

# LET'S CELEBRATE!

Sunday, June 8 • Cheshire Grange Hall • Church Service at 11:00, Lunch & Program

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# Connecticut Granger



Vol. 54, No. 9

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

JUNE 2014

## Change is necessary



**Jody A. Cameron**  
State Master/President  
president@ctstategrange.org

The month of May has been filled joy, happiness, concern and sadness. We had the experience of watching our oldest son graduating from college, and prepare to move to New Hampshire to take a position he's always dreamed of on a dairy farm. We also experienced a family member who was quite ill and needed to make some life changes to be able to start to recover. A co-worker who is very devoted to his family stood by his father's side and said his final goodbye.

These are changes

## Legislative session round-up

*Gordon F. Gibson, State Legislative Comm.*

The 2014 regular session of the General Assembly is over but many of the bills passed in the last days are still on the Governor's desk for signing into law or possibly a veto. If the Governor vetoes any bills there will be an automatic trailer session for the General Assembly to reconsider those bills.

One of the more controversial issues this year as far as agriculture was concerned milk served to children in both public and private schools from day care centers through high school. One bill would have prohibited the serving of whole milk and 2% milk to children in day

that alter one's life. The change from dependency to independence. The change from independence to dependency. The change of fulfillment to loss. We all must face change. We all must deal with the magnitude of how that change alters our lives.

We must experience change in our organization. The change that we experience makes us stronger, broader and more relevant to our community. The change many Grange members resist is not life altering. The change many Grange members shy away from has no negative impact on their existence. Where would we be if we had not adapted to change since 1867? Change is inevitable. Change is scary and change is necessary.

Like it or not if your Grange is not changing to adapt to the needs of your members and your community you will be

care centers and nursery schools because of the sugar content. It would have allowed the children to have skim milk and 1% milk. The sponsors of this bill were concerned that young children were becoming obese because of the whole milk they were drinking. This bill died on the Senate calendar when the General Assembly adjourned without acting on it. The other bill, which is now on the Governor's desk, would prohibit serving chocolate milk in the schools through high school because of its sodium content. House bill 5566 was intended to make minor changes to the educations

changing to irrelevance and extinction. These choices are conscious choices we all must make. Do we want to be part of a prospering organization or do we want to "not rock the boat" or "upset the apple cart" and face the inevitable of closing our doors and ceasing to serve our communities.

I encourage every member to step out of your comfort zone and find a way to make change occur ensuring that we secure our place fulfilling the needs of our communities, embracing new members, encouraging growth, leadership and membership development. Let's make sure the mission of the Grange is advanced and contributes to a platform that strengthens the ability of our successors to pass on what we so richly embrace.

Yes, change is scary. Change is intimidating. Change is necessary.

...Continued on page 2

## Beacon Valley celebrates



State Master Jody Cameron and Hank the Burro pose for a picture with the Master of Beacon Valley Grange #103 at their 125th Anniversary Celebration held on Friday, May 30. More pictures inside.

## Lecturer's Conference

*Marge Bernhardt, State Lecturer*

The 99<sup>th</sup> Annual North East Grange Lecturers' Conference will held August 4, 5 & 6 at Keuka College in Keuka Park, New York. This will be the first time that New York will be hosting since joining the Northeast Region. Hopefully we will have a good attendance to help support them. For the last few years they have had to travel the farthest distance to reach the conference. Now it is our turn to travel. Remember, last year we didn't even have to leave the State.

Our program will be presented on Wednesday morning. It is entitled "Simpler Times". I still need suggestions for numbers and would appreciate knowing ahead of time who is attending. My thanks to all who have already sent me numbers and let me know if they will be going this year. Registration forms for the conference must be in by July 10<sup>th</sup>. I suggest mailing them by July 1<sup>st</sup> to make sure they arrive on time. In the mean time I would appreciate

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Hometown Roots

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## Solid communication is key to membership retention

by Terri Fassio, Public Relations Co-Director

### Why do people spend their hard-earned money to belong to your Grange?

Take a good hard look at your Grange. Why do people join? What's in it for them? Start by asking Grange members to give you the answers. Do they continue to renew their membership because of community service, other projects or Grange activities? Does the mission of the Grange fulfill some need they have to be a part of it? Are there certain benefits they acquire from membership, such as discounts on products/services or networking connections they can't get anywhere else? Does the Grange provide legislative representation at the local, state or federal level that they feel they need to be a part of? Without your members' support, you can't accomplish your Grange goals effectively.

### What does your Grange provide for its members?

Which services do your Grange members find invaluable and which services do they rarely, if ever, use? Also ask your members what they need to gain from being a Grange member. Are there new services, projects, activities or programs that should be introduced to keep up with your members needs? Are your Grange programs and services up-to-date with technology? Members want to feel like they are contributing to the Grange and helping it serve its purpose, but they also want to get something out of it. By providing a variety of resources and experiences, your Grange can ensure that members don't forget the value of their membership.

### Communication has to be a priority.

Not communicating with your Grange members will cause them to ask "What has the Grange done for me lately?" or force members to make assumptions. Lack of regular communication just screams to your members that you don't care about them once they joined. Make sure that all communications your Grange sends are relevant to your members, are to the point and timely. Take a moment to say "Here's what we're doing!"

In order to grow your Grange, you not only need a steady stream of new members, but you also need plans in place to retain your existing members.

Keep the paths of communication and engagement open, and remember, the heart of your Grange is its membership.



As part of Camp Berger's 2014 promotional campaign, 13,000 "Sticky Note Ads" were affixed to newspapers in the Fairfield County area on May 15th.

## Legislative Round-Up

Continued from page one...

A bill passed authorizing the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection to designate areas of land the State already owns as areas which must be preserved. The original bill would have required a public hearing before the designation became effective, but this was taken out of the bill before it passed. The bill also creates a registry of reserved land owned by towns and nonprofit conservation organizations. A bill to grant preservation easements on the State owned Savin Farm in Lebanon passed, but a change was made to give the Department of Agriculture permission to grant the easements rather than requiring them because the Department of Agriculture is still developing the necessary legal language to grant easements to protect the farmland at Southbury Training School. Since the State will be giving up its sovereign rights, everyone wants to be certain it is done correctly

Last year at State Grange a resolution was introduced to provide more safety for people riding bicycles on rural roads. The resolution was modified to put all the responsibility on the bicycle riders rather than the motor vehicle operators. However, a bill was passed to put more responsibility on the motor vehicle operators.

A bill passed to require municipalities to assess horses at 70 of their fair market value for local tax purposes, the same as real estate and motor vehicles. Another bill will allow municipalities to reduce taxes on historic farm structures to help preserve antique barns

Land owners who allow people who tap maple trees on their land will be protected from liability if the person tapping the trees gets injured on the land. A similar law has been on the books for many years protecting landowners who allow people to go on their land without charge for recreation including fishing and hunting

As I write this most of these bills are awaiting the Governor's signature, so they are not yet law. However, other than the bill concerning milk in the schools, I expect the Governor will sign all of these bills into law. Unless the bill specifically has an effective date, all new laws become effective on October 1 following their passage.

A number of legislators who have served for many years have announced they will not seek reelection this fall. Most likely representatives will give up their house seats to seek vacant seats in the senate. This means there will be a number of districts where no matter who wins the election there will be new senators or representatives. The Grange is strictly nonpartisan but we still encourage everyone, both members and nonmembers, to learn where each candidate stands on the issues and vote according to their own conscience.

## Lecturer's Conference

Continued from page one...

knowing who is attending so I can contact people regarding parts in the program.

Keuka College is in the Finger Lakes and swimming will be available So, bring your bathing suits.

The price of the conference remains the same as last year – For the full conference it is \$195.00 per person for a double room and \$205.00 for a single room.

I have checked out three different sources for directions. They are all a little different, but all start out going west on I-84. The college is approximately 300 miles away and between 5 and 5½ hours. I will send directions to everyone who registers to go.

If you plan to go up on Sunday and stay over at a hotel, I suggest you make your reservations now as this is a busy time of the year in that area.

Hope to see you there...

**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)

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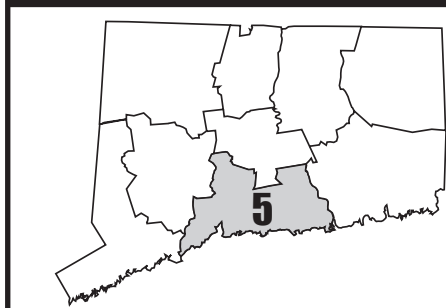
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Secretary Treasurer. . . . . Edith Schoell

## 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 COUNTY POMONA #5

*Corr: Wesli Dymoke*

**May 12:** Fifth Degree at Wallingford, 7:30

**June 9:** Regular meeting at Cheshire, 7:30; Elections, gift card drawing

#### CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

*Corr: Ruel Miller*

**June 4:** Election of Officers, Potluck supper at 6 P.M., Memorial Service in charge of Chaplain

**June 18:** Open Meeting – Strawberry Festival

Our April ball dancing program, as always, was enjoyed by all along with the men baking for refreshments at the following meeting. In early May we held our awards night and our 2014 Cheshire Grange Community Citizen of the Year Award went to Timothy Slocum who is the chairman of our Town Council and is also involved in many other activities. A teacup auction was held with a reception after the meeting.

May 31<sup>st</sup> was a barbecue and card party at our hall. We continue to prepare for our August Fair, lining up activities and procuring ads for our premium book.

