



# April is Grange Month

# Oregon State Grange

# BULLETIN

April/May 2026

News About the Grange

Volume 126 No. 2

## PROCLAMATION

GRANGE MONTH 2026

GROWING STRONGER FROM THE GROUND UP!

**WHEREAS**, the Grange strengthens individuals, families, and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy, and agricultural awareness; and

**WHEREAS**, for nearly 160 years, the Grange has thrived because of strong Community Granges serving as gathering places where neighbors connect, leaders are developed, and local solutions are born; and

**WHEREAS**, the strength of the Grange is built upon the vitality, visibility, and engagement of each Community Grange across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, in a time when communities seek belonging, civil dialogue, and local leadership, Community Granges offer trusted spaces where individuals can serve, learn, and lead together; and

**WHEREAS**, developing a renewed interest in the challenges facing our communities, empowering local leadership, and supporting the growth of Community Granges ensures the continued relevance and impact of the Grange for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, Grange Month is an opportunity not only to celebrate our history, but to actively invest in our future by opening our doors, welcoming new members, strengthening existing Granges, and chartering new ones; and

**WHEREAS**, every Grange member plays an essential role in building momentum – by inviting a neighbor, mentoring a new leader, and sharing the story of what the Grange means locally; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that I, Christine E. Hamp, President of the National Grange, do hereby proclaim April 2026 as Grange Month and call upon every Grange in our great organization to focus intentionally on strengthening grassroots engagement, building leadership capacity, and expanding the presence of the Grange in every community we serve.

Grange Month is an opportunity not only to celebrate our history, but to actively invest in our future by opening our doors, welcoming new members, strengthening existing Granges, and chartering new ones.

Let April 2026 be marked by action – by open houses and service projects, by new conversations and renewed energy, by visible leadership and measurable growth – ensuring that the Grange is stronger tomorrow than it is today

Grange Strong – Rooted, Resilient, United – and Growing from the Ground Up.

Christine E. Hamp  
President  
National Grange



WWW.NATIONALGRANGE.ORG



## Ag-Fest 2026 – Come Have Fun

Ag-Fest is one of the premier agricultural education events in the State of Oregon, and the Oregon State Grange has not only been a long-time sponsor, but we've also helped kids and adults alike discover the joy of transplanting their own seedlings and the friendly nature of Grange members. This year we are also providing attendees with some online information about how to best care for their new plant.

The work is simple, but so beneficial. In exchange for helping people plant starts and talking with them, you have a chance to ignite a passion for growing flowers and vegetables. If you can put soil in a peat pot or transplant a seedling, talk to people, or show them how to water a plant, you have the skills needed to help!

The Oregon State Grange is looking for people to help.  
Friday, April 24 10am-1pm? Setup  
Saturday April 25  
8:30-11:30am  
11:30am-2:30pm  
2:30-5pm

Sunday April 26  
10:30am-12:30pm  
12:30-3pm  
3-5:30pm  
5:30-6:30? Clean up

Ten to twelve volunteers are needed per shift, so sign up with some Grange friends, and then enjoy the rest of Ag Fest! Volunteers have free admission and parking and can wander Ag Fest before or after their shift. Over 100 booths celebrate all aspects of Agriculture and this very family friendly event attracts over 20,000 visitors.

Please contact Sonny, Steve, Suzy or Shelsea at the State Grange office, 503.316.0106, or email president@orange.org if you would like to volunteer. Hope you will be "delighted to help."



## Resolutions Deadline

This year's deadline for submission of resolutions by Community/Subordinate Granges is **April 22, 2026**; 60 days before State Convention.

That means they must be at the office in Salem by then, not postmarked, so make sure they are mailed in plenty of time or email for speed as long as they are signed and the seal can be seen.

## Grange Month 2026 - Growing From the Ground Up

Each April, Granges across the country celebrate Grange Month—a time to recognize the work of our members and the impact the Grange continues to make in communities throughout rural and small-town America.

Grange Month is an opportunity to celebrate the service, leadership, and community spirit that define the Grange. Whether hosting an event, partnering with local organizations, welcoming in community members, or simply sharing your story online, every Grange plays a role in demonstrating the

strength of our organization.

Since its founding in 1867, the Grange has been rooted in the idea that strong communities are built locally. From community service projects and leadership development to agricultural advocacy and youth engagement, the work of the Grange begins at the local level and grows outward to strengthen our states and our nation.

This year, National Grange President Christine Hamp has chosen the broader theme "Growing From the Ground Up" to highlight the

power of grassroots action. Every Grange, every volunteer effort, and every new member contributes to building stronger communities and a stronger organization.

To help Granges celebrate throughout the month, the National Grange has created a collection of resources, including a Grange Month Proclamation, social media graphics and headers, and a weekly social media campaign called #GroundUpMonday.

See more  
Grange Month on page 2

## Inside

2026 Conv. Comm ZOOM	12
2026 Conv. Host Granges	9-12
2026 Conv. Hotel/Camping	11
2026 Conv. Meal Tickets	10
2026 Conv. Schedule Hi-lights	9
2026 Conv. Tours	12
Agricultural Report	5
Chaplain	4

Community Service	6
Deaf Awareness/Family Health	7
Education Committee	8
Ex. Committee Minutes	19
Foundation	8
Government Affairs	16
Grange Month	2
GROW Club	18
GWA	13
In Memoriam	4

Juniors	14
Lecturer's Column	3
Legislative Update	17
Membership Matters	15
President's Column	2
Upcoming Dates/Deadlines	4
Upcoming Pomona Meetings	18
Veterans	17
Youth/Young Adults	18

Office Hours:  
Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday  
8am - 4:30pm

**Bulletin Deadline**  
for the  
June/July 2026 Issue

May 10, 2026

## The President's Column

Sonny Hays-Eberts  
*president@orgrange.org*  
 President - Oregon State Grange



As I sit to write my penultimate column, I am struck by the irony that as my term approaches its close, we are entering the season of rebirth and renewal. Perennials are emerging, trees are budding and animals are bringing young into the world. It is the season of Hope.

This is a time of inspiration, and I hope that Granges use this season to rejuvenate and inspire themselves for fresh growth. Be it membership, or maintaining your hall, it is the very rare Oregon Grange which does not require some measure of effort. It is all too easy to become complacent, and simply try to exist, but such an attitude does a grave disservice to Grange.

I can attest to the dangers of not keeping up with preventative maintenance of halls, both at Marys River, which underwent a ten-to-twenty-year period of allowing the hall to deteriorate, and from many other Granges I have visited across the State. While annual tasks such as cleaning, painting, cleaning chimneys, brush removal, moss removal, furnace maintenance, and more can seem daunting, it is far more overwhelming to try and recover from a period of lapsed maintenance, which is where many Granges find themselves today.

Thankfully, the Oregon State Grange Foundation has provided another option, in addition to the State Grange Matching Grant program for our Granges. The ability to act as a Fiscal Sponsor for our

Granges is a boon that many Granges are already taking advantage of. It opens the door to more grant opportunities and pass through donations that can provide substantial benefit to our Granges. I am encouraged by the number of Granges which have already explored this option, and I hope more will be forthcoming. It is heartening to see Granges such as Salmon River and Live Oak work so diligently to get their halls in good shape so they can better serve their communities.

Membership does not become younger without acquiring young members. Time marches inexorably forward, and we (and our halls) all age. In some cases, younger family members may help, but expanding your membership to include other people will broaden the horizons of your Grange and present renewed interest and vigor for your Grange.

The National Grange is emphasizing a goal of 1200 net new members and a new Grange in every State with Granges. This will not automagically happen; it requires diligent effort on all our parts.

In my mind, the best way to attract new members is to be visible in serving your community. We, as members, are aware of just how much Grange offers, but we need to illustrate that to our communities. When people see the sense of community cultivated in Grange, and the results of your good work, they will willingly seek out your Grange and want to join. Asking people to

join is one thing, but people asking you to join, in my experience, results in more dedicated members who will persist.

Project Sustenance has many ideas your Grange can use to show your benefit to your community. If you feel at a loss as to where to start, <https://www.nationalgrange.org/projectsustenance/> can provide a wealth of examples. It does not require a large number of members to serve your community. I receive a weekly newsletter from Wolf Creek Grange in North Powder, Oregon, and am constantly amazed at the variety of ways they are active in their area. They demonstrate the truth of the Margaret Mead quote "Never Doubt That a Small Group of Thoughtful, Committed Citizens Can Change the World; Indeed, It's the Only Thing That Ever Has."

Another useful tool provided by the National Grange is the Rural Life Initiative grants. Several of our Granges have applied for and received these, and several have noticed an immediate gain in membership as a result of these programs. Again, it shows the transformative power of being active in your community.

In closing, I want to encourage all our Granges to reach out to your communities. By being an active part of your community, and showing the value of Grange, you will plant seeds that will germinate and have far reaching effects. Try something new this year, even if it stretches your members. The Grange is a wonderful historic organization and has shown it is capable of accomplishing great things. Let us focus on greatness in our communities this year, and may we reap the benefits of a liberal harvest from the seeds we plant now.

## How Your Grange Can Participate In Grange Month

Grange Month is a great opportunity to highlight your Grange's work in your community and invite others to learn more about the organization. Whether you plan a special event or simply share your story, every effort helps demonstrate how the Grange is Growing From the Ground Up.

Use this checklist to help your Grange take part in the celebration.

- Recognize Grange Month in Your Community
- Share the Grange Month Proclamation with your mayor, county commissioners, or other local officials and ask them to recognize April as Grange Month.
- Invite local leaders or community partners to attend a Grange meeting or event during April.
- Promote Grange Month Online
- Update your social media pages with the Grange Month social media headers and graphics.
- Share photos, stories, and

updates about your Grange throughout April.

- Participate in #GroundUpMonday by responding to the weekly prompts from the National Grange and sharing your Grange's activities using #GroundUpMonday and #GrangeStrong.
- Highlight Your Grange's Community Impact
- Share examples of your Grange's service projects, partnerships, and community programs.
- Post photos or short stories that show how your Grange supports your community.
- Celebrate volunteers, leaders, and members who make your Grange strong.
- Publish a press release or submit news to a local paper.
- Invite Your Community to Learn About the Grange
- Host an open meeting, community event, or informational

gathering about the Grange.

- Encourage members to invite friends, neighbors, and community leaders to attend.
- Share information about what the Grange does and how people can get involved.
- Celebrate the Future of the Grange
- Highlight your Junior Grange and Youth members and the leadership they bring to the organization.
- Share stories about new members or recent accomplishments.
- Talk about your Grange's goals for the future and how you plan to continue serving your community.

Grange Month is a time to celebrate the difference Grangers make every day. By sharing your story and inviting others to learn more, you help ensure the Grange continues Growing Stronger From the Ground Up.

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Members:

Minimum annual dues of \$56 per year includes \$1.90 for 1-year subscription per Grange family

Non-members:

\$50 per year/2 years \$85

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## Silverton Grange Holds 23<sup>rd</sup> Martin Luther King Observance

Monday, January 19, the Silverton Grange #748, Marion County, in partnership with Silverton People For Peace, held their 23rd annual Martin Luther King Day Observance and, thanks to a cover story in Silverton's Our Town Newspaper, it was attended by over 90 Grangers and community members.

The attendees enjoyed a potluck of black-eyed peas, collard greens, fried chicken, macaroni and cheese and other Martin Luther King favorites and heard a powerful speech by the Executive Director of the Latino farmworker's union, PCUN, Reyna Lopez, on her life as a daughter of migrant farmworkers and her and PCUN's work as political organizers defending the civil rights of those being chased and imprisoned by ICE in Oregon and throughout the nation. A very moving speaker, she had many of the attendees in tears but truly inspired by the event. The chant from the days of Cesar Chavez, "Si Se Puede" (Yes we can!) and some classic songs and poetry from the civil rights era filled the hall. It couldn't have been a more appropriate and timely celebration of the life of Martin Luther King.



Above: Executive Director of the Latino farmworker's union, PCUN, Reyna Lopez spoke to the crowd.

The vision of the Silverton Grange is to be a community of neighbors. They strive to be an inclusive community center promoting projects which engage and strengthen Silverton and their broader world. A project during the pandemic, for example, was to offer their community garden space to neighbors at the farmworker apartment complex next door to grow food to feed their families.



Crowd listening to speakers at Silverton's MLK observance.

## Live Bluegrass at the Multnomah

Multnomah Grange #71, Multnomah County, will host two more great Saturday night concerts this spring, on April 10<sup>th</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

On April 10<sup>th</sup> will be Moon Mountain, a seven piece band "grown in the forests of western Oregon." Also in the house will be Ross Island Ramblers, well known in the Portland area, with a mix of bluegrass, classic country and a few originals in their lively performances. On May 9, Knuckle Grease Station and Sunny South will be closing out the Second Saturday Concert Series for the summer. Shows start at 7pm.

The Multnomah Grange's concert series also hosts an open bluegrass jam in the Grange lobby when the doors open at 6pm. Pickers with their own acoustic bluegrass instruments are welcome and encouraged to come by. A snack bar sells hot dogs, delicious home made des-

serts, popcorn and non-alcoholic drinks at this family friendly venue. Multnomah Grange #71 is located at 30639 SE Bluff Rd in Gresham. Suggested donation is \$15 for adults and \$5 for kids under 12, cash only, please. For more information, check out the Multnomah Grange #71's Facebook page.

