



# Illinois Granger

*In Essentials... Unity*

*In Non-Essentials... Liberty*

*In All Things... Charity*

February 2023

Vol 3 No 2

## Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

As I write this on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January the weather has been warm – well above normal by a few degrees. It is strange that the ground is not frozen – the evenings just don't get that cold. But we are supposed to get a snow storm tomorrow, we will wait and see what happens.

Don and I attended a recent Flora Grange meeting to discuss the possible consolidation of Flora and Troy Grove. There were many questions and answers. Flora and Troy Grove are working through the process and making decisions. I believe that it will not be too long

I have also been contacted by another Grange with membership issues, I will be attending a meeting to discuss possible options.

Plans are still being made for the National Grange President's Conference to be held virtually, February 17 – 18. I have not seen the list of workshops. Don and I will be attending from home, hopefully the food will be better than the last time we had a virtual meeting - - HAHA

I would like to hold Grange leadership meetings in March, maybe a Saturday or Sunday - location is not yet decided Date not yet set but will let you know via email and Facebook, keep a look out.

Plan to attend the youth Spring Fling on March 18<sup>th</sup> at Boone County Community Grange Hall. I am sure that Karie and Marisa have an article with information in this IL Granger publication.

Grangers who make donations to the National Grange Foundation for the benefit of National Grange building, Youth or Juniors can use it as a tax benefit. I encourage Granges and Grangers to have a fundraiser for the Grange Foundation.

## Spotlight on Grangers



**Todd Hegge and wife Dona**

Current ISG Executive Committee Member  
Flora Grange #1762 45 years Subordinate plus Juniors  
Offices held: Flag Bearer, Assistant Steward, Steward,  
Youth Committee, Installing Team

National Grange

Youth Ambassador 1982, Prince 1983

7th Degree member

Boone County Fairboard Director representing Flora Grange

Family Worship Center

Education:

North Boone High School class of 81

Kishwaukee College, Malta IL

Married to Dona Hegge for 5 months, 4 kids now

Hobbies include camping, photography, Jeeps

Skills: welding and mechanics

Works at Iseli Co. Machine Shop, Maintenance

Something you should know about me:

I love living on the family farm and getting back into the Grange.



Lynette Continued from page 1

Always remember if you have a Grange Hall and need to make some improvements, the State Grange has a Hall Improvement Fund. Contact me if you have any questions.

Remember Grange Revival in July – check out the [nationalgrange.org](http://nationalgrange.org) website for more information. Several Grangers from Illinois are planning on going. You can too.

The next National Grange Session will be November 14-18, 2023 at the Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls Sheraton at the Falls, 300 Third Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14303. You are all welcome to attend. Watch for the information on the [nationalgrange.org](http://nationalgrange.org) website.

Hope you all get the Good Day Magazine, I have an article in the current one. Be the Grange. Consider getting a subscription. Blessings to you all. Blessings to all the Granges.

## Illinois State Grange Secretary Report

Hope everyone is withstanding the massive changes in weather we are having here in Illinois. I know I will be glad when spring arrives. I do not like this cold weather. Just a few Grange items I need to stress at this time to all Grange Secretaries:

1. I need an updated Membership list from ALL GRANGES by March 1, 2023 even if you just sent me one recently. I need it completed. It must include NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP-CODE, BIRTHDATE or at least the year, DATE MEMBER JOINED THE GRANGE or at least the year, their PHONE NUMBER AND AN EMAIL ADDRESS.

This information is not going anywhere I just need a record of it on file. According to the National Grange Digest of laws this is supposed to be done every quarter when Quarterly dues are sent in. But I am only requesting them twice a year in October and in March.

2. If your Grange takes in a new member PLEASE send me a photocopy of their application form with the quarterly report during which they joined. This is only for my records it does not go anywhere.
3. I want to clarify what is a Family Plan for Grange membership on the quarterly report form: A family plan is a couple WITH DEPENDENTS between the ages of 14 and 23 living in the same household. The Family Plan dues would then be \$16.50 per quarter. IF the child is 23 years of age

and there are no other children that fall in this category then the 23 year old and the two adults would then need to become individual Subordinate members and their dues would be \$8.25 each member per quarter and not as a Family Plan. This is according to the National Grange Digest of Laws.

