



Connecticut Granger



Vol. 56, No. 1

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

October 2015

131st Annual State Session



Noel T. Miller
State Master/President
president@ctstategrange.org

It is the end of the first year of my term as your State Master. If I knew then what I know now would I have taken this challenge? I think about this all the time but I keep coming back to the answer: YES!

Would I have done things differently now than before? YES I now know better what it takes to organize a State Grange. But I know that everyone that is serving is doing the best that they can, some with a late start are learning the work now and will be better next time. As our Community Granges prepare for the new year, I challenge everyone to remember "There is no I in team," we need everyone to work together and get along. This does not mean we have to hold hands or sing Kum-bayah together but we should

Sun shines bright on Winchester Center Day

by NF Ambery, Torrington Register Citizen - 9/20/15

The Winchester Center Town Green was the only place where one could find the forest fire prevention character Smokey Bear along with fine artists as well as live rock music.

In sunny 76-degree weather, an estimated 200 people attended Winchester Center Day on the Winchester Town Green at Newfield Road and Route 263 on Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The Winchester Volunteer Fire Department (along with firefighter Sarah Howard in a Smokey costume) gave children firefighting foam display demonstrations. The nearby Winchester Grange

RESPECT each other for the good of the whole. Many Granges will fail because of the bickering and back stabbing within a Grange, but this must end, because in the end the community loses when a Grange closes. As I said from my first article in the Granger, "It's time to play nice."

The 131st State Grange Session is here and I hope most Granges will answer the call and participate in the session's activities, and receive the rewards of your Grange's hard work.

Resolutions are coming in and there are quite a few that will be eye raising, but please look at them with an open mind and if your committee can tweak them so they look and sound better, this is one of the jobs of a session committee, to review and improve resolutions.

We will have Chris Cleland of American Senior Benefits with us to give a brief presentation on insurance benefits for elderly needs, similar to Banker's Life that we had years ago, check them out if you need their services. This is not a hard sell just a chance for you to see what is available.

National Grange convention is in Lincoln, Nebraska this

hosted heavily-trafficked arts and crafts fair. Across the Green, the Winchester Center Historical Assoc. held blacksmithing demos and open museum hours.

Winchester Grange president Todd Gelineau said, "I think it's a great wrap-up to summer."

This is the third year the event has been held in this form; years previous, the various town agencies had held their exhibits on different days. "Now we hold it centralized across the town Green," Gelineau said. "Where else can you take in an art show, get an apple crisp, and see a car show?"

Antique cars were displayed on the town Green where Jerry Reilly

year November 10-15. It will be election of officers, which will be like old time, no suggestions or nominations from the floor, this will be very interesting to see. The California Grange lawsuit should be finally over with the National Grange and the New California Grange the winners. Yet the National Grange fight for copyright continues but there seems to be fewer and smaller businesses that use the name "Grange" or other copyright protected names.

As fall is upon us let everyone get out and enjoy the sights and sounds of this time of year. Fall foliage is always better in Connecticut because we have better trees and weather for them to bring out their brilliant colors. Apples and pumpkins are in abundance so visit local farmstands and bring home local produce. The Farmer's Almanac is forecasting a winter worst than last year, so get prepared by winterizing your halls and have a plan for make-up meetings. Of course, many times weathermen can be wrong so let's hope this is the case.

See you all at State Grange Session and let's talk, let me know how I'm doing and changes you would like to see.

of Winsted showed off his restored black 1953 MG TD. "It's a pretty good event," commented Reilly.

A few steps away Bryon and Debra Rider of Bristol exhibited their restored sunburnt-orange 1971 Chevrolet Nova SS. Ms. Rider said, "It's a nice day - we come here every year."

Continued on page 4

Elections near

Alma Graham, State Legislative Director

The political season for the next Presidential election has started. We have already seen a multiple of people in both parties announce their intentions to run for the position. Debates have also already started.

Coming up a lot sooner, but not getting the publicity that it should is our local town elections. Many towns in Connecticut will have elections in November this year. These elections will select your First Selectman or Mayors, according to which type of government your town has. You will also elect the selectman, registrars of voters, school boards, zoning and other local elected positions. Connecticut town political parties have already held their caucuses and have selected their candidates for these local elections. Since this is a non-presidential and non-state election year, we will not seeing the ads and signs for the local state representatives and senators. Around the end of the month you may see some local signs appear and get a few mailings.

I have heard it said that 'this is only a local election. It is not important' or 'I don't bother voting in local elections, they are not important'. This could not be further from the truth. These are the people who will be running your town and town affairs for the coming two years. They determine your taxes, and what they are spent on. How your schools are run. They keep the towns and cities running. Without them, towns would not have the services that we all depend on. Your elected Town Clerk takes care of marriage licenses, dog licenses, records of property transactions and a multiple of other things. School boards keep your schools running. They hire personnel, keep the school buildings open and curriculum up to date. Your social service agencies take care of elderly, persons needing rides to doctors and persons in needs of additional care. Think of these the next time you or someone you know tells you that local elections are not important.

Maybe your Grange can offer to host a 'get to know the candidates night' for these local elections. Invite your First Selectman candidates in to give you an overview of their positions and what they do. Ask your board of education members or zoning officials what is happening in the town. Talk to your town clerks and ask them about the various jobs that they do. Invite in your social services directors into your meetings to talk about the various services that your town offers. Education is a great asset, don't be afraid to learn.

Remember to vote in November.

IN THIS ISSUE...

Central No. 1	4
Quinebaug No. 2	5
East Central No. 3	6
Mountain County No. 4	7
New Haven County No. 5	8
New London County No. 6	9
Excelsior No. 7	10
Fairfield County No. 9	11

Next Issue...



A part of the National Grange

*American Values,
Hometown Roots*

Scan this QR Code and join us on the web!



Resolutions for the 131st Annual Session of the CSG

1) RE: LATE FEES ON QUARTERLY REPORTS

WHEREAS the delegates to the 129th Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange adopted a resolution that assesses "all Community and Subordinate Granges that fail to remit their quarterly dues within (30) days of the due date a late fee of one (1%) per cent per month until the dues are received by the Connecticut State Grange," and

WHEREAS this policy has been enforced by the Secretary and Treasurer of the Connecticut State Grange with limited success as many Granges simply submit their regular payment without the fee or have to be billed again for the fee, and

WHEREAS the cost of this fee in most cases is not much more than \$1.00, and

WHEREAS the cost of postage to send out the invoice and for the Granges to send back payment eats up nearly all of the fee, and

WHEREAS this fee has not served as a deterrent as the same number of Granges seem to be chronically late with their reports, and

WHEREAS late quarterly reports not only pose a financial burden to the State Grange but they also negatively affect the accuracy of our membership numbers which are used in many different ways that also include assessments by the National Grange.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the 1% late fee be abolished and replaced with a flat \$25.00 fee assessed 30 days from the close of the quarter on all late payments, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this fee commence with reports due at the close of the December 31, 2015 quarter.

SOURCE: Ekonk Community Grange #89

REFERRED: CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

2) RE: REPEALING THE TAX ON GAME BIRDS

WHEREAS the State of Connecticut taxes farmers that sell game birds like pheasant, chucker and quail, and

WHEREAS the State of Connecticut does not tax farmers that sell ducks, chickens and other birds, and

WHEREAS the State of Connecticut is only getting taxes from the four game breeder with licenses.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED we ask that the State of Connecticut repeal the tax on game birds because on the face of it, it is discriminatory. It treats one group of farmers differently from others.

SOURCE: Lyme Grange #147; New London Cty. Pomona #6

REFERRED: AGRICULTURE/ CONSERV./ENVIRONMENT

3) RE: RETURNING TOLLS ON CONNECTICUT INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS

WHEREAS many roads in Connecticut are in need of repairs and the state is struggling to care for its infrastructure, and

WHEREAS many people drive through our state without paying any contributions for road maintenance.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that tolls be reinstated in Connecticut on the major highways near state borders, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the money received from these tolls be directed into a fund for improving our state's infrastructure.

SOURCE: Ekonk Community Grange #89; Quinebaug Pomona #2

REFERRED: LEGISLATIVE/ INSURANCE

4) MAINTAINING THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDS

WHEREAS in 2005 legislation was passed creating the Community Investment Act (CIA), and

WHEREAS this law created a dedicated fund that supports four sectors, Agriculture, Open Space Conservation, Affordable Housing and Historic Preservation, and

WHEREAS funding for these programs originates from a \$40.00 surcharge on real estate recording fees, and

WHEREAS the CIA program has been generating up to \$25 million per year with the monies being placed in a dedicated fund, and

WHEREAS the CIA fund was created so that it was not part of the budget and would always be available for the particular programs, and

WHEREAS this CIA has been extremely successful directing more than \$133 million towards saving hundreds of acres of farmlands, restoring historic buildings, supporting agricultural programs and affordable housing, and

WHEREAS this last year Governor Malloy proposed in his budget to divert any currently unspent money from the CIA fund as well as any income going to this fund through 2017 to the general fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange oppose any diversion of the Community Investment Funds to the general fund, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange encourage the Connecticut General Assembly to maintain full funding of the Community Investment Act.

SOURCE: Echo Grange #180; Quinebaug Pomona #2

REFERRED: AGRICULTURE/ CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT

5) RE: FEDERAL ROAD GUIDELINES

WHEREAS when using Federal Assistance to repair infrastructure the rules are stringent, such as having to put in a 32 foot wide bridge with lights over a stream that has a dirt road on each side of the bridge and no other street lights, and

WHEREAS these strict standards have caused towns to turn down the Federal Assistance Funds causing additional taxes to small towns.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange support changes to the Federal Guidelines for using Transportation Funds which will allow for exceptions to the standards when it can be shown that these exceptions will not produce new major safety concerns.

SOURCE: Riverton Grange #169; Mountain County Pomona #4

REFERRED: CREDENTIALS/ MASTER'S ADDRESS

6) RE: ROAD & BRIDGE REPAIR

WHEREAS there have been numerous reports outlining the poor condition and repair of Connecticut roads and bridges, and

WHEREAS money has continued to be transferred from the Special Transportation Fund to the General Fund, and

WHEREAS large sums of transportation fund money has gone to special mass transit projects such as the New Britain Bus only lanes which has little benefit to the rural areas of the state, and

WHEREAS there is discussion of expanding the bus only lanes to east of the Connecticut River.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange support no longer allowing the transfer of funds from the Special Transportation Fund to the General Fund and the difference in the General Fund income be offset by budget cuts and not new taxes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the number one priority for Special Transportation Funds be the repair of our crumbling highway system with an emphasis on bridge repair, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this emphasis include secondary

and rural State roads and assistance to towns to repair their roads.

SOURCE: Riverton Grange #169; Mountain County Pomona #4

REFERRED: LEGISLATIVE/ INSURANCE

7) RE: GRANGE MAILING LISTS

WHEREAS Section 8.10.1 of the National Digest reads "Secretaries of State Granges shall be required to send updated mailing lists on an annual basis to the National Grange on or before June 30th each year, and

WHEREAS the Digest does not place any limitations on the use of these mailing lists once sent to the National Grange, and

WHEREAS the Connecticut State Grange already prohibits the use of State Grange publications (namely the State Directory) for these purposes, and

WHEREAS many Grange members are concerned about their personal information being distributed, sold or utilized for marketing purposes, and

WHEREAS the National Grange has added a feature to their website where members can individually "opt out" of the mailing list distribution, and

WHEREAS members who do not have access to the internet or knowledge of its use are at a disadvantage.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange be prohibited from selling or utilizing mailing lists provided by the Community Granges for non-Grange marketing purposes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Grange be prohibited from selling or utilizing lists provided by the State Granges for non-Grange marketing purposes.

SOURCE: Winchester Grange No. 74; Mountain County Pomona #4

REFERRED: GOOD OF THE ORDER/MEMBERSHIP

8) RE: NATIONAL PROGRAMS

WHEREAS the expenses of the National Grange continue to mount while programs and services to the State, Pomona and Community Granges have declined, and

WHEREAS staffing at the National level has declined to a point that cannot support the needs of the Granges throughout the country, and

WHEREAS the National Grange has passed dues increases based upon the falling financial stability of the National Grange.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that 50% of any future dues increases passed at the National level beginning with the 2015 National Session in Lincoln, Nebraska, be earmarked and allocated to programs in place or designed to build and strengthen the Grange throughout the country.

