



## SIMSBURY GRANGE NO. 197: BUILDING ON OUR FOUNDATIONS

For over 80 years, Simsbury Grange has been meeting the needs of their local community through community service, support for agricultural initiatives and local legislation, family-oriented events, and other activities relevant to their area.

Simsbury Grange has a rich tradition and heritage in the Farmington Valley.

Organized on Nov 5, 1931, Simsbury Grange saw rapid growth over the years, with many dedicated members serving in numerous offices in the county (Pomona) and State Grange. Recently the Grange has been in a rebuilding phase, working to increase membership and reestablish our presence in the community. We have secured our wonderful historic building as a resource for Grange members and the community to host a variety of events and initiatives.

Simsbury Grange is best known for its Agricultural Fair each September, which encourages young people and adults alike to nurture the arts of: growing flowers, vegetables, herbs, and fruits; baking; practicing traditional crafts such as needlework and knitting; creating artwork, including painting and Lego design; and capturing images with photography.

Other Simsbury Grange community projects include:

- volunteering in conjunction with existing community service organizations

- donating non-perishable food and clothing (including linens and shoes, via our accessible St. Pauly shed) locally and beyond
- keeping traditions and skills from the past alive
- supporting and promoting ecologically sustainable programs including horticulture, gardening, environmental/green initiatives, and traditional crafts
- providing a wonderful space for any type of community gathering or event – or to nurture a new small business (for example, Zumba and Irish step dancing)
- initiating and participating in the legislative process at all levels of government

Today, meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at Simsbury Grange Hall, 236 Farms Village Road, West Simsbury.



### Simsbury Grange No. 197

### Membership Inquiry Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like more information on membership opportunities at Simsbury Grange No. 197.

Please complete this form and mail to: **Simsbury Grange, c/o Barbara Friedland, President, 5 Holcomb Hill Rd., West Granby, CT 06090**  
**A Grange representative will be in touch soon!**

## What is the Grange?

The Grange is the nation's oldest general farm and community public interest organization. Originally founded in 1867, today the Grange represents nearly 140,000 grassroots Grange members affiliated with 2,100 local, county, and state Grange chapters located in 42 states.



In the State of Connecticut, there are over 50 communities with Grange chapters.

Grange membership is non-exclusive. Members are not limited by age, gender, culture, race, or faith. In the ever-changing community, the Granges across the State of Connecticut provide diverse services. Our organization is comprised of all types of individuals – including men and women of all ages, from tradespeople and small business owners to educators and professionals.

The Grange and its members provide service to not only agriculture and rural communities on a wide variety of issues, but the Grange has evolved into an organization concerned with the needs of all people - rural, suburban and urban - including economic development, education, family endeavors, and legislation designed to assure strong and viable communities across America.

With a non-partisan legislative voice at the local, state, and national level, the Grange vigorously encourages member participation in the political process.

The fellowship, recreation, and social activities in the Grange are developed with the family in mind – children and senior citizens alike are welcome. Competitions in music, art, public speaking, crafts, and a variety of other activities are an important part of every Grange's agenda.

In 1867 the National Grange became the first nationwide farm organization. It is the first national organization to give full voice and vote to women, 50 years before Congress adopted the same.



National Grange Founder  
Oliver Hudson Kelley

The Grange's passionate, non-partisan style of grassroots vigor has since continued to ensure that the average citizen is fully represented in public policy dialogue.

Today's Grange works to improve conditions for rural, suburban, and urban Americans.

The Granges in Connecticut are very active within their local communities on a daily basis.

The centerpiece of Grange activity is community service. In Connecticut, each Grange determines what is needed in their individual communities and works to fill the void.



### Simsbury Grange No. 197

Meeting Location:

Simsbury Grange Hall

236 Farms Village Road, Route 309

West Simsbury, CT 06092

(860) 413-9567

info@SimsburyGrange.org

[www.SimsburyGrange.org](http://www.SimsburyGrange.org)

[www.CTStateGrange.org](http://www.CTStateGrange.org)



## Simsbury Grange No. 197



## Community Grown

