



Oregon State Grange



BULLETIN

February/March 2017

News about the Grange

Volume 117 No. 1

GrangeUp '17 Campaign Begins

GrangeUp '17 is the name selected for a new Oregon State Grange membership drive. The goal is to have a net gain in 2017. The drive was launched at a meeting of State Grange directors, district chairs, and state officers in January. Each attendee agreed to visit Granges in February and March to deliver a banner and a box of membership recruitment tools.

Rewards

The goal of this campaign will be met if each Grange has a net gain of at least two members. To reward Granges who far exceed this goal, the State Grange will give cash prizes to the three Granges that have the highest percentage of increase of new members. Six other Granges (one in each district) will win an ice cream social from the State Grange.

The State Grange will mail each new member a packet that includes the Welcome to the Grange booklet, a 150th anniversary pin, a car decal, and a voucher for \$5 off their 2018 dues, which is also a \$5 savings on the dues your Grange forwards to the State Grange in 2018.

What's the Banner?

For the Grange's 150th anniversary



Oregon State Grange Committee Directors, Program Development Team, and Communications Team met with State Master Susan Noah in October to start the ball rolling on a membership drive for 2017.

in 2017, the Oregon State Grange is providing each Grange with a banner (6' x 2 1/2') to be displayed proudly inside or outside your hall. The purpose is to let your neighbors and community know that the Grange has reached this milestone. While it is an indoor banner, it has a limited life—just one year—so it should be displayed outside before and during events. You may want to keep it up outside year around or include it in your fair booth or on a parade float.

Before your banner is delivered, give some thought to how your Grange can best display it.

What's in the Box my Grange will Receive?

Tools for member recruitment:

- Free brochures: *The Grange: You Belong*, *Oregon Grange Youth*, and *Oregon Junior Grange*, all of which were updated last year. Please use them and discard the old brochures you have had forever.
- A DVD with the *Spotlight on the Grange* video that you should show at your events. This five-minute video explains what the Grange is, its history and values.

• *Recruiting Members By Being a Grange Ambassador*: This is for your members; it is not to be given to potential members. It outlines a four-step method for asking potential members to join. Being an ambassador is different from being a salesman. Steps 2 and 4 are key: Listen and ask. Please go over this information in your monthly meeting, to improve your success.

• Samples of marketing ideas other Granges have used: brochures, business cards, M&Ms, and a survey.

• *Possibilities*, a 60-page booklet that combines the *Idea Book* volumes I and II compiled by the State Membership Committee and the State Community Service *Idea Book* with some new ideas and information.

• Buttons, pens, and wrist bands to give to your recruiters and/or new members.

The GrangeUp '17 logo has three words below it: Engage. Connect. Celebrate.

Engage.

Why should you wear a GrangeUp '17 button? Because you want neighbors and community members to ask you 'What's GrangeUp?' That will give you an opportunity to engage them in conversation.

Each of us joined or belongs for a different reason. Briefly tell your Grange story. But the person you are talking to may have totally different interests so find out what those are so you can point out how the Grange can fill them.



Connect.

Inviting the community into your hall gives you a great opportunity to connect with potential members. Be sure to look through the Possibilities book to find a couple of activities your Grange can try. All the ideas in the book have been used successfully at other Granges in Oregon. Most potential members are not interested in joining a potluck club. They will want to join a Grange that is active in the community and sponsors FUN events.

Celebrate.

The State Grange first quarter report has a new question: Have you a plan to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Grange December 1st – 4th, 2017? Now is a good time to begin planning to celebrate the anniversary and your new members.

If your Grange has the highest percentage of membership increase, the Oregon State Grange will award you a cash prize of \$750. You can buy lots of heating oil or make the down payment on a more efficient furnace or finance a much needed project in your community. The second highest percentage gain will receive \$500 cash, and the third highest receives \$250.

If you win an ice cream social, you can welcome your new members and their friends or treat a local sports team or children with special needs and their families. Determining how to use the ice cream social and when to hold it is up to each winner and the availability of State Grange representatives, who will bring ice cream and toppings for 'make your own sundaes' for your guests.

Let's get out there and make GrangeUp a success, bringing growth to the Grange in 2017!

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Bulletin Deadline
April/May issue

March 10, 2017



The Master's Column

Susan Noah
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 President ~ Oregon State Grange

In 2017 the Grange will achieve a very significant milestone in its history. We will celebrate the 150th anniversary of our birth on December 4th, 2017. Very few organizations can make the same claim, and of those the Grange stands alone as an organization committed to agricultural and rural advocacy.

I believe it is our bond as brothers and sisters that has kept us going through the thousands of changes to our lives and to our rural communities. At the recent National Grange Convention in Washington, D.C. the delegates and members were privileged to hear from our Postmaster General, Megan Brennan; Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Michael Scuse; Congressman Glen Thompson (PA) and Clay Snyder, Senior Director of Brand Management for Hilton Hotels. This very diverse group came with messages that echoed what we as members already know. The Grange is needed now more than ever.

Congressman Thompson spoke of the beginnings of the Grange when our organization was instrumental in helping to heal the wounds of the nation following the Civil War. He then went on to reference how our country is now divided in a similar manner and that the Grange can work towards mending the relationship between our fellow citizens across the nation. He stated, "Given what we're experiencing right now, after the election that we just completed, the National Grange is as relevant today as it was 150 years ago." He went on to add, "Just like the founding of this organization, your timing is such that it is time for healing in our land and I think the Grange can be a very big part of that."

Hilton Brand Manager Clay Snyder admitted that he has been a non-engaged Grange member who merely paid his dues, but a move back to his home area and the call to speak at our National Convention encouraged him to become an active member once again. He says that like him, so many people are searching for a reason to get involved and it is up to Granges to make their brand one that compels others outside the Grange to explore

membership. He left us with three tools to use in the support of our brand: "Share your passion about your shared values, continually tell your story, and be kind and respectful to each other and our fragile earth home." He reminded us of Maya Angelou's observation, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

All of the speakers at this last convention were inspirational and complementary toward the Grange, but these two made particular comments that I believe in wholeheartedly. First from Congressman Thompson that we embrace and embody our principles of Faith, Hope, Charity and Fidelity and that we practice them in good faith throughout our daily lives, and from Clay Snyder, who reminded us of what it means to treat people well.

GrangeUp '17

Your Grange will soon be visited by one of our State Officers, Program Directors or District Chairmen to explain the new membership campaign "GrangeUp '17." During the months of February and March these individuals will be calling to schedule time during your meeting to roll out this campaign. GrangeUp '17 will last through the end of 2017, and hopefully by the end of the year you will be celebrating not only the 150th anniversary of the Grange, but also an increase in members!

The Oregon State Grange will provide monetary awards to the top three Granges as well as an ice cream social to one Grange in each district. See the GrangeUp '17 story on the front page of this issue for more details. The member attending your meeting will tell you all the particulars and will also be available to help and answer questions throughout the remainder of the year. And if you just took in a whole group of new members in January do not despair. They will be counted in your totals for the year! I hope all our Granges are able to report a net gain in members at the end of 2017. What better way to start on the next 150 years!



State Convention

Our State Convention is coming up quickly! The Florence Events Center is our destination this year. Activities begin on Saturday June 24th with the four degrees, the Kick-Off Banquet and the talent contest. We will officially open on Sunday the 25th and committee work will start that day as well. We should be wrapped up by mid-day on Thursday.

I know it seems early to be talking about the convention, but given that we are meeting in late June on the Oregon Coast, you may want to make sure you have hotel or RV reservations in early before the places fill up with tourists. Florence has a good selection of both hotels and RV parks, and a lot of vacation home rentals as well.

Healthy Granges

Last year in my Master's Good of the Order Address I promised that this year we would concentrate on making Granges healthy. The membership drive is part of this. With new members come new thoughts and ideas as well as more help for your Grange and your community. So a healthy and engaged membership is certainly one part of a healthy Grange. Our buildings also figure into a healthy organization, as well as our attitudes and finances.

I plan to have four meetings across the state where we can all discuss what makes a "Healthy Grange" and how to achieve it. In order to make this as easy as possible for attendance, I am targeting April and May, in hopes of good weather, and will be notifying your Grange soon of times and places.

Happy 2017 and remember to GrangeUp!

Past National Master Publishes E-Book



Farm Grown Leadership is a new book packed with leadership lessons which has been published by Ed Luttrell as a Kindle e-book.

