

Sooner State Granger



Master Message—Billy Shufeldt OK State Grange President

Greeting all Oklahoma Grangers and all of our fellow Grangers across our great Nation. I hope everyone is well and had a great Thanksgiving and will have a joyous Holiday Season.

Our 105th Annual Oklahoma State Grange Convention was held on Saturday, October, 17th 2020 beginning at 9:00 am in Claremore OK at the Holiday Inn Express and Claremore Convention Center. We had 35 members that were State Officers and Delegates. This year we cut out all of the extra-curricular activities and just took care of all of our immediate business. We only had one State Officer position up for election and that was for Executive Committee member. Randy Henry was re-elected for another 3-year term. We were able to complete all other business by noon so we had a nice lunch and went right in to the Annual Grange Mutual Insurance meeting. The both meetings were completed by 1:30 pm.

South Coffeyville Grange # 351 and Thompson Grange # 352 will host our annual **Degree Day** at the **NAFI building located at 215 N. Oklahoma St. South Coffeyville OK. 74072 beginning at 10:00am on March 27th, 2021**

If anyone was unable to get their State Officer or Subordinate Grange report in please send them to Oklahoma State Grange Secretary Jeannie Harrington at email: jeannieharrington@rocketmail.com or mail to Rt. 1 Box 250

Wann, OK 74083, phone number 918-559-9507.

On November 17th and 18th, 2020 Lena and I joined in on the 154th Annual National Grange Convention, via Zoom meeting on our computers. Even though all of the Officers, Delegates and National Grange Staff were not all in the same room, Lena and I both had a good time visiting with the other Grangers.

There were only two Executive Board Member positions open for election, this was probably the toughest part of the whole meeting, but we finally had an election. The resolutions were a little different, we voted with paddles, one thumb down red and one thumb up green, it worked very well. We spent about seven and a half hours each day on our computers and was able to get all of the convention business completed.

The 155th Annual National Grange Convention will be held in **Wichita KS next year on November 9th - 13th, 2021**. This Convention is being hosted by our Great Plains Region. Oklahoma State Grange members that would be interested in attending and volunteering during the convention needs to let me know so we can make future plans to attend. Some of us will probably need to go up the weekend before to help get things set up.

To all of the **2020 - 2021 scholarship recipients**, . **An official transcript of the student's grades from the Registrar's Office via email or mail must be sent to the State Master by February 15th**, in order for you to receive the Spring 2021 semester



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portion of your scholarship. I will not except a snap shot of your grades, it must be Official from your college or trade school, whether getting it to me by the USPS or email from the college.

To all of the Oklahoma State Grange 2021 - 2022 scholarship applicants, your application will be due by March 31st, 2021. Please see Application, Rules and Responsibilities for instructions. You can get the Application out of this paper or contact me and I will email you a copy or look on our website.

We will be hosting the Great Plains Regional Conference again this coming year. It will be held on June 11th, 12th & 13th, 2021 at the Claremore Conference Center and Holiday Inn Express located at 1400 Country Club Road, Claremore, OK 74017. I hope everyone will be able to attend.

If anyone would like to post anything on our State website please fill free to contact Yvonne Meritt at 405-262-3354 or email her at soonerstate-granger@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing everyone and hopefully next year we will be back to normal.

Fraternally Submitted

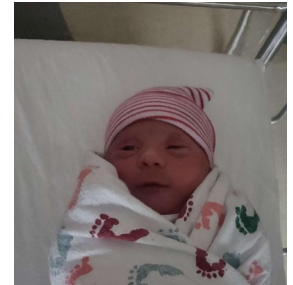
Master Billy D. Shufeldt

R.R. 1 Box 342-14

South Coffeyville OK 74072, Phone 918-842-0242, email: bshufeldt.okgrange@gmail.com

New Arrivals!!

Leo Beckahn Miranda was born December 13. Proud parents are William Miranda and Bailey (Shufeldt) Miranda of South Coffeyville Grange. He weighed in at 7 lbs 12 ounces and 19.5 inches long.



