



WASHINGTON STATE Grange News

May 2021

Informing Grangers Since 1912

110th Year No. 5



East Oakville Grange Hosts Easter Egg Hunt

East Oakville Grange hosted their 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 3. Nearly 100 kids looked for the thousands of hidden eggs on the baseball field next door to the Grange Hall. The event included a variety of prizes and a bicycle raffle. Following the egg hunt, a taco and spaghetti feed was held as a fund raising event.



JUNE 2021 issue deadline – MAY 20th
Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org



Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming State Grange Events

Due to Covid-19, many scheduled events are either cancelled or postponed. Please call prior to the event to confirm.

- MAY 15 State Session Credentials Form and Committee Preference Forms due to State Grange Office
- MAY 24 Resolutions due to the State Grange Office (for consideration at this year's business meeting)
- MAY 26 Q & A with the State Master Zoom Meeting, 7 p.m.
- MAY 27 State Grange Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom
- JUNE 1 Grange Community Service Reports Due to State Grange Office
- JUNE 1 Pre-Registration for the State Grange Session Opens to Non-delegates
- JUNE 15 Last Day to Pre-Register for the State Grange Session
- JUNE 21 State Grange Executive Committee Meeting
- JUNE 24-26 132nd Annual WA State Grange Session at Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Port Townsend and the Bee Hive Grange Hall, Wenatchee
- AUGUST 6-8 Western Regional Grange Leaders and Youth Conference, Boise ID

Grange Camper Clubs

CAMPER ASSOCIATION CANCELS 2021 FUN RALLY

It is a disappointment but the officers of the Camper Association decided to wait until 2022 to hold our Business meeting and Fun Rally. It will be held at the Armit's place on June 3rd-5th 2022. More information later.
-- Ed Armit, President



GRANGE REVIVAL

JULY 20-25, 2021
STURGIS, SOUTH DAKOTA



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
GRANGEREVIVAL.COM

Lecturer's Department

Lecturer Contests – Yes We Are Having Them!



Leslie Jo Wells

By Leslie Jo Wells
State Grange Lecturer

Happy Springtime! I don't know what the weather's been like in your area but here in Monroe we just had 7 beautiful days of no rain. Makes a body want to be outside and get hands in the dirt. For many of us not being cooped up feels wonderful but you do what you have to do. Speaking of being cooped up – I hope you used some of that time working on your entries for the Lecturer contests. As you are aware, we did not have State level contests in 2020 because of the pandemic. This year we are in catch-up mode.

The State level Arts & Crafts and Photography Contests will be held

this fall. The time frame for eligible entries is from your 2019 Pomona contest through the Pomona contest of this year – 2021. So, we're covering a two year timeframe. Entries are the Purple Ribbon entries from your Pomona Contest. If you are the Pomona Lecturer, please make sure you fill out and send me the Purple Ribbon Winners Report that was in your Lecturer packet. I will use that report to make the entry tags that will be used for the State contest. Info for mailing: Leslie Jo Wells, 18232 201st Ave SE, Monroe, WA 98272. If you have questions,, call me at 360 306-0905.

The contests will be held at Fruitvale Grange in Yakima county in October. Here's the schedule:

Friday, October 15 -
9 AM – 3 PM Check-in entries;
11 AM Judging starts

Saturday, October 16 -
9 AM – 12 Noon Judging completes and Display set-up
1 PM – 4 PM Open House
5 PM – 7 PM Check-out entries

I hope to see many of you in Yakima. If you can't make it but you have entries please find someone that can bring your entries for you.

There will be no Talent Contest this year. That means you have an extra year to get your act together so you are ready for 2022.

State Grange Proceeds With Contests To Be Held In October

In anticipation of being able to gather in larger groups later this year, the State Grange Master met with the department directors to proceed with planning a contest day in October. The contests will be held on October 15-16 at the Fruitvale Grange Hall in Yakima.

The schedule for this event is tentatively set at:

Thursday, Oct 14 – set up at 2 p.m.

Friday, Oct 15 –
9 am to 3 pm – entry check in;
11 am – judging begins;
6 pm – close for the evening.

Saturday, Oct 16 –
9 am to 1 pm – continue clerking and displaying;
1 pm to 4 pm – open house;
5 pm to 7 pm – check out entries and clean up.

Plans also include an agricultural tour in the Yakima area on Saturday morning for those not involved with judging. The Central Washington Ag Museum is suggested as a starting point.

Additional details will be announced by each of the department directors and at our June Business Meeting.



Session Watch 2021



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

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• Tom Gwin, Executive Editor •

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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
Olympia, WA
98507-1186

President’s Message

Join The Bandwagon To Grange Growth

By Tom Gwin
State Grange
Master/President

One year ago, I had an appointment to meet with a group of individuals who were interested in reorganizing Orchardvale Grange in Yakima County. Shortly after agreeing to meet with this group, the pandemic hit and our state was shut down by the governor. We forced to put off the reorganizational meeting. Nearly one year later on February 27 of this year, we held a zoom meeting with those interested in reorganization. The meeting was successful and membership materials were forwarded to this new group. I am pleased to report that we have since received the completed reorganizational application and Orchardvale Grange #334 is now active after 15 years of dormancy. There are 14 charter members in this newly reorganized Grange. We will continue to guide and assist our new members for the next several months.

In the month of March, our Community/Subordinate Granges reported a total of 63 new members in 16 different Granges. In the month of April, 15 Community Granges reported a total of 97 new members. Those numbers reflect the interest in our organization and the support of Community Granges across our entire state. Each Community

Grange is different and works to meet the needs of the community in which they serve. This also demonstrates the willingness of potential members to join us for wholesome family oriented programs. Those Granges who are continuing to work to meet the needs of our communities will see an increase in membership as this pandemic eases its grip on our state. If your Grange

We can only grow and attract new members if we take the time to meet regularly and conduct activities that will make a positive impact upon our communities and our citizens.

-- Tom Gwin

hasn’t met or done any activities, now is the time to move forward and join the bandwagon on the way to Grange growth. The Grange is a great product and an easy sell. We just need to continue working to enhance our communities and strengthen our families.



Tom Gwin

Also in the month of April, we had 41 new Junior Grangers. We are please to have received a charter application for the reorganization of Addy Junior Grange. We hear another JG charter application is on its way to our office. That will make three new Junior Granges this year alone..... and all of them are in Stevens County! Congratulations to those from Stevens County who are providing the leadership to enhance the opportunities for the youth of your communities.

We have leads on the possible reorganization or revitalization of several other Granges, as well. Stay tuned over the next month as we follow up on those leaders and continue expanding into new communities across the state.

These situations are examples that the Granges of Washington State can and will grow. But, we can only grow and attract new members if we take the time to meet regularly and conduct activities that will make a positive impact upon our communities and our citizens. I hope you will join with us in taking the steps necessary to join our bandwagon to Grange growth!

Legislative

Legislative Session In The Home Stretch



By Heather Hansen
Legislative Lobbyist

Heather Hansen

As of this writing, the legislative session is in the home stretch. Legislators are still negotiating the budgets, taxes and which of three carbon bills they want. Hopefully, all of that will be decided before April 25 which is the last day of the regular session. If they don’t get it done they will have to come back for special session.

Carbon (Climate change)

One of the biggest issues remaining is addressing climate change. The House’s preferred method is through a low carbon fuel standard which would require most fuel sold in Washington to be blended with biofuel to reduce its carbon intensity. The Department of Ecology would be charged with creating a program to limit the aggregate, overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, per unit of transportation fuel energy, to 20 percent below 2017 levels by 2035.

The Senate’s preferred method of addressing greenhouse gas emission is through a cap-and-trade program. Let’s start with the fact that the bill is sixty pages long. The bill report describing how it would work is thirty pages long. It states in part, that the Governor shall establish a governance structure to implement the state’s climate commitment to provide accountability for achieving the state’s GHG emissions limits. The Governor’s office must develop policy and budget recommendations to the Legislature necessary to implement the state’s climate commitment by December 31, 2021. Typically, the legislature develops programs rather than the Governor’s office.

The Department of Ecology must develop annual allowances for green house gas emissions. Entities that release greenhouse gases must purchase allowances through an auction. Proceeds from the auction will go into a special account. Certain industries that are emissions intensive and trade-exposed, will get free allowances. These include aerospace product and parts manufacturing, wood products manufacturing, food manufacturing and many more.

For a third option, some legislators prefer a carbon tax. Others adamantly oppose a carbon tax. While we are on the subject of policies that increase the cost of fuel, don’t for the 10 cent per gallon gas tax increase included in the Senate version of the transportation budget.

