Grangers enjoy Alaska cruise

By Chris Hamp
National Lady Assistant Steward

On Saturday, Aug. 16, 18 Washington State Grange members and Pierce the Elk embarked on a seven day cruise to Alaska aboard the MS Westerdam of the Holland American Cruise line. We left Seattle on Saturday afternoon and were at sea all day Sunday en route to Juneau.

We arrived in Juneau early Monday afternoon and had close to 10 hours to explore and enjoy Juneau. Many of us had signed up for an excursion: a trip to the Mendenhall Glacier, a tram ride to the top of Mt. Roberts or a zip-line tour through the tree tops. Popular stops included the Alaska State Capitol building and the infamous Red Dog Saloon.

On Tuesday we spent an absolutely gorgeous, picture-perfect day in Glacier Bay; blue sky, glacier blue water, icebergs, snow-capped peaks and glaciers of course! We even got to hear “white thunder,” the noise the glacier makes when it cracks.

Wednesday brought us into Sitka, the only port where we had to tender to shore. We saw many, many beautiful totem poles and learned about Sitka’s rich history.

On Thursday morning we docked in Ketchikan for six hours which went by way too quickly. There were many shops filled with beautiful handiwork of native artisans, beautiful scenery and we enjoyed watching a constant stream of sea planes coming and going.

After leaving Ketchikan it was full steam ahead for Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. We docked in Victoria for four or five hours of sightseeing on Friday evening; a beautiful sunset over Victoria Harbor, The Empress Hotel and the Parliament buildings to name a few of the sights.

Back on the ship it was time to pack our bags and be ready to disembark in Seattle on Saturday morning and return to reality after seven days of being well-fed, spoiled, pampered and entertained. Did I say spoiled and well-fed?

It was an amazing experience from start to finish, one which makes us already think about where next? Stay tuned.
was at a rented high school. In his address to the delegates, Bouck demanded the government continue wartime control of railroads as a prelude to public ownership of transportation and energy. Regarding World War I, he lamented over the “sons left us to rule the world.” He also rallied against graft and urged cooperative buying and selling.

The local press seized on the comments of his address. The Walla Walla Bulletin branded Bouck as an unpatriotic, radical Wobbly. But many Grangers had sons fighting in WWI and had bought war bonds. They were even collecting money for the local Red Cross at the convention. A janitor working for the school interrupted their meeting by saying there was a rule against taking collections in the building. Indignant, the Grangers filed out of the school singing patriotic songs while filling a hat outside with donations. Snubbing local critics, they sent the collection of $115 to the national Red Cross.

The convention carried on over the next couple of days with delegates electing Bouck as master. After the eulogy for Kegley, Ray McKaig of the Nonpartisan League made a speech regarding the League’s effect on the radical transformation of North Dakota. Reacting to the election of Bouck and McKaig in North Dakota, the Walla Walla Bulletin roundly denounced the State Grange as disloyal and un-American. The school board abruptly told the Grange they had to leave the building. Again, members left the school singing “My County Tis of Thee.” Things could have gotten real ugly there as a local vigilante mob looking to tar and feather McGaig and Bouck. Fortunately, two had slipped away.

Touring the state, Bouck continued to speak out against war profiteering. Later that year, at the Bow Grange in Skagit County, he called on increasing taxes on the wealthy to finance the war effort. He opposed mortgaging the war through the sale of Liberty Bonds and worried about a war debt that could exceed $100 billion. In the eyes of Bouck, the war was a “rich man’s war” many times over.

There were groans and loud talking at the back of the room. In Burlington, all four of Bouck’s tires went flat. It was obviously sabotage. It is speculation that the former War Department attorney from Portland was picked because of his political clout and expertise in labor disputes. This US Attorney from Portland was picked because of his political clout and expertise in labor disputes.

His organization was an unabashed mix of anti-capitalism and Christian eugenicists. They were even collecting money for the local Red Cross at the convention. A janitor working for the school interrupted their meeting by saying there was a rule against taking collections in the building. Indignant, the Grangers filed out of the school singing patriotic songs while filling a hat outside with donations. Snubbing local critics, they sent the collection of $115 to the national Red Cross.

