

Sooner State Granger



Master Message—Billy Shufeldt OK State Grange President

Hello everyone, I hope all our Grange families are doing well and staying healthy. It is hard to believe that we are already into March of this year. Since we last talked the weather has been a roller coaster that seems it does not know which direction it

wants to go.

To all the Oklahoma State Grange 2023 - 2024 scholarship applicants, your application will be due by March 31st, 2023. Please see Application, Rules, and Responsibilities for instructions. You can get the Application by contacting me, and I will email you a copy or look on our website. Your application needs to be filled out, including your Subordinate Grange Master's signature. The Executive Board has voted to go back to our 2019 version of the Scholarship application and rules so the Applicants will need to attend one State Grange function along with attending the State Convention to be eligible for the scholarship.

Our annual Degree Day will be held on April 1st, 2023, beginning at 10:00 am at the City Central building located at 400 E. Central Ave. Ponca City OK. 74601 hosted by the Cherryvale Grange # 221. To all our Subordinate Granges, please bring your members that want to go through the Degree work. I would like to ask that all State Officers and Directors do your best to be there along with any scholarship applicants. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

To anyone that would like to apply for the Brad Keeton Memorial scholarship, it is time to be thinking about getting your application and essay prepared and sent into me. All applicants must be at least a Fourth-Degree member and must send

in a 250-word essay on how the scholarship will assist you in your goals for the future. You must send the application and essay to me "Master Billy Shufeldt" no later than May 1st, 2023. A copy of the application will be posted in this paper, or you can contact me, and I will send you the application and rules or you can find it on our website.

The annual Great Plains Regional Conference will be hosted by the Texas State Grange in Kerrville Tx at the Inn of the Hills Hotel and Conference Center on June 9th - 11th, 2023. A copy of the registration form will be posted in this paper. The registration fee is \$140.00 per person, but you will only pay \$25 per person with 5 and under free, the Oklahoma State Grange will pay the remainder of the fee and I will make everyone's hotel reservations and the OSG will also pay for your rooms "this is all depending on how many people sign up and the OSG can afford to pay for everyone". I would like to have the registration forms back to me ASAP but no later than April 6th, 2023. Please fill out a registration form for each person "including 5 and under children with their age" so we can get a good head count. As of right now the Charter bus will leave from Oklahoma Union School at the intersection of Hwy 169 & Hwy 10 West in Nowata County at 3:00 am on June 9th, 2023. For more information contact me at 918-842-0242.

If anyone needs any help from Oklahoma State Grange Secretary Jeannie Harrington, you can reach her at email: jeannieharrington@rocketmail.com or mail to Rt. 1 Box 250 Wann, OK 74083 or phone number main 918-559-9507. Also 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.



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LECTURER'S DEPARTMENT

My Grange Superhero

Donna Keeton, State Lecturer

I hope everyone has survived winter so far. It is time for everyone to start planning and working on the Lecturer's contests. All categories will have the following age groups: 5 to 9, 10 to 14, 15 and older. All entries must be brought to the Oklahoma State Session to be held in Claremore, OK. The categories will be as follows:

Photography: Submit a 4 x 6 photo, put name, Grange, and age group on back (no backing necessary) All photography categories are up to the participants interpretation.

Community Service in Motion

Sights of Spring

It's a Good Day to Be a Granger

Writing: Submit a 500-word maximum handwritten or typed story on the below topic. Submit the essay with name, Grange, and age group written on the back. No names on the front page.

Drawing: Submit a drawing on an 8" x 10" paper with name, Grange, and age group printed on the back. Can use any utensils in creating i.e. Crayons, markers, or pencils, etc.

Painting: Submit a painting using Watercolors. Must be on a canvas no larger than 11 x 13. Print name, Grange, and age group on the back.

Color a Picture: Color the picture that was published in the Sooner State Granger March 2023 or can be found on www.okgrange.net in the Grange Forms section. There will be an added age group of 1 to 4 for this particular contest. Print name, Grange, and age group on the back.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Degree Day and the State Session.



THE GRANGE MUTUAL INSURANCE



BRAD KEETON MEMORIAL



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



In 2022, the Oklahoma State Grange started the Brad Keeton Memorial Scholarship. Being such an influential and long-standing member of the Grange, we wanted to offer a chance for young men and women of our communities to receive a helping hand when it comes to furthering their goals of higher education, which was something very close to Brad's heart.



Once a year, a single recipient will be chosen amongst applicants to receive this scholarship totaling \$2,500. Eligible applicants include any Fourth Degree member in the Oklahoma State Grange that is pursuing higher education.