One way or another, it appears you will all be paying more for gas in the future. But don’t worry, you may not need gas after 2030. E2SHB 1287, which has passed the legislature, establishes a goal that all publicly and privately owned passenger and light duty vehicles of model year 2030 or later sold, purchased, or registered in Washington state be electric vehicles. This gives Washington the most aggressive state goal in the U.S. for moving to an all-electric future and it puts Washington five years ahead of California’s 2035 target.

Capital gains tax

Both the House and the Senate assumed passage of ESSB 5096, which creates a capital gain tax, in their budgets. Last month I wrote about capital gains being an income tax therefore likely unconstitutional in Washington State. There is another issue. The original bill exempted the sale of farmland. It was amended in the Senate to exempt most real estate, except that, the new tax would apply to the sale of real estate held by anyone with less than a 51% interest in an LLC, partnership or corporation. A lot of farmland is held by these entities. For example, say Smith Family Farms is owned by an LLC where three Smith brothers each own 33.3%. The oldest Smith brother sells his share to his son. That sale is taxable.

The House amended the bill again to fully exempt all real estate sales. We have worked hard to get the Senate to understand this nuance and why it is important. By the time you read this, the issue will probably be settled one way or the other.

Broadband

It has been a good session for rural broadband. Two bills passed allowing public entities to provide retail broadband access in rural areas. This should provide more options for those who do not currently have adequate access. The bills were not without controversy. Many rural legislators opposed both bills. A third bill allows broadband to be placed in the right-of-way of limited access highways.

ESHB 1336 authorizes a public utility district (PUD), port district, town, small city or county to provide retail telecommunications. This bill would not ensure the unserved will get served first. Public entities would be able to selectively pick where they want to provide service.

2SSB 5383 authorizes a public utility district (PUD) or port district to provide retail telecommunication services in an unserved area as long as no other service provider objects. A service provider who objects, must demonstrate that it will provide end users with speeds of at least 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload.

ESHB 1457 makes it the policy of the state that limited access highway rights-of-way be used to accommodate the deployment of broadband facilities as a critical part of the state’s infrastructure. Authorizes the WSDOT to have its contractors install broadband conduit as part of road construction projects.

Next month I’ll cover the new state budget. You will be amazed and surprised at some of the items included in the budgets.

Community Service

The Most Needed Items

By Heather Ferguson
Community Service Director

I had a conversation with a dedicated volunteer who helps the itinerant and homeless individuals in a large city. Her organization provides food, clothing and personal items to these populations. She mentioned that often times she has empty shelves, especially now, which is the same all over the country. The good thing is, our Granges are already collecting many of the items on her list. When I told her what we collected she was impressed with our Granges generosity.

Here are some of her most needed items:

Toiletries- shampoo, body soap, razors, tooth paste and brushes, deodorant, washcloths, small hand sanitizers, combs, baby or body

wipes, band aids, Women’s sanitary products

Clothing Items- hats, gloves, jackets, blankets, socks, scarves

Emergency Food Items- protein or granola bars, non-condensed soup in cans, cheese or peanut butter crackers, canned stews, tuna and crackers, Ensure type drinks, Sports drinks

Misc. Items- Notes of Friendship (i.e. Thinking of you, Praying for you), candy, books, gallon sized zip lock bags

In response to this conversation, my Grange gathered or bought items to put together 150 “Blessing Bags”. They included shampoo, body soap, tooth paste and brush, razor, washcloth, band aids, sanitary products, friendship notes and a handful of hard candy in a large zip lock bag. I was told that they were

all handed out in just a few days. I encourage you to do something similar or donate your collected items in your area or a nearby metropolitan area.

It has been a while since we have been able to gather the “Keep Washington Warm” and toiletries gathered at your Granges. Instead of storing it in your hall or hauling it to our October Department Contests (see other articles), please take note of the weight or count of the items you have and donate them to a charity in your area. I would then love to know what you donated, the weight and to whom. If you cannot find a home for them I am more than happy to take them and find a good home.



Heather Ferguson

Membership Corner

Welcome New Members

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS

April 2021

	# Joined	Jr. +1
603 ADDY.....	30	27
Duane Johnson, Luke Johnson, Adelyn Jackson Briella Gates, Joshua Sperling, Heather Sperling Dennis Bartlett, Carol Bartlett, Eleora Dasko Heather Friess, Wyatt Friess, Natalia Collier Selisha Payne, Ted Birkliid, Cindy Birkliid, Finley King Alissa Ebert, Rylan King, Mason Ebert, Travis Phelps Renate Phelps, Lane Phelps, Rylee Andrews Keziah Colvin, Maddie Maxwell, Doug Lambert Bonnie Lambert, Linda White, Nathaniel Payne Kristina Payne		
646 DRY CREEK.....	5	
Josh Borte, Joe Reynolds, Amie Reynolds William Paquin, Terri Paquin		
148 EAST SPOKANE.....	2	
Lindsay Urso, Tairra Brandon		
26 ELMA.....	1	
Scott Bondurant		
556 KENOVA.....	1	
Jessica Kile		
407 LINCOLN CREEK.....	2	
Tracy Redmon, Charles Redmon		
1001 MCINTOSH.....	1	
Ellie Roibal		
164 MINNEHAHA.....	1	
David Marston		
98 MT VIEW.....	3	
Charlie Kitchings, Sue Kusch, Barbara Bailey		
334 ORCHARDVALE.....	14	
Ramon Reyes, Alejandra Munoz, Lisa Valencia Naomi Valencia, Candy Arroyo, Fantasia Reyes Bobby Saiz, Pedro Armenta, Juan Correa Monica Silva, Kimberly Silva, Manuel Andrade Joel Rasmussen, Jose Juan Alvarez		
702 ROY.....	19	11
Matt Marshall, Jessica Marshall, Athena Marshall Michael Lindsay, Holly Lindsay, Tristan Lindsay Robert Burwell, Johathan Pierre, Kenisha Pierre Olivia Pierre, Orastasy Pierre, Patrick Nelson Jolene Alpert, Marian Sova, Ashley Sova, Mary Sova Robert Sova, Randy Chambers, Lori Chambers		
105 SILVER LAKE.....	1	
Nikki Benjamin		
1005 STEPTOE GRANGE.....	12	
Spencer, Scholz, Geraldine Scholz, Sarah Therien Colton Therien, Amanda Ronstadt, Jose Ronstadt Ben Cochran, Taylor Cochran, Cody Claussen Allison LaRose, Shannon LaRose, Steve Doak		
1048 THE VALLEY.....	1	3
Jennifer Dixon		
1111 WALLER ROAD.....	4	
Garrett Hedrick, Crystal Schmidt, Aaron De La Torre Cebra Schmidt		
	# Joined	Jr. +1
TOTALS.....	85	41

How Can You Help Grow Your Grange?

What enticed you to join the Grange? Do you share your joy of the Grange with family and friends? Do your peers know what the Grange is and what it has to offer them? Do you share with non-Grange members the exciting things your Grange is doing for the community?

These are all great questions to contemplate as you think about growing your Grange. There is no better time than the present to start talking about the Grange. Now more than ever, people want to feel closer to their communities and help those around them. The Grange is the perfect organization for the whole family to join.

During the pandemic, we have seen a surge in people of all ages, planting their first garden, learning home canning, build a chicken coop and raise chickens, pick up a paint brush and learn to paint, learn a new form of exercise or dance, etc. The list could go on and on but what I notice most is people are wanting to be more self-sufficient in their own home or neighborhood and they want to be closer to their communities as well. This is the perfect time for Granges to invite those neighbors in. The Grange has many things to teach them, and they may just teach us a few things as well.

Families are flocking to the Grange for these very same reasons. We are seeing a large growth in teen membership as well as Junior membership. Granges are reorganizing their Junior Granges as the demand for

more family-oriented activities become more and more important. It is important for us not to forget to invite those young families in. What better way to raise a family

then to raise them in the Grange! Take a moment to really think about the questions presented here and ask how you can help grow your Grange.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following Grangers for brining in 3 new members into your Grange. You will each receive the membership t-shirt with our mission statement.

Debbie Harbin – Addy #603
Teri Carlson – Addy #603
Cindy Kelly – Dry Creek #646
Betty Garrison – Roy #702
Michael Lindsay – Roy #702
Ruth Olin – Mountain View #98

Congratulations to the Grangers who have brought in 5 or more new members into your Grange. You have each won a \$25 Amazon gift card for every 5 new members brought in.

