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California Grange News



ISSUE THREE

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A Fraternal, Family Organization Serving California

2007

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Sacramento Is Site for 135th Annual State Grange Convention

Make plans now to attend the 135th Annual California State Grange Convention being held in Sacramento October 9 through 13, 2007.

By registering now, you save \$10 on the registration fee. Also remember that the delegates at last year's Session extended the time of convention by a day. So this year, pre-convention activities such as workshops and orientation will take place on Tuesday, October 9th, with the actual business meeting starting on Wednesday, October 10th and concluding on Saturday, October 13th.

The Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn Sacramento Northeast, located at 5321 Date Ave., Sacramento, CA 95841. Room rates for Grangers will be \$99.00 per night, and you should make your room reservations early by calling 1-800-338-2810 or online at www.SacNorthEast.com. The facility is located off of Interstate 80. Exit at Madison Ave., go south to Date Ave. and turn left (see map). Remember to identify yourself as a

Grange member when making the reservation.

You will notice several changes on the pre-registration form this year. In the registration section you will notice two additions: please mark the box if the person registering is a first-time delegate to convention. By marking this box, the Delegate will be eligible to attend the First-Timers Luncheon for free. Also mark the branch of service if the registrant is a veteran (i.e.: USN, USAF, etc.). There will be a special presentation as we honor the veterans this year, and this information will be needed.

A note about Basic and Full registration. Delegate action gave the State Executive Committee the authority to set a registration fee each year for convention. This registration fee is used to offset (not pay for) the production cost of materials given to registrants to make the convention process easier to understand, and enable them to participate in the proceedings in a more informed manner.

The "Full" registration will receive a Convention Pak containing resolutions, the budget, EC minutes, other convention materials, a binder to place them in, a pen, a Convention pin, a lanyard for the name badge, a tote bag to put it all in, etc. These materials are produced according to the number of full registrations received. There are no extras.

The "basic" registration fee provides the name badge which allows you into session, and to certain other functions that are open only to registered members. No other items are included, and we request that basic registrants do not ask for additional materials as our staff hates to say "no," but they have no choice.

Please note that registration forms received after September 27, or done at the Convention, will incur a "late fee" of ten dollars per person in accordance with Delegate resolution 00-78-GA.

In addition to an extra day, there are additional meal functions available to make your visit even more enjoyable. The First-Timers Lunch will be held on Wednesday, a good opportunity to meet new friends and greet old ones.

Two dinners have been added, both complete with floor shows. The Lecturer's Dinner will precede the annual Talent Contest, with both contestants and special entertainers adding to the merriment. The Lecturer's Program is always a high-light of the Convention. Then

the Membership Dinner Show will feature all the winning contestants of local talent contests to determine the top act of the year.

The Master's Banquet dinner-dance proved to be very popular last year, and plans are to once again have live entertainment and dancing on Wednesday night.

The GWA Breakfast and the Youth BBQ are perennial favorites.

For those who can come on Monday, October 8, there will be plenty to do. Help will be needed to unload the truck and begin setting up the convention hall, setting up the various support facilities such as production and hospitality room, and setting up the GWA and EXPO showrooms. If you can help, please call the State office at 916-454-5805 and let us know what you can volunteer for.

Registration of Delegates will begin on Tuesday at 9am. Receipt of contest entries for the Expo will begin at 8am. Then it will get busy. The following activities are currently being planned:

At 9am there will be a First Timers Workshop in which delegates attending for the first time will learn the ins and outs of convention activity. Even those who may have attended one or two conventions and could use a refresher course are advised to attend.

At 10am there will be a Legislative Workshop and a Lecturer's Workshop.

(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

Foundation Announces Scholarship Winners

H. "Tom" Sawyer, president of the California Grange Foundation, announced the winners of Grange scholarships for the school year 2007 - 2008.

Jonna Williams, daughter of Toni Rae and Donald Williams of Manteca, was awarded a George and Elizabeth Sehmeyer scholarship of \$2,000.00. Jonna is a member of Ripon Grange, where she has served on the officer team of the Youth Committee for the past 4 years. She has also served San Joaquin County Pomona Grange as an officer since 2005.

She is a 2004 graduate of Ripon High School and Modesto Junior College, and is

now attends California State University, Fresno where she is pursuing a B.S. Degree in Agricultural Education, specializing in Agriculture Economics. Her goal is to teach agriculture.

"I want to teach agriculture because I feel that it is important for students to have a basic understanding of where their food originates. I strongly believe that agriculture is the basis of our American economy and that the public needs to be educated about the industry, its impact on our society, and why it is important to our culture," states Jonna in her essay. She

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



Randy and Linda Lewis talked with California Senator Barbara Boxer at the National Grange Fly-in to Washington D.C.

Scholarship Winners Announced; Application Guidelines Need Be Adhered To

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

has served as an officer in the 4-H program and the FFA program in high school.

Julianne Bettencourt, daughter of Keith and Barbara Bettencourt of Visalia, was awarded a \$2,000 George and Elizabeth Sehmeyer Scholarship. Julianne is a member of Elbow Creek Grange in Visalia.

A 2005 graduate of Golden West High School, she is attending California State University, Fresno where she is pursuing a Degree in kinesiology.

In recommending Julianne for the scholarship, Stephen Rodemeyer, Director of the Honors College wrote: "She was chosen as one of our 2005 entering class in the Smittcamp Family Honors College, one of the top 50 out of over 500 applicants from throughout California. These students were chosen not only for their excellence in the classroom, but also for their work in their school and community. She is presently a kinesiology major with a

3.75 GPA. Julianne also takes two general education Honors courses each semester as part of her curriculum, giving her an in-depth, rigorous General Education program."

Jeremy Heckman, son of Karen and Robert Heckman of Paradise, was awarded a Doris Deaver Scholarship of \$500. Jeremy is a member of DeSabra Grange and currently serves as the Assistant Steward of the California State Grange.

Jeremy is a 2007 graduate of Campton Academy where he was also a member of the GATE Program. Jeremy is an Eagle Scout. In the Grange, in addition to his serving as State Assistant Steward, he also was CSG Youth Ambassador in 2006, and is Youth Chairman this year.

Jeremy plans to attend Butte Community College this year, eventually transferring to CSU Chico where he will seek a degree in Robotic Engineering.

James Grinstead, son of Susanne and James Grinstead of Hesperia, was awarded a Doris Deaver Memorial Scholarship of \$500. He is a member of Apple Valley Grange in Apple Valley.

He is a 2007 graduate of Victor Valley Christian High School and will be attending University of California, Riverside where he will study Business Administration.

James joined the Apple Valley Junior Grange in 1999, graduating to Subordinate Grange in 2003. His Junior Grange activities included showing and marketing sheep and poultry at the San Bernardino County Fair in Victorville. He also sowed Breeding Sheep and exhibited horticulture, photography and art projects.

Naomi Fletcher, a member of Orangevale Grange, has been awarded a Monterey/Prunedale Pomona Grange Scholarship for \$500.

Naomi is a past Master of the California State Grange, served as Secretary of the California State Grange, and has been a member of Orangevale Grange for 39 years. Naomi has secured an AA Degree, majoring in Business Administration. She is currently enrolled in Lake Superior State University, where she continues her study of Business Administration, and plans to graduate in May, 2008.

She has been on the Dean's Honor Roll at Bay College since her enrollment there, and was inducted in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Jared Totemeier, son of Amanda and Steven Totemeier of Santa Rosa, was awarded a Monterey/Prunedale Pomona Scholarship of \$500. Jared is a member of Bennett Valley Grange.

He is a 2007 graduate of Elsie Allen High School, and plans on attending Santa Rosa

Junior College in the fall, where he will study in Liberal Arts.

Jared has served as Chaplain for the California State Grange Youth Committee

Bobbi Dahlia, daughter of Norm and Lori Dahlia of Lancaster, was awarded a San Jose Grange Scholarship of \$500. She is a member of Orangevale Grange and has also been a member of Ojai Grange.

Bobbi is a 2004 graduate of Paraclete High School and is currently attending California State University, Fresno, where she is majoring in Special Education.

She has been very active in the Grange Youth Fair Program, and in educating other youth in animal husbandry and showing.

Marta Kroeger, daughter of Julie and Larry Kroeger of Vacaville, has been awarded a \$500 San Jose Grange Scholarship. She is a member of Danville Grange.

Marta enrolled in American River College in the spring of 2006, and is working toward her AA degree in Sign Language.

Marta is currently the Pomona of the California State Grange, being elected to that position in 2004. She was Youth Committee Chair in her Subordinate Grange, and was Chair of the California State Grange Youth Committee in 2006 - 2007. She was Horizon Youth Ambassador for 2005 - 2006, is a member of the Senior Management Team. She was on the National Grange Youth Officer Team 2004 - 2005.

In addition to her Grange activities, Marta served on National Advisory Committee of the Girl Scouts, as well as the National Convention Steering Committee. As a member of the 4-H, she served as Club Secretary and Treasurer, was County President and County Secretary. She is also a member of the Pacific Poultry Breeders Association, where she has served as the Youth Member of the Board of Directors, and as a member of the Biosecurity Committee.

While the number of applications for this years scholarships were up, unfortunately, some applications were not complete. Lacking were transcripts, personal commentary on past activities and future plans, and the proper recommendation forms. Scholarship applications for 2008 will be accepted starting in February of 2008. However, the applications for this years scholarships and the rules of submission are on the California Grange website, and should be looked at so that applicants will be prepared when the time comes to submit applications.

The Grange News and the State Grange offer congratulations to the above scholarship winners, and wish all of the applicants' success and Godspeed in their academic endeavors.

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Please insure that your mailing label is fully included on the reverse side of this form. Please print.

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Please mail to:
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2101 Stockton Blvd.
Sacramento CA 95817-1336

How To Contact Us

To contact the Officers and Directors of the California State Grange, you may send a letter to the State Grange Office, 2101 Stockton Blvd., Sacramento CA 95817; Fax them at 916-739-8189; or email them at the following addresses:

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Help Wanted

You have read about the vision. We are now seeking help in accomplishing the dream. We are looking for a few good people to serve as

Deputy State Masters

The Deputy Corps serves as the link between the Master of the California State Grange and the Subordinate and Pomona Granges in the field. The Deputy Corps is trained to answer questions, provide help and guidance to local Granges, and represent the local Grange to the leadership of the State Grange. Each region requires several deputies. For more information on this important Grange service, please contact Chief Deputy Jack Eyler at

ChiefDeputy@californiagrang.org 530-589-3163

AgriTourism Provides New Revenue Opportunity For California Farmers

For many family farms in California, survival in the 21st century depends on developing new sources of revenue. Agritourism provides a promising opportunity to do just that. This is why the California State Grange (the Grange) is supporting SB 669, a large step in helping to develop California's agritourism industry.

Already a booming industry in Europe, agritourism has helped many family farmers survive and prosper. California's agritourism industry is currently small in comparison, but the Grange believes California could develop an agritourism industry that could rival anything Europe has to offer.

Agritourism began in Europe during the 1970s, a time of rapid urban growth and falling crop prices, and has become an important survival tool for family farmers. European farmers have profited by inviting city dwellers to spend a week or two at the family farm in the countryside. Besides cash income from providing accommodations, food and drink, additional revenues are generated from the sale of wines, cheeses, canned goods, and other foods that visitors take back to their homes.

Not only has agritourism helped small European farms survive, it has helped these family farms to prosper and grow. Suddenly there is paid work for the family members who manage accommodations, prepare food, and organize guided trips for their visitors. Even when bad weather reduces crop yields, agritourism provides farmers a steady cash flow.

