



# SDOP NEWS

Newsletter of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

May 2014

Volume 43

Issue 5

## President's Note

My term as your President of SDOP is quickly coming to an end, a responsibility that has kept me very busy this past year. It has been a year of many challenges such as getting more members to switch from hard copy Newsletters to receiving their Newsletters electronically. The second challenge is how to get more members actively involved in SDOP as board members or as committee members. The third challenge is to increase our membership by finding ways to increase SDOP's visibility. We are doing this by creating a Speaker's Staff to speak at historical functions and other organizations. We are also working to improve our website and develop a facebook page. Your help is needed in all these areas.

It has also been a year of developing new friendships while sharing Oregon's history and our pioneer ancestors. We visited Philip Foster Farm, located at the end of the Barlow Trail, in October of 2013. On April 26, 2014 we had a wonderful historical learning experience at the Fort Dalles Museum Complex. We toured the Surgeon's Quarters, the only remaining Officers house of the 1856 Fort Dalles Military complex. This museum opened in 1905 and is considered one of the oldest history museums in Oregon. Also on the complex is the Anderson log cabin/homestead built in the late 1800s by a Swedish immigrant. In addition the complex houses an historic collection of 30 wheeled vehicles such as a stage coach, two horse-drawn hearses, a couple of surreys and a mail wagon. By far I would say this was one of the best tours I've been on with SDOP. See pictures in this newsletter.

The last meeting of my administration is June 14, 2014. It is SDOP's annual meeting where new officers are elected and voting takes place on issues that affect all members such as a recommendation from the board for a By-law change. Please plan on attending. It is important that your voice is heard.

ANNUAL MEETING – SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2014

ANNUAL PICNIC – SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2014

Details on the page 6 calendar

For me this organization plays a vital role in keeping Oregon's history alive especially for our young people. It is important that we all work together to keep Oregon's History alive and this organization alive for another 100 years. It has been a privilege to serve as your President of SDOP.

Chris Meinicke  
President



Group picture outside of the Surgeon's Quarters at Fort Dalles above, and the front of the building below.



## Oregon Pioneer Association

The Oregon Pioneer Association was organized on October 18, 1873. It's first president was F. X. Matthieu. Membership requirements changed slightly through the years, finally extending to those who arrived in the Oregon Territory prior to 1859, when Oregon gained statehood status. A 1948 article in the Oregonian listed the ten pioneers then living. In 1952, the association officially disbanded.

The association published fifty-six annual "Transactions" beginning in 1873. They recount the business affairs of the association, report on the Annual Reunion, and give honor to the pioneers. The final Transaction was printed after the fifty-sixth reunion, held in 1928, though it bears a publication date of 1933.

Content and format of these Transactions changed through out the years. Each year the business dealings of the association are reported. Also printed were the various speeches made at the reunion. These speeches---made by early Oregon leaders, historians, and other persons of import---covered a variety of topics. Biographies of the pioneers, lists of those who had died during the proceeding year, and lists of pioneers attending the reunion are also variously included. A concerted effort was made to publish a diary, group of letters, reminiscence, or other firsthand account of a pioneer's experience.

These records provide an invaluable resource about our early Oregon pioneers. Not only can they provide biographical data on the pioneers, but those first-hand accounts of the joys and sorrows of the journey to---and life in---early Oregon, give us a welcome view into the lives of our earliest citizens.

*Permission Granted for this Article by Julie Kidd*



Joni Walker and family

## Lead the wagons!

Elections for the Sons and Daughters of the Oregon Pioneers 2014-2014 take place at the our Annual Meeting in June. There are a few open positions as shown below.

### Officer Positions:

President: Drew Ackerlund

President-Elect: Open

Secretary: Rachel Janzen

Treasurer: Mary Laws

### Board Member Positions:

Newsletter Editor: Open

and 4 board Members positions: Open

Please contact Drew Ackerlund or Mel Fuller if you are interesting in any of the above postions.