Farm Grown Leadership is composed of a series of short stories taken from the youth of the author with each story being an illustration of a key leadership lesson. Lessons learned from the farm, from FFA, 4-H, and the Grange are offered in an easy to read style. Humor and insight are bound together to teach the lessons of effective leadership.

For more information go to CornerPostLeadership.com or find the book on Amazon.com.

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In Memoriam

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Les Barlow
Midland Grange #781

Delores Larkey
Goshen Grange #561

Quentin Lyle Borba
Sandlake Grange #546

Robert Letts
Goshen Grange #561

Amanda S Taylor
Santa Clara Grange #746

Leola (Sally) Wetzell
Goshen Grange #561

Kim Stang
Sixes Grange #856

Mary Dudley
Warren Grange #536



*Seen through the eyes of Faith,
we remember our Brothers and Sisters not as ones dead, they have only
gone on before us through the gates of the Grange above, where dwells
the Great Master of us all.*

Vernonia Grange Host Hanukkah with Beit Shalom Fellowship



Vernonia Grange #305, Columbia County hosted a Hanukkah Celebration for the Beit Shalom Torah Fellowship of Vernonia on December 24th, the first night of Hanukkah. Nearly seventy members of the community passed through the doors of the Grange Hall during the six-hour event. There was much song, laughter, food and fellowship as the "Re-dedication of the Temple" and the return of light were celebrated.

One question that came up often during the event was, "What are a bunch of Christians doing celebrating Hanukkah? Isn't that a 'Jewish' thing?" The answer is, "Yes, Hanukkah is a traditional Jewish holiday. It is not one of the seven commanded feast days, or celebrations."

The word Hanukkah means "dedication." After the sound defeat of the whole Seleucid (Greek) army back in 165 BCE by the greatly outnumbered Judean army, the Jews took back Jerusalem and began the

task of cleaning out the temple, which had been used by the Greeks to worship their god, Zeus. Pigs had even been sacrificed on the holy altar. Once the temple had been cleaned out and the old altar torn down and rebuilt, the rededication process took eight days; hence, the eight-day commemoration today.

It just seems fitting, especially in these chaotic world times, to celebrate those who were willing to fight and sacrifice all for their right to rule themselves, and worship as they chose. It's kind of like the United States Independence Day celebration on the Fourth of July.

Hanukkah is always celebrated on the twenty-fifth day of the Jewish month, Kislev, which roughly corresponds to the Julian calendar, November-December time frame. The altar was desecrated on that day, the winter solstice, and it was that date that was chosen to rededicate the altar and temple to YHWH, God of Israel, and all those believe in His Messiah.

The Chaplain's Corner



Peggy Fine
johnandpeggyfine@charter.net
Chaplain ~ Oregon State Grange

I always put a lot of thought and prayer in my articles and I hope you enjoy them. Thank you to all of you who take the time to e-mail me about something I wrote.

This time I decided to write about Grace and Faith. Although the two go hand in hand they are definitely not the same. Interestingly though, both definitions from the Webster's New World Dictionary use the Biblical meaning as the best definition. Grace is defined as the unmerited love and favor of God toward human beings; divine influence acting in a person to make the person pure, morally strong; the condition of a person brought to God's favor through this influence; a special virtue, gift, or help given to a person of God.

Faith is defined as unquestioning belief that does not require proof or evidence; unquestioning belief in God, religious tenets. Hebrews 11:1 states "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see".

To receive Grace you have to have Faith. How can you depend on a God you do not acknowledge? I hope you all have faith and abundant grace in your lives. I believe the following story, which was originally submitted to Ann Landers years ago, can teach us all about faith and grace.

"A woman was diagnosed with a terminal illness and given three months to live. She asked her Pastor to come to her home to discuss her final wishes. She told him which songs she wanted sung at her funeral, and what scriptures

she wanted read, and which outfit she wanted to be buried in.

Then she said, one more thing, I want to be buried with a fork in my hand.

The pastor was surprised.

The woman explained, in all my years of attending church socials and potluck dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably say to everyone, 'keep your fork'. It was my favorite time of the dinner, because I knew something better was coming, like velvety chocolate cake or deep dish apple pie – something wonderful. So, I want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and wonder, 'What's with the fork?' Then I want you to tell them, 'Keep your fork, because the best is yet to come.'

The pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he bid the woman goodbye. He realized she had a better grasp of heaven than he did, and knew something better was coming.

At the funeral, when people asked him why she was holding a fork, the pastor told them of the conversation he had with the woman before she died. He said he could not stop thinking about the fork, and knew they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either. He was right.

I hope you enjoyed this story and if you attend my funeral you will find a fork because through God's Grace which I received by Faith, I know the best is yet to come.



L to R: Emily Blatchford, Jaqueline Brassuer and Susan Spicer Pond participate in the Re-dedication of the Temple during the Hanukkah celebration at Vernonia Grange. The Silk painting in background was painted by Pam Monnin for the event.



Secrets of a Secretary

Sarah Kingsborough
sarahkingsborough@gmail.com

Secretary ~ Oregon State Grange

Seasons of a Secretary

From the OSG Secretary's Handbook

February

- Send third dues reminder notice—*Intent to Suspend*

March

- Send resolutions that are adopted to your Pomona and the State Grange office

April

- Read and adopt the Quarterly Report for the 1st quarter
- Send *Notice of Suspension* to members dropped for non-payment of dues

Bonding

In December all Subordinate and Pomona Granges in Oregon were mailed information on the National

Grange Bonding Program. Bonding insurance covers the loss of Grange funds. Every Grange is required by the National Grange Digest to bond its Treasurer and Secretary in such an amount as the Executive Committee of your Grange determines appropriate. The Executive Committee can also insure other officers.

The bonding policy available from the National Grange covers all officers and members. The premium, determined by the amount of coverage, is due each January. Information on this insurance is provided by the State Grange office as an option for your Grange. You may also check with your insurance company to compare prices. The policy offered through the National Grange runs January 1-December 31.

Addition to Convention Hotel List

Please add to the list of hotels for State Convention previously printed.
Driftwood Shores Resort ~ www.DriftwoodShores.com
88416 1st. Ave ~ Florence, OR 97439

ROOM TYPE	GROUP RATE PER NIGHT
Single Queen Room with Micro, Refrig, Coffee Maker	\$89.00
Double Queen Suite with Full Kitchen	\$159.00

Online Reservations: (Desktop Computer Only)

<https://reservations.driftwoodshores.com/>

Group Code: 253515, Pin: 8263

Phone Reservations: 800-422-5091 Mention "Oregon State Grange"

Springwater Grange Annual Scholarship Pie Auction


Springwater Grange #263 in Clackamas County will be holding their annual Pie Auction to raise money for their scholarship fund. This year the auction is on Friday, February 24, at Springwater Grange, 24591 S. Wallens Road, Estacada, OR 97023 (the corner of Springwater Road and Wallens Road).

The event starts with a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. with the auctioning of pies at about 7:15 p.m. Everyone is invited to participate in this event. This is the major fundraiser so the Grange can provide scholarships.

Last year Springwater Grange gave three scholarships of \$1,500 each to Tobias Armas, Jennifer Landis and Elyssa Kelly. The Grange would like to do as much this year. All scholarship money received goes to the scholarship fund, without exception. And as all the pies are donated there are no expenses for the auction.

For more information contact Donna Stevens at 503-348-9656.


Springwater Grange



Invites you to join us for a fun, filled evening of Dinner and Pie at our

Annual Scholarship Pie Auction

Potluck dinner starting at 6:30pm
Auction following
Friday January 24th



24591 S. Wallens Road, Estacada, OR 97023
(the corner of Springwater Road and Wallens Road)



Sea and be Seen in '17 Florence, Oregon

From the 2017 State Convention Hosting Committee,

We wanted to tell you about the work that we are doing. Like last year, the banquet will be held on Saturday, the opening ceremony will take place on Sunday, and we will close that following Thursday. Transportation has been lined up for any field trips that week, however the Florence Event Center is within walking distance to some of the city's attractions. With our convention taking place on the coast this year, be mindful in reserving your lodging accommodations sooner rather than later.

We are currently looking for Granges who are willing to cook and serve food for the convention's lunches. If both serving and cooking is unfeasible, you can also choose to help with either/or. We are still looking for youth/young adults to take part in the Rosebud drill; and Grangers to help exemplify the Fifth Degree. As in previous years, we are always looking for help. If you're willing to assist in any of the above, please contact Lyle Utt at uttl@comcast.net.

