



ILLINOIS GRANGER

In Essentials... Unity

In Non-Essentials... Liberty

In All Things... Charity

May 2024 Vol 4 No 5



Grange Month—Prairie Grange Consignment Auction

We had a few (hundred) people show up!!

Picture by Kenny Freeman

Calendar of Grange Events

2024

- 5/3-4 4Momz2Momz Consignment sale
Prairie Grange— Fairgrounds
- 5/4 **Illinois State Grange Picnic**
Scholarships to be presented
- 5/18 Big Breakfast at Emerald Mound Grange
8-10 am
- 6/20 **June quarterly reports due**
- 6/21-23 **Midwest Grange Leaders Conference**
- 7/1 **Resolutions due to State Secretary**
- 7/10 Leroy Grange Blood Challenge
Boone County Fairgrounds 2-6 pm
- 8/6-11 Boone County Fair—Belvidere IL
- 9/13-15 Illinois State Grange Session—
St. Clair county
- 11/10-17 **National Session Quad Cities**

Sign up to work

2025

- 7/22-27 **Grange Revival—Torrey Utah**
- 9/19-21 **State Session at Boone County Fairgrounds**
- Donations: Memorial Scholarship**
- Donations: Illinois Granger**
- Ed Cosman—County Line Grange \$25**

NOTE: Please send me any important dates, members in nursing homes, rehabs, or senior living, obituaries, donations, births, weddings, any good news from your Grange so I can add them to the newsletter.

Ruth Blasingame 815-299-7884
illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com
8711 Deer Run Drive Belvidere, IL 61008

Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

The weather in south central IL has been stormy lately, no major damage but we are picking up sticks in the yard again. The rain has broken our drought from last year and so far this year. The weather has caused the strawberries to be ripening now, weeks earlier than normal. We have cherries and peaches growing and rhubarb and gooseberries ripening. Happy Birthday to our Granddaughter Bailey as she is now 21!! Don and I celebrated our 49th wedding anniversary yesterday. Wow that does not seem possible.

Don and I attended the 150th Anniversary celebrations at Turkey Hill and at BelAir Bowl for the dinner on April 20. National Grange President and First Dude, Chris & Duane Hamp, National Grange Membership Director Amanda Brozana-Rios, Past Rhode Island State Grange President and past National Grange Ceres, Steve and Clare Logan, Past Connecticut State Grange President, and National Grange Session Coordinators Jody and JodiAnn Cameron attend the events. It was great seeing and chatting with some Grangers I have not seen in a long while. Chris was glad to spend time with Mary Beth (Heberer) Lee, past National Grange Junior Director. Mary Beth shared photos she had of Chris and her parents, when Chris was a Junior member. Fun times were had by all. Congratulations to Turkey Hill for 150 years of service to the Belleville area. IL now has several 150+ year old Granges, Guilford Hope, Union, Harmony, and Turkey Hill.

St Clair County Pomona held a fundraiser for breakfast on April 27th, to help with hosting the of the upcoming State Session. Thanks to Turkey Hill for being the host Grange building. Thanks to all the Grangers who worked and attended.

The 153rd annual IL State Grange Session is at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Collinsville, IL September 13 – 15, 2024. Hope you are all planning to attend. Be making resolutions now so that when the date is set for turning them in, your Grange is ready. Phil Vonada, National Grange Communications Director, and PA Junior Director, will be our National Representative. IL Representative Charlie Meier will be the speaker on Friday evening. Watch your email or USPS box for more information. May 4, 2024, eating at 1:00 pm, will be the ISG State Grange picnic at Boone County Fairgrounds – burgers and dogs provided by the Youth, bring other potluck item to share. Scholarships will be awarded that day. And I just heard that there will be a car show at the fairgrounds

while we are there. Congratulations to all the scholarship awardees and all those graduating from 8th grade, High School and college. IL State Grange is proud of you all. This is open to all Grangers – attend to share the good times and see the scholarships awarded.

