



Connecticut Granger



Vol. 49, No. 5

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

February 2009

State President



Robert Sendewicz
State Master/President
president@ctstategrange.org

Several of the schools of instruction have been completed and the rest should be done this month. Something that was done differently was I demonstrated the floor work for the ones that requested it. I had many comments last year about the poor floor work at many Granges. I hope this helps.

I also went over some of the laws of the Grange that some Granges are forgetting. Now that many Granges have new officers it is necessary that they learn their responsibilities and read the digest of the Grange. Once all the schools are done I will meet with the Deputies and evaluate the process. Its time to see if this is the best method to educate the members of

the Grange. I still rely on feedback from the officers and members of each individual Grange.

Because of the time that I write this article, the results of the Northeast Leaders Conference, held in January will not be published till March. The same for the Masters Conference that Sister Marge and I will attend this month. Those results will not be published till April. I know this seems weird but I will be writing the March article before I go to the February Masters Conference.

By the time you read this article the Blue Books and the State Directories should all have been distributed. If your Grange hasn't received theirs contact your Deputy. You have heard it from me many times but once more is not going to kill you. Please go over these books and make your members aware of the programs the committees are running and their due dates. It seems the response to some programs is declining. I do not believe this is due to the program



The following represented Connecticut at the 2009 Leaders Conference held in Fitchburg, MA: (front) Edith Schoell (Secretary), Jodi Ann Cameron (Pomona), Bob Sendewicz (President), Ernie Finch (Ag. Director), Marge Sendewicz (Lecturer), Joanne Cipriano (Membership Dir.), Cindy Finch (L.A.S.) and Betty Jane Gardiner (W.A. Director). (rear) Carl Bernhardt (Publicity Dir.), Phil Prelli (Exec. Comm. Chmn.), Jody Cameron (Overseer), Marge Bernhardt, Joan Perry (Jr. Director) and Gordon Gibson (Leg. Dir./E.C. Member).

In addition to workshops presented by National Master, Ed Luttrell, and Leadership/Membership Director Rusty Hunt, the officers and committees broke out and all discussed plans for the coming year.

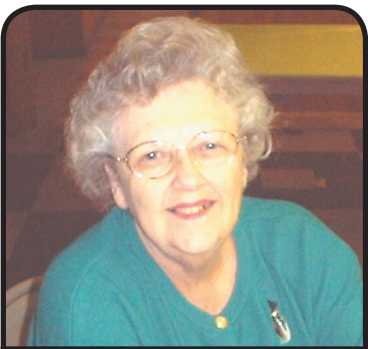
but to interested members not knowing about them until to late. It won't hurt to discuss the Blue Book at one or more of your meetings.

I know that it is cold and snowy this time of year but I hope these conditions will not keep

you from attending meetings. A Grange needs activity to stay alive and participation in local, state and national programs will keep your members active. Above all do visit

nearby Granges. They will love to see you and you will enjoy the friendship of their members. I know your Grange appreciates it when others visit you.

Cupcakes and "Kitty-Cats"



Betty Jane Gardiner
Women's Activities Director
cwa@ctstategrange.org

Jane Miller, State W.A. Member

As you know, the CWA has chosen Kitty-cats as our theme this year and our slogan is "You are the

Cat's Meow!" The cat has occupied different roles in our society- from gods in ancient Egypt to demons in Medieval Europe, from everyday mousers to pampered pets! In the 20th century, the cat overtook the dog as the most popular pet, in many places. Did you know that New England has an unusually high proportion of cats with extra toes? This is probably due to the lasting effect of ship's cats with extra toes that arrived with the colonists

in the 17th century.

All this has absolutely nothing to do with the CWA Baking Contest, except that we have chosen "Purr-fectly Delicious Banana Cupcakes" as our 2009 recipe!

Cupcakes (like the cat) have enjoyed a resurgence in popularity. Once relegated to children's parties, they now are sent as "Get Well" and "Congratulations" gifts instead of flowers. They are even served instead of

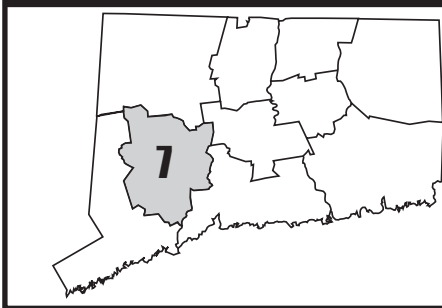
...continued on page 8

2009 Schools of Instruction

- Central Pomona No. 1**
Sunday, February 1, 1:00 P.M., Hemlock Grange Hall
- Quinebaug Pomona No. 2**
Sunday, February 22, 2:00 P.M., Echo Grange Hall
- Excelsior Pomona No. 7**
Saturday, February 28, 2:00 P.M., Beacon Valley Grange

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	Deadline for the MARCH Issue: FEBRUARY 5.	

Excelsior Pomona No. 7



- ✓ Beacon Valley No. 103
- ✓ Bethlehem No. 107
- ✓ Watertown No. 122
- ✓ Prospect No. 144
- ✓ Bridgewater No. 153
- ✓ Wolcott No. 173
- ✓ Oxford No. 194

EXCELSIOR POMONA #7

Corr: Mary Dubay

Excelsior Pomona does not meet in the month of February, so everyone has time to work on the Talent and A Number Run-Offs that will take place on March 18, 2009 at Oxford Grange.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

"Red is the Color" will be our program for February 13th. Mary Pranulis will be hostess for the meeting. You can expect something really good. We are very fortunate to have Mary back with us. She broke her hip in October and was laid up for a while but those who know her knew she would be up and active in a short time.

Our best wishes to Mary Behlman who has had surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery. We are actively working on our project to restore the Naugatuck World War II monument and our ABC Book contest is in progress.

BETHLEHEM GRANGE #121

Corr: Linda Coad

Feb. 22: 2:00 P.M., Program: Hearts and Presidents. Ref. Cindy and Ernie Finch
Mar. 23: 7:30 P.M., Program: Springtime. Ref. Faith Korpalski

It's not too early to think about our Annual Indoor Flea Market. The date this year is April 4th. We will have our own table so if you have items to donate please put them away now.

WATERTOWN GRANGE #122

Corr: Mary Dubay

Feb. 6: Chocolate Surprise
Feb. 20: Superbowl Fun

The month of February brings us Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day and President's Day when we honor Abe and George.

The program for the first meeting in February is called Chocolate Surprise. Sounds good, doesn't it?

Our second meeting will be Superbowl Fun, and that should be interesting as so many are fans of football.

Our Christmas Party was cancelled due to snow, so we opted to have our party on the first meeting in January, so then it became a New Year's Party. Not the same, something missing.

Our last Tag Sale that we had in November went well and Master Sharon would like to thank all who helped in any way.

Our CWA Chairman Malinda will be collecting pajamas of any size from infant to teenage for Foster Families.

We will be having our annual Winter Tag Sale in February, so members keep in mind to save items for the sale.

Visiting Patrons always welcome.

PROSPECT GRANGE #144

Corr: Jean Meehan

Prospect Grange is proud to say we have received an application for another youth. We have five of our officers that we considered

youth. We are working to get more during the year.

We are happy to have had two visitors from the Grafton Grange in Vermont visit us at our last meeting. We hope they will come again.

Five of our members were very proud to be part of the Rose Drill at the Connecticut State Grange Session and the 142nd Annual National Session held in Cromwell. We are proud to be able to be a part of this drill under the supervision of Cindy Anderson, is looking for more Grange women of all ages to join.

I would like to thank all our Prospect Grange members for their help with the Community Service projects. Prospect Grange received a First Place award for small Granges. We look forward to your help again this coming year. Our CWA members are hard at work on Projects for this holiday season. If you would like to help, please contact Jean Meehan. We are still collecting aluminum tabs and Campbell's Soup labels and the box tops for education coupons.

The winners of our raffle are: Cecile Fortier won the Anniversary clock and the ceramic doll. Elaine Graveline won the 6 cup tea pot. Robert Colby won the book of stamps and Ruby DeCosta won the alarm clock. We weren't able to raise as much money as we have in the past, but

will be able to purchase some of the dictionaries needed for our Dictionary Project in September 2009. We will hold another fund raiser later this year to purchase the rest of the dictionaries needed for the 2009-2010 school year. We hope we can count on your support again.

We were able to donate gift bags filled with hats, scarves and gloves, plus personal products and candy to 10 adults and 5 children's stockings with gifts of books and toys and goodies to a local shelter for Christmas. We were able to donate a bag of groceries for the Thanksgiving holiday to a needy family. Several cards and letters have been sent to our service men and women serving in the middle east, thanking them for their service and for helping to keep our country free. We wish them a speedy and safe trip home.

Prospect Grange members all would like to wish everyone a Happy Healthy and Safe Holiday Season, especially our shut-ins.

We meet the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. downstairs in the Prospect Senior Center. Our January 8 meeting was in the charge of our Program Director, Frances Maxwell, entitled "Snow Fall." She always has something interesting.

If you need a ride, please contact Jean Meehan at 203-758-5653 and she will see that you

get one. Visitors are always welcome to visit with us.

