



# ILLINOIS GRANGER

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



**April 2026 Vol. 6 No. 4**

## **Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms**

Hopefully this finds you all healthy. Today is sunny and a little cooler than recently, we have broken the record heat in the last couple days, 88 degrees. But yesterday was crazy,

broke heat record and then the wind changed and temperature dropped very quickly.

April will be Grange Month, go to <https://www.nationalgrange.org/grange-month/> for farther information. "Growing From the Ground Up Each April, Granges across the country celebrate Grange Month—a time to recognize the work of our members and the impact the Grange continues to make in communities throughout rural and small- town America."

Don and I met with members of County Line Grange. I attended Executive meeting at Spring Fling. The Ex Com met with Committee chairs and directors to discuss the committee financial books. It was good to see a good group at Spring Fling on Friday night. I heard there was a good group of attendees for the Mystery Dinner on Saturday night. Thanks to all those who supported the event.

The Executive Committee awarded three scholarships from IL State Grange. All those who will receive a scholarship will need to attend

State Grange Picnic in order to receive their scholarship money. The recipients will be receiving information.

The Statewide Grange Picnic will be held at the Boone County Fairgrounds in the Pavillion on May 30th at 11:00 am. The main dish will be provided by the Youth and sides and desserts will be potluck style. The Midwest Grange Leaders Conference will be held in IL this year. This will be open to all Grangers in the Midwest. I am sure that plans are being made that will be filled with workshops, information, fun and great food. A FAC chair for 2028 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. I would like to talk to anyone from Boone / Winnebago county. The Session probably be at the fairgrounds again at that time.

Now is the time for checking your Grange Hall to see if there are repairs that need to be addressed or if there are improvements that need to be completed, 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.

National Grange Leadership Conference in Sparks, NV in will be April 30 -May 3, this year. Any Granger that would like to go, just let me know and I'll forward the information to you. You would pay your own fees and travel. Don and I will be attending.

IL State Grange Session will be September 11 – 13, at Northfield Inn Suites and Conference Center, 3280 Northfield Dr, Springfield, IL. We have been there before so you might remember we are all under one roof. Meaning the distance from sleeping rooms to meeting room - meal and displays is pretty far. Those of you with walking issues might want to consider bringing a scooter. Now is the time to start working on contest entries for all categories. I am sure that the contest information is on the website now. At the Executive Committee meeting we decided on menus and started a draft schedule.

There are many programs available to all Granges check out the [NationalGrange.org/news](http://NationalGrange.org/news) website for all the Granges/Grangers to participate in. Check it out!!

Hope you all are checking out Grange Engage avail yourself and your Grange of valuable opportunities through this portal.

Next National Sessions will be in Tulsa, OK, Nov 11-15, 2026. November 8-13, 2027 Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, NV. November 13-18, 2028 Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, Round Rock, TX. November 12-17, 2029 Renaissance St Louis Airport Hotel, St Louis, MO.

## ISG Secretary Report

Happy Grange Month - April 2026!

The Illinois State Session is just over five months away! It will be at the Northfield Inn Suites and Conference Center at 3280 Northfield Drive in Springfield, Illinois, September 11-13, 2026. This year, the deadline to make hotel and meal reservations will be Friday, August 7. Detailed information and meal registration forms will be coming soon, but mark the date on your calendar. Now is the time to start thinking about delegates. I hope you've also been thinking about resolutions. If possible, I'd like to have resolutions by July 1 so I can send them out to all the Granges for their consideration before State Session.

By now, Community Grange Secretaries should have received the new Quarterly Report form with the revised dues amounts. The form is also available for download at

[illinoisstategrange.org](http://illinoisstategrange.org) under Departments and Contests - Secretary - Other Information. The new forms say "2026 REVISED FORM" near the bottom to distinguish them from the old. It is very important to start using the new form beginning now. If you haven't received it or have trouble downloading it from the website, let me know as soon as possible, and I will get a copy to you. The deadline for sending in the 1st Quarter Report and dues is April 15. Don't forget to also send in any membership changes with the report.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Be Grange Strong - Rooted, Resilient, United - and Growing from the Ground Up!

