



ILLINOIS GRANGER

Volume 103

November 2019

No. 7

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

at the session - much work to be done and as one of the host states everyone will need to help. If you arrive at the session and have time to work, go to the host office and look for the signup sheets. Karie Blasingame, as host committee chair, can usually be found in the host states office. She is working hard, and all the states appreciate all the efforts of the Grangers in the Midwest.

Happy Thanksgiving



Lynette Schaeffer President Illinois State Grange

Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms November

Well the weather has finally turned cold – The weather this year has been remarkable – the first 8 months we were record setting wet, September we had drought conditions and warm, now we are cooler than normal. Hard to figure out what is going on with crops and weather. All the persimmons we opened to look at the seeds were all shovels – which according to weather lore means lots of snow to shovel.

Thanks to all who presented and participated in GRIT (Grange Resources Information and Training) conference in St Clair County. There was a good group of Grangers at the meeting October 12 at Bluff Grange. Thanks to Bluff for hosting. Much important information was shared. I have prepared more copies for the meeting on October 27th at Flora Grange. Hope lots of Grangers will be attending that session.

Don and I attended the 104th Oklahoma State Grange session. It was a great session. They have many Juniors and Youth attend the session and participate in many ways. There are several ideas of things that IL can try to do. There were several similar resolutions and similar actions. We met great Grangers and good to see how others run through a session. Also, great to see Roger, Melanie and Mandy Bostwick at the session, as they are from “northern OK” and now we are part of NE OK.

Don and I are preparing for National Session. We will be part of Conservation and Agriculture committees and have already started work. I hope many IL Grangers have signed up to help

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov 4-9 -National Grange Session – Midwest host – Bloomington, MN
Nov 17 – Flora Grange Roast Beef Dinner
Nov 17 – Beaver Valley Grange Concert at Loves Park VFW – 3 artists
Nov 19-21 – Broad Hollow Grange Christmas Branson trip
Nov 21 – DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER GRANGER 2020
Feb 22 – Spring Fling North
Mar 7-11 -Youth/Junior Grange DC Experience
April 11 – Prairie Grange Consignment Auction
April 18 – State Junior Day – Boone County Pomona host
April 25 – Spring Fling South
May 29-31 – Grange Campout
May 30 – State Grange Picnic
June 26-28 – Midwestern Leadership Conference – Illinois Hosts
July 15 – DEADLINE for Community Service Granger/Non Granger/Junior/Firefighter/Teacher/Police
July 25 – Youth Wine/ Brewery Tour North – Must be 21+
Aug 11-16 – Boone County Fair
Sept 11-13 – Illinois State Session – Springfield Illinois

Please send me any important dates, obituaries, donations for your Grange.

Ruth Blasingame

illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com

815-299-7884

8711 Deer Run Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008-9050

ISG Secretary

Hello there everyone, I do believe FALL is in the air – it is a bit nippy outside today.

Well GRIT Conference will be over by the time you read this but there are a few things I want to remind you about:

1. If you have not sent me your 3rd quarter Quarterly Dues report is due NOW.
2. Each Grange received a Roster Sheet in your Secretary packet and it needs to be filled out and turned into me even if your officers and committee chairs did not change. I need this before November 10th.
3. You received Bonding Information at the GRIT Conference from Lynette and you need to make sure that you either fill out the top portion of the sheet or sign the bottom of the sheet and I need those returned to me before December 20th.
4. If you need any membership awards or years of Service SEALS please fill out the bright gold FORM M sheet or the 25 year certificate sheet with the information it requires and send the money that is necessary or contact me robinkindberg5@gmail.com and we will work it out together

If you have any questions about your quarterly reports please contact me.

Thank you for your cooperation
Robin Kindberg
ISG Secretary

Reminder the 4th quarter Quarterly Reports are due to me anytime after December 31 and before January 30th, 2020.

THANK YOU!!

Our deepest thanks go out to all our Grange Brothers and Sisters who collected “G” Bills throughout the past Grange year. These “G” Bills will be used to help with Illinois’ share of expenses related to hosting the 2019 National Grange Convention at Bloomington/Minneapolis, MN, in November.

“G” Bills turned in at our state convention were as follows: Beaver Valley - \$138; Big Thunder - \$390; Bluff - \$85; Broad Hollow - \$33; Emerald Mound - \$21; Enterprise - \$50; Flora - \$686; Floraville - \$126; Guilford Hope - \$300; Hecathorn Family (Hopewell Grange) - \$55; LeRoy Community - \$9; Perryville - \$58; Prairie - \$460 + \$3 more from Lyle Lee; Progressive - \$56; Shiloh Valley \$75; Turkey Hill - \$104; Union - \$210; and another \$45 from a Grange that we missed getting the name written down (so sorry). This makes a total of \$2,904 donated toward hosting our National Convention.

We also send our thanks to our National Lecturer, Chris Hamp, from Washington for being our alarm clock and seeing that the name of everyone who was on the floor speaking when the alarm went off was put into the basket for the drawing. The winner of the free registration at National Grange was Marion Thornberry of Flora Grange. Congratulations, Marion, and enjoy the convention!

THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

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next event will be sponsoring the “Three In A Row” concert being held at the Loves Park VFW, Post 9759. Chip Messiner, Jannie Nelson, and Ron Holm will be performing favorite songs of Kenny Rogers, Crystal Gayle, and Marty Robbins. The concert will be November 17th, a Sunday, at 3 pm. Tickets and info: 815-979-1949, or online at www.trinadora.com/events. Next we had election of officers and they are as follows: Master, Jerry Paulson; Secretary, Renee O’Dell; Treasurer, Susan Banks; Overseer, Bryson O’Dell; Steward, Chip Messiner; Asst Steward, Rick O’Dell; Gatekeeper, Brian O’Dell; Lady Asst. Steward, Athena O’Dell; Chaplain, Marisa O’Dell; Ceres, Emily Judisch; Lecturer, Steve Paulson; Fairboard representatives, Steve Paulson, Chip Messiner, Rick O’Dell, and Dayle Paulson. Our October Hero’s are Athena O’Dell and Bryson O’Dell (see picture). Also attached a picture of our youngest attendee at our meeting Brandon O’Dell. Dayle Paulson, Publicity

Beaver Valley Grange

Meeting 10-4-19

Beaver Valley Grange met on Friday at the Administration Bldg. of the fairgrounds at 7:00 pm. Reports were given for Fairboard, upcoming events, membership, and community service. Our delegates Steve & Dayle Paulson for State Session gave their reports plus there was discussion on the Hospitality Suite for State Session. Reminder of GRIT coming up on October 27th. Our

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County Line Grange

Our regular meeting was Oct. 9. This was also our Halloween party. Many members came in costume. We had Witches, Bikers, Hardhat workers, and many others. Thanks to JoEllen and Ruth for hosting. We enjoyed good food and had great Halloween decorations.

