



WASHINGTON STATE Grange News

September 2020

Informing Grangers Since 1912

109th Year No. 7

NORTH RIVER GRANGE



HUMPTULIPS GRANGE



MOUNTAIN VALLEY GRANGE



GOLDENDALE GRANGE



Community Service Reports Reviewed; Contest Winners Selected

A team of judges gathered on July 15 and 16 at the State Grange Headquarters in Olympia to review the community service reports submitted by Junior, Subordinate and Pomona Granges from across the state. Judges evaluated the effectiveness of each project listed in the reports and the

impact of the projects upon the community.

Upon final review, the judges named the award winners for the 2020 Grange Community Service Contest. This year's award winners are:

Class 1 – Subordinate Granges with 35 or less members: First Place – North River; Second

Place – Rose Valley; Third Place – Quillisascut; Fourth Place – Greenwood Park.

Class 2 – Subordinate Granges with 36-60 members: First Place – Mountain Valley; Second Place – South Union; Third Place – Fargher Lake; Fourth Place – Oakview.

Class 3 – Subordinate Granges

with 61 or more members: First Place – Humptulips; Second Place – Goldendale; Third Place – Newaukum; Fourth Place – Waller Road.

Class 4 – Pomona Granges: First Place – Thurston County Pomona; Second Place – Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona; Third Place – Snake River Pomona.

A summary of the winning subordinate Grange projects are as follows:

Fargher Lake Grange, located in rural Clark County, supported the North County Food Bank, by growing and donating produce from member's gardens. Fresh

Continued on page 9

October 2020 issue deadline – September 20th
Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org

INSIDE:

Washington State Grange Changes Convention To Business Meeting

The State Grange Executive Committee, working within the regulations in the National Grange Digest of Laws and the State Grange Constitution & Bylaws, have changed from an annual state convention with all of it's social activities and events to a two-day business meeting. The meeting will be held on October 30-31.

See Page 4 for the details ...

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming State Grange Events

Due to COVID-19, many scheduled events are either canceled or postponed.

This listing reflects new dates for several items. Please call prior to the event to confirm.

- SEPTEMBER 15 Committee Preference Sheets for Convention Delegates Due to State Grange Office
- SEPTEMBER 28 Resolutions Due to WA State Grange Office
- SEPTEMBER 30 Third Quarter Secretary Reports Due
- OCTOBER 15 Credentials Forms Due to the State Grange Office
- OCTOBER 30-31, 2020 WA State Grange Business Meeting @ Addy, Deer Lagoon, and Long Beach Grange Halls
- NOVEMBER 17-21, 2020 154th Annual Session of the National Grange @ Valley Forge, PA

Welcome New Members

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS
June-August 2020

	# Joined	Jr. +1
Cowlitz Prairie Jennifer Davis	1	1
East Hill #786 Jason Lemore	1	
Five Mile Prairie #905 Jocelyn DeGroat, Lucy Jones	2	
Goldendale #49 Bette Wilde, Lori Klug, Alan Hale, Patricia Rager, Cassandra Christopher	5	
Grays River #124 William Vincent, Andrea Vincent	2	
Humptulips #730 Clay Emery, Kelly Emery	2	
Kellogg Marsh Kelly Wright	1	
Moses Lake #1151 0		1
Oroville #985 Shara Cunningham, Judith Linetty, Terry Gervais	3	
Rose Valley #953 Pete Franett, Dani Franett, Shauna Martin, Deandre Edwards	4	1
San Juan Island #966 Sarah Severn, Manya Pickard, Jennifer Pepper Koksik, Sherri Phelps, Sean Forde, Carisa Sweet	6	
Silver Creek/Ethel #150 Miley Krause, Michelle Skanes, Mandy Reynoldson	3	
Silver Lake #105 Michael Owen	1	
Skookumchuck #584 Warren Williams, SharonHensel-Williams	2	
Washington #82 Mark Kelly	1	
TOTALS	34	3

Membership Corner

Alternative Meeting Methods

It has now been five months since the quarantine began in our state. Group sizes for meetings, gatherings, or rentals, of any kind remain an issue for our Granges across the state.

Many Granges have not met, at all, in those five months. It is important for all of us to still meet to discuss business, work on future events as well as what the Grange can be doing to help the community in this difficult time.

The state Grange has an easy conference call system that any Grange is welcome to use. We have a few Pomona and subordinate Granges who have used it and have noticed an increase in membership

attendance. If you would like to use the conference call system, please contact Sophia at headquarters so she can put you on the calendar and reserve your meeting date/time. She will also give you the pertinent information needed.

Zoom meetings are a relatively new concept, yet now, something that is vital to so many businesses as well as teachers, students and even families. It has also been a wonderful tool for us to use. We had great success using this system for our Intersessions Committee meetings this year. And it will be an integral part of this year's two-day business meeting at the end of October.

Zoom meetings are an easy way to connect with one another. You can connect via computer, cell phone or land line phone. Zoom accounts are free for meetings lasting less than 40 minutes and will allow up to 100 participants. If your Grange would like to sign up for a free account and you feel unsure of how to sign up or use it, Sophia is more than happy to help. Just give her a call at headquarters.

We encourage all Granges to consider using one of these two options, or another option similar, so that you can again start to meet and connect. We must all work together for the betterment of our order.

Individual Membership Incentive Program- New Members 2020

Our 2nd Quarter reports are in and winners of our individual membership contest have now been revealed. Congratulations to the following Grange members who brought in 3 or more new members into their Grange:

- Goldendale Grange #49 – Aimee Waddell - (5 new members) T-shirt & 1-\$25 Amazon Gift Card
- Humptulips Grange #720 – Patty Emery- (2 new members) \$25 Amazon Gift Card (Patty brought in 4 new members 1st quarter)

- Rose Valley Grange #953 – Nicole Nickel - (3 new members) T-shirt

If you have brought in 3 or more new members since January 1, 2020 and do not see your name listed, please email Sophia at skeller@wa-grange.org.

Recruit 3 new members and receive a State Grange mission statement T-shirt

Recruit 2 more new members for a total of 5 new members and receive a \$25 Amazon gift card

Recruit an additional 5 new members and receive an additional \$25 Amazon gift card – no limit to

how many gift cards you can earn. Incentive program runs from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

ATTENTION
Subordinate Grange Secretaries – please be sure you are using the NEW quarterly report so you can report who the new members are recommended by. This information was either left blank by some or the new report was not used leaving no ability to report who recommended the new member.



Valley Grange Delivers Goodie Bags To Preschoolers

The Valley Grange delivered all the goodie bags of school supplies to the Valley Early Learning Child Center. We are so excited for the preschoolers to get their school supplies this year.

Email Us

- State Master Tom Gwin: tagwin@wa-grange.org
- Sophia Keller, Executive Assistant: skeller@wa-grange.org
- Ferol Max, Receptionist: fmax@wa-grange.org
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• Tom Gwin, Executive Editor •

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Moving? Let Us Know?

Old Address (label should be on reverse of this form) _____

New Address _____

Your Name _____
Grange Name & Number _____

Please mail to:
Grange News
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA
98507-1186

President's Message

Trying Times In Our Granges

By Tom Gwin
State Grange
Master/President

As we complete our summer activities (what few we were actually able to do) and move into autumn, we certainly hope many of you will be able to begin your Grange activities again.

We, at the State Grange level, know it has been difficult for each of our Subordinate and Pomona Granges. Finances are tight... revenues are not coming in and expenses of operating your halls continue to increase. There are few, if any, fund raising opportunities due to the governor's "Stay at Home" order. For those Granges who are financially struggling, I strongly recommend paying your utilities and insurance first. If you don't have the funds to pay your state dues, give us a call at the state office. We can be patient and wait until you are able to make the funds to pay your dues.

The worst thing you can do is not communicate your situation to us. I've told many Granges that we will not close Granges because of the financial strain created by this pandemic. Your members' dues are still owed, but we can and will be patient, knowing you will pay them when you have the funds to do so.

The Annual State Grange Business Meeting will be coming up on October 30-31. Thank you to the State

Grange Executive Committee for their actions to change our format, which will allow us to still have a meeting this year. Letters went out to each Grange Master and Secretary, informing them of the changes, along with a revised credential form and committee preference form. The credentials form must be returned by October 15. With strict limitations on attendance, we simply cannot accept the credentials forms on site. Everyone must be pre-registered to attend the business meeting.

The worst thing you can do is not communicate your situation to us.

-- Tom Gwin

Committee preference sheets are due by September 15. Committees will be assigned and announced in the October newspaper. All committees will meet via zoom between October 12 and 23. As usual, some committees will have more work than others. Delegates can participate in the zoom meetings wither via computer or may call in by telephone. We are going to need all available delegates to serve on one of the 17 committees.

The deadline for resolutions



Tom Gwin

is thirty days prior to the convention. We would like to receive all resolutions by Sept 28 as the executive committee will read them in at their meeting the next day. The first 13 resolutions have already been forwarded out to our mailing list. We have since received an additional 11 resolutions. The standing committee reports include an additional eight resolutions and a variety of recommendations. There will plenty of work for each committee this year.