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Service to the Grange will always be a part of my life

By Holli Johnson
Legislative Director

It is hard to believe that I have been writing this column for almost five years; this will be the hardest column I will have to write. It has been such an honor to give my perspec- tive on so many issues during this time. However, this will be my last column in this great publication as your legislative director.

As of Oct. 1 I will no longer be on staff at the Washington State Grange, and I feel that my move is bittersweet. I have had the chance to get to know so many of you and consider you my dear friends. We have had the opportunity to work on so many issues together; transportation, healthcare, land- use, taxes, the list goes on and on. As I look back I realize how much has changed and has yet stayed the same.

My decision to move on was a very tough decision. The Grange is a wonderful organization and I am very proud to have worked for such a progressive heartfelt group of people. I am not leaving the organiza- tion because of any discontent toward the Grange. My decision to leave is an oppor- tunity that will benefit my professional growth and my family. I will be working for Gallatin Public Affairs, a well-stabil- ized Pacific Northwest public relations firm that maintains a business focused bi- partisan model. I will still be lobbying here in Olympia, but will get a chance to work on various other non-lobbying businesses throughout Washington. My heart will still be ingrained in agriculture and the rural cit- izens of Washington and hope to continue my work in this area.

I am confident that the Washington State Grange will continue its profound effect on policy in Washington and the nation. The Grange has been successful through- out its 125 years and will continue to do so with or without me as your legislative director. Your success has come from you, the members. The power of this organiza- tion comes from your grassroots, nonparti- san, bottom up philosophy.

While I am leaving my position as your legislative director I am not leaving the Grange. I plan to continue my membership, because I truly believe that this organiza- tion’s commitment to the people of Wash- ington through their community service and advocacy efforts is the best organiza- tion around.

Life is about change, change sometimes is scary and uncertain, but I am embracing this new change and I hope you will too. I have no doubt, you will welcome my re- placement with the same warm and kind- ness that you welcomed you. I wish you luck and prosperity in your future.

National Grange names legislative affairs director

J. Burton Eller, Jr., Managing Director of Burton Eller Associates in Washington, DC has been appointed Director of Leg- islative Affairs for the National Grange. Eller will be responsible for implementing the Grange’s national public policy and government affairs agenda in the nation’s capital, while engaging grassroots Grange members in this process. He will represent the Grange before Congress, agencies of the Federal Government, coalitions, working groups, and other organizations. Ad- ditional responsibilities of the Director will be stakeholder management and executive affairs with advocacy, coalition building, and advocacy efforts is the best organiza-

The Grange has been successful through- out Washington. My heart will still be involved in agriculture and policy in the nation. Grange will continue its profound effect on policy in Washington and the nation.

Eller, who operates a farm in southwest Virginia that has been in his family since 1868, is looking forward to bringing the National Grange team. "The Grange is a family centric, community based organization that has had a profound effect on rural America that I’ve always admired and re-

pected," said Eller. "They were the original advocates for farmers, ranchers and ru-

ral Americans in Washington.

Happy 125th Anniversary to the Washington State Grange! Yes, I know we celebrate- ed our 125th annual convention in June, but Sept. 10, 1889 is our actual birthdate. The Washington State Grange stands alone when it comes to listing organizations which have had such a far-reaching and positive impact on this state and its citizens. Please join me in taking a moment to reflect on our amazing history as well as to re dedicate ourselves to ensuring that we continue to lead well this organization into the future.

On Saturday, Sept. 6, 2014 Chris and I had the pleasure to attend the 125th anni- versary celebration of Mr. Valley Grange, #789 in Clark County, the very first 125th an niversary celebration of one of our community Granges. The members of Mt. Valley Grange obviously take great pride in their hall as it is welcoming and beautiful, both inside and out. The anniversary committee presented a won- derful program which was very well attended by both Grangers from across the region as well as members of the community.

