

Illinois Granger

In Essentials... Unity
In Non-Essentials... Liberty
In All Things... Charity

May 2023 Vol 3 No 5

Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

As I write this, at the end of April, the weather has been rainy then dry then rainy then dry, warm and cold, warm and cold. Recently we had a storm, and it severely damaged a hay hoop. There were tornados in the area, but supposedly not here, not sure that is true. The temporary calf hut was moved 5 feet and turned around, the calves were fine. Due to a tree coming down on power lines on the road, the whole neighborhood was out of power for about 30 hours. Welcome to Midwest weather. Happy Anniversary to Don. Today, April 26, 2023 Don and I are celebrating our 48th wedding anniversary!

It was a wonderful weekend, Mary Joseph and Kyle Hagarty were married and we had a great celebration!! Carrie Fisher and family came to the wedding and reception and spent time on Sunday at St Louis Zoo.

Don and I attended the Michigan State Grange 150th gala event in Okemos, Michigan. Congratulations to Michigan State Grange, and welcome to the sesquicentennial group of State Granges. It was a great luncheon and presentation. The event included MSG history and legislators awarding certificates and markers. Betsy Huber, National Grange President also attended and spoke. It was good food and good fun. Thanks to Michigan State Grange for the invite.

I hope many of you have celebrated Grange Month. Having special events and open houses to show off what Granges do for their communities. And spread the word about those activities before and after the events. I believe that community service activities are one of the important aspects of getting membership. The theme is "RAISED RIGHT HERE and should be supported for the rest of the Grange year.

Spotlight on Grangers

Scholarship Winner



Rebbeca Meyers

Beckie has been a Prairie Grange member for 6 years and a Junior member for 9 years. She is currently a student at Rock Valley College. She will finish her advanced welding certificate this month. She plans to continue at Rock Valley in the fall to finish her Associate Degree in Business Management. She graduated



from Winnebago High School.

Beckie is on the Bowling team at Rock Valley and their team won the NJCAA Championship both years she was on the team.

Beckie lives in Ridott Illinois with her two St Bernard rescues Henry and Lucy. She has worked full time at 1st Rental & Sales for over two years.

Beckie is a volunteer for Prairie Grange. She has been a sheet runner at the auction since she became a Junior Granger and she did a lot of work in the flower beds at the Grange Hall. She is a Youth Advisor for the Youth Fairboard

She is the daughter of Jeremy and Sarah Meyers of Winnebago II and the granddaughter of Jimmy and Ruth Blasingame. Beckie's twin sister Sammantha was last months scholarship winner.

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One of the zoom calls was on Ritual and I really appreci- there. We will be awarding scholarships at the Picnic. If ated being part of that call. I was reminded to remind you Grangers of the importance of ritual – the regular parts of life- the everyday things we do without thinking. The Grange Ritual should be done so that we can all state the parts and know what's next without even thinking about it. Also the Heirloom project was mentioned again. The website is http://bit.ly/grangeheirloom. This is a great way to talk about Grange Ritual on a regular basis at Grange meetings.

I hope to see all of you at the ISG Picnic on May bringing to share. 13 at the Boone County Fairgrounds. All the details should be in the ILLINOIS GRANGER. All are invited. Ellwanger. She will be performing an Encore perfor-The Scholarship recipients will be receiving their checks. This is a great way to start Mother's Day weekend.

The Midwest Grange Leaders conference will be held in Wisconsin, June 16-18, 2023. Watch for details on Facebook, National Grange.org. I hope that many of you will be able to attend, I will not be able to attend as I will be at a wedding in Indiana.

Remember Grange Revival July 18-23 – check out the http://grangerevival.com/ website for more information. Several Grangers from Illinois are planning on going and You can too.

State Grange Session will be coming soon. Mark your calendars for Sept 8 -10, 2023 in Springfield, IL. Hope you are working on resolutions for your Grange community, state and nation. Much is being planned. Lena and Billy Shufeldt will be our guests. Lena is the National Grange Flora and Billy is State Master-President of Oklahoma.

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 national grange.org website. The registration will be open on May 1.

Blessings to you all. Memorial Day is a day for remembrance of those who have died in service to our country. Blessings to all those who have served and to those who lost family or friends in service to our country.

