



Philip Foster's wife, Mary Charlotte, looked from this scene daily as she prepared her home to receive hungry, tired strangers as guests. For some pioneers who entered the Willamette Valley down the Barlow Trail, the view of the Foster Farm meant the manifestation of God's grace and mercy. Martha, daughter of Martin Baker Gay describes the event in her journal, "After six distressing days of hardships and suffering we got to Fosters', and camped at this haven of rest for weary emigrants. We rejoiced to know we had at last arrived in Oregon settlements after five long months. We got vegetables from Mr. Foster and had a regular feast. When we were all seated around enjoying our evening meal father looked over the group and said to mother, "We must thank God, Ann, that we are all here. Yes, all, Father, mother, twelve children, one daughter-in-law and one young man who came all the long way with us."

As descendants of emigrants with pioneer spirits, it is in our blood to create a welcoming community. How we show each other hospitality continues to be influenced by language exposure, social ideals, and concerns about disease and safety. Let us draw on the power of radical hospitality as an organization with a proud heritage. Looking at our choices through the lens of being a pioneer descendant, the words of Isaiah echo in my ear, "Is it not sharing your bread with the hungry, bringing the afflicted and the homeless into your house; Clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own flesh?"

We want this space to feel welcoming and open for dialogue. We are developing more ways to engage in person and on-line so that all communities will be enriched. Please share feedback on member and community driven initiatives you read about in this issue. Your ideas matter to our team. Most of all, we want each of you to know we are so very thankful that you continue to come all the long way with us.

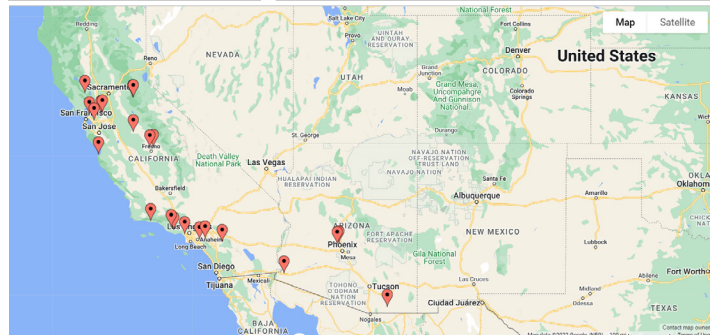
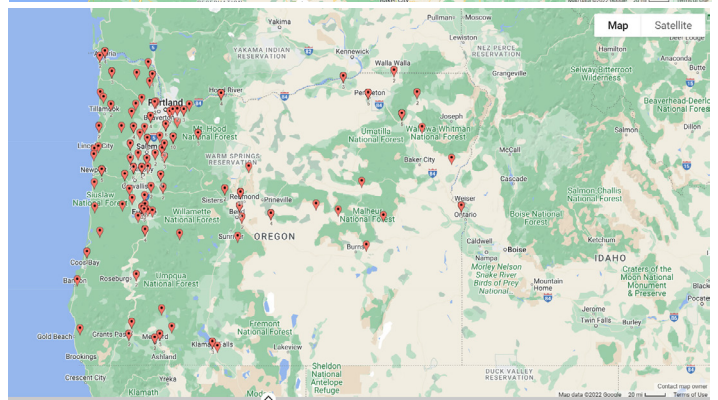
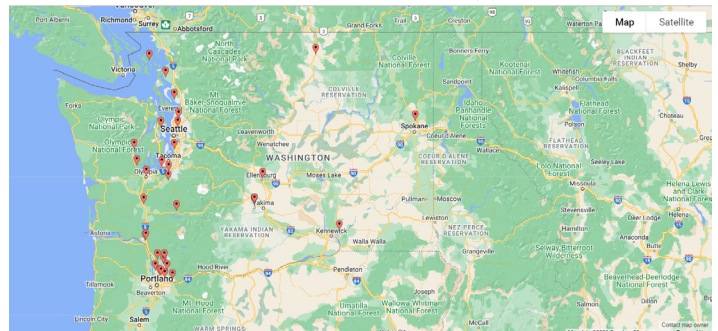
Joyce A. del Rosario, SDOP President '22-'23

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Creating Community & Exploring a Sense of Place

Being data driven, our non-profit used a mapping tool to analyze the hometowns of members residing in Washington, Oregon and California. Idaho, Montana and British Columbia are next on the list to map. Our leadership team plans to use what we discovered to help the community actively engage history and explore the territory. Please consider joining any of the upcoming events in Eugene, Newberg, Damascus, or Clackamas. The community at large is always welcome to email president@oregonsdop.org with ideas for meeting locations. As for the direction of SDOP, we are headed to where you want to be!