If the Grange's vision becomes a reality, the central valley could thrive from a multi-million dollar agritourism industry. State Senator Tom Torlakson, author of SB 669, says

"California is the nation's premier agricultural state. We are the perfect location to promote agritourism, which has the unique potential to encourage preservation of our resources, our industry and to increase recreational opportunities".

The Grange is supporting SB 669 because it will provide grants to localities to plan for recreational corridors which could serve as the backbone of an agritourism infrastructure. The levee-floodway system of the central valley passes through some of the best farmland and most beautiful riparian habitat in the state and could be a key element in the planning for recreational corridors to help support agritourism. The planning grants would come from funds provided via Prop 84 which was approved by voters last year to rehabilitate failing flood levees and other purposes.

Agritourism, and its close cousin, nature tourism, are the fastest growing segments of the global tourist industry. The late 20th century exodus from rural America removed the last links most Americans had with farming. No longer does a grandparent or relative own a farm that can be visited to provide that connection to the land that so many of us desire.

Agritourism operations can vary from a modest campground to resorts with amenities such as swimming pools, playgrounds, and first class dining. Agritourism can appeal to a broad clientele, or focus on particular markets, such as families, fishermen, birdwatchers, and others. Activities for guests can vary depending on the location, nearby natural resources, and size of the facility.

Use of the levees to support agritourism avoids one big problem associated with all

developing industries in California: the negative impacts of automobile traffic on safety, infrastructure costs, and disruption of the tranquility in rural communities. Using parts of the existing levee & floodway system of the California central valley as the centerpiece of a recreational corridor for an agritourism could deliver tourists to their destinations using non polluting methods of transportation, including hiking & biking.

These levee way corridors could be combined with existing transportation infrastructure such as parks, pedestrian & bicycle pathways, and select rural roadways to link these various parts into a cohesive transportation network.

Most levees already have an existing roadway on the crest. With the funding for levee repairs already approved by voters, improvements to accommodate tourist travel could be included at a relatively low cost.

Development of this agritourism transportation network would not disrupt protection from flooding, or the safety & serenity of the surrounding rural landscape.

Protection of private property and farm equipment along the corridor network would be a high priority. Levee improvements could include barriers such as hedgerows and fencing to protect private property from encroachment by levee-corridor travelers.

Access into and out of the levee-corridor system would be controlled. Entrances and exits would be limited to designated locations. Currently, the levees are left unguarded. Farmers not wishing to be part of this Agritourism network would have their property protected from unwanted trespass.

As in Europe, agritourism can also serve



to strengthen the links between farmers and the consumers who eat their food. Consumers will have more confidence, and be willing to pay a premium price for food produced at a farm where they have a personal connection. By use of subscription farming or UPS/FedEx deliveries, farmers can begin to sell an increasing amount of their produce direct to the consumer, keeping all of the profits for themselves.

The industrialized farming of the 20th century created great distance between farmers and urban consumers. Agritourism can help to re-build those connections and provide 21st century farmers with increased income from tourism and direct sales to consumers.

The current effort to rebuild the levee system is a one-time chance to have a very low-cost infrastructure that can support a multi-million dollar industry that will directly benefit farmers.

The Grange supports SB 669 and the use of Prop 84 monies for levee rehabilitation and recreational corridor planning. A robust agritourism industry can help family farms, generate new tourism, and benefit consumers in California. Senator Torlakson says he hopes "that the Great California Delta Trail system can be at the heart of this vibrant new opportunity for farmers and all Californians."

California Grange Backs Hemp Bill As Good For Economy

To many Californians, including some in the Legislature and Governor's office, the word hemp is a synonym for dope and drugs. They don't realize that industrial hemp has little THC, the resins which make recreational and medicinal drugs from Marijuana plants. This misunderstanding has created a multi-million dollar problem for California's farmers.

According to Agri-Food Canada, hundreds of millions of dollars worth of industrial hemp product is exported into the United States annually. California's share of that market is zero. The California State Grange, established as an agricultural organization in 1873, wants to change that by pushing enactment of AB 684, the bi-partisan Assembly bill written by Mark Leno (D) and Chuck DeVore (R). The bill would legalize industrial hemp crops in California and allow the state's farmers to compete with countries like Canada, China, France and Germany in producing this crop. The bill is in the Senate Agriculture committee for hearing on June 19, and the Grange will be advocating its passage in the Legislature, and its signature into law by the Governor.

Industrial hemp was grown in California at the time the Grange was established. In fact, hemp cultivation for food and fiber has been around since the Stone Age, traces of the fiber being found in pottery shards in China over 10,000 years old. Hemp fiber is used to make cloth, shoes, ropes and paper. Thomas Jefferson drafted the United States Declaration of Inde-

pendence on hemp paper. Hemp was used extensively by the United States during World War II to make uniforms, canvas and rope.

In 2006, industrial hemp was one of Canada's more profitable crops. In America, pro-hemp laws have been passed in a dozen states, but the DEA delayed application of those laws until a legal distinction was made between industrial hemp and Marijuana. Hemp is widely promoted as a crop of the future, stimulated by technologies which make hemp suitable as a bio-crop, and hemp derivatives as replacement for petrochemical products. Hemp foods boast of Omega fatty acids surpassing those found in fish, a diminishing resource. Hemp crops can give renewed life to areas that once depended on forest products.

The Grange claims it is unfair to California farmers and citizens that the state's farmers are not given the right to compete in this market.

"Our farmers are not looking for handouts or buyouts," states Mike Greene, Legislative Chairman of the California State Grange. "We are simply asking for the right to compete in this market, to restore farming as a business that will provide a living for us and our families."

Last year, a similar bill written by Leno and DeVore (AB 1147) passed the Legislature only to be vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger. Should the bill reach his desk, the Grange asks the Governor to listen to farmers and consumers and sign AB684.

"Enactment of AB684 would open the growing US market for hemp products to California farmers, generating new on-farm revenues, and new off-farm industries, creating both employment and tax revenue for the State," declared Randall Lewis, President of the California State Grange.



Since 1873 the California State Grange has championed the interests of farmers, ranchers, and rural Americans. The Grange stresses community service, and its Youth programs are open to all, urban and rural alike. There are over 185 chapters across the state.



From field to product. The uses of industrial hemp are myriad. The seeds are harvested to produce oils for detergents, Nutraceuticals, and cosmetics. They are also used for food additives with a higher amount of Omega 3 fatty acids than fish. The hulls are used for animal feed. The stalks and fivers are made into threads, fiber board, carpeting, geotextiles, and automotive panels. The stalks are also used for matting, insulation, plastic substitutes, animal bedding and building materials. And hemp has long been used in the making of paper. The Declaration of Independence was written on hemp paper.

California Grange News

Member, Pacific Grange Farm Group

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DEADLINE

Please allow a leadtime of 8 weeks for publicized events and change of address. We welcome photos, color photos OK. If you wish your photo returned, please include a self-addressed, STAMPED envelope.

Deadline for copy is the first working day of the publishing month

Information about the Grange and on joining a subordinate Grange in your neighborhood can be obtained by writing:

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Master's Memo

Randall Lewis,

Master

California State Grange
master@californiagrango.org

During the past two months or so since I last wrote this column we have literally traveled from one coast to the other and back again. In fact I thought I saw myself going the opposite direction a few times. Well, I am only kidding, but there are some really great things happening so I want to let you know about a few of them.

Wisteria Hall Project
The demolition work is almost completely done. The floor has been cut in several areas with a concrete saw to allow for the underground plumbing to be assembled, which will begin the second week of July. Also CalRam Construction will begin framing the offices and other walls on the inside of the hall. By the next time I report to you it will not be called a hall but an office. We had a little slow down with the project when it was discovered we had termites in the structure. That's the bad news, the good news was that there was not very much damage and it will not really cause us too much of a problem. We had both flying and subterranean types, so the building was tented and fumigated in addition to poisoning the ground around the hall.

Several Granges have already informed us they will be making donations for the completion of the project, which is very much appreciated. If you or your Grange would like to donate toward the cost of the project please call us at the state office.

Legislative Activities – Believe me when I tell you Michael Green knows how to get things done. Our legislative program is coming along very well and we are being noticed (that's a good thing) in the State Capital building by many of the legislators and departments. Mike has been working on AB 1700 (Firefighters Tax Incentive), AB 684 (Industrial Hemp Farming Act) and SB 669 (Recreational Corridors/Agritourism) bills.

As many of you may know by now we were not able to get AB 1700 out of the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee, so it will sit there until next year when the session begins again. So much for my prediction about this being the bill we may be able to get the Governor's signature on! We have not given up though on the idea of providing our Volunteer Firefighters a tax incentive. We will continue working with Assemblyman LaMalfa and his staff to make this 2006 resolution into law.

SB 669 is moving through the process and will face its final hurdle in the Assembly Appropriations Committee before going to the floor for a vote. I am not making any predictions on this one so we will just have to wait and see what happens. I feel positive about its chances though. Mike will be meeting with Grange member Mike Chrisman (Secretary of Resources) this week to discuss SB 669 and agritourism in general along with the Federal Farm Bill. Secretary Chrisman is a member of Elbow Creek Grange in Visalia and will be traveling to Washington D.C. next week on behalf of the State of California. We wish him safe travels and hope he is successful in getting California our fair share of benefits

from the 2007 Farm Bill.

AB 684, the California Industrial Hemp Farming Act is moving forward also and is looking more and more promising all of the time. It has been modified to meet most of the objections of Law Enforcement and will allow our California farmers to grow Industrial Hemp experimentally in four counties Imperial, Kings, Mendocino, and Yolo. The bill has a sunset clause of January 1, 2013, which will require a new law to be passed by the legislature to allow Industrial Hemp to be grown past that date. If anyone would like more information on any of the bills we are working on just call me and I would be happy to fill you in.

On April 19th I attended the State Lobbyist Ethics Course and finalized my registration as a lobbyist for the California State Grange. This was an important step for our organization because laws on ethics are strictly enforced by the Secretary of State's Office, Political Reform Division. Anytime we are working with the legislators or regulators to effect changes in the laws we need to be completely above board and certainly would not want to have a complaint levied against us.

VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) – I invite each of you to join the internet communications revolution and meet with me the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM for discussions about the state of the California State Grange and ask any questions you may have about anything. The Legislative Department, Youth Activities Department, Young Adults Group, and many individual members are using it to discuss programs, issues or just having casual discussions. It does not cost anything to use and is just as clear as your telephone. The National Grange has even joined the revolution and is now starting to have meetings with members from all over the nation. Good job National Grange.....

Grange Insurance Association – I would like to take this opportunity to make a plug for our good friends and close partners at GIA. They have been great supporters of the California State Grange for many years and have provided outstanding insurance coverage for our cars, homes, farms, Grange halls and even the State Grange Headquarters. They have professional insurance agents around the state to provide you with outstanding coverage at affordable prices. If you need the name of an agent near you give them a call or look them up on the web at <http://www.grange.com> and go to the tab "Find a Grange Agent."

Grange Visitations and Travels – Linda and I have been traveling to Granges to inform them about the programs that are being developed to assist them in reconnecting with their communities and growing their membership and participation. Over the past few months we visited Lookout Grange, Wyandotte Grange, Bachelor Valley Grange, Scotts Valley Grange, met with members of Alturas Grange, and spent a wonderful afternoon at "Grange Day" at the San Joaquin Fair. We also had a meeting in Cedarsville to try and establish a new Grange there. I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome we have received everywhere we have traveled and we are looking forward to making trips to many more Granges.