Illinois State Grange Youth

Illinois State Youth are gearing up and getting ready for the Statewide Picnic being held at the Boone County Fairgrounds on May 13th. We hope to see a

great turnout for that event and can't wait to see you the scholarship winners do not attend the Grange Picnic they will NEED to attend one of the other Statewide Grange functions in order to receive their scholarship money.

Lunch will be served at 1:00 pm. Please bring a side dish to share. If you haven't checked the "I am going" button on the event page please do as soon as possible so we know how much food to bring. You can also add a comment on there to let us know what you will be

Our Winner from the Lip-Sync was Scarlette mance where she will receive her prize. Joining her with an encore performance will be Renee O'Dell, and Marisa O'Dell. We will also have our cornhole set up. Anyone up for a tournament? You can sign up for a Family Feud game, and an obstacle course, with Musical Chairs and some Line Dancing to end the afternoon.

Did we mention the Grange with the highest percentage of attendance will receive something special? Will it be your Grange?

The Midwestern Grange Leadership Conference is coming up on June 16-18 2023 at Lutherdale in Elkhorn in Wisconsin. \$90 includes Saturday breakfast and 2 nights lodging. We will be making a trip to Hoard's Dairyman to celebrate National Dairy Month. We're going to have a Red, White, and Moo time, you don't want to miss. We hope to see as many attend the Wisconsin conference as possible.

We will see you at the picnic, Karie and Marisa

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Joan Fidder

Spring came six weeks ago, but Mother Nature doesn't seem to know it yet. We had frost last night! It is sure cold here in Northern Illinois.

Have you started your garden planting yet? Time to get potatoes and onions in.

We don't usually have many entries in the Market Basket display at State Session. Why not pool together with your Grange friends and have an entry this September.

Looking forward to seeing lots of entries this year. If you've never entered anything in the Ag contests, why not give it a try! 2

Flora Grange

Flora Grange held their April meeting on Tuesday, April 11th with thirty-three members in attendance. Emalee Colver led the opening prayer, followed by Grange Salutation and Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary Laurel Ratcliffe took the roll of officers and minutes of March 14, 2023, were approved. The membership of Andrea Desecki was also approved.

Reports were given **Juniors**: Kathy Spears and Juniors reported they planted Forget-me-not and marigold seeds tonight and will be giving them to their mothers for Mother's Day. **Community Service** Chair, Lindakay Ebel reported at the 'Tails' fundraiser, bake sale and crafts, we made \$401.75, she thanked everyone who baked and brought in their beautiful crafts and sewing items. I was so overwhelmed with all the beautiful items and the bakery.

Agriculture, Bob Scherer stated fields are cultivated, farmers are ready to go, be alert on the roads for them. Fair Board: Todd Hegge reported tickets are available online, Tracy Byrd and the Feuding Hillbillies will be Saturday night's Grandstand show. Farmland Protection, Jack Ratcliffe reported they will have a meeting Thursday evening, all are invited.

Legislative, Marion Thornberry, reported he spent two days at Springfield, 900 plus bills read, he brought up about the cruelty of animals all around us, people there had never heard of this.

Marion stated that a resolution should be composed to outlaw the rodeos where these actions are allowed. **Membership**, Lindakay Ebel stated April is Grange Month. Each Grange should be doing something special to promote their Grange. We held our annual roast beef dinner where some 230 people attended, plus all our helpers and Grange members and we held our 'Tails' Fundraiser. We ALL need to get out and promote membership and invite people to our Grange. Several members invited guests to our roast beef dinner, that is a 'foot in the door'!

Youth, JT Ryan reported the youth will meet on Thursday and work designing t-shirts for the fair and have an open house in the month of May. Health, Education & Welfare – Fabienne Calabrese reported that tonight her report is different. She comes to Grange, not because she has to each month, it is because she wants to. She stated she finds it relaxing, finds it educational, learns a lot, meets new friends and it helps her mentally and physically. Family Activities – Deb Silvers had no report this evening. Quilting -Emalee Colver stated quilting will be this weekend, Friday for one group, Saturday & Sunday for the other. All are welcome. Building & Grounds, Jack Ratcliffe reported they have been cleaning the hall, cleaning up water, need help cleaning the gutters and fixing the fence. Call Jack if you can help.

