WASHINGTON STATE
Grange News
November/December 2026 Informing Grangers Since 1912 115th Year No. 6



Waller Road Grange
WA State Fair



Lower Naches
Central WA State Fair in Yakima

Granges Participate In Fairs Across The State

Granges from across Washington State participated in nearly 70 fairs this year. Starting in April and ending in October, many of our Granges had displays, while others operated food concessions and/or assisted in the management of their fair.

Competitive Grange displays are a major component at two of our largest fairs, the Washington State Fair in Puyallup and the Central Washington Fair in Yakima. While each fair has their own judging criteria, generally the criteria includes the arrangement of the display based upon the design, originality, artistic effect, arrangement of fresh and preserved produce, and overall impact. Some fairs focus more on education and animation, while others focus on the quality and quantity of agricultural products on display.

Waller Road Grange was the double Grand champion this year at the Washington State Fair, placing first in both arrangement and overall exhibit. In the arrangement scoring, Meridian Grange placed second, Thurston County Pomona Grange placed third, Fruitland Grange placed fourth, and Elk Plain Grange placed fifth. In the overall exhibit judging, Fruitland Grange placed second, Thurston County Pomona Grange placed third, Humptulips Grange placed fourth, and Elk Plain Grange placed fifth. Other participating Granges were Collins, East Hill, McMillin, Ohop, and the Washington State Junior Grange.

Lower Naches Grange was the first place winner at the Central Washington State Fair, followed by Fruitvale Grange in second place, Selah Heights Grange in third place, Buena Grange in fourth place, and Terrace Heights Grange in fifth place. Selah Heights also received the award for best animation. Other participating Granges were Broadway, Yakima Valley Pomona, the Valley Granges, and the Washington State Junior Grange.

Granges spend hundreds, and possibly even thousands, of hours of work on their Grange displays for the various fairs across the state. This issue of The Grange News includes pictures submitted by the various Granges of their displays at this year's fairs.

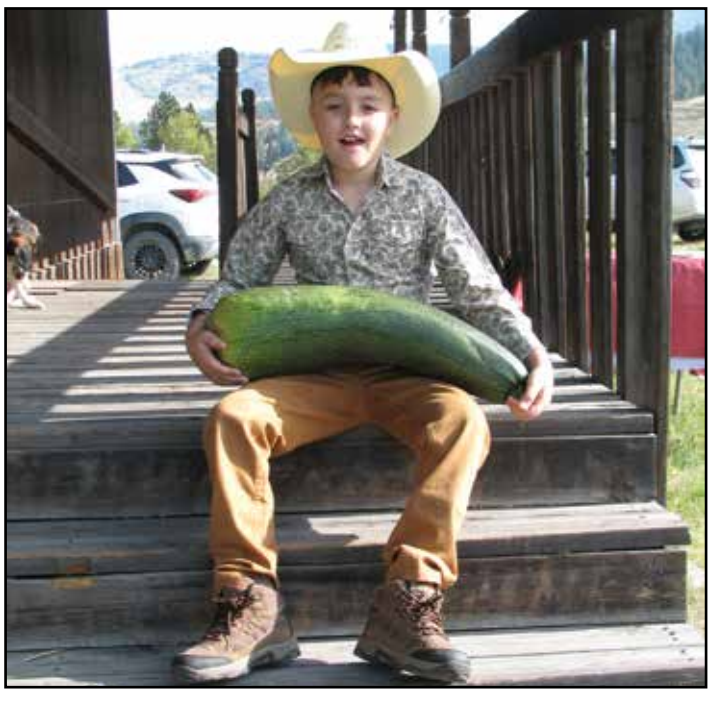
January/February 2027 issue deadline – December 20th
Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org

Goldendale Grange Presents Awards For 50 Years of Service



Larry Hoctor, Art Justman, Kay Hill received Golden Sheaf certificates at a recent Goldendale Grange meeting. A Golden Sheaf Award recognizes members who have completed 50 years of service to the Grange organization. Claudine Mincks, State Grange Lecturer, and Sara Wade, County Grange Deputy, presented the awards. The meeting recessed briefly so members could congratulate the recipients, take photos and enjoy a special cake and refreshments prepared in their honor by kitchen specialist Laurie Walker. Kay Hill was unable to attend the ceremony.

Malo Grange Holds Annual Biggest Zucchini Contest



Malo Grange held our annual Biggest Zucchini Award contest in October. Garrett Burt pulled it off again and won for the second year in a row. Good job Garrett!

Highlights From The WA State Grange Executive Committee Meeting

October 21, 2026

- Approved the release of property funds in custodial accounts for the following Grange: Fairview Grange #619 – overage for painting the Grange Hall - $1836.41
- Reviewed potential sites in the Eastern District for the 2028 State Grange Convention.
- Agreed to notify all Granges who are two or more quarters behind in dues and reports that they have until November 15, 2026, to become current in both dues and reports or they will be placed on probation, and dues will be collected by the Washington State Grange.
- Approved a letter of credit for Rexville Grange #815 in the amount of $50,000 to meet the requirements of the State Capital Grant Program.
- Discussed concern expressed by one of the Grange Departments on the proposed 2027 state convention schedule of moving the officers BBQ and live auction to Tuesday night of the convention.
- Reviewed and compared the two possible sites for the 2028 State Grange Convention and chose the HAPO Center in Pasco as the host facility for the 2028 state convention.
- Discussed the National Grange's committee report on modernization of the first degree.

October 21, 2026 - Via Email

- Approved a letter of credit for Prosperity Grange #315 in the amount of $20,000 to meet the requirements of the State Capital Grant Program.
- Approved the release of property funds in custodial accounts for the following Grange: McMillin Grange #848 – new furnace for the Grange Hall - $8164.72

Highlights From The WA State Grange Foundation Meeting

October 21, 2026

- Welcomed Pam Bright (Central District), Rick Ferguson (Eastern District), and Fred Harnishfeger (Western District to the Foundation Board of Trustees. Discussed the vacancies in the Northern District and one Art-Large position.
- Agreed to distribute funds received for Spokane Wildfire Relief to the Spokane Teachers Credit Union through the Innovia Foundation.
- Greed to allow the Central District Convention Host Committee to utilize the WA State Grange foundation to solicit donations to meet their responsibility in hosting the 2027 State Grange Convention.

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Washington State GRANGE NEWS

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• Tom Gwin, Executive Editor •

WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE NEWS (ISSN: 1070-4442) is published every other month 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. Non-member price: $12.50 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Olympia, WA and additional entry offices.

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

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Your Name _____

Grange Name & Number _____

Please mail to:
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PO Box 1186
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President's Message

Successful Granges Start With Setting Goals And Developing A Performance Improvement Plan



Tom Gwin

By Tom Gwin
WA State Grange
President

As we prepare to close 2026, many of our Granges have elected new leaders. Even those who are returning to the same leadership position should reflect on the past year and work toward making 2027 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 performance improvement plan, which includes 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.

► Share your goals with your 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 2027, it is 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.

> *"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."*
>
> *-- Tom Gwin*

Here's to another great year of Grange activities across our state!

A few reminders with corrected dates of important upcoming State Grange activities:

- **2027 Resolution Deadline** – Per the State Grange Constitution and ByLaws, resolutions for consideration at the annual state session are due to the State Grange Office 60 days prior to the session. The 2027 deadline will be April 25.

- **Bonding** – The information on fidelity bonds for each Grange has been mailed to each Grange. All 2027 bonding payments are due by November 15 to the State Grange Office. Contact the State Grange Office for additional details.

- **2027 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. We are starting to print the annual dues notices this month.

- **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 2027 event will be held on February 23. The Youth and Junior Legislative Experience will be on January 17-19. Watch for details.

- **Western Regional Grange Youth and Leaders Conference** – The Oregon State Grange is scheduled to host the regional conference in 2027. Details will go out to each Grange this winter.

- **Alaska Explorer Cruise** – We set up a 7-day Alask Explorer Cruise on Holland America's Noordam. This fun event is scheduled for May 20-June 6, 2027. Information is available elsewhere in this issue. All Grange members, their friends and family are welcome to join us.

- **138th Annual Session of the Washington State Grange** – Our Annual State Grange Convention will be June 24-27 at the Central Washington Fairgrounds in Yakima. Plan now to join us for this remarkable event.

- **National Grange Annual Session** – The 161st Annual Session of the National Grange will be coming Back to the Western Region in 2027. The event will be held in Sparks, Nevada at the Nugget Hotel/ Casino in November.

Legislative

The Season Of Transition



Jesse Taylor

By Jesse Taylor
Legislative Lobbyist

Happy Fall, Grangers!

There is something special about autumn in Washington. The maples turn brilliant shades of red and gold, the morning air carries that familiar chill, and the smell of woodsmoke begins to drift through our communities. When football returns to the weekend agenda, I know the smell of apple pie and other fall treats coming from my wife's kitchen will fill our home.

Across the state, farmers are bringing in the last of their harvests, orchards are busy finishing up with apples and pears, and families are settling into the rhythms of another changing season. Fall is a reminder that hard work eventually gives way to reflection, gratitude, and preparation for what comes next.

In Olympia, we are entering that same season of transition.

Ballots have been returned, and Washington voters have made their voices heard as we wait for the final results of the November 3 election. Many issues were decided on election night, from statewide initiatives involving income taxes to local county clerk races and everything in between. Some communities will welcome familiar faces back to the Legislature, while others will send new representatives to Olympia. Regardless of who won or which candidates we supported, the work ahead remains the same: finding practical solutions to the challenges facing our state and the people who call it home.

For the Grange, that work starts in our local communities.

The strength of our legislative program has always been its grassroots foundation. Our policies are not simply developed in the Capitol or written behind a desk in Olympia. They begin with conversations at Grange meetings, concerns raised by neighbors, and resolutions brought forward by members who understand firsthand what their communities need. That process is one of the things that makes the Grange unique, and it is a tradition worth protecting.

