



WASHINGTON STATE Grange News

January 2018

Informing Grangers Since 1912

107th Year No. 1



Grange Legislative Day Set for February 6

As the holidays wind down and the legislative session kicks into high gear, the legislative department will be working to make sure the concerns and needs of our members are heard at the state and national levels.

It is proven, however, that a grass roots effort works extremely well with legislators on the hill. The best way to make this happen is to show them that the Grange is alive, the Grange is active, and we have a lot to offer the rural residents of Washington. This is where we need your help!

Grange Legislative Day is a great way to start to make this happen. This year's Grange Legislative Day will be Tuesday, February 6, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It is our objective to see the halls of the state capitol filled

with enthusiastic Grangers who want to help spread the word about the Grange and our legislative priorities. It's a prime opportunity to observe the process and to get involved in that process.

We are working to bring you the best Grange Legislative Day yet! What might be in store for the day? Grange staff will set up meetings for you to meet with your district legislators. You can sit in on senate and/or house committee meetings or watch the senate or house floor in action. You will also be able to hear from and meet some of our state officials and legislative gurus as they take time out to speak with all of us.

Our goal is to fill the halls of the capitol this year with Grangers! We

ask for your assistance in helping to make our Grange Legislative Day a success. Ask your fellow Grangers to join you, invite your youth to attend, and spread the word to anyone

interested in promoting the concerns of rural Washington. 2018 is a great year to start anew and to become involved in the Grange legislative program.

State Grange Supports NRCS Best Management Practices

The Washington State Grange Executive Committee has voted to endorse the National Resource Conservation Council to remain as the preferred state standard for maintaining and improving agricultural operations in the State of Washington.

The NRCS best management practices are field tested over an extended period of time and are science based. The NRCS standards have been used for over 75 years at all levels of government throughout the nation.

The WA State Department of Ecology (WSDOE) is in the process of writing best management practices to be used in agricultural operations in our state to replace the NRCS standards. The WSDOE has not spent an adequate amount of time field testing or using science based research to establish proven scientific data and confidence levels necessary to gain support for any changes in the current proven best practices recommendations for agriculture in our state.

The Washington State Grange encourages the WA State Department of Ecology to continue utilizing the National Resource Conservation Service best management practices and that they remain as the preferred state standard until WSDOE demonstrates that the field testing and science review of their new best management practices are comparable to the proven research spent on the NRCS best management practices.

The Washington State Grange represents agriculture and the interests of rural Washington. The Grange has 240 chapters in various communities across the State of Washington. Proposals are submitted by the local chapters to the WA State Grange for their review. The proposal on best management practices was originally proposed by the Whatcom County Pomona Grange #6 and supported by numerous Granges across the state.

February 2018 issue deadline – January 20

Community Service

Community Service:
Time To Work On Your Projects

By Yvonne Knuth
Community Service Director

Happy New Year! 2017 sure went by fast. Here we are starting a new year, Since time has gone buy so fast one is getting older without thinking about it. Some of us are starting to slow down. I know I have. Those naps in the afternoon are great.

I finally got the last thank you note from the animal society for the cat and dog donations. The counties that received the items were Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, and Thurston. One can use this as a community service project. When I took the food and other items in, the managers told me that they were low on food.

Before long your community service books will be due. I hope you have documented things you have done like food bank, clothing drive, goodie bags for Pomona and left overs to the retirement center. Our Grange project for December was to bring food for the food bank since they are low also.

Remember to nominate a fireman, policeman, and/or volunteer for the contests. See you at the February conference. Have a safe and Happy New Year.



Yvonne Knuth

Washington State Grange
2018 Leadership Conferences

This year's series of State Grange leadership conferences is set to being with the first meeting on January 19 in Whatcom County. Fifteen additional meetings will be held through January and February at various locations across the state.

The conference will include a general session for all participants, followed by break out meetings. The break out meetings will be 45 minutes each and be on a rotating basis.

State Master Tom Gwin will lead a discussion for Masters and Secretaries, while State Lecturer Leslie Wells will meet with the Lecturers and State Family Living Director Cecelia Hamilton will meet with the Family Living Chairpersons. Additional presentations will be given by Membership Director John Hamilton, Community Service Director Yvonne Knuth, and the Youth and Junior Program Representatives.

Packets of information for each department will be distributed, along with program handbooks, legislative handbooks, and useful materials for each Grange.

The complete schedule of conferences, which are open to all Grange members is as follows:

January 19 (Friday) – Laurel Grange Hall in Whatcom County, 6 p.m. potluck with 7 p.m. conference

January 20 (Saturday) – Lopez Island Grange Hall in San Juan County, 5 p.m. conference with light refreshments.

January 27 (Saturday) – Fort Colville Grange Hall in Stevens County, 12 p.m. potluck with 1 p.m. conference

January 27 (Saturday) – East Spokane Grange Hall in Spokane County, 7 p.m. conference with light refreshments

January 28 (Sunday) – Whitman County, 1 p.m.

February 2 (Friday) – Yakima County,

6 p.m.

February 3 (Saturday) – Grant County – Moses Lake area – location to be determined

February 4 (Sunday) – Okanogan Grange Hall in Okanogan County, 12 p.m. potluck with 1 p.m. conference

February 4 (Sunday) – Chumstick Grange Hall in Chelan County, 6 p.m. potluck with 7 p.m. conference

February 16 (Friday) – Manor Grange Hall in Clark County, 6:30 p.m. potluck with 7:30 p.m. conference

February 17 (Saturday) – Rose Valley Grange Hall in Cowlitz County, 12 p.m. potluck with 1 p.m. conference

February 17 (Saturday) – Ford's Prairie Grange Hall in Lewis County, 6 p.m. potluck with 7 p.m. conference

February 18 (Sunday) – McMillin Grange Hall in Pierce County, 1 p.m. potluck with conference following

February 18 (Sunday) – Sequim Prairie Grange Hall in Clallam County, 6 p.m. potluck with 7 p.m. conference

February 19 (Monday) – Stillaguamish Grange Hall in Snohomish County, 12 p.m. potluck with 1 p.m. conference

BY-LAWS CHANGES

The Black Lake Grange will be voting to changing the monthly meeting day to the 4th Thursday of each month and allowing Family Membership in our Grange. The meeting will be January 25, 2018 at 7:00 PM. All members are encouraged to attend.

Fort Colville Grange #533 will be meeting on February 3, 2018 at 2:00 PM to vote on the amended by-laws.

Lecturer's Department

Lecturer:
Are You Ready? Have You
Planned for the New Year?

By Leslie Jo Wells
State Grange Lecturer

Happy New Year to all! I hope you had an opportunity over the last few



Leslie Jo Wells

weeks to spend some quality time with your family and friends. The holiday season always seems to bring back memories of times past doesn't it? But as the new year begins, we look to the future

– what's in store for us? Has your Grange had a planning meeting to determine where you are headed in 2018? Set some goals about projects to work on? Planned some social activities? Planned a membership drive? We have a lot to consider at this time of year and we need to make an effort to involve as many of our members as possible. If people help with the planning discussion then, I believe, they'll be more apt to see the effort through to accomplishment.

In Grange, we traditionally have a Candle Lighting Ceremony at one of the first meetings of the year. I have prepared one for you that is based

on the word WELCOME and it is included in the Lecturer's Packet that will be provided at the Leadership Conferences being held in January and February. It is also available on the WA State Grange website (www.wa-grange.org) under the Lecturer's Department.

The Fair Booth Contest entries are with the judges at this time and the results will be included in next month's column. Thanks to the Granges that took the time to prepare an entry and send it in.

Speaking of preparing and sending something in – I am still waiting for your year-end reports to arrive in my mailbox. I know it is not the most fun thing to do but those reports are our way of measuring the activity that is taking place in our Granges across the state. Based on your comments, we have an indication of what's working and what isn't. They really are read and reviewed. Please send them to: Leslie Jo Wells, WSG Lecturer, 18529 State Route 203, Monroe, WA 98272. Thank you in advance!

