



ILLINOIS GRANGER

Volume 105

June 2021

No. 5

**IN ESSENTIALS...UNITY
IN NON-ESSENTIALS...LIBERTY
IN ALL THINGS...CHARITY**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 4-5 Boone County Classic 6 Horse Hitch Show – Boone County Fairgrounds \$5 for spectators 29 Hitches from around the country
June 10-11 Guilford Hope garage sale - Lyfords
June 25-27 – Midwest Leaders Conference – Boone County Fairgrounds
July 10 Guilford Hope 150th Anniversary Open House – Paulson's Ag Museum
July 20-25 – Grange Revival - Sturgis, SD
July 31 Deadline for resolutions to State Secretary
Aug 10-15 – Boone County Fair
Sept 10-12 – Illinois State Grange Convention
Oct 30 – Hopewell Grange Fall Vendor and Craft Fair

Ongoing:

Emerald Mound Grange will be selling desserts at the Friday Night Fish Fries of the Summerfield Lions Club Starting February 26, 2021. 5:30-8 pm

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

Donations to the Illinois Granger:

Donations to the Honor Memorial Scholarship fund:

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 61008-905



Lynette Schaeffer President Illinois State Grange

Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

The weather in southern IL is the typical changeable this week – we were cold now near 90 this week. Cherry trees will be ready for the picking next week and the blackberries are blooming big time. COVID restrictions are starting to lift now, a far cry from where we were a year ago!! Hope you are following CDC guidelines; IL is now no masks if you have been vaccinated. Restaurants are getting closer to the pre-Covid normal, and public events are available to more attendance.

Just finished a teleconference about the Midwest Grange Leaders Conference. It is set for June 25 – 27 at Boone County Fairgrounds. I am sure there is more information in this Illinois Granger. IL is hosting this year and we hope that many of you will attend whether in person or virtually. Contact Karie Blasingame to register. This event is open to all Grangers. It would be great to have a large group from IL, there are workshops/programs of interest for all Grangers.

The committee for the 150th IL State Grange session has met several times via Zoom video conferencing. I am proud of the discussions and planning we have done for the Weekend of Celebration. September 10 – 12, DoubleTree by Hilton, Collinsville, IL. We have heard that Oliver Hudson Kelley will be attending, and special events are planned. We are going to be selecting the session committees prior to session, committee reports will be completed prior to session then the reports will be presented at the meeting. We are hoping that

this will cut down on the business time. We plan to celebrate all weekend long, during the meeting and the evenings. Make plans to attend many fun events will be happening during the weekend. We hope to have the schedule in the next Illinois Granger.

I attended Grange Foundation Zoom call last week. I hope many of you will watch the Grange Foundation Virtual Telethon to raise funds for the Youth and Junior Grange missions. The telethon will be on June 5, check the National Grange website for the times. Watch to see testimonials from me and other Grangers!! Thanks to Karie who wrote testimony about Grange life for the National Grange.

I attended National Grange Executive Committee Zoom video conference last week. Much was discussed about the build maintenance, Youth and Junior Telethon, membership initiatives, and much more. This information will be shared more next month and at State Session.

As you can see, I am busy trying to build up the Grange in many ways- nationally and statewide.

Grange Revival July 20 – 25 in Sturgis, South Dakota at Days End Campground. Registration is open. Check the nationalgrange.org, or grangerevival.org or Grange Revival 2021 Facebook page. Don and I, Lana Korte, and Karie Blasingame will be going, and I have heard other IL Grangers thinking about joining the fun and fellowship. It will be a great time, consider joining the group.

Thanks to all those who shared birthday wishes with me. In 2019 I celebrated with many of you at a Grange picnic, hopefully next year we can have a Grange Picnic again.



*American Values.
Hometown Roots.*

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2 June 2021 Illinois Granger

Boone County Pomona Grange Report

Boone County Pomona Grange met on Wed. May 5, 2021 with worthy President Ruth Blasingame presiding. 7 new members were accepted into Pomona Grange. Secretary report was given and approved.

Committee Reports were heard. Tickets for the Family Activities Luncheon Raffle are available for sale. Cost \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. It was reported that the first and last tickets drawn at the Luncheon the winners will each receive a handmade quilt.

