



Illinois Granger

In Essentials... Unity

In Non-Essentials... Liberty

In All Things... Charity

November 2022

Vol 2 No 11

Spotlight on Grangers

Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

Wow we are so dry, the Mississippi River is at some of it's lowest levels. And the temperature as I write this on October 22, is really warm for this time of year. But, that will change in the next couple of days. Welcome to the mid-west! The corn harvest is finished, we are still working on the soybeans. The river being low is causing an issue for harvest in the mid-west, the barges need deeper water.

You will probably be reading this as Don and I are coming home from New Hampshire State Grange Session. We were recently at the Pennsylvania State Session and the Wisconsin State Session. We enjoyed both sessions. They were both different from our IL State Session, but each covered all the bases of what needs to be done. Debbie and Royal Vine and the Grangers of Wisconsin made us feel right at home by making us Assistant Stewards for the meeting. Debbie and Wayne Campbell and the Grangers of Pennsylvania put us to work by helping to fill goodie bags for the meeting attendees and cleaning up after the meeting. We really enjoyed the tours in PA. It was great to learn about how one of the National Grange Founders, William Saunders, designed Gettysburg National Cemetery. Author D Scott Hartwick was our tour guide, we learned much about Saunders and Gettysburg. I was also honored to lay a wreath at the grave of Rev Aaron Grosh during a memorial service. And I am sure that it will be the same in New Hampshire State Session. Grangers are Grangers no matter where they are. I have seen several different ideas that I hope to try in IL at future state sessions.



Burdette Rick O'Dell

Illinois State Grange Assistant Steward

Member Beaver Valley Grange #1791

Years in Grange—32

Beaver Valley Grange Assistant Steward

7th Degree Member

Clubs/Organizations: President of Northern Illinois Umpire Association.

Umpire assigner for the Nic-10 & Northern Illinois conference high school girls softball.

Married to Renee for 50 years, 2 children, 4 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild.

Hobbies and Interests: Bowling and Umpiring

Special skills: Rick is a very good handyman.

Place of employment: Retired. Worked for Ingersoll Milling Machine Company for 32 years.

Job description: Built special machines for the auto and airplane companies.

Something we should know about Rick: When I was younger and played sports I would disagree with the officials and I would get kicked out of the game. In 1980 I was coaching my daughter's softball team and I did not like the job the umpire was doing, so I was told that I should try umpiring a game. Well, 42 years later I am still umpiring! I have officiated basketball, football, soccer, baseball and softball.

Continued from page 1—Lynette

Thanks again to the Grangers in Boone and Winnebago Counties for their work on the 151st State Session, **August 26 - 28**, Boone County Fairgrounds, Belvidere, IL. Thanks also to those Grangers in Boone County and Floraville Community Grange to help set up for the GRIT (Grange Resources Information and Training) sessions, September 24 and 25. Both meetings were well attended, and much information was distributed. Those Granges that did not attend, should soon be receiving the documents.

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

The 156th Annual National Grange Session, **November 15- 19**, Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, Nevada, is fast approaching. Don and I will be having committee meetings via Zoom soon. I can't wait for the meeting.

Next summer will be time for Grange Revival 2023, watch for more information.

All Grangers are determined workers.

Guilford Hope Grange



Guilford Hope Grange presented 70 year membership awards to Carolyn Wheeler and Robert Lyford. A 55 year award was presented to Nathalie Lyford.



NOTICE:

Bluff Grange 100th Anniversary

Friends of Bluff Grange are invited to join Bluff Grangers on Sunday afternoon December 11th starting at 2pm at their hall five miles north of Millstadt on route 163. For more information contact: Charlotte Mehrtens 618-978-2655

Recipes from the northern GRIT potluck!!!