A problem developed at Westside Grange several months ago. I had a complaint from a former member who was concerned and had left Westside Grange because of several issues. In checking out her complaint I discovered several of the issues she raised were accurate. I suspended the Charter and asked the Master to provide me with all of the records and accounts in order to have the Audit Committee perform a financial and operational

audit. After it became apparent my efforts to secure the information would not be successful I revoked the charter. The Master of Westside Grange appealed my rulings to the Worthy National Master Bill Steel. Upon reviewing all of the material that was sent to him the Worth National Master upheld my actions as appropriate under the rules of the National Grange Digest of Laws.

I would like to apologize to anyone who was embarrassed by the accusations or language that was used in the e-mails which were sent out or on the "myspace" website that was created. I hope at some future date to organize a new Grange on the property formerly known as Westside Grange.

National Grange Fly-In – On April 30th Linda and I flew to Washington D.C. for the annual fly-in. This year Leroy Watson (National Grange Legislative Director) had a great program. On Sunday we were treated to a trip to JFK Stadium to watch a baseball game between the Washington Nationals and the New York Mets. The Mets won the game 1 – 0, but we had a great time anyway. It was nice to have an opportunity to spend time "down time" with some of the employees of the National Grange.

OK, so much for relaxation. On Monday Leroy had a full schedule for us with presentations from Honorable Michael Dunn the Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Bill Rozett from the American Petroleum Institute; Link Hoewing from Verison; Dr. John Swen from Pfizer; Ed Maxiner, Editor of the Kiplinger Agricultural News Letter and Dr. George Ford and Lawrence Spiwak discussed Rural America and Telecommunication Reform. This was followed by a wonderful dinner at the Capitol Hilton where Ms. Nona Bear made a fun and lively presentation on the New Realities of Aging in our Society. We were ready for a good nights sleep before day two where we all assaulted the "Hill." Linda and I spent the next three days and walked to every single California Congressional office and both of the Senators offices. We either had appointments, made cold call discussions with staff or legislators and in some instances just dropped off packets of information we prepared for the trip. We discussed 6 topics of current interest in Washington D.C. including the 2007 Farm Bill, the California Wild Heritage Act (HR 860 & S 493), the National Energy and Environmental Security Act (H. Con. Res. 25 & S. Con. Res. 3), the 25 x' 25 Action Plan, the Industrial Hemp Farming Act (HR 1009), Country of Origin Labeling and Broadband in Rural Communities. All of these issues were covered by State Grange policy and our discussion proved to be very well received. All in all it was lots of walking, talking and eating but I think we did a very good job representing you and the policies you have set.

Grange Youth Activities Department - I continue to be elated over the direction and speed the Senior Management Team is taking our program. Ed Komski, Bill and Patty Allen, Suzy Moramarco, and all of the District and Regional Youth Activities Directors are working in the Subordinate Granges assisting them in developing and/or enhancing the youth program. Ed has met with Mike Treacy the Director of the California Division of Fairs and Expositions and with Steve Chambers, Executive Director of Western Fairs Association in an effort to develop common ground between us all. I am very hopeful that as a result of these meetings we will be able to develop additional programs for our Youth Activities Department.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DIGEST

In accordance with G-24-88, the following summarizes the actions taken by the Executive Committee of the California State Grange at the meeting(s) indicated.

Chairman Tom Sawyer called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. In attendance were: Tom Sawyer, Bruce Brunell, Bob Lange, Inger Bevans, and Etta Smith. Randall Lewis and Bob Clouse arrived at 1:39 PM. Martha Stefenoni called and is unable to attend.

Minutes of the January 26-27, 2007 meeting were reviewed. Format of motions need to be changed and creation of the Real Property Advisory Committee needs to be clarified. Minutes will be approved first thing tomorrow.

MASTER'S REPORT:

- After a moment of silence in memory of John Felder, Randy discussed his memorial service that was well attended. It was a nice tribute.
- GIA Annual Meeting – Revised Bylaws passed and Randy was removed from the Board. Good discussions. Committee has been formed for partnership with Grange. 2008 Contract with National Grange approved at \$1 million.
- Ag Day. Had a booth in front of the Capitol building. Got a number of members.
- Officers & Directors meeting – Approved the Mission Statement. - "The Granges of California provide opportunities to enhance your communities today for the generations of tomorrow by promoting growth through family, community, and grassroots legislative action."
- Bob McFarland to be Chair of Public Relations Committee. Ken Donnell, Mike Greene, and Jay Hartz are members. Two slogans being considered are: (1) California

State Grange: helping the people who grow our food and protecting those to eat it. (2) The California Grange: helping farmers, protecting consumers.

- Kathy Lehmann is chairman of a new committee formed to investigate the North American Union.

- Grange-Germany Friendship Program - 56th Anniversary in Stockton.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Balance Sheets (End of Year and End of Month February) passed out for review.

- Considering a change to a simple IRA. Employee has an option to participate and can deposit up to \$10,700 per year. 3% maximum match allowed by IRS. *Motion by Bruce Brunell, seconded by Bob Lange, that we comply with Simple IRA guidelines. VOTE: Ayes: Unanimous*

Tom Sawyer pointed out that we budgeted for a person to be hired to take the minutes of the meetings, and he made the following motion: *Motion by Tom Sawyer, seconded by Bob Lange, to pay \$150 per meeting to the Secretary of the Executive Committee. VOTE: Ayes: Unanimous*

Amy Self passed out a written report and reviewed the Financial Statements with the Executive Committee. She also explained the current activities taking place in the office. Clean up of database is in progress and looking good! Computerized demit letter can now be generated when a grange is closed. The GBO has one bank account at Capitol City Credit Union. All money goes there. At the end of year we will write a check for all of the

earnings to the general department.

MASTERS REPORT (continued):

- Wisteria Project moving ahead. Cal Ram agreement should be completed soon. Ed Komski working on it. Mid-May is the start of the 60-day project. Want to consider a completion bond. Mid July should be the complete date. Lease signs on the headquarters building are already up.

- Brownsville Grange has been sold and back dues, etc. have been paid. Affiliate member of another Grange who is also a county supervisor expected \$1,000 from sale of the Grange. Hall to be turned into a Youth Center for the community. Demits were sent out to all members. They contend they are still an open Grange. State Grange sent notice of suspension in 2005. Randy has full support of Executive Committee for whatever has to be done with Brownsville.

- Lawyer – Committee requested that Randy research the contract with Tom Nickens.

WATER CONSERVATION

Bob Lange stated that Santa Cruz and some other areas are on water rationing due to a dry year.

Meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m., and will resume at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Saturday, March 31, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. Those in attendance were: Randy Lewis, Tom Sawyer, Bob Clouse, Bruce Brunell, Inger Bevans, Bob Lange, and Etta Smith.

MASTERS REPORT (continued):

- Security and Prosperity Partnership Committee – Kathy Lehmann is chair.

CONVENTION PLANNING:

- Linda Lewis indicated that the Convention theme this year is Gold Mining. Linda named key players for events. New workshops are planned for Tuesday. Session opens on Wednesday. Would like to give new members an opportunity to see a session.

- NATIONAL CONVENTION - November 11-17th in Sparks. Responsibilities divided up. Every State Grange has one day. Rosemary Hanson will handle the Hospitality Room. Ag Breakfast and Host Dinner – need sponsors. Katie Squires agreed to do Best of Show. Betty Eyer – homemade ornaments for Christmas tree. Cookbooks going into baskets. Thursday will be degree night. Flora, Pomona, and the Rose drill team – CA responsibility. John – from Colorado will be Master. Budget for National Convention was \$7,000. Appears we will need \$2000-\$3000 more. Will revise budget next meeting. Bob Clouse requested that Randy provide an estimated cost for the added expenses in Sparks at the next meeting.

2009 – Convention could be in Fresno. 2008 site not yet selected. 2010 down south. Report for 2008 at next meeting.

TIME CERTAIN: Bob McFarland: Chair of Public Relations Committee. Members: Ken Donnell, Jay Hartz, and Michael Green. Need

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Master's Memo

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

Deputy State Masters – Thanks to the leadership of Jack Eyer and his District and Regional Deputies we are currently providing services to Subordinate and Pomona Granges all over the state. The Deputy State Masters can be of assistance in almost every area of operation for your Grange. From reporting questions to programs they are equipped with a Deputies Manual that has the answer to most of your questions. If they don't have the answer they will get it for you! We even have a program from the National Grange we adapted titled "Save My Grange" they can put on with you. The program takes a look at your Grange, then your community and provides assistance in making decisions on the direction to take your programs. Please make sure to ask them about this important program, or call Jack or myself and we will help you.

Grange Women's Activities (GWA) – The GWA is growing in many of the Granges across the state and all of the ladies who are Regional Representatives under the leadership of Betty Eyer are having fun with many different types of projects. The GWA is an important (necessary) part of our organization and if you don't have one or would like more information about what they are doing, just give Betty a call. Thanks ladies for all of your hard work!

Operations and Staff – I reported to you in the last edition of the Grange News we had recently hired a new bookkeeper. Well I am sorry to report she is no longer with us and we are once again looking for someone to hire and assist us with the work that needs to be done within the State Office. We are currently

reviewing our options and will make a move shortly.

I want to let you know once again how much I enjoy working with our staff. We are blessed with an abundant harvest of employees and leaders who have come together and are making a huge difference in the operation and success of our Grange. Without their untiring commitment we would not be able to keep up the pace. Thank you one and all for your dedication!

We are in the process of adding a new computer to our operations that will provide us with the capability of having a computerized "Press Room." We will have photos of Grange Activities of all types, full-length press articles, handle all of the mailing of press releases in addition to having the ability to send out articles for our Subordinate and Pomona Granges in their local area either about upcoming events or things that you have done. Look for more information to come out when we are done with setting the system up.

In closing I just want you all to know how much fun both Linda and I are having working for you and representing you. As I have already said it is a pleasure to be surrounded by the leaders of this organization who are all supporting us in "Moving the Cheese" and making the California State Grange grow and once again become prominent in our state and communities. Thank you for this opportunity we will all make the most of it. Keep up the hard work you are all doing, as it will pay off in the end. Be safe, be healthy and may God bless you all...



DONALD "RED" MARTIN ANGLE

JAN. 16, 1921 - MAY 19, 2007

The father of Carolyn Hill, Past State Grange LAS and Junior Grange Director, and father-in-law of Harold "Bud" Hill, past State Grange Treasurer. Donald, age 86, was born in Childress, Texas, to Luther and Fannie Angle, the 7th of 12 children. He moved to CA early in 1941, joined the US Navy the following September, and served his country in the Pacific Theater for 4 years. He arrived at Pearl Harbor just days after the Dec. 7 attack, and was stationed there for a few months before being stationed on Midway Island. There he was in charge of the fuel depot for submarines, and fortunately, survived the Battle of Midway. After that, he was stationed aboard the USS Carteret, where he was a Chief Machinist Mate in charge of the engine room. The Carteret was a transport ship that delivered troops and supplies to, and evacuated the wounded from, Iwo Jima during the invasion. Returning home from the war, he married Ida Shank on July 5, 1945. After his discharge from the Navy two months later, they settled down to raise a family, farm peaches and walnuts, and he went to work full-time for MID (Modesto Irrigation District). He retired from MID after 40 years as an Assistant Water Superintendent. Over the years he was active in, and a member of, the Empire Boy Scouts, Empire 4-H, Stanislaus County 4-H Sponsoring Committee, Empire Grange #521, and the Stanislaus Farm Bureau. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, square dancing, and after retirement, golfing, and RV traveling with family and the Peachy Sams Club. Donald and Ida were always actively involved in their children's and grandchildren's lives, faithfully attending any and all events as the family's #1 fans.

