



WASHINGTON STATE

Grange News

March 2023

Informing Grangers Since 1912

112th Year No. 3



Selah Heights Grange Recognizes Long-time Membership Milestones

Selah Heights Grange No. 608 held its annual Christmas Dinner in December at the Red Lobster Restaurant in Yakima and recognized several members who had reached membership milestones. Jill Rodgers and Raymond Walker have been members for 50 years and received their Golden Sheaf Certificate. Dorothy Smith has been a member for 60 years and Minette Record has been a member for 70 years. They each received seals for their Golden Sheaf certificates. Ted Hankinson has been a member for 75 years and was awarded the Diamond Certificate. He was not able to attend the dinner, and expressed appreciation when he received it in the mail.

APRIL 2023 issue deadline – MARCH 20th
Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org



Large Photo Left: Dorothy Smith honored for 60 years of membership. Large Photo Top Right: Jill Rodgers received her Golden Sheaf Certificate for 50 years of membership. Large Photo Bottom Right: Minette Record receiving his 70-year Seal. Above: Raymond Walker receiving his 50-year Golden Sheaf Certificate.



Community Service

Tips For Filling Out Your Community Service Report



Heather Ferguson

By Heather Ferguson
Community Service Director

- 1) Read the "Suggestions" attached to the report in the Community Service Handout. (This was handed out to Presidents at the Leadership meetings or you can find it on the website)
- 2) When writing the description of your community and Grange, we would love to know the population, economic situation of the residents, cultures represented, location and ease or difficulty of services and the needs of your community and residents. Tell us how your Grange is helping or addressing these needs.
- 3) Only tell us about community service projects. Cleaning the hall or mowing the hall's grass is not community service.
- 4) Guestimate hours or numbers if you need to.
- 5) Please include a few picture of your projects if possible. If you do not have any, don't worry about it.
- 6) Only include 1-2 thank you notes per project. We just need an example.
- 7) Newspaper articles or advertisements are awesome to see.
- 8) Organization of your information is important.
- 9) As always, we love and encourage you to do a notebook but if you cannot complete one all we need is the filled out form sent in.
- 10) Call me (Heather Ferguson- State Community Service Director) if you have questions.

By-Laws

Mt. Valley Grange #79 will vote on bylaws changes at their next regular meeting on Saturday, March 11, 2023. Changes include meeting times for the months of July and December, joining fees for family memberships, and updating their committees.

Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Pomona #7 will vote on a by-laws change at their April 15, 2023 meeting at Catlin Grange. Change is to change meeting time to Potluck at 1:00pm with meeting immediately following.

State Grange Schedules Zoom Meetings

While not all state directors will be able to attend the leadership conferences, a series of Zoom meetings has been developed as a supplement to the face-to-face Grange Resource and Leadership conferences. This will allow Grange members across the state to communicate directly with the state officers/directors to learn about the current programs.

All training sessions 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 local Granges. Additional meetings will be announced as the dates become available.

Login information is the same for each meeting and is listed at the end of this article. The remaining sessions are as follows:

FOCUS GROUP	DATE	TIME	FACILITATOR
GRANGE MASTERS	Wed, March 29	7 p.m.	TOM GWIN, STATE GRANGE PRESIDENT
YOUTH FAIRS PROGRAM	Wed, April 5	7 p.m.	TOM GWIN, STATE GRANGE PRESIDENT
LEGISLATIVE UPDATES FOR ALL GRANGE MEMBERS	Mon, March 6 Mon, March 20 Mon, April 2 Mon, April 17	10 a.m. 10 a.m. 10 a.m. 10 a.m.	JESSE TAYLOR, GRANGE LOBBYIST

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581> **Meeting ID:** 980 3697 1581
One tap mobile: +12532158782,,98036971581# US (Tacoma)
Dial by your location: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) **Meeting ID:** 980 3697 1581

AN UPDATE ON CURRENT STATE GRANGE ACTIVITIES AND QUESTIONS/ANSWERS WITH THE STATE GRANGE PRESIDENT

ZOOM MEETINGS

Last Wednesday of Each Month at 7:00 p.m.

MARCH 29
APRIL 26

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>

Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581
One tap mobile: +12532158782,98036971581# US (Tacoma)
Dial by your location: 1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

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WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE NEWS

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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

Leadership Conferences Completed; Deputies / State Officers To Meet

By Tom Gwin
State Grange
Master/President

Thank you to the multitude of Grange members who took time out of their busy schedules to attend one of our Grange Leadership Conferences. The conferences were an opportunity for myself and the State Grange Leadership Team to present you with new and creative resources to utilize at the local level. We hope you will take those resources back to your Granges and to use them to diversify your Grange projects and activities, thus attracting new members who may not have considered becoming a Grange member in the past.

We also took the time at these conferences to listen to your concerns and to provide answers to your questions regarding the activities of the State Grange. We will continue to listen to our members and to respond by creating inventive projects and activities that you can continue to build your Grange.

Thank you to our Grange hosts of the leadership conference series: Satsop, Washington, Catlin, Fords Prairie, Dry Creek, McMillin, Kellogg Marsh, Skagit Valley, San Juan Island, Fruitvale, Prospect Point, Columbia Valley, Menastash, Camden, Addy, Green Bluff, Whitman

Pomona, Bee Hive, Okanogan, and Moses Lake. Your hospitality was wonderful and greatly appreciated.

On March 17-18, we will hold our annual Grange Deputy, State Officers, and Pomona Presidents Conference in Wenatchee. Thank you to Bee Hive Grange for the use of their hall and for hosting this conference. On Friday, March 17, we will exemplify the first four degrees of the order. All Grange members are invited to join us to observe this important part

We will continue working to provide resources that can be used by the Subordinate Granges to promote their Grange and increase membership.

-- Tom Gwin

of our Grange ritual and history and the lessons of agriculture in those degrees. We will start the exemplification at 7 p.m. at the Bee Hive Grange Hall, 4593 Squilchuck Road, Wenatchee.



Tom Gwin

The State Grange Convention will be here before we know it! The Convention Kick Off Meeting was held in January and included a tour of the Grant County Fairgrounds. Following the tour, we travelled to Chico's Pizza Parlour in Moses Lake got lunch and to continue the planning meeting. State Officers and Directors met with local committee chairs to start the planning for this year's convention. The host committee is moving right along in their preparations. Thank you to St. Andrews Grange for providing lunch and to the Grangers of the Central District for conducting the meeting.

We will continue working to provide resources that can be used by the Subordinate Granges to promote their Grange and increase membership. We will also work to increase opportunities for more fellowship amongst our members. Stay tuned next month to learn our next step as we continue cultivating the connections that will increase the visibility of our Granges in every community across the state!

Legislative

March Legislative News And Updates



Jesse Taylor

By Jesse Taylor
Legislative Lobbyist

The 2023 legislative session has completed the first half of play and what a half it has been. The majority of all bills introduced have been relegated to the 2024 session and shelved as "dead" until the calendar turns. This is a major milestone in the session as the work now begins to give attention only to bills that have already passed one chamber of the legislature.

Grange Legislative Day:

Because of several factors the Grange Legislative Day was postponed and moved from March 2nd to March 27th in Olympia. This will be an exciting experience for us this year because we are joining the legislative day with the Youth legislative experience which happens March 26-28th. You will find registration forms in this issue as well as on the Grange website and Facebook page. This year's legislative experience is a great way to have a family event at the capitol while joining fellow Grangers in networking, advocating, and meeting your local elected representatives.

Budget:

The final budget forecast will be presented by the WA State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council around March 20th of this year. This will be the final forecast before the House and Senate budgets are introduced and debated in committee. The previous forecast in the February 2023 showed an adjustment of \$88 million to the high side, or about a 1.1% increase in total receipts above expected revenue. The expectation remains that the biennium budget passed will be around \$70 billion.

Riparian Grant Program - HB 1720:

The Riparian grant program bill has been one of the biggest issues for the agriculture community this session. The agriculture community, with several of our Washington State tribal nations, worked tirelessly over the interim to develop a voluntarily stewardship program around ecosystem habitat through riparian area improvements. The bill was supported by both sides of the isle and had both Democrat and Republican sponsors. The bill has failed to clear a critical cutoff and remains dormant in the House Capital Budget committee. The Governor's office opposed this bill from the beginning and worked on the inside to stop the bill from getting through the first half of the session.

Local Advocacy - HB 1705 - Concerning stormwater control facilities and county jurisdiction:

House bill 1705 is a small local government bill that is a great case study in grassroots advocacy and working with your elected officials in good faith. This is a constituent request bill that has been worked by Grange Member Mat Jackmon of Thurston County. Through hard work and cooperation with Representative Griffey's office, this bill has cleared the House of Reps by a vote of 95-1. We look forward to engaging with this bill in the Senate. If you are willing to engage in the process and make yourself the expert, these are the kind of results that can be realized.

Remember, the legislative session is easy to participate in from the comfort of your home. All legislative hearings can be seen online on TVW. You can watch live or go to www.TVW.org and watch the video anytime. You can also testify and/or submit written comments from your computer. The legislature's home page, <https://leg.wa.gov/>, shows the daily calendar and has numerous links to help you find more information about your legislators and bills. Always feel free to reach out with your questions.

WA State Grange To Recognize 2023 Graduates

The Washington State Grange will recognize Grange members who are members of the Class of 2023 in an upcoming issue of The Grange News.

We ask each Grange to submit the names of those who will be graduating in 2023, along with a photo of the graduate. High school graduates will have their name, Grange, and school listed. College graduates will have their name, Grange, school, and degree received with area of study.

Information can either be mailed to the State Grange Office or may be emailed to grangenews@wa-grange.org no later than April 15.