Vidalia Onion Cornbread

Submitted by County Line member Myron Peterson

- 1 stick butter, melted
- 3 large vidalia onion, sliced 1/2 inch thick
(or enough to cover the bottom of the pan)
- 3 (8 ounce) packages cornbread mix
- 3 egg, beaten
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 1/2 cups grated sharp cheddar cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

In a 13x9 pan, add melted butter and onion slices. Bake for 10 minutes. In a large bowl, combine the cornbread mix, egg, milk, sour cream, cheese, and salt. Remove the onions from the oven and add the cornbread mix over the top. Bake for 30 minutes, until set and a toothpick inserted into the center of the cornbread comes out clean. Loosen the edges with a knife and invert on a serving plate. Allow to cool slightly before cutting into squares.

Honey Apple Puffs

Submitted by County Line member Anna Schiro

- 2-3 small apples, peeled and sliced into 12 -1/4" thick rounds
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 sheet store-bought puff pastry
- 3-4 tablespoons honey
- Sugar for sprinkling

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Line baking sheet with parchment paper.

Saute the apple slices with butter for about 2 minutes on each side over medium-low heat. Apples will soften slightly, but should not break apart or take on too much color. Take the apples off the heat and sprinkle them with cinnamon. Set aside to cool.

Cut the thawed pastry into 12 2inch circles; they should be slightly bigger than the apples. Top each round with an apple slice and gently press the apples down. Sprinkle each round with a 1/4 teaspoon (heavy pinch) of sugar.

Bake at 400 degrees for 12-15 minutes, until puffed and toasted, and the bottoms are nicely browned. Plate immediately and top with a drizzle of honey, and maybe another dusting of cinnamon, if desired. Yummy!!!!

ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE AGRICULTURAL CONTESTS
GRANGE YEAR: 2022-2023

Joan Fidder
Flora Grange
723 E 4th St., Belvidere, IL 61008
815-505-2269
(please text or leave message)

Steven Kinzinger
Progressive Grange
618-972-8436

Brian O'Dell
Beaver Valley Grange
815-670-1272

VEGETABLES

Green Beans (5)
Wax/Yellow Beans (5)
Beets (3)
Cabbage (1 head)
Cucumbers (3)
Eggplant (1)
Gourds (3)
White Onions (3)
Yellow Onions (3)
Sweet Peppers (3)
Hot Peppers (3)
Red Potatoes (3)
White Potatoes (3)
Carrots (3)
Sweet Corn (3 ears)
Cherry Tomatoes (5)
Red Tomatoes (3)
Yellow Tomatoes (3)
Winter Squash (1)
Yellow Summer Squash (1)
Zucchini 6-8" (1)
Largest Zucchini
Most Unusual Vegetable

FRUITS

Apples-Any Color (3)
Cantaloupe/Muskmelon (1)
Grapes (3 bunches)
Pears (3)
Pumpkin (1)
Watermelon (1)

HERBS

Potted specimen of an Herb,
must be named
Collection of Herbs,
4 or more, named

FIELD CROPS

3 Ears of Corn
Longest Ear of Corn
3 Ears of Indian Corn,
Husked
3 Ears of Popcorn
Corn (1 quart bag)
Oats (1 quart bag)
Soybeans (1 quart bag)
Wheat (1 quart bag)
Sunflower Head (1)

FLOWERS

Make it yourself
Roadside Bouquet
(Flowers, etc. provided)
Flower Garden Bouquet
Zinnias (3 stems)
Cosmos (3 stems)

MARKET BASKETS

No Larger than 30"
(8 or more items)

Individual Basket
Group Basket

ANTIQUES

Written Explanations of item:

Farm related
Household related

VALUE ADDED PRODUCT

8 oz jar of any jam, jelly,
or fruit butters
Jar of Pickles
(Must label what type)
8 oz of Honey
Jar of Salsa

DIAMOND ART

Adults & Juniors: Any item
pertaining to the farm
(animals, barn, tractor, etc)

JUNIORS

Decorated Pumpkin
(No carving)
Any Vegetable
Farm Safety Poster

NOTE:

- ♦ One entry per person per category
- ♦ All products must be grown/made within current Grange year

ILSG Secretary Report,

Well another Grange year is underway and I want to start out by apologizing to Union Grange and it's members.