SOURCE: Winchester Grange No. 74; Mountain County Pomona #4

REFERRED: CREDENTIALS/ MASTER'S ADDRESS

9) RE: PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

WHEREAS abuse of children within the family/home may occur, and

WHEREAS when one or more children are abused in the home, other minors in the home may receive unequal or no protection from the abusing parent(s), and

WHEREAS courts have been known to order visitation for the children who were not abused causing immeasurable emotional trauma for all children and family members involved, and

WHEREAS these visitations have been known to be ordered while the offending parent still may be incarcerated, and

WHEREAS it is imperative that the courts look out for the welfare of all children as they are all severely affected by these traumatic events in their lives, and

WHEREAS use of financial support should also be closely monitored to ensure the children's welfare.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange go on record supporting and encouraging efforts to change the way courts handle visitation and protection orders to encompass the welfare of all children within each home and to provide the necessary time to heal before any possibility of resuming contact with the offending parent.

SOURCE: Winchester Grange No. 74; Mountain County Pomona #4

REFERRED: CREDENTIALS/ MASTER'S ADDRESS

10) RE: HEROIN EPIDEMIC

WHEREAS heroin and opiate addiction has increased to epidemic levels statewide, and

WHEREAS heroin and opiates are relatively inexpensive and are widely available, and

WHEREAS the growing numbers of overdoses and deaths resulting from use of these drugs are not limited to one economic or social group, and

WHEREAS according to the office of Senator Blumenthal, there were 195 fatal heroin, morphine or codeine overdoses in the State of Connecticut in 2012, and

WHEREAS those numbers have increased to 284 in 2013 and 347 in 2014, and

WHEREAS the number of overdoses nationwide have quadrupled in the last ten years, and

WHEREAS in the City of Torrington there have been over 24 documented overdoses in the last three years, and

WHEREAS larger cities like Torrington have resources available to them for treatment while smaller towns do, not have the same accessibility, and

WHEREAS even when a patient goes through a 28-day in-patient program and their detox is done, they remain at a very high risk of overdose as their bodies are not capable of handling the large doses of these drugs they were taking prior to treatment, and

WHEREAS all local leaders agree that a united regional approach is needed to combat this epidemic.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange voice our support and provide any and all encouragement needed to develop regional approaches to combating heroin and opiate addiction in this state.

SOURCE: Winchester Grange No. 74; Mountain County Pomona #4

REFERRED: LEGISLATIVE/ INSURANCE

11) HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY FUNDING

WHEREAS many Granges meet in their own hall in which adequate access for handicapped individuals is lacking, and

WHEREAS Granges currently have active members with special needs for building access and use, and

WHEREAS Granges are attempting to recruit new members and need to consider accessibility, and

WHEREAS many Granges rely on income from renting space to the public, which also needs consideration of building access and use, and

WHEREAS improvements, renovations, or new structures may be necessary for entry and exit, stair use and bathroom use, and

WHEREAS individual Grange budgets are limited for necessary architectural or functional use changes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange (Foundation?) develop a procedure for providing an annual grant of a total of \$30,000 to be distributed to one to three Granges, and appoint a standing committee whose responsibility will be to:

1] Devise a process for grant application including design of an application form which specifies: clear plans and justification for structural changes, which are not to be cosmetic or repair related, but specific to promoting handicap accessibility, proposed budget and timeline, and if needed, evidence of local "code" approvals prior to initiating projects and format for submission of application.

2] Review applications

3] Select recipients and notify

4] Determine criteria for successful completion of the project, including a timeline

5] Determine criteria for possibility for unsuccessful completion and potential need for return of grant money.

When the project is successfully completed and approved, including passing any required inspections, the funds would not need to be repaid. The funding would be awarded such that if awarded, the same Grange could not reapply until a five year period has passed. The total amount of \$30,000 in one year could be divided between one to three Granges.

SOURCE: Redding Grange #15; Fairfield County Pomona #9

REFERRED: GOOD OF THE ORDER/MEMBERSHIP

12) RE: ELECTRONIC BANKING RECORDS

WHEREAS the Deputy has the responsibility to review financial records at the annual inspection of Subordinate (or Community) Granges, and

WHEREAS the Subordinate/Community Granges must present the fiscal year's records in an organized format, including representation of the income, expenses and any other financial activities, and

WHEREAS many Granges are converting to use of electronic banking records, such as savings, checking and CD's, and

WHEREAS electronic banking records provided have tended to show "end of year" results and not monthly fiscal activity, and

WHEREAS by being limited to reviewing only the "bottom line" statements of assets and liabilities, the inspecting Deputy does not have adequate information to properly conduct the required annual financial review, and

WHEREAS it is likely that more and more Granges will be converting to electronic banking practices.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange establish a policy requiring that Granges using electronic banking must provide a hard copy of monthly statements, along with the annual end statement, to enable the inspecting Deputy and any other concerned parties, to review income and expenses on a monthly basis and over the course of a year.

SOURCE: Redding Grange #15; Fairfield County Pomona #9

REFERRED: CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

13) RE: JURISDICTION OF EAST CENTRAL & MOUNTAIN COUNTY POMONAS

WHEREAS with the closing of Farmington Valley Pomona #11 and North Central Pomona #13 the jurisdictions of East Central Pomona #3 and Mountain County Pomona #4 have changed, and

WHEREAS it is necessary to update the jurisdictions of these Pomonas to include towns within their areas that do not currently have Granges.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the jurisdiction of East Central Pomona #3 now include the following towns with and without active Granges: Granby, East Granby, Simsbury, Avon, Farmington, Glastonbury, East Hartford, Hartford, West Hartford, Bloomfield, Windsor, East Windsor, South Windsor, Windsor Locks, Manchester, Bolton, Vernon, Tolland, Ellington, Suffield, Enfield, Somers, Stafford, Coventry,

Andover, and Hebron, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the jurisdiction of Mountain County Pomona #4 now include the following towns with and without active Granges: Salisbury, North Canaan, Canaan, Norfolk Colebrook, Hartland, Barkhamsted, Canton, New Hartford, Torrington, Winchester, Goshen, Cornwall, Sharon, Kent, Warren, Litchfield & Northfield, Harwinton, Burlington, Plymouth, Thomaston, and Morris.

SOURCE: Connecticut State Grange Executive Committee

NOTE: The town of Columbia was inadvertently omitted from the resolution under East Central Pomona.

REFERRED: CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

14) RE: RECORDING OF DEGREE WORK

WHEREAS the degree work of the Junior and First, Second, Third and Fourth of the Subordinate Granges is very special and an historical part of the Patrons of Husbandry, and

WHEREAS members taking the Welcome Ceremony and Obligation, do not follow up by witnessing the Four Degrees, and

WHEREAS by missing the Four Degrees they have missed valuable lessons needed to be good Grangers and officers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National Grange record a full and complete set of degree conferrals, minus the unwritten work, a Junior Grange section and the First, Second, Third and Fourth Degrees to be used for educational purposes, and aid in conferring those degrees.

SOURCE: Coventry Grange #75; East Central Pomona #3

REFERRED: GOOD OF THE ORDER/MEMBERSHIP

15) RE: COURTS

WHEREAS some people are charged with crimes and found innocent and cannot be charged again under the double jeopardy law, even though new evidence arises, and

WHEREAS other countries find a person guilty, or not proven guilty.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge our legislators to change our laws to join with the others concepts.

SOURCE: Granby Grange #5; East Central Pomona #3

REFERRED: LEGISLATIVE/INSURANCE

16) RE: PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS

WHEREAS plastic shopping bags take many years to degrade whether in landfills or dumped at sea, and

WHEREAS many other states have turned to paper or reusable bags.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge our legislators to enact legislation to outlaw plastic bags.

SOURCE: Granby Grange #5; East Central Pomona #3

REFERRED: AGRICULTURE/CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT

17) RE: TOILET PAPER ROLLS

WHEREAS the cardboard roll that toilet paper is wound on has increased in size for no reason to make the roll seem larger, and

WHEREAS the roll now wobbles on the holder.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge our Attorney General to stop this deception.

SOURCE: Granby Grange #5; East Central Pomona #3

REFERRED: AGRICULTURE/CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT

18) RE: TELEPHONE NUMBERS

WHEREAS telephone numbers have increased from four to seven, then with about 800 new area codes to ten,

or eleven if out of area, and

WHEREAS it has become a challenge for even the young mind to remember ten or eleven numbers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge our communications companies to fabricate a phone with several large buttons that are programmable to the most often used area codes the user dials, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a sheet of area code stickers at the button size be included.

SOURCE: Granby Grange #5; East Central Pomona #3

REFERRED: GOOD OF THE ORDER/MEMBERSHIP

19) RE: AGE VERIFICATION FOR SOCIAL PROGRAMS

WHEREAS over 6,500 people over 112 years of age are collecting social security, and

WHEREAS one person born in 1869 is still collecting.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge our legislators to enact laws requiring recipients to justify age on a yearly basis after age 105, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this legislation should cover other government programs.

SOURCE: Granby Grange #5; East Central Pomona #3

REFERRED: CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

20) RE: FOREVER PRIZES

WHEREAS one or more companies are soliciting money from the public with the promise that the annual prize will be – FOREVER –, and

WHEREAS it is against the law to patent a forever, or perpetual device.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge our legislators to enact a law making it illegal to advertise forever prizes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Grange urge our legislators to enact a law making it illegal to advertise any service or guarantee as forever.

SOURCE: Granby Grange #5; East Central Pomona #3

REFERRED: LEGISLATIVE/INSURANCE

21) RE: URINE SAVING DEVICES

WHEREAS drinking ocean water when lost at sea, or stagnant water when lost at land, will sicken and often kill a person, and

WHEREAS drinking one's own urine does no harm to our system.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange urge our legislators to enact laws to require urine saving devices with instructions included in all life saving and medical kits, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the military be required to include these instructions in their survival kits.

SOURCE: Granby Grange #5; East Central Pomona #3

REFERRED: CREDENTIALS/MASTER'S ADDRESS

22) RE: ACCIDENT REPORT FEES

WHEREAS an accident report is required by insurance companies for adjustments, and

WHEREAS an accident report can be obtained from the Connecticut State Police, Department of Public Safety, and

WHEREAS the report can be requested and obtained by US Mail at a fee of \$16.00, and

WHEREAS there is a wait of approximately 14 weeks before receiving the accident report, and

WHEREAS the accident report can be requested and obtained electronically for a fee of \$25.00, and

WHEREAS the wait is much shorter.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the State of Connecticut waive all fees for the issuance of accident reports by the Connecticut State Police, Department of Public Safety.

SOURCE: Harmony Grange #92;

Fairfield County Pomona #9

REFERRED: LEGISLATIVE/INSURANCE

23) RE: EMISSIONS

WHEREAS the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles requires an emission test on older vehicles (up to 25 years), and

WHEREAS the ability to read the mileage (odometer reading) from the vehicle's speedometer is a reason to receive a Turn-Away Document which means the emissions test could not be done, and

WHEREAS within 30 days, the problem must be corrected and a new test completed, and

WHEREAS on a few of the older vehicles, the transmission indicator, mileage (odometer reading) and trip mileage is illuminated by a background light, and

WHEREAS if this background light fails to function, the mileage (odometer reading) is not visible, and a Turn-Away Document is issued, and

WHEREAS the mileage is not a factor in the inspection as the year of the vehicle determines when an inspection is required, and

WHEREAS the expense of fixing the problem to restore the light is expensive, approximately \$500.00.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the mileage (odometer reading) now required for an emission inspection be optional and not a mandatory requirement.

SOURCE: Harmony Grange #92; Fairfield County Pomona #9

REFERRED: AGRICULTURE/CONSERV/ENVIRONMENT

24) RE: INCOME TAX

WHEREAS the State of Connecticut has a state income tax, and

WHEREAS the completed tax form can be filed either electronically or by U.S. Mail, and

WHEREAS there is no fee for filing the completed income tax form by U.S. Mail, and

WHEREAS if a refund check is due, it takes several weeks before the check is received, and

WHEREAS if the completed income tax form is filed electronically, a fee of \$25.00 is charged, payable by credit card or taken from the refund check, and

WHEREAS the Federal Government allows a completed tax return form to be filed either electronically or by U.S. Mail and no fee is required.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the State of Connecticut allow a completed income tax form be filed either electronically or by U.S. Mail with no required fee.

