





## From the Lecturer's Desk.....

As I write this column surrounded with two-foot high stacks of books on my dining room table and a very cluttered home due to work going on in it elsewhere, the thoughts of my discomfort and messiness pale when measured against the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina.

I sincerely hope that each of you individually have made some show of support for the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, or other groups dedicated to relieving the horrors and promoting the welfare of those who have lost everything except their own lives.

As another State Session approaches, I want to thank each of you who have rallied to my call for art work, photography, and entries for the Pen in Hand contests. Although there have not been as many entries as last year, I am pleased with the number I have been receiving.

I hope that you are enjoying the fall weather, colorful foliage, delicious apples, and are ready for another productive year of Grange work ahead for your communities.

*See you at State Session in Westford....*

*Susan Rotellini*

## The Sights and Sounds of Grange Fairs

We had the pleasure of visiting some Grange Fairs last month starting with the Dunstable Grange Fair on Saturday August 20, 2005 to Shelburne Grange Fair and Ware Grange Fair the following weekend on August 27, 2005.

We enjoyed such things as a Chicken BBQ and a country Band to classical music. Vegetable exhibits, needlework, photography, and artwork was plentiful, including chickens and roosters at Ware Grange Fair. See the Photo Gallery for more Grange Fair Photos on the Website.

### MASSACHUSETTS STATE GRANGE NEWS

Massachusetts State Grange, Inc.

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## From the Chaplain's Station

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As I write this we are in the aftermath of the destruction left in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Those of us who live in Massachusetts are thankful we do not live among the Gulf Coast: yet I remember well the 1938 Hurricane and the problems we faced when the storm receded. Problems which for the most part we were able to cope with.

Now our thoughts turn to other people who have lost everything: most precious some of the loved ones in the fury of the storm and the waters of the flood. Nature goes onward and not backward, therefore, we cannot undo what has taken place: nevertheless all of us can contribute in one way or another to the plight of our unfortunate Americans in devastated areas of our Country. Our contributions may, and in many cases, demand sacrifices on our part and as we make those sacrifices both great and small let us reflect on the Biblical admonition to do to others as we would like them to do for us. There is no guarantee that New England will never see another 1938.

I turn to the teachings of the Manuals of our Order, fortunately they have much to contemplate in this time of affiliation and pain. First lets reflect on the Fifth Degree. The victims of the great catastrophe need the Lesson of hope and perseverance to enable them to weather the storm and find that when the clouds and wind and rain subside there is still sunshine and beauty to enjoy. These survivors must place their Faith in God and also in mankind as we do the best we can to lighten heavy burdens.

In the Second Degree the Chaplain reminds us, DO, GOOD, HOPING FOR NOTHING IN RETURN AND YOUR REWARD WILL BE GREAT. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. There is many ways we can manifest our love, ways in which our love become God's love for his children.

The Third Degree Chaplain teaches us, TO BE HELPERS ONE OF ANOTHER FOR WE ARE ALL BRETHERN. Hurricane Katrina has proven this to be true: as people who are blessed contribute to people who have literally nothing.

Finally we can pray every day for those who suffer and for those who lessen the suffering that God will protect: guide and bless us all, always.

For those who have lost loved ones let them be reminded that there is a new and better world WHERE EVERLASTING SPRING ABIDES AND NEVER FADING FLOWERS.

State Grange will soon be upon us: and it will be an interesting Session. This is an election year and some officers will give up while others will assume tasks needed to be fulfilled. I will not be a candidate for State Chaplain. My final letter From the Chaplain's Station will be in November.

In Fraternal Love,  
*Brother Truman*

## Deaf & Hearing Awareness



## JUNIOR GRANGE NEWS

The Deaf & Hearing Awareness Committee would like to thank all the Granges that donated to the Deaf Funds. Every donation made a difference for either a child who is deaf or a Granger who's hearing needs assistance.

This past year many Granges took advantage of donating the **manual alphabet sign language cards** and the **emergency cards** to their local police, fire and emergency personnel. I plan to have a good supply of these cards with me at State Session for anyone that is still interested in them.