1. In the Delegate Books and the 2022 Journal on the list of Delegates I'm sorry but Union Grange #811 and it's delegate Vivian Johnson were omitted from the list.
 2. On the names of the 6th Degree Candidates Elaine Hyer's name was misspelled. Sorry about that.
 3. If you want to contact Linnea Miller please use her cell# 815-558-5442.
-
- I. I still need the bonding forms from a few Granges remember they were due to me by November 30th.
 - II. I am still checking in to the 990N postcard information. When I get more details I will let you know.
 - III. Thank you for getting your Quarterly reports in on time unfortunately there were a few Granges that were fined. I do not want to do this so please meet the deadline.
 - IV. I still need your updated Grange membership lists – please include names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, birthdates (at least the year) and when that person joined the Grange.
 - V. I need a copy of your Grange By-Laws before January 1, 2023.
 - VI. Scholarship information will be coming out in late January or early February please spread the work to those who are interested in furthering their education.
 - VII. Watch your mail for information on State Session 2023 it will be coming out soon.
 - VIII. Also remember when your Grange takes in a new member I need a copy of their application form. Send it with the quarterly reports.

Any questions please feel free to contact me at any time.

Fraternally Submitted,

Robin Kindberg

Illinois State Grange Secretary

BLAST FROM THE PAST

By Beverly Smith

It was very nice to see you all at the GRIT Conference, since I could not attend State Session because of Covid. The cool weather sure is setting in this fall. It is about time for us to head to Florida. We shall hope that Hurricane season doesn't deliver any more storms.

I really want to thank Elaine Hyre for giving me two boxes of Grange items from Russell Stauffer. I enjoyed sifting through many photos. In particular this month I will talk about Westfield Grange #1764. It was organized March 9, 1911 in Winnebago County. This was the Grange of Charles and Ruth Temple. There were 9 photos of the members remodeling their hall in February 1968. They installed ceiling tiles, paneling, and painted the walls to make these updates. On March 22, 1968, they held a Consignment Sale, Blaine Aucker was the auctioneer. I am sure this helped the treasury to pay for their remodeling! There were 12 pictures showing farm implements, miscellaneous items, snow on the ground, and the lunch stand. Some special ladies proudly served homemade pie! Yummy! Stillman Valley Bank clerks also assisted with the sales. These photos were very special because Ruth numbered each and typed names and descriptions for each. She was very articulate and I really appreciated this.

There is also an original photo of National Grange Master John W. Scott going over a large notebook with President Richard Nixon at the White House. This had to happen about 1969 to 1974 when they both were in office.

There are several photos of Russ with National Masters Herschel Newsome, Edward Andersen, and John W. Scott. There are 3 photos of National Grange Officers in the years that Russ was a National Officer.

Another unexpected item was a black embosser stamper from Pleasant Valley Grange #1930 organized June 6, 1956 of Stockton, IL in JoDaviess County. I was not familiar with this Grange.

Notes from Ruth: I am still hoping for more people to change to receiving the newsletter by **e-mail**. If you live out of state please consider this change. I am always looking for articles. Send anything even if it is not Grange related. We like to hear about things people are doing. Send happy events in life, send obituaries, send info on members in nursing homes or rehabs. Let me know if you would like a card shower for someone and I will put that on the Facebook page right away. Let's keep in touch with all our members.

Flora Grange News

Lindakay Ebel

On October 11, 2022, Stanley W. Lyford, Master of Guilford Hope Grange installed the new officers of Flora Grange, president Ken Fidler, Vice President Marion Thornberry and 3 year executive board member Albert Q. Ebel, III assisted by Sharon Fidler and Emalee Colver. The meeting was opened in full form, followed by roll call and approval of minutes of September 13, 2022, meeting. Flora Grange had a membership proposal and Jack Ratcliffe gave Matty Aves the obligation, welcome and conferring degrees and Grange members welcomed her.

