



Beaver Valley Grange Hall No. 306 1908

Beaver Valley Grange No. 306

by Vera Everman

On May 31, 1875 a meeting was held at the home of A. Deckard for the purpose of forming a subordinate grange in the Hudson community. Beaver Valley Grange No. 186 was organized by J.M. McIntyre, Deputy State Master, assisted by W.M. Conyer, Master of Clatskanie Grange, and Brother Perrins and Sister English of Columbia City Grange, with the following members: J.H. Elwell, F. Solari, F. Stephan, N. Hacket, J. Bales, S.K. Hudson, Alex Reing, W.P. Gilbreath, Wm. Allen, John Gilbreath, Mrs. Alice Allen, Mrs. M. Perrine, Mrs. Bertha Reing, Mrs. Maggie Moeck, Mrs. Nancy Hudson, Mrs. N. Hacket, Miss Martha Stehman.

Although this meeting was held at the home of A. Deckard (Mrs. Rachel Deckard was S.K. Hudson's oldest daughter) no mention is made of the Deckards being officers or members of this Grange.

The next record of a meeting is dated December 1875, held "at their hall." No one available now has any knowledge of that hall or the Grange itself except for regular meeting held in January and February of 1876. There are no records to be found for 25 years after this.

On October 25, 1901 State Deputy Master J.S. Castro, on the petition of 23 persons, organized the Subordinate Beaver Valley Grange No. 306. Once a Grange has disbanded their old number is never reused. This new petition was headed by Tom and Susan Everman, five Burnses, four Lovelaces, S.K. Hudson, and others.

In November 1901 mention is made of meeting in "the school house." At this time the Grange met every week, for a time on Sundays. Later it was changed to Wednesday evening. In this Grange organized in 1901 it is interesting to note among the officers were T.J. Everman, secretary; and S.K. Hudson, treasurer; and in 1976, 75 years later, Vera Everman is secretary and Dorothy Hudson Archibald is treasurer.

In 1902 the building of a new hall and the repair of the old school was discussed. The Burns family donated the land where the present Grange Hall stands. In March 1902 a committee was appointed to solicit funds for a new hall.

January 10, 1903 the Grange met in their new hall but were \$63 in debt with no kitchen and no ceiling. In April 1905, the ceiling of the hall was completed and a kitchen built upstairs. The stairway was outside on the back of the hall. In 1918 a 16x22-foot downstairs kitchen was added and about 1924 a Juvenile Grange meeting room was built on.

Electricity was installed about 1929. Before that time the hall was

lighted by carbide lights.

October 30, 1976 Beaver Valley Grange celebrated their 75th anniversary. Approximately 150 attended including ten of the 12 Past Masters who are still members, Tracy Parcher, Joe Schreiber, Harvey Parcher, Hazel Burns, Dorothy Archibald, Bert Parcher, Bill Everman, Fay Hudson, Shirley Paulsen, Ivan Archibald. Elsie Parcher and Harold Barton were ill and unable to attend. Also present were four of the six members of the Golden Sheaf—who have been members continuously for 50 years, Tracy Parcher, Harvey Parcher, Zella Parcher and Hazel Burns.