

Marys River Messenger

The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 1, Issue 3

January/February 2019

History of Benton County Granges

Although the Grange had been first imagined and organized in Washington D.C. in 1867, it was not until 1872 that the first Grange Organizer came to Oregon to encourage and explain the organization. Even before organizers came to Oregon there was interest in the newspapers of the day:

In an article in the State Rights Democrat, of Albany, Oregon on March 10, 1871 there was a description of Grange Organizers working in Ohio. In part the article explained that:

“...The Order of the Patrons of Husbandry is an organization in which the farmers combine for fraternity, and effectually to protect themselves from the unjust operations of middlemen and railroad and other monopolies. He showed that it was for the advantages of farmers everywhere to form Granges of Patrons of Husbandry. He explained the objects and workings, and how to proceed to get them up, and alluded to their beneficial results in States where they are already.”

In Benton County there were several Granges organized that first year, including Philomath #13. Throughout Oregon there were 40 Granges organized that year, and by the end of the second year there were 175 Granges statewide.

Granges rise and fall in local communities. Today there are 5 active Granges in Benton County but there have been 14 others, listed below. The hall we now know as “Lewisburg Grange” or Saint Anne's Orthodox Church was the home of Mountain View Grange until 1989, when it voted to merge with Marys River Grange in Philomath and the building was sold. The Marys River Grange #549 was actually in Harris, Oregon, southwest of Wren, and has no direct relationship with today's Marys River Grange #685 in Philomath. The Corvallis Student Granges were OSU chapters.

Philomath	# 13	1873 - 1893
Soap Creek	# 14	1873 - 1902
Kings Valley	# 55	1874 - 1892
Monroe	#239	1890 - 1893
Corvallis Student	#242	1890 - 1918
Bellfountain	#277	1896 - 1914
Kings Valley	#278	1896 - 1904
Mountain View	#429	1910 - 1989
Marys River	#549	1916 - 1919
OAC Students	#611	1923 - 1942
Luckimute	#643	1924 - 1942
South Benton	#756	1930 - 1969
Corvallis Student	#870	1937 - 1942
Mid-Valley "O"	#960	1999 - 2002

If you are interested in the Benton County History of Granges there is an interesting publication viewable on the web called “Because They Joined the Grange” by Garry Stephanson.

<https://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/concern/defaults/fj2363145>

- Jay Sexton



Sign at E. D. Hughes Excavating in Philomath.

Historically Grange

Minutes of January 5, 1929

On the above date Mary's River Grange #685 met with Willamette Grange and other neighboring granges in joint installation.

The following officers were installed

<i>Master</i>	<i>S. I. Pratt</i>
<i>Overseer</i>	<i>C. J. Baker</i>
<i>Lecturer</i>	<i>Mrs. Elma Huffman</i>
<i>Steward</i>	<i>Claude Huffman</i>
<i>Asst. Steward</i>	<i>J. C. Mann</i>
<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>Mrs. E. A. Parker</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Mrs. Mila Bowers</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Mark Phinney</i>
<i>Gatekeeper</i>	<i>C. R. Huffman</i>
<i>Ceres</i>	<i>Mrs. Martha Gray</i>
<i>Pomona</i>	<i>Mrs. Alice Coolidge</i>
<i>Flora</i>	<i>Mrs. Elizabeth Baker</i>
<i>Lady Asst. Steward</i>	<i>Mrs. Ida Bennett</i>

The Treasurer, Ceres, and Pomona, absent on account of illness, were installed by proxy. State Secretary, Sister Bertha J. Beck, acted as installing officer. Twenty-three members of Mary's River Grange were present.



Installation of Officers, January 2, 2019

The Organization of the Grange

The formal name of the Grange is the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. The primary originating purposes of The Grange are fraternal social community, cooperative community improvement, education, and rural advocacy. In 1867 when the seven founders were designing the purpose and rituals of this fraternal order it was decided that the organization would use symbols and references to the cycles and relationships of Nature

and the Farm. For example, the first four ritual degrees of the Grange refer to the activities and observations of Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter.

