

# Marys River Messenger

## The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 2, Issue 4

March/April 2020

### Oregon Humanities Conversations at Marys River Grange, Spring 2020

**“Seeing the Forest and the Trees: Stewarding Our Public Lands,”** a free conversation with Mariah Acton on **Thursday, March 12, 2020** at 6 p.m. at Marys River Grange in Philomath. We live in a state with abundant forests, and yet we don’t all see the same thing when we look into the woods. Oregon is known for both its timber industry and its deep environmental values. What are the beliefs we have about our forests and what will we, as a state, do to steward, manage, and protect this special resource? This program is hosted by Marys River Grange and sponsored by Oregon Humanities.

**Mariah Acton** is a recent graduate from the University of Oregon where her master’s work focused at the intersection of conflict resolution, nonprofit management, and public administration. She currently works in Salem as a strategic business analyst at Oregon Housing and Community Services where she helps to facilitate conversations around housing, homelessness, and anti-poverty policies. As a recent social science researcher for the US Forest Service and a former volunteer facilitator with forest collaboratives in the southern Willamette Valley, she recognizes that this is an exciting time for public-driven, sustainable forest management, and she appreciates that there are more conversations to be had.



**“Everyone Can Be a Leader: Exploring Nontraditional Community Leadership,”** a free conversation with Pepe Moscoso on **April, 23, 2020** at 6 p.m. Popular understandings of leadership tell us that leaders look a certain way: they are in charge. They possess outward strength. They are extroverted and act pragmatically rather than emotionally. Perhaps most important, leaders are people in positions of authority and power. Is there an alternative type of leadership? When are we leaders in our communities? How can our unique senses of self contribute to our roles as leaders?

Las interpretaciones populares del concepto de liderazgo nos dicen que los líderes se ven de cierta manera: llevan la batuta. Poseen una fuerza externa. Son extrovertidos y actúan de manera más pragmática que emocional. Quizás lo más importante es que los líderes son gente en puestos de autoridad y poder. ¿Existe algún tipo alternativo de liderazgo? ¿Cuándo somos nosotros líderes en nuestras comunidades? ¿Cómo nuestro irrepetible sentido propio contribuye a favor de nuestro papel como líderes?



**Pepe Moscoso** is a Portland-based community arts producer and visual artist. His work explores inclusion, personal narrative, identity, diversity, and storytelling in a variety of forms. His interest in visual art is borne of a desire to transmit and show his way of seeing the world. He coordinates Lente

Móvil, a multimedia art project that interweaves art and storytelling to examine the importance of cultural identity as it affects personal growth and collective strength for the Latino community in the US.

**Pepe Moscoso** es un productor de arte y artista visual que reside en Portland. Su trabajo explora la inclusión, la narrativa personal, identidad, diversidad y narración de historias de varias maneras. Su interés en el arte visual surge de un deseo de transmitir y mostrar su manera de ver el mundo. Moscoso coordina Lente Móvil, un proyecto de arte multimedia que entreteje el arte y la narración de historias para examinar la importancia de la identidad cultural y cómo ésta afecta el crecimiento personal y la fuerza colectiva para la comunidad latina en los Estados Unidos.

**Thursday, May 21, 6 – 7:30 pm - “Can We Get Along? Examining Our Personal Experiences of Connection and Community,”** a free conversation with Chisao Hata. In 1992, in the midst of riots sparked by the acquittal of police officers who brutally beat him, Rodney King asked, “Can we get along?” This iconic American question still resonates today. What is it that drives this question, and why can it be so difficult to answer? What holds us back from connecting with each other? How do our personal experiences contribute to—and have the potential to break down—these barriers?

These programs are made possible by funding from Oregon Humanities, which connects Oregonians to ideas that change lives and transform communities. More information about Oregon Humanities’ programs and publications, which include the Conversation Project, Think & Drink, Humanity in Perspective, Public Program Grants, Responsive Program Grants, and Oregon Humanities magazine, can be found at [oregonhumanities.org](http://oregonhumanities.org). Oregon Humanities is an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.



