



WASHINGTON STATE Grange News

March 2025

Informing Grangers Since 1912

114th Year No. 3



Manson Grange Hall Celebrates Renovation Milestone

The historic Manson Grange Hall, a cornerstone of the community since 1945, is proudly unveiling the first phase of a much-anticipated renovation project. Thanks to the tireless efforts of local volunteers, generous contributions from community members, and support from local businesses, the Grange Hall is ready to continue

serving as a vibrant gathering space for generations to come.

The renovation, beginning in 2025, focuses on preserving the hall's historic charm while addressing critical updates to ensure safety, accessibility, and functionality. Key improvements include:

- Modernized Facilities:

Upgrades to the kitchen, restrooms, and event spaces to better serve modern needs.

- Enhanced Accessibility: Installation of ramps, railings, and ADA-compliant features to welcome all community members.

- Energy Efficiency: New energy-efficient lighting and

HVAC systems to reduce environmental impact.

- Internal refreshing: painting, resurfacing the wood floor and installing new lighting.

"The Manson Grange Hall has always been more than just a building; it's a symbol of our shared history and community spirit," said Terri Carleton, Volunteer of the Manson Grange Renovation Committee. "This renovation ensures that we can continue hosting events, meetings, and celebrations in a space that reflects the pride we have in our town."

An Open house is scheduled for May. The event will include tours of the renovated space, live music, refreshments, and opportunities to learn more about the Grange's ongoing programs. All are welcome to attend and experience the revitalized hall firsthand.

The renovation was made

possible through the collaborative efforts of

- \$193,000 State Legislature Grant

- \$42,000 from our members and Community.

- \$10,000 anonymous matching fund donation

- \$6,000 Community Foundation of North Central Washington Regional Impact Grant

- \$2,000 Lake Chelan Community Services Council

Additional support came from countless community members and organizations who donated their time, skills, and resources.



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

GRANGE MONTH: APRIL 2025

For more information visit www.nationalgrange.org

PROCLAMATION

GRANGE MONTH 2025

GRANGE MONTH – CELEBRATE, CONNECT, AND GROW!

WHEREAS, April is **Grange Month**! A time to celebrate our legacy, embrace new opportunities, and showcase the incredible impact of the Grange in communities across America; and

WHEREAS, for nearly 160 years, the Grange has been a beacon of service, leadership, and unity, bringing together individuals and families who share a passion for making a difference; and

WHEREAS, the Grange is growing, evolving, and thriving, fueled by the energy of its members who create solutions, build friendships, and strengthen rural communities through action and innovation; and

WHEREAS, Grange Month is the perfect time to open our doors, welcome new members, and inspire the next generation of leaders, ensuring the Grange remains a vibrant force for good for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, this is a time to ignite our passion for advocacy, service, and fun, from hosting community events and launching new projects to connecting with neighbors and celebrating the bonds that make the Grange so special; and

WHEREAS, together, we stand strong, dream big, and build brighter futures, carrying forward the Grange's mission with enthusiasm and determination; therefore be it

RESOLVED, I, Christine E. Hamp, President of the National Grange, do hereby proclaim April as Grange Month and invite every member, friend, and supporter to celebrate, engage, and grow with us. **Grange Strong** – Today, Tomorrow, and Always!



Christine E. Hamp
President
National Grange



[WWW.NATIONALGRANGE.ORG](http://www.nationalgrange.org)

NATIONAL GRANGE NIGHT

A MONTHLY ZOOM PROGRAM

March 11, 2025

Join National Grange President **Christine E. Hamp** as we build excitement for April's Grange Month. Tune in to hear how you can bring Grange Month excitement into your Grange and community and join the **Grange Month Challenge** to advocate for your community.

Register:
<http://grange.biz/zoomnightregister>

2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
8:30PM ET / 5:30PM PT

GET ON BOARD!



SET SAIL FOR THE 2025 NATIONAL GRANGE CONVENTION – AT SEA!

Quilts of Valor: Quilts = Healing

By Debbie Riegel-Yates
Washington State Grange QOV Coordinator
skagitvalleyqov@gmail.com

The Quilts of Valor was established in 2003 and is a National Organization. Founder, Catherine Roberts' son Nat had been deployed to Iraq. Catherine had a dream that she saw a young man hunched over his bed in the middle of the night. She recalled seeing his “war demons” clustered around him, dragging him down into emotional despair. She then saw him wrapped in a quilt and his whole demeanor changed from one of despair to one of hope and well-being. She felt that the quilt had made his dramatic change. The message of her dream was **QUILTS = HEALING**. The Quilts of Valor has groups nationwide and have presented almost 500,000 quilts with all 50 states participating. To receive a QOV, you must have served in the military, being active duty, National Guard, and Reservist member of the United States Armed Forces. You must have served during declared war, conflicts, police actions, peacekeeping missions and counter terrorism operations and times and times of peace. Only veterans with a honorable discharge or General Discharge status are eligible. A veteran can be “touched by war” in a variety of ways. A veteran could have engaged in direct combat, being wounded or injured

in training for combat or during direct combat, serving while in harm's way delivering support, supplies, etc. To those engaged in preventing conflicts or engaged in battle or combat. Caring for the casualties, injured, and ill service members. Providing casualty assistance to families of the fallen, escorting the fallen or remains, and participating in honor guards. Being there to listen, to minister and to support others struggling with the demons of being in war and serving our country. At the Washington State Grange Convention, we would love to honor our grange members with “wrapping” them with a Quilt of Valor. If you would like to be honored or you know anyone that you would like to nominate to receive a quilt, please go to QOVF and fill out the nomination form. Please note that the quilt will be presented Skagit Valley QOV and presented at the Washington State Grange Convention. This way I will be able to keep track of all of the quilts that we will present this year. Thank you.

Grange Promotional Display Contest: “Grange Strong: Rooted, Resilient, United”

We encourage Granges to promote their Grange via displays in their communities throughout the year. This may be during Grange Month, during your county fair, or at any time throughout the year. The purpose of the displays is to promote the Grange, our programs and activities, and to share the positive impact we make on our communities. Displays are a wonderful opportunity to showcase your Grange and to gather support for your activities. The State Grange Membership Department is having a Grange Promotional Display Contest to assist in promoting the Grange by portraying the positive influences the Grange has had on our communities, state and nation.

Contest Information and General Guidelines

- Each Grange will arrange their own display area in a

- prominent public location in their community. It may be in a store or library, at a fair, or during a community event.
- Each Grange should design a display featuring their projects and activities, with a focus on positive impacts achieved in their community and state.
- The display should follow the theme “GRANGE STRONG”. If your display is from your county fair, you may use your fair theme.
- Grange programs should be represented (i.e. Lecturer, Family Living, Community Service, Legislative, Youth and Junior activities, etc.).
- The display must be in place for a minimum of five days or for the entire duration of the event.
- Each display must include a Grange logo and contact information for the local Grange.

*Each Grange is encouraged to take 3-5 pictures of their display (including one of the complete

displays).

- *Place the pictures in a folder, with a 300-word (maximum) essay about the display and what you wanted to convey.
- *Submit pictures of your display for promotion in The Grange News.
- *Judging will be completed by a committee and will be based on originality, creativity, design, and overall impact.
- *Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three displays: \$100, \$50, \$25.

All entries should be placed in a folder and sent by October 31 to the Washington State Grange, PO Box 1186, Olympia WA 98507.

Email Us

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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

Utilizing Our Resources To Better Our Granges And Communities

By Tom Gwin
WA State Grange President

We’ve had a couple buy months at the State Grange Office in Olympia. The Youth / Junior Legislative Experience and Grange Legislative Day were sandwiched between our series of Resource and Information Conferences. While those activities were highlighted last month, there are a few remnants to touch base on.

Resource and Information Packets

Your Yearly Information Packets should be in the hands of every Grange. While the packet did include the program information from each department, it also included resource material for Grange Masters / Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers. I cannot reiterate enough, the necessity for you to read through the information we provided to you. Nearly all of your questions can be answered simply by reading through the material. If you do not find the answers to your questions, then it is appropriate to call your Grange Deputy or the State Grange Office to get clarification.

