



Winona Grange # 271

Established in Tualatin in 1895

Winter 2021 Newsletter



Winona's Seed Project Continues



Larry and Ellie McClure with a van filled with Bi-Mart grocery bags full of seed packets.

Since 2009, Winona Grange has distributed seed packets donated by Lake Valley Seed of Boulder, Colorado to community gardens, Granges and groups that promote gardening. In the spring, Lake Valley notified **Dick Naven** that they would no longer supply us with seeds.

Larry McClure buys his seeds at Bi-Mart so he called their corporate office. He was referred to the Warehouse Manager, who said, "Come on down and load up."

Larry and his wife drove to Eugene and came back with 100 +/- grocery bags filled with seed packets that Bi-Mart stores had not sold in 2020. They can't sell them in 2021.

Larry delivered bags to Grange members to sort packets by veggie, herb, or flower and variety. Larry supplied rubber bands that he bought by the pound!

Cyndy Hillier asked Larry to train Tualatin High School StandUp members to help. He gave them bags when they came for Drive Through Hot Chocolate in front of our hall on

December 17. The students clearly enjoyed helping: "I was so happy to have something I could actually see be completed." "It was such a relief to have anything to do that didn't involve the computer."

On January 9, 13 volunteers packed boxes with seeds for shipping. Volunteers included four gardeners from the Sherwood Community Garden, the Washington County Ag in the Classroom coordinator, Grangers **Christine Tunstall**, **Loyce Martinazzi**, **Norm Parker**, and **Cyndy Hillier**, and Cyndy's Dad and daughter. Larry had grouped packets (more rubber bands), which made it easy to make sure that each box contained the veggies and herbs that most families plant. One bunch contained packets of flowers that attract pollinators.

We tried to maintain distancing, but there was congestion at the last table where we topped off boxes with loose packets.



Larry (back side), Sherwood Community Gardeners Chuck and Amy Boyle, and **Loyce Martinazzi** topping off boxes.

Volunteers packed their own box or took one that the group packed. We packed 62 boxes that day.

Daniel Payne of Tualatin Web added Buy Now buttons to our website at 7 pm on *Continued in column 2 on page 2.*

Message from our President

Kathleen Milan sent a note with her dues, saying how much she enjoys our newsletters. Kathleen joined Winona Grange in 1949, making her a **72-year member!** Kathleen, this newsletter is for you!

You may think you know what's happening with **Winona's Seed Project Continues**. But you may not know the latest. Read the article on page 1.

Because **Dick Naven** resigned as our Treasurer, members elected **Randy Beyer** to fill out the term. We will elect our full slate of officers at next November's meeting. In the Grange there are only three reasons to elect an officer prior to our biennial election: an officer resigns, misses four consecutive meetings, or fails or refuses to perform the duties of the office.

I've been asked who new member **Cyndy Hillier** is. She's attended most meetings since she joined and volunteered for several projects. But where'd she come from? What is her work? You'll find answers in the **Welcome to Our New Members** article.

What happened to our 125th anniversary celebration? It's still on hold. But we've made some progress.

- The great granddaughter of B.R. Henry, Winona's first Master, has agreed to attend our party.
- The missing book of minutes (1931-1937) was among Oswego Grange's records (see **Oswego Grange Records Donated**). Names of new members and officers from that period have been added to our 25-page two-column list. Highlights for each of those years were added to our Events and Activities list.
- The page protectors we ordered fit most, but not all of our scrapbooks.
- We need to locate more descendants of previous members. Do you know someone we should invite to our party?

Marilyn Reiher, Master 2020-21
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January 14. Four hours later Norene from Vancouver placed the first order. Did she have ESP or was she stalking us?

The next day **Marilyn Reiher** sent 31 emails to those who ordered from us last year. Orders arrived quickly. To date we have orders for 25 doubles and 4 singles plus 3 boxes to be delivered.

When **Dick Naven** saw the boxes stacked in the storeroom, he informed us that USPS Flat Rate boxes we got from the Post Office are not the same as USPS Regional Rate A and B boxes he used. Shipping cost would be twice as much as we charged. We've ordered Regional Rate boxes and are awaiting their delivery. Fortunately, we were shipping earlier than in previous years and those who ordered are understanding.

When the boxes arrive, we'll swap the contents and ship them. Then we'll email 75 community gardens in Oregon that haven't ordered from us previously.

Oswego Grange Records Donated



Boxed and neatly labelled.

When Oswego Grange's hall burned in October 1974, their members voted to consolidate with Winona adding 76 members, many of whom immediately became active contributors.

