



Kansas Granger

American Values, Hometown Roots

Volume 67, Issue 2

Summer Edition

July 2018

Important Dates:

- **August 6:** Distinguished Grange Application Postmark Deadline
- **August 15:** Community Service Report Postmark Deadline
- **August 15:** Community Service Award Nominations Deadline
- **September 1:** Certificate of Elections Nomination Deadline
- **September 1:** Distinguished Service to Agriculture Nomination Deadline
- **September 1:** Granger of the Year Nomination Deadline
- **September 1:** Deadline for discounted hotel rate for State Convention
- **September 15:** Resolutions due to Roger Bostwick, KSG President
- **October 5 - 7:** 147th Annual Kansas State Grange Convention, Manhattan, Kansas

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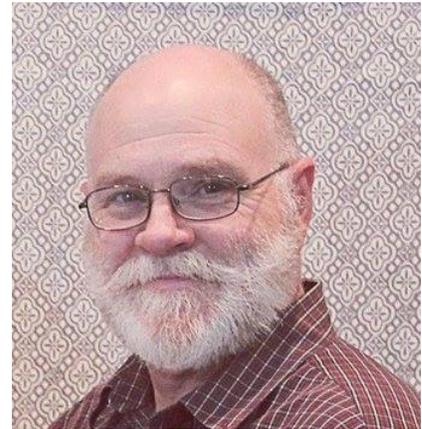
President's Column

Hope everyone had a safe and fun Fourth of July. Many are preparing for county fairs and other summer activities. It won't be long before its back to school time as well.

It's hard to believe we are already halfway through the year, and only three months from State Session. I just received word from National Master Betsy Huber that she will be our National Representative at session this year. It's been several years since we have had a National Master in attendance. As session is drawing close it is time to be working on resolutions for this year. More information on session is included in this issue. With the new Farm Bill, trade and tariff changes, and immigration we might have a good selection of resolutions this session.

Nebraska hosted the Great Plains Leadership Conference in Grand Island, June 22 -24. They had several great workshops planned for all ages. One workshop was titled "Ouch, What to Say When You Don't Know What to Say". It offered a variety of methods of how to respond to statements made by others which may be offensive to you or others, instead of just saying nothing at all. Sometimes all you need to say is, "ouch, that statement hurts!" to make a difference.

We had to leave early on Sunday morning for other obligations. Upon arriving home we received information that Lila Tooker, daughter of past Nebraska State Master Norman and Phyllis Tooker, and Regional Coordinator for National Session in Lincoln, passed away after we left. She had been at the conference all weekend. We need to keep Phyllis and Lila's brother Russ in our prayers, as well as our Nebraska Grange family.



Don't forget to make your room reservations for State Grange by September 1st at the Four Points by Sheraton in Manhattan. The block of rooms reserved for Kansas State Grange will be released by the hotel on September 1st. The Hotel phone number is 888-627-8649 mention you are with the Kansas State Grange or go to www.starwoodmeeting.com/book/KSSStateGrange2018 to reserve your room.

It is important that we encourage our entire membership to attend State Grange. We often forget to asked new members or those who are not delegates to join in on the activities. The Executive Committee is working with our Event Planner to select convention sites that are family friendly and offer opportunities to explore the cities and what they have to offer.

Hope to see you in attendance at State Session in October!

Fraternally,

Roger Bostwick, President

It Is Time To Connect All Americans

Nearly one-third of Kansas residents live in rural areas and may lack access to high-speed Internet. Significantly slower Internet access in rural areas creates a rural/urban digital divide and without access to Internet, rural residents lose out on opportunities that urban residents take for granted. In an interconnected world, access to broadband is a necessity.

Rural Kansans have less access to technology that would allow them a greater ability to do business, access healthcare and education, and improve their agricultural industry. This means individuals in rural areas are unable to take full advantage of the economic and educational opportunities available to their urban counterparts.

As the business manager at RMA Engineering, my job relies heavily on my ability to connect with people in different parts of the country. Although we are headquartered in Minneapolis, Kansas, we utilize virtual offices on projects throughout western Kansas. Access to broadband is essential with every project we undertake; ensuring connectivity is critical when working on projects because it constitutes linking many parties with different expertise.

As technology continues to advance, business practices will evolve as well. Increasingly, companies, like RMA Engineering, will turn to virtual offices. This allows businesses to have team members located across the country, increasing collaboration while reducing a business' carbon footprint. However, if increasing access to broadband does not become a top priority, then businesses in rural areas will not be able to evolve.

Additionally, I must point out how technology advances have become essential to how farmers conduct their day-to-day operations. Growing up on a farm and still helping from time to time, I have seen how the Internet has altered a farmer's work, such as the implementation of precision farming to improve yields and conserve resources. Unfortunately, a lack of high-speed broadband hinders the use of these new

technological resources, therefore, putting some rural farmers at a disadvantage.