I also plan to have a supply of the **Deaf & Hearing Awareness sign language t-shirts** with me at State Session as well. I still have several of each size from Child Large to Adult Extra Large (sorry I'm out of 2X). They are still only \$10 and the proceeds go to the Deaf Funds.

For Granges that have collected Campbell Soup labels for Clarke School for the Deaf and/or used hearing aids for The Learning Center for the Deaf can bring them to me at State Session.

Hope to see you at State Session.

Kathy Gibson, Director  
Deaf & Hearing Awareness  
MA State Grange  
(508) 793-9524  
[madeafactivities@hotmail.com](mailto:madeafactivities@hotmail.com)

## LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Now that the Legislators are back from their summer break you can contact them or their aids. Feel free to contact them with any issue or concern that your Grange may have.

I am disappointed that with over 100 Granges in Massachusetts that none had a Legislative night. The reason that I say this is that not one Grange entered the contest that my department has.

It has been a pleasure serving you and any help that I can give you in the future please call on me.

Hope to see many of you at State Session.

*Carl St. Don, Legislative Director*

State session is just around the corner and we have a fun day planned for the Juniors on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Juniors attending should assemble at 9:00 outside the session room as we are invited to visit from 9:30 – 10:30. After we will continue our program at the hotel. For our program this year we will be attending "CAMP RED SNEAKER" where we will have games, crafts and lunch. A special guest will be visiting us after lunch. As we sit around the campfire, Steve Blunt storyteller and musician, will be entertaining us.

Youngsters who are attending the session with their parents are invited to join us. If you can give me an idea as to how many are attending from your Junior Grange and any others by calling 508-763-2795.

By now your Grange has received my letter regarding the formation of a State Junior Grange and also an announcement was in the last newsletter. If any child would like to join we will be glad to obligate them at State Session. As stated this is not to take the place of the Junior Granges that are now in existence but to give those children a chance to become members who are not in an immediate area of one. If anyone has questions please call me at the number above and I will be glad to answer any questions that you may have.

***Lets not forget that our Juniors and Youth are the future of our Granges and that we as Grange members should open our doors wide and extend a hand and say "Welcome to the Grange."***

See you at State Session and wear your RED on Saturday.

*Caroline St. Don, Junior Director*

**MASSACHUSETTS STATE GRANGE EDUCATIONAL AID FUND****2005 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**FIRST SCHOLARSHIPS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grange</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>Class</u>
Rebecca Weingart	Chesterfield	University of New England	2009
Lila West	Hope of Hadley	Western New England	2009

SUBSEQUENT SCHOLARSHIPS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grange</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>Class</u>
Katherine Ames	Boylston	St. Anselm College	2006
Eric Belseth	Uxbridge	Dean College	2006
Christine Benedix	Dracut	Northeastern University	2008
Mariah Bliss	Anawan	Franklin & Marshall	2007
Heidi Bremilst	Norfolk	Ferris State University	2006
Jessica Gale	No. Orange	Franklin Pierce College	2006
Jason Gregory	Swansea	Bridgewater State College	2008
Daniel Henry	Guiding Star	UMass Amherst	2007
April Jordan *	Ashby	Mt. Wachusett Community	2006
Ryan Lund *	Southwick	Bridgewater State College	2008
William McArthur	Norwell	University of Maine	2006
Rachel Mickola	Ashby	Briar College/France	2007
April Rose Prucnal	Ware	Bennington College	2006
Jean Snow	Williamsburg	Regis College	2008
Stefanie Trifilo	Ashby	Univ. of New Hampshire	2007
		West Virginia Wesleyan	2007

\* Bonus Award recipient

There were a total of 17 scholarships at \$820.00 each awarded and 2 Bonus Awards at \$225.00 each awarded.

### **Southwick Grange #46 Now Planning for New Grange Year**

The Southwick Grange is ready to begin a new Grange year. First, on behalf of the Grange, I would like to thank all of you for your support and contributions to the program for 2004-2005. All items that were made have been donated to the Southwick Coalition for the Giving Tree Program, the Food Pantry and local nursing homes.