#### WALLINGFORD GRANGE #33

*Corr: Daniel Lauttenbach*

**June 12:** 129<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and our Community Citizen will be Rosemary Rascati

**June 26:** Election of Officers, planning meeting for next year and inspection by our Deputy, Carl Bernhardt

April was a busy month for us: April 10<sup>th</sup> – “CWA” program. Janet B. Haller presented a program using the theme of this year’s CWA contests: the Wizard of Oz, Follow the Yellow Brick Road. We had a Wizard of Oz trivia contest, a reading of some of the interesting aspects of the movie and

a munchkin marshmallow toss.

April 12<sup>th</sup> – “Our Spring Tag and Bake Sale” – This is becoming a very popular spring event. We had a lot of bakery items on our table and most of it sold out. Marcia Cutrole sold all of our tables and worked behind the scenes to get this together. Vern Grant and his crew were again in the kitchen selling his special breakfast hot dogs.

April 15<sup>th</sup> - Our Membership Drive was held in the Town’s Library from 6pm to 8pm. The weather did not cooperate with us for it was cold, rainy and windy. So we didn’t expect a large turn-out but we did sign up a new member! This was the first time we ever held a membership drive outside our grange hall. I would like to thank Terry and her committee in getting a new Wallingford Grange membership brochure and the other membership materials together and on time for our drive. I would also like to thank Anne Cella for her background work to make this event happen.

April 24<sup>th</sup> – “Earth Day”. A program on recycling for the town of Wallingford was presented by Doreen Zaback, the town’s solid waste expert. There was a lot of interest from our members on this subject. For example what do you do with those CFL lamps when they burn out? You can bring them to Home Depot or Lowes and they have a drop-off box for them; they will also recycle your rechargeable batteries. One time use batteries are not considered hazardous material so they can go into your normal trash. One of the interesting things to know is by weight; Wallingford recycles about

25% of its “trash” whereas North Haven recycles nearly 40% of its “trash”. People asked why is this so and Doreen said that these are rough estimates at best and because North Haven has municipal pickup it was easier for them to get a better estimate of the weight that is being recycled rather than from the many private haulers that service Wallingford. Another thing of interest

is that Wallingford will soon offer recycling of old mattresses. May 4<sup>th</sup> – “Pancake Breakfast”: We held our first pancake breakfast from 8 to Noon. The menu was of course pancakes, sausages, orange juice and your choice of tea or coffee. The weather cooperated this time and it was a nice sunny day. We had nice turn-out of people and I can say we made a profit.

Henry Cabot had originally suggested having a pancake breakfast and took charge of it. I would like to thank him and the rest of the crew that participated that day and we all enjoyed doing it. Someone made donation ahead of time so that a family in need could enjoy a breakfast. A contact was made and a family of five got to enjoy a fine pancake breakfast and it sure made us feel good.

## Cheshire Grange Awards Night



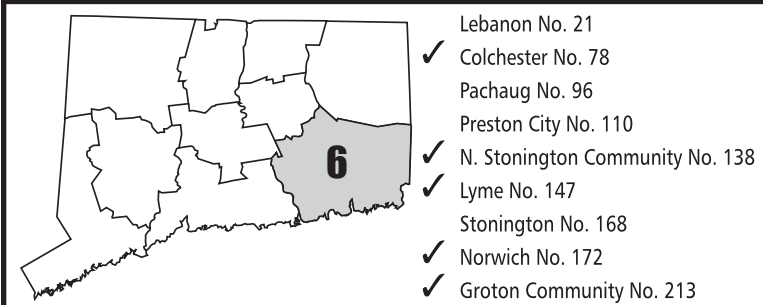
Were you one of the 74 people who attended our Awards Night? If not you missed a good time. We had entertainment by the Bristol Old Tyme Fiddlers, Honored Tim Slocum as our Citizen of the Year and then enjoyed a Social Hour and Refreshments. Our next meeting is May 21st. The program is entitled “Bits and Pieces”.



## Land of the Free

Some of the many Treats Cheshire Grange made for the residents of Maybridge Nursing Home in honor of Memorial Day.

## New London County Pomona No. 6



### 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

**June 16:** Election of Officers, Groton Grange  
**Aug:** Picnic?

We hope to see a good crowd at our June meeting at Groton Grange. We will be electing our officers for the next two years. If you want your voice to be heard, you need to be there. We will also be deciding on the date and venue for our annual picnic. So bring your ideas.

Please come to "Let's Celebrate" on June 8<sup>th</sup> at Cheshire Grange and support your Pomona. Festivities start at 10:00. You will have a chance to view all the exhibits, participate in the Chaplain's service, partake of a delicious lunch and enjoy the afternoon's entertainment. What more could you ask?

It's time for election, please everyone come!

Come with your mother or come with your chum.

We need all our members, election's the theme,

And then come refreshments! It might be ice cream!

#### COLCHESTER GRANGE #78

Corr: P. Joan Toomey

It has been so long since I've written an article for the Granger and I make no excuses for my negligence. I've had so much help as Lecturer from Colchester #78 and Lyme #147.

My first thanks to Lois Evankow for filling in my chair for almost one year with programs of interest and joy to my fellow Grangers and to Cathy Russi for sending in news items in my absence and recently Bonnie Tregarten (April, 2014) also thank you to Polly Leonard who calls on a regular basis to check on us. Thank you to all. I've submitted on a regular basis reports to

Marge Bernhardt (bless her heart) and always a copy to our Master Jeff Watson who does an excellent job. We are blessed at Colchester Grange to have members who are always willing to help in our busy life. I try to offer help from afar now that my priorities have changed as well as my life. So far I haven't been asked to step down and will always help out #78!

I'm inspired to read that Ekonk Community Grange visited Tom Sweet's Farm to learn how to make maple syrup, how it is produced and what hard work is involved. It reminded me of years past that my family had a summer stand and sold syrup (all grades) along with vegetables, corn, eggs, earth worms, frogs, minnows for fishing, mostly to summer residents or people on their way to the seaside.

I also wish I had a Grange plate!

We are planning to enter our float for Memorial Day. Many thanks Chris and Carol Bourque, Wayne Mohrlein, Cathy Russi, Polly Leonard, Heidi and John Brown and Diane L. Leith and Sharon Moroch who march the route.

We meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at St. Andrew's Hall, 128 Norwich Ave. in Colchester.

#### NORTH STONINGTON GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

**June 13:** "According to One's Lights" Election of Officers

**June 27:** "High Jinks" Annual Picnic

On April 11 Michael Adair of the Stonington Agricultural Society treated us to a very interesting program on the Great Depression in Connecticut. Jason Miner assisted with

the computer.

On Apr. 25 we honored our Community Citizens, Linda and Sal Costantza. The Costanzas have worked for years helping the needy in town. We also honored long-time members Paul Ames, who received his Golden Sheaf certificate and pin, Cecile McGrath, Grace Miner and Richard White. As our Lecturer was home with pneumonia, State Chaplain Barbara C. Kulisch took over the Lecturer's duties. Barbara, First Selectman Nick Mullane and Master Robert Miner participated in honoring our recipients. We were delighted to have Edith Schoell, State Secretary, as our Pianist for the evening.

Don't miss our annual picnic on June 27. The evening begins at 6:30. The Grange provides the hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. Please bring something to share for the potluck. Sue will have games for the kiddies after dinner and the festivities usually last until dark. And if those little mice who have decided to move in with me will just decide to move back outside, next time I'll tell you all about merry May.

#### LYME GRANGE #147

**July 3:** Fireworks Galore

**Aug. 7:** Will it rain or shine? Picnic at 6:30

**Aug. 15-17:** Hamburg Fair

**Sept. 4:** Here we go again

We're gearing up for our food and plant sale this month. Briana Landry has volunteered to chair the food part and Skip and Nancy the Plant end. It's a good money maker as all items are donated- clear profit.

A most delightful agricultural program was presented by Kristen Donihee. She did it on "Connecticut Grown." Thank you, Kristen.

Things are rather quiet here in Lyme. The members of the Fair Association are all working hard to ensure our Hamburg Fair in August is successful.

According to the calendar "it's spring", the pesky shad flies are out in full force so I presume the shad are running up the Connecticut River. However, Mother

Nature keeps fooling us, one day it's 42° the next it's 55° with rain. Where's the spring?

We welcomed six members from Old Lyme Grange into our membership by demit. Welcome all!

#### NORWICH GRANGE #172

Corr: Susan Kenney

Norwich Grange will have its annual fair on August 2. Vendors are needed. Ten dollars per booth. Please contact Jolene Whitney at

860-208-0367.

#### GROTON GRANGE #213

Corr: Susan Kenney

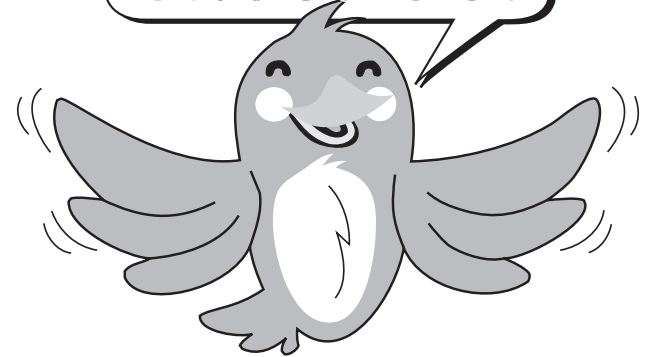
Tonight the Groton Community Grange celebrated its one year anniversary. A good time was had by all. The State Master, Jody Cameron, presented our Worthy Master Anne Marie Knochenhauer with a congratulations award for the accomplishment of our one year anniversary.

