



SDOP NEWS

Newsletter of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

May 2015

Volume 44

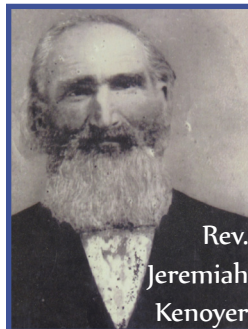
Issue 5

Founder's Day Celebration- May 2, 2015 at Champoeg State Heritage Area

When James K. Polk took the office of President of the United States in March of 1845 there were many "loose ends" regarding the fate of the territory that was known as Oregon Country. The May 2, 1843 vote at Champoeg decided for a Provisional Government leaning to American dominance for the territory and put writing on the wall for the English to clearly see. Not unlike the pronouncements of prior presidents J.Q. Adams and John Tyler, both advocates for the northern boundary of Oregon territory to be the 49th parallel, Polk's election platform called for "re-occupation" of Oregon and within nine months of taking office he requested congress for authority to establish a more generous boundary of Oregon including Vancouver Island-- 54-40 or fight! The English, through Lord Aberdeen, responded with the compromise boundary of the 49th parallel which Polk accepted on June 15, 1846.

Oregon would be American territory in 1848 and the period of "official" American territorial governance would begin as Provisional Governor George Abernethy would be superseded by Polk's appointee, Joseph Lane once congress finally passed a bill establishing Oregon as a territory in 1849. The period from 1848 to 1859 was a time of considerable activity, growth and economic development in Oregon. The Donation Land Grant of 1849 guaranteed 320 acres of public domain if settled before December 1, 1850 or 160 acres if settled before December 1, 1853.

All that as a backdrop to the meeting of T.J. Connor and Jeremiah Kenoyer in January 1852 and the beginning of the Preacher's Train which gathered 96 souls, 26 wagons, 300 cattle and numerous horses and met on the western shore of the Missouri, finally, on the 9th of May 1853 to begin west. Connor had been enlisted by the United Brethren Church (UB Church) to organize a "missionary" contingent to travel to Oregon Territory. In his book "Lest We Forget" A History of the Evangelical United Brethren Church in the Pacific Northwest, (Library of Congress 88-62844, published 1988)



Rev.
Jeremiah
Kenoyer

T.R. Buzzard references the diaries of Connor, a "scholarly, pastor-type man" and Kenoyer, who "was a big, rugged, out-door type, also a doctor and the grandson of Rev. J.G. Pfrimmer" and gives details about the six month travel of the "Preachers Train" to Oregon Territory. Connor was determined to include Kenoyer on this mission and when the pair arrived in Oregon Territory he and Kenoyer would divide the area that ran from California to Canada into two districts by a line running east and west from a point near the mouth of the Santiam River. Connor was in charge of the south district, called the Willamette, and Kenoyer led the north district, named the Yamhill. Although there were circuit riders from the UB Church already in the area, the formal districting for conferences was the initial step to imitate the mission and church structure of the eastern portion of the United States.

The Kenoyer wagon was comprised of his wife Elizabeth and their 7 young children—the youngest being only 3 weeks old when the family left home in Illinois headed for the gathering point at Council Bluffs Iowa. That littlest one was Louisa

Kenoyer, who survived the trip west, lived to be 97 years old and become my Great-great Grandmother. There are numerous stories about Louisa's father Jeremiah Kenoyer - primarily due to his position in the UB Church - that are recorded in the annals of the UB or in diaries and other documents that have survived the years. I'll include one here:

Jeremiah and Elizabeth Kenoyer's oldest son Firman born in 1841 was a 12 year old when the family traveled the Oregon Trail in 1853. In 1856 the young man announced to his parents that he dearly wanted to have the opportunity to go to college as "there are so many things I wish to learn". This got Jeremiah to thinking and developing a plan which led to the building of Sublimity College, a men's preparatory school which was chartered by the Territory government in 1857 and opened in 1858.

