

"We are a national organization with local focus."

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

neutralized. Convention went so well that a profit of \$4500.00 was realized. The Convention saw 106 Granges represented, that means nearly 60% of all Granges in California had a voice at Convention. There were 248 guests, and 188 delegates of which 39 were there for the first time. The Convention Steering Committee that performed so well this year has been charged with formulating a guideline for future conventions. The co-chairs of the Committee, Buzz Chernoff and Dale Baker, have agreed to help next years hosts with their planning. Tentatively, the 2010 Convention will take place in Mt. Hamilton Grange hall in San Jose. Dates are also tentative at this time, but October 13th through 17th is the most likely window.

For the first time in many years, the delegates also voted in a nearly all-new leadership/management team. Elected Master was Bob McFarland, who has served the CSG as Executive Committeeman, PR and Membership Director for the past few years. Martha Stefenoni was re-elected as Overseer, and

Larry Kroger, Shirley Baker, Jon Luvaas and Leo Bergeron were all newly elected to the Executive Committee. Inger Bevans, whose term was not up for election, is the only returning Executive Committee person. At the first EC meeting following the Convention, Larry Kroger was named Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Other officers elected included Buzz Chernoff, returning for another term as Lecturer; Joseph Stefenoni was returned as Steward; Jeremy Heckman was reelected Assistant Steward; Stephanie Knigge was elected Lady Assistant Steward; Barbara Geiger returns as Chaplain; Marian Nichols was re-elected Treasurer; Kalie Benson is the new State Secretary; Bob Alvarez was elected Gatekeeper; Nancy Alvarez is Ceres; Marta Kroger is Flora, Lauren Nebbit is Pomona and Ryan Schlegel was elected Musician.

National Master Edward Luttrell was the National Grange representative to our Convention. His address to the delegates had as its theme the protection of the Grange. From individual Granges and Grangers who chose not to abide by the laws of the Grange, to businesses and entrepreneurs who infringe on our trademarks and use the name of the Grange in their commercial endeavors, the Grange will protect its rights. The National Grange is diligently working to enforce the copyright laws. Tyson Foods, for example, dropped its plans to use the name "Grange" in one of its product lines. Here in Sacramento, the Grange Restaurant has signed a licensing agreement to use the name, for which it pays a fee and agrees to give Grange members a break on the bill. Luttrell said the licensing agreement solution is working out well throughout the country. The National Grange is also seeking special legislation in Congress that will protect it' name in the U.S.

Brother Ed spoke to the nature of the Grange. "We are a national organization with a local focus," he said. He reminded the delegates that they were here to do the work of the Grange, not just the State Grange, but for the good of the entire Order. He reminded officers that a sash does not make one better or more powerful; if anything, it simply adds to your responsibilities. In essence, we may have seven degrees, but only one Grange.

Discussion on whether the State Grange would support the creation of the State of Jefferson out of land in Northern California and Southern Oregon was halted when the motion was tabled.

The CSG By-laws have been amended so

that the by-laws of the individual Community Grange need not be changed each time there is a change of dues amounts from the National or State Grange. Granges may now simply say that their local dues will be \$XX amount over the dues sent to State and National.

The Delegates also approved a new E-membership program that allows individuals to join the Grange via the Internet through National Grange. Individuals may join by filling out the application on-line and sending it to the National Grange. The dues for the E-member will be \$10.00, with \$3.50 remaining with the National Grange, and \$6.50 being sent to the State Grange. Dues collected from this program shall be allocated to member services and/or revitalization and organization of Community Granges.

Persons joining the Grange in this fashion will not be allowed to vote or participate in National Grange sponsored contests until they become a member of a Community Grange. However, these members will be furnished with information and benefits and encouraged to join a Community Grange near them.

While this membership category was approved by California, the National Delegates, after much discussion, rejected the plan. This effectively keeps California from initiating an E-membership program as our membership rules must comply with National Grange's rules. According to our delegate, Bob McFarland, there appeared to be some misconception among National delegates that members joining in this category would have equal privileges with members who have paid full dues to a Subordinate Grange. Proponents of this resolution have stated that they will attempt to pass this measure in the future.

Although the Executive Committee will have the final say on Convention sites after studying needs and the ability to meet those needs, the site of the 2010 Convention was selected as Mt. Hamilton Grange in Santa Clara County, and the 2011 Convention at Palermo Grange in Butte County. Convention dates for 2010 are tentatively set for October 13 - 17. Please watch these pages and our website for updates on both dates and location. If you have specific questions, please contact your Grange's delegate to the Convention, or send an email to info@californiagrangecom. The State Office will attempt to answer your questions and address your concerns.



Officers for 2010 - 2011

Change of Address

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

New Address: _____ # _____

New City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Change in Name? _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please mail to:

California State Grange

3830 U Street.

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, 3830 U Street, Sacramento CA 95817. Phone 916-454-5805 or toll free 1-866-4GRANGE (within California only). Fax us at 916-739-8189; or email us at the following addresses:

Elected Officers

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Master (President) | Robert McFarland ----- | Master@californiagrangecom.org |
| Overseer (VP) | Martha Stefenoni ----- | Overseer@californiagrangecom.org |
| Lecturer | Buzz Chernoff ----- | Lecturer@californiagrangecom.org |
| Steward | Joseph Stefenoni ----- | Steward@californiagrangecom.org |
| Assistant Steward | Jeremy Heckman ----- | AsstSteward@californiagrangecom.org |
| Lady Assistant Steward ... | Stephanie Knigge ----- | LAS@californiagrangecom.org |
| Chaplain | Barbara Geiger ----- | Chaplain@californiagrangecom.org |
| Treasurer | Marian Nichols ----- | Treasurer@californiagrangecom.org |
| Secretary | Kalie Benson ----- | Secretary@californiagrangecom.org |
| Gatekeeper | Bob Alvarez ----- | Gatekeeper@californiagrangecom.org |
| Ceres | Nancy Alvarez ----- | Ceres@californiagrangecom.org |
| Flora | Marta Kroeger ----- | Flora@californiagrangecom.org |
| Pomona | Lauren Nebitt ----- | Pomona@californiagrangecom.org |
| Musician | Ryan Schlegel ----- | Musician@californiagrangecom.org |
| Executive Committee | Larry Kroger ----- | EC1@californiagrangecom.org |
| Executive Committee | Shirley Baker ----- | EC2@californiagrangecom.org |
| Executive Committee | Inger Bevans ----- | EC3@californiagrangecom.org |
| Executive Committee | John Luvaas ----- | EC4@californiagrangecom.org |
| Executive Committee | Leo Bergeron ----- | EC5@californiagrangecom.org |

Directors

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Chief Ambassador | Dale Baker ----- | info@californiagrangecom.org |
| Chief Deputy | Jack Eyler ----- | ChiefDeputy@californiagrangecom.org |
| Community Service | | info@californiagrangecom.org |
| Exposition Director | Katie Squire ----- | ExpoBook@californiagrangecom.org |
| GWA Chairperson | Betty Eyler ----- | GWA@californiagrangecom.org |
| Health Director | Leslie Parker ----- | FamHealth@californiagrangecom.org |
| Junior Grange Director | | info@californiagrangecom.org |
| Government Affairs | Michael Greene ----- | legaffairs@californiagrangecom.org |
| Membership Director | | info@californiagrangecom.org |
| Public Relations | Jay Hartz ----- | PR@californiagrangecom.org |
| Youth Activities Director | Marta Kroger ----- | YouthActivitiesDir@californiagrangecom.org |

Office Staff

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Secretary's Office | Kalie Benson ----- | bensonk@californiagrangecom.org |
| Office Manager | Amy Self ----- | selfa@californiagrangecom.org |
| Grange News Editor | Jay Hartz ----- | cgn@californiagrangecom.org |
| Bookkeeping | Amy Self ----- | selfa@californiagrangecom.org |
| Reservations | Keri Degraw ----- | degrawk@californiagrangecom.org |
| Supplies | Keri Degraw ----- | degrawk@californiagrangecom.org |
| Quarterly Reports | Kalie Benson ----- | bensonk@californiagrangecom.org |

How did your resolution do? CSG Resolutions Passed In 2009

The following resolutions were passed at the 2009 Convention. Those marked "Nat" have been forwarded to National Grange for deliberation at their Convention in November. The resolution number line will show the action taken by the National Delegates. The Resolution Committees were:

| | |
|------|--|
| AG | Agriculture |
| C&EA | Conservation and Environmental Affairs |
| E | Education |
| FA | Foreign Affairs |
| GA | Grange Activities |
| GL | Grange Law |
| H | Health |
| L&J | Labor and Judiciary |
| PP | Public Policy |
| TAX | Taxes and Fiscal Affairs |
| TR | Transportation |
| W | Water |

These committees will continue to work with resolutions and issues received throughout the year. The Chair of each committee comprises the Legislative Committee chaired by our Government Affairs Director and is charged with determining actions to be taken by our advocates with the appropriate government agencies and/or the Legislature. In accordance with policy set by delegates this year, the action being taken on these resolutions is also being included after each one.

AGRICULTURE

09-036-AG – Nat. Rejected as current National Grange policy .

Title: Local Farmland Preservation and Food Security

Proposed By: Chico Grange #486

Whereas: The Grange is historically among the foremost supporters of public policies and local practices to protect local agricultural land, family farms, small growers and agricultural processing facilities from development, corporate takeovers, or other threats to continued productivity; and

Whereas: The Grange has shifted much of its attention to other activities in recent decades; and

Whereas: Industrial agriculture has come to dominate food production, replacing most family farms, which have declined to a fraction of their historic levels and continue to decline; and

Whereas: Consumers have been heavily dependent on industrial agriculture and food products grown, produced, and shipped from great distances, which raises costs and often reduces quality; therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG and the National Grange reaffirms its primary mission: to support local small scale and family farms as an essential mainstay of local economies and food security, including support for farmers markets, farmland preservation, community gardens, and gardening & food education programs at Grange halls and in Grange communities.

Action: The CSG has embraced this primary mission and promoted these goals. A new committee has been formed to develop programs in support of this mission statement.

CONSERVATION

09-004-C&EA – Nat. Withdrawn.

Title: Forest Fire Management

Proposed By: Mc Cloud Grange #831

Whereas: Prior to the arrival of settlers to western states from other areas, native Americans allowed forest fires to burn themselves out, thus clearing the forest floor of dead tree growth, some underbrush and other debris; and

Whereas: In recent years a great deal of money has been spent and lives lost fighting forest fires in areas where no dwellings are threatened and as currently budget restrictions will reduce the number of fire fighters available; therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG and the National Grange support letting forest fires burn themselves out, except in areas where structures are threatened.

Action: A letter is being drafted to be mailed to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) and other parties of interest. The author of the resolution will be contacted to assist in writing the draft.

09-047-C&EA – Nat. Rejected as current National Grange policy.

