

# Sooner State Granger

## *Master Message—Billy Shufeldt OK State Grange President*



Greetings Oklahoma Grangers and all of our fellow Grangers across this great Nation. I hope this article finds you and your family healthy and happy. Summer has arrived and farmers are in the wheat fields and the hay fields.

I am happy to announce and say congratulations to our 2021/2022 Scholarship recipients: Jason Foley, Bluejacket Grange # 353 and Christopher Thomsen, Thompson Grange # 352 We are all immensely proud of them and wish them well.

The Great Plains Regional Conference was held on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Claremore Conference Center and Holiday Inn Express located in Claremore OK. We had 65 Grange members attend which were from Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Pennsylvania, and Washington State. The National Grange team put on some interesting and fun workshops.

After lunch on Saturday, Cherokee Nation council lady Dora Smith Patzkowski put on an incredibly fun and educational basket weaving class, where at least thirty of our Grangers took part in. There were some very interesting, shaped baskets, but all were beautiful in their own way. After the basket weaving class, we had a corn hole tournament where Alan and Christopher Thomsen won first place. Everyone had a good time, and we were served some very good food during the Conference. I would like to thank everyone for coming, especially Nation Grange Master Betsy Huber and her whole staff, they all did a great job.

This year's Oklahoma State Grange Convention will be held back in Claremore OK. at the Claremore Conference Center/ Holiday Inn Express located at 1400 Country Club Road, Claremore, OK. 74017.

This year we will be having all our regular events, so everyone is welcome to come. Look for the Registration form in this paper.

The National Grange Convention this year is being held at the Hyatt Regency Wichita Hotel in Wichita KS. On November 9<sup>th</sup> thru 13<sup>th</sup> 2021. We are one of the host States and I am needing volunteers to help with the behind-the-scenes duties throughout the convention. We will need people beginning the weekend of Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, and until Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. You do not have to come up and stay the whole time, just pick the dates you can come and let me know so I can get everything arranged. I will need to know how many hotel rooms I will need to reserve and when.

If anyone needs any help from Oklahoma State Grange Secretary Jeannie Harrington you can reach her at email: [jeannieharrington@rocketmail.com](mailto:jeannieharrington@rocketmail.com) or mail to Rt. 1 Box 250 Wann, OK 74083 or phone number 918-559-9507. 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 [soonerstategranger@gmail.com](mailto:soonerstategranger@gmail.com). If anyone needs anything from me, please fill free to contact me anytime.

Fraternally Submitted

Master Billy D. Shufeldt



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## Chaplain's Corner

### Yvonne Meritt

On July 2, 1776, Congress voted to separate ties with Great Britain. On July 4th - the Declaration of Independence was signed, albeit by only two individuals at that time: John Hancock, President of Congress, and Charles Thompson, Secretary of Congress. Four days later, on July 8, members of Congress read the Declaration of Independence aloud from the steps of Independence Hall, proclaiming it to the city of Philadelphia, after which the Liberty Bell was rung. The inscription on the bell, Leviticus 25:10, was most appropriate for the occasion: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land and to all the inhabitants thereof."

On the very day they approved the Declaration, John Adams was already looking to the future as to how their actions would be celebrated by future generations. Adams contemplated about these celebrations, but concluded that the day should be commemorated - but in a particular manner and with a specific spirit. As he told Abigail: "It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty."

John Adams believed that the Fourth of July should be a day when we remembered God's hand in deliverance and a day of religious activities when we committed ourselves to Him in "solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty." Such

was the spirit of the American Revolution as seen through the eyes of those who led it. On the Fourth of July, the Founders simply took the precepts of Christ, who came into the world through His birth (Christmas) and incorporated those principles into civil government.

Have you ever considered what it meant for those 56 men to sign the Declaration of Independence? These men were - an eclectic group of ministers, businessmen, teachers, university professors, sailors, captains, farmers. The final paragraph reads "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." This pledge was taken very seriously by the men who signed it and it cost them greatly. After signing the Declaration Samuel Adams said, "We have this day restored the Sovereign to whom all men ought to be obedient. He reigns in heaven and from the rising to the setting of the sun, let His kingdom come."