OXFORD GRANGE #194

Corr: Phil Rowland

Feb. 6: Game Night - Bring your favorite
Feb. 20: Alternate date for February meeting in event of inclement weather on February 6.

Regarding past events, it would be nice to report on our Christmas Party, but sadly it was postponed due to stormy weather. At this writing the party remains a future event; Santa will have to make a second trip to Oxford this winter. Better late than never, especially when parties are the topic at hand.

A great thing about Christmas is hearing from people who we haven't seen in quite a while. Longtime member Alice Gray, who now lives in Massachusetts, phoned saying she is well.

Meeting programs have been very entertaining of late, and we especially look forward to February's Game Night. Every member must have a favorite game to bring along, at least for sampling. This meeting might run late if someone bring in a game of Monopoly.

Welcome back to Jeanne Vaill after her shoulder surgery. Now her husband Al is recuperating from cataract surgery. Best wishes, Al.

Happy Valentine's Day to all!

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DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

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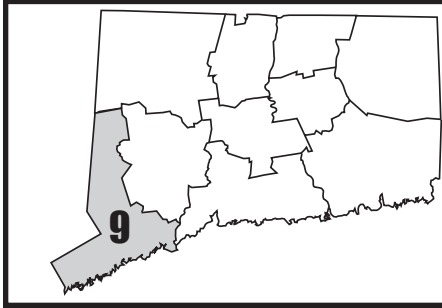
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Vice President Brian Carpenter
Secretary Treasurer. Edith Schoell

Fairfield County Pomona No. 9



- ✓ Redding No. 15
- Harmony No. 92
- Greenfield Hill No. 133
- ✓ Trumbull No. 134
- ✓ Norfield No. 146
- ✓ Cannon No. 152

FAIRFIELD COUNTY POMONA #9

Corr: Karen Macdonald

Hoping that you are enjoying the winter and taking a walk now and then. Geno and I pack up an "in the car" picnic for fun, and then find one of the many trails to enjoy in Connecticut. There is so much to admire in the winter woodland scene, rushing brooks and overhead hawks, and the marvelous hush of quiet when there is a snow cover. Hoping you enjoy a lovely Valentine's Day; to celebrate, my mother would make us kids a special sandwich for our lunch box: a spread of cream cheese mixed with chopped cherries, cherry juice and chopped walnuts, try it!

Please mark your calendar for our next Pomona meeting, lecturer Geno Piacentini will be presenting on "The Golden Age of Hollywood." Popcorn to be included, on Wednesday, March 4 at Harmony Grange, 6:00 pot luck supper. Hope to see you there!
Submitted by, Karen Macdonald

REDDING GRANGE #15

Corr: Marge Sendewicz

Feb. 9: Valentine Party, 6:30 Supper

Feb. 23: Pick a President

Mar. 9: St. Patric Party

Did everyone enjoy their holiday's? Sometimes the weather was good and sometimes it was bad. That's the joy of living in New England.

Wow Valentines Day already! We'll start the celebration off with a pot luck supper at 6:30 P.M. we will have fun and games for our program and we will also have a country store. That's enough to bring anyone out on a cold February night.

On the twenty-third our program will be on the two presidents whose birthdays we celebrate

this month. Did you ever wonder why we don't celebrate every president's birthday? We would get Forty-three days off. Anyway we will learn more about these two presidents.

March 9 we celebrate St. Patric's day. You don't get off from work but it's full of parades and celebration. Sometimes a little too much celebration. We will be wearing the green at Redding Grange and joining the celebration. You can join us and enjoy the fun.

TRUMBULL GRANGE #134

Corr: Susan Sulier

Hi fellow Grangers and welcome to February, the month associated with love.

Our Mary Mazur suffered a mishap in December, leaving her with 2 black eyes and a laceration on her nose, which required 6 sutures. Our Yvonne Wannop has had a very difficult time over the past several months (the demise of her beloved brother and both her and her sister were quite ill). As of this writing, I am delighted to report both Mary M. and Yvonne W. are now doing well.

Trumbull Granger Angelina (Lee) Grella, recently sold her Bridgeport home and moved into Ashlar Village, a very posh Masonic senior residence, located in Wallingford. A few of our lady Grangers, in the near future, plan on having a luncheon with her at the facility.

Pat Gerckens, our Overseer, who is deeply involved in volunteer work for the AARP (she is 1 of only 3 Driver Safety Program Zone Coordinators in CT) has informed us that, in January, the cost of taking the DSP classroom course has increased to \$12. for AARP members and \$14. for non-members. Anyone who wisely takes

advantage of this great course, please remember to take your AARP I.D. card with you when you sign up or attend the class. Pat G. has recently accepted the position of Assistant District Leader for Congressional District #3. A campaign press conference was scheduled in Hartford on January 15. This group ran a successful "Divided We Fail" campaign and received over ONE MILLION SIGNATURES to send to Washington to tell our politicians we need them to address issues which are important to Americans, especially seniors and to stop the usual "Political Gridlock". They will be sending a clear message to President - Elect Obama: **You're Ready To Lead and We're Ready to Help!**

Several Trumbull Grangers rallied to aid Harmony Grange with their annual Christmas Fair, which was held on December 6, 2008. Our Grange and Harmony Grange generally work closely together on our projects and events, which gives both groups the additional volunteers they each need. Alice Salvias and Barbara Standley handled their "Straw Game", Louise Malatesta (with the help of Nancy Standley from Harmony Grange) tended to their "Jewelry Booth" and Val Barrachina assisted them with their "Tag Sale". Louise Malatesta, Barbara Standley and Mary Mazur donated delicious homemade baked goods for their "Bake Sale". An enjoyable time was had by everyone who participated in this successful Christmas Fair. It is heartwarming to know that, Trumbull Grange is always more than willing to lend a helping hand to our fellow Granges, whenever a need arises.

I personally wish to thank each and every Trumbull Granger for their commitment, not just to our Grange, but also for their dedication to our entire community.

In closing, I wish you all a "Happy Valentine's Day", filled with unconditional love.

NORFIELD GRANGE #146

Corr: Ruth L. Hickcox

Feb. 10: Valentine's Day, CWA Baking Contest

Mar. 10: St. Patrick's Day

Come join us at our meeting on February 10, when we celebrate St. Valentine's Day and munch on the entries of the 2009 CWA Baking Contest! This year's recipe is for a banana cupcake with vanilla icing. That in itself should lure you to the Grange Hall on a cold February evening.

Our Christmas Party was wonderful fun, complete with Santa Bob Sendewicz and Sue Sulla Claus. Richard Fanning's boys were there with their family, as in past Christmas parties, and as we've watched them grow from babies we've been amazed at their charm and good grace. Santa never fails to find them presents from his mysterious bag. The pot luck meal turned out to be a feast, but the hit of the evening was the mashed potato from Calise's Market. It was voted the Best Mashed Potato in Fairfield County! Audrey Burtsche was in charge of the decorations (we hope she will be for the next fifty years), which featured colorful paper bags and tissue. She can create fantasy out of anything.

Some of the music in our Grange has gone. Charlotte Washburn died on December 30, at the age of 94. She was our Pianist for as long as many Grangers can remember, having taken over the keys when Jimmy DeMaria retired. She and George and their family were pivotal members of Norfield. Who can forget Charlotte and her kids and grandkids as they manned the Magic Fish Pond at all our Agricultural Fairs? "The old order changeth." And what an amazing order that was!

CANNON GRANGE #152

Corr: Don Offinger

Feb. 5: Business Meeting, 7:00 P.M. (Preceded by Supper at 6:30 P.M.)

Feb. 21: Saturday Evening-Silent Movies with live piano accompaniment; Admission \$5 per person

Mar. 5: Business Meeting, 7:00 P.M. (Preceded by Supper at 6:30 P.M.)

Mar. 14: Saturday Noon-St. Patrick's Luncheon

Mar. 19: State Grange Contests, 7 P.M.

Many thanks to all the Cannon Grange members and guests who attended the Holiday Party on December 18th. The hall looked beautiful with the hanging white lights twinkling from the proscenium above the stage. The lighted Christmas tree plus the music in the background along with the fire in the fireplace made for a cozy and delightful evening. The food and beverage couldn't be beat either. Thank you to Doug Shepherd and Michelle McDonald for the terrific decorations and set-up.

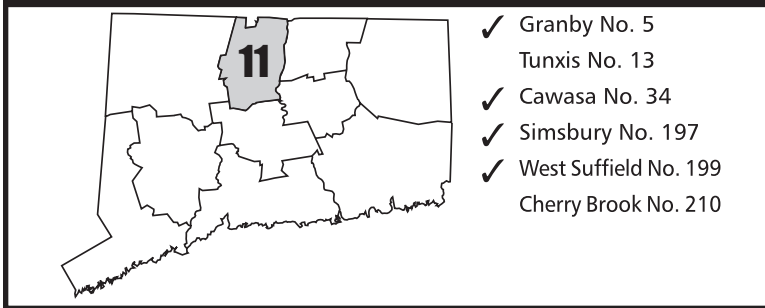
Over the month of January, we have completely renovated our two washrooms with new fixtures, lights and refinished floors. They look beautiful and will be enjoyed and appreciated by all who use them. The renovation team has done a great job, and it's appreciated by everyone. The renovation team included Michelle McDonald, Doug Shepherd, Billie Sue Hollingsworthy, and Ray Schaefer.

