

Marys River Messenger

The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 3, Issue 5

May/June 2021

A Time to Shine 2021 MRG Plant Sale & Seed Swap Success



Saturday, April 24th at Marys River Grange Hall.



This year's Plant Sale and Seed Swap was an incredible success. Twenty Grangers and two friends of the Grange donated items, plants or seeds for the sale and/or helped conduct the sale. Despite the rain after two weeks of great weather, attendance, support and generosity from our community was off the charts. Thanks to everyone who participated and attended, nearly \$1,250 will be donated to Philomath Community Services and a similar amount was generated to help restore MRG funds after a year of minimal rentals and fund raising activities. Even more fantastic was the chance to finally see our Hall active and to see our members and friends in the community after so long.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts, MRG President

To rent Marys River Grange Hall
See Rental at marysrivergrange.org



A Sleeping Giant Awakens

Isoroku Yamamoto uttered the famous phrase “I fear we have awoken a sleeping giant” after the Japanese Navy attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941. Eighty years later, after our own version of Pearl Harbor, a surprise pandemic, Marys River Grange is stirring from its year-long slumber.

The pandemic is not yet over, but increased vaccination rates have given us hope that the days of isolation are ending. Accordingly, we have begun to hold hybrid meetings that combine Zoom and in-person. We are planning to resume *Yoga at the Grange* with safety precautions, and, on April 24th, Marys River Grange held our first in-person event since a few *Yoga at the Grange* sessions last summer. [See front page.]

While it is tempting to rush back to the pre-pandemic days, the rising infection numbers in Oregon are high enough to reinforce the idea we must do so safely, with care for our membership and community. We will continue to monitor OHA and CDC guidelines and act accordingly.

After a year of less activity, this may also be a good time to reflect as a Grange on what works for us and what we wish to let go, or where to redirect our efforts to new challenges and goals. I hope that we can discuss this in an upcoming meeting and decide together about what we wish to focus upon. Do we still want to hold Amazing Grange Day or other events such as Highway 34 cleanup or Harvest Fest? Do we wish to change, or expand our primary goals of supporting Philomath Community Services Food Bank, Community Garden and Holiday Cheer? After a break and with fresh eyes, we might want to re-assess these things. Perhaps we want to do something new, or maybe not. There is no ‘right’ answer, the answer is simply what our members wish to do.

A mere dozen years removed from the threat of going dormant, we are now a large Grange, if not the largest in Oregon, certainly in the very top. We have an active, enthusiastic and dynamic membership, and we are capable of performing great things, especially if it is an event or idea that captures the imagination of our membership.

So, as we awaken from our slumber and come back together at the Grange, I hope we are able to recapture our sense of purpose as a Grange and, rather than simply returning to ‘normal’, we will accomplish great things together.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts, MRG President

Marys River Grange regularly meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at 24707 Grange Hall Road in Philomath and online via Zoom.
Please wear a mask for public safety at this time.

Activities for Juniors, ages 4-14, are offered as families return to meetings in person. Parents are welcome to participate. Families are also invited to meet locally and **explore as Marys River Nature Detectives.**
Contact Judy at 541-230-8325 for info.

Join members online for the monthly All-Ages Social Hour on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM.
The Zoom link is emailed to members beforehand.
May 19th: Let’s share about books we like.

Contact marysrivergrange@gmail.com or 541-829-2907. See also: marysrivergrange.org
facebook.com/Marys-River-Grange-Hall-288171007887164/

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www.gatheringtogetherfarm.com

Health Care for Farm Workers

Farm Clinic is expanding services to uninsured & underinsured agricultural workers in Benton, Linn, & Lincoln Counties.

Any small-scale & family-run farms (vineyards, tree farms, dairy, ranching, etc.)

Contact: Lisa Quick, Community Outreach & Farm Clinic, 541-758-3000



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www.sunbowproduce.com



Willamette Grange Portico Restoration Begins!

Willamette Grange #52 has received a matching grant from the Benton County Historic Resources Commission for \$3,475 for the complete restoration of the Hall portico. This amount is half the estimated cost and an anonymous donor has contributed another \$3,000 towards the project.