## National Grange Store

Beginning May 1, two changes will take place in the Grange Store: The price of Golden Sheaf, Sliver Star, and 75-year Awards, as well as 80- and 85-year letters will increase to \$15.00 each plus shipping.

Additionally, shipping rates, will increase as well.

Talk to Suzy in the OSG office to order before prices go up.

## The Lecturer's Column

Susie Kroeker  
sjones1273@hotmail.com  
Lecturer - Oregon State Grange



Hi everyone,

You should have received the Awards, Contest and Scholarship-booklet for participating in the contests at State Convention. They are mailed to the home of each Grange member in the state. Inside you will find lots of opportunities to show off your skills and win prizes from all the various committees. I hope you all take a peek and consider entering. Even if you will not be attending the convention in Baker City, consider sending your entries with a Grange friend to enter for you, or having them delivered to the State Office by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

All entries must be labeled with the contest, category, entrant's name, complete address, and county. A sample label is provided in the contest book. They can also be downloaded from [www.orgrange.org/lecturer/](http://www.orgrange.org/lecturer/). They will also be available at state session, but the entry process always goes smoother if they are completed in advance.

I wanted to highlight a few changes with the contests this year. In the Art categories, we will not be accepting anything larger than 16 x 20 this year. This includes the Diamond Painting category. Last year we had a huge number of entries, which is fantastic! But we didn't have the space to accommodate them or the easels to support such large pieces. I have purchased larger, stronger easels than we had in the past, but they are only able to hold pieces up to 16 x 20. Hopefully we will still have a great turnout for the contest, they will just not be so large.

The photography categories continue to grow each year. This year we will be separating the Pet and Farm Animal categories, giving those who enjoy photographing animals an extra category to participate in. We will also be running a 2 year "Celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup>" contest with categories for Patriotic Scenes,

Historical Landmarks, and Patriotic Meal Celebrations. In addition, we will continue to have all the usual photography categories that you all enjoy entering.

As usual, we will still have the Flyer, Pamphlet, Poster and Program contests, so encourage your publicity chairperson to enter the projects they have already completed for your Grange.

For those who are good writers, please consider entering the Poetry, Skit Writing and Tell the Story categories.

New last year was a category called, "My Grange Story." The purpose of this idea is to collect stories of people's experiences in the Grange. This year we are putting no word limit on the stories, allowing clearly handwritten entries, and encouraging people to not only tell their story but that of their family in the Grange. This is not a judged contest. All entries will be entered into a "My Grange Story" notebook as a means of collecting a history of our Grange experiences.

This year only, we will also have a contest for designing the cover of the "My Grange Story" notebook. This is a great opportunity for those with artistic and graphic design talents to have their art featured on the notebook we use to collect our stories.

Lastly, I would encourage those who attend State Session to participate in the Open Mic Night. All talents are welcome and we will also have a karaoke machine available for those who would like to participate in that way. Last year we had musicians, recitations, plays and lip syncing. A prize will be awarded to the Junior and Adult who win the most votes from the audience.

Look at the contest book and consider how you can participate in all the opportunities the Grange offers.

AMERICA 250

Join Granges across the country in celebrating America's semiquincentennial with a new guide from the National Grange

How a Uniquely American Organization Celebrates AMERICA 250

A guidebook for Granges

<https://grange.biz/America250>

## The Chaplain's Corner

Cookie Trupp  
truppcookie@gmail.com  
Chaplain - Oregon State Grange



*Ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind. Job:7-10.*

Let creation inspire us; we are valued as its pinnacle. God is a thoughtful creator, not a harsh ruler. The world was made with care, and we are intentionally designed.

From the majesty of snow-capped peaks to the gentle unfolding of a flower, the world around us invites us to pause and marvel. The tapestry of creation is not merely a backdrop for our lives, but a vivid expression of purpose and meaning. In every sunrise and each whispering breeze, we sense a story being told—a story of beauty, intentionality, and the loving artistry behind all that exists.

The variety of wildflowers, the soft and playful look of clouds, and the abundance of natural wonders all point to an important truth: God, as the ultimate artist, chose to make creation to reflect his character. He could have designed the earth in any way, but he created it to be good, beautiful, and full of delight. Every aspect of creation, from the smallest detail to the grandest vista, declares his glory and reveals the value he places on beauty and joy.

Creation is an incredible gift, filled with countless intricate details that reveal thoughtful design. Consider for a moment how the world could have been shaped differently—its features pared down, functional, or even chaotic. Yet, instead of a plain or utilitarian world, we are surrounded by breathtaking beauty. Through elements like radiant sunsets, dramatic mountains, crashing waves against rocky shores, and towering trees that seem to reach the heavens, we see not just necessity, but intentional delight.

## Past State Secretary Moves On to the Great Grange Above

Word was received in mid-March that Gayle M. Alton, who served as Secretary of the Oregon State Grange, had passed away. Sister Gayle served as Secretary from 1993 to 1997. First in the office in Portland and then through the move to Salem until she retired. Before that she had served on the staff of the Oregon State Grange.

She and her husband Tom joined Friendly Grange #897, which met in the Portland headquarters building in the second quarter of 1973 where over the years she served both as Master and Secretary and she also served as Secretary of Multnomah Pomona Grange #15.

Once the OSG Life Membership program was adopted, they became Life members in 1990. In 1987 they demitted to Pleasant Valley Grange #348 where they remain members the rest of their lives.

Sister Celia Fox, Gayle's predecessor as State Secretary commented "Gayle was hired when I became pregnant with my first child and could no longer run the offset press because of the chemicals. That

would have been sometime in 1981. Over time the State Grange had begun doing more in-house printing so running the press was nearly a full-time job. Gayle ran the press and oversaw the print shop, as well as assisting me with secretarial duties when I became State Secretary in 1983. When I resigned as Secretary, she was then elected to fill that position."

Gayle Margaret Poulson was born on 1 Jan 1935, to Edward and Sally Poulson in Omaha, Nebraska, just across the river from where her parents lived in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Grand Bluff in 1953 and went to work for Northwest Bell Telephone as an operator.

On September 9, 1955, she married Thomas J Alton. They were blessed with two daughters, Joy, and Hope. In 1971 the family moved to Portland, Oregon.

She is survived by their daughters, six grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren and great, great, grandchildren.

### In Memoriam

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>Kara Alford</i><br>Ada #570                 | <i>Clifford Harris</i><br>Boulevard #389 |
| <i>Gayle Alton</i><br>Pleasant Valley #348     | <i>Milia Kupillas</i><br>Clarkes #261    |
| <i>Luella Hackenberg</i><br>Beaver Valley #306 | <i>Generoso Rivera</i><br>Skyline #894   |
| <i>Richard 'Dick' Wanker</i><br>Redland #796   |  |



*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.*

### Upcoming Dates/Deadlines

- April 1-30** Grange Month – theme: Grange Strong  
Grange is Growing From the Ground Up
- April 22** Resolutions for this year's state convention from Subordinate/Community Granges must arrive in the State Grange office no later than April 22.
- April 25-26** Oregon Ag Fest – Oregon State Fairgrounds, Salem
- April 30** 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Reports due to the State Grange office.
- May 1** OSG Foundation and Spence scholarships applications must be postmarked no later than May 1
- May 5** Community/Subordinate Grange Ballots for State Officers must arrive at state office by 5pm
- May 10** GWA scholarship applications must be postmarked no later than May 10
- June 1** Deadline to order Convention meal tickets  
Deadline for Convention pre-registration
- June 10** Deadline for reports from Granges on "Bloodmobiles and Blood Donations"
- June 20-25** Oregon State Grange Convention District 5 – Baker High School, Baker City
- November 10-14** 160<sup>th</sup> National Grange Convention Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
- June 2027** Oregon State Grange Convention District 1 – Grants Pass
- November 2027** 161<sup>st</sup> National Grange Convention Sparks, Nevada

**GRANGE MONTH**  
**#GROUNDUP MONDAY**  
Week 4: Stronger Communities  
GROWING FROM THE GROUND UP



Shannon Anderson, author of this year's Ag in the Classroom book, *I Love Strawberries!*, shared her book with those at the kick-off.

### Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation Kicks-Off 2026 Literacy Activity

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, the Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation kicked off their 2026 Literacy Project with an event at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center (NWREC) at Aurora, Oregon. Those who attended learned about Oregon's Berry industry from representatives of the Oregon Blueberry Commission and the Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission. Also, Steve Young, NWREC director, shared information about berry research at the facility.

Special guest was author Shannon Anderson, who read this year's book, *I Love Strawberries!* And shared how the book came about. She also held a book signing where all the participants could have her book they received for attending, signed.

Attendees of the event were the first to receive the 2026 Ag in the Classroom Literacy activity packet as well as special bonus materials. The event concluded with a berry pie social and raffle.

The literacy project is designed for local kindergarten through fourth



grade classrooms and includes reading and a short activity with students. From start to finish, the program takes 30-45 minutes. The lesson activity this year is inspired by the game Candy Land, and students will become Oregon berry farmers with the goal of growing their crop from seed to harvest.

Literacy project reading sessions are happening now and will run through the end of the school year. Materials are prepared for volunteers, and following the visits, classrooms receive a copy of the book. In 2025, the literacy project visited nearly 800 classrooms and reached 18,150 students, said Jade Davidson, Oregon Ag in the Classroom executive director.



Oregon State Grange Ex. Committee member, Joyce Parker, had her books signed by the author for her granddaughters.





## The Agricultural Report

June Colony  
grassjune@hotmail.com  
Agriculture Director - Oregon State Grange

All winter long I have lived with 100 plus squashes in my house. They were stacked under the grand piano, behind the couch and under the various tables and beds. Friends laugh when they drop by and I answer "What squash" to their surprised looks. Last summer, I had planted 30 hills of squash plants in what had been long windrows of old hay and sheep manure, which had been composting in place in the garden. It was a sea of squash leaves, and after the fall frost, I was stunned by the numbers of squash laying about in the frost-bitten leaves.

I threatened to write a cookbook titled "50 ways to hide squash", as I snuck the orange flesh into various soups, breads, and pies. Now, it is spring in the mountains, and the squash has a better duty than just



ornamental placement in my house.

It's sheep feed. Locally produced, well received and very nutritious cubed squash is going into my ewes' hay bins, there it is lightly covered with mineral salts and oats. I used to serve this fare of roots and squash to my ewes to "flush" them in the fall for more lambs come spring, but after creating 7 sets of triplet lambs out of 30 ewes, I decided that was too much fertility. So, I switched the squash feeding till spring, in the last month of gestation, and this results in large and healthy lambs and an abundance of ewe milk for those lambs.

Unfortunately, my spring and fall shearing was not completed in a timely way, so I also am trimming hooves, vaccinating ewes, worming the whole flock, and shearing out those pregnant ewes that were still in full fleeces. I shear using hand shears and leave them standing at the trough eating grain while I do it. It is a great bonding experience for shepherd and flock...but it is tedious.

We had snow this morning, just a skiff of white. I won't be surprised if the newly born lambs will suffer a few snow squalls. All this is good for the soul: snow, lambs, mountains, and squash in the trough. It is just the happy result of living on a farm in the mountains.



### Apply for 4H/FFA Scholarships

The Goldson Grange #868, Lane County, is offering 4H/FFA scholarships again this year. Applications are due May 1, 2026.

Animal caregivers are encouraged to apply and share their stories. Applications are available on the Goldson Grange Community Cen-

ter Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/groups/goldsongrange](http://www.facebook.com/groups/goldsongrange) or by contacting Sandra Rowell at [srowell67@yahoo.com](mailto:srowell67@yahoo.com). Scholarship funds may be used for livestock purchases, college savings, and more. Goldson Grange is here to help support your goals.



## Community Service/ Involvement

Joanne McBride

joannemcbride8@gmail.com  
OSG Community Service/Involvement Director



### Due by June 1<sup>st</sup>

Nomination letters play a critical role in volunteer recognition. They provide selection committees with firsthand accounts of a volunteer's impact in his/her community.

### Volunteer of the Year-Meaning and Significance

Being named Community Service Volunteer of the Year is one of the highest honors a Grange can bestow on a volunteer. It recognizes an individual whose dedication, impact, and selflessness have gone above and beyond expectations, often inspiring others to serve as well.

### What It Represents

- Exceptional Commitment – Consistently giving time, skills, and energy to support a cause or community.
- Meaningful Impact – Making measurable or visible improvements in the lives of others or in the organization's mission.
- Leadership & Inspiration – Motivating others to get involved, mentoring new volunteers, and fostering a spirit of service.
- Selflessness – Serving without expectation of reward, recognition, or personal gain.

Your Community Service Chairperson or a Grange member should select a name to be considered for Volunteer of the Year.

Go to: "orgrange.org/res/forms/awards/CS\_volunteer\_Year.pdf" and complete the form. The state winner will be presented at Convention, usually Saturday night, and will receive a certificate and an award of \$50.

### Why It Matters

Receiving this award not only celebrates the individual's contributions but also shines a light on the cause they serve. It can inspire more people to volunteer, strengthen community bonds, and encourage a culture of giving.

### Other Volunteers

Granges may select one of each: Firefighter; Law Enforcement Officer; and Teacher. These volunteers will also receive a certificate and be presented at Convention. These nomination forms are also found at the Oregon State Grange website. Go to "orgrange.org/res/forms/awards/ff\_leo\_teacher\_form\_fill-in.pdf" and complete the form.

