

# **NH STATE GRANGE**

## **FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**2014-2015**



The following program will outline what the components and contests are for the committees that make up the Family and Community Services Committee. The committees that this department consists of are Family (formerly Home Economics), Community and Health Issues. Each grange should have a chairperson for each committee and one person responsible for overall annual reporting for all committees within each Grange. An annual report form is also enclosed. Please encourage your grange to participate in these projects.

## **HEALTH ISSUES**

The Health Services chairperson in each grange should report at each meeting on a health issue of interest to all. This could be a current health concern in the community or tips on preventing heart disease, diabetes, etc. Something informative should be presented at each meeting.

You might want to consider inviting a health care worker to talk about diseases affecting our society such as Ebola. Concerns of diseases from other countries infiltrating the US are of great concern. Perhaps even consider a program on the pros and cons of having a flu shot.

Other ideas: Assist with Red Cross blood drives in your area, flu shot clinics, assist the Visiting Nurse association in your areas.

## **HOME ECONOMICS**

### **BAKING CONTEST**

**No Bake Desserts** – This can be in the form of a tart, pie or just a dessert in a square or oblong pan. No baking allowed. There are many recipes made with cookies, graham crackers etc. for the crust.

This no-bake dessert can be made with pudding, fruit, cream cheese etc. Whipped cream or meringue topping is optional. This was successful last year and many granges reported good participation. I know some live in places where baking is not an option for them. If you need ideas please let me, Deb Patten, know. I will be happy to send you some recipe ideas.

Contest should be held at the subordinate level. The winner should go on to Pomona. All Pomona winners will be asked to bake again for State Grange and the opportunity to be the State winner in October 2015.

## **NEEDLEWORK CONTEST**

The following contests for New England judging will be held for 2015. The categories are as follows:

<b>Afghans</b>	<b>Doilies</b>	<b>3 Piece Baby Sets</b>
<b>Counted Cross Stitch</b>	<b>Embroidery</b>	
<b>Adult Garment</b>	<b>Plastic Canvas</b>	<b>Latch Hook</b>
<b>Quilted Wall Hangings</b>	<b>Stuffed Toy</b>	<b>Baby Afghan</b>

The rules for each category are outlined in the Northeastern Needlework Contest Rules which will be provided to each Grange at a later date. All entries must have been completed within the contest year which is August 1, 2014 through July 31, 2015.

All entries will be due by **August 1, 2015** so they can be judged timely.

**State Contests** will also be held for the following categories:

Quilts- either hand or machine sewn

Sewing - either an adult or child's garment.

Woodworking

Other crafts that do not fit into any other category

**Non-members are also welcome and encouraged to enter these contests.**

## **EASTERN STATES**

To help support the Grange Building at Eastern States, we are asking for handmade items that can be sold there: Baby articles, nylon scrubbers, stuffed animals, dolls, pot holders, knitted or crocheted dish cloths, afghans, mittens, scarves, hats, knee warmers, booties, vests, aprons, wall hangings, pillow cases, bureau scarves, crafts, etc. Please mark your items that are for Big E.

Please do not send items with the Grange emblem on them as they do not sell well. Please turn in your items by **August 1, 2015**.

## **MOUNTAIN OF MITTENS**

This worthwhile project will be continued to 2015. We are asking for handmade, sewn or knit mittens or purchased mittens for our Mountain of Mittens we will have at State Grange in October 2015. The more mittens we can collect the higher our mountain but most importantly, the more children's hands that are kept warm. Let's make this an internal contest – our goal will be to get 500 pairs of mittens, gloves etc. and have a volcanic eruption of our mountain with mittens!

## **GALOSHES FROM GRANGERS**

This project goes along with our mittens, hats etc. It is hopeful that each Grange supports this program by supplying at least 2 pair of boots for children. Please – new boots only. These can be purchased and donated or brought to State Grange in October 2015. Our goal would be to at least donate 100 pair of boots to school children in 2015.

**Hint:** Watch for clearance sales in the springtime and purchase them at that time

## **FUDGE, TRAIL MIX & OTHER SNACKS**

We are requesting granges to provide fudge and trail mix for sale at our State Grange convention in October 2015. Other snacks such as cookies or brownies would be gratefully accepted as well.

## **FAMILY SERVICES NIGHT (formerly known as Home Ec Night)**

Your grange should plan to have a Family Services Night. You could invite other grangers and plan a well-balanced program or invite a speaker in. You could hold your baking contest this night.

## **KELLEY FARM**

We will of course continue to support the Kelley Farm. Please continue to support this historic part of our organization by send an annual donation to:

National Grange Kelley Farm Fund  
1616 H Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006-4999

## **NATIONAL LECTURER'S QUILT BLOCK CONTEST**

Please consider participating in this contest. Quilt blocks will become part of a quilt celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Grange in 2016. Also requesting quilted throw pillows and quilted table runners. The rules are included with this program but all entries must use the Northumberland Star pattern.