Donald passed away after a brief illness at Memorial Medical Center, Modesto, CA surrounded by loved ones. He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years (this July), Ida Angle of Modesto; three children - Donald D. Angle of Escalon, Carolyn (Bud) Hill of Modesto, Randy (Patti) Angle of Waterford; seven grandchildren - Lorina (Dave) Cajias of Escalon, Jeremy M. Hill of Livermore, Donald D. Angle Jr. (Nancy) of Modesto, Shelley (Jason) Brower of Hughson, RJ Angle Jr., Forrest Angle, and Branson Angle, all of Waterford; six great-grandchildren: Lilana, Illiana, and Adalia Cajias, all of Escalon, Daniel, Jacob, and Ethan Angle, all of Modesto; two brothers, Frank Angle, and Bernard Angle, both of Modesto. He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends!

Executive Committee Summary

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

a media contact. Bob passed out a sample of a Press Release they would like to send out. He provided a comparison list of media services offered. Recommendation is a company out of Oregon as cost is only \$85 per year. Hope to be sending info out nearly every day. Eventually, would like to get junior grangers writing press releases also. The Committee and Randy will preview all prior to release. **Motion** by Bob Clouse, seconded by Bob Lange, that we authorize the Public Relations Committee to purchase the service offered by Kesten Media. **VOTE: Ayes: Unanimous**

MASTER'S REPORT (continued):

- Surveys are being entered into the computer. Will be mailing out more and then getting them input.

- Norm and Laurie Dahlia resigned as Youth Activities Director due to funding. Randy has appointed Ed Komski as the new Youth Activities Director. Looking to fill the spot of District Director.

- Bachelor Valley – The title of the Grange Hall was transferred to another entity and Randy suspended their charter as a result of that action. Title has been returned to Bachelor Valley Grange. A caveat has been placed on the Grange title - "No sale, encumbrance or transfer of any Real Property of the Bachelor Valley Grange #667 may be done without the Express Prior Written Permission of the California State Grange." A similar caveat should be on title of all Granges. Will audit Bachelor Valley Grange prior to considering release of Charter. **GOAL:** Have titles cleared by Convention.

- Discussed the paperwork received from State Comp re Tom Stefenoni's death. The Executive Committee authorized the Master to take the action necessary.

- Letter from Rubidoux Grange re status of building. Vagrants living on property. Members want to rent, have BBQ's, etc. They meet once a quarter at Rubidoux and two times a quarter in Hemet. Want to sell and purchase in Hemet where most of the members live. Have an interested developer buyer. Eminent domain surrounding area for shopping center. Appraisal value \$400,000. Ed Komski of the Real Property Advisory Committee is working with the Grange now to come up with a business plan. **Motion** by Bruce Brunell, seconded by Inger Bevans, to allow the sale of Rubidoux Grange hall for the purpose of purchasing property near Hemet to relocate the grange. **VOTE: Ayes: Sawyer, Brunell, Clouse, Bevans. Nay: Lewis. Abstain – Lange. Randy would like to have business plan first.**

Recessed for Lunch at 12:02 p.m. Reconvened at 12:35 p.m.

MINUTES: Committee Reviewed and approved as corrected the minutes of the January 26 & 27, 2007 Executive Committee meeting.

ORANGEVALE GRANGE - Bob Clouse reported that Omnipoint Communications wants to put up a cell tower (tree) on 400 square feet in the back of the property. The grange would receive \$1250 a month with a 3% annual increase for 5 years, then an option to go another 5 years. When the contract expires, they must return the property to its original condition. The tower and surrounding fence would be removed. Orangevale is requesting permission from State Grange to allow this to occur. Randy pointed out some areas in contract about which they should be concerned. **Motion** by Randy Lewis, seconded by Bob Lange, that we approve the site lease at Orangevale Grange with Omnipoint.

VOTE: Ayes: Unanimous

The meeting was moved to Executive Session at 1:00 p.m. The Executive Session concluded at 2:00 p.m.

MASTERS REPORT continued:

We have received correspondence from Costa Mesa Grange #612 requesting dollars from the asset management account for repairs to their Grange hall. The request was sent in an improper manner, without a bid from a licensed contractor, therefore no action will be taken.

Update Staff Policy Guide - **Motion** by Bruce Brunell, seconded by Bob Clouse, that we adopt the Simple IRA as the retirement plan for our employees with a matching contribution up to 3%. **VOTE: Ayes: Unanimous**

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL UPDATE: Executive Committee Handbook – Sections reviewed for agreement. **Motion** by Bruce Brunell, seconded by Inger Bevans, to add Bob Clouse as a signer on the grange financial accounts. **VOTE: Ayes: Unanimous**

PROPERTY REPORT

- Fowler Grange – Jay Hartz & Randy had locks changed. Secured building. Building needs work. Jill Johnson did not show up at 2 p.m. Randy froze grange bank account. Bank needs a letter to close out CD. Have a bid for clean-up.

(Bob Clouse left meeting at 2:30 p.m.)

- Woodbridge – Is done.
- Biggs – Pulled off market. Possibility of reorganization.
- Cloverdale – The city wants to lease the hall for a performing arts center.
- Hessel Grange – Randy wants to have a meeting at the hall with members in order to pick up papers, etc. The members voted to close doors end of last year. They owe money to credit union and have made no payments.
- Healdsburg – Need to freeze accounts.
- Mt. Bolivar – They are re-organizing.
- San Bernardo – Info was faxed last week.

The Executive Committee meeting was closed at 3:10 p.m. for the Meeting of Granges. It resumed at 3:30 p.m.

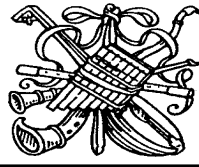
MASTERS REPORT continued:

- Website - No new vendor at this time. Talked to Linda McCracken (Rio Linda Grange) who helped design the State of California website. She will review our website and make recommendations. May form a website committee later.

NEXT MEETING: June Friday 8,9,10, 2007 1:30 p.m. the 8th. 9a.m on 9th, 8 am on 10th. **ADJOURN** – Meeting adjourned by Tom Sawyer at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Etta Smith
Executive Committee Secretary
E-Mail Meeting

We received an urgent message from Master Lewis that the Hessel Grange was in default on a loan and the Credit Union was about to foreclose on the note. The note was written on 10/26/1999 for \$21,000 and was approved by State Master John Felder. The loan payments stopped in December, 2006. The pay-off is \$13,231.57. An e-mail meeting was opened on April 30. Moved by Bob Lange to pay off the loan, seconded by Inger Bevans, stating the funds would come from the Grange Hall Loan Fund. **VOTE:** Bruce Brunell, Bob Clouse, Bob Lange, Inger Bevans, Tom Sawyer yeas. Martha Stefenoni and Randy Lewis not voting. Motion carried, and Amy was instructed to pay the note and create a non-performance note for 7 years at 5%.



Lecturer's Notes

Gerald "Buzz" Chernoff, Lecturer
2101 Stockton Blvd., Sacramento CA 95817
toohighranch@hotmail.com

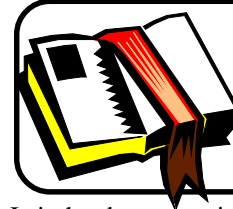
Why go to the California Grange State Convention in Sacramento this year? That's the question Linda and I were talking about as we drove to the Eagle Scout Court for one of our Grangers, Jonathan Crouthamel. We talked about the hustle and bustle of the day before the convention, working with old and new friends helping to do what needs to be done. For me that means helping Katie Squire and her team set-up the Expo. I enjoy looking at the diverse entries of our talented members from across the state which are on display during the convention. We talked about the workshops that happen during the day. This year some of the State Officers and Department Heads officers will be putting on the workshops. It's a good time to hear a talk, see and meet the leaders of the CSG, and get answers to any questions you were wanting to ask. If you are new to the convention, one workshop you won't want to miss is on meeting procedures. Grange procedures are based on Robert's Rules of Order, and without some understanding of these rules, the discussion during the resolution processing can get real confusing. Linda and I both know, because we have been there.

We talked about how much we liked the ritual procession that opens the Grange convention. How it makes you realize that you are part of a tradition of Grangers who have opened conventions this same way for over a hundred years. It feels good. We talked about how we liked the resolution process, where the resolutions submitted by community Granges are presented on the floor by one of the resolution committee chairs. It's always amazing to me

to see the diversity of opinion in the membership and which resolutions are hotly debated, and which just slide through. As Leo Bergeron once told me, "Buzz, Grange policy is made by those who come to convention." And this time Brother Leo was right.

As much as we enjoy the business part of the convention, we both agreed that our favorite is the social functions. Talking with folks at the Expo, eating together at the Master's Banquet, enjoying an evening at the Showcase of Talent where the closing number by the Grange Band, anchored by the multi-talented Musician Lindy Wright, leaves you tapping your feet and clapping your hands for more. As the M.C. for the evening, this is my favorite part of the convention. We talked about how we are looking forward to the Membership Department's new Talent Show, where the best from the state will be competing for a pretty good cash prize. We laughed when Linda reminded me of the GWA breakfast, where last year, a few selected men, me included, were dressed up like women and made to perform beyond our abilities!! That's real down home-y fun.

After doing all this talking about the reasons we go to the convention, there was one reason that outweighed all the others. That is the chance to be with Grangers from across the state with who we share a common interest. We may not always agree on how that interest can best be served, but we can talk, debate and laugh, and in the end come to a better understanding of each other. To sum it up, Linda and I go to convention because we like having fun together with other like-minded folk, both in work and in play. Hope to see you there.



Chaplain's Corner

Pat Dahms, PO Box 204, Oregon House CA 95962
530 - 692-1688
fisher15@msn.com

It is hard to organize my thoughts for this article. So much has happened in my walk with my lord.

First, I send my deep sympathy to Carolyn and Bud Hill. Carolyn's father went home to be with the Lord in May. May the true joy that passes all understanding be with their whole family.

It is time for Secretaries to check their info on the members to be recognized at October's Memorial. I know it seems a long way off but

time surely flies as our convention gets closer. Please forward the information to me.

I feel I must share that circumstances have arisen which I feel will prevent me from performing the duties of Chaplain as I believe they should be performed. Due to this fact, I will not be seeking re-election as your Chaplain in October.

I suggest reading *Isaiah 50*, especially verses 4 - 12.

Thank You For Your Generosity

WE GRATEFULLY THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THE DONATIONS THEY HAVE SENT TO OUR VARIOUS GRANGE PROGRAMS AND FUNDS. DONATIONS MAY BE MADE TO THE VARIOUS FUNDS IN CARE OF THE GRANGE, 2101 STOCKTON BLVD., SACRAMENTO, CA 95817

Chico Grange #486 - The George Dupray Scholarship in Memory of John Felder
Raymond Lile - Survey Expense donation
Norman Mee - Survey Expense donation

We need to dream big dreams, propose grand plans, and work together to make those dreams come true if we are to recapture the excitement, the vibrancy, and the pride we once had in our communities.



Executive Summary

A summary of what's happening at the State Office that may affect you

Amy Self, Office Manager

Attention Grangers:

I remind you that you are responsible for making your own room reservations at Convention. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-338-2810. Be sure to tell them you are with the Grange to get the special rate.

There are several "must-do" things to remember as we prepare for this year's convention.