### Last thoughts

We're always happy when someone thanks us for something that we've done, whether it be for our efforts in providing a service or simply helping out another person in need. Nominating is one way to show appreciation for others who dedicate their time and energy towards making the world a better place!

## Chetco Hosted Harbor Holiday Event

Chetco Grange # 765, Curry County, hosted a ChariTree event in December 2025. The annual ChariTree Holiday Festival, which was started in 2010, highlights trees decorated by local non-profits. Trees were displayed and a silent auction held to support each non-profit. Family fun activities and Christmas trees were celebrated.



ChariTree is a non-profit committee of the Brookings Area Council for the Arts that brings awareness of local non-profits and helps them to raise funds for their activities while the community enjoys a holiday festival of trees.

The event runs for three days with the trees decorated on Thursday, December 4, the judging on Friday morning and a GALA night on Friday for sponsors and non-profits which includes a preview of the trees, auction bidding, and tree voting.

On Saturday, a free public event was

held that included viewing of the trees, live holiday music throughout the day, visits with Santa, a bake sale, festive treats and bidding on trees.

Chetco Grange is delighted to report that their tree received the high bid at the auction going for over \$400.

## Sandlake Hosts Pioneer Association

Yearly the Tillamook County Pioneer Association (TCPA) holds its February meeting at the Sandlake Grange #546 in Tillamook County. The Grange members readied the hall with tables and seating, warmed up the building and enjoyed hosting many friends from throughout the community. The TCPA supplied the food for the luncheon meeting and the Grange ladies got it ready to serve.



Approximately 40 folks attended and the Sandlake Grange came alive with conversation and laughter among friends. The TCPA arranges for a special program and

this February it was a visit from the organization, Dogs For Better Lives, which is supported by many Oregon Granges. An 18-month-old lab in training attended and wowed the crowd with its manners. It was a fun time.

For more information on a visit from Dogs For Better Lives, contact Hannah Rockwood, Development Manager, West Region 541-423-8306 or hannah.r@dogsforbetterlives.org.



L-r: Creswell Grange members Martin McClure, Patti Scott, and Mike Umbriaco delivering Valentine gift bags to with Meals-on-Wheels staff member Kate Cross.

## Creswell Makes Gift Bags for Meals-on-Wheels

A group of members of Creswell Grange #496, Lane County, gathered on February 11 to pack Valentines gift bags for 42 Creswell

Meals-on-Wheels recipients. The gift bags were delivered by Meals-on-Wheels volunteers along with their regular meal deliveries.



**Good Day!**  
SUBSCRIBE FOR JUST \$16 A YEAR!  
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www.nationalgrange.org/goodday  
First issues of Good Day! are available digitally at www.nationalgrange.org/goodday

## Deaf Awareness and Family Health

Lilly Anderson  
lillyinemerlaldcity@gmail.com  
OSG Deaf Awareness and Family Health Director



## Cancer: Part 3 – Common Cancer Screenings and When to Take Them

Hello Grangers and welcome back to Part 3 of our dive into cancer. Today we are discussing screening for cancer. It is generally agreed that diagnosing cancer at its earliest stages results in the best outcomes. Not all cancers have screening tests, but for those that do, it's important to know which cancer to get screened for and when.<sup>1</sup> It may be a little overwhelming so, before we talk about the actual screenings, let's talk a little about what these tests are looking for.

Physical exams look for lumps, changes in skin color or texture, any enlargement of organs. Lab tests reveal abnormalities in blood cells and/or unusual numbers or types of cells. Imaging tests like computerized tomography (CT) scans, bone scans, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), positron emission topography (PET) scans, ultrasounds or x-rays allow examination of bones and internal organs in a non-invasive way.<sup>2</sup> Biopsies are a clump of cells taken from tissue and examined under a microscope. This is **the definitive way** to know if cancer is present. The type of biopsy depends on the specific type and location of cancer.<sup>2</sup>

- **Colorectal cancer screening** is done with a colonoscopy and/or one to three fecal tests, or small stool samples. Often this comes as a kit you receive in the mail and can be done at home. Fecal tests look for hidden blood in your stool. It is recommended you begin at **age 45**. If it's normal, you usually won't repeat this test for 10 years.
- **Lung cancer screening** is usually a low-dose CT lung scan, and it's recommended for anyone between the **ages of 50 and 80**, is a current cigarette smoker, a former smoker who quit within the last 15 years or has a smoking history of a pack a day for 20 years.

- **Breast cancer screening for women**, consists of a yearly mammogram beginning at **age 40**. It is recommended that women continue with yearly mammograms for as long as they feel reasonably healthy. If you have a family history of breast cancer, are BRCA positive, have dense breast tissue, or are at high risk due to other factors, you may need to begin these screenings earlier, or have additional screenings

with your mammogram.<sup>1</sup>

- **Breast cancer screening for men**, is generally not needed, but those at high risk—specifically individuals with *BRCA* gene mutations or a strong family history—should begin annual clinical breast exams, and potentially mammograms starting around **age 35**.
- **Cervical cancer screening**, also a yearly screening, is done with a pap test or pap smear as part of a routine gynecological exam, beginning at **age 21**.<sup>1</sup> Pap tests look for any irregular cells that may lead to cervical cancer. If your test comes back as irregular, you will need follow-up testing which may include a colonoscopy and/or biopsies.<sup>1</sup> If your test results are regular, you should receive a pap test every 3 years until the **age of 30** and then it is reduced to once every 5 years.
- **Prostate cancer screening** should begin by **age 40**. It is recommended that men get a baseline prostate specific antigen (PSA) blood test. If you have a family history of prostate cancer, it is recommended that you begin screenings earlier, and prostate imaging may be necessary.<sup>1</sup>
- **Blood-Based Multi-Cancer Early Detection Tests (MCEDs)** detect fragments of circulating DNA containing mutations that originate in tumor cells.<sup>3</sup> MCEDs both inform the presence of cancer cells and the cell-type of origin. MCEDs may reduce cancer incidents by increasing screening participation among underserved populations, including rural residents. The *Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act* was signed into law in early 2026, setting a national pathway for Medicare coverage and it is hoped that will set the standard for private insurance coverage in Oregon in coming years.

A cancer diagnosis can change your life forever. It can very quickly become overwhelming and having a medical care team, and loved ones that you trust will make a world of difference. It's a strange situation where you must learn to trust others more than ever before, and at the same time, you need to be your own best advocate. With all my heart, I wish you well.

## Oregon Youth Art Contest for Suicide Prevention

The DAFH committee has been building partnerships with resources and mental health professionals to help provide information and other resources that support children and youth who are undergoing mental hardship. The committee was very fortunate to meet Dr. Diane Kaufman, founder/director of the Hold On Campaign for Suicide Prevention. Diane is a poet, artist, and humanism-in-medicine award-ee. She is also a suicide attempt and suicide loss survivor and presents internationally on suicide prevention and the expressive arts. Diane originated the idea for the Oregon's "Create Resilience Youth Art Contest for Suicide Prevention."

The "Create Resilience Youth Art Contest for Suicide Prevention" is grant funded by a grant from the Oregon Council for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and is an outreach component of the Hold On Campaign for Suicide Prevention. The Hold On Campaign uses the power of art to educate, connect, express, and heal. The contest asks youth to creatively share their ideas on how to improve youth mental health. That creative expression could be

a poem, story, essay, song, visual art, photography, dance, and more. Cash awards will be given for the top three winning entries plus two honorable mentions.

The contest is open to Oregon youth ages 13 - 21 years of age. Entries are accepted May 1st through August 1st and winners will be announced September 10th (World Suicide Prevention Day). For detailed information and to enter the contest please see: <https://www.holdoncampaign.org/youth-mental-health-campaign>.

Please note, participating youth can enter on their own. The contest does not require teacher and/or classroom participation, but this would be wonderful if that could take place. If a teacher wants to do so there is a campaign summary and how-to guide on the website. Youth group leaders and teachers upon request will receive the "Create Resilience" poem poster and youth groups (school or otherwise) will be given the "Hold On Don't Give Up" suicide prevention bracelets. Dr. Kaufman can be reached at [diane@holdoncampaign.org](mailto:diane@holdoncampaign.org).

### References:

- <sup>1</sup>Weinstein P., 5 Types of Cancer Screening Tests & When to Get Them (2021). Stamford Health. Retrieved 2/9/2026 from: <https://www.stamfordhealth.org/health-flash-blog/cancer/major-cancer>
- <sup>2</sup>Mayo Clinic, Cancer Diagnosis: retrieved 10/4/2025 from: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/dis->

cases-conditions/cancer/diagnosis-treatment/drc-20370594

- <sup>3</sup>Carbonell C, et al., Blood-Based Multi-Cancer Early Detection Tests (MCEDs) as a Potential Approach to Address Current Gaps in Cancer Screening (2024). *Cancer Control*, 31: 1-11 doi 10.1177/10732748241307360

## The Education Committee



Lyle Utt  
Lyle.Utt@gmail.com  
OSG Education Director

I noticed a number of articles about the 80% high school graduation rate of Oregon's Class of 2024. This class was a graduation class that Oregon wanted to be 100% and I wanted to understand the graduation rate and graduation requirements of 2025 compared to pre-COVID graduation rate and graduation requirements. Below is that comparison. The comparison in my opinion shows the most important thing that is needed for a successful adult life depends on school personnel caring about the students they care for and part of that is payment. If good school personnel aren't paid a living wage they will go to a job that will pay them a living wage and the loss of the school personnel will be reflected in the learning of the students and society when students aren't able to get decent jobs.

The following is a comparison of Oregon's K-12 graduation requirements and graduation rates: pre-COVID vs most recent year (2023-24 data, released Jan 2025) Graduation Requirements Pre COVID (Class of 2019-2020)

- Required credit total: 24
- Essential Skills (reading, writing, math) required for graduation
- Personalized Learning Requirements required

- Standard subject area credits (English 4, Math 3, Science 3, Social Science 3, etc.)
- Recent (Class of 2023-2024)
- Required credit total: 24 (unchanged)
- Essential Skills requirement permanently removed
- Personalized Learning Requirements removed
- Credit framework remains similar, but districts have more flexibility in demonstration of proficiency

Graduation Rates  
Pre COVID (2018-19 baseline year)

- Statewide four-year graduation rate: ~80%

During COVID (2020)

- Pandemic related policy flexibility increased rates
- Class of 2019-20 state rate: 82.6%

Most Recent (2023-24)

- Statewide four-year graduation rate: 81.3%
- Requirements: Credits stayed the same; Oregon removed Essential Skills and Personalized Learning after the pandemic, making graduation criteria simpler.
- Graduation rates: Rose slightly during COVID due to temporary flexibility, then stabilized around 81% in the latest year.

## The Dictionary Project

Tuesday, February 10, 2026's Word of the Day: Confidence



Azalea Grange helps third-grade students boost their reading confidence.

Azalea Grange #786, Douglas County, recently delivered dictionaries to Glendale Elementary and Wolf Creek Elementary schools.

Having their own dictionary helps build vocabulary and helps students build the reading confidence they need to succeed—both academically and in their everyday lives.

Azalea Grange was recognized by The Dictionary Project in their daily Facebook post.

Thanks to Granges, Lions Clubs, Rotary, and other sponsors of the Dictionary Project, 37,762,685 children have received a dictionary to date with 568,692 dictionaries having been donated to students in the 2025-2026 school year alone.



foundation@orgrange.org

The Oregon State Grange Foundation is gearing up to award scholarships and Blood Drive awards at the annual convention in June 2026.

Our scholarships (four in total) are as follows:

The **Louise Holst Memorial Scholarship** is awarded to an active Oregon State Grange member with at least five years of active membership which can include time as a Junior Granger, who is between 16-40 years of age. Scholarship amount is \$500.

**Malcolm Trupp Memorial Vocational Scholarship** applicants must be a member of a Grange or the child or grandchild of a Grange member and attend a community college or vocational school. Award amount of at least \$500.

**Marcel "Muzzy" Mandel Memorial Scholarship** applicants must be an Oregon Grange member or the child or grandchild of an Oregon Grange member who has graduated from high school or completed a GED. Award amount varies between \$500 - \$1500.

The **Mary Ramm Memorial Scholarship** goes to a female undergraduate student who is returning or has returned to college after a three-year break and is an Oregon Grange member in good standing. Previous winners may reapply. Award amount varies between \$500 - \$1000.

Forms for these scholarships were mailed to Grange secretaries in late February and are available on the Or-

gon State Grange website under the Resources/Financial Assistance area.

Has your Grange hosted a blood drive since last Oregon State Grange convention? Then your Grange can qualify for funds from the Oregon State Grange foundation. Remember to submit your form before June 10, 2026.

Finally, the Oregon State Grange Foundation has two opportunities to help Grangers with the cost of attending State Convention. The **Robert Smith Leadership Scholarship** and the **Junior Grange Leadership Scholarship**. More information is available and forms are available on the Oregon State Grange website under the foundation area or by emailing: foundation@orgrange.org.

www.fredmeyer.com/account/communityrewards/

Add/update the Community Organization on your account information page to Oregon State Grange Foundation - FM650

## Oregon State Grange Foundation Notice of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Oregon State Grange Foundation will be held on Sunday June 21 2026 at 12:15pm in the dining area of Baker High School in Baker City, Oregon.