The committee hopes you'll join us at the Sea and be Seen in '17.

Sign Reimbursement Program Deadline Fast Approaching

May 31, 2017 is the deadline to apply for reimbursement for upgrading of your Grange Hall sign. The Executive Committee will fund one half of a signage project up to the total of \$350.00 per Grange. Work must be completed and the funds applied

for by the deadline. Information was mailed to all Subordinate/Community Granges in May 2016. Details are available on the Oregon State Grange website. Don't miss out on upgrading your sign in time for the 150th birthday of the Grange.

UPCOMING POMONA GRANGE MEETINGS

Pomona Secretaries are to send in meeting information to the Bulletin Editor as soon as date, time, and location are determined and/or changed.

Pomona	Date	Time	Meeting Place
Baker #24	May 6	10:30 AM	New Bridge
Benton #36	April 15	10:30 AM	Fairmont
Clackamas #1	February 25	6:00 PM	Abernetby
Columbia #18	May 6	10:00 AM	Beaver Homes
Coos-Curry-West Coast #30		10:00 AM	TBA
Deschutes #25	February 11	11:30 AM	Little Deschutes
Douglas #13	April 22	6:00 PM	Riversdale
Jackson #27		10:00 AM	TBA
Josephine #20	April 29	10:00 AM	Illinois Valley
Lane #14	April 8	10:00 AM	Crow
Lincoln #10	February 18	10:30 AM	Siletz Valley
Linn #12	April 8	10:00 AM	Lacomb
Marion #4	April 11	6:00 PM	Keizer
Polk #3	April 15	10:00 AM	Rickreall
Tillamook #9		10:00 AM	TBA
Umatilla-Morrow #26	February 25	10:30 AM	TBA
Wallowa #22	April 8	10:00 AM	South Fork
Washington-Yamhill #2	April 22	10:00 AM	Dixie Mountain

Upcoming Dates/Deadlines

- March 4** Deputy School - Winona Grange, Tualatin
- March 11** Young Adults/Young Couple Conference - Salmon River Grange, Otis
- March 23** AG Luncheon - State Capital, Salem
- March 30** State Youth Officer Applications due to the state office
- March 31** Junior Officer Applications due
- April 18*** OSG - Legislative Day State Capital, Salem
- April 23-26** NG Legislative Fly-In - Washington, DC
- June 24-29** Oregon State Grange Convention - Florence
- November 7-11** 151st Annual National Grange Convention - Spokane, Washington
- December 4** 150th Anniversary of the Grange



Linda Short from Rockford Grange talking to interested young farmers.

The Grange Visible at the 5th National Conference for Women in Sustainable Agriculture

For the first time the Oregon State Grange had the opportunity to be represented at the *National Conference for Women in Sustainable Agriculture* held November 29 - December 1 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Portland, Oregon.

About 400 women involved in the agriculture industry — from farmers to educators to researchers were at the conference this year. In fact, so many registered the hosting committee had to start a waiting list.

The Oregon State Grange display gave Grange members many opportunities to talk to hundreds of women farmers. “The leading question was “What is a Grange?” reported Oregon State Grange Agriculture Director Jay Sexton, Marys River Grange #685, who made the arrangements for the Grange’s appearance. In addition to answering questions, Grangers provided contact information and meeting times for local Granges for those interested, mainly in Oregon but also in Washington as well as state and National Grange contact information for those from other states.

In addition to Director Sexton, others helping at the table were OSG Membership committee member Linda Short, Rockford Grange #501, OSG Agriculture committee member Jessie Jo Guttridge, Springwater Grange #263 and Ramona Tamiyasu, also a member at Rockford and from a multi-generational farm family.

Being at the conference additionally gave the Grangers opportunities to interact with local USDA representatives, other agricultural organizations, extension agents, and companies. Members offered to be a facilitator if an organization wanted contacts in a particular area of Oregon, and “crowded” about the availability of Oregon’s 170 Grange

halls located throughout the state.

Held for the 5th time, and the first time on the west coast, the conference attracted farmers, educators, technical assistance providers and activists engaged in healthy food and farming, giving them opportunities to share educational and organization strategies, build technical and business skills, and address policy issues aimed at expanding the success of women farmers and ranchers.



Celebrating the Grange’s 150th Birthday

On December 4, 2017 the Grange will be 150 years old. The National Grange urges Granges throughout the nation to celebrate in their own way sometime between December 1 and 4. In Oregon we ask why not celebrate all year long?

The first annual meeting of the National Grange was held on December 4, 1867 in the office of William Saunders, Superintendent of the Propagating Garden of the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. The first officers were elected during that meeting.

At that time the country was recovering from the civil war, farmers comprised 58% of the workforce, transportation was by horse and buggy, and the main concern of the early members was the high cost charged by railroads to transport produce to market.

The Grange movement came to Oregon five years later. Marshfield Grange #1 was organized in Clackamas County in 1872. The Oregon State Grange was organized in 1873 with 37 Granges plus 5



The Agricultural Report

Jay Sexton
hexagon@exchangenet.net
OSG Agriculture Director

A new year and I am thinking about State Grange Convention in Florence, arranging the Ag Tour of local stops with interesting agricultural stories, speakers to line up for the Ag Conferences, and encouraging various Granges to send their delegates.

The Women in Sustainable Agriculture Conference in early December gave the Oregon State Grange table many chances to talk to hundreds of women farmers. Of course, we answered “What is a Grange?” very often. We used the current roster to give contact information and meeting times to interested people about the Grange closest to their homes.

Being at this conference also gave us opportunities to interact with USDA representatives, other agricultural organizations, extension agents, and companies. We often offered to be a facilitator if an organization wanted contacts in an area of Oregon, and we could crow about our 170 halls throughout the state.

This winter we will also have tables

at the FFA Convention in Redmond and the OSU Small Farm Conference in Corvallis. We have similar opportunities at these conferences to talk to many people about what Grange means to us and how the social and networking opportunities in a local Grange are valuable, helpful in our communities, and fun.

In February and March District Chairs of the Agriculture Committee will be visiting Granges in their districts to deliver packages of material celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Grange. I’m looking forward to visiting halls and encouraging recognition of this amazing milestone.

It is inspiring to be part of this organization, with its motto of “Esto perpetua” (Let it be perpetual). I am also enthusiastic about our new statewide membership drive “GrangeUp” and the awards for the Granges with the most success. I am confident that together we will produce a net statewide growth in membership this 150th year!

Granges from the territories of Washington and Idaho.

How can your Grange celebrate?

In honor of the 150th birthday, the Oregon State Grange is giving every Grange a gift. A representative of the State Grange will deliver a banner to your Grange that should be displayed prominently so that your members, visitors, and the community will know about this milestone. What if nobody brings you a banner? If you do not receive your banner or a call about its delivery by March 15, contact the State Grange office.

Plan an event for Monday, December 4 or alternatively Friday, Saturday, or Sunday December 1, 2, or 3. Call it a “150th Celebration” or “150th Birthday Party”. While you may think of it as an Open House, you need to make clear that **this is not** another “open the doors to see what’s inside” event. Plan to show the “Spotlight on the Grange” video that was created to be shown on PBS stations. You can share

your Grange’s colorful history.

Share your plans.

Send an article to your local newspaper – **Most newspapers love getting stories that are already written.** Also send it to the Grange Bulletin. There will be a special section in the October Bulletin (*deadline September 10th*) for all the Anniversary celebration events. Send your flyer to webmaster@orgrange.org so that your event will be added to the calendar on the Oregon State Grange website. Post what you are doing on Twitter and Facebook and use the hashtag #150yearsofgrange.

The Oregon State Grange is working on plans for a party at the State Capitol on December 4. A traveling exhibit for display in libraries and history museums throughout the state is also planned. If your library or museum has appropriate exhibit space and lots of traffic, please send the email and phone number of the person to contact to:

Marilyn Reiher
m_reiher@comcast.net



Community Service

Eva Frost
evafrost1038@comcast.net

OSG Community Service and
Involvement Director

I have been touched by the needy in my own community over the past few months. My church gives "Love Baskets" each year at Thanksgiving time. This year I had new names on my delivery list. What an eye opener! I knew people were in need of help, but I didn't realize how serious it was until I saw it firsthand.

This inspired my family to reach out to ten homeless teens. They are pursuing their high school education, but have no real homes. They travel from couch to couch to stay out of the system. Yes, some choose to not be a part of the system because of abuse or other bad experiences. But it still tears at your heart. My family donated backpacks, blankets, and gift cards to McDonalds, Subway and Taco Bell to these homeless teens.