I'll see you at the Leadership Conferences – encourage your fellow members to attend as well. I think the information being presented can be of benefit to all Grange members.

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Tom Gwin, Executive Editor

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Session Watch 2018

Stay informed about what is happening in the State Legislature. Send us your email at grange@wa-grange.org to receive our weekly Session Watch report. You can also find each weeks Session Watch on our website under the Legislative Department page at:

www.wa-grange.com/LegislativeSession.aspx

Moving? Let us know!

Old Address (label should be on reverse of this form)

New Address

Your Name

Grange Name & Number

Please mail to:
Grange News
PO Box 1186
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Viewpoint

Crossing The Horizon To Grange Growth

By Tom Gwin
State Grange Master/President

We are ready to “Cross the Horizon to Grange Growth”. Our first surge toward crossing the horizon will be a series of Grange Leadership Conferences held across the state. Your State Grange Leadership Team will be visiting 15 counties for this set of conferences. The list of dates is found elsewhere in this issue. Some of the locations may seem “out of the way” or a little “off course”. Please keep in mind that it is important for the State Grange to visit different Granges each year. At the conferences, we will be distributing program materials, packets of information, and sharing ideas. Program Handbooks and Legislative Handbooks are printed and will be available at the conferences. You may also download the information from the State Grange website: www.wa-grange.org . I hope you will take the opportunity to join us at one of this year’s conferences.



Tom Gwin

The Deputy and Pomona Master Conference is scheduled for March 16-17. I want to continue engaging the Deputies and Pomona Masters to work closer together for the benefit of all of the Granges within the Pomona.

The upcoming legislative session will occupy our interests here in Olympia. Our Legislative Lobbyist, Heather Hansen, continues to work for us and all of agriculture. Heather will represent us well as she has the experience and knowledge required of an agricultural based lobbyist. The Grange Legislative Committee, chaired by Rick Nelson, will assist in guiding our legislative department. The legislative committee will also be involved with planning and conducting our annual Legislative Day, scheduled for February 6. You can find additional materials on this event elsewhere in this issue.

The 129th Washington State Grange Convention will be June 27-30 at the Skagit County Fairgrounds in Mount Vernon. The convention Kick Off Meeting is January 21. Next month, you will find the housing information in The Grange News. I encourage you to book your room early as we are so close to the July 4 holiday weekend.

This year promised to be busy and filled with Grange activities. This is the first of our 12 surges toward the horizon that will assist us in building a brighter future for our Granges, our communities, our state, and our nation.

Legislative: 2018 Legislative Session Has Officially Begun

By Heather Hansen
Legislative Lobbyist

The 2018 legislative session began Monday, January 8. By law, it will run for 60 days, concluding on March 8. In past years, it has been very common for the legislative session to run overtime in special sessions. The speculation this year is that it will end on time.

In the November election, Senator Manka Dhingra was elected to fill the seat left vacant by the untimely passing of Senator Andy Hill. Senator Hill was a Republican, Senator Dhingra is a Democrat. The change in that one seat changed the balance of power, giving Democrats the majority in the Senate. That resulted in numerous other changes. Many Senators moved to different office locations. The Senate Committee structure changed. Agriculture was moved from the former Agriculture and Economic Development committee and added to the Natural Resources, Parks and Water committee. That new committee will be chaired by Senator Keven VanDeWege from Sequim.

Economic Develop and International Trade make up a new committee chaired by Senator Maralyn Chase from Shoreline. The Energy, Environment and Technology Committee will be chaired by Senator Reuven Carlyle from Seattle.

On the afternoon of the first day,

the Senate scheduled a hearing on SB 6091, Ensuring that water is available to support development. This bill is intended to be a fix for the Hirst Decision that limited to opportunity to drill new wells in rural areas. Ironically, the hearing was delayed because members were on the Senate floor debating new rules of procedure. The bill is expected to move.

Many new bills are being introduced every day. I will keep a bill tracking list. Several bills affecting fairs and fairgrounds are in the works. Another bill that will be introduced soon, invites the Grange to participate in a task force to study suicide prevention in agriculture.

If you are interested in watching bills progress and possibly providing input, be sure to sign up for Session Watch either on our website or by emailing grange@wa-grange.org.

Tuesday, February 6 will be Grange Legislative Day here in Olympia (see front page article for more detailed information). We are working diligently to put together a great day on the hill. I look forward to meeting many of you that day.



Heather Hansen

Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Washington State Grange Events

January 15	Secretary Fourth Quarter Reports Due to the State Office
January 21	Grange Convention Kick Off Meeting, time and location to be announced (tour fairgrounds at 3 pm)
January/February	Leadership Conferences – See schedule on Page 2
February 6	WA State Grange Legislative Day
March 16-17	State Deputies and Pomona Masters Conference
June 24-29	Camp Wooten Junior Grange Camp
June 27-30	129th Annual Session of the Washington State Grange at Skagit County Fairgrounds, Mount Vernon
July 8-14	Camp Morehead Junior Grange Camp
July 8-13	Camp David Jr Junior Grange Camp - Session I
July 15-20	Camp David Jr Junior Grange Camp – Session II
July 22-28	Camp NEWA Junior Grange Camp
August 3-5	Western Regional Grange Leaders and Youth Conference
August 5-10	Camp Cornet Bay Junior Grange Camp
Dates TBA	Camp Mayfield Junior Grange Camp

Nominations Needed For WA State Grange Memorial Hall Of Fame

The Washington State Grange is asking for Granges and individuals for nominations for the Washington State Grange Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame shall consist of past, present, and future Grangers of the Year/ Grange Families of the Year and memorial inductees per the following guidelines:

- Deceased by June 10 of prior year.
- Must have been a member in good standing of the fourth degree.
- Must have demonstrated extraordinary service to the Order or have made a unique contribution to the Grange
- Nominations can be made by any member in good standing
- Information to include but not limited to: Name of nominee, Grange name, date of death, date of membership, levels of membership, accomplishments and activities, and reason person should be honored

All nominations should be addressed to the State Grange Executive Committee and sent to the State Grange Office by February 1. A maximum of five Hall of Fame inductees will be announced at the Annual State Grange Convention.

Visit us on the web: www.wa-grange.org

Membership

An Eye On Membership: Let's Start The New Year With Enthusiasm And Communication

John Hamilton
Membership Director

Happy New Year, My last article was focused on engaging the new and younger members in the workings of your Grange. Sometimes it is difficult to turn over the reins but it can create a great feeling of accomplishment when you see members of your Grange continue to promote the current programs by adding enthusiasm along with fresh ideas. Many new ideas are available in the “Building a Brighter Future” booklet that was sent out to all Granges not too long ago. By utilizing the booklet’s suggestions along with putting your individual Granges input into action, these will surely help to make your Grange a viable part of your community.

Meetings are one of the most important parts of a successful Grange. Ideas are discussed and voted upon by all members present. Business decisions are made that can affect all members present or not. To have an informative and successful meeting with positive accomplishments, attendance is key along with communication for those members that could not attend.

Meeting times are very important! Are your meeting times for the convenience



of a few or scheduled so everyone has opportunity to attend? Are the meeting dates and times consistent with your bylaws and state Grange Roster book? Does your Grange have updated contact information to notify members of upcoming events and meetings?

Participation and communication is the key to success. Let’s reach out to members that have not attended for some time and let them know that they are missed. Stay in touch with those that cannot attend and make them feel they are still a valuable part of the Grange family.

Welcome in new faces with meeting times that accommodate those that have commitments during the day but are free during the evening or weekends. Consistency is paramount so Grange members and community can rely on dates and times to participate.

