

Sooner State *Granger*



Published Quarterly - Donna Keeton, Master, Marvin Purdy, Editor
4202 West Doolin, Blackwell, OK 74631 - March 2013

Master's Message...

Upcoming Events Include Degree Day, Great Plains Conference, and Kelly Farm Experience

It has been a very mild winter, but it looks like we will have a beginning of a cold spring. I have talked to some Grangers out west and they have been out of electric for almost a week. I hope everyone has been able to stay warm.

Change is in the air, nothing can stay the same; that is what I have always been told. This will be Marvin Purdy's last Sooner State Granger, he is retiring as Editor. He has been Editor for over Thirty years. Wilma and Marvin were Editor and Co-

Editor ever since Brad and I joined the Grange in 1980. He has done a terrific job getting the news and keeping everyone informed, it is hard to get all the newspapers ready to send. THANK YOU MARVIN PURDY!!!!

Brad Keeton will be the new Editor for the Sooner State Granger. I know that he will do a good job, taking over the Sooner State Granger.

In February Brad and I went to Irving, Texas to the State Master's meeting. It was an informative meeting. One of the things that we talked about was 501 (c) (3) and 501 (c) (4). Every Sub-Grange needs to have a Tax ID # and they need to file with the IRS, each year. If you have not done this you need to start doing this, you can talk to a CPA and they will be able to help you with getting started.

April 6, 2013 is our Degree Day and I hope that you are making plans to attend. It will be at South Coffeyville, OK. At the Cherokee building, it is located on Oklahoma Street; west of State Highway 169, before you cross the railroad tracks. It will start at 10:00 a.m. There will be door prize, great food, and lots of fun!!!

The Great Plains Conference

will be here before you know I; the National Master Ed Luttrell will be attending with other National Officers and Directors.

The dates are June 14, 15, 16; 2013 at Lincoln, Nebraska and it will be at the Corn Husker Hotel. The cost will be \$75.00 for registration, \$89.00 plus tax per night for the hotel rooms and \$9.00 a day for parking your vehicle. The Youth will need to contact the Youth Director Lena Shufeldt and let her know if you want to go. There will be supper on Friday evening "finger foods" and three meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. There will be workshops and tours on Saturday; and also speeches and sign-a-song contests on Saturday Evening. If you would like to go and make your hotel reservations the telephone number is 1-866-706-7706, mention that you are attending the "Great Plains Group June 14-16".

I will be getting the registration forms from the Nebraska Grange soon and if you are planning on attending please let me know so that I will get the forms to you, May 20th will be the deadline to registrar and get the fees to Nebraska State Grange.

(Continued on page 2)

Dates To Remember

Apr. 6, 2013 - Degree Day, Cherokee Building, South Coffeyville, 10 am.

June 14-16, 2013 - Great Plains Leadership Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska. Registration Deadline is May 20th.

June 28, 2013 - News items for next Sooner Granger are due. Email to Donna Keeton at donnakeeton5@yahoo.com

July 11-14, 2013 - Youth Event at the Kelly Farm in Minnesota.

Grange Activities / Community Service

By Mary Krehbiel

Spring Break and Daylight Savings Time are right around the cor-

Master's Message

Continued

(Continued from page 1)

July 11-14, 2013 will be the Kelly Farm Experience anyone interested in going needs to contact me as soon as possible. Because there are very little hotel rooms available near the Kelly Farm; cut off dates to make reservations to one hotel is May 12 and another cut off date is June 28. If you would like to go to the Kelly Farm Experience please notify me as soon as possible and I will give you the information.

College Scholarship applications will soon be upon us. Don't forget to get your transcripts, essay written, and the application filled out and sent in before June 30, 2013. The application will be in this newsletter.

The State Grange Convention Date and place has been set; it will be October 18-20, 2013 at the Clarion Inn in Broken Arrow, Ok.

I looked in having the Convention in Stillwater and Bartlesville but there were not hotels that could accommodate us. The cost will be the same and if your delegates from your grange come for all three days you will have your fourth quarter paid.

If anyone would like for me to attend one of your grange meetings please let me know and I would be glad to attend your grange meeting or function.

My telephone number is (918) 929-7402.

ner. Can you believe it? It seems like I was just putting my Christmas tree and decorations out. I'm sure everyone has been busy with School, Church, Holiday and Community activities all winter.

I hope everyone has been keeping track of all the Community Service activities and taking photos for their Community Service books.

Don't forget all the things you do for Church, neighbors and schools might work for Grange projects as well.

Keep track of who helped, hours, photos, news articles, etc. Books will probably be due to National in September so I will need them before that. I will let you know more

on that date later. We will use the same form as last year. I will try to include it in this issue.

Looking forward to Degree Day, I hope everyone will have fun with the contests I have planned.

Everyone is encouraged to decorate and model a hat or cap! This contest is for all ages. Men, Women and all ages of children are included. They will be judged on beauty, usefulness, and creativity.

