

The books have been closed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> year of Valley Coop on March 31, 2012. I am proud to say that I have had the privilege to be the General Manager for ½ of those years. Your Cooperative had another great year, with a net profit of \$915,711 before taxes. Grain proration will be around 14 cents a bushel this year. Fertilizer proration of 4.36% or if you figure a \$500 per ton fertilizer cost, the payback is around \$21 per ton. Feed proration of 3.2% and storage is paid back at 19.2%. These are some of the best proration rates we have ever had. Patronage of \$410,000 will be paid out with 60% being paid in cash and 40% in equity. We will also be passing back another 40% in Domestic Production Activities Deductions to members. That means that basically members get 100% of their patronage in cash this year. The DPAD is a 100% deduction from your income, and you still have 40% earnings going into your equity account as well. Please be sure to visit with your tax accountant as to how it all fits into your particular situation.

We will be making our first Retired Member Equity distribution this June. As we have been able to get our revolving fund down to our goal of a 15 year revolvment. This opens up the ability to look at other avenues to get equity back to our members who have retired or no longer have farming interest. This year we will be paying out around \$52,000 to retire these equities. We will continue to make our Estate payments in June as we have for many years. If we have a good start to our fiscal year and financials look favorable, the board of directors will plan to make the next installment of our revolving fund payments in September. As with all of our programs, your Cooperative has to stay profitable in order to make these types of payments. It takes profits to keep facilities and equipment in good working order to meet our member's needs. It is our goal to continue to provide the best service we can to our members as we move forward.

Projects like the Burden grain storage expansion and new leg are key to keeping ahead of our member needs. Other projects we are looking at are possible addition of second legs at the Winfield and New Salem facilities. New higher speed legs at the Kellogg and Hackney facilities. As your harvesting equipment continues to get bigger and faster at harvesting the crops, we need to stay up with those increased needs. It all takes a little time to get these things done and profitability plays a big part in allowing us to do those projects. We certainly appreciate your patronage in the past and look forward to working with you in the future.

We may possibly be harvesting wheat before you get this newsletter. Prospects are very good at this point and we will be ready to handle your needs.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2012 at the Baden Square facilities. We look forward to seeing you at Your Annual Meeting.

Richard Kimbrel  
General Manager

### **New Grain Marketing Hours**

**As of May 21<sup>st</sup> 2012 the commodity exchanges will be going to a 21 hour per day electronic trading platform. Accordingly, Valley Coop, Inc. will buy grain from 8:00am to 1:45pm Monday thru Friday. We are pleased to be able to go back to a longer trading day for our patrons.**

## NEWS FROM THE SOUTH

Hello to everyone from Hackney, America. Things are going pretty well around here at the moment. We've been really busy with the spray rigs lately. From burndown to pre-emergent jobs it's really kept us moving. Sometimes it feels overwhelming but we manage to get it done.

The wheat crop still looks outstanding at this point. Hopefully, we can get in the fields and get it out while it's still in good standing. Court and I took some samples last week and came up with some pretty remarkable yield estimates. We intend to stay open long hours and do whatever we can to receive the crop in a timely manner. Thanks again for the continued support of your cooperative. We look forward to seeing you on the scales.

Todd, Court, Stacie, Dustin, Les, Tyler, and Tyler



## Hello from Beautiful Downtown Winfield

Fleas and ticks and other pests can be handled with Tempo for your yard, pet's bedding or living space. We have sold it for years and have had good luck with it. The professionals would use the very same thing; you can do it yourself for a fraction of the cost. Tempo is great for spraying your bins for on farm storage for your wheat. We also have 1 gallon, 2 gallon and 3 gallon Gilmour sprayers at a low cost.

We are offering a new line of Hydraulic fluid called Super Trac. We have had great reviews and people seem to be quite pleased.

We carry Sport Mix dog food and cat food here at the Manning Street location. Along with all your cattle and horse feed, we have wild bird food mix, thistle seed, sunflower seed and safflower seed. We also have a variety of suet feed.

Come by and see what we have! If our suppliers have it we can get it for you.

Ron, Bob and Todd

# Kellogg Comments

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By the time you read this we will probably already be cutting wheat. We have the elevator ready for whatever this harvest may bring. Please be sure your drivers know what goes on the tickets. With us now using point of scale, what we enter is already being posted. It will save a lot of headaches later if it is right the first time. Also please watch the corner north of the elevator. It is somewhat a blind corner and no one wants a wrecked truck or injured people.