Meetings are being held for the next National Session in Bettendorf Iowa, Nov 12 -16, 2024. IL State Grange is part of the host group. If any Granger is wanting to help, please let us know. Emalee Colver was appointed as Registration host. Ruth Blasingame and Lana Korte have been appointed as IL Hospitality hosts for Wed, 13th and IL will assist WI on Saturday. Karie Blasingame is working on Transportation and workshops for the convention. These groups will need assistance during the convention. Please contact them if you are willing to help. If you would like to receive the 7th degree, Bettendorf will be the place on November 16. If you would like to be part of 7th degree as a candidate, let me know. **We are asking if there are veterans that have not received a Quilt of Valor** and will be at the National Grange Convention, please let me know, they could be part of the N G presentation. There is also a need from each state to provide two quilts, please let me know if you are interested in providing a quilt.

Always remember if you have a Grange Hall and need to make some improvements, the State Grange has a Hall Improvement Fund. The application form is on the website illinoisstategrange.org. Contact me, or anyone on the IL Ex Committee if you have any questions. It is important when applying for a Hall Improvement Fund please provide **ALL** information requested.

A FAC chair for 2026 for the IL State Grange is still needed. ANYONE interested in these positions please let me know. There are people around you that would be willing to assist you with the service. Brian Keller, member of Enterprise and Emerald Mound Granges has been appointed as the new state Grange Secretary. We will all need to make some adjustments. All money that comes to the IL State Grange for dues still needs to go to Robin. All correspondence that does not have money needs to go straight to Brian. Brian Keller, 703 E. 2nd Street, O'Fallon, IL 62269, 618-632-5834, briankeller@gmail.com. If you are unsure as to who you should send something to – just sent it to Brian.



ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE AGRICULTURAL CONTESTS

GRANGE YEAR 2023-24

Steven Kinzinger
Progressive Grange
618-972-8436

Brian O'Dell
Beaver Valley Grange
815-670-1272

Lana Korte & Marilyn Hoffman

VEGETABLES

Green Beans (5)
Wax/Yellow Beans (5)
Beets (3)
Cabbage (1 head)
Cucumbers (3)
Eggplant (1)
Gourds (3)
White Onions (3)
Yellow Onions (3)
Sweet Peppers (3)
Hot Peppers (3)
Red Potatoes (3)
White Potatoes (3)
Carrots (3)
Sweet Corn (3 ears)
Cherry Tomatoes (5)
Red Tomatoes (3)
Yellow Tomatoes (3)
Winter Squash (1)
Yellow Summer Squash (1)
Zucchini 6-8" (1)
Largest Zucchini
Most Unusual Vegetable

HERBS

Potted specimen of an Herb,
must be named
Collection of Herbs,
4 or more, named.

FIELD CROPS

3 ears of Corn
Longest ear of corn
3 ears of Indian Corn
Husked
3 ears of Popcorn
Corn (1 quart bag)
Oats (1 quart bag)
Soybeans (1 quart bag)
Wheat (1 quart bag)
Sunflower Head (1)

FLOWERS

Make it yourself
Roadside Bouquet
(flowers, etc., provided)
Flower Garden Bouquet
Zinnias (3 Stems)
Cosmos (3 Stems)

FRUITS

Apples-Any Color (3)
Cantaloupe/Muskmelon (1)
Grapes (3 bunches)
Pears (3)
Pumpkin (1)
Watermelon (1)

MARKET BASKETS

No Larger than 30 inches
(8 or more items)
Individual Basket
Group Basket

ANTIQUES

Written explanation of item.

Farm related
Household related

VALUE ADDED PRODUCT

8 oz jar of any jam, jelly,
or fruit butters
Jar of Pickles
(Must label type)
8 oz of Honey
Jar of Salsa

DIAMOND ART

Adults & Juniors, Any item
pertaining to the farm.
(animals, barn, tractor, etc.)

JUNIORS

Decorated Pumpkin
(No carving)
Any Vegetable
Farm Safety Poster

NOTE:

One entry per person per
category
All products must be
grown/made within
current Grange year.



BLAST FROM THE PAST

By Beverly Smith, Historian

Memorial Day is Monday, May 27, 2024. This holiday is to commemorate all men and women who have died in military service for our country. I remember my Grandmother called it Decoration Day, which was what it was called originally. So, since Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill, Memorial Day has always been observed on the last Monday in May. We have now made it a three-day weekend and we now visit all of our relatives' graves and decorate them.

