

LONDON GRANGE NEWSLETTER



LONDON GRANGE # 937

SEPTEMBER 2014

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS 1954 - 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER



It seems like life just keeps getting better. Not being able to sleep thinking about things you want to do tomorrow sure beats the alternative of having nothing to do.

One of the things I'm trying to get a handle on is what to say to a Grange member who says the Grange rituals and traditions are archaic and a waste of time.

That's a broad shot at everything the Grange stands for:

- The Welcoming/Obligation Ceremony or the Fourth Degree is the only way a member is given the right to vote on any business matters of the Grange.
- The Charter Draping Ceremony honors the memory of a member who has died.
- The respect for equality and the fact that four officer positions can only be filled by women.
- Conducting meetings following rules of order.

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- As a fraternal organization, there are laws and rules that have to be followed to keep the Grange charter.
- Our rituals are guidelines and advice using symbols of agriculture. The Spring -decisions and record keeping . The Summer-planting. The Fall-harvest. The Winter-enjoyment. The Four Degrees.
- I like the Bible and the Flag being present at every meeting.
- And when the words of a ceremony are being spoken, I think of the tens of thousands who have spoken or heard the very same words.
- This is foundation. This is continuity. Without it, an organization has no more future than a flock of birds.
- This summer, we saw our longest member, Dennis Chapman, a member for 62 years, and our newest member, 8 year old Morgan Pooler, working together toward a common goal in the food booth. An example of the thread of continuity.

Hope to see you all at some of our upcoming events.

Ken Schwieger

“The ultimate act of leadership is learning how to get out of the way.”

Michael Martin-National Leadership Director

(I like that)



UPCOMING GRANGE EVENTS

Monthly potlucks: First Friday of every month at 6:30. Bring a dish to pass and join the fun.

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Monthly meetings are the third Friday of every month at 6:30 with coffee and dessert after the meeting.

GWA meetings: We meet every Tuesday, 10:00 – 12:00, at the grange. We work on various projects: quilts, blankets, scarves and hats. You can bring a project of your own or come to help with an ongoing project. Come help and enjoy yourself while doing a community service. Call Elaine Chapman at 942-9681 for more information and details.

Pomona Harvest Supper, October 5th –Hosted by Mohawk McKenzie at Willakenzie 4:00 pm.

Pomona GWA Business Meeting , October 19th at Goshen Grange 1:00 pm with lunch.

Pomona Grange Meeting at Irving Grange Hall , October 25th, at 10:00 am- Elections of Officers.

National Grange Convention Nov 11-15th In Sanbusky Ohio.

London Grange Thanksgiving Open House/ Potluck and 60th Anniversary Celebration at the London Grange Hall, Sunday, November 23rd, at 12:00 pm.

Springfield Christmas Parade ,December 6th Lane Pomona Float.

London Grange Christmas Party and Gift Exchange on Friday, December 19th at 6:30 pm

Remember that Daylight savings ends November 2nd (Fall Back 1 hour).

Contact Alice Nowicki at (541) 942-6148 with any questions.

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IDEAS NEEDED:

- **Thanksgiving Open House Potluck and Anniversary Celebration:**

Our Grange has been in existence for *60 years!* What a better time than at our annual Open House to share with the community what the Grange has meant to our members and the community. We want this to be a memorable event. We need ideas from our membership. An idea that comes to mind is to have some of our long time members share “what the Grange means to me” or share what the Grange was like when they became members. If you can’t make the Open House and would like to share your experience, please call Alice at (541)942-6148. Your Grange experience will be read at the program.

- **Fundraising events:**

We need to further discuss ideas and put them into action. Any type of event will expose people to our Grange and gain new memberships. Again, ideas and suggestions are welcomed! Let’s do more for our Grange!



MONTHLY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Humane Society of Cottage Grove, Call (541)942-3130. Ask how you can help.

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Thank you for being a Grange member. We appreciate your involvement in the London Grange. Our members make our organization successful! Ask a friend to become a London Grange member! The Grange offers fellowship, an opportunity to network through community service and a voice in grass roots actions. Help build a strong community for everyone. Call Alice Nowicki at (541) 942-6148 for membership information.



We honored the London Grange thespians with a “star struck ceremony” to thank them for all their hard work with our 2014 play. It was a red carpet affair! They received the Gene Campbell award and a gold “Genie” statue. We created this award in honor of Gene Campbell, London Grange member and playwright. His love of the theater and the Grange will be remembered by all through this award. It was quite the evening!

