

Illinois Granger

In essentials...Unity In non-essentials...Liberty In all things...Charity

Volume 102 May 2018 No. 05



Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

Lynette Schaeffer
President
of Illinois State Grange

The weather is still cold. It is Spring but seems we can't get to the normal high, a local weather man said that this has been the coolest spring since the early 1980s.

Grange Month! I hope you have been working in your communities and held special events for the public during April. We really need to share our great organization with our communities. I hoped you shared "The Grange Way" with your community and your Grange.

I hope many of you have seen the information about Mid-West Youth Conference and Great Lakes Leaders Conference June 15-17 in Michigan. I believe there will be information in this paper. I am interested in going but at this point not sure if I will be able to go. I will be having surgery on my right foot June 8, so I will not be driving for a few weeks. Anyone interested in going please make sure that you contact the appropriate person. And if you are going from St Clair County please let me know – maybe I'll hop a ride.

Have you seen the information about the IL State Grange Campout and the Picnic?? I will not be making it to the campout but plan to be at the picnic. I am sure that there is informa-



tion in this paper about both events. Hope there will be participation in the campout and the second annual picnic. All Grangers and interested parties are welcome.

The St Clair County Pomona is making plans for the 147th State Session, September 14 – 16, 2018. The session will again be at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows near Belleville. I have just been informed that Chris Johnston, National Grange Gatekeeper, MI State Master and his wife Connie will be our National Grange Representative. Maybe their twin boys will come too. Secretary Sheri will soon be sending the letters to the Granges about the meeting. Be aware of the resolution dates, hotel reservation date and meal reservation date, meet the deadlines. Plans are being made to take a tour of the GROW exhibit at the St Louis Science

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Secretary's Report

By Sheri Konieczki

Hello. I am your new state Secretary. I apologize for not having an earlier article, but I have been super busy with my children. The last seven months have been a real learning experience for me. I am trying to understand all the duties that are required of me. I am slowly learning and by next year I will have it under my belt. I have found the job to be rewarding and challenging at the same time. I have had some great help from Elaine, Ruth and Karie. I thank them for helping me to understand everything.

I am a member of Big Thunder Grange where I serve as Steward and a

member of Pomona Grange as well. I have 5 children, one that is older, three that live at home and a foreign exchange student from Denmark. They keep me busy with their schedules. They are involved in sports, theatre, band, chorus, and other things.

I want you all to know that I am available for questions. It may take me a while to respond because of my schedule and researching the answers if I don't know them but I will get to you. If you have an important need, please call me and let me know what is needed. My phone number is 847-912-3521. My address is 2169 Sunset Lane, Belvidere, IL. 61008.

Ag Report

Spring is still slow in coming and fields and gardens are still too wet. Hope we get rain this often during the summer when we need it.

Now is the time to be thinking about and working on entries for the contests--fruit, flowers, vegetables, field crops, and for ages 5-14 gourd bird houses, and posters on monarch butterflies or bees or bats. Don't forget to help your parents and grandparents gardens so you can enter the vegetable categories. Must be Grange members for all the Ag. Contests. Kids contests are for Junior Grangers or their parents or grandparents must be Grangers.

Think safety first when it comes to farming. Shortcuts, working when overly tired (take short breaks), and short-cutting can have dire, permanent consequences. Also, be very careful traveling the roads to get to your fields. Many don't realize or pay attention to slow-moving equipment plus making it extra dangerous are too many people talking on phones and texting. Be courteous--if it's safe

to do so, pull over every so often and let them pass.

Field spraying season is here. Several years ago on a nice sunny day I had my window open to let the beautiful weather in. I was in a back room of the house and heard a tractor. By the time I got to the kitchen, my house already smelled like spray. The flowers along my house and driveway that year were affected by the spray, and in the fall instead of my sugar maple and red maple tree leaves turning brilliant colors, they turned brown. Be aware of spray drift and wind conditions, Read labels carefully. Be careful and protect peoples' gardens from the spray. We all know spraying is necessary so weeds don't take over and insects don't affect crop production. Many weeds and insects are adapting to the sprays so stronger products are necessary. Be careful, be considerate. Gardeners, don't use chemicals on your garden

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Send Grange news to:

Ruth Blasingame, 8711 Deer Run Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008
or e-mail to: illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com by May 28, 2018.



PRESIDENT AG REPORT

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Center on Thursday September 13 leaving the Shrine at noon. The Science Center is free, parking is \$10 per car. We will coordinate rides for those wanting to go. Please send a note or call Charlotte Mehrrens at donchar62@gmail.com or 618-978-2655 to get your name on the list of those going.

The National Session in Stowe, Vermont, registration is now open on the National Grange website.

The National Grange is planning a revival – camping trip in Ozark, AR at Mulberry Mountain Resort, July 23 -28, 2019. Check the National-Grange.org website for more details. I think it will be a great time to meet Granges from across the country.

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if possible. Unfortunately, when you kill the bad insects you kill the beneficial insects, butterflies, wasps, bees, and spiders. Many of your garden plants will attract beneficial insects whose food source are the harmful insects.

Buy lots of dairy products to help the dairy farmers. They are having a tough time right now. There's an abundance of dairy products and not enough demand. Dairy farmers are doing such a good job that their cows have become so efficient at producing milk that there's an abundance of dairy products exceeding demand.

The Farm Bill is hung

up on the nutrition portion of the bill. Most items in the Farm Bill are non-partisan, but this one is so the rest of the bill will be held up until agreement is reached. Since there are less farmers and the average person can't relate to farming, the nutrition part of the bill usually helps get the rest of the bill passed but not this time.

