



Merry Christmas

Address Service Requested, Periodicals Postage Paid in Winsted, CT 06098



Connecticut Granger

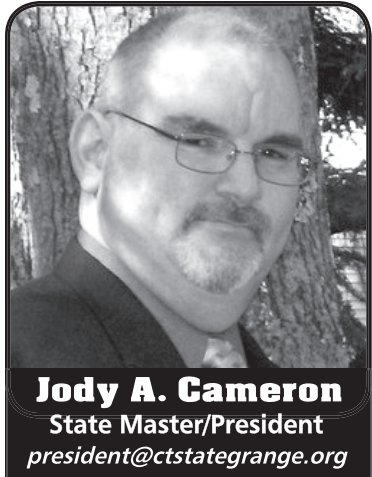


Vol. 51, No. 3

The Official Newspaper of the Connecticut State Grange

December 2010

Put me in coach!



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

Put me In Coach, I am ready to PLAY

Have you ever played basketball all alone, how about baseball, soccer or hockey? Not so much fun, is it? Gets kind of old real quick, doesn't it? The old adage, "there is no I in team" is so true. If I am playing against a team, and I am doing it alone, it is unlikely I will be able to make a basket, score a run, or make a goal. Teamwork is the fundamental backbone to any successful project. Working as a team gives everyone the opportunity to be part of the action, doing some good, having some fun. I did not get the Grange to where it is, neither did you, it took all of us, and for the Granges in Connecticut to grow, it will take all of us.

We have set a very aggressive goal for Connecticut membership; we currently have just over 3,200 members, within four years I expect to see that number grow to over 6,400. It is not that hard, it will be a lot of work though, and we have the training, tools and people to do it. We have 58 Granges. If each grange gains 12 new members each year, that's only one a month, we will add 2,784. Now we are getting close. Think about it, one member a month.

Can you think of one person to ask to join the

Grange, one, that's all. So, ask them. Next time you see them, walk up to them, and start to chat about what went on at Grange that you enjoyed or bettered your community and ASK THEM TO JOIN! Do you think that is hard? No I don't either, so what are we waiting for? Oh..., there is one problem with bringing in new members, they just might want to do something, and they might have a new idea. Are you ready for that? You need to be, remember when you were the new member? Remember when you had a new idea and how excited you were to share it? Remember how proud you were when your idea was accepted, implemented and successful? Remember that feeling when you cheer on and assist in other members ideas. If you operate as a team, as a team you celebrate your successes, but if you act alone, who shares your joy?

Ok, so each Community Grange brings in one new member a month increasing our ranks by 2,784, that's great, but we are not done, recall our goal of 3,200? Well, this is what we are going to do. The Grange Growth Teams will be organizing and reorganizing Granges in communities where we have had Granges in the recent past. We have lost over 40 Granges in the last 12 years, not so pretty if we leave it at that. I see 40 communities that are familiar with our organization and are just right to introduce its citizens to the Grange. It can be done. I believe it, I know it. I believe in the spirit of this organization and the strong will of our

members.

Jodi Ann, J. Allen, Jaimie and I wish each and every one of you the happiest and healthiest Holiday Season, may this season fill your hearts with love and kindness. Please remember your neighbors and those who are struggling for your gift of friendship and kindness can make the world of difference.



Members of the Hockanum Valley Ringers will present a free Christmas Bell and Chime Concert for the community at Norwich Grange Hall on Wednesday, December 8 beginning at 7:30 P.M.

Norwich to host community event

The holiday season promises to bring joyful celebration with a free Christmas Bell and Chime Concert for the community hosted by Norwich Grange featuring the The Hockanum Valley Ringers handbell ensemble on Wednesday, December 8, 7:30 PM, at Norwich Grange Hall.

The 45-minute concert, conducted by Greg Fisher, will include a variety of holiday favorites such as "O Holy Night" and "Carol of the Bells," along with standards mixed in, including the classic "Syncopated Clock."

The Hockanum Valley Ringers handbell ensemble was started in October 2005 by Greg Fisher, who at the time was Music Minister at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vernon, CT. He wanted to

form a handbell group that could expand its repertoire beyond music typically found in a church setting, and to perform increasingly more difficult levels of music on handbells. Members of the group come from towns around the Vernon/Manchester, Connecticut, area, and range in age from 16 to "over 70." They recently released their first CD "Glad Tidings We Ring" on November 14, 2010, which contains 14 holiday favorites.

Norwich Grange Hall is located at 172 West Town Street, Norwichtown. (Exit 82 off I-395). For more information, please contact Susan Kenney via e-mail at silkspray@gmail.com or visit the Connecticut State Grange website at ctstategrange.org.

You can "take flight" with us!