## Groton Community Grange Celebrates 1st Anniversary



Groton Community Grange Master Ann Marie Knochenhauer receives a certificate in honor of Groton's first anniversary from State Master Jody Cameron and Hank the Burro.

## Granger Shout Out



**To Robert Jordan, 76 year Granger, named Parade Marshall for the 2014 Sterling Memorial Day Parade!**



**To Robert Jordan, 76 year Granger, named Parade Marshall for the 2014 Sterling Memorial Day Parade!**



**To Robert Jordan, 76 year Granger, named Parade Marshall for the 2014 Sterling Memorial Day Parade!**

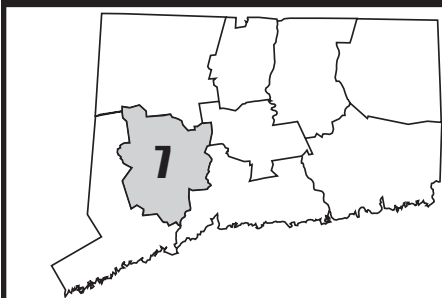
**Submit your Shout-Outs today!**

Granger@CTStateGrange.org

They can also be mailed to:

170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790.

## 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.

### EXCELSIOR POMONA #7

Corr: Jean Meehan

Excelsior Pomona would like to welcome our three newest members, Phyllis Bingham, Marlene Tosun and Josh Mears whom are members of Wolcott Grange. Our June 18 meeting at Bridgewater Grange was enjoyed by all that did not strike out.

As our next meeting will be at Prospect Grange the meeting will be at the Prospect Senior Center lower level. It will be a "Who Done It?" program. Come and help us figure out who done it. Until then, we hope everyone has a fun and safe summer.

### BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

The excitement of our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary is over. Can't tell you about it as we haven't had it yet. (May 30<sup>th</sup> was the date). Now it's back to normal. Our program for June 13<sup>th</sup> is entitled "Just June" with Cindy and Ray Legg providing the refreshments. It will be our Annual Inspection (Nervous Night) with General Deputy as the Inspecting Deputy.

On June 27<sup>th</sup> we will have our Officers Planning Meeting. Anyone who wants to help with any of our activities is welcome to attend. We need everyone's ideas.

Our Open Mike afternoon for our first time trying this was successful. This is thanks to Ron Fischer who came up with the idea. I'm sure we will be planning another one.

### BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Al Maddox

June 23: Meeting, 7:30 P.M., Jim Tucker, Ref.

We had a very successful Flea Market on Apr. 5.

We honored Christine Murphy as our Citizen of the Year. She is the coordinator of the Bethlehem Food Bank collecting and giving out food from the basement of Town Hall. She planned

and did all of the leg work for the Memorial Bench on the Town Green for Sandy Hook teacher Rachel Divino. She is a clerk in the Selectman's Office in Bethlehem. She enjoys her horses and dog and is married to Gary Murphy. She has two daughters.

Present were Bethlehem's three selectmen, Lenny Assard, Dave Deakin and Dave Butkus. Many of her family attended, including Mayor Neil O'Leary of Waterbury, who is her brother. Many town residents and Grange members were also there.

We were entertained by the Bristol Olde Tyme Fiddlers. A large table of canned goods were collected for the food bank as well as cash donations.

### PROSPECT GRANGE #144

Corr: Jean Meehan

July 11: Picnic, 6:30 P.M.

We held our election of officers and are happy to say Tim Meehan will again be the president with Carol Brooks as the vice president, Diane Barbieri will be the new program director and Frances Maxwell the new Chaplain, Minnie Wolvek will be the new Flora, Denise Barbieri the new Ceres and Bella Berdan the Pomona, Lady Assistant Steward Mary Raymond, Assistant Steward Marcia Gaspar. The Secretary, Treasurer, Steward and Gatekeeper will remain the same.

150 handmade Mother's Day cards were delivered to the Paragon Health Center and our shut-in mothers for Mother's Day and 50 handmade frogs were delivered for Father's Day. We are working on tray favors for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

We would like to welcome Peggy Hazen as a member of Prospect Grange. Our July meeting will be our annual picnic. Call Jean Meehan for details- (203) 758-5653.

### BRIDGEWATER GRANGE #153

Corr: Charles Perry

On Tuesday April 15<sup>th</sup> we delivered Easter flowers to our elderly shut ins and nursing home residents. On Wednesday April 16<sup>th</sup> we had our regular meeting at the Bridgewater Grange Hall - our first in the hall since it is closed all winter. Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> we had our annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Bridgewater Town Park.

On Wednesday April 23 we had a spring cleaning of our hall. Then on Friday April 25 we had our annual Community Service Award night. It started with a pot luck dinner at 6:30 PM. Nancy Mascio, our Master, gave an award to Rev Pete Hammond and Kathy Gellaty. They are husband and wife and they run the Bridgewater Food Pantry out of the Bridgewater Congregational Church.

On Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> 2014 the Bridgewater Grange will have the first of our roast beef dinners. The first sitting will be at 5:30 PM and the second sitting will be at 6:30 PM. The price will be 12 dollars and will include roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit salads, coffee, ice tea and desert. A hootenanny will follow at 7:30 and there will be a request for a donation of 5 dollars which will go to the Grange. The Bridgewater Grange Hall is off of RT 133 next to the Post Office.

On Wednesday May 14<sup>th</sup> we will have another regular Grange meeting at our hall starting at 7:30 PM.

### WOLCOTT GRANGE #173

Wolcott Grange is sponsoring a Summer Kick-Off Event on Saturday, June 21 from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. at the Grange Hall located at 313 Boundline Road in Wolcott. Everyone is welcome.

Low cost fruits and vegetables will be sold Farmer's Market style with free giveaways, snacks and informational packets, Grange tours, ribbon cutting for Community Garden, ribbon cutting for handicapped ramp and more...

This even has been generously supported by the Connecticut Community Foundation, Main Street Community Foundation and the Petit Family Foundation. Thank you!

Start the summer right with food, friends and fun!

## Prospect honors teachers



For Grange Month, Prospect Grange honored 208 teachers of Region 16 for dedicating their lives to teaching the young citizens of our community. They deserve recognition for their work in guiding our young men and women to a career. We salute them. Above are pictures from the presentation held on April 2.

## Beacon Valley's 125th



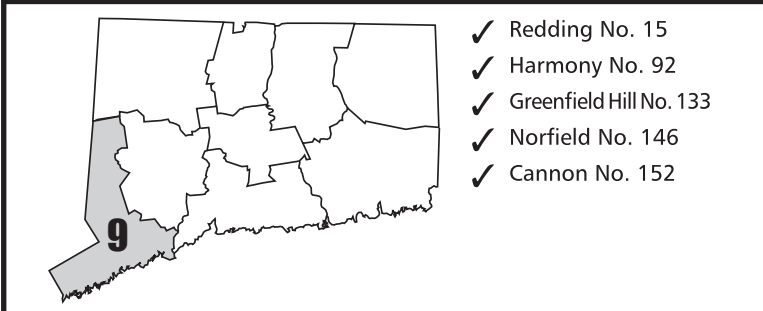
Beacon Valley Grange presents its Granger of the Year award to the Elks for their Senior Home Work Project. Accepting the award on behalf of the Elks is Debbie Lockhart. The presentation is being made by State Lecturer Marge Bernhardt at Beacon Valley's 125th Anniversary Celebration on May 30.

## Oxford Small Business



The May 3rd Small Business Fair was a success with 28 vendors. Our vendors were enthusiastic and realized this was the first time for us doing this. Several have expressed interest in participating again in the future. We had a nice raffle with donated items from area businesses. We ended up making more than we had anticipated. Overall a success!

## Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



### 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: Bob Sendewicz*

**June 4:** Cannon Grange, 6:00 P.M., Dairy Supper

Our June 4 meeting will be at Cannon Grange hall and will start with a 6 P.M. DairySupper.

The agenda for this meeting is a long one as there is much work to accomplish. During the Lecturer's program we will judge the talent entries and the A Number skits. I hope we have a lot of participants.

Prior to the meeting, during the supper, there will be judging of the CWA needlework entries. This looks to be a long night but it's part of the job.

After this we will have a relaxing vacation as our Pomona does not meet again until September. Enjoy your summer vacation.

### REDDING GRANGE #15

*Corr: Robert Sendewicz*

**June 9:** Father's Day

**June 23:** Country Fairs

**July 14:** Summer Picnic, 6:30 P.M.

Redding Grange will celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an open house on Sunday, June 29, 2014 from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. at Redding Grange Hall. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to Marge Sendewicz at (203) 744-1656 or email to sendewicz@sbcglobal.net.

June, a changing of the seasons from spring to summer. The best time of the year and a busy one for us Grangers.

The first meeting of the month is dedicated to dads and grads. So there will be plenty of parties and picnics for these special people.

The program for our second meeting is Country Fairs. I know it's a little early for that but you may want to get out the Connecticut Fairs book and start planning which fairs you plan to attend. Put the dates on your calendar so that you don't over schedule them.

We will have our Grange picnic on July 14 at 6:30 P.M.

We have the picnic outside and then move indoors for the meeting. Anyone wishing to join us is welcome. Please let us now in advance.

