



# The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

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## **Wonderama!**

By [Betsy Huber](#), National Grange President

We just returned from an exciting week in Times Square, NYC where we staffed a booth with ag-related games and information about the Grange. We all were interviewed on [Wonderama-TV](#), and Bryce Danko (PA) and Nettie Hartley (RI) were rock stars in interviews with host David Osmond and others. The show took over Duffy Square in Times Square for the week to film the entire 7<sup>th</sup> season of the TV show.

The videos of Bryce, Nettie, Amanda, Samantha, and me will appear on the Wonderama TV show throughout the entire season, promoting the Grange and the fantastic Juniors we are raising. I hope you saw all the posts on all forms of social media throughout the week - it was great! We talked with people from all over the U.S. and around the world, and millions of people will hear about the Grange over the next year through TV. The Wonderama producer and staff were very impressed with our kids and our organization.

This experience was definitely out of our comfort zone, and you may wonder why the Grange was featured and spent a week in the big city. More and more, people are realizing the importance of agriculture in feeding us and they were very interested in the ag facts we presented through the fun games and quizzes. We each need to do our part in educating the public - rural *and* urban - on how hard farmers work to provide the food we purchase at the grocery store, the many fascinating careers that are available in ag-related fields, and that the average age of U.S. farmers is 58!

We have lots of generic Grange business card handouts and "Raised Right Here" stickers available for purchase for you and your Granges to use at fairs, dinners, or other events - available at a discount through the Grange Store. Supplies are limited so order now!



## Learning and growing through failure

By [Ann Bercher](#), National Grange Lecturer/Program Director

When I worked at the [Kelley Farm](#) as a gardener, we had a unique and cherished collection of heirloom seeds, many of which we had to collect and save from year to year, and a few that required hand pollinating to collect the cherished seeds. In the spring, we would take these precious seeds, place them on the ground, cover them with soil, and then pour water over them. What a way to treat treasured artifacts! Then, we would hope that the weather, our skills, and the fates of the gods would be on our side, and the gardens would produce plants, flowers, and seeds so that we could continue to grow these almost extinct and valuable crops.

To be a farmer or a gardener is to be a person of faith. I am still a very active gardener. I have known many gardening successes and I have known many gardening failures. I like to think that my success has been all about my expertise and skill as a gardener, and I blame the weather, the insects, and poor seed for my failures. I also know that what works one year in my garden, may not work the next. I know that I need to pay attention to the soil and do everything I can to add nutrients such as compost and stabilize the soil so that rain doesn't cause any runoff. I rotate garden crops to take advantage of the natural tendency of some crops to add nutrients to the soil. I take soil tests and measure rain accumulation and watch insect populations like a hawk.

Despite all my efforts and vigilance, the results can still go either way. Sometimes there is some success, and sometimes there is failure. Sometimes I know why there was success, and sometimes I don't. The same is true of failure. Sometimes it seems there is just no reasonable explanation for what has happened. Isn't that true with just about everything?

In our Granges, we often have great success with our community service, our growth, and delivering high-quality programs to our members and community. And sometimes, things just don't turn out the way we thought they would, or we would have liked. Do we give up? Nope. That just isn't the Grange way. No farmer would ever just give up farming after one failure. No gardener would ever give up gardening after one failure. And most keep going after many failures. The thing about failure (and I use the term rather loosely) is that what may look like failure is rather a great educational opportunity, the benefit of failure. Every gardening season and farming season offers great opportunities for discovering more about cultivating plants, the effect climate change is having on our growing operations, and our own resilience to adapt and carry on.

Our Granges are like gardening or farming operations. We've been cultivating our Granges for a long time because we have faith. Some years go better than others. We try again. Sometimes we try something new. We learn more from other Granges and we help other Granges. Just like all farmers and gardeners, Grangers have faith. We have faith that what we are doing in our Granges is worth the effort, and worth trying it - again and again - to reap great success and keep learning.



## Register for the 156<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

By [Samantha Wilkins](#), National Grange Operations Coordinator



The Western Host region is excited to invite Grangers and friends from across the country to the Silver State! We are just a few months away from the opening of the 156th Annual National Grange Convention, to be held in Reno-Sparks, Nevada from November 15 through 19, 2022.

This year, you can expect to see some new things happening around the convention. Participants in the Nevada Grange Youth Fair Program will have activities and interactive displays showcasing their projects completed in the youth fair program. Throughout each day of Convention, they will be presenting their projects and talking to attendees about the benefits of the

program.

You can also expect to hear from some amazing guest speakers on topics such as mental health awareness and substance abuse. Attendees will also have the opportunity to receive certification in dispensing Narcan, a life-saving medication that can treat a narcotic overdose in an emergency situation.

You also do not want to miss out on the opportunity to get an 'experience pass.' This year instead of going off-site for a tour we are bringing a taste of the region to you. Members who register for an experience pass will have the opportunity to participate in two days full of hands-on activities from painting barn quilts, cultural dancing, mining, and much more.

Don't take too long to decide; catch the **early bird registration** and make plans to attend today by registering for the National Grange Convention at this link: [156th Annual National Grange Convention - The National Grange.](#)

**Early Bird Registration** - \$32 is open until 9/9/2022 (just one month away!)

**General Registration** - \$37 is open until 10/19/22

**Late Registration** - \$42 closes for meal options on 11/1/22

**Registration on Site** - will be available at the late registration cost, *however, you will not be able to obtain tickets to any meals*

## Rural Minds releases July newsletter



Our partners at Rural Minds have released their latest "Moving Forward" newsletter. Information inside includes the 988 lifeline, supporting mental health in rural America and the next Rural Minds/National Grange webinar.