Laurel read the communications. Treasurer Lindakay Ebel had written financial reports for all in attendance, listing all the expenses, incomes and balance of each account.

Laurel Ratclffe gave the report on the roast beef dinner and thanked all that helped in any way. Lindakay Ebel thanked everyone that baked and brought items for the 'Tails' fundraiser and helped in any way. The day was a big success.

Jack gave a report on some work that must be done on windows and the gutters. Laurel stated the county health department stated we need a mop sink, so we are looking into that.

Lecturer Jack Ratcliffe presented a fun guessing quiz on Illinois State animals, birds, flowers and an old 'fashion' dinner quiz.

\$48.00 'G' bills were collected, Emalee Colver told of members that were ill and those that had birthdays and anniversaries. The meeting adjourned in full form and members enjoyed refreshments and fellowship together.

Submitted by `Lindakay F. Ebel 715-493-2344 apebel2011@gmail.com



Hopewell Grange News

Hecathorn 50th Anniversary Celebration!

Gary and Elaine Hecathorn wish to invite their Grange friends to an open house on June 11th from 1-4 at Hopewell Grange Hall in Washington, Illinois. They were married at the Sparland Methodist Church on June 10, 1973. They have two sons, Chad (Tina) of Cuba, Scott (Kristen) of Wenona, and a daughter, Trisha Renken (James Dunbar) of East Peoria. They have three granddaughters, Katherine, Cassidy and Olivia and two step-grandsons, Liam and Finn. They met at Hopewell Grange at a Midwinter Youth conference in January of 1971 - so yes – they are one of many couples who claim Grange as bringing them together. They ask for no presents only your presence. Finger food and refreshments will be available. If you have any questions, contact Trisha Renken. trishareed2002@yahoo.com

Emerald Mound Grange

We celebrated Grange Month by having an Open House/Community Fair on April 22. Several organizations and individuals participated from Lebanon such as: Casey's, 4-H, Lebanon Garden Club, Lebanon Matthew Ministries, Rebeca Gabel with Atomy Skin Care, and Vickie Boring, massage therapist and hand reflexologist. In addition, Charles Treser sold Turkey Hill Jams & Jellies at the event. Casey's, the Grange, and the Garden Club contributed raffle prizes. Proceeds went to the Lebanon Matthew Ministries for their Food Pantry and Community Care Coalition. The 4-H brought their baby goats and sold lotion made out of beeswax and honey from their bees. Everyone had a good time, and friendships were formed or continued between different members of the community.





Beaver Valley Grange #1791

April 14, 2023 meeting was held at the Beaver Valley Community Grange Hall and started at 7 pm. Minutes and treasurer's report were approved and communications presented a thank you letter from the family of Bruce Lindley for our work on the flagpole that is in front of the old Administration Building on the fairgrounds.

Committee reports: Agriculture – from The Successful Farming article. A survey shows that farmers are losing an average of \$3,400/year due to repair restrictions from farm equipment makers that restrict their

ability to fix tractors, combines & other equipment. Across 14 states that they surveyed these costs could add up to \$3 billion a year. Now 15 states have introduced legislation that would allow farmers to repair farm equipment and force John Deere & New Holland to share information and access to farmers and independent repair shops so they can repair equipment. Community Service – hours were turned in for community service. Jerry Paulson is looking for volunteers to help with the Wild Ones on May 12th & 13th. Beaver Valley Grange is also looking at volunteering to help Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful in the fall clothing drive. Health & Education – there is a new major test to detect Parkinson's before signs appear. Healthy foods like broccoli are great "Brain" foods. Eat your broccoli! Legislative – Illinois has introduced 2 bills that want to ban Styrofoam. On National level an Energy package to help energy expenses and General News about Ocean Cleanup reporting on the Great Pacific Cleanup of Plastic. Membership – we have a new member Krystal Allen. Fairboard report was given and Youth & Young Adults will have a Grange Picnic on May 13th at 1:00 pm bring a dish to pass, RSVP on facebook.

Old Business: still working on the tree markers for the fairgrounds and our Banner for Station Session is about half way finished.

