

**Call to Action for all Members!**

At the Annual Picnic in July, speaker Judith Goldmann spoke about the future development of the property containing a site of historical importance to Oregon history. Here are the basic facts:

“QTS, a Kansas based data hosting company has purchased 92 acres, including the tract where the Methodist Meeting House and the burials of four children of Joseph and Virginia Meek are buried. In their very preliminary plans [for...] a data center, [the] company has set aside a portion of land for a ‘memorial’, following a promise made by the Mayor of Hillsboro 2003. However, the space offered is not near the traditional site of the Meeting House and the burials. The prospective site set aside is in the northwest, not the southwest corner, and is shown as an unacceptable long narrow plat.”

The Board has composed a letter urging the placement of the marker at the traditional site of the burial. In addition, I encourage members to write individual letters to convince decision makers of the importance of saving this site. Letters may be addressed to:

Hillsboro City Planning

Andrew Crampton

150 E. Main Street

Hillsboro, OR 97123

or email [andrew.crampton@hillsboro-oregon.gov](mailto:andrew.crampton@hillsboro-oregon.gov)

Further detailed information can be provided to members by email /phone if requested (my contact information is provided under the current Board Officers listing).

This situation highlights the need to save and recognize historical places and/or buildings for future generations. There are several organizations and people in Oregon who attempt to do just that. I'd like to share a few of those here:

Lower Columbia Preservation – <https://www.lcpsociety.org/>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/lcpsocie>

Restore Oregon - <https://www.restoreoregon.org>

See here for their advocacy on their Pioneer homes

<https://restoreoregon.org/reuse-study/>

Positively Portland – Offering walking historical architectural tours of Portland & environs: Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/positivelyportlandwalkingtours/> Pioneer history and places are often referenced in tours. Web site link in bio!

Finally, a sad loss, the 80 plus year-old Charles Nelson clapboard farm house was lost in the recent Wasco County Substation fire. Pre-fire picture here courtesy of OPB Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/BLZNFa4hxuE/?hl=en&taken-by=opbphoto>

CORRECTION: In my last missive, I incorrectly stated the next meeting in Echo OR was Sept. 22, but the correct date is Sept. 29 (as was listed correctly under the Calender of Events section in the July newsletter)

P. S. Many thanks to Board Member Nancy Root Parker who composed the Board outreach letter to the Hillsboro Planning Department!

*-Catherine (Katie) Jette – President*



Echo, Oregon

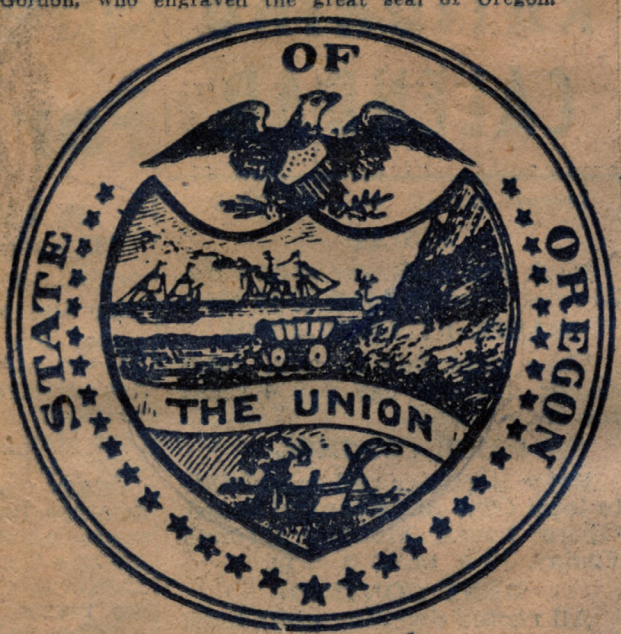
## History of the Oregon State Seal

Our long time SDOP member, 1946 MPO and Past President, Nancy Hersey, had mentioned that her great uncle, Harvey Gordon, designed the Oregon State Seal. The Oregon Blue Book states that "A committee composed of three prominent Oregonians presented the design for the seal to the Constitutional Convention of 1857. The design chosen was submitted by Harvey Gordon (1828-1862), who was by profession a surveyor." It was used after Oregon became a state on February 14, 1859, and a 33rd star was added for Oregon. Nancy has kindly shared the following article written by her father and published in *The Oregonian* in February 1946.