I am thrilled to report that once again the Washington State Grange has been recognized by the National Grange as a Distinguished State Grange for 2013-2014. A special thank you to each of the department heads and direc- tors and to every one of our Granges, members and non-members who support our programs and contests and who day-in and day-out make the Washington State Grange great! In addi- tion, we had nine community Granges receive the 2013-2014 Distinguished Grange Award: Five Mile Prairie #905 (Spokane) and Hump- tulips #730 (Gritty Harbor) who each received this award for the fifth consecutive year; additional repeat winners include Deer La- goon #846 (Island), Issaquah Valley #581 (King), McIntosh #1001 (Spokane), Mossy- rock #355 (Lewis) and Pleasant Hill #303 (Clallam). Congratulations to all of our Distinguished Granges!

Our recently concluded 7-day Alaskan cruise aboard the Holland America line was outstanding! Not only did we have excellent weather and an absolutely fabulous ex- perience, but the Washington State Grange received $1,562 from AAA-Washington for our fundraising effort toward a Grange memorial marker at theTahoma National Cemetery in Kent.

We are going to try something a little different this year and hold the annual Deputy and State Officer Conference before the holidays get started, Oct. 10-11 in Olympia. I am looking for this change to give us better attendance and a more focused approach around.

I need to announce that State Flora Miranda Panuska has informed me she has re- signed her position. Phyllis Ogden, who has held the post in the past, has agreed to fill the position until new officers are installed at our 2015 convention. I’d like to thank, Miranda for her hard work and faithful service, and ask you to do the same.

The next month or so will be a very busy time of travel for Chris and me. We have been invited to attend three separate state Grange conventions in October as the of- ficial representatives of the National Grange: Montana, Maine and Massachusetts. We are humbled to receive these invitations and treat each of them as a golden opportunity to not only share our beloved Washington State Grange with members all across the country, but to listen and to learn and to bring home the best of what Grangers are doing elsewhere. Then in November we will once again have the distinct honor of representing you as the Washington State Grange delegates to the National Grange convention in Sandusky, Ohio.

Together, we can and will make a difference!

Duane Hamp

Your Washington State Grange: 125 years young!

State Master Duane Hamp visited Granville Grange Sept. 17 to join in honor- ing 75-year member Ulrich “Babe” Scherrer. Babe’s son John spoke of his membership and his dedication to the Order. Pictured left to right are State Master Duane Hamp, Granville Master Bryan Bechler, Babe Scherrer and Po- mona Master Meta Rogers.

State Master Duane Hamp visited Granville Grange Sept. 17 to join in honoring 75-year member Ulrich “Babe” Scherrer. Babe’s son John spoke of his membership and his dedication to the Order. Pictured left to right are State Master Duane Hamp, Granville Master Bryan Bechler, Babe Scherrer and Pomona Master Meta Rogers.

Duane Hamp

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Taste Washington Day brings farm-fresh food to school

Students are back in class and the fresh food harvest is going strong, making the perfect blend for Taste Washington Day, a time to celebrate healthy eating and our state’s agriculture. On Oct. 1, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) and the Washington School Nutrition Association (WSNA) will partner with many farmers and schools statewide to feature Washington-grown foods in their cafeteria meals.

In proclaiming Oct. 1 as Taste Washington Day, Gov. Jay Inslee noted that the state’s farmers and ranchers produce nearly $10 billion in products each year, and that the National School Lunch Program encourages eating nutritious agricultural products by offering them in meals to school students.

“Taste Washington Day helps students understand where their food comes from and gives them a chance to try fresh, local food served to children. "Children are willing to try new food when it is introduced with a twist," said Kaye Wettle, school nutrition specialist and president of the Washington School Nutrition Association. “Taste Washington Day presents a great opportunity for us. In my district, with the help of the FFA students and partner farms, the students are excited to try the fresh, local food served from the salad bars and as samples in the lunch rooms.”

