

# Marys River Messenger

## The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 7, Issue 4

March/April 2025

### *It's Happening at the Grange!*

#### **What Grange Means to Me**

Grange gives us the opportunity to get to know each other and to create community together, to practice our virtues and reinforce our values, to be family and friends and real people. We love one another as neighbors, and extend that to the greater community through service. We grow as individuals and as a whole, through our interactions and the challenges we face. We share joys and sorrows, struggles and celebrations, even sickness and distress.

In the Grange we are not so alone, and we're given ways to further develop personally and as citizens. Through the exercise of working together, we build and maintain, and nourish and sustain, and find enjoyment – and even have fun.

We have real lives, and recognize they are interconnected in ways that really matter, beyond labels and biases. We share old memories and make new ones. We show we care. Sometimes we fumble and falter, and fall short as humans can do; yet we also persevere and receive inspiration and uncover strength that was previously unrecognized.

Together we're better and we make things happen. We each contribute as we can, and are richer for it. We each have unique gifts and ways of seeing things, that make us all brighter and wiser when combined in good faith and used for the greater good. Together, we are effective and make a difference, more than we will ever know. The Grange is an organization embodied by all of us, multidimensional and ever-evolving, based in faith, hope, charity, and fidelity.

I find it well worth the effort.

In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.

Judy Hays-Eberts, President, MRG #685

#### **2025 MRG Plant Sale & Seed Swap**

The Annual Plant Sale is coming up on Saturday April 26 from 10am to 2pm! Did you know this family friendly fundraiser benefits Philomath Community Services? I love MRG events because they often combine a worthy cause with a great time. If you want to get in on the fun, here are three easy ways:

- 1) Help grow some plants. We will accept herbs, vegetables, fruits, flowers, shrubs, berries, saplings, grapes, you name it! If you need pots, send us an email. Plants need to be delivered to the Grange by 9am on April 26th.
- 2) You can sign up to volunteer at the event by sending an email to [marysrivergrange@gmail.com](mailto:marysrivergrange@gmail.com). No need to have plant knowledge to help.
- 3) Spread the word and bring your friends! Helping get the word out is always an easy way to pitch in.

If you've attend the plant sale, you already know that we don't set prices on any of the plants. You get to choose your plants and your price! We love this approach because it makes room for everyone to participate. If you still aren't convinced, I have two words for you: BABY GOATS! Once again, fellow Granger, Laura Coen will be bringing four legged friends to the plant sale. Come get a snuggle, merriment and take home some plants! We look forward to seeing you there.

Bea Johnson, Secretary, MRG #685

*I will be at the event, sharpening knives and most special gardening tools. All kinds of gardening tools can be brought in and be refurbished and made usable.* - Mark Files, 541-360-8759

**Marys River Grange #685 regularly meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at 24707 Grange Hall Road in Philomath. Potluck at 6:30. Join us!**

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their dues for 2025. If you have not done so yet, Individual memberships are \$55 and Family memberships are \$110. Checks should be made payable to Marys River Grange and mailed to P.O. Box 1301, Philomath OR 97370 or brought in person to the meeting on Wednesday March 5. They can be turned in to Bea Johnson, Secretary or Karen Hudspeth, Treasurer. We appreciate your diligence in getting your dues paid. If you find yourself in a situation where you cannot pay your dues this year, please get in touch with Bea at 309-287-4216 or Judy at 541-829-2907.

## Philomath Community Services

### June's Kid Klostet Needs

#### Underwear

Girls –Size 10

Teen Girls –Sizes 12 & 16

Boys –sizes 6 & 8

#### Pajamas

Boys – Sizes 6 –10

Teen Boys- Sizes 12,14,16 All sizes S-XL & up

#### White Undershirts (Unisex or Boys)

Size 6-8

4T & 5T

#### Disposable Diapers & Wipes

Sizes 2-5 Wipes > Sensitive skin

### Nancy's Food Pantry and June's Kids Klostet Hours:

Tues. 4:30–7:30pm

Thurs. 9:00am–12:00pm

Third Sat., 12:30 to 3:30pm

(closed holidays)

### Most Wanted Donation Items:

Canned meat (corned beef, hams, Spam, chicken, etc.)

Canned fish (tuna, sardines, salmon, clams, etc.)

Condiments: mustard, ketchup, pickles, etc.

Spices of all kinds

Canned entrees: spaghetti, corned beef hash, etc.