Capital Budget Grants

Thank you to those Granges who completed applications for the Capital Budget Grants through the state legislature. While we started the application process last fall, Granges wishing to continue needed to apply directly with the legislature and to contact their State Senator and Representatives as a part of the process. Nearly 50 Grange completed the process and are working with the state legislators to secure funding. We are hopeful to for every Grange that accepted the opportunity to apply for these funds to improve your community meeting facilities. While not every Grange will be funded, we are receiving favorable comments on many of the projects. About a month from now, we should have some indication as to which Granges will receive either full or partial funding. For those Granges that do get funded, we will work with you through the processes outlined in the legislation. For those Granges that do not get funded, we will work with you in learning how to improve your grant application as we try again with renewed vigor in 2026.

National Report

We just completed the State Grange Report to the National Grange for the Fourth Quarter of 2024. We are showing an increase in membership for the fourth quarter. While the number of Junior Grange members shows a decrease, the number of Grange Family Plans increased, along with the number of Individual Fraternal Members. The number of Associate Members increased slightly, while the number of Affiliate Members remains constant. We’ve had gains in total membership for the past three years. Much will depend upon the first and second quarter reports,

In a world that often encourages division, we expect our Grange members to embrace the complexity of different viewpoints.

It is not just an intellectual exercise — it is a necessity for progress and growth as we continue working for the betterment of our Granges and our communities.

-- Tom Gwin

which will determine if we can make it for the fourth consecutive year. I encourage you to continuing utilizing the resources to promote the Grange and the positive influence we make across the state.

Two Sides of the Story: The Importance of Perspective

In today’s Grange, it is easy to form opinions quickly. Whether it’s a political debate, a social issue, or even a personal dispute, our members often take sides without considering the full picture. However, every story has at least two sides, and failing to acknowledge this reality can lead to misinformation, division, and missed opportunities for understanding. While this situation occurs in our Granges, one of the most common examples of this phenomenon occurs in the media. News outlets, whether intentionally or unintentionally, can present stories with biases that shape public perception. A single event can be reported in vastly different



Tom Gwin

ways depending on the outlet’s perspective, leaving audiences with incomplete or conflicting narratives. Without critical thinking and a willingness to consider alternative viewpoints, our members may form opinions based on partial truths rather than objective reality. Similarly, in personal conflicts, misunderstandings often arise because people focus only on their own experiences and emotions. Two individuals may recall the same argument differently, each believing they are entirely right. However, true resolution comes from empathy — understanding the other person’s perspective and recognizing that the truth is often somewhere in between. Acknowledging both sides allows for more effective communication and conflict resolution. In legal and historical contexts, the principle of considering multiple perspectives is fundamental. The judicial system is built on the idea that both the prosecution and the defense must present their sides before a verdict is reached. Similarly, history is filled with events that can be interpreted in multiple ways. What one group sees as a triumph, another may view as a tragedy. Understanding these nuances helps create a more balanced and comprehensive view of the past. To foster a more informed and open-minded organization, we must challenge ourselves to seek out multiple perspectives. This means engaging in conversations with people who hold different beliefs, reading diverse sources of information, and practicing empathy in our daily interactions. By acknowledging that every story has at least two sides, we can bridge divides, reduce conflict, and cultivate a culture of deeper understanding. Ultimately, the truth is rarely black and white. It is found in the gray areas, where multiple perspectives intertwine. In a world that often encourages division, we expect our Grange members to embrace the complexity of different viewpoints. It is not just an intellectual exercise — it is a necessity for progress and growth as we continue working for the betterment of our Granges and our communities.

Legislative

Unique Legislative Session Underway

By Jesse Taylor
Legislative Lobbyist



Jesse Taylor

I got home from a late Appropriations Committee meeting the other night and glanced over towards my wood supply, noticing it was starting to get down. As the calendar begins to turn towards the spring months, my wood stack is always a measuring post of where we are in the year. Looking at the wood stack the other day gave me incredible optimism as it tells me we are turning the corner on the winter and barreling towards Spring. By the time I’m down to my last half cord of wood the cherry trees are popping, and Memorial Day is in sight. Springtime is my favorite season. The grass starts to grow, the birds start to chirp, fishing season opens and kids fill baseball fields. I hope our industry is feeling a sense of optimism this year as we gear up for the ‘busy’ season. With many unknowns around the world, the changing of the seasons is always a welcome staple that lets us know that order is imminent, and we are still a community of people running around this rock together. As we have mentioned routinely throughout the year, the state revenue outlook is facing some challenges. The most recent official forecast from the Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, released last fall, indicated a continuing downward trend. For the current 23-25 biennium projected General Fund revenue collections are estimated at \$66.4 billion, a decrease of \$89 million from the September 2024 forecast. As we look ahead to the 2025-27 biennium, which starts July 1, revenue is projected at \$71.4 billion, down \$181 million from the prior estimate. Over the four-year outlook, including the 2027-29 biennium, the total revenue projection has dropped by about \$400 million compared to earlier forecasts. This reduction is attributed to factors like lower-than-expected capital gains tax receipts, a slowdown in home construction, and softening personal income growth, despite steady employment figures. Our state rainy day coffer has about \$2.4 billion, but this shortfall suggests lawmakers may face deeper cuts and tougher decisions than \$2.4B worth. The next official revenue forecast, due by March 20, 2025, will provide further clarity as the legislative session progresses. This legislative session has been unique in that it’s the first time our state has had a long session with a new president and governor in 32-years. The last time our state faced a new administration in both Olympia and D.C. were 1993 when Governor Mike Lowery and President Bill Clinton were sworn in. Because of that there has been a lot of uncertainty around matching federal funds with state funds and the interface between the two. In light of that federal-state interface, Washington State faces a significant risk of losing federal funding due to its support for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policies in public schools, especially in light of recent directives from the U.S. Department of Education. On February 15, 2025, the Department issued a letter giving states 14 days—until February 28, 2025—to eliminate DEI programs or risk losing federal dollars. This directive, aligned with President Trump’s executive orders to end what he calls “illegal and discriminatory” DEI initiatives, puts billions of dollars at stake for states like Washington that resist compliance. Washington State, however, has shown resistance to these federal directives. Local leaders, including some school districts and state officials like OSPI head Chris Reykdal, have indicated they intend to maintain their DEI programs despite the executive order. This stance could put the state at odds with the federal government, which provides significant funding to Washington—approximately 7% of the state’s education budget, and billions more across other sectors. The remainder of the Washington State legislative session will look almost exactly like the first half; but with an abbreviated timeframe. The “halftime” of session (this year March 12th) represents the deadline for all bills to be passed out of their “House of Origin”. That means if a bill was introduced this year in the Senate, it has to make the entire journey through the Senate Committees and get successfully voted off the Senate floor with a full chamber vote before the March 12th “House of Origin” cutoff. If that bill is successful in getting voted off the Floor, it’s alive for the second half of session and then goes to consideration by members of the House of Representatives. Please follow along our weekly legislative updates through the remainder of the session for specific, real-time information about what’s coming out of the 2025 session. As we go throughout the session you can follow along the daily schedule of the legislature and see the Senate floor calendar and the House floor calendar.



Session Watch 2025

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

www.wa-grange.com/LegislativeSession.aspx

Western Regional Conference

2025 Western Regional Grange Youth And Leaders Conference

• May 15-17, 2025 - Hamilton, Montana •

The 2025 Western States Conference will be held May 15th -17th 2025 at the Corvallis Grange #17, 130 Dutch Hill Rd, Hamilton, MT 59840 and Rocky Mountain Grange Hall 1436 S 1st St, Hamilton, MT 59840. The two Grange Halls are located 6.6 miles apart and we will be utilizing both halls.

The Registration Fee will be \$75 per person for those registering before April 15th and \$85 for registration after April 15th. Registration includes Lunch & Dinner on Friday and Dinner on Saturday.

Online Registration <https://form.jotform.com/250414764476057> - we will not be able to accept credit cards, plan to pay by check or cash.