"Among the enthusiastic workers of the UB Church was John F. Brewer who at first located near Eugene. Later in search of more land for membership he found a place



Louisa Kenoyer Clavert
grave marker, Albion WA

between Aumsville and Stayton which gave promise of being able to support farmers on the broad level acres stretching through the area. Accordingly, he brought some of the Brethren from Benton County to settle west of Sublimity. Among those who Brewer introduced to the region was John Denny, a close friend of Rev. Jeremiah Kenoyer. Upon learning the object of the settlement near Sublimity, Kenoyer sold the land grant near Willamina he'd settled on upon arriving in Oregon Territory and accepted the gift of land from Mr. Denny in 1857. Rev. Kenoyer then moved the family near to the site of the college in Marion County where he could supervise the construction and later, the operations of the school, and proceeded to build a two-story frame building containing six rooms. It was a rectangular structure 18 x 35 feet surmounted by a small tower in which hung the traditional school bell. The outside was finished with good planed boards brought over muddy roads by team from a small sawmill near Jefferson, the only one then producing first-grade boards. Constructed in record time, the representative from the district, Mr. Shiel, introduced a Bill on December 12, 1857 in the Legislative Assembly at Salem to grant a charter for the new school. Sublimity College was formally opened on January 9th 1858." Sublimity, The Story of an Oregon Countryside, 1850 – 1950", by Mark Schmidt, copyright 1951 (pp 41-44)

Upon receiving its Charter, the Board of Directors of the college called the first Headmaster to the college, one Milton Wright, who later became a Bishop in the UB Church. Sublimity College gained fast notoriety for three things: its outstanding Latin department; its outstanding baseball team; and its Headmaster Milton Wright.

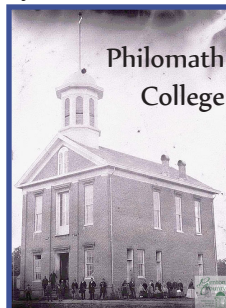
In early publications of the Oregonian, Milton Wright was noted as being a "scientific" type teacher who proposed and did a number of experiments dealing with balloons and rockets. Pretty wild stuff for 1859. Firman Kenoyer told his siblings and parents one night that they should stay up and witness a balloon launch. According to a diary account the family stayed up and watched "and when it went up it looked like a ball of fire; as it went higher its appearance became like a dim star." "Preachers, Farmers & Pioneers" by Elizabeth Kenoyer Davis, copyright 1971 (pp

81, 82) Wright stayed two years at Sublimity College, then moved to Indiana, married and fathered seven children, including Orville and Wilbur Wright, famous for inventing the airplane. Well, that explains that!

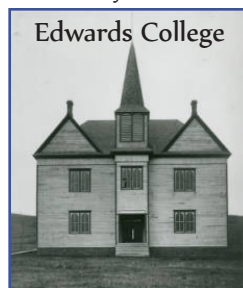
The Civil War lured young men away from the classroom and in 1862 Sublimity College was forced to shut down for a lack of enrollment; eventually the college was sold and the proceeds applied to Philomath College which was built in 1865. Philomath College continued as the only denominational college on the west coast for several decades and operated until 1929. The original Philomath College building now houses the Benton County Historical Society. Prior to his death in 1906 Jeremiah Kenoyer moved his family to Walla Walla and then Albion Washington, building a church in the former and both a church and college, Edwards College (1889) in the latter, continuing to fulfill his mission pledge of 1853 to represent the Yamhill District of the United Brethren Church. He, his wife Elizabeth, and many other relations, including Louisa Kenoyer Calvert, are at rest in the Albion Washington cemetery.

All this history is still talked about and celebrated both among SDOP members and around the State of Oregon. Take a drive to Champoege on May 2nd and see for yourself!

