling, mountain biking, and cyclocross. This is the 3rd year they use our Grange hall as a "pit stop" where they have lunch and since it is raining, they can change into dry clothes. It is a great way to get people into our hall and talk to them about the Grange.

BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Dorothy Fairchild

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 24th. We will be donating an entire Thanksgiving dinner to a local family in need and collecting additional groceries for the Food Pantry as well.

We enjoyed the company of our State Officer Ted Powell who attended our October meeting.

Bethlehem Grange's Cheryl and Ray Johnstone, our dedicated Grange couple, stated that they were prepared to go to the State session.

To start off the new year of Horticulture study, Dorothy F. was in charge and her subject the squash

is classified as a fruit.

We have plans to go to a restaurant for our Christmas party on Sunday, December 8th at 1 pm. So, we won't be meeting at the hall. Anyone who would care to join us may call Al Maddox. Happy Thanksgiving.

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: David Roberts

Nov. 9: Annual Salute to Veterans Dinner, Riverton Grange Hall, 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Nov. 10-16: 158th National Grange Convention, Bettendorf, Iowa

Nov. 24: Sixth Bi-annual American Flag Retirement Ceremony, Riverton Vol. Fire Department, 3 Riverton Road, Riverton

Riverton Grange met on October 4th for our regular monthly meeting, both virtually and in person. Tillie Jackson and Raine Pedersen provided refreshments to honor the 100th birthday of Sister Shirley Moore. The Lecturer's Program was led by Sister Raine Pedersen and titled "Boo . . . Here Comes Halloween!" 41 members and guests attended and filled the hall. All but one elected officer was in attendance! The Grange voted overwhelmingly to invite the "Barkhamsted Seniors" volunteer group to use the Riverton Grange Hall as their new home. The Barkhamsted Seniors at Riverton Grange #169 Inc. is a nonprofit organization that provides essential services to seniors, disabled individuals, and low-income residents in the Barkhamsted, CT, area. Unlike government-run programs, it operates through community support and offers social, wellness, and educational programs to improve quality of life. This initiative is a successor to the Barkhamsted Senior Center, continuing its legacy of service without relying on taxpayer funding. It was also agreed that the Veteran of the Month ceremony would now be held at the Grange Hall, with the first ceremony on October 6th.

SIMSBURY GRANGE #197

Corr: Marguerite Smith

Oct. 7: We conducted our monthly meeting on a Monday this month and

Shirley Moore celebrates 100



Shirley Moore celebrates her 100th birthday at a special reception at Riverton Grange. She is pictured at center with her daughters, Cynthia Levine (left) and Susan Belle-Isle (right).

had a record turnout.

Discussion centered around possible new members, resolutions for the CT state session, and newly completed work on our building to include painting, carpentry, replacing the main set of stairs and several other small jobs. Our building has never looked so good! Several members were running outside to see the light in the repaired cupola which hasn't been functional for many

years. We also discussed plans for our Line Dance Event from 6:00-8:30 on October 11th which was a great success. The strength of our grange is in the fact that ALL our grange members pitch in to set up, cook and serve food and take down/clean up. Last but not least, we discussed possible programs in the months to come so be sure to check us out.

Nov. 14 - next meeting at the Grange at 7:00 pm.



Wolcott Grange held a Clean-Up event on October 6. It's great to see this Grange coming alive again.



NUTMEG POMONA #16

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

The next meeting of Nutmeg Pomona will be held on Sunday December 1st at Cheshire Grange at 2 o'clock. Lecturer Robert Charbonneau programs is titled "Reindeer Games". For those who wish to participate we will have a \$5.00 grab bag. Refreshments will be provided by Cheshire and Wallingford Granges.

Family Activities Jane Miller would appreciate donations for the Country Store.

On the agenda will be a decision on Insurance.

The new handbooks were distributed at the last meeting. If you didn't get yours, please check with Secretary Joanne.

The officers and members of Nutmeg Pomona extend our sincere sympathies to the family of Norman Manning of Higganum Grange. May loving memories bring you strength.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Ruel Miller

Nov. 6: Harvest Time

Nov. 20: Thanksgiving

Our Fair this year was successful. We are finalizing various reports and the final report to the State Department of Agriculture. We have two new officers, Diane Calabro, Treasurer, and her husband David, Assistant Steward. We welcomed a new member, Dale Nies. We are planning a fundraising roast beef dinner for a local hiking club on Nov. 2nd.

WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

Corr: Stephen Fengler

Wallingford Grange is gearing

up for several events in November. First, we will be having a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, November 9th between 8:30am – 11am in which veterans eat free. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for kids. In conjunction with the November Pancake Breakfast, we will be offering the opportunity for youth to write and decorate cards out for veterans at the VA Connecticut Health Care System. We will also be hosting a cake decorating class on Wednesday, November 13th between 6pm – 8pm.

In addition, we will be having a magician show starting at 7pm on Friday, November 15th, that will be hosted by the Society of American Magicians. They will be hosting the show with award winning talent who have been recognized on the local and national level. Finally, Wallingford Grange will be also putting together and making "Thanksgiving Side Kits" to provide for a local food pantry and to celebrate the "Harvest Time" of the year.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

As we start a new Grange year, we start a new theme for our programs. This year Horses. The first one was presented at our October meeting by Carol Brooks. Very interesting and informative. Program ended with a game of "Pin the Tale on the Donkey." Everyone fell in love with her donkey.

We were happy to have Paul

Forte of Wolcott Grange and 2 new members come and visit us.

Our next meeting is November 8th program "Cats" in charge of Marianne Nielsen. Refreshments P-B and J.

Our December meeting is on the 13th and will be our Christmas Party with a pot luck supper at 6 o'clock. \$5.00 grab bag. Program "Beavers" in charge of Marilyn Maxwell.

Our tag sale continue the third Saturday of each month from 9 to 3. September's theme was "apples". We had a lot of apple items including apple cake and home made items. October "Pumpkins and Halloween. Pumpkin muffins were the treat of the day. Next sale November 16th.

Open Mic held the same day from 2 to 5. Come and enjoy the entertainment or participate. At our December Open Mic we will have the drawing of our raffle at 3 o'clock. Call Joanne at 203-754-5863 or Pat at 203-927-5383 for tickets.

Members are reminded that dues are now payable. Save us postage and send in yours without receiving a bill.

From all of us at Beacon Valley to all of you "Happy Thanksgiving".

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Nov. 8: Let's Talk Turkey

Nov. 22: Omitted for Thanksgiving

Dec. 13: It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year.

Dec. 27: Omitted for Christmas

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.





SUPPLY STORE

www.grangestore.org

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***NEW* GRANGE STRONG SOCKS**

Limited quantity available!

Show and wear your Grange Pride at various events and activities, especially at State and National Conventions!

Featuring the #GrangeStrong logo on a light gray sock.

80% combined cotton, 15% nylon and 5% elastane.

One size fits most

\$16.00 plus shipping

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Order online through the Grange Supply Store at grangestore.org or call Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.



The Riverfield House Candle Co.

You're invited to Norfield Grange's

Sip & Pour Workshop

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 6th from 7 - 9 PM
Sip & Pour Candle making at Norfield Grange


\$40/pp pre-paid
\$50 at the door
Space is limited!
FMI: NorfieldGrange@gmail.com



venmo

Wed., Nov 6 7-9 PM 12 Good Hill Road

CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE



Round Table Discussion for Pomona Granges



Join us as we discuss all aspects of Pomona Granges



Sunday, December 8, 2024 7:00 PM

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

Riverton Grange 2024 Tree Festival



..... ❖
Anyone is welcome to submit a tree: clubs, organizations and individuals.

Trophies awarded for Adult & Youth: Individual/Group/Organization that brings in most food donations for The Community Food Bank and the tree that is most popular.

All trees need to fit on top of a table, ideal size is between 2' and 3' tall, and trees need to be in place by 4:00 PM on December 6, 2024