SCHEDULE:

Thursday, May 15th - Corvallis Grange Hall

- 5:30 PM Registration Opens
- 7:00 PM Get Acquainted Activities
- 8:00 PM Ice Cream Social

Friday, May 16th - Corvallis Grange Hall

- Breakfast On Your Own
- Silent Action Opens
- 8:00 AM Registration Open
- 8:30 AM Welcome & Opening remarks
- 9:00 AM Combating Volunteer Burn Out – Christina Webster Shipmates Team
- 10:00 AM Locating & Applying for Grants – Jan Manning - Whitepine Grange
- 11:00 AM Screen Addiction – Melissa Porcaro – Whitepine Grange
- 12:00 PM Lunch – Corvallis Grange - by Corvallis Grange
- 1:00 PM National President Chris Hamp
- 2:00 PM How about Making Marshmallows? - Mary Gehl, Corvallis Grange
- 3:00 PM Connecting with homesteaders – Vic Stevens, Shipmates Team
- 4:00 PM Fermentation – Erin
- 6:00 PM Dinner – Rocky Mountain Grange Hall – by Rocky Mountain Grange
- 7:30 PM A Grange Hall Square Dance at Rocky Mountain Grange

Saturday, May 17th – Corvallis Grange Hall

- Breakfast on your own
- 8:00 AM Parliamentary procedures – Joe Stefanoni, California State President
- 9:00 AM The Scott & Vic Show - Scott Lyle & Vic Stevens, Shipmates Team
- 10:00 AM Thinking about trying Bee Keeping? - Scott & Marie Nicholson
- 10:45 AM Tour - Hamilton Farmers Market w/ Ravalli County Museum -
- Lunch on your own

Saturday, May 17th – Afternoon Session – Rocky Mountain Grange Hall

- Afternoon Session will reconvene at Rocky Mountain Grange Hall
- 1:00 PM We are the Dream Keepers – Amanda Brozana, Membership Director
- 2:00 PM Mental Health Awareness – Jaycee Jette, Avon Grange
- 3:00 PM National Programs – Tom Gwin National Lecturer
- 4:00 PM Open Conversations with State Presidents
- 6:00 PM Dinner at Corvallis Grange – Silent and Live Auction Results
- 7:30 PM Reframing Grange History for Grange Strategies in Recruitment – Shipmates Team
- 8:30 PM Songs of the Grange – Brevy Waldon

HOTEL INFORMATION:

- ➔ **City Center Motel:** 415 W Main, Hamilton, MT, 406-363-1651
Offering a 20% discount to Grangers if booked by April 17th.
- ➔ **Hamilton Super 8:** 1325 N St, Hamilton, MT, 406-961-7415
- ➔ **Bitterroot River Inn:** 139 Bitterroot Plaza Dr, Hamilton, MT, 406-375-2525

RV OPTIONS:

- **Corvallis Grange #17** has limited space available for dry camping
- **Rocky Mountain Grange #116** has limited space available for dry camping
- **Black Rabbit Campground**, 2101 N 1st St, Hamilton, MT 59840 - (406) 363-3744
- **Angler's Roost RV and Campground**, 815 US-93, Hamilton, MT 59840 (406) 363-1268

VRBO, AIRBNB & HOSTSHARE:

- There are numerous VRBO, HOSTSHARE & AIRBNB in the Hamilton/ Corvallis Area. You may want to book early and check locations as many are quite “remote”.

QUESTIONS:

Contact: Scott Nicholson Email: fenceline157@gmail.com Phone: 406-369-0749

SPEAK LIKE A “CHAMP”

Speak like a “CHAMP” is a monthly message designed to get everyone speaking the same language to encourage positive teamwork as we Grange.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity Building refers to the process of developing and strengthening the skills, abilities, resources, and infrastructure of individuals, organizations, or communities to achieve sustainable growth, solve problems, and adapt to changing circumstances. It is a proactive approach to empowerment and long-term success by enhancing the capacity to meet goals effectively.

WA State Grange To Recognize 2025 Graduates

The Washington State Grange will recognize Grange members who are members of the Class of 2025 in an upcoming issue of The Grange News.

We ask each Grange to submit the names of those members who will be graduating in 2025, along with a photo of the graduate. High school graduates will have their name, Grange, and school listed. College graduates will have their name, Grange, school, and degree received with area of study.

Information can either be mailed to the State Grange Office or may be emailed to: grangenews@wa-grange.org no later than May 1.

Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Public Speaking Contest Scheduled For June Convention

By Jerry Gwin
Youth Grange Director

The State and National Grange Youth Departments annually conduct the Public Speaking Contest. The purpose of this contest is to increase the verbal communication skills of our Grange members. Now is the time for Grange members of all ages to begin preparing for this year's Grange Public Speaking Contest.

There are three age categories in the contest: 14-20 years of age, 21-25 years of age, and 26+ years of age. The age of the contestant is as of January 1 each year.

Prepared Speeches: Prepared speeches may be on any topic and should last from three minutes to five minutes. A printed outline of the speech must be provided at the beginning of the contest.

Each contestant will answer an impromptu question related to their speech after completing their speech. One Best of Show winner will be selected at the Annual State Grange Session in June. The Best of Show winner will represent our state at the National Grange Public Speaking Contest in November.

The Prepared Speech Contest will be held at the State Grange Session in Centralia/Chehalis on Saturday, June 28. The time and location will be announced later. To enter a prepared speech, the contestant should notify me by June 1. You may notify me via email at davona1242@outlook.com

Impromptu Speeches: Impromptu speeches are delivered without preparation or thought ahead of time. Notes may not be used. Each

contestant will draw two topics.

The contestant will pick one of the topics for their speech. Speeches will be one to five minutes in length. This contest will be held at both the state and regional level. There is no limit as to the number of entries at either level.

The State Impromptu Speech Contest on Saturday, June 28. You may either email your intent to enter prior to the convention or you may sign up at the youth table at the convention prior to 12 p.m. on June 28.

Cash prizes of varying amounts will be awarded in all three contests. Additional information on the public speaking contests can be found in the State and National Grange Youth Program Books, 2025 edition.



Jerry Gwin

Juniors

Opportunities For Juniors

By Heather Ferguson
Junior Grange Director



Heather Ferguson

Having a Junior program is easier then you think. If you have children that attend your meetings, but not enough to organize a Junior Grange, than the 1+ program is for your Grange. The 1+ program allows a single child, ages 5-14, to become full-fledged Junior Grange members. All they need to do is submit a simple application to the subordinate Grange and receive the Junior Grange obligation to start their Grange journey. Keeping Juniors active and busy during Grange meetings will get them excited and curious about the Grange.

As a 1+ member, they are eligible to enter any of the State and National Junior contests appropriate for their age. The new 2025 National and State Junior programs are available in the handbook. This would be a great time for your Junior Committee or chairperson to help make a goals list for each Junior or your group of Juniors on what they want to accomplish for the year.

Juniors that are 1+ members will not have the opportunity to participate in a Junior meeting and will need to learn about the Grange and the work we do in different ways. This is as easy as 1+ members participating in meeting, volunteer work or including them in committees. Remember, Juniors attention spans can be very short, please plan on their participation accordingly.

There are lots of opportunities for Juniors in our organization. All the information you need to participate in the State and National programs are either in the handbooks or online. I look forward to your Juniors participation this year.

WA State Grange Offers Scholarships

Scholarships are offered each year through the Washington State Grange Foundation to assist Grange members attending college.

Applicants for these scholarships must be high school seniors or graduates already enrolled in institutions of higher learning. They must be Grange members of a Grange in Washington State.

The scholarships may be used at any institution offering courses leading to a certificate or degree in a recognized profession or vocation.

The following scholarships are being offered this year:

- Grange Family Living Department Vocational Scholarship
- Grange Family Living Department Home Economics Scholarship
- Kegley Agricultural Scholarship
- Norm Buchholz Agricultural Scholarship
- Kittleson Memorial Agricultural Scholarship
- Delpha Goude Scholarship
- Horace Bozarth Scholarship
- Kiona-Benton (Koss Memorial) Scholarship
- Adrian & Betty DeVries Memorial Scholarship

- Martin & Grace Forry Scholarship
- Marion & Snowie Vanderpool Scholarship
- Riverview Grange Scholarship
- Fox Island Grange Scholarship
- Nob Island Grange Scholarship
- Ray & Marion Kammerer Scholarships
- Enga M. Anderson Scholarship
- Bear Creek Scholarship
- Rock Creek Scholarship
- French Creek Scholarship
- McCleary Grange Scholarship
- Pomona Villa Scholarship

Details on the requirements for each scholarship, along with applications forms, can be found on the Washington State Grange website, www.wa-grange.com. The online forms are not set as PDF fillable, however a signature is still required from the applicant and all recommendations must also be signed by the person making the recommendation. Completed applications and forms may be emailed, faxed, or sent via regular mail and are due by 5 p.m. on April 1.