New Business – Grange picnic. Ad for the Boone County Fair website was presented and approved to do a Medium size ad and a Video Wall ad. Resolutions were discussed and two were presented and approved to be written up. Beaver Valley Grange is considering a fundraiser for June 23rd – Sip & Paint Party, watch for details!

Thank you to the O'Dells for serving. Next meeting is May 5th at 7:00 pm and will be our Memorial Meeting.

Fraternally submitted, Dayle Paulson, Publicity



PRAIRIE GRANGE REPORT

Prairie Grange met on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 7:02 PM with protemp President Adam Ellwanger presiding. Meeting was opened in full form. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read. We took in one new member tonight.

Committee reports were given: Legislative – Adam Ellwanger reported that both of the EMS Referendums passed for the city of Belvidere and District #2 Fire Department and District 3 Fire. It involved ambulance service for the city and county.

It was reported Midwestern Regional Grange Leadership Conference will be held on June 16-18, 2023 at Camp Lutherdale in Elkhorn Wisconsin. This is open to all Grangers. Cost is \$90 for the weekend and includes meals and lodging. Watch for more details coming out soon.

Sara Ellwanger reported she had 2 Juniors attend Spring Fling and that she had a good turn out for Junior Day camp on March 31st. Hoping to have another day camp this summer.

Sheri Bochmann reminded everyone to turn in your community service hours.

We were asked to keep several of our Grange members in our thoughts and prayers: Jim Olstadt, Fay Ellwanger, Connie Sharp, Gail Nelson and Jimmy Blasingame all are dealing with surgery or other health issues. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

Lyle Lee reported the Prairie Annual Consignment Sale was a success and he thanked everyone who helped with it. Jennifer Tobin-Tinch reported the Kitchen did well also and she thanked all those who helped as well.

Prairie Grange will be having a 100th Anniversary celebration for its members on June 11th. Everyone was reminded the Auction Appreciation dinner will be on May 15th at 6:30 PM.

Five members of Prairie Grange won the Illinois State Grange Scholarships. Congratulations to Chloe Konieczki, Kayla Konieczki, Riley Konieczki, Sammantha Meyers and Rebbeca Meyers.

Robin Kindberg Publicity Chairman

Turkey Hill Grange Report

Turkey Hill Grange met on April 14, 2023 at the Grange Hall. The meeting was opened by President Charles Treser. Chaplain Pro-tem Ron Bersett led the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by the National Anthem. Everyone joined in the

Grange Salutation. Secretary Chris Bersett read a thank you note from the Violence Prevention Center for the donation of food to them. She also read the minutes of the last meeting and took the roll-call of officers. Treasurer Marilyn Coe gave her report. The program was by Chris Fulton, a representative from AgeSmart, a center specializing in providing various services and programs for senior citizens, people with disabilities and their caregivers. Bob Dintelmann gave the Legislative report. He said there are 24 states in the process of filing lawsuits concerning the Waters of the United States changes. He also told about plans to label meat as a product of the US if the product was born, raised, butchered and packaged in the US. He would like to form a legislative committee in our Grange to research and report legislative news. Membership Chairman Steve Kolluch reminded everyone to read the emails coming from National Grange concerning news and legislative notices. He routinely posts these on our website as well. Barb Joseph announced that 112 jars of Jam & Jelly were made recent-

Plans for our annual Chicken Dinner are underway for Sunday the 16th. Building report was given by Ron Bersett. The new air conditioner has been purchased for the trailer and will be installed soon. Jim Coe reported that kitchen renovations would continue after the Chicken Dinner. The next project is the bottom cabinets, new countertops, and the installation of a handwashing sink. Plans have also been finalized for the replacement of flooring in the dining hall.

Karen Gipson suggested that members use the functions on Turkey Hill's Facebook to "like" the page, denote they are "interested" in events and use the "share" function to promote our events and the Grange. The

Quilters will be meeting at the hall on May 30-31 from 9-4 to work on projects and discuss the Quilt of Valor details. The drawing for the Blues Quilted Throw will be held at the conclusion of the Chicken Dinner.

