

WASHINGTON STATE

Grange News

November 2023

Informing Grangers Since 1912

112th Year No. 9









Youth Fairs Program Grows; Participation **Increases Nearly 40% In Second Year**

Participation in the Washington participants, which increased to State Grange Youth Fairs Program increased nearly 40% in it's second year. In 2022, there were 460

640 participants in 2023. number of participating fairs and Granges experienced similar

Participating Granges were:

Benton Franklin Fair -

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

Fair Chelan County Chumstick, East Wenatchee, Manson

Clallam County Youth Livestock Show - Dry Creek, Sequim Prairie

Clark County Fair – Barberton, Fargher Lake, Fern Prairie, LaCenter, Mountain Valley

Columbia Basin Junior Livestock Show - Freedom

Ferry County Fair - Kettle River

Grant County Fair - Moses Lake, White Trail

Grays Harbor County Fair -

Camp Morehead, Humptulips, North River

Kittitas County Fair Menastash

Milton-Freewater Junior **Show (OR)** – Prospect Point

North Central Washington Fair - East Wenatchee, Manson. Saint Andrews

Northeast Washington Fair -Addy, Fort Colville, Greenwood Park, Kettle River, Stranger Creek

Othello Area Fair - Freedom, Moses Lake, White Trail

Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days - Prospect Point

Continued on Page 6

SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming State Grange Events

Scheduled events may be either cancelled or postponed. Please call prior to the event to confirm.

NOVEMBER 14-18 157th Annual National Grange Convention, Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls Sheraton at the Falls, 300 Third Street,

Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Zoom Meeting

DECEMBER 1Grange Officer Lists (2024) due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 6 Youth Fairs Zoom Meeting, 7 p.m.

DECEMBER 15Grange Fidelity Bond Payments due to State Grange Office

FEBRUARY 4-5Youth/Junior Grange Legislative Experience in Olympia FEBRUARY 5......Grange Legislative Day in Olympia **APRIL 26-28**Western Regional Grange Youth and Leaders Conference in Yakima APRIL 26-28Grange Deputy and State Officer Conference in Yakima MAY 1Resolutions Due for consideration at 2024 State Grange Session

Northeast WA Fairgrounds, Colville

JUNE 26-30 WA State Grange 135th Annual Session at

Lecturer's Department

Changes Are Coming

By Leslie Jo Wells **State Grange Lecturer**

CORRECTION - In last month's article about the Fair Booth Contest, I "fat-fingered" my street number. The correct address is 18232 201st Ave SE, Monroe 98272. If your entry was returned to you, please mail it back using the correct address. I will accept entries with the later postmark date. I am sorry for the inconvenience.

Lecturer Program Information - The State Lecturer Committee met in late August to review our programs and contests. This review was based on contest entry data from 2018 - 2023. The following info is provided to give you an idea of some of the changes we have made. The changes were presented to the Executive Committee at their September

meeting. Following discussion, our proposed program and contest changes were endorsed by the Executive Committee.

Creative Writing Contest: This is being changed to Grange Members only. Since entries are submitted directly to the Lecturer, it has been difficult to get money awards to nonmembers because I don't have an address for them. We are eliminating the Essay category because there have been very few entries. We will continue with three categories: Poetry-Metered, Poetry-Free Verse and Short Story. We also specified word and/or page counts for entries.

Arts and Crafts Contest: We made several changes within the groups so you will want to review the information in your packet (if you're the Lecturer) and/or in the 2024 Program Handbook that will be available in January.



Contest: There

were only a couple of changes to the Photography classes. One change we did make was to add a Manipulated class for Adults and Youth. Please review the Photography rules in your Lecturer Packet or the Program Handbook for the explanation of this new class.

Fair Booth Contest: We will be reviewing this contest after this fair season and changes may be made before the 2024 contest. I will provide more information on this following our review.

Talent Contest: We have made various changes over the last five or six years to try to improve participation in the Talent Contest. Despite these efforts, it has been decided to discontinue the Talent Contest. If you or a group of members would like to perform at Convention we have

Heirloom Project Readings August, September and October 2023

NOVEMBER: "We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be, dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural fraternity, we shall recognize no north, no south, no east, no west."



(Grange Declaration of Purposes)

DECEMBER: "The welfare of each is bound up in the good of all."

(Fourth Degree, President)

JANUARY: "Encourage improvement; remember that Nature's motto is onward; she never goes backward."

> (Installation Ceremony; Installing Officer's charge to President)

several entertainment slots that you could fill. Just let me know.

The educational programs for 2024 are: Parliamentary Procedure, Flag Etiquette, Heirloom Program, Mentoring New Members/Granges, a Safety Topic, Let's Take a Trip and for fun, Remember When. Look for supporting info on these in your Lecturer Packet when you get it

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• Tom Gwin, Executive Editor • WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE NEWS (ISSN: 1070-4442) is published monthly except for July and September for and by the Washington State Grange, 924 S. Capitol Way, Olympia, WA 98501-1210. Subscription price to Grange members is included in annual dues. Nonmember price: \$12.50 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Olympia, WA and additional entry offices.

Washington State

GRANGE NEWS

(USPS) 226-060

P.O. Box 1186, Olympia, WA 98507-1186

(360) 943-9911 • (800) 854-1635

Fax (360) 357-3548 • www.WA-Grange.com

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to -**WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE NEWS** P.O. Box 1186, Olympia, WA 98507-1186.



Moving? Let Us I	Know?
Old Address (label should be on reverse of this form)	
New Address	
Your Name	Please mail to:
Grange Name & Number	Please mail to: Grange News PO Box 1186 Olympia, WA 98507-1186

President's Message

Successful Granges Start With Setting Goals

By Tom Gwin State Grange Master/President

As we prepare to close 2023, many of our Granges have elected new leaders. those who are returning to the same leadership position should reflect on the past year and work toward making 2024 a banner year for your Grange. Determine where you want your Grange to be in one year, five years, and ten years. Once you establish where you want to be, each Grange and its leadership team should establish a set of goals that will guide you through the coming year.

