



The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

October 16, 2020

DON'T LET THE CONNECTION GO COLD

As we are not permitted to meet, we ask you to share these newsletters by forwarding this or printing and mailing to your Grange friends

National Grange Hosting Webinar

Betsy E. Huber, National Grange President

Next week the National Grange is hosting a webinar titled “Innovation from Farm to Table,” a discussion about agricultural innovation and its role in domestic food security, supply and production. Panelists from Tyson Foods, the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, the Farm Credit Council, and Feed the Children will discuss this broad topic from their various viewpoints.

Food security includes everyone having enough to eat of course, but it also involves many other issues. Farming must be economically rewarding, because farmers must earn enough to stay in business to produce our food. Government overregulation of normal agricultural practices hinders production and takes time away from productive labor to file paperwork.

Advancements in scientific research are especially important to improve efficiency, conservation of natural resources, and improvements in crop varieties to improve nutrition and health. These advancements must rely on sound science, not popular opinion. Food security includes reducing food waste and improving the food distribution system to avoid bottlenecks like we experienced last spring. It also involves preparing for climate change, water and soil conservation, and animal welfare. I’m sure there are many more facets of the topic that will be uncovered in the discussions.

Food security was identified by National Grange delegates several years ago as a top priority and it will continue to be a focus in the coming year. This webinar is designed for Capitol Hill staff and leaders of ag-related organizations in Washington DC, but it will be recorded and posted on the National Grange website where you can view it anytime. I encourage you to do so, and share it or discuss the topic at your next Grange meeting.

Member Action Needed

By: Christine Hamp National Grange Lecturer

I need your help. Please take a look at the four opportunities highlighted below – all four are teetering on the edge of epic failure in 2020. In a year where I believe we had a greater responsibility to publicize our community events; more than enough time to sew a few quilt blocks; plenty of chances to practice our photo-taking skills (I saw hundreds of photos posted on Facebook); and every opportunity as State Granges to host a virtual talent show from which to select a Best of Show representative for our annual Evening of Excellence (we even provided weeks and weeks of examples with our Date Night In shows) – I am at a total loss as to why our members and our Granges are not participating. I refuse to allow the pandemic to be a reason or excuse. I refuse to allow the need for technology to be a reason or excuse.

You have two weeks. Two weeks to submit your Grange's publicity items created since last November. It literally takes less than three minutes to click the link, complete the questions and attach the file. Two weeks to find a scrap of teal/turquoise fabric and cut and then sew together a quilt block or two or three. Two weeks to go through your phone or computer files and find your favorite photos taken since last November. Again, it takes less than a couple of minutes to click the link, answer the questions and upload the photo. Go get it done!

One of the things I most love about Grange is the grit and determination shown by our predecessors in making monster improvements to our way of life, which ultimately bettered ourselves and our communities. Was it easy? No! The absolute steadfast belief in the mindset that we are stronger together is a powerful lesson to learn, to remember and to strive to emulate every day. To be stronger together we must participate, we must share and we must celebrate each other's accomplishments.

I believe that each of these four opportunities below do allow for participation, for sharing with each other and for celebrating each other's accomplishments. However, if these contests and associated programs are of no interest to you then please let me know so I can make changes for 2021. I look forward to your comments and suggestions.

2020 National Grange Publicity Item Contest

Entries for the 2020 National Grange Publicity Item Contest are due October 31st. Remember, the primary goal of this contest is to share ideas – ideas of the types and kinds of events that you are doing as well as the ways that you are publicizing your events. Please share EVERY flyer, poster, sandwich board, button, t-shirt, Facebook event notice, newsletter, placemat and display that you create to advertise your Grange – there is no limit on the number of items that can be entered by a Grange. The more entries received the more ideas to share!

2020 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

Please continue to send me your quilt blocks. The more the better! Remember, the National Grange Quilt Block Contest is open to members and non-members alike. Quilt blocks are due to me by October 31st.

2020 National Grange Virtual Photo Contest

Entries for the 2020 National Grange Virtual Photo Contest are due October 31st. This is a new contest open to members and non-members alike and replaces the Photography Showcase which

was limited to one Best of Show entry per State Grange. All photos entered will become the property of the National Grange and may be used in National Grange publications and virtual media.

2020 Evening of Excellence

State Grange Lecturers, please make sure to submit your Best of Show talent entry for our 2020 National Grange Evening of Excellence to be held virtually on Saturday, November 21, 2020. Each State Lecturer is responsible for certifying their state's Best of Show winner and for submitting the registration paperwork by October 31, 2020. We need at least eight states to submit a Best of Show entry in order for the Evening of Excellence to occur.

Please contact me by Email at lecturer@nationalgrange.org or by phone at 509.953.3533 (voice or text) if you have questions or comments.

