

IDAHO INSIGHTS

The latest news and updates from the Idaho State Grange

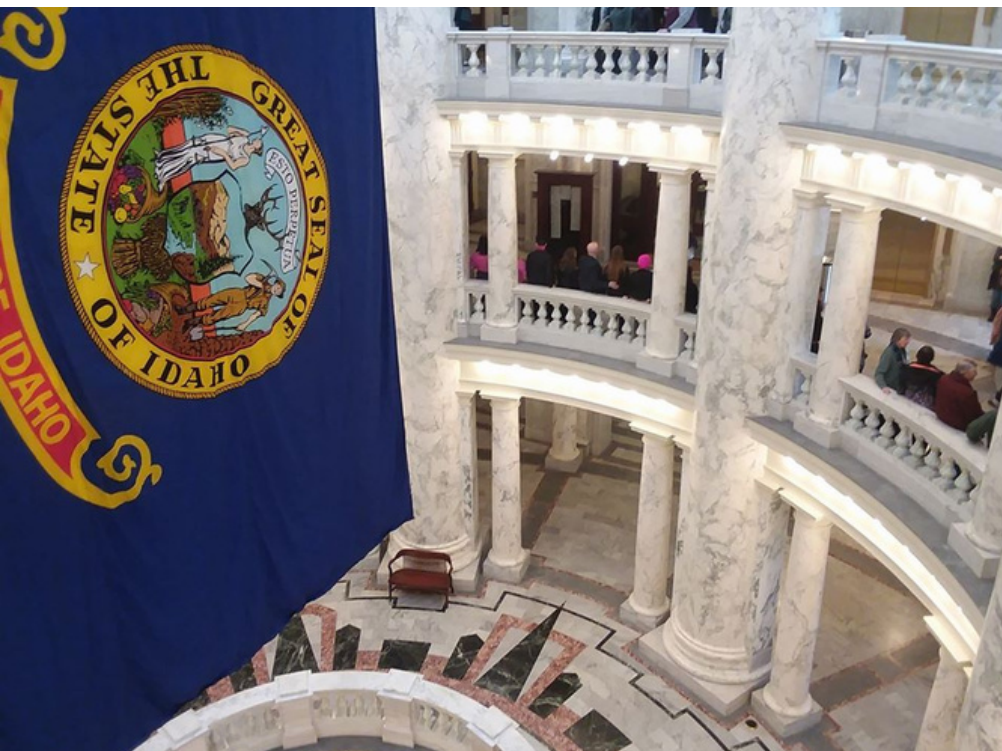


Photo by Michelle Gumm;
2020 Idaho State Capital Building Rotunda

IDAHO STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

by Wayne Foster,
Legislative Director

The 2021 Legislative session got off to a slow start. The committee meetings are being held differently than in the past years. This year a person can testify over the internet, in person, and in writing. When testifying in person, there are safety precautions because of the virus; it starts with limiting the group's size in the hearing. The session started on January 11, 2021, with Governor Little's State of the State, unlike any other.

The Governor did not speak to the joint session of the House and Senate as in the past; he delivered his address in the Lincoln Auditorium. After he was finished, the Legislature was off and running with the first items brought forward to the House and Senate. Six were concurrent resolutions to end the Governor's State of disaster emergency declaration and limit his powers and give the Legislature power to call itself into special session. These resolutions, if passed, would end the current emergency declaration as soon as both sides pass them.

Several pieces of legislation will benefit Idaho Agriculture, such as House Bill 51, which amends existing law to provide nutrient management standards for dairy farms. House Bill 126 amends and adds to existing law to establish provisions regarding industrial hemp. Senate Concurrent Resolution 104, states findings of the Legislature and supporting the change in the winter flood control rule curves of the Ririe Reservoir project to more properly balance Ririe Reservoir water supply and irrigation supplies with adequate flood control and Senate Bill 1023, which appropriates and transfers \$279,000 from the General Fund to the Pest Control Deficiency Fund for the fiscal year 2021 to name a few. For more information on Idaho Agriculture Legislation, you can go to the Food Producers of Idaho website at ["foodproducersofidaho.org"](http://foodproducersofidaho.org) and click on Weekly Green Sheet and see the weekly status of Agriculture Legislation or the Idaho Legislature website at ["legislature.idaho.gov"](http://legislature.idaho.gov) and look up all the legislation. You can also watch and listen to debating on the floor of the House and Senate as well as Committee Hearings.

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NEW! WORD SEARCH

"For there is always
light,
if only we're brave
enough to see it.
If only we're brave
enough to be it."

~Amanda Gorman

#CULTIVATINGCONNECTIONS

Idaho State Grange Officers

President: Eileen Javaux, Caldwell
Vice President: Dianne Holbart, Coeur d'Alene
Lecturer: Bonnie Mitson, Post Falls
Steward: Oscar Mooney, Coeur d'Alene
Assistant Steward: Joe Axtell, Rathdrum
Lady Assistant: Frances Robertson, Albion
Chaplain: Florence Galland, Middleton
Treasurer: Warren Eilers, Star
Secretary: Mary Ellen Decker, Post Falls
Gatekeeper: Gene Cox, Caldwell
Pomona: Colleen Foster, Wilder
Flora: Alissa Javaux, Boise
Ceres: LanaMarie Bear, Cascade

Executive Committee

Mary Ann Knight, Bellevue -Term Exp 2021
David Terbest, Priest River - Term Exp 2022
Arlene Ankenman, Meridian - Term Exp 2023

Directors

Family Activities: Arlene Ankenman
Community Service: Bonnie Mitson
Family Health/Deaf Awareness: Lily Sorenson
Membership: Don Heikkila - North
James Conrad- North
LanaMarie & John Bear - South
Agriculture: Gordon Moir
Legislative: Wayne Foster
Dave Terbest
Youth & Juniors: Colleen Foster

