



Oregon State Grange BULLETIN

Election Issue

March 2022

News About the Grange

Volume 122 No. 1-a

Candidate Statements For 2022-24 OSG Officer Elections - Vote At Your Community/Subordinate Grange Meeting In April

The Oregon State Grange elects officers in even years. Below are the names of those members who accepted the nomination of Subordinate/Community Granges for the offices. No member may be a candidate for more than one office. Subordinate/Community Granges shall vote on state officers at any regularly held meeting in April and send in their results to the state office. The report must arrive at the Oregon State Grange office no later than **May 5th at 5pm**. Results must be reported on the Certified Ballot Report with the signature of the Master and Secretary as well as the seal of the Grange in the envelope provide with the ballots and report. An Election Committee will tabulate the votes with results being published in the June Bulletin.

PRESIDENT

Jay Sexton



Thank you for your nomination as President.

I joined Marys River Grange #685, of Philomath in Benton County, in 2010, and have attended each State Convention since becoming a member. I have held the positions of Lecturer, Master, Steward, and Rental Coordinator at my Subordinate, and Secretary at my Pomona.

I affiliated with Willamette Grange #52 outside Corvallis also in Benton County, in 2018, and I am currently President there.

I was State Agriculture Committee

The candidate statements in this issue were placed below the office heading in the paper in the order the acceptances were received at the State Headquarters.

Candidate statements conclude with member's name, primary Grange, affiliate Grange, Grange county and town of residence.

Director from 2014-18 and helped our efforts at Oregon's Ag Fest, the State Fair, the FFA State Convention, OSU's annual Small Farms Conference, and at the State Capital. For four years I have been the Vice-President of the OSG, and while on the OSG Executive Committee I have fully participated in the day-to-day management of the "business" of the Grange. I have attended three National Grange Conventions.

I will learn my parts in the Ritual at State Convention, honoring our traditions.

I will work to strengthen our Granges in their communities. All Granges need the energy, ideas, and support of new members. Yesterday's Grangers have carefully handed on their halls to us, and it is our obligation to hand healthy halls on to the future.

Fraternally,

Jay Sexton
Marys River Grange #685
Willamette Grange #52
Benton County
Philomath, Oregon

LECTURER

Cookie Trupp



the wonderful values of what our organization stands for.

I have enjoyed serving as your Lecturer these past couple years, developing resource material to assist Lecturers in presenting programs that educate members on a variety of timely topics, and encouraging member participation in State Con-tests.

Visiting Granges have given me a great opportunity to meet with Subordinate and Pomona Lecturers, to listen to them talk about their successes, and to help in areas that they have difficulty.

Brothers and Sisters,

I am honored to be nominated again for Lecturer of the OSG.

I believe the role of the Lecturer is to present entertaining and educational programs that can enthuse and inspire our membership. We should be a positive example of a Grange member who wants to share

Thank you for the nomination and if elected, I will serve to the best of my ability.

Fraternally,
Cookie (LaMora) Trupp
Spencer Creek Grange #855
Lane County
Eugene, Oregon

VICE PRESIDENT

No nominations were accepted for the office of Vice President of the Oregon State Grange. Nominations for this office will be accepted on the floor on second day of the annual Oregon State Grange Convention in Talent.



All Grangers are invited

OSG Legislative Forum Zoom Meeting

When: Wednesday, March 23 @ 7 pm PST
Wednesday, April 27 @ 7 pm PDT

Where: Zoom

The OSG Legislative Committee will lead a discussion on proposed measures and petitions we are following, answer questions about resolution writing and deadlines, and talk about issues of interest.

Resolution deadline for Subordinate/Community Granges for the 2022 OSG Convention is April 20th.

Contact: Legislative Director Mark Noah
for login information
marknoah00@gmail.com



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Bulletin Deadline

*June/July Issue
May 10, 2022*

STEWARD



Phil C. Van Buren

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I wish to thank you for the nominations you have given me for the office of "Oregon State Grange Steward."

Currently I hold that position and if it is your wish I continue to be your Steward, I gladly accept.

Being in this office has great responsibility for making sure the meeting area is properly setup; with greeting and presenting guests and most of all the ritual of degree work of the order.

In my travels around the state and because of the pandemic, I've noticed that it's hard to have well attended meetings. Hopefully that will change soon and we can get back to normal meetings and get together with one another.

I'm looking forward to upcoming events to see as many of you as possible.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Phillip (Phil) C. Van Buren
Midland Grange #781
Klamath County
Jasper Grange #532
Lane County
Klamath Falls, Oregon

STEWARD



Lyle Utt

I would like the chance to serve as Steward for the Oregon State Grange.

I am not well practiced at Steward but would like the chance of pushing myself. I hope you will give me the opportunity.

Lyle Utt
Fairmount Grange #252
Benton County
Albany, Oregon

ASSISTANT STEWARD



Austin VanHouten

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is an honor to be nominated for Assistant Steward of the Oregon State Grange. Having grown up in the Grange, I've marched alongside my parents for years when I was young. I started in Junior Grange when I was 4-1/2 years old and participated yearly until I was finally old enough to join the Subordinate Grange.

I have also been actively involved in 4-H and FFA and most recently received my American FFA Degree. My favorite part of all three organizations is giving back to my community. My desire is to continue to give back through my position as an Oregon State Grange officer. Together we can make the world better!