**Chisao Hata** is an artist educator, dance director, arts integration specialist, community activist, and performing artist. For over two decades through her work in education, she has been a protector of imagination and personal discovery, and a champion for individual expression. Creating engaged learning for our youth, our citizen artists, is her life’s work. She has had the honor of serving hundreds of Portland’s children, youth, and adults across many communities. Chisao believes that we are all inextricably linked and the arts are our conduit to build bridges between our communities.

**Marys River Grange regularly meets on the first Wednesday of each month. 6:30-9:00 PM, 24707 Grange Hall Road, Philomath. Potluck at 6:30. Everyone welcome. Business meeting and Juniors activities begin at 7 PM.**

MRG members: Need a ride to meeting?

Call 541-829-2907 or email [marysrivergrange@gmail.com](mailto:marysrivergrange@gmail.com)

**Family Friendly Fun at the Grange on Fourth Friday of the month!** Board and card games played and free soup popcorn provided. Everyone welcome. Bring favorite games and a snack or potluck item, if you like. Or work on a craft or puzzle, sit and chat, sip tea or cocoa by the wood stove, bring acoustic instruments and play music... 6:30-? PM. Marys River Grange Hall, 24707 Grange Hall Rd, Philomath.

**Willamette Grange meets on the second Wednesday of each month. 6:30-8:30 PM. Potluck at 6:30. Everyone welcome. Help to restore this historic building at the corner of Hwy 99W and Greenberry Road, south of Corvallis.**

## Yoga at the Grange Spring 2020



**Mary’s River Grange is offering yoga classes  
Tuesdays 7pm-8pm,  
April 7 - May 26, 2020**

Classes are free for Grange members,  
Sliding scale fee for non-members (\$5-20 per class).  
This will be an all-levels vinyasa flow class.  
All abilities welcome!

Questions? Please contact Laura Coen, 331-201-5458

## Steve Northway: A Call for Habitat Restoration

“Only You Can Prevent Extinction,” is the message that Grange member Steve Northway would like to impart. “One percent of something is more valuable than one hundred percent of nothing.”

Steve has an extensive and fascinating knowledge of science and history, and has worked for decades to help restore native habitat in the Willamette Valley and beyond. He was noted in the July/August issue of the *Messenger* last year for his efforts, along with others, to support habitat for Monarch butterflies by planting native showy milkweed, as featured in a segment of OPB’s Oregon Field Guide:

<https://www.pbs.org/video/oregon-field-guide-monarchs-milkweed/>. The results of such projects are proof that one or a few people out of a thousand can make a big difference in keeping this butterfly species as our companion. Monarchs have actually found that milkweed and used it since it was planted as two year-old seedlings.

Though Monarch butterflies are not globally endangered, local flights are at risk, and many native plant species that were once seen in abundance in the Willamette Valley are very quickly going extinct. They are evidence of the ongoing so-called Sixth Extinction. Once one is lost, it’s lost forever. Their extinction is human caused, and not due to habitat specialization, or not necessarily a side effect of climate change. They were thriving before the introduction of herbicide use, but not since. Northway has observed these immense changes to our environment and helped some of those native plant species to make a comeback before it’s too late. Now is an opportunity to help him and carry on the work, to help ourselves. Right here, right now is going to make a difference.

An example is Steve’s effort in the last twenty years to protect and reestablish *Delphinium pavonaceum* at his Last Valley Research Natural Area (LVRNA), which now has the largest population of this beautiful white native wildflower that is self-renewing. While a popular local wildlife refuge area once had the largest population of this species of *Delphinium*, the methods used to control invasive species – burning, plowing, and poisoning - have had the side effect of exterminating it. Steve notes that once soil is disturbed, the weeds will always do best. Nevertheless it is possible to move from ninety percent weed to ninety percent native in ten years by employing less disturbing strategies.