Deputies

District I: Wayne Foster
District II: Gordon Moir
District III: Scott Mitson & Jeannie Billmire

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Eileen Javaux, Co-Editor
Amber Obert, Co-Editor
"In essentials, Unity;
In non-essentials, Liberty
In all things, Charity"

President's Message

"Spring passes and one remembers one's innocence. Summer passes and one remembers one's exuberance. Autumn passes and one remembers one's reverence. Winter passes and one remembers one's perseverance." ~ YOKO ONO

Greetings,

I was once told the older you get; the faster time seems to go by; I am finding that so true, here we are in March, and spring is in the air as we look forward to spring when we begin to plant our gardens and groom our yards. During the past year, we all had to persevere with COVID -19. We have had challenges of holding meetings and events that help support our Granges. Across the State, our Granges have had some creative ideas to bring attention to their Granges. Granges have sponsored drive-by Christmas Lighting and Festivities, started Barn Quilt painting days, using their halls to pass out the farm to family boxes. Exposing our Granges to the public sparks interest in the Grange and will bring in new members.

Well done.

The perfect example of perseverance is the students at our schools. The students at my school were on the hybrid schedule until February 22nd, when all our students came back together. What a heart-warming experience to see the Elementary studies reunite with their friends with hugs, chatter, and excitement. As Grangers, we will have the same opportunity to come together when we can greet each other with a hug or two. I can almost imagine that it will be with the same noise level as the students had. We will persevere during the pandemic. This is not the first nor the last pandemic, flu, or other crisis we will have to overcome. Just remember "We Are in This Together!"

Resolutions are an important part of our Grange Legislative work. Research an important topic in your community that needs support or change, and write a resolution. Remember to make sure that it isn't already a law or policy of the National Grange. National Grange has a presentation on how to write resolutions correctly. Some topics for resolutions would be breaching dams and supporting the National Grange and Rebuild Rural Coalition. September 15th is the deadline to have the resolutions in the State Grange Office.

National Grange has sent a letter to President Biden acknowledging his Build Back Better in Rural America plan. The Coalition emphasized the state of our deteriorating rural infrastructure and thanked the President for including roads and bridges, locks, and dams, broadband, health care, railroads, electrical and water systems, housing, and land grant university research in his infrastructure plan. The Rural America Plan would have a positive impact for rural Idaho.

*Fraternally,
Eileen Javaux, President*

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Arlene Ankenman

Flyers have been sent out for this years contests. If you haven't gotten one from your family activities chairperson, let me know!

Don't forget to do your needlework and crafts while the weather is still chilly.

Baking Contest

- Brownies
- Quick Bread
- Caramel Corn



Needlework and Craft Contest

- Afghans
- Doilies
- Embroidery
- Needle Work Crafts
- Quilts
- Fidget Sleeves
- Sewing Crafts



Spring is just around the corner. Here's a line dance to keep those muscles in motion!

HEEL TAPS RIGHT & LEFT

- 1-4. Tap right heel in place four times
5-8. Repeat with left

HIP BUMPS LEFT TWICE, RIGHT TWICE, LEFT X4

- 1-4. Bump hips twice left, and twice right
5-8. Bump hips 4 times left

Another option to replace bumps you can go around the world (rotate hips in a circle motion left to right, weight ending on left)

WALK FORWARD X3, KICK LEFT, WALK BACK X3, TOUCH RIGHT

- 1-4 Walk forward right, left, right kick left
5-8 Walk back left, right, left, touch right beside left.

VINE RIGHT ¼ RIGHT & SCUFF, VINE LEFT TOUCH RIGHT

- 1-4 Vine to the right with a ¼ turn right and scuff
5-8. Vine to the left with a touch

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The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month."

~ Henry Van Dyke



"In the spring, I have counted
136 different kinds of
weather inside of 24 hours."



~Mark Twain



Moir's Musings

Gordon Moir



Since our little herd of seed stock Black Angus has been gone, I have become a livestock auction sale and coffee shop regular. Every Wednesday and Friday, I go to Idaho Falls and Blackfoot for the cattle auction sales. Over the last couple of years or so Rich Reid and I have got into the habit of taking turns of buying lunch at the Blackfoot Auction Cafe.

Some weeks ago during the end of the first crop harvest here, Rich and I and another fellow were in a general hay crop discussion when the topic of the Big Hole, Montana hay crop would be starting. Rich learned that I had never been there and he wouldn't let that go. The next morning about 8 am he called and said, "Let's take a ride to the Big Hole to see if they are cutting hay yet." We left here at 9:30 am. We took my car and he wouldn't let me stop until we got to Jackson, Montana. On the way to Jackson, we got to see the great crops of grass hay they had in that valley. We were there about two weeks early and it was hard to see the fence lines between fields. The only cattle we saw were the bulls that were in their pasture, as they were already finished with their breeding jobs for this season. At that time there was still lots of high snow on the Big Hole side of the Continental Divide. We also saw a couple of the last beaver slide hay stacking units. These were some of the last ones used, as they were built out of heavy pipe and steel.

We stopped in Jackson, Montana for lunch at a lodge type place where we walked in and you dealt with the motel people. A big open, probably dance floor the size of a basketball floor, with a bar on the west end. A pool table and tabletop shuffleboard were on the north side next to the windows. We both had cheeseburgers, but mine was buffalo. It was very good. We asked her about the big elk antlers around the walls of the place. As far as she knew, they are mostly local to the area. She even told us of her husband getting his antelope on their front lawn. What a way to fill your game tag.

As he does, Rich kept talking about how big and nice his elk rack is. He was hunting deer and came upon a six-point skeleton in some thick timber. He decided if it was still there the next year, he would bring it home. Well, it was there and he carried it out. It is a big, even, very nice six-point rack from Idaho. That makes me speculate about how that elk died? Maybe too old and thin from the previous year.