Ag Report – Brother Al Ebel reported most of the crops have been planted here in northern Illinois but we sure could use a good rain and some heat.

Youth – Sister Karie Blasingame reported that Illinois will be hosting the Midwestern Grange Leadership Conference right here at the Boone County Fairgrounds the weekend of June 25-27th. See the ISG Youth Facebook page for more details also in the Granger.

Everyone is getting ready for the 2021 Boone County Fair August 10-15th. Entertainment for the Saturday night show will be Diamond Rio. Everything else is slowly falling into place.

June 4 & 5th will be a Hitch Horse Show with teams coming from all over the world. Cost is \$5.00 per person and is open to the public.

Grange Reports were given: Big Thunder just finished storage release and all went well. County Line – is hosting a drive thru chicken dinner on May 23rd at the Boone County Fairgrounds Must call for reservations. Cost is \$10 per meal. Flora – had a very successful Drive thru Roast Beef Dinner and served over 250 meals. Prairie held their annual Consignment Auction. The weather was damp, cold and wet, But we did have 60 consigners and over 600 buyers.

A very touching Memorial Service with candle lighting was conducted to honor 14 members of Granges in our area we recently lost. The

program was closed with everyone reciting the Lord’s Prayer.

Lecturer program for the evening was presented by Karrie and Robin Kindberg who made a poster on how to dispose of your expired, or unused prescription medications. This is a program that the National and State Grange sponsor called Rali Rx. It helps to reduce the opioid crisis in our community. Everyone was given a bag to take home to dispose of their meds properly.

Next meeting will be July 7, 2021.

Karrie Kindberg
Boone County Pomona Grange
Publicity Chairman

Leroy Community Grange

May 17, 2021

Meeting called to order by Master Rocky Temple. Pledges were led by Paul Temple and prayer given by Denise Temple. The secretary minutes were emailed.

Our visitor, Jim Ames, was introduced, he is a friend of Vicky Donley, and is a prospective member.

Old business included a report from Paul Temple and Ed Kasper about completing paperwork for a raffle we plan to hold. Ed will get information on printing tickets. Rocky reported that no record regarding Norris Walley donating land for our acre for education. Will check with his family to see if they would honor what he’s done for us in the past. Paul reported the winner of the North Boone High School scholarship which will be awarded on May 26th. Calvin is waiting for an answer from the Conservation District about the need for beehives as a community service project.

In new business, it was reported that our member, Richard Doyle, passed away in April. It was discussed to make a donation in his memory to the Grange Food stand since he always participated in grilling for the Grange. Tami Temple will talk with JoEllen to see what is needed. A possible community service project was discussed for the Paulson Museum, some cleanup is needed after the snow damaged a leanto on the side of one of their buildings. It was decided that Saturday, June 12th at 8:00 am would be the cleanup day if ok with museum board.

Jo Ellen asked if we could serve breakfast Sunday at the fair, and it was voted that we plan to do that. Tami will be our chairman for it. Vicki is looking for assistance for making tack stalls for the alpaca barn. It was suggested that she make her presentation to the fair board.

Calvin showed us the repairs that need to be made at our Grange building, windows, doors, siding, bathroom and storage shed. We decided that Saturday, June 26th at 8:00 am, will be our next meeting and work day.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Temple, Secretary

County Line Grange

We held our regular meeting May 12. Hosting the meeting were Deb Z. and Sara I. Thanks Ladies.

Tim reported on Agriculture. He said on a recent trip through Southern IL. and Ky. that few workers were in the fields. Normally they are further along, but there has not been much rain and it’s very dry.

Our Fairboard reported that there will be a Fair this year. The Fairboard are working with the Health Department to make sure everything is done right. Masks will be required to enter the Fairgrounds. Once inside, masks will not

be required unless entering a building.

John reported that our Road Clean-up day went well. About 5 small bags of trash was collected.

Other Committee, Secretary and Treasurer reports were given.

Discussions were held on repairs and maintenance on the Grange foodstand kitchens at the Fairgrounds and the progress on the new Grange Hall. A barn has been donated for the wood that was wanted. Ed is going to find out if we can recycle plastic again for another bench.

Meeting was closed and Penny March was held.