Fraternally,
Austin VanHouten
Riversdale Grange #731
Douglas County
Oakland, Oregon

LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD



Connie Suing

Patrons,

I am honored to accept the nomination of Lady Assistant Steward of the Oregon State Grange.

My Grange roots run deep as my family is a 5 generation Legacy Grange family. The Grange has always been a very important part of my life, and of my family's. While I have lived in Eugene for more than 20 years, myself and my family continue to call Crow Grange our Grange home.

I have belonged to Crow Grange in Lane County since 1976, having held many offices, including Ceres, Lecturer, Treasurer; Lady Assistant Steward, Overseer, and am currently Master.

I have been a member of Lane Pomona Grange since 1977 and have held the offices of Ceres, Pomona, Executive Committee, and am currently Lady Assistant Steward.

I took my 6th degree in Grants Pass in 1977 and I am a 7th degree member having taken the 7th degree in 1985 in Eugene.

I was the Oregon State Grange Youth and Young Adult Director from 2016 to 2020 and truly enjoying getting to know and work with many youth throughout the state. I was also the Oregon State Grange Ceres from 1988 to 1994 and from 1996 to 2004.

I truly try my best every time I am on the Grange floor, performing the floorwork to the best of my ability. If chosen again to be your LAS, I will continue to give you, my best.

Fraternally,
Connie Suing
Crow Grange #450
Lane County
Eugene, Oregon

LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD



Aurianna VanHouten

Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Oregon State Grange as your Lady Assistant Steward. I have been a part of the Grange since I was a baby, marching on my mom's hip during practices. I grew up in the Junior Grange and served in several officer positions, but nothing can describe the excitement I felt when I finally got to join the subordinate Grange.

I am currently a part of 4-H and FFA, as well as Riversdale Grange and the Douglas County Pomona Grange. My favorite activity outside of serving my community through these organizations is wrestling. I am excited to be running for an Oregon State Grange office with my brother!

Fraternally,
Aurianna VanHouten
Riversdale Grange #731
Douglas County
Oakland, Oregon

Have You Bought Your Birthday Candle

- 1 Mark & Susan Noah
- 2 Joyce Parker
- 3 Joyce Parker
- 4 Fruitdale Grange
- 5 Robert O'Dell Jr.
- 6 Joyce Parker
- 7 Fruitdale Grange
- 8 Rockwood Grange
- 9 Robert O'Dell
- 10 Carol Everman
- 11 Ronald Parrish
- 12 Linn Pomona Grange
- 13 Roberta O'Dell
- 14 Fruitdale Grange
- 15 Oak Grove Grange
- 16 Vickie Weathers
- 17 Warren Weathers
- 18 Gary Prichard
- 19 Lowell Grange
- 20 Aloha Grange
- 21 Betty Chipps
- 22 Maplewood Grange
- 23 Phoenix Grange
- 24 Dean High
- 25 Vickie High
- 26 Jesse O'Dell

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CHAPLAIN



Stacy (Clute) Brown

Hello fellow Grange members,

I am grateful to be nominated for the position of Chaplain of the Oregon State Grange. I believe that my skills, education, and personality are well suited for this office. I have organized worship services and lead several Bible Studies for my church.

In the past I have had the privilege of speaking at the OSG Memorial service. I would consider it an honor to be elected to this office and be able to pray at events and over our meetings. I would do my best to encourage all members and extend comfort to those sick, hurt, or in times of sorrow. As well as celebrate with those whose prayers have been answered.

I have been part of the Grange family since I was in my mother's womb. I fondly look back on my time as a Junior Granger and promptly became a Subordinate member at 13-1/2, 21 years ago. I have held several offices at the local level and on the OSG Youth officer team.

Fraternally,
Stacy (Clute) Brown
Forest Grove Grange #282
Washington County
Forest Grove, Oregon

- 27 Riley & Tina Reynolds
- 29 Linda Wetzell
- 30 Warren Grange
- 31 Donna Sepull
- 34 Tami & Don Guttridge
- 35 Santiam Valley Grange
- 36 Ken Naylor
- 37 Shirley Naylor
- 38 Sandra Noah
- 39 Megan Schofield
- 40 Warren Grange
- 41 Yankton Grange
- 44 P & L Schofield Family
- 45 Lowell Grange
- 46 Sandlake Grange
- 49 Maplewood Grange
- 50 Louise Holst/Phil Van Buren
- 51 Rockwood Grange
- 52 Willamette Grange
- 55 Cookie & Malcolm Trupp
- 56 Beaver Valley Grange
- 57 John DeHaas
- 60 Linda Pugh/Heather Elliott
- 61 Goshen Grange
- 66 OSG Executive Committee

CHAPLAIN



Paula Herrick

Thank you so much for nominating me for the office of Chaplain. Currently I'm Chaplain at WALTERVILLE Grange #416 in Lane County. I also served as Oregon State Chaplain pro-tem at state session in Enterprise in 2021. I will do my utmost best to carry out the duties as Chaplain if elected. Thank you again for considering me for Chaplain.

Fraternally,
Paula Herrick
Walterville Grange #416
Lane County
Walterville, Oregon

Buy a Candle for the 150th Cake

In eighteen months the Oregon State Grange reaches the sesquicentennial mark. Buy a candle and be a part of the celebration.