Fraternally,

Brian Keller, Illinois State Grange Secretary

[brianjkeller@gmail.com](mailto:brianjkeller@gmail.com)

618-410-9020

## Broad Hollow Grange

At the March potluck and program at Broad Hollow Grange, the hall and tables welcomed St. Patrick's Day with shamrocks, leprechauns, and everything green. The evening began with an Irish greeting. The program's March poem summarized what March is all about. Little known trivia questions were answered by those attending. This was followed by a humorous St. Patrick's Day saying. A summary of St. Patrick was provided. A well-wished St. Patrick's Day saying was shared. A fun-version of "Why I Like Retirement." included many items of the advantages of retirement. A St. Patrick's Day dice game ended the program.



## Blast from the Past

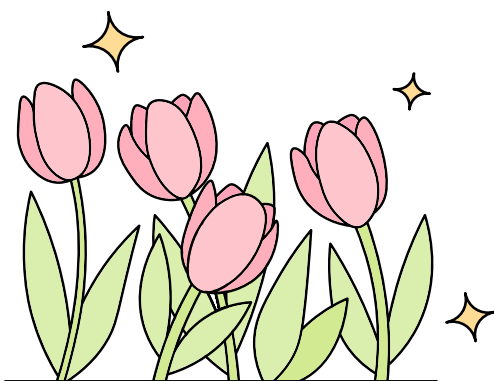
Spring has sprung at least for a few days this March. A Grange history “bug” got me after a long winter. I have to admit, three days after GRIT I had to take Brian to the hospital. He was there for a week. So, after the holidays, he seemed to get better. Then the end of February, he fell outside on his knees. A couple days later, his pain was bad and black and blue legs looked awful. Yes, a trip to the ER. Now he is walking with walker and we hope for some good progress!

In February I made a trip to Pecatonica. After dropping off our taxes, I visited my second cousin, Linda Doty who lives there. Her in-laws used to belong to Prairie View Grange, located in Pecatonica. There was a Grange hall in the town somewhere. Thanks to a cute story from Barbara Stauffer she said the hall was across the street from the Doty’s. Linda recalls that the Doty’s lived on E. Fifth Street. She said the hall is now a house. I drove up that street and one house resembles the front view of the hall. In a week or so I am going back there to verify if that is the right house!

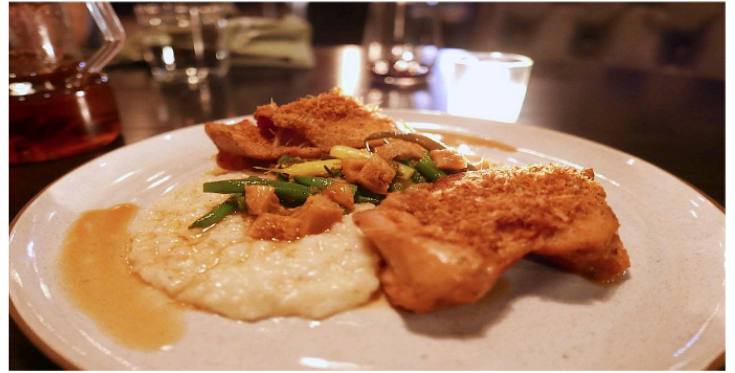
One day this week I went to Goodwill and was lucky to find the very special size picture frame (9-1/2 x 14-1/2) on my agenda. The 1968 Grange calendar celebrating The Grange Centennial Calendar 1867- 1967 that Lynette gave me from the Buck family will fit in there perfectly. I hope to display it in the Grange Museum.

I am also working on a display honoring Grange and our America 250th Semiquincentennial Celebration!

By Beverly Smith, Historian



## Fried Chicken Dinner



### Turkey Hill Grange

Rt. 15 & Green Mount Road

(Next to Eckert’s Country Market)

**Sunday, April 19, 2026**

**10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Fried Chicken      Mashed Potatoes and Gravy  
Green Beans      Cole Slaw      Applesauce  
Stuffing      Pie or Dessert  
Tea, Lemonade, Water or Coffee

**\$18.00 Adult – eat in or carry out**

**Kids eat in 5-10 – \$9.00    Tots under 5 – Free**

Carry Out Service Available

**Handicapped Accessible**

**OUR FAMOUS JAMS AND JELLIES FOR SALE**

### March Gobbles from Turkey Hill

Our Grangers are saddened by the loss of three lovely ladies. We lost Sophie Treser, wife of Charles, who was a long -time member, Marlene Frazer, another long standing member, and Bev McKelvey, one of our newer members. All three ladies added vitality, a great work ethic and delightful personalities to our events and meetings. They are sadly missed. Our prayers go to their families and friends.