Our annual evening of Silent Movies will be held on Saturday, February 21st. These have become such a popular event in our community that people ask us in the Summer "where are you having your next Silent Movie Night? - we want to be there!" The price of admission is only a 5-er (i.e. \$5) per person and promises to be another enjoyable evening. There will be live piano accompaniment, and of course, refreshments. The film rolls at 7 P.M.

Our Fair committee is already at work with laying plans for our 77th Annual Agricultural Fair. The date will be August 30th- why not mark your calendars now and plan to come see us at the Fair.

Our meeting and event schedule is shown above. Visiting Patrons are always welcome- won't you join us?

Farmington Valley Pomona No. 11



- ✓ Granby No. 5
- ✓ Tunxis No. 13
- ✓ Cawasa No. 34
- ✓ Simsbury No. 197
- ✓ West Suffield No. 199
- ✓ Cherry Brook No. 210

FARMINGTON VALLEY Stafford Grange).

POMONA #11 Granby Grange

Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner members volunteered for the Bloodmobile on Dec. 26, 2008.

Feb. 16: "Chuckles Again"

Winter is well underway with the possibility of canceled meetings. Let's hope we will not have to miss many get-togethers because of weather conditions.

The February program is called "Chuckles Again." Wonder what that means.

Should we go prepared to laugh? Isn't that the name of a candy? Could it be about a pet- or a clown? We'll just have to be in Simsbury Grange Hall on the 16th to find out.

Secretary Fran Brockett has been doing her Grange work (and everything else) with a broken wrist. She is on the mend now and we are happy to say.

Our School of Instruction was scheduled for January 5th and then changed to the 21st. At this writing all we can say is we hope it went well.

GRANBY GRANGE #5

Corr: Vivian Shaw

Feb. 5: CWA Program

Feb. 7, 14 & 21: Cabin Fever Tag Sales

Feb. 19: Presidents

Feb. 27: Bloodmobile, S. Cong. Church, sponsored by Granby Grange

We had a Christmas party with decorated tree. Potluck supper and gift exchanges, also food bank items. We had 18 at party (with 9 Granby members and Mark Glazier, Master of

TUNXIS GRANGE #13

Corr: Pamela Covington

At our December meeting, we welcomed State Grange President and Sister Marge Sendewicz. President Sendewicz awarded a 50 year pin and Golden Sheaf Certificate to Master Doris Shaw, 70 year seal to Joan Goetjen, and 40 year pins to Susan Kelley and Joseph Shaw. Congratulations to all who received awards. They add up to a lot of years of service to the Grange.

Master Doris Shaw presented an excellent Christmas program with delicious refreshments. It was a very enjoyable evening for all of us, and we want to thank Sister Doris for all her hard work to accomplish this.

If you want to visit with us, please check with Sister Doris to see when the meetings will be held!

SIMSBURY GRANGE #197

Corr: Betty Jane Gardiner

Feb. 11: "Cupid Time"

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28: Card Parties

Last meeting the program was called "Cat 09 Tales." We learned a bit about the CWA projects for '09. Information was given about cats, and small gifts were distributed.

February is the month of Valentines, flowers, candy and love. Any program with cupid

taking part HAS to be good. Our Lecturer always says we are a loving group - so guess we will find out.

During the winter months we will be holding card parties EVERY Saturday night (weather permitting). If there is any question-please check with Wanda Kansas (688-5581).

Don't forget we meet on the second Wednesday at 1:00 P.M. We gather at noon for a brown bag lunch. Desserts are furnished and are always yummy! Come join us.

WEST SUFFIELD GRANGE #199

Corr: Pamela Covington

Feb. 10: Carnations - Junior & Youth Committees

At our December meeting, two major changes were made. It was voted to hold our meetings during the day, as some of our members find it hard to drive at night. We will all bring a sandwich for lunch at 12:00 and the refreshment committee will furnish dessert and the beverage. The meeting will be at 1:00. The first month's will be on January 13th. If there are any changes in this, we will keep you posted.

Irene Phelps, Master, resigned at our December meeting. Jacqueline Krupa was elected Master at this meeting. We appreciate Jackie taking on this role, and would like to thank Irene for her years as Master and service to the Grange. Thank you, Jackie, for taking the office and we will help you all we can!

We had a very nice Christmas party and refreshments along with our annual game "Left and Right."

AgNews

Ernest Finch, Agricultural Director

Happy new year from your Agriculture Committee. We met at the Pink Sash meeting on November 22 to start the new year. As a committee we decided to have Sunflowers as our yearly Ag project. More to follow in the Blue Book. If anyone has suggestions about Agriculture, please let your committee know about it.

Governor M. Jodi Rell says the state will bond 5 million for farmland preservation. Funds are expected to buy development rights for 10 more farms in 2009. This summer with high gas prices driving up grocery prices, people found some relief with locally grown food, thanks to the Farmer's Markets. I wish they had this farmland preservation program when I sold the land across from our house and I would be looking at one house and one the size of a castle. Jerry Tanner in Warren just sold 50 acres to Farmland Preservation. Good for him. I have been told we are losing 6,000 acres a day to development. A lot of this land is around towns and cities. Another thing we should think of is the water in the ground.

I hope this country thinks about finding the people if we keep losing land and also the average age of the farmers in this country is around 60 years of age.

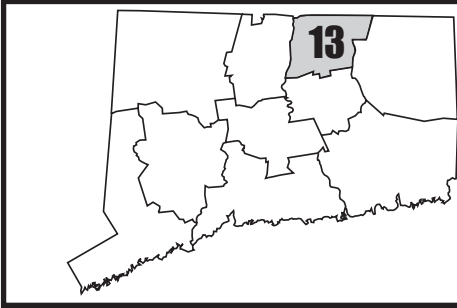
National Grange leaders met with Barak Obama's transition team and one thing the Grange wants all future trade agreements to recognize the need for more international support to grow food for needs of their own people and to stop giving money to farmers that don't need it.

Dan Mutchler, Ag Committee Member

This Brother has just returned from the Farm Show in Harrisburg, PA and it was good to see support for farming and interest in agriculture alive and well. Ron Purinton and I had joined in on a Teamspeak meeting over the Internet with 30 Grangers all over the country talking about how to attract youth to the Grange, and we learned about the Farm Show Expo, and hopped in the car the next day to see it for ourselves. We met up with Carl Meiss from the PA State Grange who was manning the Grange booth at the Show and had a productive conversation. The Farm Show is a large 8 day event with attendance over 500,000. There were many tractors and a vast array of large farm equipment, lots of good food and animals of all types and sizes. Let us never forget agriculture is the very foundation of the greatness of our nation and the basis of our organization.

The growing season is just around the corner and the Ag committee will be unveiling the agricultural contest shortly. This committee has new leadership with Brother Ernie Finch at the helm, and we put much thought and energy into devising a contest which everyone can participate in and have fun with. The more participation there is the more interesting it will be for all. Also we have a big event coming up in conjunction with the Legislative committee for Ag Day at the Capitol, March 18 from 10-1. We will have a display at the State Capitol building promoting the Grange and current issues pertaining to agriculture. Please visit us there to show your support. Spring is coming!

North Central Pomona No. 13



- ✓ Stafford No. 1
- ✓ Tolland No. 51
- ✓ Vernon No. 52
- ✓ Enfield No. 151

STAFFORD GRANGE #1

Corr: Maude Emhoff

Feb. 17: Bingo after meeting, 7 P.M.

It looks as though our wishing for a White Christmas came true. You know the old saying "don't wish for anything too hard it might come true." It looks like a real old fashioned New England Christmas as we look out our window. At our last meeting we had the honor of two special guests- namely Ron Purinton, Overseer and Dan Mutchler, Master, both of New London County Pomona. They certainly came a long way to visit us. For our literary program we were delighted to have the Studio 85 Ensemble- young group singing many Christmas songs. It's always a joy to be with young people. We are glad to hear that Milo is recovering very well after Carpal Tunnel surgery. Our Christmas party was a great success. We had a Sunday dinner at the Zona Restaurant here in Stafford and exchanged gifts. The restaurant was beautifully decorated and having a room to ourselves made it even more enjoyable. Edna and Pat Bidorini were

able to join us, which was enjoyable as the are unable to climb the stairs to attend our meetings. So we are off to a good start for the New Year. Keep well and have a Happy Valentine's Day.

TOLLAND GRANGE #51

Corr: J. Jordan

Feb. 3: Red is Hot!!!

Well, winter has definitely arrived. The cold temperatures and the fierce winds were my first clues!!!

Sure hope you are keeping warm. Our meeting this month is about Red being Hot. Maybe that thought will keep each of us toasty. If you are planning on visiting, call Worthy Master Robert West and let him know. We may not be in the hall depending on how deep the snow is and we would hate to miss you.

VERNON GRANGE #52

Feb. 6: Working the Land - Gordon Gibson has the floor

We all took advantage of a good weather Friday night and had a good turn out on Jan. 2nd for a fun night about getting older. The Master just made it home in time after visitng with Sister

Roberta AmEnde in her new home on Ochapee, Florida - in the middle of the Cyprus National Park. She sends her best to all. Ochapee is noted for having the smallest post office in the USA. Our next meeting will be Feb. 6th in which Gordon Gibson, State Legislative Chair, will have the floor on

Working the Land.

