

# OHIO STATE GRANGE

## PRESENT POLICY: GRANGE BY-LAWS AND GOOD OF THE ORDER

1999-2010

### 1999 Resolutions:

1. Supports National Grange raising the amount of interest on the handling of invested funds from selling Grange halls from five percent (5%) to ten percent (10%).
2. Supports adding of a table of contents in the next issue and in the future issues of the Ohio State Grange Journal of Proceedings.
3. Supports requesting National Grange to do away with the practice of community service chairs being required to send a card of intent to submit a Community Service Scrapbook by July 31 of each year.
4. Requests the Ohio State Grange Master and Executive Board to look into ways of restructuring the Ohio State Grange Convention to reduce expenses and time for the delegates.
5. Supports adding to the Ohio State Grange By-Laws that a person must be contacted and state his/her consent before being nominated from the delegate floor for a state office.
6. Supports appointing a task force to study and recommend to the Master and Executive Board members monetary opportunities for their consideration.
7. Supports requesting National Grange to allow deduction of delinquent dues from interest checks before they are sent to Granges who are delinquent in their dues.
8. Proposed the following changes to the By-Laws by the Executive Board:
  - ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2, PAGE 3 – add SHELBY to the counties which elect delegates on even numbered years.
  - ARTICLE VII, SECTION 5, PAGE 11 – When the Order of Business of the Ohio State Grange calls for the election of officers, nominations for all officers shall be made early in the EVENING session.
  - ARTICLE XI, SECTION 1, PAGES 14 & 15 – Each Subordinate Grange in Ohio shall be required to report promptly each quarter, the number and names of its members, male and female, initiated during the preceding quarter and shall accompany this report with a remittance equal to \$1.00 per member for all members reported initiated during the quarter. In addition to this, such quarterly remittance shall include \$3.50 per capita for each member on the roll of the Subordinate Grange at the beginning of the quarter for which report is made.
  - SAME SECTION, NEXT PARAGRAPH – If a Subordinate Grange is in the arrears of paying their quarterly dues the following disciplinary action shall be taken:
  - ARTICLE XI, SECTION 1, #4, PAGE 16 – They shall be notified when their annual dues are in the arrears. If said dues are not paid, (a) within two or more quarters', the State Master shall have the duty to suspend or revoke the charter of such Granges; (b) The "Ohio Granger" magazine shall be discontinued to all members of delinquent Granges following notification of the Ohio State Grange.
  - ARTICLE XI, SECTION 2, PAGE 16 – Junior Granges shall contribute to the Ohio State Grange 50 cents per capita for each member on the Junior Grange Roll at the beginning of the quarter for which the report is made.

- ARTICLE XI, SECTION 4, PAGE 16 – There shall be an Associate Membership Program and the dues of Associate Members shall be \$25.00 per year - \$12.00 to remain in the Subordinate Grange which attained the membership, \$8.00 to the Ohio State Grange and \$5.00 to the National Grange.
- ARTICLE XI, SECTION 1, PAGE 15 – First paragraph, middle of page: “And shall be with the Ohio State Grange within five days following the close of the quarter.”

