

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - Title

This Grange shall be known as the Illinois State Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, and in all acts shall be subject to the Constitution and Laws of the National Grange.

ARTICLE II - Members

SECTION 1. The State Grange shall be comprised of all Sixth Degree members in good standing of any Pomona or Subordinate Grange in the state.

SECTION 2. Any Pomona or Subordinate Grange is entitled to have two (2) voting representatives at the State Grange session. These representatives shall be Fourth Degree members in good standing.

SECTION 3. A Pomona or Subordinate Grange, in good standing, shall be represented at the State Grange Session by the Master and one other member in good standing.

When the Master of the Pomona Grange is also the Master of a Subordinate Grange, this individual may act as voting representative of either Grange at the State Session allowing the other Grange to select alternates.

SECTION 4. If at Pomona or Subordinate Grange Master is unable to represent his/her Grange, then the affected Grange may select alternate representative as described in Section 2.

SECTION 5. The State Grange shall be represented by the Male and Female ambassadors and the Young Couples or alternates at each State Session as voting delegates..

ARTICLE III –Meetings

SECTION 1.State Grange shall hold its regular meetings annually during the second full week in September if facilities are available, at such place as the Grange delegates or Executive Committee may determine. Special meetings may be called by the Master, from a written request of a majority of the Executive Committee or twenty-five percent of the Granges in good standing.

SECTION 2. The Executive Committee shall determine the order of business. The Order of Business shall contain the minimum of the points of business listed below The Executive Committee shall present the order of business to the delegate body, for approval, on the first day of State Session..

- Opening of Grange
- Roll Call

- Adoption of Order of Business
- Reading of minutes
- Election/ Installation
- National Grange Report
- Reports
- Resolutions and State Session Committee Reports
- Conferral/obligation of Fifth and Sixth Degrees
- Completion of remaining business
- Closing

ARTICLE IV – Quorum

Voting delegates representing no less than twenty-five percent of the Granges in good standing shall constitute a quorum competent to transact business.

ARTICLE V - Election of Officers

SECTION 1. The regular election of officers shall be held once on odd years except for the executive committee member whose election shall be held at the end of term of office.

SECTION 2. Candidates for office in the State Grange may be nominated from the floor. No nominating or campaign speeches shall be allowed in any Grange. However, nominees will be introduced and allowed to make a few comments (accept or decline nomination, name, home Grange, offices held, length of time in Grange). A motion to close nominations is never in order, and members may vote for any member whether his/her name has been placed in nomination or not.

SECTION 3. In all elections the voting must be done by ballot and a majority of all ballots cast shall decide the election. Officers so elected shall enter upon their duties immediately after installation.

SECTION 4. All officers must be Sixth Degree members prior to installation.

ARTICLE VI - Duties of Officers

SECTION 1. Master - It shall be the duty of the Master to preside at all meetings of the Grange; to see that the officers and members of committees properly perform their respective duties; to see that the Constitution of the National Grange, the By-Laws of the State Grange, and the Rules and Regulations of the Order are obeyed; to sign all drafts upon the Treasury, and to perform such other duties as pertain to the office, or are required by these articles and the usages of the Order. The Master shall also serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2. Overseer - It shall be the duty of the Overseer to assist the Master, to preside over the Grange in the absence of the Master, and in case the Master's office becomes vacant, shall perform the duties of Master until the next annual meeting. The Overseer shall also serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 3. Lecturer - It shall be the duty of the Lecturer, in addition to the duties required by the Ritual, to correspond with the Lecturers of Subordinate Granges, at least quarterly, giving such suggestions, advice and instructions as is deemed for the best interests of the Order, as well as to work in the Grange field where authorized by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 4. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall receive all moneys of the State Grange, shall keep an account of all moneys received and dispersed, shall give a full statement of the condition of the Treasury at each annual meeting, and whenever called upon by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer will withhold an annual trustee fee from earned income of funds held in escrow. The trustee fee will be set by the delegates at the Annual Session of the State Grange.

SECTION 5. Secretary - The Secretary shall make and keep complete accurate records of all the proceedings of the meetings of the State Grange; shall make a credential report of delegates to State Session, and a report of state membership based on quarterly Subordinate reports, shall make all necessary returns to the National Grange and collect the quarterly reports of the Subordinate Granges with the State Grange.