“Letting George do it is rarely a solution,” Steve remarks. In other words, the belief that we have institutions that will take care of the problem for us has not always proven to be the case. “If you dismiss your responsibility, it’s not going to work,” he warns. However the good news is, he says, “You don’t need to have everyone go along with you.” It does require a

change in perspective. “When we’re a mobile society, we really don’t care about our home. We’re going to move on. The Kalapuya perspective however, is that this is going to be your home for thousands of years. So if we’re part of a family of thousands of organisms, losing one is like losing part of your family.” Steve wants people to be interested in partnership with reestablishing native habitat. He urges each of us to create our own projects, and he can help by sharing what he’s learned from thirty years of experience. “Go to your own neighborhood and see what’s going to be lost; adopt one species and do something about it. Can’t make money at it, but you’ll feel you’re doing something useful.”

“Don’t rush to clear off property.” Northway advises. To really see what’s happening takes years of observation. “Identify species at risk and take an active role to replace – without killing everything else. We can’t get rid of every exotic species but rather work on enhancing late seral native species populations, which would take years or decades to come back. Work on expanding the population within its natural range.”

Northway’s efforts also complement the work being done by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to restore important native plants and traditional foods. He has gifts to take to Grand Ronde of cultural species to which they don’t have access, such as *Lomatium californicum* – a prized food crop. Anyone who would like to go along may contact him. He needs to coordinate a ride there and back, (and for those who might be interested to see what is happening)? He encourages others to form close relationships with the tribes. “They have a lot to teach us.” Steve reminds us that this is original Kalapuya territory.

Steve Northway has invested his labor for many years to benefit environmental conservation. He also holds two patents, and once had a rammed earth business that specialized in the construction of homes and farm buildings, as well as monasteries, libraries, and banks. He has been active in numerous conservation organizations, given workshops and other educational presentations, led field trips, offered his expertise to a number of restoration projects, and received the Homer Campbell Conservation Award in 2011. However, now he wants the focus to be on, not what he did, but what he could teach. He would encourage each of us to be a participant. Steve is dealing with physical challenges that prevent him from doing some of the tasks at LVRNA he previously managed alone. While he is a treasure house of knowledge and experience, that will be lost someday unless it’s passed on to fellow volunteers. Expeditions could be organized to areas as close as Wren or to southern Oregon to find disappearing culturally significant plant populations and collect seeds. Individuals can partner with Steve and develop their own

satellite facilities. To save native plant species will take consistent effort, not just overnight. Yet the rewards could continue for generations.

Steve Northway can be contacted via email at [delphwhite@yahoo.com](mailto:delphwhite@yahoo.com) or phone at 541-224-2578. And please remember: "Only You Can Prevent Extinction."

- Judy Hays-Eberts



[Delphinium pavonaceum photo by Tom Kaye]

## Annual Highway 34 Cleanup

Marys River Grange members who are interested in participating in our annual cleanup of Highway 34 should **gather at the Grange Hall on March 14<sup>th</sup> by 9:45 AM**. We hope to be departing to our sponsored two mile section of Highway 34 in groups by 10AM. Orange safety vests, grabbers, trash bags and highway safety signs will be provided by ODOT. Participants should dress for the weather, bring gloves, and be prepared for uneven ground and tall grass. Those attending will also need to be careful and aware of traffic at all times, as this is a busy highway. In past years, two groups of 4-6 people each completed both sides of a mile section in three to four hours. If visibility is impaired on that date, we will reschedule for a safer date.

## ATTN: VETERANS

Did you know there is a VA  
primary care provider in Corvallis?

Located at Community Outreach Inc.  
865 NW Reiman Ave.

For appointments, call Lisa Quick:  
541-758-3000 ext 110

## Comments from the Current MRG President: Working Together

I would like to thank all our members who have volunteered for current projects, who work with our Juniors, and who have signed up to serve on one or more of our assorted committees.

