



Illinois Granger

In Essentials... Unity

In Non-Essentials... Liberty

In All Things... Charity

November 2023

Vol 3 No 11

Cooming Soon to this SPOT

Take a picture at your Grange meeting of all in attendance and email it to the editor with a short caption for the picture. Let's see all those happy people!! Granges will be entered into a contest for a prize at State Session.

Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms

President-Master GRIT October 2023

Thanks to everyone for coming today to

Hopewell Grange Hall on Oct 22 for the Grange Resources Information Training. Thanks to all those who brought food for the potluck and to Hopewell Grange for serving as hosts. Thanks to all the Presenters: Youth & Overseer—**Karie, & Marissa**, Community Service—**Heather and Don**, Communication/Editor **Ruth**, FAC—**Angie**, Juniors—**Mindy**, Lecturer—**Ethan**, Secretary—**Karrie, Kelly, Jenn, Trisha, Elaine**, Historian—**Bev**, Membership - **Karrie**.

Rural Minds is a 501c3 nonprofit organization with the mission to serve as the informed voice for mental health in rural America, and to provide mental health information and resources. Rural Minds collaborates with National Grange on initiatives to help end the silence, stigma and suffering that surround mental illness. Follow National Grange & Rural Minds in Facebook to gain information to share with your community.

I would like all the Granges to consider signing up for the ACP—Affordable Connectivity Program. All you need to do is distribute the brochures that are sent to you after you set up and talk to a navigator. This is a Federal Government program and National Grange is spreading the word. Sign-up at acprc.org. NG have committed to participation by 500 Granges so we need everyone's support. This one is easy—just distribution of printed materials to your communities, for two years. Don and I attended Boone County Fair to distribute information. This is a great way to share your information with your community. The website is acprc.org -then the Grange connection. Or go to the National Grange website for more information.

Trademark issues ever plague the National Grange. If you see a trademark infringement let me know. You as a Granger or Grange are allowed to use the logos and trademarks in any legal manner. Non-Grangers are not authorized to use the logos and trademarks.

National Grange Ex Comm has signed a purchase agreement with Somera Capital East, a DC developer. Their study period runs until September 29, after which time we can be pretty sure that they will finalize the deal. Fingers crossed until then. If everything goes well, NG staff will be moving to a different floor in the building and settlement will take place October 30. National Grange has been awarded a large grant by US Aging to support vaccination in cooperation with the Association of Consulting Pharmacists, managed by McUlsky Health Force. We hope to fulfill all the requirements of this grant with participation at the Big E, the Eastern States Exposition in Massachusetts, September 15-October 1. Thanks to the Northeast Region State Granges, we will be delivering free COVID, flu, and other vaccinations at the fair every day on the lawn of the Grange Building there. Hopefully they have been able to give 5000 vaccinations to meet the goal of the grant.

The Grange Foundation has voted to no longer accept donations for the Kelley Farm. For the last eight years the Foundation has received very little in contributions and have learned that the Farm no longer has any mention of the Grange in their displays. They do not have the Grange meeting set up in the house or any Grange displays in the visitors' center. Of course, Granges are welcome to send donations directly to the Farm if they wish, but Foundation or NG will no longer serve as middleman.

Another grant, PCORI -- Preparing Seniors for Surgery, also requires all Granges to participate by pre-

senting a program that we will provide. The name of the program is "Reaching Rural Seniors with Pre- and Post- Surgical Information Through an Underutilized Trusted Messenger" (Grange). We will be producing videos, brochures, flyers, surveys, etc. similar to our cancer program three years ago. Every Grange will receive materials to present a program on preparing seniors for surgery and questions to ask the doctor. The big kick-off of the program will be at Convention in November. Packets will be mailed to every Grange, and your job as State Presidents will be to encourage every Grange to present the program for the public. The first 500 Granges will each receive \$100 to assist with their event, and State Granges who coordinate with us to urge their Community Granges to participate will receive \$500. Joan Smith is the project manager for this grant, and she will be contacting you to check on your progress. Our grassroots organization makes us the perfect vehicle for disseminating this vital information for senior citizens.

