



WASHINGTON STATE Grange News

December 2024

Informing Grangers Since 1912

113th Year No. 10



Sequim Prairie Grange Hosts Successful Community Fall Festival

The Sequim Prairie Grange was filled with ghosts and goblins and cute little cartoon characters at their annual Fall Festival. Not only was the Grange filled with lots of games, but the grounds were also filled with pumpkin carvers and

trunk or treaters.

Hundreds dressed up for the festival all wanting a chance to win a prize. The cakewalk was a very popular event for only 50 cents you had a chance to win a cake made by Grange members. The balloon pop

and ring toss also had long lines with all ages trying to win some fresh apple cider and other goodies. The Grange kitchen was busy cooking burgers and dogs keeping those little Dinosaurs fed.

It was the perfect Fall day out on

the grounds where kids of all ages carved their pumpkins, ate popcorn and went from trunk to trunk for those sweet treats. One of the trunks was even a boat filled with crabs and handed out candy via a fish net. Clallam County Fire Department

also showed up and gave tours of their paramedic unit.

Sequim Prairie Grange is very grateful to the community and all our Grange members for making this year's Fall Festival a huge success.

January 2025 issue deadline – DECEMBER 20th
Submissions can be sent to grangenews@wa-grange.org



Pumpkin carvers and games of all types entertained the crowds at the Fall Festival at Sequim Prairie Grange.

Lower Naches Grange Donates Pet Treats



Lower Naches Grange #296 prepared 70 bags of dog & cat treats to be given to folks with pets who receive Meals on Wheels.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

To allow our employees to celebrate the holidays with their families, the State Grange Office will be closed December 23 to January 1 for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Holiday Open House

Friday, December 13 • 1-4 pm

Your State Grange Staff will host a Holiday Open House on Friday, December 13 at the State Grange Office, 924 Capitol Way S., Olympia.

The open house will begin at 1 p.m. and run until 4 p.m. All Grange members are invited to stop by the office to join in the fellowship of celebrating the holiday season together.

By-Laws

Marion Grange #276 will hold a meeting Thursday January 9th at 6:30pm to vote to change their meeting day and time from the 1st Sunday at 5:30pm of each month to the 1st Thursday at 6:30pm of each month. They will also vote to change their one time new member fee from \$10 to \$3 and change their elections from an annual election to a biannual election.

Community Service

Make Sure Your Thank You Doesn't Offend

By Claudine Lefever
Community Service Director

I followed the National Grange 158th Convention this past week from my home while cuddling my newest grandchild. Reading the daily Grange Today newsletters, watching as many of the telecasted programs and ceremonies as I could, soaking up the Grangers' spirit and comradery.

National Grange's Community Service Department is considering rolling out a new award for 2025. This new award would not go to a Grange but instead a Grange member. We do not have the specifics of it yet, it's suggested to look like this: Subordinate and Pomona Granges would recommend individual Grangers that have done an exemplary work in the Grange up to the State Grange. State President and Community Service Team would then pass those names up to National level and could include additional names. Applicants would receive a certificate of appreciation from

National Grange, with the winner's name placed on a plaque at National Grange Headquarters and receive a personal award.

It is felt that this award recognition, that already exists in the youth program, could lead to substantial returns, increasing member engagement, enhanced community impact, and a stronger organizational culture of service among all age levels in Grange. Award recognition from Juniors all the way through Adult Grange membership would show that service is the heart of the Grange program through a member's entire Grange journey.

I shared this at my own Klickitat County Pomona's meeting yesterday. It appeared to be received well. Then a fellow Granger reminded me of my last month's article, For Recognition, Satisfaction, OR Both and my statement, "Grangers may feel strange seeking out credit and recognition for their Community Service that was given from the heart with no expectation of award."

She stated that we MUST be careful when thanking people. We do not offend them. Some people love a handshake with a personalized, "thank you", others prefer a card dropped in the mail privately thanking them, some prefer a small gift or token of thanks, and yet others enjoy the camera lights and bylines of a public thank you. None of these ways are wrong. We should always remember to thank someone for their service. But we should always remember to get to know them well enough to properly thank them the way they will feel most comfortable. Not heeding this advice, we could inadvertently offend people we are thanking and turn them away from Grange.

During the holidays is a perfect time for being thankful and thanking those for their service.



Claudine Lefever

Centerville Grange Revives Harvest Dinner



Centerville Grange #81 revived its annual Harvest dinner this fall to a crowd of over 70 Grangers and community members. The traditional harvest dinner dates back several decades until forced to quit in 2018 due to the Covid pandemic.

The meal featured generous portions of locally raised roast beef provided by Grange Legacy Family, Bowdish Farms. Completing the plate was a mountain of mashed potatoes smothered in brown gravy and green beans sautéed with bacon and onion bits. Fresh from the

oven, melt in your mouth dinner rolls were provided by Drew Bowdish. A large dessert table featuring cakes with thick frosting, numerous pies, and heaping plates of cookies and brownies was available after the meal.

Darlene Witt, Centerville kitchen manager, organized the event and planned the menu. She and Jonathan Eldred started preparing the meal on Saturday and initiated cooking the 50 pounds of roast beef in the wee hours of Sunday morning. She was assisted by approximately 20 Grange members

who worked flawlessly all afternoon in the kitchen, serving the meal, making sure coffee flowed, clearing the tables, and washing the dishes. A special treat on the serving line was Brylee Mulrony, senior at Goldendale High School and President of the local FFA Chapter. She volunteered to help even though just hours before had returned from a week-long trip competing at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The dinner was a huge success with many requests for the meal to be continued in the future.

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Washington State GRANGE NEWS

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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

While 2024 Winds Down, 2025 Begins To Take Shape

By Tom Gwin
WA State Grange President

As 2024 winds down, we are working on our programs and activities for 2025. We are adjusting our programs and activities to better meet the needs of our members and the communities we serve.

Dues notices for 2025 are being printed and mailed. There are still a few Granges that have not returned their Dues Information Sheet. We will be sending out dues' notices for those Granges as their information sheets come back in.

Per delegate action at this year's state session, the Proceedings of the Annual Session and the State Grange Constitution and Bylaws were posted online. We will not be mailing these items to each Grange. You may print entire proceedings from our website or just the pages you need. By making the proceedings available digitally, we will see a reduction of thousands of dollars in printing and postage costs.

The State Grange Legislative Policy Handbook is nearing completion. The State Grange Legislative Advisory Committee met to review our legislative priorities for the coming year. The 2025 State Grange Program Handbook will be next on our plate. The department heads are submitting their revisions, and we are updating our files. The program handbook will be posted online by January 1. We are also putting the final changes to the Grange Youth Fairs Program Supplement for 2025. One copy of each of these items will be distributed to each

Grange in January and February. You may print additional copies as needed.

Our Grange Leadership Conferences will be replaced with Grange Resource and Information Training sessions. Packets of information will be distributed, and I will answer questions and your concerns on Grange programs and other topics of interest. Additional Zoom meetings will be held in January and February for each of our Grange departments to review their programs and activities for the year. The schedule of the Zoom meetings will be announced in late December.

2025 will be here soon and we will vigorously move forward to make our Granges and communities stronger and more impactful in 2025.

-- Tom Gwin

The 2025 Convention Kick Off Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2, beginning with a tour of the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds in Chehalis at 12 noon. Following the tour, we will have a potluck lunch and meet at the Adna Grange Hall in Lewis County. State Grange representatives will meet with the local planning committee and relay information as to the tasks needed to be accomplished for the convention. The convention itself is scheduled to be held on June 25-29.

The Youth and Junior Grange



Tom Gwin

Legislative Experience is scheduled for January 19-20 in Olympia. We have shortened this event to two days and moved it to ML King weekend, allowing our youth and juniors to attend without missing school. We will begin with orientation and workshops on Sunday afternoon. Monday will include attending hearings and committee meetings, along with meetings with legislators. The event will include Sunday dinner, and Monday breakfast and lunch. Registration information for this event is elsewhere in this newspaper. While there is no cost for the event as we have it sponsored, we do need an accurate registrations list to plan for supplies and meals.

The State Grange Legislative Day is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4. Registration information is also in this issue. A full article on the event will be included in the January issue.

The next few months are sure to be busy for the State Grange. As we continue winding down 2024, take a few minutes to enjoy time with your friends and family. 2025 will be here soon and we will vigorously move forward to make our Granges and communities stronger and more impactful in 2025. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

Legislative

Now That The Dust Has Settled

By Jesse Taylor
Legislative Lobbyist



Jesse Taylor

The dust has settled on the election and hopefully the tryptophan trance from the turkey has worn off. We are cruising through the holiday season and that also means we are inching closer to the 2025 legislative session. But before we go into what lies ahead, let's review the results of the 2024 election.

Before the election, State Secretary of State Steve Hobbs said that for the first time, more than 5 million people in the state were registered to vote. When it was all said and done about 3.3 million Washington voters cast votes in federal, state, county and local elections. Results have to be certified by December 5.

All statewide executive offices were on the ballot this year. State Legislature, all 98 seats in the House and 25 of 49 seats in the Senate are on the ballot. The current makeup of the Legislature has House Democrats with a 58-40 seat majority, and Senate Democrats hold a 29-20 seat majority.

As of this writing it appears that the majority in the Senate has expanded to a 30-seat majority and the House majority has increased to 59 seats.

Dave Upthegrove defeated Jamie Herrera Beutler in the Washington Commissioner of Public Lands race. Washington's lands commissioner runs the Department of Natural Resources, the agency that manages nearly 6 million acres of public land. This includes about 3 million acres of state "trust land," which generates revenue, mostly from logging, for schools and other parts of government. The department is also Washington's wildfire-agency.