We had one guest, Emily Frick, daughter of Jason and Jen Schmeling. We also welcome Emily as a new County Line member.

Committee reports were given. Ruth and Tamra gave their report on State Grange, passed out contest winner ribbons and raffle prizes.

We discussed our Scholarship Meat Raffle that we have going on now, our Oct. 19 breakfast fundraiser at Applebee’s, Planning Committee meeting, GRIT, Salvation Army Bell Ringing, etc. JoEllen had our new Grange books ready and gave those out.

Meeting was closed and Penny March was held.



October News from Flora Grange

By Lindakay Ebel

Flora Grange met on October 8th, 2019 at the Flora Grange Hall with 36 members in attendance. Master Albert Q. Ebel called the meeting to order with the Pledge and Chaplain Donna West led the group in prayer. Roll call of officers was called, minutes of the September 10th, 2019 meeting were approved.

Applications of two new members were approved, Catherine Homan, recruited by Lindakay and Albert Ebel and Richard Nelson, recruited by Laurel and Jack Ratcliffe. Jack Ratcliffe inducted them into the Grange, and they were welcomed by all in attendance.

Reports of standing committees were given: Emalee Colver reported the Quilting group had been working on projects; Deb Silver reported a new Families Activities list will be given out at GRIT. Agriculture, Jack Ratcliffe reported some farmers are slowly starting on soybeans, some fields very muddy. Emalee Colver said a Farmland Protection meeting is scheduled for this month, not sure of the date. Everyone thought Ken Ramsay presentation at the Ag breakfast at ISG session was well done.

Jack Ratcliffe, Building & Grounds reported Julie Willis has been mowing the Grange lawn, propane tank painted, need to put plastic on the windows and the furnaces have to be checked for winter.

Membership, Lindakay Ebel welcomed the new members this evening, and encouraged everyone to continue to ask family, friends and neighbors to join the Grange. Fair board members Jack, Bob and Al gave an update on the new tractor, hog barn, and other work being done.

Laurel Ratcliffe reported under Community Service this month, several members (Laurel and Jack, Lindakay and Al Ebel, Emalee Colver, Jerri Schardt, and Teri Keegan) made the food and served the food for the Gordon Clark funeral (Keith Clark's father).

Lindakay Ebel, Treasurer had a written monthly financial report for all Grange members, including all income and expenses for the past month, as well as year to dates.

Laurel Ratcliffe was thanked for making the delicious meal at the ISG Session on Friday evening, and she thanked everyone that helped her and Jack. State Agriculture Chairman Albert Ebel and Lindakay gave out ribbons and premiums to those Flora Grange members that brought entries to the State session. This year's total was 168 entries for the agriculture.

Al and Lindakay were delegates for Flora Grange again this year and told some of the highlights from the weekend. Lindakay stated they took the 'G' bills we had collected from each meeting which totaled 686. Great job, Grangers. Sharon Fidler then gave out ribbons and premiums from the Family Activities to Flora Grange members and Junior members. Lindakay Ebel, State Membership Chairman presented a check in the amount of \$65.00, \$5 for each new Flora Grange member this past year. Master Ebel presented Secretary Laurel Ratcliffe with a check of \$25, and a certificate, 4th place for her community service book. She was thanked for a job well done.

Motion was made to again purchase dictionary's for 3rd graders at the Genoa-Kingston school. Pomona Grange will be held earlier this month, October 23rd; GRIT on Sunday, October 27th at Flora Grange with Potluck dinner at 12 Noon, presentations for the upcoming year starts at 1 pm.

Flora roast beef dinner is on Sunday, November 17 and Flora Grange members will be making salads on Saturday at the Grange Hall all day on the 16th from 8 am to 5 pm.

Sharon Fidler gave the Junior's report. Instead of a program this evening, Joanne Fidler gave out the premiums from the Lecturer's contest including quilt blocks, photography, creative writing, paintings, handcrafted and talent.

Emalee Colver collected 44 'G' bills this evening. There was some discussion on what we would do with our 'G' bills this year. Birthdays this month, Delphine Calabrese on Halloween, anniversarys, October 6, Donna & Gene West, 25 years, October 24, Laurel & Jack Ratcliffe, 55 years and JoAnn and George

Wienrank 44 years.

Meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served by the Due's and thanks to all Grange members who brought in all the great sandwiches, desserts and other food and members enjoyed fellowship together.

Next Flora Grange meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 with serving committee of Emily Chambers and Chelsey Huntington.

Guilford Hope Grange

Guilford Hope Grange met at the home of Wayne and Nancy Lyford for a noon potluck lunch on Tuesday, October 22nd. Vivian Johnson, the Winnebago County Deputy, was present along with 14 Grange members. The meeting was opened in the 4th degree with all saying the pledge of allegiance. Wayne and Nancy reported delivering dictionaries to the students of Alpine Academy in Rockford, Il. on Monday morning.

Carolyn read the minutes of our previous meeting and they were approved. She told of 'Thank You's' received from the Salvation Army and the Rockford Rescue Mission for our monetary donations. The treasurers report was read and approved along with money to be added to the Sunshine budget. Nancy told them she will be the Family Activities Chairperson for 2022 and if there are any suggestions to please pass them on. Carolyn received mail from the National Grange with a form for anyone wishing to send their e-mail address to them to have on file. It also was an invitation to subscribe to the Good Day Grange magazine. Next month we will be reviewing our budget for the 2020 year. Our Christmas party was discussed and decided on a location and time. Our next meeting will be a noon potluck at Gene and Carolyn Wheeler's home. Guilford Hope Grange decided to do daytime meetings in the Fall/Winter months in case of inclement weather predicted for evening hours. Meeting adjourned and a Thanksgiving bingo was played.

