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Yvonne Meritt, Master
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Master's Message...

Successful State Session Concludes And New Grange Year Is Already Underway

Greetings,

It has been very busy time these past two months. With the State Session and national convention behind us it is now time to focus on the future of our Grange. We had many Grangers attend the recent State Session in Pryor, Oklahoma. The committees were very busy. There were many resolutions presented before the delegate body. There were lots of entries in the Lecture Department and Grange Activities Contest.

We honored our scholarship recipients: Ann Keeton, Tim Keeton, Andrew McCann, Jera Priest and Clayton Krehbiel. Each shared information on their current educational goals.

Dates To Remember

Mar. 1 - Send Grange News to Marvin Purdy, 4202 W. Doolin, Blackwell, OK 74631, phone 580 363-5171, fax, 580 363-4296.

Cheryl Shafer of Cherryvale Grange was named Granger of the Year. She has served the Grange in many ways and it was an honor to recognize this Granger for her outstanding work.

Carl and Martha Shufeldt were name the Grange Family of the Year, and an overview of many of their Grange accomplishment was shared with those who attended. It was a very productive State Session.

Kay and I recently had the honor as serving as your representatives at the National Grange Convention in Cromwell, CT. It was a very busy session. We saw lots of old friend and made some new friends. I served as Chairman of the Labor and Judiciary Committee and Kay served on the Transportation and Taxation Committee. I also met with the Masters of the Great Plains States to start the plan for our own National Convention in 2011.

I have recently mailed a letter about Tyson Food issue in regards

to using the name "Grange" in an advertising campaign to all Subordinate Masters or known contact persons. The letter contains a letter from National Master Ed Luttrell outlining the issue and how it may impact us. I hope each Master will share this information with all Grangers. The National Grange is looking for donations to offset the expenses which are expected to be incurred. We must work together and follow the direction of the National Grange.

Important IRS filing is necessary for all Granges. This must be done by Jan. 15, 2009.

Beginning in 2008 the IRS now requires each Grange to file a yearly report to maintain their non-profit tax exemption status by using form 990N. The first report includes the Grange year from Sept. 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008 and filing is required by the 15th day of the fifth month after the closing of the respective tax year. You can go to <http://epostcard.form990.org>.

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Membership

By Jerry Taylor

Hello Fellow Grangers,

I am your new Membership Director. With your help, we will come up with new ideas to increase membership this year.

One way that could increase membership would be to send a member benefit brochure to each of your members. The ideal time to do this would be when you send your dues notice. You can get the brochures from the National Grange. You can download these from their website at www.nationalgrange.org. Another easy way to access this website is to

go to our own State Grange website at www.oklahomagrange.org and click on links, and it will direct you to the National Grange website. Once you're on the National Grange website, click on member benefits and then benefits brochure. If you would rather call the National Grange, the number is 1 800 447-2643 ext 109. They will send you brochures free of charge.

Also, we could include information on our Scholarship Program. This way all our members could take advantage of our benefits, and also spread the word to other people, thereby increasing membership.

We could also distribute this material at free fairs, through the schools, and other organizations, by setting up booths, and having some of the

members handing out the brochures and explaining the Grange to people.

We also need to remind our solicitors to better explain the Grange when selling our Insurance.

I will be sharing information as the year progresses. If you have an idea to increase membership, you can email me at jandataylor@junct.com.

Fraternally,
Jerry Taylor

Membership Director

Master's Message

Continued

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Kay and I would like to wish all Grangers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,
Yvonne Meritt

Oklahoma State Master
405-262-3354

Dig the Digest

by State Master Yvonne Meritt

This is a new section which I hope will help all Grangers become a little more familiar with "The Digest of Laws of the National Grange". I will pick a topic and publish in the section in each publication.

Meetings

4.9.2 Subordinate Granges - Shall meet at least once each month, however, such Granges may vote to hold additional meetings. Seven members is the least number with which a Subordinate Grange may be opened in due form, and shall constitute a quorum unless a greater number is provided in the By-Laws of the State Grange having jurisdiction. In cases where a quorum is not present, the Master may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is present.

4.9.3 Pomona Granges - Shall meet at least once in each calendar quarter, however, such Granges may vote to hold additional meetings as may be deemed necessary for the good of the Order. Seven members is the least number with which a Pomona Grange may be opened in due form, and shall constitute a quorum unless a greater number is provided for in the By-Laws of the State Grange having jurisdiction. In cases where a quorum is not present, the Master may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is present.

Youth Dept

By Billy and Lena Shufeldt

Greetings, We hope everyone is enjoying the Holiday Season. And we hope you all had a good time at the State Session. We would like to thank everyone who participated in the 5th Degree, and all those who bought items at our auction, and those who gave donations. A Big Thank you to you all.

Remember to keep watch in the newsletter for information on the upcoming Regional Youth Conference in July 2009.