As we look toward the 2027 legislative session, there will be no shortage of issues demanding attention. Agriculture continues to face challenges ranging from labor and production costs to regulatory pressures and access to resources. Rural communities need reliable broadband, strong local economies, and infrastructure that supports the people who live and work there. Families are also feeling the effects of rising costs, and lawmakers will face difficult decisions about state spending and priorities.

These are not abstract policy debates for the people we represent. They affect whether a family farm can remain in operation, whether a small business can grow, and whether the next generation sees a future in rural Washington.

My job is to carry those perspectives into the legislative process, communicate the Grange's adopted policies, and help ensure our members have a seat at the table when decisions are made. That work is most effective when legislators hear directly from the people those decisions affect. A conversation at a local Grange, a thoughtful email, or a visit with a lawmaker can make a real difference.

For Granges applying for capital grant funds this year, building those relationships is especially important. Inviting legislators to visit your Grange, see the need firsthand, and meet the members behind your grant application can help them understand why your project matters and strengthen your case for funding.

The coming months will bring opportunities to meet with legislators, refine our priorities, and prepare for another busy session. I encourage every Grange to review its legislative policies, discuss the issues that matter most locally, and consider how to make its community's voice heard.

So enjoy the colors, share a meal with your neighbors, and take pride in the harvest of another year. The seasons will keep turning, and before long, we will be back in Olympia working on behalf of Washington's rural communities and agricultural families.

Until then, thank you for all you do for the Grange and the communities we serve. I look forward to working with you in the year ahead!

Lecturer's Department

Food, Fun, And Boosting Grange


Claudine Mincks

By Claudine Mincks
State Grange Lecturer

And just like that, the weather has shifted, what was once green has turned to yellows, oranges, browns, and reds, and the warmth of the long summer days has faded into crisp chilly mornings and frost on the windows as Autumn makes its late debut. Although many of you won't agree with me, Autumn is my favorite time of year. I love the colors, the cooler days, the longer and darker star-filled nights, sweaters and mittens, and of course the fellowship among family and friends with pleasant aromas and delicious food.

Autumn is also a great time of the year for local community Granges. It's a time to come in and unwind after a busy summer and reacquaint with your family of Grangers. Conversations envelop with questions of what did you do over the summer months, did you travel, how did that vegetable garden grow, how went that home improvement project, did you attend the county or state fairs? When the conversations around the room tone down, or if like mine, they have to be curbed with the gavel on the President's station, or no one would ever quit talking, then it's a great time for the Lecturer/Program Director to get the Grange calendar out for the coming year and start planning with their fellow Grange members for programs, projects, and events.

November through March are great times of the year to enact some good old fashioned Booster Nights. By old fashioned I don't mean do the same thing that worked fifty, twenty, or even ten years ago, but some fresh ideas for fellowship amongst Grangers and their local community members. Open up the Grange hall and don't worry about how many people you can get through the doors but focus on the ones that do show up. Just like Kevin Cosner in Field of Dreams, if you build it, they will come. People don't want to be pressured but they will naturally want to participate when they feel welcomed and observe that those in attendance really like being around each other. The first few Boosters might be lightly attended but over time with consistency it just may be what your Grange thrives at!

What's that saying, "you can catch more flies with honey than with vinegar." You might not want to share with them that you compared Grangers or potential Grangers to flies, but you get the idea. Kindness works best, being polite and pleasant helps you demonstrate to outsiders and wins them over much more effortlessly than being rude, unfriendly, or demanding.

A misconception is that a Booster Night has to be held at night, NO, often the best times for older and younger members or potential members is during the late morning hours "brunch-time" or "naptime". Why? Well, those time are less time and budget commitments. But never discount a Friday or Saturday evening either, especially with young families wanting to participate in activities together versus the traditional "date-night". FUN and FELLOWSHIP should be the ultimate GOAL with Booster Events. Grange should not always be focused on education, talent, and business.

Why not plan a potluck brunch on a Saturday morning and have trivial, word searches, crossword puzzles, Grange scavenger hunt or color by number paper placemats set up on the tables to provide both individual and group entertainment and have a few prizes that were donated by local merchants. Why not put forth an afternoon bingo match and serve pie and ice-cream and have the prizes be donated by local merchants. Why not entertain with a family movie and popcorn night or a family game and hot chocolate bar night. The lists go on and on if only you stop and take note of different ideas your fellow Grangers might present, and if you involve them with the ideas, they feel value, they invite others, and something small can turn into a monthly event.

Be sure to look for the 2027 WSG Lecturer's Handbook on the WSG website before the end of the year with all the programs, projects, and contests guidelines in it. I'll catch YOU on zoom with a joint Lecturer/Family Living program workshop on Wednesday, November 4th, at 6:30 PM where we welcome every GRANGE MEMBER!

Heirloom Project Readings

November and December 2026
January 2027



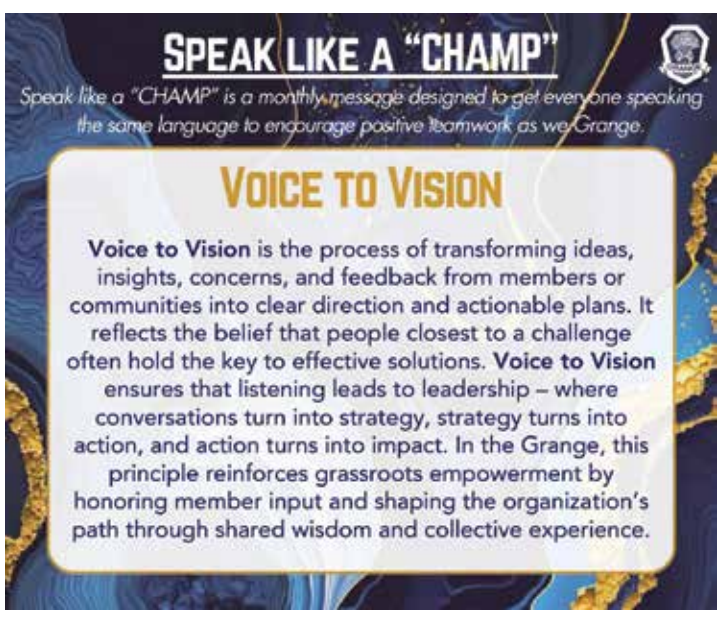
NOVEMBER 2026 (Autumn E.3): "My Brothers and Sisters, all honest labor is honorable."

(Third Degree; Vice President)

DECEMBER 2026 (Winter A.1): "Let us work hand in hand for the good of our neighbors. Let us remember that those with trials and tribulations need our help most of all." *(Installation Ceremony; Installation Officer)*

JANUARY 2027 (Winter A.2): "If we desire to encourage [children] to love rural life, we must make its labors cheerful. What a child sees makes the most lasting impression. We may tell them of the pleasures and independence of [rural life]; but if their daily intercourse with us shows it to be tedious, irksome, laborious, without any recreation of body or mind, they will soon lose all interest in it and seek enjoyment elsewhere."

(Fourth Degree; Vice President)



LECTURER AND FAMILY LIVING MONTHLY JOINT ZOOM PROGRAM SCHEDULE

State Lecturer Claudine Mincks and State Family Living Director Debbie Fisch have scheduled joint Zoom Sessions for the two departments on the First Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 PM on the WSG zoom link platform.

12/02/2026	04/07/2027
01/06/2027	05/05/2027
02/03/2027	06/02/2027
03/03/2027	

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

Home & Family

News From The Family Living Department


Debbie Fisch

By Debbie Fisch
Family Living Director

"Allow the peace of the sunset to wash over you and let go of the day's worries."
~ Christy Ann Martine

The first week of October had us on a real vacation. Time for Mark and me to take a breath, rest, and just enjoy each other. It was a long time coming and we really had such a wonderful time. We hitched up the trailer and headed to Steamboat Rock State Park. The back drop of our camp spot was breathtaking as the sun rose and set on the big Steamboat Rock whence the Park is name after. We had deer and wild turkeys wandering through our campground. Because we were there during the week, it was quiet, and it was like having the campground to ourselves.

While we were on vacation, Claudine and I held our first combined Zoom meeting. Now this presented a problem as the cell service in the park was not consistent. So, we packed up the laptop and drove closer to town. There was nice little City park where my 5G worked much better and I opened my hotspot and flipped open my laptop just in time for our meeting! As I sat there facing the west, the sun was setting. The colors in the sky made such a beautiful canvas. As our meeting progressed, silhouettes of deer passed in front of me. The only challenge was writing notes as the sunset disappeared into the darkness. As I sat there, I was simply amazed that here I was, watching something beautiful, on a zoom meeting with other Grangers. How lucky am I? One of the fun things we talked about is Peanut Butter Pie. After the meeting, Vicky Loomer shared her recipe for Peanut Butter Pie. She received it from the Cabbage Patch Restaurant in Snohomish. I cannot wait to try it!

Which leads me into making sure that you are all invited to our Zoom meetings. The meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month through June right before Convention. I would like to bring some demonstrations on Mixes in a Jar, pantry seasoning, and some other fun things as well. The zoom information can be found on the State Grange Website as well towards the front of the Grange News. Please join us!

- **Wednesday, November 4th at 6:30**
- **Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:30**
- **Wednesday, January 6th at 6:30**

Soon, it will be time to close the year out and turn in the year end reports. I will have a new one up on the website soon. I really enjoy reading the reports and hearing what the Family Living Chairs are up to in their Granges. There is so much community and giving. Grangers are extraordinary!

