

# SJI GRANGE #966

GROWERS, MAKERS, AND KEEPERS WORKING TOGETHER FOR  
MUTUAL BENEFIT AND COMMUNITY BUILDING



## PLAN AHEAD FOR SPRING CHICKS!

Are you thinking about adding to your flock or starting a new flock this spring? It's not too soon to plan ahead.

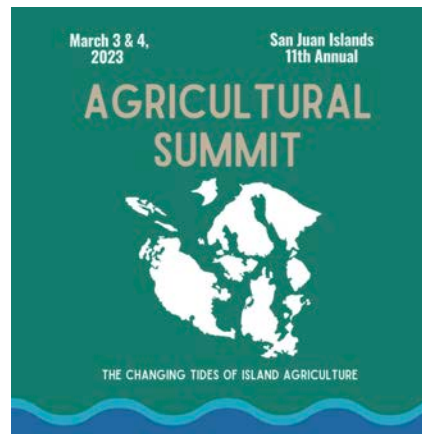
The Grange Poultry Project aims to have locally hatched chicks available for purchase. If you're interested in hatching your own, we should also have fertile eggs available. The Grange has small incubators and brooders available to borrow. Let me know where your interests may lie!

[elainemkendall@yahoo.com](mailto:elainemkendall@yahoo.com)



## SAN JUAN ISLANDS AGRICULTURAL SUMMIT Coming in March!

You are invited to the 2023 San Juan Islands Agricultural Summit, **Friday, March 3 and Saturday, March 4**. This year's event will be held on San Juan Island and will return to the traditional structure of in-person workshops and other events around the island on Friday and an in-person conference day on Saturday.



The San Juan Islands Agriculture Summit is a valued annual event that provides a unique opportunity for the food and agricultural community from across the islands, and beyond, to gather. Designed as a space for inspiration,

education, and comaraderie, the Ag Summit features keynotes, hands-on workshops, presentations by farmers and regional specialists, panel discussions, meals and social events.

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## SAN JUAN ISLAND GRANGE #966

San Juan Island Grange #966 is a grassroots, non-partisan advocacy group supporting a resilient community on San Juan Island.

The Grange serves San Juan Islanders with legislative programs and community activities, such as talent and craft contests, scholarships, and more. You don't have to be a farmer to belong, though many are. Our elected officers are volunteers, and our "work" is done through committees. The heart of our mission is fostering community well-being, and we enjoy gathering to celebrate this.

We are a 501(c)(8) organization, accepting donations towards our programs and to maintain Grange Hall, in downtown Friday Harbor.

Officers of San Juan Island Grange #966 may be found at [sanjuangrange.org/officers.html](http://sanjuangrange.org/officers.html)

Our bylaws and resolutions may be found at [sanjuangrange.org/structure.html](http://sanjuangrange.org/structure.html)

San Juan Island Grange #966  
P.O. Box 2013  
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(360) 378 6632

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[facebook.com/SJIGrange966](https://facebook.com/SJIGrange966)

# The Grange Exchange

***The Exchange is the "Classified" section of the newsletter. Contact Deirdre Morris to post anything you would like to buy, sell, borrow, trade, or give away at [d2morris@gmail.com](mailto:d2morris@gmail.com)***

**For sale: Tandem-axle utility trailer, rated at 12,000 lbs. New wiring for the lights. Heavy duty tailgate. \$5,000 obo. Contact Amy at (360)-317-3752.**



The Exchange continued on page 6

**ANNOUNCING back-to-back events at Grange Hall, Sunday, January 22. All members welcome!**

### **Leadership Development Conference**

A team from the Washington State Grange will be visiting us to present their 2023 programs. Last time we hosted a conference, State Master Tom Gwin himself came. All members are encouraged to attend to learn about State Grange programs and activities. It will start at 1:00pm and lead right into the Renewal Fair at 3:00PM.

### **Renewal Fair**

The Renewal Fair will start at 3:00, directly after the Leadership Development Conference. SJI Grange committees will present their vision and projects, gather member input, and encourage members to join in the work. There will be food and a fire!

## Letter from the President

I would like to give a big thank you to all our committees for helping make 2022 a success for our Grange. Many hands make light work, as exemplified by the teamwork shown by our committee members.

Particular mention goes to the Agriculture Support Committee for purchasing dehydrators and a cider press, for apple pressing sessions and public workshops, and for coordinating with other local agricultural organizations. Thank you, Bruce Robinson, for guiding this active and successful group.