Promote your Grange by doing activities that draw the interest of your surrounding community. “An Active Grange Sparks Interest; and Idle Grange Looses Interest”.

Let’s start the New Year with enthusiasm, communication and family friendly meeting times which will generate positive participation. Let’s have a wonderful and prosperous new year.



2018 Legislative Day

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2018

Registration is \$10 per person prior to February 1, 2018
(After February 1 and day-of registration is \$15 per person)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH INCLUDED

First and Last Name

Grange Name

Street Address

City

Zip

Legislative District

Phone

Email

PAYMENT
Check (make check payable to Washington State Grange)

\$ _____ enclosed (\$10/ person)
MAIL TO:
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA 98507-1186

LODGING
Those attending must secure their own lodging. There are many hotels near state headquarters, and Grange members get a discount through the National Grange at Choice Hotels. To take advantage of this discount, book your room through their website at choicehotels.com or by calling (800) 288-2847 and using promo code #00211660

Washington State Grange 924 Capitol Way S #300, Olympia, WA 98501 1-800-854-1635 www.wa-grange.org

Visit us on the web:
www.wa-grange.org

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth: Grow, Prosper And Plan - Make 2018 A Great Year

By Jerry Gwin
State Youth Director

We have enjoyed another great year for the State Grange Youth Department.

Jacob Gwin was named 2018 National Grange Youth Ambassador at the National Grange Convention in Spokane in November. Jacob has already travelled to Pennsylvania for Youth Team Orientation and is looking forward to representing the state and national Granges at various events during the year.

We can be proud of the five members of the National Grange Youth Officer Team from our state: Brittney Oliver, Andrew Kudsk, Morgan Browning, Sophia Ogden, and Joey Brennenman. All were fine representatives of our state and will continue to become more involved over the next few years. Now is the time for potential youth officer team members to be gathering information for their applications and completing the trivia challenge. Keep in mind that the 2018 National Grange Convention will be in Stowe, Vermont.

The Washington State Grange was named as a Distinguished Grange Youth Program for 2017. Congratulations to all the youth who participated in our programs and contributed to this distinction.

Putting 2017 behind us, our focus will now turn on to 2018 youth activities.

The Youth Program Handbook is ready and will be distributed at the Grange Leadership Conferences. Please pick up your copy there. Applications for national awards are available on the national website: www.nationalgrangeyouth.org.

The Annual Youth Weekend will be held in April this year at the Lewis & Clark State Park Environmental Learning Center. With this excellent facility, we are returning to the same location as last year. The park is located near Toledo, approximately 12 miles south of Chehalis. Registration material will be available later this month.

Looking back, we have had a great year. We can only hope to grow and prosper and plan for another excellent year of youth programs in 2018!



Jerry Gwin

Junior Grange News



(left) Humptulips Junior Grange members provided goody bags for 200 clients at the Humptulips Food Bank. Junior Grange members filled the bags with peanuts, an orange, and Christmas candy.

Humptulips Junior Grange provided the bingo prizes and raffle items for a bingo event on December 16. Proceeds will go toward Junior Grange activities. The Christmas Party was held on December 29 with bowling at Ocean Shores Lanes followed by a pizza dinner. We will have another bingo event in February to help pay for our spring and summer activities.

San Poil Junior Grange held their Holiday Christmas party recently where the members made ornaments and Reindeer candy canes. The juniors decided what upcoming activities will be happening and are looking forward to the Junior Baking activities in January. Some of the juniors have submitted their National Grange Pen Pal registrations. They had a fun time looking over their many Merit Badges that were recently purchased and discussed making their Merit Badge Sashes. Their recent holiday sales table and gift wrapping table were a big success. A pizza dinner was held for their holiday party. They meet again on Jan. 22nd at 3pm.

Washington Home

Family Living:
New Year, New Opportunity

By Cecelia Hamilton
Family Living Director

A brand new year is at our fingertips and with a new year comes the perfect opportunity to reflect on our Grange programs. The Family Living program is filled with many fun and educational activities as well as the Pomona Contests and Community Service opportunities.



Cecelia Hamilton

January is the perfect time to begin planning your Pomona Contests. Have you chosen the location and dates? If you award Pomona Contest ribbons I suggest you contact the State Lecturer soon to put your ribbon order in. Here are a few more thoughts; do you have your contest in the same location every year? Or do you invite other Granges to host the contests? In some cases the location options are limited, so perhaps same location is not a choice but how about allowing other Granges the opportunity to set up, make copies, provide nourishment, and possibly assist in recruiting judges and helpers? By sharing the responsibilities that go with the contests all have an enjoyable experience.

Your CFL Year-End reports are due now. Please mail them to me at 14 Haley Lane, Republic WA 99166. I appreciate you taking the time to fill out your report. It is a necessary tool for me to evaluate our program and to hear from you how you feel in regards to the various areas of the program. You can find the CFL Year-End Report on the State Grange website at www.wa-grange.com. When on the site go to the

Departments, Family Living, and then to Forms.

January is also the perfect time to work on the most recent returned activity to Family Living, your CFL Yearly Notebook. It was awesome seeing so many at our State Convention in Ocean Shores last year! I know this year will be even better. Many years ago this activity was sponsored by National Grange and proved to be a highlight of the year! Currently we award the top 3 Notebooks entered. They are judged at State and are displayed for others to gain ideas and enthusiasm. I encourage you to use your year-end reports to help you in remembering your many activities, newspaper clippings, service projects, flyers, awards, and don't forget to put plenty of pictures in for all of us to see! They are a fun way to scrapbook your Granges history and to share with future generations. Feel free to keep previous years in the back of the notebook and have a progressive scrapbook. Time frame for activities is Calendar year, Jan. 1st through December 31st. Be sure to identify the Grange on the front cover as well as the current CFL. Previous Front cover pages can be inserted into the notebook as a page separating the new year from the past year. Have Fun!

In closing I would like to invite all CFL's to join us at the upcoming Leadership Conferences beginning in February. I look forward to sharing our program with all of you. I would like to say welcome to your Family Living Team for 2018. They include Eileen Moebius and Diane Williams for Southwest District, Vicki Loomer and Rosie Knott for Northern District, Helen Berg and Margaret Morris for Central/Eastern District. I thank them for their service and look forward to working with them and you all. Happy New Year Everyone!

Simple Ideas To Make Healthy Eating Easier In The New Year

(Courtesy of Family Features)

When your family is transitioning back into a regular routine in the new year, it's the perfect time to recommit to healthy eating habits throughout the day. Getting the whole family on board may be easier than you think – just keep the focus on flavor and fun.

If you're short on ideas to jumpstart better family eating, try these tips:

Keep it simple. Busy families often rely on the convenience of boxed meals, but you can get the same easy, delicious meal in a much healthier way. Everything cooks in one pot for easy clean-up, and this Cheeseburger Mac recipe swaps ground beef for leaner ground turkey. Not only is this an easy weeknight dinner, but leftovers can be packed in a thermos for lunch on chilly days.

Cheeseburger Mac

Recipe courtesy of Produce for Kids

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 pound lean ground turkey
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 cup mini sweet peppers, chopped
- 1 1/2 teaspoons paprika
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 1/2 cups water



- 1 cup milk
- 3 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 1/2 cups whole-grain dry macaroni
- 1 cup shredded low-fat cheddar cheese

In large skillet over medium high heat, heat oil. Add turkey, onion and peppers. Cook 7-10 minutes, or until turkey is cooked through.

In small bowl, mix paprika, sugar, salt and chili powder. Add to turkey and stir. Add water, milk, tomato paste and pasta. Mix well. Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes, or until pasta is cooked and liquid is absorbed. Remove from heat and top with cheese.

4-H Club Makes Presentation To Brighton Park Grange



The "24 carrots" 4-H club meets in the Brighton Park Grange (#163) Hall. To show their appreciation, Genny and Marty Taylor presented Master John Weatherbie with a check for \$150, proceeds from their winnings at the Thurston Co. Fair.