On October 17th, Mark and I drove to Olympia for his dad's 85th Birthday. On our way there, we stopped at Swauk-Teanaway Grange to join in on their Hunter's Breakfast. They had a full house and lots of delicious pancakes, ham, and eggs. They served syrup and their own Apple Butter. They also sold Apple Butter in jars and had a raffle drawing as well. It was amazing! They all worked together well, and I met a trio of ladies that sold the raffle tickets. A Grandmother, Mother, and Daughter. (Donna, Carrie, and Sadie) Three generations of volunteering at the Grange! It was Donna's mother-in-law that had the recipe for the Apple Butter. They have been holding their Hunter's Breakfast for 39 years! I also met Linda, the Family Living Chair and Lisa, who handles the social activities. Maybe someday I can wrangle that recipe for their world-famous Apple Butter!

May everyone have a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas! Hope to see you at the Zoom Meetings!



Cabbage Patch Restaurant Chocolate Peanut Butter Pie

from Vicky Loomer

Ingredients for the Pie & Filling:
- 1 Crust for Pie
- 10 oz Cream Cheese
- 2 cups of heavy whipping cream
- 1 ½ cups chunky peanut butter (16.3 oz jar)
- 1 cup powdered sugar

Ingredients for the Chocolate Topping:
- 2 cups of chocolate chips
- 4 Tbsp Half-n-Half

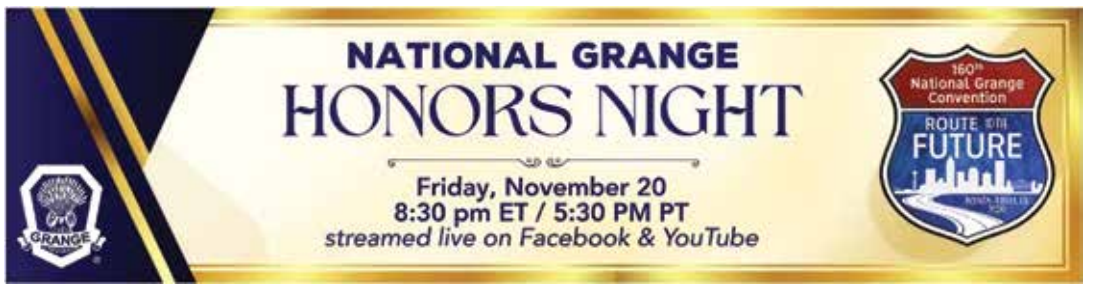
Directions:

Bake the pie crust in a 9 ½ inch pie pan and let it cool. Mix cream cheese and whipping cream in mixer until stiff like whip cream. Add chunky peanut butter and mix lightly. Add powdered sugar and mix lightly. Put mixture in Baked Pie shell.

For the Chocolate Topping mix up chocolate chips and half-n-half. Microwave until creamy stirring several times Top Pie with Chocolate Topping.

Refrigerate to set up the Pie. Enjoy with a dollop of Whipped Cream.





The Agate Grange Holds Sewing and Craft Night


The Agate Grange member Robin Pittack, left, works on a leather project while Sherry Barrett, a guest from the American Sewing Guild, sews a Christmas stocking during a recent sewing and craft night at The Agate Grange #275.

Community Service

Can You Help – Individually Or As Your Grange?


Leslie Wells

By Leslie Wells
Community Service Director

We are now in Fall with Winter soon upon us. It seems to be the time of year when we tend to think more about family and friends… and those less fortunate than we are. The Heirloom Program addresses this in the December reading that is from the Installation Ceremony: "Let us work hand in hand for the good of our neighbors. Let us remember that those with trials and tribulations need our help most of all."

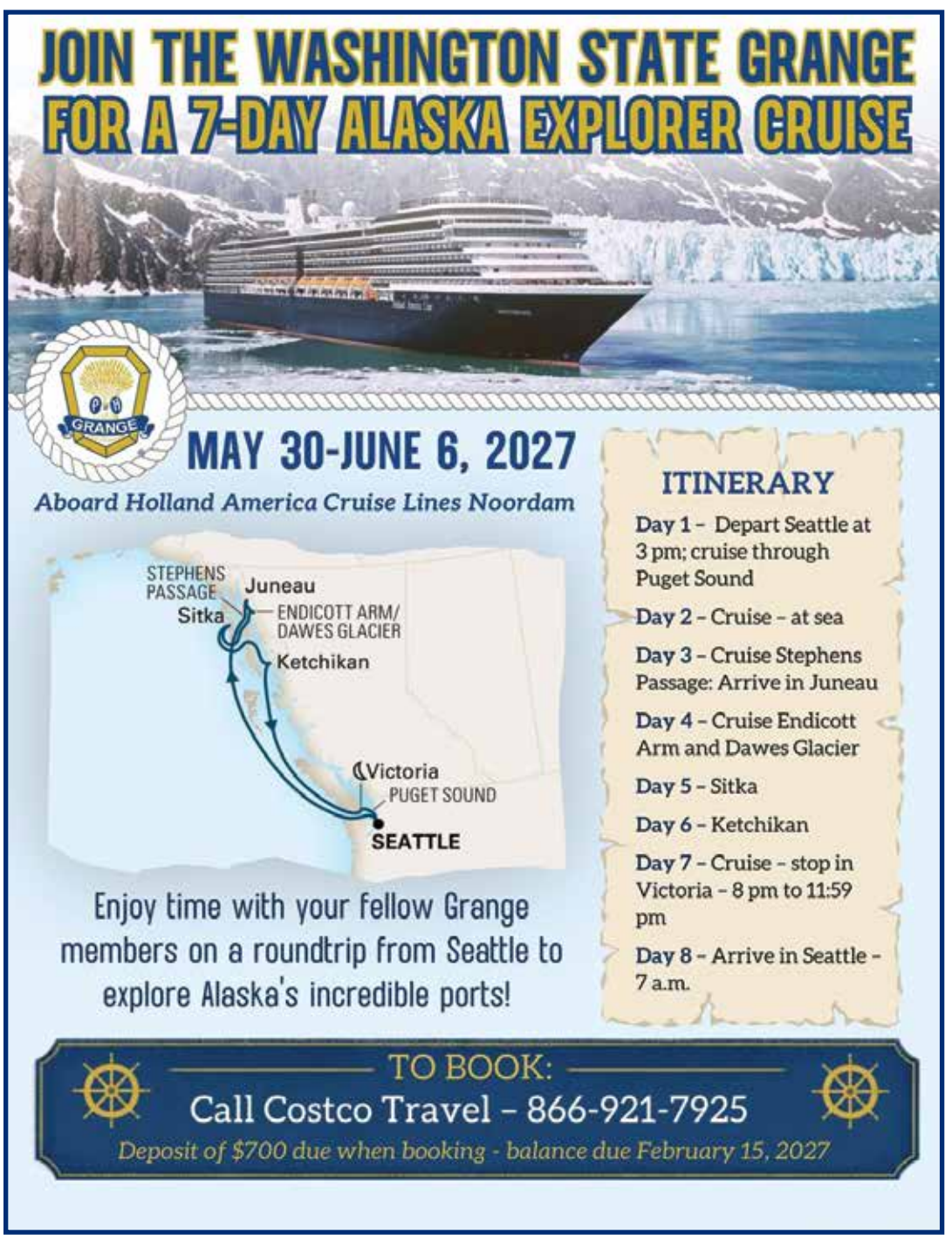
For many, including us, times are really difficult. We are faced with higher costs for many things that are vital for daily living. In addition to fuel costs, we're talking about food, housing, childcare and healthcare. These indeed pose trials and tribulations. So, can you help – individually or as your Grange?

Do you have produce that can still be donated to the local foodbank or food pantry – I'm thinking squashes and other late season vegetables. Also, let's not forget our four-legged friends; pet foods are often welcomed at these donation sites. Could you or your Grange make a monetary donation to a food distribution agency – food bank, food pantry, a local church or other organization. Often money is preferred because they can purchase foodstuffs more cheaply though regional food distribution groups.

Now is a great time to participate in the WSG Youth Keep Washington Warm program. We had a very large amount of items that were brought to the State Convention in Mount Vernon in June. They were divided up and sent home with representatives from the host counties that still had representatives present on Saturday: King, Whatcom, Pierce and Snohomish counties. The items for Snohomish County included some coats that Stillaguamish Grange was donating to a homeless shelter. The rest of the items, hats socks, mittens and scarves were donated to a non-profit named the Lords Little Cooker that provides Saturday morning breakfasts to the homeless in the Everett area. They were very appreciative of the donations. I'm sure the other counties donations were also appreciated by the recipients.

All the Personal Care items were given to Skagit County. They were going to be taken to that county's central food bank distribution center which would distribute them throughout the county. Thanks to Sue Palmer for taking care of this for us.

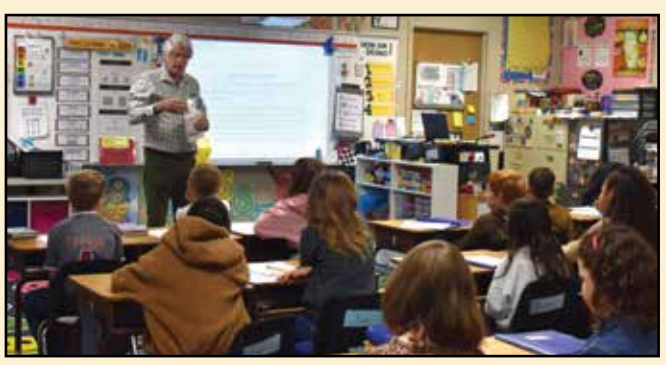
I encourage everyone to think of those less fortunate and/or struggling as we enter what will probably be the hardest time of the year for many. There's a saying I'm sure we have all heard – "Every little bit helps." I believe it's true. Do you?



THE Dictionary Project

Washington Granges Distribute Dictionaries


Baw Faw Grange #34 presented Dictionary/Thesaurus to Mrs. Swehosky's 3/4 grade class at Boistfort School on Tuesday, September 29, 2026 as part of their Word for Thirds program. Baw Faw Grange has been participating in Words for Thirds for over 30 years.


