



The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

July 15, 2022

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Busy Grange weekends yield great results

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

Last weekend was a busy one for National Grange! I was pleased to attend the Vermont 150th Anniversary celebration, held at their family camp weekend. It was a great occasion with historical displays, great fellowship, wonderful music, games and prizes, special guests, and of course lots of excellent food. Congratulations to Vermont State Grange for 150 years of service. A couple of State Granges have already reached that milestone, and quite a few more will celebrate in 2023. We can be rightfully proud that our organization has such a great history and wonderful legacy of accomplishments. Be sure to use the anniversary to promote your Grange to your community.

The Headquarters staff was very busy with the second annual Telethon last Saturday. What a great success! There is a full report in this issue, but I want to say thank you to all who contributed to the Grange Foundation Youth and Junior Funds through this event, and especially to all who contributed interviews, testimonies, and talent to fill the eight hours to overflowing. **Thank you all!**

I'm sure there were lots of other events that happened last weekend in your Community Granges. Let us know! We would love to feature them in the *Patrons Chain* and *Good Day!* magazine. You may have had a new and different event that others would like to try but haven't thought of. And of course you should pick out 3-6 photos from your Grange's activities this past year, put them on one sheet of paper, and enter them as a Grange in Action (deadline September 25th). Other Grangers are definitely interested in what you're doing, so please show it off!

Virtual Telethon a resounding success for Grange Foundation

By [Samantha Wilkins](#), National Junior Grange Director



WOW! The 2nd Virtual Telethon event was one for the books! We hope you did not 'siesta on this fiesta' because if you did, you missed a fantastic event.

We cannot begin to thank all of those who provided their support during the event! Together we raised a total of **\$24,302.85!** The funds raised will directly support the Youth and Junior Grange Foundation Funds. These funds will directly benefit our youth and Junior members across the country in programming, contests, leadership-building opportunities, and more.

We couldn't have made this event as successful as it was if it were not for all our members who contributed their talents and testimonies to be broadcast during the 8-hour live-streamed event! We

were bursting at the seams with content and were so excited for the wide variety of acts we had! If you missed lessons on making salsa or piñatas you can always go back and check out the event on the National Grange YouTube account or Facebook. The day was full of singing, dancing, instrumental pieces, sign-a-songs, several 'how-to' segments, and of course many discussions about how amazing this organization is and the opportunities it provides.

Thank you to each of our live guests, content contributors, sponsors, donors, and to everyone who supported us during the broadcast!

Thank you to our Sponsors:

New Jersey State Grange*, Kansas State Grange, Duane & Christine Hamp (WA)*, Potomac Grange #1*, Illinois State Grange*, Joan C. Smith*, Ohio Junior Grange, Eagle Grange #1, Judy Sherrod (TN), Clay Snyder (PA)*, Mike Warner (CA)*, David Peck (CT)*, Betsy Huber*, Valley Grange #1360 (PA), Oregon State Grange.

*indicated high dollar donor, will be listed on telethon t-shirt

Thank you to those who provided Testimonies:

Charles Howerton (NC), Abigail & Christopher Casseday (OH), Amber Corll (OH), Amilya Lloyd (OH), Kimber Newman (KS), Lynette Schaeffer (IL), Wayne Campbell (PA), Cole Settle (NC), Molly Newman (KS), Barbara Borderieux (FL), Diego Hernandez (FL) Dave Roberts (CT), Jim Correll (DE), Cade Howerton (NC), Ryleigh Hartsell (NC), Jenn Nauss (PA), Gail Switzer (PA), Donna Keeton (OK), Melanie Bostwick (KS), Jimmy Taylor (VA), and Judy Sherrod (TN)

Thank you to those who shared their Talent:

Elsa Kehs (PA), Savannah Beamon (PA), Abigail Casseday (OH), Christopher Casseday (OH), Amber Corll (OH), Amilya Lloyd (OH), Baylor Howerton (NC), Cole Settle (NC), Kimber Newman (KS), Kay Reyburn (PA), Kasey Giguere (MA), Gayle Reyburn (PA), Kaylee Cox (OH), Abby Cox (OH), Leah Overstreet (TX), PA Junior Grange Camp, Raegan Hartsell (NC), Ryleigh Hartsell (NC), Ruby Reyburn (PA), Savannah Fens (VA), Philip Vonada (PA), Ohio Junior Grange Camp, Rosalie Mendoza Pena (TX), Ann Bercher (MN), Samantha Hanson (IA), Emma Edelen (IA), Roger Bostwick (KS)

Thank you to each of our Live Guests:

Betsy Huber, Joan C Smith, Elian Estrada, Colton Ash, Martha Stefenoni, Lillian Booth, Chris Hamp, Clay Snyder, Karie Blasingame, and Ohio Junior Grange Camp.