Barberton Grange Donates Sleeping Mats For Homeless

Five plastic sleeping mats were recently taken to the Clark County Veterans Assistant Center as part of Barberton Grange's Community Service Project. These mats will be given to homeless veterans in the area. Thank you Bev McGuire for working so hard on this project. She has made six mats so far using approx. 6000 plastic grocery bags. Great project!!!



Grange Exchange

Let us help you buy or sell with a classified ad!

Cost per word	one month	4 or more
Regular	\$.30	\$.25
Boxed	.60	.50
Centered or reversed text	\$1.50/line	
Minimum for one month	\$3.75	

Word count: A hyphen, space or / creates separate words, except for phone numbers which count as one word.

Deadline: First Monday in each month. Ads must be paid in advance. (Tear sheets not sent for classified.)

Ad copy (or attach copy) _____

No. words _____ @ rate \$. _____ x # months _____ = \$ _____ (enclosed)

Washington Granges Making An Impact



San Poil Grange held their annual Christmas Breakfast with Santa and Country Christmas Bazaar. The funds earned from these make it possible for their annual Senior Scholarships.



Members of Catlin Grange presented a Christmas check to the local Salvation Army in Longview, WA. Pictured are Beverly Gilmore head of the Christmas Center, and Catlin members Barbara Wilburn, Tena Hedges who presented the check from Catlin Grange to Captain Sierra Dwelle, and Marin Wilburn.



Santa attended the Christmas Celebration at Eagle Cliff Grange, and brought smile to the children's faces. Photo by Jan Diamond.



South Union Grange held their annual Christmas Dinner and Party on Sunday, December 10, with a carol sing and an appearance by Santa. Pictured: Master Patty Mathews greeted members and guests.



Fruitland Grange accepted a beautiful wreath at our December 11th meeting donated by Sky and Betty Schroeder of S&B Kangen Water.



Sequim Prairie Grange held their annual Family Christmas dinner on December 10th. 85 friends, neighbors and members enjoyed good food, great music by our own Brian Ellard and a special visit for Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus.

... And Celebrating The Holidays



Swauk-Teaway Grange presented a check for \$1,200 to the Putnam Centennial Center for challenged families in upper Kittitas County. Pictured is Donna Carollo, chair of Family Living, who presented the check to Susan Klein, Center director. Those dollars were raised at the Grange's Hunters Breakfast in October through our raffle sales and from member donations. Susan and her group of volunteers will use these funds to provide food baskets as well as gifts for children.



Thurston County Pomona members made Gingerbread structures for the December 7 Christmas meeting and celebration, held at at McLane Grange.



Spring Hill Grange celebrated the holidays with a Potluck Dinner and Awards Night. Spokane County Deputy State Master Janice Radmer presented membership awards to Guy and Ruby LaRue, who have been members of Spring Hill Grange for 70 years.



Barberton Grange held a Christmas Dance with music by Steel and Velvet. Thank you Santa for the visit. It was great to see everyone!



Green Bluff Grange held their Community Christmas Party on December 9th. Santa (aka Jim Lahde) and his helper (aka Pat Tomper) gave out Santa bags to the children.



The children, along with the adults and members of Catlin Grange, had a fun time at the Catlin Grange Christmas Party. Santa read the children a Christmas story. The children also had fun with a cake walk, fishing for gifts and trying to break the piñata.

Grange Connection

CLALLAM COUNTY

Sequim Prairie Grange held our installation of our 2018 Officers at our December business meeting. Dec. 2nd was our 39th Handmade Craft Fair. 40 vendor tables were set-up along with our bake table and lunch in the kitchen. Dec. 10th we held our annual Family Christmas dinner. 85 friends, neighbors and members enjoyed good food, great music by our own Brian Ellard and a special visit for Mr. + Mrs. Santa Claus. A Happy and Healthy 2018 to all our fellow Granges.

CLARK COUNTY

Barberton Grange will host a Valentines Day Sweetheart Dance on February 14, 7-9:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person and music is provided by the Steel and Velvet Band. Join us for a fun night of great music and dancing. Bring your favorite snack.

COWLITZ COUNTY

Silver Lake Grange has meetings scheduled for January 11 and 25. Craft night will be held at the hall on January 17.

FERRY COUNTY

San Poil Grange members held their annual Christmas Breakfast with Santa and Country Christmas Bazaar on Dec. 16th. It was a great success. The funds earned from these make it possible for their annual Senior Scholarships. The San Poil Ladies Auxiliary met December 18th at the Grange where a holiday gift exchange and cookie swap was held. The ladies honored visitor was the newly elected San Poil Master Ted Reitz. The ladies were joined by several new faces and a discussion was held on what the Auxiliary is and does. The election took place and Newly elected officers include Mae Butler as President, Sharyn Cochrum as Vice President and Shawna Shaw as Secretary/Treasurer and Molly Reitz as Sunshine Committee. Their next meeting is January 22nd at noon. Bring a favorite dish to share for lunch.

GRANT COUNTY

Moses Lake Grange meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at the Monroe House Retirement Care Center.

GRAYS HARBOR/PACIFIC

Humptulips Grange provided Christmas baskets for 60 families. Due to a generous donation from Hoquiam High School Football, we were able to purchased additional items for the food baskets to go along with the TEFAP foods and items from Northwest Harvest and Coastal Harvest. The Grange held their Christmas Party on December 8. Bingo was on December 2, with a special bingo to benefit the Junior Grange on December 16. Bingo events resumed in January. The next event is February 3. The Annual Fund Raising Auction is scheduled for April 7.

ISLAND COUNTY

Deer Lagoon Grange is asking for help to make 2018 a great year for Grangers. 1.) The 129th Washington State Grange Convention will be in Mt. Vernon at the Skagit County Fairgrounds in June. 2.) The Whidbey Island Fair will be in July. We need help with outreach to the school

system, like our annual distribution of Dictionaries to third Grade Students. And we really need help in our effort to make our 113 year old building a better Community Center.

South Camano Grange continues to hold their monthly pancake breakfasts on the last Saturday of each month except for December. The Breakfasts are from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Pancakes, French Toast, and Biscuits and Gravy per order plus scrambled eggs, sausage and a slice of ham. Orange juice, and coffee and tea, are served.

KING COUNTY

Sallal Grange is hosting an Electronics Recycling Event on Saturday, January 13th from 9am to 5pm at the Grange Hall in North Bend at 12912 432nd Ave SE, North Bend, WA. Open to businesses and individuals from all over Washington. Details are available on our website: <http://sallalgrange.org/recycling>. If you have question please reach out to us here: recycle@sallalgrange.org

KITSAP COUNTY

Olalla Grange invites you to come out and join us for our Saturday Dinner and Bingo events. Come early, we start selling at 5 PM, eat a great dinner and have some fun playing bingo. Bring a friend or two. See you there!! Our meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

KITTITAS COUNTY

Swauk Teanaway Grange is holding our annual Scholarship Dinner on Saturday, February 10th. This supports our Grange Scholarship for graduating seniors in Kittitas County. Doors open at 5:00 pm, with an Italian style dinner served at 5:30 pm followed by a delicious homemade dessert. Tickets are \$20 and 100% of your ticket goes to our Scholarship Fund due to generous donations. Call Claire at 509-857-2580 or Gerry at 509-607-9470 for tickets.

KLICKITAT COUNTY

Goldendale Grange will be preparing a meal at the Methodist Church for the Community Soup Kitchen during the second week of January.