The meeting will include the announcement of 2026 scholarship winners, the awarding of Blood Drive awards to Subordinate and Community Granges; the reports on the operations of the foundation in 2025 and the election of trustees for Region #1 (Grangers residing in Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, and Josephine counties qualify for election to this position) and the At large Position #2. As directed by the membership at the 2025 annual meeting, an amendment to the foundation bylaws that would remove term limits from trustees' positions will be presented and voted on by the membership. All fourth-degree members in good standing of an Oregon Grange are encouraged to attend the meeting. You can attend the meeting even if you do not purchase a ticket for the luncheon.

Tickets for the luncheon need to be purchased in advance. See page 11 for the order form for convention meals.

Joyce Parker  
Secretary, Oregon State Grange Foundation

## Still Alive in District 5



Meet the District #5 Granges that are our hosts for the 2026 Oregon State Convention.



**Eagle Valley #656**  
Baker County  
Chartered February 1925

Location: 42008 Moody Rd  
Richland  
Meets: 2nd Wed 7 pm; 6 pm  
potluck



**Elkhorn #908**  
Baker County  
Re-organized 2010

Location: 925 3rd St. Haines  
Meets: 1st Wednesday 5:30 pm

Known for: Pancake breakfast on 4th of July  
Fundraiser/ sources of income: Rent hall to Mennonites for Church and school.



**Columbia #867**  
Umatilla County  
Chartered 1936

Location: 32339 Diagonal Rd,  
Hermiston  
Meets: 3rd Tuesday 6pm  
5pm potluck

### Highlights of Convention Schedule 153rd Annual Convention Baker High School @ Baker City June 20th – 25th

The convention this year will be In-person and Zoom will also be available. Committee meetings about resolutions will be held prior to the convention via Zoom in the first week of June.

<b>Saturday, June 20th</b>		
8:30 am	Ag Tour – Meet bus at the Baker High School. Lunch will be provided.	5 pm 7-8 pm 7:45-9 pm
	<b>Sumpter Valley Dredge Tour</b> - Carpool from Baker High School. Lunch on your own.	
1-4 pm	Registration	
2-5 pm	GWA, Lecturer's, Community Service Yearbook and Junior contest entries accepted	5 pm 7-8 pm 7:45-9 pm
5:30 pm	Kickoff Banquet, Open Mic Night, Honor Grange Awards and Volunteer of the Year award	
<b>Sunday, June 21st</b>		
	<i>Wear your Grange pins and buttons</i>	
8-9:30 am	GWA, Lecturer's, Community Service Yearbook and Junior contest entries accepted	
9:45 am	Ceremonial opening in the 6th Degree, lowered to the 4th degree at 10 am	
11 am	State President's Annual Address and Good of the Order Address	5 pm 5:15 pm 7 pm
12:15 pm	Foundation Luncheon followed by Annual Meeting	
2:15 pm	Orientation for all delegates	
4 pm	5th Degree exemplified by the Grow Club and Friends	
7:30 pm	6th Degree exemplified by the Oregon State Grange officers	
<b>Monday, June 22nd</b>		
	<i>Ducks vs. Beavers or ??? – Support your team!</i>	
9 am	Memorial Service	
10 am	Opening in the Fourth	
Noon	GWA Luncheon	
1:30 pm	Session reconvenes, Community Service Awards	
3:30-5:30 pm	Final Election of State Officers	
4-5 pm	Presentation – Bridging Divides	
	<b>Tuesday, June 23rd</b>	
	<i>Wear Red Tennis Shoes to Support our Juniors!</i>	
	<i>Red, White and Blue Day to Honor our Veterans</i>	
6:30-8 am	Grange Benefits Breakfast	
10 am	Opening in the Fourth Degree	
10:30 am	Presentation by State Junior Grange	
Noon	Membership Luncheon and awards	
1:30 pm	Session reconvenes - Tribute to Grange Veterans	
5-7 pm	Dinner break	
5:15 pm	GROW Club Dinner	
7 pm	Silent and Oral Auction	
	<b>Wednesday, June 24th</b>	
	<i>Wear Green to Support our Youth!</i>	
9 am	Opening in the Fourth Degree by State Youth Officers	
Noon	Youth Luncheon and Goodie Basket drawings	
1:30 pm	Session reconvenes	
2 pm	Recognition of Past State Officers and Directors	
5-7 pm	Dinner break	
7 pm	Session reconvenes	
	<b>Thursday, June 25th*</b>	
8 am	Pick up entries in the GWA, Lecturer, and Junior contests	
9 am	Opening in the 4th Degree	
10:30 am	Thank you to District #5	
11 am	Invitation by District #1	
Noon	Lunch break	
1:30 pm	Installation of State Officers	

\*All Thursday items may be moved to Wednesday depending on the number of resolutions. See June Bulletin for updates.



**Missouri Flat #612**  
Baker County  
Chartered April 1, 1920

Location: 1050 Hughes Lane  
Baker City  
Meets: 3rd Wednesday at 10 am

Successful Activity: Quilts made and given to Veterans along with a luncheon. Have honored several veterans each year for several years.

Most successful fundraiser: A Harvest theme Bazaar with lunch. We rented tables and charged a fee for lunch.

What is unique: "We were organized in 1920, had some membership problems, but we are still doing the best we can. So, I guess the longevity of our Grange is what is unique.



**Pine Valley #815**  
Baker County  
Chartered March 26, 1934

Location: 300 Fair Grounds Road,  
Halfway  
Meets: 3rd Wednesday 9:30 am  
(Oct-April) 7pm (May-Sept)

Successful Activities: Dances on weekends  
Successful fundraiser: Building Rental  
Unique: We are located on our Fairgrounds, so we interact with the County Fair and Rodeo Activities.



**Greenfield #579**  
Morrow County  
Organized 1919

Location: 209 NW 1st St,  
Boardman  
Meets: 1st Tuesday 6:30 pm  
potluck 5:30 pm

## Still Alive in District 5



**Boulevard #389**  
**Malheur County**  
**Chartered March 11, 1909**

Location: 3890 Hwy 201, Ontario,  
 Meets: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7pm

Successful Activity: FFA Round Robin Jacket. Community Service with witCO kids; a non-profit organization in western Idaho and Eastern Oregon that provides services for children and adults with disabilities.  
 Successful Fundraiser: Renting the Hall and a Holiday Bazaar.  
 Unique: Centrally located between three towns, Ontario, Vale and Nyssa.



**White Eagle #683**  
**Umatilla County**  
**Organized in 1927**

Location: 43828 White Eagle Rd, Pendleton  
 Meets: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday with 12:30 potluck, 1:30pm meeting

Successful Activity: We rent the Hall to a weekly Quilt Group and Church Group for Services. We let locals use the hall for school dances, funerals and weddings.

Successful fundraiser: Rifle Raffle every year for the Dictionary Project, Haunted House and Breakfasts 3 times a year.

## 2026 Oregon State Grange Convention Meal Tickets Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grange Name & Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday dinner and Sunday through Wednesday lunches are available for purchase. All meals are on site in the Baker High School Cafeteria. Salad bar will include proteins and fruit. In the boxes below, write in the total number of meal tickets per meal. Total the daily meal costs on the right and enter the grand total at the bottom. Mail completed order form and total amount by **June 1st**. Meal tickets will not be available for purchase after June 1<sup>st</sup>. Salad Bar tickets can be purchased on-site. All meal tickets will be picked up at State Convention. Meal questions contact David McBride at 530-682-8707.

**Mail to: OSG-District 5, Brinda Stanley, PO Box 731,  
 Joseph OR 97846**

**Return order form with check payable to "OSG-District 5" by June 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Day	Meal	Menu		# of tickets	Price per ticket	Daily \$ Total
Sat 6/20	Kickoff Banquet	Smoked Pork Bites	Adult		X \$30.00	
		Cheesy Potatoes	10 & under		X \$15.00	
Sun 6/21	Foundation Luncheon	Pulled Pork Sandwiches	Adult		X \$17.00	
		Chips	10 & under		X \$10.00	
		Coleslaw				
		Baked Beans				
		Dessert				
		<b>Salad Bar Only - one time through</b>			X \$13.00	
Mon 6/22	GWA Luncheon	Chicken Enchiladas	Adult		X \$17.00	
		Rice	10 & under		X \$10.00	
		Salad				
		Dessert				
		<b>Salad Bar Only - one time through</b>			X \$13.00	
Tues 6/23	Benefits Breakfast	Pancakes			X Free	\$0.00
		Eggs				
		Sausage				
	Membership Luncheon	Lasagna - Sausage & Beef or Three Cheese	Adult		X \$17.00	
		Garlic Cheesy Bread	10 & under		X \$10.00	
		Italian Salad				
		Dessert				
		<b>Salad Bar Only - one time through</b>			X \$13.00	
Wed 6/24	Youth/Young Adults Luncheon	Choice of - Cold Sandwich or Wrap	Adult		X \$17.00	
		Assorted Sides	10 & under		X \$10.00	
		Dessert				
		<b>Salad Bar Only - one time through</b>			X \$13.00	
All meals include beverages				Grand Total		

**Any dietary needs such as diabetic, vegetarian, gluten-free or allergies, please note on order or contact David McBride at 530-682-8707.**

**Orders must be received by June 1<sup>st</sup>.  
 No meal ticket sales on site.  
 Salad Bar tickets can be purchased on-site.**



**New Bridge #789**  
**Baker County**  
**Organized in 1931**

Location: 43108 Main Street, Richland  
 Meets: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 5pm

Successful Activity: The Dictionary Project. We provide new dictionaries to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and home schoolers.  
 Successful Fundraiser: May Yard Sale and Fall Bazaar

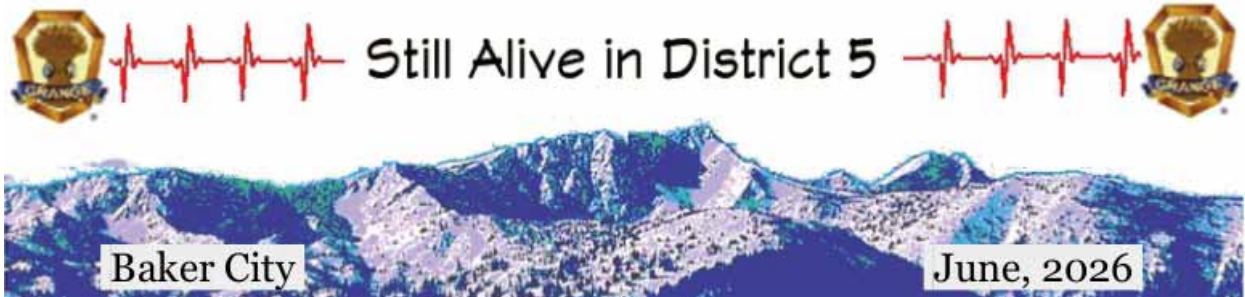


**Fort Union #953**  
**Union County**  
**Re-org. January 4, 1993**

Location: 63161 Gekeler Lane La Grande  
 Meets: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 7:00pm

Successful Activity: Joined with Pleasant Grove and Rockwall Granges to put together a booth at Union County Fair, Monthly Quilting Day  
 Successful fundraiser: Hall rental, Quilt Auction, Yard Sale  
 Unique: Hall was built in 1872 and was used as the site for the Union County Fair in the early days of the Fair. As with many Granges, we have struggled with membership and keeping "the olde girl alive". We received new members because of our booth at the fair and are looking at revitalizing our historic building and giving "her" new life.

Website: [fortuniongrange.org](http://fortuniongrange.org)  
 Facebook: Fort Union Grange



## Still Alive in District 5



**Pleasant Grove #475**  
**Union County**  
**Chartered in 1911**  
**Reorganized in 2006**

Location: 67218 Hunter Road,  
 Summerville  
 Meets: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at  
 6 pm

Successful Activity: Wildlife Pre-  
 paredness  
 Successful Fundraiser: Annual  
 Rummage Sale first weekend  
 in June, Thanksgiving Dinner,  
 Chili Cookoff w/Cider Press  
 & Silent Auction last Saturday  
 in October, St. Patrick's Day  
 Dinner, Monthly Community  
 Lunches on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday.



**Rockwall #679**  
**Union County**  
**Organized in 1925**  
**Re-organized in 2009**

Location: 71562 Middle Road,  
 Elgin  
 Meets: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 1pm

Successful activities: Cycle Ore-  
 gon Finish Line, Trunk or Treat,  
 Ford Preservation Classes, Bird  
 Program, Dance lessons, Music  
 Programs

Most successful fundraiser: Fiddle  
 Show, Quilt Raffle, Dinners  
 What is unique about our Grange:  
 We exist with very few members  
 who are incredible workers.



**Wolf Creek #596**  
**Union County**  
**Organized 1921**

Location: 215 E St, North Powder  
 Meets: 1st Tues 5 pm



It is time to think about where you might stay while attending this year's 153<sup>rd</sup> Oregon State Convention. This year it will be at the Baker City High School. There are several options for those wishing to stay in motels. Please note that all of the places that the host committee talked to specifically stated you should book your dates as early as possible. Three months was the suggestion.