GRANGE WORKERS NEEDED

To all local Grangers- Jo Ellen is looking for workers for the breakfasts during Fair week. This can be a fundraiser for your Grange. Each Grange will be paid a percentage for each member who works. If interested, contact Jo Ellen at County Line Grange.

We will also need volunteers for the Reed Schoolhouse and the Granges Museum. Any help will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Stay safe.

Flora Grange News for May 2021

From Lindakay Ebel

Flora Grange held their May meeting on Tuesday, May 11th, 2021 at their Flora Grange Hall with forty-four Grange members and a guest, Trindy, who is thinking about joining a Grange and the Junior Fair Board.

Master Albert Ebel called the meeting to order with the Grange Salutation and Pledge to the American Flag, followed by roll call of officers. The minutes of the April 13th, 2021 meeting were adopted as presented.

Reports of the various committees were given:

Quilting, Emalee Colver reported the group will be meeting this week at the hall, all are invited.

Deb Silvers, Family Activities, reported she will have raffle tickets for the state raffle at the next meeting, also copy of what you can enter.

Building and Grounds, Jack Ratcliffe reported they have been mowing the grass, checked the air conditioner, and we need to get a bid on the South window, as the frame is falling apart. A motion was made to get a bid on it and on the repair of other windows. He also talked about the work done on the handicap ramp project.

Todd Hegge reported on the fair board, a large draft horse show will be held on June 4 and 5 at the fairgrounds, also the contract has been signed with Diamond Rio for Saturday night entertainment. The new museum/Grange hall is being worked out and some underground wiring is being laid. Jack Ratcliffe stated there may be some changes in the grandstand tickets than previously stated, will be decided shortly. There will be fair books printed for those wanting one at the fair office.

Phoebe Calabrese, Junior fair board stated they will be selling shirts, she will have more information at the next meeting.

Lindakay Ebel, Membership chairman stated The National Grange welcomed Marathon Group, a national provider of vehicle extended service contracts, and their innovative program, healthCAR, as a new affinity partner. The Grange’s individual members will enjoy the following benefits with healthCAR: some including vehicle protection at 60% less than competition; use any licensed repair facility for repairs, emergency roadside assistance included at no additional cost, and many more. Check this out on the National Grange website.

Bob Scherer, Agriculture reported some of the soybeans that are up got frosted and are turning black, corn did not seem to get touched. Prices are staying up at the present time, who knows what they will be when harvest time comes in the fall.

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COPY DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND

PICTURES: 4th Thursday OF EACH MONTH

Please send all news and

pictures to:

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DONATIONS: \$10.00 PER YEAR

For correction of addresses mail

to: The Illinois Granger

8711 Deer Run Drive

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Community Service, Laurel Ratcliffe reported she has not heard anything from Habitat at this time and Applebee’s is still not certain what they will be doing regarding holding a fundraising event this year. The other committees did not have reports for this evening meeting.

Laurel Ratcliffe read the communications sent to Flora Grange to be read to the members.

Treasurer Lindakay Ebel had a written financial report for all in attendance of all expenses and income for the month with the balance of each account and read and explained to those in attendance. She also gave the profit of the roast beef dinner held on April 11th, 2021. Motion was made and seconded and voted to approve the report.

Chaplain Emalee Colver conducted the Flora Grange Memorial Service, stating that because we were unable to gather for a service last year, we remember tonight those called home during the past two years. To them we say, “well done, good and faithful servants.”

It has been especially difficult time for us at Flora Grange with the loss of 5 members. And many of our members have suffered losses in their families. We remember those families this evening – especially the Calabrese family with a loss of 5 in their family. We also remember the West’s, Ratcliffe’s, Fidler’s, Kirk’s, Chamberlain’s, Witz’s, and those that we are unaware of.

