



Oregon State Grange BULLETIN

Election Issue

March 2026

News About the Grange

Volume 126 No. 1-a

Candidate Statements For 2026-28 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/President and Secretary as well as the seal of the Grange and number of members present at the meeting 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

Susan Noah



Brothers and Sisters,

I have had the privilege of serving the Grange in a variety of roles, including the past two years on the Executive Committee, during which I have consistently attended meetings and worked to advance the best interests of our organization. After careful consideration, I

have decided to seek the office of President once again.

Over the past four years, my continued service on the Executive Committee has allowed me to remain actively engaged with the Oregon State Grange. Serving alongside Brother Jay Sexton and our current Worthy President, Brother Sonny Hays Eberts, has strengthened my commitment to the Grange and provided valuable perspective. If elected, I look forward to continuing the effective practices and policies established under Brother Sonny's leadership and supporting continued growth of the Oregon State Grange.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

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

VICE PRESIDENT

Georgene Barragan



Brothers and Sisters,

I am honored to be nominated for Vice President of the Oregon State Grange and want to thank you for the opportunity.

My husband and I are members of the Beavercreek Grange #276. I currently hold the position of Lecturer and the Legislative Chairper-

son for our Grange. I have been a Grange member for 20 years. I have held several positions at the subordinate level; Steward, Overseer, Master, Pomona, and Secretary. I also served as Overseer of our Clackamas County Pomona.

I currently serve on the Budget, Legislative, and DAFH Committees of the Oregon State Grange.

I feel active and involved membership is crucial for our Organization, we need to continue to grow and educate our new members, because they are our future.

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

Fraternally,
Georgene Barragan
Beavercreek Grange #276
Frogpond Grange #111
Milwaukie, Oregon
Clackamas County

Jesse James O'Dell

Brothers and Sister

It's an honor to accept the nomination for Vice President of the Oregon State Grange.

I have been a Grange member for over 20 years. I currently serve as Overseer of Santiam Valley Grange and Master at Linn County Pomona, and serve on the Foundation. I have had the opportunity of helping Granges that needed guidance and advice. I believe that being Vice President would allow me to use the knowledge have and an opportunity to increase my knowledge of the inner workings of the State Grange.

Thank you for the nomination and I look forward to serving as Vice President to the best of my abilities.



Fraternally,
Jesse James O'Dell
Santiam Valley Grange #828
Linn County
Stayton, OR

Inside

2026-28 State Officer	National Grange Policy Statements
Candidate Statements 1 - 5	AG 6
AG Fest 7	Audit and Budget 7
Upcoming Pomona Meetings 2	Citizenship/Taxation 8
	Conservation 6
	Education and Health 3
	Grange Growth 8
	Grange Law 5
	Labor, Judiciary and Transportation 4

Bulletin Deadline

*June/July Issue
May 10, 2026*

2025 National Grange Policy Statements

In this issue there are several of the National Grange Policy Statements adopted at the 159th Annual Convention of the National Grange held in November 2025.

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 22nd for Community Granges.

LECTURER

Susie Kroeker



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you so much for nominating me to continue to serve as the Oregon State Grange Lecturer. The past two years have been a whirlwind of learning opportunities as I navigated the many responsibilities of the position. I have enjoyed participating with the other committee directors as we planned activities for our members, wrote an article for the Bulletin every other month, planned and oversaw the Lecturer's contests at State session, presented workshops throughout the state, and worked with our Lecturers and my committee to present informative, educational and inspirational content for the Lecturer's programs during our meetings. It has been a pleasure to serve. I am currently a member of Western Star #309. I live in Albany, Oregon in Linn County.

Susie Kroeker
Western Star Grange #309
Albany, Oregon
Linn County

ASSISTANT STEWARD

John Fine



Brothers and Sisters of the Oregon State Grange,

I feel a great feeling of honor to accept your nomination for Assistant Steward of the Oregon State Grange. Your confidence in my ability to serve you is very rewarding.

I have been a Grange member since I turned fourteen and have been provided many opportunities to serve this organization at the Community Grange, Pomona Grange, State Grange, and National Grange levels. Each opportunity is but another prospect to learn more about the membership which is the heart of the Grange.

Grange has been a very meaning part of my life for over 60 years and look forward to using that experience to serve each member if selected to serve another term.

John Fine
Riversdale Grange #731
Roseburg, OR
Douglas County

LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD

Stacy Brown



To my Grange Family,

Thank you for the nominations for Lady Assistant Steward. I have enjoyed my time serving as an Oregon State Grange officer and would be happy to continue serving the Grange in this way.

I take pride in the rituals and floor work we do at the state level and LAS is a position that exemplifies that. I hope you will choose to have me represent you once again as LAS for this up coming term.

