



Volume 104

November 2020

No. 9

# Illinois Granger

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



Lynette Schaeffer President Illinois State Grange

## Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

The virtual 149th IL State Grange Session is in the books. It was nice seeing some of you. I believe much of the session went well – especially being virtual. We completed all the work necessary for having a State Session. The session committee reports, budget work, election of Executive Committee member. The committee reports will be published in Journal of Proceedings, the resolutions that need national attention have been sent to National Grange. The budget will be balanced and sent to all the delegates on November 18. We will hold an Executive Committee meeting on November 15. Todd Hegge, of Flora Grange has been elected to serve the three-year term on the Executive Committee. Congratulations. Thanks to the delegates and officers that participated in the meeting. Hopefully we will be able to meet in person next year.

Thanks to all of the prayers and sympathy to my family at Dad's passing. Thanks to all those that made donations to the IL State Grange Scholarship Fund.

November 22 at 1:00 will be the Zoom Grange Resources and Information Training (GRIT). More information will be coming out via email as the plans are finalized. The plan at this time is to have all the presenters have the information on the website [IllinoisStateGrange.org](http://IllinoisStateGrange.org) prior to the meeting.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov 11 – Prairie/County Line Veterans Day Program CANCELLED

Nov 19 – Deadline for the December Illinois Granger

Nov 22 – GRIT Conference on ZOOM

Jan 15 – 4th quarter report due

*I have no entries for the Calendar at this time. We are on restrictions from the governor again.*

### 2021

July 20-25 – Grange Revival - Sturgis, SD

*NOTE: At this time all items on calendar are subject to cancellation. Check with the hosting Grange.*

Donations to the Illinois Granger:

Wayne/Nancy Lyford Guilford Hope Grange \$200

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

Ruth Blasingame

[illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com](mailto:illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com)

815-299-7884

8711 Deer Run Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008-905

Congratulations to Prairie and Turkey Hill for being selected as Distinguished Granges for IL. I am very proud of both of these Granges and thank them for all their efforts in the name of the Grange.

National Grange Session is planned for November 17 – 18, via Zoom, again a first. 2020 is full of firsts. It will only be for the Delegates and Officers. After the meeting I will send out information about the National session.

Grange Revival will be July 20 – 25 in Sturgis, South Dakota at Days End Campground. Registration is now open. Check the [nationalgrange.org](http://nationalgrange.org)

Hope you are all safe and well.

## ISG Secretary Report – November 2020

Here are a few reminders for all the Secretaries:

1. The Date when the quarterly reports are due to the ISG Secretary has changed. The reports are due to the ISG Secretary by the 15th of the month following the end of the quarter.

**QUARTER ENDS / DUE TO ISG SECRETARY**

March 30

April 15

June 30

September 30

December 30

July 15

October 15

January 15

2. **990-N POSTCARDS** – If you receive one of these in the mail please go online and file it. Be sure to make 2 copies of the confirmation letter you receive when you are finished. Keep one for your records and send one to the ISG Secretary.

3. **RECOGNITION AWARDS** – There is a new form to order the seals and the 25 year Silver Star Certificates. There is no shipping charges on them if you order them from the ISG Secretary. The cost is \$3.00 each. Checks are made payable to the ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE and mailed to the ISG Secretary.

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read an e-mail and there was a question if the Habitat for Humanity is building at this time. It was decided we need to make a call to see what if anything is happening. Marion Thornberry stated 11 homes have been build in Boone County since they stated.

Lindakay Ebel, Treasurer, gave a detailed report of all income and expenses since August 18th. She also asked for approval to pay our annual liability insurance. The Midland Bank in Kirkland will be closing their doors in December, and she does not want to have to drive to Belvidere every time she has to deposit money or other transactions. A motion was made that she opens a checking account at the Resource Bank in Kirkland, motion was carried. Her reports were approved by the membership.

Under old business the Youth committee was thanked for the September family picnic held at the Ebel’s farm, even though it was a rainy evening, all had a fun evening. They had many fun activities planned, had it been a sunny, pleasant evening. Al and Lindakay were also thanked for hosting the event.