Boxed entrees: Rice-a-Roni, Hamburger Helper, etc.

Ready to eat soups

Dessert & baking mixes (cake, cornbread, biscuit, etc.)

Jams, jellies, syrups

Feminine hygiene products

Laundry soap: powdered or pods

Personal care items: toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste, soap, disposable razors, etc.

Also: pasta, rice, canned vegetables, canned fruit, peanut butter, almond butter, canned beans...

### Donation Hours:

Mon.–Fri., 9:00am–3:30pm

Call ahead: 541-929-2499

(closed holidays)

Addresses:

Physical: 360 S 9th St Philomath OR 97370

Mailing: PO Box 1334 Philomath OR 97370

**Philomath Community Meal** – every Tuesday, 6 pm, at College United Methodist Church (1123 Main St.), free to all. Live music after meal. (Tax deductible donations accepted.)

## Benton County Granges Host Bingo Monthly

### Fairmount Grange #252

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 6 PM at Fairmount Grange Hall

### Marys River Grange #685

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 6 PM at Marys River Grange Hall

10 games: 5 regular, 5 special pattern

Plus: 1 blackout with Block of Nine prize

\$10 for 10 3-on games (3 cards each for 10 games)

\$20 for 10 6-on games (6 cards each for 10 games)

\$1 per blackout ticket

50/50 split on prizes/fundraising

Drinks & snacks for sale. Free door prizes!

### Willamette Grange #52

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 6 PM at Greenberry Tavern

Hello Grangers

We at Willamette Grange have been busy during the colder winter months bringing our new HVAC system on line and getting new insulation and drywall added to the upstairs ceiling. This year we will be replacing the first floor vinyl windows which will complete that project. We also plan to raise the funds to insulate and drywall the walls upstairs.

Willamette Grange is proud to once again host the popular **Propagation Fair** put on by the Agrarian Sharing Network. These energetic and knowledgeable folk help with grafting techniques and bring a wide selection of rootstock and scions. There also is a seed swap, educational info, kid's activities, music, and more. **March 15 11AM to 3PM BE THERE!**

April brings our annual **Grange Earth Day Recycle Sale Garage Sale** which is a chance to find goodies or part with your unwanted items. This is one of our big fundraisers. Donation items are very welcomed. It happens **April 26<sup>th</sup> 9AM to 4PM**. Come find some treasures or just have a look around at the progress on the Hall. See you at the Grange!

Fraternally,

Toni Hoyman

Steward, Willamette Grange #52

**Councilor Coffee, third Saturday:** 9:30–11 AM at Timber Towne Coffee (1427 Main St). Meet your City Councilors for casual conversation over a cup of coffee. March 13, April 19

### Elected Officials working for all Oregonians:

U. S. Representative Val Hoyle serving Oregon's 4th District - <https://hoyle.house.gov/contact/email>, 541-46506732

U. S. Senator for Oregon Senator Jeff Merkley - <https://www.merkley.senate.gov>, 503-362-8102

U. S. Senator for Oregon Ron Wyden - <https://www.wyden.senate.gov/contact/email-ron>, 503-589-4555

Our Elected Officials need to hear from you to better address your needs and concerns.

## MRG Building Committee Report, March 2025



In February, Nate Johson, Jim Rouff, and Kurt Wiedenmann built and installed three large cabinets in the Junior Hall and one large cabinet in the connecting room. The three cabinets in the Junior Hall are for storage of the Junior Grange program and activities, general storage, and Farm Clinic's supplies. The cabinet in the connecting room is our new "cleaning closet". Half of the cabinet is for storing brooms and mops, the other half will be for cleaning supplies. Kurt will be purchasing additional cleaning supplies for members and renters to use to clean the kitchen, bathrooms, floors, and windows after their events.

March 30th will be a Grange cleanup day, both inside and outside. Stay tuned for details.

## Yoga at the Grange returns! Spring 2025

**Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm**

**April 15<sup>th</sup> - June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Classes are \$10  
for Grange members,  
\$15 for non-Grange members.

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



## March is National Nutrition Month

Food, Nutrition and Health Tips from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

"Food Connects Us" is the theme this year.

Food is a connecting factor for many of us. Food connects us to our cultures, our families and our friends. Sharing a meal is an opportunity to learn about its preparation, who made it and where the ingredients were sourced. What's more, health, memories, traditions, seasons and access can all impact our relationship with food. This National Nutrition Month®, learn more about these connections and how the foods you eat impact your health throughout life.

