



PATRONS CHAIN

The Official Newsletter of the National Grange



Welcome to the Western Region

BY LILLIAN BOOTH AND MARTHA STEFENONI

Western Region Coordinators

The Grange members of the Western Region states (California, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana) welcome you to the Silver State in Sparks, Nevada for the 156th Annual Session of the National Grange!

In keeping with the theme “Grange: Making A Difference!,” the hosting members have created new experiences and different ways of doing things at this National Grange Session. Granges make a difference every day, in different ways, in each of their communities. This is a celebration of those differences and commonalities.

We ask that you keep an open mind and

explore our new events and take a look at the Granges who are trying new things!

The members of the Western Region want to share their cultures, geography, and programs with all of the Grange members attending. Always keep the eye of the mind open, carry a pencil to note down new ideas, and share with each other. Oh – and have LOTS of fun and laughter, and take a ton of pictures!

We hope that every member who attends will be able to leave at the end of the week with many new friends, ideas, and a renewed vigor for the work of the Grange.

Take every opportunity at this National Grange Session to learn something new every day that will make a difference in your Grange life. Welcome to Sparks!

Delegates ready to shape policy

BY BETH SOUTHWORTH

Communication Fellow

Grangers historically have advocated for legislation that has an impact on rural communities. The National Convention is an opportunity to decide which resolutions submitted by the State Granges will become policy and our focus for legislation. According to Sean O’Neil, National Grange Legislative Assistant, “the National Grange depends on its local membership to determine its future.” (Patrons Chain, November 2022)

Nearly 100 resolutions were submitted by State Granges. Eight committees are reviewing the resolutions and will recommend to the body of Delegates whether to accept or reject the resolutions. The committees started meeting by Zoom in late October. Some of the resolutions submitted were due to worldwide events such as the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in the Ukraine. Other resolutions are much more concerned with the Grange di-

rectly and speak to our finances, policies and rituals. Copies of the resolutions are available through Sharepoint. Stephanie Wilkins, National IT Director shared a link via email to all Delegates.

The Agriculture committee is exploring ten resolutions dealing with the value of land, effects of the modern world on agriculture and food banks. AG-102-TX addresses concerns that the United States continues to be able to feed itself and to determine our ability to export to countries of our choosing. It states, “Resolved: that the National Grange requests the United States Government prevent any land purchases by foreign persons/government.”

Also concerning food, but focusing on the effects of the economy on individuals and families to be able to afford food, AG-110-NY states that food banks have long lines and - even with wage increases - people are unable

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A bit of hospitality

The Western Region hospitality room will be open this week, with snacks and goodies that show off the states as they host!

Stop in Redwood 6 for some refreshments. Coffee, tea, and hot cocoa are available daily.

The room will be open:

7:30 a.m.- 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday, and 7 a.m. - noon and 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturday.

THANK YOU!

The Fellows extend our thanks to Roger & Melanie Bostwick, Ann Bercher, and Martha Stefenoni who have brought treats to us in Redwood 2! You keep us functioning!

Follow the Fellows on social media, and stay up to date with the happenings at Session.

Instagram:

n.grange_communication_fellows OR nationalgrangeofficial

Facebook:

National Grange

Twitter:

NationalGrange

STAFF REPORT

Since 2012, the Communication Fellows have been a staple of the National Grange Convention. Each year, intrepid Grange members join in to learn more about the Grange, expand their knowledge on publicity and other communication essentials, assist in communication efforts throughout the convention and across the year, and become a part of the Grange Story.

This year's Communication Fellows come to the program with varied backgrounds in the Grange, from brand-new members at newly-chartered Granges to a 6-time Fellow at a 300+ member Grange. Together, the five-member team will be helping Communications Director Philip Vonada spread the news from the 156th Annual Convention of the National Grange in Sparks, Nevada.

"This class of Fellows brings a wealth of knowledge in so many different passion areas," Vonada said. "While we work together through Fellows training and the program, I am excited to learn as much from them as I hope they do from me." The Fellows began meeting via Zoom in September.

