



Kansas Granger

American Values, Hometown Roots

Pre-Convention Newsletter

August 2014

143rd KANSAS STATE GRANGE CONVENTION

The 143rd Annual Kansas State Grange Convention has moved to Wichita! This year's convention will be held September 19-21 at the Best Western Airport Inn and Convention Center, 6815 W. Kellogg Drive, Wichita, KS 67209. Rooms are available at a group rate of \$75.99 plus taxes and fees. These rates are good for Thursday - Sunday and they also include a free breakfast in the hotel restaurant. To reserve a room, you can contact them by phone at 316-942-5600.

The final schedule and additional information is still being finalized, however the Annual Banquet will still be Friday evening, there will be tour options for Saturday morning, and Degree Conferrals and a pizza party on Saturday evening. All information and forms are available on the Kansas Grange website <http://www.ks-grange.org> under the



“Departments” tab. Be sure to check Kansas Grange website as additional information will be added as it is finalized.

Attached to this newsletter is the Convention Pre-Registration Form. Please fill this out and send it to the Kansas State Grange Secretary, Alice Ficken by the due date listed.

We look forward to seeing you there!!

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The 143rd Annual Kansas State Grange Convention will be here before we know it and as we gear up for our annual meeting I wanted to take some time and throw out a few reminders.

The State Convention is the trend setter for the upcoming Grange year; the actions taken by the Delegate body sets the tone for the year, or years, to come. This is why it is very important for the Delegates to be present and active in discussion, both in Committee meetings and in

session. If you are a Delegate and are unable to be present please make sure to have an approved alternate fill in. It is important that all Granges have a voice during these meetings.

This year is also an election year for the Kansas State Grange. Please start thinking now for who you think would be good for each state office. If you are a Delegate consult with members at your local Grange. Personally I think the Grange election process is truly unique

and I feel is far superior to other organizations that I have been a part of.

Something always to remember, but especially during State Convention, is that the Grange is a non-partisan organization. It is also important to remember that while Granges may be non-partisan, Grange members may, or may not, be. With that being said, please keep in mind that it is improper, and against by-laws, for a Grange to endorse, promote, or campaign for someone running for public office. It is also important for the Delegates at the State Convention to keep in mind that while in

session they speak for their local Grange and shall not partake in partisan ideals when discussing resolutions.

I look forward to seeing all State Officers, Department Heads, and Delegates at our pre-convention meeting being held August 16 at the Coffey County Library in Burlington, starting at 10:00 a.m. We will be having a pot luck lunch.

Fraternally Submitted,
Nathan Strawder
President, Kansas State Grange

DEVOTIONS AND MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Sunday morning Devotions and Memorial Service at 9:00 a.m. on September 21 is open to the public. Families and children are welcome to attend.

During the Memorial Service we will be remembering two past State Grange officers, Brother Dan Levering and Brother Jim Kincaide. Other Grangers that have gone on

before us this past year are Brother Merle “Smitty” Smith and Brother Wib Justi, past National Grange Youth Director. If there are others, please let me know.

Blessings to all,
Jamie Klenklen
Kansas State Grange Chaplain

HOSPITALITY ROOM INFORMATION

Bayneville Grange, located closest to this year's convention in Wichita, will be overseeing the Hospitality Room. This year the room will be in close proximity to the meeting rooms so this will make getting snacks and drinks from the room easily accessible.

We are inviting all Granges to donate and bring items for the hospitality room; i.e. cookies, fruit, cheese, sausage, crackers, snack mix, etc. Anything would be appreciated by the Delegates and guests attending.

If your Grange plans to donate and bring items, please respond via mail, phone or email so that we can ensure a variety of items.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to having you in Wichita!

Randee Farmer
3506 Ridgecrest Road
Augusta, KS 67010
[316-644-1871](tel:316-644-1871)
farmermd13@cox.net

GRANGE PROGRAMS

The State Grange Convention is a great opportunity to participate in Grange Programs. All of the Program Guides and Program Letters can be found on the Grange website <http://www.ks-grange.org> under the “Departments” tab. All Grangers are encouraged to participate in these activities even if they are not able to make it to the State Convention. You can read more information about the deadlines and activities in the sections below:

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS:

REMINDER: The following reports and nomination forms are to be postmarked on or before **August 15** to Randee Farmer (address below) to qualify for judging:

Community Service Report

A summary of your Grange Community Activities throughout the past year. This report can be submitted in one of three ways:

1. Submit a Summary Form
2. Submit a Summary Form with Activity Project Sheets
3. Submit a Summary Form with Activity Project Sheets, pictures, publicities, etc. (often submitted in a notebook)

It is important that every Grange submit a report. We get prize monies for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd,

and 4th place winners from the National Grange based on a percentage of Granges that submit forms.