To apply, a completed application and a typed 500-word essay on how the scholarship will assist them in their goals for the future. These documents must be submitted by May 1st of the calendar year. They can be mailed or emailed directly to the Oklahoma State Grange Master bshufeldt.okgrange@gmail.com or 6399 NS 413 RD. S. Coffeyville, OK. 74072.



Please mark your emails with a subject line that denotes this is for the Brad Keeton Scholarship.



The winner will be notified in advance and will be presented with their scholarship at that year's State Session. Payment of the scholarship is contingent on proof of acceptance and enrollment of the student at an accredited school by official statement from the Registrar's office. Winners are required to attend the Oklahoma State Grange session Saturday Evening during the degree work .to receive the funds. Once a scholarship is awarded, the recipient is not eligible to apply again.



**THE GRANGE MUTUAL INSURANCE
BRAD KEETON MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Home Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Name of high school: _____ Graduation Year: _____

What college or university are you attending? _____

What will be your major field of study? _____

GPA for last academic term: _____ Scholastic Honors received: _____

Other academic achievements: _____

Participation in extra-curricular activities: _____

Work Experience: Are you currently employed? _____

What type of work? _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

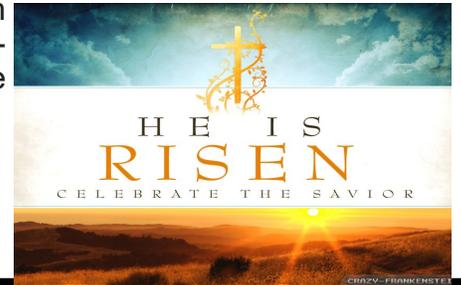
Please attach a 250-word minimum essay for consideration about either the goals for your education or how the scholarship can benefit your continuing education.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Sheila Shafer-Conrady, State Chaplain

Well, the first two months of 2023 have passed us by already. I hope you and your local Grange are busy making this the year of Grange Giving through your community service projects. We have celebrated love on Valentines Day and started the Easter preparations with Ash Wednesday beginning the Lenten season. Lent is the Season we prepare our hearts and spirits for Easter and Holy week. Accepting Christ forgiveness for our sins and that his time on the Cross atoned for our future sins as a perfect and blameless sacrifice. So what can you do to prepare for Easter besides buying Peeps(candy) and hiding eggs? If you haven't been to church in a while and were waiting for Easter to make an appearance, I suggest going now in Lent. Easter

and Christ's resurrection will mean more if you prepare your hearts for its magnitude. Do kind acts, forgive others as you forgive yourself knowing Christ forgives you. Let go of old hurt feelings and be thankful for those who forgive you when you are a little too flawed and human. Remember that Accepting God's forgiveness calls for us to be different, change our hardened hearts, and love others as he first loved us. I HOPE TO SEE YOU AT DEGREE DAY IN PONCA CITY. I love the degree work and find many lessons for the mind and heart in the degrees likened to the seasons and farm life and embedded with the scripture as well.



Scheneista Procter State Junior Director

Hello Junior Grangers,
We hope everyone is staying safe and warm,

during this crazy weather we are having. We were so glad to see everyone at the state session this year. We had a fun time even doing crafts and doing our regular competition of team building. We were glad that we finally got to be together again and have some fun. We hope school is going great for everyone and is almost over already. We do have plans for degree day and can't wait to see all of you there. It seems like time is flying by so fast, it's hard to believe it's almost Spring break. Well, we hope everyone

SECRETARIES TAKE NOTES

Jeannie Harrington, State Secretary

I pray this newsletter finds everyone is staying safe and healthy. Degree Day is coming up soon. It will be at the City Central Building located at 400 E. Central Ave. in Ponca City, OK on April 1st at 10:00 AM hosted by Cherryvale Grange #221. I hope everyone will be able to attend. It is always nice to see all our fellow grangers.

Grange Scholarship applications are due to the State Master by March 31st.

The Great Plains Regional Conference is going to be at the Inn of the Hills in Kerrville, Texas on June 9, 10, & 11, 2023. Make plans now to attend this fun filled, informative weekend.

I truly appreciate my fellow grange secretaries!
You are all great to work with!

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Membership Directors

Carl Shufeldt and Jerry Taylor

Dear Fellow Grangers

Hope all are doing well. We hope to see you at

Degree Day. The fourth quarter was very successful as far as membership goes. Our membership rose from 5420 members in the third quarter to 5610 members in the fourth quarter for a total of 190 members. After a couple quarters of losses this is very good news. Everyone keep up the good work and hope to see you in April.