Respectfully,
Stacy Brown
Forest Grove Grange #282
Washington County
Amity, OR
Yamhill County

CHAPLAIN

Cookie Trupp



Brothers and Sisters,

I gratefully accept the nomination to serve a second term as Chaplain of the Oregon State Grange. It is a privilege to continue in this meaningful role, sharing my faith and supporting our members. I find the position both inspirational and fulfilling, and I look forward to further contributing to our community. Thank you once again for considering me for this important office.

Cookie Trupp
Spencer Creek Grange #855
Eugene, OR
Lane County

STEWARD

No nominations were accepted for the office of Steward 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 Baker City in June.

UPCOMING POMONA GRANGE MEETINGS				
<i>Pomona Secretaries are to send in meeting information to the Bulletin Editor as soon as date, time, and location are determined and/or changed.</i>				
Pomona	Date	Time	Meeting Place	
Baker #24	May 2	10:30 AM	New Bridge Grange	
Benton #36	April 18	10:00 AM	Summitt Grange	
Clackamas #1	April 25	9:30 AM	Clarkes Grange	
Columbia #18	May 2	10:00 AM	Natal Grange	
Deschutes #25	May 9	11:30 AM	Little Deschutes Grange	
Douglas #13	April 19	4:00 PM	Riversdale Grange	
Josephine #20	May 30	10:00 AM	Fruitdale Grange	
Lane #14	April 11	10:00 AM	Spencer Creek Grange	
Linn #12	April 11	10:00 AM	Lacomb Grange	
Polk #3	April 11	11:00 AM	Oak Grove	
Wallowa #22		5:30 PM	TBA	
Washington-Yamhill #2	April 18	10:00 AM	Tigard	



**All Grangers are invited
OSG Legislative Forum
Zoom Meeting**

When: Wednesday March 25 @ 7 pm PDT
Wednesday April 22 @ 7 pm PDT
Where: Zoom

The OSG Legislative Committee will lead a discussion on current legislative issues, ballot measures and Grange resolution developing. The next few months Granges should be busy writing resolutions to be considered at state convention.

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



TREASURER

Sonny Hays-Eberts



Brothers and Sisters

I am a member of Marys River Grange #685 in Philomath in Benton County and am honored to accept your nomination for the office of Treasurer. I would be proud to continue serving the Oregon State Grange and feel the past two years have provided a solid foundation for understanding the Budget process. This position is more flexible and given the constraints I have spending time out of state, I feel I can meet the demands of this position and provide the necessary work it entails.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sonny Hays-Eberts
Marys River Grange #685
Philomath, OR
Benton County

SECRETARY

Mark Noah



No statement received for this publication.

Mark Noah
Mohawk-McKenzie Grange #747
Crow #450
Springfield, OR
Lane County

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 as required by Oregon State Grange Bylaws.

GATEKEEPER

Patrick Dearth



As the current Gatekeeper, I'm proud to have served on the Oregon state Grange. I would be proud to serve another two years as the Gatekeeper of Oregon state Grange.

My background is I'm a member of Creswell Grange #496 where I served as president for 6 years and am currently exe. officer #2.

I am also a member of Crow Grange #450 and I am the current President. I am a traditional granger and have 7 degrees. I love the work of the degrees and am always in awe when I see them performed. I am also the Stewart of the lane Pomona Grange and love the ritual of the 5th degree.

As a Granger I love putting on events and talking to the community about Grange and what we stand for, and trying to pass those beliefs on to others. I love to recruit folks into Grange.

Thank you for your consideration as the Gatekeeper of Oregon State Grange.

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

Billy Shield



I Billy Shield, am honored to accept the nomination of Oregon state Grange Gatekeeper. I am with Santiam Valley Grange #828 in Linn County. I have held the offices of Gatekeeper, and Assisted Steward in/at Santiam Valley. Being a Grange member has allowed me to meet people and other Grange members at the various events ie: Beakfasts, dinners, and Flea marts that are hosted by Grange(s).

Fraternally
Bill Shield
Santiam Valley Grange #828
Linn County
Lyons, OR

Orrin Schnetzky

No photo and statement received for this publication.

Orrin Schnetzky
Tigard Grange #148
Washington County
Tigard, OR

Education and Health Committee Policy Statement

The National Grange's mission is to strengthen individuals, families and communities through service, education, nonpartisan grassroots advocacy and agricultural awareness. This includes a commitment to protecting America's education and healthcare system.

Below are the main focuses that guide our approach to ensuring our membership has access to:

EDUCATION

- Fully fund rural education and teacher development programs, ensuring equitable access and modern resources for every school.
- Expand broadband-enabled learning, providing every student with the tools to learn from anywhere.
- Strengthen workforce development initiatives, including apprenticeships, trade education, and partnerships with local industries.
- Support rural colleges, agriculture universities, and scholarship programs that tie education to local opportunities and encourage

students to return home.

- Encourage legislators to introduce a student loan debt forgiveness program that will entice graduating medical students to work in a rural community for a set period of time.

