



LECTURERS' NEWSLETTER

May - June 2019

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Greetings and welcome to Spring...

It is hard to believe that it is May already. If you haven't already thought about your Photo, "A Number" and Talent entries for Let's Celebrate, now is the time.

PHOTO CONTEST – Photos will be judged at Cheshire Grange Hall on Sat. June 8. Entries may be mailed or given to me ahead of time, or brought to Cheshire Grange Hall between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. the day of the judging.

This contest is open to all Grangers. Best in Show picture will go to National for Judging. There are Six Categories – America The Beautiful; Animals; Grangers In Action; Family Celebrations; Historic Places or Events; and, Antique Vehicles.

Rules: 1. Only prints accepted. No slides in any category.

2. Participants may enter all categories but are limited to one entry in each category.

3. Entries must have been taken by the participant since the last judging.

4. A rigid backing is required for all photographs. No glass or frame is allowed.

5. Print may be processed commercially, but it must have been taken by the entrant. Remember, this is a picture you took.

6. Size of backing: No smaller than 4" x 6" or larger than 11" x 14".

7. Name, Category, Grange and Number must be placed on the back.

Grange Sunday will be held at Cheshire Grange Hall on Sunday, June 9th. The hall will be open at 10:00 a.m. for viewing contest entries followed by our State Chaplain's Service at 11:00. Talent and "A Number" competition will begin at 1:00 p.m.

TALENT CONTEST – STATE RUN-OFFS will be held at Cheshire Grange Hall, Cheshire, as part of Grange Sunday. There will be no Pomona Judging. All entries will go directly to the State Judging. Performance time allowed is six minutes. State winners will be eligible to perform at Lecturers' Conference in Massachusetts in August and at National Session. Money from the Lecturers' Travel fund will be used for the winner to attend Lecturers' Conference.

"A NUMBER" CONTEST – Theme "Holidays" – This can be on any recognized holiday. Any number suitable for a Grange Meeting is eligible. Time Limit: 6 minutes (includes set-up and performance). All entries will go directly to State for judging. Numbers will be judged on presentation, quality, audience appeal, appropriateness of theme, and originality.

One question that I have been asked is if it has to be on only one holiday. The answer is yes – just one.

Hopefully this has been helpful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Hope to see you around the State and at Let's Celebrate.

...Marge

SHARED NUMBERS...

Memorial Program: Down Memory Lane From the papers of Maryanne Stone of Manchester Grange

Master: Let us take time from our labors to pay tribute to our Brothers and Sisters who have preceded us to a newer and better home above.

Chaplain: It is fitting that we take this time to pay tribute to the memory of our fellow members who, having finished their labors here, have laid down their implements on earth and entered the paradise not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. In our loss, let us remember that all teachings of Nature are our assurance, and the promise of our Master above is our refuge: "Because I live, you shall also live "

Song: Abide With Me, Verses 1 and 4 #90

Poem: Tribute to Our Friends by Helen Steiner Rice (adaptation)

They will live in the hearts of friends they made
and be known always for the foundation they laid
Because goodness and fairness never die --
they go shining on like sun in the sky
just as honor and truth endure forever
death is powerless to destroy or to sever ...
so their gallant souls have taken flight
into a land where there is no night,
they are not dead ,they have only gone on
to a brighter more wonderful dawn .

Master: The Assistant Stewards will please escort the Graces and our Chaplain to aid in decorating our altar.

Lecturer: Flowers are fragrant reminders of God's mercy and goodness. Their beautiful colors console us in time of sorrow and strengthen our belief in a land of eternal spring and never fading flowers. At this time, led by Worthy Flora, we place a floral tribute in the basket before our altar to honor the memory of our Brothers and Sisters who have passed on before us.

[Flora, Ceres, Pomona, Chaplain place flowers in basket]

Chaplain: Eternal Father, Master of us all, we thank Thee for the living memory of our brothers and sisters who have left our sacred circle to enter the Great Grange above. We know that our order is richer, and the world is richer, because they have lived and labored among us. Make us forever grateful for the heritage that is ours and let us be worthy to carry on the work of our Order ...we ask in the name of the one who taught us to pray: [the Lord's Prayer]

Lecturer: God is a Shepherd and His people the sheep of His pasture. It is our sacred charge to keep in safety those within the fold and to reclaim the wandering. God, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove some of his sheep from our flock. While it is our loss, it is but their gain. Those Husbandmen and Matrons aspired after a higher and broader knowledge and are now living in the warmth of His great love and care. We will now present the 23rd psalm with candles.