This year's projects will include the making of bags for walkers which will be donated to local nursing homes. With the help from all of you, this year will also be a success. Once again thank you. Anyone who would like to find out more about these projects and/or would possibly be interested in help in our work may call: Donna Pike 413-569-0827.

Meeting for the Care, Share, Wear program are held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month unless noted differently below:

2005	2006
Oct. 4 & 18	January no meeting
Nov. 1 & 16	Feb. 7 & 21
December no meeting	March 7 & 21
	May 2 & 16
	June 6

All programs and meeting at Southwick Grange #46 are open to the public. Southwick Grange Meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month beginning with a pot luck supper at 6 PM. Contact person: Diana Tardiff, Program Coordinator. 413-569-3684.

## Events and Activities

### November 1

**NORFOLK #135** - 7:30 PM Planning meeting for Santa's Secret Workshop.

### November 2

**SHELBURNE #68** - 7:30 PM Service project for the ARC of Franklin County. Business meeting to follow program.

**WILLIAMSTOWN #366** - Thanksgiving Program. Nancy Lesarbeau. Covered Dish Supper - The Mattisons.

### November 4

**PITTSFIELD #14** - Meets in the Pittsfield Masonic Temple, 116 South St. (Rt. 7&9). Thanksgiving Dinner for family and friends at 6:15 PM. Bring a dish to share. Songs and stories by Woody Printz for entertainment. Thanksgiving program and Pie Auction. Questions call 413-442-1479.

### November 10

**LUNENBURG #169** - 7:30 PM Thanksgiving Program. Please note change from usual time due to Holiday.

### November 15

**NORFOLK #135** - 7:30 PM Lanterns, Lights and Luminarias. Using and creating decorative indoor and outdoor lighting for the holidays.

### November 16

**SHELBURNE #68** - 6:30 PM "Salute to Veterans." Pot luck supper followed by musical program. All area vets cordially invited.

### November 17

**BOROUGH POMONA #11**- Note 3rd Thursday. Community Service and Deaf Awareness in charge of Irene Brown and Jean Hall. Let's fill a Thanksgiving Basket.

### November 14

**HOLDEN #78** - Dues Paying Supper - Catered, Chaffins Congregational Church - 6 PM.

### November 18

**BAYPATH POMONA #9** - Meets Charlton. Thanksgiving Supper at 6:30 PM \$5 per person. Bring a dish to complement the turkey. Old Strubridge Village Interpreter. Everyone welcome.

### November 19

**NORFOLK #135** - 8-10 AM Pancake Breakfast. Adults \$5, Children \$3. Juice, coffee, cocoa, sausage and pancakes with syrup.

**SOUTHWICK #46** - Second Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair. 9-3 PM. Handmade items and light lunch available. For an application send a self addressed, stamped envelop to: Donna Pike, 2 Field Street, Southwick, MA 01077.

### November 21

**WARE #164** - "Veterans' Day Program". Richard Winslow and John Soper. Everyone is welcome. New Braintree Grange invited.

### November 28

**HOLDEN #78** - Surprise Program in charge of Worthy Lecturer.

**WESTBOROUGH #116** - Bring something for The Food Pantry. A representative from The Food Pantry will be our guest.

**NOTE: TO THOSE GRANGES THAT HAVE SUBMITTED SEVERAL EVENTS IN ADVANCE. CHANGES TO THE EVENTS SUBMITTED WILL NOT BE MADE UNLESS RECEIVED WITHIN THE PROPER PUBLISHING TIMES AS OUTLINED ON THIS PAGE.**

## Submission Dates for Events and Activities Cut and Save this schedule

**November issue** - send December dates by October 1st.

**December issue** - send January dates by November 1st.

**January issue** - send February dates by December 1st.

**February issue** - March dates by January 1st.

**March issue** - send April dates by February 1st.

**April issue** - send May dates by March 1st.

**May issue** - send June dates by April 1st.

**June issue** - send July and August dates by May 1st.

**July/August issue** - Send September dates by June 1st. **Please note there is not an issue prepared in July or August.**

