



## What a wonderful day!

After a delicious breakfast of egg casserole, fruit cup and a muffin with coffee or tea, we were invited to browse the baskets that were available for the fundraising. Attendees could purchase chances to win a basket in a drawing later in the day. The Grant Fund netted a tidy increase, and the basket winners received some very nice things.

It is always so much fun to see everyone at State Day. This State Day was well-attended, and everyone had a wonderful time.

The meeting day opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Carol Waggoner followed by Bea Roberts at the keyboard playing The National Anthem.

Friday evening the Elkhorn Valley Museum invited us to attend an evening reception and view the new Johnny Carson exhibit. We all enjoyed a delicious snack where we celebrated Lorraine Jeffus' birthday, then we meandered through the museum. At last we pretended to be "on the air with Johnny."



**WHAT A BUNCH OF HAMS!!**



After a good night's rest, we all gathered in Friendship Hall at St. John's Lutheran Church for the State Day 2023 activities. Each Executive Officer, Standing Committee Member, and each Past State President were introduced by State President, Lorraine Jeffus. As the current Officers, Chairmen, and Chapter Presidents were acknowledged, each gave a report of their recent activities.

Next, we all walked around the tables arranged with the "Pieces of the Past" of their collection centerpieces so we could discuss the items with the North Fork #902 owner. To the left, see Nancy Schwertley's collection of whiskbrooms. She pointed out the many styles of brooms and told of their assembly and each special use.

Sherri Stuijbergen is showing her Staffordshire Dogs. When Queen Victoria came to reign in England in 1837, she was 16 years old and she was an avid dog lover. When she came to reside in the palace, she brought with her a pet dog. He was a King Charles Cavalier Spaniel named Dash. Dash never left the Queen's side. He sat on a pillow beside her throne, or sat in her lap on carriage rides throughout London. People saw Dash and fell in love. Anything the Queen did, wore, or said was news. Dash was just as popular as the Queen. Shortly after Queen Victoria was crowned, she enacted a law throughout the land making it a crime to abuse animals. English dog lovers soon adopted the idea of Victoria of having a pet live in the house with the family. Staffordshire dogs were made in many sizes and poses.— a perfect pet.



Milk Glass items have come in many shapes and sizes for uses inside and outside. Kathy Sander's collection of many pieces was beautiful. She had a street light cover, as well as flower vases, fruit bowls, nut and mint bowls and all were beautifully made.

Milk glass is an opaque or translucent, milk white or colored glass that can be blown or pressed into a wide variety of shapes. First made in Venice in the 16th century, colors include blue, pink, yellow, brown, black, and white. The most in-demand milk glass objects now include covered animal dishes, like the hen-on-nest style, and floral trade vases, which were provided by florists with arrangements

The founding owner, Dave Longaberger of Dresden, Ohio was a dreamer with many ideas for ways to succeed. His grandfather had made baskets for crafts in the late 1800s and the family had a few as mementos. In 1978, Dave developed an idea to reinvent that artistic talent along with unique marketing party plans.

The baskets are made of prime quality maple logs cut into 15 foot strips and assembled by individual artist weavers. LaRae Worden's collection shows many of the smaller baskets that she has acquired throughout the years. They represent many seasons and holidays. They could be purchased with colorful fabric liners, a plastic protector and decorative tie-on. Each basket has a burned stamp of the company on a bottom splint as well as the name of the artist who signed and dated each basket.





Coin purses are so small and there is a great variety. Many were used by merchants to advertise their businesses. Karen Gray has some really attractive ones. One was shaped like a hat. Another one like a pair of leather pants with fringe down the side of the legs. They were made from different materials, the more elegant, the more prosperous the business. Some had the name and address of a bank in gold letters. They were a very cost effective way to get a business name in front of customers.

Rod and Shirley Hughes brought models of very old fords. They were so very interesting. Rod and his friends in their Antique Car Club gathered all the parts and built a "real" life-size black Ford like the one pictured. Shirley is showing the pictures in her scrapbook of her friends and family taking a Sunday afternoon drive. We all enjoyed fantasizing about doing the same thing.



Carol Waggoner shared her beautiful collection of seed bags and quilts. The bags were originally used by commodities distributors to contain products such as flour, sugar, seeds for planting, and many other things pioneers used as they were establishing their homes. The fabric that formed the bags came in a variety of weights and strengths and in many sizes. Thrifty pioneer wives realized the value of these used bags and with their new sewing machines and some free patterns they cut the bags into pieces to make clothes for members of their families. Because women were repurposing the free bags, they were gradually printed with flowers and other designs.



Fundraiser Baskets 2023



### Save the Dates!

#### Evening Reception

Julie's Antiques  
1513 - 10th Street  
Gering, Nebraska 69341  
308-436-4818  
October 11, 2024  
6:00 p.m.

#### State Day 2024

Gering Civic Center  
1050 M Street  
Gering, Nebraska 69341  
308-436-6888  
October 12, 2024  
8:30 a.m.— 2:30 p.m.