

# Illinois Granger



In Essentials... Unity

In Non-Essentials... Liberty

In All Things... Charity

December 2021

Vol 1 No 3



## Visions and Wisdoms from Lynette

The weather in south central IL has gone to cold and dry. The leaves all fell while we were at National Grange Session. Thanksgiving was below normal in temperature. We celebrated with family and I hope that all of you were able to do the same. Family is what I am thankful for.

Well, it was great being part of the 155<sup>th</sup> National Session in Wichita, KS. There were many Grangers as delegates and members attending. The Great Plains region did a great job at making us all feel welcome. Don and I went early to participate in the 'Chris tour' before the session started. Hopefully you saw the photos on Facebook and followed along with us. We were part of a great group of Grangers and thank Chris and Duane Hamp for being our guides. Don and I were glad to have other IL Grangers attending the session. Thanks to Emalee, Sharon, Joan, Vivian, Karie and Ruth. Ethan was there all session as a Fellow, working hard on the publications during session. Election of Officers was held on Thursday – I was re-elected to a position on the Executive Committee. I am so grateful for the opportunity, and proud to be elected by the committee to be Chairman of the Executive Committee!! Some of the new officers are Chris Hamp (WA) as Vice President, Buddy Overstreet (TX) on the Executive Committee, Lecturer Ann Becher (MN), Kathy Gibson (MA), Treasurer – Joe Goodrich (VT) and Debbie Campbell (PA). The new High Priest of Demeter is Roger Bostwick and the new Priest Archon is Phil Preilli.

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## Spotlight on Grangers

Ethan Edwards

ISG Lecturer

Vice President of Shiloh Valley Grange

Member 45 years plus Junior Grange

Lives in Belleville Illinois

Belleville Township West High School

BA in Math & Computer Science,

MS & Most of a PhD in Educational Psychology

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Works as Chief Instructional Strategist at

Allen Interactions in Mendota Heights MN

National Grange Communications Fellow 2021

Seventh Degree Pianist – Peoria and Minneapolis

Interests/Clubs: Amateur musician playing cello with Belleville Philharmonic and St Louis Philharmonic Orchestras, President of the Belleville Philharmonic Society, avid reader, pie baker, and growing iris and daylilies. I love travelling and exploring. During COVID took on the challenge of going to every one of the 102 courthouses in Illinois; upon completion of that task began visiting all 800 public libraries in Illinois. My most enjoyable travel adventure that took about 5 trips was to visit all thirty medieval cathedrals in England. I've appeared in more than 60 musical theater productions, work travel was making it impossible. Looking forward to getting back into acting in Post-COVID reduction of travel. Also taking up hobby of Cabaret singing.



The delegate body voted to support the option to explore the option to sell the National Grange building. There was much discussion of the possibilities and the management of the money. It was not a decision any of us made lightly. I do believe it will be a long while (maybe a year) until the building is sold, and we need to move out. The one resolution IL sent to National Grange Session about the blanket forgiveness of student loans was included in the Health and Education Policy Statement.

I was proud to assist with the Memorial Service in reading the segment on Darlene Henninger, former first lady of the IL State Grange. Congratulations to William 'Dan' Cook the Law Enforcement of the Year, he is an officer from Belleville, IL, submitted by Turkey Hill Grange. Plans are being made for a public presentation of the award. Congrats to Emerald Mound, Prairie and Turkey Hill Granges for awards received. Turkey Hill's Community Service report was judged and participated at the National level. One of the highlights of the week was watching the Peterson Farm Brothers concert. The brothers are an inspiration to the agriculture community. Some of the videos are on Facebook. Another highlight was the Quilts of Valor presentations.

I am hoping to have a membership meeting in January via Zoom. And I am hoping in the next year to get to more Grange meetings, to work with the Deputies to support all the Granges in IL. All Grangers need to work on keeping each Grange strong and thriving.