Membership Corner

Welcome New Members

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS February 2023

	# Joined	Jr. +1
571 Barberton3 Brandon Roberts, John Barnes, Karen Stevens Barnes	3	1
842 Camas Valley5 Casey Cluphf, Russel Cluphf, Danny Flores Makenzie Flores, Lorena Simpson	5	
732 Cowlitz Prairie2 Charles Rudorfer, Diane Rudorfer	2	
846 Deer Lagoon6 Sean Guthrie, Donna Guthrie, David Tiller Gayle Tiller, Patricia Stordahl, Hope Faye	6	
646 Dry Creek4 Selena Perry, Angela French, Sandy Robinson Phillip Charles	4	2
1012 East Wenatchee3 Jason Schroeder, Kelsey Schroeder, Gus Schroeder	3	1
853 Fargher Lake18 Brandon Retherford, Amanda Retherford, Patty Walker Joe Walker, Kyle Yancey, Rochelle Yancey Melissa Bauder, Sam Bauder, Jacob Bauder Devra Cramer, Chelsea Sanders, Kyle Sanders Devina Yancey, Abigail Baker, Ruby Baker Tyler Boyse, Raegon Boyse, Sydney Boyse	18	10
33 Fords Prairie2 Lavona Gusdal, Alicia Marie Durham	2	
533 Fort Colville4 Cleone Stephenson, Arthur Dolinger, Elaine Shillam Kelly Chambers	4	2
857 Granville3 Jessica Sanders, David Dee, Melissa Dee	3	
124 Grays River1 Adelaide Wielenga	1	
169 Haynie2 Janel Black, Todd Black	2	
780 Inland0 New 1+ in family	0	1
667 Long Beach1 Stacy Warner	1	
276 Marion3 Sarah Woodriff, Willian Wolf, Jenna Woodriff	3	3
265 Meridian1 Michael Kelley	1	
79 Mt. Valley1 Jessica Crossley	1	2
115 Pine Grove2 Glenna Parvin, Cal Parvin	2	
1067 Prospect Point3 Sierra Christenson, Kim Holderman, Piper Holderman	3	1
1108 Sequim Prairie2 David Johnson, Cherise Feser	2	
984 Swauk Teanaway2 Rob Iverson, Cheryl Iverson	2	1
1093 Tri-Way1 Thomas Corning	1	
210 Trout Lake1 Scott Dinger	1	
1111 Waller Road2 Beverly Larkins, Lisa Markham	2	
TOTALS	72	24

Membership: Growing Grange

Grange is back! We are continuing to grow in all areas of the state. We are seeing growth in Granges' who have not had any growth in years and years. It's not only exciting but exhilarating!

As of this writing, we have already seen an increase of over 200 new members since January 1. Some of our growth can be attributed to the new Grange Youth Fairs Program but definitely not all or even half of the new growth. However, our Youth Fairs program members are also getting involved in Grange while their kids are involved in fairs and of course also involved in Grange. But this gives us an ample opportunity to show these new members everything the Grange has to offer everyone whether your 5 years old or 95 years old. There is a place in Grange for everyone in the family which makes Grange such a perfect organization to belong to.

Enticing new members is key. How can we best do this? By being positive about the Grange when talking to others. And bringing positivity into your meetings, leaving the negative at the door. Positive energy brings positive results! When we are excited about our Grange and show pride in our Grange, we also give off

positive energy. Positive energy is contagious! Be kind and kindness will come back to you. These are the energies we should be exuding while talking about Grange and inviting others to join the Grange. The very last thing a potential new member wants to come and see, is arguing or fighting amongst one another. Please refrain from

There is a place in Grange for everyone in the family which makes Grange such a perfect organization to belong to.

these bad energies, they are unfortunately contagious as well.

Your challenge for the months of March and April:

I encourage each of you to invite just one new friend or one new family into your Grange. Shoot me an email when you have done so, and they have become members. For every new member you get, I will put your name into a drawing for a \$50 gift card of your choice. I will accept entries until May 10th and will draw a name on May 15th. Remember that you will also be working toward the

new member recognition contest too where you will receive a free membership t-shirt for three new members and a \$25 Amazon gift card for two additional members. Amazon gift cards can stack up as well, so for every five additional members signed up, you will get another \$25 Amazon gift card. This contest runs January 1-December 31, 2023. Emails should go to Sophia at skeller@wa-grange.org.

SECRETARIES: It is imperative that you add the "recommended by" person on your new member report forms. Let's not be confused about the "recommended by" either. That is the person who ACTUALLY recruited the new member to join the Grange, not a member of the Grange that is "recommending" them. For example: if say the Pomona members help canvas an area for a Grange, the person who recruited that new member goes into that space even if they belong to another Grange. They will still get credit for bringing in new members into the Order!

Let's get out there and continue to Grow our Granges! Don't forget to get a Grange Month Display in an area of your community for all to see. Let's all celebrate Grange in the month of April!!

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following Grangers for bringing in 3 new members into your Grange. You will each receive the membership t-shirt with our mission statement.

**Cindy Kelly – Dry Creek #646
Sandie Bowers – Camas Valley #842
Laura Rookstool – Deer Lagoon #846**

This contest ran from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

There are many members close to receiving their membership t-shirt or a \$25 gift card. So, let's get out there and invite our friends and neighbors to join the Grange!

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

Here's how you can help:

Are you a Fred Meyer Customer?

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.



ORDER YOUR BANNER TODAY!



BANNERS ARE AVAILABLE IN 3 DIFFERENT SIZES

Qty	Size	Amount	Total
_____	1x2	\$12.00	_____
_____	1.7x3	\$20.00	_____
_____	2.5x4	\$35.00	_____
+ Shipping \$8.00			_____
Grand Total			_____

Name: _____ Grange #: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

GRANGE GEAR ORDER FORM

Give the perfect gift to your favorite Granger!

STYLE	COLOR/SIZE	QTY	TOTAL
 Womens V-Neck \$18	Royal/Black L XL Circle size		
 Womens V-Neck Mens Crew Neck \$18	Heathered Red Women's - M L XL 2XL Men's - M L XL 2XL Circle size		
 Men's Denim Long Sleeve button down \$30 2XL \$32	Men's Denim Long Sleeve button down L XL 2XL Circle size		
 Full Zip Hoodie Unisex \$40	Full Zip Hoodie Unisex Red - L XL Royal - S M L Black - S M L XL Circle size		
 Crewneck Sweatshirt Unisex \$30 2XL \$32	Crewneck Sweatshirt Unisex Grey - S M L XL Royal - S M L XL 2XL Circle size		
 Royal Canvas - \$18 Black Trucker - \$20 Camo - \$20 Circle Choice	Royal Canvas - \$18 Black Trucker - \$20 Camo - \$20 Circle Choice		

Shipping is \$8 + \$2 for each additional item

Order yours today (while supplies last)

Sub Total _____
+ Shipping _____
Grand Total _____

Name: _____ Grange #: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Lecturer's Department

Time To Plan For Grange Pomona Contest Entries



Leslie Jo Wells

**By Leslie Jo Wells
State Grange Lecturer**

As we are moving to the Spring of the year most of you Lecturers are planning for your Pomona level Arts & Crafts and Photography Contests. I didn't talk much about these at the Resource and Leadership Conferences that we just completed so I thought I'd use this space to review these contests. First of all, remember that these contests are open to members and non-members. If non-members participate they need to be sponsored by a Grange. The Groups and Classes have not changed since last year. When you have your Pomona Contest, remember it is the Purple Ribbon winner that advances to the State level contest; one Purple per Class.

Ribbons – If you need ribbons, the order form is in the Pomona Packet or on the WSG website. Ribbons are \$.35 each and the accompanying check should be made out to Washington State Grange. Send the order form and payment to Leslie Jo Wells, 18232 201st Ave SE, Monroe 98272. Please allow at least 5 days after I receive your order form to get them to you.

Judges – I suggest you get judges from outside your Pomona membership. If that is not possible, it should go without saying that anyone judging should not be used for any class they have an entry in. If you have a craft store in your area, you might ask them if they have someone that could judge for you. For Photography, you might approach a local photography teacher at the high school or local

college to see if they would judge for you. Or ask your local paper if their photographer could judge. Just caution them that these are amateur photographers not professionals.

Report of Results – As soon as possible after your Pomona contest please complete and send me your report that was in your Pomona packet. I use the information to print the entry tags and master list for the contest at Convention. My address for the Results Report is: Leslie Jo Wells, 18232 201st Ave SE, Monroe 98272.

All of the rules for the contests are in the Program Handbook, your Lecturer Packet and on the WSG website under the Lecturer Department. If you still have questions – call me at 360.306.0905 or email at lesliewells@att.net.

The following was the second place winner in the Essay category for the 2022 Creative Writing Contest for WSG:

“Why Grange Is Important Today” Ann Dotson – Green Bluff Grange #300

Agriculture is still a significant industry in this country and across the globe. Pasture and cropland still occupy around 50% of the usable land on Earth and every person on the planet is reliant on it to some degree. Many of our family farms went under in the 1980's in this country. Countless valuable skills have been lost as our families moved from rural to suburban areas and our way of life changed. The large family gardens, knowing how to preserve food, how to raise small farm animals, how to hunt, foraging, and even home skills such as sewing, cooking and baking have taken a hit with our new busy, instant gratification, technologically advanced lives. Another change this shift in geography caused is the fracturing of close-knit communities.

The desire to become more self-sufficient has become a movement of its own over the last few years. We see more families looking to move from cities to suburbs and from suburbs to rural options reversing the trend from the past 40 years. The desire to have options to sustain our own families when world issues arise, or supply chains are broken has become extraordinarily strong. This is where I see the value of the Grange today.

The Grange can provide the education and experience that people need and want to create their new self-sufficient lives. This means that the Grange could grow a brand-new generation of families that want to know how to do so many things that have been neglected or forgotten over the years. What a difference we could make by teaching gardening skills that capture the attention of those that only

have balconies available to those who have space for large inground gardens. We have the opportunity and responsibility to positively impact our communities, our states, and even our nation by becoming that approachable source to learn from for so many lost skills.

The Grange would need to take a good look at itself at all levels and determine how to approach this unique opportunity. Tough questions need to be raised and honest answers need to be shared. When new visitors come to an event or meeting are they truly welcomed, or do we remain in our cliques and leave them feeling like outsiders? Do we talk as if everyone is knowledgeable or do we explain what we are discussing so that all may understand? Do we hold the same events that we have always done or do we look for opportunities to gain and engage new members because we are teaching what they want or need to learn?

