

## July 2018

## **President's Desk**

Hello Members!

As your new President, 1 thought I'd introduce myself. 1 have been a member since a very young age, when my father, Kenneth R. Jette Jr, enrolled my siblings and 1 many years ago.

Although he passed away in February of 2013, his love of history and family live on. My father truly practiced the mission of SDOP to keep "the spirit, memories, and stories of our forebears alive for future generations". He passed his extensive family knowledge of our pre-Oregon Trail Quebecois, Scots, and Metis ancestors on to us, as well stories of our later Irish, English and German ancestors who came to Oregon by train.

With a degree in History from University of Portland, my father had a nuanced view of history. It wasn't always "the good old days". His stories included the difficulties faced by our ancestors which included financial, racial, social and personal problems throughout their lives. These revelations gave us food for thought and in turn, influenced our lives. For example, my sister Professor Melinda Marie Jette has written a book on the French-Indian community of Champoeg, while my daughter Summer Jette-Gray was Miss Pioneer Oregon in 2010. I'm so happy to continue my father's legacy as an SDOP Board member and now the 2018/2019 President!

As part of my Board duties, I manage the SDOP Instagram and Twitter accounts. Both of these social media platforms are a treasure trove of information! One example from our Twitter feed includes a link to The Library of Congress - Humanities which has a searchable index of digitized newspapers from 1789-1963 (the Rogue River Journal included!) Link here: https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/ Anyone with internet access may follow us on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/oregonsdop/ and on Twitter at https://twitter.com/OregonSdop Don't forget our other important web links: The SDOP Facebook account lists our

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meetings, other local events of Oregon Territory as well as fascinating historical tidbits from members and others https://www.facebook.com/SDOPOregon Of course we have our main website, which is a one stop index of all the links above, members only pages, applications for Miss Pioneer Oregon/Scholarships, and contact information for Board Members http://oregonsdop.org/ (Please note, if you get the SDOP Newsletter by email, the links are live and you can click on them to go to any one of them you'd like to check out!)

I also want to take a moment to recognize my fellow Board members for their enthusiasm, incredible expertise and willingness to volunteer at events. Most importantly however, I thank them for the collegiality needed for a thriving organization. Our next meeting will be on September 22, in Echo, OR. Look for details in this newsletter or on our Facebook page. I am looking forward to exchanging family stories with you all at upcoming events!

P.S. Shout out to Mel Fuller, SDOP Past President who led our intrepid Grand Floral Rose Parade team entry to a First Place win in the Carriage division! (Photos on our Facebook page courtesy of Board Member Cleve Parker!)

-Catherine (Katie) Jette, President SDOP



## July 2018

## **SDOP** News





#### **SDOP** News

## SDOP Board Meeting July 14, 2018 Pioneer Pavilion – Champoeg State Park Officers Reports:

Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report were given. Committee Reports:

**Membership Registrar Report:** Merle mentioned that he has several applications that he will be processing.

**Events Committee:** Chris; Time to determine dates/locations for 2018/2019 meetings-

September 29th Echo; November 10th Spaghetti Factory Clackamas; January 12th TBA, possibly Heidi's in Gresham; February 16th Annual Banquet; April 13th Museum of the Oregon Trail in Oregon City; June 22nd National Historic Oregon Interpretive Center Baker City; July 13th Annual SDOP Picnic Champoeg State Park.

**Newsletter Editor:** Diane gave an update on the July newsletter and for us to give any items ASAP so they will be included. She also mentioned that she has heard from Ted Kay about Lewis and Clark Heritage foundation .We are hoping to trade ads/link in our newsletters and websites to have more exposure for both organizations. Nancy made a motion that we pursue developing a relationship with the Oregon Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. Motion passed.

**New Business:** Reggie will be getting the new logo on several items so be watching the trading post on the website. She brought a couple of items with the new logo for the sales table today at the picnic.

Janet, Mel and Dawn have been interviewed for the 1859 Oregon magazine, which is doing a feature story of the 175th Oregon Trail anniversary in their fall issue.

