



# The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

March 10, 2023

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## You're invited to the 2023 National Grange Fly-In

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

We are delighted to bring the National Grange Fly-In into your homes virtually this year on April 26. If you've always wanted to participate but have been unable to make the trip to Washington, DC, this is your chance to hear excellent speakers on hot issues of the day at no cost to you.

Burton and Sean are lining up top-notch speakers on the Farm Bill, rural broadband roll-out, climate change and ag policy, health care issues, and much more. We are asking you to [register](#) so we know how many to expect and we don't overload our Zoom link. If you can't join us on Wednesday afternoon, a video of the highlights will be available later on YouTube. Take advantage of the Grange's friends and partners in high places and find out information from the source.

As you watch and listen to the Fly-In, be sure to take notes on issues you would like to address in resolutions for this year. It's not too early to compose those solutions into resolutions to submit to your local Grange, Pomona Grange, and State Grange session. Don't just complain about the way things are; take action to change them! As a Grange member, you have the power to make a difference.



*Click the banner to register for the Fly-In!*

## In Honor of Women: Women in ag history

By Ann Bercher, National Grange Lecturer



It is no secret that women have had a significant role in American agriculture. The Grange has made that clear since the beginning acknowledging that women have an important role to play. In honor of Women's History Month, I thought I would highlight a few women and their organizations that have made significant contributions to our agriculture and horticultural history.

Beginning in 1853, **Ann Pamela Cunningham** challenged the women of the south - and later the women of the country - to save the home and grounds of George Washington, Mount Vernon. This resulted in the formation of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association in 1858, the first National historic preservation organization. They managed to raise \$200,000 (*that's over \$7 million today!*) to purchase the home and grounds (200 acres) and proceeded to preserve and protect the site. That organization still exists today.

**Carrie H. Lippincott** from Minnesota was the first American woman to establish a seed-selling business in 1886 and built a successful seed empire receiving a quarter of a million catalog orders a year by 1898.

In 1891, a group of women in Athens, Georgia created the Ladies' Garden Club of Athens, the first women's gardening society of its kind in America. Led by **Mrs. E. K. Lumpkin**, the members promoted horticulture education and invited anyone interested in learning to grow anything "from a cabbage to a chrysanthemum" to join. In the spring of 1892, the group presented its first flower and vegetable exposition.

In 1902, **Frances Griscom Parsons** established the DeWitt Clinton Farm School in New York City, NY. In the Farm Gardens, children from 9 to 12 years old cultivated plants and flowers including vegetables. In the Farm House, the children learned the proper way to cook their harvested produce. The girls worked alongside the boys doing all of the farm chores. "So in the first place the children are taught economy of space," Parsons explained, "Economy of other things follows. We teach them honesty in their work, neatness and order, justice as well as kindness to their neighbors. I assure you that all the virtues can be taught from a little patch of ground not eight feet square."

**Harriot Stanton Blatch** was appointed by President Herbert Hoover as head of the Food Administration of Speakers in 1917. The goal of FAS was to keep food on the tables of Americans during WWI while many farmers were off serving their country. Blatch recommended training women to take over agricultural roles, which led her to being named Director of the Women's Land Army of America. There, she helped recruit, organize and train women in all aspects of agricultural work.

**Ethyl Early Clark** is the only woman among the original founders of the Negro Garden Club of Virginia and was named its first president in 1932. In twenty years, the organization grew from 7 chapters to 105 chapters bringing black gardeners together to compare growing techniques and beautifying neighborhoods. The club promoted four



Courtesy of:

<https://gardens.si.edu/announcement/1917-1919-mobilization-of-womens-land-army/>

main values: home improvement, community improvement, improving race relations, and recreation and creative self-expression.

In 1943, **Eleanor Roosevelt** planted a Victory Garden on the White House lawn helping to promote the patriotic duty to grow food during WWII. As Assistant Director of Volunteer Services for the Office of Civil Defense, she also lent her support to the re-establishment of the Women's Land Army.

In 1969, **Fannie Lou Hamer**, a civil rights leader and former sharecropper, founded the Freedom Farm Cooperative in Sunflower County, Mississippi. The Freedom Farm was dedicated to grassroots participation and a means for African American farmers to share resources, including field crops and vegetables.