We need to look no further back than the last two years to see the need for the Grange in our communities. The Grange is already in rural, suburban, and urban communities. The Grange can provide the people connections that are missing in areas. The Grange can empower our communities, neighbors, and individuals to feel more connected and become more self-sufficient, through sharing of skills. This empowerment could make the Grange more able to influence our law makers, improve our communities, and restore close-knit relationships. In short, the Grange is important today because the Grange's purpose and values are more necessary today perhaps than ever.

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Juniors

Reminder: Time To Finish Up Contest Entries



Heather Ferguson

By Heather Ferguson
Junior Grange Director

It is that time of year to be finishing up those contest entries. Over the next few months there will be county Lecturers and Family Living contests all over the state. Here are a few reminders for our Juniors and leaders.

Juniors have the opportunity to enter items in both the Family Living and Lecturers departments. The Family Living department has Junior categories in baking, candy making, food preservation, needlework and sewing. The Lecturers department has Junior categories in photography and arts and crafts. Those Juniors, and adults, who wish to enter these contests

need to first read through the Washington State Grange Program Handbook 2023 to get the official entry rules. Those entries will then be judged at a local Pomona contest (unless other arrangements have been made with the State Director). Any entry that wins first in there category will be eligible to go to the State Convention Family Living or Lecturers Department contests in June.

The Junior entries that earn 2nd place and lower, or were not judged at a Pomona contest, have the opportunity to come to State Convention and be judged in the Junior Department Art and Craft Contest. There are 5 categories in the Junior contest split up by ages and Grange. Each entry will earn a participation ribbon and

the top three in each category will earn a large ribbon and cash prize. All of the category details are in the 2023 Program Handbook on pages 20-21.

If you would like to participate in the State Junior Contest you can bring your entries to the Junior Tables in the display room on Tues, June 20 from 9-5 or Wednesday the 21 from 9-noon. Please make sure to have your entries marked with the Juniors name, age and Grange before dropping them off at the Junior tables.

I am looking forward to seeing all of the creative entries in this year's contest. Please stop by and have a look. The Juniors always amaze me with their creativity and talent.

Youth

Youth Achievement Awards Program To Recognize Young Members For Accomplishments



Jerry Gwin

By Jerry Gwin
State Youth Director

The State Grange Youth Department has developed a Youth Achievement Awards Program. The program is intended to encourage our Grange youth members, ages 14-35, to develop their skills by participating and becoming involved in the total Grange program.

The program runs on a year of June 1 to May 31. Applications are available on the State Grange website, www.wa-grange.com. Recognition for all qualifying youth will be made at the State Grange Convention.

There are two groups of items to be completed. Five of the following items in Group A must be completed to be eligible for youth achievement recognition:

- Attend the National Grange Convention
- Attend the Western Regional Grange Youth and Leaders Conference
- Attend the Washington State Grange Convention
- Attend the State Grange Youth/Junior Legislative Experience
- Serve as a delegate to the WA State Grange Convention
- Attend either the State or National Grange Legislative Day
- Serve as a member of a Grange Installation or Degree Team
- Mentor Junior Grangers or serve as a Grange Camp Teen Counselor or Staff Member
- Recruit one new member for your Grange (be the fist line signer on their membership application)
- Write a resolution, have it adopted by your Grange, and send it to the State Grange for consideration.

The following items are in Group B. The youth member must complete eight of these items:

- Participate in the public speaking of sign-a-song contest (state or regional level)
- Donate one item for the Keep Washington Warm service project
- Serve as a Subordinate Grange Officer or Committee Chair
- Serve as an officer or committee chair in your Grange Youth Fairs Program Group
- Serve as a Pomona Grange officer or committee member
- Serve as a State Grange Officer or a member of a State Grange Standing Committee
- Attend 25% of your Subordinate Grange meetings or 25% of your Pomona Grange meetings
- Participate in a community service project at your Subordinate or Pomona Grange
- Participate in the development and creation of a Grange Promotional Display or Grange Fair Display
- One entry in a Family Living Department Contest (baking, candy, food preservation, sewing, quilting, needlework or quilt block)
- One entry in a Lecturer Department Contest (talent, art, craft, photo or creative writing)
- Work a minimum of four hours at a Grange Promotional event
- Present a Lecturer Program at your Grange or workshop at a Grange event
- Serve as a member of a Grange Drill Team at any level

Completed applications are due back to the State Youth Director by June 5. We hope to recognize many youth members for their achievements in the Grange.

2023 Legislative Day



RESCHEDULED TO:
THURSDAY MARCH 27, 2023, 8AM-4PM
Registration is \$15 per person prior to **March 22, 2023**
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH INCLUDED

FIRST AND LAST NAME _____ GRANGE _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____ LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT _____

PAYMENT
Check (make check payable to the Washington State Grange)
\$ _____ enclosed (\$15/person)
Mail To:
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA 98507-1186

LODGING
Those attending must secure their own lodging. There are many hotels near state headquarters, and Grange members get a discount through the National Grange at Choice Hotels. To take advantage of this discount, book your room through their website at choicehotels.com or by calling (800) 288-2847 and using promo code #00211660.

Visit us on the web:
www.WA-Grange.com

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

“Just Ask Me” – The Generational Need

**By Samantha Wilkins
Junior Grange and Youth
Development Director,
National Grange**

In today's society, our youth are so consumed with jam-packed schedules and responsibilities that we often put other things on the back burner, and too often that back burner contains the Grange.

But why is it that Grange is on that back burner and how do we get the youth and young adults to prioritize Grange in their world? The answer could be as simple as – Just Ask Me.

It is all about finding a balance between being persistent while not being too pushy. We (the youth) want to be included - we want to be a part of something and feel like we belong. However, too often we feel as though we are unheard, thought of as being ‘just kids,’ or not necessarily needed. But now is the time for us to change that conversation and invite the next generation

through our doors.

As Junior Grange and Youth Development Director, I hear Grangers over and over again ask about how they can get young members through the door; what we need is for you to “ask me,” where “me” is the Youth you want to get involved!

Sending me a reminder email about the meeting is not going to work. We need you to pick up the phone - call me (or text) - invite me - even send me a reminder text. I may not come the first time, so be persistent. But more important than getting me through the door, make me feel welcome once I get there.

Grangers tend to be really welcoming to someone new coming in the door, but sometimes we struggle with keeping that ‘we are glad you’re here’ attitude after the initial welcome. When they get there, the obvious “hello, glad you’re here” works, but throughout the time I am at your meeting, invite me to

really be a part of things you’re doing. If I am brand new, sit by me and explain things as they’re happening. After the meeting, invite me back - have me put it on my calendar, and then before the next meeting - call me and Ask Me again.

This world may keep us really busy, but we are only going to prioritize the things that are truly important to us. If you make me feel important and wanted, I am going to prioritize coming and being part of what you have going on at your Grange Hall.

So, Grangers, this is your time - this is your challenge. We are just over a month away from Grange Month so we challenge you during the next few weeks: reach out to some youth in your community and begin the conversation that will help them prioritize their schedules to join you at your Grange meeting in April for Grange month.

Junior Connection

HUMPTULIPS JUNIOR GRANGE

Humptulips Junior Grange welcomed six new members at their February meeting. The calendar of events for the year was completed. Junior Grange Activity Day will be on April 5. Plans include food preservation, sewing, and craft projects on that day. Later in the spring, Junior Grangers will plant deck planters to care for at home. The plan is for each member to enter them in the county fair in August.

WSG Offers Scholarships

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

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

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 Department Vocational Scholarship
- Grange Family Living Department Home Economics Scholarship
- Kegley Agricultural Scholarship
- Norm Buchholz Agricultural Scholarship
- Kittleson Memorial Agricultural Scholarship
- Delpha Goude Scholarship
- Horace Bozarth Scholarship
- Kiona-Benton (Koss Memorial) Scholarship
- Adrian & Betty DeVries 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.

Mt. Valley Grange Juniors Are Busy

The Juniors and Youth from Mt. Valley Grange have been busy. At home, Autumn put together gift bags with personal and fun items. She planned it, did the shopping, and filled the bags. The next project for Autumn, Matthew, and Alexandra was to make blankets for dogs and cats at the animal shelter.

At the February meeting, the Juniors and Youth moved to the basement to work on their project. They made Gnomes.



Youth Yammerings

WHEN:
Third Sunday of even-numbered months (February/April/June... etc.)
at 9 p.m. Eastern

WHO:
Youth Directors or anyone else interested in
National Grange Youth & Young Adult programming!

WHERE:

On Zoom!
Login: 697 859 421
Passcode: 568970
bit.ly/YouthYammerings

National Grange News

A View From The Hill - March 2023 Edition

WASHINGTON OVERVIEW

Congress Gets Off to a Slow Start

Following a lengthy process to elect a Speaker for the new 218th Congress, the first few weeks of the new session have gotten off to a slow start. In the House, it took until early February for both parties to finalize their committee assignments, and subcommittee assignments have only just been determined. As well, many committees have only recently been able to hold their first hearings to organize the committee and begin working on legislative issues. In the Senate, committees were able to form earlier due to continued Democratic control of the chamber. As a result of this disparity in organizational quickness, Senate committees are further along in beginning their legislative work than committees in the House. For example, the Senate Agriculture committee has already hosted several hearings on the Farm Bill, while the House has only had one listening session so far.

Debt Limit is Top Issue

While work has begun to progress on a variety of legislative issues, the looming threat of a debt limit default is top of mind in Congress and the White House. The debt limit is a cap set by Congress on the amount of money which the federal government is authorized to borrow in order to meet ongoing fiscal obligations. It is important to note that the debt limit does not control future or new spending by the federal government, it only controls borrowing to meet existing spending authorized by Congress. Congress has never failed to raise the debt limit when necessary, and has done so 78 separate times since 1960 under Congresses and Presidencies of both parties. Should the Congress fail to raise the debt limit before the cap is hit, which is estimated to come sometime in the summer this year, then the federal government would default on its fiscal obligations, certainly causing serious economic turmoil.

