

NEW YORK STATE GRANGE

LEADERSHIP MEMBERSHIP



2027-2028

The New York State Grange Leadership/Membership Department can assist your Grange whether it is successful in gaining members and growing leaders or is struggling in one or both areas. Please don't wait to reach out.

Together, we can brainstorm ideas and help your Grange improve their efforts and impact in your community. We can support Granges in energizing meetings, engaging leaders, or reaching out to the community.

Leadership is not a title; it's a mindset of service, curiosity, courage, and active encouragement. The best leaders are those that truly care about those whom they are leading. The Grange has many members who are leaders-in-waiting. Let us help you grow these leaders.

Membership in the Grange is not just about paying dues; it's about participating and helping cultivate the Grange values. That is how one becomes a true Granger. We want to help you gain Grangers, not just more numbers on reports.

The New York State Grange leaders know that Granges sometimes need help with having enough people to run an event. We also know that Grangers like helping. To assist with that, we ask that those willing to help and those needing assistance contact Julia Tarbell @ 585-599-3239 or colbyhilltophomestead@gmail.com.

The sooner a Grange begins to actively work on gaining members and growing leaders, the sooner results will be realized. Not working on these areas will cause a Grange to slowly diminish. Please reach out to the Leadership/Membership Department. Let us help.

Grow Into The Grange Award

This prestigious honor will be presented at the New York State Grange Session each year. It celebrates a member who within two years has "Grown into the Grange" and become an outstanding Granger. Each nominee should be a new member whose dedication and contributions show that he/she has fully embraced the values of the Grange and actively engaged in its work.

Nomination Process

Community Granges and Pomona Granges may nominate a new member. The Master/President and/or Secretary of the nominating Grange shall submit a letter recommending the nominee which shall include proof of the member's initiation date into said Grange and details of his/her involvement, contributions, and character.

Nominations should be sent by September 15th each year to New York State Grange Headquarters, attn. Leadership/Membership. Send via email – nysgrange@nysgrange.org or USPS to 100 Grange Place; Cortland, NY 13045.

Membership Recruitment Program – Future Focused Growth

New York State Grange – Leadership/Membership Department

The New York State Grange Leadership/Membership Department is pleased to offer a comprehensive, Future Focused Membership Recruitment Program designed to help local Granges grow and thrive. This program supports any Grange in New York State that wishes to conduct a membership drive, strengthen its community presence, and build a strong foundation for the next generation of Grange members.

The Membership Recruitment Program aims to:

- Increase statewide membership by at least 10% annually through active outreach and recruitment.
- Provide local Granges with the tools and support needed for successful membership drives.
- Raise public awareness of the Grange's values, mission, and community role.
- Encourage intergenerational participation to ensure a sustainable future.
- Celebrate recruitment success through recognition at local and state levels.

These goals are Future Focused—designed not only to meet today's needs but to position the Grange for long-term relevance, resilience, and renewal.

Program Overview:

This initiative offers practical tools, personalized guidance, and on-the-ground support to help each Grange attract and engage new members. Whether a Grange is looking to revitalize itself or broaden its reach, this program meets communities where they are, with flexible strategies built for lasting results. It emphasizes leadership development, inclusive growth, and deeper community ties—ensuring that each Grange has the opportunity to flourish in the years to come.

Available Resources:

> Handouts, brochures, and information packets to introduce prospective members to the Grange's mission and benefits.

Recruitment Strategies:

> Best practices and creative ideas for outreach, messaging, and event-based recruitment efforts.

Training and Support:

> Direct assistance from the Leadership/Membership team through training sessions, planning meetings, or local visits.

Community Engagement Ideas:

Suggestions for events, social gatherings, and outreach initiatives that raise visibility and attract members of all ages.

How to Get Started

Granges interested in participating can contact the Leadership/Membership Director, to request materials, schedule a training session, or receive help planning their recruitment efforts. Every Grange—large or small—has the potential to grow, and we are here to help you take that next step.

