

COMMUNITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT



Community Service Team

Heather Ferguson -Director
Leslie Wells – State Lecturer
Helen Berg – Family
Living Director
Jerry Gwin – Youth Director

The State Grange Community Service Program continues to undergo annual changes. It is important to note that the community service contest is only one part of the total community service program. Granges are encouraged to participate in as many community service projects as possible and to report their efforts to the State Grange. The reporting year for community service is June 1 to May 31, annually.

POMONA GRANGE AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

The Pomona Award for Public Service is presented by a Pomona Grange to either a member or non-member individual or group.

The award is a certificate, which comes with a 10" x 12 ½" walnut finish plaque with plexi-glass cover. You may obtain your own award or you may order the national award from the National Grange Store at the National Grange Office. Please plan on four weeks for delivery of awards.

SUBORDINATE GRANGE COMMUNITY CITIZEN AWARD

This is an excellent opportunity to promote your Grange to reward an individual or group in your community for their involvement or outstanding achievements. The Community Citizen Award is presented by a Subordinate Grange to a non-member individual or group. The award is an 8 ½" x 11" certificate in a special folder, which bears the Grange emblem. A marble paperweight with a seven-sided Grange emblem on top and small brass plate for personalization may also be ordered. If you desire to obtain awards in your own community, you may do so. The key is to be sure that the Grange name and/or emblem is on any award you present. The award may be purchased from the National Grange Store. Please plan on four weeks for delivery of awards.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAM

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
FIREFIGHTER/EMS
TEACHER
VOLUNTEER OR GROUP

Upon awarding the Community Citizen Award, each Grange is encouraged to nominate their local winner for State Grange Recognition. At the state level, we will recognize an "Outstanding Community Volunteer and/or Group", "Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer",

"Outstanding Teacher" and "Outstanding Firefighter" each year. Groups may not be Grange groups, but Grange members may be members of the group.

There is a one-page nomination form in the Community Service packet. All nominations for the state award are due by June 1 to the WA State Grange Office. Awards will be presented at the State Grange Convention. If the National Grange has awards available, the state winners will be forwarded on to the national level for consideration of those awards.

PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS

Each Grange is asked to meet with their local school officials to determine how the Grange can support the educational system. Each school system is a little different. You may be surprised how your members can help. You may desire to continue the Reading Award Program, recognizing the outstanding or most improved readers in the school. You may want to award educational scholarships to graduating high school students. You may choose to assist the students by serving as tutors or lunch buddies. You may want to promote the "Ag in the Classroom" program and sponsor a local teacher for this program. There may be an afterschool program that needs tutors, instructors, or monitors. We encourage you to be creative and open minded in developing the project for your Grange and local

school. We must reach out and “Imagine the Possibilities”.

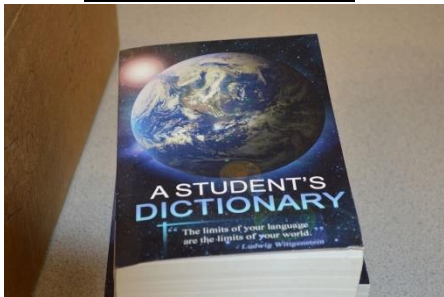
KEEP WASHINGTON WARM

In cooperation with the State Grange Youth Department, we will be collecting stocking caps, mittens, gloves, scarves, socks, coats, etc. for distribution to the less fortunate in our state. Items may be purchased or hand made. Donations should be delivered to the State Grange Convention. Grange youth will display the items and then distribute the items in the host convention area following the convention.

FEED THE HUNGRY

Granges are also encouraged to support their local food bank through food collections and assisting throughout the year. All donations should be made at the local level.

WORDS FOR THIRDS



We work with an educational program entitled “Words for Thirds”. The goal is to provide a dictionary for every third-grade student. Order forms and additional program material is available online at <https://www.dictionaryproject.org>. In large school districts, we ask the Grange to take the lead and solicit other organizations to assist in providing the dictionaries. By displaying our leadership qualities and taking

the lead on this project in our communities, we can work to increase membership and prove that the Grange is alive and strong in our communities.

BOOK COLLECTIONS

As an ongoing effort to support reading and education, we are asking each Grange to collect books and to donate them locally to schools, food banks, holiday gift programs, foster families, and homeless shelters. You may also wish to donate your books to programs for traumatized children.

