



PA Grange Deaf & Community Service Department Contest Summary

NOTE: Some changes have been made to D&CS contests. Please read carefully. If you have any questions, please reach out to the DCS Director or a committee member.

The Deaf & Community Service Committee is encouraging Granges to expand their outreach. We encourage you to look at your community and work to develop plans that will help to address some of those needs. Please report all you do on the Community Service report form at the end of the year.

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE END OF YEAR REPORT All Granges should track and report their community service activities to the State Grange. The reporting period is from September 1 to August 31. Community Service activities can be defined as any acts of service that help the community, a group of people, or an individual. All reports are due to the state director by September 15th. The Deaf & Community Service report should include: • Type of project • The recipient(s) of the event/activity • Number of people working on individual projects • Number of hours devoted to the project • Types of public relations used for projects • Newspaper/magazine clippings • Scrapbook (not required) Funding from the National Grange for Deaf & Community Service activities depends on your participation. Pennsylvania needs to submit reports from at least 25% of the Granges in the state in order to be considered for funding. Please report all projects, no matter how small or how big.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT CONTEST: A top prize of \$150 will be awarded to the top performer in each of the following membership categories:

1. Membership of 25 or less
2. Membership of 26 - 60
3. Membership of 61 or more

The Deaf & Community Service Committee will award \$100 to the top performing Pomona Grange. Activities reported may be shared on our Facebook page and/or in the PGN to help build awareness within our Grange Community. All Granges that submit a report will receive a certificate of recognition. Award winners will be announced at State Session.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT OF THE YEAR This contest highlights one project your Grange completes between September 1 and August 31st that you consider to be the most impactful. This is a separate competition, separate from your report/scrapbook. To submit for this contest, please fill out the Community Service Project of the Year form and submit it to the DCS Director by September 15th. Rules: 1. Each Grange, Junior Grange, and Pomona can have one submission. 2. Submissions must be accompanied by a trifold board to be displayed at State Session. Trifold displays must be delivered to the DCS table at State Session by 10 AM on Thursday. The DCS Director only receives the report form by September 15. 3. Each trifold display must include the following: project name/type, people involved (Grangers and non-Grangers, if applicable), beneficiary(ies), at least one picture but no more than 15, any information necessary so people understand the project and its scope, and Grange name and number. Name/Contact information for your Grange and county should be placed on the back. All information must be securely attached to the trifold board; nothing may be placed on the table. Judging: points will be equally split between the report form and the trifold board so both must stand independently.

SIGN-A-SONG This contest takes place at State Session and uses American Sign Language (ASL) to provide musical interpretations of songs. Rules: Contestants must be a Grange member in good standing, Junior Grange membership counts. Junior contestants compete in the age groups 5-9 and 10-14, however Junior winners do not go beyond the state level. The group category may include up to two Junior Grangers. Contestants must furnish live music, CD recording, or provide equipment to play using an electronic device of the song being interpreted. Three copies of the words of the song must be supplied for the convenience of the judges. Signers must use complete communication techniques: sign language, facial expressions, mouthing of words for lip reading, and body movement. Props and costumes are not allowed. Rhythm is optional. There are two categories: Individual and Group. Only one song may be signed during the competition performance. Medleys are not permitted. Participants should be prepared to sign their name, song title and type of sign being used (ASL, ESL, or Pigeon). Anyone who is a professional instructor or receives money for signing (i.e. a sign language interpreter) may not enter. Monetary awards will be given to the top performer in individual and group categories in the amount of \$50 each.

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING AWARENESS POSTER Help us create awareness by educating others on people in our communities that are deaf or hard of hearing. Use your creativity to spread the message by creating a poster or display that can be used to highlight the importance of this issue. Entries should be delivered to the DCS table at State Session by 10 AM on Thursday. Rules: Any medium may be used. Name, contact information, and Grange should be listed on back. Categories: 1. Junior Division (5-14) 2. Youth Division (14-35) 3. Subordinate Division (over 35) Prizes: One winner will be chosen in each category. Winners will receive \$100.

FIREFIGHTER/LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS Dick Patten, New Hampshire State Community Service Director, began a program when he was National Community Service Director in 1988. This program honors firefighters and law enforcement officers. These awards are known as the Dick Patten Community Service Firefighter and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. These awards are open to volunteer and paid firefighters and law enforcement personnel. National Grange has added a National Grange Teacher of the Year award. Nominations are due to the State DCS Director by August 1 of each year. The nominations will be judged and one winner from each category will be chosen at the state level with the winners submitted to National Grange for final consideration. Forms will be available on the PA Grange website. Both the state and national forms should be submitted to the DCS Director.