

Marys River Messenger

The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 2, Issue 6

July/August 2020

Coming Together in the Time of Physical Distancing II

As we approach the half way mark of 2020, I find myself wondering how to address our members in this issue of the *Messenger*. The last four months have seen the emergence of a global pandemic resulting in disruptions of the global economy and supply chains, followed by a nationwide movement to address issues of racial injustice in America. As many have noted, it seems as if 1918, 1929 and 1968 have converged in one year. Schools, churches, workplaces and families have been tossed into chaos, and Marys River Grange has been forced by circumstance to navigate the same maelstrom we all have.

After meeting twice via Zoom, in June we held our first in-person meeting, outdoors with masks and physical distancing required. Given the recent uptick in COVID-19 activity, we will try another outdoor meeting, and revise as needed the following month based on how the COVID-19 spread manifests. There have been a few rentals at the Hall for small events, so some cash flow has resumed, at least for now. Yoga at the Grange continues to be offered online, and Laura is exploring the interest in a sign-up only, limited attendance, physically-distant class in place of the Tuesday morning Zoom session. In June, members decided to revisit the Amazing Grange Day event during the July meeting, as making plans for future months during these pandemic times is quite challenging. Yet, we continue to strive to find a path forward that ensures the safety of our members and the health of our Hall and local Grange organization.

The Grange is a non-partisan, non-sectarian organization. That does not mean apolitical. The Grange has always advocated for political causes – the right of women to vote, rural delivery of mail, direct election of Senators, even legislation that was known as the Granger Laws. When you combine that with the stated Grange principles of working to heal divisions on our country, it is in line with Grange principles to address one of the pressing issues facing our nation today, that of racial equality. This issue contains several statements on racial equality, including one from the National Grange. Given the debate our members had regarding the historic terms of Master and Overseer, and the action to replace them with the terms President and Vice-President, such a statement is of more than passing interest to our members. In the Conversation Projects held last year, several

community members expressed desires to see increased diversity in Philomath, so I believe the interest extends beyond membership in our area.

It has been a challenging six months, and who knows what may transpire in the next six months. May we continue to support each other and work to support and bring our community together, to stay safe, happy and healthy. If you have ideas for how to hold safe Grange events, or events you would like to see (online, or small, physically-distant events, preferably outdoors), please contact the Grange at marysrivergrange@gmail.com and share your ideas. While it is more difficult to keep connected during a pandemic, we can use connections all the more in challenging times.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts



Marys River Grange business meeting, June 3, 2020

Marys River Grange regularly meets on the first Wednesday of each month, 7 PM on Zoom or outdoors for the summer (masks advised). 24707 Grange Hall Rd. Contact marysrivergrange@gmail.com or 541-829-2907
See also: marysrivergrange.org
facebook.com/Marys-River-Grange-Hall-288171007887164/

Community Service

Marys River Grange was one of nine Granges to submit a 2019 Community Service yearbook, ensuring us of a top ten finish!

In 2020, collecting volunteer data has been challenging, as Grange events have been cancelled, and online and physically distant meetings have made collecting data challenging. If **Grange members can record their personal volunteer efforts and email to marysrivergrange@gmail.com**, it would be greatly appreciated. Any volunteer work, such as volunteering at a library or school, donating or working for a food bank, cleaning up parks, serving on a 501c3, donating blood, visiting the elderly or assisting with shopping, and much more all count. Working on our own Grange Hall however is considered maintenance and not volunteer effort.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts



Jay Sexton and Sonny Hays-Eberts repaired a porch at the Last Valley Research Natural Area this spring.

Continuing through summer...

Yoga from the Grange Spring 2020



*Marys River Grange is offering
live, virtual yoga classes online via Zoom
Tuesdays at 9am & Saturdays at 10am
for the duration of Oregon's social distancing*

Classes are free for all

For more information email, text, or call Laura Coen:
lauraploeg@yahoo.com 331-201-5458

Donations for Philomath Food Bank may be mailed to
PO Box 1334, Philomath, OR 97370. Thank you!

