



ILLINOIS GRANGER

In Essentials... Unity

In Non-Essentials... Liberty

In All Things... Charity

November 2024

Vol 4 No 11



Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

The Bonding information has hit the email box of the Pomona/Subordinate Secretaries or President. Please get the money and form back to Brian Keller ASAP. The checks are made out to the National Grange. Due Date is before November 15th.

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 www.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** of the information requested.

National Grange Session will be November 11 - 17, 2024, at Isle Casino in Bettendorf, IA. We are looking forward to showing off what our Midwest Region has to offer. I sent three resolutions from our session on the Search Features for On-Line National Grange Policy Book, Electronic Links for Online National Grange Policy Book, and United States Postal Service. Next year's session will be a cruise. I know that many of you have signed up to assist with the session, and we appreciate all your efforts. Congratulations to The Prairie Grange, Tur-

key Hill Grange and County Line Grange who have been named Distinguished Granges. Good luck to County Line, hope their Community Service book does well at National. Wishing best of luck to firefighter, teacher and police officer that we sent to National. Host table in showcase - 10 IL winning items. Oldie and Goodie table – check it out.

If your Grange is celebrating something special and would like me to be there, please let me know. Make sure that all your members are getting a hard copy or an electronic copy of the *Illinois Granger*.

Lana Korte, Don and I are planning to attend the Grange Revival 4.0 in Torrey, UT, and Karie will be going too, in July 21 – 27, 2025. Any questions about Revival just ask one of us. Reservation forms can be found on the National Grange website.

The Grange Foundation has voted to no longer accept donations for the Kelley Farm, send donations directly to the Farm if you wish. Interested in serving on the Grange Foundation Board – a resume should be sent to Chris Hamp and Joan Smith ASAP. Grange Foundation has a subgroup 1n1000 – donate \$1000 and you have special meetings and help make decisions on spending that money.

The new *Grange Today!* should be coming to your inbox bi-monthly. If not make sure your email is in the National Grange database. Send information to Phil Vonada if

Calendar of Grange Events

2024

11/3 Floraville Wurstmarkt

11/11-16 National Session Quad Cities

11/11 Host Banquet—Boat Tour

11/16 6th & 7th Degrees

12/14 Ice Hogs Teddy Bear Toss Game 7 pm

Contact Karrie Kindberg if you would like to join

The group going from Prairie

2025

7/22-27 Grange Revival—Torrey Utah

8/5-10 Boone County Fair

9/19-21 State Session at Boone County Fairgrounds

Donations: Memorial Scholarship

Donations: Illinois Granger

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

your Grange is doing something exciting and different. One publication each month has articles about Community Granges and the 2nd publication will be about National Grange.

Make sure your secretary, Brian Keller and I have your correct email address, so that the database is up to date. I recently sent emails to many of the email addresses that are in the Database – many of them came back – no longer a valid email, this information is needed for benefits that we could be eligible to get via National Grange. Look often at the National Grange website for benefits. Loretta Washington works hard to have new benefits available to us. www.nationalgrange.org

Any Grange wanting to use the IL State Grange Zoom license just let me or Karie know. Granges can meet this way; State Committees and any other Grange group can meet this way. Just make sure we can set you up. It only takes a few minutes if you decide at the last minute to hold the meeting that way. Check with us to see if your date is free.

The National Grange Digest of Laws is available for download from the National Grange website. If you need a copy of the newest National Grange Digest just let me know – or check it out on the National Grange member page.

Promote your Grange in any public media you can – Let others know what you are doing in your community – that is the key to a happy healthy Grange – and a happy healthy Grange gets new members. Working with other Granges and Grangers only makes us stronger.

Good Day! Magazine – have you subscribed? Illinois appears in many of the magazines. Make sure you renew subscriptions in a timely manner. Look on the label to see when you will expire.

Taxes – eform 990 – keep them current. Need any help, please contact me or Brian Keller.

