

Marys River Messenger

The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 6, Issue 6

July/August 2024

Amazingly Grange



Marys River Grange #685 President Mike Terry acted as State Lecturer when Youth opened the OSG Convention.

From MRG #685 President Mike Terry:

A Report from State Convention

This June saw the 151st annual Oregon State Grange Convention in Tillamook, and I can honestly say I was dazzled. Grangers from all across the state gathered to connect, learn, and work with our fellow Patrons on the good of our order. From floor work on resolutions to friendly lunch conversations, and informative workshops to a plethora of competition exhibits, the convention is an experience that every Granger should see at least once.

An essential part of our Grange, and of Granges everywhere, is our commitment to non-partisan, non-sectarian discussion for the betterment of our communities. Such values were on full display at the convention where Grangers of all manner of ideological backgrounds shook hands, made friends, and supported one another. If you need proof that we as Americans can return to civil discussion and community, look no further than the Grange.

One of my takeaways from the week (I had many) was the need for more inter-Grange connectivity. Our friends in Hope, Summit, Willamette, and Fairmount Granges here in Benton County are just around the corner and are fantastic people. I welcome any ideas (and volunteers!) for how we can better connect with our fellow Grangers both in friendship and in service. As a part of that desire for Grange connectivity, Willamette Grange #52 and Marys River Grange #685 are currently in talks to co-host a knowledgeable speaker on domestic well policy for agricultural purposes. This event will be open to the public at an August date TBD. Stay tuned for more information.

A huge thank you to Sonny for his work on the Community Service Yearbook! Marys River was awarded 6th place in a tie with Spencer Creek Grange #855, and the book is now available for view in our hall's display cabinet by the entrance. Help will be needed for next year's book! If you are able and interested in this creative endeavor, please contact me at marysrivergrange@gmail.com. Let's get Marys River to first place!

Finally, it was great to see so many Marys River Grangers in attendance; Jay, Toni, Sonny, Judy, Jim, Amanda, and myself. Although Granges are only allowed two delegates and an alternate, any Grange member is welcome to attend the convention for as little as a day or as long as the entire week. The 2025 convention in District 4 (Multnomah, Clackamas, Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman Counties) will be June 21-26th, so I encourage all MRG members to mark their calendars for a great future venture. Plus, we will get to see our very own Sonny Hays-Eberts at the President's station. [Congratulations to Sonny for being the next President of the Oregon State Grange!](#)

Fraternally yours,
Mike Terry

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! All welcome.

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

Marys River Grange Happenings

Moonlight Country Mixers, Mondays – 7-10 pm, \$5 adults/\$4 under 18; host/instructors DJ Luke Coomber & Jamie Lee

Bluegrass Jam/Workshop, 2nd Weds. – 7-10 pm, \$7 adult/\$5 youth, listeners donate as desired

BINGO, 2nd Friday of the month, 6-8:30 pm, \$10 for 10 games (3 cards each), \$1 blackout tickets, free door prizes

Yoga at the Grange – Tuesdays, 6-7 pm. \$15 (\$10 for Grange members)

Wood Carving Circle – 3rd Weds, 5:30-8:30 pm.

Yoga at the Grange Summer 2024

Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm

June 11 - August 20, 2024

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

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



**new pricing, beginning summer 2024*

Eggs for Sale.

With a dozen chickens, who are well fed and not caged, they give us dozens of brown eggs. We need to sell them to cover costs - \$3/dozen or \$8 for 3 dozen.



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



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
34707 Grange Hall Road
Philomath, Oregon
97370

Spoon Jam is an open session for anyone interested in carving spoons (or forks or anything else you can hold in your hands while you work).

Build skills, knowledge, neighborliness, community! Bring your dinner and/or any snacks you might want to share. We have a table and plates, etc. There's no fee, but donations are welcome.

Share techniques & resources, show off tools & projects, swap spoons, have some good conversations, and get to know new (and old!) folks. This is not a structured class, but friendly carvers are usually willing to share tips and tricks. Experienced folks may review specific skills on request. We are aligned with Tarweed Folk School in nourishing a culture of open and democratic exchange and learning.

Please bring wood if you have it! (Fresh/green!) Chopping block(s) too, if you have one/some. If you don't have tools, let me know. I have some loaners. Minimum age 16, tho parents with competent, focused younger kids are welcome to try a test run.

