

# Marys River Messenger

## The Marys River Grange Newsletter



Vol. 7, Issue 2

November/December 2024

### Wrapping Up the Year

#### *It's Wreath Making Time Again at Marys River Grange Hall!*



Ron Paddock learned how to make a wreath in 2023.  
Pianist Ray Drapak provided live music (with Karen Canan).



Bring family and friends for a joyous time together creating your own seasonal wreath and decorations. Explore your talents while enjoying hot cider, and cookies. Enjoy live holiday music during the wreath making.

**DATE: Sunday, Dec. 8th FREE EVENT**

**TIME: 1-3**

**WHAT IS PROVIDED:** Wreath bases, pine boughs, ribbons, and some wire cutters will be available.

**WHAT TO BRING:** If you have any extra wire cutters or ribbon, or pruners - feel free to bring these things.

WE could use more pine boughs if folks could bring them or drop them off at the Grange - thank you.

Questions contact: Stacy Moore 541-908-1093

### Marys River Grange Happenings

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

**Bluegrass Jam/Workshop**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Weds. – Nov. 13, Dec. 11, 7 pm, \$7 adult/\$5 youth; listeners donate as desired

**BINGO**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday – Nov. 8, Dec. 13, 6-8:30 pm, \$10 for 10 games (3 cards each), \$1 blackout tickets

**Yoga at the Grange** – Tuesdays through Nov. 26, 6-7 pm. \$15 (\$10 for Grange members)

**Christmas Singalong** – Dec. 14, 7 pm. Dessert potluck; holiday dress or ugly sweater encouraged.  
**Cancelled due to scheduling conflict.**

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)

## More Philomath Community Events

**Veterans Day Ceremony – Nov. 9, 10 am,** at Paul J. Cochran Veterans Memorial Park (1545 College St.) Northwest Scots Honor Guard will be presenting medals to Vietnam-era military personnel.

**Community Christmas Tree Lighting – Nov. 22, 6-7 pm,** at the Philomath Museum. Music, snacks, and Santa!

**Parade of Lights – Dec. 21, 7 pm,** along the Frolic & Rodeo Parade route.

**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.)

**Councilor Coffee, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays – Nov. 16, Dec. 21, 9:30-11 am,** at Timber Towne Coffee (1427 Main St.) Meet your City Councilors for casual conversation.

## Restorative Yoga at Marys River Grange



**Sunday, November 24, 2024**

**4:00 - 5:30pm**

*Restorative Yoga is the art of rest.*

*Poses are fully supported by blankets and other props  
and are held for minutes at a time to encourage total relaxation.  
Appropriate for all levels of yoga experience.*

Classes are limited to 10 students, \$25 per class,  
pre-registration required.

To register please contact Laura Coen:  
331-201-5458 or lauraploeg@yahoo.com

**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!**

Families are welcome at MRG monthly meetings, with activities for children included. An activity table is set up at the west side of Marys River Grange's main hall for youth during meetings, until the Junior Hall remodel is finished. Activities include educational and seasonal/occasion crafts.

**Willamette Grange** is having our last activity of the year Nov 30<sup>th</sup>, 27555 Greenberry Rd:

**Holiday Fair, Saturday Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 10 to 4pm**  
FREE craft activity for Kids to make gnome or holiday wreaths and decorate them.

Local Craft Vendors and Treats available.

## November Celebrates Veterans

We all have a veteran to thank this month...the ultimate Thanksgiving. It is always appropriate to honor and respect those who have served our country, and those who have died for their service as well. Did you know that the United States has a **living shrine** to those who gave their lives so we could enjoy our freedom? This **living shrine** is the General Grant Tree in Kings Canyon National Park in the Sierra Nevada mountains; a Giant Sequoia and the second largest tree on earth. President Eisenhower proclaimed this in 1956. Every Veterans Day since 2012 there has been a ceremony at the tree at 11:00 a.m.. Few things can compare to hearing Taps being played at the base of this majestic tree. The story of how this began is presented in a 12-minute video on YouTube called **Grant Tree Veterans**. Go to YouTube or come to our November Grange meeting to view this little-known story.

