

# Sooner State Granger



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Yvonne Meritt, Master  
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Master's Message...

## ***State Session Shaping Up Fast!***

Greetings,

Our State Session will be here before we know it. Letters and emails about the State Session have been sent to Subordinate Masters, Officers, Directors and to everyone that I have in my address book.

All reservations were due by September 12 and no late reservations will be accepted. This is the weekend of the OSU football game so once I release any rooms not reserved it will be unlikely that I will be able to make any late reservations.

State Session is a time to look at the policies of the Grange. I hope your Grange will submit resolutions for consideration by the delegates. This

is a grassroots organization and that means your input is needed. Please submit your resolutions to either me or the State Secretary by October 1.

It is time to submit names for nomination for Granger of the Year and Grange Family of the Year. Please submit names with a letter of recommendation to me by Oct. 1.

I hope you are all doing well and are planning to attend our State Session.

This summer has been a very busy one for Kay and I both since our granddaughter was born on July 26 and then on August 2 Kay's mother was hospitalized for nearly a month. So if you have called and I have either not answered or by chance I did not return your calls, I apologize.

See you in Guthrie,

Fraternally,  
Yvonne Meritt  
State Master

## **Dates To Remember**

**Oct. 16-18 - State Grange Session.**

**Nov. 17-21 - National Session.** in Michigan.

**Dec. 1 - Send Grange News** to Marvin Purdy, 4202 W. Doolin, Blackwell, OK 74631, phone 580 363-5171, fax, 580 363-4296. If you prefer, you may email your news to robert@tradersbend.com.

## **Bruce Croucher To Represent National Grange At State Session**



Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Croucher

Bruce joined Grange in 1967 after marrying into a Grange family. He took all seven degrees in the same year. He was a marching candidate in the Seventh Degree at the centennial session of the National Grange in Syracuse, New York. Bruce and Sharon served as New York State Grange and National Grange Youth Directors. Bruce was first elected to a State Grange Office in 1979 and has served as Gatekeeper, Steward, Overseer and Master. He is currently Public Relations Director for New York State Grange. Bruce retired as

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## Bruce Croucher To Represent National At State Session

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State Master in 2007.

Bruce had a thirty-year career as a math teacher in the Phelps-Clifton Springs School district. He retired from that position in 1996. He serves as Director of the Ontario Insurance Company. As a director he serves on the Executive Committee and the Investment Committee. He has also served as Board Chairman. Bruce is serving the second year of his two year term as chair of the Empire State Council of Agricultural Organizations. He is active in his church serving as a lay reader and Eucharistic Minister.

Bruce served on the National Grange Executive Committee from 1999 through 2007. He currently is serving as Priest Annalist of the Assembly of Demeter.



## Birth Announcement

### Jessi Lynn Meritt

Born July 26, 2009 at 12:24 p.m.  
Weight 6 lbs 11 oz 19 3/4 inches  
Long

Parents: Kris and Morgan Meritt  
and the big brother is Ryan Meritt

She is the Granddaughter of Kay  
and Yvonne Meritt (State Master) all  
of Prairie Grange

She is the Great Granddaughter of  
Edna Meritt of Riverdale Grange

# State Session Tentative Agenda

## Old Santa Fe Depot Guthrie, OK

### Oct. 15, 2009 Thursday

5:00 p.m. Set-up for meeting.  
6:30 p.m. Welcome dinner. (Pro-  
vided, Informal)  
7:30 p.m. Officer's Practice. Execu-  
tive Meeting to follow.

### Oct. 16, 2009 Friday

8:00 a.m. Registration for Officers,  
Delegates and Contest Entries.  
9:00 a.m. Opening of the Oklahoma  
State Grange.  
12:00 p.m. Closing of the Oklahoma  
State Grange.  
12:15 p.m. Lunch. (Provided)  
2:00 p.m. Committee Meetings.  
6:00 p.m. Celebration Banquet:  
(Minimal cost) Activities, Talent,  
Junior and Membership Awards.  
Granger of the Year Award, Talent  
Contest

### Oct. 17, 2009 Saturday

8:00 a.m. Opening of the Oklahoma

State Grange in the 4th Degree.

12:15 p.m. Oklahoma Grange Mutual  
Insurance Association Luncheon.  
(Provided)

1:30 p.m. Oklahoma Grange Mutual  
Insurance Meeting.

4:00 p.m. Return to session.

5:30 p.m. Break for dinner. (on your  
own)

7:00 p.m. Conferral of the 5th and  
6th Degrees and any unfinished  
business.

9:00 p.m. Closing of the Grange fol-  
lowed by Youth and Junior Fund  
Raising Activities.

### Oct. 18, 2009 Sunday

8:30 a.m. Memorial Services.

9:00 a.m. Opening of the Oklahoma  
State Grange.

10:30 a.m. Installation of newly  
elected Officers.

11:30 a.m. Closing of the Okla-  
homa State Grange and Friendship  
Circle.

**Patronize Your Own  
Grange Mutual  
Insurance  
Association  
and Save.**

**Marvin Purdy, President  
Robert Bailey, Vice Pres.  
Dee Proctor, Secretary  
Brad Keeton, Treasurer**

Organized through the  
cooperative efforts of  
Oklahoma Grange members. Property Insurance  
coverage written for Oklahoma Grange members  
exclusively. Provides the greatest insurance  
coverage at the lowest possible cost.

