



GRANGE GAZETTE

Of Rainbow Valley Grange

Volume 6, Issue 2

April/May 2012



April 13 Pizza Sales Grange Hall 4:30-7:00 pm



April 16 **Community Grange meeting (change in date)** 7:00 pm

April 20 Pizza Sales " " 4:30-7:00 pm



May 4 Pizza Sales " " 4:30-7:00 pm



May 14 **Community Grange meeting** " " 7:00 pm

May 18 Pizza Sales " " 4:30-7:00 pm

May 19 Rainbow Days Picnic Rainbow Park 10:00am-2:00pm

Grange Report

Lucette Moramarco, Secretary
(760) 489-9502, suncette@cox.net

In March we gained a **new member** – welcome to Helen Komski, Ed’s mom.

Plans for upcoming events include quarterly agricultural workshops, the next one with a master gardener; art demonstrations, and a quarterly potluck social, all open to the public. To advertise these activities, we voted to start saving 25% of our Pizza Night proceeds for a **backlit marquee**, 4x8 feet. If anyone sees one for sale (i.e., Craig’s list), let us know.

The annual **Rainbow Days Picnic** will be held on Saturday, May 19 at Rainbow Park, 5th Street. We will be holding our usual Bake Sale to raise money for the **Dictionary Project** – we are out of dictionaries to present to the third graders at Vallecitos School in the fall. At the picnic, we will also be presenting Vallecitos’ principal with the money raised last year, for their yearend honor roll breakfast.

We are continuing our **Pizza Nights** on the first and third Fridays of the month but could use more help. (Our first one this month is on the second Friday because of Good Friday.) Anyone who wants to volunteer can let me know when they are available, (760) 489-9502 or suncette@cox.net.



National Master visits Rainbow

On Feb. 11, National Grange Master Ed Lutrell came to visit our Grange along with California State Grange Master Bob

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National President's visit (Continued from page 1)

McFarland. Five of our members were present as were three members from Rubidoux Grange in Hemet.

Master Lutrell gave us an overview of the National Grange's past, present and future. (The National Grange was 144 years old last December.)

He said this year's theme is "**American Values, Hometown Roots, The Future is Ours**" which shows in the basic elements of a Grange meeting – the American flag, a Bible, and a quorum of seven members.

An account of National Grange's finances included a breakdown of its income - 39% from member dues/fees and 50% from rent collected from its building in Washington DC (**National Grange headquarters** is at the top of the only privately owned building in the area, looking down on the White House).

As of June 30, 2011, **California has 188 Granges and 9, 481 members.** That's a net gain of 377 members over the year before. Master McFarland's pledge for this year includes opening a Grange school of agriculture, starting 5 new Granges and reorganizing 2, as well as inspiring and revitalizing the youth and junior programs.

Nationally, 25% of Granges grew last year. There are 36 State Granges. Among

the other 14 states, there 2 Granges are Nevada, 1 is being organized in Arkansas and there is interest in starting 1 in Missouri. The National Grange partners with State Granges to develop leadership, membership and new Granges.

The responsibility to bring in new members, however, belongs to all of us current members. Master Lutrell said we need to get over the fear of rejection and use the words **Family, Community, Agriculture, and History** to ask friends to join. We should also give positive and consistent messages to the media, using social media like Facebook as well as face to face contact. The National Grange website has been improved – check it out at www.nationalgrange.org.

Plans are already being made for the **National Grange's 150th anniversary** in Dec. 2017, beginning in July 2013 with Degree work from 1873 to be held at the Kelley Farm in Elk River, Minnesota. It is a living history farm depicting the life in the 1870's and 1880's when the farm was owned by Oliver Hudson Kelley, founding father of the Grange.

There will also be a quilt show with 800 – 1,000 quilts from Granges all over the country.

Ramona Grange

Their April meeting, Sat. April 21st is going to be an Open House for their 75th anniversary. The time has been changed because of this to 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Also they have had their driveway graded and spread with 16 yards of DG and it really improved the yard's appearance.

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