



WASHINGTON STATE

Grange News

January 2021

Informing Grangers Since 1912

110th Year No. 1



Clark County Pomona Hosts Santa Visit To Learning Avenue Day Care Center

Clark County Pomona #1 has been delivering toys and gifts to the Day Care Center for 17 years. The children always looked forward to a visit from Santa, sitting on his lap and telling him what they want, and then getting a gift and a toy. Unfortunately, that was not possible this year.

Debbie Richards, Family Living Director, contacted Dorene Brugman, Director, and asked what they needed this year. Dorene shared that due to Covid,

the children are not allowed any toys or stuffed animals to be at the school, but she shared they really needed masks! Both adult and children's sizes. Debbie Richards put out the call for hats, scarves, and masks. Grangers from Barberton, Fargher Lake, Fishers Pioneer, Manor, Mountain Valley and Washington rallied and made or donated over 80 hats and scarves, and over 200 masks! Santa provided candy canes for all the children.

Judy Steigmann contacted Rudolph (aka - Cheryl Hangsleben) to drive Santa and Mrs. Claus around the parking lot at the Day Care Center in her red Mustang convertible! The children lined up on the sidewalk and waved to Santa as he made several passes by them. One child was heard to say, "Santa's riding in a red Ferrari!" The scarves, hats, masks, and candy canes were left in boxes wrapped like Christmas presents by the front door for the

children to receive later.

Santa (Dave Johnson, Mt. Valley Grange), Mrs. Claus (Jeanette Cejka, Washington Grange), Elf Judy Steigmann (Mt. Valley Grange), Janice Anderson (Washington Grange and Clark

County Pomona Master) and Debbie Richards (Fisher Pioneer Grange and Clark County Pomona Family Living Director) had a great time watching the children so excited for Santa to visit them.

February 2021 issue deadline – January 20th
Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org



Washington Granges Celebrate Christmas

Pages 8 - 12

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming State Grange Events

Due to Covid-19, many scheduled events are either cancelled or postponed. Please call prior to the event to confirm.

- JANUARY**Fourth Quarter Secretary Reports Due
- JANUARY 1**Annual Lecturer Reports Due to State Lecturer
- JANUARY 1**Annual Family Living Reports Due to State FL Director
- JANUARY 6**Youth Department Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- JANUARY 9**Youth Department Zoom Meeting, 9 am
- JANUARY 14**Grange Masters/Presidents Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- JANUARY 19**Family Living Department Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- JANUARY 20**Grange Masters/Presidents Zoom Meeting, 2 pm
- JANUARY 20**Grange Lecturers Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- JANUARY 21**Grange Lecturers Zoom Meeting, 1 pm
- JANUARY 21**Grange Community Service Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- JANUARY 23**Grange Masters/Presidents Zoom Meeting, 10 am
- JANUARY 23**Grange Community Service Zoom Meeting, 1 pm
- JANUARY 26**Grange Treasurers Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- JANUARY 27**Grange Treasurers Zoom Meeting, 10 am
- JANUARY 27**Grange Membership Development Program Zoom Meeting, 1 pm
- JANUARY 28**Grange Membership Development Program Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- JANUARY 30**Grange Lecturers Zoom Meeting, 10 am
- JANUARY 30**Grange Treasurers Zoom Meeting, 1 pm
- FEBRUARY 2**Grange Foundation Scholarships Questions and Answers Zoom Meeting, 7 p.m.
- FEBRUARY 4**Junior Grange Department Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- FEBRUARY 6**Grange Secretaries Zoom Meeting, 10 am
- FEBRUARY 6**Junior Grange Department Zoom Meeting, 3 pm
- FEBRUARY 9**Grange Secretaries Zoom Meeting, 10 am
- FEBRUARY 10**Grange Secretaries Zoom Meeting, 7 pm
- JUNE 23-26**132nd Annual WA State Grange Session at Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Port Townsend
- JULY 4-9**Camp David JG Camp
- JULY 11-17**Morehead JG Camp
- JULY 18-24**Mayfield JG Camp
- JULY 18-24**NEWA JG Camp
- AUGUST 1-6**Cornet Bay JG Camp
- TBD**Wooten JG Camp

Editorial

If Your'e Interested In Civil Discussion, The Grange Needs You

By Tom Gwin
State Grange
Master/President
(As Printed in the Seattle Times)

The National Grange and the Washington State Grange are proud of the legacy of our non-partisan organization, founded more than 150 years ago, to encourage civil discussion and debate while requiring those who join to pledge to "conform to and abide by the laws of your state and nation."

In an article published by The Seattle Times on Sunday, December 13 by Mike Carter regarding the controversy at Deer Lagoon Grange #842, concerns were raised as to the membership and activities at this local chapter, which has over its many years been known for excellent outreach in the community and thoughtful discussions about policies that impact the agriculture industry – from producer to consumer – and rural individuals.

The Grange was founded on the vision of bringing together a fractured nation after the Civil War by creating a fraternity for farmers that would transcend regional and political divisions. Again, today we see our country divided – this time by partisanship and unwillingness to respect others' opinions. The

Grange can be as essential today in bridging this gap as it was in 1867.

The Granges of Washington State have a strong history of through our non-partisan legislative involvement. Our Granges have been the champions of rural-free delivery by the U.S. Postal Service. The public power movement, which allowed for the creation of public utility districts, can be traced back to the Washington State Grange. We cannot forget Washington's blanket primary election system, and its successor, the Top Two Primary are both the works of the Grange organization.

There is no place in our Order for individuals who cannot tolerate an open discussion without intimidation – as our Declaration of Purposes states, "difference of opinion is no crime." The Grange is a place where people from all sides are bound, by their own pledge to membership, to come together to find a way forward for the betterment of our community and our nation.

What is happening in our communities large and small, is straining the American experiment. We cannot foster intolerance of our neighbors or fuel a me-first movement where we see only freedoms without responsibility. Democracy

requires certain sacrifice, and the Grange is fundamentally rooted in this idea. Our motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity," is clear and only those who embrace it can be Grangers.

However, stating our principles and standing by our convictions alone is not the end of this story. To ensure the Grange remains the Order it was founded to be – a leader in championing a strong and democratic union – the 150,000 members across the nation cannot stand alone. Our doors are open to anyone of good moral character, interested in preserving the common good and willing to abide by our values and our bylaws – and we hope that this includes you. Only through light can the darkness be vanquished. Only through welcoming new members who mean what they say when they take the oath of membership can we ensure the Grange remains a beacon in our communities.

If you are interested in assuring a brighter future for your community and nation - one that encourages tolerance and civil discourse, innovating solutions to local challenges and helping those need – go to wa-grange.com to identify the Grange nearest you, or contact the Washington State Grange at (360) 943-9911.

On the web: www.WA-Grange.org

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateGrange

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• Tom Gwin, Executive Editor •

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President's Message

Providing Tools For Our Grange Builders

**By Tom Gwin
State Grange
Master/President**

Now that we have closed the door on 2020, we open wide the door to 2021. In opening that door, we want to provide the tools to our Grange builders, whether they be officers, committee chairs, or regular members, your State Grange Leadership Team has put together a toolbox for our Grangers to use in building their Subordinate and Pomona Granges.

The first item in the toolbox is the series of upcoming zoom meeting for our Grangers. You will find that schedule elsewhere in this issue. While each of the meetings is focused on one or two officers, all Grange members are invited to join in on our discussions. Please note the youth department has already completed their zoom meetings and will be looking at additional zoom activities for all Grange members to get us through the end of this pandemic.

The State Grange program handbook is the second items in the toolbox. We will utilize

the 2020 program handbook with the green cover for 2021. If there are changes in a department, that will be noted during the zoom meeting and included in the department packets. We will also post those items on the State Grange website: www.wa-grange.com

Your department packets will be their third item in your

Let's put the pandemic of 2020 behind us, fully recovered and ready to build our Grange into the premier organization in each community in our state.

-- Tom Gwin

toolbox. The packets will be mailed out to the appropriate officer listed on your report. We will also post on the website.

I have spent much time on developing officer handbooks for the Master and Treasurer.