Chuck Prochaska – Deer Lagoon #846– 4-\$25 Amazon Gift Cards
Debbie Harbin – Addy #603– 3-\$25 Amazon Gift Cards
Betty Garrison – Roy#702– 1-\$25 Amazon Gift Card
Michael Lindsay – Roy #702– 1-\$25 Amazon Gift Card
Kurt Schmidt – Waller Road #1111– 1-\$25 Amazon Gift Card

Contest runs from January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2021.
There are many members close to receiving their membership t-shirt.
So, let's get out there and invite our friends and neighbors to join the Grange!

Business Meeting Info

Resolution Writing Tips

Resolutions are not hard to write!

One of the real benefits of membership in the Grange is the opportunity that membership gives to every Grange member to have an effective voice regarding the issues that affect their lives. Each of the National and Washington State Grange policy positions all started as resolutions that were written and adopted by a local Grange.

Even so, some people are still intimidated at the idea of writing a Grange resolution.

As the state Grange is scheduled to hold its annual convention this June, we hope it will help generate greater interest in grass-roots participation in

our Grange legislative program. The postmarked deadline for submission of resolutions from Subordinate and Pomona Granges is May 25.

Here is a quick and easy overview of writing a resolution:

Title of Your Resolution Here
(This should be just a few words and easily summarize what the resolution is about)

Whereas, this is where you identify one problem that needs to be addressed or solved; and

Whereas, only place one reason or fact that supports your argument in each whereas paragraph; and

Whereas, only put facts in the whereas paragraphs that make it easier for the reader to understand the

purpose of your resolution; Therefore, be it

Resolved, that this is where you clearly state the primary action that you propose to solve the problem you identified in the whereas paragraphs (Resolved should stand alone from the Whereas' as this will be the policy printed in the Legislative Handbook. No information from the Whereas' will be printed in the handbook), and

Be it Further Resolved, that any secondary actions to address the problem are placed here.

Be sure to include both the Master and Secretary signatures, Grange seal, contact information and any supporting materials.

AN UPDATE ON STATE GRANGE ACTIVITIES AND QUESTIONS/ANSWERS WITH THE STATE GRANGE MASTER

ZOOM MEETING -- 4TH Wednesday at 7 p.m. • May 26

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

One tap mobile: +12532158782,98036971581# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location: 1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

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

Business Meeting Info

Washington State Grange Business Meeting 2021 Schedule Released

**Business Meeting to be held in Two Locations:
Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Port Townsend
Bee Hive Grange Hall near Wenatchee**

The Washington State Grange Annual Business Meeting will be held June 24-26 in two locations: the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Port Townsend and the Bee Hive Grange Hall near Wenatchee. To assist attendees in making plans, the State Grange has developed the following tentative schedule for the event.

JUNE 5-15

Convention Committee Meetings via zoom
Deputy Meeting via zoom

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

12:00 pm Registration Opens
2:00 p.m. Business Meeting Called to Order
Credential Report
Master’s Address
Committee Reports and Actions
Election of Officers
6:00 p.m. Adjourn for the Evening

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

8:00 a.m. Registration Opens
9:00 a.m. Business Meeting Called to Order
Credential Report
Committee Reports and Actions
Election of Officers

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break
1:30 p.m. Reconvene for Afternoon Session
Credentials Report
Election of Officers
Committee Reports and Actions
6:00 p.m. Adjourn for the Day

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

8:00 a.m. Registration Opens
9:00 a.m. Business Meeting Called Back to Order
Credentials Report (Final)
Committee Reports and Actions
12:00 p.m. Lunch Break
1:30 p.m. Reconvene for Afternoon Session
3:00 p.m. Installation of Officers
5:00 p.m. Adjourn Business Meeting

**Please Note - Resolutions Due:
MAY 25, 2021**

Housing Options For The Business Meeting

There are several housing options for this year’s business meetings. Below are a few of the motels in the area:

PORT TOWNSEND

- Harborside Inn, 330 B3enedict Street, Port Townsend; telephone 360-385-7909
- Port Townsend Inn, 2020 Washington Street, Port Townsend; telephone 360-385-2211
- Aladdin Motor Inn, 2333 Washington Street, Port Townsend; telephone 360-385-3747
- The Waterstreet Hotel, 635 Water Street, Port Townsend; telephone 360-385-5467
- The Palace Hotel, 1004 Water Street, Port Townsend; telephone 360-385-0773

There may be additional hotels nearby in Port Ludlow. Sequim is approximately 30 minutes away as well.

WENATCHEE

- Fairfield Inn & Suites Wenatchee, 201 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee; telephone 509-436-9830
- Cedars Inn, 80 9th Street North, East Wenatchee; telephone 509-886-8000
- Best Western Chieftain Inn, 1017 N. Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee; telephone 509-665-8585
- Super 8 Wenatchee, 1401 N. Miller Street, Wenatchee; telephone 509-293-7336
- Red Lion Hotel Wenatchee City Center, 1225 N. Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee; telephone 509-663-0711

There are many additional hotels in the Wenatchee area that may better fit your needs.

CAMPING

- Camping in Port Townsend** is available at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Water and electric is available, but no septic. Restrooms and showers will be open. Cost is \$20 per night. Grange camping will be located inside the fairgrounds and not in the regular camping area. Telephone Sue at the fairgrounds: 360-385-1013. Leave a message if no answer.
- Camping in Wenatchee** is available at several RV parks. You can find many RV parks on a simple internet search.

Resolutions For Consideration

The Washington State Grand has received seven resolutions for consider at this year’s business meeting. This year’s list of resolutions include:

RES. #	TITLE	SPONSORING GRANGE	COMMITTEE REFERRAL
1	Medical Care for Veterans	Clark Co Pomona #1	Veterans Affairs
2	Support the Need to Replace Fossil Fuel Taxation at the Pump	Clark Co Pomona #1	Transportation
3	Meaningful Food Labeling Laws	Clark Co Pomona #1	National Legislative
4	Ending Surprise Medical Bills	Clark Co Pomona #1	Health Care & Safety
5	Back Overtime Pay	Whitman Co Pomona #2	Agriculture
6	Preserving and Enhancing the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad	Clark Co Pomona #1	Transportation
7	Changing Family Living Director to an Appointed Position	Ford’s Prairie #33	Grange Law

In addition to the resolutions, the Standing Committee Reports will be reviewed and acted upon at the business meeting. These actions are primarily changes to the State Grange Legislative Policy Handbook. A summary of those actions are:

- Agriculture – 23 recommendations
- Conservation & Ecology – 15 recommendations
- Education – 8 recommendations
- Fish & Wildlife – 6 recommendations
- Grange Law (Good of the Order) – 17 recommendations
- Health Care & Safety – 16 recommendations
- State Legislative – 20 recommendations
- National Legislative – 16 recommendations
- Taxation – 9 recommendations
- Transportation – 15 recommendations
- Veterans Affairs – 1 recommendation

Each of the resolutions and/or recommendations will be acted upon by one of the session committees, comprised of delegates, deputies, and state officers. The committees will meet via zoom between June 5 and 15. The exact meeting schedule will be announced. All delegates are reminded to return their committee preference forms by May 15 to insure assignment to a committee.

Resolutions for consideration at this year’s business meeting must arrive in the State Grange Office no later than 30 days prior to the session. **That puts us with a May 25 deadline this year.**

Grange Hall Improvement Contest Entries Due May 15

Each Subordinate Grange is responsible for improving and beautifying its hall and grounds and is urged to give serious thought and action for the upkeep and maintenance of their halls. While the Covid-19 pandemic close down many of our halls, we noticed many Granges spent that time making tremendous improvements. It may have been a remodeling project, new paint, foundation and roof repairs, or any project that would improve the appearance and usability of our halls.

All Granges making hall improvements are encouraged to enter the Grange Hall Improvement Contest.to these projects. It is relatively simple to participate in this contest. Create a notebook, starting your entry with a summary of your projects in 500 words or less. Then, organize your improvements by project, writing a brief description of each project and document it with pictures (before and after) and news clippings. It is helpful to document the source of funds and details about the volunteers who assisted with the projects (both members and non-members). Improvements presented must have been completed in the past year.

To enter, send the notebook directly to the Washington State Grange. Entries must be postmarked no later than May 15.

Four top entries will be selected. They will receive an interior wall plaque and cash awards of \$500 for first place, \$300 for second place, \$200 for third place, and \$100 for fourth place. Each Grange that enters will receive a large metal Grange logo sign.

The contest is sponsored by the Grange Cooperative Group, which is made up of the Washington State Grange News, the Grange Insurance Association, and the Washington State Grange.