The proposed tariff on products exported hits the farmers first and hardest. Manufacturing and other do not have to share the hardship the farmers do.

Did anyone see the program on farming on PBS TV on "Independent Lens" in April? It was worth seeing.

Hopefully, it will be repeated sometime if you missed it. It talks about the price received for crops and livestock not keeping up while the cost of equipment, seed, fuel, fertilizer, etc. keeps going up. This forces farmers to farm more land and stay in debt. The result of getting lower profits each year is farms being consolidated. More acres are needed to make a profit then more machinery is needed to handle more acres. It began in the 70's with "get larger by expanding or get out." My family only had 80 acres so

we had a variety of animals, etc. We also had about a hundred or so chickens, but like everything else it got to the point you weren't making any money so we expanded to 10,000 laying hens and was still able to use family labor to keep it going.

It's great finally seeing more and more of a variety of flowers starting to bloom as spring slowly makes its comeback. Remember, "If the grass looks greener on the other side of the fence, fertilize."

Monthly Legislative Report

On April 11, I attended the Legislative Briefing in Springfield as part of 2018 AG. Legislative Day. At this briefing we received a handout that consisted of 13 pages of Bills that are going through both the House and Senate. As always, some of these bills will benefit the public at large and some will not, and some are there simply so our elected officials can say their name was on a bill. I am limited to space so if anyone wants a copy please let me know and I will see you get a copy.

In preparation for my trip south, I went through our Resolutions that were passed last September. I chose 2 to take and I chose 1 from 2014. The 2 from last year were, Car Lights and Free the Tampon. The 1 from 2014 was Design and Build.

I spoke to 3 Senators and 3 Representatives and left copies of the resolutions with all that I spoke to. I also left copies with both the Republican

office and The Democratic office and was assured that they would be distributed as best as they could. Everyone I spoke to liked the Car Lights and the Design and Build Resolutions but were skeptical about the Free the Tampon Resolution.

With my mission accomplished I decided to head for home. As I exited the Capitol Building I stumbled and wound up at the bottom of the steps. I was picked up by a couple good Samaritans and filled out an accident report.. I refused treatment as I thought I was fine, my mistake. Half way home I started to have side pains and my left arm felt wet, so I rolled up my sleeve and discovered a hole in my arm just above the wrist. Needles to say when I got home I received a good lecture and went to the doctor the next day, I have been on Morphine and pain pills ever since. God Bless to all from Marion and Jean.



EMERALD MOUND GRANGE - (Above) Hannah Greeson (left), 3, Lebanon, and Mackenzie Smith, 5, Shiloh, enjoyed a game with rubber ducks at the Emerald Mound Grange Open House on Saturday. April was National Grange Month. Photo by Susan J. Meister.

The Emerald Mound Grange will also host the following events:

- Thursday, May 10 is our BBQ dinner from 4 - 7 pm. Menu: Pulled pork, Sloppy Joe, or Brat plus 2 sides, dessert & drink for \$7
- Saturday, May 12 is our Spring Quarter Auction. Doors open at 11 am and auction starts at noon. \$5 per item paddle and \$20 per all in paddle.



USPS 016-670

IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY by
ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE
8711 Deer Run Drive.,
Belvidere, IL 61008

Periodicals Postage paid at Mascoutah, IL

Postmaster: Please send address changes to:
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Lebanon, IL 62254
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COPY DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND PICTURES: 30th OF EACH MONTH
Please send all news and pictures to:
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DONATIONS: \$10.00 PER YEAR
For correction of addresses mail to: The Illinois Granger
8711 Deer Run Drive
Belvidere, IL 61008

Lecturer's Report

By **Ethan Edwards, Lecturer**

I hope you are all aware of the significance of 2018 for all of Illinois. This marks the 200th Anniversary of our great state. The Illinois State Grange has already made plans to pay tribute to this milestone through special contest categories in this year's Lecturer's contests and also in the Junior programs.

There are a number of additional ways you may want to highlight this special year in Lecturer's programs at the Subordinate and Pomona Granges, through participation in any of hundreds of bicentennial events scheduled throughout the year, or through targeted activities or trips to historic sites for your members.

Here are some resources you might want to refer to for ideas:

The Illinois Bicentennial Celebration website (<http://illinois200.com>) is loaded with wonderful information about events and programs throughout the state. Check the "Events" section to read news and explore special events that you might like to participate in.

Here are just a smattering of some of the events coming up in the next couple months:

- May 30 — Diamonds, Denim and Stars, Rockford

Stars from A League of Their Own will join entertainers and actors in a "1940s Rockford Peaches baseball game" themed evening of family fun.

- June 2-3 — 42nd Annual Rendezvous at Fort du Chartrés, Prairie du Rocher

The two-day popular annual Rendezvous features shooting competitions, military drills, dancing, music, food, and traders of eighteenth-century-style goods.

- June 10 — Military Heritage Day, Waterloo

The event will include a military vehicle show and interactive activities for the children, and reenactors from several war eras performing throughout the day.

- June 23 — Captain Abraham Lincoln-Black Hawk War Sculpture Presentation, Pearl City

This sculpture Sculpture will be unveiled and the battle park. This 7-foot sculpture mirrors the smaller version presented to the Lincoln Library in May 2015. This project honors young Lincoln as the Citizen Soldier during the Black Hawk War.

- June 27-July 1 — Murals and Milestones, Streator

This 4 day mural painting festival will feature the Walldogs and local artists painting 16 historical murals throughout downtown. Every year, the Walldogs organize a festival where hundreds of artists descend upon a village or small town to paint several dozen murals in one 3-5 day festival.