LEWIS COUNTY

Adna Grange will hold our Potato Bake on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at Adna Grange, from 11:30am-1:30pm. \$7.00 includes: baked potato, toppings (chili, butter, sour cream, cheese sauce, chives, bacon, tomatoes, broccoli, shredded cheese, jalapeños, black olives, ranch dressing), plus salad, dessert, and beverage. Adna Grange is located at 123 Dieckman Road, Adna, WA. New Feature: The Washington Old Time Fiddlers Association District 9 will be having a meeting and acoustic music jam at the Adna Grange from 10:00am to 1:00pm in the Main Hall. They are a non-profit organization that is all about learning, playing and sharing old time acoustic music in a family-friendly environment. All instruments are welcome, including vocals, but must be acoustic, no electric instruments or amplification is allowed. The meeting and jam are open to the public and all ages and abilities are welcome from beginner to professional. New members are welcome and you do



Sequim Prairie Grange 2018 Officers pose for a photo at their December business meeting.

not have to be a musician to join. Come and enjoy some old timely music whether you sing, dance, play an instrument or just tap your toes. For additional information about the Adna Grange jam or WOTFA contact Christie Easter at 360-791-5185 or www.WOTFA.org

OKANOGAN COUNTY

Twisp Valley Grange meetings are the second Wednesday of each month. We start the potluck at 6 pm sharp and the meeting starts at 6:30. We would love to have you come to a meeting and see what we are about.

PEND OREILLE COUNTY

Fertile Valley Grange donated coats to local students that didn't have a warm winter coat! We also donated thesauruses to local 5th graders! The thesauruses are theirs to keep! This is something we do every year.

PIERCE COUNTY

Fruitland Grange draped our charter for Cynthia Cunningham, a 40 year member. Brother William Lee recorded interviews of officers and members at our Open House in October. You can listen to the podcast at www.speaker.com/user/keeba/grange. A quilting group will begin meeting at the Grange on January 18th at 10:30am. Anyone interested in learning to quilt is welcome to join us. Food donations collected at the recent Craft Sale/Flea Market were given to Angel One in Puyallup. Additionally, hygiene items were also donated. We would LOVE for you to come visit us at a meeting. We meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of most months at 6:30 upstairs in the Grange. Hope to see some of you there.

SAN JUAN COUNTY

Lopez Island Grange will have a winter market at their hall on Saturday, January 20. The Grange will host the State Grange Leadership Conference later that evening. The first potluck and square dance of 2018 was held on January 6.

SNAKE RIVER (WALLA WALLA COUNTY)

Burbank Grange hosts the USDA food give away on the first Wednesdays, the quilters meet on the first Mondays, senior lunches are served on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Our Grange meeting is the second Wednesday of each month with a

6:30 potluck and a meeting to follow.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange had Past Washington State Master Duane Hamp install our newly elected officers on January 2. Officers are: Master Mike Beckman, Overseer Jim Lahde, Lecturer Terri Saak, Steward Tom Long, Chaplain Brandy Donough, Treasurer Priscilla Davis, Secretary Francine Mihalasky, Gatekeeper Herb Batterson, Ceres Jennifer Lucas, Pomona Vi Houske, Flora Tatum Holestine, Executive 1-year Louise Ratcliffe, Executive 2-year Brandy Donough, Executive 3-year Doug Davis, and Family Living Kate Lyons-Holestine. Jr. Grangers decorated the grange hall at their Nov. 28 meeting. We had our 2018 planning session on Dec. 19 while enjoying the yummy snacks and our annual gift exchange. First big event was a Spin-In on January 20. We had a swing dance rental in November and a wedding in January. Community Booster night was held on January 13. Sunday breakfasts continue in January on the last Sunday of month. Our grange was very festive during the Christmas season for the many events at the Grange. Green Bluff Grange members wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Spring Hill Grange began our December meeting with a potluck dinner. After the dinner we were entertained by Sister Janice Radmer with poems and a quiz. Following that we had a gift exchange and then Spokane County Deputy State Master Janice Radmer presented membership awards to Guy and Ruby LaRue, who have been members of Spring Hill Grange for 70 years. Other members of our Grange who were unable to attend the meeting will be sent their awards are: Judy Clouse - 55 yrs; Mabel Hummel - 60 yrs; and Loretta Durheim-65 yrs.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange held their annual Christmas Dinner and Springdale area residents are still talking about the great door prizes that were handed out that first Sunday in December, especially those supplied by CV awesome Jr. Grange! Our Jr. Grange is active and growing. Camas Valley Grange hopes to add a Youth Grange in the very near future. This month the CVG will host a "Craft Day" on January 18, starting about 11 am and going until at least 4 pm for those that want to

Grange Connection

visit while knitting, crocheting, sewing, or beading on their own projects. There will be information available on several charity projects for those interested. It has been cold in this area, yet theGrange members still do their best to attend the monthly meetings.

THURSTON COUNTY

South Union Grange held their annual Christmas dinner and party on Sunday December 10. After feasting on a delicious holiday dinner, members and guests retired to the main hall where,

following a greeting from Master Patty Mathews, there was a Christmas carol sing-along. The crowd was singing “Jingle Bells” when out at the door there arose such a clatter that all heads turned to see what was the matter. It was a jolly fellow dressed in red and jingling bells, with a big bag, and a hearty “ho ho ho.” Children sat on Santa’s lap and received gifts. Everyone went home well fed and filled with holiday spirit. Special thanks go to Mat Jackmond who attended the party incognito. Dance to live country music the first Saturday of every month

from 7-10 pm (\$6 per person). Meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7 pm. Their next meetings will be on January 21 and February 18.

WHATCOM COUNTY

Haynie Grange meets the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Their next meetings will be held on January 12 and January 26th.

Laurel Grange meets the second Saturday of each month. Their next meeting will be held on January 13th.

Lummi Island Grange meets on the

first Wednesday of each month. Their next meeting will be held on February 7th.

North Bellingham Grange meets on the first Thursday of each month. Their next meeting will be held on February 1st.

Rome Grange is meeting on January 10th and February 14. Their Pancake Breakfasts are held the first Sundays of each month. Their next Pancake Breakfast will be held on February 3rd.

Ten Mile Grange meets the second Thursday of each month. In January, the meeting date is the 11th, in February, the meeting date in Thursday the 8th.

Pomona Connection

COWLITZ COUNTY

Cowlitz County Pomona Grange will be held at Catlin Grange, 205 Shawnee Street, Kelso, WA on January 20, 2018. 6:30 PM Potluck and 7:30 PM meeting. Catlin Grange Pomona Project will be for Grangers to bring Supplies for the Women's Shelter in Longview, WA.

FERRY COUNTY

Ferry Co. Pomona new officers will be installed at the January which will be hosted by Eagle Cliff #712 in Curlew.

GRAYS HARBOR/PACIFIC

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona will meet on January 13 at the North Willapa Harbor Grange Hall. Plans will be made for the bake sale to be held in conjunction with the quilt show at the Elma Fairgrounds on February 17-18. Plans will also be made for the spring Grange contests and

a basket bingo to be held in March.

PIERCE COUNTY

Pierce County Pomona doors are always open for Grangers. Next meeting to be held January 6th at 10:00 AM at the Ohop Grange Hall. 41608 Mtn. Hwy East, Eatonville.

Pierce County Pomona Grange schedule for 2018:

- January 6 - Ohop Grange, 10:00am
- February 3 - Collins Grange, 10:00am
- March 3 - Fruitland Grange, 10:00am (CFL auction, potluck)
- April 7 - Waller Road Grange, 10:00am (degree work, potluck)
- May 5 - McMillin Grange, 10:00am
- June 2 - Marion Grange, 10:00am
- July 21 - Elk Plain Grange, 4:00pm
- August 25 - Roy Grange, 10:00am
- October 6 - Edgewood Grange, 10:00am (elections)

November 3 - Riverside Valley Grange, 10:00am

December 1 - Waller Road Grange, 10:00am (installation, potluck)

Contest Judging:

- baking, candy, and canning: March 2, Fruitland Grange, 9:00am
- sewing and needlework: April 6, Waller Road Grange, 9:00am
- craft and photography: May 4, McMillin Grange, 9:00am

SPOKANE COUNTY

Reminder that Spokane County Pomona changed our meeting months to February, May, August and November for a trial period. The day of the month does not change. It is still the third Saturday at 10:00 AM. The place to be announced.