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Youth Programs Moving Forward

By Jerry Gwin
State Youth Director

The State Grange Youth Department is back on our regular schedule regarding our raffle fund raiser. Raffle tickets have been mailed out to each Grange. We ask each Grange to sell the tickets and then to return the stubs with the funds earned. A pre-addressed envelope was included in the mailing. Ticket stubs should be returned either via mail or may be brought to the State Grange Business Meetings in Port Townsend and at the Bee Hive Grange Hall. With the two locations, we will get all of the tickets collected and processed and then draw the raffle winners on July 10. Proceeds from the raffle go toward sending

our youth delegations to the regional conference at the National Grange convention.

The National Grange Youth and Junior Departments are also fund raising, with the assistance of the National Grange Foundation. The foundation will be holding a Virtual Telethon to support the two departments on Saturday, June 5. The event will be hosted by the national directors. They are asking from testimonials from those who have participated in the two programs and also for Grange talent to perform. Additional information on the telethon can be found on the National Grange Foundation website:

www.grangefoundation.org/telethon/



Jerry Gwin

We are still looking for candidates for the Youth Ambassador and Outstanding Young Adult positions. We also need participants in the public speaking and sign-a-song contests. Those desiring to serve on the National Grange Youth Officer Team should start planning and working on their application now.

Thank you for your continued support of our Grange youth activities!

Washington State Grange Awards Scholarships

The Washington State Grange Foundation is pleased to announce the following scholarships have been awarded for the 2021-2022 academic year. Pictures and biographical information on each of the recipients will be included in the June issue of The Grange News.

Delpha Goude Memorial Scholarship \$1500: Akela Hunter, Issaquah Valley Grange

Adrian & Betty DeVries Memorial Scholarship \$1000: Ellie Roibal, McIntosh Grange

Martin & Grace Forry Memorial Scholarship \$1500: Kadince Compton, Bee Hive Grange

Fox Island Grange Scholarship \$750: Jacob Roibal, McIntosh Grange

Ray & Marian Kammerer Memorial Scholarship \$1000: Marguerite Bailey, McIntosh Grange

Kittleson Memorial Scholarship \$1500: Alexander Eades, Baw Faw Grange

Lone Yew Grange Scholarship \$1500: Morgan Browning, Mossyrock Grange

Nob Hill Grange Scholarship \$1000: Lisette Pietsch, Selah Heights Grange

Pomona Villa - Pierce County Scholarship \$1000: Jessica Pollard, Marion Grange

Helen Marie Snyder Memorial Scholarship \$1000: Joshua Crouse, Rimrock Grange

Martin & Snowie Vanderpool Memorial Scholarship \$100: Morgan Goodrich, Baw Faw Grange

National Grange Foundation To Host Virtual Telethon June 5th

By Samantha Wilkins
National Junior Director

Each year the Grange Foundation sponsors many Youth and Junior Grange members from across the nation to attend the annual National Grange Convention and other conferences throughout the year. The information and training received at these events can last a lifetime. You yourself or someone you know has probably benefited from the funds at one time or another. This year the National Grange Convention will be held in Wichita, Kansas- and we are on a mission to raise \$20,000 to sponsor our youth and juniors to once again take part in not only the events at national convention but programming that will benefit them even after the close of session. For the first time ever the Grange Foundation is hosting a Virtual

Telethon set to take place on June 5, 2021. Funds raised during the telethon event will go directly to support the Youth & Junior Grange Funds and could be considered a tax-deductible donation.

There are several ways that you can be involved in this event. 1) by submitting a written or video testimony about how you have personally benefited 2) Show off your talents- can you sing or dance or entertain us in some way? We need you! With a pre-recorded 3-5-minute video we can show off some of the wonderful Grange talent that we have. 3) Become a telethon donor- between now and June 6th all donations \$75 and above will receive a free telethon t-shirt. Or 4) become a corporate sponsor- for more information on giving or becoming a donor go to www.grangefoundation.org/telethon. If you would like



to submit a testimony or talent entry contact Samantha Wilkins, samantha@nationalgrange.org

And we are looking for the support from our members to help ensure that these great programs continue. We would love to set up a time to discuss your potential sponsorship to help ensure that the youth of today continue to be great leaders tomorrow.

Juniors

Junior Contests Deadline Extended

By Heather Ferguson
Junior Grange Director



Heather Ferguson

Did you miss the deadline for the Junior contest entries? Then you are in luck, we are extending the Junior contests deadline to June 1st for this year only. Junior arts and crafts, which are usually displayed at convention, will also have a chance to be judged in a new upcoming event. Hopefully we are back to a normal schedule next year.

We have decided to extend the Juniors contest due date to June 1st. Until now, Juniors could not meet in any form and any activities completed were done alone. I was excited to hear that a few Junior Granges are just now able to meet, although with a few changes, and get back to business. Moving the due date will give you leaders a bit more time to meet and complete the entries. I know we have some exceptional Juniors and Leaders that deserve to be recognized. So get those forms in the mail.

As you have heard, this year's convention schedule will be similar to last years. Instead of a full convention, we will be having a business meeting in two different locations. These meetings will not include our Juniors, Youth or any department displays. Making items for Grange contests and seeing the displays is one of my favorite parts of convention. The department directors are happy to announce that those contests will be happening this year, just a little differently and with a few changes.

State department contests will be held at the Fruitvale Grange #348 in Yakima County. Entries will be checked in on Friday October 15th and Picked up on the 16th. An agricultural tour is being planned for the morning of the 16th followed by an open house to view the displays from 1-4pm. Juniors will be able to bring their arts, crafts and displays for judging in the Junior contests.

It would be so much fun to see lots of entries both on June 1st and in October. I will see some of you in Port Townsend for our state business meeting and hopefully many more of you in October for our department contests. Hearing that Junior Granges are meeting again is exciting news and hopefully means we are moving towards things being a bit more normal.

Junior Connection

GREEN BLUFF JUNIOR GRANGE

Green Bluff Junior Grangers will provide refreshments for sale at the May 29 Bluegrass concert.

HUMPTULIPS JUNIOR GRANGE

Humptulips Junior Grange will be putting the flags out at the Humptulips Cemetery for Memorial Day.

THE VALLEY JUNIOR GRANGE

The Valley Junior Grange will be selling baked goods and hot dogs at the Grange's Outdoor Mother's Day Vendor Market on Saturday, May 8.

Western Regional Grange Youth And Leaders Conference

The 2021 Western Regional Grange Youth and Leaders Conference has been scheduled for August 6-8 in Boise, ID. The conference will be hosted by the Idaho State Grange.

With education, fun and fellowship for all ages, the conference will include a weekend of inspiration, education, leadership growth and networking. The Regional Sign-a-Song and Public Speaking Contests, Grange Jeopardy Competition and Regional Drill Team Demonstration will occur during this event.

The conference will be held at a hotel near the Boise airport. Registration and hotel information will be available no later than June 1.



Home & Family

Family Living

Family Living Fall Contests To Be Held October 15 & 16

By Helen Berg
Family Living Director

Great news for all you needleworkers, quilters, sewists, and canners, we will be having a fall state contest. As long as the Covid numbers stay where they are or better, we will have our contest at Fruitvale Grange in Yakima October 15th and 16th. We will not be having the baking or candy contest. Hopefully by next year we will be able to bring it back. Entries will be accepted from 9:00 A.M. till 3:00 P.M. on Friday the 15th. We will begin judging at 11:00 A.M. Display set-up when judging is complete. On Saturday we will host

an open-house from 1:00 to 4:00 with check-out from 5-7. I am excited to finally have a contest even if it is not during our regular convention.

Due to the fact that our contest is later in the year I would suggest that if you have not held your Pomona contests yet that you wait until August or September to have them. I just ask that you get your purple ribbon winners to me by October 1st.

We will also be having our state quilt block contest at this time. This is a great opportunity to challenge your fellow quilters to make a block. Remember, colors are teal and purple. The block is to measure 12½ inches

square and can be made of any pattern of your choice. I am hoping to get enough blocks for a king- sized quilt. There is no limit as to the number of blocks you make. The more the merrier.

You may also bring your collectables at this time. Eyeglasses may be brought to the regular convention in either location and will be then delivered to Dr. Ogden. He told me he would come and pick them up at my house. I'll probably take him up on that offer.

I hope this answers any questions you may have. Let's make this a great event.



Helen Berg



Dreamy Chocolate Mousse

(Courtesy of Family Features)

Some of the best memories throughout life stick with you forever as you play them over and over in your head and smile, thinking fondly of those times.

A lot of these good memories are centered around laughs, great conversation and irresistible, mouthwatering food. Family events such as wedding showers or Mother's Day, or the first day of spring after a bitter winter, can be reasons to celebrate and indulge in something out of the ordinary.