Check out the dozens of additional events scheduled throughout the year.

- The Historic Sites Division of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources maintains and operates 56 historic sites across the state. Probably all of us are familiar with the Lincoln sites in Springfield and places like New Salem and Cahokia Mounds. But there are many more places of significance to explore. What a great way to celebrate this landmark year would be planning a trip for your grange and community to one of these fascinating sites. More information about possibilities can be found at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric/Experience/Sites/Pages/Default.aspx>. Here are highlights of a few of the less-famous historic sites:

- Apple River Fort, Eliza-

beth

The Apple River Fort was the only fort attacked by Black Hawk during the turbulent summer of 1832. Today, the fort has been reconstructed and is open for self – guided tours. Special events throughout the year highlight many aspects of life in Jo Daviess County in 1832.

- Bishop Hill Historic Site, Bishop Hill

Bishop Hill was the site of a utopian religious community founded in 1846 by Swedish pietist Eric Janson (1808-1850) and his followers. A number of historically significant buildings have survived and are scattered throughout the village, four of which are owned by the state and managed as part of the Bishop Hill State Historic Site.

- Jubilee College, Brimfield

Jubilee College State Historic Site preserves a remnant of the school founded in 1839 as a theological seminary, a college, a classical preparatory school for boys, and a "seminary" for girls, as well as small farming operations. The centerpiece of the site is the 1839 schoolhouse.

- Pierre Menard Home, Ellis Grove

Pierre Menard, a successful French Canadian businessman and fur trader, was presiding officer of the Illinois Territorial Legislature and from 1818 to 1822 served as the first lieutenant governor. His home, the two-story ca. 1815 home, is an unusually fine example of French Creole-style architecture, built into gently sloping land at the bottom of a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River.

Illinois benefits from an unparalleled resource in its public universities, which are accessible to all of Illinois, not just the students. Among these offerings are a number of outstanding museums with

special Illinois significance. You may want to explore any number of these great institutions open to the public that are so often overlooked:

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Krannert Art Museum (visual arts), Spurlock Museum (world cultures), Sousa Archives (American music)

- Northern Illinois University, DeKalb: NIU Art Museum (visual arts), Pick Museum of Anthropology (peoples)

- Western Illinois University, Macomb: Western Illinois Museum (Illinois history), Museum of Geology (geology)

- Southern Illinois University, Carbondale: University Museum (natural history)

Have you started on your Grange Banner yet for the State Session competition? Perhaps you might gain inspiration by exploring some of these resources mentioned here!

2018 Midwest Regional Youth Conference & Great Lakes Grange Leadership Conference

This year for the first time, we will be combining the Youth/Young Adult Regional Conference with the Great Lakes Grange Leadership Conference

More information will be coming regarding the GLGLC portion of the conference.

June 15-17, 2018 at
Home Grange #129
11003 9 1/2 Mile Rd (Corner of 9 Mile Road
and B Drive South) Ceresco, Michigan

Cost \$50.00; Sibling discount \$5.00 off

Midwest Regional Youth Conference Information

We will be sleeping on the Grange Hall floor. Bring air mattresses or cots, etc. If sleeping on the floor isn't your ideal and you would like to bring a camper, there is room to park - but no hook-up.

(GLGLC will be gathering information on area hotels if you would prefer that option.)

Registration fee can be made payable to: Michigan State Grange

Send MIDWEST YOUTH CONFERENCE payment/ Registration Form to:

Connie Johnston
6241 Grand River Road
Bancroft, MI 48414
Email: ckream27@yahoo.com

Items to bring...

Bedding, air mattress/cot, clothes, toiletries, flashlight, bug spray, sunscreen, sturdy shoes for possible horse stable tour, and any medications that you take.

Illinois State Grange Agriculture Contests

1 Sept. 2017 – Sept. 2018

NAME _____

GRANGE _____

COUNTY _____

(CIRCLE the category AND item.)—One entry per person each category (vegetables, fruit, flowers, antiques, etc.—Must be from current Grange year (1 Sep. 2017 thru 31 Aug. plus Sept. 2018).

As the planting season has arrived, here is a reminder of the agriculture contest entries and rules.

I. VEGETABLE

1. Beans (4)
2. Beets (4)
3. Cabbage (1 head)
4. Cantaloupe (1)
5. Carrots (3)
6. Cauliflower (1)
7. Cucumbers (3)
8. Eggplant (1)
9. Gourds (2)
10. Onions (White--3)
11. Onions (Red—3)
12. Onions (Yellow—3)
13. Peppers (Sweet—3)
14. Peppers (Hot—3)
15. Potatoes (Red—3)
16. Potatoes (White (3)
17. Sweet Potatoes (3)
18. Pumpkins (1)
19. Squash (Winter—1)
20. Tomatoes (Yellow—3)
21. Tomatoes (Red—3)
22. Watermelon (1)
23. Zucchini (6-8"—1)
24. Most Unusual Shape
25. Vegetable Other Than

Above (3 if Small or 1 if Large)

26. Individual's Market Basket (10 or more items)

27. Group's Market Basket (10 or more items)

II. FIELD CROPS

1. 3 Ears of Corn
2. Longest Ear of Corn
3. Corn (1 qt. bag)
4. Oats (1 qt. bag)
5. Soybeans (1 qt. bag)
6. Wheat (1 qt. bag)

