



WASHINGTON STATE

Grange News

November 2025

Informing Grangers Since 1912

114th Year No. 9



Celebrating 100-Years-Old And An 85-Year Member Of The Grange

**By Alison Cook, Secretary
Happy Valley Grange #322**

Lorraine Charlotte (Isackson) Mills was born October 24, 1925 at her family home in Redmond, Washington. She has lived in the

Redmond area almost all of her life.

Lorraine learned how to help with the family farm, save, and appreciate the little things in life. On the farm she milked the cows and tended to the pigs, chickens

and turkeys.

She went to school in Redmond and finished high school in Fall City. She played the accordion in her school band and orchestra which led her to play at school dances. She was awarded an

Athletic Letter for being on the Tumbling Team. She also played tennis, basketball and baseball. Her graduating class was 21 members. Lorraine graduated mid-term as it was the beginning of WWII and she had to go to work.

In 1940, Lorraine joined the Happy Valley Grange #322. She is celebrating not only her 100th birthday, but also her 85th year of being a member of the Grange. She has held many offices at Happy Valley Grange #322 along with 13 years as State Lecturer. She says that the Grange was really an education for her as she learned so many new things, served on so many statewide committees and did so many things she didn't dream she could ever do.

The Grange Insurance Agent's position became available and she

was able to work there for 32 years. She also managed the Grange Credit Union for 25 years.

Lorraine was married to Vernon Mills on November 27, 1943. She has a daughter, Carol, and grandson Rodney.

We want to thank Lorraine for all her many, many, years of hard work, service and friendships.

(Left): State President Tom Gwin presented certificate to Lorraine Mills for 85 years of continuous Grange membership.

(Right Top): Lorraine Mills

(Right Bottom): State President Tom Gwin presented a bouquet to Lorraine Mills. Standing behind Lorraine is her brother, Duane Isackson, who is also the President of the Happy Valley Grange #322.

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

Working Together for Grange Betterment

President). Wow, that fits! Let us Grangers continue to work together building each other and our Granges up, in open communication and respect, continually trying new ideas until we find those that our successful together.



Sincerely,
Sheila Carson
Tri-Community Grange

Brighton Park Grange collected 114 pairs of new socks at their October 19 meeting. The socks were donated to Black Hills High School's Interact Club for their Socktober event. The socks will be given to the All Kids Win organization who will distribute the socks to children in need.

General: grange@wa-grange.org



Please mail to:
Grange News
PO Box 1186
Olympia, WA
98507-1186

President’s Message

Wrapping Up A Successful 2025; Preparing For An Even Stronger 2026

By Tom Gwin
WA State Grange President

As we prepare to close the doors on 2025, we have several items of unfinished business to touch on.

UPDATED BYLAWS

Thank you to the 70 Granges who have updated their Subordinate and/or Pomona Grange Bylaws. Please be sure to forward a copy of your bylaws to the State Grange Office. We will be reviewing the bylaws to be sure you are in compliance with the National Grange Digest of Laws and the Washington State Grange Bylaws. We will notify Granges if we find any out of compliance and the steps needed to rectify the situation.

STANDING COMMITTEE OPENINGS

State Grange Standing Committees meet via Zoom to review current State Grange Legislative Policy and to make recommendations for deletions, additions, and/or clarifications to our present policy. Those recommendations are then referred to the convention delegates for a final decision on making policy changes. The committees are Agriculture, Conservation and Ecology, Education, Fish and Wildlife, Good of the Order, Health and Healthcare, State and National Issues, Taxation, and Transportation. I am looking for new interested Grange members to serve on these committees. Interested persons should contact the State Grange Office for an application. The committees will be finalized in December and members will serve for one year.

2026 CAPITOL BUDGET REQUESTS

Thank you to the 30+ Granges who completed applications for the Capitol Budget Requests for 2026. The applications have been reviewed. Once we receive the link from the legislature, each Grange will need to input their application directly in to their legislator. Jesse is keeping in contact with the

legislators and will be the key liaison between our Grange members and their legislators. We will be announcing the date of our Grange Legislative Day later this month. Legislative Day is a prime opportunity for our members to lobby their legislators and provide additional information on your request.

“Here’s to wrapping up 2025 and starting 2026 off in a positive forward direction as we work toward a better tomorrow in our Granges and in our communities.”
-- Tom Gwin

BONDING

The National Grange Bonding Program has a deadline of November 15. Bonding information was sent to each Grange. Those desiring bonding need to complete the form and send payment with the form to the WA State Grange Office no later than November 15. The bonding will be for the calendar year of 2026. Please note: if your Grange previously had bonding coverage through this program and you do not renew for 2026, you will be ineligible for this coverage for the next three years.

2026 DUES INFORMATION REQUEST FORMS

The Dues Information Request form was sent to each Grange in September. This form is used to prepare your Grange dues notices for 2026. If you have not returned the form, please do so in the next few days. We will start printing dues notices after the National Grange Session.

POMONA MEETING DATES

Date requests for 2026



Tom Gwin

Pomona meeting are due back to the State Grange Office by November 20. This will allow your staff to prepare the list of Pomona meeting dates for the December issue of The Grange News.

GRANGE OFFICER REPORTS

Each Grange should complete their Grange Office Reports no later than December 1. The report is to be completed, even if you do not elect a full slate of officers this year. Your timely reports will allow the publishing of the State Grange Roster in a timely manner.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Your State Grange Staff will host a Holiday Open House on Friday, December 12 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.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

To allow our employees to celebrate the holidays with their families, the office will be closed November 27-28 for the Thanksgiving holiday and December 22 to January 1 for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

GRANGE RESOURCE AND TRAINING SESSIONS

As the 2026 Pomona Grange meeting date lists come back, I will be putting together the schedule of Grange Resource and Training Sessions. I am planning to do the sessions in conjunction with Pomona Meetings as much as possible. Details will be announced in December.

Your support in completing our unfinished business for 2025 is greatly appreciated. Here’s to wrapping up 2025 and starting 2026 off in a positive forward direction as we work toward a better tomorrow in our Granges and in our communities.

Legislative

There’s An Election Upon Us!