This Dreamy Chocolate Mousse can make those special memories just a little bit sweeter. It's rich, decadent and full of scrumptious chocolate flavor. Topped with whipped cream and shaved chocolate, it's the perfect addition to almost any special occasion.

It works as a dessert after a meal or just a special treat. It can be served at a big event or simply a Sunday afternoon at home.

It's easy and requires minimal ingredients, and the results are something smooth, rich and luscious.

Your sense of taste will take you right back to that happy place once you take a small bite. Memories are some of the greatest gifts you get to keep forever.

Find more sweet treat recipes at Culinary.net.

Dreamy Chocolate Mousse

Serves: 4-8

Ingredients:

- 8 ounces bittersweet chocolate, chopped, plus chocolate shavings (optional)
- 40 large marshmallows
- 2 1/4 cups heavy cream, divided

In large bowl, combine chopped chocolate, marshmallows and 1/2 cup heavy cream. Microwave 2 minutes on high, or until marshmallows are melted. Let mixture cool 1 hour.

Using mixer, whip 1 3/4 cups heavy cream until soft peaks form. Reserve and refrigerate 1/2 cup whipped cream for topping.

In cooled chocolate mixture, fold in 2 cups whipped cream until combined. Add remaining whipped cream and mix until combined.

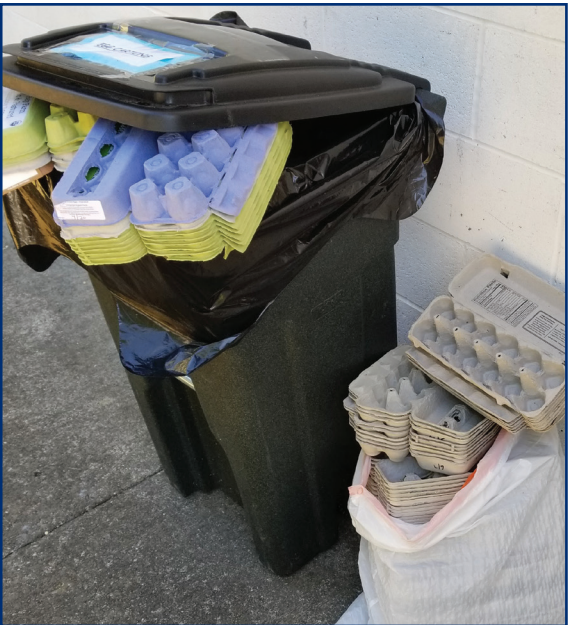
Spoon mousse into ramekins. Refrigerate at least 2 hours.

To serve, top with 1/2 cup reserved whipped cream and sprinkle with shaved chocolate, if desired.

McLane Grange Collects Egg Cartons



McLane Grange and Stars & Stripes Quilts of Valor Olympia collected egg cartons throughout 2020 for the Thurston County Food Bank. Members and friends deliver cartons 24-7 to an outside sealed bin at the Grange Hall. Pictured here is a Food Bank staff member gratefully accepting recent donations.



Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateGrange

Social Media Goal-Setting Can Reap Great Grange Rewards

By Kennedy Gwin
National Grange
Communications Manager

In the vast world of social media, gaining follows, likes, and subscribers can seem like a daunting task. But fear not, fellow Grangers! With a few easy adjustments to your social media pages, you can rake in the followers and likes and spread the message about your Grange activities far and wide.

The first thing you should do when goal-setting for your social media pages is analyze your current content. Ask yourself the following questions:

- Does your page have different types of posts? (Examples include news, date-related content such as holiday greetings, celebratory content such as welcoming a new member, quotes that help others learn about the organization's values, re-shared content from sources that provide information to your audience such as scholarship deadlines, legislative initiatives of the

National Grange and more)

- How much of the content on your page was made by YOU and not just shared?
- Around what times do you see the most interactions with your page? (You can learn more about this if you are an administrator by going to your Page's Settings and looking for the word Insights or Analytics. Different platforms have different routes to get to the page analytics, so you may have to Google how to learn about your Page's followers or get page insights.)

After taking time to reflect upon what your social media pages have to offer, take some time to make goals. It is important to set realistic goals. You will not gain 10,000 followers, overnight but setting a goal of getting 100 new likes for your page is very reasonable and something you can do by inviting your friends and community members to your page. You don't have to do this alone. Ask your followers to invite their friends to

like your page.

Other goals should include creating a cohesive page, posting regularly, and mixing up your types of posts. A cohesive page will have similar brand colors of the Grange and be appealing to the eye. When posting for your page about 60% of your posts should be made by you, the other 40% can be things you shared from the National Grange, other Granges, other organizations in your community or affecting your followers, or interesting ideas you want your members to engage in.

Dedicating just ten minutes a day to your social media pages can do wonders for your local profile. Don't forget, if you will be unable to post for several days, on most platforms you can schedule posts in advance. See more about this in a future issue.

So get to posting! If you need ideas or help please contact Communications Manager Kennedy Gwin at the National Grange at kgwin@nationalgrange.org.

The Grange Exchange

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

Cost per word	one month	4 or more
Regular	\$.50	\$.40
Boxed	1.00	.75
Centered or reversed text	\$2.50/line	
Minimum for one month	\$5.00	

Word count: hyphens, spaces and X's separate words. Phone numbers count as one word. **We do not print ads for 900 number services.**

Deadline: 5th of each month (for the following month's paper). Classified ads must be paid in advance. (Tear sheets not sent for classified.)

Ad copy (or attach copy): _____

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

National Grange News

Report of the Diversity Task Force

The Diversity Task Force was established by the National Grange President, Betsy Huber, to study our ritual, rules, and customs to make sure we are not unintentionally showing any signs of prejudice or discrimination in the Grange. The Diversity Task Force was comprised of the following members, F. Philip Prelli, National Grange Vice President as the Chairperson, and the following active members, Sharon Croucher NY, Edgar Hicks NE, Raymond Hayes NC, Jini Reynolds CA, Robert Beamon PA, Rick Grotton ME, Edna Mae Guerra TX, and Yeseña Rangel TX.

The history of the Grange has always shown our strong support for major social issues with an open policy of membership. This is a very appropriate time for the National Grange to undertake this action; not only because of the social unrest and tension in our country but as it is the 100th anniversary of the passage

of the 19th Amendment to our Country’s Constitution, granting women the right to vote. From the beginning of our organization, women were equal members with the right to vote at our meetings and we worked tirelessly to help in the passage of the amendment. We should now be just as vigilant in ensuring that we investigate and eliminate any barriers that could imply or show any signs of prejudice or discrimination in our organization.

The task force held several virtual meetings. The members reviewed the manuals of our order from the Junior thru the Seventh Degree as well as the promotional and instructional materials provided by the National Grange for membership both in the Subordinate/ Community and Junior levels. Lengthy and lively discussions were held on many points. The task force members

understand that the authority to make changes to our manuals and bylaws of our order belong with the delegate body of the National Grange and in some instances also with the Assembly of Demeter but offer the following findings and recommendations.

Findings

The major and most discussed barrier over several meetings were the titles of Master and Overseer. The group felt that even though these titles can be explained as their relationship to the English Farm on which they are based, the first impression is to their use on plantations during the slave era. It was also pointed out that these generate negative connotations in both the Hispanic and Native American cultures. This not only had an effect on the Subordinate/ Community membership level but

also at the Junior level. With the changing generations this could continue to grow as a barrier. The use of the title Master also has a negative effect on certain Christian sects as they feel “they only serve one Master”. First impressions are important, especially when promoting our organization and asking people to join. We must remember as we have been told many times in membership seminars, “You only have one chance to make a first impression”. To a lesser degree, the titles of the Stewards and Gatekeeper were also discussed.

Barriers can be characterized several ways and we must consider how others will perceive the concepts and ideas being presented. One area discussed was the lack of diversity in the stock photos used in many of our promotional materials. It was also pointed out in some of the promotional material, that the sentence “Traditional family values are promoted and woven into Grange activities and events”, though understood by our members, could act as a barrier to some individuals. The intent is to instill family values in our programs, but many will not get past the concept of only accepting “traditional” families.

In the review of the manuals and aspects of our meeting, the task force felt strongly that our ritual was the basis of our organization and did not create any major barriers. That being said, some concerns were raised about the use of Brother and Sister and the effect that may have on some people in the LGBTQ community, the Draping of the Charter Ceremony being Christian only, the idea of only a bible on the altar, and the use of some Christian Hymns in the Seventh Degree.

our ritual as well? As mentioned above, we strongly support our ritual and leave this suggestion up to the Delegate Body.

