



The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

June 17, 2022

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Be sure to share Thanks to make your events successful

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

I know I've said it before, but I'll say it again - it's wonderful to see all the varied activities that Granges are holding and telling the world about on Facebook. Our membership, really our Order depends on public awareness to survive and thrive. When people see your great work and the fun you have, they are much more willing to join you. I'm so glad that Granges are really getting back to full activity after the long period of restrictions.

I've also noticed that these Granges are also posting their thanks to the sponsors and customers for supporting the events they're holding. The more we show our appreciation to those in the community who help us, the more they are likely to be happy to help us again.

As leaders, it is our responsibility to also recognize and thank our members for their assistance and hard work. Helping at a successful event is rewarding, but a sincere thank you from the organizer of the event or president of the Grange will make those members more willing to help again or even take a leadership role next time. Remember, your event isn't finished until you thank all those who helped with it in any way, large or small.

Youth Officers will be selected soon for National Grange convention

By [Mandy Bostwick](#), National Grange Youth & Young Adults Development Director

Each year in September a slate of new Youth Officers is chosen for Youth Officer Team for the upcoming Annual Session of the National Grange. The purpose of the Youth Officer Team is to assemble a team of youth from across the nation to open the National Grange convention on Friday morning at the annual session. This provides more youth with an opportunity to participate in the National Grange Convention, but it is so much more than an opportunity.

The Youth Officer Team is a stepping-stone to building lifelong friendships with other youth from across the country, opening leadership roles for youth and mentorship roles for young adults, sharing ideas and growing the youth department and Grange nationwide, and inculcating the importance of our ritual to the future generations.



In 2019, the program added a meet-and-greet for the Youth Officer Team to attend with the National Grange officers. The two sets of officers sit down and learn what it truly means to be a National Grange officer and to network intergenerationally with other Grangers.

You may have noticed in 2021, that the “uniform” of the National Youth Officer Team looked a little bit different. The Youth Officers were each given a Youth Officer Team t-shirt to be worn during the opening on Friday morning. This year, youth and young adults are encouraged to enter a t-shirt design which will be voted on for the Youth Officer Team to wear. **NOTE:** you do not have to apply for the Youth Officer Team to enter a design submission.

Applications for both [Youth Officer Team](#) and the [T-Shirt Design Contest](#) are due on August 15th. If you or a Youth/Young Adult in your Grange is planning on applying, now is a great time to start the application process! The application requirements include two letters of recommendation - one from your Subordinate/Community Grange (preferably President or Secretary) and one from your State Youth Director or President, attending a regional conference, participating in a public speaking contest at a regional conference and submitting an on-time application. Don't wait until the last minute and get your application in today!

[National Grange Youth Officer Team Application](#)

[Youth Officer Team T-Shirt Design Contest](#)

[Register for the 156th 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*

Vermont State Grange kicks off 150th anniversary



*Dedicated to Past, Present and Future Generations
of All Vermont Grangers*

*You are cordially invited to celebrate
the 150th Anniversary of the Vermont State Grange
on July 9th, 2022, starting at 1 pm
at the Vermont Grange Center
at 308 West Street, Brookfield, Vermont.*

Schedule of Events

- 1:00 pm Meet and Greet and Viewing of Historical Displays*
- 2:00 pm Introductions and Remarks by Distinguished Guests
Historical Presentations*
- 5:30 pm Banquet followed by Music with Dancing*

Overnight Accommodations Available

*More information on accommodations and schedule available
at Vermont State Grange Web Site - vtstategrange.org*

Attire - Camp Casual

Please RSVP by June 25 to vtgrange150@outlook.com

The Vermont State Grange invites you to be a part of their sesquicentennial celebration!

Join the anniversary on **July 9 at 1pm** at the Vermont State Grange Center – 308 West Street, Brookfield, Vermont.

RSVP to vtgrange150@outlook.com by June 25th.

More information available at VTStateGrange.org.

The Grange Foundation Virtual Telethon seeks sponsors

Granges, individuals, and companies are being sought to become sponsors of the 2nd 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](#).



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

Communication Fellows Applications are due in three weeks

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.](http://bit.ly/commfellows22) Completed applications including nomination letters must be received by the start of business on July 8, 2022.