Loyce Martinazzi has advocated donating Oswego's minutes, membership records, and account books to the Oswego Heritage Society. With approval from Oregon State Grange President Susan Noah, Loyce delivered two bags of documents to Mark Browne of the Society. He wrote, "Thank you so much. What a fabulous primary resource."

New Treasurer Figures Out

Randy Beyer is our new Treasurer. On December 18 Randy, Larry, and Marilyn met at the Beaverton Hillsdale branch of the Bank of the West to update signers on our checking and savings accounts. Randy has shown great patience and humor while getting electronic banking set up with the bank and with our utilities.



Randy with his calculator and Norm Parker checking our account balances.

Randy has recommended improvements to our procedures, including using Excel to create our monthly financial reports. Excel does math!

On January 25, **Norm Parker, Cyndy Hillier,** and Randy met at the hall to conduct a 2020 audit.

Winona's 125th Anniversary

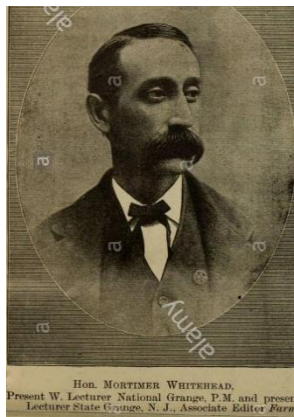
We weren't able to celebrate our anniversary on September 19, 2020 as originally planned, but it's still our 125th year. We will commemorate it when we can.

The first event Winona Grange held was a picnic in the grove in the summer of 1896 with Mortimer Whitehead as speaker.

Who was Mortimer Whitehead? I googled and learned that he was Lecturer of the National Grange from 1877 to 79 and 1886 to 1893. He was from New Jersey. How did he happen to be in the neighborhood? I googled.

Brother Whitehead arrived in Oregon by train on May 8 and had 21 speaking

engagements booked from Portland to Ashland before the end of the month. He spoke on either "The Farmer and Tariffs" or the silver standard. Three of his speaking engagements in June were also reported in



newspapers. From July 7 to 17, he participated in the Willamette Valley Chautauqua in Gladstone with Susan B. Anthony and others.

Mortimer returned to Oregon in 1911 and delivered lectures in Oregon City, Forest Grove, Gresham, Gervais, Aumsville, Eugene, and Roseburg.

The *Oregon City Courier* reported "As a Grange editor and worker for the order for 35 years, he has been in every state in the Union and in Canada on Grange duty. He first introduced the subject of rural free delivery (of mail) to the National Grange in 1891 and urged the Grange to take it up. No member of the order has traveled more miles, delivered more addresses and written more papers in the interest of the order than has he."

Welcome to Our New Members

Cyndy Hillier is Executive Director of Tualatin Together, whose mission is to make our community a place where we talk about mental health and substance misuse challenges and actively promote the health of our youth and families by building resilience and providing resources to help people live their best lives.



Tualatin Together sponsors StandUp at the high school and is looking for ways to reach elementary and middle schoolers and their parents.

Winona has partnered with Tualatin Together to sponsor classes in our hall on Resilient Families and QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) suicide prevention.

Last November Cyndy was elected to the Tualatin City Council. Having a Grange member on the Council should benefit our Grange.

Linda Moholt retired on January 15 after 12 years as Executive Director of the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce.

Under Linda's leadership the Chamber's motto has been "business and community working together." Of her many accomplishments she is proudest of Tualatin's entry in the America's Best Communities competition. The \$100,000 grant won was used to create a mobile Maker-space for STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) for the school district. This project continues to be Linda's passion.

Linda has just changed Zoom backgrounds. Her schedule continues to be busy as she meets with various local groups. We look forward to her involvement in various Grange projects, especially making use of her many contacts and previous experiences.

Winona Grange Mission

The mission of Winona Grange, chartered in Tualatin, Oregon in 1895, is to provide opportunities for involvement and leadership in community service, for individuals and families; to maintain our local advocacy for agriculture; and to welcome the community into our Grange Hall for a wide variety of educational and social events, portraying our traditional American family values.

Winona Grange joined the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce in 2006. Thanks to Linda, the Chamber became a business member of Winona Grange in 2015. When our hosting was cancelled last March, Linda said she planned to join the Winona Grange when she retired, and she's a woman of her word. Her parents were Grange members in Tillamook County.

If you have comments on this issue, please send complaints to m_reiher@comcast.net and post complements on Winona Grange's Facebook page.

Winona Grange #271
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Mark your calendar for our upcoming meetings:

Saturday, February 13
March 13
April 10

Due to COVID we are meeting via Zoom.
We voted to start Zoom meetings at **10 am**.

Look for log in info in the meeting notice.