When producing promotional and instructional material about our Order we should use more diverse photos, whether actual or stock prints. This is especially true in those materials focused on membership of Youth and Juniors. Society has changed with more single parent families, children being raised by grandparents and other family members, adoptive parents, and same sex families. These are all a part of and welcomed in our Granges now. When referring to our values emphasize that they are “Family Values” that include all our families.

When a problem or question arises about referring to a member as Brother or Sister, rather than causing hard feelings, common sense should be used. The presiding officer should speak with the member prior to a meeting and perhaps use the title Patron or their name to avoid an embarrassing moment.

Not all of our current members are Christians. The Draping of the Charter Ceremony should be modified to allow for a poem or some appropriate verse for the past member’s religion to be used in lieu of The Lord’s Prayer if that past member was not of the Christian Faith.

Closing

Many of our recommendations may be construed as radical, unnecessary, or going too far by some of our members. We understand that, but as stated above, it has been done before and we must look to the future of our organization. The task force understands that some of these changes would need approval at National Grange by delegate action. Because we are a Grassroot Organization, this would require resolutions adopted at a Community Grange and State Grange and being presented at National Grange. We ask that this report be distributed to the National Grange Officers as well as the State Presidents.

Our thanks to National President Huber for showing her trust in us and giving us the opportunity and honor to serve on the task force.

Recommendations

Resolutions were adopted during the 2002, 2003, and 2004 National Grange sessions for the use of alternate titles for several Officers including President for Master, Vice President for Overseer, Board of Directors for Executive Committee, Program Director for Lecturer, and Greeter for Gatekeeper. Also included in those resolutions was the use of Community Grange for Subordinate Grange. We see the need for taking this to a higher level and making these the primary titles in all of our communications, social media sites, press releases, as well as use in our meetings. Many of us remember the title change from Juvenile Grange to Junior Grange and how many people thought that would destroy that part of our Order. It did not happen, and they are still alive so many years later. Now is the time to take the next step in our Order and address the titles. Does this need to be addressed in

Respectfully Submitted,

F. Philip Prelli
Sharon Croucher
Edgar Hicks
Raymond Hayes
Jini Reynolds
Robert Beamon
Rick Grotton
Edna Mae Guerra
Yeseña Rangel

WA STATE GRANGE MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

PRE-ORDER MERCHANDISE BY JUNE 1 AND PICK-UP AT THE BUSINESS MEETING

Please choose your Pick-Up Location: ☐ Bee Hive ☐ Port Townsend

ITEM		COLOR/SIZE	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
Easy Care Shirt* – Men L-3x Black, Navy, Royal, Light Blue, Maroon, Khaki, Denim (embroidery color varies)				\$36	
Easy Care Shirt* – Women M-2x Red, Black, Navy, Royal, Coral, Khaki (embroidery color varies)				\$36	
Denim Shirt* L-2x				\$30	
Quarter-zip sweatshirt* Black, Gray, Royal, Maroon				\$38	
Teal Polo* – Blowout Sale! S-3x				\$20	
Mission Statement Tee* – S to 3xl*				\$8	
*Please add \$2-2XL, \$4-3XL, \$5-4XL					
Mossy Oak Camo Grange Hat		One size		\$20	
Black Mesh Trucker Grange Hat		One size		\$18	
NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____				TOTAL	

While Supplies Last. Washington State Grange, 924 S. Capitol Way, Olympia, WA 98501-1210

National Grange News

A View From The Hill - April 2021 Edition

By **Burton Eller**
National Grange
Legislative Director

WASHINGTON OVERVIEW

April has been a busy month in Washington, as Democrats have turned their attention away from their emergency COVID-19 bill, the American Rescue Plan, to new legislative priorities addressing infrastructure and families. Earlier this month, President Biden released details for his infrastructure package, the American Jobs Plan, which has already begun to change since we last covered it. Most recently, President Biden has unveiled details for his American Family Plan which addresses issues from education to healthcare to family tax credits.

American Jobs Plan Updates

Since we last summarized the American Jobs Plan, the bill's legislative path has become clearer and many influential Democrats have begun to argue for changes to the bill.

Legislatively, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) has indicated that she would like to move the bill through the House and over to the Senate by July 4th, an ambitious timeline to move a bill of this size. As well, many believe that the bill will most likely come to a vote through the reconciliation process, a legislative maneuver which allows Democrats to pass the bill in the Senate without any Republican votes, in September when other key bills must also be authorized such as the Surface Transportation Bill and budget agreements.

With regards to the substance of the bill, Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), the most moderate Senate Democrat, has expressed that he wants the final bill to include more compromises with Republicans and not move through reconciliation. While Manchin personally supports the large infrastructure spending provisions of the bill, he has also expressed skepticism regarding the many billions of dollars in provisions related to healthcare. Whether or not Manchin's concerns are enough to make him not support the bill in the long-run is not yet clear, but his viewpoint will certainly influence the path and substance of the bill going forward.

American Family Plan Unveiled

In late April, President Biden revealed his American Family Plan, a wide-ranging \$1.8 trillion bill which funds education, tax credits addressed towards children and families, and healthcare. It is important to note that this bill is currently just a proposal and will certainly change dramatically as it goes through Congress and will have significant differences by the time it receives a formal vote.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

USDA Reopens CFAP2 for Ag Producers

Sign-up to receive additional funding from the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program which extends through May. CFAP2 has been expanded to cover specialty crop producers, beginning, urban, and organic farmers, biofuel producers, timber harvesters and more. Funds are also available to

establish partnerships with organizations to provide outreach and technical assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Consult your local USDA Farm Service Agency to apply.

Grange Asks for Mental Health Funding

The National Grange along with the American Psychological Association, the Farmer Veteran Coalition and other rural and agriculture organizations are asking Congress to fully fund the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network. In a letter to leadership of the Senate and House agriculture appropriations subcommittees, the group urged full funding for FRSAN in FY 2022 to assist the two in three farmers and farm workers who say the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their mental health.

Diverse Group Petitions USDA to Expand Food Assistance

The National Grange, DC Central Kitchen, One Country, National Consumers League, National Rural Health Association and Tyson Foods have urged Agriculture Secretary Vilsack to expand USDA's food assistance programs. It's expected 42 million people, including 13 million children, will experience food insecurity this year. In addition to traditional SNAP, WIC and school feeding programs, the groups suggest investing in the infrastructure of local food banks especially in rural areas where banks do not have capacity to store or refrigerate perishable foods.

Grange Suggests Farm Corps Program

The National Grange congratulated Oregon Senators Wyden and Merkley on the introduction of their 21st Century Conservation Corps Act. The Grange suggested adding an amendment to establish a Farm Corps program for apprenticeships and mentoring of new and beginning farmers and ranchers to train new producers desiring to enter the business.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The President's Climate Goals

President Biden on Earth Day April 22 pledged to slash U.S. greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030 from 2005 levels. The aggressive goal will require retooling the world's largest economy in an effort to put the U.S. at the forefront of the international campaign to slow climate change. By comparison, China will allow its carbon emissions to continue to peak until 2030 but insisted it can be carbon neutral by 2060. China presently accounts for 30% of global emissions followed by the U.S. at 15%, the European Union at 9% and India at 7%.

Committee Adopts Growing Climate Solutions Act

Senate Ag Committee Chair Debbie Stabenow's (D-MI) bipartisan Growing Climate Solutions Act passed her committee April 22 (Earth Day) on a unanimous voice vote. The bill has 21 Democrats and 21 Republicans cosponsoring. The legislation lays the groundwork for voluntary ag carbon markets by putting USDA in charge of creating a program to certify credit

verification services and technical assistance providers. It would also create a USDA advisory committee with extensive authority to shape certification requirements and continually review the program. The majority of committee members must be farmers, ranchers and private forest owners. House Ag Committee members Spanberger (D-VA) and Bacon (R-NB) are expected to introduce a similar version of the bill in the House. The National Grange issued a statement saying, "The National Grange looks forward to ensuring this legislation continues to be voluntary and farmer and rancher focused as it moves through the legislative process and into the implementation phase."

Food and Ag Coalition Responds to USDA Climate Request

The Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (National Grange is a member) submitted an extensive official response to USDA's Request For Information regarding USDA's authorities, opportunities and obligations to encourage voluntary adoption of climate-smart practices on working farms, ranches and forest lands.

The Alliance response centered around three guiding principles:

- Support voluntary market-based and incentive-based policies
- Advance and accelerate science-based outcomes
- Promote resilience and help rural communities better adapt to climate change

Secretary Vilsack says "No Land Grab" in 30x30 Goal

President Biden has set a goal of permanently conserving 30% of the country's land and coastal waters by 2030. Currently about 12% of the land mass is protected, mostly on public lands such as national forests, national parks, wilderness areas, national monuments and wildlife refuges. Around 26% of coastal waters are protected now. To reach the 30% land conservation target, private land will need to be included and that has set off alarms in many parts of the country. On Earth Day April 22, Secretary Vilsack addressed those fears saying, "There's no intention to have a land grab." Instead, Vilsack stressed the need to increase the number of acres in USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and other voluntary private land programs.