-Diane Root

**Oregon's Symbols**  
By HARVEY GORDON STARKWEATHER

Mr. Starkweather was named for his uncle, Harvey Gordon, who engraved the great seal of Oregon.



I ask you to look at the Oregon state seal here pictured. Every symbol in the emblem has historic meaning.

The 33 stars indicate that this was the 33d state to enter the Union.

The American eagle spreading his wings over embodiment of the symbols of the state represents the Union enfolding Oregon in the United States.

The ocean scene showing the British man-of-war departing and an American steamer arriving depicts the early settlements and the cessation of the joint occupancy of the country by Great Britain and the United States. History recalls that President Polk, though selected on the issue of "fifty-four forty or fight" as the Northwest boundary of the United States, offered a compromise, 49 degrees latitude to the British government.

This ended joint occupancy of Oregon by America and Britain.

The mountain with an elk standing on a ledge indicates that our Oregon mountains abound with noble game.

The covered wagon is in memory of the means of transportation used by Oregon pioneers. Some authorities have estimated that as many as 350,000 people followed the ox-wagon route to Oregon between 1839 and 1869. One authority says that as many as 10 per cent. of this number died on the way. The covered wagon rightfully occupies the center of the seal.

The inscription, "The Union," placed below the covered wagon reminds us that Oregon stood loyally for the Union in the days when civil war threatened to break that Union in twain.

The sheaf of wheat in the seal recalls that thousands of early Oregon families endured the first winter on a menu principally constituted of boiled wheat purchased from the French-Canadian farmers who settled the French Prairie in Marion county. Beside the wheat is a plow which bespeaks the industry of Oregon people. Beside the plow is a pickaxe. The designer of the seal went twice to the gold mines of California in the wildly exciting days which followed the discovery of gold in that state. This may account for inclusion of the pick in the picture.

Oregon's seal was designed by my uncle, Harvey Gordon. It was adopted on September 18, 1857, by 61 delegates assembled in constitutional convention at the courthouse in Salem. It represents the founding and the organization of the state which, this day, celebrates the 87th anniversary of its birth. The "Fathers of Oregon," young men, planned well for the future of this state which is attaining increasing importance in the Union.

Harvey Gordon Starkweather was  
President of SDOP 1919-1921.



## A Masonic Sword and It's Remarkable Story

Wendy Mathews Millard - wendym@ramse.com

My fascinating journey into Oregon history, that links two families, is a story I'd like to share.

The beautiful old Masonic "Knights Templar" sword that hung on a wall at the home of my parents, Francis and Audrey Mathews, was of little interest to me until I inherited it after their passing. But one day I suddenly became curious about it. To my knowledge, none of my family members had been Masons, and when I studied it more closely, I found that there was a name engraved on the blade - Enoch Hoult. I had been enjoying my hobby of genealogy for quite a few years, and knew that the name Hoult was not a name I was familiar with in our family tree, which sparked my curiosity even more. And so began my research on the "Hoult sword" - to discover it's provenance.



*The Masonic Sword of Enoch Hoult, above.*

*The inscription on the blade, below.*

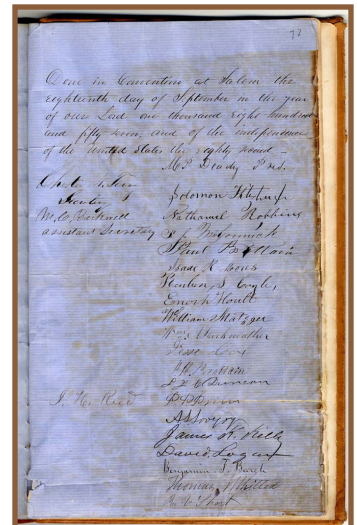


I started by simply "googling" the name Enoch Hoult. Much to my surprise - there was a wealth of information revealed, because Enoch Hoult was a "famous" Oregonian! He was born in West Virginia in 1825, emigrated to Kentucky and then Illinois, and in 1853 brought his young family overland by ox-team on the Oregon Trail, arriving on the 19th day of September. He settled in Lane County north of Eugene, where he planted and operated one of the first nurseries in the Willamette Valley, furnishing fruit trees to the Willamette and Rogue Valleys. In 1857 he was elected to represent Lane County as a member of the Oregon constitutional convention. When Oregon was granted statehood in 1859, his name was included as one of the signers of the new

Constitution. In 1863, Enoch Hoult and his family moved to Harrisburg in Linn County, where he lived the remainder of his life. He was elected to represent Linn County as a senator in 1870 and again in 1882. A hardworking and much respected Democrat, he was credited with authoring a bill to regulate railroad fares and freight, which became known as the "Hoult Law". Enoch Hoult was known as a "zealous Mason" and achieved the highest rank of exalted "Royal Arch Mason". His ceremonial presentation sword must have been a source of great pride for him. He died

on March 18, 1889 in Harrisburg, Oregon, and is buried in the Alford Masonic Cemetery in Linn County.