There are National, State, and County (Pomona) levels of Grange, beyond the local hall. All Policy decisions are initiated at the local level and are considered at higher levels. Local Granges operate independently with structure and support from the State Grange level. The Grange motto reflects this: **In essentials, unity; In non-essentials, liberty; In all things, charity.**

The names of some of the officers of the Grange reflect these symbols. Below are the names and responsibilities of the officers of the Grange.

Master: Conducts meetings, provides general leadership for all activities. Appoints committee chairpersons. Supervises the ritualistic activities. Serves as delegate to Oregon State Convention in June.

Overseer: Presides in the absence of the Master. Assists the Master in appointing committees.

Lecturer: Plans programs containing educational, inspirational, entertaining, musical and recreational components for each meeting. Urges members to participate in State and National Grange contests.

Steward: Organizes sashes, emblems and furnishings for the meetings. Coordinates maintenance of building and infrastructure.

Lady Assistant Steward and Assistant Steward: Participate in the opening ceremony and assists with other ceremonial duties such as escorting candidates and guests.

Chaplain: Opens and closes the Grange meeting with prayer.

Treasurer: Receives all monies from the Secretary and pays bills after Grange votes to authorize payment. Provides regular financial reports to the members.

Secretary: Takes minutes of meetings, receives and reads communications, collects membership dues, receives all monies for the Grange. The minutes reflect the history of the Grange for future years.

Gatekeeper: Greets each member at the entrance to the meeting room before and during the meeting.

Ceres, Pomona and Flora: Known as "the Graces" these offices are always held by women and show our respect for women and agriculture. The names come from the Roman goddesses of grains, fruit, and flowers.

Executive Committee: Acts with the Master between meetings in time of emergency or need. Invests funds to strengthen the financial state of the Grange.

Committees: Granges name a contact for each of the following committee areas: Agricultural, Community Service/Involvement, Finance, Legislative, Membership, and Youth, Deaf Activities and Family Health, Education, Grange Workers' Activities, Junior, Lecturer's, Veterans.

Harvest of Happenings

Calendar of upcoming community, Grange, gardening, livestock, land-based or farming events in the local area. Send info to marysrivergrange@gmail.com

Marys River Grange Community Game Night, (fourth) Fri. Jan. 25th & Feb. 22nd, starts at 6:30 p.m. 24707 Grange Hall Road, Philomath. Open to all. Come play a wide assortment of games and bring your own. Free popcorn.

Willamette Valley Gleaners Rummage Sale & Crafts, (first) Sat. Feb. 2nd & March 2nd, 10-3 at Willamette Grange Hall, Hwy 99 at Greenberry Rd.

Marys River Grange monthly meeting, (first) Weds. Feb. 6th & March 6th. Potluck at 6:30 p.m., business meeting and youth activities at 7:00. 24707 Grange Hall Rd., Philomath.

Willamette Grange monthly meeting, (second) Tues. Feb. 12th & March 12th. Potluck at 6:30 p.m., business meeting at 7:00. Corner of Greenberry Rd. and Hwy. 99.

Sustainability Fair & Town Hall, Thurs. March 7th. Fair – 5 to 7p.m., Town Hall – 7 to 9p.m. CH2M Hill Alumni Center on OSU Campus. Free and open to the public. No registration required for the Fair. Seating is limited at the Town Hall, so register to save your seat. Info: www.sustainablecorvallis.org.

MRG Free Movie Night:

Contact marysrivergrange@gmail.com for dates and movie titles. 7 p.m. 24707 Grange Hall Rd., Philomath. Unlimited popcorn \$1, and \$1 soda.

Yoga at the Grange!

Beginning in March 2019, Mary's River Grange will be offering yoga classes on Tuesday evenings, 7 to 8pm. Classes will be free for Grange members, with a sliding scale fee for non-members (\$5-\$20 per class). This will be an all-levels vinyasa flow class. **All abilities welcome!**

The class will be led by Laura Coen, RYT, RCYT. Laura has been teaching yoga to adults, children and families since 2014. She believes individuals can experience a mindful connection to themselves and the world through the practice of yoga. With a mindful connection to self, both adults and children can feel better, have more self-control and more self-awareness. A strong sense of self allows for more stable connections with others. Laura hopes to help yoga students find stability in themselves, and therefore become more productive, helpful and healthy members of their community.