Nancy Lyford

Leroy Community Grange

The October 8, 2019 meeting was called to order by President, Rocky Temple. Pledge and Prayer were led by John Kennedy. The secretary report was emailed and approved. There was no treasurer report this month.

The State Grange convention was September 13-15th. John & Sandi Kennedy attended the Friday evening session. Sandi delivered our Just Breath 815 Community Service donations. Tami Temple thanked everyone who assisted with the breakfast we served on Saturday morning. We had a profit of \$680.00. Carol Mulholland put a couple of baskets together for the auction, and reported that Edwards Apple Orchard donated \$75.00 worth of items for our baskets.

The left over pop and water from our booth at the fair will be donated to KeenAge center and/or B1 food pantry. Hometown Christmas is the first weekend in December. We decided to sponsor a tree and a large

family again this year. The fee for the tree is \$30 and we set a limit of \$300 on family gifts. Tami Temple volunteered to chair the Christmas committee. Sue Zelasko emailed everyone that due to a lack of community interest, we will not be participating in the craft fair.

The Pomona November meeting is rescheduled to October 23rd. Our grange is to bring refreshments. Sandi & John Kennedy will

Illinois Granger - November, 2019 3 attend and order a cake. Kennedy's are also planning on attending the National

Grange convention November 5th - 9th in Minneapolis, MN.

The GRIT meeting is Sunday, Oct. 27th at Flora Grange with a potluck at noon and meeting to follow. Rocky & Denise Temple, and John & Sandi Kennedy plan to attend.

Ed Kasper emailed the raffle information to Denise. He also reported that the Fair Board does have a Code of Ethics and we decided to get a copy to review. Start thinking of resolution ideas for next year.

Calvin Downey will close up our Grange building for the year.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 12th at 6:30 p.m. at the Pomona Grange Building. Downeys will bring refreshments. Everyone is asked to bring some nonperishable food items to be donated to a food pantry.

Tami Temple motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mike Wilinon 2nd, meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Denise Temple, secretary

Boone County Pomona News

Boone County Pomona Grange meeting was held on October 23, 2019 with many members in attendance. Committee reports were heard.

Al Henninger reported that the state finally allocated money to fix our bridges and roads which some are in desperate need of repairs.

Al Ebel reported harvest is underway but Mother Nature needs to cooperate a little better and shut off the rain for awhile. Jack Ratcliffe reported everyone please be careful when you see farm machinery on the roads. Jane Zeien reported she works in the dairy testing industry and she said there are new non-dairy products coming out such as 50% Milk-50%Almond Milk to help those who have dairy issues and/or allergies. She reported some of them don't taste to bad either.

Dayle Paulson reported it is not to late to get your flu shots for the flu season is upon us.

Marissa Odell had a special person from The Haven Network come to our meeting tonight and explain to us ways that they help families who have recently lost a child. Jerry Paulson Community Service chairman wants our Grange to help this organization with donations or however we can. Marissa will get a listing of things they need and get it to our worthy Master who will let everyone know how they can help this organization.

Subordinate Grange reports were heard and we found out everyone is going to be busy this holiday season doing many community service events.

Prairie and Prairie Juniors will be going to the Rockford Ice Hogs Hockey game on Sat. Dec. 7th and all Grangers that are interested can join them. You must pay your own way which will be \$12.00 per person and contact Jennifer Tobin-Tinch for more details.

We had a long discussion on State Session which was sponsored by Boone and Winnebago County Pomona Granges and held at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Grangers seemed to agree that it went well with a few hiccups nothing major. Meals were excellent and served in a very timely manner, It was a whole lot cheaper than if we held it at a hotel. If we have it again there are a few things we would change. Do we want to have it at the Fairgrounds again? The consensus was yes.

We sang Happy Birthday to several of our members who have birthdays in October and November.

Our Next meeting will be the Soup/Chili Dues Paying Supper. Prairie Grange will be serving that night. After a short discussion it was decided to keep the meeting on January 1, 2020 at 6:30PM .

Everyone have a safe, happy and healthy holiday season and we will see you next year.

Karrie Kindberg
Pomona Publicity Chairman

4 November, 2019 - Illinois Granger

Grange Heroes

by Beverly Smith, Historian IL State Grange
Speech given on Sept. 14, 2019 at
IL State Grange Session

My report is in your booklets. I have written about various Grange topics in the Illinois Granger this year. Actually I have learned quite a bit of Grange history in my search for topics to write about. Please take a look at my display tables. I keep notebooks on many Grange catagories. (Youth, Farm Families, Juniors, just to name a few) I also brought my pamphlet collection, car bumper stickers and music items. Janice David from my committee is present.

This year Lynette would like us to honor Dosia Eckert, wife of E. A. Eckert past Master of Illinois State Grange and Past National Grange Executive Committee to our Illinois State Grange Hall of Fame. Dosia served as National Grange Flora from 1921-1923. As Juvenile Superintendant 1925-28 she created the first handbook, coordinated activities and national projects thus creating an upspurt in Juvenile Grange membership. She and her husband dedicated their lives to the Grange and its ritualistic features. Many grange halls had the Eckerts picture hanging in their halls. I would really like a copy of it. They are both buried in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Belleville.

My theme to talk to you about is Grange Heroes. Of course the original seven founders of The Grange are our heroes. (Kelley, McDowell, Thompson, Ireland, Trimble, Grosh, and Saunders). Kelley’s niece, Caroline Hall is also considered an important influence on including women in The Grange. Ladies, she certainly is our hero! All of our National Grange Masters are heroes. The Grange has endured for 152 years. Illinois was honored to have Oliver Wilson serve as National Grange Master from 1911 -1919. For 148 years our Illinois State Grange Masters have been our Grange Heroes. The first State Master I remember was Frank Niffenger. The State Grange was rocked when they lost their leader. When I was a child, my parents and I made a special trip to Marengo for the funeral visitation. I will never forget that. Russell Stauffer was Overseer so he took over as State Master after Frank’s passing. Russ is from my county (Winnebago) and knew my parents in the Winnebago County Grange Youth group. He served 26 years as the longest Illinois State Grange Master. Henrietta Keller was elected our first female Illinois State Grange Master in 1999. Hero! Worthy Master Lynette is the 17th State Master. Hero! We currently have five living Past State Masters in Illinois. Russell Stauffer, Alvin Henninger, Henrietta Keller, David Donley, and Lyle Lee. Grange Heroes!