**Merry Christmas to all of you and Happy New Year. I hope that you will all be healthy and safe during the upcoming holidays.**



### BLAST FROM THE PAST

By Beverly Smith, Historian

Our new Grange year is under way. It was nice to see everybody at the GRIT Conference. I brought some of the historical items that I displayed at State Grange session. Many of these Grange memorabilia items go back to the 1870's and 1880's when the Granges in Illinois were being formed. Here are some of them:

- Subordinate Grange Manual- Fourth Edition 1873, printed in Philadelphia

- The Patrons' Parliamentary Guide- 1874 with decisions of the Masters and Executive Committee
- Secretary Quarterly Report Form- from Damascus Grange #39 of Stephenson County  
From quarter ending December 31, 1878
- A dues receipt from Damascus Grange- January 1882
- State Grange News- October 15, 1883 I have several newspapers but they are like tissue paper and very fragile.
- Declaration of Purposes and By-Laws Illinois State Grange- Amended January 17, 1884  
Printed in Chicago
- Trade Card- used in the 1870's This trade card was the new method of money saving. It entitled a member a substantial discount on all purchases at designated stores where a Subordinate Grange was located. The savings were so good that Patrons spread the word and it resulted in great membership increases. Grange stores were popular but had problems and went out of business.

Thank you to the many Grangers who have given me Grange items. Many of these were from Mary Jane Zipse.

At the end of October, I received an email from Steve Koluch, member of Turkey Hill Grange. He was requesting information about Somerset Grange #1553 by Murphysboro, Jackson County, Illinois. He came across a person interested in this Grange, perhaps of history of the building or maybe re-establishing this Grange. I do not have much but told him of January 1876 deed that was found by Brian Keller and Joyce Meyer of his county. There is also a Wikipedia article with a picture of the hall that I got off the computer. If anyone has more info please offer your help.

**I hope you all enjoy the upcoming holidays and stay healthy!**



# Illinois State Grange Lecturer's Contests and Programs 2021-2022

## NATIONAL PROJECTS

Please refer to [www.nationalgrange.org](http://www.nationalgrange.org) for latest details.

### National Photography Showcase:

National Photo contest is completely digital. Anyone can submit up to three entries. Categories TBA

### Publicity Items

Submit any sort of publicity Items you have created for your Grange's activities and programs.

### Unfinished Quilt Block

Pattern for 2022 not yet Announced.

### Evening of Excellence Talent Contest

The state talent contest is held each year on Saturday night at the State Session. Best of Show from State Session can appear at the National Evening of Excellence in Reno. Act 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.



## ILLINOIS CONTESTS

One entry per member may be submitted in each class. Photos should be submitted electronically, via email, text, or USB drive.

### Photography

Color and black and white photography.

Categories:

- Bridges
- Selfie
- Time-lapse
- PLUS National Categories

### Creative Writing Prose

*"Surprise"*

### Creative Writing Poetry

*"Snowfall"*

### Painting/Drawing/Pastels

### Dimensional Media

### Personal Collection

(12 related items)

### Handcrafted Holiday Tree Ornaments

(3 related ornaments)

Two Divisions:

Ornaments involving primarily fabric, sewing, needlecrafts

Ornaments using other materials or techniques

## Before and After

Illustrate a project through 2-3 "before" and 2-3 "after" pictures.

### Birdhouse

Craft a birdhouse out of any materials and technique you choose. House can be practical or whimsical but needs to be of a realistic scale.

## GROUP PROJECT

### Subordinate Grange Banner

Work together to create a banner that commemorates your individual Grange identity and influence in the community and state.

First time entries will be judged and prizes awarded.

### Guidelines

All entries must be labeled w/

- Member name
- Member address
- Grange name and number
- eContest category
- Age bracket (Juniors only)

All entries should have been Created in this Grange year.