President Treser reminded everyone of the importance of the breakfast fundraiser to be held on June 10, 2023. The proceeds will go to tornado relief. Brother Dale Helms has been hospitalized after a fall and will be getting rehab services. Rosemarie Parker announced the Foundation has chosen the two recipients for a \$1000 scholarship each. These will hopefully be awarded at the next meeting.

Meeting closed with the Grange salutation and a prayer. The next meeting will be on May 12, 7:30 p.m. Submitted by Mary Beth Lee 5

County Line Grange News

We had our regular meeting April 12. Myron and Jean Peterson were our hosts for the evening. Thank you. Also thanks to Kathy Loy for the beautiful Easter decorations.

All Committee and Officer reports were given. Kim Robin thanked everyone for all the help they received cleaning up the damage they had at their home from the tornado.

The 4-H Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser was a great success. We appreciate everyone who came to eat and purchase raffle tickets. Our local 4-H clubs are a great asset to our community and Fair. We are glad to be able to help them.

We have two fundraisers coming up for our Grange. May 6th we will be selling food for the Craft Show at the Community Building. July 8th and 9th we will be selling food at the Fairgrounds for the Mopar Show.

We welcome our Grange member Sandy Bonacorsi back from her home in Branson. She will be spending the Summer here and helping us with our projects. Good to see her back.

Deb Zellman is taking on the project of redoing the bathroom downstairs in the Grange Hall. We voted to fund the money for this project.

We discussed our Scholarship program and selling meat raffle tickets. Jason will get those tickets ready for us. We are going to mainly focus on those students who are studying Agriculture.

We are saddened in the loss of our Grange member and friend, Ruth Brodeske. She will be greatly missed.

Stay safe and enjoy our beautiful Spring weather, everyone!

Our meeting was closed, Penny March was held and G-Dollars were collected.







Lecturer's Column

Ethan Edwards

As time passes, we come closer and closer to the State Session. I just want to add a reminder to a new contest category. This was suggested by a member Granger and it seemed to hold a lot of promise so I added it to the slate of contests. The contest is for a "folded item."

I'm open to this being anything you want it to be, as long as it primarily involves folding of some sort. So obviously this means paper, but also napkins and even books.

There are any number websites from which you might gain some inspiration. You can easily find more on your own by searching around on the web. There are several books in my local library and I'm sure you might find some in yours as well.

Here's a source that could be a launching off point for all sorts of folding paper.

https://www.gathered.how/papercraft/guide-to-paperfolding/

The biggest group is traditional origami—a Japanese art of precise paper folding, usually creating animal shapes. If you don't know how to do this, there are quite a few YouTube videos that provide a great introduction to origami. There are also untold written instructions for lots of shapes.





Don't be afraid to giving origami a try. I was called upon to make some origami cranes a few years ago and with some good instructions and just a little practice it became pretty easy.

But there are also other paper folding objects, many listed on this site, including boats, airplanes, hats, snowflakes, cubes, and even a clock.

There are also really interesting things that can be created by cutting and folding the pages of a book.







Here's another source of information for very creative napkin folding. It includes some videos and also very clear instructions.



These are just a few directions you could take this category. The beauty of this category is that it can be easily undertaken by people of all ages, so consider figuring this out with your children or grandchildren.

With your efforts, this can add something really interesting for our contest show at the State Session in September.

ILSG Secretary Report

Just a few things this month:

- 1. Grange Quarter ends March 30, June 30, September 30 and December 30 and Quarterly reports are due to the ILSG Secretary before April 15, July 15, October 15 and January 15. If I do not have your report by the 21st of the month your Grange will be fined for late payment of dues. Unfortunately I have to fine several Granges this quarter. Please try to get them in on time.
- 2. State Grange is fast approaching and I will be mailing out information and putting it in the Granger in June. It will include a tentative Schedule of Events, Room Reservation and Meal Reservation information.

DEADLINES - ALL ROOM RESERVATIONS are due to ISG Secretary by JUNE 25, 2023

ALL MEAL RESERVATIONS are due to ISG Secretary by AUGUST 1, 2023

ALL DELEGATE NAMES must be to ISG Secretary by JULY 1, 2023

ALL RESOLUTIONS are due to ISG Secretary by JULY 1, 2023

ALL STATE OFFICER, DEPUTY, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR REPORTS are due to ISG Secretary by JULY 1, 2023.