STATEWIDE BALLOT INITIATIVES:

Initiative 2066 - Would require certain utilities and local governments to provide natural gas to eligible customers. Approved 52%-48%

Initiative 2109 - Would have repealed an excise tax imposed on individuals who have annual capital gains of over \$250,000. Failed

Initiative 2117 - Would have repeal legislation establishing a carbon cap and tax program. Failed

Initiative 2124 - Would have provided that employees and self-employed people must elect to pay the tax for long-term care coverage. Failed 55%

STATEWIDE EXECUTIVE:

Governor	Bob Ferguson (D) 55% Dave Reichert (R) 44%
Attorney General	Nick Brown (D) 56% Peter Serrano (R) 44%
Commissioner of Public Lands	Dave Upthegrove (D) 53% Jaime Herrera Beutler (R) 47%
Superintendent of Public Instruction	Chris Reykdal 52% David Olson 47%

As we look forward to the 2025 legislative session there are opportunities and obstacles. There are many spending requests coming as Chris Reykdal with OSPI has asked for an additional \$3 Billion to fund public K-12 Education, while the state is facing a \$10-\$12 billion revenue shortfall for baseline funding. The K-12 budget currently makes up about 52% of total state spending with many districts facing crisis level budget deficits.

Other areas of increased spending will be housing, homelessness, forest management, and energy infrastructure. It will be up to the democrat majority to tackle the shortfall but still fund the priorities of the new governor.

The first session after a general election is always a fast and furious one. The new statewide officials have their promised agendas to pass, and new legislators have their priorities. With an election freshly behind them and not having to face the voters again for four years, lawmakers tend to strike while the iron is hot. Look for many bills to be introduced during and immediately after.

I look forward to seeing you all at the capital this year in early February for our legislative gathering. This will be an eventful year in politics, and I think this will be a great year for Grangers to get involved and meet their local representatives. I look forward to seeing many of you soon!

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

Here's how you can help:

Are you a Fred Meyer Customer?

Support the Washington State Grange Foundation just by shopping at Fred Meyer with your Rewards Card. You are now able to link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit by visiting customer service desk at your local Fred Meyer or by creating an account online and linking your rewards card to the Washington State Grange Foundation (account # DI486). Whenever you use your Rewards Card when shopping at Freddy's, you will be helping our organization earn a donation from Fred Meyer. They are donating \$2.6 million each year - up to \$650,000 each quarter - to the local schools, community organizations and nonprofits of your choice. All you have to do is link your Rewards Card and scan it every time you shop at Fred Meyer.



JUNE 25 - 29, 2025
136th Annual Washington State Grange Convention
at the
Southwest Washington Fairgrounds
Centralia/Chehalis, 1909 S Gold St, Centralia, WA 98531

Outcome Of Proposed Resolutions

The Washington State Grange sent nine resolutions for consideration by the National Grange at their session in November 2024 in Bettendorf, Iowa. The outcome of each resolution is as follows:

STATE NUMBER	NATIONAL NUMBER	TITLE	PROPOSED BY	OUTCOME AT THE NATIONAL SESSION
2024-02-1201	306-WA	Supporting All Veterans Returning to Civilian Life	Manor #1011	Adopted
2024-15-1203	507-WA	Gluten in Food Labeling	Five Mile Prairie #905	Rejected – Present Policy – covered by similar resolution from CA
2024-16-0102	110-WA	U.S. Dietary Guidelines Classification of Potatoes	Humptulips #730	Adopted
2024-17-1103	706-WA	Opposition to the Collection of National Dues for Junior Grange Members	Humptulips #730	Rejected
2024-18-1104	707-WA	The Effect of Junior Grange Dies on Family Memberships	Humptulips #730	Adopted as Amended
2024-20-1302	109-WA	Support for Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling for Beef	Clark County Pomona #1	Rejected – Present Policy
2024-22-0103	108-WA	Labeling of Naturally Produced Meat	Clark County Pomona #1	Rejected – Present Policy
2024-23-0104	107-WA	Halt Ongoing Injury to the U.S. Sheep Industry	Clark County Pomona #1	Adopted as Amended
2024-24-1303	807-WA	Consumer Choice to Opt In or Opt Out	Clallam County Pomona #31	Adopted

Recognition/Awards Received At The 2024 National Grange Convention

Granges and Grangers from across Washington State were recognized with awards at the 2024 National Grange Session in Bettendorf, Iowa. This year’s list of honorees include:

DISTINGUISHED GRANGE AWARDS
Five Mile Prairie #905
Goldendale #49

HONOR STATE GRANGE FOR NET MEMBERSHIP GAIN
Washington State Grange

STATE GRANGE MEMBERSHIP CULTIVATOR AWARD
Bernie Games, Matlock Grange #357

GRANGE LEGACY FAMILY - 6 GENERATIONS
The Hilpert Family of Oakview Grange #311

GRANGE LEGACY FAMILY - 5 GENERATIONS
The Worley Family of Fertile Valley Grange #1094

QUILT BLOCK CONTEST - HONORABLE MENTION
Kathryn Hartley, Calispel Grange #500.

JUNIOR GRANGE CREATIVE ART (AGES 8-10)
First Place - Jax Berry
Second Place - Gracyn Payne
Third Place - Jessica Start
(all from Camp Wooten Junior Grange)

JUNIOR GRANGE CREATIVE ART (AGES 11-14)
First Place - Paige Kurkjiah
Second Place - Zachary Heater
Third Place - David Gimenez
(all from Camp Wooten Junior Grange)

JUNIOR GRANGE COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTEST
First Place - Humptulips Junior Grange
Third Place - Prospect Point Grange 1+ Juniors

PUBLICITY CONTEST, IN-HOUSE DIVISION
Third Place - Five Mile Prairie Grange #905
Fourth Place - Five Mile Prairie Grange #905

PUBLICITY CONTEST, PROFESSIONAL DIVISION
First Place - Washington State Grange (Team Grange Shirt)
Third Place - Washington State Grange (state session flyer)
Fourth Place - Washington State Grange
(youth member brochure/application)

TIKTOK/REELS CONTEST
Best of Show and Adult First Place
Christine Hamp, Five Mile Prairie Grange #905
Junior First Place - Counselors of Wooten Junior Grange Camp

FIREFIGHTER/EMT OF THE YEAR
Stephen Sandstrom, Grays Harbor Fire District #17
nominated by Humptulips Grange #730

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR
Rick Ferguson, Columbia County Deputy Sheriff
nominated by Waitsburg Grange #1

VIRTUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Abandoned Buildings (Adults)
Second Place - Heather Ferguson, Waitsburg Grange #1

Scenic Photos (Juniors)
First Place - Jacob Smith, Humptulips Junior Grange
Second Place - Jacob Smith

Nature Photos
First Place - Kamryn Cable, Humptulips Junior Grange
Honorable Mention - Kamryn Cable

GRANGE IN ACTION AWARDS

Washington State Grange

Addy #603
Addy JG #396
Adna #417
Barberton #571
Baw Faw #34
Broadway #647
Buena #836
Burbank #630
Calispel #500
Camas Valley #842
Camden #687
Camp Mayfield JG #403
Camp Morehead JG #401
Camp Wooten JG #400
Cedar Valley #306
Centerville #81
Chimacum #681
Clallam County JG #408
Callam County Pomona #31
Clark County Pomona #1
Clayton #456
Collins #893
Columbia #87
Cowlitz Prairie #737
Crescent #1123
Deer Lagoon #846
Dry Creek #646
East Oakville #902

East Wenatchee #1012
Elma #26
Fargher Lake #853
Fargher Lake JG #49
Fern Prairie #866
Fertile Valley #1094
Fords Prairie #33
Fort Colville #533
Freedom #1152
Fruitland #999
Granville #857
Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona #28
Grays River #124
Green Bluff #300
Green Bluff JG #373
Greenwood Park #590
Happy Valley #322
Haynie #169
Hope #155
Horsehoe #965
Humptulips #730
Humptulips JG #376
Inland #780
Issaquah Valley #581
Kellogg Marsh #136
Kennewick Valley #731
Kettle River #1120
Kettle River JG #413
Klickitat County Pomona #5
Lewis County Pomona #3

Lincoln Creek #407
Long Beach #667
Lopez Island #1060
Malo #679
Mansford #710
Manson #796
Marion #276
Matlock #357
McLane #383
McMillin #848
Menastash #1054
Molson #1069
Moses Lake #1151
Mossyrock #355
Mountain Valley #79
Mountain View #98
North Riber #946
Oakview #311
Ohop #812
Orcas Island #964
Oroville #985
Pierce County Pomona #16
Prospect Point #1067
Quimper #720
Ralston #943
Rose Valley #953
Roy #702
Saint Andrews #932
Sallal #955
Samammish Valley #286

San Juan Island #966
Selah Heights #608
Sequim Prairie #1108
Sharon #800
Silver Lake #105
Skamokawa #425
Skookumchuck #584
Snohomish County Pomona #12
South Bay #250
South Camano #930
South Lake Stevens #690
South Union #860
Stevenson #121
Stillaguamish #1058
Stranger Creek #374
Swauk Teanaway #984
Ten Mile #399
Terrace Heights #586
The Valley #1048
Thurston County Pomona #8
Tunk Valley #1019
Twisp Valley #484
Tyler #610
Violet Prairie #996
Waller Road #1111
Washington #82
White Trail #1143
Yakima Valley Pomona #11

2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Washington State Grange is a non-partisan, grassroots organization. The Grange does not limit any member’s freedom to think, believe or vote as he or she pleases. However, we always give full support to good legislation that better the lives of our members and all Washington citizens. Our primary legislative objective is to represent the views of rural residents and the agriculture community.

- We oppose the removal of any dam in the Columbia/Snake River system. These dams benefit the citizens of Washington by producing power, providing transportation, providing irrigation for food production, preventing flooding, and providing recreational opportunities.
- We support seasonal flexibility for overtime pay of agricultural workers.
- To spur economic development and virtual education opportunities, we support the expansion of broadband capabilities in underserved areas across the state.
- Washington’s farmers and ranchers use best management practices to protect clean water and aquatic life. Multiple state and federal agencies work with growers to protect riparian habitat. We oppose expanding riparian buffers that could result in removing land from agricultural use.
- We oppose the implementation of a State Income Tax on the people of the State of Washington.
- We support any riparian regulations be incorporated into a Volunteer Stewardship Program.



