

What are Grange Heirlooms?

Grange traditions and values are our heirlooms – inseparable pieces of our Order passed down over generations. These cornerstones of what it is to be a Grange and Grangers tie us to our roots and the vision of our Founders, while preparing us for success in Grange and our own lives.

Yet many never read our Declaration of Purposes and misunderstand or avoid ritual, which they often see as a barrier to entry, unwelcoming or frivolous. As we perform our degrees less, we become more appealing to new members who are unfamiliar with fraternal work, but we risk losing our identity and the thing that bonds us together. **We know nature "never goes backward" and nor can the Grange, but we must find ways to bridge the gap and make sure the next generations are prepared to inherit the great treasure that is Grange membership.**

The Heirloom Program allows us to do just that – move forward, while retaining, celebrating and imparting our most cherished values through monthly readings and reflections. You can pass on the lessons most important to our Order and know you're preparing the soil for a great crop of new Grangers to continue and carry our organization forward.

How this Program Works

Designed for Granges to take just a few moments to read and reflect on a phrase or sentence from our First Four Degrees, the Installation Ceremony and the Declaration of Purposes, this program provides one reading a month. A total of 60 value passages have been identified and put on a five-year schedule. In this brochure, you will find Year B (2026, 2031, etc.) readings. **We encourage you to keep this program going so members new to the Grange over the next few years will learn the lessons you teach in 2026.**

You may offer this program at any time in your meeting, though we suggest during the "Conferring of Degrees" or "Good of the Order" portion as outlined in your manual. **Any Grange member can be assigned to present the reading and offer a reflection connecting it to everyday life.** They can also create or use a fun activity, such as a cryptogram, provided by National Grange as part of the program to further call attention to the lesson.

Consider posting the monthly reading to your Grange's social media and start a discussion with your community about Grange values. They may see their own reflected there and inquire how to join.

Good luck and have fun reconnecting with and imparting on your membership these essential Grange lessons.

Tell us how it worked

Have you tried using the Heirloom Program in your Grange? If so, email or send a letter to let us know how your discussion went, what you learned and if it has helped connect your membership to one another and the Grange.

If you created an activity for the reading, please send a copy to our National Membership and Leadership Development Director so we may offer it to other Granges for their use. We'd love to share your story with other Granges through our Regional Conferences, social media, magazine and newsletter.

NATIONAL GRANGE
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Year E

To be used in 2026, 2031, etc.

**A Resource to Impart Knowledge
of Essential Grange Values**

Spring

E.1. (March) – “Courage then, and patience, when gloom broods over your pathway.” (*First Degree; Vice President*)

E.2. (April) – “Our Fraternity, being agriculturally based, family oriented and dedicated to the pure principles of equality under Constitutional Law, we appeal to all good citizens for mutual cooperation and assistance toward reform that we may remove from our midst the last vestige of inequity and corruption. We believe that harmony, equitable compromise and earnest cooperation are essential to future success.” (*Grange Declaration of Purposes*)

E.3. (May) – “Let the modesty and usefulness of the humble grass be to you an object of imitation.” (*First Degree; President*)



Summer

E.1 (June) – “Behold these inanimate kernels of corn! But the germ has life— the future plant is there.... There is no object in which, to appearance, life and death border so closely together as in the grains of seed buried in the earth; but when life seems extinct a fuller and richer existence begins anew.” (*Second Degree; President*)

E.2 (July) – “We recognize the necessity of experimentation to develop new and better methods of education, but we caution against the widespread adoption of these innovative and experimental methods until they have been proven effective.” (*Grange Declaration of Purposes*)

E.3 (August) – “Cultivation of the mind ... destroys error and keeps our thoughts quickened and ready to receive and apply new facts as they appear, thus promoting the growth of knowledge and wisdom.” (*Second Degree; President*)

