



WASHINGTON STATE Grange News

December 2023

Informing Grangers Since 1912

112th Year No. 10



National Grange Convention: Delegate Body Selects New President

Eight new officers elected to highest working body of the National Grange.

BY MANDY BOSTWICK
Senior Communication Fellow

The sound of scratching

pens tallying the votes echoed around the room as the election of National Grange Officers started on Thursday morning

and continued through Friday.

In a close election, the Delegate body elected Christine Hamp (WA), who stepped into the role of Vice President in 2021. "Thank you for your trust and honor in electing me as your President," she said. Hamp has served as a National Officer for more than a decade.

John Benedik (NJ) was elected as the next Vice President. Tom Gwin (WA) was elected as the

National Grange Lecturer. Gwin says, "I welcome the opportunity to serve as the National Grange Lecturer, working toward building and informed, enlightened membership for the future of the organization. We have excellent programs in place for 2024. We will continue those programs and begin searching for our next signature

Continued on Page 6

JANUARY 2024 issue deadline – DECEMBER 20th
Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org

Pictured above: (Top) The newly elected slate of officers of the National Grange. (Left) National Grange Lecturer Tom Gwin and National Grange President Christine Hamp. (Right) Many of the Grange members attending the National Grange Convention from Washington State - From left: David & Mary Bryant, Jacob & Tessa Gwin, Tom Gwin (back row), Jessica Van Gelder, Meagan McDonald, Kirk, Jodi, & Kemper Van Gelder, Scott Lyle, Carolyn Hojem, Marg Ohlsen, Duane & Christine Hamp.

SAVE THE DATE!

Upcoming State Grange Events

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

DECEMBER 1

Grange Officer Lists (2024) due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 6

Youth Fairs Zoom Meeting, 7 p.m.

DECEMBER 15

Grange Fidelity Bond Payments due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 1

State Grange Office Closed for the Holidays

DECEMBER 31

Grange Secretary Quarterly Reports due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 31

Annual Lecturer Reports due to State Grange Lecturer

DECEMBER 31

Annual Family Living Reports due to State Family Living Director

JANUARY 15

State Grange Office Closed for M.L. King Day

JANUARY 28

State Grange Convention Kick Off Meeting, location to be announced

FEBRUARY 1

Registrations Due to Grange Legislative Day

FEBRUARY 5-6

Youth/Junior Grange Legislative Experience in Olympia

FEBRUARY 5

Grange Legislative Day in Olympia

FEBRUARY 19

State Grange Office Closed for President's Day

APRIL 10

Registrations due for Regional Grange Conference

APRIL 25-28

Western Regional Grange Youth and Leaders Conference in Yakima

APRIL 25-28

Grange Deputy and State Officer Conference in Yakima

MAY 1

Resolutions Due for consideration at 2024 State Grange Session

JUNE 26-30

WA State Grange 135th Annual Session at Northeast WA Fairgrounds, Colville

Lecturer's Department

End Of Year Wrap-Up

By Leslie Jo Wells
State Grange Lecturer

Annual Lecturer Report – I know that many of you Lecturers don't like to fill out this report because I don't get many of them at the end of each year. But... it is a tool for us to determine if our programs are useful for our members or are a waste of time and paper. The report form does provide space for you to share other programs you have presented and we could use that information in future planning. The report also provides an opportunity for you to let us know if you have suggestions for our department, e.g. contest changes, how we could help you

more with programs, etc. So the bottom line is I do review your reports and appreciate those of you that submit them. They are due right after the end of the year and should be mailed to: Leslie Jo Wells, 18232 201st Ave SE, Monroe, 98272. If you do not have a copy of the Report Form let me know via email lesliewells@att.net or phone 360.306.0905, whether you need the Subordinate or Pomona level report. I can send you a copy via email or USPS.

Creative Writing – Last month I shared with you some of the changes that were proposed by the committee and agreed to by the State Executive Committee. Although I covered changing this contest to a members only one, I

failed to address the decision to not publish the Creative Writing Booklets. Instead, I have proposed having a Creative Writing Corner in our Grange News. It will feature some of the entries submitted over the last several years of this contest. It will identify the year, the topic, the class and the author of the entry being presented. Everyone will have the opportunity to read how creative some of our members are.

Here's a heads-up on the topics for the 2024 contest: Poetry, both Metered and Free Verse: Zoom and for the Short Story: My First Ride. I think you can have some fun with these!

Leslie Jo Wells

Heirloom Project Readings
December 2023;
January & February 2024

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

(Fourth Degree, President)

JANUARY 2024: "Encourage improvement; remember that Nature's motto is onward; she never goes backward."

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

FEBRUARY 2024: "In old age we enjoy the fruits of a well-spent life, surrounded by friends, and in a happy Home, noted for fidelity."

(Fourth Degree; Steward)

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• Tom Gwin, Executive Editor •

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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

National Session Completed; Moving Forward Into 2024

By Tom Gwin
State Grange
Master/President

The Washington State Grange was represented by 20+ representatives at the Annual National Grange Session, held in November in Niagara Falls, New York. Our attendees included:

- **Columbia Grange** – Claudine Lefever, Sara Wade
- **Deer Lagoon Grange** – Laura Rookstool
- **Elk Plain Grange** – David & Mary Bryant
- **Fern Prairie Grange** – Kirk, Jodi, Jessica, and Kemper Van Gelder
- **Five Mile Prairie Grange** – Duane & Christine Hamp
- **Fruitland/Newaukum Granges** – Carolyn & Kent Hojem
- **Goldendale Grange** – Richard Lefever, Daniel Lefever
- **Humptulips Grange** – Tom Gwin, Jacob & Tessa Gwin
- **Pine Grove Grange** – Scott Lyle
- **Tualco Grange** – Marg Ohlsen
- **Waller Road Grange** – Meagan McDonald

Congratulations to Sister Christine Hamp on her election as the new National Grange President. Sister Chris brings a fresh perspective to her position. She has already started reviewing programs and increasing the relevance of the Grange at all levels. We look forward to her leadership in moving the Grange to the next level with a renewed vibrance and energy.

I am happy to have been elected as the National Grange Lecturer. While the 2024 program has already been released, we will be looking at changes for the 2025 Grange year. The National Grange Contest Guide is available on the National Grange website: www.nationalgrange.org. Click on the tab for Programs and then arrow down to the last item – 2024 National Grange Program Guide.

Our state submitted seven resolutions for consideration by the National Grange. The outcome of those resolutions is printed elsewhere in this issue. Washington Granges and Grangers received many recognition awards at the

national session. Those items are listed elsewhere, as well.

We are finishing our end of the year tasks as the State Grange Office. Dues notices have been sent for all Granges who returned their 2024 Dues Questionnaire.

The Annual Officer Report from each Grange is now past due. Please complete your report send it in. We will be working on the 2023 rosters soon.

For those Granges desiring

2024 will be here soon and we will vigorously move forward to make our Granges and communities stronger and more impactful in 2024.

-- Tom Gwin

bonding insurance, please have your payments to the State Grange Office by December 15. That date will give us the opportunity to process the payments and forward on to the National Grange by their deadline.

The State Grange Legislative Policy Handbook is nearing completion. We are meeting this week to determine our legislative priorities for 2024. We will start printing handbooks later this week.

The 2024 State Grange Program Handbook is done. Thank you to the State Grange Department Heads for submitting their revisions. The Program Handbook is available on the State Grange website: www.wa-grange.com

All of the items will be compiled into a packet for each Grange. Rather than have a series of Leadership Conferences, I decided to attend as many Pomona meetings as I can to distribute the packets. Attendance at leadership conferences has not been as good as we hoped. I anticipate making more contact at the Pomona meetings that we have had in recent years.