Be a DOer!



2020 Evening of Excellence

REGISTRATION FORM

STATE: _____

☐ Vocal

☐ Instrumental

☐ Variety

Participant(s), if more than one, List group leader first:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

Participant/Leader Email: _____

Phone: _____

Participant/Leader Grange Name: _____

No.: _____

TITLE of selection being presented: _____

Special name or title of act: _____

Special requirements: _____

Accompaniment: ☐ Live music ☐ CD

I hereby certify that the person(s) listed above is/are eligible to represent the _____
State Grange in the 2020 Evening of Excellence.

State Lecturer (Print Name)

Signature

Email a scanned copy, with signature to: lecturer@nationalgrange.org or

Mail to:

Christine Hamp, National Lecturer
16418 N. Birdie Road
Nine Mile Falls WA 99026

Registration Form **MUST** be received by National Lecturer by October 31, 2020.



2020 National Grange Virtual Photo Contest

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The 2020 National Grange Virtual Photo Contest came about as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic causing massive changes to our annual National and State Grange conventions. This change allows for a photo contest even without state contests. All photos entered will become the property of the National Grange and may be used in National Grange publications and virtual media.

RULES

- A. The National Grange Virtual Photo Contest is open to all Grangers and yet-to-be Grangers.
- B. Submitted photos can be of any subject. [Any photograph deemed inappropriate will not be judged or exhibited in the National Grange Virtual Photo Contest.]
- C. All entries must be received electronically as a single (1) file no larger than 100MB via Google Forms at <https://bit.ly/grange20photo> by October 31, 2020.
- D. There is one division – come one, come all!
- E. Each individual is limited to entering three (3) photos.
- F. Entries should be no more than one (1) year old.
- G. Any entries received after the **October 31, 2020** deadline will not be judged.

PRIZES

Monetary prizes will be awarded: 1st - \$50, 2nd - \$30 and 3rd - \$20.



2020 National Grange Publicity Item Contest

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The ability of our Granges, at every level, to successfully promote specific events or the Grange as a whole is necessary and important. The goal of the National Grange Publicity Item Contest is to recognize the publicity work being done by our Granges across the country and to share this work with other Granges with the intent of fostering even more and improved publicity efforts. The more Grange publicity occurring within our communities, the better!

RULES

- A. The National Grange Publicity Item Contest is open to all Granges (State, Pomona, Community, Junior), Grange committees or Grange groups (i.e., auxiliary, youth, Junior 1+).
- B. A Publicity Item may be a flyer, poster or advertisement; a short video; a radio commercial or announcement; a social media post; a press kit or media release; a shirt, button or other wearable item; or anything else you create to promote Grange.
- C. All entries must be received electronically as a single (1) file no larger than 1GB via Google Forms at <http://tiny.cc/grange20pubitem> by October 31, 2020.
- D. There are two (2) divisions:
 - Created by a professional (paid or in-kind).
 - Created in-house (without professional assistance).
- E. There is no limit on the number of publicity items that can be submitted by any Grange, Grange committee or Grange group.
- F. Entries should be no more than one (1) year old.
- G. If your publicity item is wearable please take a photo of the item and submit the photo.
- H. Any entries received after the October 31, 2020 deadline will not be judged.
- I. All entries scoring at least 70% will be shared by the National Grange with State, local and Junior Granges across the country.

PRIZES

Monetary prizes will be awarded: 1st - \$200, 2nd - \$100, 3rd - \$50 and 4th - \$25 in each division.



2020 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

DO NOT JUDGE ☐

Grange Member: ☐

Non-Member: ☐

Grange Name: _____ No.: _____ State: _____

☐ - Group I (Age 14+)

☐ - Group II (Age 13 and under)

☐ - Group III (MEN; Age 14+)

All contest entries must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by October 31, 2020.

The quilt block you enter in the contest for judging must be made by you.

Please make and submit as many blocks as you wish, but only one contest entry per person.

Each contest entry must have a completed Entry Form.

Mail entries to: Christine Hamp, National Lecturer
16418 N. Birdie Road
Nine Mile Falls WA 99026

2020



2020 National Grange Quilt Block Contest

RULES

- A. The National Grange Quilt Block Contest is open to everyone.
- B. All contest entries must be received by the National Grange Lecturer by **October 31, 2020**.
Send entries to:
Christine Hamp, National Lecturer
16418 N. Birdie Road
Nine Mile Falls WA 99026
- C. Any entries received after the deadline will not be judged. However, all entries received will be exhibited at the 154th National Grange convention in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.
- D. The quilt block you enter in the contest for judging must be made by you.
- E. There is no limit on the number of quilt blocks a person may submit, but choose one quilt block per person to be judged.
- F. All entries will be retained by the National Grange to be made into finished quilts and other items to be sold at a later date to raise funds for the Grange Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity.
- G. A 2020 Quilt Block Contest Entry Form must be completed for the block to be judged.