Applications for the "Grange in Action" recognition program are due to the State Grange Office by September 20. We will forward them on to national before their deadline. To apply for this recognition, list your Grange name, number, and state on top of the page. Include three pictures of your Grange activities on the page with captions. Be sure to limit to one page only. You may either send your page via regular mail to the state office or email to me at tagwin@wa-grange.org. We already have at least 30 Granges who have qualified for this recognition for 2020.

My best wishes to each of you, hoping for a quick end to the pandemic and a move back toward normalcy with a rebirth of Grange activities in every community in our state!

Legislative

The Latest Info On Elections And Budgets



By Heather Hansen
Legislative Lobbyist

Heather Hansen

Elections 2020

The election cycle will result in many new legislators this year. There will be at least four new Senators due to retirements. Based on the results of the primary, those four Senate seats will most likely be filled with a candidate from the same party. An additional four Senators, two from each party, could lose their seat to a challenger.

In the House, there will be a minimum of twelve new members due to retirements. Most of the seats are likely to be filled by the same party. Another six sitting legislators are in danger of losing their seat to a challenger, in some cases, from the same party. It appears that the Democrat majorities in both houses are likely to stay the same or increase.

What does this mean for you? In many cases, Washington State is becoming more polarized. Moderate Republicans and Democrats are being replaced by those with more extreme views. Most of the battle ground seats are in rural districts where Grange members live. Ballots for the general election will be mailed October 16 and must be returned by November 3. Please vote.

State Budget - Overall

The state budget will experience a cash deficit in August 2020, according to the Office of Financial Management. State law requires the governor to make across-the-board cuts to spending if a cash deficit is projected in a particular fund. It remains to be seen if that law will be followed. In September 2010 during the recession, Governor Gregoire implemented across-the-board cuts due to a cash deficit in the general fund. The only alternative to the Governor making across the board cuts, is for the Governor to call the legislature into special session so they can make more nuanced cuts. (The legislature cannot call itself into session, only the Governor can do that.)

Agency Budgets

All State Agencies are in the process of developing their budget proposals for the 2021 legislative session. Each agency prepares a budget proposal, which goes to the Office of Financial Management (OFM). The Governor's staff uses these proposals to prepare the Governor's budget proposal. The Governor's proposed budget may or may not include everything the agencies ask for.

The Governor's proposed budget will be released sometime after the November election. When the legislature convenes in January, they will use the Governor's budget as a guide, but they can add or delete anything they wish. The legislature has the final say on what gets funded.

The Department of Natural Resources draft legislative priorities for 2021 include 24 separate items. The single largest item is a \$25 million ask for the Forest Health/Wildfire program. Activities under this program can occur on state, private or federal lands. The proposal intends to link the Forest Action Plan, Forest Health Strategic Plan, and Wildfire Strategic Plan.

The Department of Agriculture plans to request an increase in pesticide license fees. No doubt before January, there will be any more proposals from other agencies.

Lecturer's Department

Just A Few Thoughts...

By Leslie Jo Wells
State Grange Lecturer

I'm sure many of your Granges are like mine, not meeting because of the pandemic. I miss seeing my Grange friends but safety is so important at this time.

As I wrote several months ago, we will not be having the contest displays this year at Convention. Next year our contest time frame will cover 2020 and 2021. Your

Pomona entries will still be one Purple winner for each category in the Arts and Crafts and Photography Contests.

The Creative Writing Contest entries are being judged now and the results will be announced in next month's Grange News.

Convention this year will definitely be different. Spread over three locations and using ZOOM - and some people thought the Grange would never

come into the modern world of communicating! Process wise it probably will resemble the very early days of Grange meetings/conventions; taking care of the business of the Grange. Unfortunately we will not have the social events we usually associate with convention but it shows we can be flexible!



Leslie Jo Wells

The Grange Exchange

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Word count: hyphens, spaces and X's separate words. Phone numbers count as one word. **We do not print ads for 900 number services.**

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No. words _____ @ rate \$ _____ x # months _____ = \$ _____ (enclosed)

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WA State Grange Changes From A Convention To A Business Meeting

The State Grange Executive Committee, working within the regulations in the National Grange Digest of Laws and the State Grange Constitution & Bylaws, have changed from an annual state convention with all of its social activities and events to a two-day business meeting. The meeting will be held on October 30-31.

Due to attendance limitations, only officers, state directors, and delegates will attend the convention. Spouses who are not delegates may attend only if we do not reach our attendance limit of 50 persons at a location. There will be an opportunity for those not physically present to observe the session via zoom.

The locations for our business meetings are the Deer Lagoon Grange Hall near Langley on Whidbey Island, the Long Beach Grange Hall in Pacific County, and the Addy Grange Hall in Stevens County. The three locations will all be connected via zoom. Face coverings (masks) will be required for all attendees and will be available for

those without one. Each location will also have an ample supply of hand sanitizer available. We are required to practice social distancing. The three Grange halls will allow us to spread the delegates out.

Lodging: While many delegates will be able to commute to the locations, some delegates will be required to stay overnight in the area. If you desire to stay in a hotel or campground, you will need to make your own reservation. There are ample lodging facilities in Long Beach, on Whidbey Island, and in the Chewelah and Colville areas.

Business Meeting: With us at different locations, we will be holding a business meeting only. We will not open in full form. Rather, we will do an abbreviated short form opening and closing. We will not sing, but we will recite the pledge of allegiance. Roll call of officers will be taken. The credentials committee will report as usual. The Master's Address will be presented. The remainder of the business meeting will include the report of session committees and the

election and installation of five state officers.

Credentials: The Credentials Form was mailed out in August to each Grange Master and Secretary. Your Grange will need to select your delegates and/or alternates. The credentials form must be received back in the State Grange Office no later than October 15. Late credentials forms will not be accepted. Only pre-registered delegates will be able to attend the business meeting. We cannot accept credential forms on site this year.

Session Committees: The session committees are composed of the delegates and officers. Officers who are not delegates may be appointed to a committee. All committee meetings will be prior to the convention via zoom meetings between October 12 and 23. Each committee will review the work assigned to them... standing committee reports, resolutions, etc. Convention Committee Preference Forms were mailed to each Master and Secretary in August. Please return the preference form by September 15 so we can complete the committee assignments. Our goal is to have all committee reports completed before we go to the session. A template will be prepared for the credentials and election committee so we will only need to fill in the blanks at the convention.

Election of Officers: While this is an "off year" election, we do have five offices to fill this year: a 3-year term on the Executive Committee; and one-year unexpired terms for



Addy Grange

the offices of Overseer, Executive Committee, Steward, and Flora. There will be election committee members at each location helping to coordinate the process. The committee vice chairs will report vote totals to the committee chair, who will add them together and announce the election results. It is imperative that we keep

the integrity of our election processes intact.

We hope you will understand and work with us as we wade through these uncharted waters. With creativity and extra effort, we will be able to complete our business and move forward. We certainly hope for a face to face convention in 2021!



Long Beach Grange



Deer Lagoon Grange

Washington State Grange Business Meeting 2020

Locations:

Addy, Long Beach and Deer Lagoon Granges

OCTOBER 12-23

Convention Committee Meetings via zoom
Deputy Meeting via zoom

- 1:30 p.m. • Reconvene for Afternoon Session
- Credentials Report
- Continue Election of Officers
- Continue Committee Reports and Actions

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

7:30 a.m. • Registration Opens

- 9:00 a.m. • Business Meeting Called to Order
- Credential Report
- Master's Address
- Election of Officers
 - Overseer (one year unexpired term)
 - Executive Committee (full three year term)
 - Executive Committee (one year unexpired term)
 - Steward (one year unexpired term)
 - Flora (one year unexpired term)
- Committee Reports & Actions

12:00 p.m. • Lunch Break

5:00 p.m. • Adjourn for the Day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

- 8:00 a.m. • Registration Opens
- 9:00 a.m. • Business Meeting Called Back to Order
- Credentials Report (Final)
- Committee Reports & Actions
- 12:00 p.m. • Lunch Break
- 1:30 p.m. • Reconvene for Afternoon Session
- 3:00 p.m. • Installation of Officers
- 5:00 p.m. • Adjourn Business Meeting

How to Write a Resolution

Title of Your Resolution Here (This should be just a few words and easily summarize what the resolution is about)

Whereas, this is where you identify one problem that needs to be addressed or solved; and

Whereas, only place one reason or fact that supports your argument in each whereas paragraph; and

Whereas, only put facts in the whereas paragraphs that make it easier for the reader to understand the purpose of your resolution; Therefore, be it

Resolved, that this is where you clearly state the primary action that you propose to solve the problem you identified in the whereas paragraphs (Resolved should stand alone from the Whereas' as this will be the policy printed in the Legislative Handbook. No information from the Whereas' will be printed in the handbook), and

Be it Further Resolved, that any secondary actions to address the problem are placed here.