In honor of our anniversary the Oregon State Grange will be placing a monument on the Oregon State Capitol site that honors disabled veterans and funding for this will come from the sale of the candles. The cake will have 150 candles and each candle costs the amount listed on the candle (the 1st candle costs \$1, the 150th candle costs \$150, with each denomination in-between). Candles may be purchased in any order until all 150 candles have been sold.

If you are interested in purchasing a candle, please let State President Susan Noah know and the candle of your choice will be reserved for you.

- 69 Doris Irene DeGnath Meredith
- 74 Redland Grange
- 75 Abernethy Grange
- 76 O'Dell Family
- 77 Clackamas Pomona Grange
- 87 Spencer Creek Grange
- 91 Walterville Grange
- 93 Mohawk-McKenzie Grange
- 99 Maureen Weathers
- 100 Hurricane Creek Grange
- 108 Beaver Homes Grange
- 117 Warner Grange
- 120 Garfield Grange
- 123 Paula Herrick
- 125 OSG Lecturer's Committee
- 130 Springwater Grange

SECRETARY



Sarah Jenkins (Kingsborough)

Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your nomination of Secretary of the Oregon State Grange. It has been my pleasure to serve our members as Secretary since 2016. My participation during the annual state session and our regular Executive Committee meetings keeps me close to the pulse of local community Granges throughout the state.

We've all had a tough couple of years, but I am excited about new opportunities in the months and years to come. I believe in the value that our organization provides to individuals and families. It is my goal to continue providing leadership, advice, ideas, and encouragement to our members. I encourage all members to bring your best self to Grange and the community. When we involve and uplift others, our Granges will grow and provide those positive personal connections that we all so desperately need right now in our communities.

Fraternally,
Sarah Jenkins (Kingsborough)
Warner Grange #117
Clackamas County
Mohawk-McKenzie Grange #747
Lane County
Brownsville, Oregon

TREASURER



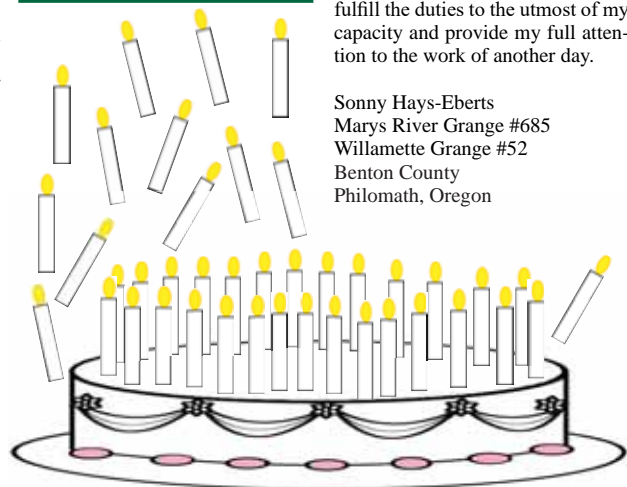
Sonny Hays-Eberts

I am Sonny Hays-Eberts of Marys River Grange #685, located in Philomath, Benton County, and am running for the office of Oregon State Grange Treasurer for a second term. While I did not accomplish all I sought out when initially elected, I hope I have served the capacity of the office honorably.

I have worked on the State Grange budget, visited Community Granges, been contacted by Community Granges seeking fundraising advice and formation of non-profit foundations, started work on outlining electronic payment of dues for Community Granges and held basic talks with the state President regarding electronic transfers between Community Granges and the State Grange, and I have also had the unpleasant but necessary task of chairing a committee investigating a Community Grange's finances and member concerns.

I have addressed this work with an open mind, friendly attitude, a desire to do the right thing, the intent to do quality work, and to complete it in a timely manner. I have worked with State Officers and Grangers across the State of Oregon, and regardless of our minor differences in politics, religion or sports teams, feel a true bond of Grange fraternity with all our members. I am happy to be nominated again and I accept. Should I be re-elected, I pledge to fulfill the duties to the utmost of my capacity and provide my full attention to the work of another day.

Sonny Hays-Eberts
Marys River Grange #685
Willamette Grange #52
Benton County
Philomath, Oregon



- 140 Carol Everman
- 148 Irving Grange

- 149 Jay Sexton/Toni Hoyman
- 150 Mark & Susan Noah

GATEKEEPER


Richard McDonnell

My name is Richard McDonnell. I moved to La Pine in 2011. Soon after that I joined the Grange. In the second year of my membership, I was elected the Treasure. I think it was before the next election it was voted on to combine Secretary/Treasurer. I have held the combined office ever since.

I was born and raised in Baltimore Maryland and moved here from 33 years in Tennessee. I never heard of a Grange before moving here.

I started volunteering in high school at a Vol. Fire Dept. in 1958. Here in Oregon besides the Grange I have Volunteered in La Pine for the Library-Community Kitchen - Senior Center and various programs that help the citizens of La Pine. I have been retired since 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. McDonnell
Little Deschutes Grange #939
Deschutes County
La Pine, Oregon



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your confidence but I am not a candidate for Oregon State Grange Overseer or any other elective office.

Fraternally,
Carol Everman

GATEKEEPER



Patrick Dearth

I am honored to accept the nomination for State Gatekeeper.

I am beginning my third term as Master/President of Creswell Grange #496, and previously served as Lecturer for two years. I am proud that our Grange has been recognized as a National Distinguished Grange the past three years.

I am an affiliate member at Crow Grange #450 and have served as Steward for three years.

