



# ILLINOIS GRANGER

*In Essentials... Unity*  
*In Non-Essentials... Liberty*  
*In All Things... Charity*

July 2024 Vol 4 No 7



Midwest Grange Leadership Conference

Illinois Group

Karie Blasingame - ISG Vice Pres.

Marisa O'Dell - ISG Youth Co Director

Robin Kindberg - ISG Asst Secretary

Karie Kindberg - Prairie Grange

Lynette Schaeffer - ISG President

Don Schaeffer - First Guy

## Calendar of Grange Events

2024

- 7/1 Resolutions due to State Secretary
- 7/7 Blasingame 50th Anniversary Party  
Ridott IL 1-5 Everyone is invited.  
Music/Food No Gifts
- 7/10 Leroy Grange Blood Drive Challenge  
Boone County Fairgrounds 2-6 pm
- 7/20 EMG Big Breakfast 8-10 am
- 8/1 Deadline for Community Service Reports
- 8/4 Turkey Hill Ham and Peach Dinner
- 8/6-11 Boone County Fair—Belvidere IL
- 9/13-15 Illinois State Grange Session-  
Collinsville IL
- 9/19-21 4Momz2Momz Consignment Sale
  
- 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**  
**\$50 Spencer Morris by Prairie Grange**  
**\$50 Fay Ellwanger by Prairie Grange**  
**Donations: Illinois Granger**  
**\$25 Noah & Linda Mullins County Line Grange**

**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 very dry lately. The weather has caused many fruits and vegetables to ripen weeks earlier than normal.

Don and I joined Karie Blasingame, Marisa O'Dell, Robin and Karrie Kindberg to be the IL group at Midwest Grange Leaders conference. It was held in OHIO, June 21-23, 2024 Bowling Green State University. Diana Norquest and several other Ohio Grangers did a great job of planning and hosting. The facilities were excellent. Grangers enjoyed the workshops, fellowship, food, fellowship, fun, games, fellowship. We learned a lot of different things and discussed the events for hosting of 2024 convention. We had a great time. Don and I went a few days early and visited Dayton, Ohio. It was fun to visit the National Air Force Museum, Wright Cycle Company Complex and American Packard Museum. I would recommend them to anyone. Indiana State Grange will host next year, watch for more information in the coming months.

The Distinguished Grange Program is in its 15th year, this recognition program is for Granges (Community or State) who fulfill their service and advocacy missions and provide support for members and their community. A point-based application allows Granges to select which aspects of their Grange they would like to highlight. Applications are due by August 1.

The 153<sup>rd</sup> annual IL State Grange Session 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. The draft schedule was printed last month in this paper. Brian will be sending out information soon about the session. Room reservations will be made for the officers and committee directors/chairs. Delegates need to make their own reservations.

Recently, the National Grange launched the revamped bi-weekly e-newsletter, "Grange Today!" This newsletter is YOUR chance to share your Grange's success with Grange members from all over the country. Submit your stories, events, articles, and ideas at: <http://grange.biz/grangetodaysubmit>.

Meetings are being held for the next National Session in Bettendorf Iowa, Nov 12 -16, 2024. Lots of new things this year; 1. will be a Mississippi River Guided Cruise on Monday that will include lunch. 2. visit "Oldie

and Goodie" table, items from the National Grange Headquarter building that will be for sale, or donation or display. Come check it out and purchase 'forgotten' items. There will also be a need for 'sitters' at the table 3. More workshops most days on variety of topics. 4. More tours, not just one day, more places. 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, 13<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> degree, Bettendorf will be the place on November 16. If you would like to be part of 7<sup>th</sup> 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 ASAP, they could be part of the N G presentation. Registration is now open on the [NationalGrange.org](http://NationalGrange.org) website. Register now. Now is the time to plan to be at National Session, in Isle Casino, Bettendorf, IA. Nov 11 - 16.

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](http://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. All Grangers are confident members.