Trademark issues ever plague the National Grange. If you see trademark infringement let me know. You as a Granger or Grange are allowed to use the logos and trademarks in any legal manner. Non-Grangers are not authorized to use the logos and trademarks, but many have a licensing agreement with us. Lynette schaeffr@att.net lschaeffr@gmail.com 618-979-5546

ISG Secretary's Report - November 2024

Thank you to everyone who came to GRIT at the end of October! As usual, you were showered with plenty of useful information - and plenty of paper, too. And much of the paper was from the Secretary and Membership Director. We hope it will be helpful to you. If you haven't done so already, be sure to look at the packets given to each Grange, as well as the contents of each Grange's jump drive, and share as appropriate with the officers and members of your Grange.

One looming deadline is for the bonding of Secretaries and Treasurers. It is important to send the certification of self-bonding or the sign-up for National Grange bonding insurance (including payment) to me, State Secretary, no later than **Friday, November 15**. If your Grange hasn't received the information about it, reach out to Lynette or me, and we will get it to you.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me with any questions. I'm here to help!

Fraternally,

Brian Keller

Secretary, Illinois State Grange
703 E 2nd St, O'Fallon IL 62269
618-410-9020
brianjkeller@gmail.com

NOTE:

The complete Lecturer's Contests are at the end of the email in extra pages. A condensed version will hopefully be in the next issue of the Granger.

The Prairie Grange #1832

Prairie Grange purchased over \$200 in water bottles and sent it to North Carolina on the truck with Matt Noble. Nobles trucks drove to North Carolina and dropped their donations off at a designated site. Many Prairie members were also in the line dropping off their own donations to the truck.

We also donated \$500 to B1 Food Pantry for their Thanksgiving food baskets and another \$500 to B1 for their Christmas food baskets.

We have a large group going to the Teddy Bear Toss Hockey game in December.

2025 Illinois State Grange Youth Contests

Creative Art & Handicrafts: Due at State Session Friday morning

Lego Item or Scene:

- Category 1: Beginner Lego Set
- Category 2: Vehicles Lego Set
- Category 3: Flowers Lego Set
- Category 4: Animals Lego Set
- Category 5: Miscellaneous Lego Set

Diamond Art: must be framed, ready to hang no saw-tooth hangers

- Category 1: Holidays
- Category 2: Animated Characters
- Category 3: Animals
- Category 4: Nature
- Category 5: Landscapes
- Category 6: Western
- Category 7: Sports
- Category 8: Miscellaneous

Ceramics:

- Category 1: Functional
- Category 2: Display

Fabric and Food:

Decorated Item:

- Category 1: Shirt
- Category 2: Tote
- Category 3: Apron
- Category 4: Miscellaneous

Painted Pumpkin:

Something Stuffed:

- Category 1: Crochet
- Category 2: Sewn
- Category 3: Miscellaneous

Cookies: Three Decorated Cookies

Agriculture:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Pollinator Poster | Pollinator TikTok or YouTube Video |
| Food Waste Poster | Food Waste TikTok or YouTube Video |
| Mental Illness Poster | Mental Illness Tik Tok or YouTube Video |
| Hearing/Signing Poster | Hearing/Signing TikTok or YouTube Video |
| Anything Ag related Poster | Ag related TikTok or YouTube Video |

Public Speaking: Picnic

Impromptu Prepared Grange Commercial

Sign A Song: Picnic

Individual Group

Lip Sync Contest: Picnic

Judging on Costume, Performance, Style and

Swagger.

Talent Exhibition: Picnic



**Join us the 4th Tuesday
of each month for
Game Night
5-7 pm via Zoom
check out the Illinois
State Grange Youth
Facebook group
for more details.**



Family Activities Contests

2025 Ann Johnson—Prairie

2026 Trisha Renken—Hopewell

2027 Marilyn Coe—Turkey Hill

Group 1—Knitting

- A Afghan
- B Baby Afghan
- C Baby Items, 1 or more
- D Dish Cloths
- E Winter Wear
- F Any other item not listed

Group 2—Crochet

- A Afghan
- B Baby Afghan
- C Baby Items, 1 or more
- D Dish Cloths
- E Winter Wear
- F Any other item not listed

Group 3—Needlework

- A Embroidery items
- B Counted Cross Stitch
- C Plastic Canvas
- D Any other item not listed

Group 4—Quilting

- A Quilt— Queen, Full or Twin
- B Quilt— Baby Quilt
- C Rag Quilt, Any Size
- D Quilted Wall Hanging
- E Table Runner
- F Unfinished Square
Max size 16 1/2"X16 1/2"

Group 5—Sewing

- A Apron
- B Clothing, 1 item
- C Clothing, 2 or more items
- D Pillow
- E Any other item not listed

Group 6—Jewelry/Miscellaneous

- A Bracelet
- B Necklace
- C 2 or more piece set
- D Green Category—Anything Green!

