



# The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

July 8, 2022

## In this Issue:

[Use the Summer to grow your Grange](#)

by Betsy Huber

[Tune in for a "Fiesta" during this year's Virtual Telethon](#)

[Consumer research drives sales – and membership](#)

by Amanda Brozana Rios

[Register for 156<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention](#)

by Samantha Wilkins

[Former National Grange Community Service Director honored](#)

[National Grange Vice President interviewed by Save Family Farming](#)

[Welcome to the new Oregon State Grange President](#)

[Scraps: They make your garden grow](#)

[Grange Supply Store: Grange Orientation Kit](#)

[Grange Member Benefit – ODP Business Solutions](#)

[Use the summer to grow your Grange](#)

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

My garden is growing so fast and so lush that I can't keep up with the weeding. We have had a lot of rain the last couple of weeks in my area - although 60 miles away they are very dry and many areas of the country are in extreme drought. I feel very blessed! The rain and the warm temperatures - *not too hot* - have been perfect for fast growth. Those loads of spent mushroom compost last spring have done wonders. My peas are just finished, and I picked the first zucchini yesterday. Tomato plants look like a jungle and potato plants are huge and blossoming.

How is the growth of your Grange? Are you watering and feeding it enough for good growth? Like the plants, we can't expect a Grange to grow without some attention and care. It will go along for a while, but without water and fertilizer, there won't be a big harvest. Without attention, soon the weeds will choke out the good stuff.

A growing Grange, like a productive garden, needs some effort. Each member should be willing to take on some responsibility, according to their abilities and stage of life. Not everyone can stoop down and weed, not everyone has hours to spend volunteering, but everyone can do something to contribute. Maybe we can consider social media and websites as fertilizer to give our growth a boost. Fair exhibits and displays can help too.

During this beautiful summer season, think of what you can do to help your Grange be growing and active, bringing a great harvest of activities and service to your community.

[Tune in for a "Fiesta" during this year's Virtual Telethon!](#)



We are just over 24 hours away from an incredibly fun and rewarding day!

The second annual **Grange Foundation Virtual Telethon**, benefitting the National Grange Junior and Youth Departments, begins at noon Eastern tomorrow (Saturday, July 9). For 8 hours, hosts Samantha Wilkins and Mandy Bostwick will be attempting to raise \$20,000 to support these programs, which are essential for the growth of the Grange.

It's not too late to make your [early donations](#), but be sure to tune in on the [National Grange Facebook](#) pages or [YouTube channel](#)

to watch live and make your donations! You won't want to *siesta on this fiesta!*

*The Grange Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Your donations may be tax-deductible. Be sure to consult your tax advisor.*

## Consumer Research drives sales – and membership

By [Amanda Brozana Rios](#), National Grange Membership and Leadership Development Director

How often have you heard “What is the Grange?”

Whatever your answer – occasionally, often – it does not account for the vast number of people who choose not to ask and instead search for their answer on the internet. Instead of looking silly for not knowing or because they are uncomfortable interacting with strangers, or because they prefer reading at their leisure instead of getting a sales pitch – these are just a few of the reasons that so many people choose the internet as their source instead of asking a “real person.”

Today, 85% of shoppers conduct research online before making a purchase decision and an equal amount – 85% – own a smartphone. More than 3 out of 4 people do online research when learning about or comparing products.

*But why am I talking about consumer behavior?*

Because the way in which we learn about products and make decisions about where we spend our money is not dissimilar to how we choose to invest our time.

Those who research the Grange online often go a step further to learn more about the Grange they interact with the most – yours.

So, what is your online presence and how many clicks does it take to get to the information an eager member of your community may be looking for? And what are those most important questions you want to answer?

You want to give a succinct explanation of both the values of the Grange and how your Grange serves to improve your community and the lives of your members, and you want to make sure people know how to attend an upcoming meeting and whom to contact for more information.

One of the simplest ways for your Grange to ensure people can find you is to help us keep the [Find A Grange](#) database up-to-date. Throughout the remainder of 2022, we are working to add a local contact name and phone number or email to each Grange listing as well as the correct time, day and place of meetings as well as the correct mailing information for the Grange.

Of course, we also recommend having a social media presence with regularly updated information about your good work and your meetings, too. The more places that can be accessed with correct information about your Grange, the more likely it is you will see some new faces at your future meetings and events.

## 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*

### Former National Grange Community Service Director honored

Dick Patten, former National Grange Community Service Director, who died in early 2021, was honored in June with a memorial bench in his hometown. Members of Concord Grange #322 and other community activists worked together to install the bench in Concord Heights, New Hampshire, where Patten lived his entire life.

The bench honors Patten as a city councilor and New Hampshire State Representative, in addition to his work in the community and the county.

[Watch the unveiling ceremony here.](#)



### National Grange Vice President interviewed by Save Family Farming



Recently, National Grange Vice President Chris Hamp was interviewed during the Washington State Grange Convention by Dillon Honcoop, the Communication Director for Save Family Farming.

This was a great interview because it showed not only how to talk about the broad concept of Grange, but also how exciting the organization can be to someone looking from the outside when they hear all we have to offer and our approach that allows everyone a voice in the process.

Listen here: <https://soundcloud.com/savefamilyfarming/farmers-rural-communities-look-to-the-grange-for-leadership-on-public-policy>

### Welcome to the new Oregon State Grange President

[Jay Sexton](#) was installed as the 30th President of the Oregon State Grange on June 23, 2022 after four years as the Vice President. Having joined the Grange in 2010 at Marys River Grange #685 in Philomath, Oregon, he has held various offices in Marys River Grange, the Benton County Pomona Grange, and his affiliate Willamette Grange #52. Prior to being a state officer, Jay was the Oregon State Grange Agriculture Committee Director for four years.