- Kiko Denzer

Benton County Granges Host Bingo Monthly

Fairmount Grange #252

1st & 3rd Saturday, 6 PM at Fairmount Grange Hall

Marys River Grange #685

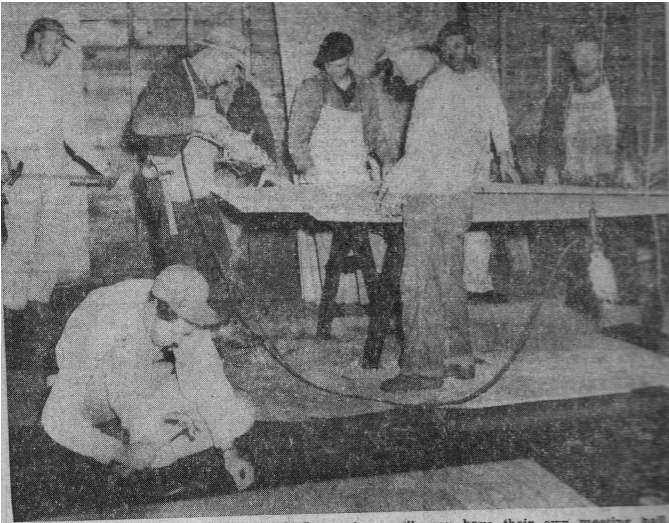
2nd Friday, 6 PM at Marys River Grange Hall

Willamette Grange #52

1st Thursday, 6 PM at Greenberry Tavern

3rd Friday, 6:30 PM at Willamette Grange Hall

Thank you, Bingo Caller Lyle Utt, for all you do!



MEMBERS OF MARYS RIVER GRANGE members will soon have their own meeting hall. Work on the 24x40 building began almost two years ago with funds raised through donations and labor volunteered by the men of the grange. The hall will be connected to the main building by a breezeway in the future. Working on the project last weekend were, left to right: Larry Lynch, kneeling, and Gene Hermansen, Clarence Marstall, Bill Quetschke, Walt Clair, Clarence Marstall, Louis Lock, and Art Hoyt.

Marys River Junior Grange Hall Remodel

In 1951, Marys River Juvenile* Grange #197 was organized, with Veneta (Gray) Marstall the inaugural Juvenile Matron. In 1953, Marys River approved a 24'x32' Juvenile Hall and staked out the location, and laid the foundation blocks. Construction commenced in 1954 and was completed by 1955.

Early photographs of the Junior Hall illustrate some of the differences in the hall over time.

The main hall has windows on the north side (now display cases), and there were three windows on the west side of the Junior Hall. Break-ins and vandalism of the hall led to these being sealed up.

There is no chimney from the basement. The roof framing timbers reach nearly to the ground outside the hall.

The two halls are physically distinct. The connecting walkway which will be eventually framed around and turned into a hallway/connecting room does not yet exist.

Since the vote in 2009 to stay open, Marys River members have been working to restore this room. The old, moldy carpet was removed and the floor painted. The roof was repaired and no longer leaks. Mold testing showed no unhealthy molds. The aged and unsafe wood stove was replaced by a donated pellet stove. Gutters and a water capture system were installed to divert rainwater from passing under the hall. The sagging western foundation was repaired.

Now, nearly seventy years since the hall was erected, the end game begins. We hope to complete this project in two more stages. The stage underway now involves better lighting and more electrical connections, windows to allow for cross ventilation, new doors, insulation, new lights (interior and exterior), moisture barriers, exterior siding to match the main hall west wall, and new sheetrock/shiplap inside. Grange members have raised the funds, and are doing the work, just as in the past.

*The Juvenile Grange program was renamed Junior Grange in 1964 by the National Grange.

- Sonny Hays-Eberts, MRG Building Committee



1955, Marys River Juvenile Grange Hall under construction.



MRG Junior Hall, stripped to be remodeled this summer.

Amazing Grange Day 2024

In 2018, Marys River Grange held several fundraisers for an urgently needed new roof. One of these, Amazing Grange Day, a rummage sale and pie auction, proved so successful it continues today. The funds generated by Amazing Grange Day are used to help maintain the Grange Hall, and this year they will contribute to the Junior Hall remodel .

To donate items for the yard sale on August 17th or to donate a pie or two for auction, please contact Marys River Grange at 541-829-2907 or marysrivergrange@gmail.com. Also, please contact MRG if you would like to help with the post-event cleanup and hauling items to Goodwill, ARC, Vina Moses or Habitat for Humanity. We strive to make this a zero impact event on landfills.

Women of the Grange

The Women of the Grange meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month for friendship, enrichment, and shared experiences. All are welcome! Please contact Suzy Johanson for questions and suggestions at 541-908-0283.

Read more local news at philomathnews.com



Fun with Bugs and Stacy Moore

How do you tell how healthy a stream is?