We can also remember our many great Grange leaders who have gone before us. As we bow our heads in prayer, let's appreciate that we can assemble together in this great organization. Each and every Grange meeting or gathering there is that special person who we all look to for blessings and God's word—your Grange Chaplain. Our beautiful ritual reflects many Bible quotations which further interpret what our Grange founders intended. For me, the installation ritual reflects many Bible quotes that I can still hear my father address the newly installed officers.

The following is from "Thoughts And Inspirations" by State Chaplain, Donald Milne's IL Granger article from May 1991: "What is more beautiful than a spring day? When the spring flowers are blooming all around us, the birds that have been gone all winter have returned and God's green earth seems so fresh and warm. As we watch the flowers open forth in all their beauty, this alone should tell us that God does exist! A God who takes care of all things and causes all things to come forth at the right season. Of course, spring means storms, some very severe, but like life itself, all things seem to work out for the best to those that love the Lord." Happy Spring! God Bless You All!

Lecturer's Department

Here are the contests for the Lecturer's Department for 2023-2024:

Photography

Photos may be printed or submitted electronically. If printed should be mounted on a sturdy backing; no glass. Three categories: Animals, "Guess what this is", Sky, People at Work

Arts and Crafts

Painting/Drawings/Pastels (anything on a flat paper or canvas)

Dimensional Media (ceramics, woodwork, carving, macrame, etc.)

Personal Collections (12 related items with a short description of the collection)

3 Holiday Tree Ornaments (fabric, cloth, sewing, etc.)

3 Holiday Tree Ornaments (other materials or techniques)

Decorated Birdhouse (ornamental or functional)

Origami Animals (three animals from folded paper)

Scrapbooking (two related scrapbook pages)

All contests will be grouped in four categories: Junior 5-7, Junior 8-10, Junior 11-14, and Adult.

All item should be clearly labeled with the entrant's Name, Address, Grange, Category, Age bracket, and name of responsible party if entrant not in attendance at State Session)

More detailed information can be found in the full Contests and Programs documents distributed at GRIT.

2024 Illinois State Grange JUNIOR DEPARTMENT Contests

All Junior Contests - Individual must be a Junior, or 1+ member

Three age groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14. Entry age as of 1/1/2024 (National Guidelines)

Any entry that is not labeled and does not follow rules may be disqualified from judging, but may still receive a participation ribbon.

Maximum size is given in measurements of length-by-width-by-height

Mini-Juniors: Any child who is 5 by September 1, 2024 may send up to 3 entries to session. These projects will not be judged as other age groups are, but will receive participation ribbons.

Junior at Heart: Any Granger over the age of 20, as of September 1, 2024, may submit a project. These projects will be voted on by fellow Grangers for Best of Show .

Host State – Iowa

Small World - France

Make a 3-D display (Maximum size 10x10x8"high) or poster (up to 11x14" finished size after mounted for stability) which represents the country. Identify and explain at least three items of country.

Recycling—Old books

Make a project using old books and/or old pages.

Bible Stories - Esther

Make a poster, 3-D item, or give a 3-5 minute speech on something in the book of Esther.

The Arts

Create a project out of clay.

Fashionista

For this project make a piece of clothing that would have been worn in the 1950's.

Melinda (Mindy) Schiefer IL State Grange Junior Director 10949 Faust Road, Trenton, IL 62293

(618)444-2852 or schefr5@gmail.com

Legislative report.

Hello brothers and sisters.

On April 10th and 11th I attended the Legislative Briefing in Springfield as part of 2024 AG. Legislative Day. At this briefing we received reports from Senate President Don Harmon, Senate Republican Leader John F. Curran, House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, and House Republican Leader Tony M. McCombie. In my opinion there was little content to their presentations. All three sounded more like campaign speeches.

During the open discussion forum there were a good number of interesting topics discussed. The one that I thought pertained to Boone County the most was the discussion on Steer Tailing and how it pertained to Animal Cruelty. The Legislative Attorneys that were familiar with the subject, said under the law Steer Tailing constitutes Animal Cruelty, and therefore violates the Animal cruelty act.