Committee reports were given: Lindakay Ebel, Community Service stated as you work on a community service project complete a community service form and turn it into her when the project is completed. Agriculture, Jack Ratcliffe reported farmers are harvesting, crops look good. Fair Board, Jack reported storage will start this month, they have some of the entertainment booked for 2023. Legislative, Marion Thornberry reported most committees on recess, but reminded everyone to get out and vote on November 8th.

Membership, Lindakay Ebel welcomed our new member this evening, also asked if all members in attendance are receiving The Patron's Chain, which comes out weekly and the View from the Hill. They both have a lot of good information about the Grange. Youth, JT Ryan announced they will be meeting on Thursday. Quilting, Emalee Colver reported the two groups will be meeting this weekend and one group will be working on Christmas ideas. Jack Ratcliffe, Building & Grounds reported the handicap ramp was painted, window has been ordered and they are working on covers for the two wooden tables in the kitchen.

Lindakay Ebel, treasurer had written copies for all in attendance of deposits and checks written since the last meeting, also year to date totals and balances of all accounts. Motion to approve report was made. Lindakay asked for a motion to pay the insurance bill that is due on the Grange Hall the end of October and she reported the Wall That Heals checking account is now closed.

Under Old Business: Marion Thornberry gave a report on the Flora Grange shirts as he was asked to do at the previous meeting. If interested in purchasing a shirt, sign up tonight and pay the treasurer for the shirt, as he will be ordering them. Laurel Ratcliffe gave a report on the recent inspection from the Boone County Health Department. Flora Grange will be selling Butter Braids

again this year, ordered by 10/15 and delivered 11/17/2022.

New Business: Deb Silver will oversee the Ringing of the Bell for Salvation Army again this year. We voted to participate in the Hometown Christmas and again will select a family in need and will also participate in the drive through the park again this year. Members were urged to look through the Flora Grange handbook and correct information and give it to Laurel for the 2023 book. \$66.00 was collected in 'G' bills and Jack & Laurel Ratcliffe will be celebrating their 58th anniversary on October 24th. Meeting was adjourned with socializing and refreshments.

Next meeting, Tuesday, November 8th, 2022, Flora Grange Hall at 7 pm.

County Line News

We had our regular meeting Oct 12. This was our Meeting and Halloween Party. Due to our President unable to come, we put our meeting on hold and held our Halloween party. Thanks to Kathy, Ned and Ruth for



being the hosts for the evening. The food and deco-

rations were wonderful. Almost everyone came in costume. Cathy Z. won first place with her Charlie Chaplin costume. Butch won second with his freaky Dr. Cos-



tume. Ned Loy was very "blue" in his Hades costume. He was third place. Everyone enjoyed themselves. **Happy Halloween Everyone.**

Beaver Valley Grange Report

Beaver Valley Grange met on October 21 by Zoom at 7 pm. Reports on Agriculture, Community Service, Fairboard, Safety and Health Education & Welfare. President Brian O'Dell presented Membership certificates for 15 years as a member of Beaver Valley Grange to Amy Herstek and Matt Paulson. Judy and Jay Owens of Michigan were also presented with certificates, they were not present their certificates will be mailed. Safety committee reported the hazards that are most common for farmers. Health Education & Welfare reminded us that we can get our flu vaccinations as well as additional boosters and that children should get them also. There is a surge of RSV COVID and flu that is hitting the kids.

No legislation report other than please get out and vote. There was a GRIT recap given by Renee O'Dell. State Grange is going to have their 150th Anniversary and they are looking for memorabilia. Community Service focus will be Parks Animal Rescue. For our next meeting we need to come up with ideas for the BVG Banner.

In other news, BVG has sponsored a Trunk or Treat on Sunday the 30th at Harlem School. Still working out details for our December Xmas Party/Meeting. We are looking at sponsoring the Baby Banks group this Christmas. Plans for our full opening meeting on March 10, 2023. Brad Blake has his 85th birthday on the 24th and we are all wishing him the best and a Happy Birthday. He's been in our Grange 62 years.