The Secretary shall pay over to the Treasury incoming money to pay accounts; shall under the direction of the Executive Committee draw and countersign all orders upon the Treasury.

The Secretary shall furnish the Subordinate Granges with the necessary forms upon which to make reports on the condition of the Grange and other matters upon which reports are required for the benefit of the Order.

The Secretary shall see that the quarterly dues of Subordinate Granges are promptly paid, and in case of arrears of more than two quarters, shall make special application to the Secretary of said delinquent Grange for such arrearages. In case the same is not paid within thirty days from date of notice, said Grange shall be reported to the State Master, whose duty it shall be to promptly suspend such Grange. In no case shall a Grange in arrears be represented in the State Grange.

SECTION 6. The further duties of the officers of the State Grange are defined by the Ritual and Constitution of the Order, the Digest of the National Grange, and the By-Laws and officer duty guidance sheets of the State Grange.

SECTION 7. Bonds - The Secretary and Treasurer of State, Pomona, and Subordinate Granges will be bonded in such sum as the Executive Committees of the individual bodies may require, payable to the National Grange through the State Secretary. A Subordinate Grange may elect not to bond these officers and, in such case, will notify the State Secretary by letter.

SECTION 8. Each officer of the Grange, at the expiration of the term of office, shall deliver to the successor, when duly installed, all books, papers, moneys, implements or other property of any description pertaining to the office or belonging to the Grange.

ARTICLE VII - Vacancies in State Grange Officers

SECTION 1. Vacancies caused by death, suspension or resignation of any officer shall be filled by the Master by appointment of a Sixth Degree member in good standing until the next annual meeting.

SECTION 2. In case of vacancy in the office of both Master and Overseer, the Executive Committee shall fill said offices by appointment by utilizing the rank system established by the National Grange Digest of Laws until the next regular meeting of the Grange.

SECTION 3. When an officer is found to be in violation of the rules established by the National Grange Digest of Laws, the officer shall be placed on suspension and trial procedures shall be followed according to the National Grange Digest of Laws.. That office shall be declared vacant if suspension is upheld and then be filled according to SECTION 1.

ARTICLE VIII - Installations

Any Master or Past Master of a Subordinate or Pomona Grange, or Fifth Degree member may install officers.

ARTICLE IX - Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of this State Grange shall begin on the first day of September and end on the last day of the succeeding August.

ARTICLE X- Annual Dues

Each time the National Grange increases their dues, The Illinois State Grange annual dues will automatically increase member dues by the same amount.

ARTICLE XI - Executive Committee

SECTION 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following voting members: the Master, the Overseer and three other members whose term of office shall be three years, one to be elected each year from the same region of the state as the member completing the three year term. The Illinois State Grange Secretary and Treasurer are non-voting members. From the voting members the committee shall elect a Chair and a recording Secretary.

SECTION 2. The committee shall set the boundaries of the North region as Boone and Winnebago Counties, South region as all Granges south of Interstate 70 and Central region as all Granges in between the two areas.

SECTION 3. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to exercise a general supervision of the affairs of the Order between the regular schedule meetings of the State Grange. They provide for the general welfare of the Order in business matters, and to report their proceedings at the next meeting of the State Grange. They shall be allowed mileage and expenses as established by the State Grange.

SECTION 4. Any officer of the State Grange except the Master, who may neglect or refuse to perform the duties of his/her office, may be suspended from office by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee, after a fair and impartial investigation by said committee. The committee shall report their actions in the next regular session of the State Grange. Suspension of the Master can only be by the vote of delegates at a special state session called by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XII – State Committees

SECTION 1. The following standing committees Director shall be appointed by the Master which consist of three members, one representing each region for a three year term becoming Director the third year.

1. Agriculture Committee
2. Family Activities Committee

SECTION 2. The following Directors shall be appointed annually by the Master.

1. Communications
2. Community Service
3. Deaf Awareness
4. Junior
5. Historical
6. Legislative
7. Membership
8. Publicity
9. Web Site Administer
10. Youth and Young Adult

SECTION 3. The following Committees may be assigned annually by that Director/Officer

1. Junior

2. Lecturer
3. Youth and Young Adult

SECTION 4. The following special committees shall be appointed by the Master at each Annual Session of the State Grange to act on resolution or report on current issues concerning committee topic..

