



the CONNECTICUT GRANGER

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May 2020

Stay Home, Stay Well



George Russell
State President

Riverton Grange No. 169
president@ctstategrange.org

As May approaches, let's hope we can see the light at the end of the tunnel of this Covid-19 pandemic. As I am writing this report in the middle of April, Sharon and I have been confined at home for the last month and a half. Sharon has been working from home either on the computer or calling her students to see if they need help with their assignments. Sharon is a Special Education teacher at a small school in the Northwest corner of Connecticut. We have been doing our best to keep isolated so we can stay well and get back to normal.

Governor Lamont has extended the closing of schools and non-essential businesses until May 20. I have canceled the Pomona Grange inspections for this year and there will be no Honor Pomona Grange for this year. I have asked the Pomona Masters if they have candidates to confer the Fifth Degree in the fall so they will be eligible for the Sixth Degree at State Session in October and the Seventh Degree at National Grange in November.

I have suggested that all Grange meetings and activities be canceled through the month of April and we should extend it to May 20 and follow the Governor's

request. Our Granges have the ability to meet using Zoom and I know several of them are doing this. The Connecticut State Grange has an account if your Grange would like to meet this way. To set up your Zoom meeting, contact Faith Quinlan at 518-698-2785 or via email at membership@ctstategrange.org. Hopefully we will be able to meet face-to-face in June... let's keep our fingers crossed.

We have not made a decision regarding Let's Celebrate on the weekend of June 13 and 14 with the CWA and the Lecturer, Church Service and the Youth Luncheon that is scheduled. We will have to wait to see what the Governor's decision is at the end of May.

While we are confined in our homes, let's work on our knitting, needlework, crafts and pictures so we have plenty to judge on Let's

CSG Foundation announces program

Susan Masino,
CSG Foundation President

Greetings from the Connecticut State Grange Foundation!

The CSGF Board of Directors has been discussing new ways to support the mission of the Connecticut State Grange Foundation and the Subordinate Granges directly across the state. The values that the Grange was founded on are the same values we need to reinvigorate and share among us today, more than ever: pulling our communities together,



Bridgewater Grange shows its support for their community with this sign outside their meeting place.

Celebrate Day whenever it is scheduled.

I know this will put a financial strain on some of our Grangers. There were so many fundraisers planned for April and May. Let's hope by June we can still have the plant sales, tag sales, and Grange suppers. The community will be looking to get out and support the Grangers.

Until next time let's do what our Governor says, stay home, stay well: we will get through this together as Grangers.

supporting each other. We also need to do this within and among our Grange community. We will be participating in a virtual panel on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.

I often think of this quote:
Continued next page

Connecticut State Grange
A part of the National Grange
*American Values,
Hometown Roots*

**NEXT ISSUE ...
Articles Due May 15**

NEW GRANT PROGRAM

Continued from page one...

"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." And while we all know and love the fact that Grangers are incredibly frugal and creative, some things require money. We would like to support community Granges in two ways and we will share more information during

our Zoom panel.

1. Help Granges submit simple grants or local fundraisers, and showcase how to do it.

We have a few ideas to share, and the CSGF hopes to hold a fundraiser at the 99 Restaurant this year on the Thursday night of State Session (at the Norwich location) on Oct. 15. All you have to do is eat! Hopefully we will all see how easy it is!

2. Help your Grange directly with funding to help your mission.

We are announcing a new grant program approved by the CT State Grange Executive Committee and the Connecticut State Grange Foundation Board of Directors to benefit Community Granges. The

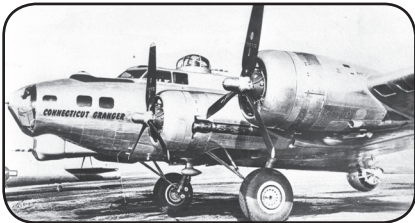
Grant can provide a sum of \$1,000 no more than once every two years for necessary improvements to maintain Grange property "in accordance with the advancement and improvement of their mission and community."

Our goal is to make things as accessible and practical for everyone, so we can steward our resources wisely and focus on the important things- keeping all of us and our communities healthy and prosperous. If anyone has additional ideas for programs or ideas to share, we welcome them.

"See" you soon, perhaps on Zoom! Watch for announcements about the Zoom program in email blasts, and on the State Grange Website.

the Connecticut Granger

Published Monthly



WW II Flying Fortress "Connecticut Granger"

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DEADLINE/CORRECTIONS

News is due on the
15th Day of each month
and should be sent to:
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Join the Connecticut State Grange Foundation and the Connecticut State Grange Membership Dept.



Monday, May 18 • 6:00 P.M.

Join us on your computer or by telephone!

The Connecticut State Grange Foundation will discuss grant opportunities with the State Grange Foundation and show how to submit simple grants and create local fundraisers.

The Membership Director will host a roundtable discussion of topics related to membership and leadership development and any other topics attendees wish to discuss.

You must make a reservation to attend by contacting Faith Quinlan at **Membership@CTStateGrange.org** or by calling **518-698-2785**.

You will be emailed an invitation that will allow you to connect to the meeting online on May 18th. If you don't have a computer, a phone number will be provided so you can call in.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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

Thank you for helping



Faith Quinlan
Membership Dir.
Winchester Grange #74
membership@ctstategrange.org

It has been my hope that through this crisis we are able to continue to connect in some way with each other. I've been reaching out to people to see how members are continuing to communicate with their Brothers and Sister Grangers. Many of you seem to use email and phone and I am pleased there are some who are taking advantage of our Zoom account. Most meetings seem to have a combination of call-ins and video chat. Everyone seems to have access to a phone and calling in is very simple.

I get to see what many of you are up to on Facebook. I am so proud of the many members who have stepped up to help during this difficult time. I have seen that making face masks by the hundreds, donating to food banks and various things that help support our first responders has been the most common way members are giving back. Thank you for helping your community and showing them Grangers really care!