We rode up to Wisdom then west to Lost Trail Pass, then through Salmon and the Lemhi River Route to get home. It took most of the day to do, but what a nice day it was.

FAMILY HEALTH & DEAF AWARENESS

Lily Sorenson

FAMILY HEALTH: SPRING CLEANING can help you burn some winter fat! Spend a half-hour vacuuming upholstered furniture and in all the nooks and crannies that don't usually get it and you'll burn about 85 calories. Spend another half-hour scrubbing your floors on your hands and knees and lop off another 189 calories. Give every surface in your house a good dusting: 80 calories. Alternate between upstairs and downstairs chores, adding in a few stair climbs to your routine: 306 calories. Scrub up those windows and mirrors: 153 calories. Shine up floor and wall vent covers by hand with warm soapy water and a toothbrush: 77 calories. For less than three hours of work, you'll have burned 890 calories! I guess I should get busy!

DID YOU KNOW? Strawberries are believed to help reduce the risk of heart disease and certain cancers. They are low in calories and high in vitamins C, B6, K, fiber, folic acid, potassium, and amino acids.

Since we still have COVID in our state, greet people with an elbow bump, fist bump, quarter pounder or dap, whatever you call it---use any of the above!



Lecturer's Report

Bonnie Mitson, Lecturer

The National Grange Quilt Block contest has proven to be fun, educational, and inspirational. Over the last four years, we have received well over 1,000 blocks. As the contest has evolved here are the things I have noticed:

- We have gathered in fellowship to make blocks.
- We have used this contest to teach the next generation (and folks in every generation) a basic skill.
- We have made new friends, embraced non-members, and encouraged the men to join.
- We have gone from uneven stitch lines to great quarter-inch seams.
- We have made 9 patch blocks and simple set blocks.

As part of the 2021 National Grange Quilt Block Contest, we get to try our hand at a pinwheel. This pinwheel will introduce us to more seams. But you are ready!

So now let's learn how and why we should Set a Seam. After sewing the fabric pieces right-side together, iron the seam flat – this relaxes the thread and helps the thread to nestle into the fabric. Ironing the seam flat also smooths out any wrinkles or puckers that were caused by tension

DEAF AWARENESS: The Idaho State Grange received a thank you letter from the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind. The following is a portion of the thank you: "Dear Idaho State Grange members: Thank you for your generous donation of \$635.00 that we received in October and for the \$50.00 donation from the Kuna Grange. We are very appreciative of your support. Our librarian will be using your donation for books and other learning materials. These materials will help our students recoup skills lost during the pandemic. Thank you again for your generous gift to the ISDB Library.

We are truly grateful.

Sincerely, Bonnie J Marshall,
CPA Director of Finance"

As you can see, our donations help the school. Now is the time to plan ahead to donate to the school. Before we know it, May will be here when America celebrates Better Hearing and Speech Month.

Protect your hearing and be safe!

"Kindness is a language that the deaf can hear and the blind can read."

Donations for the Deaf Fund have been received from Maple Grove #244 and Mica Flats #436.

Thank you!

It's never too late to donate to the Deaf Fund.

Please send donations to:

Lily Sorenson

16942 N Werrington Ct.,

Nampa 83687

or to the Grange Office.

Make checks payable to:

Idaho State Grange, Deaf Fund.

Thank you in advance!

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trouble. In addition, it will increase the flatness in the next step. The next step? – ironing to one side of the finished block. I know you are asking, "Do I have to set a seam every time I sew one?" The answer is yes. Whenever you sew a seam in a block it has to come off the sewing machine, so just press it flat, quickly, with an iron. You will quickly notice how easy this makes it to join the next section of the block. WOW! What a simple thing to do to bring the quality of your block to the next level. There are many YouTube videos on setting a seam – I encourage you to watch a couple. I bet you will love making your pinwheel block. Please keep in mind that it is perfectly all right and will not count against you to fold your block so that it fits in a regular envelope with a regular stamp. Happy block-making – you've got this! TIP: Steam irons kill germs. Every time you press a seam you are killing germs. Go get 'em!

From the Court of Flora, Ceres and Pomona



Retrieved from The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs: Picture Collection, The New York Public Library. Picture by Walter Crane, 1889.



Soft Rhubarb Cookies

Ingredients:

- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup vegetable shortening
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 cup roasted rhubarb compote or stewed rhubarb - strained and reserve liquid.

Cookie Glaze Ingredients

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon reserved rhubarb juice from the roasted rhubarb compote

Instructions:

- Cream shortening and sugar together.
- Add the egg and beat again until well incorporated. Add rhubarb compote and mix to combine.
- Add dry ingredients and mix until incorporated and cookie batter forms. Place cookies on a pan, bake at 375 degrees Fahrenheit for approximately 15 minutes until the cookies just start to turn golden on the edges.
- Wait until cookies are cool, combine the liquid rhubarb juice and powdered sugar, and whisk together to make a brightly flavored rhubarb glaze. use a piping bag or spoon to drizzle the glaze onto cookies.



Chaplain's Corner

Florence Galland, Chaplain

I hope everyone is well. This Covid is hard on everyone. Have you had your shot yet? I had my first one and will have my second shot on March 15th.

Spring is coming and we will enjoy all that is beautiful in our earthly home that reminds us of the crystal river and green fields, the waving trees, and living fountains, the shining city, and the white-robed singers of our heavenly home. Let your imagination picture the home of the saved and remember that it will be more glorious than your imagination can portray.

Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

The holidays that are coming, especially Mother's Day, are special to everyone, enjoy them.

Stay Well and Strong,
Florence Galland, Chaplain



For behold, the winter
is past; the rain is
over and gone. The
flowers appear on the
earth, the time of
singing has come, and
the voice of the
turtledove is heard in
our land.

SONG OF SOLOMON

2:11-12

WELCOME TO THE GRANGE!