III. FRUIT:

1. Apples (Red—4)
2. Apples (Yellow—4)
3. Grapes (3 Bunches)

4. Pears (4)
5. Plums (4)
6. Any Other Fruit (4)

V. FLOWERS (If want item auctioned, note to do so.)

1. African Violet Plant
2. Gladiola (3 spikes)
3. Miniature Garden/Fairy Garden (Not from Kit.)
4. Succulents
5. Cut Flower Arrangement (Judged on how arranged--Flowers can be purchased or homegrown.)
6. Most Unusual Plant
7. Any Other (3 Blooms)

VI. ANTIQUES (30" or less, any direction) (Judged) (1930 or Prior—Actual Item, not picture of item)

1. Farm-Related Antique Item (WILL NOT BE AUCTIONED.)
2. Household-Related Antique Item (WILL NOT BE AUCTIONED.)

VII. JUNIOR DIVISION (AGES 5-7, 8-10, 11-14)

1. Gourd made into a bird house and decorated (Gourd can be grown or bought).
2. Poster featuring declining population of Monarch Butterflies, Or Bees Or Bats and how we can help them.
3. Vegetables (Judged with Adults.) (IF JR. ENTRY, PUT AGE CATEGORY AFTER (I. Vegetables)

Also open to Children and Grandchildren of Grange when a Grange does not have a Jr. Grange.

(Purpose: To encourage kids at a young age to get involved in gardening.)

1. ONE ENTRY PER PERSON IN EACH CATEGORY.

2. On entry form with list of items, PRINT Name, Grange, and County for EACH PERSON entering an item. Make extra copies of Form (if have a printer or bank, library, or other places may provide free copies).

a. Circle either Vegetable, Field Crop, Fruit, Flowers, Antiques or Junior and note Jr. age group where required.

b. Circle Item under each Category (i.e., Fruit—Grapes. etc.)

c. Note how many items are required so you don't get disqualified.

3. Vegetables, Field Crops, and Fruit must be grown or harvested between 1 Sept. 2017 and Sept. 2018.

a. Will be auctioned unless picked up prior to the time announced at State Grange Session.

4. Flowers and Antiques can be from previous years. (Flowers not auctioned unless you want them auctioned.)

5. Miniature Garden/Fairy Garden—MAY NOT BE MADE FROM A KIT.

a. Be creative but ideas are also available in magazines,

on the computer, at libraries, etc.

b. Suggestions: Use items from your yard, garden, or woods (twigs, stones, small branches, nuts, pinecone scales, pebbles, etc.), can cover a small birdhouse with items from nature (twigs, pinecone scales, pebbles, etc.) use doll house miniatures, etc., jelly beans, small silk blossoms, spongy moss, miniature items, sheet moss with adhesive backing (available at hobby stores, etc.), plus any other items.

c. Base can be slices of wood, low sided plastic container, or other items easy to transport.

6. Flower Arrangement:

a. Flowers may be grown in the garden OR purchased.

b. Judging will be done on how they are arranged and flowers used.

7. Antiques: (Farm Related or Household Antiques)

a. 1930 or any year prior to 1930.

b. Will be judged but WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE AUCTION.

c. NOTE: Size—30" or smaller in either direction.

8. JUNIORS OR children

or grandchildren of Grange members if a Grange does not have a Junior Grange.

a. Circle AGE category on entry form—The age is the age of the child as of September 2018.

b. Fill out top of entry form with name, Grange, and county.

b. Gourd Birdhouse—The Gourd can be grown or purchased. (Wren) Child must decorate the gourd for the birdhouse but parent can drill the hole (Qtr size thru 1").

c. Poster on declining population of Monarch Butterflies OR Bees OR Bats.

(1) Show about declining population and how we can help them.

(2) No limit to size.

d. Vegetables:

a. Many juniors, children and grandchildren help their parents garden so Juniors may enter the Vegetable Category.

(1) If children are not gardening, this may encourage them to do so.

b. The Juniors will be judged along with the adults—MAKE SURE TO NOTE THAT IT IS A JUNIOR ENTRY.

COUNTY LINE GRANGE NEWS

March 14th meeting was held at Camp Grant in Rockford. Everyone who attended enjoyed touring the museum and trying to locate family members in the photos. We also enjoyed a wonderful home cooked meal. Thanks go to the mother and daughter hosts of the museum for answering our questions and cooking for us. Thanks to all who attended our March 10th 4-H Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. Because of all of you, it was a great success.

April 9th was our regular meeting. Hosts were Anna Schiro and Jackie Murry. Thanks for the good treats.

We held our drawing for the Scholarship Meat Raffle. Doing this drawing at our April meeting was a good way for us to honor Grange Month. Lucky winners were Ruth Blasingame \$250, Jeff Vance \$150, Joellen Coleman \$50, and Sandy Bonacorsi \$50. Congratulations to them. Thank you to all who purchased raffle tickets.

We have selected our four outstanding students who will be receiving our scholarships. Congratulations to them also.

We discussed Camp Grant and the spaghetti dinner. We talked about doing repairs to the drink stand at the Fairgrounds Grange foodstand.

Committee reports were given and we talked about upcoming events such as Relay-for-Life and Heritage Day parade, etc.

News from Prairie Grange

Prairie Grange celebrated Grange month by hosting our 42nd Annual Consignment Auction. This is our only fundraiser of the year. We had a few less consigners this year and with the cold and windy weather on Saturday we had a few less buyers than we usually have. But, as we have seen in the past, the final result was a huge success! We had so many Grange volunteers and we also had great 4-H kids helping our Juniors run the sheets. Despite the bad weather, everyone had a great time.