When we look at goal setting, we should follow these principles:

- ► Limit yourself to a few concise well-constructed goals this will allow you to keep focus on reaching your goals. Too many goals could cause you to lose focus.
- ► Goals should be specific (identify exactly what you want to accomplish), measurable (quantify the result to determine if you reached it), actionable (goals start with an action verb, rather than a to-be verb), realistic (push your Grange, but keep it real), and time bound (a goal without a date is just a dream be sure to establish a by-when date).
- ► Write your goals down stating your intentions will allow you to put your goals in motion).
- ► Review your goals frequently let them inspire you and your membership, keeping your goals in mind as you plan your yearly Grange program with each activity contributing toward your goals.

membership – have them buy in to help them work toward your goals.

Don't underestimate the practice of goal setting. It is a prerequisite for happiness and success. Granges who make significant progress toward their goals are successful in their communities. These Granges thrive by meeting the needs of others and are growing in membership and activities.

If your Grange has not determined its goals for 2024, it is

Once you establish where you want to be, each Grange and its leadership team should establish a set of goals that will guide you through the coming year.

-- Tom Gwin

not too late to take a few minutes to discuss and determine your goals for the coming year. Set some time aside at your next meeting to work on setting the direction of your Grange.

Your State Grange leadership team is reviewing their goals. Everything we do at the State Grange Office, in our department programs, and in our State Grange activities should contribute toward reaching the goals we set early in the year. Every step we take and every move we make should contribute toward reaching our goals for the organization



Tom Gwin

Grange activities across our state!

- A few reminders with corrected dates of important upcoming State Grange activities:
- 2024 Resolution Deadline The State Grange Executive Committee has moved up the deadline for submitting resolutions to May 1. There will be a proposal to change the bylaws accordingly at the 2024 state session.
- Bonding The information on fidelity bonds for each Grange has been mailed to each Grange. All 2024 bonding payments are due by December 15 to the State Grange Office. Contact the State Grange Office for additional details.
- 2024 Dues Notice Information Requests This information sheet was mailed to Grange Secretaries with the third quarter dues billing. The information sheet is due back to the State Grange Office now.
- Election of Officers Report

 All Granges should complete
 their election of officers' report
 and send it back to the State
 Grange Office no later than
 December 1.
- Grange Legislative Day

 The 2024 event will be held
 on Monday, February 5. The
 Youth and Junior Legislative
 Experience will be on February
 5-6. Watch for details.
- Western Regional Grange Youth and Leaders Conference - Washington State will host the conference, April 26-28, 2024, in the Yakima area. Details will go out to each Grange this winter.



It's Legislative Session Time



Jesse Taylor

By Jesse Taylor Legislative Lobbyist

Legislative Session

This time of year we begin to see an outline of the legislative session coming together for the second half of the 2023-2025 biennium. This January the legislature will reconvene for the 2024 "short session". The session will run for a full 60 days between January 9th until March 9th of 2024 where all additional work for the biennium will be completed. The short session is always a unique year because it bleeds into the election cycle. Legislators are eager to wrap up the work ontime and pass popular, non-controversial policy and funding items. In 2024 we will see the entire 98-seat House of Representatives up for re-election and 24 seats in the Senate chamber will be determined by the electorate as well.

This month we will be participating in "committee assembly days" at the legislature in Olympia. The House of Reps will hold their committee days November 30th-December 1st and the Senate will convene at the Capitol December 4th and 5th. These events are used to determine which members will be on the different committees and who the leadership of the caucuses will be. During committee days we see policy and budget committee hearings where chairs tend to foreshadow their policy priorities for the coming year. Committee days also give us a feel for the bills and initiatives that are coming down the line from legislators.

Budget

Each quarter The Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council delivers a report with anticipated state revenues for the nearest biennium and former biennium. The 2021-2023 biennium ended in the second quarter of 2023 with a total increase of \$265 million in revenue since the end of session in April. That means the 2021-2023 biennium realized a total of \$64.75 billion, representing a 22% increase over the previous biennium. Budget writers have released the state revenue growth forecast, and it is expected to increase by \$663 million in the 2023-25 biennium and increase by \$437 million for the 2025-27 biennium compared to the June forecast. As of Q4 in 2023 the state is expecting a total of \$66.69 billion representing an increase of \$2 billion for the next biennium of 2023-2025.

Food Supply Chain Grants

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is offering more than \$6 million in grants to support local food supply chains and market access for farms, ranches, food processors, and food distributors. The grants were funded by the legislature to expand linkages in the regional food supply chain. Applications are now open for the WSDA and are due November 15, 2023. The Washington State Legislature approved ongoing state funding to provide local food system infrastructure and market access grants and one-time covid-19 recovery funds for meat processing capacity grants and technical assistance through this program.

According the WSDA grant program manager the funds are available to farmers, ranchers, food businesses, or non-profit/tribal/government organizations that process, manufacture, transport, store, or sell foods within that have been grown, caught, or raised in Washington state for Washington consumers. Grant amounts range from \$10,000 to \$500,000. Grant funds can be used for planning, equipment, and facilities that support on-farm post-harvest handling, aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, distribution, and sale of locally and regionally produced food products.

For complete details on the grant guidelines and to apply, visit agr. wa.gov/grants or email localfoodinfrastructure@agr.wa.gov. The grant program is part of WSDA's Focus on Food Initiative, ensuring safe, nutritious food is effectively produced and distributed throughout Washington.

What can you do now to prepare for session?

Check out these key resources to learn more about the legislative session:

- ► Washington's legislative website at https://leg.wa.gov/
- ► Learn more about participating in the legislative process by going to https://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/Participating.aspx
- Find out who your state representatives are here https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/
- ► Elected members and staff email addresses here https://app.leg.wa.gov/Rosters/Members



Membership Corner

Welcome New Members

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS October 2023

# Joined	<u>Jr. +1</u>
Burbank #630	
Crescent #1123	
Deer Lagoon #846	1
East Spokane #148 David Dobyns, Peggy Geddis	
Freedom #115	4
Fruitland #999	1
Granville #857	
Green Bluff #300	
Humptulips #730	
Inland #780	
Kettle River #1120	
Marion #278	
Matlock #357	
Menastash #1054	24
Pamela Bartlett, Brent Vadopalas Rexville #815	
Lori Buher Rimrock #941	
Justin Beck	
Roy #702	
South Union #86	1
Swauk Teanaway #984	
Terrace Heights #586	
Whelan-Ewartsville #114	1
# Joined J	r ±1

Would you like your Grange featured in a coming issue of the Grange News?

