

President's Letter

From Jeanne Preston

It was good to see all of you at our Board Meeting in Prineville. Thank you to Dawn Alexander for opening up the museum for us.



It doesn't seem possible that this is my last message to you as your President. I'm not sure where the time went but I'm betting it went faster in this day and age than it did for our ancestors.

We are still looking for someone to fill the corresponding secretary's position. If you think you would be interested but would like more information, please contact Debbie Pedersen.

Your new Board is soliciting ideas for locations to hold next year's meetings, including the Annual Banquet in February. If you have any ideas or have a place that you think would be of interest to our members, please reach out. We are hoping to be able to travel to more places this year other than the Willamette Valley area.

Our next Board Meeting will be held June 1, 2024 at the Holmes House Museum in Oregon City.

Please also mark your calendars for our Annual Picnic on July 13, 2024 at Champoeg State Park, Heritage Area.

It has been a pleasure serving as your SDOP President this year. I want to thank the Board for all their support and hard work. It truly takes a team to make things run smoothly.

Happy trails to you!!

Upcoming SDOP Board Meetings and Events

Board meetings are open to all Members and their families.

SDOP's June 2024 Meeting is one of our Historical Site meetings. All members and guests are invited.



The William L. Holmes House – known as "Rose Farm"

It was the site of inauguration speech of the first Territorial Governor of Oregon, Joseph Lane in 1849

Meeting Date: June 1, 2024 Oregon City, Oregon

This event is for All members

Time: 10:30 am Tour of the William L. Holmes House
536 Holmes Lane Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Guided tour by: Denyse McGriff

12:30 pm Meeting and Lunch

Jimmy O's Pizzeria - Reserved Conference Room
1678 Beaver Creek Road Oregon City, Oregon 97045

May 4, 2024

Founders Day Celebration

Location:

Champoeg State Park at the Pioneer Pavilion, Marion County, Oregon

June 1, 2024

Installation of Officers and Board Meeting

Time & Location:

10:00 Meeting at William Holmes House (Rose farm), Oregon City

Meeting and lunch will follow the tour.

Details on pg. 7 of this newsletter.

July 13, 2024

Annual SDOP Picnic

Location:

Champoeg State Park Pioneer Pavilion

Time:**10:00 AM** - Board Meeting**12:00 Noon** - Picnic

Lost Mail

The following members' newsletter and other correspondence was returned and SDOP does not have a new address or a good email ID. Please help us locate:

Debra Elayne Morrison
 Greg Tompkins
 Linda Cornutt Sindt
 Terry Lee Wells
 Catherine Underbrink
 Marilyn Korte
 William Crabtree
 Tracey McManus

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

Dave Thompson (dave_tek@yahoo.com) or
 Shauna Noon (shauna@oregonsdop.org).

Board Members & Volunteers**Officers**

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jmppls02@gmail.com

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chris.meinicke@outlook.com

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 (971) 330-1104

joyce@oregonsdop.org

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Shauna@oregonsdop.org

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Elgin Oregon Museum and Historical Society

Many of our Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers find their histories in the distant corner of NE Oregon. If you're travelling to this part of the State, I encourage you to make this one of your stops.

The Elgin Museum and Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of the Elgin area. The museum offers a variety of exhibits, programs, and events to explore the rich cultural heritage of Elgin and the surrounding area.

The museum's collection of historic artifacts, photographs, and documents provides visitors with a glimpse into Elgin's past. The museum's permanent exhibits include "Elgin: An American Story" which chronicles the history of Elgin from prehistory to the present. Other exhibits cover topics such as agriculture, transportation, and industry in Elgin.

The Elgin Museum and Historical Society also hosts a variety of events throughout the year. These include lectures, workshops, and educational programs for all ages. Additionally, the museum offers a research library and archives for those who wish to explore the history of Elgin further.

The Elgin Museum and Historical Society is a great resource for those looking to learn more about the history of the area. In addition to its permanent exhibits and educational programs,

the museum also offers an online store where visitors can purchase souvenirs, books, and other items related to Elgin's history.