Jesse Taylor

By Jesse Taylor
Legislative Lobbyist

Last Christmas my daughter and I bought my wife a cider press as a way to utilize the apples we get from our fruit trees at home. So, this past week, after a late apple and pear pick, we decided to put it together and try our hand at cider-making. We supplemented our apple harvest by getting some different varieties from our church apple sale. Then my 11-year old son got put to work. And if any of you have worked a cider press you know that it’s a chore; but you sure appreciate that sweet cider when you are done. Our first batch yielded about 2 gallons from three varieties, and we are learning as we go. I hope you and your family have had some memorable times this fall as the temperatures begin drop and the holiday season comes front of mind.

Speaking of changing seasons, there’s an election upon us! Let’s look at what’s at stake.

2025 WA Special Elections- There are several special elections up this year, as is the case in most “odd” years. Below is a breakdown of which seats are up on November 7th.

Nov 4 Election Day Dates: Ballots mailed: Oct 17; Sep 20 (military/overseas). Register/update by: Oct 27.

Candidates (9 seats: 5 Senate, 4 House)

Senate

- 5th: Victoria Hunt (D) vs. Chad Magendanz (R)
- 26th: Deborah Krishnadasan (D) vs. Michelle Caldier (R)
- 33rd: Tina Orwall (D) — unopposed
- 34th: Emily Alvarado (D) — unopposed
- 48th: Vandana Slatter (D) vs. Amy Walen (D)

House

- 33rd: Edwin Obras (D), Kevin Schilling (D)
- 34th: Brianna Thomas (D) — unopposed
- 41st: Janice Zahn (D), John Whitney (R)
- 48th: Osman Salahuddin (D), Dennis Ellis (R)

Upcoming Minimum Wage Hike in Washington

Starting January 1, 2026, Washington’s hourly minimum wage will increase by 2.8% to \$17.13. The announcement came on October 1, 2025 from the state’s Department of Labor & Industries (L&I).

By state statute, L&I determines the annual adjustment using the Consumer Price Index from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The calculation involves comparing the August CPI-W figure from the prior year to the same month in the current year, then applying any percentage rise to update the wage rate.

At \$16.66 per hour, Washington already holds the country’s top state-level minimum. The national federal minimum stays at \$7.25 hourly.

New Taxes Take Effect

A new sales tax on services, key to funding Washington’s latest budget by Democratic lawmakers, took effect October 1. It’s projected to generate \$1.1 billion in the current two-year budget (starting July 1) and \$2.6 billion over four years, helping cover a \$3.6 billion shortfall. Local governments will receive hundreds of millions from shared proceeds.

Comcast is suing to overturn the advertising services tax (\$475 million over four years), claiming it’s illegal. The state attorney general will respond soon in Thurston County Superior Court; a ruling could take months. If invalidated, collections are uncertain, per the Department of Revenue, a block would hinder the \$77.8 billion budget.

The tax expands retail sales tax to services like temporary staffing (\$833 million over four years, exempting hospitals), security (\$127 million), live presentations (\$360 million), and IT (\$189 million). Over 90,000 businesses are affected; summer listening sessions

By-Laws

Notification Of Proposed By Laws Changes

The following Granges will vote on proposed changes to their bylaws on the date, time, and location listed below. Changes may include meeting dates/ time, amount of annual dues, frequency of officer elections, or a wide ranger of other topics.

Grange Name:	Voting will Occur on:	Time:	Location:	Contact Person:
Lewis County Pomona Grange #3	February 7, 2026	1:00 pm	Baw Faw Grange Hall, 995 Boistfort Rd, Curtis	Ed Armit
Stevens County Pomona Grange #17	January 23, 2026		Quillisascut Grange Hall, Pleasant Valley Road, Rice	Pam Wilson
Pend Oreille County Pomona Grange #29	March 7, 2026	10:00 am	Camden Grange Hall, Elk Camden Road, Camden	Sonja Bartsch
Excelsior Pomona Grange #37	November 15, 2025	10:30 am	Greenwood Park Grange Hall, Columbia River Road, Hunters	Sherry Cummins
Mountain Valley Grange #79	December 20, 2025	10:30 am	Mountain Valley Grange Hall, 40107 NE 221st Avenue, Amboy	Georgene Neal
Washington Grange #82	December 3, 2025		Washington Grange Hall, 7701 NE Ward Road, Vancouver	RuthAnne Lance
Kellogg Marsh Grange #136	January 8, 2026	6:30 pm	Kellogg Marsh Grange Hall, 10005 67th Avenue, Marysville	Dianne George
Silver Creek Ethel Grange #150	December 7, 2025	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
Trout Lake Grange #210	November 13, 2025	7:00 pm	Trout Lake Grange Hall, 2390 Hwy 141, Trout Lake	Laura Clark
Gardenspot Grange #278	December 14, 2025	1:00 pm	Williams Valley Grange Hall, 4904 Cassberg-Burroughs Road, Deer Park	Ann Fackenthall
Lower Naches Grange #296	December 15, 2025	7:00 pm	Lower Naches Grange Hall, 1800 Old Naches Hwy, Naches	Patricia Taylor
Bee Hive Grange #385	December 9, 2015	7:30 pm	Bee Hive Grange Hall, 4593 Squilchuck Road, Wenatchee	Debbie Fisch
Beacon Hill Grange #389	December 7, 2015	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
Buena Vista Grange #415	December 7, 2015	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
Williams Valley Grange #452	December 14, 2025	1:00 pm	Williams Valley Grange Hall, 4904 Cassberg-Burroughs Road, Deer Park	RS Riordan
Skagit Valley Grange #620	December 8, 2025	7:00 pm	Skagit Valley Grange Hall, 21273 Cook Road, Burlington	Barbara Hoffman
Quillayute Valley Grange #661	December 7, 2025	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
Long Beach Grange #667	November 12, 2025	6:00 pm	Long Beach Grange Hall, 5715 Sandridge Rd, Long Beach	Sheryl Reynolds
Chimacum Grange #681	December 10, 2025	7:00 pm	Chimacum Grange Hall, 9572 Rhody Drive, Chimacum	Tom Ehrlichman
Roy Grange #702	December 2, 2025	6:30 pm	Roy Grange Hall, 102 Water Street, Roy	Betty Garrison
Eagle Cliff Grange #712	December 7, 2015	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
Bluestem Grange #776	December 7, 2015	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
Bryant Grange #791	November 9, 2025	12:00 pm	Bryant Grange Hall, 26830 53rd Ave NE, Arlington	Brenda Bartee
Wilbur Grange #798	December 7, 2015	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
Rexville Grange #815	November 17, 2025	4:00 pm	Rexville Grange Hall, 17604 Valentine Rd, Mt. Vernon	Lori Buher
Canniwai Grange #837	December 7, 2015	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
McMillin Grange #848	December 3, 2025	7:30 pm	McMillin Grange Hall, 12615 State Route 162, Puyallup	Helen Gardner
Pleasant Grove Grange #978	December 7, 2015	6:00 pm	WA State Grange Headquarters, 924 Capital Way S #300, Olympia	Tom Gwin
Violet Prairie Grange #996	December 21, 2025	2:00 pm	Violet Prairie Grange Hall, 17910 Violet Prairie Road, Tenino	Billie Jean Williams
Entiat Grange #1014	November 11, 2025	4:30 pm	Entiat Grange Hall, 14108 Kinzel Street, Entiat	Terry Gilderslieve
Menastash Grange #1054	December 7, 2025	4:00 pm	Menastash Grange Hall, 4931 Manastash Road, Ellensburg	Michelle Shrock
Manor Grange #1101	December 3, 2025	7:00 pm	Manor Grange Hall, 1709 NE 72nd Ave, Battle Ground	
Moses Lake Grange #1151	December 18, 2025	6:30 pm	Moses Lake Grange Hall, 1 4724 Rd 3 SE, Moses Lake	Brittney Pittman