GRANGE YOUTH/JUNIOR LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE

For Grange Youth and Junior Members and their Chaperones
January 19-20 (Sunday-Monday)

Includes dinner on Sunday, Continental Breakfast and Lunch on Monday



GRANGE LEGISLATIVE DAY

Tuesday, February 4
8 am to 4 pm

\$20 per person (includes lunch)



GRANGE LEGISLATIVE ZOOM UPDATES

Jan 20, Feb 3 & 17, Mar 3 & 17, Apr 7 & 21
6 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>

Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

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

Mossyrock Grange Honors 70-Year Member



Mossyrock Grange member Lynda Nanney received her 70 year seal by Darell Myers, Master during our Harvest Dinner, November 10th.

Central Grange Donates \$1000 To Tom's Turkey Drive For Dinners



Central Grange donated \$1000 to Rosauer’s Tom’s Turkey Drive in Spokane. The money will provide a minimum of a complete turkey and trimmings dinner for 40 families of four. Grange Treasurer Cheryl Britton made the presentation to Rosauer’s. The Grange is pleased to assist many needy families in the area during the holiday season and are grateful to be able to make the donation.

2025 Legislative Day



TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4, 8AM-4PM

Registration is \$20 per person prior to February 1, 2025
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH INCLUDED

FIRST AND LAST NAME _____ GRANGE _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____ LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT _____

PAYMENT

Check (make check payable to the Washington State Grange)

\$ _____ enclosed (\$20/person)

Mail To:
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA 98507-1186
Email: grange@wa-grange.org
Fax: 360-357-3548

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.

Fargher Lake Grange Awards Golden Sheaf To Jim Lester



Fargher Lake Grange celebrated Jim Lester with his Golden Sheaf Award for 50 years as a Grange member. Pomona Master Janice Anderson hosted the event on September 29.

Membership Corner

Welcome New Members

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS			
November 2024			
		# Joined	Jr. +1
603	Addy	7	7
Loretta Paradise, Shawn Larsen, Erica Larsen, Jodi Jacobs, Samantha Kearney, Annabelle Baker, Kristi Graham			
348	Fruitvale	1	
Tricia Soto			
49	Goldendale	2	
Cynnamon Hawkins, Elizabeth Hawkins			
296	Lower Naches	1	
Thomas E. Allen			
1054	Menastash	12	8
Zach Deffinbaugh, Kaley Deffinbaugh, Black Dietrich, Morgan Dietrich, Jessica Hanna, Tom Hanna, Nick Hanna, Nathan Hanna, Hailey Hanna, Ryan Packard, Rachael Packard, Maddy Packard			
985	Oroville	4	
Anne Alden, Marcus Alden, Teri Nagle, Ken Lee			
953	Rose Valley	1	
Debbie Douglas			
702	Roy	5	1
Eric Hill, Sarah Hill, Aly Hill, Nate Krumwiede, Noah Krumwiede			
966	San Juan Island	2	
Scot Bohl, Sarah Bohl			
261	Summit Park	2	
Eunice Thomas, Larry W. Thomas Jr.			
984	Swauk Teanaway	5	
Carla Tacher, Denise Hux, Susan Seibold, Lisa Void, Andrew Cromarty			
399	Ten Mile	1	
Gayle H. Tilles			
		# Joined	Jr. +1
TOTALS		43	16

Patit Valley Grange Honors Golden Sheaf Members



Patit Valley Grange members Colleen Graham, and Chuck Dare, of Dayton, WA were recently recognized for their long-term membership to the organization during the club meeting August 8, 2024. Both received a pin and certificate for 50 years of membership and service.

Fruitvale Grange Honors 70-Year Member

Frances Van Cleave, 94 years old, is a 70-year member of Fruitvale Grange #348 in Yakima County. She joined the Grange on December 1, 1954. She is a 7th Degree member. Her husband Bill Van Cleave's parents got them to join. She was Lady Assistant Steward, Ceres, and Treasurer until 2023. Her activities included Jr. Grange assistant, organizing and working at the Yakima Fair in the Grange booth, and in-charge of all the metals of the Grange hall. Frances also setup for the Grange meetings, cleaning, maintaining the hall, and seasonal yard work. She enjoyed working throughout the years with all members and was thankful for the years she was there.



A New Year and A New Legislative Season

It is once again that time of year for Washington State Grange to start planning its Grange Legislative Days in Olympia. Our Youth & Junior Legislative Experience this year will be held January 19-20 and this will be for ages 10-25 and their chaperons. Our other Grange Legislative Day for all other Grangers will be Tuesday, February 4.

2023 was our first year including the youth and juniors in our legislative program and it was a great success. The kids really thrived from the experience.

Again, this year we are working on getting some wonderful speakers on issues important to attendees, having time at the capitol to meet with legislators, and of course talking about Grange policy progress. Our Legislative Advisory Committee has set the 2025 legislative priorities for the year which will be the most important items we watch over the course of the session. You will find those priorities in this issue.

If your Grange is one of the more than 60 Granges vying for a legislative capitol grant, please be sure you mark your calendar and register for this event as soon as possible so we can be sure you meet with your legislators once again. This of course will only be a follow-up meeting to your already scheduled email and other correspondence you will be sending to your district representatives.

You may be asking if this is a good event for you or other members of your Grange to attend. I have had members ask me if I think it would be something they would enjoy or benefit from. Of course, my answer to that is

absolutely. However, I think I want to take some time to explain why this is such a valuable event and who should or in some cases should not attend and why.

I thoroughly believe this is a valuable event for every Grange member

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

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

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

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

I hope to see you here in Olympia in January or February!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! Here's to 2025!

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

On the other side of the coin, it is

Congratulations Winners!

New Membership Contest

January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024

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

T-Shirts

Joan Krajewski – Oroville #985

Katie Judd – Addy #603

Gift Cards

Roger Ellison – San Juan Island #966

1- \$25 Amazon Gift Cards

This Contest runs from January 1, 2024 thru December 31, 2024.

There are many members close to receiving their membership t-shirt or a \$25 gift card. So, let's get out there and invite our friends and neighbors to join the Grange!

McIntosh Grange Has Busy Fall With Many Activities

McIntosh Grange has seen a lot of activity recently, beginning in September with participation in the Spokane County Interstate Fair and the Southeast Spokane County Fair.

A community Halloween Party and Trunk-Or-Treat event was held in October, with about 150-175 people visiting. Our Community Dinner was held November 14, with about 80 people in attendance.

Hall and property improvements have begun in full force-outside and in. Overgrown landscaping has been removed, and each gathering brings new changes to see in our hall.

The next event is our Community Christmas Party, December 12th. Don your ugly Christmas sweater, bring a white elephant gift for exchange (if you wish), and come see all of the changes!



Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Youth Department News

By Jerry Gwin
Youth Grange Director

MELISSA KUDSK – A GREAT REPRESENTATIVE FOR OUR YOUTH DEPARTMENT

The Washington State Grange was represented by Melissa Kudsk at our Youth Ambassador at the 2024 National Grange Session in Bettendorf, Iowa. Melissa also served as a member of the National Grange Youth Officer Team. Melissa represented our state well at the convention session. She is to be commended for her excellent representation of our state and the State Grange Youth Department. Melissa is currently in her freshman year at Washington State University, where she is studying Agriculture Education. We wish her well in her studies and know she has a great future both in and out of the Grange. Thank you, Melissa, for a job well done!

YOUTH DEPARTMENT CONTINUES AGE ADJUSTMENTS

As we wrap up 2024 and look

forward to 2025, the National Grange continues to adjust age levels for participation in National Grange Youth Programs. Most notable is the age of the youth department participants. Grange Youth Programs will have two age groups:

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

Changes are also in the works for the Public Speaking Contest. Age groups are 14-20 years, 21-25 years, and 26 years and over. One Best of Show winner will be selected from those in the Prepared Speech Contest at the state level and be eligible to enter the national contest as our state winner. We will select that award winner at our State Grange Convention in June in Chehalis.

We are looking at minor changes in the Horizon Youth Ambassador Program. It is not too early for our youth to start planning now for their participation as the State Youth Ambassador, who will then represent us at the 2025 National Grange Session.

STATE YOUTH/JUNIOR GRANGE LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE

The State Grange Youth/Junior Legislative Experience will remain open to 14-35-year-old participants. We want to encourage our young adults to continue learning about the legislative process. Providing access to this program will allow the young adults to continue learning how to make a difference in their community through the Grange's involvement in the legislative process. This year's event is scheduled for January 19-20 in Olympia. Registration information on the Junior/Youth Legislative Experience is elsewhere in this issue. Please note registrations are due by January 10 for all participants and their chaperones. This will give us time to plan food for the event and to order shirts for all participants. We hope to see a large contingent at this year's legislative experience event.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful holiday season!



Jerry Gwin

Juniors

Traditions...

By Heather Ferguson
Junior Grange Director



Heather Ferguson

Tis the season for all of the fun traditions. I love this time of year, not for the presents, shopping or Hallmark movies. Okay, I love the Hallmark movies but mostly I love the traditions. It seems I wait for these all year.

In my family, we have many. A few of my favorites being those that involve my family. Every year since I was born my Grandma Hall had given me an ornament. My Grandma passed away a few years ago, but my mom has continued the tradition. It is so much fun to look back at all of them. Luckily she dated them so I know how old I was when I received them. Ornaments are special to my family when we went on vacation often our souvenir was an ornament. Putting up the tree is a yearly stroll down memory lane and serves as the best "I spy" game ever.

I feel food is a tradition in many families. We have crab each Christmas Eve, an odd new tradition of macaroni salad for breakfast on Christmas morning, I have no idea how that happened, and the one thing that I look forward to the most is nut logs. They are apparently an acquired taste but my Grandma Ferguson would make them every year. As all traditions, this is now up to the grandkids to carry on. They are fantastic to eat but the making of them is just as fun. Our nut logs are small 1"x3"x1/2" pieces of pound cake, covered entirely in coffee icing and rolled in peanuts. They are the best when left to sit a few days. There is no recipe and end up a bit different each year. Oddly, not many of my friends enjoy them.

So this Holiday season, remember traditions old and new. I have had several friends in my life that say they don't have any Holiday traditions which always makes me sad. I look forward to them all year and they are core memories in my life. Share those traditions with the Juniors in your life, they will appreciate it when they get older. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!!!

