

Marys River Messenger

The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 5, Issue 2

November/December 2022

Simply Kindness

If you can be anything, be kind.

At our September meeting, our Chaplain Caroline discussed kindness, and how so often those who perform it may not understand how powerfully a simple gesture can impact the recipient, and for how long that memory will persist. I for one, still recall a woman in the mid-1980s, some 40 years ago, offering me a quarter at the supermarket in Veneta, unasked for, helping me pay for some eggs when I came up a dime short – not simply because I didn't have to run home to get a dime and come back, but because it helped restore my faith in the inherent good nature of humanity. That is the gift one gives when one provides kindness to another.

The old, traditional Grange ritual has many references to kindness – from the Steward's charge on domestic animals, as well as "In your intercourse with your fellow-beings correct an error kindly, and with the smooth edge of affection, and do not bruise a wound you wish to heal." Kindness is equated with Charity: "Let flowers be to you an emblem of CHARITY. In kind words and deeds dispense Charity, as freely as flowers do their perfume, and as generously. Beautify and adorn your homes with flowers. The home that is thus made fragrant and cheerful is prepared to be the abode of sweeter affections and more radiant virtues." Charity is also a cornerstone of the Grange motto. There are seven mentions of kindness or being kind – perhaps reflective of the seven founding members of the Grange – who knows? Yet obviously it has always been an important value the Grange desired to cultivate.

And kindness has been a dominant theme at Marys River. Some may think I may be attempting to spur our members to perform more acts of kindness. As much as our members and Grange do, I'm not sure that is possible. What I hope is that people will understand the powerful truth of Caroline's words about the long-term impact of kindness, and feel good about themselves as they do.

News and Social Media often portray an environment where it is easy to feel discouraged and feel like we can't change anything; however, as Caroline observes, there is indeed something we can do to make a powerful change in the world each and every day.

– Sonny Hays-Eberts



Sonny and Laura helped each other figure out the new tractor co-owned by Windy Hill and Sunbow farms.

- photo by Camille Hall

Marys River Grange #685 regularly meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at 24707 Grange Hall Road in Philomath and via Zoom. Potluck at 6:30.

Contact marysrivergrange@gmail.com or

541-829-2907. See also: marysrivergrange.org

facebook.com/Marys-River-Grange-Hall-288171007887164/

To rent the Grange Hall, see Rental at marysrivergrange.org

Eggs for Sale.



Wife having recently acquired a couple dozen chickens, we now have eggs galore and need to sell them to cover costs - \$4/dozen or \$10 for 3 dozen.

Call John (Alsea Hwy) at 541-929-7114.

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



- photo by Suzan Foley

[The answer is on another page.]



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Nate's Ag Committee Report, October 2022

Dismal smoke, dust clouds from industrial tillage and harvest, along with the listless grittiness of going too long without rain led to a lingering Summer wearing out its welcome. Change itself trains us to expect a flow to life, so when surrounding conditions went dry and static, I wound up restless and edgy. You might have found me hosing down grape leaves in the driveway just to brighten my background. I got ready for rain weeks before it was rumored, and while my preparations weren't exactly an incantation, they were close. And then it did rain, and I was relieved, grateful, and reassured. Even so, I had a presentiment (or was it a memory?) the current weather regime would become tiresome too, I'd forget my present contentment, and before long I'd be pining for the rainless reaches of late Spring to free me from the tyranny of water. Until then, I'm as determined as the soil to drink it in.

We'll pick peppers out of the fields before the colder nights start to spoil them. Even without a frost they can develop dark spots and get soft and sad if you don't pull them into storage.

Potatoes, squashes, and beets are now in crates indoors, so the voles don't get everything to themselves. Carrots, radishes, and lettuces will hold on, as will the celery, but I watch the forecast every day (several times a day if I'm honest) to keep a frost from surprising me.

- Nate Johnson, Sunbow Produce,
MRG Agriculture Committee

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Send items for the *Messenger* to Judy Hays-Eberts 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 Jan/Feb Messenger: December 28th

Seasonal Events at Willamette Grange:

Pumpkin Palooza, Nov 6, 10-2

Winter Warm-up Holiday Fair I, Nov 12

Wreath Making Holiday Fair II, Dec 3

WINTER WARM-UP!

Holiday Fair I

Saturday, Nov 12th

10 to 2 PM

- ❖ FREE Family Friendly Event
- ❖ Local Vendors with Treats & Crafts
- ❖ Games and craft activities for the kids!
- ❖ Trebuchet pumpkin tossing fun
- ❖ Music
- ❖ Learn about the history of the Hall and restoration progress



For information
541-609-8335
willamettegrange@gmail.com

Willamette Community
and Grange Hall

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

Willamette Grange #52 meets on the second Sunday of the month, 3 PM.