Visit the Farm to School program’s Taste Washington Day Web page for more information, including suggested recipes or ways to participate. Or contact WSDA Taste Washington Day coordinator Shoko Kamagari at skamagari@agr.wa.gov or 206-256-1874.

Mary Lee Rozelle, Lecturer of Camden Grange, poses in front of Camden’s Spokane Interstate Fair booth with the Ellsworth Traveling Trophy the booth was awarded.

**AN EYE ON MEMBERSHIP**

What now?

By Rusty Hunt

Membership Director

Many of us are now recovering from our local fair. All the planning that went into the fair booth and the volunteer hours spent in the Grange information booth have come to fruition. It reminds me of the Disney movie “Finding Nemo.” Remember the fish that were in the fish tank? They were always planning. Then the very last scene of the movie their plan comes fruition, they all cheer and the puffer fish says “Now what?”

Many of us in the Grange get so focused and wound up about the plans and the process that we forget that all this is lead-up to something. We forget that we got the Grange out into the public and were noticed by lots of local folks. That many people asked about the Grange or were reminded of the Grange. That we now have achieved the plan. Whether it was to raise money for the Grange or just to answer questions and make people aware of who and what we are we have accomplished it. We have made it to the “now what?”

We now have the perfect opportunity to now follow up with all those people we talked to. We now invite them to our booster night program, our candidates’ forum or even our next potluck. We can send them our newsletter and let them know that they can join and be a part of something good and positive for their community, state and country. The “now what?” is let’s build on the positive impression that we made to those that saw us at the fair.

This “now what?” syndrome is not just for after the fair but after all big events and activities the Grange does. We need to always remember to build on and take advantage of the times we do community service or have a positive event or activity at the Grange. The membership chairman should always be thinking ahead and be ready to collect names, addresses, phone numbers, email address and any other contact information so as to follow up and thank people for stopping by, participating, or even joining the Grange.

I hope that you all have had a great fair season. I got to visit lots of fairs that I have not gotten to in the past. Many of you worked at the fair, not only for your Grange, but for many Grangers volunteer at your local fair to help make the fair happen. And for that we all thank you. You know many Granges started the local fairs. We even have some Granges still putting on their own fairs. If you didn’t get a chance to be part of your local fair this year, it is never too late to start planning for next year.

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___________________________________________________________________________
Each year TwinStar Credit Union awards grants to a variety of educators throughout the Cooperative and the Classroom Cash program. Applications are accepted between Sept. 1 and Oct. 31. R. J. Reynolds is notified by December 31. Apply online at www.twinstar.org or visit any branch to pick up a printed copy. TwinStar also mails copies to each elementary school principals in all of the school districts in areas where we have branches. In 2013, 173 teachers received Classroom Cash awards. Classroom Cash awards were distributed to each county in TwinStar Credit Union’s service area - from Tacoma to Portland. Teachers used grant funds for all types of classroom enhancements from calculators, software, books, musical instruments, educational toys and games. Some teachers use the award to arrange field trips for students that would not have occurred without Classroom Cash. In 2014, TwinStar will maintain award levels that provide enough funding to make a real difference to students, the 2014 Classroom Cash program will be limited to teachers at elementary schools. Classroom Cash award winners can expect to receive $150 - $200 for your classroom. Please provide an estimate for the expenses in your application. The TwinStar Credit Union Scholarship Committee is a group of credit union volunteers that oversees the direction and distribution of TwinStar’s Classroom Cash program. Their intention is to provide funding for items that impact classroom learning and to maintain a simple and efficient application process. TwinStar Credit Union began more than 76 years ago as the Thurston County Teachers Credit Union. Although the name changed, the credit union remains committed to actively supporting education. TwinStar is a part of the Washington State Grange Cooperative and the Operational Group. The intention is to provide funding for items that impact classroom learning and to maintain a simple and efficient application process. TwinStar Credit Union began more than 76 years ago as the Thurston County Teachers Credit Union. Although the name changed, the credit union remains committed to actively supporting education. TwinStar is a part of the Washington State Grange Cooperative and the Operational Group. The intention is to provide funding for items that impact classroom learning and to maintain a simple and efficient application process. TwinStar Credit Union began more than 76 years ago as the Thurston County Teachers Credit Union. Although the name changed, the credit union remains committed to actively supporting education. TwinStar is a part of the Washington State Grange Cooperative and the Operational Group. The intention is to provide funding for items that impact classroom learning and to maintain a simple and efficient application process.
Grange Cruise
Aug. 16-23, 2014
Register now for the November 2014
National Grange convention in Ohio