1. Committee on Agriculture
2. Committee on Conservation and Energy
3. Committee on Finance and Accounts
4. Committee on Good of the Order and By-Laws
5. Committee on Grange Activities
6. Committee on Health and Education
7. Committee on Insurance
8. Committee on Masters Address
9. Committee on State and National Welfare
10. Committee on Taxation and Legislation
11. Committee on Transportation

ARTICLE XIII - Inactive Granges

SECTION 1. Any suspended Grange may appeal to the State Grange, asking for reinstatement, and the State Grange shall have the power to restore such suspended Grange to full and regular standing.

SECTION 2. Inactive Granges may be reorganized at any point within the jurisdiction of the original Grange whose charter they desire to use. Whenever thirteen or more members of an inactive Grange, not less than four of either sex, meet, vote to reorganize, elect appropriate officers, and report the same to the Master and Secretary of the State Grange, their Charter shall be restored. A Deputy will be sent by the State Grange and approved expenses will be reimbursed.

SECTION 3. The Deputy shall collect all necessary reorganization fees from the Subordinate Grange and send to the National Grange.

SECTION 4. In case the Grange becomes inactive the seal, charter, rituals, badges, implements and working tools shall be returned to the Secretary of the State Grange, on demand of the Master of the State Grange. The record books may be stored at a local library or historical society with Master and Historian of the State Grange's approval.

SECTION 4. Steps to be done for going inactive

SECTION 4. Unaffiliated or inactive members may be admitted to membership in a Grange upon application, accompanied by satisfactory proof of former membership, by a majority vote, and by paying the same dues as other members.

SECTION 5. Members holding live demits cannot become charter members of new Granges except by paying the same dues as new members.

ARTICLE XIV - Deputies

SECTION 1. When there is one or more Subordinate Grange in any county, the Master of the State Grange shall appoint a competent resident Deputy. The Deputy is a representative of the State Master. The duties of said deputy shall be to assist the Granges within their jurisdiction to create growth, to organize, to reorganize, to revitalize and to perform such other duties as outlined in the Officer Duty Guidance Sheets of the State Grange.

SECTION 2. The Deputy shall collect all necessary organization fees from the Subordinate /Pomona Granges and sent to the National Grange with the application for charter.

SECTION 3. Deputies shall report promptly to the Master and Secretary of the State Grange all Granges which they organize, reorganize or revitalize Deputies shall send to the State Master and Secretary newly elected officers and a membership list, A list of Charter members shall also be sent for a new Grange.

SECTION 4. The Master may appoint such Special Deputies as, in their judgement, are necessary.

ARTICLE XV - Subordinate Granges, Membership

SECTION 1. A person 14 years of age (13 years and 6 months) or more, with an interest in the purpose of the order may be proposed as a candidate and be elected to membership in a Subordinate Grange.

SECTION 2. Applications for membership, must be certified by two members of the Grange to which the application is being made. Applications may be balloted for at the time of application or any subsequent meeting prior to initiation.

SECTION 3. Any person, business, or organization interested in Grange pursuits and having no interest(s) in conflict with Grange purposes may be proposed and elected to Associate Membership. This class of member pays dues as established by the State Grange, has no voting rights, and may not participate in Grange contests. Subordinate

Granges are encouraged to bring them to full membership. These members are entitled to access the services of the National Grange.

SECTION 4. When a candidate is to be balloted for, the balloting shall be carried out as prescribed in the Code of the Subordinate Grange as described in the of the National Grange Digest of Laws.

SECTION 5 . When an application is duly made for membership in a Subordinate Grange, and the applicant is declared duly elected the Subordinate Grange may not permit the application to be withdrawn before initiation, except by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting.

SECTION 6. Only members in good standing are entitled to the Annual Word.

SECTION 7. Each member, or each Grange on behalf of its members, shall pay annually in advance or in quarterly payments, not less than the annual membership fee established by the State Grange.

SECTION 8. Any member who shall be in arrears for dues for one quarter or more shall be twice notified by the Grange with one being in writing to pay the same. If said member shall have left the jurisdiction of the Grange, the notice may be left at, or sent by mail, to the last known place of residence of said member. If he /she shall then neglect to pay the dues, he/she may be suspended, but only by majority vote of the Grange.