Our next event will be our Relay for Life teams participation on June 2, and the Glow 5K at that event hosted by Prairie Grange. We will host

Food Cart Frenzy on June 9, with participation from other Granges and Fairboard we are able to donate a huge amount of food and non-perishables to our local Salvation Army. We are getting ready for the Boone County Fair in August. Members of our Grange head up many committees, Concessions, Tickets, Information, Parking lot Shuttle carts, Sunday Pork Chop Dinner, with the help of many volunteers.

Our members are making blankets for the Linus Project. We even have a non-member who is up to 16 blankets already!! Could this be a challenge? We hope everyone is working hard on the blankets.

Report From LeRoy Grange

LeRoy Granger's have been busy getting ready for spring. On May 6th part of our Grange appreciation days will be to continue to pick up our roadways, get our grounds cleaned and raked, followed with a potluck dinner at our hall. Calvin is getting estimates on wrapping our Grange Hall. Last fall he installed new windows and flashing.

We participated in the Home Town Christmas, collected hats and gloves for Capron School, collected canned goods for the Salvation Army, also collected toiletries and personal items for the Vet Drop Off Center this Christmas. While at the Vet center some of our members were able to tour the building and found other projects we can help with.

One of our families experienced a barn fire, destroying their supply of hay for their alpacas this winter. We were able to find and help replace

their hay.

We bought worms for the Conservation fishing camp, \$250.00 worth { that's a lot of worms}.

Helped Countyline Grange with the 4H spaghetti dinner fund raiser and provided baskets for the silent auction.

Scholarship applications have been received and evaluated.

Vicky Donley is looking into the civil war era cemetery across from our Hall to see what we can do to spruce it up and restore some of the tombstones.

We will be working with the Park District on doing up coming Community Service projects.

This year we lost long time member and past Master David Danielson and Agnes Meine.

Our oldest members Norris and Marge Walley both experiencing severe health issues. We continue to keep them in our prayers.

News From Flora Junior Grange

Kite flying is just one of the Grange Month activities for Flora Juniors. "Old times" games that were popular in the 1800's and 1900's in the state of Illinois were also explored. That included cards, chess, checkers, bingo, darts, marbles and jumping rope. Illinois children knew how to have fun even before electricity and battery operated hand-held games were available.

May in Illinois History:

1804 - Lewis and Clark leave from Dubois for the Pacific coast.

1856 - Whigs, Democrats and Independents unite to form Republican Party in McLean County

1911 - Standard Oil gas selling at 10 cents per gallon. 60,000 Illinois residents work at local oil well in southern Illinois

1937 - Wild Bill Hickok born in Troy Grove



Kite flying is just one of the Grange Month activities for Flora Juniors. "Old times" games that were popular in the 1800-1900's were also explored. That included cards, chess, checkers, bingo, darts, marbles and jumping rope. Illinois children knew how to have fun even before electricity and battery operated hand-held games were available.

1943 - Wrigley Field hosts Girls Professional Baseball League

1955 - Chuck Berry ushers in Rock 'N Roll music in Chicago

Report From Turkey Hill Grange

The major activities of the month were preparing dinners. At our annual Chicken Dinner on Sunday, April 8, we served the largest number of dinners in five years. The weather was ideal for this spring event. Some \$350 worth of leftover food was donated to the Violence Prevention Center. We served a pork loin dinner to 25 members of the Belleville News Democrat Newspaper Advisory Group April 10. On April 25, we served a ham dinner to the 20 homeless people at the Trinity United Church of Christ in support of Beacon Ministries.

At our regular meeting, we were privileged to learn about "Randy's Rescue Ranch" in O'Fallon. The Ranch only accepts animals that have been abused or are otherwise in a 'near death' condition. We

made contributions to the Belleville Fire Department so they could provide fire safety material to at least 100 elementary school students. As part of Grange Month, we agreed to donate \$500 to the National Grange's 'Chiller' Fund - members were offered the opportunity to contribute - if the contributions did not reach that amount, the difference would be taken from our treasury. Two of our four scholarship recipients were provided certificates stating that \$1,000 would be sent to their account at the college they will be attending next fall. Two new members were welcomed into membership using our Welcoming Ceremony in addition to approving the application for a third new member.

We provided a few jars

of our jams and jellies to be spread on crackers to Belleville Main Street's 'Brew and Que' so that attendees would have something to go along with their beverages. The idea of that donation was to assist in advertising our booth at the Old Town Market. At the beginning of the month, our Jam and Jelly Crew were busy preparing some 250 jars of jams, jellies and apple butter in anticipation of sales at the Chicken Dinner and the Old Town Market which begins the first Saturday in May. Preparations were also initiated for our Thursday afternoon BBQ which runs from the first of May through September as well as preparing for the opening of the Old Town Market.

Illinois State Membership Report

By Lindakay F. Ebel
Membership Chairman

April was National Grange month. April was Membership Month in our local Granges. Did your Grange promote it in any way? Did your Grange have new members? Were you a part of promoting Grange month? If not, WHY?

Most Grange members take pride in belonging to a highly respected fraternal organization and are proud to

tell others about it, with great enthusiasm. The Grange has so much to offer everyone. The Grange has something to share with everyone and can help affect positive change in communities across our country.

Why Did You Join the Grange? I, personally, joined the Grange for friendship. I lived in the Belvidere area for some 40 years, then moved to northern Wisconsin for 25 years, and lost many friends from leaving the area for a

long period of time. I have made friends with so many Grangers, not only in Flora Grange, but by joining Pomona Grange, attending the Illinois State Grange Convention for two years and meeting Grangers from other parts of Illinois. I value these friendships and look forward to seeing these special friends monthly at our meetings, or at leadership meetings or at convention. They are my new family.