Registration is open for the 1248th National Grange convention, held this year in Sandusky, Ohio. The Midwest Region states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin invite everyone to attend and enjoy the wonderful activities they have planned at the Kalahari Resort Nov. 11-15th for a “Midwest Safari.”

The easiest way to register is online at http://www.nationalgrange.org/148th-annual-national-grange-convention/.

Hotel Information
Kalahari Resort
7000 Kalahari Drive
Sandusky, Ohio 44870 www.KalahariResorts.com
Reserve your room directly with the hotel: 877-525-2427
Book by Oct. 10 for the Convention rates. From main Kalahari website
use group ID code 14022 and password 38003415.
Note: Resort fees are waived with our group rate and you must pay for the 1st night’s stay when booking. Room rates start at $108 + 12.25% tax per night.

Seventh Degree
The Seventh Degree conferral will be held during the 148th Annual National Grange Convention on Saturday, November 15th at 1 p.m. at the Kalahari Resort in Sandusky, Ohio.
The degree is free to witness for current seventh degree members.

Tentative schedule, National Grange convention

Monday, Nov. 10
Legislative luncheon $23
Registration opens
Host region welcome dinner

Tuesday, Nov. 11
Salute to Agriculture breakfast $18
Session opens at 10:30 a.m.
National Master’s address

Wednesday, Nov. 12
Delegate tour
Business session opens
Distinguished Grange award reception
Youth activities

Thursday, Nov. 13
Election of officers
General tour $20
Youth tour $20
Memorial service
Youth activities

Friday, Nov. 14
Junior Grange check-in
Youth open session
Junior tour
Installation of officers
GROW Club dinner $29
Evening of Excellence

Saturday, Nov. 15
Junior Grange breakfast
Workshops
Grange celebration banquet

On a hot Sunday afternoon in August, the Pomona burger booth at Thurston County Fair was staffed by these South Union Grangers and their family members, including a couple non-Grangers. Front row: Stacie Wendt, Lisa Wendt, Pam Mathews (with Percy the Penguin), and Christie Vintilo. Back row: Andrew Jacobson, Patty Mathews, and Daniel Robinson. Daniel is Patty & Pam’s nephew; Andy is Christie’s nephew, and Lisa is her cousin; Stacie is Lisa’s daughter.

The Grange Camper Association held the annual meeting and fun rally June 6-8 at Britton Acres in Spokane. The Spokampers hosted. Above, officers for the 2014-15 season: June Hendrickson, Secretary; Ed Armit, Vice President; Dave Johnson, Historian; Cheryl Britton, Treasurer; Ginger Korsgaard, Past President; and Vern Figg, President. Below, the group relaxes by the fire.

Your 2014 Program Handbook is Nearby

This year’s Washington State Grange Program Handbook is available through department heads and as an online publication. It is right at your fingertips at any time on the State Grange website.

Refer to the Handbook often for details about contests and programs from each Grange department. Valuable information about Grange Foundation and GIA scholarships is also in the handbook.


Download the Handbook file to your PC for ready access.
**TRUCKS & TRASH**

Volunteer of the Year. Memorial services will feature the presence of the Grange and community. The next meeting will be held Oct. 11 at Steele Lake Community Center. The public is cordially invited to the hall at 1345 Tunk Valley Rd., during the day several hundred people were vendors, with fresh goods and promote their in-home companies. There were vendors with fresh produce to those who made sauerkraut in a mason jar and gave away not only the recipe, but the jars of fresh made sauerkraut.

