



# ILLINOIS GRANGER

*In Essentials... Unity*

*In Non-Essentials... Liberty*

*In All Things... Charity*

February 2025

Vol 5 No 2



## Lynette's Visions and Wisdoms



Don and I were saddened at the loss of another Granger, Kurt Joseph. His Grange Service hosted by Enterprise Grange, was well attended by Grangers (40) from throughout the state of IL. Those Grangers surrounded and supported Kenny, MaryAnn, Kathy, Ryan, Kevin and DJ, Amber, Nathan and Sebastian. Thanks to all those Grangers who attended the service.

As I write this, I have just arrived home from the first ever 3-Board Retreat for National Grange Executive Committee, Grange Advocacy Board, and Grange Foundation Board. The Boards worked on strategic planning, mission alignment, leadership training, and more over a couple days. We were grateful to our hosts at the **United States Patent and Trademark Office** for their warm welcome and assistance in bringing this retreat to life. There has never been a joint meeting of these boards. There were great speakers and much discussion between the participants on making us Grange Strong. Look for new things coming from this meeting. I had to leave for

the airport while much of the group toured the **National Inventors Hall of Fame and Museum**, the reports were that I really missed a great tour.

Later in February Lana and I will be going to Leader's Conference. We will be in Rohnert Park, CA, thanks to California State Grange for their hospitality. The schedule contains more workshops to add to the Toolbox Series from last year. Several of the topics include best practices for various Grange items. I hope to share some of the information with you all during leadership meetings in March – I hope. Maybe March 22 and 23, one day north one day south. More information will be forthcoming as soon as I have checked dates and locations. I am thinking maybe 11:00 AM – 3:30 PM.

I hope that all IL Grange students planning on higher education have submitted a scholarship application. If you have been a Granger for 1 or more years please check the website, [illinoisstategrange.org](http://illinoisstategrange.org), for the application. Get completed form to Brian Keller at the designated date. This is the second year that the form was updated to be fillable. So, it is now easier to complete the application continued on page 2

## Calendar of Grange Events

### 2025

4th Tuesday Youth Game Night ZOOM

2/20 Deadline for Grange Scholarship

3/15 Spring Fling day—theme Western

3/15 Murder Mystery Dinner BoCoCommGrangehall

4/6 Turkey Hill Chicken Dinner

5/31 **State Grange Picnic**—Boone County Fairgrounds

7/22-27 **Grange Revival**—Torrey Utah

8/5-10 Boone County Fair

8/10 Turkey Hill Ham & Peach Dinner

9/19-21 **State Session at Boone County Fairgrounds**

## 11/8-16 National Grange Cruise

Donations: Memorial Scholarship

Donations: Illinois Granger

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

Ruth Blasingame 815-299-7884

[illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com](mailto:illinoisgranger2017@gmail.com)

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process. The scholarships awardees will be announced after the March ISG Executive Committee meeting. All those who receive a scholarship will need to attend a State Grange function in order to receive the scholarship money. Qualifying functions Spring Fling, State Session, Grange Picnic and GRIT.

Exciting plans are being made for videoing the 7<sup>th</sup> degree this spring in Boone County. When plans are finalized, we will share to see if volunteers are needed.

Now is the time to review the IL Grange Contests/Programs that were distributed at GRIT conferences. Make plans at your next Grange meeting to have a Strong Grange year. Set your Grange schedule, have it available at all your fundraisers, post it in your hall, or meeting place, post it on Facebook.

Check National Grange website for current and upcoming programs and projects that we can all participate in.

Keep your Grange active.

Lynette

## **Illinois State Grange Secretary News for February 2025**

The year is one-twelfth over, so how are your New Year's resolutions coming? For some of you, I hope that applying for the Illinois State Grange Scholarship is at the top of the list! However, the deadline is fast approaching - all applications, including supporting documentation, must be received by February 20, 2025. I can email the scholarship package to you on request, or you can download it at the Illinois State Grange website using this link: <https://illinoisstategrange.org/secretary/scholarship-application/>

Are former scholarship winners eligible to apply again? Yes! As long as you meet the criteria, you can win multiple years. But you have to re-apply each year. Other questions? Send them my way, and I'll do my best to get them answered for you.