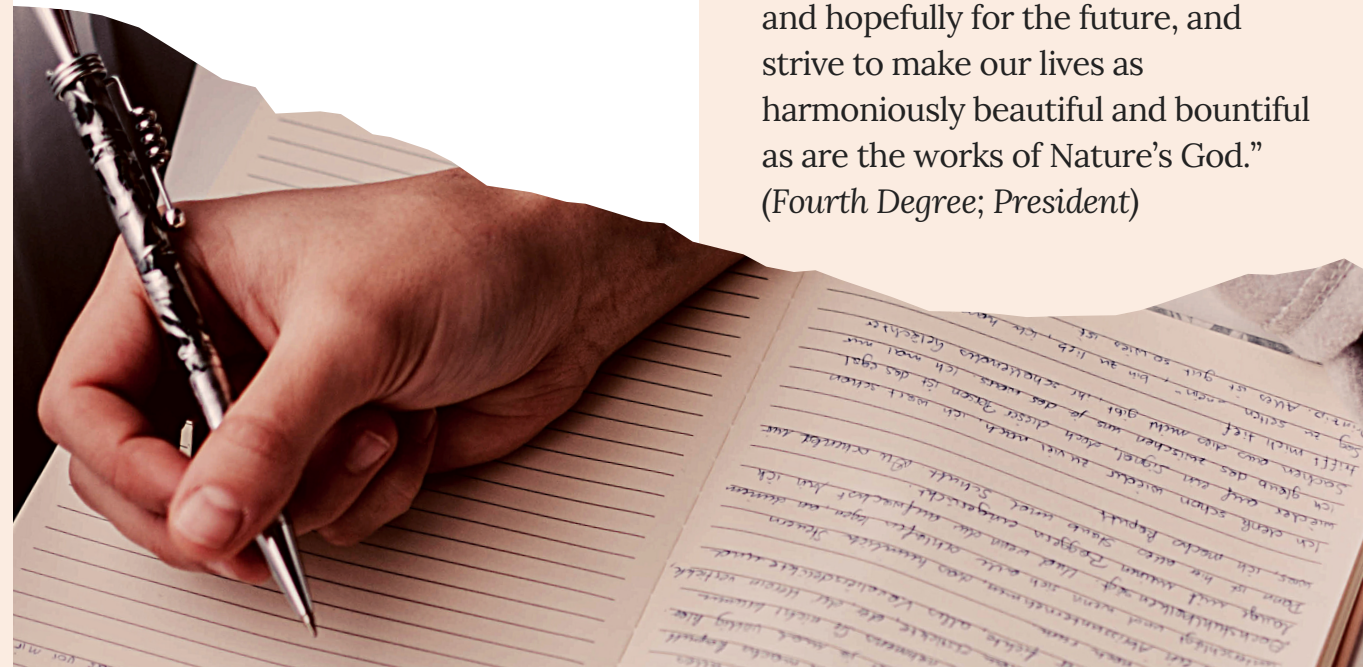


Autumn

E.1 (September) – “Gather only the good seed. Our associations in life are the fields in which we reap. Use judgment, and while you glean let your example be such that others may profit by it.” (*Third Degree, President*)

E.2 (October) – “We must reap for the mind as well as for the body, and from the abundance of our harvest, in good deeds and kind words, dispense charity.” (*Third Degree; President*)

E.3 (November) – My Brothers and Sisters, all honest labor is honorable.” (*Third Degree; Vice President*)



Winter

E.1 (December) – “Let us work hand in hand for the good of our neighbors. Let us remember that those with trials and tribulations need our help most of all.” (*Installation Ceremony; Installation Officer*)

E.2 (January) – “You may encounter difficulties. Overcome them, remembering that difficulties are but opportunities to test our abilities.” (*Installation Ceremony; Installing Officer to President*)

E.3 (February) – “Let us treasure up the lessons we have learned, both by successes and failures, plan wisely and hopefully for the future, and strive to make our lives as harmoniously beautiful and bountiful as are the works of Nature’s God.” (*Fourth Degree; President*)