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**Grange Telethon**

*By Betsy Huber National Grange President*

We are only three weeks away from the Virtual Telethon, the exciting project of the Youth and Junior Departments of the National Grange. Have you thought about what your donation will be? I know so many of you, as I did, came up through the Junior (or Juvenile) Grange and through the Youth and Young Marrieds programs. Let’s pass on that experience for our children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and generations to come.

If you did not have the opportunity of growing up in the Grange, think about a donation to honor a family member or friend you may have lost in the past year. Many of my friends who passed away recently were dedicated, long time Grangers. What better way to honor their memory than to give to our Junior and Youth programs.

You really don’t need to wait until June 5 to make your donation. Gifts are already rolling in for the Telethon and you can give today so you don’t forget! Then be sure to tune in from 12-8 p.m. Eastern time on June 5th and watch all the great programming that’s planned. Testimonies from past Ambassadors or Young Couples, talent performances, interesting discussions—you never know what might be happening over those eight hours! You won’t want to miss it!

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**New Silver Star Certificate Available**

*By Loretta Washington*

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The National Grange is rolling out a new Silver Star Certificate Folder, similar to the Golden Sheaf Folder you are used to.

The cost is $10 plus shipping, just like the Golden Sheaf. Speaking of cost – many members have held onto old forms with old pricing. Please discard them immediately. Prices have changed and new information is required as part of the application on these forms. All new forms can be found on our website under Member Resources by clicking on the Secretaries Forms. <https://www.nationalgrange.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Order-form-Silver-Star-Seals.pdf>

You may also use this Silver Star Form to order recognition seals for 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of continuous membership to the Grange. Seals are only $3 plus shipping.

Finally, if you need certificates for an event, please make sure to note it on the certificate and send to the National Grange office in a timely manner so you can have them for your events.

For further questions and more information please email me at [lwashington@nationalgrange.org](mailto:lwashington@nationalgrange.org)

**Fellows Application are Live**

*By Kennedy Gwin, Communications Manager*

Any Grange member interested in participating in a rigorous, hands-on training program in communications, with additional resources for membership, programming and engagement, is invited to apply for the 2021 Communication Fellows program.

This program, is made possible thanks to generous funders, but there are a limited number of spots available. Fellows receiving the bulk of their training during a 9-day experience at the 155th Annual National Grange Convention, held this year Nov. 5-14 in Wichita, Kansas. Those selected also are expected to make time for several teleconferences between July and October, as well as a few brief assignments prior to the start of National Convention.

This year, Fellows will hear from the National Master, National Grange Staff and Officers, other communications professionals and more. Fellows will produce content for the daily convention newsletter, interviews and content for our social media channels and stories/elements for Good Day!™ magazine, livestream events – and much more.

This is a hands-on training with a support from many of the more than 45 previous Fellows who have participated in the program since 2012. Those previous Fellows now hold many significant offices and jobs in their State and National Grange and often credit the program with providing them insight into the differences across State Granges and the opportunities and challenges to the organization, as well as great motivation for being part of our next 150+ years of service.

Any Grange member in good standing may apply, but all applicants must have a nomination letter from a State Master/National Delegate; National Officer; National Grange Staff Member or past Communication Fellow.

The deadline for all materials to be submitted by email to the National Grange Communications Department via email (kgwin@nationalgrange.org) is PRIOR to “start of business” (9 a.m. Eastern) Thursday, July 15th.

We strongly encourage those who have no participated in the program previously to apply and will be given the highest priority.

If you have any questions about the program please contact [kgwin@nationalgrange.org](mailto:kgwin@nationalgrange.org)

**The Digital Learning Tools Making Remote-Learning Easier on Everyone**

*Courtesy of Statepoint*

The past year has demonstrated the importance of digital learning. And thanks to a variety of tools and resources that helped make remote instruction a little less stressful on everyone, teachers, students and parents quickly adapted to the changes brought on by the pandemic.

*Music*

Music has been a particularly difficult subject to provide instruction for at a distance. However, educational foundations have risen to the occasion by creating a trove of resources to aid learning. For example, the Save the Music Foundation provides free activities for families, tools for educators to create their own online tutorials and more.

*Mathematics*

Remote learning has only added new challenges to an already difficult subject. The good news is that online tools are helping fill the gaps created by the new normal. Check out the Casio Cares education site, which is chock full of free math resources for students, parents and educators. Tools include emulator calculator software, curriculum support materials, live webinars and remotely-delivered teacher training. Plus, Casio’s free all-in-one web-based mathematics software, ClassPad.net, which is geared for K-12 and beyond, delivers an accessible, interactive and personalized approach to mathematics. Its functions include graphing, geometry, calculation, statistics and more.

In addition to online activities and video tutorials, Casio also offers a weekly educational webinar series focused on mathematics on its YouTube channel, covering such subjects as elementary and middle school math, algebra I and II, geometry, pre-calculus, calculus and statistics. All webinars are recorded and can be accessed any time.

*Creative Writing*

English and creative writing teachers are turning to new platforms to help build their student’s writing skills in a variety of creative genres. One example is Storybird, which features hundreds of courses and challenges. If your child’s teachers haven’t caught onto the trend, no worries, parents can also sign up for an account for their children.

Even after classrooms reopen nationwide, one thing is certain, with so many amazing resources available to help educators teach and students learn, digital learning tools are here to stay.

**A Few Great Mentions**

The Grange has been hard at work! Here are some links to some of our more popular articles about the Grange in action. Take the time and check out what is happening both on the National and State level. If you have any news highlights you would like to share with the Grange community email them to [kgwin@nationalgrange.org](mailto:kgwin@nationalgrange.org)

Potlatch Residents trying to raise their Grange, (Lewiston Morning Tribune, Lewiston, ID) : <https://lmtribune.com/northwest/potlatch-residents-trying-to-raise-their-grange/article_a65fefe6-9eac-5e04-8452-0029e374ce1e.html>

Op Ed: Has Broadband already been forgotten?, (Morning Ag Clips, Greenwich, NY): <https://www.morningagclips.com/op-ed-has-broadband-already-been-forgotten/>

**Graphical user interface, website

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Description automatically generated with low confidenceGrange Benefits, Memorial Day Deals are here!**

Celebrate with big savings from Lenovo! Your favorite technologies are back with **savings up to 63% off** now through June 6, 2021.

Reward yourself with two times more rewards with MyLenovo Reward!

Sign up is easy and free! Get access to sales, first dibs on new products and cash back for future purchases.

**Visit:** [www.lenovo.com/us/en/lsp](http://www.lenovo.com/us/en/lsp)

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