SECTION 9. No members or visitors shall improperly divulge the rejection of a candidate, or other transaction of the Grange, if members, they shall be liable to suspension, if visitors, of not again being allowed to visit the Grange, and of being reported to the Grange to which they may belong. It shall be the duty of the Master, immediately after the rejection of a candidate, to cause this section to be read for the information of all members present.

SECTION 10. A regular meeting of the Grange is any meeting designated by the By-Laws or standing rules of the Grange. A Grange must hold at least one regular meeting each month, and may hold intermediate regular meetings. Each Subordinate Grange should designate the day and hour of all regular meetings.

SECTION 11. Special meetings may be called by the Master or by vote of the Grange for special purposes, but no business relating to the general work of the Order can be transacted at such meetings unless notice of the same be given in the call for the meeting.

SECTION 12. Subordinate Granges shall follow the Code of Subordinate Grange in the National Grange Digest of Laws.

ARTICLE XVI - Quorum

Seven members are the least number with which a Grange can be opened and constitutes a quorum unless a greater number is provided by the By-Laws of the Subordinate Grange.

ARTICLE XVII – Subordinate Officers and Their Duties

SECTION 1. The officers of a Subordinate Grange shall be the same in name, number and rank as provided in the Constitution and Ritual of the Order.

SECTION 2. Grange officers may be elected annually or, at each Grange's option, bi-annually. The election of officers shall take place at any regular meeting before the thirty-first of August of the election year.

SECTION 3. Candidates for office in the Subordinate Grange may be nominated from the floor. No nominating or campaign speeches shall be allowed in any Grange. However, nominees will be introduced and allowed to make a few comments (accept or decline nomination, name, home Grange, offices held, length of time in Grange). A motion to close nominations is never in order, and members may vote for any member whether his/her name has been placed in nomination or not.

SECTION 4. In all elections, the voting must be done by ballot and a majority of all ballots cast shall decide the election. Officers so elected shall enter upon their duties immediately after installation.

SECTION 5. All officers must be fourth degree member prior to installation.

SECTION 6. The installation of officers shall take place at the first regular or a special meeting after September 1st, as soon as practicable, but not later than October 31st.

SECTION 7. The Master shall preside at all meetings of the Grange, and conduct the same according to the best of his/her ability under the rules of the Order and general parliamentary law. The Master shall open and close the meetings in due form, and decide all questions arising in the Grange, subject to appeal; shall also see that all reports required by the State Grange from his/her Grange are promptly made. At the close of his/her term of office, the Master shall make an annual report, recapitulating the work of the past year, and recommending measures for the year to come.

SECTION 8. The Overseer shall assist the Master in his/her duties, and in his/her absence shall take the Master's place and as such shall have all the authority of the Master..

SECTION 9. The Secretary of each Subordinate Grange shall report to the Secretary of the State Grange promptly at the end of each quarter, the number of persons initiated, reinstated, suspended, expelled or deceased during the quarter, He/she shall

also pay to the State Grange a quarterly due established by the State Grange for each member, family membership, affiliate, or associate member and also report any changes in the addresses of these members.

SECTION 10. Each Secretary shall also promptly report to the Secretary of the State Grange, the name and address of the Master, Lecturer and Secretary, elected at the annual meeting, plus designated committee chairman appointed by the Master, also elections to fill vacancies in those offices. The Secretary is the custodian of the seal of the Grange, and responsible for its use and safe keeping. It should never be used for private or individual purposes.

SECTION 11. The duties of the officers of a Subordinate Grange are defined by the ritual and constitution of the Order, the National Grange Digest of Laws and the By-Laws of the Subordinate Granges not in conflict therewith.

SECTION 12. If a Grange becomes inactive, the Grange will work with a Deputy for proper procedure.

ARTICLE XVIII – Subordinate Standing Committees

SECTION 1. The standing committees of a Subordinate Grange shall be any appropriate committees as the Subordinate Grange shall deem necessary. All Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Master at the time of installation.

SECTION 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following officers, the Master, the Overseer and the three Executive Committee members. The executive committee shall have general oversight of the Grange.

SECTION 3. It shall also be the duty of the Executive Committee or any other committee appointed by the Master to inspect and report on all bills and accounts presented to the Grange; to examine the Treasurer's and Secretary's books, accounts and vouchers, and to report the financial condition of the Grange. These reports can be quarterly, semi-annually or annually.

