

Wheatland Pomona Grange District No. 29 meets

By DELPHIA JONES

Saturday, April 30, Wheatland Pomona Grange District No. 29 met at Clarno Grange Hall with Pomona Master Rolland Johnson in the chair. Roll call found the overseer, gatekeeper and executive board member absent. These officers were filled by Mary Wright, ex-committee overseer, Charlie Conlee and Gatekeeper Ron Rolf.

Morton Wolverton and his wife were present. Morton, who is the Eastern Oregon State deputy, was introduced and escorted to the master's station.

The masters of the following granges were introduced: Ron Rolf, Clarno; Vernon Root, Rufus; Delphia Jones, Lexington; the Wheatland district deputy; and Barton Clark, a member of the state agriculture committee and board member of the grange insurance company.

The officers reports were very good. The master and his wife have been visiting the subordinate granges in the

district, the deputy school in Portland and attended a membership committee meeting at Willows Grange. Ceres reported that Rufus Grange had held a 50th anniversary celebration for them and that they were all enjoying dancing classes at their hall. Mikkalo members reported a fun day when they made the Wheat League Cake and served it with coffee in Condon in commemoration of Grange Week. The Rhea Creek C.W.A. is very busy making some bibs and throw robes for the Pioneer Memorial Hospital, and they also do mending once a week for the hospital.

The ag chairman gave a fine report on activities in the district. He told the group the soil profile for moisture has reached a normal level since the last meeting. However, due to the pattern of the rain this spring, some places which are usually quite dry are wet and some of the places which usually have a good moisture content are down. There is a new wheat disease, he reported, called septoria. It attacks

the lower leaves of the wheat, turning them yellow, and eventually killing the plant. He said potato and corn planting are down, but a new crop in Morrow County, grapes, is drawing much interest. However, it takes three years for them to develop enough to bear fruit for sale.

Mikkalo Grange reported on a fine story and picture of the grange logo that was printed in their local paper honoring National Grange week. This was written by a member Wilma Martin.

Barton Clark talked about the wind chasers near Goldendale, stating that they are not in use at the present time. He also explained a bit about SB 294 toxic substances. If passed, this would make a real hardship on farmers, and he wishes that interested people would write their Representatives about this or at least study the bill.

A letter was read from State Master W.C. Harries telling that Wheatland Pomona District will be part of District No. 4 and will embrace not only Wheatland Pomona, which includes Morrow, Gilliam, Wheeler and Sherman counties, but Clackamas, Hood River, Multnomah and Wasco, with chairman being Verla Larson of Portland.

After a cake walk and obligation by the Eastern Oregon Deputy, the business was in session. A lovely memorial was given by the chaplain with Delta Johnson, Dorris Graves, Mary Wright and Delphia Jones assisting. Candles were lighted for the departed members and flowers were placed on the altar. Those remembered were: from Rufus - Ted Thompson, Faye Brackett and Alfred Kieh; Lexington - Florence McMillan; Willows - Clarence Warren; Mikkalo - Flossie Marick and David B.

Barrid - Greenfield - Art White and Walker Warren; Rhea Creek - Doc Babb; Spray - Allen Dumlery; and Clarno - Mary Conlee.

Dorris Graves, the legislative chairman, gave a few words on the sales tax proposal and how it is coming along, and about the voting laws and regulations in some of the states she visited while on a trip.

The state deputy gave a very interesting talk and encouraged the granges to keep in there and plug along, even though it seems that they are not getting much done. He also said it looked as if the sales tax bill will go down in the vote but for all to write the legislators at once about our feelings. He had attended the grange deputy school and had met the lobbyist that the grange has at the Legislative session. He told the group how the job of the lobbyist is conducted.

Voting delegates were elected for the state. Delphia Jones as insurance voting delegate and Rolland and Delta Johnson the voting delegates from Wheatland Pomona.

New members voted into Pomona at this meeting were: Alton Christenson and Jeanette Christenson from Rufus Grange, Bernice Rolfe, Ruth Christenson, Judy Tramel and Patricia Cookson of Clarno.

Some discussion was heard concerning the June meeting. A motion was made and passed that Pomona would meet the last Saturday in July and Spray Grange will be hostess.

Stella Palmer from Mikkalo Grange was escorted to the amsters' station and received a certificate for 65 years of continuous membership in the grange.

Resolution No. One, a thank you to Clarno for the fine dinner and hospitality, was

found favorable, and No. two concerning bills and measures and how they are voted on was found favorable.

Mr. and Mrs. Orlo Martin were introduced and welcomed at the closing as they were former Morrow County residents and grangers. It was nice for all to get to renew acquaintances with them.