2025 Youth & Junior Grange Legislative Experience

January 19-20, 2025



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Sunday, January 19

2 p.m. Arrive at State Grange Office
-Orientation, the state legislative process, how committees and hearings operate
6 p.m. Dinner (provided)
7 p.m. Get Acquainted Activities and Recreation

Monday, January 20

8 a.m. Meet at State Grange Office
(Breakfast)-attend hearings, committee meetings, and tours
12 p.m. Lunch (provided)
1 p.m. Meetings with Legislators
4 p.m. Closing, Depart for Home

LODGING

Adults will be responsible for youth and junior Grangers after hours. Those attending must secure their own lodging. Sleeping bags on the floor at the State Grange Headquarters is an option. There are many hotels near state headquarters, and Grange members get a discount through the National Grange at Choice Hotels. To take advantage of this discount, book your room through their website at choicehotels.com or by calling (800) 288-2847 and using promo code #00211660.

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

There is no registration fee. Registrations are due by January 10, 2025

FIRST AND LAST NAME _____ AGE _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ EMAIL _____

GRANGE NAME _____ LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT _____

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



Youth and Junior Legislative Experience: Ages 10 to 35

Our youth and junior legislative experience will be January 19-20 this year. We chose these dates so that more of our youth could attend since Monday the 20th is Martin Luther King Day and schools will be closed for observance. The Capitol is always buzzing with kids from all over the state on the holidays during session so it will be an extra special time for our youth.

Our Lobbyist, Jesse Taylor, is very seasoned in touring FFA students around the Capitol throughout the legislative session and has many "extra special" places to show around the Capitol that most don't have the opportunity to see and do. It is also a wonderful time for everyone to learn the process of the legislature, from committee work, to learning how a bill becomes a law, and how floor action works and so on.

This year, we will also be providing T-shirts for all participants to wear on Monday to go up to the Capitol so that everyone can identify our Grangers. This is a free event this year for the kids with dinner Sunday night and breakfast and lunch on Monday included. We hope to have a large group of youth this year. Please be sure to register early so we can get T-Shirts ordered in time. Registration forms can be found in this issue of the Grange News and on the Washington State Grange Website both on the home page, on the legislative page and on the youth page.

Junior Connection

HUMPTULIPS JUNIOR GRANGE

Humptulips Junior Grange members adopted two families for Christmas. There are three boys (ages 4, 7, and 15) in the two families. Junior Grange members are busy selling raffle tickets for the Annual Holiday Raffle....the first prize being a \$100 VISA gift card. There are ten other prizes as well, including a new Pendleton 100% wool blanket. Junior Grangers will meet on December 15 to prepare packets of hot chocolate mix and peppermint candies for distribution in December at the food bank.

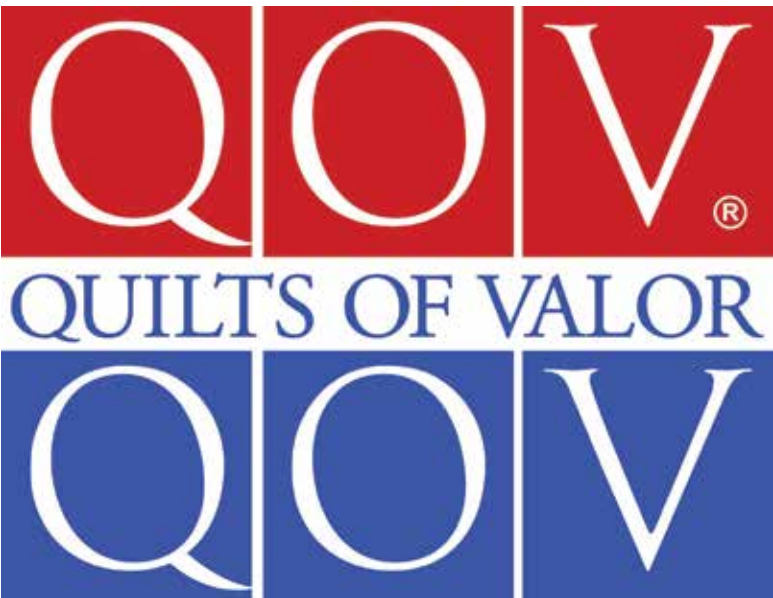
Washington Granges Honor Vets With Quilts of Valor



Steve Yates was a Lieutenant in the Navy. He is a member of Rexville #815, Fredonia #545 and a member of Skagit County Pomona #10.

His quilt was made by a member of the Skagit Valley Quilts of Valor. Linda Myrick pieced it, machine quilted it and sewed on the binding. Most quilts are made by three people doing the different steps to get it completed.

Debbie Riegel-Yates, the Skagit Valley Quilts of Valor group leader, presented Steve with his certificate from the Quilts of Valor Foundation.



On Oct 27th Violet Prairie Grange hosted a Veterans Appreciation Day that ended with a food and coffee for all attendees. Grange members made sure that the Grange was decorated in a Patriotic theme and the usual faire of homemade goodies were available. The event had the local George Rogers Clark Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) posting the colors and three Quilts of Valor were awarded. All attendees went home with a smile on their face.

Photo above - left to right: back row- Eric Olsen (VP Violet Prairie Grange and SAR member), Lawrence Bowman (SAR), Art Dolan (SAR), Dennis Case (SAR), Lew Maudsley (SAR), Kevin Saville (SAR), Front row: Eric King, Richard Stewart, Vickie Morehead.



Glenn Hawley, Past Master of Rome Grange, was awarded his 75th year certificate as a Grange member and his 80th year Grange member certificate on November 29, 2024 in Bellingham by Bekki Weston, from Rome Grange. Glenn was also awarded his Quilt of Valor by Skagit Valley QOV leader, Debbie Riegel-Yates, who is also the Skagit County Pomona President. Friends and family were in attendance to share in Glenn's special day.

Photos above: Pete and Jean Hauck (Ten Mile Grange), Steve Yates (Rexville), Russ and Bekki Weston (Rome and North Bellingham), Lew and Oren Gaskill (Ten Mile), Debbie Riegel-Yates and Mary Celia (Rexville).



The Community Celebration Honoring Our Veterans, co-hosted by Mt. Valley Grange #79 and North Clark Historical Museum, was held at the Grange hall on November 9th. There were about 100 guests in attendance, including 21 veterans. A Pie & Ice Cream Social was held prior to the program by Mt. Valley Grange #79. Guest speaker was John Nanney, USMC, and a member of the American Legion Tum Tum Post 168 in Amboy. A second speaker was Rick Halle, USAF, also a member of the American Legion Tum Tum Post 168. A Patriotic Quilt is made and donated and can only be won by a Veteran. Rick Halle, USAF, was the winner. Fargher Lake Grange #853 was recognized and Larry Goble, Master, spoke on the benefits of belonging to the Grange. Entertainment was provided by the Amboy Middle School band under the direction of Jeremy Gallagher. The American Legion Tum Tum Post 168 presented the colors and provided the Military Flags. Dane Castle sang the National Anthem and a patriotic song medley. A lively pie auction culminated the afternoon event.

Lecturer's Department

2024 Fair Booth Contest Results



Leslie Jo Wells

By Leslie Jo Wells
State Grange Lecturer

The 23 entries representing 16 different Granges for the 2024 fair season contest have been judged and resulted in the following:

SUBORDINATE GRANGE

Division I – Produce (6 entries)

1st Place	\$100	Humptulips #730	Washington State Fair
2nd Place	\$75	Humptulips #730	Grays Harbor County Fair
3rd Place	\$50	Ohop #812	Washington State Fair

Other entries were received from: Elk Plain #782 – Washington State Fair, Fruitland #999 – Washington State Fair, and Kellogg Marsh #136 – Evergreen State Fair.

Division II – Project (8 entries)

1st Place	\$100	Crescent #1123	Clallam County Fair
2nd Place	\$75	Washington #82	Clark County Fair
3rd Place	\$50	Adna #417	Southwest Washington Fair

Other entries were received from: Elk Plain #782 – Pierce County Fair, Fruitland #999 – Pierce County Fair, Riverside Valley #1047 – King County Fair, Riverside Valley #1047 – Pierce County Fair, and Ten Mile #399 – Northwest Washington Fair.

POMONA GRANGE

Division I – Produce (1 entry)

1st Place	\$100	Grays Harbor Pacific #28	Grays Harbor County Fair
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Division II – Project (3 entries)

1st Place	\$100	Columbia #56	Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days
2nd Place	\$75	Lewis #3	Southwest Washington Fair
3rd Place	\$50	Pend Oreille #29	Spokane Interstate Fair

YOUTH GROUP – PROJECT (5 entries)

1st Place	\$50	Humptulips #730	Cowlitz County Fair
2nd Place	\$30	Grays Harbor/Pacific #28	Grays Harbor County Fair
3rd Place	\$20	Humptulips #730	Grays Harbor County Fair

Thanks to all these Granges for putting in the time and immense effort to enter booths in their local fairs. I know there were more displays entered in the fairs throughout the state, but for some reason their Grange chose not to enter this contest. Whether you did or didn't, this activity is a great way to put our Grange organization in front of the public.

A CHALLENGE TO ALL

As we come to the end of our 2024 Grange year, we have an opportunity to reflect on what we have accomplished – as a Grange collectively and as individual members. I offer a challenge to all of us to consider this thought and determine how we can build on our growth.

ANNUAL REPORT

Just a reminder to please send me your Lecturer Report. Mail to: Leslie Jo Wells, 18232 201st Ave SE, Monroe, WA 98272.

Heirloom Project Readings December 2024; January & February 2025

DECEMBER 2024: “Patrons, carry with you a feeling of compassion for those who strive to make the world a better place.”

(Installation Ceremony; Installation Officer)

JANUARY 2025: “Be cheerful, be united. “Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.”

(Installation Ceremony; Installation Officer)

FEBRUARY 2025: ““Hope is the heavenly light that gilds our labors. Were we deprived of that source of consolation, life would indeed be dreary.”