Reader 1: {light tall white candle}
The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

Lecturer: How dark this world would be if this light should go out or dim. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

Reader 2: {light green candle}
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. He restoreth my soul.

Lecturer: Green is the everlasting color. The name of God is everlasting. It will endure forever.

Reader 3: {light blue candle}
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Lecturer: Blue represents truth. God is beyond the blue but from his throne above, He is watching over us.

Reader 4: {light purple candle}
Yea though I walk through the Valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff, they will comfort me.

Lecturer: Purple is the royal color. The robes of the King are purple; white represents the white throne, the seat of God's power. Evil thoughts are seeds from which black fruits of sin are raised. So we should keep our thoughts pure and white and we will not do evil things.

Reader 5: {light yellow candle}
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou annointest my head with oil. My Cup runneth over.

Lecturer: Yellow represents the bread of life which is His Son. Trust God, work honestly and thou will be fed.

Reader 6: {light orange candle}
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Lecturer: Orange represents the glory of God as it is the most dominant color in the sunset. The great painters of the Middle Ages represented the flame of the burning bush as being orange in color which in their day was understood to stand for Jehovah.

Song: Beyond the Sunset # 57

Chaplain: Benediction:
And now may the Grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the fellowship and communion of His Holy Spirit be with us and abide with us now and forever more. Amen.

Interesting Veterans Statistics off the Vietnam Memorial Wall With Thanks to Enfield Grange

There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.

The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 61 years since the first casualty.

The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, MA listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps LCpl Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.

There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.
39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.

8,283 were just 19 years old.

The largest age group, 33,103 were 18 years old.

12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old.

5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old.

One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old.
997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam.
1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.
31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.
54 soldiers attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia. I wonder why so many from one school
8 Women are on the Wall, Nursing the wounded.
244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall.
Beallsville, Ohio with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons.
West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation.
There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.
The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths.

The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 - 2,415 casualties were incurred.

The Marines of Morenci - They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop 5,058) had ever known and cheered. They enjoyed roaring beer busts. In quieter moments, they rode horses along the Coronado Trail, stalked deer in the Apache National Forest. And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.

The Buddies of Midvale - LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez, Tom Gonzales were all boyhood friends and lived on three consecutive streets in Midvale, Utah on Fifth, Sixth and Seventh avenues. They lived only a few yards apart. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field. And they all went to Vietnam. In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be killed. LeRoy was killed on Wednesday, Nov. 22, the fourth anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination. Jimmy died less than 24 hours later on Thanksgiving Day. Tom was shot dead assaulting the enemy on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

FUN QUESTIONS and SHORT STORIES with Thanks to Vernon Grange

What did the newspapers say to the root beer float?

Ans. What's the scoop?

What is a trees favorite drink?

Ans. Root beer

How do you make a duck float?

Ans. Put it in water.

A man was abducted by pirates one day. They were going to force him to walk the plank, but before they did, he yelled "STOP". The pirates asked what he wanted. He answered back, "I want one last thing before I die." So they asked him what it was. He responded "root beer". They look at him funny but gave it to him. He would have died that day, but luckily 'root beer floats'.

TWO FUN GAMES with Thanks to Ekonk Grange

THE CEREAL CHALLENGE ... Two Volunteers and a table are needed. May is the month when we really enjoy a cold breakfast. You will each have the top of a cereal box that has been cut into eight pieces. The first one to put them together correctly wins.

LIGHT AS A FEATHER ... Again two volunteers and a longer table are needed. May is the time for baby chicks to be born. Each player is given a feather. They must move it from the starting line to the other end of the table by blowing on it. (If you have younger members they could do this on the floor.)

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS

(These make great cut-aparts to get everyone involved in the program)

More than half of the coastline of the entire United States is in Alaska.