**SKAGIT COUNTY**

**FERRY COUNTY**

**PIerce county**

**WHAkiAKUM COUN-TY**

**SunShine Grange $129 will meet Oct. 16 at 7:15 p.m.** to vote on changing the meeting time and date to the first and third Thursdays of each month with a 7:15 p.m. start time.

** endorsed by your Grange**

These quality services have been approved for all members of the Grange in Washington State. It pays to be a GRANGER!

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These quality services have been approved for all members of the Grange in Washington State. It pays to be a GRANGER!
Lecturer team working on 2015 program

By Tom Gwin
State Lecturer

Summer is nearly over and autumn is upon us. After a summer break, Grange activity should be on the rise across the state.

Your State Lecturer Team is working to develop our program for 2015. Please be sure to get your program and contest suggestions to one of the Lecturer Team members: Jennifer Oliver, Leslie Wells, Ann Fackenthal, Marilyn Armit, Laura Lyle, or myself. We will be reviewing all of our contests and making changes in rules and classes. In addition, we will be changing our educational topics and selecting new charities to support. Your input will assist us in developing the program for 2015. We will be meeting in early October to set the new program and plan out the year’s activities.

Many of you participated in one or more of the 75 fairs across the state. Grange displays are a definite highlight for many of our fair-goers. As I walked down the Grange aisle yesterday Washington State Fair in Puyallup, I heard numerous comments about our Grange displays. I honestly say, I have never seen a more impressive set of Grange displays. From top to bottom, the enormous creativity of our Grange members on full display for the public to enjoy.

As a reminder, all Granges are eligible to enter their display in the State Grange Fair Booth Contest. Entries should be submitted in a notebook and should include pictures and a written description (300 word maximum) of your display. Youth groups completing fair displays should plan to enter this contest as they will be judged separately from the subordinate and Pomona Granges. Entries are due by Oct. 31 and mailed to my home address.

While the end of the year is down, we still have plenty of work to do as lecturers. Community service projects will continue throughout the year. We should be planning our Booster Programs and Christmas Parties. Involve as many people as you can in the process. It will make your job much easier.

Best wishes for a fantastic fall!

Camper Club News

HAPPY WANDERS

The club made a trip to the Frontier in Yakima late in August. The Sept. 16th meeting was held at Jackson in Terrace Heights.

LAVY CRAZY 8s

After the convention the club drove down to Humbug State Park in Oregon near the California border, then back up 101 into Washington. Members rode the Rogue River mail boat, Sand Dunes Frontier Guided Tour in Florence, the Oregon Coast Aquariums, lighthouses and much more. The club then went to Westport in August for some salmon fishing. The October camp-plagued schedule for Oct. 3-4 is cancelled so members can attend the wedding of Janice Knott and her fiancé Brian.

By Jerry Gwin
Youth Director

The Washington State Grange was represented by seven youth and several adults at the Western Regional Youth Conference in Missoula, Mont. Aug. 1-3. Our youth representatives were Nick Oliver, Leah Bardal, Aaron Gwin, Rachel Fricke, Amber Hall, Alexis Kudsk, and Brittnie Gordon. The weekend started with getting acquainted activities and a visit to a fair center, where the youth played laser tag and raced go-karts.

After a full day of workshops and a tour of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Museum, we held the regional contests. In the Grange jeopardy contest, Rachel Fricke (McIntosh) placed first, followed by Leah Bardal (Pleasant Hill) in second place and Nick Oliver (Collins) in third place. Rachel qualified for the national contest in November.

Nick Oliver placed second in the prepared speech contest and first in the radio spot contest. All seven youth competed in the impromptu speaking contest, with Rachel Fricke placing first in the 13-19 year old age group. Second place went to Brittnie Gordon (Rintwick) and third to Nick Oliver. In the 20-29 year old age group, Aaron Gwin (Humpitals) placed first, while Scott Hackett (Hayne) placed first in the 30 year and older age group.