My plan for 2020 was to hold group events that included training and fundraising. I also had planned to visit many granges and attend their meetings. Not surprisingly Covid-19 has thrown my 2020 plan into a need for some major revision. Although the information we are receiving about when things may open up again and how things may go through the next year or so is very confusing and ever-changing. I have been reading and taking courses to learn more about different avenues we

may take to recruit members and keep our current members active in a way that is safe and interesting. What I will reinforce is that using a computer or being willing to step out of your comfort zone with communication will be the key to any success the Connecticut Granges may have to continue.

I'm frightened that without your participation it will be very difficult for me to do the best job. This will rattle us and make us uncomfortable but there is a way to continue and remain safe.

Together we have a chance to bond and work through this crisis as the family we really are.

From my home we send love, hope and thoughts of your continued health and safety. I may be a newer member of this group but my heart is invested in everyone's well-being and the well-being of the Order.

A final plug for participation... Please make sure to register for the Zoom with the Foundation and Membership this month with me and Sue Masino. Valuable information and a chance to try out how simple virtual meetings can be.

Connecticut State Grange

Isolation Bingo

Grange Members have retreated inside to slow the spread of COVID-19. Let's have some fun and play this game based on traditional BINGO. See how many of these squares you can complete. If you achieved 5 in a row (BINGO), post a photo of your completed board on the thread located on the CSG Facebook page.

DROPPED OFF SUPPLIES FOR A VULNERABLE NEIGHBOR OR RELATIVE	STARTED TO LEARN A NEW SKILL	TOOK A NAP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY	SUPPORTED A LOCAL BUSINESS	TESTED THE GRANGE BAKING CONTEST RECIPE
READ THE LATEST CT GRANGER ISSUE COVER TO COVER	WORKED ON CRAFTS FOR THE BIG E	TOOK A WALK NEAR YOUR HOME	SEARCHED FOR AND LIKED GRANGE PAGES ON FACEBOOK	HELD OR ATTENDED A VIRTUAL GRANGE MEETING
STARTED WRITING FOR THE GRANGE ESSAY CONTEST	STARTED SEEDS FOR MY GARDEN		WROTE A CARD OR LETTER LONGHAND TO REMEMBER A GRANGER	TOLD NEIGHBOR I'M HERE IF THEY NEED ANYTHING
CALLED A FRIEND TO SEE HOW THEY'RE DOING	RESEARCHED GRANGE HISTORY ONLINE	WORKED OUT OR EXERCISED	CHECKED OUT THE CT STATE GRANGE PAGE ON PINTEREST	SEWED FACE MASKS TO BE DONATED
STARTED SPRING CLEANING	PERFECTED CHILI RECIPE FOR THE NEXT COOK-OFF	WATCHED A NATIONAL GRANGE LIVESTREAM	BEGAN WORKING ON THE GRANGE NEEDLEWORK CONTESTS	BRAINSTORMED IDEAS TO GROW MEMBERSHIP



EASTERN CT POMONA #14

Corr: Noel Miller

The May 9 meeting of Eastern Connecticut Pomona is canceled due to the order of the Governor regarding Covid-19 pandemic. We are hoping to have our June 13th meeting at Glastonbury and confer the degree in September. Stay safe.

GLASTONBURY GRANGE #26

Corr: Kay Ruff

May 1: BAKELESS/FOODLESS SALE - mail your contribution to the secretary.

May 7: Meeting "On Flanders Field the Poppies Grow - Memorial Service - Cancelled due to the Coronavirus

May 16: Monte-Carlo Whist Card Party Cancelled

June activities also cancelled. Hopefully we will be back to our regular meeting schedule by July.

Glastonbury did put a brief article in the Glastonbury Citizen for GRANGE MONTH: a bit of it follows: April is Grange Month and we are only able to say that we hope everyone is staying well both physically and mentally during this very difficult time. We would have been writing an article to promote ourselves and inviting neighbors to join us. We have cancelled our April and May meetings and will probably be cancelling the June one also. Hopefully by mid-June we will be slowly getting

back to normal activities. We all know how important it is to be connected to our family, neighbors and friends and we all do miss that. Glastonbury Grange members wish everyone a SAFE Spring.

SENEXT GRANGE #40

Corr: Diane Miller

What a strange world we are living in now. Who would have thought just a few months ago that we would be socially distant and away from our regular life. Now is the time to devote more time and efforts to our families. School sessions are being held at home. We have conferences for our businesses by zoom and teleconference. Since the Grange has its founding in agriculture we need to support that area of our lives. We need to shop local and support those that have been the backbone of our communities. Farms produce the food that we need. Vegetables, fruits, dairy products and other locally grown products. When the time comes for this to move on to another phase in our lives, we still need to be aware of the need to shop locally. Our Grange hall stands silent in our town waiting for the doors to again be open to meetings, dinners, projects, open houses and events. We began strong new programs earlier in the year and hope to continue. So many possible programs were on the drawing board. Programs for youth, seniors and the general public. We wish the best to all members and friends. We see the flowers blooming in our yards. We see the trees beginning to get their leaves. We want to see our friends in person and our meetings return. Stay safe and well.

COLCHESTER GRANGE #78

Corr: Bonnie Trecarten

Colchester Grange would like to extend our best wishes during this

time to all our fellow Grangers.

Hope all are able to get outside this Spring to work in our yards and gardens and start the planting season.

We look forward to getting back to our regular meetings and community services as soon as possible. Until then, this is a good time to enjoy the family and personal time that our busy lives sometimes don't allow.

Hoping all stay well and that this will be over soon.

EKONK COMM. GRANGE #89

Corr: Jaimie Cameron

With the Covid-19 going around we have adapted the use of the Zoom meeting platform for our meetings. We got to see Grangers we have not seen in a while. As a Grange, and with the letter the State Master sent out, we decided that all suppers and events, Grange and non-Grange, are canceled or rescheduled until it is safe to hold these events. Watch our Facebook because we will be posting some "Blasts from the Pasts" and look back at our 132 years of being a Grange. We hope this finds you all in good health and good spirits and hope to see you all again in person soon.