-Drew Ackerlund, President



courtesy Benton
County Museum



courtesy Whitman Co.
Historical Society

Book Talk & Signing

At the Hearth of the Crossed Races: A French-Indian Community in Nineteenth-Century Oregon, 1812-1859
by Melinda Marie Jetté

Wednesday, July 8 at 7 PM - Oregon Historical Society
Free and open to the public

The Oregon Historical Society & OSU Press invites you for the launch of Melinda Jetté's new book, At the Hearth of the Crossed Races. In this work, Jetté delivers a social history that deepens our understanding of the Oregon Country in the nineteenth century. This history of French Prairie provides a window into the multi-racial history of the Pacific Northwest and offers an alternative vision of early Oregon in the lives of the biracial French-Indian families whose community challenged notions of white supremacy, racial separation, and social exclusion.

Melinda Marie Jetté is a native Oregonian and a descendant of the French Canadian men and Native women who resettled French Prairie. The recipient of a M.A. in History from Université Laval and a Ph.D from the University of British Columbia, she is Associate Professor of History at Franklin Pierce University in New Hampshire.

April 18, 2015 Board Meeting Summary

The April Board meeting took place in Prineville Oregon at Crook County's Bowman Museum. Board Member and area resident Dawn Alexander introduced Museum Director Gordon Gillespie who in turn took SDOP attendees on a tour of the museum including the back rooms where artifacts are taken in and stored. SDOP made a donation to the Crook County Historical Society which runs the Bowman Museum.

The business meeting followed. Board Minutes from January 10, 2015 meeting were approved.



The March 31, 2015 Treasurers report was approved.

Committee Reports followed: Banquet: Mel Fuller presented his report from the 2015 Statehood banquet, noting that the final result was \$32 profit. **Nominating:** Mel presented a handout listing current positions and candidates to fill openings. Maryjane Davey and Amy Martin have volunteered to continue as board members after their terms expire this year. Although potential candidates have been spoken to, as of this meeting, the search for our next President Elect is yet underway. Mel mentioned that we need to focus on three "M's" Mission/Members/Money.

Technology and Membership Awareness Committee: Cleve Parker confirming that SDOP has now purchased through Hostgater a hosting site, and has secured the following domain names: OregonSDOP.org, OregonSDOP.com, and OregonSDOP.net. We intend to use .org, and direct traffic from .com and .net to .org. We are now in need of someone to build our site, which should start with a basic information including our Articles of Incorporation, By Laws, a number of past newsletters, and an application that folks could print out and send in.

By Laws, Policies & Procedures Committee: Nancy Parker presented the work of the committee, a draft of proposed policies and procedures. She walked us through the handout, which lists sections of our By Laws from Articles IV and VI in italics, each followed by the corresponding

proposed policies and procedures enumerating the duties and responsibilities of officers, the standing committees and the board of directors. This process establishes clarity of purpose and guidance based upon our By Laws and Standing Committees. Job descriptions were also discussed and it was noted over the years, the dynamics and needs of the Board caused some duties actually assigned to one officer or another to have been given/moved/accomplished by another. This is especially true in the case of the [heavy] work load of our current Membership Chair, an ex officio member of the board. The work of this committee and the desire of the board is to bring clarity to these issues and to assure that we are following the By Laws.

To which end, it was moved and seconded that the membership be asked at the annual meeting to amend the By Laws, Article VI, so the following committees be added as standing committees:

1. Events
2. Governance
3. Public Relations & Membership Development
4. Technology

It was also moved and seconded that the membership be asked at the annual meeting to amend the By Laws Article IV, Section 7 from "Membership Chair" to Membership Registrar. Both motions passed unanimously.



Official Notice to SDOP Membership:

The preceding Board recommended changes to SDOP's By Laws (see page 5) and will be presented for discussion and vote

at the Annual Membership meeting at the High Cliffs Restaurant, Oregon City, OR 97045 on June 13, 2015, 10am.