Be sure to include both the Master and Secretary signatures, Grange seal, contact information and any supporting materials.

Items Of Both State And National Concern

There are resolutions that are of both state and national concern. Many times, these items are a part of the state Grange legislative policy, but not a part of the National Grange legislative policy. The appropriate action on these resolutions is to reaffirm the state Grange policy in the first resolved and then add a second resolved asking the National Grange to adopt the policy by supporting legislation or taking the necessary changes on the same issue.

An example:

Resolved, the Washington State Grange reaffirm their policy to oppose the removal of any hydroelectric power producing dams in the Columbia and/or Snake River system; and be it further

Resolved that the National Grange oppose the removal of any hydroelectric power producing dams in the Columbia and/or Snake River system.

Please Note - Resolutions Due:
September 30, 2020

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Youth Activities Resume After Pandemic Break



Jerry Gwin

By Jerry Gwin
State Youth Director

Even though summer is nearly over, it seems as if we barely made it to summer this year. I am still waiting to see our Grange youth members at the annual Grange convention, summer camp, and our youth fairs activities. We normally spend August getting applications ready for the National Grange Youth Programs.

With the cancellation of our summer activities and the movement of our State Grange Convention to an October Business Meeting, we won't have the opportunity to bring our youth together this summer. Likewise, the National Grange Convention will be for delegates and officers only with no youth activities at this year's convention.

While our youth activities are taking a break, we are continuing our fundraising efforts to support Grange youth activities in the upcoming year. Tickets for the State Grange Youth Department Raffle were mailed in August to each Grange. We ask that you sell the tickets, or consider buying them as a Grange, to allow us to build up our funds to support youth travel. The last two National Grange Conventions (Stowe, VT and Bloomington, MN) have depleted much of our funds. In 2021, the National Grange Convention will be in Wichita, KS while the Western Regional Conference will be in Boise, ID. We anticipate large delegations from our state wanting to attend both events. Your support in supporting the youth raffle will allow us to make this happen.

Seven youth qualified for our new State Grange Youth Achievement Award. The award is based on participation from the subordinate up through the national levels of our Grange activities. From participating in a Grange community service project, to serving as a delegate to the State Grange Convention, to participating in the state or regional public speaking contest, to serving on the National Grange Youth Officer Team, there are a list of items that may be completed. The achievement award winners for 2019-2020 are: Jonathan Pittman and Brittney Oliver of Moses Lake Grange; Skylar Zaborac and Lane Smith of Humptulips Grange; Alexis Kudsk of Haynie Grange; Isabella Lierman of Horseshoe Grange; and Georgia Clark of North River Grange. The award will be labeled and taken to the upcoming state business meetings and sent back to your county for presentation to you. Congratulations to all for your participation in Grange activities across all levels!

Junior Connection

Camas Valley Junior Grange

Camas Valley Junior Grange enjoyed a picnic in the Chewelah Park, and were able to enjoy wading in the creek and visiting with each other - with the proper protocol in place.

Green Bluff Junior Grange

Green Bluff Junior Grange is planning to have their Haunted House on October 23-24. Watch facebook and other social media to be sure the event happens.



From the beginning, supporting the private enterprise system. The organization developed the success of these cooperative efforts led to many ventures, one to encourage working cooperative venture with others while that still exists today -

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Juniors

Junior Grange Contest Winners Announced



Heather Ferguson

By Heather Ferguson
Junior Grange Director

Hopefully, all of you are healthy and staying productive. I am in the middle of caring for a very productive garden and canning everything. Even though we have had a very odd year there are still some Junior Grangers and Junior Granges that need recognition. Understandably, I did not receive the number of award applications the Junior Department would normally see but the few received are very deserving.

The winners will receive their prizes at a later date from their county deputy. Here are our winners:

- **Junior Granger of the Year** – Jacob Smith, Humptulips JR Grange # 376
- **JG Individual Membership Building Award** –

- Jaelyn Johnson, Humptulips JR Grange # 376 / Camp Morehead Junior Grange # 401
 - **JG Membership Building Award-**
 - First Place-** Humptulips JR Grange # 376
 - Second Place-** Camp Morehead JR Grange # 401
 - **Fair or Information Booth Contest –**
 - First Place-** Humptulips JR Grange # 376
 - Second Place-** North River JR Grange # 408
 - Third Place-** Camp Morehead JR Grange # 401
 - **Community Service Award-**
 - First Place-** Humptulips JR Grange #376
- Congratulations to all of the winners in this year's competitions, what fantastic work you have done and keep it up. I know there are

other Juniors out there who also deserve awards. All you need to do is get those applications in to be recognized.

This is not the end of competitions for Junior Grangers. If you go to <https://www.nationaljuniorgrange.org> and look under Contests, you will find Handy Crafts, Creative Writing and Photography that are all due to National Headquarters by October 1. If you are interested or are able to get your entries to the State Headquarters by September 20th we will be happy to send them on for you. I'm challenging all of our Junior Grangers to get creative and enter.

Stay safe and best of luck in the new school year, whatever that may look like for you. Hopefully, we can get back to a full schedule of Granging soon. I know I am missing all of my Grange friends.

Humptulips JG Named Junior Community Service Winners

The 23 members of Humptulips Junior Grange have been named as the first-place winners in this year's State Junior Grange Community Service Contest. The winners will receive a plaque from the Junior Grange Department and a \$250 award from the Grange Cooperative Group. Humptulips will represent our state in the National Junior Grange Community Service Contest later this year.

Humptulips Junior Grangers worked to support of the Humptulips Grange Food Bank. For Christmas, Junior Grangers prepared and donated 250 goody bags for food bank clients. Each goody bag included an orange, two packets of hot cocoa mix, candy cane, and a few pieces of Christmas candy.

As a strong second project, Junior Grangers places flags on the veteran's graves at the Humptulips Cemetery for Memorial Day. This year, we purchased all new flags and then met on Saturday morning

- of the Memorial Day weekend to place the flags on the graves.
- Other projects completed by the Humptulips Junior Grangers to benefit others include:
 - ✓ Baking and donating 10 pies for Union Gospel Mission at Thanksgiving.
 - ✓ Donation of prizes for awards at the Washington State 4-H Fair in Puyallup.
 - ✓ Baking items for the raffle at the Grange Bingo events.
 - ✓ Handing out raffle items at the Grange Bingo event.
 - ✓ Collection and donation of 14 books for the Timberland Library Reading Tree.
 - ✓ Donation of two baskets for the Pomona Grange Basket Bingo.
 - ✓ Collection of aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.
 - ✓ Two displays at the Grays Harbor County Fair.
 - ✓ Collected 52 pairs of gloves and 40 pairs of socks for the Keep Washington Warm project.

- ✓ Collected 42 new children's books for the State JG Project. The books were delivered to the convention in Okanogan and then distributed by the State JG Department.

Part of the Junior Grange community service report asks what the Junior Grangers learned from their Community Service Involvement? The response from the winning report included:

- skills in identifying appropriate service projects
- tasks associated with planning and organizing fund raising events
- appropriate nutritional value of foods and appropriate snacks
- consumer skills in shopping and budgeting
- life skills: nurturing relationships, problem solving, critical thinking, healthy lifestyle choices, self-discipline, empathy, caring, teamwork, belonging, cooperation, patriotism, concern for others, development of responsible citizenship skills.



(Right & Center) Anthony and Renae'Jah place flags on the veteran's graves at the Humptulips Cemetery. This year, the Junior Grangers purchased new flags for the project. (Left) Humptulips Junior Grangers Jonathan and Jaelyn cart a load of food into the food bank.

Home & Family

Family Living

Quilts For The Homeless

By Helen Berg
Family Living Director

It seems like so long since I have been able to touch bases with all of you. This virus sure has thrown a clinker in our lives. Conference will be so different this year. We



will not be presenting Quilts of Valor this year so save for next year. We will also not be collecting our collectibles such as eyeglasses, used stamps and the like.

Now for something on a positive note I have a project for you while you are sheltering some what in place. I have joined a quilting group at St. Andrews Grange. We had boxes of that dreaded polyester double knit and came up with an idea of how to put it to good use. We are making quilts for the homeless. Since polyester does not absorb water and is so durable it is a great medium for the streets. We cut 13 in. blocks, put 2 of them together wrong sides facing and sewed from corner to corner making an x. Square up to 12 1/2 in. Now comes the fun part. Sew 2 together, open the seam and top stitch which holds the seam open.



Helen Berg

I have stitched on both sides with a straight stitch as well as used one of my fancy stitches built into my machine and gone down the middle. Five blocks across by six long is a nice size. To avoid seams meeting I cut several blocks in half before squaring up and put those half blocks on each end of every other row. I bound the quilt with polyester single knit. Since the double knit is so heavy, we did not use any batting.

We have completed 3 and have quite a few more to make. Also have some empty shelves. I hope some of you will try this. Let me know how it went.

Keep safe. I look forward to the time we can all be together again.