We also discussed the responsibility for stopping said practice. The Attorneys stated that the responsibility fell solely in the Staes Attorney's office. When advised that the States Attorneys office had stated they couldn.t proceed without complaints, we were advised that was incorrect. They advised us that when a law was already in the books, as is Animal Cruelty, no complaint is required. The suspicion or knowledge of a violation of the law is all that is required for an investigation and if found to be factual, prosecution of said violation.

McHenry County, Will County, have both passed measures that will prevent Animal Cruelty and protect their counties from possible legal action. Ogle County is working on their possible actions. Winnebago County chose to go a different route, making the event sponsors and property owners buy permits for Food, Crafts, entertainment, liquor license, and Liquor Liability Insurance. God Bless to all from Marion and Jean.

Emerald Mound Grange

On April 5 and 6, Emerald Mound Grange members sold food at the local Ace Hardware grand opening in Lebanon. The store was originally a True Value, which burned down in 2022. Lou Schlaefer, the owner of True Value has been a supporter of our Grange for a long time. For several years, he has provided space for us to hold our annual Alzheimer's fundraiser with the Hohrein family, who are long-time members of our Grange. Lou recently sold the building to the Ace Hardware owner, Bill Milliken. When Bill was planning the grand opening, he asked if we would like to sell food at the event. It looks like a great relationship with the local hardware store will continue.

Other activities continuing at Emerald Mound Grange are the monthly Big Breakfast at the Grange (the third Saturday of the month) and a good sprucing up of the Grange Hall. The upstairs is getting prettier as it is

getting a thorough cleaning. The wood shines when the sun comes in the windows.

REMINDER Grangers and Granges

All monetary donations to the Granger, to the Honor Memorial Scholarship Fund, all quarterly reports and payments and all award recognition requests are to be mailed to:

Robin Kindberg
12971 Olson Road
Caledonia, IL 61011

All Granges will be receiving 3 New Quarterly Report Forms in the mail and please use these forms. Be sure to get your Quarterly reports in on time to avoid a late fee charge.

May 1, 2024 the National Grange Convention Registration opens so if you plan to come Join Us on the River in the Quad Cities on November 12-16, 2024 be sure to sign up early and pick your tours and workshops you want to attend. If you can't come for the whole week just join us for 1 or 2 days. It will be lots of fun, educational and entertaining.

Also SAVE THE DATE of September 13, 14 and 15, 2024 to make plans to attend the ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE Convention at the Doubletree by Hilton in Collinsville, IL. Watch for details soon.

Any questions or concerns feel free to contact either of us:

Brian Keller at brianjkeller@gmail.com
Robin Kindberg at robinkindberg5@gmail.com
Fraternally Submitted
Brian Keller
Illinois State Grange Secretary
Robin Kindberg
Illinois State Grange Secretary Assistant

Leroy Grange Blood Challenge

Wanted: Anyone who is at least 18 years old,
Who has a gift more precious than gold.

Three people's lives can be saved if you give
So donate a pint of blood so others can live!

Leroy Grange is challenging other Granges to donate blood on 7/10/24, from 2-6pm at the Boone County Fairgrounds! The Grange with the most donors will receive one of our 50/50 tickets (value \$100) for a chance to win \$10,000.

If you have questions, or want to reserve your donor spot, email Denise Temple@ denise.temple@yahoo.com.

Also if you are interested in purchasing a 50/50 ticket, drawing will be during the Boone County Fair, let Denise or any Leroy Grange member know!

Flora Grange #1762

Flora Grange held their meeting on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, with thirty-eight Grange members in attendance and President Ken Fidler called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Roll call of officers was taken by Secretary Laurel Ratcliffe and the minutes of the March 13th, 2024, were approved as presented.

Reports were given:

Community Service – We discussed changing our Grange Picnic and awards for Distinguished Individuals from our June meeting to our May 14th meeting this year and members discussed names of individuals for this year. Lindakay Ebel will send out the invitations to the honored guests and make out the certificates.

Bob Scherer stated that farmers are getting ready to go in the field, some fields still have water in them. Todd Hegge reported for the fair board; sheep barn needs gravel, working on the pony barn, and getting some new sponsors this year. Lindakay Ebel stated we all need to work on our membership, she has been talking to several people about joining, we all must keep trying to get new members, everyone seems to be busy, however we must not give up!