HEALTH

- Encourage legislation to address healthcare in Rural America. Rural Healthcare is at a breaking point. Almost every rural health issue can be traced to one root problem: Lack of access. Rural hospitals closing, maternal health declining or even nonexistent, lack of specialty care physicians, and preventive care is not an option for rural America.
- Support legislation that eliminates the Inflation Reduction Act "Pill Penalty" to keep affordable oral treatments on the market.
- The Grange continues to support the 340b Program as it was intended to be managed and run. Offering discounted medications and charity care to the underserved communities in Rural America. 340b was not intended as a loophole for hospitals to in-

- crease profits.
- We will continue to be the voice in raising awareness about these disparities and inequities for rural residents related to healthcare access, affordability, and more. We will continue to partner with organizations to educate our members and the public about ways in which this gap can be closed.
- We urge Congress to ensure sustainable programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program. These programs are investments in the health, dignity, and productivity of our members.
- The Grange calls on Congress to pass legislation such as the Credit for Caring Act, which would benefit over 90 million Americans who are caregiving for their loved ones.
- We continue to advocate on behalf of our military veterans whose physical and mental health

- has been neglected for so long. Over 32,000 veterans (men and women) are classified as homeless. Let's get these veterans the support network that they need at the VA Hospitals to handle the overcrowded conditions.
- Mental health is a major concern of the Grange, not only does it affect veterans and seniors, but it is also a major concern in rural America. We need to continue to fund programs that address this national epidemic.
- Reform the Pharmacy Benefit Manger (PBM) practices to ensure transparency and prevent pricing manipulation that harms patients and hospitals.
- Invest in broadband expansion to ensure telehealth reaches every household, especially those in rural areas. Connectivity is essential to providing fast and needed healthcare that otherwise would not be accessible.

CERES

Ari Knight



It is exciting and ironic that I have been elected as this year's Ceres for the Willamette Grange and nominated as Ceres on the state level when I have chosen to go gluten-free. I love to discover and experiment with a wide variety of grains, testing recipes on my loved ones and fellow Grangers.

February marked one year since myself and my fiancé Tim were welcomed by the Grange community, after attending a Valentines' Dance at the Willamette Grange (and may I just say, we tore up the dance floor!) Tim and I enjoy the monthly wooden spoon carving gatherings at the Marys River Grange, and several times a month I practice baton-twirling with a class at the Fairmount Grange

Among many other art forms, I design crochet patterns and sew my own entirely compostable clothing. Now, I look forward to charging forth with my full creativity as Ceres for the Oregon State Grange!

Ari Knight
Willamette Grange #52
Benton County
Corvallis, Oregon

POMONA

Roberta O'Dell



Brothers and Sisters

I am honored to be nominated for Pomona of the Oregon State Grange and enjoyed serving as your Pomona for the past few years.

I have been an active Grange member for over 40 years. I am Master at the Santiam Valley Grange. I am also Lady Assistant Steward at Linn County Pomona.

Visiting Granges has given me the opportunity to meet with Grange members, discussing with them the challenges and successes they have had.

I have attended every State Grange Convention since I became a member.

Thank you for your nomination and if re-elected I will perform the duties of my office to the best of my abilities.

Fraternally,
Roberta O'Dell
Santiam Valley Grange #828
Linn County
Lyons, OR

FLORA

Jessie Jo Guttridge



Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for the honor of your nomination to continue serving as the Flora of the Oregon State Grange. Your trust and support that I will continue to uphold the office with grace and dignity means the world to me. I take the responsibilities of this office seriously, and I strive to continue to learn how to improve in my role as Flora.

Fraternally,
JessieJo Guttridge
Springwater Grange #263
Clackamas County
Estacada, Oregon

EX. COMM. POSITION #1

Linda Helm



Brothers and Sisters,

I proudly accept the nomination for Executive Committee #1. Each step in my Grange journey has given me a deeper understanding of the how and why we operate the organization.

I would love the opportunity as I go forward to learn and share this knowledge with my fellow Grangers.

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



Labor, Judiciary and Transportation Committee Policy Statement

LABOR

The National Grange supports the rights of employers and employees to thrive in an environment of prosperity and safety. We believe America's workforce deserves to earn a fair wage with adequate retirement benefits. We encourage the preservation of existing private and public pension benefits.

We support improved efficiency in agricultural guest worker programs for temporary and permanent workers.

JUDICIARY

The National Grange is a staunch defender of the U.S. Constitution and the rights and privileges it protects for all persons. The National Grange strives to support and

respect the hard work and bravery of the nation's first responders. We believe that elected officials should strive to put democracy above partisanship.

The National Grange believes citizens and elected officials are the appropriate individuals to adopt the laws by which we will be governed. Administrative agencies and other governing bodies should be prohibited from implementing regulations that dramatically impact our daily lives without periodic review by elected officials. We further oppose the use of eminent domain to take private property for private commercial use.