Pat Palmer
Family Activities/CWA Director
CWA@ctstategrange.org

This year we will be "Taking Flight" with a new president and a new CWA committee. The members of the CWA Committee

for 2010-2012 are Marge Sendewicz from Redding Grange, Nancy Strong from Vernon Grange, Barbara Kulisch from Old Lyme Grange and Gail Aylmer from Manchester Grange. We are all anxious to get to know the Subordinate and Pomona CWA Directors and to work with them to implement the new programs.

The information for the Blue book has been submitted. CWA

information packets will be distributed to the various Pomonas by the State CWA members. A lot of the contests will remain the same with a few exceptions. We will be asking the CWA committees to collect food for their local food banks and soup kitchens and to keep track of how many pounds of food and how many hours are spent at the soup kitchens.

Let's have a good year and soar to new heights.

IN THIS ISSUE...

Connecticut's Pomona Granges	Mountain County No. 4 8	Fairfield County No. 9 4
Central No. 1 6	New Haven County No. 5 . . . 9	Farmington Valley No. 11 5
Quinebaug No. 2 6	New London County No. 6 . . 2	North Central No. 13 6
East Central No. 3 8	Excelsior No. 7 3	

Deadline for the January 2011 issue of the Connecticut Granger: DECEMBER 5

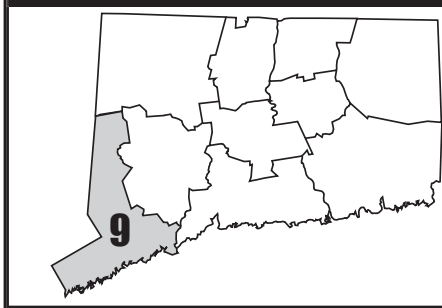
7

received an Honor Grange bar,
certificate for our participation
at the convalescent home, the

couple of months. We took part
in Excelsior Pomona's Bazaar
and Roast Beef Dinner. We had

come and have a good time and
on Sunday December 12th we
will be off to Hemlock Grange
in Portland for the Christmas
Party and meeting of the Past

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: Bob Sendewicz

Dec. 1: Christmas Party

We will meet on Wednesday, December 1, 2010, at Norfield Grange hall in Weston. There is a 6:00 P.M. supper followed by our meeting and Christmas party. We will be collecting Toys for Tots and will have a country store. If you wish to bring a toy it must be new and unwrapped.

We have lots of fun during our celebration along with carols and we have a best Christmas outfit contest for men and women. So if you come wear your best duds. There is a rumor going around that Santa may show up. If he comes he always brings popcorn balls and candy canes. Our meeting is early in the month so it won't interfere with your Christmas shopping.

Our next Pomona meeting will not be until March 2011.

REDDING GRANGE #15

Corr: Marge Sendewicz

Dec. 13: Christmas Prog.

Dec. 27: No Meeting

Our only meeting in December starts out with a pot luck supper at 6:00 p.m. after which there will be a regular meeting. The lecturer's program will be a celebration of the Christmas season. We do not have a gift exchange but we will be collecting new unwrapped toys for tots.

I have it on good authority that Santa will make an appearance with goodies for all good boys and girls and maybe for the bad ones also. We will have a Christmas themed country store and the hall will be all decked out for the occasion.

Our next scheduled meeting is January 10, 2011 depending on the weather, so stay tuned and read next month's Granger for further details.

The officers and members of Redding Grange #15 wish all our Grange friends "A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR".

GREENFIELD HILL GR. #133

Corr: Dennis Rich

Dec. 19: "Christmas Celebrations"- Meeting/

Gathering at 2 P.M.

We began October by participating in "Aide to Pomona's Court" by supplying flowers and a couple of pumpkins/squash grown by our new member, Eric Frisk. At our regular meeting our officers were installed by State Master Robert Sendewicz and his wife Marge, Junior Deputy. Capping off the afternoon, Beth Bradley's mother and brother both became members via the Welcoming Ceremony!

In December we will celebrate the Christmas holidays. Details will have been finalized at our November meeting. All are welcome at our meetings and activities.

TRUMBULL GRANGE #134

Corr: Sue Sulier

Hi, fellow Grangers and welcome to December, the month associated with most sacred and joyous holiday of the year. I love everything (except gift-wrapping) about Christmas; the shopping, the baking, the cooking, the sending/receiving of cards, the ambience of roaring fires, the carols and the decorating. Most importantly, I love the time spent with my cherished family and friends.

Now onto the Grange stuff— We congratulate all the newly elected State Grange officers and thank the outgoing slate for their commitment to the Grange. Our well wishes are extended to our President/Master, Louise Malatesta and our Executive Committee Chairman, Henry/Hank Barrachina, who are both suffering from health related issues. We love them and pray they will get well soon. Special thanks to Barbara Standley and Val Barrachina for providing the goodie bags, decorations and refreshments for our Halloween Party.