As we move into February, there are a few Granges that still need to submit their Quarterly Reports and dues payments. Please send them to me as soon as possible. I know mail can be slow, weather snarling, and the paperwork just a hassle, but it's an important part of keeping the Grange alive and kicking! To all the Grange Secretar-

ies (and Acting Secretaries) out there, thank you for all you do!

Fraternally,  
Brian Keller, Illinois State Grange Secretary  
[brianjkeller@gmail.com](mailto:brianjkeller@gmail.com)  
618-410-9020

## **Guilford Hope Grange #6**

Guilford Hope Grange #6 met January 28<sup>th</sup> at Bob & Nathalie Lyford's house for a noon dinner with 12 members present.

The meeting was opened in the 4<sup>th</sup> degree with the Pledge of Allegiance, the Secretary and Treasurer's reports were read and approved. We received thank you notes from Carpenter's Place, Midway Village Museum, & Shriner's Children's Hospital for our recent donations as well as a note from our college scholarship winner. It was reported that Alpine Academy, the school we have furnished with dictionaries for many years, had closed due to loss of funding. We discussed and approved our budget for 2025.

We voted to have another garage sale at Wayne & Nancy Lyford's to support Midway Village Museum and set the date of May 15 -16. We voted to send a donation to the California State Grange Foundation to aid the victims of the recent wildfires. Martha Byrnes gave us a report on the State of Alaska and their state Grange.

Our next meeting will be February 25 @ Gene & Carolyn Wheelers. Our veteran members were given Valentines from the Rockford chapter of the DAR.

Meeting was adjourned. Nathalie Lyford, Secretary



## Recipe Corner

### SEAFOOD ALFREDO

1 lb medium shrimp  
1 lb Imitation crab legs  
1 lb Imitation crab meat  
1/2 cup red onion chopped  
2 TBls minced garlic  
1 lb spaghetti  
2 large jars classic alfredo sauce  
2 pkgs shredded parmesan cheese  
Panko crumbs  
Parsley flakes  
Paprika

In Crockpot  
Layer  
Med shrimp  
Crab legs cut in one inch pieces  
Imitation crab meat broken apart  
Add onion & minced garlic  
Break spaghetti into 2 inch pieces  
layer on top  
Pour the 2 jars of Alfredo sauce plus one jar of water  
Mix well  
Parmesan cheese across top  
Layer of panko crumbs  
Sprinkle parsley flakes & paprika

Cover cook on high for 2 hours  
ENJOY

Submitted by:  
Marilyn Hoffman  
Floraville Grange  
Illinois State Grange Flora

NOTE: If you have eaten a great dish at a Grange event ask the person who made it to submit the recipe to the Illinois Granger so that we can all enjoy it!!!!



## Broad Hollow Grange News

Broad Hollow Grange's first event of the new year was a first Friday potluck on January 3rd. The hall was decorated for the January theme with snowflakes and snowmen. After the potluck, a New Year's program took place. Various toasts to the new year were read, participants told about New Year traditions around the world, there were New Year's jokes, and what food is eaten around the world for good luck. There was a New Year's Quiz with the program closing with a resolution.

In January, Broad Hollow Grange #1806 was 104 years young. Broad Hollow Grange was organized by Eugene and Dosia Eckert from Woodland Grange who at that time was the Illinois State Grange Master. Broad Hollow Grange was organized on January 20th, 1921, with 35 charter members and was the 1,806th Grange in the state. For several months members met in the Broad Hollow one-room school. Within several months so many people joined the Grange that it was decided to build a large hall. In the fall of 1921, the Grange moved into their new hall, and a Junior Grange was also organized for ages 6 through 16, Broad Hollow Junior Grange was the 3rd one organized in the state of Illinois. In the 1950's, Broad Hollow Grange received an award for being the largest Grange in the state with well over 100 members. Broad Hollow Grange continues to be a driving force in the community welcoming visitors and new members for activities and meetings.