Emalee Colver gave a report on the Quilts of Valor ceremony held at the Belvidere Historical Museum in Belvidere on Sunday, September 13th where eight local military Veterans were honored and received handmade quilts by Flora Grange members. The Veterans were covered in colorful quilts for comfort, strength, warmth and

stability. This was to let them know they were not forgotten. The ‘Quilts of Valor Foundation’ was founded in 2003 and has presented some 200,000 quilts nationwide.

The eight Veterans honored by Flora Grange members were:

Ron Eucker – Army – Made by Mary Jean Lane

Stanley Johnson, Navy – Made by Joan Fidder

Eugene West, Army – Made by Sharon Fidder

Gary Klinefelter, Army – Made by JoAnn Wienrank

John ‘Dick’ Maguire, Marine Corp – Made by Emalee Colver

Jim Langendorf, Navy – Made by Emalee Colver

Jerry Hart, Army – Made by Emalee Colver

Butch Peters, Army – Made by Laurel Ratcliffe

Two quilts had been presented at the National Convention to Todd Hegge, Air Force, made by Emalee Colver and Marion Thornberry, Army, Made by Jean Thornberry.

We held our pork chop fundraiser drive-thru with 5 B’s Catering making the dinner, and the proceeds going to the Boone County Fair. Motion was made our treasurer make out a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the fair, motion carried.

Master Al Ebel and Lindakay will be attending the 149th State Grange Session, being held in Belvidere on Sunday, October 19th and will serve as Flora Grange’s delegates instead

of being held at the Hopewell Grange Hall at Washington, IL on September 12 as previous planned.

Under new business, members were reminded of Pomona Grange meeting on November 4th, and this will be election of the Boone County Fair board officers. If your Pomona dues are current, you will be able to cast your vote.

Bell ringing was tabled, as no one has heard anything on this yet.

H o m e t o w n Christmas as been modified for 2020 to keep our community safe. Members of Flora Grange voted to again purchase a Christmas tree for \$30, however, we will make our own decorations, and this year we will not purchase gifts, but purchase gift certificates and deliver our own Christmas tree, etc. to the family of our choice. We will provide lights, decorations and a tree skirt, put in a box for the family to decorate the tree. We must tell the Boone County 4-H Federation the name of our family to avoid duplicate families.

We held our election of officers this evening at our meeting. They are as follows:

Master: Albert Q. Ebel, III

Vice President: Loren Due

Illinois Granger November, 2020 3

Secretary: Laurel Ratcliffe  
Treasurer: Lindakay Ebel  
Chaplain: Emalee Colver  
Program Director: Nancy Lyford  
Junior Grange: Amber Fidder  
Youth Grange: Fabienne Calabrese  
Executive Board – 3 Years – Marion Thornberry

“G” Bills were collected by Emalee Colver. \$33.00 was collected this evening.

Birthdays October 7 was Krista Buzzell, October 22, Lonn Buzzell. Anniversary, Gene & Donna West, October 6th.

Chaplain Donna West closed the Bible and said a prayer.

Master Ebel closed the meeting in full form at 8:15 pm.

Next Flora Grange meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10th, 2020, 7 pm at the Flora Grange Hall.

## Community Service

Awards will be announced at the Grit Conference.

Instructions will be given on what to do with the donations and pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House.

## Prairie Grange Report

Prairie Grangers met on Oct. 19, 2020 with President/Master Ruth Blasingame presiding.

Committee reports were heard: EVERYONE get out and VOTE!

Start working on your handicraft projects.

Youth Fair Board is doing very well and some of the youth from our Grange are Officers as well as several other Granges in our county.

Prairie members are collecting new unwrapped toys for the local Salvation Army Toy Distribution. So bring your toys to the November meeting.

Sister Robin Kindberg congratulated all Prairie Grange members for we were given the Distinguished Grange Award from National Grange again this year. Thank you for all those hours of community service.