Junior Connection

GREEN BLUFF JUNIOR GRANGE

Green Bluff Junior Grange will meet for pizza at 5:00 pm on April 22. After eating, we will be split into groups to complete our annual roadside cleanup project = to Keep Green Bluff Green! This is our 12th annual event! It's a great way to be together, cleaning our area and having some pizza!.

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 _____		

Newborn Lamb Demonstration For Fargher Lake Grangers



Fargher Lake Grange juniors and youth had a demonstration for newborn lambs given by Brandon Roberts. The kids docked tails, disinfected them, removed umbilical cords and gave vaccines to the new lambs. Followed by pizza.

Lecturer's Department

Creative Writing - WA State And National Grange



Leslie Jo Wells

By Leslie Jo Wells
State Grange Lecturer

The first contest of the year is once again the Creative Writing Contest. I've included the rules below for those of you who are interested in participating. Did you know that there is a National Grange Creative Writing Contest? I have included information about that contest as well in this article. The topics may sound familiar to those of you in our state because some are topics we have used here in previous contests. Please consider entering both contests!

WA STATE GRANGE - 2025 CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

1. This contest is open to Grange members only. Remember we no longer have categories for younger than 14 years old.
2. All entries must be either typed or neatly written in ink on 8 ½" x 11" paper. Illegible entries will be disqualified.
3. The following should be placed on the top right corner on the front of the entry: Name of entrant, Grange name and number, and Group/Class entered.
4. The Poetry Topic for 2025 is "The Grange of the Future". There is a 500-word limit.
5. The Short Story Topic for 2025 is "My Garden Grows..." The maximum length is 3 pages, double spaced. Your short story/anecdote should entertain the reader.
6. All entries must be post marked by April 15th and sent to: Leslie Jo Wells, State Lecturer, 18232 201st Ave SE, Monroe, WA 98272.
7. Judging criteria: originality and organization; adherence to topic and contest rules; and grammar, spelling, punctuation, and neatness.
8. Prizes: All entries will receive blue, red and green ribbons. First, second, and third place in each class will receive rosettes. Cash prizes will be awarded as listed below.

Group A – Adults, age 20 and over

The Best of Show entry in this group will receive \$50 and the 2nd Best of Show entry in this group will receive \$25

- A-1 – Poetry – Metered
- A-2 – Poetry – Free Verse
- A-3 – Short Story

Group B – Youth, ages 14-19

The Best of Show entry in this group will receive \$50 and the 2nd Best of Show entry in this group will receive \$25

- B-1 – Poetry – Metered
- B-2 – Poetry – Free Verse
- B-3 – Short Story

2025 NATIONAL GRANGE LECTURER'S CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

STATEMENT OF INTENT: To inspire members and friends of the Grange to submit their writings which will promote creativity, encourage writing skills, and provide exposure for writers.

Submitted writing entries will become the property of the National Grange and may be used in National Grange publications, marketing, merchandise, and virtual media.

RULES:

- A. The National Grange Creative Writing Contest is open to all Grangers and yet-to-be Grangers
- B. Writing entries must be received electronically as a single (1) file no larger than 10MB via the link: <https://grange.biz/grangecreativewriting2025> by September 1, 2025.
- C. Classes Class 1 – Poetry, maximum 300 words. Theme: "The Grange of the Future." Class 2 – Essay, maximum 1,000 words. The purpose is to inform the reader. Theme: "The Grange is Important Today Because..." Class 3 – Short Story, maximum 1,000 words. The purpose is to entertain the reader. Theme: "It Happened In/At Grange."
- D. Each individual is limited to one entry in each class. Each class entry must be submitted separately.
- E. Judging criteria: originality and organization; adherence to topic and contest rules; and grammar, spelling, punctuation, and neatness.
- F. Any entry deemed inappropriate will not be judged or exhibited in the National Grange Creative Writing Contest.
- G. Any entries received after the September 1, 2025 deadline will not be judged.

PRIZES:

Monetary prizes will be awarded for each division: 1st (\$50), 2nd (\$30), and 3rd (\$20). The top three entries may be featured in future marketing or promotional items from the National Grange.

Questions? Contact Tom Gwin, National Lecturer, at lecturer@nationalgrange.org.

Heirloom Project Readings March, April, May 2025

MARCH 2025: "An honest man is the noblest work of God" (First Degree; Lecturer)

APRIL 2025: "Of all the sweeteners of human toil, of all the motive powers that give alacrity to the hand or foot, readiness to the will, and intelligence to mind and purpose, the quickest and most enduring in results is the kind word spoken in season."

(Installation Ceremony;
Installing Officer to Vice President)

MAY 2025: "In your intercourse with your fellow beings correct an error kindly, and with the smooth edge of affection, and do not bruise a wound you wish to heal."

(First Degree; Vice President)



Community Service

Make Plans For Grange Month, NOW!



Claudine Mincks

By Claudine Mincks
Community Service Director

March is a great time to start planning for Grange month. April will be here before we know it and it'll be a month full of showing the local communities just what makes Grange, special in each. Great success is in large part due to great planning in advance. Seize some time at your next regular Grange meeting to set your agenda for April.

Grange month may be a good time for your local Subordinate or Pomona Grange to host a local community event to honor Veterans with a Quilt of Valor, award individuals for a Pomona Grange Award for Public Service, Subordinate Grange Community Citizen Award, and Volunteer Recognition Program awards for outstanding teachers, law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical service workers, community volunteer group, and

a grange member community volunteer. Just remember groups may not be Grange groups but Grange members may be members of the group. Some of the awards are available at the National Grange Store or Office but takes a few weeks to be mailed out.

Besides April being Grange Month, it also houses National Gardening Day on April 14th and Earth Day on April 22nd. There are many other fun National Days in April, some are: April

Fool's Day, National Library Day, National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day, National DIY Day, National Sourdough Bread Day, National Name Yourself Day, National Oatmeal Cookie Day, National Pet Day, National Vitamin C Day, and Find a Rainbow Day.

With some of these fun engaging April National Days it may be a great month for your local Subordinate Grange to incorporate them into a local Community Service project, program, event, or all

three wrapped up into one! There will be no better time to invite the local community into your halls and show them all that Grange has to offer.

Grangers are the Hearts of Service. I'm excited to see what new innovative programming you come up with for April's Grange Month. Please share them!

Membership Corner

Welcome New Members

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS February 2025

		# Joined	Jr. +1
603	Addy2	1	
	Jocelyn Fortin, Zane Clifner		
34	Baw Faw1		
	Hazel Barnts		
571	Barberton1		
	Macey Bodily		
404	Bethel1		
	Lynn Brookhaus		
647	Broadway1		
	Eugenia Petty		
846	Deer Lagoon4		
	George Lawson, Vicki Lawson, Jim Barden Sandra Nonhof		
853	Fargher Lake0	1	
866	Fern Prairie3	1	
	Jason Schonert, Chanel Schonert, Kallen Schonert		
533	Fort Colville2	1	
	Alicia Johansen, Jack Johansen		
348	Fruitvale6		
	Steve Moore, Patrick Moss, Mark Oslund, Gary Miller Leonard Rickey, Ray Latham		
857	Granville1		
	Kody Friedrich		
730	Humptulips2		
	Shane Miles, Bayli Duvall		
1151	Moses Lake5	1	
	Ruth Hinen, Jose Valle, Debra Valle, Thomas Beppe Kimberly Beppe		
311	Oakview5		
	Margaret Jones, Ken Wiljanan, Rose Tiller Carolynn Gregory, Margaret Blankenship		
226	Rome2		
	Daniel Hinchin, Carla Hinchin		
702	Roy1		
	Haley Wellman		
849	Salmon Creek1		
	Chelsea (Selah) Pieretti		
1153	Selkirk Valley13	13	
	Amy March, Brandt March, Deleasia O'Donnell Jon Mathes, Lindsey Mathes, Havyn Mathes Steven Fleshman, Emily Fleshman, Hannah Taylor Clint Petrich, Cassie Petrich, Maddie Petrich Weston Hedrick		
800	Sharon1		
	Margaret Truttman		
620	Skagit Valley12		
	Kimberly Hargrove, Robin Gaynor, .Maynard Axelson Michelle Dekok, Meredith Hodgkinson, Karen Burkhart Stephen James, Ross Johnston, Reed Eckstrom Robert Stanley, Jennifer Bowman, Zachary Linn		
250	South Bay3		
	Anita Thomson, John Kelly, Judy Jugan		
482	Twisp Valley1		
	Jason Hoffman		
1111	Waller Road1		
	Katherine Trezise		
980	Windsor1		
	Neal Macomber		
		# Joined	Jr. +1
TOTALS70	18	

Membership: Spring is in the Air

As spring approaches, we start to see flowers bloom and everything around us begins to grow. Similarly, our Granges will also experience growth as the days get longer and the sun stays with us for a while.