SNAKE RIVER

Snake River Pomona Grange will meet on March 17, 2018.

THURSTON COUNTY

Thurston County Pomona met on December 7 at McLane Grange for their Christmas celebration dinner and

meeting. During the Lecturer’s program, Granges presented poems, music, and readings. In honor of Pearl Harbor Day, McLane Grangers shared the story of Henry A. Long, Jr., brother-in-law of one of their members, and his account of his experiences on the USS Oklahoma in 1941. Judy Hoffner, visiting from Green Bluff Grange, presented information on the Ag in the Classroom program. Several members made gingerbread structures to display at the meeting. The next Pomona meeting will be held at Brighton Park Grange on February 1.

WHATCOM COUNTY

In 2018 we will be starting a trial period of beginning the Pomona Meetings at 7:00 pm with the Lecture Program being the first item on the agenda, before the Opening. If no Program is scheduled, will go right into the Opening.

Our February Pomona Meeting will be on the 20th at Ten Mile Grange. Baking Contest Entries will be accepted from 10am to noon. Potluck at 6:00 with Auction of Baking Contest items to follow. Meeting will start at conclusion of Auction.

Pomona Calendar

All Pomona Granges are requested to send their list of 2017 meeting dates, times, and locations to grange@wa-grange.org for inclusion into this calendar.

CLALLAM	January 24 at Sequim Prairie, 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7:30 p.m. meeting
COWLITZ	January 19 at Catlin, 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7:30 p.m. meeting
EXCELSIOR	January 20 at The Valley, 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m. potluck, Installation of Officers
FERRY.....	January 16 at Eagle Cliff; 6 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. business meeting and Installation of Officers.
GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC	January 13 at North Willapa Harbor, 10 a.m., potluck at 12 noon.
KING	January 13 at Happy Valley, 10 a.m., potluck at 12 noon
KITSAP	January 19 at Olalla, 7:30 p.m.
KLICKITAT	March 3 at Mountain View, 12 p.m.
MASON	January 20 at The Agate, 11 a.m., 12 p.m. potluck.
PIERCE.....	January 6 at Ohop, 10 a.m. February 3 at Collins.
SNAKE RIVER	March 17 at Kennewick Valley, 10 a.m.
SNOHOMISH	January 20 at Tualco, 10 a.m.
THURSTON.....	January 13 at Black Lake, Installation of Officers. February 1 at Brighton Park, 1 p.m.
WHATCOM.....	January 6 at Rusty Wagon Restaurant, 9 a.m., planning meeting. February 20 at Ten Mile, 7 p.m.
WHITMAN.....	January 20 at Eddy’s Restaurant in Colfax, 11 a.m. No-host lunch.



Photo of the 2018-2019 Whatcom County Pomona officers. Front Row: Dorothy Hanson (Lummi Island) - CFL, Clysta Hawks (Laurel) - Flora, Shelly Macy (Ten Mile) - Pomona, Edith Ward (Laurel) - Ceres. Middle Row: Carol Wilson (N. Bellingham) - Treasurer, Bekki Weston (N. Bellingham) - Musician Penny Munford (Laurel) - Lectuer, Gary Brandt (Ten Mile) - Gatekeeper, Melanie Hackett (Haynie) - Lady Asst. Steward, Don Stone (Haynie) - Ex Comm. Back Row: Russ Weston (N. Bellingham) - Secretary, Richard Hackett (Haynie) - Steward, Oren Gaskill (Ten Mile) - Overseer, Lew Gaskill (Ten Mile) - Chaplain, Scott Hackett (Haynie) - Master. Not in Photo: Andrew Kudsk (Haynie) - Asst. Steward, Norma Hackett (Haynie) Ex Comm, Frank Barnes (Haynie) Ex Comm.

National Grange News

Congratulations To Our New Seventh Degree Members

The Washington State Grange was well represented at the conferral of the Seventh Degree during the 151st Annual Session of the National Grange, held in November in Spokane. Congratulations and welcome to our new Seventh Degree members:

- **Goldendale #49:** Maryanne Eneyart
- **Pleasant Hill #101:** Alejandro Cisneros, Annie Scott
- **Whelan/Ewartsville #114:** Barney Buckley, David Buckley, Angela Gibson, Laura Lautenslager, Alanna Rae Pogue
- **Pine Grove #115:** Duane Mickelson, Gayle Mickelson
- **Sunnyside #129:** Lori Ogden, Sophia Ogden
- **Kellogg Marsh #136:** Sheyenne Koen
- **Moran Prairie #161:** Anna Chelf Fielding
- **Haynie #169:** Gracie Eacret, Andrew Kudsk
- **Newaukum #198:** Mary Jane Fox
- **Meridian #265:** Elizabeth Bradley, Margaret Bradley, Anthony Merwin
- **Garden City #280:** Warren Lewis
- **Green Bluff #300:** Herbert Batterson, Doug Davis, Priscilla Davis, Jim Lahde, Tom Long
- **Mossyrock #355:** Morgan Browning, Alexandria Greene

- **Matlock #357:** Maggie Ogg
- **Stranger Creek #374:** Lula Schroder
- **Williams Valley #452:** Ralph K. Allen, Alicia Ogle, Haley Ogle, Hannah Ogle, Rollo Seamus Riordan, Sara Nan Riordan, Donna Russell, Briana Shrute
- **Calispel #500:** Jessica Driver
- **Malo #679:** Jon Chrysler, James Craw, Sylvia Craw, Cheryl Kennedy
- **San Poil #684:** John Hamilton Sr.
- **Humptulips #730:** Joey Brenneman, Xander Burgess, Courtney McCormick, Skylar Zaborac
- **Olympic View #774:** Kendal Harner, MacKenzie Raney
- **Inland #780:** Dennis McGurk
- **Buena #836:** Joyce Meeker, Kendra Meeker, Lauren Meeker, Lawrence Meeker
- **Camas Valley #842:** Lois McKinney
- **Deer Lagoon #846:** Tori Johnson, Gary Kay, Tarey Kay; Kenneth Schillinger, Marta Schillinger, Christopher VanWetter
- **McMillin #848:** Victoria Bower, Robert Conley, Jarrod Gardner, Justin Gardner
- **Granville #857:** Bryan Bechler, Kathleen Bechler
- **South Union #860:** Anthony May, Sheila Ryan
- **Fern Prairie #866:** Kari Haan, Thomas Haan

- **Collins #893:** Jennifer Oliver
- **Rimrock #942:** Brittney Gordon, Jazlynn Webb, Jordanne Webb, Nickolas Webb, Terrell Webb
- **Horseshoe #965:** Adam Lierman, Brady Lierman, Isabella Lierman, Naomi Lierman
- **LaDow #995:** James Woomack
- **McIntosh #1001:** Paul Fricke, Rachel Fricke
- **Molson #1069:** Gloria Engelbretson

- **Fertile Valley #1094:** Janice Smith
- **Crescent #1123:** Elizabeth Hogan, Steve Singhose
- **Hazel Dell #1124:** Janet Bellcoff, Roy Bellcoff, Colleen Relyea, Betty Toops, Elmer Toops, Carol Zellmer
- **Moses Lake #1151:** Jonathan Pittman

National Grange Legislative Update: View From The Hill: Looking Back and Ahead

By Burton Eller
National Grange Legislative Director

Health Care: A surprisingly high number of people signed up under ObamaCare during the recent enrollment period. Health care professionals suggest that a core group of people wants health insurance even though it is a smaller and less functional program than originally hoped for. The zeal for repealing the law appears to be fading somewhat in Congress. Congress might actually take bipartisan steps to mend the law in 2018 starting with efforts to stabilize insurance markets.