We support legislation to increase cybersecurity for all personal bank-

ing and credit card data by all internet providers to prevent fraudulent use of that data. We encourage citizens to apply due diligence in protecting themselves from cyberfraud.

The Grange supports federal and state programs that invest in small business grants, rural cooperatives and entrepreneurship, local food systems, and community revitalization. Rural and workforce housing initiatives should be expanded so that those who serve their communities can afford to live in them.

TRANSPORTATION

The National Grange believes our nation's overall infrastructure (broadband, transportation, drinking water, waste management, ports, aviation, parks, schools, etc.) is in

critical need of repair and upgrade. We encourage Congress to appropriate adequate funding to repair/upgrade our nation's infrastructure. We also support the posting of fuel tax amounts on every fuel pump.

All drivers must guard against distractions from cell phones and other devices. We support enhancing the visibility of school buses, construction, farm equipment, rail cars, bicycles, motorcycles, trucks, etc. We encourage walkers, joggers, bicyclists, etc., to wear highly reflective clothing.

The National Grange urges all states to have the same criteria/standards for Commercial Drivers' Licenses (CDL) drivers.

EX. COMM. POSITION #2

Joyce Parker



I am honored to be nominated for the position of Oregon State Grange Executive Committee position #2. I am a fourth-generation Granger and have held offices at the Subordinate/Community, Pomona and State Grange levels.

I am aware of the important responsibilities that fall to the Executive Committee and that sometimes very difficult decisions must be made to ensure that the Grange continues to grow and prosper. The Executive Committee is charged with overseeing the Oregon State Grange finances and the invested funds. I have a Bachelor's degree in Business Management with a minor in accounting. I currently work as the Controller for a multi-million dollar corporation.

If elected I will do my best to represent the wishes of the members of the Oregon State Grange. Thank you for your faith in me.

Fraternally,
 Joyce E. Parker
 Springwater Grange #263
 Harding Grange #122
 Clackamas County
 Molalla, Oregon



Oregon State Grange Bulletin

Official publication of the
 Oregon State Grange since 1900

March 2026
 Volume 126 Number 1-a

Published by the Oregon State Grange,
 643 Union Street NE
 Salem, OR 97301-2462
 503-316-0106
 FAX: 503-316-0109
<http://www.orgrange.org>

Editor-in-Chief
 Sonny Hays-Eberts
president@orgrange.org

Editor
 Suzy Ramm
gbulletin@orgrange.org

U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 SALEM, OR
 PERMIT NO. 598

Teresa Cernac

I am a life member of Warren Grange #536 in Columbia County. Not counting my years of membership as a Junior Granger I have over 50 years in the Oregon State Grange and hold all 7 degrees of our order. It is an honor to be nominated to the Oregon State Grange Executive Committee position #2. Over the years I have been involved in State Grange committees; Youth, Communications, Community Service, Lecturer and GWA — representing District #3. I served 2 terms on the Oregon State Grange Foundation, my main focus was helping Granges that were applying for grants. Recently I was on the committee that reviewed the State Grange Matching Grant applications. Also, I have held many offices in my local and Pomona Granges, including 12 years as our Columbia-Clatsop Pomona Grange Master. I know others who know the Grange By-Laws and rules better than I do, but there are none who love this organization and the core beliefs more. If you feel like you could support me by election to this position I would do my best to help the organization grow and be true to our motto.

Thank you.
 Teresa Cernac
 Warren Grange #536
 Columbia County
 Beaverton, OR

EX. COMM. POSITION #3

Vickie High



Dear Patrons,

I gladly accept the nomination for Executive Committee #3. It would be a pleasure to serve the Oregon State Grange for the next 2 years.

Fraternally,
 Vickie High
 Hurricane Creek Grange #608
 Wallowa County
 Midland, OR

Grange Law Committee Policy Statement

The Grange Law Committee reaffirms the central importance of the Constitution and By-laws of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry as the governing documents that preserve our structure, protect our members, and maintain the integrity of our operations. These documents are not merely administrative tools; they embody the framework through which the Grange functions in unity of purpose. Every member, from the local to the national level, shares the responsibility of upholding these rules, interpreting them with fairness, and applying them consistently. Such adherence ensures the stability of our Order and reflects our long-standing commitment to good governance and fraternal harmony.

The Grange has, since its founding, adhered to a strict practice of non-partisanship. As an organization, the Grange must never be used to promote or endorse any political party, candidate, nominee, or appointee. Our emblem, reputation, and name must remain free from partisan influence to protect the trust placed in us by our members and the public. At the same time, it is essential to affirm that this restriction applies to the organization, not to its members as private citizens. Grangers, acting individually and outside the context of the Order, retain all

rights to participate in the political process, support candidates of their choosing, and engage in civic advocacy according to their personal beliefs. This balance protects both the neutrality of the institution and the freedoms of its members.