**GREAT PLAINS 2023 SCHEDULE
JUNE 9-11**

FRIDAY JUNE 9

- 4:00-7:00 pm **Registration**
- 7:00-8:00 pm **Get acquainted/ Roll Call of States/Community Service Project**
Snacks will be available
- 8:00 PM-9:30 PM **Grange Baseball**

SATURDAY JUNE 10

- 8:00 am **Breakfast Buffet**
- 9:00 am **"Communication in the Digital Age"**
Presented by: Philip Vonada
National Grange Communications Director
- 10:00 am **Youth workshop**
- 11:00 am **Junior workshop**
- 12:00 noon **Lunch Buffet**
- 1:00 pm **Parliamentary Procedures**
- 2:00 pm **Quilt blocks**
- 3:00 pm—5:00 pm **Tour (TBD)**
- 5:45 pm **Group photo**
- 6:00 pm -8:00 pm **Dinner & Contests**

Join us for a special dinner and presentation of the Public Speaking and Sign- A- Song contests from our Juniors and Youth Members.

SUNDAY JUNE 11

- 8:00 am **Breakfast AND Farewells**



Bailey Miranda -Youth and Young Couple Director

Hello Youth and Young Adults,

My name is Bailey Miranda, now your Oklahoma State Grange Youth Director, as most of you already know I am the daughter of Billy and Welina Shufeldt, I am a wife and a mother to Leo Miranda. I grew up inside the Grange and they helped raise me and make me into the person I am today. I am hoping to grow our Youth department and hopefully we can add some new faces to our amazing group of Youth. I am so excited to get started and get to work with all of you.

Now some important dates to remember, on Saturday April 1st at 10am we have Degree Day in Ponca City, OK I can't wait to see you all there, June 9th-11th we have our Great Plains Regional Leadership Conference in Kerrville, Texas it's going to be such a fun weekend with all the youth in our region I hope you all will be able to join us.

Please join our Facebook page: Oklahoma State Grange Youth

If you have any questions, please feel free to get a hold of me.

Email: baileymiranda@gmail.com

Phone: (918)467-0337

Address: 1413 South East Ave

Pauls Valley, Ok 73075

GRANGE ACTIVITIES

Lisa Evans Activities Director

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying some of the spring type weather. Degree Day is quickly approaching on April 1st hosted by Cherryville Grange in Ponca City. **We will have a dessert contest.** It can be any desserts that you want to have bragging rights to, and have yummy sweets

for lunch!

I hope to see you at Degree Day.



135 E, Canadian Ave.

Vinita, OK 74301

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Covering Oklahoma Day and Night

GRANGE

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2023 GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

June 9-11, 2023

Inn of the Hills ~ Kerrville 1001 Junction Hwy. Kerrville, Texas 78028

Oklahoma State Grange will pay for our members rooms and Billy Shufeldt will make all hotel reservations.

Registration fee is \$140.00. Oklahoma members pay \$25 per person, Oklahoma State Grange will pay the remainder of the fee. Applications must be mailed to Billy Shufeldt 6399 NS 413 RD, South Coffeyville, OK 74072-9542 by APRIL 6TH. 5 and under NO Registration fee!

Name _____

Member type: _____ Subordinate Member _____ Youth(age 14-35) _____ Junior Member (Age: _____)
Address _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email address (if applicable) _____

Grange State, Name & Number: _____

Are there any health conditions/dietary restrictions we should be aware of?

Check the contests/events you plan to participate in.

Sign-A-Song:

Youth: _____ Novice _____ Hobbyist _____ Expert _____ Group (All levels)
Junior: _____ Novice _____ Hobbyist _____ Group

Public Speaking:

Youth: _____ Prepared _____ Impromptu Speech _____ Radio Spot /Elevator
Junior: _____ Prepared _____ Short Story _____ Impromptu

Grange Baseball: (Jeopardy)

_____ Youth Participant _____ Junior Participant:

_____ Yes, I will need to borrow a sewing machine for the quilt block workshop.

If you are under 18, please have your parent/guardian complete the following:

I authorize _____ to participate in all activities. I **DO / DO NOT** (circle one) allow them to be photographed or recorded. Photos and recordings may be used on Grange social media.

Emergency Contact name _____

Relationship _____ Phone (_____) _____

What time do you expect to arrive Friday, June 9th? _____ p.m.

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

March 31 Scholarship applications due to State Master

April 1 10:00 a.m. Degree Day, City Central building 400 E. Central Ave. Ponca City OK.

April 6th Registrations for Great Plains Conference due

May 1 Applications for Brad Keeton Scholarship due

June 1 Newsletter articles due to Editor

June 9-11 Great Plains Conference in Kerrville, Texas

Sept 1 Newsletter articles due

Sept 1 Community Service Projects Due



Full scale coloring sheet
can be found at
www.okgrange.net opening
page in Grange Forms.