Elisa Bauer - Blanchard #440

Shaylene Keiner - Blanchard #440

Laurie Thompson - Blanchard #440

Betty Sheets - Moscow #452

PLEASANT RIDGE GRANGE #135

Melanie Harper

We have been working on tidying up our Hall. We now have a fresh coat of interior paint and the floors have been refinished. Eileen Javaux, Melanie Harper, Colleen Foster, Amber Obert, and Alissa Javaux all chipped in to paint Wooden Barn Quilt Blocks to place above the stage. These have brought some color and interest into the Hall.



While painting these five the crew decided that they should hold some classes on quilt blocks. Numbers were limited to make sure social distancing requirements were met. The first group was six strong. They had such a good time we will be inviting others to do the same.



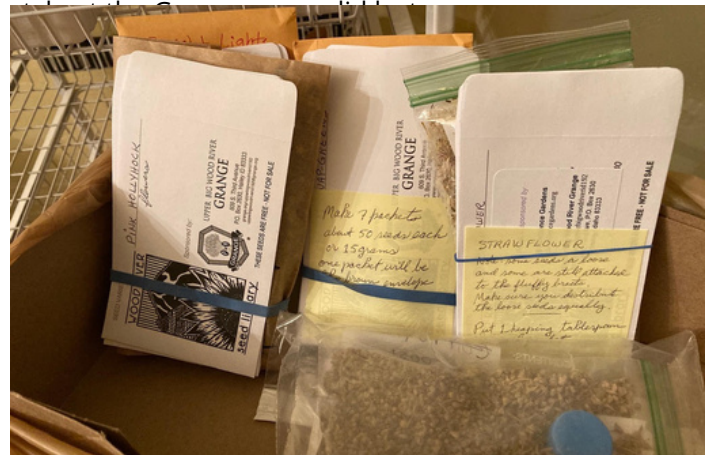
Upper Big Wood River #192

Manon Gaudreau

The UBWR Grange now has a charitable fund. The fund is used to support qualifying projects, including the Wood River Seed Library (WRSL) and the Grange Community Garden (GCG). Our first donation came from Building Material Thrift (BMT), with whom we have a partnership. Grange members do volunteer work for BMT, a charitable organization, The Grange fund receives donations from BMT in return. We are currently only accepting donations made by check, payable to "Grange Foundation," which serves as our fiscal sponsor.

The Seed Library (WRSL) is very busy this winter. We could not hold seed packaging events, so we reverted to a program called Adopt-a-seed-kit. Individual volunteers take bulk seeds, retail envelopes to fill, and instructions to package seeds. The packaged seeds are returned to the seed library, currently residing in Manon's home. Packets will start being distributed through several locations in Ketchum, Hailey, Bellevue, and Carey in early March. WRSL is also collaborating with the 5B Resilience Initiative, a Local Food Alliance program, and Hailey Public Library to offer free gardening webinars on Zoom. Gardeners anywhere in Idaho are welcome to attend.

Send an email to woodriverseedlibrary@gmail.com to receive registration information. The annual Seed and Plant Exchange will occur April 24 and May 29, tailgate-



The Grange Community Garden acquired a structure that was a training facility for the fire department. When the snow melts, we plan to finish the roof, add walls, doors, and windows. Our goal is to use recycled material from the BMT for completing our shed. The shed will be a great addition to our Community Garden to store tools and supplies and serve as a nursery.

We are proud to learn that the Hailey Tree Committee approved its first Heritage Tree nomination for the City of Hailey. Manon Gaudreau nominated a historic Rocky Mountain Douglas fir. The tree is estimated to be 65 years old. The Rocky Mountain Douglas fir is common to the Wood River Valley. Its frost and drought tolerance makes it a good symbol for the Grange Hall, as this particular tree receives rain and snow as its primary source of moisture.

The tree was likely planted by Rupert House. House is believed to have dug a small tree from his property in East Fork and transplanted it to the Grange. House was one of the community's beloved old-timers, a miner who moved to the Wood River Valley in 1936 to work the Triumph Mine. House served as a Blaine County Commissioner and was active in community organizations until his death in 2008 at 92. (City of Hailey)

Moscow Grange #452

Anita Falen

Moscow Grange #452 teamed up with Genesee 4-H Livestock Club to make thank you gifts for Community Heroes. Gifts and thank you's were made for First Responders, City Maintenance and Road Crews, Dispatchers, Officers, and Firemen of Latah County.

The gift bags consisted of recipe mixes that can be made at any time. Holiday Treat Mix, Cranberry Corn Bread Mix, and Snowball Soup were all prepared and placed in gift bags to deliver to our Heroes.



Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1 cup dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

*Cranberry
Corn Bread
Mix*

- Layer dry ingredients attractively in any order in a 1-quart food storage jar with a tight-fitting lid. Pack ingredients down lightly before adding another layer.
- Seal jar; cover top with fabric. Attach a gift tag with raffia or ribbon.

*Cranberry Corn
Bread
Ingredients*

- 1 Jar Cranberry Corn Bread Mix
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 1/3 cups buttermilk
- 2 eggs
- Preheat oven to 350F. Spray 8 1/2 x 4 1/2-inch loaf pan with nonstick cooking spray.

Nampa Valley Grange #131

Rebecca Eilers

We have had two meetings since the first of the year. We made donations to the Salvation Army, Metro Meals, and Ag in the Classroom.

Caught in the Act:

Boss to employee: "Do you believe in life after death." Employee: "I certainly don't. There's no proof of it!"

Boss: "Well there is now. After you left early yesterday to go to your uncle's funeral, he came here looking for you!"



EDGEMERE GRANGE #355

David Terbest, President

Adapted from an article published in The Beacon News.

