

Marys River Messenger

The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 3, Issue 6

July/August 2021

A Time to Ripen on the Vine

Marys River Grange continues to come together in 2021. Benton County entered the Low Risk category, and we have been able to meet more easily in person. Yoga has resumed, and been well attended. Gabrielle Louise, who performed at the Hall in 2019, returned for an encore show on June 17th and Wyatt Coen rocked the soundboard. And now pandemic restrictions are lifted after June 30, as Oregon reaches the 70% vaccinated standard.

Amazing Grange Day will be a thing in 2021, August 28th. If you have items to donate for the rummage sale, please contact Sonny or Jay to drop them off at the Hall. The Pie Auction will also return. Though our members have not yet made the decision, I hope the proceeds will go toward our Junior Hall to make it mold-free and be a safe environment, especially for our Juniors.

Susan Stogsdill is also planning this year's Harvest Fest. We hope to add an in-person art show this year, to combine what we did online last year with what has been done previously at Harvest Fest.

We are holding our August 4th meeting at Marys River Park. Come early and picnic with Granger friends, and get in a round of disc golf. We have accomplished disc-ers (is that a term?): Jay Sexton and Toni Hoyman (and family!) and the Coens, among others; so don't worry about supplies or technique. Let's have fun together as a Grange!

We've performed a detailed sound analysis of the acoustical properties of the Hall, and plan to implement phase II of the acoustical enhancements now that phase I of the stage lighting nears completion. We have acquired a small PA system and a set of digitally controlled stage lights.

Our Grange Hall was also gifted two cords of firewood! I hope this year we can replace our decrepit sign out front, fix our front door (now done –

THANKS MATT!), complete the connecting corridor and improve access to our bathrooms, as well as undertake some small projects to help spruce up our Hall. We also need to address the mold issue in the Junior Hall. Please see the poll concerning building improvements elsewhere in this issue.

It is exciting to see activities and rentals on our calendar. It is amazing to see our members attend meetings and excited to see each other, and socialize and work together.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts, Marys River Grange President



Matt Coen worked to repair the front door latch of MRG, with appreciation from Sonny Hays-Eberts, at Clean-up Day with other volunteers on June 12th.

Building Projects poll

Marys River is holding small, informal gatherings to work on the Hall together. To prioritize the upcoming projects, please reply to this poll, so we can accomplish what is most wanted/needed/desired by our members. Send email to marysrivergrange@gmail.com, or write to Marys River Grange, PO Box 1301, Philomath OR 97370 and share your thoughts.

This article changed considerably since I began it. We had originally planned to apply for an Oregon State Grant to address accessibility concerns with our bathrooms. However, a little time in the Junior Hall after the pandemic layover came with the realization that it may not be a healthy environment for our Juniors, as there is a moldy smell. I feel it must be elevated to our highest priority. This will be a discussion topic at the July business meeting and, if we are in agreement as a body, will be our next major project.

Matt Coen has fixed our front door; so current priorities are repairing the leak(s) in the bathroom and replacing the exterior sign near the road, which is on its last leg. The Oregon State Grange will reimburse us for up to \$350 for sign repairs, which will be a help.

Some of these projects, including the Junior Hall work, are currently out of our financial reach, at least for the moment. As our income level rises as the pandemic recedes, these projects will be possible; yet in the meantime, we can identify the needed materials so that if anyone locates inexpensive materials, we can act on that and store them in preparation. Perhaps people might wish to sponsor an item or project to speed its completion? Or even better, help work on one. In any of these cases, please contact Sonny at the Grange email, marysrivergrange@gmail.com.

The current acoustic and stage work has been funded by grants and donations, and therefore proceeds on its own random schedule. Yet, again, if anyone is interested in assisting with that sub-project, email Marys River Grange.

The anticipated cost of material for the Junior Hall will easily exceed \$10,000. Amazing Grange Day and the Harvest Fest can help us reach our goal, and we can apply for the Oregon State Grange matching grant, for up to \$5,000. We can also apply for a Ford Foundation Grant, as well as a Pioneer Connect community grant. I believe we can reach this goal, start work in May and with a sizable volunteer effort, create a safe and healthy and more inviting space for our Junior members and all by October 2022. If indeed members choose this as our next large scale project, we will begin to plan and save for the effort.

In the meantime, we will continue to address inexpensive projects that dress up our Hall. The display cases are in process of being brought up to date. Interest was high at the last work party about painting the Hall, so we will discuss that at the July meeting.

Expensive projects are marked with *. These are probably \$1,000 or more to complete. Please rank them from #1 (super important) down to whatever you feel is least important, or even just high/medium/low. It's simply an informal member poll, so whatever works for you. Also, if you have other suggestions or ideas, please add them. Note: not all of these ideas are under consideration. For example, I personally would prefer to keep the south side as is, yet I

wish to offer all options to our members. Again, as mentioned, supply any ideas that come to mind.