What does Grange stand

for to you? Grange stands for so many different things to many different Grangers. Friendship, Families, Juniors, Agriculture, Family Values, Community Service, Citizenship, Youth, Fairs, Scholarships, Contests, Leadership, Potlucks, Hometown Roots, Advocacy, Resolutions, Project Linus, Members, Service Projects, History, Teaching, Trying New Things, and many more.

So, when asking someone to join your Grange, tell them

just a few things what our Granges stand for and are a part of. In Boone County, we have one big advantage, we have the Boone County Fair which our seven Boone County Granges own, operate and volunteer many hours each year to make it bigger and better. So, it is not too late to promote membership in your Grange, get out there and tell them what we, the Grange has to offer, and the greatest one to me is friendship. "That's the Grange Way"

News from Flora Grange

By Lindakay F. Ebel

Flora Grange met on April 10 at their Grange Hall and Master Al Ebel opened the meeting with full ritual and Jack Ratcliffe telling of the Grange codes that were used many years ago in the Grange with 1 letter per word. Special guests were County State Deputies, Ruth Blasingame and Jean Thornberry.

Master Al and Chaplain Donna West draped the charter for Flora Grange member, Ernie Wilson, age 89 of Belvidere who passed away on March 21, 2018 in Northwoods Care Center.

April was Membership month and members brought in four new members, Cheri Bartelt, Jim Shcult, Tracy Bodine, sponsored by Angeline Bondine and Lindakay Ebel and Dan Burroughs, sponsored by Jack Ratcliffe and Lindakay Ebel.

The various committee chairpersons gave their reports. Deb Silver reported on Safety Town which will be held June 12 - 15th and has various people coming to promote safety to the youngsters attending. Membership Chair Lindakay Ebel welcomed the new members and gave examples of why people

should join Granges, one being friendships.

Jack Ratcliffe reported the new exit signs have been installed and members have been working cleaning our Grange hall. Laurel Ratcliffe thanked all members that helped with our Roast Beef dinner held on April 8 with some 265 dinners served not including all the Grange workers, and to those that baked for the bake sale. The proceeds from the dinner were donated to Andy Fidler family.

Angeline Bondine, Health and Education chairperson reported if you have expired or unused medications, the Boone County Health Dept. has put a red container at the Safety Building in Belvidere to deposit them in. She also reported that in the year of 2016, there were 1950 deaths due to the drug, opioids, and Boone County has been touched by this drug.

We went over upcoming events for Flora Grange; Flora Grange will serve at the May 2nd Pomona meeting; May 19 & 20 Little Hershey's Antique Model T Antique Car Show; Safety Town; June 12-15, Applebee's Flapjack on June 23 and Dog Kennel Show, July 12 - 15th. Serenity Brockman stated she is in the

Boone County 4-H Federation and National Day of Service is April 28 and the 4-Her's are willing to come out to the fairgrounds and help in any way that is needed.

Reports were given by members of the Boone County Fair board, and tonight we received the new 2018 fair premium book, hot off the press. Laurel Ratcliffe was thanked for the five months she spent working on it.

Serenity Brockman read and presented a plaque to Master Albert Ebel, thanking members of Flora Grange for sponsoring her in the 2017 queen contest at the fair and for their support, as well as the continuous support to her and her family during her brother's health issue and their recent accident. She and her family are so happy to be a part of Flora Grange and the Boone County Fair.

Kathee Frazer and the juniors flew kites outside the Grange Hall this evening, good evening as it was windy. They also presented facts about Illinois: on April 7th, 1932 Black Hawk's Invasion of Illinois; April 15th, 1955, McDonald's franchise opened in Des Plaines and April 18th, 1865 General Ulysses S. Grant

received a hero's welcome in Galena. She told about projects the juniors are working on.

Nominations were made for Granger and Non-Granger of the Year. Plaques will be ordered.

"G" bills (31) were collected from members and Chaplain Donna announced members she sent cards to this past month. Happy birthday was sang to Jack Ratcliffe and Al Ebel, their birthdays on May 2nd.

Deputies Ruth Blasingame and Jean Thornberry gave out special Flora Grange awards.

They were as follows: 25 years continuous membership Ron Wait, 1st Place Promotion and Aaron Fidler. Ron Laws, Sharon Laws and Todd Hegge each received recognition for 40 years of service and Tom Ratcliffe for 50 years and Jack Ratcliffe for 60 years of membership and service.

Meeting was closed in with full ritual.

Next Flora Grange meeting on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, regular meeting and Memorial Service. Hostesses will be Bob Scherer, Jim and Barb Trevaathan and Myra Hodgson.

2nd Annual

ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE

STATEWIDE PICNIC

Open to Everyone Bring A Dish to Pass

MAY 19TH

1 pm

Held by ISG YOUTH DEPT

SCHEDULE

1 PM ARRIVAL OF DAILY GUESTS/VISITING

2 PM POTLUCK LUNCHEON

3 PM PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

3:45 PM SIGN-A-SONG COMPETITION

4 PM DRILL COMPETITION

4:30 PM AUCTION

More Information

We will be camping at the KDA Campground in Springfield, IL. For Non-Campers there may be a fee of \$3 to the campground. Join us for the whole weekend or just the picnic.

For more camping information Contact John Heninger 615-508-8227 or spocel@aol.com

BEVPTOLET US KNOW WHAT TO BUY KARE BLAINGAME 208 0312
KBLAINGAME78@GMAIL.COM

.....Writing a Grange Resolution.....