My hope for you this holiday season is that you know the joy of unconditional love throughout each and every day of the year.

Our Featured CT AARP Column #12 - AARP Connecticut is working with local organizations this Fall/Winter to raise awareness among older adults and increase enrollment in

the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which helps low-income people and families buy the food they need for good health. More than 70,000 older adults in CT could receive help to pay for their groceries each month but are either unaware of the program or don't know they are eligible. To find out if you or someone you know may qualify, call 1-866-974-SNAP (7627).

Please pray for the safe and speedy return of our US Military Troops.

"Wishing you a Blessed and Joyous Christmas" – with fraternal love from Tom and me.

NORFIELD GRANGE #146

Corr: Ruth L. Hickcox

Dec. 14: Christmas Party Buffet Supper, Cookie Exchange

Jan. 11: Keeping Warm for the Winter, Hot Chocolate and Sewing

It was "Strictly Business" at our meeting on Dec. 12, and it was a show-stopper. President Randy Miller gave a comprehensive review of the reasons the Grange uses ritual, and the ways in which we use them. Our many new members were fascinated- as were the rest of us old-timers! We suggest that Randy get a copyright. Any Grange would benefit by it.

There was a glowing report on our September fair. It made a profit of \$1,700, and you can see it in living color on our website, norfieldgrange.com. This coming winter, from Dec. 4 to April 16, we will be hosting a Farmer's Market on Saturdays from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. in our hall. There will be about a dozen vendors. And on Dec. 5 we will host a craft fair, with tables renting at \$20.

We installed three members- Sue Sulla as Lecturer, Kareen Kanaga Secretary, and John Ojarovska Executive Committee. Ted Coley and Randy Miller were chosen to be delegates to the State Session. We also voted to do all such necessary work on our premises as needed, to attract rentals.

Finally, our Halloween costume party and pumpkin carving at the end of October was a smash hit. The decorations went from awesome to downright spooky, and the evening included a psychic and a showing of the famous 1975 film, "The Rocky Horror Picture Show."

Our December buffet supper and cookie exchange promises to be a little more

It's never too early



Edith Schoell
State Secretary

secretary@ctstategrange.org

Holidays are here. I hope you will remember shut-ins with telephone calls or cards or even a visit. Most like a little interruption in a rather routine day.

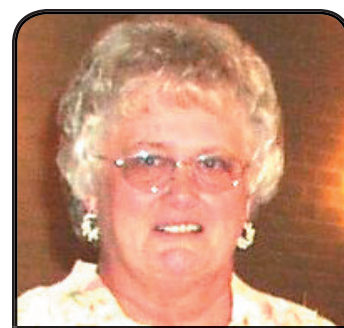
December also means the end of another quarter. Please remember to take the quarterly report out of your Secretary's case and send it in. (It is never too early.)

I have a dozen or more song books that have been turned in at the Central Office. If your Grange would like them please let me know.

A task worth doing and friends worth having make life worthwhile.

Merry Christmas!

An exciting new year



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer

lecturer@ctstategrange.org

It's a new Grange year and some changes are in store for the Lecturer's Department.

Our complete programs have been a big help in sharing information for other Lecturers. Starting in January some of these programs will be included on the State Grange's Web page. And starting with the 2011 Grange year, those entering this contest will not

only have to present this program at their own Grange, they will have to bring it to another Grange. Let's bring back the idea of neighboring with other Granges near and far.

Let's Celebrate will now be combined with Grange Sunday. It will be held on June 12 at Cheshire Grange Hall. Entries for the Photo contest will be judged on Sat. June 11. On Sunday, both the CWA contests and the Photo Contest winners will be on display before and after the Church Service. Our new Youth Committee will continue the tradition of a lasagna dinner. The entertainment for Let's Celebrate will be our Talent and "A Number" runoffs. (Any other committee wanting to participate should contact either Pat Palmer or myself so we can plan accordingly.)

Christmas is coming. Snow will be falling. Why not plan ahead for the Photo Contest. The categories will be the same. The only difference is that a Best in Show will be awarded, and that Photo will go to National Session in Oklahoma next November.

My Best Wishes to all for a Happy, Healthy Holiday Season. See you around the State.

peaceful.

CANNON GRANGE #152

Corr: Don Offinger

Dec 2: Business Meeting

Dec 11: Scrabble & Pizza - 6 PM until midnight

Dec 16: Christmas Party - bring refreshments to share

Jan 6: Business Meeting

Jan 8: Scrabble & Pizza - 6 PM until midnight

Following a rest of several months' time, the Fair Committee will be meeting soon to begin the planning for our 79th Agricultural Fair. The committee had brainstormed a number of good ideas that we'll put into motion for the coming fair. One thing we can always come up with is good ideas!