(Fourth Degree; Pomona)



National Grange News

NATIONAL GRANGE: GRANGE LAW POLICY STATEMENT - 2024

Adopted November 2024
158th Annual Session of the
National Grange, Bettendorf, Iowa

Just as our Ritual provides the vehicle to understand our teachings and principles, our Constitution and By-laws provide the structure for our Order to function with unity of action. We understand the theory of “chain of command,” and we encourage members of the Grange to strictly follow this process at all levels of the Order to resolve any matters at the lowest level possible.

In today's political climate, it is important to remain non-partisan. The Grange does not support any party, candidate, nominee, or appointee. Our emblem is never used for partisan political activities.

All Grangers should apply the high standards demanded by our Fraternal bonds to conduct our personal participation on social

media sites regarding our Order and fellow members.

The National Grange should communicate with the State Granges regarding contractual trademark agreements in their state.

The Grange Law Committee urges that traditional, or the approved alternative, opening and closing ceremonies always be used to maintain our fraternal and lodge tax classification under IRS regulations, especially the verbal portions of these ceremonies, because these ceremonies are necessary to legally conduct business as a Grange. We urge tolerance and common sense in educating our local Granges about recognizing the importance of our Ritual.

The Grange Law Committee urges the language of the Junior Grange manual be updated to incorporate more contemporary language that will be easier for children to

understand.

The Grange Law Committee commends the effort of the Video Study Committee looking at the feasibility for video recordings of the first four degrees for archival and instructional purposes. Once the recordings are completed, it should be the responsibility of the Assembly of Demeter to determine the appropriate uses of these video recordings.

The National Grange adopted changes to our Digest of Laws authorizing, but not mandating, the use of alternative titles, by all levels of our Order, for several Grange officers including the title of President for the office of Master and the title of Vice President for the office of Overseer. Our committee urges every Grange member to accept the use of the alternative titles, where local custom/preference of that Grange determines that members of our communities

will be more comfortable joining the Grange. It is also necessary to instruct our fellow members in the history of our heritage officer titles. This instruction should be included in the Heirloom Program developed by the National Grange Membership/Leadership director.

“Nature's Motto is Onward: She never looks backward”. We must keep looking forward to addressing issues that keep current and new members from feeling welcome in the Grange as we plot a course toward a successful 200th anniversary of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

As members, we all enjoy the protection of our Digest of Laws, which are legally enforceable and binding by the Federal and State courts. We embrace our fraternal responsibility to abide by these edicts and guidance and hold our brothers and sisters accountable. Failure to do so results in strife and discontent. Let

us practice our motto - "In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, and in all things charity."

In today's society with scam phone calls, emails and mailings, we encourage National Grange to notify all state Masters/Presidents of mailings going out to our members at least 10 (ten) days before the mailing to ensure there is proper communication and to allow them to answer questions, if they arise from members, on the validity of the communication.

We encourage the ensuring that future National Grange Sessions are held in a manner that supports maximum member participation and minimizes financial burdens on delegates and members, as well as consulting with and informing regions regarding locations and/or venue changes and being transparent with our members.

National Grange News

NATIONAL GRANGE: LABOR, JUDICIARY, TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT POLICY STATEMENT - 2024

Adopted November 2024
158th Annual Session of the
National Grange, Bettendorf, Iowa

Labor

The National Grange supports the rights of employers and employees to thrive in an environment of prosperity and safety. We believe America’s workforce deserves to earn a fair wage with adequate retirement benefits. We encourage the preservation of existing private and public pension benefits. We support improved efficiency in agricultural guest worker programs

for temporary and permanent workers.

Judiciary

The National Grange is a staunch defender of the U.S. Constitution and the rights and privileges it protects for all persons. We ask for the creation of a Presidential Blue-Ribbon Commission on the Preservation of the American Dream. The National Grange strives to support and respect the hard work and bravery of the nation’s first responders. The National Grange believes citizens and elected officials are the

appropriate individuals to adopt the laws by which we will be governed. Administrative agencies and other governing bodies should be prohibited from implementing regulations that dramatically impact our daily lives without periodic review by elected officials. We further oppose the use of eminent domain to take private property for private commercial use. We support legislation to increase cybersecurity for all personal banking and credit card data by all internet providers to prevent fraudulent use of that data. We encourage citizens

to apply due diligence in protecting themselves from cyberfraud.

Transportation

The National Grange believes our nation’s overall infrastructure (broadband, transportation, drinking water, waste management, ports, aviation, parks, schools, etc.) is in critical need of repair and upgrade. We encourage Congress to appropriate adequate funding to repair/upgrade our nation’s infrastructure. We also support the posting of fuel tax amounts on every fuel pump.

We support laws requiring drivers to slow down and move over while passing an emergency vehicle that is stopped with lights flashing. All drivers must guard against distractions from cell phones and other devices. We support enhancing the visibility of school buses, construction, farm equipment, rail cars, bicycles, motorcycles, trucks, etc. We encourage walkers, joggers, bicyclists, etc. to wear highly reflective clothing. The National Grange urges all states to have the same criteria/standards for Commercial Drivers Licenses (CDL) drivers.

NATIONAL GRANGE: GRANGE GROWTH POLICY STATEMENT - 2024

Adopted November 2024
158th Annual Session of the
National Grange, Bettendorf, Iowa

“Change is the law of life and those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.”
~ President John F. Kennedy.
The National Grange is committed to strengthening our organization’s role in community service, agricultural and rural advocacy, and member empowerment to ensure a sustainable and inclusive future for advancing the Grange. With the sale of the National Grange headquarters, the organization must focus on financial sustainability. To address operating expenses, a revised dues structure for the National Grange must be evaluated, encouraging Granges at all levels to collect enough to support relevant programs and outreach. Recognizing the importance of a modern, cohesive membership experience, we advocate for establishing a national membership database to streamline communications and increase member engagement. Effective communication is vital to our mission. All State Granges must actively promote the Grange Today! newsletter, Good Day! magazine, and the “Grange Hall” podcast to all members and stakeholders. Members are encouraged to actively engage with and contribute to these resources and disseminate information to enhance awareness of events, benefits, and organizational goals. We will continue exploring new communication tools, including a potential mobile app, to facilitate timely, direct communication with members. In 2025, we will launch “Project Sustenance,” a Grange-wide initiative focused on addressing food security and personal sustainability within our communities. Every Grange is

encouraged to participate in this initiative by building or expanding programs that promote self-sufficiency, community sustainability, and access to nutritious food. Nonpartisanship is a cornerstone of our advocacy and civic engagement. The Community Granges should foster civil discourse by organizing forums and town halls on local, state, and national issues, providing a safe space for community members to engage in respectful dialogue. This approach will strengthen the Grange’s role as a trusted community voice and uphold our values of collaboration and service. We prioritize leadership development at every level to sustain the Grange’s legacy. The SHIPmates Program and other leadership initiatives provide members with training and mentorship to foster capable future leaders. We encourage every member to energetically seek to bring new members into our fellowship, welcoming and engaging them, and appreciating the energy and ideas each brings to our work. The National Grange’s archives, a treasure trove of artifacts, historical documents, and records should be preserved in partnership with the Grange Foundation. We will explore establishing a Grange Museum or alternative strategies to protect and share our history with the public and future generations. The National Grange is poised for growth to strengthen its impact by fostering financial stability, developing partnerships, enhancing communication, promoting civic engagement, and developing future leaders. Together, we will uphold the Grange’s values and ensure its legacy remains vibrant for future generations. Our traditions, fraternal bonds, and community impact make us rich beyond comparison.

NATIONAL GRANGE: AUDIT AND BUDGET POLICY STATEMENT - 2024

Adopted November 2024
158th Annual Session of the National Grange, Bettendorf, Iowa

The members of the Audit and Budget Committee thank the National President, Executive Committee and the National Grange staff for presenting us with a budget that allows us to continue with the programs and projects of the National Grange. This budget for 2025 was unlike any budget prepared for the National Grange in many years. The sale of our headquarters at 1616 H Steet Northwest has a dramatic impact on both the income and expenses of the National Grange. The investment of the funds from the sale of the building will provide us with income but we must be mindful stewards and remain conservative with our spending in an effort to allow the principal to grow for future generations of Grange members. We recommend that a portion of the income generated from the sale of the building be earmarked for new projects such as Project Sustenance, which will create awareness of the Grange and all of our programs. Dues on all levels of the Grange remain the lifeblood of our Order, and it is imperative that every Grange across the country encourage membership growth. While every member should make a serious effort to attract new members, it is extremely important that we pay attention to our longer-tenured members. We must be cognizant of their needs and make sure that they feel valued and respected. We encourage the National Grange Executive Committee to explore alternative options for the dues collection system. We feel that the dues system should be “turned upside down” and the dues should be collected by the National Grange with the portions for State Granges and Community Granges distributed by the National Grange on a quarterly basis. We also encourage dues payments be made electronically through a subscription service. The members of the Audit and Budget Committee recommend that the dues increase that is being presented at this session be adopted. This is a way to generate additional income for the National Grange and will give us the resources to provide additional programs and member benefits as well as make a financial investment in our future. It is our responsibility as leaders of the Grange to work with our Membership Director to design and create strategies for success in our membership recruitment efforts. Has your Grange considered offering members requesting to be dropped from the Grange an E-membership for a period of 1 year to keep them informed of the activities of the Grange? Hopefully, these E-members will see the benefit of membership and maintain their E-membership moving forward. We encourage all members to continually monitor the many member benefits that are listed on the National Grange website and to take advantage of these benefits as they are not only a benefit to the membership, but many of these programs provide an ongoing revenue stream to the National Grange. Few organizations give such value for the small monetary contribution from its membership. The Communications Department continues to expand communications to the State Granges, Community Granges and our membership. Some of these programs include the bi-weekly Grange Today and our quarterly subscription-based Good Day! publication. We applaud the Communications Department for the continued innovation in our quarterly Good Day! magazine. Good Day! is available as a traditional magazine or as an online magazine. Good Day! is truly an asset to the National Grange. Most of the costs for the magazine are underwritten by partners of Grange Advocacy. At the present time, we have around 600 subscribers. We encourage all members to subscribe to the Good Day! magazine and enjoy a wealth of different articles. Please go home and promote this wonderful publication to your members. We as leaders must continue to update our mailing and membership lists and use the database that is provided by the National Grange. This is not to “sell” our membership lists but for us to be able to communicate with our members electronically as many members prefer to receive communications electronically rather than through traditional channels. The Grange is rich in history and tradition. We look forward to seeing the implementation of new programs to strengthen, broaden, and enrich our Grange experience.