I am Steward of Lane Pomona Grange #14, having been elected to complete Malcolm Trupp's term. Before that I served as Gatekeeper.

I was Creswell's delegate at four state conventions and served as District 2 Community Service Chair for two years.

A 24-year Navy veteran, I served nine tours of duty in the Middle East.

Patrick Dearth
Creswell Grange #496
Crow Grange #450
Lane County
Lorane, Oregon

GATEKEEPER



David McBride

It is indeed an honor to be nominated to serve as an officer for the Oregon State Grange.

I am a member of Hurricane Creek Grange #608. I live near the city of Enterprise in Wallowa County Oregon. In my Community Grange, I have served as Overseer, Master, and currently am serving as Treasurer. I am Master of Wallowa Pomona #22, Oregon State Grange Membership Committee Director, and I am the District 6 representative to the OSG Foundation.

My wife and I enjoy attending State Grange Conventions, and I would be proud to serve as Gatekeeper - working with Deputies to guard the entrances to the State Session, greeting those in attendance, and distributing handouts and materials provided by the Progress Committee.

David McBride
Hurricane Creek Grange #608
Wallowa County
Enterprise, Oregon

CERES



Jessie Jo Guttridge

Brothers and Sisters,

It is an honor to accept your nomination for Ceres of the Oregon State Grange.

I am a member of Springwater Grange #263, where I serve as Overseer and the Youth Chairman. I also serve as the Pomona for Clackamas Pomona #1. I have served as the National Youth Ceres twice and last year as Chaplain. I was honored to be the 2018-2019 State Youth Ambassador for Oregon as well as the 2021 State Youth Secretary.

The Grange has helped make me who I am today, and I would be honored and privileged to be allowed to serve as your State Ceres.

Thank you for your nomination.

Jessie Jo Guttridge
Springwater Grange #263
Clackamas County
Estacada, Oregon

Grange Growth Summit March 25-27 at Sunnyside Grange in Clackamas County - Have You Made Your Plans?

Nearby Hotels

- Clarion Inn and Suites
9717 SE Sunnyside Rd.
503-654-1699
- Sunnyside Inn and Suites
12855 SE 97th Ave.
503-652-1500
- Monarch Hotel and Conference Center
12566 SE 93rd Ave.
503-652-1515
- Hampton Inn
9040 SE Adams
503-655-7900
- Comfort Suites
15929 SE McKinley Ave.
503-723-3450

All are located in Clackamas

Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership/Leadership Director, will be at Sunnyside Grange, 13139 SE Sunnyside Rd, Clackamas, Friday evening March 25 through noon Sunday March 27 for Oregon's Grange Growth Summit.

The fee for the Summit will be: \$25 per member or \$40 for two members from the same Grange, additional members from a Grange will be charged \$15 each.

Five meals will be served, Friday

dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast.

Friday's dinner at 5:30 with conference to start at 6:30. Breakfast will be at 8 am both Saturday and Sunday with the conference following.

Grange Growth Summit Registration ~ March 25-27, 2022 ~ Sunnyside Grange

Grange Name & # _____

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Person #1 Name _____ | @ \$25.00 |
| Email _____ Phone _____ | |
| Person #2 _____ | @ \$15.00 |
| Email _____ Phone _____ | |
| Person #3 _____ | @ \$15.00 |
| Email _____ Phone _____ | |
| Person #4 _____ | @ \$15.00 |
| Email _____ Phone _____ | |
| Total _____ | |

Registration deadline: March 15 or as soon as possible

Enclose check made out to the Oregon State Grange to reserve your spots. Preregistration required.

Mail to: **OSG, 643 Union St NE, Salem OR 97301**

FLORA**Sandi Ludi**

Brothers and Sisters of the Oregon State Grange:

It has been an honor and a privilege serving as Flora of the Oregon State Grange this past term. Many thanks to those who have supported and put their trust in me. I take the responsibility of the office seriously. The conferral of the Sixth degree is beautiful when done with grace and dignity. If elected to another term I will continue to strive to the best of my ability.

Fraternally,
Sandi Ludi
Sunnyside Grange #842
Clackamas County
Sandy, Oregon

POMONA**Linda Helm**

Linda Helm
Phoenix Grange #779
Central Point #698
Jackson County
Medford, Oregon

2021 National Grange Policy Statements

In this issue there are several of the National Grange Policy Statements adopted at the 155th Annual Convention of the National Grange held in November 2021.

If your Grange wants to change or strengthen the policy now is the time to write resolutions. The deadline for submitting resolution for consideration at the Oregon State Grange Convention in June is April 20th for Community Granges

2021 National Grange Education Policy StatementBalanced Approach

The purpose of education is to open the minds of people to the world around them, to the lessons of the past, and the possibilities of the future. An understanding of the past and how it has shaped our present and future is a part of education that is too often neglected.

We encourage school systems and all students to put the same emphasis on the possibility of exploring vocational training as well as college preparation.

Current events have highlighted the need for local school systems to have standard tools for virtual learning, especially with regard to economically challenged students. Granges should explore the possibilities of working with their school systems to make Grange Halls available as Wi-Fi hotspots, and work with other groups that might provide financial assistance to this initiative.

We support 'K-12 Bridge to Broadband', a collaboration including the non-profit group 'Education Superhighway' and NTCA, The Rural Broadband Association. This is a national effort to connect more students for remote and hybrid learning.

