

# GRANGE MATTERS

## May - June 2019

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter from Pomona of  
Whatcom County

Pomona Haynie Laurel Lummi Is.

N. Bellingham Rome Ten Mile

### Laurel Grange News

On our summer schedule, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 6pm  
potluck, meeting to follow.

We delivered 134 dictionaries to the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders at  
Irene Reither Primary.

At the Fair this year we again will present belt  
buckles in the Round Robin, for the FFA and 4H.  
This year there will be 4 buckles presented, large  
animal and small (boy and girl). If you/your Grange  
want to contribute funds to help pay for the buckles,  
let us know.

### Haynie Grange News

The **Haynie Opry** hosted by Matt Audette (360-366-  
3321) & Circle of Friends Band: June, July, August  
will have two evening shows 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday and  
Saturday at 7:00. Main show \$10. July will high-  
light Elvis. Gospel Matinee (Saturdays) 3:00 \$5

### Haynie Grange Schedule

#### May

- 10 - Regular Meeting - 7:30
- 11 - Haynie Opry - 7:00 - \$10
- 12 - Mother's Day Breakfast - 8 to Noon - \$6

#### June

- 7 - Haynie Opry - 7:00 - \$10
- 8 - Haynie Opry - 7:00 - \$10
- 9 - 4-H Breakfast - 8 to Noon
- 14 - Regular Meeting - 7:30

### Rome Grange News

Breakfast 1st Sun 8am to noon \$6

### Grange Meetings:

- Lummi Island 1st Wednesday
- N. Bellingham 1st Thursday (no meeting J/J/A)
- Rome 2nd Wednesday
- Ten Mile 2nd Thursday
- Laurel 2nd Saturday
- Haynie 2nd and 4th Fridays

## Pomona Lecturer Contest

We had 33 entries, 15 of those received Purple and  
will go on to State. Lew Gaskell's photo of her cat,  
looking out the window, won Best of Show in the  
Photos.



Janet Maricle's hand woven table mat won her  
Best of Show in the Arts & Crafts.



Other Purple Ribbons went to William Salas for an  
oil painting; Tami Maricle, drawing of an owl; Lew  
Gaskell knit hat; Tami Maricle, masks of fall colors  
and feathers; Merle Suian, a bearded and lace lamp  
shade; Gary Brandt, a wooden robot; Penny  
Mumford, a rock carving of a dragon.

Photo entries with Purple were Jeff Bates, sunset;  
Travis Bates (3), dog on beach, girlfriend on beach  
and blood moon; Lew Gaskell (2), a rose, and her  
cat; Penny Mumford, a tree's bark.

Thank you everyone and best of luck at State...

Pomona Lecturer,  
Penny Mumford

### Lynden Fair August 12-17 Fair Booth Line Up:

#1 Juniors, #2 Ten Mile, #3 Rome, #4 Laurel,  
#5 Haynie, #6 Lummi Island, #7 Pomona  
Set up Sat 10<sup>th</sup> & Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 9am - 10pm  
Pick up Sun 18<sup>th</sup> 9am - noon.

**Pomona Flower Show** is June 18<sup>th</sup> at Laurel Grange; entries open at 10am, close at 1pm. Potluck that evening at 6pm with the meeting starting at 7pm.

AND yes, time for another fun contest . . . . . Do you have plastic utensil hanging around in your kitchen?? Then you have the makings for this year's contest! Gather up a few of those, decorate the ends (the eating end) use yarn ribbon, stickers, glue on eyes, then cut a potato in half place the cut end down on a paper plate, stick the handle end of the utensils in the potato (you might have to poke a hole first) there you just made an arrangement for the contest!!!!



## STATE CONVENTION

June 26 to 29, Omak Fairgrounds

### A Little Grange History

*Thank you, James "Jay": Markarian, Rome Grange*

President [Andrew Johnson](#) commissioned [Oliver Kelley](#) to go to the Southern states and to collect data to improve Southern agricultural conditions. In the South, poor farmers bore the brunt of the Civil War and were suspicious of Northerners like Kelley. Kelley found he was able to overcome these sectional differences as a [Mason](#). With Southern Masons as guides, he toured the war-torn countryside in the South and was appalled by the outdated farming practices. He saw the need for an organization that would bring people from the North and South together in a spirit of mutual cooperation and, after many letters and consultations with the other founders, the Grange was born.<sup>[1]</sup> The first Grange, Grange #1, was founded in 1868 in [Fredonia, New York](#).<sup>[2]</sup> Seven men and one woman co-founded the Grange: [Oliver Hudson Kelley](#), [William Saunders](#), [Francis M. McDowell](#), [John Trimble](#), [Aaron B. Grosh](#), [John R. Thompson](#), [William M. Ireland](#), and [Caroline Hall](#).<sup>[3]</sup>

Paid agents organized local Granges and membership in the Grange increased dramatically from 1873 (200,000) to 1875 (858,050). Many of the state and local granges adopted non-partisan political resolutions, especially regarding the regulation of railroad transportation costs. The organization was unusual at this time, because women and any teen old enough to draw a plow were encouraged to participate. The importance of women was reinforced by requiring that four of the elected positions could be held only by women.<sup>[4]</sup>



1967 U.S. postage stamp honoring the National Grange

Rapid growth infused the national organization with money from dues, and many local granges established consumer [cooperatives](#), initially supplied by the wholesaler [Aaron Montgomery Ward](#) (note – Ward was out of Chicago and in 1872 worked with the Grangers to get them supplies via the railroads networks unfolding in the West kind of like Amazon and FedEx/UPS). Poor fiscal management, combined with organizational difficulties resulting from rapid growth, led to a massive decline in membership. By the turn of the 20th century, the Grange rebounded and membership stabilized.

The Granger movement supported efforts by politicians to regulate rates charged by the railroads and grain warehouses. It claimed credit for the ideas of the [Cooperative Extension Service](#), [Rural Free Delivery](#), and the [Farm Credit System](#). The peak of their political reputation was marked by the Supreme Court decision in [Munn v. Illinois](#) (1877), which held that grain warehouses were a "private utility in the [public interest](#)," and so could be regulated by public law. However this achievement was overturned later by the Supreme Court in [Wabash v. Illinois](#) (1886).<sup>[5]</sup> The Grange also endorsed the [temperance cause to avoid alcohol](#), the [direct election of Senators](#) and [women's suffrage](#).

Grange membership has declined considerably as the percentage of American farmers has fallen from a third of the population in the early 20th century to less than two percent today. Between 1992 and 2007, the number of Grange members fell by 40%.<sup>[6]</sup> [Washington](#) has the largest membership of any state (in 2007), at approximately 13,000.