From The Chaplain's Desk

2020 Memorial Roll Call

By Pam Matthews
State Grange Chaplain

Brothers and Sisters: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the State Grange Executive Committee have made changes to the State Grange Convention. One of these changes is to the annual Memorial Service. It was agreed to postpone the service until next year so the proper respect may be given to our past officers and deputies. This will include the Memorial Roll of past Masters and spouses. I want to assure the members of the Washington State Grange that all of the Eulogies and past Masters and spouses will be included next year, but I would like to acknowledge these members and their contributions to the State Grange and to their county Granges. The Eulogies for 2020 include:

- June Hendrickson, past State Grange Master, Overseer, Treasurer, Flora, and Executive Committeeman
- Robert Wills, past Jefferson County Deputy Master
- Darrell Peoples, past Thurston County Deputy Master
- Harold Ohlsen, past State Grange Gatekeeper and Assistant Steward
- Elizabeth "Betty" Schmid, past Klickitat County Deputy Master
- Richard "Dick" Bekkavar, past Jefferson County Deputy Master
- Wilma Baker, past State Grange Lecturer and King County Deputy Master
- Chester Templin, past Asotin and Garfield County Deputy Master
- Yvonne Knuth, past State Grange Community Service Director
- Gerald Klein, past Lincoln County Deputy Master

Since the beginning of June the State Grange has lost three more of their past officers and deputies:

- Norma Taylor, past Mason County Deputy Master
- Gene Frymire, past State Executive Committee and Cowlitz County Deputy Master
- Robert Froemke, spouse of past State Grange Secretary and Women's Activities Director

The Memorial Roll of past Masters and spouses includes:

- Loren Amack, past Master Buena Vista Grange and Benton County Pomona Grange
- Janet Anderson, past Master Horseshoe Grange
- Lester Courtney, spouse of past Master Mountain Valley Grange
- Lila Draper, spouse of past Master Spring Hill Grange
- Cathie Griffin, past Master McCleary Grange
- Dona Miller, spouse of past Master Humptulips Grange
- Marguerite Ogden, spouse of past Master Sunnyside Grange
- Ted Reitz, past Master San Poil Grange
- Roberta Smith, spouse of past Master Central Grange
- Diane Wannamaker Tanner, spouse of past Master Hazel Dell Grange
- Joseph Wittwer, past Master Elbe Grange
- Raymond Eagle, past Master Fertile Valley Grange

In these uncertain times we must take extraordinary steps and that includes modifying our State Grange Convention. I pray that all of you are staying safe and I encourage you to send cards and letters or to phone your members who are isolated. We do not all have family living nearby and a card or phone call will brighten even the darkest day. Until we meet again, may God bless you all.



Pam Matthews



Enjoy seasonal comfort food

(Courtesy of Family Features)

While this autumn season will likely look different than years past, wholesome meals celebrating fall flavors provide something to look forward to.

Walnuts harvested during autumn from the fertile soils of California supply more than 99% of walnuts in the U.S. and more than half of the world's walnut trade.

Each harvest produces enough walnuts for you to enjoy the tasty and nutrient rich benefits year-round. Pro tip: Storing them in the fridge or freezer maintains freshness longer.

Welcome the flavors of fall with this Apple Pear Walnut Crisp, and find more recipes to celebrate the season at walnuts.org/fall-favorites.

Apple Pear Walnut Crisp

Time: 1 hour, 5 minutes Servings: 4

Walnut Crisp topping:

- 1 1/2 cups California walnuts, divided
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup quick-cooking oats
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup butter, chilled and sliced into 1-tablespoon pieces

Apple Pear filling:

- 3 Granny Smith apples, peeled and sliced into 1/4-inch slices
- 2 D'Anjou pears, peeled and sliced into 1/4-inch slices
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- ice cream (optional)
- caramel sauce (optional)

To make walnut crisp topping: In food processor, pulse 1 cup walnuts until finely ground. In small bowl, combine ground walnuts, flour, brown sugar, oats and cinnamon. Cut butter into mixture until coarse crumb forms. Coarsely chop remaining walnuts and stir into crumb mixture until incorporated. Set aside.

To make apple pear filling: Preheat oven to 350 F. In bowl, toss apples, pears, sugar, cornstarch, cinnamon, salt and lemon juice. Place fruit mixture in bottom of 10-inch cast-iron pan or baking dish.

Sprinkle walnut crisp topping mixture over fruit. Bake 45 minutes, or until fruit mixture is hot and bubbly and topping is golden brown. Top with ice cream and caramel sauce, if desired.

On the web: www.wa-Grange.org

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateGrange

In
Memoriam

Lester “Gene” Frymire -
Past State Grange Executive
Committeeman

Gene “Blinky” Frymire was born in Longview, WA on August 7, 1928 to Grace (Ferguson) and Phillip Frymire, spending most of his life in Castle Rock. He passed peacefully at home on July 10, 2020 at the age of 91.

He graduated from Castle Rock High School in 1946 and joined the Navy. He married Joan Higby on May 31, 1957 and they celebrated 63 years together. He retired as a fuel truck driver for Tri-Tex in Castle Rock and built many fireplaces in his lifetime. He enjoyed trapping, gardening, scrapping metal and politics. He never met a stranger, was quite the character and will be greatly missed.

Gene served as Mayor of Castle Rock, a councilman, a volunteer fireman and was on the CAP board of directors. He was a member of the NRA, the American Legion, VFW, Eagles, life member of Sunnyside Grange #129, Cowlitz County Pomona #7 and the Washington State and the National Grange.

Gene was preceded in death by his dad, mom, and stepdad, Robert Moore. He is survived by his wife, Joan; sons Phil Williamson of Vancouver, WA and Ron (Janis) Frymire of Castle Rock; daughters Charlotte “Janie” (Dave) Blackman of College Place, WA, Teresa (Russ) Stagner and Mary (Pat Goebel) Rauth, both of Castle Rock and Julie Williamson in Gladstone, OR who he claimed as a daughter, 8 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren.

Per his request, no service will be held. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Washington State Grange Foundation, P.O. Box 1186, Olympia, WA 98507. Please write on the bottom of the check “Scholarships-Gene Frymire”.



Robert Froemke -
Husband of Past State Secretary
and Women’s Activities Director

Robert M Froemke, 91, of Zillah, died Wednesday, July 15 at Cottage In The Meadow hospice care in Yakima.

Bob was born October 8, 1928, in Yakima to Elmer and Bertha (Hammermeister) Froemke. Bob was raised north of Buena. He attended the old Buena Elementary School and graduated from Toppenish High School in 1946. In 1950, he married Diane (Watson) Froemke. Bob served in the USAF from 1951 to 1953 in Florida setting up Cape Canaveral as a military missile test facility. He was honorably discharged from the Air Force Reserves in 1958. Bob attended various universities before graduating from Texas A&M in 1964 with his teaching degree. He spent the remainder of his life in the Buena-Zillah area as an orchardist and a middle school teacher. Teaching first for the Zillah School District and then the Toppenish School District where he taught 7th grade math and science for 20 years. Bob was a lifetime member of the Buena Grange and a member of the Parker Heights Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by five children, Robert (Jeanie) Froemke, Jr. of Zillah, William (Brenda) Froemke of Spokane, Janice Froemke of Zillah, Cynthia (Brian) Lutschg of Marysville and Andrew Froemke of Zillah; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a sister-in-law, Carol (Mike) Murphy of Ahtanum. He was preceded in death by his wife Diane in 2003. Bob then married Annabelle (Shea) (Munson) Froemke in 2004 who preceded him in death in 2012.



Calispel Grange Turns Donated
Fabric Into Quilts And Clothing



Even though our county fair was cancelled, which took away our yearly fund raiser, it doesn’t mean we still can’t be good neighbors. This summer we have been busy getting donations ready for our community service. Every Thursday following state regulations for COVID 19, a handful of Grange members meet for a day of sewing. Once a month our sew day is dedicated to making projects for local donations. Many boxes of donated fabric become children’s clothes, and quilts for our community. Pictured here is Calispel #500 member, Diane Stone, who has begun making children’s pajamas that will go to our local PREPARES charity. Just like the old saying, “Many hands make light work,” this lively group enjoys the time stitching and sharing.

Your Easiest Community Service Project

By Kennedy Gwin
National Grange Intern

While Granges can’t meet at the moment there are still ways we can remain active in our community through advocacy. One way is engaging in local newspapers through Letters to the Editor focusing on a topic of importance. Below we have provided an example of a Letter to the Editor about the importance of participating in the Census. You can copy this letter to the editor and send it directly to your local newspaper or personalize it. Do not forget to include YOUR NAME and contact information when you submit. Let us know if it gets published by emailing communications@nationalgrange.org

“Every ten years since 1790 the United States sets forth to count every human residing in the United States. The census helps the U.S. government draw

boundaries for districts based on population density so that the people of these areas are receiving proper representation within the federal government. The Census also helps the federal government allocate money fairly among cities across the US to fund things like schools, hospitals, and roads. While politics may be a messy conversation in our polarized society that makes you want to turn a blind eye, filling out the Census is a way in which you can remain civically engaged with little to no controversy. Filling out the Census is a community action that betters your hometowns and you can do it from your couch. If you received a mailer, simply fill it out and send it back. Another option is to fill it out online at www.census.org. Five minutes is all it takes and in those five minutes, you could be contributing thousands of dollars directly to your community. Take action and fill out your Census today.”