Expand parking lot

*Upgrade kitchen – 3 tub sink, commercial use capability, might require some greywater work

Fix sagging floor where concrete meeting area joins wood floor

Replace rear stage window

*Rebuild rear storage area with corrugated roof

*Build secure electronic storage area, dressing room behind stage

*Refinish Hall floor

Complete connecting room

Rebuild north side covered area (garbage cans typically stored here, where cider was pressed)

*Refinish bathrooms for better access (wider doors, no turns), possibly add closet

Repair sidewalk ramp

*Re-side east side of main Hall (kitchen/stage rear)

*Re-side south side of main Hall (facing road)

*Insulate north, east, south main hall walls.

Other (please specify):

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

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



Certified Organic

www.sunbowproduce.com



Windy Hill Farm has two Nigerian Dwarf goat kids for sale. These boys were born in April 2021, and are ready for their new home. Both have been vaccinated, banded, and disbudded. They are very friendly, easy pets, and excellent brush eaters. Must go together. Please contact Laura Coen for more details: 331-201-5458 or lauraploeg@yahoo.com

Windy Hill Farm

Eggs - Honey - Nigerian Dwarf Goats - Flowers - Produce
www.windyhill-familyfarm.com
 Philomath, Oregon



“How well do you know Philomath?” challenge.
 What is this spot and where is it located?
 [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

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

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

Hi, fellow Grangers.

Here is a short questionnaire to help us become a stronger grange!
 You can email your responses to Sonny or bring them to the next meeting and we will work on them together. — Susan Stogsdill

- 1) What do you want to get out of being a MRG member?
- 2) What kind of activities would you like to see MRG participate in or put on?
- 3) How would like to participate in the...
 Amazing Grange Day, August 28th –
 Harvest Fest 2021, October 15-17th –
- 4) Our Grange history at the State Fair: MRG used to put together and maintain the Benton County booth, but this went away in the 1990s. We tried to pick it up again later, yet lacked participation. Benton County has not been a presence there for years now. Would you like MRG to pick up this project again, for the year 2022 and bring Benton County back to the State Fair?

HISTORY: first meeting of the National Grange was held on December 4, 1867 in the office of William Saunders, Superintendent of the Propagating Garden of the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

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

Not So “Worthless” Weeds: Horsetail

Botanical name is *Equisetum arvense*

Other common names are shavegrass, scouring rush,
horsepipes

This commonly hated weed is known as horsetail due to its
form when growing and taking over the yard or garden. Many
species of *Equisetum* can be seen growing along roadsides as
well as marshy areas.

However, there is a good side to this somewhat invasive
plant. Horsetail contains silica and calcium which are needed
for strong nails and hair. Silica is a compound commonly found
in products promoting hair, skin, and nail health.

If you do not happen to have any growing nearby, which
you are probably thankful for, you can buy it at the local health
store as a supplement.

I have harvested some of this for personal use while
weeding the community garden, much to my fellow gardeners’
consternation.

It can be made into a tea, but I recommend pairing it with
peppermint or some other flavor to make it palatable.
Otherwise, it tastes ‘green’. A note of caution, as with
anything, some folks can have allergic reaction to horsetail.

Historically, the local indigenous people used horsetail for
cleaning and scrubbing of cookware because of its brush-like
shape and the silica which gives it structure.

Fun fact: Horsetail was one of the first plants to poke
through the soil after the Mt. St. Helens eruption in 1980.

Horsetail can cause skin irritation, using gloves when
removing is recommended.

Horsetail is toxic to livestock if ingested.

Source: “Herbal Recipes for Vibrant Health” by Rosemary
Gladstar

“Plants of the Pacific Northwest” Pojar and Mackinnon

- Denise Guinn

*Collect and save seeds from all flowers and vegetables which ripen in
August and the following months.* - Organic Gardening, Aug. 1948



Highlighting the Grange with a display at Footwise in
Corvallis, created by Jay Sexton.



Junior Grange has fun while the business meeting goes on.



Elizabeth Bolte weeded the hugelkulture at MRG on Clean-up Day.

Haiku in the Neighborhood. 2021

*Green Elephant Ears
 Pink stalks for rhubarb pudding
 Color me happy*

*Artichoke blossoms
 Backyard surprise and wonder
 No need to travel*

*Imagine you see
 Hummer in Columbine
 I am not alone*

*Blessings from Heaven
 That fall on thirsty roses
 Hallowed be thy rain*

*Roof top crow scolds me,
 As I enjoy morning sun
 "Get your own coffee!"*

- Marion Whitney





A Joyful Heart

By Suzy Gilruth

Sharing with you the many wonderful members of Marys River Grange

Local bookbinder and artist Susan Stogsdill operates Cyrano's in downtown Corvallis. She is a happy creative spirit who restores books, sells art supplies, and also supports twelve other artists in her delightful shop.