## ISG Secretary Report – July 2024

The year is half over, and there are less than 11 weeks until the State Session! So, here are some information and deadline reminders.

The 153<sup>rd</sup> Illinois State Session will be at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 1000 Eastport Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234. It starts on **Friday, September 13, and continues through Sunday, September 15**. The draft schedule is in the June 2024 Illinois Granger.

**RESOLUTIONS**—Please send them to me by **July 1**.

As of June 25, I had none at all. So, if you have any, please send them to me as soon as you can, or at least let me know they're on their way. The deadline is to give enough time to compile them and send them out to the individual Granges so they can discuss and give their delegates some direction on how to vote.

**DELEGATE NAMES** – I need them before **Tuesday, August 13**.

**ROOM RESERVATIONS**—Delegates should make these before **Tuesday, August 13**. Call the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel directly at 618-345-2800. Mention Illinois State Grange to get the ISG rate of \$113 plus tax per night. (Reservations for State Officers, Deputies, and Committee Chairs have already been made for you.)

**MEAL RESERVATIONS & DELEGATE BOOK ORDERS**—I need these by **Tuesday, August 13**. The form is in the June 2024 Illinois Granger. Make checks payable to Illinois State Grange. Checks will be cashed after the State Session.

**STATE SESSION REPORTS** – State Officers, Deputies, Committee Chairs, and Directors should send these to me by **Tuesday, August 13** so they can be included in the Delegate Books.

**QUARTERLY REPORTS**—2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter reports are due before **Saturday, July 20**. They should be sent to Robin Kindberg along with the dues checks. Also, please include copies of the applications of any new members. If you have any questions or need anything, don't hesitate to contact me.

Fraternally,

Brian Keller, Illinois State Grange Secretary

brianjkeller@gmail.com

618-410-9020

703 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St, O'Fallon, IL 62269

## MEMBERSHIP

Just a reminder the new Membership Year Starts July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025.

I have years of service awards available if you want to recognize your Grange members. I have seals for 30, 35, 40, 45, 55, 60, 65, and 70 year seals on hand. Let me know if you want any.

## SECRETARY ASSISTANT REPORT

Please when you get new members be sure to send me a copy of the new member's application form. Also be sure to send me a list of all of your Junior Grangers and 1+ Juniors. You can send me a copy of their membership application form as well. Be sure to include birthdates and have two sponsors sign the application form.

Be sure to discard all of the Quarterly reports you have received except the one that was revised in May 2024 which you should be receiving in the mail this week. If you already turned in your reports I will fix them and send you a copy.

June 30<sup>th</sup> is the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and your Quarterly reports are due to me before July 20<sup>th</sup>. Mail them to Robin Kindberg 12971 Olson Road Caledonia, IL 61011.

All State session meals and reports ( State Officers, Committee Chairman, Directors, Deputies) all are due to Brian Keller 703 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street O'Fallon, IL 62269 before August 13, 2024.

Thank you for your cooperation

Robin Kindberg

ISG Membership Director/Secretary Assistant



## Troy Grove Grange

Troy Grove members receive their membership certificates.

Front: Ethel Bauer and Sue Ladson, both 25 years.

Back: Avery and Ethan Plote, both 10 years.

Congratulations!

## County Line Grange

We held our meeting June 12th. Hosts were Paul and Barb Anderson and Tim and Barb Fitch. Thanks for the delicious food and desserts.

We had four guests, Karie Blasingame, Marisa O'Dell, and Sara and Caroline Ellwanger. These ladies attended our meeting to help walk us through the steps of holding a formal meeting. This was to refresh our longtime members and for the benefit of our newest members. We thank them very much.

