



The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

April 2, 2021



CELEBRATING GRANGE MONTH

Since 1867, Grange has found a way to bring people together. And together has never sounded so good. We know the way, and we welcome you to join us.

Grange Month is a time for action, attention

By Betsy Huber National Grange President

Welcome to Grange Month 2021! I hope your Grange has at least one special activity planned to gain visibility in your community. As restrictions are loosening, you may be able to have an in-person event, but if not, there are lots of things you can do that don't involve crowds or close contacts.

I hope you have looked at the Grange Month resources provided on the National Grange website, www.nationalgrange.org. These include a proclamation that you can ask your local officials to adopt to recognize 153 years of Grange and the years of work that your local Grange has accomplished in your community. Be sure to notify your local newspapers, or take your own photo and submit it with a brief article—a sample press release is provided on the website.

If you haven't come up with any ideas that you feel your Grange can do, check out the list of suggested activities under Grange Month on the website. Some may take considerable work and planning, but some can be easily accomplished by a few people with a little forethought. Whatever you do, be sure to promote it—in the news, on Facebook or other social media, or even TV. This is our opportunity to advertise the great things you have been doing to help others during the pandemic.

As people re-order their lives following a year of shutdown, let your Grange be the one activity they search for and find where they can be involved as a family and do meaningful work together.

30 days, 15 ways to honor our Order during Grange Month

By Amanda Brozana Rios, Communications, Membership & Leadership Development Director

It's Grange Month, and there is no better time to reflect on how you can enhance your experience, cultivate your connection to the organization and fellow Grangers, and grow the Order for the next generation.

Here are 15 ideas to help you celebrate this month – remember, membership is not just about taking the obligation, but it's also about staying active and engaged.

Take the challenge, and document your journey on social media using the hashtag #grangestory.

1. Wear a Grange apparel item proudly.
2. Tell a fellow Granger or a prospective member about a member benefit they may not know about. Need some ideas? Visit nationalgrange.org/our-values/benefits-to-members/
3. Make sure others in your Grange are subscribed to the National Grange's weekly newsletter, Patrons Chain, or the quarterly magazine, Good Day!
4. Download a Junior Passport and use it as a program at your next meeting or pass it on to a Junior-age child you know
5. Attend a live Cultivating Connections event online on the National Grange YouTube page or Facebook Page
6. Read a Grange history book, an article in Good Day! magazine about some piece of Grange history or share Grange history with someone who may not be aware
7. Virtually visit another Grange – during their meeting or by liking their social media Page or website – to get some ideas for your Grange
8. Write a letter to a former member you know or a member you haven't talked to in a while and reminisce about a great Grange memory
9. Search your hometown for an abandoned flagpole or public space that could use a flagpole and consider getting your Grange involved in a National Grange Lecturer's Flagpole Relocation Initiative
10. Enter a Grange contest and show off your entry if possible
11. Send a Thank You note to one of your Grange mentors or to someone who you appreciate in your Grange or State Grange
12. Say "I'd be delighted" to a new project or assistance with a new program at your Grange OR provide at least one new idea for your Grange
13. Read the installation charge of your office (if you're an officer) or an office you'd like to hold one day and reflect on the words
14. Make a sign for your office, for your wall or post on social media your favorite quote from the Grange
15. Make a donation (even \$1 helps!) to the Grange Foundation to a fund of your choice! Send checks to Grange Foundation, 1616 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20006

If you're not ready to take the plunge this month, use the checklist another month this year or as a guide throughout the year to celebrate the Grange.

Don't Be a Fool This April: Celebrate '4/01(k) Day'

Courtesy of StatePoint

Though it's just behind us, April Fools Day may be fresh on your mind. As in normal years, the majority of pranks pulled on the day were likely silly, some hilarious, while others fell flat.

Now that it's over, consider trying something different to celebrate the start of April: celebrate 4/01(k) Day.

To mark the occasion, Lincoln Financial Group is encouraging savers to test their knowledge on three common misconceptions about saving for retirement revealed in a recent survey of U.S. employees by Lincoln Financial and CivicScience:

- True or False: “Saving enough to meet the employer match is enough to keep me on track for a comfortable retirement.” This one is (most likely) false! An employer match (if offered) is a good place to start, but if you really want to make sure you have enough of a nest egg to retire when and how you want, a good rule of thumb is to save at least 10 to 15 percent of your salary.

- True or False: “Paying down my student loan debt as quickly as possible is more important than saving for my retirement.” This can be true...or false, depending on your situation. While you should not delay saving for retirement, it’s a good idea to speak with a financial professional to determine how to strategize paying off debt while also planning for your future. You can also use free tools like the debt calculator found at LincolnFinancial.com to help you make a plan for paying off debt.