From Silver Springs, Nevada, first-time Fellow **Carolynn Chamlee** is proud to represent her home state. A charter member of Battle Born Stockton Well Grange #29, Chamlee has been a Grange member for just under four years, bringing a strong background in livestock and the Grange Youth Fair program. Living at and running Jackalope Acres, she raises horses, dairy goats, and rabbits. She hopes the Fellows program brings her clarity and understanding and the ability to lend a stronger voice for the Granges in Nevada.

Jim Dumolt is life-long Grange member who joined the Junior Grange at age 5, and is currently serv-

ing as the President of Clarkes Grange #261 in Beaver Creek, Oregon. When not working or being involved with Grange events, he enjoys camping, backpacking, or hiking - really, anything outdoors. If he isn't enjoying the outdoors, he can be found in the shop working on woodworking projects or reading with a nice cup of hot apple cider. As a Communication Fellow, Dumolt aspires to make connections with Grange members of all levels from coast-to-coast.

Idaho has a champion in **Caryn Herman**, a member of Nampa Valley Grange #131. Caryn is the Community Outreach Coordinator for the Canyon County Historical Society Train Museum and Interpretive Center, and was recently appointed to the Art & Historical Preservation Commission by the mayor. She is an artist, storyteller, and a former farm girl who now lives in the city. Herman is gleaning all of the information she can while participating in the program, and says that "the networking is very important, and learning all about the organization in deeper ways," will help her grow the Grange.

Another relatively new member, **Beth Southworth** currently lives in Lake Wynona, Pennsylvania, where she is a member of Jefferson Grange #1384. Southworth was introduced to the Grange through the Grange's work with the Quilts of Valor program, but has learned that the organization has so much more to offer in her community and beyond. Southworth likes staying active - particularly through yoga and water aerobics - and loves being involved in her community. She is



Beth Southworth



Caryn Herman



Jim Dumolt



Lindsay Schroeder



Carolynn Chamlee

excited to be a part of the Fellows, and hopes to find some new friends and connections from across the country, and a better understanding of technology to help grow her Grange and Granges around the country.

Returning for her 6th time as a Fellow, **Lindsay Schroeder** is the 2022 Senior Fellow and Session Photographer. Schroeder is a member of Virginville Grange #1832 in Pennsylvania. She is a member of the PA State Grange Youth Committee. Through this program, she has learned how to listen and think outside the box when welcoming new members and sharing their stories. Schroeder lives in Northampton, PA where she owns and operates Little Linds Photos.

This year marks the ninth class of Fellows. For convention attendees, please feel free to visit Redwood 2 to share your Grange stories, inspiring words, or deep thoughts, and please take the time to indulge them in their questions.



Fundraiser for Foundation

California Grange member Eugene Fletcher has designed these 3D-printed keychains, emblazoned with the Grange Youth and Junior Grange logos. You can receive these keychains for a donation of \$3 each or 2 for \$5. They can be found in the Region Host Office (Redwood 8). All proceeds go directly to the Junior and Youth funds at the Grange Foundation.

Bucket Brigade program to bring aid, hope

BY CAROYLN CHAMLEE

Communication Fellow

In the 2021 California wildfire season, the Tamarack Fire burned 68,637 acres primarily in the Mokelumne Wilderness in Alpine County, California, and Douglas and Lyon Counties in Nevada.

The fire was reported burning on a rocky ridge-top on July 4, a result of lightning strikes. The fire was allowed to burn naturally due to the rugged area, lack of fuels, and the natural barriers on the ridge-top that limited the fire's growth. However, on July 16, high winds caused the fire to move down the ridge.

The fire continued to grow rapidly, threatening numerous communities including Markleeville, and State Highways 89, 88, and 395. Overall some 2,439 people had to evacuate and over 500 structures were threatened.

While the fire raged, youth from High Desert Grange were en route to the Silver and Sage Fair, now known as the Nevada Agriculture Fair, in Douglas County. Gloria Montero of High Desert Grange #22, and Dru and Chelsey Simerson of Western Nevada Grange #28 decided to collect items for those community members who were displaced from the fires.

With both Granges having leadership at the fairgrounds to facilitate a central donation drop-off, fliers and word of mouth spread quickly. The community in the surrounding areas rallied to the cause, dropping off vast amounts of donated cases of water, blankets, clothing, and bedding.