Witnessing the willingness to undertake an improved Benefit Plant Sale and Garden Swap, and the cheery attitudes of the work parties at Sunbow Farm where Nate and Yadira have graciously provided materials and valuable expertise, just makes me glad to be part of our Grange. Seeing multiple members offer to work with our Juniors on crafts, gardening, Grange history, art and other projects, is such a positive influence for not only our Juniors but those who present. I may be biased, but our Juniors are bright, creative, inquisitive, friendly, and give me hope for the future. Seeing our Agriculture committee work with the Community Service committee to plan and prepare for the benefit sale, or the GWA (Grange Workers Activities, historically focused on crafts and food preservation) work with Juniors on possibly submitting entries for the State Grange contests is exciting, and shows the synergy arising from people working together.

This year, we should see our first Juniors transition to full membership in the Grange, as they reach age 14. It will be an exciting moment in the revival of Marys River Grange.

For those members who do not attend meetings, as the topic is cooperation, I'd like to point out that members who did attend voted to implement a Helping Hands program. Last year, one of our members had problems with flooding. When the Grange learned of it, many offered to help. Friends and farmers nearby, and members of Marys River, pitched in to clean and repair fencing. There is an extra joy in work that helps others. If a member currently has an urgent need for assistance due to illness or disaster, please contact Marys River Grange and we will see what we can do.

The Grange has been many things over the century and a half of its existence, yet the part I have found most appealing is the co-operative spirit embodied by early Granges. I am happy to report, that spirit is alive and well at Marys River.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts

Like Marys River Grange on Facebook!

Check out our website: [marysrivergrange.org](http://marysrivergrange.org)



*All Pet Sitting*  
"Loving Care by an Experienced Veterinary Nurse"

Sarah Sexton  
(541)368-0355  
[sarah@allpetsitting.com](mailto:sarah@allpetsitting.com)  
[AllPetSitting.com](http://AllPetSitting.com)

## History of the National Grange

Recently, while spreading the word about Grange activities, I was asked, "Aren't Granges somehow related to the Freemasons?"

The answer, interestingly, is no. And yes.

After the Civil War, American agriculture was in disarray, with the southern states being in the worst shape. President Andrew Johnson and the first Commissioner of Agriculture authorized Oliver H. Kelley to travel throughout the southern states, to collect data on agricultural practices. Southern farmers were naturally suspicious of this northerner, but Kelley sought out fellow members of the Masons and, with them as guides, was able to overcome antipathy. Kelley quickly saw that a cooperative national organization of and for farmers was sorely needed.

When Kelley returned to Washington, D.C. with his information, he and other US Bureau of Agriculture employees created a Grange Constitution in 1867, and named the organization "The Order of Patrons of Husbandry". The founders borrowed from the Freemasons, the Bible and from Greek and Roman mythology, creating seven degrees of membership, and using imagery that would enhance the organization's purpose. Kelley's niece, Caroline Hall, who served as his secretary, suggested that women be included as equals in the organization, and so it was from the very founding moment -- four of the elected positions in each grange must be held by women, and youth as young as 14 may become members. The grange motto is "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." Local granges can be grouped together to form "Pomona" or sister granges. They are subordinate to the state granges, who are in turn subordinate to the national grange organization.

In 1868, Kelley resigned from government service, and worked to establish granges throughout the country. Kelley founded Grange #1 in April of that year in Fredonia, New York. It still operates today. Before the close of the year 1872, over a thousand granges, located in more than half of the states of the Union, were organized. Kelley and his family then moved to Washington, D.C. to live. It was in the parlor of this home in Georgetown, January 8, 1873, that the National Grange first met as a representative body, with 27 delegates from eleven states.