The teachings and values contained in our Ritual and obligations remain the bedrock of our Fraternal identity. These lessons—rooted in cooperation, respect, and mutual aid—bind us together as brothers and sisters and distinguish the Grange as a true fraternity. As members, we must remain mindful that differences of opinion are not only inevitable but healthy. A diversity of perspectives strengthens our organization and encourages thoughtful decision-making. At the same time, when differences do arise, we must be intentional in preventing them from escalating into conflict and discord. Our Ritual teaches us to act with charity, temperance, and goodwill, and these principles must guide all interactions within our Order.

To strengthen the unity and effectiveness of the Grange, we must actively work to eliminate communication barriers at every level of our organization. Open, timely, and accurate communication between local Granges, Pomona and State Granges, and the National Grange

Metal Grange Town Marker Signs Available



There have been several inquiries recently about the Grange Town Marker Signs. Did we have them, could we get them, are they still available? The answers are no, maybe and yes.

The Oregon State Grange does not stock them. We can get them but the shipping charges to the office and then to the Granges is cost prohibitive.

The best option is to order them directly from Monroe Classic, Inc.'s Grange member store www.monroeclassic.com. It is item #9343 and cost \$40.00. Currently shipping and handling is \$22.50.

Contact Mike at:
sales@monroeclassic.com
 1.800.868.2330

is essential to prevent misunderstandings, reduce frustration, and ensure that members are well-informed about policies, programs, and expectations. Clear communication fosters trust and supports the collaborative spirit upon which the Grange was built.

As we look toward the future, we must embrace both tradition and innovation. The Grange has survived and thrived for more than a century and a half because it has remained grounded in its founding values while adapting to the needs of changing generations. We must not be afraid to try new approaches, explore new ideas, and test new models of engagement. The Committee applauds the use of pilot programs, technological tools, and creative initiatives that seek to enhance member experience and ensure the longevity of the Grange in a rapidly evolving world. Innovation, when guided by our principles, strengthens our ability to serve our members and our communities.

In all these matters, the Grange must remain forward-looking, united in purpose, and steadfast in its values. As we carry our Order into the future, let us always strive to embody our guiding motto: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; and in all things, charity."

Agriculture Committee Policy Statement

Agriculture is foundational to America's economy, providing directly or indirectly through value-added processing, approximately 5.6% (1.53 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.

Farm Bill:

- A current U.S. Farm Bill is crucial for the health of our economy, the vitality of our rural communities, and the security of our food supply. We advocate for fast passage of a new Farm Bill that would address many of the following points:

Research and Development:

- Advocate for increased investment in biotechnology (e.g., CRISPR, Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats).
- Support educational programs

on nutrition (e.g., Farm to Table).

- Favor voluntary labeling of genetically modified products.

Agricultural Chemicals:

- Promote healthy pollinator populations.
- Support education on the risks of Neonicotinoids and the benefits of untreated seeds.

Dairy Policy:

- Push for fair pricing structures for small and medium dairy producers.
- Advocate for defining "milk" strictly as a mammalian product.

Disaster Assistance and Risk Management:

- Support funding for USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Risk Management Division and crop insurance programs.

Farm Policies

- Encourage reclassification of small farms based on gross income (\$150,000 or less).

- Call for equitable treatment for all farm sizes and commodities.

Farm Labor:

- Urge provisions in the Farm Bill for reliable seasonal and year-round labor.
- Streamline the H-2A application process, where possible.

Food Safety:

- Advocate for a single federal agency (preferably USDA) for food safety inspections.

Livestock Production:

- Support science-based state regulations of agricultural practices, that do not interfere with interstate commerce.
- Supports the principle that the term "meat" can only be used to describe animal protein derived from harvested production livestock, poultry, seafood, or wildlife, wild or domestic.

Marketing and Cooperatives:

- Encourage USDA programs like the Farmers to Families Food Box Program.
- Support labeling of products as

"Product of the USA" if they meet specific criteria.

Environmental Regulations:

- Advocate for fair water rate structures and oppose expanded EPA authority.
- Support funding for conservation programs.
- Advocate for the education of proper disposal of agricultural materials.

Food Security:

- Addressing concerns of foreign ownership of agricultural land, impacting food security.

Energy:

- Support agrivoltaics and responsible regulations for dual use of agricultural land.
- Advocate for research into alternative fuel sources to reduce greenhouse gases.

Broadband

- Supports the use of Federal Funds to efficiently build out high-speed internet access to "the last mile."

Conservation Committee Policy Statement

Conserving our abundant but delicate natural resources is essential for sustaining life. These resources, like pure water, clean air, fertile soil, and robust forests, are national treasures, and the source of our nation's economic prosperity. However, it is critical we maintain an environmental balance. We encourage *responsible stewardship* of our natural resources. We define responsible stewardship as a balance between use, preservation, and the environmental standards appropriate to regional needs.