If your Grange has sponsored 10 or more new members this year, we would love to hear what you are doing to entice new members to join. We would like to share what has worked for your Grange and feature your story.

Did you set up a committee to focus on membership? Did you hold specific community events to remind others about the Grange? Are you having success using social media? Send your story and any photos you would like to share to: grangenews@wa-grange.org.

Happy Holidays

As I write this, I am in disbelief that it is already November. Where did this year go? Though it's almost over, there is still much to accomplish for 2023. Thanksgiving will be here before we know it! With the holidays just around the corner, they come just in time for many of our Granges holiday events.

Holiday events are the perfect time to invite the community into your Grange. This is a great time for us to shine as organization. Reminding our communities just how important it is to have a Grange in the area. From bazaars to Thanksgiving dinners to Santa breakfasts, all of these are excellent ways to bring the public into the Grange. Let's also not forget about events such as warm clothing drives, educational classes, or forums.

Just remember to always Grange information ready for those that would like more information about the Grange. Have a nice table set up with a flyer about your Grange, applications, maybe

a Grange benefits brochure, a few Legislative Handbooks and Program Handbooks, and a few Grange News. If you're in need of replenishment, these items can be found and printed from our website, or you can order them directly from the state Grange office. We have also developed a few

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new brochures as well, which include Jr. Grange brochures and Washington State Grange Fairs Program brochures.

Membership drives are also happening all over the state. Our new member incentive contest is almost over. We have just two months to make our final push. We have already given away over 30 Mission Statement T-shirts along with over 25 Amazon gift cards to those who have brought in at least 3 new members. We have over 20 more members who need to recruit just one more member to qualify for a t-shirt. But we also, unfortunately have a lot of Secretaries who leave the "recommended by" blank so there are no winners for quite a few Granges. However, they will all go into the big drawings for the \$250 Visa gift cards for the Grange.

We have now brought in nearly 760 new members for the year! We are so close to our 1,000 new members for 2023 goal. If every Grange brought in just one new member before December 31, we would make that goal! Let's all get out there and do this!!

Let us know how we can help your Grange build its membership!

Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!!

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.

Stephanie King - Marion #276

Shannon Basterrechea - Menastash #1054

Holly Dempsey - Menastash #1054

Alice Coakley - Oakview #311 Tianna Wynn - Humptulips #730

Claire Lucke - Swauk Teanaway #984

Congratulations to the Grangers who have brought in 5 or more new members into your Grange. You have each won a \$25 Amazon gift card for every 5 new members brought in.

> Victor Stevens - Roy #702 1 - \$25 Amazon Gift Card

Shannon Basterrechea - Menastash #1054 2 - \$25 Amazon Gift Cards

> Alice Coakley - Oakview #311 1 \$25 Amazon Gift Card

Roxie Kizanis - Burbank #630 1 - \$25 Amazon Gift Card James Gimenez - Freedom #1152 1 - \$25 Amazon Gift Card

This Contest runs from January 1, 2023 thru 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.



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Grange News Adjusts Advertising Rates

With the change in printers and the five-column layout, the State Grange Executive Committee adjusted their rates for display advertising in future issues of The Grange News.

With the five columns on a page, the column width will be:

1 column width - 1.892 inches

2 column width - 4.014 inches

3 column width - 6.136 inches

4 column width - 8.258 inches

5 column width - 10.38 inches

With this column width, rates were adjusted as follows:

# of Columns	Ad Size	Amount
One Column	1.89" x 2.0" 1.89" x 4.0"	\$40 \$80
Two Columns	4.01" x 4.0" 4.01" x 6.0" 4.01" x 8.0"	\$160 \$240 \$288
Three Columns	6.14" x 4.0"	\$240
Four Columns	8.26" x 4.0" 8.26" x 6.0"	\$288 \$432
Five Columns	10.38" x 8.0" 10.38" x 16.0"	\$700 \$1350

For Granges wishing to print meeting notices of bylaws changes, the ad would be: 1.89" X 1.0" - \$20

There are no changes in the classified advertising as listed below:

Classified Advertising

Cost per word	one mo	onth 4 or more months	3
Regular	\$0.50	\$0.40	
Boxed	\$1.00	\$0.75	
Centered or reverse	d text	\$2.50 per line	
Minimum for one i	nonth:	\$5.00	

<u>Word count:</u> hyphens, spaces and X's separate words. Phone numbers count as one word.

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

We do not print ads for 900 number services.

Granville Grange Participates In Railroad Days Parade





On Saturday, October 7th, the city of Granite Falls held their 57th annual Railroad Days Parade. Granville Grange #857 had a booth set up along the parade route with members staffing it, handing out brochures on the Grange and the benefits of being a member. In addition, a number of members worked on putting together a parade float, complete with hay bales and corn stalks. Several members rode in the parade, tossing out candy to the children who were lining the streets. The weather was picture perfect and all who participated had a great time! We might even have some new members!

Sammamish Valley Grange At The SVA Harvest Celebration





Friends and neighbors joined members of the Sammamish Valley Grange #286 on a glorious sunny, fall day on Saturday, October 14, during the the Valley's Fall Harvest Celebration hosted at the 21 Acres Farm and Campus in Woodinville. Tom Quigley, SV Grange President, guided the crowd as they fed apples into the 100+ year old press. SV Grange member, Alexia Allen with Hawthorn Farm, introduced Duke the farm pony to the hundreds of visitors throughout the day. A big thank you to Grange volunteers, including Vanda and Lee Minea, for their continued support and involvement in sharing the Grange message.