Label Non-Dairy Accurately

Clear, accurate labeling information for consumers is still lacking at the dairy counter. Plant-based substitutes continue to be labeled as "milk" even though those products have nothing to do with dairy. Senators Baldwin (D-WI) and Risch (R-ID) along with Representatives Welch (D-VT) and Simpson (R-ID) have reintroduced the Dairy Pride Act to require the Food and Drug Administration to enforce its existing standards of identity on imitation dairy products.

HEALTH CARE

Major Drug Pricing Bill Introduced

In mid-April, House Democrats reintroduced the Lower Drug Costs Now Act (H.R. 3) which passed the House in 2019. The sweeping drug pricing bill would require U.S. drug manufacturers to negotiate price with

the federal government based on an international price index of prices paid in several other countries. In essence the Act would place government price controls on prescription drugs sold in America. Unfortunately, the Act establishes a \$2,000 cap for Medicare Part D beneficiaries who now have no limit on costs for their prescription drugs. Reducing patient drug costs is a top priority for the National Grange but price controls raise several additional questions about drug availability and new drug innovation. The National Grange is committed to working with lawmakers on patient-centered reforms that give access to life-saving medicines without compromising research and development leading to next generation cures.

Huber a Founding Member of Community Corps

The White House invited National Grange president Betsy Huber to become a founding member of its COVID Community Corps. The Community Corps relies on trusted community messengers to share the message about the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccinations.

Fair Arbitration for Air Medical Response.

The No Surprise Act (prohibits surprise medical bills) was included in the 2021 omnibus spending bill and is now in the rule-making process at Health and Human Services. The air ambulance industry and many insurance companies have in the past been unable to establish equitable reimbursement rates for emergency services. The National Grange wrote HHS Secretary Becerra to suggest that the HHS rulemaking ensure a fair arbitration process that does not endanger the nationwide availability of emergency air ambulance services in rural and underserved areas of the country.

INFRASTRUCTURE

American Jobs Plan

President Biden unveiled his American Jobs Plan infrastructure proposal in early April. The \$2.25 trillion package goes well beyond the traditional definition of infrastructure. The major provisions in the infrastructure plan are:

- Transportation infrastructure
- Domestic manufacturing, research and development, and job training initiatives
- Home health care services and additional support for care workers
- Clean energy tax credits
- Build energy efficient housing, modernize schools and child care facilities, upgrade VA hospitals and federal buildings
- Provide broadband, electric power infrastructure and clean drinking water

Questions About Broadband

The plan's \$100 billion in new broadband funding has the goal to connect every American to high-speed internet. However, the broadband provisions are already drawing fire because it prioritizes funding support for broadband networks owned, operated by or affiliated with local governments, nonprofits, and cooperatives which are providers with less pressure to turn profits and are committed to

serving entire communities. However, by removing private companies from equal eligibility to compete, will rural America actually receive the best connectivity possible at the lowest possible price and will connectivity actually reach that rural "last mile" before the funding runs out and time limits expire?

TAXES

Now Comes the Pay-For

President Biden's American Jobs Plan (infrastructure, etc.), American Families Plan (childcare, free community college, universal prekindergarten, family leave, etc.) and related proposed programs represent a huge invoice to the American public. What are the plans to pay down the public bill? The Administration's Made in America Tax Plan suggests these as an example:

- Raise the corporate income tax rate from 21 to 28 percent
- Enforce global minimum tax for multinational corporations
- Enact a 15 percent minimum tax on corporate "book" income
- Eliminate deduction for foreign-derived intangible income
- Prevent U.S. corporations from claiming offshore tax havens as their residence
- Eliminate tax preferences for fossil fuels
- Raise taxes on individuals making more than \$400,000

What About Agriculture and Small Business

Farmers, ranchers and small business owners are bracing for the details on proposed higher taxes on inherited assets, capital gains, stepped-up basis, special use valuation and qualified business income deduction. In the meantime, several bipartisan members of Congress have introduced bills to repeal death taxes and expand the special use valuation. National Grange policy supports both initiatives.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Remove Impediments to Broadband Expansion

Rights of way issues and disagreements could slow and even stifle getting internet to rural areas. Rights of ways, utility easements and utility poles are generally owned by private entities. An equitable arrangement for access to these internet pathways must be achieved for effective and efficient broadband expansion. The National Grange joined several other user advocacy groups on a letter followed by Hill visits to the Senate and House Rural Broadband Caucuses co-chairs to call for utility access reform. Such reforms are needed to ensure timely access, fair cost-sharing, and expedited resolution of disputes.

We're Ahead of Europe

You may have heard the EU's intensive framework for broadband regulation gives consumers a superior experience and should be replicated in the U.S. Not so. The U.S. framework that incentivizes private investment over government regulation has actually yielded more broadband deployment, adoption, investment and competition than the European system.


National Grange News

National Grange Introduces New Member Benefits

The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry is pleased to welcome Marathon Group, a national provider of vehicle extended service contracts, and their innovative program, healthCAR, as a new affinity partner.

Marathon has 20 plus years in the vehicle service contract industry, administering over 2 million contracts and paying close to \$1 billion in claims since their inception. Marathon brings superior claims and customer service staff to provide exceptional service to The Grange members. Marathon currently holds an A+ rating with the BBB and is approaching 34 months without a consumer complaint.

“The Grange continues to find quality benefits as part of our mission to offer valuable programs to protect and support our members. healthCAR has a solid track record of excellent service,”



said National Grange President Betsy Huber. “healthCAR provides great benefits and protection, at exclusive member pricing. You not only save on the cost of coverage, compared to other offerings, but you protect your budget against expensive future vehicle repairs.”


healthCAR offers dependable vehicle breakdown protection for your personal vehicles at an exclusive low monthly price to keep The Grange members on the road.

The Grange’s individual members, organizational & business members (and their members) will enjoy the following benefits with healthCAR:

- Vehicle protection at 60% less than competition.
- No mileage limitations.
- No long-term contracts, monthly pay program.
- Easy online enrollment.
- One call initiates a claim.
- Use any licensed repair facility for repairs.
- Emergency Roadside Assistance included at no additional cost.
- Enhanced Ancillary benefits – rental car/rideshare assistance.
- Phone App for easy connect to claims and roadside assistance.

You can find healthCAR under Member Benefits on nationalgrange.org.

Life Line Screening will provide Grange members with valuable information on how to become proactive about their health and their family’s health by offering a way to get high-quality health screenings that are accurate, convenient, and inexpensive. Take advantage of a four package screening that consists of Stroke, Vascular Disease and Heart Rhythm Package, for only \$135, a special price for National Grange members. visit <https://www.lifelinescreening.com/our-partners/national-grange>.



To see all the Benefits offered by National Grange, visit:

www.nationalgrange.org/our-values/benefits-to-members/

Grange Connection

CLALLAM COUNTY

Sequim Prairie Grange recognized Marie Dickinson, owner/operator of the Mariner Café, with the Non-Granger of the Year Award. The presentation was made by Dave McDaniels, Sequim Prairie Grange Master. The Grange will be hosting an Ice Cream Social on May 2.

COWLITZ COUNTY

Rose Valley Grange will have their Mother’s Day Bazaar on May 1st. The annual garage sale is scheduled for June 5th.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Humtulpis Grange members voted to solicit bid proposals for the replacement of the upright pillars and other boards on the front entrance to the hall. Our May 14 meeting will include the presentation of four Golden Sheaf Certificates for 50 years of membership and five Silver Star Certificates for 25 years of membership. We also have awards for 40, 55, 60, and 75 year memberships. Many of the awards were to be presented at our 100-year anniversary celebrations that was cancelled in 2020. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

ISLAND COUNTY

Deer Lagoon Grange has voted

in and obligated 85 new members since October. The Grange held a “Fisherman’s Breakfast” on April 24-25, with the proceeds going toward kitchen improvements. The Grange received a grant to help fund other hall improvement projects.

LEWIS COUNTY

Ford’s Prairie Grange members voted to hook up to the City of Centralia Sewer System. The work on this project should be completed by mid-summer.