The tentative schedule for Pomona meetings thus far:

- **Tues, January 2** – Deer Lagoon Grange in Island County,



Tom Gwin

- 6 p.m.
- **Sat, January 6** – Collins Grange in Pierce County, 10 a.m. (will include King County)
- **Sun, January 7** – Brighton Park in Thurston County, 2 p.m. (will include Lewis County)
- **Mon, January 8** – Fruitvale Grange in Yakima County, 5 p.m.
- **Wed, January 10** – Manor Grange in Clark County, 7 p.m.
- **Sat, January 13** – Elma Grange in Grays Harbor County, 10:30 a.m. (will include Pacific County)
- **Sun, January 14** – Centerville Grange in Klickitat County, 12 p.m.
- **Tues, January 16** – Orcas Island Grange in San Juan County, 6 p.m.
- **Sat, January 20** – The Agate Grange in Mason County, 11 a.m.
- **Sat, January 20** – Catlin Grange in Cowlitz County, 2 p.m. (will include (Wahkiakum County)

I am also planning to visit Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, Clallam/Jefferson, Stevens/Pend Oreille, Spokane, Whitman, Chelan/Douglas, Okanogan/Ferry, and Walla Walla/Benton/Franklin Pomonas. With so many overlapping Pomona meetings (especially the 3rd Saturday of the month), we may need to schedule a special meeting for some of the visits. Granges willing to host such a meeting should contact me at the State Grange Office.

Each of the Grange departments will be having Zoom meetings in January and February to review their programs. The schedule of these meetings will be announced in late December.

The next few months are sure to be busy for the State Grange. As we continue winding down 2023, take a few minutes to enjoy time with your friends and family. 2024 will be here soon and we will vigorously move forward to make our Granges and communities stronger and more impactful in 2024. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

Legislative

2024 Legislative Kick-off Underway



By Jesse Taylor
Legislative Lobbyist

Happy Holidays Grangers!

I hope this season brings you and your family warm gatherings and fond memories. The Holiday season marks the end of the year but the beginning of legislative activities here in Washington State.

The past week was the official kickoff of the 2024 session with assembly days offering a time for the legislative members, staff and lobbyists to dust off their suites and convene for two days to complete committee make-up and set the agenda for the coming 60-day session.

This session is unique in that it happens to be a general election year session. These even year sessions are supplemental in nature and don't require the passage of any bills or budgets. As you may recall, the biennium budget was passed this year in 2023 and allows for full government funding through June 30, 2025. Changes to any of the three budgets this session will be supplemental. Also, this session leads into a general election year where the entire House of Representatives is on the ballot and one third of the Senate, and for that reason we don't anticipate major or sweeping policy changes.

Agriculture Committee

As part of assembly days this year, on November 30th, the Senate agriculture committee met to publicly discuss the impact on producers, suppliers and consumers from the state's refusal to uphold the law and allow for an exemption to farmers from increased fuel taxes caused by the new Cap and Tax Carbon program. The carbon pricing scheme, that is now in the hands of the department of ecology, requires the increase in fuel cost from the new \$1.5 billion tax on carbon to be deducted or rebated from certain entities and end users. But the state has provided no method for the exemption and since January 1st producers have been absorbing the increase rate that is estimated at between \$0.42-\$0.50 per gallo. To illustrate the difference right now the average price of gas in Washington State is \$4.38. Just across the border in Idaho the average price is \$3.49 per gallon on average. In Texas the average price this past week was \$2.65 per gallon.

Farm To School Grants

The Washington State Department of Agriculture has finalized awards for \$3.7 million in Farm to School grants to 105 different entities. The goal of the program is for the successful school districts, childcare providers, tribal schools and tribal early learning centers to use the grants to serve high quality, nutritious and culturally relevant foods grown, raised, caught or foraged by producers in Washington state. WSDA's Farm to School Purchasing Grants are possible because of the Washington State Legislature's ongoing investment in farm to school and the continual funding therein. You can see the complete list of winners and more about the program here, <https://agr.wa.gov/departments/business-and-marketing-support/farm-to-school-toolkit/grants>

Capital Budget

The Washington State Grange capital budget program is moving ahead as planned for the 2024 session. As you may recall this fall we collected capital budget requests from dozens of Grange's across the state. We have taken those applications and narrowed them down to roughly twenty five applications to pursue in this supplemental budget year. We will be going after these projects individually as opposed to a package ask. Please be on the lookout for email correspondence including next steps about your application.

I wish you all a warm, happy and blessed Holiday & New Year!

Membership Corner

Welcome New Members		
GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS		
November 2023		
	# Joined	Jr. +1
417 Adna.....	1	
Roselie Gus		
687 Camden.....	1	
Sandy Coelho		
306 Cedar Valley.....	1	
Mark Scott		
786 East Hill.....	2	
Judith Felker, Brietta Felker		
853 Fargher Lake.....	3	1
Elijah Stoller, Tanna Ramage, Tim Ramage		
999 Fruitland.....	1	
Scarlett James		
857 Granville.....	1	
Corey Whitfield		
1120 Kettle River.....	3	
Irvin Hay, Sharon Hay, Sherry Hayes		
710 Mansford.....	17	1
Glenn Rossi, Coreyann Rossi, Alan Johnson, Melissa Johnson Andrew Teesdale, Kristy Teesdale, Andrew Teesdale, Jr Elizabeth Teesdale, William Teesdale, David Teesdale, Kari Thul Chayla Raffesperger, Julia Gepner, Joanne Ruth Harrington Kerry Higgins, Savannah Richter, Drora (Dee) Bernache		
79 Mt Valley.....	2	
Julia Heldman, David Stiles		
946 North River.....	1	
Daniel Carter		
964 Orcas Island.....	1	
Hanna Parker		
720 Quimper.....	1	
Frances Fawcett		
226 Rome.....	5	
Heather Katahdin, Valerie Bynon, Karen Hansey, Jessica Maassen, Cole Gates		
953 Rose Valley.....	1	
Heather Fowler		
1108 Sequim Prairie.....	1	
Jeff Tozzer		
984 Swauk Teanaway.....	2	
Jenny Hollingsworth, Lauren Rhoads		
586 Terrance Heights.....	1	
Ryan Tjarnberg		
482 Twisp Valley.....	1	
V. 'Tink' Tinkey		
	# Joined	Jr. +1
TOTALS.....	46	2

WA State Grange Legislative Day Coming in February 2024

It is that time of year again for Washington State Grange to start planning its Grange Legislative Day in Olympia. Once again, this year, we will combine our regular Legislative Day with our Youth & Junior Legislative Experience. This year we have decided to have our event on February 5th and the youth and juniors will conclude their experience on February 6th. We started Grange Legislative Day in 2012 to get members involved with the legislature and we have worked to grow the program every year.

Last year was our first year including the youth and juniors in our legislative program. It was a great success and the kids really thrived from the experience. We will again have them meet with everyone on Monday and Jesse (our lobbyist) will again give them a personal tour of the capitol building. While the adults listen to our speakers, the kids will engage in other activities to enhance their experience.

Again, this year we are working on getting some wonderful speakers on issues important to attendees, having time at the capitol to meet with legislators, and of course talking about Grange policy progress.

I have had members ask me if I think it would be something they would enjoy or benefit from. Of course, my answer to that is absolutely. However, I think I want to take some time

to explain why this is such a valuable event and who should or in some cases should not attend and why.

I thoroughly believe this is a valuable event for every Grange member because we are an

Grange Legislative Day is a great day for us as Grange members to be an active participant in the legislative process.

organization based partially on our legislative policies. It is not good enough to pass policy at our state convention and then leave it to our lobbyist to make sure our legislators know why it is important. Our legislators need to know why it is important and to whom. Of course, he can tell them and advocate for the policy, but your individual stories are what convince them to support or oppose certain legislation. Legislators hear from lobbyists every day; it is your stories and your perspective that they desire to help guide them through their work.