Tom Gwin

These two items will be posted on our website after January 11. We will review these items during the zoom meetings specifically designated for these two offices. You may want to download a print a copy of these items before the zoom meetings.

Grange Secretaries will have a revised handbook and reporting process beginning this year. We are striving to eliminate the length of time before a new member joins your Grange and you report them on your quarterly report to the State Grange. We will review these revisions during the Secretary Conferences.

Or toolboxes can be our greatest asset in 2021. As we continue through the year, we will create additional tools that you can use to build your Grange. Each Grange must use the tools we are developing to assist in building their Grange and promoting our projects and activities.

Let's put the pandemic of 2020 behind us, fully recovered and ready to build our Grange into the premier organization in each community in our state.

Legislative

Looking Towards The 2021 Legislative Session

**By Heather Hansen
Legislative Lobbyist**



Heather Hansen

The 2021 legislative session will begin January 11, 2021. It will be a session like no other. Most of it will be virtual. If you wish, you can watch hearings and floor debate on TVW. There will be opportunities to testify virtually, but it is still unclear how that will work.

In late December, Governor Inslee released his proposed budget for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. The legislature uses his budget as a guide, but they have the authority to change it as they see fit. The budget must be finalized before the legislature adjourns in the spring.

Governor Inslee's proposal includes a 10.5% increase in spending over the current 2019-2021 budget. \$1.7 billion of that is for new policies he hopes the legislature will enact. Current projections show the state should have about \$2.5 billion in reserves when the current biennium ends on June 30, 2021. The Governor's budget projects total reserves of under \$1 billion at the end of the next budget cycle on June 30, 2023.

The Governor's plan includes several new taxes. He would create a 9% tax on capital gains over \$25,000. This tax would apply to sales of stocks, bonds, and other assets. It would not apply to sole proprietor businesses, retirement accounts, homes, farms, timber or earned income. A capital gains tax would likely be challenged in court as an income tax that violates the state constitution.

The Governor would also create a new tax on health insurers to fund public health services. This tax would charge health insurers a monthly fee for each policy they carry. The fee is likely to be passed along to consumers via increasing the cost of health insurance.

The Governor is also pushing for a low-carbon fuel standard. Legislators who support his idea believe it will create jobs in rural areas. Most legislators from rural areas believe it will increase the cost of transportation and thus, the cost of living, in rural areas. It has been called a gas tax that does not benefit transportation infrastructure.

Hundreds of millions of dollars would go to new programs for electric ferries, electric transit systems and to promote electric vehicles.

Despite the economic setbacks caused by COVID-19, there is no budget crisis in Washington. State tax collections are projected to grow by nearly 5% this fiscal year even without tax increases. Some legislative leaders say the state can help people who have suffered during the pandemic without creating new taxes. Others support the Governor's proposal.

Stay tuned, it's bound to be an interesting few months.

Now's a Great Time to Support the Washington State Grange Foundation

Here's how you can help:

Looking for a way to help?
Shop our AmazonSmile Charity Lists to donate items we need



Do you shop at Amazon?

You can make a difference in 2021. Shop for gifts at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/91-6064592> to generate donations for the Washington State Grange Foundation (you can also search by our name, the Washington State Grange Foundation). You MUST shop at AmazonSmile not just the normal Amazon website.

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Support the Washington State Grange Foundation just by shopping at Fred Meyer with your Rewards Card. You are now able to link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit by visiting customer service desk at your local Fred Meyer or by creating an account online and linking your rewards card to the Washington State Grange Foundation (account # DI486). Whenever you use your Rewards Card when shopping at Freddy's, you will be helping our organization earn a donation from Fred Meyer. They are donating \$2.6 million each year - up to \$650,000 each quarter - to the local schools, community organizations and nonprofits of your choice. All you have to do is link your Rewards Card and scan it every time you shop at Fred Meyer.



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Grange Leadership Conferences Go Virtual In 2021

The 2021 Washington State Grange Leadership Conference series will be held virtually via Zoom throughout January and February. We are planning to place the tools in the hands of our Grange leaders that will lead them to a productive year both inside and outside of the Grange.

All the conferences are open to all Grange members and will allow multiple members from a Grange the opportunity to utilize the resources available to conduct successful projects and activities within their Granges. Additional meetings for February will be announced as the dates become available.

Login information is the same for each meeting and is listed to the right of the grid.

FOCUS GROUP	DATE	TIME	TOPIC
GRANGE PRESIDENTS	Thurs, January 14 Wed, January 20 Sat, January 23	7 p.m. 2 p.m. 10 a.m.	Utilizing the Grange Master/President Handbook to its Fullest Potential
GRANGE LECTURERS	Wed, January 20 Thurs, January 21 Sat, January 30	7 p.m. 1 p.m. 10 a.m.	2021 Grange Lecturer Programs and Activities
GRANGE SECRETARIES	Sat, February 6 Tues, February 9 Wed, February 10	10 a.m. 10 a.m. 7 p.m.	Duties and Responsibilities of the Grange Secretary; Introduction of New Secretary Report Forms
GRANGE TREASURERS	Tues, January 26 Wed, January 27 Sat, January 30	7 p.m. 10 a.m. 1 p.m.	An Introduction to the Grange Financial Guide and the Treasurer's Handbook
FAMILY LIVING CHAIRS	Tues, January 19	7 p.m.	2021 Grange Family Living Programs
JUNIOR GRANGE	Thurs, February 4 Sat, February 6	7 p.m. 3 p.m.	Growing Kids with the Junior Grange
COMMUNITY SERVICE	Thurs, January 21 Sat, January 23	7 p.m. 1 p.m.	Developing Service Projects to Benefit Your Grange and Community
MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	Wed, January 27 Thurs, January 28	1 p.m. 7 p.m.	Brainstorming Ideas to Reach Your Grange's Membership Potential
GRANGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS	Tues, February 2	7 p.m.	Questions and Answers – State Grange Foundation Scholarships

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>

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Community Service

Community Service Contest Classes To Change In 2021

Heather Ferguson has agreed to provide leadership for the State Grange Community Service Department. Reports and notebooks will continue to be sent to the State Grange Office in Olympia.

With the decrease in the number of reports received in 2020, we will be going to only two classes in the 2021 Community Service Contest:

Class 1 – Subordinate Granges with 40 or less members

Class 2 – Subordinate Granges with 41 or more members and All Pomona Granges

Community Service Reports will be for the period of June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021. All reports

must arrive at the State Grange Office by June 5.

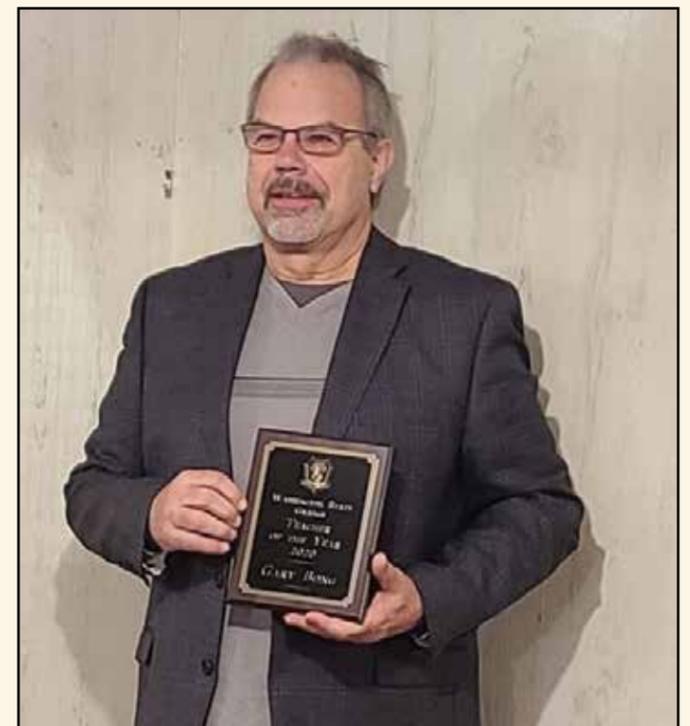
Nominations for the Community Recognition Program will remain with the April 15 deadline. Each Grange is asked to make nominations for the “Outstanding Community Volunteer and/or Group”, “Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer”, “Outstanding Teacher” and “Outstanding Firefighter”. Groups may not be Grange groups, but individual Grange members may be a part of the group. The Outstanding Community Volunteer may not be a Grange member.