Thanks everyone for making the 152nd State Session of the IL State Grange a great success. Thanks to the delegates and officers for working on the budget and resolutions. Thanks to the Grangers from Hopewell Grange for all of their work in the hospitality room. Thanks to three people, Elaine, Trisha and Jenn who offered to serve as Secretary. We met before this meeting to discuss the distribution of duties. Thanks to Mary Donley for accepting the position of Treasurer. She and I have started the process of transferring the accounts to her name. We are still working on it. Thanks for your patience. Thanks to Angie Dickerson and Ann Johnson for serving as FAC committee. I am still looking for someone to serve as chair in 2026. Anyone interested please let me know. Thanks to Steven Kinzinger and Brian O'Dell for serving on the Ag committee. Lana Korte and Marilyn Hoffman will serve as co-chairs for 2026.

Are you getting emails from the National Grange for the Patrons Chain or the View from the Hill? If not make sure your email is in the National Grange database. Make sure your secretary or Elaine, Trisha or Jenn, have the correct emails, so that the database is up to date. National Grange DATABASE, this information is needed for benefits that we could be eligible to get via National Grange. Look often at the National Grange for Benefits. Loretta Washington works hard to have new benefits available to us. www.nationalgrange.org Keep in mind that we are Dynamic Leaders.

Any Grange wanting to use the IL State Grange Zoom license just let me or Karie know. Granges can meet this way, State Committees and any other Grange group can meet this way. Just make sure we can set you up. It only takes a few minutes if you decide at the last minute to hold the meeting that way. I want to apologize to Beaver Valley for not starting the Zoom call meeting for them recently.

Each Grange should have a copy of the Illinois State Grange Bylaws [(each Grange has been given copies in 2015), They were in a blue binder] and National Grange Digest of

Laws, the book is on NationalGrange.org. If you need copies let me know. Since the Digest has been reviewed several years ago I have started a Bylaws committee Trisha Renken has agreed to be chair. This committee will be updating the Bylaws – any questions or concerns please check with them. Talk to Trisha or myself if you are interested in serving on the committee. The meetings will start in January and will probably mostly be held via Zoom. I would like to have at least basic report for the next State Session. If you need a copy, please contact me via email and I'll send you a current copy. If you need a copy of the newest National Grange Digest just let me know – or check on the National Grange member page.

National Grange Session will be November 14-18, 2023, in Niagara Falls, NY. Don will be Chair of the Conservation Committee, and I am secretary of Agriculture Committee. We have started with zoom calls for the committees to review present policy. I sent four resolutions from our session on the US Farmland Against Foreign Ownership, Farm Equipment Repair Costs, Saving Prime Farmland from Solar Invasion and Preventing Animal Cruelty at Mexican and/or Charra Rodeos. Next year National session will be in Quad Cities area, Bettendorf, IA. It is one of the host states and we are hoping that many of you will be able to assist like you did in 2019 in MN, November 12 – 16, 2024. Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf, 1777 Isle Parkway, Bettendorf, IA 52722. It is only two hours from the Boone County Fairgrounds and 4 hours from the Schaeffer home, it is about as close as it will ever be. Promote your Grange in any public media you can – Let others know what you are doing in your community – that is the key to a happy healthy Grange – and a happy healthy Grange gets new members. Work with other Granges and Grangers, it only makes us stronger.

Good Day Magazine – have you subscribed? I hope that all of you have subscribed. Illinois appears in many of the magazines. Make sure you renew subscriptions in a timely manner. Look on the label to see when you will expire.

I hope that each member checks out the Grange membership benefits on the National Grange website. Thanks to Karie and Marisa for the USB stick with all the information from GRIT that was sent to them. All the Presenters need to send the information to DJ for the website.

All Granges that have a hall are welcome to apply for a grant from the Hall Improvement Fund. The form is on the website and on the USB. Send the completed form to an Executive Committee member.

I am glad to share Junior Grange building information to County Line Grange.

State Session will be September 13 – 15 at Double Tree in Collinsville, IL. See you all then.

Just remember that we all need to be Dynamic Leaders.

Lynette schaeffer@att.net lschaeffer@gmail.com 618-979-5546

Here are the contests for the Lecturer's Department for 2023-2024:

Photography

Photos may be printed or submitted electronically. If printed should be mounted on a sturdy backing; no glass.