Our Christmas Party

meeting will have our Hall decorated with twinkling lights along the window sills and the arch over the stage. Visiting Patrons are welcome to come to the party, but are asked to bring refreshments to share.

Scrabble and Pizza nights have been enjoyed by members and guests each month. We have several boards in play from 6 pm until midnight, with slices of pizza to munch. If you like to play Scrabble, come to Cannon Grange on the 2nd Saturday of the month.

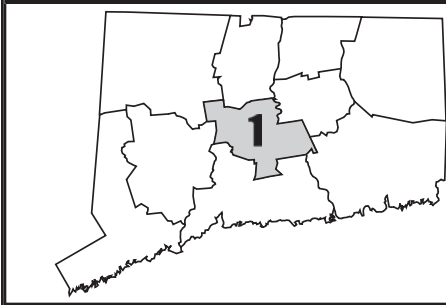
Please note our meeting schedule. Visiting Patrons are always welcome--won't you join us? Also, please visit us on FaceBook and Twitter and www.cannongrange.com.

as the Deputy of Farmington Valley Pomona and we wish





Central Pomona No. 1



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

CENTRAL POMONA #1

Corr: Barbara Smith

December 3rd meeting will be a potluck dinner. Members will be making fruit baskets for the shut ins and will be delivered to them for the holidays.

Mardi D'Alessandro gave a talk on Invasive plants growing in our

yards and along the highways and why we should be concerned about them. Such plants are the Burning Bush, Japanese Barberry, Multiflora Rose and the deciduous vine the Oriental Bittersweet to name a few. Invasive plants thrive outside their natural range, threatening the

Membership



James Lamoureux
Membership Director

Membership@ctstategrange.org

Greetings from your Connecticut State Grange Membership Committee! I am very excited to have been selected for this challenging role. I look forward to the opportunity to serve the Grange in this capacity.

For those of you who don't know me, I thought

I'd share a little information about myself. My wife Lisa and I have been Grange members for over 12 years. A long period by most standards but not so long within the Grange! Our first Grange 'experience' was when Lisa entered flowers and vegetables in the Prospect Grange Fair. Afterwards we commented on how friendly the people were and how the Grange seemed to be a good match for us as an organization. A month later Lisa entered flowers in the Meriden Grange Fair. Phyllis Maynes gave us membership applications as we were leaving that evening and two months later we were members. Sometimes it's just that easy!

I am currently the Master/President of Southington Grange #25 and the President of the Southington Grange Community Fair. Along with several other Grangers, I also serve on the board of directors of the Association of Connecticut Fairs.

I have been a member of the State Grange Youth Committee, vice-president of the Connecticut Agricultural Fair, and most recently Deputy of Central Pomona #1. Lisa and I are also associate members of Wallingford Grange #33. We have visited nearly 30 Granges across Connecticut and we look forward to visiting more. We consider ourselves lucky to have friends throughout the state thanks to being involved with this organization.

I have a great committee that I look forward to working with. They are Carl Manning (Higganum), Joan Perry (Senexet), Peter Keefe (Winchester), and Karen McDonald (Redding). Please feel free to say 'hi' and share your ideas with any committee member!

I would like to recognize and thank Joanne Cipriano and her committee for their hard work over the past four years. I would also like to thank all those who have emailed, called, or stopped by with words of encouragement. It means a lot.

We have some exciting plans for the upcoming year and I'll share some of those in our next issue.

In closing, I'd like to wish everyone a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season!

health of our native plant and animal communities. If you pick them for decorations, destroy them by putting them in the trash or burn them when your finished with them.

Higganum Grange wishes everyone a Very Happy, Healthy Holiday Season and a Joyous New Year.

SOUTHINGTON GRANGE #25

Corr: Cindy Legg

Dec. 13: Christmas Party (Place and time to be announced)

Dec. 27: Cancelled due to the Holidays

Jan. 9: 125th Anniversary

Our December 13th meeting will be having our Christmas Party, but our plans are not finalized yet. Our December 27th is cancelled due to the Holidays

On January 9th, 2011 we will be celebrating our 125th Anniversary. Everyone is invited to come and join us.

At our State Grange Session a new slate of officers were elected. Congratulations go out to the Jody Cameron and his new team, and especially to Jim and Lisa Lamourux and their newly formed committees. We know they

will do a great job.

We here at Southington Grange wish everyone a wonderful Holiday Season. Remember we meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of most months at our Grange hall on the corner of Summit Street and Knowles Ave. in the Plantsville section of Southington.

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

Dec. 10: A Comedy Tonight

Dec. 24: Omit for Christmas

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.



Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

The Public Relations Committee is hitting the ground running. We announced our action plans for the year at the recently held Leadership meeting, and would like to review them here for everyone.

