

SOONER STATE GRANGER

March 2016

Master Message

Greetings to all fellow Grangers in Oklahoma and throughout the Nation. I hope everyone had a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and that this finds you healthy and happy. For those of you that are in distress our prayers go out to you. Special prayers need to be said for Sister Melanie Bostwick and her Family from the Kansa State Grange.

I am happy to say that all of our Scholarship Recipients have sent their grades and class schedules to me on time and all are already in their next semester's classes. It is great to have such fine young adults representing the Oklahoma State Grange and making a difference in the world today. For all of you that will be applying for scholarships for the 2016 fall semester and the 2017 spring semester will need to have them filled out and sent back to me by March 31st, 2016. If you haven't got a copy of the application, contact me at bshufeldt.okgrange@gmail.com and I will send you a copy.

The end of the year and the beginning of this year has been very busy for me and the EC Board, trying to get the hotel set up for our Great Plains Regional Conference and also the Oklahoma State Grange Session. We have finally picked a Hotel that will best suit our needs and have signed contracts with them for both events. A big thank you to Donna & Brad Keeton and Dee Proctor in assisting & guiding me through this process they have been very helpful.

We will be hosting the Great Plains Regional Conference at the Crown-Plaza, Tulsa-Southern Hills Hotel on June 17th-19th 2016. It is located at 7902 S. Lewis Ave. Tulsa OK 74136. For all of the Oklahoma State Grangers, you will need to fill out the registration form and only pay \$25 a person and send the registration form and money to me by April 15, 2016, and I will make the hotel reservations for you. This includes all of our Grange Mutual Insurance Solicitors that will be coming in on Wednesday night (6-15-16) for the insurance meeting on the 16th & 17th. Registration forms are on our website, okgrange.org.

Our Oklahoma State Grange Legislative Director,

Ann Keeton and Oklahoma State Grange Flora, Bailey Shufeldt attended the National Grange Legislative FLY-IN on February 4th-7th 2016 in Concord, New Hampshire. They both had a great time and were able to participate in several interesting events and meet many people. They both represented the Oklahoma State Grange extremely well.

Lena and I attended the Master Conference held in Orlando, Florida on February 19th-21st, 2016. The meetings were informative and fun. We both had a great time and enjoyed visiting with the other State Master. We received an update on the preparations for the 150th National Grange Convention in Washington D.C., it sounds like we will be very busy while we are there.

I am trying to get a list of all the Oklahoma Subordinate Grange officers along with their contact information (phone numbers, addresses, email addresses) if each Grange would send me that information it would be very helpful.

I look forward to seeing you all at Degree Day on March 19th 2016 at 10am. Hosted by the Pleasant View #354 and held at the NAFI (Cherokee) building, located at 215 Oklahoma Street, S. Coffeyville OK 74072. Hope to see you and your degree candidates there.

If anyone has any questions or I can help you in any way, please contact me at 918-842-0242 or email at bshufeldt.okgrange@gmail.com mailing address RR. 1 Box 342-14 S. Coffeyville OK 74072.

Fraternally: Billy D. Shufeldt, Oklahoma State Grange Master



*American Values.
Hometown Roots.*

Lecturer Department

Happy Spring Grange Family,

This year is a quarter of the way through already. By the time you receive this, we will have had wonderful fellowship at degree day. I really enjoy degree day, because it really helps us to appreciate all that the Grange is through our first four degrees. I hope that we will have more involved in this wonderful event next year.

Our next big event is our Great Plains Conference. I hope that you will all take one weekend out of your summer to join us in Tulsa. I also highly encourage our Youth and Young at Heart to participate in the public speaking and sign-a-song contests that will be held that weekend. Not only is it a great opportunity to present something you are passionate about, but it also gives provides lifelong skills, such as speaking in front of an audience.

Our State Session will be here before you know it. I would like to announce a few of my contests that will be taking place at the state level.

READING PROGRAM

This year the reading program starts May 1st and will end on August 31st. Your reading logs will be due September the 15th and must include the following: Name of participant, Grange, Title of book, Author, Number of pages. The age group will be 4-18. Please send reading logs to me at annkeeton@yahoo.com or by mail to 17773 S Santa Fe Pl Mounds, OK 74047.

PHOTO CONTEST

We will also continue our photo contest this year. There will be two groups for each category which will be 5-18 and 19 and older. The categories are as follows:

- Road Trip
- Celebration
- Nature
- Agriculture
- Selfie

I would like to add two new contests to my program.

RESUME BUILDING

The resume will be judged over design, flow, punctuation, and professionalism. I would encourage you to use real information. The age range for this will be 16 and older.