Connect with food. Explore the Connection Between Food and Culture. Another way to connect with food includes learning about the traditions or history behind what you're eating. Whether a food is traditional or new to you, learning more about how and why it's prepared can be a valuable experience. It may help build a connection to the person that prepared it, teach about sustainability, or provide information about how it affects your health.

There are a variety of ways to connect with food. These include preparing your own meals and snacks and learning about how the ingredients you eat were grown or raised. Your ability to access food is also essential. Many people have a specific amount of money they're able to spend on food, which makes planning extra important when trying to eat healthfully.

Here are some tips for connecting with food:

- When purchasing food from a store, use a grocery list and pay attention to sales. When food is less processed, it's often more affordable.
- Learn about resources in your community that offer access to healthy foods, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Women Infants and Children (WIC), and food banks.
- Visit a farmers' market to ask about how your food was grown or raised, or consider starting a home or community garden to get hands-on experience with the growing process. Whether you have a health condition that requires you to eat a certain way, or you just want to make changes to how you eat, preparing your own meals makes it easier to control the ingredients and their amounts. It's also a chance for children and teenagers to interact with the food they eat and build healthy eating habits for life.

- submitted by Karen Hudspeth

**Would anyone know men or women Vets in all age groups who could have an interest in forming a fun group once or twice a month for conversation, coffee, cards, and just having someone who has the experience of hot and cold war? Contact Ron Paddock, 406-679-0404.**

Send items for the *Messenger* to Judy Hays-Eberts at [marysrivergrange@gmail.com](mailto: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 May/June *Messenger*: April 25<sup>th</sup>**

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

**SUNBOW  
PRODUCE**

*Certified Organic*

[www.sunbowproduce.com](http://www.sunbowproduce.com)



**JESSIE & DAVID BLUME**  
FARMERS/OWNERS

CHICKEN  
BEEF  
PORK  
TURKEY

TOTUMFARM@GMAIL.COM  
WWW.TOTUMFARM.COM

**Windy Hill Farm**

**has baby goats for sale!**

For more information contact Laura Coen  
331-201-5458  
lauraploeg@yahoo.com  
[www.windyhill-familyfarm.com](http://www.windyhill-familyfarm.com)

**Congratulations, Sunbow Produce, on your 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary! We are so fortunate to have you in our community! Thank you, Nate & Bea for all you do.**



I attended the Small Farms Conference [in February] with other Grangers: Nate & Bea, Natalie Nesbit. This was the opening slide of the morning welcome session. It was so perfect!  
- Laura Coen

**Pollinators  
Forever**

**We support hummingbirds,  
bees and butterflies**

Mark Files  
1056 Pioneer St.  
Philomath, OR 97370  
541-360-8759  
pollinators369@gmail.com

I will be selling wildflower seeds at the Corvallis Winter market 9am to 1pm on Saturdays. Also sharpening knives and gardening tools.

City of Philomath is now accepting nominations for this year's Heritage Tree Program selections. Deadline is March 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Blue Car 2-14-25

### Or the Life of an Old Lady

Late afternoon sun shines on a blue car parked across the street.

The next day the car is covered with snow.

A Minnesota girl, I welcome the snow, but not to stay.

I love each season but slow down, I plead,

My class is cancelled, the blue car's, too,

The next day, snow is gone, sun shines on the blue car, and me!

I have things to do, poems to write,

Kitties to cuddle, Rumi to read,

Hummers to watch, oh, and a pedicure.

The car drives away, all shiny and blue,

I better get busy, I have things to do,

But first, a cup of hot coffee,

And don't burn the toast.

- Marion Whitney

## Cyrano's BOOKBINDING

BookRepair/Restoration  
Custom Binding  
Fine Art Supplies  
Unique Art Papers  
Classes

361 SW 2nd St  
Corvallis Or 97330

M-F  
10a-6p

541-286-4661  
stpeyrano@gmail.com

Susan Stogsdill, Owner

Greg's  
Honey Do Service  
LLC



Greg Mickenham  
General Contractor  
OSMA 227576

541-740-2425

gregmickenham@gmail.com

Jobs big & small! - Free estimates

**Weekend Dance Workshops** are scheduled for **March 15 and April 13 at Marys River Grange!** Contact [jamieleedancing@gmail.com](mailto:jamieleedancing@gmail.com) for information.



