

Inventory of the

Silver Star Grange
DeKalb County, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 257

INTRODUCTION

Joann Adrian donated the records for the Silver Star Grange to the Regional History Center on October 22, 2003

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 2.25
Number of containers: 4
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 257

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Silver Star Grange records date from 1932 to 1992 and consist of four series: Silver Star Grange Records, Other Illinois Granges Records, Illinois State Grange Record, and National Grange Records. Series I, Silver Star Grange, contains a complete run of meeting minutes from April 28, 1932 to July 7, 1944, treasurer's book, correspondence, and quarterly reports. Information on the early activities of the Grange can be found in this series. However, minutes for the later years have not been donated to the Center. Other Illinois Granges records found in Series II consist of records from the Alden Hebron, Byron, Charter Grove, DeKalb County Pomona, Etna, Mayfield, Ney, Ohio Grove, Waterman, and the White Oak Granges. Records from the Illinois State Grange and the National Grange consist of publications including the Grange history entitled, The Grange, 1867-1967: First Century of Service and Evolution by William L. Robinson.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

A meeting was held at the Elva Hall on April 28, 1932 to organize the Silver Star Grange. At that meeting four officers were elected: Carl Lungstrom, Master; William Heller, Overseer; Mrs. William Heller, Treasurer; and Florence Heller, Secretary. On May 12th the grange voted to name the grange Silver Star, set the membership fee at \$1.50, and elect the remaining officers. The officers were installed on May 26, 1932. Meetings were held either at the Elva Modern Woodmen Hall or at the homes of Grange members. The meetings started out as being held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month but changed over the years.

On June 22, 1933, a meeting was held at the Dennis O'Brien home to decide whether to continue the grange. No decision was made at that meeting. According minutes from the December 8, 1933 meeting a meeting was held in August at the home of Hugh Finnan to discuss the future of the grange. Another meeting was to be held two weeks later but never took place. It was decided at the December 8, 1933 meeting to hold elections on December 14, 1933.

The Grange donated money to many organizations in the area such as the Red Cross, the Cancer Society, Easter Seals, and the Blood Bank. The members helped with the CROP Walk, rang bells for the Salvation Army, and provided garden products for the farmers market. During World War II the grange members held benefit card parties for the Red Cross, sent Christmas presents to the boys in the service, and shared their food from their victory gardens. Social events included box lunch socials, square dances, pot luck suppers, bake sales, ice cream socials, holiday parties, and quilting bees.

The Grange was active politically too. They wrote a letter of confidence to President Roosevelt in 1933, wrote letters to the senators and representatives regarding the exemption of farmers from the draft in 1941, suggested the government make use of new tires laying around in garages and automobile sales rooms which could not be sold in 1942, and wrote letters complaining about the implementation of the use of Central War Time Savings Time in 1943. Locally they passed a resolution for the use of butter instead of butter substitutes for food in the relief of indigent families and promoted farm safety.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Corn--husking
 DeKalb County (Ill.)
 National Grange
 National Grange. Alden Hebron Grange (McHenry County, Ill.)
 National Grange. Byron Grange (Ogle County, Ill.)
 National Grange. Charter Grove Grange (DeKalb County, Ill.)
 National Grange. Etna Grange (DeKalb County Ill.)
 National Grange. Mayfield Grange (DeKalb, Ill.)
 National Grange. Ney Grange (DeKalb County, Ill.)
 National Grange. DeKalb County Pomona Grange (DeKalb County, Ill.)
 National Grange. Ohio Grove Grange (DeKalb County Ill.)
 National Grange. Silver Star Grange (DeKalb, Ill.)
 National Grange. Waterman Grange (DeKalb, Ill.)
 National Grange. White Oak Grange (DeKalb, Ill.)
 World War II

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Series I. Silver Star Records		
1	1	History and Anniversary Programs, 1932-1982
	2-5	Minutebooks, April 28, 1932-July 7, 1944
	6	Treasurer's Book, 1948-1976
	7	Treasurer's Receipt Book, May 12, 1932-January 7, 1942
	8	Dues Account Book, May 12, 1932-September 5, 1972 (2 volumes)
	9	Roll Call Book, (August 11, 1932-April 14, 1948)
	10	Quarterly Reports, 1987-1988
	11	Correspondence, 1940-1947, 1980-1989
	12	Journal of Proceedings for Silver Star Grange, 1934-1940
	13	Fees and Dues to Illinois State Grange, 1937-1947
	14	Receipts, 1937-1942
	15	Great Lakes States Lecturers Conference, SIGNing into the 80's, October 3-5, 1980
	16	Subordinate Grange Manuals, 1937, 1948
	17	Ah. . . What the Heck!, Manual Study Guide by William A. Steel, 1978
	18	Scrapbook, 1934-1935
2	8 volumes	Scrapbooks, 1935-1937, 1939-1940, 1947, 1967-1968, 1971, n.d.
Oversize		
Drawer 13	12	Poster, Am I Proud! . . I'm fighting famine . . . by canning food at home, 1946
Series II. Other Illinois Granges Records		
3	1	Alden Hebron Grange, 25 th Anniversary Program, June 26, 1977
	2	Byron Grange, 60 th Anniversary Invitation, March 8, 1980
	3	Charter Grove Grange, Quarterly Reports, 1987-1988; Condition of Grange, 1987
	4	DeKalb County Pomona Grange: Meeting Minutes, October 29, 1990-May 22, 1992
	5	Treasurer's Book, October 1, 1962-October 1, 1978

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	4
3	6	Scrapbook, 1971-1972	
		Etna Grange:	
	7-8	Minutebooks, January 12, 1956-December 22, 1966	
	9	Treasurer's Account Book, 1937-1954	
	10	Dues Account Book, 1937-1965	
	11	Mayfield Grange, Quarterly Reports, 1987-1988	
		Ney Grange:	
	12	Quarterly Reports, 1987-1988	
	13	Posters, Cornhusking Champions of Northern Illinois Contest, November 7, 1940	
	14	Ohio Grove Grange, Quarterly Reports, 1987-1988	
	15	Waterman Grange, Quarterly Reports, 1987-1988; Condition of Grange, 1987	
	16	White Oak Grange, Quarterly Reports, 1987-1988	
Series III. Illinois State Grange Records			
	17	Journal of Proceedings, 116 th Annual Session, Rockford, IL, September 17-20, 1987	
	18	Resolutions, 1988	
	19	Rosters, 1985-1987	
	20	Souvenir Program of the Sixty-sixth Annual Convention, Sycamore, IL, December 14-16, 1937	
Series IV. National Grange Records			
	21	<u>The Grange, 1867-1967: First Century of Service and Evolution</u> by William L. Robinson, 1966	
4	1	Centennial, First Day of Issue Stamp, April 17, 1967	
	2	<u>Digest</u> , 1968	
	3	Official Flag Presentation Ceremony, 1946; Official Grange Obligation Ceremony, 1983	
	4	Our Most Precious Possessions, Boys and Girls Brochure, n.d.	
	5	Skit Writing Contest Winners, 1979 (Emalee Colver from Flora Grange was third place winner)	
	6	Songbooks, 1935, 1967, n.d.	
	7	The Grange-An Opportunity for Women Brochure, n.d.	
	8	The Grange Blue Books, n.d.	