SOURCE: Harmony Grange #92; Fairfield County Pomona #9.

REFERRED: CONST/BY-LAWS

25) RE: MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT KITS

WHEREAS membership has dwindled in many Granges across Connecticut because the members of these Granges feel they lack the skills to attract new members, thus jeopardizing the health and well-being of the Grange at all levels, and

WHEREAS several Subordinate Granges have applied basic recruitment procedures and had successful membership campaigns leading to a rejuvenation of those Granges and now wish to share this success across the state to strengthen the organization.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange Membership Committee be tasked with assembling membership development kits to be distributed to the Pomona Granges for use by Subordinate Granges in those Pomonas at any appropriate public event where membership recruitment can be carried out, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these kits consist of materials such as banners, posters, informational fliers, an appropriately themed tablecloth, and ideas for a simple contest with a prize (eg. Guess the number of jelly beans

or coins in a jar) to attract people to the table, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that someone from the Membership Committee or other Granger experienced in recruitment be available on request to help Granges with their membership development campaigns.

SOURCE: Oxford Grange #194; Excelsior Pomona #7

REFERRED: GOOD OF THE ORDER/MEMBERSHIP

26) RE: GRANT WRITING

WHEREAS many Grange are having financial problems due to high operating costs and limited ability to raise enough funds to cover these expenses and have a meaningful community service program, and

WHEREAS there are charitable foundations in existence with money to donate to non-profit organizations such as the Grange to help with projects in their communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut State Grange contract a grant writer to conduct a seminar or series of such to educate those Granges that are interested on the subject of grant writing as a means to acquire funds to serve their communities.

SOURCE: Oxford Grange #194; Excelsior Pomona #7

REFERRED: CREDENTIALS/MASTER'S ADDRESS

27) RE: DOG LICENSING

WHEREAS existing law in the State of Connecticut (CGS ss22-228)

requires dog licensing to be done during the month of June each year, and

WHEREAS this limited time frame results in many dogs not being licensed within the required period, and

WHEREAS it is estimated that over half of all dogs in Connecticut are not licensed under the current system, and

WHEREAS the concentration of licensing during a short period each year creates a busy period of extra work for Town Clerks, sometimes delaying the performance of their other assigned duties, and

WHEREAS the purpose of dog licensing is to reinforce rabies vaccination of dogs, and

WHEREAS rabies vaccination may expire at any time of the year, not necessarily in June, and

WHEREAS many rabies vaccinations are now valid for longer than one year, and

WHEREAS the provision of dog licenses on a rolling basis year-round is now standard practice in many parts of the United States.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grange shall encourage the State Legislature to amend existing statutes to allow dog licensing at any time of the year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Grange shall encourage the State Legislature to amend existing statutes to dog licenses to be valid for the same duration as the current rabies vaccination for each pet.

SOURCE: Cheshire Grange No. 23; New Haven County Pomona #5

REFERRED: TBD

Session Committees

In an effort to allow Delegates to be better prepared for their Committee work, we have printed the committee assignments and the resolutions assigned to each committee in advance of State Session. Additional resolutions may be received or introduced on the floor of State Session.

Agriculture/Conservation/Environment

Chair: Mountain County Pomona #4

Vice Chair: Central Pomona #1

Granby #5

Manchester #31

Cawasa #34

Whigville #48

Colchester #78

Hillstown #87

Simsbury #197

Taghannuck #100

Lyme #147

Oxford #194

Good of the Order/Membership

Chair: Quinebaug Pomona #2

Vice Chair: Jody Cameron, Membership Director

Stafford #1

Wallingford #33

North Haven #35

Senexet #40

Hillstown Jr. #87

Pachaug #96

Beacon Valley #103

Killingly #112

Hemlock #182

Litchfield #107

Ekonk Comm. #89

Constitution & By-Laws

Chair: New Haven County Pomona #5

Vice Chair: New London County Pomona #6

Redding #15

Glastonbury #26

Southington #25

Meriden #29

Winchester #74

Cannon #152

Bethlehem #121

Stonington #168

Riverton #169

Echo #180

Credentials/Master's Address/Resolutions

Chair: Excelsior Pomona #7

Vice Chair: Fairfield County Pomona #9

Wolf Den #61

Coventry #75

Ashford #90

Preston City #110

Higganum #124

Greenfield Hill #133

Prospect #144

Norfield #146

Norwich #172

Wolcott #173

Groton Comm. #213

Legislative/Insurance

Chair: East Central Pomona #3

Vice Chair: Alma Graham, Legislative Director

Cheshire #23

Vernon #52

Eureka #62

Harmony #92

Putnam #97

Beacon #118

N. Stonington #138

Enfield #151

Bridgewater #153

Ekonk Comm. Jr. #101

2015 Session Schedule

Thursday, October 15, 2015

Grand Ballroom, Sheraton Hartford South Hotel, Rocky Hill, CT

- 7:00 P.M. Opening in form in the Sixth Degree
Introduction of National Representative
James Tetreault, Lecturer of the National Grange & Past Master of the New Hampshire State Grange
Roll Call of Officers, Deputies, Committees
Lower Grange to Fourth Degree
Presentation of Fourth Degree Delegates
Roll Call of Granges
Report of Credential Committee
Session Committee Announcements
Introduction of Business to be referred without debate
- 8:00 P.M. Address of State President Noel T. Miller
Report of Overseer
Report of Lecturer
Reports of Secretary
Reports of Treasurer
Report of Executive Committee/Board of Directors
- 9:00 P.M. Closing
- 9:15 P.M. Committee Work Begins
Friday, October 16, 2015
- 9:00 A.M. Opening & Introductions
Roll Call of Officers
Minutes of Previous Day's Session
Introduction of Business to be referred without debate
- 9:15 A.M. Special Order of Business: Election of two members of the Executive Committee
- 9:30 A.M. Report of Legislative Committee
Report of Agriculture Committee
Report of General Deputy
Reports of Pomona Deputies
- 10:00 A.M. Presentation by Christopher Cleland of American Senior Benefits
- 10:45 A.M. **BREAK**
- 11:00 A.M. Report of Connecticut Granger
Report of Camp Berger
- Ruel Miller, Camp Liaison
- Lyn Kimberly, Camp Director
Report of Connecticut State Grange Foundation
Business Session (Resolutions)
- 12:00 P.M. Luncheon (*Nutmeg Ballroom*)
Hosts: T.B.D.
- Blessing by State Chaplain Charles Dimmick
- Family Activity Presentation & Awards
- Membership Awards
- Public Relations Awards
- Agriculture Contest Awards
- 2:00 P.M. Recognition of Past Voting Delegates
- 2:15 P.M. Address of National Representative
James Tetreault, Lecturer of the National Grange
- 2:45 P.M. Business Session
- 3:15 P.M. **BREAK**
- 3:30 P.M. Report of New Grange Building Trustees
- 4:30 P.M. Closing
- 8:00 P.M. Sixth Degree Conferral, Grand Ballroom, Sheraton Hartford South Hotel
(Open to Sixth Degree members, registration not required)
Opening in form in the Sixth Degree
Escorting of National Representatives
Recognition of Honored Guests & Past Voting Delegates
Conferral of the Sixth Degree in full form
Rose Drill
- Recognition of Golden Sheaf Grangers
- Community Service
- Honor Grange Awards
Closing in form in the Fourth Degree
March to the Table - Officers and Court

Please Note: Candidates must be at the Sheraton Hartford South Hotel, Rocky Hill, by 7:30 P.M. Candidates must have the Fourth and Fifth Degree words and the Sixth Degree ticket stub to give to the Deputy at the door. Applications for the Sixth Degree will be on sale during the Session and at the door on Friday. Cost of application: \$10.00.

Saturday, October 17, 2015

- 9:00 A.M. Opening & Introductions
Roll Call of Officers
Minutes of Previous Day's Sessions
Introduction of Business to be referred without debate
Junior and Youth Tour
- 9:15 A.M. Memorial Service
- 9:45 A.M. Business Session
- 10:45 A.M. **BREAK**
- 11:00 A.M. Budget Approval
- 11:45 A.M. FFA Representative
- 12:00 P.M. Youth & Junior Recognition Luncheon (*Restaurant*)
Hosts: T.B.D.
- Blessing by State Chaplain Charles Dimmick
- Junior Recognition
- Youth Recognition
- 2:00 P.M. Business Session
- 5:00 P.M. Closing
- 7:00 P.M. Celebration Banquet (*Nutmeg Ballroom*)
Professional Agriculture Awards
Scholarships
2015 CT State Grange Granger of the Year
Lecturer's Program & Past Deputies Raffle

Join us for the 131st Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange. All Granges should be present for roll call on Thursday evening and we encourage ALL members to be present for all or part of the session.



131st Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange

State Session is not just for the officers and delegates. All members are encouraged to attend all or part of the Connecticut State Grange convention to help celebrate our accomplishments during the previous year and start a new Grange year inspired and energized.

ALL MEMBERS (Delegates and Non-Delegates) are required to register to attend most sessions/activities of the convention. The exceptions are the Sixth Degree on Friday evening and the Lecturer's Program during the Celebration Banquet on Saturday evening. All other events require payment of a registration fee and/or purchase of a ticket. Registration for Friday and Saturday also includes admission to that day's buffet luncheon. The Celebration Banquet is a separate ticketed event. Please contact the Central Office if you have any questions. Make additional copies of this form, if necessary.

REGISTRATION

Grange Name _____ No. _____

Name _____	Jr. _____	Adult _____	Banquet Choice # _____
Name _____	Jr. _____	Adult _____	Banquet Choice # _____
Name _____	Jr. _____	Adult _____	Banquet Choice # _____
Name _____	Jr. _____	Adult _____	Banquet Choice # _____

FULL SESSION (Full Session Registration includes lunch on Fri. & Sat.)

Adult Registration - \$30.00 # of Members _____ x \$30.00 = _____
Junior Registration - \$20.00 # of Members _____ x \$30.00 = _____

CELEBRATION BANQUET (Saturday Evening at 7:00 P.M.)

of People _____ x \$30.00 = _____

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

- 1) Chateau Steak - Herb Marinated & Grilled
- 2) Stuffed Chicken Breast with Cranberry Stuffing
- 3) Grilled Salmon - Sundried Tomato, Basil, Balsamic Glaze
- 4) Grilled Polenta with Roasted Fall Vegetables (*Vegetarian/Gluten Free*)

All entrees include Salad, Rolls, Chef's selection of Vegetables, New York Cheesecake, Coffee & Tea

THURSDAY, OCT. 15 & FRIDAY, OCT. 16 (ONE DAY Registration includes lunch on Friday)

Adult Registration - \$15.00 # of Members _____ x \$15.00 = _____
Junior Registration - \$10.00 # of Jr. Members _____ x \$10.00 = _____

SATURDAY, OCT. 17 (ONE DAY Registration includes lunch on Saturday)

Adult Registration - \$15.00 # of Members _____ x \$15.00 = _____
Junior Registration - \$10.00 # of Jr. Members _____ x \$10.00 = _____

TOTAL = _____

Please make checks payable to the Connecticut State Grange

Mail to: Connecticut State Grange, P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Questions: Please call the Central Office at 860-633-7550 or the State Secretary's Cell 860-307-1522 or email: Secretary@CTStateGrange.org

SESSION & HOTEL ROOM REGISTRATIONS DUE NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 5

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS:

Call the Sheraton Hartford South Hotel at 860-257-6000 (mention the Connecticut State Grange to receive our group rate)

Sixth Degree

The annual conferral of the Sixth Degree will be held on Friday evening, October 16 beginning at 8 P.M. Candidates should arrive at the Sheraton Hartford South no later than 7:30 P.M. Applications for the Degree are available in advance through the Central Office or anytime during the Session. Cost is \$10 per member. Candidates for the Sixth Degree must be 4th and 5th Degree members and should have the words for those degrees to gain admission.