Happy Holidays
Billy and Lena Shufeldt
State Youth Directors



Grange Scholarship Winners

Left to right: Tim Keeton, Ann Keeton both of Thompson Grange, Clayton Krehbiel of Cherryvale Grange, Andrew McCann and Jera Priest of Goodwill Grange.

Lecturer's Lesson

By Deloris Walker

Here we are already in December. The year has passed so quickly. As we prepare for Christmas, let us remember the true reason for the season.

I would like to thank everyone who entered the Photo Contest at State Session. There were many wonderful photos entered. The following were winners:

Tell-A-Story (14-18)

1. Leslie Nutter
2. Mary Krehbiel
3. Sheila Conrady
4. Mark Conrady
5. Cheryl Shafer

Christmas/Holiday Season (Adult)

1. LeeAnn Bailey
2. Sharon Smith
3. Mark Conrady
4. LeeAnn Bailey
5. Cheryl Shafer

Scenic (14-18)

1. Mitchell Nutter
2. Camille Krehbiel

Scenic (Adult)

1. Clayton Krehbiel
2. Mary Krehbiel
3. Mary Krehbiel
4. Mark Conrady
5. Clayton Krehbiel

Agriculture (5-9)

1. Colton Conrady

Agriculture (14-18)

1. Camille Krehbiel

Agriculture (Adult)

1. Sheila Conrady
2. Cheryl Shafer
3. Sheila Conrady

Animals (5-9)

1. Colton Conrady

Animals (14-18)

1. Camille Krehbiel

Animals (Adult)

1. LeeAnn Bailey
2. LeeAnn Bailey
3. Mary Krehbiel

People (5-9)

1. Colton Conrady

People (14-18)

1. Camille Krehbiel
2. Camille Krehbiel
3. Camille Krehbiel
4. Curtis Nutter

People (Adult)

1. Leslie Nutter
2. Mitchell Nutter
3. LeeAnn Bailey
4. Sheila Conrady
4. LeeAnn Bailey

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Lecturer's Lesson

By Deloris Walker

Continued from previous page

Although we didn't send anyone to Nationals for the talent event, we had several wonderful entrants. The following were the participants, all performing vocals: Melody Shufeldt, Bailey and Melody Shufeldt, Colton Conrady, Johnny Borgstrom, Linda Newman, and Stephanie Nutter. Thank you to each of you!

Donations were taken for Dogs for the Deaf. We raised \$411.00. The insurance company matched our donation. Then the executive members matched it. We ended with a total donation of \$1,233.00. Thank you to all who saved can tabs to donate to Ronald McDonald House. We ended up with several full gallon and quart bags of tabs.

December comes from the Latin word for ten as this was originally the tenth month of the year. January is named for the Roman god Janus, protector of gates and doorways. He is depicted as having two faces; one looking to the past and one looking to the future. February comes from the Latin word Februs meaning "to Cleanse." This was a month of purification and atonement for the Romans.

In our next news letter I'll be telling you about our projects for the next year. Until then I'd like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a blessed and joyous New Year.

Fraternally,
Deloris Walker
State Lecturer

JUNIOR GRANGE
Carrying The
Grange Tradition Forward!

Chaplain's Corner

By Sheila Conrady

Holiday Wishes, Grangers!

I hope the Christmas decorations are out of storage and nobody got hurt putting up the lights. I know we will all be busy with Christmas programs at church and school, as well as parties for every organization we belong to. I hope that we are not too busy shopping and going to catch the true spirit of this blessed holiday. Here are some of my ideas to help...

1. Bake. Yes, it can hurt the waist line, but it can help the family ties if you bring in the kids and grandkids and do something for fun with them.
2. Stop and enjoy the decorations. You know how long it took to put them up, so stop and bask in the glow of the holiday lights.
3. Keep Christ in Christmas. Go to church or read the different versions of the Christmas Story in the Bible. Set up a Nativity in a central place. Most of all, say Merry Christmas, not happy holidays or season's greetings.
4. Do an anonymous good deed, Secret Santa, or Angel Tree. It doesn't matter. It will do your heart more good than it will hurt your pocketbook.
5. Put those Christmas cards on display on a card tree, or (I prefer) draped across a window curtain rod. This will remind you of all the loved ones who care.

Merry Christmas

OKLAHOMA

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Oklahoma Grange members. Property Insurance
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exclusively. Provides the greatest insurance
coverage at the lowest possible cost.

Patronize Your Own
Grange Mutual Insurance Association and Save
Marvin Purdy, President, Robert Bailey, Vice President,
Dee Proctor, Secretary, Brad Keeton, Treasurer

Congratulations To Our New Granger Of The Year And Grange Family Of The Year!



