

President's Letter

From Chris Meinicke

Greetings to all descendants of Oregon Territory Pioneer families and friends of SDOP.

This is my last President's Letter to you as President of SDOP for the term starting in July 2021 and ending in June 2022. Joyce del Rosario picks up the reins as SDOP's newly elected president in July. Mark your calendar to attend our annual picnic at Champoeg Park on July 9, 2022 at the Pavilion. It has been a great year with all our meetings in person with two wonderful historical site meeting events and one more in June at Brownsville, Oregon. Our events are being posted on our SDOP website at <https://oregonsdop.org/sdop-event-videos/>. Check these videos out. There is one of SDOP's annual Statehood Banquet that includes the speeches by Miss Pioneer Oregon, Julia Richards and Mr. Gregory Nokes, our Guest Speaker and noted author. The second new video is our last meeting that took place at Multnomah Falls and a tour of the Vista House that was built to honor some of Oregon's early pioneers who traveled down the Columbia River to settle in the Vancouver area, the Willamette Valley and in other parts of the Oregon Territory. Thanks Mel Fuller for putting these wonderful videos together which is creating more history for the next generation. I've enjoyed sharing some of my favorite places in Oregon (the Columbia River Gorge and the Barlow Trail) with all of you who were able to attend our Historical Meeting locations.

Our next meeting is in Brownsville, Oregon during 3-day Linn County Pioneer picnic celebration. There is a parade on Saturday and our meeting is right after the parade. There will be museums to visit and lots of activities for the



whole family at the Picnic. Please join SDOP board members at this historic event in Brownsville on June 18, 2022. One of the nicest hotels in the area is: Best Western Premier Boulder Falls Inn in Lebanon, Oregon.

I hope you've enjoyed a little of my pioneer's family journey to the Oregon Territory by way of the Applegate Trail. If you recall in the September 2021 issue of the SDOP News I stated Mr. Isaac Constant had traveled to Oregon and came back to Springfield, Illinois to convince his neighbors to move to Oregon. Riddles and Ar-tencia (Chapman) Riddle left for Oregon in the spring of 1851. However, Mr. Isaac Constant did not sell his land in Springfield until the following year. Mr. William H. Merriman, his wife, Mary, and two small children joined Mr. Isaac Constant's wagon train of 50 families in the spring of 1852. Mr. Merriman's sister was married to Mr. Isaac Constant. Mary actually died at the first stop after leaving Independence, Missouri. Someone was sent back to Independence to get a coffin for Mary Merriman and she was buried at that first stop on the Oregon Trail. Mr. Merriman was left with an infant son named Joseph and a 4-year-old daughter, Auletta. Joseph was just an infant and was given cow's milk since his mom had died. It is assumed the one of the cows had eaten wild parsnips that made Joseph very sick, and he died and was buried along the trail. There were Indian raids, bad weather, dangerous river crossings and I am sure other deaths that the Isaac Constant wagon train endured. They had been following the trail to California but were now headed back up to Oregon Territory around the Goose Lake area. Mr. Constant went ahead to scout the trail and he came to a fork in the road, one the old immigrant road, and the other a new road which skirted Goose Lake on its far side. The following is interesting and directly from a brief review of the Life of Isaac Constant as told in part by his daughter, Lavinia Jane (Constant) Robinson. "Father followed the old road and had followed it for quite a distance when some

voice seemed to say to him 'Turn back'. He could see no one and continued on, and again the voice seemed to say 'Turn Back'. For a third time he started on his way, and again the warning 'Turn back'. With the third warning 'turn back' Mr. Constant turned back and returned to where the roads forked, posted a sign for the wagon train to follow the new road. Father followed the new road until he found a good place to camp for the night and it was not long before a company of soldiers arrived at the place he had selected for the train to camp. The officer in charge told father, "We are out on the road to protect the emigrants". Father then told the officer about the mysterious warning he had received. The officer said, "It was a good warning and you did well in following it, as the train ahead of your train was ambushed by the Indians while camped for the night in a little prairie while following the old road. Many of the emigrants were killed but a few escaped. Mr. Constant (Father) always claimed 'That it certainly was a warning from on High'. The officer gave father instructions as to the best and safest way to travel to reach southern Oregon. Mr. Merri-man and Artenecia (Riddle) Chapman of course knew each other since they were both from Springfield, Illinois. They were married in 1853.

