

Marys River Messenger

The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 4, Issue 1

September/October 2021

Faith, Hope, Charity, Fidelity and Perseverance

Recently I have heard more discussion of pandemic fatigue, as the Delta variant surge mounts. I understand, and sympathize with such feelings. Marys River Grange was just beginning to emerge from the pandemic and was picking up steam. A Plant Sale and Seed Swap benefit fundraising for Philomath Community Services was followed by well attended work parties to spruce up the Hall from its long slumber, a concert featuring Gabrielle Louise, and plans for Amazing Grange Day and Harvest Fest, in partnership with GreenGable (check out their corn maze!), were underway.

Then came Delta. While the risk has been minimized for the vaccinated it is not eliminated, and many children and immune-compromised do not have that option, and now Lambda is on the horizon.

Accordingly, Marys River is once again adapting to accommodate COVID. Harvest Fest has been cancelled. Amazing Grange Day was likely the last big public event we host this year. We will be having hybrid meetings, with no potluck. Masks will be required unless speaking, and we will sanitize microphones after use. Please attend only if fully vaccinated. I realize this negatively impacts our Junior activities, and Juniors (and others) are tired of Zoom after a year of remote learning, however, I would rather be safe than sorry, especially with our Junior members. With sunset now before 8PM, outdoor meetings are not feasible for the coming months.

Yoga will still be happening, with masks. Phoebe and Judy are working on developing projects that can be given to Junior members and completed independently, and then shared with each other. We will continue to hold small work parties to complete the second bathroom, and paint the Hall. If you are interested in helping on either project, contact me at marysrivergrange@gmail.com. Experience is not needed; if you are a homeowner interested in learning some of these skills, please feel free to attend. With

diminished rental activity, this will be an opportunity to work on the Hall at a slower pace. It also provides time and space to hold small events for members if there is a demand for social events as the season progresses.

So things will slow down a little, and get smaller again, at least until we can emerge from the surge. If you have ideas or suggestions for the Grange or the Juniors, again, please contact Marys River Grange. The Grange is a community organization, and our members help shape that community – so please, tell us what you like and want from our Grange.

From the beginning, the Grange has held forth the virtues of Faith, Hope, Charity, Fidelity and Perseverance. These tenets were vital to farmers when the Grange was founded, but no less important today to its members. To get through this pandemic tests our Faith, Hope and Perseverance, but I believe it is a test we shall pass.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts, Marys River Grange President



Homemade pies and cakes were offered for silent auction at MRG's Amazing Grange Day on August 28th.



Sunbow Produce offered fresh, ripe melons and vegetables for shoppers at Amazing Grange Day.



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

Windy Hill Farm

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Philomath, Oregon

Grange: an association of farmers for the purpose of promoting the interests of agriculture and for doing away with middlemen or agents intervening between the producer and the consumer.

- Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary Unabridged, c1957



Art wrapped around the Hall, besides the many tables of interesting items at Marys River Grange's annual fundraiser. \$1,600+ was raised to maintain the Hall in coming months.

Chicken and Acorn Squash Coconut Curry

Serves 4 to 6

We make this regularly in the fall! It has some spice and is a great warm up meal when the weather turns chilly. We've also made it with peeled diced butternut squash with great results! Don't forget the limes, a little squeeze over the top really makes the dish!

- Kim Woo

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 small onion, small diced
- 1 tablespoon minced ginger
- 4 garlic cloves
- 1 lb chicken tenderloins, diced
- 1 acorn squash, seeded and diced but unpeeled (the skin will soften as it cooks)
- 1 can coconut milk (we sometimes use cows milk in a pinch)
- 1 cup chicken stock
- 1 tablespoon Madras curry powder
- 2 teaspoons turmeric
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 2 quartered limes
- Cilantro for garnish

Instructions:

Heat a large heavy bottom pot over medium-high heat. Melt butter in the pot, add onions, garlic, and ginger, saute until fragrant, about 3 minutes.