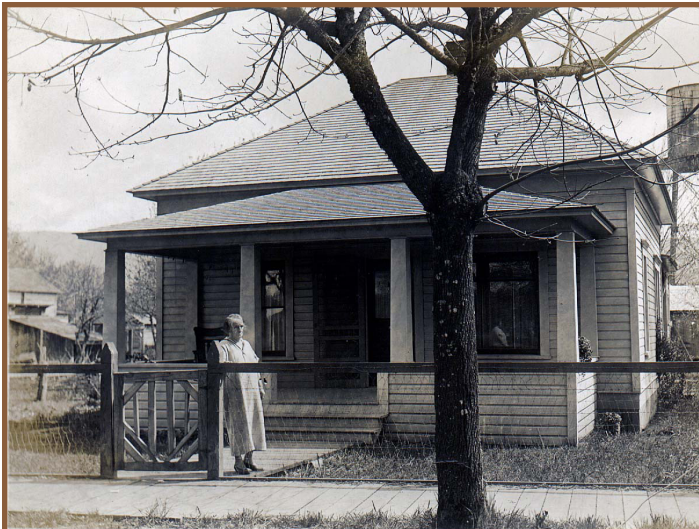
My next step in researching the sword was to look more closely at Enoch Hoult's family, and to determine if there was a familial link to my own. I found his obituary online, listing family members, and discovered through research on Ancestry.com, that Enoch's daughter, Dorothy Eleanor Hoult, had married a man named William F. Mendenhall. Mendenhall? The name "rang a bell" for me - where did I know that name from? It wasn't found in my own family tree. It was from a recent trip to the Coburg Historic District, to view the bungalow that had been home to my great-grandmother, Frances "Fannie" Morse during the 1930's. The Victorian home two doors down from hers is on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as "The Mendenhall House", visible on a plaque near the front door. The house had belonged to Dr. Fred Mendenhall, son of Dorothy and William Mendenhall, and the grandson of Enoch Hoult. The pieces of the puzzle started to fall into place, except that I still did not know how the sword came into our family. One day I paid a visit to my elderly aunt, related the story of the sword, and wondered aloud about this question. "I know how that happened!" she said. "After Dr. Mendenhall's wife died, he took his meals at Grandma's



*The signatures from the Oregon constitutional convention of 18 Sept. 1857. Enoch Hoult's signature is the 7th in the column at the right.*

*continued from page 3* **Genealogy Workshops**

house, and he repaid her by giving her family heirlooms..." she explained. This was the "aha!" moment I had been seeking - an explanation as to how this ceremonial sword had transferred from the Hoult and Mendenhall families to the Morse and Mathews families! He had accepted my great-grandmother's hospitality and repaid her kindness by gifting her his grandfather's Masonic sword! I now know that the line of provenance for the sword developed as follows: Enoch Hoult to his daughter, Dorothy Eleanor (Hoult) Mendenhall, to her son, Dr. Fred Mendenhall, to my great-grandmother, Frances "Fannie" (Smith) Morse, to her daughter Luella (Morse) Mathews, to my father, Francis L. Mathews, and finally to me, Wendy Mathews Millard. Over a time span of 120 years and 6 generations, the sword of Enoch Hoult has linked two families together. For me, this treasured family heirloom represents the courage of Oregon pioneers, the birth of America's 33rd state, the life of a dedicated Oregon politician, and the ties that bind families together.



*Frances "Fannie" Morse, outside her home in Coburg, Oregon. Two houses north is the historic Mendenhall House. Both houses are still standing.*



THE OREGON  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
FOUNDED 1898

We have two more Genealogy Workshops this fall, with the next one on October 6! From understanding vital records to learning about the best online genealogy resources, OHS Genealogy Workshops are perfect for novice and experienced genealogists alike!