House Republicans have made clear that they will not vote to raise the debt limit if Democrats

in the Senate and White House don't agree to certain terms. The House Republican demands vary significantly depending on which member of Congress is asked, but all generally center around some amount of spending cuts or an agreement to not spend over a certain amount of money in the future. Some of these proposed cuts have caused turmoil within the House Republican Conference, such as proposed changes to nutrition assistance programs which House Agriculture Committee Chair GT Thompson (R-PA) has argued should not be considered in debt limit negotiations. Currently, Democrats have demanded that Republicans outline a specific set of demands before they are willing to begin negotiations surrounding a deal to pass a debt limit increase. Many Democrats have also argued that the debt limit should be raised without any conditions, pointing to recent debt limit increases which occurred under President Trump without any conditions as precedents. For the time being, neither side looks likely to budge in its position, but a compromise must be found in order to avoid serious economic consequences.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Expanding Agricultural Exports Act

Agricultural export market development and promotion programs have added an average of \$9.6 billion annually since 1977 to the value of U.S. farm exports. But these programs have not kept pace with foreign competition placing the U.S. at a competitive disadvantage. The bipartisan and bicameral Expanding Agricultural Exports Act would double the annual mandatory funding for foreign market promotion and development. Sponsors of the EAEA Act are Senators King (I-ME), Ernst (R-IA), Smith (D-MN), Grassley (R-IA), and Collins (R-ME), and Representatives Newhouse (R-WA-04), Costa (D-CA-21), Mann (R-KS-01), Panetta (D-CA-19), Hinson (R-IA-02), Schrier (D-WA-08), Finstad (R-MN-01), and Pingree (D-ME-01).

Cattle Pricing Reintroduced in

118th Congress

The bipartisan Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act has been reintroduced in the Senate by Fisher (R-NB), Tester (D-MT), Grassley (R-IA), and Wyden (D-OR) as original sponsors. The bill establishes minimum levels of fed cattle purchases made through pricing mechanisms such as negotiated cash, negotiated grid, stockyards, and other accepted trading systems. It also establishes a public library of marketing contracts, mandates boxed beef reporting, and requires packers to report the numbers of cattle to be delivered for the next 14 days. The intent is to create total transparency in cattle markets. Joining as cosponsors of the Act are Senators Ernst (R-IA), Braun (R-IN), Smith (D-MN), Smith (R-MS), Daines (R-MT), Cassidy (R-LA), Lujan (D-NM), Durbin (D-IL), Heinrich (D-NM), Warnock (D-GA), Blumenthal (D-CT), Gillibrand (D-NY), Lumis (R-WY), Hawley (R-MO), Brown (R-OH), Rounds (R-SD), Kennedy (R-LA), and Ricketts (R-NB). National Grange member policy supports the provisions of this legislation.

House Creates Special China Committee

House Speaker McCarthy has convened a special bipartisan panel to investigate Chinese investments in U.S. agriculture. Its charge is to create a report by the end of the year to highlight issues that need legislative solutions. A 2022 report by the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission warned that China could gain further leverage over U.S. supply chains by purchasing agribusiness and land here.

End of Pandemic-Era SNAP Benefits

Emergency pandemic-era Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) special benefits ended this month. Work requirements to be eligible for normal SNAP benefits that had been paused during the pandemic are back. General work requirements are applicable to recipients ages 16-59 who must register for work in order to get benefits. There are exemptions for taking care of children or

incapacitated persons as well as for physical or mental reasons. Able bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) ages 18-49 must work 20 hours per week.

New Requirements for Healthy Food Label

The Food and Drug Administration is updating its requirements for the use of the term healthy on food labels for the first time since 1994. If food companies want to use the healthy claim, the product must abide by specific thresholds of total and saturated fat, cholesterol, and sodium plus contain nutrients like Vitamin A, calcium or iron.

CONSERVATION / ENVIRONMENT

Climate-Smart Funds Available to Producers

The USDA is releasing funding for agricultural producers and forest owners to participate in voluntary conservation programs and adopt climate-smart practices. The money, made available through the Inflation Reduction Act, will be allocated to programs administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. These include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), and Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). NRCS accepts applications for its programs year-round. Funding is through a competitive process and will include an opportunity to address unmet demand from producers who have previously sought funding for climate-smart conservation programs.

HEALTH CARE

National Grange Survey Highlights Rural Cancer Disparities

Cancer is the second most common cause of death in the United States after heart disease. A new study by the National Grange with data analytics firm Xcenda finds that compared to urban areas, rural communities have overall higher rates of cancer incidence, late-stage diagnoses, and mortality than their urban



counterparts. Unfortunately, the urban-rural disparity in cancer mortality has been widening over the past decade. The study reveals that people in rural areas are less likely to get preventive health screenings than those who live in cities and suburbs. Some of the reasons are a lower percentage of workers with jobs that offer health insurance, higher poverty rates, or the simple barrier of a lengthy drive to reach a health center that offers cancer screenings such as mammograms and colonoscopies. The Grange will use this data to urge rural citizen access to and Medicare coverage for new technologies such as multi-cancer early detection tests which can simultaneously screen for dozens of cancers with a simple blood draw.

Congress to Look at Middlemen and Drug Pricing

Insurance companies use middlemen known as Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) to decide what medicines people can get and how much people must pay for these medicines. These middlemen operate with little transparency and accountability. The top three PBMs, CVS Caremark, OptumRx, and Express Scripts control 80% of the entire prescription drug market. PBMs often bill health plans, employers and government health programs more than what they pay to the pharmacy for medicines and pocket the difference. PBMs may also require patients to pick up prescriptions at pharmacies the PBM owns or has another financial relationship with. Congress will try to add transparency and accountability to the PBM process. Senators Grassley (R-IA) and Cantwell

Continued on Page 10

National Grange News

NATIONAL GRANGE: GRANGE LAW POLICY STATEMENT - 2022

Just as our Ritual provides the vehicle to present and understand our teachings and principles, our Constitution and By-laws provide the unified structure for our order to function with unity of action. Understanding why we have our code is as important as understanding the code itself. Over the past 156 years, many hours have been spent by many minds crafting a document that will serve and protect the interests of the Grange at all levels, as well as its individual members. It is with a great deal of respect and caution that we approach the task of amending these laws, and sincerely hope that the changes made are in the best interests of the Grange as a whole.

With today's political climate we need to remind our membership that partisanship ends at our door. We want to stress how important it is to remain non-partisan, that we as the Grange do not support any nominee, appointee, candidate, or agency appointees, etc. We also have to remind members or others wanting to use our emblem that it is a trademark symbol and should never be used for political activities.

Social media has afforded the members the opportunity for instant communication of Grange activities and successes. We understand that not everyone will ever agree with all policies and undertakings of our Order, and that makes our organization unique. We strongly oppose the posting of personal grievances, the purpose of which is to divide and destroy. The First Amendment of the United States Constitution makes us powerless to stop the negativity. We challenge our Grangers to apply the high standards demanded by our Fraternal bonds to conduct our personal participation on social media sites accordingly.

We want to make sure that we are maintaining fairness in electing the officers of the National Grange. Delegates should be mindful of maintaining equity among the regions of the country, including other factors when electing the Executive Committee.

The National Grange should communicate with the State Granges regarding all the entities

that have entered into contractual trademark agreements in their state, so that they may act as agents for the National Grange. This will ensure that the State Grange is aware of all the entities that use our trademark in that State and that licensees are complying. It is all our responsibility to protect our trademark.

The Grange Law Committee urges that the traditional opening and closing ceremonies or the approved alternative opening and closing ceremonies always be used. At all levels our Granges enjoy the fraternal and lodge classification under the IRS tax status, it is vital that these ceremonies be followed so no Grange jeopardizes their Granges Internal Revenue Service (IRS) status. It is also recommended that the National Grange investigate whether steps must be taken to ensure that the use of alternative titles are acceptable. The Grange Law Committee further urges that recitation of the verbal portions of either the traditional opening and closing, or the approved alternative opening and closing ceremonies, must be used, regardless of whether or not that Grange can regularly follow the physical performance portions of these ceremonies, because at a bare minimum, these verbal recitations are necessary in order to legally conduct business as a Grange.

We further urge that State and National Grange leaders exercise wide discretion, common sense and positive encouragement as well as tolerance, respect and a little humility among local Grange members when grappling with these issues. Shaming or lecturing our fellow Grange members in a condescending manner about either their preference not to follow all of our traditions or their demands that we follow those traditions without exception, will never lead

to the growth and development of the Order. For as Brother William Saunders, the first Master of the National Grange and the author of the Preamble to the National Grange Constitution, wrote to us in 1873, "...hence we have a ceremony...which binds us

in mutual fraternity as with a band of iron; but although its influence is so powerful, its application is as gentle as that of the silken thread that binds a wreath of flowers."

The Grange Law Committee request the National Grange President and the National Junior Director examine updating the language used in the Junior Grange to a more contemporary language that is easier for children to understand, while retaining the similarities to the Subordinate/Community Grange ritual.

The Grange Law committee commends the effort of the Study Committee looking at the feasibility for a video of the first four degrees (Video Study Committee). This committee was appointed following adoption of resolution 715 (2019). It is now necessary to continue their work to finalize the report on the feasibility and make recommendations of the proper path to follow video recording of the first four degrees. Once the recording is completed it should be the responsibility of the Assembly of Demeter to determine the uses of the video recording. This would be for archival and instructional purposes. Once the videos are produced and approved, we recommend that it also be extended to include the recording of the 5th, 6th, and 7th degrees.

In 2002, 2003 and 2004, the National Grange adopted changes to our Digest of Laws authorizing the use of alternative titles, by all levels of our Order, for several Grange officers including the title of President for the office of Master and the title of Vice President for the office of Overseer. Over subsequent years, many State Granges have adopted similar authorizations for the use of these alternative titles in their State Grange Constitutions and By-laws. Since the adoption of discretionary authority to use these alternative titles, the use of President and Vice President has slowly, but consistently, increased in our Grange meetings as well as in our communications with our local communities and the press. It is also necessary that we instruct our fellow members in the meaning and use of our heritage titles. We recommend that this be

included in the Heirloom program developed by the National Grange Membership/Leadership director.