Committee reports were given. Membership- We welcomed two new members, Greg and Angie Umhoefer. Glad to have them. Legislative - Jean Peterson continued her report on National Grange Policies and Standards on Grain. Agriculture - Paul Anderson reported that corn is uneven, some early, some late, but should catch up with all the rain and heat. Juniors - Kim Robin said there is a meeting Fri. June 14th at the Grange Hall. Marisa added that the topic is deaf and sight activities and their effect on people's lives. Community Service - Kim said for everyone to keep turning in their Community Service sheets. Fairboard - Butch Peters reported that ticket sales are good, but could be better. Work is going to start on the Pony Barn soon. Ed Cosman said a new oven was installed in the Grange foodstand kitchen. New Building - Paul Zeien said insulation should be completed Sunday. Some members have been working to get it done. Grange Day - Sara Istad checked with Oak Lane Winery, they are open until Dec. They can accommodate 30 people. We will settle on a date after the Fair.

We voted to clean up the fairgrounds after the Dog Show in June. We will be selling food at the Mopar Show, July 21, at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Prices will stay the same. Meet at Joellen Coleman's June 29th. to decorate the float for the Belvidere Heritage Day Parade. We will be doing a raffle fundraiser for the new Grange Hall/Museum. Tickets will be sold at the new building during the Fair.

Our traveller, Ned Loy is traveling again. Next month, he will be vacationing in St. Croix. Have fun.

Congratulations to Tamra Brauer on the expected Oct.17th birth of her first Great Grandbaby. It's a boy!!

Many prayers are needed for Clay Murray. He is in Swedish American Hospital recovering from a heart attack.

Many prayers are also needed for Mike Robin. He was hurt in a farming accident and is recovering at home. He will be out of work for a while.

Meeting was closed, Penny March was held and "G" Dollars were collected.  
Stay safe and healthy everyone!

## Emerald Mound Grange

Spring is gone and summer is here! Emerald Mound Grangers have been busy as bees! We have been busy with breakfasts, dinners and community events. On June 1, we did rather well participating in the city-wide yard sale in Lebanon. Several members donated items from their homes and held a yard sale/ nacho & hotdog sale. Proceeds from the sale went back into the Grange.

On June 15, instead of our monthly breakfast, we had a pork steak dinner fundraiser. People in the community came out and said how great the food was. It was a success.

On June 20, we sold food at the Queen of Hearts event at the new event center by the Lebanon Ace Hardware. Different restaurants in town take turns catering for the event. This time, the owner of Ace and the event center asked if Emerald Mound Grange would cater. Grange President Marc Henrichs provided pulled pork sliders and pulled pork nachos. It was a success.

There are a couple of members we would like to highlight this month. Back in May, our vice president, Stephen Alltop, showed his compassion for people by saving a life. He happened to be at Casey's in Lebanon when a customer had a heart attack. Stephen has past experience as an EMT and was able to perform CPR on the customer until the ambulance arrived. She survived the heart attack!

Lastly, we would like to remember our past Grange president, Mindy Schiefer. Mindy very recently lost her husband, Rusty Schiefer. It was a shock to the community. We send her our thoughts, prayers, and condolences.



## June Gobbles from Turkey Hill

Our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was a wonderful day. We had approximately 80-90 guests at our Open House. We lined the tables with displays of historical artifacts, photos, albums, and documents. Our American Heritage Girls Troop, our 4H group and community service events were also highlighted. We had guests representing the National Grange, other out-of-state Granges, the Illinois State Grange and local Granges. We served desserts from different decades and a 1930 recipe for Hoover Stew, a depression era meal. Members and guests milled around the room reminiscing and meeting old and new friends. Lots of fun stories were shared.

Our program featured Lary Eckert, a direct descendent of a charter member of Turkey Hill, as master of ceremonies. A skit, written by David Donley and Stacy Rutledge, was performed using nine Grange members and the skit was accompanied by a barbershop quartet, The Rivertown Sound. Following the skit, National President, Chris Hamp, addressed the audience. Membership Chair, Steve Koluch, awarded longevity awards with the help of Chris Hamp. To conclude the afternoon, Turkey Hill President, Charles Treser, awarded the Granger of the Year Award to Ron Bersett.