Did you know that Illinois is the pumpkin capital of the United States? Yes our state grows the most pumpkins than any other state.

Did you know the pumpkin used in Libby’s pumpkin filling is made from pumpkins grown right here in Illinois.

Sister Ruth Blasingame was presented the National Grange Community Service Directors Award from National Grange for all of the face masks she has made (over 1100) since this pandemic started. She has sent masks all across the United States even to National Grange headquarters. Congratulations Ruth!

GRIT Conference is November 22nd at 1:00PM via Zoom please try to attend at one of the locations listed in the Granger or from your own home. Lots of important information will be distributed that day.

Prairie and County Line Grange are doing a special Community Service project on Wed. November 11th at 7:00PM at the Community Grange Hall watch the next Granger for pictures.

Delegates gave a report from the recent State Grange session that was held via Zoom.

Reminder The next meeting of Prairie Grange will be Wed, Nov. 11, 2020 at 7:00PM. This will be a combined meeting with County Line Grange and Prairie Officers will be opening the meeting. Please dress in business casual attire.

There will not be a meeting on November 16th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03PM and food and socializing followed.

Robin Kindberg  
Publicity Chairman



## David Donley, a member of Turkey Hill Grange, was awarded a Quilt of Valor at the October meeting.

by Lynette Schaeffer, President of the Illinois State Grange, Quilts of Valor are awarded to veterans touched by war. Donley served in Vietnam and Guam with the U.S. Air Force. He retired as a colonel in Air Weather Station serving a total of 30 years including USAF consultant to NASA and two as commander of Air Weather Station.

His quilt was created from patriotic blocks made by Illinois Grange quilters. The Quilts of Valor Foundation is located in Winterset, Iowa. The first quilt was awarded in 2003 at Walter Reed Hospital to a service member who was injured in the Afghanistan War. The Q of V Foundation became a non-profit organization in 2005. A total of over 257,059 handmade quilts have been awarded to veterans since its inception. The National Grange has become a recognized partner in the mission of the Q of V Foundation and has become an official “Under Our Wings” program. This program allows Granges across our nation to create quilts and award them to

veterans in our communities. All Q of V are registered with the national foundation These quilts are the highest award given to a veteran outside of the military.





## Winnebago County Farm Granted Centennial Status

The Illinois Department of Agriculture has designated the W. F. Paulson Farm in rural Winnebago County, owned by Donald L. Paulson Jr., Steven E. Paulson, and Gerald A. Paulson as a Centennial Farm. To qualify as a Centennial Farm, a straight or collateral line of descendants must own the agricultural property for at least 100 years. The family received this historical distinction to their farm after their application for designation as a Centennial Farm was approved.

“I am privileged to present this distinction to this amazing family,” said Agriculture Acting Director Jerry Costello II. “This designation not only honors their farm operation today, but also their ancestors who labored through adversity to maintain the family farm. The Centennial Farm program helps to reinforce that family farming remains a viable entity in Illinois agriculture.”

The Illinois Centennial Farms program has recognized more than 10,200 farms since its inception in the early 1970s. Centennial Farm owners receive outdoor display signage and a certificate signed by the Governor and the Director of Agriculture. They are also recognized at “Agriculture Day” at the Illinois State Fair (canceled this year).

Application information may be requested by writing to the Illinois Centennial/Sesquicentennial Farms Program, Illinois Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 19281, Springfield, IL. 62794-9281 or by visiting [www.agriculture.illinois.gov](http://www.agriculture.illinois.gov).

## Illinois State Grange Youth

By Karie Blasingame

Hope everyone is doing all right during this time right now. I hope everyone chooses to go and vote if they are old enough and researches who they want before they head to the polls.

The Illinois State Grange Youth Department is holding a fundraiser this year for pickup only at the Boone County Fair Administration Building. They are selling pies for Thanksgiving and Christmas. \$10 each for an 8 in pie. Hope to see some Grangers purchase one for their Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner. Pickup the Tuesday before each from 6 to 8 pm. All details will be on the Illinois State Grange Youth Facebook page by November 1st.