Now perhaps you were born into the Grange like myself or a Granger asked you to join. We have had many Illinois Grangers qualifying as Heros as we celebrate our 148th annual session. I can remember the many Grange functions I attended over my 68 years to witness many Illinois Grange leaders, so many to recognize.

Today we would like to thank The Boone County Fairgrounds for letting us have state session here. We are making history! Hopefully you got to tour the grounds, museums, school house and Grange hall. Right after the meeting I am going to escort anyone who didn’t get to see the Grange Museum. I have been fortunate to help spread grange history here too. Sherry Hicks and I worked on displaying grange items that I have been collecting. My State Grange officer formals are on display in the grange hall along with various sewing items. Also jewelry, buttons, miscellanous Grange items are in cases in the Grange Museum. You would not believe all the Grange items I have had stashed over the years! The Kindberg Family gave me many news clippings of the Boone County Fair so I would like to give them to the Fair Museum.

Les Carlson, President and the Boone County

Fair Board certainly were community heroes. Their foresight to move the county fair to this spot was bold and some questioned this decision at the time. December 1962 The Boone County Pomona Grange voted to purchase 84 acres for \$52,000 from the John Taylor estate for the new home of the Boone County Fair.

July 1963 ground was broken on Route 76 for the new Boone County Fairgrounds. Eight buildings were to be constructed .

August 12, 1964 the new fair was launched. This started the magnificient years making the Boone County Fair so successful. In 1968 Miss Boone County Fair crowned Judi Ford. Fair Board President Les Carlson persuaded Judi to enter the Miss Illinois contest which she won and went on to be crowned Miss America in 1969 and Belvidere’s Hometown Hero!

Now we will go down Grange memory lane: Sixty years ago 1959, Dorsey Kirk was State Master, there were 105 subordinate granges. Fifty years ago 1969-Oh what a good year! Neil Armstrong was first American to walk on the moon and that was the year I also graduated from high school! But Fifty years ago, Russell Stauffer was State Grange Master, with 85 subordinate granges. State Master Lynette was Master of Floraville Junior Grange. I was Youth Committee chairman of Winnebago County Pomona Grange. How time does fly! Twenty-five years ago November 1994 Illinois was host for National Grange in Peoria. 1999 Twenty years ago State Master Alvin Henninger opened the 128th State session in Rockford, Boone County hosting. This session elected the first woman to be Illinois State Grange Master--Henrietta Keller. Worthy Master Lynette was State Secretary. We had 51 subordinate granges, 10 Pomona granges, and 12 Junior granges. Many people in this room held state offices.

Now I want you all to think of the Grangers who are your heroes. Your hero may be your parents, the person who asked you to join the Grange or a leader of your Grange. We must continue our great traditions of farm, family, ritualism, community service, and honoring our patriotism and religious heritage. “Esto perpetus” “Let It Endure Forever” This is the motto that the founders agreed upon. We must continue to offer all the opportunities The Grange has for our future generations.

Illinois State Grange Community Service Program 2020 Summary

Illinois State Grange Project: Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Illinois

- * “Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Illinois provides a supportive place for families to stay while their child is receiving medical care, and supports programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children.”
 - * Donate to their House Wish List or Happy Wheels Programs
 - * Collect Pop Tabs, Printer Cartridges, Old Cell Phones for Recycling
 - * Encourage All Granges to Organize Donation Drive or Special Fundraiser
 - * Award for the Grange, Granger, and Non-Member who makes Largest Donation
 - * Must Provide Listing of Items and/or Monies Donated at State Session to Participate in Award
 - * For more information, visit <https://rmhc-centralillinois.org/>
- Nominate Individuals Who Exemplify Our Community Service Values:**
- * Subordinate Granger, Junior Granger, Non-

Member

- * Only include activities completed in the last year (Aug 1, 2019 – Jul 31, 2020)
 - * Firefighter, Law Enforcement Officer, Teacher
 - * Activities from all years can be included
 - * Deadline for Nomination: July 15, 2020 (postmarked)
- Focus on Publicity:**
- * Illinois State Granger
 - * Newspaper and Other Publication
 - * Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.
- Prepare Community Service Report:**
- * List and Summarize all Projects and Fundraisers
 - * Estimate Total Volunteer Hour Participation
 - * Member: Member of YOUR Grange
 - * Non-Member: Member of ANOTHER Grange or a Non-Granger
 - * Calculate Number of Member/Non-Member Projects
 - * See National Grange Suggestions for Grange Community Service Books
 - * Bonus: Include National Distinguished Grange or Grange in Action Application
 - * Deadline for Nomination: August 19, 2020 (postmarked)
 - * Only include activities completed in the last year (Aug 1, 2019 – Jul 31, 2020)

Send Nominations to the Illinois State Grange Community Service Director:

Tracey Jones
IL State Grange Community Service
2 Lost Dutchman Dr.
St. Peters, MO 63376
I am Here to Help – Contact Me!
* Call/Text Me: 636-279-9187
* Email Me: jones.traceya@gmail.com
* Look for my Articles in the Illinois State Granger for More Information
* Look for Copies of Forms on the Illinois State Grange Website
Here’s to a Great Year
Let’s Go Make a Difference in the Community!

Membership

ISG Membership Chairman Lindakay Ebel

The first quarter, (July – September) of 2019-2020 Illinois State Grange is now over, which means, Brothers and Sisters, we have only three quarters to recruit new members.

This is my third year as your membership chairperson, and as I set before my computer, I wonder what to write about after the past two years. One seems to run out of ideas after a while. So, I came up with a new idea for this year. How about talking about the word MEMBERSHIP!!!

Membership, I decided to take one letter a month and talk about that.

The letter M. The letter ‘M’. ME. That is a great way to start, what better way to start than to suggest then “ME” start recruiting members. If each Granger recruited a new member each quarter, think of all the new members we would have in a year.