After the fair, Montero and the Simersons ran into trouble trying to distribute the items to food pantries, evacuation centers, and churches. They were informed that cases of water were unable to be accepted because of the branding, and donations of clothing and bedding were also rejected. While those in the evacuation centers were touched by the outpouring of support, they had nowhere to put or even store the items donated.

The Simersons eventually loaded up their trailer with the donated items and drove up to the burn area after the evacuated families were allowed to return home. They notified the community where they parked the trailer, and victims could come to get what they needed. In the end, all items were distributed, but not without difficulties.

On August 6, 2021, Carl Clinger from High Desert Grange #22, Montero, and Carolyn Chamlee from a High Desert Grange satellite group (now known as Battle Born Stockton Well Grange #29) drove up to Boise, ID to attend the Western States Regional Leadership Conference. With the fires still raging in California, the smoke was still thick - even in Boise.

During the workshop on developing fundraisers that was led by the National Grange Youth Team, two more key players entered the equation. Montero and Chamlee found themselves paired up with California Grangers Lillian Booth from Chico Grange #486 and Martha



Items for the Bucket Brigade donations can be dropped off in Redwood 8.

Photo by Lindsay Schroeder

Stefenoni from Bennett Valley Grange #16. They were tasked to create a fundraiser, but the conversation quickly turned from raising funds for disaster relief to the donations and challenges Montero and the Simersons faced with their recent experience.

Lillian Booth recalled her experience in the 2018 Camp Fire, where her family lost their house in Paradise, California. Booth stated that since their states shared borders, there was an opportunity to work collaboratively on this project on a much larger scale.

Development continued during the workshop. Conversations swirled around the method of transportation, volunteer cars, and storing the items long-term. Montero, who had worked for Churchill County School District, explained that in her classroom they had a five-gallon bucket. The bucket held supplies needed for emergencies, including bottled water, a flashlight, batteries, first aid kit, and more.

The Bucket Brigade idea had just been born. A bucket with a lid would serve both as an easy storage system, ease shipping challenges, as well as give the ability to transport materials.

Much larger-scale disaster relief organizations, like the Red Cross, can take 24 hours or more to respond to an area. Martha Stefenoni hopes this can provide a quicker, more immediate response to communities in need. While food items could be added, it has been suggested that they not be added until the buckets need deploying.

Dru Simerson proposed that this could be deployed for any disaster, not just fires. California and Nevada may share proximity and similar disasters, but with this project here at the 156th Annual National Grange Convention, everyone can make a difference here and in their community.

The project is placing items into ziplock bags, rather than buckets, for ease of transport after the convention. There is still time to help contribute and be involved in the project. We are looking for sharpies, notepads, playing cards, portable games, hand sanitizer or wipes, toiletries, feminine products, and washcloths. These can be dropped off in the Host Region office in Redwood 8. Cash donations are also acceptable.

Disasters can strike anyone, anywhere, at any time. Consider modifying this project for the disasters in your home state in the future.

President's Message

BY BETSY HUBER

National Grange President

Welcome to Nevada! Over the next week, more than 400 Grange members are gathering here in the Silver State to help shape the future of our Order!

And the future itself will be on display here, too. The Western Region has seen some tremendous growth in membership through the Grange Youth Fair program, and some of their members will be displaying their talents during the week - in the Showcase and beyond!

Amid all of our hard work here, I hope you also take the time to spend in fellowship with members from

around the country. Learn from them, borrow their ideas, and don't be afraid to ask questions.

We haven't made it to our 156th convention by being afraid to grow and change, and I encourage you to keep up the great work happening around the country!

While there is quite a bit to do here in the casino, I also hope you get outside and see some of the great sights and enjoy some wonderful food in the Sparks/Reno area.

The Western Region hospitality is on full display, and I hope you say "thank you," too, for all of their hard work.



Opinion: Give the gift of peace of mind this holiday season with an updated COVID-19 vaccination

BY PHILIP J VONADA

Our national convention is an exciting time to visit with fellow Grangers from across the country as we share ideas, recognize the great work of our state and local chapters and plan for the year ahead. For me, it also feels like the unofficial kick-off of the holiday season when we'll have the opportunity to spend time with our family and friends and reflect on a year well spent.