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[Membership Fees Structure](#)

<https://oregonsdop.org/membershipjoin/>

Annual Dues (Year 2 and beyond)	
Junior Son or Daughter (age 0-18)	\$8
Adult Son or Daughter (age 18-60)	\$20
Senior Son or Daughter (age 60+)	\$20
Friend (all ages)	\$15
Optional Annual Adjustments	
Printed Newsletter Add-on	+\$10
Veteran or Disability Discount	-\$5

Initial Fees for New Members (Year 1)	
Junior Son or Daughter (age 0-18)	\$12*
Adult Son or Daughter (all ages)	\$30*
Friend (all ages)	\$30

One-time Fee for Life Memberships	
Age 0-60	\$300
Age 60+	\$150

*Includes certificate and pin

Membership and Pioneer Report

New Member Ancestor (Date Arrived OR Territory)

New Junior Members

Tobi Marie Johnson Daniel Matheny (1843)

New Adult Members

Karen M Englund Ezekiel Benjamin Jr (1854)
John D Weston David Weston (1842)

New Senior Members

Laurel Stocker Charles Brown (1845)
Kenneth M Goldsmith Jessie Heath (1852)
Gary E. Dolezal George W Robertson (1852)
Juli A Brown William H Wilson (1845)
Connie J Bissell William H Merriman (1852)

New Life Members

Sherry Fuller Squire J Bozorth (1845)
Jean M Jordan Robert Imbrie (1859)
Carol S Traver David Newsom (1851)

Adult Memberships converted to Life

Rebecca L Swanson

In Memoriam

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

Robert J. Davidson
Charles M. Williams



Profile Updates


If you have a change of address, please be sure to update your profile online so that you continue to receive printed newsletters and other correspondence. Should you need help navigating the website or have any questions, please call or reach out by emailing membership@oregonsdop.org.

Open Meeting Formats

All meetings are open to members including the Sons, Daughters, Friends and their families. We also invite prospective members to join us and see what community exists here out west. More details to be released on-line and by email. _Please keep our gatherings fragrance-free since some of our attendees have moderate to severe allergies to scents. In consideration of others, please refrain from wearing perfumes and other scented grooming products. Please let us know if you will be joining us at a board meeting by calling Joyce or emailing president@oregonsdop.org

Scholarships and Awards Contests



 Applicants must submit a recent picture of themselves. Bonnets or bolos? Be creative!

Scan the QR code to access instructional forms.

>Winners of the Junior Awards, College Scholarship Contest and Miss Pioneer Oregon competitions will be presented at the Statehood Birthday Banquet in February.

>Winners of the 4th Grade Essay contest will be presented at the Annual Pioneer Picnic in July.

We always hope students will join us in person at events to share their talents, though they need not be present to win.

Junior Member Awards Application

Grades 1-4:

\$50 cash prize

Create art project depicting the migration to Oregon

Grades 5-8:

\$100 cash prize

Write an essay about something you have learned about the migration to Oregon that you would like to share with us

Grades 9-12:

\$200 cash prize

Write an essay about what being an Oregon pioneer descendant means to you.

All Junior Awards essays are due by December 15, 2022



Miss Pioneer Oregon Application

Due by December 15, 2022

Miss Pioneer Oregon is an opportunity for young women with Oregon pioneer ancestry to be selected as an official representative of Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers. The successful candidate is rewarded with a cash award of \$1,000 paid in two payments, a Life Membership in SDOP with the hopes of participating in the organization in the future as a board member or officer, and the privilege of officially representing SDOP for one year. Applicant requirements, selection criteria, and more information can be found on the website.