Janet asked Grace if she is available to be in the Beaverton parade on Sept. 3rd. She is checking on that and will get back to us.

Mel asked if we are interested in pursuing attendance in the Rose Festival parade for 2019. There was some discussion about our success and fun this year. Mel made a motion to fundraise this coming year to raise money and participate in the 2019 parade. Motion passed.



## **Melvin Lee Brown**

Melvin Lee Brown passed away on September 29, 2017. His great grandparents were Anna E. Miller and Silas R. Smith who arrived in Oregon in 1857. He was an Aerospace Mathematical Engineer, also a pilot. He flew small airplanes. Born in Los Angeles on February 16, 1939, local



to the Central Coast, San Luis Obispo County, California, he had also lived in Utah. He lived an active healthy life and was rarely ever sick. He fought for his life when diagnosed with prostate cancer and he extended his living years when doctors told him otherwise. Dad is our Champion and role-model to make life happen the best you know how. His favorite sayings, "To retire, you need to stop wanting more things..." and "money isn't everything but I am sure a lot happier when I have some in my pocket".

My father comes from a long line of Smith families, Miller families, and Gibson families from Oregon. Anna E. Miller (Smith) and Silas R. Smith (great grandparents) and a great uncle James D. Miller that was a steamboat operator are just a few names off the family list. Many families arrived much earlier than Anna and Silas with a lot of children scattered throughout Oregon during the day. There are too many families to mention, some stayed in Oregon, some moved to California.

Our father lived his life so well, always smiling and had the best positive attitude. He loved sailing the ocean, built brand new homes, was a champion table tennis player, vegan/healthy eater, researcher, teacher, business owner, Aerospace Mathematical Engineer for Lockheed, Northrop, and McDonald Douglas in CA. He traveled throughout the U.S. many times. The special thing about our father, he loved talking to people and had a gentle spirit about him. The last 8 years he spoke a lot about his family history and what he remembered as a child and his pride and joy of his Oregon ancestry heritage. He made his home in Shell Beach, CA for many, many years with his wife Emma and his children. It seemed our Dad loved everything about life itself..., taking the time petting goats, walking many miles for exercise, offering a donations to the Salvation Army during the holidays, and taking the time to listen to the birds sing. Most of all, he loved his wife dearly and he was a wonderful father. Happy Oregon Trails Dad..., you'd better slow down, so your family can catch up to you. :)

We love & miss you!

Emma, Kandie, Glenn, Nancy, Christopher, Alex, Carlos, Daniel, Brian -Kandie Brown

#### **SDOP** News

## July 2018

#### **4th Grade Essay Winners**

The impact that the pioneers have made today because of their journey through the Oregon Trail have affected our lives in many ways. Our own determination, spirit, character and impact on our culture today was because of the pioneers and their long journey. This was shown through their own struggles for food and clothing, learning about different cultures, and surviving the hard times.



**1st Place - Maddox Johns** 

The Pioneer spirit and determination has shaped our

characters today in the way to have goals and not to give up. When the pioneers traveled through the terrain and mountains it was hard and scary at times. When it was cold and the mountains were covered in snow the men took care of the women and children by providing safety and a warm place to sleep. They did this by collecting wood and buffalo chips to keep a fire started. They not only cared for their families, but also the horses too. They would bring blankets for them so they did not get frost bite during the winter months when it snowed heavily.

Through the confrontations and trades of the Indians the white man learned about the different culture. This helped them learn many new things to stay alive and help their family. The trappers and traders and their families came from diverse backgrounds, because of this when the trade grew there were many various working jobs. (High Desert Museum, 2018, p.3). It was simple times, but harsher living for them, than we have now. During the Oregon Trail children could not bring all their toys, pets, and friends. They could only bring bare essentials, such as food, clothes and maybe a small toy. The High Desert Museum (2018, p. 8), says "the wagon in which they traveled could carry enough supplies for five people." It would take 4 to 6 months to travel through the mountains and across the plains. Since the children did not have electronics like we do today, such as cell phones, computers, and 1-pads, they had to use their imagination. An example of the children using their imaginations would be when they would find buffalo chips and use them as Frisbees. Like the kids today using plastic Frisbees, but using their imaginations to compromise and make it a game. This shows that the children's spirits were not broken because of the traveling. They were able to help their parents and still have fun. The children would not have

a lot of clothes like we do today. They would only get a few pairs of clothes and they would sometimes have to sleep in them too.