Three categories: Animals, "Guess what this is", Sky, People at Work

Arts and Crafts

Painting/Drawings/Pastels (anything on a flat paper or canvas)

Dimensional Media (ceramics, woodwork, carving, macrame, etc.)

Personal Collections (12 related items with a short description of the collection)

3 Holiday Tree Ornaments (fabric, cloth, sewing, etc.)

3 Holiday Tree Ornaments (other materials or techniques)

Decorated Birdhouse (ornamental or functional)

Origami Animals (three animals from folded paper)

Scrapbooking (two related scrapbook pages)

All contests will be grouped in four categories: Junior 5-7, Junior 8-10, Junior 11-14, and Adult.

All items should be clearly labeled with the entrant's Name, Address, Grange, Category, Age bracket, and name of responsible party if entrant not in attendance at State Session)

More detailed information can be found in the full Contests and Programs documents distributed at GRIT.

National contests will be publicized as soon as they are announced.

Ethan Edwards, Illinois State Grange Lecturer

ethanedwards2023@outlook.com

2024 Illinois State Grange

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT Contests

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

Three age groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14. Entry age as of 1/1/2024 (National Guidelines)

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

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

Mini-Juniors: Any child who is 5 by September 1, 2024 may send up to 3 entries to session. These projects will not be judged as other age groups are, but will receive participation ribbons.

Junior at Heart: Any Granger over the age of 20, as of September 1, 2024, may submit a project. These projects will be voted on by fellow Grangers for Best of Show .

Host State – Iowa

Small World - France

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

Recycling—Old books

Make a project using old books and/or old pages.

Bible Stories - Esther

Make a poster, 3-D item, or give a 3-5 minute speech on something in the book of Esther.

The Arts

Create a project out of clay.

Fashionista

For this project make a piece of clothing that would have been worn in the 1950's.

Melinda (Mindy) Schiefer IL State Grange Junior Director 10949 Faust Road, Trenton, IL 62293

(618)444-2852 or schefr5@gmail.com

2024 Illinois State Grange Youth Contests

Photography: Follow National and State guidelines

Categories:

Selfie

Group

Pets

Creative Art & Handicrafts: Due at State Session
Friday morning

Lego Item or Scene:

Category 1: Beginner Lego Set

Category 2: Vehicles Lego Set

Category 3: Nature Lego Set

Category 4: Miscellaneous Lego Set

Diamond Art: must be framed, ready to hang no
sawtooth hangers

Category 1: Holidays

Category 2: Animated Characters

Category 3: Animals

Category 4: Nature/Landscapes

Category 5: Miscellaneous

Ceramics: any painted ceramics

Fabric and Food:

Decorated Clothing Item: ready to hang

Cookies: Three Decorated Cookies: 50's Theme

Table Centerpiece: 50's Theme: Will be judged
then used for decoration on Saturday night. Can
be returned to owner if desired.

Agriculture:

Pollinator Poster

Pollinator TikTok or YouTube Video

Food Waste Poster

Food Waste TikTok or YouTube Video

Mental Illness Poster

Mental Illness TikTok or YouTube Video

Public Speaking:

Spring Fling deadline/Midwest optional

Impromptu

Prepared

Grange Commercial

Sign A Song:

Spring Fling deadline/Midwest optional

Individual

Group

Lip Sync Contest: Spring Fling deadline/ Grange
Picnic showcase

Judging on Costume, Performance, Style
and Swagger.

**Illinois State Grange Youth are Rockin' and
Rollin'**

What's buzzin', cuzzin'?

We had an amazing time at GRIT this month. If
you missed out you missed a great meeting. Those
Grangers in attendance got to see in person our new de-
sign for our Grange Youth shirt for this year!!!

Shirt colors will be in either retro pink or retro
blue. You may wonder why we went with that. Well be-
cause we are going back in time. Get ready to SHAKE
RATTLE AND ROLL.

Order your New Illinois State Grange Youth Shirt
Today!!!

Christmas Delivery or Pick up at Spring Fling in March.
Must be paid for before being printed. Cash, Check or
Money Order to Marisa ODell direct message for address.