Questions? Email or call: lauraploeg@yahoo.com or 331-201-5458.

Upcoming Community Service Events Volunteers wanted!

Marys River Grange will be working to clean up a two mile stretch of Highway 34 this spring. The date is yet to be determined and will be announced in the next *Marys River Messenger*.

Also, Marys River Grange will be holding a plant and start sale this spring, with proceeds going to help a local community organization. In addition, members are encouraged to swap seed at this event. Again the date will be announced in the next *Messenger*.

If interested in participating in either one of these events, please contact Sonny at hayseberts@peak.org.

MRG Members News

Junior/Youth activities are now offered in the North Room during MRG monthly meetings, coordinated by Youth Director Holly Rios.

Why I am in the Grange...

Belonging to Marys River Grange gives me and my family a unique sense of connection to the past, present, and future of Philomath and beyond. The wonderful Hall and people who care for and gather around it make the Grange a vital and welcoming space.

- Karin Bolender Hart

Chaplain's reading from the January meeting:

"A great human revolution in just a single individual will help achieve a change in the destiny of a society, and further will enable a change in the destiny of humankind."

-Daisaku Ikeda, Buddhist Philosopher and Peace Activist

Most Wanted by the Philomath Food Bank:

Personal care items, feminine products, canned meat and fish, condiments, canned entrees, boxed entrees, ready to eat soups, laundry soap, jams, jellies, syrups. Everything is appreciated! However, they cannot distribute home canned foods, previously opened packages, or food without original labels.

Food bank hours: Tues. 5:00-7:45 p.m., Thurs. 9:00-11:45 a.m. 360 S 9th St, Philomath; 541-929-2499.

Checks designated for the Philomath Food Bank may be mailed to PO Box 1334, Philomath, OR 97370.

Grange Lessons Part 2 Grange Ritual

At the Amazing Grange Day event, I was approached by a community member who cautiously asked... "Doesn't the Grange do Satanic rituals?" Well, the Grange does rituals, but they are not Satanic.

Ritual is a defining characteristic of not only fraternal organizations, such as the Grange and Masonry, but also churches, schools, and most people's daily lives. The Pledge of Allegiance, Christmas, Shabbat, the Eucharist, Masonic and Grange rituals... all of these are ritualized events intended to both define a group of bonded people and to teach tenets and lessons. They also create a sense of stability, knowing that others practice the same rituals, even if you are in a different geographic location.

Grange use of ritual has relaxed over the years, and some, such as the ritual opening and closing of meetings are now open to the public. Some rituals, such as the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh degrees are still kept secret except to those undertaking the degree and those who have accepted it.

The core Grange ritual consists of seven degrees. The first four are now optionally conferred by Granges, so some Granges will still perform them, while others confer the degrees automatically. The lessons of the four degrees coincide with the four seasons, commencing with spring. Various farm implements are presented during the four degrees, and serve to teach that not only the land should be cultivated, but also the mind.

The remaining three degrees offered by higher levels of Granges (County/Pomona, State and National) teach additional lessons of perseverance, mortality and afterlife, and the continuous cycle of life.

Far from being Satanic, Grange ritual serves to teach lessons that inspire members and remind them of the natural progression of the seasons, life and death and rebirth. They are focused on principles of agriculture and how it relates to our human lives and how we can conduct our lives with principle and character.

In this day and age where so many feel detached from food, the land, and even other people, such lessons offer an opportunity to reconnect with our roots to the land and each other.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts



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Recipe Corner

A hearty vegetarian soup for a cold winter day:

Mother Wolff Soup

[adapted from *Sundays at Moosewood Restaurant*]

(serves 8 to 10)

Ingredients

- 2 quarts water
- 2 quarts vegetable broth
- 1/2 cup uncooked rice
- 1/2 cup barley
- 3-4 large garlic cloves, pressed
- 1 tablespoon dried dill weed
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 cup diced onions
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon sweet Hungarian paprika
- 1 cup diced potatoes
- 1 cup diced carrots or sweet potatoes
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- pepper to taste
- 1 14oz can diced tomatoes
- 1 14oz can cannellini or garbanzo beans, drained

In a large soup pot, combine water, broth, rice, barley, garlic, dill and bay leaf. Bring to a boil. Lower the heat, cover, simmer for 1.5 hours.

