



COSG Master's Newsletter

Volume 1 | Issue 5
AUGUST 2016

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*In Essentials Unity, In
non Essentials
Liberty, In all things
Charity*

SECOND QUARTERLY DUES and Delegate Votes at State Session!

Please check with your secretary to be sure that your Grange's quarterly dues are paid up through the second quarter of 2016. Grange delegates from Granges who are not current with their dues will not be eligible to vote at the state convention.

SENATE PASSES GMO LABELING LEGISLATION

The Senate passed legislation by a vote of 63 to 30 for the labeling of genetically engineered foods. The bill establishes a national, uniform standard and requires companies to disclose genetically modified ingredients through digital codes rather than stigmatizing through on-package labeling. While it is a mandatory program, there are several provisions which ensure the livestock industry is protected:

1. The bill exempts all animal feed from this program. Therefore, beef/pork would not be labeled as a result of consuming GMO feed.
2. It further exempts products covered under the Federal Meat Inspection Act which are inspected by the Food Safety Inspection Service. This means that muscle cuts, ground product, etc. will not be covered by this law.
3. Mandatory disclosure only applies to products which are inspected by FDA under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, unless the first ingredient in that product is beef. If the first ingredient is beef, then it will also be exempt from this law. There is an additional provision that says if the first ingredient is broth or water and the second ingredient is beef, then it will also be exempt. If beef falls anywhere else on the ingredient list, it will be subject to this law.

These provisions go a long way in protecting the industry from another activist-driven, anti-agriculture mandatory labeling program like the Vermont law, which went into effect last week. Senate Ag Committee Chairman, Pat Roberts from Kansas, worked hard to make sure these provisions were included and the industry is grateful to him for his work.

ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

It's almost time for our annual State Convention (session). I sincerely hope that each and every Grange will be represented. Please be sure to send in your resolutions to the state office as soon as possible as it takes time to get them in the proper format, copied and distributed, therefore your cooperation is greatly appreciated. See you at the Castlewood Grange Hall September 28- October 1.

High Plains Nutrition & Management Roundtable - Sept 8, 2016

CSU will be hosting the 2016 High Plains Nutrition & Management Roundtable on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2016 (starting at 10 am) in Akron, CO. The program will include "A Real World Look of the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) and Beyond" and will be located at the Washington County Event Center, 551 West 2nd Street, Akron, CO. A tour of the renovated CSU Eastern Colorado Research Center (ECRC) feed-yard facility will take place at the conclusion of the meeting. This meeting has been presented by CSU, UW, UNL and the Tri-State ARPAS Chapter for nearly 20 years. Please see <http://www.nutritionroundtable.org/home.html> for more information.

National Grange New Grange Store

National Grange has partnered with Monroe Classics to manage the Grange Store. So items that you have purchased from National like certificates, books, plaques, Grange Jewelry, wearables, and lots more can be purchased by visiting the "New Grange Store @ Monroe Classic." Items are still very reasonably priced.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

If you or any of your members are planning on attending the National convention the early registration deadline is September 2. After that date the registration fee goes up \$5.00. You can register on line at the National Grange web site.

ITEMS FOR SALE OR GIVE AWAY

We have cleaned the office at the Castlewood Grange Hall. We now have several furniture items that we need to dispose of. If you or anyone in your Grange is interested in the items it would be most convenient to have the items picked up during state session. A donation for the items would be appreciated.

We have file cabinets, desks, display case with glass, an antique trunk with drawers, office chair, other chairs, etc. Pictures will be on the Colorado State Grange Web site.

We also found several sets of regalia that are in good shape. If your Grange would like to exchange regalia and would like a nicer looking set to use please contact me or Renee at the state office.

Fraternally,

Cindy L. Gree