First, remember the deadlines: Resolutions which deal with Article X of the By-Laws, which includes fiscal matters such as annual dues, must be into the State Office by August 17 so they can be prepared and disseminated to the Granges prior to September 1 in accordance with the By-Laws. The Credential Report, which will be mailed to Secretaries shortly, must be returned by September 27. This report will contain the names of the regular Delegates, Selected Delegates, and Alternate Delegates as chosen by your Grange. Remember to sign and attach your Grange seal to make it official.

Also in this mailing will be a form on which you will report the names of members who have passed away this past year for inclusion in the annual Memorial Service. This form will be mailed directly to the State Chaplain. Also in this mailing will be a copy of the pre-registration for Convention. The deadline for submission of this form is September 27, after which there will be a \$10.00 per person additional charge.

Masters should be looking for a mailing in mid-August that will contain all Article X resolutions, the proposed Annual Budget for 2008, and a copy of the Executive Committee minutes. A third mailing to all Granges in the near future will contain a corrected copy of the Roster. Simply replace the pages as indicated (basically, keep the cover and replace everything else).

Finally, I would like to remind Secretaries and Treasurers about some changes in the IRS Reporting Regulations for Non-profit Organizations. I reprint the notice from the IRS:

New Electronic Filing Requirement for Small Tax-Exempt Organizations - Annual Electronic Notice — e-Postcard (Form 990-N)

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations that previously were not required to file returns may be required to file an annual electronic notice, Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required To File Form 990 or 990-EZ. This filing requirement applies to tax periods beginning after December 31, 2006.

Small tax-exempt organizations, whose gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less, are not required to file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax, or Form 990-EZ. Short Form Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax. With the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA), PPA, these small tax-exempt organizations will now be required to file electronically Form 990-N, also known as the e-Postcard, with the IRS annually. Exceptions to this requirement include organizations that are included in a group return, private foundations required to file Form 990-PF, and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations required to file Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

The IRS will mail educational letters starting in July 2007 notifying small tax-exempt organizations that they may be required to file the e-Postcard. The IRS is developing an electronic filing system (there will be no paper form) for the e-Postcard and will publicize filing procedures when the system is completed and ready for use. The PPA requires the IRS to revoke the tax-exempt status of any organization that fails to meet its annual filing requirement for three consecutive years. Therefore, organizations that do not file the e-Postcard (Form 990-N), or an information return Form 990 or 990-EZ for three consecutive years, will have their tax-exempt status revoked as of the filing due date of the third year.

If you would like additional information about this new filing requirement, including notification when the filing system is ready, or information about other new developments, subscribe to Exempt Organization's EO Update, a regular e-mail newsletter that highlights new information posted on the Charities pages of irs.gov.

Join GrangeSpeak !

by Master Randall Lewis

The California State Grange now has an internet communications system (VOIP) for all members to use. It is easy to use and does not cost anything to be able to communicate with your fellow Grangers from all over the state. We plan on having meetings, discussions and forums using the new system that can handle up to 100 members online at a time.

All you need is a digital headset (microphone and earphones in one unit combined cost about \$30.00) for your computer. To download the software you need go to: <http://www.goteamspeak.com> then in the top center of the screen click on "DOWNLOADS" and select the very top file (TeamSpeak 2 Client (RC2)) and install it on your computer. You will have to agree to the license agreement then click next several times and finish the installation.

You will have to be added to the list of authorized users in addition to having a password so when you are ready send your information by e-mail to Master@californiagrango.org with the subject title "New GrangeSpeak User" and we will contact you to finish performing the set-up.

Grange Women's Activities

Betty Eyer

530-589-3163

PO Box 312, Berry Creek CA 95916

gwa@californiagrango.org

Summer time is here, - another summer of good times - picnics- fairs festivals - family camp and endless activities. What a wonderful time of the year.

Again this year, the Grange Women's Activities is proud to award a total of \$300.00 to the State Fair Youth Competition Donor Award, Grange Class 9. GWA will receive recognition as a Donor in the Exhibit Building for the entire duration of the Fair, as well as be listed in the competition materials which can be found online at www.bigfun.org. The categories are - Art - Needle and Thread - Crafts and Creative Projects - Grange Mechanical Science and Natural Science.

Last year two students from Fair Oaks school entered the Arts competition, and one student took Best of Show in her water color painting. The award money is there, and I am hoping more Junior and Youth will enter a project or article that they have made.

Another thought came to mind, grandchildren coming to visit Grandpa and Grandma what a wonderful time to take some time out and teach them some of the lost arts. There are so many lost arts today due to modern technology. No home made bread, just machine made

bread. Embroidery, knitting, machines and the list is endless.

Speaking of knitting, don't forget there will be a \$25.00 gift card for the Best of Show in knitting, if you do not knit, it is never to late to learn, I know as I learned to knit when I was in my fifty's, and wished my Grandmother had taught me in my youth.

I know that in the summer it is to hot to get involved with making quilts, caps, and sweaters, but how about an Ice Cream Social to raise money for the Dictionary Project. Anyway, what ever the project or activities may be, have a wonderful productive summer and hope to see you at Family Camp.

I understand this is the time to remind everyone about State Convention. Please remember home made cookies for the reception and to sell. Don't forget the baskets, those beautiful baskets filled with all kinds of goodies. For the expo, remember the entries must be in by September 15th.

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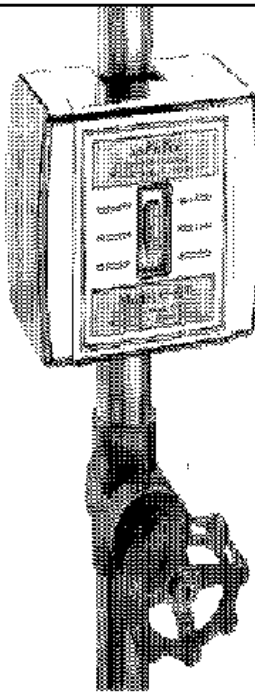
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Huell Howser To Headline Grange Convention

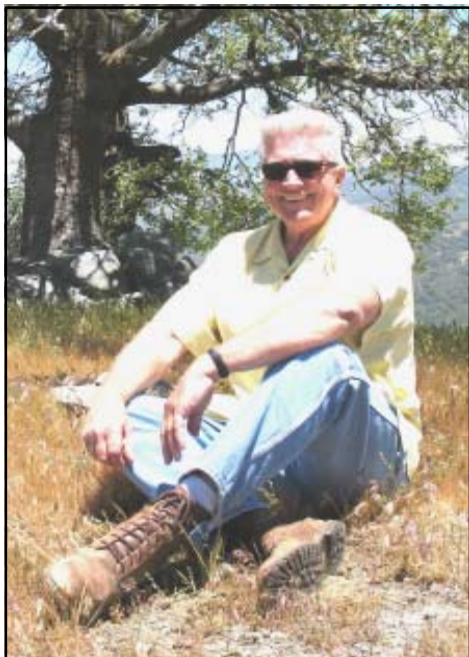
Popular TV documentarian and host will be speaking at the 135th Annual Convention when it convenes this October in Sacramento. He is currently scheduled to make his presentation on Friday, October 12th, at 11:00am.

When Huell Howser moved to Los Angeles in 1981 from his home state of Tennessee to become a reporter for KCBS-TV in Los Angeles, he had no idea he'd fall in love...with California. His enthusiasm for his new home inspired the idea for the television series that started it all, California's Gold. Huell had a simple idea: if he traveled the state with an open heart and an open mind, a microphone and a camera, he would uncover a treasure of California stories.

"We operate on the premise that TV isn't brain surgery. People's stories are what it's all about," says Howser. "If you have a good story, it doesn't have to be overproduced. I want our stories to reveal the wonders of the human spirit and the richness of life in California, including its history, people, culture and natural wonders."

A native of Tennessee, Huell began his television career at WSM-TV in Nashville after receiving his B.A. degree from the University of Tennessee, serving on the staff of a United States Senator and a stint in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Howser later joined WCBS-TV in New York City as host of a magazine-style series. He then came to Los Angeles in 1981 to work



as a reporter for KCBS-TV. Huell joined public television station KCET/Los Angeles in 1987 to produce "Videolog," a series of short programs featuring the stories of people from all walks of life. This series captured the imagination of viewers and led directly to an expanded format which covered people and places throughout the state.

And now after over 15 years in production, California's Gold is one of the longest running and most beloved series about California ever produced. The success and popularity of the show helped to launch six additional series about life in California, Visiting with Huell Howser, Road Trip with Huell Howser, California's Golden Parks, California's Green, California's Water and the newest series, Downtown. Huell Howser's shows can be viewed six nights a week on KCET, and at various times on California PBS stations statewide and in Oregon, Nevada and Tennessee. Huell's work in television has also taken him on travels worldwide, including Egypt, Israel, Haiti, Cuba, Nicaragua, Australia, Europe, and twice to the former Soviet Union.

It now costs more to amuse a child than it once did to educate his father!

Nothing is so simple that it cannot be misunderstood.



Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was awarded an Honorary State Future Farmers of America (FFA) Degree. The degree, which is the highest honor the state association can award, was given to the Governor for his efforts to promote career technical education (CTE).

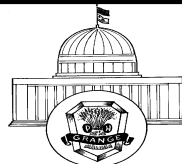
Joy Beattie Sets Record

Sister Joy Beattie, the past State GWA Chairman, continues to serve her community. In fact, Joy has set a new standard in giving back to the community - she has volunteered more than 18,000 hours at a North State hospital.

Joy, who lives in Redding, has been volunteering at Mercy Medical Center since 1980. She is one of nearly 500 volunteers in the hospital's Guild program. They all commit themselves to working 100 hours per year at the hospital.

Sister Joy has worked six times that requirement. Joy says she loves every minute of it. "It's always a pleasure to meet somebody that you know, have known for years," she said. And it's always a pleasure to go out some place and have somebody say, 'Are you still at the hospital?'"

The Guild volunteers their time and helps raise money. They raised \$300,000 over the last three years for the maternity expansion project at Mercy.



California Legislative Affairs

MIKE GREEN, DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

e-mail: legaffairs@californiagrango.org

Since the last issue of CSG News, the CSG Legislative Affairs Department has continued to work for the legislature's passage of bills to provide tax credits to volunteer firemen (AB 1700), to permit the production of industrial hemp (AB 648), and to open the levees to recreational uses (SB 669). Legislative Affairs also worked with alpaca breeders to equalize their tax burdens with those of livestock industry (AB 1050).

AB 1700, to provide tax credits to volunteer firefighters for their out-of-pocket expenses, was introduced by Assemblyman Doug LaMalfa (Biggs) at the request of the CSG. Relying on CSG President Lewis' life-long membership in the firefighting community, CSG worked closely with the community to tailor the bill to provide firefighter relief where it was needed. The bill was supported by the CA Fire Chiefs Assn, the CA State Firefighters Assn, the County of Mendocino, the County of Siskiyou Board of Supervisors, the Fire Districts Assn of CA, and the Regional Council of Rural Counties. The bill was finally heard by the Assembly Revenue & Tax Committee on May 21 and held by the Committee, due to the opposition of the CA Professional Firefighters and the CA Tax Reform Assn and due to the legislature's analysis of the fiscal effect which found that the bill would cost the state budget \$5 to \$10 million if it went into effect. The Committee's action means that AB 1700 may be considered by the legislature next year and the CSG intends to continue working on the bill to address the opposition and reduce its potential cost.