The National Grange is a strong advocate for land stewardship. We believe protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources are vital. We further believe education of the public regarding the importance of natural resources is an absolute necessity. Good stewardship begins with preparation for natural disasters, including wildfires, floods, and seasonal storms. Further steps should be taken to mitigate wildfire and risks of other natural disasters, including clearing dry brush, clearing spillways, and other common-sense measures.

As critical drought conditions become more prevalent nationwide, this challenge requires a multi-faceted approach including technological solutions like upgrades to wastewater treatment facilities to recycle effluent. Also vital are efficient water management practices in both agriculture and industry. Granges can educate their community by

hosting programs which share conservation measures such as rainwater collection methods, and gardening and landscape enhancements that could replace lawns which need excessive volumes of water. Many of the initiatives outlined in the National Grange's *Project Sustainance* program connect to conservation measures, and we applaud their adoption on the local level.

The National Grange recognizes the unique role agriculture plays in land and environmental management. The National Grange supports transparent data disclosure of any environmental testing and/or modifications conducted by any governmental agency. We advocate for flexibility in the interpretation of environmental laws for traditional land uses, taking into consideration environmental situations across the country and encouraging agricultural producers to engage in Best Management Practices in their operations.

Federal financial assistance programs have enabled conservation practices to be implemented on farms and at-risk lands that would not otherwise be possible. The National Grange should demand follow-through on financial agreements already approved.

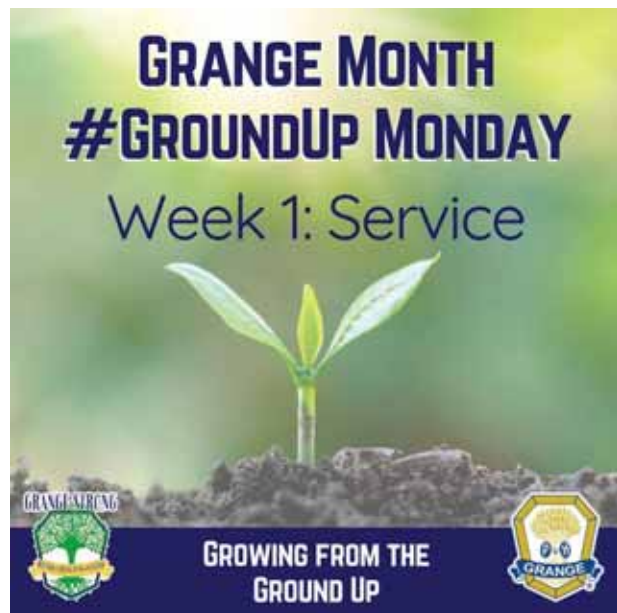
The National Grange understands that agriculture is part of climate change and efforts to accomplish Net-Zero. To provide a more accurate picture of greenhouse emis-

sions in our nation, consistent and reliable sources of data must be used. The National Grange supports the use of Best Management Practices and any mandates regarding agriculture reducing emissions be accompanied by economic incentives to lower the impact on agricultural producers.

Food waste is a problem, as approximately half of the food grown in the country is thrown away without being consumed. The Grange should be involved in efforts to reduce food waste while helping the

environment. We recognize 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 seeks a strong and effective Farm Bill that is critical to producers and consumers of American agricultural goods. It is fishers and hunters who look to the Farm Bill to secure access and preservation of land through conservation titles.



Audit and Budget Committee Policy Statement

The members of the Audit and Budget Committee thank the National President, Executive Committee, and the National Grange staff for presenting us with a budget that allows us to continue with the programs and projects of the National Grange.

The budget for 2025 was the first budget that did not include income and expenses for the former National Grange building. All income was strictly from Grange programs and dues.

The investment of the funds from the sale of the building will provide us with income but we must be mindful stewards and remain conservative with our spending in an effort to allow the principal to grow for future generations of Grange members. While we have had 9.5% growth in the account value this year, we cannot expect returns such as this every year. There have been no withdrawals of any income (interest and/or dividends or appreciation) in the total value of the building account since it was established after the sale of the building in February 2024.

We continue to recommend that a portion of the income generated from the sale of the building be earmarked for new projects such as Project Sustenance which will create awareness of the Grange and all of our programs.

We need to remind ourselves that dues are an investment in our Granges from the Community Grange level to the National Grange. Dues on all levels of the Grange remain the lifeblood of our Order, and it is imperative that every Grange across the country encourage membership growth. Comparing data from 2004 and 2024, we have lost 52.8% of our members and 48.3% of our community Granges nationwide. We applaud leadership for creating programs such as the Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) and the new Grange Pilot program to strengthen our existing Granges while removing barriers in organizing and reorganizing Granges across

the country.