HOPE IS THE HEAVENLY LIGHT THAT GILDS OUR LABORS.  
WERE WE DEPRIVED OF THAT SOURCE OF  
CONSOLATION, LIFE WOULD INDEED BE DREARY.

Fourth Degree; Pomona

## Gobbles from Turkey Hill

December was a quiet month for some of our members, while others worked hard to produce an evening of fellowship and fun at our annual Christmas Party. Program director, Lynne Edwards, and her husband David, Mardy Eisloeffel, Tami Hughes, Jim Coe, Steve and Hilda Koluch and Rosemarie Parker performed an adaptation of the Grinch complete with music, lights and a beautiful set. The evening was enjoyed by everyone. Santa arrived with gifts for the youngsters.

We held a jigsaw puzzle contest on December 29<sup>th</sup> as part of the Rural Life Initiative. We have updated our lighting in the auditorium and will be holding another contest in March.

We held our dues paying potluck in January and the many projects and programs that are planned. Here's what we want to tackle:

February

Trivia Contest Feb.8 Chair- Tami Hughes

March

Puzzle contest March 8 Chair Chris Bersett

April

Chicken Dinner April 6

Community Service awards – April 11

May

Drive through Pork Chop Dinner May 4

June

Yard Sale and Bake Sale June 14

August

Ham and Peach August 10 \

September

Drive through Pork Steak Dinner Sept. 14 (Chair needed)

October

Wurstmarkt October 26 Chairs Stacy Rutledge &

Chris Bersett

November

Quilts of Valor November 15<sup>th</sup> Chair-THG Quilters

December

Christmas Party Dec. 13

Please mark your calendars now for our big dinners. The Ham and Peach Dinner and Wurstmarkt are back to the traditional weekends.

We are sad to announce that we lost Stan Agne in December. What a valuable member he was!



David Edwards as The Grinch

Tami Hughes as Mary Lou Who



Our beautiful stage set created by David Edwards and Mardy Eisloeffel.

### We have a winner!!!

Turkey Hill Grange is proud to announce that one of our members, Emma Rutledge, a senior at Belleville East High School, will have a handmade quilt block in The Next Giant Leap Quilt Block Challenge 2025. Retired astronaut Dr. Karen Nyberg is its sponsor. The finished quilt will be displayed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. It is part of The Arts Breaking the Sky Festival held March 28-April 13, 2025.

Dr. Karen Nyberg stitched a star quilt block while in space on the International Space station for 166 days.  
Continued on page 5

She encouraged others to make star quilt blocks while she was on her ISS mission. NASA received 2,400 quilt blocks that were assembled into 28 king-size quilts. Those quilts are housed at the Briscoe Center for History at the University of Texas.

Since retiring from NASA, Dr. Nyberg has pursued a career in textile arts. This new contest is inspired by the Artemis Mission that will return astronauts to the Moon. Students were asked to submit a block related to Artemis with one block per state being chosen for the Lunar Quilt. Dr. Nyberg says, "Innovative textiles, sewing expertise and design skills are vital to the space program. I'm excited that this challenge will make young art students aware of these new career paths."

The quilt with Emma's block will be on display at the Kennedy Center from March 28-April 13, 2025. Emma is the daughter of John and Stacy Rutledge of Belleville, IL.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Bersett

## Beaver Valley Grange #1791

Happy 2025!

We have been busy. December's meeting was a Christmas potluck on the 13th at the Boone County Community Grange Hall. We gathered donations for the Haven Network and made goodie bags for The Heritage Woods nursing home residents. And we wrapped gifts for the Salvation Army adopted family. We had big and small helpers working hard.