The portico was used not only to protect the front entrance to the Hall but also as a platform to raise the flag on the flagpole above the roof. The second story window opened to let someone step out onto the portico roof to access the flag pole. There used to be a railing, a tall flagpole, and a large "Willamette Community and Grange Hall" sign. The railings and flagpole have been gone for a while and the sign was taken down during reconstruction. The roof and supporting pillars were beginning to collapse from rot. A bracing structure was built last year to support the portico as it was looking unstable.

Deconstruction of the portico proceeded a couple of weeks ago, with lots of picture taking and measuring to ensure the restoration will be historically accurate. On "the Willamette Grange #52" Facebook page you will find the 'grand finale' video of Jay Sexton bringing down the last standing remnants of the portico and it is quite visible how decayed the structure really was. It was possible to salvage some of the wainscoting from the roof and the pillar cladding to be reused in the reconstruction. It is wonderful to be able to use some of the original wood for the project.

The restoration is being done by Abiqua Creek Construction Inc. of Corvallis. This is the same company that will be working on the big roof replacement project and adding structural supports to the Hall, beginning this August. We look forward to having an entrance that will welcome visitors and users with a positive first impression. This is the first big step in the long effort to restore and upgrade this unique building.

Please consider joining us by becoming a member of Willamette Grange #52 (you can belong to two Granges!) or by making a tax deductible donation to the Willamette Community and Grange Hall Historic Building Foundation.

Toni Hoyman
WG #52 Secretary
WCGHHBF President
PO Box 1923 Corvallis, OR 97339

HAVE YOU SEEN ME?



Last Seen at Corner of Greenberry Rd.
and Hwy 99W

IN DANGER OF BEING LOST

*A **critical time** for Willamette Community and
Grange Hall*

A New Roof Structure and Strengthening Key Points

*****WORK TO BE DONE THIS YEAR*****

Please consider a donation today!

WE WANT YOUR STORIES ABOUT THE HALL TOO!

SEND STORIES AND/OR PHOTOS
to our email: WCGHHBF@gmail.com
or mail to: WCGHHBF, PO Box 1923,
Corvallis, OR 97339.



To be included in a
Memories Book displayed at the Hall.

LEARN MORE

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

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

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Calendula; more than just a pretty flower.

Calendula (*Calendula officinalis*) is one of my favorite flowers for many reasons. These cheerful and abundant flowers range from yellow to orange, are easy to grow and not fussy about where they are planted. In a sunny spot they tend to bloom all winter long and re-seed readily.

Calendula also has healing properties internal and external. I use it as a salve, a facial toner, hair rinse, and I drink it as a tea for stimulating the lymphatic system. I will also sprinkle flower petals onto a salad for color.

Made into a salve calendula can be used for skin ailments such as bruises, burns, and other irritations to the skin. According to Rosemary Gladstar's book "Healing Recipes for Vibrant Health" calendula can be taken internally for fevers and gastrointestinal issues.

Recipe for calendula infused oil:

After I pick the flowers, I lay them out to dry for a day or so. I put the dried flowers in a jar and cover with either grapeseed or sweet almond oil, place the jar on a sunny windowsill and shake a couple of times a day. Do this for 2 weeks. Strain.

Salve:

Melt ¼ cup of beeswax in 1 cup of infused oil over a double boiler. After removing from heat, pour into a small glass jar, or other container. If stored in a cool, dark place it will last for months.

- Denise Guinn



For Farm Direct Purchasing, see <http://www.tenriversfoodweb.org/farm-direct-purchasing.html> for Community Supported Agriculture Programs, information and websites for local farms. Sunbow Farms, Gathering Together Farm, Totum Farm, and Old Blue Raw Honey are MRG members, too!

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

> contact: oldbluerawhoney@gmail.com

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



"How well do you know Philomath?" challenge.

What is this spot and where is it located?

- Suzan Foley

[The answer is on another page.]

PHILOMATH farmers' market May 30 - Sept. 12, 2021 Sundays 1-5 Philomath Library

We have a few spaces left
for musicians and vendors!