Annual College Scholarships Application

Due by December 15, 2022

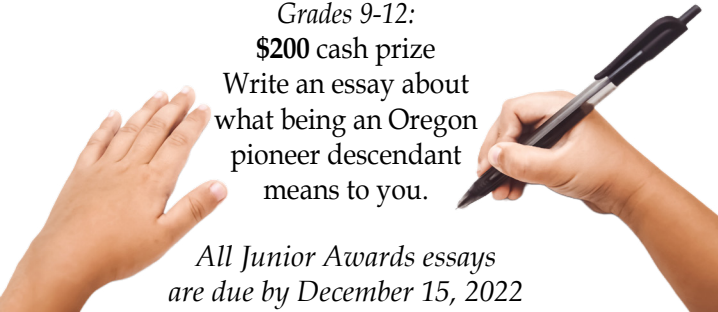
This scholarship, worth up to \$1,000, is offered to up to two (2) SDOP members. The application packet should include written responses to five questions, a sealed copy of official transcripts from the most recent high school, college, or university, and a completed application.



Oregon History Essay Contest Application

Due by May 15, 2023

4th Grade essay contest (**open to all Oregon 4th grade students**): first place winner receives \$150, second place winner receives \$75. Essay topic is "Discuss the pioneer spirit, a determination of accomplishing goals under very difficult circumstances, and how the result of that spirit has affected our lives today."



Sustainability

Thank you for financially supporting our efforts to share an interest in Oregon history with diverse audiences. Members and friends of SDOP span the globe. We are proud this team delivers hyper-localized and digital content to a global audience because transferring knowledge is core to who we are. We care deeply about accuracy and availability.



Trend Analysis shows fair risk of not breaking even in FY'22-'23.

According to forecasts, this next fiscal year, FY '22-'23, presents a more difficult financial picture than the prior year. The cost of producing our events and content is increasing while returning senior membership revenue has been slow. The board approved a working budget that identified a potential risk SDOP would not break-even for the year if these negative trends continue into Quarter 2.

As this calendar year closes, please remind your tax preparer that financial support of SDOP is tax-deductible. Please double-check that you paid dues since June when the fiscal year restarted for our group.

When you pay dues, please consider subscribing to our newsletter or sending a copy as a gift to a new senior member. SDOP offers members with the designations as living with a disability or having served in the armed forces a \$5 annual discount. If you feel moved, perhaps donate \$5 in honor of those members. We appreciate each donation and will be diligent with all funds.

- Donations made through the website are processed through a secure provider by using your credit or debit card, *no PayPal account needed.*
- Checks may also be mailed to:

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

Share history with gifts from the sdop-tradingpost



Featured Items



Essential Tote \$20.00



3D Covered Wagon Charm \$10.00



3D Covered Wagon Earrings \$20.00



Ten Tone Blue Hot Mug with Oregon Territory \$20.00



Ten Tone Black Hot Coffee Mug \$20.00



Mug - Covered Wagon \$18.00

Donor List

SDOP thanks everyone who donates time or funds to support programs that promote interest in the history of Oregon territory and rediscovering the pioneer spirit.

For supporting 4th Grade Essay contest, thank you Beth DeVaul

For donations to the Scholarship fund, thank you Richard B. Spooner.

For contributions to the General Fund, Thank you, **Johanna Straight-Zeigler and John Straight, Kelly McGrew, Debra Arrivee, Richard B. Spooner, Carol S. Traver, Douglas S. Stone.**

For advancement of the membership, thank you, **April Ober.** The amount of \$239.00 was donated to SDOP by the Powell Family Reunion Organization. The Powell Family had their final family reunion in June of 2022 and decided to discontinue the annual reunions and donated the \$239.00 left in their treasury to SDOP. The Powell Family Reunions have taken place almost every year since 1916. We hope the tradition picks back up and appears on our annual reunion calendar.

For covering the costs of Caspio Platform and for SDOP's IT domain, thank you to **Mel and Minka Fuller.**

For support of SDOP's website and archives of our members, thank you, **David Sims.**

For donating printing supplies and domain registration fees, thank you, **Joyce del Rosario.**

For giving your time and consideration, thank you to our many volunteers and families.

Community Partnerships

It is possible to financially support the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers when you shop!

Amazon Smile Program

To use AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com on your web browser or activate AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping app on your iOS or Android phone within the Settings or Programs & Features menu.

Fred Meyer's Community Rewards Program

Link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to SDOP by visiting www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. Search for SDOP by name or by our non-profit number 86878.