Letter ‘M’ – MEMBER – Yes, like I said, if every member recruited a new member, just recruited one new member a year, that would help our Grange membership. That really does not seem too much to ask, does it?

Letter ‘M’ – MEMBERSHIP – Yes, it takes a membership to form a Grange and to run a Grange properly and do work on community service projects. Isn’t that what the Grange does? Aren’t you proud of what your Grange does for your community, don’t you want to spread the word?

So, take the letter M and do something with it this month, start with ME, by recruiting a new MEMBER to increase your MEMBERSHIP in your local Grange and also in your Pomona Granges.

Illinois State Grange Lecturer’s Contests and Programs 2019-2020

Ethan Edwards, Illinois State Lecturer
ethanaedwards@mac.com
618-795-8021
or find me on Facebook!

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 2020 Illinois State Session and National Contests.

Our hope is to have the widest possible participation. In 2019, entrants ranged in age from 7 to 96 from 13 Subordinate Granges. But we had many categories with only one or two entries. Let’s try to get as many people involved this year as possible.

NATIONAL CONTESTS

Details of the National Lecturer’s contests will become available after the 2019 National Session in November. Specific rules and information will be distributed via the Illinois Granger when they become available. For planning purposes, there have been three contest categories in recent years:

National Photography Contest:

There no longer are separate specific rules for the National Photography Contest. Any photo entered in our state categories is eligible. There is one winner in the Junior Division (age 7-14) and one winner in the adult division.

Quilted Items Contest

- Unfinished Quilt Block
- Finished Fabric Quilted Items

I will send out the pattern for next year as soon as it is announced.

Evening of Excellence Talent Contest

- Broad range of talents accepted: music, movement, speaking, anything you excel at
- One winner from State Session can appear at the National Session.
- Not to exceed 5 minutes.

The state talent contest is held each year on Saturday night at the State Session. This is a great opportunity to entertain each other and share our talents.

We apply a wide definition of talents and seek to present an array of great charm and diversity. Possibilities include but are not limited to:

- Music performance
- Spoken word and storytelling
- Dance and movement
- Physical skills (juggling, baton twirling, etc.)
- Practical arts (cooking demonstration, flower arranging, coaching)

Entries can be solo or group.

Illinois will select one Best of Show talent representative to perform in the Evening of Excellence event at the National Session in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania in November 2020.

Remember that all acts are representing their home Grange and presentation is a major component of any performance, so contestants are encouraged to dress and act appropriately.

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.

- Backing is required for all photos and artwork. This is so the entry will not be damaged by fingerprints, handling, pushpins, or any metal clip that will display the entry. NO FRAMES OR GLASS.

- 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

The photography contest seeks to recognize excellence in photographic images.

Rules:

- Color and black and white photography will be judged in the same category.

- Only prints are accepted for judging. No slides. Prints may be made by a commercial process but must have been taken by the entrant personally within this Grange year. No altering of still images with use of photo editing software is allowed.

- Photo size can range between 5”x7” and 8”x12”. Prints must be mounted on a rigid backing, not to exceed ¾” beyond the edge of the photograph.

- No professional photographers (an individual who’s primary living is from photography) may enter.

- Videos will not be eligible to proceed to National Session.

Categories:

- Abandoned. Find beauty or interest in capturing something no longer in use (e.g., cars, houses, equipment)

- Extreme. Close-up. Capture something in great detail

- Selfie. Must be a picture taken by yourself in an unusual or intriguing environment or setting

- Time-Lapse. Show the progression of a slow change through a series of photos taken from the same perspective over time. Entry should consist of 3-4 images mounted on a single bit of backing

- Video. Share a short video on a topic of interest...humor or visual interest or storytelling... whatever you can present creatively in less than 1 minute. Will be judged on creativity of message and filming.

Creative Writing

General guidelines

- May be handwritten, typed, or printed from a computer. Handwriting must be legible and neat using black or blue ink pen. Typed or printed should be double-spaced, size 12 font or larger.

- Work must be original, the entrant’s own creation, not copied from another source.

- Length not to exceed 300 words.

Creative writing prose topic:

MY HAPPIEST DAY EVER

Creative writing poetry topic:

HOME

Poetry can be written in free verse or in traditional forms. We’re looking for poems that move us, that might make us laugh or cry, or teach us something new. Poems should not exceed one page in length.

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

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exceed 18”x18”x18”.

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 sewing, needlecrafts, etc.

Ornaments using other materials or techniques

Web-based Project

This contest seeks to recognize creativity on the Internet. This can be a website, game, information project, podcast, video, blog entry, or other web entity. Items will be judged based on overall quality, creative input, educational merit, and technical proficiency. Items should be submitted with the complete URL address or on a zip drive. Projects will be visible for judging and inspection by public on a large screen monitor in the Lecturer’s contest area.

GROUP PROJECT: Subordinate Grange Banner

This competition has two purposes:

1. Provide an opportunity for collaboration and group effort in creating an entry.
2. Celebrate our individual Granges in a fun way to share our heritage at State Session.

One entry is allowed from each Subordinate Grange. Create a banner that commemorates your individual Grange identity and influence in the community and state. The banner should be no larger than 30” wide x 36” tall and hang from a dowel rod. It should be primarily constructed of fabric or soft textiles. Additional materials may be used but overall weight should not exceed 3 pounds.

First time entries will be judged and prizes awarded. All banners from previous years will continue to be displayed and recognition for a “People’s Choice Award” (if there are multiple entries) will be based on votes from attendees.



American Values.
Hometown Roots.