Make sure to check out the Facebook Group to see
sizes and choices of apparel and to order. Click on the
Google Docs form and fill out your order.

Don't be an ankle biter, or go Crusin for a bruisin
Daddy-O. Order your shirts today and help support the
Youth.

Co- Youth Directors

Marisa and Karie

2023-2024 FAC Contest

2024 Chairperson
Angela Dickerson
618-363-5757
angied@bakerpool.com

2025 Chairperson
Ann Johnson
Lungs42@gmail.com

2026 Chairperson

Group 1 Knitting

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

Group 2 Crocheting

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

Group 3 Misc. Needlework

- A. Embroidered Item
- B. Plastic Canvas
- C. Any other item not listed

Group 4 Quilting

- A. Unfinished Square, max size 16 ½" x 16 ½"
- B. Table Runner
- C. Quilt, any size
- D. Baby Quilt
- E. Rag Quilt

Group 5 Sewing

- A. Clothing, 1 item
- B. Clothing, 2 or more items
- C. Baby Clothing
- D. Pillow
- E. Tied Fleece Blanket
- F. Any other item not listed

Group 6 Miscellaneous

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

Group 7 Bakery

- A. Quick Bread, Using Cranberry Sauce
- B. Toffee Candy, 12 Pieces
- C. Cookies, Crinkles, any flavor
- D. Decorated Cake

Group 7 Bakery Rules

Please enclose items in a ziplock bag so the bakery item is completely covered.

Attach entry form to the small bag serving used for judging

Attach the recipe to the larger bag. The larger item will be included in FAC Raffle.

Class A, Quick Bread, 1 small loaf on a small plate and 1 loaf on a large plate

Class B, Toffee, 3 on a small plate and 12 on a large plate

Class C, Cookies, 3 on a small plate and 12 on a large plate

Juniors – All ages welcomed

Group 1 Juniors – Bakery

Class A. Bar Cookies (not Rice Krispie Bars)

Class B. Trail Mix, using dried fruits, M&M's, nuts, cereal, crackers, etc. for a unique mixture.

Group 2 Juniors

Class A. Tied Fleece Blanket – Lap Size

Group 1 Juniors Rules

Class A Bar Cookies – 3 on a small plate and 12 on a large plate

Class B Trail Mix – 1 Snack size bag and 1 Quart size bag

Beaver Valley Grange News

We met on Friday the 13th at the Community Grange Hall. Minutes and treasurer's report were approved. Committee reports were given for Community Service, Fairboard, Safety and Pomona. Youth report by Krystal Allen on their trip to Farm Aid in Indiana. Our Youth and Young Adults who attended Farm Aid were Marisa O'Dell, Krystal Allen, Athena O'Dell and Miranda Klencz. Deaf Committee, Rick O'Dell reported he has a friend going to get hearing aids, then he will wait to see how he does before Rick gets them. Family activity thanks Jerry Paulson for serving and Susan Banks will serve at our next meeting. Flowers report, time for planting tulips and bulb flowers. Health, Education and Welfare, Marisa reported the first case of measles in Springfield. A good source of anti-oxidant food is red cabbage, helping with inflammation as well as being an anti-cancer food. A warning about Walgreens of a possible walkout by workers. So do not wait until the last minute to get your refills on prescriptions. Legislative, Bryson reported on the Ban on assault weapons, registrations of semi-automatic firearms and Cashless bond was explained. Steve Paulson gave the AG report on several issues for farmers, the lack of resources, public disconnect, urbanization, soil and erosion and fuel costs. Lastly, the zoom meeting did not work for us this evening, so we voted to get our own zoom account and try it for a few months.

Old business announced the GRIT dates and time, BVG Christmas project discussion, Marisa to check with Crusader Clinic for families. State Session recap was given and resolutions report. President Brian O'Dell announced position changes: with the departure of Chip Messiner we had an opening for Fairboard representative and Brian announced that Kelly Christensen is our newest member on the Fairboard. Dayle Paulson, publicity



Hopewell Grange News



Carrie, Clayton and Jaxon Fisher did a community service project for Feeding My Starving Children on Sept 23. We packed meals for 4 hours.



Prairie Grange Report

Prairie Grange meeting was opened in full form on Monday October 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM by President Don Ellwanger.

