



Brothers and Sisters:

Last weekend, I had the honor and privilege of presiding over the 140th annual convention of the California State Grange as your President/Master. Few moments in my life moved me like this past week. My wedding and the birth of my daughter come to mind. To see tears and smiles and to hear laughter and cheers were all part of the 140th "composition". I left with joy, hope and support.

Thank you one and all.

I am proud of our position within the Grange. I believe in our Order and strongly believe in our principals and foundation. After all, that's who we are.

On the other side of the spectrum I was/am so saddened by so many that could not attend because of their membership status. While the legal battle moves on, to all of our dismay, spending buckets of Grange money, ask yourself: Does the Digest of Laws, the Constitution and By-laws of the California State Grange, and the Obligation we all take when we join the Grange mean anything to you? It does to most of us. The lawsuit is about ensuring that those rules and vows have meaning so that the Grange we love and have built will be there for our children and grandchildren. We as your elected officers of the same California State Grange that has existed since 1873 are not going to stop until our property and good name are returned to us.

At the end of the day I hope that at the 141st annual convention of the California State Grange, which will be held @ Morgan Hill Grange, the crowd is overwhelming, providing a venue for invitation, welcoming, excitement, relief and once again tears and smiles, laughter and cheers.

Respectfully,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Kowski", written over a light blue horizontal line background.

Ed Kowski, President, Master and CEO

California State Grange

The Grange of the State of California's Order of Patrons of Husbandry, Chartered
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