Illinois State Grange Agriculture Dept. Contests

September 2019 – September 2020

I. VEGETABLE

- 1. Beans, Green (4)
- 2. Beans, Golden Wax (4)
- 3. Beets (4)
- 4. Cabbage (1 head)
- 5. Cauliflower (1 head)
- 6. Cucumbers (3)
- 7. Eggplant (1)
- 8. Garlic (3)
- 9. Gourds (3)
- 10. Okra (3)
- 11. Onions, White (3)
- 12. Onions, Yellow (3)
- 13. Peppers, Sweet (3)
- 14. Peppers, Hot (3)
- 15. Potatoes, Red (3)
- 16. Potatoes, White (3)
- 17. Pumpkin (1)
- 18. Sweet Potatoes (3)
- 19. Squash, Acorn (2)
- 20. Sweet Corn (3)
- 21. Tomatoes, Cherry (3)
- 22. Tomatoes, Red (3)
- 23. Tomatoes, Yellow (3)
- 24. Zucchini, 6-8 in. (1)
- 25. Most unusually shaped vegetable
- 26. Vegetable other than above (3 if small, 1 if large)

II. FRUITS

- 1. Apples, Red (4)
- 2. Apples, Yellow (4)
- 3. Cantaloupe (1)
- 4. Crab Apples (4)
- 5. Grapes (3 bunches)
- 6. Pears (4)
- 7. Plums (4)
- 8. Watermelon (1)

III. HERBS

- 1. Potted Specimen, Named herb
- 2. Collection of herbs (4 or more)

IV. FIELD CROPS

- 1. Ears of Corn (3)
- 2. Longest Ear of Corn
- 3. Ears of Indian Corn, Husked (3)
- 4. Ears of Popcorn (3)
- 5. Corn (1Qt. bag)
- 6. Oats (1Qt. bag)
- 7. Soybeans (1Qt. bag)
- 8. Wheat (1 Qt. bag)
- 9. Sunflower, Largest Head

V. FLOWERS

- 1. African Violet Plant
- 2. Succulent (1 variety)
- 3. Houseplant (1 variety)
- 4. Marigolds (3 stems)
- 5. Zinnias (3 stems)
- 6. Any other flowers (3 stems)
- 7. Fairy Garden (Not from a Kit)

VI. ANTIQUES 30” or less, any direction, 1930 or prior, not a picture.

- 1. Farm Related Antique
- 2. Household Related Antique
- 3. Child Related Antique

VII. JUNIOR DIVISION

(State age on entry tag)

- 1. Poster Promoting Pollinators (Any size)
- 2. Miniature/Fairy Garden (Not from a Kit)
- 3. Vegetables
- 4. “Pumpkin Mania” (Any variety) Final classes will be determined by entries received.

Rules, Details, and General Information:

- 1. Entries are limited to one per member for each category.
- 2. Each Grange Ag. Chairman has copies of entry forms for you to attach to your entry. (These can also be completed at state session.)
- 3. Entries in all but category VI. Antiques and potted plants should be produced in the current Grange year or growing season.
- 4. Generally, everything except for plants and antiques will be auctioned. Let the Ag. Committee know if this is not your wish.

Additional Information for the Junior Division

- 1. The Junior Division contests are open to children and grandchildren of members if a Grange does not have a Junior Grange.
- 2. Junior Division age categories (set by National Grange) and based on the age of the child at the time of State Grange Session:

- a. 5 - 7
- b. 8 - 10
- c. 11 - 14

ISG Agriculture Committee

Earl David, Ag Chairman 2020
24766 Spring Creek Road
Washington, IL 61571
Phone: Home 309.745.8845
Cell 309.696.4208
Email: earldavid327@aol.com

2021 Ag Chairman Justin Schaeffer
2022 Ag Chairman Mary Brubach

FAC Committee Contests 2020

- Group 1 Knitting
 - A Afghan
 - B Baby Afghan
 - C Baby Items, one or more
 - D Dish Clothes
 - E Winter wear
 - F Any other not listed above
- Group 2 Crocheting
 - A Afghan
 - B Baby Afghan
 - C Baby Items, one or more
 - D Dish Clothes
 - E Winter wear
 - F Any other not listed above
- Group 3 Embroidery etc.
 - A Pair of pillowcases
 - B Counted cross stitch-back showing
 - C Plastic Canvas – any item

2020 Illinois State Grange JUNIOR DEPARTMENT Contests

All Junior Contests – Individual must be a Junior, or 1+ member
Three age groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14. Entry age as of 1/1/2020
(National Guidelines)
Any entry that is not labeled and does not follow rules may be disqualified from judging, but may still receive a participation ribbon.

Mini-Juniors: Any child who is 5 by September 1, 2020 may send up to 3 entries to session. These projects will not be judged as other age groups are, but will receive participation ribbons.

Junior Alumni: Any Granger over the age of 20, as of September 1, 2020, may submit a project. These projects will be voted on by fellow Grangers for Best of Show .

Small World -- Australia

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

Recycling Cardboard tubes

Use a toilet paper, paper towel, or gift wrap cardboard tube to make something useful. May use more than one toilet paper or paper towel tube attached to another. (Up to length of a gift wrap tube) May add additional elements but tube must be foundation of project.

Nature Weaving

Using 3-4 sticks and twine, string, or yarn as your base... walkabout and collect leaves, twigs, weeds, flowers, feathers, grass, etc. found in nature and weave among the string. (Minimum size 5x7, Maximum size 11x14)

Dot painting

Use dots, can be of varied sizes and colors, to create an image or pattern. Image can be on a 3-D object, or a poster (maximum size 11x14).

Down Under

Create a 3D display (Maximum size 10x10x8"high) or poster (up to 11x14 finished size after mounted for stability) of an underwater scene.

Melinda (Mindy) Schiefer
IL State Grange Junior Director
10949 Faust Road, Trenton, IL 62293
(618) 444-2852 or schefr5@yahoo.com

- D Any item not listed above
- Group 4 Quilting
 - A Unfinished square – max size 16 ½” X 16 ½”
 - B Table runner
 - C Quilt – twin, full, queen, etc.
 - D Baby Quilt
 - E Quilts of Valor
 - F Any other not listed above
- Group 5 Sewing
 - A Apron
 - B Clothing – one item
 - C Clothing – set (2 or more pieces)
- Group 6 Miscellaneous
 - A Jewelry – Bracelet
 - B Jewelry – 2 or more pieces
 - C 2 Holiday cards, mounted
 - D 2 All occasion cards, mounted
- Group 7 Food
 - A Quick Breads – Any kind, 1 loaf
 - B Fudge/Candy – any kind, 12 pieces
 - C Cookies – any kind, 12 cookies

Juniors
Age Groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14
Recycled Hats – decorate any way you want
Cookies – any kind, no rice krispie treats

Illinois State Grange Juniors

Melinda Schiefer

Dot and her new friend Kiera recently attended GRIT to find out what fun stuff will be happening this coming year. Kiera is from Australia and will be helping us learn about the wonderful ‘Land Down Under’. Did you know a female kangaroo is pregnant for 21-38 days and can have up to four babies at one time? And when a ‘Joey’ is born it is only an inch long? That’s about the size of a jelly bean. The newborn will crawl...All By It’s Self... How BRAVE!! is that??...through the thick fur of it’s mom to the pouch where it will grow and live up to a year.