NORTH STONINGTON COMMUNITY GRANGE #138

Corr: Nancy R. Weissmuller

May 8: "...and a girl and a guy"

May 22: Memorial Program

We held our first meeting in March and it was lots of fun. It was Ritual Night and Sue scheduled the Literary Program before the meeting was called to order. We were met at the door with pencils and pads and walked into a hall that looked like it had been shaken by a giant and everything had landed willy-nilly. Our job was to write down all the things that were wrong. We found that we were

Continued next page

Eastern Connecticut Pomona
Continued from previous page...
a lot more knowledgeable than we thought we were. We found and rectified all the mistakes. Sue then reminded us of some of the beautiful lessons of the first Four Degrees. This was followed by a quiz and a lively game of Dictionary on song titles from The Patron.

Our second meeting in March was canceled due to the strange goings-on in the world. We now know there will be no meetings in April. Whether the ban will be extended further no one knows. Let's hope not. As it is, the May meetings, should they be held, will be on a come and find out basis. Hope to see you there. And if the world will just settle back to normal, next time we hope to have some happy tidings to relate.

Accomplishment recognized by Killingly Grange



MOUNTAIN LAUREL POMONA #15 *Corr: Carol Swanson*

From Master Peter Keefe... Reluctantly, we must cancel the plans for both the Fifth Degree Rehearsal and the Degree. As of now, the June meeting is ON unless the State Master cancels Grange activities or the Governor decrees quarantines of groups. Please, all who have parts in the Fifth Degree... continue to go over them because it will be conferred as soon as possible. We don't want to resort to an obligation ceremony so folks can be entitled to take the Sixth Degree.

Hopefully members are using this time constructively... like learning Spanish. But since that language is so conspicuously displayed everywhere, how about Aleutian or Navajo (WWII codes the Japanese couldn't break) or practice the dialects of New Orleans or far Northern New Hampshire. Be well, everyone. I

can't wait to see all of you again.

WINCHESTER GRANGE #74

Corr: Todd Gelineau

June 9: Dad, Ref. Fran & Charlie Cooper

June 21: Annual Strawberry Festival on Father's Day

June 23: Election of Officers, Ref. Women

As the State of Connecticut will continue to be closed through May 20 (at least for now), we are not printing any of the scheduled dates for May in this issue as it is pretty certain none will be held. Looking into the month of June, we have two meetings and our annual Strawberry Festival scheduled. It's too early at this point to make any determinations or to anticipate what will happen that far out. I suspect our Grange will have to make some decisions as the Strawberry Festival date gets closer to decide 1) if it will be held and 2) If it is held, in what format will it be held. There are options that include take-out only and pre-ordering but even that will present some serious challenges as members would still have to be in proximity to one other to prepare the take-outs. There are no easy decisions these days other than the decision we all have been forced to make... to stay home. We'll have more on Grange events, hopefully, for the next issue. Until then... stay safe and stay healthy!

A little history for you today. Mary Dixon Kies, born in Killingly in 1752 to Irish immigrant parents, was the first woman in the country to receive a patent from the U.S. Patent Office. The patent was granted on May 5, 1809, for a technique of weaving straw with silk and thread, and the document was signed by President James A. Madison. Dolly Madison was so pleased to see a woman receive a patent that she wrote a congratulatory letter to Mrs. Kies. Mary's invention became essential to making affordable work bonnets and increasing the viability of U.S. products. If you don't mind walking in a cemetery, you can see the monument in this photo in the Old South Killingly Cemetery.

- From The Last Green Valley on FB - 4-2-20



NUTMEG POMONA #16

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

Still have no idea about scheduling our meetings. Our next one is scheduled for Sunday, June 7 at Beacon Valley Grange. Agenda is "Election of Officers." My crystal ball is cloudy- we will have to just wait and see.

Our condolences to Robert Sendewicz and family (Redding Grange) on the passing of wife Marge. Marge was currently chairperson of the CWA Committee and a very active Pomona member. Also the family of Phyllis Beard of Cheshire Grange and David Knapp of Beacon Valley Grange. May they all rest in peace.

CHESHIRE GRANGE #23

Corr: A. Ruel Miller

Everything at this point is on hold at Cheshire Grange. On March 14th we did get our Corned Beef dinner in. It was well attended.

Other than that, the Coronavirus has put us in lock down. Our last meeting in March was cancelled as well as our two April meetings.

We hope to include our Awards Night program with our CWA meeting on May 20th. Fingers crossed. As Master I have and will be updating our members with a news letter. Even with August

several months away, we have concerns if we will be able to hold our fair and the roast beef dinner. We are all dealing with these trying times and hope for the best in the months ahead. We hope you will all stay well and be safe.

BEACON VALLEY GRANGE #103

Corr: Joanne Cipriano

It is with a very heavy hear that we report the passing of David Knapp, a member of our Executive Committee. David was a real spark for our Grange that kept many of us going.

He did a lot of advertising for our activities on social media and was the chief cook at our pancake breakfast. As we sit home due to the virus, we miss him but as we get back to Grange meetings and his chair will be empty it will really set in how much. Rest in peace-David.

Can't say what our upcoming schedule is at this time. Our bake sale at WalMart, anniversary celebration, meetings and open mic will all be rescheduled when the world gets back to normal. We

hope it will be soon. Until then, stay healthy and wash your hands.

LYME GRANGE #147

Corr: Lois Evankow

June 4: A Rose is a Rose, Memorial Service

July 2: Hot time in the Town

Welcome from the isolation of my home.

Of course, due to the Coronavirus emerging, Grange meetings are cancelled. However, we are tentatively having a plant sale on May 9.

Hopefully, we can practice social distancing. Keep the faith and everyone try to stay healthy at this difficult time.

HEMLOCK GRANGE #182

Corr: Maureen Sanborn

May 8: Election of Officers

May 22: Omitted, unless regular meeting is cancelled

June 12: Memorial

June 26: Omitted, unless regular meeting is cancelled

Coffee and refreshments will be served following the meeting.





