

WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Community Service Director

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*American Values.
Hometown Roots.*

Community Service Team

- Leslie Wells – State Lecturer
- Cec Hamilton – State Family Living Director.
- Jerry Gwin – State Youth Director
- Marvin & Jennifer Oliver – State Junior Directors

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 may be either the calendar year or may be April 1 to March 31.

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.

**OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER AND/OR GROUP,
POLICE OFFICER, TEACHER, OR FIREMAN**

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 a “Outstanding Community Volunteer and/or Group”, “Outstanding Police Officer”, “Outstanding Teacher” and “Outstanding Fireman” each year. Individuals may not be Grange members. 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 April 15 to the State Community Service Director. 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 PROJECT

In cooperation with the State Grange Youth Department, we will be collecting stocking caps, mittens, gloves, scarves, 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.

WORDS FOR THIRDS

We work with an education program titled “Words for Thirds”. The goal is to provide a dictionary for every third-grade student in the State of Washington. Each Grange received samples of the dictionaries in the first year of the project. Order forms and other material will be included in the Grange Community Service packet. 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. More information on the dictionary project is available on their website: www.dictionaryproject.org

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.

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**. 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.

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.

NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAMS

The National Grange has partnered with several organizations to support their programs and activities. Information is available on each of the following organizations on the National Grange website, www.nationalgrange.org :

- Lifeline Screening
- Text4baby
- National Foster Parent Program
- Dogs for the Deaf

COLLECTION OF ALUMINUM CAN TABS

The Community Service department will collect aluminum can tabs. The tabs will go to the nearest Ronald McDonald House. Tabs should be delivered to the display rooms at the State Grange Convention. Please weigh and put your Grange name and number on the item for our report.

SUPPORT FOR JUNIOR GRANGE PROGRAMS

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 Richard Kimball Memorial Fund allows needy campships for first time campers. 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 five classes of the State Grange Community Service Contest, based upon the membership (regular and associate combined) of the subordinate Grange as of December 31. The number of members reported should match the 12/31 Grange Secretary Report. The State Grange has the authority to correct membership level, if reported incorrectly. Classes are:

- **Class I** - Subordinate Granges with 35 or less members
- **Class II** - Subordinate Granges with 36 to 60 members
- **Class III** - Subordinate Granges with 61 or more members
- **Class IV** – Pomona Granges

Contest Rules:

1. The reporting period is a 12-month time frame and may be either the calendar year or may be April 1 to March 31, at the discretion of your Grange.
2. Completed reports/notebooks are due to the State Community Service Director by April 15.
3. Reporting: The community service report form will be accepted as your report, however, we encourage all community service chairpersons to submit a notebook for state judging.
4. Your community service report should consist of the following: the community service report form; a 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 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 and class entered must be listed on the cover.

6. The following score card will be used in judging the community service contest: Need for 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%; and Presentation of Report - 10%. Judging will focus on the projects initiated and led by your Grange, rather than following the leads of other organizations/groups. Judges will evaluate the impact your Grange has had on your local community.

7. The Grange Cooperative Group will present awards in each of the Subordinate Grange classes as follows: First Place - \$400; Second Place - \$300; Third Place - \$200; and Fourth Place - \$100. The Grange Cooperative Group will present awards for the Pomona Granges as follows: First Place - \$200; Second Place - \$150; Third Place - \$100; Fourth Place - \$50.

8. If the National Grange sponsors a Community Service Contest, state judging will include the selection of our national contest representative.

POTENTIAL GRANGE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Every successful Grange completes at least two community service projects each year. Here is a list of projects being completed by Granges across our state.

