

Membership

Membership in the Community Grange is obtained by submission of an application and acceptance of that application by the Grange.

Individuals age 13-1/2 and above are eligible for membership. Members are all equal in status; the newest member has equal status to the member of fifty years; the teenager has equal status to the senior citizen.

The various Initiation Degrees of the Grange, though significantly less utilized today, have been a means of education - emphasizing the objectives of **Equality, Fraternity, Fellowship, and Charity**. Those objectives are an essential part of core Grange values.

The extent of participation at meetings, events, and activities is a decision left to each member.

Individuals who belong to a Community Grange may advance their membership and participation at higher levels.

The Community Grange

Community/Subordinate Granges are the foundation of the organization.

Within community Granges, activities and efforts are varied: initiating or supporting projects to improve local communities, addressing the interests of the members and needs of the community, and serving as the connection to the regional, state, and national divisions of the organization.

The financial needs of each Grange are supported by members through annual dues, fundraising activities, and voluntary contributions of time and financial support.

Meetings are conducted using a structured format that provides opportunity for all members to participate, giving each an equal voice in decision making. Each meeting includes a short program intended to educate, inform and provide entertainment. A social time before or after the meeting provides opportunity for conversation and personal interaction.

A Brief History

In 1867, Oliver H Kelley and six associates established an organization intended to be a social, educational, and fraternal attraction for farm families and rural residents.

The founders envisioned an organization that could have a positive impact on rural life by promoting sound agricultural practices, providing social activities, and promoting expanded educational opportunities.

Members soon recognized the potential that the organization had and a powerful voice for rural America was created. The Grange and the Grange hall became identified as the centers for community activities.

The Grange promotes the interests of agriculture and rural life through grassroots activism, but does not engage in partisan political activities or endorse political candidates.

From its earliest days, a primary focus of the Grange has been the family, including women and older children as full voting members.

The Grange Today

Over the years, as rural lifestyles and communities have changed, so has the Grange. While the original focus of the organization was exclusively agriculture and farm families, today the focus is on families and the local community.

The Grange offers opportunities for individuals who desire to preserve rural culture and values and improve the quality of life for all.

The Grange Organizational Structure

Community Grange- (local) usually meets bi-weekly or monthly.

Pomona Grange- (regional) usually meets monthly or quarterly.

State Grange- meets annually; voting members are delegates from each Community and Pomona Grange.

National Grange- the operational arm of the organization; meets annually. Voting members are Masters of State Granges and their spouses.

New Hampshire State Grange



Invitation to Membership

and

Summary of Member Benefits



Members of The Grange are eligible for benefits outlined in this pamphlet. Some benefits of a financial nature may have length of membership requirements and/or restrictions. Most benefits, however, are available immediately upon becoming a member. Benefits may change periodically.

This pamphlet provides an overview of many of the benefits provided through The National Grange and The New Hampshire State Grange. For details on these and other benefits, visit www.nationalgrange.org or www.nhgrange.org.



Choice Hotels Discount

Choice Hotels International: Save 20% off published rates at almost 5,000 participating hotels worldwide, including:

Comfort Inn® and **Comfort Suites®**
Sleep Inn®
Clarion®
MainStay Suites®
Quality Inn®
Suburban Extended Stay Hotels®
Econo Lodge®
Rodeway Inn®

Hertz Car Rentals

Grange members are eligible for discounted rates, as well as other promotional offers including:

- \$10 off a weekly rental.
- \$15 off a weekend rental.
- One-class car upgrade

CVS CAREMARK

Save an average of 22% on over 99% of all prescriptions at most major pharmacies, and up to 50% on mail order. Even if you have insurance, you may still use the card.

National Grange Online Shopping Mall

Earn up to 15% cash back from over 850 well-known retailers such as Kmart, Sears, Hotels.com, Hertz, Cabelas, Bass Pro Shop, Macys, HSN, Walgreens, and PetSmart to name a few.

Wirefly

Shop for the latest phones from top wireless carriers. Phones and accessories are available for free or at a discounted price. 10% discount on T-Mobile service plans.

Beltone

Grange members get complimentary hearing screenings and a 20% discount off the usual retail price of any Beltone hearing instrument. Plus, receive a complimentary 2-year warranty and 48 batteries per hearing aid.

TruHearing

TruHearing MEMBERplus offers substantial discounts on the latest in digital technology hearing aids from the three largest manufacturers. National Grange members and their families have access to the lowest pricing on a wide selection of hearing aids. Forty free battery cells and three free adjustments are provided each year, as well as savings on exams. A unique benefit for National Grange members is a one-time repair or loss replacement. There is a 45-day money back guarantee.

There is a \$108 annual fee for the TruHearing membership plan.

Information about specific benefits is available at the National Grange website-
www.nationalgrange.org

Benefits provided through the New Hampshire State Grange Grange Trust - Financial Assistance

The New Hampshire Grange Trust uses earned income from invested funds to provide financial assistance to members in need. Financial assistance is limited to a maximum of \$500, and will require specific information detailing the member's needs.

There is a "length of membership" requirement for this benefit, and personal financial information will be required.

Educational Financial Assistance

The New Hampshire State Grange provides financial assistance to members through educational loans and scholarships. These are available to all age groups for GEDs and college education.

Scholarships are awarded each year from income earned on invested funds. Student applications are evaluated according to established criteria.

Loans are provided from the Educational Loan Fund and must be repaid after graduation.

Information about these benefits is available at the NH State Grange website at www.nhgrange.org or e-mail lenman@nhgrange.org

-----detach here-----

Application for Grange Membership

Name _____ Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

I hereby apply for membership in _____ **GRANGE No.** _____, located at _____, NH. I desire to unite with others in elevating and advancing the interests of rural culture and values; community life and family-focused activities. I promise to comply with the bylaws of this Grange and the constitution and bylaws of the New Hampshire State Grange and The National Grange. I am 13-1/2 years of age or older.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Application fee: \$ _____.

This completed Application and fee may be returned to: _____

Meetings of this Grange are held on the _____ of each month at _____. The annual individual membership dues are \$ _____.