Don Ellwanger gave the installation charge to Ruth Blasingame who was elected to the position of Executive Committee member for a 3 year term.

Everyone was reminded to attend the GRIT Conference on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 11:30AM at Hopewell Grange hall n Washington IL.

Prairie Grangers will be participating in the Rockford Ice Hogs Hockey team's Teddy Bear Toss on December 9, 2023. Everyone who wants to can bring stuffed animals to the November meeting and we will take them to the game.

Kindberg family will be purchasing a Christmas tree for a needy family and wanted to know if Prairie Grangers wanted to help provide nonperishable food items to be given to the family. It was decided we will give them a gift certificate instead of everyone bringing food items. We will be making ornaments for our tree at the November 20th meeting.

Everyone was reminded that it is flu season and you need to get your flu shots as well as the new covid vaccine and the RSV if you are over 60 years of age.

We discussed doing some remodeling in the Grange hall but was decided to table this until springtime.

We discussed participating in Wreaths Across America. We will be purchasing wreaths to be placed on military graves to help with this event.

Mother nature did not help us with our Feed the Farmers event so we will do it at a later date.

We are all wishing Sammantha Meyers good luck on her Bowling ventures for William Penn college.

The meeting was closed in full form at 8:00PM.

Robin Kindberg, Publicity Chairman

Guilford Hope Grange #6

Guilford Hope Grange met October 23, 2023. Dave and Martha Byrnes arranged for our meeting to take place at a Wesley Willows meeting room near their home. A pot luck lunch was shared at noon. Nine members were in attendance. The meeting was opened in the 4th degree. The Secretaries report was given with no corrections. Treasurers report was given and approved as presented. Correspondence was a thank you from the Rockford Rescue Mission for our recent donation. Also

read was a thank you from the Midway Village Museum for our donation of \$1,000.00 to their education fund. We continue to collect 'G' bills for Miss Carly's place. Next month our donations will go to Shriner's Children's Hospital in Chicago and the Goldie Floberg Center. Carrie Meyer has been approved as a new member of our Grange. Her sponsors were Dave and Martha Byrnes. November meeting will be held at Wayne Lyford residence with Carol Roush hosting. It was voted to have our Christmas gathering on December 12th at noon. We will be having a gift exchange as usual for anyone wishing to do so.

Nancy Lyford



President Lyford presenting the Grange \$1,000.00 donation to Alex Gary, Fund Development Manager at Midway Village Museum.

News from Flora Grange

Flora Grange #1762 held their October meeting on October 10, 2023, with 32 members in attendance. Master Ken Fidler and Community Service chairman Lindakay Ebel presented Craig Wilcox with the outstanding Firemen's award from the Illinois State Grange.

Master Fidler called the meeting to order, and roll call was taken by Lindakay Ebel, acting secretary in the absence of Secretary Laurel Ratcliff and the minutes of the September 12, 2023 meeting were approved. Master Fidler and Chaplain Colver Draped the Charter for Dixie Kirk, Donna Peterson and Bunnie Koenig and the membership resided the Lord's Prayer.

Community Reports:

Community Service: Lindakay Ebel stated she is still looking for hours from the Boone County Fair, get them in before you forget what you did and how many hours you worked.

Agriculture: Bob Scherer reported around 30% of the farmers are in the fields, 60 to 80% yields on beans, corn is around 240 per bushel this year, and of course, some farmers are having their usual machinery breakdowns on their equipment.

Fair board: Bob Scherer states not much going on, did book some entertainment for next year. Com Ed is checking some of the old electric poles that have been in for a while, and they voted to raise the gate prices to \$10 for each day of the fair.

Membership: Lindakay Ebel reported we are losing members through death, and some moving away. We need to get out and recruit new members. We have a new membership form. There are many benefits for Grange members on the website on shopping, finance, travel, health, pharmacy and insurance. These benefits we as Grange members can view on the National Grange website: www.nationalgrange.org/benefits.

Youth: JT Ryan reported they will be meeting next week and will be discussing how they are going to try and recruit new members.

Family Activities: Deb Silvers had nothing new to report this evening.