Drew Ackerlund

503-730-0930 Drew@madeinoregontwice.com

Mel Fuller

503-344-4564 mel\_fuller@att.net

-Chris Meinicke

## **i** 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. 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



Inside the Surgeon's quarters with Glen

**The Dalles Meeting Notes**

Chris Meinicke reported she had attended a networking luncheon at the Oregon Historical Society for Oregon museums and historical organizations. OHS is considering traveling exhibits which she thought might be an area in which SDOP could help. Chris has promoted SDOP at the Feb 15th Genealogy Forum, at Friends of Multnomah Falls, and with Old Aurora Colony.

Glen Jones presented a proposed by-laws change which will be voted on at the annual meeting. Any member who is six months or more behind in their dues will be dropped as a member of SDOP. The current timeline is 2 years. Drew Ackerlund gave out the report on the banquet. We had 81 attend this year. In his Nomination Committee report, Drew stressed membership recruitment and needing to recruit officers and board members at this time. A web master is also needed. Membership: Merle Miller reported that dues were mailed. There are now 1,043 members. Roster: Mel Miller is working on the genealogy database. Glen is scanning applications. Mel handed out his draft of a new membership application.

Genealogical Forum of Oregon sent a thank you to Glen and Chris for participation. State Library update: still in committee and no public hearings yet. DAR Historical marker dedication May 10th at St. Louis Church, Gervais announced. DAR Historical marker dedication at Cherryville Cemetery six miles east of Sandy off Hwy 26 (52225 Cherryville Drive) announced. It will be on Sunday, June 8th at 2 pm.



**Bigger and Better Ancestor Database**

SDOP is pleased to announce that we will be expanding the Ancestor data base in which we are collecting information. The SDOP membership application form is being expanded to include the information from new members and you may submit information for existing members by email. Contact Mel Fuller at mel\_fuller@att.net to obtain the forms on which the information may be completed. The additional information will fill the gap from the Ancestors who came into the Oregon Territory before Feb. 14, 1859 to the current member's generation. No information regarding living members will be included in any publications, either digital or printed. We look forward to completing your family Oregon story. Also as mentioned copies of the report are available by contacting Mel Fuller. Digital copies are \$10.00 which helps support SDOP's heritage sites mission. We are currently only able to process digital information but are seeking volunteers who can assist by transcribing written details into the appropriate computer format.



Founders' Day

## Oregon Family History

### Starkweather History

As I conclude my stint as SDOP newsletter editor, I considered what final article to write, and then my sister, Nancy, brought me a small book she had found. It is called "A History of Oregon" by Clark, Down and Blue. It was designed as a textbook for Oregon schools and the sticker in the back shows it was used in Benton County Schools. The preface, written in July 1931, drew my attention as it begins by giving credit to 4 organizations including Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers! It states as follows:

"The introduction of Oregon History as a subject to be studied in the elementary school has been brought about by the combined efforts of four organizations: The History Teachers' Association, the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers, the Oregon Historical Society, and the Oregon Pioneer Association. Mr. Harvey G. Starkweather deserves special mention for his efforts in this matter. While president of the History Teachers' Section mentioned above, he brought the question of teaching Oregon history to the attention of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and helped to bring about the introduction of it as a subject of instruction as early as 1921."

Our own SDOP member and Past President, Nancy Hersey, is the daughter of Harvey G. Starkweather, and he was also a Past President of SDOP. She tells me he loved to tell stories of the pioneers..

### Loeb History

I didn't have to wonder where this little green volume had come from. I would bet it was from my grandfather, Alfred A. Loeb's library on Oregon history. A.A. Loeb (1879-1956) was an Oregon history buff and my mother, Betty Loeb Root, told me that her Dad took the family to Oregon history sites like the site of Fort Clatsop long before there were markers or restorations.

