



Illinois Granger

In Essentials... Unity

In Non-Essentials... Liberty

In All Things... Charity

October 2022

Vol 2 No 10

Spotlight on Grangers

Don Ellwanger

Illinois State Grange Gatekeeper

President Prairie Grange #1832

Member of Prairie Grange 36 years

Grange Positions held:

Assistant Steward

Steward

National opportunities: Don was the airport shuttle driver for the 2019 National Session in Minnesota. He was willing to help anywhere he was needed and always with a smile on his face.

Don graduated from Belvidere High School and attended College.

He is married to Heather and they have 4 children, DJ (Jen), Brandon, Christopher and Emilie. One granddaughter Piper.

Don likes to shoot Darts.

Don works at Precise Automation as a Machine Builder and Service Tech. He travels extensively for the company spending many days in Detroit MI, Pennsylvania, Ashland WI, and Ottawa IL.

Don is newly elected as President of Prairie Grange. He will do a terrific job!!!

Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

A summary of the President's GRIT comments
Thanks to all those who made presentations at GRIT Conference: Youth – **Karie & Marisa**, Agriculture – **Joan and Brian**, Community Service – **Heather**, Communication/Editor/WebMaster **Ruth**, FAC – **JoEllen and Angie**, Juniors – **Mindy**, Lecturer – **Me for Ethan**, Legislative **Marion**, Secretary – **Robin**, Historian - **Bev**. Thanks to Boone County Granges and to Floraville Community Grange for being host to conferences on September 24 and 25. Thanks everyone for making the 151st State Session of the IL State Grange a great success. Thanks to the Grangers from Boone and Winnebago Counties for all of their hard work as the planning committee for the 151st session.

I would like your help for the history book we are still planning to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the IL State Grange. If you have older pictures you would like to have included, please send scans to me ASAP. Any items that you want to make sure we include in the history please let me know.

Are you getting emails from the National Grange for the Patrons Chain or the View from the Hill? If not make sure your email is in the National Grange database. Make sure you send your membership listing to Robin with the correct emails, so that the database is up to date.

Look often at the National Grange website for Benefits. Loretta Washington works hard to have new benefits available to us.

Any Grange wanting to use the IL State Grange Zoom license just let me or Karie know.

Each Grange should have a copy of the Illinois State Grange Bylaws [(each Grange has been given cop-



ies in 2015), They were in a blue binder] and National Grange Digest of Laws, the book is on the National-Grange.org. If you need copies let me know. Since the Digest has been reviewed several years ago I have started a Bylaws committee and Trisha Renken has agreed to be chair. This committee will be updating the Bylaws – any questions or concerns please check with them. Talk to Trisha or myself if you are interested in serving on the committee.

National Grange Session will be November 15-19, 2022 in Sparks, NV. Next year session will be in Niagara Falls, NY. And for 2024 it will be in the Mid-West region in Quad cities area.

Promote your Grange in any public media you can. – Let others know what you are doing in your community – that is the key to a happy healthy Grange – and a happy healthy Grange gets new members.

Good Day Magazine – have you subscribed? Check NationalGrange.org to subscribe. Make sure you renew subscriptions in a timely manner. Look on the label to see when you will expire.

Bonding letters were given out at State Session and again at GRIT. The information needs to be back to Robin ASAP, the checks need to be made out to National Grange.

Taxes – eform 990 – keep them current. Need any help, please contact me, Karie or Robin.

The fall weather has arrived, and harvest has started on the Schaeffer Family Farm. To all those who are harvesting please be safe and aware of all that is happening around you. Don and I will be in PA and NH before I write another article. Happy Granging.

Just remember that Grangers all need to be Determined.

Flora Grange #1762

Flora Grange met on September 13, 2022, with 39 members in attendance. Building & Grounds: Jack Ratcliffe reported only one window needs to be repaired. Motion carried. Propane tanks are okay until wintertime. Jack stated the Boone County Health Department made its annual inspection, we were approved.

Legislation, Marion Thornberry reminded members to vote at the upcoming election. He had concerns about the new law about the release of criminals will be allowed. He expressed concern about rodeos in the county harming animals, and hope to create some control over issues. Membership, Lindakay Ebel recognized the Baileys for attending their second meeting, also recognized the Miller's ISG reported membership has gained by two this year.