Membership Corner

Welcome New Members

GRANGES WITH MEMBERSHIP GAINS October 2025

		# Joined	Jr. +1
163	Brighton Park	4	
	Shawn Potter, Crystal Potter, Christopher Potter, Clara Potter		
842	Camas Valley	2	
	Carla (Trina) Thompson, Elizabeth George		
534	Cedar	3	
	Katherine Quinn-Dumovic, Joseph Dumovic Linda Harer		
87	Columbia	2	
	Joan Sauls, Steven Sauls		
26	Elma	1	
	D Christine Johnston		
853	Fargher Lake	10	6
	Lisa Johnson, Keith Johnson, Kara Kadow, Jacob Komathy Norah Austen, Annie Marsolek, Jacob Kelley Katelynn Kelly, Penelope Siemsser, Karolina Scott		
348	Fruitvale	1	
	Mary Morehead		
94	Glenwood	2	
	Joleen Maxwell, Jay McLaughlin		
49	Goldendale	2	
	Brian Genson, Patty Genson		
590	Greenwood Park	11	1
	Gracie Schwartz, Cooper Schwartz, Charlene Hall Lind Hall, Aaron Hall, Jr, Del Karnes, Marjorie Stemmelin Aaron Hall, Jamie Hall, Cindy Horne, Michael Horne		
667	Long Beach	2	
	Patty Hunt, Barbara Bate		
276	Marion	4	
	Melissa Nachtsheim, Kelly Canyok, Josh Condon Julianna Hind		
98	Mt View	1	
	Jenny Brady		
198	Newaukum	2	
	Jordan M. Klumper, Danika Rozhanika		
946	North River	3	
	Tom Marsh, Karla Marsh,Gerald Mertl		
964	Orcas Island	2	
	KayAnna Boykin-Lopez, Rafael Lopez		
315	Prosperity	3	
	Cheryl Piliaris, Annette Piliaris, Teri Miller		
720	Quimper	1	
	Kristen Lawson		
815	Rexville	1	
	Gale Fiege		
966	San Juan Island	14	
	Liz Makofsky, Janet Clingaman, Daniel Clingaman Melisa Pinnow, Write Brain Arts, Prima Bookkeeping Phoenix Awen Rising, Rebecca Martin, Adam Martin Heidi Lopez, Todd Anderson, Cynthia McVeigh Melissa Rohde, Brian Halaburka		
1108	Sequim Prairie	1	
	Barbara Tribert		
800	Sharon	3	
	Carol A. Briggs, Robert W. Briggs, Carlie Dassow.		
105	Silver Lake	2	
	Cindy Ernst, Tammy Smith		
425	Skamokawa	1	
	Michael Howell		
584	Skookumchuck	7	
	Jody Becker, John Grenier, Sue Dias, Clint Dias Cassie Tafoya, Greg Maxfield, Breanna Short		
250	South Bay	11	
	Susan Hettinger, Matt Reese, Heath Howerton Kasey Howerton, Landon Howerton, Cohen Howerton Rachel Atchison, Pamela Farr, Lori Goddard Cory Thompson, Connie Michener		
121	Stevenson	4	2
	Lottie Patten, Madelieine Wolfe, Katy Klett, Steve Klett		
984	Swauk Teanaway	2	
	Mike Lind, Laurie Lind		
1093	Triway	1	
	Holly Dietrich		
1111	Waller Road	3	
	Theresa Gratzner, Judy Marzano, Theresa McKinley		
114	Whelan-Ewartsville	1	
	Scott Lyle (affiliate)		
		# Joined	Jr. +1
TOTALS		107	9

November Momentum — Let’s Finish Strong!

By Sophia Keller
Membership Director

As we step into November, it’s hard to believe how quickly the year has flown by. While 2025 is on the horizon, there’s still plenty of time to make a meaningful impact—and the holiday season gives us the perfect platform to do just that.

Holiday Events: A Gateway to Community Engagement

From festive bazaars and Thanksgiving dinners to Santa breakfasts and warm clothing drives, these events are more than traditions, they’re opportunities to welcome the public into your Grange. Consider adding new ideas like:

- Holiday craft workshops for kids and families
- Community story nights featuring local voices
- Gratitude walls where guests can share what they’re thankful for

These gatherings help remind our neighbors why the Grange matters — and why it’s worth joining.

Be Ready to Share the Grange Story

Set up an inviting info table with:

- Flyers and membership applications
- Why Join the Grange brochure
- Grange benefits and Declaration of Purposes brochures

There’s still plenty of time to make a meaningful impact

- Legislative and Program Handbooks
 - Copies of Grange News
- Need more materials? You can print them from our website or order directly from the State Grange office.

Membership Momentum: Let’s Hit Our Goal!

Our statewide membership drive is nearing its final stretch — and we’re so close to our goal of 1,000 new members for 2025. We’ve

already welcomed over 700 new members!

- Here’s what’s happening:
- Nearly 50 Mission Statement T-shirts and dozens of \$25 Grange Bucks have been awarded.
 - Over 20 members are just one recruit away from earning a t-shirt.
 - Many Secretaries are leaving the “recommended by” field blank — don’t miss your chance to be recognized!
 - All eligible entries go into the drawing for \$250 Visa gift cards for your Grange.