Some of you who have traveled to Brookings, Oregon may have visited the Alfred A. Loeb State Park on the Chetco River. Grandfather Loeb and Uncle Al Loeb's business dealt in shipping burls to American, German and French furniture makers and veneer mills, and was known in the 1930's as the United States' largest dealer in burls. Burls are the semi-spherical woody growths on trees with wavy, curly, or swirled grain patterns that are prized by furniture makers and woodworkers. The very large burls at the base of walnut, maple, Pacific Madrona, redwood and Oregon Myrtle trees were used. The walnut burls were often obtained from old walnut orchards that were going to be replaced in California. Only selected forest trees were used,

so the forest was largely still intact after harvesting burls.

When Grandfather bought a 160 acre section of land on the Chetco River for the myrtle burls there, he realized it was the largest stand and the biggest myrtle trees he had ever seen, and wished it to be preserved. He worked with the Save the Myrtlewood Association and the State Forestry Department to insure it became a park and other land was also donated to make up the park. The park, dedicated in 1949, includes oak, fir, maple and redwood as well as the myrtle trees which are unique to this area. Grandfather had a strong interest in preserving the beauty of Oregon and was a member of the Roadside Council who were engaged in preserving land along Oregon highways.

So if you visit this beautiful park on the Chetco River, you will now know how it came about, and also who Alfred A. Loeb was - the grandfather of the Root Sisters, our brother, Steve and great grandfather of Jacob Root of this newsletter!

-Diane Root

## New Speakers Bureau

At the SDOP Annual Banquet President-elect Drew Ackerslund announced the formation of a Speakers Bureau. The Speakers Bureau's mission is to meet with various civic groups and other organizations to promote Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers. In order to do this we are inviting interested SDOP members to contact a board member for information about joining the Bureau. We will meet with interested members and help them develop a comfort with delivering the SDOP story. To make it more interesting for speakers and audiences the speaker should mix their families story in with the SDOP story. We are also asking you to identify any group which may be interested in a SDOP presentation. Please help us spread the message about Oregon's Pioneers.

-Mel Fuller



Ellie and Noel Nelson at The Dalles

### Madame Dorion Dedication

The Madame Dorion Historical Marker Dedication on Saturday, May 10th, in Gervais Oregon was a huge success. It was the project of the Champoege Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. About 200 people gathered at the St. Louis Catholic Church to participate in the occasion that included a program of speeches in the church, followed by entertainment, refreshments and fellowship in the church hall. The marker is located to the left of the front steps of the church honoring "courageous pioneer, devoted loway mother, early Oregon settler" Marie Dorion who was buried under the original church building in September 1850.

Speakers included genealogist Connie Lenzen, DAR State Regent Ellen Hopkins, the 3rd great granddaughter of Marie Dorion - Jennifer Gobin-Bailes, and author Jane Kirkpatrick who wrote a poem for the celebration. Champoege Chapter members Karen Garst, Diane Root,



Kris Nelson and Lois Streimer also spoke, and Father Jeffrey Eirvin gave the blessing. Many people contributed to the project. Of special note are Roger and Brenda Howard of Gervais.

Authors Jane Kirkpatrick and Lenora Rain-Lee Good signed their books on Marie Dorion. Costumed interpreter Richard Cassidy attended as an Oregon trapper. "Madame Dorion wine" samples were given out, and posters of the project and of Jennifer Gobin-Bailes' lineage were admired. Attendees included church members, DAR members, SDOP members, those interested in Oregon history, and descendants of the Lemery family who gave the land for the church.



*Nancy Root Parker at our 1923 historical marker at Government Camp. It is across the street from the museum & was a shared project with DAR as the Samuel K. Barlow marker was placed by SDOP and Susannah Lee Barlow's was placed by DAR on the same rock.*





Calendar Events

Saturday, June 14, 2014 at 10:00 am

Annual Meeting for all SDOP members

Location: High Cliff Restaurant

602 7<sup>th</sup> Street

Oregon City, Oregon

Phone: 503-212—2008

Lunch: 12:00

Hope to see many members at both of these meetings. New Officers and some new board members are elected and installed at the June 14th Annual Board meeting.