Asher Valentine Krehbiel was born November 10th. Proud parents are Clayton and Lindsay Krehbiel of Cherryvale Grange. Birth weight was 6lbs 11 oz.



Oklahoma Grange Mutual Insurance

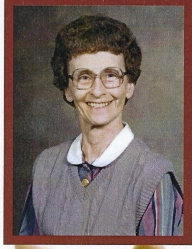
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In Memory Of
Goldie Geraldine Taylor
December 25, 1924 - November 12, 2020

Goldie Geraldine Taylor, 95 year old Bluejacket resident was surrounded by family when she went to be with the Lord and Savior on Thursday November 12, 2020 in Tulsa, OK. She was born on December 25th, 1924 in Centra-

lia, Oklahoma and was the daughter of Earl Beechler and Tinnie(Stanley) Beechler. Geraldine married the love of her life, Wayne Taylor September 8th, 1942 on Timber Hill. They enjoyed 64 years of marriage on this earth before Wayne's passing and now are together once again.

She was a member of the Timberhill Church of God Holiness Church.

She spent all her years as a homemaker and worked in several of the family owned business.

She is survived by one sister Ruby Hollandsworth, one daughter Waydene Moore and husband and two sons Jerry Taylor and Darrell Taylor and wife, seven grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Chaplains Corner

Yvonne Meritt, State Grange Chaplain

Opinions express in this article are my own. Life is uncertain, from the moment you take your first breath, you are destine for death. During this last year our society has focus on a virus that has traveled across the world. Is it the worst virus we have ever had? No. Unfortunately, many have lost family members and friends. But this is not the first pandemic to affect families. My father lost his sister and his niece in the Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1918. I remember the Swine Flu Pandemic of the 70's and even took the vaccine as I was a frontline worker and was fearful of losing my job if I did not take the shot.

So should you live in fear? No. Why Christmas frees us from fear. Let's look to the scriptures. Luke 2:10-12 Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." To fear is to believe a lie. We must remind ourselves of what is true. God can do anything, God loves us, and God will do what is best for us and God is in control. Don't be afraid to ask God to deliver you from your fears. He will help you face your fears with the truth. Will God come thru for us? Yes, he already did -as a baby in a manger.

Merry Christmas.

Voting signs for ZOOM National Convention 2020



SECRETARIES TAKE NOTES

Jeannie Harrington, State Secretary

I hope everyone was able to come together to have a great Thanksgiving with family and friends. The Christmas holiday and New Years is fast approaching.

We had a "different" 105th State Session in Claremore, OK in October. With Covid 19 looming, it was felt that we should have a short 1 day session to take care of business and still keep everyone safe. It was good to see those who were able to attend but those who weren't were

very much missed. Hopefully we will be able to return to a "regular" State Session in 2021.

I am in the process of gathering reports from all the subordinate granges and officers for the proceedings book. "Thank you" to all who have already turned in their reports. For those of you who haven't sent their report, please do so as soon as possible. We would like to have a complete book for our records. You can email them to jeannieharrington@rocketmail.com.

I pray everyone will be able to have a safe and wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

OKLAHOMA STATE GRANGE
OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Up to eight scholarships will be awarded for educational expenses at an accredited post-secondary educational institute of the recipient's choice.

Upon selection by the scholarship committee,

Full time students (12 or more hours per semester) will be awarded a \$ 1300.00 scholarship.
(\$650.00 per semester

Part-time students (minimum of 6 hours per semester) will be awarded a \$650.00
scholarship. (\$325.00 per semester)

Non-traditional students (students returning to school after a period of at least 5 years out of school) taking less than six hours will be eligible for \$325.00. (\$162.50 per semester).

ELIGIBILITY

The applicant must

Be a citizen of the United State of America.

Be a High School graduate or senior at the time of the scholarship selection.

Be an Active Fifth Degree member in good standing (current dues paid) of an Oklahoma

Subordinate Grange for **one year** by the application deadline (March 31).