emaildawnanstett@gmail.com for more information

Holiday Boutique



All things holiday
Thanksgiving to Christmas
to New Year's
Vendors, Crafts, Food

November 16th, 2024 10:00 am to 3:00 pm



Greenfield Hill Grange
1873 Hillside Rd.
Fairfield, CT 06824

Breakfast, Lunch, & Refreshments available

For info:
Call Steve Golias
203.367.4373




SUNDAY NOV 10 2-5 pm
OXFORD GRANGE
402 OXFORD RD

DOOR PRIZES
FAMILY FUN
ALL WELCOME
MUSIC

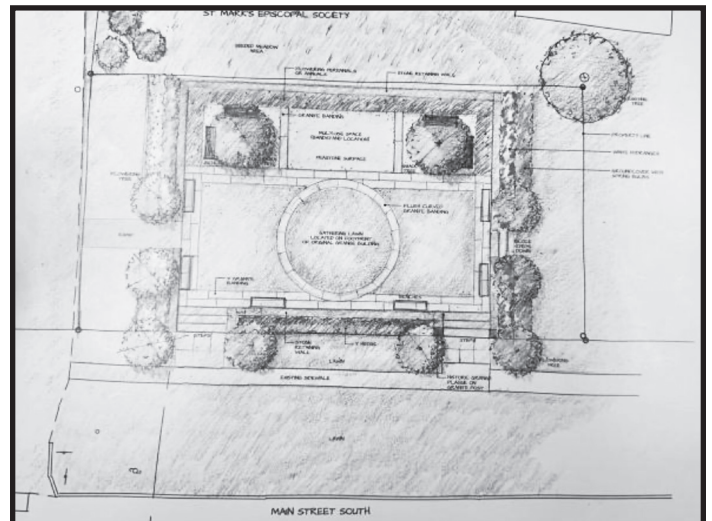
...AND HOLIDAY FAIR, CRAFTS, BAKED GOODIES, AND TRACTOR SHOW IN OUR PARKING LOT.

Free TO ENTER YOUR CHILI- CALL/TEXT 203-521-5806 OR OXFORDCTGRANGE@GMAIL
More info: Facebook: [OxfordGrangeNo194](https://www.facebook.com/OxfordGrangeNo194)

Bridgewater Grange Park becoming reality



The Town of Bridgewater has broken ground on the new “Bridgewater Grange Park” to occupy the land previously home of Bridgewater Grange Hall. Excavation has begun and the work is being done by The Green Spot. Most of the stonework should be completed before winter, followed by plantings and turf next spring. The plans were created by Artemis, the same landscape architects who designed the Sandy Hook Memorial. Design oversight for Bridgewater is an advisory committee consisting of Greg Bollard, Larina Cipolla, Jeff Jones, Tamsin Looker and Carol Wilbur. Bridgewater Grange currently meets at St. Mark’s Church which is adjacent to the Grange Park property



WINCHESTER GRANGE

HOLIDAY SUPER PRIZE PARTY & BAKE SALE

Friday, November 8th

- Doors Open: 6:00 PM •
- Drawing Begins: 7:00 PM •

Penny Auction / Tea Cup Auction / Country Store
all rolled into one Super Prize Event!

Free Admission & Parking

Winchester Grange Hall
100 Newfield Road • Winchester Center, CT
(Intersection of Route 263 and Newfield Road)

www.WINCHESTERGRANGE.org



Homemade Christmas Cookie Sale

Selling cookies by the pound.

You select your cookies!

Sponsored by

The Whigville Grange

Saturday, December 7th, 10 AM to 1PM

Terryville Congregational Church

233 Main St, Terryville

Free parking and admission



Peacemakers



Charles W. Dimmick
State Chaplain

Cheshire Grange No. 23
chaplain@ctstateGrange.org

But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. *James 3:17-18*

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. *Matthew 5:9*

Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies. Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. *Psalms 34:13-14*

A peacemaker is a person who brings about peace, especially by reconciling adversaries. The term “adversaries” is very broad, in that there are so many possibilities of who or what adversaries may be. They range from countries, to rival political viewpoints to differences among the members of an organization, to members of your own family to, finally, personal internal conflicts.

An ancient Chinese proverb, sometimes ascribed to Confucius, states:

“If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the



character.

If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home.

If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nations.

When there is order in the nations, there will be peace in the world.”

Maybe it wasn’t Confucius, perhaps it was the Buddha, but one can do worse than spending a great deal of time pondering this proverb. To me the first thought is that if you do not find yourself at peace with yourself, how can you try to bring peace among others? To quote the Dalai Lama: “World peace must develop from inner peace. Peace is not just mere absence of violence. Peace is, I think, the manifestation of human compassion.”

I am not qualified to try to make peace on a national or international level, but I can certainly try to work

locally for the cause.

After we make peace with ourselves then we are prepared to make peace among the members of our family. By “family” I mean not only our relatives but also our larger family, which means the members of our church, our social group, and our near neighbors. Again we turn to scripture, which advises us: “Do nothing out of contentiousness or out of egotism, but with humility consider others superior to you, as you look out not only for your own interests, but also for the interests of others.” [Paul’s letter to the Church at Phillippi.]

And also: “Continue putting up with one another and forgiving one another freely even if anyone has a cause for complaint against another.” *Colossians 3*

If all of us try this, perhaps it will lead to peace at a larger level.