



# The Patrons Chain

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE

April 9, 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.

### National Grange Legislative Fly-In goes Virtual

By Amanda Brozana Rios, National Membership Director

On Wednesday, April 7, members from around the nation gathered digitally to participate in the 2021 National Grange Fly-In.

Unlike the event of years' past, no flight was actually necessary for those in far-flung reaches of the country hoping to hear from speakers and get a better understanding of the organization's issues of interest and ways in which members can advocate.

Instead, the more than 100 people registered to attend were given tools to better understand the budding and over-ripe issues the preeminent rural organization is watching and working on through outreach, coalition work and more.

Members heard from Senator Debbie Stabenow and staff member of the Senate Agriculture Committee Patrick Delaney, Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson, White House staff member Will McIntee, National Health Council CEO Randy Rutta, US Telecom Vice President Mike Saperstein, Farm Credit Council Senior Vice President and lead of the Rebuild Rural Coalition Robbie Boone as well as National Grange President Betsy Huber, Legislative Director Burton Eller and Legislative Assistant Sean O'Neil.

The three-and-a-half hour event included questions and answers from the audience and panelists respectively. It is now available to view at <https://bit.ly/3fQMyNp>

### Fly-In Success

By Betsy Huber National Grange President

After a very successful virtual Fly-in this week with over 110 people participating, your thoughts should be centering on current issues in our Capitol and in your state and community. Now is a great time to put those thoughts into a resolution or two and submit them to your next local Grange meeting.

### ATTENTION GRANGERS

DO YOU HAVE A HALL AND A WANT  
TO STOP COVID IN YOUR  
COMMUNITY?

NOW IS TIME!  
HOST A LOCAL  
VACCINE CLINIC IN  
YOUR HALL.  
CONTACT YOUR  
STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND LET  
THEM KNOW YOUR  
GRANGE IS  
WILLING TO HOST



State Sessions begin in two short months and November’s National Grange session will be here before we know it. While the information you learned in the Fly-in is fresh in your mind, put it down in resolution form and discuss it at your Grange. If you need help writing resolutions look at [www.nationalgrange.org/writing-grange-resolution](http://www.nationalgrange.org/writing-grange-resolution) for information.

You should also check the current National Grange policy (“What We Stand For”) to make sure your position is not already covered in adopted policy. Often we receive resolutions at National that are already part of our policy, and it wastes everyone’s time to send them through the process only to have them declared “present policy” by the session committee. If you have questions don’t hesitate to contact Burton Eller at the Grange headquarters.

Take the time right now to write those resolutions before you get too busy in your gardens or with Grange activities as we open up again. Exercise your civic responsibility and Grange privileges by making your voice heard.

**Ut enim ad minim veniam**

**HAS YOUR GRANGE BEEN MENTIONED IN THE NEWS LATELY?**

Email [kgwin@nationalgrange.org](mailto:kgwin@nationalgrange.org) to have your stories highlighted in the latest Patrons Chain and on social media. All submissions welcomed

# APRIL IS GRANGE MONTH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					9 Cultivating Connections: Political Power Hour 8:30 PM EST	10
11	12 Good Day! Spring Preview with Amanda Brozana Rios 8:30 PM EST	13 Cultivating Connections with Retire Safe and Grange Interns 8:30- 9:30 PM EST	14	15 Cultivating Connections Chronic Pain Management 8:30-9:30 PM EST	16	17
18 Youth Yammerings 9-10 PM EST	19	20	21	22	23 Cultivating Connections Grange Benefits 9-10 PM EST	24
25	26	27	28	29 Cultivating Connections Community Service and You with Pete Pomper	30 Trivia night with the Grange 9-10 PM EST	

## **How to Plan for a Future Vacation**

*Courtesy of Family Features*

After a long year stuck at home, many people are dreaming about when they can travel once again. While counting down the days may feel like torture, planning and booking a vacation for later this year can give you something to look forward to.

Now may be the perfect time to start thinking about your next adventure. Consider these tips for planning a future trip - even if you're not certain exactly when you'll take it.