"Granger of the Year" Cheryl Shafer
Cherryvale Grange



"Grange Family of the Year"
Carl and Martha Shufeldt of OU
Grange

Junior Grange

By Ann Keeton

Hello again, fellow Grangers,

I would like to first say a great big thanks to all the Juniors who attended the Oklahoma State Grange this year. We had 9 Juniors who participated in Junior Grange Activities. I hope that next year we can have even more in attendance. The contest winners were as follows:

Milk Jug contest:

1. Colten Conrady
2. Stephanie Nutter
3. Carly Conrady

Reading Across America:

Katelyn Bailey
Melody shufeldt
Bailey Shufeldt
Stephanie Nutter

Thank you also to the Oklahoma State Youth Department for taking all the Youth and Juniors bowling. We would also like to say thank you for supplying pizza before the 5th and 6th degrees.

The next thing coming up for the Juniors to participate in is Degree Day. I hope all Juniors will be in attendance. Check the next paper for date, time, location, and contests to

participate in. Remember to write down the title, author, and number of pages that you read from now until State Session next year. We will have prize money for those who have read the most. I hope you all had Happy Holidays and remember to feed the birds while the snow is on the ground.

Fraternally,
Ann Keeton
Junior Director

It's Free! Subscribe to the...

NEW Grange

Contact: NATIONAL GRANGE
OF THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

1616 H Street NW • Washington, DC 20006
(888) 4-GRANGE • (202) 628-3507 • Fax: (202) 347-1091

Oklahoma Grange Activities

By Debbie Borgstrom and Aliene Taylor

Thanks to everyone who took part in the Oklahoma State Grange 93rd Session Grange Activities. Hope you had fun. Here are the winners of the contests.

Community Service

1. Cherryvale #221
2. Union #349
3. OU #355
4. Thompson #352

Participants

Adair #356
Ketchum #357
Bluejacket #353
Prairie #334
Big Cabin #156
Pleasant View #354

What a wonderful job the Grange did for the different Community Service projects. It was great to have 10 Granges participating this year. Congratulations to Wilma and Marvin Purdy for the longest number of years of participation!

Coloring, Drawing, Painting, Etc. (Girls)

- 1, 2, 3. Stephanie Nutter

Coloring, Drawing, Painting, Etc. (Boys)

1. Avery Couch
- 2, 3. Jace Couch

Design Handbag or Belt (Girls)

1. Bailey Shufeldt
2. Camille Krehbiel
3. Kennedy Bailey

Model Car, Plane, Motorcycle (Boys)

1. Saxon Kuehn
2. Seth Buffington

Chocolate Chip Cookies

1. Pat Broyles

Candy

1. Carl Shufeldt
2. Richard Volz

3. Camille Krehbiel

Pie

1. Martha Shufeldt
2. Marie Volz
3. Helen Londagen

Design Bag

1. Mary Krehbiel
2. Aliene Taylor
3. LeeAnn Bailey

Towel Embroidery, Etc.

1. Pat Broyles
2. Pat Broyles
3. Beverly Rapp

Open Embroidery, Quilts, Etc

1. Mary Krehbiel
2. Helen Londagen
3. Jennifer Larmon

Open Class Men

- 1, 2. Marvin Purdy

Wood Box Toys & Storage

1. Jerry Taylor
2. Richard Volz
3. Floyd Buffington

See you next year! Happy Holidays.

Debbie Borgstrom &
Aliene Taylor
Grange Activities
Co-Directors

Secretaries Take Note

By Donna Keeton

It is hard to believe that the State Session is over and a new Grange year has begun. There were 14 Subordinate Granges and 2 Pomona Granges that had at least two representatives from their Subordinate Grange. Goodwill #13, Clear Creek #84, Bethel #129, Big Cabin #156, Cherryvale #221, Prairie #334, Union #349, South Coffeyville #351, Thompson #352, Bluejacket #353, Pleasant View #354, OU #355, Adair #356, Ketchum #357, Kay County Pomona #1, and Green Country Pomona #19. These Subordinate Granges will have their fourth quarter dues paid. The only thing that their secretaries will need to send is the quarterly report for the fourth quarter and Initiation fees for any new members.

There were 14 candidates who took the Fifth and Sixth Degrees.

This year there were 25 resolutions that were worked on and two of them were sent on to the National Convention.

This year we voted on a dues increase. It will start first quarter of 2009. The dues increase is \$4 which would make it \$20 a year per member and \$40 a year per family unit. So each quarter, each subordinate Grange would pay \$5 a quarter per member, and \$10 a quarter per family unit.

I am working on a new roster book for our state and the 2008 Proceedings booklet. I would like to have all the Subordinate Granges send me a report of things that you have done over the past Grange year so that I can put it in the proceedings. Also I would like to have Subordinate Grange Officers contact information sent to me so that I can put that in the Roster. I would also like to have the date and time of your Subordinate Grange meetings. This will also go on the Oklahoma State Grange Web page.