Group 7—Food

- A Quick Breads—Any kind (1 loaf)
- B Cookies—No Bake (1 dozen)
- C Cookies—Christmas (1 dozen)
- D Cookies—Chocolate Chip (1 dozen)

- E Bars—Any kind (Lemon, Brownie, Cookie, etc.)

Group B—Juniors

- A Blanket, Any Kind (Tie, Sewn, Crochet, etc.)
- B Jewelry, Any
- C Keychain
- D Decorated Shoes
- E Red Category—Anything Red!

Group Project

- A From 1 or more Granges
Adult Bibs, Minimum 10 Bibs
- B From 1 or more Granges
Baby Blankets, Any Kind (Sewn, Knit, Crochet, etc.) Minimum 10 Blankets
To be donated to The Haven Network

2025 Illinois State Grange JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

All Junior Contests—Individual must be a Junior or a +1 member. Three age groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14. Entry age as of 1/1/2025. {National Gruidelines}

****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, 2025, May send up to 3 entries to session. These projects will not be judged as other age groups are, but wil receive participation ribbons.

Junior at Heart: Any Granger over the age of 20, as of September 1, 2025, may submit a project. These projects will be voted on by fellow Grangers for Best of Show.

Host State—Florida

Small World—Netherlands—Make a 3-D display (Max size 10x10x8 in) or a poster (up to 11x14 in. finished size after mounting for stability) which represents the country. Identify and explain at least three items of the country.

Recycling - ABC

Decorate your name initial with picturs, and/or items that describe you. Example—Dot would use a D shape to decorate.

Bible Stories—Moses

Make a poster, 3-D item, or give a 3-5 minute speech about Moses.

The Arts—Make a painting in the style of Vincent Van Gogh. Max size 11X14 in, framed.

Melinda (Mindy) Schiefer ISG Junior Director

618-444-2852 schefr5@gmail.com

2024 AG CONTESTS

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)
Bell 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
Longest Cucumber*
Longest Bean*
Largest Tomato*

FRUITS

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

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)
Sheaf of Wheat*
No Larger than 15"

FLOWERS

(cut flowers must be in clear glass container)
Fall Garden Bouquet *
Not to exceed 24" tall
Zinnias (6 Stems)
-1 Variety
Zinnias (6 Stems)
-Mixed Variety
Marigolds (6 Stems)
-1 Variety
Marigolds (6 Stems)
-Mixed Variety*
Black-eyed Susan (6 Stems)*
-Any Variety

POTTED PLANTS*

(Not to exceed 8" at base of pot)
Coleus*
-1 Variety
Coleus
-Mixed Variety*
Geranium*

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

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
Most unusual flavor of jam or jelly 8 oz*

JUICE

(Homemade, in 1 QT mason jar, w/ date made)

Any Variety*

OUTDOORS

Decorated Pumpkin
(No carving)
Best looking Scarecrow*
No taller than 4ft w/stick

LIVESTOCK*

Jerkey
(in airtight Ziploc bag)
Beef (3)*
Turkey (3)*
Fish (3)*
Deer (3)*
Misc (3)*

NOTE:

One entry per person per category

All products must be grown/made within current Grange year.

***- NEW ITEM ADDED**

****NEW FOR THIS YEAR****

You will have the ability to register your AG contest items online. Click on the link, and fill out the form to submit. (1 entry per item/person)

<https://forms.gle/usbaFYakj6HyuvrN8>

2025

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

2026-2027

Marilyn Hoffman
Floraville Community Grange
618-409-3900
Lana Korte
Floraville Community Grange
618-830-3894

2024 Community Service Project

The Haven Network has been supporting families in our community enduring the death of their baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, SIDS, early infant death or terminal diagnosis. We begin our care in the hospital following the birth of the baby where we create priceless keepsakes of each baby and where our photographers photograph every beautiful detail of baby. Each family receives a one of a kind memory box. They also receive a photo album. Everything is provided at no cost thanks to generous donations.