With a strong group of volunteers and creative minds, the Edgemere Grange turned the disappointment of not having their Christmas dinner into a hugely successful Christmas light drive-through. A lot of work went into decorating the Grange and drive-through area with lights and decorations. They also added Santa and Mrs. Clause, hot chocolate, and gifts for kids. Thirty-one families in need received a full Christmas dinner. Hundreds of cars came through filled with people who experienced a bit of Christmas joy. The holiday event was so embraced by the community that Edgemere plans to repeat the event.

It has been tough this year with COVID-19 restrictions, it has hampered the normal fundraising efforts like bingo nights and renting out the facility. A long-term goal of ours is to remodel the kitchen to be certified commercially. The Grange is hoping to hold a fundraiser in the summer to help complete this endeavor.

Once restrictions are lifted, they wish to return to monthly bingo nights, fiber spinning on the First Saturday of the month, local radio group meetings, and other activities that fill the Grange throughout the year.

Thank you to all that partnered with us for the Christmas lights drive-through and community outreach.



Cranberry Corn Bread instructions

- Pour mixture into a large bowl. Cut in shortening with a pastry blender or 2 knives until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Beat buttermilk & eggs in a small bowl until blended. Add to shortening mixture; stir until mixture forms a stiff batter. Pour into prepared pan, spreading evenly.
- Bake 45-50 minutes or until toothpicks come out clean. Cool in pan on wire rack 10 minutes; remove from pan and cool 10 minutes longer. Serve warm.

We've published all three recipes on the website ready to print for gifts!

Kuna Grange #59

Mary Johnson

Kuna Grange held a meeting in January. Food baskets were given to two families for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The FFA Public Speaking Contest, which we sponsor each year, is usually held at our Grange hall. However, with Covid, the competition was held in the Commons at Kuna High School. Kuna Grange was pleased to give the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place monetary awards for both the Public Speaking Contest and the Extemporaneous Contest.

We had entries from both Kuna and Meridian FFA students. These five entries in each of the two contests. Some of the topics were: People Don't Know Where Their Food Comes From; Round-Up Ready Crops; Science of Feeding a Growing Population; GMO's and other topics. The students all did very nice presentations.



Winners of the FFA Contests

Our Grange is preparing now to give dictionaries to 440 Third grade students in the Kuna School District, Falcon Ridge Charter School, and The Pi-STEM School.

This is the 17th year Kuna Grange has sponsored the Dictionary Project. We have a few Kuna businesses and individuals helping sponsor the project this year. We will be presenting these Dictionaries in the first part of March. The students get very excited when they get a Dictionary of their very own.



Labeling dictionaries with sponsors names.

BLANCHARD GRANGE #440

James R. Conrad, Lecturer

Recently my wife, Traci, and I were honored to be asked to be Santa and Mrs. Clause at the Edgemere Grange on December 20th. This event was a huge success for everyone involved. This is what the Grange is all about! I am enclosing an article from the Beacon newspaper, and a letter I wrote back to them that was to be published in the January issue.

Santa Report

THROUGH THE EYES OF SANTA

Recently Mrs. Clause and I had the pleasure of visiting the Inland Northwest. We saw so many smiling faces coming out of the beautiful mountains and woods. Many waiting over an hour in their cars to visit Saint Nick at the Edgemere Grange. We had the pleasure of seeing the true spirit of Christmas in action. Many folks were offering generous donations, while others, who are struggling in these challenging times, received boxes and bags of much-needed groceries. What a true blessing for all of us.

That evening we were reminded of the outpouring of generosity in this community: from the donations to the family whose house burned down in Priest River, to the Youth Emergency Services in Newport, pointing homeless children in the right direction. Veterans assistance, and meals on wheels for the elderly. School meal programs for all children (excellent use of tax dollars). Incorporated taxi delivering stranded people to much-needed appointments. Ongoing support for the growing number of families utilizing the Foodbank. Organizations and churches, anonymous benefactors, clothing stores, firewood and plowing, and many others lending a hand where needed.

Right now, the message from Jesus is to love thy neighbor as you would yourself, and above all love one another, hasn't ever seemed more appropriate. We are truly blessed, and I am sure we will make it through the challenges that lie ahead.

May this New Year be the best so far.

Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa



Reflections in Time

UPPER BIG WOOD
RIVER GRANGE

1955

YEAR THIS ROCKY
MOUNTAIN DOUGLASS
FIR WAS PLANTED BASED
ON LOCAL MEMORY

HEIGHT

55
FEET

CIRCUMFERENCE

60
INCHES



IN 1955

**Dwight D.
Eisenhower**
PRESIDENT

GASOLINE

23 Cents
GALLON

JONAS SALK'S

Polio Vaccine
DECLARED SAFE AND
EFFECTIVE

TV SHOW

Gunsmoke
PREMIERED



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DOUGLAS FIR

LATIN NAME

Pseudotsuga menziesii var.
glauca

DESCRIPTION

The thin needles stick out all around the twig like a bottle brush. The needle tips are soft. The cones hang downward and have three-pointed bracts sticking out of the scales making them easy to identify.

USES

The wood is exceptionally strong and is used for structural timber as well as poles, plywood, pulp, dimensional lumber, railroad ties, mine timbers, log cabins, posts and poles, fencing, and firewood.

BOB:

How're your crops, Lee????

LEE:

Fine, fine, in fact, I've got corn so tall, it's darker than a dense pine forest; you can see lightning bugs in there at noon, and the owls hoot all day.

RALPH:

Somebody told me Elmer Prow soaked some beans in whiskey and mixed them with his seed corn to protect his crops from the crows, but it didn't work. All the crows in the country gathered in the cornfield and dug it up as soon as he had it planted. Elmer said one old crow was trading one whiskey-soaked bean for several grains of corn. Doing a land-office business too.

BOB:

I hear Stella built a marvelous scarecrow

RAPLH:

She did? Did it work?