We also reached out to two households that have very little. One gentleman just lost his wife of 48 years. They met while working for the welfare center in Portland and had two sons. Although they have always been on welfare, they have been too proud to ask for additional help. The other gentleman stays busy volunteering throughout the community (including for the Grange) to help others but has very little for himself. Both were very grateful for the basket of food and a warm smile on Christmas Eve. Sadly to say, we all have needy people like these in our community.

It is time to finalize your 2016 **Annual Community Service Report**. You can find a copy of the Community Service Report form on the State Grange website or I will be happy to mail or email you a copy. The reporting time is January 1 through December 31, 2016, and all reports must be postmarked by June 1, 2017. Your report should include a list of your projects, number of participating members and non-members and hours volunteered. The **Volunteer Log** found on the State Grange website can help Grangers log their volunteer hours each month during your meeting. These log forms are your backup information and should not be included or attached to your report when you mail it in. Contact me if you have any questions. Please remember to focus on serving your community.

The Oregon State Grange receives money (\$250) from the National Grange, **IF** 25% of Granges send in

their report. We use this money to fund the prizes awarded for Community Service Yearbooks.

The **Community Service Yearbook** for 2016 must be entered for judging at the State Grange Convention by noon on Sunday June 25th. Or you may mail your book to me by June 1, 2017. All yearbooks will be judged at the Oregon State Grange Convention in June and certificates will be awarded to all participants. The first place winner will be sent to National Grange in November.

National Grange suggests these **Do's** and **Don'ts** when organizing your yearbook:

Do's

- Include a copy of your Annual Community Service Report in the front of your yearbook.
- Be sure the name of your Grange is on the cover of the book.
- Include a one-page description of your Grange and Community
- Have a summary sheet of projects be the table of contents. For example, list continuing projects, new projects, large projects, small projects, and donations. **Organize your book to match.**
- Have a tab for each project with a short summary, flyer, and newspaper article.
- Larger books are not always better. Have no more than four pages (front and back) for large projects and two pages for smaller projects.
- Include two or three photos that show participation, and if appropriate, before and after shots.
- Include one or two thank you notes, not one from every child in the classroom.

Don'ts

- Your yearbook is not a history so don't include everything your Grange did during the year.
- Omit officer and member lists, meeting minutes, and obituaries for those who used the hall after a funeral.
- Hall and grounds maintenance and fundraisers for hall improvements are not community service. If you have a fundraiser as a community service, be sure to include where you donate the money raised.



Deaf Awareness and Family Health

Peggy Jillson
psjill@comcast.net

OSG Deaf Awareness ~ Family Health Director

Family Health at the Farmers Market

If you would like to have fun and take care of your health while at the same time bring money and/or new members to your Subordinate Grange, supporting or partnering with your local farmers market is the perfect fit. The whole family can enjoy eating more fresh fruits and veggies, make new friends and bump into old friends, and learn about foods you've never tried. Furthermore, it dovetails perfectly with the Grange's Declaration of Purposes: *"For our business interests we desire to bring producer and consumer into the most direct and friendly relations possible, remembering that individual happiness depends upon general prosperity."*

Here are some ideas to consider in 2017, ranging from easiest to the most challenging:

1. As a Grange, shop at your local farmers' market and create a potluck featuring locally grown produce. While shopping, wear a name tag or Grange accessory

We need to develop and encourage pride in what we as Grangers accomplish. A picture is worth a thousand words, and will show others that your Grange story is interesting and fun. Please contact me if you have questions filling out your report or organizing your yearbook.

Thanks for your service in the community.

Submitting Your Annual Community Service Report Is Important

1. The National Grange provides money for Community Service prizes if **25%** of Oregon Granges file a report
2. Any Subordinate Grange wanting to apply for the 2016-17 National Distinguished Grange Award is required to complete the Community Service report
3. The Oregon State Grange must submit a Community Service report to National Grange with at least **50%** of our state's Granges reportings for the Oregon State Grange to again qualify for a National Distinguished State Grange Award

that identifies you as Grange members. Chat with the growers about their produce, their farm, and your Grange. Fun!

2. Have a table at a market. Most markets allow nonprofits to put up a small table and reach out to the public for no charge. Bring a friend and don't forget the membership applications. Make a day of it!
3. As a community service project, your Grange can donate money to your local market. All farmers markets are nonprofit and most farmers markets are run by committed volunteers and have overhead expenses. Many markets give to the food banks or raise funds to match purchase power for customers on food stamps (SNAP).
4. As a community service project, your Grange can volunteer hours to a local market. Tasks may include helping with signage or volunteering at an information booth.
5. As a community service project, your Grange can offer itself as a venue for a market. That would be an ideal way to recruit new members. *(But beware of considering a farmers market as a fundraiser. Most farmers markets are subsidized and a very small percentage of them can afford to pay rent. It's truly a labor of love.)*
6. Start your own farmers market! Lots of work, but lots of fun. And what Grange wouldn't pride itself on fulfilling the Declaration of Purposes? For more information on starting your own, attend the 2017 Oregon State Grange Session in Florence and be sure to attend the Ag Conference on *"Your Path to a Farmers Market."*

If you don't know where or when YOUR nearest farmers market meets, go to this website: <http://www.oregonfarmersmarkets.org/market-finder/>

Note: This month's column is contributed by District 2 DAFH Chair Genie Harden of Spencer Creek Grange #855, where the Spencer Creek Community Farmers Market will begin its 8th season in 2017.

Lookingglass Grange Steps Up to Help Neighborhood School

Late at night on December 27th, 2016 the historic gym, library, cafeteria, and speech room of the Lookingglass Elementary school built in 1939 burnt to the ground. The school is located across the street from Lookingglass Grange #927 in Douglas County. While the classrooms remained intact with power, water, and electricity running properly and the school could remain open for classes, there was nowhere for the students to eat.

In line with helping keep the students from being sent elsewhere,

the Grange stepped up, offering the full use of its facility for the school to serve all meals and other activities as needed for as long as necessary.

A small library is being set up at the Grange but since the library books were lost to the fire there is great need. If you have books that are clean (*mold free*), tobacco free, and appropriate for elementary children and would like to donate them, they would be welcomed. Contact David Gilding by email: ddfiber@iname.com



Students will now use a new crosswalk to reach the Lookingglass Grange where they will eat breakfast and lunch.

Warren Grange #536 Presented Dictionaries to School of The Deaf

Warren Grange, Columbia County presented 60 dictionaries to Tucker-Maxum School for the Deaf in Portland. Tucker-Maxum has been ranked among the top schools in the country and valued for its innovative service and dedication to teaching hearing impaired children to speak, learn, laugh and sing together. They have 108 students from pre-school to 5th grade and have special summer programs to continue the learning year round. All of their children can hear, to some degree, with some type of hearing device.

When the Grangers arrived the students were all gathered in the gym

for songs and short speeches by some of their older classes. Warren members gave a short introduction of the dictionary project and told them that each of them would receive a book in their classroom.

Then they visited two classrooms to talk with the kids and to show them what they can find in the books. Within moments of receiving their dictionary, they were writing their names in the front of the book and reading and sharing the wonder of words. It is very rewarding to see the smiles on the children's face when they are presented with their very own dictionary.



Eva Frost (pictured) and her sister Evelyn Hudson of Warren Grange presenting the dictionaries.



The Education Committee

Lyle Utt
uttl@comcast.net

OSG Education Director

Oregon Earns a C-Minus on State Report Card

The 21st annual edition of *Quality Counts-Under Construction: Building on ESSA's K-12 Foundation* continues *Education Week's* long-standing tradition of grading the states on their performance. A state's overall grade is the average of its scores on the three separate indices tracked by the report.

State Overview

This year, Oregon finishes 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, with an overall score of 70.4 out of 100 points and a grade of C-minus. The nation as a whole posts a grade of C.

Diving into the findings for the three graded indices, Oregon earns a C in the Chance-for-Success category and ranks 33rd. The average state earns a C-plus. In School Finance, Oregon receives a C-minus and ranks 34th. For the K-12 Achievement Index, last updated in the 2016 report, it finishes 37th with a grade of D. The average state earns grades of C and C-minus in School Finance and K-12 Achievement, respectively. More details on results in these categories are reported below.

Chance for Success

The Education Week Research Center developed the Chance-for-Success Index to better understand the role that education plays in promoting positive outcomes across an individual's lifetime. Based on an original state-by-state analysis, this index combines information from 13 indicators that span a person's life from cradle to career. Those indicators fall into three sub-sections: early foundations, school years, and adult outcomes.