Willamette Grange Update

Things are moving forward on several fronts at Willamette Grange, our sister Grange at the corner of Hwy 99W and Greenberry Road. In the last few months we have replaced about 75 percent of the old rusting water piping with modern PEX, improving the quality. We have completed engineering studies for the roof repair and the restoration of the deteriorating entrance portico. We have been informed that we have been awarded \$3,475 for the portico project from the Benton County Historical Commission, and work should begin in late summer. And just this week members felled three large dead trees on the property and cleared the area of the tree debris and brush. The Restoration Goal is public usability by 2023, the 100th anniversary of the building. Stay tuned for a Willamette Grange Open House and Tour when it becomes reasonable.

Marys River Grange Members Jim & Charlotte Gray, Jay Sexton & Toni Hoyman, Sonny & Judy Hays-Eberts, and former MRG member Tim Dehne are all members of Willamette Grange as well.

- Jay Sexton



Willamette Grange meets on the second Wednesday of the month, 7 PM, as meetings resume.

Contact Jay Sexton/Toni Hoyman at 541-929-5452 or willamettegrange@gmail.com. Support the restoration of this historic building at the corner of Hwy 99W and Greenberry Road, seven miles south of Corvallis:
facebook.com/willamettegrange52
gofundm.com/f/wccgh52

My Garden

I scoot my chair closer to the planter,
With the old trowel I mix last year's soil,
still containing roots of old summer flowers.
With gloved hands, I push dents into the soil
and tenderly tuck in tiny impatiens
Like I would wrap a new born babe.
No blossoms yet, but they will grow,
Gently I pat the soil around them.
They wobble on new stems
Grow well, be strong,
blossom reds and pinks
and I will sit by you
in the summer sun.

Marion Whitney. (93)



Jay Sexton and Toni Hoyman tended the hugelkultur bed at Marys River Grange, among many chores and joys.



Willamette Grange floral arrangement for June 10th meeting.



Lomatiums were planted on the hugelkultur bed this spring, protected by hardware cloth. (Not sure of success).

Lomatium dissectum

A “desert parsley” that was once common along our roadside in the Willamette Valley. The flowers come out in March or early April and our local variety has chocolate-colored flowers held on stems about 2-3 feet high. This plant was regarded as medicinal among the original peoples of the inland Northwest. It is often found near mesic lowlands or drier conditions when established. Fine fern/leaves appear in early spring and often die back by July-August. This genus (Lomatium) is found only on the west coastal areas of North America and is therefore one of our own globally unique genera.

- Steve Northway

Tossed Salad. 2020

A fence separates our neighbors and us
So imagine my surprise one day
When over the fence flew a bag
of salad greens and some scallions.

Home delivery is popular now
as we practice social distancing
But never have I heard anywhere
of salad flying o’er the fence.

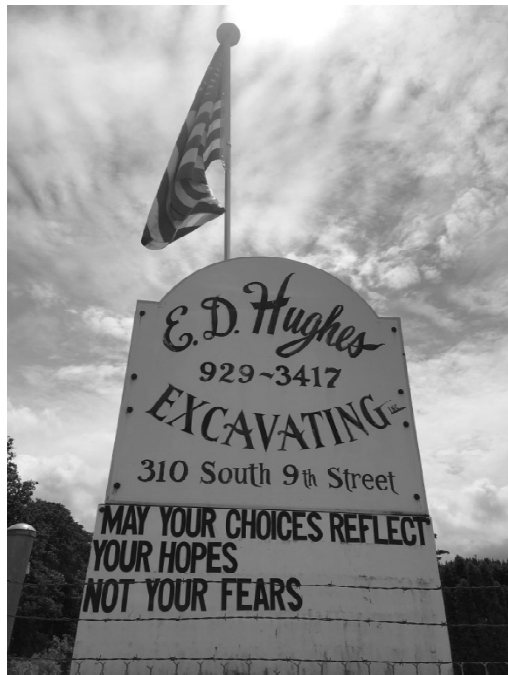
It is easy to get fretful and frazzled
about things you cannot control
But the tossed salad made me smile and think
like Louie, What a wonderful world.

