



# The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

June 10, 2022

## **National Grange sees quarterly net gain in membership**

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

We have some extremely exciting news—as of first quarter 2022, nationally we have a net gain in membership numbers! I believe this is the first time in about 50 years that the Grange has shown more gains than losses in membership. Congratulations!

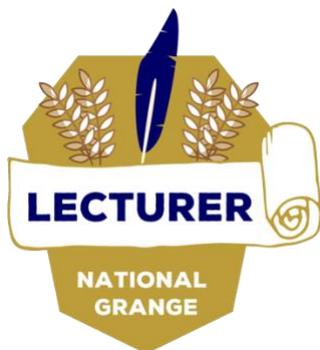
There remain less than three weeks in the second quarter and the end of the National Grange membership year. I urge you to sign up those prospective members you've been talking to; contact the current members you haven't seen recently; make every effort to keep those numbers up in your Community Grange. Let's maintain that gain so we can show a net gain for the 2021-22 membership year.

This news is even more impressive coming at the end of the COVID pandemic. We had great fears that the Grange would suffer as a result of being unable to meet in person for two years. But your extraordinary efforts have been rewarded! The service you provided to your community during the hard times and isolation has paid off with new interest and new members, people who are interested in helping their neighbors and towns.

Most of the growth has been in the west—Nevada, Washington, Idaho, and California. This is a challenge to the rest of the country! With good weather finally here, life getting back to normal, and Granges again meeting in person, let's advertise those Grange activities and increase our numbers across the nation.

## **Weather Awareness Summer**

By [Ann Bercher](#), National Grange Community Service Director



The National Weather Service recommends that every state promote a Severe Weather Awareness week every year. You can find the dates for this year's Severe Weather Awareness dates here: [https://www.weather.gov/safety/events\\_calendar](https://www.weather.gov/safety/events_calendar)

But in recent years, the volatility of weather systems begs me to suggest that Severe Weather Awareness is something we should be considering every day of every season. Since we are fast approaching a busy summer, and whether you are staying at home or traveling this summer, here are some tips for creating a weather preparedness plan.

1. Know where you can get weather alerts. In addition to receiving your local weather news on TV and radio, be sure to confirm that your cell phone can receive Wireless Emergency Alerts, and then sign up to receive text and/or email alerts from your local jurisdiction. You may also wish to purchase a battery-operated Weather Radio.
2. Know what the alerts mean and what action you should take. A Warning means that conditions are favorable for the possibility of a weather event and to stay tuned to your information source for further details. A warning means that the weather event is imminent

and that you should take cover or other-directed options. Depending on where you live you might receive watches or warnings for thunderstorms, tornadoes, flash flooding, flooding, river flooding, excessive heat, and tropical storms. An extensive list of watch and warning definitions can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/lwx/WarningsDefined>

3. Know what your shelter plan is. Know where the safest place in your home is for your family to meet should there be a Severe Weather Warning. Know where you and your family members should go if they are out in the neighborhood or away from home. Be sure to plan where to meet after the event is over.
4. Plan and practice an evacuation route so that everyone knows how and where to end up.
5. Identify a communications plan. During severe weather, cell phone towers are often limited, and texting may work when calling does not. When severe weather is a possibility, be sure your cell phones are well charged. Be sure every phone in your family has emergency phone numbers identified on them that include emergency services, medical providers, veterinarians, insurance companies, and other services. Be sure to include a family member or friend that lives out of state.
6. Prepare an emergency preparedness kit. Be sure to include water, charged cell phone charger, flashlights with fresh batteries, a first-aid kit, a whistle, moist towelettes, wrench or pliers, a battery-powered or hand-crank radio, and food. See more at <https://www.ready.gov/kit>. Keep your emergency preparedness kit well stocked and updated every year.

More tips and suggestions can be found at <https://www.ready.gov/plan>

You can use educational materials found here: <https://www.nssl.noaa.gov/education/educators/> for informative and useful material for your next Lecturer's Program.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable and very safe summer!

## **Register for the 156<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

By [Samantha Wilkins](#), National Grange Operations Coordinator



The Western Host region is excited to invite Grangers and friends from across the country to the Silver State! We are just over 5 months away from the opening of the 156th National Grange Convention, set to be held in Reno-Sparks, Nevada from November 15 through 19, 2022.

Many new and exciting things are being planned by the Host region and you are sure to have a memorable experience in Reno! Visit the National Grange website to learn more about what's coming up at this year's convention.