Final Push: One Member Can Make the Difference

If every Grange brings in just one new member before December 31, we’ll reach our goal.

Let’s rally together and make it happen!

Need Support? We’re Here to Help. Whether it’s materials, ideas, or outreach strategies, let us know how we can support your Grange in building membership and community connections.

Wishing you all a joyful and meaningful Thanksgiving season!

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

- Juanita Curnutt – Greenwood Park #590
- Ruth Olin – Mt. View #98
- Barb Ramsdell – Prosperity #31
- Teri Ramsauer – McLane #383
- Debbie Hill – Sharon #800

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, jewelery or other paraphernalia we have on hand at State Grange.

Grange Bucks:

- Juanita Curnutt – Greenwood Park #590 – 1 - \$25 Grange Buck
- Charlie Deach – Columbia #87 – 1 - \$25 Grange Buck
- Mike Gilmour – Fargher Lake #853 – 1 - \$25 Grange Buck

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

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	NOVEMBER 21	National Grange Honors Program via Zoom, 5 p.m. Will include National Grange Awards and Memorial Service – All Grangers invited.
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	NOVEMBER 27-28	State Grange Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday
NOVEMBER 11	State Grange Office closed for Veterans Day holiday	JANUARY 24, 2026	State Grange Convention 2026 Kick Off Meeting; meet at the Skagit County Fairgrounds in Mt Vernon at 11 a.m. for a tour; go to the Fredonia Grange Hall at 12 p.m. for potluck and kick off meeting.

Fredonia Grange Honors Members

Fredonia Grange #545 celebrated our long-serving Grangers by presenting them with award pins and certificates on October 9th, in appreciation for their years of service and support to Fredonia. Pictured left to right - Sandra Rude 55 years, Janet Berger 31 years, Linda Miller 5 years, Laurel Jacobs 5 years (not pictured are Julie Jones 50 years and Lacey Hauser 10 years).



Prosperity Grange Adopts Quilt Block

We are so pleased to announce we’ve gotten our Prosperity Quilt Block installed! The pattern, also named Prosperity, was first published in 1933, when the current Prosperity Grange Hall was just three years old. We’ve chosen the colors blue to represent the sky and the water, green to represent the forest and all living things, pink for our famous rhododendron, and gold for prosperity. It’s a star and also a wreath. It reminds us of our history, our home, and our hope for the future.

(right) Barb Ramsdell hard at work painting the sign
(bottom) It’s installed!



Baw Faw Grange Hall Improvements



After 4 years of fundraising, we at Baw Faw Grange were finally able to get our new roof, fascia and gutters put on!!

Legislative

There’s An Election Upon Us!

Continued from Page 1

revealed complaints about unclear implementation and profit impacts.

Other changes: Taxes on nicotine products like Zyn pouches start January 1, along with higher business and occupation (B&O) rates. Financial institutions over \$1 billion net income see B&O rise from 1.2% to 1.5% (affecting ~200 firms) starting October 1. Service businesses over \$5 million gross income face B&O increase from 1.75% to 2.1%. Republicans opposed this package and democrats supported it; as it was passed on a partisan basis.

Election:

You must have your ballot postmarked by November 7th in order for it to count in the general election. Get those in and check with your local county office to make sure your vote was counted.

I hope you all have a joy and family-filled Thanksgiving!

Birthday Wishes To Robert Clark



Please join us in wishing our dad and past State Master, Robert Clark, a Happy 95th Birthday! Since retiring from the State Master position, he has remained heavily involved in his Subordinate Grange (Sequim Prairie #1108), the Nile Shrine club, the Masonic Lodge and the Sequim Museum and Arts Center amongst other activities. He enjoys time with his grandchildren, great grandchildren and most recently his first great, great granddaughter. He enjoys sharing stories about life in Sequim to friends and strangers alike everywhere he goes!



Dee Thomas McKern

**Past State Overseer, Steward,
Assistant Steward, Gatekeeper,
and Executive Committeeman**



Tom passed away on October 4th following a swift return of cancer.

Tom was born in Colville Washington in 1942 to Dee and Ina McKern. He was raised in Rice, Washington. Tom graduated from Kettle Falls High School in 1960. Following graduation, Tom completed ROTC at WSU where he also obtained his

Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science and Natural Resources. He served in Vietnam with the US Army from 1965 to 1967 where he was awarded a Bronze Star for Valor and a Purple Heart.

In 1969 his only child, Thomas (Tom/Tommy) Dee McKern was born. In 1991, Tom married Carolyn L. Chase. Shortly after their marriage they moved into his childhood home where they lived together until his death. Tom had a love for travel. Together with Carolyn, grandkids, nieces, nephews, siblings and friends they explored places like Costa Rica, River Cruises and more. Annual trips to Hawaii with family and treasured friends became Tom's favorite.

Tom was a man of service, joining and serving in a multitude of organizations. He served 2 terms as Stevens County Commissioner from 1987-1994. In 1995, Tom was appointed to the Spokane Community College Board of Trustees. He spent many years on the Board of Supervisors for the Stevens County Conservation District. Tom was a very active Grange Member, serving in many state and local leadership roles for which he received a number of awards. Tom, like his father, served as chair of the Grange Insurance Board. In December 2024 after 28 years, Tom retired as chairman and was highly celebrated at a dinner in Seattle in his honor.

While Tom was a humble, accomplished and valued leader of his community; he was most proud of his family's cattle ranch which his grandparents, Oscar and Mamie McKern, began in 1903. He dedicated much of his life to caring for the land and carrying out the family tradition. So much so that he earned the title of "Grandpa Cow" to his great grandchildren. He worked alongside his son, Thomas Dee, before his passing in 2002 at the age 32. Following his son's death, he was blessed by the friendship and help of his neighbor Dan Arnott. Through Dan's loyalty and comfort, he became like a son to Tom. In recent years, Tom took great pride in mentoring his grandson, Tory, to continue the McKern Family legacy. In true Tom fashion, he made one big and final step in preparing Tory to carry out the work they both loved. Just weeks before his passing, Tom purchased the first tractor with working A/C and heat the McKern's have ever owned.