There are many ways for volunteers to help. If you are interested serving with our us, please email president@oregonsdop.org



**EMERGING LEADERS,
PLEASE APPLY.**



Ways to help with Special Events

- Assisting in fundraising
- Building baskets, wrapping gifts and saying thank you
- Making unique arts and crafts
- Walking in parades and filling water stations
- Helping event registration
- Banner assembly and display
- Purchasing and delivering food and beverages
- Managing inventory, handouts
- Documenting events by taking lots of candid pictures
- Properly storing historical assets

Ways to help with Meetings

- Opening the doors at a venue that is accessible to persons with disabilities and seniors
- Advertising the event to the public and membership
- Assisting in setting out both beverage and food service
- Setting up the meeting rooms with audio and video
- Supporting speakers needs
- Providing tables and chairs
- Preparing and taking down displays
- Presenting historical content
- Welcoming guests, visitors and prospective members

SDOP Video Series

Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers, their members and friends support this My Oregon Territory web page with love and appreciation for the sacrifices of those who came before us.

The board of directors of SDOP has approved the creation of a committee that will focus on the creation of videos that will aide in achieving our mission of educating the citizens of the area previously known as The Oregon Territory.

The committee has elected areas of focus for our video library. The videos will all be posted to the SDOP website, oregonsdop.org. The themes are listed below:

*Living Reflections: Oregon Pioneer stories related by a living senior descendant member of the pioneer’s family.

*My Oregon Territory Historic Getaways: trips around the old Oregon Territory, visiting sites of historical significance.

*Pioneer Kitchen: Pioneer kitchen recipes prepared by SDOP members who want to share by video their favorite recipes from the Oregon Trail.

*Oregon Pioneer Storybooks: videos of readings of children’s storybooks showing the journey and settlement of the Oregon Territory.

*SDOP Events: videos of SDOP events such as banquets, picnics, or parades.

<https://oregonsdop.org/video-series/>

Guidelines for Video Submissions

Videos can be created by the SDOP Video Production Committee or submitted by individual members. There are a few criteria that need to be adhered to:

- *Maximum video size 1 GB.
- *No copyrighted music or other material.
- *Videos can be created by using video materials or photos used to create a video with appropriate software.
- *On screen titles and credits are needed to ensure viewer enjoyment and understanding of the material shown.

DAD JOKE LOADING



Kid asks his father,
“Hey Dad, Is this
four wheel or for reel?”

In all seriousness
Dad asks back,
“For real?”



Board Meeting
Held at Sandy Historical Society
September 24, 2022
Called to Order 10:14 AM

Roll Call (Quorum of Board established) –Joyce del Rosario, Dave Thompson, Shauna Noon, Priscilla Belin, Chris Meinicke, Mel Fuller, Reggie Burke, Jeanne Preston, Janet Wilson, Joy'e Willman

Attending Members and Guests - Sherry Fuller, Terry Thompson, Connie Selzer, Ken Funk.

Officers' Reports

President: Important items on today's agenda include approval of FY 22-23 budget. Extra time on agenda to discuss strategies to grow as an organization. We are continuing the discussion on proposed meeting dates between March and June of 2023.

Secretary: Two sets of minutes were published in the July newsletter. Minutes were presented to the board and membership digitally and in written format. The board and membership used allotted time to review and propose amendments. None were received. Motion to approve the June and July minutes made by Mel, 2nd by Joy'e; Passed.

Treasurer: Report included presentation of Operating Statement. As of report date, Income up by \$50.42 in current fiscal year. Bank balances total \$168,975.02. Interest earned for July and August total \$1.88.

Reggie made a motion to approve the report, 2nd by Chris; Passed.

Committee Reports

Finance: Shauna presented the budget committee work. Committee included current President, Treasurer and Technology Committee Chair. Treasurer built budget off the actuals from last year, then discussed changes at committee level. The budget committee decided on the following:

- Rose Parade cap \$2,500 Net-zero
- Banquet cap \$4,000 Net-zero
- Accounting Professional Fees expense \$250 reduction
- Website expense to add boosting to Facebook \$200 increase
- Postage expensed in Quarter 1 \$100
- Fees for Non-profit Association of Oregon membership \$50 added
- Meeting expenses \$100 increase
- Newsletter costs expected to change
- Caspio expense for FY '22-'23, prepaid in '22 \$ reduced

Joyce mentioned the accounting fee reduction is be-

cause of competency of our Treasurer and positive working relationship with Accountant. Board Member, Mel, anticipated the increase in postage fees and was pro-active, purchased \$100 forever stamps. The ad boosting for Facebook will increase the effectiveness of our marketing efforts.