This shows that they lived very practically throughout this time. The goals they accomplished by traveling the long 2,000 —mile journey through the rough terrain showed that the pioneers would not give up. The stories live on and continue to have a change on people and the lives they live today.

Reference High Desert Museum. (2018). Frontier Days. Deschutes Cultural Coalition. Brochure.

#### 2nd Place - Allison Glaze

To me, pioneer spirit means not only taking care of family, but everyone around us who needs our help. But is also means never giving up on your goal. This is exactly what the Oregon pioneers had to do in order to survive the treacherous Oregon Trail. They helped each other through dangerous times,



and the ones who believed in pioneer spirit, not only made it to Oregon, but made it into history.

The pioneers went through absolutely deadly events on the journey, so they definitely had to be very determined if they were to make it to the unknown territory. If they happened to be in the mountains during winter, they normally had to deal with disasters like heavy snow and hail, so only the courageous pioneers who would keep pushing to reach Oregon were successful on their journey.

I recently finished reading The Diary of Hattie Campbell, in the story, Hattie has to travel far from home to reach Oregon with her family. I think Hattie has a true spirit of a pioneer because even though she went through many difficult times, she did everything she possibly could to support her family. She took care of her siblings and helped all the wagon companies around her. She even helped her least favorite person, Mrs. Bigg, because she was willing to be so kind hearted.

If the emigrants on the Oregon Trail did not possess pioneer spirit, they most likely did not survive. Believe it or not, a pioneer's attitude has a very big impact on their success. Some didn't believe in themselves or others enough, so they most likely did not succeed on their quest. The continued from page 4

unpositive pioneers usually died or became very ill. Others made it to Oregon because they were helpful and positive. They were rewarded for their actions.

I am grateful for the pioneers because without them, so many people wouldn't be here today. The families who made it to Oregon were part of the creation of Oregon. Now, they are our ancestors because of their offspring. The pioneers affected the population of Oregon, so thanks to the pioneers and their spirit, Oregon is a larger and happier place.

The very best pioneers were brave. Some of the pioneers courageous genetics passed down all the way to Oregonians living now! The pioneers raised their children with courage and bravery which passed down from family to family. Now, so many of us are brave, caring, and take risks. Because of the pioneers, many people in Oregon have truly caught the pioneer spirit, and I believe that through generations, that exact spirit will live on.

## SDOP Board Meeting June 23, 2018

## Ft. Vancouver, the Visitor Center

## Officers Reports:

Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report were given. President's Elect Report: Katie gave a Banquet report-We ended up \$15.56 to the good. Katie is checking into Willamette Woolen Mills in Salem as a possible venue for banquet. No costs yet, will report in July or September. Katie made up a procedure sheet/timeline of things to do for the banquet. Picnic: Pavilion is reserved, the room will be open for our meeting. Bob Hill would like to speak at our picnic about events at the End of the Oregon Trail, on Sat. and Sun. August 25th and 26th.

Guests Collen and Randle Salsberry introduced themselves

as new members <u>Committee Reports:</u> Information Technology Reports: Data base-Mel Fuller; Webmaster-Cleve Parker- Mel made note



that we made \$15.00 on our first transaction, a roster was sent out. Proceeds from sales will go into the fund for the website. Mel then showed our website: My Oregon Territory, that communicates information about our ancestors. The tabs include: home, members, ancestors, and pioneers. Information on it now is what we got from the State of Oregon and our own database. Currently we have 3 pages which is free version of Caspio under 250 megabytes of data transfer. If we exceed the 250 then will need to pay. Cleve made a motion to instruct the incoming budget committee to budget approx. \$70.00 per month and for Mel to be able to access that when the time arrives that we need more megabytes. Katie 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Cleve mentioned that we now have 622 likes 649 following on Facebook.