2000 Resolutions:

1. Supports appointing a committee of Ohio State Grange members and Ohio State Grange officers who will research back to the beginnings of the Ohio State Grange resolution process and develop a system to “rescind” outdated and no longer applicable resolutions, with the final approval by Executive Committee or delegates consent.
2. Supports the findings of the National Grange Strategic Planning Task Force. Let us be involved in a positive way to change our organization that it will survive into the future.
3. Support all Grange membership applications, presently printed material being with new printing, include the request for an e-mail address as well as the present snail mail address. It would also help to ask Grange secretaries to collect e-mail addresses of present members.
4. Support appointing a committee to establish a world-wide web site with final approval by the Executive Board.
5. Supports all members who become Golden Sheaf members after January 1, 2001, shall continue to pay State and National dues. Those members will no longer be considered honorary or be relieved from paying dues.
6. By-Laws changes as recommended by the Executive Board:
  - ARTICLE IV: LEGISLATIVE POWER – SECTION 6 – (added as a second paragraph): When no Pomona Grange exists, the Subordinate Grange of the county shall contact the Ohio State Grange who will assist with the appointment of delegates.
  - ARTICLE VII: ELECTION OF OFFICERS (add Section 6) – page 10: SECTION 6: A person must be contacted and state his/her consent before being nominated from the floor for a state office. If consent has not been obtained, then the person nominated shall have the right to decline.
  - ARTICLE XI: FEES AND DUES TO THE OHIO STATE GRANGE – SECTION 1, PAGE 13 (First full sentence at the top of the page.) OMIT: When Golden Sheaf Members have been made honorary members of the Subordinate Grange, the Subordinate Grange shall be relieved of paying per capita dues to the Ohio State Grange on such members.

2001 Resolutions:

1. Urges National Grange to keep the Junior Grange age limits from 5 to 14 years old.
2. By a special proclamation recognizes all Junior Grange Leaders and Junior Grange members upon the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ohio Junior Grange Program.
3. Supports the Ohio State Grange and National Grange change any necessary by-laws making the responsibility of the cost of legal representation for the Ohio State Grange is placed upon the Subordinate Grange pursuing the sale of their hall.
4. Encourages Subordinate (Community) Granges to actively lobby local and state issues and duly note that the Ohio State Grange may not support or sanction those activities.
5. Encourages retaining the portion of the Grange obligation that states that every member must follow the roles emanating from National and State Grange and the changes pertaining to these rules.

6. Supports requesting National Grange delegate body to change the rule that prevents the honorary position from holding a chair position or voting in the national legislative committee. This will not extend to the floor of the convention; they will still not be able to vote in main body.

7. Urges all members to practice the lessons of stewardship as promoted by our fraternity, and unites with Grange members throughout the nation in building awareness of the importance of individual and community actions.

8. Supports local, Pomona and State Granges at their discretion, be allowed, along with the newly imposed systems of initiation, continue to use the current ritual for education, instruction, information and proclaiming our heritage, and urge National Grange to retain part of the Grange past by making it mandatory to continuing the present use of the presentation of the flag, opening of the Bible and the salutation at each Grange meeting.

9. Supports making available the Journal of Proceedings by disc, Website, and a copy (not a published book), and anyone interested in the copy make his or her request by November 30 of each year.

10. Supports the Executive Board pursuing the camp a separate entity operated as a professional business, under the status of 501-C-3, under the supervision of a manager/administrator and a Board of Directors, who can guide it into a non-profit corporation and asset to the Ohio State Grange.

#### 2002 Resolutions:

1. Supports changing ARTICLE VII, SECTION 5 to allow non-elected candidates to be on the ballot further on in the election.

2. Supports the addition of ARTICLE IV, SECTION 8 be added as follows:

- The Ohio State Young Adults/Young Married members between the ages of 21-40 shall be represented by two delegates to be elected annually by the Ohio State Grange Young Adult/Young Married group. The Ohio State Youth shall be represented by two delegates to be elected annually by the Ohio State Youth members at the Youth Summer Camp.

3. Supports amending its by-laws to conform to the National Grange By-laws of having only elected officers on the Executive Committee amending ARTICLE X, SECTION I as follows:

- "The Executive Committee of the Ohio State Grange shall consist of three (3) elected members (one of whom shall be elected each year for a term of three (3) years together with the Master, Overseer and Treasurer. Four (4) members shall constitute a quorum.

4. Supports that each county elect a Deputy, as a suggestion, for appointment by the Ohio State Grange.

5. Encourages all Granges at all levels to limit the term of all officers.

6. Supports a limit of the term of office for all state officers to no more than three (3) consecutive two-year terms beginning in 2002.