Title: Utilize Newly Discovered Oil Reserves In America

Proposed By: Gazelle Grange #380

Whereas: The largest oil discovery since Alaska's Prudhoe Bay occurred in April 2008 and located in North Dakota, western South Dakota and eastern Montana in the section known as the Williston Basin usually referred to as the "Bakken;" and

Whereas: The U.S. Geological Service says there is enough crude oil to meet America's needs for nearly half a century; and

Whereas: Conscientious environmentalists and verbal members of our major political parties have blocked efforts that could see America independent of foreign oil; therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG and the National Grange support geological studies that lead to environmentally safe methods to make use of the newly discovered oil reserves in the Dakotas and Montana until America is no longer dependent on foreign oil and until our nation can be

free of dependence on fossil fuel reserves.

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted to assist in drafting a letter to be mailed to interested parties.

09-050 – C&EA

Title: Eliminate Catch and Release Trout Streams

Proposed By: Mc Cloud Grange #831

Whereas: In much of California, many formerly enjoyed trout streams have become catch and release exclusively; and

Whereas: In this time of economic crisis, a couple of trout could help nourish many underemployed or unemployed families; and

Whereas: Many formerly busy mountain resorts are now inactive and have reduced staff as a result of remote streams being off limits to most fishermen; therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG strongly support the resolution adopted in 2006 and further mandate that no streams or lakes in California be designated catch and release only; and be it further

Resolved: Those fishermen who are fishing on streams and lakes now be allowed to keep two fish per day except for salmon that may be in mountain streams.

Action: A letter is being drafted to be mailed to the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and other parties of interest. The author of the resolution will be contacted to assist in writing the draft.

09-059 C&EA

Title: Regulations Pertaining To Inspection Of Septic Systems

Proposed By: Marshall Grange #451

Whereas: The State of California imposes regulations to protect the water quality of the State's waters; and

Whereas: Such regulations can have a significant cost to people living in rural area of the State with onsite wastewater treatment systems (septic systems); and

Whereas: The State of California has a diversified geology that defies a "one size fits all" regulation. Therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG actively encourage State Legislators and Regulatory bodies to use a tiered approach when proposing regulations regarding onsite domestic wastewater treatment systems (septic systems) that takes into consideration the risk of the system impacting the ground water in the area, with the determination of low, medium and high risk being under local authority control to include the setting of fees, be it county, regional or some other entity that has knowledge of the local conditions.

Action: Government Affairs Director Mike Green is drafting a letter to be mailed to interested parties, assisted by Lecturer Buzz Chernoff.

09-071 C&EA Nat - Withdrawn

Title: Opposition To The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), North Coast Region Process

Proposed By: Conservation & Environmental Affairs

Whereas: The North Coast Marine Protection Act process is not responsive to the serious legal, economic and public participation concerns express to the Resources Director by Humboldt, Del Norte, and Mendocino Counties and,

Whereas: The economic study done by Eco Trust stops at the dock and does not adequately address sport fishing or the true economic impacts to the counties as a whole,

Whereas: The MLPA provides no water quality protections, addresses no environmental concerns, is not science based and provides no additional marine habitat protections to the north coast region and,

Whereas: The MLPA will negatively impact fishermen economically, endanger them by increasing travel times, increasing fuel costs and carbon footprint and

Whereas: The California State Game Warden's Association opposes the MLPA due to lack of \$60 million dollars annual funding for maintenance, monitoring and enforcement and,

Whereas: The north coast region with less than 110 fishable days a year is the world leader in proactive fisheries and near shore habitat management. Near shore fish stocks are health and current management practices and regulations make it impossible for any species to be overfished, therefore, be it

Resolved: The California State Grange and the National Grange support Humboldt, Del Norte and Mendocino Counties in opposing the current Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) initiative process in the north coast region so long as it remains unresponsive to local concerns.

Action: A letter is being drafted to be mailed to parties of interest. The author of the resolution will be contacted to assist in writing the draft.

EDUCATION

09-038 –E

Title: Need For More Doctors

Proposed By: Kings County Pomona #28

Whereas: There is a shortage of physicians in the San Joaquin Valley; and

Whereas: Physicians who finish their residency usually work near where they finished the training, and

Whereas: There are 51% fewer primary care physicians and 51% fewer specialists practicing in the San Joaquin Valley area. Our area is growing, the problem will only get worse; and

Whereas: Medical schools enrollment is growing and UC Merced is wants to focus on improving the health of the Valley. Therefore be it

Resolved: The CSG supports the continued planning and development of a medical school at UC Merced.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)

California Grange News

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 Gerald "Buzz" Chernoff Lecturer
 Joseph Stefenoni Steward
 Jeremy Heckman Assistant Steward
 Stephanie Knigge ... Lady Assist. Steward
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 Nancy Alvarez Ceres
 Marta Kroger Flora
 Lauren Nebitt Pomona
 Ryan Schlegel Musician

Executive Committee

Larry Kroger, Shirley Baker, Inger
 Bevans, Jon Luvaas, Leo Bergeron

State Office Extension Numbers

Bob McFarland 607
 Amy Self 603
 Jay Hartz 602
 Kalie Benson 604
 Keri Degraw 600

Sponsored Programs

Community Service Program
 Family Health Awareness Department
 Junior Grange Activities
 Legislative Programs
 Scholarships
 Talent, Art and Photo Contests
 Sign-A-Song Contest
 Sewing, Toy Making, Cooking Contests
 Speech Contests
 Youth Activities
 Grange Youth Fair Program

Affiliates

California Grange News (916) 454-5805
 Credit Unions (916) 454-5805
 Grange Insurance Association (800) 247-2643
 GAIN Insurance Services (800) 497-5575

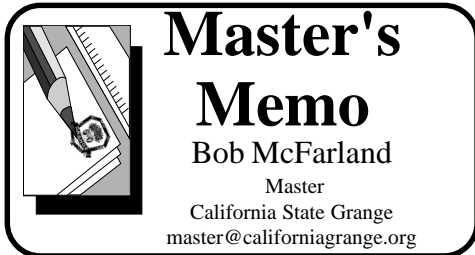
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DEADLINE

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



Master's Memo

Bob McFarland

Master
 California State Grange
 master@californiagrango.org

Brothers & Sisters,

We find ourselves on the threshold of a Grange Renaissance. In October, the members ordained that we return to our roots, reaffirming principles and goals set by the founders 140 years ago.



It is a privilege and an honor to be elected as your new State Master. I pledge that I will serve you to the best of my ability.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The only purpose of government is to serve the people." This same principle will apply to the leadership of

the California State Grange and its obligation to our members.

You've elected a new Executive Committee that represents a fair balance of experience and new ideas. We promise to exercise fiscal responsibility, provide accountability and transparency in our affairs, promote membership growth, and re-focus the resources of the California State Grange to serve our members and their communities.

We are a grass roots organization. Our inspiration grows from the ground up. Our success is not measured by the opulence of our Sacramento offices but by the good work we do in our Grange halls and communities. Our pride does not radiate from a central authority but springs from the collective efforts of dedicated and caring individuals.

Together, we will meet the challenges before us. Our new leadership inherits three years of deficit spending, decades of declining membership, and an obligation to restore faith and fellowship in our organization.

There is much to be done in the months ahead. I believe that the survival of the Grange rests in our hands and this generation of Grangers. We must correct the spiraling loss of membership. We must put our best efforts into our halls and communities. We must be fiscally and fraternally responsible. We must respect, encourage and care for one another.

The work has begun. We've put into place new programs and policies that will strengthen our organization. These are not so much my ideas but rather a collection of best practices contributed by members just like you.

Ambassador Program. This coming year, we will roll out our new Ambassador Program. California is a big state. Our Ambassador Team will put more "boots on the ground", building stronger partnerships with our community Granges. Ambassadors will have a different mission than Deputies. The Ambassadors' primary goal will be to spread goodwill and assist Granges with membership growth and community programs. Dale Baker, from the Orangevale Grange, will lead our Ambassador Team.

Communication. To work together and share ideas, we need to be connected. It is imperative that we develop clear lines of communication.

Email provides us with a fast, effective and inexpensive way to accomplish this. If you

have not yet shared your email address with the State Grange, I encourage you to do so. Your email will not be shared with any third party.

Simply email us at info@californiagrango.org to share your email address. If you don't have an email address and would like assistance setting one up, call our office.

Our website - www.californiagrango.org - is being updated to be more useful. Our directors and leaders will be encouraged to maintain pages on the website to provide information about their programs and upcoming events.

Heritage Room. We are not just shepherds of the future. We are stewards of our past. Preserving and celebrating our 140 year history is a fundamental duty.

The office next to the reception area at the headquarters is being transformed into our **Heritage Room.** The Heritage Room will display much of the fascinating history of our organization including regalia, historical documents, and a collection of interesting photos from our past.

The Heritage Room will also serve as a workspace and resource library for members. Our staff felt that since we spent so much of our members' money renovating Wisteria Hall into our new State Grange offices, it is only right that the members should have a room.

The Heritage Room will be equipped with a desk, computer with internet access and printer, and a collection of useful resource books and media. The room is available for use by Grange members during office hours.

The Heritage Room is a project under the supervision of our new Resource Specialist from Bayside Grange, Jack Surmani, assisted by re-appointed Health Director Leslie Parker of Orangevale Grange.

As Resource Specialist, Jack will share his expertise with Granges seeking special assistance growing community partnerships and exploring sources of grant funding. Health Director Leslie Parker will provide information and programs to promote senior and family health. Both Jack and Leslie are available to serve your Grange.

Marta Kroger of the Danville Grange has been appointed as our new Youth Director. Marta will work with Youth Advisors Bill & Patty Allen from Bennett Valley Grange, three new district Youth Fair Directors and our Youth Committee to unify and revitalize our state-wide program.

Abundance of Talent. We are fortunate to have many talented and imaginative Grange leaders guiding us and providing us with opportunities to make a difference in our community Granges and at the State level. Two such leaders are Government Affairs Director Mike Greene and Lecturer Buzz Chernoff. We can hardly wait to see what they have in store for us in 2010.

Improvements. There have been many positive changes in the way we do business at the California State Grange that will make us more efficient, productive and member-friendly.

Executive Committee meetings will be accessible to all members, with the exception of Executive Sessions when specific employee or legal issues require privacy. Executive Committee meetings will be announced in advance, except for emergency sessions.

Bookkeeper Amy Self from Orangevale Grange has accepted the position of General Manager, supervising our office staff and directing day-to-day operations. Amy will have direct contact with the Executive Committee, providing them access to records and information they need to fulfill their fiduciary responsibility. The Executive Committee will over-

see the business affairs of the organization. This arrangement will allow the Master to focus on fraternal affairs and promote the Grange.

Newly elected State Secretary Kali Benson has rejoined our staff and is making great progress bringing our membership records up to date. Keri Degraw continues as our receptionist and assistant. Both Kali and Keri are members of the Orangevale Grange.

The venerable Jay Hartz from Elk Grove Grange has been appointed as our Public Relations Director and will continue as the Managing Editor of the Grange News. For 2010, Jay is exploring innovative concepts and formats for the newsletter, under the guidelines of a tighter budget. We celebrate Jay Hartz's 30th year of distinguished service to the California State Grange.