### Baker City Hotels and Motels

#### **Baker City Motel & RV Park**

880 Elm Street 541-523-6381  
<https://bakercitymotelandrv.com>

#### **Best Western Sunridge Inn**

1 Sunridge Lane 541-523-6444  
[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.38183.html](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.38183.html)

#### **Bridge Street Inn**

134 Bridge Street 541-523-6571  
<https://www.bridgestreetinnmotel.com>

#### **Geiser Grand Hotel**

1996 Main Street 888-434-7374  
<https://www.geisergrand.com>

#### **Knights Inn**

2205 Broadway 541-523-6324  
<https://www.knightsinn.com/us/or/baker-city/knights-inn-baker-city>

#### **Motel 6**

175 Campbell Street 800-307-5206  
<https://www.motel6.com/en/home/motels.or/baker-city.8785.html>

#### **Oregon Trail Motel**

211 Bridge Street 888-523-5882  
<https://www.facebook.com/oregontrailmotelandrestaurant/?fref=ts>

#### **Quality Inn**

695 Campbell Street 541-239-3409  
<https://www.choicehotels.com/oregon/baker-city/quality-inn-hotels/or151?mc=llgxxpx>

#### **Rodeway Inn**

810 Campbell Street 541-523-2242  
<https://www.choicehotels.com/oregon/baker-city/rodeway-inn-hotels/or047>

#### **Super 8 Motel**

250 Campbell Street 541-523-8282  
[https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/super-8/baker-city-oregon/super-8-baker-city/overview?hotel\\_id=04015](https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/super-8/baker-city-oregon/super-8-baker-city/overview?hotel_id=04015)

### Baker City RV Parks

#### **Baker City Motel & RV Park**

880 Elm Street 541-523-6381  
<https://bakercitymotelandrv.com>

#### **Mountain View RV Park**

2845 Hughes Ln 541-523-4824  
<http://www.mtviewrv.com>

#### **A Frame RV Park**

42534 N Cedar Rd 541-523-3236  
<https://www.aframervpark.com>

#### **Love's RV Hookup**

200 Campbell Street 541-239-6009  
<https://www.loves.com/locations/or/baker-city/loves-travel-stop-baker-city-569>

### Onsite Dry Camping

#### **Baker High School**

Dry camping is allowed with no hook-ups in the parking lot of the school. At this time there is no septic service so campers may need to drive to a dump site. Use of showers in school building is not confirmed. Reserve a spot with Brinda Stanley [brindastanley@gmail.com](mailto:brindastanley@gmail.com) or 541-398-0026

There also some short-term vacations rentals available in the area through [www.vrbo.com](http://www.vrbo.com), [www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com) or others.



**Hurricane Creek #608**  
**Wallowa County**  
**Chartered: April 1, 1923**

Location: 82930 Airport Lane,  
 Joseph  
 Meets: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6pm

Successful Activity: Celebrated 100  
 years  
 Successful fundraiser: Various pic  
 sales  
 Unique: the Hall was built as a  
 Grange in 1925.

Website: [hurricanecreekgrange.org](http://hurricanecreekgrange.org)



**Liberty #613**  
**Wallowa County**  
**Chartered: March 22, 1923**

Location: 63848 Liberty Rd  
 Joseph  
 Meets: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 6:30 pm



**Spray #940**  
**Wheeler County**  
**Organized in 1954**

Location: 807 Winlock Street  
 Spray  
 Meets: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday

Successful activity: Received grant  
 to purchase pictures to display  
 on the Grange walls  
 Successful fundraiser: Selling Root  
 Beer Floats at the Spray Rodeo  
 Unique: Spray is a community of  
 about 140 people. The Grange  
 is used consistently by the com-  
 munity for old fashioned fun!

## Still Alive in District 5



### North End #820 Wallowa County Chartered November 23, 1934

Location: 81029 Flora Lane, Enterprise  
40 miles north from Enterprise on HWY 3.  
3 miles west of Hwy 3 on Flora Lane  
Meets: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7 pm

Successful Activities: We formed a community events committee that has put on Game nights, Easter Egg hunts, Fall festival and Thanksgiving Potluck  
Successful Fundraisers: Chili Feed and dessert auction  
Unique: The town of Flora has 11 residents. North End Grange has 42 members.; 5 Flora residents are members. Our membership represents a large and remote area.



Andi Mitchell of Liberty Grange and her husband David dancing at sweetheart dance February 7, 2026 at North End Grange.

### Dinner Dance Held at the Grange at Flora

A Sweetheart's Dance and Spaghetti Dinner with live music was held at North End Grange #820, Wallowa County, on February 7<sup>th</sup>. This wonderful, family-friendly event was enjoyed by all that attended.

Everyone from the oldsters trying to remember how to waltz, to the young kids running around in circles, had a great time. Music was loud enough to hear while dancing, not too loud where it would drown out a conversation. Great food, including lots of fruit and various desserts.

## Zoom Schedule 2026 Convention Session Committees

This information is included with the Pre-Registration packet which your Grange will receive in April, but having this information earlier will help delegates better evaluate what committee they may wish to serve on, and also so non-delegates are able to see when the meetings are. Non-delegates are welcome to attend and may speak to issues (*the duration and frequency may be limited by the Committee Chair*) but may not vote.  
The committees will starting meeting shortly after the Executive Committee, serving as the Division of Labor committee, meets and assigns resolutions to committees. If the need arises, additional meeting times will be scheduled the second week so committees can finish their work.

All meetings will start at 7pm.

Tuesday June 2	Agriculture and Grange Programs/Bulletin
Wednesday June 3	Legislation and Financial Affairs/Insurance
Thursday June 4	Bylaws and Education/Health
Friday June 5	Transportation/Utilities and Conservation
Monday June 8	Veterans and Good of the Order

The link for the Zoom sessions is:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83377592282?pwd=bFTTZ5Yrn-1VlKO6Ynf6EZ1endVfaV.1>

Members who register to serve on a committee will receive an email with their committee's resolutions and a link to the meeting. The link will take you to the main room and you can let the moderator know which committee meeting you will be attending.



### South Fork #605 Wallowa County Organized in 1923

Location: 317 Rosewell Street, Lostine  
Meets: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 6pm start with potluck, meeting at 6:30pm

Successful Activity: The Generations Project  
Successful Fundraiser: Annual Pie Auction  
Unique: We work to bridge generations to preserve cultural and practical knowledge.

Website: southforkgrange.com



Janie Tippett and Andi Mitchell, Liberty Grange members, enjoy dinner.

### Monday Community Dinners Feeding Bodies. Nourishing Souls. Building Belonging

From February through April each year, Hurricane Creek Grange #608, Wallowa County, host free Monday night community dinners that welcome everyone to the table. What began as a small gesture of hospitality has grown into a beloved tradition, serving over 2,500 meals in just three months and feeding more than a third of their town.

These dinners are about more than food — they are about connection, care, and creating a place where no one eats alone. With the help of local chefs, volunteers, and over 25 community partners, the Grange prepares hot, nutritious meals and share stories, laughter, and belonging around shared tables. It's a glimpse of the kin-dom of God — where everyone has a place and love is served generously.

## Oregon State Grange Convention Tours Saturday, June 20

### Agriculture Tour

Meet at the Baker High School at 8:30am.  
Lunch will be provided.

The tour will visit local agricultural interests. You must reserve your spot by June 1st.

For reservations contact: June Colony  
Email: grassjune@hotmail.com  
Mailing Address: 67497 Lostine River Rd, Lostine 97857

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Grange \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

OR

### Tour the Sumpter Valley Dredge

Meet at the Baker High School at 8:30am.  
Carpool for a 40-minute drive to Sumpter.

Enjoy a guided tour of the Sumpter Valley gold dredge at the Sumpter Valley Dredge State Heritage Area and walk some of the flat, easy paths around the site to view the river and where the dredge worked.

Tour will be done before lunch. If anyone wants to stay in Sumpter for lunch, the Golden Pick café should be open.

More info about the dredge: <https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=park.profile&parkId=174>

For reservations contact: Mark Noah  
Email: marknoah00@gmail.com  
Mailing Address: 1407 Modoc St, Springfield OR 97477

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Grange \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Hurricane Creek Visits South Fork for Soup

South Fork Grange #605 at Lostine in Wallowa County, held Soup Tuesdays every Tuesday in January through March this year. The community was invited to stop in and share soup, bread and dessert and visit with their neighbors.

Several members of neighboring Grange, Hurricane Creek #608 visited South Fork and partook in Soup Tuesday; breaking bread with their Grange Brothers and Sisters.



*L-r: sitting at table are Lyn Westhoff of South Fork Grange, Kate Loftus of South Fork Grange, and Elvaree Fine of Hurricane Creek Grange.*

*L-r: standing are Monica Eng of South Fork Grange, Lisa Lyn Murphy of Hurricane Creek Grange, Christina Deviller and Kathie Baird, both South Fork Grange members.*

## Join Goldson Grange for a Traditional High Tea

Goldson Grange# 868, Lane County, invites the everyone to its Annual High Tea on Sunday, May 17, 2026, from 2-4 pm. High tea is a beloved British tradition, offering a relaxing break from everyday life. Guests will enjoy a traditional multi-course service featuring tea, scones with butter and jam, tea sandwiches, and

a selection of cakes and biscuits.

Celebrate this elegant tradition with the Grange and treat yourself like royalty. Dress as if you were having tea with the Queen. Everyone is welcome—bring your children, friends, and even reluctant spouses!



*The beautiful quilt was made by Pleasant Grove Grange Secretary Cindi Davis for the raffle helps fund a scholarship for high school seniors.*

## Pleasant Grove Grange Awards Quilt Raffle Winner

Pleasant Grove Grange #475, Union County held the culmination of their annual quilt raffle fundraiser on February 7th. Grange President Margarette Craig along with other Grange members have spent the past year traveling around Union County to attend various events to highlight the quilt, sell raffle tickets and promote Grange membership. Their efforts throughout 2025 paid off with over 700 tickets sold: quite a feat for a large rural county of less than 27,000 people. The money made off the raffle will fund a

scholarship to be awarded to a local senior towards their tuition to any trade school.

The lucky winner was Brenda Stanley, a member of the Liberty Grange in Joseph, Oregon. The beautiful quilt was made by Pleasant Grove Grange Secretary Cindi Davis of Summerville and was presented to Brenda at the February 21 meeting for the planning and hosting of the Oregon State Grange Convention in June 2026 in Baker City.



## GWA

Susan Noah  
susannoah6@gmail.com  
OSG Grange Workers Activities Director

### Apron Auction!

Just another reminder of the Apron auction we are holding at the convention this year with the money going to The Baker Relief Nursery. The Baker Relief Nursery works to prevent child abuse and neglect by assisting vulnerable families and promoting the health and safety of children in Baker County and the community of North Powder in Union County.

As I said in the last column we will be looking for apron donations for the auction. Handmade or purchased aprons will all be accepted and auctioned. Got an extra Grange apron? Maybe a grilling apron? A frilly dainty one? The more the merrier and the more money we can raise for families and children in Baker County. Don't forget the GWA has an Apron contest, so make one to be entered and allow us to auction it!

To make a donation of an apron, just bring it to the GWA room at the session (*handmade ones for entry will be judged prior to the auction*) or get it to me or the State office prior to the session. Last year our members stepped up to the plate when called on to donate to the Oregon Food Bank, so I hope I can count on membership again to donate (and bid) on these works of art to benefit the Relief Nursery of Baker County.

### Food Safety

The dates the food companies put on labels are not regulated and do not mean that the food is unsafe to eat, except in the case of baby formula. Most food is still good and nutritious after the date has passed. The following are some guidelines for the variety of dates used on food packaging.

- **Best If Used By/Before:** This is a quality assurance date and serves as a "suggestion" for when the taste and quality of food are at their peak. It is not a purchase or safety date.
- **Use By:** This is the suggested date by when you should eat the food. But just because it's a day or two past the use-by date doesn't mean that consuming it will make you sick, although you should evaluate the quality of the food yourself after this time. It is not a safety date, except when used on infant formula.
- **Sell By:** This is not a safety date, but rather a date for retailers that helps them determine how long an item should remain on the shelf. According to the Institute of Food (IFT), "one-third of a

product's shelf-life remains after the sell-by date for the consumer to use at home."<sup>22</sup>

- **Freeze By:** According to the USDA, this date indicates when a product should be frozen to maintain peak quality. It is not a purchase or safety date.

### Key Takeaways:

- Many foods are still safe to eat beyond the expiration date—especially if the date is considered a "best if used by" or "sell by" date.
- Foods will generally smell, taste, or look "off" if it's not safe. If in doubt be safe and throw out.
- Frozen foods are safe indefinitely, but they will start to lose quality the longer it is stored.
- Canned goods are generally safe for years, if stored properly in a cool dry place.
- Leftover food should only be used for up to four days afterward.

Paying attention to food safety also will help stop food waste. Wasting food wastes more than food, when food is wasted the resources used to grow, harvest, process, transport, store and cook that food are wasted too. Reduce food spoilage by using these few tips.

- Plan ahead, plan out meals for a few days or a week so you only buy what you need.
- Store food properly. Learn more about food storage at <https://savethefood.com/storage>.
- Freeze before food goes bad. Freezing extends the life of food.
- Get creative! Use your imagination to creatively use up the leftovers like soups, casseroles, salads, etc.

I hope this information gives you some 'Food for Thought!'



## Abernethy to Hold Annual Rummage Sale

Abernethy Grange #346, Clackamas County, will be holding their annual Rummage Sale on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9 am to 4 pm both days. Come find amazing deals on clothes, home goods, books and more at their hall, 15745 Harley Ave, Oregon City.

## Junior Grange Corner

Vickie Thorp  
vickiethorp@yahoo.com  
OSG Junior Director



Oregon State Grange Convention is the perfect place to showcase the talents of our Junior Grange members and June will be here before you know it, so now is the time to get your contest entries underway.