And of course, thank you to each and every one of our Telethon Donors:

Kimber Newman, Joe Goodrich, Codi Titus, Steve Coye, Bruce & Sharon Croucher, Paula Lohrman, Thelma Brodzina, Chip & Barbara Narvel, Vonnie Merrit, Doug Bonsall, Jonesboro Grange #357, Robert & Jane Trombi, Sarah Weiss, Janet Fishovitz, John & Susan Plank, Lillian & Bill Booth, Lurae & Mark Benzio, Billy & Welina Shufeldt, Prairie Grange #1832, Bob Quist, The Reyburn Family, Knight Family, Mark & Susan Noah, Mike Warner, Jane Adams, Jen Beamon, Robert Beamon, Mike Davis, Debbie Gegare, David Peck, Letitia Pickering, Dana Bailey, MA State Grange Youth Dept., Keith Bostwick, Ann Bercher, Karie Blasingame, Jenn Nauss, Tracey Jones, Jay Sexton, Ohio State Grange, Jefferson Grange, Martha Stefenoni, Randy Turnquist, Elizabeth Hiner, Katie Fallon, Andrew Huber, New York State Grange Youth, Rebecca Anzueto, Lorri Freeman, Gail Switzer, Dave Roberts, Ellen Wadsworth, Lois Barber, Pete Pompper, Christina Webster, Ruth Vonada, Roger Bostwick, Steven Hood, Scrubgrass Grange, Debra Smith, Richard & Eileen Javaux, Cindy & Harry Greer, William Reed, Marilyn Johnson, Joyce Parker, Edelen Family, Jennifer Cox, Emalee Colver, Roland Giguere, Lynette Schaeffer, Washington State Grange GROW Club, Tom Gwin, Brittney & Jonny Pittman, James Taylor, Penny & Smokey Martin, Wayne & Debbie Campbell, Kimberly Fulmer, Pennsylvania Junior Grange, St. John's Grange, Riverton Grange, Kansas State Grange Youth, Jamie & Julie Durand, Samantha Wilkins, Mandy Bostwick, Philip Vonada, Charles Howerton.

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 *four months* away from the opening of the 156th Annual National Grange Convention, 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

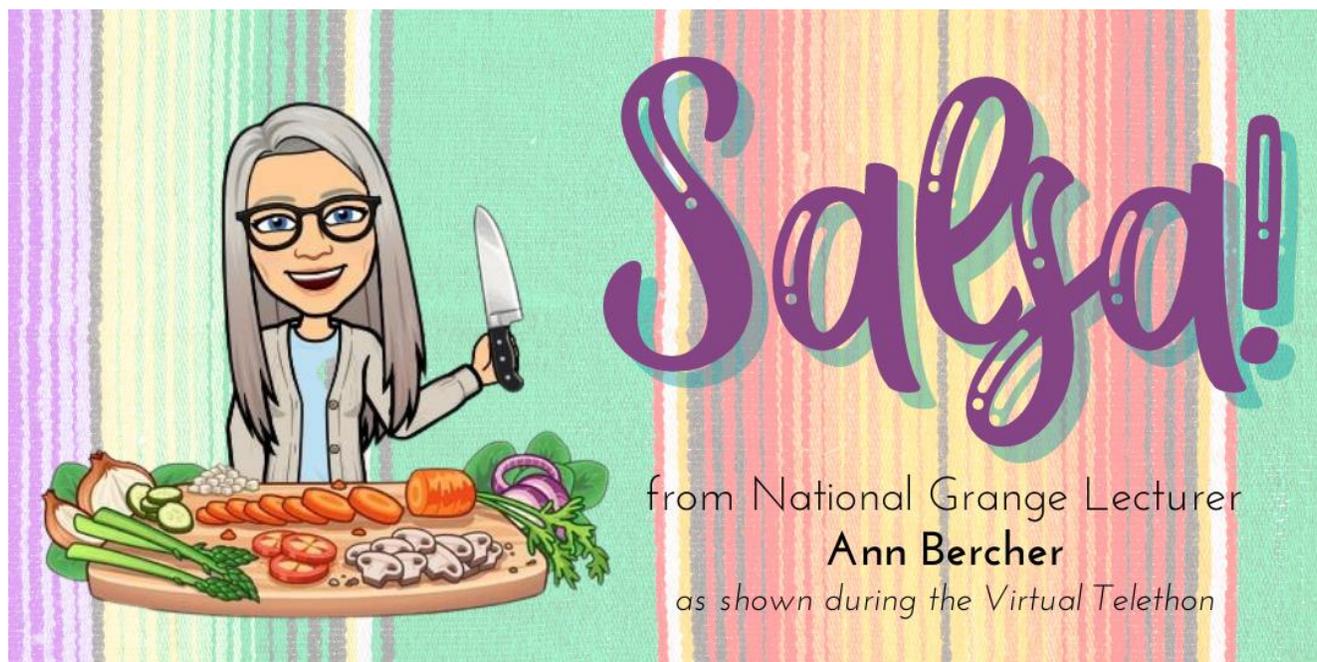
Late Registration - \$42 closes for meal options on 11/1/22