ENFIELD GRANGE #151

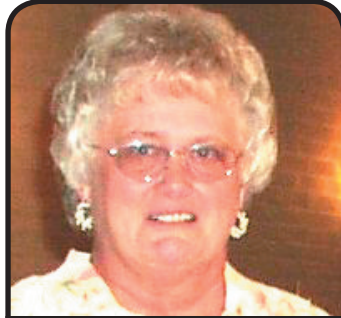
Corr: Irene Percoski

Feb. 14: If the Shoe Fits; Ref. Joe & Sophie

Mar. 14: Birthday Celebrations- Hometown Buffet in Manchester- 12 Noon

Our February meeting will be held at my home, 77 West Shore Drive.

State Lecturer



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer

lecturer@ctstategrange.org

Why I Joined The Grange... by Norman Stitham, Old Lyme Grange .. This is the 3rd Place Winner in our Essay Contest.

"My wife and I moved to Old Lyme and wanted to be in an organization involved in the community and charitable works. Norm Emerson extolled the virtues of the Grange.

After our first visit, we were impressed with the many programs offered by the Grange. We joined and are involved."

While you are spending more time inside during the long winter days, why not write your essay for 2009. This year's title is "What The Grange Means To Me". Once you get started, the hardest part is going to be limiting yourself to 100 words. But, look at the bright side - The last few years it has only been 50 words. Think about it. What does the Grange mean? Is it the friendships, the programs, the community service work or as one

Please call 749-0463 for directions. We had a good meeting in December at which we welcomed a new member. Keep those socks coming, and try out the yummy CWA recipe. There is nothing like wonderful aromas and a warm kitchen on a cold winter day. Happy Valentine's Day.

of our Grangers once stated "If I had know that Grangers were such good cooks, I would have joined a long time ago."

Next month I should have all the details on this year's Lecturers Conference. The conference Theme is "Let's Celebrate" and Connecticut will be celebrating Halloween. I have a few things lined up, but I'm waiting until after Leaders Conference to start putting everything together. After that they can't change it.

Have a Happy Valentines Day and stay safe if the weatherman gives us more of that white stuff.

Times have really changed!

Edith Schoell, Historian

In the Annual Address of Minor Ives, Master of the Connecticut State Grange in 1930, he reported that the National Grange met in Seattle for the 63rd Session. The delegates enroute were received by the Governor General

of British Columbia and later on were the guests of the United States Navy on board the aircraft carrier Saratoga, which was open for the inspection of the Patrons at the Bremerton Navy Yard.

Some of the things National Grange was in favor of were:

Support for President Hoover and all enforcement agencies, of National Prohibition and the Volstead Act; an aggressive campaign against all insect pests, especially the Mediterranean fruit fly; enlarging the national forest reserves and increased Federal appropriations for

agricultural research, plus more.

National Grange opposed consolidation of RFD routes that shall deprive any farm home of mail delivery privileges which now possesses same; continuation of "daylight saving" time in any section of the United States; and employment in public schools of teachers addicted to the use of cigarettes." This is only a few listed in his address.

We can say times have changed.



WE OFFER A LIFETIME OF MEMBERSHIP

Nutmeg State Federal Credit Union has opened membership to everyone who lives, works, worships, volunteers or attends school in Hartford, Tolland and Middlesex counties. The unique credit union advantage may actually make your banking easier. Call or visit our Web site to learn how our new charter makes us the credit union for everyone.

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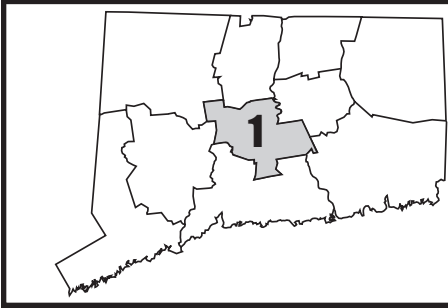
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Central Pomona No. 1



- ✓ Southington No. 25
- Meriden No. 29
- ✓ Westfield No. 50
- ✓ Higganum No. 124
- ✓ Hemlock No. 182

CENTRAL POMONA #1

Corr: Dianna Clark

Meeting will be held February 12th, Thursday, at 7:30 in Hemlock, co-hosted by Higganum. Program is on Friends. We will exchange Christmas gifts because of bad weather on the night of our December meeting on the 11th.

The CWA table-bringing in 3 items of Valentine edibles. Help with refreshments is appreciated. Happy Valentine's Day.

SOUTHINGTON GRANGE #25

Corr: Lisa Lamoureux

Feb. 9: Business Meeting/ Groundhog & Presidents Day – Gatekeeper

Feb. 23: Omitted (Snow Date)

I bet by now, everyone is counting down until Spring begins. Well, we still have a couple more months to go. Since we still have some time to go, why not come to Southington Grange on February 9th and test your knowledge on Groundhog Day (will he see his shadow or not???) and also on President's Day. I am sure that everyone knows a little bit that they would like to share. Hope to see you there!! Don't forget, if the white stuff is coming down on February 9th, we will hold our meeting on February 23rd.

As always, our doors are open for anyone and everyone who would like to join us for a meeting. Remember we meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays (except December, January, February – if

we get snow on the 2nd Monday) at 7:30 p.m. at the Southington Grange Hall located at the corners of Summit Avenue and Knowles Avenue in the Plantsville Section of Southington.

WESTFIELD GRANGE #50

Corr: Phyllis Redford

Jan. 15: 2009- Here we come.

Feb. 5: Famous Lovers

Mar. 5: Our Town

On Dec. 4h, Westfield members enjoyed our annual potluck holiday luncheon, followed by exchange of gifts and the holiday program. Our newest "visitor" is a young man ust one month of age... a future "Granger" presently in the loving care of our Chaplain, Caroline Gilbert. Just now he prefers to sleep through the meeting. In February we will discover some interesting items concerning the private lives of some famous persons.

The March program will be a "Discovery" on Middletown. Visiting Grangers are always welcome at Westfield #50... in case of questionable weather, please call Mildred or Phyllis regarding the meeting.

HIGGANUM GRANGE #124

Corr: Richard Prescott

Higganum Grange is still alive and kicking. We had a good year in 2008 with our annual Grange Fair at Haddam River Days, a few pot luck suppers, visits and singing to our shut-in members, and support of a few local community activities. We still meet

on the first Friday of the month at 7:30 P.M in our hall in Higganum Center. We "ve begun to add a fun game night on the third Friday of the month . We are looking forward to a healthy and

happy 2009.

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

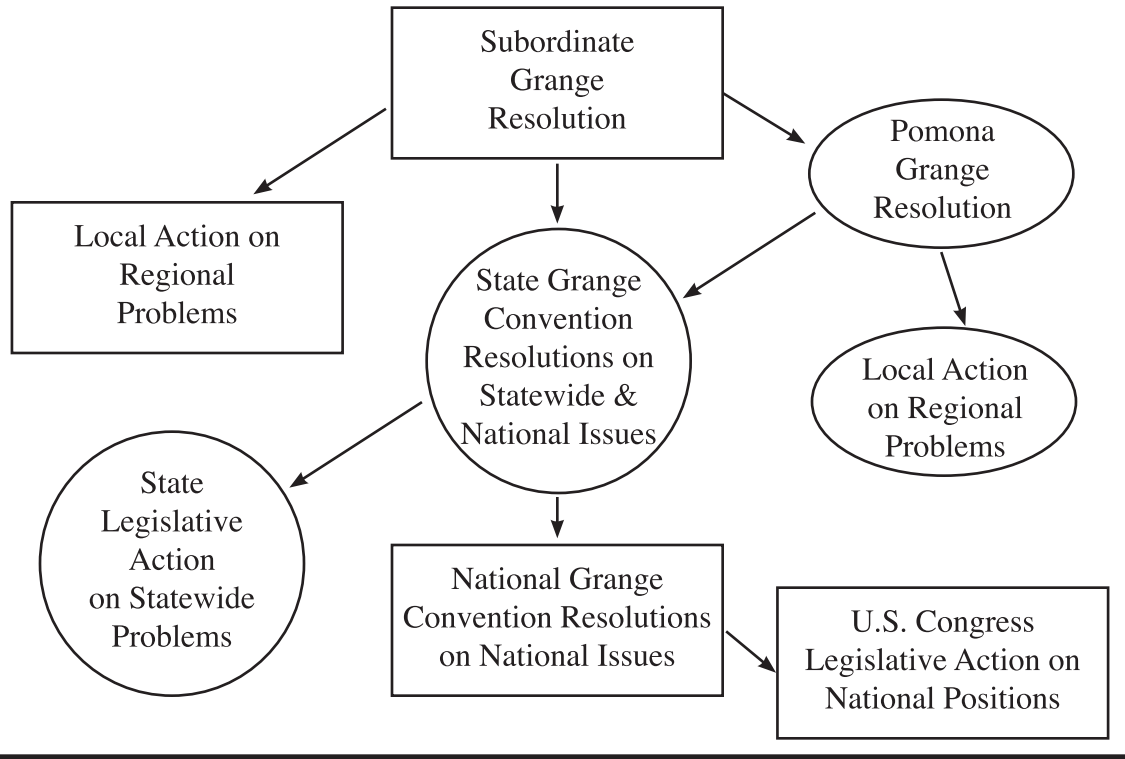
Feb. 13: Youth Program

Feb. 27: No meeting unless the 13th is

cancelled due to stormy weather.