Longevity Awards were given to the following individuals:

75 years- David Donley and Floyd Schlueter  
70 years- Jane Helms and Kenny Joseph  
65 years- Barb Joseph,  
55 years- Mardy Eisloeffel  
50 years- Amy Bouvet and Kathy Lickenbrock  
45 years- Tom and Pat Range, Rita Wurth  
40 years- Grace Moon  
35 years- Matt Helms  
30 years- Todd Beisiegel, Ron and Scarlett Haynes

At our regular meeting, we awarded these:

15 years- Taylor and Keegan Miller  
10 years- John and Stacy Rutledge, Jennifer Smith, Nathan Stanforth  
5 years- Judy Brindley, Dude and Joy Underwood, Dennis Vest and Edith Robinson

Special recognition was received from our Representative Jay Hoffman who passed a resolution on the House floor in commemoration of our years of service.

We closed the celebration with an evening buffet meal at the Bel-Air Bowl Event Center. We enjoyed more comradery with our Grange family from near and far. Lary Eckert was again our Master of Ceremonies and THG Member and County Board chairman, Mark Kern presented a proclamation in honor of our anniversary.

Chris Hamp gave an address and was thanked by Turkey Hill Grange with two gifts. She received a stained-glass piece of the state bird of Washington, her home state. It was made by David Donley. She also received a stainless tumbler with her name and the emblem of the Grange. It was also supplied by David and his wife, Mary.

In June, our Family Activity chair, Lynne Edwards, held a movie night in our auditorium. We enjoyed a pot luck dinner first and settled in to *The Boys in the Boat*. About 25 Grangers were able to join us.

We are in the planning stages for our August 4<sup>th</sup> Ham and Peach Dinner and for the Renner Stock Farm's 100 Years of Horsepower.

## Broad Hollow Grange

Broad Hollow Grange met on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. The evening started with a delicious potluck enjoyed by all. The hall was decorated seasonably with flowers. Father's Day was observed as was Flag Day. A Memorial Service was held in honor of several members who have passed on and other members including charter members who have gone to the Great Grange above. A vase of roses was placed in their honor and candles were lit. Commemorative readings included "There is no Light Without a Dawning," "She is Gone," and "You can Shed Tears or You can Smile Because They Lived" followed by Rosemarie Heidenreich Parker playing "Nearer My God to Thee" on the piano. Everyone then recited the Lord's Prayer.

The program for the evening honored all Fathers since Father's Day occurs in June. Flag Day also occurs on June 14<sup>th</sup>. "Silent, Strong Dad" was read followed by Father's Day Jokes then "What Makes a Dad?" was described, the flag was honored for Flag Day. Everyone sang "My Country 'Tis of Thee" with accompaniment by Rosemarie. A short history of the flag's birthplace was given followed by Rosemarie playing several songs pertaining to our flag. The closing thought was a humorous take on fatherhood. Each received a gift for Father's Day.

Broad Hollow Grange has donated over 130 dictionaries to third grade students in the New Athens and Freeburg public schools, and the Freeburg Parochial School.

The Grange is sponsoring two trips to Branson this fall, one in October and one in November. The trip is all inclusive with reserved seating for six shows. **5**



## Flora Grange #1762

Flora Grange held a delicious picnic supper on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, with Mary Harbison, Tammy Taylor and George McGee as the hostesses with several special guests in attendance. Following dinner, all moved upstairs, and Community Chairperson Lindakay Ebel introduced Flora Grange's Distinguished Fireman of the Year, Chief Shawn Schadle, and wife Angie, who has been with the Belvidere Fire Dept since 2006 who spoke about his career with the department.

Following, Emalee Colver presented a Quilt of Valor to Bob Lewis of Loves Park who served in the Navy from April 1963 to 1967. There are three parts to each of the quilts that are made for the Veterans who have served their country, honor, freedom and comfort. Bob thanked Emalee for his beautiful quilt and said he would cherish it forever.