### Classes

Subordinate Grange members  
Juniors

- 5-7 yr old
- 8-10 yr old
- 11-14 yr old



## November news from Flora Grange

Lindakay Ebel

Flora Grange held their November meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> with thirty-one Grange members in attendance with Master Al Ebel presiding. Minutes of October 12 meeting were approved, and membership application of new member Dona Nichols was approved, sponsored by Todd Hegge and Emalee Colver. Welcome Dona. Reports of Standing Committees were given, and Community Service hours were discussed, and should be given to Lindakay Ebel by the chairperson as soon as your service project is completed along with hours of Grangers and Non-Grangers hours.

Lindakay Ebel gave a report on the GRIT (Grange Resources Information and Training) workshop held on October 24 at Hopewell Grange. She stated a lot of good information was given out at the workshop and it will be in the next several Illinois Grangers. Communications and treasurers' reports were also given.

Flora Grange is selling Butter Braid's, orders and money are due to Laurel by November 16<sup>th</sup>, to be delivered November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Flora Grangers will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at the PNC Bank in Belvidere on November 20, 8 am to 12 noon. The Junior's will be trimming the tree for the Hometown Christmas this year, by making or getting the ornaments, and members will be purchasing gifts or gift cards again this year.

Program Chair, Jack Ratcliffe read an article, 'Honor our Veterans'. We closed by collecting 'G' bills and singing Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to those celebrating in November. Refreshments were served.

December 14 will be Flora Grange Christmas party starting at 6:30 pm, Serving committee, Jack, Laurel & Tom Ratcliffe, Domenica Roehrborn, Allyson Aves & Marilyn Ryan.

Meat will be furnished by the Grange; each family is to bring a hot and cold dish to share.

Also, bring fresh fruit or cookies for shut-in and elderly families to be delivered.



## Troy Grove Grange Report

Troy Grove Grange met November 18, 2021 at 7 PM at the Hall.

Agriculture Chairman Jim Weber reported there were a very few fields of corn and beans yet to be harvested. Several farmers reported one way combining due to

wind damage. Beef prices to the growers are climbing.

Legislative Chairman Roy Plote reported that the Redistricting map has been presented. The map is highly irregular. Most areas are suffering high fuel prices. Labor shortages seem to be nationwide.

Community Service Chairman Ethel Bauer reported Jim Weber took a check to the Mendota Christian Food Pantry. A

thank you letter was received and read.

In communications Janet Plote reported that National Grange voted to sell the National Grange Building.

The GRIT year end reports were handed out.

Roy Plote reported there was a person interested in looking at the Hall.

Trustee Jim Weber will contact Grassers regarding furnace repair.

The next meeting of Troy Grove Grange will be December 17, 2021 at 6 PM at Ziggy's. This will be the Christmas gathering.



### A `NOTE FROM RUTH

I am still hoping that more people will decide to receive the Illinois Granger by email. I have heard great comments from those who have already chosen to do so. By taking the email you will receive the paper on or before the 1st of the month. It saves on Postage and supplies. I realize that we will always have to mail the paper to some of our members.

This month we have a lot of filler because these are all the articles I received. I can only put in what I receive. PLEASE remind your Grange to send in an article, pictures, calendar dates etc.. And especially send address changes and additions.

## Turkey Hill Grange News

Mary Beth Lee

On November 12 the Turkey Hill Grange Quilters presented the program preceding the regular meeting. A large group of family and friends gathered to witness eleven Veterans receive "Quilts of Valor" in our annual presentation program. (photos will be in next months issue). Two veterans were unable to attend the presentation that evening, but will receive their quilts later. One will be presented during a family gathering over the Thanksgiving holiday and the other before a large group of friends in December. Patriotic refreshments were served after the presentations.

On Saturday October 24 we enjoyed a group trip planned by Family Activities Chairman, Marlene Frazer. The group motored the Great River Road, where they boarded the ferry to Brussels, IL. They then enjoyed lunch at the historic Wittmond Hotel. The leaves were beginning to show color, especially on the bluffs along the river. It was a fun day!