Heading into the new year the Youth Department will be hosting different ZOOM events for our Youth to meet each other and teach each other different things. If you are a youth and have an idea of something to share with everyone, let Karie know and we can set up a time for it to happen.

One such event that I have been thinking about for everyone is looking at different parts of degree work. Would anyone be interested in teaching the first degree or sharing part of it with everyone? If we have a good time with the first degree, learning what it's about, why it was important, we could move on to the other degrees.

If you are not on Facebook and want to be involved in the youth department, email [kblasingame77@gmail.com](mailto:kblasingame77@gmail.com) and I will share what we have been working on. We may even be able to post videos of our ZOOM events on other formats after they happen, we will let you know.

Don't forget November 22nd will be our GRIT Conference available this year on ZOOM. With each region at different levels there is no place where we can safely hold the event for the amount of people who should be there. We can all meet online. Hope to see you there!

## Troy Grove Grange

Troy Grove Grange met October 15, 2020 at 7 PM at the Hall.

Community Service Chairman Ethel Bauer reported that due to the pandemic there will be no donation of toys and treats to Lighted Way this year. Ethel Bauer made a motion to give Mendota Christian Food Pantry and PADS each \$100 dollars and pay attorney fees of \$200 dollars for the consultation about the easement. Sue Ladson seconded. Motion was approved by all.

In communications Janet Plote reported that State Grange Convention will be held on ZOOM on Sunday. The GRIT meeting is not set at this date.

Janet Plote reported the attorney consulted confirmed that we are in good legal standing. The property owner neighboring the Grange has requested a meeting.

The next meeting of Troy Grove Grange will be December 17, 2020 at Ziggy's at 6 PM.

Ethel Bauer

## 2020 State Lecturer's Contest Results

*Ethan Edwards, Illinois State Lecturer*

We had a modest set of entries in the Lecturer's Department competitions, given the unusual circumstances of this year's state session. Many thanks to those Grangers who submitted entries. The submissions were of unusually high quality.

All the entries are viewable on the Illinois State Grange Facebook page. Please spend a few moments to recognize the wonderful talents of our members.

### Quilt Block Contest

The quilt block contest seeks submissions of single 12"x12" pieced quilt blocks that are judged individually but ultimately combined with blocks from across the country to make full quilts. This year contestants were given the option of making a block in the "Shoo-fly" pattern or from any other pattern. Blocks were to be in shades of turquoise.

Thirteen blocks were submitted for judging; 2 were submitted not to be judged. All were submitted in the main category of adult women. Remember there are also separate divisions for Men and for Juniors. It would be great if we got a couple entries in those categories next year.

1st Place: Emalee Colver, Flora Grange #1762

2nd Place: Mrs. Stanley Lyford, Guilford Hope Grange, #6

3rd Place: Ruth Perley, Flora Grange #1762

### Photography

We had 25 wonderful entries in the photography division. It so happens that these were all submitted from one subordinate Grange. Imagine how wonderful diverse our photography exhibit might be if each Grange managed to submit just 10 entries across all the categories. Maybe we can shoot for that for 2021!

**Don't want to bake for Thanksgiving or Christmas this year?**

ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE YOUTH  
INVITE YOU TO A

**Pie Sale!**

PICK UP TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24ND OR  
TUESDAY DECEMBER 22ND  
BETWEEN 6 PM TO 8 PM  
BOONE COUNTY FAIR  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
PICK UP ONLY

8 IN PIE \$10 EACH  
ORDER AT ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE  
YOUTH FACEBOOK PAGE

FLAVORS  
DUTCH APPLE, CHERRY, BLUEBERRY,  
STRAWBERRY-RHUBARB AND PUMPKIN

CASH OR CHECK AT PICK-UP



# Boone County Youth Fairboard

By Ruth Blasingame

The Boone County Fair Association started a Youth Fairboard in 2019 on a trial basis. I am happy to say I think we are here to stay!

