



The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE



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May 24, 2024

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The final issue of The Patrons Chain

by [Philip J Vonada](#), National Grange Communications Director



Since 2018, The Patrons Chain newsletter has reached your inboxes at least every other week, bringing you the latest news from the National Grange. This will be the FINAL time it happens.

Beginning in June, you'll find a shift in how the National

Grange delivers news to your email inbox. The Patrons Chain is being rebranded into a new newsletter: *Grange Today!*. All current subscribers to the Patrons Chain will be automatically subscribed to *Grange Today!*. Past issues of the Patrons Chain and new issues of *Grange Today!* will remain available [on the National Grange website](#).

The magazine-style digital newsletter will switch to twice a month – the second and fourth Fridays, each with its own focus areas. The first issue each month will focus on **local and State Grange news**, while the second issue will highlight what's happening in the National Grange, including the Legislative Department's **View from the Hill** and updates from other National Grange departments, staff, committees, teams, and Directors.

So, what does this mean for you?

We need your news! To highlight more of what's happening on the ground in our Community, Pomona, and State Granges, including Junior and Youth activities, we need you to submit articles, information, and news. As I frequently say "brag on yourselves!"

You can send articles and more to [Philip Vonada](#) or via this link:
<http://grange.biz/grangetodaysubmit>.

We'll see you again in your inbox on June 14th!

Meet Us at the River for the 2024 Convention



Registration for the 158th Annual National Grange Convention in Bettendorf, Iowa, remains open. The Midwest Region invites ALL Grangers to “**Meet Us at the River**” for an exciting Convention featuring the Quad Cities of Iowa & Illinois and the Mighty Mississippi that runs through them.

This year features multiple workshops running every day, tour options to fit more schedules, meals open to all attendees, and a special Host Banquet lunch cruise aboard the *Celebration Belle* riverboat that all are welcome and encouraged to attend! Come see what the Quad Cities have in store, learn more about the Grange, build deep and lasting friendships, and be inspired to take the work of the Grange beyond the Isle Casino Hotel back into your home Granges.

Early Bird Registration (\$40) is open from May 1 to July 31; the price will increase after that.

[Click here to learn more and Register today!](#)

2025 National Convention is Setting Sail



Earlier this year, National Grange President Christine Hamp announced that the 2025 National Grange Convention would be like no other – setting sail from Miami and heading into the Caribbean to Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao (the ABC Islands) [from November 8-16, 2025](#).

We are excited to announce that you can begin booking your staterooms aboard the Carnival Horizon!

National Grange Officers and Delegates will complete the work of the National Grange on the at-sea days, everyone will have the opportunity for fellowship and strengthening fraternal bonds, and the Eastern Host Region, clubs, departments, and small groups will be planning special events onboard, too.

We encourage everyone to begin booking your staterooms now. [Follow the instructions in this document](#) or on the National Grange website. If we book all of the rooms currently held in our group block, the National Grange will make up more than 25% of everyone on board – what a great way to show how impactful and Grange Strong we all are together.

More information is available [on the National Grange website](#).



Member Satisfaction Survey

National Grange President Christine Hamp has announced the following goal for the National Grange: **Increase overall member satisfaction by 20% within the next year, as measured by an annual member feedback survey, through the implementation of targeted initiatives and improvements aimed at adding value to our members' experience, addressing member needs and preferences, and preparing the Grange for 2025 and beyond.**

In order to reach this goal, we are asking members of all ages to take a survey (less than 10 minutes of your time) about current feelings and attitudes toward the Grange. Please take the survey by June 30.

[Please take the survey here](#)

Apply for National Grange training programs

Application deadlines for the National Grange **SHIPmates** and **Communication Fellows** programs are coming up quickly.



SHIPmates is a training program that focuses on Grange membership, leadership and fellowship development. Launched in 2023, we are seeking additional members to join the seven individuals selected for our first class and add to our crew so, together, we will chart a course forward.

The program offers participants professional-level training on various leadership topics and a deep dive into Grange rules and traditions, organizational procedures and much more.

[Learn more about the SHIPmates Program here.](#) Applications are due June 15, 2024.



The Communication Fellows program is in its 11th year, working to build Grange leaders and storytellers, enhancing the message of the Grange nationwide. Fellows learn and grow in various forms of media, including print, social media, video creation, podcasting, and more during the 3-month prep period and the 9 days "on the ground" at the National Grange Convention.

[Learn more about the Communication Fellows program here.](#) Applications are due July 1, 2024.

Upcoming National Grange events



Zoom-torial

Leveraging Social Media for Community Impact

Wednesday, May 29 at 8:30pm Eastern

Connect at:
grange.biz/GrangeZoomtorial



Reaching Rural Surgical Seniors Training Seminar

with Joan C. Smith, Project Lead
and Dr. Laurie Anne Ferguson, Technical Lead

June 3 - 8:30pm Eastern/5:30pm Pacific
Connect: <http://grange.biz/RRSSZoom>

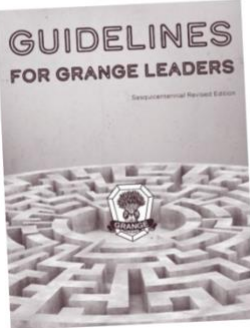


SUPPLY STORE

www.grangestore.org

GUIDELINES FOR GRANGE LEADERS

(Sesquicentennial Revised Edition)



This book aims to define and describe the duties and responsibilities of Pomona and Subordinate Masters/Presidents, Lecturers, Secretaries and appointed committees. This book is meant to assist in carrying out duties and responsible. *Sesquicentennial Revised Edition* was edited by Betsy E. Huber, past National Grange President.

\$6.00 plus shipping

Get yours by ordering online through the Grange Supply Store at grangestore.org or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

Grange Member Benefit: Budget Rental Cars



Grange members always save **up to 25% off** Budget

base rates with offer code **(BCD) R198144**, plus get other great offers like dollars off, a complimentary upgrade, or a free weekend day.

Plus with a complimentary membership in Budget Fastbreak, enjoy our fastest, easiest rental experience!

Visit budget.com/en/association/R198144 or call 1-800-527-0700 to make a reservation.



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.org or by calling Loretta at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

www.grangestore.org

NATIONAL GRANGE

HEADQUARTERS: 1616 H ST. NW, SUITE 200, WASHINGTON, DC 20006 | (202) 628-3507

Publisher Christine Hamp, National Grange President. Available to members at champ@nationalgrange.org or by phone at (509) 953-3533

Editor Philip J Vonada, National Grange Communications Director. Contact to submit a story idea for Patrons Chain or *Good Day!* magazine, request assistance with publicity, business cards, social media, and more. Email pyonada@nationalgrange.org or call/text (814) 404-7985

Leadership Training and Membership Development - Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership and Leadership Development Director. Contact to learn more about membership recruitment or how to start or reorganize a Grange, leadership training and more. Email abrozana@nationalgrange.org or call/text (301) 943-1090

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

Membership Recognition, Grange Supply Sales, Grange Programs and Member Benefits
Loretta Washington, *National HQ*, ext. 109 or email LWashington@nationalgrange.org

Free Grange Websites, Emails, *Good Day!* subscription questions, and Membership Database
Stephanie Wilkins, IT Director. *National HQ*, ext. 101 or email swilkins@nationalgrange.org

Lecturer Tom Gwin, lecturer@nationalgrange.org or (360) 581-0177

Grange Foundation Joan C. Smith, Chairperson. ngfb@grange.org or (571) 662-7220