On the other side of the coin, it is valuable for you the

member to not only meet your lawmakers, but to see and participate in the process. Fully understanding how the system works and how to be most effective when participation is key. Our legislative process is slow and deliberate, created to ensure all the laws that are passed in Olympia have been thoroughly scrutinized. By participating in the process, you can see first-hand why that is important and value the work done in Olympia.

Who should attend Grange Legislative Day? If you are someone who feels passionate about policy or have an issue you wished the legislature would fix, then you should attend. If you want a better understanding of the legislative process, because all you hear about it is from the media and feel you need more information, then you should attend. If you are interested in hearing experts speak on issues the legislator is attempting to address, then you should attend. However, if you just want a tour of the Capitol, you should probably not attend.

Grange Legislative Day is a great day for us as Grange members to be an active participant in the legislative process.

We will find registration forms in this issue of the Grange News as well as on the Grange website. Remember to sign up early or there is no guarantee you will be able to meet with legislators.

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 _____

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.

**Savannah Richter
Mansford #710**

**Glenda Tjarnberg
Terrace Heights #586**

**Emma Hreljanovic
Rome #226**

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.

**Bryan Bechler
Granville #857**

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!



In Memoriam





DANIEL T. HAMMOCK

**Past Editor of the WA State Grange News and
Past State Grange Communications Director**

May 25, 1968 – November 26, 2023

Daniel T. Hammock, of Hoquiam, died at his home Nov. 26, 2023, after a short battle with cancer. He was 55.

Dan was born in Olympia on May 25, 1968, to Thomas W. and Mary R. (Niles) Hammock. He was raised in Montesano and graduated from Montesano High School in 1986. He went on to earn his bachelor’s degree in communications from Washington State University and remained a Cougs fan for life.

He began his career as a writer for Fishing and Hunting News in Seattle. After that, he served for several years as communications director for the Washington State Grange. From 2016 to 2021 he was a reporter for The Daily World in Aberdeen. After that, he became the public information officer for the Grays Harbor County Department of Health, a job he enjoyed doing until he could do it no more.

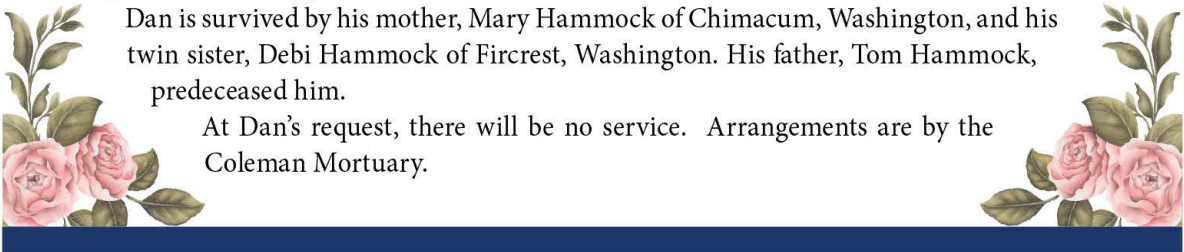
Dan was an avid sportsman who loved hunting in the Wynoochee Valley and other favorite spots. He grew up hunting and fishing with his father and had many fond memories of those times.

He also was a fervent fan of the band KISS and amassed an impressive collection of memorabilia.

Though he was often self-deprecating, Dan was a good man. He had a rare wit and was always quick to help a friend or family member when needed.

Dan is survived by his mother, Mary Hammock of Chimacum, Washington, and his twin sister, Debi Hammock of Fircrest, Washington. His father, Tom Hammock, predeceased him.

At Dan’s request, there will be no service. Arrangements are by the Coleman Mortuary.



2024 Legislative Day



MONDAY FEBRUARY 5, 8AM-4PM

**Registration is \$20 per person prior to February 1, 2024
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 (\$20/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](https://www.choicehotels.com) or by calling (800) 288-2847 and using promo code #00211660.



National Grange Convention Memories



Christine Hamp greets Mayor Robert M. Resitaino of Niagara Falls, NY. Burton Eller and Phil Prelli are also pictured.



Grange members take in the nighttime view of Niagara Falls.



National Grange Officers take the time to meet and mentor Youth members during their time at the National Grange Convention.



The National Grange Youth opened the Grange session on Friday with Can't Stop That Feeling playing for their opening drill. The opening drill was written by the National Grange Youth Assistant Steward Jacob Gwin (WA). Samantha Wilkins, the National Junior and Youth Director gave a few words of wisdom to the delegates in the room. Tessa Gwin (WA/NY) did an exceptional job leading the National Grange Youth Team in opening the Grange and debating a resolution on the floor.



Officers and Delegates of the National Grange pose for their annual photo at the 157th Convention of the National Grange on November 15th. What a great group of Grange leaders!

Resolutions Sent To The National Grange From The Washington State Grange

The Washington State Grange sent seven resolutions to the National Grange Session for consideration by the delegates. The results of those resolutions are as follows:

NUMBER	TITLE	PROPOSED BY	STATE OUTCOME	NATIONAL OUTCOME
2023-03-1102	Duties of the Secretary	Elk Plain #782	Adopted	Adopted as Amended
2023-04-1301	Food Insecurity	Elk Plain #782	Adopted as Amended	Combined with Resolution 124-PA, then Adopted
2023-14-0302	The Proposed Removal of the Lower Snake River Dams	San Juan Island #966	Adopted as Amended	Adopted
2023-22-0303	Federal Funding for Forest Management	Humptulips #730	Adopted	Adopted
2023-33-1204	Basic Dental Coverage Through Medicare	North River #946	Adopted	Present Policy
Committee Resolution #1	Standardization of Food “Sell Date” Usage	Health, Health Care & Safety Committee	Adopted	Adopted
Committee Resolution #1	Veteran’s Mental Health Care	Veterans Affairs Committee	Adopted	Included in Policy Statement

Recognition/Awards Received At The 2023 National Grange Convention

VIRTUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Farm Machinery – 1st Place
Alexandria Groce, Fertile Valley #1094

Farm Machinery – 2nd Place
Claudine Lefever, Columbia #87

Potluck Activity – Honorable Mention
Christine Hamp, Five Mile Prairie #905

Gardens – 3rd Place
Cluadine Lefever, Columbia #87

GARDEN DESIGN CONTEST

Ground Space – Adults – 3rd Place
Phyllis Dawson, Columbia Valley #938

PUBLICITY CONTEST

In House Design - Second Place - Green Bluff #300

Professional Design - First Place - Five Mile Prairie #905

Professional Design - Second Place - Five Mile Prairie #905

Professional Design - Fourth Place - Five Mile Prairie #905

GRANGE LEGACY FAMILY RECOGNITION

Five Generations - Roberts-Weiland Family - Fertile Valley #1094

HONOR GRANGE AWARDS

For a net gain in membership 7/1/22 to 6/30/23 – includes Junior Grangers

Bethel #404
Burbank #630
Calispel #500
Catlin #199
Camas Valley #842
Cedar #534
Centerville #81
Chimacum #681
Chumstick #819
Collins #893
Cowlitz Prairie #737
East Oakville #902
East Spokane #148
Elk Plain #782

Fargher Lake #948
Fern Prairie #866
Freedom #1152
Gardenspot #278
Granville #857
Grays River #124
Green Bluff #300
Hope #155
Horseshoe #965
Humptulips #730
Inland #780
Kellogg Marsh #136
Kennewick Valley #731
Kettle River #1120

LaCenter #48
Lummi Island #925
Malo #679
Marion #276
Manson #796
Mossyrock #355
Mountain Valley #79
North River #946
Ohop #812
Orcas Island #964
Prospect Point #1067
San Juan island #966
Samammish Valley #286
Satsop #183

Skamakawa #425
Skookumchuck #584
Stevenson #121
Stillaguamish #1058
Sunnyside #129
Terrace Heights #586
Tri-Way #1093
Tunk Valley #1019
Waitsburg #1
Wilcox #141
Williams Valley #452
Woodland #178
Two Rivers #3 (AK)
Northland Pioneer #1 (AK)