Currently, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) reports that 19.4 million people in rural America still lack access to broadband, limiting our ability to connect. Within the next five years, Connect Americans Now plans to eliminate the rural broadband gap, giving rural populations the ability to partake in a critical component of modern life that they've been sorely lacking. By utilizing TV white space technology, Connect Americans Now can expand broadband access to rural areas. This technology is more reliable than dial-up and is less expensive than running fiber cables in rural areas. Connect Americans Now can cut operating costs by roughly 80 percent compared to conventional cable Internet by utilizing TV white space technology.

That is why I call on Senators Moran and Roberts to eliminate the digital divide and call on the FCC to ensure that there is sufficient spectrum available for wireless use on an unlicensed basis in every market in the country. They have a duty to their constituents to make access to broadband a reality. I believe in equal opportunity, where you live should not determine your ability to be successful or hinder your ability to access the same services that are widely available most places. However, without access to critical technologies we are limiting rural communities' opportunities to excel. If broadband access is not addressed, the rural broadband gap will continue to negatively impact Kansas and its citizens.

It is time to bring rural Kansas into the 21st century and connect all Americans. With the help of Kansas' senators and congressmen, we can close the rural broadband gap in the next five years.

Keli Habiger



**CONNECT
AMERICANS NOW**

Find more information at www.connectamericansnow.com

Connect Americans Now (CAN) is a group of concerned citizens, local organizations, rural advocates, and leading innovators committed to eliminating the digital divide that is holding back rural America. Their goal is a simple one: to bring affordable and reliable broadband to the 19.4 million rural Americans who lack connectivity by 2022, allowing them to take advantage of the same economic and educational opportunities that exist in other communities.

Bayneville Grange News

In April, donation of \$250 was made to City of Augusta to help construct a fun park in a vacant lot on main street downtown in honor and memory of local 13 year old Dalton Palmer whose life was taken in a ATV accident.

Bayneville Grange has continued to make weighted blankets. Ten weighted blankets (about 70 hours of work) have been made and donated to children at Rainbows United since April.

Our Junior and Youth members have had several accomplishments recently. Landon Funk turned 5 in May and is our newest Junior Granger. Ashlee Schif graduated from Kansas State University in May with a

degree in Sociology, minor in Business. Kelsee Farmer completed a Masters in Education in June.

Gilbert and Annie Farmer, McAllen, TX, came to Kansas for a visit around Memorial Day. Gilbert was presented with 70 year Masonic pin that weekend in LeRoy.

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Robert L. Gass, Jr., 82, on June 8. He joined 5 years ago through his association with the CARDS project. He was presented the KS State Grange Volunteer of the Year Award in 2015. He was very much loved and will be greatly missed by family, friends, our Grange, the CARDS makers, and the Augusta community.

Pleasant View Grange News

Pleasant View Grange members enjoyed their annual Juniors and Youth picnic and fun night June 9th, at the Ozawkie United Methodist Church. After a picnic supper, the kids enjoyed the playground, water balloons, bubbles, sprinkler and slip-n-slide.

In May, Pleasant View Chaplain Mandy Bostwick led the group in a memorial program. We are fortunate to have lost no members in the past year. At this meeting Roger and Melanie Bostwick gave some details on the Grange Revival being planned for 2019 in Arkansas. They



Pleasant View Juniors at the picnic: Back: Bodie and Bradley Ballenger; Middle: Kimber Newman, Taegen Malsbury, Makayla Malsbury and Mason Klenklen; Front on slide: Domanic Malsbury, Ellen Durand and Sarah VanHouse



traveled to the location it will be held on behalf of the National Grange and are on the planning committee.

In April for Grange Month, Pleasant View members attended church at Ozawkie United Methodist Church, with the Juniors having their own children's time with Pastor Ron Schultz. Following church, a pot luck dinner was enjoyed and we honored two members with membership awards. Marlene Bush received her 70-year seal and Nancy Brunton received her 65-year seal. Marlene was able to attend and shared some stories on how the Grange has changed in 70 years.

Pleasant View's July meeting will be on the 12th, at 7:00 pm at the Ozawkie United Methodist Church. All members and guests are welcome to join us.

Julie Durand, secretary

Grange Word



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 P U H W L V N G C J L C B J G N K S I H L X F O G Y Z W S L

BLUE
 GOLD
 SAUNDERS
 SUMMER
 CAROLINEHALL

FALL
 GROSH
 SECOND
 THIRD

FIFTH
 IRELAND
 SEVENTH
 THOMPSON

FIRST
 KELLEY
 SIXTH
 TRIMBLE

FOURTH
 MCDOWELL
 SPRING
 WINTER

Neosho Valley Grange News

Neosho Valley Grange held its annual Memorial program on May 10 to honor and memorialize the death of members. Worthy Chaplin Sue Rodgers with assistance from Worthy Ceres Paula Raaf and Worthy Pomona Linda Bell, draped the organization's charter in memory of Herbert Hood. They then laid roses on the opened bible in honor and memory of Herb and all other grangers lost to death.