SHORT STORY

The last contest that I will have is a short story contest. There will be two age groups for this as well. The ages are 5-12 and 13 and older. The topic is open and the short story requirements are: Title, Author, Grange, Must be handwritten in print leaving a space between each line written. The story has a 1,000 word max and no minimum. The story will be judged on creativity, punctuation, and meeting all requirements stated above.

I hope everyone will pick a category to participate in. And I look forward to seeing you at a Grange function in the near future. I also encourage you to get involved in your local Lecturer's programs.

Ann Keeton

Oklahoma State Lecturer



2016 Great Plains Regional Conference June 17-19

Crown Plaza Tulsa Southern Hills
7902 S. Lewis Ave
Tulsa, OK 74136

Call [1-877-834-3616](tel:1-877-834-3616) Toll Free Reservations

Registration Form – Deadline April 15, 2016

\$55 per person, 10 years old and under \$25
Rooms are \$96 per night plus tax with 4 breakfasts per room
Please Print Information

Fill out one form per person

Grange Name and No# _____

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address: _____ Allergies: _____

Mode of Transportation: Fly Drive Other _____ Travel Notes: _____

Rooms- (This is a non-smoking hotel)
Double _____ or King _____ or Handicap _____

Saturday Luncheon: The Deli
Adults # _____ Children # _____
Saturday Evening Meal: Sliced Roast Sirloin # _____ Herb Roasted Chicken Breast # _____ (Choose One)
Childs Plate of Chicken Tenders & French Fries # _____

Adults # _____ Children # _____

Participating in Conference as: _____ Youth & Young Adult _____ Junior Granger
(please select one) _____ Lecturer _____ Membership

Public Speaking Sign-up

Prepared Speech	_____	ages 13-19	_____	ages 20-29	_____	ages 30+
Elevator Speech	_____	ages 13-19	_____	ages 20-29	_____	ages 30+
Impromptu Speech	_____	ages 13-19	_____	ages 20-29	_____	ages 30+
Junior Prepared Speech	_____	ages 13-19	_____	ages 20-29	_____	ages 30+

Sign Language Sign-up

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

Sign the Alphabet (ages 8-14 only) _____

Please send money and registration form to:
Billy Shufeldt Oklahoma State Grange Master
RT. 1 Box 342-14
South Coffeyville, Ok 74072

SECRETARIES TAKE NOTE

Spring is just around the corner and on March 13th it will be time to "spring forward". Lots of Grange activities are coming up soon. Degree Day is March 19th at the Cherokee Building in South Coffeyville, Great Plains Regional Conference is June -17th-19th at the Crown Plaza in Tulsa OK, State Session is October 21st - 23rd at the Crown Plaza in Tulsa OK and National Session is in November.

Once again at the end of March it will be time to send in the first quarter dues for 2016. I thank

you all for sending in your reports in a timely manner. Our dues to National Grange are due at the end of April so we are able to send our reports in on time.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Degree Day!!!

Fraternally,

Jeannie Harrington

State Secretary



Hello Juniors,
We hope everyone is having a great school year, it is hard to believe this school year is almost over. Summer will be approaching soon and Oklahoma State Grange will be hosting the Great Plains Conference in Tulsa. We are looking forward to having a great attendance, since we are the hosting state for this conference. We will be

planning some fun activities for the juniors to do at this conference, so hopeful you will be able to attend and bring some friends. We will have more information in the next newsletter about this coming event, but just giving you the heads up so you will be able to attend. We want everyone to stay safe and enjoy the rest of the school year.

Fraternally submitted,
Scheneista Procter
State Junior Director
Debbie Borgstrom
Audrey Bowers
Michael Case
Committee members

Hello everyone it has been busy here at the Shufeldt house, getting everything in order for our upcoming events that will be happening this year. I would just like to remind everyone that we are having degree day at South Coffeyville at the Cherokee Indian Building March the 19th at 10:00 am I am hoping to see some Youth attend, as some of you know Ann and

Bailey went the fly in February that was held in Concord New Hampshire, they said they had a great time, it was a busy few days for them, I think it was a great experience for the both of them.

We have been working on getting thing ready for our Great Plains Regionals Conference that is

going to be held in Tulsa, OK at the Crowne Plaza Tulsa/Southern Hills Hotel June 17-19 hoping to see a lot of youth at this Conference. I am sure that Charlene has some fun things planned for us to do, and I am trying to figure out some workshops for us as well. I am also trying to decide what we will do for our fun day out I have a couple of things in mind and hope to discuss them with you at degree day. Hope to see you all there.