Don't take too long to decide; catch the **early bird registration** and make plans to attend today by registering for the National Grange Convention at this link: [156th Annual National Grange Convention - The National Grange.](#)

**Early Bird Registration** - \$32 is open until 9/9/2022

**General Registration** - \$37 is open until 10/19/22

**Late Registration** - \$42 closes for meal options on 11/1/22

**Registration on Site** - will be available at the late registration cost, *however, you will not be able to obtain tickets to any meals*

## Ohio State Grange releases “Buckeye Patron’s Pulse Podcast”



Buckeye Patron's Pulse Podcast #1

The Ohio State Grange has released a new podcast series called the “Buckeye Patron’s Pulse” on YouTube and Spotify. Hosted by State President Sue Roy and Legislative Director Margaret Ann Ruhl, the series introduces National Grange history and discusses issues important to Ohio State Grange members.

[Take a listen!](#)

Congratulations to Ohio State Grange for branching out and trying something new to reach a new audience!



Congratulations to **Morgan Browning** (Mossyrock Grange #355, Washington) and **Ryan Patton** (Ewing Grange #2082, Ohio) for winning the GROW Club Academic Scholarship for 2022!



Submit your videos here: <https://bit.ly/2022TelethonSubmissions>

## **The Grange Foundation Virtual Telethon is seeking sponsorships!**

Granges, individuals, and companies are being sought to become sponsors of this 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Virtual Telethon for the National Grange Junior and Youth Departments. Sponsors can choose from several levels of support and will be recognized during our virtual telethon, on our website and social media, and in [our weekly newsletter](#) and quarterly *Good Day!* magazine. For as low as \$25 (individuals/Granges) or \$500 (companies), you can help ensure that children, youth, and young adults have access to educational opportunities and more from the National Grange.

You can learn more about becoming a telethon sponsor by visiting [this link](#) or by emailing [Samantha Wilkins](#).

## **National Grange helps launch “Hear Well” campaign**



The National Grange joined the Hearing Loss Association of America, the Hearing Industries Association, and numerous medical and patient groups to launch the [“Hear Well” campaign](#).

The purpose of the campaign is to educate the public on hearing loss and the critical role hearing professionals play in the diagnosis and treatment of this common medical condition. An estimated 48 million Americans have some form of hearing loss, making it one of the most prevalent medical conditions in the country.

“The “Hear Well” campaign educates people on the importance of consulting with a hearing professional to understand their unique hearing loss before making a decision about their treatment plan.” –Kate Carr, President of the Hearing Industries Association

Learn more about “Hear Well” and how you can promote healthy hearing at [hearing.org](http://hearing.org).

## **Communication Fellows Applications due in July!**

We invite you to apply to be part of the 2022 class of Communication Fellows at the 156th Annual National Grange Convention in Sparks, Nevada. This opportunity is made possible thanks to generous funders, but there are VERY limited spots available. Those who become Fellows are expected to make time for at least three hour-long orientation/training teleconferences that will be held at least once a month starting in August and running through October, as well as a few brief assignments or projects prior to the start of the National Convention.

Fellows will hear and learn from the National Grange President, Staff and Officers, former Communications Fellows, other communications professionals, and more. Fellows will produce content for the daily convention newsletter, interviews and content for our social media channels, stories/elements for *Good Day!* magazine, live stream events - and much more. This is hands-on training with support from many of the previous Fellows who have participated in the program since 2012. Former Fellows now hold many significant offices and jobs in their State and National Grange and often credit the program with providing them insight into the differences across State Granges and the opportunities and challenges to the organization, as well as great motivation for being part of our next 155+ years of service.

[The application is available here.](#) Completed applications including nomination letters must be received by the start of business on July 8, 2022.



## **American National Standards Institute Launches Consumer Participation Fund**

Courtesy of [ANSI](#)

The [American National Standards Institute](#) (ANSI) and its [Consumer Interest Forum](#) (CIF) are pleased to announce the launch of the ANSI Consumer Participation Fund, an initiative that seeks to mitigate financial barriers to consumer engagement in the voluntary consensus standards system.

Five founding contributors have joined ANSI in pledging commitments to seed the fund:

- [ASTM International](#)
- [The International Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials \(IAPMO\)](#)
- [NSF International](#)
- [The Toy Association](#)
- [Underwriters Laboratories \(UL\)](#)

Consumer involvement in standards development is vital, not only for providing insights that can improve standards outcomes, but also to help assure the inclusiveness and integrity of the development process. Attracting and engaging consumers in this process often poses a challenge, and both consumer representatives and standards developers cite lack of funding as a crucial barrier to consumer participation in standards development activities.

"Greater participation by consumers in standards development activities has long been one of ANSI's goals, and we hope that providing this much-needed funding for travel expenses and

participation fees will have a significant impact in bringing these representatives into the process," said S. Joe Bhatia, ANSI president and CEO. "On behalf of ANSI, its Board of Directors, and its Consumer Interest Forum, I'd like to express our gratitude to the current funders for supporting this initiative. I encourage other stakeholders to join us in backing this fund so that we can continue to bolster consumer participation in our community going forward."

