

Our Core Values

Patriotism

Religious

Political but Non-partisan

Education for All

Improved Life in all Aspects

Community Involvement & Service

Member Based

Family Oriented

Open Membership

Fundamental Teachings

The Grange's Fundamental Teachings are based on the four seasons, the four stages of a person's life and on nature's cycles.

Faith	Spring	Child	Seed
Hope	Summer	Youth	Seedling
Charity	Autumn	Adult	Flower/Fruit
Fidelity	Winter	Seniors	The Feast

Without a doubt the Grange offers the best all-around program of any community service, social, legislative, educational, or agricultural organization in our country. Members are encouraged to develop and share their many and varied talents. The Grange leads in many community affairs as many members are community leaders.

The Grange is political but non-partisan; religious, but non-denominational; and is the only fraternal organization with lobbyists at the State and National Legislative levels.

The Grange

The National Grange was founded soon after the Civil War in 1867 by Oliver Hudson Kelley, a Dept of Agriculture employee, journalist and farmer, along with six others who saw the need for supporting rural communities. At that time rural Americans were isolated and had grown discontent that industry and bureaucracy were advancing at the expense of our Nation's food and fiber producers.

The Grange is a national fraternal family organization for all. We welcome men and women from any and all backgrounds, educations, or occupations, and their children. Grange membership totals about 180,000 in 37 States and Washington D. C.

The Grange was the first fraternal organization to admit, *and specifically require the participation of*, women. A Community Grange cannot be organized without women. Four of the thirteen offices are designated to be held by women.

Accomplishments

The Grange worked diligently and successfully for legislation to:

- regulate monopolies.
- provide rural free delivery of mail.
- promote food and fiber production.
- establish the Interstate highway system.
- develop University Extension programs.
- encourage vocational education in schools.
- ensure healthy food and fiber production.
- 4 H clubs originated in the Grange.

Junior Grange

The Junior Grange Program is for children age 5 to 13 with specific state and national programs and contests appropriate to those ages.

Grange Publications

The Gobbler - Turkey Hill Grange's quarterly newsletter—email copy included with membership

Illinois Granger - Illinois State Grange's newsletter—10 issues per year—email copy included with membership

Good Day Magazine - Quarterly magazine of the National Grange. Subscriptions are available at www.nationalgrange.org



What? Me?
A Grange Member?
Please read, then answer!
What is the Grange?

The Grange:

- is a family-oriented fraternal organization.
- promotes harmony and cooperation.
- elevates & enhances community betterment.
- supports family values & education for all.
- promotes our food production system.
- encourages grassroots legislation.
- works for a better way of life for all.



MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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Turkey Hill Grange

Our 150 years of History

About seven years after Oliver H. Kelley and his six co-founders started the Grange movement in the United States, Isaac Terrell held a meeting on April 9, 1874, at Mt. Pleasant School to organize a Grange in the Turkey Hill area. On April 17, 1874, Turkey Hill Grange was chartered with nineteen members — 15 men and 4 women. The first meetings of Turkey Hill Grange were at the homes of the charter members. Later, Fred Helms offered the upper story of his home as a meeting place, and there they met until the first hall was built in 1885. Henry and Mary Eckert donated an acre of land to be used for a school and Grange purposes. Donations for the hall were by neighbors and Grangers. A June 25, 1886 letter states, “In the new Grange and school house they also hold church services. It is very nice, the number of Grangers is growing.”

On Jan. 28, 1904, Turkey Hill Grange and school burned. A building committee quickly drew up plans for a second Grange hall. The first meeting in the new two-story frame structure with heat and kitchen was in November 24, 1904. The mortgage was paid in August 1921.

A fund for a new hall was started May 23, 1924. The last meeting in that second building was January 23, 1937 as it was torn down. The corner stone for the current hall was laid April 18, 1937 with the first meeting held July 19, 1937. The hall was to cost no more than \$11,000 but by completion the cost was \$18,103. To help pay the mortgage, a Wurstmarkt was held in November of 1938. This fund-raiser was so successful that it has continued every year since then, and today is a tradition of the community.

An elevator, four handicapped accessible restrooms, and a paved parking lot were added in 2004. Our dining room and St. Clair County Health Dept Certified kitchen were renovated in 2023.

Our Membership

Turkey Hill Grange was founded by 19 local citizens in 1874. Our membership steadily reached over 100 around the turn of the century and during the 1950s had over 300 members. Turkey Hill Grange membership today is approximately 160.

Who are our Members?

Our Community Grange members are from essentially all professions and backgrounds.

While the foundation of the Grange was to meet the needs of rural and agricultural communities, today’s Grange is engaged in all aspects of modern life such as rural health, internet connectivity and suicide prevention efforts.

Membership is growing as more and more individuals and families express concern for God's earth, family togetherness, patriotism, high moral and ethical values and helping others through community service.

Some Things We Do

- Hold three major annual community dinners
- Hold fundraisers for disaster relief efforts
- Award annual scholarships
- Select community members for Grange Awards
- Offer use of the Hall for dinners or meetings
- Assist local Food Pantries and Soup Kitchens
- Sponsor a youth Baseball Team in Belleville
- Sponsor American Heritage Girls Troop #1370
- Sponsor the Busy Bees 4 H Club
- Maintain booths at the O’Fallon Vine Street Market and the Swansea Farmers Market
- Provide dictionaries to local schools

The Grange Motto

*“In essentials, unity;
in non-essentials, liberty;
in all things, charity.”*

***** TURKEY HILL GRANGE, NO. 1370

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION *****

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Birth Date: _____

Email: _____ Occupation/Interests _____

I desire to unite with others in elevating and advancing the interest of community life and family values. I understand the Grange is non-denominational and non-partisan. I promise a faithful compliance with the By-laws of this Grange and the Constitution and By-laws of the State and National Grange.

Applicant’s Signature _____ Date _____

Recommended by: _____ & _____

Dues \$40.00 per year \$10.00 per quarter (prorated). Payable with this application \$ _____