Everyone enjoy this great time of the year with its warm weather and wonderful activities.

### HARMONY GRANGE #92

*Corr: George Ward*

Our Spring Tag Sale was a success. Grange members and friends donated many items, some almost new. We also had a good number of Grange members who contributed their time for publicity to working at the various tables on the day of the fair (May 3, 2014) Although the fair took place on Saturday, much work had been done days and weeks before to organize and price the items on tables. We sold slices of pizza along with soda, chips, and beverages. Pizza was offered this time instead of hot dogs. The day was beautiful weatherwise and attendance was good but very few people bought food. This year we had a plant sale and also sold a few of the antique that had been stored on the stage. Ron, a member of our Executive Committee, set up a display of some of these items on a large braided, which was for sale also. The display was very impressive and aided in the sale of the items.

The Town of Monroe and the State of Connecticut have informed Harmony Grange that a round-a-bout will be constructed at the intersection of Route 111 and Route 110 to replace the stop sign and blinking red light. The street, our parking lot is parallel to (Hurd Avenue) will be closed to traffic to and from Route 110. There will be an eighty foot circle (cul-de-sac) at the end of our parking lot for vehicles on Hurd Avenue to use to reverse directions. This cul-de-sac will take a small portion of our lawn and we will lose one of our maple

trees. Access to the Grange will be from Route 110 to Moose Road to Ruth Street to Hurd Avenue or Route 111 to Jeannette Street to Hurd Avenue. We do not have the timing on this project buy after several meetings, it is a done deal.

Our next big event will be our Agricultural Fair in August. We will work with the Agricultural School in Trumbull to get a display of some sort that will pertain to agriculture. Also we will try to get speakers who can speak on different forms of farming and have these sessions open to the public and presented during the time the fair is going on. Vendors from neighboring towns will be invited to display their products. Farmers and others will be invited to bring in vegetables, flowers, baked goods, jams & jellies, needlework, etc for judging and to win ribbons and cash. Publicity will be a big much for the fair to be successful.

After the Agricultural Fair, we will prepare for our one hundred twenty fifth anniversary to be held either late September or early October

### GREENFIELD HILL GRANGE #133

*Corr: Dennis Rich*

**June 16:** "Wedding Memories," 7 P.M. Meeting

April saw us enjoying the return of spring. We finalized plans for our May 3 Eastern European Night. We made new friends and enjoyed great "old country" foods of which there was plenty to go around. A few CD recordings of music of Hungary and Poland provided an audio background to the festivities. A presentation of Fairfield history through postcards rounded out the evening.

Thanks to Judge Daniel Caruso, a Grange member, and countless volunteers and help from churches, synagogues, and civic groups, there was a successful large scale food drive in connection with the town's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This took place on the last weekend in April.

We will continue getting ready for the Annual Greenfield Hill Grange Agricultural Fair scheduled for Aug. 23. The fair booklet is in the design stage and spaces for ads and vendor tables are available. The event will run from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. For more information call Steve Golias at (203) 367-4373 or

email Greenfield133@gmail.com.

The Greenfield Hill Grange Summer Songbirds Coffee House on several Friday evenings during late spring to at least mid-summer. For more details contact us at the above email address. All are welcome to our meetings and activities.

### NORFIELD GRANGE #146

*Corr: Ruth Hickcox*

**June 10:** 7:30 pm, Election of Officers/Committees + Refreshments (please bring something to share).

In April three Pysanky Egg Decorating Workshops were taught by international award-winning artist Krystyna Celichowska, mother of Ewa Ojarovska of Norfield Grange - a fun educational multi-generational program teaching the history of Pysankys, a demonstration, tools, dyes, and eggs. Everyone in the class took home their own beautiful creations. On to the Saturday of Easter weekend the Winter Farmers Market at Norfield Grange hosted an Easter Egg Hunt during the market. Hundreds of kids searched for a silver (under age 5) and a golden egg (ages 6+) were hidden on the Grange grounds along with oodles of plastic eggs with a surprise in each. And at the last day of the season of the Winter Farmers Market it was "Celebrate Lunch @ The Market" featuring Billy's Southern BBQ, Orange Chicken from GourmAvian Farm, Maple Syrup Infused Pulled Pork from Aradia Farm and a headliner for the 3rd year Guest Chef Patty Gay served up her famous "Weston Grilled Cheese Sandwich"...and there was wonderful music played by WHS Student Jack Kerns of Acoustic Weston and a little one and his dad were caught toe tapping an munching on a delicious cheesy sandwich!

### CANNON GRANGE #152

*Corr: Don Offinger*

**June 4:** Fairfield Co. Pomona Meeting

**June 5:** Election of Officers and Business Meeting

**June 19:** Business Meeting plus Planning the Year Ahead

**July 3:** Business Meeting with program: A Healthier You This Summer

**July 17:** Business Meeting with program: Making Jelly & Jam

**Aug. 24:** 82nd Annual Agricultural Fair

A healthy and delicious pot-luck dinner was enjoyed at our second April meeting. Several of the dishes were low in cholesterol and high in fiber and very tasty. One of the dishes was sauteed home-grown mushrooms in an olive oil infused herbed ghee reduction. Other dishes were a lentil terrine, baked chicken with quinoa, kale salad and fresh cut fruit. A delicious dinner that was low on calories. All part of our continuing program in combatting adult and child obesity.

Our early May meeting was a celebration of *Cinco de Mayo* as an off-site dinner meeting at the local Mexican restaurant

Interested in making homemade jam and jelly but not sure how to do it? Come to our July 17th meeting to find out the secrets to making perfect jam when we meet in the kitchen and actually make a couple of batches of jam. If you have a favorite flavor, bring enough fruit for a batch, and some new jelly jars and lids. We'll have the sugar, pectin and a kettle on the ready to get you set up.

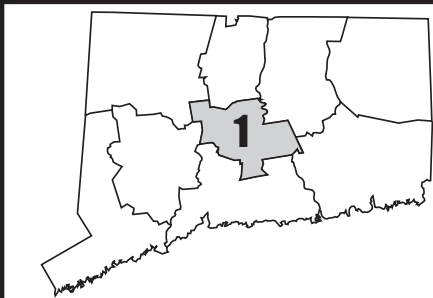
Our 82nd Agricultural Fair is planned for August 24th. We hope to see many Grangers in attendance.

Please note our meeting and event schedule. Visiting Patrons are always welcome -- won't you join us?



The Greenfield Hill Grange Summer Songbirds Coffee House on several Friday evenings during late spring to at least mid-summer.

## 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

June 13: Election of Officers

June 27: Photography

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meetings.

# State Grange receives artifacts

Edith Schoell, Historian

In the last few months two interesting items have been donated to our collection of memorabilia.

The first was a brass bell with the inscription "Grange of the Year 1957" and belonged to Huena Wetmore, and donated by her son, Gary Wetmore. I assume it was something from Hamden Grange but have not found any information on it.

I am always grateful for non-Grangers who discover items and feel an item should be retained by the Order. I received an email from Ed Costello of Southington stating he found the die "mold" for the logo "Get Connecticut Out of the Mud 1930" and would we like it? Of course! It has been received and is on display.

His email reads: "I have come across an artifact here in my hometown of Southington. As you may know, Southington was also the hometown of Louis Tolles. I recently was involved with the demolition of an old tool and die shop that was once owned by the Florian Bros. The Florians were neighbors of Mr. Tolles and were responsible for the manufacture



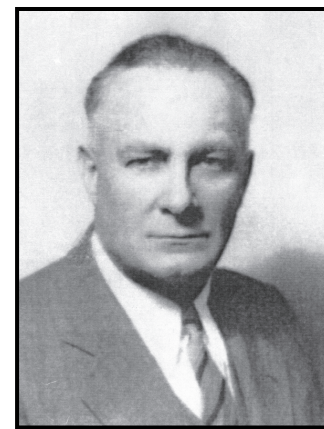
of the small brass "Get Connecticut Out of the Mud" sings. While going through the old water damaged shop I came across the dies seen in the image attached. I cleaned the rust and grime off and this is what is left."

A big thank you to both gentlemen for these items from our past.

The next time you are at Good Will Grange Hall in Glastonbury, check out the items from the past that are on display.

## A history of the 1930 campaign...

Louis Grant Tolles was born on May 6, 1885 and died on October 6, 1956. He would live his entire life on West Street in Southington, attendig the West Street School, Lewis High School and Huntsinger's Business School in Hartford. Brother Tolles was instrumental in creating the landmark "Get Connecticut Out of the Mud" movement during the 1930s.



Louis Tolles

"In the spring of 1930 when the sun was high and the mud deep, many a Connecticut rural road was impossible to negotiate either by motor or horse drawn vehicle. The man in town could not drive into the rural areas to conduct his business nor could the farmer or rural dweller likewise reach the towns and cities for days sometimes, having to await the action of the elements, either to freeze the mud or dry it up. In either case the result was ruts, holes, and turn-outs which were troublesome and costly to meet.

It was on one of these days, which was an annual occurrence, early in 1930, that I stepped to the phone to ask the then first selectman why he had not fulfilled his promise to me that the worst mud holes on my own road would be filled to make the road at least passable.

The reception that I received from the man on the other end of the phone was anything but cordial. He hung up on me three times, the last time his parting words were unprintable.