While the founders were all interesting people, one notable grange founder is William Saunders, who was the first National Master of the grange. What an interesting man! In addition to designing the National Cemetery at Gettysburg and the US Experimental Gardens, he was instrumental in bringing new plants to the U.S. to diversify agricultural production. His correspondence with Kelley, along with personal papers

of both men is housed in the Cornell University Library special collections.

So, in answer to the question stated above, yes, Freemason membership broke down communication barriers, and some Freemason organizational concepts were included in the grange organization. And no, the grange is not a secret society with limited membership and secret oaths of allegiance. The grange is open to all, is non-sectarian and non-partisan. The grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy and agricultural awareness. The website of the national grange ([nationalgrange.org](http://nationalgrange.org)) has a Declaration of Purposes page that is worth reading.

Grange founders were: Oliver H. Kelley, Aaron B. Grosh, John R. Thompson, John Trimble, William Saunders, William M. Ireland, Francis McDowell, and Caroline Hall.

- Janet Cornelius



## Restorative Yoga at Marys River Grange



**Sunday, May 3, 4-5:15pm**  
**Sunday, July 26, 7-8:30pm**

*Restorative Yoga is the art of rest.  
Poses are fully supported by blankets and other props  
and are held for minutes at a time to encourage total relaxation.  
Appropriate for all levels of yoga experience.*

**Classes are limited to six students, \$15 per class,  
pre-registration required.**

**To register please contact Laura Coen:  
331-201-5458 or [lauraploeg@yahoo.com](mailto:lauraploeg@yahoo.com)**



## Sister Grange News



Our sister Grange Willamette #52 at the corner of Greenberry Rd and Hwy 99W has had a good run of news over the last year. The long time Willamette members (including Jim and Charlotte Gray) and affiliate members from Marys River (Sonny, Judy, Jay, and Toni) have been applying for grants, and working on the Hall.

As part of Historic Preservation Month, Willamette Grange Hall will have an Open House on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, with the times to be determined. Flyers will be forthcoming.

Thus far we have gotten grants from the Benton County Cultural Coalition for a new reader board sign and pre-purchasing some electrical hardware for future further work, and a grant from Oregon State Grange to support the construction of the sign. Also received, was a matching grant from Oregon State Grange for the installation of a temporary plastic cover for the leaking roof (which should last 4 years – while we raise funds), plumbing improvements, and bird-proofing the upper hall; and most recently a grant from the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund for engineering planning for a permitable repair for the roof truss damage.

In January 1950, 52 inches of snow fell in Corvallis, mostly over the course of a few days, causing damage to the roof structure of Willamette Grange Hall. Repairs were made by the Grange members, but in the early 2000's these repairs allowed a spreading of the upper story walls. Grangers installed cables across the upper hall, stabilizing and saving the building, but these crucial stabilization efforts were not a permanent solution.

This hall was built in 1923 after the prior hall on Greenberry Road burned. To build the hall, an independent community group was formed to get bank loans, which were prohibited to granges by grange law. Over the years, the community group's activity ceased, having served its purpose after the loans were paid off; however, the title to the property was still in the

community group's name. Two years ago, Grange members followed the bylaws of the community group in every respect, reconvened the group, elected officers, and called for a second meeting in 30 days' time. At that second meeting, the members sold the Grange Hall to the Grange for \$10 and voted to extinguish the community group, filing its dissolution with the Oregon Secretary of State. All the proper court filings were made, and the ownership of the hall, now simplified, allowed application for grants to improve the Hall, which was now owned by the Grange!

There is much work to be done, but with 2023 and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building being the target date, there is much time to accomplish these tasks.

- Jay Sexton



Jim Gray and Toni Hoyman represented Willamette Grange receiving a \$5,000 grant from Siletz Tribal Charitable Fund.