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Firefighter/Emt Of The Year - Morgan Browning
Lewis County Fire District #3 - Mossyrock #355

Subordinate Grange Community Service Contest
Second Place - Goldendale #49

Junior Grange Community Service Contest
Second Place - Humptulips Junior #376

DISTINGUISHED GRANGE AWARDS

Deer Lagoon #846
Five Mile Prairie #905
Goldendale #49

GRANGES IN ACTION

Addy #603
Adna #417
Barberton #571
Baw Faw #34
Bee Hive #385
Black Lake #861
Burbank #630
Calispel #500
Camas Valley #842
Camden #687
Cedar Valley #306
Centerville #81
Chimacum #681
Chumstick #819
Collins #893
Cowlitz Prairie #737
Crescent #1123
Deer Lagoon #846
Dry Creek #646
East Oakville #902
East Wenatchee #1012
Elma #26
Fargher Lake #849
Fern Prairie #866
Fertile Valley #1094
Fords Prairie #33

Fort Colville #533
Fredonia #545
Freedom #1152
Fruitland #999
Grays River #124
Green Bluff #300
Greenwood Park #590
Happy Valley #322
Haynie #169
Humptulips #730
Inland #780
Issaquah Valley #581
Kettle River #1120
Lincoln Creek #407
Long Beach #667
Lopez Island #1060
Manson #796
Marion #276
McLane #383
Menastash #1054
Moses Lake #1151
Mossyrock #355
Mountain Valley #79
Mountain View #98
North River #946
Oakview #311

Oroville #985
Prospect Point #1067
Quimper #720
Ralston #943
Rome #226
Rose Valley #953
Roy #702
Saint Andrews #936
Sallal #955
Sammamish Valley #286
San Juan Island #966
Selah Heights #608
Sequim Prairie #1108
Sharon #800
Silver Lake #105
Skamakawa #425
Skookumchuck #584
South Union #860
Stevenson #121
Stillaguamish #1058
Stranger Creek #374
Swauk Teanaway #984
Ten Mile #399
Terrace Heights #586
The Valley #1048
Tunk Valley #1019

Tyler #610
Violet Prairie #994
Waller Road #1111
Washington #82
White Trail #1143
Clallam County Pomona #31
Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Pomona #7
Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona #28
Klickitat County Pomona #5
Lewis County Pomona #3
Pierce County Pomona #16
Skagit County Pomona #8
Thurston County Pomona #8
Yakima Valley Pomona #11
Addy Junior #396
Camp Cornet Bay Junior #404
Camp Mayfield Junior #403
Camp Morehead Junior #401
Camp Wooten Junior #400
Clallam County Junior #408
Fargher Lake Junior #49
Green Bluff Junior #373
Greenwood Park Junior #379
Humptulips Junior #376
Kettle River Junior #413
North River Junior #410

National Grange News

A View From The Hill - 2023 Wrap-Up Edition

By **Burton Eller**
National Grange
Legislative Director

WASHINGTON OVERVIEW

On November 17, a bipartisan Congress passed a stopgap funding bill that was signed by the President. The two-step continuing resolution funds government in two tranches, one until January 19 and the other until February 2. The first funds military construction, Veterans affairs, Agriculture, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and energy and water programs. The second funds the Department of Defense and nondefense social programs. The legislation did not include emergency spending for the war in Ukraine, military aid to Israel, humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, or additional security along the U.S.-Mexico border. That fight comes separately. The legislation also included a one-year extension of the 2018 farm bill which expired September 30.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Farm bill extended

The federal stopgap spending bill passed by Congress in mid-November included a one-year extension of the 2018 farm bill and provides funding for some relatively small programs that expired on September 30. The extension allows commodity and marketing loan programs such as Agriculture Risk Coverage, Price Loss Coverage and Dairy Margin Coverage to continue in effect for the 2024 crop year. Crop insurance is permanently funded and doesn't need to be reauthorized. Major conservation programs were funded through 2031 under the Inflation Reduction Act. The challenge will be to get the new farm bill done by July 2024. After that, the Senate and House are scheduled to be out except a few weeks between the Republican Convention in July and the November elections.

More protection for poultry growers

Contract growers have long complained that they are at the mercy of large poultry integrators with little recourse. USDA's new poultry rule aims to change that to increase contract transparency,

give growers information they need to make wise investment decisions, and prevent grower discrimination in the industry. The poultry rule is among several USDA initiatives intended to address competition across the agriculture industry.

The buzz is about bee vaccine

American youngblood is a honeybee disease caused by a bacterium that attacks young honeybees and wipes out entire hives within weeks. The bacteria are believed to infect around half the world's honeybee hives. The vaccine is put in "queen candy" eaten by worker bees who feed the queen bee. The queen's offspring in turn have greater immunity to American Youngblood.

Farmers and small businessmen must report ownership

Farmers and businessmen across the country must start filing disclosure reports with an obscure federal agency in the Treasury Department known as Financial Crimes Reporting Network (FinCEN). Lawmakers tucked the Corporate Transparency Act into the fiscal 2021 defense authorization bill to target small businesses, LLCs, limited partnerships, S and C Corporations and some individuals as key avenues for illegal money laundering. Publicly traded companies and nonprofits are exempt from filing.

HEALTH CARE

Grange urges Congress to pass multi-cancer screening

The National Grange partnered with numerous health care advocates and patient groups in urging Congress to pass the Medicare Multi-cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act (H.R. 2407 and S. 2085). The legislation would require Medicare and Medicaid to reimburse patients to cover the screening for many additional types of cancers with a single blood draw. The MCED test targets the early detection of cancers which greatly improves treatment options and patient survival rates. National Grange's Burton Eller was included in the testimonials that accompanied the letter to Congress. The Acts now have support of a bipartisan majority of both the House and Senate.

Concern for dialysis patients

The National Grange joined dialysis patients and advocates to urge Congress to pass H.R. 5074, the Kidney PATIENT Act of 2023 for patients on dialysis suffering from life-threatening End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). These patients rely on a treatment called Phosphate Lowering Therapies (PLTs) to lower their blood phosphate level to lower the risk of heart attack or stroke. Today, patients have access to these drugs but that would change under a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) plan to add PLTs to the End Stage Renal Disease payment bundle. Wedging these payments into a limited payment bundle where they would be competing with other treatments for coverage means some patients would inevitably have less access to these drugs, especially in rural areas where a disproportionate number of patients experience ESRD. The Kidney PATIENT Act would instruct CMS to delay adding PLTs to the ESRD bundle until 2033 or until an intravenous treatment for lowering phosphate is approved.

Oregon opens rural crisis hotline

When Oregon farmers, ranchers, ag workers, loggers and fishermen experience an emotional crisis or need someone to talk to, counselors are now available. The Agristress Helpline launched in September thanks to donations an seed money from the Oregon legislature. The Helpline joins similar programs in Connecticut, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Texas and Virginia that are staffed 24-7 by specially trained mental health counselors familiar with those who work in social and geographic isolation professions. The National Grange is working to get language and funding in the new Farm Bill that would expand Agristress to a nationwide network. Agristress is urgently needed because less than a third of people with severe psychological distress who have used the nationwide 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline are likely to use it again, according to a recent study by the New York University.

TAXES

Support for expiring tax provisions

The National Grange and the

Rural and Agriculture Council of America sent a letter to the Senate and House leadership to highlight the need to reauthorize several tax provisions important to agriculture.

These include:

- Full expensing of research and development investments
- Full expensing of new equipment
- Maintain the earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) standard instead of the more restrictive earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT)
- Maintain the Child Tax Credit

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Congressional minority caucuses support ACP

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) established in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act gives eligible households \$30 per month toward high-speed internet plus a one-time credit toward purchase of a computer or tablet device. The National Grange is supporting a nationwide campaign for enrollment in rural and unserved areas. However, funding for ACP could be depleted by spring. Adding to a groundswell of support, members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and Congressional Black Caucus recently asked the Senate and House leadership to allocate \$6 billion to extend the program.