On October 31 we served a Drive-thru Wurstmarkt Dinner to a good crowd. We will have a short business meeting in December and our Christmas party the next evening at the Grange Hall. **We want to wish all Grangers a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!.**



## News from Guilford Hope Grange

Guilford Hope Grange met on November 16th for a pot luck luncheon at the home of Dave and Martha Byrnes. Eleven members were present. The meeting opened in the 4th degree with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved; also the treasurers report.

Donations to the Goldie Floberg Center and Belvidere Salvation Army were made for the month of November. Wayne Lyford reported talking to Paul Zeien about our account with the bank. Paul has been there and

both Wayne Lyford and Carolyn Wheeler need to go and sign new paperwork. Nancy reported on the status of our collection of 'G' bills which we will donate to Miss Carly's at the appropriate time.

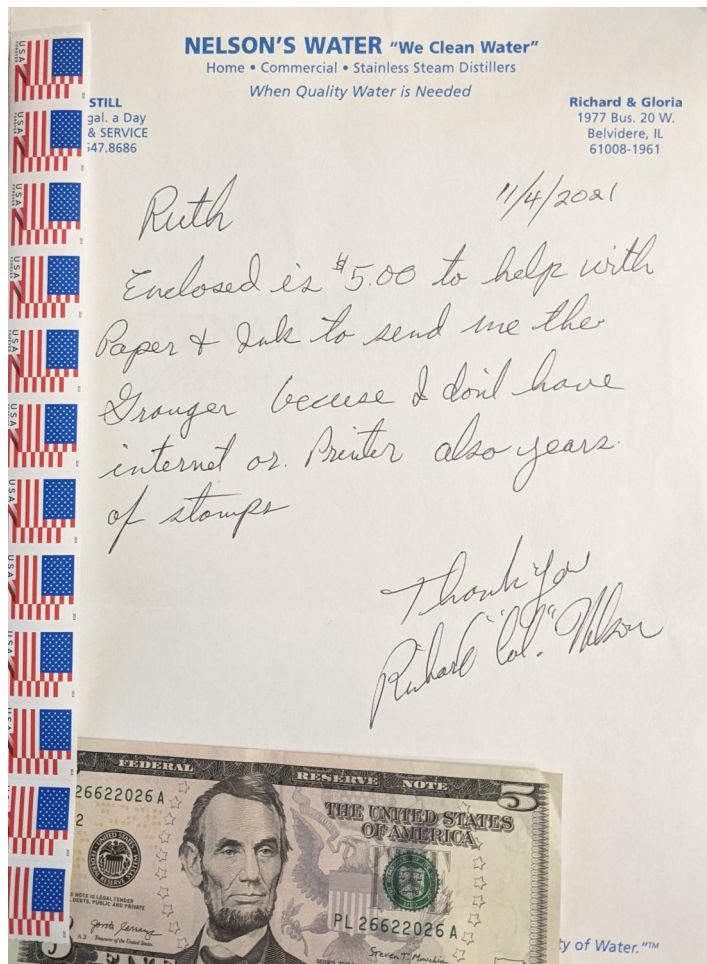
It was voted to have our next meeting on December 21st at the Illinois Machine Shed at 12 noon. We will call ahead for reservations. It was suggested we choose 2 luncheon entries so the food would be all brought at the same time and hot as we did for our 150th party. We will have a \$10.00 grab bag for anyone wanting to partake. Gene and Carolyn Wheeler agreed to have January meeting at their house.

Meeting was adjourned and then spent time coloring a turkey and visiting. When finished, all were laid out and voted one as a favorite. Carol Roush was the winner.





## Donations Are Welcome!!!Thank You!!!



I received this note in the mail last month. **This is what the Illinois Granger is all about!!** This is why it is so important to send in your Grange information. Let us know when you are doing things. Let us know if you have a member who has moved to a nursing home or senior living place. Send in the information when you sadly lose a member. There are a lot of senior members, and some not so senior ones, who like to keep track of their fellow Grangers and they do that by reading the Illinois Granger. Many of them are not able to get to their Grange meetings any more but still want to stay in touch. Mailed papers are extremely important for those who don't have the internet or access to a computer and printer. I also received 20 stamps from a Granger and a \$25 donation from another.