School Meal Options Must
Be Based On Science

By Tom Gwin
WA State Grange
Master/President

The Washington State Grange is concerned that students are able to access the most nutritious food available as part of the school meal program – access free from misconception, but based on science.

This is an especially relevant concern when considering 13.8 percent of Washington State students live below the poverty line and 430,000 more qualified for free lunch, meaning many of our students rely heavily on school means for a significant portion of their dietary value.

Every five years, the Dietary Guidelines of America (DGA) are reviewed, implemented and passed on to schools where they are used to design lunches for students across the nation.

In 2012, these guidelines banned 2 percent and whole milk from all schools, stating that the fat content was too high to be serving to children. Many rural organizations such as the Grange and the American Dairy Council strongly disagree with this ruling, noting that research

shows whole milk is more nutrient-dense than fat free milk.

While whole milk is higher in saturated fats. These fats assist in regulating Type 2 diabetes. In addition, they increase bone density in children, and also works to control appetite.

The misconception that whole milk is less healthy for you comes from the idea that anything high in fat is automatically bad for you. Science has shown this is not true. For example, it would be like banning cherries at schools because they are high in natural sugars. Like all things we consume, moderation is key to a balanced diet – an important lesson to learn for both adults and children. Where better to do so than in a school setting?

In 2015, Congress commissioned the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Mathematics (NASEM) to research guidelines put forth and the practices of the Dietary Guidelines of America Council, which creates the DGA. This study cost taxpayers \$1 million and revealed that many of these guidelines were both overreaching and unnecessary. NASEM had many recommendations for the DGA to consider for their 2020

guidelines, none of which have been implemented.

Organizations like NASEM and American Dairy Coalition argued that the process for creating these guidelines was not transparent, did not allow for enough independent choices, and that the makers of these guidelines possessed biases that were not addressed.

With current guidelines, whole milk continues to be left off school menus with no rhyme or reason. These arbitrary guidelines that have been proven to need a holistic review and overhaul.

We believe the choice to consume whole-fat dairy products should be with the individual, and not be restricted. Instead these guidelines should be based on scientific fact.

The Washington State Grange and other agricultural organizations are calling on Congress to delay the report of the Dietary Guidelines of America Council to ensure the USDA and HHS have adequate time to review the scientifically-based recommendations from NASEM. Only after this comprehensive review should the dietary guidelines be put in place, ones which are in the best interest of our nation’s growing children.

National Grange News

Can you help keep the Grange's history alive? YES!

By Kennedy Gwin
National Grange Intern

Every Grange across the nation has someone keeping notes, taking minutes and holding a history of his or her area in their hands - but often the importance of these records goes unrecognized.

For Lecturers, the minutes and documents kept by your Grange's Secretary can make for some fascinating programming, assist with display set-ups and help you talk to your local media about the tremendous impact of the Grange in your area over the years. But that requires being able to access those records - something many Granges are finding out the hard way is a bit more challenging than it should be.

Historically, many records were lost to the attics of former members or in fires or floods in Grange Halls. Several Granges have tried to stem the tide of lost records by moving to digital platforms for recording and archiving their history - but sometimes these plans didn't come with as much planning as they should and modern records have also been lost. If you're tech-savvy, consider offering your Secretary assistance to digitize your records and modernize your practices or find someone else who can help.

Today, storing records doesn't require space or climate control - it just requires a computer and some forethought. Even hand-written notes should be digitized at some point - whether that's by someone taking the handwritten documents and typing them into a document or scanning the pages of handwritten notes and saving the file.

One of the easiest things you can do if you are taking hand-written notes but have a computer and internet access available is to type the minutes after you return home from your meeting and email them to your members. This provides a digital copy to the members and allows even those who didn't attend a glimpse into what is happening in the Grange. Many Secretaries report higher attendance, not less, when they provide minutes electronically between meetings. People know the Grange is doing something and want to be part of the next decisions. They know they cannot do that if they are not there - in person or virtually depending on your Grange's bylaws.

These minutes and other records should be shared with several members of your Grange, along with the minutes of years past - there is a lot of wisdom hiding in those pages! You should work with a local library, historical society or university to store these records for future generations of members, residents of your town or scholars to look at. The Grange's legacy is in your hands.

10 Tips for Record Keeping:

1. Keep them legible! If you are handwriting your notes make sure people can read them because at some point, they will be historical documents
2. If you are typing your notes for your meeting avoid using abbreviations or text language.
3. Share your notes with all your members! If that means emailing them from your laptop to fellow members or scanning them at your local library and then sending them out, just get the word out so your members know what their Grange is doing.
4. Make sure you have your notes saved in more than one place! Things happen to computers all the time, like crashes or power surges, you do not want to lose your notes because of this.
5. Make sure other people have access to your files for future Grange members or an office transition.
6. If you have physical copies and are not sure what to do with them contact your local library or archivist for help. They will have many resources that can assist you in the preservation process.
7. Keep copies of your records on thumb drives or external hard drives. This helps keep a secondary copy on an external resource.
8. Utilize youth in your community to assist with technology literacy or to help you convert old documents into PDFs (portable digital files). This is a great way for them to earn community service as well as a great learning opportunity for you.
9. If you have questions about technology there are many resources online such as videos or articles that can teach how to do things like upload files, and so much more.
10. If you keep notes physically store them in your Grange hall in a safe place where they won't get wet or exposed to extreme weather, these are historical documents in the making and should be treated as so.

National Grange will soon release a digital booklet with best practices for record-keeping, including screenshots and more! Watch the National Grange Patrons Chain e-newsletter for more information.

Remember Oath, Grange Values When Going Social

By Betsy E. Huber
Master/President
National Grange

Today's world is becoming more and more polarized and partisan each day. Family members and Grange members are on opposite sides of current issues and feel compelled to promote their opinions strongly, especially on social media where the speaker is removed from face-to-face confrontation. We would never make these statements to someone's face, but we feel safe posting them on social media where we are protected from conflict.

Our Grange ritual and obligations are filled with specific expectations about how we are to act as Grangers - inside and outside our meetings and halls. In every meeting, the president is called to remind us during our opening ceremony that the purpose of the Grange is "for promoting the welfare of our country and of mankind." In the closing ceremony, just before we go our separate ways, we are urged to be "quiet, peaceful citizens... keeping ourselves unspotted from the world."

These words were written at a time similar to ours today - when there were deep and personal differences of opinion and experiences. Inflammatory posts and rhetoric do nothing to bring us together or promote peace.

When each of us joined the Grange we pledged to never "wrong or defraud a member of the Order or allow it to be done by another if within my power to prevent it." Within our Order there has always been and will always be people of various

diverse groups - of faith, race, ethnicity and political affiliation. Posting or sharing items that attack an entire party, race, or even generation of people blindly includes the Grangers among them and wrongs them. When your fellow members of that attacked group see their Brothers and Sisters spewing hate for them, how can they not feel a bit betrayed and deceived that the Grange lessons and oaths were not taken to heart. Your personal posts can easily make someone in your Grange feel as if you believe them to be inferior or that you are disrespectful of those they love - an easy way to pull apart an organization whose founding documents have given us tried and true guidelines to avoid such a fate in an unsettled time.

For those who have been elected and installed into office, the pledge specifically prohibits using our position to influence the beliefs of our members: "I will not take advantage of my position to unfairly influence other members with my political or religious opinions." Officers at any level have an extra responsibility to behave at all times as if they represent the Grange, and are held to a higher standard. To these individuals, a special reminder: there is a very fine line between expressing your personal opinion on your personal Facebook page, and speaking for the Grange you serve, because people know you are a Granger and may think you are voicing the general feelings of the Grange organization. Your generalized scorn for a class of people will make any task insurmountable when you try to work together



Betsy E. Huber

for the good of the Grange.

Finally, and maybe most importantly, I urge you to remember our motto: "In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things charity." Before you post something, take another look at it. Does it show charity (love) to all? Could someone we love take offense to what we are sharing? Sometimes it's better just to keep on scrolling and not repost an item or respond with a comment if it will not be beneficial.

While your personal accounts are just that, your Grange-oriented accounts are under even more scrutiny because the content on them reflects on our entire organization. Please remember whom you're representing and act accordingly. This means avoid cursing or unacceptable language, avoid posting inappropriate material, avoid misrepresenting the Grange by stating views that aren't in alignment with Grange policy. Always be welcoming and charitable.

These moral standards apply to posts made to a Grange page by you through your personal account as well. Avoid posting anything that contains inappropriate content or language.

AGAIN REMEMBER: you are representing the Grange and everything you post to Facebook or any other site is FOREVER.