For many of us, this past year may have been a year of reconnecting in-person with those we hadn't been able to see since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. While we are grateful for this opportunity to return to some normalcy, it is helpful to remember the threat of COVID-19 still exists in our communities, and those over 50 or with chronic health conditions are at greater risk. We're hearing predictions of another winter surge in COVID-19 cases as the colder weather brings us back indoors. As the saying goes, timing is everything and, for me the time is right to do what I can to protect myself and those around me this holiday season. Recently, I chose to receive the updated COVID-19 vaccine, an action I view as reinforcement of my commitment to fidelity toward others, as we learn in the Grange.

With many festivities on the horizon over the next couple of months, I encourage you to join me and con-

sider getting the updated COVID-19 vaccine not just for yourself, but as a gift to those you care about most. Within your family and friends, you probably know of people you want to protect - parents or grandparents who are older, a friend who has survived cancer, a colleague with a pre-existing condition, or neighbor who has been sick. Evidence shows that people are not getting the updated COVID-19 vaccine based on a number of factors including a feeling that the virus is no longer circulating or general fatigue over the pandemic itself. Recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show increases in cases of COVID-19, especially in rural America. Unfortunately, rural Americans are at a higher risk of a negative outcome from COVID-19 than those living in cities and with fewer options for care, the threat of serious illness from this virus remains very real.

With our close-knit, community mindset, I encourage all Grangers to consider making the choice to protect yourself and those around you by being fully up to date on your COVID-19 vaccinations, including booster shots. The updated COVID-19 vaccine helps protect against COVID-19, including the Omicron variants, and increases your body's immune response. If it has been more than two months since your primary series or previous booster dose and you are 5 years of age or older, you are eligible for the

updated vaccine. Also, the vaccine is free to you and is widely available at pharmacies and health care providers' offices. If you need help finding a location to get your vaccine, you can visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).

Increasing the number of people who receive the updated COVID-19 vaccine can save tens of thousands of lives and prevent hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations. In recognition of this, we have partnered with the COVID-19 Vaccine Education and Equity Project and other national organizations, including the American Lung Association, to encourage people across the country to get the updated COVID-19 vaccine before gathering for the holidays.

Reflecting upon our oath and our commitment to "strive to do well," let us strive to do well for ourselves as well as for our communities. Consider getting vaccinated today and celebrate the season with peace of mind knowing that you have done your part to protect your health and support your community. I hope you'll join me in getting the updated vaccine.

Philip Vonada is a lifelong Granger, currently living in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. He is a member of Penns Valley Grange #158 (Centre County) and Eagle Grange #1 (Lycoming County) and is the National Grange Communications Director.

to feed their families. The resolution requests additional funding for food banks to address this need.

The Audit & Budget committee is working on five resolutions including several which focus on the sale of the National Headquarters. Some, such as AB-205-OH, reaffirm current policy which is to sell the building and move to more economical offices.

The Citizenship and Taxation committee is responsible for twenty resolutions which include topics such as service animals, veterans, and fallout from the war in the Ukraine. Resolution CT-301-OR proposes that service animals receive training and be certified. CIT-304-OR proposes that veterans be given preference in obtaining low income housing because veterans have historically struggled to reenter society, mental and physical wounds affect their earning potential, and many veterans consequently are homeless.

CIT-307-NJ proposes the reinstatement of unlimited state and local tax deduction, and CIT-311-CT resolves that the National Grange urges the Federal Government to ban legislators and their families from stock trading during their tenure in office.

A busy committee will be Grange Law, who must examine 30 resolutions touching on topics such as the IRS, Degrees, finance and voting. According to National Grange Legislative Director, Burton Eller, the biggest policy issues that will be debated are Grange laws. Many of these resolutions will be contentious as there are two camps, the traditionalists who wish to maintain tradition and keep things as the were at the time of Grange's founding, and a more progressive group who feel things should be streamlined for the twenty-first century.

The Labor, Judiciary and Transportation committee is responsible for 12 resolutions. Areas of concern are cannabis use,

guns, shipping, voting, debt and Congress. As time passes, products become more computerized, so manufacturers use codes to unlock parts and impeding individual's ability to repair their own equipment, therefore LJT-808-KS supports the right of individuals to repair their own equipment without special codes or licensing.

The Conservation committee is responsible for ten resolutions which deal with alternative energy and water.