Mel was concerned the pattern for dues to set the budget reflects a declining membership. Overdue accounts are primarily seniors. There is a potential that the organization will be short on income. He suggested to meet the budget we need to Keep, Regain, and Gain members.

Joyce expressed need to monitor and create action items to address the shortfall. It's a good budget, but we need to stay on top of it and invest some time to it. Priscilla asked how to offset package mailing costs. Reggie, store manager, suggested checking out pirate-ship.com.

Dave made a motion to approve the budget, Joy'e 2nd; Passed.

Technology: Mel explained that only deceased member applications can be viewed; any other applicant status is not viewable. Over 900 applications for deceased members are now linked to our on-line search tool. Most of the work was performed by Jackie, an SDOP Tech Committee volunteer residing in Pennsylvania.

Trading Post: The Trading Post earned \$68.03 in the previous quarter. Store Manager, Reggie, researched a new item: a mug with an image of Oregon made of city names. She is asking for names of pioneer cities. Joy'e



Sandy Historical Society Event:

Michelle Clark will present a fascinating program at a museum special event Sunday, October 30 at 1 p.m. at 39345 Pioneer Boulevard, Sandy, Oregon.

(<https://www.sandyhistory.com/>)

suggested a mug with names of ghost towns. Email suggestions of city and town names to Reggie.

(Minutes Continued)

Membership: Registrar Priscilla reported

August: 2 senior, 1 adult, 1 Life, 1 Jr, and 2 converted adult to life

September: 1 senior, 1 adult, and 2 Life.

Social Media: Janet reported a high of 537 hits to our Facebook page. She is satisfied with the engagement level.

Joyce described using data analysis tools to monitor if SDOP posts are in the right platform for our largest population sector. We likely have to lean towards other social media platforms to reach audiences of a younger demographic.

Public Relations: Board members requested a supply of fliers to share. President can print fliers for those members who needed more than digital copies. Joyce offered to send a media kit with the print jobs to every board member who needs materials.

Membership Committee Proposal: Shauna described "Sense of Place" membership drive and Map to Everywhere concept. The basic goals are to 1) drive membership and preserve history, 2) add value to the membership, cultivate membership and 3) grow the organization. The product includes an engaging map and the web, newsletter, social media to promote. Contact Shauna by email for the link to the initial team meeting.

Events: Joyce used BatchGeo to create a heat map of members' hometowns and to guide the discussion about proposed meeting sites. Joyce described how the list of proposed locations includes towns that have historical significance to pioneer families. At each location, suggestions are made for in-person interaction and for flexible accommodations. Following the mapping presentation the board brainstormed meeting sites.

Suggested locations included: Astoria, Baker City, Florence, Hillsboro, Hood River, Prineville, Medford, McMinnville, Pendleton, Vancouver. Joyce offered to make these maps available as part of the growth plan for the Sense of Place project and use them to support the recording efforts of the Museum of the Oregon Territory. Board was asked to email additional meeting site ideas to Joyce.

Governance: Joyce explained the intent to join the Non-profit Association of Oregon citing advice bene-

fits and training in several areas. The anticipated fee of \$50 has been included in the budget.

Nominating:

President-Elect remains open. Joyce stated it is the current president's responsibility to improve our organization's ability to move members into leadership roles. The affiliation with the Non-profit Association of Oregon will hopefully be an attractant to emerging leaders.

New Business:

1. Suggestion that SDOP reprint of "She Flies with Her Own Wings" came from Member Connie Selzer.

2. Suggestion for Events Committee Speaker. Black Pioneers of Oregon Executive Director was suggested by Board Member Priscilla Belin to speak at annual banquet.

3. Suggestion for Oral History Project. Pittock Mansion was suggested by members of the board as a topic of interest and high value for our members. Current Historian Janet Wilson is willing to be interviewed about her decades of volunteering at the historic home.

