



Published Quarterly
Donna Keeton, Master
Marvin Purdy, Editor
4202 West Doolin,
Blackwell, OK 74631
March 2012

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 122
Tonkawa, Okla. 74653

Master's Message...

Degree Day Next On Tap In Welch, OK.

The National Grange has lost two remarkable men; they were both past National Masters, Kermit Richardson and John Scott. They will be missed.

Now is the time to get in gear for the new Grange year. In February Brad and I went to Atlanta,

Dates To Remember

March 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. the National Master will be at South Coffeyville, OK at the Cherokee Community Center

April 14, 2012 - Degree Day at Welch, OK. Civic Center, 10 am.

June 1, 2012 - News items for next Sooner Granger are due. Send to Marvin Purdy, 4202 W. Doolin, Blackwell, OK 74631 or Fax 580 363-4296.

June 15-17 2012, Father's Day Weekend for the Great Plains Leaders Conference hosted by Kansas Grange at the Holiday Inn in Lawrence, KS. Registration forms inside.

June 30, 2012 is the deadline for the scholarship application.

Georgia for a State Master's Meeting. It was a very productive meeting. While there I received a new charter for our new Grange - Vinita Grange #360. It was started by Delbert Bowers.

Mark your calendar for March 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. the National Master will be at South Coffeyville, OK the Cherokee Community Center. There will be a supper at six and then at Seven o'clock the master will present an interesting program and answer any questions you might have.

April is Grange Month the Grange packets are in the mail. The Degree Day will be hosted by Clear Creek Grange at the Civic Center in Welch, OK. The Degree day will start at 10:00 a.m. there will be door prizes and lunch provided. It should last until at least 1:00 p.m. If any Grange member would like to be considered for a scholarship one of the requirements is to come to the Degree Day.

The Great Plains Conference will be hosted by Kansas June 15-17, 2012. It will be in Lawrence Kansas at the Holiday Inn. The National Membership Director, Na-

tional Lecturer, the National Youth Director and the National Junior Director will be there. The Executive Committee decided to help pay toward the expenses of each Oklahoma Grange member of \$50.00 per person. Don't forget there will be a Speech and a Sign-A-Song contest. They will be judged and the winners will go on to the National Grange Convention this November.

June 30, 2012 is the deadline for the scholarship application. This year you will need to send the application to me. There will be an application in this newsletter and you will be able to get a copy of this application on line at okgrange.org.

The Membership Directors Jerry Taylor and Carl Shufeldt will be in charge of the Granger of the Year. If you have any suggestions please notify them by August 1, 2012.

The State Session will be held in Broken Arrow, OK on October 19-21, 2012.

Let's start working on the contests that the Lecturer and the Grange Activities Director have planned for us.

There will still be a photo con-
(Continued on page 2)

Membership

Carl Shufeldt and Jerry Taylor, Directors

Hello Fellow Grangers

I hope everyone has enjoyed the mild winter we have had. Even though it has been a mild winter, I am still looking forward to spring. This year we have co-membership directors. Carl Shufeldt has been added, and will be a great asset in accomplishing our goals. We expect to have a large membership gain this year.

With our new insurance policies taking effect January 1st, there is no reason any Subordinate Grange should not have an increase in membership.

There are many ways to increase membership in the Grange, but in Oklahoma about 98% of gain comes through the insurance. This leaves most of the responsibility with your insurance agent. When the agent is visiting a new client he or she should also explain the other benefits associated with Grange.

Master's Message

Continued

(Continued from page 1)

test at National Grange and also a quilt block contest. The quilt will need to be in fall colors and it needs to be a log cabin design. It can be hand sewn or machine stitched. There will be more information later.

Grange Mutual Insurance has moved into an office in Vinita, OK the address is 216th S. 7th St. Suite 5. Come and visit Dee and Ryan our new Office Manger.

Each Subordinate Grange needs a solicitor who is willing to work at selling more policies, thus gaining new members. If the solicitor will explain the working of the Grange we can get more active members. Since we are now much more competitive with our policies, and offer more options for our customers, the policies are much easier to sell.

We challenge each Subordinate Grange to gain at a minimum of 15% more members this year. This would put our membership close to 2000 members. If your Grange does not gain this amount, go ask your solicitor why. The growth of the Grange has to start at the subordinate level, so it is the responsibility of each Subordinate Grange to keep the Oklahoma State Grange a functioning organization.

Carl Shufeldt
Jerry Taylor

Membership Directors

Junior Grange

Scheneista Procter, Director

Hello, Junior Grangers,

I am excited about this coming year. This year will be filled with lots of exciting activities. The theme for this year is Plant a Seed and Watch Us Grow. I hope everyone can attend Degree Day in Welch. I have planned our first activity for Degree Day and we are going to plant some flowers and seeds. We are going to keep track of the way they grow and the Junior Granger who keeps theirs alive and keeps track of it will win a prize, but you have to plant it at Degree Day. Please wear old clothes, because we might get a little dirty planting our seeds. I can't wait to see all of you there.

