



The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

April 7, 2023

In this Issue:

[Celebrating anniversaries is important to show pride in your Grange](#) by Betsy E. Huber

[Open Houses provide perfect opportunity to brag](#)
by Pete Pompper

[Grange Month events](#)

[Share your talent at "Date Night In"](#)

[National Grange Virtual Legislative Fly-In](#)

[April Heirloom](#)

[Grange Foundation Krispy Kreme fundraiser](#)

[Register for the Rural Mental Health Caregiver Challenges Webinar](#)

[Grange Supply Store Notice](#)

[Grange Supply Store: Grange Decals](#)

[Grange Supply Store: Raised Right Here Stickers](#)

[Grange Member Benefit: Avis car rentals](#)

[FDA Moves Forward with Mail-back Envelopes for](#)

[Opioid Analgesics Dispensed in Outpatient](#)

[Settings](#)

Celebrating anniversaries is important to show pride in your Grange

By [Betsy E. Huber](#), National Grange President

2023 is a big year for 150th anniversaries of Granges, State, Pomona, and Community. Thousands of Granges were organized across the country in 1873, and it's wonderful to see that quite a few have survived and thrived for 150 years.

State Granges in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin have already held their 150th State Sessions but several of these are celebrating their 150th anniversaries this fall. States celebrating their 150th Session this year are Colorado, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, and Oregon. I'll be attending Michigan State Grange's 150th Anniversary Gala next Saturday.

Another important milestone in Granges' history is the centennial. I was delighted to attend the Sippican Pomona Grange #31 (MA) 100th Anniversary celebration last Saturday. Their members celebrated in grand style, with a banquet, beautiful decorations and favors, musical entertainment, and recitation of the history and current activities of each Community Grange in the Pomona. State President Glenn Gibson was the keynote speaker, and all of the living MA State Grange past presidents were in attendance. It was obvious that the members are very proud of their Pomona and Community Granges, and they put a lot of effort and planning into this special event.

As Grangers we have much to be proud of in our organization. Take advantage of [Grange Month](#) to show that pride in YOUR Grange by having an open house or some other event to introduce the community to all that Grange has to offer. Let us know what you're doing!



Open Houses provide perfect opportunity to brag

By [Pete Pompper](#), National Grange Community Service Director



Grange Month is here and Granges throughout the country are holding open houses and welcoming the community into their Halls. Now you are probably wondering, what do these open houses have to do with community service?

The answer is quite simple, actually. For years, Granges have compiled a community service book for judging at their State Grange session. As we know, after that the books are then put in a filing cabinet or a closet in the Grange Hall never to be seen again. What a shame, because these books show a wonderful history of what your Grange has done in and for the community.

An open house provides a great opportunity to “brag” about what your Grange has done for the community for so many years. Think of the people and organizations you have positively impacted that those around do not even realize. Having put together and judged these community service books in the past, I am always impressed and proud of the work you do in your communities. Be proud of it, put the books out, and brag - you have earned the praise.

As we have seen, last year there was an increase in membership in Granges across the country - small, medium, and large. We at the National Grange feel it is due, in part, to non-members seeing the positive impact Granges are having and the community wants to be part of that. People truly want to either give back in some way or be part of an organization that has an impact in the community in so many positive ways. They also want to be around other people who know how to get things done and have fun doing it.

These community service books also show how a Grange is a family organization when they see families working on a project together. If you have a Junior Grange and it does a book, put those out also; let the community see how we truly are a family organization. Think of how this shows that Grangers like to teach our younger members life skills and the importance of giving back. I can think of many lessons my “Grange Ladies” taught me over the years - not only in Junior Grange, but even as I progressed in my Subordinate years.

So, search the closets and cabinets in your Granges or ask a member if they have old community service books and display them. You can/should display them not only for Grange Month, but also when you are hosting an event at the Hall or wherever you meet. It is a way for the community to see what your Grange is doing with the money you raise at a fundraiser. It shows them that the funds are staying locally and all the good you are doing.

Happy Grange Month!

Grange Month events

Grange Month is off to a fantastic start! In the past week, we had our Kickoff Event with National Grange Directors, Officers, and members of the Youth & Junior Leadership Team; an informational Zoom about Grange Revival; and “Spring Training” for Grange Baseball with the Juniors & Youth.