Murray Newton is in charge of the program. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

How Grange Policy is Developed: It All Begins in the Local Grange



Many members have expressed an interest in learning how resolutions are drafted and how the whole process works. We hope the following helps. If you have further questions, please contact State Legislative Director Gordon Gibson at gfgibson@aol.com or by phone at 860-8717757.

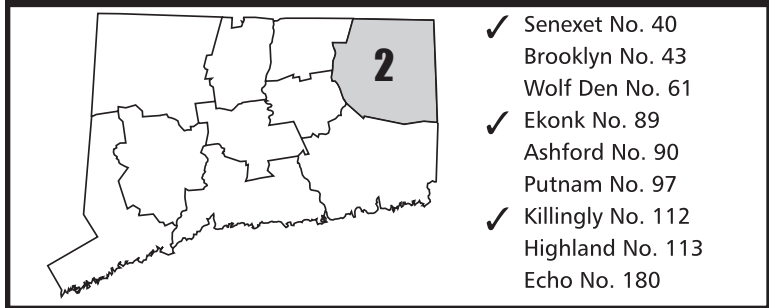
One of the basic precepts of the Grange is its adherence to "grass

roots" policy development. Nearly every policy statement issued by the National or State Grange Masters or their legislative representatives begins in a local Grange meeting. The above chart shows how Subordinate/Pomona Grange resolutions result in action being taken on local, state and national levels.

ALL RESOLUTIONS MUST FOLLOW THIS FORMAT

THE PARTS OF A RESOLUTION	SAMPLE RESOLUTION
Each resolution is numbered	Resolution No. 1
Clear, concise title	USDA FUNDS
State the problem in this paragraph. Do not express opinions - only supportable facts. Note use of "WHEREAS", (capitalized) and semi-colon followed by "and" at end of paragraph.	WHEREAS, funds appropriated to USDA often give the impression to many people not associated with farming that these funds go directly to the farmer for his personal use; and
This states a fact (not opinion) that causes the problem. Each fact (there may be several) is a separate paragraph. Note use of semi-colon followed by "therefore be it."	WHEREAS, many public programs such as school lunch, forest service, meat inspection and food stamps are federal programs funded by USDA; therefore be it
The RESOLVED states the action you wish to take. If there is more than one solution, tie them together with "and be it further resolved" using punctuation as before. Properly written, this section can stand alone -- it will relate to the problem and action desired to correct it.	RESOLVED, that the Grange urge that USDA programs be separated and listed as to amount of money received and all other means be used to promote a clearer understanding between consumers and farmers concerning USDA appropriations.

Quinebaug Pomona No. 2



- ✓ Senexet No. 40
- Brooklyn No. 43
- Wolf Den No. 61
- ✓ Ekonk No. 89
- Ashford No. 90
- Putnam No. 97
- ✓ Killingly No. 112
- Highland No. 113
- Echo No. 180

SENEXET GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

Feb. 18: Youth Night

We continue to make pies. It is a great fundraiser.

Our hall and meeting space was used by the Woodstock Agricultural Society for their annual meeting.

Winter weather has come upon us and with it some inside jobs were being done.

Looking forward to visits and visiting.

Our State Committees keep us informed and every G.S. member was remembered for the holidays.

EKONK GRANGE #89

Corr: Sue Gray

Feb. 2: "The magic of the 80's!" 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 28: Winter Fun Fest-call 564-1117 for details

Mar. 2: "Years Ago!" (Girls program/Guys ref.)

Mar. 14: Annual Corn Beef Supper-5-7 p.m.

April 19: Annual OLDE TYME FIDDLERS!

Thanks to Betsy Molodich who chaired the successful Turkey Supper-well done Betsy! The Girard Family of Voluntown (whom we gave a Thanksgiving Basket) were recipients of an "Extreme Makeover Home" before Christmas-watch it on TV on Feb. 8th! "Those Fabulous 50's" program found Brandi Hawkins giving an awesome hula hoop performance~way to go Brandi! Mason Gray remembered Monolopy and we learned about the decade of "meat and potato" family meals

with prayertime-a great decade! The program on the 70's included fabulous entertainment by the Sebastians - again - we are so delighted when they share their incredible talents at Grange! Looking ahead-mark your calendars for March 14th-come enjoy Corn Beef and Cabbage from 5-7 p.m.-Yum!

APRIL 5TH-Our 120th anniversary and our Junior Granges 30th anniversary-look for the time in our next column-but save the date!

April 19th, the RI/CT Olde Tyme Fiddlers will entertain in concert at our hall, beginning at 1 p.m.-don't miss this one-1958 was our first annual concert by this outstanding group of musicians-an Ekonk tradition every Spring!

Visit us anytime-the welcome mat is always out!

KILLINGLY GRANGE #112

Corr: Joseph Valys

Feb. 14: Super Supper, Sat. 4-6:30, followed by Square Dance at 8. Doors open at 7:00. Sandwiches and Pastries always available

Feb. 28: Blue Grass. Doors open at 6:00 P.M. Starts at 7:00. Famous Chili and Cornbread always HOT and available.

Hello Fellow Grangers! Another New Year approaches with anticipation and precipitation. Writing this in a snowstorm and enjoying the inside warmth, hand around a hot coffee mug as I search for items to sell at The Giant White Elephant

Sale.1 Christmas Craft Show/Sale was a success, even in a poor economy. Upcoming events to life our spirits; Square Dance, always a welcome sight-

and the Blue Grass Show gets our spirits jumping. Many goodies coming up to sell/buy at Giant White Elephant sale-toys books antiques, clothes!

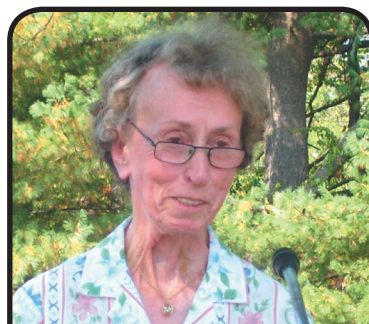
Anything goes-plan on it! Fun guaranteed and kitchen is always open on this day. Hope to see you there. Have a great new year- good health.



Going, Going...

Russell Gray serves as Auctioneer at the annual Christmas Dinner of Quinebaug Pomona. Hundreds of dollars were raised for charity at the fun auction following Jody Cameron's outstanding cornish game hen dinner. Here, Russell auctions off Barbara Cameron's doily-which received a hefty price.

Have you filed your 990 yet?



Edith Schoell
State Secretary

secretary@ctstategrange.org

Remember:

P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury 06033
is our new address!

Last reminder for the Granges to file form 990N with IRS. This must be done by February 15th. If you need your EIN number, please call

me. This form is on the internet and must be filed on the computer. You may do it at the library if you do not have a computer at home.

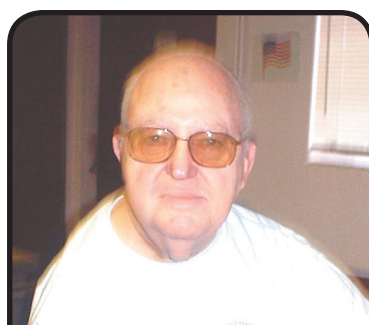
The office is beginning to shape up, and from time to time I find things that are perhaps forgotten. There are placemats with the Grange logo-ideal for your dinners, refreshments or open house when you invite visitors to your hall or meeting place. 100 for \$2.00. Note paper

with the Grange logo \$2.00. Perhaps you have forgotten that these are available.

Blue Books and Directories were given out at the Schools of Instruction. Please look them over for the upcoming contests.

Please Make a note that the Master of Colchester Grange is Polly Leonard, 50 Williams Rd., Colchester, 06415. 860-537-6487.

Make use of all resources



Carl Bernhardt
Information Director

publicity@ctstategrange.org

A good publicity chairman takes advantage of every opportunity. A good chairman encourages all their members to be walking advertisements for the Grange. We have to use every available source. And yet, a lot of Granges are overlooking one of the best bargains

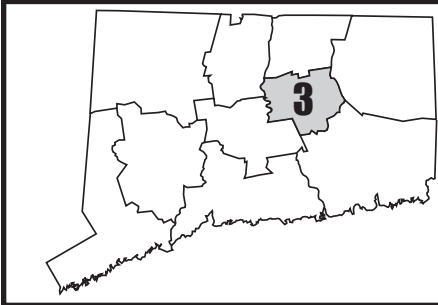
available -- *The Connecticut Granger.*

Dedicated people devote hundreds of hours of their own time to make this paper possible. Use it to your advantage. Use it to convince your members to attend meetings. Stress upcoming events. Make your members want to come to meetings. We can increase our attendance by getting back some of the members who have gotten out of the habit of attending meetings. Urge your Grange to become a 100% Granger subscriber and get the news of your happenings into all your Grange

households. And then, make sure your column appears each and every month. Believe me, people will notice when you miss a deadline.