Bethel Grange #404 member Bill Slach is shown at Hidden Creek Elementary School in Port Orchard, WA, handing out dictionaries to 3rd graders on 10-15-2026. Three classes totalling 69 students were given "A Student's Dictionary & Animal Gazetteer" as part of the "Words for Thirds" Dictionary Project.

Washington
Agriculture in the Classroom

What is Washington Agriculture and Why It's Important To Everyone

By Judy M. Hamp Hossner
jmhhag@gmail.com
360-394-7744
(please leave a message)

Agriculture wins the contest!

Agriculture is the world's oldest, largest, and most essential industry. Yet, in America's urban society, 90% of the population has little contact with the systems that determine our general welfare and standard of living. Washington Ag In the Classroom strives to bridge this gap through accessible, classroom-ready resources.

BUT… Why Learn About Agriculture?

Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders. Agriscience, agribusiness, and production agriculture form the largest industry in America. Environmental issues such as land use, water quality, air quality, and wildlife protection are inextricably linked to agriculture. As future leaders, students must have an understanding of agriculture and how it affects their world.

Working on Community Service Ideas for Your Grange?

It's never too late to begin a new, exciting, and worthwhile Service.

- Adopt Washington Ag in the Classroom (WAIC).
- Present information to your local schools.
- **IDEA** -Do you support local 3rd grade classes with Words for Thirds? When you are at the schools, you can also speak with the principal, 2nd grade teachers, and/or 4th grade teachers about Washington Ag in the Classroom. (Need / want something physical to give the educators? Let me know and I'll send it to you.)
- IDEA -Are you having a community event with tables full of information? Maybe we can have a table with WAIC information?

You want someone to present information about WAIC at your Grange meeting or a School District Central Office? Contact me at jmhhag@gmail.com. I can also:

- find a reader for a 2nd grade class –with the free book
- get an Ag@School subscription going for a 4th grade class or various high school classes (ag, science, math, English and more)

As a part of National Ag in the Classroom, WAIC has many partners across our Country. Interested in a particular State? Go to https://agclassroom.org/affiliates/contact/ and find that state or territory.

It's been a few months, but I want to thank everyone who stopped by our WAIC display at the State Grange Convention in Mt. Vernon! It was great fun to talk with you about our Programs!

You can always check us out at our WAIC website: **https://washington.agclassroom.org/**

McLane Grange Members Win Multiple Fair Ribbons For Their Handiwork



McLane Grange members won recognition from the Thurston Co. Fair, WA State Grange and the Pomona Grange Contest for quilts, clothing and a bird house. Pictured from left to right are Carol Spaulding with 7 ribbons for Non-traditional Quilts and a 4th place for the Community Service Report, Dan Miller with a first-place ribbon for his mother's knit blanket and a red for her quilt, Dianne Johnson with 4 ribbons including a 2nd Place Best in Show. Tammy Eltrich won a first-place ribbon for her bird house. Congratulations all!

Yakima Valley Pomona Hosts Fair Booth



Yakima Valley Pomona hosts a booth at the Central Washington State Fair, which sells apples, juices, and water, along with promoting the Grange and agriculture.



Membership Corner

The Season of Connection: Welcoming Community, Service, and New Members

By Sophia Keller
Membership Director

As we move into the holidays, our thoughts naturally turn toward gratitude, family traditions, and the spirit of giving. The holiday season offers something unique for Granges: an opportunity to strengthen existing relationships while welcoming new faces into our organization.

In the last issue, we discussed leadership, growth, and preparing for the future. Now is the perfect time to put those ideas into action. Communities are looking for connection during the holidays, and the Grange is uniquely positioned to provide it.

Being the Heart of the Community

During the holiday season, many people seek opportunities to gather, serve others, and create meaningful memories. Granges have long been places where neighbors come together, and now is the time to showcase that tradition. Consider hosting events that bring the community through your doors:

- Holiday craft fairs featuring local artisans
- Community Thanksgiving dinners
- Christmas bazaars and bake sales
- Tree-lighting celebrations
- Cookie exchanges
- Family game nights
- Holiday movie events
- Children's craft workshops
- Caroling and music programs
- New Year's community gatherings

Events like these create a welcoming atmosphere where visitors can experience the Grange firsthand without the pressure of being recruited.

Service Creates Visibility

The holidays remind us that service is one of the Grange's greatest strengths. Communities notice organizations that step forward to help others. Ideas for seasonal service projects include:

- Food and coat drives
- Adopt-a-family programs
- Holiday meal baskets
- Toy collections for children
- Support for local senior centers
- Care packages for veterans and military families
- Community gift-wrapping fundraisers
- Winter warming centers or emergency preparedness initiatives

People are often inspired to join organizations that are actively making a difference. Service projects not only help those in need but also demonstrate the values that make the Grange special.

The Gift of Invitation

One of the most effective membership tools costs nothing: a personal invitation. During the holiday season, many people are looking for ways to become more involved in their communities. They may be new to the area, recently retired, raising young families, or simply seeking meaningful connections. Instead of focusing on membership applications, focus on relationships. Encourage members to:

- Invite friends and neighbors to holiday events
- Introduce visitors to other members
- Share personal stories about why they joined the Grange
- Follow up with guests after events
- Personally invite visitors to future activities

As Grangers, we have the privilege of creating spaces where people can serve, learn, connect, and belong.

A warm welcome often has a greater impact than the most polished recruitment campaign.

Creating an Experience People Remember

When visitors attend a Grange event, ask yourself: What will they remember when they leave? Will they remember feeling welcomed? Will they remember meaningful conversations? Will they remember laughter, community spirit, and genuine hospitality? People return to places where they feel valued. Every member can play a role in creating that experience. A simple introduction, a conversation over coffee, or an invitation to sit together can help transform a guest into a future member.

Looking Ahead to a New Year

The close of one year provides an opportunity to prepare for the next. As officers and committees begin planning for 2027, consider setting membership and community engagement goals. Ask:

- What community needs can our Grange help address?
- What partnerships can we develop?
- How can we engage younger families and emerging leaders?
- What programs would attract new audiences?
- What traditions should we preserve and celebrate?

Growth rarely happens by accident. It happens when members work together with purpose and intention.

Small Actions, Big Results

Membership growth does not require grand strategies. Often, it begins with small actions repeated consistently. A conversation, a handshake, a service project, a welcoming smile, an invitation. The holiday season provides countless opportunities for these small moments that can make a lasting impact.

Your Holiday Grange Challenge

Before the end of the year, challenge every member to invite one person to a Grange event, community service project, or social gathering. Imagine the possibilities if every Grange member across the state introduced just one new person to the Grange.

The holidays remind us that community is one of life's greatest gifts. As Grangers, we have the privilege of creating spaces where people can serve, learn, connect, and belong. Let us embrace this season of gratitude by opening our doors, sharing our traditions, and extending a warm welcome to those who have yet to discover the Grange. Together, we can end the year with purpose, strengthen our communities, and plant the seeds for an even brighter future.

Congratulations Winners!

New Membership Contest

• January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026 •

Congratulations to the following Grangers for bringing in 5 new members into your Grange. You will each receive the membership T-shirt.

T-Shirts

Fred Doughty – Black Lake #861
Roger Ellison – San Juan Island #966

Congratulations to the following Grangers for bringing in an additional 5 or more new members into the Grange.

After recruiting your first 5 members and receiving your t-shirt, when you bring in another 5 or more new members, you will receive a $25 "Grange Bucks" Certificate, which can be spent on any Grange gear, pamphlets, jewelry or other paraphernalia we have on hand at State Grange.



Membership Corner

• Welcome New Members •

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2026

		# Joined	Jr. +1
603	**Addy** — Chasti P. Hite	1	
404	**Bethel** — Suzette West	1	
861	**Black Lake** — Kelley Jackson, Sherry Edwards, John Edwards, Nancy Mayer, Rick Mayer, Ruth Ishihara, Carol Richardson	7	
647	**Broadway** — Murray Campbell, Questen Inghram	2	
26	**Elma** — Dan Downing, Save Downing, Dustin Downing, Corree Downing, Dough Smith, Jacqueline Smith, Delbert Paul DeTray II, Michelle Frazier, Charles McClain, Mary Muir	10	
853	**Fargher Lake** — Dustin Weimerskirch, Laura Weimerskirch, Alana Vandermolen, Luke Vandermolen, Cynthis Cheney, Buddy Cheney, Brandon Gilmour, Shayla Gilmoeus	8	5
999	**Fruitland** — Lucia Case, Ashton Roesbery, Alan Hursh, Neil Warren	4	3
328	**Fruitvale** — Karen White, Larry White, John Ford	3	
925	**Lummi Island** — Stephen Kopanos, Tay Kopanos, Abby Rice, Paula Goodking, Alex Carlin, Jake Heller, Sierra Smelker	7	
1101	**Manor** — Malia Ellis	1	
710	**Mansford** — Karen Hernandez, Isaias Hernandes, Aislynn Turnbull, Phillip Turnbull	4	
793	**Manson** — Orn Miller	1	
355	**Mossyrock** — Silvia Greuter, John Stewart	2	
98	**Mountain View** — Britta von Tagen	1	
311	**Oakview** — Craig Burns, Jennifer Burns, Denise Heagney	3	
812	**Ohop** — Emily Mitchell, Tom Mitchell	2	
1125	**Olalla** — Mark Whiteaker	1	
985	**Oroville** — Gayle Clemens	1	
815	**Rexville** — Glen Johnson, Elizabeth Hasorf	2	
702	**Roy** — Bonnie Oxborough	1	
608	**Selah Heights** — Jessica Perez Aguero, Megan Collins, Yvonne Rogriguez, Addison Blachard, Wyatt Blanchard	5	
1108	**Sequim Prairie** — Debbie Cottres, Lee Tidler, Sherm Carston	3	
250	**South Bay** — Patricia Barr, Shannon Curtis, Sean Curtis, Jessica Cahill	4	2
909	**Spring Hill** — Corey Clouse	1	
121	**Stevenson** — Kristen Bilous	1	
1058	**Stillaguamish** — Ashley Salmon-Schneyder	1	
374	**Stranger Creek** — Stormi Williams, Steven Williams	2	
984	**Swauk Teanaway** — Bunny Roalski	1	
1111	**Waller Road** — Jennifer Merritt, Tim Merritt, Grace Combs	3	
178	**Woodland** — Josphine Banks, Charles Moore, Keith Bellisle	3	
114	**Whelan Ewartsville** — Anna Hall, Jacob Tossell, Cameron March, Ashley Childers, Jared Schlapia, Kenneth Pfaff, David Little, Aaron Little, Eric Gibson	8	4
	TOTALS	**94**	**14**

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.