Therefore, the Grange Law committee recommends that every Grange member embrace the alternative titles of President and Vice President for those officers of their Granges that have been authorized and approved in the National Digest of Laws and various State Grange Constitutions. It is no longer sufficient in today's society or even today's Grange, to simply treat the traditional and alternative titles for these offices as morally equivalent. We especially ask members who have been elected to these offices to take the lead in always referring to themselves as President and Vice President, whether in a Grange meeting or not. We also request that all Grange Secretaries use the titles President and Vice President in all of their meeting minutes. We make these request so as to not have the subsequent moral weed crop of inconsistent use of our traditional and alternative office titles, baffle and torment our efforts

to make all of the members of our communities who hold an interest in agriculture, comfortable with joining the Grange.

We all know that Old Habits Die Hard. But at the same time, they are not immortal. We also take comfort that Nature's Motto is Onward: She never looks backward. Our goal as an organization is to keep looking forward, to address the issues in our customs, ritual and rules that keep new members, as well as current members feeling welcome in the Grange and to plot an eventual course toward a successful 200th anniversary of the organization of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

As members we all enjoy the protection of our Digest of Laws, which have proven to be legally enforceable and binding by the Federal and State court and our fraternal responsibility to abide by them and hold our brothers and sisters accountable. Failure to do so results in strife and discontent. Let us practice our motto - "In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, and in all things charity."



National Grange Legislative Department Provides Testimony On RSV Vaccine

On Tuesday, February 28, National Grange Legislative Director Burton Eller presented testimony to the FDA Vaccines and Related Products Advisory Committee regarding the need for RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) vaccine approval by fall of this year.

In the fall and early winter of 2022, the unprecedented rise of RSV cases added another dangerous condition to the challenges faced by remaining rural hospitals, as they tried to cope with the influx of patients needing care but with no space to offer them. Eller stressed that we could again face a quadruple respiratory threat from flu, pneumonia, COVID, and RSV during the coming fall and winter. The committee subsequently recommended approving Pfizer's RSVpreF vaccine for adults over 60. Additional RSV vaccines are in the pipeline from GSK, Bavarian Nordic, Johnson & Johnson, and Moderna. FDA's approval decision on the Pfizer vaccine will come in May, followed by the need for the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) to approve as well.

National Grange News

NATIONAL GRANGE: LABOR, JUDICIARY & TRANSPORTATION POLICY STATEMENT - 2022

LABOR

The National Grange has long fought for the rights of both employers and employees to live and thrive, understanding that worker protection and prosperity are not in conflict with company success and solvency. We believe that the hardworking men and women of America's workforce deserve the opportunity to earn a fair wage in a safe work environment and the guarantee that their pensions and subsequent benefits will be protected and preserved. We encourage businesses, municipalities, school districts, and state governments across the country to be proactive in ensuring the future growth and stability of employee pension benefits and to guard against their loss in the unfortunate event of a company merger or bankruptcy.

We support legislative efforts to streamline the H2A process to ensure that all agricultural operations can have access to guest workers. The National Grange supports an Agriculture Guest Worker Program for the establishment of the H-2C visa program for skilled agricultural workers to be administered by the USDA. This provides an option to both seasonal and year-round labor needs, recognizing that not all agriculture jobs are the same or require the same level of skill or experience. The H-2C visa program better understands the unique needs of the American farm and ranch operations and the challenges of processing raw, perishable commodities. This will offer workers and employers more choices in their employment arrangements, with more flexibility and less bureaucratic red tape than the H2A visa program.

The global economy has allowed American businesses to reach markets once inaccessible and has increased the demand for many of our goods, including our agricultural products, in far regions of the world. The National Grange continues to be an advocate for the implementation of fair free trade agreements that encourage international commerce while also incentivizing domestic job growth and economic output for American companies. We do not however, support the

bailout of any country, state, or territory that has engaged in wasteful spending and behaved in a financially irresponsible manner.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Mail volume has steadily dropped, over the last fifteen (15) years, but it is still an essential service, especially for rural America. Rural America needs the Post Office to deliver mail and bring supplies, medicines, groceries, ballots and more to citizens in remote areas and to isolated populations throughout the country. We also support priority mail delivery for living organism i.e. chicks, bees, plants etc. that are time sensitive. The Post Office will have to operate effectively and efficiently going forward without regular cash infusions from the federal government to continue operations. The National Grange celebrates the passage of the Postal Service Reform Act. This culminates many years of Grange advocacy for Postal Reform.

JUDICIARY

Since its founding in 1867, The National Grange has been a staunch defender of our Constitution and the rights and privileges it protects for every citizen. As a nation of law and order we must work to draft, pass, and maintain legislation aimed at ensuring a peaceful society and a fair judicial system. Our first responders work hard and serve bravely on a daily basis. The National Grange will forever strive to grant them the support and respect they deserve.

The National Grange understands that citizens and the officials they elect are the best candidates to write the laws by which we will be governed, and that administrative agencies, commissions and other unelected governing bodies should be prohibited from drafting and implementing such regulations that dramatically impact our daily lives. We urge elected officials at all levels to periodically review and purge outdated laws and reduce burdensome and unnecessary regulations that stifle economic growth and fundamentally impede the free market system. The National Grange supports petitioners in the case

of National Pork Producers Council vs Ross, in opposition to California Proposition 12 that would impose California Pork Production standards on pork producers nationwide.

We vehemently oppose the use of eminent domain to confiscate private property for commercial use or any project that does not directly benefit the general citizenry.

Identity theft continues to be a significant problem in the United States. We support legislation that would increase security of personal, banking and credit card data to prevent fraudulent enterprises from acquiring and utilizing that data. We encourage strong cybersecurity be applied by all internet providers and the citizenry to apply due diligence in protecting themselves.

TRANSPORTATION

From its inception in 1867, the National Grange has been an advocate for a strong transportation infrastructure. In many ways, agriculture is the "original" business and as such has driven the establishment of a multitude of subsequent industries down the economic food chain, including

infrastructure development. The need for farmers to get their products to consumers drove the establishment of our nation's railroads, highways, and waterways and today continues to drive the development of our national infrastructure. Our nation's overall infrastructure (broadband, transportation services, water and waste management, ports, aviation, parks, schools) is in critical need of repair and upgrade. While recognizing the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, the National Grange continues to encourage Congress to pass and appropriate the funding to repair/upgrade our nations' infrastructure.

The National Grange supports the passage of the Freight Rail Shipping Fair Market Act or similar legislation to reauthorize the Surface Transportation Board, empower it to address inefficient and unreliable rail service for the U.S. commodities supply chain, and to assure the Board has the necessary authority to ensure a competitive and reliable freight rail network to support the agriculture and food supply chain. The National Grange with the Agriculture

Transportation Working Group encourages continued negotiations towards satisfactory labor contracts in the rail freight industry to avoid disruption in the agricultural and food supply chain.

We continue to support laws requiring drivers to slow down and move over while passing an emergency vehicle that is stopped with lights flashing and believe all drivers should be held responsible for their driving and guard against distractions from cell phones and other such devices. We strongly support technology that enhances the visibility of vehicles, school buses, construction, farm equipment, rail cars, bicycles, motorcycles, trucks, etc. The National Grange supports increased aviation safety for all onboard.

National Grange supports the designation of English as our national language and thus believe that all road and highway signage should be printed only in English.

National Grange urges all states have the same criteria/standards for Commercial Drivers License (CDL) drivers.

A View From The Hill - March 2023 Edition

Continued from Page 8

(D-WA) have introduced S. 127, the Pharmacy Benefit Manager Transparency Act of 2023 and the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee has scheduled a hearing on the bill. The House has launched a bipartisan Patient Access Caucus to focus on patient access to health care and PBM involvement. The Grange has urged oversight of PBMs as one way to cheapen the price of prescription drugs.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

More Time Needed to Challenge Broadband Maps

The National Grange has asked the National Telecommunications and Information Agency (NTIA) to continue accepting challenges to its draft broadband coverage map released in mid-November. The agency only allowed an eight-week challenge period to receive feedback from residents who were shown to have internet coverage on the map but in fact had no internet. Twenty-House members made similar requests.

The NTIA has agreed to continue to receive challenge input on an unofficial basis.

OF INTEREST

FDA Can't Make Decisions On CBD in Animal Feed

The Food and Drug Administration is calling for a new regulatory pathway to allow the use of cannabidiol, or CBD, in dietary supplements and food additives for animals. The agency had previously concluded that "it is not apparent how CBD products could meet safety standards" for those products. FDA received an application in 2021 seeking approval for use of hempseed meal and cake in poultry feeds. Hulled seeds from industrial hemp, and protein powder and oil from these seeds, are allowed by FDA as ingredients in human foods, however. The agency is concerned that long term CBD use might pose risks to animals, and therefore, people could unknowingly be exposed to CBD through meat, milk and eggs from animals fed CBD.

April Is Grange Month

NATIONAL GRANGE

GRANGE MONTH 2023



Brothers and Sisters,

Grange Month 2023 is here, and I am looking forward to seeing how each Grange around the country uses this month to celebrate their members and the communities in which they work.

When we chose "Raised Right Here" as our 2022-2023 theme, we hoped Granges would find ways to embrace and empower efforts being made in sustainability and resiliency in their hometowns and by the people who live there. And Granges came through!

This year, I hope Granges continue to use this theme to take pride in being "Raised Right Here." For over 150 years, the Grange has been a force for small-town and rural America, finding ways to build communities both inside and outside of our Grange Halls.

It's important for us to remember that the Grange isn't just a building, but is comprised of the people who gather together to work, socialize, advocate, and improve their communities. Let's use Grange Month to continue our efforts by being visible out in our communities.

Our longstanding tradition and purpose is to make our community and world better places to be, but we are not in this alone. Wherever you look, there are organizations, people, restaurants, stores, schools, farms, and other agricultural institutions that are making your communities and hometowns better and stronger, too. During Grange Month, invite them to be a part of your meetings or your programming, as a partner or as an honoree.