The Men's baking contest is bar cookies. Women's contest is candy (any kind). Both men's and women's, being judged on taste and presentation. Youth and Junior's will make trail mix. (It will be judged on

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Youth Report

Billy and Lena Shufeldt, Directors

Hello everyone it has been a great year so far, a bit cold but can deal with this weather better than 12" of snow and ice. I hope everyone has had a great start to a new year, and spring is upon us. And to all the YOUTH we are wanting to remind you that we are having Degree Day at South Coffeyville, at the Cherokee Bldg. on April 6th 2013.

And time is going to get away from us very quickly, as the Great Plains Youth Conference will be in Nebraska on June 14,15,16 the Youth Dept will pay for all the rooms and registration for the Youth Ages 14-25. We will need to know who all will be going.

If you have any question you can call me at 918-467-0284. For everyone else the rooms will be \$89.00 + Tax, and the registration will be \$70 to \$75. We are also needing to know if any of the Youth would be interested in going to the Kelly Farms on July 11-14. If so please contact Donna Keeton by May 1st at (918) 929-7402.

Master Donna Keeton has asked the Youth to do the opening for our State Grange Meeting that will be held in Broken Arrow in Oct. I need the Youth to please contact me and let me know if you will be willing to participate and have a part, We will open in the 4th degree. Please contact me ASAP at 918-467-0284. I'm hoping to hear from the Youth about this.

Community Service Project Information Form For 2013

Submitted by: _____

What kind of activity was completed? (project name & dates) _____

Who was involved? (# of Grange members and others) _____

Describe what the activity included. (how many hours were involved?) _____

Use extra sheets, if necessary.

Why did your Grange decide to do this project? _____

Please put information in a book with pictures and forms. Copy as many as you need.

Submit by September 1, 2013 to: Mary Krehbiel

28243 CR 1060, Deer Creek, OK 74636

Phone: 580 267-3226 Cell: 580 541-7353

Lecturer's Lesson

By Yvonne Meritt

Greetings,

I love my Kindle. I love to buy and download books. Have you ever wanted to learn more about the Grange? Guess what? those hard to find books are now e-books and available through Amazon's Kindle Store. I am sharing an article from the National Grange website. I hope you will purchase some of these Grange books and take the time to read and learn more about our wonderful organization.

Fraternally Submitted,
Yvonne Meritt
State Lecturer

GRANGE BOOKS:

National Grange releases 1876 "Mentor in the Granges and Homes of Patrons of Husbandry" as e-book WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Feb. 12, the National Grange released "Mentor in the Granges and Homes of Patrons of Husbandry"

Grange Activities

And Community Service
Continued...

(Continued from page 2)

taste but also on the container)

I look forward to seeing you at Degree Day. I hope you will invite lots of our new members to attend and enter the contests so we can show them how much fun Grangers can have together!

Fraternally Yours,
Mary Krehbiel
Grange Activities and
Community Service Director

as a Kindle download available through Amazon's Kindle Store.

Originally published in 1876, the book was designed to explain the origin, aims and government of the National Grange.

"First Chaplain of the National Grange, Rev. Aaron B. Grosh, paints a picture of all aspects of the Grange in 1876 for those seeking to join the organization and current members," National Grange President Ed Luttrell said Tuesday.

Luttrell said the book was important at the time and gives those interested in history a view of the Grange and social pressures surrounding it.

"This book is a very thorough manual and was not only a very important read to members of the time but for those who oppose the Grange," Luttrell said. "Grosh was very careful to use this book as an opportunity to speak to those who opposed the Grange at the time."

He also said the book has great relevance for members today.

"This book [Mentor in the Granges and Homes of Patrons of Husbandry] paints a picture of the Grange in the late 1800s and reminds us today how the Grange has evolved. It is not only fascinating but important for Grange members to read and understand the history of the Grange," Luttrell said.

The National Grange has signed a 90-day exclusivity deal for "Mentor in the Granges and Homes of Patrons of Husbandry" with Amazon and the Amazon Kindle Store. The e-book will be added to the Barnes

and Noble Nook Store after the exclusivity deal expires.

This is the eighth e-book the National Grange has released. Previous releases include "The Granger Movement," "Friend of the Farmer," "Legal and Economic Influence of the Grange," "Notes and Quotes," "Proud Heritage," "First Century of Service" and "People, Pride and Progress."

"These books tell a very interesting history of the American people, spirit and culture," Luttrell said.

Luttrell said the organization continues to seek treasures like Grosh's book that tell the story of the Grange in communities and states throughout the nation as it prepares to celebrate its 150 anniversary in 2017. Any authors wishing to share their work with the Grange should contact National Grange Communications Director Amanda Leigh Brozana by email at abrozana@nationalgrange.org or by calling (888) 4-GRANGE ext. 102.

"Mentor in the Granges and Homes of Patrons of Husbandry" is available as an e-book for \$4.99. BUY IT NOW.