Thank you to those Granges

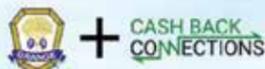
who have continued to support our programs through the pandemic. Many Granges supported their food banks with food and monetary donations. Several Granges donated their items for the Keep Washington Warm project to assist in keeping our citizens warm throughout the winter. Many other Granges adopted families or provided gifts to needy families, while others continued the Grange tradition of providing dictionaries for third grade students in the “Words for Thirds” program.

Your outstanding service efforts will allow us to continue making a difference in our communities across the State of Washington.

Mt. Valley Grange Presents Award



Mt. Valley is holding their regular monthly business meetings. They can social distance in the basement and everyone wears a mask. In December, they invited Gary Bong, former Band Director at Amboy Middle School, to attend and presented him with the plaque from Washington State Grange as the 2020 Teacher of the Year. Gary believes music education helps improve motor skills, language development, problem solving, and teamwork. Gary retired at the end of the school year in 2019 after teaching for 33 years. Gary was surprised, honored, and very appreciative of the award he received.



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www.cashbackconnections.com/grange

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Recognition/Awards Received At The 2020 National Grange Convention

DISTINGUISHED GRANGES

Washington State Grange
 Five Mile Prairie Grange #905
 Goldendale Grange #49
 Humptulips Grange #730

QUILT BLOCK CONTEST

Group III (Men, ages 14)
 First Place: Duane Hamp
 Five Mile Prairie Grange #905

PHOTOGRAPHY SHOWCASE

People – First Place
 Alice Coakley
 Oakview Grange #311

PUBLICITY ITEM CONTEST

Professional – Second Place
 Five Mile Prairie Grange #905
 (Scholarship Awardad)

GRANGES IN ACTION

Washington State Grange
 Elma Grange #26
 Baw Faw Grange #34
 Mountain Valley Grange #79
 Centerville Grange #81
 Pleasant Hill Grange #101
 Silver Lake Grange #105
 Sammamish Valley Grange #286
 Green Bluff Grange #300
 Oakview Grange #311
 Mossyrock Grange #355
 Quilliscut Grange #372
 Beehive Grange #385
 Adna Grange #417
 Skamokawa Grange #425
 Twisp Valley Grange #482
 Terrace Heights Grange #586
 Dry Creek Grange #646
 Chimacum Grange #681
 San Poil Grange #684

GRANGES IN ACTION

Cowlitz Prairie Grange #737
 Olympic View Grange #774
 Camas Valley Grange #842
 East Oakville Grange #902
 South Camano Grange #930
 Columbia Valley Grange #938
 Ralston Grange #943
 North River Grange #946
 North Willapa Harbor Grange #947
 Rose Valley Grange #953
 Sallal Grange #955
 Swauk Teanaway Grange #984
 Fruitland Grange #999
 The Valley Grange #1048
 Lopez Island Grange #1060
 Sequim Prairie Grange #1108
 Crescent Grange #1123
 White Trail Grange #1143
 Moses Lake Grange #1151
 Humptulips Junior Grange #376

Membership Corner

Welcome New Members

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS

December 2020

	# Joined	Jr. +1
Fairview #619 1 Scott Claboe	1	
Finley #414 2 Larry Ulbricht, Rebecca Ulbricht	2	
Goldendale #49 4 Nancy Mains, Jim Oliver, Janet Town Ann Fernandez	4	
Lincoln Creek #407 1 Don Stark	1	
Lopez Island #1060 1 Julie McLeland	1	
North River #946 1 Silvia Washington	1	
Violet Prairie #996 1 Billie-Jean Williams	1	
Whelan Ewartsville #114 1 Kenneth Leclaman	1	
	# Joined	Jr. +1
TOTALS 12	12	0

2021: New Year, New Goals

Happy New Year Grangers! Well, we finally made it to 2021. What a feat it has been!

2020 gave us every curve ball we could ever have imagined. Through it all, we have found new meaning to perseverance, patients, and progress. Many of you have grown in ways you never thought possible. You dug deep within to uncover new potential and possibilities for those in your communities and you worked to stay connected and to help where help was needed.

2020 forced us to grow in the area of technologies to keep our Granges and members connected. We were pushed outside of our comfort zones. Much of what we have learned can also be applied to membership drives and the ability

to ask others to join you in the Grange. It takes us getting outside of our comfort zones to ask both our friends and neighbors to join us. With the reminder that the worst thing someone could say is "NO".

As we continue to see the world around us change, we must be ready to heed the call. The 20's are going to bring us back to our communities. More and more people will be staying home, learning how to grow gardens, learning to preserve the foods they have grown or caught, and learning how to live and share with their neighbors. This is a prime opportunity for us to take advantage of this once again as we did in the early years of our conception. The Grange can and should be the glue

that binds us together.

So how can we accomplish these things? What tools do we need to do this? What committees might we put together to get where we want to go? What is our 1-year, 3-year and 5-year goals?

Let's create some open dialog, brainstorm ideas together, and share what has or has not worked for your Grange. Join us Wednesday, January 27th at 1:00pm and/or Thursday, January 28th at 7:00pm. Be sure to look on page 4 for all the details of our scheduled Zoom Meetings. We will also be announcing our Membership program and contests for the year as well.

Here's to a new year with new goals!

2020 WA State Grange Volunteer of the Year

Ron Ingraham, a longtime Goldendale resident, was recently selected as the 2020 Washington State Grange Volunteer of the Year. The recipient of this award cannot be a Grange member or directly affiliated with the Grange. Typically, this award would have been presented during the formal awards banquet at the State Grange Session. Following mandated COVID restrictions, the presentation had to be made locally. Presenting the award to Mr. Ingraham, on the left, are State Deputy Lucille Bevis and Goldendale Grange members Richard Lefever and Luann Whitmire. It was truly an honor for Goldendale Grange to submit Ron for this ward. Ron has been a board member of the Historical Museum since 2014 and a hands-on president for the last four years. Ron especially enjoys decorating and installing Christmas lighting during the holiday season. He personally decorated a dozen separate Christmas trees at the museum in 2019. Due mainly to his efforts, the museum received first place honors two years in a row in the community lighting contest.



He helps color and hide hundreds of eggs for the annual Legion Easter Egg hunt.

Ron recently made a personal donation to our local hospital in honor of his mother for the creation of a non-denominational chapel/meditation room. His latest endeavor is as an advocate for those who can no longer speak. He recently became a member of the IOOF Mt. View Cemetery board and is the property title holder for the local Woodland Cemetery. The Woodland Cemetery is very near the site of the former Woodbine Grange #243.

As you study Ron Ingraham's accomplishments you get the feeling he must belong to every civic organization in Goldendale.



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

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Home & Family

Family Living

Family Living News From Another Lock Down



Helen Berg

By Helen Berg
Family Living Director

Here we go again with another somewhat shelter in place order from our Governor. I know we all wish this virus would go away, however until we get a good vaccination I think we will need to be inconvenienced for awhile longer. So that means I have a bit longer to finish my UFO's.

I have been working with the double knits that were stored at our Grange and our group has made nearly 20 quilts for the homeless. We are working with the local law enforcements for distribution. It is amazing how quickly these quilts go together.

See the Septmber issue of your Grange News for more details.

My sewing machine has been humming these last nine months working on various projects. I have to stop and do a deep clean of the machine often. Now I need to finish a quilt- as-you- go- project I started way back when. Maybe I will have it finished in time for contest this year. I have also started a bargello quilt for our missionary closet at church. It has been a blessing to share my talents with others.

I had nearly 75 hats knit so I took them to church to go in the Operation Christmas Child boxes. Just think, they will go all

over the world!! Now I need to build my supply up for the youth. (When I'm knitting the TV does not put me to sleep.)