The Haven Network Needs

Forever Stamps (postage is one of our biggest needs)

- Restaurant Gift Cards (provided to families so that they can enjoy a meal together. A simple gift that means a lot in time of sorrow)
- Amazon Gift Cards (used to purchase supplies)
- Hobby Lobby Gift Cards (used to purchase craft supplies)

Amazon Wish list.



12 Months of Giving

You will find USB thumb drives for pictures.

And photo albums

For Dads

Wood Slices, bracelets for dads, and books for a grieving father.

Hospital Comfort Care Packs

Gift Cards to local restaurants, lip balm, boys wipes, journals, tissues

Miscarriage Kit Supplies

Flower seed packets, pads for mom, personal tissues

Here you find more of the things that we most use on a call. Stretch wraps for babies, mold and casting materials, photo albums, full size tissue boxes.

What works best for our mom bags is the travel size shampoos and conditioners, body wash, lotions, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss or those toothpicks,

mouth wash, and lip balms. Every mom gets one of these special bags. And included is also a restaurant gift card.

The Haven Network gratefully accepts any and all donations that meet the below listed "Donation Guidelines". These guidelines ensure we are providing quality items to our Haven families.

1. *All items must be new. Any used items (books, journals, gift bags, frames, albums, clothing, blankets, etc.) will not be accepted.*
2. *Any items must be current, not dated (albums or books from decades past, for example).*
3. *Pictures frames need to be of good quality. Respectfully, pictures frames from dollar stores do not meet our standards. We need to ensure our Haven families are receiving quality items, especially those that contain priceless photos of their baby.*

Calling all crafters. We are in need of more buntings. Lengths (from shoulder to bottom closure): 8 inches long by 4 inches wide and 5 inches long by 3 inches wide Colors: solid colors-white, cream, beige, light grey, sage green...any soft neutral colors.

Yarn needs to be thin so as not to make the buntings bulky. It helps if they have a little stretch/give to them. Because of your generosity we haven't had this request in almost two years!

Our Miscarriage Kits are continuing to gain popularity and as a result we are in need of:

- * 5 inch by 5 inch blankets in any color BUT pink and blue. So any greens, yellows, white, cream, gray, purple, variegated would be ideal. We ask that they not be pink or blue as the parents receiving the kit may not know the gender of their baby and we only provide neutral colors in these to be respectful of that
- * hats that would be small enough to fit a ping pong ball. Again same color requirements for the same reasons
- *any small keepsakes such as the hearts

We are in need of baby blankets: 14x14 inches, 18x18 inches and 24x24 inches

Soft baby yarn, not too bulky with a little bit of stretch works well.

Flora Grange #1762

Flora Grange held their October meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 7 pm at their Flora Grange Hall with some 31 members in attendance. Master Ken Fidler called the meeting to order at 7 PM with the Grange Salutation and Pledge to the American Flag.

Chaplain Donna West opened the Bible and said a short prayer. Roll call was taken and the minutes of September 10, 2024, meeting were approved. Flora Grange took in 4 new members this evening and Jack Ratcliffe gave them the obligation and Grange members welcomed them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Lindakay Ebel thanked members for the many community service hours that were turned in this evening.

AGRICULTURE: Bob Scherer reported that 70 to 80% of the harvesting is completed and it seems to be a good harvest this year and Jack Ratcliffe reported the yields are turning out great also.

FAIRBOARD: Todd Hegge stated the pony barn has been approved and is really to start, IAAF dinner November 3rd, Convention in Springfield, January 17-19th, 2025 at the Crowne Plaza. We will have some new attractions at our fair this coming year, as well as many coming back.

