



# SDOP NEWS

Newsletter of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

May 2013

Volume 42

Issue 5

## Champoeg Picnic to be held Sunday, July 14, 2013

This is an informal event and a great way to enjoy old friends, make new friends and share the stories of your ancestors who traveled the Oregon Trail.

We meet at the Champoeg Pavilion near the monument erected in 1901 to honor the signers of Oregon Territory's provision government.

Meet Judy VanAtta who'll tell us about Mr. Robert Newell who was one of the signers of the provisional government, The First Ladies of Oregon gown collection housed in the Newell House Museum and about the Pioneer Mother's Memorial cabin location in the park which you pass before you get to the Pavilion.

Miss Pioneer Oregon, Bethany Ruth Janzen, will join us and share some of her family history.

Arrive at noon with your potluck dish.  
For all the details see page 2.

## Annual Business Meeting & Elections June 8

Our annual meeting will take place Saturday, June 8th, 2013, in the High Cliff Restaurant in Oregon City. (602 7th Street, Oregon City, OR 97045, Phone 503-723-9253) The meeting will last from 10 to 2. Our agenda will be approval of the minutes of the last annual meeting, treasurers report, president's report on the previous year, election of officers, and installation of new officers and directors.

The proposed Officers for 2013-14 are: Christine Meinicke, President; Drew Ackerslund, President-Elect; Rachel Janzen, Secretary; and, Mary Laws, Treasurer; Nancy Root Parker & Diane Root, Immediate Past Co-Presidents.

We have one SDOP Board Member position open for a one year term. The Board members serving their terms in 2013-14 are Merle Miller, Dolores Egger, Dick Mort, Glen Jones, Maryjane Davey, Reggie Burke, Charles Byers and Ellie Nelson. Any member who would like to become a board member, please contact Diane Root at 503-380-5892 or e-mail [familytreeroots@msn.com](mailto:familytreeroots@msn.com).

## For Future Reference

As lovers of history, the readers of this newsletter are familiar with the value we place on historical journals. Fragments of information about how the pioneers prepared their dinners, what tools they used to repair their vehicles, even how they washed their clothes give us insight into a lost era. What you may not have thought of, however, is that every moment is history in the making. With every generation technology and the common practices of people change. I encourage everyone to take some time to write down some of your experiences. You don't have write about how you personally witnessed each great world shattering event. There is tremendous value in simply writing about how you have lived. My father has delighted me with stories of the days before television, when he eagerly awaited his favorite radio program, "Dimension X" (a program he had to listen to while buried under the covers of his bed because it was too scary). I will forever remember my mother's story of seeing her first color movie. She was 7 years old when she saw "The Wizard of Oz," and she couldn't have been more shocked to see Munchkin Land in color than if she had been taken there by a tornado. I am only in my 30's but already I have found myself explaining to my daughter how I used to play music and stories on an amazing contraption called a record player. Of course, she'd never heard of a record player. Everyone is part of history, so as people who value historical archives, please remember to record a few of your own memories and experiences for the future generations. You may be surprised who comes to value your everyday experiences.

-Kerry Root

## Champoeg's Founders' Day Celebration

*Hosted by Friends of Historic Champoeg*

It was a beautiful sunny day with a strong wind to keep it cool at the Founders' Day celebration at Champoeg State Heritage Area on Saturday, May 4th. Participants walked into the lives of the Kalapuya Indians, French Canadian fur trappers and American settlers, and experienced their world for an afternoon.

While walking along an easy, scenic one-mile trail, visitors stopped at five living history stations and interacted with characters from the past. They saw a trapper encampment, engaged in the daily life of the 1850's at the original town site, heard tales of the harrowing flood that wiped the town of Champoeg off the map, and heard about the first Founders' Day celebration of 1901 – the event that commemorated the first government in the Pacific Northwest.

Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers participated in two ways. Co-Presidents Nancy Root Parker and Diane Root greeted visitors in the Pavilion. They gave out brochures, the recent Boomer and Senior News article, shared information about SDOP, and decorated with SDOP mugs. The scrapbooks of SDOP history and photos of pioneer ancestors were very popular with the participants.