Please adhere to these Deadlines.

3. Congratulations to the following recipient's of the ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE SCHOLARSHIP Chloe Konieczki, Kayla Konieczki, Riley Konieczki, Sammantha Meyers and Rebbeca Meyers from Prairie Grange

Delphine Calabrese and Phoebe Calabrese from Flora Grange

Katheryn Renken from Hopewell Grange

Congratulations to all the winners!

- 4. All Department Directors and Committee Chairman are asked to present a budget for the past year for your department at the June 1, 2023 ILSG Executive Committee meeting. Please send an email copy to the ISG Secretary. This meeting will be via zoom if you can't attend please get your report to the ISG Secretary before that date.
- 5. ELECTION of NEW OFFICERS will take place this year at State Session in September and if you are interested in an office please contact either the ISG Secretary or Lynette Schaeffer ISG President.

Be sure to watch the mail and the Illinois Granger for lots of important information coming out soon. Robin Kindberg ILSG Secretary



THE INTERESTS, THE SOCIAL RELATIONS AND THE DESTINY OF MAN AND WOMAN ARE IDENTICAL. SHE WAS INTENDED BY OUR CREATOR TO BE THE HELPMEET, COMPANION, AND EQUAL OF MAN - THE PERFECTING HALF ADDED TO HIS HEMISPHERE - THUS COMPLETING THE FULLY-GLOBED ORB OF OUR COMMON HUMANITY; HENCE, AS ONE, EACH SHARES THE GLORY OR THE SHAME OF THE OTHER.



ILLINOIS STATE GRANGE AGRICULTURAL CONTESTS

GRANGE YEAR 2022-2023

Joan Fidder Flora Grange 723 E 4th St, Belvidere 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 inches

(8 or more items)

Individual Basket

Group Basket

ANTIQUES

Written explanation of item.

Farm related

Household related

VALUE ADDED PRODUCT

8 oz jar of any jam, jelly,

or fruit butters

Jar of Pickles

(Must label 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.

Chaplain's Corner "Wess done good and faithful servants"



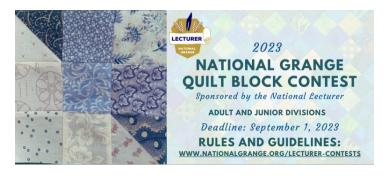
Charlotte Mehrtens

"Has spring arrived yet where you live? Here in Southern Illinois it is warm one or two days then cold again for a few days, can't decide. As days pass us by, we will soon be complaining how hot it is. The dogwood trees and redbud trees are beautiful this year. Take the time to enjoy them and all the other flowers that are blooming. God's beautiful hands are working to show us the beauty of His world. The wheat fields are waving in the wind and soon God will turn it from green to golden yellow. Take the time to watch and look for the changing of the season. God is always around us changing what we see. ENJOY EVERY DAY, it's a gift from Him.

Sending congratulations and wishes for those who are graduating and moving forward to another step in life. Ant to those who will be getting married and starting a new life.

Remember prayers for each and every one of you as we travel through life.

Blessings always





Dwayne Zipse 1939-2023 **Leaf River Grange**



Dwayne and Mary Jane Zipse built a dairy farm that provided the best place to raise a family. He grew up active in 4-H and FFA, played trombone and sang. He drove a school bus for many years. He loved playing cards. Dwayne was a member of Leaf River and Ogle County Pomona Granges. His family was named to Illinois State Grange Farm Family of the year in the early 70's.

Dwayne is survived by his wife Mary Jane, children Gaylen, Gwyn, and Sarah.. Grandchildren Adriane, Angela, Alyssa, Amanda and April. Great Grandchildren Melissa, Marshall, Hudson, Nash, Benjamin, Jackson, Landon, Weston and Brooklyn.

He will be greatly missed.

Ruth Brodeske 1949-2023 **County Line Grange**



Ruth was a past Vice President of County Line Grange. She was head of the decorating committee and worked on their parade floats. She loved having the best costumes for their Halloween parties. Ruth enjoyed canning, cooking and visiting antique shops.

She will be missed. She was one third of the Ruth B trio in Boone County Granges.