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

A new national lifeline provides direct support during a crisis

Starting Saturday, July 16, a three-digit nationwide number will provide callers in a time of crisis with direct access to counselors and mental health professionals. By dialing or texting **988** at any time, people experiencing a crisis of mental health, suicidal thoughts, or substance abuse will be connected directly to trained professionals who will help those who need it, no matter the crisis.

Read more about the new Suicide & Crisis Lifeline in [this fact sheet](#) from the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration**.



During the Virtual Telethon, National Grange Lecturer Ann Bercher provided two videos with salsa recipes.

Both recipes are courtesy of Rick Bayless



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Pico de Gallo

2 medium tomatoes, ¼ inch diced
½ white onion, ¼ inch diced and rinsed under cold water
1 jalapeno or serrano chili, finely diced*
6-8 sprigs cilantro, finely chopped
1-2 Tablespoons fresh lime juice (taste it to see if you want more)
1 scant teaspoon salt (start with less and add more as needed)

Combine all ingredients and taste to adjust seasonings. It is most flavorful if you wait an hour before serving it. Serve at room temperature.

Salsa xnipec* (pronounced *shnee-pec*)

2 medium tomatoes, ¼ inch diced
½ red onion, ¼ inch diced and rinsed under cold water
½ cup radish, finely chopped
½ habanero chili, finely diced or 1 serrano chili, finely diced*
1 – 2 Tablespoons fresh lime juice
1 Tablespoon orange juice
1 scant teaspoon salt (start with less and add more as needed)

Combine all ingredients and taste to adjust seasonings. It is most flavorful if you wait an hour before serving it. Serve at room temperature.

**xnipec* is a Mayan word meaning “nose of the dog” – or you’ll sweat as much as a dog’s nose is wet because of the heat.

**Jalapeno chilies are the mildest of the chilies. They are also a bit unpredictable. The next chili in heat level is the serrano, followed by the habanero. The heat factor is located in the seeds and veins of the chilies. To reduce the heat, remove seeds and veins before chipping. Use care (you may want to wear gloves) as the oil from the chilies is difficult to wash off of your hands.*

[View the Recipes in Action HERE on our YouTube Channel!](#)

One Year to Grange Revival!



We are *one year* away from one of the most fun family events for Grangers nationwide! Join us from July 18-23, 2023, in Curtis, Michigan (on the Upper Peninsula) for a camp like no other.

Bring your RV, load your car and pack a tent, fly to your destination and stay in a cabin, or enjoy the experience with some added creature comforts at a nearby hotel. All the fun of Grange Revival is waiting for you! Feel free to join in on planned excursions and activities, or strike out on your own – Revival is about making memories and strengthening fraternal bonds for members and future members alike.

Spaces are becoming scarce at the [Log Cabin Resort & Campground](#), so

don't delay in securing your site!