The meeting concluded with announcements that SDOP would have representation at Champoege State Heritage Area for Founder's Day will be held May 2, 2015. All members are invited to attend this annual event commemorating the historic vote of the 52 men who, in 1843, voted for the first territorial government west of the Rocky Mountains. This significant vote led to the inclusion of the Oregon Country into the United States, westward expansion and eventual Statehood for Oregon. Upcoming dates: Annual Membership Meeting, June 13, 2015 and Annual Picnic is confirmed for July 18, 2015 from 12 to 3 pm, at the Pioneer Pavilion Champoege State Heritage Area.

The oldest event at the Champoeg Heritage

Area: Founders Day is coming up on May 2, 2015.

FHC is organizing for the celebration, and we are asking for your participation. The theme for this year's event focuses on the event being an old fashioned picnic event. Visitors to the event will be encouraged to bring their own picnic baskets. FHC will be assisting Oregon Parks and Recreation in providing logistics support by helping to set up for the event and clean up after the event. Additionally, FHC will be providing the visitors with beverages and cookies.

Please volunteer to help out at the event by notifying us at admin@champoeg.net.

Our program will follow closely to last year's. There will be a Boy Scout color guard followed by a greeting/introduction by Chief Interpretive Ranger Dan Klug followed by a welcome from Park Manager Ryan Sparks. A couple of invited dignitaries will make short speeches followed by a reading of the names of the 52 voters of provisional government. After the reading of each name a ship's bell will be rung once in their honor. Following the roll call of names costumed interpreters dressed as mountain men will fire a volley salute with their flintlock muskets. Hopefully folks will want to stay for a group photo. As always volunteers are sought after for help with set up and take down. If you have any questions or want more information please feel free to contact me at the numbers below.

Daniel Klug, Interpretive Park Ranger
 Champoeg State Heritage Area
 office 503-678-1251 ext 222 * park cell 503-551-7808

2015 Annual Picnic Saturday, July 18

Be sure to attend the Annual SDOP Picnic at Champoeg State Park. This year's picnic promises to be entertaining. Plan on meeting new members and come prepared to exchange information with others about your pioneer ancestors. If you wish, bring photographs and other items to display. Non-members welcome.

WHEN: Saturday, July 18, 1915, from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm.
WHERE: Champoeg State Park Pavilion. Ask at main gate for directions to the Pavilion.
FEE: Entry into the Park requires a \$5 daily-use fee per car.
FOOD: Please bring a potluck food item (salad, meat dishes, main dish, or bread item, etc.) to share with all. OK to bring food items from stores and delicatessens. Bring your own beverages and place settings. Plates and coffee will be provided. The picnic tables are under cover and close to each other - easy to visit with everyone.

Nominees for this year's Officers and Board positions

We have two positions yet to fill, the President-Elect and an open Board position due to a retirement. Your historical society, Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers, needs your help to continue our good works as Commissioned by the original Sons and Draughts of Oregon Pioneers. We need your help to Memorialize, Celebrate and Educate the public about their accomplishments. Be someone who helped make the things you read about in the Newsletter something you did.

Thanks so much for your continuing support of SDOP.
-Mel Fuller, Nomination Committee

Our list of nominations as it currently stands:

OFFICE	NOMINEE
Board member 2016	Dave Thompson
2016	Dolores Egger
2016	Merle Miller
Board member 2017	Reggie Burke
2017	Dawn Alexander
2017	Cleve Parker
Board member 2018	Maryjane Davey
2018	Amy Martin
2018	Open
Correspondence secretary	Chris Meinicke
Immediate Past-President	Drew Ackerslund
Newsletter editor	Dane Root
Newsletter email publisher	Jacob Root
President	Mel Fuller
President-Elect	Open
Secretary	Rachel Janzen
Treasurer	Mary Laws
Volunteer Coordinator	Ellie Nelson
Membership Registrar	Merle Miller

NAME TAGS: Name tags will be provided. If you wish, bring your own fancy name tag and include the year or years your ancestors arrived, pioneer ancestor names, etc.