Community Support Personnel

Nomination Form

Nominate any person/group providing a support type service to your community; i.e., but not limited to: EMS, fireman, police.

“You Make a Difference” Nomination Form

Nominate any Granger or non-Granger who shows the true spirit of volunteerism in the community.

Thank You!

Randee Farmer
Community Service Director

FAMILY ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS:

The State Convention is coming upon us quickly, I have a few reminders:

Don't forget to mail any quilt blocks to me by **September 5**. I must have them judged and mailed to the National Lecturer by September 10.

For all entries for the State Convention please attach a 3x5 card with your name, address, Grange and Class you are entering.

Please bring Country Store items, as this is the way we fund our prizes. When selecting items to donate, think of homemade, handmade, garden items and small items that you would purchase as a gift for yourself.

We have been asked by the National Grange Convention Committee to bring small to medium new stuffed animals that will be given to Children's Hospitals. I would challenge each to bring 25 stuffed animals to State Convention. Roger and I would love to take them to National and share the generosity of Kansas Grangers with the children.

Please contact me with any questions.

See you soon,
Melanie Bostwick
785-633-9950
kansasfamilyactivities@gmail.com

LECTURER'S PROGRAM:

Summer is almost over and the State Convention is just around the corner. I hope your Grange has had a great and fun year. Now is the time to show off all of the work your Grange has done. Are you ready to submit your entries and share your Grange Success at the State Convention?

Due Dates and Times: Those entering the Writing Contest and the Favorite Lecturer's Program must be mailed by **September 6** to me. These can be submitted by emails at KDOINew@kc.rr.com, Subject Line show say, "Grange Contest Entry". Include your name, Grange name & number, home address and phone number. The Reading, Photography, and Cultural Arts entries can be brought to the Convention on **Friday by 9:45 AM**.

Honor Grange & Top Dog Grange:

1. I need the total number of meetings with programs and meetings without programs. Each program must be listed by name.
2. List which programs were educational in nature and subject.
3. Name and describe briefly the Community Service Projects you had.
4. List your Educational Event with number of people present.
5. List the number of new members and how many net increase from your last year 9/1/13 membership.

6. List your State Convention Delegates.
7. I will go by the due dates listed in this article and I will verify dues paid with the Treasurer.
8. Include a copy or print of the newspaper, or an E-newspaper article. I will allow a newsletter or Web Article to serve the same purpose.

If you meet all 8 items above, the Top Dog Grange will be earned if you built a new Grange or if your Grange met the +1 net member and **PLUS A NET INCREASE EQUAL TO A NEW CLUB**. I need your starting membership as of 9/1/13, how many were dropped, and a list of those added to your Grange in the past year through 9/1/14. Please submit this to me by **September 6** so that I can review and ask any questions before the State Convention.

Photos of any of the events should be added if possible as these can be used to show others what your projects and events looked like.

Awards will be split between Friday evening's "Celebration" and the Saturday's luncheon. See you at the Stage Convention!

Fraternaly yours,
Ed Bruns,
Kansas Grange State Lecturer
KDOINew@kc.rr.com

DUSTY TALES

Howdy Grangers!

I can't wait to meet those of you that I haven't met yet at the State Convention in September! I will be taking pictures throughout the Convention so be sure to get in a picture with me. Make sure to "like"

Dusty the Bull



me on Facebook. If you would like me to come visit your Grange just email me at Dusty@grange.org or contact my caretaker, Mandy Bostwick and she will make sure I get there.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

The Youth and Young Adults will be officers for the 5th Degree during the State Convention. We look forward to this opportunity and hope we have a lot of Grangers in attendance.

We will be having silent auction gift baskets like we did last year. Monies raised will go towards funding activities and to help with expenses of our state Youth in National Grange

Programs. Individuals or groups are welcome to donate a basket.

Please contact me if you have any questions,

Jamee Funk,
Youth and Young Adults Director
KSGrange.Youth@gmail.com or
Jamee17@hotmail.com.

JUNIOR NEWS

This year marks the 125th Anniversary of the Junior Grange. The theme for the year is "Junior Grangers; Honoring Our Heritage". As part of this celebration the Juniors were to pick a project that involved doing 125 of something. The Kansas Junior Grangers picked to collect 125 quarters to help feed the animals at the Oliver Hudson Kelley Farm in Elk River, Minnesota. To help us meet this goal please bring your quarters to State Convention and we will collect them during the Junior Program.