Marion Whitney



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Neighbor of Philomath Community Services, 6/14/20

Grange Culture

There are two characteristics of Grange that have impressed me since I first became a Granger in 2010. These are its nonpartisan policy; not connecting itself with any political candidate or party. Grange develops policy on issues and acts on these issues without respect to the stances of political parties.

Whenever a Grange offers a community meeting on issues or political races, invitations are issued to all candidates or to all sides of a discussion. The Grange does not take stances on candidates, only on issues, after discussion within the meeting of the membership.

Grange also remains nonsectarian; not favoring any particular religious denomination or sect. Grange ceremonial language avoids reference to any particular religion and almost exclusively uses seasonal references and lessons from the natural world and agriculture.

Another striking thing about Grange culture is the mutual respect given during discussion of issues during Grange policy making. At every level; local, county, state, and national, Grange discussions are mature and display passion without rancor. After people have had their say, and the vote has been taken, the participants are friendly and without grudges. In the very few times I have seen a participant cross the line of polite discussion, the group in attendance has immediately corrected the transgression and insisted on mutual respect.

In my first experiences of Grange I was impressed by these qualities, and as I learned more about the history of Grange I realized the good influence this organization could bring to my community and that Grange was worthy of my support.

- Jay Sexton
Steward MRG

**To Rent Marys River Grange Hall
See Details at marysrivergrange.org**

I was wondering if you would consider publishing the attached statement which is a National Baha'i statement about race unity in the next issue of Marys River Messenger. It's a strong statement that I believe is in accordance with the values of Marys River Grange Hall and submitted by the Philomath Baha'i community which I'm a part of. It is not submitted for the purpose of promotion of our faith but for the promotion of dialogue and action in regards to rectifying the situation of racial prejudice and intolerance.

- Marilyn McGettigan

[This is an excerpt of the statement submitted.]

The Baha'is of the United States join our fellow-citizens in the heartfelt grief at the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many others whose lives were suddenly taken by appalling acts of violence. These heartbreaking violations against fellow human beings, due only to the color of their skin, have deepened the dismay caused by a pandemic whose consequences to the health and livelihoods of people of color have been disproportionately severe. This has come to pass against the backdrop of longstanding racial injustice in virtually every aspect of American life. It is clear that racial prejudice is the most vital and challenging issue we face as a country.

Yet, amidst these tragedies, there are also signs of hope. Countless citizens have arisen to proclaim the truth that we are one nation, and to demand specific actions to address the pervasive inequities that for too long have shaped our society. We have remembered who we aspire to be as a people, and are determined to make a change for the better. This moment beckons us to a renewed commitment to realize the ideal of *E Pluribus Unum* – out of many, one – the very ideal upon which America was founded.

To create a just society begins with recognition of the fundamental truth that humanity is one. But it is not enough simply to believe this in our hearts. It creates the moral imperative to act, and to view all aspects of our personal, social, and institutional lives through the lens of justice. It implies a reordering of our society more profound than anything we have yet achieved. And it requires the participation of Americans of every race and background, for it is only through such inclusive participation that new moral and social directions can emerge.

Whatever immediate results might come from the current demonstrations, the elimination of racism will require a sustained and concerted effort. It is one thing to protest against particular forms of injustice. It is a far more profound challenge to create a new framework for justice. Our efforts can only succeed when we learn to build relationships with each other based on sincere friendship, regard, and trust, which, in turn, become pillars for the activities of our institutions and communities.

It is essential for us to join hands in a process of learning how to create models of what we want to see in every dimension of American life, as we learn to apply the principle of oneness through practical engagement and experience.

An essential element of the process will be honest and truthful discourse about current conditions and their causes, and understanding, in particular, the deeply entrenched notions of anti-Blackness that pervade our society. We must build the capacity to truly hear and acknowledge the voices of those who have directly suffered from the effects of racism. This capacity should manifest itself in our schools, the media, and other civic arenas, as well as in our work and personal relations. This should not end with words, but lead to meaningful, constructive action.

[Continues. See NSA Statement to the American People on the Elimination of Racial Prejudice 6-2020.]

Grange issues statement addressing racism, inequality and organization's foundation of inclusivity:

The National Grange unequivocally opposes racism. The voices of Grange members across our country join those who cry out in sorrow for the lives lost to racist actions, for the divisions racism has cleaved between us and for the inequality that racism has spawned across our beloved nation.