In their first year they had as many as 23 members. As time passed some decided they didn’t want the commitment, didn’t want to do the work or it just wasn’t for them. One of the stipulations was that they had to join a Grange by June of 2020. Some already belonged to Grange, some joined a Grange and brought other family members with them. Our Granges were happy to welcome any and all.

Their first officers 2019/2020 were: Allison Aves – President, Bryson O’Dell – Vice President, Sammantha Meyers – Secretary and Hannah Beran – Treasurer. They did a great job.

They do not elect their officers. They interview in front of a panel of three Boone County Fairboard directors. Those directors then appoint the officers based on the interviews.

They are now in their second year. 2020/2021 officers are: Sammantha Meyers – President, Phoebe Calabrese – Vice President, Rebecca Meyers – Secretary and Hannah Beran – Treasurer.

They have retained 15 members and have one new member. These are all teens and preteens.

Sammantha Meyers – Prairie Grange\*  
Phoebe Calabrese – Flora Grange\*  
Rebecca Meyers – Prairie Grange\*  
Hannah Beran – Big Thunder Grange  
Mackenzie Rabe – Big Thunder Grange  
Bryson O’Dell – Beaver Valley Grange\*  
Marco Lavariega – Big Thunder Grange  
Delphine Calabrese – Flora Grange\*  
Athena O’Dell – Beaver Valley Grange\*  
Allison Aves – Flora Grange  
Michael Swanson – Prairie Grange  
Niesha Swanson – Prairie Grange  
Mary Swanson – Prairie Grange  
Chloe Konieczki – Prairie Grange\*  
Riley Konieczki – Prairie Grange\*  
Hayden Aves – Flora Grange

Names followed by an asterisk were already Grange members when they joined the Youth Fairboard.

These kids do not go to school together and most did not know each other before they joined. They represent 5 High Schools, Winnebago, Winnebago IL, Harlem, Machesney Park IL, North Boone, Poplar Grove IL, Belvidere and Belvidere North, Belvidere IL.

The Youth Fairboard, headed by Bryson O’Dell had a Bakery Auction Fundraiser at our September Boone County Pomona Meeting and raised almost \$1400 for their group. Everyone supported them and had a really great time. Consensus was to repeat that event in the future. Look out Pomona!!!!

Advisors are:  
Ruth Blasingame – Prairie Grange President, Fairboard Director  
Kim Hughes – Capron Grange President, Fairboard Director  
Sharyn Geske – Big Thunder Grange Ex Comm, Fairboard Director  
Dave Geske – Big Thunder Grange President, Fairboard Director  
Mary Brubach – Prairie Grange Member, Committee Member  
Karie Blasingame – Illinois State Grange Overseer, Illinois State Grange Youth Director

Prairie Grange has purchased a concession trailer for the Youth Fairboard and they will be cleaning it up in the spring and getting it ready for the 2021 Boone County Fair. They will be selling fair memorabilia, shirts, hats, etc. They also help out in many other areas. The treasurer works with the fair treasurer, some volunteer in the concession office, some volunteer in the ticket office, some drive carts in the parking lot to ferry people to the gates. They volunteer all summer and during the week of the fair. Many are 4-H ers and they fit Youth Fairboard in

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**Selfies**  
Junior (Age 8-10)  
1st Place: Charlotte McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 11-14)  
1st Place: Chelsea McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Adult**  
1st Place: Gladys Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929  
2nd Place: Laurie McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
3rd Place: Nathan Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Extreme Close-up**  
Junior (Age 5-7)  
1st Place: Cooper Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 8-10)  
1st Place: Jack Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929  
2nd Place: Charlotte McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 11-14)  
1st Place: Chelsea McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Adult**  
1st Place: Nathan Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929  
2nd Place: Laurie McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
3rd Place: Gladys Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Abandoned**  
Junior (Age 8-10)  
1st Place: Charlotte McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 11-14)  
1st Place: Chelsea McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Adult**  
1st Place: Laurie McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
2nd Place: Gladys Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Time Lapse**  
Junior (Age 5-7)  
1st Place: Cooper Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 8-10)  
1st Place: Charlotte McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 11-14)  
1st Place: Chelsea McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Adult**  
1st Place: Gladys Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929  
2nd Place: Laurie McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
3rd Place: Nathan Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Videos**  
Junior (Age 8-10)  
1st Place: Charlotte McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 11-14)  
1st Place: Chelsea McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Adult**  
1st Place: Laurie McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
2nd Place: Gladys Williamson, Enterprise Grange #1929