There are two specific areas that we will be concentrating our efforts this year - Community Grange Support and Committee Support. The Community Granges across the state have been divided up by Pomona between committee members Maggie Schofield, Don Offinger and Frank Forrest. The breakdown is as follows:

Maggie - Pomonas 4, 7, 11, & 13

Don - Pomonas 1, 5 & 9

Frank - Pomonas 2, 3, & 6

Maggie, Don and Frank are available to help and support Granges with their PR needs, and will soon be in touch with each Grange. Remember that they are only a phone call or an e-mail away.

Public Relations Information Packets were handed out at State Session for all Subordinate, Pomona and Junior Granges. (Packets were also distributed to Committees at the Leadership Meeting.) If packets were not given to a representative from the Grange itself, they were given to either the Pomona Deputy or someone who could help make sure the packet makes it to its destination. We urge those who have packets that still need to be distributed to please do so as soon as possible. It is imperative that this information arrive at its Grange destination.

As part of the Information Packet, details were provided regarding the new Community Grange website program - which gives each Grange the possibility of developing their own unique website, featuring information ranging from Calendar of Events and News Articles, to Scrapbooks and more, and features four choices of layout design. Winchester Grange already has completed their new website -- visit www.WinchesterGrange.org to check it out. Will your Grange be next?

Support for the individual committees will vary depending on their activities and programs. Terri Fassio and Robert Charbonneau, as well as the rest of our team, are available for assistance for all committees with planning support or materials for the purpose of distributing press releases, creation of promotional material for special events, community displays, and/or other hands-on assistance as necessary. For example - if a

committee needs assistance with a brochure, we can take their supplied information and design a professional piece suitable for public distribution.

Here's a look at some of our specific PR initiatives.

- Official E-mail Addresses for all Community Granges, Officers, Committees and representatives of the CT State Grange.
- GPS Map Listings for all Community Granges
- Development of Social Media for all Community Granges
- Frequent deployment of Press Releases and Media Alerts for all Community Granges
- CT State Grange Mobile App for Smart Phones (such as the iPhone, Blackberry, Android, etc.)
- Maintaining the Grange Trademark through identity and branding by use of official logos, clip art, and more

The PR Committee is offering a total of six contests this year --

- 1) "Spot On" - 30-Second Grange Video Commercial Contest
- 2) "Spreading the Word" - Connecticut State Grange Website Participation Contest
- 3) "Show Us Your Stuff" - Grange Marketing Contest
- 4) "Convey the Message" - Best Grange-written Press Release Contest
- 5) "Let's Advertise" - Best Grange Event Poster
- 6) "In the News" - Best Newspaper Article Contest

All of the details, rules, and information for the contests will be available in the BlueBook, as well as online from the CT State Grange website. We hope that the variety of contests will appeal to Granges of all sizes - as the saying goes, there's something for everyone.

Public relations is vital to the success of the Granges across Connecticut. You may have heard "I see the building every day but never knew what it is used for," or "Aren't they a group of farmers?" No matter how important you personally feel the Grange is to your community, you should not expect that everybody will know what the Grange is, or even know that the Grange exists.

The more visibility the Grange has, the more positive community support it will attract, the more pride the membership will have in the organization, and ultimately the more members it will gain. We are enthusiastic about working with all of the Granges and Committees in achieving our common goals.



*Serving our
Connecticut policyholders
since 1833.*

**The Patrons Group
is now part of the
State Auto Insurance Group**



769 Hebron Ave.
Glastonbury, CT 06033
(860) 633-3942
1-800-800-0863

WWW.STATEAUTO.COM

3



4

5

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
Dec. 9: Silver Bells-Stonington Grange

On Oct. 9 we conferred the Fifth Degree on three candidates. Pomona's court was lovely as usual. Janice's gothic columns, swathed in white net and sprinkled with colorful fall leaves, were the perfect background to the Graces and the bountiful display of fall vegetables and chrysanthemums graciously donated by Joe LoPresti. All officers performed admirably and the thunder and lightning were spectacular to say the least. Deputy East Jim Palmer found the books and records to be correct, and we have hopes for a fine score.

On Dec. 9 we will meet at Stonington Grange. Stonington will hold a brief meeting at 7:00 and we will meet at 7:30 to celebrate the holidays together. Debbie's programs are always so much fun. We're hoping for a large crowd. See you there.

As winter weather closes in
 With snowflakes set to fall
 It's time to spread the joyful word
 Happy holidays, one and all!

NORTH STONINGTON COMM. GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller
Dec. 10: "I'd like to Visit... the North Pole at Christmas"

Dec. 24: No meeting. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Our October 8 meeting hosted a lively political forum with candidates from both parties stating their ideas on various issues and fielding questions from the crowd. Chairperson Scott Bill Hirst led the forum and timekeeper Jeff Barnes made very sure no one exceeded the three minute limit.