TRANSPORTATION

Grange Applauds Rail Rule

For several years, the National Grange has worked to get better service for agriculture commodity shippers who use railroads to move farm production to market. For the past several years, freight railroads have been slow to service the needs of small rail lines that run through remote rural areas to reach grain elevators and other shipping depots. Now, a proposal by the Surface Transportation Board (STB) would require railroads that do not provide inadequate service to allow competitors on their lines. This proposed rule allows the STB to authorize "reciprocal switching" agreements if railroads fail to meet estimated time of arrival, if there are significant deteriorations in



transit times, or if railroads fail to adequately perform local deliveries and pick-ups of railcars within a planned service window.

OF INTEREST

President Biden takes rural swing through farm country

In early November, the President and several top USDA officials kicked off a two-week rural tour to "barnstorm the country" to highlight \$5 billion in rural infrastructure and conservation programs. The trips began at Dutch Creek Farms in Northfield, Minnesota that employs climate-smart agricultural practices. In addition to conservation programs, funds will go to USDA's ReConnect Program to expand rural internet access, rural water infrastructure, the transition to clean energy electricity generation, safer roads and bridges, better access to medical care for rural veterans, expand independent meat and poultry processing capacity and more.

Grange adopts policy at Niagara Falls convention

At its largest convention in several years November 14-18, The National Grange delegates adopted 41 policy resolutions whose subject matter ranged from agriculture and food to conservation, citizenship, health, education, taxation, labor, telecommunications, transportation and legal matters. Policy resolutions are drafted by local Grange chapters and forwarded to their respective state Grange chapters for consideration. Policy resolutions that are national in scope adopted at the state level are then considered by the National Grange delegates at the national convention. Resolutions adopted there become policy direction for National Grange leadership and staff.

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Youth Department Adjusts Age Groups For Contests

By Jerry Gwin
Youth Grange Director

As we wrap up 2023 and look forward to 2024, the National Grange made several notable changes in the youth program for the next few years.

Most notable is the age of the youth department participants. Grange Youth Programs will have two age groups:

- **Grange Youth** – Age 14-20
- **Grange Young Adults** – Age 21-30 (present through November 2025; Age 21-25 (beginning November 2025)

The second notable change is in the Public Speaking and Sign-a-Song Contests. The ages will change for these contests. There will no longer be a regional level contest. Each state will select a Best of Show winner in each contest who will qualify to represent the state at the national contests. It simply means we will select our national contest representative at the State Grange



Jerry Gwin

Convention in June in Colville.

The age changes are also reflected in the Youth Ambassador Program. It is not too early for our youth to start planning now for their participation as the State Youth Ambassador, who will then represent us at the 2024 National Grange Session.

The State Grange Youth/Junior Legislative Experience will remain open to 14-35 year old participants. We feel it is necessary to provide legislative learning experiences for our older young adults and to provide them an opportunity to ease in to the legislative processes. Registration information on the Junior/Youth Legislative Experience is elsewhere in this issue. Please note registrations are due by February 1 so we can plan accordingly.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful holiday season!

Juniors

Holiday Game Suggestions

By Heather Ferguson
Junior Grange Director



Heather Ferguson

Happy Holidays! I love this time of the year with all the lights, snow, festivities, special treats and family. Oh and I cannot forget parties. Here are a few fun and easy games that you may consider for your Christmas party to keep everyone entertained.

1) All Wrapped Up
Wrap a bunch of Holiday related items in boxes. Everyone gets 10 seconds to shake and feel the present. Then write down what the wrapped item is. Whoever has the most correct wins?

2) Jingle Bell Toss
Set up several baskets, cups or vases of various sizes. Give each receptacle a point value ranging from 1-10. One for the largest and easiest and 10 for the hardest and smallest. Toss Jingle Bells to see who can get the most points by landing their bells inside the various receptacles. The highest point value wins.

3) Draw a Snowman
For this game you will need paper plates and markers (Pens and pencils don't work well). Each player will put the plate on top of their head and wait for instruction on what to draw. The host will give prompts like: Draw a large snowball for the base of your snowman, draw its middle, draw its head, draw stick arms, eyes, carrot nose, mouth, buttons, scarf, hat and so on. When you are finished take a look at your masterpiece. They are really funny.

On The Web: www.WA-Grange.org
Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateGrange

Fargher Lake Grange Youth Member Crowned 2024 Miss Greater Vancouver Teen



Adrionna McClellan, a youth member of Fargher Lake Grange in Clark County, has been crowned Miss Greater Vancouver Teen for 2024. This pageant is a part of the Miss American Program.



2024 Youth & Junior Grange Legislative Experience



February 5-6, 2024



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Monday, February 5	Tuesday, February 6
8:00 a.m. Meet at State Grange Office (Breakfast)	8:00 a.m. Meet at State Grange Office (Breakfast)
Attend Legislative Session, Hearings, Tours	8:30 a.m. Legislative Appointments
12:00 p.m. Lunch (provided)	12:00 p.m. Closing – Depart for Home
1:00 p.m. Attend Legislative Session, Hearings, Tours	
6:00 p.m. Dinner	

LODGING
Adults will be responsible for youth and junior Grangers after hours. 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.

Registration is \$20 per person prior to February 1, 2024

FIRST AND LAST NAME _____ AGE _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ EMAIL _____

GRANGE NAME _____ LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT _____

PAYMENT
Check (make check payable to the Washington State Grange)

\$ _____ enclosed (\$20/person)

Mail To:
Washington State Grange
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA 98507-1186

(After February 1 and day-of registration is \$30 per person)



RECIPES • RECIPES • RECIPES



OVEN-BAKED CARAMEL CORN

Submitted by Helen Berg, Family Living Director

I would like to share a favorite family recipe with you. My father always made most of the candy at Christmas which included the most awesome cooked fudge the old-fashioned way. I do not have that recipe but I do have one for oven-baked caramel corn. I remember when he found it in our local newspaper and it has been a hit ever since.

Oven-Baked Caramel Corn:

- 5-6 cups popped corn (I use the air popper for this)
- 1 cup butter or oleo (I use butter)
- 2 cups brown sugar
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp baking soda

Spread popped corn on shall baking sheet or 2 in 225 degree oven to keep warm and crisp.
Combine butter, b.sugar, salt and corn syrup in heavy 2 qt. sauce pan. Place on medium heat stirring well until sugar dissolves. Continue to boil to the firm ball stage (248 degrees), about 5 minutes.
Remove from heat and stir in baking soda. Mixture will foam.
Remove popped corn from ove and pour syrup ove in as thin a stream as possible. Stir to mix well.
Bake 45-50 minutes stirring every 15 minutes. Cool and serve or store in air-tight containers and set in cool space. Enjoy.

EASY PEPPERMINT CANDY

Submitted by Annie Scott, State Grange Treasurer

We make this candy every year at Christmas. It's a favorite from our Clay Family cook book.

Easy Peppermint Candy:

- 1 package white chocolate squares or white almond bark
- 1 cup candy canes

Crush candy canes into tiny pieces. Melt squares in microwave until completely melted. Stir in crushed candy canes and pour on to wax paper lined cookie sheet and spread thin, about ¼ in width. Cool till candy is hardened then break into pieces and enjoy.

RASPBERRY PRETZEL SALAD

Submitted by Tom Gwin, State Grange President

Note: You can change the third layer to satisfy your own preferences – may use strawberry Jello with frozen strawberries, may use mixed fruit Jello with mixed berries. Be creative with your flavor combinations.

Raspberry Pretzel Salad:

First Layer

- 2 cups crushed pretzels
 - 3 tablespoons sugar
 - ¾ cup melted butter
- Combine all three ingredients, mixing well. Press into the bottom of a 13"x9" glass baking dish. Baked at 350 degrees for 10 minutes. Cool completely.

