



Photos

If anyone would like any photos taken this week by Lindsay, please email her at littlelindsphotos@gmail.com.

Thank You!

On behalf of all of the Fellows, THANK YOU to the attendees at the 156th Annual National Grange Convention, and to everyone who read at home, for your feedback on this year's special convention coverage in the Patrons Chain. Subscribe at nationalgrange.org/subscribe to get our email of National Grange updates directly to your inbox each week.

Throughout the year, stay connected with the National Grange on social media!

Instagram:

[nationalgrangeofficial](https://www.instagram.com/nationalgrangeofficial)

Facebook:

National Grange, National Grange Lecturer, National Grange Youth, National Junior Grange

Twitter:

[NationalGrange](https://twitter.com/NationalGrange)

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PATRONS CHAIN

The Official Newsletter of the National Grange

Resolutions will shape National Grange's voice in Washington

BY SEAN O'NEIL

National Grange
Legislative Assistant

This past week at the 156th annual session of the National Grange in Sparks, Nevada, Delegates from across the country came together to set the legislative policies of the Order for another year.

The six legislative policy committees of the National Grange considered and debated 81 different resolutions submitted by many different State Granges, ultimately adopting 23 of them.

From the Agriculture committee, resolutions were adopted supporting agricultural education, increased domestic fertilizer production, increased funding for food bank distribution centers, and addressing changing terms for bioengineered/genetically modified organisms.

Meanwhile, the Citizenship & Taxation committee had resolutions concerning prioritizing housing for veterans, supporting a ban on stock trading among members of Congress, addressing concerns around eligibility requirements for national cemeteries, removing medical debt from credit reports, adjusting social security benefits for the terminally ill, opposing personalized pricing, and adjusting the oath given prior to testifying before Congress adopted.

The Conservation committee saw three



Chip Narvel, National Grange Steward, unfurls the American Flag during the opening of National Grange Session.

Photo by Lindsay Schroeder

of its resolutions adopted by the National Grange Delegate body, including resolutions opposed to changes to climate reporting for agricultural producers, incentivizing the siting of alternative energy projects away from productive agricultural land, and supporting a reevaluation of the nation's energy sources.

The Education and Health committee had a productive National Grange session this year, with the delegates adopting resolutions to support raising awareness of mental health issues in rural America and the risk of 'Q' Fever, expanding coverage of multi-cancer early detection and essential immunizations, supporting increased transparency in health care pricing and allowing foreign-made baby formula into US markets, and opposing the use of Pharmacy Benefit Managers and price controls

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Flow into the Future

BY PAULA TURNER (NY) & LINDA SANDERSON (VT)

Northeast Host Region Co-Chairs

Plans are continuing to "Flow into the Future," which is the theme for the 157th Annual National Grange Convention which will be held November 14-18, 2023.

The Northeast Region will be welcoming you to the Sheraton at the Falls in downtown Niagara Falls,

NY. This hotel is across a small brick street from The Conference and Event Center where all the meetings, workshops, and Seventh Degree will be held.

The beautiful falls are located just six-tenths of a mile from the hotel in Niagara Fall State Park, which is America's oldest state park.

Host Region Zoom planning meetings started in early 2021, and our seven-state region has been working hard to ensure that it will be



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on drugs.

Lastly, the Labor, Judiciary, and Transportation committee had no resolutions adopted by the delegates to the 156th National Grange Session.

The adoption of these resolutions at the 156th Annual Session of the National Grange has sent a clear message to

the National Grange's advocates in Washington, D.C. about what policies are top of mind in rural America and has made a definitive statement of where the National Grange stands on the issues of the day.

Hopefully, when the National Grange meets once again for its 157th annual session next year, great progress will have been made on each of these causes.

Pompper suggests being creative in community service

BY BETH SOUTHWORTH
Communication Fellow

Want to get your name out in the community? Find out what your area needs and meet them, said Pete Pompper, National Grange Community Service Director.

In his workshop on Saturday morning, he presented a wide variety of ideas for reaching out to your community.

Among his suggestions, Pompper advocated for partnering with Rural Minds, as well as local businesses. He believes that Granges should take care of their local areas first and should not underestimate the impact Granges make locally in their community.

Besides the money raised and donated, Granges have utilities, insurance, and purchase of products to complete their projects. A \$30,000 project can generate a \$500,000 economic impact in the community, and Grange should be proud of their impact.