JT Ryan reported the Juniors will be helping with Prairie's Consignment Sale next week. Deb Silvers stated she has tickets for the State Convention Family Activities raffle, never too soon to purchase them, \$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets. Emalee Colver reported the two quilting groups will be quilting this weekend, all are invited to come with your projects. If you have your national quilt square completed you can give it to Emalee, must be in by July 1st.

Building and Grounds, Jack Ratcliffe reported the ditch has been burnt this year, and we had some water in the Grange Hall basement; he and Laurel have been vacuuming it up.

The treasurer's report was given by Lindakay Ebel, and written reports were given to those in attendance. Motion to accept. A motion was made for her to move some money around to get more interest.

Lindakay Ebel also gave a detailed report on the roast beef dinner held on Sunday, April 7, 2024, in which Flora Grange served over 200 plus people. She thanked all who helped cook the food, those who served, made the salads, those who helped in parking the cars, those who made food for the bake sale, those who sold tickets for the dinner and especially those that attended our roast beef dinner. It takes many hands to put on a dinner like that and that can work side by side all day long.

Mike Ratcliffe told us about the history of Arbor Day which was started by Sterling Julius Morton from Nebraska City, Nebraska in April 1872. It is said that he planted one million trees in the first year. This is special all over the United States of America. Arbor Day is a day to plant trees around the world to help the environment

and to help in the preservation and the planting of trees in memory of a loved one. Thanks, Mike, for your special information on Arbor Day.

Program chairman Jack Ratcliffe had a word search on agriculture this evening which everyone enjoyed. \$71.00 was collected in 'G' bills this evening.

The meeting was closed in full form and refreshments were served by the committee of Karen and Jerry Hart and Bob Scherer.

Lindakay Ebel, Publicity

Illinois State Grange Youth

Whoa, where has the time gone? We are gearing up and getting ready for the State wide Grange Picnic on Saturday May 4th. Hope a lot of Grangers are planning on attending. The Youth is going to provide Cheeseburgers and hotdogs, chips, and water. Please bring a dish to share. Starting at 12:30 we will be having a Classic Car parade to kick off the picnic. We will also be handing out our Scholarship winners, So make sure you are there to cheer on our Youth.



Prairie Grange Report

Prairie Grangers had the privilege to listen to two local 4-Her's present the speeches they will be giving at the 4-H Public Presentation Contest later this month. Ainsley Pollard gave an informal type speech on PTO Shaft Safety and Willard Rosana gave an oral interpretation on John Quincy Adams. Both of them did an awesome job and we wished them well at competition.

Prairie Grange meeting was called to order by worthy Lecturer Sheri Bochmann at 7:15PM.

Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved as read. We welcomed one new member into the Grange tonight.

Committee reports were given:

Mary Brubach reminded everyone to be aware of Farmers and Farm equipment that will be on the roads and to BE PATIENT!

Several Youth Fairboard members and Grasshopper/Sweet Clover 4-H members helped at our annual consignment sale this year.

Everyone was reminded to attend the Statewide Grange Picnic on Saturday May 4, 2024 at the Boone County Fairgrounds beginning at 1:00PM and everyone is asked to bring a dish to pass.

Several Junior Grangers also helped at the consignment sale. Everyone was reminded to attend the May 1, 2024 Boone County Pomona meeting and to help support the Juniors by participating in their Baked Potato Bar fundraiser after the meeting.

Those of you who worked at the auction in any way be sure to turn in your Community Service hours.

Lyle Lee thanked everyone who helped with the Consignment Sale in any way – it was very successful.

We voted to give a monetary donation to the Grasshopper/Sweet Clover 4-H Club for all their help at the Consignment Auction this year.

4MOMZ2MOMZ Consignment Sale will be held May 3rd from 4-7PM and on May 4 from 8-12 and 1-4PM at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Help will be needed Thursday night for set-up and Friday night from 4-7PM and all day Saturday and on Sunday to clean-up and pack up the trailer. Contact Sara Ellwanger if you want to help.

May will be our annual Appreciation Dinner and it was decided that we will have it catered this year. All those who helped in anyway are welcomed to join us.

Prairie Grange meeting closed in full form at 7:50PM. Refreshments and socializing followed.