YOUTH: Will be meeting next week. **MEMBERSHIP:** Lindakay Ebel reported she is so pleased with our membership, in August we had 2 new members, September 4 new members and tonight 4 more new members. Keep up the great work Flora!

QUILTING: The Friday group will meet on the 11th and the other group will meet on the 12th & 13th, of October, all are invited, you do not have to quilt, you can bring other things to sew or make.

The treasurer's report was given by Lindakay Ebel with a handout listing all income and expenses and balances of each account. Motion to approve. Motion was made for Lindakay to relocate a CD for more interest.

OLD BUSINESS: Flora Grange members will be selling Butter Braids until November 5, to be delivered around the middle of November. If interested in purchasing, contact a Flora Grange member. Sheets were available for pickup tonight.

NEW BUSINESS: Jack & Laurel Ratcliffe 60th wedding anniversary – October 26 – Flora Grange Hall – 1-4 pm

RSVP - Also GRIT workshop, Sunday, October 27, Community Grange Hall – Belvidere – 11:30 Potluck, 12:30 Presentation w/programs & contests for coming year.

Amber Fidler gave a report on her weekend at the II State convention; she was on the bylaw committee and told about the auctions and the donations to the Hoyleton Children's Home. Said it was quite an experience.

Master Ken Fidler handed out ribbons to those who entered at the conventions in Family Activities, Sharon Fidler, Emalee Colver, Debbie Silvers, Rhonda Settle and Nancy Lyford. Emalee Colver received Best of Show for her patriotic quilt.

Ken Fidler presented Community Service Chairman Lindakay Ebel her 2023-2024 Community Service book that received 2nd place at the Illinois State Convention and a check in the amount of \$50.00. Flora Grange also was given a check for \$25.00 for 5 new members.

Emalee Colver gave \$200.00 to the North Carolina Grange in the name of Flora Grange for the funds to the disaster on Hurricane Helene. A motion was made that Flora Grange send another \$200.00 to the North Carolina Grange for additional support.

Debbie Silvers stated she contacted the University of Illinois office on the Christmas tree and the cost went from \$30 to \$40 this year.

Jack Ratcliffe had a Halloween work search and another interesting article again this evening for us to guess the answers. \$54.00 was collected in 'G' bills this evening.

After Jack left the room, we discussed doing something for Jack and Laurel's 60th anniversary. It was suggested we get a dinner/theatre package at The Fireside for them. After much discussion we decided to get a gift certificate for \$200.00 at The Fireside in Fort Atkinson, WI.

Members sick or in distress Barb Trevathan and prayers for on-going tests for Lindakay Ebel.

Birthdays, Lonn Buzzell, Wayne & Nancy Lyford and Oliver Nelson. Anniversary – 60th for Jack & Laurel Ratcliffe – October 26th. The meeting was adjourned in full form. Refreshments were served and members enjoyed fellowship.

Lindakay Ebel, Publicity

Beaver Valley Grange #1791

October 11, 2024 meeting was met as a Zoom meeting.

President Brian O'Dell gave results for the contests from State Session as the Micah, Morgan, Hattie, and Will Schlie could not stay on the zoom meeting very long. All the kids including Brandon O'Dell were excited for their ribbons and prizes! Minutes were approved; communications reported there is a new Grange Today, asking for help with NC efforts. GRIT reminder. Community Service hours were turned in. It was decided to do treat bags for Heritage Woods this year for Christmas. President Brian gave congratulations to all the winners of the contests, they all did an amazing job. First place winners will be going to National Grange. Jerry Paulson gave a legislature report there will not be a Farm Bill as it is frozen, at least for now. Reminder Youth & Young Adults will have butter braids and cookie dough for sale. President Brian also presented the prize for the increase in membership. State Session reports were given by Brian and Marisa, our delegates, reviewed the resolutions, and gave us AG changes. Reminder GRIT is upcoming on Saturday on October 26th at Turkey Hill and Sunday the 27th up here.