Donations since September 1, 2021:

Illinois Granger \$260      Stamps 32 @ .58—\$18.56

If you would like to change to email just send me an email at [illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com](mailto:illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com). Donations to Ruth Blasingame 8711 Deer Run Dr. Belvidere IL 61008 Checks payable to Illinois State Grange

## Instruments of the Industry: Value Added Products

By: Mary Brubach - Agriculture Chairperson

There are instruments upon instruments, upon instruments of and in the Agriculture Community. To this year's Agriculture Contests, I have added a category called "Value Added"

You may be asking what I mean by "Value Added" what it is, is someone, a chef, a canner, or a scientist has taken a raw Agricultural commodity and made it into something that has increased its value.

One of the most common, but not thought about as a value added product- would be straw or even corn fodder. Instead of wasting the stalks of wheat, oats, rye, or corn, a farmer decided it would be perfect to use as a bedding for livestock.

It was someone at a sawmill who decided that the sawdust, or wood shavings can be pressed into little pellets that one can burn to help heat a shop or a home. If they come from an apple, hickory, or mesquite tree, they can be used to smoke meat.

For instance, a Scientist took corn developed it into Ethanol - Ethanol is used in many different vehicles.

A Chef can take just about any product and make the most delectable dish you've ever eaten. Who would have thought that the leaves of the corn plant would be great to steam masa and meat, so we can enjoy tamales?

Those who can, take many fruits and vegetables and preserve them. Who doesn't like strawberry jam, dill pickles, or even Salsa?

This year, show off your jams or jellies, along with your variety pickles (don't have be actual pickles) at State Session. Even better, let's see how many different varieties of salsas we can have on display or available to be auctioned off.





### Prairie Grange Report

Prairie Grange met on October 15, 2021. Committee reports were heard. Buddy meals are being prepared on November 5<sup>th</sup> for those Grangers and Friends who might need a little lifting up this holiday season. Everyone was reminded fieldwork is in full swing so be sure and watch for the farm machinery on the roadways. Don and Heather Ellwanger gave their report from State Session. Prairie Grange will be holding a Town Hall Debate for the 3 candidates that are running for Boone County Sheriff. Watch for more details after the holidays. Mary Brubach, our Lecturer, presented an interesting program on the Chocolate Cupcake since today is National Chocolate Cupcake.

Prairie Grange held their meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup>. We took in another new member tonight. Committee reports were heard. All Grange Department Contests and rules are in the Granger.

Prairie Grange will be putting up a Free Little Library in front of the Grange Hall for everyone to enjoy. Several of our members and Grange Friends are in our thoughts and prayers: Marie Anderson Family, Vernon Ott and Family on loss of their loved ones, Jack Ratcliffe, Joel Tinch, Russ Kindberg Sr and Robin Kindberg all had surgery recently and we wish them all a speedy recovery.

Prairie Grange Christmas Potluck/Party will be Monday December 20, 2021 at 6:30PM. Meat will be provided along with table service. Each family is asked to bring 1 or 2 dishes to pass and your own drink if you don't want water or coffee. Also, anyone who wants to participate in the White Elephant gift exchange is asked to bring a wrapped gift and if you have young children please contact Sara Ellwanger so she can make sure she has enough items for each child.



### Boone County Pomona Report

The meeting of Boone County Pomona Grange was held on Wed. Nov. 3, 2021. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented. Committee reports were given. Legislative-Springfield still doesn't know what to do with the redistricting of the Precincts in the state of Illinois. Fieldwork is going at a rapid pace and yields are really good considering the lack of rainfall we have had this year. All contests and rules for Grange contests are in the Granger. Get well cards were sent to Kim Robin (knee surgery), Deb Silvers (car accident) and Noah Mullins (medical procedure). It was reported Boone County Fair 2021 was a huge success with over 209,000 people in attendance and the fair wanted to thank all those that helped make it successful.