Potluck at 2:30.

Contact Jay Sexton/Toni Hoyman at 541-929-5452 or
willamettegrange@gmail.com. Historic building at the corner
of Hwy 99W and Greenberry - 27555 Greenberry Road
facebook.com/willamettegrange52

See also: willamettegrange.org

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

- Toni Hoyman

Marys River Grange #685, Dec. 17, 1932

"Katie Hoyt brought up matter of filling baskets or donating for relief. Wheat and canned tomatoes especially requested. Also solicit popcorn & sugar to make popcorn balls for community tree, to be left at review office. Moved & carried that whatever grange can provide, be left at some head quarters and someone to make up and deliver baskets. Moved & carried that Brother Cone be committee of one to select own helpers to take care of relief work and provisions to be left at his place."

Yoga at the Grange Fall 2022



Tuesdays and Thursdays 7pm-8pm

October 18th - December 15th, 2022

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

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

November is National Novel Writing Month!

See the Young Writers Program at nanowrimo.org for
info and draft an entire novel in just one month!

See also events at Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Now through November 26

Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge. Shared Science. Philomath Museum.

A Smithsonian-produced exhibition of banners featuring stories of ecological and cultural restoration from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Tulalip Tribes, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and Native Hawaiians. This exhibit was developed, produced, and circulated by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

Cyrano's Bookbinding & Art Supplies

Holiday Open House

Cyrano's has gone through a remodel, just in time for the Holidays.

*You are invited to see the transformation and
get a little Holiday Shopping done at the same time.*

Art Supplies, Beautiful designer Papers

Blank Journals, Art Journals,

Gifts from a variety of Artists

Saturday December 10th, 11- 4pm

261 SW 2nd & Adams, New Entrance, near the alley.



MRG's Wish List of Tools and Materials

Our efforts have been focused on working up the funds for foundations repairs, however we could use any of the following...

Four-inch pipe elbows and tees to route water around the Junior Grange Hall, drapes for the kitchen windows, additional irrigation supplies for the new trees to be planted in Matt's honor, LED strip lighting for stage safety, and/or a replacement electric cook stove would be greatly appreciated.

If you have a lead on an inexpensive source, or a donation of these items, please contact Marys River Grange at marysrivergrange@gmail.com or 541-829-2907.

- Marys River Grange Building Committee



New Member Brings His Skills

"In my past I was a sign painter - graphic designer of logos and fine arts painter and illustrator, and if you would like banners and sign work, kids and adult cartoon cut outs for photos and for any kind of events... The wood signs take time and for summer work. Banner material is inexpensive; other things such as paints - plywood could be donated by Grange members - plus ideas, especially from the young members. I'm currently working a very detailed wood crafting project and like to take a break now and then to do something less complicated." - Ron Paddock

Books by Harry MacCormack are available at sunbowfarm.org, including:

*Four Stories for the Winter Solstice and
The Day Christmas Became*



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

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Estate Planning • Elder Law
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December

...The Asses that hath borne all the yeare must now take a little Rest. The Oxe and the Cow, and the Horse and the Mare shall have their Christmase provant. Now Plumbers and Spice, Sugar and Honey square it among Pies and broath ; and Gossip I drink to you ; and how doe you, and you are heartily welcome, I pray be merry, and I thank you. Now are the Taylors and the Tyre makers full of work against the Hollidayes, and a journey-man cares not a rush for his Master, though he beg his Plum-pottage all the twelve dayes. Now or never must the Musick be in tune, for the youth must dance and sing while the aged sit by the fire ; Nature hath made it a law and reason finds no contradiction....The Footman now shall have many a fowle step, and the Ostler have work enough about the heels of the horses....The Country maid leaves half her Market, and must be sent againe, if she forgets a pair of cards on Christmase Even. Great is the contention of Holly and Ivy, whether Master or Dame wears the breeches. The price of meat riseth apace, and the Aparrell of the proud makes the Taylors rich, and as proud as themselves. Dice and the cards benefit the Butler ; and if the cook doe not lack wit he will sweetly lick his fingers. Now Starchers and Laundresses have their hands full of work, and periwigs ; and paintings will not be a little set by ; strange Stuffs will be well sold, strange tales well told, strange sights much sought, strange things much bought, and what else as falls out.

Christmase is come and the Wild Swan, the Teals, and the Mallard are meat for the Landlords mouth, and the Tenants too, if he can get them. For your health keep your bodies warme, let your meat be hot of quality, abstaine from physic, and let your kitchen be your Apothecaries Shop, warm cloathing your Nurse, merry company your keeper, and good hospitality your exercise, so God send you a merry Christmase.

- From *The Twelve Moneths*, by M. Stevenson, 1661;
The Old-World Pleasaunce: An Anthology, 1925



Grangers have helped with demolition work in the basement of the historic former college building on 10th & Pioneer St.