Eye on Communications

GLEANINGS FROM YOUR STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

A New Goal for Granges During the Outbreak: Survival

by Terri Fassio, Public Relations Co-Director

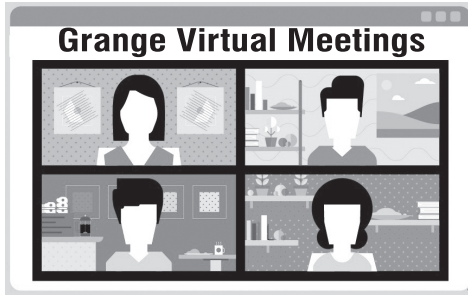
Due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus, Granges have been forced to close their doors for the foreseeable future. Crucial spring events and meetings have been canceled. Fundraising has been non-existent as folks are preoccupied with their own problems, and much less flush than they were two months ago. No one knows what the summer holds. It's difficult to plan Ag Fairs, other events and meetings and raise the necessary funds to keep your Grange operational when the members are all home. So what are Granges to do? First and foremost - keep in touch with your members. Call, email, and even the good old-fashioned handwritten letter will work. Second - hold virtual meetings. Third - Assess your situation, then develop a goal as a group and work towards it.

Here's a few tips to help switch your Grange into survival mode -

- Look for ways to reduce expenses. Example - Instead of paying a landscaper to mow the yard at the Grange Hall, recruit a member to volunteer to take on the task.

- Consider a project that members can work towards at home, that can be turned into a fundraiser later in the year. For example, crafty members can be making items to sell at a Christmas Craft Bazaar.

- Look for grants to help add to the treasury. There are many grants available for Granges if they are willing to put in the effort to complete the paperwork.



E-mail the CT State Grange Foundation for info - info@ctstategrangefoundation.org.

- Try a virtual auction. Ask members to donate items, then use Facebook live to stream your live auction. Once payment is received by the Grange, recruit members to deliver the items.

- Host a Bakeless Bake Sale. Come up with a "price" for each item - ie: cookies, cake, pie, etc, and have members "purchase" the items as a donation to your Grange. Just be clear that no physical baked goods will be exchanging hands.

- Host a dinner with a twist. Come up with an easy menu to prepare - such as grinders or pasta.

Set a date and a price. Sell dinner tickets, then recruit volunteers to deliver purchasers prepared meals. This is especially thoughtful for senior guests and others who may be nervous about the quarantine.

- Host a virtual scavenger hunt, and ask for a donation for each person to participate. (\$1 or \$5) Set a date for the entry fees to be received and acknowledged by the coordinator. Come up with a list of 50 or more commonly found items in the home. Then on a set date distribute the list to the participants. Participants take a photo of the found items, and post it on your Grange's Facebook page. The first person to collect all the items wins a small prize. All who took part will receive a certificate of participation emailed to them.

The possibilities are endless with a little creativity and brainstorming. Be sure to show the impact of COVID-19 and/or a recession will have on your Grange. Will demand for your Grange in the community increase? Gain empathy by being authentic and consistent in your Grange's messaging to the public.

If you or your Grange has questions or needs assistance, please contact the Public Relations Committee. We're here to help! E-mail: publicrelations@ctstategrange.org or information@ctstategrange.org.

CSG Past Deputies Assoc.

Can't believe that after waiting and planning for a whole year we had to postpone the celebration of our 50th Anniversary. As for the new date, heaven only knows. As you read this, things might have changed but as of today, April 14, that's the situation.

We will advise you of the new date as soon as we know it. Suggested we have it in place of the picnic or have a combined Christmas- Anniversary party. Any suggestions?

Until we see you- stay safe!

Connecticut State Grange

100 Newfield Road, P.O. Box 3, Winchester Center, CT 06094 • 860-909-1101

April 18, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this letter continues to find all of you well. I am sure you are all well aware of the Governor's closing of all non-essential businesses and limits on gatherings through May 20, 2020. The Connecticut State Grange will be following the lead of the Governor and cancel all in-person meetings and activities statewide until his Executive Order is lifted or we are otherwise told it is safe to begin meeting in-person again.

Your Grange can still meet online through the Zoom meeting program. It's a simple program to use and even allows members to join in just using a telephone. Our Membership Director, Faith Quinlan, is coordinating the calendar of meetings and providing the technical help necessary to get you started. A mailing went out to all Granges announcing this program with an abbreviated meeting format for Granges to follow. Even if you don't want to hold a Grange meeting in this format, you can get together as a group and catch up. Just seeing friendly faces you haven't seen for a while can be a boost!

As always, we are here to help you in any way we can. Don't hesitate to call or email. Stay well!

Fraternally,



George Russell
Master

Looking beyond this time of quarantine...



*By Betsy Huber,
National President*

Spring is finally coming to the Mid-Atlantic, although it is still quite chilly, so I feel like we should be looking and planning for the future.

Our 154th Annual National Grange Convention is coming to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, Nov. 17-21 and final preparations are being made. We are delaying the release of the online registration because of current events and because the hotel is currently closed, but it is ready to go live as soon as we feel it's the right time. Watch your email for its release.

Also a reminder—the Grange Foundation's Deaf Activities Grant application deadline is coming on May 1. Any Subordinate or Pomona Grange can apply for a \$1000 grant, but you must apply through your State Grange. The State Grange will submit your application to the Foundation for judging. Two grants of \$1000 are

available this year to assist you in any project you plan to benefit the deaf/hearing impaired or to protect hearing. Previous winners are described on the Foundation website if you need project ideas. For rules and application see www.grangefoundation.org and click on Deaf Awareness on the menu bar. We are looking forward to some great applications this year with the increase in grant amounts.

It is heartwarming to see the many varied projects Granges are involved in, even in this time of quarantine. Keep up the good work! And when we are again allowed to meet, be ready to welcome new members who have seen your efforts in the community and want to join you.

Write an essay or prepare an “A Number”



Marge Bernhardt
State Lecturer
Cheshire Grange #23
Lecturer@ctstategrange.org

My Greetings to All. At this time I wish I had a crystal ball and could tell you exactly what is going to happen in our future. I have concerns about “Let’s Celebrate” and the contests we have scheduled for that weekend. But, please think positive. Even if we can’t judge at that time, we will find a way as we go forward. I urge you

all to check the Grange website and Facebook page. My next Lecturers’ newsletter comes out May 1st. I will put current information in that. Also, I will email as many people as I can with the information as it comes available.

