

COMMUNITY SERVICE/FAMILY, HEALTH & HEARING REPORT

MAINE STATE GRANGE

September 1st, 2022

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,

This year's Community Service/Family, Health & Hearing Committee included: Cassandra Corliss & Victoria Huff.

Community Service

I am very excited to say I have made it through my eighth year as the Director of this committee. It has been a different kind of year with all that is happened with the ups and downs of Covid. I wish that travel had been more of an option to visit more Granges and meet more people. I would like to be able to get out more in the upcoming year and promote more Community Service and this committees love of it.

I was excited to see the Community Service Books/Activity Sheet that came in again this year. I am so proud of all the work that has been done around the state this year. The quality of books was wonderful, and I was truly worried at the difficulty of the judging for the judges.

This year's Community Service Winners are

- 1. Highland Lake Grange #87**
- 2. Jonesboro Grange #357**
- 3. Enterprise Grange #48**
- 4. Valley Grange #144**

Again, this year we have a great sponsor of the Community Service Book Contest - Kennebec Savings. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

Of 86 Subordinate Granges, 22 reports were submitted. We are required to have a 25% participation rate to receive monetary support from National Grange. WE DID IT!!! If your Grange submitted a report give yourself a round of applause, if you did not, please help and submit one next year.

Please keep sending them in each year. Let me say the work put into these books is getting so much more extensive. This year's judges were so impressed with the quality of the books that we had to add a sixth judge to our panel for final determination. The top six books were separated by a total of 4 points. That was how close the book quality and content was. Wonderful work to all!!!

I am happy to say that many Granges are still supporting Barbara Bush Children's Hospital. If your Grange ever gets a chance to do a visit to BBCH it is the most rewarding and inspiring experience. These children don't understand the words "GIVE UP". We can all learn something from them. Our own version of Coups for Troops is still going strong, well let me correct that, stronger than ever. I am pleased to report that we have shipped out 301 lbs. of coupons this year. A little more than last year and we are still moving along.

I am happy to report that we did have any entries in the Fire Fighter & EMT and Educator of the Year Contest this year. I was very excited to see this.

Firefighter/EMT of the Year: Phil Roberts – Nominated by Jonesboro Grange #357

Teacher of the Year: Morgan Swan – Nominated by Jonesboro Grange #357

Four years ago, we added the category of Granger of the Year. That individual would receive an award and a check in the amount of \$100.00 to the charity of their choice.

2017 – 2018 Winner was Victoria Huff

2018 – 2019 Winner was Ann Burns

2019 – 2020 Winner was Walter Boomsma

2020 - 2021 Winner was Rebekah Hodgson

2021 – 2022 Winner is: John Cox Jr. of Jonesboro Grange #357

Community Service & Family, Health & Hearing packets will be available online at the Maine State Grange Website.

Family, Health & Hearing

The committee is overjoyed at the responses this year to the Family, Health & Hearing Contest. It is great to see the increased activity to this committee. It was also incredible to read the way items were presented this year in these trying times. Awareness and knowledge of a given subject helps give you an upper hand in fighting it.

This year's Family, Health & Hearing Contest Winner is: **Highland Lake Grange #87**

Please keep this contest in mind for the upcoming year. This can help your Grange raise an extra \$50.00. Make sure to work with your Community Service Chair and Lecturers to bring awareness to different causes. Open your halls and hearts to the public and bring awareness to the community. We understand that this has been challenging, but there are ways to bring awareness to your Grange Hall in unique ways.

This committee would like to give a sincere thank you to all that have helped and supported us over the past year, to make our committee the success it has become.

In closing we on the CS/FHH Committee would like to give a big thumbs up to everyone who has helped another during this Pandemic. Covid19 has changed a lot of things, but we are proud to say that it has not changed the giving spirit of those here in Maine, who have donated their time to help those who could not get out, their money to making masks for everyone who needed them, and their love and support to people who needed it. A very big two thumbs up to all of you. Be proud and happy with yourselves, we on the committee are. A great big thank you to all the Granges who got out there this year and did all the projects I saw this year.

Give yourselves a big round of applause for all that you have done and are planning to do in this upcoming year.

Maine State Grange – CS/FHH “Making a Difference One Project at a Time!”

Fraternally and Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Corliss, Director