Scheneista Procter
Junior Director

Oklahoma's Grange

is
***BUILDING BRIDGES
TO THE FUTURE***

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

**Marvin Purdy, President
Robert Bailey, Vice Pres.
Dee Procter, Secretary
Donna Keeton,
Treasurer**

OKLAHOMA

**GRANGE
MUTUAL
INSURANCE**

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

Billy and Lena Shufeldt, Directors

Hello everyone,

Bill and I have been asked to be your Youth Directors again and we accepted. I hope all have had a great start to your 2012 year. It has been a very mild start so far. I hope it stays that way. We are looking forward to Spring and Summer. Just a few reminders, we are having our Degree Day this year at Welch Ok, on the April 14, 2012 at the Civic center. I would like to see all of my youth there. We have some planning to do. We have been asked to open in the 4th degree at State Session on Sat morning. So I will need to have everyone here to see what station you would like to be at.

Aslo you will need to really be here if you want to be eligible for the Scholarship program as well. I would also like for my youth to do a scavenger hunt, and bring these items to Degree Day

I have 5 things I'm asking for you to bring: A picture of yourself with an employee at Mcdonalds, a Subway Napkin, a piece of Super Bubble Bubble Gum, a Ok State Grange Ink Pen, and a Plastic Easter Egg filled with Candy. Be sure and bring these Items to Degree Day. We will be having the Great Plains Youth Conference at the Holiday Inn at Lawrence Kansas the weekend of June 15th 16th & 17th The Ok State Grange is only paying \$50.00 of the cost, but we don't have the full cost of what it is going to be yet. Will know more by Degree Day, we will be putting the application for the Great Plains Youth Conference on our Web page okgrange.org. So you can access it there, I

would like to know if at all possible by Degree day how many will be going to the Conference so I can see what the Youth can pay for. Also we will be doing Sign-a- Song and Speeches at Degree day so Youth come prepared for this. And we are not going to be renting a Van since it will be this close for us to drive, that way the youth will be able to

help with expenses as well. If you need to contact me for any reason my phone number is 918-467-0284 I do get Text as well my e-mail is lenashu61@yahoo.com. Hope to see everyone at the Degree Day in April.

Billy and Lena Shufeldt
Youth Directors

Lecturer's Lesson

By Yvonne Meritt

Lecturer Quickie Tips

Here are some quickie tips which may help you in presenting your programs at your Grange meeting.

1. When the Master calls for the program, ask him to declare the Grange "at ease" to allow for movement.
2. Be ready to start as soon as the Master calls for the program.
3. Furnish your Secretary and Information Chairman with an outline of your program, with correct titles, participants, etc.
4. Be enthusiastic, proud, and SMILE!
5. Program should have an orderly sequence, losing no time.
6. Utilize exhibits or visual aids to compliment your theme for the evening.
7. Make sure all your members are comfortable and can see or hear well.
8. Involve as many people as possible.

9. Remember to strive to reach all ages.

10. Be sure to thank everyone for participation.

"From the Tops"

National Grange Publication
1996

Tom Smith, Michigan

Hope to see you at the Leadership Conference in June.

Yvonne Meritt, Lecturer
Oklahoma State Grange

Shop The National

**GRANGE
STORE**

Offering a
wide assortment of
Grange Products and
Merchandise from Jew-
elry to Grange Supplies.

Visit

www.grangestore.org

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain Terry Stolezing

Why We Celebrate Easter...

Palm Sunday is the day that marks Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey. It is recorded that when this happened, followers worshiped Jesus by laying down their robes and waving palms, hence the name. The scripture reading on this day is from Mark 11, 'Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is the kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest!"' (Mk 11: 8-10) On this day there is a mass. At this time Jesus was very popular, but was not to leave Jerusalem in such high esteem. Jesus rode into town on a donkey, which shows his humility and is a great example of how even the Son of God can be so humble.

Holy Thursday celebrates the Last Supper. This is the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples. It is known as the first mass, where Jesus blessed bread and wine, and requested we do the same to remind us of his sacrifice for us. On this night also, Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. This again is an example of Jesus' love, care and humility that is a great influence to Christians to live as Jesus did. It also prepares us for the final act of total self-giving, which occurs on Good Friday

- Jesus' death for of us. On Holy Thursday there is a mass. This reminds us of the first mass and the gift of the mass given to us by Jesus at the Last Supper. During this mass the oils of chrism and catechumens are blessed for use throughout the year for the sick, and for baptisms and confirmations etc. The readings on this day are from John 13, 'He (Jesus) from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel round his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped round him.' (John 13: 4-5)