The Grange Exchange

<u>Cost per word</u> Regular Boxed	one month \$.50 1.00	<u>4 or more</u> \$.40 .75
Centered or reversed text Minimum for one month		
Word count: hyphens, spaces count as one word. We do not	and X's separate v	vords. Phone numb <i>umber services</i> .
ads must be paid in advance. (Tear sheets not ser	t for classified.)
ads must be paid in advance. (Ad copy (or attach copy): No. words @ rate \$ x =	# months = \$	t for classified.)
Deadline: 5th of each month (fads must be paid in advance. (Ad copy (or attach copy): No. words @ rate \$ x = Name Address	# months = \$	t for classified.)

Calispel Grange Hosts Special Meetings With Visitors And Gifts





Calispel Grange #500 had a special guest for lunch this fall. Tom Gwin stopped in with paperwork and other requested information. He met for a couple hours with members of Calispel Grange and joined us for lunch. It was a great visit, and we learned that next year's conference is close to our neighborhood. We thank him for this informative visit. Pictured with Tom are members and friends of Calispel Grange.

During another meeting a special homemade gift was given to one member from another member for guidance in finishing a baby quilt. Kathryn Hartley (right) shared her expert quilting and embroidery skills with Mary Boone(left). Mary then shared a product of her expertise with Kathryn for her assistance. We have fun, help each other, and eat well at the Calispel Grange #500.

Grange Youth Fair Program

Youth Fairs Program Grows; Participation **Increases Nearly 40% In Second Year**

Continued from Page 1



Following a Zoom meeting with participating Granges in early October, the guidelines were updated for 2024. The guidelines are now available on the State Grange website: www.wa-grange.com/YouthFairs

In addition to the fairs, pieces of the Youth Fairs Program were incorporated into the 2024 Washington State Grange Annual Session, held in Moses Lake. Plans are to include additional pieces into the 2024 State Grange Session, scheduled for June 26-30 in Colville.

We are hoping to expand into additional fairs in 2024. Interested fairs and Granges should contact the State Grange Office for more information.















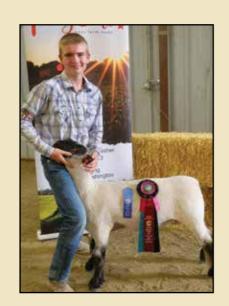
NOVEMBER 2023 7















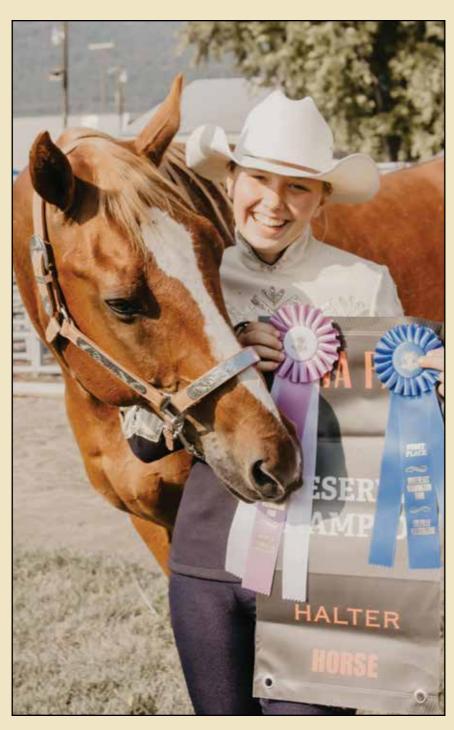






































































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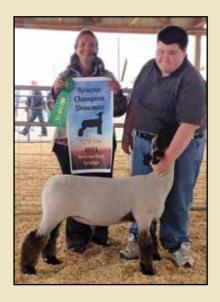


















Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Developing Our 2024 State Grange Youth Program



By Jerry Gwin **Youth Grange Director**

This is the time of year we start putting our new program together. Next week, we should be getting the details on the 2024 National Grange Youth Program that will be included in our state program.

We are also looking for ideas from our members on what programs will attract youth members over the next few years. Please mail your ideas to me at davona1242@outlook.com

Reminder – All adults working with the youth and juniors must have a background check. This includes the Grange Youth Fairs Program. Background check forms are available on the State Grange website. Please return the forms to the State Grange Office.

The 2024 State Grange Youth and Junior Legislative Experience will be held February 5-6 in Olympia. We will spend two days of learning about state government and tour the state capital and surrounding buildings. Mark this date on your calendar now.

The 2024 Western Regional Grange Youth and Leaders Conference will be held April 26-28, 2024. It will be hosted by the Washington State Grange and held in Yakima. The 2024 National Grange Convention will be held next November in Bettandorf, Iowa.

The 2024 National Grange Youth Program Guide will soon be available on the National Grange website: www.nationalgrange.org.

Happy Thanksgiving to you from the youth department.

On The Web: www.WA-Grange.org

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateGrange

Moses Lake Grange Participates In Warden Community Days Parade







Moses Lake Grange participated in the Warden Community Days Parade.



Juniors

Happy Thanksgiving



By Heather Ferguson **Junior Grange Director**

I was having trouble coming up with an article this month so I decided to do something fun and educational. I am pretty sure you have heard the first few stanzas of this poem but few associate it with Thanksgiving. It was written by a very interesting, progressive and influential lady in 1844. Lydia Maria Child, was an author, suffragette, abolitionist and journalist. Her writings are still regarded today as important glimpses into the social and political environment of her time. Today, we are still reciting parts of here work but many have never even heard of her. Enjoy the poem and have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving Day

Written by - Lydia Maria Child Over the river, and through the wood, To grandfather's house we go; The horse knows the way

To carry the sleigh Through the white and drifted snow.

Over the river, and through the wood— Oh, how the wind does blow!

It stings the toes

And bites the nose

As over the ground we go.

Over the river, and through the wood,

To have a first-rate play.

Hear the bells ring

"Ting-a-ling-ding",

Hurrah for Thanksgiving Day!

Over the river, and through the wood

Trot fast, my dapple-gray!

Spring over the ground,

Like a hunting-hound!

For this is Thanksgiving Day. Over the river, and through the wood,

And straight through the barn-yard gate.

We seem to go

Extremely slow,—

It is so hard to wait!