The Education and Health committee has 18 resolutions. Topics include mental health, school lunches, cancer screenings and drug costs. An interesting resolution concerns Q fever. This is a bacteria caused infection in livestock which can infect people by breathing dust that has been infected by feces of affected animals. Q fever can also come from the milk of dairy goats. The resolution encourages education of medical providers and the agriculture community at large to help in diagnosis and treatment of Q fever.

Grange Growth and Development has only three resolutions. These resolutions deal with peaceful dialog, the regional leaders' conference and transitioning resources for Grange selling a property.

Leroy Watson, Grange Advocacy Chairperson and Executive Committee member states that the National Grange is the oldest continuous lobbyist organization in Washington. Grange Advocacy is a well respected, important franchise, carrying out the wishes of the Grange by lobbying on issues in Washington. The process the Grange uses to determine policy is the most basic policy process and used by other organizations such as Farm Bureau and the Farmers Union.

Participation in the National Convention, sending Delegates to convention and voting for resolutions is important. "National Grange staff will take their marching orders directly from the National Grange policy book when working with Congress" (Sean O'Neil, Patrons Chain).

National Grange sees net gain in fraternal membership

BY CARYN HERMAN

Communication Fellow

For the first time in 67 years, the Grange has seen growth in fraternal membership, an achievement well worth celebrating! What exactly does that mean, and how did the Grange - after many years of stagnation or loss - attain a net gain?

The total unique fraternal membership grew in the calendar year 2021-22. This growth was an outstanding 3.1% or 1509 new members. The number was calculated from the growth achieved in Subordinate and

State Granges. These Grange metrics provided the most accurate reflection of memberships' success for the year. This gain also counteracts any losses that individual Granges may have seen through various means.

Although the Grange has many membership opportunities, there were two that made the largest contributions to the membership growth. Family and Junior memberships added the largest increases. The principal spike was seen in Junior membership at 133.46% and 1065 individuals.

According to Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership & Leadership Development Director, although Junior numbers showed the largest gain, the figures are somewhat deceiving.

Up until last year, the count of Junior numbers were largely ignored as part of our organization and were not well-reported in membership data. The subsequent years will reveal an actual number in Junior member-

ship when everyone has reported on a consistent basis. Despite a tilt in numbers, the overall net gain is still impressive. The relatively new Family Membership plan played a large part in the growth of the Grange.

The Family Membership plan helped the Grange grow by 16.82% or 833 memberships. This is exciting, and although family memberships are not new, one would question why have family memberships taken off. In an interview, Brozana Rios suggested long periods of isolation and alone time in the last few years gave people the time to reflect on their lives and where they fit in their communities. Most importantly, people had time to reflect on their family values and discovered they were lacking and wanting more of this in their lives and the community Grange was the one organization that embodied the entire package.

The 2021-22 membership year was a significant and prosperous year, yielding this net gain in membership. Whether people found the Grange through reflection, an act of kindness, a Grange event, or a welcoming smile. We need to continue pushing forward and strengthening the new membership trend by doing what we do best as Grangers.



Delegates assembled at the National Grange Convention celebrated "cheers" to a year of Grange growth.

Photo by Lindsay Schroeder

New faces, new perspectives

This year, more than 16 new Delegates have joined the National Grange Delegate body. In the next few issues, we will be highlighting the new members in the Patrons Chain, so everyone can get to know the people who will be helping to shape the National Grange agenda as voting members.



Mike & Debbie Russell

What state are you from? Ohio
What Grange do you belong to? Staunton #2685

How many years have you been a Grange member?

Mike: 54 - Debbie: 42

What is your favorite Grange memory/activity/event/project/show? Mike & Debbie served as Ohio State Grange Young Couple in 1984, then had many years as State Grange Youth Directors. They are also very proud of their son, who served as the director for the 7th Degree for several years.

What are some personal goals you wish to accomplish? See the Grange grow and unify the Grange's message and meaning in communities.

What is a piece of advice you have for new/upcoming members? Be as active as you can - learn as much as you can about the Grange!

Who is a mentor that has influenced you? Debbie: "There's been so many who helped us." Mike: "Wib Justi had a big influence on us."

What herd animal would you like to be? While not knowing the herd animals, Debbie says she would like to be a bird because they are free, can fly over things, and can see and avoid problems below them.