A State Grange **Good of the Order Committee** has been formed to resolve issues between Granges, and between Granges and the California State Grange. The "GOTO" Committee will provide an impartial forum for Grangers to air their differences and attempt to reach an amicable solution. Failing to do so, the committee may make recommendations to the Master.

An honest Granger beyond reproach was needed to Chair the GOTO Committee and we found that person in Rich Saxe from the Aromas Grange. The services of the GOTO Committee are available at your request.

Membership Growth. In 2002, we had 14,891 members. Half-way through 2009, our count was 8,500. That represents a membership loss of 41% in seven years. During the same period, we closed 39 out of 215 Granges. In 2009, we will show a net loss of approximately 300 members for the year.

It doesn't take rocket science to realize that if this trend continues at some point in the not too distant future there won't be a Grange in California. Is there any greater priority than to reverse this rush toward our own extinction?

Every one of us shares this responsibility. Every one of us participates in our success or failure. I suggest every program and project we do, from the State level to our smallest subordinate Grange, must have membership growth as a goal.

Our Grange ancestors did not build our halls to accommodate dozens of people. They built these halls to welcome hundreds. And just as they rolled up their sleeves and worked together, so must we roll up our sleeves and work together to re-build our membership, ensure our future, and accept the important roles we play in our communities.

In 2009, we asked every Granger to participate in growing membership with a program we called One By One. It simply challenged each and every Granger to bring in just one new member over the year. The One By One program will continue in 2010.

All of our directors, officers, leaders, ambassadors, deputies and staff will be charged with growing our membership this year. But we can't do it without you. You know a friend, a neighbor, a family member, a fellow worker, or someone that you can invite to join your Grange.

Visiting Granges. When you are able to travel and visit Granges across our state, you begin to appreciate the individual character of each Grange and the unique footprint they leave in their communities. You begin to connect the dots between Granges and realize that we are not isolated, that we have much in common. It is particularly encouraging when you find Granges working together, sharing resources and ideas, and supporting one another.

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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.

Saturday December 5, 2009

Chairman Larry Kroger called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. **Roll call of officers:** Master Bob McFarland, Chairman Larry Kroger, Executive Committee: Shirley Baker, Leo Bergeron, Inger Bevans, Jon Luvaas, Martha Stefanoni. Secretary: Kalie Benson.

Guests in attendance were Mike Green, Larry Lozano, Cheri Bunker, Sylvia Sloan, Rich Saxe, Linda MacCracken, Bob and Nancy Alvarez, and Richard Jones.

Bob Alvarez led the pledge of allegiance. Cheri Bunker gave a blessing.

Approval of Agenda. Point #3 was scratched because Amy Self was not present due to illness. Bergeron moved to approve the agenda as amended. McFarland second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried*

Prior Minutes: Luvaas moved to approve the minutes from 10/18/2009, 11/6/2009, 11/10/2009, and 11/25/2009. McFarland second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

October 28, 2009- Meeting was called to discuss a legal matter. All were present.

Financials: Bevans reports on other financial matters.

Wisteria Hall: Bevans reports on the interest payments due to the asset management. None of the interest has been paid back and there needs to be some kind of plan in place to pay it back. Bergeron would like to see this paid down as quickly as possible. Discussion of loan repayment.

Baker moved to table discussing the loan repayment schedule. Stefanoni second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

Bridge loan: Bevans reported on note. Prundale loaned the state \$75,000. The note has expired. The terms need to be renegotiated.

Baker moved to extend note to June 30, 2010. Luvaas second. *In favor: Baker, Bergeron, Kroger, Luvaas, McFarland, Stefanoni; Bevans abstains. Motion carried.*

Discuss the idea of getting more bids for audits and the possibility of a financial sub committee.

McFarland moved to create a financial sub committee. Baker second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

Committee appointed was: Marion Nichols, Inger Bevans, Shirley Baker, Linda MacCracken, Bob McFarland.

Master's report: McFarland reported on the website, the Grange news, National Con-

vention, resolutions, Heritage Room. Suzan Guerra from Bayside Grange has experience with preserving historical documents. She is looking into grant proposals to help us preserve our documents. Discussed the need to move the Executive Committee meetings to different places around the State to help with outreach to our members. Rich Saxe is the head of the Good of the Order Committee. This committee will help settle disputes between Granges.

Ambassador Program: Split the state into 12 areas that would be easy to drive to in a day. Different from the deputy's duties. Ambassadors will be a 'good will' force. Helping to build membership, help the Grange open it's doors. Dale Baker is the team leader. Take the funding from the Public relations office to help pay for expenses to visit the Granges. at \$50 per Grange that is visited.

Bergeron moved to implement and fund the ambassador program from the Public relations budget. Stefanoni second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

McFarland updated the Executive Committee on the progress of Mike Green and the Legislative program. McFarland proposes to return \$6050 to the Legislative Director's budget.

Bergeron so moved, Luvaas seconded to approve the funding. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

Baker updated the Committee on the happenings for the 2010 Convention. The Bakers and the Chernoffs, who helped with the 2009 convention, are heading down to Mt. Hamilton in January to work with them. Discussion on the start date of convention for 2010.

Baker moved to start Convention on the 13th of October 2010 at 1:00 and to run through the 17th. McFarland Second. Discussion- Hotel cost needs to be the first thing looked at. *All if favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

El Camino: Discussion on the sale of the El Camino Grange The new purchase agreement was reviewed. New amendments were decided upon. With all the new amendments, a counter offer is going to have to be proposed.

Baker moved to split the escrow closing cost 50/50 with the Morgans. Stefanoni second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried*

McFarland moved to remove the language "\$20,000 for improvements previously made to property" so it will read we, the seller, are "to credit buyer \$20,000" and the reference

to the well will remain. Bergeron second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

Bergeron moved to remove all mention of the Grange from the property after the sale of the property. Baker second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

McFarland moved that the sale agreement have an acceptance window of 3 days and escrow closes 30 days after acceptant of the agreement. Baker second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.*

Break for lunch 12-12:40

McFarland introduced Larry Lozano from American Income Life who explained the benefits of the AIL program offered to our members.

Bevans moved to allow the AIL letter to go out to all the members with information in the Grange News. Bergeron second. *All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried*

Property Report: Bob Clouse reported to the Executive Committee on the Property Rehabilitation committee. Populated by Howard Sihner, Dale Baker and Bob Clouse, the committee goes around the state and evaluates State managed Granges. They will then report back to the Executive Committee with sugges-

tions on what to be done.

Other Grange Properties: Delhi - Email meeting established the sale of the Grange.

Welcome Grange: Rrequested \$7,900 from their asset management account to redo their water system back in June. Now a second request has been received to repair their roof

Luvaas moved to release the remainder of Welcome Grange's asset management account for the repair of their roof. McFarland Second

All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried.

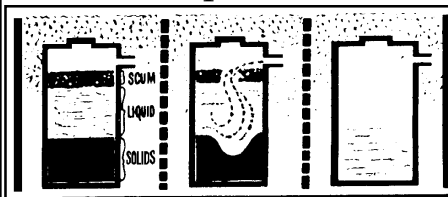
Pleasant Hill Grange - The CSG had filed a claim for escheated funds for Pleasant Hill Grange over a year ago. Now the State is saying they don't have the file. Larry will pay the CA State Controller's office a visit.

Fowler Grange - Fowler also has funds that we are trying to reclaim. Larry needs some additional paperwork before he can take it to the State Controller's office. When he was talking with Fresno Grangers Credit Union about another matter he asked if Fowler Grange had any remaining accounts and the reply was affirmative.

Roeding Grange - may also have some (CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Open Septic Tanks and Drain Lines

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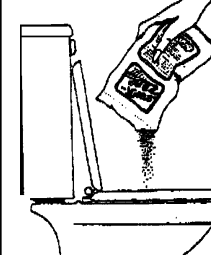
When the septic tank overflows into the drain fields methane gas is released. **Septi-Zone** prevents this. **Septi-Zone** is easy to use. Simply pour and flush toilet. Harmless to humans and animals. Will not harm plants, trees or plastic pipes.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DIGEST

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

funds that we should try to acquire.

Healdsburg Grange - is currently closed and their corporate status is suspended. The hall is currently being occupied by a dance studio. There is no Grange signage on the building. The property also has two titles. Pursue getting California State Grange on the title for the Healdsburg Grange. Kroger suggests that all the property management Granges have the California State Grange on the title.

West Visalia - Discussion on the debt against the West Visalia Hall.

McFarland moved that the West Visalia Grange hall be leased to the West Visalia Grange under a triple net lease for \$1 year, the CA State Grange will own the property and will be named as an additional insured. The CA State Grange will get on or stay on the title until the debt is retired. In favor: Baker, Bergeron, Bevans, Kroger, McFarland. Opposed: Luvaas, Stefenoni. Motion Carried.

Costa Mesa - requested \$7,500 from their asset management account for a scholarship fund.

Bergeron moved to give them up to \$5,000 from their asset management fund for their scholarship fund as per our current policy. Stefenoni second. All in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carried

Discussion of streamlining resolutions to facilitate searching through them and cross tabbing to aide in reducing duplicates.

Kroger is working on the executive com-

mittee website.

Income - Renting the conference room and parking spots was discussed as a possible source of income.

Suggest days in January for a volunteer clean up day. 10th was decided.

Meeting Dates Set

Sunday January 31, 2010 is the next meeting at 9:00 am.

Sunday March 21, 2010

Sunday May 16, 2010

Welcome Back Vista Grange

It is with great pleasure that I announce a settlement has been reached between Vista Grange and the California State Grange.

Vista Grange and all of it's members have been reinstated into our Grange family.

Let all of us welcome back our Brothers and Sisters, our circle is once again joined in the name of fraternal friendship.

- Bob McFarland

They Said It Couldn't Be Done

by Buzz Chernoff

We said we were going to go back to our roots and we did. For the first time in anyone's memory, the CSG Annual Convention was held in a Grange Hall. What a concept, holding the convention in a Grange hall that is familiar to all of us and where we all feel comfortable. We did Grange things like setting up and taking down tables and chairs for lunch and dinner; eating together; talking and getting to know each other; having fun in work and play. We were a group of Grangers from across the state being Grangers in a Grange Hall. We were back to our roots.

This was the dream of the Annual Meeting Local Steering Committee when it first met in April. It was our goal to help host a convention that would be fun, informative, and affordable to all members at a minimal cost to the CSG. Each of the members (Buzz and Linda Chernoff, Dale and Shirley Baker, Bob Clouse, Bill Thomas, Amy Self, Bob McFarland, Linda MacCracken, Jay Hartz, Inger Bevans) were assigned an area of tasks that needed to be done to have a successful convention.

We were fortunate to have the Rancho Cordova Culinary Institute to cater the meals for a price well below what you would pay a restaurant. And, the food was better.

The Orangevale Grange kindly devoted their time and money to renovate a space to hold the Expo and Production Office. Directors of the different departments were contacted regarding their needs for things like the Junior Grange Silent Auction, GWA Basket Raffel, and Degree work. Arrangements were made to get sound equipment and operators, flowers, snack

foods, and a million other little details.