Youth Fairboard – JT Ryan is the new president and Max Ryan is the new vice president. Congratulations to them both. Jack Ratcliffe reported on the appreciation dinner. Laurel reported that Loren Due received recognition for the 25 years of helping and Jack Ratcliffe for 50 years of service on the Boone County Fairboard.

Lindakay Ebel placed 1st on the Flora Grange Community Service Book and they had the most hours of community service per member this year. The Grange received \$100.00. Motion to approve treasurers report, and motion to close The Wall That Heals checking account were passed.

Al and Lindakay, delegates at Illinois State Grange Convention gave a report on the event. recognizing the Ryan family for their involvement at the event. Flora had 4 members take the 6th degree, Dona Hegge, Marilyn, JT & Max Ryan. They gave ribbons and premium money to members that entered in Family Activities and Agriculture.

Marion Thornberry reported on the T-shirts and price for Flora Grange, orders will be taken at the October meeting. Motion was made for Flora Grange to take bonding in the amount of \$50.00 this year. Master Ebel announced that the northern GRIT conference will be held on Saturday, September 24 starting at noon with a potluck dinner, followed by the workshop, southern GRIT held on Sunday. Dictionaries were discussed, motion was made not to do this year. Deb Silvers will get the information and oversee the Christmas Bell Ringing this year.

We discussed fall fundraisers, motion was made to not have the fall roast beef dinner, instead do a Butter Braid fundraiser.

Election of officers for a 2-year term, President, Ken Fidler, Vice-President, Marion Thornberry, Secretary Laurel Ratcliffe, Treasurer Lindakay Ebel, Executive Committeeman Albert Q. Ebel, Chaplain Emalee Colver and Program Chairman Jack Ratcliffe.

\$69.00 was collected for 'G' bills.

Next meeting, Tuesday, October 11, 2022.



**WHILE IN
FAITH AND
IN HOPE
THIS WORLD
MAY
DISAGREE,
ALL
MANKIND IS
CONCERNED
IN CHARITY.**

Third Degree, Flora

Turkey Hill Grange News

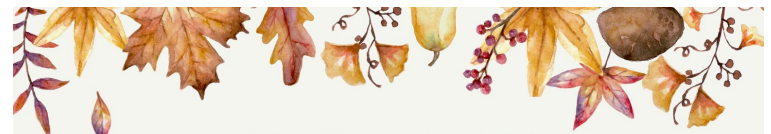
The Turkey Hill Grange held their regular meeting on September 9, 2022. The program was presented by the Turkey Hill Grange American Heritage Girls using an audio-visual that they had created. They told of their programs, projects, events, service projects and accomplishments. The Leaders explained how the group started and the overall philosophy of the program developed for girls aged 5-17. President Charles Treser then opened the meeting in full form. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved. The Charter was draped in memory of Burt Wikgren who recently passed away.

David Donley announced that Turkey Hill Grange received second place for his Community Service report and second in number of volunteer hours per member. We are very proud of the fact Turkey Hill Grange is a Distinguished Grange for the 10th year in a row. Our Community Service Award for an Outstanding Non-Granger went to Judy Belleview for her involvement in the historic research and preservation of buildings and neighborhoods in Belleville. Judy gave us a summary of her work. Next, David reintroduced Eric McDonald, our Outstanding Fire Fighter for this year. Eric was chosen by the Illinois State Grange to be the state winner in this category. His information will go to the National Grange for their meeting in November in Sparks, Nevada. Eric explained his training and qualifications for various area services, including HazMat work and water rescue.

Membership Chairman Steve Koluch has been selling new Turkey Hill Shirts and will be ordering more. Contact him for sizes. He also maintains our Facebook page and our Website. Bob Dintelmann gave the Legislative report, He urged us to read "the View from the Hill" sent monthly, by email from the Legislative Department of National Grange and the "Patrons Chain" sent weekly from the National President, by email. The Turkey Hill Grange Quilters have finished the new curtains for the dining room and kitchen. They have made 4 seasonal throw quilts which will be given away after the Wurstmarkt in October. They are also making Quilts of Valor to be presented to Veterans at our November meeting on November 11, 2022. Dale

Helms gave the Agriculture Report. He said the recent rain helped the double-crop beans, but the early corn has been affected by the heat and crops will likely be late. Ron Bersett, Building and Grounds Chairman, announced bids for new windows have been slow coming in. The committee is looking for a new elevator service. The next big project will be repairs on the trailer, which will require lots of help. The trailer sits next to the building and is used for carry-outs at our dinners and for other fund-raising projects throughout the year.