Join on September 13 for the "Rural Suicide Awareness and Prevention" Webinar, which will include people from rural America sharing their experiences of being personally impacted by suicide; information to help prevent suicide; and free resources for rural mental health and suicide awareness & prevention.

[Register Here.](#)

## New York State Grange photographs on display through August

*Courtesy of Frank W. Barrie, [knowwhereyourfoodcomesfrom.com](http://knowwhereyourfoodcomesfrom.com)*

The **Arkell Museum** in Canojoharie (Montgomery County) in the Mohawk Valley of upstate New York, located just a few blocks off Exit 29 of I-90 (the New York State Thruway) is a wonderful destination, especially this summer 2022 with its current exhibit **New York State Grange Photographs by Andrew Baugnet**. They are on display through August 21, 2022

Photographer **Andrew Baugnet** became fascinated by **New York State Grange** buildings after following signs advertising a chicken dinner. Included in the 14 large-scale back and white photographs in the exhibit at the Arkell Museum is a perfectly composed photograph of the Pierstown Grange No. 793 in Cooperstown (Otsego County), which was the site for a chicken barbeque. While driving on the back roads of Otsego County, he saw the building on the edge of a cornfield at a bend in the country road.





He writes “As I walked through the front door, I felt I had been swept back in time as the old wooden steps creaked, and the tables were set with china plates and silverware.”

Since then, Baugnet has spent much of his career photographing Grange buildings across the state while documenting historic architecture and the built environment. The museum’s exhibit of his 14 black and white photographs is a visual treat worth savoring, and the labels describing each photograph are extraordinarily detailed and require the visitor to slow down and read carefully. In this way, the rural agricultural past of upstate New York becomes stunningly real.

[Read the full article here, and see some of the photographs.](#)

## **National Grange and Morning Consult release rural voters survey results**

In June and July, the National Grange partnered with the surveying group Morning Consult to conduct a poll of 1,000 rural voters. The results showed – among many other things – that inflation and rural healthcare (including mental health) remain major priorities for voters. According to the survey, rural voters overwhelmingly support access to mental healthcare, believe that out-of-pocket healthcare expenses are too high, and support policies that would ensure lower-income families, communities of color, and patients with chronic conditions not only have access to healthcare, but can afford it.

[Read more about the survey here.](#)



**What health care policies do rural voters support?**

- ✓ Require health insurance companies to be more transparent about medicine coverage & out-of-pocket costs for prescriptions.
- ✓ Require health insurers and pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) to pass rebates and drug discounts to patients at the pharmacy counter.
- ✓ Cap cost sharing, such as deductibles and coinsurance that patients pay out-of-pocket to get their medicines.
- ✓ Ensure lower-income families, communities of color, & patients with chronic conditions not only have access to health care, but can afford it.





# Are you a *Grange in Action*?

Apply to be recognized as a Grange in Action  
for being active in your community and  
completing events or projects

Simple application of one letter-sized page with  
pictures and captions of at least 3, but no more than 6  
events or activities for your Grange.

<https://www.nationalgrange.org/grange-in-action/>

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:  
**SEPTEMBER 25**



## SUPPLY STORE

[www.grangestore.com](http://www.grangestore.com)

### PROMOTIONAL BUSINESS CARDS & STICKERS



**Perfect for fair and festival season - promotional materials for the National Grange!**

**Business Cards** - with information about the National Grange and a QR code that directs to a "Thanks for Visiting Us" page on the National Grange website.

**\$30 for 250 cards or \$50 for 500 cards**  
plus shipping

**Die-Cut Vinyl Stickers** - in two designs, celebrating the National Grange "Raised Right Here" theme.

**\$25 for 50 stickers or \$15.00 for 100 stickers**  
plus shipping

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

**Grange Supply Store Note:** Any Grange Supply Store "rush" orders that require expedited arrival (7 days or fewer from time of order) will have a \$25.00 expedition fee added to the order, in addition to the shipping fee. This includes any seals, certificates, and membership recognition applications.

## Grange Member Benefit – Avis and Budget



\*Terms apply.

Save **up to 35% off** base rates with  
PAY NOW on your next car rental.\*

**AVIS**

RESERVE NOW



\*Terms apply.

Enjoy **up to 35% off** base rates  
with pay now on your next road trip.\*

**Budget**

BOOK NOW

## Hot Summer Savings from Avis and Budget

Summer is here and whether you're traveling for business or pleasure, use your Grange Avis and Budget Car Rental Savings Program to get you where you need to go. Members can book online and save up to 35% off with Pay Now rates. Explore additional offers like complimentary upgrades, plus enroll in Avis Preferred® or Budget Fastbreak® to receive even more free perks like:

- **Expedited Service:** Skip the line and go straight to your car at most rental locations.\*
- **Accelerated Rewards:** Earn points for every qualifying dollar you spend and redeem them for rental day rewards, additional upgrades and accessories.

Secure your summer rental with Avis and use your Avis Discount (AWD) number **B291044**.

Book online with Budget and use your Budget Customer Discount (BCD) number **R198144**.

**Reserve with Avis**

**Reserve with Budget**

**Want more ways to save? Text:** GRANGEABG to 833-344-0228 and receive exclusive limited time offers.

\*Subject to vehicle availability and account status. Taxes and fees excluded. Terms apply.





## GRANGE JEWELRY



Grange Jewelry is now in stock at the Grange Store. Pins include years of service and member recognition pins from 5-80 years, past officer pins, degree recognition pins, and much more!

*Some jewelry is now on clearance!*

**Prices vary**

Order online through the Grange Supply Store at [grangestore.com](http://grangestore.com) or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

[www.grangestore.com](http://www.grangestore.com)

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