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

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain Terry Stolezing

I love thunderstorms

I love thunderstorms. It is from the ability of their brief but haunting presence to bombard the senses and cause both creative and destructive change in the world. Rain fills land, carving rivers that may either aid or drown life, and while small lightning fires allow forest diversity, they can be devastating if they rage out of control.

Good thunderstorms are unforgettable, stomping across the world like angry gods. It is both the potential and danger of these storms that make them so fascinating to me. My family and I vacationed a few nights in an arid portion of South Dakota known as the Badlands . It is a landscape defined by storms that over centuries washed away clay and hard soil, bit by bit, leaving behind a Martian terrain of cliffs, hills and spires. We hiked under the lengthening afternoon shadow of rock formations. As the sun crept deeper beneath the horizon, thick gray clouds boiled over the Badlands . Flashes of lightning shocked the purple sky and a strengthening wind pulled dust from the ground. Before the rain hit parked by one of the nearby spires where we watched the sky split and felt the ground tremble under the storm.

The day my family and I hiked and explored the Badlands only that moment spent in the storm remains un-faded in my memory. The rest of those experiences fall to the decay of time, ghostly figures anchored to that night on the stone spire. I believe that storms are sky-reaching monuments built on the hills of our personal histories; that storms can define our lives.

But storms are dangerous and these monuments are not constructed without some risk. A few summers back, I walked with my family a few miles on the beach in the Gulf. On our way back the clouds rushed in from the horizon, flashing and growling their way toward us. From the numerous lightning strikes, we figured that a lightning strike was a definite possibility. I remember eyeing the sky with apprehension as we picked our way along the beach back to the car, hoping we wouldn't end up struck.

The danger of storms raises them above the everyday experience and impacts our lives. I believe that the great moments in life come not in the times of perfect stability, but when uncertainty forces you to seize what you never knew you could reach. Storms are not merely representations of doom, but opportunities to prove and redefine ourselves in the face of hardship and tragedy. Dangerous, frightening, unsure situations allow the coward or the selfish individual to become heroes, and they give anyone the chance to pull themselves out of the tar pits of mediocrity.

At the same time though, seizing opportunity could result in electrocution and a fiery descent from our current positions. Is it worth the risk? I'd say so, and anyways, there's no escaping the occasional shower. You can play it safe and hide out in a dark basement or underneath your desk where the only thing that changes is the size of the dust bunnies. But whether you stay inside or move out into the rain, I would like you to remember these words by abolitionist Fredrick Douglas: "It is not light that we need, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake."

Storms are the captivating edge of awakening.

Exodus 19:16 *On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled.*

Secretary's Note

By Jeannie Harrington

Greetings,

We are working on completing the Grange Proceedings Book, and we need all Subordinate Grange Secretaries to send in their officer's lists in order to help finish it.

Also, just a reminder so you don't forget to send in your quarterly dues.

Membership

Carl Shufeldt and Jerry Taylor,
Directors

Hello Fellow Grangers

I hope everyone has made it through the winter. Spring is just around the corner, and we will be planting those gardens before long.

At last session the President challenged us to get 20% more members for the year. At the time of this writing, I have not received the total numbers, but I can tell you we will be really close to getting them, and maybe even more.

With spring coming on we should have the opportunity to get several more members before the end of our fiscal year in June. Keep up the good work, and let's meet or break the lofty goals set by President Donna.

Fraternally,
Carl Shufeldt
Jerry Taylor

Membership Directors

Oklahoma's Grange
is
BUILDING BRIDGES
TO THE FUTURE

Junior Grange

Scheneista Procter, Director

Hello Junior Grangers,

I hope that your year is going good so far. Well its that time of the year and Degree Day is upon us. This Degree Day is going to be on Saturday, April 6th at South Coffeyville Cherokee building at 10:00am. I have some fun activities we will be doing, so make sure and bring some old clothes cause we will be painting. Also, you might want to bring your tennis shoes. I hope that everyone will be able to attend. It's going to be lots of fun.

Fraternally submitted,
Scheneista Procter
State Junior Director

Legislative Report

by Yvonne Meritt, Legislative Director

Greetings,

This past month has been interesting on both the state and national level. I would like to encourage you to be informed about the legislative process. Be informed about the issues and take action. I wanted to include a chart showing how a bill be comes law, but it is too large to fit and too small to read when reduced to fit on a Grange Newwsletter page. Please call me if you would like a copy. It is very informative. Please take time to call and write your Senators and Representative as issues come before them.

Fraternally submitted,
Yvonne Meritt
Legislative Director

**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
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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.

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 June 30, or it will not be considered. Mail completed application to the State Master or designated officer of the Grange as listed on the website.

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GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE

JUNE 14 - 16, 2013
IN LINCOLN, NEBRASKA



Registration \$75
Rooms \$89 plus tax
Corn Husker Hotel
in Lincoln

Deadline for Registration is
May 20, 2013

Plan
Now
To Attend

Corn Husker Hotel Registration:

1 (866) 706-7706

Mention Great Plains Group June 14-16 when Registering