We had a fantastic feed season producing 25% more pellets than the year before, thanks to our loyal patrons. We have just started using a new size of pellet die. It is a 5/8 inch pellet - we will be producing our 20% nugget feed, which was previously a 3/8 pellet and our range cubes that were 11/16, on the same die. The specialty feeds; horse, lamb, chicken, etc. will still be the small 3/16 pellet. Doing this will be minimizing our down time that we spend changing the pellet machine back and forth.

Your coop has been upgrading and replacing equipment. They have purchased a used 2009 John Deere sprayer to replace the 2004 row gator and have added a ground driven dry fertilizer spreader. Also upgrading our 1999 Case skid loader with a 2012 model. Thanks for your continued business to make these upgrades possible.

I would like you to welcome two new members to our Kellogg crew: Zack Peters and Chris Bailey. They started with us earlier this spring.

As always thanks for your business and have a safe summer.

Donnie and the Kellogg Crew: Ingrid, Mark, Stan, Roger, Tony, Larry, Logan, Chris and Zack

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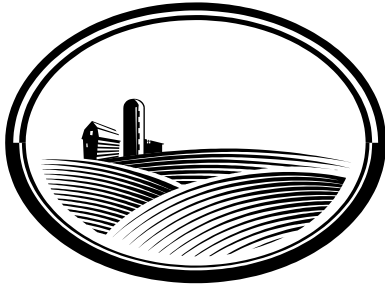
## HAVE YOU HEARD THIS ONE?



A tornado hit a farmhouse just before dawn. It lifted the roof off, picked up the beds on which the farmer and his wife slept, and set them down gently in the next county. The wife began to cry.

Don't be scared, Susan," her husband said. "We are not hurt."

Susan continued to cry. "I'm not scared," she said between sobs. "I'm happy 'cause this is the first time in 15 years we've been out together."



## FIELDNOTES

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Hope you are having a great day!! As of this writing, (mid May) everyone is BUSY. Planting, fieldwork, spraying, alfalfa and brome are being baled, no combines yet but expecting some end of month or 1<sup>st</sup> week of June. Appears to be a good harvest for the area, many wheat acres will go back to soybeans, milo or flowers. Have you reserved your supply of seed? Call 620 229 0312.

Soybean seed inoculants and treatments of fungicide / insecticide have been going strong for several weeks. A big "Thank You" for those using this service. There was a nice article in the Courier last week talking of the value of "Soybean Seed Treatments". K-State Extension commented: "Soybean seed is increasingly costly, which makes getting a good stand the first time more valuable than ever. Seed rot and seedling diseases can reduce germination, emergence and seedling survival of soybeans". If you have never treated SB's before consider giving it a try, if you are no tilling SB's into wheat stubble, with straw that appears to be heavy, a fungicide / insecticide treatment will help with stand establishment and give some protection from insects and diseases for the first few weeks. Inoculants, fungicide and insecticide cost less than \$13 per unit, I would expect 2 – 3 bushel increase over non-treated.

Wishing you and your family a safe and prosperous wheat harvest his summer!! Give me a call to discuss any seed, agronomy or seed treatment questions. Thanks for your patronage of Valley Coop and I look forward to seeing you out in the field.

Kirk Kennedy



**We will be closed May 26<sup>th</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup> other than for harvest activity in observance of Memorial Day. Please have a safe holiday.**

# News from Burden and New Salem



Like everyone else, we are trying to get everything ready for wheat harvest. We still have a few things to get finished on our new facilities, so we hope everything goes well this week.

We hope everyone has a good and safe harvest. Looking forward to seeing you soon at Burden and New Salem.

Bill, Nick, Bobby & Marc



## Sopapilla Cheesecake

Recipe Submitted by Katherine Grow

2 cans seamless crescent roll dough  
1 cup sugar  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup sugar  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter or margarine, melted

3 pkg (8 oz each) cream cheese, softened  
1 tsp vanilla  
1 tsp cinnamon

Place one can unrolled crescent dough in bottom of 9 x 13 inch cake pan. Beat cream cheese, 1 cup sugar and vanilla; mix well. Spread cream cheese mixture over crescent dough. Place second can of crescent dough on top of cream cheese mixture. Brush on melted butter. Mix  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup sugar and cinnamon together and sprinkle over butter. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes or until golden brown.