Before we know it, Grange Month will be here. This is the perfect time for Open Houses and Community Events that will help grow your Grange.

Have you ever wondered what drew you to the Grange? Do you share your passion for the Grange with family and friends? Are your peers aware of what the Grange is and the benefits it can offer? Do you share with non-members the exciting initiatives your Grange is undertaking for the community?

These are important questions to consider as you think about expanding your Grange. There's no better time than now to start discussing the Grange. In today's world, people are eager to connect with their communities and help those around them. The Grange is an ideal organization for the entire family to join.

In recent years, we've seen a surge of interest in self-sufficiency activities like gardening, home canning, building chicken coops, painting, and exploring new forms of exercise or dance.

*In today's world,
people are eager to connect
with their communities
and help those
around them.*

*The Grange is an ideal
organization for the entire
family to join.*

People are increasingly seeking to be more self-reliant and closer to their communities. This is the perfect opportunity for Granges to welcome these neighbors. The Grange has much to teach them, and they may have valuable lessons for us as well.

Families are flocking to the Grange for these reasons. We're continuing to see significant growth in both teen and Junior membership. Granges are continuing to revitalize their Junior Granges and adding the Washington State Fairs program to meet the demand for more family-oriented activities. It's crucial to invite young families in. What better way to raise a family than within the supportive environment of the Grange!

Don't forget to share the benefits of Grange membership with them. Here are a few: education beyond the classroom, educational scholarships, community service opportunities, legislative experiences, leadership opportunities for adults and youth, summer camps for Junior Grangers, various contests and hobby activities, awards and travel opportunities, and much more.

Take a moment to reflect on these questions and think about how you can contribute to the growth of your Grange.

Congratulations Winners! New Membership Contest

**Congratulations to the following Grangers for bringing in 3 new members into your Grange.
You will each receive the membership T-shirt.**

T-Shirts

Terrie Cooper – Addy #603
Jayne Deardorff – Fort Colville #533
Ken Tolonen – Fruitvale #348
Alice Coakley – Oakview #311

Barbara Hawkins – Skagit Valley #620
Kim Hargrave – Skagit Valley #620
Jack Zeiger – South Bay #250
Mary Repar – Stevenson #121

**Congratulations to the following Grangers for bringing in an additional 5 or more new members into the Grange.
After recruiting your first 3 members and receiving your t-shirt, when you bring in another 5 members you will receive
a \$25 “Grange Bucks” Certificate, which can be spent on any Grange gear, pamphlets, jewelry
or other paraphernalia we have on hand at State Grange.**

Grange Bucks

No winner this month

Our new contest begins January 1, 2025 and runs through December 31, 2025.

Baw Faw Grange Honors Members

On February 24, 2025, Baw Faw Grange celebrated many of its long time Grange members. Mary Mallonee, 65 years; Gary Nelson, 65 years; Donna Ramsey, 55 years; Pete Dykstra, 50 years; Cindy Dykstra, 50 years; Maynard Mallonee, 40 years; Deanna Dawes, 40 years; Mike Dawes, 40 years; Jill Walrath, 25 years; Sheila Goodrich, 25 years; and Katherine Humphrey, 25 years. Thank you for your many years of support and dedication.

Pictured left to right - Maynard Mallonee; Katherine Humphrey; Mary Mallonee; Cindy Dykstra; Pete Dykstra; and Brett Barnts (Baw Faw Grange President/Master).



2025 Convention Info



JUNE 25 - 29, 2025

136th Annual Washington State Grange Convention

at the

Southwest Washington Fairgrounds

Centralia/Chehalis, 1909 S Gold Street, Centralia, WA 98531



WA State Grange Convention 2025 Hotel/Motel Information

Housing options for this year’s State Grange Session in Chehalis are listed below. These hotels/ motels can also be viewed online as well. Many of the hotels in the area are very pricey so you may also want to look in the Olympia area if you don’t mind the 20–30-minute drive. RV parking will be available on the fairgrounds, however, with staff changes at the fairgrounds, we are still waiting for information before we can publish everything. Please watch our website under the convention tab for more information.

- **Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Chehalis - Centralia by IHG**
730 Northwest Liberty Place
Chehalis, WA 98532
360-740-1800

→ **Best Western Plus Park Place Inn & Suites**
201 South West Interstate Avenue,
Chehalis, WA 98532
800-780-7234

→ **Relax Inn Chehalis**
550 Southwest Parkland Drive
Chehalis, WA 98532
360-748-8608

→ **McMenamins Olympic Club**
112 North Tower Avenue
Centralia, WA 98531
360-736-5164

→ **Lakeview Inn Centralia**
1325 Lakeshore Drive
Centralia, WA 98531
360-736-9344

→ **King Oscar Motel Centralia**
1049 Eckerson Road
Centralia, WA 98531
360-766-1661

→ **Centralia Square Grand Ballroom and Vintage Hotel**
202 West Centralia College Boulevard
Centralia, WA 98531
360-807-1212

→ **Cozy Inn**
1003 Eckerson Road
Centralia, WA 98531
360-807-4071

→ **Centralia Inn**
1015 Eckerson Road
Centralia, WA 98531
360-330-8000

→ **Great Wolf Lodge Grand Mound**
20500 Old Highway 99, SW
Centralia, 98531
800-640-9653

→ **Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Grand Mound Centralia**
6223 197th Way SW
Centralia, 98579
360-858-5757

→ **Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel (Washington)**
12888 188th Avenue SW
Rochester, WA 98579
800-720-1788





Resolution E-Mail Sign-Ups
Send us your email at skeller@wa-grange.org to receive the resolutions that have been approved by the state Executive Committee and ready to be presented at the 2025 State Grange Convention in Chehalis, WA. We will begin emailing after the April 2025 Executive Committee Meeting.

Reminders:

DUE APRIL 15
Annual Session Credentials Sheet
Annual Session Committee Questionnaire

DUE APRIL 25
Resolutions due to State Grange for the 2025 State Session

State Grange Standing Committee Meetings Scheduled

The eight Standing Committees for the Washington State Grange are scheduled to meet in March and April. Each of the Standing Committees will review current State Grange Legislative Policy, making recommendations for changes, deletions, or additions to the policy. Those recommendations will be referred to the delegates at the Annual State Grange Session, which is scheduled for June 25-29 in Centralia/Chehalis. All Standing Committee Meetings will be held via Zoom.

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

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

Dial by your location:
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

Thursday, March 20	6:00 pm	Good of the Order	Chair David Bryant, Ed Armit, Tom Cullen, Debbie Fisch, Davona Gwin, Laura Lyle, Debbie Riegel, Annie Scott, Robert Shea, Leslie Wells
Thursday, March 20	7:30 pm	Education	Chair Isabella Lierman, Ann Fackenthall, Terry Ferguson, Shawn Donnelly, Judy Hossner, Cindy Kelly, Laura Rookstool, Sara Wade
Monday, March 24	6:30 pm	Health, Healthcare & Safety	Chair Christine Hamp, JoAnn Anderson, Morgan Browning, Jerry Gwin, Janna Haggarty, Kirby Pollard, Victor Stevens, Jordanne Webb
Thursday, March 27	6:30 pm	Fish & Wildlife	Chair Peter Hauck, Claudine Mincks, Jim Lyle, Darell Myers, Steve Richart, Lonnie Scott, Steve Yates
Monday, March 31	6:30 pm	Conservation * Ecology	Chair, Butch Ogden, Jacob Gwin, Don Kapitanovich, Sara Nan Riordan, Todd Scholz, Russ Weston
Tuesday, April 1	6:30 pm	State & National Issues	Chair Jonny Pittman, Alan Anerson, Mitch Clouse, Rick Ferguson, Oren Gaskill, Tom Hann, Susan Hegney, Carol Johnstone, Pam Mathews, Sheryl Reynolds, Steve Singhose
Wednesday, April 2	7:30 pm	Transportation & Taxation	Chair Scott Hackett, Marcy Belles, Lucille Bevis, Larry Goble, Rodger Lance, Brittney Pittman, Chuck Prochaska, Christie Vintilo
Thursday, April 3	6:30 pm	Agriculture	Chair Rex Ogden, Larry Auvil, Dean Bowdish, Karen Derrey, Roger Ellison, Dennis Hall, Carolyn Hojem, Mary Hunt, Greg Jones, Becky Meats, Lawrence Meeker, Tom Muchoney

Home & Family

March Tidbits From Your Family Living Director

By Helen Berg
Family Living Director

WOW! It's time for Pomona contests in 2025. Remember that you can ask for 13 items in baking if you plan on having an auction after the judging. However, your purple ribbon winners will only need to bring 4 items as we will not be having an auction. The four items goes for your Candy Contest entries as well. If you bring a cake or pie, you are welcome to pick up the remainder of your product after judging.