Coming up this week, join us on Zoom for Membership Matters with Amanda Brozana Rios on Tuesday. Then, on Friday, join us from the comfort of your homes for the return of “Date Night In!” – watch on Facebook or YouTube.

You can catch up with this month’s presentations on our [YouTube Channel!](#)

GRANGE MONTH EVENTS APRIL 9-15

ALL TIMES
EASTERN

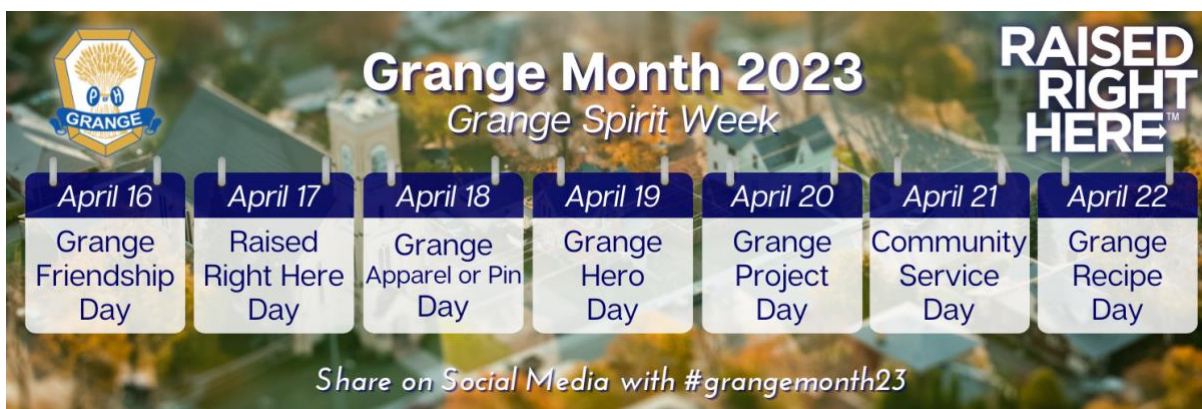
11: MEMBERSHIP MATTERS 8:30 P.M.
National Grange Membership & Leadership Development Director Amanda Brozana Rios leads this conversation each month!
Join: <http://bit.ly/mm1867>

14: DATE NIGHT IN 8:30 P.M.
Join National Grange Lecturer Ann Bercher in a coast-to-coast talent show! Featuring talented Grange members from around the country, we would love to entertain you in the comfort of your homes!
Watch on **Facebook** or **YouTube!**

RAISED • RIGHT • HERE™

JUNIOR GRANGE FOCUS AREA:
AGRICULTURAL AWARENESS

YOUTH PILLAR FOCUS AREA:
ACTION



Share your talent at “Date Night In”



We are planning for [Grange Month 2023](#)! One of our special events is a one-night-only return of "Date Night In," a favorite event from 2020!

Do you have a special talent? Do you sing? Dance? Play an instrument? Are you crafty? Or do you have a hobby you'd love to share?

We are seeking 3-5 minute submissions from Grange members around the country to be a part of our Date Night In virtual talent show on April 14th.

Send your submissions to [Ann Bercher, National Grange Lecturer](#) ASAP!

Date Night In will be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook on April 14th!

National Grange Virtual Legislative Fly-In

The National Grange Virtual Legislative Fly-In is coming up on April 26th! The event will take place via Zoom, where you'll hear updates from National Grange staff and some guests, including:

- **Senator [Debbie Stabenow](#)** (D-MI), Chair, [Senate Committee on Agriculture](#)
- **Mikayla Bodey**, Staff, [U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Nutrition](#)
- **Janet McUlsky**, President, [McUlsky Health Force](#)
- **Jenna Alsayegh**, Senior Director, Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships, [USTelecom](#)
- and other government officials and advocacy partners

The event will take place starting at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern) on Wednesday, April 26th.

Even if you cannot attend, please register so we can share videos and information from speakers with you after the Fly-In is completed.

Register Today!



April Heirloom



THOSE WE ADMIT INTO OUR CIRCLE
 ARE NOT CHOSEN BY OUTWARD
 APPEARANCE, AND... WE ARE NOT
 DECEIVED BY DISPLAY IN DRESS. IT IS
 TO THE MIND AND HEART THAT WE
 LOOK FOR ALL GOOD WORKS;
 THEREFORE, IN YOUR INTERCOURSE
 WITH THE WORLD, REMEMBER THAT A
 NOBLE MIND AND GENEROUS HEART
 ARE OFTEN CONCEALED BENEATH THE
 GARMENTS OF POVERTY.