Families and friends of the Marys River Grange set out as aquatic scientist to answer that very question. Grange participants gathered on May 18th at Marys River Park along the Marys River to collect and identify aquatic macroinvertebrates (water insects) to classify how healthy the local waterways are. One young Grange member smiled as she grabbed her net and said, "I can't wait to be a biologist!"

Observers waded into the stream flow while moving gravel to allow insects to flow into their nets. They then placed their "catch" into tubs and magnifiers to identify their bugs. Members learned that mayflies often have three tails and stoneflies have two tails. They delighted in seeing how caddisflies make a special home of small pebbles or sticks that they mold around their soft body. The group even caught a small trout and several sculpin fish. The majority of the insects collected fell into the "healthy stream," category.

Participants ended the event by discussing ways they can personally help keep our waterways healthy such as planting streamside vegetation, picking up trash and reducing fertilizer runoff. A wonderful day was had by all.



Current and previous Presidents of the Oregon State Grange at the 2024 Convention, from left: Sonny Hays-Eberts, Jay Sexton, Susan Noah, Mark Noah, and John Fine.



Marys River Grange #685 President Mike Terry stands head and shoulders above the rest while accepting a Distinguished Grange Award on behalf of our community Grange. MRG #685 is the second largest Grange behind Columbia Grange #267 in Multnomah County.



Mike also learned to march in formation and do cool moves! He is now our OSG legislative representative for District 2.

BLUEBERRY



Sunday, July 14

10 AM to 2 PM

A Free, Family Friendly Event

Join us to celebrate everything Blueberry
Learn about this delicious and nutritious fruit

Fresh Local Blueberries

Blueberry Treats

Music and more

Games for the kids

Blueberry Cake and Pie Auction!

Blueberry toss!

Willamette Grange Hall

27555 Greenberry Rd

(corner of Hwy 99W and Greenberry Rd

8 miles south of Corvallis and 20 miles north of Monroe)

For info: Willamettegrange@gmail.com or Call: 541-609-8335

Happenings at Willamette Grange #52

BINGO Night is the third Friday every month, 6:30 to 8:30-ish. Family Friendly. Kids can play if accompanied by a parent. Snacks available.

Blueberry Bash is July 14th 10 to 2 and this year we have added a blueberry pie/cake silent auction and we are bringing out the trebuchet to launch “blueberries” into giant “baskets” in the field behind the Hall. Everyone loves flying objects so plan to come and cheer on our trebuchet technician’s aim. There will be music, games, and lots of fun for all ages. Come celebrate everything blueberry!

Small Farm Exempt Well Use Presentation by Alice Morrison co-director of Friends of Family Farmers on August 14 at 6:30 hosted by Marys River Grange and Willamette Grange at the Willamette Grange Hall. Discussion will focus on new enforcement of well water regulations on domestic wells.

Hope to see you at Willamette Grange #52
27555 Greenberry Road, Corvallis, OR
541-609-8335

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www.gatheringtogetherfarm.com

Nate's Ag Committee Report, July 2024

We're getting good air in these mild days, and while some rain would be nice, the light is uplifting. We're seeing the wild roses bloom, the cauliflowers swell, and the barn swallows orbiting the mowers.

A full-moon solstice amplified the lightwaves that reached us, and we were wound up like college kids before a big test. We passed the next day with flying colors, but I can't recall the subject matter.

Got hayfever? Then get ready for the combines to make swaths in the grass seed fields, and reach for your handkerchiefs and anti-histamines. Our neighbor was kind enough to work at night so we weren't smothered in the dust and pollen while we sweep the carpets of weeds emerging after the irrigation I've been applying. Agriculture can be thought of as the sum of many small cares attended to just in time to arrive at a gain. And we're busy with all we can handle looking to get ahead a little: hilling potato fields, squinting at the carrots, and pulling the thistle out of the beets.



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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

If you or someone you know who works in agriculture, forestry or the fishing industry is struggling, call or text **833-897-2474** for help. The Agristress Helpline is free, operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and has trained counselors with experience in those industries who can take phone calls in 160 languages, with English, Spanish and Vietnamese professionals available to respond by text.



Dancing Glacier

Sometimes I Forget. 2024

Sometimes I forget how old I am,
My hot, dusty feet feel good in the icy mountain
stream.

I am looking for that perfect stone
Jack is perched on a huge rock,
chipping away at a twisted piece of poplar.

I stretch in the early morning sunshine,
squint my eyes hard trying to hold
on to that cold mountain stream.
A soft squeaky meow wakes me.

Time to get up, my kitty says, and rolls on her back
on a sunny patch of the lavender rug.
She rolls again, dips her head up, and looks
at me with up-side-down gold and green eyes.