Preserving American liberty depends first upon our understanding the foundations on which this country was founded and then preserving the principles. Let's not let the purpose that our country was founded on be forgotten. The Founding Fathers have passed the torch to us; let's keep it burning.

## SECRETARIES TAKE NOTES

### Jeannie Harrington

#### State Secretary

I pray everyone is staying safe and healthy. Things are finally beginning to get back to some kind of normality. It's hard to believe we are half way through this year. It has gone by really fast. By the time you read this newsletter the Great Plains Regional Conference in Claremore, OK will be passed so I hope everyone had a wonderful time. Master Billy and First Lady Lena have set up some fun and informative things to do for the weekend. It is always great to get together with our Grange family.

It will soon be time for the second quarter dues to be paid. ATTENTION: THE GRANGE

ASSESSMENT DUES ARE BEING WAIVED THIS YEAR BY NATIONAL GRANGE, DUE TO THE PANDEMIC SO YOU WILL NOT SEND AN EXTRA \$1.00 PER PERSON FOR THE SECOND QUARTER.

I truly appreciate my fellow grange secretaries and how you take care of the dues in a timely manner. You are all great to work with. You make my job as State Secretary enjoyable and much simpler.

**OKLAHOMA STATE GRANGE  
CONVENTION  
106th ANNUAL SESSION  
OCTOBER 22-24, 2021**

Registration Form (Per Room)

**Holiday Inn Express  
1400 Country Club Rd  
Claremore, OK 74017  
(918)283-4877**

Grange Name and # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State Officer  Youth  Junior  Delegate  Director  Member  Guest

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State Officer  Youth  Junior  Delegate  Director  Member  Guest

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State Officer  Youth  Junior  Delegate  Director  Member  Guest

Name \_\_\_\_\_ State Officer  Youth  Junior  Delegate  Director  Member  Guest

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Rooms-** (This is a non-smoking hotel)  
Please  type of room needed.

Cost of rooms are \$79.00 per night not including tax.  
Please  each day room is needed.

Double  King  Handicap

Thursday  Friday  Saturday

**Meals:** Continental Breakfast is included with stay.  
*Friday lunch is on your own.*

Friday Evening Banquet: (THEME: Look for Details in Septembers newsletter)  
Adults # \_\_\_\_\_ Children # \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Luncheon: Complements of Grange Mutual Insurance.  
Adults # \_\_\_\_\_ Children # \_\_\_\_\_

*Saturday Dinner is on your own.*

Please list food allergies \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FEE:**

\$20.00 ADULT \_\_\_\_\_

\$10.00 CHILD \_\_\_\_\_ (ages 5-13; Juniors room with Parents)

Total included with form: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send money and registration form to:

Billy Shufeldt

RT. 1 Box 342-14

South Coffeyville, Ok 74072

State Master will make all room reservations. \_\_\_\_\_ (No later than September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

**Oklahoma State Grange takes care of only one room per Subordinate Grange.**

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



**Scheneista Procter**

**State Junior Director**

Hello Junior Grangers,

We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. We can't believe the school year has come to end already. It went by so fast even with all the changes, but we hope everyone is enjoying their

summer so far. We were sad that we didn't get to see you at Degree day this year, but glad that everyone was staying safe during this epidemic. We are starting to make some plans for state session and hopefully we will all get to see each other at state session. We will let you know what we have planned for state session as soon as we can. Have a great relaxed summer and hope to see you state session.

Fraternally submitted,

Scheneista Procter  
State Junior Director  
Audrey Bowers  
Debbie Borgstrom  
Kim Knight  
Committee members

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

**Membership Directors**

**Carl Shufeldt and Jerry Taylor**

Dear Fellow Grangers

We hope this finds everyone doing well. Try to stay cool as the weather is heating up nicely.

Along with the hot weather comes new members. We had six granges with an increase in members. Overall we had an increase of 74 members bringing the total to 5443 members. Everyone keep up the good work.