For early foundations, which examines factors that help children get off to a good start, Oregon earns a grade of B-minus and ranks 31st. The average state posts a B-minus.

Oregon receives a C-minus for the school years, a sub-category focusing on metrics related to pre-k enrollment through postsecondary participation. It finishes 38th in the nation in this area. By comparison, the nation as a whole earns a C.

In the area of adult outcomes, based on postsecondary educational attainment and workforce indicators, Oregon's grade is a C. It ranks 35th in the nation. The national average

is a C-plus.

School Finance

The school finance analysis examines two critical aspects of school spending. Of the eight indicators in this category, four assess school spending patterns, while the remaining metrics gauge equity in the distribution of funding across the districts within each state.

Across the spending indicators, Oregon finishes with a letter grade of F compared with a national average of D. Oregon ranks 36th in the nation in this area.

On the equity measures, Oregon's grade is a B-plus, which places it 15th in the national rankings. The nation as a whole earns a B.

K-12 Achievement

The K-12 Achievement Index examines 18 distinct achievement measures related to reading and math performance, high school graduation rates, and the results of Advanced Placement exams. The index assigns equal weight to current levels of performance and changes over time. It also places an emphasis on equity, by examining both poverty-based achievement gaps and progress in closing those gaps. The results of the K-12 Achievement Index reported here are from the *Quality Counts 2016* report and have not been updated.

Indicators in the index can be broken down into three sub-categories: status, change, and equity. Measures in the status sub-category evaluate a state's current performance. Oregon receives a D-minus in this area and ranks 33rd in the nation. The average state earns a D.

The change sub-category examines a state's improvement over time. In this area, Oregon posts a D and ranks 42nd. The national average is a D-plus.

In the equity sub-section, states are graded based on achievement gaps between low-income students and their more affluent peers. Oregon's grade on those poverty-gap measures stands at a C-plus. Nationally, it ranks 45th in this area. The nation as a whole receives a B.

Reprinted from an Education Week State Highlight Report dated December 30, 2016

Granges Across the State Celebrated in December

Morning Star Grange in Linn County had two events. Its annual Christmas party with Santa was held on December 17th. Then on New Years Eve members and friends got together to celebrate ringing in the "new" year east coast time. (right & below)



Midland Grange, Klamath County, in the spirit of giving, was able to give a donation to the Klamath Lake County Food Bank, which enabled the Food Bank to buy over a ton of food to share with families in need. The Grange also helped three families with gift cards to grocery stores and presents hoping to make their Christmas more joyful.

Pictured below, Worthy Master Louise Holst, with the help of Lilah Pena, received a gift from Pastor John Kays of the Westside Church of the Nazarene that has rented the Grange Hall for about eight years.



Oregon State Grange Open House

Santa made a visit the Oregon State Grange office open house on December 11th in Salem. Some took the opportunity to sit on his lap while others enjoyed a treat from Santa. (left & below)



The Lane Pomona GWA hosted a Holiday dinner on Sunday December 4th. About 40 Grangers and guests were in attendance for the once a year event. Left is Nadine Chapin holding a small Santa made from recycled cardboard rolls. Table Decorations included Santas with candy canes and Rock Snowmen. The unused Santas were donated to the nearby nursing home for a Senior Christmas Party.



Above: The annual community Christmas party of Ada Grange #570 in Lane County included hay rides, which this family enjoyed.

On December 3rd Lane Pomona Grange entered a float in the Springfield Christmas Parade. The float was "Grangers in Toyland". As a side project the word was put out for all Lane County Granges to donate Teddy Bears. Almost 100 bears were collected (London Grange brought in almost 70 by themselves) and after use as decorations on the float (right), they were donated to the Marines Toys for Tots.



Opposite page, left to right Lane County Grangers participating in the parade: Cameron, Vernon, and Briana Herrick, Jeff Dehne, Connie Suing, Katrina Bowser and granddaughters, Ken Schweiger, Alice Nowicki, Liz Dehne, Susan, Mark and Bailey Noah, Tyler Mantei, Peggy Jillson, and Linda Wetzell.

GWA

Margaret Clute
margaretclute@yahoo.com



OSG Grange Workers Activities Director

GWA has some new contests for the coming year for both Juniors and adults. One of the new contests for adults is Paper Craftsmanship. The cards made for this contest will be given to our State Chaplain for her use to send to our Grange members.

The GWA contests have been updated on the Oregon State Grange website: www.orgrange.org/grange-workers-activities/. You should have received the Awards, Contests and Scholarships booklet. But you can always print the contests from the webpage. Please be sure to read the rules carefully.

I'm pleased to announce that Jeanne Taylor of Spencer Creek Grange #855 won 1st place at National Grange for her quilt block. Congratulations!

I saw a quilt that the National Grange made with some of the quilt blocks that were sent in 2015. It was beautiful. This quilt was donated to the National Foster Family Program during the Celebration Banquet at the National Grange Convention. The National Foster Family Program auctions the quilt and proceeds go for scholarships for foster families.

I received a nice note from Beth Ness of Upper Rogue Grange #825 with an update on what their Grange is doing. Beth entered the



Beth Ness of Upper Rogue Grange #825 delivering pillowcases to the Veterans Domiciliary in White City.

"Pillowcases for Our Troops" contest this past year and was inspired to do more. The Grange members decided to make pillowcases for the Veterans Domiciliary in White City. Beth says they started making pillowcases this fall with the help of the Material Girls of the area and by Christmas had 52 pillowcases to donate. The armed service members who receive rehabilitation at this center are given a quilt and pillowcase when they arrive and they can take them with them when they leave. The center was very appreciative of receiving the pillowcases. Our troops and veterans love receiving handmade items from home.

Crow Grange # 450 Holds Thanksgiving Potluck

Crow Grange, Lane County held its annual Thanksgiving Open House and community potluck on Thursday November 17th, 2016. They had around 60 friends and neighbors join them for a wonderful meal prepared by Crow Grange members with sides and desserts brought in by community members.

Great music was provided by Goshen Grange friend Linda Wetzell, and a nice talk about what Crow Grange does for its community was presented by Jeff Dehne, Oregon State Grange Executive Committee member position #1. A great night was had by all and no one went home hungry.



There was plenty of food for all at the Crow Grange Thanksgiving Open House and community potluck.



One of the quilts made with some of the 2015 quilt blocks was donated to the National Foster Family Program during the Celebration Banquet at the National Grange Convention.

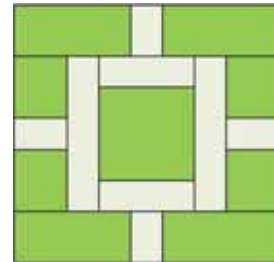
National Grange Quilt Block Contest

2017 Pattern is the Garden Path, (a 10½" unfinished block) in shades of browns or greens and creams.

The National Grange Quilt Block Contest is open to both members and prospective members. There is no limit on the number of quilt blocks a person may submit.

Groups:

- ◆ Adult (Age 14+)
- ◆ Junior (Age 13 and under)



A 2017 Quilt Block Contest Submission Form must be completed for each block. Download the form from www.orgrange.org/grange-workers-activities.

State Judging: Entries received in the GWA room at the Florence Event Center no later than **noon on Sunday June 25** will be judged to determine Oregon's winners. The 1st place winner in each group will be sent to National Grange for judging. Second and third place winners will receive ribbons. All quilt blocks not sent to National will be retained and used to make an item for the oral auction to benefit the Oregon GWA Committee.

National Judging: Anyone may send entries directly to the National Grange contest. All contest submissions must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by **October 31, 2017**. All entries will be retained by the National Grange to be made into finished quilts and will be sold at a later date to raise funds for the Grange Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity. Upon submission, you will receive a donation letter from the Grange Foundation acknowledging your donation.

For cutting, piecing and sewing instructions as well as prizes and other information, please refer to the GWA section of the 2017 Awards, Contests and Scholarships booklet or the State Grange website www.orgrange.org/grange-workers-activities.

Tigard Grange #148 Holds Holiday Bazaar

The Tigard Grange in Washington County Holiday Bazaar was a success. There was a full house of 40 vendors. Hand-crafted Christmas gifts, jewelry, pillow cases, candles, table lamps, crocheted items, knitted items and wine bottle lights, just to mention a few.