Check out the National Geographic for Kids website to find out more fun facts.

Illinois State Grange Youth Dept.

I hope everyone was either able to get to the GRIT conference of their choice or got information from someone in their Grange or a nearby Grange who shared the info with them. We have some exciting things that are happening in our state this year! We will be having 2 different Spring Fling day trips for anyone who wants to learn a little more. In the North it will be February 22, we will be at the Community Grange Hall located at the Boone County Fairgrounds. We are going to tear into some of the other departments programs to show everyone how easy it is to share our creativity and talent with the Grange. If you have a great idea or something you would like to share with the youth please let me know! If you are a youth and have something that you would like to learn more about, let me know and I will find someone who can teach or train us in almost anything. Our 2nd Spring Fling will be in Slither Illinois/St. Louis on April 25th, where we will be headed to the St. Louis Science Center to the GROW exhibit. We will carpool from an Illinois location hopefully find a Grange Hall that will let any of us from the north crash overnight the night before or we can Priceline a hotel.

Once again we will be hosting the State Grange Camping Adventure, the calendar is smiling on us though and we will have it the last weekend of May, which is not Memorial Day weekend but an extra weekend! May 29th to the 31st we will hopefully be staying at the KOA in Rochester, IL. May 30th we will have the Statewide Picnic. Potluck to begin at 1 pm, public speaking and sign-a-song, drill competition and auction for the youth and junior departments to follow. A great weekend, if you have time to come you will enjoy yourself. This year we will even be able to swim in the pool!

Most exciting will be the Midwest Grange Leadership Conference at the Boone County Fairgrounds the last weekend in June. June 26th - 28th we will have programming for all ages from 5 to 105. We will have different sleeping options to keep the cost down for families, and we can share our Fairgrounds with Granges from all over

Illinois Granger - November, 2019 7 the region.

I’m excited to introduce a new event this year for only those over the age of 21. We will be going on a winery or Brewery tour of Northern Illinois, you must be over 21 years of age to attend, a great way for those of us who are a little older to have a great afternoon of fellowship and learning about how local wineries and breweries create and sell their product. Designated Drivers will be needed! That will be Saturday July 25th, more details and a sign up sheet will be available closer to the event. Similar to the Southern Spring Fling we will find accommodations for those who are traveling that are reasonably priced if not free.

I hope everyone finds something that they want to participate in this year in the youth department. It’s gonna be a great year!

Prairie Junior Grange News

by Jennifer Tobin-Tinch

Prairie Junior Grange is back at it after the Illinois Grange State Session in September. We had our award lunch on October 20 and all the children were very excited about getting to keep their projects and their awards.

Our meeting day and time are changing. To accommodate everyone’s busy schedules, our families will be able to attend on either Thursday night or Friday night. Our November meetings will be November 14 or 15 from 6pm-7pm at

The Boone County Fair Administration Building basement. This allows more of the children the chance to join us! We will be making our costumes for the Hometown Christmas parade, which is Friday, December 6, 2019. We will discuss the parade at our November meetings.

We will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army on November 30. More details to come.

Prairie Junior Grange and Prairie Grange are going to the IceHogs game as a group on Saturday, December 7, 2019. Tickets are \$12 each and we will be sitting behind the net, for safety. It is Teddy Bear Toss night, so please make sure to bring a stuffed animal or 2 to toss on the

ice when the IceHogs score their first goal!! We will give a count of bears or animals from the Juniors for community service. The toys are given out by players and Hammy at the local hospitals.

Please remember to check our facebook page or for text message updates from Jenn. Have a thankful November!! God Bless!!



Chaplain’s Corner
Charlotte Mehrtens

Where has the year gone, it seems it was just January 1, 2019 so many things have happened to all of us this pass year some were planned and others not, but we kept our faith though all the good and bad. All the rain, flooding, and then the drought for many so just like the pilgrims back in 1621 we have carried on knowing that God is with us.



The custom of giving thanks for the annual harvest is one of the world’s oldest celebrations and can be traced back to the dawn of civilization. The holiday has been due to it being as a time to give thanks for the foundation of the nation and not just the celebration of the harvest. The first Thanksgiving was celebrated for three days with the settlers feasting with the natives on dried fruit, boiled pumpkin, turkey, venison, and much more. In 1789 George Washington proclaimed Thanksgiving to be a national holiday setting the day as the last Thursday in November. In 1941 Thanksgiving was changed by Congress to be the fourth Thursday in November as a legal holiday.

How do you celebrate Thanksgiving, I pray with family and friends? Or do you spend the day or afternoon shopping for those Christmas presents that are only on sale on Thanksgiving Day. I pray you spend it with family and friends and give thanks for their presence in your life.

As we celebrate this Thanksgiving season let us remember those who are sick, distressed, dealing with the loss of crops, etc. and pray for hope for all of our fellow men.

We give thanks for the joys in our life and pray for those in sorrow may their faith carry them in their times of need.

Oh Lord my God I will give thanks to you forever.

Happy Thanksgiving to each of you.

Donations

A donation of \$20 was presented to the Granger from Phillip and Tracey Jones. Thank you very much for that donation.

Donations to the Granger can be sent to Ruth Blasingame 8711 Deer Run Drive, Belvidere, Illinois 61008.

Donations to the scholarship fund should be sent to State Secretary - Robin Kindberg, 12971 Olson Road, Caledonia, IL 61011.

Please also send a note or email to Ruth so I can include your donation in the Granger.

Broad Hollow Grange

At the October meeting, a report was given on the 148th annual Session of the Illinois State Grange held at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Belvidere IL, Sept. 13-15 by delegate Carol Neff. Broad Hollow Grange received a certificate for their report and scrapbook on the projects they did in the community for Community Service. Awards were presented at the meeting with two third places and an honorable mention in photography and a second place for tomatoes. The tour of the Boone County Fairgrounds was very informative and interesting and a lot was accomplished during the session.