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Vinita, OK 74301

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# Great Plains Conference

Claremore, OK

June, 2021



GRANGE **GY** YOUTH

**LeeAnn Bailey**

**Youth and Young Couple Director**

I hope this finds each of you doing well. For those I just saw at our Great Plains Regional Conference, I am SO glad I was able to see!! I have missed everyone!! For those of you that were unable to make it, I am STILL missing you!

We had a few youth and young adults there and I am so proud that each of you got up and gave an impromptu. I am also excited that you all are planning to go to the National Convention this year. For those of you that do not know, the National Convention this year will be in Wichita, KS. For those that aren't usually able to attend due to

either time off, distance, or both, this will be the year that might make it easier for you to be able to go attend, even if it is just a day trip.

The State Grange is pushing ahead to hold our annual session this year. As more details are made available, I will be sure to let you know about them via our Facebook Group and our Facebook Page.

For our Graduates this year, I want to congratulate each and everyone of you on your accomplishments. Keep persevering and pursuing your dreams. Also know we are there for you to help you in any way possible.

I hope you all have fun and safe summer and I look forward to when we meet next.

Continue to stay safe and healthy,

LeeAnn Bailey

lbailey5416@gmail.com

## GRANGE ACTIVITIES

**Lisa Evan, State Director**

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer! The Oklahoma State Grange session will be here before we know it and I have included the contest that will be available so everyone will have the summer to complete the projects.

Junior: Decorate a pumpkin, make a Christmas tree decoration, and make a bird feeder out of recycled material.

Youth: Make something out a plastic bottle (example water, pop, laundry bottle, and milk jug) make a bird feeder out of recycled items, and make an animal out of recycled material.

Women: Make a pumpkin out of any material (example wood, Mason jar, recycled item) make a Christmas tree decoration, and make something out of a Mason jar or jars.

Men: make an Outdoor Christmas decoration, make something to organize tools out of any material or recycled material, make a sign out of any material.

I have included some examples for each category, have fun making your creation.

The community books will be due September 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 I encourage everyone to participate in developing a book, as I know each Grange is doing great work in the communities. Please note the total volunteer hours for each project in the book. The forms are on the Oklahoma State Grange website at [okgrange.net](http://okgrange.net) Please mail the

books to Lisa Evans P.O. Box 504 Ketchum, Ok. 74349



Birdfeeder



Animal out of recycle material



Pumpkin out of any material



Tool Box



## Oklahoma Quilt Raffle

Quilt is made from blocks from the National Grange Block Contest. Blocks were made by Grangers across the nation. Raffle drawing will take place at the National Grange in November, 2021 in Wichita, Kansas. Funds raised will be donated to the National Grange Foundation. For tickets please send a check payable to the Oklahoma State Grange. Yvonne Meritt, 20545 SW 15th, Union City, OK 73090

Tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 5 for \$20.00.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## QUILTS OF VALOR

The Great Plains Region is the host for the National Grange Convention. There is a tradition of presenting Quilts of Valor to Veterans who are Grange members in the host region. We are looking for Grange members who have not received a Quilt of Valor and who are able to travel to the National Grange Convention in Wichita Kansas in November. We will need their name, branch of service, years of service and name of Grange in which they are a member and contact information. There will be a presentation ceremony conducted by Chris Hamp, National Grange

Lecture during the convention.

Also while attending the conventions, if you have some free time, there will be a sewing area where you can sew quilt blocks for the Quilt of Valor program.

If you would like to nominate a veteran, have questions about Quilts of Valor or would like to assist in making quilts please contact Yvonne Meritt at 405-262-3354. Also QOV requirements are listed on the Quilts of Valor website: [www.qovf.org/make-a-qov](http://www.qovf.org/make-a-qov).

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

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#### **Dates to Remember**

- Sept 1      Newsletter articles due
- Sept 13     Community Service Projects Due
- Sept 15     State Grange Registration Due
- Oct. 22-24 Oklahoma State Grange State Session  
                 Holiday Inn Express Claremore, OK
- Nov. 9-13   National Grange Convention, Hyatt Regency Wichita, KS