Our Benefit Spaghetti Dinner was a profitable and fun activity where Grangers worked together and dined together with community supporters to help close the financial gap on the cost of repairing our wall. Randy McKelvey and David Edwards replaced the window this week and we expect the masonry company to repair the brick next week. The process is moving along. Springtime is a time of action and plans are in the works. Our jam and jelly team will be gearing up

for the markets. The quilting team is working on Quilts of Valor projects and the chairs for the Renner "100 Years of Horsepower" are mapping out the menu and plan. Our Grangers continue to volunteer in the community by helping another Grange and

The St. Clair County Historical Society. We will have a team help the Historical Society make some improvements at The Messinger Cemetery to prepare for a 250th Celebration honoring the family of two Revolutionary War patriots.

Last but not least, our Chicken Dinner is April 19th. We are serving from 10:30am- 2:00pm. We hope to see some returning and new faces.

## **County Line Grange**

Our regular meeting was March 11. We had pizza and sweet treats for dessert. We had ten guests for the meeting. Guests were IL. State Grange President Lynette Schaeffer and her husband Don, Vice President Karie Blasingame, State Deputies Brian O'Dell and Adam Ellwanger, Prairie Grange President Don Ellwanger, Flora Grange President Ken Fidler, Lyle and Patti Lee, and a prospective new member Nathan Zeien. We had four guest speakers from the Boone County Planning Office.

Jane Zeien introduced the speakers: Heather Van Tilburg; Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District. She gave an update on programming and projects. Justin Krohn; Boone County Highway Department. Information on winter living, snow fence programs, and summer county wide projects. Jessica Roberts; Boone County Planner. Update on Comprehensive Plan adoption and timeline for Unified Development Ordinance and updated Zoning Map. Dan Kane; Boone County Water Resource Specialists. Presentation on Boone County Water programming and the 3D modeling projects committee. Meeting was opened.

Committees: Decorator: Kathy Loy and her group decorated the dining area in a St. Patrick's Day theme.

Agriculture: Paul Anderson said rainfall is down, but the ground frost is gone. Land needs to be

kept for agriculture.

Scholarship: Paul Zeien said it was decided to give two \$500. scholarships per year. The recipients must be Grange members. More changes were made on the qualifications.

Membership: Welcomed one new member, Nathan Zeien.

Community Service: Kim Robin reminded everyone to get their community service reports turned in.

Legislative: Paul Anderson said State wants to lower blood alcohol limit for DUI to .05. Increase tax deductions from 4 million to 6 million. Freeze states fuel tax increase in March. Change Congress term limits to 3 terms.

Kitchen: Lisa Loveridge discussed the annual 4-H Spaghetti Dinner to be held on March 21.

All reports and more discussions were given meeting was closed.

Be kind, smile, stay healthy and be safe everyone.

## **Beaver Valley**

Hi everyone! Happy Spring! Or Happy almost spring ;) Beaver Valley Grange held our March meeting at the Boone County Community Grange Hall on March 7th.

The meeting opened with heartfelt expressions of gratitude, as thank you notes were shared from the family of Brad Blake for the support shown during their loss, and from Andrew & Abbie Meinert for the gift celebrating the arrival of their new baby, Dean. We discussed membership as it remains an ongoing focus, with a reminder of the importance of attendance to ensure a quorum for meetings. Reach out to President Brian O'Dell or Secretary Dayle Paulson if you would like to join meetings via Zoom in the future.

Reports highlighted both local efforts and broader concerns. Community service hours were collected while the Ag report given by Steve Paulson shed light on the growing challenges farmers face. We were also reminded to stay alert and patient on roadways as slow-moving farm equipment becomes more common this time of year. Looking ahead, youth activities are in full swing, with Spring Fling which was held March 4

13 & 14. At our meeting our Jr members were busy creating St. Patrick's Day projects (see photo). Our meeting concluded with recognition of birthdays, anniversaries, and a request to keep Renee O'Dell in your thoughts and prayers. Photo: Juniors Hattie Schlie, Will Schlie, Morgan Schlie and Brandon O'Dell work on St. Patrick's Day projects.