4. Motion to donate \$100 to the meeting host, Sandy Historical Society. Moved by Chris, Joyce 2nd, Passed unanimously.

5. The Immediate Past-President, Chris Meinicke, resigned as Newsletter Editor effective September 2022. The newsletter is now managed by the President, Joyce del Rosario. Joyce thanked Chris for her service in producing so many issues for the organization.

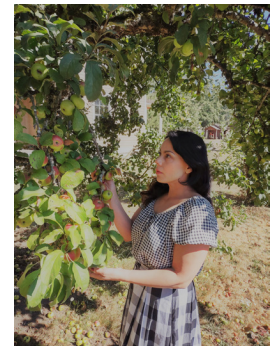
Closing Message:

Joyce read from page 52 of "One Woman's West" edited by Lois Barton. To emphasize the value of service and importance of teamwork, Joyce shared the words of her pioneer ancestor who made it down Barlow Trail and arrived at Foster's farm as retold by one of his twelve children. (See Cover Article of this News Issue)

Food, Fun and Fellowship

Following the board meeting, members and guests packed up box lunches from the [Toll Gate Inn and Bakery](#), Sandy, Oregon.

Lunch included a regular feast of sandwich trays with selections of turkey, roast beef, and ham selections, vegetarian wraps, hot soup, potato salads, fresh rolls, chocolate chip cookies, gluten-free pumpkin cake, and local munchies. With food for tummies and thoughts in tow, members happily headed toward Philip Foster's Farm for historical tours. (See Page 9)



Barlow Road

There are 16 historic trails in Oregon. The most famous is the Oregon Trail, the primary route emigrants took across the country to Oregon to The Dalles, where they then rode and portaged down the Columbia and Willamette Rivers to settle.

The Barlow Road was developed as an alternative to river transport. The road was started and formally authorized by the Oregon Legislature in 1845. It was completed in 1846, and offered emigrants a south-western Oregon route.

The Barlow Road began at The Dalles, Oregon, headed south through Dufur and Tygh Valley (which some folks consider the start of The Barlow Road), then turned west at Gate Creek and generally followed the White River before it headed north through Barlow Pass and Government Camp. It then passed through "Tollgate #5" near today's Rhododendron and continued to the community of Sandy, where it turned west and ended up at Oregon City.

(Source: <https://oregontrail-barlowroad.org/>)

Baker Cabin Historical Site

1856 Baker Cabin sits on it's original site. Horace and Jane Baker traveled west from Illinois in the second wagon train from Independence, Missouri in 1846. This was the first wagon train to cross the new Barlow Road from The Dalles to Oregon City. The Barlow Trail bypassed the treacherous ride on rafts down the Columbia River. (Source: <https://bakercabin.org/>)



Philip Foster Farm

Philip Foster, one of Oregon's earliest pioneers, was a leader in the establishment of Oregon. His farm and home in Eagle Creek played an important part in the history of The Barlow Road, which followed the south side of Mt. Hood as an alternative to the treacherous Columbia River route. Foster helped fund, build and operate The Barlow Road at various times between 1848 and 1865, guiding thousands of covered wagons into the Willamette Valley.

Foster took a 642.81-acre donation land claim at Eagle Creek in the late 1840s, moving his store from Oregon City to meet the steady stream of emigrants arriving on The Barlow Road. The Philip Foster place was a welcome sight for pioneers coming down that one last hill into the Willamette Valley and the start of a new life in the new land.

Foster managed the toll road, hiring gatekeepers and maintenance crews as needed, and kept metic-

ulous records, including details of tolls collected and goods bought and sold, letters passed between family members, and official documents. After Philip's death, his son Egbert continued to live on the property with his wife, Elsie Jane, until they both died in 1939, after which the property was sold out of the family, eventually becoming a relic, with barn and house rented out to separate tenants.

Local educator Betty Cody alerted philanthropist Ruth Powers to the importance of this site. Powers funded the purchase and initial repairs, turning it over to the Jackknife-Zion-Horseheaven Historical Society to manage and maintain. JZH opened it to the public in 1993, for the sesquicentennial of The Oregon Trail.

Since 1993, the Farm has been funded by memberships, tours, admissions, donations, store sales, and private and public grants, and is supported by a small army of volunteers and a dedicated board of directors. (Source: <https://philipfosterfarm.com/>)



Farm Tours

The farm is open for drop-in guests on Saturdays from 11-4:00 May through October. Admission on those days is \$5.00 per person or \$20.00 per family.