Our youth led a workshop on drills and performed their drill on Saturday evening.

Looking forward to the National Grange Convention in Sandusky, Ohio in November, Leah Bardal and Nick Oliver will be our Horizon Youth Leadership Ambassador Representatives. We had three youth officer applications (Rachel Fricke, Lexie Smith of Celebration Grange, and Robin Cozad of Humpitals Grange) and are awaiting news from the National Grange to see if any of our youth will serve in that capacity this year.

We have more than 320 Youth Achievement Award applications this year. The Washington State Grange Youth Program also qualified as a Distinguished Grange Youth Program for the second consecutive year. We have had a great year and hope to top it off with excellent youth representation at this year’s national convention. Thank you to all of the youth for their hard work!

Grange Websites

www.wa-grange.org
www.wagrangenews.org
www.nationalgrange.org

And be sure to like us on Facebook!

Junior Director adds a few more convention thank yous

By Codi Titus
Junior Grange Director

Sorry for the gap in writing columns; all of my section of the proceedings are: Heather Ferguson (Collins) for her educational feature she provided to the Juniors. She brought lots of cool items for them to touch and see provided to the Juniors. She brought lots of cool items for them to touch and see presented at this year’s national convention.

I wrote my speech for her educational feature she provided to the Juniors. She brought lots of cool items for them to touch and see presented at this year’s national convention.

Every year the Malo Grange holds two yard sales. They charge $5 per booth to pay for advertising. The community eagerly participates in the event as booth vendors and buyers. It’s proven to be a good way to see fresh faces around the hall. Pictured above are Debi Smith and Rick Munford with the winner of Malo’s Grandaddy of them All giant zucchini contest at the harvest market and yard sale in September.

Congratulations to Morgan Browning who was just named the National Grange Junior Ambassador for the 2014 National Convention. Morgan will be contacting Granges about helping sponsor her trip to Sandusky, Ohio. I am hoping you will help her out. This brings up another thought: we need to start a travel fund for our Juniors. Any ideas out there? Thankfully Whatcom County helped Alexis Kudsk last year and I know that Lewis County will help Morgan this year, but I am thinking our State Junior Department needs to help also.

And WELCOME to our newest Junior Grange, North River. Also thank you to Humpitals Junior Grange for helping with the organization of this Junior Grange. I look forward to your participation in our state activities.

It has been a busy summer. I am glad I am back to school so life will settle down. Thank you all for your support and hard work. I truly couldn’t do this without all of you!

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS

August/September 2014

Bethel #404 2
Cedar Valley #306 1
Centerville #81 2
Crescent #1123 1
Crescent #1123 2
Ferndale #1051 1
Gardens City #298 1
Grays River #124 2
Lopez Island #1060 13
Main Street #953 2
Quimper #720 4
Rose Valley #953 2
Summit Park #261 1
Tobacco #390 5
The Agate #275 1
Nothing says fall better than delicious, savory comfort foods and particularly those that are a snap to prepare. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the average American spends about one hour per day engaged in meal preparation and cleanup. Want to beat the clock? Check out these solutions for busy families facing the time crunch.

A trip down the frozen food aisle is the answer for countless families when it comes to tasty dishes that deliver on quality, but don’t take a lot of time to cook. Using prepared proteins, such as fully cooked meats that are frozen (to lock in freshness), is a great way to reduce preparation time. Products such as Byron’s Fully Cooked Pork BBQ (available at Sam’s Club) are among the easiest time savers, delivering authentic, slow-smoked barbecue with the convenience of heat-and-serve. These meats that are frozen (to lock in freshness), are among the easiest time savers, delivering authentic, slow-smoked barbecue with the convenience of heat-and-serve. These items also can add an unexpected twist to the dining occasion. Kimberly Sneed, who writes about family, mealtime and more on ronsbbq.com.