National Grange News

NATIONAL GRANGE: AGRICULTURE POLICY STATEMENT - 2024

Adopted November 2024
158th Annual Session of the
National Grange, Bettendorf, Iowa

Agriculture is foundational to America’s economy, providing directly or indirectly through value-added processing, approximately 5.6% (1.53 trillion) of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP). For over 150 years, the National Grange has been working to improve agriculture in America and the welfare of those who work the soil or care for the creatures of the field. Our roots are in agriculture, and our future is tied to our faith in the perennial cycle of planting and harvest.

Farm Bill

A current U.S. Farm Bill is crucial for the health of our economy, the vitality of our rural communities, and the security of our food supply. We advocate for fast passage of a new Farm Bill that would address many of the following points:

Research and Development:

- Advocate for increased investment in biotechnology (e.g., CRISPR, Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats).
- Support educational programs on nutrition (e.g., Farm to Table).
- Favor voluntary labeling of genetically modified products.

Agricultural Chemicals:

- Promote healthy pollinator populations.
- Support education on the risks of Neonicotinoids and the benefits of untreated seeds.

Dairy Policy:

- Push for fair pricing structures for small and medium dairy producers.
- Advocate for defining "milk" strictly as a mammalian product.

Disaster Assistance and Risk Management:

- Support funding for USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Risk Management Division and crop insurance programs.

Farm Policies

- Encourage reclassification of small farms based on gross income (\$150,000 or less).
- Call for equitable treatment for all farm sizes and commodities.

Farm Labor:

- Urge provisions in the Farm Bill for reliable seasonal and year-round labor.
- Streamline the H-2A application process, where possible.

Food Safety:

- Advocate for a single federal agency (preferably USDA) for food safety inspections.

Livestock Production:

- Support science-based state regulations of agricultural practices, that do not interfere with interstate commerce.
- Supports the principle that the term “meat” can only be used to describe animal protein derived from harvested production livestock, poultry, seafood, or wildlife, wild or domestic.

Marketing and Cooperatives:

- Encourage USDA programs like Farmers to Families Food Box Program.
- Support labeling of products as "Product of the USA" if they meet specific criteria.

Environmental Regulations:

- Advocate for fair water rate structures and oppose expanded EPA authority.

- Support funding for conservation programs.
- Advocate for the education of proper disposal of agricultural materials.

Food Security:

- Addressing concerns of foreign ownership of agricultural land, impacting food security.

Energy:

- Support agrivoltaics and responsible regulations for dual use of agricultural land.
- Advocate for research into alternative fuel sources to reduce greenhouse gases.

Broadband

- Supports the use of Federal Funds to efficiently build out high-speed internet access to “the last mile.”

NATIONAL GRANGE: CONSERVATION POLICY STATEMENT - 2024

Adopted November 2024
158th Annual Session of the National Grange, Bettendorf, Iowa

We encourage responsible stewardship of our natural resources. We define responsible Stewardship as a balance between use, preservation, and the environmental standards appropriate to regional needs. The National Grange is a strong advocate for land stewardship. We believe protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources are vital. We further believe education of the public regarding the importance of natural resources is an absolute necessity.

The National Grange advocates for conservation programs. These programs should encourage farmers to operate in an environmentally sound manner, focusing on scientific and technical assistance, research, education, loans, and cost-share programs.

The National Grange seeks a strong and effective Farm Bill that is critical to producers and consumers of American agricultural goods. It is fishers and hunters who look to the Farm Bill to secure access and preservation of land through conservation titles.

The National Grange understands agriculture is part of climate change and efforts to accomplish Net-Zero greenhouse emissions in the United States. We demand American agricultural data, rather than worldwide data, be used to provide a more accurate picture of greenhouse emissions in our nation and consistent sources of data be used. The National Grange supports the use of Best Management Practices and any mandates regarding agriculture reducing emissions be accompanied with economic incentives to lower the impact on agricultural producers.

We recognize plastic and other non-biodegradable materials are a significant environmental nuisance. The National Grange supports legislation that will promote the use of shorter life plastic and biologically degradable materials.

The National Grange recognizes the unique role agriculture plays in land and environmental management. The National Grange supports transparent data disclosure of any environmental testing and/or modifications conducted by any governmental agency. We advocate for flexibility in the interpretation of environmental laws for traditional land uses taking into consideration environmental situations across the country and encourage agricultural producers to engage in Best Management Practices in their operations.

The National Grange supports coordination among Federal, State and Local Governments in developing land use management plans. We urge Congress to include voluntary incentive-based assistance for conservation practices by farmers, ranchers, foresters, developers, and landowners in future Farm Bills, maintaining a commitment to conservation. We urge the United States Department of Agriculture to use scientifically based research when crafting regulations to implement the conservation portions of the Farm Bill. The optimum result should be the environment be protected with the least amount of prime, productive farmland taken out of production.

The EPA Waters of the United States has emerged through court rulings and legislative activity, with the potential to overreach into farms as it has before. The National Grange stresses navigable waters remain in the definition of the Clean Water Act.

Food waste is a problem, as approximately half of the food grown in the country is thrown away without being consumed. The Grange should be involved in efforts to reduce food waste while helping the environment.

NATIONAL GRANGE: EDUCATION AND HEALTH POLICY STATEMENT - 2024

Adopted November 2024
158th Annual Session of the
National Grange, Bettendorf, Iowa

The National Grange’s mission is to strengthen individuals, families and communities through service, education, nonpartisan grassroots advocacy and agricultural awareness. This includes a commitment to protecting America’s education and healthcare system. Below are the main focuses that guide our approach to ensuring our membership has access to:

Education

- The National Grange encourages a balanced approach to education. We support a fair delivery of all available financial aid as well as some federal targeted loan forgiveness programs to all that qualify.
- Encourage our school systems to find ways to increase the availability of appropriate counseling and volunteer efforts to work with our schools.
- Encourage legislation that provides funding for free quality meals for all school students in pre-K through 12th grade, to strengthen all students and the future of our country.

Health

- We encourage bipartisan congressional legislation as it relates to research and development of vaccines, affordable healthcare, and

lower out-of-pocket medication costs.

- We seek passage of the Farm Bill to continue programs such as: affordable childcare, SNAP, WIC, and school lunches.

• We will continue to be the voice in raising awareness about these disparities and inequities for rural residents related to healthcare access, affordability, and more. We will continue to partner with organizations to educate our members and the public about ways in which this gap can be closed.

- We endorse the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network and The National Agricultural Crisis Hotline to provide 24/7 access to trained responders in response to the nationwide rural mental health crisis. In addition, we request the Veterans Administration (VA) to increase treatment options for veterans with mental health issues.

• We support the Medicare flexibilities allowing for increased bandwidth for telehealth use, vaccines, mental health coverage, breakthrough Alzheimer’s treatment, opioid abuse programs, and for hospitals at risk of closure. In addition to, new technologies such as Multi-Cancer Early Detection tests with increased rural access for these technologies. We support Pharmacy Benefit Manager Reform as being necessary oversight so that cost savings are passed along to the consumer.

Home & Family

Brag Up Your Grange

By Helen Berg
Family Living Director

It is time to be thinking about what you are going to put on your annual report. I know many of you have projects which are specific to your Grange. Please report these. Brag up your Grange.

On the Pomona report you are asked to indicate how many total

entries you have in each category. I can compare your entries to state with your Pomona entries. This also lets me know what is popular.

Feel free to type your report to make it more legible. I know there are times when my writing is not so clear. I think that comes with age. Ugh!

Lastly, I have a new address. Our children wanted us to be closer to them, so we are in the process

of moving to Longview. My new address is 417 Carlon Loop Road, Longview WA. 98632. Moving in the winter is a challenge, but we will persevere.

Have a blessed Christmas and a great New Year.



Helen Berg

Oakview Grange Announces Winter Service Project With Operation Christmas Child

Oakview Grange #311 participated in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child as their Winter Community Service Project. Grange members donated personal hygiene items, beads, fabric, sewing needles, toys, crayons, spiral notebooks, coloring books, bookmarks, and the cost of the boxes. Grange members spent one morning assembling the various packets containing games, personal hygiene, sewing, art, and crafts. The next month they assembled the items into boxes labeled for boys or girls for three different age groups. We did a total of 36 boxes (6 for each group). The completed boxes were taken to the coordinating center for shipment across the world.



DECEMBER 2024 NATIONAL GRANGE EVENTS

TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP
JOIN US ON ZOOM FOR THESE EVENTS!

ALL TIMES EASTERN	ALL TIMES EASTERN
4: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GRANGE! December 4 is the National Grange's 158th Birthday! What are you doing to celebrate?	11: ISSUES IN PATENTS & TRADEMARKS 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/uspto Join the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office for a new quarterly series! This month: A presentation on the topic of drones, and their role in digital agriculture, and the future of the farming industry.
4: GRANGE FOUNDATION AUCTION CLOSURES Don't forget to bid on some amazing items and experiences! http://www.grangefoundation.org/auction	18: MEMBERSHIP MATTERS 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/matters Join Membership/Leadership Development Director Amanda Brozana to learn about various membership challenges and growth opportunities. December topic: Convention recap and looking ahead to 2025
6: FELLOWSHIP FIRST FRIDAY 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/FirstFriday Join us for a time for fellowship, thought-provoking conversation, and connecting with Grange members. December topic: Battling the holiday blues.	31: LAST DAY TO MAKE A 2024 TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE GRANGE FOUNDATION Give at http://www.grangefoundation.org
9: LESSONS OF THE DEGREES 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/degreelessons Join Roger Bostwick as we dive into the Grange ritual, and the lessons taught in the Fourth Degree, Winter . Open to all members!	

