

PROGRAM HELPS AND INFORMATION

MAY - JUNE 2010

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Hi All...

Spring is finally here and with it comes renewed activities in our Granges. Anytime you have an open event please try to publicize it and get not only non-members but those who have been away from the Grange for a while interested. And, remember, the best publicity for your events is word of mouth and a positive attitude about our organization.

GRANGE SUNDAY – It will be here before you know it. Grange Sunday is June 13th at Good Will Grange Hall (The Home of East Central Pomona and our State Grange Office) beginning with Amy's Church Service at 11:00 a.m. This will be followed by a Lasagna Dinner put on by the Youth. Then at 1:00 p.m. we will hold our **Talent and "A Number" Contests**. Hopefully every Pomona will be represented that day. The "A Number" Contest is a State Contest and ends here. However the winner of the Talent Contest will go on to compete in the Northeast Regional Contest to be held as part of Lecturers' Conference. The Talent part is scheduled for Tuesday evening at The Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center, Vermont.

LET'S CELEBRATE will be held on **July 24 at Cheshire Grange**. The State Grange **Photo Contest** will be a part of the festivities. If you haven't already taken your pictures, now is a good time with all the flowers beginning to bloom. **Entries** for the photo contest may be mailed to me ahead of time, left at the State Grange Office allowing enough time for me to make a run up there to pick them up, or they may be brought to Cheshire Grange on **Fri. July 23** between 9 & 11:00 a.m. They will be judged Friday afternoon. This will allow both the CWA and myself more time to set up and have an attractive display for all to see. On Saturday, the hall will open at 11:00. The Junior Department will be hosting a Meatloaf Dinner with continuous servings from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. We will not only be celebrating New Orleans style, but will be featuring a Barbershop Quartet as part of the entertainment.

The 95th Annual **North East Lecturers' Conference** will be held **August 2nd – 5th** at Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, **Vermont**. Information on the Conference will be sent to all Lecturers and those who attended last year in about 10 days. Anyone else wanting this information and registration forms should let me know. Connecticut will rehearse their program at 1:00 on Tuesday with the program beginning at 2:15. Our program is on Texas. If anyone else has a number relating to the State please send it to me. This is Connecticut's program. I cannot do it without your help.

We have a new form for our **Auld Acquaintance** report. It is more detailed and will give us a better idea of just how much the Grange is doing. I have enclosed (or attached) one with this letter so you can get an early start on it. Forms for next year will be included in your **Lecturers Packet** which will be distributed to the Pomona Lecturers at Grange Sunday. The July-August Newsletter will also be in the packet along with your monthly report forms. If you do not receive your packet in a timely manner, please ask your Pomona Lecturer for it.

Best wishes to all for a safe and enjoyable summer. I hope to see you all at Grange events this summer.Marge

SHARED NUMBERS...

CONNECTICUT GRANGE SUNDAY

Taken from The Grange in Connecticut by Lida Skilton Ives

The Grange Ritual is filled with many Bible quotations and references. The Grange cannot legally open without the Bible being opened upon our Altar. The Grange and the Church have much in common, each helping and supporting the other without regard to Creed, as the Grange is non-sectarian in its principles.

For many years the Grange has urged a special Go-To-Church Sunday. Sometime after the beautiful church was completed at Storrs, we read under the Master's report from Mansfield Grange the following: "The Storrs church had a special service for Grange Members on May 5, 1929 and members from all over Connecticut and some of the surrounding states attended the services here. We consider this one of the worthwhile accomplishments for the past year and the settlement of the visiting grange members seemed to be that a Grange Sunday should be an annual event here." So our Annual "CONNECTICUT GRANGE SUNDAY" was launched. The morning services are devoted to the regular morning service of any church and from time to time there has been outstanding Guest Speakers, many who have been of nationwide prominence. During the afternoon a musical service is rendered with a short guest speaker in attendance. These have been held every year since then with the exception of the War Years 1942, 1943, 1944, and 1945.

The success of this service has been proven by the crowds gathered outside upon some occasions who heard the service through a loud speaker system as they were unable to get within the church. Mansfield Grange has been host upon these occasions and served some hot and cold drink refreshments. We are indeed privileged to gather together and worship under one roof in the House of the Lord that we all helped to erect. May this custom have far reaching influence so that others will "go and do likewise."

IT'S STRAWBERRY SEASON – DID YOU KNOW?

With Thanks to Whigville Grange

*One cup of strawberries has only 55 calories, and eight medium-sized strawberries provide about 140% of the recommended daily allowance of vitamin C.

*Strawberries are fat free.

*Strawberries, which are packed with potassium, anti-oxidants, and fiber, can play a part in helping to reduce the risk of cancer and heart disease as part of the American Cancer Institute's 5-a-day program.

*Strawberries are not limited to health and culinary uses. Their juice, combined with honey, helps reduce inflammation and pain of sunburn.