In searching for a community social organization Susan found our Grange in 2006 when efforts were forming to bring it back to life. She found herself a member as soon as she walked in the door and began filling leadership roles, including President. She worked to encourage participation and grow membership, yet it was discouraging. Only when Susan sent a letter out suggesting that our Grange disband, was there an outpouring of commitment to build a viable and active chapter. Others stepped up as Susan was busy starting her business, managing The Old World Deli, and creating art.

With a goal of bringing our Grange's kitchen up to commercial grade, Susan had an idea for Harvest Fest which she now runs as an annual community collective art show and sale held in October. This past year Harvest Fest hosted a members' art show and sale online, in order to keep people connected. Look for more art at this year's event!

Susan's desire is to participate with a community organization that also does good things for its community. She connects aspiring artists with nonconventional materials acquisitions, and she teaches art skills to our Junior Grange members and small classes in her shop. I hope you'll visit Susan in her whimsical art studio at **361 SW 2nd St, Corvallis (door on Adams), Monday through Friday 10am to 6pm.**



Cyrano's BOOKBINDING

Book Repair/Restoration
Custom Binding
Fine Art Supplies
Unique Art Papers
Classes

361 SW 2nd St
Corvallis Or 97330

11-6 Tues-Fri
11-4 Sat

541-286-4661
stpcyrano@gmail.com

Susan Stogsdill, Owner



MRG's donation of \$1,300 to Philomath Community Services from the 2021 Plant Sale and Seed Swap was received by Executive Director Kate Sundstrom in June.



Oregon State Grange Vice President and Willamette Grange President Jay Sexton, and OSG Treasurer and Marys River Grange President Sonny Hays-Eberts, looking sharp at the 2021 Oregon State Grange Convention in Enterprise in June.



Sonny and OSG Youth President Lexie Suing from Crow Grange

Marys River Grange brought home more than \$1,000 in prizes from the 2021 OSG Convention:

- Most Members Gained (for 2019) - \$750
- President's Award (for 2019) - \$200
- 1st Place Community Services Yearbook - \$100
- 2nd Place Talent Show - \$20

Sonny played guitar and sang Will the Circle Be Unbroken?
 1st Place Computer Designed Poster - \$3
 [for Gabrielle Louise concert]
 Gold Honor Grange 2019
 Silver Honor Grange 2020

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

Marys River Grangers are invited to be featured in a special display in the Hall, in which participants will each have a photo or two and a description of themselves, what they do, and perhaps a bit about what interests them and why they joined the Grange. The intent is to showcase our wide variety of ages, occupations and interests, and to show that while the Grange has roots in agriculture, today's Grange includes people from all walks of life. Go ahead and write up a paragraph or two describing yourself and why you enjoy the Grange, and send one or two photos along, to Sonny at marysrivergrange@gmail.com. See you at the Grange!

- Sonny Hays-Eberts



Top prize was awarded to OSG Bulletin editor Suzy Ramm for her photo of Sonny and wife Judy at Sunriver in 2019.

Answer to "How well do you know Philomath?" challenge:
 It is a old oak tree that grew around a fence, and is located
 east of the Grange on the north side of Grange Hall Road.

- Suzan Foley

SUNDAY, AUGUST THE TWENTY-NINTH.

Peach Shortcake—Make a rich pastry. Roll thin and bake three crusts in pie-pans. Let them get thoroughly cold. Take peaches left from breakfast, mash them well and sweeten. Spread between the crusts. Put in cold place. Serve with whipped cream. This is delicious and very inexpensive.

Mrs. L. D. Potter

Bowling Green, Ky.

- The Daily News Cookbook, c1896

MRG Messenger Editor: Judy Hays-Eberts
 Proofreader: Janet Cornelius

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



Amazing Grange Day is back!
Saturday, August 28th
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Marys River Grange Annual Fundraiser

Large Rummage Sale
Pie Auction & Buy-It-Now
All Ages – Games – Free Prizes for Kids
Sunbow Produce Stand
***** Not to be Missed *****

Marys River Grange Hall
24707 Grange Hall Rd, Philomath

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

Yoga at the Grange
Summer 2021



Mary's River Grange is offering yoga classes
Tuesdays 7pm-8pm,
July 6th & 13th, August 3rd, 17th, 24th & 31st
Classes are \$5 for Grange members,
\$10 for non-Grange members.
Practice is outdoors in favorable weather.
Questions? Please contact Laura Coen, 331-201-5458

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