A simultaneous BBQ chilli, in fact, is the perfect midweek meal for families looking for a fall-friendly dinner, without the fuss. Using a quality, fully cooked meat such as Byron’s, which is hickory-smoked, hand-pulled and expertly spiced, makes this a satisfying, stress-free meal to produce. “Dishes that are simple to prepare and easy to clean up are a mom’s dream come true,” said Sneed. “As a mother with a full-time job, I use recipes like this to save on both prep time and cleanup.”

For other savory comfort food recipes that make family mealtimes easy, visit ronsbbq.com.

**BBQ Chili**

- 1 pound Byron’s Fully Cooked Pork BBQ BBQ
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 can (4 ounces) diced green chilies
- 1 package (2 ounces) chili seasoning
- 2 cans (14.5 ounces each) chili beans
- 1 can (14.5 ounces) crushed tomatoes
- Sour cream, shredded cheese, chopped scallions (to garnish)

Thaw barbecue meat (ideally, overnight in refrigerator).

Saute diced onions over medium heat about 5 minutes, until translucent. Add green chilies and chili seasoning, stirring often. Stir in chili beans, tomatoes and barbecue. Simmer over low heat until thoroughly heated (approximately 30 minutes), stirring occasionally.

By Cecelia Hamilton

Family Living Director

The beautiful fall colors are all around us and it is hard to believe that another summer is behind us. If we look around we see the bright yellow school buses filled with our youth heading off for their exciting day at school. Let us be aware of the little ones around us as they wait for the bus and also as they are returning home after a busy day. Take the extra time to allow yourself to patiently wait in lines at crosswalks and in the hustle and bustle of daily routines.

Last issue I touched base on some of the ways we as Grangers may be able to help others and it opened up a thought process for me to introduce additional service projects that we can all possibly take part in. Many of these ideas I am sharing came to me because all of you have been sharing your very own projects in your year end reports and I appreciate that you have allowed me to pass them on to others.

I often hear that sometimes we may feel like we aren’t making a difference and we become caught up in the numbers or impacts of others as we lose sight of why we do what we do. We overlook the fact that it is not always about how many Grangers or community members are working on a project or how many hours we dedicate, but it is about the impact our project has on the community, state and nation. Sure, we want to do a whole lot of good all of the time. But isn’t it better to do one or two things very well than to do many things half as well? This past year I learned of the many small groups of Grangers accomplishing great things! I would like to mention two projects each month beginning this month just to give us all some thoughts to ponder. By the end of the year we will have many ideas to choose from just as in case we run out of ideas, which I am sure will never happen!

I am in the process of scheduling my fall conferences for Family Living, give me a call today to schedule yours!

State Grange Foundation needs your contributions

The Washington State Grange Foundation would like to ask you to consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the Washington State Grange Foundation Unrestricted Funds. Unrestricted funds consist of resources available for the various programs and administration of the Foundation which have not been restricted by a donor. In other words, the Foundation can use these funds for emergency situations and more. Contributions to the Foundation Unrestricted Funds Account are currently the greatest need faced by the Foundation at this time. Again, your donation to this 501(c) (3) is tax-deductible.

Make checks payable WSG Foundation Funds and mail to WSG Foundation, PO Box 1186, Olympia, WA 98507-1186.

The efforts of a few can make a big difference

By Cecelia Hamilton

Family Living Director

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Members of Granville Grange, including Worthy Master Bryan Bechler, Lecturer Kathleen Bechler and Musician and Community Event Coordinator Linda Hjelle, participated in "Granite Falls’ One Day" project June 14th, 2014. Everyone wants their town to look its best so several local organizations, such as the Fathers House and the Granite Falls Chamber of Commerce, have sponsored an annual event called “One Day.” The One Day event involves teams of volunteers, going to various places in the City to fix, paint, plant, repair and clean where there is a need. Granville Grange members assisted with cleaning the town’s Skate Board Park and weeding and raking the volleyball park. The weather was cool and overcast without rain, which made for the perfect weather helping out the city, meeting new people and letting people know about Grange. Members are looking forward to doing it again next year.