Grange Reports were given:

**BIG THUNDER** – just finished storage at the Boone County Fairgrounds.

**COUNTY LINE** – Provided meals for Habitat for Humanity and they will be serving food during the Hometown Christmas event December 3-4<sup>th</sup>.

**FLORA** – Donated to the Salvation Army for Thanksgiving foodbaskets. They are selling Butter Braids for a fundraiser this year and there will not be a Roast Beef Dinner in November.

**PRAIRIE** – will be preparing and distributing Buddy Meals on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Fair Board Officers were elected for a two year term and the new officers are: President – Lyle Lee, Vice-President – Jack Ratcliffe, Secretary – Susan Banks and Treasurer – Paul Zeien.

Boone County Pomona Grange is selling pies for the thanksgiving holiday as a fundraiser.

By the time you see this we will have already enjoyed those delicious pies. Sorry!

It was moved that Prairie Grange can go ahead with their Little Free Library project and set it up by the Community Grange Hall.

Next Boone County Pomona Grange meeting will be held on Wednesday January 5, 2022 beginning at 6:30PM. It will be our Dues Paying Soup and Chili Supper.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08PM.

The Officers and members of Boone County Pomona Grange want to wish everyone a healthy, happy and safe holiday season.

Karrie Kindberg

Publicity Chairman

## Illinois State Grange Youth News

Karie Blasingame

Oh my gosh, I had such a great time at National Session in Wichita, Kansas in November. I helped with both the Youth and Junior Ambassador judging. I was reunited with 2 other Communications fellows, and we interviewed all of the candidates. The Midwest region should be so proud, Emma Edelen from Iowa was chosen as a Young Patron and Amber Corll from Ohio is one of 2 Youth Ambassadors. All of the competitors were deserving and we had a hard time deciding the winners.

Many Illinois Granges were honored at National Grange Session.

We found out some great new plans that are in the works for the Youth and Junior departments! Instead of presenting their new programs in November, they are going to follow the National Grange fiscal year and present next year's program in late June early July. This will mean that as we enter State Session Season we will have next year's programs and projects ready and be able to share them with everyone. That being said the deadlines I gave you at the GRIT conference are now incorrect! However, I've never been more excited to have gotten something wrong because from the ashes will rise a great new program.

The membership department has developed a new orientation kit that contains brochures to help recruit and introduce the Grange to perspective members. You can get them on the National Grange website Member pages and download and print yourself or because of all the color on the brochures you can order the kit for a fee. There is also a new Heirloom program that will begin in March of 2022. Look for the program online.

Every month there are a number of online ZOOM events for different departments of the National Grange. If you are wondering about anything please join one of those ZOOM events. National Grange is trying to share information with everyone in a way that is easy and free for everyone to participate in. Watch Facebook for posts from Membership Matters which is held on a Tuesday night each month, Junior Jibber Jabber and Youth Yammerings share the third Sunday evening, odd month's are Juniors and even month's are the Youth department. So much information is shared during these ZOOM events and you also have the opportunity to ask questions and get information sent to you.

Hopewell Grange has graciously offered their hall for Spring Fling this year. Details will come as I have more things confirmed. If you are interested in attending please let me know if you are more interested in an overnight event or a one day event. I will need answers by January 1<sup>st</sup>.