This approach to membership recognizes that meaningful growth is about more than numbers; it's about building welcoming spaces, nurturing leadership, and creating a Grange that is as vibrant tomorrow as it is today

Recognition Awards

To honor Granges that demonstrate leadership and growth, we offer recognition awards that celebrate long-term impact:

10% Builders' Circle:

Granges that increase membership by 10% from June 2026 to March 2027 or June 2027 to March 2028 will be inducted into the Builders' Circle, recognizing those laying strong foundations for the future.

20% Legacy Circle:

Granges achieving a 20% increase from June 2026 to March 2027 or June 2027 to March 2028 will join the Legacy Circle—honoring efforts that go beyond recruitment to build enduring community presence and leadership capacity.

These recognitions serve not only as a celebration of success, but as a call to continue building a stronger, more connected Grange—Future Focused and community driven.

Future Focused Onboarding Training Program for Granges with New Members

New York State Grange – Leadership/Membership Department

The NYS Grange Onboarding Training Program is a Future Focused initiative designed to help Community Granges successfully welcome, integrate, and engage new members in meaningful and lasting ways. This training goes beyond basic orientation, it cultivates a strong sense of belonging, inviting new members into the Grange mission and momentum; introduces foundational Grange traditions; and inspires active participation, all while helping members find their purpose within the organization.

By building intentional connections from the start, this program ensures that today's new members become tomorrow's leaders, sustaining a vibrant and resilient Grange into the future.

Program Goals

- Ensure every new member feels welcomed, valued, and informed from the moment they join.
- Introduce the mission, structure, and values of the Grange in a clear, engaging, and future-oriented way.
- Encourage new members to contribute based on their interests, strengths, and availability.
- Foster lasting connections and mentorship opportunities that support ongoing growth.
- Strengthen retention and participation, building more vibrant, active, and sustainable Community Granges.

Training Focus Areas

- Present the history, mission, and key traditions of the Grange in ways that are both accessible and inspiring.
- Help new members identify ways to contribute based on their unique skills, interests, and passions.
- Offer one-on-one or small group mentoring to build strong relationships and promote a sense of belonging.
- Encourage involvement from the start—through meetings, service projects, committees, and fellowship activities.

How to Get Started

Granges looking to strengthen their onboarding process can contact the Leadership/Membership Director to access training materials and implementation guidance. Whether welcoming one new member or ten, our team is ready to support your efforts in building a more connected and committed membership.

Unwritten Work Training Program
Honoring Tradition with a Future Focused Vision

New York State Grange – Leadership/Membership Department

The NYS Grange Unwritten Work Training Program offers Grangers across the state a unique opportunity to deepen their appreciation of Grange rituals and traditions by learning how to read and interpret the "code" book/Unwritten Work. The Unwritten Work is a foundational component of the Grange's identity, connecting members to its history, values, and symbolic meaning. This knowledge should encourage more active and confident participation in Grange meetings and ceremonies. By passing on these sacred traditions, we ensure that the spirit of the Grange continues to thrive in tomorrow's leaders and communities.

Instruction is led by experienced NYS Grangers who are deeply committed to the respectful transmission of these time-honored traditions. It will be conducted in small groups & tailored to the experience level of the participants and will include

- how to read and interpret the "code" book
- understanding key phrases and passages
- exploration of the meaning and purpose behind Grange rituals and the symbolism embedded in the Unwritten Work

How to Get Started:

Granges or groups of Grangers interested in participating in this training should contact the Director of the Leadership/Membership Department, to request a session and coordinate instruction. Whether your members are new to the Unwritten Work or seeking a refresher, this training can be customized to meet your needs.

By strengthening understanding of the Unwritten Work, Granges can hold fast to the wisdom of our roots while remaining Future Focused—ensuring these cherished traditions continue to be shared with purpose, clarity, and pride for generations to come.