As the time to the convention got closer, the committee knew that it was plowing new ground and that the outcome would either be an overwhelming success and the start of a new tradition, or an absolute disaster. Attempts were made to contact and talk with each Community Grange Master and encourage them to come, or if not possible, to send alternative delegates. The different housing options from staying in a hotel to camping at the Grange were offered along with the reasonably priced meal ticket.

To help offset the cost of putting on the convention, each Grange was asked if they would like to sponsor in part the convention t-shirt, and have their Grange listed as a sponsor on the back of each t-shirt.

By the time the convention started, we knew that we were on the right track. The response from the Community Granges was incredibly positive, and folks who had never attended a convention, or who hadn't in many years, were registering. At the opening of the Session we had the largest quorum in recent CSG history. By the close of the Session, we knew that our goal of keeping the cost to a minimum had been met, and that history had been made.

The Local Steering Committee has so many people to thank for the success of the meeting that it would be impossible to recognize each one individually. And maybe that's the way it should be. It was a true Grange event, where everyone pitched in, did what had to be done, and had a great time doing it. You were all a part of CSG history, and together

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2009 Resolutions Call For Accountability

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted for direction.

GRANGE ACTIVITIES

09-002-GA

Title: Support For Re-Organized Granges

Proposed By: Monterey Pomona #17

Whereas: It is extremely difficult for a group of new members to accept the old debt of a dormant Grange in the process of reorganization; and

Whereas: The purpose of holding funds in trust for surrendered Granges was meant for the reorganization of such Granges; and

Whereas: Reverted funds held in the CSG Asset Management account should then be used to insure the revitalization of a newly reorganized Grange; therefore, be it

Resolved: That reverted funds from the CSG Asset Management Account be first applied to any debt of a newly reorganized Grange (debt outstanding as listed on the Accounts Receivable) beginning October 2009 and the balance of reverted funds to be held in the Grange Hall Loan Fund until needed.

Action: This resolution is now policy and the Executive Committee will abide. There have been no funds reverted since adoption of this resolution.

09-029-GA

Title: Acting Upon Resolutions, Motions & Policy

Proposed By: Sacramento Pomona #2

Whereas: It is the responsibility of the leadership of the CSG to ensure that resolutions, motions and policy adopted by the delegates are carried out. Therefore, be it

Resolved: That the Master and/or Executive Committee shall act upon all resolutions, motions and policy within 120 days of being adopted by the delegates, unless the resolutions, motions or policy state otherwise, or circumstances beyond the control of the State Grange prevent action. The Master and/or Executive Committee will report quarterly in the Grange News and on the website the disposition and action of said policy, resolution or motion. And be it further

Resolved: The Legislative Director or the Executive Committee update the Grange's Legislative Policy Handbook each year and make it available both online and as a disk mailed to the Granges by July 1st following each Annual Convention.

Action: Per this issue, the resolution is being complied with. The website is currently being redesigned to include this report. Government Affairs Director Mike Greene has been updating the Legislative Policy Handbook, assisted by Karen Heckman and Johnny Squire.

09-039R-GA

Title: Disaster Emergency Preparedness

Proposed By: Freshwater Grange #499

Whereas: The need for disaster planning and emergency preparedness is important to better the outcome given such an event; and

Whereas: Granges can play an important role in coordinating such planning and preparedness in their communities; and

Whereas: The Freshwater Grange has been successful in partnership with the adjacent elementary school, in holding Red Cross disaster training workshops for the community, to implementing a neighborhood survey for a secure database of community members in the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

Memo From The Master

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

other.

In 2010, I look forward to continuing my travels, visiting as many Granges as I can. If you have a special event coming up, I'd love to receive an invitation.

The Grange plays an important role in our lives. We take pride in our past and see promise in our future. With friendship and

in harmony, with imagination and enthusiasm, we will persevere, delivering a brighter future to generations of Grangers yet to come.

One of the best things about being a Granger is that we get to work and play together. If you are not having fun, something is wrong.

My door is always open. Your thoughts are always welcomed.

| Date | Time | Event | Location |
|-----------------|--------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| January 13 | 9:00am | Southern District Deputies Meeting | Grover City Grange |
| January 31 | 9:00am | Executive Committee Meeting | State Grange Office |
| February 6 | 9:00am | Northern District Deputies Meeting | Durham Grange |
| February 20 | 9:00am | Central District Deputies Meeting | American River Grange |
| March 21 | 9:00am | Executive Committee Meeting | State Grange Office |
| May 16 | 9:00am | Executive Committee Meeting | State Grange Office |
| June 10 - 13 | | Youth Conference | West Visalia Grange |
| July 21 - 25 | | Family Camp | Camp Tehama |
| October 13 - 17 | | 138th Annual State Convention | Mt. Hamilton Grange San Jose |



Newly-elected California State Grange Master (President) Bob McFarland and National Grange Master (President) Ed Luttrell. Master Luttrell was re-elected to his office at the recent National Grange Convention.

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Convention resolution committee rooms were spacious and open to all who wished to weigh in on the issues. The Committee in the foreground is the Water Committee.

Resolutions Amend By-Laws, Set Grange Policy and Activities

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

surrounding area, and has acquired through a grant a large storage container for school and community supplies in preparation and planning services. Therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG encourage all Granges implement community disaster emergency preparedness steps when possible.

Action: Newly appointed Resource Specialist Jack Surmani, Government Affairs Director Mike Green, and Helath Director Leslie Parker have been working on a project to fulfill the purpose of this resolution.

09-074 - GA

Title: EC Authority To Handle Vista Grange Issue

Proposed By: Grange Activities Committee

Whereas: There has been much discussion with regard to the Vista Grange lawsuit; and

Whereas: This is an important issue that must be addressed; therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG Executive Committee be given full authority to resolve the Vista Grange issue.

Action: The Vista Grange issue has been resolved by the Executive Committee.

09-075 - GA

Title: State Grange Audit

Proposed By: Grange Activities Committee

Whereas: An audit of the CSG finances is an important part of the accounting system, and

Whereas: The Executive Committee needs to be responsible for this; therefore be it

Resolved: The California State Grange conduct a financial audit at least every two years.

Action: An audit will be conducted next year.

GRANGE LAW

09-003R-GL

Title: Amend CSG By-Laws Article Xxv

Proposed By: Monterey Pomona #17

Whereas: Resolution 02-048 was meant to eliminate the need to amend Subordinate By-Laws every time the State Grange per capita amount is increased; and
Whereas: Local Subordinate dues need not be changed each time the State Grange per capita is increased; therefore, be it

Resolved: Local Subordinate dues may be set as a maximum amount over the amount of dues payable to the California State Grange; and be it further

Resolved: That Article XXV, Section 25.3 be amended with the insertion of the word "maximum" between "the" and "amount" in the second line. The amended Section will read:

25.3 By-Laws Shall Provide for Local Dues – The By-Laws of each Subordinate Grange shall specify the maximum amount of additional dues, as provided for in Article X, Section 10.2, that are necessary for the operation of the respective Grange. And be it further

Resolved: That Section 25.4 be eliminated in its entirety.

Action: Secretary Kali Benson will inform the membership.

09-023-GL - Nat. - Failed

Title: E-Membership

Proposed By: CSG Executive Committee

Whereas: the National Grange currently has three classes of membership; regular, associate and supportive; and

Whereas: a membership based upon internet access would have three primary benefits: 1st to increase awareness of the Grange to the general public, 2nd to provide a gateway into regular membership and potential new Granges, and 3rd to provide an additional revenue stream to keep regular dues affordable; therefore be it

Resolved that the National Grange Digest be amended as follows: "4.6.14 E-Membership. Membership in the National Grange and in a State Grange as an E-Member may be attained by individuals who may have an interest in the advancement of agriculture and improvement of rural life. Membership is gained by completing the approved on-line form and paying the

annual dues for this class of membership.

(a) E-Members will receive all information and benefits via electronic means. The National Grange shall provide electronic publications and benefits. The State Grange shall provide similar benefits as they have available. The E-Member shall not be entitled to vote on matters of Grange policy or participate in National Grange sponsored contests that are designed for Grange members only.

(b) E-Membership may be terminated by the National Grange for improper conduct as a Grange member, illegal action, or conflict of interest."

Renumber remainder of section

And be it further

Resolved: "4.8.2 (F) E-Members. The annual dues for E-Membership will be ten dollars (\$10.00).

1. Dues will be divided as follows: \$3.50 to the National Grange, \$6.50 to the State Grange.

2. National Grange will forward the dues collected on a quarterly basis to each respective State Grange. All E-Membership dues collected shall be allocated to member services and/or revitalization and organization of Community Granges.

3. All transfer of dues within the Grange shall be by electronic means unless both the sender and receiver agree to other alternatives."

Renumber remainder of section. And be it further

Resolved: "4.8.1 (B) Subordinate Granges – The minimum application fee for membership in a Subordinate Grange shall be three dollars (\$3.00) for individual and six dollars (\$6.00) for a family, except that a State Grange may reduce the fee for Junior Grange members who are graduating into a Subordinate Grange, which shall be paid to the said Subordinate Grange. A State Grange shall waive the application fee for E-Members joining a Subordinate Grange."; and be it further

Resolved: that the delegates of the California State Grange direct our State Master to request a special session of the National Grange in November of 2009 in order to expedite this By-Laws amendment this year.

Action: E-membership was defeted at the National Grange.

09-026R-GL

Title: Amend Section 17.2 Of The Csg By-Laws

Proposed By: Monterey Pomona #17

Resolved: The California State Grange By-Laws, Section 17.2 be amended to read as follows:

17.2 Expenses of Members of the Order Attending Meetings of the State Grange – It shall be the policy of the The State Grange may establish policy to reimburse Delegates, the State Grange Officers and certain other members of the Order for a portion of their expenses incurred in attending any meeting of the State Grange. The Executive Committee will specify the amount of expenses that will be reimbursed for the various Delegates, State Officers, State-appointed Directors, Deputies and certain others. The new section will read as follows:

7.2 Expenses of Members of the Order Attending Meetings of the State Grange – "The State Grange may establish policy to reimburse the State Grange Officers and certain other members of the Order for a portion of their expenses incurred in attending any meeting of the State Grange. The Executive Committee will specify the amount of expenses that will be reimbursed for the various State Officers, State-appointed Directors, Deputies and certain others."

Action: By-laws are amended.

09-031R-GL

Title: Convention Committee

Proposed By: Sacramento Pomona #2

Whereas: We must continue to explore means to make our Conventions more affordable, accessible and fun for all members wishing to atnd; and

Whereas: Conventions produced and hosted by local Subordinate and Pomona Granges, such as the 2009 Convention; sufficiently meet those goals; and

Whereas: Conventions produced and hosted by local Subordinate and Pomona Granges celebrate our state-wide diversity and grass roots traditions; and

Whereas: Proposals have been submitted from Subordinate and Pomona Granges eager to produce and host future Conventions; therefore, be it



Amy Self helps register a Granger. She, Keri Degraw and volunteers helped delegates and visitors with registration and re-sale. The registration area was in the entrance foyer of the Orangevale hall. While the quarters were close, Amy and her crew registered over 400 convention attendees, setting a record for attendance in recent times.