Over the river and through the wood—

Now grandmother's cap I spy!

Hurrah for the fun!

Is the pudding done?

Hurrah for the pumpkin-pie!

Humptulips Juniors Carve Pumpkins



Humptulips Junior Grangers carved pumpkins in preparation for Halloween. Members took their completed pumpkins home for their families to enjoy.

Home & Family

November 2023 **Family Living News**



By Helen Berg **Family Living Director**

As the holiday season is fast upon us may we all be aware of the food that tempts us. This year I would like to challenge all of us to try to be ever mindful of what we eat. I would like to see all of us, myself included, making healthy choices when choosing what we eat. I look at this as a healthy body

makes a healthy Grange. Please do not look at this as a diet but rather healthy eating. Perhaps your Grange or Pomona may want to make this a year-long contest.

We will be doing Quilts of Valor again this Convention in Colville. It is not too early to submit nominations. All you have to do is write up a biography on the recipient stating the branch of service, the years served, where served, as well as any medals earned. These can be sent to me by e-mail or snail mail. We have room for 10 people in our time slot on Saturday so the first 10 are in. I would encourage you to find those Grangers in the Colville area who have not received a quilt and encourage them to be willing to receive one.

Have a Great Thanksgiving

A Festive, Everyday Side Dish

(Courtesy of Family Features)

While the busy holiday season can be loads of fun, you still need to get dinner on the table between parties. When you find yourself in a pinch this holiday season, squeezed for time and searching for a quick solution for dinner, turn to an easy side dish that can appease everyone. Potatoes are a nearly unanimous favorite.

Make putting dinner on the table a breeze with a solution like little potatoes from The Little Potato Company. Ready in as little as 5 minutes, they come pre-washed and require no peeling or cutting, making them the perfect time-saving solution for the holiday season.

Ideal for this Perfect Roasted Little Potatoes recipe, these little potatoes are a tasty, fresh whole food that you can feel good about serving. Ready in half an hour with minimal prep and a few simple ingredients, it's a perfect side dish for any occasion.

Visit littlepotatoes.com for more information and holiday inspiration.

Community Service

Easy Community Service Project for Thanksgiving



By Heather Ferguson **Community Service Director**

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I have a little project for everyone to consider doing. Thanksgiving is traditionally spent with close family and friends. What about

the friends or family members that you may think about every so often and may even have intentions of contacting but never do. My project is to contact at least one person that fits this description. Instead of thinking, "I should contact them", actually

contact them. Write a letter, make a phone call, visit in person, write on their Facebook page or send an email. Contact them in whatever way is easiest for you but just reach out and say, "Happy Thanksgiving, ...".

Granville Grange Presents Award



On October 11th, Worthy Master John Scherrer of Granville Grange #857, along with Thora Boede, Chaplain, presented Helen Hagenston with her Silver Star certificate. The members are very appreviative of Helen's many years of service.



Lower Naches Grange Awards





(Left) Lower Naches Master Lonnie Joslin and State Master Tom Gwin present a 65-year Grange membership award to Liz Wade. Liz is a past State Grange Deputy for Yakima County. (Right) Walt and Louise Eller were presented with their Golden Sheaf Membership Awards by Lonnie Joslin, Master of Lower Naches Grange, and State Master Tom Gwin.

Perfect Roasted Little Potatoes

Prep time: 5 minutes Cook time: 30 minutes Servings: 6

- 1 1/2 pounds The Little Potato Company Little Potatoes
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1-2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped

Preheat oven to 400 F. In large bowl, toss little potatoes with oil, salt and pepper until coated.

Spread potatoes in single layer on rimmed baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Bake 30 minutes, or until tender.

Sprinkle with parsley and serve. Tip: For extra holiday flavor, add paprika, garlic and fresh herbs.



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 -

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National Grange News

A View From The Hill - Fall 2023 Wrap-Up

By Burton Eller National Grange Legislative Director

WASHINGTON OVERVIEW

For most of October, the overriding news in Washington has been the chaos in the House Republican Conference. Speaker McCarthy was relieved of his speakership but multiple votes over several weeks failed to elect a new speaker. Finally on Wednesday, October 25 the House elected Mike Johnson (R-4-LA) who represents a large rural Louisiana district as Speaker of the House of Representatives by a vote of 220-209. The Senate meanwhile is working in a bipartisan manner to pass legislation for aid to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan. The continuing resolution to temporarily fund the federal government expires mid-November. Congress may need to pass another continuing resolution to prevent a government shutdown because they probably will not be able to pass a FY 2024 budget at this point. New restrictions were placed on the sale of artificial intelligence chips to China in the name of U.S. national security. The current farm bill expired on September 30 and some programs have expired or partially expired. Many of the larger programs have full funding and function through December 30. At that point, a farm bill extension will be necessary. Legislative activity was practically at a standstill on Capitol Hill during October.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Lawmakers look at foreign ag land purchases

At a recent hearing on Capitol Hill, Senate Agriculture Committee members heard that sparse resources at USDA are limiting the monitoring of foreign ag land purchases. Because of limited staff and funding, USDA is relying on a self-reporting, "paper-based" system to track those purchases. The FY2023 appropriations bill called for USDA to create a searchable online database of foreign investment information and appropriated the funds necessary for the project. The Agriculture

Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires foreign entities to file disclosure information with USDA's Farm Service Agency when they buy or sell land. However, several witnesses said they were concerned by the agency's inconsistent and lax enforcement of the law. About 40 million acres or about 3% of the nation's total farm, ranch and forest land is owned or leased by foreign investors. Ten states - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, Utah - enacted foreign land ownership laws in 2023. Full and transparent disclosure of foreign ownership is a Grange policy priority.

Hearings dig deep into milk pricing regulations

Formulating proposed changes to the federal milk marketing order system and balancing the wish lists of dairy producers and processors have been the subject of seven weeks of public hearings by USDA. Two more weeks of hearings are scheduled to begin November 27. Differing proposals have been offered by the National Milk Producers Federation representing milk producers and the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) representing milk processors. USDA expects to offer its recommendations by April and have a producer vote on the recommendations by the end of next year. Grangers should expect a lively farm bill debate on milk pricing options.