Together, we celebrate our 156th year of service as the nation's oldest agricultural advocacy and rural service fraternity, and what an honor it is to be a part of it. I encourage you to share your Grange stories, your "Raised Right Here" successes and more on social media, in person or wherever you can.

Fraternally,

Betsy E. Huber
National Grange President

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www.nationalgrange.org

PROCLAMATION

GRANGE MONTH 2023



WHEREAS, The Grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy, and agriculture awareness; and

WHEREAS, for 155 years The Grange has played an essential and lasting role in building rural and small-town America and ensuring its resiliency through advocacy and direct service; and

WHEREAS, The Grange continues today to be an active, empowering, and effective organization in thousands of communities around the country; and

WHEREAS, The Grange has a unique position in connecting rural America to urban America through agricultural appreciation and education and by creating strong community leaders; and

WHEREAS, The Grange emphasizes civic responsibility and the involvement of people in the legislative process, cultivating connections between citizens and their government; and

WHEREAS, The Grange offers opportunities for civil discussions among people of all viewpoints and opinions, serving as a safe haven for exploring important social and legislative issues of the day; and

WHEREAS, even through a worldwide pandemic, The Grange continued to promote service to the local community and volunteerism to improve the quality of life and economic well-being of its members and residents across rural America; and

WHEREAS, The Grange is proud to be "Raised Right Here," and encourages Grange and community members to come together in celebrating hometown pride and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, Grange members everywhere desire and deserve to celebrate and express their pride in the legacy of their highly-respected organization;

THEREFORE, I Betsy E. Huber, President of the National Grange, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as Grange Month, and further, I encourage the participation of every Junior, Community, Pomona, and State Grange in this celebration of Grange past and future by planning and executing programs and activities that will highlight the Grange in every American community.

PRESIDENT
National Grange

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WWW.NATIONALGRANGE.ORG

Washington State Grange: Grange Month Display Contest "Grange: Cultivating Connections In Our Community"

Granges are encouraged to toot their own horn and the horns of other Granges as we celebrate Grange Month in April. The State Grange Membership Department is having a Grange Month Display Contest to assist in promoting the Grange and portraying the positive influences the Grange has made on our state and nation.

For over 130 years the Washington State Grange has worked to make our state a better place for our citizens. We are active in 215 communities throughout the state, providing a wide range of services and offering multiple activities and programs. A public display on our Grange programs will assist in informing the citizens of our state of our programs and achievements.

Grange Month is celebrated in April. We ask that each Grange create a public display to promote the Grange and to focus on the positive impacts the Grange has made in our state.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- Each Grange will arrange for their own display area in a prominent public location in their community. The display area may be a window, table, showcase, or whatever is available for use in your community.
- Each Grange will design a display featuring their projects and activities, with a focus on the positive impacts they have had on the community or state.
- The display should follow the theme "Cultivating Connections in Our Community".
- A wide variety of Grange programs should be represented (i.e. lecturer programs, community service, youth activities, junior programs, family living, legislative etc.)
- The display must be in place for a minimum of seven days during the month of April.
- Each display must include a Grange logo and contact information for the local Grange.

CONTEST INFORMATION:

- Each Grange is encouraged to take 3-5 pictures of their display (including one of the complete display).
- Place the pictures in a folder and include a 300-word (maximum) essay describing the display and what you tried to portray.
- Include your Grange name and contact information in the folder.
- Send the folder to the State Grange Office no later than May 1.
- Pictures of the displays will be used for promotion in The Grange News. In addition, pictures will be displayed at the State Grange Convention.
- Judging will be completed by a committee and will be based on: originality, creativity, design, and overall impact.
- Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three displays: \$100, \$50, and \$25.

All entries should be placed in a folder and sent by **May 1** to the Washington State Grange, PO Box 1186, Olympia WA 98507. All entries will be available for pick up at the State Grange Convention.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Kickoff to Grange Month 7:00 p.m. eastern Live on Facebook & YouTube
			5 Spring Training Grange Roundtable practice for Junior/Varsity 8:30 p.m. eastern	6	7	8
						14 State Night in Talent Show hosted by Ann Bercher 8:30 p.m. eastern Live on Facebook & YouTube
15 GRANGE FOUNDATION DAY Youth Vespers/Service 9:00 p.m. eastern	17 GRANGE BROTHERHOOD DAY Ritual and the Past with Ann Bercher 8:30 p.m. eastern	18 GRANGE SERVICE/PW DAY	19 GRANGE BROTHERHOOD DAY Service with Pastors with Chris Hump 8:30 p.m. eastern	20 GRANGE PRINCIPLE DAY The Grange's Mission with Patsy Venable 8:30 p.m. eastern	21 COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY Community Service with Patsy Venable 8:30 p.m. eastern	22 GRANGE BROTHERHOOD DAY
			GRANGE SPIRIT WEEK			
			25 Lecturer's Forum with Ann Bercher 8:30 p.m. eastern	26 Long Time Com and Easter Planning with Ann Bercher 8:30 p.m. eastern	27 Legislative Roundtable	29 "What's New?" 3:00 p.m. eastern

Share Your Talent At "Date Night In"

We are planning for Grange Month 2023! One of our special events is a one-night-only return of "Date Night In," a favorite event from 2020! Do you have a special talent? Do you sing? Dance? Play an instrument? Are you crafty? Or do you have a hobby you'd love to share? We are seeking 3-5 minute submissions from Grange members around the country to be a part of our Date Night In virtual talent show on April 14th. Send your submissions to Ann Bercher, National Grange Lecturer by March 31 for consideration.



Date Night In will be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook on April 14th!

Download Grange Month Materials

Grange Month is just around the corner – April will be here before we know it! Over the next few weeks, keep checking the Grange Month 2023 page on the National Grange website as more things will be added! We are in year two of our "Raised Right Here," theme. This year, we encourage our Granges to use the theme to celebrate building strong communities – of all sorts! The network of the Grange community is strong, and we work to make the communities where our Granges function strong, too! During Grange Month, there will be online forums and events with many of the National Grange officers and Directors – please encourage your Grange members to attend! That calendar will be available in mid-March.

Home & Family

State Grange Leadership Conference Wrap-Up

By Helen Berg
Family Living Director

I would like to thank all of you who came out for our conferences as well as for the zoom meeting. I hope it was a learning time for each of you. I hope these final thoughts will aide in facilitating the family living program in your area.

The only change I made in our program was in the quilting. Group 6 the sub lots a and b have been deleted. If you wish to let the judge know whether you or someone else quilted your item just indicate on the entry form.

Quilts of Valor. I have at this time received one bio for a potential recipient. Please get these to me as quickly as possible so we can

determine how many quilts we will need. I am still looking for people who can put together quilts for us. Chris Hamp will be helping in this endeavor. Thank you, Chris.

Auction items. We are always looking for baskets of thing which can be bid on to help the Family Living budget. We will be allotted 7 items for the live auction and the rest will be in the silent auction.

Cancelled Stamps. This will be the last year we collect stamps as it is getting cost prohibitive to mail them to an organization who can use them as a fund raiser.

In preparation for your contests be sure to get the Pomona CFL packet from your Pomona President. Everything you need is in that packet. One addition is

on the report form for desserts. I left off the Lot G-1 thru G-6. Just add winners below your signature. Once you are done with all of your contests send your report to me so I can get everything ready for the State Contest.

State Quilt Block. My challenge to you is to have at least one block from each county. Theme is 'Down on the Farm'. You may use any medium you wish such as applique, embroidery, traditional piecing to name a few. Let your imagination juices flow.

We are still doing comfort toys as well as used eyeglasses. Just bring to the check-in counter.

Look forward to seeing many of you in Moses Lake in June.



Helen Berg

2023 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

Nine Patch with a Half Square Corners

- Begin with 2.5-inch squares of multiple fabrics:
- 6 dark colors (prefer all monochrome – all blue, all green, all red, etc, but each can be a different pattern or solid)
- 5 very light colors (white, cream, light gray; different patterns or solids)
- Create a nine-patch block.
- Keep all light colors on one side, and dark colors on the other.
- Create one half-square triangle on the top right, and one on the bottom left.
- Use a scant 1/4 inch seam allowance.
- This 9-patch block should measure 6-1/2 inches, unfinished on edges.
- Looking for scrappy blocks, but with similar colors in the "dark" fabrics.
- These are small blocks, so the more you send in, the better!



Finished Quilt Block

Questions? Email
lecturer@nationalgrange.org
for guidance.

The Quilt Block Contest provides an opportunity for Grange members and friends to collaborate in creating quilted items that can be donated or auctioned for funds to provide additional services to community members in a nationwide effort.

RULES:

- The National Grange Quilt Block Contest is open to everyone.
- All contest entries must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by September 1, 2023. Send entries to: Ann Bercher, National Lecturer, 777 Excelsior Blvd. Apt #310, Excelsior, MN 55331
- Any entries received after the deadline will not be judged. However, all entries received will be exhibited at the 157th National Grange convention in Niagara Falls, NY.
- The quilt block you enter in the contest for judging must be made by you.
- There is no limit on the number of quilt blocks a person may submit, but choose one quilt block per person to be judged. Please consider sending four completed squares.
- All entries will be retained by the National Grange to be made into finished quilts and other items to be sold at a later date.
- A 2023 Quilt Block Contest Entry Form must be completed for the block to be judged.

GROUPS: • Group I – Adult (Age 14+) • Group II – Junior (Age 13 and under)

PRIZES:

- Monetary prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each Group.
- Ribbons will be awarded to all entrants.



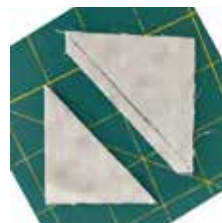
Step 1



Step 2



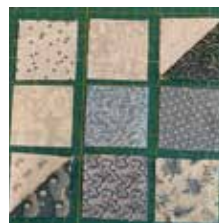
Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



Step 6



Easter Dip Goodness

(Courtesy of Family Features)

Easter is about coming together with loved ones, enjoying beautiful spring weather and eating your family's favorite foods. The kids will be playing, adults will be chatting and all will be patiently waiting for the table to be set.