With the potential loss of nearly 70,000 supportive members in the western states due to the loss of the licensing agreement and financial support of Grange Insurance Association (GIA), now more than ever, we must work to bring in new members, but at the same time, it is extremely important that we pay attention to our longer-tenured members. We must be cognizant of their needs and make sure that they feel valued, needed, and respected.

We should also consider adding an annual dues projection review to the annual budget process. This will allow us to monitor our membership numbers and income and make recommendations for future dues increases in a more timely and planned-out manner.

The members of the Audit and Budget Committee appreciate the passing of the dues increase. This is a way to generate additional income for the National Grange and will give us the resources to continue to provide additional programs and member benefits as well as continue to make a financial investment in our future.

We encourage all members to continually monitor the many member benefits that are listed on the National Grange website and to take advantage of these benefits, as they are not only a benefit to the membership, but many of these programs provide an ongoing revenue stream to the National Grange. Few organizations give such value for the small monetary contribution from their membership.

We congratulate the leadership of the National Grange for introducing Grange Engage (powered by GrowthZone). This new, innovative member-centric platform will allow our members to be more engaged with the Grange on all levels and provide the National Grange savings in subscriptions such as Constant Contact and Blue Tahiti that are now incorporated into one platform. We as leaders must continue

to update our mailing and membership lists and use the database to help keep our members informed and connected. Providing contact lists of our members is not to "sell" our membership lists, but for us to be able to communicate with our members electronically, as many members prefer to receive communications electronically rather than through traditional channels.

The Communications Department continues to expand communications to the State Granges, Community Granges, and our membership. Some of these programs include the bi-weekly *Grange Today* and our quarterly subscription-based *Good Day!* publication. Interns who were part of the National Grange staff during the summer of 2025 supported our Communications Director and provided content for TikTok and other digital platforms, which greatly increased the visibility of the Grange. The continued use of social media is important to keep the Grange relevant and visible in the future.

We applaud the Communications Department for the continued innovation in our quarterly *Good Day!* magazine. *Good Day!* is available as a traditional magazine or as an online magazine. *Good Day!* is truly an asset to the National Grange. Most of the costs for the magazine are underwritten by partners of Grange Advocacy. At the present time, we have around 700 subscribers. We encourage all members to subscribe to the *Good Day!* magazine and enjoy a wealth of different articles. Please go home and promote this wonderful publication to your members.

We commend our National Grange President, Christine Hamp for creating new and innovative programs and pathways to membership in an effort to increase membership in Granges across the country. Grange is a team sport! We as leaders must do our part by utilizing these resources ourselves and going home and talking up our programs and the resources available to our Granges and members.



OREGON OSG Ag Fest Volunteers Needed

The Oregon State Grange has a booth at Oregon Ag Fest at the State Fairgrounds in Salem on Saturday April 25th and Sunday April 26th.

Grange volunteers help children plant marigold and tomato seedlings into small peat pots to take home. It is a fun experience and helps connect children with the growing of plants, and the friendliness of Grangers.

Each shift needs about 10 – 12 volunteers. To volunteer contact president@orgrange.org or call 503-316-0106 Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday with name, phone, address, and shift. Volunteers have free admission and parking, and can wander Ag Fest before or after their shift.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!

Saturday April 25th Shifts
8:30 AM – 11:30 AM
11:30 AM – 2:30 PM
2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Sunday April 26th Shifts
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
12:30 PM – 3:00 PM
3:00 PM – 5:30 PM



CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION

**GRANGE MEMBERSHIP MAY CAUSE
PERSONAL HAPPINESS AND
COMMUNITY PRIDE**



Citizenship & Taxation Committee Policy Statement

CITIZENSHIP

Broadcasting

The National Grange supports public broadcasting concepts, improved service for our rural communities, and continuing federal funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting through self-supporting sources of financing.

Broadband

Broadband and cellular connectivity must be priorities to ensure every American equitable connectivity.

Elected Officials

The National Grange urges all elected officials to work across party lines to ensure the best outcome for all persons they represent. The National Grange supports an amendment to the United States Constitution that should read: "Congress shall make no law that applies to the citizens of the United States that does not apply equally to Senators and/or Representatives, just as Congress shall make no law that applies to the Senators and/or Representatives that does not apply equally to the citizens of the United States." Further, when the federal government is shut down because Congress has failed to pass proper funding, Congress should not be paid for the period of the shutdown.

Elections

The National Grange urges all of its members to exercise their right to vote. We further recommend that all ballots and pertinent instructions for all elections be printed in the English language only. Proof of citizenship is to be required at the time of voter registration, at the polls and/or anyone requesting an absentee ballot with federally approved photo identification to verify they are a legal voter within this country and proper state. We oppose same day registration voting laws.

Government and Legislative Affairs

The National Grange believes all government-mandated programs and agencies must contain "sunset" provisions, including a target termination date; systematic and continuous reviews of all mandated programs be made periodically by an appropriate board of review and all mandated programs must be funded and financed by the government of origin and that at any point funding is not provided, the mandate will be removed.