4. If you have a child 14 to 17 years of age in your Grange whose parents are not members then they are required to pay \$1.50 per quarter. If you have questions please contact me.
5. Illinois State Grange Scholarships packets are available for anyone who wants to continue your education just email me and I will send you the packet.
6. The completed Scholarship and all supporting documentation must be returned to me preferably via email by 9:00PM on MARCH 15, 2023.
7. I am still waiting for copies of Grange By-Laws from several Granges. If you need help with this please contact me. This is also something that National Grange has asked that we keep on file due to recent situations that have come up.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Robin Kindberg

Illinois State Grange Secretary

## Bluff Grange News

We have been meeting monthly at a restaurant or somewhere other than the hall. Some of our members have a hard time doing the steps at the hall.

At our January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting we voted on two new members in our Grange family. We held our annual meat shoot at the American Legion Hall near our hall. We had a very good turn out for a nice Sunday afternoon.

Our fencers are sponsoring a Market Day the second Saturday of the month and have been very successful raising money. Hopefully with warmer weather we can sponsor more ideas and get the Grange name out in the community.



## Spring Fling Schedule 2023

### Friday March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Game and Movie night 6 pm

### Saturday March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

8 am breakfast those staying over

9 am Intro to Spring Fling and what is going to happen.

10 am Pollinator/Garden Design workshop

11 am Obstacle course

12 pm lunch

1pm leave for Julie's Diamond Art Shop

3:30 pm Social Media and Grange

4:30 arts and crafts

6 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Public Speaking, Sign-a-Song and Lip Sync Contest

### Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

9 am breakfast

10 am Service projects – make 6 bag sets

## Illinois State Grange Youth

Karie Blasingame and Marisa O'Dell Co-Directors

We are excited to be able to share the schedule for Spring Fling 2023 March 18th at the Boone County Community Grange Hall. We are going to open the hall all weekend for different events that all Grangers can attend. Friday night, March 17th around 6:00 PM we will be hosting a movie and game night with snacks, hot dogs and popcorn. Movie to be determined when people arrive. On a Sunday morning after Spring Fling is done on Saturday, we will be hosting a service project building 6 bag sets, at the Grange Hall beginning at 10:00 AM. Our schedule for Saturday is enclosed. We hope to see everybody age 5 and up, but especially those between 14 and 21.

On Saturday we have lots of fun things planned. And we hope that there's something that everyone can enjoy. We have arts and crafts projects that can be started at Spring Fling and completed on your own later to be entered into state session in the Youth department, the women's activities, the Agriculture Department and also the Lecturers Department. It should be able to cover all of those departments. It would be great if you could follow the Illinois State Grange Facebook group and let us know on the Spring Fling Event if you're going to attend. For those out of towners, the Grange Hall will be open for you to stay at. The entire cost for the weekend for everyone involved is \$20. That includes an \$8.00 diamond art

from Julie's Diamond Arts Shop. Where we will be going on Saturday. Participants can get an idea of what a diamond art store looks like and she's going to show us how to start our diamond art.

We've got a couple of really good workshops planned. We're still coordinating with the people who are going to lead them, but regardless of who's going to lead the workshop, the workshops will be on the same 2 topics. One is on pollinators and garden design and the other is on social media and the Grange. This is a good topic for all of us to understand where we're at. Many different things are happening this year in Grange a lot of new contests. The youth department has opened up its own contests this year. Something new to try and get everyone to participate in state session, and hopefully at the same time it gets participation in the other departments as well.

Grange Revival is coming up. That's why we're making bag sets for our service project, to share them with those attending Grange Revival and to share them with our state Grange. We can bring them to State Session. If we wanted to host an event, we could use them at that event.

We are looking for Granges to sponsor the meals at Spring Fling or to sponsor an art project. Please contact Karie or Marisa for cost details. We might not be able to give you an exact amount until the weekend of Spring Fling because of not knowing how many people will be there in attendance. We are also excited that the Lip sync contest a new project will be happening at Spring Fling. Do not be surprised if you see us go live on Facebook, so if you're unable to attend, you should still be able to see a really fun event, but hopefully you're in person watching it live.

## AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

*JOAN FIDDER, CHAIR*

There's only about 6 weeks of winter left. Have you started making plans for your garden?

I live in town, so I don't have a lot of land for a garden. Last year I saw a video on YouTube about planting potatoes in a cardboard box, and I tried it. I had to water it often. The cardboard box tore at the end and got dirt all over. I only got 6 medium sized potatoes. WHAT A MESS! This year the potatoes are going in the ground!

Looking forward to seeing all your produce and grain entries at our State Session this September!



## County Line Grange

We had our Grange Christmas party Jan. 7th. Almost all of our County Line members were there. We had roast beef, chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables and salad. Thanks to JoEllen and Clayton for cooking our delicious Christmas feast. Desserts were provided by Grange members. Everything was so yum-

my! 🤗 The Decorating Committee did a wonderful job decorating the Grange Hall don't think the Hall has ever looked this festive before. Thanks to Deb, Ned,

Kathy and all the committee. Great job! 🎅

Each person brought a gift. 🎁 We played a game where you rolled dice and got to take someone's gift. At the end of 30 minutes, you got to keep the gift you had. It was so much fun. Everyone had a wonderful meal and went home with a gift. Everyone had such a good time.



## Prairie Grange Report

Prairie Grange members met on Monday, January 16, 2023 for our annual dues paying supper. A delicious potluck was enjoyed by all and a short meeting followed.

Ann Johnson our FAC Chair and her mother had cut out the pattern pieces for this years National Grange Quilt square contest so all members just have to sew the pieces together and they would have a block for the contest.

Nifty Needles group is meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights of each month to work on group projects or you can work on your own projects. So everyone is welcomed to come and join us from 5-9 PM at the Boone County Administration Building at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Be sure to bring a snack to share and your own drink. This is open to ALL Grangers.

Juniors will be attending Nifty Needles also to work on the Junior projects and remember everyone is invited to come and join them and make projects for the Young at Heart contests. They will meet beginning at 4 PM also on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday night as well.

We welcomed a new member into the Grange tonight.

Several of our Grangers were attending the State Fair Convention in Springfield this coming weekend and were going to cheer our Boone County Fair Queen Maci McCoy on as she competes in the State Fair Queen contest. Good Luck Maci!

Prairie Grange members voted to accept the revised Prairie Grange By-Laws as presented in writing.

It was moved and seconded that Prairie Grange will donate a Basket to the Belvidere North FFA Auction to be held on March 24, 2023.

We are still collecting plastic bags for another bench to be placed out by our Free Little Library near the Grange Hall. Tonight we collected over 30 Pounds of plastic.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40PM.  
Robin Kindberg - Publicity Chairman

*Happy*  
**VALENTINE'S**  
➡️ DAY ➡️

## **Troy Grove Grange News**

Troy Grove Grange met January 19, 2023 at 7 PM at the Hall.

Agriculture Chairman Jim Weber reported that he had delivered checks to MASS and Mendota Christian Food Pantry. A thank you was received from the Food Pantry. MASS will print a thank you in their newsletter.

Legislative Chairman Roy Plote reported a meeting with the Carbon Committee at his farm. Purpose was to show ways of reducing carbon emissions. In a side note it was learned that China has built 42 new coal fired electric plants in the last 2 years.

Community Service Chairman Ethel Bauer reported a check will be delivered to PADS on Friday. Also she will deliver 17 laprobes to VITAS Friday.

A discussion was held by the membership regarding a possible merger with another Grange. Janet Plote explained the process and what we need to do on our end.

The next meeting of Troy Grove Grange will be February 16, 2023 at 7 PM at the Hall.

## **Boone County Pomona Grange Report**

Members of Boone County Pomona Grange enjoyed a delicious Soup and Chili Supper on Wednesday, January 3, 2023 and a short meeting followed.

We received a thank you card from the Boone County Baby Bank for the donations we had given them. We also gave them a monetary donation and we are still going to collect items such as wipes, lotions, shampoo, baby clothes and receiving blankets through the March meeting so you can bring items that night as well. They do not need diapers at this time.

We welcomed Dona Hegge from Flora Grange into Pomona Grange tonight.