- submitted by Mark Files,  
Chaplain, MRG #685





## Nate's Ag Committee Report, February 2024

Bea organized the first (hopefully annual) Swap-meet and Greet for Farmers and Homesteaders, which took place on January 4th. It was well attended, bringing about thirty people together to share ideas, swap, sell, and freely re-home useful tools and equipment, books, homemade goods, a few small animals. People got acquainted, ate some good food, had a few laughs, and learned more about subjects that mattered to them. Newer farms got necessary equipment for a song. Older farms got rid of things that took up valuable space in their barns but could be put to better use in other fields. It was a great time, and we heard a lot of appreciative words as it wrapped up. All made possible by the generous support of our Grange. A few weeks later, the National Grange contacted Bea and asked her to present about the event at a meeting showcasing ideas for Project Sustenance: Growing Food Security, Self-Sustainability, and Resilience in America's Hometowns. Check out the National Grange website for more about the project, and for ideas other Granges have come up with to knit our communities back together.

In solidarity,  
Nate



### 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





# SPOON JAM!



Spoon and other green-wood carving circle

**What:** Carving, skill sharing, community building

**Who:** Beginner to Advanced carvers (Ages 16+)

**What to bring:** Your own tools and wood

**When:** 3rd Wednesday every month, 5:30—8:30 PM

Donations welcomed for use of space

**RSVP Required**  
Contact: Kiko Denzer,  
kiko@handprintpress.com,  
or text 541-740-7243

Marys River Grange  
24707 Grange Hall Road  
Philomath, Oregon  
97370

Watch for Marys River Grange #685 T-shirts, designed by Ron Paddock, coming soon!



**MRG Musician Yvonne McMillan was named Senior First Citizen by the Philomath Area Chamber of Commerce at their Samaritan Awards on February 9<sup>th</sup>, for bringing country line dances, bluegrass workshops and jams, and the Christmas singalong to the Grange.**

**[Read more local news at philomathnews.com](http://philomathnews.com)**



Marys River Grangers played board games in the newly remodeled Junior Hall in January during their Quarterly Social. The next Social is scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>.



A heat pump was installed in the Junior Hall in January!

**Split firewood was resupplied at the Hall in January, thanks to Nate, Bea, Mike, Chris, Sonny, Camille, Jim, Theo, Marilyn, Sarah, Jesse, Elizabeth, and Judy, who split, transported, and stacked a little more than two cords, mostly oak, all before noon. Suzy brought delicious muffins, and Granger dog Kona cheered them on.**



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



### Marys River Grange Happenings

**Annual Plant Sale & Seed Swap (& baby goats!) – Saturday April 26, 10 am – 2 pm**, benefit for Philomath Community Services

**Moonlight Country Mixer** – Mondays, 7-10 pm, \$5, host/instructor Jamie Lee

**Bluegrass Jam/Workshop**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Weds. – March 12, April 9, 7 pm, \$7 adult/\$5 youth; listeners donate as desired

**BINGO**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday – March 14, April 11, 6-8:30 pm, \$10 for 10 games (3 cards each), \$1 blackout tickets

**Wood Carving Circle**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds. – March 19, April 16, 5:30-8:30 pm, no fee; bring tools & green wood

**Yoga at the Grange** – Tuesdays, 6-7 pm, April 15 – June 24, \$10 for Grange members; \$15 for non-Grange members

Contact [marysrivergrange@gmail.com](mailto:marysrivergrange@gmail.com) or  
**541-829-2907**. See also: [marysrivergrange.org](http://marysrivergrange.org)  
[facebook.com/Marys-River-Grange-Hall-288171007887164/](https://facebook.com/Marys-River-Grange-Hall-288171007887164/)  
To rent the Grange Hall, see Rental at [marysrivergrange.org](http://marysrivergrange.org)

AGRARIAN SHARING NETWORK  
Spring 2025  
**PROPAGATION FAIR**  
CORVALLIS

 **Saturday, March 15**  
**11AM – 3PM**  
Willamette Grange #52  
27555 Greenberry Road

This is a FREE event for sharing seeds, scion, cuttings, divisions, runners and potted plants with the community. Free grafting, with rootstock available for \$3-5.

There will also be educational info, kids activities, and LIVE MUSIC.

For more info: [corvallisplantparty@gmail.com](mailto:corvallisplantparty@gmail.com).

Willamette Grange contact info: 541-609-8335 [willamettegrange@gmail.com](mailto:willamettegrange@gmail.com)