Add the diced chicken, acorn squash, coconut milk, stock, curry powder, turmeric and salt to the pot and bring it just to a boil. Reduce the heat to low, cover the pot, and let it simmer gently until the squash is tender, about 20 minutes.

Uncover and mash some of the squash to thicken the curry. Serve over rice, garnish with cilantro and lime.

September is Mushroom Month: The Pacific Golden Chanterelle is the official Oregon State Mushroom.



A Joyful Heart

By Suzy Gilruth

Sharing with you the many wonderful members of Marys River Grange

For those searching for community involvement, Marys River Grange offers plenty of opportunities with activities and events. Our doors are open welcoming old friends as well as new acquaintances.

Our Grange has a remarkable growing membership and here's one way it is encouraged. Our current president Sonny asked long-time friend and co-worker Jim Rouff to help with the Grange Hall roof replacement and just recently the bathroom refurbishments. As Jim says, Sonny quickly added him to our building committee! Jim Rouff and Camille Hall live in their lovely handmade passive solar home in north Corvallis, where they have thoughtfully grown a pleasant landscape over 40 years. Wild turkeys wandered through during our visit! Camille has been a high school tutor in Albany and active with the Benton County Cultural Coalition, but her passion is plants and propagation. She looks forward to our annual Spring plant sale. Living a distance away and trying to use the car less, Camille has appreciated the option of monthly Zoom meetings and hopes it will continue. Both Jim and Camille have enjoyed the discussions at our gatherings. They look forward to our informative community wide lectures during our pre-meeting potlucks. Before becoming members, Camille and Jim have long been supportive of CSA (community supported agriculture) and fondly remember events held at the local Willamette Grange. They value the varied community uses at the Grange Hall, the activities, and lending a hand when possible. Jim and Camille hope that our Grange will continue to grow with more families joining and that more people enjoy bringing their talents in support of Marys River Grange.

Time to plant: garlic, radish, spinach, winter and spring bulbs, spring wildflowers, cover crops, rhubarb, cane berries...

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://instagram.com/oldbluerawhoney)



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<https://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/dry-farm-collaborative>



"How well do you know Philomath?" challenge.

What is this spot and where is it located?

[The answer is on another page.]



A selection of the cards created in Junior Grange by Jade, Wyatt, and Phoebe in July. Photo by Phoebe Coen.

This fall the Junior Grangers will be working on a new project: nature mandalas! Inspired by artists Andy Goldsworthy and James Brunt, this activity is a great way to work with materials that aren't common in crafts. Nature mandalas are made with sticks, leaves, rocks, flowers, dirt, ice, snow, or anything found outside. Collect pieces from your backyard and arrange them in a pattern on the ground until it looks complete. There are no rules, just have fun and be creative with it! This form of art is temporary so it's ok if it's not perfect. Goldsworthy has said that his art is inspired by "life and the need to understand that a lot of things in life do not last."

I think that pictures of everyone's mandalas would be great to print up for the display case or for an online show!

- Phoebe Coen



Anyone can create a nature mandala and share a photo of it with us! We'll post it in the upcoming MRG Art Show 2021 online. Email to marysrivergrange@gmail.com.

Do you know of another activity that Grangers of all ages may enjoy? Let us know.

- Judy Hays-Eberts

Ghost Story: Continuous. — Someone is asked to start a ghost story, and each guest is to continue where the other leaves off.

- The Cokesbury Party Book, c1932

A Wild Party in the Garden.

*A wild party was held in our garden last night,
I was not invited.*

*Fairies danced among the Impatiens,
so I was told,*

*Calla Lily was the DJ, the music was loud,
neighbors complained*

how would I know?

Last year's Geranium, looked smart in bright red.

*Classy Iris flashed her ruffled gown,
tired Tulips dropped red petals on the ground,*

*Neighbor's tree limbs of little green apples
crashed the party from over the fence*

*While Columbine waltzed with lavender Lupine,
purple Lobelia climbed over the stone wall.*

And everyone had a good time.