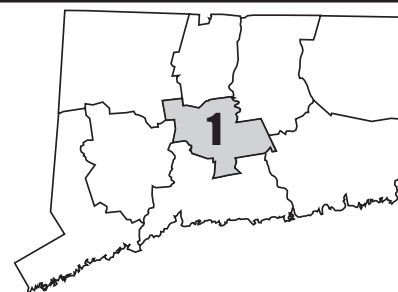
For more info call the office at 860-633-7550, my cell at 860-307-1522 or email at secretary@ctstategrange.org.

ROOM RESERVATIONS

Please make your reservations early by calling the Sheraton Hartford South Hotel at **860-257-6000**. **Make sure you mention the Connecticut State Grange** to receive our group rate (\$89 plus tax) for the Convention. If you have any problems making a reservation or have any questions, please call or email me.



Central Pomona No. 1



- Southington No. 25
- Meriden No. 29
- Higganum No. 124
- ✓ Hemlock No. 182

MISSION STATEMENT

Central Pomona No. 1 will support its Subordinate/Community Granges through programs and activities by actively contributing its talents and resources. Central Pomona supports local, State and National charities; educational and youth programs.

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

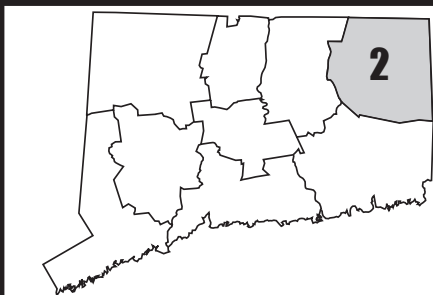
Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Oct. 9: Omit for Portland Fair

Oct. 23: Halloween Ghosts and Goblins

Meeting starts at 7:30 P.M. Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Quinebaug Pomona No. 2



- Senexet No. 40
- ✓ Wolf Den No. 61
- ✓ Ekonk No. 89
- Ashford No. 90
- Putnam No. 97
- ✓ Killingly No. 112
- ✓ Echo No. 180

MISSION STATEMENT

Quinebaug Pomona supports and assists the communities within its jurisdiction through a financial and physical presence. We offer the Community Granges assistance and support for their programs and activities.

WOLF DEN GRANGE #61

Corr: Elsie Johnson

Oct. 14: Meeting

Nov. 11: Meeting

Well summer sure has been hot lately. Beaches have been well used everywhere. Parks too. It's over- kids back in school. Gardens are producing – some good – others are not. They got dry and had to water. We have a good potato crop coming and carrots are good. Thinking about all these fall shores.

Good luck at State Session. New officers and ideas. Happy birthday to all.

EKONK COMMUNITY GRANGE #89

Corr: Jody Cameron

September was another busy month for the members of Ekonk Community Grange. Many of our members help with the Sterling Family Day, and our own Mike Molodich is Chairman and Link Cooper is Vice Chairman of this fabulous event. We understand the fireworks were just short of spectacular once again.

September 19th was our

Peach Shortcake Dinner, many thanks to all who lent a helping hand, another job well done.

October brings yet another busy and involved month. October 30th is our Annual Halloween Party which attracts close to 100 attendees. Then Ekonk Community Grange will again play a major role in the Annual Sterling Spooktacular and Trunk-A-Treat sponsored by the Sterling Recreation Department.

Mark your calendars for November 21st and plan on coming to the Annual Turkey Dinner – come early this is a popular one.

Oh yeah, with all of this going on we forgot to invite you to our meetings. We meet the first Monday, don't be shy, come say hi.

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Julie Jussaume

We are having our 2nd annual Apple Festival Oct. 10 from 9-4 pm (apple breakfast and lunch, live music, artisans, apple pie sale)

We are hoping for nice

weather to enjoy the day.

Sewing classes in October
1, Square Dance Oct. 23
Farmers Market 11/7 & 11/21, Bluegrass 11/28, Square Dance 11/13

ECHO GRANGE #180

Corr: Gloria John

Oct. 13: Start Your Rakes
Oct. 27: Halloween Hi-Jinks
Alma Graham made 8 tote bags to be sold at the Big E.
We received a beautiful thank you letter from "From

the Heart" thanking us for all we have done for them. They really appreciated the \$50 penny collection we sent them.

If you have trouble climbing stairs, we are meeting twice a month downstairs.

Membership Day Oct. 3

The Connecticut State Grange is hosting a special Membership Day on Saturday, October 3rd at Cheshire Grange, from 10 AM - 2 PM. The event is called "From a Member to a Granger" and will feature workshops on building an effective membership booth, the CT State Grange Mentoring Program, "Being told No is Okay" and more.

We regret to inform you that Michael Martin, former National Grange Leadership/Membership Director, has left his position with National Grange and will not be presenting at our workshop as originally scheduled. We wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.

We ask you to share this to help spread the word! The event is free to attend, and lunch will be \$5 per person. RSVP to Jody Cameron at membership@ctstategrange.org.

Fill your car for a fun day with Grange friends and neighbors. New Members, Current Members, Prospective Members and Friends of the Grange are welcome!



CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE
MEMBERSHIP EVENT:

FROM A MEMBER TO A GRANGER

...

Saturday, October 3rd

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM • Lunch \$5.00 per person

CHESHIRE GRANGE HALL

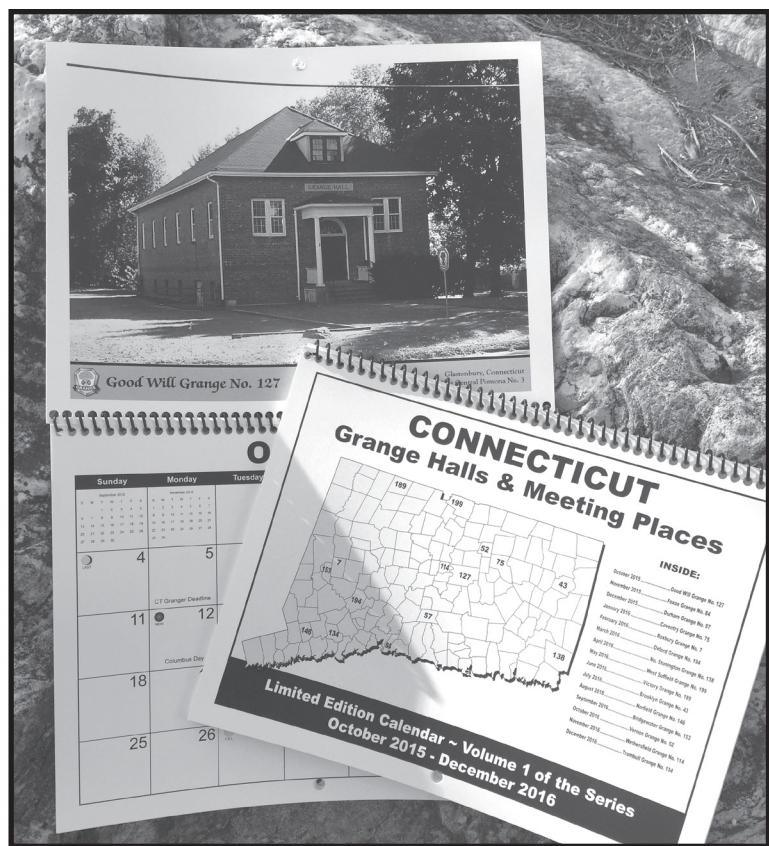
44 Wallingford Road, Cheshire, CT

Workshops include:

- Building an Effective Membership Booth
- CT State Grange Mentoring Program
- Being told "No" is Okay and more!

R.S.V.P. by September 30th to
Jody Cameron, Membership Director
(860) 412-0225 • membership@ctstategrange.org

They're Here!



Get your 2016 State Grange Calendar at State Session.

The 2015 - 2016 Connecticut Grange calendars. Featuring historic pictures of Grange Halls and meeting places across our state, this first edition spotlights 15 Granges representing 11 different Pomonas. These collectible calendars are now available for sale through the state office for \$12.50, and will also be available at State Session. Supplies are limited so get your copy soon!

Farewell from Michael Martin

Patrons,

The past four years of my professional life have afforded me the opportunity to work alongside many of you to support the State and Subordinate Granges across the nation. I am continually amazed at what our Brothers and Sisters are accomplishing in so many communities and am exceedingly proud to be a member of our family fraternity.

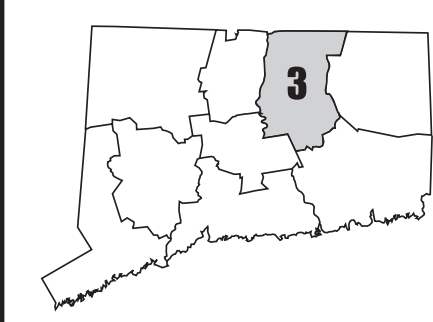
However, a new chapter in my life's journey calls me back to the 4-H Youth Development Program where I have devoted the previous 25 years working with youth and volunteers. I will be an Extension Educator, District 16 4-H Educator in the Department of Penn State Extension, Franklin County, based in south central Pennsylvania. I will leave my position as leadership/membership development director of the National Grange on September 30.

I have had the privilege of working with America's oldest farm, family fraternal Order and I thank you for the many courtesies extended to me.

I will always remember my time on your national staff with great fondness. I shall remain an active Patron of Husbandry and look forward to seeing many of you as we continue our Grange journey.

Fraternally yours,
Michael J. Martin
National Grange Leadership/Membership Dev. Director

East Central Pomona No. 3



- Stafford No. 1
- Granby No. 5
- ✓ Glastonbury No. 26
- Manchester No. 31
- Vernon No. 52
- ✓ Coventry No. 75
- Hillstown No. 87
- ✓ Enfield No. 151
- Simsbury No. 197

MISSION STATEMENT

East Central Pomona supports the Community Granges by helping one another; through legislative advocacy and by supporting community service efforts.

EAST CENTRAL POMONA #3

Corr: Noel Miller

Oct. 3: Fifth Degree Meeting at 5:00, Potluck 6:00 and Degree at 7:00; Host is Granby and Vernon

Anyone who wants the Fifth Degree, please bring candidates to the potluck and have the paperwork with you. So far we have two candidates.

We wish a speedy recovery to Dan Ridzon of the Exec. Comm. He received a pacemaker to speed him up. They say no more chainsaw work and his wife added the rototiller. The table is Coventry and Simsbury Grange.

GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kathryn Ruff

Oct. 3: Foodless, Bakeless Sale

Oct. 17: Monte Carlo Whist Card Party, 7 P.M.

Nov. 5: Meeting 7:30 P.M., "We Give Thanks", Ref. Potluck. Doris & Robert Nordstrom

Nov. 14: Monte Carl Whist Card Party, 7 P.M.

As I am typing this we will be installed into office tomorrow evening by Secretary Emeritus Edith Schoell. That will get us off an running for another year of Grange activities.

The dictionaries have arrived and we will be calling Nayaug School around Sept. 14th and find out when it will be convenient for us to present them to the third grade class.

Our Monte Carlo Card Parties will begin Oct. 17 for the season. Hopefully everyone will be able to bring a friend or two with you to the card parties. The more the merrier, and it will certainly help our treasury.

We are still looking for new members. If anyone reading this article has any suggestions on what we need to do to attract new members please let me know. **WE ALL NEED TO HELP GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP.**

In November we will be presenting three 50 year certificates if the recipients

will be able to attend the meeting. If they will not be able to attend we will make arrangements to deliver them. Hopefully two of them will be able to attend the meeting.

We have had several members on the sick list recently. Hopefully they are all back on the healthy list or at least on the way to recovery.

On a recent road trip I noticed some of the trees are beginning to chane color. Also Woodstock Fair is next weekend, Labor Day Weekend. So I wish you all a happy fall season.

COVENTRY GRANGE #75

Corr: Noel Miller

Oct. 1: Halloween; Ref: R. Warner

Coventry Grange #75 morns the lost of John Haloburdo, past chaplin who dies August 17th, he was husband of past member Lucy Haloburdo, my he now enjoy being with her and others. The Coventry Agricultural Committee has cancelled it plans for it's Harvest Festival in October, because of too many conflicting activities. They will focast on Christmas in the Village, where they made more funds and donations. The Community Garden is picking up and reviews of the good and the bad will be address for the next year. just reminder to member of the doues increase to \$30.00 per member.