Under New Business: Wurstmarkt worker sign-up sheets were circulated. The Wurstmarkt will conclude at 2:00P.M. this year. Apple Butter was made at the Grange Hall on September 14th and is now for sale. The next meeting will be October 14, 2022 at the Hall.




HOPEWELL GRANGE


Pancake and Sausage Supper

LET THE MEMBERS OF HOPEWELL GRANGE FEED AND SERVE YOU DURING THEIR FALL FUNDRAISER.

All you can eat Pancakes, Rabers Sausage, applesauce, sauerkraut, and drink. Bake sale for dessert.



October 27, 4:30-7:00 P.M.
Hopewell Grange Hall
474 Grange Rd, Washington IL



2023 Illinois State Grange JUNIOR DEPARTMENT Contests

All Junior Contests – Individual must be a Junior, or 1+ member

Three age groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14. Entry age as of 1/1/22 (National Guidelines)

****Any entry that is not labeled and does not follow rules may be disqualified from judging, but may still receive a participation ribbon.****

Maximum size is given in measurements of length-by-width-by-height.

Mini Juniors: Any child who is 5 by September 1, 2022 may send up to 3 entries to session. These projects will not be judged as other age groups are, but will receive participation ribbons.

Junior at Heart: Any Granger over the age of 20, as of September 1, 2022, may submit a project. These projects will be voted on by fellow Grangers for Best of Show.

Passport – Host State --- New York

Small World – England

Make a 3-D display (Maximum size 10x10x8”high) or poster (up to 11x14” finished size after mounted for stability) which represents the country. Identify and explain at least three items of country. May also make something about Queen Elizabeth.

Recycling – Mad Hatter

Make and decorate a hat. Can use an old hat as the base to decorate.

Bible Stories – Joseph

For this project make something that pertains to the story of Joseph. . . example – dreamcatcher, coat of many colors OR give a short speech sharing what you have learned about him. 3 minutes long maximum.

“T” Time

Make a usable item that starts with letter T.

Play on Words

Make a 3-D object, or poster. Example. . .time flies – a clock with wings. Buttercup – take a clean, used butter bowl and pat a handle on. Doormouse – draw a door, add eyes, tail, etc.

Melinda (Mindy) Schiefer

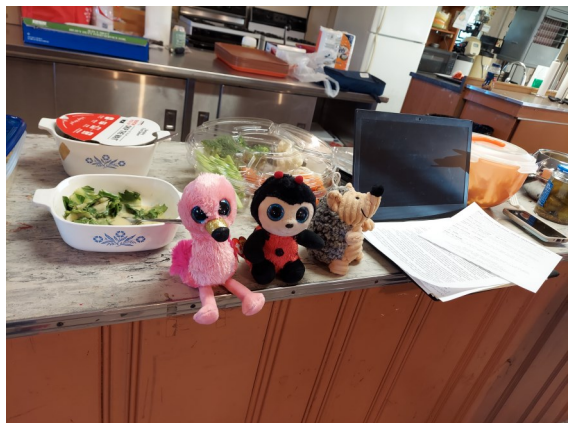
IL State Grange Junior Director

10949 Faust Road, Trenton, IL 62293

618-444-2852 or schefr5@gmail.com

Like and Follow our page on Facebook

Illinois State Grange Juniors



Illinois State Grange Juniors

Dot, and her new friends from England. Gilda, the flamingo, and Wallie, the hedgehog. Looking forward to A FUN year!!



Family Activities Committee Contest 2023

2023 Chairperson

Jo Ellen Coleman

815-670-1615

Colemank724@comcast.net

2024 Chairperson

Angie Dickerson

618-409-1291

angied@bakerpool.com

2025 Chairperson

Ann Johnson

lungs42@gmail.com

Group 1 Knitting

- A. Afghan
- B. Baby Afghan
- C. Baby Items
- D. Dish Cloth
- E. Winter Wear
- F. Any other item not listed

Group 2 Crocheting

- A. Afghan
- B. Baby Afghan
- C. Baby items
- D. Dish Cloth
- E. Winter Wear
- F. Any other item not listed

Group 3 Misc. Needlework

- A. Embroidered item
- B. Counted Cross Stitch
- C. Plastic Canvas
- D. Any other item not listed