Also, on December 20th, our youth members attended the Youth Christmas dinner and had fun making ornaments, watching a movie and meeting Santa & Mrs. Claus! We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with your family as well as your Grange family.

January 10, 2025 meeting was held at the Grange Hall. We held our installation of new officers. Congrats to those who were nominated for a new position. Thank you to Lyle & Patti Lee and Donnie & Heather Ellwanger from Prairie Grange for installing our new officers. Marisa O'Dell reported Grange scholarship applications are due soon. The Youth and Young Adults are getting ready for various fun activities like game night the last Tuesday of the month, diamond art, and a Murder Mystery night. Thank you Steve & Dayle Paulson for volunteering to help out! Chloe Broughton is selling girl scout

cookies, this is her last year selling them, so be sure to get a box or five! BVG plans to donate to a new Grange hall sign on the back of the building.

Hope everyone is staying warm!

Our January meeting count was 11, 1 junior, and 4 guests.

Fraternal submitted,

Micah Schlie, Publicity



## Flora Grange #1762 News

Flora Grange #1762 met on Tuesday evening, January 14 with a delicious potluck dinner, hosted by Al and Lindakay Ebel and Jerri Schardt at 6:30 pm with 36 in attendance at the Flora Grange Hall for members and guests with Chaplain Donna West leading us in prayer,

Following dinner, members moved upstairs, meeting was called to order by President Ken Fidler with Grange Salutation and Pledge to American Flag. The Charter was Draped for Ron Wait who passed away.

Secretary Laurel Ratcliffe took roll call, and eight of the ten officers were in attendance. The minutes of the December 10, 2024, meeting was approved as printed.

We had two new members again this evening, Debbie J. Hoffman and Arlene Zera. Jack Ratcliffe gave them the obligations and they were welcomed into Flora Grange.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

**AGRICULTURE:** Dan Burow reported he was in Hartford, Wi and was in a bookstore and came upon two books, author was Cory Geiger. First book titled "On A Wisconsin Family Farm" owned by John & Anna Burich, second book titled "Farm They Built", Elmer & Julia Pritzel. Dan went on to tell a little about the two books, sounded very interesting, so much, makes one want to read them. Talk to Dan about the books.

**FAIR BOARD:** Todd Hegge stated the fair board has most of the entertainment booked for the 2025 fair; the fair convention is January 16-19 in Springfield and the outside of the pony barn is finished, stop by and take a look at it.

**FARMLAND PROTECTION:** The group's annual meeting is in March. and all are invited.

**LEGISLATIVE:** Marion Thornberry reported many changes in laws since the new year. One big change is that if a Veteran wants to get a building permit, they cannot charge him for the permit, only for what he remodels.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Lindakay Ebel said she is SO pleased with all the new members that Flora Grange has received since July 2024. We have brought 11 new members in since July. Keep up the good work, great job, Flora Grange, proud of you!

**YOUTH:** JT Ryan reported they will be having a meeting, designing a new shirt for the 2025 fair.

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES:** Deb Silvers stated the new list for the 2025 convention was listed in the Illinois Granger, start working on your projects to enter, will have copies at our next meeting for those who did not see the information.

**QUILTING:** Emalee Colver stated there will be quilting this weekend, Friday's group will start at 10 am, Saturday and Sunday will start at 9 am. This is open to all so come and join in, bring whatever you are working on.

Laurel read the correspondence and thank you cards and letters received for Flora Grange.