New deadlines below:

Feb 1 – Grange Grassroots Activism Scholarship. Youth or Junior

March 4-7 or March 12 possible dates for Spring Fling

April 15 – GISYE Host or Exchange

April 30 - G.R.O.W. Club Academic Scholarship due

May 1- Grange Picnic-location to be determined

June 10 - Grange Ritual Contest, Grange Debate and Public Speaking and Sign-a-song Signup\*\*\*\*

June 24 – Grange Baseball

June 24-26 - Midwest Grange Leadership Conference in Iowa

July 15 - National Grange Communications Fellows

August 15 - Grange Display Contest

August 15 - Junior Mentor Award

August 15 - Horizon Leadership Program(Ambassador application)

August 15 - Distinguished Youth Program

August 15 - Youth Grange Member Recruitment Award

August 15 - Wib and June Justi Youth Community Service Award

August 15 - Parliamentary Procedure Contest Notification – Contest at National Grange Session

August 15 - John Trimble Legislative Experience application due

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August 15 – National Grange Youth Officer Team Application due

August 15 - \*\*\*\*Youth Officer T-Shirt Design Contest\*\*\*\* NEW!

August 15 – G.R.A.N.G.E. Pillar Project and Contest Notification of entry – Contest at National Grange Session

August 26 – State Session Projects

Lecturer's Department

Ag Department

Family Activities Department

Junior Department (Junior at Heart)

Community Service Department

October 20 – G.R.O.W. Club Travel Scholarship due



## Calendar of Grange Events

### 2022

Jan 5 Boone County Pomona Soup and Chili Dues Paying supper. 6:30 pm

Jan 15 Deadline for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Report to Robin

Apr 9 Prairie Grange Auction – Boone County Fairgrounds

**Aug 26-28 State Session at the Boone County Fairgrounds**

Nov 15-19 156<sup>th</sup> National Grange Session – Sparks, Nevada – Nugget Casino Resort

### 2023

Jul 18-23 Grange Revival – Curtis, Michigan (Upper Peninsula)

### Donations to the Illinois Granger:

\$25 Ed Cosman – County Line Grange

\$5 and 12 Stamps Richard Nelson – Flora Grange

32 Stamps – Debbie Silvers – Flora Grange

Donations to Memorial Scholarship Fund:

### NOTE:

Please send me any **important dates, members in nursing homes, rehabs, or senior living, obituaries, donations** from your Grange so I can add them to the newsletter.

Ruth Blasingame

illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com

815-299-7884

8711 Deer Run Drive

Belvidere, IL 61008-9050

## Juniors





## Chaplain' Corner

**Charlotte Mehrtens**

Christmas is just around the corner and everyone will be getting busy with their Christmas traditions soon. This year will you do something like Christmas's past or will you start a new tradition after the last two years. We have a new great grandson born in August and his big brother who is seven in December. The joy of having young children in the family makes life so great and a blessing to all of us, so will start a new tradition for our new great-grandson.

From Luke 2: 8 – 16

*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, laying in a manger.*

*And suddenly there was with angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

*And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them in heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.*

Let us this Christmas season remember our Christ Child as our Lord and Savior.

Christmas brings warm thoughts of home and the people we hold dear. May these gifts of love this season bring you lasting memories to cherish throughout the year.

**Blessings of Peace, Love, and Joy be with each of you.**



## Eunice "Marie" Anderson

1933—1921

County Line Grange



Marie was a long standing member of County Line Grange. She and her husband Floyd were both Fairboard Directors and were instrumental in starting the Antique Tractor Display at the Boone County Fair since 1994. She was a member of the Northern Illinois Vintage Tractor and Engine Association.

Marie served as election judge and she volunteered at the Salvation Army for over 30 years. She was a member of Zion Lutheran Church. Her interests included cooking, puzzles, and serving her community. Floyd and Marie were known for opening their home to those in need. She loved spending time with friends and family.

Marie will be greatly missed.

## 155th National Grange Session—Wichita KS



Nine Grangers from Illinois attended all or part of the 155th National Grange Session in Wichita Kansas.

They are Karie Blasingame, Joan Fidler, Sharon Fidler, Emalee Colver, Ruth Blasingame, Don Schaeffer, Lynette Schaeffer, Vivian Johnson and Ethan Edwards. Lynette was re elected to the Executive Committee and then elected Chairman of the Committee by her peers. Ethan served as a Communication Fellow. Karie was a judge for the Junior and Youth departments. Ruth worked in the fellows room with Membership. A great time was had by all.

