

THE TEXAS GRANGER

September 2013

MASTER'S MESSAGE

Another state session is history – a fine one in my opinion. The delegates debated seventeen resolutions. Following are a couple that will have a direct impact on every member.

1. Increase membership: Resolution "Membership Incentive" was adopted. The resolved portion is quoted for your information and hopefully action.

"Resolved that an incentive program for all members be implemented to encourage membership recruitment; and be it further

Resolved that two \$50 cash prizes be set aside for a drawing at the annual session in 2014; and be it further

Resolved that for every member recruited from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, the recruiter and the new member's name be placed in a drawing for the \$50 prizes; and be it further

Resolved each Grange develop their own membership incentive program unique to their Grange."

I have a commitment to increase amount to two \$100 prizes. Alamo, Cibolo, and David Crockett already have new members names to be included in the drawing. How about you? It's time to get your name included in the drawing.

Fraternally,

Jack Smithers

Master, Texas State Grange

FUND RAISER

Some of you know that Texas will be one of the host states to host the National Grange Session in November 2015, in Lincoln, Nebraska. Texas will be responsible for the 6th Degree again and manning the Hospitality room on Friday. It costs money to get our Rose Drill ladies and 4 or 5 state officers there. We must raise funds to do this. The fundraiser for 2013 to 2014 and 2014 to 2015 – much discussion was had by the delegates. It seems that everyone is worn out on raffles so there will not be a state raffle. In the end, the delegates decided and voted that the fundraiser will be for the next two (2) years: a \$10 fee for each member of your Grange as of June 30, 2014 and the same for 2015 – this \$10 fee is in addition to the amount your Grange pays on the June 30th quarterly reports. A separate check, made to the Texas State Grange, annotated **\$10 member**, is to be included with the June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015 report along with the dues check. If you have questions on either of these resolutions – first discuss them with your delegates that represented your Grange. You may call me or wait for my visit to your Grange.

SECRETARY, TEXAS STATE GRANGE

The State Session the end of July in my opinion went very well. The resolutions were handled quickly with only a few loopholes to overcome. All in all, I think everything went very smoothly. I think that Leon Valley and Brother Marty Billquist did a wonderful job preparing that delicious dinner we had on Saturday night. Also, thank you to all of you who sold your raffle tickets and had gotten the money to me. Our raffle was quite successful. Thanks to all of

you who have gotten your reports to me for the Journal. I have been working diligently on it so that I can get it ready for inspection by the time for the Executive Committee meeting. The Quarterly Reports are due the end of September, and thank you all Subordinate Secretaries who get them to me on time with the check. If any of you are having a problem getting your reports ready, please don't hesitate to give me a call. I will be more than happy to help you.

Respectfully,
Ann Roeder, Secretary
830-276-3427
3790 FM 2146; Poteet TX 78065

LECTURER'S "CHIT CHAT" CORNER

Our State Grange Convention is in the past and a new year is before us. What we do in the year ahead of us will shape the Lecturer's Department.

We were disappointed that the number of entries was down from last year. So many people told me "that they just ran out of time". Maybe we need to start a little earlier on our projects. The list of winners is in this newsletter. Thank you for taking the time to enter. Each entry was deeply appreciated. "Thanks again!"

We will still have the Educator of the Year Award. If you need an entry form, please contact Sister Margaret Smithers at marges9876@yahoo.com. I hope we will have several entries in 2014.

We are starting a new visitation contest. It will be on an individual basis (not Grange). It will run from November 2013 – June 2014. If you attend any Grange meeting (other than your Grange) you will get 10 points. If you attend two (2) meetings within a month's time, you will get 20 points. I will need to have the number of your points and the Grange and date that you visited it. The last day of the contest will be June 30, 2014. I will need your paperwork by July 9, 2014. The top three will receive a prize at the Texas State Grange Session in July 2014.

Texas will be hosting the Great Plains Conference next year. We will need your help. More information will be provided later.

Thank you for all your help and participation in the Lecturer's programs and projects this past year. May God richly bless you all. P.S. Karryn Overstreet won the talent show.