For years now I have been visiting a local convalescent home as part of my Grange’s Community Service work. I see the residents sitting and either watching television or just staring into space. As this virus seems to go on forever, I am beginning to

understand more and more how they feel. But, the Grange can help with this... Write an essay, prepare a number for a future program or for either the Talent or the “A Number” Contest. If you need more information, just contact me. I would love to hear from you. Better yet, there are lots of things you can do at home for your Granges Community Service Projects. Keep busy.

Hoping to see you around the State real soon!!!

Special Session may be necessary in Hartford



Alma Graham
Legislative Director
Coventry Grange #75
Legislative@ctstategrange.org

With the state shutdown due to the COVID-19 crisis, the 2020 Connecticut Legislative session has been on hold with nothing happening at the Capitol. The Legislative session must adjourn on May 6th by state statute. The Governor has closed down much of the state and many businesses until at least May 20th as well as limiting assemblies of more than 5 non-family members. Governor Lamont has been running much of the state using executive orders. Opening up the Capitol to lawmakers and hundreds of people for the remainder of the session is just too risky for the health of all.

This means that all remaining bills that were presented this year will die in committee. Committee meetings, hearings and convenings of the general assembly have not been able to occur. Any key issues that the lawmakers wish to consider will have to be done with a special session. Due to the ongoing

circumstances, it may be very difficult to set a special session this year. The legislative leaders tried to set up a special session to tackle the addition of tolls before the regular session started this year and was unable to come up with an agreement to present for a vote.

Hopefully we can settle into our new normal in a few months and get back to actively pursuing our programs and projects.

Meanwhile it is not too early to start thinking of any resolutions

that you wish to send on to State Grange. I realize that many Granges are not meeting on a regular schedule right now but you can start writing your concerns into resolutions to have them ready for when you meet again. Don’t forget that you can do ZOOM meetings now. When the Legislative session convenes next year, it will be right after an election cycle and the legislators will be anxious to catch up on issues that were left behind this year.

Stay safe and well everyone.



“And the people stayed home, And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.”

Kitty O’Meara



By Hank the Burro

Hello Grange friends! How is everyone faring at home? I know Grange members are using their time creatively - by making masks, donating to their local food pantries, and helping their neighbors who need assistance. We don't know how much longer we will be huddled up inside, but know that as soon as we can, we will be holding and attending Grange meetings and events again. Want to keep up with the latest news? Just follow the link to my Facebook page, and then click the "Like" button once you are on the page to see our updates in your FB timeline. <http://www.Facebook.com/CTGrangeHanktheBurro>



CHOOSE YOUR QUARANTINE HOUSE



• Connecticut State Grange Version •

CHOOSE WHICH SET OF HISTORICAL GRANGE HOUSEMATES YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE SHELTER WITH.

HOUSE 1

- **Oliver Hudson Kelley** (National Grange Founder)
- **Francis McDowell** (National Grange Founder)
- **Albert P. Marsh** (CT Grange Member who helped build the Little Stone House Memorial at the University of CT using stones he donated. Was known in the insurance industry for developing the "Rated Risks" program for drivers.)
- **Susan Webber** (Titanic Survivor and CT Grange Member)

HOUSE 2

- **William Saunders** (National Grange Founder)
- **Caroline A. Hall** (National Grange Honorary Founder)
- **Charles Gardener** (Author, National Grange High Priest of Demeter in the 1930s, influential in building the New England Grange Building at the Big E.)
- **Frank Prelli** (CT State Grange Master 1973-1977; appointed by National Master Herschel Newsom as Special Assistant to the National Master. Known for the CT State Grange Bicentennial Celebration, and his love of running.)

HOUSE 3

- **John R. Thompson** (National Grange Founder)
- **Harvey Godard** (First Master of First CT State Grange 1875-1879, Charter member and First Master of Granby Grange. Influential owner of a large mills which was the center of the lumber business of that time.)
- **Lida Skilton Ives** (First Lady of the CT State Grange 1940-1943, Chair of the National Grange Home Economics Committee from 1942-1944 and author of "The Grange in Connecticut.")
- **Ralph Ingalls** (CT State Grange Agriculture Director who was chosen as the State of Connecticut Christmas Tree Grower of the Year in 1982.)

HOUSE 4

- **William Ireland** (National Grange Founder)
- **Sherman Kimberly** (First Master of Second CT State Grange; Charter Member of Hope Grange and operated a large Farm in Goshen, CT)
- **Ira Wilcox** (CT State Grange Master from 1949-1953; National Grange Priest Annalist in the 1950s. Known for his woodworking skills which included the construction of the infamous wooden CT Map, formerly on display at the Big E.)
- **Alta Peck** (CT State Grange CWA Director who started the CT Grange Deaf Activities Program, and National Womens' Activities Director from 1954-1973.)

HOUSE 5

- **Rev. Aaron B. Grosh** (National Grange Founder)
- **Louis Tolles** (CT State Grange Master 1930-1933. Known for developing the "Get Connecticut Out of the Mud" better roads program.)
- **George Austin Bowen** (CT State Grange Master 1890-1895, High Priest of Demeter at the turn of the century, Charter member and first Master of Senexet Grange. Was a surgeon and operated a large farm in Woodstock.)
- **Harry Page** (President of Patron's Mutual Insurance in the 1940's-50's, who was instrumental in starting the "Masters Chairs" program.)

HOUSE 6

- **John Trimble** (National Grange Founder)
- **Stephen O. Bowen** (CT State Grange Master 1896-1900. Probate Court Judge, and trustee of the Connecticut Agricultural Society.)
- **Dr. Albert N. Jorgensen** (Influential University of Connecticut President for 27 years, and CT Grange Member)
- **John LaVangie** (Longtime CT State Grange Deputy who organized Montville Grange. Known for his award-winning gladiolas, and was one of only four accredited floral judges East of the Mississippi River. Developed a special hybrid gladiola and named it after Grange founder William Saunders.)