Secretary Laurel Ratcliffe then gave out yearly certificates for membership. 10 years included: Joe Sosnowski, Tammy Taylor, Debbie Silvers, Robert Prichard, Albert and Lindakay Ebel. 15 Years, Mike and Darcie Chamberlain, Mary Harbison, Jim Hardy and Elaine Huska. 20 Years included Jim and Val Langendorf, Steve and Cathy Cadie, Terri Keegan and Lon Buzzell. 25 years Ken Fidler, Julie Scherer Randle and Jennifer Witz. 30 years Barb Noll, Aaron Fidler and First Place Promotions. 35 Years Jackie Hill and Belvidere Mutual Ins. Co., 40 Years Mike and Nick Ratcliffe. 45 Years Sharonne Laws.

The Grange meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and opened in the 4<sup>th</sup> degree. Reports of committees:

**Committee Service:** Lindakay Ebel suggested we all start collecting items for Hoyleton Children's Home, such as shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, body wash, washcloths, hairbrush, bottled water, playdoh, journals, stuffed animals, or donate money.

**Agriculture:** Dan Burow stated it has been a trying Spring, farmers are struggling, and now the farmers are putting on nitrogen or working on their hay crop. **Fair board:** Todd Hegge reported a lot is going on at the fairgrounds, bathroom is finally finished, several are working on paint jobs, and there are a lot of jobs to be done, just need workers to do them. **Farmland Protection:** Laurel Ratcliffe stated the dairy breakfast is coming up on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June at the BC fairgrounds and they will have a booth, to show the children where their food comes from. **Legislative:** Marion Thornberry stated not a lot going on at Springfield, remember to get out and vote, and Granges need to get their resolutions in by July 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Membership:** Lindakay Ebel stated this year's membership ends June 30<sup>th</sup>. She also invited Chief Shawn Schadle and his wife Angie to join Flora Grange and would love to have them as members. Also, the Patron's Chain on computer will end June 30<sup>th</sup>. New thing will be called Grange Today. Comes out 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday's. 1<sup>st</sup> one on local and State Grange and 2 on National Grange,

Legislative and Dept. Committee's, etc. **Family Activities:** Deb Silvers again had tickets for the noon luncheon at ISG convention, \$1 each or 6 for \$5. **Quilting:** Emalee Colver announced there will be quilting again this weekend on Friday the 21<sup>st</sup>, and the other group on the 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Building & Grounds:** Jack Ratcliffe thanked the Euckers for mowing the lawn and propane was also ordered.

Lindakay Ebel had a written financial report for all in attendance and went through each expense and deposit. She also gave a total of each account, including a new account.

Laurel Ratcliffe told about serving the luncheon for Luceba (Cebe) Marie Pfluger and her memorial was left to Flora Grange and to Heartland Hospice.

There was no old business, new business included giving a donation of \$165.00 to a person in the community. Also, the motion for Flora Grange to have our name on the video at the Boone County Fairgrounds. A motion was also made that we investigate the purchase of a new front door for our Grange Hall.

'G' bills were collected by Emalee Colver and given to the treasurer, special anniversary wishes to Pat and Loren Due. The meeting was closed in full form. Lindakay Ebel, Publicity  
Flora Grange members have been busy making and awarding Quilts of Valor to very deserving and appreciative Veterans to thank them for their service and sacrifices made for our great country.



The first quilt was presented by Dale on behalf of Flora Grange to his brother in law, Tom K, at Menominee, MI, in April. Tom served in the Marines from 1966-1968.



Quilts were awarded to 2 Legionnaires at Harvard, IL, following the Memorial Day services. Gerry S. Served in the US Navy from 1965-1969. Keith Z served as a Marine from 1969-1971. Emalee, Todd and Dona presented these Quilts.