Mary Baker, State Lecturer

GROW CLUB AND FRIENDS

Greetings from the Grow Club and Friends. We had a fun time in Boerne at the State Session. Around 30 people ate with us at the Main Street Café. There were some drawbacks on the food and service, but we still had some "good old" Grange fellowship.

Our next **get-together** will be (I hope) on **Saturday, October 5th**, at the **54 Restaurant on SE Military Drive at S. New Braunfels at Brooks City Base (west)**. We will **meet there at 2 p.m.** If you are going to be late, please contact me at (210) 531-3008. If there is any changes, I'll let you know.

We still will be having a Holiday party. Time, date, and place will be in the next "Dates to Remember." Keep your eyes open or you'll miss it. Hope to see you soon.

God Bless,
Mary Baker, Chairperson

YOUTH NEWS!!

We had a great state session!! I think our Youth enjoyed the dance and fellowship. I will post some pictures to our Facebook page. I am also online with the National Grange rss feed, check them out at nationalgrange.org/members — you do need the annual word. (Please get with your president or secretary for the annual word to register.)

Our youth program is growing! I am so excited I look forward to everyone's feedback and/or suggestions.

Cibolo Grange will be hosting a Yard Sale as a Youth Fundraiser Friday and Saturday, September 13th and 14th, hours – 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

David Crockett Grange will host a youth dance/party on Saturday, September 28th hours – 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Thank you Granges and Grangers for your support!

Our Youth will be hosting our portion of the Great Plain Regional Conference in June 2014. I have received numerous hotel bids, and the best price/amenities/location is the Holiday Inn Market Square. The dates are scheduled for June 27-29, 2014. I have numerous things scheduled for our conference. This conference will be hosting our Youth Public Speaking and Sign a Song contest.

I have spoken with some of our other leaders and already have great workshop ideas and speakers. I would like to have a tour and I am currently seeking suggestions, such as a bus tour of all missions and/or free time for a bike tour of the city.

Please mark your calendars and **SAVE THE DATES!** To make youth a success we need everyone's help.

Fraternally,
Lori Wuest, Youth Director

BEXAR COUNTY POMONA GRANGE

We haven't had a meeting in a while. The next meeting will be on **Sunday, October 27th at David Crockett Grange Hall, sponsored by Mesquite Grange; 1:30 p.m.** Please bring your favorite German food for October-fest. Come on and give us a visit. See you there!!

God Bless You,
Mary Baker, Master

NOTE: Attendance at Pomona meetings has dropped off recently, possibly because of changes in officers and members in Subordinate Granges. All Grangers in Bexar County may attend and become members of the Pomona Grange. I encourage all members and officers to attend this meeting. We will have election of officers and have a good set-down discussion on the responsibility of the Pomona Grange and what roll it should play in the Grange structure. I encourage everyone to attend this meeting. Let's get serious about our Grange work. **Current Pomona Officers:** Master --- Mary Bell Baker; Overseer--- Marvin Schweppe; Lecturer --- Penny Martin; Steward --- William (Buddy) Overstreet; Assistant Steward --- Jerry Billquist; Lady Assistant Steward --- Bonnie Billquist; Chaplain --- Kimberly Ehlers; Treasurer --- Margaret Smithers; Secretary --- Jack Smithers; Ceres --- Ruth Lampman; Pomona --- Bernice Knight; Flora --- Winnie Taggart; Executive Committee --- Archie Knight, Roger Wuest, Morris (Smokey) Martin; Gatekeeper --- Lori Wuest. Jack Smithers, Master, Texas State Grange

BLACK HILL GRANGE #1547

Black Hill Grange **Turkey Dinner** will be held **Sunday, November 3rd from 11 am until 1 p.m.** at the Black Hill Community Building located off Highway 97E, on FM 478 -- three miles down on the left hand side. ***HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!***
(special note from customer: ya' better be ther' early or' it'll be gone)

Cheryl Neal, reporting

CIBILO GRANGE #1541

Welcome to the first edition of the Cibolo Grange Quarterly Newsletter. We just finished the State Grange Convention in Boerne, Texas and what a great time! Looking forward to next year's convention, we welcome your ideas and advice to improve the event. I personally would like to see more participation from all Grangers and ask that everyone try to attend even if just for the day. The activities and friendship will make it well worth the effort. Most of the fundraising activities were centered on the Youth Grange and the National Convention. I am sure we'll hear more on this over the next year!