Commodity checkoff programs survive House challenge

In early October, the House of Representatives defeated an amendment aimed at barring USDA from administering commodity checkoff programs by a vote of 49-377. House Agriculture Committee chairman G.T. Thompson emphasized these programs are voluntarily created and paid for by producers and checkoff programs do not receive any tax dollars for their activities, or for USDA oversight of their activities. Thompson did express a willingness to look at increased transparency when developing the new farm bill.

Veterans to receive grants

USDA will give \$27.6 million in grants to underserved and veteran farmers, ranchers

and forest owners to provide training, outreach and technical assistance to help them own and operate successful agricultural enterprises. Projects to be funded include, but not limited to, conferences, workshops and demonstrations as well as ways to connect participants to USDA resources and services.

Legislation would help rural veterinarian shortage

Several senators have introduced a bipartisan bill, the Rural Veterinary Workforce Act, that would provide incentives such as tax benefits and paying down student loans to encourage veterinarians to practice in rural shortage areas. A companion bipartisan bill has been introduced in the House. The Act would reflect similar exemptions provided to medical doctors and other human health practitioners. Grange policy strongly supports incentives for rural practitioners.

HEALTH CARE

Patients to receive more copay assistance

The National Grange joined patient groups for several years to assure patients actually receive copay assistance and coupons provided by prescription drug manufacturers. Unfortunately, middlemen between drug manufacturers and the local pharmacy counter known as pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) have been able to siphon off those savings intended to help insurance companies lower policy premiums for patients. The U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. recently struct down a rule PBMs had been using for this

House forms rural health

The new Bipartisan Rural Health Caucus will serve as a forum for U.S. Representatives to promote legislation and policy actions focusing on rural health. There will be opportunities for the caucus to hear from patients, providers and health advocates about the health care need in rural communities. Jill Tokuda (D-2-HI) and Diana Harshbarger (R-1-TN) co-chair the caucus. The Grange is looking forward to working with members of the caucus.

Editorials focus on rural mental health

Editorials raising awareness of mental health stigma in rural communities were featured in the Richmond Times Dispatch, Roanoke Times and several local papers in Virginia during October. Bylined by National Grange's Burton Eller, the articles pointed out that rural residents are likelier than their urban counterparts to struggle with depression, face higher risks of suicide, have little access to mental health professionals and worry more about the stigma of reaching out for help. In addition, Congress needs to amend the Inflation Reduction Act to allow more time for development of small molecule therapies to treat mental illness. Eller highlighted the National Grange-Rural Minds partnership to raise rural awareness and expand mental health access.

Health care equity in the heartland

That was the lead-in to TV coverage on WISN in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and WXII in Winston Salem, North Carolina that featured interviews with the National Grange's Burton Eller. The interviews focused on the work Granges at all levels are doing to empower rural patients to be active participants in their health care. Because rural residents are a little older, sicker, less insured and farther away from doctors and hospitals, it is important they get vaccinated against flu, pneumonia, COVID and RSV as the fall and winter respiratory virus season arrives.

New hope for Alzheimer's patients

Until now, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has limited Alzheimer's scans to one per lifetime and these were only available in large metropolitan centers. The good news is that CMS has made the decision to allow multiple Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scans and these will be available regionally across the country. The Grange has been pushing for these advancements to aid rural Alsheimer's patients.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

ACP on lawmakers' screen

The Affordable Connectivity



Program (ACP) was launched in 2022 as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to provide \$30 per month toward internet bills for low income families. ACP also allows a one-time \$100 subsidy to buy computers or tablets. ACP has been very popular in rural areas to get families on the internet as it becomes available. However, funding for ACP will run out early next year. The National Grange has been sounding the alarm for several months and asking Congress to extend ACP funding until a permanent funding solution can be agreed upon. A bipartisan group of 45 House members and the Rural Broadband Caucus have called on Congress to pass an extension. President Biden has the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) working on cost estimates of an extension.

Pole attachment mediation needed

Broadband provider access to utility poles is hindering the effort to expand broadband to rural areas according to Senator Capito (R-W.VA.). She says she continues to hear about problems and delays associated with broadband providers getting reasonable and timely access to utility poles as part of their broadband deployment efforts. In hard to serve rural regions of the country, broadband networks are dependent on access to an existing and long-established network of utility poles. The National Grange has petitioned the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) several times to take action on its pole attachment proceeding which began three years ago and issue guidelines for reasonable and timely pole access.

Grange Connection

CHELAN COUNTY

Bee Hive Grange will be holding a Ladies Paint Party on Monday, November 13.

Manson Grange will hold their Holiday Extravaganza on Saturday, November 25 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

CLARK COUNTY

Fern Prairie Grange will hold their Annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 11 (9 am to 5 pm) and on Sunday, November 12 (10 am to 5 pm).

Fargher Lake Grange has their Fall Sale coming up on Saturday, November 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

COWLITZ COUNTY

Catlin Grange recently lost a 65-year member Rosemary Painter, wife of Catlin Grange Master Roy Painter. They were members of Mt Brynion Grange then they joined Catlin Grange. There was a beautiful memorial and the charter was draped for Rosemary at Catlin Grange.

Pleasant Hill Grange will have a Holiday Craft and Bake Sale on November 10-11, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each

GRANT COUNTY

White Trail Grange will have their Country Christmas Bazaar on December 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Humptulips Grange held a Mexican Food potluck prior to their October meeting. The Grange welcomed three new members. Discussion included our display at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup. The score sheets were reviewed and notes made about improving the display for next year. We are working on a new sign for the exterior of the Grange Hall. We are also looking at replacing the thermostats inside the hall, getting a simple on/ off thermostats rather than the 7-day programmable thermostat. Thirty girls received their homecoming dresses at the formal dress giveaway on September 30. Monthly bingo started up again in October. Upcoming bingo events are on November 4, December 2 and December 16. The Grange Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Friday, December 8.