**September issue** - send October dates by August 1st.

**October issue** - send November dates by September 1st.

### Mark your 2005 Calendars

**Oct. 27-30th** - 133rd State Session - Westford Regency.

**Nov. 15-19th** - 139th National Grange Annual Convention - Columbus, OH

### Dear Worthy Grange Members:

**I am the daughter of Jennie Glass. Both my Mom and Dad were very active in the Massachusetts State Grange and always attended the State and New England Conferences. She was a Lecturer and put on many shows. My Dad, Joe Glass, passed away in 2000. They were both very active in the Kingston Grange and Mayflower South Pomona. My Mom is currently in a nursing home and would enjoy receiving cards or notes from her friends in the Grange. She is in: Radius Health Care Center, 123 South Street, Room 213, Plymouth, MA 02360.**

**Sincerely: Fran Gibbons**

## Mass State Grange Website Statistics

Several requests for Website statistics have recently been made. The following is the results from launch to date.

### Total Pages Viewed

Aug 4,504  
 July 2,440  
 June 2,476  
 May 3,330  
 April 2,975

### Hour Most Viewed

9PM (568 pages viewed)  
 3PM (357 pages viewed)  
 8PM (220 pages viewed)  
 8PM (383 pages viewed)  
 8PM (367 pages viewed)

### Day of Month Most Viewed

2<sup>nd</sup> (520 pages viewed)  
 12<sup>th</sup> (233 pages viewed)  
 11<sup>th</sup> (151 pages viewed)  
 25<sup>th</sup> (246 pages viewed)  
 16<sup>th</sup> (221 pages viewed)

### Top Five Pages Viewed

**Aug:** Photo Gallery (1,622 times)  
 Find A Grange (156 times)  
 Calendar (126 times)  
 State Grange News (115 times)  
 Grange Fairs (105 times)

**July:** Photo Gallery (301 times)  
 Calendar (122 times)  
 Find A Grange (122 times)  
 Grange Fairs (89 times)  
 Contact Us (71 times)

**June:** Photo Gallery (572 times)  
 Find A Grange (108 times)  
 Calendar (101 times)  
 State Grange News (79 times)  
 History (63 times)

**May:** Photo Gallery (1,416 times)  
 Calendar (155 times)  
 Find A Grange (141 times)  
 Feature of the Month (73 times)  
 State Grange News (68 times)

**April:** Photo Gallery (803 times)  
 Calendar (135 times)  
 Educational Aid (98 times)  
 Youth Young Adults (89 times)  
 Find A Grange (83 times)

## HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

Continuing from last month. With the help of the project, a Farmer in Action member got an egg business started two years ago with a living loan of 40 layer chickens. This year he is expanding his operation to 80 layers. He sells his free-range eggs to community members and community visitors at the low price of \$1.33 a dozen. Still other members are raising meat goats and have sold goats to local residents for barbecues, family reunions and other events. By providing farm fresh healthy produce, eggs and meat in a region of low average income, high rates of obesity, and limited choices for food shopping, Farmers in Action is substantially contributing to increased food security. To be continued.

Again thank you to Granges and individuals for their continued support of Heifer International. We have donations in Memory of members who have died. What a wonderful way to remember members with a living gift.

We have received some nice articles for the raffle table, and we have reached our goal of \$5,000 plus. Thank you!!!

Barbara J. Nichols  
 Heifer International Representative

## Middlesex North Pomona # 16

The last meeting of Middlesex North Pomona #16 was held at Dracut Grange Hall on May 14, 2005. After a moving Memorial Service, Edith Miller and L. Ray Smith were each honored with a Master's Award for Excellence for their dedicated service to Middlesex North Pomona over the years.

The Award for Public Service was then presented to Lawrence and Marjorie Shea. Their commitment to their state and community, and service to the Dunstable Congregational Church were acknowledged and several members of their family added personal details.

## Connecticut Valley Pomona Grange #19 Launches Collaborative Website

Connecticut Valley Pomona voted to build and run a collaborative website for their Pomona and individual Granges. When asked how long it would take, Michael Muller said he could have the site up and running in just a few days since he would be using software he was familiar with, and by that weekend it was indeed up and running. Check it out at <http://www.MA-Pomona19.org>.