Quilting: Emalee Colver stated there will be quilting on Friday, 9 am to 3 pm and Sunday, 9 am until 3 pm, all are invited. You can bring any project to work on, does not have to be quilting.

Building & Grounds: Ken Fidler reported that 99% of the original job is completed, will finish this week, talked with the contractor and he will do some additional work in front, and he also installed an additional downspout to help take away the heavy rains.

Treasurer Lindakay Ebel had a written report for all in attendance and explained all checks written and the balances on all accounts, motion to accept. She also presented the bill on the Granges' annual insurance to those in attendance.

Flora Grange members are again selling Butter Braids, and all members have sheets, get them into Laurel as soon as possible, if interested, call any Flora Grange member.

Members discussed ordering dictionaries for third graders as we have in the past years, after discussion, it was tabled until next meeting.

Deb Silver's will oversee the Bell Ringing again this year, and we discussed if we wanted to be a part of the Christmas display in Belvidere Park again this year. Some of the younger Grangers stated they would like to help Jack and Laurel with this project again this year.

Emalee Colver collected \$28.00 in 'G' bills this evening. She also read the names she sent cards to this past month and had cards for members to sign this evening for several of our Grange members that are ill.

Birthdays this month for Nancy Lyford and anniversary for Jack and Laurel Ratcliffe.

Th meeting closed in full form and the refreshment committee of Loren and Pat Due and Al and Lindakay Ebel served refreshments with the help of Deb Silvers. Everyone enjoyed fellowship together.

Next meeting is Tuesday, November 7th, 2023, 7 pm at the Grange Hall.
Lindakay Ebel, Publicity

October Gobbles from Turkey Hill

Turkey Hill will hold their annual Wurstmarkt on October 29th. We are hoping for a good crowd and pleasant weather.

If you are familiar with our dining hall, we have been long plagued by a hole in the ceiling from a leak. On a rainy day, a member went to observe what was happening and discovered where the leak was entering the building. Our building chairman did some research, went to work, (with help from Grangers), fixed the leak, and found a contractor to repair the ceiling. Thanks to Stacy Rutledge, Ron Bersett, Jim Coe, and Charles Treser.

We have been able to host two catered dinners this month and the Rose Garden Club for a show.

Seven of our members went to G.R.I.T. and enjoyed being with other Grangers and hearing about the State Grange activities after a wonderful potluck. Thanks go to Hopewell for hosting. We saw beautiful fall foliage on our journey.

Our next event will be our ceremony for Quilts of Valor on November 10th. We will be honoring nine veterans. All are welcome to join us as we thank them for their service.

LeRoy Community Grange

The meeting was called to order by President, Joe Muzzillo. Pledges were led by Jeff Vance and the prayer was given by Scott Yunk.

The secretaries report was email by Tami Temple. There was no treasurers report as Ed Kasper was not in attendance. Reminder to turn in your Community Service forms!

Old business included discussion on applying for a State Grange Building Improvement Grant to do much needed repairs to our Grange building. Joe suggested replacing the windows would be an important place to start. Will need to get two quotes along with other requirements before we can submit the application. Regarding 4-H awards that we agreed to sponsor, the Extension office advised that there were no applicants for the photography award, but there is a winner for the woodworking award so we will send the funds to cover that award. If anyone has old Christmas cards, please give them to Jackie for a 4-H club that is looking for donations for a special project.

New business: discussion was about the GRIT conference on October 22 at Hopewell Grange, in Washington, IL. Potluck will start at 11:30 and presentations to begin at 12:30. We hope to have a couple of people attending. Hometown Christmas is just around the corner. We plan to sponsor a tree and family again this year. We will form a committee at our next meeting. It was decided that we want to hold a traditional Grange meeting this year. Will check in to see if someone can assist us with that.

Denise Temple discussed planning Community Service projects for the year. Some ideas included delivering Meals on Wheels, sponsoring a blood drive for the community, Wayne suggested helping Habitat for Humanity. October 28th is Make a Difference Day. Discussion on finding a way to volunteer in our community. Will check with our some of our Grange members who might need some help with yard work or other things. There was also discussion on how we want to use our proceeds from our raffle, such as making improvements in the Grange fair kitchen, sponsoring the after school program at the YMCA, purchasing dictionaries for 3rd graders and looking for any other ways we can assist our community.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Grange Hall.
Acting secretary, Denise Temple

LeRoy Grange Cont.