Second Layer

- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 1 8-ounce container Cool Whip, thawed
- Beat cream cheese and sugar with mixer until well mixed. Fold in Cool Whip. Spread evenly on cooled crust. Be sure to seal edges.

Third Layer

- 1 8-ouce package Raspberry Jello
- 2 cups boiling water
- 10 ounces frozen raspberries, unsweetened

Mix Jello with water. Stir until completely dissolved. Add frozen raspberries. Mixture will start to thicken. Spoon gelatin mixture onto the second layer. Cool in refrigerator until ready to serve.

SWEDISH PANKAKES (pannkakor)

Submitted by Brittney Pittman, State Grange Executive Committee

From Christmas morning Breakfast to Easter brunch, the holidays in my family would not be complete without Swedish Pancakes. On the maternal side of my family, I am only the 3rd generation born in America, and the tradition of Swedish pancakes is one of the many recipes that have been handed down. My Mom was taught by my great grandmother to make THE BEST Swedish Pancakes!! Traditionally Pannkakor is served with lingonberry preserve, however any mixed berries will do.

Swedish Pancakes (pannkakor):

- 3 large eggs
- 1½ cups all-purpose flour sifted
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups milk
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter melted
- Butter for the pan



Beat eggs and flour together until smooth. Add sugar, salt and melted butter, mix. Add milk while mixing until smooth.
Place a 10-inch pre-heated cast iron skillet over medium heat. Brush the bottom of the pan with butter. Pour approx. 1/4 cup batter into the pan. Quickly lift the pan while rotating/swirling in a circle to spread the batter evenly over the bottom of the pan.
Cook until the edges are bubbling and the bottom has golden spots. Use a thin spatula to flip. Cook until the second side is lightly browned.
Fold the Swedish pancakes into thirds or fold into triangles and stack on a plate. Best served with Jam and/or berries and whipped cream.

RECIPES • RECIPES • RECIPES



CHOCOLATE BUTTERSCOTCH
PEANUT BUTTER CEREAL BARS

Submitted by David Bryant, State Grange Vice President

This Chocolate Butterscotch Peanut Butter Cereal Bars recipe was given to us by Past State Grange Flora Anna Van Hulle after her daughter Cindy brought the bars to a Pierce County Grange Youth group meeting in early 70's. They have been a Holiday tradition at every Bryant family holiday gathering ever since.

Chocolate Butterscotch Peanut Butter Cereal Bars:

Prep time: 15 min. + chilling Yield: 48

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- 3/4 cup peanut butter
- 3 cups Special K cereal
- 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 6 oz semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 11 oz butterscotch chips

In a heavy bottom pan, bring the sugar and corn syrup to a boil over medium heat; cook and stir for 2-3 minutes or until sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat. Stir in peanut butter until combined. Add cereal; stir to coat. Pat into thin layer on cookie sheet. In a microwave, melt the chocolate and butterscotch chips; stir until smooth. Spread over cereal mixture. Refrigerate until set. Cut into bars.

CARMEL CORN

Submitted by Jonny Pittman, State Grange Assistant Steward

For as long as I can remember, my family would make caramel corn during the holiday season. Over time the recipe evolved to include different nuts for different varieties. And the number of batches increased to needing a Costco run for butter, buying from eBay a bowl big enough to almost be considered a bath tub, and a spatula the size of a cricket bat for mixing the popcorn and caramel. The time spent on this endeavor increased to different days popping the popcorn, followed by more days actually making all the caramel corn and cooking it to harden the caramel in my father's very old oven that can hold multiple full size sheet pans. My mom would give a gallon bag to almost anyone that stopped by during the holidays, family, friends, the church family, and even the mail and UPS delivery people.

Caramel Corn:
(From an old Betty Crocker cook book)

This confection was hardly an overnight success. Known as "popcorn candy," it was sold from an outdoor popcorn stand for twenty years before it took off at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. Early recipes used that staple from colonial days, molasses, but the irresistible combination of butter and sugar made the caramel the more popular formula.

- 3 ¼ quarts (15 cups) popped corn
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- ½ cup butter
- ¼ cup light corn syrup
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- Optional: peanuts, almonds, or other desired nut (walnuts, pecans, macadamias)

Heat oven to 200°F. Divide popped corn between 2 ungreased rectangular pans, 13" x 9" x 2". Heat brown sugar, butter, corn syrup, and salt, stirring occasionally, in saucepan until bubbly around edges. Cook over medium heat 5 minutes; remove from heat. Stir in baking soda until foamy. Add optional nuts to caramel. Pour over popped corn. Stirring until corn is well coated. Bake 1 hour, stirring every 15 minutes.

NO-BAKE
PECAN CREAM PIE

Submitted by Leslie Wells, State Grange Lecturer

Servings: 8

No-Bake Pecan Cream Pie:

- 1 9-ounce ready made graham crust
- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup milk, cold
- 2 boxes (3.4 ounces each) instant vanilla pudding mix
- 2 1/2 cups pecans, toasted (divided)
- 1 tub (8 ounces) non-dairy whipped topping, thawed

Put the sweetened condensed milk, cold milk, vanilla pudding mixes and 2 cups of the toasted pecans into a mixing bowl. Whisk to thoroughly combine. Fold in the whipped topping. Spoon the filling into the pie crust. Garnish with remaining pecans. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours or until ready to serve.

Tips:

- To toast the pecans, put them into a dry skillet over medium heat and stir until they are hot. Do not walk away because they can burn quickly. You don't want any color on them, just for the oils in the pecans to be released, which makes them more flavorful.
- Flip the lid from the graham crust over and use it as a lid.
- You could use a 9-ounce premade shortbread crust instead of graham cracker.
- If you use a 6-ounce pie crust, you will have filling leftover.

RAINBOW JELLO

Submitted by Rick Ferguson,
State Grange Executive Committee

A fun Jello that my mother-in-law made for grandchildren and great grandchildren. She would layer it in individual clear, small, plastic cups so everyone had their own serving. It's still a Christmas Eve favorite.

Rainbow Jello:

- 8 small packages of Jello—2 each of 4 flavors
- Example: 2 lemon / 2 lime / 2 orange / 2 cherry
- 2 large cans of evaporated milk

Directions: clear layer — 1 package jello, 1 1/2 cups boiling water
cloudy layer — 1 package jello (same as clear layer)
3/4 cup boiling water, 3/4 cup evaporated milk
alternate layers— clear, cloudy, clear, cloudy, etc.

Each layer must be set before the next is added. If using freezer to set layers, be careful not to let freeze. Use a 15" x 10" x 2" glass pan. Use back of spoon to pour mixture over, so as not to create hole in layer below. This recipe does take extra time to make.

PEANUT BUTTER PIE

Submitted by Jerry Gwin, Youth Grange Director

- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese
- ½ cup creamy peanut butter
- ½ cup powdered sugar
- 1 8-ounce package frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 9-inch prepared graham cracker pie crust

Combine cream cheese, peanut butter, and powdered sugar in mixing bowl. Beat until creamy. Stir in the whipped topping until well blended. Pour into pie crust.

Top with additional whipped topping. You may also sprinkle peanuts, chopped candies (Reese's peanut butter cups, or chocolate chips on top.

Store in refrigerator until ready to serve.

Home & Family

Congratulations And Welcome

By Helen Berg
Family Living Director

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. First of all I would like to congratulate our two new National officers from Washington State: Sister Chris Hamp and Brother Tom Gwin. I know they will represent us well. We have a new person on the

Family Living team. Vickie Gilmour has consented to join us. She worked along side Jim Moebius in Moses Lake and did a great job. Vickie and her husband are members of Fargher Lake Grange in Clark County. She is the Pomona Family Living Chairman. She and her husband are active in leading the Grange Youth Fairs program in Clark

County. She can be reached at 360-263-3509 or by e-mail at vickg@tds.net. Welcome on board and I look forward to working with you. Have a very Merry Christmas remembering its true meaning.