Fraternally submitted,
Dayle Paulson



Leroy Community Grange

The meeting was called to order by Master, Rocky Temple. John Kennedy led the pledges and prayer. Correspondence was a thank you from Cole Charlesworth for sponsoring his swine award. The secretary's report was emailed by Denise Temple, Vicki Donley passed out the treasurer's report, Vicki will check with the insurance company to make sure that our trailer and shed are no longer on the policy.

Sandi Kennedy reminded everyone to turn in their community service forms. Calvin, building committee chair, reported the walnut tree on our property is hollow and should be taken down. Regarding the bathroom update, he suggested going to the ReStore to purchase a vanity, toilet etc. to keep the cost down. Joe reported he was waiting to have the furnace issue addressed as there are windows that need to be replaced, will need to have hot water heaters checked too. In regards to our dictionary project, Tami stated that she found the Dictionary Project, the cost of a case of 24 is \$90. Joe moved to buy 3 cases if needed.

Denise and Sandi gave a report on the GRIT meeting. The 4-H photography award money will need to be to the extension office by Oct. 17th. No one applied for the woodworking project. Ideas for proceeds from our raffle included buying a flag pole and flag for Manchester school. Donating to the North Boone After School YMCA program, and purchasing hats and mittens for North Boone grade schools. Rocky moved to have Sue Zelasko spend \$100 for the hats and mittens. Tami will chair our Hometown Christmas tree decorating, Sue will purchase the gifts for our adopted family. Vicki invited someone to come to their next 4-H meeting to recruit Grange members. John and Sandi Kennedy offered to attend the meeting. Nominations for election of officers were made, and will be voted on at our November meeting.

Our next meeting will be either Nov. 9th or the 15th, at the Community Grange hall at the fairgrounds. It was also decided to have our Christmas party on Friday, Dec. 9th, 6:30 pm at Arturo's! Tami will make reservations. Ed talked about the wrap up of the raffle and told of another idea for a raffle. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Temple, Secretary

Prairie Grange #1832 News

The Prairie Grange meeting was opened in full form on Monday, October 17, 2022 at 7:03Pm by worthy president Don Ellwanger presiding.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved and committee reports were given.

Election time is fast approaching be sure to get out and vote. Harvest season is underway so everyone be on the lookout for Farm equipment on the roadways. Do Not try to pass them for you never know where they will be turning. Start working on your projects for next years contests. We want to see lots more entries at State Session in 2023.

October 21 the Prairie Juniors are hosting a Halloween themed Craft/Games/Meal and Movie night so come join in the fun.

The Kindberg family is sponsoring a tree for Hometown Christmas and Prairie members were asked to help donate nonperishable food items as a community service project. You can bring them to the November meeting.

It's flu season so be sure to get you flu shot and the next COVID Booster is now available as well.

On Saturday October 22, 2022, Prairie Grange will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting to meet the Candidates that are running for Boone County Sheriff so come out and see what they have to say. Starts at 5PM at the Community Grange Hall.

Our Delegates to State Session 2022 gave their report. One of the resolutions that Prairie presented passed and the other did not. Meals were really good and had lots of variety to chose from. Prairie Grange won first place in the most items donated to the Shoebox for Soldiers project and Prairie also won 4th place for our community service book. Prize money was passed out to those who placed in the different contests at state.

As a Community Service project this year we will be helping the American Legion in purchasing wreaths to be placed on the graves of veterans at our local cemetery for the holiday season.

Prairie Grange will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary in 2023 so watch for more details
The meeting closed in full form at 815PM.

Robin Kindberg
Publicity Chairman

Enterprise Grange

Greetings from the HOT south. Enterprise Grange #1929 member, Louise Johnston (Arline Magee's granddaughter), attended Louisiana 4-H University June 21-24 in Baton Rouge.