Since our founding in 1867, we have lived by our motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." We have always welcomed and invited people of all races, creeds, religions and nationalities into our membership. We have asked none to join us who cannot see good in their fellow beings, who are willing to put to work their generous hearts and open hands to raise all their neighbors and communities.

Our Grange founders provided us a Declaration of Purposes for our organization that addressed a need for unity and civil discourse: "We shall constantly strive to secure harmony, good will, and brotherhood... We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional, and national prejudices... We desire a proper equality, and fairness; protection for the weak; restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed power." These words still guide us today.

One does not merely join the Grange, but lives by the principles of faith, hope, charity and fidelity and loving their neighbor as themselves.

We have a deep commitment to the freedoms of speech, expression and peaceful protest enshrined in our Constitution for all people. The Grange's Declaration of Purposes also teaches us that "...difference of opinion is no crime. Progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion, while the fault lies in the bitterness of the controversy." Therefore we urge everyone to exercise their individual rights of expression in a civil and respectful manner. Each day, law enforcement officers must uphold the law equally while exercising good judgment and compassion.

Just as we do in each of our meetings, we must meet the peaceful expressions of various opinions with open ears and open hearts.

In this time of social unrest and anxiety, Grange members renew our pledge to combat prejudice and racism and will continue to strive to do better. We continue our 153-year-old tradition of welcoming all to our membership, building an inclusive family fraternity and providing our communities with a place for civil discussion and proactive, positive change.

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Susan Stogsdill, Owner

MRG has puzzles and books, especially for kids, safely stored at the Hall from members for loan. Contact Sonny at marysrivergrange@gmail.com or 541-929-3309 to see what's available.



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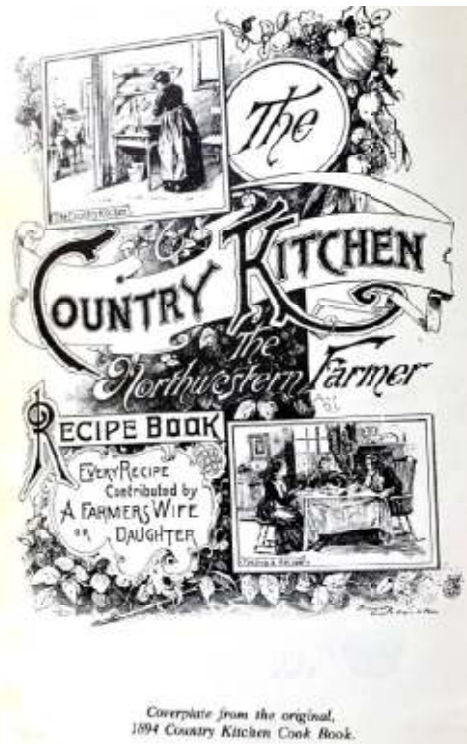
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Coverplate from the original, 1894 Country Kitchen Cook Book.

20 Vegetable Salads & Dressings

MIXED BEAN SALAD

Use fresh vegetables in summer, canned vegetables in winter.

2½ cups wax beans, cut	2 cups canned, drained kidney beans
2½ cups green beans, cut	1 large onion, sliced
2¼ cups scraped, diced carrots	1 small green pepper, diced
1 teaspoon salt	

In a saucepan, cover fresh beans and carrots with water; add 1 teaspoon salt. Boil until tender; drain and cool. Add diced green pepper, onion and kidney beans. Mix all ingredients in a glass bowl. Pour on hot Boiled or cold Italian Dressing; mix. Refrigerate overnight. Yields 12 to 15 servings.

Boiled Dressing: In a saucepan, combine ¼ cup sugar, ¼ cup vinegar, ½ cup salad oil, ½ cup water, 1 teaspoon celery seed or dill seed. Bring mixture to a boil. Yields about 1½ cups dressing.

Italian Dressing: Place 3 medium cloves garlic, ¼ cup salad oil and ½ cup white vinegar in blender. Cover and blend 2 minutes at "blend" until garlic is completely liquified. Stop blender and add 1 tablespoon pimiento. Cover blender and run at "whip" until pimiento is chopped, about 5 seconds. Yields 1 cup dressing.