There are three contests in the Junior Department that will have entries at the State Convention. They are the Creative Art Contest, Creative Writing Contest, and Mini-Scrapbooking Contest. The rules for these contests can be found online on the Kansas Grange website under the "Departments" tab. The first place entries in each age division will go onto National Grange for display and judging. There are monetary awards at both the State and National Levels. I know how much kids like getting money so I encourage all to participate. There are also contests the Juniors can enter in the Lecturer's and Family Activities Departments. Contact me if you have any questions about the contests.

Help Dusty the Bull collect quarters with the Junior Grangers at the State Convention



On Saturday morning of State Convention the Juniors will be going to Exploration Place. There are exhibits on Eww! What's Eating You?, Agmination, Big Mouth, Exploring Flight & Design, Kansas in Miniature, and The Vanishing Cowboy. We will also see a movie in the domed theater. We encourage all to enjoy this outing with us.

Callie Stiles
Kansas State Grange Junior Director
816-752-6662
stiles_callie@yahoo.com

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Greetings Grangers,

Hope all are well and have survived the summer so far.

At the writing of this, many counties in Kansas are preparing for their fairs and politicians in Topeka and Washington are preparing for their elections by visiting those fairs. I know several Granges are involved in activities at their local fairs as well. We must remember however, even though as Grangers we are encouraged as individuals to get politically involved; as an organization we are to be only concerned with the issues and cannot endorse a particular candidate.

Our Declaration of Purposes states:

“We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our Constitutional Law, that the Grange—National, State, Pomona, or Subordinate—is not a partisan or party organization.

We must always bear in mind that no one, by becoming a Patron of Husbandry, gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of one’s country.

On the contrary it is right for every member to do all in his or her power, legitimately, to influence for good the action of any political party to which he or she belongs. It is reserved by every Patron, as the right of a free citizen to affiliate with any party that will best out his or her principles.”

After fair time is over it won’t be long before the State Convention is upon us. The deadline to have your Resolutions submitted to the State Grange Secretary is **August 15**.

I ask that if you are sending your Resolutions electronically that you send them to me as well at rogerbostwick@hotmail.com. This way I will have time to review them before State Convention to determine if they might

already be current policy. This should help to speed up the process and make it a little easier on our Committees. I have received several Resolutions at this time, so we might need that extra time to get everything accomplished. Also, if you have any information supportive to your Resolution i.e. website links, articles from magazines or newspapers, scientific or medical studies, etc. include these as well. This helps the Committees decide what action to take. If the Resolution continues on to National it will help explain the purpose of your Resolution to the Committee there as well. Many times if a State Master is called upon by a National Committee to explain a Resolution, and it is a subject which they may not be familiar with, the Committee will either send it back to the state, or report it adversely. Without a current National Legislative Director to research background information, the likelihood of a Resolution being rejected increases.

I have been reviewing our Policy Manual for anything that might no longer be relevant or already been enacted on a State or National level. This should help to free up the Committees by not having to review the Policy Manual. If something in the current policy appears to need changed or removed I will have suggestions ready for the Committee to review. As Legislative Director, I can only recommend changes to policy to the Committees. It is still the job of the Delegate Body to make those changes per the Committee’s directive.

Have a safe and happy rest of the summer. See you in Wichita.

Roger Bostwick
rogerbostwick@hotmail.com

UPCOMING GRANGE ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS, AND EVENTS

- August 15 Deadline to submit Resolutions to Kansas State Grange Secretary, Alice Ficken
- August 15 Deadline to submit Community Service Reports and Nomination Forms to Kansas State Grange Community Service Director, Randee Farmer
- August 16 Pre-State Convention Delegates Meeting. 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Coffey County Library in Burlington, KS
- Sept. 5 Deadline to submit quilt blocks to Kansas State Grange Family Activities Director, Melanie Bostwick
- Sept. 6 Deadline to submit the Writing Contest and the Favorite Lecturer's Program information to Kansas State Grange Lecturer, Ed Bruns
- Sept. 6 Deadline to submit Honor Grange & Top Dog Grange to Kansas State Grange Lecturer, Ed Bruns
- Sept. 10 Deadline to submit Pre-Registration Form for the Kansas State Grange Convention to Kansas State Grange Secretary, Alice Ficken
- Sept. 19-21 143rd Annual Kansas State Grange Convention, Best Western Airport Inn, 6815 W Kellogg Dr, Wichita, Kansas 67209.