Helen Berg

Fertile Valley Grange Presents Dictionaries To Third Graders



Fertile Valley Grange in Pend Oreille County presented dictionaries to 50 students at Chattaroy Elementary School on October 20. They also presented 60 dictionaries to Riverside Elementary School on November 3.

Community Service

Congratulations To Our Award Winners At National

By Heather Ferguson
Community Service Director

We had several Granges and individuals receive awards at the National Convention last month. Please join with me on congratulating our winners.

Let us all congratulate Morgan Browning, of Mossyrock Grange #355, for being our National Grange Firefighter of the Year. Congratulations to Goldendale Grange who won second place in the National Grange Community Service Contest and

Congratulations to Humptulips Junior Grange for winning Second place in the National Junior Grange Community Service Contest. Well done and keep up the fantastic work you are doing for your community.



Heather Ferguson



Washington Grange Members/Veterans Honored; Dictionaries Presented To York Elementary School

Five members of Washington Grange No. 82 attended the Veterans Day assembly on November 9th at York Elementary School in Vancouver WA.

Two of our members were honored as Veterans: Steve McDonald and Rodger Lance. The children at York had a great display of art they had done for Veterans Day.

The principal of York held the third graders back after the assembly. Rodger Lance addressed the 58 third graders pointing out that we had added a sticker inside the dictionary cover for them to sign their name. The sticker also said who gave them the dictionary with information about our Grange.



Mountain Valley Grange Host Fundraiser; Present Dictionaries



On November 2, 2023, Judy Steigmann, David Johnson, Jim Malinowski, and Georgene Neal from Mountain Valley Grange handed out 139 dictionaries to 7 third grade classes at Yacolt Primary School in Yacolt, WA as part of The Dictionary Project. Judy gave a short talk on the dictionaries, and reminded the students to put their name in the front as this is their very own dictionary. The students were excited to receive their dictionary and asked several questions.

The cost of the dictionaries this year was \$462.00.

Funds were raised with a Bingo Night held on November 19th at the Grange Hall. Food and drinks were sold in the kitchen. Funds raised totaled \$376.50. Donations were made by Vickie Gilmore, Fargher Lake Grange and Jennifer Slayton, Mt. Valley Grange. Total received to cover the cost of the dictionaries was \$436.50, leaving a balance of \$25.50 from the general fund.

Jess Crossley organized the fundraiser. Val Weisenborn and her granddaughters Emma and Maisy, and Judy Steigmann organized the kitchen and sold food and beverages. Helpers for the evening were Doug Facundus and Terry from the American Legion, Georgene Neal, and Ann Van Twerp. Prizes were donated. Valerie Weisenborn, Judy Steigmann, Ann Van Antwerp, and Jess Crossley covered prizes that were not donated, food, and drinks. The Bingo machine was purchased by Valerie Weisenborn and donated to Mt. Valley Grange. Jess Crossley bought bingo cards and daubers and donated them to Mt. Valley Grange. The grangers are ready to go for the next one in the spring!

Grange Connection

Hope Grange Presents Dictionaries To Third Graders



During the month of November, Hope Grange #155 distributed dictionaries to Napavine, Evaline and Winlock elementary schools for the National Grange program "Words for Thirds". Grange members, Adele Carlson, Minnie Callaway and Ronetta McConnell had the pleasure of meeting with the teachers and students for this much appreciated and well received annual event. Upon receiving their dictionaries a number of students immediately looked up topics of interest and were thrilled to find them. It was mentioned that while looking up a word, look at the words above it and below it and then three words would be learned for the effort of one!

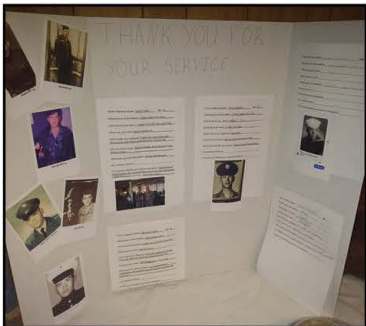
Waller Road Grange Hosts First Halloween Trunk-or-Treat

Waller Road Grange held their first Trunk or Treat on October 28, 2023. It was a beautiful sunny day, and the Grange property was decorated with tons of themed cars and fall decor. Approximately 200 kids came along with their parents. The place was hopping with positive vibes and fun for everyone.

Included in the event were 25 decorated cars, a utility trailer with straw and pumpkins for a photo opportunity, and a hot cocoa and cookie station. Picnic tables were out, and a propane fire pit was on for warmth and relaxation. It was so great to have the place decorated and so many people enjoying themselves. Grange information was shared as there were lots of inquiries. This will be an annual event for Waller Road Grange.



Greenwood Park Grange Honors Veterans



Greenwood Park Grange in Stevens County recently hosted a community Thanksgiving Dinner and Veterans Day Program. There were over fifty people in attendance.

Green Bluff Juniors Celebrate Halloween With Drive-Thru



Green Bluff Junior Grange hosted a Halloween Candy Drive-Thru on October 28th.

Stranger Creek Grange Celebrates Halloween



A Trunk or Treat was held October 31st at Stranger Creek Grange. They were treated to a fire engine and fire fighters from SCFPD #12 who provided treats and information about the fire district. Kids "trunk or treated" cars outside, then headed inside for a taco bar, games and a cake walk. Everyone had a ghoulishly good time.

Rose Valley Grange Members Participate In Trunk-or-Treat



Rose Valley Grange participated in the Trunk or Treat at the Rose Valley Friends Church. We handed out 180 bags of treats. Pictured is Tammy, Carol, Kaye and Peep Nathan.

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.



Grange Connection

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Humptulips Grange will hold their Annual Christmas Dinner on Friday, December 8 at 6 p.m. A special Christmas Bingo event will be held on Saturday, December 16 at 7 p.m. The Grange donated to Jacob and Tessa Gwin, for their trip to the National Grange Convention where they served on the National Grange Youth Officer Council. Grange members participated in the Pomona Grange Project of baking pies for the Union Gospel Mission in Aberdeen for Thanksgiving.

LEWIS COUNTY

Oakview Grange's October Holiday Craft Bazaar supported over 20 local craftsmen. The public had a wide selection of hand-crafted items, candy, and caramel corn to choose from. The kitchen and table rent revenues will be used for new projects in 2024. Members' enthusiastic support saw not only the original 10 boxes filled but an additional 10 boxes added to the newly adopted Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child project. Members are already collecting items for next year's boxes. Over 50 members, family and guests gathered to share Thanksgiving potluck at the Grange. Following the potluck, everyone played Bingo. Much

to the delight of many, winners went home with a prize or two tucked under their arms. This year Christmas at the Grange will look a little different. For the first time, the hall will be festooned with outdoor lights. Inside, a new backdrop is being added to the stage to enhance photo ops with Santa as well as family photos. Lecturer Becky Escobar has selected a red and white theme for both table and tree decorations. Overseer Kahle Jennings will paint winter scenes on the windows while other members decorate the trees, hang the wreaths and fill treat bags with yummy goodies.