Resolutions Call for Part-time Legislature, Narrow-scope Constitutional Convention

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

Resolved: That beginning with the 2009 Convention, the Master of the CSG shall appoint a Standing Annual Meeting Committee which shall research and develop options for making future conventions affordable, accessible and fun for all members wishing to attend. The Convention Committee shall submit proposals for future conventions to the delegates for consideration and approval at each Convention. And be it further

Resolved: That at each Convention, the delegates shall select by a vote from the floor the site or sites for the Convention for the following one or two years. And be it further

Resolved: That the Convention Committee shall, when requested and in-so-far as it is practicable, provide advice and assistance to local Granges hosting the Convention. And be it further

Resolved: That section 12.4 of the CSG By-Laws be changed to read:

12.4 State Grange – The California State Grange Executive Committee shall set the date of the annual meeting, said meeting to be in the month of October and to commence on or before the 16th of the month. The place of meeting will be determined by a majority vote of the Delegate body at least one or two years in advance. Should the State Grange adjourn without selecting the place of meeting, the Executive Committee of the State Grange shall determine the place of meeting for the State Grange and notify the Secretary of the State Grange and Masters of Subordinate and Pomona Granges no later than sixty (60) days prior.

Action: The Convention Committee has been appointed. Sites were selected for the 2010 and 2011 conventions. The Convention Committee is working with the local Granges for the 2010 and 2011 sites.

09-034R-GL

Title: Sale Of Grange Halls

Proposed By: Sacramento Pomona #2

Whereas: Our Grange halls best represent our presence in a community and best provide us opportunities to support and serve our communities; and

Whereas: Our Grange halls provide us the best opportunity for growth and influence in our communities; and

Whereas: Our Grange halls best celebrate our history and significance in our communities; therefore be it

Resolved: That inactive Grange halls and/or real property shall not be sold except under special circumstances and after exhausting every other option, including leasing or renting the property; and be it further

Resolved: That the CSG form a standing Property Committee and that the duties of this committee shall include the evaluation of inactive Grange halls and properties.

Action: The Property Committee has been appointed and is in the process of reviewing several Grange halls.

09-048-GL-Nat. - Defeated

Title: Expand Affiliate Membership

Proposed By: Mc Cloud Grange #831

Whereas: Many Granges in remote areas seek affiliate members to assist that Grange in performing the regularly required duties and more effectively meet the needs of the community; and

Whereas: the present policy allows a member to be active in one other Grange by becoming a participating member; therefore be it

Resolved: The National Grange amend the NG Digest 4.6.6 that a member may be an active affiliate participating in four Granges while continuing to participate conscientiously in his/her home Grange.

Action: Resolution was not adopted by Nation Grange.

09-051-GL

Title: Grange Hall Loan Trust Deed And Promissory Note

Proposed By: Fresno-Madera Pomona #24

Whereas: The CSG currently writes a number of Grange Hall Loans, and there seems to be some confusion as to the documentation and securing of these loans; and

Whereas: There has been found a number of instances where "Grange Law" has been ignored; and

Whereas: A deed of trust simply acknowledges that there is a loan secured by a specific property and the repayment terms of the note and should be recorded in the home county of the property; and

Whereas: A promissory note lists the terms of the agreement and describes the security for the loan must be executed but not recorded; and

Whereas: Having both the recorded Deed of Trust and the executed Promissory Note on file protects the CSG as no one else can get a lien against the property superior to the CSG; and

Whereas: In the real estate business the saying goes, "First in time is First in line;" therefore be it

Resolved: All CSG "Grange Hall Loans" shall have a Deed of Trust recorded in the home county of the secured property, and an executed Promissory Note on file prior to any funds being disbursed.

Action: The Executive Committee will comply when loans are approved.

HEALTH

09-072-H-Nat. Adopted.

Title: Food/Drink Product Labeling

Proposed By: Health Committee

Whereas: Consumers can become very sick from eating/drinking expired food products, and **Whereas:** The expiration date stamped on food/drink products are often unreadable because the date is printed in a dark ink on a dark product background, therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG and NG urge the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to change the current method of expiration labeling for food/drink products to label the date in contrasting colors, such as black in on a "light" colored product background and white ink on a "dark" colored product background.

Action: Adopted by National Grange who will seek regulations.

LABOR & JUDICIARY

09-009R-L&J

Title: Reinstate "Good Samaritan" Law

Proposed By: Windsor Grange #410

Whereas: The California Supreme Court has ruled that any "helping hand" in an emergency can be held liable for any unsatisfactory results; and

Whereas: It has been a "Good Samaritan" rule in the past to do anything you can in good conscience to assist. Now that is history; therefore, be it

Resolved: That the CSG urge our Legislature to provide a statute that gives civil protection for citizens who act in an emergency situation.

Action: California has adopted a "Good Samaritan" law.

09-052 - L&J

Title: California Constitutional Convention

Proposed By: Fresno-Madera Pomona #24

Whereas: The Constitution of the State of California was originally written in 1849; and

Whereas: The current Constitution was adopted in 1879 and has amended and revised over 500 times; and

Whereas: There are a number of proposals to call for a Constitutional Convention to address issues within the State Constitution; and

Whereas: There seems to be consensus that the structure of governance, campaign finance reform, term limits, budgeting, and revenue distribution are areas of concern to many people; and

Whereas: A full-scale rewrite of the Constitution of the State of California could be divisive and detrimental to the population of California; therefore be it

Resolved: The CSG shall only support the call for a California Constitutional Convention within a scope limited to reforms or revisions to: the structure of governance; campaign finance reform; term limits; budgeting; and revenue distribution. And be it further

Resolved: The CSG shall not support any call for a full rewrite of the Constitution of the State of California.

Action: The CSG shall comply with the resolution

09-053-L&J

Title: Part Time Legislature

Proposed By: Fresno-Madera Pomona #24

Whereas: Prior to the passage of Proposition 1-A in 1966, the Legislature of the State of California met in general session in odd-numbered years and in budget session in even-numbered years; and

Whereas: These general and budget sessions were limited as to duration and so the State of California had a "Part-Time" Legislature; and

Whereas: These Legislatures were able to consider and adopt balanced budgets in a timely manner; and

Whereas: There are proposals to return the California Legislature to "part-time" status, limiting the general sessions to a total of 95 days; and

Whereas: Not only would reverting to this previous model focus state legislators on the work of the people, and allow individuals to become "citizen legislators," it would also have the potential for saving tens of millions of dollars per year for legislative expenses. Therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG supports a return to a "Part-Time" Legislature for the State of California.

Action: Government Affairs Director Mike Greene will explore ways for the CSG to support this resolution.

TAXATION

09-046 - Nat. - Current Policy

Title: Eliminate The Estate Tax

Proposed By: Gazelle Grange #380

Whereas: The Estate Tax frequently referred to as the "Death Tax" is to be terminated in 2010 by legislation signed into law by former President George W. Bush; and

Whereas: According to reliable reports, President Obama has strong support for continuing the Estate Tax up to 55% of the estate value and not allow the termination of the Estate Tax in 2010; and

Whereas: Those with "estates" have already paid property tax, sales tax and other costs; therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG and National Grange strongly support the termination of the Estate Tax (Death Tax) in 2010 as now required by law and strongly protest any continuance of this tax.

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted for direction.



(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)





Inger Bevans, Larry Kroger and Shirley Baker, members of the Budget Committee, discuss a point at the annual budget presentation.

Grange Calls For Motorcycle Speed Limits When Lane Splitting

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

TRANSPORTATION

09-044 – TR

Title: Keep Rural Rest Areas Functioning

Proposed By: Gazelle Grange #380

Whereas: It has been learned that due to the economic reverses in California, a proposal to close many rest areas is being advanced; and

Whereas: California has large expanses of rural geography and service stations are often far apart and

Whereas: This distance between stations with no rest areas may cause hazardous driving of very tired motorists; and

Whereas: In many rural areas developmentally delayed individuals derive job training and skill through their programs working in rest areas; therefore bi it

Resolved: That the CSG strongly support the continued maintenance and development of highway rest areas.

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted for direction.

09-069 – TR

Title: Motorcycle Lane Splitting Speed Limits

Proposed By: Transportation Committee

Whereas: California is one of the few states where it is legal for motorcycles to lane split; and

Whereas: At the present time there are no speed limit regulations for land splitting; and

Whereas: The University of Southern California has conducted a study that shows lane splitting is safer than sitting in stop-and-go traffic where the motorcyclist is more likely to get rear-ended; and

Whereas: California Highway Patrol officers embrace lane splitting because it allows them a quicker response time to emergencies; and

Whereas: Many motorcycles have air cooled engines and will overheat if not cooled by flowing air; therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG encourage the California Legislature to pass a law limiting the speed of motorcycles that are lane splitting to 5 miles per hour over the flow of traffic, with a maximum speed of 35 miles per hour for motorcyclists while lane splitting.

Action: Government Affairs Director Mike Green is seeking a sponsor to pursue legislation in support of this resolution.

WATER

09-041 – W – Nat.- Withdrawn

Title: “Two Gates” Project

Proposed By: Fresno-Madera Pomona #24

Whereas: Much of the water transported to central and southern California for human and agricultural uses is pumped from the Delta at Tracy sending the water into the San Luis Reservoir for distribution to the state and federal water projects; and

Whereas: Water pumping at Tracy has been curtailed due to concerns for the Delta Smelt, Salmon, Steelhead and other species; and

Whereas: Water contractors are receiving only about 10% of the contracted water and this has affected the economic viability of Westside farming and communities; and

Whereas: The “Two Gates” project proposes placing two large gates on sunken barges in two large channels in the central part of the delta, preventing adult Delta Smelt from being sucked into the pumps; and

Whereas: The “Two Gates” can not only be opened and closed, but also offers the flexibility

of being moved to different locations, depending on where the fish are, thus allowing for placement/adjustment to maintain water quality standards, keep desired Delta water levels, protection of fish, and providing water for contracted uses; and

Whereas: This project is being studied by the California Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Therefore be it

Resolved: The CSG supports the concept of the “Two Gates” project, placing two large gates on sunken barges in two large channels in the central part of the delta in the Delta in order to temper the Tracy pumps and provide water for contracted users, maintain water quality standards, keep desired water levels and protect other animal species.

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted for direction

09-062R-W-Nat. - Withdrawn

Title: Klamath River

Proposed By: Bayside Grange #500

Whereas: Many agencies and community organizations have been working together to improve the use of resources in the Klamath River Basin; and

Whereas: Water quality frequently causes river and lake waters to be unsuitable for one or more beneficial uses; and

Whereas: A uniform calculation used to determine the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards is known as a TMDL [Total Maximum Daily Load], and

Whereas: The Klamath River has impaired water quality TMDL from its source to its mouths, meaning that the water is unsuitable for at least one use, therefore be it

Resolved: That the CSG and National Grange shall use their lobbyists to work with Legislators and Administrators to support actions by the SWRCB (State Water Resources Control Board) and the USEPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) of water quality standards required to achieve Water Quality Management in the Klamath River to support sustainable water and resource use.