Oct. 6: Digging into the Past: Land Records & Tax Lists

Nov 17: Top 6 Go-To Genealogy Web sites

Events listings: <https://www.ohs.org/events/>



### Monument Cleaning Workshops at Clackamas Pioneer Cemetery

The first workshop will be held on:

- \* Saturday, September 22nd from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- \* Our leader/instructor is Jeff Hilts of Jeff Hilts Marker Service.
- \* We will be cleaning with D/2 Biological Cleaner. Do you know D/2 is the product used by Arlington National Cemetery?

I will also have marker cleaning parties on Saturday, October 20th and again on November 17th (same times) to continue cleaning CPC's oldest monuments. You are more than welcome to attend!

The workshop and cleaning product/supplies are possible thanks to the wonderful grant from Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries. Feel free to direct any questions directly to me.

-Becky Sands  
beckysands@comcast.net



Nancy Hersey standing at her family tombstones at Clackamas Pioneer Cemetery

**HISTORY  
RELEVANCE  
FUTURE**

## SDOP Board Meeting

September 29, 2018

At the historic town of  
Echo, Oregon

**Time:** 10:30 am – 12:45 pm

**Meeting Location:** At the old  
Veterans of Foreign Wars building,  
310 Bridge Street,

one block off Main Street

**Lunch:** 12:45 pm – 1:30 pm

3 Restaurants within one or two  
blocks of meeting location:

H & P Café, Buttercreek Coffee  
House, and Sno Road Winery

**1:45 – 2:45 Tour** Our Tour Guide is Diane Berry, who has  
lived in Echo all her life.

There are 23 historic buildings in town, 10 of them are on  
The National Register of Historic places/buildings in Echo.

We can also tour the Echo Historical Museum in the historic  
Bank Building.

**Directions to Echo:** Take Exit 188 off of I-84 and turn right  
onto 395 for about 1 mile.

The town is 8 Miles south of Hermiston and 20 miles west  
of Pendleton.

The Oregon Trail passed through Echo crossing the Umatilla  
River where Echo is today. The area around Echo has  
pioneer grave site of David Koontz, and areas of visible trail  
ruts such as at Echo Meadows Oregon Trail Site (BLM) and  
Corral Springs and block house from Fort Henrietta.

The Block House is in town along  
the Umatilla River, about 3 blocks  
from our meeting site. Probably  
part of the walking tour of the  
town.

One site I visited is called Corral  
Springs and is 5 miles southeast of Echo on country rd. 1300.  
Just go on past the turn off to Echo on Hwy 395 and then  
Country Rd. 1300 (old highway 30/Reith Road. There is a  
sign. There is also a gate (unlocked) and No Trespassing  
sign but the sign does not apply to those view wagon ruts.  
You'll be walking on private property.

Echo Meadows Ruts 2.7 Miles from Echo - Main Street in  
Echo becomes Hwy 320. Turn right on Whitehouse road.



## Remembering Beverly Staten

Beverly Anne (York) Staten, 86, a  
lifelong resident of Baker City, passed  
away July 28, 2018, at her home  
surrounded by her family. Her lessons  
and guidance will remain with those  
she loved and those who loved her.



Beverly was born September 17, 1931, in Baker, Oregon  
to Paul and Mabel (Spearman) York. She was a fourth  
generation Oregonian. She grew up and attended schools  
in Baker and graduated high school in 1949.

She married Harold Staten, the love of her life and her  
husband of 57 years, on June 26, 1949. The couple raised  
two sons, Michael and Charles.

In 1969 she began driving school bus for Baker School  
District 5J where she continued for 27 years until her  
retirement in 1996. Over the years, she safely transported  
many of the area's youth to and from school, as well as on  
special field trips.

Beverly enjoyed gardening, reading, baking and spending  
time with her family and friends. She generously cared for  
elderly family and friends.

She is survived by her two sons, five grandchildren, and  
seven great grandchildren. She will be greatly missed.

*-Michael Staten*

First set of ruts are within about 200 yards of the highway  
and second set are about 100 yards further north. The  
second set is the main trail.

Echo Meadows Oregon Trail Site  
is about 1 mile of ruts maintained  
by BLM. The access road to the  
site is 5.5 miles west of Echo on  
Hwy 320. There is a sign (Oregon  
Trail site) where you'd turn right  
off of Hwy 320 onto a gravel road  
proceeding about 1/4 mile. 1/2 mile paved hiking path leads  
to the actual rut site.