GRANGE STRONG
ROOTED • RESILIENT • UNITED

JUNIOR GRANGE FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SERVICE
YOUTH FOCUS AREA: GROWTH

Bring Holiday Happiness to the Table with Easy, Festive Sides



(Courtesy of Family Features)

Many recipes can be streamlined with Little Potatoes, which come pre-washed, are small so they don't need to be cut and are a fresh, whole food grown on family farms so you can feel good about serving them.

Easy can be fabulous and festive. This Warm Winter Potato Salad with Cranberries offers the best of both worlds as it comes together in around 7 minutes with seasonal pops of red and green.

Free up precious oven real estate while saving time with Herby Holiday Air Fryer Little Potatoes. Potato dishes like this one can be made in an air fryer and customized with a few of your favorite pantry staples. If you don't have fresh herbs on hand, dried will do the trick.

Visit littlepotatoes.com to find more ways to spend less time in the kitchen and more time with family.

Warm Winter Potato Salad with Cranberries

Prep time: 2-5 minutes • Cook time: 5 minutes • Servings: 4

- Ingredients:**
- 1 package A Little Roasted Garlic, Rosemary & Thyme Microwave Ready Little Potatoes
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
 - 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
 - 1 teaspoon honey or maple syrup
 - salt and pepper, to taste
 - 1/4 cup dried cranberries
 - 1 small apple, thinly sliced
 - 2 tablespoons chopped walnuts or other nuts (optional)
 - fresh parsley (optional)
 - green onions (optional)

Instructions:

Prepare potatoes according to package instructions, about 5 minutes, tossing with olive oil and included seasoning pack once cooked.

In small bowl, whisk Dijon mustard, apple cider vinegar and honey or maple syrup. Season with salt and pepper, to taste.

In large bowl, toss warm potatoes with cranberries, thinly sliced apple and walnuts, if using.

Drizzle mustard dressing over top and gently mix until well-coated.

Top with fresh parsley or green onions, if desired, for pop of color. Serve warm.

Tips: If you like more texture, toast walnuts for extra crunch. For added creaminess, mix 1 tablespoon Greek yogurt or mayonnaise into dressing. To save time or reduce ingredients needed, use store-bought honey mustard vinaigrette.

Herby Holiday Air Fryer Little Potatoes

Prep time: 5 minutes • Cook time: 25 minutes • Servings: 6

- Ingredients:**
- 1 1/2 pounds Little Potatoes
 - 2 tablespoons vegetable oil or melted butter
 - salt and pepper, to taste
 - 2 tablespoons fresh or dried herbs, such as parsley, rosemary, sage or oregano, chopped

Instructions:

In large bowl, toss potatoes with oil or melted butter. Add salt and pepper, to taste. Place in air fryer basket.

Air fry potatoes at 390 F for 25 minutes. Once air-fried, sprinkle potatoes with herbs and serve.



Pomona Connection

COWLITZ / WAHKIAKUM COUNTY POMONA

Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Pomona will meet on Saturday, December 21 at the Sunnyside Grange Hall. Potluck lunch at 1 p.m., with the installation of officers and Christmas Program to follow. We will collect warm socks, gloves, and hats for the Keep Washington Warm project.

GRAYS HARBOR / PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor / Pacific Pomona members donated pies to the Union Gospel Mission in Aberdeen for Thanksgiving. The next Pomona meeting will be on Saturday, January 11 at the North River Grange Hall.

KLICKITAT COUNTY POMONA

Klickitat County Pomona held two meetings recently. In September, legislation and agriculture were the highlights of the meeting. While keeping talk non-partisan it emphasized just how important it was to vote your values. In agriculture it was discussed that this autumn was seeing cattle prices maintain high while grain prices were plummeting. November's meeting centered around a full slate of new officers being elected for a two-year term. Installation of officers will be held at the January 2025 meeting. These county meetings are always full of delicious food, wonderful fellowship, and Grange business.

WHATCOM COUNTY POMONA

Whatcom County Pomona met on November 19 at the Haynie Grange Hall. Instead of a potluck, we held a Chili Cookoff. Those non chili cookers, filled in with salads, side dishes, and desserts. We got to sample all of chili entries. The Pomona meeting followed the cookoff. Whatcom County Pomona Grange is the gathering of members from all the Granges in Whatcom County, to learn what's going on in each Grange, and share resources and ideas. We meet 5 times/year, on the third Tuesday of February, April, June, September, and November. Any member is welcome to attend.

Yakima Valley Pomona Hosts Holiday Event; Collects Donations For Rod's House Shelter



Yakima Valley Pomona Grange #11 members enjoyed a wreath making class on Sunday, December 1st at the Terrace Heights Grange hall, along with a dessert social. They later played Bingo with players bringing basic needs items for our local youth shelter, Rod's House. A generous check was also included with their donation.

Pomona Calendar

Please submit your 2025 Pomona Meeting Dates.

- CHELAN**December 19 and January 16 at Smitty's Restaurant, 12 p.m. social luncheon.
- CLALLAM**February 19 at Crescent, 6 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. meeting.
- CLARK**January 8 at Manor, 7 p.m.
- COLUMBIA**to be announced.
- COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUM**January 18 at Catlin, 1 p.m. potluck with meeting to follow. Will collect canned food.
- DOUGLAS**..... to be announced
- EXCELSIOR**March 22 at The Valley, 10:30 a.m.
- FERRY**March 10 at Malo, 6 p.m.
- GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC**January 11 at North River, 10:30 a.m. Potluck lunch at 12 noon.
- KING**to be announced.
- KLICKITAT**January 11 at Centerville, 12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting.
- LEWIS**to be announced.
- MASON**January 18 at The Agate, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. lunch.
- PEND OREILLE**March 2 at Camden, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
- PIERCE**January 4 at Elk Plain, 10 a.m..
- SKAGIT**to be announced.
- SNOHOMISH**January 18 at Tualco, 10 a.m.
- SPOKANE**February 15 at Central, 10 a.m.
- STEVENS**January 24 at Kettle River, 6 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. meeting.
- THURSTON**February 6 at Black Lake, 7 p.m. Installation of officers will be January 5 at South Union at 2 p.m.
- WHATCOM**February 18 at Ten Mile, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. Baking contest entries due.
- WHITMAN**January 18 at Eddy's Restaurant in Colfax, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. no-host lunch.
- YAKIMA VALLEY**January 13 at Fruitvale, 5 p.m. potluck, 6 p.m. meeting.

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 _____		



Grange Connection

Washington Granges Participate In The Dictionary Project



Oakview Grange #311 participated in Words for Thirds as their Fall Community Service Project. Grange members put bookplates in the inside cover of the dictionaries that will be distributed to Centralia & Adna Elementary Schools. This year Joyce Kludt, Becky Escobar, Alice Coakley, & Marcy Belles distributed 246 dictionaries on National Dictionary Day. It was a joy to see the third graders be so excited about getting their own dictionary. Often we were asked, “Is this mine forever?” “Can I take this home?” Other students were excited to know that they can learn sign language and other things that were also included in the back of the dictionary. We’ve done this project for several years.



On behalf of Bethel Grange #404, Grange member Bill Slach distributed 79 dictionaries to the third graders at Hidden Creek Elementary School in Port Orchard on December 3rd. This is just one of four classrooms that received new dictionaries.



Baw Faw Grange in Curtis, WA presented Dictionary/Thesaurus to Ms. Hoffman's 3rd/4th grade class at Boistfort School. Baw Faw Grange has been participating in The Dictionary Project Words for Thirds program for over 30 years!

Silverlake Grange Celebrates Halloween

It seems as though the Halloween season is our strongest time of year. This year was no exception. On October 26th we had our annual kids Halloween party. Family fun with games, costumes, photo ops, face painting and of course food. One of our largest turnouts with comments of we love coming to the Grange to participate in our community events.

Then on Halloween evening we had our yearly haunted house. A little smaller this year (next year back to our normal 20'x40' extravaganza). Attendance was fair (we lost our teenager population due to the high schools having football games on Halloween) but well loved. Our actors had a great time scaring people, and we gave out candy as well.

The Saturday after Halloween, we had our Pumpkin Roll. Over 50 prizes were won rolling pumpkins down our hill. This is among our largest fund raisers and it did not disappoint this year.



Sammamish Valley Grange Participates At Local Harvest Celebration



The Sammamish Valley Harvest Celebration welcomed a few thousand visitors in late October to the 21 Acres Farm and campus in Woodinville, WA. Sammamish Valley Grange #286 hosted several activities including apple pressing on the hundred plus year-old apple press. There were giant pumpkins, artisan vendors, live music, tasty food, cooking demos, author presentations, and so much more to celebrate the season.

Photo: President Tom Quigley demonstrated the intricacy of the apple press to curious youngsters.

Happy Valley Grange Community Service Award

Happy Valley Grange (King County) presented the Community Service Award to three members of Tolt Congregational United Church of Christ on October 15.

Kaila Russell, Barb Lewis, and Dominique LeMaitre are the anchor team who have organized and provided resources to residents of Snoqualmie Valley. The Food Pantry, Food Bank, and Free Take out Meals are available weekly to over 100 people. Their commitment and coordination to the program have helped many members of the local community.



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

Grange Connection

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

East Oakville Grange is planning their Breakfast with Santa event for Saturday, December 7 starting at 8am! Free food, pictures with Santa and every child gets a gift.

Elma Grange held a Kid's Shopping Event, complete with Santa pictures, on November 16. The Annual Holiday Bazaar was November 23-24 with tables full of holiday gift items.

Humtulpis Grange will recognize Volunteer Fireman Stephen Sandstrom with the State and National Grange Firefighter of the Year Awards. Grange members made the fruit pies for the Union Gospel Mission in Aberdeen for Thanksgiving. November was a buy month for the Grange operated Food Bank. We served 57 families. The Timberland Library Systems' Anywhere Library is now open during food bank hours on the third Wednesday of each month. We held two bingo events in November and have two more scheduled for December of the 7th and 21st.

Sharon Grange hosted a Wreath Making Workshop on November 13. The Grange participated in the Country Christmas Bazaar at the Elma Fairgrounds on November 23-24. We are continuing to work on hall improvements and reaching out into the community.