**Social media:** Katie will be posting information about other states' archives (logs, pictures, etc.).

**Events Committee**: Chris - Assignments for the picnic: Storage unit items, Cleve; Coffee Ellie; cold drinks Thompsons, bottled water Chris; Chris will be purchasing some new tablecloths; speakers, microphone and extension cord Cleve; badges Marsha; Set up Katie, Janet, Ellie. At the next meeting bring your calendars to set up meeting dates for 2018-19, and bring ideas for meeting locations at historical sites: Possibilities- Museum of the Oregon Territory, the National Historic Oregon Interpretive Center in Baker City, or Echo Oregon. There's a new museum in Benton Co., Howell House at the Rose Farm in Oregon City, Forest Grove at the Tabitha Moffit Brown House.

Marshall house is free, Pearson Air museum is free. **Newsletter Editor:** Diane – reported that Nancy Hersey had called and was so thrilled with the parade, she had so much

fun! We may or may not have a July newsletter, Jacob's computer has died. Jacob got information from Judith Goldman, that the gravesite of the four children of the



Meek family has been purchased (92 acres) to put buildings for a data center on. The new owners have said they will dedicate a memorial spot. Cleve made a motion that Chris and Katie work on a letter to send letter to the president of the Hillsboro City Planning Commission to let them know that we are strongly opposed to this idea. Joye' W. 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Mel brought up the issue that returned emails suggesting that every once in a while in the newsletter we have a mention of lost member contacts and that if anyone with information about these people would let us know, i.e. moved, death, etc.

Awards and Scholarships committee: Dawn – Reported on the 4th grade essay contest. Maddox Johns from Redmond, and Allison Glaze from Hillsboro were this year's winners. Maddox will be at the picnic to receive his award. There was notice on Facebook and the Redmond Spokesman about his winning the contest.

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## Calendar Events

Please Note all SDOP members are invited to all meetings, especially the meetings that take in historical tours and/or guest speakers.

September 29, 2018 Board Meeting Location: Echo, OR Noember 10, 2018 Board Meeting Location: Spaghetti Factory, Clackamas, OR Janury 12, 2019 Board Meeting

Location: TBA (Gresham, OR?)

## February 16, 2019

Annual Meeting and Statehood Banquet

## April 13, 2019

Board Meeting Location: Oregon City, OR

## June 22, 2019

Board Meeting

Location: Baker City, OR

July 13, 2019

Annual SDOP Picnic

Location: Champoeg State Park Pavillion

## **Donations to SDOP**

Betty Johnson \$300.00 Rose Parade Sharon Cranford \$100.00 Rose Parade Anonymous \$100.00 **Rose Parade** Mary Anice Howard Roe \$5.00 Rose Parade **Rose Parade** Nancy Wilson \$50.00 **Rose Parade** Kay Mannion \$50.00 given in memory of Rev. Philip Conditi (1854) Patricia Waitman-Ingebretsen \$10.00 General Fund given in memory of Grier Ingebretsen Hallie Lahti \$25.00 General Fund Glen Jones General Fund \$20.00



**SDOP** News is published six times a year (July, September, November, January, March, and May) by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers. Please send newsletter inquires and submissions to Jake Root:

E-mail: JakeRootGraphics@gmail.com

- September submissions are due by August 17th. - *Photos and articles welcome from all members!* 

**Digitizing committee:** Marsha had sent an email out to sign up for times to help scan items. Let her know if you can help with this.

**Public Relations:** Joy - sent out an email about the Parade for the Donald Hazelnut Parade on July 14th, 10:00 staging, 11:00 for parade. Aurora Colony Days Parade on August 11th. Joy reported that she has not heard back from AM Northwest. There was 'On this Day in History' in The Oregonian that the SDOP was incorporated, June 13th.