Mama Toad, so solemn and stern,

*"Too wild," she claimed. "too many flowers,
all sizes and colors, I don't know their names."*

*It was a wild party,
so I was told.*

I was not invited.

How would I know?

- Marion Whitney, 2021

Marys River Grange #685 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/

A conflict doesn't mean the relationship has to come to an end. Remember: we often fight with the people we care about the most and with whom we share our greatest hopes. Here are some ideas that might come in handy when things get hard:

Take time to listen to each other.

Put yourself in the other person's shoes.

Look at what is true about what the other person is saying.

Separate emotions from reality.

Continue to appreciate and respect each other.

Speak from your heart.

Don't give up your principles.

Hang in there when things get hard. You can take some breathing room, but try not to give up on the relationship altogether. When things are the toughest, there are important lessons to be learned

You can act independently to improve any relationship. Even if the other person or group of people is acting rotten, you can act in a way that is positive, respectful, constructive, and thoughtful. This may surprise people, and they may follow your lead.

- From the Community Tool Box, Building and Sustaining Relationships, <https://ctb.ku.edu>



Updates from Willamette Grange #52

Hello everyone.

Willamette Grange has been working to restore its Hall in time to celebrate its 100th birthday in 2023. Last year we repaired some basic water problems, made the bathrooms a little more pleasant, and focused on our fundraising plans for the first big Hall restoration project: wall stabilization with new trusses and new roof. Our recently completed portico was funded with a matching grant from Benton County Historical Commission Certified Local Government Grant. Stop by to see it sometime.

We also received a grant from the Benton County Cultural Coalition to purchase a new sink, six new indoor/outdoor tables, shade trees and two picnic tables. We want to make the kitchen and inside space more usable and have tables for our events. Since WG#52 gets so many visitors who stop for various reasons on their travels, we wanted to create a small picnic area with shade trees (increasing as they grow) and provide a more organized visiting experience. The BCCC grant helped us with this goal. While fundraising with little resources can be tricky, we have managed to get the word out about the larger project for this year through a window display at Footwise, ads in the local newspaper, posters and events where we also offered tours of the Hall. We formed a 501(C)(3) non-profit, Willamette Community and Grange Hall Historic Building Foundation (WCGHHBF), to provide tax deductions for donations and to qualify for certain larger grants.

Many donors have come forward and we have been successful with grants. Some of the larger grants we have received are from the Kinsman Foundation for \$20,000 which will make the needed match for another grant we received from the Oregon Parks and Recreation – Historic Preservation grant of \$20,000. We recently learned we also received a grant for \$5,000 from the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Grant program. They supported the engineering work we needed to create the plan to save the hall. This second grant contributes to the purchase of the new trusses. They are wonderful supporters of community spaces and projects. Recently a Willamette Grange member is loaning up to \$25,000 (at no interest) to help ensure the project gets done this year. We are starting the roof removal

Sept 1. Be sure to stay tuned for updates, and/or contact us if you want to know more about how you can help.

Lastly I cannot say enough about a group of four guys who have been volunteering their time at the Willamette Community and Grange Hall doing whatever has been asked of them. They spent hours thinning and clearing non-native plants, trimming trees, and making the hedgerows look much nicer. We will be adding more native plants to increase the variety and health of these areas. After that, these volunteers have moved inside to work on plaster/lath removal. They have been carefully removing the trim and wainscoting and opening the wall corners in preparation of strengthening eight key support locations. These molding pieces are labeled and bundled such that it will be easy for us when it is time to return them to their respective places...these guys are professional and hardworking and we are lucky they have adopted our project. A big thank you to Jerry, Mike, Dave, and Paul! You are the best!!

If you would like to help financially or volunteer please contact Willamette Grange at willamettegrange@gmail.com or call 541-609-8335.