Enough about me. What could you be doing. Maybe make a few quilt blocks for our auction quilt for 2022. Or make the new National quilt block which you can find online. Maybe make a Quilt of Valor to be presented to one of our Grange Veterans. Check out our program handbook. There are more ideas in there. I do not plan on making any changes this year. Most of all stay safe, mask up and avoid being around people you do not know.

Lecturer's Department

Taking A Look At The 2021 Lecturer's Programs



Leslie Jo Wells

By Leslie Jo Wells
State Grange Lecturer

First of all let me revisit the Creative Writing Contest I highlighted last month. The topics for three of the categories are Virus or Constitution. For the last ten months or so, it seems like we have had both these words as part of our day-to-day life. I suggested that you may want to review their definitions because each word has more than one definition. It was mentioned to me that I

might want to clarify which definition you should use. I am not going to do that – you choose which one(s) you want to use for your Poetry, Short Story/Anecdote or Essay entry. Also, remember there is no limit on the number of entries you can have for each category. I am looking forward to lots of entries this year – postmark deadline is April 15, 2021.

The Educational Programs will not change from 2020 – except remove the Census one.

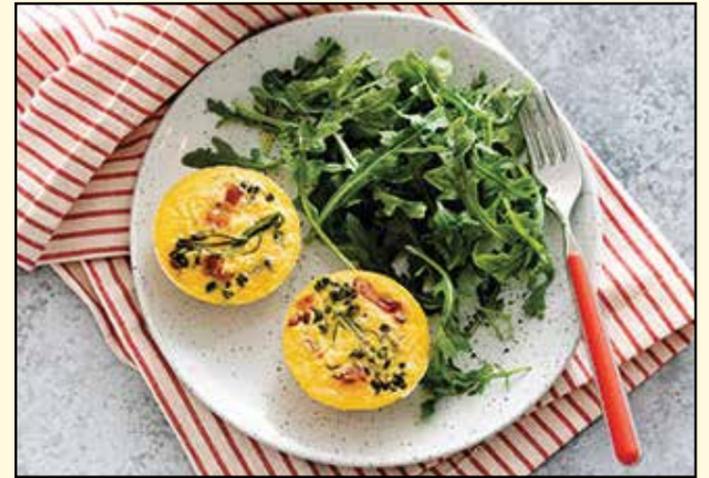
There are no changes to the

Arts & Crafts or Photography Contests.

The Talent Contest will be as planned for 2020 – everything will happen at Convention.

Email List

I have a request for each Lecturer – Subordinate or Pomona... would you please send/email me your email address. I would like to create a list so I can communicate info to you. Please send your info to lesliewells@att.net.



Take On 2021 With A Sustainable, Nutritional, Low-Carb Eating Plan

(Courtesy of Family Features)

A new year brings with it new opportunities to better yourself in all kinds of ways, including your health. Start by evaluating your at-home menu to make sure it aligns with your nutritional goals.

This recipe for Broccolini and Bacon Egg Bites from Atkins offers a better-for-you option that fits within a low-carb lifestyle that can help you eat right and make smarter choices in your kitchen. It offers a balanced approach to eating comprised of high-fiber carbohydrates, optimal protein and healthy fats. Plus, it's easily personalized, allowing the recipe to help you meet your goals regardless of what eating plan you're following and whether you're looking to achieve weight loss, maintain your weight or achieve optimal health.

Visit atkins.com/atkins-100-eating-solution-book for more information.

Broccolini and Bacon Egg Bites

Total time: 45 minutes

Servings: 4

Ingredients:

Nonstick cooking spray
5 slices (4 ounces) no-sugar- added bacon
5 large eggs
3 ounces cream cheese
2 tablespoons feta cheese
1 tablespoon hot sauce
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, plus additional, to taste, divided
4 1/2 ounces broccolini (5-7 stalks), stalks and florets thinly sliced
1 tablespoon water
1 1/2 cups baby arugula
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
freshly ground black pepper, to taste
1 cup fresh blueberries

Preheat oven to 350 F. Lightly coat eight silicone egg-bite mold cups or eight cups of standard nonstick muffin tin with nonstick cooking spray and set in large baking pan.

In large nonstick skillet, cook bacon over medium heat until golden, about 5 minutes per side. Transfer to paper towel-lined plate to drain. Chop bacon into small pieces.

In blender, puree eggs, cream cheese, feta cheese, hot sauce and 1/4 teaspoon salt until smooth.

Pour off all but 1 tablespoon fat from skillet. Add broccolini, water and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Cook over medium-high heat, stirring frequently, until broccolini is tender, 3-5 minutes. Remove from heat.

Fill each egg cup with 1 teaspoon bacon and 1 tablespoon broccolini. Top with egg mixture, filling cups to about 1/8 inch from top. Add just enough boiled water to baking pan to come halfway up sides of molds.

Bake egg bites until set, 20-25 minutes. Take pan from oven then take molds from water bath. Let egg bites cool then remove from molds.

In medium bowl, toss arugula, lemon juice, oil and salt and pepper, to taste. Place 3/4 cup salad, two egg bites and 1/4 cup blueberries on four plates and serve.

Nutritional information per serving: 9 grams net carbs; 11 grams total carbs; 2 grams fiber; 14 grams protein; 34 grams fat; 400 calories.



Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Juniors

New Junior Dept. Contest for 2021



Heather Ferguson

**By Heather Ferguson
Junior Grange Director**

While we are staying with our 2020 program for another year, the Junior Grange Department is adding a new contest for 2021. Here are the details for the JG Stop Motion Animation contest.

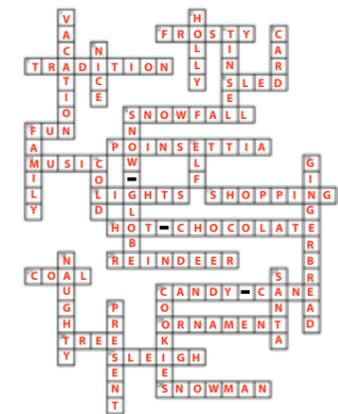
Stop Motion Animation

Use your imagination and produce a short stop motion animation video. Your video must be under 1 minute long. You may choose any topic or medium you would like. The video will be judged equally on storyline, production and originality. Each

submission will need a title page that includes Name, Junior Grange, Age/Group and Title. Videos will be judged in four age/ability groups:

- Group 1: 7 years and under
- Group 2: 8-10 years
- Group 3: 11-14 years
- Group 4: Special Needs

All submissions need to be emailed/mailed to the Junior Grange Director by **May 1st**. If emailed please include JG Stop Motion Submission in the subject line. Cash prizes will be given to the top two overall entries and ribbons for all entries. Your video will be displayed at State Convention.



Crossword Puzzle Answer From December 2020 Grange News Issue



Junior Connection

Humptulips Junior Grange

Humptulips Junior Grangers donated cocoa packets and candy canes for the food bank baskets in December. Our book collection of 45 books that was intended for last year's state convention were distributed through the food bank, along with 60 packets of school supplies. All items were distributed with the food distribution on December 16.

The Grange Exchange

Let us help you buy or sell with a classified ad!

Cost per word	one month	4 or more
Regular	\$.50	\$.40
Boxed	1.00	.75
Centered or reversed text	\$2.50/line	
Minimum for one month	\$5.00	

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

Deadline: 5th of each month (for the following month's paper). Classified ads must be paid in advance. (Tear sheets not sent for classified.)

Ad copy (or attach copy): _____

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Youth

Youth Department To Host Brainstorming Sessions



Jerry Gwin

**By Jerry Gwin
State Youth Director**

The State Grange Youth Department is in the middle of a series of brainstorming session on how the department can better meet the needs of Grange members in the 14-35 year old age range. The sessions are being over zoom.

The first session, held on Tuesday, December 22, focused on potential activities for Grange teens, ages 14-20.

The next session of the series will be held on **Wednesday, January 6 at 7 p.m.** and will focus on the potential activities for Grange young adults, ages 21-35 and how the youth department can meet the needs of our young adults.