Robin Kindberg
Publicity Chairman

Gobbles from Turkey Hill

By the time you read this article, we will have already celebrated our 150th Anniversary. Our open house featured artifacts, scrapbooks, articles, documents, photos and various displays of our buildings, history, activities, and community service projects. It was fun to see the treasures and learn more about the history and the hard-

working Grangers that kept Turkey Hill going through the decades. We were honored to have National Grange Officers and Officials here. Our distinguished guests list were: Chris Hamp, the National Grange President accompanied by her husband, Duane. Amanda Brozana-Rios, National Grange Membership Chair, Stephen Logan, past Rhode Island State President and his wife, Claire, past National Ceres. Jody Cameron, past Connecticut State President and his wife, Jodi Ann. They are current National Grange Convention Coordinators. Lynette Schaeffer, National Grange Chair of Executive Board, Illinois Grange President, and her husband, Don.

Mark Kern is the current St. Clair County Chairman of the Board. He previously served as mayor of Belleville, and is a Turkey Hill Grange member. Chairman Kern is preparing a proclamation for us.

We received congratulatory messages from Senator Tammy Duckworth, St. Clair County Clerk Tom Holbrook, a Turkey Hill member, and Representative Jay Hoffman, all of whom were unable to attend our festivities. Representative Hoffman sent us a Certificate of Recognition as well as passing a House Resolution to honor Turkey Hill.

Grangers performed a play illustrating events from Turkey Hill's beginning to now. The performance featured a local barbershop quartet, The Rivertown Sound. Their contribution added a special touch to the performance. Our longevity awards from 30 to 75 years of membership were awarded and we announced our Granger of the Year. Since I am writing this prior to the event, photos will be included in next month's Granger.

We concluded our big day with a dinner. 83 Turkey Hill members, community members and guests joined us for that event. What a celebration!

It would be a mistake to not mention a team of people who worked tirelessly to spruce up the appearance of our building and grounds by making repairs and painting before the anniversary.

Our annual Chicken Dinner was held on April 7th and it was a huge success. We served 390 meals, had over 30 members help set up on Saturday and over 50 members work the event.

Our Farmers Market team is gearing up for the markets opening in May. The jam and jelly team has been in production mode to be ready. Our stands will be at the Swansea Farmers Market and the Vine Street market in O' Fallon. There will be hand made items, plants and produce for sale, also.

Introducing The Grange Hall podcast

By Philip J Vonada, National Grange Communications Director originally published in The Patrons Chain

“The Grange Hall” podcast, a new platform that delves into the rich history and future of the Grange, has officially launched! This exciting venture was announced in November and made its web debut during Grange Month.

Join hosts Meagan McDonald (WA) and Philip Vonada (PA) as they interview Grange members from around the country about their Grange story, their Grange’s history, and where they see the Grange going in the future – and anywhere the conversation goes in between.

The Grange Hall aims to welcome diverse voices within the Grange, highlighting local members who are “movers and shakers,” making big moves in their Granges and maybe across the country.

Remember, this podcast is not just for current Grangers! We extend a warm invitation to share this podcast with friends, family, and anyone who may be interested in or curious about the Grange. We also hope that current members will listen and be inspired by the incredible things that are happening in Granges around the country.

Starting April 17, the Grange Hall will release a new episode every other Wednesday.

Listen on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon/Audible, or iHeartRadio. You can also listen on the National Grange website, on PodBean, or watch the video version on YouTube!

Do you know a Grange member who you believe would be a “good fit” for the podcast? Email your suggestion to grangehallpod@gmail.com and explain why they should be featured. Please include your Grange, State, and contact information for your suggestions.

Beaver Valley Grange #1791 News

Notes from our March 8, meeting and April 12 meeting. March meeting had two new members accepted: Manny and Teresa Salgado. Beaver Valley also presented membership award to: Athen-Marie O’Dell - 5yr, Abbie Meinhert 15yr, Micah Schlie 30yr Seal, Brian O’Dell 30 yr Seal. Membership was a fun night, we also had 3 juniors attend and applications were submitted Juniors +1 for Morgan, Hattie and William Schlie. Agriculture report given by Steve Paulson on the Farm Rescue Foun-