- Toni Hoyman



Willamette Grange #52 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 - 27555 Greenberry Road, seven miles south of Corvallis: facebook.com/willamettegrange52 gofundm.com/f/wccgh52

Lawrence Winiarski Sr., Chaplain of Willamette Grange #52, passed away on August 5th.

A brief excerpt from his obituary:

...Through the efforts of organizations and the like-minded, Dr. Larry Winiarski became best known worldwide for the "rocket stove" concept, a set of designs and principles for a stove to burn efficiently and safely. This appropriate technology decreased labor, saved resources, lessened costs, and substantially reduced smoke implicated in health issues. Rocket stoves are adopted for and produced in businesses and millions of households. He taught combustion principles and stove construction in North / Central America, Africa, Haiti, Tonga, and Poland...

Paved.

*I walked the path, all paved road now,
no thistles, Queen Anne's Lace,
An occasional bunny, or stripey snake,
no raptor to soar over my head.
I stopped to stare, and envied her grace.
Along the path when I needed to rest,
I could stop and sit on the wooden bench.
When the bench was marred by graffiti,
I returned with sandpaper and did my best.
It is good to have a smooth paved road,
but once there was a path here, and I walked the path.*

(Circle to Harrison, Corvallis)

- Marion Whitney, 2021



Granger dogs attended MRG's family friendly meeting and fun in Marys River Park on August 4th.



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Disc golf was featured at the August meeting. Seven Grangers braved the heat to hone their skills.

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Answer to "How well do you know Philomath?" challenge:
It is the Flavor of Philomath mural by Gretchen Bracher, on the west wall of Mainline Pump & Irrigation on Applegate St.

- Suzan Foley

...Indeed it is a double garden — botanical and zoological — and for every living thing you see above ground are myriads of living things below ground. It must be the earnest purpose of the good gardener to study the needs of his invisible garden, for only when the health of his underground plants and of his underground creatures is good, will he have cause to be proud of the plants which are visible to him and his neighbors. The gardener's first thought must be for those creatures which are in his care, many of which he sees but rarely, most of which he never sees at all.

- "Ventures in Vegetable Gardening" by Leonard Wickenden,
Organic Gardening, October 1946



Sonny and "Larry" welcomed visitors to the Oregon State Grange Log Cabin at the 2021 Oregon State Fair.

Funeral Plans.

I called the funeral home today,
"I want to fill out a form for my after death plans.
No rush," I said, "I feel fine," and we laughed.

Later that day I sit on the patio,
In the warm July sunshine,
Sipping my chardonnay.
What a strange thing to be doing, I think.
I smile as I begin to fill out the form.

Bees buzz in the lavender thistle,
Butterflies flutter from flower to flower
Ants race on their highway to somewhere,
stop and chat along the way,
Spider balances on her delicate web,
as it blows in the afternoon breeze,
Lacy-winged dragonflies jet across the yard,
Neighbors' apple tree teases with
promises of apple crumble.

- Marion Whitney, July 8, 2021

Marys River Messenger Editor: Judy Hays-Eberts
Assisted by Sonny 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 MRG.

Deadline for Nov/Dec Messenger: October 23

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



Grange Quilt Raffle!

These squares are the finalists from the 2020 national Grange square competition. The quilt was put together and hand quilted by a member of Little Deschutes Grange.

\$5 a ticket or 6 tickets for \$25

Drawing will be at Willamette Community and Grange Hall Saturday Oct. 30th 4PM Do not need to be present to win but you will miss the fun!

Willamette Community and Grange Hall is located at the corner of 99W and Greenberry Rd. (27555 Greenberry Rd.) This is a fundraiser for Willamette Community and Grange Hall by Willamette Grange #52. More Information: willamettegrange@gmail.com or call 541-609-8335

Yoga at the Grange

Fall 2021



Mary's River Grange is offering yoga classes

Tuesdays 7pm-8pm,

September 14th - November 16th

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