Loans and Aid

Many teachers and mental health

2021 National Grange Conservation Policy Statement

We encourage the responsible stewardship of our natural resources from all who own or use them. We define responsible Stewardship as a balance between use, preservation, and the environmental standards appropriate to the regional needs. Our organization has been a strong advocate for land stewardship. We believe that protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources are vital. We further believe that education of the public regarding the importance of our natural resources is an absolute necessity. We support current federal guidelines on the control of air and water quality.

The National Grange should continue to advocate for conservation programs. These programs should encourage farmers to operate in an environmentally sound manner, focusing on scientific and technical assistance, research, education, loans, and cost-share programs.

Climate change is receiving attention not only in our nation, but across the globe. The National Grange understands agriculture is a part of the total picture on climate change and the efforts to accomplish Net-Zero greenhouse emissions in the United States. We demand American Agricultural Data, rather than worldwide data, be used to provide a more ac-

counselors undertook their career education under the auspices of federal programs that offered student loan forgiveness if specific conditions were met. However, these programs have sometimes been administered in a capricious and uneven manner, leaving many who followed the rules in good faith with unexpected, significant debt. We believe this is a situation that calls for reason and compassion on the part of the program administrators.

The cost of education continues to increase and student debt is now the second largest category of consumer debt overall in the U.S. Targeted forgiveness programs for federal student loans can offer relief to some students and needed support for some sectors of the labor market. We favor such targeted loan forgiveness programs with specific requirements. However, we do not support blanket loan forgiveness.

Since the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 and the 1946 George-Barden Act, focused federal aid for agricultural, industrial, and home economics training for high school students, our federal government has to some degree had a hand in funding public education. Thus, the funding of public education has become a partnership between federal and state/local, but we reaffirm the importance of state and local control.

curate picture of greenhouse emissions in our nation and that consistent sources of data be used. The National Grange supports the use of Best Management Practices and any mandates on agriculture in regard to reducing emissions be accompanied with economic incentives to lower the impact on our agricultural producers.

We recognize that plastic and other non-biodegradable materials are a significant environmental nuisance. The National Grange supports legislation that will promote the use of shorter life plastic and biologically degradable materials.

The National Grange recognizes the unique role agriculture plays in land and environmental management. The National Grange supports transparent disclosure of details of any environmental testing and/or modifications being conducted by any governmental agency. We advocate for greater flexibility in the interpretation of environmental laws to allow for traditional land uses taking into consideration varying environmental situations across the country and encourage agricultural producers to engage in best management practices in all aspects of their operations.

The National Grange supports coor-

Private providers of higher education are major recipients of federal financial aid and should be held accountable for their academic standards and advertised employment outcomes. We are opposed to any weakening of regulation of private education providers.

Mental Health and Safety

Many social problems in schools arise from bullying, feelings of disenfranchisement and isolation among at-risk students. Schools must find ways to increase the availability of counseling for all students, and proactively engage with marginalized and at-risk young people. We strongly encourage Grange members nationwide to play an active role in their local school systems and communities. It is essential for our members to invest in our children's education through volunteering.

Special Needs

Great technological strides have been made in the creation of assistive devices for the hearing impaired, but not all are widely known. We encourage state and subordinate Granges to educate their members and their surrounding communities about the availability of such devices under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

dination among Federal, State and Local Governments when developing land use management plans. We urge Congress to include voluntary incentive-based assistance for conservation practices by farmers, ranchers, foresters, developers, and landowners in future Farm Bills, which will maintain a commitment to conservation. In that light, we also urge USDA to ensure that they use only scientifically based research when crafting regulations to implement the conservation portions of the Farm Bill. The optimum result should be that the environment be protected with the least amount of prime, productive farmland taken out of production.

Waters of the United States has emerged again through court rulings, which has the potential to overreach into our farms as it did before. The National Grange will continue to monitor for developments as they occur.

Food waste is a problem to be addressed as approximately half of the food grown in the country is thrown away without being consumed. Environmentalists are concerned because the decay of food in landfills release methane into the air. The Grange should be involved in efforts to reduce food waste while at the same time helping the environment.

EX. COMM. POSITION #1

EX. COMM. POSITION #1

EX. COMM. POSITION #2

EX. COMM. POSITION #2



John Fine

Brothers and Sisters,

It is with profound appreciation that I accept your nomination for Oregon State Grange Executive Committee position #1. Throughout my over 50 years of membership in the Grange, it has been my purpose to be of service to the organization and specifically the members. It has been truly a privilege to serve as a member of the Executive Committee this last term and I look forward to be of further service.

The power of the Grange does not rest with the officers but is entrusted to the individual community Grange members. My goal is that you will be pleased with my endeavor to be of service to each of you.

The Grange still encounters several challenges as we embark on a new period in the evolution of the organization. The solutions to these challenges will require a concerted effort of all. Each one of the members is vital to the growth and prosperity of the organization. Challenges are provided to us by our God to test our abilities and to direct our assessment for the future. I believe that I am better prepared to continue your work in the next year because of these challenges.

I am grateful for all your continued support and prayers.

John M. Fine
Riversdale Grange #731
Douglas County
Roseburg, Oregon



Susan Noah

Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your nominations for the office of the Executive Committee. I have thoroughly enjoyed my years as the President of the Oregon State Grange and while I am ready to retire from the everyday job of running our great organization, I feel that I still have skills and ability to offer in another capacity. One of the main jobs of the Executive Committee is to oversee our finances and invested funds. I feel that my career in accounting and my dedication to all levels of the Grange uniquely prepares me for this oversight.