Group 4 Quilting

- A. Unfinished square, max size 16½"x16½"
- B. Table Runner
- C. Quilt, any size
- D. Baby Quilt
- E. Rag Quilt
- F. Quilt of Valor (for U.S. Veterans -
Will be sent to National)

Group 5 Sewing

- A. Apron
- B. Clothing – 1 item
- C. Clothing set – 2 or more items
- D. Baby clothing
- E. Pillow
- F. Memory Blanket
- G. Tied Fleece Blanket
- H. Any other item not listed

Group 6 Miscellaneous

- A. Jewelry – Bracelet
- B. Jewelry – Necklace
- C. Jewelry – 2 or more pieces
- D. 2 Holiday Cards – mounted
- E. 2 All Occasion Cards – mounted
- F. Fabric Wreath

Group 7 Food

- A. Quick Bread – one loaf
- B. Fudge/Candy -12 pieces
- C. Cookies – 12 pieces
- D. Decorated Cake
- E. Decorated Cupcakes - 12
- F. Decorated Cookies – 12

Group Project (From one or more Granges)

Adult Bibs – Be creative

Juniors Only Project

Wreath made from Clothes Pins

Further details and rules will be published in the Granger. Watch for my articles.



Boone County Pomona meeting was called order in full form on Sept. 9, 2022 at 7PM by president Ruth Blasingame

AGRICULTURE: Jack Ratcliffe reported crops in our area look really good and harvesting will begin soon.

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE: Jenn Tobin-Tinch reported that a local Pharmacist was here before the meeting giving flu shots and a new COVID Booster will be available soon. **YOUTH –** Karie Blasingame reported that Marisa O'Dell from Beaver Valley Grange will be co-chairing the Youth Department this year and Marisa will be the new director next year. **JUNIORS:** Sara Ellwanger reported that on October 21, 2022 the Juniors will be hosting a craft/meal/movie night at the Grange Hall Starting at 4PM with crafts and games and meal at 6PM and movie at 7PM. Everyone is invited to attend. **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Jerry Paulson thanked everyone for bringing items to State session for the Shoebox for Soldiers project and Beaver Valley has collected cellphones, MP3 players and 1 Ipad for recycling. **FAIRBOARD:** The second largest fair with record attendance, 218,068 people coming through the gates. Thank you to all those who volunteered or helped in any way to make it so successful. The Fair Appreciation Dinner is Sept 12th at 6:30PM. **REED SCHOOLHOUSE :** Did well during the fair selling books and we need to replenish our supply.

GRANGE REPORTS were given: **BEAVER VALLEY:** They thanked everyone who brought items to the Hospitality Room during State Session. **BIG THUNDER:** Is getting ready to start storage at the fairgrounds in October. **COUNTY LINE** reported the Fleece Blanket raffle made over \$1000.00 for the New Building. They thanked everyone who helped prepare and serve meals during State Session. Everyone thanked County Line for the great job they did and the variety that was provided. **FLORA;** At State Session their Grange received 1st Place on the Community Service Book and Emalee Colver was chosen Granger of the Year. Congratulations Emalee!!! **PRAIRIE** Grange received the Distinguished Grange Award from National Grange. They will be doing Nifty Needles the 1st and 3rd Tuesday night of the month at the Administration Building at the Fairgrounds. Come join us. Don Ellwanger was elected as the new Prairie Grange President this year. Congratulations Don!

COMMUNICATIONS: A thank you was read from Grant Osterberg for the swine award he won.

OLD BUSINESS: Pomona Grange continues to work on their By-Laws and more will be reported after a few details are worked out. It was reported that Pomona Grange only spent \$485.85 on State Session. Illinois State Grange picked up the rest for port-a-johns and dumpsters.

NEW BUSINESS: Watch for details Pomona Grange will be selling Fruit, merange and cream pies and these can be ordered online beginning in October and will be ready for pick up the day before Thanksgiving. **BONDING:** It was moved to Bond through the National Grange again this year.

We need to keep lots of our members in our Thoughts and Prayers: Clay Murray (Surgery) Joan Fidler (Surgery), Keith & Nancy Clark (COVID) and the Kindberg Family for the loss of their only aunt on Her Dad's side.

Meeting was adjourned at 8PM and socializing and refreshments followed.