The 4th QOV was awarded to Bob L, at the June meeting of Flora Grange. Bob served the US Navy from 1963-1967 and was nominated by Barb T. Presentation was done by Emalee, Sharon, and Dona with Todd as photographer.

## PRAIRIE Grange Report

The May 20, 2024 meeting found Prairie Grange members enjoying a delicious catered meal as a token of appreciation for all the hard work our members put into the annual Prairie Consignment Auction fundraiser, making it a huge success and all of our other community service projects.

We discussed participating in the Wreaths Across America and putting wreaths on the graves at a local cemetery in December when the main event is held.

We are all saddened by the recent loss of our worthy Brother Fay Ellwanger. He was a 50 year member of Prairie Grange. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Ellwanger Family.

Marlene and Kent Williams will be in charge of the Pork Chop Dinner at the fair on August 11, 2024. See Marlene if you want to help.

June 18, 2024 Prairie Grangers held an informal meeting. We had two guests visiting and before the night was over they had joined the Grange.

Committee Reports were given: Agriculture- Mary Brubach reported that most of 1<sup>st</sup> cutting of hay was done and the crop yielded better than what was expected.

FAC – Ann Johnson reminded everyone to be working on your projects and that she had FAC Raffle tickets for sale. See her to purchase them. YOUTH – Karie Blasingame reported May 9<sup>th</sup> was the Statewide Grange picnic and 9 ISG Scholarships were handed out that day. Three of the recipients were from Prairie Grange, Samantha Meyers, Chloe Konieczki and Sheri Konieczki-Bochmann. Congratulations to all the winners.

We received a thank you from the Belvidere North FFA Chapter for the donation they received from Prairie Grange.

Ruth Blasingame reminded everyone that the Pomona Picnic will be June 26, 2024 at 6:30PM in the Grange Hall. Bring one hot and one cold dish to pass and your own drinks, meat will be provided.

We need to keep Jimmy and Ruth Blasingame in our prayers they have both been battling health issues. We need to keep Monica Kasper-Chabucus and her family in our thoughts and prayers her husband had surgery. Keep Adam and Sara Ellwanger and family in our prayers on the recent loss of Sara's Grandmother.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:24PM and refreshments and socializing followed.

Robin Kindberg Publicity Chairman

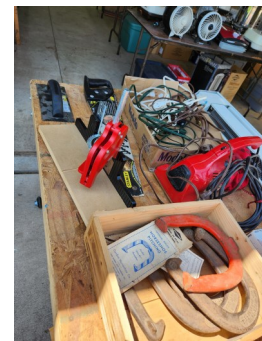
## Guilford Hope Grange #6

Guilford Hope Grange met June 25th at the home of Al and Lindakay Ebel's for a noon pot luck. Lindakay led the Grange in prayer. Eleven Grange members were present.

The meeting was opened in the 4th degree with the Pledge of Allegiance. The secretaries report was read with no corrections. The treasurers reported sending the May donation to Shelter Care Ministries. The Grange Community Service garage sale held netted just over \$1,500.00, Most of the items not purchased by donation have been packed up to re-donate. A presentation date will need to be arranged with Midway Village Museum and our Grange to present the money for their Education Fund from our garage sale. Interest on our CD was received for March to May. We collected peanut butter for the Rock River Valley Pantry with will be donated along with our June donation. Beverly Smith agreed to deliver them both. A few 'G' bills were collected.

New business: Any resolutions will need to be submitted by July 1st. Please RSVP each month to host of the Grange meeting. It is getting confusing as to just how many are attending. Wayne and Nancy Lyford will be the delegates for the State Grange Session. Our October donation to the Rockford Rescue Mission was voted to do immediately as it would be doubled if done right away. July meeting will be at the Gene Wheeler residence with a noon pot luck.

Submitted by Nancy Lyford





## Greetings from FAC Women's Activities Greeting Grangers!

I hope everyone is getting their projects ready. My apologies for being so quiet lately. In my world, Pool Season has started. That means 11 hours day, 6 days a week, nonstop customers and phone calls.