For more info about Willamette Grange, see

<https://www.gofundme.com/wccgh52> and

[www.facebook.com/willamette52](https://www.facebook.com/willamette52)

## 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](http://oldbluenaturalresources.com)

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

> contact: [oldbluerawhoney@gmail.com](mailto:oldbluerawhoney@gmail.com)

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

**MRG Plant Sale & Gardening Swap work parties:**  
**3-5 PM Sun. March 8<sup>th</sup> & 3-6PM Fri. March 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunbow Farm, 6910 SW Plymouth Drive**

# CYRANO'S

## BOOKBINDING

FINE ART & PAPER SUPPLIES / BOOKBINDING / REPAIRS / RESTORATIONS

541-286-4661  
Susan Stogsdill



stpcyrano@gmail.com  
www.stpcyranos.com

361 Sw 2nd & Adams streets, Corvallis, Or 97333

Gathering Together  
Farm



Certified Organic Produce  
Gourmet Restaurant  
Farmers' Markets  
Wine Dinners  
Farm Tours  
Catering  
CSA

*the finest in organic produce*

25159 Grange Hall Rd, Philomath, OR 97370  
Farmstand 541-929-4270 | Office 541-929-4273  
www.gatheringtogetherfarm.com



greengable

GARDEN

Florist & Grower

541.929.4444

Fax: 541.929.4447  
florist@greengable.com

GreenGable Garden  
24689 Grange Hall Rd  
Philomath, OR 97370

www.greengable.com  
facebook.com/greengablegarden

### Mosaic Farms

High Quality and Affordable Non GMO  
Hog and Poultry Feed

Chris Hansen  
Philomath, OR



**MOSAIC FARMS**  
LOCAL • NON GMO LIVESTOCK FEED

503-347-6538 Text OK  
wholemosaic@gmail.com  
www.mosaicfarms.com

### PHILOMATH HOUSECLEANING

*thorough \* reliable \* trustworthy*

Giana (415) 217-9446  
cleanhousegb@gmail.com



**SUNBOW  
PRODUCE**

Certified Organic

www.sunbowproduce.com



### Totum Farm

*Small Farm. Big Love.*

Pasture Raised.  
Small Batch.  
Non-GMO

Chicken. Pork. Duck Eggs.  
Thanksgiving Turkey.

TotumFarm@gmail.com

www.TotumFarm.com

Rent Marys River Grange for your event!  
Reasonable Rate, Cozy Comfortable Hall  
Details at [marysrivergrange.org](http://marysrivergrange.org)

Marys River Messenger Editor: Judy Hays-Eberts  
Assisted by Sonny Hays-Eberts  
Proofreader: Janet Cornelius  
Contributors welcome! Email submissions to  
[marysrivergrange@gmail.com](mailto:marysrivergrange@gmail.com) or mail to Marys River  
Grange, PO Box 1301, Philomath, OR 97370.  
No fee for business card-sized advertisements from  
members of Marys River Grange.



Marys River Grange #685  
PO Box 1301  
Philomath, OR 97370  
marysrivergrange@gmail.com  
541-829-2907



**Please Pay your 2020 Marys River Grange Dues.** At the end of March we have to drop unpaid members. **\$50 per person per year, \$100 per year for a family.** If dues are a hardship we have scholarships - talk to an officer.

**Mail to MRG at PO Box 1301, Philomath, OR 97370.**

**Not sure if you've paid ? Email MRG or call Jay at 541-829-2907.**

**Thanks!**

**Donations for Philomath Food Bank are needed more than ever. Please bring food, personal care items, laundry & dish soap, pet food...to Marys River Grange business meetings** (first Wednesday of the month) or drop off directly at the food bank.

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

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

Much appreciated!!

MARYS RIVER GRANGE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

## PLANT SALE & GARDENING SWAP

Proceeds benefit Philomath Community Services &  
Marys River Grange Hall



Generous assistance provided  
by First Alternative Co-op and  
Sunbow Organic Produce



SUNDAY,  
**APRIL 5, 2020**  
11AM - 3PM

**24707 GRANGE HALL ROAD - PHILOMATH**