**Photography BEST IN SHOW**  
Chelsea McGowan, Extreme Close Up  
Chelsea’s photograph of a budding sunflower is being sent on to National for the National Showcase.  
**Creative Writing**  
Poetry (Theme: Home)  
Junior (Age 8-10)  
1st Place: Charlotte McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 11-14)  
1st Place: Chelsea McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929

Prose (Theme: My Happiest Day Ever)  
Junior (Age 8-10)  
1st Place: Charlotte McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929  
Junior (Age 11-14)  
1st Place: Chelsea McGowan, Enterprise Grange #1929

**GRAND CHAMPION BEST IN SHOW**  
all categories  
Charlotte McGowan, Prose Writing  
Thanks again for all the entries. I look forward to a return to a full lecturer’s competition in 2021 at the 150th State Session in Collinsville. Look for official categories and rules to be announced at GRIT.  
Also, a special thanks to this year’s judges:  
Quilt Blocks: Mary Ann Allen of Bloomington, MN. Expert practitioner and advisor in the domestic arts—quilting, sewing, knitting, baking.  
Photography and Creative Writing: Andrew Nogal of Evanston, IL. Visual and Performing Arts Specialist

## Junior Grange

Do you want your child to have opportunities for positive growth, to participate in community service, and to have fun with others their age while being supported by caring adults?

The Grange recognizes that one of the greatest needs of young families today is a place the family can go together — where all children are welcome.

That place is the Grange. While the parents take part in Grange meetings, the children can conduct their own meetings and take part in activities at the same time.

Junior Grange provides an opportunity for children to develop self-confidence, leadership skills, while fostering the traits of accountability, responsibility and respect for self and other. The Junior Grange also encourages honor, patriotism, an understanding of agriculture and an opportunity to improve the communities where the children live and play.

Junior Grange programs are designed to provide opportunities for young members to take on leadership roles as they learn about parliamentary procedure and public speaking. They learn to serve on committees and have fun at the same time. Junior Grange members also create and lead teams to complete community service activities.

Now there are more opportunities for children to participate in the Junior Grange program. In Subordinate/Community Granges where there is no chartered Junior Grange, children between the ages of 5 to 14 may join as an individual Junior Grange member allowing them to participate in all of the regular Junior Grange programs.

If you would like more information about the Junior Grange Program, please visit the National Grange website.

## Dot’s Adventures aka--Junior Department News

How are you navigating this interesting year?  
Are you excited to start a new Grange year??  
Kerra has returned to Australia and a new friend from Ireland will be joining us for all the fun. Mark your calendar for November 22nd to learn about what projects are planned. They will also be on the ISG website. If there is anything you would like to try, or a special place to visit, please let me know so I can try to arrange.  
Also, please note I have a new email address --scheifr5@gmail.com--  
I can still be reached through Facebook Messenger or my cell phone.  
Melinda Schiefer

# Mission & Vision

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 [nationalgrange.org/about-us/vision/](https://nationalgrange.org/about-us/vision/)



NATIONAL GRANGE  
OF THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

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## MISSION

The Grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy and agriculture awareness.

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## VISION

**The Grange in the 21st Century will be a preeminent organization.**

It will commit to the development of the potential in families, youth and adults of all ages through dynamic programs and experiences that educate, engage and enrich lives.

The Grange will be noted for its commitment to the membership through its enabled leadership, its financial and organizational strength, and its ability to make a difference in the lives of children, youth, families and individuals.

The Grange will be a relevant, caring and involved part of the community in which its members are located. It will be well known and understood and considered a viable, involved and distinctive organization.