We will begin taking entries on Tuesday at 1:00 and again on

Wednesday morning. I would encourage you to bring your entries on Tuesday if you are on the grounds.

We will be having a lunch on Thursday at the Senior Center which is next door to the Fair Grounds. Price will be \$15 with Chicken Cour Don Blue on the menu. If you are available to help decorate, please let me know and I will gladly put you to work. Also, we can use help during judging and putting together the display.

I hope you are working on our state quilt block. I hope I can find my tote with Christmas fabric. We had many hands helping with our

move and that tote seems to be buried. The joys of moving.

On that note I hope I got all of your reports. We have been having difficulty with the postal service. Hopefully all has been worked out.

Be sure to send in your winners report as soon as you have your contest. A form is on the web-site. This form is different than what we have used in the past so be sure to check it out. Hopefully it will be more user friendly.

Be sure you send your reports to my new address: 470 Carlon Loop Road, Longview WA 98632.

Have some great contests.



Helen Berg

Savory Favorites Make St. Patrick's Day Special



(Courtesy of Family Features)

While some St. Patrick's Day celebrations call for large gatherings, you may instead opt for a cozy evening at home with comforting and delicious Irish food.

A hearty home-cooked meal loaded with flavor and sure to fill you with cheer, Irish Beef Pot Pie is made piping hot to warm up any St. Patrick's Day party. Full of hashbrowns, carrots, peas and beef, it's a twist on tradition served with puff pastry topping the tasty stew.

Make your home a St. Patrick's Day haven with this hearty recipe then discover more celebratory meal ideas from "Cookin' Savvy" by visiting Culinary.net.

Irish Beef Pot Pie

Servings: 4-6
Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"

- Ingredients:**
- 1 pound ground beef
 - 1 cup stout beer
 - 3 tablespoons flour
 - 1 can (15 ounces) tomato puree
 - 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
 - 1 tablespoon garlic powder
 - 1 cup beef broth
 - 1 bag (28 ounces) hash browns with peppers and onions
 - 1 can (14 ounces) carrots, drained
 - 1 can (14 ounces) peas, drained
 - salt and pepper to taste
 - 1 sheet puff pastry, thawed
 - 1 egg

Instructions:

Heat oven to 400 F. In large skillet or Dutch oven, brown ground beef; drain and set aside.

Over medium heat, deglaze skillet with beer and whisk in flour. After thickening, whisk in tomato puree and add Worcestershire sauce. Mix in ground beef, garlic powder and beef broth. Add hashbrowns, carrots and peas. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Simmer 20-25 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Place puff pastry sheet on cookie sheet. Beat egg and brush over pastry. Bake 10 minutes. Place hot puff pastry on top of beef mixture and serve.

2025 National Grange Quilt Block Contest: • Canning Jar Pattern •

FABRIC REQUIRED:

- 1 – fun fabric print of your choice for the jar, cut at 6.5 inches x 8.5 inches
- 1 – gray or black fabric, cut at 1.5 inches x 4.5 inches for the lid
- 6 – white; cut at 1.5 inches x 1.5 inches square
- 2 – white strips; cut at 2 inches x 6.5 inches
- 2 – white strips; cut at 3.5 inches x 12.5 inches

INSTRUCTIONS:

You may watch a tutorial on the canning jar quilt block at <https://madamsew.com/blogs/sewing-blog/canning-jar-block-tutorial>

Please note we are only using the large canning jar. Sides and top/bottom must be added to have a size of 12 1/2 inch unfinished square block, which will then finish out to a 12-inch finished block.

Use 1/4 inch seams on all pieces.

- ➔ Sew 2 white 1.5 inches x 1.5 inches square to each end of the gray/black strip that is 1.5 inches x 4.5 inches. You will now have a white 1.5 x gray/black 4.5 x white 1.5 strip. This should measure a total length of 6.5 inches. This is the jar lid.
- ➔ Sew 4 white 1.5 inches x 1.5 inches

- onto the jar fabric at the corners using a diagonal stitch line. You will cut off the corner and press the 1.5 out to make the jar. This piece will remain at 6.5 inches wide x 8.5 inches tall.
- ➔ Sew the lid strip to the top of the jar block and align the seam lines. Press the block flat. This piece will now be 6.5 inches wide x 9.5 inches tall.
- ➔ Top/Bottom Borders: Add the top and bottom borders by sewing the 2 inch x 6.5 inch strips to the top and the bottom. The piece will now measure 12.5 inches tall x 6.5 inches wide.

- ➔ Side Borders: Add the two 3.5 inch x 12.5 inch strips to the sides.
- ➔ Press and square up your block to an unfinished size of 12.5 inches x 12.5 inches.

GROUPS:

- Group I – Adult (age 14+)**
- Group II – Junior (ages 5-13)**
- Two blocks may be entered by each person for judging. The jar print fabric must be different for each jar. Additional blocks may be submitted for non-judging and will be considered a donation.

PRIZES:

Monetary prizes will be awarded for 1st (\$50), 2nd (\$30), and 3rd (\$20) in each group.



ENTRY DATES:

All entries are to be submitted no later than **September 1, 2025**. Mail the completed block and entry form to:

Tom Gwin
National Grange Lecturer
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA 98507

If sending UPS:
924 Capitol Way S. #300,
Olympia, WA 98501

For more information and to download the entry form:

<https://www.nationalgrange.org/LECTURER-CONTESTS/>

On The Web: www.WA-Grange.org

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

Your 2025 Program Handbook is Nearby

This year's Washington State Grange Program Handbook is right at your fingertips at any time on the State Grange website.

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

Download the Handbook file to your computer for ready access.
<http://wa-grange.com/downloads/ProgramHandbook.pdf>

Pomona Connection

CLALLAM COUNTY POMONA

Clallam County Pomona Grange will hold their Pomona Grange Contests on April 13 at the Dry Creek Grange Hall.

COWLITZ/WAHKIAKUM POMONA

Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Pomona will meet on Saturday March 15 at the Rose Valley Grange Hall. We will have a potluck lunch at 1 p.m., followed by the business meeting. The Pomona service project for March is to bring canned food. The Lecturer and Family Contests will be held at the Catlin Grange Hall on Friday April 18, with entries taken between 9 - 10 a.m.

EXCELSIOR POMONA

Excelsior Pomona will hold their baking contest on March 22 at The Valley Grange Hall. Photography contest entries will be due on the same day. All other Family Living and Lecturer contests will be on May 17 at the Clayton Grange Hall.

FERRY COUNTY POMONA

Ferry County Pomona Grange will meet on March 10 at the Malo Grange Hall at 6 p.m. The agenda will include fair food booth assignments.

GRAYS HARBOR/PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona Grange will have their Baking and Candy Contests at their next Pomona meeting on March 8. Entries are due by 9 a.m. to the Humptulips Grange Hall. The remaining contest will be in conjunction with the May Pomona meeting.

KING COUNTY POMONA

King County Pomona on February 15 held their first hybrid Zoom/In person meeting at the Meridian Grange

Hall. Members who were stuck at home by the previous week's snow were able to participate. Lecturer and Family Living Contests will be held on April 26 at the Cedar Grange Hall. Entries are due at 12 noon.

LEWIS COUNTY POMONA

Lewis County will hold their Lecturer and Family Living Contests on April 4 at the Oakview Grange Hall. Entries are due between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. The entries will be on display the next day at the Pomona Grange meeting.

OKANOGAN COUNTY POMONA

Okanogan County Pomona will meet on April 12 at the Molson Grange Hall. The meeting will include the judging of all Grange contests for the year.