On Sunday, November 17 at 2:30 at Linn-Benton Community College in the Takena building, there will be a viewing of the film and true story called **Pueblo**, featuring an Albany actor, Geno Romo and written by Emmy Award winning film editor (Seinfeld Show), Bill Lowe. For more information [midvalleyproductions.org](http://midvalleyproductions.org). Free to veterans and active military, donations accepted from the general public.

AND, you can enjoy a comedy at the Majestic Theater in Corvallis on May 16 and 17 called **Mr. Roberts**. This is a Readers Theater production upstairs at the Theater. Tickets available at [majestic.org](http://majestic.org) or at the box office. One of our female Grange members will be playing the Captain (male role) of this production that takes place during WWII on a cargo ship.

- Jackie Weiner

**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: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday every month, 5:30—8:30 PM

Donations welcomed for use of space

**RSVP Required**  
Contact: Kiko Denzer,  
[kiko@handprintpress.com](mailto:kiko@handprintpress.com),  
or text 541-740-7243

Marys River Grange  
24707 Grange Hall Road  
Philomath, Oregon  
97370

# Marys River Grange Announces



## Game Night

Friday Nov 8, Dec 13

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



## 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

Thanks to all who donate door prizes!

### Willamette Grange #52

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

## Cyrano's BOOKBINDING

BookRepair/Restoration  
Custom Binding  
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Unique Art Papers  
Classes

361 SW 2nd St  
Corvallis Or 97330

M-F  
10a-6p

541-286-4661  
stpeyrano@gmail.com

Susan Stogsdill, Owner



Kurt and Sonny worked during Harvest Fest weekend to put up sheetrock in the Junior Grange Hall.

## Marys River Junior Grange Hall Remodel

**“Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after the other”**  
– Walter Elliot

Although Autumn has greeted us with the rain and the wind, the Building Committee has remained stalwart in our charge to complete the Junior Hall Remodel. If you haven't seen the progress yet, feel free to drive past the hall and take a gander! The new white paint with blue trim gives the hall a very welcoming atmosphere appropriate for all seasons. These last two months also saw the insulation and sheetrock go up inside. Before our November business meeting, the sheetrock will be taped, mudded, and textured.

Going into November, we will be working on the interior which will include final electrical inspections, lighting installation, putting shiplap on the walls, and painting the interior. We will also be working on the exterior deck leading up to the southern french doors. We are very much looking forward to completing the project and opening up the Junior Hall for use once again.

- Mike Terry, MRG #685 President

## Blue Zones and Community Building Activities

Blue zones' healthy lifestyles are based around community. And our Grange builds community. The newly remodeled Junior Hall will be a place for many activities and events that will be of benefit to one and all. It can be of use for many types of classes, book clubs, knitting circles, discussion groups, and so forth. The updated space will better support the vibrant activities of both the Grange and the greater community.

We are blessed by the efforts of dedicated volunteers, whose work contributes to a healthier, happier experience for us all.

- Mark Files

## Another Harvest Fest Success

This year we had a bountiful room of vendors. The place was festive, and a bonus was having a small crew working on the Junior Hall. That helped to let visitors know just what the monies we raise from the Harvest Fest and other fundraisers go to. The response was great.

We got to see some new faces, both with vendors and shoppers. Although the sales were tight this year, (that nasty economy,) I do believe with a bit more advertising for next year we can really pull in more shoppers.

I want to send out a big Thank You to all the Vendors and Shoppers. To the Grangers who helped set up and tear down. Judy Hays-Eberts for putting in a full day in the kitchen. Marilyn and Mary for helping prep the kitchen, and Jackie for knowing how to make coffee! Tara and Caroline for making treats to sell in the kitchen.

The cider press: once again, the cider sold out. Thank you Jim and Camille for spearheading the cider pressing.

- Susan Stogsdill, coordinator

And a BIG Thank You to you, Susan!



MRG's Harvest Fest cider press crew – Camille, Jim, and Toni – worked throughout the morning and afternoon to provide the freshest apple cider for tasting and purchase until they ran out of apples before the event closed.

# Windy Hill Farm

Eggs · Honey · Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Goats · Flowers · Produce

Airbnb Farm Stay

[www.windyhill-familyfarm.com](http://www.windyhill-familyfarm.com)

Philomath, Oregon

Windy Hill Farm has volunteer opportunities for all ages and abilities!  
Contact Laura at 331-201-5458 or [lauraploeg@yahoo.com](mailto:lauraploeg@yahoo.com)



It was lovely weather for vendors outdoors, as well.