7. Supports the Ohio State Grange Executive Committee actively pursue the sale of The State Grange building, to consolidate offices and residence in a more desirable and affordable location within one hour of Columbus, Ohio toward the geographic center of the state.

8. Supports requesting the National Grange to continue the Action Grange Program and train 2-4 facilitators in each state to do Action Grange Training and the next Granges to be chosen for the Action Grange program could be picked by the present Action Granges and the State Grange President in each state. Continue to support that the Action Grange program by completely VOLUNTARY, allowing Granges the choice to stay traditional or Action Grange.

9. Allows the Executive Committee along with the Ohio State Grange Master to develop a process to institute the concept of the Young Adult/Young Married program.

10. Supports dispensing with the point system inspection sheet and replace it with an inspection checklist of meeting procedures and activities.

11. Urges National Grange to provide videotapes of those degrees and an option for information and instruction only.

12. Omits ARTICLE IV, SECTION 5, Paragraph 4 of the Ohio State Grange By-Laws and retains ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3, Paragraph 2, pertaining to the Ohio State Grange delegate voting.

#### 2003 Resolutions:

1. The Ohio State Grange Executive Committee urges the 501-C-3 Board of Directors to move as quickly as possible to form their organization to take over the Deaf Activities, Junior, Youth and operation and ownership of the Friendly Hills Grange Camp. The Ohio State Grange Executive Committee is prepared to help the 501-C-3 entity in any way they can, with monetary help to the limits that have been prescribed and with technical facilities that we have available.

2. Recommends to the National Grange that the first paragraph of the Junior Pledge be changed to read: "I solemnly promise that I will obey – all the rules of the Junior Grange – " (then continue as the second paragraph begins) "and I further promise – that I will endeavor – to follow the advice of my parents and teachers – and will not knowingly –" (then changing the last phrase to read) "wrong a member of the Junior Grange", thus changing "the Order" to "my Junior Grange", removing "that I will never reveal – any of its words or signs – nor tell any of the secrets – of the Order", and changing "wrong a Brother or Sister" to "wrong a member of the Junior Grange". Also change the word "intemperate" to unreasonable (habits) in the last sentence. Also recommends changing the honorary pledge to read: "I hereby solemnly promise – that I willfully pledge – my active support and influence – to the Junior Grange – and its endeavors", thus basically eliminating the words "that I will in no way reveal any of the secrets or ceremonies of the Junior Grange".

3. Supports the National Grange developing a National Grange Convention Fund to be used by each region as they host the convention.

4. Recommends that National Grange consider using resort hotels in lieu of inner city hotels for the annual convention of the National Grange. Also encourages taking measures to reduce the costs of hosting the National Grange Convention.

#### 2004 Resolutions:

1. Permits the option of the use of the salutation in "Open Meetings", for the continuation and reaffirming of the foundations of our organization.

2. Amends its mission statement to read: "The Ohio State Grange, with its roots in agri-business, through its local Granges is a leader in the Community through service and involvement in Education, Legislation and Family Activities."

3. Develops a committee to review the manual and make recommendations to the National Grange of all necessary changes to update the Grange to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century sensibilities.

4. Supports becoming more aggressive in using available media outlets to foster Grange memberships.

5. Supports using proceeds from the sale of the Grange office building on East Broad Street in Columbus for the purpose of relocating the State Office and Home to a new location.

6. Directs the Ohio State Executive Board to research the possibility of developing a retirement fund for members.
7. Eliminates the credentials committee to either be dissolved or combined with another committee.
8. Supports considering a dues charge of \$10.00 for each youth member from a family beyond the membership of a mother, father and one youth member between the ages of thirteen years six months and eighteen years of age.
9. Supports requesting the National Grange to restart this process and revise the Junior pledge.
10. Supports all in attendance of the Ohio State Grange Convention wear their name tags.