Then go to GrangeRevival.com to register today!

Rural Educators' Digital Skills Summit

Grow
with
Google



Rural Educators
Digital Skills
Summit



Middle and high school educators are invited to the [Rural Educators Digital Skills Summit](#) on July 28th, presented by Grow with Google and the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.

The summit will feature live trainings, workshops, and a Q&A session to learn how to implement digital skills training that can help your students succeed academically and prepare for the job market of tomorrow.

The purpose of the summit is to assist educators in enhancing their students' ability to communicate, collaborate, and create while also developing career readiness skills that are tailored to rural and agricultural communities.

Educators will also receive:

- Customized classroom resources.
- Access to Level 1 or Level 2 [Google for Education Certification](#) credits.
- Training on how to facilitate lessons in the classroom using digital education tools.
- The opportunity to become a Farm Bureau Foundation Fellow.

The summit will take place virtually on Thursday, July 28, 2022, with two options to join.

- 9:00 a.m. ET - 12:30 p.m. EST
- 1:00 p.m. ET - 4:30 p.m. EST

Attendees are *exclusively* eligible to apply to become a Farm Bureau Foundation Fellow, which includes national recognition, Chromebooks for their classroom, a \$25,000 award, and the opportunity to develop a place-based, agricultural-themed digital skills lesson for nationwide use. Learn more [here](#).

[Register Here!](#)

Advocacy Playbook

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

The Issue:

Since the beginning of the current Congress in January of 2021, Democrats in the House and Senate have sought to use the budget reconciliation process to pass many of the most significant portions of their legislative agenda. Through reconciliation, Democrats are able to avoid the normal requirement to overcome a threshold of 60 votes in the Senate and instead pass legislation with a simple majority of 50 votes with the Vice President serving as a tiebreaker. This is an important tool for Democrats because the Senate is currently split with 50 Democrats and 50 Republicans, so in order to pass any legislation which does not have significant Republican support they must use reconciliation. However, one important caveat is that the reconciliation process only allows for measures that deal with the budget such as changes to the tax code, debt limits, or spending.

In 2021, Congressional Democrats sought to use the reconciliation process twice, first to pass the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, a \$1.9 trillion stimulus/COVID relief bill, and second, when they failed to pass President Biden's 'Build Back Better' plan, a bill which would have included some tax increases on corporations and the wealthy and significant expansions to social welfare programs and climate-related spending. Currently, Democrats are looking to use reconciliation again to pass a slimmed-down version of the first failed 'Build Back Better' plan, which would include provisions allowing Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices, increasing taxes on certain businesses, and other yet-to-be specified spending on healthcare and environmental programs.

Why it matters:

The currently proposed reconciliation package has the potential to be both significantly beneficial or significantly detrimental depending upon which provisions make it into the final bill and how they are crafted. Provisions that would allow Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices could be serious cost-savers for the Federal government and patients, but if implemented incorrectly could also serve to stifle innovation and decrease access to cutting-edge medicine. Similarly, changes to the tax code intended to target wealthy individuals and corporations could also seriously impact smaller and family-owned businesses, including farmers and ranchers, should they not be crafted carefully.

Finally, when it comes to spending on healthcare programs and environmental policies it is important to be cautious so as to not distort markets, increase energy prices, and feed inflation. It is also important to note that before the bill may proceed an official known as the Senate Parliamentarian will have to review the bill to ensure it complies with all the rules of budget reconciliation, specifically that no program is not directly related to the budget. For now, no bill text or formal agreement has been announced on what the exact contours of a potential reconciliation bill may look like, but the National Grange is seriously engaged with the process and will work hard to ensure that any potential bill would not include dangerous or harmful provisions.



a quarter's worth
A quarterly publication for Grange Lecturers

Submission Deadline: August 1st!
(but sooner is better!)

Email articles, ideas, etc. to lecturer@nationalgrange.org



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*Based on 2020 and 2021 countrywide savings data provided by Farmers GroupSelect, Nationwide®, Progressive®, Safeco Insurance™, and Travelers from customers who switched. Potential savings of \$810 validated by a Safeco Insurance 2020 countrywide survey of participating new customers from 5/1/2020 to 7/31/2020 who switched to Safeco Insurance and saved. Savings may vary. Comparison does not apply in MA.

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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.

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