FredMeyer community rewards — Where shopping & giving unite



Visit us on the Web:

www.WA-Grange.com

Grange Fair Displays



Adna Grange
Southwest WA Fair



Barberton Grange
Clark County Fair



Broadway Grange
Central WA State Fair in Yakima



Buena Grange
Central WA State Fair in Yakima



Calispel Grange
Pend Oreille County Fair



Camden Grange
Spokane Interstate Fair



Chumstick Grange
Chelan County Fair



Collins Grange
WA State Fair



Cowlitz Prairie Grange
Southwest WA Fair



Cowlitz Prairie Grange
Southwest WA Fair



Crescent Grange
Clallam County Fair



Deer Lagoon Grange
Whidbey Island Fair

Grange Fair Displays



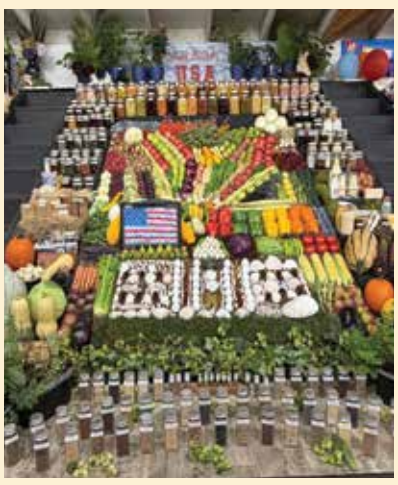
Dry Creek Grange
Clallam County Fair



East Hill Grange
WA State Fair



Elma Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Elk Plain Grange
WA State Fair



Fargher Lake Grange
Clark County Fair



Fern Prairie Grange
Clark County Fair



Five Mile Prairie Grange
Spokane Interstate Fair



Fredonia Grange
Skagit County Fair



Fruitland Grange
WA State Fair



Fruitvale Grange
Central WA State Fair in Yakima



Goldendale Grange
Klickitat County Fair



Hope Grange
Southwest WA Fair

Grange Fair Displays



Humptulips Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Humptulips Grange
WA State Fair



Laurel Grange
Northwest WA Fair



Lincoln Creek Grange
Southwest WA Fair



Logan Hill Grange
Southwest WA Fair



Long Beach Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Matlock Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



McIntosh Grange
Spokane Interstate Fair



McMillin Grange
WA State Fair



Meridian Grange
WA State Fair



Molson Grange
Okanogan County Fair

Grange Fair Displays



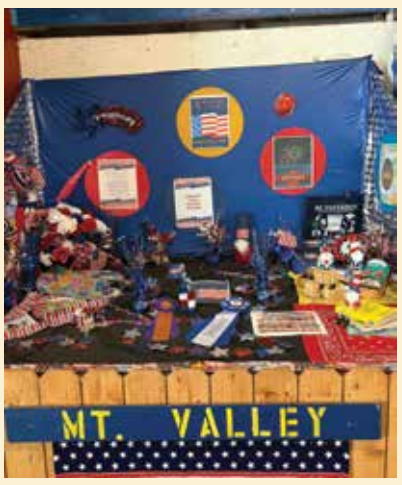
Moran Prairie Grange
Spokane Interstate Fair



Moses Lake Grange
Grant County Fair



Mossyrock Grange
Southwest WA Fair



Mountain Valley Grange
Clark County Fair



Newaukum Grange
Southwest WA Fair



North River Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Oakview Grange
Southwest WA Fair



Ohop Grange
WA State Fair



Olympic View Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Patit Valley Grange
Columbia County Fair



Prospect Point Grange
Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days



Ralston Grange
Wheatland Communities Fair

Grange Fair Displays



Rexville Grange
Skagit County Fair



Rome Grange
Northwest WA Fair



Satsop Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Selah Heights
Central WA State Fair in Yakima



Sequim Prairie Grange
Clallam County Fair



Sharon Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Skagit Valley Grange
Skagit County Fair



Skamokawa Grange
Wahkiakum County Fair



South Lake Sevens Grange
Evergreen State Fair



St. Andrews Grange
North Central WA Fair

Grange Fair Displays



Stranger Creek Grange
Northeast WA Fair



Ten Mile Grange
Northwest WA Fair



Terrace Heights
Central WA State Fair in Yakima



Tualco Grange
Evergreen State Fair



Tyler Grange
Spokane Interstate Fair



Yakima Valley Granges
Representing all the Granges in Yakima County
Central WA State Fair in Yakima



Washington Grange
Clark County Fair

POMONA OF GRANGE

Pomona Fair Displays



Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Thurston County Pomona Grange
WA State Fair



Pend Oreille County Pomona Grange
Pend Oreille County Fair



Whatcom County Pomona
Northwest WA Fair



Pend Oreille County Pomona Grange
Spokane Interstate Fair

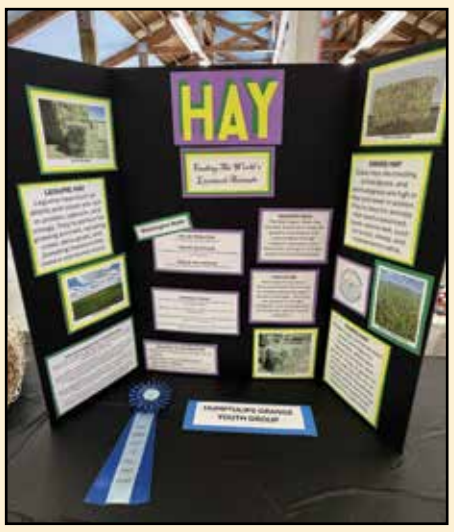


Yakima Valley Pomona
Central WA State Fair



King County Pomona Grange
King County Fair

Youth & Junior Fair Displays



Humptulips Grange Youth
Grays Harbor County Fair



Washington State Junior Grange
Washington State Fair



Humptulips Junior Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Haynie Junior Grange
Northwest WA Fair



Stranger Creek Junior Grange
Northeast WA Fair



Clallam Pomona Jr. Grange
Clallam County Fair



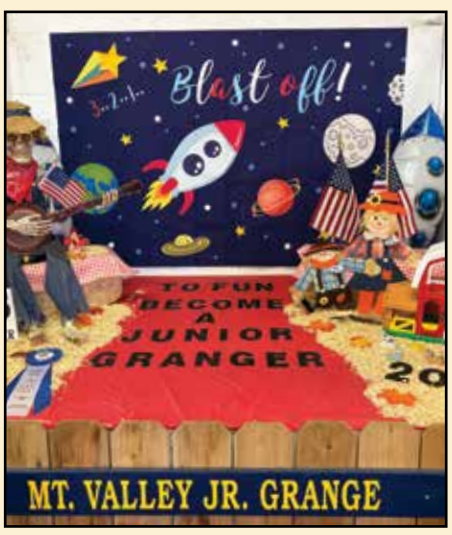
Washington State Junior Grange
Central Washington State Fair



Fern Prairie Junior Grange
Clark County Fair



North River Junior Grange
Grays Harbor County Fair



Mountain Valley Junior Grange
Clark County Fair



Barberton Junior Grange
Clark County Fair



Fargher Lake Junior Grange
Clark County Fair

Youth Fairs Program

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

North Central Washington Fair
East Wenatchee Grange







Grays Harbor County Fair
Humptulips Grange





Participation in the Washington State Grange Youth Fairs Program increased to nearly 650 participants in 2026. The number of participating fairs and Granges experienced similar increases.

Participating shows and Granges were:

- Benton Franklin Fair – Freedom
- Chelan County Fair – Chumstick, East Wenatchee, Manson, Bee Hive
- Clark County Fair – Barberton, Fargher Lake, Fern Prairie
- Columbia Basin Junior Livestock Show – Freedom
- Ferry County Fair – Kettle River, Malo, San Poil
- Grant County Fair – Moses Lake, White Trail
- Grays Harbor County Fair – Camp Morehead, Humptulips, North River, Long Beach
- Kittitas County Fair – Menastash
- Milton-Freewater Junior Show (OR) – Prospect Point
- North Central Washington Fair – East Wenatchee, Manson. Saint Andrew, Chumstick, Bee Hive
- Northeast Washington Fair – Addy, Fort Colville, Kettle River, Stranger Creek, Selkirk Valley
- Othello Area Fair – Freedom, Moses Lake, White Trail
- Pend Oreille County Fair – Selkirk Valley
- Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days – Prospect Point

Following a Zoom meeting with participating Granges in October, recommendations for updated guidelines for 2026 were received. The Youth Fairs Program Management Team will review the recommendations and then updated guidelines will be posted on the State Grange website: www.wa-grange.com/YouthFairs

We are hoping to expand into additional fairs with additional participating Granges in 2027. Interested fairs and Granges should contact the State Grange Office for more information.

Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days
Prospect Point Grange





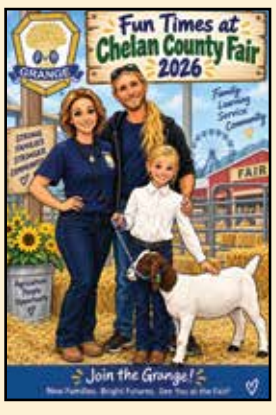








Chelan County Fair
Manson Grange













Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Grange Youth Demonstrate Skills In Decision Making

Grange Youth Members gathered at the Othello Fair on Friday, September 18 for the 4th Annual State Grange Livestock Judging Contest. This was the second year combining with the Othello Fair Livestock Committee in presenting our annual judging contest.

Grange members, from beginners up through adults, gathered near the Livestock Barns on Friday, September 18 to demonstrate their skills with and knowledge in a variety of livestock animal species. Grange members competed in this decision-making program by evaluating classes of beef, sheep, swine, and goats. Both market stock and breeding stock classes were included in this contest.

Later that day, the results of the contest were announced at the fair's Livestock Awards Program. Medals were awarded to the top ten individuals in each age group, while banners were awarded to the highest scoring teams in the contest. The awards were sponsored by the Washington State Grange Foundation. The winners of this year's contest were:



The Grangers representing Moses Lake and Menastash Granges with their individual medals and team banners. Menastash was the first place team, while the two teams from Moses Lake placed second and fifth.

Team Placings

First Place – Menastash Grange #1054 – Noah Schutte, BriaLynn Basterrechea, Sadie Foster, Nolan Sherley, Derrick Feddema

Second Place – Moses Lake Grange #1151 – Ashlynn Bates, Lila Sackmann, Nia Sackmann, Brynlynn King

Third Place – Freedom Grange #1152 – Dana Chappell, Isaac Klein, David Geminez

Fourth Place – Freedom Grange #1152 – Dianna Chappell, Indie Williams, Johathan Geminez

Fifth Place – Moses Lake Grange #1151 – Irelynn Bates, Emmalynn Bates, Ashey Jachetta

Juniors, ages 8-10

First Place – Irelynn Bates, Moses Lake #1151
Second Place – Kelby Barth, Bee Hive #385
Third Place – Adalyn Barth, Bee Hive #385
Fourth Place – Ashley Jachetta, Moses Lake #1152

Pre Teens, ages 11-13

First Place – Sadie Foster, Menastash #1054
Second Place – Nia Sackmann, Moses Lake #1152
Third Place – Elise Compton, St. Andrews Grange #832
Fourth Place – Emmalynn Bates, Moses Lake #1151
Fifth Place – Dianna Chappell, Freedom Grange #1152Fourth
Sixth Place – David Geminez, Freedom Grange #1152
Seventh Place – Indie Williams, Freedom Grange #1152

Teens, ages 14-19

First Place – BriaLynn Basterrechea, Menastash Grange #1054
Second Place – Nolan Sherley, Menastash Grange #1054
Third Place – Lila Sackmann, Moses Lake Grange #1151
Fourth Place – Ashlynn Bates, Moses Lake Grange #1151
Fifth Place – Noah Schutte, Menastash Grange #1054
Sixth Place – Brynlynn King, Moses Lake Grange #1151
Seventh Place -Derrick Feddema, Menastash Grange #1054
Eighth Place – Dana Chappel, Freedom #1152
Ninth Place – Jonathan Geminez, Freedom Grange #1152
Tenth Place – Isaac Klein, Freedom Grange #1152

Thank you to the Othello Fair Board and Livestock Committee for allowing us to hold our contest in conjunction with their fair. We also owe a great deal of gratitude to the Grange members assisting with the contest: Brittney Pittman, Jennifer Webb, Brittany Gordon, Jamie Sackmann, and Daria Chappell.

Plans for the 2027 Livestock Judging Contest are currently underway. The date, time, and location will be announced in the near future.



Greenwood Park Junior Grangers Participate In Hunters Fair Parade

Greenwood Park Junior Grangers recently participated in the Hunters Fair Parade by riding on the Grange float. Chevelle and Kymber were excited to participate. Walking alongside the float was Junior Grange leader Juanita and Grange member Marjorie. Driving was Daniel and Greg. The theme was "Faith, Family, Farming and Friends."

For Faith, the kids chose to use pictures of the fire personnel who had fought fires all around us.

For Family, they celebrated learning from those around us, and watching the young grow older. The lesson of life isn't easy, but it's one day at a time, because the next day is not promised, was integral to the theme.

For Farming, they honored the blessing of each farmer that brings food to the table of every American.

For Friends it was about Grange members being friends, talking and caring about each other.

It is the goal of the Fair to provide the opportunity for Stevens' County communities to come together to promote the improvement of agriculture, livestock, home life and related activities; stimulate greater interest in FFA, 4-H and Jr. Grange club activities.

Humptulips Grange Trunk or Treat





(Left) State Junior Grange Directors Jacob and Tessa Gwin and State Youth Director Jerry Gwin hand out treats at the Humptulips Trunk or Treat event. (Right) Humptulips Grangers handing out goodies at the Trunk or Treat

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Department Adjustments; Youth/Junior Legislative Experience Announced


Jerry Gwin

By Jerry Gwin
Youth Grange Director

YOUTH DEPARTMENT CONTINUES AGE ADJUSTMENTS

The National Grange Youth Department continues to adjust age levels for participation in National Grange Youth Programs. Our State Grange will adjust our age groups as well. Grange Youth Programs will have two age groups:

- **Grange Youth – Age 14-20**
- **Grange Young Adults – Age 21-25**

We will be reviewing the National Grange Youth Program as we don't expect many changes next year. We suspect there will be major changes for the youth program at all levels in 2027.

STATE YOUTH/JUNIOR GRANGE LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE

The State Grange Youth/Junior Legislative Experience is open to 14–25-year-old participants. We want to encourage our young adults to continue learning about the legislative process. Providing access to this program will allow the young adults to continue learning how to make a difference in their community through the Grange's involvement in the legislative process. This year's event is scheduled for January 17-19 in Olympia. Registration information on the Junior/Youth Legislative Experience is elsewhere in this issue. Please note registrations are due by January 10 for all participants and their chaperones. This will give us time to plan food for the event and to order shirts for all participants. We hope to see a large contingent at this year's legislative experience event.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful holiday season!

2027 Youth & Junior Grange Legislative Experience

January 17-19, 2027

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Sunday, January 17

6 p.m.	Arrive at State Grange Office -Orientation, the state legislative process, how committees and hearings operate	12 p.m.	Lunch (provided)
		1 p.m.	Attend hearings, committee meetings, and tours; Meetings with Legislators
7 p.m.	Dinner & Get Acquainted Activities	6 p.m.	Dinner (provided)

Monday, January 18

9 a.m.	Meet at State Grange Office (Breakfast)- speakers & workshops

Tuesday January 19

9 a.m.	Meetings with Legislators
12 p.m.	Wrap Up and Depart for Home

LODGING
Adults will be responsible for youth and junior Grangers after hours. Those attending must secure their own lodging. Sleeping bags on the floor at the State Grange Headquarters is an option. 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.

Notes: This event is intended for Ages 10 and up. All Chaperones must have a background check (to State Grange) completed prior to the event.

There is no registration fee. Registrations are due by January 10, 2027

****

FIRST AND LAST NAME_____ AGE_____

STREET ADDRESS_____ CITY_____ ZIP_____

PHONE (_____)_____ EMAIL_____

GRANGE NAME_____LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT_____

Mail registration to:
Washington State Grange
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA 98507-1186
Fax: 360-357-3548
Email: grange@wa-grange.org

Juniors

Highlight The Activities Of Your Junior Grange


Jacob and Tessa Gwin

By Jacob & Tessa Gwin
Junior Grange Directors

Happy Harvest Grangers!

As fairs have all wrapped up for the summer, we hope you took a lot of pictures! One of the Junior Grange contests that we have at State Session is the fair booth contest. As stated in the Washington State Grange Handbook, The Junior Grange Fair Booth Contest highlights a fair booth that Juniors put together at their local fair that features the fair's theme or tells a story about the Junior Grange. This is such a great way to advertise the activities, events, and projects that your Junior Grange does.

Another great way to highlight the activities of your Junior Grange is to enter into the Community Service Award contest. This can feature any and all community service projects your Junior Grange worked on throughout the year. How did your Juniors show up for their community? What are all the different ways your Juniors are being positive members of your community? How are your Juniors representing Grange outside of their meetings and the Grange hall? We would love to see the positive impact the Junior Grangers across Washington State are having on their communities! Please consider showing off their community involvement with a Community Service Contest submission at State Session in 2027!

Another contest to enter that helps us get a glimpse of what our Juniors are up to is the Junior Grange/Junior Grange Camp Trifold project. Put together a trifold board with pictures, captions, any news articles, and/or descriptions of activities that your Junior Grange has done! This would also be a great project to promote Junior Grange camps! We have five different Junior Grange camps across the state, all of which offer different opportunities and activities for Junior Grangers to participate in. If your Juniors attended camp this year, please consider having them work on a board to put together to submit to State Grange so we can see what their camp experience was like! Our Junior Grangers, Junior Grange leaders, and Junior Grange Camp Directors and staff work very hard to create a week of fun, fellowship, and new experiences. Let's show that off!

We are looking to create more participation in some of our project categories that do not get a lot of representation. If you have questions about different projects or contests, please feel free to consult the Washington State Grange Handbook, which is located on the Washington State Grange website, or please contact us directly! We look forward to seeing all the great things our Junior Grangers were up to this summer!

Junior Connection

HUMPTULIPS JUNIOR GRANGE

Humptulips Junior Grange held their fall reorganizational meeting. Junior Grangers will participate in the Humptulips Trunk or Treat on October 31. We are making popcorn and anding it out along with a variety of candy.