The 141st Annual Session for the Oregon State Grange was held in Redmond, Oregon, June 23-27, 2014. The London Grange Delegates were Ken Schwieger and Mike Chapman. Two other London Grange members, Carole Chapman and Alice Nowicki, also participated in various meetings and events. As usual, the State Grange Session was a chance to meet new friends, share ideas, become inspired and just an all around good time. The Deschutes County Expo Center and Campground was an ideal place. Next year’s session will be in Pendelton, Oregon.

All summer, as a fund raiser, we have been cooking our hearts out at the London Grange Food Booth. We served people at the Cottage Grove Speedway and the W.O.E. Fair.

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At the W.O.E. Fair food booth, we had 22 volunteers. Three of these volunteers were from the Cottage Grove community. The remaining volunteers hailed from the following Granges: Dorena, Irving, London, Mohawk McKenzie, and Walterville. Our State Master and her husband, Susan and Mark Noah, even did a shift to help us out. London Grange's Junior Granger, Morgan Pooler, put in full shifts all three days. He was our go-fer, soda specialist, sweet corn shucker, and root beer float creator! He did an amazing job! It was a very busy event! We had fun AND made a profit!

The London Grange is now "on line"! We have a website on the National Grange site AND a FaceBook account. We are now part of the social network. Feel free to check out our sites. On Facebook, search "LondonGrange937" and for the website, there are two ways to access the site : // www.grange.org/londonor9371. Or go though the National Grange site "looking for a Grange".

Our building has a "new" look. We are in the process of adding a new access ramp. Lots of hammering and drilling have occurred to create this much needed new addition to our building. It will be ready for use by our Thanksgiving Open House Potluck and Anniversary Celebration.

The GWA has created a "Celebration Quilt" to honor our 60 years as a Grange. There will be a drawing at the Thanksgiving Open House Potluck/Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, November 23rd. You need not be present to win. The ticket price is \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00. This is a bright and very beautiful quilt. Contact Elaine Chapman for tickets or more information, at (541)942-9681.

At the Oregon State Fair, two of our members, Alice Nowicki, and Ken Schwieger assisted in The Log Cabin. The Log Cabin is a actual log cabin owned by the Grange on Fair property. Fair-goers can stop in for Grange information, a fan, and a cold glass of water. There are even hands-on activities for children. It was a very fun day and gave an opportunity to share with others the Grange experience.

The London GWA is gearing up for all their community service projects. We are working on blankets, scarves and hats for Beds For Freezing Nights. Quilting baby blankets for the Relief Nursery. We are sewing quillows for foster children. We save flip tops from soda cans. We are continually reaching out to our local

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community and trying to assist with the needs of the community . Everyone is welcomed to join us on Tuesday mornings at 9:30. Bring a project or start one and join the fun!

The London Grange does provide food boxes to those that are in need of assistance. If you know of someone that could benefit from a food box, please contact Deb Wiskow at (541)942-7612.

We are currently collecting school supplies and other items for the Good Samaritan's Purse shoe boxes. If you would like to contribute some items, please contact Deb Wiskow at (541) 942-7612.

The Thanksgiving Open house Potluck/ Anniversary Celebration will be held at London Grange on Sunday, November 23rd at 12:00. Bring a dish to share. The Grange will provide the meat. Great fellowship and time to catch up with friends. Call Ken at (541)942-6148 for more information.

Our Christmas Party and gift exchange will be at 6:30 on Friday, December 19, 2014. Bring a gift and a dessert to share. We will be sending out invitations that will give more details. Save the date and join the fun!



IMPORTANT DUES INFORMATION: The Delegates at the State Session voted to increase the 2015 state dues to \$45.00. The London Grange by-laws state that the Grange shall be \$5.00 more than the Oregon State Grange dues. This \$5.00 is the the only portion of the dues retained by the London Grange. The dues notifications will be sent out by the London Grange secretary.

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Junior Grange provides an opportunity for children to build character and develop self confidence, responsibility, and respect. The Junior Grange programs are designed to provide leadership training while having FUN!

They also complete community service activities. Again having Fun and MORE FUN! All boys and girls ages 5-14 can join the Jr Grange.



Established 1888

If you know of a child between the ages of 5-14 that would like to become a Jr Granger, contact Alice Nowicki at (541) 942-6148. Membership cost is \$1.00.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

“There is no greater burden than carrying an untold story”

Maya Angelou

Let's share our Grange experiences with others. Our untold Grange stories are amazing!

LAST NOTE:

Note from the editor:

If you have any information or photos that you would like to include in the next newsletter, please, Call or e-mail me at Alice Nowicki (541) 942-6148 or alice.nowicki@yahoo.com.

The deadline for the next newsletter will be Monday, January 5, 2015.