We then sang “Sweet Hour of Prayer” and the altar was decorated with 6 candles with flower rings in a row and the Bible was open in front of them. Chaplain Colver had six assistants come and stand behind the altar and each read a short reading and lite a candle for their person. Karen Hart lite the candle for Sister JoAnn Wienrank; Allyson Aves lite the second candle for Sister Lois Knox; Nancy Lyford lite the third candle for Brother Ed Gahlbeck and Lindakay Ebel lite the fourth candle for Theo Hildebrand. The fifth candle was lite by Myrna Hodgson for Brother Craig Woosley and the 6th candle lite by Fabienne Calabrese in memory of Timothy Witz, husband of our faithful member, Jennifer, who passed away on April 28, 2021. Following the lighting of the candles and a short reading for each person, all in attendance recited the 23rd Psalm, followed by a closing prayer by Chaplain Colver.

Laurel Ratcliffe then presented Robert Scherer with a 25-year attendance award; the other awards were given out at the April meeting; however, he was not in attendance.

Safety Town was discussed at the last two Grange meetings and tabled. It was decided as time is running short and with all the county rules, we not have safety town this year, but if things come back to normal hold, it again next year, motion was carried.

Also tabled from last month was an ad for the Boone County fair. Motion was made and second to take a full-page ad for \$140.00, motion carried. Any new ideas for the ad, see Laurel.

Laurel Ratcliffe said Flora Grange will be serving the Kirkland Lions Club on the 4th Thursday of June. We discussed the food stand at the Boone County Fair, she informed us she will not oversee the food stand this year, and all the Granges will be working it together; many were not to please about it being held that way.

We discussed only having non-Granger and Granger of the year for this year. Tabled until June meeting.

It was announced Guilford Hope Grange will hold a garage sale on Friday and Saturday, June 10 & 11, 9 AM to 5 PM at the home of Wayne and Nancy Lyford. Proceeds go to Midway Village Museum.

Guilford Hope Grange will be celebrating their 150th anniversary with an open house on Saturday, July 10th, 2 pm at Paulson’s Agriculture Museum, Argyle.

\$57.00 ‘G’ bills were collected this evening. There was no program this evening as we had the Memorial service.

Birthdays for May were Jack Ratcliffe and Al Ebel on May 2nd and Loren Due on May 11th.

Chaplain closed with prayer and Master closed the meeting and Penny March was held.

Refreshments were served and fellowship was held amongst members.

Next Flora Grange meeting:

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

6:30 pm – Flora Grange Hall

Bring a dish to pass and own table service.

Serving committee: Gene & Donna West, George McGee and Mary Harbison.

Guilford Hope Grange

Eight members of Guilford Hope Grange #6 met outside at the home of Worthy Master S. Wayne & Nancy Lyford April 27 for the first time since last fall. We did have a couple of virtual meetings in between.

Sadly, our Grange has lost four members in the last year: David W. Cummings last May, Wilbur Reid, 95, (80-year Granger) in December, Harold B. “Mac” McLarty on March 15 (just a few days after turning 96), and Phyllis (Bender) Cummings, 81, widow of David, on March 30. Harold was also an 80-year member of Guilford Hope Grange #6. At the April meeting our Charter was draped and the Grange Memorial Ceremony conducted. Condolences were extended to all the families.

Nancy Lyford reported that she has been busy sewing and donating Quilts of Valor during the last year.

The annual Guilford Hope Grange Garage Donation Sale will be Thursday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. June 10-11 at 3464 N Lyford Rd, Rockford, IL 61114. All proceeds will be donated to the Education Fund at Midway Village Museum, Rockford. In past years we have raised more than \$500.

In July Guilford Hope #6 will celebrate its 150th anniversary! Plans are in the works for a party -- and you’re invited!. Details to come -- mark the date Saturday, July 10 near Rockford, Illinois.

Respectfully,
Martha Byrnes

Beaver Valley Grange

At the May meeting Beaver Valley members were excited to return to the Grange Hall for our meetings! First in a very long time! Minutes were approved. Report was given by the Treasurer, and on Pomona, and Fairboard. Community services hours were turned in. Keep Northern IL Beautiful recycling Community Service Project was reported to be successful. Members also gathered to put together 120 May baskets for the Heritage Nursing Care Center. A thank you note was received from the staff at the Care Center. We voted to send Rick & Renee O’Dell as our delegates to the State Session. Our next meeting is scheduled for June 11 and it will be our election. Fraternally submitted, Dayle Paulson