The Washington-Yamhill Pomona served a chili dog lunch. There was live music with Winona Grange member Loyce Martinazzi as one of the musicians. Tigard Grange member Gregory Bartels, the Christmas tree man, even donated a Christmas tree for a raffle item.



40 vendors filled the hall for the Tigard Grange Holiday Bazaar.

State Junior Officer Application 2017
 Mail completed form before April 1 to:
 643 Union Street NE, Salem, OR 97301
 or email to: elizabethwilliams2010@hotmail.com

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Grange: _____

Junior Grange activities I have participated in this year: _____

First Choice of Office: _____

Why I would like to hold this office: _____

(add an additional sheet if you need more space)

Second Choice of Office: _____

Third Choice of Office: _____

I understand that it is my responsibility to memorize my assigned part prior to the beginning of state session and I am committed to achieving this expectation.

Junior Signature _____ Date _____

I understand that my child is required to memorize his/her part prior to the start of State Grange Convention. I also understand that my child will need to attend State Grange Convention for the entire week as well as meet the dress codes for the conferral of the degree on Tuesday, June 27. If I have any questions or concerns I will reach out to the Elizabeth and Kegan Williams prior to the start of State Grange Convention.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Oregon Junior Grangers

Elizabeth and Kegan Williams
 elizabethwilliams2010@hotmail.com
 Oregon State Grange Junior Directors

The National Junior Grange Director has developed a 12 Month Meeting Guide to help Junior leaders plan their year. Each issue of the Bulletin we will be printing the next two months of suggestions to help with your planning. Each month's suggestions include badges to work on, a low-cost craft you could do, a suggested project or Grange related activity and many other ideas.

to encourage memorization; maybe give prizes to those who were able to memorize it. This could also help to earn **Badge GA11**

Community Service:
 Deliver collected books to a charity.

April

The month of April is GRANGE MONTH! So let us celebrate the Grange!

March

The month of March means it is Dr. Seuss' Birthday!

Badge: GA14- Book Giving
 Encourage your Juniors to use the month of March to work on their Book Giving Badge. Have each bring 5-10 books to donate to a local charity (shelter, school, daycare, etc). Talk about the importance of reading and giving.

Badge: GA10- Public Display
 Encourage your Juniors to celebrate the Grange and grow your Junior Grange membership! Together work on a display showcasing Junior Grange.

Hands-on: Growing the Junior Grange
 Use this time to discuss how you can grow Junior Grange membership and promote the Junior Grange within the community. Use your displays to set up in your church hall, outside the Grange Hall, school building, library, etc.

Hands-on: Dr. Seuss loves to Rhyme.

Play a few games with rhyming words such as the Rhyming Scavenger hunt. <http://fun-a-day.com/rhyming-activities-for-children/>

Craft: Create a Dr. Seuss Hat
<http://joyfullyweary.blogspot.com/2011/11/easy-seussian-hats.html>

Craft: This year's theme is "Follow in the footsteps of the Junior Grange"
 Have each Junior trace several footprints and decorate them. Each footprint should have written on it one reason why someone should join the Grange.

Grange: Junior Grange Pledge
 Since we are talking about words, let's work on memorizing the Junior Grange Pledge. Try different memorization techniques

Grange: Grange Songs
 Learn any Grange song from the Junior Grange Songbook.

February's Junior Activity



Ada Grange Holds Community Party



Ada Grange #570 in Lane County held their annual Community Christmas Party December 10th which included hay rides, crafts, refreshments and an ornament for everyone. And like many Christmas parties the most anticipated event was a visit from Santa Claus.



Ada Grange Youth member, Brian Schofield, and Junior members Terry and Taylor Elliott finish decorating the wagon for hay rides.

Legislative Update

Mark Noah
marknoah00@gmail.com

OSG Legislative Director



The biennial full session of the Oregon Legislature began on February 1. This year it is especially important for all Grangers to keep track of the activities in Salem and speak up about potential legislation of concern. I will be paying attention of course, but let me know if there is a bill that needs to be publicized, or if you see anything that relates to Grange policy, and I will follow up and spread the word. In the absence of an actual lobbyist this time, we all need to be the eyes and ears of the organization.

One of the big issues of course is the budget, and we've already seen some proposals that nobody really likes. That seems to be the nature of budgeting, to initially present some really horrible options so the reality doesn't seem so bad. Look deeper, pay attention to the details. All of us can subscribe to a variety of email connections to various legislative committees, so if there is a particular topic you are interested in you can probably get a stream of email messages about bills presented and committee meetings scheduled. If you are aware of a particular bill, there are easily accessed bill-tracker programs that

will help you track it. Just google 'Oregon legislature bill tracker' and you'll see several options. Keep me in the loop and we'll keep the Grange informed!

Grange Day at the Legislature is April 18, a Tuesday. Hours are 10am-2pm and we will probably be meeting upstairs. This is a great opportunity to become familiar with your State Capitol and interact with your local legislators. Remember, we are not there as lobbyists on Grange day; we are there to show our legislators that we care, that we are part of the process, and to become better informed ourselves.

Another important date is March 23rd, the day of the Grange's Ag Luncheon at the State Capitol. This event always attracts a crowd because the food is always great! We'll need volunteers so please give me a call about that, or check in with the State Grange office.

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of our District 6 Legislative Director, Scott Colony, and the committee extends our sympathies and condolences to his wife June.

Join Us!

2017 Grange Day at the Legislature

Tuesday, April 18th
10am - 2pm*
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, Oregon

* Please contact Mark Noah at marknoah00@gmail.com or 541-953-4155 if you are interested in a box lunch. Cost to be determined.

Represent the Grange, meet your state legislators, learn about the law making process, see the capitol building, connect with other Grange members, introduce non-Grange friends to our legislative work, and much more!



Please RSVP to Mark Noah
541-953-4155 or
marknoah00@gmail.com
for box lunch by April 14th



National Grange Policy Updates and Issues News January 2017

The Grange at the Table
Legislative Director Burton Eller represented the National Grange at an invitation-only listening session by President Trump's Agriculture Transition Team recently. Eller's presentation summarized Grange policy and priorities on farm policy, land and water issues, conservation, Ag labor, death tax, crumbling infrastructure, access to affordable health care, rural broadband/connectivity, and more.

**Issues to Watch In 2017
Food and Agriculture**
Low prices in farm and ranch country is the elephant-in-the-room topic of almost every conversation about agriculture. There are no quick fixes to low prices. Some low prices are caused by oversupply, some are suffering from lower demand and a few are tied up in international market disputes. Consensus in Washington cautions against opening the current Farm Bill for minor adjustments because once the current law is opened its fair game for everything. Market stagnation could, however, spur lawmakers to begin work on the 2018 Farm Bill sooner. Sound Farm Bill policy is a high priority for the National Grange.

Regulatory Rollback
President Trump has created a new position in the White House to serve as Special Advisor on Regulatory Issues which will oversee the administration's regulatory reform efforts. The stated mission will be to cut through red tape, break free of excessive regulation and establish regulatory reform.

Waters of the United States (WOTUS) is at the top of the rollback wish list for producers and landowners. WOTUS essentially expands EPA and Corps of Engineers jurisdiction to all land and water no matter where they are located. WOTUS is tied up in litigation filed by more than half the states and numerous trade associations.

The Clean Power Plan (CPP), which is designed to reduce carbon pollution from power plants, has been stayed by the Supreme Court. But unlike the WOTUS rule, the CPP rule has been partially implemented by the electricity sector. Repealing the CPP can't be accomplished through executive order; the administration would have to go through a whole new rulemaking.

Other Issues to watch include:
Health Care: What to do with the Affordable Care Act/Obamacare? Access to dependable and affordable health care is a high priority issue for the National Grange.

Immigration: Agriculture needs labor. Ag labor and immigration reform is a high priority issue for the National Grange.

Telecommunications: Broadband expansion and related telecommunications issues are a high priority for the National Grange.

Taxes: Comprehensive federal tax reform. Estate tax/death tax repeal is a high priority for the National Grange.



Please join us
April 23-26, 2017 ~ Washington, D.C.

The National Grange Building downtown will be headquarters for meetings, briefings, networking and social time. Come to Washington and help us promote the policies that were initiated by your local Granges back home.

Schedule

Sunday, April 23 - Arrive in Washington, D.C.

- Hotel check-in
- Issues briefings at the Grange Building
1616 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006

Monday, April 24

- Briefings at the Grange
- Agency visits
- Congressional Capitol Hill appointments (afternoon)

Tuesday, April 25

- Congressional Capitol Hill appointments

Wednesday, April 26 - Return home

Watch for more information on Facebook and the National Grange website.