Committee reports were given as well as Grange reports: Beaver Valley – busy working on a Banner for the State Grange Session in September

Big Thunder – working on several projects

Capron – No report

Flora – Continuing to be work on several projects

County Line – will be serving a meal monthly at the Veteran's Drop In Center in Rockford

Prairie – getting ready for the annual Consignment Auction which will be held April 8<sup>th</sup> and are working on several projects at Nifty Needles the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday evenings of each month at the Administration Building and all Grangers are welcome to join us. We meet from 5 – 9 PM.

Bring a snack to share and you own drink and come join us.

The evening concluded with the Boone County Fair Queen Maci McCoy giving the speech she will present at the State Fair Convention in Springfield later this month. Good Luck Maci!

Our meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Karrie Kindberg

Publicity Chair for Boone County Pomona Grange.

## **Beaver Valley Grange #1791**

The January 13, 2023 (Friday the 13th!) meeting was held at the Beaver Valley Community Grange Hall and started at 7 pm. Renee reminded us to that Scholarships are available for college students and need to go to the Secretary by 3-15-23. Also that you will need three reference letters and one has to be from the Subordinate Grange.

Agriculture report from Steve Paulson (who borrowed it from the Paulson Agriculture Museum Newsletter), DID YOU KNOW? Dairy cows produce 6-7 gallons of milk a day, 2,500 gallons per year, 18,750 gallons in their lifetime. 27% of the world's population work in agriculture There are 2.9 million organic producers worldwide, and growing Crayons are made with soybeans Fungus helps trees grow Of the 3.3 million farm operators, 30% are women.

Reports were also given on Fairboard, Community Service; Health, Education and Welfare updates were given on vaccines, hormone replacement for lowering Alzheimer's in females; Pomona's Community Service project is the Baby Bank and items were brought to the Pomona meeting; Youth & Young Adults report on upcoming Spring Fling. Thank you to Rick & Renee for serving. Next meeting is February 10th at 7:00 pm and Susie will be serving.

We are working on our Banner for the State Session, and on our project for the Fair. Please keep the family of Kevin Walter in your prayers. Our March 10th meeting (at 7:00 pm) will be our open & closing meeting and it is a great time to invite people to see what The Grange is all about!

Fraternally submitted, Dayle Paulson, Publicity



**Renee Odell**

Dec 18, 2022 · 2



**Heritage Woods of Belvidere**

Dec 18, 2022 · 2

## 12 Days of Christmas

Thank you to today's treat Sponsor



Beaver Valley Grange



*Belvidere North*

*Annual*

*FFA Auction*

The auction will be held on :

Friday **24** 2023  
March

Belvidere North High

Main Entrance

9393 Beloit Rd.

Belvidere, IL 61008

Dinner Served at 5:30 pm

Auction Starts 6:00-6:30 pm

Cash or Checks Accepted



## LEROY COMMUNITY GRANGE

January 10, 2023 Minutes Meeting called to order by Master, Joe Muzzillo • Pledge of allegiance - John Kennedy • Prayer - John Kennedy • Secretaries report was emailed by Denise Temple, Scott Yunk moved to accept the secretaries report, Calvin Downey 2nd, motion carried. • Treasurers report was passed out by Vicki Donley, Calvin Downey moved to accept the treasurer report, Scott Yunk 2nd, motion carried. COMMITTEE UPDATES • Community Service - continue to turn in community service forms to Sandi Kennedy. • Building Committee - Take down tree in February or March.

OLD BUSINESS: • John or Sandi Kennedy will contact Tyler Sanders to check on progress of building a bench for the cemetery across from Grange Building. • Scott Yunk - YMCA After School Care for North Boone. Rocky motioned to donate \$1500 to the program, Calvin 2nd, motion carried. Scott will ask Sherri from the YMCA to attend next Grange meeting to accept the donation. • Flag pole and flag for Manchester School - Denise could not get in contact with Jim Nolen, facility manager for North Boone Schools. Tabled until next meeting.6