## Youth Report

By Billy and Lena Shufeldt

The 2009 Great Plains Regional Youth Conference was recently held in Broken Arrow, Ok. We had 74 people who attended and we stayed at the Clarion hotel in Broken Arrow. On Friday evening we had Subway and sat around and got acquainted with everyone. Guests were the National Youth Dir. Charlene Shuppe Espenshade from Pennsylvania and the National Junior Director Ann Kurbuski from Michigan. They held a work shop together and did an awesome job. I think everyone who attended the work shop had a great time.

They inspired our Youth and Juniors to participate in the work shops, and they are pretty convincing because there were some who weren't going to do anything but did anyway, which turned out to be pretty awesome. The Youth and Juniors did an excellent job on their speeches thanks to you guys.

After the work shop and lunch we visited the Tulsa Air Space Museum and Planetarium which I thought was pretty cool, and I think a lot of others did too. After that we all loaded back up in the bus and went back to the hotel and had Pizza, then all the Youth and Juniors who wanted headed to play Laser Tag that was a hit also. On Sunday morning we all had breakfast and met back in the meeting room for our good-byes, said a prayer and headed for home. I would like to Thank Dee and Scheneiesta again for all their help, they were wonderful. Also, a great big Thank You to all who attended and made this Conference a great success.

Sincerely,  
Billy and Lena Shufeldt



Grange Solicitors learning how to use new program on their laptop computers.

## Secretaries Take Note

By Donna Keeton

State Session is just around the corner, and I hope everyone is working on resolutions. I will need the resolutions as soon as possible.

Secretaries, don't forget to have your report for your Granges ready and your dues paid up.

I also hope everyone is planning on coming to the State Session. I will need the names of the Delegates and anyone else who is planning to attend. Also, don't forget that every Grange can have at least three delegates. Encourage someone new to come. There will be lots of fun and educational things at the State Session. It is always great to see everyone there and have fellowship with all the Grangers.

Fraternally,  
Donna Keeton,  
State Secretary

## Lecturer's Lesson

By Deloris Walker

As you are all aware, State Session is not far away. I hope that you have all been taking lots of pictures with the photo contest in mind. The categories are Grangers Having Fun, Animals, and Landscapes. We will also do the Tell-A-Story category where 2 or more pictures tell a story. Only one entry per category, per person. Please label on the back with your name and Grange.

I hope you have been thinking  
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## GRANGE ACTIVITIES

Fostering Community Service,  
Traditional Skills, and Recreation

# Enjoy the Sights And History Of Guthrie While You're Attending The Grange Session

Guthrie stands on the gentle rolling prairie of Oklahoma once occupied by Native Americans and herds of grazing buffalo. Born of the Great Land Run of April 22, 1889, this dusty prairie stop along the AT&SF Railroad became a city of over 10,000 people in a single day. Built to Victorian elegance, the magnificent architecture of Oklahoma's first State Capital, still stands today as a National Historic Landmark. History is brought to life each day on Historic Trolley Tours and in places like the Oklahoma Territorial Museum, Oklahoma Publishing Museum & the Frontier Drugstore Museum.

Ongoing restoration since the 1980's has preserved Guthrie's rich architectural legacy and all its grandeur. Almost all of the original 19th century buildings remain and most of the commercial structures have been restored. Today, Guthrie is the largest contiguous urban historic district on the National Register, extending 1,400 acres and 400 city blocks. A living museum of late 19th century architecture, Guthrie was designated a National Landmark Community in 1999.

With four more museums, the world largest Scottish Rite Masonic Temple, live productions at the Pollard Theatre, the best of bluegrass music at the Double Stop Music Hall, year round events at the Lazy E Arena, six annual festivals and so much more, there's always a great reason to visit Guthrie. Visitors can shop the numerous boutiques, specialty shops and art galleries downtown and see the homes of governors, editors and lawmen. Guthrie's historic

residential areas, jubilant festivals, bronc-busting rodeos, live professional theatre, fascinating museums, historic trolley tours, exquisite dining and charming lodging make Guthrie a wonderful place for the whole family.

So, come for a romantic getaway, plan your small business meeting, or bring the family to ride the carnival rides of our 89er's Days celebration. Visit Guthrie and experience over 100 years of history and hospitality, or explore a history like nowhere else on earth!

## Lecturer's Lesson

By Deloris Walker

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about entering the talent show. Vocal, Instrumental, Skit, Reading, or whatever talent you have. The best of show will be able to represent Oklahoma at the National Grange Convention.

Don't forget your money for donation to Hearts for Hearing. We will also be selling raffle tickets for two donated throws for this project.

Don't forget to bring your can tabs to State. They will be given to help Ronald McDonald House. I hope we have as many as we did in '08. I'll be looking forward to seeing all of you in Guthrie in October.

Fraternally,  
Deloris Walker,  
State Lecturer

Your State and National Grange Work Hard For You, so Work Hard for your Grange, too!

### Lodging:

Sleep Inn & Suites  
414 Heather Road  
Guthrie, OK, US 73044  
Direct Line: (405) 260-1400  
<http://www.sleepinnguthrie.com/>

### Directions:

State Session will be at :  
Old Santa Fe Depot of Guthrie  
<http://www.theoldsantafedepotofguthrie.com>  
409 W Oklahoma Ave  
Guthrie, OK 73044-3174  
(405) 260-0700

## Oklahoma GRANGE INFORMATION

*is only a  
mouse click away...*

## CHECK OUT THE

## OKLAHOMA GRANGE WEB PAGE

at  
<http://oklahomagrange.org>