Grange Connection

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Elma Grange will hold their Annual Holiday Bazaar on November 21-22 at the Grange Hall in Elma.

Hujmptulips Grange had a display at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup, placing sixth in arrangement and fourth for overall display. October started with a Garden Harvest Bingo on October 3. The prizes were bags of homegrown Yellow Finish potatoes, corn, apples, and a wide variety of squashes. We will have our turkey bingo event on November 21 with frozen turkeys as the prizes. Holiday gift bingo is on the calendar for December 5. Trunk or Treat was held at the Grange Hall on December 31. The number of food bank clients is on the rise as we served 64 families in October. The best news of the year is we made our final mortgage payment in October. We will celebrate at our Christmas Dinner on December 11 as we "Burn the Mortgage"!

Sharon Grange is hosting a Blood Drive on Wednesday, November 11, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The grange and mobile blood unit is located at 912 South Bank Road, Oakville near Porter. Individuals interested in donating blood can register at www.bloodworksnw.org - walk ins are welcome. On that same day, members are being encouraged to bring their favorite recipe and ingredients to cook and bake together in the Sharon Grange kitchen between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. The baked goods will be sold at the Country Christmas Bazaar at the Grays Harbor Fairgrounds on November 21-23, 2026. The last in the series of three Farmer's Markets was held on Saturday, September 19, 2026 with 22 vendors selling flowers, produce, crafts, handiwork, photography, and much more. For the first time one vendor brought her animals for a petting zoo. During the Farmer's Market, Grange members held a spaghetti feed. The Grange set the 2027 Farmer's Market season dates: 7/17, 8/21, and 9/18/27.

KING COUNTY

Happy Valley Grange had an informational booth at the Redmond Saturday Market on September 19. We displayed many photos of Happy Valley Grange history. Nine members took turns visiting with the public.

PIERCE COUNTY

Waller Road Grange won double Grand Champions for their display at the Washington State Fair in September with their Fields of Freedom display. The awards were for both Agriculture Exhibit and Agriculture Arrangement. In addition, the display won several days of People's Choice awards which are voted on by the general public. Many Waller Road Grange members worked on the exhibit and volunteered many hours to make this year's display a success.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Inland Grange has been building community, honoring our members, and looking ahead.

A little hard work, a lot of heart, and a community that comes together, that's what the Grange is all about. We had a great turnout for our recent Grange clean-up! Our members focused on the outside of the building, tackling several tasks before winter arrives. It may take only a small group to make a big difference, but every helping hand matters. To everyone who came out, rolled up their sleeves, and gave their time, thank you! Inland Grange appreciates you and everything you do to keep our Grange a welcoming place for the community.

It is with great sadness that we share the loss of our dear Grange sister, Lois Cummins. It was always a pleasure to have Lois at our meetings. She often arrived with awards she had earned at Grange fairs, proudly sharing her accomplishments and her love for Grange. Each year, she looked forward to attending the Washington State Grange Convention and returning with a wealth of information about the direction of our state organization.

Lois was more than a member. She was a part of the foundation of Inland Grange, helping preserve the traditions, knowledge, and spirit that make our organization special. Her dedication and enthusiasm made a lasting impression, and her presence will be deeply missed. We are grateful for the time we shared with Lois and the legacy she leaves behind. She will always hold a special place in the heart of Inland Grange.

We are looking forward to our January and February BINGO! These events are a wonderful opportunity to bring people together, enjoy fellowship, and support our community. We are asking local businesses and community partners to consider donating a prize. Your generosity helps make our events special and supports the work we do to keep the Grange active and welcoming. If your business would like to contribute, please reach out to us. We appreciate every donation and every person who helps make these gatherings possible.

Green Bluff Grange had a busy October. Our annual Chili Cookoff was held on Nov. 3. This year we had a Chef's Choice winner and three People's Choice winners. Thanks to chairs Melaine and Therese. Green Bluff will have a Community Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on November 29 at the huge fir tree on the church grounds. Sponsored by Green Bluff's Church, Grange, Growers, and Home Ec Club. The last pancake breakfast for 2026 was November 29—thanks to Lou and her crew for a successful "Breakfast" year. The Community Christmas Party will be held on December 12. Work is starting on our 2027 calendar of events.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange MEMBERS have had a busy summer! Different groups

Swauk-Teanaway Grange Hosts Hunter's Breakfast



Swauk-Teanaway Grange recently hosted a Hunter's Breakfast. The names of the three generations of ladies selling tickets are: Grandmother-Donna Carollo, Mother-Carrie Carollo Burlison, and Daughter-Sadie White.

Sammamish Valley Grange Celebrates Fall Season With Giant Pumpkin Contest At Harvest Fest





Our community celebrated the season and enjoyed a beautiful fall day recently at the Sammamish Valley Harvest Fest presented in part by Sammamish Valley Grange #286. The Grange hosted their Giant Pumpkin Weigh-In contest and attendees were invited to guess the weight of the massive gourds brought in by local farmers. The pumpkin, La Gorda, came in with a winning weight of 160.7 pounds grown by SV Grange President, Tom Quigley, with help from Luis on the Olympic Nursery Farm. The event was free, open to the public and encouraged all ages. In addition to the giant pumpkins, there was live music, apple pressing, tasty food, photo opportunities and guided tours of the Sammamish Valley Grange Heritage Garden.

(Left) Lil' Pumpkin exploring the big guys. (Right) Tom Quigley with LaGorda.

South Bay Grange Renovation Update



The South Bay Grange is pleased to report that our renovation project is nearing completion. Through grant-funded improvements, we have updated our electrical system, insulation, siding, and windows, bringing new life to our historic building. While some additional areas of rot were discovered and will require future attention, we are thrilled to see the Grange once again reflecting the character, charm, and historic spirit it was meant to embody.

A heartfelt thank you goes to everyone who contributed to this effort, especially those who worked tirelessly to secure, administer, and manage the grant project. Their dedication, hard work, and countless volunteer hours made this transformation possible.

"We're excited to preserve our Grange's history while preparing it to serve our community for generations to come."

Grange Connection

have hosted Bingo on the first Saturday of the month, from March through November. In June we supported the SFDA PeeWee Rodeo, and the SFDA Open Rodeo; Stevens County Cat Care provided a spay/neuter clinic, which was also done in July, August, September, and October. In July members rode in the annual Parade, supported the annual Showcase In the Park and people enjoyed a slice of cake at the front of the Grange building - the Camas Valley Grange had its 100th birthday in July! In July and August members purchased and donated a lot of school supplies to Mary Walker School District; some members worked on revamping the Haunted House area, which continued into September and first part of October. In September, firewood was stacked for the winter; plus homeless bags were assembled and delivered to that coordinator. Members will decorate the Haunted House, Kiddie Karnival, and Kreepy Kafé the first half of October so all will be ready to go for October 16, 17, 23, 24, and 30. Members will continue to be very busy through the first Sunday in December.

THURSTON COUNTY

South Bay Grange has been busy for the last few months and our membership continues to increase with every event we host. We had three successful Farmers Markets which were held in July, August & September. And South Bay Fire Dept. shared their knowledge of Emergency Preparedness. In October we partnered with South Bay Elementary to help with their Fun Fair and had the North Thurston FFA Chapter participate with us as well to provide games for the kids. November 14th is a Holiday Market from 10-4 and a Holiday Celebration & Open House on Dec. 19 from 10-2 the event will feature Santa and will include a food and clothing drive!

South Union Grange again co-hosted Thurston Conservation District's Fall Festival on October 3. An estimated 500+ attendees enjoyed the event. Grangers sold baked potatoes, hot dogs, chili, and beverages. Special thanks to Victor and Leonora from Fruitland Grange in Pierce County, who lent helping hands by handling South Union's Grange information table while South Union's members were busy working in the kitchen. On October 9, we held a candidates' forum where General Election candidates for Thurston County Commissioner, Clerk, and Assessor each made a presentation and answered questions from the audience. Upcoming events: Deck the Hall work party on Friday November 27 at 2 pm to put up Christmas decorations and share snacks. At 2 pm on December 13, the annual Christmas potluck celebration will be held at the hall. Membership awards and seals will be presented, there will be a Christmas carol sing-along, and a jolly man in a red suit is expected to make an appearance. Dance to live country music beginning at 1:30 on the first Saturday of every month (except October).

Violet Prairie Grange volunteers served at Puyallup Fair's State Grange booth. We also delivered assorted homemade cookies and a Thank You card in support of our local Fire Department during September's "National Firefighters Appreciation Month". We're also pleased to report that our ADA compliant handicap ramp, a local Eagle Scout's community improvement project, is in progress! Grange members voted to meet, with the exception of July & August, on the 3rd Sunday of each month year-round with a 2:00 potluck followed by a 3:00 business meeting.

YAKIMA COUNTY

Selah Heights Grange is an active participant in the Central Washington State Fair held in late September/early October in Yakima. Along with many other granges, annual the members work hard on a display in the Ag Building at the fair. This year Selah Heights Grange placed third overall and first in animation. The animation portion of the display was a moving windmill that was built several years ago by our then Master Robert Van Dyke who passed away this year and was part of the display as a memorial to him. In addition to the display in the Ag Building, the Selah Heights Grange operates the Dairy Bar during the fair selling a variety of ice cream treats and breakfast sandwiches along with an assortment of beverages. We are best known for our "Mud and Cream" – a brownie with walnuts and marshmallows baked into it, topped with ice cream, hot fudge and chopped walnuts. Many fair goers tell us buying one of those is a necessary part of visiting the fair. We are most proud of the service we provide to families who have livestock at the fair for up to 10 days. We are the only food vendor open in the morning, and the families count on us for fresh hot coffee, hot chocolate, donuts and most importantly our breakfast sandwiches to fuel their day. We have had the joy of watching 4-H and FFA kids show their animals at the fair and grow up and bring their children to the fair. We also partner with several youth organizations; having them help in the Dairy Bar during the fair and we then donate to the organization, as well as supporting the local 4-H program with donated milkshakes to those who make public presentations during the fair.