Good Friday is the day, which commemorates

the death of Jesus. This is not a holy day of obligation but is a day of fasting and abstinence, so many Catholics fast, which helps them to reflect on all the privileges they have and the sacrifice Jesus made for us on this day, and many give to charity. The scripture readings on this day are from Mark 15, 'At the sixth hour, darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"- which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.' (Mk 15: 33-34, 37)

Holy Saturday is a day of quiet anticipation, marking Jesus' resting in the tomb. On this day the apostles were in mourning and no one was sure that Jesus would rise again. On Holy Saturday evening, the Easter vigil takes place. This shows us that Jesus is our light to guide us to eternal life, which he made possible for us through his victory over death and evil. The scripture readings on this day are from Mark 16, 'When the Sabbath day was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome brought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus body "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go tell the disciples and peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee . There you will see him, just as he told you'"' (Mk 16: 1, 5-6) The Easter vigil is a very joyful, holy and important mass, which shows us to Easter Sunday where we can praise and thank God for the opportunity of eternal life in heaven.

Easter is a large celebration in the Christian churches. Therefore as our country is nominally of Christian background, a national holiday is observed.

Terry Stolezing
State Grange Chaplain

Great Plains Regional Conference Schedule

The Kansas State Grange is hosting the 2012 Great Plains Regional Conferences June 15-17, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Holidome & Convention Center in Lawrence, Kansas. Price for the conference will be \$65 (\$75 with Ag Hall of Fame Tour) and a block of rooms have been reserved at this location. Room reservation will be based on individual call in, reserve your room by May 16 to receive group rate of \$89 per night.

Simple Schedule	
Sunday - May 6, 2012	
	Conference Registration Deadline
Wednesday - May 16, 2012	
	Hotel Room Reservation Deadline
Friday - June 15, 2012	
Afternoon / Evening	Arrival and Registration
Evening	Reception (light snacks included)
	Game Night and Getting Acquainted
Saturday - June 16, 2012	
Morning	Breakfast with Welcome
	Workshops (see below for more info.)
Noon	Lunch with Speaker
Afternoon	Community Service Project
	Tours (see below for more info.)
Evening	Annual Banquet
	Youth and Lecturer's Programs
Sunday - June 17, 2012	
Morning	Sunday Morning Services
	Leave for home

Registration and Money can be sent payable to: Registration mon-
 eys payable to: Jamee Funk, Kansas State Grange, 424 North Locust St.,
 Whitewater, Ks 67154 or email to: ksgrange.youth@gmail.com

Please contact Nathan Strawder or Jamee Funk for any questions. Na-
 than Strawder (316)680-6045, leave message. Jamee Funk (580)302-2319,
 leave message

Workshops – workshops will be divided into four groups (Youth & Young Adults, Juniors, Lecturers, and Membership). For those attending the workshops for Lec-
 turers and Membership will attend a primary workshop for that depart-
 ment and will also get a choice of a secondary workshop (secondary
 workshops will be selected at time of conference).

Tours – we are offering a selec-
 tion of tour options. The main tour will be to the National Agricultural
 Hall of Fame, there will be an ad-
 ditional \$10 fee for this option,
 please note those attending as Youth
 & Young Adults will be asked to
 choose this tour option. Other tour
 options will be chosen at time of
 conference and will include attrac-
 tions around Lawrence and the Uni-
 versity of Kansas.

Tour Alternative – we are look-
 ing into offering an alternative to the
 tours, if there is enough interest, we
 might offer a 9 holes of golf option.
 All fees will be paid by participant
 at club house, location will be on a
 local public course. If you are inter-
 ested please send email to ksgrange.
 youth@gmail.com by May 6 (same
 deadline as registration).

Hotel information can be seen
 on-line by going to [http://www.holi-
 dayinn.com/hotels/us/en/lawrence/
 lwrks/hoteldetail](http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/lawrence/lwrks/hoteldetail)

To register online go to
[https://sites.google.com/
 site/2012greatplains/](https://sites.google.com/site/2012greatplains/)

To print and mail registration
 or send by email go to [https://docs.
 google.com/file/d/0B97fpBmXwW
 hONzBZMkpqc2RUMmlHZjJoVG
 U3aUhxQQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B97fpBmXwWhONzBZMkpqc2RUMmlHZjJoVGU3aUhxQQ/edit) .