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted for direction.

09-064 – W – Nat. - Withdrawn

Title: Remove Klamath Dams

Proposed By: Bodega Bay Grange #777

Whereas: the Klamath River (KR), which is a hot issue for North Coast fishing communities, was the third largest salmon fishery on the Pacific Coast; and

Whereas: The Klamath River Dam removal, triggered by the Federal Energy Regulation Commission (FERC) relicensing of 4 power-producing dams has divided the Northern California Granges: Coastal Granges in favor and Siskiyou County opposed. It is time to resolve this issue. And

Whereas: There are four issues on which the CSG can and should take positions, namely: 1) KR Dam Removal; 2) KR Basin Restoration; 3) KR Basin Management; and 4) KR Water Quality. And

Whereas: These are state and national issues because the river crosses two states, includes a Bureau of Reclamation project, encompasses Indian tribal lands, Federal Wildlife refuges, wilderness areas and forest lands; and

Whereas: Salmon fisheries are managed by state and federal agencies and the salmon population has fallen into very serious decline; and

Whereas: The Dam removal doesn't cost a billion dollars but the Klamath Basin Restoration project does and requires Congressional action and funding; and

Whereas: The States of California and Oregon are both on record as willing to pay a share toward the costs of dam removal; and

Whereas: The Greenhorn Grange members recently hornsoggled the CSG Executive Committee into supporting the Siskiyou County Supervisors in their opposition to removal of the dams.

“Greenhorn Grange Request: The Committee reviewed California State Grange Policy regarding the removal of dams, In addition Res 06-050 was reviewed and in all due diligence the Committee determined that as State Grange Policy opposed dam removal and the issue advocated the status quo, there would be more chance of harm if the dams were removed. It was moved by Johnny Squire and seconded by Inger Bevans that the State Master write a letter supporting the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors in opposing the removal of dams on the Klamath River. Motion carried unanimously. EC Minutes of meeting held March 14, 2009. This action based on Resolution 99-003 - Public Safety: “That the CSG oppose all legislation and administrative regulation that would remove and/or inhibit construction of dams needed for flood protection, domestic and agricultural water supply; that the CSG actively lobby the State Legislature and other agencies having appropriate authority to protect needed dams and to allow additional dam construction when required.” And

Whereas: These dams on the Klamath are hydro-electric power projects and the dam removal issue is not new. It came up when the power licenses expired as they do every 50 years. The FERC has conducted lengthy hearings and the dams are now on a year-to-year interim license status, and these dams are not flood control projects or water supply projects. And

Whereas: The dams generate approximately 5% of the power generated by Pacific Corp. (owned by W. Buffett), and when they were built by COPCO, some “sweetheart” deals provided a discount rate for power used in the Klamath River Basin for agriculture. Also, all the dams are in Siskiyou County, with the taxes benefiting Siskiyou County. And

Whereas: These dams block salmon migration to hundreds of miles of river and tributary spawning grounds, and the waters held in the dams are breeding grounds for oxygen-depleting algae, with nutrients coming from upstream agricultural pollution; in addition they breed parasites now blamed for the 2002 salmon kill. And

Whereas: Because FERC has said it will require fish ladders at all dams, which will cost more than these dams are worth, Pacific Corp has not agreed to pay for either fish ladders or dam removal. The U.S. Dept. of Interior has agreed to a timetable for removal of the dams in 2020,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11)

Water Resolutions Cover Broad Spectrum

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

leaving the only issue being who will pay for the removal. And

Whereas: Grangers are stewards of the land seeking to promote the proper use of the environment and natural resources; and

Whereas: CSG has been working on the Klamath River matter since the time of the historic Fairness Resolution. Last fall we had a resolution submitted to favor removal of those dams (see 08-041) which the Water Committee asked the author to withdraw pending further study, to be brought back again this year; and

Whereas: The dam removal issue has been interwoven into the three other Klamath River issues (KR Restoration, KR Basin Management and KR Water Quality) to create a politically cloudy atmosphere for the resolution of any issue; and

Whereas: State Master Randall Lewis stated in an E-mail to David Lewis, "As far as getting Leroy Watson (National Grange Legislative Director) to formally ask (Congressman Mike) Thompson to conduct a Congressional hearing on the Klamath, prior to my approval of that request I would like to have a discussion and get all of our ducks in a row. I don't want to get the cart before the house here and feel that if any request is to be made it must be done with a plan in place as to what we desire to accomplish." (Sent March 25, 2009.) And

Whereas: The CSG Executive Committee action of March 14, 2009 (see above) is contrary to the cited Grange Policy, which does NOT cover power dams. Therefore, be it

Resolved: That should the State Master and/or the CSG Executive Committee deem it necessary, that they convene a Klamath River Special Study Committee to evaluate these four issues:

1. Removal of the Power Dams which are currently subject to FERC hearings on license renewal and which are operating on an interim license;
2. Klamath River Basin Restoration which involves about 30 stakeholders including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service, several Native American tribes, 2 States, 3 counties, many irrigation districts and the salmon fishing industry;
3. Klamath Basin Water Management which involves Upper Basin vs. Lower Basin issues and should be under one Basin Management;
4. Klamath River Water Quality Regulations of which there currently are none.

Action: A committee has been formed and there will be a meeting on January 30, 2010 at 10:00am at the State Grange to study the four issues.

09—65-W-Nat. - Adopted

Title: Klamath River Basin Restoration

Proposed By: Bodega Bay Grange #777

Whereas: The Klamath River was the third largest salmon fishery on the Pacific coast; and
Whereas: In September of 2002, low flows and water quality degradation caused a kill of more than 33,000 migrating salmon and similar conditions caused significant salmon kills in 1994, 1997, and 2000. And

Whereas: A draft Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement written by the Klamath Settlement Group (consisting of 26 stakeholder organizations) was released in January of 2008 setting forth short- and long-term restoration goals and river management strategies; and
Whereas: The Plan is incomplete and does not include input from all potential stakeholders and does not appear to have been acted upon; and

Whereas: Under the Public Trust Doctrine, the waters of the Klamath River are owned by the states for the people in public trust; therefore be it

Resolved: The CSG and the National Grange shall petition the California Legislature and the National Congress to convene hearings to achieve a Klamath Basin Restoration Plan and to fund a complete stakeholder working group to produce a definitive Klamath Basin Restoration Plan to be submitted to Congress for funding.

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted for direction.

09-066-W

Title: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage And Distribution

Proposed By: Clovis/Sanger Grange #478

Whereas: California is facing both a financial and water crisis of epic proportions; it is imperative to use both our financial and water resources prudently and wisely for the benefit of the people of California and the San Joaquin Valley; and

Whereas: A proposal to construct a new dam on the San Joaquin River at Temperance Flat would wastefully cost California taxpayers at least 5 billion dollars; while significantly less taxpayer money would be better spent to establish Tulare Lake as a surface/ground water storage and distribution facility for seasonal water runoff from the Sierra-Nevada Mountains for the following advantageous reasons:

1. Store nearly twice as much water;
2. Have flexibility of conveyance using five rivers and 3 canals;
3. Utilize maximum leverage of existing infrastructure;
4. Link to the California Aqueduct;
5. Not destroy clean hydroelectric generation facilities;
6. Recharge the water table;
7. Facilitate bi-directional and efficient movement of water;
8. Cost one-fifth as much to the taxpayers;
9. Have little adverse environmental impact;
10. Significant environmental improvements. Therefore, be it

Resolved: That the CSG endorse the Tulare Basin Surface/Groundwater Storage Conveyance Hub with river and canal interties project feasibility study.

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted for direction.

09-067-W-Nat. - Withdrawn

Title: Delta Vision Strategic Plan Framework

Proposed By: Clovis/Sanger Grange #478

Whereas: California is facing a statewide water crisis of historic proportion. Chronic drought is affecting all people of California, as do the problems it helps create on the Bay-Delta Region. The Region's farming communities and fisheries are in near total collapse due to saltwater intrusion, levee failures, land subsidence, water transfers, massive urban wastewater discharges, and significant decline of water quality for drinking and agricultural use. And

Whereas: Over two-thirds of the population of California is critically dependent upon clean, abundant water that flows into and out of the Delta for municipal, agricultural and environmental uses and benefits for all Californians as a Public Trust; and

Whereas: The CALFED Bay-Delta Program under its Record of Decision (ROD) in 2000, and Governor Schwarzenegger's appointed Blue Ribbon Task Force's Delta Vision Strategic Plan as recently adopted as a major goal an integrated and comprehensive framework that acknowledges that the protection and enhancement of the Delta for people of California is a Public Trust must be first and foremost. Therefore, be it

Resolved: The CSG and the National Grange take all actions and means necessary that promote the spirit and intent of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and Governor Schwarzenegger's appointed Blue Ribbon Task Force's Delta Vision Strategic Plan in the Public Trust.

Action: The author of the resolution will be contacted for direction.

09-070-W

Title: Csg Policy On Support Of Dam Projects

Proposed By: Water Committee

Whereas: There are many proposals for the construction and removal of dams on our rivers and streams; and

Whereas: These dams may provide any or all of the following benefits: hydro-electric power, water-based recreation, water storage for agriculture, municipal and industrial uses, flood control, and wildlife habitat; and

Whereas: Construction or removal of dams may add to or reduce the extent of existing or future benefit, and

Whereas: No one dam project provides a solution to all needs; every dam project changes the status quo, and

Whereas: The costs of dam projects are so enormous that a general policy to support or reject all dam projects serves no real purpose. Therefore be it

Resolved: The CSG shall support or oppose dam projects only on a case by case basis after evaluation of current information

Action: The resolution shall be complied with.



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Grange Women's Activities

Betty Eyer
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PO Box 312, Berry Creek CA 95916 gwa@californiagrango.org

Where has the time gone? State Convention is over and the Holidays are upon us. The busiest time of the year, but really with all of our projects and programs we are busy all year. Proof- The volunteer hours turned in were forty seven thousand one hundred and seventy nine hours. That's a lot of hours!

A Special THANKS for the projects that were made and given to the Shriner's Hospital for children

Before I write about State Convention I am going to give a report on GWA's State Contributions. There were only three State Contributions this year in the Women's Activities Program and they were: Make a Wish donation \$62.50, Marinoff Memorial GWA Scholarship \$112.00 and Kelley Farm Fund \$87.00. There was \$530.00 donated to the Shriner's Hospital.

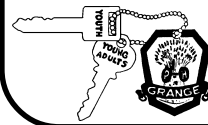
State Convention was great. GWA had quite a few activities going this year, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves as well as getting a lot done. To start off GWA'S first day we collected 31 baskets to be raffled off, cookies to be given to the members free and selling goat soap bars to help off set the convention. I gave my annual report and we

had the Women's March collecting \$1,071.65 to go to Heart Research for Women. Gifts were presented to Randy Lewis and Linda Lewis. Friday we had our GWA Luncheon and Apron Fashion Show. The culinary class served a delicious lunch and after eating we had our apron fashion show. The men were our handsome models and with the great help of Shirley Baker, the show went on. It was full of fun and laughter Aprons were chosen to be given to our National Grange Master Ed Luttrell and Worthy Master Randy Lewis. Saturday morning was the final day of selling tickets for the drawing of the baskets and 31 happy people won a basket. The baskets brought in \$746.00 and the soap bars brought in \$497.00. Incidentally the soap bars were made by Karen Allred, with a fragrance and design on every bar. Saturday afternoon a group of sisters helped to fill 250 bags of goodies for the Harvest festival. Sunday before the installation of officers GWA held their annual auction bake sale. The generosity of the members and the great auctioneers Bob McFarland and Joseph Stefenoni brought in \$825.00 dollars. The most ever made, so it made history. I always enjoy convention seeing friends and meeting new ones.