Thank You

Our family would like to express our deepest gratitude to Marys River Grange for everything the Grange has done for us in the wake of the loss of Matthew Coen, our beloved husband and father. We were immediately surrounded by love and support from this amazing community, in many shapes and forms. The Grange offered the space for a memorial, the chaplain to host, complete choreography of the service, including design and printing of memorial cards, and generous donations of flowers and food. Since Matt's passing, Grange members have shared dozens of hours volunteering on our farm, bringing us meals and helping with all kinds of tasks, including rides to the airport and walking our dogs. We feel incredibly blessed to belong to this beautiful community. Thank you.

From Laura, Phoebe and Wyatt Coen



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

Women of the Grange, Marys River Grange #685

We're creating a sisterhood of Grange members with all the positive attributes of our Grange community! We are forming this group of mutual support for camaraderie, individual and group development, along with a focus on community service. We will work hard at play and strive to make work play.

Some first ideas include book sharing, short readings, family dynamics, spirituality, leadership growth, education, inclusivity, justice, civic duty, advocacy, health and welfare, self-expression, and womanhood!

This group has enjoyed getting to know one another better in its first few meetings. Everyone is encouraged to attend and share our time together. Usually there are wonderful snacks to enjoy while we visit. Many of us are drawn to the possibilities of friendship and open ears listening to each other's trials and tribulations. All discussions are confidential and supportive to those in need.

Many of our members have expressed an interest in developing a network of support including tool and time lending, contact information for emergencies, and planning fun times together, too.

There are possibly several Grange and community service projects for the Women of the Grange in 2023. Some ideas mentioned include card making, supporting Philomath Community Services, Holiday Cheer, and Lupe's Garden. We will be presenting an annual Service Appreciation to a member or group of the Marys River Grange. There will be a rotation of adults joining the Junior Grange activities during monthly meeting. While everyone is welcome to participate in group activities, the National Grange recommends they become certified through the Safe Gatherings program. Our aim is to enhance all of our membership experiences and grow our community.

Please bring your ideas to our group!

You are invited to join us Sunday November 27 from 2 to 4 pm for a time to reflect on our bountiful lives. This month we will be discussing what we've grown during the year and how we prepare for winter months. The fruit of our labors are beyond plant growing! This month's meeting hosted by Suzy Johanson. 2Suzanne@mail.com for rsvp, questions, and address.

Proposed 2023 meeting dates as follows:

January 1	July 16
February 12	August 13
March 19	September 17
April 23	October 29
May 21	November 26
June 11	December 31



Greg Mickenham
General Contractor
OSMA 117578

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gregmickenham@gmail.com

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Marys River Harvest Fest Success 2022 [Thank you, Susan!]

The Harvest Fest was a fun event: we had Jeanette being our music DJ, she did great, all reports, they loved having background music. The vendors could hear their customers and still enjoy the music. Thank you, Jeanette.

The Kitchen did an awesome job. The menu, Chili, Potatoes, Nachos, seemed to keep folks happy, Thank you to the muffin and cookie makers. We did have The Mud Oven going on Saturday, nice addition.

We had eight vendors, a nice mix of items. The shoppers seemed really happy, I know the vendors were kept busy all day Saturday, and most of Sunday.

The mini Art Fundraiser did well.

Here is the break down: Vendors, \$260, Mini Art Sale, \$220, Donation Jar, \$42, Cider, \$137, Kitchen, \$247.75, Kitchen Donations, \$97.25, Square - \$42.
Total for the weekend: \$1,088.

Next year we talked about just doing Saturday, doing both days is hard on a body.

I want to give a HUGE thanks to Jim, Camille, and Caroline for all their help. Without them we would not have had the volunteers needed.

And thank you to Ron Paddock for his help. Jackie his wife had a booth and Ron helped out with the cider. Thank you, Jay, for organizing the Cider press. Hopefully we now have more folks who know how to do that whole set up.

I did not get a chance to get outside, yet I heard Saturday that families were enjoying the yard games, the cider press and the Mud Oven.

- Susan Stogsdill, Harvest Fest organizer

- photos by Camille Hall



Jean offers love and knowledge with her lavender products.



Family fun with Jay's version of Jenga.



We learn from each other.

Answer to **"How well do you know Philomath?" challenge:** "This tree is located at the intersection of Applegate St & N 15th St. It was extensively trimmed back from the power lines last year but the base still rocks!"

- Suzan Foley



Mark Files' Celtic Forge key rings are hand-forged out of pure brass and made to last a lifetime. See celticforge.net or call him at 707-601-6351.



On September 30th, 11 yogis (plus one dog) helped Laura Coen stack a load of firewood in the basement of the Grange to help keep our hall warm for yoga (and other events) this winter. Many hands made light work!