Karrie Kindberg
Publicity Chair



Leroy Community Grange

The meeting was held at the Boone County Community Grangehall Sept 15, 2022. Master, Rocky Temple, called the meeting to order. John Kennedy led us in the Pledge and Prayer. Guests were introduced- Adam Ellwanger, State Grange representative, Barb Fowler, our 50/50 raffle winner, Rebecca Perry, the State Grange Teacher of the Year winner, along with her mother,



Rose White, and aunt and uncle, Mary and Brett Fidler, and Terry and Alex McCart, potential new members. We all enjoyed a meal to celebrate our awards night. Adam Ellwanger then presented Rebecca Perry with the State Grange Teacher of the Year award. He

also had an award for our Non-Member, Vincent Cooke, who was unable to attend our meeting. Jeff Vance accepted it on his behalf. Both winners will now compete for the National awards which will be announced in November in Nevada. Rocky presented our 50/50 raffle winner, Barb Fowler with her check for \$10,000.00.

The meeting then resumed. The secretary report was emailed by Denise Temple, Paul Temple motioned to accept the report, Joe Muzillo 2nd, motion carried. Vicki Donley will get the Treasurers Report finalized and email it out to everyone. Correspondence was a thank you from Babette Rowe for the donation in memory of her husband Louie Rowe.



Calvin Downey, building committee chair, discussed when we should close it for the winter. It was decided that we will close it after our October meeting. Vicki reported that she, her husband Bob and Jim Ames removed the shed and have converted it into a chicken coop. Sandi Kennedy reminded everyone to turn in their community service hours to her. Tami Temple is checking on prices for dictionaries and will report back at the next meeting.

Old business included a report about the fair. Paul spoke about the raffle and that we sold all 200 tickets. We had a large check made by Twin Towers to present our winner with. Fair breakfast was discussed as to whether we wanted to continue doing it. Paul motioned to not continue doing it next year, Jeff 2nd, motion carried. Thank you to Joe's wife who made the raffle baskets for the Fair Appreciation supper.

New business included sponsoring 4-H project awards for Photography and Woodworking. It was decided that we would sponsor these awards again this year. Discussion on what we should do with the proceeds of our raffle. Some of the money should go back into updating our Grange building, ie. tuck pointing, renovating the bathroom and checking into a furnace. The building committee will make a list and start getting quotes. Another idea was to purchase the gloves and hats for the grade schools. Rocky suggested to see if the schools would need new flag poles and flags. We also plan to make a donation to the YMCA After School Program to assist with the North Boone kids.

Hometown Christmas is right around the corner, and Paul nominated Tami to be the Chairperson. Sue Zelasko offered to do the shopping for the family we adopt. Vicki announced that her 4-H club will have a special meeting on Thursday, October 20th at 6:30 pm and would like a Grange member to attend to possibly recruit new members. She thanked us for the yarn we donated for the Veterans lapghans. She also asked if we would be interested in making a sign for the cemetery across the road from our Grange building. Calvin offered to make a sign.

Our next meeting will be October 12th at 6:30 pm at our Grange building. We will take nominations for officers at this meeting. November meeting will be election of officers, and December we will plan a Christmas party.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Temple, Secretary

Prairie Grange #1832

On Sept 19, 2022, all officers of Prairie Grange were installed by the Beaver Valley Installing team of Brian & Marisa O'Dell, Rick & Renee O'Dell and Jerry Paulson. They did an awesome job.

Meeting was opened in full form by President Don Ellwanger. Prairie Grange had 6 Proposals for membership tonight and all 6 were accepted as members into Prairie Grange.

AGRICULTURE: There will be no railway strike at this time so all crops can continue to be moved via railway. Had a good turn out for the Boone County Farm Stroll that took place over the weekend. LEGISLATIVE: Prairie Grange is trying to set up a Town Hall meeting between the candidates that are running for Sheriff of Boone County watch for more details. It was also brought to the Granges attention about the possibility of straightening Woodstock Road and replacing the bridge on Woodstock Road. Residents are encouraged to voice their concern to County Board on Wed @ 5:30 pm.

FAC: Was disappointed in the low number of entries at State Session this year hope to see more next year and now is the time to start those projects. Congratulations to Ann Johnson for being selected to be the FAC Chair for 2025. JUNIORS: Sara is planning a craft/games/meal and movie night on October 21 beginning at 4PM, meal at 6PM and Movie to follow at 7PM. This is open to all Grangers, come and have some fun. Theme will be Halloween. MEMBERSHIP: Manny reported he has a possible prospect for joining the Grange and he welcomed the 6 new members we took in tonight.