Beaver Valley Grange had an election of officers and they are: Secretary - Dayle Paulson; Gatekeeper - Beth Olson, Vice President - Manny Salgado, and the rest stayed the same. Our graces are: Ceres - Marisa O'Dell, Pomona - Chloe Broughton, Flora - Micah Paulson. Executive Committee: Brenda Paulson (3 years); Teresa (2 years); Tom Paulson (1 year). Beaver Valley Grange Christmas Party will be December 13th at 6:30 pm at the Grange Hall and will be a potluck. We will plan to do 130 treat bags for residents at the Heritage Woods, and 50 bags for Staff. Beaver Valley Grange voted to sponsor a tractor at the PAMA Tractor Trunk or Treat on October 19th for \$20.00 plus any that can bring a bag of candy to share. We had a count of 11 plus 4 Juniors +1

Fraternally submitted,

Dayle Paulson, Publicity



Guilford Hope Grange #6

Guilford Hope Grange was pleased to present a QOV to Wally Lyford. Wally served in the US Army from 9/1963 to 9/1965 and then in the US Air Force from 6/1967 to 9/1969.



HISTORIAN "SHOW AND TELL" PRESENTATION
AT STATE GRANGE SESSION SEPTEMBER 14, 2024
Hello Patrons!

You can read my annual report on pages 26 and 27 of your booklets. I hope you got an opportunity to look at my display in the display room. The South Granges book will show many of the St. Clair County Granges of the past. The State Grange book shows many state sessions of the past. The newest book I have made is Rock River Grange#1921. Dorothy Newcomer(who passed away this year) donated many items to me so that I could highlight their active years in a separate book.

Just to let you all know, I have about 44 notebooks, 15 collections and at least 10 tubs of Grange memorabilia. Some of the collections include: Grange booklets, pamphlets, bumper stickers, membership forms, By-laws, songbooks, cookbooks, Declaration of Purpose, Rosters, Journals of State Sessions, jewelry, Grange books, Granger newspapers, the 1967 Grange stamp, and lots of other Grange miscellaneous items.

I visited the Boone County Fair this August and spoke with Kim. The Grange Museum is not set up yet but offered my help when they start setting it up.

I was glad to hear from some of the other Grangers that they also check on E-bay for Grange items. I narrowed the search for Illinois Grange items. Did you know the Illinois State Grange held State Session in another state? Yes, here is the program booklet from the 75th session held in Hotel Statler in St. Louis, Missouri from October 16-19, 1946. In past years State sessions could be held in December, October, September and more recently August. This session we worked on updating the By-Laws. I found this By-Laws booklet from December 10-12, 1929 session held in Oregon, Illinois. Then I found these two National Grange booklets (about 1949) titled "The Farmer's Best Friend"—useful information on the farm, and why you need the Grange.

The oldest item I found was an officer badge ribbon in its original envelope from Orange Grange #843. I believe it to be the Flag Bearer because of the American flags on the top. The seller also sent me a small book of their handwritten By-laws when organizing on January 10, 1874. Gary Hecathorn also has some of their record books and stores them in Hopewell Grange archives.

Another item I purchased was the 69th Illinois State Grange session Journal of Proceedings held in Rockford, Illinois December 10-12, 1940. Back then each Grange made an annual report to be published in the journal. There were 85 Subordinate Granges represented by 145 delegates and 11 Pomona Granges represented by 22 delegates. So, I thumbed through the booklet but was really surprised on the very last page. It was the report by Guilford Hope Juvenile Grange#22. The Master was Harold McLarty (my uncle) and Secretary Alice McLarty (my mother). It certainly touched my heart!

I truly love being the Illinois State Grange Historian and I thank you for the opportunity.
Beverly Smith Illinois State Grange Historian

County Line Grange

Our regular meeting was Wed. October 9th. This was our Halloween Party. There were lots of great costumes. There were three "Best Costumes". Ethan Walker and Kaitlyn Roth won with their bull and injured cowboy costumes. Barb Fitch won with her frumpy housewife costume. Kathy Loy and her decorators did a wonderful job decorating the Grange Hall for this Halloween party. Our Lecturer gave us some stories about Halloween and some trivia questions. Did you know that 90 percent of pumpkin pie filling comes from Morton, il.?

We had some members from the Youth Fairboard attend our meeting. We can now have our own Jr. Grange. We are also now a Charter Grange. County Line is going to get an Instagram Page.

