



The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

November 6, 2020

Participating in the Process

By Betsy E. Huber, National Grange President

As we wait patiently (or not!) for the Presidential election results, life goes on. Regardless of the outcome, your National Grange will work with the administration and all its departments to advance the policies determined at past National sessions and at the upcoming virtual session in 10 days. As we all know, the Grange has always been strictly nonpartisan and has worked closely with administrations of both parties since 1867. We will continue to do so, no matter which party wins.

I continue to encourage you all to continue to act as brothers and sisters. This was a democratic election in which more Americans voted than ever before; therefore we all win. The United States is still the greatest country in the world and we need to do everything in our individual power to remain so and support our democracy by being involved in the process, as millions were on Tuesday, and remaining involved in the governing through the next four years and beyond.

Grangers should step up and run for office in their local communities. I know we have many members who are township supervisors, town council members, school board members—this is wonderful. We need to encourage the next generation to get involved at the local level and continue our Grange tradition of civic responsibility. Remember, we can't complain about the outcomes if we don't participate in the process!

Remember to watch for the information so you can watch portions of the 154th National Grange Convention November 17-18.

Election in Review

By Sean O'Neil

On November 3rd, polls closed across the United States on the highest turnout American election in over 100 years. As it stands, key races have not been definitively decided and some votes remain to be counted. Nevertheless, below is a short recap of how key rural/agricultural Senate and House races stand currently.

Senate:

Key incumbent Senators in agriculture/rural states Susan Collins (ME), Joni Ernst (IA), and Steve Daines (MT) won reelection in tight races. Meanwhile, Doug Jones (AL) lost to the Republic Challenger Tommy Tuberville, Cory Gardner (CO) lost to Democratic challenger John Hickenlooper, and Republican Representative Roger Marshall (KS) won the race to succeed Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts in the Senate. As well, the election is likely

headed to a January run-off in both Georgia Senate races with Agriculture committee member Kelly Loeffler (GA) facing Democratic challenger Raphael Warnock and cousin of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, David Perdue facing Democratic challenger Jon Ossoff.

House:

In the House many of the tightest races this year will come in agricultural/rural districts. Democrats were largely disappointed by their results in tight rural races, as agriculture committee members Xochitl Torres Small (NM-2), Anthony Brindisi (NY-22), Abby Finkenauer (IA-1), and most significantly Agriculture Committee Chair Colin Peterson (MN-7) all lost their reelection. As well, Democrats lost key agricultural/rural House races in CA-21 and IA-2. In contrast, Republicans were able to win two key agricultural committee seats held by Rodney Davis (IL-13) and Jim Hagedorn (MN-1). It is important to note here though, that while Democrats may have been disappointed and Republicans happy with these specific results, Democrats have maintained their control of the House.

National Grange Convention 2020

By Amanda Brozana Rios National Grange Communications Director

This year's National Grange Convention will be unlike any we've held previously, with delegates and officers participating virtually through Zoom. Members, however, can still see select parts of the convention on Tuesday, Nov. 17-18 by going to our YouTube channel at <https://youtube.com/user/nationalgrange>. Whenever we are live, you will see the video streaming. Past live events can also be viewed on that channel.

The live coverage will begin at about 1:45 p.m. Eastern/10:45 a.m. Pacific on Tuesday, Nov. 17 with the "State of the American Communities" address by National Grange President Betsy Huber. Several committee reports will be live-streamed throughout the rest of the day, and the evening will close with a memorial service coordinated by National Grange Chaplain Barbara Borderieux at 8:30 p.m. Eastern/5:30 p.m. Pacific.

On Wednesday, Nov. 18, viewers can see the Opening of the National Grange session in the Fourth Degree at noon Eastern/9 a.m. Pacific and additional committee reports. In the evening at about 8:15 p.m. Eastern/5:15 p.m. Pacific, reports will be provided by the Grange Foundation and Grange Advocacy, followed by the installation of the two executive committee officers and introduction of the 155th Annual Convention details.

Mark your calendars and join us from the comfort of your own home. It's not quite like enjoying the fraternal atmosphere of an in-person session, but we'd still love to have you present!

2020

Future in Focus

“Innovation from Farm to Table” Recap

By: Kennedy Gwin

On October 22, 2020 National Grange President Betsy Huber, hosted the virtual panel discussion “Innovation from Farm to Table” where industry leaders discussed agricultural innovation and its role in domestic food security, and the food supply chain. The panelists include Kevin Igli, Sustainability and Chief Environmental Officer of Tyson Foods, Colin Woodall, CEO of National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, Todd Van Hoose, President and CEO of Farm Credit Council, and Gary Sloan from Feed the Children. Each of these panelists gave their insight into how the agricultural industry is continuing to change and how their individual organizations have adopted these changes.