To join this Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86135484212?pwd=bDJFbnhiV29OenZZdzJyVVZpYnBQZz09>

Meeting ID: 861 3548 4212; **Passcode:** Grange.

Brittney Oliver, Jonny Pittman, and Leah Bardal will host this brainstorming session.

The third and final session will be held on **Saturday, January 9 at 9 a.m.** and will also focus on potential activities for Grange young adults, ages 21-35.

To join this Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82613368370?pwd=M1R0VTAxWTJDbHB5QktKMjFzSTk5QT09>

Meeting ID: 826 1336 8370; **Passcode:** Grange.

Brittney, Jonny, and Leah will also host this session.

The consensus thus far is to hold off on any face to face activities until we are through this pandemic. We may, however, be able to plan a few fun activities, beginning in March that will be held over zoom with the purpose of bringing out Grange youth together.

Please pass the word of these meetings to your Grange teens and young adults. We hope this series of meetings will provide direction to the State Grange Youth Committee on the needs of our younger Grange members and allow us to meet those needs in our ever-changing world.

Washington State Grange Offers Scholarships For 2021

Scholarships are offered each year through the Washington State Grange Foundation to assist Grange members attending college or the children of Grange members.

Applicants for these scholarships must be high school seniors or graduates already enrolled in institutions of higher learning. They must be a member of a Subordinate Grange in the State of Washington.

The scholarships may be used at any institution offering courses leading to a certificate or degree in a recognized profession or vocation.

The following scholarships are being offered this year:

- Grange Family Living Dept. Home Economics Scholarship
- Kegley Agricultural Scholarship
- Norm Buchholz Agricultural Scholarship
- Kittleson Memorial Agricultural Scholarship
- Adrian & Betty DeVries Memorial Scholarship
- Delpha Goude Scholarship
- Horace Bozarth Scholarship
- Kiona-Benton (Koss Memorial) Scholarship
- Martin & Grace Forry Scholarship
- Martin & Snowie Vanderpool Scholarship
- Riverview Grange Scholarship
- Fox Island Grange Scholarship
- Nob Island Grange Scholarship
- Ray & Marion Kammerer Scholarships
- Enga M. Anderson Scholarship
- Bear Creek Scholarship
- Rock Creek Scholarship
- French Creek Scholarship
- McCleary Grange Scholarship
- Pomona Villa Scholarship

Details on the requirements for each scholarship, along with applications forms, can be found on the Washington State Grange website, www.wa-grange.com. Completed applications and all other required materials must be in the State Office by April 1.

A question & answer session regarding the Washington State Grange Scholarship Program is scheduled to be held via zoom on Tuesday, February 2 at 7 p.m. To join the zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>

National Grange News

A View From The Hill - 2020 Wrap-Up

By **Burton Eller**
National Grange
Legislative Director

WASHINGTON OVERVIEW

Coronavirus Relief and Government Funding

Following a week-long delay, on Sunday December 27th President Trump signed an omnibus bill into law which included Coronavirus Relief Funds and the annual bill which funds the government. In the coronavirus relief package highlights include a new round of \$600 stimulus checks, an eleven-week extension of expanded unemployment benefits, a new round of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funding, as well as money for vaccines, schools, child care, the postal service, rental assistance, and food/farm aid (more details in the next section of this newsletter). The government funding bill was mostly as expected, with significant overlaps with last year's budget and President Trump's proposed 2021 budget plan. As well, other measures were included in the omnibus package such as new regulations of surprise medical billing, money for community health centers, and various tax breaks and extensions. Despite eventually signing the bill, President Trump complained that stimulus checks were not valued at \$2,000, and that unrelated measures such as the ending of Section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (which protects websites from being sued for content posted by third parties to the site), or the creation of a commission to investigate claims of election fraud were not included. Following President Trump's criticism, Democrats in the House passed a bill to increase stimulus check payouts to \$2,000 on Tuesday December 29th, however in the Senate the Republican Majority Leader has tied a vote on

\$2,000 checks to ending Section 230 and the creation of a commission to investigate claims of election fraud, leaving the bill's fate unknown.

AGRICULTURE & FOOD

Financial Relief for Ag and Food Industries

The \$900 billion stimulus package passed by Congress and signed by President Trump provides an estimated \$13 billion for food and agricultural programs. Additional assistance will go these programs:

- A supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage program
- Specialty crop block grants, Local Agriculture Market programs, The Gus Schumacher nutrition program, farming opportunities training and farm stress programs
- New funds to address gaps in nutrition research
- Producers of ag commodities who suffered market price declines over a specified time period
- Additional funding for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)
- Changes to the Small Business Administration's PPP rules to allow the deduction of business expenses paid for with PPP loan funds
- Support for livestock, poultry and dairy producers who were forced to euthanize animals due to disruptions at processing plants
- Provides funding for poultry and livestock contract growers to cover up to 80% of losses suffered because of supply chain disruptions earlier in the pandemic

• Aid to small meat processors for facility improvements to qualify for federal or state inspection that allows them to sell product over state lines

- Assistance to affected fisheries
- Payments to producers of advanced biofuel, biomass-based diesel, cellulosic biofuel, conventional biofuel, and renewable fuel due to unexpected market losses due to the pandemic
- Funds for USDA to purchase and distribute food and agricultural products through nonprofit organizations

HEALTH CARE

Grange COVID Letter in National Spotlight

In early December, National Grange president Betsy Huber wrote to the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration urging the FDA to consider all safe and effective COVID treatment options. She referenced efforts by American companies to innovate and invent new solutions including promising results on a potential oral delivery method for a COVID-19 vaccine. Offering multiple vaccine delivery mechanisms could mitigate many of the concerns facing rural residents, ensuring that doses could be distributed rapidly and administered in the safety of their own homes instead of having to travel long distances to a health care professional. This could allow vaccine access for those with difficulties traveling or those who are unwilling to travel for fear of contracting the virus. The Grange letter was picked up by media outlets nationwide and Huber was interviewed by Bloomberg Businessweek which titled its report "At Age 153, the National Grange

Confronts the Pandemic".

Grange COVID Vaccine Message Circulates in Washington

An editorial by National Grange president Betsy Huber in Washington's The Hill newsletter highlighted the need to consider all options for COVID-19 vaccine delivery. The Hill is widely read by policy-makers and influencers in the nation's capital. Huber praised American innovation in conjunction with a proactive federal reaction for the speed of vaccine development, approval and distribution previously believed impossible. But with a COVID virus likely to be a part of our lives for a long time, future vaccine delivery options need to reflect the needs of vulnerable populations living in remote areas.

Congress Curbs Surprise Medical Bills

One of the National Grange's top policy priorities is now a reality. Congress passed a plan to prohibit most surprise medical bills as part of its end-of-year spending and COVID-19 relief package. This action ends a two-year debate over how to fix the practice of surprise out-of-network emergency care medical bills. The enacted compromise stipulates:

- Surprise billing would be barred for out-of-network emergency care. Patients will be asked to pay only their in-network charges for the care received. The question then becomes what the insurer will pay the care provider.
- There will be a 30-day period for the insurer and health care provider to negotiate payment for out-of-network claims.
- Arbitration will be available for both sides to make an offer and

have the arbitrator make a final decision on payment.

New Drug Pricing Rule Threatens Access to Critical Care

The National Grange joined over 300 patient groups, care providers, membership organizations and advocacy groups in urging Congress to pass legislation to delay a new Health and Human Services rule that mandates foreign drug pricing for Medicare Part D therapies. The Most Favored Nation pricing rule will adversely affect Medicare patients with debilitating and deadly conditions such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, macular degeneration, autoimmune disorders and rare diseases. Patients would be forced to accept cheaper alternative therapy that may have lower efficacy or greater risks, or decide to postpone or forego treatment.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Sustainable Agriculture Will Depend on 5G connectivity

National Grange president Betsy Huber was featured recently in the Washington newsletter Morning Consult talking about how sustainable agriculture for the future will use high speed connectivity. Huber called upon Congress to prioritize 5G buildouts in rural America to increase agriculture's productivity, decrease input costs and reduce its environmental footprint.