Miss Pioneer Oregon, Bethany Janzen, participated at the pioneer life station. We hear she was a big hit with the bowling activity.



## Annual SDOP Picnic

Be sure to attend the Annual SDOP Picnic at Champoeg State Park. Enjoy a potluck picnic with family and fellow ancestors of Oregon Pioneers.

WHEN: Sunday, July 14, 2013 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

WHERE: Champoeg State Park – the Pavilion area (ask at the main gate for directions)

FEE: Entry into the State Park required a \$5.00 day use fee per car or your Oregon State Parks Pass.

FOOD: Those attending are asked to bring a potluck food item to feed 10-15 people to share with everyone. (Bring a salad, main dish, bread, deserts, chips and dips, vegetable tray, fruit tray or other great food items) Please bring a serving utensil for your potluck dish.

SDOP will furnish coffee, water, soda pop, paper plates cups, silverware and tablecloths. The picnic area is covered

Program: Meet and Mingle	12:00 pm - 12:30 pm
Invocation and Lunch	12:30 pm - 1:00 pm
Pledge of Allegiance	1:15 pm - 2:45 pm
Introductions and share a 3 minute story about your Pioneer family	
Introduction of Miss Pioneer Oregon and her presentation	
Entertainment provided by Judy VanAtta from the Newell House Museum	
Closing and singing "Oregon, My Oregon"	

PARK ATTRACTIONS: Champoeg Park's Visitor Center, DAR's Mother's Memorial Cabin or a walk in the park and through the old Champoeg town site. You can also visit the Newell House Museum Complex just outside the park which includes the Robert Newell's home restored in 1950 by DAR, the Butteville 1859 School House and 1849 Jail. There are also camping facilities at the park.

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS: From I-5, take exit #278 near Donald. Travel west on Ehlen Road and follow Champoeg Park signed to the entrance. (about 6 miles from I-5)

## Board Meeting

Location: Newell House Museum Complex – Rebecca's Tea Porch – behind the Robert Newell's home.

Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

All members are welcome to come to the board meeting prior to the picnic.

## Oregon-California Trails Convention



The Oregon-California Trails Association is holding their 2013 Annual Convention in Oregon City the week of July 21st. The theme for this year's convention is "End of the Trail and Beyond." Most of the events will be held at the host hotel, the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center, 12566 SE 93rd Ave, Clackamas, OR 97015 (1-800-492-8700 or [www.monarchhotel.cc](http://www.monarchhotel.cc)).

By the time you read this, registration packets should have been mailed to all OCTA members. You can get one from Jim Tompkins ([tompkins@bctonline.com](mailto:tompkins@bctonline.com) or 503-880-8507) or you can register on line (go to [www.octa-trails.org](http://www.octa-trails.org) and click on the 2013 convention link).

The convention is open to anybody, membership is not required to attend. There are activities every day and most evenings for the week the OCTAns (rutnuts) will be in town. Attendees will choose from a mix of learning sessions, tours and outings, and special events. Anyone attending all sessions will have a very busy week.

There will be two days of speaker sessions, workshops, and meetings. One of the speaker sessions on Tuesday will feature SDOP. A panel of trail descendants (Champ Vaughan, Chris Meinicke, Diane Root, and Jim Tompkins) will speak to what it means to be related to someone who came over the trail. There will be five days of outings and tours. Pre-convention outings include trips along the Cowlitz Trail, the Applegate, and the Oregon Trail from Pendleton to The Dalles. Convention tours will go around Mt. Hood looking at the Barlow Road, Oregon City, a missions tour of the Willamette Valley and a settlements tour of French Prairie. A post-convention outing will go to Fort Vancouver. Another activity of interest to SDOP is the first time ever (for OCTA) Heritage Resources Fair on Monday afternoon where attendees may mingle with representatives of as many as 70 heritage organizations (museums, genealogical societies, historical societies, etc.) including SDOP. Evening events include an Awards Banquet and Live Auction; an authors night featuring two dozen trail related authors; a Living History Night at the Abernethy Center with re-creations of Abigail Scott Duniway, Father Luigi Rossi, and Narcissa Whitman; and a Salmon Dinner at the End of the Oregon Trail Center.