Community Service

Noel & Marcia Miller,
Community Service Co-Chairs

We hope you are surviving the Covid-19 shutdown/stay-at-home pandemic. We see many Grangers providing needed Community Service projects and items and I want to make sure that you all receive a heart full thank you!, but remember to tally your hours for community service. Pictures, pictures. Now is the time for Grangers to shine.

Many Granges are testing Zoom for meetings. Remember the Connecticut State Grange is offering a \$250.00 grant for internet hookup for your Grange Hall. All that is needed is a written request and a copy of your Grange minutes with a motion to request this Grant. Many Grangers are having success with this medium.

Through this hard time remember "I'm a do-er" and "That's the Grange Way." Good luck and stay safe.

SHOUT OUT!



**Congratulations to
Ekonk's Ethan and
Karolyn Jordan on the
birth of their first child:
Logan James Jordan!**

Send your "Shout Outs" to Granger@CTStateGrange.org and we'll print them in an upcoming issue of the Connecticut Granger.



Cooking during the quarantine calls for convenient meal solutions using canned and frozen foods that may already be in your freezer and cupboard. Here's a dish from AllRecipes.com that is easy to make - and would also work for the next potluck supper as well!

BLT Pasta

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- ½ pound bacon, cut crosswise into 1-inch pieces
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons lemon zest
- ⅔ cup creme fraiche (sour cream or yogurt may be substituted)
- 2 cups cavatapi or ditalini pasta (can substitute any shape you prefer)
- 2 cups halved cherry tomatoes
- 4 cups baby arugula, coarsely chopped
- salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 1 pinch cayenne pepper, or to taste
- 1 tablespoon freshly shredded Parmesan cheese, or to taste (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Pour olive oil into a heavy skillet over medium heat, add bacon, and cook until almost crisp, 5 to 8 minutes. Turn off heat. Hold a paper towel with tongs and mop up excess bacon grease with the paper towel, leave about 2 teaspoons bacon grease in the skillet.

Stir minced garlic and lemon zest into bacon in the skillet and let cook in residual heat until fragrant, 2 to 3 minutes. Stir creme fraiche into bacon mixture.

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil and stir in 2 cups of pasta. Cook till tender, about 8-10 minutes. Drain and add pasta to the skillet. Stir pasta thoroughly into bacon and creme fraiche mixture.

Return skillet to medium heat. Add tomatoes; cook and stir until slightly softened, about 1 minute. Mix in arugula, stirring until wilted, about 30 seconds, and turn off heat.

Season with salt, black pepper, and cayenne pepper. Stir again and garnish with Parmesan cheese.

SOURCE: www.allrecipes.com/recipe/233582/chef-johns-blt-pasta/

WINDOW TO THE PAST

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



Window to the past Answers for May 2020 issue -- We heard from Janet Wilcox with the following - "Received the April issue of The Granger today, and was delighted to see the picture that you wanted identified. I can tell you it is my late Grandmother, Lea Hourigan who was a member of Meriden Grange, my mother Mildred Bell who is now 102 years old and was a member of Southington Grange, my late sister June Fiondella who was a member of Southington Grange, and her daughter (my niece) Kim Relihan who was also a member of Southington Grange." - Janet Wilcox - Former member of Southington Grange for over 50 years until it disbanded. Then she wrote again with the following -- "Shared the article with my niece, Kim Relihan, and she remembers that night. She said it was the night she was installed as Master of Southington Jr. Grange by her grandparents (Joseph and Mildred Bell) and my parents."

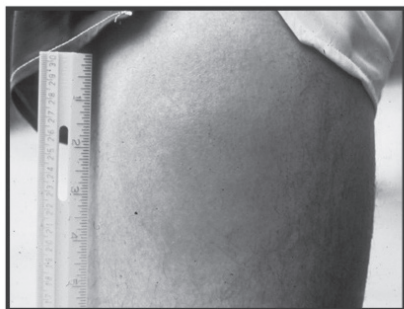
We also heard from Carole Crudi with the following -- "This months picture is four generations of the Bell family. Most well known would be Mildred Hourigan Bell, second from the right. To her right is her mother, Lea Hourigan. To Mildred's left is her oldest daughter, June Bell Fiondella. To June's left, is her eldest daughter, Kim Fiondella (Relihan). All four were active members of the grange for many years. Mildred is now 102 years old and still living in her own home. Until about a year ago she still attended local grange meetings and planned events. Although she doesn't get out much anymore, she is still up and about and enjoys her large family. In fact, holiday gatherings are still held at her home. Easter has been put on hold this year due to the virus isolation, but hopefully Mother's Day will find us barbecuing in her backyard!" - Carole Bell Crudi - Mildred's second daughter.

Ticks, Lyme Disease, and other Tick-Borne Diseases

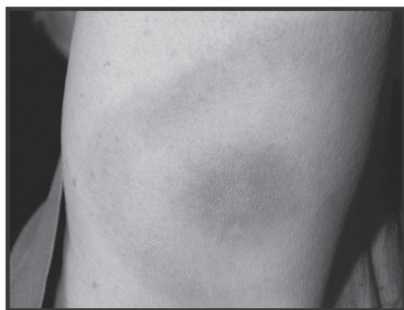
All information in this article is from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) brochure of the same name. A PDF version of the brochure is available by visiting their website at www.ct.gov/caes.

Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is an infection caused by the spirochete bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*, transmitted by the feeding of the blacklegged tick, *Ixodes scapularis*. Early infection is noted by an expanding red rash in 70-80% of patients within 7-14 days at the site of the tick bite. With or without the rash, non-specific “viral-like” symptoms include fatigue, muscle and joint pain and maybe a fever. Rashes vary in size, shape, and appearance. The rash is often red, but may have central clearing, or a “bull’s eye” appearance. As the infection spreads it can cause arthritis, debilitating malaise and fatigue, neurologic or cardiac problems.