I learned later that he and another official of the town had been out with a horse drawn vehicle inspecting roads and had been stuck for more than two hours. He had just returned when I can't say what he said before he slammed up the receiver." - Louis G. Tolles State Master

Shortly after this experience, Brother Tolles sent letters to Pomona and Subordinate Masters throughout the state

requesting a meeting in the Hall of the House of Representatives in Hartford to address this issue. Unfortunately, the State Master didn't have the blessing of the State Executive Committee, "because I kicked this thing off all by myself without conferring with my Executive Committee, when we did meet their faces were long enough to eat oats out of a churn. However, when they

saw the popularity of it all, they being good sports, I guess forgave me and pitched in and helped through to the end like good soldiers. By this time, the newspapers had begun to spread the news of our doings, some favorable and some rather dubious, and others just hostile."

Following the meeting at the Capitol, the Connecticut Rural Roads Improvement Association Incorporated was formed with State Master Tolles as its president. As a result, the State Legislature passed the "Town Aid Bill" allocating \$3,000,000 to be allotted from the Highway Fund for division equally among the 169 Connecticut towns for improvement of roads. The allotment was increased over the years following the initial act of the Legislature, with the fund being distributed to towns based on need rather than in 169 equal portions.

Brother Tolles served as Director of the State Chamber of Commerce, an officer of the Connecticut League of Municipalities, chairman of the Highway Users Conference, First Selectman of the Town of Southington, State Representative and Master of the Connecticut State Grange. He even ran for the GOP nomination for Governor in 1934. For these and many other reasons, a section of Queen Street in Southington was dedicated in his honor on August 6, 1960 as part of the State Grange's 75th anniversary celebration held on the campus of the University of Connecticut at Storrs.

## Meriden Grange Family Style Meat Loaf Supper and Strawberry Shortcake for Dessert



June 28<sup>th</sup>

5 to 6:30 PM

540 Broad Street, Meriden, CT



\$11 Adults, \$5.50 Children  
Takeouts Available  
Open To The Public



## Hank's Oreo Brownies

This looks soooo good, and it is super easy to make! Brownie cupcakes with peanut butter Oreo centers! Seriously!!! Share this recipe on your page, so you don't forget it!

Ingredients:

- Oreos
- Peanut Butter

Box of Brownie Mix

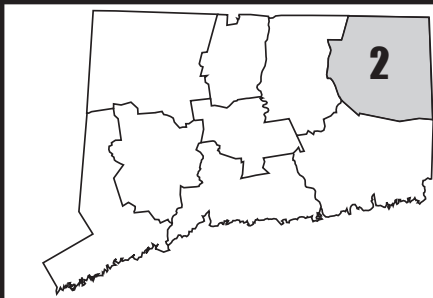
Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit

Take two oreos and stack them with peanut butter (A layer in the middle and on top).

Place the stack in a cupcake liner. Place liners in a muffin tin. Make brownie mix according to box. Pour brownie mix over cookie stack. Bake for 20 minutes or until cooked. Pull out of the oven and let cool.

--Enjoy!

## 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.

#### SENEXET GRANGE #40

*Corr: Diane Miller*

**June 18:** Picnic – All invited to attend, 6 P.M.

We have been busy with the use of the hall by local groups.

We had a presentation by Reva Seybolt from the Woodstock Agricultural Commission telling us about their activities. They are the local sounding board for farming concerns and questions.

We are thinking about doing some fundraisers for “Dogs for the Deaf” after viewing a great video on their work.

We have revised our by-laws and have updated them.

We are still working on getting a ramp for the upstairs. Seeking approval from the local historic district. All are welcome.

#### WOLF DEN GRANGE #61

*Corr: Elsie Johnson*

**June 11:** “Dairy” – Election of Officers, Agriculture; Ref. Shortcake

**June 25:** Potluck, 6 P.M.

**July 9:** Neighbor’s Night

Sunshine at last. Everyone is busy. The usual stuff. Lawns being mowed. Farmers plowing and planting. When it isn’t raining birds have hatched out their young already.

Rhubarb is huge and plentiful.

We draped our charter for a departed member Mary Brown.

Still discussing Pomona – going.

Tabs are coming in- a non-member sent in about 5 pounds more or less. There seems to be recalls on things all the time- last one was for a men’s medication.

The Master will present the English award to a recipient at the Pomfret Community School on June 19. Also 600 points on labels sent to school. Happy birthday to all.

Congratulations to Joseph Stoddard who has received his 60 year membership seal.

#### EKONK COMMUNITY GRANGE

#### #89

*Corr: Sue Gray*

Our 125th/35th anniversary is now history and was a gala event with a program blending history of Grange and nation with songs of different eras, comedy skits by the Juniors, inspirational Grange speakers (Russell Gray-past, Link Cooper-present, Katie Molodich-future) and lots and lots of humor! We honored our Golden Sheaf members, youth members, Past Masters/Presidents/Leaders of Subordinate & Junior (Juniors 35th). Claire Logan represented National Grange. State Master, Jody Cameron, presented citations for Subordinate and Junior Grange achievements. We received two citations from the CT General Assembly, one from Ekonk member, Rep. Mae Flexer and one from her and Rep. Steve Mikutel. Debbis Burns created a masterpiece “Grange” cake (thanks to David & Sue Griffiths for helping pay for this). Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm (Hermonot family) produced and donated a “125th Anniversary Special” ice cream for the occasion! They also donated a lovely water color painting of the Grange hall, which now graces our walls along with the numerous citations/awards of the day! Our Past Masters/Presidents pictures have again been updated. Bill Sebastian created an incredible documentary “Ekonk Grange-conception to present” which gave us goose bumps-great job Bill!

The committee of Link Cooper, Paulette Craig, Bill Sebastian, David & Sue Griffiths and Russell & Sue Gray did an exemplary job. The Anniversary Committee presented Sue Gray with an engraved clock for her service & dedication. Katie Molodich was named “Outstanding Woman Graduate of 2014 for the Radcliff Hicks College of Agriculture at UCONN. Link Cooper honored her with a beautiful cake at our May meeting. We are fortunate to have many College graduate Grangers this May: J. Allen Cameron,

Karolyn Card, Sarah Cousens, Brandi Hawkins, Katie Hermonot, Katie Molodich and Colin Sebastian. High School graduate Grangers include Jaimie Cameron and Christopher Sebastian. Chris earned his Eagle Scout Badge for rebuilding and improving the Pavillion on the Grange property. Congratulations to all of our outstanding youth!

May was also our annual Awards Luncheon with Helen Molodich receiving her 75 year Grange certificate from her granddaughter, Katie Molodich. Link Cooper presented Dennis Ahnberg with his 55 year seal and Kalervo Ruuskanen with his 50 year certificate. Dolly Larkin and her brothers presented their mother, Phyllia Thurlow, with her 50 year certificate, a poignant moment as her children are already 50 year Grangers! Patty Cottrell presented Sue Gray with her 50 year certificate and this completed the program. Recipients unable to attend included: Tom Frink-50 years; Bob Chamberland-55 years and Mildred McBroome-75 years.

We welcomed into membership in May: Donalyn Berry, Emily Bonner, Adam and Emily Griffiths and Carly Sebastian; we have at least 4 more waiting to join in June! The secret is out: Ekonk Community Grange is the place where the action is! Visit us anytime!

#### KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

*Corr: Glenna Bruno*

**June 2:** Strawberries and Cream (yummy)

**June 16:** Anniversaries

**July 16:** Picnics, Potluck (6 P.M.) Where?

An Old Witticism: “Spring is sprung the grass is riz, I wonder where the flowers is.”

The farmers’ markets are over for the season but will start again in early fall. We did well. We are planning a garden day in June. More on that! The next project will be Mother’s Day Breakfast and in June Father’s Day. Watch for more details.

Our tea-less tea party is in progress. A cute poem, a teacup drawing and a tea bag insert with the hopes of a “Green Bill” in place of the tea bag. This one we won’t have to work as hard on as we would for a dinner and hopefully it will fill our “Empty Tea Pot.” It also reached members we don’t see very often or who are not able to come to the Grange and our other activities.

Our last Farmers’ Market and breakfast we had a good crowd and lots of spring flowers and an Easter egg

hunt and roll. Whatever it’s called! The children got seeds to plant instead of candy in the eggs.

Pomona met at Killingly for rehearsal for the meeting May 3.

We had a school of instruction at our last meeting attended by the State Master Jody Cameron and other officers. This was in place of degrees as we have new members who need the instruction. This kind of instruction gives you a better insight into the ritual. Some new members also asked questions and some of us older members got a renewed memory lift.

The Blue Grass Band played on the 26<sup>th</sup> and we served a chicken dinner with the help of some members of Ekonk Grange in our kitchen. Kudos to all. Another successful event.

It may not be a breakfast, but we will be having some remembrance of mother 8-12 on May 10.

We now have a new landline phone and the number is 860-481-9102.

One of our newer

members, Nancy Arena is getting donations for a silent auction and dinner coming in June. Be prepared for good food and fun and bring your friends and family. Watch for signs.

Hopefully everyone can read my “jargon”. It seems like I’m running all over the page. I do make a copy first, then something else pops up and I have something more to add on- just keep reading you may find something interesting. Sorry, I don’t own or use a computer—It might be worse if I had one!

#### ECHO GRANGE #180

*Corr: Gloria John*

**June 10:** Picnic

We have had our inspection. Some of our members are still making the Squares of Care. We are also working on our crafts and contest entries for State Grange.