Due to the large representation of youth, the annual Williams attendance trophy was awarded to the entire Youth Department

Grange Youth Department



Marta Kroger
Youth Director

e-mail: YouthActivitiesDir@californiagrango.org



Hello everyone, my name is Marta Kroger, and I am your new State Youth Director. I look forward to the coming year working with the Youth of the California State Grange. I hope to grow the size of the Youth Program by involving more of the youth already Grange members as well as bringing more new youth into the Grange.

I would first like to introduce the newly elected Youth Committee with which I will be working. The new Chairperson Lauren Nebitt from Rosedale Grange, Vice Chairman Joseph Stefenoni from Sebastopol Grange, and Treasurer Travis Kroger from Danville Grange. These are all amazing youth, and I am enthusiastic about working with them to develop a great youth program.

I would love input from youth around the state about what you would like to see in the Youth Program. I will be adding to the youth

for a volunteer to be a web designer for the California Grange Youth section of the website. Each month I am planning to feature one of our youth, so if you know of someone in your Grange who deserves to be featured, please let me know.

I want to give a preview of a few of the youth programs available this year. Horizon Youth Leadership Ambassador applications will be available online by January 1st, and will be due by May 1st. Interviews will take place at the California State Grange Youth Conference. This year the State Youth Officer Team and 5th Degree Team at State Convention will be chosen through applications, due June 1st.

The State Youth Conference will be June 10-13, 2010, held at West Visalia Grange. More information will be in the next Grange News.

I look forward to working with all of you this year to develop an even stronger youth program. If you have any questions, suggestions, or are interested in helping out with the website, please contact me. My email is YouthActivitiesDir@californiagrango.org, or you can call me at 707-365-2765

page on the State Grange website, and I am looking

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Lecturer's Notes

Gerald "Buzz" Chernoff, Lecturer
3830 U Street, Sacramento CA 95817
lecturer@californiagrango.org

You know how you feel after a really good meal; full and satisfied? That's how I felt after the Annual Meeting in Orangevale. What a treat to work with other Grangers putting it on. Helping put up and take down chairs and tables and eating together was so warm and comfortable; like being at our home Granges. We returned to our roots, and it felt right. I hope it's the beginning of a long tradition.

Katie Squire and Linda MacCracken along with many good hearted volunteers did a wonderful job of setting the Expo up and judging the entries. There was some concern that the space available for display might be too small, but it turned out to be perfect and all the items were well displayed. I overheard one of the younger members say they liked it because "it was in your face". I'm not sure that's the description I would use, but I did like the coziness.

The Lecturer's Talent Contest and Variety Show was once again one of the high points and most fun parts of the meeting.

The talent contest brought out the best in the Grange and it was beyond great. Shay Barba from the Pleasant Valley Grange hip-hop danced himself to first place in the Youth category, and singer Tifini Phillips from the Marshall Grange took second. The adult category had three contestants: Gus Olmedo from the Mt. Hamilton Grange who did a marvelous impression of Elvis in his Las Vegas era; Paul West from the Marshall Grange who played guitar and sang a western song accompanied by Allen Hendricks on banjo; and Ben Shilling from the Pleasant Valley Grange who did a comic routine that had the audience in stitches. He did an impression of Jerry Lewis that had me rolling on the floor. Gus took third place, Paul second, and Ben took a unanimous first.

Ben went on to the Grange National Convention in Michigan to represent California at the National Lecturer's Evening of Excellence. I was told he immediately won the audience over when he opened his routine with a dead-on impression of National Master Ed Luttrell. We're proud of you Ben.

The variety show portion of the evening was equally fun with an interesting monolog by Sharon Taylor on "What I have learned from animals"; music by the CSG house band "Grangers in the Night", a skit by the ever dynamic Barbara Geiger and Inger Bevans; a special performance by the Bronettes, a group of ladies from the Ukiah/Boonville area who sang a hilarious tribute to the wonders of Dr. Bronner's peppermint soap; music and songs by the Capay Valley Chorus; the annual singing of "Home Grown Tomatoes"; and as a grand finale, a group singing of "It's Later Than You Think". It was a wonderful evening made possible by willing performers, an appreciative audience, and the fine sound provided by Ken Donnell, Lanny Cotler, and Leroy Squire.

Towards the end of the meeting, a long time Granger came up to me and suggested that we end the meeting with the Bob Dylan song "The Times they are a'Changing". We didn't, but it would have been appropriate, because the times are changing for the CSG. We elected a new leadership team that will inevitably take our organization in new directions with new energies. As members we

should ask ourselves what we can do to help out in mapping that direction. I'm reminded of the Stone Soup Legend which if you don't remember goes like this:

There exists a tale, handed down from times long ago, of two travelers on a pilgrimage. Hungry and tired from a long day's journey, they come to a small, impoverished, village, where they decide to rest by the side of the road.

One of the travelers built a small fire, upon which he placed a large pot, while the other, having drawn water from the town well, filled the pot and placed into it a simple stone.

As the two men sat by the fire, bringing their "stone soup" to a boil, the local villagers become inquisitive of the curious antics of these strangers. Eventually, several townsfolk decide to investigate the matter and approach the two travelers to engage them in conversation.

Shortly thereafter, there was heard the sound of merriment, as the visitors, who turned out to be quite friendly, shared their tales of the lands and people they had met throughout their journey and pilgrimage with the local villagers.

Finally, a young boy asked the travelers "But why are you boiling a stone?" One of the travelers replied, "So we may eat stone soup." "It must be terribly bland!" said an old woman. "But I have a cabbage, which will add some flavor!" "And I, some carrots, which will add color!" said another villager. "Some potatoes!" offered another, until, shortly, by the contribution of a little by many, a hearty stew was made, upon which the entire village and the weary travelers dined... and while doing so, shared their tales, talents, and camaraderie throughout the night.

The very next day, the travelers (who by now could be called "strangers" no more), continued their journey, leaving the little town, and its people, behind. But the villagers never forgot them, and the lesson they had learned. In fact, during the hardest of times, in such a time as this tale, that little village thrived, because the townsfolk never forgot how to make "stone soup".

Such is the legend of the "Stone Soup Story". The moral is that by working together, with everyone contributing what they can, a greater good is achieved. It's the Grange way. Until next time . . .

Buzz



Our State-wide talent winner from Pleasant Valley, 16 year old Ben Schilling did his comedy act in front of approx 500 people at thre National Evening of Excellence Talent Show and he rocked. Many Grangers from across the country came up to offer praises following his performance, saying stuff like: "He had us rolling.. He'll be the next Steve Martin..." He even did an impersonation of the National Master, Ed Luttrell. He won \$100 (each of the contestants were awarded \$100). CSG Master Bob McFarland said that negotiations are underway to have him tour other community Granges in 2010. This will be a combination fund-raiser and member builder program.

Announcing The Grange "Yellow Pages"

The California State Grange has begun a new project to create a catalogue of member-to-member resources and products.

The "Grange Yellow Pages" will list individual Grange members around the state who can offer services and products to other members for no cost or at a special discount. The catalogue will be made available to all members.

"We have Grangers all over the state with a variety of unique talents, products and services they can offer to other members," explained CSG President Bob McFarland. "With the Grange Yellow Pages, we can benefit and support each other, whether we are the provider or the user."

It is anticipated that the Grange Yellow Pages will list a myriad of products and services; everything from legal advice to bar-be-cue know-how, quilting to dance lessons, back-hoes to web design, gardening to photography. Potentially, just about anything under the sun.

If you have a special skill, service or product that you would like to share or advertise in the Grange Yellow Pages, please complete and mail the form below to California State Grange, 3830 U street, Sacramento, CA 95817, or email your information to: info@californiagrango.org. Remember, you must be a Grange member to qualify.

Grange Yellow Pages Application

Name _____ Grange _____

City or Town _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Web Site _____

Title of Service or Product _____

Describe Service or Product _____

Free or Cost? _____

If you have a jpeg image of your Service or Product please email to: info@californiagrango.org



Chaplain's Corner

Barbara Geiger, State Chaplain
831-722-5151
chaplain@californiagrango.org

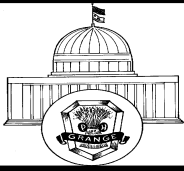
The Master's Touch

Who is the artist that walks the land
With a palette and paintbrush in His hand?
Softly He came one starry night,
Tireless working 'till morning light.
Woodlands and fields, the meadows green,
Transformed by His hand to an Autumn scene. He highlights
His work with the sun's mellow rays,
Gently dissolving the early morning haze.
Above it He stretches and endless blue sky,
Capturing migrating birds flying by.
A perfect picture of peace o'er the land
Created with love by the Master's own hand.

*And let perseverance be perfect,
so that you may be perfect and
complete, lacking in nothing.*

James 1:4

**I wish that everyone have a wonderful Christmas
and A Happy New Year.**



California Government Affairs

MIKE GREEN, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
e-mail: legaffairs@californiagrango.org

*The following testimony was presented to
the Joint Informational Hearing of the Senate
Natural Resources and Water Committee and
the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Com-
mittee on the subject of Delta/Water Legisla-
tion:*

My name is Michael Greene; I am the
director of Government Affairs for the Cali-
fornia State Grange.

The California State Grange is comprised
of approximately 180 local Granges located in
small towns and rural farming areas of Cali-
fornia with over 9,000 members. The Grange
has been active in California public policy
making since 1872 and successfully conducted
its 137th annual meeting earlier this month.

At that meeting, local Grange delegates
debated and adopted resolutions dealing with
public issues including water usage and sup-
ply. Two of those resolutions relate specifi-
cally to the subject of the overall health of the
Delta which has been damaged by unsustain-
able diversions and urban and agricultural
waste water discharges.

With respect to water usage, by its adoption
of the first of the two water resolutions, the
California State Grange endorses the recom-
mendations of the CALFED Bay-Delta Pro-
gram and the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task
Force and commits to work for their imple-
mentation as a Public Trust for all the people
of California.

The California Grange believes that the
recommendations of the Delta Vision Blue
Ribbon Task Force's Delta Vision Strategic
Plan offers a comprehensive and integrated
guide to solving California's immediate water
problems and is a management tool for man-
aging this precious resource for water quality
and quantity.

The Grange takes this position on the Delta as
the primary source of water for use throughout
the state and without consideration of any

proposals regarding conveyance of water
around the Delta.

We also believe the use of the Tulare Lake
basin for above and below surface water stor-
age should be given serious consideration as
part of the overall solution to our state's water
problems.