When the soup has been simmering for about an hour, prepare the vegetables. In a large frying pan, saute the onions and celery in oil until translucent. Sprinkle in paprika. Add potatoes, carrots or sweet potatoes, salt and pepper. Cover and cook for a few minutes, stirring frequently.

Stir the soup and remove the bay leaf. Add the sauteed vegetables, tomatoes, and beans. Add more salt and pepper to taste. Simmer, covered, on very low heat for 1-2 more hours, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking.

- Laura Coen

Messenger Editor's note: Recipes wanted! Please share a favorite. See submissions info.

Soup is within the reach of every housekeeper, and is even accessible to the lower orders of the people, and when once tried, it will be found that there cannot be greater luxury that will go twice as far in a family.

- Anonymous, *How a Small Income Suffices*, 1745

In making any kind of soups set the pan on a very slow fire, with onions, herbs and roots cut small, with a large lump of butter. This will draw all the virtue out of the different ingredients, will produce a good gravy, and a very different effect, in point of flavour, than if at first you had put in water. Fill your pan with water as soon as the onions are browned, and then follow the directions for making the sort of soup you wish to have.

- Frederic Nutt, *The Important & Royal Cook*, 1809

OLD BLUE Raw Honey

Old Blue Raw Honey is a small beekeeping enterprise owned and operated by Henry and Camille Storch in Philomath, OR. Henry's ecologically diverse apiaries provide his bees the ideal environment for producing varietal honey. By raising his own survivor queens, Henry is working to preserve and propagate the hardy honeybee populations adapted to the flora and climate of Western Oregon. His practice of incorporating local feral genetics into managed colonies for migratory pollination is critical to the long-term resilience of regional food systems.

Old Blue Raw Honey is never heated over natural hive temperatures and is only filtered minimally, so it may include pollen, small wax particles, and the occasional bee bit. All natural honey will solidify eventually. To liquify, place the jar in a bowl of warm (not boiling) water.

> website: oldbluenaturalresources.com

> contact: oldbluerawhoney@gmail.com

> facebook: [facebook.com/oldbluerawhoney](https://www.facebook.com/oldbluerawhoney)

> instagram: [@oldbluerawhoney](https://www.instagram.com/oldbluerawhoney)



There is in fresh green stuff a vitalizing power, as any farmer can see when he turns his cows and colts out to grass, or supplies green stuff to growing pigs or laying hens.

- Bernarr MacFadden, *Physical Culture Cook Book*,

1924

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Send art and poems to the *Messenger*!
This newsletter is for you!

Here Now (2 in 1)

People tell me stories and I listen
And I hear myself in their words
I see in my mind and take them to heart
Though I falter in my attempt
They're beautiful and they don't know
And I don't know as much as feel

I learn as I listen, remembering,
Expanding as never before
Stretching my boundary, I include you
In who I am, was, and will be
I'm listening to reports from the front;
I retrieve treasures and reflect

I am the ocean with tidal fingers
With contents varied and shifting
Currents run through and on in swift cycles
Always in motion, never still,
Lifting, sorting, rearranging things,
That live in and belong to me

I am all of this world and none of it
Created and uncreated
Bodies and words represent the unseen
Infinite power never lost
Shhh... Can you hear the stillness inside me?
Look deep into my eyes and breathe.

- Judy Hays-Eberts



Lullaby

*I'll dance through our ruins
with an ear for our music,
I'll dream up heaven this time.*

*I'll open the door
so love can flow through,
I'll give it a heart to find.*

*I'll move rocks off my heart
and let free its light shine,
I'll know the secret to joy.*

*I'll know the secret
I kept from myself—
that love cannot be destroyed.*

*I'm willing to leap now,
indeed I have done it,
I'll do it tomorrow, too.*

*I'll live like I trust
the good in myself
and I trust it in you, too.*

- Judy Hays-Eberts



Join Marys River Grange as a Business
Member for \$50/year.