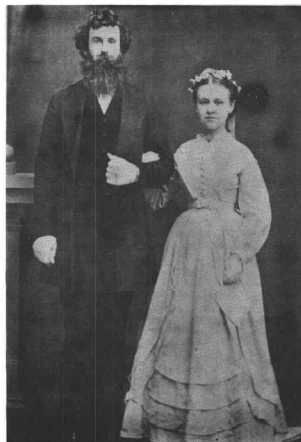
JZH members and Heritage Pass holders can email to arrange a free private tour at your convenience. Others can purchase tickets for \$7.00 per person. Staff requires two weeks' notice to ensure that someone will be available for your private tour.

Tours are not available November-March, but the grounds are open dawn to dusk every day, with lots of signs to explain the history of this important Oregon Trail site.

Phone: 503-637-6324
 elaine@philipfosterfarm.com
 22725 SE Eagle Creek Road
 Eagle Creek, OR 97022

Lovers of Lane County

"It was while plodding along the trail that he caught up with the train ahead, and where he met his future wife, nineteen-year-old Mary Frances Gay, whose train had been traveling part of the time with the Illinois train. It was typical of John Cogswell that he always knew just what he wanted and how to get it. So it is not



JOHN AND MARY GAY COGSWELL, Married Lane Co., Oct. 28, 1852

surprising that he turned to his drivers and said, "Did you see that pretty girl standing by the stove? Well, she's the woman for me-the girl I'm going to marry!" But the young lady's train pushed on ahead, entering the Willamette Valley by Barlow Pass, leaving John's train far behind.

John worked for some time on his claim, sawing and splitting lumber, for there were no mills then. He ploughed and cultivated the virgin soil for his gardens and fields. He worked very hard, while dreaming of the pretty girl he'd met on the plains. Finally, when his house was finished (which incidentally was said to be the first frame house built in Lane County), he mounted his strongest horse to ride up and down the valley, questioning settlers as to the whereabouts of the Gay family who came in 1851.

John Cogswell found Mary Gay near the center of the Valley visiting the Jess Looney family. It was dinner time and John was invited to stay. Needless to say John accepted the invitation and lost no time in courting Mary, who told him that she was promised to a man back East. However, John was persistent and soon changed the girl's mind and won her consent.

John and Mary were married October 28, 1852, and theirs was the first marriage license to be recorded in the Lane County Clerk's office. Their wedding proved to be a big event for those times, their friends coming as far as fifty miles by horseback, and in a rainstorm, to enjoy the Gay family's hospitality in their large, comfortable log house, which stood about eight miles south of Eugene City.

Mary was a beautiful bride in the wedding outfit her father had brought from Portland and John a proud bridegroom. Soon after the wedding, the couple rode horseback to their new home on the McKenzie river being ferried across the Willamette by Charles Walker Young, father of Cal Young." (Source: LnCo HS)

Campbell House Inn

Built in 1892 by John Cogswell and fully restored as a historic boutique hotel, the now Campbell House Inn is a luxury bed and breakfast. Nestled against Skinner's Butte, the Campbell House is just a short walk down the hill from the Shelton McMurphey-Johnson House and just a few steps from downtown.

Visit www.campbellhouseinn.com



Cogswell Miller House

This house in the Rural Gothic style was built in early 1884 by John Cogswell for his daughter DeEtta on the corner of 3rd and Pearl at the foot of Skinner's Butte, next to the Dr. Thomas Shelton property. DeEtta became ill and died in early 1885 at age 25. Her sister and brother-in-law, Lischen and George M. Miller, purchased the house in August, 1885. George was a brother of Joaquin Miller, famous "Poet of the Sierras". Educated as a lawyer, George also became a real estate developer who became known as the "Prophet of Lane County." He advocated a trans-continental highway from New York to Florence, Oregon; designed a flying machine in 1892; platted the town of Fairmont; and laid out the road to and founded the coastal towns of Acme and Florence. The house was moved by horses, on log rollers in 1909 to its current location, at 246 East 3rd Ave., where it has been beautifully restored, decorated and maintained. (Source: <http://lostandfoundeugene.blogspot.com/2012/01/cogswell-miller-house.html>)

Shelton McMurphey Johnson House

This Queen Anne Revival style, Victorian house was not just a home for a privileged family in Eugene, it also served as a farmstead of sorts. The McMurpheys kept horses, cows, and chickens, and the children helped tend to them. Robert McMurphey's widow Alberta sold the house to Eva Johnson and Eva's husband, Curtis Johnson.