Fraternally submitted,  
Micah Schlie  
Publicity



### Enterprise Grange

The members of Enterprise Grange held their annual Dictionary Party at the farm of Kenneth and Mary Ann Joseph on March 23. For over 20 years, Enterprise has been participating in the Dictionary Project by purchasing and personally delivering student dictionaries to O'Fallon area third graders in both the public and parochial schools. This year, dictionaries were bought for 594 students at 9 different schools. At the Dictionary Party, 11 Grangers from Enterprise put Grange labels in each dictionary and then organized them by school. After that, they gathered around for their monthly meeting, which included devouring a delicious pistachio cake made by Henrietta Keller.



### Boone County Pomona Grange Report

The meeting of Boone County Pomona was called to order on March 4 at 7pm by President Ruth Blasingame. 47 members were in attendance, Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented. The following reports were given: Legislative – Get out and vote for the primary Agriculture – Weather is warming up and farmers will be out on the roads soon Health Education and Welfare – Ned Loy reported our lives are filled with stress so find away to release your stress.

Youth – Getting ready for Spring Fling on March 13 & 14th . Everyone is welcome to attend our “Out of this World” Murder Mystery Dinner. They also are doing a flower sale.

Juniors - Will be attending Spring Fling on March 13 & 14th as well as having a separate Junior Day on March 20th .

Deaf – Sara Ellwanger shared a post about National Miss Rodeo who's platform this year is “Bridging the gap between the Deaf and Hearing Communities.”

Sunshine – Karrie sent out multiple cards to members in the hospital and have been sick.

The following Grange reports were presented: County Line Grange – Kim Robins reported that they are helping Leroy Grange with 4-H Spaghetti Dinner on March 21 st at the Poplar Grove Fire station from 4-7pm. On March 11 th members from the Boone County Conservation, Highway Department, County Board and Soil & Conservation came and presented information on what's happening in Boone County.

Flora Grange – Ken Fidler reminded everyone that on March 29th starting at 11am will be the annual Roast Beef dinner

Prairie Grange – Don Ellwanger reported that we are getting ready for our Consignment Sale on April 11 th at the Fairgrounds. Also, our 4momz2momz Consignment Sale is May 1 st and 2nd at the Fairgrounds.

Pomona Grange – Marisa Odell reported that May 2 nd at the Community Grange Hall we will be holding an Open House and Crafter Fair from

10-4pm and everyone is welcome to come out.

New Business:

After a communication was read, we had some discussion on how to appoint/ elect a new Ceres. It was decided that President Ruth Blasingame would appoint a replacement Ceres to fill the position until the next election. Patti Lee was appointed as the new Ceres of Boone County Pomona Grange.

Finally, we voted on some changes to the Boone County Fair By-Laws, and it was approved as presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm with refreshments to follow.

Fraternally Submitted

Karrie Kindberg

Boone County Pomona Publicity Chair

## **Prairie Grange**

Prairie Grangers held their meeting on March 23rd, 2026. Committee Reports were given:

Agriculture – Farmers will be in the fields soon so watch out for them. Be Safe.

HEW – Get your flu shot, hospitals are full of patients with the flu, so take care of yourself

Juniors – Had a great turn out at Junior Day.

Worked on crafts had science experiments for the equinox and they are busy working on events/activities to get the distinguished Jr Granger Award.

Youth – held Spring Fling over the weekend, went to the Rock wall climbing and played volleyball for the outing. Held several workshops: photography, made easter centerpieces, cake pops and learned about Grange Engage with National Grange Rep Amanda Brozana. Also, the State Youth are selling flowers and hanging baskets to contact Karie Blasingame to order delivery will be around mother day.

Grange Activities – Interest was shown in attending a Sky carp Baseball game, Karrie Kindberg will check on details and bring them back to the next meeting. Also discussed having a bowling event as well and maybe going to Fireside Dinner Theater for dinner and a play. Watch for detail in the near future.

Community Service – Robin Kindberg asked everyone to check your fleece stash if you have extra you want to get rid of contact Robin. These will be used to make blankets for the Linus Project for State Session.

Sunshine – Busy month lots of members ill: Jeremy Meyers (surgery), Heather Ellwanger (hospitalized), Sherri Bochmann (surgery), Dawn & Ellis Mundy (hospitalized) and Dave Geske (surgery). Let's keep them in your prayers.