Pfizer



CDC/James Gathany

Babesiosis

Babesiosis is a malaria-like illness that is caused by a protozoan *Babesia microti*, found in red blood cells. Human infection can range from subclinical to mild flu-like illness, to severe life-threatening

disease in the elderly, the immune-suppressed, and people without spleens. Symptoms include fever, fatigue, chills, sweats, headache, and muscle pain. Co-infection with *B. microti* and *B. burgdorferi* can result in overlapping clinical symptoms, more severe Lyme disease, and a longer recovery than either disease alone.

Anaplasmosis

The bacterium *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* invades a type of white blood cell, forming colonies (morulae) that may be observed in a stained peripheral blood smear. Clinical symptoms are non-specific and may include fever, headache, chills, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, and malaise. Most cases are mild, resolving without treatment within 30 days, but cases may also be moderate or severe in elderly or immune-compromised individuals.

Hard Tick Relapsing Fever

Borrelia miyamotoi was first found in the blacklegged tick, *I. Scapularis*, in Connecticut in 2001. The first human cases in North America were described in 2013 in patients presenting with a viral-like illness, some of whom also had Lyme disease or babesiosis. Symptomatic cases appear to be highest in people during July and August. Symptoms include fever, chills, fatigue, headache, muscle and joint pain. Fever and other symptoms may occur in cycles separated by periods of feeling better. The prevalence of *B. miyamotoi* in blacklegged ticks appears low (1-5%). Unlike with Lyme disease, this pathogen can be transovarially transmitted (female tick to egg), raising the possibility

of transmission by larval ticks feeding on people.

Powassan Virus

Powassan (POW) virus is a tick-borne encephalitis virus. Cases of Powassan encephalitis are relatively rare (7-12 cases reported in the U.S. each year). The principal tick vectors are the “woodchuck tick,” *Ixodes cookei*, and the blacklegged tick. Approximately 2% of adult blacklegged ticks carry the virus. While some people may not develop any symptoms, POW can present as meningitis or meningoencephalitis progressing to encephalitis with fever, convulsions, headache, disorientation, lethargy, with partial coma and paralysis in some patients. The disease has a fatality rate of 10% and about half of survivors will develop long-term or permanent neurological or other problems.

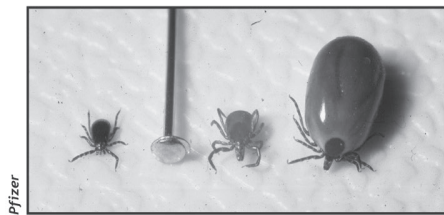
Transmission

Ticks attach and feed slowly over a period of several days. Most Lyme disease cases are associated with the bite of the nymphal stage of the blacklegged tick. The probability of transmission of Lyme spirochetes increases the longer an infected tick is attached (0% at 24 hours, 12% at 48 hours, 79% at 72 hours, and 94% at 96 hours). It also takes at least 24 hours for the agents of babesiosis and anaplasmosis to be transmitted by the tick. Approximately 30% of blacklegged ticks, on average, will be infected with Lyme disease bacteria. Prompt removal of an attached tick will reduce the chance of infection. However, the Powassan virus can be transmitted

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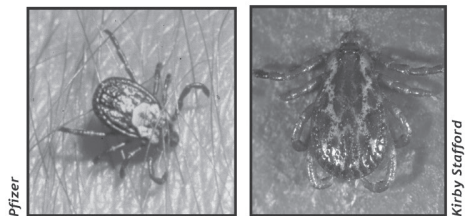
in as little as 15 minutes after tick attachment. American dog ticks do NOT transmit the pathogens associated with the blacklegged tick (they are vectors for Rocky Mountain spotted fever and tularemia, cases of which are rarely reported in Connecticut). Ticks can carry multiple pathogens, although the rate of co-infection is low (0.1 – 4.0%).

**Blacklegged Tick (aka deer tick)
*Ixodes scapularis***

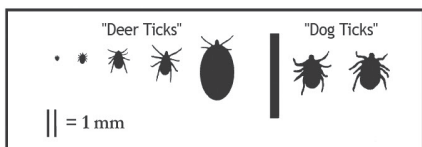


Male, pin, female and engorged female blacklegged tick (left to right).

**American Dog tick,
*Dermacentor variabilis***



Female dog tick (left) and male dog tick (right).



Actual Size (left to right) of larva, nymph, adult male, adult female, and engorged adult female *Ixodes* ("Deer Ticks") and adult male and female *Dermacentor* ("Dog Ticks")

Tick Removal

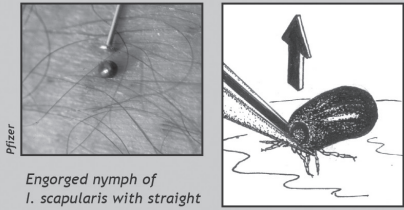
To remove a tick, use thin-tipped tweezers or forceps to grasp the tick as close to the skin surface as possible. Pull the tick straight upward with steady even pressure. Disinfect the area with rubbing alcohol or another skin disinfectant; a topical antibiotic also may be applied. Save the tick for identification or testing and evidence of tick bite.

Tick Repellents

Insect (and tick) repellents applied to skin and/or clothing can be broadly grouped as synthetic-chemical or botanical chemical-based compounds. There are about 150 repellent products registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use on human skin. The primary active ingredient in most insect/tick repellents today is DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide). For blacklegged ticks, DEET concentrations around 20 to 30% applied to clothes are about 86-92% effective in preventing tick bites. Other repellents and appropriate concentrations for use against ticks include picaridin (20%), Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (30%), and IR3535 (20%). For use only on clothing, products with permethrin, a pyrethroid insecticide, work primarily by killing ticks on contact with treated clothes, although it also has some repellent activity. Available as an aerosol spray or pre-treated clothing, it can provide a high level of protection. Botanical, herbal or natural-based repellents include one or several plant essential oils. Most provide a more limited duration of protection. However, many are not effective against ticks and are not labeled for use against ticks. More information on repellents is available in a fact sheet at www.ct.gov/caes under publications.