***Virgil Hale USMC
Virgil’s quilt was made by
his wife Carol and presented
by Karie Blasingame and
Mary Brubach.***

10 Boone County Grangers received Quilts of Valor and one received an honorary quilt on Sunday May 16 during the Prairie Grange Honor Veteran’s Program. Pictured seated: Wayne Fruit USArmy – Prairie, Spencer Morris USArmy – Prairie, Jimmy Blasingame USAF – Prairie, Robert Duda USAF – Prairie, Walt Fuchs USArmy – Big Thunder. Standing: Gordon Butt USMC – Big Thunder, Erich Dinges USArmy – Prairie, JoEllen Coleman USArmy – County Line, Kevin Brubach USNavy – Prairie, Chris Ellwang (Honorary) currently serving in the USArmy -Reserve – Prairie, and Dave Geske USArmy – Big Thunder. Pictured separately; Ken Allison USArmy – Prairie and Virgil Hale USMC – Prairie received their quilts at home. We also made quilts and presented them last winter to Brian and Marisa O’Dell USNavy – Beaver Valley. We have three more quilts to present soon.



***Ken Allison US Army
Ken’s quilt was made by Ruth
Blasingame and presented to him by
his wife Nancy with some help from
Karie Blasingame and Mary Brubach.***



Quilts of Valors



A quilt of Valor was presented to Tom Lyford of Murry, Kentucky on April 21st 2021 at the home of his brother S. Wayne Lyford. Tom served in the US Army during the Vietnam war. This quilt was from Guilford Grange, sewed and bound by Nancy Lyford, and quilted by Sunshine stitches.



6 June 2021 Illinois Granger

Name: _____

Grange: _____ Number : _____

Birthdate: _____ Junior Youth Subordinate

Attending: In Person \$25 _____ Virtual \$10 _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Allergies: _____

Any Special Dietary Needs: _____

Insurance Information: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone Number: _____

I hereby give my approval for my child’s participation in any and all activities prepared by Illinois State Grange during the selected camp. In exchange for the acceptance of said child’s candidacy by Illinois State Grange., I assume all risk and hazards incidental to the conduct of the activities, and release, absolve and hold harmless Illinois State Grange and all its respective officers, agents, and representatives from any and all liability for injuries to said child arising out of traveling to, participating in, or returning from selected camp sessions. In case of injury to said child, I hereby waive all claims against Illinois State Grange, including all leaders and affiliates, all participants, sponsoring agencies, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event. There is a risk of being injured that is inherent in all activities. Some of these injuries include, but are not limited to, the risk of fractures, paralysis, or death.

Signed _____

Parent or Guardian of anyone 18 or younger- Member if over age 18.

Will you be participating in the Public Speaking Contest? _____ Junior Youth Subordinate

Prepared Impromptu Commercial(Youth) Youth Ambassador/Young Patron Prepared Story Story(Junior)

Will you be participating in the Sign-a-Song Contest? _____	Novice	Hobbyist
Group Expert		
Schedule of Events		
	Friday Night - June 25th	
5 pm-6pm Registration		
6 pm Light Supper		
7 pm Grange Baseball – virtual		
8:30 pm Plan for Paint on State		
	Saturday – June 26th	
8 am Breakfast		
9 am Youth Workshop-virtual		
10 am Paint on State		
12 pm Lunch		
1 pm Junior Workshop-virtual		
2 pm Membership workshop-virtual/Code Reading begins		
2:45 Illinois workshop-virtual		
3:30 Break		
3: 45 Minnesota Workshop-virtual		
4:30 Iowa Workshop-virtual		
5:15 Break		
5:30 Indiana workshop-virtual		
6 pm Dinner		
7:15 pm Public Speaking/Sign-a-Song-virtual		
9 pm Surprise Auction Items		
9:30 pm Grange Debate		
	Sunday – June 27th	
8 am Breakfast		
9 am Church Service		
9:30 am Junior Auction		
10:30 am Wrap up and Suggestions for Improvement-Snacks for the road if anything is left over		
11:00 am Tour of Fairgrounds		

Times are subject to adjustment depending on discussion, we will try our hardest to take breaks when they are scheduled and get back on track.

Depending on how many Juniors register there is the possibility of Junior breakout workshops. Those also have the potential of being virtual, so please let us know if you have a junior attending in person or virtual so we can get the supplies you need. I will let all participants know when we will have a separate Junior schedule by email.