Warren Grange Presents Dictionaries

Warren Grange #536, Columbia County, presented a total of 63 dictionaries to Warren Grade School and Warren Christian School in October this past fall. It was very rewarding to see the smiles on the children's face when they are presented with their very own dictionary. Within moments of receiving their dictionary, they were reading and sharing the wonder of words.

OSG Flora Eva Frost's great-grand son attended the presentation and was quickly reading one of the books. Presenting the dictionaries were Cindy Becker, Roberta Leuer, Eva Frost and Blake York (2 1/2 years old).



Morning Star Grange Holds Holiday Bazaar

Morning Star Grange #311 held a successful Holiday Craft Bazaar on December 9th and 10th. The bazaar was fully booked with every table sold. It was well attended and the kitchen made a profit. Junior Granger, Brianne Dabel, had a table sell homemade items to go towards her Taekwondo Springs Nationals tournament in February. She did an amazing job! (Pictured left)



**Sunday
Feb 26th
10am to 4pm**

**CLEAR
THE
CLUTTER**

Milwaukie Grange
12015 SE 22nd, Milwaukie
Just south of downtown Milwaukie off
McLaughlin Blvd
on Old River Road
Parking lot on SE 33rd

• Mail MilwGr268@gmail.com
to reserve your spots

Selling Spots
are FREE

• Please bring 100%
change for all transactions
• No cash accepted for the
bazaar itself!



Membership Matters

Bob Ludi - ludibo@yahoo.com
Sandi Ludi - sandiludi5@aol.com

OSG Membership Directors

Happy 2017 Grangers!

Are you excited to see what your Grange can do for your community this year? Now is the time to plan activities/projects/ events that your Grange would like to organize and put into action!!

Here are a few tips that were shared at the Western Leaders Conference last August by then National Leadership/Membership Director, Joe Stefanoni to help your Grange get started planning for the New Year:

- 1) Encourage input from your members regarding your Grange's community activities. Ask new members for their ideas—they may have some fresh, exciting thoughts, and asking for their input will show that you are interested in their opinions.
- 2) Involve new members in Grange activities quickly. Have them participate in an event as soon as they show an interest in your Grange. Ask them to co-chair a committee or coordinate a small activity in the early stages of their membership.
- 3) Keep the FUN in fundraisers, community service activities

and meetings to get members interested and involved. You can still accomplish your goals while keeping the process lively and fun!

- 4) Don't let activities and fundraisers become stale. Make sure that your agranges activities are still relevant for your community and your members. Periodically try something new.

As we get ready to gear up to "GrangeUp '17" your Grange will be receiving a booklet called "Possibilities" that combines the Membership Idea booklet and the Community Service Idea booklet. Special thanks to Cat Thomas (Oregon State Grange Membership Committee - Member at Large) for her hard work combining and expanding these two booklets. It will be a great tool to use when planning your upcoming Grange activities, projects and events.

As we invite the community into our Grange halls it's a perfect time to ask non-Grange members to join our great organization! It's up to each and every one of us to help "GROW the GRANGE!!"

Let's GrangeUp Grangers!! We can do this!! One member at a time.

G
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G
E

Geared toward community-oriented outreach and initiatives.

Resources, benefits and opportunities at every turn.

Agriculturally, legislatively and historically significant.

National presence, yet state and locally grounded. Community Grown.

Growth and leadership development, personally and professionally.

Excitement, events, family fun and enthusiasm for everyone!

Veterans

Jim Clute
james_clute@yahoo.com



Oregon State Grange Veterans Director

I recommend that veterans check out two websites that provide very useful information.

Military.com links you to benefits, news, resources, videos, discounts and more. It's where I read that the government recently fixed a serious problem. For several decades, the government knowingly and wrongfully taxed the severance packages of many veterans who suffered service-ending combat disabilities. The total amount taken from around 14,000 veterans is estimated to be about \$78 million. Both houses of Congress

unanimously passed H.R. 5015, the Combat-Injured Veterans Tax Fairness Act of 2016, and President Obama signed it into law. Affected veterans can file an amended tax return to get their money. The new law also keeps this from happening in the future.

Vets.gov is a single site where you can discover, apply for, track, and manage your VA benefits. You no longer have to navigate multiple Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) websites and use multiple logins to access health care and benefits information.

Request A Quilt of Valor

The Grange is both a highly patriotic organization and one filled with amazingly talented individuals who understand the power and sentiment of handicrafts such as quilts. As part of the National Grange Patriot's Program, started in 2012, all Granges are encouraged to identify members who are veterans or active duty service members that were deployed during war time and request for them a QUILT OF VALOR.

Quilts of Valor are free, made by volunteers who seek to "cover service members and veterans touched by war with comfort and healing Quilts of Valor." Request a quilt at www.qovf.org/request-gov/

Once a Grange has submitted a request, or if they know of a Grange member who has received a Quilt of Valor in the past, please contact the National Grange by email at lecturer@nationalgrange.org or call (202) 628-3507 ext. 102 to inform us of your request/the Quilt of Valor already received, the name of the veteran and your Grange's name.

Please don't forget, certificates are



available for FREE from the National Grange to recognize veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam and the conflicts not classified as wars during the Cold War Era. Certificates will be available in mid-2017 for Gulf War Veterans and in 2018 for all those serving in the post-9/11 era conflicts/wars. This program is sponsored by Potomac Grange No. 1 (DC). Informational DVDs are available to explain WWII - what led to the war, the war itself, its toll and its impact on our nation - and the Korean War. DVDs on Vietnam and the Cold War conflicts are expected out in 2017 and Gulf War and Post-9/11 in 2018. These can be used to glean information needed for a great Lecturer's program or can be an introduction for Junior Grangers and Grange Youth to citizenship and patriotism lessons.

Goldson Grange Member Helps Veteran in Need

On November 11th Goldson Grange #868 in Lane County held a highly successful free Veteran's Day Breakfast. One of the veterans attending had just moved to the area. As with most vets attending, the Grangers got to know him and they gave him the Grange business card and encouraged his coming to their events and become a member. He contacted Lee Cornforth, District 2 Veterans Committee Chair about a week later asking for information on where he could find a place to live as he had just ran out of money for temporary lodging and was camping outdoors in the cold weather.

Brother Cornforth provided information on the local Food Pantry which was open that same day as well as the phone number for the Lane County Veteran's Service Office in Eugene as the first place to start so he could obtain documents to prove veteran status and get information on local programs that could help him right away. He also suggested he call the Oregon

Veterans Emergency Assistance Program for a one time financial grant and gave him the phone number for the Eugene Supportive Services for Veteran Families office. This is a program funded through the Department of Veterans Affairs to help veterans in a variety of ways including emergency and long term housing.

The veteran was able to get a grant and help with rent. He is staying in temporary lodging and looking for a place to rent. He has a part time job now as well. It is very gratifying to know that as a result of the breakfast, the Grange was in a small way able to help this veteran get deserved support.

Lee Cornforth highly recommends keeping a copy of the ODVA Veteran Benefits publication handy at your Grange as a key benefits guide for veterans. Get your Grange a copy by calling 503-373-2389 or online at www.oregon.gov/odva.

Goshen Grange Made Christmas Boxes for the Veterans Hospital

Goshen Grange #561 in Lane County prepared over 70 Christmas Boxes made from Christmas cards and delivered them to the Veterans in the VA Medical Center in Roseburg. The Christmas Boxes were filled with candy, mainly

chocolate, and a note saying Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Goshen Grange. This is an ongoing project and Goshen Grange members like to show their appreciation for the Veterans especially at the holiday seasons.



L-r: Linda Wetzell and Mary Lambert show off the Christmas Boxes made for Veterans in the VA Medical Center.

Bailey Barks!

Mom and Dad went on a trip to Mexico this month and at least they brought me a scarf this time! Only because the proceeds helped stray dogs but at least it's in my very favorite color - purple! Have you ever noticed my collar - that's right it has purple paw prints!

So it was a great way to start the New Year - they were relaxing on vacation and I was relaxing with my babysitter. Sometimes it's nice to just be away from the parents, but

don't tell them I said that.

The other nice thing about the New Year is the GrangeUp '17 campaign! Mom and Dad brought some boxes home and I'm just crazy to see what is inside of them. Mom says they are not mine, so paws off, and so far I've been good but they really need to take them away soon before I take a peek while they are at work. Apparently there is a lot of material for helping Granges with membership as well as some goodies

for recruiters and new members. I liked the sound of "goodies" so maybe it's to share with your Dog! Mom says no, but I thought just let me be the judge of that.

