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Western Region Leaders' Conference is #GrangeStrong

By Christine E. Hamp, National Grange President

Greetings! The annual Western Region Grange Leaders' Conference wrapped up on Sunday in Yakima, Washington. I am thrilled to report that it was absolutely everything that a Regional Grange Leaders' Conference should be – members representing all five (5) generations were present and participating; the workshops and tours were relevant, engaging, informative, and fun; there was time to interact with, and learn from, each other; the schedule was well-managed and respectful of everyone's time.

All of this and I haven't even gotten to the best part – that the host Pomona Grange accepted the challenge, came together like they admittedly had not for several years, and hit this assignment out of the ballpark. This is an extraordinary example of what a Pomona Grange, or a Grange at any level, can accomplish when given an opportunity and a reason to succeed. All nine (9) Granges within the county were engaged and present with more than 70 members participating in one way, shape, or form; the Grange Hall we met in was open and welcoming with freshly planted flower pots on the front steps; the beverages, snacks, and meals were delicious, plentiful, and conscientious of special dietary needs; the host members didn't just hide in the kitchen, but were engaged attendees who participated in the workshops and tours; the many, many silent auction items and the plethora of in-kind donations that were solicited from local businesses helped to significantly defray costs; did I mention the homemade pie?

This is the "magic" to which I refer! This is a real-life example of my oft-repeated message that everything we do when we Grange must be done with the result in mind that it makes us stronger tomorrow than we are today. Also, that the goal must include building capacity, engaging members, and allowing members to use their talents, skills, and abilities to make Grange better. This is *Grange Strong*!

Presidential Prompt

I'm introducing this new monthly question to get all of our members thinking!
Simply shoot me an email with your response and include "Presidential Prompt" in your subject line.

This month's prompt is "How can the National Grange get information to new community Grange members?"

What do you think?



from National Grange President Christine E. Hamp How can the
National Grange get
information to new
community Grange
members?

send your thoughts and answers to champ@nationalgrange.org

SPEAK LIKE A "CHAMP"

Speak like a "CHAMP" will be a monthly word or phrase designed to get everyone speaking the same language to build a positive message as we Grange.

"TRUST THE PROCESS"

Trust the Process is a motivational and mindsetoriented expression that encourages individuals to have faith in a step-by-step approach, particularly during a journey of personal or professional development. This phrase emphasizes the importance of staying committed, patient, and resilient while working towards a goal, even when the outcome may not be immediately apparent, or the path seems challenging. Each month brings a new phrase, a quote, or an idea that is meant to help guide our work as we Grange, to get us all speaking the same language and building a positive message.

Please use the graphic and phrases on your social media or in your newsletters.

"Trust the Process"

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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

National Convention Registration is Open



Registration for the 158th Annual National Grange Convention in Bettendorf, Iowa opened for **all attendees** on May 1st.

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 will feature multiple workshops running every day, a variety of tour options to fit more schedules, meals that are 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, then the price will increase.

Click here to learn more and Register today!

Tonight: Fellowship First Friday



Join us tonight for Fellowship First Friday with an interesting presentation by Susan and Paul Hanks of California about the fun of "GeoGrange" - A fun, non-GPS dependent way to find Granges in and out of your area! Similar to Geocaching, GeoGrange leads you on a Scavenger Hunt for Granges. You can play on your own or as a Grange with the adoption of a "Travel Bug." Log on Friday to find out the details!

Breakout rooms tonight will include information about the Fellows and SHIPmates program, regional summer recipes, and more!

These are **open to all**, and we hope you'll join us!

Click here to join

May Grange Heirloom



For in our fraternity there is work for all, and the idler has no place among Patrons of Husbandry.

- Vice President, First Degree

Use the Heirloom Program to encourage your Grange members (and friends who aren't Grange members) to continue learning about the core tenets of the Grange, and what we stand for. These "digestible" bits of Grange ritual help our members grow in the Grange.

Access the May Heirloom materials here.

Coming Soon... Grange Today!

by Philip J Vonada, National Grange Communications Director



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!*.

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.

Do you want to see your Grange in the Spotlight? Send a write-up of an event at your Grange with a few pictures to Philip Vonada, Communications Director, at

pvonada@nationalgrange.org. It may be printed immediately, or may be held for a future Patrons Chain (Grange Today!) or Good Day! magazine.