If you need further information or would like to volunteer to assist the Northwest Chapter in putting on the convention contact Jim Tompkins ([tompkins@bctonline.com](mailto:tompkins@bctonline.com) or 503-880-8507).

*submitted by Jim Tompkins*

## SDOP Featured in Senior News

Northwest Boomer & Senior News, Portland-Metro & Vancouver Edition's May issue features a front page article on Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers. Ellie Nelson, Nancy Root Parker and Diane Root were interviewed for this article entitled "Oregonians through and through". The paper can be found at local libraries, retirement living communities and businesses.

"We're part of the 'I Can Take It Club'. You can do with little and make something better out of it and put children on our shoulders and go forward", Ellie Nelson says in the article to explain the pioneer spirit. Ellie's pioneer ancestors are Jarius and Sarah Ann Bonney who came to Oregon in 1846. Her son Glen and his wife Jill are active in the Oregon Trail Experience re-creation in Eastern Oregon.

The article goes on to quote Diane Root and Nancy Root Parker who talked about growing up in a family interested in Oregon history, the value of knowing their great-grandmother (Sarah Price Cromwell) came on the Oregon Trail, and feeling pride in ancestors who took the risk to come to a new country.

The article continues on page 2 to describe Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers including our purpose, our history, and awards and scholarships. Qualifications for membership are given and our meetings, roster and future events are described. The article ends with information on contacting membership chair Merle Miller. Featuring a photo of the three SDOP members, the article includes photos from The Oregon Historical Society Museum.



*Painting by Calista Dowling of Sarah Ann Price Cromwell (1844-1908) who traveled from Iowa to Oregon with her family on the United Brethren wagon train of 1853.*

## ARE YOU AWARE?

Are you aware that Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers gives nearly \$2,000 in educational grants to students, museums and other organizations every year?

SDOP is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit tax-exempt organization. We can receive donations from members and others to further the programs we have to help individuals with their education, provide funding to museums or other groups who share our interest in family and history and to help with some of our expenses to keep members informed about our programs. We provide receipts to donors that they may use as a deduction in filing their personal tax return.

Our Board has attempted to keep our dues at a low level even though the expense of printing and postage has increased. If some of you would like to help us to expand the effort to provide scholarship grants, to help historical groups and to maintain our organization on a strong financial footing, perhaps you would like to send in a donation for the future.

Address the check to SDOP and write donation on the memo line. Mail your donation to SDOP, PO Box 6685, Portland, Oregon 97228-6685.



Merle and Pat Miller's home in LaGrande. The Millers and the Root Sisters held an SDOP work day on April 22nd to go through boxes and decide on the first items to copy electronically.



Nancy Parker, Merle and Pat Miller at work on sorting old SDOP files.

## In Their Own Words - excerpts from journals from the Oregon Trail - compiled by Jim Tompkins

*"Gentlemen, they do say, that out in Oregon the pigs are running about under the great acorn trees, round and fat, and already cooked, with knives and forks sticking in them so that you can cut off a slice whenever you are hungry. Now gentlemen, as many of you as would like to go, walk right into my store and put down your names in the book," — Peter Burnett, 1843*

*"We had iron pots and teakettles for cooking, and did our baking in a Dutch oven with coals under and over it. It was difficult for my mother and sisters to cook this way, as we had been used to a large house, a cook stove and brick oven, and a maid to do the hard work. When our cow gave plenty of milk, we put the milk in a large, tin can and hung this can on the wagon, where the jolting would churn the milk to butter." — Sarah Sprenger, 1852*

*"July 4th. They are playing fiddles and dancing. It recalls old times to me. I can shut my eyes and think I am at some gathering just like I used to be. After Helen and I sat on the hill and moralized so serious, we came down and cut capers like a parcel of fools." — Agnes Stewart, 1853*

