

STATE GRANGE



Worthy President

Corey Spence
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NEWS FROM STATE

CHARLTON GRANGE HOSTS SUBORDINATE DEGREE DAY

Charlton Grange will be hosting the first through fourth degrees on Saturday, April 6th!

There will be 9:30AM coffee, with the first and second degrees starting at 10AM. Lunch will be provided. Following lunch the third and fourth degrees will commence.

Each degree teaches us and makes us more knowledgeable through the symbols like the Ax, Plow, Harrow, Spade, Pruning Knife, and Hoe. The first four degrees are based on the seasons of the year.

The first degree represents Spring and gathering to enjoy fraternity.

The second degree represents Summer, when we seek advancement and education.

The third degree represents Fall and reminds us to be charitable and share with others.

The fourth degree represents Winter and allows us to celebrate and enjoy the fruits of our labors.

A contingent of Massachusetts State Grange members will do the degrees for us. If you would like more Grange knowledge, this is the perfect opportunity,

Mission Statement:

The Massachusetts State Grange brings people together to build stronger communities by encouraging agriculture and environmental sustainability, community service and fostering future leaders.

CHARLTON GRANGE PAST MASTERS

1875 thru 1933

W. Lewis Prindle
Osgood Freeman
Esther D. Moriarty
Merton Hubbard
Everett S. Adams
Doris H. Adams
Joanne V. Grniet
Richard Bowers
Lewis C. Prindle
A.M. Dodge
Carlos Bond
Harris M. Dodge
Chauncey W. Pike
H. F. Clark
George R. Taylor
Henry H. Baker
Edward M. Bowers
Loren Stevens
William Casey
John G. Hammond
Myron P. Baylies
Ernest Rich
Rosa E. Bowers
Joseph Carrington
William E. Taft
Albert Freeman
Rufus Brown

Walter Bates 1934
Cyrus Bond 1935
Herbert Gale 1936-38
Raymond Davidson 1939-40
Lincoln Adams 1941-42
Rodney Fiske 1943-44
Marion Martel 1945
Rodney Fiske 1946
Edith Hammond 1947-49
A. Warren Carpenter 1950-52
Mathilda Sheridan 1953
Florence Carpenter 1954
E. Dorothy Smith 1955-56
William Walker Sr. 1957-58
John Wright 1959
L.F. McCloud Sr. 1960-66
Lester V. Stanley 1967-68
Raymond Davidson 1969-86
William Walker Sr. 1987
Ruth Davidson 1988-91
Gertrude Lacey 1992
Raymond Gilbert 1993
Mildred Gray 1994-97
George Tucker 1998-2005
Norma Bouchard 2006-09
Barbara Zajac 2010-11
Rhoda Taylor 2012-13
★ Roland Parent 2014-21



★ living Past Master

CHARLTON GRANGE OFFICERS

2023-2024

Worthy President / Master

Eric Borgeson 508-248-1001



Vice President / Overseer

Scott Herbert 508-847-4493

Lecturer

Rich Laba 508-505-5159

Steward

Eric Willard 774-334-1973

Asst. Steward

Joel Desrochers 508-248-3082

Lady Asst. Steward

Jayne Kackley 508-248-7813

Chaplain

Craig Bellisario 508-410-3122

Treasurer

Evelyn Seelig 774-200-1694

Secretary

Matt Carlson 774-200-6754

Gatekeeper

Joseph Gaucher 774-239-1604

Ceres

Elizabeth Herbert 508-847-4493

Pomona

Melissa Borgeson 508-248-1002

Flora

Brodi Willard 402-699-9448

Musician

Evelyn Sellig 774-200-1694



CHARLTON GRANGE #92

THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

CHARTERED APRIL 6TH, 1875

APRIL 2024 COMMUNICATION



Monthly Business Meeting
First Tuesday of Each Month
6:30PM

A MEMBER OF

SUNRISE POMONA GRANGE #9

MASSACHUSETTS STATE GRANGE



GRANGE HAPPENINGS

GRANGE MONTHLY MEETING

Our Grange hosted its annual seed swap on March 5th in place of our normal March business meeting. It was well attended from the citizens of Charlton. A Junior Granger and BSA Troop member provided an excellent activity for children in attendance as well.