During my term as the President, I was able to rely on several past State Presidents and I hope to provide this support for our new President. Thank you again for your past and continued support.

Fraternally,
Susan Noah,
Mohawk-McKenzie Grange #747
Lane County
Springfield, Oregon



Celia Fox

It is an honor to be nominated for the position of Oregon State Grange Executive Committee #2. I am a member of the Boring-Damascus Grange #260 located in Clackamas County and live just outside of Sandy. I have had an opportunity to serve on the State Grange Executive Committee twice before as State Secretary, and more recently as State Overseer. I am aware of the important responsibilities of this committee and the difficult decisions that are sometimes required.

I feel your State Grange Executive Committee not only represents the wishes of the membership, but they also are there to ensure that the Grange organization itself continues to prosper and grow into the future.

Celia Fox
Boring Damascus Grange #256
Sunnyside Grange #842
Clackamas County
Sandy, Oregon



Sam Keator

First, I was very surprised and honored to be nominated for the office of President, but I feel that if elected by the delegates this summer, I would accept the position of the Executive Committee #2 and serve you.

I have been so honored and privileged to work with and learn from John Fine and Louise Holst (which all three of us have not missed a meeting in the past four year's). And in Hope, we will help the changing Board with consistency!

Again, if the delegates at the State session this summer elect me to the Executive position #2, I will serve to the best of my abilities.

Fraternally to you,
Samuel Keator
Winona Grange #271
Washington County
Tualatin, Oregon

Changing Oregon State Grange Districts Purposed

At the July 12, 2021 Oregon State Grange Executive Committee meeting it was voted to propose the following changes to our current district map:

- Jefferson County would join District #4
- Deschutes County and the Northern section of Lake County would join District #2
- Klamath County and the Southern section of Lake County would join District #1
- Crook County (currently no Granges are within this county) would become part of the current District #6, which would then be re-numbered District #5.

This would also require the restructur-

ing of Deschutes Pomona. Suggestions have been made as follows:

- The Deschutes Pomona would revert back to Deschutes County and the Northern part of Lake County.
- Jefferson County could remain part of Deschutes Pomona, form a new Pomona with Wasco County, or Wasco and Hood River Counties or become unaffiliated.
- Klamath County could join with Jackson Pomona or form a new Pomona of Klamath and Southern Lake County or become unaffiliated.
- Southern Lake County Granges could join with Klamath and form a new Pomona, or go with Klamath to Jackson and become a part of the Jackson Pomona, or become unaffiliated.

As most Oregon members know,

District #5 has been shrinking down to the current level of nine Granges throughout most of the middle of the state. This has put an increasing burden on them for hosting our State Convention and for maintaining district chairs in each of the Standing Committees.

The idea of changing the district boundaries has been discussed for some time. Under this proposed plan Oregon would end up with five districts so all committees would also be reduced to five District chairs and one Director, and of course the convention hosting duties would revolve between five districts instead of six. Districts #1, #2, #3 and #4 will keep the same number and District #6 will change to District #5.

There will be the Executive Committee's recommendation and/or possible other suggested reconfiguration at the Oregon State Grange Convention in Talent in June for the delegates to vote on.



**EX. COMM.
POSITION #3****Louise Holst**

Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your nominations for Position #3 Executive Committee member. This process of elections allows each Grange and each member an opportunity to be involved in the selection of our state officers.

I have enjoyed serving our state Grange in this capacity. The executive committee meetings are held every quarter as we help conduct the business of our state Grange in between annual sessions. The minutes are printed in our Bulletin for you to read.

I am hoping by now each Grange has moved through the worst of the COVID times and are back meeting in person or maybe even hybrid meetings to get more of your members involved. We must continue our meetings to keep our Granges strong.

Fraternally,
Louise Host
Midland Grange #781
Klamath County
Klamath Falls, Oregon

**2021 National Grange Agriculture Policy Statement**

Agriculture is, as always, a foundation of America's economy, providing directly or indirectly through value-added processing, and is currently approximately 5.2% (\$1.109 Trillion) of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP). For over 150 years, the National Grange has been working to improve agriculture in America and the welfare of those who work the soil or care for the creatures of the field. Our roots are in agriculture, and our future is tied to our faith in the perennial cycle of planting and harvest.

Conservation of our soil, water and air quality remains a priority for the Grange, keeping in mind that all pertinent regulations should reflect local conditions. A key component of the future security of our water supply for both domestic and agricultural uses is the ability to store it. Challenges from environmental groups and climate change have brought progress in that area to a standstill. The National Grange will continue to promote water storage projects that benefit agricultural and domestic needs while appropriately safeguarding fish and wildlife safety concerns. The Grange opposes the expansion of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) current authority to regulate our water supply. We oppose proposed changes to expand the definition of Waters of the United States (WOTUS). We believe that the US Army Corps of Engineers should have jurisdiction only over navigable waters, as defined in the 1972 Clean Water Act, and non-navigable waters should be subject only to state Department of Natural Resources & Natural Resources Districts regulations.

Agricultural producers have been leaders in protecting the environment. The National Grange urges Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) agencies to implement Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs). Good soil health, including proper nutrient management, is a priority, and we encourage all farmers to develop and follow a Nutrient Management Plan to ensure that no more nutrients are ap-

2021 NG Citizenship and Taxation Policy Statement

The National Grange supports Broadband internet service for all areas of the United States. Work should continue updating service maps, which have proved an obstacle to connectivity, and utilizing the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund and encourage private enterprise cooperation to obtain high speed internet for every family.