The Grange has a long history rooted in member participation in our policy development through our resolution process. Each Granger is tasked with addressing voids and surpluses in our policy and can propose to implement these changes by offering amendments to your local and State Granges. Drafting resolutions may seem like a daunting task at first, but if you follow the simple format listed below, you will soon be on your way to writing a clear and effective resolution.

First, it is important to know the anatomy of a resolution. There are three main parts: the Title, the body (or Whereas section), and the conclusion (or Resolved section).

- The Title - The title should clearly state the issue to be addressed. Be clear about the topic, the more specific you are the easy it is to differentiate between resolutions on similar topics.

- The Body - The body of the resolution is where you get to make your argument for why this resolution is necessary. This section does not become policy but explains to other Grangers why the issue is important and provides details, data, and other reference material so they can be better educated on voting for the issue. It is important to note that these should be rooted in facts and not based on the opinions of the writer.

- The Conclusion - The conclusion must be a complete sentence which sums up what your resolution is trying to achieve and can stand alone without any of the supporting information.

Here is an Example:

Deregulation of the Postal Service

WHEREAS the federal government imposes unreasonable regulations and mandates on the U.S. Postal Service but no longer funds

any of the organization's operating costs; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Postal Service will continue to be forced to close local post offices and reduce services under such a business model; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Postal Service could survive and compete if allowed to create its own business model free of Congressional oversight; and

WHEREAS the National Grange has a rich tradition in helping to ensure the rural free delivery of mail; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the National Grange support legislation that creates an autonomous U.S. Postal Service, which can set its own operating procedures and business model without the undue regulation of the federal government.

Once the resolution is written, it must be approved by a Subordinate or Pomona Grange before it moves on to State or National Session. It is helpful for the writer of

the resolution to keep track of all the resources used to assemble the resolution. Then when the resolution is being debated, members can be referred to these resources for more information before making an informed decision. It is important to present both sides of the argument. Though you may not agree with the opposing viewpoint, it is still valid and needs to be part of your information.

Note to State Masters/Secretaries: After a resolution has passed that will be sent to National Grange, it is helpful to the committees that will be taking a look at the resolutions if you include background information about the topics. Again, the more information you provide the more informed the committee will be and this greatly enhances the deliberative process. As stated above, please try to submit opposing viewpoints on the topic.

Here are some examples of places to find supplementary information:

Government statistics or academic articles with documented sources

Fact sheets from groups who lobby for or against the subject matter

Newspaper articles

Books or magazine articles

In closing, make sure your resolution can stand the test of time. A good deal of Grange policy dates back 75 years or more and continues to be relevant because the ideals and concepts hold true today. However, we also have policy that is out-of-date and relates to issues that have been dealt with on the local and con-

gressional levels. If you have a resolution that deals with an issue that is connected to a current event or particular bill, your resolution may be included in the committee of jurisdiction's policy statement for that year, rather than passed as a resolution. Rest assured that this is still very important and is actually a better home for your resolution. Every resolution that is sent to National Grange is taken seriously by the committee that it was assigned to and is given consideration. For information about resolution writing contact your State Legislative Director or State Master.

Troy Grove Report

Troy Grove Grange met April 19, at the Hall. Six sisters and 2 brothers were present.

Agriculture Chairman Jim Weber reported that some planting was being done but the cold has caused delays.

Flags for Veterans were placed May 26 at Troy Grove and Peterstown cemeteries. Afterwards the group went to Ziggies for lunch.

A demit was approved for

Sue Garten due to ongoing health problems. The demit was approved.

Secretary Betty Meznarich reported the 60 and 65 year recognition medals were mailed to Joyce and Marlin Hoelzer. They were not able to attend due to health problems.

The next meeting of Troy Grove Grange will be May 17 at 7 PM at the Hall.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 9 – Ladies Night Out – Emerald Mound Grange
May 10 – BBQ Dinner 4-7pm Emerald Mound - Pulled pork, sloppy joe or brat, 2 sides, dessert & drink \$7
May 12 – Spring Quarter Auction – Emerald Mound
May 17-19 – Illinois State Campout – Hosted by Prairie Grange – Springfield KOA
May 19 – Illinois State Grange Picnic – 2 pm Potluck
May 19 – DEADLINE Grange Health surveys to Lynette
June 9 – Food Cart Frenzy – Boone County Hosted by Prairie Grange
June 10 – Executive Committee Meeting – Dixie Café, McLean IL Department Chairmen Invited to Attend
June 12-15 – Flora Grange Safety Town Camp
June 15-17 – Mid-West Youth Conference and Great Lakes Leaders Conference
June 21 – BBQ Dinner 4-7pm Emerald Mound
June 23 – Flora Grange Flapjack Fundraiser at Applebee's Belvidere

1st Annual

ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE

CAMPING WEEKEND

MAY 18TH - 20TH

Hosted by Prairie Grange #1832

Open to all Grangers

MULTIPLE Options

PULL THROUGH CAMPSITES \$40

BACK IN CAMPSITES \$37

TENT SITES \$30

LARGE CABIN \$110 SLEEPS 6

CABIN \$72 SLEEPS 2-4

ALL PRICES ARE PER NIGHT



More Information

We will be camping at the KOA Campground in Springfield, IL

Saturday afternoon will be the 2nd annual Illinois State Grange Picnic. Bring a dish to pass, the Youth Department provides meat

Reserve your spot with Prairie Grange Payment due upon request

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT CONTACT

JOHN HENNINGER 815-509-9227

SPOTEEL@AOL.COM

PosterMyWall.com

Leaf River Grange News

By MaryJane Zipse

Leaf River Grange is holding regular meetings. Members cleaned up the lawn around the Grange hall and out at the water pump. The men of the Grange installed a

new well pump.