There were dozens of varieties of seed available for flowers, fruit, and vegetables. One special item of note were flower seeds from the 1930's provided by our Grange Steward, Eric Willard. Please reach out to him if the seeds germinate.

This is the fifth year our Grange has hosted this event and is a great way to get the community more involved within the Grange.



Seeds available at the Annual Seed Swap

SOUTHBRIDGE GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

In keeping true to the agricultural and community roots of the Charlton Grange, the Southbridge Garden Club met at the Grange for a special lecture night on March 19th. The Southbridge Garden Club held a garden design class and lecture provided by a local landscape group named Christie Dustman & Company. In addition, there were free seeds available to jump start a new garden.

Grange members that attended note it was an inspiring, informative, and energetic program. For more information about the Southbridge Garden Club please visit www.facebook.com/SouthbridgeGardenClub.

NEWS FROM OUR SECRETARY

Membership fees for 2024 are now due, please see our Worthy Secretary Matthew Carlson to submit payment. Dues for 2024 are \$30 per adult member with Grange Youth being free. Dues cards are currently being mailed out.

GRANGE PHOTOS



Charlton Farmers Market, early Fall 2023

POWERED BY THE GRANGE

CHARLTON FARMERS MARKET RETURNS

The Charlton Grange will once again be hosting the Charlton Farmers Market on the Town Common every Wednesday during the summer! Our first market will be on May 8th.

The Farmers Market will have returning vendors Farm46, Charlton Bee Company, Flying Wagon Farm, Elizabeth's Custom Bakes, the Ever So Humble Pie Company, and many more. Let's not forget that produce from Wildberry Acres Farm, pizza from Fired Up Pizza, and lemonade from BSA Troop 165 will have the Town Common buzzing again!



AGRICULTURE IN ACTION EXPO

Sponsored by the State Grange

This free-to-attend Massachusetts Agriculture in Action Expo has something to offer the whole family and is a testament to the commitment in supporting and promoting the rich tapestry of agriculture that defines our state.

The Expo will be held April 20, 2024 at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester at the Hogan Campus Center. The kick-off for the event will be at 9:30 am with the Expo officially opening at 10:00 am and running until 6:00 pm. The farmer's market will run from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April Meeting.....April 2nd
- Grange Degree Day.....April 6th
- Massachusetts Ag in Action Expo.....April 20th
- May Meeting.....May 7th
- Charlton Farmers Market (every Wed.).....May 8th
- Sunrise Pomona Degree Night (Ware).....May 17th
- June Meeting.....June 4th

POSITION OF THE MONTH

What is the role of the Grange Grace, Flora

Along with the other "Graces", Ceres and Pomona, Flora adds beauty and grace to our meeting by symbolically representing both agriculture and the best virtues of women. Flora is represented by flowers.

The Flora assists in the Grange rituals. Additional duties include sending out cards, fruit, & flowers to Grange members per request.

NECROLOGY

Richard Harwood

Richard M. Harwood, 93, died Friday, April 23, 2021 after a period of declining health. He was born on May 17, 1927 in Southbridge, and was a lifelong resident. After high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy & served in World War II. He was a farmer from his childhood days, tending to the property held by his family since 1789. He relished cutting the lawn, haying, raising animals and his horses. He was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church of Southbridge. He belonged to the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge since 1961. He was a member of the Southbridge Historical Society, the Southbridge Rotary, and had been a Grange member since 1949.

NOTE FROM SUNRISE POMONA

All Grange members are invited to the Pomona Degree Night in the Ware Grange Hall, 297 Belchertown Road in Ware at 7:30 pm.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE SOMETHING INCLUDED IN THE NEXT COMMUNICATION

PLEASE EMAIL ERIC WILLARD AT ERWILLARD@GMAIL.COM