ENFIELD GRANGE #151

Corr: Irene Percoski

Oct. 10: Harvest Time

Nov. 14: We Stuff the Bird

The dog days of August are here as I write this column, hot and muggy. UGH! Summer was not good to us meeting-wise, I hope fall will see more members coming to meetings. If you are one of our members that receive this Granger and haven't attended in a while, please try to come to a meeting. Try to fit one morning a month into your busy schedule. The door is always open.



Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

Tis the season to promote Grange

by Terri Fassio, PR Co-Director

From Halloween through New Years Day, the holiday season is right around the corner, and many Granges host special events - from Bazaars to Festivals to Christmas Parties and more. It is also the time when Granges tend to cultivate community service projects - such as having a drive for non-perishable food items, collecting toys for underprivileged children, making favors for nursing homes, hosting a carole sing for the elderly, and more. This is the perfect time for Granges to amp up their marketing and promotions, and reap the benefits the holidays provide.

What does your Grange want to accomplish during the holidays? The first step is to answer the question, and then plan a themed event or activity to achieve your goals. Remember to be sure that what you are planning is relevant to your community, and makes people feel good about what you are trying to achieve.

Once your Grange event or activity is planned, the next step is getting the word

out. Utilize the resources that are available at little or no charge — mass emails to members, press releases, posters, a sign in front of the hall/meeting location, social media such as Facebook and Twitter, and old-fashioned word-of-mouth.

Start early, and make your promotions timely to the event. Use visuals such as photos and videos in your marketing, and make your call-to-action the centerpiece of your promotions. Folks receive a lot of ads and promotional pieces during the holidays, so make sure yours stand out from the crowd. Make it personal, engaging and easy for folks to participate.

The holidays are the most memorable season of the year. Granges should be taking advantage of these opportunities.

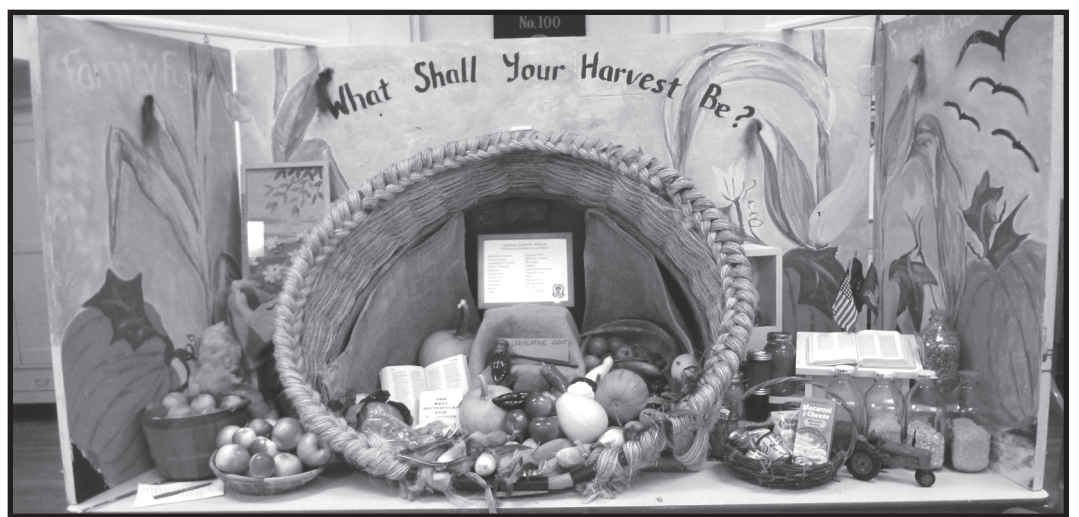
Need help? The Public Relations Committee is ready to lend a hand. All we ask is that you give us plenty of advance notice to ensure we can fulfill your needs.

information@ctstategrange.org or publicrelations@ctstategrange.org for more information.

Taghannuck exhibit places first



(from left) Brent Prindle, Andy Olson and Margaret Hopkins work on Taghannuck's exhibit for the Bethlehem Fair. We were fortunate to win the contest again this year. Thanks to all who helped.



PLEASE! Do not send correspondence or any other mail to the Newfield Rd. address listed below. This is the address for Winchester Grange #74 and is only listed to satisfy USPS requirements. Please mail to the Editor's address listed below, right. Thank You!

(USPS 563-220)
"Connecticut Granger"
is published monthly except
combined July-August issue for \$3.00/yr. by:

Connecticut Granger, Inc..
100 Newfield Road, Winchester Center, CT 06094
(Do not send mail to this address)

Second Class postage paid at Winsted, CT 06098

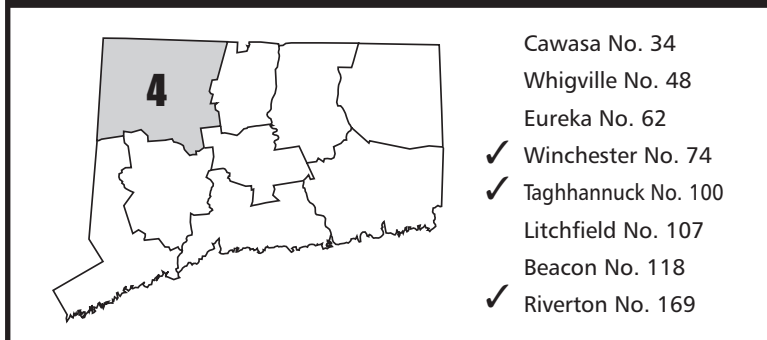
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Connecticut Granger,
P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033-1393

DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

News is due on the **5th Day** of each month
and should be sent to:
Connecticut State Grange
P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033
or
Todd Gelineau, Editor
P.O. Box 1134, Sharon, CT 06069
Granger@CTStateGrange.org

Connecticut Granger Staff
President/Editor Todd Gelineau
Vice President
Secretary Treasurer. Edith Schoell

Mountain County Pomona No. 4



- Cawasa No. 34
- Whigville No. 48
- Eureka No. 62
- ✓ Winchester No. 74
- ✓ Taghannuck No. 100
- Litchfield No. 107
- Beacon No. 118
- ✓ Riverton No. 169

MISSION STATEMENT

Mountain County Pomona No. 4 has strong leadership, a keen sense of community and many skills and talents which we use to promote and support our local Community Granges through citizenship, legislative and agricultural policies within our Pomona.

MOUNTAIN CTY. POMONA #4

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

Oct. 12: Fifth Degree with supper beginning at 6 P.M., Winchester Grange

We thank all who supported Mountain County's Gift Card Drawing this summer. While the profit was down a bit this year we can always use the income from this, our only fundraiser during the year.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 12, 2015 for the fall conferral of the Fifth Degree. As usual, the members of Winchester Grange will prepare a dinner which will be served beginning at 6:00 P.M. Admission is \$5.00 per person. The beautiful Fifth Degree will be conferred beginning at 7:30 P.M. Please come one, come all and bring those candidates.

It will be a busy week as the Annual Session of the Connecticut State Grange kicks of later in the week—it's a great opportunity to become and Pomona and State Grange member!

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd A. Gelineau

Oct. 13: Meeting

Oct. 17: Iceland Affair

Oct. 27: Meeting]

Thank you to all the members who worked so hard to make another successful Winchester Center Day happen this year. Special thanks to Faith Quinlan Maus who volunteered to serve on the community committee responsible for planning the events of the day.

For those uninitiated, Winchester Center Day is a celebration of everything that is Winchester Center, organized by the Grange, Winchester Center Congregational Church, Winchester Historical Association, Little Red Schoolhouse Association, and Winchester Center Volunteer Fire Department.

The Grange was the site for the new Art Show which featured a dozen area artists

and their work. Some lucky visitors were fortunate to be able to purchase some of the work. Downstairs was a craft sale and our now famous Apple Crisp created by the ladies of the Grange under the direction of Shirley Lemieux.

Outdoors featured grilled hot dogs, beverages and snacks along with our first Passport Scavenger Hunt for kids. With clues hidden around the Center, kids filled their passports with special words and then cashed in their passports for prizes. It was an all around great day with perfect weather.

Coming up in October is the third annual Iceland Affair, organized by Gerri Griswold. Known by many as the Batlady or the traffic lady on WTIC AM in Hartford. Gerri organizes and in many instances pays all of the expenses for this event which features the art, crafts, food, music, and scenery of Iceland with many artists and authors making a special trip from that special corner of the world. It's a event you need to experience. Google Iceland Affair for more information.

TAGHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Corr: Barbara Prindle

Instead of our first regular meeting in September, Taghannuck Grangers went to the Bethlehem Fairgrounds to set up our exhibit entitled "What Shall Your Harvest Be." We appreciated the free passes and Golden Sheaf Member tickets that Bethlehem give us. We added to our Fair ribbon collection and need to build a new case which made us think of Ed Whitcomb who built the existing ones.

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Shirley Moore

Oct. 2: Regular Meeting; Program: Diligent Labor; Ref.: Maureen & Phil Prelli

Nov. 6: 6:30 Pot-luck Supper

(Cindy & Mark Prelli); 7:30 Regular Meeting; Program: Harvest March

At our last meeting, The Prelli Installation Team, headed by Gail and Phil Prelli, installed our newly elected officers for a term of two years. Sue Belle-Isle was installed as Master and looks forward to working with all the officers for a

successful year. We were pleased to have State Master Noel Miller as our honored guest.

We were sorry to hear that two of our members, Virginia King and Dorothy Day, are under the weather. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

As usual, our grange will be serving dinners on

Riverton Fair weekend, October 10 & 11. Phil Prelli will be in charge and needs help from all our members. We look forward to a busy weekend and hope to see some of you at the dinners or at the fair. Turkey will be served on Saturday and ham on Sunday, from 12:00 – 1:30. The cost will be \$12.00.

Sun shines bright on Winchester Center Day

Continued from page one...

Bryon Rider mentioned that he had had many offers to sell his pristine vehicle that cost \$130,000 to renew, but he will not sell. "I won't part with it," he said. "It's got only 44,000 new miles on it."

A few feet away, Peter Hurlbut and Kevin LeMere, both of Winsted and known as the music duo Kevin & Pete, performed classic rock and country songs in the gazebo, leading off with a plaintive version of the 1948 Stan Jones song "Ghost Riders in the Sky."

According to town accounts, Winchester was settled in 1732 and incorporated in 1771. Winchester contains within its borders the city of Winsted, which was named for the towns of Winchester and Barkhamsted. Winchester had been a major producer of mechanical clocks in the early 20th century. Today the town is famous for its well-preserved 19th-century architecture.

Down the road in a booth outside the historic Winchester Grange building, volunteer Faith Maus and her twins Noelle and Quinlan, both 8, gave out booklets to children for a "passport scavenger hunt" in which participants were encouraged to find secret words like "Art" displayed along each stop of the day's events and get their booklet stamped when they found it.

"There are good things happening at the Grange," Maus said. "There is something for everyone here. Too often it was just for mom and dad but now, there are activities for kids, too."

Maus' twins said they enjoyed playing in the nearby Fire Department's firefighting foam display demonstrations on the corner of the Town Green. "I was totally covered with foam," said Quinlan. "Even my face was!"

Meanwhile, Jim Malloy, 6, and his older brother Jonas, 8, both of Winchester, dove into a fresh pile of fenced-in foam. Fire Chief Peter Marchand, who supervised the activities, said, "It's been a steady stream of people all day. It's a perfect day and a perfect place to do this."

In the Grange basement, vendors sold crafts and food. Grange volunteer Mimie Grustas waited on visitors Sue Madore, Joey Grustas, Dierdre Whalen, and Melvina Whalen, all of Winchester, who dined on pizza and apple crisp. Mimie Grustas said, "I have been a Grange member and been doing this for over 40 years. The sun is shining and everyone is showing up. It's great to see everyone showing off their specialties. Plus, we have seven big pans of apple crisp!"

Melvina Whalen pointed out, "It's a beautiful day for this. You run into people you haven't seen in years, and it's a good thing."