The National Grange applauds the enactment of the 2021 Infrastructure and Jobs Acts and supports the \$65 billion allocation for broadband deployment. However, we must continue our fight to

planned than are needed to grow the crop. As computer technology becomes more integral to farming and the equipment used, we encourage the use of precision agricultural technologies to benefit the environment and improve farm operational efficiency. The National Grange should engage in public relations efforts to showcase the work and leadership of farmers and ranchers in adapting to and utilizing best management practices. We support the research and development of alternative fuel sources for agricultural use that will help to reduce greenhouse gases.

The National Grange encourages the USDA and State Departments of Agriculture to continue programs like the Farmers to Families Food Box Program. These programs enabled the purchase of foods that would have potentially been destroyed. The National Grange recognizes that other additional challenges facing producers is the fluctuation in commodity prices coupled with ever-rising cost of inputs and the yearly increases in property taxes. We will continue to work on solutions to help minimize their impact on the agriculture sector.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic we realized the need for local processing of our food supplies of beef, pork, poultry and dairy. More regional or local processing would have helped offset the devastating losses caused by the shutdown of large food processing plants. Closing down one plant, even for a few weeks, backs up production across the country, crashes prices paid to farmers and leads to huge surpluses at the farm and severe meat shortages for the consumer.

The National Grange continues to monitor issues concerning GMO-related food production and labeling.

We endorse the recommendations of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation titled "Gene Editing for the Climate: Biological

protect family farms, ranches and businesses from over-regulation, government control that will inhibit operations and devastating changes in the Federal Tax Code.

The importance of retaining a Tax-Exempt Status for all qualified Granges must be maintained. We encourage the National Grange to provide State Granges with information via electronic or paper communications of filing procedures for the necessary 990N form.

The National Grange recommends

Solutions for Curbing Greenhouse Emissions, concludes with a set of policy recommendations urging governments around the world to accelerate the development and deployment of gene-edited climate solutions by acting to:

1. Eliminate unscientific regulatory burdens and barriers that hinder the development of safe gene-edited products.
2. Increase investment in research and development (R&D) priorities such as advancing CRISPR tools, enhancing photosynthesis, and improving methods to measure soil carbon.
3. Improve coordination of existing R&D efforts within the United States and around the world.
4. Expand incentives that will spur the rapid adoption of novel gene-edited technologies.

The National Grange supports voluntary labeling of Genetically Modified products. We further request that the National Grange Legislative Director share the latest reliable research on this subject with State Granges on a continual basis. As consumers become more concerned about where and how their food is produced, the National Organic Program (NOP) has become more popular. The National Grange supports the continued growth and federal support for the NOP, in order to meet the increasing consumer demand for organic food products.

Support for Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) is a long-standing position of the National Grange and is favored by consumers. We support food labeling programs that provide clear information about country of origin and processing, so that consumers can make informed choices about the food they feed their families. We believe that a food that is labeled Product of the USA shall be both grown and processed in the USA.

Continue on page 8

that people charged with vandalizing or destroying historical landmarks and monuments be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

The National Grange urge local and State Granges to strive for social and racial justice, equality and compassion in human relations by initiating open public meetings in collaboration with other local and State organizations fighting against social injustice and harsh racial practices. The National Grange condemns all racially motivated acts of hate and violence.

2021 National Grange Agriculture Policy Statement *continued from page 7*

Food safety continues to be a significant issue for Americans in light of the ever-increasing amount of our food that is imported. We believe the responsibility for all food safety inspection should fall under one federal agency, preferably the US Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The Growing Climate Solutions Act would create a USDA system for certifying third-party verifiers and technical assistance providers. Farmers and ranchers could receive assistance and incentives for implementing practices which reduce carbon emissions on their operations. In addition, they could sell excess carbon credits to commercial firms who exceed their carbon emission cap.

Healthy pollinator's populations are critical to food production in the US. We are pleased that the USDA has information available to assist first-time beekeepers in learning how to begin production. The National Grange supports ongoing efforts to preserve proven pollinators health practices, while identifying new pesticide crop treatments that are not harmful to pollinator's populations. Although Neonicotinoids are a critical component of seed treatments, their misuse via over-the-counter products has resulted in their increasing presence in water and wetlands. Their toxic effect on pollinator's populations has reached the point where we feel it is time to consider designating Neonicotinoids as a restricted use pesticide. We support additional education efforts designed to inform producers as to the toxic nature of Neonicotinoids that are present in treated seeds and the positive aspects of having untreated seeds available for planting.

The use of drone or UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) technology is rapidly becoming an important tool for agricultural production. However, privacy concerns have arisen as drones have become more popular. The National Grange supports the implementation of developed FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) regulations governing the use of drones, and will continue to work with USDA, FAA and other agricultural organizations to address issues related to drone use as they pertain to agriculture.