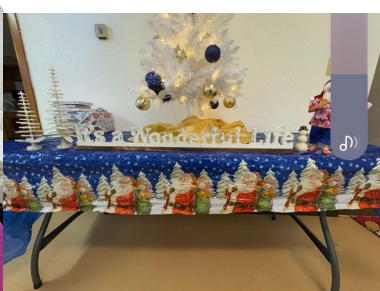
Treasurer Lindakay Ebel gave a report on income and expenditures for the month of December and the balance in each account as members followed along with a written report; her report was approved by the membership. Following this she gave a detailed year-end report on expenditures and totals spent in each account as well as all income and exactly where all the income was received for the entire year, so members realized just how the money was spent and where the income came from, looking back through the year. President of the Boone County Fair, Jack Ratcliffe presented the treasurer with a check from the fair for \$30.00 per member of Flora Grange as they do each year. The fair was thanked by Flora Grange members and stated they will continue to help at the 2025 fair to make it a great fair again this year.

Program chairman Jack Ratcliffe had another clever story to read to us again this evening and everyone had a few laughs along the way. Everyone always looks forward to what Jack is going to present for his program.

Chaplain Donna West gave a report on Grange members who are ill or in the hospital and need prayers, and for the people in California that lost their homes and the people of New Orleans. Donna had cards for members to sign tonight to be sent to those Grange members who are ill.

Emalee Colver collected \$29.00 in "G" bills this evening. The birthdays were announced for the month of January, and we sang Happy Birthday.

The president closed the meeting in full form.  
Lindakay F. Ebel, Publicity



## County Line Grange News

We held our Christmas party January 4 instead of our regular meeting. Our party was held at the Grange Hall. Most of our members attended.

Thanks go to Jo Ellen Coleman, Kim Robin, Cathy Zei and our other officers for cooking our delicious meal. This was their way of thanking everyone for all their hard work this year. We enjoyed roast beef, fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, salad, rolls, etc. Desserts were provided by County Line members. Everything was delicious.

Each person brought a wrapped ten dollar gift. We played a take away gift game with dice. It was so much fun, even though you ended up losing the gift you really wanted.

Kathy Loy and her decorating team did a wonderful job decorating the Grange Hall. All the decorations were beautiful. Thank you.

We received some wonderful news. Ethan Walker and Kaitlyn Roth announced that they had become engaged during the holidays. Kaitlyn was showing off a very beautiful ring. No date announced yet, but maybe in September. Congratulations to a very sweet couple.

Stay safe and warm everyone.



## 2025 Illinois State Grange Youth Contests

MCreative Art & Handicrafts: Due at State Session Friday morning

Lego Item or Scene:

Category 1: Beginner Lego Set

Category 2: Vehicles Lego Set

Category 3: Flowers Lego Set

Category 4: Animals Lego Set

Category 5: 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

Category 5: Landscapes

Category 6: Western

Category 7: Sports

Category 8: Miscellaneous

Ceramics:

Category 1: Functional

Category 2: Display

Fabric and Food:

Decorated Item:

Category 1: Shirt

Category 2: Tote

Category 3: Apron

Category 4: Miscellaneous

Painted Pumpkin:

Something Stuffed:

Category 1: Crochet

Category 2: Sewn

Category 3: Miscellaneous

Cookies: Three Decorated Cookies

Agriculture:

Pollinator Poster

Food Waste Poster

Pollinator TikTok or YouTube Video

Food Waste TikTok or YouTube Video

Mental Illness Poster

Mental Illness TikTok or YouTube Video

Hearing/Signing Poster

Hearing/Signing TikTok or YouTube Video

Anything Ag related Poster

Anything Ag related TikTok or YouTube Video

Public Speaking: Picnic

Impromptu

Prepared

Grange Commercial

Sign A Song: Picnic

Individual

Group

Lip Sync Contest: Picnic

Judging on Costume, Performance, Style and Swagger.

Talent Exhibition: Picnic



**Join us the 4th Tuesday**

**of each month for**

**Game Night**

**5-7 pm via Zoom**

**check out the Illinois**

**State Grange Youth**

**Facebook group**

**for more details.**



# Illinois State Grange Lecturer's Contest and Program 2025

Ethan Edwards - Director     Ethanedwards2023@outlook.com

618-795-8021

One entry per member may be submitted in each class. Must be made in this Grange year. Awards in each class.

