

## **President's Message**

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## 2024 – Building the Grange for the Future

We just celebrated 150 years of the Grange in New Jersey. Now is the time to start planning for the next 150 years. What will the Grange look like in 10 years? 25 years?? 50 years???

We need to plan outreach and activities to not only keep our existing members engaged and active but attract new members. We need to build programs and outreach that is relevant and will make the Grange visible.

Here are some of the programs we are planning for 2024.



## Saturday, April 6, 2024 Columbus Grange

88 Atlantic Avenue, Columbus, NJ

Workshops will be provided on Communicating with our Communities (with National Grange Communications Director Phil Vonada), leadership, membership and other tools to help your Grange grow.

A registration fee of \$5.00 per person is required to optimally plan your **FREE** lunch and to provide program materials to everyone attending. A donation will be made to a FFA Chapter on behalf of the State Grange and those attending our conference.

# Reservations for this fun and exciting, interactive day are <u>required</u> by March 1, 2024.

Please complete the reservation form that follows.

### What's Going on in the Grange?

Join us on Zoom for a quarterly virtual get together to stay in touch with New Jersey and beyond Grange members.

Each evening will have a unique program as well as an opportunity to share ideas for Community Service projects, fund raising and a way to stay connected and catch-up with your friends.

Tuesday, January 30, 2024
Tuesday, April 30, 2024
Tuesday, July 30, 2024
Tuesday, October 29, 2024

All meetings will start at 7:30 PM and last approximately 1 hour.

If you are interested in attending, please send an email to John Benedik at <a href="JohnBenedik@hotmail.com">JohnBenedik@hotmail.com</a> to be put on the email invite listing.

# **A Day of Learning 5 Registration Form**

Saturday, April 6, 2024

Please return by March 1, 2024

Name:		
Grange Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Best Contact Phone Number:		(in case we need to contact you because of bad weather
E-mail Address:		
Number of People attending (if resp	oonding for more thar	i just yourself)
Names of other people attending:		
Questions can be directed to John Or by email: JohnBenedik@hotma		tate Grange Special Events Hotline: 908-442-2849
Please make checks payable to: No	ew Jersey State G	range and return to:

New Jersey State Grange ATTN: John Benedik 1401 Cobblestone Court Flemington, NJ 08822

We hope you will choose to be a part of what will be another educational and informative day!

#### Is your Grange a "Grange in Action"?

The "Grange in Action" program is a simple one-page report highlighting with pictures and captions 3 Grange event or activities that the Grange sponsored or assisted with between September 1, 2023 and August 31, 2024. Make sure it is only 1 page as any report over 1 page will be disqualified. The Grange name, number and state must be on the front of the page.

If your report includes a program or activity around increasing awareness of mental illness awareness, you will be named a Gold Grange in Action.

Reports should be submitted to Loretta Washington at National Grange headquarters either electronically (<a href="mailto:LWashington@nationalgrange.org">LWashington@nationalgrange.org</a> with the subject line Grange in Action Program) or by mail to:

National Grange 1616 H Street, NW Washington, DC 20006

Deadline for submission is September 1, 2024.

Some of the entries submitted will be displayed at the 158<sup>th</sup> annual session of the National Grange in Bettendorf, Iowa in November 2024.

Submit a copy of your report to John Benedik and we will display them at State Session this October as well as have a small financial prize for each Grange that participates.