First Degree; Steward



“Those we admit into our circle are not chosen by outward appearance, and... we are not deceived by display in dress. It is to the mind and heart that we look for all good works; therefore, in your intercourse with the world, remember that a noble mind and generous heart are often concealed beneath the garments of poverty.” – Steward, First Degree

Use the Heirloom Program to connect your Grange to our heritage and ritual, and to discuss how it affects our actions in the present.

[Access the April, Year B materials here.](#)

Grange Foundation Krispy Kreme fundraiser



Get your delicious **Krispy Kreme** dozens and support Grange Foundation at the same time!!! Purchase a dozen (or two or three) original glaze doughnuts through our fundraising sales page and 50% of your order will be donated back to Grange Foundation.

Simply buy your dozen online, visit a Krispy Kreme store near you and redeem using your code! Guarantee your doughnuts here:

<http://bit.ly/grangekrispykremes>



Register for the Rural Mental Health Caregiver Challenges Webinar



In keeping with our mission to serve as the informed voice for mental health in rural America, [Rural Minds](#) and the National Grange are pleased to present another Rural Mental Health Connections Free Webinar.

This webinar will be held on **May 10th at 7:00 PM Eastern / 4:00 PM Pacific.**

Many people in rural communities struggle with mental illness, and their loved ones who provide care face challenges that are often overlooked. This webinar will feature:

- Two rural caregivers sharing their stories of lived experience providing care for their loved ones
- A conversation about stigma and the personal and professional sacrifices necessary in order to provide care
- Sharing of relevant free resources for the mental wellness of rural caregivers.
-

Register Today!

Grange Supply Store Notice

Effective May 1 – the price of all “Years of Service” Seals will increase to \$5 (with \$3 shipping) and Golden Sheaf pins will increase to \$25.

To save money now, place your orders with [Loretta Washington](#) by midnight Eastern on May 1st (postmarked or in email inbox).


SUPPLY STORE
www.grangestore.org

GRANGE DECALS



These 10" decals of the Grange emblem have an adhesive back, which makes them easy to use on displays, posters, roadside signage, and more!
 The reflective gold on the emblem makes them stand out, and will have everyone looking in the direction of your Grange

\$3.50
PLUS SHIPPING

Order online through the Grange Supply Store at grangestore.org or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.


SUPPLY STORE
www.grangestore.org

"RAISED RIGHT HERE" VINYL STICKERS




Great way to celebrate Grange month and to have at other Grange activities and events.

Die-Cut Vinyl Stickers - in two designs, celebrating the National Grange "Raised Right Here" theme
25 stickers of each design

\$12 for 50 stickers
plus shipping

Get yours by ordering online through the Grange Supply Store at grangestore.org or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

Grange Member Benefit: Avis car rentals


AVIS® Grange members always receive up to 25% off their rental when using the code **AWD #B291044**, plus enjoy additional offers like dollars off, a complimentary upgrade, or a free weekend day. With a complimentary membership in Avis Preferred®, you'll travel better, save time and gain access to exclusive offers. Skip the counter and paperwork at many locations and go straight to your car.

Visit avis.com/en/association/B291044 or call 1-800-331-1212 to make a reservation.

FDA Moves Forward with Mail-back Envelopes for Opioid Analgesics Dispensed in Outpatient Settings

Courtesy of the United States Food & Drug Administration

On Monday, April 3, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced it is requiring manufacturers of opioid analgesics dispensed in outpatient settings to make prepaid mail-back envelopes available to outpatient pharmacies and other dispensers as an additional opioid analgesic disposal option for patients.

“Expanding impactful opioid disposal options, such as mail-back envelopes and in-home disposal, for patients to safely and securely dispose of their unused opioid medications is part of the agency’s comprehensive approach to addressing the overdose crisis,” said FDA Commissioner Robert M. Califf, M.D. “We believe these efforts will not only increase convenient disposal options for many Americans, but also reduce unfortunate opportunities for nonmedical use, accidental exposure, overdose and potential new cases of opioid use disorder. We’re pleased to take this first critical step to increase mail-back envelope options in partnership with the U.S. Postal Service.”