*"About noon of the tenth day, after leaving the Dalles, we began to see, through the timber, on ahead a vision of an open valley. Peering out, I saw that it was sprinkled over with spreading oaks, while it seemed to be surrounded by a fringe of evergreens reaching up onto those mountains, and on into the blue sky above, I thought, 'Yes, this is the Oregon I have been hoping to get to.'"*  
— Adriette Applegate Hixon, 1853

## 2013 Family Reunions

### King Family

*Arrived in Oregon in 1845*

Saturday, June 22, 2013  
9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

KINGS VALLEY SCHOOL GYM  
(Located behind the school)  
38840 Kings Valley Highway, Kings Valley, Oregon

The morning session is a workshop – please bring King family material to share. You might discover a new relative or be able to help someone else with their King family research. A copy machine will be available. Coffee & donuts served.

Lunch at Noon

Please bring a main dish and another item of your choice (dessert, salad or munchies) to share. Also bring your own table service. Coffee, soda pop and bottled water will be provided.

General Meeting 1:00 p.m.

#### INFORMATION

Mimi Stang, President  
503-364-8427 or Mstang5165@aol.com  
Earle Greig, Vice President  
541-754-0053 or Egreig@pioneer.net

### De Lore Family

To any and all relatives of "Joseph De Lore", a French-Canadian from Sorel, Canada. He came to Oregon in 1875 with the fur trappers. We extend an invitation to a "pow-wow" at Spray, Oregon, August 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11.

For more information call  
Beth De Lore Thomas 503-743-2141 or  
Dan Damewood 541-225-8839

### 46th Annual Officer-Cooley Association Family Reunion

Date: Saturday July 20, 2013  
Location: Champoeg State Heritage Area (Champoeg Park)  
This is the same place we met in 2012.

Start time: 10 a.m.

Luncheon: Main course, condiments and some drinks provided. If you can, please bring side-dishes, desserts, and soft drinks, etc.

Meet at Shelter #4 on Saturday at 10:00. The morning will be devoted to signing in, passing out raffle tickets, name tags, meeting cousins and viewing family memorabilia. So please bring any family historical treasures you are willing to share with others.

We'll break for lunch around noon. The Association will provide a luncheon including main course(s), condiments, coffee and tea. Contributions of extra side dishes are always welcome. There is electric service to the kitchen if you need to heat something up.

Next is a brief Round Robin where each family or individual will have an opportunity to say a few words about who you are.

Presentations:

"The Hard Way West" by Mike Cooley  
"Officers in Early John Day History" by Bud Officer

The Association will provide a few raffle prizes to give out by drawing at the Reunion. If you have something you would like to donate as a raffle prize please bring it.

RSVP

Mike Cooley 541-471-1590 C:541-450-2123  
m2cooley@q.com  
620 Frankham Road, Grants Pass, OR 97527

Bud Officer 541-593-0224 C: 541-408-6296  
budofficer@juno.com

17065 Island Loop Way, Bend, OR 97707

RSVP's are not mandatory but they do help us plan the luncheon

## DUES ARE DUE AGAIN

Dues billings will be mailed during the Month of May for the fiscal year of June 15, 2013 to June 15, 2014.

Regular Member is \$15.00 and Junior Member \$3.00.

Life members - NO DUES!!

Mail your check to:

SDOP

P.O. Box 456

La Grande, Oregon 97850-0456

Thank you

## Hiatus?

The Newsletter may be taking a break, but the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers will be going strong through the summer! Great events are planned, just look at the calendar below. Write down your stories, take great pictures, and share them in the September issue of the Newsletter. It has been a great first year as editor. I look forward to hearing about all of your adventures and then being able to share them with all of SDOP!



## Calendar Events

**Saturday, May 4, 2013:** 12:30-3:30

Champoeg State Park for Founders' Day.

**Saturday, May 11, 2013:** 11:00 am Caples House Museum

Complex tour, lunch, and meeting; \$15.

Columbia City, OR

**Saturday, June 8, 2013:** 10 am to 2 pm, Annual Meeting at the High Cliff Restaurant, Oregon City.

**Sunday, July 14, 2013:** 12 to 3 pm,

The annual picnic at the Pavilion at Champoeg State Park.