NEW BUSINESS: • Audit committee for Bonding. Scott Yunk and Lisa Downey volunteered. Need one more member. Tabled until next meeting. • New officers need to contact Midland Bank for authorization on account. Ed will get new debit card for account. • Yearly membership dues are now due. \$32 - single \$64 - family New members - first year free • Serving breakfast for BBQ Cook-off. Scott will contact Danny Anderson to see if the event is still taking place. • Serving breakfast Sunday morning of the fair. Joe will contact JoEllen for more information. • New shirts for members - come to next meeting with color/design ideas. • Recruit new members - plan fun events for membership drive. • Honorary Members - invite to a yearly meeting to recognize and celebrate them. • Grange Facebook page - add Tami as administrator. • Yard maintenance - Jeff will contact Vince Verment about yard maintenance service. • Our next regular meeting will be February 21st @ 6:30 at the Pomona building at the fairgrounds. Rocky moved to adjourn, Scott 2nd, meeting was adjourned. Tami Temple, Secretary MAILING ADDRESS: PO BOX 804 BELVIDERE, IL 61008



## Flora Grange news

Flora Grange #1762 held a potluck and meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2023 at 6:30 pm hosted by Al and Lindakay Ebel and Debbie Silvers. Following a delicious dinner, members and guests moved upstairs and Jack Ratcliffe introduced our guests for the evening, Illinois State Grange President Lynette Schaeffer and husband Don and Roy and Janet Plote from Troy Grove Grange.

The meeting was called to order, followed by Grange Salutation and Pledge to Flag. Roll call was taken and minutes of November 8<sup>th</sup> & December 13, 2022, meetings were approved.

Committee reports were given: Community Service report, Lindakay Ebel stated Flora Grange members did a lot of Christmas activities during the holiday season. However, she has not received any reports for the community service book. These need to be completed while they are still fresh in your mind.

Illinois State President Lynette presented Lindakay Ebel with her 2022 Community Service book which she made and was taken to the 156<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Sparks, NV and received 1<sup>st</sup> place. She was presented with a beautiful blue ribbon, a certificate and a check in the amount of \$200.00. (This was one-time Lindakay was at loss for words). She thanked Lynette and also all the Flora Grange members for their hard work in all their community service hours they put in to make this happen.

Todd Hegge told of the Fair Board meeting and that a lot of the entertainment has been booked for the 2023 year and that some of the members will be attending the convention next week. The Youth fair board will be meeting to design a new T-shirt for the 2023 fair. Emalee Colver reported the quilters will be quilting this weekend, all are invited to come, bring your projects.

Membership, Lindakay Ebel, reported the last copy of the Patron's Chain reported that there are a lot of scams going on with people's checking accounts, be on the look out for this. Are you receiving this? It comes out every Friday, has a lot of good information. Also, this is a great time to ask a friend or neighbor to your next Grange meeting, especially if you may be having a potluck dinner.

Building & Grounds, Jack Ratcliffe reported we need to have our propane tanks filled for the winter, motion was made we do this. Marion Thornberry still has T-shirts that have not been paid for, and several more people want to order, however we need six people to want them to re-order See Marion if interested.

Lindakay Ebel had written copies of the financial statement for November and December, 2022 and year to dates for the year of 2022 and the balances of each account. Motion was made to approve.

Thank you notes were read by the secretary for the Christmas fruit and cookie trays that were made up and given out to Grange members and shut ins.

The motion was made that Flora Grange hold their Spring Roast Beef dinner on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. \$33.00 was collected for 'G' bills this evening.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 6:30 pm. It will be the dues paying supper and regular meeting, serving committee, Kathee Frazer, Kris and Scott, and Vince and Lydia Mellilo.



Special guests at the Flora Grange 1762 meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2023, were Illinois State Grange President Lynette Schaeffer and husband Don who presented Flora Grange's Community Service Chairman Lindakay Ebel a First place ribbon and certificate from the 156<sup>th</sup> annual National Grange Convention held in Sparks,

NV in November, 2022. Flora Grange's book was one of the seventeen books that was judged and won first place this year. Congratulations from the National Grange.

## Emerald Mound Grange



Charles Treser cooking for Emerald Mound Breakfast on January 14, 2023

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

## Union Grange

Our annual July 4th picnic was held at Sally Campbell's. Because of the HOT weather we ate inside, played games and later had ice cream.