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, chaired by Laurie, held the last 3 weekends of October was successful—many vendors, lots of visitors, and beautiful Fall weather. Dawn & Steve Keig and Lindsey Scarlett were obligated. 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, chaired by Priscilla, on November

4. JoAnn Hall was presented with our Community Service Volunteer award. November 7 was our community event—Chili Cook-off, chaired by Melaine. Spokane County Pomona was held on Nov. 18 at Green Bluff Grange. The last pancake breakfast for the year will be Nov. 26—thanks to Lou and her crew for a successful "Breakfast" year. And our Christmas party and Toys for Tots collection, chaired by Brandy, will be held inside this year on Saturday, December 9 at 6:30 pm. Santa is expected to show up and give out Santa Bags to all the kiddos. Our 2024 calendar of events is being set. You can always see what Green Bluff Grange #300 is up to by going to our Green Bluff Grange Facebook and website and inquiring by writing to gbgrange300@gmail.com

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange had a successful Haunted House and Kiddie Karnival event. An estimated total of 800 people went through the Haunted House over the four evenings it was open. There were a lot of positive comments, and a number said it was the scariest they had attended this year. There were also numerous games in the Kiddie Karnival. Plans are already underway to revamp and remodel that

area for next year. Grange members are now focusing on the upcoming Community Christmas Dinner, which is held on the first Sunday in December. Santa promised to be there with his bag filled with gifts for the children in attendance. There will be quilts and throws available to Veterans, current Military, and First Responders after the dinner by a drawing.

THURSTON COUNTY

South Union Grange will hold their annual Christmas celebration and potluck on December 10 at 2 pm. Family and friends are welcome to join the celebration. 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 December 18, 2023 and January 15, 2024. 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 January 6 and February 3, 2024.

WHITMAN COUNTY

Whelan-Ewartsville Grange will have their Christmas potluck and party on December

Pomona Connection

GRAYS HARBOR/
PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona met on November 4 at the Sharon Grange Hall. The 2024 calendar of events was set. We reviewed the rules for the Grange displays at the Grays Harbor County Fair, making minor adjustments for 2024. The next meeting will be on Saturday, January 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Elma Grange Hall.

KING COUNTY POMONA

King County Pomona has elected Rosezetta Knot to be the Pomona Master for the coming year.

MASON COUNTY POMONA

Mason County Pomona met November 11th at The Agate with eleven members present. The election of officers was

the main order of business. Mike Parker was elected to lead Pomona for the next two years. Lucille Mercer was elected as Secretary and Carrie Thomson will serve as Treasurer. For the program, Lecturer Billie Howard talked about the importance of Veterans Day and thanked the Veterans present for their service time. A letter from Skokomish Grange thanking Pomona for the \$1,000 presented to them to help repair their Grange Hall was read and the check was given to Skokomish member Billie Howard to deliver to Karen Ragan, Secretary and Chairman of the project.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY
POMONA

Snohomish County Pomona has elected Isabella Lierman to

be the Pomona Master for the coming year.

SPOKANE COUNTY POMONA

Spokane County Pomona Grange has elected Susan Hegney to be the Pomona Master for the coming year.

THURSTON COUNTY
POMONA

Thurston County Pomona Grange #8 met on November 2 at Brighton Park for their monthly meeting. The meeting was preceded by a potluck dinner. Installation of officers for Pomona and all subordinate Granges in Thurston County will be held on Sunday January 7 at 2 pm at Brighton Park Grange. Light refreshments, provided by Pomona officers, will be served. Guests are welcome.

Pomona Calendar

Please submit your 2024 Pomona Meeting Dates.

CLALLAM.....	February 25 at Dry Creek, 5 p.m. potluck, 6 p.m. meeting.
CLARK	December 13 at Manor, 7 p.m.
COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUM	December 16 at Sunnyside, 1 p.m. potluck. Installation of officers to be held. Bring canned food for the food bank.
GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC	January 13 at Elma, 10:30 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
LEWIS	December 2 at Fords Prairie, 12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting.
KING	February 17 at Cedar, 10 a.m. Will include the candy and canning contests.
MASON	January 20at The Agate, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. lunch.
PEND OREILLE	March 2 at Fertile Valley, 10 a.m.
PIERCE	December 2 at Waller Road, 10 a.m. Will include installation of officers. January 6 at Collins, 10 a.m.
SKAGIT	December 6 at Fredonia, 6:30 p.m.
SNOHOMISH	January 20 at Tualco, 10 a.m.
STEVENS	January 26 at Quillisascut, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.
THURSTON.....	December 7 at Black Lake, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting with Christmas celebration.
WHATCOM	February 20 at Ten Mile, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting
WHITMAN	January 20 at Eddy's Restaurant in Colfax, 11:15 a.m. No Host lunch.
YAKIMA VALLEY	January 8 at Fruitvale, 5 p.m. potluck, 6 p.m. meeting.

Grange Connection

Mountain Valley Grange Honors Veterans

The event co-hosted by North Clark Historical Museum and Mt. Valley Grange #79 was attended by 102 guests, including 24 veterans. The program was hosted by Debbie Zitt, President of NCHM, and David Johnson, President of Mt. Valley. A Pie and Ice Cream Social was held prior to the meeting.

The veterans were recognized individually for their service with info on their branch of service and when and where they served. Special attention was given to Elaine Fletcher, Army Nurse, who served for 3 years in the South Pacific in WWII. Elaine will turn 104 in December. The Patriotic Quilt, donated by the Chelatchie Quilters, was won by Veteran Gerald "Jerry" Johnson. The Patriot Quilt can only be won by a Veteran. A gift package, for veterans only, was donated by The Wild Bean and Nick's Bar and Grill.

The colors were presented by members of the American Legion Tum Tum Post 168. A moving rendition of the National Anthem was sung by Danae Castle. Danae then sang "God Bless America". An amazing performance.

Members of the 7th & 8th grade band from Amboy Middle School, directed by



Jeremy Gallagher, provided entertainment with a medley of songs from each branch of the service and a medley of patriotic songs.

The Guest Speaker was Ron Brandon Sr., Troutdale, OR, who served in Vietnam. Ron spoke of his career and his time spent in the military. He spoke on how all branches of the service supported each other and were committed to protecting the United States of America. Ron brought an incredible word challenging everyone with the question "What are YOU doing right now to support your Veterans?" He heads up a support group called Point Man Ministries that helps all Veterans, First Responders, and anyone who may be dealing with stress, PTSD, and trauma.

The organizational speaker

was Ro Yancey, Events and Outreach Coordinator, Pomeroy Living History Farms. The Pomeroy family purchased the farm in early 1910. The current farm portrays life from an earlier time. Educational programs and community events are offered throughout the year.

The Museum Raffle Quilt was won by John Rowe Cushing. Door prizes were handed out, and a lively pie auction ended the evening. Proceeds from the Pie & Ice Cream Social and the Pie Auction go to Mt. Valley Grange #79 for operating expenses. Proceeds from the Quilt Raffle go to North Clark Historical Museum's Capital Improvement Fund and proceeds from the Door Prize Raffle go to NCHM General Fund.

Issaquah Valley Grange Honors Florence Harper



Issaquah Valley Grange President Alan Anderson presented Florence Harper with her 50 year pin and certificate at the meeting on October 13. The evening program featured Ann O'Callahan a volunteer with the AARP Speakers Bureau. She gave a well-researched presentation on The Six Pillars of Brain Health.

Crescent Grange Honors Milestone Members



Crescent Grange honored longtime members for their 25 and 50 year membership milestones at a recent meeting. (left to right) Neil Moilanen 25 years - Marlene Hullet 50 years - Sondra Smith 50 years - Emil Moilanen 50 years. Neil & Emil are father and son. Marlene and Sondra are sisters.

Addy Grange Makes 50 Comfort Kits

Addy Grange #603 along with the help of Addy Jr. Grange #390 recently make Comfort Kits. Our Grange secretary Linda White and our future Treasurer, Karen Rhodes came up with the idea of making these comfort kits. With the help of the Jr Grange, the two made the pillows and the youth stuffed them. The members recently finished 50 Comfort Kits that were given to the Stevens County Sheriff Department. The kits contain a soft pillow with a pocket that holds a book and a stuffed animal for a child when the need arises. Each deputy sheriff will carry two of these in their vehicles for such occasions.

Items used to make these comfort kits came from our Grange members and from our community.



Green Bluff Grange Presents Community Service Volunteer Award



Green Bluff Grange held a Booster night, chaired by Priscilla, on November 4. JoAnn Hall was presented with our Community Service Volunteer award.





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

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