It would be nice if the weather were a little bit warmer so we could work on our gardens.

It looks so nice to see the blooming trees, flowers and bushes out. It feels more like spring.

## WINDOW TO THE PAST

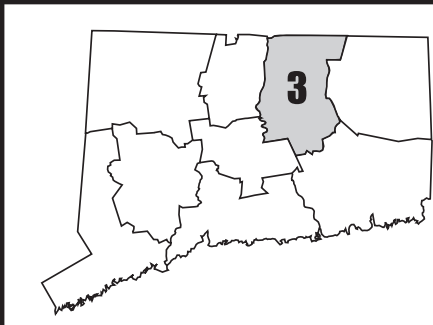
Photographs are a treasured part of Grange history. Many of them, unfortunately, do not come neatly labeled on the back with names, dates, people or places. These photographs have a story to tell... but about whom or what? Please help us solve the mystery of faces and places as we look through the Window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



There were no answers to the May Window Picture.



## East Central Pomona No. 3



- ✓ Stafford No. 1
- ✓ Granby No. 5
- ✓ Glastonbury No. 26
- ✓ Manchester No. 31
- ✓ Tolland No. 51
- ✓ 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.

### E. CENTRAL POMONA #3

*Corr: Noel Miller*

#### June 7: Elections

We welcomed 9 new members that took the Fifth Degree in May and hope to see them join our family.

### STAFFORD GRANGE #1

*Corr: Kim Jones*

A delicious corned beef and cabbage supper, complete with homemade Irish soda bread was enjoyed by the members and their families at our March meeting. Following the dinner we heard a presentation by Heidi Lee of Juice Plus on a home gardening system called the Tower Garden. If you want to see one in action you can find one in the lobby of Star Hill Athletic Center in Tolland. Deputy Kay Ruff was also in attendance.

On Apr. 7 Susan Eastwood presented the 16 minute documentary "Contaminated without Consent" at the Stafford Library. The short film aims to raise awareness of toxins such as fire hydrants and BPA in children's products. A Q&Q session followed. Refreshments were provided by Stafford Grange.

Hee Haw! Come tour the Milikowski's miniature donkey farm with us just in time for some new spring arrivals. Following the tour we will return to the Grange for our monthly meeting.

### GRANBY GRANGE #5

Calling all dancers and those that are not... dancing music and fun. All levels of experience. Fourth Fridays of the month. Refreshments available. Singles welcome... fun for all ages!

June 27 will feature Bob Livingston calling Hearts Ease & Mattie Banzhaf on piano... flutes, fiddles, banjo and more.

On July 25 there will be an Open Mike Night and on Aug. 22 will be a different format to be determined.

Sept. 26 will feature Patricia Campbell calling youth dance for ages 8 & up

(bring a parent- they make like it).

Admission is \$8.00 individual, \$5.00 student. \$15.00 a couple. For info call Carol at 860-627-5053, Grange 860-653-6175 or online at [www.granbygrange.org](http://www.granbygrange.org).

### GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

*Corr: Kay Ruff*

**June 5:** Meeting, 7:30 P.M., Election - Strawberry Festival; Ref. Mario & Jean Accornero and Tom Breen

**June 7:** Host East Central Pomona #3

**June 14:** Monte Carlo Whist Card Party 7:00 P.M.

I am happy to report that we had a successful Bake and Tag Sale last Saturday, May 3. I wish to thank everyone who supported this fundraiser.

Three from Glastonbury attended the Pomona meeting on Saturday evening. It was Talent and Skit Night. We did put on a skit so that we were represented. There were a good number of Granges with skits this year. The winner, Manchester Grange #31, will not put their entry on at the State Grange Runoff in June at Cheshire Grange Hall at Let's Celebrate. We wish them well.

Our next meeting is June 5<sup>th</sup> and is Election of Officers. Save the date and join us to elect the officers that your wish to serve us for the next year.

June 7<sup>th</sup> we host Pomona. It is a 7:30 meeting and we do need help preparing and serving the refreshments.

June 14<sup>th</sup> is our last Monte Carlo Whist Card Party for the season. Let's have a good turnout. See you there.

### MANCHESTER GRANGE #31

*Corr: Leona Wilson*

**June 3:** Election

**June 17:** Love & Marriage

**July 2:** Independence

On May 3 we hosted a Pancake Breakfast. The turnout was small but everyone commented that the food was great. We will

host another breakfast in the fall. On June 3 we will elect our officers for the following two year term. The program for June 17 is Love & Marriage presented by Maryanne. On July 2 we will be learning about Independence and the Fourth of July. Every member is asked to bring something for the program.

### TOLLAND GRANGE #51

*Corr: J. Jordan*

**June 3:** Who Are We?

Tolland Grange will meet on Tuesday, June 3 and continue with its program of "Who Are We?" At our March meeting Trich Curran was our featured speaker. Join us if you can. Inspection will be held.

It is with a great deal of sadness that we announce the passing of Elsie LaBonte, an over 75 year member of Tolland Grange and a Seventh Degree member. I am sure many Grangers remember Elsie and her late husband Harry.

### VERNON GRANGE #52

*Corr: Nancy Strong*

**June 6:** Neighbor's Night and Inspection. Vernon Grange will be honoring Jon Roe of Vernon with the Community Citizen Award. He will be talking about the Tankerhoosen River Valley that goes through Vernon. All are invited to come.

"One More Dance" - A Square Dance Benefit - For many Vernon residents in the early to middle 20<sup>th</sup> century, the square dances at the Vernon Grange were the place to spend a Saturday night. For some dancers, the chance to "swing your partner" led to life time partnerships as a number of couples met on the dance floor of the Grange.

The wooden floor dates from when the building was opened in 1923. After years of dances, meetings and other activities, the floor boards have become thin and worn. The floor has a unique pattern reflecting its design as a meeting hall for the Grange, a social and political association for farmers.

To begin raising funds for the restoration of the floor, the Vernon Historical Society is planning a square dance to be held in the Vernon Grange on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> from 7pm to 9pm.

The event will include narration from caller Jim Gregory about common square dances from the 1940s and 1950s, especially

those that were popular in the Vernon and Rockville areas. Municipal historian Dr. S. Ardis Abbott will provide background on the Vernon Grange as an important community organization. Jim Gregory and Bill Walach will provide music and percussion as a group of square dancers demonstrate the dances. The audience will have a chance to participate as well. Local members from the audience who came to Grange dances in the years past will be invited to share their memories.

The dance will be open to the public. Tickets are \$5 apiece. Those interested in attending can reserve their tickets by calling the Museum or sending an email to [vernonhs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vernonhs@sbcglobal.net). Don't wait too long. Space is limited.

For further information, please call the Society at 860-875-4326 or send an email to [vernonhs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vernonhs@sbcglobal.net) or visit their homepage at [www.vernonhistoricalsoc.org](http://www.vernonhistoricalsoc.org). Come be a part of this nostalgic evening of music, history and dance and help the Historical Society to restore a unique part of our rural heritage.

### COVENTRY GRANGE #75

*Corr: Noel Miller*

**June 5:** Elections

**June 19:** Inspection

We welcome Heather Hill our new member to Coventry Grange. She and her grandmother, Dorothy Hill, donated their hard labor to the gardens in front of the Grange Hall.

### HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

*Corr: Michelle DeDominicis*

**June 12:** Election of officers

**June 26:** Award night

**July 10:** July is for Picnics

As winter turns to spring, we welcome the sunshine and warmer temperatures, and realize that summer is knocking on our front door. During the past winter months, we began holding monthly pancake breakfasts. The extra funds are always helpful but we found that these breakfasts have been a blessing by allowing us the opportunity to reconnect with our neighbors and fellow Grangers.

We have also opened our doors by hosting monthly gardening sessions. During these sessions, our experts talked about gardening best practices, seed catalogs, and aquaponics. Of course - what would be a great meeting or event without great food, from the root vegetable soups to the lettuce in our salad that fresh locally picked February!!

During Grange Month in April - we were fortunate to have the Yankee Bluegrass Jammers perform to a full house! (of course, playing cards were provided for any visiting Granger!)

As we near inspection, it has been enlightening teaching our newer Grangers about the workings of the Grange allowing us "Old Timers" to reinforce our knowledge and understanding as well.

We look forward to a bountiful summer and invite all that would like to attend to come to our annual summer picnic in July - just let our lecturer know you are coming!

## Defining family



**Edith Schoell**  
State Secretary

[secretary@ctstategrange.org](mailto:secretary@ctstategrange.org)

The new quarterly report forms sent to secretaries have resulted in some questioning what consists a "family."

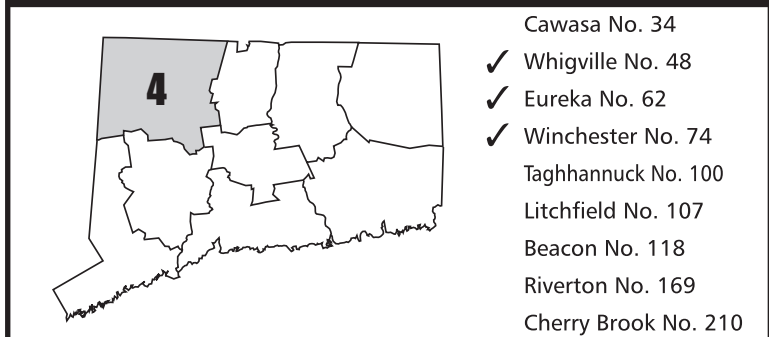
The National Digest states in 4.6.6 (B) "A family shall consist of a couple and their dependents, or a single person and their dependents. Dependents are defined as children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, foster,

adopted or step-children under the age of 23, who live as a member of the same household or in absence due to illness, education or military service. Legal dependents of any age shall be considered part of their legal guardians' family.

