

Memorials

Memorials of \$200 or more may be established in a subordinate Grange in honor of a deceased member or a deceased married couple. If a member decides to set up a memorial, funds may be donated and transmitted to the State Grange in the same manner as is done with lifetime memberships. Memorial funds are then invested and income returned to the Grange. Memorials are not transferable to another Grange.

How is it administered?

When money for lifetime memberships or memorials are received by the Washington State Grange secretary, it is deposited in a special fund which has been set up for this purpose. Annually (early in January) the interest from this fund is withdrawn and returned to the Granges.

The amount returned to each Grange depends, of course, upon the amount earned by the fund and the total amount of money invested by each Grange. Also, the State Grange retains 5 percent of the interest each year as an administration fee. If a Grange dissolves, living members can demit to another Grange and their lifetime memberships will follow them. Any other money left in the fund from the dissolved Grange will have its annual income added to the income from all other Granges participating in the fund.

What are my rights?

The holder of a life membership may voluntarily transfer to another subordinate Grange in Washington. When the state secretary is notified of this transfer, a transfer on the books of the fund will be made so the new Grange will receive the income from that member's life membership. Life memberships cannot be transferred out of the state of Washington. Members who move to another state must leave their life membership with a Grange in Washington.

The holder of a life membership is still subject to all the laws, rules and regulations outlined in the constitution and bylaws of the National, State, Pomona and subordinate Granges. The loss of membership by suspension or expulsion shall automatically abrogate a life membership and any claim to any portion of the fee paid for the life membership. In the event of suspension or expulsion of a member, the last Grange to which the individual belonged will continue to receive income from the life membership.

**Help yourself,
Help your Grange:**

**Become a Life
Member!**

Washington State
Grange

Lifetime Membership and Memorial Program



What are life memberships?

Delegates attending the 1986 State Grange convention adopted a unique lifetime membership program. This is a voluntary program which may be instituted by any Washington subordinate Grange by a majority vote of its members.

Choosing to become a lifetime Grange member entitles the Granger to several important benefits. After paying the prescribed fee, the member never again has to pay subordinate Grange dues; he or she is a member for life. If the lifetime membership is taking in one's youth or middle years, there is every prospect that the member will save a substantial amount of money in dues.

Taking out a life membership also instills the peace of mind that the membership fee will continue to earn money for his or her Grange long after the member dies. All life membership fees are put into an interest-earning account which supplies needed income to the Grange forever.

Lifetime members retain their right to demit to another Washington State Grange if they so desire.

This program also has great potential for subordinate Granges. Over the long range, Granges with a large number of lifetime members stand to see their financial condition improve greatly. Membership will be stabilized and the Secretary's workload will be substantially reduced.

How much does it cost?

The bylaws approved in 2003 stipulate that subordinate Granges establishing a lifetime membership plan must charge fees no less than the following:

Age 14 to 35	\$450.00
Age 36 to 45	\$400.00
Age 46 to 55	\$350.00
Age 56 to 65	\$300.00
Age 66 and over:	\$250.00

The Grange may adopt a scale of fees which are greater than these minimum amounts. Payment of the one-time fee frees the member from further payment of dues but not special assessments. Since the Grange will not receive any income from the invested fees for at least one year following purchase of a lifetime membership, the subordinate Grange is urged to collect one year's dues in addition to the lifetime fee. If the member so desires, he or she may contribute more than the specified amount in order to provide additional income for the Grange. All checks for lifetime membership should be made out to the Washington State Grange and the check together with the application should be given to the subordinate secretary who will forward it to the State Grange.

Upon receipt of the application and fees, the State Grange secretary will invest the funds and notify the subordinate Grange that the money is being held in trust for the Grange pursuant to the terms of the fund. The member will receive a certificate designating them as a lifetime member.

Application for Grange Lifetime Membership or Memorial by a payment of \$ _____ payable to the Washington State Grange apply for a:

- Lifetime Membership in: _____ Grange # _____
 - Memorial in the name of: _____ Grange # _____
 - for the benefit of _____ Grange # _____
- Upon my death, I would like the distribution of interest to be (mark one box only):
- all to my subordinate Grange
 - all to the State Grange

divided equally between my subordinate and the State Grange.

Applicant's address:

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature of Subordinate Secretary*

Signature of applicant

*This must be signed by your Subordinate Secretary