If you're visiting and making memories with family and friends you haven't seen in a while, there are few things better than diving into a marvelous Easter spread. A warm Easter dip paired with rolls for dipping is a perfect way to start the festivities.

This dish is made for a crowd, served warm and full of cheesy goodness. You can watch as your family dips into the spinach and one-by-one, before you know it, the rolls will have disappeared and the dip will be devoured.

Easter Bunny Rolls with Spinach Dip

Servings: 24

Source: Culinary.net

Ingredients:

- 16 ounces frozen spinach, thawed
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/4 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 1 1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese, divided
- 2 crescent roll tubes (8 ounces each)

Heat oven to 375° F. In skillet, over medium heat, cook spinach, cream cheese and garlic 3-4 minutes until cream cheese is melted. Stir in mayonnaise, salt, onion powder, chili powder, pepper and Italian seasoning. Stir in Parmesan cheese and 1/2 cup mozzarella cheese. Cook until cheese is melted. Keep skillet on burner over low heat.

Remove dough from tubes. Leaving dough intact, roll and stretch into 18-inch ropes. Cut each rope into 12 pieces for 24 total.

On baking sheet with parchment paper, form bunny head by placing one piece of dough in middle then surrounding it with six more pieces. Use 13 pieces to form round body. Use remaining pieces to form ears on top of head.

Scoop hot spinach dip into center. Spoon small portions on each ear. Sprinkle ears and belly with remaining mozzarella cheese.

Bake 18 minutes, or until crescent dough is golden brown and thoroughly cooked.

Grange Connection

Sequim Prairie Grange Presents Special Award To Past State Grange President Robert Clark

History is not forgotten. During the February, Sequim Prairie Grange Meeting, Sequim Museum members, Judith Reandeau Stipe and Hazel Ault, presented Robert Clark with a "special" award. The Certificate of Historian Emeritus is the first of its kind. The award was created just for Robert Clark, in recognition of his effortless dedication to preserve and protect the historical heritage of the Sequim Prairie and Dungeness Flats. The certificate will allow him to always have a special seat, on the advisory board. "He has a vast wealth of knowledge and if the museum ever has a question regarding the historical heritage of the Sequim-Dungeness area, we can call Bob and he will have the answer," said Judith Reandeau Stipe, Sequim Museum & Arts Director. Within days of receiving his award, Bob got a call from the museum, to verify some facts. When Judith asked

him if it was true, Bob chuckled and responded, "only partial is true." "My memory of the past is as sharp as a tack but don't ask me a question from last week. I am 92 years old and I will be 93, in November." Bob begins to tell the story of when the Sequim Museum got its start. "The old city hall was located on Bell Street. The original board members would meet there decades ago. There was an old dusty jail cell in the back that was never used, so we used it to store donated museum items. Did you know that the very first donation, to the Sequim Museum was a three-legged milk stool, from Orum Medsker, he asked?" His stories continued and he explained how every family name, on the road signs, had a story. "I have often wanted to go over to the Abernathy donation claim and tell the people who built a house on the site, of the very first school," he said. "It

was a log cabin and the very first schoolteacher there was a man named William King." As he pauses and thinks for a minute, you can see the passion for his heritage and his community, overflowing with sincere gratitude. "The museum in Sequim is a Godsent. I just wish people would go back and see what is in there, especially the younger generation. Judy and her staff have done a wonderful job with our museum and it is truly a jewel, in our community," he says with a big smile. Robert Clark has been a member of the Sequim Prairie Grange for just over 60 years. His experience as a former Granger Master and other positions he held is a remarkable achievement. We here at the Grange are very fortunate to have him grace our Hall.



Judy Reandeau Stipe, Sequim Museum & Arts Director giving Robert Clark his Certificate of Historian Emeritus during the Sequim Prairie Grange meeting.



Hazel Ault, a Sequim Prairie Grange, and Museum Member with Robert Clark along with Judy Reandeau Stipe, Sequim Museum & Arts Director.

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 _____

Sequim Prairie Grange: "Nourishing the Soul and Body"

Sequim Prairie Grange is off to a very good start for 2023, with back to back, very successful fundraiser events. It started with January's pancake breakfast. The line was out the door waiting for those special pancakes. "The pancake breakfast was extremely busy from the time we started serving at 7:30 a.m. to closing," said Sequim Prairie Grange President, Dorinda Becker. "Sequim Prairie Grange rebounded in 2022 from the COVID pandemic, under the leadership of Dave McDaniels and the recruitment of new members, who were able to showcase their skills and talents," Becker said. February rang in the spaghetti dinner, after a 3-year hiatus. Grangers came together to serve over 200 dinners, in less than 2 hours. There were

also a few surprises at the dinner. Besides a plate full of pasta, salad and garlic bread, The Secords played their "old time" country music, while our community enjoyed their delicious dinners. One of our newest grange couples showed us a few dance steps, while serving coffee. And, for a little Valentine twist, there was also a bake sale. "All the goodies from cookies to cakes flew off the table and it was pretty cool to see the support from our community," said Granger, Amanda Cerutti. "Covid hit us hard these past few years, but now we feel like we are starting to rebound. This is all because of our community and their generosity, Dave McDaniels said. "We can't thank them enough!"

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

Grange Insurance Association

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To locate an agent near you call 800-247.2643 or log on to www.grange.com and use the agent locator.



Grange Connection

Spring Hill Grange Presents Membership Awards



At the December 12, 2022 meeting of Spring Hill Grange, Spokane County Deputy Sister Janice Radmer presented a 75-year membership Award to Sister Ruby LaRue. Other members who received awards but were unable to attend were: Lorretta Durheim 70 years, Mabel Hummel 65 Years, Judy Clouse 60 Years, Jim Ryan 50 Years, and David Godley 50 Years. Thank you for supporting our Grange.

CLARK COUNTY

Mountain Valley Grange obligated Dawn Harper at their January meeting. Four Junior applications were received. Two of them, Serenity Weisenborn and Emma Weisenborn were obligated at the February meeting. New member Jess Crossley was obligated at the February meeting. Revision of the Bylaws was discussed and voted on to amend at the January meeting. The Juniors and Youth are meeting with their leaders Van Weisenborn and Beth Goble. They are working on projects. Rentals are still coming in. The gutters were cleaned by workers from Cark Public Utilities. They do this as a community service project. The Candle Lighting Ceremony was performed by Lecturer, Judy Steigmann, at the February meeting. She was assisted by Ann Van Antwerp, Jim Malinowski, Dave Johnson, and Georgene Neal. The reader board fell on the ground during the last major windstorm. It was repaired and put back on the stand by Dave Johnson's daughter, Jennifer and Jody Slayton. Jennifer is the daughter of Dave Johnson. Six members and two juniors attended the Leadership Conference at Washington Grange in January.

COWLITZ COUNTY

Rose Valley Grange will hold a spring bazaar on May 6th at the Rose Valley Friends Church in Kelso. Hours will be 9 am to 2 pm.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Humptulips Grange members are planning for their "Soups On" event on Friday, March 10. All Grange families are to bring a crockpot of homemade soup for dinner prior to the meeting. The number of clients served at the Grange Food Bank continues to rise. We served 72 families in February with a total of 202 household members. We are continuing our monthly bingo activities on the first Saturday of each month. The April bingo is sure to be a fun one as it is on April 1 - April Fool's Day.

Sharon Grange has scheduled their Annual Oyster Dinner for Saturday, March 25, 12-6 p.m. Seniors will be allowed in at 11 a.m. Tickets will be available at the door.

KING COUNTY

Cedar Grange moved to change date and time of their regular meetings on a trial base for one year. We will be holding our meetings @ 6pm on the 3rd Wednesdays downstairs. We welcomed 2 new members, Robert & Alicia Kuro. We are excited to have them.

PIERCE COUNTY

Fruitland Grange has been busy the last couple of months with a Bingo night, a Family Valentine's

Dance, a class on the Basics of Bees taught by sister Eileen Mobeius, and a Bunco night. These events are all community events and free for those who attend. The schedule is getting busier as we head into spring. We will be having an Easter Egg Hunt ON March 26, Craft/Bazaar Sale on April 1 & July 22, and Edible Garden Classes April 8 & 22 in association with the Pierce Conservation District.

Looking forward to summer, classes on food preservation (Basics of Canning, Dehydration, Pickling, and Salsas) will be scheduled. Information can be found on our website www.fruitlandgrange.org or on our Facebook page. The Grange is excited to have some plumbing repairs done, new faucets in the kitchen and new toilets in the men's room. It may not sound like much, but very much needed during rentals, events and meetings.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Spring Hill Grange will discuss and vote on changes to their bylaws at their meeting on March 13, 2023.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange met on February 13th. Seven people were proposed and approved for membership. The new members will be obligated at the March meeting. Bingo nights have been booked for March and April. There will be a town wide yard sale May 13, with spaces available at the Grange. There was discussion about moving the monthly meetings from the second Saturday at 5:30pm to the second Monday at 4:30 pm. Everyone voted in favor of that bylaw change. Updated Grange department information was handed out to members. Sandie Bowers resigned as secretary. A new secretary will be installed at the March meeting. Stefany Smith was voted "Volunteer of the Year" for 2022 and had received her certificate at the Annual Community Christmas dinner in December. It was decided that the annual memorial and recognition of members that have been Grange members at least 25 years will be at the May 8 meeting.

THURSTON COUNTY

South Union Grange is sad to report the recent passing of Silver Star member Ray Parker. Ray was noted as having been a frequent

contributor of display materials for Thurston County Pomona's booth at the Puyallup Fair over the years. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 20 at 7:00 pm. Monthly dances with live country music by "The Country Four and More" are held the first Saturday of each month from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. All ages are welcome, \$6 per person.

WHITMAN COUNTY

Pine Grove Grange will be meeting on March 24 at 6:30 pm to vote on changing their meeting date to the 4th Thursday of the month. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to contact Bonnie Lyle (secretary) at 509-496-5954 or bonnie.lyle@yahoo.com prior

to the meeting with any comments or questions.