Vendors: Apply at philomathfarmersmarket.org

Musicians: email janel@bountifulbackyard.org

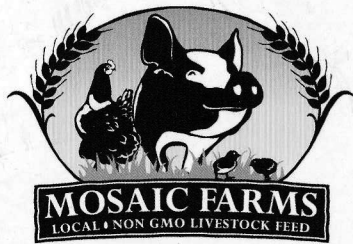
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:
[@Philomath Farmers' Market](https://www.facebook.com/PhilomathFarmersMarket)



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 stpcyrano@gmail.com**

Susan Stogsdill, Owner



On April 26, 2021, five kids were born to a Nigerian Dwarf dairy goat on Windy Hill Farm. Twins are common, triplets and quadruplets not uncommon, but quintuplets among goats are estimated at one in 10,000 births. There were two females and three males. The kids were named Polly, Pearl, Snoopy, Bunny, and Bob. The boys will be available for sale when weaned at eight weeks old.

Windy Hill Farm

Eggs - Honey - Nigerian Dwarf Goats - Flowers - Produce

www.windyhill-familyfarm.com

Philomath, Oregon

Corvallis Farmers' Market
April 17 – November 24, 2021
Saturdays and Wednesdays 9am to 1pm
1st and Jackson



MAREK & LANKER LLP
 Attorneys and Counselors at Law

Ronald L. Marek

**810 SW Madison Avenue
 Corvallis, OR 97333-4513**

541.754.1411 phone

541.754.1413 fax

rmarek@peak.org

**Estate Planning • Elder Law
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"Let children help plan. One mother told me her fourteen-year-old was unhappy with her menus. He complained about cutting down on meat and other foods he enjoyed. When she allowed him to set the family menus for a week, she was surprised to see how economically he planned. She found he shared her motivation. What they ate was not really very different when he planned. But he felt better about the meals and he realized his concerns were heard.

Children can rise to the occasion in an amazing way if they are given honest explanations and time to adjust to new foods. There are days when they complain and reject any changes outright. But in the end, children's food habits are set by example. If parents are open to change, children will be, too."

- More-with-Less: A World Community Cookbook

Two Shots Two Weeks. 2021

*In the years before I can remember
The calendar marked special times
birthdays, anniversaries, parties,
we celebrated with friends and wine.
Alas, Covid came uninvited,
We were told to be alone,
For one year we were quarantined,
We had to stay in our home.
I was young and grew to be old,
Days all ran together,
Everything was cancelled,
except the Oregon weather.
No dancing by the river,
Or fireworks late at night,
What happened to June and July,
Somehow it didn't seem right.
We turned back the clocks so darkness
Came early and the news was so bad,
All I could do was crawl into bed
And read a book or see a movie instead.
As I look back now I wonder
What happened on Thanksgiving Day?
Did we celebrate Christmas at all?
New Year's Eve I rang the cow bell.
Twenty One came in with a thud,
We all hunkered down,
Wore a mask into town,
And wondered how long it would be.
After a year of quarantine,
masks, zoom and separation ,
We need each other, that's for sure,
So let's have a celebration
Get out your lipstick and fancy shoes,
After two shots and two weeks, Anything Goes!*

- Marion Whitney

Mary's River Grange #685 Secretary's Record

Excerpts of Minutes from June 5, 1931

...Bro Gellatly reported on picnic committee. Secretary is to write invitations to granges, Lecturer to have charge of program. HEC to have charge of "eats", Bro Seedenburg to be Marshall of the day, Bro DuBois to have charge of sports. It was announced that the grange had been invited to put on a program at the Community meeting June 30th and had accepted. Sister Ida Bennett to have charge of games. Home Economics Committee Chairman announced her committees for picnic day. Bro A.W. Bennett offered Lions Club tables for picnic. Moved and carried that Stand be left in hands of picnic committee to appoint someone to take charge. Communications were read from Columbia Valley Assn., Good Government League and a company selling sodium chlorate...

Effie F. DuBois, Secretary

Building Better Together

This is a special time in our history. Separated by a pandemic and connected by electronics. Human Nature needs real contact.

The Grange motto is
In essentials, unity;
in non-essentials, liberty;
in all things, charity.

The webpage for the National Grange (nationalgrange.org) has a declaration of purposes page which states in part: "We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, and in general, acting together for our mutual protection and advancement."

Clearly the Declaration of Purposes points to our essential necessity to have a safe way to meet and have gatherings.

Our need to meet in social settings can be greatly improved with the use of outdoor structures, portable fencing, and all that is necessary for meetings, fairs, and other social events.

The present use of pop up structures that are made in China simply provide no good protection from wind and light rain!