### ***Research Travel Restrictions***

For any kind of travel, it's important to make sure you're up to date on any restrictions your potential destinations may have in place. Though the vaccine may help lessen restrictions in some places, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention maintain updated guidance and travel warnings based on the risk level of certain areas, which can help you make decisions. Once you've booked travel plans, it is prudent to check in frequently as your trip approaches and prepare a backup plan.

### ***Account for High Demand***

Many hotels, vacation rentals and resorts may already be booked for summer in popular locations due to optimism around the vaccine, increased demand for domestic travel and families planning multiple trips this year. In fact, travelers are locking in private Vrbo vacation homes at top summer destinations earlier in 2021. Less than half of vacation homes in some locations are still available for July, which is a more than 25% increase in demand year-over-year. To better your odds of securing your desired travel dates, accommodations and activities, booking earlier can help off-set the increased demand.

"In years past, we've recommended families book their summer vacations by late April to stay ahead of the curve, but this year there are several reasons why families are eager and ready to book," Vrbo President Jeff Hurst said. "These signs are telling us families should start looking for the perfect vacation home now before options become more limited."

### ***Take Advantage of Deals with Longer Stays***

Many sectors of the travel industry offer special deals for reserving trips in advance, and some of the best deals can be found by bundling airfare and lodging or booking extended week- or month-long stays. These longer vacations can lead to fewer available dates to choose from, but some travel companies offer search filters that help travelers find discounts for staying longer periods of time.

### ***Opt for Flexible Booking***

If you're eager to plan a vacation right away, be sure to review and understand cancellation policies for your preferred accommodations, airline and activities. Many have changed their policies due to the pandemic, so be sure to know how long you have to cancel or change dates

without incurring additional fees or penalties. For example, when booking a vacation rental through Vrbo, where hosts set their cancellation terms, you can use the "free cancellation" filter to search for properties with flexible policies, some of which allow cancellations up to 14 days before check-in for a full refund.

### ***Start Saving Now***

While it may not be practical for everyone to save money amid uncertain times, setting even a small amount aside for your vacation can be worthwhile. Consider setting up a dedicated travel savings account or directing the change from each transaction made with your debit card to a separate account. Being able to periodically check the balance of the account can also help increase excitement for your upcoming adventure.

### **Wanna Get Away? Save by using these returning benefits**

Grange members always receive up to 25% off AVIS rentals when using the code AWD# B291044. With a complimentary membership in Avis Preferred®, you'll travel better, save time and gain access to exclusive offers. Skip the counter and paperwork at many locations and go straight to your car. Visit <https://bit.ly/2RhRvoq> or call 1-800-331-1212 to make a reservation.



Grange members save up to 25% off Budget base rates with offer code (BCD) R198144. With a complimentary membership in Budget Fastbreak, enjoy a fast, easy rental experience. Visit <https://bit.ly/2OuGoau> or call 1-800-527-0700 to make a reservation.



#### **Grange Mission Statement Poster**

Help celebrate Grange Month with The National Grange Mission Statement poster (size 11x 17) Every Grange Hall, every Grange member needs a mission Statement poster

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

**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*

**AWARDS**

**CUSTOM PRINTED  
APPAREL**

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**SIGNS & BANNERS**

**NAME BADGES**

**SWAG**

**FUND RAISING**

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**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**DECORATIONS  
PPE ITEMS**

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Grange Store™ by Monroe Classic - [www.promoplace.com/grange](http://www.promoplace.com/grange) or [www.monroeclassic.com](http://www.monroeclassic.com)  
Order on line or call Monroe Classic, Inc. at 1-800-868-2330 or email [sales@monroeclassic.com](mailto:sales@monroeclassic.com)

**APPAREL | PROMOTIONAL ITEMS | JEWELRY | REGALIA | FUND RAISING PROGRAMS**

## **NATIONAL GRANGE & GRANGE FOUNDATION STAFF**

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**Community Service** Pete Pompper for project ideas, information about "Of the Year" awards and more by email at [communityservice@nationalgrange.org](mailto: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](mailto:beller@nationalgrange.org).

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

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