KLICKITAT COUNTY

Goldendale Grange provided a free breakfast and informative program on rural health to honor the hard-working farmers and ranchers of our County. American farmers feed a hungry world every day. This is an awesome task when you consider only 1.7% of the United States workforce is employed in growing food. National Farmers Day, held annually on October 12 was enacted years ago to celebrate the accomplishments of these farmers. Unfortunately, Goldendale area farmers were still engaged in planting crops and moving livestock out of summer mountain pastures on October 12. So, Goldendale Grange chose to move our recognition event to November 5, the morning before Election Day.

PACIFIC COUNTY

Long Beach Grange will celebrate "It's a Grange Family Christmas" on December 20 from 5 pm to 8 pm. Enjoy a festive evening of spaghetti, garlic bread, sugar cookies, Christmas carols, a wonderful youth performance, and photos with Santa. Adults \$15,

Kids 12 & under \$10—don't miss this magical holiday celebration for the Long Beach community

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange's November 5 Chili Cookoff had 12 contestants and lots of people to taste and judge. We served chili, cornbread, cookies, and Green Bluff cider. Our Scholarship account benefitted from the proceeds of over \$500. The first-place winner was Sabrina Sorger (2nd year in a row!!). We appreciate the donations from Yokes and Big Red Pizza Company. Our Community Christmas Party and Toys for Tots collection will be on Saturday, December 14 starting at 6:30 pm. Santa goodie bags will be given out to all the kiddos and maybe even the adults who visit Santa! There will be an all-day Spin-In on January 18. We hold a 1st Tuesday Community Event each month. The 2025 Calendar of Events is being planned. Election of Officers was held on Nov. 19. The Grange still hosts Girl Scout Daisy Troop 2225 twice a month and has other rentals booked for the upcoming holiday season.

Moran Prairie Grange held an open house on October 9. Members went door-to-door in the community to invite families to join the Grange. During the event, representatives from the Spokane Fire Department, Avista Utilities, Spokane County Public Library, Second Harvest Bite to Go, and the local Sheriff's Department shared information about their services. We served cookies and coffee while encouraging attendees to learn more about the Grange and consider signing up for membership. The event was filled with excitement and fun, making it a memorable experience. A special thanks to Scott Lyle, Amanda Brozana, and Chris Hamp for their ideas, support, and guidance in connecting with fellow members for assistance and resources from local Granges. We are excited to announce that we will be hosting "Cookies with Santa" on December 11, 2024, at the Moran Prairie Grange building for our community. Join us for delicious cookies and the chance to take photos with Santa! The event will take place from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Everyone is invited, and we would love to see you there! The address is 6030 S. Palouse Highway, Spokane.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange held their Annual Kiddie Karnival in October. Attendees visited the booths, and enjoyed them all, especially the "Spooky Duck Pond" and the "Face Painting Booth". Now

that all the October decorations are put away, it's time for the assembly of Homeless bags. Each gallon zip lock bag will contain a hat, a pair of gloves, a toothbrush and toothpaste, a Chapstick, a small sewing kit, and a few other things. Six bags were already taken to the local distribution center where a person was asked to check the bags - all the contents were approved. Boxes of body wash, conditioner, shampoo, and other hygiene products were also given to the center for distribution as needed. The Springdale Community Christmas Dinner was changed from December 1 to December 8 to not interfere with the Thanksgiving weekend, and things are really gearing up for it.

THURSTON COUNTY

Violet Prairie Grange hosts a monthly Saturday "Makers' Market" featuring a wide variety of skillfully handcrafted specialties by local artisans. In October we partnered with this year's local PTSA sponsored Halloween "Trunk-or-Treat" event and decorated our "Trunk" with a Grange-friendly "Fall/Harvest" theme. A highlight was our Veterans' Appreciation program which included Bev York [of South Union #860] opening with a patriotic "Bagpipes" call to assemble, an official Revolutionary War era color guard, an engaging history of our U.S. Flag, special patriotic songs by Matt Hodges [of Barberton #571], the presentation of 3 Quilts of Valor to local veterans, and wrapped up our time together with a luncheon-style buffet. In Nov. we hosted the annual "Christmas Cookie Decorating Marathon" which supplies the yearly, nostalgic "Christmas Island" lighted nativity venue. This December we will once again host a like new/gently used "All Things Christmas" booth at the annual Tenino Winterfest & also partner with our local "Friends of the Library" by sponsoring an "Aunt Kate's Chocolates" gift certificate to add to their "Christmas Baking Basket" & by selling their raffle tickets. Traditionally, we join So. Union Grange for their annual Christmas party and look forward to doing so again!!

WHATCOM COUNTY

Haynie Grange held a Harvest Potluck on November 22. The Grange hosted the Haynie Holiday Craft Fair on December 7-8 featuring local artisans selling their wares. The monthly breakfast will also be held on December 8. Breakfast will be downstairs in the dining room, while the craft fair is upstairs in the meeting hall.

Skamokawa Grange Hosts Fun-Filled Community Event



Home baked cookies and music are a great combination! The Skamokawa Grange Hall was filled close to capacity when members of the Grange held a community event on November 9th. The afternoon event started at 3:00 with a social hour, a time to visit with friends and neighbors. Plates full of delicious home baked cookies were offered to our guests and enjoyed by all. Live music started at 4:00 featuring the local band "Skamokawa Swamp Opera," who entertained the crowd with their songs about the local area and kept us all tapping our feet to some lively original and fun familiar songs. This talented band plays a large variety of instruments that pair beautifully with their voices, giving each song a unique sound. The Skamokawa Grange members' goal was to bring the community together for a fun event before winter sets in and we certainly feel we achieved it!

Buena Grange Members Make Red Pepper Jelly



On November 5, Buena Grange hosted an event making red pepper jelly. We produced 96 jars of jelly!

Fruitland Grange Now Has A Little Free Library



Fruitland Grange has a Little Free Library that was installed on the Grange property for the community to access and share free books. You can borrow a book or take one and replace it with one of your own. We will be having a special plaque made and register it with the Little Free Library website. This allows people to find a local free library in their area. Members donated kid's books, cook books and all sorts of fun reads. Pictured: Members showing off the new library.

SAVE THE DATE!

Upcoming State Grange Events

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

NOTE:Grange Resource and Information Training Sessions will begin in January. Most sessions will be held in conjunction with Pomona meetings across the state, however, some will be stand-alone meetings. **All Grange members are invited.**

MONTHLYNew Member Reports due to the State Grange Office

DECEMBER 13Holiday Open House at State Grange Office, 1-4 pm

DECEMBER 15Agenda Items for State Executive Committee Meeting Due

DECEMBER 18State Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom, 6 p.m.

DECEMBER 31Grange Secretary Fourth Quarter Reports Due

DECEMBER 31Annual Lecturer Reports Due to State Lecturer

DECEMBER 31Annual Family Living Reports Due to State FL Director

2025

JANUARY 4Grange Resource & Information Training at the Pierce County Pomona Meeting, 10 a.m. at the Elk Plain Grange Hall (Pierce County).

JANUARY 7Grange Resource & Information Training at the Deer Lagoon Grange Meeting, 6 p.m. at the Deer Lagoon Grange Hall (Island County).

JANUARY 8Grange Resource & Information Training at the Clark County Pomona Meeting, 7 a.m. at the Manor Grange Hall.

JANUARY 11Grange Resource & Information Training at the Klickitat County Pomona Meeting, 10 a.m. at the Centerville Grange Hall.

JANUARY 11Agenda Items for State Executive Committee Meeting Due

JANUARY 13Grange Resource & Information Training at the Yakima Valley Pomona Meeting, 5 p.m. at the Fruitvale Grange Hall.

JANUARY 15State Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom, 6 p.m.

JANUARY 17Grange Resource & Information Training at the Fredonia Grange Hall (Skagit County), 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.

JANUARY 18Grange Resource & Information Training at the Snohomish County Pomona Meeting, 5 p.m. at the Tualco Grange Hall.

JANUARY 19-20Grange Youth Legislative Experience @ Olympia

JANUARY 20Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.

JANUARY 24Grange Resource & Information Training at the Stevens County Pomona Meeting, 6 p.m. at the Kettle River Grange Hall.

FEBRUARY 2Southwest District Convention Host Committee Meeting, 12 p.m. at the SW Washington Fairgrounds, followed by Kick Off Meeting at the Adna Grange Hall

FEBRUARY 3Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.

FEBRUARY 4State Grange Legislative Day @ Olympia

FEBRUARY 6Grange Resource & Information Training at the Thurston County Pomona Meeting, 7 p.m. at the Black Lake Grange Hall.

FEBRUARY 7Grange Resource & Information Training, 7 p.m. at the Moses Lake Grange Hall (Grant County).

FEBRUARY 9Grange Resource & information Training, 1 p.m. at the Bee Hive Grange Hall (Chelan County).

FEBRUARY 17Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.

MARCH 3Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.

MARCH 15Agenda Items for State Executive Committee Meeting Due

MARCH 17Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.

MARCH 19State Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom, 6 p.m.

MARCH 31Grange Secretary First Quarter Reports Due

APRIL 7Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.

APRIL 21Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.

APRIL 27-28State Executive Committee Meeting (face to face)

MAY 15-17Western Regional Grange Leaders Conference @ Hamilton, Montana

JUNE 25-29136th Annual Washington State Grange Convention at the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds Centralia/Chehalis, 1909 S Gold St, Centralia, WA 98531

NOVEMBER 8-16159th National Grange Convention Cruise aboard the Carnival Horizon. Sets sail from Miami through the Caribbean to Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao.

Grange Connection

Goldendale Grange Receives Award From National Grange

Goldendale Grange #49 was recognized as a Distinguished Grange at the 158th National Grange Session in Bettendorf, Iowa. National Grange President Christine Hamp presented Goldendale Grange members Daniel and Richard Lefever with the award during the National Grange Honors Night celebration. This is truly an honor for Goldendale Grange as only 40 Community Granges and four State Granges qualified for this award from the 1,500 local Granges active in 35 states.