On Wednesday June 22, she and her Chef partner, Aubrie Everett competed in The Next Food Star Seafood Challenge. They made Steamed Seafood Dumplings. They earned 1st place and will go on to regionals in New Orleans (NOLA) in August. We are so proud of her and her accomplishments.

Thank you for letting us brag!

Fraternally submitted,

Cara Magee-Johnston



Illinois State Grange Lecturer's Contests and Programs

2022-2023 (as of 9/24/2022)

Ethan Edwards, Illinois State Lecturer

ethanaedwards@mac.com 618-795-8021 or find me on Facebook!

The Lecturer's Department maintains a rich tradition of encouraging excellence in expressions of cultural, educational, and creative pursuits in our Granges and members. In that tradition these are the categories for competition and display for the 2021 Illinois State Session and National Contests. Because so much of our competition from last year was made impossible by the health crisis, many of the contests are being repeated. There are a couple new categories and some new photography themes.

Please look at the breadth of categories and see what appeals to you. I would like to get as many people involved this year as possible with **the goal of having at least one entry from every Subordinate Grange.**

ILLINOIS LECTURER'S CATEGORIES

- One entry per member may be submitted in each class. Must be made this Grange year.
- Awards in each class.
- **Attached to each entry must be:**
 - Member name
 - Member address
 - Grange name and number
 - Specific state contest category
 - Age bracket (Juniors only)
 - Name of responsible party (if entrant not in attendance at State Session)
- Eligibility – All Subordinate and Junior Grange members. Junior entries may also include grandchildren of Subordinate members.
- Photos should be submitted electronically, via email, text, or USB drive.
- Classes- There will be one class for Subordinate Grange members and 3 age groups for Juniors: 5-7 yr old, 8-10 yr old and 11-14 yr old.
- The Illinois State Lecturer reserves the right to choose to not display any entry deemed inappropriate within Grange values. Themes including nudity, obscenity, or violence will not be accepted.

Photography

Categories: (once announced, the three National Categories will be added to these)

Farm Machinery	Potluck Activity	Gardens
Grange Family	Architecture	Extreme Close-up

Creative Writing

Creative writing prose topic: "Surprising Illinois"

Creative writing poetry topic: "Christmas Eve"

Media Arts & Crafts.

Painting/Drawing/Pastels

Dimensional Media

Personal Collection

Handcrafted Holiday Tree Ornaments

Birdhouse

NEW CATEGORY: ***Folded Items***

GROUP PROJECT: Subordinate Grange Banner

NOTE: This is a condensed version of the Lecturer Contests. The full version can be found on pages 11-14 of the e-mail version, on the website or request by calling Ruth 815-299-7884 and it will be mailed.



Don and Lynette Schaeffer



Preparing for displays



Don Ellwanger (Prairie) and Lynette



Family Activities Raffle Items



Lynette and Emalee Colver (Flora)



Preparing for a Banquet JoEllen and Sharyn



Registration—The Kindberg Family



Enjoying a great meal.



Chaplain's Corner Calendar of Grange Events

Charlotte Mehrtens

As we prepare for another month to begin, many things happen in this month of November, we end the month of October with Halloween and Trick or Treating. The children all dressed up in their costumes for a night of parties and going from house to house. The joy we see in their eyes as they come to us for candy and treats. They come trusting that you will be good to them on this day, just as we trust our Heavenly Father each day.

We follow with All Saints Day on November 1 as we remember all who have passed from our lives. Veterans Day, we honor all Veterans both living and passed as we remember their service to our Great Country. If you have someone who is Veteran or has passed take the time to honor them and tell them thank you for your service to your country.

And who can forget the family celebrations on Thanksgiving Day when we count our many blessings from all year long. We thank our Father for the corn, soybeans, wheat, etc. in the fields. We are thankful for the food we have, our families we can be with to celebrate, those who are unable to be with us for health reasons. Let us all remember how blessed we are with family, friends, food and health. We have so many things to be thankful for, just being able to enjoy each day God has given to us.