I hope that we as Grangers will try to do better and do our part to restore civility to our small area of the world.

National Grange Virtual Photo Contest Open To All

The 2020 National Grange Virtual Photo Contest came about as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic causing massive changes to our annual National and State Grange conventions. This contest allows for a photo contest even without state contests. All photos entered will become the property of the National Grange and may be used in National Grange publications and virtual media.

RULES

A. The National Grange Virtual Photo Contest is open to all Grangers and yet-to-be Grangers.

B. Submitted photos can be of any subject. [Any photograph deemed inappropriate will not be judged or exhibited in the National Grange Virtual Photo Contest.]

C. All entries must be received electronically as a single (1) file no larger than 1GB via Google Forms at <http://tiny.cc/grange20pubitem> by October 31, 2020.

D. There is one division - come one, come all!

E. Each individual is limited to entering three photos.

F. Entries should be no more than one year old.

G. Any entries received after the October 31, 2020 deadline will not be judged.

PRIZES

Monetary prizes will be awarded: 1st - \$50, 2nd - \$30 and 3rd - \$20.

National Grange News

Action And Information On The US Postal Service

By Betsy E. Huber
Master/President
National Grange

PART 1

The United States Postal Service is part of our public trust – an essential resource for individuals and businesses, and a piece of the American fabric that has long made our nation great. The current crisis involving USPS and its solvency is not new in 2020, though the pandemic has exacerbated the problem, as it has with so many other facets of American life.

Since its earliest days in the late 1800s, the Grange has known the importance of a robust and solvent postal service and advocated for such. Specifically, the work of our members in the latter part of the 19th century to secure rural free delivery helped to elevate life in some of our nation’s most remote corners and level the playing field for social connection and business.

For more than two centuries the USPS was an official department within the U.S. government and as such had a budget that helped subsidize shortfalls in revenue, meaning its operations came with a little help from its friends – the U.S. taxpayers. In 1970, as part of an overall shift toward a smaller federal government, the Postal Reorganization Act was passed, a milestone in the evolution of USPS from federal department to self-determining agency. Over the next several years, \$9 billion tax dollars were used as part of that move towards independence, and in 1982, the now-independent agency took its last no-strings-attached taxpayer dollars. Loans to the agency are still available through the federal government,

but must be paid back in full.

From 1983 to 2006, under its own management with little federal interference, the agency ran a deficit budget only four times. Then in 2006, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act - that required it to fully fund the pension of employees 75 years out - was signed and pushed the financially solvent agency into the freefall we have seen since.

Not once since 2006 has the agency turned a profit or even come close to breaking even. Their best year since the unfunded liability mandate was 2017 when they lost just over \$2.5 billion. Five years before, in 2012, the agency had its worst year on record when expenses were more than \$15.7 billion over revenue and they missed making payments into the pension plan – a failure repeated year after year since. To date, the agency – which cannot set its own rates and as such does not determine its own destiny – has paid \$278 billion into the fund, but owes more than \$120 billion.

The act also mandated specific service goals for the USPS, weakened the provisions in the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970 that protected rural and remote post offices, and created a postal rate cap that has been beneficial to consumers but undermines the agency’s ability to raise the funds necessary for the mandated pension payments.

In 2016, then Postmaster General Megan Brennan told Congress the agency would run out of funds by 2024. By May 2020, COVID-19 shifted the timeline dramatically with Brennan’s deadline changing to first September 2020, then April 2021 as some momentum picked back up in the economy

and as consumers rallied around the beloved agency, purchasing stamps and sending letters.

Americans rely on the Postal Service to deliver not only correspondence, but income checks, tax documents, and other sensitive materials daily. In 2019, the USPS handled more than 140 billion items, down from its peak of 213 billion in 2006.

The USPS is also the essential connection for many rural Americans who have been left behind in the great buildout of the internet age. Millions of Americans have no high-speed internet at home – about 30 million according to the FCC, or upwards of 41.2 million individuals as reported by a study conducted by BroadbandNow which has highlighted the inaccurate methods used to produce broadband maps.

The move by Speaker Nancy Pelosi to have Congress return and the emergency hearing with recently-appointed Postmaster General Louis DeJoy slated for Friday, August 20 is necessary. However, plans for legislation to restrict the USPS’s options to make its way out of the financial quicksand is equally short-sighted if it does not include an effort on the part of both the House and Senate to somehow repeal or reform this pension mandate.

The USPS Fairness Act, which would undo the pension pre-funding requirement, passed the House in 2017 and again just before the pandemic began this year, but has never been acted upon by the Senate.

PART 2

During a speech on his first day on the job June 15, Postmaster

DeJoy said he wanted to place the USPS “on a trajectory for success.” He then began making moves recommended under Brennan’s administration by an independent watchdog of the agency to reduce costs – recommendations made prior to the pandemic.

The move to eliminate extra trips, adhere to a more standardized schedule for carriers including the requirement to return to their post office by a certain time regardless if all the mail on their route had been delivered, and the elimination of overtime were a few of the recommendations put into play in July.

The recommendations now being acted upon by DeJoy to reduce costs were made prior to the pandemic, which has become the backdrop to much of our way of life. While still relevant, carrying them out today as if we were still living pre-COVID will not work. The pandemic has changed everything about normal life, and the USPS is no different. At the same time as the USPS has taken a financial beating due to the coronavirus pandemic, it has also taken an even more essential role in our lives as millions have been forced to work, learn, and do business from home. The Grange has long called on every publicly funded entity to use good discretion and manage funds well for the good of the people. We’ve asked for a review of best practices but always stood on the side of keeping Americans from every part of our republic connected.

Removing underperforming mailboxes, dismantling sorting machines, reducing runs, and eliminating overtime may well be a steps in the right direction - but now is the wrong time. With bailouts and federal dollars going to other major industries, such as airlines, to keep them solvent and viable for the day we return to a semblance of normal, it only makes sense to include the USPS in these relief packages.

It is important to note as well that the USPS has been on a correction course for a number of years, trying to get its obligations and pricing in line with the volume of service. Yet more, the USPS has evolved and found new ways to engage and attract customers.

The USPS is the second-largest employer in the nation, with nearly 100,000 veterans on the payroll. As part of its belt-tightening, it has shed hundreds of thousands of career personnel over the past two decades, down to just under a half-million employees today from its peak in 1999 of nearly 800,000.

UPS, FedEx and other private delivery services have no mandate to deliver to every residence in the nation, while the USPS does. It

serves as the last-mile carrier for many packages and envelopes left on its doorstep by its privately-owned competitors.

The idea has been floated to privatize the USPS - the most popular government entity with more than 90 percent favorability ratings – a cause for concern specifically because of the issue of access. Should the USPS be run for break-even or profitability, many of our farthest flung countrymen may feel like they are transported back to the early 1890s when rural free delivery did not exist and they had to travel miles to a nearby town to collect mail and packages.

In addition, the USPS is the delivery method used by millions of Americans for life-saving and sustaining prescription drugs. As of 2013, 20 percent of all Americans receive their medicine by mail, including 50 percent of all Americans 60 and older. That number has undoubtedly grown, especially in the time of COVID-19.

The most pressing issues for Veterans amid these mail slowdowns has been the impact of their ability to receive medications on time. According to the VA website medications should be arriving within 3-5 days, but report from VA staff and veterans have said these medications are sometimes taking weeks to be delivered and causing missed doses. With 80% of the VA prescriptions filled by mail and the continuation of a global pandemic, we should be able to rely on the USPS for timely deliveries.

Privatization could leave mail and packages unsecured, putting tax documents, social security checks, prescription drugs and ballots, to name a few, in jeopardy for theft or tampering.

Washington, Oregon, Hawaii, Colorado and Utah have moved to an all-mail voting system in the past several years, and while modest, participation rates in elections in those states has generally increased. As the pandemic took hold, California, Nevada, New Jersey, Vermont and the District of Columbia have all made provision to mail to each registered voter a ballot for the November election. Montana is leaving to the counties the decision to mail ballots.

We should be seeking secure and safe ways to make voting more accessible for every eligible elector because this ensures a stronger democracy. The USPS must be supported so that voters are certain their ballots will be received and delivered to the polls on time this November.

If you would like to take action check out our FreeRoots campaign on Facebook and send a letter to your local representative today.

National Grange Engages With Media

By Amanda Brozana
National Grange Communications Director

The National Grange communications team has been up to quite a few projects and it is all paying off. Since the arrival of intern, Kennedy Gwin, a member from Washington State, we have been able to write and submit Op-Eds to papers across the U.S. and have been published in almost every Grange state.

With a wide variety of topics currently being discussed by Congress, the Grange has been able to place articles about USPS, importance of voting, rural suicide, whole milk in schools and the importance of filling out the Census. Along with op-eds we have been working closely with Legislative Director Burton Eller, and intern Sean O’Neil, to ensure our advocacy is at the forefront.

If you check our social media, you will see our most recent campaign about the USPS and a previous one about milk in schools through the online contact system called FreeRoots. FreeRoots helps our members send letters directly to Congress and other legislators about whatever topic the Grange has been advocating for.