MAY 2024 NATIONAL GRANGE EVENTS

TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP JOIN US ON ZOOM FOR THESE EVENTS!

ALL TIMES EASTERN

3: FELLOWSHIP FIRST FRIDAY 8:30 P.M.

Connect: grange.biz/FirstFriday
Join us for this fun NEW monthly program - a
time for fellowship, thought-provoking
conversation, and the chance to connect with
Grange members from coast to coast! Includes a
short program, activity, and time to socialize
around topics of your choice.

May topic: Pets: The rise of "pet parenthood"

15: MEMBERSHIP MATTERS 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/matters

Join Membership/Leadership Development Director Amanda Brozana Rios for this monthly time to learn about various membership challenges and growth opportunities. ALL TIMES

28: COMMUNICATIONS ZOOM-TORIAL 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/GrangeZoomtorial

Join Communications Director Philip Vonada to learn about various topics in the field of Communications & Public Relations. This month: Leveraging Social Media for

Questions? Email pvonada@nationalgrange.org



JUNIOR GRANGE FOCUS AREA:
AG AWARENESS
YOUTH FOCUS AREA:
ACTION



Rural Minds Webinar: Managing Tardive Dyskinesia in Rural America By Rural Minds

In one week – on May 9 at 7 PM ET – <u>Rural Minds</u> and the National Grange will present the next Connections webinar in the 2024 series: "Managing Tardive Dyskinesia in Rural America."

Tardive dyskinesia (TD) is a condition that causes your face, your body, or both to make sudden, irregular movements that you can't control. TD may develop after taking certain medications, including drugs that are commonly used to treat mental illnesses.

Sponsored by Neurocrine Biosciences and Teva Pharmaceuticals, this one-hour webinar will feature Todd Donovan, President of the Board of Directors, National Alliance on Mental Illness-New Hampshire, sharing his lived experience managing tardive dyskinesia in his rural community.



"Thirty years ago, I was diagnosed with major depression that included psychotic episodes with hearing voices," Todd said. "I eventually persevered in my pursuit of effective treatment for my mental health challenges that have included tardive dyskinesia. But the biggest barrier that I encountered while living in a rural area was the lack of access to care."

The webinar will also feature Dr. Mark Frye, a psychiatrist with Mayo Clinic, providing medical expertise and perspective on screening for TD and managing the condition when living in a rural area.

Click here to register

Grange Hall Podcast: Episode 1



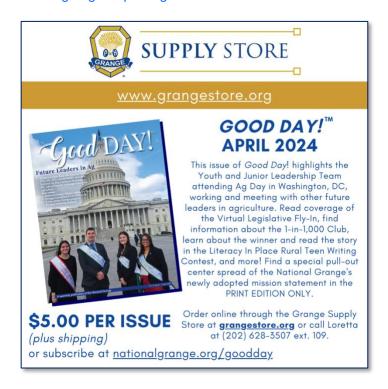
The first official episode of The Grange Hall Podcast has been released! In this episode, hosts Meagan and Philip are joined by National Grange President Christine E. Hamp.

Chris is a member of Tualco Grange #284 and Five Mile Prairie Grange #905 in Washington. At the time of this recording (November 2023), Chris had just recently been installed as the new President of the National Grange.

In this episode, Chris discusses her background and upbringing in the Grange, the exciting things happening in her home Granges, and her vision, plan, and hope for the future of the Grange.

The Grange Hall releases a new episode every other Wednesday. Listen on <u>Apple Podcasts</u>, <u>Spotify</u>, <u>Amazon Music</u>, or <u>iHeartRadio</u>. You can also listen on <u>PodBean</u>, the <u>National Grange website</u>, or watch on YouTube! **Be sure to like and subscribe!**

If you have comments or questions, or if you'd like to recommend a member of YOUR Grange to be featured, you can contact us at grangehallpod@gmail.com.



Grange Member Benefit: Lenovo



Grange members explore a world of smarter solutions with Lenovo

Up to 65% off Tech & More

Enhance your productivity and elevate your tech experience with savings of up to 65% on select cutting-edge ThinkPad business-class laptops, desktops, visuals, and accessories.

Shop Now: www.lenovo.com/us/en/lsp
Text GRANGELENOVO to 833-344-0228 to receive

exclusive limited time offers.

For assistance with purchases, call: 1-888-315-7408 (M-F: 9am-9pm ET, Sat: 9am-6pm ET)

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



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

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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

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