A person who becomes a member can expect to find in the organization a clear and impressive pathway to membership, outstanding fellowship with leaders and respected citizens of the community, the encouragement to meet and make new friends and the opportunity to lead and be well led.

At the state and national level, the Grange will be flexible, well governed, proactive partner in support of issues that are relevant to members and the communities in which they live. It will be accountable to and supportive of the leadership and membership at the local Grange. The Grange will be responsive to the member’s time, committed to membership growth, and designed for relevance and national preeminence.

# Declaration of Purposes

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 [nationalgrange.org/about-us/declaration-of-purposes/](https://nationalgrange.org/about-us/declaration-of-purposes/)



NATIONAL GRANGE  
OF THE ORDER OF PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

## Preamble

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Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry should proclaim to the world its general objectives, we hereby unanimously make this Declaration of Purposes.

## General Objectives

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United by the strong and faithful tie of an agricultural fraternity, yet welcoming all of good moral character to membership, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our Order, our country, and mankind.

We heartily endorse the motto, “In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.”

## Specific Objectives

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We shall endeavor to advance our cause by striving to accomplish the following objectives:

- To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves; to enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes; to strengthen our attachments to our pursuits; to foster mutual understanding and cooperation; to maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor, in order to hasten the good time coming.
- We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, and in general, acting together for our mutual protection and advancement. We shall constantly strive to secure harmony, good will, and brotherhood, and to make our Order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional, and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry and all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social and material advancement.



# Chaplain’s Corner

Charlotte Mehrtens



I don’t know about you but I just want to Hug somebody, or be able to go out with my friends and family. Some days I just want to shout from the roof top that we are all done with this virus that is all around us. But then it’s time to stop and think that God is all around us each and every day. Yes in the big ways and the small things. We are taking more time to enjoy the sights and sounds all around us. The birds that call their sounds in the early morning sunrises, or the beautiful sunsets. The other day Don and I were coming home from town, when we saw this big bird take off from the corn field near the road. We watched as it flew up and away from us then we realized that it was a beautiful eagle. Since we do not live near a river we were really surprised to see it so near us. God was sharing His beauty to us in ways we don’t even think of.

During this Thanksgiving Holiday let us remember that God is so very good to us even in these times of need. He is really testing us to see if we are worthy of His love. The year 2020 will goes down in the books as not knowing what is next for us when we turn the next corner. God is telling us to slow down and enjoy our life. Slowing down is showing us that maybe we don’t need to have our way, our life style that we are so used to, that we are His children and we need to be listening. Give prayers this Thanksgiving season for all He has given to us for faith shall see us though GIVE THANKS UNTO OUR LORD.

We send our prayers for the loss of family and friends. May they rest in peace and may He comfort them with His loving arms. We rejoice in the good news of happy times and share your blessing. We pray also for all the farmers and their families as they work to finish their crops, that He will bless them and keep them safe.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Holiday with your family and friends.

Today will bring new reasons to smile

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**Youth Fairboard**      *Continued from page 5*

around their show schedule that week.

The Youth Fairboard meets the second Thursday of each month at the Boone County Community Grange Hall, before the regular Fairboard which meets on the third Wednesday. This way they have time to prepare anything they want to take before the regular Fairboard. The members are encouraged to sit in on regular Fairboard meetings.

With the rough times right now they will not be meeting this month but they have high hopes for the future.

If you see them at the Boone County Fair give them a pat on the back. They are the best of the best teenagers around. They are giving to the community and to the Grange.

# Blast From The Past

By Beverly Smith

Summer is in the rear- view mirror but 2020 still has a couple months to go. Although summer has dealt us a peculiar Grange schedule, I did Grange by way of Guilford Hope Grange. In case you did not know, it is my mother’s family home Grange. My Uncle Harold McLarty still attends and I know everybody as if they were my family!