As we continue to engage with newspapers, we have also been getting quite a bit of online traffic as our social media is getting regularly updated with press statements as well as legislative action, along with our other content. Visit our Twitter, Facebook or LinkedIn to hear National President Betsy Huber’s recent interview with FederalNewsNetwork on the current USPS issue and rural America.

The communications team is now gearing up for the upcoming Good Day! Magazine and is excited to continue our other outreach. We remind you that if you have not renewed your subscription to Good Day!, it may be time. Use the Member ID on your recent issue’s mailing label to check when you are due to renew at www.nationalgrange.org/goodday now so you don’t miss an issue. You will find more of our outreach and other great coverage in the next issue coming out in mid-October.

Community Service Reports Reviewed; Contest Winners Selected

Continued from page 1

produce items, including lettuce, radishes, beets, and a variety of squash were all included in this year's donated items. Fargher Lake members made the "Just One Thing" project a priority for their members. The project was created to help people out of homelessness. Grange members collected and donated food items, comfort items, warm hats, scarves, baby clothes and a variety of other items. Grange members made "Hope Bags" for the Battle Ground Schools. The bags consisted of toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, bar soap, hand sanitizer, snacks, bottled water, and other comfort items.

Goldendale Grange members instituted the Care Package Project (CPP) in the face of the coronavirus pandemic. Grange members and others mobilized, collected donations and delivered 34 "care packages" on March 16. The program grew exponentially within weeks, with 540 packages delivered on April 24. The Grange used the "Cultivating Connections" theme to build coalitions and partnerships to obtain both perishable and non-perishable food for distribution. By May 8, over 80,000 pounds of perishable items were distributed. The program has continued to expand to other communities in Klickitat County. Additional projects included creating simple portable sanitizing stations for use throughout the town. The Grange also made a financial donation to the Klickitat Valley Health Hospital Foundation to purchase items for their new Covid isolation rooms. Several additional projects rounded out Goldendale's entry in the contest.

Greenwood Park Grange, located in the community of Hunters in Southern Stevens County, assisted with feeding and clothing local families and homeless veterans. Grange members worked at the local food bank and made deliveries to those who could not travel into the food bank. Grange members collected and delivered blankets, coats, socks, and hats for homeless veterans. The Grange participated in the 4th of July Celebration, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, and Christmas Baskets for Families in Need.



Mountain Valley Grange - Honoring our Veterans. Pictured is Major Dennis Steigmann, USMC, Ret.

The Grange also conducted the Community Halloween Party, the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, the Community Christmas Dinner, and the Community Sweetheart Steak Dinner.

Humptulips Grange, located in northwest Grays Harbor County, operates the Humptulips Food Bank. While serving an average of 55 families per month, the number of families has increased to nearly 80 during the Covid pandemic. The Grange has partnered with Coastal Harvest and Northwest Harvest for food supplies and has a contract with the WA State Department of Agriculture to distribute TEFAP and TMP foods. In addition to private donations, a major donor of the food bank is the Hoquiam High School Football Program, where students collect food and monetary donations annually. Humptulips members hosted a fundraising event for a 10-year old community member to assist with medical expenses following a fireworks accident. Over \$2300 was raised to assist in the medical expenses. Grange members donated Thanksgiving pies for the Union Gospel Mission. Over 500 items were collected for the Keep Washington Warm Project. Kids were supported through the Junior Grange and assisting several members to attend camp. The Grange also nominated Captain Larissa Rohr of the Hoquiam Fire Department, who was eventually named the State and National Grange Firefighter of the Year for 2019.

North River Grange's 23 members operate the North River Food Bank, using the Grange Hall for food storage and as a distribution center. The Grange, located in the remote community of Brooklyn in Pacific County, has created a partnership with the North River School for several programs and activities, including sponsoring and conducting the annual North River School Spelling Bee. The Grange provides school supplies to the students. The Grange provided Christmas Cards to elementary students to write letters to servicemen overseas. The Grange provided dictionaries to the students through the Words for Third Program and followed it up with a dictionary challenge project for the students. North River Grangers support several collections each year....books for the Timberland Library Reading Tree, personal care items for the Friendship House Women's Shelter, Thanksgiving pies for the Union Gospel Mission, and financial donations to the North River Community Scholarship Fund and the Heart & Hands Pregnancy Center. The Grange supports their Junior Grange and also coordinated the North River Community Garage Sale.

Mountain Valley Grange, located in the unincorporated

town of Amboy in Northern Clark County, provided dictionaries to 166 students at the Yacolt Primary School. The Grange also partnered with the North Clark Historical Museum to conduct their 32nd Annual Community Celebration Honoring Veterans. Eight guests joined the 29 veterans in attendance. Mountain Valley Grange also hosted the Old School/Old Timers Picnic at the Amboy Territorial Days Park. Personal care items were collected for the Share House. Donations were made to the food bank in Amboy. Several members worked at the coffee stop at the rest area. The Grange donates their hall for the use of the Boy Scouts, the Exercise Ladies, and the Lions Club. A Community News Board is also located in the basement of the Grange Hall.

Newaukum Grange can be found four miles southwest of Chehalis in Lewis County. Following a presentation by the Director of the Lewis County Gospel Mission, Grange members collected and donated food, coffee, and personal care items to the mission. The Grange also made a financial contribution to the Napavine School to assist in the establishment of an FFA program at the school. The Grange purchased and donated ribbons to the participants in the Napavine Elementary School Reading Programs. Puzzle books were donated to the family waiting room at the Providence Hospital in Centralia. Canned goods were also collected for the Walk and Knock Food Drive in December.

Oakview Grange, located on the outskirts of Centralia in Lewis County, has a St. Pauley Used Clothing Shed at their Grange Hall. Proceeds go to support numerous charities. Grange members also collected personal care items, and then sorted and bagged the combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, wash cloths, soap, razors, and lotions into personal care kits that were delivered to the Lewis County Gospel Mission, the Twin City Mission for Women, and the Hub City Mission. The Grange makes financial donations to the Veterans Memorial Museum, The Lewis County Historical Museum, Camp Leo, Ag in the Classroom, Dogs for Better Lives, the Passage Quilt Project, and various Grange charities.

Quillisascut Grange of rural Stevens County focused on community quilt projects. Starting with baby quilts for the Mt. Carmel Hospital, the Grange expanded to making lap quilts for nursing home residents at Pinewood, Buena Vista, and Parkview, plus additional lap quilts for foster children. The Grange also partnered with Fire District #12 to hold a Cemetery Clean Up. Dictionaries were presented to local school students. The Grange collected personal care items at their



Partnering with Schools for School Supplies - Another project for North River Grange.

meeting and delivered them to the Warming Center. Donations were also made to the Colville and Kettle Falls Food Banks. The Grange held a community wide Hunter's Breakfast and an annual quilt raffle to support their service projects.

Rose Valley Grange is located seven miles southeast of Kelso in Cowlitz County. With the Covid pandemic upon them, Grange members made and distributed 2000 cloth masks. The masks were distributed to a variety of organizations including 350 for the graduating class at Kelso High School for their graduation car parade. Grange members made fidget quilts for Alzheimer patients at the Progress Center in Longview and Beacon Hill Rehabilitation Center in Kelso. Grange members participated in Rose Valley Day, which brings together many groups and members of the community. Dictionaries were provided to students at the Rose Valley School and several area private schools. A \$700 scholarship was presented to a high school student. Grange members also placed flags and crosses in the local cemetery for Memorial Day.

South Union Grange is located in rural Thurston County. Grange members participated in the free coffee program at the Maytown Rest area on I-5. The Grange also has a St. Pauley Textile Donation Shed. Grange members regularly bag the items, sort the donations, and keep the shed organized. Items not usable by St. Pauley are donated to other charities in the community. Grange members continue to oppose and monitor a huge commercial development that could change the entire character of their community. South Union Grange presented a \$500 scholarship to a high school senior and provided a campship for a child to attend Junior Grange Camp. The Grange held a food drive for the Thurston County Food Bank. The Grange also donates the use of their hall to the Cub Scouts.

Waller Road Grange, located in suburban Pierce County, donates dictionaries to two local elementary schools. Grange members have been busy knitting and crocheting hats, headbands, and toys, donating the items to

local schools, nursing homes, cancer centers, and food banks. Grange members continue to sew nightgowns and pajamas for foster children. Members made over 55 masks for clinics, friends, and family. The Grange offers the use of their hall to 4-H, Girl Scouts, and school groups for a minimal to no charge. They also held with the Pomona Kitchen at the Pierce County Fair and heled with the coffee stop programs.

Cash prizes will be awarded to each of the Granges by the Grange Cooperative Group. Prizes for subordinate Granges in each class are: First Place - \$400; Second Place - \$300; Third Place - \$200; and Fourth Place - \$100. The National Grange will sponsor additional cash awards for the top four overall reports. North River Grange was selected as the overall first place winner and will represent the Washington State Grange in the national contest. North River was followed in the overall awards by Humptulips in second place, Mountain Valley in third place, and Goldendale in fourth place.