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

In cooperation with the State Grange Junior Department, we will be collecting backpacks, notebooks, writing supplies, coloring supplies, glue, thumb drives, ear phones, Kleenex, etc. for distribution to the less fortunate students in our state. Items may be purchased or cleaned and gently used where appropriate.

Donations should be delivered to the State Grange Convention. The Junior Department will display the items, pack and then distribute the items in the host convention area following the convention.

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

The State Grange will again be collecting personal care items at the State Grange Convention. This will include soap, shampoo, tooth brushes, tooth paste, wash cloths, lotions, and numerous other items. It is important that **ALL ITEMS ARE TO BE**

UNOPENED, UNUSED AND UNDAMAGED. You may drop your items off in the Community Service Display area at the convention. All items are then distributed in the convention host county area. If you donate these items locally, be sure to note that on your community service report.

COLLECTION OF ALUMINUM CAN TABS

This program has been discontinued at the state level. Please evaluate this program at a local level to determine if it is still a good fit for your Grange.

POCKET CHANGE DRIVE for the RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITY

Each Grange Community Service Chairman is encouraged to take up a spontaneous pocket change collection, for the Ronald McDonald House charity, at least once throughout the year. The collected money can be sent onto the charity yourself and reported to the Community Service chairman or the money sent to or turned in at convention and handed in at the Community Service Table.

JUNIOR GRANGE PROGRAM SUPPORT

Each Grange is asked to support the Junior Grange Program. You may contribute to an individual Junior Grange or to one of the Junior Grange Camps (please refer to the Junior Grange Section of the handbook). Some Junior Granges need assistance with craft projects or chaperones for field trips.

Financial contributions are needed for two funds set up in the Grange Foundation. The King Memorial Junior Camping Fund allows camps to purchase needed equipment. The Campship Fund assists Junior Grangers to attend Junior Grange Camp one time per child.

Each Grange is asked to support the Junior Grange and our excellent camping program. Checks should be made payable to the WA State Grange Foundation and mailed to the State Grange Office. Please add a note stating where the funds should be placed.

OTHER SERVICE PROJECTS

Please refer to each department section of the handbook for a complete list of service projects being conducted at the state level.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTEST

Sponsored by the Grange Cooperative Group, the WA State Grange, and the National Grange

There are two classes of the State Grange Community Service Contest, based upon the membership (regular and associate combined) of the subordinate Grange as of March 31. The number of members

reported should match the 3/31 Grange Secretary Report. The State Grange has the authority to correct membership level, if reported incorrectly. Classes are:
o **Class I** - Subordinate Granges with 40 or less members
o **Class II** - Subordinate Granges with 41 or more and All Pomona Granges

Contest Rules:

1. The reporting period begins on June 1, 2023 and ends on May 31, 2024.
2. Completed reports/notebooks are due by June 1 to the WA State Grange Office. Any report received after June 5 will not be included in the contest judging.
3. Please refer to the guidelines for preparing your report, which are included in the community service packet.
4. Your community service report should consist of the following: the community service report form; report of your work explaining the need for the project; what you did and including recognition and pictures; and identification of your major project for the year. The more information you can provide and the more documentation you have will strengthen your report. Your main project should be stronger than the other projects and may require more pages and

documentation than the others. There is a maximum of 50 pages (front and back) or 100 total sides, not including the report form.

5. Your Grange name and number should be listed on the cover.
6. The following score card will be used in judging the community service contest: Need for the Project Selected – 20%; Program Plan – 15%; Cooperation Achieved – 20%; Project Evaluation – 20%; Community Involvement of Grange Members – 10%; Participation in State Grange Community Service Projects – 5%; Presentation of Report – 10%
7. Judging will focus on the projects initiated by your Grange, rather than following the leaders of other groups. Judges will evaluate the impact your Grange has had on the local community.
8. The Grange Cooperative Group will present awards in each class as follows: First Place - \$400; Second Place - \$300; Third Place - \$200; and Fourth Place - \$100.
9. If the National Grange sponsored a Community Service Contest, state judging will include the selection of our national contest representative.



*American Values.
Hometown Roots.*