In 1857 the Merrimans moved to Jackson County and settled on a farm near Central Point where they reared a large family. Each had a child from their previous marriages and then they had 15 children together. My great grandmother, Isabel Merriman, was the 10th child. She didn't die until 1953 when I was 8 years old. She was living in Portland around the Lloyd Center area. We would visit her often. Her husband died before I was born.

Thanks for listening to my shortened version of my pioneer family story.

SDOP News is published six times a year (Jul, Sep, Nov, Jan, Mar, and May) by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers. Send inquires and submissions to Chris Meinicke: (chris.meinicke@frontier.com). Submissions for the July issue are due by *July 15th*, 2022. Photos and articles are welcome from all members!

Upcoming SDOP Board Meetings and Events

Board meetings are open to all Members and their families.

June 18, 2022

Board Meeting and Parade

Location:

Brownsville, OR, for the Linn County Pioneer Picnic

See page 4 for Details

July 9, 2022

Annual SDOP Picnic

Location:

Champoeg State Park Pioneer Pavilion

Time:

10:00 AM - Board Meeting

12:00 Noon - Picnic

Lost Mail

The following members' newsletters and other correspondence have been returned, and SDOP does not have a new address or a good email ID for them. Please help us locate:

Margaret D. Stevens c/o Anne Sands

Barbara Skinner

Steven D. Hughes

David R. Hannan

Michael Scott Sanders

If you have any current contact information for any of them (address, phone #, or email ID) please contact:

Mel Fuller (mel.fuller@oregonsdop.org)

Dave Thompson (dave.tek@yahoo.com) or

Shauna Noon (shauna@oregonsdop.org).

E-VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

HI SDOP history fans,

At our most recent Board of Directors meeting, the board approved opening the membership applications of deceased members for online review. Only Life members and Active members (up-to-date dues) will be able to access them.

For many years SDOP maintained the membership applications as paper copies. In recent years volunteers have scanned those paper applications, so we now have over 1500 digital copies that are stored in a data warehouse in the "cloud".

The next step is to make those electronic copies available to active members for viewing and research. To do that we need volunteers to copy two pieces of information from each of the applications in the cloud and paste them into an index on our website. That will create a link from the website index to that application in the cloud. If you have internet access and can copy-and-paste, we need you!!

<https://oregonsdop.org/archives/items/show/1937>) will take you to an application from 1965. Click the link to open the PDF, then you can scroll up and down to view the whole application. Some applicants include several pages of supporting information.

Right now, the index only has a few applications linked to it – you can see all the ones that are linked now if you search with all the search fields empty. Right now, there are over 1500 applications that need to be linked to the index.

This link: [Review membership applications of past SDOP members | Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers \(oregonsdop.org\)](https://oregonsdop.org/review-membership-applications-past-sdop-members-sons-daughters-oregon-pioneers) will take you to the current index. This is what we need help completing.

Your browser may ask you to enter your membership profile credentials (email address and password) to see the index. If you do not have a personal membership profile password set up yet visit <https://oregonsdop.org/update-existing-member-profile/> to recover or create a password. Your password for the old Members Only Area of the website will not work to access your personal profile.

Final note, only the applications of *deceased* members will be made available for other members to review. Living members, whether active or inactive, can view their own personal application when they visit their personal profile.

Next step, if you want to volunteer for this project, is to contact me by email at mel.fuller@oregonsdop.org or call me at 503-581-0378. Call me on this number if you have a problem accessing your personal profile. We will set you up with the database security level needed for the project.

As always thank you for your support of Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers.

Mel Fuller

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June 18, 2022 SDOP BOARD MEETING

**In Historic Brownsville, Oregon
All Members and Friends are invited**

**WE NEED A HEADCOUNT FOR THIS ONE!!
Please either call or email Chris Meinicke
if you plan to attend.**

Phone: (503) 645-3124

Email: chris.meinicke@frontier.com

****Please let me know if you need a gluten-free lunch.

Date: June 18, 2022

Time: 11:30 am – After the Linn County Pioneer Parade for meeting and Lunch at the Bramble House, 209 Templeton Street, Brownsville, Oregon 97327



The Bramble House is one block from the parade route. You may park at the Restaurant for the parade and walk a short distance to Main St. across from Dari Mart. The Parade starts at 10:00 am.

Directions to Bramble House: Turn left onto Main then immediately turn right on a dirt alley type road between a gas station and storage unit. Bramble House is to the left at the cross-road with Templeton.

Cost: \$14.00 per person

Menu: Green salad, cup of soup, 1/2 grilled sandwich, and dessert

What to do in Brownsville?

You can visit the Brownsville Art Center, or the Pioneer Picture Gallery...