#### 2005 Resolutions:

1. Encourage local Granges to submit their case studies and “best practices” for mass communication to other Granges through the Ohio State Granger, and the Ohio State Grange website.
2. Changes by-laws to allow the Youth to elect their delegates at the Summer Youth Camp and that the YA/YM's elect their delegates at Summer YA/YM meeting and that both the Youth and YA/YM candidate is eligible to submit a resume and need not be present at camp to be elected.
3. Supports requesting the National Grange to increase the amount retained from the sale of a hall from \$1,000 to \$5,000.
4. Supports the Friendly Hills Grange Camp officers and leaders seek grants and donations from foundations and other non-grange resources to provide funds for camp operations.
5. Supports the delegates at this Ohio State Grange Convention deciding whether to adopt a policy that allows each local grange to decide on an individual basis whether alcoholic beverages are to be served on grange property or property controlled by them during non grange functions.
6. Supports stopping payment on interest checks sent to granges at the end of 60 days and the monies placed in the Ohio State Grange general fund.
7. Supports changing Paragraph 11.8.5 of the National By-Laws to read: “a member in military uniform perform the appropriate military courtesies to the flag.”

#### 2006 Resolutions:

1. Supports the Ohio State Grange By-Laws and policy be updated annually and made available upon request.
2. Encourages the continuation of supporting other community groups such as the Future Farmers of America Association, the Dairy Association, the Fredericktown Tomato Festival and other coalitions.
3. Delegates will be sent the findings, in writing, for all resolutions referred to the Executive Committee on later than 45 days prior to the deadline for resolutions for the next year's convention.
4. Directs the Executive Committee to negotiate and enter in to a fair and equitable contract which will transfer the ownership of the Friendly Hills Camp to the Foundation, and establish a zero down payment, no interest contract with flexible payment options to allow the foundation the ability to grow into their new role of owners of Friendly Hills Camp. The Grange will ensure through legal documents (contracts, Liens, or deed restrictions) the assets of the Grange are protected in terms of purchase back options and first right of refusal. This refusal of buy back can only be exercised by delegate action. Also in the event the Foundation fails to meet the obligations of the contract the property returns to the Grange. This contract

is to be entered in to by the Grange as soon as the documents can be prepared and unless it is discovered that it is not in the best interest of both parties to do so, and all monies paid to the Grange by the Foundation be placed in a separate investment account. The principal balance collected by the Grange cannot be used without action of the delegate body. Interest from this investment account can be transferred to the general fund and used to fund Grange activities. The investment of these monies, as with all monies of the Grange, will be by the discretion of the Executive Board.

#### 2007 Resolutions:

1. In case there is an Ohio State Grange Master without a Seventh Degree member spouse, the Second Ohio State Grange delegate to the National Grange Session will be appointed by the Ohio State Grange Master, but this person must be approved by a majority of the Ohio State Grange Executive Board and the appointment shall be for the current session only with the appointment process taking place for subsequent sessions, if needed.
2. Revises the current Ohio State Grange By-Laws to permit the Young Adults/Young Married to elect their two (2) delegates at their summer meeting for a one (1) year term. Any YA/YM is eligible to submit a resume signed by their subordinate/community grange secretary to the Ohio State Grange Master/President by May 31. The YA/YM need not be present at the meeting to be elected. The election will be conducted by the State Grange Master/President or his/her appointed representative. In the event, an elected YA/YM delegate is unable to attend the convention or if not election was held, the State Master/President and Executive Board may appoint a YA/YM Delegate to serve.
3. Revises the Ohio State Grange By-Laws to permit the Youth to elect their two delegates at summer Youth Camp for a one (1) year term. Any Youth (ages 14-20) is eligible to submit a resume signed by their subordinate/community grange secretary to the State Grange Master/President by May 31. The Youth need not be present to be elected. The election will be conducted by the State Grange Master/President or his/her representative. In the event, an elected Youth delegate is unable to attend the convention or no election was held, the State Master/President and the State Youth Director may appoint a Youth delegate (ages 14-20) to serve.
4. SECTION 4: There shall be an Associate Membership Program and the dues of Associate Members shall be Thirty-five dollars (\$35) per year – Fifteen dollars (\$15) to remain in the Subordinate Grange that attained the membership, Ten Dollars (\$10) to the Ohio State Grange and Ten Dollars (\$10) to the National Grange. The Associate Member shall be entitled to Grange member services, such as the grange member rate for camping at the Friendly Hills Camp, the "Ohio Granger", and other such member services, which may be available to grange members in the future. The Associate Member shall not be entitled to attend regular Grange meetings, vote on matters on Grange policy or participate in National Grange sponsored contests that are designated for regular Grange members.
5. Rescinds term limits and allow for the unlimited service of Ohio State Grange Officers so long as they choose to return and are re-elected in accordance to the rules and by-laws of the Ohio State Grange.
6. Supports State Ambassadors representatives at National Grange Convention be allowed for ages 14-21 years of age.
7. Permits any county sending any number of Grange youth who wish to participate in the Youth Ambassador contest at the county's or individual's expense.
8. Supports sending a revised copy of state Grange by-Laws to each person on each committee when receiving resolutions to be acted upon at state convention.