Do you love me? I whisper. She rolls again,
Her coat of many colors catches
streaks of gold in the sunshine,
Then, in a blink, she rolls to one side and sleeps.
I, too, turn to one side and shut my eyes.

Sometimes I forget how old I am,
And what does it matter?

- Marion Whitney

In necessariis unitas In essentials, unity
in dubiis libertas in non-essentials, liberty
in omnibus caritas in all things, charity

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Farmers' Market, May 26 to Oct. 20: 11 AM–3 PM at the Philomath Community Library parking lot (1050 Applegate Street). Stroll through on Sundays. Support and empower local food growers, producers, and makers!

Blue Zone: Health and Safety

Health and safety are a part of the blue zone lifestyle. Living together in community is how we learn about danger and how we find joy. Community is one of the names for God, and we are blessed.

Recently, I was driving from Philomath to Corvallis and it was dark. There is a hill right outside of town that has a left-hand curve on it and the powerful light from big trucks essentially hurt my eyes. They will get well, yet the intent of this article is to explain the danger that is new in our culture. Recently big trucks have been equipped with altered bright lights, and if you are in a vehicle that is low to the ground there are places where you cannot see to navigate the road.

Being part of a community is the essential part of blue zone lifestyle. Our culture has changed and the environment around us has changed, and as Grange members we need to protect each other from the new dangers while enjoying the very nature of community.

- Mark Files, member of MRG #685 and Willamette #52

Book Recommendations for Your Health

52 Ways to Walk: The Surprising Science of Walking for Wellness and Joy, One Week at a Time by Annabel Streets, c2022. "With its thought-provoking and evidence-backed weekly walk routine, *52 Ways to Walk* encourages everyone to improve how they walk – while also enticing them to seek out fresh locations, different companions, unexpected times of the day and night, and new accompanying skills – whatever the weather, whatever the terrain. Walking may just be the best-kept secret of the supremely healthy and happy, the creative and well slept – and all you need are your own two feet."

This book mentions the next book in "Week 5: Breathe as You Walk" and "Week 35: Walk Like a Nomad." - JH-E

Breath: The New Science of a Lost Art by James Nestor, c2020. "Modern research is showing us that making even slight adjustments to the way we inhale and exhale can jump-start athletic performance; rejuvenate internal organs; halt snoring, asthma, and autoimmune disease; and even straighten scoliotic spines. None of this should be possible, and yet it is.

"Drawing on thousands of years of medical texts and recent cutting-edge studies in pulmonology, psychology, biochemistry, and human physiology, *Breath* turns the conventional wisdom of what we thought we knew about our most basic biological function on its head. You will never breathe the same again."

This book was recommended to me by a local health professional, and it changed my life. And, all I needed to do was breathe through my nose!

- Judy Hays-Eberts, Messenger editor



"This play is fantabulous!!!!" says actress/Granger Jackie Weiner, who plays the character Edna. "As is this new nonprofit production company. Such a variety of venues and the revival of LBCC's beautiful theater." People are in for a treat when Jackie is in the production, as those who attended *Moonglow* last year will attest. Look up show times and purchase tickets at midvalleyproductions.org

Please consider contributing to Talk Like a Pirate night in September the following ways:

1. bake cookies, cakes for selling. Money goes to the Grange.
2. baskets for door prizes.
3. contributions to go in baskets could include:
 - a. popcorn in popcorn bags
 - b. baked goods
 - c. coins from other countries
 - d. old fashioned unwanted jewelry
 - e. unwanted board games
 - f. any random unwanted things at home that might be interesting.

Also, if anyone wants to be in the parade, we need people carrying the two quilts on sticks and engaging the audience.

Thanks, Yvonne. 541-609-0303

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 Sept./Oct. Messenger: August 26th**

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



Marys River Grange Announces



Game Night
 Friday Jul 12
 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM*

24707 Grange Hall Rd, Philomath

You're Invited!

A family friendly, fun fundraising
 event for Marys River Grange

10 games: 5 regular, 5 special pattern
 Plus: 1 blackout with Block of Nine prize

Drinks
 and
 snacks
 for sale



Ticket prices are
 \$10 for 10 3-on games (3 cards for 10 games)
 \$20 for 10 6-on games (6 cards for 10 games)
 \$1 per blackout ticket

50/50 split on prizes/fundraising

* End time is estimated, and may vary depending on length of individual games

Amazing Grange Day

Saturday, August 17
 9 am to 2 pm
 24707 Grange Hall Road

**A Rummage Sale and
 Pie Auction fundraiser
 supporting
 Marys River Grange Hall**