Threat to Rural Broadband Innovation

The National Grange and several ag groups recently asked the Federal Communications Commission to reconsider proposed changes to the distributed transmission system rules that threaten further deployment of innovative rural broadband solutions such as TV white space technology.

Grange Connection

Goldendale Grange Bakes Cookies



When word was received that Santa was making a quick stop at the Klickitat County Historical Society Saturday night, Goldendale Grange ladies went to work baking and wrapping 1200 cookies for the event. No way would they let Santa run out of cookies. Although children weren't able to sit in Santa's lap this year, they were able to chat with him from a distance as they filed by. Everyone practiced social distancing, wore a mask and serving was done with gloves. Even Santa had a specially designed mask that fit over his bulky beard. Steaming soup and hot chocolate were provided after visiting Santa on the frigid night.

Greenwood Park Grange Youth Deliver Wreaths



Greenwood Park Grange Master Michael Schwartz with new youth Grange members delivering wreaths they made for our local senior apartments.

Grange Connection

A Reimagined Christmas at Five Mile Prairie Grange

By Emily Cabbage
Five Mile Prairie Junior Granger

On the evening of Saturday, December 5th, there were dozens of cars lined up outside the Five Mile Prairie Grange #905. Why were they there? To experience a little bit of the Grange's Christmas magic.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Grange's traditional Christmas celebration, Pancakes with Santa, was unable to happen this year. Members of the Grange wanted to still give the Five Mile Prairie community some form of Christmas celebration. That's how Cookies with Santa, a nighttime drive-thru celebration, was born.

With only one month of planning, lots of member volunteer hours, and generous sponsorship from TDS Fiber, the Grange pulled off an incredibly well-organized and COVID-safe event that led the cars through a Winter Wonderland. The Grange parking lot was decorated with brightly colored lights, Christmas trees, and other holiday decorations.

Cars entered and tuned their radios to our very own Five Mile Prairie Grange radio channel, playing a carefully selected Christmas music playlist, along with some homemade commercials. They dropped off food donations for the Mead Food Bank, and were given a scavenger hunt list. As they drove around the festive parking lot, they spotted items like a tropical Santa inflatable, Santa's bike, and a candy cane tree. Kids were given delicious individually-wrapped cookies from our local Albertsons, and the adults had the opportunity to buy raffle tickets. The raffle supports our Grange's goal of raising \$25,000 to replace the siding on our Hall and keep the Grange thriving in our community for the next century. After generously supporting our Grange, guests were wowed when they saw two live reindeer, courtesy of Reindeer Express from Reardan, WA! But that wasn't all, because after the reindeer came Santa! Santa greeted all the families, and, thanks to some creative Christmas magic by our Grange members, he



greeted each and every kid by name before they could tell him! That's incredible, considering that there were hundreds of children that came.

The final numbers of Cookies with Santa were thus:

- at least 302 cars drove through over the entire five hours
- 860+ attendees from surrounding communities
- 326 raffle tickets sold
- 928 pounds of food donations
- more than 1,500 feet of extension cords used for lights and decorations

The Grange is thankful for all those who came, and would also like to thank TDS Fiber, Albertsons at Indian Trail, and Reindeer Express for generously helping the event become a reality. We at the Five Mile Prairie Grange wish you Happy Holidays!

North River Grange Makes Holiday Pies



North River Grange members made pies for the Union Gospel Mission Thanksgiving dinner.

Fargher Lake Grange Makes And Donates Handmade Items



Fargher Lake Grange #853 has been busy. 108 hand made hats with 46 of them having matching scarves, 9 afghans, 35 masks and 15 blankets were donated to various charities throughout Clark County in the month of November. 13 of the beautiful baby blankets were donated to Babies in Need. The masks and 9 children's stocking hats were donated to Pomona to be given out at the Children's Learning Center's Christmas event. 15 hats and 5 afghans were donated to Burnt Bridge Creek Elementary's Resource Center for needy families and the remaining 64 hats, scarves, afghans, personal hygiene items, 6 pair of socks and 20 Hope Bags were donated to Battle Ground Public Schools Resource Center to help homeless and needy families. Yarn was donated back to our knitters and crocheters to be used to make more hats and blankets. Fargher Lake Grange also donated \$200.00 to the Share House and \$100.00 to Babies in Need.

Fruitland Grange Decorates Holiday Magic Drive-In Tree



Fruitland Grange participated in the Holiday Magic drive-thru festive experience by decorating a tree titled, "A Homespun Christmas at the Grange".

Grange Connection

CLALLAM COUNTY

Crescent Grange recently recognized John Kahler and James Pfaff who have 50 years of continuous membership earning them the honorary status of a Golden Sheaf member. Congratulations to the following members with 25 years of service; Donna Buck, Deborah Moriarty, Stephen Moriarty and Robert Pensworth. Pins and certificates for all of the above were sent by mail with a letter of congratulations.

To say that Covid19 upset our calendar of events is the understatement of the year, however, Crescent Grange members rose to the challenge. Our annual plant sale held in April had to be cancelled. This was a blow to our projected budget as the plant sale profits goes to cover such items as hall insurance, property tax, scholarships etc., Emil and Judy Moilanen, Crescent President and Secretary, set up shop in their garden using social distance and abiding by the rules of crowd control etc., and sold a good selection of plants. Well done, Emil and Judy.

We were represented at the State Convention by Steve Singhose and Elizabeth Horgan. Elizabeth is also responsible for setting up our Zoom business meetings. Our first Zoom meeting had ten members in attendance. We look forward to better attendance as more members accept this type of meeting. Thank you, Elizabeth

Crescent member John Kent is the newest Para Educator at Crescent School. John, working with members of the Joyce Community, also heads up the Annual Community Christmas tree. This 40 foot tree with lights and decorations welcomes travelers along Hwy 112. Great job, John.

During lockdown Crescent member Kathleen Walton put her knitting needles to good use. Baby afghans, cuddly sacs and knitted teddy bears were donated to First Step and 14 knitted hat and scarf sets went to the Salvation Army to use as gifts for their clientele.

We missed so many functions this year because of Covid-19; Joyce Daze, our Spring and Fall Flea Markets, the children's festival Joyce to the World and others. We did learn to be flexible, to adapt and to know there is always a Plan B.

A big thank you to the essential workers in all fields who have kept us safe since the beginning of the outbreak. We owe them so much.

For now, being ever hopeful, we are now happily putting 2020 behind us and planning our 2021 calendar. We wish everyone a very Happy New Year, may you find peace and happiness throughout the coming year.

CLARK COUNTY

Fargher Lake Grange held it's first Zoom meeting on December 11, 2020. 13 members and 2 guests attended. This was the very first time for some Grange members to use Zoom, but it was a success as we were able to have a business meeting while keeping members of our Grange safe. Fargher Lake Grange #853 has not been having any activities nor are we renting out the building at this time because of the Covid pandemic. So members put their heads together and starting inviting members to join in our very first Zoom meeting. The Grange is hopeful more members will join them in future Zoom meetings. Pomona's Master Janice Anderson and Community Service Chair Debbie Richards joined us.

In spite of not meeting in person, Fargher Lake Grange #853 has been busy. 108 hand made hats with 46 of them having matching scarves, 9 afghans, 35 masks and 15 blankets were donated to various charities throughout Clark County in the month of November. 13 of the beautiful baby blankets were donated to Babies in Need. The masks and 9 children's stocking hats were donated to Pomona to be given out at the Children's Learning Center's Christmas event. 15 hats and 5 afghans were donated to Burnt Bridge Creek Elementary's Resource Center for needy families and the remaining 64 hats, scarves, afghans, personal hygiene items, 6 pair of socks and 20 Hope Bags were donated to Battle Ground Public Schools Resource Center to help homeless and needy families. Yarn was donated back to our knitters and crocheters to be used to make more hats and blankets. Fargher Lake Grange also donated \$200.00 to the Share House and \$100.00 to Babies in Need.