Attached to entry must be:

Member name, Member address, Grange name and number, Specific state contest category, Age bracket (Juniors only), Name of responsible party (if entrant not in attendance at State Session.)

Eligibility—All Subordinate and Junior Grange members. Junior entries may also include grandchildren of Subordinate members.

Photos may be submitted electronically, via email, text, or USB drive or printed and mounted on a sturdy backing.

Classes—There will be one class for Subordinate Grange members and 3 age groups for Juniors: 5-7 yr old, 8-10 yr old and 11-14 yr old.

The Illinois State Lecturer reserves the right to choose to not display any entry deemed inappropriate within Grange values. Themes including nudity, obscenity, or violence will not be accepted.

**Photography** - Color or Black and White More rules on website.

Plant

Animal

Mineral

**Media Arts & Crafts**—General guidelines

We seek to recognize all types of visual arts. Work must be original, the entrant's own creation.

No frames or glass. Fragile items are displayed at the entrant's risk.

**Painting/Drawing/Pastels**—Any subject or theme. All media (oils, watercolors, pencil, etc.) will be judged in one category. Works should not exceed 30 in.x 30 in.

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

**Art Journal**— See website

**Nature Collage**— See website

**Personal Collection**— See website

**Handcrafted Holiday Tree Ornaments**—3 ornaments. Ornaments can represent any holiday or season, should not be identical but should be related by theme or technique. Ornaments will be judged on craftsmanship, creativity, and appearance.

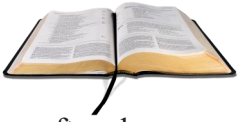
Ornaments involving primarily fabric, sewing, needlecrafts, etc

Ornaments using other materials or techniques

**Birdhouse**—Any materials or decorations. It can be completely functional or completely decorative. It should be scaled appropriately, have doorway, nesting chamber, roof, perch of some sort so that theoretically a bird could live in it. Entries will be judged on workmanship and visual appeal. Creativity in materials and decorations is encouraged.

**Origami Animals**—3 Animals from folding paper.

Complete Rules and suggestions are included after page ten of the email or on the Illinois State Grange Website. 9



## Chaplain's Corner

Charlotte Mehrtens

How often do we greet someone by saying Happy Valentine's Day, Happy Birthday, Happy Easter oh Happy Day and etc.

In the Bible Happy or Happiness is a state of Joy or pleasure that comes from God and is a sign of His presence in a person's life . Are you a Happy person or do you let all of your negative thoughts carry you though life. I invite you to walk around each day with a happy voice and a happy SMILE on your face every day it makes you feel better about yourself and those around you.

Yes we all have bad days, days that can be challenging and we want to pull out our hair. We deal with death, job loss, kids acting up, and etc. But remember we need to be positive and get that happy smile back on your face.

Sending our love, support and hugs to everyone who needs them.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY TO EACH OF YOU may we all know God's grace, love and hugs.

*"Well Done Good and Faithful Servants"*



**Stanley T. Agne**

**1928—2024**

### **Turkey Hill Grange**

Stan was a longtime member of Turkey Hill Grange. He was a proud veteran serving in Korea. He had many jobs around St. Clair county and played guitar and sang in many local bands. He was an avid fisherman, bowler and St. Louis Cardinal fan. He will be greatly missed at Turkey Hill.



**Ronald A. Wait**

**1944—2024**



### **Flora Grange**

Ron was a former member of the Illinois House of Representatives, a devoted farmer, & lifelong Boone County Resident. He was

dedicated to serving his community and helping others. There will be a memorial service for Ron at the Boone County Community Bldg on Mar 21, 2025.

### **Kurt Arthur Joseph**

**1986—2025**

### **Enterprise Grange**

Kurt was a great father to his two boys, Nathan Vernier and Sebastian Joseph, and a loved husband of Amber Joseph.



Kurt will surely be missed.