Legislation authored by Senator John Thune (R-SD) and signed into law by president Trump will add skilled nursing facilities to the Rural Health Care Program. Skilled nursing facilities provide the same services that are traditionally housed at hospitals but are often remote from doctors and sophisticated laboratory and testing facilities. This new program addition will provide vital health care services in remote areas with little or no access to many types of doctors and specialists through high-capacity broadband connectivity.

Our nation's opioid epidemic shows no signs of abatement in the drug crisis facing Americans according to a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The age-adjusted rate of overdose deaths in 2016 was 21 percent higher than 2015. The age-adjusted rate of drug overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids other than methadone (drugs such as fentanyl, fentanyl analogs, and tramadol) doubled from 2015 to 2016.

As we reported previously, a Morning Consult study sponsored by the American Farm Bureau and the National Farmers Union found that,

74% of farmers and farm workers say they have been directly impacted by the opioid epidemic

3 in 4 farmers say it is easy to access large amounts of opioids without a prescription

Only 1 in 3 rural adults say it would be easy to access drug addiction treatment

The AFBF and NFU have now launched a campaign to provide access to information and resources that can help struggling farm families and rural communities; see the website, www.FarmTownStrong.org.

National Grange president Betsy Huber released a statement in December commending the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on their proposed Medicare Part D rule aimed at driving down out-of-pocket costs at pharmacies. The rule will make it harder for Pharmacy Benefit Managers to pocket rebates and

discounts intended for consumers and help ensure these savings actually get to patients.

Tax Reform: Legislation to reform the tax code is now history and becomes part of the law of the land. For tax payers, there appears to be some winners, some losers and a draw for others. The majority of new tax provisions will sunset (expire) at some point over the next ten years. If the economy stalls, the sunset provisions will likely kick in. If the economy improves, certain tax code provisions can be extended by Congress.

The agriculture community is generally pleased with the net results of the tax bill. Of course, not all agricultural producers and small business owners are affected the same way by tax law changes. The best advice is to consult your accountants and tax advisors.

Here are some key provisions of the new tax law for Grangers:

Individual tax rates - Seven brackets, lower rates for most taxpayers (10%, 12%, 22%, 24%, 32%, 35%, 37%)

Personal standard deduction - Doubled to \$12,000 for single and \$24,000 for married joint filers

"Pass-through" business income tax treatment for farms, self-employed workers and small businesses - Deduction allowed for 20% of "pass-through income, up from 15% deduction for most tax payers, which will likely lower farmers' effective tax rate

Estate or "death" taxes - Exemption doubled from \$5.1 million to \$11.2 million for individuals and \$22.4 million for qualifying couples

Child tax credit - Doubled to \$2,000 credit for each child.

Mortgage interest deduction - Threshold lowered from \$1,000,000 to \$750,000 for new mortgages

State and local tax deduction - Deduction capped at \$10,000

Corporate tax rate - Lowered to 21% from 35%

Cash accounting - Cash accounting is preserved for agriculture and small business

Section 179 expense - Deduction raised from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 indexed for inflation; allows a producer to expense rather than depreciate capital purchases of machinery, property (except structures) and software

Net operating losses (NOL) - Allows two years carryback for farms

Capital gains - Unchanged (up to 23.8%)

The National Grange neither supported nor opposed the tax bill as it moved through Congress. The priority for the Grange was to assure the best tax advantage possible for Grange members.

Deer Lagoon Grangers Join 7th Degree



Six members from Deer Lagoon Grange attended the 151st National Grange Convention where they received the Conferral of the 7th Degree. They are: Kenneth and Marta Schillinger of Langley; Gary and Tarey Kay, Tori Johnson, and Chris Van Wetter, all of Clinton. The other Deer Lagoon Grange members to attain the 7th Degree are Chuck and Judy Prochaska of Greenbank (in Sparks, NV in 2007). The total number of 7th Degree Deer Lagoon Grange members, now eight, is the highest number in at least the last quarter century. The Grange also has two Sixth Degree, 5 Fifth Degree, and 5 Fourth Degree members.



APRIL 15-18, 2018

Plan to take action!

Set your 2018 travel schedule to include a trip to Washington, D.C., for the National Grange Legislative Fly-In during our sesquicentennial celebration year.

Join Brothers and Sisters from around the nation to promote Grange policy priorities and get advocacy training so you can better present your community's concerns to elected officials and their staff.

Our schedule includes issues briefings, agency meetings, and Hill appointments to meet with our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

The Fly-In is one of the greatest ways members can engage in our advocacy and remind legislators and regulators of the unique grassroots way in which our policy is developed. Participants help tell the story of an organization still relevant and vibrant that speaks from America's hometowns.

Event Hotel
Quality Inn Tysons Corner
1587 Spring Hill Rd., Vienna, VA

In The Spotlight

In The Spotlight: Profiles of Grange Legacy Families

The Kestner / Dickey / Drolz Family

The Kestner/Dickey/Drolz family began their Grange membership in 1920 at Quinault Grange in Grays Harbor County. Since that time, over 30 family members have been involved with the Grange. Thus far, total family membership is over 1020 years.

First Generation: Anton Kestner joined Quinault Grange #729 as a charter member in March of 1920. Anton was elected as the first Lecturer of the Quinault Grange. A few months later, Josepha Kestner joined her husband as a member of the Grange.

Second Generation: Anton and Josepha’s daughter, Josephine Kestner Dickey joined the Quinault Grange in 1929. She was joined by her husband, David Dickey, as a Granger. Josie served as the Chaplain of Quinault Grange for over 30 years. When Quinault Grange closed in the 1980’s, her membership was transferred to Humptulips Grange. Josie was a Grange member for over 70 years.

Third Generation: Josie’s daughters, March and Frances, each joined Quinault Grange as teenagers. March Morris remained a member for nearly 50 years until the 1990’s. Frances Drolz dropped her membership after marrying, and later reinstated into Humptulips Grange in the 1970’s. She served several years as the Lady Assistant Steward of Humptulips Grange. We do know that additional third generation members of the family were involved as Grange members in Oregon, California, and Colorado, but do not have specifics on their membership.

Fourth Generation: Frank and Frances Drolz had nine children. Of the nine children, six would joined the Humptulips Grange in the 1970’s. Five are still members of the Grange today, including several who are officers in the Humptulips Grange.

The eldest of their children, Davona Gwin, joined in 1972 with her husband, Bill. Davona is the current Master of Humptulips Grange and of the Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona Grange. She is a past officer of the Washington State Grange. Davona also serves as the director of the Humptulips Grange Food Bank.

Carol and Luther Brownrigg also joined the Grange in 1972. Carol currently serves as the Treasurer and Luther as the Assistant Steward of Humptulips Grange. Carol is responsible for the hall rentals at Humptulips and chairs the Annual Grange Auction, which is used to pay the annual mortgage on the Grange Hall. Carol and Luther are volunteers with the Grange Food Bank.

David and Brenda Drolz originally joined Humptulips Grange in the 1970’s,

later dropping their membership and reinstating in the members ten years ago. David and Brenda are both volunteers with the Grange Food Bank. David also does much of the maintenance at the Grange Hall. David is currently on the Grange Executive Committee and Brenda is the Ceres. Together, they work on gathering numerous items for the Annual Grange Auction.

Robert Drolz joined the Grange in 1972, while his wife, Pauline, joined a few years later upon their marriage. Robert is currently on the Grange Executive Committee.

Frank and Cindy Drolz both joined in 1972 and remained members throughout the remainder of their lives. Barbara Bishop was an original member of Quinault Grange, later transferring to Humptulips Grange here she remains a member.