Visit the Brownsville Historical Museum



Visit the Moyer House

Do a walking tour of the Historical Town of Brownsville and/or join in the fun at the Linn County Pioneer Picnic at Pioneer Park. It is the oldest, annual, continuously held event in Oregon! They had a front porch parade instead during the last two years of Covid-19.

Picnic participants display their talents in various ways such as a descendant's reception, flower show, Quilts of Valor show, horseshoe tournament, car show, and lots of vendors.

There are also fun events for the whole family such as a penny scramble, three legged races, egg-tossing contest, and others. Each year there can be different activities. SDOP members are welcome to join in the fun.

The Linn County Pioneer Association Website: <https://www.pioneerpicnic.com/> (the website has not been updated for this year's event yet. Check out the website as we get closer to the meeting date for activities for this year's Pioneer Picnic).

Donations to SDOP

SDOP thanks everyone who made a donation to support our programs and operations such as the SDOP newsletter and the scholarship fund. One goal of SDOP is rewarding the younger generation, especially those who have an interest in Oregon History. It would be nice if SDOP received additional donations for the scholarship fund and the Junior Awards Programs.

Jim Duncan	\$15	General Fund
Betty Johnson	\$400	General/Rose Fund
	\$100	Scholarship Fund
Anonymous	\$100	Newsletter expenses

Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

April Board Meeting April 9, 2022
Multnomah Falls Boardroom

Welcome

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Chris Meinicke at 10:15 am.

Roll Call – Determine Quorum

Chris Meinicke, Joyce del Rosario, Shauna Noon, Dave Thompson, Reggie Burke, Mel Fuller, Janet Wilson, Jeanne Preston, Joy'e Willman

Terry Thompson, Debbie Pedersen, Mark Pedersen, Ken Funk, Connie (Revenue) Selzler, Eunice Johnson, Michael Lake, Shirley Lake, Julia Wilson, Catherine Bell

There was a Quorum.

Officer's Reports

Secretary: Dawn not in attendance, so Dave Thompson read the minutes from the January 2022 Meeting.

President: Chris Meinicke

First off, I want to thank Joyce for doing a wonderful job of organizing the banquet. I believe it was a success even though we had poor attendance. The speaker was outstanding and Miss Pioneer Oregon's acceptance

speech fit right in with the theme of the day. I was pretty impressed. Thank you, Joyce, for all your hard work on the banquet. Also, thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the banquet.

Joyce and I met with Dan Klug, State Parks Ranger, at Champoeg State Park on March 24, 2022 to discuss the Founders Day Program. Also joining us was Greg and Rachel Leo. It was an interesting meeting with lots of discussion. So far, I have not received a copy of the final program, or even a new flyer about the Founders Day activities. I am not sure how much SDOP will be included in the program but would like SDOP members to come out and support the event. It is April 30th at 11 am.

Hope you enjoy having our meeting at Multnomah Falls Lodge and hope you didn't find parking too difficult. While you are here look around this historic building that is on the National Register of Historic Places. We also have a great afternoon planned, touring the Vista House. Gary Law will greet us outside and provide some historical information on the Vista House. We'll split into three groups for guided tours. Ben Carscallen (Volunteer), Melissa "Mo" Czinger (State Parks Ranger for Vista House), and Gary Law (Volunteer) will be the tour guides. I think you are in for a real treat. I've never been on an official tour of the Vista House.

Our next meeting is in Brownsville, and I'll have a flyer on that activity in May's newsletter.

Treasurer: Shauna Noon gave the Treasurers report. We lost some money on the Banquet, as expected, due to Covid driven attendance level. Used money from Working Capital account. Reggie moved to accept, Debbie Pedersen 2nd – Motion passed.

Shauna presented a budget put together by the budget Committee (Shawna Noon, Chris Meinicke, Mel Fuller, and Joyce del Rosario) for the next 3 months (April, May, and June). A new budget for 2022/2023 will be presented at the September meeting. Mel moved to accept, Connie Selzler 2nd, Motion passed

President Elect: Joyce del Rosario – We should connect with the Cultural Trust. See

what we can do before May 6, when the application cycle closes?

We should also connect/partner with other organizations. Joyce will look into producing content to attract members and organizations.

Committee Reports:

Membership/Registrar Priscilla Belin-Priscilla not in attendance, but sent report

New Members:

Adult	1
Senior	3
Friend	1
<u>Life</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	6

Members converted to Life: 2 (1 Life Member, 1 Life Friend)

Deaths: 4

Banquet: Joyce del Rosario – Lessons learned

- Maybe offer a brunch instead of lunch
 - Don't schedule on Superbowl Sunday
 - We lost money (as expected), but had fun
- Mel made motion to reimburse Joyce \$600 she spent on Banquet supplies, Dave 2nd – Motion passed.