Tom was preceded in death by his son Thomas Dee McKern; his father Dee McKern; mother Ina McKern; brother Daniel Reeder and sister Patricia Clemons. He is survived by his wife Carolyn McKern (Chase); grandson Tory Thomas Daniel McKern; granddaughter Tawni Dee Zerba (McKern) and husband Myles; grandson Thomas Maverick McKern; granddaughter Micaela Larson (Lieseke) and husband Nat; great grandchildren Dennis Landry Zerba and BaiLee Wren Doris Zerba; brother Dennis McKern; sister Diane Showalter, and numerous cousins, in-laws and nieces and nephews.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers and in honor of Tom's life, memorial contributions may be made to Quillisascut Grange.

A public memorial service will be held at the Colville Ag Trade Center on November 11th at 11am; he will be interred at Mountain View Cemetery at a private service. Please wear your WSU gear or a flannel in honor of Tom. A meal will be provided by the local Granges.

Well Done Good and Faithful Servant

Sammamish Valley Grange in "Celebrate Woodinville" Parade

Members of the Sammamish Valley Grange #286 participated in the annual Celebrate Woodinville Parade recently. The parade entry featured a fully electric, vintage 1954 GMC Farm truck (owned by farm partner and Grange member, Gretchen Garth of 21 Acres) displayed with farm produce, flowers and local products proudly represented by the many partnering farms, organizations and businesses in our community. We were very grateful for our Grange members, volunteers, family and friends who always show their support. The coveted "Best Overall Entry" award was presented to the group from the Celebrate Woodinville and Woodinville Chamber of Commerce team!



(top): The electric truck and display in the parade.



(bottom) A representation of the many farmers and partners who participated in the event.

Baw Faw Grange Donates Dictionaries To Third Graders



Baw Faw Grange #34 presented Dictionary/Thesaurus to Ms. O'Dell's 3rd graders and new 4th graders on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at Boistfort Elementary School in Curtis, WA. This Words for Thirds presentation has been occurring for 30+ years by the Baw Faw Grange #34. Ms. O'Dell uses the dictionaries daily as part of her curriculum. Go Boistfort!

Fertile Valley Grange and Pend Oreille Pomona Grange Donate Dictionaries



Fertile Valley Grange and Pend Oreille Pomona Grange recently distributed dictionaries at the Riverside School district. 115 dictionaries were handed out at two schools.

Home & Family

November News From Your Family Living Director



Debbie Fisch

By Debbie Fisch
Family Living Director

“Autumn... the year’s last loveliest smile.”
~ William Cullen Bryant

First and foremost, I am happy to announce the theme for the 2026 State Quilt Block. Since it is America’s 250th year Anniversary, I think “Stars and Stripes Forever” would make a wonderful theme! Let’s celebrate with some fun Americana designs honoring our Country’s 250th Birthday! Each block must measure 12 ½ inches square unfinished. Try to use 100% cotton, press well, and bring your quilt squares to convention in June as all judging takes place at the State level. Quilt blocks are judged on cleanliness, general appearance, and compliance to size requirements and theme. Grange members and non-members may enter. You can enter as many quilt blocks as you would like. This is a great way to use of leftover fabric you may have. All quilt blocks become the property of the Washington State Grange and none will be returned to the contestant. The quilt blocks received will be turned into a beautiful quilt that will be auctioned off at the 2027 State Convention to help with Family Living Scholarships. See the 2026 Program Handbook for more detailed information.

There is a new contest! Have you heard of the Homesteading Contest yet?

This program is intended to provide an opportunity for Grange members to share their skills in our traditional homesteading projects. The classes include Wool/Fiber items, Homemade soaps, Homemade candles, Honey, Homegrown Seeds/Grains, Grains/Grasses, Seed Saving, and other Homesteading Skills. There will be more information in the 2026 Program Handbook. One of the many enjoyable tasks of a Family Living Chair in a Grange, is to be the host or hostess of your Grange, especially in welcoming guests & new members. A good host takes the initiative to make the first move. Reach out to new guests and members, ask about themselves, make them feel welcome. Being proactive about making the connection will help build trust and membership. You will be amazed how easy it is to connect with people once you start reaching out and you just might make a new friend!

Mark and I enjoyed a very nice weekend camping at the end of September at Steamboat Rock State Park. The time away was much needed and helped us both to feel refreshed after a busy August and September. We are also looking forward to our youngest Granddaughter’s 1st birthday coming up on October 26th and we are very ecstatic to be welcoming our 5th grandchild in February. We also have the joyous news that are daughter, Jerissa is soon to be married on May 30th. 2026 is turning out to be a fun filled busy year!



Pecan Pie Without Corn Syrup (makes one regular 9-inch pie)

Ingredients:

- 3 Large Eggs
- ¾ Cup Water
- 1 ¾ Cups Medium Brown Sugar
- ½ Tsp Salt
- ½ Stick Unsalted Butter
- 1 Tbl Brandy Or Run
- 2 Tsp Vanilla Extract
- 2 Cups Pecan Pieced

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 Degrees
2. Whisk together the eggs and water until very well blended. Add the brown sugar and salt. Melt the butter and add to the mixture. Add the brandy and vanilla extract.
3. Place pecans in the pie shell and pour the custard filling over the pecans, the pecans will automatically float to the surface. Since 9 inch pie shells vary in depth and thus the volume, not all the custard filling may fit. By not mixing the pecans into the custard filling you will possibly prevent throwing away extra custard filling containing pecans.
4. Place in preheated oven for 10 minutes. Then reduce the temperature to 325 Deg F (160 Deg C) and bake until the center of the pie is set and no longer trembles when touched, about 65 minutes.

Photo: Adobe Stock Image

Community Service

The Giving Time for Grange

By Leslie Wells
Community Service Director

As I sit here in my dining room, I am concerned. Concerned about the effects of the government shutdown on those that are faced with some difficult situations. With the already existing issues of rising food costs, housing increases (whether you’re renting or paying a mortgage) and probable health insurance increases, many in our communities are in dire straits. As Grange members, we should

remember the following words contained in the President’s closing charge: “...Let us be quiet, peaceful citizens, feeding the hungry, helping the fatherless and widows and keeping ourselves unspotted from the world.”

Now is when we can be very involved in our community. Have you thought about hosting a food drive to support your local food pantry. If there isn’t a food distribution center in your community, is there a church that accepts and distributes donated items?

