



The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

September 16, 2022

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A little mentoring goes a long way

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

[Last week](#), I wrote here about the importance of the Installation of Officers ceremony each time you elect officers in your Grange.

This week, I'll take that one step further and talk about assigning mentors to the members who are taking on new offices. We've all been in that place - it's so easy to sit on the sidelines and critique the job that others are doing, but when you are suddenly asked to substitute for the Assistant Steward in the Opening of the Grange, it's a whole 'nother point of view. "Simple" tasks like opening the Bible or presenting the Flag are a lot more difficult when you're out there on the floor trying to remember if you should walk single file or three abreast! Rather than throwing the new officer into the deep end, provide some instruction to them to save any possible embarrassment.

Perhaps during the first meeting after an election, prior to the Installation of Officers, run through the ritual of the meeting as a practice to make sure everyone knows their part and all those unwritten customs that we have in our local Granges. The outgoing officer can give their successor some simple instructions and tips on how to perform the new duties.

Even long-time members who are elected to a new office will appreciate a review of proper procedures to make the meeting flow smoother and more efficiently. This applies to floor work and to other responsibilities of the various offices. A little mentoring and instruction go a long way to making your members feel comfortable and your meetings pleasant experiences

"Trick-or-treat, smell my feet..." give me something for... UNICEF!

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



Here on the east coast, we are beginning to see signs of fall everywhere- the colors are starting to change, cooler days are arriving, and I am sure many Granges across the country are diving into planning all of their wonderful fall activities. Across social media, I have started to see advertisements for many fall events - festivals, potlucks, and trunk-or-treats are a few things we are excited to see our Granges doing for their communities. But today, we want to provide you with a few more opportunities for your Grange to get involved in having fun and making a difference across the world.

Over the last few months, you may have seen posts from the National Grange about our partnership with [Wonderama TV](#) and have even seen a [few advertisements](#) from our time in Times Square in July. We are excited and anxiously anticipating the air dates of the next season of Wonderama, which will feature two of our young members, Nettie Hartley (RI) and Bryce Danko (PA). Check out the [Wonderama Channel Guide](#) to find out where you may be able to watch the upcoming season of Wonderama, and as always- check out all of the amazing things they are doing across social media.

In continuing our partnership with **Wonderama**, we want to invite you all to get involved with us this fall to celebrate children helping children around the world!

This October, we are joining Wonderama and UNICEF for two awesome events. First, we want to invite you and your Granges to join us in watching the 2022 **'Biggest Halloween Parade'** that will be taking place in New York City's Times Square! But don't worry, you don't have to travel to NYC for this event - you can join us from the comfort of your living room or maybe even gather some friends and livestream from the Grange Hall!

The parade will take place on October 30 at 6:00 p.m. (Eastern), so mark it on your calendars now - gather your Junior Grangers and families to join your National Grange family as we watch this spectacular parade event!

Secondly, we want to invite all our Junior Grange trick-or-treaters to join us in trick-or-treating for [UNICEF](#)! UNICEF helps provide a way for families, schools, and all who love Halloween to support communities around the world by raising funds and safely celebrating. UNICEF's mission is to ensure that every child across the world is healthy, educated, protected, and respected. So, as you are planning your trunk/trick-or-treating events, consider encouraging all your Junior Grangers/Young youth to go out in their communities and knock on doors to raise funds for UNICEF. This is an awesome community service project that we can participate in and we hope that you will consider joining us at the National Grange 'trick-or-treat for UNICEF.'

Access the "Trick or Treat for UNICEF" materials here.

[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 a few 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.

This year, you can expect to see some new things happening around the convention. Participants in the Nevada Grange Youth Fair Program will have activities and interactive displays showcasing their projects completed in the youth fair program. Throughout the Convention, they will be presenting their projects and talking to attendees about the benefits of the program.

You can also expect to hear from some amazing guest speakers on topics such as mental health awareness and substance abuse. Attendees will also have the opportunity to receive certification in dispensing Narcan, a life-saving medication that can treat a narcotic overdose in an emergency situation.

You also do not want to miss out on the opportunity to get an 'experience pass.' This year instead of going off-site for a tour we are bringing a taste of the region to you. Members who register for the **Experience Pass** will have the opportunity to participate in two days full of hands-on activities from painting barn quilts, cultural dancing, mining, and much more.