Some of these discussions include how COVID-19 impacted their organizations, how they are adopting to issues of climate change, and how to deal with growing hunger in the United States.

While discussing COVID-19 and what we have learned about the supply food chain amidst the pandemic Kevin Igli made it clear that we are still “in the thick of it” due to lack of communication among producers and consumers. Kevin went on to explain that we need to continue to discuss what we have learned and how we can prevent the COVID-19 bottleneck that occurred between producers and consumers when the pandemic first broke out. As these conversations occur the agricultural industry can continue to build preventative measures and effective solutions for the future.

Another panelist, Gary Sloan explained that on the non-profit side the pandemic revealed that there is more need than ever before. Gary shared the statistic “that before the pandemic 1 in 7 children were dealing with hunger whereas during the pandemic it was 1 in 4” and Feed the Children has been working very hard to try to alleviate these numbers. When the pandemic first broke out purchasing can food was much harder than before and because of the COVID-19 crisis many other non-profits had to close, making resources limited.

As the panel continued the question of “what will the world of agriculture face in the future and how will it impact agriculture” came up and a resounding answer was “climate change”. These industry leaders went on to explain that the world of farming is becoming more innovative in the

world of climate change and continues to develop new technologies to alleviate greenhouse gas emissions.

These technologies include the altering of genetic material to produce more meat, to developing new ways to conserve water. Colin from the Cattleman's Beef Association explained that currently the meat they are producing is the same amount they have been producing in 1980 but at a third of the resources thanks to innovative breeding and genetic practices. As the conversation of climate change continued discussions of water and how Tyson has partnered with local NGOs to reduce their climate impact by 20% by 2030.

After discussions of climate change the topic was changed to how we continue the fight against hunger in the US and Gary from Feed the Children, the biggest issue being how to move the food. Gary went on to say the regulations we currently have in place create massive slowdowns that prevent us from moving to high need places in a timely manner and that as these restrictions were repealed food was able to move faster.

Todd Van Hoose from Farm Credit followed up the conversation with what his organization has been doing to grow independently family farms. Todd said the need for Farm Credit to remain stable and consistent is the key to maintaining this process. Todd expressed that the continued need to keep these lines of credit open were key to continuing family owned farms in the US during a downturned economy.

The extensive knowledge these leaders were able to share gave a holistic view of how the food chain operates and how the farming industry continues to change every day. To watch the seminar, go to our Facebook page or go to the National Grange YouTube channel.

 + 

CASH BACK SHOPPING IS HERE!

- More than 1,400 online stores
- Save up-front with coupons and promotions
- Up to 30% cash back
- Get paid via Check or PayPal
- Access member discount offers

**NO CATCHES.
NO COSTS.
JUST CASH.**

www.cashbackconnections.com/grange

Cash back rebate amounts vary by store and product purchased.





SUPPLY STORE

www.grangestore.com



GRANGE MISSION STATEMENT POSTER

11"x17" poster available for only \$5 plus shipping.
Great decoration for your Grange Hall!



GRANGE FOUNDATION IS HIRING!

FUND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Learn more at
<https://grangefoundation.org/employment-opportunities/>



It's a Moment In Time! - Receive a Free Gift with Every Grange Store Order!

NOW BACK IN STOCK!
Over 1500 Sold!



[Click Here To See This Item](#)

**Let Us Help With Your
Fund Raising Events,
Signs, PPE Supplies
And More!**
**Check Out Our Zipper Backpack
Special!**

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

National Grange HQ | 1616 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20006 | (202) 628-3507

Publisher Betsy Huber, National Grange President, available to members at betsy@nationalgrange.org or by phone at (484) 459-1957

Editor Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Communications & Development Director. Contact to renew your subscription to Good Day! magazine, submit a story idea or request assistance with publicity by email at abrozana@nationalgrange.org or call/text (301) 943-1090

Membership Recognition, Sales and Benefits Loretta Washington, National HQ, ext. 109 or email sales@nationalgrange.org or ext. 109

Free Grange Websites, Emails, and Membership Database Stephanie Wilkins, National HQ, ext. 101 or email swilkins@nationalgrange.org

Leadership/Membership Joe Stefenoni, (707) 328-0631 or send an email to membership@nationalgrange.org

Lecturer Chris Hamp, lecturer@nationalgrange.org or (509) 953-3533

Community Service Pete Pompper communityservice@nationalgrange.org or (609) 820-6239

Legislative and Policy Issues Burton Eller, National HQ, ext. 114 or email beller@nationalgrange.org

Grange Youth Mandy Bostwick, youth@nationalgrange.org or (785) 250-7606

Junior Grange Samantha Wilkins, junior@nationalgrange.org or (210) 838-7892