Maybe you can volunteer some time to them. Also, they often appreciate non-food items as well, like diapers, wipes, soaps and even dog and cat food.

The holidays are coming soon and it’s the time of year when we tend to think more about family, fellowship and loved ones. If you can’t volunteer items or time, consider a monetary donation. We are all in this together, and when we can help – we should.



Leslie Wells

Happy Valley Grange Presents Community Service Award

Happy Valley Grange #322 presented their Annual Community Service Award to Dr. Duane Anderson at our October Booster Meeting. He presents programs “Saving Lives is fun” throughout the community. He also gives out free samples of Narcon for saving folks who have had Opioid overdoses. Contact information is: BEaHero911@gmail.com



Spotlight on Youth & Juniors

Youth

Developing Our 2026 State Grange Youth Program



Jerry Gwin

By Jerry Gwin
Youth Grange Director

This is the time of year we start putting our new program together. Next week, we should be getting the details on the 2026 National Grange Youth Program that will be included in our state program. We know there will be changes from the national level. We will incorporate those changes into our state program as best as we can.

We are also looking for ideas from our members on what programs will attract

youth members over the next few years. Please mail your ideas to me at davona1242@outlook.com

Reminder – All adults working with the youth and juniors must have a background check. This includes the Grange Youth Fairs Program. Background check forms are available on the State Grange website. Please return the forms to the State Grange Office.

The 2026 Western Regional Grange Conference will be held March 24-28, 2026. It will be hosted by the Idaho State Grange in Boise.

Fargher Lake Grange Holds Annual Pumpkin Contest



Fargher Lake Grange hosted its annual pumpkin contest on Saturday, October 18, 2025. Junior and Youth Grangers were given free pumpkins, donated by the Doty Family from the Fargher Lake Store. Each participant was encouraged to carve a pumpkin. First place winners were awarded \$20.00 and 2nd place winners were awarded \$10.00, all other participants were awarded \$5. Prizes were donated by Jim Lester. Approximately 27 Junior and Youth Grangers took part in the contest. Grangers were also encouraged to grow their own pumpkins. In the home-grown category a \$50.00 prize was given to Hannah F. for the biggest pumpkin. Wyatt M, Teagan G, Drew G. and Lena G. were all given \$10 participation awards for their home-grown pumpkins. In the carving contest, Teagan G. won first place for the best carved pumpkin in her age group of 5 thru 7, with Brooklyn W. taking second place. Isaac P. (first place) and Serenity W. (second place) in age group 8 thru 10. In age group 11 thru 13 Luke G. took first place and Amelia M took second place. Catlin K. (first place) and Landin U. (second place) in the age group 14 thru 19 category. Drew G. was the youngest participant at 3 years old and got a participation award. Judges were Sam Arola, Georgia Goff, Clay Roberts and Jeff Miltenberger. Mike and Vickie Gilmour helped with the set up and clean up. It was a great turn out and everyone had a wonderful time. Candy was passed out to finish the fun.

Juniors

Good Grange Things Are Happening



Jacob and Tessa Gwin

By Jacob & Tessa Gwin
Junior Grange Directors

Happy Fall Y'all!

There are so many good Grange things happening soon! Are you going to be a part of it? As many of you know, the National Grange Convention Cruise will be departing soon. We have a great representation of Washington State Grangers in attendance, we cannot wait to hear all about it! I am also happy to say that we had a wonderful amount of Junior participants enter projects to National contests. I am so proud of our Washington Junior Grangers, keep it up!

Junior leaders, are you looking for some November activities to do with your Juniors? If you are looking for some projects and learning opportunities, you could consider the following options!

Do you have any members in your Subordinate or Pomona Granges that have received a Quilt of Valor? If so, in honor of Veteran's Day on November 11th, consider encouraging your Juniors to write letters or create cards for Veterans and have your Juniors present their letters or cards to your members that have received a Quilt of Valor. This is a great way to teach them about this wonderful program we offer to our members who are Veterans, as well as a way to include them in your Subordinate and Pomona meetings. You could also consider having your Juniors write letters or make cards for active or retired Veterans. There are a multitude of organizations that can assist with sending letters and cards to Veterans. Veterans always appreciate some encouragement, especially around upcoming holiday seasons. The Poppy flower is also a symbol of Veteran support. Junior leaders could consider creating a learning opportunity and teaching Juniors about the history and importance of the Poppy.

Thanksgiving is also right around the corner! If your Junior Grangers are looking for another service project, consider collecting canned goods and other non-perishable items to donate to a local food bank or food pantry that may be looking for Thanksgiving donations.

Juniors and families! Thanksgiving is also a great time for our Junior members to help in the kitchen! We all know that nobody goes hungry at a Grange function, let's teach our Juniors how to continue this legacy! Juniors, whether you help in the kitchen all the time, or are new to the kitchen, find a Thanksgiving dish to help your family with this Thanksgiving! After making it for your family,, maybe you can bring it to your next Grange potluck!

We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season! Remember, if you have any questions or would like us to join your Junior meeting, please feel free to reach out! Our updated information will appear in the new Junior Packet which will be coming out 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.



Grange Connection

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Humptulips Grange will hold their Annual Turkey Bingo on Saturday, November 22, beginning at 7 p.m. The event will include a baked raffle and a 50/50 raffle. The Grange kitchen will open at 6 p.m. There will be two Bingo events in December. December 13 will feature cash prizes, while December 20 prizes will be Christmas gift items. The Grange will vote on new bylaws at their meeting on November 21.

SPOKANE COUNTY

Green Bluff Grange held four Sunday pancake breakfasts served with applesauce. November 4 was our community event—Chili Cookoff, chaired by Melaine—more details next month. The last pancake breakfast for the year will be Nov.30—thanks to Lou and her crew for a successful “Breakfast” year. Part II of the Green Bluff’s Heritage Book needs input from anyone who has been on “The Bluff” since the 80’s, 90’, or 2000’s to be included in the new fully digitized book. Go to our website, www.greenbluffgrange.com and read about Green Bluff History. The Community Christmas Party will be held on December 13. The Grange has several rentals during November and December. Work is starting on our 2026 calendar of events.

THURSTON COUNTY

Prosperity Grange will hold an Open Mic Night Fundraiser for the Grange. The event will be on November 22, beginning at 7 p.m. It will be a pay to play event, \$15 for 15 minutes of fame. Signs up will at the door for this family friendly event, open to all ages. A full PA and mics will be provided. Properity Granger Mike Reavis of Twilight Karaoke is hosting.