Dr. Eva Johnson was born in Pendleton, Oregon, but moved with her mother to Eugene following her father's tragic death in the Blue Mountains. They lived with Eva's grandmother in the Campbell House, just around the corner from the Shelton McMurphey Johnson House. Growing up, Eva was close to the McMurphey children, and spent much of her time at their home. She grew up loving the house and hoped to someday own it. When Alberta died, none of the six McMurphey children decided to take on the responsibility to keep the house, so it went on the market and Eva purchased it for \$30,000.

Eva and her husband Curtis had met at Rush Medical School in Chicago. They had three daughters and one son, and spent 25 years practicing medicine in Madison, Wisconsin. Eva studied psychology and Curtis served in the U.S. Army, including a stint as the pediatrician for General Douglas MacArthur's son. Once Curtis was honorably discharged in 1950, the Johnsons moved to Eugene and opened up offices within their new house on the hill. Eva specialized in personal and divorce counseling.

Curtis spent much of his time in Eugene unhappy, and would lock himself away in the turret within the attic. He once actually locked himself in the turret (the door locked from the outside) and had to



cut a hole in the wall so he could reach out and open the door. In 1966 Eva sold 3.25 acres of land to a group planning to build retirement homes, which became the Ya-Po-Ah Terrace high-rise apartment tower. Curtis died the following year, in 1967, and Eva continued to live in the house, renting rooms out to university students.

In 1975, Eva offered the house to her children; however, none of them were able to take it, so she made a deal with the Lane County Historical Society: they could have the house, but she would be able to live there until she died. She died in 1986 at age 97, and the house was subsequently transferred from Lane County to the City of Eugene. The house is now kept open to the public by the nonprofit Shelton McMurphey Johnson Associates.

(Source: <https://smjhouse.org/about/history/>)

Mims House

The Mims House in Eugene, Oregon is a Gothic-style, single-family home considered to be one of the oldest homes in the area. It functioned as the the home of the Mims family, who became one of the first African American homeowners in Eugene when they purchased it in 1948.

During the period of racial segregation in Eugene, the Mims family frequently hosted African American visitors to Eugene both at their home and in the adjoining boarding house which they owned.

As of 2021, the Eugene-Springfield branch of the NAACP is located in the Mims House, although the home also operates as a museum. (Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mims_House)

The building is a Historic Landmark located within the East Skinner Butte Historic District. Learn more from this interactive map:

<https://pdd.eugene-or.gov/maps/historicmap>





Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers Gatherings

Saturday, October 29, 2022

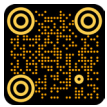
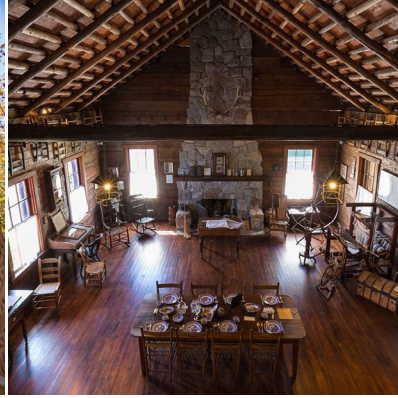
High Tea and Parlor Games 4-5:30 pm

Includes Tour of [Shelton McMurphey Johnson House](#)
303 Willamette Street, Eugene, Lane County, Oregon 97401

RSVP joyce@oregonsdop.org

Semi-formal attire, Pioneer or Period Dress encouraged, not required

Lodging at [Campbell Inn](#) off the Butte? Ask for your Pioneer Party gift at the Hotel Front Desk



Saturday, November 19, 2022

Board Meeting 10-Noon

[George Fox University](#)

RSVP joyce@oregonsdop.org

November 19, 2022

Harvest Dinner 1:30-4:30 PM

Ticket Price: \$50 per person

RSVP with [Newell Pioneer Village](#)

January 7, 2023

Board meeting 10-Noon
Debbie Pederson's Home in
Damascus, Oregon

Followed by a visit to
[Pioneer Church & Horace
Baker's Log Cabin](#)

Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

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