(C) "At such time as a member no longer qualifies as a dependent or become a single member the status of the member shall be as an individual with no interruption of their membership."

I hope this clarifies the category for new secretaries as well.

# Mountain County Pomona No. 4



### 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 COUNTY POMONA #4

*Corr: Todd Gelineau*

**June 23:** Summertime!, Taghannuck Grange

The next meeting of Pomona will be held on Monday, June 23 at Taghannuck Grange Hall on Dunbar Road in Sharon. It's our once a year trek out to this Grange and we hope to have a full hall. The Gift Card Drawing Tickets will be distributed at this meeting and we hope everyone will work extra hard to sell as many tickets as possible before the following meeting on Sept. 8 at Whigville Grange.

All officers are encouraged to donate money towards the purchase of the cards or to donate a gift card for the drawing. Please do so as soon as possible. Doantions can be given or sent to Earl & Sandy Phillips, 267 E. Cotton Hill Rd., New Hartford 06057. He hates chasing people for their donations, so please help him out!

### WHIGVILLE GRANGE #48

*Corr: Debbie Brown*

**June 18:** Community Conversation: Growing Local Roots, 7-8:30 P.M., Whigville Grange Hall, 153 South Main St., Burlington, CT 06013

**Growing Local Roots:** When was the last time you shopped at a farmer's market? When was the last time you sat back and considered where your food came from? Local farms and farmers provide food for our communities and contribute to the state's economy. They can bring us all closer to the land, whether we have a green thumb or rely on theirs! Connecticut at Work is bringing you closer to the men and women that provide us with farm fresh produce, local meats and native honey for enlightened conversations that explore the work being done on local farms. How close are you to your local farmer? Now is your chance to pick their brain and find out more about the evolution of

farming in Connecticut and how their work impacts you and your community.

For more information, contact the Burlington Historical Society at 860-202-4291. This program is co-sponsored by the Burlington Historical Society and Whigville Grange No. 48. Free admission and refreshments will be served.

The April meeting of Whigville Grange was our last winter meeting at Town Hall. We have opened the Grange Hall for the season! We all enjoyed a "Green" program at our April meeting. This is a color we look forward to after such a long winter. Our next meeting is on May 14, 7 P.M. We will be presenting Golden Sheaf Certificates, be inspected, and welcome a new member. Come out and visit.

On June 18<sup>th</sup> we will be partnering with the Burlington Historical Society to host a special program "Made in Burlington" focusing on agriculture. This is part of a statewide initiative. Guest speakers will be invited, and the public is encouraged to attend. We will learn lots, I'm sure.

### EUREKA GRANGE #62

*Corr: Sandy Phillips*

**June 3:** Ice Cream Social  
**June 17:** Potluck at 6:30 P.M.

**June 28:** Community-wide Tag Sale, 9-3

Plans are underway for a Community-wide Tag Sale to be held in the Grange Hall (rain or shine) on Saturday, June 28 from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. Tables are available to anyone interested in setting up at the tag sale for the cost of \$20 each. There is also a special rate for Eureka Grange members who would like to rent a table for the day. Please contact Earl Phillips at 860-482-1111 if you would like to reserve a table or need additional information. Otherwise, we'll see you at the tag sale!

### WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

*Corr: Todd A. Gelineau*

**June 10:** Election of Officers, Ref. Shirley Lemieux  
**June 15:** Strawberry Festival, 2:30-5:00  
**June 24:** Dad, Potluck at 6:00

Thank you to everyone who attended our May 13 Community Night featuring a potluck and a performance of the Cherry Brook Chimes Bell Choir from Canton under the direction of Mary Lou Keefe. More than 80 members and guests filled the hall for this event and it was wonderful!

Our spring tag sale was held in May as well with an over abundance of donations from members and friends of the Grange. Thanks to all who donated and to all who shopped. Every dollar in the treasury counts.

Our next big event is the Annual Strawberry Festival to be held at the hall on Father's Day, June 15 from 2:30 to 5:00 P.M. This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and we would love to see a record number of guests! With the town's current financial difficulties the Laurel Festival has been scaled back dramatically to a one day event held entirely at East End Park on the Sunday before Father's Day. The first public appearance of the Laurel Queen has always been at our Strawberry Festival the following weekend. Over the last few years the Queen and her court have taken over the serving line at the festival and we expect this year to be no different. While it's unfortunate the Laurel Festival is scaled back a bit, we know the Strawberry Festival will be that much more important. Join us!

Plans are finally complete for our St. Pauly Society clothing donation shed to be installed at the hall late in June. This attractive shed will be located just outside the Post Office entrance to the hall giving it a prominent spot for residents to drop off their clothing donations. The shed will be painted white with black trim to blend in with the Grange Hall and Fire Department. The Grange will receive a set amount of money for each pound of clothing donated and St. Pauly will handle the donations and ensure that it is emptied at regular intervals. They will also take away and dispose of any and all items that are not suitable for their purposes. It seems to be a win/win for both

organizations. Look for it at the hall beginning in the last week of June.

The kitchen received its annual inspection by the health department in May and we were pleased to receive a score of 99 (one

point was lost for a defective thermometer). We make them work really hard to find that one thing to give us a single point deduction—they work very hard at not giving 100 point scores!

**Winchester Grange**  
**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**  
**FATHER'S DAY**  
**June 15th • 2:00 PM**  
 100 Newfield Road, Winchester Center, CT • www.WinchesterGrange.org  
**Take Dad Out For Dessert!**

## Springtime in the Grange

*Maggie Buck, State Ag. Committee*

Seems like spring is finally here and the Ag committee wishes you the best of luck getting your gardens started. Please remember to plant a few extras for the food banks and soup kitchens. Any garden crop qualifies for the growing contests for the Connecticut State Grange.

As summer rolls around some of our Granges will be holding small fairs at their Grange halls. These fairs are a great asset to our Grange as they bring many visitors to our halls. When holding a fair that is going to include pony rides there are a few things I think the Granges should keep in mind to keep both the children and the Granges safe. All riders should be required to wear riding helmets any time they are mounted on a horse or pony. No matter how quiet an animal is, there is no foolproof way to prevent a rider from falling off. The use of proper riding helmets is quickly becoming a standard of care, when providing riding services for the public. Bike helmets are not a suitable substitute for a riding helmet as they do not cover all the parts of the head that are likely to be injured in a fall from a horse or pony.

Lastly, any Grange using a riding stable or horse owner to provide animals for the use of the general public, should ensure that the animals owner or the Grange has insurance coverage in case there is an incident. While most stables keep themselves covered with liability insurance, some farms don't. Have a great spring.

## Social Connection



I just finished writing the news for Beacon Valley Grange and said I couldn't comment on the final outcome of some of our activities because they haven't been had as I write this but they will be history by the time you read this. The committee hopes you enjoyed the evening. Your comments will help us planning the next one.

The date of our next activity is Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at Cheshire Grange. Full details will be in the next Granger.

We are looking for your entries in the "Granger of the Year" Contest. Deadline is September 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Welcome New Members

- Donalyn Berry . . . . . Ekonk Community #89
- Emily Bonner . . . . . Ekonk Community #89
- Adam Griffiths . . . . . Ekonk Community #89
- Emily Griffiths . . . . . Ekonk Community #89
- Carly Sebastian. . . . . Ekonk Community #89
- Neysa Lynehan . . . . . Taghannuck Grange #100
- Graham Baldwin . . . . . Bridgewater Grange #153
- Riva Martin . . . . . Bridgewater Grange #153



**By Hank the Burro**

Greetings Grange Friends!

It's hard to believe that it is already May - and it has been more than 6 months since I became a Grange Mascot! Time sure flies.

I celebrated Mother's Day by honoring all the Moms who work so hard to make each day better than the day before.

I lent a hoof in the kitchen and helped my family bake a few cookies. I helped bake close to 50 dozen cookies for Web Industries Relay for Life Cookie Sale. A great community service project!

On May 13th it was time to visit Mountain County Pomona Grange at Winchester Grange Hall for their conferral of the 5th Degree and inspection. I helped CT State Grange President Jody Cameron inspect Secretary Shirley Lemieux's books, and met many new friends.

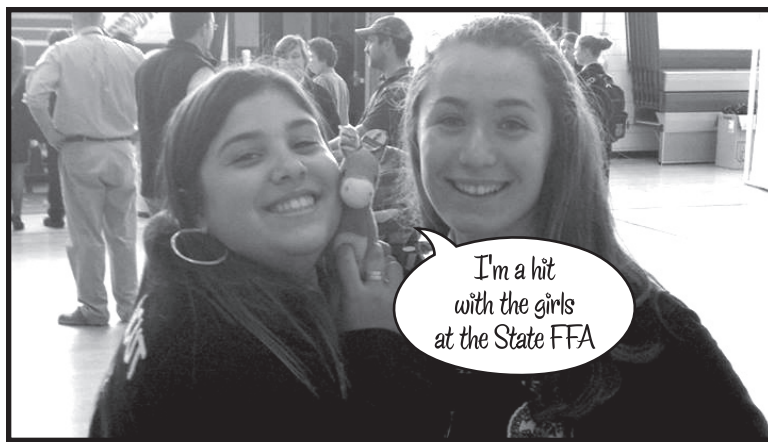
Jody left me in the able hands of General Deputy Todd Gelineau for a few days, for a working vacation of sorts. I got to attend Winchester Grange's Community Night on May 14th. The potluck supper was very good. Lots of food to choose from! The music by the Cherry Brook Chimes was fantastic! I even got to pose with my new musical friends for a photo!