Skagit County Pomona Information Booth At The Skagit County Fair





Steve Yates and Debbie Riegel-Yates were volunteers at the Skagit County Pomona information table at the Skagit County Fair. There were several other Grange members who volunteered during the Fair, sharing information about the Grange, our activities and community services.

Thanks To Grant, Prospect Point Grange Works To Renovate Hall

Prospect Point Grange members have been working to upgrade our hall over the past year. We have installed a handicap ramp, replaced flooring in entry, gave the bathroom a face-lift and made it handicap friendly, painted the exterior and are installing new windows this past week. Most of this has been possible with a grant from the Sherwood Trust, local volunteers and our annual tri tip fundraiser dinner.







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 _____

Pomona Connection

CLALLAM COUNTY POMONA

Clallam County Pomona Grange will held their Annual Dessert Auction Fund Raiser on Saturday, November 21 at 1 p.m. at the Sequim Prairie Grange Hall. This event is a fund raiser for the Subordinate Granges in Clallam and Jefferson Counties, along with the Junior Grange Camp. At their last meeting, Cindy Kelly was reelected as Pomona Master for 2027. The meeting schedule was set for 2027.

GRAYS HARBOR/PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona Grange will meet on Saturday, November 21 at the Humptulips Grange Hall. All Granges are asked to bring the 2027 calendar of events to share at the meeting.

PIERCE COUNTY POMONA

Pierce County Pomona Grange Installation of Officers night will be Friday, December 18,2026, 7pm at Fruitland Grange. All Pierce County Grange members and surrounding County's are welcome to come and be installed in your Office for the 2027 year. Following Installation there will be a Holiday Party with games, prizes and a gift exchange. All are welcome!

THURSTON COUNTY POMONA

Thurston County Pomona Grange had a booth at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup, and received third place in both Exhibit and Arrangement categories. Kudos to the hardworking Grangers who designed and built the display, maintained it during the fair, and tore it all down after the fair ended. On September 13, Pomona's Silver Star and Golden Sheaf recognition event was held at Black Lake Grange. Black Lake did a great job cooking and serving the dinner to the big crowd. Helen Gardner gave a historical talk about the Grange, and Jarrod Gardner got the crowd laughing when he read a very entertaining essay about his adventures making peanut brittle. Election of officers was held at the October 1 meeting, and Denise McCartan was elected Master/President for 2027. A Good of the Order meeting was held at Violet Prairie Grange on October 11 to plan the 2027 Pomona calendar of meetings and events. The December 3 Christmas-themed meeting will be held at Prosperity Grange at 7 pm. A potluck dinner will precede the meeting at 6 pm and individual Granges will each be asked to provide a short holiday presentation during the Lecture program. Installation of Pomona and subordinate officers will be held on January 10 at 2 pm at South Union Grange.

Pomona Calendar

Pomona Granges are reminded to send their 2027 meeting schedules to the State Grange Office for inclusion in The Grange News.

CHELAN .....November 21 at Entiat, 10 a.m.
Lunch at Smitty's in Wenatchee at 12 pm on November 19 and December 17.

CLALLAM..... January 12 at Crescent, 5 pm potluck, 6 pm meeting

CLARK.....November 12 and December 10 at Manor, 7 p.m.

COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUM .....November 21 at Sunnyside, 1 pm potluck, meeting to follow.

EXCELSIOR .....November 21 at Greenwood Park, 10:30 am…election of officers, awards, and ornament exchange.

FERRY .....to be announced.

GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC .....November 21 at Humptulips, 10:30 am meeting, 12 pm potluck lunch. Will be election of officers.

KING .....to be announced.

KLICKITAT .....January 23 a Centerville, 12 pm potluck, 1 pm meeting

LEWIS .....to be announced.

MASON .....January 16 at The Agate, 11 am meeting, 12 pm potluck.

OKANOGAN .....November meeting to be determined

PEND OREILLE .....to be announced.

PIERCE .....November 7 at Edgewood, 10 a.m.
December 5 at Collins.
January 2 at Elk Plain.

SKAGIT .....November 4 at Skagit Valley, 6:30 p.m. with refreshments following. Will include election of officers.
December 2 at Fredonia, 6 pm potluck, 6:30 pm meeting.

SNOHOMISH.....November 21 at Granville, 10 am

SPOKANE .....November 21 at East Spokane, 10 am. Will be election of officers.

THURSTON ..... November 5 at McLane, 6 pm snacks, 7 pm meeting.
December 3 at Prosperity, 6 pm potluck, 7 pm meeting.

WHATCOM .....November 17 at Haynie, 6 pm potluck, 7 pm meeting

WHITMAN ..... November 21 at the Colfax Library. 10 am meeting, 12 pm potluck

YAKIMA VALLEY .....January 11 at Fruitvale, 11 am.

Pierce County Pomona Honors Members At Recognition Banquet

Pierce County Pomona Grange #16 held our Recognition Banquet Sunday October 11th at Collins Grange.

Guest Speaker was Brother Tom Gwin, President of the Washington State Grange and our Entertainment was Debbie Rinehart, classical pianist.

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. October 2026, Andrea Wilbur, Elk Plain Grange. August 2026, Jeff Oxborough of Roy Grange. June 2026, Karen Cockle of Riverside Valley Grange. April 2026, Kathy Warren of McMillin Grange. March 2026, Quane Scott of Fruitland Grange. January 2026, Marvin Oliver of Collins Grange. December 2025 Charles Morehead of Riverside Valley Grange.

Also, recognized for 65 years of continuous membership, Beverley Bryant and Merna West of Waller Road Grange.



60 years of continuous membership, David and Mary Bryant of Elk Plain Grange. Golden Sheaf (50 years), Janet Vahala of Edgewood Grange. Silver Star (25 years), Jennifer Oliver of Collins Grange.



Top: Grangers of the Year. Below: 65 years of membership, Beverley Bryant and Merna West of Waller Road Grange.



SAVE THE DATE!

Upcoming State Grange Events

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

NOVEMBER 9-14 ..... National Grange 160th Annual Convention at Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

NOVEMBER 11 ..... State Grange Office Closed for Veteran's Day

NOVEMBER 26-27 ..... State Grange Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER 1 ..... Grange Officer Report Form due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 2 ..... Lecturer and Family Living Zoom Meeting, 6:30 pm

DECEMBER 3 ..... Agenda Items for State Grange Executive Committee Meeting due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 6-7 ..... Executive Committee and Foundation Board of Trustees Meeting

DECEMBER 15 ..... Pomona Grange 2027 Meeting Date List due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 20 ..... Deadline for the January issue of The Grange News

DECEMBER 31 ..... Secretary Reports (Fourth Quarter) due to State Grange Office

DECEMBER 31 ..... Family Living Reports due to State FL Director

DECEMBER 31 ..... Lecturer Reports due to State Lecturer

JANUARY 6, 2027 ..... Lecturer and Family Living Zoom Meeting, 6:30 pm

JANUARY 17-19, 2027 ..... Youth and Junior Grange Legislative Experience in Olympia

JANUARY 23, 2027 ..... State Grange Convention Kick Off Meeting, 11 a.m. at the Central WA Fairgrounds in Yakima, followed by meeting at the Terrace Heights Grange Hall

FEBRUARY 23, 2027 ..... Grange Legislative Day in Olympia

2027 Convention Info

JUNE 23 - 26, 2027

138th Annual Washington State Grange Convention

at the

Central Washington Fairgrounds

(State Fair Park)

1301 South Fair Avenue, Yakima, WA 98901



2027 WA State Grange Convention Lodging Information

The 2027 Host Committee for the WA State Grange Session recommends early booking for both hotels and RV spaces. There are several other events in the Yakima area during our convention, thus the need to book early to allow better options for our Grange members. Below are some of the recommended hotels for our 2027 State Grange Convention. **Book Soon!**

HOTELS AND LODGING

AVERAGE NIGHTLY RATES ($) $99 OR LESS, ($$) $100-$200, ($$$)$200 OR MORE
POOL (I) Indoor, (O) Outdoor | **BREAKFAST** (C) Continental, (F) Full

	RATES	WI-FI	RESTAURANT	BAR/LOUNGE	ROOM SERVICE	BREAKFAST	POOL	FITNESS	PETS WELCOME
BAYMONT INN BY WINDHAM YAKIMA 509-457-4444 * wyndhamhotels.com * 1603 E Yakima Ave * Yakima	$$	X				C	O	X	X
BEST WESTERN PLUS AHTANUM INN 509-248-9700 * bestwestern.com/ahtanum * 2408 Rudkin Rd * Union Gap	$$	X				F	O	X	DOGS ONLY
OXFORD SUITES 1701 E Yakima Avenue * Yakima * book online in the reserved Grange block of rooms http://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=5416513&hotelID=106556	$$	X		X		X	X	X	
FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES 509-452-3100 - marriott.com * 137 N Fair Ave * Yakima	$$	X				C	O	X	X
LEDGESTONE HOTEL 509-453-3151 * ledgestonehotel.com * 107 N Fair Ave * Yakima	$$	X						X	

RV PARKS AND CAMPING

	# OF RV SITES	# WATER POWER SEWER	# WATER POWER ONLY	SEWER DUMP	# OF TENT SITES	SHOWERS	PETS WELCOME
CENTRAL WASHINGTON STATE FAIR PARK 509-248-7160 EXT 112 * statefairpark.org * 1301 S Fair Ave * Yakima	169	148	19		0	X	X
YAKIMA SPORTSMAN STATE PARK 509-575-2774 * parks.wa.gov	37		37	X	33		X



Mount Adams, highest point in Yakima County



Fred Redmon Memorial Bridge, Yakima County