



## **Deaf Activities Department 2010**



***The purpose of the Deaf activities program is to educate Grange members and community members about deafness, hearing loss and hearing protection.***

### **Do You Know the Signs Posters/brochures**

Every Grange hall should have a “DO YOU KNOW THE SIGNS” poster up in their building or in the building where they meet if at all possible. Brochures with the same information are available and should also be available for distribution in your meeting place.

Every Pre-school and Kindergarten class should have a “DO YOU KNOW THE SIGNS” poster and brochures made available to them. Please contact your local schools to see if they would be willing to put up one of these posters or distribute brochures. Early intervention is important to a child’s learning when hearing loss is involved. Posters and brochures can be obtained through the State office or the Deaf Activities director.

**Colorado School or the Deaf and Blind** – we encourage each Grange to collect Campbell’s product UPC symbols for the Colorado School for the Deaf and blind. UPC symbols can be brought to the state convention or sent to the state Director or state office.

### **Mandy Project**

The purpose of the Mandy project is to help children with hearing loss to become productive citizens and to provide assistance to a family experiencing hardship due to a child’s hearing loss.

As many children will be helped as possible and as funds are available. Families with a child who has a hearing loss will be chosen through the application process to receive funding assistance to help cover costs of hearing aids, speech therapy, surgery, or other related expenses.

Flyers can be obtained by contacting the State Director.

Granges who sponsor a special fundraiser or make a donation to the Mandy Project will receive a special certificate.

### **Spare change for Mandy Project**

Here’s an idea of how to get people to donate to the Mandy project. Take a small coffee can or some other type of container. Attach a sign or label to the container stating what the funds will be used for. Place it in a visible place in your Grange Hall or meeting place and remind members of it at each meeting. Leave the can out when other groups are using the hall, that way we allow others to help us with the project. Periodically collect the contents of the can and keep a record of how much was collected. At the end of September send the amount collected to P.I.C.K. for the Mandy project. Donations should be sent or delivered to P.I.C.K., Attention: Cindy Greer, Mandy Project coordinator, 7629 C.R. 100, Hesperus, CO 81326.

### **Subordinate and Pomona Grange Activities suggestions:**

- A. Sponsor, host, or promote Sign Languages classes or a Sign A Song contest for the community.
- B. Support legislation that encourages assistance for the hearing impaired.
- C. Sponsor a special fundraiser for the Mandy Project and assist in distributing Mandy Project flyers/brochures.
- D. Promote Hearing Testing.
- E. Assist Lecturer with a program educating members and non-members about Deafness or hearing loss.
- F. Each Grange should have Posters up on Signs of Deafness or hearing loss.
  - 1) For Adults
  - 1) For children
- G. Promote Finger spelling Bees, Sign Language challenges, and Sign A Song competitions.
- H. Create a container to hold Campbell's product UPC symbols so members can bring them to a central location for the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind.

**Sign A Song Contest** – Regional opportunities will be held in conjunction with the State Lecturer. Participants will be eligible to participate in the Great Plains Regional Youth conference in July.

1. Participants are to submit three copies of the words to the song they are signing.
2. Participants must provide their own music. A cassette and CD player will be available.
3. Anyone who is a professional instructor or receives money for signing may not enter.
4. Signers must use total communication techniques: Sign Language, facial expressions, mouthing of words for lip reading, finger spelling if appropriate, and body movement.
5. Props and costumes are not allowed, rhythm is optional.
6. There are three categories
  - A. Novice – one who is beginning to learn sign, has had no more than three sign language classes and has entered the sign a song contest no more than two years.
  - B. Hobbyist – one who signs on an occasional basis and strictly for fun. One who has entered the sign a song contest more than two years.
  - C. Group – two or more people signing.
7. Only one song may be signed during the competition performance. Medleys are not allowed.
8. Participants must sign their own name and song title.
9. First place winners will receive \$25.00.