There are many types of sewing projects that can be accomplished. Remember, the contests are open to the whole family (men, women and juniors).

If you are not able join us at State Session you can purchase your Raffle tickets through your grange. The Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Raffle items will be accepted at State Session and/or your Grange. Please be generous, remember proceeds go to support the Memorial Scholarship fund.

Contest information as well as our phone numbers are posted on the Illinois Grange Website.

On a personal note, my Grandson has arrived. He is now 5 months old. Sullivan "Sulli" Gardner. He is a big boy.



Looking forward to seeing everyone at State Session in September.

Fraternally  
Angie Dickerson  
FAC Chairperson

## Leroy Community Grange

**HERE'S THE SCOOP!**  
BE SOMEONE'S HERO & GET SOME FREE ICE CREAM

**Culver's**  
WELCOME TO DUNKIN'

**LERoy GRANGE**  
**PINT**  
for a  
**PINT**  
**BLOOD DRIVE**

**Wednesday, July 10th**  
**2:00-6:00 PM**  
**Boone County**  
**Fairgrounds**

To sign up visit [https://donor.rvbc.org/donor/schedule/drive\\_schedule/55811](https://donor.rvbc.org/donor/schedule/drive_schedule/55811)  
or call Denise at 815-262-0670

**The Grange with the most donors will also win a 50/50 TICKET with a chance to WIN \$10,000.**  
All Grange members, family, friends & community members welcome!

## Beaver Valley Grange #1791

Deaf Awareness, we began our meeting with two speakers from the Center for Sight and Hearing, Dr. Connie Copeland and Beth. They gave us information on what the Center has to offer people who are experiencing loss of vision or loss of hearing using the tools to help them get around their home, or out and about. They also offer eye exams and hearing tests. Use of tools to help from magnifying glasses to dogs that are trained to aid a person in getting around.

Ag report by Steve Paulson on events that happened the 14th of every month. Jan 14th—Makar Sankranti, in India; Feb 14th—Valentine's Day; Mar 14th—US Currency placed on the gold standard making it a golden day; April 14th—Abe Lincoln was shot and the Titanic sank; May 14th—US launched its first space station; June 14th—What year did the US adopt the Stars & Stripes as the American Flag {1777} and it's Steve Paulson's birthday!; July 14th—Bastille Day; Aug 14th—Truman announced Japan surrendered in WWII; Sept 14th—National Parents Day Off;; Oct 14th—Columbus Day; Nov 14th—National Pickle Day; Dec 14th—National Bouillabaisse Day, Free shipping day and National monkey day.

Flowers—Jerry reports it is National Pollinator Week so plant some Zinnias or Cosmos. Krystal reported on Health and reminded us that measles seem to be over in Illinois. Legislative—Jerry reported that Springfield had adjourned, but that the process for the FAFSA applications are being reviewed because of errors and is slowing down everything.

Pomona picnic will be June 26, bring a dish to pass. Safety reported by Steve Paulson for every adult and child; #1 Know your name, number and address; #2 Never ever eat anything offered by a stranger; #3 Don't Club that fence; #4 Do not walk out of the yard alone; #5 Do not play with fire; #6 Nover to anywhere with a stranger; #7 Never let a stranger touch you; #8 If lost stay put; #9 Do not share address with anyone; #10 If it makes you uncomfortable do not do it!

Midwest Leadership in Ohio. Our Rivets game is Aug 3rd. We will work the Food Truck on July 20-21. National Grange is in Bettendorf Iowa Nov 11th and they need volunteers. Get your resolutions in. BVG will have a cleanup for Home Ec building on Sunday July 28th.



## ISG YOUTH

Karie and I attended the Midwest Grange Leadership Conference in Bowling Green, Ohio. It was very well attended and organized. I recommend this conference to anyone that would like to go to it next time. Being my first time I was able to meet new people from different states and get some ideas to bring back to my Grange.