Delegates voted to hold the 2021 State Grange Session in St. Clair County with the State Grange celebrating its 150th anniversary. The 2020 Session will be held in Springfield, Illinois. Carol Neff from Broad Hollow Grange was appointed Chairman of the Health and Education Resolutions Committee.

During the Talent Show, Carol Neff provided a filler between acts with a humorous reading.

The Installation Officer was Carol Neff assisted by Master Lynette Schaeffer; Chaplain Charlotte Mehrtens; Marshal Don Schaeffer; and Regalia and Emblem Bearer Frank Wurth.

Other business at the October meeting included finalizing plans for the Branson trips, a report on hosting the Granges for the St. Clair County Pomona Meeting, and information on the National Grange Session in November. Members planned to attend the Grange Information Conference on October 12th at Bluff Grange. Reports were given on Legislation, Agriculture, Family Activities, Youth, Juniors, and Community Service. The program consisted of a report on State Grange Session.

News from Hopewell Grange

by Jan David

October is always a very busy month at Hopewell, and this year is no exception. Preparations for our annual Pancake and Sausage Supper and Bake Sale require many hours from the members who are able to lend a hand. This year presented several additional challenges as members worked to finish constructing the replacement overhang that protects the front doors to the hall and to replace the ceiling in the main floor meeting room after we found the acoustical ceiling tiles lying in a heap on the floor (broken into pieces). Age, along with a downdraft, brought everything to a sudden end.

The new ceiling is in place. New LED lights have been installed. We are now in the final stages of cleaning up the construction mess. The replacement overhang is up—shingled, lighted, and repelling the wind driven rain that made the wooden doors swell up and stick. So, things look promising for our being ready for guests on October 24.

At our meeting on October 14, we held a wiener roast at the hall at 6 p.m. with the meeting following at 7 p.m. Business included discussion related to State Session, GRIT at Bluff Grange, and many items related to the upcoming Pancake and Sausage Supper. The meeting concluded with a presentation of “Little Known October Holidays” by Lecturer Elaine Hecathorn.

Turkey Hill

October experienced some increased activity in renovating our downstairs. Special attention was reviewing the intermediate plans provided by a consulting firm for essentially a re-do of our kitchen. The consultant has promised final plans to include all recommended equipment, cabinets, etc. and the electrical and plumbing requirements and specifications by the end of October. One significant activity was replacing our estimated 40-year old reach-in refrigerator that was on its ‘last legs’ with a brand new one the same size.

We were very pleased that our member, Stacy Rutledge, was selected to be honored as a citizen of Character by Belleville Achieves Strength in Character. Stacy and our firefighter nominee, Tony Higgins, and the Illinois State Grange Firefighter for 2018 are among 12 “unsung” heroes or our community who will be recognized at a special dinner on November 12, 2019. Both Stacy and Tony were nominated by our Grange as part of our Community Service Program for their ‘unsung’ contributions to our community including assistance provided to churches, schools, the Grange, volunteer organizations, etc.

As we have done for several years we have purchased and delivered dictionaries to nine classes of third graders in four elementary schools. The other nearly two dozen schools to which we have provided dictionaries in the past have opted to use the internet rather than dictionaries.

Thus far this season, our jam and jelly and apple butter makers have produced over 800 jars using local fruits and vegetables. By the end of October, we predict that essentially all of them will be in the hands of members of our community, as well as a few going via mail and personal deliveries to various parts of our country.

Preparations are under way for our Annual Wurstmarkt at the end of the month, but after this report is due.

Union Grange

We are holding meetings monthly. August was a corn boil/potluck and meeting at Cherry Valley Fire house on Blackhawk Road. We donated \$50 to teacher Tomye Erbe, one our members, to help with school supplies for the coming year.

Linnea Miller and Vivian Johnson were delegates to the State session in September and enjoyed the meeting being held at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Thanks to all the Boone County Grangers for the use of the fairgrounds and for the delicious food we enjoyed at every meal.

In September we had to forgo our hayride at Terry and Diane Meyer’s due to rain, but we had good fellowship and played a game of dice in their garage watching the rain come down. Grilled hot dogs and a potluck was enjoyed by all.

Ron and Nancy Erbe hosted us at their home in October and we voted to donate \$50 to Rock House Kids in Rockford.

November 1 we will gather for a meal at 5:30 at the Machine Shed.

Prairie Grange News

Prairie Grange meeting was held on Monday, October 21, 2019. We took in 4 new members.

Committee reports were heard: The Governor finally allocated money to help fix our roads and bridges and boy is it needed. We were reminded it is never to early to start on projects for next year contests. Juniors are very busy – had award program this past Sunday afternoon where they received prize money from their project contests at State Session. All of them were super excited. Juniors are going to be in the Hometown Christmas Parade on Dec. 6th and on Dec 7th they are going to the Rockford Ice Hogs hockey game where they will participate in the Teddy Bear toss for children who are in the area hospitals.

Prairie Grange and Prairie Juniors are sponsoring a Halloween Trunk or Treat night on Sat. Oct. 26th from 2-4PM at the Community Grange hall. This event is open to all area Grangers and their children and grandchildren. So decorate your trunk, dress in costume and come and join us. There will also be a potluck at 5:00 PM. So bring a dish to pass and come join us for a howling good time.

Prairie Juniors will also be going on a shopping spree for the Salvation Army on Wed. Dec. 4th at the Aldi Store.

Prairie Grangers and Juniors will be ringing the bell for the local Salvation Army on November 30th at Countryside Market in Poplar Grove. Prairie Grangers were reminded to bring a teddy bear and/or stuffed animal to the November meeting to be tossed at the Ice Hogs game on Dec. 7th. Prairie Grangers were invited to go with the Juniors to the game. You will have to pay for your own way and the cost is \$12.00 per person. Contact Jennifer Tobin-Tinch if interested in attending.

Members were reminded to sign up for refreshments.

The meeting was closed with our Lecturer Karrie Kindberg reading a Halloween poem and everyone enjoyed a piece of Dove Chocolate. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM.

Robin Kindberg
Prairie Publicity Chairman