LEE:

I should say it did, why that contraption scared some of them crows so bad they fetched back seed they stole from her two years ago.

LEE:

How's your apple crop Bob?

BOB:

I tell you them apples is so big it only takes four of them to make a dozen. Fact is Lindell Wise wanted me to make him some cider but he only wanted fifty gallons and I'll be danged if I was going to cut one of those apples in two just to make fifty gallons of cider.

BOB:

It sure has been a dry year, ain't it?

LEE:

I'll say so, it's getting so dry the trees are following the dogs around. We've got so much dust I saw a chicken hawk fly over Ted's place and he was wearing goggles and flying backward to keep from choking to death.

RALPH:

I hear a drop of rain fell on Lindell and he fainted clean away. Had to throw three buckets of dust in his face to bring him to.

BOB:

Did you hear what happened to Ted's cows? Seems the mosquitos were so bad this summer, one of them carried one of his big Holstein cows right out of the pasture.

LEE:

I don't think Ted is always so careful with the truth. Fact is I saw what happened and it took two mosquitos to carry off that cow.



From Former Idaho State Grange President Harold Eshelman (2016-2018)

"I have been doing some thinking about my tenure as your Idaho State Grange Master/President in 2016-2018 and realized I should have reported to the membership what we accomplished in those two years and thank all of you who helped in any way for us to do so much in such a short time."

If you would like to read his full report.
You can find it on [BLOG POSTS](#).

IDAHOSTATEGRANGE.ORG

Bloom Where You Are Planted

GARDEN GURUS



Would you like to submit a gardening tip or trick to Garden Gurus?

Email it to obert.amber@gmail.com

Or snail mail your tip to the ISG Office

Guest Authors

Join the Upper Big Wood River Grangers in a virtual Gardening Seminar. Contact woodriversseedlibrary@gmail.com for registration information.

Thursday March 18 – Gardening Webinar: Cool Season Gardening, 12 noon to 1 pm, Zoom, hosted by the Local Food Alliance

Thursday March 25 – Gardening Class: Growing Food at Home, 5:30 to 7 pm, hosted by Hailey Public Library

Thursday, April 15 – Gardening Webinar: Season Extensions & Microclimates, 12 noon to 1 pm, on Zoom, hosted by the Local Food Alliance

Thursday April 15 – Gardening Class: Pollinator Friendly Gardening, 5:30 to 7 pm, hosted by Hailey Public Library

Saturday April 24 – Earth Day Seed and Plant Exchange, 10 am to 12 noon, at the Grange

Thursday May 20 – Gardening Webinar: Warm Season Gardening, 12 noon to 1 pm, on Zoom, hosted by the Local Food Alliance

Saturday May 29 – Seed & Plant Exchange, 10 am to 12 noon, at the Grange

Thursday May 27 – Gardening Class: Garden Soil Care, 5:30 to 7 pm, hosted by Hailey Public Library

RHUBARB TIPS AND TRICKS

- Do not harvest any stalks during the first growing season so that your plants can become established.
- Harvest the stalks when they are 12 to 18 inches long.
- Usually, after 3 years, the harvest period runs 8 to 10 weeks long.
- If the stalks become thin, stop harvesting; this means the plant's food reserves are low.
- Grab the base of the stalk and pull it away from the plant with a gentle twist. If this doesn't work, you can cut the stalk at the base.
- Always leave at least 2 stalks per plant to ensure continued production.
- After harvest time, the stems may die back. Just remove all plant debris.
- Once your ground freezes, it's best to cover rhubarb with 2 to 4 inches of mulch, preferably well-rotted compost.



2021 Annual Policyholders' Meeting

The annual Policyholders' meeting of the Grange Insurance Association will be held on Monday, March 15, 2021, at 10:00 AM at Grange Insurance Association, 200 Cedar Street, Seattle, Washington 98121.

This meeting may be moved to a virtual setting as we continue to monitor the pandemic. Please consult our website www.grange.com as the meeting approaches for announcements and potential virtual registration instructions.

All Grange Insurance Association policyholders are welcome to attend.

DON'T FORGET

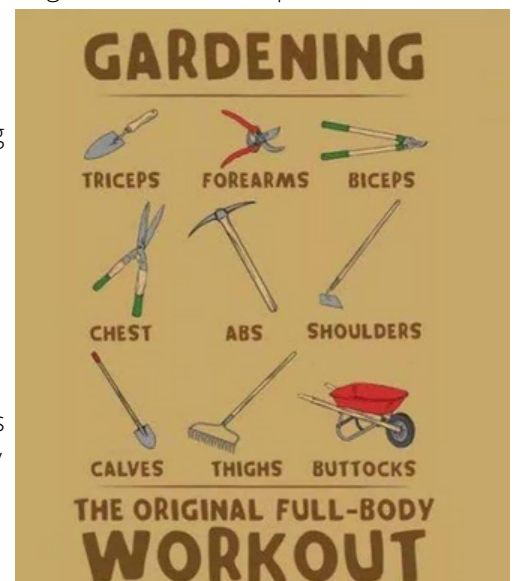
GARDEN CHALLENGE

FROM THE STATE LECTURER

Write a report of your adventures in gardening. Include photos from start to finish and the produce, flowers, or succulents you grew. Report on community garden involvement. Include descriptions and photos of your harvest. Every Granger that enters a report will receive a

certificate and be entered in a drawing for a prize. A drawing will be held at the state session in October of 2021.

Reports & photos can be emailed. Entries may be used by the Grange for promotional materials.





GRANGE LEADERS' CONFERENCE
 AUGUST 8 - 10 BOISE, IDAHO

"THE DAY THE LORD CREATED HOPE
 WAS PROBABLY THE SAME DAY HE
 CREATED SPRING."
 ~ BERNARD WILLIAMS



**Scholarship
 Applications are due
 April 1, 2021.
 Go to
 IdahoStateGrange.org
 for more information.**



"O.K., coffee break's over."