ation. Community Service hours were turned in. Affie Meinhert reported that there is a need for Hospice Volunteerism. St. Croix Hospice is looking for people to visit and sit with patients in homes or facilities for the Rockford Branch, and there are locations in Wisconsin. Contact them at stcroixhospice.com. Report was given for Fairboard and Marisa gave a report on Health, Education & Welfare. Radon is a leading cause of lung cancer and everyone should get their home tested. Safety report by Steve Paulson tells us how it only takes 4 seconds for an adult to sink knee deep in flowing grain. Around 80% of the reports from suffocation in grain bins is from workers entering to check on the condition of the grain when unloading is running. Marisa reported on the upcoming Spring Fling and hoping for a good turnout. A big shout out to Rich Curry for helping us with the Zoom account. Also it was voted to have a Beaver Valley Grange day at the Rockford Rivets Night. Our night is scheduled for Aug 3rd, the Saturday before the fair.

Our April meeting was held at the Admin bldg. Steve Paulson reported for Ag that there are reports of the Bird Flu once again. Report was given for Fairboard, Spring Fling update, and Marisa reported on Health, Education & Welfare. Steve reported for Safety to be alert for farming equipment and vehicles this time of year. Give them space. Marisa reported that for the next Pomona meeting it is Baked Potato night and it will be served at the end of the meeting. Statewide Grange Picnic will be May 4th at 1 pm. At the Grange Foodstand. Bring a dish to pass. As a fundraiser for our Grange we are going to work a couple of events in the Rockford area. First one is Cinco de Mayo on May 4th & 5th, then the Chow Dkown on July 20 & 21st. Finally the TamaleFest on September 7th. All located on East State street & Mulford of Rockford. Come check it out!



2023 – 2024 FAC Contest

2024 Chairperson

Angela Dickerson

618-363-5757

angied@bakerpool.com

2025 Chairperson

Ann Johnson

Lungs42@gmail.com

Group 1 Knitting

- A. Afghan
- B. Baby Afghan
- C. Baby Item
- D. Dish Cloth
- E. Winter Wear
- F. Any other item not listed

Group 2 Crocheting

- A. Afghan
- B. Baby Afghan
- C. Baby Item
- D. Dish Cloth
- E. Any other item not listed

Group 3 Misc. Needlework

- A. Embroidered Item
- B. Plastic Canvas
- C. Any other item not listed

Group 4 Quilting

- A. Unfinished square, max size 16 ½” x 16 ½”
- B. Table Runner
- C. Quilt, any size
- D. Baby Quilt
- E. Rag Quilt

Group 7 Bakery Rules

Please enclose items in a ziplock bag so the bakery item is completely covered. Attach entry form to the small bag serving to be used for judging. Attach recipe to larger item. The larger item will be included in the FAC Raffle. Class A Quick Bread 1 small loaf on a small plate and 1 loaf on a large plate. Class B. Toffee - 3 on a small plate and 12 on a large plate. Class C- Cookies any Flavor - 3 on a small plate and 12 on a large plate.

Group 5 Sewing

- A. Clothing – 1 item
- B. Clothing – 2 or more items
- C. Baby Clothing
- D. Pillow
- E. Tied Fleece Blanket
- F. Any other item not listed

Group 6 Miscellaneous

- A. Jewelry - Bracelet
- B. Jewelry – Necklace
- C. Jewelry – 2 or more pieces
- D. 2 Holiday cards – mounted
- E. 2 All Occasion cards – mounted
- F. Fabric Wreath

Group 7 Bakery

- A. Quick Bread – Using Cranberry Sauce
- B. Toffee Candy – 12 pieces
- C. Cookies – Crinkles – Any flavor
- D. Decorated Cake

Juniors – All Ages Welcome

Group 1 – Juniors – Bakery

Class A, Bar Cookies(not Rice Krispie Treats)
Class B, Trail Mix using dried fruits, m&m’s nuts, Cereal, crackers, etc. for a unique mixture.

Group 2 – Juniors

Class A, Tied Fleece Blanket – Lap Size

Group 1 – Juniors Rules

Class A Bar Cookies any flavor
3 on a small plate and 12 on a large plate.
Class A Trail Mix
1 snack bag size & 1 quart size bag



Chaplain's Corner

Charlotte Mehrtens

April showers bring May flowers. The flowers and trees are all in full bloom now so they may not be here in May so we are enjoying them now. They are beautiful adding many beautiful colors.

