

## **Washington State Grange Convention in Ocean Shores June 26-29**

### **Local News**

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OCEAN SHORES, Wash. - A "Sandsational" time will be had by Grangers from across the state of Washington as they converge for their Annual State Grange Convention in Ocean Shores, June 26-29. Nearly 500 Grange members from across the state are expected for all or a part of the convention. The 124th annual convention takes place at the Ocean Shores Convention Center, 120 W. Chance a La Mer NW, Ocean Shores. Most activities related to the session will take place at the convention center. There are a variety of convention activities that will be open to the public. The annual memorial service will be held on Wednesday, June 26 at 3 p.m. The service, under the direction of State Grange Chaplain Terry Abbott of Silver Creek, honors those Grange members who have passed on during the previous year. For those who wish to see "Grange policy in the making", visitors may observe the delegate body in action on Thursday, June 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., on Friday, June 28 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., and on Saturday, June 29 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The delegate body will act on numerous resolutions from Granges across the state. This year's resolutions include such topics as genetically modified organisms, honey bee populations, use of corn as bio-fuel, and control of wild wolves.

Part of the State Grange Convention includes the culmination of contests, such as photography, art, crafts, quilting, canning, baking, sewing, and needlework. Those items will be judged and on display for both Grange members and the public. The displays will be open on Thursday, June 27 from 12 noon to 5 p.m., on Friday, June 28 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Saturday, June 29, from 8 a.m. to a.m. The popular Junior Grange ice Cream Social will be held on Friday, June 28, beginning at 12 noon. It will continue throughout the afternoon until the 35 gallons of ice cream runs out. The State Grange Talent Show will be on Friday, June 27, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The show, under the direction of State Grange Lecturer Tom Gwin of Humptulips, will feature eleven finalists from across the state. In conjunction with the talent show, the youth department will conduct their annual public speaking contest. Winners of the talent show and public speaking contests will represent Washington at the regional level in Spokane in August and the national level in Manchester, NH in November. In addition to the activities at the convention center, Grange members will be seen throughout the town eating in the restaurants, staying in the motels, and shopping in the stores. This year's State Grange Convention is being hosted by the Southwest District, which include Granges from Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Thurston, Lewis, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, and Clark Counties.