PROGRAM: The gathering is informal. Starting at noon, everyone socializes and eats lunch at 12:30. At about 2:00, the program begins with the invocation and pledge of allegiance followed by introductions and a few very short speeches. Entertainment will follow.

PARK ATTRACTIONS: Be sure to visit the Park Visitor

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Sons and Daughters of the Oregon Pioneers

To Be Considered at the Annual Meeting
June 13, 2015 – High Cliff Restaurant – Oregon City, Oregon

Proposed deletions are indicated by ~~strikeout~~.

Proposed additions are indicated by **bolding and underlining**.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

SECTION 7 - DIRECTORS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall be composed of nine Directors at large, the President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Membership Chair **Registrar** and Immediate Past President shall be ex officio members of the Board. The Board is responsible to the membership for all decisions and actions of the corporation. All members of the Board, including ex officio members, are entitled to vote.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

SECTION 1 - SELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

The President shall appoint chairpersons of the Nominating and Finance Committees within sixty days after the Annual Meeting. Each committee shall exist only until it has served its purpose or until a new committee is appointed.

The President will also appoint the following Standing Committees:

a. Events

b. Governance

c. Public Relations and Membership Development

d. Technology

The President may appoint ad hoc committees as needed

Center, which offers historical displays, museum store and tours. Also, visit the Provisional Government monument in front of the Pavilion, and the old Champoeg town site. The DAR Mothers' Cabin has been moved to the Newell House Pioneer complex at the intersection near the Visitor Center.

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS TO CHAMPOEG STATE PARK:

From I-5 take Exit No. 278 near Donald. Travel west on Ehlen Road and follow the Champoeg Park signs to the Park entrance (about 6 miles from I-5).

This was written by Elizabeth Kelly, my great-aunt on her mom's 90th birthday. It was printed (probably in the Oregon City Enterprise) on Friday, April 27, 1934. (I have the date, but not the paper's name.

Joni Walker

Mrs. Kelly Honored on 90th Anniversary

Mrs. Catherine Kelly, well known Oregon City pioneer, residing at Ninth & Washington, was remembered by her many friends Thursday when reaching her 90th year. Being a charter member of St. Paul's Guild of the Episcopal Church, this organization remembered her with a birthday card shower. She also received other greeting cards, gifts, telegrams, and a cablegram, beside being honored by a number of friends calling at the Kelly home during the day. Adding pleasure to the day was the cablegram from her son, H. Leighton Kelly of the Hawaiian Islands, announcing his improvement from a serious illness.

Mrs. Kelly's pioneer life was filled with interesting incidents. She ate her first Sunday dinner in Oregon City in a log cabin on the property now owned by the Episcopal Church at 9th & Water Streets. She remembers walking to church one beautiful Easter morning soon after her marriage, arm and arm with her husband, the late Hercules L. Kelly. She says they were astounded to see all the churches draped in black, as it was Easter. Arriving at the Episcopal Church door, they found a group of men proceeding to drape that church also in black on account of receiving news of Lincoln's assassination. Mr. Kelly at once refused to allow the men to use the black in decorating the church commanding they wait until Monday morning. She claims there almost resulted a fight over this, as feelings ran high in those days. There were threats to throw the church into the river she claims, but Mr. Kelly held firm that it would be sacrilege to drape the church in black on Easter Sunday, and that no matter how lamentable and tragic was the death of Abraham Lincoln, that Easter day was a much more important event in the world's history and must not be dishonored.

Mrs. Kelly is the only person now living in Oregon City who has had the honor of seeing Dr. John McLoughlin, whom she well remembers.

Mrs. Kelly comes from a military family. Her uncle fought with General Harrison in the Indian Wars against Black Hawk. She crossed the plains in the early days and has spent

continued on page 6



Calendar Events

May 2, 2015 Saturday

Founder's Day

Location: Champoeg State Heritage Area

Time: 1:00 - 2:30

June 13, 2015 Saturday

Annual Meeting

Location: High Cliff Restaurant

602 7th St.