AB 684, to permit the production of industrial hemp in California, was introduced by Assemblymen Leno (San Francisco) and DeVore (Irvine). CSG spoke in favor of the bill before the Assembly Public Safety Committee on March 28 and the Assembly Appropriations Committee on April 19; and the bill passed the Assembly on May 10 by a vote of 41 to 29. CSG President Lewis spoke in favor of the bill before the Senate Agriculture Committee on June 19 before it was voted down by a 3 - 2 vote. Mr Leno plans to amend the bill to

address concerns about the bill and to request that the bill be reheard by the Committee on July 3 as a vote-only measure. If the bill is passed by the Committee then, it must be heard and favorably voted on by the Senate Public Safety Committee by July 13. CSG will continue its work to support delivery of AB 648 to the Governor for his signature.

SB 669, to provide that planning grants for recreational corridors which may be located on river-levees may be funded via Prop. 84, was introduced by Senator Torlakson (Antioch). Prop. 84 was passed by voters last year to generate bond funds to be used to rehabilitate flood levees in the state. SB 669 would permit the inclusion of recreational uses into the funded projects where feasible. CSG spoke in favor of the bill before the Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 31 and the bill passed the Senate on June 4 by a vote of 23 to 12. Now in the Assembly, it is scheduled to be heard by the Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee on June 25.

CSG also supported AB 1050 (LaMalfa), to provide that livestock raised for fiber production be taxed in the same way as producers of animals raised for food use. The bill passed out of the Assembly Revenue & Taxation Committee by a vote of 7 to 1 on May 22, but was held under submission by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 31 due to its estimated fiscal impact. This bill, like the Grange's AB 1700, can be heard again in 2008 and the Grange intends to work with California's growing alpaca community to get the bill passed and signed by the Governor in 2008.

CSG Legislative Affairs activities in support of these bills are coordinated with the Grange's Legislative Committee comprised of the Chairs of Grange Committees on Agriculture (Johnny Squire), Education (Karen Heckman), Public Policy (Ron Trombley), Public Affairs (Bob McFarland), and Water (Leo Bergeron). CSG members are encouraged to contact their Assemblymembers in support of SB 669 and their Senators in support of AB 684.

New Contests For This Years Grange Expo Competition

by Katie Squire

It doesn't seem possible, but the California State Grange Session is just around the corner. As part of the activities we will be holding the annual California Grange Exposition. This year we have added a number of new competitions that we hope you will be participating in. Here are some of the newest contests.

Did you upgrade to a "picture phone"? We now have a contest for cell phone photography. We are offering classes for portraits, self-portrait, animals, landscape/seascape and architecture. Use the official Grange Exposition entry form to pre-register. Photos may have been taken anytime from September 1st, 2006 to August 31st, 2007. Photographs will be emailed to

cagrange07expo@sbcglobal.net.

Emailed photos must be sent prior to 11:59 PM 9/15/2007 for inclusion in the Exposition. Division 378 is open to members of all ages.

Send us your pumpkins! As a Grange or an individual grow pumpkins for the Youth Activities Department sponsored Pumpkin Contest. Largest, Most Shapely and Ugliest pumpkins will be awarded special premium prizes. Contestants must also include a set of 3 photographs with their pumpkin documenting planting, fruit set and harvest. Pumpkins must be planted and harvested by the exhibitor.

Agricultural fibers have been added to the Exposition. Cotton, wool fleece and any other natural fibers are welcomed for exhibit. This contest is for natural fibers that have not been spun. Rabbit, alpaca, lambs wool, and flax are all included in this category. If you can spin it, enter it! Let's see what variety we

can display in Division 330. Method of display is up to the exhibitor.

Get connected. Lego constructions have been added to the Miscellaneous Division, and we are not limiting the size. If you can move it, we will exhibit it.

Bowlers, I hope that you are in the "strike zone". Send your top 4 scores, certified by a bowling alley printout (sorry no handwritten score sheets can be accepted) to the Expo Director by September 1st. Scores from May 1 to August 15 will be counted. The top 4 bowlers in each age group, based on the submitted scores, will be invited to compete at the State Grange Convention in Sacramento. Teams of 4 may also submit scores and will be invited to compete in the team finals.

Arggg, there be a Scavenger Hunt. Yes, me buckos, we want you to search for Grange Treasures. Select a Grange, one in your community, a State Grange or even the National Grange. Now, dig into doing research and finding fantastic facts about that Grange. Please consult the accompanying article for a complete list of items to be found. Put the results of yer search, and even booty that yee find into a scrapbook and enter it in the Grange Expo. Don't hide it in Davy Jones' locker.

Entry forms for the Grange Exposition, except where noted above, are due to the Exposition Coordinator by September 15th. Exhibits will be received at the California State Grange convention starting at 1 PM on October 8th and from 8:30 - 4 PM on Tuesday October 9. Exhibits will be released from 10 - 2 PM on Saturday October 13th.

For more information please contact Katie Squire at expo@californiagrango.org

Grange's Germany/USA Reunion Held In Sacramento Area This Year

At the 1949 National Grange Convention in Sacramento, California, Master Albert Goss urged support of an international farm youth exchange program. The delegates voted for Grange involvement to "promote better farming and improved world understanding and goodwill."

The GG/USA program was coordinated by Wib Justi as a part of his professional assignment at National Grange Headquarters. Grange families across the US had the opportunity to host a total of 500 German rural teenage exchangees for one year, sharing experiences in the home, on the farm and in school and community. The first group was for the year 1950-1951, soon called the "pioneers," and was followed by a new group each year through 1955-1956.

As a follow-up to the exchange program in 1956, a group of 20 US former host family members and cooperators spend several weeks living and working on farms of some of the 1950-1956 exchangees. This "group of 20" appeared "without notice" at the 1958 National Convention, and this became the beginning of the annual USA reunions. Soon former exchangees joined the reunions, and in 1994 the first international reunion was held in Germany with an attendance of approximately 150 people. This was followed by other international reunions, one in Colorado in 1996, and additional ones in Germany in 2000, and 2004, with mini reunions held annually around the US and in Germany.

The 2007 GG/USA reunion will be held

September 14-17, 2007 in Stockton, California. The host for this year's reunion will be Vangie Schumann. She was a host-sister to a National Grange German Rural Teenager named Ursela Herwig from 1953-1954. Vangie is a member of the Woodbridge Grange, #482, in San Joaquin County. For more information, please contact Vangie at (209) 957-6913, or at TRAVLKWEEN3@aol.com.

Our coordinator, Wib Justi calls this a positive 57 years, that still continues to achieve the program goals of building goodwill, friendship and understanding through visitations, communications, correspondence exchange, telephone calls, faxes, e-mail, and generations exchanges - now first, second, third and fourth.

Ottilie Loese from Sulzbach, Germany, and a 1950-1951 Pioneer, who will be in attendance this year, sums it up: "Every night in my prayers I think back to my hosts at Hadley, Massachusetts. I am thankful to the National Grange, my American parents and all people who made it possible for my wonderful year in the States."

Committees in Germany and the USA provide assistance with communications, publicity, promotion, evaluation, reunion planning and tracking activities. Financial support for the program is provided through donations.

California Grange families were host to many of the 1950 - 1956 exchangees.

The Code for the GG/USA program was taken from the lessons of the first four degrees, that of "R-R-S" defined as Respect, Responsibility, and Sharing. We are still SHARING.

Are You Planning For Expo-2008?

Yes, I know we haven't completed the 2007 Expo contest year, but now is the time to begin planning for the future.

As we start to plan for the future some of those plans may include contests. Please keep me informed as to what contests your departments plan to have for 2008, when they will be targeted, prizes offered, and all those little details that make up a successful plan. If your department has had contests listed in the Grange Expo that need to be revised, reinvigorated, and reduced, again keep the Expo in mind.

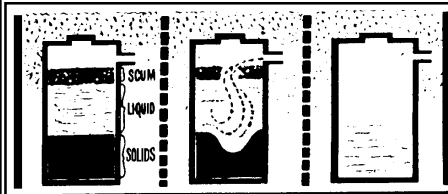
The whole concept of the Expo is to be able to present, in one easy to find place, all of the contests of the California State Grange, no matter when they take place. We have been working to get this information into the hands of our members early (that means at convention). Several years ago there was a resolution proposed that would have required the Expo book to be ready at convention. This year due to changes that were taking place within the Grange we slipped backwards and the information is late. We cannot wait until after elections, or the reorganization of departments to address this information.

Please sort through the 2007 Grange Exposition book and see what changes you and your departments want to make. Remember the Expo Book is designed for use by members of all ages, not just Juniors, or Youth, or "Seniors". Please get this back to me as early as possible. I will be back in the classroom starting on August 14 and at that point my time becomes limited.

If you need sponsored award information for your department budget please contact me and I will provide you with the data.

Fraternally,
Katie Squire

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No More Offensive Odors.

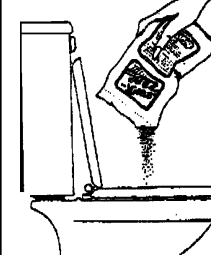
When the septic tank overflows into the drain fields methane gas is released. *Septi-Zone* prevents this. *Septi-Zone* is easy to use. Simply pour and flush toilet. Harmless to humans and animals. Will not harm plants, trees or plastic pipes.

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It's that time of year!

Fire season is coming early this year, so it is time to cut back those bushes and the grass around your home.

But did you know that water heater failures continue to be one of the top five sources of residential water losses for the insurance industry, costing an average of \$4,400 per incident.

I wish to alert you to the raising number of water heater failures resulting in water damage claims.

Knowing how and when to maintain a water heater can help reduce the chances of experiencing a water loss or lessen its severity.

- 1 The rate of failure resulting in a claim begins to dramatically increase for a water heater beginning after five years of use.
- 2 By twelve years of use, nearly three quarters of water heaters have failed.
- 3 Water heaters up to 20 years old account for 95% of water heater failures.

It pays for a homeowner to know where the water heater is located and to watch for signs of failure such as rust or leaks.

Proper maintenance includes inspecting the water heater's anode rod, a device installed to help prevent tank corrosion, and flush sediment from the tank on a regular basis.

Recommended maintenance includes:

- 1 Having a professional plumbing inspection of the anode rod at least once every two years and annually once the warranty has expired. The rod will eventually corrode and leave the tank vulnerable to damage and water leaks.
- 2 Removing sediment by flushing the tank every six months. Sediment will accumulate clogging the system.

Have a happy and safe summer.

Fraternally,
Dareld G. Larrigan
Chairman Board of Directors
Grange Insurance Group



National Grange Ceres To Be National Rep At Convention

Jeff and Nancy Swainston are members of Kinney Grange #754 in Kent County, Michigan, where Jeff is currently Treasurer and Nancy is Ceres. They are also both members of Kent/Ottawa/Oceana County Pomona Grange #18 where Jeff is Master and Nancy is Pomona.

Jeff was elected Master of the Michigan State Grange in 2002 and previously served as Overseer from 1996 to 2002. Jeff also serves on the Board of Directors for the United Dairy Industry of Michigan.

Nancy serves on the Junior Committee for the Michigan State Grange.

Nancy was elected Ceres of the National Grange in 2003.

Jeff and Nancy have 2 daughters, Alexandra and Jessica, ages 12 and 10.

Jeff and Nancy are active members of Byron Center United Methodist Church where Jeff is coordinator of the Praise Band and both sing in the contemporary choir. Nancy also serves the church on the hospitality committee and is a Sunday School Teacher.

Jeff is a professional portrait photographer & photojournalist and Nancy works for the local Veterinary Hospital as a receptionist.



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Grange Youth Fair Program Notes

by Ed Kowski
Youth Activities Director

It's Fair Season and the Youth Fair Teams are in full swing –

If you are able, please participate by attending and cheering on the youth at the various fair competitions including there livestock auction. Your participation as a Grange Member is so underrated – the youth are unbelievably appreciative and excited about seeing members and to have the opportunity to discuss their project. Get out there and visit your local fair and youth – you want be disappointed.