Again for 2026, Saturday evening will be Open Mic Night and is open to all ages. The unlimited imagination and variety of entries our Grangers come up with should make for a very fun and entertaining event. Winners in three separate age groups will be decided by People's Choice votes and receive prizes for their performances.

These are some of the Oregon State Junior Grange contests for 2026: Age Groups for all Oregon State Junior Grange contests will be:

- Ages 5 to 7 yrs old
- Ages 8 to 11 yrs old
- Ages 12 to 14 yrs old

Please use the Junior members age as of June 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year to submit entry under the correct age group.

### Rules:

- Open to members and non-members
- All Entries must be original work
- Entries must have been completed after June of the previous year
- Entries cannot have been entered prior to this year
- ONE entry per person per category

Awards for all Categories: 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$7; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$5; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$3 (plus ribbons).

### ART

#### Categories:

- A. Hand Drawn Pictures (any subject, any medium, must be at least 3" x 5" and no larger than 8" x 10")
- A. Nature Art (use items you may find outdoors, *i.e.*, leaves, moss, bark, twigs, rocks, flora, seeds etc., must be at least

3" x 5" and no larger than 12" x 18")

- A. My Pet Drawing (include a photo no larger than 5" x 7" of your pet, then hand draw or paint a portrait of your pet, must be at least 3" x 5" and no larger than 8" x 10")
- A. Diamond Art (any item, *i.e.*, picture, keychains, coasters, but can be no larger than 8" x 10" and must have a hard backing for displaying)

### CREATIVE WRITING

#### Categories:

- A. Short Story or Poem – MY HERO (no more than 2 typed 8 ½ x 11 pages, be sure to include what you consider to be your Hero's SuperPower and why; may include a drawing/picture of your Hero if desired)

### MODELS

#### Categories:

- A. Free Hand or Kits of any Kind (*i.e.*, cars, Legos, planes, wooden items, etc., with completed items no larger than 12" x 12") BE SURE YOUR MODELS ARE DISPLAYED IN A SECURE MANNER TO PREVENT ANY DAMAGE.

The reason I said some of the contests is because there are other contests open to the Junior Grangers listed in the Lecturer's and GWA sections of the Awards, Contests and Scholarship booklet that your family should have recently received. So PLEASE be sure to look completely through the entire booklet.

There are still a lot of details to be worked out before June, so look for information about planned activities and field trip(s) for the Juniors in my next column.

Until then, HAPPY CREATING and I can't wait to see all your amazing talents!!!

## Strawberry Grape Caterpillars

### Ingredients:

- Green grapes
- Fresh strawberries
- Mini pretzel sticks
- Candy eyes
- Wooden skewers or toothpicks

### Instructions:

1. Wash and dry the grapes and strawberries well.
2. Thread 4-6 green grapes onto each skewer to form the caterpillar's body.
3. Cut the top off a strawberry if needed so it sits flat, then place it at the front of the skewer as

- the head.
4. Press two candy eyes onto the strawberry.
5. Break pretzel sticks in half and insert them into the top of the strawberry to make antennae.
6. Arrange on a plate and serve immediately or keep refrigerated until ready to serve.



## New National Junior Grange Director Appointed

by Philip J Vonada National Grange Communications Director

The National Grange is pleased to welcome Katie Girtler as the new National Junior Grange Director, a role she steps into with deep enthusiasm, creativity, and a strong commitment to young members and the families who support them. Katie is a member and President of Ono Grange #445 in California, a Grange that was rededicated in December 2024 after losing its historic hall in the Zogg Fire.

Her Grange journey began not in childhood, but through family and community. "I grew up just a block away from the Danville Grange and never really knew what a Grange was," Katie shared. "It wasn't until my mom and stepdad were invited to Ono Grange that I finally experienced it for myself." That invitation proved transformative. Shortly after moving to Ono, Katie attended her first Grange event, Cowboy Santa, with her young child. "I still marvel at the sense of wonder I saw in my then two-year old's eyes," she said. "That feeling of welcome and joy really stuck with me." Katie became a member in 2019 and quickly stepped into leadership, helping organize community events and building programs that brought families together.

Today, Grange life is deeply woven into her family's everyday experiences. She and her husband are raising three children, Joyce, Garth, and Annette, all of whom are involved in Grange activities. "As a family, we love adventure," Katie said. "We hike, travel, garden, raise chickens, and spend a lot of time outdoors. The Grange fits naturally into that lifestyle." One recent family trip turned into a creative Grange project, as they documented 15 Grange halls across California and neighboring states in just two days. "We made it a state geo-Grange project," she explained. "It was such a fun way to connect our kids to the bigger Grange story."

Professionally, Katie brings a background in photography and graphic design, along with a passion for storytelling and advocacy. She is especially interested in helping youth understand that their ideas and voices matter. "Thinking on a national level can feel really big and unattainable," Katie said. "I've felt that way myself. But the Grange taught me that all our voices are heard, and making a difference can start with simply sharing the spark of an idea."

As National Junior Grange Director, Katie's first priority is listening. She plans to connect with state and local Junior Grange leaders to better understand their needs and challenges. "I want to ask leaders what they're facing and then figure out how I can be of service," she said. "Every community is different, and

I want to meet people where they are." She is also eager to encourage participation in the National Junior Grange Program Book and highlight new age-appropriate opportunities designed to excite and engage young members. "My hope is that every Junior Grange leader feels confident encouraging at least one submission," Katie said. "We've opened new programs to make participation more accessible, and I want kids to feel excited about being part of it."

Looking ahead, Katie is enthusiastic about introducing new activities, including a historical craftsmanship project tied to America's 250th anniversary. The project invites Junior members to create feather quills, explore calligraphy, and learn about foundational American documents. "It's a hands-on way to connect history, creativity, and civic understanding," she explained. "I want kids to feel curious and proud of the stories that shaped our country." Katie believes Junior Grange plays a vital role building confidence, leadership skills, and lasting relationships. "This program gives kids a leg up," she said. "They learn how to speak in front of others, how to work with adults, and how to build relationships with elders in their communities who genuinely want to support them."

She also sees Junior Grange as a bridge between rural and non-rural youth. "I grew up in a suburb that used to be a walnut orchard," Katie shared. "Even then, I knew I wanted a ranch. I think it's important to foster that spark in kids, even if they don't grow up in a rural area."

National Grange President Christine Hamp welcomed Katie into the role, saying, "Katie brings a thoughtful, family-centered approach to youth leadership that reflects the very best of the Grange. Her passion for Junior members, creativity, and advocacy will help ensure our youngest Grangers feel supported, inspired, and empowered."

For Katie, investing in youth is both practical and deeply personal. "Sometimes things are hard, but the hard things shape you into strong, confident adults," she said. "Our kids hear more than we think, and they want to help. Advocacy starts by encouraging their voices and letting their ideas take root." As she begins her term, Katie is excited to work alongside Junior Grange leaders, parents, and members across the country. "Together, we'll focus on sparking excitement, imagination, and leadership," she said. "I want our youth to feel confident leading us into the future, whether that path stays within the Grange or goes beyond it."



## Hurricane Creek Installs Officers

In January Hurricane Creek Grange #608 in Wallowa County, installed their officers for the ensuing term. Installing officer was Claudia Boswell.

### DOES YOUR GRANGE NEED HELP?

Installation of Officers      Degrees (1-4 and/or 5<sup>th</sup>)  
 Draping the Charter      Presenting the Flag  
**The Oregon GROW Club offers these and more.**

Contact one of the GROW Club board members to get information.

- Mark Noah, President 971.726.6106
- John Fine, Dist. 1 - 541.673.0369
- Steve Kroeker, Dist. 2 - 541.974.1724
- Stacy Brown, Dist. 3 - 971.808.6431
- Vacant, Dist. 4
- Vacant, Dist. 5



**GROW stands for Go Right On Working!!!**

## By-laws Change Notice

### Spencer Creek Grange #855 Notice Of Proposed By-Laws Amendments

Notice is hereby given that Spencer Creek Grange #855, Lane County, will consider and vote upon proposed amendments to its By-laws at its regularly scheduled business meeting on May 19, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., to be held at 36013 Lorane Highway, Eugene, Oregon 97402.

The proposed amendments, made in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Oregon State Grange (OSG) By-laws, are as follows:

1. Alcoholic Beverages at Grange Activities  
 To amend the By-laws to allow alcoholic beverages at Grange-sponsored activities, in accordance with Section 7, of the Oregon State Grange By-laws governing subordinate Grange authority over activities and use of facilities.
2. Notification of Future By-laws Amendments  
 To amend the By-laws to permit notification of members by e-mail for any future proposed amendments, in accordance with Section 21 of the Oregon State Grange By-laws.

These proposed amendments were presented to the membership at

the regular business meeting held on March 17, 2026, in accordance with Section 7 of the Oregon State Grange By-laws.

This notice is provided in compliance with Section 7 of the Oregon State Grange By-laws regarding required notice of proposed amendments.

All members are encouraged to attend.



## Membership Matters



Jay Sexton  
 pawpawsexton@gmail.com  
 OSG Membership Director

When I talk with Grangers about growing membership I am often asked "What should I say when people ask what do I get for joining Grange?". I admit that it is sometimes hard to put into words, even though every Granger has the answer within them.

Why are we Grangers? By now we know that we enjoy meeting our friends at the Hall, have fun at Grange events and meals, and have Grange pride in the things we accomplish together. But before we experienced these things, how did we foresee that these things we now value would occur?

Many of us had grown up in the Grange and so were immersed in the culture, and had no barrier to overcome, just as a fish does not struggle to learn to swim. Now many people come to Grange as adults, having never experienced the social cooperation that is common within Grange. So how do we tell them?

There is a fear of the unknown. People are anxious about taking on unknown responsibilities. I like to say that Grange is a community organization that does not ally itself with any political party, candidate, or religion, helping people see each other as neighbors. Grange tries to improve its community, but no two Granges are alike. Each Community has different issues and the membership of each Grange has different interests, abilities, and objectives. A healthy Grange should consider new ideas and projects and democratically reach decisions on activities. Including new members as equals in discussions, and being willing to try new projects, helps your Grange stay relevant within your community.

So what can a new person get from their Grange Membership? A new member is invited to participate in the activities of the Grange and play a part in the organization. Many Granges allow members to use the Hall for a reduced rate after coming to a certain number of meetings or work parties. Many people today are attracted to a social connection that does not take place over a phone or computer. Membership in a Grange is a way to meet members of your community who have chosen to work together to improve their community lives.

One of the best ways to show new people what Grange can bring to them is to invite them to a Grange event or a Grange meeting. If it is a meeting it is good to explain that our 150-year-old organization has ceremonial opening and closing of meetings that connect us to our heritage. Some people may have never had an experience similar to Grange ceremony, and so it is good to let them know that the meeting format will not ask anything unusual of them.

Lastly Grangers should be comfortable in answering questions about the Grange from their friends and from people who are curious. The best promotion of Grange membership is the friendly and respectful culture of Grange. When I first joined Grange in 2010 the characteristic of Grange that most impressed me was the way the Grangers respectfully came to consensus, even when they fundamentally disagreed.

Our Grange culture has benefits for our society. We are Grangers because we have experienced these benefits, and we should not be shy about telling others about the values we experience, and the accomplishments of which we are proud.

### What do I get from joining Grange?

- Meet friendly neighbors interested in working together to improve Community
- Grangers work together to accomplish goals and support each other.
- Some Granges offer reduced rent to Members, after attending some number of meetings or work parties
- Religious and Political speech is not allowed during meetings, reducing strife
- Inexpensive dues are about \$1 per week



## Government Affairs

John DeHaas  
 lobbyist@orgrange.org  
 Lobbyist for the Oregon State Grange

Hello Grangers,

This column is focused on IP 28. I trust this will provide greater insight into the texts and ideas presented by the group associated with IP 28.

Oregon Initiative Petition 28 (IP28), also known as the PEACE Act (People for the Elimination of Animal Cruelty Exemptions), is an ambitious measure that is currently in the signature-gathering phase for consideration on the November 2026 ballot. As of February 2026, advocates have submitted over 100,000 signatures, with the goal of gathering a total of 117,173 valid signatures by the deadline of July 2, 2026. This initiative aims to significantly reshape the legal landscape concerning animal rights in Oregon.

### Overview of IP28

The intent of IP28 is to remove existing legal exemptions for hunting, fishing, trapping, and farming from Oregon's animal cruelty statutes (ORS 167.315–167.333). The proposed legislation seeks to criminalize any activities that intentionally injure, kill, or sexually violate non-human animals, except in cases of self-defense or veterinary care.

If passed, IP28 would have sweeping implications for various sectors, including agriculture, recreation, and human diets. Specifically, it would lead to the banning of practices such as animal slaughter for food, elective husbandry procedures like castration or dehorning, and potentially alter the fabric of traditional farming and fishing practices. The measure's proponents argue that it aims to ensure the humane treatment of all animals, rather than exempting certain activities that are currently legally accepted.

### Current Signature Status

To qualify for the ballot, supporters of IP28 need to gather at least 117,173 valid signatures by the July deadline. However, it is common for organizations to aim for approximately 140,000 signatures to account for any potential invalidations. As of February 2026, proponents have made substantial progress, with over 100,000 signatures already submitted but with several months remaining to meet the final goal.