During his time in Grange, Jay has been active in raising membership, repairing and restoring Halls, and promoting appreciation and connection between local food producers and consumers through family-oriented Grange Events.

Jay and his wife of 29 years, Toni Hoyman, live in Philomath, and have four sons and 3 grandchildren, who all live in Oregon. Jay retired from Oregon State University in 2012 after 30 years as a Field Research Technician in Forest Ecology, having primarily worked on investigations into decomposition and nutrient cycling in the world's forests.

Jay and his wife enjoy disc golf, gardening of veggies, flowers, and fruits, and spending time with their family.



## Scraps: They make your garden grow

by Rob Henning, [Earth Conscious Life](#)

Many of us grow our own food and gardens— or even just houseplants— and we sometimes need to think about what we need to feed our plant friends, too.

**Instead of getting fancy expensive organic fertilizers....**

**....did you know that the following common kitchen scraps and leftovers make excellent, safe, and easy-to-use natural fertilizers for your plants?**

Here are some of my favorites:

- **Coffee grounds.**

It's possible you've already heard of this classic kitchen scrap or compost ingredient being great for gardens and potted plants— it's a popular one (especially because we consume so much of it!)

You can "amend" or work some coffee grounds into the soil near your plants, in your garden, or in pot planters.

Coffee grounds may have numerous benefits: including leaving some micronutrients for plants (like magnesium), adding slow-release nitrogen, encouraging more soil life, and it can even keep away certain pests such as slugs or snails (thanks to the caffeine).

That said, make sure not to add too much to plants that prefer alkaline soils—it does acidify the soil a little bit.

- **Eggshells.**

If you consume eggs or raise your own chickens for egg products, keep the shells!

They can be a boon for your garden and plants. They're very high in calcium, a valuable mineral for plants, especially during the phases of flower, fruit, and seed production.

Like coffee grounds, these can be worked into the soil around your plant roots, too (without disturbing the roots of course). Just make sure you break down eggshells into manageable pieces, not huge chunks— throwing them into a grinder beforehand can help.

- **Tea.**

If you're an avid tea drinker— and you find yourself unable to finish your tea because it's too cold— save it for your plants! If it's properly cooled, use it as you would to water flowers, vegetables, and more.

Herbal teas of many kinds can contain activating microbes and phytochemicals that plants love, too.

Many also believe a hotpot of minerals plants could benefit from and can activate soil life to help unlock even more nutrient availability in the soil.

- **Old pickle brine.**

Make sure to dilute this one with a little bit of water— but otherwise, it's great, and it works!

Any sort of pickled food— kimchi, sauerkraut, classic dill pickles— you can take the unused brine and use that to water your plants. Besides containing some very small trace amounts of minerals for your plants, the BIG thing this does is activate soil microbes. These bacteria and fungi then work hard to make nutrients to be even more available to your plants in turn.

- **Rinse water from food containers and cooking.**

This is a clever one— do you ever have leftover water from making rice, beans, or potatoes? If you eat dairy, do you ever rinse out yogurt, milk, or cream containers in the sink?

You can use the residue from these foods in the rinse water as enriching fertile water for your plants. From plant grains, this can give a boost of nitrogen; from dairy foods, a boost in calcium!

**Which common kitchen scraps or leftovers do you have in abundance for feeding your plant friends?**

*Welcome New Members!*

**Juniper  
Grange  
#1302**

**North  
Carolina**

*Submission deadline for the next issue of*



*Good* **Day!**<sup>TM</sup>

*is July 8*

please email to:

[pvnada@nationalgrange.org](mailto:pvnada@nationalgrange.org)





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## SUPPLY STORE

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

### GRANGE ORIENTATION KIT



This Orientation Kit includes new brochures to help recruit and introduce new and prospective members to the Grange. The seven brochures allow Granges to introduce the organization to potential members.

Brochures include information on benefits and responsibilities of membership, Degrees and Symbols, and more!

Get your copy by ordering 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.

## Grange Member Benefit – ODP Business Solutions

### Introducing ODP Business Solutions™ Member Benefits



**The Grange Office Depot® Member Benefits Program**, previously Office Depot Business Solutions Division, has been rebranded to ODP Business Solutions™.

Work has changed and this exciting evolution allows the program to be more agile and innovative. Whether you're looking for ink and toner, paper, cleaning products, office or school supplies, count on ODP Business Solutions to be in your corner to help you succeed.

#### 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 pick up your online order via 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](#)

## Here are your options should you decide to make an Office Depot® Office Max® in-store purchase

### Store Discount Program

- The current Store Purchasing Card Program is being replaced by the new Store Discount Program.
- If you are currently using a Store Purchasing Card (SPC), you can still use it temporarily to access the new Store Discount Program, but it will be discontinued in approximately 13 months.
- You can register online for the Store Discount Program when you register for your account via our dedicated ODP site.
- You will need to download the business mobile app to access the digital QR Code to present at check-out in an Office Depot® or OfficeMax® store. If you already have the Office Depot Business mobile app, it will soon be re-branded ODP Business Solutions. Once you've registered online for the Store Discount Program, you'll be able to access the digital QR Code in the app.
- The Store Discount Program will now offer a standard discount on certain product categories when you identify yourself as a program member, however the SPC will no longer provide access to all of your member discounts.

**We recommend you place your orders online so that you can continue to get your full member contract pricing.**

[Register Now](#)

### 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.**

\*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](http://odpbusiness.com), call 888.2.OFFICE or ask your Account Manager for details.



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

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

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