He suggested that projects can be funded by obtaining grants through foundations or the local Chamber

of Commerce. Additionally, local Granges could partner with other groups in their area to raise money for everyone. The Grange Hall should be the center of the community.

Dave Roberts of Riverton Grange, Connecticut and the National Grange's United Nations Council of Organizations Representative spoke on needs that his Grange identified in his community including proper disposal of American Flags and honoring veterans.

Pompper suggested that community service events can also be membership drives and Granges should always have membership applications available.

Pompper stated "everyone needs a cause". Bonnie Mison of Mica Flats and Belgrove Granges, Idaho,

suggested that "by networking, YOU don't have to do any work." In other words, use your resources and the people around you wisely.

Your community service needs to serve the people of your community but it also has to serve you. Not all projects need 100% commitment from every member; those who are interested can participate and other Grange members can work on other projects.

Above all, be on the lookout for unmet needs in your community and think outside the box for ways to fund them.



National Grange Community Service Director Pete Pompper spoke with a packed crowd on Saturday. Photo by Lindsay Schroeder



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Save the Date!

We invite you to join with your Brothers and Sisters at the 157th Annual National Grange Convention in Niagara Falls, New York!

Location:
 Sheraton
 at the Falls
 300 3rd Street
 Niagara Falls, NY 14303
 (716) 285-3361
 Room rate:
 \$119 plus tax per night

November 14-18, 2023
 (Tuesday – Saturday)

Convention events at:
 Niagara Falls
 Convention Center

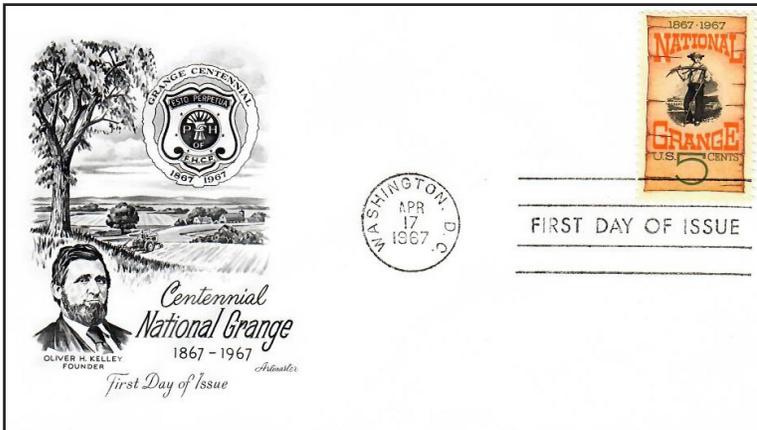
a great session.

The Community Service project will be collecting socks for all ages for a local mission organization.

Nearby attractions other than the falls include Old Fort Niagara, overlooking the Niagara River and Canada; The Power Vista, offering an interactive adventure; the Aquarium of Niagara featuring Humboldt Penguins, sea lions, and seals; the Niagara Culinary Institute is just up the street; and the Seneca-Niagara Casino is across another street.

Niagara Falls is magnificent, and if you have never been there, this is a great opportunity to check it off of your “Bucket List.” If you have been there, it is always worth a repeat visit.

Don’t forget - to visit nearby Canada, bring your passport, or enhanced driver’s license, if your state offers it. 3160 tons of water flows over Niagara Falls every second. Plan now to come to next year’s National Convention and Flow into the Future, but not over the falls!



Congratulations to Beth Southworth (PA), Nettie Hartley (RI), and Shelley Macy (WA) who completed the photo passports and gave their sheets to National Grange Vice President Chris Hamp. Winners received this “First Day of Issue” envelope, celebrating the National Grange’s stamp, issued on April 17, 1967. *Image provided*



Robert Ruble, National Foster Parent Association Board of Directors (CA), accepts a donation of a quilt at the Celebration Banquet on Saturday night. This quilt will be auctioned off, with funds raised going to scholarships and support for foster children.

Photo by Lindsay Schroeder



Above: 2021-2022 National Grange Youth Team members Cole Settle, Emma Edelen, and Amber Corll led a workshop on Saturday morning, where Grange Youth & Young Adults competed in Survivor-style games.



Left: Grange Youth competed in the competition

Photos by Lindsay Schroeder

A look back... Thanks for the memories!



Congratulations to Roger Bostwick and Chris Hamp for giving me my "good morning" texts. - Lindsay



Congratulations to the North Carolina Parliamentary Procedure team for winning first place in the competition!

Photo by Lindsay Schroeder