Now that we are back home, we are gearing up for State Session. If you are an officer at State please bring your marching shoes and preorder your Youth shirt (as that is what we are wearing for the drill). We are taking volunteers now BUT if no one volunteers you might be voluntold. Shirt orders are in the State Youth group.

I hope everyone is planning on bringing items for our contests. There will be three special awards given out. Will you be one of the winners? You will find out at State. Make sure you also bring your best 50's attire and get ready to Rock 'n' Roll after dinner on Saturday. Don't be a square and join us for a Blast. Lets Shake Rattle and Roll!!!!  
Marisa O'Dell

## Note from the Editor

**I cannot convert pdf files into this Publishing program that I use!!**

When you send in pdf files I either have to retype the entire article or spend a long time trying to work it in.

If you don't have a word program please just type your article to me in an email. I can then just copy and paste it into a word document.

This month I took a picture of one article and used that. It doesn't look great but at least you are getting the information. Another article I had to retype into because it was sent as a pdf.

Google docs can be converted, text messages can be converted, emails can be converted, but pdf's cannot.

**PLEASE, NO MORE PDF FILES, THANK YOU**







## Chaplain's Corner

Charlotte Mehrtens

Happy July 4th, Let Freedom Ring

Guess what, by the time we read this everyone will be thinking Red White and Blue getting ready to celebrate America's birthday. The birth of our great country. So what are your plans, do you have a family tradition from years past? A family reunion and picnic watch your community fireworks display. When I was growing up we always made a trip to the creek to play in the water and later in the afternoon finish the time with big slices of watermelon oh what a joy, then headed home for the rest of the evening fireworks.

Just as we celebrate the birth of our country we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Maybe sit down and reread the birth of Jesus and how exciting His birth was. The whole world received the great news by kneeling down to worship Him. Because He lives I can live also.

Our very deepest sympathy to those families who lost dear loved ones these past few months our prayers are always with you. To those who have received happiness we share our love with you also. Remember that God's love and blessings are with you always. Enjoy your holiday with family and friends

***“Well done Good and Faithful Servants”***



Clay Murry

1967-2024

County Line Grange



Wilbur H. "Rusty" Schiefer Jr.

1962-2024

Emerald Mound Grange

Rusty was the beloved husband of ISG Junior Director Mindy Schiefer. He will be greatly missed.



Second Degree, Ceres



**CHANGES AND TRANSFORMATIONS ARE  
CONSTANTLY PASSING BEFORE US.**

*Live! In Concert!*

# Scotty McCreery

**Saturday  
August  
10th  
7:00pm**

with special guest  
**GREYLAN JAMES**

Tickets on sale online now  
[www.boonecountyfair.com](http://www.boonecountyfair.com)  
8847 IL Rt 76 \* Belvidere \* IL  
August 6 - 11

Summer Fun at the Boone County Fair

Owned and operated by the Granges of Boone County!

**NEXT LEVEL PRO BULL RIDING PRESENTS:**

# MIDWEST SWING TOUR

2024

OVER \$110,000 IN ADDED MONEY

**8 EVENTS**

- JUNE 8: West Allis, WI  
7pm - \$10,000 added
- JUNE 22: Paducah, KY  
7pm - \$20,000 added
- JULY 28: Grayslake, IL  
5pm - \$20,000 added
- AUG 2: Woodstock, IL  
7pm - \$10,000 added
- AUG 9: Belvidere, IL  
7pm - \$10,000 added
- AUG 10: Big Rock, IL  
7pm - \$10,000 added
- AUG 13: Morrison, IL  
7pm - \$5,000 added

**TOUR FINALE**

SEPT 21: Waterloo, IL  
\$25,000 added  
+Saddle

ENTRIES:  
Matt Nobles: (815) 651-6661

**NEXT LEVEL**  
PRO BULL RIDING

**TUFF KNEEMAN**  
PRO BULL RIDING