Each Grange has their own set of pages to post information, as well as an interactive calendar to post events and a file area to upload meeting minutes, articles, or whatever they wish for visitors to download. During the discussion of the project it was noted how great it would be to finally have every Grange's events displayed on a single page... each month's events listed all in one place!

And no webmaster stands between a Grange's desire to list their event and that event actually showing up on the website. It's completely automated and instantaneous. Each Grange simply needs one point person to be responsible for the administration of their Grange's page, though tasks can be delegated to other people in their Grange, ie; one person uploads the minutes, another posts the events, etc. Just log in, click a button, type in the text, and boom... it's on the website.

One aspect of the software being used is that people can create accounts on the website and subscribe to the various Granges for email updates. This way, if a neighboring Grange were to post an event happening at their hall everyone who has subscribed to their calendar postings will get an email delivered to them! Likewise, if a news posting, or a file were uploaded, they would also receive an email notifying them.

Michael said that the next version of the software, to be installed in September, will include corkboards for announcement postings by members, and even video and photo albums. At that point the real power of a collaborative website will become apparent. When members can share ideas for membership drives and programs, and discuss the various things they are doing, amazing things will start to happen. Committees can post their reports. Members can upload photos of events. Granges can upload virtual tours of their halls with video files. Multi-Grange projects can be easily coordinated. The sky is the limit.

Every Grange member, including you, is enthusiastically encouraged to create an account on the Pomona website and check it out, even those across the state in different Pomonas.

Michael is also offering the software to other Pomonas if they wish to have their own collaborative website. He may be reached at [michael@mullertech.com](mailto:michael@mullertech.com) or by calling (413) 320-5336.

Having a good-looking, easy to use, busy website with lots of information that both Grange members and the public at large can access and use is incredibly important for our Granges today. We hope to see you there.

### Membership Tip of the Month Invest in Promotion

Is your Grange stumped on how to get new members and has limited resources? If so, then at your next meeting, talk about how you can invest in promoting your Grange. Take a look at everything you do and how you can use it to put your Grange front and center in the eyes of your community.

Spend a few dollars on a custom membership brochure/application or on labels to go on a brochure from your State or the National Grange. If you have public dinners, order or make Grange place mats for your tables. If you have a newsletter, print extra copies to hand out. Look at ordinary things and image a Grange emblem or your Grange's name on them.

The advantage in having something to promote your Grange with is twofold. First, it does make people aware of your Grange. It may also change their perception of your Grange. Second, when your members have something to hand out, they will feel pride in doing so.

When your members are feeling pride, they will be much more successful in recruiting new members. When you invest in promoting your Grange you will significantly increase the opportunity to gain new members for your Grange.

### Leadership Tip of the Month Be Bold

Good leaders inspire others to follow by being bold. If you want to inspire your fellow members, you must start thinking and doing things boldly. This means that you will choose a path that will not be easy.

When you chose to act boldly, you will have to leave your comfort zone and stretch yourself as a Grange leader. You may propose an activity that is difficult or you may set a goal that will challenge your fellow members. When President Kennedy set the goal to land a man on the moon by the end of the 1960's, no one knew how it would be accomplished. That is an example of a bold goal.

Leaders don't have to know how we are going to get to our goals. Often, just by setting the goal and focusing on it, we galvanize the members to find the way to turn the vision into reality. Once the bold goal is set and the members have bought into it, you can start building teams to work toward the goal. You will grow as a leader because you will have to bring those who are not thinking boldly onto the team.

Be bold in your actions and goals and become a better leader in your Grange!

### Membership Recognition

#### 50 Years

Gwendolyn Collins	Ashland #124
Dorethea Barden	Palmer #241
Jeanette Tesny	Palmer #241
Philip Gilchrest	Shirley #254
Marjorie Jean Crawford	Shrewsbury #101

#### 80 Years

Priscille Dryer Allen	Plainfield #232
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**Change of Address**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grange:** \_\_\_\_\_ **No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please remove from mailing list** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please change address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please add to mailing list** \_\_\_\_\_

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