David Michelson, the lead petitioner, acknowledges the challenges ahead, recognizing that while achieving ballot qualification will be a significant step, the ultimate goal is to spark a wider conversation about animal rights and welfare.

### Timeline and Background

- February 2026: Proponents report over 100,000 signatures submitted.
- July 2, 2026: Final signature deadline; the measure will either qualify for the ballot or fail to move forward.
- November 3, 2026: If qualified, the measure could appear on the ballot during the general election.

### Potential Impacts and Opposition

The passage of IP28 could have critical consequences for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, which currently relies on fees generated from hunting and fishing as well as federal excise taxes to fund conservation efforts. Opponents of the measure, particularly those in the hunting and agricultural communities, warn that it could effectively criminalize traditional practices. While supporters advocate for alternative, non-lethal management strategies—such as sterilization and habitat preservation—critics argue that the measure could disrupt the balance of wildlife management and conservation efforts.

Importantly, IP28 stands out among the 75+ proposed initiatives for the 2026 ballot as one of only two measures that have thus far achieved a significant number of signatures. Its progress is being closely monitored, not just for its potential impact on animal rights but also as a reflection of shifting societal attitudes towards ethical treatment and respect for nonhuman creatures in Oregon and beyond.

Happy Trails

## Chetco Grange Hosted Town Hall Meeting On Illegal Camping

Chetco Grange #765, Curry County, hosted a Town Hall meeting on Friday, January 16, 2026, to address continued community concerns regarding the impacts of illegal camping and hazardous waste that is left behind by transients. The Curry County Board of Commissioners along with representatives from the Curry County Sheriff's Office, Curry County District Attorney, Oregon Department of Transportation, and Oregon State Police were in attendance.

The standing room only crowd of community members in attendance were able to make comments, which were limited to three minutes per person, on the concerns that need to be addressed in a manner that prioritizes public safety and respect for our community.

Following the meeting, the Board of Commissioners are now taking the input and forming a work group to produce suggestions and answers to help with illegal camping.



The standing room only crowd heard speakers testify on the impacts of illegal camping at Chetco Grange.

## Clackamas Pomona to Hold Candidates' Forum

Clackamas Pomona Grange #1 will be hosting a Candidates' Forum on May 3, 2026. The forum will be at Abernethy Grange 15745 S. Harley Ave. Oregon City. Doors will open at 1 p.m. Lunch and beverages will be available during an informal time to meet the candidates and your neighbors for about an hour.

We expect the whole event to wrap up at about 5 p. m. All ten candidates for Clackamas County Commissioner have been invited to participate.

Clackamas County Grangers are encouraged to create a question. The committee is asking that county Granges email a question for the candidates to Dan Keeley at [djkeeleystpaultel.com](mailto:djkeeleystpaultel.com) for consideration. Any questions having to do with county governance are welcome.

At 2 p.m. the formal forum will begin. All candidates will be given equal time to introduce themselves and their platforms. There will be questions and candidates will be given the opportunity to answer and



### All Grangers are invited OSG Legislative Forum Zoom Meeting

When: Wednesday April 22 @ 7 pm PDT  
 Wednesday May 27 @ 7 pm PDT  
 Where: Zoom

The OSG Legislative Committee will lead a discussion on current legislative issues, ballot measures and Grange resolution developing. The next month Granges should finish writing resolutions to be considered at state convention.

Contact: Legislative Director  
 Mark Noah  
 login information  
[marknoah00@gmail.com](mailto:marknoah00@gmail.com)



### We Want Your Email

The Oregon State Grange would like to update members via email once or twice a month. This will be cost effective and allow us to notify members of immediate legislative issues and upcoming events from Community Granges and the State Grange.

We are missing email addresses for many of our members. To make this an effective strategy, we must update our member records with current, active email addresses.

Please send an email to: [ShelseaC@orgrange.org](mailto:ShelseaC@orgrange.org)  
 Include your name, Grange and email address.

## Legislative Update

**Mark Noah**  
marknoah00@gmail.com  
OSG Legislative Director



The deadline to submit a resolution for the 2026 Oregon State Grange convention is Monday April 22 so if your Grange meets early in the month, it might be too late. Or is it? Never be discouraged, there might still be a way! If a Pomona meets after April 22 they have a different due date, either 30 days prior to session or May 15, whichever is longer, so you could send your resolution to that Pomona for consideration.

A question arose recently that relates to the last sentence above—can I just send my resolution to any Grange or Pomona, willy-nilly, and ask them to consider it? Yes, you can, but it would simply be a communication, to be read by the Secretary, no further action required. A member could make a motion to adopt the resolution, or accept it for consideration, or the resolution could just lie there without action. Even if the resolution is properly signed and sealed, they are just offering it to your Grange for possible consideration; your subordinate/community Grange is not obligated to act. If your Grange does choose to adopt the resolution it would then be from your Grange and if you send it to your Pomona, or to OSG, that is when it would need your Grange's President/Secretary signatures and seal.

And on the subject of legislation, Grange Day at the Legislature was held on March 4 and the OSG group in the senate gallery was recognized during 'courtesies' at the opening of the day's session. We were able to observe some actual debate on the senate floor



Above: Grangers in the Oregon Senate gallery were recognized during 'courtesies' at the opening of the day's session during Grange Day at the Legislature. They were able to observe some actual debate on the senate floor before returning to the OSG office for lunch. Those in attendance look forward to next year's Grange Day.

before returning to the OSG office for lunch. As this year was a short session and due to end just two days after our visit, we did not have a guest legislator at lunch but the day was a success nonetheless and we look forward to next year's Grange Day.

We will soon be spending the better part of a week discussing and debating resolutions, but what happens afterwards? What action will take place as a result of adoption? If a resolution actually directs that a letter or letters be sent that will be done, and of course the policy handbook is updated. Beyond that, our lobbyist and legislative team try to be aware of trending issues to which Grange policy might apply but if you have written a resolution about an issue that you care about, stay tuned in to that issue and let us know when you see an opportunity for the Oregon State Grange to make a statement, send a letter, or submit testimony to the legislature. And be sure to do the same yourself, legislators prize contact from their constituents above generic emails from outside their district.

We have interesting Zoom Legislative Forums monthly, and even if you can't attend the Zoom you can get on the email list and if you're on it, you'll receive notes from the meeting and any other updates that come along. We Zoom on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 7pm most months but combine a couple months into one session in Summer and around the Holidays.

Hope to see many of you this June in Baker City!

## Veterans

**Patrick Dearth**  
soudad21@gmail.com  
Oregon State Grange Veterans Director



Hello Brother and Sister

As we all know that the United States is involved in a campaign alongside Israel, Jordan, and others against Iran. As our men and women start maneuvers, we should put them in our prayers.

We can also help by putting together care packages and sending them to their bases; these care packages can consist of books, deodorant, foot powder, toothpaste, candy, or other snacks. These packages are much appreciated by our service men and women.

I would like to challenge the

## Camas Valley Vets Remembered

Camas Valley Grange #521, Douglas County, got names of Veterans from the local churches and they mailed out about twenty cards Grangers had made.

One of their members just happened to have a few cards left in her car, and gave them to Veterans that she saw at the local super market. What a blessing to them and she felt blessed by their shock and gratitude.

Granges from Oregon to support the military personnel. With such a donation. You can send them to detachment from different bases by calling that base to find out who is in the Middle East and send them to that base in care of what detachment is over there.

Also, remember to send in your Veterans of the Year applications in care of Suzy at the Oregon State Grange. We will choose the winners at State Grange in Baker City.

Let's all pray for our men and women in harm's way that God may protect them.



Camas Valley Grangers making cards for local veterans.

## Lane County Remembers Veterans on Valentines Day

Granges from Lane County made over 950 Valentines for Veterans. They were distributed to the Eugene Veterans Clinic, which includes the Roseburg VA Hospital and the North Bend facility. More than 350 Valentines were given to the Lebanon Veterans Home, where there are over 150 residents.

Ada Grange also distributed Valentines to Veterans in their local area. Other Grangers that participated in making cards were Creswell, Crow, Goshen, Lowell, Lorane, Mohawk-McKenzie, Thurston, and Walterville.



L-r: Grangers delivering the Valentines were Mary Lambert, Brenda Hassler, Liz Dehne, and Linda Wetzell. Valentines Day is a National Salute Day for all Veterans.

Creswell Grange members got together Saturday, January 24, to make Valentines for Veterans. The Grange supplied a huge variety of card making supplies and members had fun making about 150 cards.



## Grange Youth & Young Adults



Amanda Puls  
OSG Youth & Young Adult Director



Hello Youth and Young Adults,

We hope everyone has had a great winter and is staying healthy during this challenging cold and flu season. In many areas, it seems like everyone has been getting hit pretty hard.

As we begin looking ahead to the State Convention, we wanted to send out a few reminders.

If you are interested in serving as a Youth State Officer, please be sure let us know prior to State Convention. Submitting your name early is very helpful, as it allows us to get a better idea of how many youth and young adults will be joining us. Youth and Young Adult membership includes individuals ages 14–35, and anyone within that range is welcome to join. Serving as a Youth State Officer is a great way to be involved at State Convention, and we would love to see many of you participate and gives you the honor of opening the daily session of the convention on Wednesday morning.

We also encourage everyone to review the contest book that was sent out in March and consider which contests you might like to enter this year. It would be wonderful to see strong

youth participation. As a reminder, even if you are unable to attend the State Convention, you can still participate in the contests by sending your entry with someone from your area who will be attending.

Goodie Basket tickets will also be arriving soon. Granges should keep an eye out for these tickets in the mail.

On another note, as times change, it is also time to welcome some new faces to the Youth and Young Adults Committee. New ideas and fresh energy are important as we continue to grow and strengthen the Youth and Young Adults program. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please reach out to the OSG President at [president@orgrange.org](mailto:president@orgrange.org). You do not need to be within the 14–35 age range to serve on the committee—just young at heart!

We look forward to seeing many of you at the State Convention.



*This issue's column was written by District 4 Youth Chairman, Breanna Hays-McKay.*



## GROW Club

"Go Right On Working"



Mark Noah  
OSG GROW Club President  
[marknoah00@gmail.com](mailto:marknoah00@gmail.com)

Here's a quick note from your Oregon State Grange GROW Club. We're still here!

By invitation of District #5 we will once again be representing as the officer team for the Fifth Degree at the annual Oregon State Convention in Baker City this June. Our club president, Mark Noah, has offered to lead the team again, and has asked for a response from those who filled positions last year to speak up as to whether they will be in attendance AND willing to do 'their part' for the degree. Several have reached out, but we still need to hear from the rest of you! If you have an interest in assisting with the degree whether you are a GROW Club member or not, reach out to Mark and let him know you are interested. If you've been keeping up, we include FOGY (Friend

of Grange Youth) in our events.

Conferral of the Fifth Degree and other ritual assistance is something that the members of this group really enjoy doing for our Brothers and Sisters. The offer is still open to help out. If your Pomona has not put on the Fifth Degree and would like to help your Subordinate/Community Grange members achieve this honor, let us know.

There is a pretty good chance that we will have an informal gathering of all the Oregon State Grange GROW Club members in attendance at Baker City this June. If you represented Oregon at National Grange through the Youth Department in the past and have been thinking about attending, but haven't decided yet, this could be your sign. "JOIN US!"



### Be an Oregon State Grange Youth Office Grange Youth and Young Adults

- Are you between the ages of 13.5 and 35?
- Are you considering attending all or part of the 2026 Oregon State Grange convention in June in Baker City?
- Would you be interested in serving as a State Youth officer?

If so, please contact the Oregon State Grange youth committee at [office@orgrange.org](mailto:office@orgrange.org) and mention the position you are interested in.

#### 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 2	10:30 AM	New Bridge Grange
Benton #36	April 18	10:00 AM	Summitt Grange
Clackamas #1	April 25	9:30 AM	Clarkes Grange
Columbia #18	May 2	10:00 AM	Natal Grange
Deschutes #25	May 9	11:30 AM	Little Deschutes Grange
Douglas #13	April 19	4:00 PM	Riversdale Grange
Josephine #20	May 30	10:00 AM	Fruitdale Grange
Lane #14	April 11	10:00 AM	Spencer Creek Grange
Linn #12	April 11	10:00 AM	Lacomb Grange
Polk #3	April 11	11:00 AM	Oak Grove Grange
Wallowa #22		5:30 PM	TBA
Washington-Yamhill #2	April 18	10:00 AM	Tigard Grange



*L: Some of the 43 pies auctioned off a Columbia Pomona's 1st quarter meeting which raised \$5456 for the museum improvements.*

## Columbia Pomona Museum Project

The Grange Farm Museum on the Columbia County Fairgrounds was the dream of Arnold Tarbell, and groundbreaking happened in the 1980's. It currently has just gravel flooring, lighting is via extension cords to fluorescent light fixture and the doors are in a very hazardous condition. Major fund-raising and grant applications are under way to cover what is believed to be about \$55,000 total with gravel, concrete, electrical upgrades, and door repair/replacement.

The community response has been incredible with an outpouring (or in pouring) of cash donations, and tireless work by Eva Frost and Evelyn Hudson applying for various local and cultural/historical grants. They have made many personal face-to-face meetings and phone calls to potential bidders and grant sources. One of the grants they did receive was from the America 250 Oregon Grant in the amount of \$3,000.