KING COUNTY

Issaquah Valley Grange members manned the Rainbow Trout Feeding Station for eight hours each day of the Issaquah Salmon Days, held on the first weekend in October. Members gave young visitors approximately 2500 Dixie Cups of Trout Chow and collected \$2500 in

donations for hatchery educational activities. In addition, Grangers who are docents manned some of the Viewing Window shifts and answered myriads of questions. During September and October the Friends of Issaquah Salmon Hatchery give more educational tours than any other hatchery by far. FISH greatly appreciates the IVG volunteers who help with spawning the Coho and Chinook runs and manage tours.

KLICKITAT COUNTY

Columbia Grange would like to invite you to our 134th birthday celebration on Saturday, November 11th, 2023 at 1:00 PM. Columbia Grange #87 is one of Washington State's oldest, continually used, Grange Halls. Join us with fellow grangers and Klickitat County community members of all ages at the Grange Hall located at #5 Columbia Grange Road off Old Hwy 8 above Lyle, WA. There will be birthday cake, ice cream, a short video presentation by Lecturer Sara Wade, ping pong table games, Grange music by Dr. Jim Ogden, and a Pie Auction to help with the historic Grange Hall's maintenance upkeep. Bring a pie to donate to the Pie Auction, take another home with the highest bid.

LEWIS COUNTY

Hope Grange will celebrate the holidays at their Christmas Celebration on December 2. The event will be 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and will include music, food, bingo, cake walk, and silent auction. Santa will arrive at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome at this admission free event.

Oakview Grange took first place for their Grange booth at the Southwest Washington. This year's theme was "Bee Friendly, Bee at the Fair". The booth was both an attractive and colorful arrangement as well as educational with an interactive handson board with "bee" facts. September saw the hall receive a fresh coat of paint along with the old wooden floor in the storeroom being replaced. The fall garage sale was a success and helped fund recent projects. Oakview Grangers have also adopted a new charity project, Samaritan's Purse - Operation Christmas Child. On October 11, members met to discuss plans for 2024. It was decided a meeting will be held the last Tuesday of each month at 10am concluding with a light lunch. Odd months, members will do cleaning and hall maintenance project; even months will see some kind of fun activity or class. Members are now preparing for their Thanksgiving potluck and BINGO evening before turning their attention to decorating the hall for Christmas. The December 7th evening will begin with a finger food potluck followed by the Christmas program. It's rumored Santa Claus plans on dropping by as

PIERCE COUNTY

Fruitland Grange was busy in October after getting done with the Washington State Fair display. They held Bunco on Oct. 11, a Craft Bazaar, Upcycled items and Vintage Collectables on Oct. 21. A family Halloween party on Oct. 29 and have plans for a family Christmas Party on Dec. 17. Future plans in 2024 include a Valentine Dance on Feb. 10. The canning classes should have helped everyone get prepared for the Pomona Canning and Preserving contests that come up in the spring. Be sure to save your best jars from this fall's harvest to enter into this fun contest. As we get ready for the upcoming Holiday Season, be sure to help those in need or those that could use a helping hand. Maybe it's as simple as checking in on a neighbor during the busy season.

SKAGIT COUNTY

Skagit Valley Grange draped their charter in memory of our brother Lyle Mosher. Lyle was our musician for many, many years. He played the piano not only for Skagit Valley Grange, but also Skagit Pomona and degree presentations. He was also known to bring his accordion and play for entertainment. Lyle will be greatly missed. Skagit Valley is planning a huge Garage Sale on October 13 & 14, 8:30 - 3:00 each day. Donations gratefully accepted.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange had a fantastic Harvest Festival during the month of October. We held four Sunday pancake breakfasts served with applesauce. The Craft Fair held the last 3 weekends of October was successful with many vendors, lots of visitors, and beautiful fall weather. Welcome to new members Harley & Lisa Douglass. Jr. Grange hosted a Halloween Candy Drive Thru on Oct. 28. Words for Thirds dictionaries were presented in November. We held Booster night on November 4. JoAnn Hall was presented with our Community Service Volunteer award. November 7 was our community event— a Chili Cookoff. Spokane County Pomona was held on Nov. 18 at Green Bluff Grange. The last pancake breakfast for the year will be Nov. 26. We'll do our Toys for Tots Santa Drive Thru on Saturday, December 9 from 4:30 - 6 pm. Our 2024 calendar of events is being set.

THURSTON COUNTY

South Union Grange #860 cohosted Thurston Conservation

THURSTON COUNTY POMONA

Thurston County Pomona #8 met at

Violet Prairie Grange Hall on October

5 for their regular monthly meeting.

Election of officers was held for the

COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUMNovember 18 at Rose Valley,

EXCELSIORNovember 18 at Clayton, 10:30 a.m. Includes election and awards. **GRAYS HARBOR/** PACIFICJanuary 13 at Elma, 10:30 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck ISLANDDecember 2 at Deer Lagoon, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Will include election of officers. KINGNovember 18, 10 a.m.

KLICKITATto be announced LEWISNovember 4 at Cowlitz Prairie,

December 2 at Fords Prairie. MASONNovember 18 at The Agate, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.

PIERCENovember 4 at Ohop, 10 a.m. Degree work will be exemplified. December 2 at Waller Road.

SKAGITNovember 1 at Skagit Valley, 6:30 p.m.; December 6 at Fredonia.

SNAKE RIVERNovember 18 at Columbia Valley, 10 a.m.

SNOHOMISHNovember 11 at Granville, 10 a.m. SPOKANENovember 18 at Green Bluff, 10 a.m.

THURSTON......November 3 at Brighton Park, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.

STEVENSto be announced.

WHATCOMNovember 21 at Haynie, 6 p.m. potluck, meeting to follow.

December 7 at Black Lake.

Home in Colfax, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. YAKIMA VALLEYJanuary 8 at Fruitvale, 5 p.m. potluck,

6 p.m. meeting.

WHITMANNovember 18 at Jim & Bonnie Lyle's

2023 Grange year, and Shavanna May was re-elected to serve as Master. The next meeting will be at 7 pm on December 7 at Black Lake Grange and will be preceded by a potluck at 6 pm. The meeting will include the annual Christmas celebration, so each Grange should plan a brief

holiday presentation of their choice to present during the Lecturer's program. Installation of officers for Thurston Pomona and the county's subordinate Granges will be held on January 7,

2024 at 2 pm at Brighton Park Grange.