I was able to enjoy the eclipse again in Southern Illinois I was able to go to our family farm near Murphysboro, Illinois. I was there for the one in 2017 and this one didn't let us down. Forty-five minutes before it started the horses and cows started to make their way up to the fence where we were. The birds landed in the trees and everything got so quiet. As the moon and sun aligned there was a beautiful peace that came over the country side. The stars came out it was just unreal for being the middle of the day. I just had to stop and say a prayer of Thanksgiving that God granted me the vision to see and be a part of it.

I know many Grangers have been very busy with Grange activities these past few months and we thank God that He blesses each of us as we do our Grange work

We send congratulations to those who are graduating this month, and starting a next steps in life. God bless each of you and walk with you in whatever you do.



First Degree; Vice President

FOR IN OUR FRATERNITY THERE IS WORK FOR ALL, AND THE IDLER HAS NO PLACE AMONG PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.



MAY 2024 NATIONAL GRANGE EVENTS

TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP JOIN US ON ZOOM FOR THESE EVENTS!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>3: FELLOWSHIP FIRST FRIDAY ALL TIMES EASTERN 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/FirstFriday Join us for this fun NEW monthly program - a time for fellowship, thought-provoking conversation, and the chance to connect with Grange members from coast to coast! Includes a short program, activity, and time to socialize around topics of your choice. May topic: <i>Pets: The rise of "pet parenthood"</i></p> | <p>28: COMMUNICATIONS ZOOM-TORIAL ALL TIMES EASTERN 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/GrangeZoomtorial Join Communications Director Philip Vonada to learn about various topics in the field of Communications & Public Relations. This month: Leveraging Social Media for Community Impact Questions? Email pvnada@nationalgrange.org</p> |
| <p>15: MEMBERSHIP MATTERS 8:30 P.M. Connect: grange.biz/matters Join Membership/Leadership Development Director Amanda Brozana Rios for this monthly time to learn about various membership challenges and growth opportunities.</p> | |



JUNIOR GRANGE FOCUS AREA:
AG AWARENESS
YOUTH FOCUS AREA:
ACTION



Midwest Grange Leaders Conference



June 21-23, 2024

Bowling Green State University Bowling Green, OH Tentative Schedule

Friday

- 4:00-6:00 Registration
- 6:00 Supper
- 7:00 Get Acquainted activities
- 7:30 Workshop
- 8:00 Games/ Fellowship

Saturday

- 8:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 Workshop
- 10:00 Workshop
- 11:00 Special Activity
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Community Service Project
- 2:00 Scavenger Hunt
- 3:00 Age Awareness Workshop
- 4:00 Free Time
- 5:30 Supper
- 6:30 Group Picture
- 6:45 Workshop
- 7:30 Craft
- 9:00 Auction Results

Sunday

- 8:00 Breakfast
- Following breakfast – Worship, Wrap-up, Good Byes

Midwest Grange Leaders Conference



June 21-23, 2024

Bowling Green State University

Bowling Green, OH

Please mail or email registration form by June 1, 2024 to:

Diana Nordquest, 399 Shelton Rd., Salem OH 44460 or nordquest_diana@yahoo.com. Phone 330-853-6329.

Name(s): _____

Number of adults attending: ____ Number of Children attending: ____

Child's Name: _____ Age: ____

Child's Name: _____ Age: ____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Email: _____

Grange Name/Number: _____

Director/Office held if any: _____

Emergency Contact Info: _____ & Phone (____) _____

Food Allergies or dietary concerns: _____

Special Accommodations needed: _____

Roommate preference _____

Price for the event:

Conference Fee, which includes Friday supper, 3 meals on Saturday and Sunday breakfast, and double occupancy room. - \$130.00

Single occupancy rooms are available for an additional \$64.00.

Conference Fee (Lodging on your own) - \$70.00

Make checks payable to Ohio State Grange (can be mailed ahead or pay on arrival)

What to Bring

Silent Auction Item wrapped with clue attached

Bedding and shower Items

Snacks for the dorm area. All snacks in meeting room will be provided.

Clothes appropriate for the weather.

Adult Sippy Cup