Fargher Lake Grange meets the second Friday of every month at 7:00 pm. Meetings will be via Zoom for the time being. If you'd like an invitation to the meeting contact Brenda Lester at jamesbrenda2@msn.com

Mountain Valley Grange received a grant from the Cares Act administered by the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce. This will help pay some of the operating expenses for next year and keep the grange going a little longer. They are also working on ways to raise money, starting with a raffle for an afghan. Dave Johnson and Georgene Neal helped the North Clark Lions Club fill boxes with food to be given away to families in need for Christmas.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

East Oakville Grange held their drive by Santa project in

December. Toys were collected, wrapped, and distributed to over 100 children. As the county was not issuing any temporary food permits, we were able to give away prepacked items in place of our regular breakfast.

Humptulips Grange continues to meet regularly with required masks and social distancing. In place of our cancelled 100th Anniversary Celebration in 2020, we hope to celebrate our 101st anniversary and recognize four new Golden Sheaf members this spring. We were sad to hear of the loss of Victoria Fenton, who passed just one month short of receiving her 80-year membership award. Grange members survived a story day for the December food distribution as we are now operating on a drive-up basis. We served 62 families on the west, blustery day. Thank you to the Hoquiam High School Football program, which provided funds to operate our food bank through the coming year.

KLICKITAT COUNTY

Trout Lake Grange took in new members, which is good but with COVID not a lot of activity going on. In talking with Coralee she said they did not have Saturday Market this year and the Quilting Group were not meeting on a regular basis at the hall. In order to have income they are renting the hall for a Pre-school program and once in a while a birthday party or small gathering.

Glenwood Grange held meetings early but once the virus took over, things shut down. Members are keeping the building maintained and they have a small sewing group which is meeting at the hall. They have been taking care of bills.

Alder Creek was not able to have any of their fund-raising events due to the Virus. We were not able to have Pomona Grange meeting there in September because of the virus.

Mt. View Grange in White Salmon has been going great guns with painting the hall, opening the hall for Gleaners to give out food. They did an Earth Day via Zoom at the hall. They have been fortunate in getting donations to make necessary repairs to the building. They hosted the A-List Students, after school program (arts, STEM, literacy, nutrition/cooking and homework help keeping COVID protocols. I congratulated them on everything they are doing and recommended they enter the Community Service Contest.

Goldendale Grange elected some new officers in November

and these members are anxious to make things happen. The Grange continues to support the Community Kitchen and they sponsored the Care Package Program which was a great success. This December they are doing a Toy Drive for families in the community and will be distributing on December 19. The grange was asked to bake cookies and one of the members was making soup for the Candy Cane Lane parade which was held on the 12th. With the virus the event was moved to the Presby Museum for the children to visit with Santa and receive a bag of goodies, hot chocolate, and soup. The ladies baked pies over 200 pies for the Scholarship Fund. They contributed to the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets and to Dr. Ogden's Thanksgiving Dinner. The old Grange hall has been used by several small groups who have not been able to find a place for their meetings and they make a donation to the Grange. It is sad here that places where they normally would meet, will not let anyone hold a meeting. The Veterans held their annual dinner at the Grange, which is normally held at the American Legion, but the Legion was shut down. The organizers set up the hall according to distancing procedures and number of people at each table and had three different time settings. Goldendale Grange continues to do a lot for the community.

Centerville Grange was holding meetings and looking forward to their card parties and annual

New Year's Eve card party when the Family Living person went to hall to clean for a small funeral gathering and discovered a broken water pipe which had flooded the entire kitchen, dining area and we lost everything that was not up high, including all the appliances, hot water tank, cabinets. We had insurance and are now in the process of having the contractor and electrician come and start the work. We have had Executive Committee meetings but no regular meetings.

LEWIS COUNTY

Oakview Grange voted to suspend "in-person" meetings until after the holidays in hopes of keeping its members safe. In late November the secretary mailed out 2021 dues notices to members along with a letter recapping the Grange's year - both the highs and lows of this most unusual year. On December 10, Becky Escobar, Joyce Kludt and Alice Coakley from Oakview Grange delivered 240 dictionaries to four Centralia elementary school, and Adna elementary school. Sadly, due to Covid-19 restrictions the Grangers were unable to make the presentation of the dictionaries to the students in person. Due to new restriction guidelines, Oakview Grange did not hold its annual Christmas potluck and program. Santa was disappointed not to see the children but promised he will be back next year without fail. Members are hoping to resume monthly meetings again in January 2021.

Happy Valley Grange Donates To Shelter



Happy Valley Grange was not able to have our pajama party and movie night this year due to covid 19, we were able to donate 23 pairs of pajamas, 10 scarves, 10 hats, 4 prs gloves, 3 pairs of socks and 2 headbands to Acres of Diamonds, a women's and children shelter.

Grange Connection

Waitsburg Grange Donates Dictionaries



Mrs. Leary's third grade class at Assumption elementary in Walla Walla was presented dictionaries by Waitsburg Grange #1.

Pomona Calendar

Pomona Grange Secretaries are requested to submit their 2021 list of meeting dates at their earliest convenience. Due to Covid-19, there may be numerous changes in this schedule. Please confirm your dates with the Pomona Grange Master or Secretary prior to the scheduled meeting

- CHELAN**None schedule at this time due to Covid-19.
- CLALLAM**March 21 at Crescent, 2 p.m.
- COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUM** January 16 at Catlin, 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7:30 p.m. meeting
- EXCELSIOR**January 16 at Camas Valley, 10 a.m.
- GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC**January 9 at Satsop, 10 a.m.
- KING**January 16, 2021 at Sammamish Valley, 10 a.m.
- KITSAP**January 22 at Crystal, 7:30 p.m.
- KLICKITAT**March 13 at Glenwood, 12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting.
- LEWIS**February 6 at Baw Faw, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.
- MASON**January 16 at The Agate, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
- PIERCE**January 2 at 10 a.m., Zoom meeting. February 6 at Ohop, 10 a.m. Will be Zoom meeting if can't meet face to face.
- SNAKE RIVER**March 20 at Columbia Valley, 10 a.m.
- SPOKANE**January meeting is undetermined due to Covid-19.
- THURSTON**January 10 at Violet Prairie. Installation of officers at 2 p.m.
- WHATCOM**February 16 at Ten Mile, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. Baking contest entries due at 6 p.m.
- WHITMAN**January 16 at Eddy's Restaurant in Colfax. Will meet if we can dine in.

MASON COUNTY

Matlock Grange has come to a cooperative arrangement with Mary M Knight school district to have our building open Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 5 pm. The last two hours there are tutors from the school to help kids with schoolwork. Our Grange members might be few, but we are happy to help with this covid situation. Children can come inside the grange and not have to sit in cars for wifi time and classes remotely. We are happy to help some of our community members who are tutors for Grays Harbor College to have stronger wifi than at their homes. Also, if they are working remotely and need to use the wifi.

SKAGIT COUNTY

Fredonia Grange had two very successful yard sales this summer. They followed all the Covid protocols with social distancing and requiring masks. They were able to raise enough funds to keep solvent and at the same time acquaint the public with the Grange. They will be making Christmas stockings filled with toys and candy for the children of Family Promise, a program providing housing for homeless families. Last year they provided 35 stockings and they anticipate at least that many this year.

Rexville Grange was disappointed that they were unable to hold their Spring Art Show and Shakespeare Northwest was not able to hold their summer shows there this year. One member has been making masks as a fund raiser for Family Promise and has raised over \$900 so far.

Samish Valley Grange has used this down time to work on their Grange hall. They cleaned the kitchen and sorted and got rid of a lot of "stuff", then repainted the inside of the hall, kitchen, and bathrooms. They also took two

beds at the community garden in Sedro Woolley and raised vegetables for the Food Bank. As soon as they are able to hold meetings, they are looking forward to hosting a sewing bee to make toys for the Grange toy contest.

Skagit Valley Grange reports a lot of different individual activities. Gutters were repaired. Lawns were mowed. Another member stopped by periodically to run water and clear the pipes. Another worked with the pest control man. One member made chemo caps for the Cancer Care Center. She also made masks for donation. Magazines have been saved for dispersal at nursing homes and senior centers when we are allowed to visit them again. We also have lots of pop tabs, stamps, warm caps and mittens, etc. piling up. We usually do food drives for the food bank and members report doing this individually.