We added some new committes and are working on a bunch of new fundraiser ideas. Mark and Deb Zellman are going to be working on Veteran's Affairs Commission. We are donating helpful, needed items to St. John's Church for people who need a little extra help this year.

Myron and Jean Peterson, our State Grange Delegates this year, submitted two Resolutions that were voted on and passed.

We want to give thanks to the Noble family for collecting food, water and other items for the people of North Carolina that were affected by hurricane Helene. We donated baby formula, breakfast bars, and soup to send. We also donated money to help.

Stay safe and healthy everyone!





Chaplain's Corner

Charlotte Mehrtens

Welcome Fall and Happy Thanksgiving to each of you.

We have so much to be thankful for even when there are times we don't think there are. God blesses us in so many different ways.

I found this in a book I was reading and thought I'd share it with you.

Did you know there's a prayer called the " I don't know ".

You just go somewhere quiet and sit at the feet of God and you say " I Don't Know " what I need to pray for. I don't know where to from here. I don't know what is happening. I don't know how to process this. I don't know what to do with these emotions. I don't know how to handle this situation. And then with whatever little grain of faith you have, you say but you know God, and you leave it at His feet. God most certainly hears your prayers. Please say amen if you trust in the Lord.

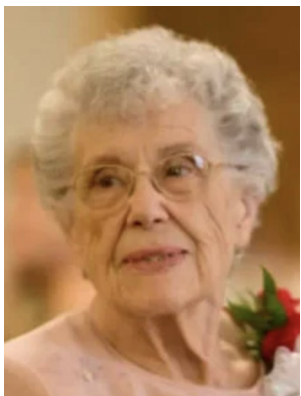
We must certainly pray for the people in North Carolina, Eastern Tennessee and all the other areas that have lost loved ones, or their homes, may the Lord be with them always.

Pray for the Mule train and men keep them safe as they are going where others can't go.

We pray for those farmers getting their crops in for the winter protect and guide them.

Blessings and hugs to all of you enjoy the fall weather Until next time stay safe and strong.

“Well done Good and Faithful Servants”



Celeste Agne

1929—2024

Turkey Hill Grange

Celeste was an outstanding seamstress, making her own wedding dress, making and tailoring gowns, suits,

and outfits for many friends and family, and working as a tailor for J.C. Penney. Celeste worked over 30 years at McDonald's restaurant across from the St. Clair fairgrounds and was

celebrated for her service by McDonald's management, and fondly remembered by many regular customers. As a homemaker, Celeste loved cooking for everyone and hosting family gatherings. She maintained her farm community roots as a member of Turkey Hill Grange, tending her garden, local stray cats, and supporting many children, friends and family throughout her life. Music and sports were a big part of Celeste's life, supporting Stan's involvement with local bands, graciously hosting basement practice sessions for her son's rock bands, as well as hosting countless backyard baseball, football, and basketball games. Celeste will be missed terribly by her family and friends.



THAT YOU MAY ENJOY YOUR REWARDS DISPENSE CHARITY, THE FLOWERS OF BROTHERLY LOVE, AS FREELY AS NATURE SPREADS HER FLOWERY CARPET OVER ALL THE EARTH. AND LET YOUR CHARITY EXTEND TO ALL HUMANITY.

Third Degree; Flora

Illinois State Grange Lecturer's

Contests and Programs

2024-2025

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The Lecturer's Department maintains a rich tradition of encouraging excellence in expressions of cultural, educational, and creative pursuits in our Granges and members. In that tradition these are the categories for competition and display for the 2024 Illinois State Session and National Contests.

Please look at the breadth of categories and see what appeals to you. I would like to get as many people involved this year as possible with **the goal of having at least one entry from every Subordinate Grange.**

NATIONAL CONTESTS

For most accurate information about the National Contests you should refer to www.nationalgrange.org. (Under "Programs" choose "Lecturer Programs" and then "Lecturer Contests.")

Details will be finalized by the time of the National Session in November and will be published in the Illinois Granger when available. Be sure to check the deadlines for these contests as lately they are much earlier than our state session and rely on direct submission of entries.