My wish for each of us is that we always remember to say prayers of thanksgiving for the things we have been given through our Lord Jesus Christ. Enjoy your Thanksgiving and your Blessings.

Lord thank you for being present with us in so many different ways, Amen

Grace, Peace and Blessings



11/11 Turkey Hill Quilts of Valor Public Presentation
11/15-23 National Grange Session Sparks NV
Nugget Casino Resort

11/16 Boone County Pomona pie order deadline
11/17 Flora Grange Butter Braid delivery
11/23 Boone County Pomona Pie Pick up 6-8pm
11/30 Bonding due to State Secretary Robin
12/11 Bluff Grange 100th Anniversary 2 pm 2023

1/1/23 Grange By-Laws to State Secretary Robin
1/15/23 Quarterly Reports Due
7/18-23 Grange Revival Curtis MI (UP)
8/1 Community Service Deadline for all reports 2024

National Session Quad Cities 11/10-17

Donations: Memorial Scholarship

Donations: Illinois Granger

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



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BROAD PRINCIPLE THAT DIFFERENCE OF OPINION IS NO CRIME, AND HOLD THAT "PROGRESS TOWARD TRUTH IS MADE BY DIFFERENCES OF OPINION," WHILE "THE FAULT LIES IN BITTERNESS OF CONTROVERSY."

Illinois State Grange Lecturer's

Contests and Programs

2022-2023 (as of 9/24/2022)

Ethan Edwards, Illinois State Lecturer

ethanaedwards@mac.com

618-795-8021

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Please look at the breadth of categories and see what appeals to you. I would like to get as many people involved this year as possible with **the goal of having at least one entry from every Subordinate Grange.**

NOTE: Here are the things that need to be pointed out in particular:

1. National Grange Quilt Block and Photography Showcase items need to be submitted directly to National Lecturer Ann Bercher by September 1, which means we will not have a display of quilt blocks for our State Session. (You could take a show of hands to see if people want to bring blocks anyway. I'm sure I could send additional blocks into Ann later as long as they weren't to be judged with the rest of the blocks.)
2. I got a number of comments that some people were not comfortable with having to submit photos online. So for next year I will accept digital photos OR prints. Prints should be at least 5x7 and mounted on some sort of firm backing; no glass.
3. New contest category is "Folded Items." Create a set of three different folded items. This might be napkins or origami or any other material as long as the design method is by folding.
4. Still holding out for getting a full set of Grange banners to decorate our meeting space.

Ethan

NATIONAL CONTESTS

For most accurate information about the National Contests you should refer to www.nationalgrange.org. (Under "Programs" choose "Lecturer Programs" and then "Lecturer Contests.")

National Photography Showcase:

The National Photo contest is completely digital. Anyone can submit up to three entries by the September 1, 2023 deadline. Categories for 2023 are:

- Farm Machinery
- Potluck Activity
- Gardens
- Grange Family

Entires should be submitted using the link: bit.ly/grangephoto2023

Publicity Items

You can submit any sort of publicity items you have created for your Grange's activities and programs.

Unfinished Quilt Block

Pattern for 2023 is Nine Patch with Half Square Corners. Full instructions and entry forms can be downloaded from the National Grange website. I will also post them on the Illinois State Grange Lecturer Facebook page. Note that this is a much smaller square than has been used for the last several years.



Quilt blocks are due to the National Lecturer by September 1, 2023. Unfortunately, this means we will not be able to display the blocks at our Illinois State Session.

Evening of Excellence Talent Contest

- Broad range of talents accepted: music, movement, speaking, etc.
- Best of Show from State Session can appear at the National Evening of Excellence.
- Not to exceed 5 minutes.

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

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

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

Entries can be solo or group.