To be considered an Active Member, the Applicate must attend Degree Day or Great Plains Conference or a State Grange Gathering and the State Session before applying. Previous winners of the scholarships will continue to be eligible for future selection but must re-apply and will be judged on an equal basis with other applicants.

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications will be evaluated and recipients will be selected by a scholarship committee consisting of the State Master and four members appointed by the Master. Any member of the selected committee, including the Master, with immediate family applying for the scholarship will be disqualified and a re-appointment made. All qualified applicants will be given equal consideration. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of Grange participation, demonstrated leadership, financial need, and potential to succeed. Applicants will submit an application and a 500-word essay to the State Master by March 31. A personal interview may be required for a final decision. Winners will be notified by May 1 and published in the Sooner State Granger.

RESPONSIBILITIES

It shall be the sole responsibility of the applicant to provide the completed application and necessary information to the State Master by the stated deadlines. All recipients must enter school the fall term following selection. Payment of the first half of the scholarship will be contingent on proof of acceptance and enrollment of the student at an accredited school by official statement from the Registrar's office. Proof of enrollment must be received by the State Master via email or through the mail from the Registrar's Office by September 15th. Payment of the second half of the scholarship is contingent upon the recipient giving acceptance speech at the state banquet in October. At this time pictures will be taken of the recipients for publication in the Sooner State Granger. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the scholarship committee In the event of medical emergency or circumstances beyond the recipient's control. **The second half of the scholarship money will be transferred for the second term if a minimum 2.5 GPA has been achieved for the first semester. An official transcript of the student's grades from the Registrar's Office via email or mail must be sent to the State Master by February 15th or the scholarship will be forfeited.**

Financial Information

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

Please describe your family’s financial situation and the need for additional assistance for your education.

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

Date Signature of Applicant

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

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

Date Signature of Subordinate Master

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

Date Signature of State Secretary

This signed application must be accompanied by:

- 1. A certified copy of the applicant’s current transcript if you are already going to college.
- 2. A 500-word essay about “What is your favorite Grange memory?” or “Where Do You See Yourself in Five Years?”

This information must be received by the state Master by March 31 or it will not be considered.

Mail completed application to: Oklahoma State Grange, Master, Billy Shufeldt

Rt. 1 Box 342-14, South Coffeyville, OK 74072

LECTURER'S DEPARTMENT

Terry Stoelzing, State Lecturer

Organize your closet

Without a solid organization system, storage closets often end up serving as the drop point for all the stuff you can't fit anywhere else in your home. Before you know it, that heap of cleaning rags and kitchen appliances has become so massive you can barely shut the closet door. If the chaos in your storage closet has rendered it either nonfunctional or very distressing to use, don't despair. You can turn it around with some thoughtful planning and a couple strategic wall hooks

1. Figure out what you need to store in your storage closet

A storage closet has limitless possibilities. You can use it to store coats, cleaning supplies, Christmas decorations, Halloween costumes, pet toys, or whatever else you want. To prevent things from getting out of hand, make a list of items you absolutely need to store that don't already have a designated space in your home. Maybe it's your vacuum and extra linens, or your snow gear and sports equipment.

2. Use shelves and built-in rods to create different sections

Take advantage of existing storage systems in your closet to serve as obvious dividers between your stuff. Then organize things by category or likeness. If your closet is empty, install a coat rack, tension rod, or pair of shelves to double your available space.

3. Store cleaning products in a portable bin

Storing your cleaning products in a bucket with a handle accomplishes two things: 1) It keeps all your sprays and disinfectants in one place, and 2) it makes household cleaning easier because you can grab the bucket and carry it anywhere.

4. Utilize vertical space and the back of the door

Take advantage of vertical wall space to hang brooms, dustpans, and mops from sturdy hooks.

This method keeps your cleaning tools neat and organized while also opening up your floor space. You can use the back of a door to hang just about anything. Take a cue from Organizing Made Fun and install wire baskets to hold cleaning products, extra cloths, and paper bags. Or hang wall hooks to store purses, bags, or backpacks. Better yet, use an over-the-door pocket organizer to store cleaning products, wrapping supplies, or cold-weather accessories like gloves, scarves, and hats. Mount hooks wherever there's an extra foot of space in your closet, and suddenly you have a spot to hang your favorite purse, reusable grocery bag, briefcase, or umbrella.