Joy mentioned that she was at the Wallowa County Museum, and met curator Anne Hays, they used to have a Wallowa County Pioneers Assn. but it is not active now. She was very interested in our organization. Mel will put them on the newsletter mailing list.

Rose Parade committee: Mel- Presented the awards we

received from the parade. A blue rosette ribbon and the Traveling trophy for the Best Horse-Drawn Wagon or Carriage- will have our name on it. This will be on display at the picnic. Specialty Carriage is willing to do it again next year for us.



Nancy made a motion that we add the write up on the banquet procedures/

timeline to our policies and procedures document. Motion passed.

## <u>New Business:</u>

Janet thanked her board members for their hard work this year and then passed the gavel on to Katie. SDOP Officers for 2018-19: President-Katie Jette, President Elect-open position, Secretary- Dawn Alexander, Treasurer-Cleve Parker

# Please mark your calendars for next year's SDOP Annual Picnic on July 13, 2019!!

Attendance is down and we would really like to see more of you come and enjoy our potluck and program. Perhaps the high temperature forecast for our 2018 picnic discouraged some of you, but remember the Champoeg State Park Pavilion is right on the bank of the Willamette River surrounded by shade trees. We had a cool breeze off the river and it never reached the projected 92 degrees. In fact, it only began to feel really warm about 2:30 when this editor's car registered 86 degrees leaving the park.

Our 2019 program included MPO Grace Irving; Bob Hill, who told us about upcoming events in Oregon City; presentation of the 4th grade essay contest awards; Judy Goldmann's information on preserving the Meek children's *continued on page 7* 

### July 2018

## Welcome New Members!

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

New Member Gary E. Mertz

Richard W. Phillips – 1853 Robert L. Hill (Reinstated) Barbara V. Settle Selig Jennifer Elaine Warmington Wagner

### Member

Abdul-Hameed S. Al-Nassar Belinda J. Evenson Alnassar Katherine Ann Imbrie Campbell

## Ancestor

Ancestor

Milton Young - 1847

Daniel Matheny Sr. –

1843

George Darch – 1840 George Darch – 1840 Charles Edward Fendall -1843 Oliver J. Bales - 1850 Robert Dale Goshorn Dawn M. Griffin James & Perlina Thompson – 1852 Darleen R. Wiggin Gunderson Hannah Ann Haynes – 1853 Leslie L. Holt Monique Plourde – 1841 Bonnie L. Frady Johnson John Chamberlain – 1847 Ronald A. May Charles Pope – 1850 Billie Jean Howard McGonegal Joseph LaRochburne – 1828 Robin S. Ray Murphy Soloman Eads – 1844 Lyla Joan Potter-Fling John Bright Potter – 1853 Connie L. Revenue Selzler Francis Revenue – 1853 Wanda I. Breeding Taylor Robert Carl Breeding - 1851 Junior Member Ancestor Kellen John Campbell Charles Edward Fendall – 1843 Friends of SDOP Bob & Sharon McElrov

### In Memoriam...

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



Melvin Lee Brown Jolene K. Phelps Bean



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graves; and another wonderful presentation by Greg Leo, this time on the 175th Oregon Trail Anniversary. We all learned some more fascinating Oregon history from Greg. Drew Ackerlund also conducted a sign making activity for the children. We hope you will come and enjoy next year's program.

We have a wonderful large membership, but for those of you who live close enough to Champoeg State Park in St. Paul, Oregon, we would love to see many more of you at the picnic (and February Banquet). Also, don't forget all of our meetings are open to members, and you are very welcome to -Diane Root attend.

is and Daughters Tavenor Beale – 1853 \* Officers \* President Elect Catherine "Katie" lette Portland, OR (503) 601-6011 katie@snabulus.com President Elect open Secretary Dawn Alexander Redmond, OR (541) 504-9322 dmalex@289msn.com **Cleve Parker** Clackamas, OR Treasurer (971) 300-6000 moosegarden@msn.com \* Board Members \*

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