We have amended our "pin" award program effective immediately.

Any member can receive their pin FREE just by supplying the following:

- Name
- Grange
- Placing or award received
- Where it was received
- The Signature of the showman
- The Signature and name of there leader

ON THE BACK OF A PHOTO

We would like to start a collections photographs of our members accomplishments and their exhibits. Please send this either via us mail or an e-mail with the photo attached as a jpeg. For additional info please see the Fair Team Project Book which is online @ www.cagrangeya.com

It's summer and Camps are hot spot for Family, Youth & Junior fun –

By the publishing of this newsletter we should have had our Northern Horse Camp and the Central Family Camp. The Southern Camp will be @ Rainbow Valley Grange, Fallbrook, San Diego County, CA on August 10-12, please contact Suzy Moramarco at suncette@cox.net for additional info and directions. We are planning many exciting meals and activities. The California Grange Youth Activities Committee has contributed to all camp with financial support, marketing materials and awards.

Advertising & Marketing:

We have started advertising our program and we hope to have our marketing campaign available at this year's convention. We are planning on a Youth Focus Day during the convention which will include our delegate presentation, and we will host a reception during the convention for 1 on 1 time with your Directors. The web site continues to be a work in progress; we are planning on adding a Blog and a pod cast.

Communication is still our #1 issue - if you need assistance contact us, my cell is 760-310-6500 call or e-mail

youthactvdir@californiagrangec.com

A Scavenger Hunt

by Katie Squire, Expo Director

Pirates and hunting for hidden treasures have become all the rage. The California State Grange Youth Activities Department invites you to go on a Grange Scavenger Hunt. As an individual or as a group gather as much information as you can so you can create a Scavenger Hunt Scrapbook. Scrapbooks are due at the Grange Exposition; see the accompanying article for entry information.

First, make your decision, what Grange do you want to discover? You can select your own Grange, one that you want to learn more about, a State Grange or even the National Grange.

You determine the best way to display the results of your search in your scrapbook. Make sure that each page is labeled with descriptions or titles. Use original documents, pictures or other items or make copies if it is better to preserve the value of the original materials. You may use any and all available resources to find your treasures. Don't forget to involve your long time members; they are an excellent source of information. We encourage you to find as many of the items on the list as possible. Scrapbooks will be judged on completeness as well as creativity.

Here is the list of items:

1. This Grange was organized by whom, on what date, and where.
2. A picture of the first Master of the Grange.
3. A picture of the 2007 Gatekeeper.
4. A vintage Grange button, pin or badge that was used by a member of this Grange.
5. The Grange Charter was signed by which National Grange Master.
6. Publication date and edition of the most recent Grange Manual in use by this Grange.
7. Earliest edition of the Grange Manual.
8. Provide a tribute to the fruits, flowers and grains grown near this Grange.
9. Oldest living member of the Grange.
10. Best fund raising event in the last ten years.
11. Pictures of the GWA, CWA, and/or HEC chairmen through the years.
12. Special events or celebrations for this Grange.
13. Location of where the Grange meets, include all earlier locations as well.
14. Maximum membership – minimum membership.
15. Youngest members, includes a Junior Grange.
16. Biggest family, and/or highest number of years combined membership for a family.
17. The Agate, what is it used for?
18. Special awards won by the Grange.
19. Early photographs/postcards of the Grange.
20. Community service performed by the Grange.
21. How did the Grange get its name?
22. If the Grange has a hall, when and how was it built?
23. Most generations in the Grange.
24. Resolutions passed by this Grange.
25. Longest serving Secretary

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Membership Matters

RICHARD SAXE, MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
& JAN SAXTON, MEMBERSHIP TALENT CONTEST

MEMBERSHIP SAYS "OUR HALLS NEED THE EXERCISE!"

The National Grange sends out a 'membership tip' every month, and their membership tip for the month of June was "Folks don't join the Grange just to go to the meetings." Boy, is that the truth! Our California State Membership Development Team has found in our calling around this Spring that many of our local California Granges often struggle to attract a quorum to their meetings. What we need is more fun and exciting Grange activities to encourage folks to show up. This is also a challenge, of course if we don't have enough active members at meetings, how do we orga-

nize new activities?

It might be smart to use the greatest gift our forebears left us to help us in service to our communities—our Halls. And we've found that, by and large, our Grange Halls need the exercise. By inviting new groups of people in to meet and share in our Halls, we can often glean the energy and the workforce to help those new activities happen. After all, most of these Halls were built long ago by Grangers to be used to benefit and serve their communities.

Membership Talent Contests Going Well

The responses to the "Talent Contest in a Box" have been very positive and very appreciative. We've heard it is well-designed, very well put together, it's a great idea and that we're doing a great job. It is very nice to get positive feedback, and it will be even nicer to have a successful program—but we need your participation. For this pilot project to succeed well into the future we will need to get as much participation as possible this first year.

That being said, there have been some real successes. The Aromas Grange picked up six new members with its contest and had the

busiest breakfast that month we've seen in a long while. We talked to one Grange that has a very active rental program going, but not many activities that bring their community into their Hall. They were very excited to have the Talent Contest as a program to share with their members and bring the community into their Hall.

If your Grange is considering having a contest, we encourage you to give it a try. There are still a couple of months before the regional finals in September, it is not too late. All you need is to get flyers up 3-4 weeks ahead of time and get the word out, people will come. Performers love a stage and they'll bring an audience with them. In a couple of areas, several Granges are partnering together to do one show between them, which is a great idea for Granges without a Hall or without a lot of active members. We are also setting up the regional finals so that any Grange in the region can send a representative, whether they've had a contest or not. So there are still lots of ways you can participate. So polish up your act and get on board!

If the world is cold, make
it your business to build
fires!



Rx Health Matters

By Jim McDaniel
California State Grange
Health Committee Chairman

In view of recent circumstances we should focus our attention on the state and national mental health needs. Multiple stories in our newspapers deal with murders and other crimes committed by people suffering from mental illness for which they had undergone brief and sometimes superficial treatment in California. During the first year of Ronald Reagan's service as governor, he signed the Lanterman-Petris, Short legislation and the Short-Doyle Act. This legislation freed thousands who did not need to be kept in state hospitals. The new legislation, while doing a lot of good, put most treatment for the mentally ill on a voluntary basis. Within weeks of the passage of this legislation I found it impossible to get needed help for a close friend of mine who suffered a mental breakdown because he was too sick to volunteer for treatment. The result was he returned to his home and killed the man in the next room. He then spent four years in Atascadero State Hospital.

Ronald Reagan was a great governor and president, but that first year as our governor he signed legislation the impact of which he did not fully understand.

Now in our state, avoidable crimes are being committed by sick people, the suicide rate is high among college students, drug and alcohol use is out of control.

The tragedy at Virginia Tech shows us that nationwide, the problem of inadequate identification and treatment of the mentally ill is not met.

We need to be concerned that we now have drug resistant strains of tuberculosis and gonorrhea. Several other diseases show a tendency to become more resistant to traditional treatment. Modern lifestyles render disease control difficult. We should be alert regarding this trend. We have concerned that Avian (Bird Flu) could begin to spread from person to person. Recent clinical studies show that

the Bird Flu vaccine, so far, is only 45% effective.

It is mosquito season still and West Nile Virus is a possibility. But by now we know what all the precautions are. Drain anything that can hold water; tires, all outside pots and containers, roof gutters, etc. Mosquito larvae can grow to mosquito-hood in a very small amount of water.

When outside, wear long sleeves and long pants, particularly in the evening and early morning. Again use good repellent containing DEET.

Seems as if this is the fourth year I have written this. Repetition is the essence of education.

Now as we vacation in the high country, the precautions are particularly important. Remember them at Family Camp.

AIDs is increasing in most parts of the country though it is encouraging to note that more people are careful in intimate relationships. Remember your last HIV test may be negative, but a few days of careless behavior can change that.

Major studies suggest a consistent care program for Herpes can also keep the AIDs virus under control in women infected with both. People infected with herpes sores on the genitals are more susceptible to becoming infected with the AIDs virus.

In rural areas and probably statewide, Methamphetamine use and other usage of dangerous drugs is increasing in spite of accelerated efforts to control the problem. Programs for treatment are not keeping up with the drug epidemic. We see very poor people spending what little they have for drugs. Young children are increasingly involved in this hard to treat problem and if we are alert to the signs of use, we may become aware that friends and even family members are users. Watch for people

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)

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Dear Subordinate and Pomona Granges:

Due to circumstances beyond my control (read computer program gone amok) I am unable to place the stories you sent into this issue. The print deadline did not allow for me to coax, cajole and fix it in time to publish your stories.

The stories are still on my computer, and the problem should be solved without loss of information. I will publish those stories in the next issue, but will edit out material referring to future activities that have already come to pass. My apologies for any inconvenience or frustration.

Fraternally
Editor

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Grange on Green – A New Committee in the Marshall Grange

by Buzz Chernoff

"Green" has come to the Georgetown Divide. Grange on Green that is, a new committee of the Marshall Grange in Garden Valley. Formed after the Grange hosted a free community showing of "Inconvenient Truth", a movie on global warming, this group of enthusiastic folks decided that the Marshall Grange Vision of serving as a hub of the community needed another spoke, so they put together a program to advocate "green" sustainable solutions in the community through education and outreach.

In just six months Grange on Green has done a remarkable job in reaching the community with ways to reduce energy consumption, recycle, and begin living green. For their first project, they put up an informational both at our community's annual Spring Arts and Nature Festival which is attended by a lot of kids. It was a treat to see kids learn about solar energy by playing with the solar toys, and then bringing their parents back to the booth and explaining to them how it all works. Next came a battery recycling project, where Grange on Green made some recycling bins with labels showing the types of batteries to recycle. They distributed the bins to the local businesses that sell batteries so folks would have an easy and accessible place to take their dead batteries. Members of the committee empty the bins on a regular basis, and take them to a local recycling station. The merchants are pleased with having the service, their customers are filling the bins, and the Grange is getting community good will. Grange on Green is also promoting the use of alternatives to paper and plastic products. They found the local suppliers of corn and soy-based paper plates, cups and food containers that can be composted in a home compost pile and are working on getting community organizations and local restaurants to convert to the more planet friendly products. To provide informational material for the community, Grange on Green is working on establishing a "Green Corner" at the local library. Several books on the use of solar energy in the home and community, renewable energy, and sustainable building techniques have been donated to the Green Corner. The Librarian is very enthusiastic for this project and has placed labels in each of these books with an acknowledgement to the Grange. Grange on Green's most recent project was to install solar lighting on the new Marshall Grange roadside sign and marquee. This sign, which was made by Granger Jonathan Crouthamel for his Eagle Scout project, is highly visible during the day and with the addition of the solar lighting, it is now visible at night. This is the first solar lighted sign in our area and an example of a real alternative to traditional electric sign lighting.

Grange on Green has many plans for the future, including include another informational booth at the local Kids Expo this Fall, workshops on topics such as the construction and use of small solar devices for the home, building a solar 'pre-heater' domestic hot water system, and composting. There are pamphlets in the works on a variety of green topics, a regular question and answer Grange on Green column in the weekly newspaper, a Grange on Green radio show on the community low frequency FM station, and an assistance program to help teachers identify and apply for solar grants.