Roy Rodgers introduced guest at the meeting. Jolene Stubby, author of "Loving Things" spoke about her work on this book and others in process. She read a brief note from Jim Stuke, Illustrator of "Loving Things" unable to attend because of prior commitments. Cindy Stohs, Librarian of LeRoy branch Coffey County Libraries spoke of the process of receiving donations and how a book was marked as a donation in honor and memory of an individual.

The children's book "Loving Things"



authored by Jolene Stubby and illustrated by Jim Stuke was purchased by Neosho Valley Grange and presented to Betty Jo Hood who then presented the book to the LeRoy Library, Cindy Stohs, Librarian in loving memory and honor of Herbert Hood.

The Memorial and Dedication Ceremony concluded with a prayer and the singing of "Bless Be The Tie That Binds".

Community Service News

Dear Grangers,

As we start to wind down our Grange year, please start now to organize notes on your year's accomplishments to make submitting your year-end report easy and less time-consuming. Please refer to the Kansas Grange website for the April 2018 community service deadlines/guidelines as well as preferred report format. Changes have been made to the report format this year as well as the inclusion of an additional award, Thank You for your Military Service. If you have questions or need copy of said information mailed to you, please call or text me at 316-644-1871.

Thank you to Morning and Richland Granges for the recent boxes full of completed cards! Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas cards kits are being mailed now to Granges....thank you for your support of this project.

Congratulations to Gardner Grange on a successful 2nd year of the Gardner Farmers Market! Congratulations to all Granges....I know you have had many successful projects and I look forward to your sharing your stories with me in your final report, postmarked no later than August 15. Be sure to include hours as National is interested in this.

Thank you in advance. I hope to have a mailbox full!

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Augusta, KS 67010
316.644.1871
farmermd13@cox.net



Gardner Grange News

Gardner Grange is once again sponsoring the Gardner Farmers Market, held on the street outside the Grange Hall on the Johnson County Fairgrounds.

The market started the middle of May and will continue through September. All vendors are home grown or home-made products. We have had a full house of vendors every week and have included food trucks this year.

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on June 14 with the Mayor, two council members, and the Parks and Recreation director in attendance (see photo.)

The market is held Thursday evenings from 4 to 7 pm.



Gardner Grange Awards First Scholarship



Gardner Grange is proud to announce that they awarded their first ever scholarship to Blake Kleinsorge, a senior at Gardner Edgerton High School.

The proceeds from last year's farmer's market were used to create a scholarship fund for Gardner Grange.

Blake plans to attend pre-nursing at KU. She was chosen due to her academics, community involvement, and for her interest in agriculture as her grandparents were farmers in Missouri and were once awarded the Farm Bureau Conservation Award. She is shown here being presented her check and certificate at the June Gardner Grange meeting, by Master Alice Ficken.

Congratulations Blake!!

GRANGEREVIVAL.COM

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JULY 23-28, 2019

An occasion for all Patrons & Friends

Contact the Editor:

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The Fall/Pre-Convention Edition of the Kansas Granger will be printed in September. Please submit articles to the editor no later than September 1st.

A Note from the Editor

Hello Grangers!

I wanted to include a quick thank you for all your patience and understanding for the delay in the Summer Edition of the Kansas Granger.

It has been a busy summer so far finishing up our basement remodel, spent 2 weeks in Kansas helping with the family fireworks business and most recently, celebrating my engagement!

Thanks again and I'm looking forward to seeing you all at State Session in October!

Mandee Strawder, Editor



The Grange was founded in 1867 and is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, fraternal organization that advocates for Rural America and Agriculture. With a strong history in grassroots activism, family values, and community service, the Grange is part of more than 2,100 hometowns across the United States.



The Grange was the first national organization to give full voice and vote to women, 50 years before Congress adopted the same. Our passionate style of grassroots vigor has ensured that the average citizen is fully represented in public policy dialogue for nearly 150 years.

Family and community are the foundations of the Grange. Family values are promoted, taught, and woven into Grange activities and events. We are proud to have generations come together to learn from one another and build a stronger America, one community at a time.

Family Activities Committee News

With the (very) warm weather lately, I'm sure some of you have been looking through your canning cookbooks. We'd love to have you enter one of the food preservation classes as part of our contests. The entries will then be sold at the Country Store.

Our 2018 program includes two new classes for latch hook and quick breads. We had entries in these categories last year so we created classes for them this year. Our committee is always open to new ideas for classes to include, and if you have something you want to share, but feel that it doesn't fit in any of the classes, please bring it anyway.

Whether you enjoy working with fabric, fiber, paper, florals, wood, metal or plastic... we hope you are crafting and creating this year. We hope to see your creations in October.

Fraternally,
Donna Bates, chair
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