Homemade goodies and more were offered for sale and proved popular inside Marys River Grange Hall.



Ron Paddock shared a table with Jackie Weiner, among many other vendors, and gave away smiles all day.

KINDNESS STILL MATTERS



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

### Nate's Ag Committee Report, November 2024

The rains are returning, so the carts get tucked under eaves, irrigation gear is brought in from the fields, and the rodents find new living arrangements. We had a lovely, warm October, and the frost cordially waited to arrive until we got a good crop of sweet peppers in.

A few weeks ago, I was rinsing out a sloppy bucket just after sunset, and as I flung away the last water droplets, I happened to look up to the West. I noticed what looked like a headlight from a parked vehicle beaming steadily through a fog. Strangely, it was high above any surrounding hills, and the night sky was utterly clear, without so much as a mist hovering. I kept staring for a minute or two, baffled by the lack of movement or any change at all. I did a little on-the-spot internet research, and discovered it was Comet A3, here from the Oort cloud, way out beyond the heliosphere. The astronomers who calculate trajectories figure it's not likely to return (if it ever does!) until more than 80,000 years pass here on earth. Gratitude can be hard to come by while doing chores in the dark, but I thanked my lucky stars to have glimpsed that symbol of transience by sheer chance. I get goosebumps thinking how much must go by that I'll never even know I missed, and how grand it is that I'm here to encounter anything at all.

- Nate Johnson, Sunbow Produce,  
MRG Agriculture Committee

Cobbler, tart,  
pie and just plain  
stainer of fingers,  
Marion named

A fruit with a darkside,  
a prickly fiend!  
I may cherish that berry  
but its maker is mean

Oh lovely dark fruit  
though you may be fine  
Your bearer out of August  
is a pain of a vine!

- Mike Terry

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.

## Women of the Grange

The Women of the Grange enjoyed sharing our time together this month with a lovely all member and friends potluck social hour and then a round robin sing along at our Hall. We have decided that we will have a seasonal social potluck four times a year to enjoy each other's company with an additional activity. This time Stacy coordinated loaned song books from Wren Community Hall, and songs led by some lovely and talented new friends. Six people added musical accompaniment with guitars and violins. Our Hall was warm and inviting, full of festive Fall decorations.

We hope everyone will look forward to our next social Winter themed potluck in January. You may find a satisfying mug of hot chocolate with marshmallows for dessert! Board games anyone?

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.



Marys River Grange Hall was beautifully decorated for the Harvest Potluck & Song Circle by Suzy Johanson and Stacy Moore on October 19<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this event was to provide an opportunity for Grange members and friends to socialize together outside of the regular business meeting.



Wren Community Center members shared song books and music-making with MRG members and friends, for a wonderful evening of singing beside the wood stove.

*Local Granges operate independently with structure and support from the State Grange level. The Grange motto reflects this: In essentials, unity; In non-essentials, liberty; In all things, charity.*

## Philomath Community Services (PCS)

Dear Holiday Cheer Supporters,

Thank you for your kindness in helping West Benton County families this holiday season! Our program has undergone some changes this year to better meet the needs of our community. We kindly ask that you review the updates to understand the new structure. Your continued support is invaluable, and these changes will allow us to make an even greater impact together.

The first major change in our program is that we've removed the deadline for applicants. We believe this will allow us to better serve those with the greatest needs, providing more flexibility and support when it's most critical.

The second major change is that parents will now have the opportunity to "shop" for their kids during a scheduled shopping time. This allows families to have more choice and control, making the experience more personal and empowering for them.

There are several ways you can help support our program:

**Host** a giving tree at your business or church, providing an opportunity for others in the community to participate in the shopping experience. **Contact Jennifer @ 541-231-5325 for Giving Tree tags to be delivered.**

**Be matched** with one or more of our applicants within a specific age range to ensure we have enough gifts for each age group. **Email to receive a match.**

**Shop online** through our Amazon registry where you'll find designated age groups to choose from. **Email for link.**

**Donate funds** online through PCS website, which will help us purchase food gift cards.

**Volunteer** by emailing [holidaycheer@philomathcommunityservices.org](mailto:holidaycheer@philomathcommunityservices.org) to be added to the volunteer registry to learn about upcoming volunteer dates.