5. Limit hanging clothes to seasonal outerwear only

Don't bring your entire wardrobe into your storage closet. If you plan on hanging clothes, limit your choices to items you reach for on your way out the door. Think seasonal necessities like coats, jackets, and scarves.

6. Store suitcases on upper shelves

To keep your floor space clear and uncluttered, store suitcases horizontally on your highest shelves. Just make sure the suitcases are empty and your shelves are sturdy.

7. Use boxes with labels

You can store everything from DVDs and paper files to table linens and extra Kleenex in matching boxes. Label each box with a detailed description of its contents so you never have to rummage through your stuff to find what you're looking for.

8. Store blankets in a stylish basket

Tuck extra throw blankets into a chic basket you can transport to the living room when the weather starts to get chilly.

9. Use plastic drawers for smaller items or utility cart

Plastic drawers are perfect for storing smaller items like cleaning rags, medicine, first aid kit supplies, tools, craft materials, or extra toiletries. A utility cart is a smart way to store the stuff you need to access easily.

GRANGE ACTIVITIES

Lisa Evans Grange Activities Director

Look for details in the next edition of the newsletter of contest details for Degree Day. As always desserts are welcome.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORS

Carl Shufeldt & Jerry Taylor

Dear Fellow Grangers.

We hope that everyone is doing well. At the time of this writing we have not received a report of gains or losses to the state grange. However, all indications are that membership is holding and perhaps gaining. Everyone be safe out there and have a Merry Christmas.

Sooner State Granger
Oklahoma State Grange
Kay and Yvonne Meritt
Co-Editors
20545 SW 15th
Union City, OK 73090

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Dates to Remember

Feb. 15 Scholarship recipients grades are due to be reported to State Master

March 1 Newsletter articles due to Editor

March 27 NAFI building located at 215 N. Oklahoma St. South Coffeyville OK 10:00 am

March 31 Scholarship applications due to State Master

June 1 Newsletter articles due to Editor

Sept 1 Newsletter articles due



Scheneista Procter, State Junior Director

Hello Junior Grangers,

We hope everyone is doing well and stay healthy. We can't wait to see all of you again, hopefully real soon. We have not made too many plans for degree day yet, just waiting to see if everything will be back to semi normal. We

hope everyone had a great Christmas and a good break. It's hard to believe that school is going by so fast even under all the circumstances of this year. We hope that everyone stays safe and healthy and hope to see everyone at degree day if we get to have it this year. We will let you know what the plans are as soon as we find out the details. If you need anything or have any questions don't hesitate to ask. Hopefully, we will have more information in the next newsletter.



LeeAnn Bailey Youth and Young Adults Director

lbailey5416@gmail.com

Greetings Youth and Young Adults, 2020 is winding down after a very rough year for many. I can only hope that 2021 will be a better year. With the release of the COVID vaccine maybe we will begin to see something positive. I don't have much to report or tell you. I have heard that the 2021 Great Plains Conference will be in Claremore. I am not sure where Degree Day will be at yet. Read the Master's Address and hopefully it will have details. I do know that South Coffeyville Grange is hosting it this year. If you plan to apply for the Oklahoma State Grange Scholarship, and we get to hold Degree Day, be sure you make plans to attend. The scholarship

application will be due to Billy Shufeldt by March 31, 2021.

If you are a current scholarship recipient for the current school term, be sure you submit your official transcript once your fall term classes are posted and a current concise spring semester schedule from the Registrar's Office to Billy Shufeldt by 02/15/2021. They can be mailed USPS to RR 1 Box 342-14, South Coffeyville, OK 74072 or emailed to bshufeldt.okgrange@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please feel free to call, email, or text either of us. Billy Shufeldt's number is 918-842-0242 and mine is 918-331-5416. As information is made available regarding future activities I will post on our Facebook Page and send messages in our group message.

I wish you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,