Upstairs at the Grange, Victor Leger of Winchester was among 10 local artists displaying their work. Ernest Bengston, 94, former minister at the Winchester Center Congregational Church, perused Leger's oil

paintings of landscapes. "They're doing a nice job," Bengston said. "I've been attending these events since the 1950s. It's good to see friends out today."

Dale Parsons-Marchione, 84, of Winchester showed his large Summer Garden Series oil paintings hanging on the walls. "I am a gardener, and I like capturing different conditions of the flowers that are affecting," he said.

Dick Matthews of Winchester exhibited his pastel paintings at a table along with his wife Toni's wood art. The Matthews, who divide their time between Winchester and California, said they had participated in the town event for the past 15 years.

"It is so much fun," said Toni Matthews. "It's so good to see multiple artists in town and have so much talent shared with the world."

Gary Jordano of Winchester had on his table his ceramic creations, like "spoon rests," bowls, and vases. There was also a hand-crafted slate rock sculpture sporting the Japanese symbol for "eternity" written in 23-carat gold leaf. "I made this for my son's wedding," Jordano pointed out. "I'm borrowing it back for this event."

Across the Town Green the Winchester Center Congregational Church held children's games and sold fried dough and popcorn on the law. Across the road, outside the Historical Association building, Goshen First Selectman Robert Valentine of The Village Blacksmith Shop in Goshen gave blacksmith demonstrations. Hammering a red-hot wrought-iron rod that had been heated over a fire, Valentine fashioned a rose sculpture as well as several steel latch-key fixtures.

Diane Newth of Winchester and her granddaughter Anna Flint, 4, stood nearby and watched in fascination. Flint said, "I want to take a ride in the fire truck next!"

"I'd always wanted to find out about the town's history," Newth said. "Having our granddaughter with us gives us a reason to learn about it."

WINCHESTER GRANGE

HOLIDAY
BAZAAR
& **COOKIE WALK**

SATURDAY

November 7, 2015

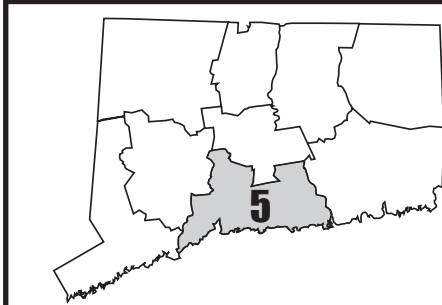
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Festive homemade crafts,
jewelry, candles, holiday decor,
gift giving ideas and more!

WINCHESTER GRANGE HALL
100 Newfield Road
Winchester Center, CT

www.WinchesterGrange.org

New Haven County Pomona No. 5



- Cheshire No. 23
- ✓ Wallingford No. 33
- ✓ North Haven No. 35

MISSION STATEMENT

New Haven County Pomona through the strength of its Community Granges offers collective wisdom and experience to enhance the individual leadership skills, pride in Grange ritual and camaraderie to all citizens in the communities in which we serve!

NEW HAVEN CTY. POMONA #5

Corr: *Wesle Dymoke*

Sept. 14: Regular Meeting was held at Wallingford Grange Hall. The program was "Let's Communicate"

WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

Corr: *Dan Lauttenbach*

Oct. 8: "Autumn Joy"

Program: Dan, Ref: Jane

Oct. 22: "Harvest Supper"

Pot Luck Supper @

6:15pm. Bring a Covered Dish.

Oct 24: Tag & Bake Sale at the Grange Hall from 8:00a.m. - Noon

August 27 – "Summer Social" – We first had a business meeting and we also discussed our upcoming fair on September 19th. We finalized the amount of chicken-halves we are going to buy, 180 and the amount of pies, 21. We still need

to do the kitchen inventory to see what we need to purchase yet.

We collected enough ads and boosters to cover the expenses for the fair book. We also talked about getting more publicity into the Record-Journal paper.

NORTH HAVEN GRANGE #35

Corr: *A. Tolette*

Sorry to say this will be my last report to the Granger. Sad to say North Haven Grange has voted to close its doors after nearly 130 years.

Our quorum, called the "Magnificent Seven", are just worn out. This area is too urban with no prospects for new members.

God Bless you all. It is great to have met and know so many wonderful people over the years. See you down the road.

A favorite time of year



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer

lecturer@ctstategrange.org

It's October. October is one of my favorite months. The weather is cooler and the trees show off their vibrant colors. It is also the start of a new Grange year. That means everyone gets a fresh start. If things went wrong last year, that is all in the past.

I have had several reports from Lecturers who have not received their packet for 2016. These were given to the Pomona Lecturers at Let's Celebrate. In the absence of the Pomona Lecturer they were given to your Pomona Master or their representative. If you still haven't received them, please call or email me and I will see that you get one.

Winners of our Essay and Complete Program contests will be recognized at State Session and will be included in the next Granger. Complete information on the 2016 Contests and Projects will be included in the Lecturers Newsletter for November – December. This same information will appear in the Bluebook. Try to get an early start on these projects. Things usually turn out better when they are not rushed. Plus, it gives you months to think about them and make any changes you feel will make it better.

Looking forward to seeing you at State Session.



Hello Grange Friends!

I started the month by attending Inspection Night at Hillstown Grange. Got to hear some good music while we were there!

We were then off to Cheshire Grange for their Installation of Officers. The Installation ceremony is lovely - and I encourage everyone to see it if they have a chance. It's always nice to visit with my friends at Cheshire Grange.

We also visited with Glastonbury Grange for their Installation of Officers ceremony. Best of luck to my Glastonbury Grange friends for a great new Grange year!

Then on September 18th, we visited with our Riverton Grange friends. It was their Installation of Officers as well! They are such a fun group!

The end of September is time for the Big E. I get to visit the New England Grange Building, and the Connecticut Room, and meet lots and lots of new friends! There is toe-tapping music, lots of beautiful handiwork made by Grangers from all over the Northeast Region, and of course lots of deep-fried food to enjoy!

What will October hold? Why the Annual State Grange Session of course.



I'll be back next month with more adventures!

If you haven't already liked my Facebook page, please take a minute to follow the link and click the "Like" button. <http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro>

Be sure to say Hello if you see me around the State!

Simsbury Grange & Green Monster E-Cycling

Monster-Size Recycling Event

Saturday, October 31 • 9 AM - 12 Noon

Farms Village Shopping Center
244 Farms Village Rd, West Simsbury, CT 06092

- ACCEPTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:
- Televisions
 - Computer Monitors/Screens
 - Toner and Ink-jet Cartridges
 - Modems/Routers, Switches or Hubs
 - Main-frames and Server Racks
 - DVD and CD Players
 - ALL Storage Media
 - Computers and Laptops
 - Printers and Fax Machines
 - Telephones or PBX systems
 - All Types of Cables and Wiring
 - Stereos and Radios
 - iPods, Walkmans and P.D.A.s
 - and more



NOT accepting ANY of the following:

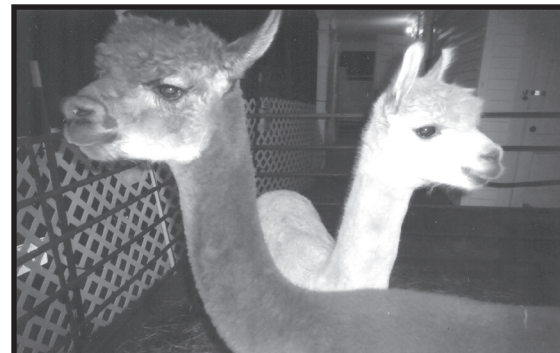
- Air-Conditioners
- Washers/Dryers
- Refrigerators
- De-humidifiers
- Water-coolers
- Light-bulbs
- Vacuums
- Microwaves
- Household batteries

More information on the items accepted can be found on Green Monster E-Cycling at <http://www.GreenMonsterE-cycling.com> or contact them at 860-231-1426

Information on Simsbury Grange can be found at <http://www.SimsburyGrange.org>



A \$10.00 donation is suggested.



Top photo: Alpacas at this year's Hamburg (Lyme) Fair. Bottom: Lois Evankow and Frank Forest with a quilt Lois donated to the Glastonbury VFW.

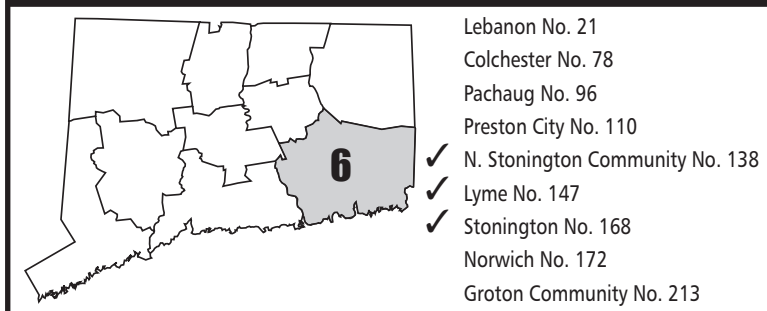
Killingly Pancakes

The 2nd Annual Big Little Apple Pancake Breakfast & Festival sponsored by Killingly Grange will be held at the Grange Hall on October 10th, from 9AM - 4 PM. Pancake breakfast with warm apple topping & sausage, lunch: hotdogs with apple sour kraut; local artisans, homemade goods, fresh local apples, candied apples, mums, live music!



Killingly Grange has been hosting a series of sewing classes, from beginner to experienced. Great job ladies on your Quilt As You Go Potholders! Fantastic! Carol, Kristen, Cheryl, Carol S., Patty & Anne

New London County Pomona No. 6



Lebanon No. 21
Colchester No. 78
Pachaug No. 96
Preston City No. 110
N. Stonington Community No. 138
Lyme No. 147
Stonington No. 168
Norwich No. 172
Groton Community No. 213

MISSION STATEMENT

To cultivate and nurture the flock while encouraging their advancement to the degree of Pomona.

NEW LONDON COUNTY POMONA #6

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller
Nov. 13: Raffle Drawing
Dec. 14: Let the Reindeer Games Begin – Colchester Grange

A small but enthusiastic crowd enjoyed beautiful weather and delicious food at our picnic at Bluff Point in August this year.

Don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets. We will draw the winning tickets at North Stonington Grange at 8 P.M. on Nov. 13th. Prizes include a \$250 Harbinger M60 pc sound system, a \$100 gift certificate redeemable at Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm, a \$25 gardening supply gift basket and \$25 gift certificates at Hart's Greenhouses, Olive Garden, Lowe's, LoPresti Farm and WalMart.

Please come to Colchester on Dec. 14 and celebrate the holidays with your fellow Grangers. The program sounds like lots of fun. So dress in your holiday best and "Come on Down."

The fall is upon us, how can it be true?

The leaves are a-turning a yellowish hue.

The weather is lovely, how can we feel blue?

I'll be at Pomona, now how about you?

N. STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller
Oct. 9: Take Charge and Mean It
Oct. 23: Put Your Game Face On

Our Aug. 14 program was in the charge of the men. It was a varied program of fun and information. Charlie Pianka told us all about biplanes and triplanes, with pictures of strange many-winged planes of the past. The highlight of the evening was Jason Miner singing the song "North Stonington" accompanied on the piano by his mom, Cherie. The ladies took over on the 28th and when it comes to knowledge of when hurricanes occurred the men outshone the ladies.

A lively game of dictionary using weather terms kept us giggling. It was a tie when it came to the most delicious refreshments at the two meetings. We have some great cooks in our Grange.

On Oct. 9th we'll see what the Legislative Committee has up its sleeve for the program. On the 23rd we will hold our annual Halloween Party. Come in costume and bring the kids. The hall will be decorated with spooky stuff. There will be prizes for costumes, lots of games and delicious refreshments. The fun begins at 7:30. Hope to see a big crowd there. And if those noisy katydids will just let me get a little sleep, next time I'll tell you all about sweet September.

LYME GRANGE #147

Nov. 5: Ag Program – "Have You Put Your Gardens to Bed Properly?" Guest speaker – Terry Bischoff.

Dec. 3: Stockings all in a row. Will he come? \$2.00 (instead of a grab bag- donated to soup kitchen), Potluck 6:30.

On a hot steamy evening here in Lyme the officers of Lyme Grange were duly and properly installed by the team of Jeff Barnes and Jody Cameron. Even though there were many fans, it was "HOT."