YAKIMA COUNTY

Selah Heights Grange participated in the third year of the State Fair Park Holiday Lights Extravaganza, where many buildings on the fairgrounds were decorated with Christmas lights as well as holiday related displays being created throughout the fairgrounds. This year the Dairy Bar, which the Selah Heights Grange operates during the Central Washington State Fair, was also decorated and included the event. We are proud to be part of what is becoming a wonderful holiday experience.



Goldendale Grange Helps FFA Students Purchase Jackets

Twenty-two Goldendale FFA students needed official FFA jackets to participate in upcoming contests and events. Goldendale Grange has a good working relationship with the local FFA program. To help provide for that need eight Grange women met with the FFA students on a Saturday morning and assisted them in making cookies. The following day a Huge cookie Sale was held at a local grocery store. The cookie project put the students over the goal of earning enough money to purchase the needed FFA jackets.



Pomona Connection

CLARK COUNTY POMONA

Clark County Pomona heard from Daniel Weaver, Chair of the Advisory Board of the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad, and John Shaffer, Vice Chair, at their December meeting. There is a lot of work to be done to upgrade the tracks so that industry could be developed along the line. The track is okay to Battle Ground but needs a lot of work from Battle Ground to the north end. The railroad bridges will also need to be upgraded. Rebecca Meats from Fargher Lake Grange was obligated by Master Janice Anderson. At the January 2023 meeting, Installation of New Officers was conducted by Calvin Russell. The newly installed Pomona officers included Pomona Master Janice Anderson. The Lecturer's Program at the February Meeting was Meredith Meats, 2023 Clark County Dairy Princess. Meredith explained the importance of supporting fairs: it promotes education, leadership and a competitive environment for youth. Meredith is looking forward to getting out in the communities and to the fairs to educate the public on dairy and agriculture. The Candle Lighting Ceremony, "You Make the Difference", was led by

Chaplain, Judy Steigmann at the February meeting. Assisting with the ceremony were Ruthie Shirley, Janet Bellcoff, Ann Van Antwerp, Barbara Hagedorn and Georgene Neal. The Baking, Crafts, and Photography contest will be held at Fargher Lake Grange on April 15th. Check is from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. Judging will be at noon, and items may be picked up at 3:00 pm. The baked goods will be auctioned off. The March meeting will be at Manor Grange #1101 and Fargher Lake Grange #853 will be the host to supply the Lecturer's Program and the door prizes.

COWLITZ/WAHKIAKUM POMONA

Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Pomona will hold their Family Living and Lecturer Contest on April 14 at the Catlin Grange Hall. Entries will be accepted from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Please refer to the WA State Grange Program Handbook for rules for the Family Living and Lecturers contest open to both Grangers and Non Grangers.

GRAYS HARBOR/PACIFIC POMONA GRANGE

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona Grange will meet on Saturday,

March 11 at the North River Grange Hall at 10 a.m. The meeting will include the baking and candy contests. Entries are due at 9 a.m. Following the judging, there will be a bake sale beginning at 12 noon. All the remaining contests will be held in conjunction with the May 13 Pomona Meeting to be held at the Humptulips Grange Hall.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY POMONA GRANGE

Snohomish County Pomona Grange will meet on Saturday, March 25 at the South Lake Stevens Grange Hall. The meeting time is 10:00 a.m. The Family Living Contest for Baking, Candy, Canning, and Food Preservation will be held at this meeting. Entries will be accepted between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

THURSTON COUNTY POMONA

Thurston County Pomona met on February 2 at South Union Grange for their regular monthly meeting. As the elected master has stepped down, Overseer Shavanna May was installed as the new Master. Ron Nelson was elected to fill the vacant office of Overseer. The next Thurston County

Pomona meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on April 6 at McLane Grange, with a potluck dinner at 6:00. The baking and candy contests will be held that night and entries will be accepted from 5:00-6:00, prior to the potluck. After judging, the entries will be auctioned as a fundraiser for Pomona. Lecturer and Family Living contests (other than baking and candy) will be held on Saturday April 15 at Violet Prairie Grange. Entries will be

accepted from 9:00-10:00 am, judging will be done from 10 am to 2 pm, and entries should be picked up between 2:00 and 3:00 pm. Contest details are in the Washington State Grange Program Handbook, which can be viewed on the website (wa-grange.com) under "Member Resources." Contact Pomona Lecturer Rita Klein or Pomona Family Living Chair Ginny Nelson if you have questions.

Pomona Calendar

The 2023 date request forms have been mailed to the Pomona Grange Secretaries.

Please complete and return to the State Grange Office ASAP.

- CHELAN**May 20 at Chumstick, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
- CLALLAM**March 15 at Crescent, 6 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. meeting.
- CLARK**March 8 at Manor, 7 p.m.
April 12 at Manor, 7 p.m.
- COWLITZ/WAHKIAKUM**April 15 at Catlin, 1 p.m. potluck, meeting to follow. Contest entries due on April 14 at 9 a.m.
- EXCELSIOR**March 25 at Greenwood Park, 10:30 a.m. Will hold baking contest. Photography contest entries due.
- GRAYS HARBOR/PACIFIC**March 11 at North River, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Baking and Candy contest entries due at 9 a.m.
- ISLAND**March 11 at South Camano, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
- KING**March 11 at Meridian, 10 a.m. Will include election of officers. Next meeting is April 15 at Cedar at 10 a.m. with contest entries due at 9 a.m.
- LEWIS**April 1, location to be determined, 12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting.
- MASON**March 18 at Matlock, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Lecturer and Family Living contest entries due at 10 a.m.
- PIERCE**April 1 at Waller Road, 10 a.m. Degree Day/Potluck. Will also be the sewing, needlework, and quilting contests.
- SKAGIT**April 5 at Fredonia, 6 p.m. Will include all contests.
- SNAKE RIVER**March 18 at Columbia Valley, 10 a.m.
- SPOKANE**May 20 at Five Mile Prairie, 10 a.m.
- STEVENS**April meeting at Fort Colville. 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
- THURSTON**April 6 at McLane, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. Contests will be on April 15 at Violet Prairie with entries due 9-10 a.m.
- WHITMAN**March 18 at Whelan Ewartsville. 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Will include baking contest and bake sale.
- YAKIMA VALLEY**April 10 at Fruitvale, 5 p.m. potluck, 6 p.m. meeting.

Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Pomona- Hosts Awards Luncheon

On January 21, 2023 Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Pomona #7 held there Silver Star - Golden Sheaf Awards luncheon.

The following Grangers received awards (they are all members of Sunnyside Grange #129):

- Florence Ogden - 55 Year Seal,
- Rex Ogden - 55 Year Seal,
- Alonzo Ogden - 25 Year Certificate,
- John Woodruff - 65 Year Seal
- Monte Martinsen - 70 Year Seal.

Also, Worthy Pomona Master Rex Ogden presented outgoing Pomona Master Joan Frymire with a Past Masters Pin.



SAVE THE DATE!

Upcoming State Grange Events

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

- MARCH 17** State Grange Executive Committee Meeting
- MARCH 17-18** Grange Deputy and State Officer Conference in Wenatchee
- MARCH 20** Grange Legislative Zoom Update, 10 a.m.
- MARCH 26-28** State Grange Youth/Junior Legislative Experience in Olympia
- MARCH 27** Grange Legislative Day in Olympia
- MARCH 29** Q & A With the State Grange President, 7 pm – Zoom Meeting
- APRIL 1** Secretary First Quarter Reports Due
- APRIL 1** State Grange Scholarship Applications Due
- APRIL 3** Grange Legislative Zoom Update, 10 a.m.
- APRIL 5** Youth Fair Update via Zoom, 7 p.m.
- APRIL 17** Grange Legislative Zoom Update, 10 a.m.
- APRIL 26** Q & A With the State Grange President, 7 pm – Zoom Meeting

- MAY 3** Youth Fair Update via Zoom, 7 p.m.
- JUNE 21-24** 134th Annual Washington State Grange Convention, Grant County Fairgrounds, Moses Lake
- JULY 9-13** Wooten Junior Grange Camp
- JULY 9-15** Morehead Junior Grange Camp
- JULY 16-22** Mayfield Junior Grange Camp
- JULY 23-29** Cornet Bay Junior Grange Camp
- JULY 27-28** Western Regional Grange Youth and Leaders Conference, Sacramento, CA
- AUGUST 13-16** Camp David Junior Grange Camp
- NOVEMBER 14-18** 157th Annual National Grange Convention, Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls Sheraton at the Falls, 300 Third Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Grange Connection

Goldendale Grange Provides Hall to Senior Meal Program



During the Christmas Holidays a water pipe froze and broke in the Goldendale Senior Center causing severe damage to their building. A local Restoration company estimates at least three months for repairs to be completed. An agreement was reached between Senior Services and the Grange to provide our kitchen and dining area on Tuesdays and Thursdays so the senior meal program can continue without interruption during repairs. The Senior Center Staff will prepare the meals. At this time approximately 100 meals are being provided.

Green Bluff Grange Holds Spin-In Event



Spin-In Event at Green Bluff Grange in Spokane County. The event raised \$500 for the Grange Scholarship Fund.

Calispel Grangers Enjoy Crafting Despite Frozen Weather



The frozen weather did not stop members and friends of Calispel Grange #500 from enjoying fellowship. One of our members, Carol Johnson, taught us to make a purse known as the "Lettie Bag." We came with fabric pre-cut and thought we would finish in one day. Thank goodness we had the second day scheduled, because as we learned how to install the grommets in the bag we began our new song that we named "The Grommet Growl." Those of you who ever worked with grommets may understand. Activities like the above help our members and friends get through those dark and rainy days. We know we can count on each other for food and friendship, just some of the many benefits of joining the Grange.

Granges In Action at Addy Grange



Granges from Stevens and Ferry County were awarded "Grange in Action" recognition by the National Grange. The certificates were presented at the Grange Resource and Leadership Conference in January.

★ ★ ★ MARK YOUR CALENDARS! ★ ★ ★
WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE ANNUAL CONVENTION
JUNE 21-24, 2023 • GRANT COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, MOSES LAKE