The Amazon River pushes so much water into the Atlantic Ocean that, more than one hundred miles at sea off the mouth of the river, one can dip fresh water out of the ocean. The volume of water in the Amazon River is greater than the next eight largest rivers in the world combined and three times the flow of all rivers in the United States.

Antarctica is the only land on our planet that is not owned by any country. Ninety percent of the world's ice covers Antarctica. This ice also represents seventy percent of all the fresh water in the world. As strange as it sounds, however, Antarctica is essentially a desert; the average yearly total precipitation is about two inches. Although covered with ice (all but 0.4% of it is ice) Antarctica is the driest place on the planet, with an absolute humidity lower than the Gobi desert.

Brazil got its name from the nut, not the other way around.

Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world combined. Canada is an Indian word meaning 'Big Village'.

Next to Warsaw, Chicago has the largest Polish population in the world.

Woodward Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, carries the designation M-1, so named because it was the first paved road anywhere.

Los Angeles' full name is: El Pueblo de Nuestra Senors la Reina de Los Angeles de Porciunculs.

The term 'The Big Apple' was coined by touring jazz musicians of the 1930's who used the slang expression 'apple' for any town or city. Therefore, to play New York City is to play the big time – The Big Apple.

There are more Irish in New York City than in Dublin, Ireland; more Italians in New York City than in Rome, Italy; and more Jews in New York City than in Tel Aviv.

There are no natural lakes in the state of Ohio, everyone is manmade.

The smallest island with country status is Pitcairn in Polynesia, at just 1.75 square miles.

The first city to reach a population of 1 million people was Rome, Italy in 133 B.C. There is a city called Rome on every Continent.

Siberia contains more than 25% of the world's forests.

The actual smallest sovereign entity in the world is the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. It is located in the city of Rome, Italy, and has an area of two tennis courts and, as of 2001, had a population of 80 – 20 less than the Vatican. It is a sovereign entity under international law, just as the Vatican is.

In the Sahara Desert, there is a town named Tidikelt, Algeria, which did not receive a drop of rain for ten years. Technically, though, the driest place on Earth is in the valleys of the Antarctic near Ross Island. There has been no rainfall there for two million years.

Spain literally means 'the land of rabbits'.

St. Paul, Minnesota, was originally called Pig's Eye after a man named Piere 'Pig's Eye' Parrant who set up the first business there.

The deepest hole ever drilled by man is the Dola Superdeep Borehole, in Russia. It reached a depth of 40,226 feet or 7.62 miles. It was drilled for scientific research and gave up some unexpected discoveries, one of which was a huge deposit of hydrogen – so massive that the mud coming from the hole was boiling with it.

The Eisenhower Interstate System requires that one mile in every five must be straight. These straight sections are usable airstrips in time of war or other emergencies.

The water of Angel Falls (the world's highest) in Venezuela drops 3,212 feet. They are 15 times higher than Niagara Falls.

THE IMAGES OF A MOTHER with Thanks to Lyme Grange

4 years of age My Mommy can do anything!
8 years of age My Mom knows a lot! A whole lot!
12 years of age My Mother doesn't really know quite everything.
14 years of age Naturally, Mother doesn't know that either.
16 years of age Mother? She's hopelessly old-fashioned.
18 years of age That old women? She's hopelessly out of date.
25 years of age Well, she might know a little bit about it.
35 years of age Before we decide, let's get Mom's opinion.
45 years of age Wonder what Mom would have thought about it?
65 years of age Wish I could talk it over with Mom!

USA QUIZ

What is the northernmost city in the United States?

Ans. Barrow, Alaska

What is the southernmost city in the United States?

Ans. Hilo, Hawaii (Key West is the southernmost in the 48 contiguous states)

What is the oldest National Park?

Ans. Hot Springs Reservation – 1832 (National Park system 1921)
Yellowstone – 1872

What is the only state that was ruled by a King?

Hawaii

Where is the Cincinnati Airport located?

Ans. Kentucky

Which is further north – South Dakota or North Carolina?

Ans. South Dakota

Who gave the US the Statue of Liberty

Ans. France

Mattapan Square is part of what city?

Ans. Boston