We voted our Master and Overseer to be our delegates to State Session. Also to pay for luncheon on Fri. and Sat. for the Overseer and two boys.

Our Steward, who in his younger days was in the newspaper business had us all gather into one end of the hall for a group photo. Can't wait to see it.

I remember when, and I have photos to prove it, when we were installed and us ladies were all in long dresses and all the men dressed properly with shirts, jackets and ties. My how times have changed.

Hopefully we will have a productive year, and if it doesn't rain soon our wells here in the boonies will be

mud.

STONINGTON GRANGE #168

Corr: Elisabeth Herzig

Do you know of The Connecticut Agriculture Information Counsel? They present a "Century Farm" award, "Outstanding Young Farmer" award and an award for Ag Journalism annually. Interestingly, in the last 2 years the two farms receiving the "Century Farm" award were right in our own backyard; Holdridge Farm Nursery in Ledyard (2014) and Holmberg Orchards in Gales Ferry (2013). "The Century Farm Award is given to a farm that has been in family operation for more than 100 years, and has outstanding potential to be successful business for another 100 years. Thirteen of the 54 century farms in Connecticut date to the 1600's. The recipient is selected annually by the Connecticut Agricultural Information Council."

In Stonington, all are reminded of our wonderful farmers markets: Stonington Farmers Market; Summer - Saturday: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, through October 17, 2015 at the town dock and the Winter market Saturday: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM November 14 to May 14, 2016 at the old velvet mill, 22 Bay Ave.; Our own Dick and Dot (Studio Farm) Wingate are regulars.

The Denison Farm Market is held every Sundays, from June thru October, 12 – 3 pm, 120 Pequotsepos Rd., Mystic, CT.

Stonington Grange news; the Community Service Award winner for 2015 is Julia Roberts, Coordinator for the Stonington Farmer's Market for the last six years.

Stonington Grange held their annual July picnic meeting on the 9th. A great time was had by all attendees!

Stonington Grange #168 Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 8:00 PM at Coastal Masonic Hall / Stonington Grange Hall, 637 Pequot Trail (Route 234), Stonington, Connecticut. Next meeting will be held on August 13th. All are welcome.

Come on down!



Slow Cooker Hearty Beef Stew

Fall is officially here, and as the weather cools off, stews and soups are back on the dinner menu. Stew would be a great addition to any potluck supper. Colorful, hearty and tender, this recipe from Campbell's Kitchen for Slow-Cooked Stew features all the traditional ingredients of a good beef stew: beef, carrots, onion, potatoes, peas in a rich gravy.

1 1/2 pounds beef for stew, cut into 1-inch pieces
1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 pound medium white potato, cut into cubes (about 3 cups)
4 medium carrots, peeled and sliced (about 2 cups)
2 medium onions, cut into wedges
4 cloves garlic, minced
3 1/4 cups Swanson® Beef Broth or Swanson® Beef Stock
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon dried thyme, crushed
1 bay leaf
1 cup thawed frozen peas

Season the beef with black pepper. Coat the beef with 2 tablespoons flour. Heat the oil in a 10-inch skillet over medium-high heat. Add the beef in 2 batches and cook until it's well browned, stirring often.

Place the potatoes, carrots, onions and garlic into a 5-quart slow cooker. Top with the beef. Add 3 cups broth, Worcestershire, thyme and bay leaf. Cover and cook on LOW for 10 to 11 hours or until the beef is fork-tender. Remove and discard the bay leaf.

Stir the remaining flour and broth in a small bowl until the mixture is smooth. Stir the flour mixture and peas in the cooker. Increase the heat to HIGH. Cover and cook for 15 minutes or until the mixture boils and thickens.

Source: <http://www.campbellskitchen.com/recipes/slow-cooker-hearty-beef-stew-25655>

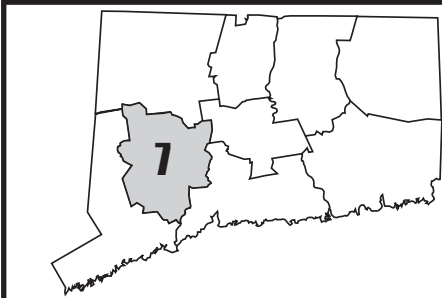
Take a chance



Irene Percoski
CWA/Family Activ. Director
cwa@ctstategrange.org

State Session is around the corner which means our year of CWA work is over and now there is just paperwork to do and Certificates to present. Now is the time to start your projects for 2016. Our theme "Everything is Comin' up Roses" will continue, and all needlework categories will remain the same. There will be a new craft contest and something different in the baking contest. Our regional meetings are set at Good Will Grange on October 25., Beacon Valley Grange on November 1, Winchester Grange on November 8, and Norwich Grange on November 15. All meetings will start at 2 p.m. with light refreshments following. We look forward to seeing you at our table at State Session. Please stop by and "take a chance."

Excelsior Pomona No. 7



- ✓ Beacon Valley No. 103
- ✓ Bethlehem No. 121
- ✓ Prospect No. 144
- ✓ Bridgewater No. 153
- ✓ Wolcott No. 173
- ✓ Oxford No. 194

MISSION STATEMENT

Excelsior Pomona's collective voice is used as an effective tool to further the Grange's good works locally and throughout the state.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

by Joanne Cipriano

Our October meeting will be held on the 9th. Our program in charge of Lecturer Cindy Legg is titled "Young Frankenstein." Refreshments will be in the charge of Diane and Victor Godin and Judi Reynolds.

Our Acoustic audience attendance was disappointing. Can't understand this as where can you go and relax and hear good music and enjoy refreshments - all this for free. At our last one we had homemade beans and hot dogs made by Judi Reynolds plus plenty of delicious desserts.

Thanks to Ron Fischer for making the arrangements and to everyone else who helped.

Our tag sale brought in a small profit but all of us who worked had a good time. It's nice to spend time with your brother and sister Grangers. We are having another one on Saturday, Oct. 3. Most of the Grange attendees have donated all they can. Now we need the help of our members who are unable to attend meetings. Remember your trash is another person's treasures.

As we all know, the price of maintaining a home gets more expensive every year. This is the same with our Grange. Any help you can give us will be appreciated.

With our tag sale we will also have a bake sale. Pat Fischer is in charge and I'm sure she will appreciate donations.

WOLCOTT GRANGE #173

by Karen Mowad

Every month our loyal readers eagerly search for our article to see what is new at the Wolcott Grange. Some of you may have recently taken notice of our little column. Thank you for all your positive feedback and well wishes. We are still in the process of renovating the upstairs hall rental which will be ready by the time this article is printed! We are booking now for the end of 2015 and the 2016 season. Our garden is still blooming and we are donating what we have to the local Food Pantry. We met so many amazing people at the

Wolcott Fair and we had many happy winners of our deluxe raffle baskets. Thank you to the Lion Club for allowing us to be a part of your Fair. We are still collecting box tops, can tabs, and donations which can be sent to 313 Boundline Road, Wolcott, CT 06716. We are having fun together and enjoy serving the community.

Our organization was formed many years ago. Farmers banded together to socialize before smartphones, to talk about the community before facebook, and help those in need before gofundme. Today our community faces different needs than when first opened in 1920. The things that have not changed are our compassion and concern for others, our willingness to lend a helping hand, and our initiative to not only talk about doing something, but to actually go out and do it.

I have heard many times that people don't have time to get involved, don't have money, don't have transportation, are sick or injured, or don't have support from family and friends. Everyone's lives are busy, everyone's situation is unique, and everyone's abilities are different. It does not mean that you cannot get involved. Joining as a member, volunteering, fundraising, or donating are just a few ways you can help our organization. Our organization is about brother/sisterhood and kindness. It takes very little to be kind. A simple word, a smile, a nice gesture...

A lesson in kindness - a message from the Wolcott Grange Chaplain:

Each Sunday I take my kids out to breakfast. They have gotten to know the wait staff and they have gotten to know us. After we finish eating and get ready to pay our bill we choose a table of strangers and ask for their check also. The kids feel good about themselves and it is a positive lesson they learn. Sometimes it is just nice to be kind for no reason. The customers may never figure out who paid or why a stranger would do something like this. We leave and never

see what happens when they are told their bill was paid in full. The kids like to imagine how surprised they must have been.

This Sunday while I was gathering up the kids and getting ready to pay our waitress came by to say that our bill had been paid. How could this be? Who was it? Why?

We were told that some weeks ago an elderly gentleman had been alone in the diner. We paid his bill and left quietly. Apparently, he and his wife were regulars there. She was diagnosed with cancer and quickly passed. After many years he found himself eating there all alone. I did not know when I paid what his situation was or that the small act of kindness would mean so much as if to say he was not all alone in the world. I still don't know who he is but we were told he truly needed some cheering up that morning.

A couple in the next booth overheard what we were talking about and they decided they wanted to pay for someone else's meal. They had heard about this kind of thing but had never witnessed it in person. They wanted to be part of it. They left and we got to watch their pay it forward table find out a stranger had taken care

of their check. It was really cool. My oldest daughter did not want to leave without paying for someone else since someone had been kind to us so we selected 2 women who were sitting together in the back of the diner. My daughter told them to have a nice weekend and we left. I would like to think the kind act made their day because you never know another person's situation. I would like to think they will somehow pay it forward. The moral of my story is to find something you enjoy and make it your own. I certainly do not have an unlimited supply of money but this is something we truly enjoy. I support the ways of the Grange in my own way... to help others, to commit random acts of kindness, and teach my children to be the generation I would like to see in the future.

BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Al Maddox

Oct. 26: Meeting at Nick's Country Kitchen before Meeting, 6 P.M.

Nov. 21: Christmas Tag Sale, 9-1. To reserve a table, call Linda at 203-264-8151.

PROSPECT GRANGE #144

by Jean Meehan

125 pink pigs were made and delivered to the Paradigm

Health Center to become friends with the residents during their dinner. Birthday cards were also made and given out during the monthly birthday party to those whose birthdays are in the month of August.

OXFORD GRANGE #194

by Rob Buck

We had a great turnout at the Oxford Grange September OPEN MIC. Mad River City Band was the featured act of the evening, and let me tell you, they are great! The well done rendition of Pink Floyd's "Comfortably Numb" was awesome, as well as some original songs. Welcome to the Oxford Grange guys (Cody, Joe, and Joe) and hope to see you again. Welcome back to Dan and Diana, returning performers who never fail to please the audience. Mr. Felice of Southbury (didn't remember 1st name as of this posting-sorry!) was great. Welcome back to Jordan, a most talented young lady-hope to see you back next month. Also, another new and talented young voice: Ceyla (not sure how to spell your name-forgive me as it's probably wrong). We had about 30 in attendance, one of the best turnouts yet! See you on October 12th.

Southern CT Past Masters Assoc.

The October meeting of the Southern Connecticut Past Masters will be held on October 10th at the Prospect Senior Center. Our meetings start with a potluck supper at 6:30 followed by the meeting when the dishes are done. This will be our 28th Annual Fun Fair in charge of Joanne Cipriano. This year's theme is "Flowers." The Baking Contest will feature your favorite pasta dish.

Come and visit us and join in the fun - we love company.

Next Social Event: "Teamwork"

Joanne Cipriano, Director

Entries in the "Granger of the Year" contest are very disappointing so far. Hopefully my mailbox will be full tomorrow.

A reminder of our "We Reach Out" project. For this project we are asking each Grange to fill a shoe box with items to be given to the West Haven Veterans Hospital. Please bring them to State Session.

Thinking ahead we are planning our next fun evening. The theme is simply "Teamwork." It will be held at Cheshire Grange. The date will be published in the next Granger. Our plans so far are to have a soup and sandwich supper. Price \$5.00. This will cover our expenses. Save the date - you know we always have a fun night.

"Hats Off"



Hats off to Hazel Pitcher! She was born and raised on townline in Bridgewater. As a young married woman, she joined the Bridgewater Grange in 1942. Today at 93 years old, and still a very active member of the Grange, she was awarded "Best embodiment of Bridgewater" at the Bridgewater Tractor parade. Everyone loves Hazel and we are TRULY honored to have her with us.