Locally, the Cibolo Grange continues to grow both in membership and activity. Although we are working on starting some smaller group activities I will concentrate our first newsletter on the monthly calendar. Our first activity is the community yard sale which is scheduled for the 13th and 14th of September. The cost is \$10 per table with space available both inside and out on first come first served basis. This event will also coincide with the scheduled painting of the exterior of the building and if anyone knows where we could get donations of white paint please let us know.

October brings our sponsorship of the "National Night Out" where we are teaming up with the city and local businesses to host the surrounding community for what we hope will be a fantastic event. We will post more on the time and event on our Face Book page as things firm up.

During November we are scheduled to host some of our young military professionals from Randolph and Lackland AFB's for a Thanksgiving feast. This will be a pot luck style to bring a little bit of home to them when they are so far away from theirs! We will need some volunteers to provide transportation and to help set up the hall. This event was made possible by members Pat and Juan Soliz who generously gave up their hall reservation so we could honor these brave young men and women.

Regardless of what religious affiliation you may have, December brings out the generosity and kindness in us all and with that mindset the Cibolo Grange will support an Angel tree and adopt a family.

Organizations are only as good as the volunteer membership. We have been blessed with a great area and facility but even more importantly with some of the greatest, most talented and friendly folks I have ever known. We can't express deeply or often enough our gratitude to each and every one of you! Well that wraps things up for now! Our Grange Gathering is set for the 2nd Sunday of every month at 2 p.m. and yes there will be some food, drinks/coffee and a little something sweet. If anyone needs to contact us we have our own Grange number, 210-307-0599. Our national web page is <http://www.grange.org/cibolotx1541/>

Dave Weaver, Secretary

FAMILY ACTIVITIES REPORT

Our annual convention was a great success because we had lots of fun and fellowship. However, there were only 51 entries in the Family Activities contests, which was down quite a bit from most years. I am hopeful that people will find time to talk these contests up in their local Granges. Maybe we can encourage members to get more involved and also get our younger members interested in learning some new skills that they can show off. I would love to see the entry numbers double this year, which would bring them back up to levels that we have seen in the past. The list for the 2014 contests is also in this newsletter, please share it with members, family, and friends! The judges from Boerne chose the following lucky bakers and crafters as the best for 2013.

The winners were as follows:

FOOD (7 entries)

Women – Chocolate Pound Cake:

1st – Ann Roeder, Poteet

2nd – Doris Payne, Poteet

3rd – Connie Waxler, Poteet

Men – Lemon Bars:

1st – Marvin Schweppe, Leon Valley

Junior – No bake cookies:

1st – Hannah O'Toole, David Crockett 2nd – Shannon O'Toole David Crockett

Canning – Pickled Green Beans:

1st – Doris Payne, Poteet

NEEDLEWORK (8 entries)

Afghans – Knitted or Crocheted

1st – Marvin Schweppe, Leon Valley

2nd – Ann Roeder, Poteet

3rd – Bernice Knight, Converse

Knitted or Crocheted Item (not afghans or doilies)

1st – Bernice Knight, Converse

2nd – Debbie Knight, non-member

Counted Cross Stitch

1st – Debbie Knight, non-member

Embroidered Item

1st – Pat Jay, David Crockett

2nd – Lynda Davis, David Crockett

CRAFTS (36 entries)

Jewelry

1st – Gloria Godoy, David Crockett

2nd – Doris Payne, Poteet

3rd – Corina Weaver, David Crockett

Gift Bag

1st – Gail Dale, Poteet

2nd – Connie Waxler, Poteet

3rd – Lori Wuest, Cibolo

Junior:

1st – Charlie Waxler, Poteet

2nd – Carlie Waxler, Poteet

Cross

1st -- Pat Jay , David Crockett

Junior:

1st – Jenna Clark, non-member

2nd – Isaiah Clark, non-member

3rd – Hannah O’Toole, David Crockett

Christmas Stocking

1st – Lori Wuest, Cibolo

Gourd Art:

1st – Ann Roeder, Poteet

2nd – Margaret Smithers, Mesquite

3rd – Debbie O’Toole, David Crockett

Junior:

1st – Shannon O’Toole, David Crockett

2nd – Daniel Wilkins, Alamo

Wreath

1st – Ruth Lampman, Leon Valley

2nd – Margaret Smithers, Mesquite

3rd – Mary Baker, Mesquite

Junior:

1st – Shannon O’Toole, David Crockett

Recycled Item

1st – Ann Roeder, Poteet

2nd – Margie Blair, Poteet

3rd – Ruth Lampmen, Leon Valley

Junior:

1st – Nathan Smithers, Mesquite

2nd – Danielle Howell, Poteet

Decorated Headband

1st – Debbie O’Toole, David Crockett

2nd – Jessica Smith, Cibolo

3rd – Lori Wuest, Cibolo

Our “Red, White and Blue” Banquet was held on Saturday, July 27th at the Boerne Convention and Community Center with 64 guests served. The hall was decorated with the help of several Grangers and their children; thank you to all of them. The dinner tickets were printed and sold by Loramae Howell. A very tasty dinner was served by Brother Marty Billquist and the Leon Valley Grange members. The meal was pot roast and vegetables, salad, dessert, and tea. The meal was preceded by presentations of honored Grangers and the Lecturer’s Talent Show and followed by a dance.

Gail Dale

Director of Family Activities

LECTURER'S CONTESTS WINNERS 2013

Photography:

Animals

Adult: 1st place: Desiree Ramirez – non-member; 2nd place: Debbie O'Toole – David Crockett; 3rd place: Mary Baker – Alamo.

Juniors: 1st place: Shannon O'Toole – David Crockett.

People

Adult: 1st place: Debbie O'Toole – David Crockett; 2nd place: Desiree Ramirez – non-member; 3rd place: Mary Baker – Alamo.

Plants

Adult: 1st place: Lori Wuest – David Crockett; 2nd place: Debbie O'Toole – David Crockett; 3rd place: Mary Baker – Alamo.

Places

Adult: 1st place: Desiree Ramirez – non-member; 2nd place: Debbie O'Toole – David Crockett; 3rd place: Mary Baker – Mesquite.

Juniors: 1st place: Shannon O'Toole – David Crockett.

Tell A Story

Adult: 1st place: Lori Wuest.

Traditions

Adult: 1st place: Ann Roeder – Poteet.

Writing:

Essays

Adult: 1st place: Lori Wuest – David Crockett; 2nd place: Mary Baker – Alamo.

Poetry

Junior: 1st place: Shannon O'Toole – David Crockett.

Book Review

Adult: 1st place: Connie Waxler – Poteet; 2nd place: Ann Roeder – Poteet; 3rd place: Lori Wuest – David Crockett.

Arts:

Watercolors

Adult: 1st place: Gail Dale – Poteet; 2nd: Marcelina Weaver – David Crockett; 3rd place: Lori Wuest – David Crockett.

Juniors: 1st place: Shannon O'Toole – David Crockett; 2nd place: Jenna Clark – non-member; 3rd place: Hannah O'Toole – David Crockett.

Acrylics or Oils

Adult: 1st place: Winnie Taggart – David Crockett; 2nd place: Jessica Smith – Cibolo.

Juniors: 1st place: Hannah O'Toole – David Crockett; 2nd place: Cat Jaro – Cibolo; 3rd place: Robert Jaro – Cibolo.

Drawings – Black and White

Adult: 1st place: Marcelina Weaver – David Crockett.

Drawings – Colored

Adult: 1st place: Marcelina Weaver – David Crockett.

Juniors: 1st place: Charlie Waxler – Poteet; 2nd place: Carlie Waxler – Poteet.