Fairboard – Things are shaping up nicely for the 2026 fair. A few new changes are happening. Doing lots of repairs around the grounds.

The Consignment Auction is coming up on Saturday April 11th beginning at 9:30am. Lots of help is needed outside, in the kitchen and with check-in and clerking. So, all hands-on deck. As a Grange we discussed making changes to the check delivery option. It was decided that Don Ellwanger will come up with a flyer to poll the sellers on how they would like their consigners checks back in the future. (mailed, picked up in person at a specific time and date or direct deposited into their account) These polling options will be implemented at a future auction 4Momz2Momz Consignment Sale will be May 1st and 2nd with set up on April 29th. Help is needed for set up and teardown. Contact Sara Ellwanger if you want to help. There is also a Grange Open House and Craft Fair on May 2nd at the Community Grange Hall.

A Thank You from the Belvidere FFA was presented for the Basket we donated to their Silent Auction.

Prairie voted to advertise in the Boone County Fair book website and on the video wall at the fair.

We need to keep Private Spencer Miley in our thought and prayers as this time since he currently stationed in the Philippines for training.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm with fellowship and refreshments to follow

Robin Kindberg Publicity Chairman

## Flora Grange

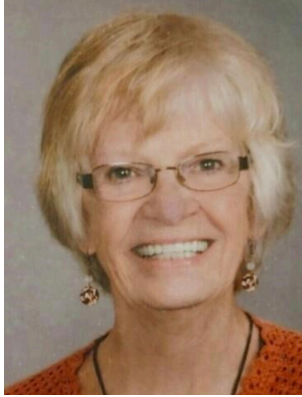
Flora Grange held a meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 7 pm at their Flora Grange Hall with some 30 Grange members and five guests from Prairie and Beaver Valley Grange in attendance. President Ken Fidler called meeting to order with Grange Salutation and Pledge to American Flag, followed by Draping of the Charter for Jerri Schardt.

Guests Heather Ellwanger, Illinois State Community Service Chairman talked about the new rules for the community service books for this year, which is for each Grange to use only the small folder and the sheets that were enclosed within the folder that were given out at GRIT. Karie Blasingame and Marisa O'Dell, Illinois State Grange Youth Committee and Beth Olson, Illinois State Grange Director, talked about the Spring Fling to be held March 13-15 for the youth with a fun-filled weekend for all. They also talked about the Flower baskets they will be selling again this year that will be delivered around Mother's Day, and you can place your orders this evening. They discussed the promotion of Granges again this year to the public, the date of Saturday May 2 nd , 10 am to 4 pm, no charge for Granges, to be held at the Grange Community Hall in Belvidere, and the public is invited to see and hear what Gange all is about.

Reports of Committees: COMMUNITY SERVICE: lindakay Ebel reported everyone should be keeping track of all hours worked for their community service hours and turning them in to her as worked. AGRICULTURE: Jack Ratcliffe stated time for the farmer to purchase their seeds for the season, farmers are thinking about getting in the field, also be careful if you are doing any burning. FAIRBOARD: Todd Hegge stated if you have any wheelchairs, you no longer need, the fair could use them. Fair will be renting electric scooters again this year for the public to rent. Jack Ratcliffe was voted as an honorary lifetime voting board member, Al Henninger, honorary life member, no voting rights. FARMLAND PROTECTION: Jack Ratcliffe stated this will be their annual meeting and they