In August I attended Guilford Hope Rummage sale. I love to scan the treasures they are selling and always find something of value to me. Their proceeds go toward a nice money donation to Midway Village Museum. While there, Wayne gave me a nice 8x10 photo of Guilford Hope Grange hall #2 and some vintage Grange songbooks. I expressed that I had been working on compiling a special notebook of their Grange and that I would like to show it to their Grange. So on August 25 I attended their Grange meeting held at Lyford’s and showed them what I had put together. Then on August 29, I attended their member JoAnne Reid’s 90th birthday party. She was presented with her 75th Grange membership award. It was quite a turnout and so nice to see her family, too. Then on September 22, I also attended Guilford Hope Grange held at the Wheeler’s, just couple miles from me. We had a nice luncheon and some members got to look at my notebook again.

Guilford Hope Grange #6 is the oldest Grange in Illinois. The original Grange hall was a town hall (it is currently a travel business)but in 1941 the Grange purchased it. I remember going there for dinners, dances and joining the juvenile Grangers in the basement for their meeting. In 1968 the Cross family offered land to build a new hall. In July 1971 a dedication was held with many Grange dignitaries including National Grange Master John Scott as main speaker. In May 1971 it served as the perfect Grange hall for the Illinois State Grange Centennial Style Show. My mother Alice Peacock was State Women’s Activities Chairman and was proud to host it at her home Grange. (Just a few minutes from our house too!) Their 70th anniversary was celebrated in 1941, 75th anniversary in 1946, 100th anniversary in 1971, and 140th anniversary in 2011. I look forward to celebrating with them on their 150th anniversary next year.

# What is Grange Youth? I’m glad you asked!

The National Grange Youth Program is designed to provide leadership training and life skills training opportunities. There are only two programs that are age-specific; all programs are open to all Grange members regardless of age. The goals of the National Grange Youth Development department include providing leadership training through a variety of opportunities such as Regional Conferences, Ambassador Program, John Trimble Legislative Experience, Mentoring Programs and The National Convention, just to name a few.

Individual life skills are developed through the G.R.A.N.G.E Youth Pillar Program which offers opportunities for exploration in Grange Growth, Ritualism, Action, Networking, Grassroots Advocacy, and Education.

We work with the Junior Grange department in creating opportunities for older Junior Grange members to begin their transition into the Subordinate Grange by encouraging youth to be mentors to those older juniors and by providing opportunities for them to become involved in the Achievement Award Program.



Lavern W. Lang

Lavern W. Lang, 92 years, of Smithton, IL, passed away on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at St. Elizabeth Hospital, O Fallon, IL. He was born June 6, 1928, in Millstadt, IL.

Lavern retired in 1989 as a rural mail carrier and retired from farming in 2017. He was a member of St. Paul United Church of Christ in Floraville, Illinois, Illinois Rural Letter Carriers, Modern Woodman, past president, Floraville Community Grange, past president, St. Clair County Pomona Grange, past president, member of the Executive Committee of the Illinois State Grange (1989-2007), former trustee for the Smithton Fire Protection District for many years, former Smithton Consolidated School Board member for many years. Lavern was an Army veteran serving during the Korean War, and on June 16, 2018 he had the distinct privilege of taking the Honor Flight to Washington D.C.

Lavern joined Floraville Community Grange in May 1954. Lavern enjoyed going to State and National Grange meetings, and later sharing those stories with others.

Surviving is his wife of 67 years, Lucille Lang, nee Ries, his children, Lynette (Don) Schaeffer, Lana Korte and Leon (Joan) Lang; his grandchildren, Justin (Christina) Schaeffer, Brandon (Tina) Lang, Jolene (John Jr.) McDonald, Brian (Andie) Lang and Becca (Matt) Aguayo; his great-grandchildren, Francesca Lang, Anthony Skodachek, Joseph Skodacheck, William Boddy, Bailey McDonald, Logan McDonald, Gage Lang, Felix Aguayo, Brynn Lang, Olivia Schaeffer, Katalina Aguayo and Lillian Schaeffer; his sister, Myrt Metter; his sister-in-law, Delores Lang; he is also survived by nieces, nephews along with other relatives and friends.