Oakview Grange members have had a busy spring. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic of 2020, Grangers have remained as active as possible with regards to their community service including the amended presentation of dictionaries for third graders in the fall to the ongoing collection of used eyeglasses, frames, lens,

and cases. In addition to those items, members also collected non-perishable food, personal care items, and coats for the Lewis County Gospel Mission. Grangers and others in the community have collected over 57 pounds of aluminum tabs, several pounds of cancelled stamps, and over 75 hats, gloves, scarves for the Keep Washington Warm program. In addition to these items, members collected greeting card fronts and misc. stickers for the Fiddlesticks Pre-school art program.

Beginning in March, the Grange began offering line dancing lessons that included lessons, dinner, and dancing. Everyone social distanced as required while fully enjoying the camaraderie of the evening. Following back-to-back garage sales that helped stabilize the Grange’s finances, members created a window display in downtown Centralia highlighting April Is

Green Bluff Grange Seed Drive Thru



Green Bluff Grange recently hosted an Open House Seed Drive Thru. Above Left: Open House Grange workers - Brandy, Kate, Phil, Priscilla, President Jim and Louise. Above Right: Tables full of seed baskets and other plants to give away.

Grange Connection

Grange Month and Oakview Grange’s role in the community for over 112 years. Oakview Grange will again enter the Grange Hall Improvement contest reflecting the extensive remodel of their 1940s kitchen. By May, the members hope to start a series of monthly workshops that range from basic vehicle maintenance (check oil, washer fluid, tire pressure, etc.) to how to make tasty taco soup and authentic tamales. Classes will be offer to the public at cost. The Grange’s goal is to cover a wide variety of subjects of interest to their community.

PACIFIC COUNTY

Long Beach Grange held an Antique and Collectible Sale on April 9. That was followed with a Silent Auction on April 13-17.

PIERCE COUNTY

Fruitland Grange members hosted a blood drive with the Cascade Regional Blood Services on April 23. The blood drive was a pre-registered event with a maximum number of twenty donors. A plant exchange was hosted by the Grange on April 24. Approximately 20 tables were set up in the parking lot for a variety of garden vegetables. Rock painting for the kids was available and a garden starter kit was available. Master Gardeners were there to answer gardening questions and the Fruitland Grange distributed

information on the Grange. A 4 by 8 foot banner was placed on the Grange fence to promote Grange month with information on how to join and a brief description of the Grange. After many months of review and discussion a decision was made to install Wi-Fi in the grange hall. Additionally, members approved removing brush to open up an area occasionally occupied by the homeless.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange members held their first in-person meeting since last March 2020. Our Open House event was a Seed/Plant Seedlings Drive Thru on Saturday, April 17. “Grow With The Grange” was our theme. We had 48 baskets of various herb, veggie, and flower seed packets plus some plants that we gave to people who came by. In the basket was a list of upcoming events at the Green Bluff Grange, the mission statement, our membership brochure, and a map of Green Bluff Growers. It was a sunny warm day and we only had a few baskets left that organizer Brandy was going to give to neighbors. Thanks to many individuals who donated. We received 4 scholarship applications and the committee is reviewing them and will make a recommendation at our next business meeting. Grange members are putting out the word about how Grange contests will be held this year. On April 24 Green

Bluff Grange hosted the Women Warriors for a one-day retreat. All activities were held outside—a favorite one was learning sheep shearing! A Bluegrass Tribute to the Statler Brothers will be presented by The Mt. Dew Boys on May 29 at the Grange.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange had a brief memorial service at their April meeting for those that passed in 2020. Family, friends, and community residents were remembered. No past or current Camas Valley Grange members passed in 2020. During the short and informal business meeting, a guest was introduced that has opened a small business in Springdale. Several fundraising ideas were discussed - all dependent upon which covid-19 phase this area of Washington will be in. The annual Spring “Grange Deep Clean” is set for April 17, and any help is appreciated. Irene donated a book of stamps last month to the newsletter mailing expense. Mike and Patricia, and Karl and Cleo, have been donating monthly, and Mike P made a one-time donation, to have the wood floors in the Great Hall refinished this summer - no date is set yet. Frank has been busy finishing up remodeling projects. Last month, Irene and Karl donated money to help purchase grange membership year pins. Great news: Gerald Brown was honored at this meeting and presented with his 50-year pin and certificate (he has actually been a Grange member for 52 years!). Another Grange member will be honored with a 50-year pin when he is able to attend a grange meeting. Lori reported on the upcoming MWSD school levy, and how important it is to exercise the right to vote. Aeydin and Cleo agreed to share the Chaplain office-please let them know if someone needs a card. Be sure to stay healthy and safe - and always support your local businesses.

The Valley Grange will hold an Outdoor Mother’s Day Vendor Market on Saturday, May 8. The event will run 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

THURSTON COUNTY

South Union Grange met on April 19 for their regular third Monday meeting. Pam Mathews and Diane Williams were elected to represent South Union as delegates to the Washington State Grange annual meeting in June. Beverly York and Mary Brouillard were elected as alternates. Planning for upcoming events will be a major topic at the May meeting. The next meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm on May 17 and June 21.

Pomona Connection

GRAYS HARBOR/PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona will meet on Saturday, May 8 at the Humptulips Grange Hall, beginning at 10 a.m. The agenda includes discussion of the Grange activities and plans for the Pomona Grange contests.

OKANOGAN COUNTY POMONA

Okanogan County Pomona met in person for the first time in a long time on Saturday April 10th in Okanogan. State Family Living Dir. Helen Berg visited and spoke on an array of projects for us to participate in. Sister Helen shared hope for a State Level Contest in the works for October in Yakima. Several door prizes were won, a Grange month table provided Grange items for members to take to share with their Granges. A lunch was prepared at the hall. 15 Pomona Grangers and 1 guest attended. Next Pomona is July 10th in Molson.

Pomona Calendar

Pomona Grange Secretaries are requested to submit their 2021 list of meeting dates at their earliest convenience. Due to Covid-19, there may be numerous changes in this schedule. Please confirm your dates with the Pomona Grange Master or Secretary prior to the scheduled meeting

CHELAN	none scheduled at this time due to Covid19.
CLALLAM	June 13 at Sequim Prairie, 2 p.m.
CLARK	May 12, time and location to be announced.
COLUMBIA	to be determined.
COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUM	to be determined.
EXCELSIOR	May 15 at Greenwood Park, 10:30 a.m.
FERRY	to be determined.
GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC	May 8 at Humptulips, 10 a.m.
ISLAND	to be determined.
KING	to be determined.
KITSAP	to be determined.
KLICKITAT	May 8 at Mountain View, 12 p.m. lunch, 1 p.m. meeting
LEWIS	May 1 at Lincoln Creek, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. August 7 at Logan Hill.
MASON	May 15 at Skokomish, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
OKANOGAN	July 10 at Molson, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
PEND OREILLE	to be determined.
PIERCE	June 5 at Fruitoand, 10 a.m.
SKAGIT	May 5 at Samish Valley, 7 p.m. June 2 at Summit Park.
SNAKE RIVER	May 15 at Columbia Valley, 10 a.m.
SNOHOMISH	to be determined.
SPOKANE	May 15 at Five Mile Prairie, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck
SUNNYSIDE	to be determined.
THURSTON	May 6 at McLane, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. June 3 at Brighton Park.
WHATCOM	May 16, time and location to be announced.
WHITMAN	May 15 at North & South Palouse, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck
YAKIMA	to be determined.



Cedar Valley Grange recently hosted a food drive where they collected a full trailer worth of donations.

Grange Connection

Stranger Creek Grange Holds Grange Clean-Up Day



Stranger Creek Grange #374 and Stevens County Fire District #12 held a cleanup day at the Grange in Gifford. The fire department shared helmets and fire safety tips with Junior Grangers and 4H members. Instruction on hose use allowed participants to help wet down the area around the burn. Enough wood was cut, split and stacked for the Grange for the next few years. Everyone worked very hard with great results. A socially distance potluck was enjoyed by everyone.



Fruitland Grange New Lights & Flag Raising



Jim Moebius and Bob Ballou, both veterans, prepared the American flag to fly on the Fruitland Grange flag pole by installing the necessary lighting. The flag pole was installed by a local Eagle Scout. The light is now installed and the flag is flying proudly.

Five Mile Prairie Grange Easter Drive Thru Event



Five Mile Prairie Grange ran its first ever drive through Easter event on Saturday, April 3rd from 11-2 p.m. Each kid received their own bag with a decorated cookie provided and wrapped by a local grocery store, plastic eggs stuffed with candy, coloring pages to color and a lucky dozen received a golden egg that was turned in for a fabulous basket of goodies and fun. The event was a hit for hundreds of kids in our community who turned out to see the Easter Bunny from the safety of their vehicles.

Now's a Great Time to Support the Washington State Grange Foundation

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