Fifth Generation: The fifth generation of the family includes Tom Gwin, Jerry Gwin, Bill and Tracey Brownrigg, Sandra Stewart, Jim Brownrigg, Frank McClintick, and Casey Drolz. Tom is the current State Grange Master and the Secretary of Humptulips Grange. Jerry is the State Grange Youth Director and Gatekeeper at Humptulips. Bill serves as one of the bingo callers for Grange fund raisers and Tracey is the Grange Lecturer. Tom, Jerry, Jim, and Frank all served as State Grange Youth Ambassadors, while Tom and Jim were members of the National Grange Youth Team. Jim was elected as the first Master of the Humptulips Junior Grange and was later the Sixth Degree Acting Master at the 1994 State Grange Convention in Hoquiam.

Sixth Generation: The sixth generation of the Kestner/Dickey/Drolz family includes several current members of Humptulips Grange. Ikaika Brownrigg, Shayna Brownrigg, Aaron Gwin, Kennedy Gwin, Jacob Gwin, James Stewart, and Corrie Stewart each joined the Grange as teenagers. Ikaika’s wife, Amy, joined upon her marriage. Aaron is the 2014 National Grange Youth Ambassador and currently on the Grange Executive Committee. Kennedy is the 2017 National Grange Youth Ambassador and the Lady Assistant Steward. Jacob is the current National Grange Youth Ambassador and serves as the Steward. All members of this generation assist with displays at the county fair, the fund raising auction, and food bank activities.

Seventh Generation: The seventh generation of Grange membership is coming soon. Lillianna Brownrigg will be eligible for membership in the Humptulips Junior Grange in just a few years.

The Roe/Hack Family

Note: The following are corrections to the article about the Roe/Hack Family that appeared in the December 2017 issue of the Grange News on Page 19.

A few very important people and items should be included in this story. They are as follows:

- Ernest Roe’s mother, Ella Roe Adams, was a charter member in the forming of Goldendale Grange #49, making her the earliest generation of the Roe family in the Grange.
- In 1925 Ernest Roe was appointed as

insurance agent for the Grange Fire Relief Association. At that time, insurance was offered by the Grange.

- Candy Roe Hack assumed the Goldendale insurance agency in 1976 and remained the agent until her retirement in 1997.
- Ronald Roe took his father’s place on the Board of Directors until his retirement in 1986.
- Dan R. Hack, Candy and John’s son, holds the 5th generation involvement in this Grange family, having been a member over 20 years now.

2017 NATIONAL GRANGE LEGACY FAMILY AWARDS (FROM WASHINGTON STATE)

Steffen Family, Tualco Grange

Ogden Family, Sunnyside Grange

Ferguson/Frymire/Rauth Family, Sunnyside Grange

Lefever Family, Goldendale Grange

Ferguson Family, Waitsburg Grange

Roe/Hack Family, Goldendale Grange

Martin/Cummins Family, Fertile Valley Grange & Inland Grange

Fricke/Schendler Family, McIntosh Grange

Kestner/Dickey/Drolz Family, Humptulips Grange

More than 80 families were recognized for their deep roots in the Grange during the 151st Annual National Grange Convention. The program was unveiled as part of the Grange’s 150th birthday, as a way to honor those families with five or more generations involved as Grange members.

The Martin/Cummins Family

Submitted By Sherry Cummins

The Martin-Cummins family - 6 generations in the Grange.

1st Generation: R.H. and Ida Andrus were members of Fertile Valley Grange #1094 in Pend Oreille County in the 1960 and 1970's.

2nd Generation: Gail & Hazel Martin were members of Fertile Valley Grange #1094 in Pend Oreille County for over 60 years. Gail joined Edgemere Grange in Idaho on October 5, 1934 as a charter member, but dropped out because of hard times. He & Hazel joined Freeman Lake Grange outside of Priest River, Idaho in 1943. He served as Master there a couple of years. In 1947 the family moved to Elk, Washington and demitted in 1948 to Fertile Valley Grange #1094 in Pend Oreille County. Gail was Master of Fertile Valley and Pend Oreille County Pomona #29 for many years. He was appointed Washington State Grange deputy and served for many years. Gail enjoyed entering the Talent contest and could be counted on for a song at any grange meeting. Gail and Hazel were on the Fertile Valley degree teams with Gail as the Master & Captain for many years. Gail was also on the Pend Oreille County 5th Degree Team.

3rd Generation: Lois and Jim Cummins were members of Fertile Valley Grange #1094 in Pend Oreille County. Lois was the Master of the Fertile Valley Juvenile Grange and joined the subordinate in 1952. Lois just received her 65 year pin last year. Jim was master for several years. Jim and Lois were on the Fertile Valley degree team along with the Pend Oreille Co. Pomona 5th Degree Team. Lois was the Lecturer of Pend Oreille County Pomona for several years.

4th Generation: James and Sherry

Cummins were members of Junior Grange at Camp Heyburn and Twinlow and joined Fertile Valley Subordinate Grange as soon as they were old enough. James is still a member at Fertile Valley. They both were State Grange Prince and Princess during the 1970's and represented Washington State at the National Grange convention during their reigns. James and Sherry were on the Fertile Valley Grange degree teams. Sherry served as the Pend Oreille County Pomona Master for 6 years and was the Master for the Pend Oreille County 5th degree team. Sherry was appointed as Washington State Grange deputy by Past State Master June Hendrickson. Sherry is currently a member of Inland Grange in Spokane County and Greenwood Park in Excelsior Pomona-Stevens County. She is also the secretary of Inland Grange and Excelsior Pomona in Stevens County. She is currently serving on the State Lecturer's committee.

5th Generation: James Robert Cummins, Jared Cummins, Jacob Cummins and David Rice all attended Bear Paw Junior Grange Camp and joined the Junior Grange there. They all joined Fertile Valley when they were old enough. David was on the Rose drill team for the National Grange convention in Spokane in the 1990's. David was on the Fertile Valley Grange degree team.

6th Generation: Madison Hazel Rice Joined Junior Grange at Camp NEWA in 2017.

The Martin/Cummins family won the Washington State Grange Talent contest in the Family talent division and traveled to Peoria, Illinois to perform at the National Grange convention with 3 generations Gail, Lois, Sherry & James. A 4th generation was added to the entry in the late 80's with Gail, Lois, Sherry and David competing at the Sedro-Wooley State Grange convention.

Overall our family enjoys the Grange and it is our life.

Cowlitz County Pomona Presents Golden Sheaf / Silver Star Awards



Golden Sheaf and Silver Star presentations for Cowlitz County Pomona were recently held at Catlin Grange and the following members were recognized for there time in the Granges. Left to Right 25 Years- Arnold Brent (Rose Valley Grange #953), James and Francine Olds (Silver Lake Grange #105) not pictured Jack Hedges(Catlin Grange #199), 40 Years- Marvin and Barbara Wilburn (Catlin Grange #199), 50 Years- Florence Ogden and Rex Odgen (Sunnyside Grange #129).

Skookumchuck Grange Displays Pie Design Quilt Block At Hall



Skookumchuck Grange finally has our Quilt Block up and displayed at our Grange. We decided on the pie design because the ladies of our Grange are famous for baking them. The Skookumchuck Valley and farms provide us with the ingredients needed. We wish to added to the Quilt Trail so others can enjoy our beautiful valley.

GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION (Seattle, Washington)

NOTICE OF 2018 ANNUAL POLICYHOLDERS' MEETING

The Annual Policyholders' meeting of the Grange Insurance Association will be held on Monday, March 19, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Grange Insurance Association, 200 Cedar Street, Seattle, Washington 98121.

All Grange Insurance Association policyholders are welcome to attend.

Signed at Seattle, Washington this 14th day of December 2017.

Rodney A. King, CIC, AFIS
Corporate Secretary
GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

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Claims Representative

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