Advocacy Playbook: American Agriculture and Supply Chain Issues

By [Sean O'Neil](#), National Grange Legislative Assistant

The Issue:

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, American and global supply chains have faced serious disruptions and delays. Early in the pandemic, many shutdowns in key logistics hubs - beginning in China and then spreading around the world - caused significant supply chain disruptions and even some shortages. As the pandemic dragged on, consumers shifted their spending from services, which in many cases were closed by lockdowns, to durable goods putting even more strain on tight supply chains, particularly at ports. These have worked together to cause more long-lasting changes in American supply chains and markets with inflation hitting highs not seen this century and continued delays at ports and imbalances resulting in shipping containers either clogging up ports or being shipped empty. Furthermore, recent supply shocks resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine have particularly affected commodity prices and agricultural input costs such as fertilizer and fuel and caused further harm to American agriculture exports.

Why it matters:

All these supply chain issues have combined with increased inflationary pressure to inject serious risks and pressures into the American agriculture economy. More than twenty percent of American agricultural production is exported, meaning that many farmers and ranchers depend significantly on global supply chains to get their goods to market and earn a living. Beyond the immediate financial risk to American agricultural producers, supply chain issues may also cause a long-term decrease in market share as other exporters fill in the gap created by delayed American shipments. If American agriculture loses its prominent position in global commodity markets, America's producers will not only lose out but rural economies will too, in addition to American consumers who will face higher prices and lower quality at the grocery store.

What's being done about it:

The stakes of fixing America's supply chain troubles are incredibly high for American agriculture and rural economies. While no one bill or regulation will be able to completely rectify the ongoing issues throughout the supply chain, the bipartisan [Ocean Shipping Reform Act](#) seeks to remedy challenges at American ports by modernizing practices, requiring that ocean carriers offer fair terms to exporters, and decreasing the number of shipping containers leaving US ports unfilled. Following a serious advocacy effort from American agriculture, including the National Grange, and other affected industries, the Ocean Shipping Reform Act passed Congress on June 13th and will soon be signed into law by the President. To ensure the success of the act, it is important that stakeholders remain engaged with the [Federal Maritime Commission](#) which will have the authority to implement the bill's many provisions and fix the supply chain issues which have plagued American exporters in recent years. If you are interested in getting involved in efforts to engage on this issue, do not hesitate to reach out to your representatives at the National Grange.



2022 PARTNERSHIP IN AGRICULTURAL LITERACY AWARD WINNER



SHAE
DEVERS
NEW MEXICO

New Mexico agriculture education instructor Shae Devers and her Valencia FFA Chapter are being honored for their dedication and efforts in a collaborative project with New Mexico AITC. Ms. Devers and her FFA chapter scheduled programs in local elementary schools to present agricultural literacy lessons. In 2021 the chapter members presented to more than 650 students.

The [National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization](#) (NAITCO) and [National Grange Foundation Chapter](#), as the recipient of its 2022 Partnership in Agricultural Literacy Award. "The Grange Foundation is proud to present this award each year, and winners like Shae Devers and Valencia FFA keep amazing us with their passion, creativity and impact on both the children and communities they serve." -Betsy Huber, Grange Foundation president.



SUPPLY STORE

www.grangestore.com



SUMMER EDITION OF GOOD DAY!™

The sixth year of Good Day! magazine begins with this issue, featuring a cover story on modern philanthropy - from volunteerism to individual online giving to community foundations, how is rural America affected by contemporary giving practices?
Recipe feature: "The Persistent Mint"

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

\$5.00 PER ISSUE
(plus shipping)

or subscribe at nationalgrange.org/gooday

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.



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Grange Member Benefit – Member Options



Auto & Home Insurance and More

Save Money Now



Get Multiple Insurance Quotes from Top-Rated Carriers

We've launched an exciting new program for Grange Members to help you find the most affordable insurance for your auto, home, pet, and more.

Members can receive up to five quotes from top-rated carriers over the phone or online. We also help make switching your carrier mid-policy simple and fast.

Member Options removes the guesswork of finding the lowest rate for your coverage needs. Providing you savings and convenience is our top priority.

Call (833) 378-8224 or visit member-options.com/grange to get started with your FREE no-obligation quote.

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 or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

www.grangestore.com

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