How To Train a Cat. 2022

by Marion Whitney

Our kittens are now four months old. We have had them for two months. Their names are Sophie and Stormy. They are sisters, from the same litter. Sophie resembles a Siamese, and Stormy, a Tortoise Shell. They are as cute as kittens can be. As for behavior, we have set down limits for them. I could end the essay here, however, it becomes complicated. You see, kitties do not understand what limits mean.

We do not want them to go into our living room. We do not want them on our new (six years old) furniture, nor investigating some of our treasures. To keep them out of the living room, Paul has set up a cardboard barrier at the entranceway between the kitchen/TV area and the living room. Now there was a tiny slot of space in between the cardboard and the two areas. It is just a sliver of an opening, but when a tiny kitty paw gets into the slit and the kitty's head is tilted so her whiskers do not touch the sides, that same kitty can easily slip through to the other side. We all know that the grass is always greener there on the other side of an obstruction.

Things have been going moderately well, although there have been times when kitties appear on the top of the sofa and chair, and sitting looking proudly at us. They seemed pleased with themselves. We, of course, react, yelling and throwing up our arms. Then we herd them back into the TV area. They happily romp down the hallway, tackling one another, attempting jaw clamps on each other's throat. All is well. We are proud of ourselves and sit back and enjoy our coffee.

The kittens give us much pleasure. We like to hear the little paws thumping down the hall, and little bodies wham against hall walls. One will hide behind a door, and leap out and jump on the other one. So much fun to watch them. Then there are times they need to rest and I will find two

furry balls on the bed by me. I relax and feel so contented. I enjoy the company, but Sunday morning everything changed!

I woke up ornery because of a bad night. I did not sleep well. Paul was crabby because of the newspaper, lack of good news, a puzzle, some comics and the general disintegration of the Sunday paper. As we drank our coffee and complained about the general world situation the two kitties were so happy, it was hard to ignore all their cuteness. Not only did they romp down the hallway, play and tackle each other, but when we were not looking closely at them they slipped through the slot between the cardboard and the wall. We responded like tired parents, we stood up and yelled, "No."

Paul herded the naughty kitties back to the TV room. Within a moment they were back in the living room. We acted accordingly, each standing and yelling. They looked at us from the top of the sofa and the chair. I swear they were both smiling at us. It was a delightful game! The humans were defeated! The kitties were "encouraged" to return to the TV room. I gave up and went to my bedroom to rest. I laid down on my bed.

It was not long before I felt some soft kitty paws on the bed, and then little bodies curled up behind my knees. I put my hand down, rested my fingers on two furry bodies. They looked up at me with faded blue eyes, and golden eyes. How could I be mad at that?

We have learned a lot about kitty training. We have given up! They do seem to understand when we speak in loud, angry voices. They do stop whatever evil they are doing and look up so cute at us, with a "you mean us?" look on their faces. This has not stopped them from going into the living room, but the room seems less interesting to them when they do not see two hysterical humans glaring at them. And we have found that our human friends have a harder time getting through the cardboard barrier than the kittens.

I can sit for hours watching the antics of Sophie and Stormy. We are learning from them. If one of them is in the TV room alone, she will call in a soft meow for her sister. Then her sister will come ripping down the hallway to find her sister. Paul soon learned that two kittens do not make good companions. So every night at bedtime they are moved into the small bathroom, their private bathroom, water and snack dishes are put into the small bathroom, along with their bed into the shower. And all are content.

These precious little creatures brighten our days with joy and we furnish them food, shelter and lots of love.



[Happy Birthday, Marion!]

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



COUNTRY DANCE

FRIDAY
SEP 2
OCT 14
NOV 4
DEC 2
7:00 PM

LESSONS FIRST THIRTY MINUTES

BOOT SCOOTIN' FUN

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FIVE DOLLARS
ADULTS
THREE DOLLARS
UNDER EIGHTEEN

NO ALCOHOL

LIMITED SEATING - PLEASE TIE YOUR HOSE UP ONLY AT THE GRANGE AND DOUBLE UP

-Philomath Bluegrass Workshop/Jam-
2nd Wed. every month - Sept. 14 / Oct. 12 / Nov. 9 / Dec. 14

Musicians....
get off the couch,
come play music with others!

Marys River Grange
24707 Grange Hall Rd
Philomath, OR
7:00 p.m. instruction
7:30 p.m. jam
\$7.00 adults - \$5.00 youth
Contact Yvonne McMillan
mt_girl_yvonne@yahoo.com

Listeners only? Donate as desired.

No Alcohol  **Supported by** 



See marysrivergrange.org for previous issues of the Messenger (with color photos!), Marys River Grange's events calendar and rental info, directions, meeting and membership info, and more.

Contact: marysrivergrange@gmail.com
541-829-2907