Special mention goes to the Grange Hall Building Committee for the solar panels on the Grange Hall roof and the cedar planter boxes out front. Thank you, Bill Severson, for leading efforts to make our hall more beautiful, resilient, and reflective of our values.

Kudos go to the Spring Street Property Committee for successfully negotiating a new 5-year lease on our commercial property in town. And remember that Grangers get a 10% discount at our tenants CarQuest and Lugnut Automotive! Thank you, Lovel Pratt, for securing a steady source of income for our Grange and a home for an important local business.

The Programs Committee has had success with Game Night, now two Tuesdays per month and attracting new folks to our Grange Hall. Way to roll, Jessa Madosky!

The Dances/Music Committee has brought back the contradance after two and half years of COVID-19 shutdown. Monday nights, folks. No partner needed, all dances taught! A bow to Alice Deane for this star turn.

The Grange Booth at the farmers market had its best year ever in 2022, as did the Feed Co-op. I would like to thank Sherri Phelps for coordinating the Feed Coop orders and being the anchor vendor at our market booth with her fresh island eggs.

Thank you all Grangers, and here's to a great year in 2023!

Roger Ellison, 2022 President

## GROWERS' CIRCLE COFFEE HOUR

AT THE  
GRANGE  
HALL

EVERY  
WEDNESDAY  
MORNING  
AT 8AM



Currently via Zoom. Email  
roger.ellison@gmail.com  
for the link.

OPEN TO ALL. PROVIDED IN LOCAL FOOD AND LOCAL FIBER.  
TEA PROVIDED. TEA AS WELL, SOMETIMES.

**FREE!**



SAN JUAN ISLAND  
GRANGE #966

THE GRANGE IS NONPROFIT AND SO IS THIS EVENT. ALL ARE WELCOME.

## Notice Board



### Name the newsletter!

Names proposed so far:

The Dirt

Roots

The Press

The Gleaner

The Grange Gleaner

Keep those suggestions  
coming!

### Renew your Grange membership now!

Renewal is easy on the  
Grange website. Just go to  
[https://sanjuangrange.org/  
membership.html](https://sanjuangrange.org/membership.html)



## Solar Power and Storage

By Bill Severson



Boy, I sure could have used storage batteries to keep critical stuff powered during the recent county-wide, 12-hour power outage!

I had put off purchasing them, waiting for the battery technology to mature, but maybe now is the time.

The Washington State Department of Commerce will soon solicit proposals for grants through a new program called *Solar Plus Storage for Resilient Communities*, which will fund solar and battery back-up power for community buildings that provide essential services when the power goes out.

Grants will support planning for and installation of solar plus storage systems at community buildings, including schools, community centers, libraries, owned by local, state, and tribal governments and non-profits in Washington State.

The San Juan Island Grange might like to apply!



### Growing Grain in 2023

Goose Hollow Farm is making plans to grow grain in 2023. We would be interested in hearing from Grangers who might be interested in locally grown grain for animal feed and/or personal use. This year we sold all we were able to produce and are now looking forward to next year. Barley? Wheat? Hullless oats? Spelt? Text Court at (360) 317-5096 to start a dialogue about what you are thinking or might need.



### Bee aware!

Pollination resource material compiled by the Washington State University Small Fruit Horticulture Team may be found online at <https://linktr.ee/wsupollination>

A link to the recording of the recent workshop on pollinators, sponsored by Grange #966, the San Juan Islands Agricultural Guild, and WSU, will be posted on online through November 2023 at [https://wsu.zoom.us/rec/share/MzBA2JckLqwPXF\\_pgMUlm-cZgSaZUtcuKpODnRlvpXICjDO4erLhkKNGD\\_E9Lb5lZcF\\_5NaWT9tQWjS6](https://wsu.zoom.us/rec/share/MzBA2JckLqwPXF_pgMUlm-cZgSaZUtcuKpODnRlvpXICjDO4erLhkKNGD_E9Lb5lZcF_5NaWT9tQWjS6)

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The theme of the summit this year is **The Changing Tides of Island Agriculture**. This theme honors the intersections of water and agriculture in the islands, the challenges and opportunities for water use and conservation, as well as the rapidly evolving landscape of our local food system. Content is oriented around four tracks: Plants, Animals, Water and People.