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

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- One entry per member may be submitted in each class. Must be made this Grange year.
- Awards in each class.
- **Attached to each entry must be:**

Member name

Member address

Grange name and number

Specific state contest category

Age bracket (Juniors only)

Name of responsible party (if entrant not in attendance at State Session)

- Eligibility – All Subordinate and Junior Grange members. Junior entries may also include grandchildren of Subordinate members.
- Photos should be submitted electronically, via email, text, or USB drive.
- Classes- There will be one class for Subordinate Grange members and 3 age groups for Juniors: 5-7 yr old, 8-10 yr old and 11-14 yr old.
- The Illinois State Lecturer reserves the right to choose to not display any entry deemed inappropriate within Grange values. Themes including nudity, obscenity, or violence will not be accepted.

Photography

Rules:

- Color and black and white photography will be judged in the same category.
- No altering of still images with use of photo editing software is allowed.
- No professional photographers (an individual who's primary living is from photography) may enter.
- Photos may be submitted electronically or as prints. Prints should be at least 5x7 and mounted on some firm backing; no glass. Digital and print photos will be judged together.
- National Lecturer's categories are included in our contest, but it is completely independent of the National Showcase.

Categories: (once announced, the three National Categories will be added to these)

- Farm Machinery
- Potluck Activity
- Gardens
- Grange Family
- Architecture
- Extreme Close-up

Creative Writing

General guidelines

- May be handwritten, typed, or printed from a computer. Handwriting must be legible and neat using black or blue ink pen. Typed or printed should be double-spaced, size 12 font or larger. Entries encouraged to be submitted electronically.
- Work must be original, the entrant's own creation, not copied from another source.
- Length not to exceed 300 words.

Creative writing prose topic: "Surprising Illinois"

Creative writing poetry topic: "Christmas Eve"

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

Media Arts & Crafts

General guidelines

- We seek to recognize all types of visual arts.
- Work must be original, the entrant's own creation.
- No frames or glass. Fragile items are displayed at the entrant's risk.

Painting/Drawing/Pastels

Any subject or theme. All media (oils, watercolors, pencil, etc.) will be judged in one category. Works should not exceed 30"x30".

Dimensional Media

Any subject or theme. Sculpture, pottery, weaving, textiles, paper-making, etc. are appropriate for this category and will be judged together. Basically this is any artwork that is not flat on a canvas or paper. Works should not exceed 18"x18"x18".

Personal Collection

Assemble and display 12 related items. Make sure each item's relation to the collection is apparent. Provide an overview of the collection theme not to exceed 50 words. All items should be anchored securely to a sturdy base or provided with a box or material on which to display them. The collection may be anything of intellectual or cultural interest: stamps, rocks, stickers, trading cards, dried flowers, postcards, etc. Judging will be based on interest and creativity of the collection theme.

Handcrafted Holiday Tree Ornaments

Use your skill to make three ornaments suitable for decorating a tree. Ornaments can represent any holiday or season. The ornaments should not be identical but should be related by theme or technique. Materials and methods can be anything you choose. Ornaments will be judged on craftsmanship, creativity, and appearance. Because of the high response to this category, there will be two divisions:

Ornaments involving primarily fabric, sewing, needlecrafts, etc.

Ornaments using other materials or techniques

Birdhouse

Craft a birdhouse. You can use any materials and any style of decoration. It can be completely functional or completely decorative. It should, though, be scaled appropriately and have doorway, nesting chamber, roof, and perch of some sort (that at least, theoretically, a bird could live in it. Entries will be judged on workmanship and visual appeal. Creativity in materials and decorations is encouraged.

NEW CATEGORY: Folded Items

A new category for some new thought. Present three items created by folding, such as napkin folding or origami (paper folding). Anything is possible as long as folding is the primary technique used. I hope this sparks a great deal of creativity. I suggest searching the Internet for inspiration; there are literally thousands of possibilities. Entries will be judged on precision, artistic quality, and overall appeal.

GROUP PROJECT: Subordinate Grange Banner

This competition has two purposes:

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

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