In 1970, **Alicia Bay Laurel** of Sonoma, CA published her manual, "Living on the Earth" as a guide for young people looking to live off the land. Her book sold more than 350,000 copies. In the same year, Jane Shuttleworth, from North Carolina, co-founded the magazine "[Mother Earth News](#)" which also supported the back-to-the-land movement.

First Lady **Michelle Obama** planted a kitchen garden on the South Lawn of the White House in 2009. This was the first vegetable garden on the property since Eleanor Roosevelt's Victory Garden.

The 2017 Census of Agriculture released by the Agriculture Department revealed that 36% of U.S. farmers are women and 56% of all farms had at least one female decision-maker.

The role of women in agriculture continues to be significant. These are just a few examples.

## 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](#) by March 31 for consideration.

***Date Night In will be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook on April 14<sup>th</sup>!***



**RAISED-RIGHT-HERE**  
*since 1867*

must purchase by March 13!  
*delivery by April 1*

Polo - \$33\* (Royal)  
Hoodie - \$40\* (Navy)  
Junior T-Shirt - \$18\* (Red)  
T-Shirt - \$20\* (Green)  
Women's V-Neck - \$20\* (Light Blue)

*\*plus applicable taxes and shipping*

**GRANGE MONTH SALE!**  
Raised Right Here Shirts  
*the final time the Raised Right Here logos will be for sale on apparel!*



[bit.ly/grangemonthshirt](https://bit.ly/grangemonthshirt)

*This is your final chance to buy – sales MUST close next week!*  
**Shirts should be delivered by April 1.** Each purchase also supports the National Grange!

**Click here to buy your Grange Month shirt!**

## Grange Month Materials



Grange Month is just around the corner – April will be here before we know it!


Over the next few weeks, keep checking the [Grange Month 2023](#) page on the National Grange website as more things will be added!

We are in year two of our “Raised Right Here,” theme. This year, we encourage our Granges to use the theme to celebrate building strong communities – of all sorts! The network of the Grange community is strong, and we work to make the communities where our Granges function strong, too!

During Grange Month, there will be online forums and events with many of the National Grange officers and Directors – please encourage your Grange members to attend! That calendar will be available in mid-March.



**Grange Month 2023**  
*Grange Spirit Week*



April 16	April 17	April 18	April 19	April 20	April 21	April 22
Grange Friendship Day	Raised Right Here Day	Grange Apparel or Pin Day	Grange Hero Day	Grange Project Day	Community Service Day	Grange Recipe Day

*Share on Social Media with #grangemonth23*

## Upcoming Events



**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**  
*with Amanda Brozala Riis*

**MONTHLY ON ZOOM**  
*Second Tuesdays*

**MARCH 14TH**  
@ 8:30PM (ET)  
[bit.ly/mm1867](https://bit.ly/mm1867)  
Meeting ID: 525 965 930  
Passcode: 981892

The graphic features a blue background with white silhouettes of people holding hands. In the center is a shield-shaped logo with a golden border, containing a sheaf of wheat and the letters 'P or H' above the word 'GRANGE'.

Make plans to join us on March 14th for our next installment of Membership Matters!

This month, Amanda will be joined by Philip Vonada, National Grange Communications Director, who will be discussing leadership through the *FISH* method.

# JUNIOR JIBBER-JABBER

## WHEN:

Third Sunday of odd-numbered months (January/March/May... etc.)  
at 9 p.m. Eastern

## WHO:

Junior Directors or anyone else interested in Junior Grange programming!

## WHERE:

### On Zoom!

**Login:** 833 7712 0738

**Passcode:** 969128

or [bit.ly/JibberJabberZoom](https://bit.ly/JibberJabberZoom)





## SUPPLY STORE

[www.grangestore.org](http://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

[www.grangestore.org](http://www.grangestore.org) or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

### Grange Member Benefit: Farmers Auto and Home Insurance



Farmers Auto and Home – **Farmers GroupSelect<sup>SM</sup>** provides insurance coverage tailored to your needs. Save hundreds today.

By combining auto, home, and other policies, you could save even more!

Visit us online or Call today, 877-491-5089

## 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 [www.grangestore.org](http://www.grangestore.org) or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.



[www.grangestore.org](http://www.grangestore.org)

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