And while we are talking about the New Year - how many canines made a resolution to walk your human more? I did, but my humans haven't cooperated very well. Dad is better than Mom, but probably only because I got him a Dutch Bros coffee card. We walk there and he

gets a coffee and I get a couple of snacks. It's a win-win! So keep trying with your human and if you get to see inside of any of the GrangeUp boxes please let me know what I missed!

Woof,
Bailey



Oregon State Grange Youth Officer Application
Due to the State Office by March 30, 2017

Name: _____
 Age (on January 1, 2017) _____
 Address: _____

Grange: _____
 Pomona: _____
 Phone: _____ email: _____

What, if any, financial aid do you request from the Oregon Youth Activity Fund? *(Depends upon the availability of funds. Any financial aid acceptance implies you will participate in ALL youth activities.)*

Will you accept banquet meal tickets? Yes No
 At this time, have you been designated as a delegate by your Grange? Yes No

To assist the state youth team in making youth officer assignments, please share your preference for which offices you wish to be considered for
 1. _____ 2. _____
 3. _____

Briefly explain your first choice.

List current Grange Office(s) or Committee(s) held. Includes Subordinate and Pomona, please acknowledge any committee chairs.

List previous Grange office(s) or committee(s) held. Includes Subordinate and Pomona, please acknowledge any committee chairs.

What Grange contests/activities have you or are you planning to participate in?

What National Achievement Awards have you or are you planning to accomplish? *(Applications submitted with a completed National Trivia Challenge or two national achievement awards will receive preference in office assignments. OSG financially supports the youth officers and, in turn, youth need to support the program at large.)*

I agree that if I am selected to be a Youth Officer, I will attend all scheduled practice sessions and be prepared to open State Grange Convention on Wednesday morning. I further agree that if I have a speaking part, I will have it fully committed to memory upon arrival at the State Grange Convention. I will also wear the proper attire for the opening of the Oregon State Grange on Wednesday morning. Dress code for the men includes: slacks, button-up shirt, jacket, tie and dress shoes. Dress code for women includes: floor length dress (preferably with straps) and dress shoes. (Military dress uniform is allowed/encouraged if serving on active duty.) If you need help finding these items, please contact the Youth Director. You are expected to participate in the youth activities (but delegate work is the priority) and lend a helping hand to any task requested.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

I affirm the first four degrees or Welcoming Ceremony had been received when this application was signed (Your initials)

Grange Youth & Young Adults



Connie Suing
 csuing@hotmail.com
 OSG Youth Director



The Oregon State Grange Membership Department is launching "GrangeUp '17, Engage, Connect. Celebrate. Please join them and all of your fellow Grangers by participating somehow this year.

There is a copy of the 2017 Oregon State Grange Youth Officers application on this page. Please look at it and consider becoming a Youth officer. This opportunity is open to all youth and young adults aged 14-35. It truly is a lot of fun. Remember your application is due to the Oregon State Grange office by March 30th, 2017.

We will be holding an all-day Young Adult/Young Couple conference on Saturday March 11th at Salmon River Grange. The conference is free to attend. Topics are still being decided upon but hopefully will be of interest to our young adults - buying houses or cars or trying to stay out of debt or some type of networking, possible resolution writing, etc. Please send an RSVP to: Connie Suing, 4557 Spring Meadow Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97404 or email at csuing@hotmail.com by March 4th so we know how many are coming. We will also feed you lunch and dinner. I think you will enjoy the conference, and then you can stay the night in Lincoln City and shop or play on the beach or at the casino.

Please join the Oregon State Grange Youth/Young Adults in "Keeping the West Warm". Our friends to the North, the Washington State Grange youth, have been doing this program for a couple of years now. What you do is bring winter wear (gloves

or mittens, hats, stocking caps, scarves, and socks) that have either been handmade or store bought, to the State Grange Convention in June. We will then distribute them to local counties that can use them. Clackamas County youth did this project as well with great success.

Goodie baskets are being made as you read this. Your Pomona Granges should be getting letters soon asking for donations of items and/or monies to help put these baskets together. I'll talk about this in greater detail in the next Grange Bulletin article. These baskets are the main source of income that allows the Youth and Young Adults of our state to travel to Regional and National Conventions. Thank you so much in advance for your continued support.

Speaking of National Grange, you all were represented very well by three wonderful young ladies. Jessie Jo Guttridge and Maggie Swartzendruber strutted their stuff on the session floor when they opened National Convention on Friday morning. I know they have great ideas for our next drills. Lexie Suing was a charming ambassador candidate. They all met a lot of new friends and will talk about this experience for a long time. They thank you and I thank you for helping them make this trip possible.

Until next time, remember to ask a Youth. I know they will "Be Delighted."

Right and below: Oregon Youth Jessie Jo Guttridge, Maggie Swartzendruber and Lexie Suing visited the National Grange Headquarters while in Washington, DC.





L-r: Cameron Herrick, Tyler Manthei, Matthew Dehne and Briana Herrick were presented with Granger of the Year Certificates.

Walterville Grange Recognized Outstanding Young Grangers

Walterville Grange #416 recognized four Grangers of the Year at their Holiday Dinner Open House on December 13th. Oregon State Master Susan Noah presented the certificates to Cameron Herrick, Tyler Manthei, Matthew Dehne and Briana Herrick.

Cameron Herrick is a 1+ Junior Grange member and has served as several OSG Junior offices; he is currently as State Junior Steward and was a National Grange Junior officer in Boise in 2012. He will be graduating to the Subordinate Grange this spring and is looking forward to being involved in the youth program.

Tyler Manthei joined Walterville Grange in the fall of 2014. He is 15 years old and a sophomore at Thurston High School.

Matthew Dehne joined Walterville

Grange in early 2013. He was previously active in the Junior Grange holding several state Junior offices including Master. He is 18 and attends Thurston High School.

Briana Herrick was a Junior Grange member serving as OSG Junior master twice and the National Junior Grange Master in Boise in 2012 before joining Walterville Grange in the spring of 2014. She is the current OSG Youth Secretary. She is a sophomore at Thurston High School.

All of these young people are active in their Grange, helping with their breakfasts, the community fair, hall repairs and other community service projects. They all participated in the Springfield Christmas Parade; Matthew in the high school band and Cameron, Tyler and Briana with the Lane Pomona Grange float.



Tyler Manthei, Cameron Herrick and Briana Herrick of Walterville Grange on the Lane County Pomona Grange float.

Springwater Grange #263 Helps Warm Those In Need

The day after their December 2016 meeting, members of Springwater Grange #263 in Clackamas County delivered hats, gloves, scarves, and socks they had collected during their December events to the Estacada food bank for those in need in their community.

They were joined by Clackamas Pomona Grange #1 youth who had collected a total of 98 hats, 45 scarves, 24 pairs of gloves and mittens and 41 pairs of socks earlier in the year as part of "Keeping the West Warm," a project of the Grange Youth and Young Adults in the Western Region.

A majority of what the youth collected went to the food bank but some of the hats, gloves and socks were put together with personal care items (toothbrush, tooth paste, comb, Chapstick, Kleenex, etc) as well as candy to be given out to homeless youth during the winter through the Janus Youth Services/ Impact in Portland, Oregon.



Jessie Jo Guttridge of delivers hats to the Estacada Food Bank.



Tina Parker packs bags for homeless youth.



Ryan Loiselle, Coordinator Impact Portland was pleased to receive the hats.

Young Adult/Young Couple Conference

Saturday March 11th

Salmon River Grange
5371 Salmon River Hwy ~ Otis, OR 97368

Free to attend

Targeted at those 22-35 years of age

Topics of interest to young adults - buying houses or cars, trying to stay out of debt, networking, possibly resolution writing, etc. Conference starts @ 9am. Lunch and dinner will be provided.

Please send an RSVP by March 4th to:

Connie Suing, OSG Youth and Young Adult Director
4557 Spring Meadow Avenue ~ Eugene, Oregon 97404
youdir@orgrange.org

Your Name: _____ Moving? Let Us Know.

Old Address: _____ New Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Grange Name/Number: _____

Please provide name of any Subordinate/Community Grange office/Committee Chairman positions currently held.

Mail to: Oregon State Grange, 643 Union St NE, Salem OR 97301
office@orgrange.org