Finally, in the *Granger*, and in all of your publicity remember that you are representing not only your grange, but Grange members everywhere. Strive to make a good impression. Stress quality over quantity. Make your article interesting. Make people want to keep reading. A short article read by many beats a long article only read by a few.

East Central Pomona No. 3



- ✓ Glastonbury No. 26
- Manchester No. 31
- Coventry No. 75
- ✓ Hillstown No. 87
- ✓ Marlborough No. 205

EAST CENTRAL POMONA #3

Corr: John Waterhouse

Feb: No Meeting

Mar. 7: Regular Meeting, 7:30 P.M.

Now that the State Grange has made the move to Good Will Grange Hall, and the office has been built, East Central Pomona No. 3 says, welcome! We look forward to a long and beneficial arrangement for us both.

As I drove down Main Street in South Glastonbury I noticed the marker dedicated by Glastonbury Grange in 1976, marking the location of Academy Hall where the Connecticut State Grange was reorganized on June 24, 1885. It seems so historically appropriate that "the home" of the State Grange should remain in Glastonbury.

Happy Valentine's Day to one and all.

Glastonbury Grange #26
East Central Pomona #3
Kathryn Ruff

GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kathryn Ruff

Feb. 5: Meeting 7:30 p.m. Agriculture Night

Feb. 14: Monti Carlo Whist Card Party, 7:00 p.m.

Mar. 5: Evaluation Night 7:30 p.m. March winds, Pot Luck supper 6:00 p.m.

As I am writing this article it is December 30th. I trust you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

February 5th Brother Mario Accornero will present the Agriculture

Program. I will have a number or two for the Youth Committee.

I hope you will try to attend the Card Party on Feb. 14th. It is a fun evening with a prize for just about everyone and plenty of refreshments.

This is the time of year to be thinking of who to invite to join the Grange. Bring in a name and address of a couple of your neighbors or relatives and give it to me. We are thinking of presenting another Power Point Program this spring. We have been having a good turnout of our new members at meetings. This has been most welcome.

We will be welcoming our Deputy, Brother Forrest, to our March 5th meeting for "evaluation". That meeting will be at 7:30, but will be preceded by a Pot Luck Supper at 6:00 p.m. Come one, come all and bring a dish to share. See you there.

HILLSTOWN GRANGE #87

Corr: Rita J. Schaefer

Feb. 12: "Penny for Your Thoughts"

Feb. 26: "Snowflakes, Snow Balls, Snowmen."

Both meetings are weather permitting. Welcome to 2009. We hope it's a better year for everyone. Time will pass fast if Old Man Winter stays away. A good time to start our projects and programs for the coming year and when working on their projects don't forget to make a few for the Grange building at the Eastern States Exposition. Always looking for homemade articles.

With all the snow and rain we've had so far we will be glad to see "Spring."

We are collecting socks for the veterans and long johns also are on the docket. The Lion's Club used our hall to fill 80 Christmas dinners and our members again helped with the South End Food Bank. We delivered 82 dinners this year and now are collecting food for the needy. Keeps us busy feeding the hungry. A couple of our members have been going to the East Hartford Soup Kitchen to serve dinner for the homeless every Sunday and once a month going to the Conv. Home to put Bingo on for the Elderly that are there. These are some of the things we do outside of many other activities.

We made contact with our shut-ins around the holidays. Many of them are all over the United States. This gave an opportunity to find out how they are doing.

Our Junior Grange did not hold its holiday meeting due to weather but will begin meeting again on Jan. 16.

I guess this is all the news for now until better weather comes and the farmers start to get their farms ready for spring.

A happy and healthy new year to all our Grange friends.

MARLBOROUGH GRANGE #205

Regular Meeting-Time 11:00AM-Marlborough Cong Church Youth Room

Program: Bring a Photo Memory Ref: Ines Schreindorfer

Marlborough Grange is looking for nominations for a worthy citizen to be named Marlborough Grange #205 Citizen of the Year 2008. If anyone

knows of someone eligible to receive this award you must write a letter naming such person and what service rendered, length of time in applicable town, offices or positions held, organizations belonging to, and why you think

this person should so be honored. The award is given to a Non-Granger. Letters must be submitted before April 1, 2009. The recipient must be a resident of Marlborough, Andover, Hebron, or Columbia.

Youth News



Donald Lanoue
Youth Director

youth@ctstategrange.org

Hi everyone I hope that you are all enjoying these snowy winter months I know that I am getting tired of them. Though winter is upon us we should be thinking of spring activities and this would include the bowl-athon on March 27, 2009.

Though I have not sent out any pledge sheets yet you can use a sheet of paper. I will be sending them out shortly. Please keep thinking about camping at Camp Berger this summer I really need more feed back to make this happen. As of right now I only have three people committed and that includes me. I really want to see the camp used more and hope that more will be involved. Keep working on the youth contest it would be nice to have a participant in the contests at the regional conference in July. Thanks for your help.

Southern Connecticut Past Masters Association

We will hold our next meeting on Saturday, February 14, 2009 at Wallingford Grange Hall with a Pot Luck Supper at 6:30 p.m. followed by our meeting run by Lou Godin, President at 8:00 p.m.. The Program entitled "Color Me Red" will be presented, followed by our country store. Any questions, please call Lou Godin at 1-203-879-9584.

As Vice President/Program Director, I wish to thank Marge Bernhardt for preparing the program for that evening. Henry had been operated on the day before in Bristol Hospital, therefore we were unable to be at the meeting...guess my mind was somewhere else.

THANK YOU!

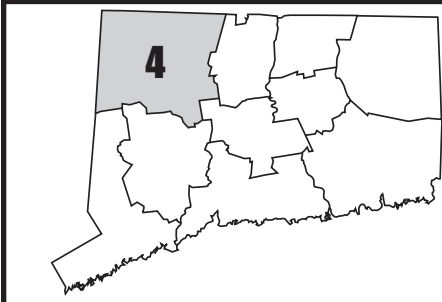
We wish to thank "Our Grange Family of Friends" for all for your thoughts & prayers, your cards, calls, emails, etc. sent to us since Henry was diagnosed December 10th, with Spine cancer & as of this writing (12/26/08) has been unable to walk.

We truly hope by the time this Granger arrives in your home, he will be back home with his family!

Fraternally,

Henry & Barbara Kulisch, Jr.

Mountain County Pomona No. 4



- Hope No. 20
- Whigville No. 48
- Eureka No. 62
- ✓ Winchester No. 74
- ✓ Taghannuck No. 100
- Litchfield No. 107
- Beacon No. 118
- ✓ Riverton No. 169

MOUNTAIN COUNTY POMONA #4

Corr: Todd Gelineau

Feb. 9: Love All-Litchfield Grange Hall

Mountain County Pomona resumes its meeting schedule on Feb. 9 at Litchfield Grange Hall for a meeting entitled "Love All." We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and are charged up for the new year.

We thank all of the members throughout the Pomona who attended the annual School of Instruction held at Litchfield Grange Hall on Jan. 23. We also thank the State Master, Sister Marge and the General Deputy for holding this meeting.

Our thoughts are with Sister Amy Whitcomb, who has been in the hospital recently. We hope this issue finds her home and getting back to normal activity.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau

Feb. 10: Lavender's Blue - Ref. Men- Ben Thomas, Chair

Feb. 24: Clementine-Ref.

Sandy & Craig Leifert
Mar. 10: Working on the Railroad, Ref. Linda Senkus

Just before New Year, a group of members gathered at the hall to discuss fundraising and events for the coming year. As we all know the cost of everything has gone up in the last year and Granges and Grange Halls are certainly not immune. In addition to the recent increase in dues at Winchester Grange, a plan for fundraising is very much needed. It has been decided to go forward with an event that was very successful in the past. In April, on a date to be determined later, Winchester Grange will hold what is called a "Super Prize Party." You are probably asking, "What is a super prize party?" Super Prize Parties are similar to teacup auctions or country stores. The major difference is the offering of "super" prizes, which are more valuable, in addition to many prizes of more moderate value. All prizes are new. In addition to the prize

drawing, refreshments will be available. Watch this paper for announcements.

It has also been decided to work on maximizing the benefits (both financial and promotional) from our existing events like the Strawberry Festival on Father's Day and the Grange Fair & Flea Market in August. The addition of the Craft Fair to the Strawberry Festival was very successful last year, adding substantial profit and a better flow of visitors throughout the day. Again, we'll have much more on these and other events in upcoming issues of the Granger.

TAGHANNUCK GRANGE #100

Feb. 12: Graces Program

We are only meeting once a month through the winter until time change.

We are planning to update our kitchen, our kitchen fund has been on-going for some years and we now have enough money to bring our kitchen up to code.

Amy Whitcomb has been in the hospital in Sharon. A card would be appreciated- we meet at 7:30 P.M. during winter. Come and join us.

RIVERTON GRANGE #169

Corr: Gail Prelli

Riverton Grange has not held our regular meetings due to Friday snowstorms and safety concerns. Our old wooden door that provided a second egress came off of its hinges and had to be nailed closed. In the interest of safety, our first meeting in January had to be cancelled. A new door and new door frame were installed prior to our second meeting in January, which was our anniversary and birthday supper. Mother nature sent us cold arctic dry air with which we can contend.