ILLINOIS LECTURER'S CATEGORIES

One entry per member may be submitted in each class. Must be made this Grange year. Awards in each class.

Attached to each entry must be:

Member name

Member address

Grange name and number

Specific state contest category

Age bracket (Juniors only)

Name of responsible party (if entrant not in attendance at State Session)

Eligibility – All Subordinate and Junior Grange members. Junior entries may also include grandchildren of Subordinate members.

Photos may be submitted electronically, via email, text, or USB drive or printed and mounted on a sturdy backing.

Classes- There will be one class for Subordinate Grange members and 3 age groups for Juniors: 5-7 yr old, 8-10 yr old and 11-14 yr old.

The Illinois State Lecturer reserves the right to choose to not display any entry deemed inappropriate within Grange values. Themes including nudity, obscenity, or violence will not be accepted.

Photography

Rules:

Color and black and white photography will be judged in the same category. No altering of still images with use of photo editing software is allowed. No professional photographers (an individual who's primary living is from photography) may enter.

Photos may be submitted electronically or as prints. Prints should be at least 5x7 and mounted on some firm backing; no glass. Digital and print photos will be judged together. National Lecturer's categories are included in our contest, but it is completely independent of the National Showcase.

Categories: (once announced, the three National Categories will be added to these)

Plant

Animal

Mineral

Media Arts & Crafts

General guidelines

We seek to recognize all types of visual arts.

Work must be original, the entrant's own creation.

No frames or glass. Fragile items are displayed at the entrant's risk.

Painting/Drawing/Pastels

Any subject or theme. All media (oils, watercolors, pencil, etc.) will be judged in one category. Works should not exceed 30"x30".

Dimensional Media

Any subject or theme. Sculpture, pottery, weaving, textiles, paper-making, etc. are appropriate for this category and will be judged together. Basically this is any artwork that is not flat on a canvas or paper. Works should not exceed 18"x18"x18".

Art Journal

"Art journaling is an open-ended form of art on loose paper or in a bound journal where the focus is on the process of creating and of self-expression rather than a particular end result." This is a very free form form of expression, using any techniques of drawing, writing, painting, coloring, pasting, cutting, etc. that you want to include. The goal is to present something interesting, challenging, beautiful, thought-provoking. I'll be publishing some more information about this later in the year for those for whom this is a new idea. It is something that is accessible to anyone of any age. Entry should encompass from 2 to 6 pages, loose or bound.

Nature Collage

A composite presentation of articles taken from nature arranged and mounted to create a visual image—either representational or abstract. Entries will be judged on overall effect, variety of materials, and creative design. Materials may include leaves, dried flowers and plants, twigs, feathers, eggshells, etc....basically anything that occurs naturally without being manufactured. Collages may be any size but should be no larger than a standard poster board. All items must be securely attached to a sturdy backing.

Personal Collection

Assemble and display 12 related items. Make sure each item's relation to the collection is apparent. Provide an overview of the collection theme not to exceed 50 words. All items should be anchored securely to a sturdy base or provided with a box or material on which to display them. The collection may be anything of intellectual or cultural interest: stamps, rocks, stickers, trading cards, dried flowers, postcards, etc. Judging will be based on interest and creativity of the collection theme.

Handcrafted Holiday Tree Ornaments

Use your skill to make three ornaments suitable for decorating a tree. Ornaments can represent any holiday or season. The ornaments should not be identical but should be related by theme or technique. Materials and methods can be anything you choose. Ornaments will be judged on craftsmanship, creativity, and appearance. Because of the high response to this category, there will be two divisions:

Ornaments involving primarily fabric, sewing, needlecrafts, etc.

Ornaments using other materials or techniques

Birdhouse

Craft a birdhouse. You can use any materials and any style of decoration. It can be completely functional or completely decorative. It should, though, be scaled appropriately and have doorway, nesting chamber, roof, and perch of some sort (that at least, theoretically, a bird could live in it. Entries will be judged on workmanship and visual appeal. Creativity in materials and decorations is encouraged.

Origami Animals

Create three animals from paper folding techniques. Items can be any size. (There are lots of websites and books from the library with instructions for paper folding.)