Fraternally Submitted

Oklahoma State Grange

Youth Director

Welina Shufeldt

From the Stewards

Hello fellow Grangers!

We want to inform you about upkeep and certain improvements that are needed for the Grange Trailer that transports the regalia, equipment, and other miscellaneous items necessary for events such as Degree Day and State Session. We want to purchase certain items - rolling trunks, large plastic containers, and such - which will help preserve the items and make their transportation easier. We are asking for donations from subordinate granges to help mitigate the cost of these improvements. Any assistance that you can provide for this would be greatly appreciated.

Contributions can be made at any official Grange function or you can mail donations to:

12611 N 433 Rd, Adair OK 74330.

Checks can be made payable to Oklahoma State Grange.

Fraternally yours,

Dee Procter, Ryan Foley, Tammy Couch

**150TH NATIONAL GRANGE
ANNUAL CONVENTION
NOVEMBER 15-19TH, 20 16
HILTON WASHINGTON DULLES AIRPORT
13869 PARK CENTER ROAD
HERNDON, VA 20164
703.478-2900**

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Grangers,

I hope everyone has had a wonderful start to the New Year. I have been very busy performing my legislative duties. Bailey Shufeldt and I participated in the Legislative Fly-In in Concord, New Hampshire. We were greeted by some wonderful New Hampshire Grange members Bob and Tara who serve in the New Hampshire House and are members of the Agriculture board. On Friday, they set up for us to spend the day at the Capital Building where we learned that a Grange Member wrote the original legislation for the primary election in New Hampshire. The excitement of the New Hampshire Secretary of State telling the history made me honored to be in the same organization as that man.

On Saturday, we had the opportunity to participate in different candidates' campaign places. Bailey and I visited a Presidential Rally and it really was an exciting feeling to hear the excitement from the candidate and the supporters and also experiencing people who weren't supportive

of all of the candidate's views. I must say that the Legislative Fly-In was an experience that will stay with me for the rest of my life.

That being said, I find it imperative to tell you that please research the candidates that are out there, get to know their platforms and make an educated decision come November. If you would like help researching platforms or would like to discuss any legislation, please contact me at 9183733956 or by e-mail @ annkeeton@yahoo.com. I look forward to hearing from you all in the near future.

Fraternally,

Ann Keeton



CHAPLAINS CORNER

Today's Scripture:
Job 23:10-11 (NLT):

But he knows where I am going. And when he tests me, I will come out as pure as gold. For I have stayed on God's paths; I have followed his ways and not turned aside.

Today's Thought:

Tests are good for us. Tests can either be helpful or harmful to our walk with God. Whatever test you are going through today, test and rely fully on God, and grow your faith while in it. You'll come out better on the other side because of it!

Today's Prayer:

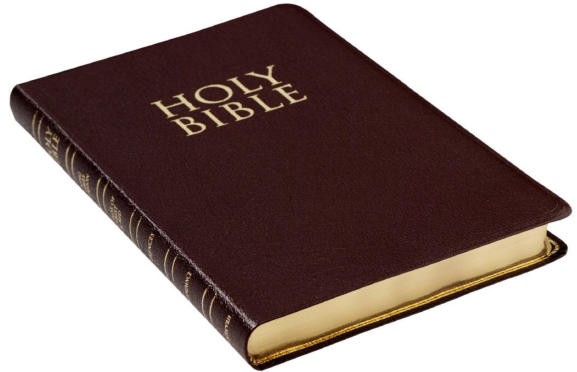
Lord, help me learn to trust You even in my trials. I know You are using what the devil meant for evil for

my own good. In Jesus' name I pray, amen!

Fraternally submitted,

Yvonne Meritt

Oklahoma State Chaplain



Membership Report

Dear Grangers

We hope everyone has fared the winter well and now ready for the spring season. We can now start thinking of planting those seeds for our vegetable and flower gardens. We might also think of planting some seeds to grow our membership in the Grange. We are in another surge of growth this year, but we always need to invent new ways of attracting new members. If anyone has any new ideas of getting new members let us know. The Great Plains Conference in June would be a great time to share ideas. See you there.

Sincerely

Carl Shufeldt

Jerry Taylor

Membership Directors



Grange Activities

Hello Everyone,

We are busy planning the contest for the state session, and we would like to hear from fellow grangers on ideas that would be of interest for contest in the categories. We appreciate input as everyone has different interest, and we always value new ideas. The categories will be juniors, youth, men, and women. We will post the activities for the state session in the next newsletter. You can e-mail ideas to mevans0908@att.net.

We hope to see everyone at the Great Plains Conference in June.