Social Media Janet Wilson – Everything is going well; we seem to have more followers than we have members.

Information Technology Mel Fuller –

- Check out the videos on our website
- Mel suggests we set up a space at events (banquet, Picnic, etc.) where members can record their family stories to add to the collection
- Lots of unpaid dues (about 320 to bill)
- Last two years we have lost ~120 members
- Not much success contacting unpaid members
- Mel will move unpaid members to inactive
- Mel suggests creating a Membership Chair, to reach out to members
- Active members can view the applications of deceased members, stored in Omeka,

but we need volunteers to help organize links that connect to them from our website. Easy online task

Rose Festival Parade Mel Fuller – Mike Irving is taking the reins on this. Thanks Mike!

- Mike has found a team of horses and nice wagon for us to use
- Mike is checking size of wagon vs. size of banners that we have
- May have to get new banners if current ones won't fit wagon
- Parade will be on East side only this year; two miles instead of four

Trading Post Reggie Burke presented a check for \$118, for 5 sales. She also noted that Amazon Smiles has given us over \$500 since it was first set up. We need to encourage folks to sign up for Amazon Smiles and Fred Meyer Rewards.

Newsletter Editor Chris Meinicke – The next newsletter comes out 1st of May. Please send articles for the newsletter by April 25, 2022.

Correspondence Secretary Chris Meinicke –Have sent thank you letters for all donations

Old Business

Delinquent Dues – discussed earlier

New Business:

Discuss ways to increase donations, plus increase contributions to Scholarship Fund

- Chris proposed that for any non-specified donations greater than \$100, we allocate 10% to the Scholarship fund. Joyce moved to adopt that plan, Reggie 2nd – Motion Passed

Next Board Meeting: June 18, 2022, in Brownsville, Oregon
Participate in Pioneer Parade Meeting/Lunch and tour of museums
More details forthcoming

Adjournment: Joyce moved to adjourn, Connie 2nd – Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned by Chris at 12:00 noon.

New Member Fees:	
Junior [birth – 18]:	\$12.00
Adult [18-60] / Senior [60+]	\$30.00
Includes pioneer certificate and pin	
Friend of SDOP.....	\$30.00

Life Member/Friend Fees:	
Birth - 60	\$300.00
60+	\$150.00
Includes pioneer certificate and pin.	

Annual Dues (after first year):	
<i>Annual dues are due in June.</i>	
Junior [birth - 18]:	\$8.00
Adult Member/Friend [18 - 60]: ..	\$20.00
Senior Member/Friend [60+]:	\$15.00
Adjustments	
Printed Newsletter fee:	+\$10.00

In Memoriam

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

MaryJane Sharp - Life Member

Ronald John Putman - Senior member

Douglas K. Wickre - Senior Member

Gerald W. Frank - Senior member



Gerald (Gerry) Frank was a long-time member of SDOP. He was also a very prominent Oregon businessman and Civic leader. Lars Larson heralded Gerry as the “Single greatest ambassador for Oregon and the Northwest.” Gerry was the great-grandson of Aaron Meier, one of the founders of the Meier & Frank Co.,

The best-known retailer in Oregon throughout the 20th Century. Julius Meier, former governor of Oregon was Gerald’s Great-uncle. He was born in Portland on Sept. 21, 1923. He graduated from Lincoln High School, served in the Military during World War II, and attended Stanford University and England’s Cambridge University. He was on Senator Hatfield’s staff for over 20 years. Gerald Frank sought out work he believed made Oregon a better state.

Two ways to automatically donate to SDOP:



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.

And:



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. You can search for SDOP by name or by our non-profit number 86878.
- Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping SDOP earn a donation!
- You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.
- For more information, please visit

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

Rose Festival Parade

HI SDOP Rose Parade fans,

Yes, there will be a Rose Festival Parade this year! After a two year lapse the parade is back and your SDOP board has approved sponsoring an entry in the parade. We have a great teamster who will provide the wagon and horses. A photo appears here and I hope you agree it's a great entry. It can seat eight adults and we are going to fill each seat.



Why does SDOP want to be in the Rose Parade you may ask. It is one of our few methods of reaching out to the community to let them know we exist and what our purpose is. Second, with our two Miss Pioneer Oregon riding this year, 2020/2021 Miss Allyanne Farnworth and 2022 Miss Julia Richards. They are wonderful examples of our youth recognition and awards work programs.