Deadline for Registration is June 1st which will allow our team and the post office to get you the supplies you need if you are virtual. In your packet you will receive anything we are working with. You will not receive any paper, all paper files or templates will be emailed to you for you to print out before enjoying the conference from wherever you are connecting virtually, some files may be sent to you after the workshop so as not to ruin the surprise. We hope to see you in person but totally understand if

you want to participate from home. If you change your mind and want to be with us in person, simply bring what we have sent you to the conference and join in with the rest of us. Do give Karie a heads up so she has enough food for everyone.

Boone County Health Department has indicated that as of right now we are at 50 people per meeting place. Masks should be worn in all indoor locations as well as social distancing protocols respected. We are working closely with the

Boone County Health Department to hold our County Fair this year, so all guidelines will be respected and followed. How it has been working at our local Grange meetings, everyone is required to wear their mask into the building and after seated is allowed to drop it down while discussion happens. If moving around the room your mask is required to be back over your face and nose. I suspect the same should work for us during our conference. There are members who feel more comfortable leaving their mask on the entire time and that should be respected. All bathrooms have hand soap and hand sanitizer and sanitizing spray. It will take all of us to keep our surrounding clean and free from germs after using the facilities it would be helpful if you use the sanitizing spray to keep the bathrooms germ free. Children will be assisted in cleaning and we will also have someone clean it every couple of hours to be on the safe side. Lots of rules, but I’d rather be safe than sorry. Its our goal to stay safe and have fun at the same time.

Housing Options

Our Conference will be held at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Belvidere, Illinois. We have the second largest fairgrounds in the state and host many events throughout the summer. We will be utilizing the Grange Hall and Administration Building for our conference. We may also get to see the One Room Schoolhouse and the Grange Museum if time permits.

Housing on Fairgrounds

\$10 per night - Boys in the Upstairs of the Grange Hall – Girls in the basement of the Administration building.

_____nights

\$35 per night – Camping in our Campground. We have water and electric. We do not have a dumping station, but I know where a couple are before you get on the road. We may have the option of getting your camper pumped out on Sunday morning, I will be looking into that. Cost is per campsite not per person and goes directly to our Fairgrounds.

_____nights

Housing off the Fairgrounds

We have many hotels within minutes of the Fairgrounds. Cost options vary based on hotel chosen. America’s Best Value Inn – 1605 N State St., Belvidere, IL 61008

Days Inn – 220 S Lyford Rd., Rockford, IL 61108

Baymont – 662 N Lyford Rd., Rockford, IL 61107

La Quinta Inn & Suites – 7401 Walton St., Rockford, IL 61108

Red Roof Inn – 7434 E State St., Rockford, IL 61108

Comfort Inn – 7392 Argus Dr., Rockford, IL 61107

Staybridge Suites – 633 N Bell School Rd., Rockford, IL 61107

Holiday Inn – 7550 E State St., Rockford, IL 61108

Super 8 – 7646 Colosseum Dr., Rockford, IL 61107

Courtyard by Marriott- 7676 E State St., Rockford, IL 61108

Hampton Inn – 615 Clark Dr., Rockford, IL 61107

Extended Stay America – 653 Clark Dr., Rockford, IL 61107

Hilton Garden Inn – 7675 Walton St., Rockford, IL 61108

Candlewood Suites – 7555 Walton St., Rockford, IL 61108

Fairfield Inn & Suites – 7651 Walton St., Rockford, IL 61108

Radisson Hotel – 200 S Bell School Rd., Rockford, IL 61108

_____Total owed for Conference (Registration + Rooming) Hotel charges are paid directly to hotel.

Prairie Grange Buddy Check-In Meals

Karie Blasingame

Early this year when we had to drape the charter for 3 members, our Grange discovered that even though we were sending cards and calling ever so often our members who can no longer drive at night, are lonely. We were concerned that we were going to lose more of our members simply because they hadn’t seen anyone for a while. As Grangers we know that much of what we do we tie good to it. What was an easy way to check on people, but also make sure they had a good meal at the same time? Buddy Check-in was created.