- True or False: “I’ve thought about moving money from an old employer’s 401(k) into my current employer’s 401(k), but it seems like it would be too much of a hassle.” This one is false! While it is important to consider all options of your 401(k) platform prior to making a decision, the process for a rollover is typically very easy and brings multiple benefits. Instead of tracking investment selections, performance or statements for multiple accounts, for example, you’ll only have to monitor a single account.

“While there are certainly still some misconceptions when it comes to saving for the future, the majority of those surveyed understand the importance of not delaying saving for later in their careers,” said Aaron Moore, senior vice president, Retirement Plan Client Engagement, Lincoln Financial Group. “This is cause for celebration, as delaying saving for retirement can have a significant impact on future savings. This is another reason why we are focused on working with employers to educate their employees so they can achieve the retirement they envision.”

Tips to keep your celebration going

If you’re looking for more ways to celebrate 4/01(k) Day – and help set yourself up for a financially secure future – here are three tips to keep in mind:

1. Check your account. It might sound simple, but logging in regularly (try for at least once a quarter) can help ensure you’re on track with your savings goal. Be sure to use the calculators and projection tools your retirement plan offers.
2. Update (or create) a goal. When you have a goal to work towards, research shows you’ll be more likely to increase your contributions, and therefore, increase your savings.
3. Meet with a professional. If your employer offers retirement consultants, schedule a meeting, or consider speaking with a financial professional, who can help you understand the full picture of your savings and where to focus your efforts.

For more resources, tools and calculators, visit LincolnFinancial.com/retirement. A comfortable financial future is something to celebrate.

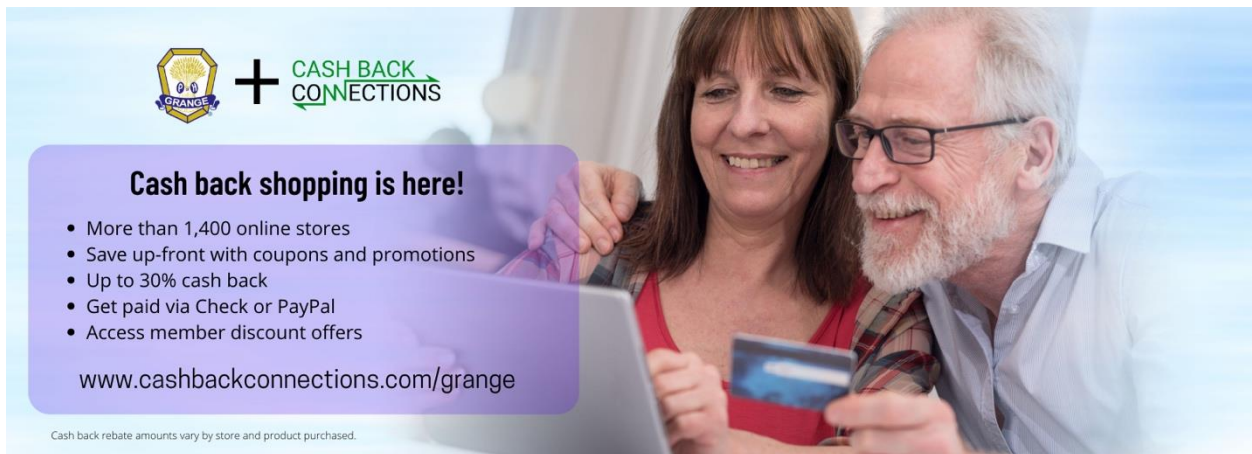
A Few Great Mentions



The Grange has been hard at work these last two weeks! Here are some links to some of our more popular articles about the Grange in action. Take the time and check out what is happening both on the National and State level. If you have any news highlights you would like to share with the Grange community email them to kgwin@nationalgrange.org

Rancher Aren't the Enemy, (Pagosa Daily Post, Pagosa Springs, CO):
<https://pagosadailypost.com/2021/03/26/opinion-ranchers-are-not-the-enemy/>

Daybreak March 30: Biden infrastructure will be paid for, (AgriPulse, Washington DC):
[Daybreak March 30: Biden infrastructure will be paid for | 2021-03-30 | Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc. \(agri-pulse.com\)](#)

Beef barn goes from dream to reality, (Bedford Gazzett, Bedford, PA): [Beef barn goes from dream to reality | News | bedfordgazette.com](#)



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Cash back shopping is here!