Make plans to attend today by registering for the National Grange Convention at this link: [156th Annual National Grange Convention - The National Grange.](#)

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*

National Grange Community Service Project

This year's National Grange Convention Community Service project is supporting the [Eddy House](#). The mission of the Eddy House is to work with homeless and at-risk youth to develop the life and job skills necessary for sustainable independence. There are several ways that you can help and support this project.

1. **Monetary donations:** Checks can be brought to the convention and given to either Samantha Wilkins (National Grange Operations Coordinator) or to the Host Region office. Checks should be made payable to **Eddy House**.
2. **Item donations:** Donations can include nonperishable food items and items such as laundry detergent, dish soap, cleaning products, and toiletry items.
3. **Amazon Wishlist:** You may also choose to provide items through their Amazon Wishlist: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1X7YACS0553A6?ref_=wl_share
4. **Handmade items:** They are also looking for pillowcase drawstring bags, these can be handmade and delivered to the National Grange Convention.



Western Region Poker Chip Fundraiser



With Nevada in mind, the Western Host Region is holding a “poker chip” fundraiser! With a limited number available (only 500!), you can take a chance by purchasing a chip, which will be used to draw for door prizes and other goodies during the convention. Whether or not you're able to attend the convention, you could still be a winner!

Chips include the Grange emblem and the logo for the 156th National Grange Convention. They are \$5.00 for a random draw, or \$10 for your lucky number (if it's available). Chip #1 will be auctioned off during the celebration banquet. Support the Western Region today!

[Order your chips here](#)

ACCEPTING BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS



The **Grange Foundation** will accept nominations for members of the Board of Directors from September 2nd through October 15th.

Submit names and bios to ngfb@grange.org or betsy@nationalgrange.org, or by mail to the National Grange office.

Election will occur at the National Grange Session on November 14.

Updated COVID-19 Vaccines Providing Protection Against Omicron Variant Available at No Cost

Courtesy of the [Department of Health and Human Services](#)

This week, the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that people with Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage, private insurance coverage, or no health coverage can get COVID-19 vaccines, including the updated Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines, at no cost, for as long as the federal government continues purchasing and distributing these COVID-19 vaccines.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech updated vaccines that target the original COVID-19 viral strain and two Omicron variants (BA.4/BA.5) that are currently the most prevalent in the U.S. Individuals are eligible for their updated vaccine shot at least two months after completing at least their primary vaccination series (two doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, or Novavax, or one dose of Johnson & Johnson)—regardless of how many monovalent COVID-19 boosters they have received to date.

The updated Moderna vaccine is authorized in individuals 18 years of age and older while the updated Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is authorized for individuals 12 years of age and older.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently updated its [recommendations](#) regarding updated COVID-19 vaccines.

COVID-19 vaccines are the best defense against severe illness, hospitalization and death from the virus. CMS continues to explore ways to ensure maximum access to COVID-19 vaccinations. More information regarding the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Requirements and how the COVID-19 vaccine is provided through that program at no cost to recipients is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/vaccination-provider-support.html>.

For resources to help educate the public about COVID-19 vaccines visit the [HHS We Can Do it Campaign](#).

People can visit vaccines.gov (English) or vacunas.gov (Spanish) to search for vaccines nearby.



Are you a *Grange in Action*?

Apply to be recognized as a Grange in Action for being active in your community and completing events or projects

Simple application of one letter-sized page with pictures and captions of at least 3, but no more than 6 events or activities for your Grange.

<https://www.nationalgrange.org/grange-in-action/>

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 25



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

EVERY THIRD
TUESDAY
ON ZOOM

SEPTEMBER 20
@ 8:30PM (ET)
bit.ly/mm1867
Meeting ID: 525 965 930
Passcode: 981892



Membership Matters will be held on Tuesday, September 20 at 8:30 p.m. Eastern. Our topic will be using your Facebook Page to inform and invite your community to your meetings and events.

Using social media to promote your activities is a great way to get in front of new people, show that your Grange is more than just a building in town, and allow your community to react and support your activities by sharing with others. You can also easily connect with potential attendees or new members and ask them to share information with their network, increasing your visibility without increasing costs.

If you don't know how to create a Facebook Page for your Grange, the Communication Department will be hosting a one-hour info session on "How to Create a Facebook Page" at 7:30 p.m. Eastern the same night. If you miss this info session, it will be recorded so you can still go back and learn how to create the Page, then use it to promote your events.