EUREKA GRANGE NO. 62

PIG ROAST

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

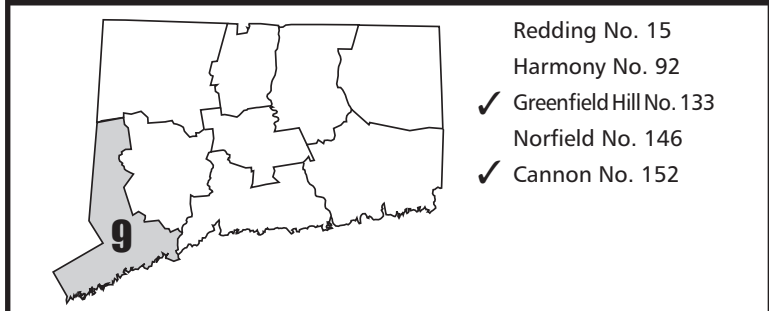
EUREKA GRANGE HALL
ROUTE 202 • IN THE NEPAUG SECTION OF NEW HARTFORD, CT

\$14.00 for adults, \$8.00 for children 6 - 12, and children under 6 eat for free.
Tickets available at the door.

Buffet style meal, featuring all the trimmings, as well as a selection of homemade desserts

For tickets & info: please contact Earl Phillips 860-482-1111

Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



- Redding No. 15
- Harmony No. 92
- ✓ Greenfield Hill No. 133
- Norfield No. 146
- ✓ Cannon No. 152

MISSION STATEMENT

Fairfield County Pomona is made up of Community Granges with a special interest in leadership development, who come together to share information and fellowship and through legislative action addresses the needs of all its members and communities.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY POMONA #9

Corr: George Ward

Oct. 9: Regular Meeting, Ref. 6:30, Meeting 7:30

Our Agricultural Fair is now history. The fair was a success and profitable. The weather was perfect with excellent attendance.

Harmony Grange has elected four new members. The Welcoming Ceremony will be on our regular meeting night, September 11, and will be performed by Robert Buck, Gatekeeper of Connecticut State Grange.

On September 15, Harmony Grange will host the Fairfield County Farm Bureau. The program will be: Transitioning the Family Farm and Marketing the Farm Through Social Media. There were two speakers, Don Schrieber, Nationwide Insurance and Leslie Silverman, Smart Site Consulting. The meeting was open to the public.

Harmony Grange will install its officers at a special meeting on Sept. 24 at the Grange Hall. Robert and

Marge Sendewicz will be the installing officers.

Special meetings are being held to finalize plans for our 125th Anniversary on Oct. 4.

GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

Corr: Dennis Rich

Oct. 19: Harvest Time, Meeting 7 P.M.

Oct. 24: Pumpkin Carving, 10 A.M. – 12 Noon, Grange Hall

Oct. 24: Octoberfest, Dinner, 6:00 P.M. (Doors Open at 5:30 P.M.)

Oct. 31: Halloween Party for Jr. Grange, 10 A.M. – 12 Noon – Grange Hall

Preliminary results indicate a successful annual fair booth from the standpoint of the number of entries submitted in various categories and financial. This largely due to advance sale vendor space.

Our regular meeting will feature highlights of this year's growing season. Please bring your gardening memories. Ideas for next year will help too.

On two successive Saturday mornings the 24th and 31st there will be activities for the future Junior Grange. Figure on \$10 to cover the cost of the pumpkin carving. For information on Junior Grange contact Cindy Wakeman at (203) 243-1887 or email her at cwak631201@aol.com.

She is also busy coordinating the Octoberfest a dinner with the German/mid European theme. A donation of \$20 for the all inclusive event is requested.

Looking ahead, we have Thanksgiving Dinner/ Meeting slated for November 16th and our Christmas Party will be on the 16th of Devenber, a Wednesday. All are welcome!

Please note that Greenfield Farms at 3763 Congress Street usually does a Pumpkin Festival on the second Saturday of October (rain day next day). They can be reached at (203) 259-3577.

CANNON GRANGE #152

Corr: Don Offinger

Oct 1: Meet the Candidates for 1st Selectman - Legislative Forum

Oct 15: Business Meeting

Nov 5: Business Meeting & Program

Nov 19: Business Meeting & Program

Nov 21: Acoustic Night - free admission

Dec 5: Holiday Market (10 - 3)

A beautiful day greeted our 83rd Agricultural Fair on August 30th, and fairgoers were given a glimpse of our town's rural roots with horticultural, baking and home-making exhibits. Many


fine vendors were scattered around the grounds selling exceptional products, many of which were handcrafted. Great work by the Fair committee headed up by Doug Shepherd, Michele Clark and Bil Mikulewicz. Over 145 pounds of canned foods were collected to donate to the Wilton Food Pantry. Special thanks to Sara Shepherd for manning the lemonade stand, to Anna Clark for organizing and manning the Kids Zone and to Aaron Clark for demonstrating his Dominos constructions during the fair. These three Juniors are exemplary and we're thrilled to have them.

Please note our Acoustic Night on November 21st. We'll have twenty 5-minute time slots for performers to sing or play a musical


instrument. Admission is free. This should be a fun evening. Also, please note that our Holiday Market will be on December 5th (a Saturday) from 10 - 3. Wonderful gifts will be for sale, plus music and light refreshments will be available.

We're very happy to report our newest members, Jill Walker and Victoria Guarglione, who were attracted to us through our Ag Fair. Also, we're delighted to welcome back Rita Caruso and David Anspach as members. A warm welcome to all!!


Please note our meeting and event schedule. Visiting Patrons are always welcome - won't you join us? All events are at 7:30 PM, unless otherwise noted.




Granger Shout Out



Shout Out to Michele Clark who keeps us organized, and for whom no task is too big.



Shout Out to our three Juniors: Anna and Aaron Clark, and Sara Shepherd - all who worked hard all day long at the Fair



Shout Out to Doug Shepherd who masterminded the set-up and take down of our 83rd Agricultural Fair

Submit your Shout-Outs today!

Granger@CTStateGrange.org
Mail to: P.O. Box 1134, Sharon, Connecticut 06069

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.



Answer on September Window Photo — We heard from Janet Haller who had two suggestions for the gentleman in the September photo. One is Don Shaw from Tunxis Grange and the second is Ralph Ingalls from Brooklyn Grange. She does not know who the woman is in the photo.

Janet Haller was also looking through some old files and came across the answer for the February 2013 photo. Pictured is Oscar White on the right and Eugene "Gene" Niewirowiz (of Mad River Grange). The photo was taken in 1983. Gene was President of the Fair Association.





Michelle DeDominicis
State Junior Grange Director
juniors@ctstategrange.org

Junior Grange

every month. THAT might be a tad bit ambitious, but another one may be on the horizon. About 20 kids enjoyed the mystery ride.

41 of us went to Southwick Zoo. One of our badges was to research an endangered animal and report on it at a meeting. Several of our members took part in this! At our September meeting we learned about Ring-Tailed Lemurs, Bengal tigers, Cheetahs, wolves, Cotton-Topped Tamarins, and a few other species! The children did a wonderful job on their presentations. The Junior Grange paid for a train ride for all of the members who planned on earning this badge. We are proud of those kids!

At our Grange Fair, we sponsored Animal Experiences, a hands-on educational program. The kids were able to hold snakes, turtles, bearded dragons, a frog, rabbit, chinchilla,

hedgehog, and an alligator! Several of the children wore the snakes around their necks. Member Russell had a bearded dragon on his shirt. He said it looked like a badge. Once again, the duct tape table was a huge hit, as well as the Civil War impersonators. Several of our Juniors entered crafts, eggs, flowers, and baked goods. A few of them were even pictured in The Reminder.

We held our Installation and Badge Ceremony at our September meeting. Congratulations to Evelyn Dexter, our new President and all of the officers! It is especially meaningful that our parents, brother, and niece escorted us. A special thanks to Sister Sue Gray for being the Installing Officer.

We are eagerly anticipating our Halloween party in October! Hope you can make it!

In Memoriam

Elaine Meader Tunxis Grange #13
John Haloburdo Coventry #75

Please keep us notified of deceased members.
Use the email or the regular mailing address listed in the Granger Staff list in this issue.

State Chaplain

Charles Dimmick, State Chaplain

October 31 is Halloween. Most people seem to forget that this was originally a religious holiday. It is the All Hallows Evening before All Hallows Day, or All Saints Day, an ancient festival observed at various times in the early Church, but regularized somewhere around 800 A.D. as being on November 1st. Later it became customary to recognize November 2nd as All Souls Day, so that the three days formed a "triduum".

The fundamental belief behind all three days is that there is a spiritual bond, or communion, between those who have died and gone to heaven and those of us who are still living. We are reminded of this when we recite the Apostle's Creed and affirm that we believe in the communion of saints. The exact nature of this "communion of saints" has been argued among the various Christian denominations for centuries, although most agree that it exists. And indeed it is a comfort to know that our friends and family who have passed to "that great grange above" are not completely cut off from those of us left behind. Also, there exists a spiritual bond among all of us Christians still on earth, as explained in the twelfth chapter of Paul's letter to the Corinthians, because "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink."

Getting back to Halloween, one might ask what is the connection between all this and the children running around from door to door, dressed as witches and skeletons and spiders and such, and reciting "trick or treat". Sam Portaro (1998) states that "In the carnival celebrations of All Hallows' Eve our ancestors used the most powerful weapon in the human arsenal, the power of humor and ridicule to confront the power of death." Thus, dressing up in costumes representing scary things is a way of thumbing our nose at evil and death. This is a great prelude to All Saints day, where we celebrate the victory of goodness over Satan and all his works. What about "trick-or-treat"? This has its origins in a custom from late medieval times, called "souling", where on the eves of All Saints Day and of All Souls Day children and poor people would dress up in costumes, and go from door to door, begging for "soul cakes" in return for praying for the dead. The custom is mentioned by Shakespeare in his play "The Two Gentlemen of Verona". Somewhere in the 19th century this evolved into our familiar "trick-or-treat".

By this time it is probably impossible to restore the religious tradition behind the celebration of Halloween, but when the little imps, witches, devils, skeletons, and Darth Vader show up on your doorstep it won't hurt to give yourself a reminder of how this all started.

Hello from Ekonk Junior,

I have been remiss in reporting what we have been up to, so this column might be a bit lengthy.

We had about 30 go to Skate Inn in Plainfield. We had a great time; lots of fun, pizza, drinks, and friends! We cannot wait to go again.

We had a scavenger hunt-mystery ride. Clues brought us to three more clues and finally to our mystery destination: Hopeville Pond.

We all brought picnic lunches and enjoyed some watermelon. However, the swimming and playing with friends was the best part! It was determined that we should have a mystery ride

Ekonk Junior Grange #101



Ekonk Community Junior Grange Badge Winners



Above left, Member Bree with a snake and Russell (above right) with his bearded dragon "badge", at the fair. In the bottom photo, 41 Juniors and parents visited the Southwick Zoo.

Camp to celebrate 60 years!

SAVE THE DATE...PLEASE COME AND HELP!

Announcing: Camp Berger FALL CLEAN UP Weekend Saturday, Oct. 24th & Sunday, Oct. 25th at 10 am - 4 pm (til dark) please come help...bring gloves and rakes, leaf blowers, tarps, etc. Come prepared to work! Please bring your own lunch - water and snacks will be provided.

CAMP BERGER 60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & FUNDRAISER!!!!

Date: Saturday, Oct. 24th (AFTER Day 1 of Fall Clean Up) - Starts at 6 PM.

Barn/Contra/Square Dance & Farm-to-Fork Supper

Tickets \$25 per person. ALL are Welcome!

Please Mail Checks to: Camp Berger, P.O. Box 181, Winchester Center, CT 06094 - Please write in the Memo Line - Camp Berger 60th Celebration.

Or pay online via PayPal or Credit Card at the Camp Berger Website: <http://www.campberger.com/camp/CampRegistration.asp>.

Please make a note in the memo or notes area: Camp Berger 60th Celebration.

ALL ARE WELCOME! Proceeds will go towards - Camp Program Wish List, Maintenance & Camperships/Scholarships.

If you can't join us Donations are Welcome!

Questions: Call: 860-238-7949 &/or Email: CampBerger@gmail.com