At our meeting on 9/27/23 we presented our nominee, Deputy Mike Gosnell, with the IL State Grange Police Officer of the Year! Congratulations Mike and thanks for all you do for our community!!



Our 50/50 raffle winner, Aaron Walsh, was presented with his check for \$10,000. Thanks to everyone who bought a ticket, we appreciate your support!!





Chaplain's Corner Calendar of Grange Events

Charlotte Mehrtens 11/1 Bonding due to Robin Kindberg

What a beautiful cool fall day. Just a few short weeks ago we were well over 100 degrees and now a different feeling, with crisp cool mornings and the crickets singing their merry little hearts out. I was so very happy to see all of you at State Session, it does the soul so good to be around people that you haven't seen for so long. It's like those little merry crickets who are also singing their hearts out because they have old and new friends. We are truly blessed with life if we just take the time to look around at all that God puts in front of us to see. Do you take the time to listen to the fall songs of the birds or is your life so consumed by not being aware that you let life slip past you?

The farmers are busy getting their corn out, but a lot of them are picking it with some green stalks, don't know why maybe they know something the rest of us don't know. Maybe an early snow, now days we never know what the weather will be. The woolly worms are coal black, light brown and some even white so can someone tell me what is going on please. The only one that knows is God we just must wait and see.

A big thank you to those of you who took part in the Beautiful memorial service, Don would have been so honored with it. I'm sorry I couldn't do it but I was so thankful for those who were there to comfort me. My Grange family is a very strong part of my life and I enjoy all of you.

It was so great to have so many young Grangers take part in the programs or napping in their strollers. Take care and God Bless each of you, hope to see you all GRIT conference at Hopewell Grange. Keep your head high and remember to take the time to enjoy the fall activities.

Blessings and Peace though our Lord Jesus Christ

"Well Done Good and Faithful Servants"

Dixie Kirk
1943-2023
Flora Grange



11/14-18 National Grange Session-Niagra Falls NY

11/18 Emerald Mound Big Breakfast

12/9 Rockford Ice Hogs Teddy Bear Toss

1/15 Quarterly reports due to Jenn Tobin-Tinch

2024

4/20 Turkey Hill Grange 150th Anniversary

8/6-11 Boone County Fair

9/13-15 State Session, Collinsville IL

National Session Quad Cities 11/10-17

Donations: Memorial Scholarship

\$100 County Line Grange in memory of Don Mehrtens

Donations: Illinois Granger

\$100 Big Thunder 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



Grange Declaration of Purposes

WE CHERISH THE BELIEF THAT SECTIONALISM IS, AND OF RIGHT SHOULD BE, DEAD AND BURIED WITH THE PAST. OUR WORK IS FOR THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE. IN OUR AGRICULTURAL FRATERNITY, WE SHALL RECOGNIZE NO NORTH, NO SOUTH, NO EAST, NO WEST.

Illinois State Secretary Report

Happy November to all the Granges of Illinois! The Secretary of the Illinois State Grange Elaine Hecathorn and her assistants Trisha Renken and Jennifer Tobin-Tinch, along with out going assistants Karrie and Kelly Kindberg, met with Illinois State Grange President Lynette Schaeffer and Illinois State Grange Vice-President Karie Blasingame before the GRIT conference to discuss how to best divide the duties of the secretary. There will be another meeting on November 4, 2023 to finish the hand off from outgoing Secretary Robin Kindberg.

It was decided that all information and monies that are required for each Grange for the report to the National Grange be sent to Jennifer Tobin-Tinch. The bank that is used is in Belvidere where Jenn lives and is in conjunction with the Youth account, so it is staying in Belvidere. Please send your Reports for the National Grange to:

Jennifer Tobin-Tinch

727 E 2nd Street

Belvidere, IL 61008

815-978-1053

jenntobintinch@gmail.com

Thank you for your patience and understanding while the changeover takes place and we promise there will be no interruptions of work or service during this time.

Fraternally Submitted,

Jennifer Tobin-Tinch

Illinois State Grange Secretary Assistant