- More than 1,400 online stores
- Save up-front with coupons and promotions
- Up to 30% cash back
- Get paid via Check or PayPal
- Access member discount offers

www.cashbackconnections.com/grange

Cash back rebate amounts vary by store and product purchased.



GRANGE EASTER SERVICE

Easter Sunday, April 4 at 8 p.m. Eastern
Hosted by National Chaplain Barbara Borderieux
Join us on the National Grange
Facebook Live Page or YouTube Channel



ORDER YOUR GOOD DAY! MAGAZINES!

The National Grange is encouraging Granges from across the country to order Good Day! magazine to hand out at local events and to potential members as we gear up for Grange month! Check out our special pricing below on previous editions!

4 Magazines for \$16 plus \$5 Shipping
8 Magazines for \$27 plus \$7 Shipping
25 Magazines for \$100 plus \$27 Shipping

If your Grange would like to purchase more please contact Loretta Washington at (202) 628-3507 EXT. 109 or kgwin@nationalgrange.org



Good DAY!

Magazine Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

4 magazines
\$16 + \$5 shipping

8 magazines
\$27 + \$7 shipping

25 magazines
\$100 + free shipping

*If you want quantities greater than 25, please email sales@nationalgrange.org or kgwin@nationalgrange.org

Quantity of each issue:



Spring 2017



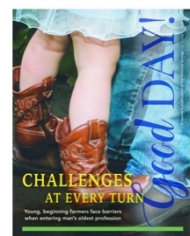
Fall 2017



Winter 2018



Spring 2018



Fall 2018



Winter 2019



Spring 2019



Summer 2019



Fall 2019



Spring 2020



Fall 2020



Summer 2020



Winter 2021



SUPPLY STORE

www.grangestore.com



Grange Mission Statement Poster

Help celebrate Grange Month with The National Grange Mission Statement poster (size 11x17) Every Grange Hall, every Grange member need to mission Statement poster

For Grange Month only - Special is 2 poster for \$6.00 Plus Shipping April 1-30, 2021

Cost is \$5.00 plus shipping

LIMITED EDITION

GRANGE T-SHIRT SALE

ADULT SM-6XL \$20
YOUTH SIZES-\$15
Available in 3 Colors



AVAILABLE FOR



ORDERING APRIL 1-30

All Proceeds will be given to the Grange Foundation Junior Fund



Retractable Grip Pens - \$.75 ea

Front Line Hero Pins - \$2.50 ea

Stuffed Duck - \$12.00 ea

ANY ORDER PLACED BEFORE

ON OR BEFORE 4/3/21

WILL RECEIVE A FREE

SURPRISE GIFT!



THANKS TO QUIMPER GRANGE WASHINGTON FOR THEIR ORDER OF CUSTOM PRINTED PENCILS!

Click Here To See These Items And More!

Grange Store™ by Monroe Classic - www.promoplace.com/grange or www.monroeclassic.com

Order on line or call 1-800-868-2330 or email sales@monroeclassic.com

APPAREL | PROMOTIONAL ITEMS | JEWELRY | REGALIA | SIGNS & BANNERS | BUSINESS CARDS | PLAQUES & AWARDS

NATIONAL GRANGE & GRANGE FOUNDATION STAFF

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Membership Recognition, Sales and Benefits Loretta Washington, National HQ, ext. 109 or email sales@nationalgrange.org

Free Grange Websites and emails, Good Day! subscriptions and renewals, Membership Database and more Stephanie Wilkins, National HQ, ext. 101 or email swilkins@nationalgrange.org

Lecturer Chris Hamp for program ideas, Quilts of Valor labels, contest details and more, by email at lecturer@nationalgrange.org or call/text (509) 953-3533.

Community Service Pete Pompper for project ideas, information about "Of the Year" awards and more by email at communityservice@nationalgrange.org or phone at (609) 820-6239

Legislative and Policy Issues Burton Eller for advocacy information and Grange priorities, contact him at National HQ, ext. 114 or email beller@nationalgrange.org.

Grange Youth Mandy Bostwick for contest, program and more information for young members at youth@nationalgrange.org or call/text (785) 250-7606.

Junior Grange Samantha Wilkins for Passport and other program and contest information at junior@nationalgrange.org or call/text (210) 838-7892.

Grange Foundation Joan C. Smith, Chairwoman, for more details about grants, programs and Foundation outreach at info@grangefoundation.org or (571) 662-7220.

Foundation Strategic Partnership Director Donny Olencziak with corporate giving and grant leads at donny.olencziak@grange.org or (229) 288-6111.