All entries are the property of the National Grange and will not be returned to you. All entries are due to the National Lecturer – James Tetreault by September 15,2015.

Please send entries directly to: James Tetreault, National Lecturer  
19 Parker Street  
Winchester, NH 03470

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The Community Service Program in the Grange, whether it is Junior, Subordinate, Pomona, or State Level is a very vital committee. The support, ability to help make someone's day a little brighter and to give someone hope who otherwise thought life was hopeless is a wonderful thing to do. The program for the 2014-2015 year has been changed and we hope you will please study this program and please ask questions if you have them. We are here to help.

Thank you for all you do for your community and for your fellow citizens.

### **SUPPORT A HOMELESS SHELTER, FOOD PANTRY OR SOUP KITCHEN**

Please check in your community or a neighboring one to see if there is a homeless shelter especially during the winter months, food pantry, or soup kitchen and see what your Grange can do. Your Grange could continue to Fill An Empty Plate for monthly food drives for the Food Pantries in your area or supply a meal or offer to volunteer to work at a Soup Kitchen.

Perhaps your Grange could contact the homeless shelter to see if your Grange can donate sleeping bags, linens, pillows for people to sleep; board games, playing cards, toys that are clean and are in working condition or offer to help volunteer at the shelter one day a week. There are many things that the Grange could assist with.

### **ADOPT A HOMELESS VETERANS SHELTER/FACILITY**

It is a shame that men and women who serve our country and put their lives on the line everyday whether it is foreign lands or in military bases in our country and many times end up losing everything. Many have found that when they return home following active duty they find their family gone, their home auctioned off and no place to go. They have no place to sleep, no food to eat, and no support. I have been so happy with the support for Liberty House in Manchester.

This year we are asking Granges to support either Veterans First Harbor Homes in Nashua, Liberty House in Manchester, or The New Hampshire Soldiers Home in Tilton. Please choose one of these that may be nearer to you and see what your Grange can do.

By sending greeting cards for all special days such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, general greeting cards, Veterans Day,

and Halloween you will brighten their day. The veterans appreciate these cards so much. At Liberty House, the Veterans hung each card they received.

At Christmas, we stuffed Santa stockings with candy, playing cards, pens, pencils, and other goodies. You can go to a Dollar Store for many items. This is up to your Grange which one you would like to work with.

### **DICTIONARY PROJECT**

This has become a major project for Granges in the state to present new dictionaries to third grade students in your community or a neighboring community. The cost has risen but you might seek assistance from local businesses or another organization. There is also a less expensive dictionary if this works better for your Grange.

### **THE TEDDY BEAR OR STUFFED TOY PROGRAM**

We have collected teddy bears since 1987 for police, firefighters, or the hospitals for boys and girls who are going through a traumatic situation. They get to keep these as well.

This year we are including stuffed toys for the Shriners Hospitals. We will be very happy to deliver these to the Shriner's center in Concord for delivery to the Shriner's Hospital. Please make sure these toys are child safe.

### **STATE PROJECT: SANTA REMEMBERS TEENAGERS AT CHRISTMAS**

We are hoping that Granges as well as other State Committees will support this project.

There are so many teenagers who don't receive anything for Christmas. When you attend church in November or go into a department or grocery store you will see tags on an artificial tree listing the sex of the child, wishes for a gift or gifts, and the age. It is obvious that the tags for newborn infants, young children to age 8 or 9 go first leaving the boys and girls from ages 12 to 18 behind with many of them never taken. This is left to the Church or business to provide gifts.

We are very pleased that Operation Santa Claus, Toys for Tots and Friends of Forgotten Children have agreed to partner with us. Teens would be so happy with a gift certificate to go shopping. Best Buy, Wal-Mart, Target, Super Cuts, Pizza places, Burger King, movie passes are just some of the ideas for gifts for teens.

We will be making sure the donated gifts will return to the communities that donated them. Please indicate the town on the tag so we will know where they need to go. You may take them to your local Church or agency that is soliciting them.

Please report how many you did on your annual report.

## **RECOGNITION AWARDS**

It is the hope that Granges will continue to honor the following people in the categories listed. Please submit your nominees by June 30, 2015.

Outstanding Citizen – to a non-member of the Grange  
Police Officer  
Firefighter  
Educator

Forms will be sent to you shortly after the first of the year. The nominees chosen will be honored at the State Grange Banquet in October.

## **POMONA PROGRAM ONLY**

### **PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD**

It is the hope that each Pomona Grange will honor someone within their Pomona District with the Public Service Award. This can be given to a non-member or a Grange member. This was done by National Grange for years, but stopped. We are happy to continue this recognition award. The form will be sent to you right after the first of the year. Please participate in this recognition.

### **SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SPCA OR HUMANE SOCIETY**

Formerly a Subordinate project, we are asking each Pomona to collect items for their local SPCA or Humane Society. They can use animal food, clean rags, cleaning materials, and most of all volunteers to walk the dogs or other animals.