The National Grange continues to support extensive research by our Land Grant Colleges and Universities into both short-term and long-term effects on the environment and on human nutrition, of all new crops, whether Genetically Modified or traditionally bred. One of the major issues facing animal agriculture in our country are the efforts by certain "Animal Rights" groups to define "Humane Treatment" of animals. The National Grange should

work together with other like-minded groups, to ensure that sound science is used in determining humane treatment of animals. The National Grange strongly supports agricultural education at all levels, including agriculture science as well as Cooperative Extension Service, and encourages the partnership between 4-H, FFA and Cooperative Extension Service to draw on and develop leadership abilities. Adequate funding of Extension must be continued and increased if we wish to ensure the availability of innovative practices and new tools beneficial to agriculture and society. We support educational programs, such as Farm to Table or Farm to School, that teach the importance of proper diet and nutrition. It is more critical now than ever to help consumers understand the basic food system, where their food comes from, and what, if any, genetic alteration was integral to its development. It is vital that we encourage the younger generation to enter into farming. We support programs or policies that will enhance the ability of young farmers to be successful as they pursue production agriculture as an occupation. Opportunities exist to expand agricultural tourism as an additional source of income for farm families. The National Grange urges government at all levels to remove unnecessary laws and regulations and work to pass legislation to limit liability exposure that hampers the expansion of agricultural tourism. As production agriculture becomes more dependent on computer technology, access to high-speed internet has become critical to farming and marketing activities. High-speed internet access is also critical to the agricultural operations that desperately need it to enable their high-tech precision farming equipment that is used to grow crops using less water, seed, fertilizer and pesticides. The National Grange strongly supports expanded funding efforts necessary to develop high-speed internet access in rural area that are currently under-served.

The 2018 Farm Bill provided additional funding to help close the existing gap between feed costs and average milk prices. This, along with restructured premium rates, benefitted small-to-medium sized dairy producers. The National Grange also appreciates the establishment of a new Foot and Mouth vaccine bank. These improvements and other provisions designed to provide equitable treatment for all commodities on all farm sizes in all regions of the country need to continue to be addressed. The National Grange also strongly supports retaining adequate levels of financial support for the USDA Risk Management Division and the Federal Crop Insurance Program (FCIP), so that coverages accurately reflect cost of production and provides ad-

equate price protection; yet ensure that premiums remain affordable. Disaster Relief programs are also a critical component of farm income safety nets. We also strongly urge that provisions are made to adequately address the needs for a reliable source of seasonal as well as year-round farm labor. Bills have been introduced, but none have been able to advance through Congress. This lack of action has been frustrating because the need for an affordable and adequate work force remains a critical agriculture issue. While many issues were resolved by the 2018 Farm Bill, plenty of challenges still remain to be addressed like more mental health programs for production agricultural workers. We suggest work begin soon on a new Farm Bill.

The National Grange continues to support the principle that only those foods from mammalian sources should be allowed to use the term "milk." The FDA (Food and Drug Administration) should not allow the labeling of nutritionally-inferior plant or artificial substitutes as "milk," "yogurt" or "cheese". The USDA must retain the authority to regulate the emergence of the efforts to grow cultured protein ("meat") in a laboratory setting. The Grange supports the principle that the term "meat" can only be used to describe animal protein derived from harvested production livestock, poultry, seafood or wild-life, wild or domestic. We firmly support the clear and accurate labeling of all non-meat alternatives to reduce consumer confusion at the market shelf.

Small farm operations have dwindled over the last 50 years and small farms and farmers fail when bureaucracy and regulations become burdensome. The United States Department of Agriculture classifies a small farm to have \$350,000 or less of gross income per year and a demographic of farm operators exist where a more realistic annual income for them is \$150,000 per year. We encourage the USDA to reevaluate the income threshold levels for the classification of small, medium and large farm operations and if necessary, adjust them to be more reflective of the range of income levels in the agriculture sector. Milk prices to the farmer have con-

tinued to drop over the past 20 years, while production costs have continued to climb. The Grange must continue to work to educate consumers on the positive qualities of whole milk and lowering the unacceptable level of waste of our food that currently occurs on a daily basis in this country. Education efforts such as these will lead to more demand for our domestically-produced milk, thus leading to higher prices for our producers and less waste of food will make more available for government-assistance food programs.

Food security includes everyone having enough to eat of course, but it also involves farmers earning enough to stay in business; government not overregulating normal agricultural practices; advancements in scientific research and reliance on sound science not popular opinion. It includes reducing food waste, preparing for, and adapting to climate change, water and soil conservation, and animal welfare. Food security was identified by National Grange delegates several years ago as a top priority and it will continue to be a focus in the coming years.

Individual incomes in developing countries are rising, leading to changes in diet that will increase demands on the world's food supply even as population growth adds its inevitable impact. The National Grange supports new and progressive trade pacts that lower trade barriers and promote fair trade. Farmers prefer fair trade for their products rather than government payments.

Cooperative nonpartisan effort is the "Grange way," and an understanding of the direct relationship between science and the natural world. The words written by National Master Oliver Wilson in 1919 are appropriate today, in that the time has come to simply classify agriculture as one of the great industries that make up our economic structure, and the need to treat agriculture as a vital part of that structure. Over one hundred years later we are still facing the same struggle, still selling products at less than the cost of production. We have the choice- pay the farmer a fair price or import our food. "No nation can prosper whose agriculture deteriorates."

Your Name: _____ **Moving? Let Us Know.**

Old Address: _____ **New Address:** _____

City/State/Zip: _____ **City/State/Zip:** _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Grange Name/Number: _____

Please provide name of any Subordinate/Community Grange office/Committee Chairman positions currently held.

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gbulletin@orgrange.org