Business card-sized ads in the *Messenger*
are free to all MRG members. Six per year!

Contact marysrivergrange@gmail.com

Lover's Vocabulary

Write the words represented by the jumbled letters:

1. teethearsw
2. yenho
3. reda
4. ringlad
5. voel
6. guh
7. skis
8. missrope
9. palsrospo
10. widnged singr
11. korenb ratshe
12. elvo lstreet
13. gagmenneet ginrs
14. ageirram ratla
15. noonmoyeh
16. direb
17. gorean mossobls
18. rovesl squarrel



Nothing But the Truth [Party Game]

Everyone is required to tell nothing but the truth. For a period of ten minutes (or less), each guest must answer every question asked by another or pay a forfeit. These forfeits may be redeemed later... A thousand questions will suggest themselves. An evasive answer will require a forfeit as well as a failure to answer.

- *The Cokesbury Party Book* by Arthur M. Depew, 1932

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Details at marysrivergrange.org



What is he thinking?

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Email submissions to marysrivergrange@gmail.com
or mail to Marys River Grange, PO Box 1301,
Philomath, OR 97370.

No fee for advertisements from Marys River Grange members.

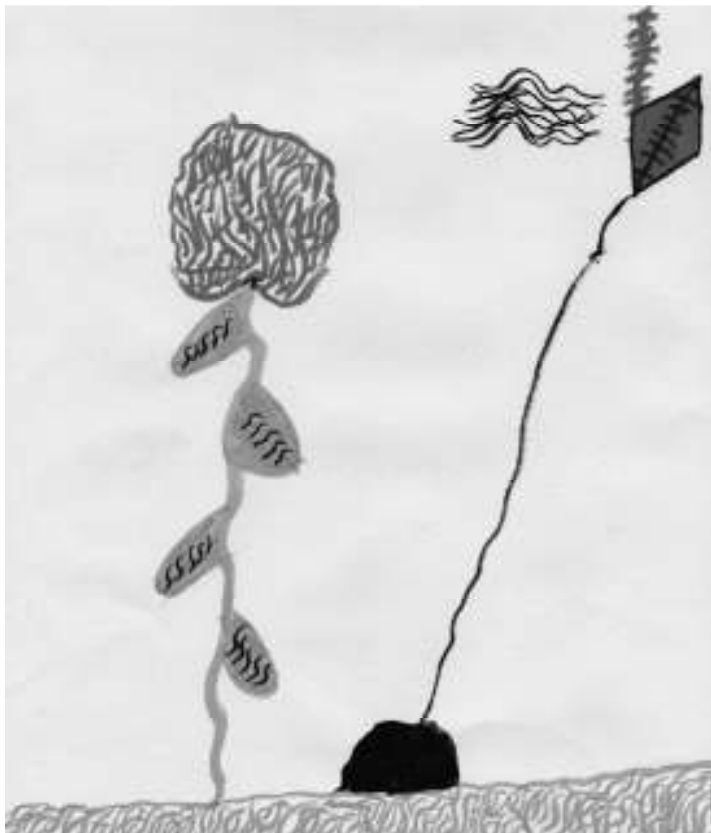
Suggestions: community/calendar notes, recipes, letters, drawings and photos, local profiles, book reviews, puzzles, gardening and household tips...

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Recreation is the saving chuckle of the soul. It happens when we see a new thing, or discover a new way of seeing.

- Doris Janzen Longacre, *Living More with Less*



Marys River Messenger welcomes submissions from everyone of any age in the Grange and surrounding communities. It is produced by the Marys River Grange Communications Committee, mailed to local Grange members and other Granges and affiliated organizations in Benton County, and distributed at locations in and around Philomath. The Grange is non-partisan and non-sectarian, supports communities and families, and has roots in agriculture.

- by Rayna Rios, age 9