need people to attend their meetings; attendance has been poor. More farmland is being sold for other purposes and there is a storage of good farmland in Boone County, we need farmers to attend our monthly meetings. Legislative: Marion Thornberry reported everyone should get out and vote next week, March 17th , get a sample ballot, pick the person of your choice. MEMBERSHIP: Lindakay Ebel stated April is Grange month, let's do something special. May 2nd is open house for the Granges to promote Grange. A motion was made we reserve a booth at the Community Hall in Belvidere from 10 am to 4 pm on the first floor at no charge to the Grange. QUILTING: Emalee Colver reported that her Friday group will be quilting this week, they will be making little quilts, Saturday and Sunday group will be making curtains for our Grange Hall. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Jack Ratcliffe reported Laurel and several others have been very busy painting the Grange Hall lower level and repairing windows, etc. Treasurer Lindakay Ebel had written copies of the monthly treasurer's report on income and expenses and balances of all accounts. Motion was made to approve. The Illinois State Grange raised their dues for all Granges and at our meeting, motion was made for Flora Grange to raise our dues \$6 per member. If you have already paid your dues for the year 2026, please pay secretary \$6 per person additional this year so the Granges does NOT have to pay this. Thank you. Our Roast beef dinner will be held on SUNDAY, MARCH 29 TH AT FLORA GRANGE HALL. Reservations to Marion, call 815-985-8544 or e-mail Marion at m8thornberry@gmail.com Program chairman read to us tonight and had two-work searches, one on Saint Patrick Day and one on Weather and Season's. Emalee Colver collected \$39.00 from G' Bills. Deb Silvers will be celebrating her birthday on March 25 th and Lindakay and Al Ebel will celebrate their anniversary on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14 th , 2026, 7 pm, Flora Grange Hall, serving committee, Bob Scherer, Jerry & Karen Hart and Teri Keegan. Publicity, Lindakay Ebel

## Well Done Good and Faithful Servant



Sophia Dee Withrow Treser born November 27, 1938, in Abilene, TX, passed away on March 9, 2026 in Belleville, IL. Sophia was a loving homemaker, wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She is survived by her loving

husband of 56 years, Charles G. Treser, six children, 13 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren. Sophie served as Illinois State Grange, Family Activities Director in 2010. She proudly served as a volunteer for many projects and programs at Illinois State Grange, St Clair County Pomona and Turkey Hill and Emerald Mound Granges. When Sophie attended the State Grange meeting, parents of young children knew there was an extra set of eyes on their child. And an extra pair of loving arms.

More than thirty Grangers from seven different Granges attended the funeral service to honor the life of a Christian, fun, loving, caring woman. Sophie Treser will be missed.

Well done good and faithful servant.



Marlene L. Frazer, nee Blumberg, 80. Of O'Fallon, born on March 28, 1945, in East St. Louis, Illinois, died Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at Belleville Memorial Hospital. Marlene was a devoted and loving wife, mother, and grandmother. She

was a member of St. Paul's Church in Freeburg, Illinois. She was also a member of The United Methodist Women, the Turkey Hill Brange, PEO Sisterhood of Chapter KC and Metro East Social Singles. Marlene was also an avid Cardinals fan.



Beverly Kay McKelvey passed away Wednesday, February 25, 2026.

She was born on August 1, 1950, in Lexington Tennessee and lived in East Peoria Illinois until the age of 21. Bev later built a life centered around faith, family, and

community. She was united in marriage to Randy McKelvey on May 31, 2019. Bev was a devoted member of the Turkey Hill Garage and the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon and Legacy Seniors. She was deeply involved in her church and community, always willing to lend a helping hand. When she wasn't busy with church and community activities, Bev loved being at home caring for her precious cats and enjoying shopping. She enjoyed cooking, baking and the simple things like a McDonald's coke, a refreshing glass of tea and a celebratory glass of champagne.

'In her earlier years, Bev sang with the Sweet Adelines and had a love for travel and music that brought her great joy. She will be dearly missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.



Julie Margaret Kleive 1948-2026

Capron Grange Julie had a 60 year career in the Boone County Circuit Clerk's office. She served four terms as the elected Circuit Clerk. She loved photography and music. She collected all the

Oscar award winning movies. Julie was a long time member of Capron Grange where she will be deeply missed.

## Well Done Good and Faithful Servant



Paul Temple  
1963-2026



Leroy Community Grange  
Paul was a skilled mechanic and a dedicated farmer who took pride in working with his hands and helping others. He never met a stranger, he could talk with anyone. Paul was a long time member of

Leroy Community Grange.

Paul will be remembered for his kindness, humor, generosity and the steady presence he provided to those who loved him.

Paul served in the United States Army.



Amelia "Millie" Rose Giese  
1937-2026

Bonus Grange  
Prairie Grange

Millie was a long-time member of Bonus Grange. When Bonus closed its Charter Millie and her husband Don joined Prairie

Grange where they were members for about 15 more years. They volunteered for everything and both always had a big smile on their faces. When life got physically hard and they needed help they moved to Iowa to be near family.

Millie was a wonderful lady and a great Granger.