Our Halloween party

was a lively affair, with witches, ghouls, fairies, animals and lovely ladies aplenty. There were prizes for costumes and lots of game to keep the youngsters hopping. The winner of the eyeball guessing game (they were chocolate) came within one eyeball of the actual amount! Refreshments disappeared quickly as all listened for their numbers in our annual cup social. The money raised goes toward the purchase of our Christmas baskets.

The hall will be decked out in true holiday style to welcome Santa to our annual Christmas program and party. Please bring the children and grandchildren. Be sure to bring a wrapped present clearly marked with the child's name for Santa's sack. Remember, there are no words to remember any more and our doors are open to everyone. And if that little mouse who set off my alarm last night will just stay in his hole from now on, next time I'll tell you about newsy November.

LYME GRANGE #147

Dec. 2: Which Holiday Do You Celebrate?

Our October Fest program was a collection of games, black-out skits and song, after all, what is a fest? It's fun!

Our Master and delegate, Ted Powell, attended State Session. Ted came home with a pink sash on the Ag. Committee. How appropriate as he manages a turkey farm.

Our first annual craft festival was held Nov. 6. We have 21 vendors signed up and an excellent, competent committee headed up by Marita Rand to make and serve lunch.

Our Nov. meeting will feature the CWA. Will there be anything new for the coming year since we have a new chairperson and committee?

December brings a Roast Pork Dinner at 6:30 supplied and cooked by our Master with everyone bringing veggies and desserts.

I wonder what holiday each of us will celebrate?

We at Lyme Grange hope everyone will enjoy good health and have a wonderful holiday and a most happy, prosperous new year.

STONINGTON GRANGE #168

Corr: Jeff Barnes

Just as predicted we did get shipwrecked in Stonington Harbor last month. All survived, but half were stranded on Sandy Point and hal landed on Stonington Point. A long rope was stretched across the bay and after a long and strenuous tug-o-war the group from Stonington Point pulled the other safely off of Sandy Point. We learned about shipwrecks much more dire than ours- The Wreck of the Hesperus and the Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald, made famous in poetry and in song.

Our delegates returned from the annual State Session with much good news. The three learned brothers, grandsons of Stonington Grange member Dot and Dick Wingate, were chosen as Outstanding Professional Farmers by the State Agriculture Committee. The Wingates attended the Celebration Banquet where the award was presented to the boys. Our Grange is very proud to have submitted this application.

Other notable awards garnered by our Grange were second place in Community Service, second place in the Essay Contest, third in Membership. Our Lecturer received the award of Honor Lecturer and we are again an Honor Grange. Also, the first and second place sunflower entries in the Agricultural Contest were both submitted by Stonington Grange.

We are considering a night out together at the Mystic Seaport's Lantern Light Tour. We are definitely taking a tour of Italy in November by way of our tour guides Roger

and Barbara Reed, who were there recently.

We hot New London County Pomona Grange on Dec. 9th at 7:30 P.M. Then it's countdown to 2011.

COLCHESTER GRANGE #78

Corr: Joan Toomey

Dec. 13: Let's Bake Up Holiday Fun and Follow that Star- 128 Norwich Ave., St. Andrew Hall, Colchester.

The clouds forecast the promise of snow and more snow and cold to come. We are ready for our New England winter and look

forward to Christmas memories in the past and new memories to make for this holiday and a new year in 2011. Time just seems to speed up for me, what about you?

Our Grange looks forward to help with Church and town activities. We celebrate the birth of Christ Our Lord and Advent begins a new liturgical year.

We extend our sincere wishes for a very merry Christmas and a healthy happy new year filled with love and peace and joy to all.

State Session Survey

The Board of Directors would like to know what you thought of the new State Session format. We hope you will be as forthcoming as you can as we are not asking for your name, just for your thoughts that will help improve the session for next year.

- 1) How satisfied were you with the registration process including new badges?
 - Very Dissatisfied
 - Dissatisfied
 - Satisfied
 - Very Satisfied
- 2) How satisfied were you with the packet of materials provided?
 - Very Dissatisfied
 - Dissatisfied
 - Satisfied
 - Very Satisfied
- 3) Overall, how satisfied were you with the speakers/presentations?
 - Very Dissatisfied
 - Dissatisfied
 - Satisfied
 - Very Satisfied
- 4) Overall, how satisfied were you with the hotel facilities?
 - Very Dissatisfied
 - Dissatisfied
 - Satisfied
 - Very Satisfied
- 5) How much of the session did you attend? (Check all that apply)
 - Entire Session
 - Thursday Evening Only
 - Friday Day Sessions
 - Friday Luncheon
 - Sixth Degree
 - Saturday Day Sessions
 - Saturday Luncheon
 - Installation of Officers
 - Celebration Banquet
- 6) Did you feel the length of session was too long, about right, or too short?
 - Too long
 - Just about right
 - Too short
- 7) Did you feel that the session was rushed at any point?
 - Yes
 - No
 If Yes, please explain: _____