We have in savings the amount donated for the 2020 parade expenses of \$2600 and not spent but this year our costs will be more than prior years. Not a surprise there. We need to ask members to donate an additional \$800 to cover all the expense for our 2022 Rose Parade entry. You can go to our SDOP website, the address is on the link here:

[Portland Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade Fund | Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers \(oregonsdop.org\)](https://oregonsdop.org) Or mail a check to our PO box at:

SDOP
PO Box 6685
Portland, OR. 97228-6685

Thank you for your support on this and our other SDOP activities.

Your SDOP Board of Directors

Colonists or Immigrants? A commentary.

Recently during a video conference of a SDOP board meeting we were "ZOOM bombed!" That's when someone who is uninvited or unexpected jumps into the video conference and makes statements that support their cause or intend to diminish the group's efforts. The ZOOM bomber shouted "Colonists!" in a derogatory tone.

Considering some of the social media commentary recently I thought it relevant to address this topic. During the founding of the United States, we were a group of 13 colonies under the control of the British Monarchy. Wealth created by the colonists was sent to the Monarchy by way of taxation and through ownership by British companies. The moment the colonies became independent States, however, they were no longer colonists who sent wealth back to England – they were a nation.

Beginning before independence and certainly after the Westward expansion began, the Americans encountered colonies owned by other nations. They were eventually engulfed by the immigration of settlers and became part of the new nation. When Thomas Jefferson purchased the Louisiana Territory from the French, he

said it would take 15 generations to fill the newly acquired land. It took only five for the immigrants to settle to the West Coast fulfilling Jefferson's dream of an Ocean-to-Ocean nation.

All those immigrants came West looking for opportunity to make a living in a new land. They came with dirt under their nails, sun and wind burned from a life's work to create the nation we live in today. There were no chain stores, processing plants, fast food restaurants or malls to work in. No lawns to mow for others – just grim hard work. The open fields you see from I-5 driving South were all covered in trees and shrubbery when they arrived.

The native population that had occupied North America for 10,000 years before the Europeans arrived have been casualties of the expansion, but each generation of Americans has tried to correct the injustices. Since the dawn of civilization every encounter by a stronger society has led to a diminishing of the weaker society. It seems easy to judge those that come before by today's standards while wearing sneakers made by slave labor or eating fish processed on a slave factory vessel off the shores of Southeast Asia. We need to remember we cannot change the past, but we can change the future.

The mission of Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers has always been to educate today's Oregonians about the struggles, successes, and sacrifices of both the Early Oregon Territory settlers and the Oregon Native Tribes.

Thanks again for your support of SDOP.

Mel Fuller

Mel Fuller, Board member
Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers
PO Box 6685
Portland, OR. 97228-6685

Founder's Day at Champoeg State Park

About 8 members of the Sons and Daughters attended Founder's Day on April 30, 2022. It was 179th anniversary of the vote for Oregon's Provisional Government. SDOP members have been participating in the Founder's Day activities for many years.



Founders Day Attendees

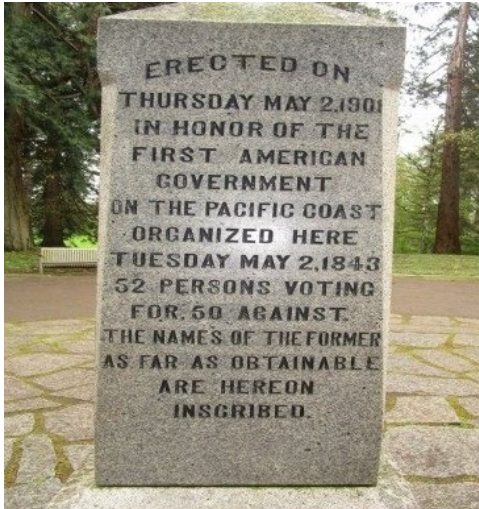
What is Founder's Day?

On May 2, 1843, the First American-style self-government west of the Rocky Mountains was established by a vote of the settlers who gathered at Champoeg. The vote was 52 in favor and 50 against.

In 1901 descendants of these pioneers gathered for a dedication of a monument to commemorate the event.

Each year we gather in the spirit of Champoeg to recognize the Vote for Oregon's Provisional Government and the dedication of the 1901 monument.

Check out the names of the settlers who voted Yes. Some of them might be your pioneer ancestors!



Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

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