South Union Grange sold baked potatoes, hot dogs, chili dogs, pop, and water at the Thurston Conservation District’s Harvest Festival on October 4. This was the fourth year that the Harvest Festival was held at the Grange and once again, the weather was great for it. Kudos to members Patty, Pam, Mat, Marleen, Bev, Ashlinn, and Christie who helped out at the event. Upcoming events: The

annual “Deck the Hall” party will begin at 2 pm on November 28. Members will meet to enjoy a time of fellowship as they decorate the hall for Christmas. The Christmas party and potluck will be held at 2 pm on Sunday December 14. Violet Prairie Grangers will be the special guests. Dance to live country music at the monthly Grange dances starting at 1:30 pm the first Saturday of every month (except October). The next ones will be held on November 1 and December 6.

WAHIAKUM COUNTY

Skamokawa Grange members had a busy summer hosting events and fundraising for a very much needed insulation project. We insulated our attic space! This 1948 vintage building had ZERO insulation. Three years ago, our current membership had fundraised to install two ductless heat pumps, which converted the building to electric heat. This allowed us to use the Wahkiakum PUD Energy Efficiency Rebate program to insulate our attic space from R-0 to R-49! The PUD paid 56% of the cost of this job. We paid the rest. We all know heat rises and now we’ll be able to keep a lot more of our heat IN the building rather than having it go OUT the roof. We look forward to more comfortable community gatherings year round in our hall. We owe a huge THANK YOU to our community for helping us achieve this upgrade! Renting our hall, attending an event, or shopping at our garage sales made this happen! This is just the beginning of sprucing up this 77 year old grange hall! We’ve compiled a list of building improvement projects and have a lot of fundraising ahead of us to make these projects happen!!

WHATCOM COUNTY

Haynie Grange will hold their monthly Pancake Breakfast on November 11 and December 14, 8 am to 12 pm each day.

Lummi Island Grange will hold their annual bazaar on Saturday, December 6, 10 am to 2 pm, at the Beach Elementary School on Lummi Island.

Rome Grange will hold their holiday bazaar on Saturday,

November 22, 10 am to 4 pm. The event will include fresh made pies.

Ten Mile Grange will be the sight of the Wiser Lake Friends and Family Bazaar on Saturday, November 21, 10 am to 4 pm, and on Saturday, November 22, 9 am to 4 pm

YAKIMA COUNTY

Broadway Grange holds traditional Mexican dancing on Monday evenings, 7-9 pm. Wednesday evenings feature line dancing, 6-8 pm. Both are open to the public. We will host a Contra dance on Sat, November 8, 7-10 pm. This event is free and open to the public.

Buena Grange meets on the second Tuesday in November for a 12 noon potluck and meeting. We continue to work on the kitchen remodel.

Fruitvale Grange will meet on November 13 at 5 p.m. The meeting will include the election of officers and we will also enjoy entertainment by the Fruitvale Jam. The jam sessions continue to be popular and are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

Lower Naches Grange will meet on Thursday, November 17 for a 6:30 p.m. potluck, followed by our business meeting.

Selah Heights Grange met recently to review their bylaws and to elect new officers. The Grange Christmas Dinner will be on Tuesday, December 2, location to be determined. We donated 30 milk shakes to participating 4-H youth who gave a public presentation at the recent Central WA State Fair.

Terrace Heights Grange members recently installed Little Libraries at all three elementary school in the East Valley School District. We are thankful for the hard work and many volunteer hours from our members and community. The libraries can be located on the Little Free Library app or website. Our Annual Community Christmas Party will be on Wed, December 17. We look forward to hosting every one for Christmas swag making.

Pomona Calendar

Please submit your 2025 & 2026 Pomona Meeting Dates.

CHELAN	 to be announced.
CLALLAM	 November 15, 2025, County Wide Dessert Auction at Sequim Prairie, 1-3 pm.
CLARK	 November 12 and December 9 at Manor, 7 p.m.
COLUMBIA	 to be announced.
COWLITZ/ WAHIAKUM	 to be announced.
DOUGLAS	 November 20 at East Wenatchee, 6 p.m.
EXCELSIOR	 November 15 at Greenwood Park, 10:30 a.m. Will include election of officers, awards, and Harves Auction.
FERRY	 to be announced.
GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC	 November 8 at Satsop, 10:30 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Next meeting will be January 10 at Elma.
ISLAND	 December 5 at Deer Lagoon.
KING	 to be announced.
KLICKITAT	 November 8 at Goldendale, 12 p.m. potluck, 1 p.m. meeting.
LEWIS	 to be announced.
MASON	 November 15, location to be announced. 11 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck lunch.
OKANOGAN	 November 8 at Mount Olive, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck.
PEND OREILLE	 March 7 at Camden, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck. Will hold the baking contest.
PIERCE	 December 6 at Waller Road. 10 am meeting, 12:30 pm potluck lunch. Will be installation of officers.
SKAGIT	 December 3 a Fredonia, 6 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. meeting. Will stuff Christmas stockings.
SNOHOMISH	 November 15 at Granville, 10 a.m.
SPOKANE	 November 15 at Moran Prairie, 10 a.m.
STEVENS	 to be announced.
THURSTON	 December 4 at South Union, 6 p.m. Christmas party/potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.
WHATCOM	 November 18 at Haynie, 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. meeting.
WHITMAN	 November 15 and Jim & Bonnie Lyle’s home in Colfax, 10 a.m. meeting, 12 p.m. potluck lunch, will include election of officers.
YAKIMA VALLEY	 January 12 at Fruitvale, 3 p.m.

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 _____		

Pomona Connection

GRAYS HARBOR/ PACIFIC POMONA

Grays Harbor/Pacific Pomona Grange will be donating pies to the Union Gospel Mission in Aberdeen for Thanksgiving. Each Grange has been asked to donated six pies for the project, which includes both the Union Gospel Mission and the Friendship House.

THURSTON COUNTY POMONA

Thurston County Pomona Grange met on October 2 at Prosperity Grange Hall. Election of officers for 2026 was held, with Kay Nelson elected to serve as the

new Pomona Master. A Good of the Order meeting was held on October 12 to set the calendar for 2026 meetings and activities. The December 4 Pomona meeting and Christmas celebration will be held at South Union Grange hall with a potluck at 6 pm and meeting at 7. Each subordinate Grange will have a short presentation for the program.