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

- 8) The content of sessions was appropriate and informative.
 - Strongly Disagree
 - Disagree
 - Agree
 - Strongly Agree
- 9) The conference was well organized.
 - Strongly Disagree
 - Disagree
 - Agree
 - Strongly Agree
- 10) The State Grange Officers were helpful and courteous.
 - Strongly Disagree
 - Disagree
 - Agree
 - Strongly Agree

Please comment on the following:

- 11) What kinds of events/meetings would you like to see included at future State Sessions? _____
- 12) What did you like most about State Session? _____
- 13) What did you like least about State Session? _____
- 14) Approximately how many conferences of this type do you attend annually?
 - 1-2 per year
 - 3-4 per year
 - 5-6 per year
 - more than 6 per year
 - Don't usually attend conferences
- 15) Do you plan to attend State Session again next year?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Don't Know
- 16) Would you recommend attending State Session to others?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Don't Know
- 17) How would you rate State Session compared to other conferences of this type that you have attended?
 - Very poor
 - Poor
 - Average
 - Very good
 - Excellent
 - I haven't attended other conferences
- 18) In what ways could State Session be improved? _____

Please clip this questionnaire from the paper and send to: Connecticut State Grange, P.O. Box 1393, Glastonbury, CT 06033. You can also fill out this questionnaire online at: www.ctstategrange.org/sessionsurvey. Feel free to attach additional sheets if you need space for your answers. **THANK YOU!**

Youth & Junior Grange



Lisa Lamoureux
State Youth & Junior Director
youth@ctstategrange.org
juniors@ctstategrange.org

Hi, my name is Lisa Lamoureux and I am the new Director for Junior and Youth for the Connecticut State Grange. I am also the Secretary for Southington Grange No. 25. I am very excited and honored to be asked to be the Director of these Committees. As it was said at State Session, the Junior and Youth Committees are our future Grangers. We need to get these young people involved now.

First, I would like to say 'THANK YOU' to Joan Perry and Don Lanoue for all of their hard work these past 4 years. They both have made great progress and I hope to keep up with the progress that they both worked so hard at.

For those who were not able to attend State Session, I would like to introduce my Committees. On the Junior Committee we have Sandy Phillips from Winchester Grange, Michelle DeDominicis from Hillstown Grange, Susan Pianka from North Stonington Grange and Jaimie Cameron from Ekonk Grange.

The Youth Committee is Kathie Molodich from Ekonk Grange, Samantha Hewston from Wallingford Grange, James Mele from Winchester Grange and Jean Meehan from Prospect Grange.

I thank each and every one of my Committee members for accepting this task. I know what we have a lot of work ahead of us, but I also know what we will have a good time doing it. Each of the Committee members come from a different part of the State and bring with them something different along with new ideas and suggestions.

I am looking forward to the next couple of years and hope that everyone else is also.

Each of the Committees are already starting to plan activities and events. Next month I will go more into what the future will hold for the Juniors and Youths.

As our State Master, Brother Jody Cameron said,

"Our motto for this year is "Community Grown"" and that is what we are aiming to do for the Junior and Youth Committees.

If anyone has any questions, ideas or suggestions, please get in touch with myself or any Committee member. We are always looking for something new and exciting.

EKONK COMM. JR. GRANGE #101

- Dec. 3: Rehearsal for Christmas Play 6pm
- Dec. 4: Help with Grange Holiday Bazaar 10-2
- Dec. 10: Christmas Play! 6pm
- Jan. 7: Let's Enjoy Foods! 6pm

The Juniors held a successful can and bottle drive on the same day as the Turkey Supper. They are BUSY rehearsing weekly for their Christmas play: with

well over 20 children having parts and more working on the stage settings! The children did very well with their crafts at State Grange and the Junior Grange was also pleased with the awards they received. We are very proud that Jaimie Cameron (Junior Program Director) was selected to be part of the State Grange Junior Committee: congratulations Jaimie!

HILLSTOWN JR. GRANGE #87

Our Junior Grange has been busy with crafts, etc. before the State Session. Some of them attended the State Session. Now they will work on a Holiday Craft. It is a nice time of the year and we hope all the Juniors get what they want for Christmas.

Happy holidays for all the Junior Grangers.