H	G	W	C	I	F	W	D	N	R	D	H	D	U	F	L	E	T	D	A
D	R	V	W	Y	Q	S	O	P	E	R	E	D	H	L	F	D	S	J	A
R	A	Y	K	O	O	J	H	R	I	Y	O	I	J	P	I	P	P	G	X
T	N	N	Z	Y	O	L	I	N	T	D	I	L	G	K	E	S	A	A	L
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G	E	B	Q	E	T	S	V	W	H	P	Y	G	A	C	D	L	E	J	L
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S	A	D	X	Q	H	H	E	G	F	T	Z	R	F	R	D	V	O	C	Y
P	L	C	N	N	M	O	Y	R	I	U	B	W	R	E	S	H	S	F	O
R	L	L	H	C	W	A	P	X	C	A	F	A	A	E	M	A	T	I	R
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I	S	Q	L	S	L	W	J	G	F	L	J	B	Y	F	P	D	U	O	M



Word Search

Answers in the next issue

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|
| Ax | Fraternity | Overseer |
| Charity | Grange | Plow |
| Degree | Harrow | Ritual |
| Diligence | Home | Spade |
| Faith | Hope | Spring |
| Fall | Laborers | Summer |
| Farm | Maids | Winter |
| Fidelity | Master | Worthy |
| Field | | |

Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people - your family, friends, and coworkers, and even strangers you meet along the way.

~BARBARA BUSH

Well Done, Good and Faithful Servants

IN MEMORIAM

Sparky Hunt

Portneuf #229



As you release this butterfly in honor of me,
Know that I'm with you and will always be.

Hold a hand

Say a prayer

Close your eyes see me there.

Although you may feel a bit torn apart

Please know that I'll be right there in your
heart.

Now fly away butterfly as high,

as you can go

I'm right there with you more than you know.

~Unknown



Maxine Christensen

Harrison #422

Joe Johns

Mica Flats #436



IDAHO STATE GRANGE PROJECT RED, WHITE, AND BLUE - BLOCK OF THE YEAR **RIBBON STAR**



Project Red, White, and Blue is a project sponsored by the Graces. We need your help making blocks for Quilts of Valor and getting those quilts into the hands of Veterans.

Quilts of Valor are awarded to Service Members or Veterans who have been touched by war. The Quilt says unequivocally, "Thank you for your service and sacrifice in serving our nation." (QOV.org)

If you know of a Granger or friend of Grange let us know and we'll work on getting them a quilt. You can contact Bonnie Mitson and we'll work with you to bring a quilt to your Grange.

Expectations:

- Each block should be red, white, and blue with white on the outside so the blocks can be sashed together.
- If you would like instructions on this particular quilt block we have placed a video on the website under Quilts of Valor with Jenny Doan's permission.



Quilts of Valor
Quilts = Healing!



Photo by June Playfair;
Lemhi Community
Grange.

June's photo took
Second Place in the
Animal Division of the
National Grange
Photo Contest

Food Producers of Idaho

At the weekly Idaho Food Producers meetings, they have been discussing the following bills that you might find interesting.

S1108 changes the formula for the growth of property tax budgets and provides relief for property owners from increasing property taxes. Members discussed the potential impact of the legislation on different sizes of communities and cities."

H187 Encourages private landowners to grant public access to their property for recreational purposes. While most recreational users behave responsibly, occasionally, a member of the public causes substantial damage to gates, fences, crops, or other areas closed to motorized vehicles. H187 would clarify that when a landowner enters into a recreational access agreement with Fish and Game, and both the landowner and the Department agree to certain restrictions on motorized

vehicles, the Department actually has the authority to enforce those restrictions, as long as the recreational users are given notice of the restrictions.

H127 creates an Idaho Broadband Advisory Board and establishes the Idaho Broadband Fund. The Advisory Board would consist of nine members and be tasked with developing, implementing, and maintaining a statewide broadband plan. The Idaho Broadband Fund would be created to accept such monies as allocated by the legislature and distribute such funds according to the statewide plan as implemented by the Idaho Broadband Advisory Board.

H238 would change the classification of the wolf in some big game management units to a predator. That change would allow different methods of take in units where the wolf is classified as a predator. H238 has a threshold of 50 packs before some management responsibility will be returned to IDFG. H238 mandates a report be given to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

MORE THOUGHTS FROM THE
WORTHY MASTER

Perservere

"Persevere in all good work"

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the
proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up"
Galatians 6:9

NOTES FROM NATIONAL GRANGE

Staff Changes

National Grange Membership and Leadership Development Director Joe Stefenoni has announced his departure from the National Staff. Communications Director Amanda Brozana Rios will be taking Stefenoni's position. Kennedy Gwin, a lifetime member of the Washington State Grange, will step into Brozana-Rios position as Communications Manager and will assume many of the day-to-day tasks carried out by the department including producing this weekly newsletter, the Patrons Chain, preparing press releases and statements, writing op-eds, pitching stories about the Grange to reporters, managing the social media accounts of the Grange and providing assistance to Granges, among other tasks.

Programs, Benefits, Sales and Membership Recognition Director Loretta Washington, IT Director Stephanie Wilkins, Operations Manager, and Junior Director Samantha Wilkins, as well as Gwin, will each be taking on a small portion of the duties of Program Assistant Kelly Klingman, who is no longer with the National Grange.

If you want to read the entirety of the article, make sure you are subscribed to the Patrons Chain Newsletter.

Black History Month

By Kennedy Gwin, National Grange Communications Manager

February was Black History Month and what better way to learn about Black History than with a program in a box, great for Lecturers or a Youth member looking to get more involved! Lucky for you and all Grangers across the country the National Grange interns, with assistance from National Grange Programs, Benefits, Sales and Membership Recognition Director Lorretta Washington, have been hard at work with a slide show that showcases some of the most influential African American and Black icons in the world that have made strides for the Black community. Some of these inventors you may not know by name but have definitely used their products, whereas others are modern Black icons. Take time and share this program with your members and learn something new this Black History Month or any other month where you're looking for a fun new program!

