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September 3, 2021

**Fire Season prompts challenge: Get your Grange on track to excel in 2022**

Brothers and Sisters,

It is fire season. It is hot and dry and most of the west is in drought status. For the last 27 years this means that I am rarely home, but am assigned as part of an Incident Management Team (IMT) to a large fire which is threatening lives and communities and causing wide-spread destruction of our natural resources.

I often find myself thinking about how my IMT world has commonalities with my Grange world and vice-versa – and how I can take lessons learned from one and apply them to the other. One of the overarching management goals of Incident Management Teams it to “excel as a high-performing organization.” Imagine how strong our organization would be if every Grange at every level adopted this management goal as its own! I challenge each Grange to adopt the management goal above for 2022 and would love to hear how you implement it, as well as what strategies you took to ensure your success. Raise the bar. Kick it up a notch or two. Have fun!

Please take a look below at the National Lecturer programs and contests offered for 2021.

**Flagpole Relocation Initiative**

The Flagpole Relocation Initiative is a new program for 2021 and presents every Grange with an opportunity for great community collaboration, pride and beautification. I am still waiting to hear from the first community Grange to relocate and celebrate the successful relocation of a flagpole. Please contact me if you have any questions about this program.

**2021 National Grange Publicity Item Contest**

Entries for the 2021 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!

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**2021 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.

**2021 National Grange Virtual Photo Contest**

Entries for the 2021 National Grange Virtual Photo Contest are due October 31st. This contest is open to members and non-members alike and replaces the Photography Showcase which was limited to one Best of Show entry per State Grange. The 2021 contest has three divisions – Selfie, Close-up/Macro and Barns. The plan is to have all photo entries available to be viewed at the 155th in Wichita. All photos entered will become the property of the National Grange and may be used in National Grange publications and virtual media.

**2021 Evening of Excellence**

State Grange Lecturers, please make sure to submit your Best of Show talent entry for our 2021 National Grange Evening of Excellence to be held on Saturday, November 13, 2021. Each State Lecturer is responsible for certifying their state’s Best of Show winner and for submitting the registration paperwork by October 31, 2021.

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

Be a DO·er!

Fraternally yours,

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Christine E. Hamp, Lecturer

National Grange

**Needed building repairs another lead in to HQ conversation**

*By Betsy Huber, National Grange President*

It’s been a crazy, busy week here at Headquarters! Last weekend we had a power outage/ power surge at the building, resulting in many hours of overtime for some staff and needed repairs to the main switchgear, the chiller, the elevators, and the computer system. The final repairs from that problem will hopefully be completed by the time you read this.

Then at home in eastern PA Wednesday we saw Hurricane Ida go through. This was my closest personal experience ever with a tornado—it went cross country a half mile from my home, shredding trees and cornfields in its path. I did not see any homes destroyed, so we are blessed. Some are still without power, but it’s a sunny, cool day after the storm!

In between those events, the State Grange Presidents had a zoom conference to receive from the National Grange Executive Committee more information on the Headquarters building and its possible future. You should all be having discussions at your State Sessions and receiving facts about the building, its needed repairs and current income. The delegates at the convention in Wichita this November will have big decisions to make about the future of our organization and our offices.

Monday is the early-bird deadline for convention registration, so be sure to register on the website this weekend to save $5 on each registration. We are planning on a regular in-person convention (unless government restrictions force a change.) We all missed last year, so you won’t want to miss this year’s great reunion!

**Last week for 155th Convention Early Bird Registration**

Plans are still in place for fellowship and fun at the 155th Annual National Grange Convention in November, and we’re all excited to see our Brothers and Sisters in Wichita, Kansas.

Registration is open, but the early bird deadline is fast-approaching with registration rates increasing on September 7. If you register online before the end of the weekend, you can enjoy a savings of $5 off per registration. All registered attendees receive a ticket to see The Peterson Farm Brothers perform Thursday night.

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**Are you a winner?**

Earlier this summer, the National Grange sent every local Grange a step-by-step guide to prepare individuals should they ever hear about themselves or a loved one: “You have cancer.”

Along with the thumb drive and paper templates, which prepare you for an excellent community presentation, a letter from National Grange President Betsy Huber and Community Service Director Pete Pompper was included. This letter contains a number in the red box in the lower right corner that was entered into a drawing. The following are the winning numbers, previously released in early August. Check to see if your number is among the local Grange winners listed below, and if so, please contact me, Burton Eller, at [beller@nationalgrange.org](mailto:beller@nationalgrange.org) or by phone at (202) 628-3507 ext. 114.

*BMS00715*

*BMS01053*

*BMS01071  
BMS00781*

*BMS00121*

*BMS00518*

*BMS00376*

*BMS01647*

*BMS00214*

*BMS00706*

*BMS00893*

*BMS01276*

*BMS00219*

*BMS00931*

*BMS00670*

*BMS00146*

*BMS00658  
BMS00196*

*BMS00965*

*BMS01410*

*BMS01066*

*BMS01065*

*BMS00974*

*BMS01301*

*BMS01405*

*BMS00840*

*BMS00667*

*BMS00459*

*BMS00955*

*BMS01058*

*GRANGE BENEFIT*

**Celebrate Labor Day with Deals from Lenovo**

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Sign up and reward yourself with MyLenovo Rewards!  It’s free and you can earn rewards for future purchases.

**Visit:** [www.lenovo.com/us/en/lsp](http://www.lenovo.com/us/en/lsp) or [**https://www.lenovo.com/us/en/m1nationalgrange**](https://www.lenovo.com/us/en/m1nationalgrange)

**Call:**1-800-426-7235, ext. 7231 (M-F: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. ET, Sat: 9:00 a.m. -6:00 p.m. ET)

*Be sure to check the website often – special offers change frequently.*



*GRANGE SUPPLY STORE*

**THIS WEEK’S FEATURED SALE ITEM**

The Digital Grange Songbook CD features over 100 musical favorites for use in Grange meetings, programs, and ritual. Please note this is a CD-ROM and may not play on all traditional audio CD players. [CLICK HERE FOR LIST OF SONGS](https://www.grangestore.org/resources/pdf_document/18/85/5.pdf)

Cost is $12.00 plus shipping

ORDER AT: [Digital Grange Songbook CD (grangestore.org)](https://www.grangestore.org/digital-grange-songbook-cd?path=36_37) or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109



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