

2018 Grange Ritual Contest

Can you crack the Grange code? If so, you can present your skills at the National Grange Session and test your skills against other Grangers from across the country.

You can obtain a copy of the code book and the cipher by request from the Assembly of Demeter, High Priest Bruce Croucher, 2514 County Road 25, Clifton Springs, NY 14432, (315) 462-3067, or croubr@ftg.net. Or, you can contact your state master or state youth director for additional information.

The winners of the contest will have to recite a portion of the opening ceremonies during the Evening of Excellence. Participants will be judged in their oral presentation of the code. There will be two categories:

Novice – for beginners learning the code (can compete in contest for up to 2 years.) Novice contest winners will advance to the Patron Contest next year.

Patron – for members with two or more year's experience.

The judge(s) will be selected by the High Priest, Assembly of Demeter, certified and able to issue the Award of Merit code reading card to qualifying members.

Novice contest

Novice contestants will present to the judge the following items from the code book: The Use of the Gavel, Degree Words (1st-4th) Annual Password, Voting Sign, Sign (1st-4th) and Patrons Grip. Novice contest winners will have to compete in the Patron Contest next year.

Patron contest

The Patron contest is designed to follow the code reading Award of Merit card requirements.

From Section I, contestants must read:

1. Opening page 2-3
2. The Use of The Gavel page 5
3. Salutations for all Degrees page 7
4. Password At Outer Gate page 8
5. Degree Words ----- 1st Degree page 9
6. Degree Words ----- 2nd Degree page 13
7. Degree Words ----- 3rd Degree page 15
8. Degree Words ----- 4th Degree page 17
9. Annual Word page 19
10. Voting Sign page 19

From the Section II, they must read:

1. Passing To Different Degrees page 4-5
2. Signals at the Inner Gate page 6-7

3. Signal At Outer Gate ----- 1st Degree page 8
4. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 1st Degree page 8
5. Sign ----- 1st Degree page 9
6. Salutation ----- 1st Degree page 10
7. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 2nd Degree page 13
8. Sign ----- 2nd Degree page 14
9. Salutation ----- 2nd Degree page 14
10. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 3rd Degree page 15
11. Sign ----- 3rd Degree page 16
12. Salutation ----- 3rd Degree page 16
13. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 4th Degree page 17
14. Sign ----- 4th Degree page 18
15. Salutation ----- 4th Degree page 18

Contestants select two of the elements in Section III to compete.

1. Sign of Caution page 10-11
2. Sign of Distress page 11
3. Patrons General Sign page 12
4. Sign of Recognition page 20-21
5. Patrons Grip page 22
6. Patrons Test page 23-24

In case of a tie, the judge can select another portion for the contestants to read to break a tie.

The guidelines for earning an Award of Merit Card are on the following page.

Code Book Reading Award of Merit

Note: Participant may elect to read the entire code book. In electing this option, the participant will be allowed five mistakes

SECTION I:

1. Opening page 2-3
 2. The Use of the Gavel page 5
 3. Salutations for all Degrees page 7
 4. Password at Outer Gate page 8
 5. Degree Words ----- 1st Degree page 9
 6. Degree Words ----- 2nd Degree page 13
 7. Degree Words ----- 3rd Degree page 15
 8. Degree Words ----- 4th Degree page 17
 9. Annual Word page 19
 10. Voting Sign page 19
- (Participant cannot make a mistake within Section I.)*

SECTION II:

11. Passing To Different Degrees page 4-5
12. Signals at the Inner Gate page 6-7
13. Signal At Outer Gate ----- 1st Degree page 8
14. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 1st Degree page 8
15. Sign ----- 1st Degree page 9
16. Salutation ----- 1st Degree page 10
17. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 2nd Degree page 13
18. Sign ----- 2nd Degree page 14
19. Salutation ----- 2nd Degree page 14
20. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 3rd Degree page 15
21. Sign ----- 3rd Degree page 16
22. Salutation ----- 3rd Degree page 16
23. Signal At Inner Gate ----- 4th Degree page 17
24. Sign ----- 4th Degree page 18
25. Salutation ----- 4th Degree page 18

In addition to the above, participant must select two of the following six options in completing Section II.

1. Sign of Caution page 10-11
2. Sign of Distress page 11
3. Patrons General Sign page 12
4. Sign of Recognition page 20-21
5. Patrons Grip page 22
6. Patrons Test page 23-24

(Participant is allowed three mistakes within Section II)