Summit Park Grange has one member who mows the lawn and checks on the building. They have had a few phone meetings. It's been an especially hard year for Summit Park with the passing of key members, and severe illness or injury to others.

Birdsview Grange is looking forward to 2021. Unfortunately, Covid hit one month after Birdsview was reorganized, so they have been unable to do much of anything. They are looking forward to the day when they can get going, and the rest of the Skagit County Granges are looking forward to being able to support them!

STEVENS COUNTY

The Valley Grange partnered with Wonder Women of Valley Women's Group to provide stockings and gifts to Chewelah Head Start and St. Mary's Preschool. We were also lucky enough to have

Junior Grange Member Harley Holt play Santa and hand out the stockings to the kids. It was great to provide a little normalcy while still following all protocols. Our Master, Beth Manning, helped the American Legion Women's Auxiliary distribute gifts to kids in our communities through the Grange. Toys went to Summit Valley School and Preschool, Valley School and Preschool. We were also able to deliver handmade hats to all students at Evergreen School and Summit Valley School. Two of the most special holiday outreaches this year were providing handmade gifts and cards to the residents at Quail Hollow Assisted Living. One of our members made handmade gifts for each resident and our Lecturer, Gayle Oman, made beautiful handmade cards for each resident. You should have heard the excitement in their voices through the door when we were dropping them off. The second one was partnering with Johnson Christian School in Arden to provide Christmas Cards to all the residents of The Spokane Veterans Home. There are some extremely talented students that created beautiful cards at that school. And last, but definitely not least, our Grange members came together and adopted a local family for Christmas this year. Through donations, we were able buy gifts for 4 kids and get the parents a gift certificate for a takeout dinner from a local restaurant. We were also able to provide all the fixing for Christmas Dinner. We are excited to get everything dropped off for them and to have eased some worries for the parents during this difficult year. We even raised a little extra to buy gifts for a family in Chewelah that suffered a tragic loss this fall and just needs a little community love. We hope everyone had a safe Holiday and we are so excited to see what the new year brings and find a normalcy we can all work with.

Pomona Connection

CLARK COUNTY POMONA

Clark County Pomona has been having a business meeting via Zoom since August. The average number of Grange members attending is 18 and the number of granges in attendance range from 6 to 8 out of 11.

GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona will meet on Saturday, January 9 at 10 a.m. at the Satsop Grange

Hall. Some of our Granges made pies for the Thanksgiving to donate to the Union Gospel Mission in Aberdeen, while other Granges made holiday cakes for Christmas. We are planning our normal bake sale for February in conjunction with the quilt show in Elma if gathering restrictions are lifted.

SKAGIT POMONA GRANGE

Skagit Pomona Grange has not been able to meet since February, so this reporter

decided to contact each Grange to find out what has been going on. This has been a most unusual year due to Covid. There have been many disappointments, but also many surprises. Two Granges had members serve on Intersession Committees, three were represented on Convention Committees, and four Granges were represented at State Convention, in addition to Pomona (out of six subordinate Granges).

Grange Connection

Rare Santa And Elf Sighting At Sammamish Valley Grange



The holidays looked a bit different this year; members of the Sammamish Valley Grange #286 had to cancel their annual December gathering and potluck. But, in a photo caught by Elf Enterprises Global (EEG), Santa and his Head Elf appeared together at a community event in Woodinville, Washington USA. This is a rare and exciting find as Santa and his Elves are normally only seen within the North Pole Toy District. We want to thank EEG for their persistence in capturing this surprising visit. Some have suggested a certain resemblance between Santa, (Tom Quigley) and Head Elf (Erv DeSmet), and two upstanding and outstanding Grange members! No further comments on this matter.

The Valley Grange Brings Santa To St. Mary's Preschool



The Valley Grange #1048 Youth Grange Member, Harley Holt, played Santa to St. Mary's preschool class in Chewelah. Boy were they excited. The Grange partnered with Wonder Women of Valley Women's Group to provide stockings and gifts to kids.

Joint Christmas Stocking Project Between Quillisascut And Stranger Creek Granges

It all started when Pam Wilson, the Family Living/Youth Director of Stranger Creek Grange decided to start the "snowball" idea she had down the hill. Why don't we make Christmas Stockings for the students — all 36 of them at Evergreen School — a K-6 rural school which for most of the fall provided in person schooling.

The local Ladies' club agreed to provide goodie bags. The Lecturer of Quillisascut, Rori Draper and her cohort, Family Living Director Anita Fishler suggested to the sewing group we should make stockings.

We were off and running at sewing days first at Quillisascut until heating became an issue because of the time it takes the old wood furnace to heat the hall. Then we moved to Stranger Creek until after the second session, Pam ran into a problem with the water and the smoking wood stove. To the rescue came the local church with a dry warm basement and people who are members of both the church and the granges.

We met mid-December to stuff the socks with donations from lots of us. By this time, the sock "orders" had expanded. One of the Grange member's son also teaches a class in a nearby town so we added

him. Another member beginning her first year of teaching in Special Education was grateful to receive stockings for her students.

In the end we made over 70 stockings including some to nursing homes. A few members were stars in construction. Anita Fishler probably made the most, followed by Debbie and Stacey Potts and Rori Draper and certainly Pam Wilson. Lori McKinnon made some masterpieces and lots of others were group efforts.

Also, over 20 quilts (some using the 2019 national quilt block) were delivered to foster kids, people in need for Christmas, fire victims, and the newborns in the hospital. Others are waiting to go to nursing homes when it is safe for them to receive them. All of this while both Granges were limited to only one meeting each this quarter due to state regulations and a rising COVID-19 count.

We don't look all that wonderful on the quarterly report but we do have another sewing session in the warm church basement arranged and we've all spent socially distant time with each other in a very rural setting at least 16 miles from the nearest town or store or restaurant.

Camas Valley Grange Hosts Annual Community Christmas Dinner

Between 130-150 meals were safely prepared and disbursed at the 2020 Camas Valley Grange 842 Annual Community Christmas Dinner. This year due to State restrictions, it was done covid-style, with proper social distancing and masks required. Marilyn and her kitchen crew had all the prepared food and supplies waiting and ready to dish up. A number of Grange and community members stepped in to help, including Springdale Frontier Days Rodeo Royalty. Reserved 'to-go' meals were prepped as families showed up to pick them up, and there was also enough for the walk-ins as well. Each person received a "goodie bag", and five quilts were handed out to those Veterans, current Military, or First Responders that had not received a quilt in the past two years. Even though everyone missed the family-style meal and photos with Santa, the process went smoothly. A huge THANK YOU to each volunteer-you all are amazing. And another THANK YOU to each one that showed their support for the Grange by enjoying the prepared meals. Don't forget to mark your calendars! There is a 2021 raffle quilt made by Irene. The drawing will be at the December 5, 2021, Christmas Dinner.



Ralston Grange Sponsors Santa Claus Lane

Every year, for the last 89 years, Ralston Grange has sponsored a Christmas Potluck and Party, attended by families from all the surrounding communities. This year, because of the Covid virus, the party was cancelled. In its place the Grange decided to sponsor a "Santa Claus Lane" event. Constructed in front of their hall at Ralston was a lane, bordered by "lollipops" and lots of lights. On the early evening of Saturday, December 12 the lane was opened for families to drive through. First stop was to visit Santa, who, with the help of one of his trusty elves, greeted the kids and gave each a bag of treats, popcorn ball and a candy cane. Next stop, a number of Santa's helpers distributed cotton candy, refreshments, including juice and "melted snowman" drinks (water) and bags containing a kit to make a popsicle stick snowflake and another to make their own smores. As they exited the lane, they were waved good-bye and "Merry Christmas" from other Grange members. The lane was busy; by the end of the hour very little of the "gifts" were left to hand out! A great way for the Ralston Grange to celebrate its 90th Christmas event!!