We plan to meet twice in February and would welcome visitors. The first meeting is February 6th and our program will have a patriotic flair, "This is Our Country". The meeting begins at 7:30.

The second meeting will be at 6:30. Come and join us for fellowship and fun, potluck supper beginning weather permitting.

Surveying: 100 Years Ago to the Present



At a recent meeting of the Riverton Grange, Peter Keefe presented a program "Surveying: 100 Years Ago to the Present".



Of particular interest were the solid brass compass and one of the first transits used by Frederick N. Moore, a surveyor from 1908 until his death in 1937.



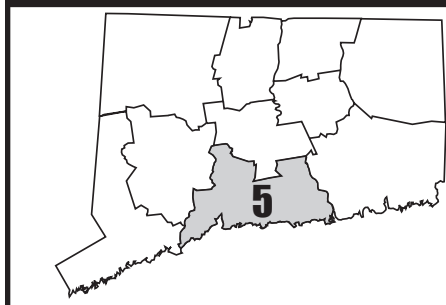
The current instruments on display included computerized surveying equipment.

THE PATRONS GROUP

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New Haven County Pomona No. 5



- ✓ Cheshire No. 23
- Wallingford No. 33
- ✓ North Haven No. 35
- ✓ Totoket No. 83
- ✓ Old Lyme No. 162

NEW HAVEN COUNTY POMONA #5

Corr: Charleen Dimmick

Mar. 9: Talent Runoff at Wallingford

May 11: Fifth Degree at Wallingford

We were saddened at the news of the death of Brother Ken Hale, a 71-year member and a past master of the Pomona.

March is the talent runoff. There is a lot of talent in this pomona. Be thinking about new members for the May degree.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: Charleen Dimmick

Mar. 4: Honoring Our Youth

Mar. 18: Ritual Night

April 1: Ballroom Fever

April 15: CWA night. Open meeting. Tea Cup Auction

At our annual Christmas party, Don Lanoue received his 25-year certificate. It was presented to him by Bob Sendewicz, the State Master.

Richard Bernhardt was the winner of the snow contest.

We were glad to see Duane Wetmore at the meeting.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Brother Ken Hale. He was a 72-year member, a Past Master of Cheshire

Grange, and a past president of the CT Agricultural Fair. He will be much missed.

NORTH HAVEN GRANGE #35

Corr: A. Tolette

Feb. 3: Sausage Day

Mar. 3: Seeds

The old year has passed and the new one begins. Let's hope and pray for our shut-ins and those recovering from various ills and ailments.

We now await the groundhog to see if he sees his shadow.

We are in the process of obtaining a thermal imaging camera for the Foxon Fire Company. When Foxon Grange disbanded we gained several members.

OLD LYME GRANGE #162

Corr: Barbara Kulisch

Feb. 13: Color Me Red

Feb. 27: Snow date for February 13th

Our Dec. 12th meeting found us with Dan Mutchler, member of the St. Agr. Comm. & Ron Purinton, Overseer of New London County Pomona #6 & Lyme Grange #147 members in attendance. The Lecturer's Program consisted of a Round Robin where everyone got to share Christmas Memories of Long Ago. Ron & Dan shared their

talents with us & played 5 Christmas Carols. Thank you to all who filled in for me that evening & the program sounded great.

We are still in the

midst of trying to find a Community Service Project for the year. Many suggestions had been made at the meeting in November & I am making

contacts.

Our doors are always open & we welcome visitors!

Stonington Grange learns about Open Hearth Cooking



Jim and Sandra Wright (pictured below), Chaplain and Ceres of Stonington Grange No. 168, presented a demonstration on Open Hearth Cooking in December. The demonstration was given at Another Second Penny Inn. The menu included blueberry pudding, pumpkin pie, scallops in bacon and mulled cider served "right off the fire." The traditional potluck was definitely raised to a new level!



National Grange helps celebrate Inauguration

As Americans around the country gathered around their television sets on January 20th to witness history in the making, the National Grange Headquarters and staff had a front row seat to the action leading up to that historic day.

Leading up to the Inaugural

When the Obama Family took temporary residence at the Hay Adams Hotel, which is a block away from the National Grange Headquarters, changes around H Street and Pennsylvania Avenue started to take shape. Construction of the Presidential Viewing Stand and bleachers for the Inaugural Parade began, so Lafayette Park and Pennsylvania Ave. were shut down to

pedestrians. Due to the very special guests staying at the Hay Adams Hotel, H Street was shut down to vehicles and security was increased. Grange staff with vehicles had to check in with security officials so that they could get to work. Receiving deliveries was a challenge also, since all trucks had to be cleared in order to drive to the National Grange Headquarters.

Not all of the staff found the road closures to be an inconvenience. "I actually liked the fact that H Street was closed!" laughs Sales, Benefits, and Programs Manager Samantha Johnson. "I didn't have to worry about getting hit by cars walking from the metro during rush hour. We could just walk across worry-free!"

Despite the inconveniences caused by our new neighbors, everyone was in very good spirits. Flags were put up around the city, and the days leading up to President-Elect Obama's Inauguration were spent transforming the city into a place of goodwill and hope.

Welcome Mr. President!

With the National Grange headquarters overlooking the White House and the upcoming festivities, it was only natural that such a patriotic organization like the Grange would contribute to the Inaugural celebrations. On January 15th, the National Grange hung a 39-foot long banner outside its 11th floor offices facing the White House. "Welcome to Washington D.C. Presi-

dent & Mrs. Obama!" was the message that could be read from blocks away, and seen from the Presidential Viewing Stand during the parade. The National Grange logo was also prominently displayed.

For your own piece of Grange history, contact Samantha Johnson to receive your 12-inch square piece of the Grange's Inaugural Banner! It will come complete with photographs showing the banner hanging on the Grange Building, plus the view President Obama had of it from the viewing stand. We are offering this FREE to Grange members, with \$5.00 shipping and handling. Place your order by emailing sjohnson@nationalgrange.org or calling 1-888-4-GRANGE, ext 109. Only one square per

member will be granted. Order quickly as there are only 100 available.

Shut Down

Being the only privately owned building in Executive Square does have its advantages. It also has its disadvantages. At the request of the Secret Service, the National Grange Building had to be shut down the day of the Inauguration. No staff or other tenants were allowed inside. Tenants were informed ahead of time of the closure so that they could plan accordingly. "This is the sixth time that I have experienced the building being closed for Inaugurations," explained Legislative Director Leroy Watson. "It lends itself to the whole Washington, D.C. experience."

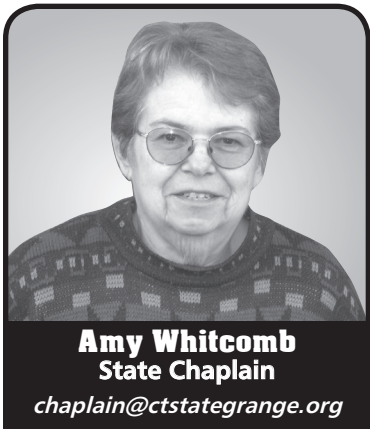
In Memoriam

Elizabeth Molin, G.S.	Beacon Valley Grange #103
Ann Waz	Higganum Grange #124
Agnes Clark	Higganum Grange #124
Rita Fleming	Higganum Grange #124
Leslie Peck, G.S.	Higganum Grange #124
Leroy Moran, G.S.	N. Stonington Grange #138
Charlotte Washburn	Norfield Grange #146
Frederick Chapman, G.S.	Hemlock Grange #182

G.S. denotes Golden Sheaf (50 Year) Members

Please keep us notified of deceased members.
Use the email or the regular mailing address listed on
page 2 of this issue. Thank you.

Chaplain's Message



Amy Whitcomb
State Chaplain
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

As we move closer to the coming of a warmer season let us consider keeping the candle burning in our world. We can mend our world in many ways. Through compassion as we speak. Our speech can be a tool or a weapon. It can

build a life or destroy one. The words we use can heal or hurt, inspire or injure, comfort or cut. When someone you know is struggling with some life issue or crisis, speak gently using words which will heal, inspire and comfort. Reach out with sentences that ask is there anything I can do to help you. On those occasions when you don't know what to say or there may simply be nothing to say, mend your world through your compassionate presence.

Mend your world by watering what you want

to grow. Wherever you see something being done well, acknowledge it. Whenever you see someone responding with kindness and compassion, offer a positive response such as "I admire what you just did." Whenever you are inspired by another person's words or deeds, let them know the impact they had on your mind and spirit. Whenever you do that, you are watering what you want to grow and see more of.

Let us all keep that candle burning as we try to mend our world and make it a better place to live.

Junior Grange Corner



Joan Perry
Junior Director
juniors@ctstategrange.org

Brrrr!! I hope all of you are nice and warm. Keep bundled up when you go outside. This is a good time to do some community service.

When you go outside, why don't you see if a neighbor could use some

help shoveling. I'm sure it would be greatly appreciated. Remember to tell your Jr. Leader about it so that she can put it down for community service. Have fun when you go out to play and be safe.

Cupcakes

Continued from page one...

of cake at weddings! They don't have to be cut and everyone gets an equal portion.