Oregon City, OR 97045

(503) 212-2008

Time: 9:30-9:50 am Registration

10:00 Annual Meeting

12:00 Lunch

All SDOP members invited!

July 18, 2015 Saturday

Annual Picnic

Location: Champoeg State Heritage Area

Time: 9:30 Board Meeting at

Rebecca's Tea Room at Newell House

12:00 Meet and Greet at

Champoeg Park Pavilion

12:30 Potluck *Save the date!*

Take pictures at these two events and share them in the September issue of SDOP News!



from page 5

the larger part of her life in Oregon City, arriving here when the city's site was a forest.

NOTE:

The Abbott family began their journey from Council Bluff, Iowa in 1850 to Oregon. The family consisted of John Vance Abbott & wife Keturah, daughter's Catherine (6) and Amanda (5). They stopped along the way for 2 years in Utah as her father suffered from "consumption" and needed to rest. While there a son, John Abbott Jr. was born. The Abbott's arrived in OC in 1852. Father John Vance Abbott died in 1855 leaving the family of now 4 children and one to be born after his death. Catherine's mom suffered from "brain fever" and was made a ward of the courts. The children were given out to other Oregon City families. Catherine married Hercules LaTourette Kelly in 1863. He is also from the early LaTourette family of Oregon City.

79TH ANNUAL JOSEPH HARRIS-MARY ANN STURGIL REUNION JUNE 21st 2015, FATHERS DAY

Smoked turkey and ham provided * bring a dish to share * 9am coffee and donuts * silent auction and raffle * family meeting

Families include: Fine, Harris, Huffman, Knight, McKinnis, Morelock and Sturgil: decendants and friends

Pleasant Grove Grange Hall, Summerville, Oregon

June 20th: Geneology session also at the Grange, 4pm

Drinks provided * bring snacks to share

More information: viscalla@aol.com (360) 336-3426

Sons & Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

P.O. Box 6685, Portland, OR 97228

I am interested in:

- Membership
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- Miss Pioneer Oregon
Awards (Junior or College)

- Speakers' Bureau
Serving on the Board

Please send my Newsletter via email at: Name:

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Place your business ad or announcement!

Contact Diane Root, editor: familytreeroots@msn.com

Welcome New Members!

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

<u>Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Colleen M. Maxfield Daniels	Theresa Carter Ellis – 1847
Sean P. Brooks	Jonathan Keeney – 1846
Glenn D. Reasoner	Jacob Reznor – 1812
William K. Stinson	Carrol Jackson Sears – 1852
Christina J. Tucker	John Griffin Richardson – 1851
Cindy J. Tucker Walton	John Griffin Richardson – 1851

In Memoriam...

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



Marjorie B. Moffet Dunten



Seeking Webmaster

SDOP invites you to apply as the organization's Webmaster. *Please contact Mel Fuller at mel_fuller@att.net for more information and a complete description of responsibilities.*

Seeking Publicist

SDOP is actively recruiting a publicist to lead in developing and monitoring public relations activities for SDOP. Duties to include writing and delivering press releases, coordinating affiliate member calendars with SDOP members relations and posting relative news bits in newsletter. *Please email drewackerlund@gmail.com for more information.*

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: jakerootgraphics@gmail.com
Designer: Jake Root

- Sept. submissions are due by Aug. 21st. -
Have a great summer!

2014 - 2015 Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

Officers

President **Drew Ackerlund** Hillsboro, OR
(503) 730-0930 drew@madeinoregontwice.com

President Elect **Mel Fuller** Lake Oswego, OR
(503) 344-4564 mel_fuller@att.net

Secretary **Rachel Janzen** Happy Valley, OR
(503) 761-8781 rjanzen@comcast.net

Treasurer **Mary Laws** Gresham, OR
(503) 667-9293 jandmlaws@aol.com

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Newsletter

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SDOP Merchandise Available by Mail

**SDOP 2015
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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