Beaver Valley Grange was given a donation in appreciation for a job well done tonight.

We decided that the color of the bench that will be by our Free Little Library will be green. Come pick a book, have a seat on our bench and enjoy reading out in nature.

We voted to donate \$500 to the B1 Food Pantry to help with their Thanksgiving food baskets.

We will be planning a Buddy meal sometime in October so watch our Facebook page for details.

Do you want pies for the holidays? Boone County Pomona Grange will be selling them online the beginning of October and pick up will be the day before Thanksgiving. So be sure to place your order. There will be fruit pies, cream pies and lemon meringue pies.

Hope to see everyone at one of the GRIT Conferences being held Sept 24th and 25th.

Robin Kindberg Publicity Chairman

2023 Illinois State Grange Youth Program

Karie Blasingame and Marisa O'Dell
Illinois State Grange Youth Co-Directors

New this year: Youth Contests!

Everyone can participate; however, we are focusing on things we think the Youth ages 14-20 will enjoy. This is also a great opportunity to get our Youth to show older members of their Grange how to do something.

We will be partnering with the State Grange Lecturer, the Agriculture, Family Activities and Junior programs to share contests. We will have a few specific to our own department and encourage participation in the other departments as well. We will give you basic details this weekend and be watching the Granger for full details in the coming months.

We are encouraging the youth to participate in the State Grange Community Service Project as well as one that we will work on together to honor local Veterans.

We would like the Youth to choose a Veterans organization at Spring Fling to raise money and items for and at the Statewide Grange Picnic invite them to receive those items.

The National Grange has partnered with other National Organizations to share our message to a wider audience. Since 2017, National Grange has had a booth at Farm Aid discussing among other things GPS and farming, Broadband Communications, Pollinators and Food Waste to name a few. We are going to take some of those topics and transform them into TikTok or YouTube Videos to share with other organizations as well.

We would also like to take the opportunity to talk about a new partnership that National Grange has made in the last year with Rural Minds an organization founded in New York State discussing the importance and stigma of mental illness in rural America.

The new National Grange Youth/Young Adult Handbook is available on the National Grange Website, if you would like to have your own copy, please let us know and we will get one printed or emailed to you, whichever you prefer. This handbook contains all the forms and applications needed to participate on the National Grange level throughout the year. It describes in detail all the programs that Youth could participate in at National Session. The Junior Handbook is also available.

Photography

All National and State Categories: follow National and State guidelines

State Youth Categories: Submit online 1 week before State Session

Patriotic

Reflection

Fabric

Toy

Creative Art & Handicrafts: Due at State Session Friday morning

All Lecturer's Contests

Lego Item or Scene: not to exceed 12"x12"x12" in size

Diamond Art: not to exceed 16x20

Ceramics: not to exceed 12"x12"x12"

Acrylic Painting: not to exceed 16x20

Watercolor Painting: not to exceed 16x20

Card Making: 3 cards Christmas

Card Making: 3 cards Birthday

Card Making: 3 cards Sympathy

Card Making: 3 cards All Occasion

Fabric and Food: Due at State Session except for National Grange Quilt Square

National Grange Quilt Square: Due Sept 1 details to follow

All Categories of Family Activities

Cookies: Six Decorated Cookies: Patriotic Theme

Table Centerpiece: Patriotic Theme: Will be judged then used for decoration on Saturday night

Agriculture: Due at State Session Friday morning

All Ag Categories

Garden Design Contest: Due Sept 1

Pollinator Poster

Pollinator TikTok or YouTube Video

Food Waste Poster

Food Waste TikTok or YouTube Video

Mental Illness Poster

Mental Illness TikTok or YouTube Video

Public Speaking: Spring Fling deadline/Midwest optional

Impromptu

Prepared

Grange Commercial

Sign A Song: Spring Fling deadline/Midwest optional

Individual

Group

Weather Watcher Challenge: Due Sept 1 details to follow

Lip Sync Contest: Spring Fling deadline/ State Session showcase

Judging on Costume, Performance, Style and Swagger/.

Any Junior Grange projects that you want to share.