## Please keep us informed

If you change your mailing address or name, or if a SDOP member in your family is deceased, please notify us as soon as possible so that the membership records can be kept current.

If you go south for the winter and would like your newsletter to follow you (and when you return home) please notify us as soon as possible or your newsletter will be returned as "UNDELIVERABLE" and we will not send it again until we hear from you.

Send information to:

SDOP, P.O. Box 6685, Portland, OR 97228-6685

-or-

P.O. Box 456, La Grande, OR 97850

Phone: Merle Miller (541) 963-6387

E-mail: [mpmiller@eoni.com](mailto:mpmiller@eoni.com)

This greatly assists us in processing the thousands of items we mail to members each year. Thank you for your help!

## The New 2013 SDOP Roster is available!

A New 2013 SDOP Membership Roster is for sale to the membership only.

You may own one for \$10.00 or \$13.00 includes postage.

Send check to:

SDOP, PO Box 456, La Grande, OR 97850-0456.

**SDOP NEWS** is published five times a year (Sept., Nov., Jan., Mar., and May) by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers. Inquires and submissions should be directed to:

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E-mail: [jdrooter@yahoo.com](mailto:jdrooter@yahoo.com)

Editor: Jake Root Advisor: Diane Root

## NOTICE

Deadline for submissions of articles, stories, pictures, and information for the Sept. SDOP NEWS will be

**Friday, August 23, 2013**

## Welcome New Members!

We are proud to have you in our growing pioneer family!

### Life Member

Darrell V. Alford

### Ancestor

Thomas Alford – 1850

### Member

Sally S. Isham

### Ancestor

Levi Kent – 1852

Joanne E. Rose

Thompson Douglas Hinton – 1846

### Junior Member

Cooper D. Alexander

### Ancestor

William Heisler – 1852

Grant Robert Golonka

Daniel & Rachael Fiester – 1847

Macen Hayes Wahoske

William Sperry – 1851

## In Memoriam...

Our sympathy is extended to the families of the following named members who have passed:



*Dorothy Moore Whelan  
Wayne O. Whitbeck  
Lillian Dickinson  
Thomas R. Conn*



## Digital Pioneers

Switch to an e-mailed version of SDOP News by sending your e-mail address to Jake at [jdrooter@yahoo.com](mailto:jdrooter@yahoo.com) to Receive these extra bonuses:

- ▶ Full color newsletter with vibrant photographs!
- ▶ Instant delivery-be the first to know!
- ▶ Save trees!
- ▶ Saves SDOP printing, shipping and handling costs!

The newsletter will be e-mailed in easy to view .pdf format. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader, it is a free, quick download from "http://get.adobe.com/reader"

*A big thank you to members who have signed up! I am glad you are enjoying the electronic newsletter!*

## Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers 2012 - 2013

### Officers

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### Membership Chairman

**Merle Miller**

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### Communications Officer

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**SDOP Website** [www.webtrail.com/sdop](http://www.webtrail.com/sdop)

## SDOP Merchandise Available by Mail

### SDOP 2013 Membership Roster

\$13.00 (includes S&H) This roster lists our nearly 1100 current members and pioneer families (available to members only).

### Reflections of Oregon Pioneer Families

\$4.50 (includes S&H) This book is a compilation of 130 stories written and submitted by SDOP members.

### SDOP Cloisonné Pins

\$5.00 (includes S&H) This is the SDOP membership pin and is in the shape of the state of Oregon with light or dark blue and white background and gold trim (available to members only).

### SDOP Woodcut Logo Note Cards

\$5.00 each set (includes S&H) Each set contains ten parchment note cards with the SDOP logo and matching envelopes.

Please make checks payable to  
*Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers.*

Send with a written request to:

*Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers  
P.O. Box 6685  
Portland, OR 97228-6685*

**Save shipping and handling costs!** Purchase the merchandise in person at major SDOP functions, such as the Annual Statehood Banquet in February, the Annual Membership Meeting in June, and the Annual Picnic in July. SDOP volunteers will operate an information table at these functions and will sell the books for \$3 each, pins for \$3 each, note cards for \$3 a set, and the roster for \$10.

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