Tick Removal

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Engorged nymph of *I. scapularis* with straight pin for size comparison (left) and removal of a tick with forceps (right).

The Bite Risk

- Nymphal blacklegged ticks are very small (pinhead size), difficult to see, and are active during the late spring and summer months. Roughly 70-80% of human Lyme disease cases occur in the summer months.

- The majority (about 75%) of Lyme disease cases are associated with activities (play, yard or garden work) around the home and about 21% in activities away from the home. Adult blacklegged ticks are active in the fall, warmer days in the winter, and in the spring when outdoor activity and exposure is more limited. They are larger, easier to see, and therefore associated with fewer cases of Lyme disease (even though infection rates may be slightly higher).

- Ticks do not jump, fly or drop from trees, but grasp passing hosts from the leaf litter, tips of grass, etc. Most ticks are probably picked up on the lower legs and then crawl up the body seeking a place to feed. Adult ticks will seek deer and other larger animals at the shrub level several feet above the ground, about or above the height of a child.

- Children 5-13 years of age are particularly at risk for tick

bites and Lyme disease as playing outdoors has been identified as a high-risk activity. Take notice of the proximity of woodland edge or mixed grassy and brushy areas from public and private recreational areas and playing fields. While ticks are unlikely to be encountered in open fields, children chasing balls off the field or cutting through woods to school may be entering a high-risk tick area.

• Pets can bring ticks into the home, resulting in a tick bite without the person being outdoors. A veterinarian can suggest methods to protect your pets. Engorged blacklegged ticks dropping off a pet will not survive or lay eggs in the house as it is too dry.

Five Steps to Prevention

1. Wear long pants tucked in socks
2. Consider a repellent
3. Bathe, look and feel for ticks after leaving tick habitat, and remove any ticks
4. Have ticks properly identified or tested
5. Check pets for ticks, use tick control products; consult with veterinarian about canine Lyme disease vaccine



CAES names new Director

New Haven – The Board of Control of The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven has appointed Dr. Jason White as Director- He began his new position on April 1, 2020. Dr. White is the tenth Director in the storied 145-year history of the Experiment Station and will replace Dr. Theodore Andreadis who has retired after 42-years of service to Experiment Station and State of Connecticut. Dr. White served as the agency’s Vice-Director for the last six years.

A Pennsylvania native, Dr. White joined the research staff of the Experiment Station in 1997. Before being chosen as Director, he was the Chief Scientist for the Department of Analytical Chemistry, where he directed state and federally funded research and surveillance activities focused on food, consumer products and the environment. White is an internationally known scientist in the fields of nanotechnology and food safety/food defense. He received his Bachelor’s degree from Juniata College in Ecology and his Master’s degree and Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology from Cornell University. He also holds an appointment as a Visiting Research Scientist at the Harvard University TH Chan School of Public Health, and as an Adjunct Faculty member in the University of Massachusetts Stockbridge School of Agriculture. He is the author of over 200 scientific publications and his current research activities focus on nanotechnology-enable agriculture and food safety. Dr. White resides in Prospect with his wife Michelle and six children.

“My service to CAES started 23 years ago as a Post-doctoral research associate and over that time, I have developed not just a vested interest in CAES but a real passion for its work, its people and its history. This agency has been a pillar of scientific service and research over the last 145 years; leading CAES for the next 20+ years will be the professional and personal opportunity of a lifetime,” said White after the appointment.

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, established in 1875, is the first agricultural experiment station in the United States and is well known for its research findings including the discovery of hybrid corn, Vitamin A and the first isolation of West Nile Virus in North America, to name a few. The Station’s main laboratories are in New Haven. Other satellite locations are in Griswold, Hamden, and Windsor.

The “Defective Husband”

The following humorous note was in the files of the State Grange Office and was sent to State Secretary Marion Beecher on Feb. 28, 1989.

At our local Grange, the password was “Effective” Matron or Husband. One of my duties as an officer, is to collect money in a small basket from the officers, as well as, the regular members. As I approached each one, they would stand and whisper the password in my ear and drop their change into the basket. Everything was going great until I got to the Master, who informed me he forgot the password. This had never happened to me before and seeing that there was no one in higher office to give the word, I leaned forward and whispered “Effective.” “Oh Yes” he said, and put his hand in his pocket for some change. With a sheepish grin, he leaned forward and well above a whisper said, “Defective Husband.” - Evelyn M. Johnson (East Hartford, CT)

Alone but not lonely



Charles W. Dimmick
State Chaplain

Cheshire Grange No. 23
chaplain@ctstategrange.org

Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me."

To some people being alone and being lonely amount to the same thing. But it need not be so. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, loneliness is "sadness because one has no friends or company" or "being without companions". But to those who truly believe in God, we are never without friends or company. Even though unseen, God is with us always, and is always willing to provide us company even when we seem to be alone.

We read in Psalm 27 "Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me." Even when others forsake us, God is with us. And we are never forsaken when troubles surround us.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never leave you or forsake you. *Deuteronomy 31:6*



And in the New Testament we read in Paul's Letter to the Romans:

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, not anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Being assured that God is with us always, perhaps we should look forward to being alone, because then there will be fewer distractions between us and God. From a very early time some people have found this way of drawing closer to the Almighty. Remember that while

Moses was alone in the western desert, tending his father-in-law's sheep, he encountered God at the foot of Mt. Horeb. And it was also alone in a cave on Mt. Horeb where Elijah heard God speak to him "in a still small voice".

The gospels testify that Jesus often went out alone to the mountains or wilderness to pray. And there are many examples of early Christians seeking solitude to get closer to God. Most famous of these were the Desert Fathers, early Christian hermits, ascetics, and monks who, starting in the early third century A.D., inhabited the Scetes desert of Egypt. The collective wisdom of the insights they gained by their solitude had a major influence on the development of Christianity.

In Memoriam

David Knapp
Beacon Valley #103

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

NOTE

Calendar items for May were included as submitted by Granges. Please be aware that all Grange events and meetings (in-person) are canceled through May 20. A decision from the Governor beyond that date will determine when Grange events and activities can resume.

NOTE