Calendar of Grange Events

10/22-23 Turkey Hill Flea Market

10/23 Chicken and Dumpling Dinner- Bluff Grange 11-1:30 Call by 10/17 to order Charlotte 618-978-2655

10/30 Turkey Hill Wurstmart 10-2

11/6 Floraville Wurstmart 10:30-2:30

11/11 Turkey Hill Quilts of Valor Public Presentation

11/15-23 National Grange Session Sparks NV
Nugget Casino Resort

7/18-23 Grange Revival Curtis MI (UP)

8/1 Community Service Deadline

2024

National Session Quad Cities 11/10-17

Ongoing : Turkey Hill Farmers Markets

Every week Thursdays 10-2 in Swansea and Saturdays 9-Noon in O'Fallon

Donations: Illinois Granger

\$20 John and Sandi Kennedy - Leroy

NOTE:

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

Ruth Blasingame 815-299-7884

illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com

8711 Deer Run Drive Belvidere, IL 61008



Chaplain's Corner

Charlotte Mehrtens

October is God's Blessing month. This is the month that

God shows us the bountiful reward of the hard work that started early last spring and now is the harvest time. Flowers showing the beautiful bright colors, Woolly worms racing here and there, fire flies and hummingbirds are all gone to the south, now we wait for the geese, ducks, and eagles to arrive from the north. As we humans prepare for the changing of seasons so do all of God's critters. They already know that they must find winter quarters and store their food. God surely thought of everything when He made Heaven and Earth.

The farmers have started harvesting and you can see the dust in the fields as they work. God is providing beautiful sunrises and sunsets. I have never decided which season I like the best because our God has so many beautiful surprises waiting for us. The fields will soon be empty of crops but there is still lots of work to be done to prepare for winter. What do you like about the fall weather? I love to smell the smoke from the wood burning in a bon-fire and many friends sitting around it, sharing their hopes and dreams and what their children are up to. So you see, there is always something to be thankful for regardless of where we are or what we are doing.

We pray for all of our Grangers that whatever God has planned for each of us, it is beautiful and meaningful for each of us. Glory and Praise be unto Him, we live and see because of Him.

Enjoy each day to the very fullest because we never know what tomorrow brings.

Happy Fall Enjoy

Well Done, Good and Faithfull Servant

James "Jim" Parrish passed away on August 2, 2022. He had been a member of **Turkey Hill Grange** for 64 years. After moving to Dixon, IL, there were no close Granges they could be active in, he maintained his membership at Turkey Hill Grange. He was preceded in death by his parents. Surviving are his wife, Loretta, daughters, Jennifer Fishburn and Rebecca Mouley, sisters, Dianne Ross and Donna Davalos. Since there were no close Granges in his area, he joined the Masonic Order, where he became very

active. He made many friends there and they provided a Masonic Memorial service at the funeral. Even though we did not see he and his wife often at Turkey Hill, we will mourn the passing of a Brother. Well done, good and faithful servant!

Louie Rowe, age 80, a long time member of **LeRoy Community Grange**, passed away on June 30th, 2022. He will be missed at our Grange events where he was always willing to lend a helping hand! Our deepest sympathy to his wife, Babette, and his family.

Burton "Burt" Wikgren passed away on August 14, 2022. He was a member of **Turkey Hill Grange** since 2005. He was very active and served as Vice-president and Chaired the Scholarship Committee for several years. Burt graduated from the University of Illinois in 1954 and was employed by the Social Service Administration from 1954 until he retired in 1985. He joined the local Optimist Club in 1973 and was responsible for organizing over 100 clubs in the surrounding area. After his wife of 50 years passed away Burt married Marilyn Newell of Belleville and they moved to Freeburg, IL. They became very active in Optimist Club, Turkey Hill Grange, where he enjoyed serving coffee at the dinners and became famous for his jokes he shared at every meeting. They also sang with the Metro-East Community Chorale and the Millstadt Community Choir. They were very active in their Church where Burt enjoyed working with the youth. He was preceded in death by his parents, first wife, Martha Wikgren, a son Jeffrey Wikgren, a daughter, Julie Kafarski, a brother, Donald Wikgren. and a step-son, Scott Newell. Surviving are his wife, Marilyn Newell of the home, daughter Janice Hammond, a daughter-in-law Patricia Wikgren and son-in-law Bruce Kafarski, 2 step-sons and a step-daughter, 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