ARTICLE XIX – Pomona Granges

SECTION 1. Pomona Granges may be established not to exceed one in each county. Application for organization of a Pomona Grange shall be made to the National Grange. The application must be signed by not less than thirteen Fourth Degree members in good standing, four of either sex, where the Grange is to be organized representing not less than two working Subordinate Granges.

SECTION 2. The Deputy shall collect all necessary organization fees from the Pomona Granges and send to the National Grange with the application for charter..

SECTION 3. Any Fourth Degree member bringing satisfactory evidence of his/her good standing in a Subordinate Grange in said county, may file a petition for membership with the Pomona Grange. On receiving such petition the Pomona Grange may elect such applicant to membership by a majority vote .

SECTION 4. Pomona Granges shall meet at least once a quarter, and may hold intermediate meetings. The Secretary shall report annually to the State Grange giving the condition of the Pomona Grange..

SECTION 5. The minimum yearly dues for each member shall be established by the State Grange, due and payable as in Subordinate Granges. The annual dues shall be paid to the Secretary of the State Grange at the close of the second quarter. Otherwise each Pomona Grange may regulate its own dues.

SECTION 6 . Pomona Granges open in the Fifth Degree, but may hold Fourth degree sessions.

SECTION 7. The officers of a Pomona Grange shall be styled and ranked as similar officers in a Subordinate Grange, with similar duties. They may be elected annually or bi-annually at such time and by the same method as in Subordinate Granges.

SECTION 8.. Any member of a Pomona Grange, in good standing, shall be entitled to a demit. Members holding demits may be admitted to membership in a Pomona Grange, by a majority vote of said Grange; provided they are in good standing in a working Subordinate Grange.

SECTION 9. Each Pomona Grange may make such By-Laws for its own government, not in conflict with the National Grange Digest of Laws or the By-Laws of the State Grange, as it may deem best.

ARTICLE XX - Junior Granges

SECTION 1. The officers of a Junior Grange shall be styled and ranked as similar officers in a Subordinate Grange, with similar duties. They may be elected annually or bi-annually at such time and by the same method as in Subordinate Granges.

SECTION 2. The Sponsoring Grange shall select a Fourth Degree member in good standing, as a Junior Leader, to supervise the work of the Junior Grange.

SECTION 3.. Junior Granges shall meet at least once a quarter, and may hold intermediate meetings. The Junior Leader shall report annually to the State Grange giving the condition of the Junior Grange..

SECTION 4. The minimum yearly dues for each member shall be established by the State Grange, due and payable as in Subordinate Granges. The annual dues shall be

paid to the Secretary of the State Grange at the close of the second quarter. Otherwise each Junior Grange may regulate its own dues

SECTION5. In the event a Junior Grange shall become inactive, the sponsoring Grange can keep their Charter active by paying the annual dues for no less than seven members to the State Grange Secretary.

ARTICLE XXI –Alcohol usage

The Illinois State Grange shall adopt the policies as described in the National Grange Digest of Laws.

ARTICLE XXII - Revision

These By-Laws shall supersede all previously published By-Laws of the Illinois State Grange. They may be altered or amended by vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting of the State Grange.

RULES OF ORDER

1. When the presiding officer takes the chair the officers and members shall take their respective stations, and at the sound of the gavel there shall be general silence. The Grange shall then proceed to open in regular form.
2. On the call of two members, a majority of the Grange may demand that in the previous question shall be put, which shall always be in this form: "Shall the main question now be put?" and, until it is decided, shall preclude all amendments to the main question, and all further debate.
3. When standing or special committees are appointed, the individual first named is considered the chairman, although each has a right to elect its own chairman. Committees are required to meet and attend to the matter assigned them with system and regularity and not by separate consultation, or in a loose or indefinite manner.
4. The Worthy Master, by virtue of his/her office, may attend all meetings of committees, take part in their deliberations (without voting, however), and urge them to action. In the appointment of committees, the Worthy Master, who should ever preserve a courteous and conciliatory deportment to all, not overlooking the humblest member, has many opportunities for bringing humble merit into notice, and testing and making available the capabilities of those around him. He/she should carefully avoid both petulance and favoritism, and act with strict impartiality.
5. Refer to National Grange Digest of Law regarding Code of Parliamentary Law

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR TRIAL

: The State Grange has adopted the Rules and Regulations for Trial in Subordinate Granges authorized and recommended by the National Grange . For these Rules see the National Grange Digest of Laws.