Carl Clinger

What state are you from? Nevada
What Grange do you belong to? High Desert #22
How many years have you been a Grange member? 8 years.
What is your favorite Grange memory/activity/event/project/show? Attending and

learning California's State Grange session.

What are some personal goals you wish to accomplish? Making sure everyone sends in their dues.

What is a piece of advice you have for new/upcoming members? Don't be afraid to help out wherever you can.

Who is a mentor that has influenced you? Joe Stefanoni

What herd animal would you chose to be? A goat.

Bob & Martha Poling

What state are you from? New Jersey
What Grange do you belong to? Hamilton #79

How many years have you been a Grange member? Martha: 45 years - Bob: 17 years. Martha says "Joining the Grange was a condition for our marriage."

What is your favorite Grange memory/activity/event/project/show? Martha: Attending different youths camps when I was younger.

Bob: Attending State Session. The hard work and the fun.

What are some personal goals you wish to accomplish?

Revitalize the Grange and return it to its former glory to make the Grange visible again. See it reborn

What is a piece of advice you have for new/upcoming members? Keep an open mind, think out of the box, and communicate.

Who is a mentor that has influenced you? Martha: Elwood Johnson. Bob: My wife.

What herd animal would you like to be? Martha: Groundhog. Bob: a dog, Labrador Retriever.



Vince Scholten

What state are you from? California
What Grange do you belong to? Hessel #750 and Bennet Valley #16 (oldest Grange building in the U.S., from 1874).
How many years have you been a Grange member? 15 years.

What is your favorite Grange memory/activity/event/project/show? State Convention; being part of committees and passing resolutions that advance agriculture.

What are some personal goals you wish to accomplish? Pushing the ag agenda, advocating for small farmers.

What is a piece of advice you have for new/upcoming members? Get involved!

Who is a mentor that has influenced you? Joe Stefanoni, State President California.



Delegates receive training, start working

BY AMANDA BROZANA RIOS
National Grange Membership & Leadership
Development Director

New Delegates gathered Monday morning to take part in a training workshop.

Some came confident, others a bit overwhelmed - not unlike many new members.

These freshly minted national leaders have stepped into new territory with new expectations and are surrounded by a majority of strangers; new members often experience the same.

They often come to meetings with only one or two people in the crowd with whom they are acquainted. They hear language and see processes that are unfamiliar, and frequently find few people willing to take time to explain, contextualize and allow for the slow process of falling in love with “the Grange way.”

These new Delegates are smitten, check.

But the tempo and tenor of the week is foreign, no matter how closely the work of their State Grange and the National Conventions align.

What should I wear? Where do I sit? How welcome is my voice as a “new kid” in the room?

These are all things new members with little connections and no family ties (i.e. Grange mentors) experience as we enter the Grange, so it is a moment ripe for reflection for these new Delegates and all the other leaders and members in the room on what it means to be welcomed, mentored, have their unique voice and perspective respected and find family in this new body.

And a moment for us all to think about the beautiful, wonderful, fulfilling strangeness of Grange and how to create a culture that embraces and encourages new members to go from strangers to Grangers.

Western Region offers special touches in region office

BY JIM DUMOLT
Communication Fellow

The Western Region is very excited to be hosting the 156th Annual Convention of the National Grange in Sparks, Nevada.

They have been extremely busy getting everything ready and are sure to be busy throughout the session. You will find quite a few of the Regional Host Committee in the Region Host Office, which will be in Redwood 8.

It is the first room on the left as you come up to the Redwood rooms. The room will be open Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and

from 7:00 a.m. to noon on Sunday.

Quite a few things are going on in the Region Host Office; there is the registration for the Delegates, a place to buy a few of the Western Regional poker chips, order some corsages and boutonnieres, as well as a collection point for the donations to the Eddy House, and the Bucket Brigade.

Western Region Co-Chairperson Martha Stefenoni said, “We look forward to having the 156th National Grange Annual Convention here in the Western Region. We are looking forward to meeting new friends as well as seeing lifelong friends.”

There are some great people volunteering their time in Redwood 8, so make sure to stop by the Region Host Office, they would enjoy seeing your lovely smiling faces and answering any questions that you might have.