[Connect on Zoom for the "How to Create a Facebook Page" AND Membership Matters here!](#)

Advocacy Playbook: Permitting Reform Bill

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

Background:

In the 1960s and 70s, Congress created and passed a series of bills intended to protect and preserve the natural environment for future generations, most prominently the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act. Collectively, these pieces of legislation have created the process by which large and small infrastructure projects alike are reviewed, processed, and finally approved or rejected for construction. As long as this regulatory approval regime has existed, it has had its critics who say it errs too far in favor of environmental protection over necessary infrastructure construction or, even worse, serves as a forum for frivolous complaints intended to stop disliked projects regardless of actual environmental concerns. In recent years, these critics have been increasingly joined by climate change activists who have realized that the environmental review process has frequently slowed down or stopped the construction of the renewable energy and electricity transmission projects which are needed to decrease carbon emissions. With a broader coalition of critics, recently a bipartisan Congressional effort to reform the infrastructure permitting process has begun.

Legislation:

While legislative text of the forthcoming permitting reform bill has not yet been released, leading Senators have outlined potential provisions. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) has led the effort to pass a permitting reform bill and has indicated his support for provisions that would require maximum environmental review timelines for select infrastructure projects, streamline permit requirements with regard to agency jurisdiction and filing, set statute of limitations and other restrictions on legal challenges to potential projects, and enhance federal permitting authority for electric transmission facilities. Senator Manchin has placed a particular emphasis on the approval of the Mountain Valley Pipeline, a gas pipeline key to his home state of West Virginia. While many Democrats in Congress have indicated their support for permitting reform, some have expressed concerns about weakening environmental protections and not wanting to speed permitting for oil and gas projects. Meanwhile, congressional Republicans have expressed interest in working to make a deal on permitting reform which has long been a part of their political agenda.

Get Involved:

If you want to get involved and help shape a permitting reform bill, one useful way you can advocate for the bill is by reaching out to your member of Congress (if you are not sure who that is, use this website: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>). Whether you plan to call, send an email, or write a letter to your member of Congress, it is important to try to include a story about how the bill will affect you, your family, and your community. Each call, email, and letter an office receives is tallied up and considered when your Representative is deciding whether or not to support a bill, and extra weight is given to those contacts which include personal stories.



Click the ad to vote for the shirt you love the most! Winning design will be worn by the National Grange Youth Officer Team during the Opening of National Grange Session on Friday, November 18. Voting closes on September 22.

Rail Strike Avoided

By Burton Eller, National Grange Legislative Director

A crippling nationwide supply chain rail strike that had been set for early Friday has been avoided. On early Thursday morning, a tentative agreement was reached after around-the-clock negotiations between government officials, rail companies, and the rail unions. The tentative agreement follows the [August 16 recommendations of the Presidential Emergency Board](#), which include a 24% wage increase over five years with an immediate increase of 14.1%. Union members still must vote to ratify the agreement before it is finalized, but for now, all freight and passenger trains are expected to be running as usual on Friday.



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discounts for larger quantities



Junior Grange Manual
\$5.00 plus shipping

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



**Grange Emblem
Junior Patch**
\$2.00 plus shipping

Grange Supply Store Note:

Any Grange Supply Store “rush” orders that require expedited arrival (7 days or fewer from the 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. Checks must be made out for the correct amount including shipping and expediting fees

Any orders placed by phone (202-628-3507 x109) and any rush orders must pay with a credit card. **No checks/invoicing will be accepted for rush orders.**

Grange Member Benefit – UPS Shipping

Get Ahead of the Holidays

It's that time of year again. Time to get ready for the peak shopping – and peak shipping season. Prepping can feel like a heavy lift, but it doesn't have to be.



Whether you need to find the perfect balance between shipping speed and cost, packaging advice or more advanced tracking capabilities, there's a UPS® solution to help. Best of all? Use your Grange UPS® Savings Program and get **up to 50% off** all of your shipments.

[Sign up for a new account](#) or if you already have a UPS account, simply re-enroll and apply our member-only savings to your existing account.

¹ | Statistics used herein are derived from or based on information contained in the 2021 Post-Shipment Experience Study, which is a compilation of two independent studies conducted by Evalueserve and Dynata in March and April, 2021, respectively, on behalf of UPS Capital. Click [here](#) for the full study or go to <https://bit.ly/post-shipment-study>.

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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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