All of this has taken place in the last six months. It just goes to show what can happen when you get a group of enthusiastic like-minded folks together and give them the resources to carry out their vision and have fun; happy members, doing something positive for the community, and providing one more spoke in the hub of the community, the Marshall Grange. If you would like to know more about Grange on Green, e-mail the group at

toohighranch@hotmail.com.

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Rx Health Matters

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12)

who become thinner, more talkative and hyperactive, experience extreme emotional swings and always are short of money. What then? Law enforcement action and then compulsory treatment.

If you have renters in rural areas who could be making meth, a clue will be a more frequent need to have the septic tank drained, if that is what is being used, as meth kills the tank's needed bacteria. Of course, sometimes confused meth makers blow up the buildings they are working in or become overcome by the potions they are at work on and die from the fumes.

Meth is no joke, and it is a major problem. Let's help fight this battle. Grange can find willing experts to present valuable forums.

Obesity is considered by many to be our number one problem. We are warned that youngsters put on pounds in the summer. That used to be a time for enjoying the outdoors, camping, fishing, sports, just drinking in the fresh air and bike riding. Now sitting on the couch watching TV and snacking on junk food or spending hours in front of the computer has taken the place of many of those great outdoor pastimes we used to enjoy.

Grange can get community gardens started and involve youngsters in planting and broadening their knowledge of nature. Grange Family Camp and other outdoor programs are much enjoyed and help teach about the outdoors.

We live in a beautiful state from one end to the other. Parents can easily find nearby places to enjoy with their children.

Older folks are trying a variety of diets. These include the low-carb Zone the ORNISH protein-rich diet and the Learn Diet. The winner of the diets studied by one group was the Atkins diet. However, women showed a tendency to regain weight lost. Most noticeable with the Atkins diet, women showed higher levels of "good cholesterol" and slightly lower blood pressure.

Really, nothing seemed to work very well. Diet planning and general life style changes are needed in this urgent fight to prevent and control obesity.

With long-term safety of stents questioned, some doctors say it may be time to give by-pass operations a second look when treating heart problems.

Some cardiologists feel we may have pressed forward on stent technology a little faster than we should have. Powerful advocates like Boston Scientific and Johnson and Johnson have shown huge stent sales.

In the last decade the number of by-pass surgeries have fallen by a third to about 365,000 last year.

We need to keep track of developments in the heart treatment field and keep our Grangers informed. This could make for an interesting forum.

The Brown Recluse Spider, new to us until a few years

ago, is now found in most of California. The bite, which can be deadly, usually destroys tissue adjacent to the bite. If bitten by a Brown Recluse, get treatment immediately.

The Brown Recluse is aptly named because it hides in dark places like the sleeves of clothing in the closet. If you plan to work cleaning your attic, the basement or any dark storage area, turn on the light for a time before you begin work and be careful what you handle.

And finally in treating children's pain, recent thorough studies show that Ibuprofen is more effective than Advil, Motrin and others tested.

As I proofread this, I am home with a new right hip. Each day I make gains with walking and exercise. Again I praise the prompt thorough care provided by the fine staff at Mt. Shasta Mercy Medical Center, located just 1/2 a mile from our farm. Once home, we are served regularly by therapists and nurses from the great Siskiyou Home Health Care Program.

Remember, if you are angry and in a hurry—take it easy. I learned the hard way with a broken hip.

!!! KEEP WELL !!!

Summer Grange Camp Fun For The Whole Family

Families and friends from up and down the state turned out to enjoy five days of camping, July 4 - July 8, at Grange Family Camp, held at Buck's Lake, thirty minutes west of Quincy in the Plumas National Forrest.

Variety of activities made for happy campers kept busy with water sports, crafts, and workshops on cooking with Dutch ovens and digital photography. Everyone in camp made their own tie-dye t-shirts.

The last night of camp, a show around the campfire featured the comic and musical talents of the campers.

The meals were terrific, thanks to Bill & Patty Allen who kept the camp well fed.

Camp Director Katie Squire led an expedition of vehicles in search of Butterfly Valley, which turned out to be a highlight of the trip for many. The caravan ventured deep into the rugged woods and up and down narrow mountain roads, until there was no turning back. Suddenly, a mother bear and two cubs ran across the road right in front of the motorcade. Eventually the caravan found its way back to camp, with an adventure to share.

The Youth Grange sponsored fishing contests for the first, biggest and most fish caught. The camp was skunked until Saturday, when three steady fishermen returned to camp with a stringer of a stringer-full of brown trout.

Plans are being discussed to add two more Grange camps to the schedule. Keep your ears open.

(Pix and story courtesy Bob McFarland)

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A once-in-a-lifetime shot. The lost group of Grangers came upon a mother bear and her cubs, giving Bob McFarland a chance to snap this shot. The bears seemed uninterested - that's a good thing!

Memories of Grange Camp 2007

Photo's by Bob McFarland



"Did I set a new record?"



Shriner's Hospital in Sacramento Receives Grange Donations

Grange Women's Activities President Betty Eyler accompanied by Assistant to the Master Linda Lewis paid a special visit today to Sacramento Shriners Hospital, just a few blocks from the State Grange executive offices.

Betty and Linda brought with them donations of hand-knit hats, infant blankets and a check for \$500 made out to the hospital. They were greeted in the beautiful hospital lobby by Catherine Curran, Director of Public & Community Relations.

Participating in the goodwill, the Pleasant Valley Grange #675 donated a box full of coloring books, games and the latest Harry Potter novel for the hospital library.

Catherine was genuinely pleased to receive the items and the check from the GWA. Betty and Linda visited with Catherine for some time, answering her questions about the Grange and learning more about the hospital.

"Shriners in North America, whose purpose is said to be fun and philanthropic, have raised more than 4 billion dollars to build and operate 18 orthopedic hospitals and three Burn Institutes (Boston, Cincinnati, Galveston), as well as Sacramento, their newest and most full service facility," states John Loofbourow, MD.

Shriners Hospitals for Children rely on the generosity of donors to help us continue their mission of providing specialized pediatric care at no charge, conducting innovative research and providing world-class teaching programs for physicians and other health care professionals.

If you'd like to participate in future Grange efforts to support the Sacramento Shriners Hospital, please contact GWA President Betty Eyler through the State Grange office.



Convention to Feature Extra Day, Extra Activities Including Two Dinner Shows

(FROM PAGE 2)

After lunch there will be a Secretary's Workshop, Treasurer's Workshop, and a Master's Workshop. Subordinate and Pomona Officers are encouraged to attend these learning workshops on the duties and expectations of these offices.

At 4pm there will be a special Budget Presentation in which the proposed budget for the coming year will be discussed and explained, giving all a chance to study the proposal and be prepared to have an informed discussion on the floor at the time-certain

Budget Presentation on Wednesday afternoon.

At 7pm there will be the Chaplains Memorial Service, honoring those Grangers who have passed on. Following the service, there will be an Officers Reception to which all are invited to come and meet the State Officers.

Wednesday at 8:30am will be the official opening of the 135th Annual Session of the California State Grange. The Grange is opened in the 6th Degree, and then lowered for business to the Fourth. Housekeeping items will be discussed, such as Standing Rules and the

approval of the schedule. At 10:30am Master Lewis will present Part 1 of his annual address. The First-Timer's Lunch is scheduled at noon.

In the afternoon we will hear Officer's and Director's reports to the delegates. Approval of the Executive Committee minutes will then take place, followed by Part 2 of Master Lewis' annual report. This is also the afternoon when required Constitutional Resolutions are worked, and the presentation for approval of the Budget for the coming year.

Thursday will begin early, as the GWA

Breakfast will start at 6:30am. The Grange will open in the Fourth Degree at 8:30am. The annual GWA Women's March will also take place Thursday morning.

As soon as the final Credential Report is made (approximately 10:30am), the process of nominating Officers for 2007 until October, 2009 will take place, followed shortly by the opening of the polls. It is planned to close the polls around 2pm, and announce the results around 4pm in the afternoon. Thursday night will be a working night for delegates, with resolution processing and the announcement of results of run-off elections, if needed.

Friday will begin with the annual Youth Breakfast. Friday morning we will also pay our annual tribute to the Veterans of our organization.

Of special interest this morning will be guest speaker, Huel Houser. Please see the article on this entertaining speaker in this issue.

Lunch will be held at Orangevale Grange Hall, with the ever-popular Grange Youth BBQ. Dinner this evening will be the Lecturer's Showcase of Talent. While this popular program is a long-standing one, the idea of a dinner show is new. Come and let us know how you enjoyed it.

Saturday morning will see the Exemplification of the Fifth Degree, the Degree of Pomona, for those who have not already taken this degree in preparation for the Sixth Degree, which will follow at approximately 10:00am.

Saturday afternoon will see the opening of the Grange in the Sixth Degree, followed by installation of new officers. By spending Thursday evening working resolutions, it is hoped that the business session will be over Saturday afternoon, and members can then come and relax and enjoy the Membership Dinner and Talent Contest finals Saturday evening, enjoying both a good program and fellowship with our brothers and sisters of the Grange.



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2007 Grange Annual Session Pre-Registration Request

NAME		Instructions: 1. Print names of all persons being registered. Check if 1st time delegate. These are eligible to attend First-timers Lunch free. 2. Basic Registration receives name badge only (Delegate pack if voting Delegate). Full registration will receive Convention Pak, including pin, tote, binder, resolution pad, hospitality room pass. 3. Order copies of the resolution packets only if you are a Basic Registrant and not a voting delegate, State Officer, or State Director. Packets will NOT be available unless preordered. 4. Those wishing to take both 5th and 6th Degree must buy tickets to both events (\$15).	
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CITY/ST/ZIP			
PHONE (DAY)	E-mail address		
		GRANGE NAME & No.	

Section 1. Registration

Print name as it is to appear on Name Badge - *changes at Session will be \$1.00 each*

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Amount Due \$	Amount Due \$	Amount Due \$	Amount Due \$

For additional registrants, please submit another form with the appropriate information.

NOTE: All names on this form will be filed under name #1.

Sub-Total \$

Section 2 - Other Items	The Fine Print	name number(s) from Section 1	Price	Quantity	Total \$
5th Degree Tickets	For 4th Degree members who wish to take the 5th Degree of the Order (Must have name #)		\$5.00		
6th Degree Tickets	For 5th Degree members who wish to take the 6th Degree of the Order (Must have name #)		\$10.00		
Resolution Packets	For non-voting, Basic Registration only See Instruction #3		\$10.00		
Journal of Proceedings	Journal of this Convention. Will be mailed to your address around 4/30/08		\$10.00		
Convention Pins	One pin is included with each full registration. To order additional pins, use this form.		\$5.00		

If the name number is not indicated, the above item(s) will be ordered for the person whose name is on line #1.

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Section 3 - Banquets/Meals	Menu Selection	@ Price	Number of Meals	Total \$
Wed. - Oct 10 - First Timer's Lunch		\$16.50		
Wed. - Oct. 10 - Master's Banquet		\$30.00		
Thurs. - Oct. 11 GWA Breakfast		\$15.00		
Thurs. - Oct. 11 Patron's Luncheon		\$16.50		
Friday - Oct. 12 - Youth Breakfast		\$8.00		
Friday - Oct. 12 - Youth BBQ	Beef ___ Chicken ___	\$15.00		
Friday - Oct. 12 - Lecturer's Dinner Show		\$30.00		
Sat. - Oct.13 - Membership Dinner Show		\$30.00		

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* Please note: Registration forms postmarked after September 27, 2007, and registration at the convention, will be an additional \$10 (per Res. 00-78-GA). Due to liability problems, **child care will not** be provided. Please make arrangements accordingly.

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