Gifts can be dropped off unwrapped at PCS, 360 9<sup>th</sup> St., during business hours M-F 9-3:30pm, but please call ahead to ensure our director, Sharon, is available. 541-929-2499

Amazon orders will be delivered during designated business hours that we have scheduled.

Additionally, you can drop off gifts at **College United Methodist Church at 1123 Main St** (location where we'll be hosting shopping event)

- **Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 9-5 pm**
- **Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 1-5 pm**

Thank you again for helping make the holidays brighter for families in Philomath.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Ringwald,  
Program Manager, Holiday Cheer  
[holidaycheer@philomathcommunityservices.org](mailto:holidaycheer@philomathcommunityservices.org)  
541-231-5325

### 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

All are invited to  
**The Oregon State Grange  
Holiday Open House  
December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2 – 4 pm**  
643 Union St. NE, Salem OR 97301



Participants in the Moonlight Mixer Halloween Dance Competition in October at Marys River Grange Hall. Total attendance that evening: 81.

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### HAND MASSAGE

Classes in breathing and meditation

How can I support you?

Mark Files  
541 360 8759  
[meditationwisdom@gmail.com](mailto:meditationwisdom@gmail.com)

*Evelyn in Summit has two adorable baby donkeys. We visited them, and this poem resulted:*

The Day the Poet Danced With the Filly and the Foal  
by Marion Whitney, 2024, age 96  
Soon to be 97; happy birthday, Marion!

On a warm August day, the air morning fresh,  
The Poet walked 'cross the road and over the bridge,  
She opened the gate to the pasture and they came running  
toward her.  
Hello, she said, chuckling, as the Filly and the Foal nuzzled her  
with their velvety noses,

Come Dance With Me, said the bold little Foal, kicking his back  
hooves

Higher and Higher, Oh, I can't do that, I am too old, the Poet  
replied.

Don't be silly, said the Filly, twitching her long fuzzy ears,  
Maybe a waltz or a slow cha cha would do, she teased, blinking  
her eyes with lashes so long.

Do you know The Slide? asked the Poet. They kicked up their  
heels and circled 'round the Poet. No, teach us! They raced to  
the fence and back.

OK, Get in Line, step to the right, one, two three, four, step to the  
left and there is more.  
Up and down the pasture they danced, the Poet, the Filly and  
the Foal.

Before she knew it, the Poet was jumping and twirling with  
joy,

The Foal's striped socks flashed as he circled around her.  
The Filly kicked up her heels, showing off a black stripe on  
her back,  
It was a magical day for the three of them, dancing in the  
pasture.

When they got hot and tired, the Poet sat in the shade of an  
old oak tree.

The Filly and the Foal checked in with their moms, had a  
drink or two,  
and sauntered back to the Poet. She gave them a scratch  
behind their long ears. They nuzzled her with their soft noses,  
swishing their tails.

It was magical, that day the Poet danced with the Filly and the  
Foal.



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### Reports from Marys River Grange #685 January 1979

“Our annual Christmas party was held on Dec. 16, 1978. We started off with a potluck dinner at 6:30. While the dishes were being done, the men put up the tree and some of the ladies fixed the sacks of candy. The tree was decorated, Santa came. We all had a nice time visiting and watching the little ones. We sang Christmas songs. There were about 68 present.”

“After much water pipe fixing we had our New Years Day dinner. There were 22 present. Games were played and the Christmas Tree was taken down. A nice day was had.”

“Two of the best work days we have had this year were in Dec. – One was Dec. 17. Large group of men got wood and the ladies served lunch. On Dec. 31 a group of men worked 3 or 4 hours on the pipes. A real cold job.”

[Sound familiar again in 2021, MRG Building Committee?]

*Be honest, frugal, plain – seek content and happiness at home – be industrious and persevering; and our word for it, if you are in debt you will soon get out of it; if your circumstances are now embarrassed, they will soon become easy, no matter who may be the editor, or what may be the price of flour.*

- Oregon Spectator, February 1846,  
first newspaper published on the West Coast

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: Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>

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



*Welcome everything! Welcome all alike what has been,  
and what never was, and what we hope may be, to  
your shelter underneath the holly, to your places around  
the Christmas fire, where what is sits open-hearted!*

- Charles Dickens, 1851