Geraldine "Jerri Lou" Schardt  
1944-2025

Flora Grange

Jerri was a long time member of Flora Grange. She worked in the ticket office at the fair as a volunteer. She also volunteered at the American Legion. Jerri was

an avid quilter and a great cook. She found great joy in nature, loved tending her garden and enjoyed the birds.

Jerri will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

## Notes from Ruth

We need a prayer list/chain going. Please pray for all these Grangers and anyone else you know is in need of prayers.

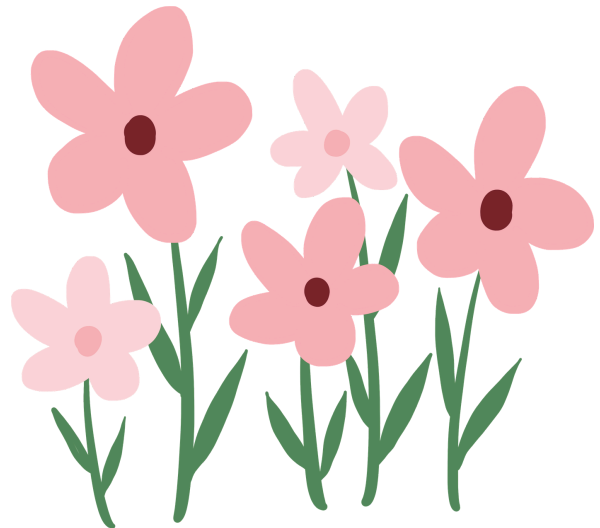
Al Henninger  
Charlotte Mehrrens  
Donna Ellwanger  
Heather Ellwanger  
Renee O'Dell  
Dave Geske  
Robin Kindberg  
Jim Langendorf  
Mary Beth Lee  
Ellis and Dawn Mundy  
Charles Treser  
Dale and Jane Helms  
Brian Smith

These are only the ones I know about. I'm sure there are many more. If you know of someone to add please let me know.

I would like to start a list of members who are currently in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living, homebound, etc. Please send name of member, name and address of home.

We could then send cards to let them know they are in our thoughts and prayers.

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Al Henninger            | Rollin Greenland       |
| Northwoods Care Center  | Heritage Woods         |
| 2250 Pearl St room 163. | 202 N Showplace Dr     |
|                         | Apt 390                |
|                         | Rockford, IL61107-5360 |
| Belvidere, IL 61008     |                        |





## Chaplains Corner

By: Charlotte Mehrtens

Might I say happy spring to all of you. Here in Southern Illinois March came in like a Lion and he must have been mad because we have had just about any kind of weather you can think of. I think it has been all over the state like that, one day in the 90's and next day in the teens. Hopefully the rest of the spring will be better for all of us. Hopefully April will be much better. Get out and enjoy the good weather, like the flowers blooming, the singing birds, fresh air and the smell of freshly turned earth. Many will be planting gardens that will feed their families, farmers planting their crops to feed the world. The new birth of animals all comes with the renewal of life in the spring.

I pray for each of you this Easter holiday that we remember our Lord Jesus Christ that He gave His life that we might live free of sin and follow in His footsteps May we each prepare for the journey and know that He is with us always.

We pray for those who have lost loved ones this past month that they might know the peace and comfort. We pray for those who are blessed with new life and those recovering from illness may each of you receive His blessings and keep you in His care.

HAPPY EASTER AND HAPPY SPRING TO EACH OF YOU.

YOURS IN CHRIST.

## Calendar of Grange Events

### 2026

- 4/11 Prairie Grange Consignment Auction
- 4/13 Bunco w/lunch at Emerald Mound 10-Noon \$8
- 4/18 Emerald Mound Big Breakfast 8-10 am
- 4/27 Cards & Games 2/lunch at Emerald Mound 10-Noon \$8
- 5/1-2 4 MOMZ2MOMZ Consignment Auction Boone County Fairgrounds
- 5/2 Open House Boone County Pomona Grange All Granges can sign up, Contact Marisa O'Dell
- 5/30 Illinois State Grange Picnic Boone County Fairgrounds
- 6/26-28 Midwest Grange Leadership Conference
- 8/11-16 Boone County Fair Belvidere IL
- 11/11-15 National Grange Session Tulsa OK

### 2027

- 7/18-25 Grange Revival/Smoky Mtns Edition Bryson City, NC



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

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