His parents are Kenneth and Mary Ann Joseph.

Kurt participated in many Grange activities over the years. He was very active in the Youth program.

Kurt didn't want a "funeral" . He wanted everyone to celebrate together, not wearing black, and send him off with love and laughter.

The candle ceremony at the church was beautiful. His oldest son spoke from his heart about him. He will be greatly loved and missed.

God speed Kurt!



## Illinois State Grange Lecturer's

### Contests and Programs

#### 2024-2025

Ethan Edwards, Illinois State Lecturer

Ethanedwards2023@outlook.com

618-795-8021

or find me on Facebook!

The Lecturer's Department maintains a rich tradition of encouraging excellence in expressions of cultural, educational, and creative pursuits in our Granges and members. In that tradition these are the categories for competition and display for the 2024 Illinois State Session and National Contests.

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

#### NATIONAL CONTESTS

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

Details will be finalized by the time of the National Session in November and will be published in the Illinois Granger when available. Be sure to check the deadlines for these contests as lately they are much earlier than our state session and rely on direct submission of entries.

#### ILLINOIS LECTURER'S CATEGORIES

One entry per member may be submitted in each class. Must be made this Grange year. Awards in each class.

##### **Attached to each entry must be:**

Member name

Member address

Grange name and number

Specific state contest category

Age bracket (Juniors only)

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

Eligibility – All Subordinate and Junior Grange members. Junior entries may also include grandchildren of Subordinate members.

Photos may be submitted electronically, via email, text, or USB drive or printed and mounted on a sturdy backing.

Classes- There will be one class for Subordinate Grange members and 3 age groups for Juniors: 5-7 yr old, 8-10 yr old and 11-14 yr old.

The Illinois State Lecturer reserves the right to choose to not display any entry deemed inappropriate within Grange values. Themes including nudity, obscenity, or violence will not be accepted.

## **Photography**

Rules:

Color and black and white photography will be judged in the same category. No altering of still images with use of photo editing software is allowed. No professional photographers (an individual who's primary living is from photography) may enter.

Photos may be submitted electronically or as prints. Prints should be at least 5x7 and mounted on some firm backing; no glass. Digital and print photos will be judged together. National Lecturer's categories are included in our contest, but it is completely independent of the National Showcase.

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

Plant

Animal

Mineral

## **Media Arts & Crafts**

General guidelines

We seek to recognize all types of visual arts.

Work must be original, the entrant's own creation.

No frames or glass. Fragile items are displayed at the entrant's risk.

### ***Painting/Drawing/Pastels***

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

### ***Dimensional Media***

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

### ***Art Journal***

*"Art journaling is an open-ended form of art on loose paper or in a bound journal where the focus is on the process of creating and of self-expression rather than a particular end result."* This is a very free form of expression, using any techniques of drawing, writing, painting, coloring, pasting, cutting, etc. that you want to include. The goal is to present something interesting, challenging, beautiful, thought-provoking. I'll be publishing some more information about this later in the year for those for whom this is a new idea. It is something that is accessible to anyone of any age. Entry should encompass from 2 to 6 pages, loose or bound.

### ***Nature Collage***

*A composite presentation of articles taken from nature arranged and mounted to create a visual image—either representational or abstract. Entries will be judged on overall effect, variety of materials, and creative design. Materials may include leaves, dried flowers and plants, twigs, feathers, eggshells, etc....basically anything that occurs naturally*

*without being manufactured. Collages may be any size but should be no larger than a standard poster board. All items must be securely attached to a sturdy backing.*

### ***Personal Collection***

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

### ***Handcrafted Holiday Tree Ornaments***

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

***Ornaments involving primarily fabric, sewing, needlecrafts, etc.***

***Ornaments using other materials or techniques***

### ***Birdhouse***

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

### ***Origami Animals***

Create three animals from paper folding techniques. Items can be any size. (There are lots of websites and books from the library with instructions for paper folding.)