*-Chris Meinicke*



## 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

**Time:** 10:30 am – 12:45 pm

**Location:** Echo, OR (see page 5)

### November 10, 2018

Board Meeting

**Location:** Spaghetti Factory, Clackamas, OR

### January 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 Pavilion

## SDOP Roster and Ancestry Information

A hard copy can be obtained from Mel Fuller for \$70.00 or a CD can be made for \$20.00. Email Mel at [melfuller@gmx.com](mailto:melfuller@gmx.com) or leave a message at SDOP General Voice Mail: (541)581-0378.

## Dues for SDOP

New Members initiation fee: \$5\*

Annual Dues [age 18-60]: \$20 [age 60+]: \$15

Junior New Member initiation [birth to age 18]: \$4\*

Annual Dues: \$8

Life Member [birth to age 18]: \$450

[age 18-60]: \$300\* [age 60+]: \$150\*

\*includes pioneer certificate and pin

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](mailto:JakeRootGraphics@gmail.com)

- November submissions are due by October 20th. -

Photos and articles welcome from all members!

## SDOP Awards applications for 2019

now available online

<http://oregonsdop.org/scholarships-contests/>

Miss Pioneer Oregon

College Scholarships

Junior Awards

due December 15, 2018

4th Grade Essay

due May 15, 2019

## Two ways to automatically donate to SDOP

**amazon**smile

Log-in to Amazon using SDOP's landing page:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7455151>

SDOP will receive a 0.5% donation from Amazon on your eligible purchases with no additional cost to you.



You can help earn donations just by shopping with your Fred Meyer Rewards Card!

Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to nonprofits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give.

Here's how the program works:

- ✦ Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to SDOP [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). You can search for SDOP by name or by our non-profit number **86878**.
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- ✦ For more information, please visit

[www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards)

## Welcome New Members!

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

### New Member

Robin Chilstrom  
 Deborah J. Long Cox  
 Scott Gerald Edwards  
 William A. Kerfoot  
 Wayne Robert McCaw  
 Doxandra D. McCaw-Cook  
 Jeanne Louise Hamey Morris  
 Katrina A. Maley Wheeler  
 Lezlie R. Patton Wilfer  
 Gloria M. Doerfler Wulf

### Ancestor

Laura Ann Selover – 1851  
 Joseph J. Groshong – 1853  
 John Beason – 1854  
 Bennett W. Johns – 1853  
 William James McCaw – 1852  
 Isabelle E. Findley-Putman – 1847  
 James & Perlina Thompson – 1850  
 Washington B. Mealey – 1845  
 William Thompson Patton – 1850  
 Joseph Moser, Sr. – 1852

## In Memoriam...

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



*Beverly Anne (York) Staten*



## SDOP Treasurer Changeover

We are sorry to report that Cleve Parker, who has been a SDOP Board member and is our new Treasurer, was seriously ill for most of this summer.

He is now well on his way to recovery; however, health concerns have delayed the change over from Dave to Cleve as Treasurer. That change is happening this month, and Cleve will be working on dues and other concerns right away.



### Echo Meadows Ruts

2.7 Miles from Echo,  
Oregon

Visit them after the  
SDOP Board Meeting on  
September 29th.

# Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers 2018-2019

### ❖ Officers ❖

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**President Elect open**

**Secretary Dawn Alexander** Redmond, OR  
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**Treasurer Cleve Parker** Clackamas, OR  
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**Ellie Nelson** Milwaukie, OR ellienoeln@comcast.net

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

**Mel Fuller** Lake Oswego, OR mel.fuller@msn.com

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**Technology Chair Mel Fuller** Lake Oswego, OR  
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**SDOP NEWS**

**Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers**

**P.O. Box 6685**

**Portland, OR 97228-6685**

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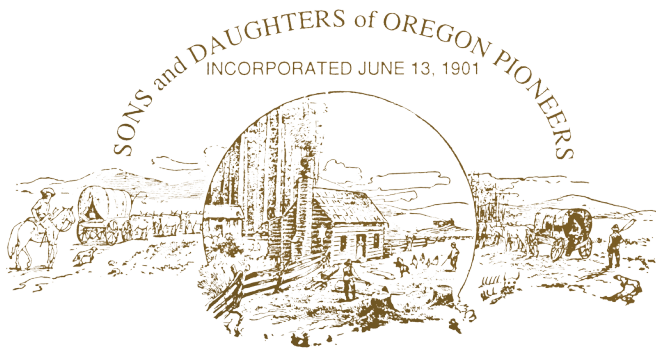
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September 2018

SDOP News

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