

All About Ashford

Est. 1714

The Ashford Grange

NATIONAL GRANGE
OF THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY



Photo courtesy of National Grange

All About Ashford is a service provided by the Babcock Library, 25 Pompey Hollow Road, Ashford, CT 06278

The Ashford Grange was organized on December 11, 1898, and reorganized in 1907 after a four-year hiatus. One of more than 2000 hometown Granges across the United States, the Ashford Grange is under the auspices of the Connecticut State Grange and the National Grange.

The National Grange organization was founded in 1867 as a non-profit, non-partisan fraternal organization which advocates for rural America. The National Grange is known for its strong history in grass roots activism, family values and community service.

For more than 100 years the Ashford Grange has offered programs for the whole family including Junior Grange for children ages 4-13. Full membership with voting rights and the ability to hold office begins at age 13. Grange Youth is dedicated to members from age 14 to 35.

Individuals involved in junior and grange youth attend leadership seminar camps, and compete in contests to foster a wide range of skills and abilities.

Grange members volunteer in their communities and raise money for important causes.

Each November members attend an annual National convention which meets in a different State each year. Policies adopted in community granges and passed by State Grange are debated, for approval on the national level.

Over the years the Grange has been instrumental in bringing about avenues for rural access to such services as rural mail delivery and the availability of electrical power grids. Granges also support local reforms and assist the deaf and hard of hearing with contributions and awareness campaigns.



The Ashford Grange has donated to the Fire Department and to town youth groups. Most recently the Grange has donated dictionaries to the third grade through the National Grange dictionary project for third graders. The Ashford Grange was known for its vigorous support of our military in World War II.

Currently, the Ashford Grange is best known for providing refreshments for the town's annual Memorial Day observance at Pompey Hollow Park.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Sunday of the month at Knowlton Memorial Hall. A pot luck lunch begins at 12:30pm, followed by the monthly program at 2:00pm. Interested persons are always welcome.

To learn more about the Grange nationally and in Connecticut please visit the website CTstategrange.org.

For information about the Ashford Grange specifically please contact Membership Chair Evelyn Urda at 860-429-5368, or Master-President Thomas Wilson at 860-429-0373. Or email us at Ashford@CTStateGrange.org