Developing a system of construction for small farms has been the goal of a small group of friends. Now there is a need to expand the mission to include structures for outdoor classrooms, and places to meet, for both Grange events and Farm Stand projects.

Before Willamette Grange meetings (7 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 27555 Greenberry Rd.) and at South Corvallis Farm Stand (Tuesdays at 5:00 PM at the eastern end of Alexander Ave.) we will have a "Makers Meet Up" with the shared goal of developing a "STANDARDIZED SYSTEM" for construction of outdoor similar-portable structures.

Everybody is invited to share and learn. Soon we will be providing possibilities and projects for place and purpose.

Please join us.

- Mark Files



"Truly, harnessing the earthworm is a worthwhile hobby for any farmer or gardener. All one has to do, is "feed the brutes"
— and nature will take her course.

- Herbert Clarence White, *Organic Gardening* June 1946

I'm [Name] and I'm a Marys River Granger

While it may be nice to keep one display area in the Hall to represent our Grange's past, there are currently four dedicated to this purpose, and none that showcase our current interests, members, or awards. I would like to update those display areas to the present.

I would also like to invite Grangers to be featured in a special display in our Hall, in which each featured person would have a picture or two and a description of who they are, what they do, and a few sentences perhaps about why they joined the Grange, or what their interests are. Hopefully, a wide variety of ages, occupations, and interests will be displayed. The intent is to show renters and those who attend Marys River events that while the Grange has roots in agriculture, today's Grange also counts educators, IT professionals, truck drivers, music teachers, kids, Yoga instructors and others, alongside the ranks of farmers, ranchers, seed producers and beekeepers.

To participate, please write up a paragraph for yourself, starting with the title of this article (I'm Sonny and I'm a Marys River Granger), and then add a paragraph or two describing your occupation, interests, and why you joined or enjoy the Grange. It should not exceed half of a typed page. Also, submit one or two photos of yourself - at work, a head shot, in the garden, with a pet, whatever you want.

Please write in general terms and, other than your first name, do not specify information that potentially could be used for identity fraud. "I operate an organic produce farm" is better than "I operate Sonnsine Organic Produce", or "I have a dog" over "My dog Major Canis and I..." for example. (I doubt this will be an issue; it may just be my IT security wariness kicking in...)

Please contact marysrivergrange@gmail.com to be included.
- Sonny Hays-Eberts

"Society has changed with more single parent families, children being raised by grandparents and other family members, adoptive parents, and same sex families. These are all a part of and welcomed in our Granges now. When referring to our values, [may we] emphasize that they are "Family Values" that include all our families."

- from the 2020 Report of the National Grange Diversity Task Force, *Oregon State Grange Bulletin*, April/May 2021

The 2021 Oregon State Grange Convention, "Get Your Kicks in District 6" will be hosted in Enterprise by Granges in Wallowa County, June 19-24. It will be a hybrid session again this year, so accessible for Grange members on Zoom. This is an opportunity for any who are interested but can't make the trip. Contact marysrivergrange@gmail.com for more info.



April: MRG Nature Detectives hunted for trilliums and more wildflowers, bullfrog tadpoles and turtles in Marys River Park.

Answer to **"How well do you know Philomath?"** challenge:
Footbridge over bullfrog pond in Marys River Park!



MRG Messenger Editor: Judy Hays-Eberts

Assisted by Sonny Hays-Eberts

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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.

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



Yoga at the Grange is back!



**Mary's River Grange is offering yoga classes
Tuesdays 7pm-8pm,
May 11 - June 29, 2021**

Classes are \$5 for Grange members,
\$10 for non-Grange members.

Students must wear masks, maintain 6 feet of
distancing, and provide their own mats

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

SEEDS TO SUPPER

Free, Family Friendly Event

Don't have room for a garden? Join us to learn
about Container Gardening
Free tomato plant and you plant a Free Salad or
Sauce Container to take home.

Free seeds and plants for sale

SAT, MAY 8, 10 AM – 2 PM

Willamette Grange Hall

corner of Hwy 99 W and Greenberry Rd.
7 miles South of Corvallis (27555 Greenberry Rd.)

Contact: willamettegrange@gmail.com



Free Historic Hall Tours. Donations
Accepted for Hall Restoration.