Then on May 17th, I attended the CT State FFA Convention at Rockville High School in Vernon. Got to meet some great new friends, and represent the CT State Grange too! That evening I had a fun time at the Social Connection's Surprise Menu Birthday Party! I helped Jody welcome everyone to the event. Thank you to Joanne Cipriano and her amazing committee for organizing another successful event!

On May 21st, we journeyed to Groton Community Grange where I helped Jody present a special certificate to Groton Com. Grange President Anne-Marie Knochenhauer in honor of their First Anniversary. Anniversaries are so much fun! Congratulations to Groton Community Grange on this milestone.

I am close to reaching my 300th friend! I can't wait to see who it will be. My 300th friend will receive an autographed photo of me! Please take a moment and visit my Facebook Page at [www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro](http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro). While you're there, be sure to click the "Like" button so that you can follow all of my adventures. Won't you share my page with your friends and help me reach my next goal?

If you have a special event, please send me an invitation through my e-mail [HanktheBurro@ctstategrange.org](mailto:HanktheBurro@ctstategrange.org) with the details, and hopefully I can attend!



**Michelle DeDominicis**  
State Junior Grange Director  
[juniors@ctstategrange.org](mailto:juniors@ctstategrange.org)

# Junior Grange

Hope everyone had a terrific summer and looking forward to seeing you at the state Grange Events.

**HILLSTOWN JR. GRANGE #87**

*Corr: Michelle DeDominicis*  
Hillstown Jr Grange is alive and well. Having completed their annual inspection and welcoming in 3 new members! Our JGs are busy working on their craft items and talents for the upcoming contests and are excited to go to New Hampshire this summer as a trip to the NE Regional Conference. Funny, no matter how busy they are with other activities such as Scouts, Soccer, Music and Performance Arts, they always find time for Grange.

We do need to change the date of our June meeting as the JG leaders will be on a camping trip with the scouts! I will reach out to our members as to the new date we will reschedule to. There will also be a "Spring Cleaning" day the last week in June so we can give our Grange Hall a good cleaning.

Hillstown Junior Grange

would sincerely and heart fully thank Lois Evankow and Lyme Grange #147 for their continued support. With their generous support, we will be able to have more JGs attend the Regional Youth conference this summer. Thank you!

**EKONK COMM. JR. GRANGE #101**

*Corr: Rebecca Gervais*  
Ekonk Junior visited Orchard Grove, a convalescent home, on April 17th. We had two girls dressed up as the Easter Bunnies. We handed out homemade crafts and chocolates. It was especially nice to see Carol Orr, a subordinate member, and who is Clifford Gervais' Godmother, and Abby and Evelyn Dexter's Aunt. Always glad to be able to visit there.

We have been selling candy bars for a travel fund. Jackie and Bev have sold almost all of the boxes, HOORAY, ladies! Many thanks, also, to Marion Emmons, who donated several boxes to sell. Our profits to date are over \$550.00!

In May, we were inspected by sister Pat Palmer, and brother Jim came as well. Always nice to see different faces! Our program was Alan Holmburg, owner of Full Bloom Apiaries in Franklin. He brought a section of a hive that was glassed in, so we could be up close, yet not too close to the bees. The kids had lots of great questions, and learned a lot! Did you know that bees pollinate 1/3 of what we eat; honey doesn't spoil because of the low moisture content; and that bees collect nectar, pollen, water, and propolis (a brown gummy substance from trees, used

as glue in the hive). When nectar is gathered it has about an 80% moisture content, but, when the bee flies back, it holds nectar on it's tongue and most of the moisture is evaporated by the time it gets back to it's hive. These are only a few of the facts that we learned. Very educational and very interesting! We all were able to sample a piece of honeycomb with honey. YUMMY!

We will be on a float for Sterling's Memorial Day Parade! Looking forward to reporting on that! THANK YOU to all of our Veterans!



Ekonk Juniors in the Sterling Memorial Day Parade.

# CAMP BERGER

**ADVENTURE - FUN  
FRIENDSHIP - DISCOVERY**

Celebrating our 59th Year  
Camp Berger is a  
Co-Educational Overnight  
Camp for Ages 8-16  
Five Weekly Sessions:

July 6-12, 13-19, 20-26  
July 27- Aug 2, Aug 3-9

Camp Tuition \$350 Per Week  
Counselor in Training Program  
for Kids Age 15 and 16

## PROGRAMS:

Weekly Themes, Forest Golf  
Archery, Frisbee Golf, Sailing  
Canoeing, Arts & Crafts, Rocketry  
Fishing, Orienteering, Geo Caching  
Swimming, Volleyball, Basketball  
Theatre, Color Wars, Ping Pong  
Badminton, Ga-ga Ball, 4-Square  
Dodgeball, Rowing and Many More

Located on Senic Park Pond in  
Winchester Center, Connecticut, Camp  
Berger is large enough to ensure a fun filled  
summer yet small enough, 120 campers per  
session, to give individual attention. Please  
feel free to call or email with any questions.

Lyn & Chris Kimberly Directors  
3 Broad Street  
Weston, CT 06883  
Lyn@AmericanWanderer.com  
203-557-3339

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/camp.berger](http://www.facebook.com/camp.berger)

Summer Address:  
Camp Berger  
134 Wanhee Road  
P.O. Box 181  
Winchester Center, CT 06094  
860-379-3558  
[www.CampBerger.com](http://www.CampBerger.com)



## In Memoriam

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Elsie LaBonte, G.S.       | Tolland Grange #51      |
| Marjorie Brown, G.S.      | Wolf Den Grange #61     |
| Virginia Chatfield, G.S.  | Winchester Grange #74   |
| Max Gilbert               | Colchester Grange #78   |
| Rita Schaefer, G.S.       | Hillstown Grange #87    |
| Evelyn Pelletier          | Ekonk Community #89     |
| Mary Pearl Scarpino, G.S. | Ekonk Community #89     |
| Ed Pedersen               | Taghhannuck Grange #100 |
| Albert Yadach             | Riverton Grange #169    |
| Louise Jasmine            | Riverton Grange #169    |

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

## Chaplain's Message



**Barbara C. Kulisch**  
State Chaplain

[chaplain@ctstategrange.org](mailto:chaplain@ctstategrange.org)



A Pastor once stated: "I always noticed that it was the adults who chose the children's hymn 'Jesus Loves Me' during a hymn sing, and it was the adults who sang the loudest because I could see they knew it the best." Here for you now is a Seniors version of "JESUS LOVES ME."

Jesus loves me this I know,  
Though my hair is white as snow,  
Though my sight is growing dim.,  
Still He bids me trust in Him.

CHORUS

YES, JESUS LOVES ME,  
YES, JESUS LOVES ME,  
YES, JESUS LOVES ME,  
FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.  
Though my steps are oh so slow,  
With my hand in His I'll go,  
On through life let come what may,  
He'll be there to lead the way.

CHORUS

When the nights are dark and long,  
In my heart He puts a song,  
Telling me in words so clear,  
"Have no fear, for I am near."

CHORUS

When my work on earth is done,  
And life's victories have been won,  
He will take me home above,  
Then I'll understand his love.

CHORUS

I love Jesus does He know?  
Have I ever told him so?  
Jesus loves to hear me say,  
That I love Him every day.

CHORUS

*Thank you to all who attended Grange Sunday in  
Cheshire.*

## Registrations now being accepted

Camp Berger now accepting applications for 59th camping season

Camp Maud Isbell Berger, located on scenic Park Pond in Winchester Center, CT is now accepting applications for its 59th camping season. While owned and operated by the Connecticut State Grange, Camp Berger is open to all children ages 7-14. Children do not have to be Grange members to attend.

Camp Berger offers a well-balanced summer program with both individual and group participation. Campers are given the opportunity to sample a large variety of programs or they can concentrate on programs of special interest in such areas as: canoeing, fishing, rowing, archery, sports, rocketry, arts and crafts, dramatics, swimming and nature. Camp Berger provides the opportunity to reduce summer learning loss in an expanded learning environment where children are engaged experientially and have an opportunity for additional academic enrichment. The Camp Berger program is designed to give campers a chance to select and participate in programs of

their choice away from the pressures of highly organized and strictly scheduled activities.

Camp Berger is dedicated to providing an affordable camping experience for all children by keeping its rates among the lowest in the state. Five weekly overnight sessions, and 5 weekly day camp sessions are offered beginning July 6, 2014. The fee is \$350 for each one week overnight session or \$200 for each one week day camp session, with a \$100 deposit required for each week registered to hold space in each desired weekly session. All fees are due in full by June 20, 2014.

Open Houses will be held in May and June at the Camp on Wahnee Road in Winchester Center. Dates will be announced soon. Tours will be provided from 12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. during the Open Houses.

Complete registration information and forms are available by contacting Camp Directors Lynn and Chris Kimberly at (203) 557-3339 or by visiting the Camp Berger website at: [www.campberger.com](http://www.campberger.com).