

GRANGE MATTERS

July - August 2019

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter from Pomona of
Whatcom County

Pomona Haynie Laurel Lummi Is.

N. Bellingham Rome Ten Mile

STATE CONVENTION NEWS

At the 130th Washington State Grange (WSG) Convention in Okanogan, Alexis Kudsk (*below*) was elected to the office of WSG Pomona for the next two years. She also became this year's Youth Ambassador of the WSG and will represent us at the National Grange Convention this coming November, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Alexis is a member of Haynie Grange #169.



Congratulations to Travis Bates from Ten Mile Grange #399. His photo (*top of next column*) won Best of Class and Best of Show at the 2019 WSG Convention. His photo will go on to Minnesota, in November, to compete in the photography contest at the National Grange Convention.



Oren Gaskill (*below L*) received the Best of Show award from State Lecturer Leslie Jo Wells (*below R*) after winning the Talent Show at this year's WSG Convention in Okanogan. In November, Oren will travel to the National Grange Convention in Minnesota to perform his vocal act during the Evening of Excellence. He is a member of Ten Mile Grange #399.



Grange Meetings

Lummi Island 1st Wednesday

N. Bellingham 1st Thursday; no meeting until Sept.

Rome 2nd Wednesday

Ten Mile 2nd Thursday

Laurel 2nd Saturday

Haynie 2nd and 4th Fridays

Haynie Grange Schedule

July

5 - Regular Meeting

12 & 13 - Haynie Opry – *A Tribute to Elvis*

August

2 - Regular Meeting

9 & 10 - Haynie Opry

Ten Mile Grange News

In April, Ten Mile Grange gave away 25 dictionaries for the “Words for Thirds” project to the Lummi Nation School 3rd grade class. Gary Brandt spearheaded the project for Ten Mile, as he is a teacher at the Lummi Nation School. Those in attendance to present the dictionaries were Ten Mile Master Pete Hauck, Steward Gary Brandt, Treasurer Oren Gaskill and Lecturer Jean Hauck. The children and teachers were delighted to receive the dictionaries and expressed their gratitude to be included in such a worthwhile program.

Pictured in the photo below are: Katy Vance-Teacher, Oren Gaskill-Treasurer, Pete Hauck-Master, Jean Hauck-Lecturer, Gary Brandt-Steward, and Kathryn Candanoza-Teacher.

Lew Gaskill, Ten Mile Secretary





Lynden Fair August 12-17 Fair Booth

It's time for Grange members to sign up for hosting the Grange Booth at the NW WA Fair in Lynden, August 12-17. Answering questions and visiting with Fair visitors for a 3 hour shift will get you FREE admission to the Fair. Four daily shifts of two people per shift need to be filled: 10 - 1; 1 - 4; 4 - 7; and 7 - 10.

Sign-ups have started for shifts to volunteer in the Grange Display area at the Northwest Washington Fair. . Call or text Scott Hackett (360) 305-4556 or email shackett@live.com or contact Cindy Kudsk (360) 305-4410.

Plus, YOUR Grange is preparing a booth display for the Fair; contact your individual Grange to help out with design/setup/take-down.

FLOWER SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

The annual Flower Show was held at **Laurel Grange** on June 18th, with 59 entries.



Best of Show - Edith Ward, Laurel - Vines, Shrubs & Trees: Climbing White Rose



Group photo of all the Best of Class winners (L to R)
Velda Gile, Ten Mile - Perennials: Lavender
Velda Gile, Ten Mile - Annuals: Calendula
Edith Ward, Laurel - Vines, Shrubs & Trees: Climbing White Rose
Penny Mumford, Laurel - Arrangements: Muzzy Tuzzy
Clysta Hawks, Laurel - House Plants: Shamrock
Carol Wilson, N. B'ham - Yard Plants: Hanging Basket



Shelley Macy, Ten Mile, wearing her entry in the Just for Fun Non-Flower contest, using a potato, plastic utensils, and an assortment of ribbons & fluff!

STATE CONVENTION FROM A FIRST – TIMER'S VIEW

James Markarian, Delegate for North Bellingham Grange

This experience was a great opportunity for a new Grange Member. To see, first hand, how the Grange works in its orderly processes and meet so many Grangers from all over the State and a few National level officers. In addition, to understand how and why the Grange supports legislation in this state and observe how the next generation of Grangers are coming through the organization.

Specific Observations – In preparation for the votes on resolution I studied the items and made many notes on the day before the Convention.

1. During the voting I was nearly 100% aligned with the huge majority with one exception on the issue of FDA Drugs. This vote was highly debated, and many seemed to miss the point on this very complex issue. My position was that FDA should be held accountable to work with foreign companies to streamline US approval for less expensive drugs and not simply have an open ban on these. The floor was split on the issue.
2. On the resolution on Climate Change offered by the Ten Mile Grange – During the earlier Committee Meetings, I supported and successfully contributed to a rewrite of the resolution that took the focus of a the singular problem of Climate Change and the wording that would have made it a political football to showcasing how WA farmers are addressing all manner of challenges with “best practices” and getting these accomplishments to educate the general public. This approach was well received and led to an amendment to the resolution which passed without issue on the floor vote.
3. The process and orderly conduct of the Convention was elegant and masterly performed in every manner from adherence to Roberts Rules to the ritual practices. Tom Gwin, State Master did an over-the-top

job and a significant lesson for me as a new Grange member.

4. The presence of youth groups from the youngest Juniors to the Youth, to the young adults present was a breath of fresh air and left me with hope that the next generation is coming along. The issue of revitalization of Granges was a topic throughout the convention and some Granges have found the key to expanding in the younger crowds.
5. The recognition of Veterans was a delightful ceremony with the Quilt of Honor program. The program focus was in recognition of military service.
6. Lastly the sense of family was ever present and examples of respectful discussion. While America tears itself apart with polarization and emotional exchanges this behavior was completely absent. Of particular note was in the election of officers to the State Grange positions where all candidates were suitable for winning, there were no extreme choices. Additionally it was touching to observe the award to Shirley Ward from Chumstick Grange #819, who had been a key in developing youth in the Grange since 1949, and hear of her dedication and service over that time.



Key Take-A-Ways

1. A Grange that does not change cannot grow.
2. The youth are the future, invest in them.
3. Make the Grange relevant and seek State assistance
4. Promote the Grange in local communities and see how other Granges are growing.