The members expressed their sympathies to Alta Lofton, secretary of Mikkalo who lost her daughter last week, and to Anabelle Yeager, who lost her sister.

Roll call of granges was as follows: Lexington - eight, Rhea Creek five, Willows zero, Clarno six, Spray zero, Greenfield zero, Rufus 12 and Mikkalo four.

The most commonly used word in English conversation is "I".

Cake sale slated this Saturday

The Fancy Frosters 4-H Club will hold a Mother's Day Cake Sale this Saturday, May 10, on Main Street in Heppner.

Aerobic classes offered in Heppner

Another five-week session of aerobic classes is being sponsored in Heppner by Blue Mountain Community College. The evening classes, taught by Joyce Hughes, are held Mondays and Thursdays. The advanced class runs from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., with the beginning class starting at 7:30 and dismissing at 8:30 p.m. Cost of the class is \$15. Students may enroll at the beginning of class time.

Around About By Justine Weatherford

Heppner High's senior girls and their mothers were recently treated to a very nice luncheon by the Soroptimists. They met some of the leading career women of the community and heard a good talk by Pauline Winter about continuing their educations and preparing for employment. Jackie Allstott presided over the affair very effectively. Having the working TV on hand was a first. Geneva Matthews' music was pleasing, as was the great variety of salads provided by the Episcopal Church women.

How much more satisfying the occasion could have been, at least for me, if the noon hour could have been stretched out longer, because there was not time enough to hear a little more from or about the senior girls, to hear about some of their accomplishments and their future plans.

Have you watched the High School TV programs over channel 37 I saw one of them on Tuesday morning April 19, but have been too busy with research and writing since then to watch again. It is so good that librarian and media specialist, Marion Abrams, and language arts teacher, Jane Rawlins, are now conducting a film and television class. The school has had TV equipment for many years. Do plan to tune in Channel 3, KHHS, on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. or Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Maybe you have noticed that the Bank of Eastern Oregon has posted signs saying that a Morrow County history book, "Homesteads and Heritages," can now be purchased for one-fourth of its original price, for just \$2.50 each or at three for \$6. This book is not at all like the Morrow County History Book for which many of you have been writing stories about your own families. The book being offered at these bargain prices was written by one man, Giles French, and it does not carry a big collection of personal accounts. It is being sold for the Chamber of Commerce which promoted its publication. The Bank of E.O. has been storing quite a few boxes of these books for too long now. The County Museum also has an ample supply of them.

The County Museum and the Gazette-Times office have been kept extra busy these last weeks of April as folks who were hunting up family facts have searched diligently through files and old copies of papers. Writing about one's family facts can be interesting and educational, too, but I am very concerned that what I have turned out may not satisfy those persons for whom I wrote. I have just finished typing all the McDuffee facts which were sent to me from Seal Rock — and how I wished I could have personally questioned Ray McDuffee about certain things as I wrote. Now, too, I am trying to learn about the family of pioneers Albert and Julia Wright, and this is interesting and helpful to my understanding of the development of this area, but again I worry about maybe not getting the facts down correctly.

It seems to me that if we didn't have a museum, didn't have records at our courthouse and didn't have old file copies of the newspaper, many families would surely be unable to pull together the stories that will bring joy to their friends and to their own future generations.

About two weeks ago the good folks of Ione spoke out about their concern for their schools. It was good they aired their feelings, that they showed how strongly they feel about the importance of the schools in that community, and how disturbed they are about various budget cuts.

Every taxpayer, every parent and every teacher should carefully read "A Nation At Risk" an open letter to the American people from the National Commission on Excellence in Education which was published in the "Forum" Section of last Sunday's "Oregonian." All who read it should be really alerted to the significance of our nation's schools.

They should be alerted to the importance of maintaining good schools everywhere. This country was the first county ever to promise that "all, regardless of race or class or economic status are entitled to a fair chance and to the tools for developing their individual powers of mind and spirit to the utmost."

"This promise means that all children by virtue of their own efforts, competently guided, can hope to attain the mature and informed judgment needed to secure gainful employment and to manage their own lives, thereby serving not only their own interests but also the progress of society itself."

Soon voters here will either pass or defeat the county school budget. They may be hearing good things about our schools or they may be hearing bad things about them. Becoming concerned and informed and interested and involved with schools is so worthwhile. Surely everyone wants high standards of conduct and of academic performance from teachers and students. Everyone knows excellence requires effort and discipline.

Good school systems are expensive, but they are so basic and so valuable to our nation's future. Any community without good schools is sure to suffer in many ways. All residents of Morrow County should vote thoughtfully on the school budget. Without fiscal support the schools will collapse.

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GROUND BLACK PEPPER 4-OZ. **89¢**

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