The Pomona Grange category will have prizes of \$200 for first place, \$150 for second place, and \$100 for third place. Major projects for each of the Pomona winners were:

➤ **Thurston** - created a display at the Washington State Fair featuring the produce and production in Thurston County. A display was created for the Thurston County Fair and monies collected from each Grange to support the Youth Livestock Auction. Pomona held a Farm city Dinner featuring former Sheriff Gary Edwards.

➤ **Grays Harbor/Pacific** - supported the Grays Harbor County Fair by providing door prizes for the Grange display area. Members are working on obtaining new display cases for Youth/Junior Grange exhibits. The Pomona sponsored awards for the State 4-H Fair in Puyallup and the Junior Grange exhibits at the Grays Harbor County Fair.

➤ **Snake River** - distributed food commodities to needy citizens throughout the year. The Pomona also sponsors an award for the 4-H club in the county with the Best Community Service Project.

Grange Connection

COWLITZ COUNTY

Pleasant Hill Grange continues to operate in a scaled-back capacity. Granger are donating food and bedding to the Community House in Kelso. We are continuing to assemble and distribute weighted blankets to the Progress Center. Thank you to the members and friends are have stepped up to clean and do yard work at the Grange Hall. Our Holiday Bazaar is tentative scheduled for November 6-7.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Elma Grange will be starting up the garage sales as of Sept. 4/5/6. There won't be any cooked food, might be some sealed snacks and soda/coffee/tea . Fri/Sat times are 9 to 5 and Sunday will be 10 to 3:30. There will be masks/wipes/hand sanitizer at the door. Come and send us off to a good end of year, thanks.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange has been a quiet building since March. We have missed seeing our members and all our friends at our last Sunday pancake breakfasts and other summer events the Grange has usually hosted. We did have a July Zoom meeting and sadly had to cancel all events scheduled through September but hopefully will be able to start up again in October. If we do then we'll host our annual Booster Night in November and our annual Christmas party in December. We will be presenting dictionaries to third graders at Colbert Elementary School. We sent old card fronts to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital for their art projects. When we can meet again, we will be draping the charter for long time members Bonnie Walker, Tom Forkner and Viola Garrison. Thanks to Bonnie's request we've received some donations for our scholarship

fund. Life goes on even during these COVID-19 times and we pray for all who have lost a loved one, those who have tested positive, those who have contacted the coronavirus, all the front-line responders, and our own family members and friends. Stay safe, stay healthy and live your life to the fullest as best you can.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange is working hard to promote positivity and some semblance of normality to the Grange members and area residents. Most area fall and winter events have already been cancelled for this year. Another bingo night was cancelled because covid-19 restrictions were increased. There has been discussion about trying to schedule another bingo night, the annual Kiddie Karnival and Haunted House-these will be the major topic at the September meeting. Stay health and safe!

Pomona Connection

CLARK COUNTY POMONA

Clark County Pomona Grange held a zoom meeting on August 12. Discussion was held regarding hall rentals and usage during the Covid-19 pandemic. As Clark County is still in O\Phase 2, there are strict limitations as to what may

occur. State Master Tom Gwin attended and discussed the changes with our convention and conversion to a business meeting.

GRAYS HARBOR/
PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona

Grange met in July at Long Beach. Two resolutions were adopted. The next Pomona Grange meeting will be on Saturday, September 12 at 10 a.m. at the Olympic View Grange Hall.

Pomona Calendar

All Pomona Granges are reminded to send their list of 2020 and 2021 meeting dates, times, and locations to grange@wa-grange.org for inclusion into this calendar.

This list of dates was submitted to the WA State Grange in January. Due to COVID-19, there may be numerous changes in this schedule. Please confirm your dates with the Pomona Grange Master prior to the scheduled meeting.

CHELAN.....	November 21, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Location to be announced. Social Luncheon will be at Smitty's in Wenatchee on September 17.
CLALLAM.....	September 8 at Fairview, 6 p.m. meeting, refreshments afterward.
CLARK.....	September 9 at Mountain Valley, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.
COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUM	September 19 at Pleasant Hill, 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7:30 p.m. meeting
EXCELSIOR.....	September at Enterprise, 10:30 a.m. Exact date to be announced.
FERRY	October 12 at Malo, 6 p.m. meeting.
GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC	September 12 at Olympic View, 10 a.m. meeting.
KING.....	October 17 at East Hill, 10 a.m. Will be election of officers.
KITSAP	September 18 at Silverdale, 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7:30 p.m. meeting.
KLICKITAT	September 12 at Alder Creek, 5 p.m. potluck, 6 p.m. meeting.
LEWIS.....	October 3 at Hope, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. Tri County Meeting will be September 27 at 2 p.m. at the Cowlitz Prairie Grange Hall.
MASON.....	September 19 at The Agate, 11 a.m. meeting.
OKANOGAN.....	November 14, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Location to be announced.
PEND OREILLE.....	October 10 at Fertile Valley, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Will be election of officers. Lifeflight group member fee due.
PIERCE	October 3 at Riverside Valley, 10 a.m. Will be election of officers.
SKAGIT	September 2 at Fredonia, 7 p.m. meeting, October 7 at Rexville.
SNAKE RIVER	September 19 at Columbia Valley, 10 a.m. No Host lunch following meeting.
SNOHOMISH	to be determined.
SPOKANE	November 21 at Green Bluff, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Will be election of officers.
STEVENS.....	October 24 at Stranger Creek, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck
SUNNYSIDE	September 8 at Buena, 7:30 p.m.
THURSTON.....	October 1 at South Union, 7 p.m. meeting. Will be election of officers.
WHATCOM.....	September 17 at North Bellingham, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.
WHITMAN	October at Rimrock, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Exact date to be announced.
YAKIMA.....	September 18 at Broadway, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.

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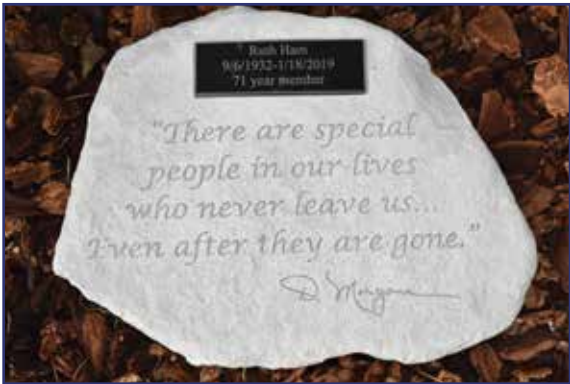
Grange Connection

Barberton Grange Makes Bedrolls For Veterans



Barberton Grange members Beverly McGuire, Matt Hodges and Tammie Hodges delivered 6 bed rolls to the Clark County Veterans Assistance Center. All were made by Barberton Grange member Beverly McGuire. These bed rolls are made from plastic grocery bags. They provide homeless Veterans a soft place to sleep and easily dried. This brings the total so far to 35 bed rolls donated and approx. 35,000 bags recycled. Beverly is not only collecting bags from all over Clark County, but Texas, Virginia and Tennessee as well. Thank you Beverly McGuire!!

Fargher Lake Grange Memorial Garden Honors Past Members



Vickie Gilmour has been working on a memorial garden for some of Fargher Lake Grange's past members. She just completed the garden and wanted to share photos. The stones have been donated by Grange members. The work, and supplies including the bark and flowers, were provided by Vickie Gilmour.

A New Library Addition To Baw Faw Grange



Back in April, the Baw Faw Grange decided to install a Sharing/Little Library. For those not familiar with the concept, this "library" is a box filled with books — an invitation for neighbors to stop by and take a book and perhaps leave another one in its place. The Baw Faw Grange Family Living Chairperson Lori Eades suggested the idea, and everyone embraced it right away. Within a few weeks, the little library was up and running, thanks to the Johnson family. They built it using a window from their 100-year-old barn for the door. Other members filled it with books, DVD's, and even shared plants and seeds below the library. This project embodies the Grange's mission of giving back to the community. It comes at an especially welcome time, with the nearest town library closed to the public for months due to the virus outbreak. Even when we can't gather in groups to share stories, this little library provides inspiration and entertainment for our neighbors.

Camas Valley Grange Deep Cleans Their Hall



There were 16 Camas Valley Grange members that showed up and helped with deep cleaning the Camas Valley Grange Hall back in July. So much got accomplished. Things were moved, cleared and cleaned, sorted and scrubbed... even the dust bunnies weren't safe. So many things were discovered that had been set aside to deal with later, like photos and albums. Tables were refinished, upholstered chairs and benches were shampooed, and areas repainted. A few breaks and lunch, and one little helper even took a nap break. Another deep clean day will be scheduled soon to accomplish more. Soon the bathrooms will be remodeled, and the beautiful wood floors refinished. A huge THANK YOU to each volunteer for all that "elbow grease"!

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For questions, email Amanda at communications@nationalgrange.org

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