The FDA issued notice to all manufacturers of opioid analgesics used in outpatient settings that they are required to submit the proposed modification to the [Opioid Analgesic Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy \(OA REMS\)](#) within 180 days of the date of the notification letter. The agency anticipates approval of the modified REMS in 2024. When implemented, outpatient pharmacies and other dispensers will have the option to order prepaid mail-back envelopes from opioid analgesic manufacturers, which they may then provide to patients prescribed opioid analgesics. The REMS modification also requires manufacturers to develop educational materials for patients on safe disposal of opioid analgesics, which outpatient pharmacies and other dispensers may also provide to patients.

Patients commonly report having unused opioid analgesics following surgical procedures and many Americans gain access to opioids through friends or relatives who have unused opioids. Data show educating patients about disposal options may increase the disposal rate of unused opioids and that providing a disposal option along with education could further increase that rate.

Currently, there are multiple mail-back envelope programs operating in the U.S. and mail-back envelopes are commercially available from multiple entities. There are long-standing regulations and policies, under the Drug Enforcement Administration and United States Postal Service, in place to ensure that mail-back envelopes are nondescript, fit for purpose, and can safely and securely transport unused medicines from the patient's home to the location where they will be destroyed.

The FDA continues to consider additional ways to increase safe disposal of unused opioid analgesics. Specifically, the agency is exploring whether manufacturers of opioid analgesic should also be required to make in-home disposal products available to patients who are prescribed opioid analgesics. In an effort to further evaluate this potential option, the agency will participate in the workshop, [Defining and Evaluating In-Home Drug Disposal Systems for Opioid Analgesic](#), to examine current in-home disposal options hosted by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine's (NASEM's) Forum on Drug Discovery, Development, and Translation in June 2023. The FDA has also issued a [Federal Register Notice](#) to seek information and comments from the public to aid the agency's assessment of in-home disposal methods.

These collective efforts are part of the agency's implementation of the FDA Overdose Prevention Framework which aims to prevent drug overdoses and reduce deaths through impactful and creative actions. The FDA remains focused on responding to all facets of substance use, misuse, substance use disorders, overdose, and death in the U.S. through the four priorities of the framework, including; supporting primary prevention by eliminating unnecessary initial prescription drug exposure and inappropriate prolonged prescribing; encouraging harm reduction through innovation and education; advancing the development of evidence-based treatments for substance use disorders; and protecting the public from unapproved, diverted or counterfeit drugs presenting overdose risks.



SUPPLY STORE

GRANGE JEWELRY

Grange Jewelry is now in stock at the Grange Store. Pins include years of service and member recognition pins from 5-80 years, past officer pins, Degree recognition pins, and much more!

Some jewelry is now on clearance!

Prices vary

Order online through the Grange Supply Store at grangestore.org or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

www.grangestore.org

National Grange HQ | 1616 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20006 | (202) 628-3507

Publisher Betsy Huber, National Grange President. Available to members at betsy@nationalgrange.org or by phone at (484) 459-1957

Editor Philip J Vonada, National Grange Communications Director. Contact to submit a story idea for Patrons Chain or *Good Day!* magazine, request assistance with publicity, business cards, and more. Email pvonada@nationalgrange.org or call/text (814) 404-7985

Leadership Training and Membership Development Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership, and Leadership Development Director. Contact to learn more about membership recruitment or how to start or reorganize a Grange, leadership training and more. Email at abrozana@nationalgrange.org or call/text (301) 943-1090

Legislative and Policy Issues Director Burton Eller, *National HQ*, ext. 114 or email beller@nationalgrange.org; Assistant Sean O'Neil, *National HQ*, email soneil@nationalgrange.org

Membership Recognition, Grange Supply Sales, Grange Programs and Member Benefits Loretta Washington, *National HQ*, ext. 109 or email sales@nationalgrange.org

Free Grange Websites, Emails, *Good Day!* subscription questions and Membership Database Stephanie Wilkins, *National HQ*, ext. 101 or email swilkins@nationalgrange.org

Lecturer Ann Bercher, lecturer@nationalgrange.org or (612) 501-1231

Junior and Youth Programming Samantha Wilkins, samantha@nationalgrange.org or (210) 838-7892

Community Service Pete Pompper communityservice@nationalgrange.org or (609) 820-6239

Grange Foundation Chairperson Joan C. Smith ngfb@grange.org or (571) 662-7220