2012 Great Plains Regional Conferences

June 15-17
Lawrence, Kansas



Registration Form

Deadline is May 6, 2012
\$65 per Person (\$75 with Ag HoF Tour)

Name: _____ Grange State: _____
 Address: _____ Grange Name: _____
 City: _____ Email Address: _____
 State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Participating In Conference as:
(please select one)

Youth & Young Adult

Junior Granger

Lecturer

Membership

Ag. Hall of Fame Tour (\$10 fee)

(Youth & Young Adults are asked to take tour)

Yes

No

Public Speaking Sign-up

Prepared Speech	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 13-19	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 20-29	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 30+
Elevator Speech	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 13-19	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 20-29	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 30+
Impromptu Speech	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 13-19	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 20-29	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 30+
Junior Prepared Speech	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 8-10	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/> ages 13-14

Sign Language Sign-up

Sign A Song Novice Hobbyist Group
 Expert Junior (ages 8-14)

Sign the Alphabet
(ages 8-14 only)

Yes

Registration Moneys Payable to:
Kansas State Grange

Send form and money to:
Jamee Funk
424 North Locust St.
Whitewater, Ks 67154
Or email form to:
ksgrange.youth@gmail.com

Legislative Report

by Yvonne Meritt, Legislative Director

The National Grange takes a stand in the Child Farm Labor Regulations. Here is a news release from the National Grange. Being a farmers daughter who worked hard on a farm and truly believe these lesson instilled in me the work ethic that I have today...
Grange Commends DOL's Reconsideration of Child Farm Labor Regulations

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Grange, this week, applauded the Dept. of Labor for withdrawing their proposed regulations to alter child labor rules as they apply to children working in agriculture.

National Grange President Ed Luttrell said the organization commends the decision because as written, the proposals would have had a negative impact on America's family farms and ranches.

"As a family organization, the safety and well being of our youth is a top priority for the Grange, because we know that we are training tomorrow's farmers and ranchers," Luttrell said. "Bestowed with that responsibility, we understand that it is necessary to provide a safe and secure setting where our youth can develop their interests in agriculture and carry that knowledge into the future. regulations that prohibit youth from obtaining that knowledge are ultimately counterproductive to the larger legacy of training tomorrow's growers."

The National Grange and numerous other agriculture organizations had decried the proposed regulations in late 2011, citing concerns that such a move might lead to the

waning interest of future producers in agriculture and many other social consequences outweighing potential benefits to changes in regulation.

"The Department's proposals, though well intentioned, were far too encompassing and limiting to farming youth," Luttrell said. "We applaud their decision to withdraw, and believe this to be a victory for America's farming families."

Established in 1867, The National Grange, a nonpartisan, nonprofit fraternal organization, is the oldest agricultural and rural community service organization. With more than 2,100 local chapters, the Grange has

Support Given for Farm Bill Conservation Title

WASHINGTON — Recently 643 organizations, representing tens of millions Americans, expressed strong support for the Conservation Title of the U.S. Farm Bill in a letter sent to Chairwoman of the Senate Agriculture Committee Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee Frank Lucas (R-OK), as well as the ranking members of those committees.

The letter urges the committees to provide the greatest possible priority for conservation programs in the funding and structuring of Farm Bill reauthorization.

The letter states that, "In our vast collective experience we can say, without any doubt, that the programs within the Conservation Title work cost-effectively to serve the short and long term interests of the American people."

evolved into the nation's leading rural advocacy organization and a major benefactor to local communities. There are more than 160,000 members across the United States.

Please also be mindful of legislative issues as our state legislature is currently in session.

Yvonne Meritt
Legislative Director

Check It Out!
NEW
Oklahoma
GRANGE
WEBSITE
 at
<http://www.okgrange.org>

Still has a few growing pains, but is mostly complete!

Color Photos
Grange History
Download Forms
Find Information
Retrieve Archived
Newsletters
and more

Best Viewed in IE9, Firefox, Safari, Opera, or Chrome

Oklahoma State Grange Opportunities For Higher Education Scholarship Application

Please print or type

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

First Name _____ MI _____ Last _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Date of Birth _____ Social Security No _____

EDUCATION:

Education completed to date: _____

Please describe your educational and career goals; _____

ACTIVITIES AND HONORS:

List Grange activities and honors: _____

List school activities and honors: _____

List community involvement _____

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Dependents in family _____

Number of other family members currently attending post-secondary school: _____

Please describe your family's financial situation and the need for additional assistance for your education:

I would like to be considered for a Grange Educational Scholarship and certify that all information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Date: _____ Signature of applicant: _____

Signature of parent or legal guardian (if applicant is under 18): _____

I certify that _____ is a 4th Degree member in good standing of _____ Grange No. _____ and deserving of consideration for a scholarship.

Date: _____ Signature of Subordinate Master _____

I certify that _____ is a 5th Degree member in good standing of _____ Grange No. _____ and deserving of consideration for a scholarship.

Date: _____ Signature of State Secretary _____

This signed application must be accompanied by: 1) A certified copy of the applicant's current grade transcript. 2) A 500 word essay about the history of the Grange or what the Grange means to the applicant. This information must be received by the State Master by June 30, or it will not be considered. Mail completed application to Donna Keeton, State Master, Rt 1, Box 106, South Coffeyville, OK 74072.