#### 2008 Resolutions:

1. Supports requiring only an annual report of each Junior Grange be made at the end of the June quarter accompanied by current specified fees.
2. ARTICLE XI, SECTION 1, inserted between Paragraph 2 and 3, the Executive Board of the Ohio State Grange shall have the authority, between annual sessions of the Ohio State Grange, to adjust increases and decreases according to National Grange current policy dealing with dues structure, per capita required to be sent to the Secretary of the Ohio State Grange per quarter.
3. Revised the election process of Ohio State Grange Officers be elected in the following order to coincide with the National Grange Constitution, Master, Overseer, Executive Committee, Lecturer, Steward, Assistant Steward, Lady Assistant Steward, Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Gatekeeper, Ceres, Pomona and Flora.
4. Supports the determination of convention resolutions covered under Grange present policy be left to the delegate body of the Ohio State Grange annual session, and each delegate committee chairman at the Ohio State Grange annual session will be given a copy of Grange present policy in order to determine if resolutions are covered under present policy as well as to see how present policy may be affected by convention resolution.

#### 2009 Resolutions:

1. Allows for any Grange that has Active Grange Funds can contact the Ohio State Grange Office for information and upon request will receive a full report at the expense of the Grange requesting the report.
2. Paragraph #2, SECTION 1: ARTICLE VI, of the 2008 Ohio State Grange By-laws be deleted and the following paragraph be added under: ARTICLE IV, SECTION 10 of the 2008 Ohio State Grange By-Laws; "Section 10. Whenever the Master of the Ohio State Grange is single, or a married Master's spouse is unavailable for whatever reason, and thereby causing the Ohio State Grange to lose a delegate to lose a vote at the National Grange Session, thus creating the need for choosing a second voting delegate to represent Ohio at National Grange Session. The delegate body having elected the officers of the state grange, direct the executive board to appoint the second voting delegate in order of the elected state officers to be the second delegate of the Ohio State Grange at the National Session."
3. ARTICLE IV – SECTION #6 – New second paragraph add: "In the event there is no election in a county, the Deputy Master, along with the County Pomona Master and the Pomona Secretary shall attempt to appoint Patrons to serve, and thereby file credential papers with the Ohio State Grange" - to be inserted between the two current paragraphs of the Ohio State Grange By-Laws.
4. Supports changing the Honorary Junior Pledge to "I solemnly promise – that I will promote – the role of the Junior Grange – and encourage participation in it – and I willingly pledge to it – my active support and influence."
5. Supports the Executive Board appointing a task force to find a feasible solution to make our convention more affordable and mission as legislative delegates to our Order. Further requests that the task force receive suggestions from the Subordinate Granges.