With respect to water supply, by its adop-
tion of the second of the two water resolu-
tions, the California State Grange commits to
work for the preparation of a study of the
feasibility of use of the Tulare Lake basin as
a surface and groundwater storage hub with
river and canal interties.

"California State Grange.... Helping Farm-
ers - Protecting Consumers" TM

Use of the Tulare Lake basin for surface
and groundwater storage with correct mecha-
nisms and incentives will move the San Joaquin
Valley toward regional self-sufficiency by
reducing the west side of the Valley's depen-
dency on Delta water.

In fact, per the first attachment, a 2002
engineering study showed that use of the
Tulare Lake basin for water storage would
help restore the San Joaquin River in addition
to offering water recovery and reuse poten-
tial. Additionally, per the second attachment,
the Delta Vision report shows that groundwa-
ter storage and conjunctive use is a much
more effective and efficient approach to wa-
ter management on a regional basis.

In this era of federal, state, and local budget
deficits and competing demands for finite
financial resources these are the most prudent
and cost-effective approaches to solving one
of California's most pressing problems.

By actions taken by the local delegates to
it's 137th Annual Meeting this year, the Cali-
fornia Grange commits to working for solu-
tions to California's water supply and use
problems.

Thank you.



California Grange Foundation Seeks Donations To Fullfill It's Mission



Dear California Grange Member,

Our function for the past years has been mostly evaluating and awarding
scholarships from donations made for that purpose. In addition, we have the ability
to provide tax exemptions for either direct donations or funds for specific purposes,
such as grants and donations to Community Granges,

All donations designated for scholarships that we receive are awarded for
scholarships only. We have very little in the general funds for undesignated purposes
and therefore we cannot provide assistance to Community Granges or others in dire
need that meet our stated purposes, as described below.

We are seeking donations to our general fund so that we can provide such
assistance. Please, donate what you can to build up the fund. We have no paid staff
and very little overhead, so all donated funds will be available for needed support. The
Grange Foundation, is a separate entity from the California State Grange with a
501(c)(3) exemption.

The Foundation Bylaws read:

"The primary objectives and purposes of this corporation shall be to carry out
activities to support the California State Grange's work, programs and goals; to
engage in and encourage charitable, scientific and educational activities including but
not limited to the following:

(a) To promote educational programs with emphasis on the agricultural and
domestic spheres in order to develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood
among persons engaged in or interested in agriculture, to enable them to improve their
skills, their standard of living, their self-respect and their esteem in the eyes of their
fellow citizens.

(b) To support and encourage the development of programs for community
improvement.

(c) To promote research in agriculture and economics in order that reliable and
useful facts may be made available to the agricultural community and to the general
public.

(d) To foster education, leadership and self-reliance among the youthful mem-
bers of the community by means of scholarships, training programs and public
recognition of worthwhile achievements.

(e) To encourage exchanges of information with the general public who have an
interest in our agriculture heritage and traditions as a means of preserving this heritage
and traditions.

(f) To encourage and facilitate charitable activities for the benefit of our youth,
the poor, handicapped, or underprivileged persons in our country and abroad."

Thank you for your generosity and helping us achieve our goals. Please send your
tax deductible donations to:

California Grange Foundation
3830 U Street
Sacramento, CA 95817

Thank you for your generosity and helping us achieve our goals.

Fraternally,
"H" Tom Sawyer, President
California Grange Foundation



Who Was "The Grange Buyer" and Why Did He Buy?

purchase of Nevada hay for California cus-
tomers? Or was he working for a Nevada
farmer with hay in the stack he wanted to sell?
And who paid the bailing contractor? We
would really like to know, and if anyone could
find some pictures of a 5-wire press (or any
hay bailer) this would be wonderful.

You can contact us at at Danville Grange
#85, PO Box 404, Danville California 94526.

Many thanks

Ross Smith

Master, Danville Grange.



The Danville Grange is working on the
history of agriculture in the state, and while
searching for a photograph of a hay rig bailing
out of a snow-covered stack of hay we were
referred to Lowell Rose. Lowell is the son of
Johnny Rose, who was a hay-bailing contrac-
tor from Clarksburg. Apparently Johnny said
that "he took the press and crew to Nevada in
the winters of 1938, 1939, and 1940 at the
request of the Grange Buyer."

Well, who was the "Grange Buyer?" Pretty
surely he was working for the Grangers Busi-
ness Organization, but was he brokering the

Rx Health Matters

By Jim McDaniel
California State Grange Health Committee Chairman

At this year's convention, there were more resolutions dealing with health than usual and during convention, as Health Committee Chairman, I accepted three more. Clearly people are becoming more health focused.

One resolution dealt with curbing the alarming increase in childhood diabetes. This problem is linked to increasing childhood obesity. As has been pointed out before, modern technology keeps children in many homes, sitting a good part of the day in front of the computer or TV, often absorbed in playing games or watching cartoons. I see parents who use the computer or the TV as their "baby-sitter". Often children in homes where diet is not well managed, may eat "junk food" as they watch what is happening on the computer or TV.

Fortunately, children living in rural areas usually have gardening and livestock to work with, wood to bring in and outdoor activities to participate in. Parents need to make sure that in all seasons of the year, their youngsters walk, ride bikes, play outdoor games and spend a few hours a day away from computers and TV's.

Also, parents need to be certain all schools offer regular physical education and if they have cafeterias, food served should be a variety of food choices with salads, vegetables and alternatives to pasta. Turn to your nearby Grange for help.

The vaccine for the H1N1 (swine flu) virus is becoming available in most areas now. We should continue to observe the warnings about covering our nasal and mouth areas with our sleeves or handkerchief and turning away from others. We are now hearing warnings often about the possibility of the H1N1 virus mutating into something more deadly and not controlled by the shots now in use. We hear many reports of high death tolls among some age groups, but most reports indicate that many confirmed swine flu cases are no worse than the flu we are accustomed to seeing each fall and winter, which cause loss of life each year.

Last week I had my usual flu shot and a pneumonia shot. The pneumonia shot gave me a severe reaction causing me to be unable to stand up. I was taken by ambulance to the local E.R. where my favorite doctor was on duty. Many tests were done and the friendly nurses told me several others had the same

reaction I did. All tests showed I was in excellent health except for a fever that lowered after the I.V. By 4:30 A.M. I completed my testing and returned home where my wife and good friends helped me into the house. Next week I get my H1N1 shot.

Scabies, a microscopic insect, that is transmitted person to person, is not the result of poor personal hygiene. The scabies mite only lives about 48 hours on inanimate objects so we catch scabies from each other. Treatment with permethrin is effective. Directions have to be followed carefully. Oral ivermectin also works well. All family members should be treated. Antihistamines and lotions like Calamine control the itch. The itch often lasts for four weeks after the mite has been eradicated. It is not a sign of a need for re-treatment. Laundering bedding and clothes in the hot cycle of the washing machine and dryer gets rid of the scabies mite.

A number of scabies outbreaks have been noted recently.

A major breakthrough in the disorder we call "chronic Fatigue syndrome" may be caused by a virus found in most patients with CFS.

This virus has been identified in prostate tumors and certain typed of blood cancers. Traces of this virus have been found in blood samples preserved for 25 years. Doctors stress, "This is not associated with a new and spreading disease. We are not on the verge of an epidemic. Much research is directed to this matter. Doctors heading the centers for Disease Control and Prevention caution against rushing to any conclusion based on new findings until further studies are completed. I will keep you informed.

We really make excuses when it comes to sticking with our diet and fitness goals.

Rules to help you:

- 1) Don't put off starting. Firm up your diet and fitness plan and stick to it.
- 2) You are never too old to start exercising. Your doctor can tell you if you need to set limits. Most communities have a fitness center with exercise equipment and advisors.
- 3) Remember it is extremely rare for a person to be unable to lose weight and get in reasonable shape. Like we tell the kids—get off the couch, away from the computer and follow your agenda, not someone else's.
- 4) Eat well-planned low calorie food. Enjoy fruits, vegetables, fat-free meats and if in a big hurry, a frozen low calorie dinner from the supermarket.
- 5) Keep in mind that the most important part of your plan of proper diet and regular exercise is to improve your quality of life.
- 6) Find hiking trails and places to enjoy the out-of-doors.
- 7) When traveling a lot, get a microwave and a fridge in your room whenever necessary.
- 8) Get plenty of sleep. Get the TV out of your bedroom if you need to.

All of these suggestions contribute to a healthier, happier, and longer life. More ideas next time.

California Grange Foundation Scholarship Rules and Applications Available February 1, 2010



Per its rules, the CGF Scholarship rules and application forms will be available on February 1, 2010. They will be available online at the Grange website, www.californiagrangefoundation.org, via e-mail by requesting them from info@californiagrangefoundation.org, or by writing to the State Grange office, 3839 U Street, Sacramento CA 95817. The number and amounts of the scholarships will be determined by the Scholarship Committee of the California Grange Foundation.

Scholarship Application Deadline will be April 1, 2010.

Winners will be notified by email after judging.

GIG ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2010-2011

Grange Insurance Group Chairman of the Board, D. Thomas McKern, is pleased to announce that GIG will again fund 25 scholarships for the 2010 – 2011 school year, totaling over \$26,000. In addition, GIG is honored to award the \$1,000 Paul and Ethel Holter Memorial Scholarship, funded by a gift of Mrs. Holter's estate, and the \$500 Dee and Ina McKern Memorial Scholarship, funded by a gift from the McKern family. Other privately funded scholarships may also be awarded.

Applicants may apply for a scholarship in either academic or vocational studies. The top scorer in each category receives \$1,500 and each additional winner receives \$1,000. Alternates are named in case a winner is unable to use the award.

Eligibility requirements (applicants must meet one of the following):

- ! Current GIG policyholder (or children or grandchildren of GIG policyholder) in California, Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, or Wyoming
- ! Grange members (or children or grandchildren of Grange members)
- ! Children or grandchildren of current GIG company employees
- ! A previous recipient of a GIG scholarship

Children or legal wards of officers or directors of GIG are ineligible.

GIG's scholarships may be used at any institution offering courses leading to a certificate or degree in a recognized profession or vocation, including: community colleges, business colleges and technical institutes, as well as institutions offering an academic degree program. Vocational scholarships are specifically intended for use at community colleges, technical or business schools or other accredited institutions which offer vocational training which does NOT lead to a two or four year academic degree.

The committee will base its awards on the following:

- Scholastic Ability (copy of official grade transcript required)
- Neat and complete essay written by Applicant

Application deadline is April 15, 2010. (Postmarked)

Please complete the following request form for an application for a Grange Insurance Group Scholarship:

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
GRANGE INSURANCE GROUP
Attn: Scholarship Coordinator
P.O. Box 21089
Seattle, WA 98111-3089

Please send a GIG Scholarship Application to:

Name: _____ Grange Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

APPLICATION FORMS CAN ALSO BE DOWNLOADED AT OUR WEBSITE:
www.grange.com

COMING NEXT ISSUE

Spotlight on Officers, Directors
The Ambassador Program
New Format For "In The News"
Getting Ready For Grange Month