Sincere thanks to everyone for the incredible support of the "Pie Auction" at our February 7th Pomona meeting. Their goal of \$2,500 was more than doubled, raising an amazing \$5,456.00 on just 43 pies! It was truly a fun and memorable event. A

special thank you to Deer Island for the wonderful idea and for promoting the pie auction. Another thank you to Yankton for hosting Pomona and allowing the extended time to make the auction such a success. Mark Kuhn did a fabulous (and entertaining) job as Auctioneer.

The Pomona is approximately \$15,000 short of the goal for completing the concrete work, electrical upgrades, and the barn door repairs. While they have several grants pending, they have not all been approved or received, so the fund-raising efforts continue. Warren Grange is planning a fundraiser in conjunction with their May 9th breakfast. It is hoped that each Columbia County Grange will hold a fund-raising event to help continue building support for the Grange Farm Museum improvement project.

To keep the project moving forward, work will be completed in phases. The plan is to begin with portions of the electrical work and move on to the concrete once additional funds are available. They will need to move everything back into the museum as soon as possible after the concrete cures, to make the beef barn and museum accessible for the fair in mid-July.

# OSG Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 by President Sonny Hays-Eberts. The following were present: VP Steve Kroeker, Sec Mark Noah, EC Susan Noah, EC Joyce Parker, EC Vickie High  
Visitors present: Dean High

## Prior Meeting Minutes

- August 3, 2025 EC Meeting Minutes corrected and approved

## Financial Reports

- Loan and membership reports—Granges are current on their loan payments. Silverton and Aloha are paid off, Morningstar made a large payment.
- Membership—we have gained in the past two quarters and we could end the year with a net gain! Pleasant Valley #348 may be declared dormant soon; they have 19 members on the rolls but 16 life members. There will be an attempt to reorganize.
- VISA Bill reviewed by the Executive Committee. Vickie moved to approve the Visa bill. Second by Susan and the motion carried.
- Accounting Statement—total assets (including trust funds) exceed \$5mil for the first time. We did see a positive return on investments this past month. Susan discussed the planned 12/31/25 end of the GIA supportive membership contract with National Grange. Oregon has been placing our share of the payment in our Leadership Membership fund but these annual contributions will likely end after this year. We still show a fund for the memorial project and discussed progress. Sonny will review with the project committee chairman.

## Scott Barker joined the meeting via Zoom at approximately 9:30

- Portfolio review: in the past quarter we were up almost 10% which was somewhat unexpected given the current state of things; reviewed individual portfolio components with regard to performance vs comparative indices.
- Scott recommends replacing our DFA Small Cap investment with Vanguard Strategic Small-Cap Fund. Motion by Vickie, second by Steve, to make this change. The motion carried.
- Scott asks about the Russellville sale, it is still in progress. Discusses our current cash position, we probably will not need to withdraw anything for operating expenses before the end of the year.

## Old Business

- Russellville – Grant process slowed down because of the federal government shutdown, new ETA is Jan/Feb. The seller

is putting a temp roof membrane on the hall at no cost to us.

- Fairfield – Maplewood took refrigerators, OSG took 48 star flag to preserve, nothing else of value. Martin listed the property for sale. Issue regarding well location and west property boundary exists but since the buyer owns the adjacent property these are no longer areas of concern, so no need to survey.
- Triangle Lake – Process delayed due to new board members, Sonny is working with Pam Alley of Triangle Lake Grange on another meeting.
- Rickreall – loan addition completed, new payment schedule sent, they have been making payments regularly. They have a functional restroom now. They have been charged property tax for the food cart on their property because it is there permanently. The cost is approximately \$250/yr and they will pass this along to the food cart owner.
- Moss Adams/Baker Tilly completed tax returns. 1099s will be sent after the first of the year as needed.
- RFP template for audits sent to nearly a dozen firms. 4 Proposals received, 4 others notified they would decline. We discussed proposals from Jones&Roth, Pauly Rogers & Co, KernuttStokes, bakertilly (formerly Moss Adams). Pricewise, our current firm falls in the middle of the range of prices provided in these proposals. Vickie moved that we stay with our current firm, Bakertilly. Susan seconded. There was discussion. The vote was taken with President Sonny abstaining; In favor: Susan, Mark, Vickie, and Steve. Opposed, Joyce. The motion carried.
- RFP for Ag-Fest sent to Sunbow, Herrick Farms, notice placed in Bulletin for any others wishing to supply. Specific instructions are in the RFP and the Bulletin article. This is for the seedlings we give out during Ag-Fest. Joyce has talked to a couple FFA groups about growing the seedlings.
- Heritage Project – no progress to date. Sonny has asked Jay to train office staff in October to do the scanning and documentation. Joyce would like to be a part of this training so she can work with Foundation documents.
- 990 restorations – Roxy Ann is diligently working on this, it is a very long and involved form. Roxy Ann sent us the completed 1024 form for the State Office to file on their behalf. It was filed 12 hours before the government shutdown so it is hoped it was properly received. Four Granges remaining still need to attend to this—Multnomah, Fair-

view, Cherry Park, and Bandon. Sonny has communicated with them.

- Sixes asked us to annually file their 990-N, it was done for this year but Oregon State Grange office doesn't offer this as an ongoing service, Granges must notify annually if they need help filing. Suzy is working on ensuring all Granges are filed.
- Spence Scholarship for Laura Coen has been sent to WOU.
- Agreement signed with BHS for 2026 Convention. We have the site for all day Friday through all day the following Thursday. Sonny has calculated costs and the best deal will be to use a U-Haul truck again. There was discussion about hiring helpers to load and unload the truck, the consensus was that we should look into this.
- Purchased Yamaha MG20 20 channel soundboard for convention use.
- Past Officer pins received.

## New Business

- Picking up on deed notice of restriction (a project begun in 2014/2015). Baker and Marion filed. Sonny was advised by the OSG attorney that our bylaws constitute a contractual obligation which is sufficient justification to file in Clackamas, Washington & Jefferson. Just Filed; Curry, Jackson, Josephine. To-Do Wheeler, Lake, and Malheur.
- District 1 kickoff meeting planned for November at Redwood. Jill Hamm is Host Chair.
- Bonding, Holiday Open House, and Leadership workshop notices sent with Q3 reports.
- The Leadership Workshop at Marys River had 38 in attendance, very well received, Sonny is planning to replicate in other areas of the state.
- 2 Resolutions received. Confirmation that Marilyn will not be serving on the Progress Committee. Sonny has asked Jeanie Force to be chair and is awaiting a response.
- Matching Grants committee report reviewed. Central Point's application for \$2524 was the first out, this is their third try and the Grant committee opinion was generally favorable though there were some reservations. Approval would have put the grant fund over budget by approximately \$2000. Susan moved to approve Central Point's application. Vickie seconded the motion. Various other grant applications were discussed. The vote was taken and the motion carried. Steve moved to approve the Grant Committee's report with the addition of Central Point. Susan seconded and the motion carried.
- OSU Small Farms conference—

in the past we have registered as a Silver Sponsor at a cost of \$1000 which includes 2 full day registrations, one vendor table, and our logo on their promotional materials. Ag Director June Colony intends to participate. Sonny has talked to some in the local ag industry about also helping with our table. Steve moves that we purchase a Silver level sponsorship at the stated cost of \$1000, sponsorship to be funded from Leadership-Membership account; Susan and Vickie seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- Community Service Director Liz Dehne has resigned. A search is underway for her replacement. Potentials were discussed.
- Joyce moved that we use the money obtained from State Dept of the Treasury Unclaimed Funds, that was owed to the late GMIC, to offer each Community/Subordinate and Pomona Grange in Oregon \$125 credit towards OSG dues if they send their current certificate of insurance or declaration page showing property and or liability insurance to OSG within the first quarter of 2026. Seconded by Vickie. The motion carried.

## End Executive Session

- The Executive Committee voted to increase hourly pay for OSG staff by 5%, and to increase the amount we pay Suzy for the bulletin by \$150 per regular issue (6 issues per year).

## Email Business

- Pay for Past Officer pins from Leadership/Membership fund;
- Fruitdale Custodial Funds Request \$2484.99.63
- List Fairfield for \$125,000, per Martin's recommendation
- Approve Fairfield sale to Rebecca Lucas for \$100,000
- Approve Kinton withdrawal of \$7329.45 in custodial funds to repair water damage
- Approve Eagle Point withdrawal of \$8500.00 in custodial funds to repair water damage
- Susan moved to ratify the decisions made via email. Joyce seconded and the motion carried.

## Presidents Report

- President Sonny Hays-Eberts gave his report.

## Next Meetings:

**March 22**  
**May 31, both at 9am.**

Meeting adjourned 1:07pm.

Mark Noah, Secretary

## America 250—Oregon What is and how can Granges be involved?

The mission of the America 250 Oregon Commission is to coordinate, provide guidance, and ensure that Oregon's official observance of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States is inclusive and shares the histories of Oregon's diverse populations, including the histories of the Indigenous peoples who have resided here since time immemorial. SB 1531, which was adopted by the 82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly in March 2024 and signed into law by Gov. Tina Kotek, created the America 250 Oregon Commission.

The commission has adopted the following guidepost to ensure that its mission to celebrate 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence is relevant and meaningful to Oregonians across our state.

### Guideposts

- To inspire Oregonians to participate in the work of forming a more perfect union.
- To highlight the importance of civics and history education in building a better future.
- To highlight the work of Oregon's many history and heritage organizations.
- To encourage a robust, thorough, and honest examination of our collective history.
- To celebrate the unique traditions, arts, and cultures of communities throughout Oregon.
- To honor the service and sacrifice made by Oregon's veterans.
- To celebrate the power of place through Oregon's remarkable landscapes and scenic beauty.

Granges can plan events to celebrate and have them be recognized at America250 Oregon events. The

events planned must meet one of the seven guideposts. To date, at least two Oregon Granges have had events listed on the calendar of events - Coburg Community Grange #535 with its open house and dedication of the murals on March 7<sup>th</sup> and upcoming will be the Annual Community Fair and Car Show at Springwater Grange #263 on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Whether you are planning a lecture, festival, exhibition, performance, community conversation, or something entirely unique; the commission wants to hear from you and include you in the calendar of community events. Make sure your event aligns with at least one of the America 250 Oregon guideposts; the foundational values guiding the semi quinquennial commemoration effort in Oregon and then apply online to have your event added to the calendar. The website address to submit applications is <https://www.oregon250.org/event-submission-guidelines/>

An easy event for all Granges to participate in would be the **America's Potluck** at your Grange hall or at a community park. Join your neighbors for a nationwide communal meal on Sunday, July 5, 2026, as part of America250 "America's Potluck." This initiative invites communities to slow down, share food, and connect across differences; fostering belonging, conversation, and unity. Inspired by the tradition of Sunday dinner, participants are encouraged to host or co-host a potluck in their neighborhood, complete with conversation prompts, state-specific recipes, and community decorations. Whether across the street or across town, America's Potluck is about building bridges and celebrating community.

## Siletz Tribal Charitable Fund Gives Grant to Lane County Grange

Central Grange #360, Lane County, received a Charitable Contribution Fund Award on February 6, 2026.

The Grange is so grateful to the tribe! They are now able to do some wiring and put in a heat pump.



L-r: back row - Daniel Wirtala, Treasurer; Lloyd Anderson, Vice President and Shelly Guilford, President; front row - Barbara Neuhaus, Ag. Chair; Levana Appletree, Community Service Chair; Beth Anderson, Steward; Raye Henderson, Secretary, and Gerald Armstrong, guest.

## What's More American Than Pie?

### White Clover Grange

Celebrating its 16<sup>th</sup> annual Pie Day on February 7, White Clover Grange #784, Tillamook County, used a theme of Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday, America. The program began with a rousing 26-specialty pie auction, followed by the auctioneer inviting attendees to take a first pass at the pie buffet, where another 30 luscious pies were divided into sampling portions, topped with Tillamook vanilla ice cream.



Grange member Gail Nelson welcomed auctioneer Chip MacGregor to the stage as Bob LaTorre (left) and Scott Wagner (right) trumpet his arrival. Photo Credit: Trav Williams, Broken Banjo Photography

Adding in the entry fee paid by attendees, and donations from event sponsors, a total of approximately \$11,000 was raised. These funds will help to finance projects around the Grange hall.

### Yankton Grange Pi Day Pie Fest

Yankton Grange #301, Columbia County, is celebrating their 125th Anniversary this year with a variety of events. On March 14, Yankton had their Second Annual Pi Day Pie Fest, featuring a delicious selection of homemade pies set to the tune of 3.14159. Around here, 3.14 is best served warm.



The highest grossing pie at Springwater was a Coconut Cream for \$230.

On June 6, 2026, come hungry for the all-you-can-eat Annual Strawberry Pancake Breakfast, 8 - 11 am.

### Creswell Grange

Creswell Grange #496, Lane County, celebrated National Pie Month with a Free Community Pie Social on Saturday, February 28. About 80 people attended the event, which featured a variety of pies, games for kids, and a silent auction that raised over \$600. Creswell members gathered the day before the event to bake pies, and many of them contributed items to the silent auction.

### Springwater's Scholarship Pie Auction

In the end it was the best night ever as Springwater Grange #263, Clackamas County, held their Scholarship Pie Auction on Friday February 27th. The evening started with a potluck dinner followed pie viewing and then the auction.

Over \$6500, the best night ever, was earned with the top pie, a very large Coconut Cream pie, going for \$230. All proceeds from the evening go to the scholarship fund for college students and grants for local educators.



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  
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