1. Assist with the local Veteran's Museum (provide coffee, cookies, supplies, etc)
2. Laying a wreath at a local cemetery
3. Place flags throughout the community on Memorial Day and other holidays
4. Swags on Veteran's Graves for Christmas
5. Words for Thirds Dictionary Project
6. Food Collection for Food Bank and Feeding Programs (monthly or quarterly)
7. Collect school supplies
8. Educational Garden for 2nd & 3rd graders
9. Community Gardens
10. Public Access Computers in the Grange Hall
11. Candidate Forums
12. Collect eyeglasses, aluminum can tops, stamps
13. Linus Blankets
14. Quilts for the Brave
15. Stockings for Veterans
16. Washcloths and soap for the homeless

17. Support Ag in the Classroom
18. Child ID Program
19. Camp Volunteers
20. Rest Area Coffee Stops
21. Grounds Maintenance at Local Cemeteries
22. Reading Volunteers at Schools
23. Make a Difference Day – clean up your town
24. Baby Items for Care Centers
25. Cancer Care Items – scarves, caps, etc
26. Volunteer Services – seniors, food bank, schools, youth clubs
27. Open Hall for Non-Profit Afternoon Programs
28. Visit the Elderly
29. Knitted Items for At-Risk Pregnancies
30. Roadside Clean Up
31. Christmas Breakfast with Santa’s workshop
32. Community Forums
33. Resource Information Night
34. Farm City Dinner – rural people and city people come together
35. Compost Project – bag it and sell it
36. Fair Booths
37. Sponsor a Local Festival – bluegrass, jazz, local interest
38. Adopt a Family for a Year (through school, churches, DSHS)
39. Collect gently used items – coats, blankets, etc
40. Support the USO – toothbrushes, care cloths, food items, etc
41. Donate socks to homeless shelter
42. Socks for the local elementary school
43. Rehabilitate bicycles for elementary schools
44. Sponsor a car care clinic
45. Give ham radio classes
46. Food baskets for needy families at the holidays
47. Lap quilts for retirement homes
48. Love quilts for homeless shelters – made of old jeans
49. Sponsor a Junior Grange
50. Give craft classes
51. Volunteer as a school tutor
52. Coordinate with the library a basic computer use class
53. Community education classes - canning, drying, jams & jellies, baking, beekeeping, raising chickens
54. Santa’s workshop
55. Breakfast for a local event
56. Send cards to Veteran’s Homes
57. Rake leaves at schools
58. Family Fun Nights
59. Cemetery Clean Up

60. Conduct Community Easter Egg Hunt
61. Give an educational Scholarship
62. Setup a historical display for your community
63. Book collections
64. Collect Box Tops for Education
65. Send a kid to camp
66. Provide supplies for camp – craft project, cookies, food, etc
67. Conduct a fund raising dinner with proceeds toward a specific project
68. Support and recognize local firefighters
69. Sponsor a youth organization
0. Sponsor food handler’s class in your community
71. Provide your Grange hall at low cost to other non-profit or youth organizations
72. Operate a food bank
73. Operate a clothing bank
74. Host a Community Halloween Party
75. Emergency Preparedness Workshops
76. Meals for Disaster Relief (flood, fire, tsunami, storms, etc)
77. Supplies for Union Gospel Mission (monetary, food, etc)
78. Adopt a flower bed at your fairgrounds or in your town
79. Collections for “My Bag” Project
80. Roller skating at the Grange Hall
81. Pet food and supplies for local animal shelter
82. Clean headstones at a local cemetery
83. Conduct a Neighborhood Block Party
84. Set up a neighborhood watch program
85. Provide supplies for the women’s shelter
86. Host Summer Kids Sewing Camp
87. Host Hunter Safety Education Classes
88. Repaint parking stripes in your town
89. Provide basic nutrition classes in your community
90. Card parties as social events
91. Donations to Meals on Wheels
92. Host a holiday bazaar
93. Support for the local historical society
94. Building new picnic tables for a park
95. Passage Quilt Project
96. Host debates for political candidates
97. Bicycle fair for the youth in your community
98. Financial donations to Grange supported charities (see current year program book)
99. Hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, socks for Keep Washington Warm Project
100. Support for military families