In Memoriam

- Ruth Matchett Manchester Grange #31
- Gladys Steiner, G.S. Hillstown Grange #87
- Dorothy Bunning Ekonk Community #89
- Raymond Cook Watertown Grange #122
- Beryl Comparetto, G.S. Enfield Grange #151

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

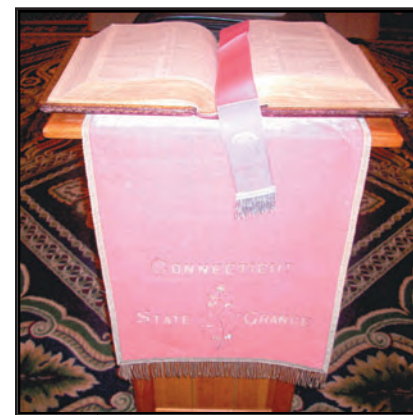
As the year draws to a close let us consider that Christmas is truly our story. The Christ Spirit permeates your consciousness and becomes a vital part of your humanity. The inn represents your intellect. There was no room in the inn, the baby was born in a

manger, which symbolizes your heart, your emotions. It does not make any difference what the condition of your heart is, Christ can be born there.

Joseph, the human father of Jesus, represents the intellectual nature. Our intellect can serve an important father role to protect, guide and support a new spiritual awareness in us by maintaining the right state of mind. Mary symbolizes the inspired activity of our emotional nature as the highest emotional experience we can have, pure intuition. This how the Christ Spirit comes to us through intuitive insight. Herod, as the autocratic false self is also part of our intellect. Always threatened by something new he tries to kill the idea.

The shepherds introduce us to the inner scene of our intellectual and emotional process. The shepherd is the humble, often simple type of thought process that watches and tends the flock of inner feelings with care. Angels represent messages from God as divine inspiration and guidance which bring good tidings of great joy.

The three wise men were really Magi who represented the kind of higher wisdom and spiritual insight than can come right into our ordinary thoughts and feelings when we are open to the "Great Star." The star represents the possibilities of our own Christhood. When we have the open and receptive consciousness symbolized by the Magi, our higher Christlike aspirations always lead to an awareness of our divine potential. The three gifts we give Christ for Christmas are a dedication of everything in our lives to God, a deeper commitment to prayer and a trusting surrender of the lesser in our lives for the greater, higher consciousness. So along with the more traditional ways you celebrate Christmas this year, set aside some quiet time of prayer and contemplation devoted to the inner drama of the Christmas story.



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)			
1. Publication Title Connecticut Granger		2. Publication Number 5 6 3 2 0	
4. Issue Frequency Monthly (except combined July/August edition)		3. Filing Date October 1, 2010	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 170 Scoville St., Torrington, CT 06790		5. Number of Issues Published Annually 6. Annual Subscription Price \$3.00	
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) 100 Newfield Rd., Winchester Center, CT 06094		Contract Person Todd A. Gelineau Telephone (include area code) 860-626-0326	
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)			
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Todd A. Gelineau 170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790			
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Todd A. Gelineau 170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790			
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Todd A. Gelineau 170 Scoville St., #14, Torrington, CT 06790			
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)			
Full Name Connecticut Granger, Inc.		Complete Mailing Address 100 Newfield Rd., Winchester Center, CT 06094	
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address	
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)			
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1 of 3 (Instructions Page 3)) PSN 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com			
13. Publication Title Connecticut Granger		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below October 2010	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation Subscribers/Members of Connecticut State Grange		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		2,500	
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date	
(1)	Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	1,876	2,004
(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	227	218
(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	0	0
(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		2,103	
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		0	
(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
(2)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	0	0
(4)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		0	
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		2,103	
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		397	
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		2,500	
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		100	
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the December issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.			
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Todd A. Gelineau</i>		Date October 1, 2010	
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)			

**Christmas is for
for loving, sharing
like bells and lights and
The good you do for**

*Best Wishes &
Good Health*
Marge & Bob Sendewicz

*Holiday Blessings
from*
Killingly Grange #112

*May your Christmas be
Merry and Bright*
Jeff & Debbie Barnes

Happy Holidays
Cindy & Ernie Finch

*Happy Holidays
from*
Bethlehem Grange

*From our family to
wish you the happy
Holiday Season*

- Jody, Jodi Ann, J. Alle

Season's Greetings

- Winchester Grange

*Merry Christmas
Happy New Year*

- Mountain County Park

Best Wishes
Redding Grange

Happy Holidays
Harmony Grange

Happy Holidays
Old Lyme Grange

Happy Holidays
Ray, Cindy,
& Andrew

Happy a Blessing
Kim, Vinnie &

*Blessed Christmas
Wishes from*
Wolcott Grange

*Merry Christmas
Happy New Year*
Trumbull Grange

*Merry Christmas
Happy & Prosperous
New Year*
The Percoski

*May all your Christmas
wishes come true*
Jim & Pat

*Happy Holidays
from 1st
Officer
Member*
E. Central Park

Happy Holidays
Happy Holidays
Central Park

Happy Holidays
Officers
Covered

Grange
Prosperous

Happy Holidays
from the
M

*Merry Christmas
a Healthy
E*