District's Harvest Festival on October 7 at the Grange. Grangers served hot dogs, baked potatoes, chili, pop and water, and had a membership display. Visitors to the event were able to press cider, hear presentations on agriculture-related topics, play on a stack of hay bales, listen to music, and enjoy a host of interesting and educational presentations and booths. A pie baking contest was held and Grange Master Patty Mathews was chosen as one of the pie judges. Attendance was estimated at 600+ who came out and for this festival on a warm fall Saturday. On October 13, the Grange held a candidates' forum to allow the public to hear from and meet the candidates for Thurston County Commission and Port of Olympia Commission prior to voting in the November 7 election. Grange Master Patty Mathews was the MC for the event. Reaction from those in attendance was very positive. The annual Christmas celebration and potluck will be held on December 10 at 2 pm and is open to everyone. The Grange will provide main dishes and beverages for the potluck, and others are asked to bring side dishes, salads, or desserts. Violet Prairie Grange members and their families

have been invited as special guests. Membership awards will be presented. The program will also include a Christmas sing-along and a visit from Santa. If you are bringing children 12 years old or younger, please bring a wrapped present with the child's name on it and sneak it to a Grange member when you arrive so they can make sure Santa has time to tuck the gift into his bag prior to his arrival. Upcoming business meetings will be held at 7 pm on November 20 (including election of officers) and December 18. Dance to live country music by The County Four and More the first Saturday of every month from 1:30-4:30 pm. Just \$6 per person and all ages welcome. Next dances will be December 2, and January 6.

YAKIMA COUNTY

Pomona Calendar

10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.

6 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. meeting.

December 13 at Manor.

1 p.m. potluck with planning

meeting and business meeting to

12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting;

Will be election of officers.

follow. Bring hats, cocks, and gloves.

CHELAN.....November 18 at Entiat,

CLALLAM.....November 12 at Sequim Prairie,

CLARK.....November 8 at Manor, 7 p.m.

Lower Naches Grange members are proud to have received the top four awards on their display at the Central Washington State Fair. The Grange received: First Place Agricultural Display, First Place Animation, the Fred Yahn Trophy, and First Place People's Choice. The people's choice award was based upon a ballot from fair goers.

Pomona Connection

GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona held a Basket bingo fundraising event on October 28 at the Olympia View Grange Hall. The Pomona Grange will meet on May 4 to finalize the calendar of events for 2024.

KING COUNTY POMONA

King County Pomona will meet on Saturday, November 18 at 10 a.m. at the Happy Valley Grange Hall. The agenda will include election of officers and further discussion over the future of the Pomona Grange.

KLICKITAT COUNTY POMONA

Klickitat County Pomona met at Columbia Grange on October 14. Discussion on Dams, Water, Grizzly bear

introduction to our State. The Lecturer gave a program on eclipse. Mentioned holding a degree day with date to be

SNOHOMISH COUNTY POMONA

Snohomish County Pomona will host an all-county Christmas Party/ Potluck on Sunday December 3rd, from 1 pm to 4 pm at the South Lake Stevens Grange Hall (2109 103rd Ave SE Lake Stevens). Grange members and their guests are invited to attend. In lieu of a gift exchange, there will be a toy drive. Please bring a new unwrapped all ages toy to donate. All toys will be donated in the name of "Your Local Snohomish County Grange." For more information, please contact Steve Dalton at 425 263 2973 or ccpotteries@yahoo.com.

Grange Connection

The Dictionary Project: Words for Thirds



Baw Faw Grange members presented "Word's for Thirds" Dictionary/ Thesaurus to Ms. Hoffman's 3rd & 4th grade class at Boistfort School on Tuesday, October 3, 2023. Baw Faw Grange has been presenting dictionaries to Boistfort School for approximately 25 years. Ms. Hoffman uses the dictionaries in her lesson plans and part of her curriculum regularly. Baw Faw Grange in Curtis, WA is proud to continue this project.







Members of Issaquah Valley #581 came early to our October meeting to glue Grange bookplates into 288 large dictionaries destined for every third grader in the valley. The teachers were pleased to receive the 540 page reference books in time for National Dictionary Day, October 16.

Snohomish County Pomona Presents Membership Awards



Snohomish County Pomona #12 held a Celebration on Sunday October 1, 2023 to honor their Grange Members who have been in Grange 25 years and longer. A luncheon was followed by a program to honor and recognize all Grangers, especially Silver Star and Gold Sheaf members. Karen Erickson played her guitar and sang a medley of songs to provide our entertainment. This event was held at the South Lake Stevens Grange.

(Top Photo) Gold Sheaf members

(Bottom Photo) Grangers with 25 + years of membership.



Pierce County Pomona Grange Hosts Recognition Banquet



Grangers of the Month.



25 years of continuous membership.

Pierce County Pomona Grange held our Recognition Banquet on Sunday, October 15th at Collins Grange. Guest Speaker was Brother Tom Gwin, President of Washington State Grange and our Entertainment was Brother John Sparrow of Ohop Grange. We Honored our Grangers of the Month for the year. These members are the doers of the Grange, and help keep our doors open and programs going.

August 2023 Leon Garrison of Roy. July 2023 Karen Crombie of Edgewood. April 2023 Arin Hinman of Waller Road. March 2023 Bob Conley and Victoria Bower of Collins. January 2023 Karen Cockle of Riverside Valley. November 2022 Sarah Fredrickson of Edgewood. Not in picture: October 2023 Stephanie King of Marion. May 2023 Karri Marsh of McMillin. February 2023 Carolyn Hojem of Fruitland.

Also, recognized for 60 years of continuous membership, Tom Bryant and Tom Weston of Waller Road. Golden Sheaf member Kathryn Jezek of Collins. Silver Star members James Bryant of Collins, Kara Cockle of Riverside Valley and George Surplus of Waller Road.



50 years of continuous membership.



60 years of continuous membership.