This yummy recipe is from *The Farmer Country Kitchen Cook Book* (1973). It is a collection first published in 1894. It was a gift from my Norwegian grandmother who raised 8 children on her North Dakota farm.

- Suzan Foley

Let her dyet proceede more from the provision of her owne yarde, than the furniture of the markets; and let it be rather esteemed for the familiar acquaintance shee hath with it, than for the strangenesse and raritie it bringeth from other Countries.

- Gervase Markham, *The English Hus-wife*, 1615

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

> facebook: facebook.com/oldbluerawhoney

> contact: oldbluerawhoney@gmail.com

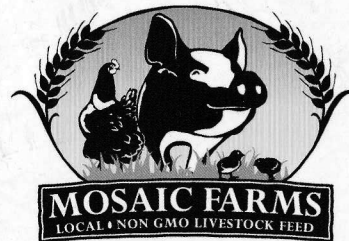
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Perhaps, during this time of isolation, you have read a novel or watched a movie set before 1900, in which there was a reference to laudanum. While I knew it was addicting, and was prescribed most often to "hysterical" women, I had no idea how it was made. I saved from my parents' extensive library a book entitled, "Lee's Priceless Recipes", published in 1895, and in it is a recipe for laudanum. While I do not recommend making or consuming laudanum, the recipe does satisfy my curiosity! Powdered opium 3 ounces, alcohol 1 quart; macerate 7 days, filter.

- Janet Cornelius

It is now August: the Melowne and the Cucumber is now in request: and Oyle and vinegar give attendance on the Sallet hearbes.

- Nicholas Breton, *The Boke of Moneths*, 1626

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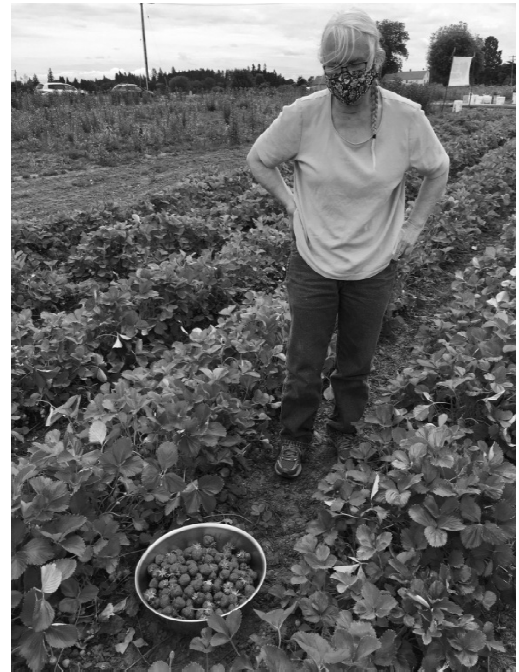
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GreenGable Farm's strawberry fields were open for u-pick.

Who's in your bubble?



Nigerian Dwarf kids Hazel and Filbert were born on Windy Hill Farm, Monday June 22nd, 2020.



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



PHILOMATH FARMERS' MARKET

Dates: Sundays, June 28th - August 2nd, 2020

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| ★ 6/28/2020 | ★ 7/19/2020 |
| ★ 7/05/2020 | ★ 7/26/2020 |
| ★ 7/12/2020 | ★ 8/2/2020 |

Time: 2:00 - 5:00 PM

Location: Philomath Community Library (1050 Applegate St.)

Details: bountifulbackyard.org/market



Our Friends at Ten Rivers Food Web work to support the production and consumption of sustainably-raised, local food in Benton, Lincoln and Linn Counties. They aim to learn how food habits have changed in our area as a result of COVID-19. This survey asks about your food habits pre-pandemic, how COVID-19 has impacted those habits, and how you think about your food now.

Please take this 10 minute survey at
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JVBQSZT> **by July 14. Seven lucky winners will receive \$50** to use at their local farmers' market OR at our November Fill Your Pantry event.

Contributors welcome! Email submissions to Judy at 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.