GROUPS

- Group I – Adult (Age 14+)
- Group II – Junior (Age 13 and under)
- Group III – MEN (Age 14+)

PRIZES

- Monetary prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each Group.
- Ribbons will be awarded to all entrants.

New Member Benefits Program

By: Kennedy Gwin

A new cash back program is being incorporated into Grange member benefits and it is big news! In partnership with the National Grange the program Cash Back Connections is up and ready for members to redeem their benefits.

This program gives Grange members special access to coupons, cashback opportunities, and other financial benefits. These coupons include free shipping to \$10 off medications at certain pharmacies.

Cashback benefits range from 1-15% with a variety of stores including Walmart, Overstock, Tractor Supply Company, and many more. As you purchase items through the Cashback program the money will compound into your specially created account, and when your cashback amount reaches \$15.00 you can either spend it at your favorite retailer or have a check mailed to you. Loretta Washington, Director of Sales and Benefits says, "this program is everything you need for finances and benefits. A one stop shop to money saving benefits for all members".

Utilizing these benefits provided to us is a perk of the Grange and should not go unnoticed. Enroll, and save money today! Check out the ad below to set up an account on Cash Back Connections and support the National Grange today.

Join Cash Back Connect Today!

STEP 1: GO TO [WWW.CASHBACKCONNECTIONS.COM /GRANGE](http://WWW.CASHBACKCONNECTIONS.COM/GRANGE) AND USE YOUR MEMBER LOGIN TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE WEBSITE.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE A MEMBER LOGIN, TAKE THE TIME TO CREATE ONE

STEP 2: SEARCH FOR YOUR FAVORITE STORES OR LOOK THROUGH THE CURRENT SPECIALS BEING OFFERED

STEP 3: FOLLOW THE LINKS AND SHOP!



Was \$12.00



Now \$4.00

CLOSEOUT JUNIOR GRANGE ITEMS!
Polo Shirts, Baby Bibs, Onesies, Stickers and Buttons



[To See All Items - Click Here](#)

Was \$10.00



Now \$4.00

Remember to Visit our Grange Store™ - www.promoplace.com/grange

Grange Store™ by Monroe Classic - www.promoplace.com/grange or www.monroeclassic.com
Order on line or call Monroe Classic, Inc. at 1-800-868-2330 or email sales@monroeclassic.com

APPAREL | PROMOTIONAL ITEMS | JEWELRY | REGALIA | FUND RAISING PROGRAMS

It is More Important than Ever to get the Flu Shot

Courtesy of Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Now more than ever, everyone needs to do their part to prevent the spread of illnesses like the flu. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, fewer people are getting vaccines which puts their communities at greater risk for other preventable diseases. When people get the flu shot, it helps protect them and keep them from spreading the flu to others.

Medicare and most health plans cover the cost of the flu shot, which is available at most health care provider offices, local pharmacies, senior centers, health centers, and other places in the community.

This year, we're developing many new flu vaccination resources for people with Medicare, partners, providers, and others who can share our message. Please use our resources to encourage your patients and partners to get their flu shot so they and their communities can stay healthy.

Racial and ethnic minority groups are disproportionately affected when it comes to receiving recommended vaccines. Many factors can contribute to lower vaccination rates, including concerns about vaccine safety and limited access to care and health coverage. The CMS Office of Minority Health created a website of Federal resources to help our partners find resources for minority populations and in additional languages.

Member Benefit: RX Pharmacy Card

RX Pharmacy Card provided by CV Caremark (also for pet prescriptions) –program offers the RxSavings Plus Card, a NO FEE exclusive benefit to National Grange members that is not offered to the public. The Rxsavings Card allows members to go to almost any pharmacy. Unlike other savings plans, the CVS-Caremark program applies to 99% of prescription drugs. Save on Lipitor, Viagra, Plavix, high blood pressure medications and thousands more—even pet medications! For the Rx Card Program, go to

<http://nationalgrange.rxsavingsplus.com>.

If your pet has been prescribed a medication, you may get a discount with the RxSavingPlus Prescription Discount Card at

a participating pharmacy. During your pet's examination and ask if the treatment plan they are recommending includes medications that are also used to treat human conditions. If so, you can request a written prescription from your veterinarian instead of the veterinarian clinic providing the medications.





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thoughts and prayers to comfort
you and bring you peace."

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shipping

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



COVID-19 VACCINATION SURVEY

The National Grange is
participating in a survey to
discover people's comfort
level with accepting a
COVID-19 vaccine when it
becomes available. Please
share your opinion by going to
this link and completing the
brief survey. Thank you for
your input

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