You'll find the link in the Patrons Chain or embedded on the webpage at Idahostategrange.org.

If you have any issues and need further assistance contact, Kennedy Gwin, at kennedy.gwin@grange.org

2021 Grange Month Community Service Activity Suggestions

By: Pete Pompper National Grange Community Service Director

Since Grange month and spring both occur in April, I feel it is appropriate that we look at some community service ideas that can be refreshed or would be new to your Grange. If your Grange is in an area where the weather permits you can hold an outdoor event for the community. People are looking for activities that are in a safe environment and still socially distanced. Some ideas include:

- Seed or seedling swaps: these are a great way to share extra seeds or seedlings you may have either leftover from last year or from what you started this year. Several Granges throughout the nation do this.
- Easter egg hunt storytime for children (storytelling or reading a book) Open mic night for the community.
- Holding informational meetings/programs that are relevant to your community.
- Organize and host a community-wide picnic utilizing locally grown produce or products.
- Start a Farmer's market where local producers can sell their products. (This is a great way to introduce the local consumer to the producer which consumers are wanting, also is a great way to support the local economy).

Feel free to use these ideas and engage with your community during Grange Month. As you are putting these events on don't forget to take pictures and send them to either the National Grange Community Service Facebook Page or the National Grange Facebook Page. We greatly look forward to seeing your photos and hearing about your projects.



NATIONAL GRANGE MONTH

Brothers and Sisters,

We are so excited as we draw closer to Grange Month 2021 and we hope you are, too!

The past year has truly been a test of so many of our Grange values – faith, hope, charity, and fidelity –and an exercise in perseverance. Last year, we introduced the theme “Cultivating Connections,” hoping Granges would use it to highlight the many connections made by being part of our organization. From fellowship and a sense of belonging to networking opportunities and a greater connection with our land, our food, and our world, “Cultivating Connections” can be interpreted in a multitude of ways. As the pandemic hit and so many of our cultural norms were turned on their heads, the sense of connection became so much more important, and the efforts to cultivate them essential. We are again using “Cultivating Connections” as our theme, and we encourage you to find ways to overcome the challenges posed by the pandemic, the divisive political climate, and all the other problems you may face in our world today. The Grange grew from a founding idea of connecting a fractured public and cultivating those relationships to ensure we move forward together for a better future. We are called on to do that again today in our communities in large and small ways.

It is also imperative that we cultivate our connections within the Grange. I encourage each of you to reconnect with fellow members to renew that sense of fraternity and welcome; to strengthen bonds with neighboring Granges in your Pomona; to connect each member with your State Grange and National Grange by providing details on how to get newsletters, announcements, and more. There are so many opportunities and resources available not just for you but for the future members of your Grange.

"reconnect with fellow members to renew that sense of fraternity and welcome"

Creating links or cultivating the relationship you established by taking the oath of membership will provide you great benefit and show you just how much your Grange membership can mean in these uncertain times. Take the time to learn about contests and programs, changes to bylaws, recommendations for meetings and ceremonies, that can help your members grow to their greatest manhood and womanhood and develop or share talents, and so much more.

I'm calling on each of you to be an essential resource for your members and your communities and live up to the legacy of the generations of Grangers who came before you. Invite your community to follow your lead and blaze the trail to a brighter 2021 and beyond, beginning in this Grange Month.

Faternally,

Betsey Huber

President, National Grange



BEWARE - COVID-19 SCAMS

As the country begins to distribute COVID-19 vaccines, scammers are taking advantage of the coronavirus pandemic. The HHS Office of Inspector General alerted the public about COVID-19 fraud schemes, with scammers using telemarketing calls, text messages, social media platforms, and door-to-door visits to perpetrate COVID-19-related scams.

Con artists may also try to get Medicare Numbers or personal information so they can steal identities and commit Medicare fraud. Medicare fraud results in higher health care costs and taxes for everyone.

What can you do to help prevent Medicare beneficiaries from being a victim of fraud? Share this important information with Medicare beneficiaries to help them protect themselves from Medicare fraud:

Medicare covers the COVID-19 vaccine, so there will be no cost to you.

- You will need to share your Medicare card with your health care provider or pharmacy when receiving your vaccine, even if you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan.
- If anyone else asks you to share your Medicare Number or pay for access to the vaccine, you can bet it's a scam.
- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You can't pay to get early access to a vaccine.
- Don't share your personal or financial information if someone calls, texts, or emails you promising access to the vaccine for a fee.

Guard your Medicare card like it's a credit card.

- Medicare will never contact you for your Medicare Number or other personal information unless you've given them permission in advance.
- Medicare will never call you to sell you anything.
- You may get calls from people promising you things if you give them a Medicare Number. Don't do it.
- Medicare will never visit you at your home.
- Medicare can't enroll you over the phone unless you called first.



Idaho State Grange
Post Office Box 367
Meridian, ID 83642



OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY -FRIDAY

9:30AM - 4:30PM

WEBSITE

IDAHOSTATEGRANGE.ORG

DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES

February 1st – Spring (March-May Issue)

May 1st – Summer (June-August Issue)

August 1st – Fall (September-November Issue)

November 1st - Winter (December-February Issue)

**Moving? Let Us Know
UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS**

208-888-4495

idahostategrangeoffice@gmail.com



Save the Date

IDAHO STATE GRANGE
CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 2021
BOISE, IDAHO

#CULTIVATINGCONNECTIONS

**LET US KNOW AS YOU GET THINGS GOING AGAIN
AT YOUR GRANGES!**

IDAHOSTATEGRANGE.ORG