Our August meeting was at the home of Ron and Nancy Erbe with a potluck and corn boil. Membership awards were given to Vivian Johnson for 60 years of membership, Brandon Erbe for 30 years of membership and Steven Erbe for 20 years of membership. Items were collected for State Community Service Project "Shoebox for Soldiers". Program was on facts about sweet corn. Vivian Johnson was our delegate at the State session held at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Elaine Hyer took the 6th degree.

In September we met at the Pizza Ranch in Roscoe where a short meeting was held and highlights from the state session were shared and discussed.

In October we met at Rollin Greenland's home, Heritage Woods, where we had use of a small room. We brought in lasagna, tossed salad, Italian bread and dessert. Information Vivian learned at the GRIT meeting was shared with the members. We voted to make monetary donations to the following non profit organizations: Summerfield Zoo, Red Cross, Carpenter's Place, Veteran's Drop In Center, Tails and Rock House Kids. Ron, Nancy and Vivian visited Linnea Miller at P.A. Peterson's care facility to help her celebrate her 60th birthday. Literary program was drawing a Halloween picture with our eyes closed. Not a pretty picture.

Our November meeting was held at Sally Campbell's. Elaine had visited "Tails" in DeKalb and brought us all brochures telling us about their program. This is the Illinois State Grange community service project for this new Grange year. We will collect items needed closer to the time of the state session. Literary program had us rolling a dice which represented a turkey's body part so eventually we'd have drawn a complete turkey.

December 10th we met at Salamone's in Cherry Valley for lunch. Christmas cards were exchanged. No meeting in January. Our next meeting will be on February 11.

History of UNION GRANGE #811     Rockford, IL

We were organized December 18, 1873, almost 150 years ago. It is incomprehensible to me how in just a few short years from the founding of the Grange, Illinois had 810 Granges already chartered. What a movement that must have been to happen so fast.

Our story started in the home of Dr. Horace Stark-ey on Harrison Avenue by Sylvester Scott, a Deputy of

the State Grange – with 18 charter members. Twenty nine new members were added the first year. Initiation fee was \$5. Meetings were held in the homes of the members. As the membership grew, meetings were held at nearby school buildings including Buckbee on the corner of Harrison and Alpine, Gunsolas on 35<sup>th</sup> Street and Vandercook on S. Mulford Road.

In the early years, twine, sugar, flour and oil were purchased in large bulk quantities in prices ranging from 8 ½ cents to 19 ½ cents and sold to members at that bulk rate. In 1906, the Grange held a Fair in the barn of J.C. McIntosh where pumpkins, silk quilts and bakery goods were displayed. Next meeting there was a "Lost and Found Collection". The following year the subject of another fair was brought up but the secretary's notes were, "As it was too warm for the women to exert themselves to talk, no action was taken".

Minutes noted that in 1918 several members sold their farms to the Government for the building of Camp Grant and in 1919 soldiers from Camp Grant gave a short program for the members.

In both 1947 and 1948 committees were appointed to find a location for a hall, but did not find a place that was suitable. On January 21, 1949, a suitable location was found and on June 16 they started to dig the basement, located on Sandy Hollow Road, two blocks west of Alpine Road. The foundation and upper sub flooring covered with tar roofing and gravel were let on a contract, but the rest of the work was nearly all done by members. Our meetings were held in the basement from December 1949 until March 1958. On January 16, 1953 the notes on the basement were burned. On August 18, 1955 we got a building permit to build the upstairs on top of the basement and we held our first meeting upstairs on March 7, 1958. In 1972 the siding was added.

Master Leigh Baxter was instrumental in canvassing members for cash donations or pledges and \$2,655 was collected leaving them to obtain a \$5,000 loan. It was voted to present Brother Baxter with a lifetime membership card for his services.

Our main means of raising funds for the building was serving dinners in the Hall, plus banquets for other organizations and churches in Rockford. We also sold Christmas cards, held bake sales, white elephant sales and having ice cream socials. We helped Burritt Grange at the Trask Bridge Picnic by parking cars and working in the stands. Other ways to raise funds was having rummage sales, sponsoring a county farm plat book and serving lunch at farm sales. Until we sold our Hall we



Continued from page 8 Union Grange

Continued all those years serving dinners at our hall 6-7 months a year.