Saturday, July 19, 2014 from 12:00-3:00 pm

Annual Picnic

Location: Pavilion at Champoeg State Park

Meeting prior to picnic at Drew's tent.

"DUES ARE DUE AGAIN"

Dues billings will be mailed during the Month of May for the fiscal year of June 15, 2014 to June 15, 2015. Regular Member is \$20.00 and Junior Member \$8.00. Life members - NO DUES!! Friends of SDOP are \$25.00

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:

SDOP NEWS

9549 Elizabeth Ct., Thornton, CO 80229

E-mail: jdrooter@yahoo.com

Designer: Jake Root

SDOP COMMITTEES 2013-2014

Banquet Committee Drew Ackerlund, Chris Meinicke, Ellie Nelson, Nancy Parker, Diane Root, Maryjane Davey

By-laws, Policy and Procedures Committee Nancy Parker

Finance Committee Mary Laws /Treasurer/ (& Jim!) Reggie Burke, Nancy Parker, Chris Meinicke, Diane Root, Drew Akerlund, and Marsha Ackerlund

Historian Committee Merle Miller, Nancy Parker

Membership Merle Miller (& Pat!)

MPO, Scholarship and Awards Committee Maryjane Davey, Nancy Parker, Diane Root, and Nancy Hersey

Nomination Committee Drew Ackerlund, Mel Fuller

Picnic Committee Drew Ackerlund Ellie Nelson, Dolores Egger

Roster Committee Mel Fuller

Public Relations/Fundraising Marsha Ackerlund

Volunteer Coordinator Ellie Nelson

Computer Support Cleve Parker

SDOP Newsletter Jacob Root: Designer jdrooter@yahoo.com

Diane Root: Editor

Sons & Daughters of Oregon Pioneers P.O. Box 6685, Portland, OR 97228

I am interested in:

- Membership Miss Pioneer Oregon Speakers' Bureau
Volunteering Awards (Junior or College) Serving on the Board

Please send my Newsletter via email at: Name:

Please accept my tax deductible donation of \$ Please send a receipt to me at email: or at address:

Please contact me at phone: or email:

Sons & Daughters of Oregon Pioneers is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization. Your contribution is tax allowed and you will receive a receipt for your tax records.

**Welcome New Members!**

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

**Life Member**

Kevin M. Baty	Andrew Jackson Baty – 1845
Pamela J. Bolton	Daniel Bolton – 1853
Maryjane E. Phillips Davey	Amelia Inman Groshong – 1853
Miranda Grace Davey	Amelia Inman Groshong – 1853
Charles A. DeJanvier	Jonathan January – 1853
Tyson Trevor Gruis	Isaac & Elizabeth Miller, Sr. – 1848
John P. King II	John P. King – 1853
Christine A. Fronk Meinicke	William H. Merriman – 1852

**Ancestor**

**Member**

Nikki L. Nelson Barton	Samuel Tucker – 1848
Geoffrey L. DeJanvier	Jonathan January – 1853
Duane E. King	John P. King - 1853

**Ancestor**

**Junior Member**

Olivia J. DeJanvier	Jonathan January – 1853
Daren S. King	John P. King – 1853

**Ancestor**

**Friends of SDOP**

Robert L. Hamm

**In Memoriam...**

Our sympathy is extended to the family of the following named member who has passed:



*Elna Brown Peach*



**NOTICE**

Have a great summer! We would love to hear about your adventures in the September issue!

**FOR SALE**

A New 2014 SDOP Membership Roster is for sale to the membership only.

You may own one for \$12.00, or \$15.00 includes postage for mailing.

Send check to: SDOP, PO Box 456  
La Grande, OR 97850-0456.

**Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers  
2013 - 2014**

**Officers**

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**Diane Root** Clackamas, OR familytreeroots@msn.com

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**SDOP Merchandise Available by Mail**

**SDOP 2013  
Membership  
Roster**

\$15.00 (includes S&H) This roster lists about 1000 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 in dark blue with a white mountain 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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