Fraternally,

Lisa Evans and Aliene Taylor

Activities Director

Committee: Lori Monroe, Charbrice Evans

April is Grange Month— Message from the National Grange

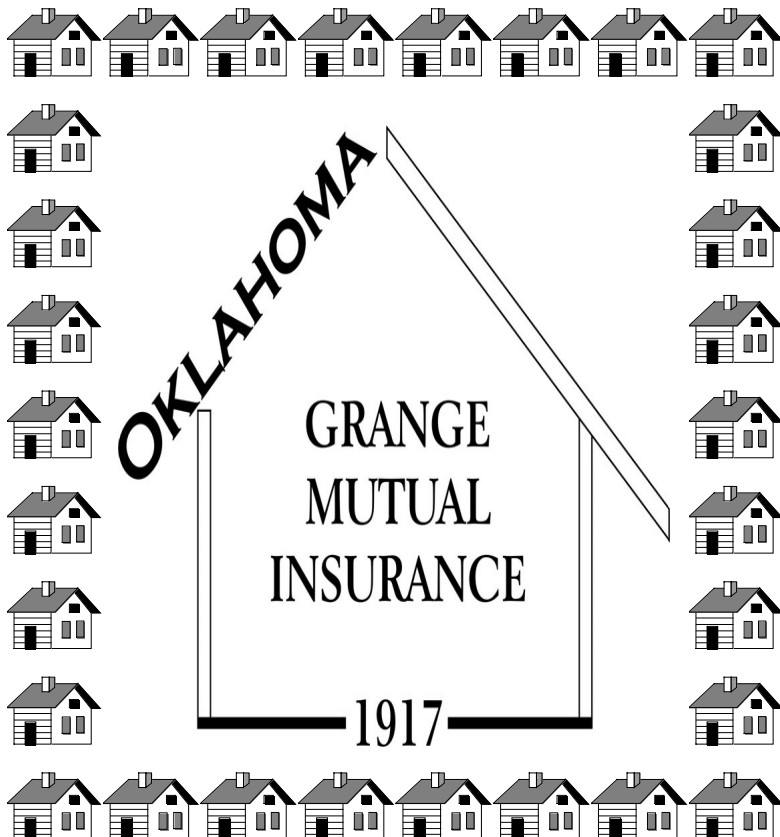
Dear Grange Member,

April 2016 is going to be a great month to celebrate the Grange. I hope that each member is getting excited about how we can share our great organization with people in our community.

You might hold an open house or a reception for your community; invite friends and acquaintances to a breakfast, tea or dinner. Perhaps your Grange will carry out a special project or recognize outstanding achievement to commemorate Grange month.

Our organization is nearing 150 years of sharing American Values while never forgetting our Hometown Roots. This year would be a wonderful opportunity to begin looking forward to this historic milestone by reflecting on the ways our Order has been a positive impact in your community.

Across our nation, Grange hands are joined for education, social connection, business that benefits our members, legislative advocacy, and service to others. We believe each must learn and grow as individuals, become connected with others through the Grange in order to provide a true grassroots voice to aid our legislators and serve others through cooperation and caring.



WEBPAGE

Information to be posted on the Oklahoma Grange website to please submitted to the State Master and he ensure that it gets published.

www.okgrange.org



Oklahoma State Grange
 Kay and Yvonne Meritt
 Co-editors
 20545 SW 15th St.
 Union City, OK 73090

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- March 1
- June 1
- September 1
- December 1

Items may be submitted to:

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 Co-Editor
 20545 SW 15th St.
 Union City, OK 73090
 405.262.3354
 Soonerstate-granger@gmail.com



DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 19 Degree Day
- March 31 Scholarships Applications Deadline
- April, 15— Registrations for GPYC
- May 1—Hotel reservations for GPYC
- June 1- Articles for Newsletter due
- June 17-19 Great Plains Youth Conference (GPYC)
- Oklahoma State Grange Master
 Billy D. Shufeldt
 Rt. 1 Box 342-14
 South Coffeyville, OK
 74072 918-842-0242

Oklahoma State Grange Officers

Master	Bill Shufeldt
Overseer	Robert Bailey
Lecture	Ann Keeton
Secretary	Jeanne Harrington
Steward	Dee Proctor
Ast. Steward	Ryan Foley
Lady Ast. Steward	Tammy Couch
Gatekeeper	Terry Stoelzing
Chaplain	Yvonne Meritt
Treasurer	Deloris Walker
Ceres	Rhonda Bowers
Flora	Bailey Shufeldt
Pomona	Sheyian Boydstrom
Ex. Comm	Richard Volz
	Kay Meritt
	Randy Henry
Pianist	Tamera Stoelzing