PEND OREILLE COUNTY POMONA

Pend Oreille County Pomona Grange held their baking contest on March 2. The remaining contests will be on May 3 at the Fertile Valley Grange Hall.

PIERCE COUNTY POMONA

Pierce County Pomona held their baking and canning contests on March 1. The sewing, quilting, and needlework contests will be on April 5 at the Edgewood Grange Hall, while the craft and photography contests will be on May 3 at Waller Road. The May 3 meeting will include degree day.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY POMONA

Snohomish County Pomona will hold their baking contest on March 15 at South Lake Stevens. The fifth degree is scheduled for April 12 at South Lake Stevens. The remaining contests will

be on May 17 at Kellogg Marsh. Entries will be due on May 15.

SPOKANE COUNTY POMONA

Spokane County Pomona Grange will be offering two \$500 scholarships this year. The Pomona will also be initiating a Roving Bingo that a local Grange will be the host and receive any proceeds from the event. Pomona will provide volunteers and promote the event. We are also working to become a welcome resource for the Granges in our Pomona, helping to send email newsletters their members, sending texts regarding upcoming events, setting up online registration pages for events, and an email program for members to update their information.

STEVENS COUNTY POMONA

Stevens County Pomona will hold their contest entries at the Stranger Creek Grange Hall. Entries are due on Friday, April 4.

THURSTON COUNTY POMONA

Thurston County Pomona Grange #8 will meet on Thursday April 3 at McLane Grange Hall. There will be a potluck at 6:00 followed by the 7:00 meeting. The baking and candy contests will be held at the April 3 meeting, and entries should be turned in before 6:00 p.m. All other Pomona-level Lecturer and Family Living contests will be held on April 12 at Brighton Park Grange Hall. Bring in your entries between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. After judging, you should pick up your entries between 2:00 and 3:00 pm. Contest rules can be found in the Program Handbook, available on the Washington State Grange website. Questions should be directed to Pomona Lecturer Rita Klein or CFL Ginny Nelson.

WHATCOM COUNTY POMONA

Whatcom County Pomona has their canning, arts, and craft contests slated for April 15 at the Rome Grange Hall.

WHITMAN COUNTY POMONA

Whitman County Pomona has their baking contest scheduled for March 15 at the Whelan Ewartsville Grange Hall. Entries will be auctioned off following judging. All other Pomona contests will be on May 17 at the North and South Palouse Grange Hall.

YAKIMA COUNTY POMONA

Yakima Valley Pomona will meet on April 14 at the Fruitvale Grange Hall. We will celebrate Grange Month and also hold our Pomona Grange contests in conjunction with the meeting.

Pomona Calendar

Please submit your 2025 Pomona Meeting Dates.

- CHELAN**to be announced.
- CLALLAM**April 13 at Dry Creek, 1 p.m., refreshments following meeting, Pomona contests to be held.
- CLARK**March 12 at Manor, 7 p.m.
- COLUMBIA**to be announced.
- COWLITZ/ WAHKIAKUM**March 15 at Rose Valley, 1 p.m. potluck with meeting to follow. Will collect canned food.
- DOUGLAS**March 20 at St. Andrews, 6 p.m.
- EXCELSIOR**March 22 at The Valley, 10:30 a.m.
- FERRY**March 10 at Malo, 6 p.m.
- GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC**March 8 at Humptulips, 10:30 a.m. Potluck lunch at 12 noon. Baking and candy contest entries due at 9 a.m.
- ISLAND**March 8 at South Camano.
- KING**May 17 at Happy Valley, 10 a.m.
- Klickitat**April 26 at Mountain View, 12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting.
- LEWIS**April 5 at Oakview. All contest entries due on April 4 between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.
- MASON**March 15, location to be announced, 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. lunch. All contest entries due.
- OKANOGAN**April 12 at Molson, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck, judging of all contest entries.
- PEND OREILLE**May 3 at Fertile Valley, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Lecturer and Family Living contest entries due.
- PIERCE**April 5 at Edgewood, 10 am. Sewing, quilting, and needlework contest entries due.
- SKAGIT**to be announced.
- SNOHOMISH**March 15 at South Lake Stevens, 10 a.m. Baking contest entries due before meeting.
- SPOKANE**May 10 at Five Mile Prairie, 10 a.m., all Grange contest entries due.
- STEVENS**April 25 at Quillisascut, 6 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. meeting. Contest entries due on April 4 to Stranger Creek.
- THURSTON**March 5 at South Union, 7 p.m., snacks prior to the meeting.
- WHATCOM**April 15 at Rome, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting. Canning, art, and craft contest entries due.
- WHITMAN**March 15 at Whelan-Ewartsville, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck, baking contest and bake sale.
- YAKIMA VALLEY**April 14 at Fruitvale, 5 p.m. potluck, 6 p.m. meeting. Bring contest entries prior to the meeting.

Central Grange Presents Donation to Spokane County Pomona



Pictured is Treasurer of Central Grange, Cheryl Britton, giving Spokane County Pomona Treasurer Bob Shea, a check for \$1000 for the Pomona Scholarship Committee to award in 2025. The presentation was at the Spokane County Pomona meeting on Saturday, February 15.

King County Pomona Makes Ornaments

King County Pomona Grange plans to support Operation Ornament by making handmade Christmas ornaments. The ornaments will be distributed to families that have lost their home to fire or flood.



Pierce County Pomona Hosts Social Media Workshop



Pierce County Pomona held a Social Media Workshop for Granges in Pierce County on Sunday January 26. Seven Granges with 16 members were present. Edgewood, Elk Plain, Fruitland, McMillin, Ohop, Riverside Valley and Roy Granges. Katie Zech from Zech Design was very helpful and knowledgeable to equip our Granges to tackle starting or updating Facebook pages. She was able to answer questions in creating accounts, managing admin privileges and answering any questions our Grangers had about Social Media. Pierce County Granges are working towards connecting to our community through Social Media.

Grange Connection

PIERCE COUNTY

Fruitland Grange held a Family Valentine's Day Party and Dance on February 8th. The hall was decorated with hearts and balloons. We had lots of yummy food, but the best part was the chocolate fountain. We had staff helping the kids, so that they didn't mess up their festive clothes. The dance on the old hardwood floor upstairs was a big hit. We have scheduled our summer classes of home canning and dehydration. For an upcoming meeting, we will be doing a members-only Pressure Canning class, so we can learn how to safely can our garden harvest from the upcoming community garden. Our upcoming activities include a Spring Bazaar on March 22 and Easter Egg Hunt on April 12.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange's Feb. 4 Inaugural Mac and Cheese Cook-off was a very cheesy event with 7 entrees and very well attended. Congrats to our winners: 1st Annie Ackerman, 2nd Stevie Lynn, and 3rd Laurie Kendrick. Thanks to our sponsors Yokes and North Forty for gift cards for the winners. And special thanks to everyone who cooked and/or came to taste/judge. All the proceeds of \$238 will go to the scholarship fund. The upcoming pancake breakfast is March 30. We also have the following on our schedule of events: March 11 @ 7 pm—Green Bluff Bee Project—Pollinator info and Seed Packet Giveaway; March 31 @ 7 pm: Pizza4Producers – gather around a wood-fired oven to learn the art of crafting pizza from scratch.

STEVENS COUNTY

Camas Valley Grange had a number of members that braved the frigid temps and made it to the February meeting. A moment of silence was held for the loss in January of long-time Grange member, Howard Dixon. The Springdale Catholic Church donated 100 chairs when it closed, and Grange member Jan Buche loaned a beautiful bell to the Grange. On February 8, a fundraiser event was held at the Grange - attendees sure had a lot of fun. The Grange discussed a temporary move of

second Monday meetings to the first Monday. We voted to try this on a temporary basis, starting in March. Several groups have reserved the Grange Hall for various events for the next several months, including a baby shower, banquet, bingo, etc.

THURSTON COUNTY

South Union Grange met on February 17 for their regular meeting, preceded by a potluck dinner. Orders collected for the Territorial Seed fundraiser seed sale were turned in. Dates for the upcoming garage sale were set as April 18 and 19. The next regular meeting will be March 10 at 7:00 p.m. First Saturday country dances with "The Country Four and More" continue with a 1:30 pm start time. The next dance will be held April 5.

South Bay Grange #250 will hold an Open House April 12th from 1pm-4pm. All are invited to attend.