We had a member who had the fixings for creamed Turkey in her freezer that was supposed to be for her church, but with the pandemic it had been in there for a while and church said go ahead and use it, so we did. We posted on Facebook that we wanted to do a meal and what else we needed. We had members sign up to deliver, we had members who came out to help cook, and we got everything we needed for the meal donated. We only had to buy containers to put it in.

We hadn’t been together in the kitchen for a while, it felt good for us to be able to talk and visit and at the same time create a wonderful meal for our members. The first trip we wanted to be a surprise, sometimes that backfires in a good way. We prepped the food on a Saturday morning in March and delivered in the afternoon. The meals were in microwavable dishes so we had time to get it to everyone before dinnertime. Some of our folks were not at home because we hadn’t warned them we were coming. We had no backup plan this was our first run. However, the world works in mysterious ways, when one family wasn’t home, the drivers, Lyle and Patti Lee took that meal to the next home. When they discovered that the members children were visiting for the day, they went back out and got those meals that we thought weren’t going to get used and the whole family enjoyed the meal together. When a second member wasn’t home in town, we brought that meal back and added another meal and took it to a couple who belong to another Grange to check on them as well.

Buddy Check-in was such a success that in April our Grange voted to continue to do them every odd month. Everyone who participates loves it, everyone who has gotten food so far has enjoyed it. Our second run in May was Spaghetti and Meatballs. We did this meal on a Monday night as we are trying to not utilize the Grange Hall on the weekend so it can be rented for events. This time we called before dropping off. We told them around when we were arriving so they wouldn’t cook anything, but with it being microwavable if they already had something they could save it for the next night. What’s nice is we added people who are not members of our Grange but neighbors to our members who had just returned from the hospital.

We gave away about 20 meals in March and 25 meals in May, but

the fellowship and joy that we unleashed was triple fold. We are continuing this program at least through the end of this year, but I see us doing this for years to come. We all enjoy it, we have a good time putting everything together and we love seeing the joy on members faces when we arrive with their meal and visit for just a little bit. You ask the right questions and see if they need a follow up call or visit in the next few days or weeks. Most important, they know we still care, because we do and during the past year it has been hard for us all to see that.



Illinois Granger June, 20217

Meals-Books and Registration Illinois State Grange September 10-12,2021

GRANGE Name and # _____

Patrons Name _____

Patrons Name _____

_____	Friday Night Banquet	COST- \$48.00
	Italian Chicken Breast, Garlic Mash Potatoes, Green Beans, Midwest Toss Salad with Parmesan Dressing, Rolls, Butter, Coffee, Tea and Dessert	
_____	Saturday Breakfast	COST -FREE
	The Hotel offers a Continental Breakfast to all of its guests. There will not be an AG Breakfast but the program will begin at 7:00AM	
_____	Saturday Family Activities Luncheon	COST-\$26.00
	Turkey Club Sandwich on MultiGrain Bread, Variety of Salads, Relishes, Coffee and Tea.	
_____	Saturday Night GALA	COST-\$50.00
	Roast Pork Loin, Mashed Potatoes, Julienne Carrots, Field Greens Toss Salad with Champagne Vinaigrette Dressing, Rolls, Butter, Coffee, Tea and Dessert.	

MEAL RESERVATIONS are due to Illinois State Grange Secretary by August 15, 2021.
Be sure to enclose a check with your order.
_____ Delegate Books - \$ 5.00 each. ALL Delegates are asked to purchase a Delegate Book. Grangers who want to purchase a book must mail a check in the amount of \$5.00 to the ISG Secretary by August 15, 2021.

_____ TOTAL AMOUNT

Make All Checks Payable to: ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE
Mail to: Robin Kindberg
12971 Olson Road
Caledonia, IL 61011



ISG Secretary Report

Hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather we are having now in northern Illinois. Just wish we could get a good soaking rain to help the crops that have been planted.

- Onto Grange things of importance
- 2nd Quarterly Report is due to me by JULY 15th – Please be on time.
 - Membership List – If I have not received your list, please send it to me as soon as possible.