[Read more about the Consumer Participation Fund here.](#)

Consumers interested in learning more about how they can participate in the standards process, and get support from the fund if needed, can visit the [ANSI consumer website](#).



SUPPLY STORE

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



**\$6.00**  
PLUS SHIPPING

### 3-RING BINDER

This 1-inch thick binder is perfect for holding your Grange meeting essentials or taking out into the world to show of your Grange pride.

Cover features the Grange emblem in gold, with the "American Values. Hometown Roots." slogan.

*Order 3 or more for a discount!*

Order online through the Grange Supply Store at [grangestore.com](http://grangestore.com) or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

**Grange Supply Store Note:** Any Grange Supply Store "rush" orders that require expedited arrival (7 days or fewer from time of order) will have a \$25.00 expedition fee added to the order, in addition to the shipping fee. This includes any seals, certificates, and membership recognition applications.

## Introducing ODP Business Solutions™ Member Benefits

Office DEPOT Business Solutions Division is now

**odp**  
BUSINESS SOLUTIONS™

For your ever changing, ever evolving world of work.

Get Prepped

The **Grange** Office Depot® Member Benefits Program, previously Office Depot Business Solutions Division, has been rebranded to ODP Business Solutions™. Now a B2B-focused company serving small, medium and enterprise level companies like yours. Work has changed and this exciting evolution allows for ODP Business Solutions to be more agile and innovative in driving value to your business. You need more than just a supplier in your corner. You deserve a collaborator with the power to deliver on big initiatives, plus the focus to notice the smallest details.

## Here's how you can maximize your ODP Business Solutions™ member benefits

### Register for an account online

To continue to receive your member discounts, you'll need to re-enroll or register for an account through our dedicated ODP site.

### Huge Savings

Using your registered account and ordering online is the best way to take advantage of your full member discounts.

You'll receive savings of up to 75% on the Best Value List of preferred products with free next-business-day delivery\* or in-store and curbside pickup.\*\*

### Print and Copy Services

You can also place print services orders online and have them delivered where and when you need them. Or available for pickup at an Office Depot® or Office Max® Store.

**Register Now** [[Link to community.officedepot.com/GPOHome?id=58502447](https://community.officedepot.com/GPOHome?id=58502447)]

### Powerful Savings at Your Fingertips

Here's a [10% off coupon](#) for you to use on your next online purchase using your new ODP Business Solutions™ Account. Exclusions apply. See Coupon for details. Expires 09/24/2022.

*(Terms and Conditions must be included in all communications)*

\*Free Delivery: Minimum purchase required after discounts and before taxes. Orders outside our local delivery area and most furniture, oversized, bulk items, cases of bottled water and other beverages and special-order items do not qualify. Non-qualifying orders incur a delivery charge (minimum charge of \$9.99). Many orders can be delivered next business day (between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM) if placed online or via phone by 3:00 PM or via fax by 1:00 PM, local time (In most locations). Other restrictions apply. \*\*Curbside pickup is available in most stores, subject to state and local regulations. Orders must be placed 1 hour before store closing. See [odpbusiness.com](https://odpbusiness.com), call 888.2.OFFICE or ask your Account Manager for details.



**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.com](https://grangestore.com) or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

[www.grangestore.com](https://www.grangestore.com)

### **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](mailto:betsy@nationalgrange.org) or by phone at (484) 459-1957.

**Editor** Philip J. Vonada, National Grange Communications Director. To submit a story idea for Patrons Chain or Good Day! magazine, request assistance with publicity, email [pvonada@nationalgrange.org](mailto:pvonada@nationalgrange.org) or call/text (814) 404-7985

**Convention Registrations, Leasing Inquiries, Junior Department** Samantha Wilkins, [samantha@nationalgrange.org](mailto:samantha@nationalgrange.org) or (210) 838-7892

**Leadership Training and Membership Development** Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership and Leadership Development Director. To learn more about membership recruitment or how to start or reorganize a Grange, leadership training, and more, email [abrozana@nationalgrange.org](mailto:abrozana@nationalgrange.org) or call/text (301) 943-1090

**Membership Recognition, Grange Supply Store, Grange Programs and Member Benefits** Loretta Washington, National HQ, ext. 109 or email [LWashington@nationalgrange.org](mailto:LWashington@nationalgrange.org)

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

**Lecturer** Ann Bercher, [lecturer@nationalgrange.org](mailto:lecturer@nationalgrange.org) or (612) 501-1231

**Community Service** Pete Pompper, [communityservice@nationalgrange.org](mailto:communityservice@nationalgrange.org) or (609) 820-6239

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

**Grange Youth** Mandy Bostwick, [youth@nationalgrange.org](mailto:youth@nationalgrange.org) or (785) 250-7606

**Grange Foundation** Joan C. Smith, Chairperson, [ngfb@grange.org](mailto:ngfb@grange.org) or (571) 662-7220