The National Grange strongly opposes the use of any commission, council, or other consortium of non-elected appointees to create legislative mandates that Congress must adhere to, that are not subject to judicial review or the American system of checks and balances.

Government Service

The National Grange encourages the federal government to provide as-

sistance immediately following the successful request by a State Governor for a declaration of a national disaster in the United States, supports efforts to improve the collection and dissemination of accurate and timely statistical data by all federal agencies, encourages legislation to require the Commerce Census Bureau to return to inclusion of a separate category for farm families.

Government Spending

The National Grange strongly advocates for Congress to put aside partisan politics to pass a balanced budget, prevent federal government shutdowns, and ensure a permanent solution to our deficit problems. The National Grange believes the issuance of Social Security, other critical social service monetary supplements, military salaries, benefits, or expenses should not be affected, delayed or reduced, should a federal government shutdown occur.

Native Americans

The National Grange supports the continuation of all rights and privileges enjoyed by Native Americans as U.S. citizens, including fulfilling all responsibilities associated with such citizenship, which includes being subject to the same laws as other citizens.

Patriotism, Prayer, and Religious Observances

The National Grange strongly supports joining with like-minded organizations along with churches and individuals to protect our religious freedoms and the First Amendment.

Social Security

The National Grange encourages Congress to positively reform the Social Security System to ensure its future solvency and use of Social Security funds for Social Security programs only.

Social Welfare Programs

The National Grange supports legislation that would require drug testing to be included in the eligibility requirements for welfare recipients. The National Grange supports requiring additional means to facilitate the identification and location of each child's parent for purposes of welfare recovery.

Veterans Affairs

The National Grange supports the continued operation of all Veterans' Hospitals and veterans' eligibility for medical care and benefits.

Miscellaneous

The National Grange supports the creation of a Presidential Blue-Ribbon Commission on the preservation of the American Dream to ensure that our country is stronger tomorrow than it is today.

The National Grange supports a simpler, legal route to employing

guest workers, which will permit them to enter the country, work for a specific time in a specific location, and then return home.

The National Grange supports all rights that are granted in the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights and urges Congress not to consider legislation eliminating or repealing these rights.

TAXATION

Business, Investment, Capital Gains, and Inheritance Taxation

We support depreciation schedules for agricultural capital assets that accurately reflect the useful life of those assets.

Personal Income Tax

The National Grange supports developing a simpler and fairer federal income tax code, written in precise, plain and understandable language. We further support simplifying the language that is used in the government's instruction pamphlets for filing individual income taxes.

Sales, Excise Taxes, and Internet

The National Grange opposes the enactment of any national sales tax or any form of value added tax.

Taxes - General

The National Grange supports the tax treatment of agricultural cooperatives as non-profit entities.

Grange Growth Committee Policy Statement

The National Grange reaffirms its commitment to growth through unity of purpose, service, and innovation. As we approach America's 250th anniversary, we rededicate ourselves to the founding ideals of liberty, equality, justice, fellowship, and service—values that remain central to our mission of strengthening rural and agricultural life across the nation.

Membership growth is our top priority. Each State Grange is encouraged to establish a Grange Growth Team to identify opportunities for new Granges and expand membership through meaningful community engagement. We will utilize Performance Improvement Plans (PIPs) to guide this work and ensure accountability. People don't join organizations—they join a cause. The Grange's growth will be measured not just in numbers, but in relevance, visibility, and service.

The launch of Grange Engage, our new association management platform, marks a transformation in how we connect members, share resources, and cultivate leadership. Every member is encouraged to participate fully by building profiles, sharing projects, and strengthening our network of fellowship and purpose.

Through Project Sustenance, we continue our mission to combat food insecurity and strengthen com-

munity resilience. Granges nationwide are encouraged to share their stories of local impact and partner with schools, food banks, churches, and civic groups to ensure no community is left behind. This initiative exemplifies Grange's enduring spirit of service and fellowship.

The Grange must create new programming that positions our organization firmly within the 21st century—responsive to today's challenges and relevant to tomorrow's members.

Our future depends on strong, capable leaders. We reaffirm our investment in youth and adult leadership programs that provide mentorship, skill-building, and purpose. The Grange believes leadership is not defined by age, but by initiative, service, and courage.

As the organization undergoes a national rebranding, we celebrate over 150 years of tradition while presenting a modern identity that reflects today's energy and tomorrow's promise. We continue to evaluate funding, strengthen communication, and preserve our archives to ensure a sustainable and vibrant Grange for generations to come.

Together, we will uphold the Grange's timeless values — faith, fellowship, and service — while advancing its mission through adaptability, courage, and unity.

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.

Mail to: Oregon State Grange, 643 Union St NE, Salem OR 97301
gbulletin@orgrange.org