- STATE SESSION INFORMATION
- ROOM RESERVATIONS -All Delegates and Patrons must make your own Room Reservation by calling the Doubletree Hotel in Collinsville at 866-235-4657 by August 15th. Room rates are \$105.00 per night PLUS taxes. Be sure to tell them you are with the Illinois State Grange.
 - Lynette will be making State Officers Room Reservations. You need to contact her.
 - DELEGATE BOOKS – All Delegates are asked to purchase a Booklet. Cost is \$5.00 each. Patrons can also purchase a booklet if they want to. Cost is \$5.00. Booklets must be ordered by August 15.
 - RESOLUTIONS – are due to me by JULY 30th.
 - GRANGE DELEGATE NAMES – Must be to me by AUGUST 1st so we can assign committees
 - OFFICERS – DEPUTIES & CHAIRMAN REPORTS – are due to me by AUGUST 10TH.
 - MEAL RESERVATIONS – Must be to me by AUGUST 15.
Make all checks payable to: ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE
Be Sure to watch the US Mail and the ILLINOIS GRANGER for updated information.

Any questions feel free to contact me.
Robin Kindberg
Illinois State Grange Secretary

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Charlotte Mehrtens



June has arrived and I know we are all busy with graduations, June weddings, gardens, farmers planting crops for fall harvest, the wheat will be turning that beautiful yellow gold color and ready for harvest soon and yes, we can't forget those red ripe juicy strawberries that taste so great over a bowl of ice cream. These are all things that the sixth month of the year represents, things that we take for granted every June. I was driving home from town the other evening after dark and I saw the first of many lightening bugs (or fireflies) as many call them, how wonderful to be able to see them return year after year. We are all busy this time of the year regardless what it might be. Please take the time to look, listen, and enjoy what God has provided for us. If you are planning a vacation or family outing take the time to rejoice in our families and friends. Yes be thankful for each day as God has been good to all of us.

We pray for those who are sick and in need of healing, we pray for those who have lost loved ones this past month, may they find the comfort and healing they need to carry on the task of moving forward. We pray for those who have lost loved ones and their homes from the storms in the southern states the end of May. Remember to always be kind to one another for God is always watching over us. And most of all we thank you oh Lord for our days here on earth that we may live our lives the way you want us to.

Blessings, Grace and Peace to each of you until the next time.

SELL SELL SELL

Our Illinois State Grange Session is just around the corner. I hope everyone is out selling FAC raffle tickets in advance. We have a lot of great prizes, but we could use a lot more. A prize will be given to the individual Granger who sells the most tickets in advance.

See you in September - Sharon



Joan Dennison 1932-2021

Joan was a long-standing member of Troy Grove Grange. She spent her time doing community service work through many organizations. She will truly be missed.



Richard J. Doyle, 73, passed away April 16, 2021. He was a 15 year member of the LeRoy Community Grange, Richard was always willing to lend a hand at any event we had. You could find Richard every morning at our Strawberry Shortcake booth at the Boone County fair, and he was our expert egg cooker when we served Sunday breakfast at the fair. He was also in charge of grilling for our picnics and fundraisers. His friendship will be dearly missed.

News From Hopewell Grange

By Janice David

An overly generous amount of rain has kept the lawnmowers busy as members keep the grass under control at the Hopewell Grange Hall. Many needed repairs have also shown up with the spring weather. The previously mentioned rain as well as often fierce winds have not been helpful to get these projects completed, so they stay on the Hopewell "to do" list.

With the easing of COVID restrictions, we were able to host a spring Craft and Vendor Fair for the first time in more than a year. Many of our veteran vendors were eager to get back to being able to sell their products and committed to participating in our fall Fair on October 30.

Hopewell was pleased to host the Washington Township Supervisor, Mr. Jim Bremner, at a

meeting where he made a presentation to our members about the "Mobile Senior Free Ride Service" available to those 65 and over who live within the 61571 ZIP Code (Washington Township) area. Based on location, age, and circumstances, there are a number of options to get residents to needed services. Jim's presentation explained the requirements and urged members to think not only of themselves but of friends, neighbors, and relatives who might benefit from this service.

Elaine Hecathorn focused on Mother's Day for the literary program for May with a history of how it came to be established. Members read articles related to the celebration. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 14.



Charlotte's First Grange Meeting - May 1st Enterprise Grange Dues Paying Potluck