## Calendar of Grange Events

2/18 Turkey Hill Trivia-doors open 6pm games 7pm

TBA March Leadership Conference

3/18 **Spring Fling** Boone Co Comm Grangehall

3/24 Turkey Hill Flea Market 9am-3pm

3/24 NBHS FFA Auction (Sara Ellwanger, Advisor)

4/13 Boone County Youth Fairboard  
Open House for new members, 6th-12th  
Grade, Pizza, cookies, Lemonade 7 PM  
Grangehall

4.2 Flora Roast Beef Dinner

4/15 **Quarterly report deadline**

TBA Bluff Grange 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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

8/1 Community Service Deadline

8/8-13 Boone County Fair

2023 Nat Session 11/14-18 Niagara Falls, NY

2024 National Session 11/10-17 Bettendorf, IA

**Donations: Memorial Scholarship**

**Donations: Illinois Granger**

Book of stamps- Debbie Silvers Flora Grange

### 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

### Note from the Editor:

This month we have the mailing list down to 250 addresses. But, it is probably time to go over your roster and match names to lists. So I will be sending an envelope or email to each Grange. Please check both lists, addresses and email to make sure that everyone in your Grange is receiving the Illinois Granger. It's wonderful to get the costs down, but not if we are missing people.

You can email me in return or mail me your corrections, the sooner the better.

On a lighter note, I am mailing this newsletter from St. Peters, Missouri. I am here on baby watch. We will definitely have a baby boy Jones by February 1! Right now he is just taking his time. So those of you in southern IL should be getting your newsletter a little earlier than usual. Hope this snow storm has not caused a lot of trouble for any one. Have a great month.

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**



**NATIONAL GRANGE  
TIKTOK & REELS CONTEST**

*Sponsored by the  
Communications, Membership/Leadership, Youth, Junior, and Lecturer's  
Departments*

**RULES AND GUIDELINES:**  
[WWW.NATIONALGRANGE.ORG/](http://WWW.NATIONALGRANGE.ORG/)

**DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2023**

The banner features a dark blue background with a hexagonal pattern. On the left, there are logos for TikTok and YouTube. The text is white and yellow, providing clear information about the contest.



**2023  
National Grange  
Publicity Item Contest**

**Submit by September 1, 2023**  
[bit.ly/grangepublicity2023](http://bit.ly/grangepublicity2023)

The banner has a light blue background with a network of white lines and small white squares. A central graphic shows a blue hexagon with a yellow bell and the text "NATIONAL GRANGE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT".



## Chaplain's Corner

Charlotte Mehrtens

Greeting to each of you, February is the month of LOVE but isn't every month the month of Love. Since the month of February is considered to be the magic month every year, do you do something special for people and loved ones around you or do you do something nice for them all year. Those pretty little Valentines that our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren spend so much time cutting, gluing together and taking so much time to make them just perfect for you. They are so proud of them and beam from ear to ear because they love you so much just as our Father loves us. Their eyes just shine knowing that you will take great joy in showing our friends and family, what those little hands can do.

Do we as adults share our love with others every day, so we take the time to share a smile, hold a door open for them, or share a happy greeting that is a love that is shared everyday, it doesn't have to cost anything to share little things and it make you feel good.

To those who are in need of healing prayers and comfort we send our love to you. For those who have great news to share thank you for sharing blessings to you.

Remember sharing our love with others is what God wants us to do.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY TO EACH OF YOU



...MAY OUR FRIENDSHIP BE AS FIRM  
AS THE STONE ITSELF.

## Well Done Good and Faithful Servants

### Melvin Wagner

1925-2022

Progressive  
Grange



### Diane Meyer 1946-2023 Union Grange

Diane Meyer, a 52 year member of Union Grange, passed away January 18, 2023. She has held several offices over the years and worked at our monthly dinners. She enjoyed cooking, sewing and spending time with her family. She leaves behind husband Terry and two daughters, Susan and Kathy, plus three grandchildren.

### Kevin Walter 1954-2023 Capron Grange

Kevin Walter passed away on January 5, 2023. He was a long time member of Capron Grange and served on the Boone County Fairboard for 30 years where he worked as a Livestock superintendent. Kevin will be greatly missed in Grange and at the fair.