YAKIMA COUNTY

Broadway Grange's Annual Gratitude Dinner, which everyone enjoyed, included wonderful homemade food, by Chefs Dave and Steve. The attendance was great at this event before our Contra Dance and Annual Toys for Tots and Coats for Kids benefit. People were exceedingly generous this year! We are in our 43rd year of offering public dances and dance classes: Monday nights 6-8 p.m. - Traditional Mexican dancing; Tuesday and Thursday nights 6-7 p.m. - Zumba dancing, and the first Friday (family night) 6-7 p.m.; Third Friday 7:30-10:30 p.m. - Swing Dancing; Second Saturday

7-10 p.m. - Contra Dance.

Buena Grange's next meeting is March 11th with a noon potluck. We are busy cleaning and preparing for canning. We also donated to Rod's house and children's charities in lower valley.

Fruitvale Grange hosts the acoustic jam session the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 6pm. We are also hosting Washington State High School Equestrian Team. Lifeline screening will be at Fruitvale March 13th. The March meeting will be March 27th with a noon potluck.

Lower Naches Grange has been busy doing meals on wheels for pets. At their March 17th meeting, we are doing a food drive for local charity.

Terrace Heights Grange will meet on Wed., March 5th, at 6 pm. We delivered meals to Rod's House in February. We have formed a Growing Our Grange committee to explore ways to increase membership and form more partnerships within our East Valley community. In honor of National Grange Month, we are hosting a community open house on April 2, 5-7 pm. Community organizations will be present to share information with attendees. That will include the American Red Cross which we recently partnered with. We will serve as an emergency evacuation shelter during wildfire season. The open house will also offer a soup and dessert dinner, prize drawings, and games for youngsters.

North River Grange Sponsors Local Students Spelling Bee



North River Grange held a spelling bee for the North River Elementary grades 1st through 6th. Pictured are the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.

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.



In Memoriam

Lynn Wells

Past WA State Grange Deputy Master
July 3, 1934 – January 28, 2025



Lynn Frances Fackenthall Stimson Wells, 90, long time resident of Nine Mile Falls, WA passed away on January 28, 2025.

Lynn was born on July 3, 1934 in Spokane, WA to Rollo Fackenthall and Elizabeth Carter. She attended Nine Mile School, graduated from North Central High School 1952 and attended Washington State College & St. Lukes Nursing Program. She was employed at Crescent

Department Store & Dr. J.S. Ainslie in Spokane, Portland Frozen Foods as a Credit Manager, and Schott Real Estate & Appraisal in Kinnelon, NJ.

Lynn's interest in history led her to become a member of Westerners, Spokane Corral, a history club dedicated to Pacific NW History of which she was a former Sheriff and a part of the Editorial Committee, the Stevens County Historical Society, and the Deer Park & Clayton Historical Society.

A Grange member since childhood and eventual WA State Grange Deputy, Lynn was also a member of 4-H, the Stevens County Planning Commission for 10+ years, SCCAT – Stevens County Citizens Action Team, previous member of Lake Spokane Community Church, Advisory Committee for Riverside State Park, Committee for Avista Re-licensing, Little Spokane Protection Association/Spokane River Protection Association, Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

Lynn is survived by her children Diane (Dana) Ogle of Nine Mile Falls, WA, Linda (Wade) Springstead of Mt. Vernon, WA, and Richard Stimson & Naomi Scher of Nine Mile Falls, WA; and her sisters Ann Fackenthall and Christy Fackenthall; 6 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents and by Randy Stimson and John Wells.

A Celebration of Life with reception to follow is scheduled on Monday, February 10, 2025 at Heritage Funeral & Cremation in Spokane, WA. Interment will be held in the spring at Wild Rose Cemetery in Deer Park, WA.

Donations can be made in Lynn's memory to The Heritage Network, PO Box 1051 Colville, WA 99114 with an emphasis on the Hudson's Bay Company Fort Colville Bicentennial. As this cause reflects her deep appreciation for history and community, we know she would be deeply touched by this support.

Crescent Grange Donates Dictionaries For Local Students



Crescent Grange #1123 distributed personalized dictionaries to the students at Crescent School today. In the back row, left - right, are their teacher Mrs Silva then Grangers Steve Singhose, Elizabeth Hogan, Emil Moilanen, Judy Moilanen and Andrea Williams.

SAVE THE DATE!

Upcoming State Grange Events

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

MONTHLY	New Member Reports due to the State Grange Office	APRIL 20	Agenda Items for State Executive Committee Meeting Due
MARCH 3	Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.	APRIL 21	Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.
MARCH 15	Agenda Items for State Executive Committee Meeting Due	APRIL 27-28	State Executive Committee Meeting (face to face)
MARCH 17	Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.	MAY 15-17	Western Regional Grange Leaders Conference at Hamilton/Corvallis, Montana
MARCH 19	State Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom, 6 p.m.	JUNE 25-29	136th Annual Washington State Grange Convention at the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds Centralia/Chehalis, 1909 S Gold Street, Centralia, WA 98531
MARCH 28-29	Deputy, State Officer, and Pomona Masters Conference at Mount Vernon	NOVEMBER 8-16	159th National Grange Convention Cruise aboard the Carnival Horizon – leave Miami on 11/8; visit Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao; arrive back in Miami on 11/16
MARCH 31	Grange Secretary First Quarter Reports Due		
APRIL 6	Southwest District Host Steering Committee Meeting, 2 p.m. at Cowlitz Prairie		
APRIL 7	Grange Legislative Update – Zoom Meeting, 6 p.m.		

Granville Granger Receives Eagle Scout

On November 23, 2024, Granville Grange #857 member Andrew T. Dee received his Eagle Scout at a Court of Honor, held at Fire Mountain Scout Camp in Mt. Vernon, WA. Andrew, his parents David and Melissa and sister Peyton are all members of Granville Grange #857. Andrew’s Eagle Scout project was a multi-part one, all focused on improving Granville Grange #857. He partnered with a local gravel company and had several yards of gravel donated for the parking lot. He reached out to local companies and was able to have building materials donated. He built a gazebo and installed horseshoe pits, giving Granville Grange new recreational activities for members to use during the summer months. In addition to his parents and sister (photo lower right - Peyton Dee, Davd Dee, Melissa Dee, and Andrew Dee), Granville Grange members Kathleen Bechler (treasurer), Bryan Bechler (secretary) and Robbie Liechty (lecturer) were in attendance.



Malo Grange Holds First Annual Best Soup Contest



Malo Grange had it's first annual Best Soup Contest. We had seven entries. Harvey Gertin was voted First Place winner for his Chicken Jalapeno Popper soup taking home a Golden Ladle and \$100 for his creativity. Jill Bryant won Runner Up and \$50 for her Ham and Corn Chowder. The photo is some of the hungry first arriving guests chowing down in the hall.

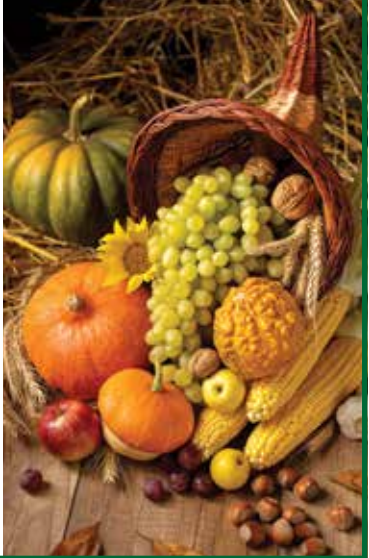
Calling all Grangers for the Southwest District Fifth Degree Team

If you would like to participate in the Exemplification of the 5th Degree at the State Grange Convention in Lewis County in June, which is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 28th at 2 p.m. There are currently some spots still to fill, a few speaking and non-speaking.

Please contact Shavanna May at 360-304-3419 Phone or Text. email: bekindandrewind1623@gmail.com,

If I can't answer please leave a message with your name, phone # and if you would prefer to have a speaking or non-speaking part. Currently there are about 8+ openings still and would like to have as much district participation as possible.

The Southwest Convention District is comprised of Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Thurston, Lewis, Clark, Cowlitz, and Wahkiakum counties. At the next district meeting, I hope to set some practices, so please contact me soon. That meeting date is Sunday, April 6 at 2 p.m. at the Cowlitz Prairie Grange Hall in Lewis County.



2025 Washington State Grange Legislative Handbook

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