This 3-D-printed statue of the Western Region poker chip was created by Eugene Fletcher (CA) and will be auctioned off at the Celebration Banquet.

DAILY PUZZLE 156th National Grange Word Search



- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-------------|
| CASINO | FRIENDS | RESOLUTIONS |
| CODE BOOK | GAMBLE | SPARKS |
| DEGREES | HOSPITALITY ROOM | TOURS |
| DRILL | JUNIORS | WEST COAST |
| ELECTIONS | MARCHING | YOUTH |
| FAMILY | NEVADA | |
| FELLOWS | QUILTS OF VALOR | |

The first two people who complete this and find Lindsay in Redwood 2 win a prize!



156th NATIONAL GRANGE Attendee Passport

Post photos to your social media and use the tag #ng156

1st 100 passports returned to Session Room by VP station will receive special gift

By posting your photos and/or videos to social media and using the #ng156 tag, you give permission for the National Grange to republish your media in ways that include but are not limited to social media, the Patrons Chain, and Good Day! magazine.

Find Someone from a State not in your Region	Find something that you can purchase for your Grange	Attend the Friday morning Youth Opening	Make a new Grange Friend	Attend session to see Closing Degree Work
Bid on a GROW Club Auction Item	Find someone that is wearing Grange apparel from another State	Find someone with a past National Session pin	Take a Selfie with an officer who carries a staff	Introduce yourself to a National Grange Executive Committee member
Find someone who has an old raffle ticket in their purse or pocket	Take a Selfie with Chad Smith	Visit with a Youth member	Introduce yourself to the National Grange Membership Director	Visit the Showcase area
Attend the Lecturer's workshop	High Five a Granger you've never met	Attend Membership workshop	Ask a Stranger Granger for a favorite Grange Memory	Visit with one of the National Grange Graces
Eat something native to the region that we are visiting	Shake the National Grange Community Service Director's Hand	Meet someone new and ask about their favorite Grange project or contest	Visit with a junior member	Visit with a member of the Assembly of Demeter
Find your favorite Quilt Square in the Showcase	Take a selfie with the National Grange Vice-president	Ask a Stranger Granger about their most successful Grange event	Take a picture with the National Grange background	Find out 1 thing you didn't know about a Grange contest

Join in the fun! The National Convention Advisory Work Group encourages you to participate in this photo passport program to meet new friends and see the sights during the convention. Larger copies can be picked up in Redwood 8 (Region Host Office) or the Fellows office (Redwood 2).



SUPPLY STORE

The Grange Supply Store will be open with limited quantities of supplies starting on Wednesday! Visit the Showcase to see what's in stock!

Livestream Schedule

Tues. Nov. 15

12:30 pm – *Advocacy Luncheon* – speakers: Mayor Ed Lawson of Sparks, Nevada; Emily Haggstrom – VP of Communications & Creative Development, Consumer Energy Alliance

2:30 pm – “*State of the Grange*” Address by President Betsy E. Huber

Wed. Nov. 16

12:45 pm – *Salute to Agriculture Luncheon* – speaker: Speaker: Dr. William Payne, Dean of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources, University of Nevada, Reno

4:00 pm – *Workshop: Communication Fellows*

7:30 pm – *Grange Hall of Fame Awardees and Quilts of Valor Presentation*

Thurs. Nov. 17

9:30 am – *Legislative Workshop* – Sean O’Neil, National Grange Legislative Assistant

10:20 am – *Membership Workshop* – Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership & Leadership Development Director

11:10 am – *Communications Workshop, “Becoming a Social Media Animal”* – Dr. Todd Felts, University of Nevada Reno

2:00 pm – *Presentation from Rural Minds* by Jeff Winton, Founder & CEO

2:45 pm – *Rural Minds* workshop

Fri. Nov. 18

3:00 pm – *Installation of Officers*

7:30 pm – *National Grange Honors Night*

Sat. Nov. 19

9:00 am – *Community Service Workshop* – Pete Pompper, National Grange Community Service Director

10:30 am – *Lecturers Workshop* – Ann Bercher, National Grange Lecturer

8:00 pm – *National Grange Evening of Excellence*

Tune in to watch on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, or YouTube!

THE SUCCESS OF THE NEXT GENERATION IS IN YOUR CART!

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