### **Thursday March 2: Kickoff**

5 - 7pm: The Summit kicks off with a networking event for the agricultural and environmental community, in partnership with the Stewardship Network: Friday Harbor Green Drinks, at a location in Friday Harbor.

### **Friday, March 3: Workshops, Roundtable and Hoedown**

8am - 4pm: In-person workshops held around the island, with Brickworks as our Summit Resource Hub and a place to gather, find resources, and see friends. Participants are invited to stop by, enjoy a cup of coffee at any point through the day and find more information.

4:30 - 5:45pm: Island Farmer's Roundtable, a free event open to all at the Grange.

6 - 9pm: Return to Brickworks for a chance to kick up your heels with food and music at the Summit Hoedown.

### **Saturday March 4: Main Conference Day**

7am - 4:30pm: Everyone will gather in-person at the beautiful University of Washington Friday Harbor Labs. Breakfast and keynote by Katie Pencke of Alluvial Farms to start the day. Breakout sessions are oriented around the four tracks, with the first session right after the keynote. We'll come back together for lunch, camaraderie and announcements and then continue with two more breakouts. This year there will also be programming available for children - two Forest School education based sessions for children with Amy Plant, owner and lead teacher of Little House in the Forest.

5 - 7pm: A last chance to gather with your Summit pals for a no-host gathering at SJI Brewing Company before heading home.

### **Registration & Pricing**

Online pre-registration through Eventbrite is required to attend all Summit events. Save yourself some \$\$ and register for the Early Bird Specials! Early-bird pricing runs early January through January 27, and regular registration is open January 28 - February 19. A limited number of scholarships are available.

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### **Early Bird Pricing**

#### Friday

- Workshops: \$25 each
- Farmer Roundtable: Free
- Hoedown: \$25 - ticket includes food & music

#### Saturday

- All-day conference: \$100 includes all day programming, coffee/ team, breakfast & lunch
- Optional Childcare: \$50 per session (no early bird discount but a minimum)

### **Regular Pricing**

#### Friday

- Workshops: \$30 each
- Farmer Roundtable: Free
- Hoedown: \$30 - ticket includes food & music

#### Saturday

- All day conference: \$125 includes all day programming, coffee/ team, breakfast & lunch
- Optional Childcare: \$50 per session (no early bird discount but a minimum)

For more information, find us at: <https://extension.wsu.edu/sanjuan/ag-summit/>.

Follow us on Facebook: [@sjcwsuextension](https://www.facebook.com/sjcwsuextension) and on Instagram: [@wsueextension\\_sjc](https://www.instagram.com/wsueextension)

## **The Grange Exchange continued...**

**Horse tack for sale. If interested, please text Sarah Severn at (503) 807 4765.**



**Hunter Classic girth. 54-inch.  
Dark brown leather. \$40**

**Letitia Memory Foam Klik girth  
All purpose. 50-inch. Brown. \$30**



**Dressage Girth. Ovation Airform.  
22-inch. Black. \$20.**



## Locally Sourced Chicken Feed

By Bruce Robinson

We ask a lot of our chickens. The ancestor of the modern chicken, the Red Jungle Fowl, lays from 10 to 14 eggs a year —enough to continue the species; a good modern layer hen can produce 300 or more eggs a year; and a slow-growing broiler can grow to 4 or 5 pounds in 3 months. Nutrient needs for this kind of production are high. It is possible, though, with a community effort to produce a poultry feed ration sufficiently nutrient dense to support our local needs.

Chicken are the quintessential omnivores. There are a few things they won't or shouldn't eat. Generally, they will eat just about anything and everything. Our responsibility is to make sure they have an optimal amount of protein and essential nutrients. We could meet this demand by working cooperatively.

There is a large variety of plants that can be easily grown on a relatively small scale that, in combination, could supply many of the nutrients needed in a balanced feed, such as black oil sunflowers, millet, amaranth, vetch, flaxseed, lupins and more. Grains, such as wheat and barley, which generally contribute protein, would need to be grown on a somewhat larger scale but within the capacity of small local farms.

Endeavors such as vermiculture and black soldier fly larva production could also be taken on by individuals or small groups to produce high-quality protein.

Many of us enjoy the eggs and meat of our own chickens but cringe at the cost and effort of sourcing chicken feed from off island. The question of

whether we can produce our own quality poultry feed arises frequently, and the Grange could be part of the solution to providing locally grown chicken feed.



Robinson chickens following omnivore pursuits