A "Cup" cake in the 19th century may have been a small cake, but not necessarily so. They were so called because the ingredients were measured in cups, instead of weights. This was revolutionary because of the time saved in the kitchen.

Our recipe does not use expensive ingredients and is not complicated. Shortening is used in both the batter and the frosting. The batter can be divided equally into 18 regular muffin cups. I used paper baking cups. If you are concerned about them sticking to the paper, you can spray them with cooking spray. I tried it both ways and did not see too much difference.

The trick for a tasty banana cupcake is to use **REALLY RIPE BANANAS!** I mean the kind that are black on the outside- the kind you'd be tempted to throw away! These bananas can be mashed, measured into the 1 cup and frozen until ready to use. Just defrost and you are ready to start your baking! Some have found frosting cupcakes can be time consuming, but I have used my cake decorating open tube and swirled the frosting on quickly. The method of frosting will not be a factor in the judging.

This contest is only for Grangers, their children and grandchildren and Junior Grangers. Judging will be held at the Subordinate and State levels. Subordinate judging will be at the discretion of the CWA Chairman and the winner will represent that Grange at the State Judging. The State Judging will be held at our "Let's Celebrate Day" on Saturday, July 25, 2009 at Good Will Grange Hall in Glastonbury. Enter 3 "Purr-fectly Delicious Banana Cupcakes" on a disposable plate. Label with name and Grange. We encourage contestants to take their entries home following the judging, unless they want them used for refreshments! Prize money will be \$15.00, \$10.00, and \$5.00 for both Subordinate and Junior winners.

The Juniors will use the same recipe and the same rules apply. Junior entries will be judged only at the State level. Be sure to label if a Junior entry. We have not had any Junior entries in the last few years! Let's encourage these youngsters to enter this contest.

Purr-fectly Delicious Banana Cupcakes

1/2 cup shortening	1 cup mashed ripe bananas	2 cups all purpose flour
1-1/2 cups sugar	1/4 cup milk, mixed with	1 teaspoon baking powder
2 eggs	1 teaspoon vinegar, to sour	3/4 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon vanilla		1/2 teaspoon salt

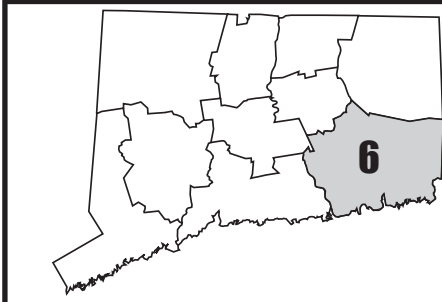
Mix milk and vinegar, set aside to sour. In a large mixing bowl, cream shortening and sugar. Add eggs, vanilla, bananas and milk, combining thoroughly. Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Add to banana mixture. Fill 18 paper lined muffin cups two-thirds full. Bake at 350° for 15-20 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Remove to wire racks to cool completely. Frost cupcakes.

Frosting:	1/4 cup shortening	3 cups confectioner's sugar
	1/2 teaspoon salt	1/4 cup milk
	2 teaspoons vanilla	

Directions: Beat shortening, salt and vanilla with 1 cup confectioner's sugar. Alternately add milk and remaining sugar, beating until spreading consistency.

Enter: 3 cupcakes on a paper plate. Label with Name and Grange.

New London County Pomona No. 6



- Lebanon No. 21
- Colchester No. 78
- Pachaug No. 96
- Preston City No. 110
- ✓ N. Stonington No. 138
- ✓ Lyme No. 147
- ✓ Stonington No. 168
- ✓ Norwich No. 172

NEW LONDON COUNTY POMONA #6

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

Feb. 7: Potluck and Movie Night, 6:30, Norwich Grange

Feb. 8: Snow Date-Potluck & Movie, 1:30 P.M.

Get well wishes to Freda Burns, our Ceres, who is recuperating at a health facility in Griswold.

We were a jolly group at Preston City on December 9th. Kevin McBride and Dan Mutchler were transformed into Rudolph(s) through the magic of panty hose, a shiny red bow and a multitude of balloons. You had to be there. Then, accompanied by Nancy Weissmuller, singing the song, Janice Wells led us through the pains of being the recipient of twelve drummers drumming all the way down to the partridge in a pear tree. Her thank you letters to her suitor kept us giggling. Her "lawyer" read the final letter.

Everyone voted on which movie we will be enjoying in February. the winner was... You'll have to come to Norwich on the 7th (or 8th) to find out. Bring your favorite dish and leave room for popcorn.

So come on to the movie

Yes come on, everyone!

We may eat too much popcorn,

But we'll all have lots of fun!

COLCHESTER GRANGE #78

Corr: Joan Toomey

Feb. 9: Soup's On at 6:00, Meeting at 7:00 P.M., St. Andrew's Hall, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester. Program: Yesterday's Games

For Jeff Watson, a call to help comes naturally. He is the kind of young man you wish your daughter will marry. He's handsome, a hard worker, straight forward, honest, an old fashioned gentleman, and a man of faith. The call came from ABC's Extreme Make Over- they had a project to help the Girard Family in Voluntown. This family had lost the father in a drowning accident last June. His oldest son Mark, 18, died the following day from injuries sustained in an attempt to rescue his dad, after he successfully saved his sister. This tragic loss followed a series of occurrences last year. His Dad lost his job and a few months later the family house burned. Friends, neighbors, the fire department, co-workers and the family parish began to mobilize an effort to help. On Dec. 4, 2008, in freezing morning temperatures, our Jeff was right there! Extreme Makeover Home Edition began organizing an army of volunteers to construct a new home for this worthy family. Jeff volunteered his time, talent and treasure not only for that day but stayed on for 24 hours into that long frigid night along with so many other people to complete a beautiful furnished new home in 106 hours. Their determination

was indeed spectacular. Carol and her children are home now due to their faith and the incredible spirit of so many who proved to so many of us that miracles do happen!

Colchester Grange is so proud of our Jeff Watson and simply had to share it with you. A Granger in action doing what Grangers are supposed to do- help one another in faith, spirit and community service. And yes Jeff, I forgive you for not being at our December meeting to take over the Master's position! Your Worthy Lecturer, "A.J."

NORTH STONINGTON GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

Feb. 13: "Animal Crackers - 1930"- Ag. & Cons.

Feb. 27: "Fiddler on the Roof- 1971" Alzheimer's Disease

Our Christmas party had nearly 50 people in attendance. Budding pianists Jason Miner and Andrew Rauch played up a storm, Thurlow Coats regaled us with Christmas numbers, Sue Pianka played Christmas carols for all to sing, and Gene Bromley, Robert Miner and Clyde Myers portrayed the Three Kings while Cindy Anderson read the Christmas Story. Members and guests participated in a skit, A Good Thing About Christmas, then Santa arrived with gifts. There were apples and gifts for everyone, thanks to the generosity of Gene Bromley and the talents of Sue and Jenny Pianka. This year our annual ornament commemorated our 100th anniversary. It was sled with a picture of the Grange. Jenny Pianka printed "100 Years 1908-2008 North Stonington

Grange #138" on each one.

The sleds were also included with the fruit baskets delivered to old friends who we do not see often enough. The carolers delivering the baskets surprised a few people by appearing a night early this year. With winter storm Austin threatening to arrive on Friday, they opted for Thursday. The happy group visited eleven houses, and ended up at a local pizza restaurant where they sang and delivered the last basket. Hope we didn't embarrass you, Charlie. And if that Juneau plane will just land and take off safely, next time I'll tell you about jolly January.

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Dick Chapman

Feb. 5: College in Vermont- CWA Program
Mar. 5: Pennsylvania's Amish- Youth & Junior Program

We were pleased to welcome State Secretary and Historian Edith Schoell to our December meeting who presented several membership seals and certificates. There was quite a list and several not presented have been mailed or a visit made.

During the holidays, our Grange sponsored Cub Scouts, held a very successful tree and wreath sale on our property and a young and adorable Alpaca from member Evankow's homestead was part of the living creche at the Old Lyme Congregational Church.

This month we are happy to salute our neighboring Grange to

the north, Colchester. They were organized on February 14, 1888 and are still going strong.

We're a bit nervous regarding our February meeting date. In the list of Bizarre February dates, it's Disaster Day! Oh no! We will meet anyway-- we know Alone and Lois will do a sparkling job! Come and see-- it just may be the cat's meow. ANOTHER CAT'S MEOW QUOTE: People that hate cats will come back as mice in their next life. Faith Resnick.

STONINGTON GRANGE #168

Corr: Jeff Barnes

While the McPhersons and the Currys headed down to Florida for a vacation in the sun, the rest of us celebrated January with a Snowball Picnic. We played a game of baseball, (indoors I assure you) by answering trivia questions. Correct answers scored a base run, wrong answers scored an out. Our two teams were evenly matched in numbers and apparently in trivia knowledge. The cold weather didn't freeze this World Series!

Debbie began a monthly promotion of the State CWA projects and contests. Stonington Grange has some very talented and creative ladies and we hope for a good number of entries this year.

Our February program is a surprise by Andy Perry. He always provides a great program with a real variety of ingredients. So come visit us on February 12 and be surprised, too.

Connecticut Granger

Has your Grange sent in its subscription list and payment for 2009? If not, please do so soon!