*Strawberries ease achy joints. They contain painkilling compounds that work just like aspirin to block inflammation, but unlike aspirin, they don't cause risky side effects.

*To outsmart birds, paint lava rocks with red outdoor paint and scatter them in the strawberry bed. By the time the real berries ripen the birds have given up.

*Strawberry flowers – Cut an X into the pointed end of each berry, almost to the bottom. Gently open petals and fill with sweetened ricotta cream and drizzle with chocolate syrup.

*Strawberry leaves and roots are used to treat diarrhea, gout, and stomach complaints.

*Rubbing the teeth with the juice may help to whiten them

BLACKOUT SKITS
With Thanks to Beacon Valley Grange

She: Louie, there were two pieces of pie in the pantry this morning and now there's only one. How is that?

Louie: I don't know. It was so dark I guess I didn't see the other piece.

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Louie: Did you mark the spot where we caught all those fish?

Ron: Yeah, I put a big X on the side of the boat.

Louie: But suppose we don't get the same boat the next time?

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Gloria: What have you done to your hair, Helen? It looks like a wig.

Pearl: It is a wig!

Gloria: Goodness, you'd never know it.

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Husband: How are the newlyweds next door?

Wife: Oh, that poor husband, remember when they first moved in how he'd come home from work and his dog would bark and his wife would get his slippers? Well, now his dog brings him his slippers and his wife does all the barking.

Husband: Well, what's wrong with that? He's still getting the same service, isn't he?

FOR YOUR PROTECTION
With Thanks to Richard Chapman

I have a friend who is a receptionist in a church in a high risk area who was concerned about someone coming into the office on Monday to rob them when they were counting the collection. She asked the local police department about using pepper spray and they recommended to her that she gets a can of wasp spray instead. The wasp spray, they told her, can shoot up to twenty feet away and is a lot more accurate, while with the pepper spray they have to get too close to you and could overpower you. The wasp spray temporarily blinds an attacker until they get to the hospital for an antidote. She keeps a can on her desk in the office and it doesn't attract attention from people like a can of pepper spray would. She also keeps one nearby at home for home protection. You could also keep it in your car and it's perfectly legal.

MOTHER'S DAY QUIZ
With Thanks to Randy Miller

Name the Mother...

1. Guardian of the fields, streams and mountains. Ans. Mother Nature
2. Guardian of all the Slavs in the former Soviet Union. Ans. Mother Russia
3. Famous Irish Mom. Ans. Mother McCrea
4. The language you speak in your own country. Ans. Mother Tongue
5. What you call the amount of silver discovered at the Comstock mine. Ans. Mother Load
6. Pearly iridescent interior of a mollusk shell. Ans. Mother of Pearl
7. Land of one's birth. Ans. Mother Country
8. Your wife's (or husband's) mother. Ans. Mother-in-law.
9. Of Nursery rhyme fame. Ans. Mother Goose
10. Independent liberal magazine Ans. Mother Jones

A MEMORIAL SERVICE
With Thanks to Totoket Grange

Master... Patrons, let us take time now from our labors to pay tribute to our brothers and sisters who have passed on the the Great Grange above. Worthy Chaplain, will you lead us in the Memorial Service?

Chaplain... As we pause these moments to pay tribute to the memory of those of our Grange who have crossed to the Great beyond, we would not, however, give thought to our grief and our loss however keen it may be, but rather remember that our lives were blessed and enriched by their association through the years.

Master... Worthy Assistant Steward and Worthy Lady Assistant Steward, please escort the Lecturer and Chaplain to the Altar.

Lecturer... We cherish a living memory of these, our Brothers and Sisters of our Order, whose chairs are now vacant. We know that our Grange is richer because they have lived and labored amongst us. Make us ever grateful for the heritage that is ours, and may we be worthy, that when the portals swing open for us, we shall find outstretched hands to welcome us to that fair land, where parting is no more. And so we light a candle for those who wait beyond the vale.

Master... Worthy Secretary, will you read the roll of our departed ones?

(Secretary reads names while Chaplain lights candles)

Chaplain... AFTER GLOW. I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one. I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when day is done. I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days. I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun of happy memories that I leave behind when day is done. Do not stand at my grave and cry, I did not die. My memory lingers on.

Let us pray together "The Lord's Prayer".

Song of choice by all.

More Fill-ins or Your Can Use as Cut-aparts

The Truth About Whales

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah'.

The teacher asked, 'What if Jonah went to hell?' The little girl replied, 'Then you ask him'.

On Being The Oldest

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'honour' thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?'

Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

Turning Gray

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, 'Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?'

Her mother replied, 'Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.'

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, 'Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?'

A Biology Lesson

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood.. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, 'Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face.'

'Yes,' the class said.

'Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?'

A little fellow shouted, 'Cause your feet ain't empty.'

It's Common Sense

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: 'Take only ONE .. God is watching..'

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples.'