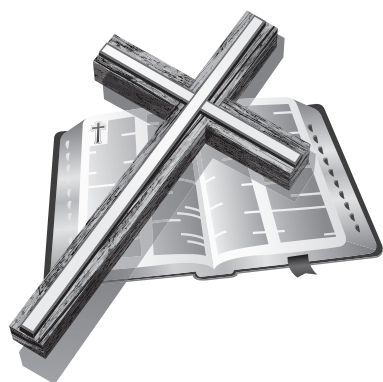
We observed "Go to Church Sunday" by attending "All Saints Lutheran Church" in Byron. Eleven members enjoyed a noon meal at the Sunrise restaurant following the church service.

Chaplain's Corner

By Charlotte Mehrtens

Remember the saying April showers bring May flowers, but I wonder if it also means April snows bring May flowers and warmer weather. We all must confess that this has been an unusual weather year. Faith and faith alone will see us though the many different things that happen in our lives.

Do you have little plastic bags in your house that contains seed from flowers or plants that your grandchildren or friends have given to you to plant in the future. We are fascinated by these tiny packets of potential and hope of what will appear. Who would guess what life is hidden inside a seed. But in order for this potential to be realized the seed needs to die. Before it can become what it is meant to be, it's protective shell must break open. It will come to life and bloom and



then scatter its seeds to start life cycle all over again. We as humans willingly risk failure, to break out of our cozy pod and hard seed coat and venture out into the world. My own shell is comforting and protective, but maybe it is preventing me from becoming something new in my life. Whatever the month of May brings your way we must always remember that everything comes to us through Christ.

Blessings to each and everyone and rejoice in the spring time and life.

"Well Done, Good and Faithful Servants"

Ernie Wilson - 1928-2018 - Flora Grange
 Agnes Miene - 1919-2018 - Leroy Community Grange
 Esther Eileen Wilson 1918-2018 Leaf River Grange
 Esther passed three days before her 100th birthday.

Communications Report

By Elaine Hecathorn

How well is your Grange known in your area? Do you have your Grange's name on the building or in the front yard. Do you advertise your activities in the local paper, flyers, word of mouth, radio? Do you wear Grange clothing, hats, shirts, Grange name tags when out and about? Please make sure your flyers and letters have the Grange logo on them appropriately.

Be proud of being a Granger! Be excited and anxious to tell others about

the work you have done. One of the worst things we do is not share what we do with others. It is ok to brag about your Grange when talking to others. People want to join an organization that is known in the community, busy most of the time, supports other organizations, and is always smiling as they do it. Become an integral part of your community.

Secretaries are important by keeping members updated on activities coming up. Never assume that they will remember important dates of your projects. With school,

church, other groups such as 4-H, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and numerous others, it is difficult to remember where to be when and what is going on once you get there. The community service director and secretary can work together on keeping members informed of upcoming activities.

I hope all Granges take time at a meeting to complete the 2018 Subordinate Grange Survey. I am proud to say that Hopewell Grange did the survey. We are an excellent Grange. I hope many of you are too!

Deaf Committee News

This has been a crazy Spring season. Since I haven't written in a while, let me summarize events from March and April.

March- There was a National Deaf Rally Day in Washington D. C. on the 8th. It was reported that nearly 2,000 Deaf and Hard of Hearing from around the country attended. They were there to demand equal access to communication, education and jobs. It is the event planners' hope that the historic event inspires more advocates.

April-the LRID had workshops, but I was unable to attend due a previously planned family event. However, I read they were very successful. Also, on April 23, there was a town hall meeting at the local Deaf Action Center. Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals from Monroe, Alexandria and of course Shreveport were invited to meet the new Louisiana Commission for the Deaf director and voice concerns of another agency not providing appropriate services. Again due to a previously scheduled 4-H event, I was not able to attend.

To continue my history on

the Illinois Association of the Deaf, I'll be covering events of the IAD from 1967-1976. Fox Valley Chapter was established in 1967. The senior class at the Illinois School for the Deaf held a meeting on September 23, 1967. After some discussion by Mr. and Mrs. Orman with a session of questions and answers, class president Tommy Mow takes the floor and a vote ensued which lead to the organization of the Junior Chapter of the Illinois School for the Deaf. The Illinois Home for the Aged Deaf officially closes on January 24, 1969. In 1973 - IAD received a \$35,000 grant to administer the Illinois Continuing Education Study headed by Dr. Samuel Block and Dr. George Propp. The study provided the IAD with a needs assessment and recommendations so that the IAD could appropriately determine the continuing education needs of the Deaf. President Forestal assigned Carolyn Herbold to direct the Junior IAD program beginning the growth of this program that later incorporated a weekend camp activity, annual state convention,

volleyball tourney, literary/art contests, and various get-together events involving at least ten local schools and two community college chapters in Illinois. The IAD Board of Directors reached an historic milestone by creating the Executive Secretary position on January 1, 1975. The creation of this position enhanced IAD's image and allowed for increased action and involvement in matters of interest. A change to the IAD Board of Directors occurred requiring a geographical balance in the Board's composition. This enabled each chapter to have a representative on the Board of Directors. The IAD made an appearance at the Illinois State Fair with an exhibit on Deafness. IAD hosted the biennial NAD Regional II Conference in Schiller Park, Illinois. In October 1976, the IAD actively participated in the Illinois White House Conference on the Handicapped at McCormick Inn, Chicago.

Quotable Quote: "The Deaf believe there is nothing wrong. The hearing believe something needs to be fixed." (Anonymous)