WHATCOM COUNTY POMONA

Whatcom County Pomona Grange will meet on Tuesday, November 18 at the Haynie Grange Hall. The event will begin with the

annual Chili Contest at 6 pm. The business meeting will follow at 7 pm and will include the election of officers.

YAKIMA VALLEY POMONA

Yakima Valley Pomona Grange hosted the 4-H Awards Banquet on November 2 at the Fruitvale Grange Hall. Holiday Swag Making will be held on Sunday, December 7 at the Terrace Heights Grange Hall. Cost of supplies will be #15. Please plan to join us and bring new, packaged socks and underwear to donate to Rod’s House.

Grange Connection

A Spooktacular Success at Sequim Prairie Grange!

Sequim Prairie Grange held its annual Country Fair & Trunk-or-Treat on Saturday, October 25, 2025 — and we're happy to share that it was a spooktacular success!

The weather cooperated, allowing families to enjoy free pumpkin carving and trunk-or-treating outdoors. Inside the historic Grange Hall, guests found even more fun with games, a lively cakewalk and a delicious lunch prepared and served by Grange members and volunteers. It was a safe, festive, and family-friendly celebration for the whole community.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make this event possible — our dedicated Grange members, volunteers,

and all the creative trunk hosts who brought so much spirit and imagination to the day.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Clallam County Fire Department for stopping by with their ladder

truck — it was a highlight for visitors of all ages!

We are grateful to be part of such a supportive community and look forward to celebrating again next year!



Green Bluff Grange Hosts Successful Applesauce And Pancakes Breakfast



Green Bluff Grange recently held the last applesauce and pancakes breakfast for 2025. Nancy & Jess Baker make apple dumplings for the church (right across from the Grange) and took the pictures.

(Left) Welcoming the breakfast crowd. (Middle) Kitchen crew: Pancake maker Russ, Kitchen chief Lou, Sausage guy Tom was taken at the Oct. 19 all you can eat pancakes with applesauce breakfast. (Right) Applesauce and pancakes breakfast crowd.

Terrace Heights Grange Builds Three Little Free Libraries At Schools



Terrace Heights Grange and East Valley School District partnered to put three "Little Free Libraries" at each of the 3 East Valley elementary schools. The libraries were built over the summer by a handful of Terrace Heights Grange members with stations from the now closed Sunny Valley Grange used as the base starting point.

SpoKampers Camping Club

SpoKampers Travel To Leavenworth

The SpoKampers travelled to Leavenworth October 5-9. Four rigs included Radmers, Brittons, Krenkel, and Neils. The group enjoyed a mouth-watering lunch at the Hot Rod Café on Highway #2, watched the noon clock perform on Main Street, sought out treasures at Annie's Antiques as well as the Antique Mall, enjoyed the quiet solitude of Wenatchee River and the County Park where we camped, and devoured typical Grange style potluck dinners each evening. We highly recommend the Park because it has reduced rates after September, \$25 per night, full hook-ups, and is such a relaxing place.

www.WA-Grange.org

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

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.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

Chain of Command refers to the formal structure of authority and responsibility within an organization, outlining the hierarchy through which instructions, decisions, and communication flow from higher levels of authority to lower levels. It establishes clear lines of accountability, ensuring that every member of the organization understands their role and to whom they report. The chain of command is fundamental in any structured group where coordination and accountability are critical. It provides clarity and structure while enabling effective operation and leadership.

Grange Connection



(L-R) Bob Bushnell, Duane Hamp, Christine Hamp, Evelyn Shea, Bob Shea, Jennell Branson, Valree Gayken, Cyndi Langston, Dave Langston.



(L-R) Dave Langston, Master of Moran Prairie Grange #161, Jennell Branson, National President, Christine Hamp

Moran Prairie Grange Honors 80-Year Member Jennell Branson

On October 26th, 2025, Moran Prairie Grange recognized Jennell E. Branson for 80 years of membership. The ceremony was held at Rockwood South Hill Retirement Community. Since joining in 1945, Mr. Branson has shown exemplary commitment to the Grange community. In 1950, he

transferred to Triangle Grange #927 where both he and his wife, Louise Branson, were dedicated members engaged in farming activities. Mr. Branson has actively contributed to Spokane County Pomona for many years, serving as assistant steward and overseer. His involvement extended to

participation in the drill team and leadership as Master at Moran Prairie Grange #161. He provided vocal performances at national, state, and Pomona events, as well as numerous subordinate Granges. Additionally, he served as Deaf Awareness Representative for six years, visiting nearly every Grange in Spokane County

and consistently supporting the deaf community, especially by facilitating their Christmas program through sign language interpretation for Santa. The luncheon celebration at Rockwood included a certificate and pin presentation in Mr. Branson's honor. Distinguished attendees

included National President Christine Hamp, Spokane County Deputy Bob Shea, and current members from Tyler Grange (Bob and Evelyn Shea), Moran Prairie Grange (Dave and Cyndi Langston, Valree Gayken), Five Mile Grange (Christine and Duane Hamp), along with a close friend Bob Bushnell.

Pierce County Pomona Hosts Member Recognition Banquet

Pierce County Pomona Grange #16 held our Recognition Banquet Sunday, October 12th at Collins Grange. Guest Speaker was Sister Carolyn Hojem, Chaplain of the Washington State Grange and our Entertainment was Paul Rinehart who sang and played his Guitar. We honored our Grangers of the Month for the year. These members are the do-ers of the Grange, and help keep our doors open and programs going. December 2024 is Janet Schidt of Waller Road Grange. January 2025 is David Bryant of Elk Plain Grange. March 2025 is Renee Uliama and Kathy Warren of Fruitland Grange. April 2025 is Karen Crombie of Edgewood Grange. June 2025 is April Smith of Collins Grange. August 2025 is Leanne Oxborought of Roy Grange. October 2025 is Karri Marsh of McMillin Grange. Also, recognized for 65 years of continuous membership, William Rundnick of McMillin Grange. 55 years of continuous membership, Ken Miller of Ohop Grange and Golden Sheaf (50 years) member Richard Reimann of Marion.

Pictured: Top Row -
Left - 50-year Member Richard Reimann.
Middle - 55 year member Ken Miller.
Right - 65 year member William Rundnick.
Lower Photo - Grangers of the Month.