Adults: \$5

Children: \$3

Open: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.
10am-4pm

Mailing address: Elgin Museum, P.O. Box
358 Elgin, Oregon 97827

Located NNE of La Grande, Oregon on the
Wallowa Lake Hwy.

Facebook: [Elgin Oregon Museum And Historical Society | Facebook](#)



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 Mark Goddard, Editor - mark@oregontrailgenealogy.com. Submissions for the July issue will be due by *June 24th*, 2024. Photos and articles are welcome from all members!

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.

Cheryl McDaniel	\$50	Rose Parade
M. Catherine Jones	\$50	Rose Parade
Ronald R. Dueltgen	\$100	Rose Parade
Terry Thompson	\$150	Rose Parade
Betty J. Johnson	\$1000	General
James Shaw	\$200	Rose Parade
Sharon Cranford	\$500	Rose Parade
Robert Dueltgen	\$200	Rose Parade
Richard Spooner	\$200	Scholarship
Lita Neiderheiser	\$100	Rose Parade

Thank you for financially supporting our efforts to promote an interest in Oregon history with diverse audiences.

Donations made through the website are processed through a secure provider by using your credit or debit card, and no PayPal account is needed. We appreciate each and every donation and will be diligent handling all.

Checks or Money Orders can be made out to **SDOP** or **Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers**.

The mailing address is:

SDOP
P.O. Box 6685
Portland, OR 97228-6685

Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers operates as a 501(c)(3) entity. Donations are tax-deductible.

SDOP EIN# is 23-7455151.

Update on a wonderful photo!



This photo was misidentified in the September 2023 issue.

Alice C. Revenue, sister of John Revenue, at the 1901 dedication of Champoege.

In Memoriam

Our sympathy is extended to the family of the following member, who has passed:

~ Dr. Wilma Froman Sheridan ~

SDOP's Annual Picnic is July 13, 2024 at the Pavilion at Champoege State Park



This Pavilion was built by members of SDOP

**Date:
Saturday, July 13, 2024**

**Time:
10:00 AM Board Meeting
11:30 AM Members start arriving for
the Picnic**

This event is for all members and their families. It is an event that has always taken place on the Second Saturday in July to honor our Pioneer ancestors.

Please come and share your pioneer stories.

Tom and Linda are coming with their wagon and mules and will provide rides in the wagon.

Board Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2024

Bowman Museum

246 N Main St, Prineville, OR 97754

Directors: Joyce del Rosario, Jeanne Preston, Priscilla Belin, Chris Meinecke, Dave Thompson, Debbie Pedersen, Dawn Alexander.

Active Members: Linda Johnson
Friends and Guests: Leif Lidin-Lamon, Terry Thompson, Mark Pedersen
Meeting called to order approximately 10:18 a.m.

OFFICER REPORTS

SECRETARY– Joyce del Rosario, present. Board Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2024 approved unanimously.

TREASURER– Shauna Noon, Treasurer, not present. Jeanne printed copies of information provided by Shauna for the board for review.

PRESIDENT–Jeanne Preston, present and reporting.

1. **FINANCES**– Jeanne asked if CD accounts can be moved around or spent. Joyce asked Jeanne to provide account numbers for clarity.

PRESIDENT ELECT– Chris Meinicke, present and reporting.

1. SDOP ANNUAL BANQUET - Chris reported that Annual Banquet costs continue to increase. Shauna was instructed to apply to Intel Benevity Fund to offset loss by the donation SDOP will receive by inviting the Intel Singers to perform at the banquet.

2. SUMMER PARADES - Report recorded in Minutes section titled: DIRECTOR/COMMITTEE REPORTS

3. SDOP ANNUAL PICNIC – Chris has not been in coordination with Joyce yet. Chris reminded the board the SDOP Annual picnic is typically the second Saturday

in July at the Pioneer Pavillion. The Park Ranger will do their best to not book another group, but SDOP should check back every January regardless to verify the reservation. Chris arranged for Tom Marquette to be camping from July 5-6. Chris suggested the board approve Ed Elmo, native speaker with fish stories. Chris also suggested Truman Price, fiddler, to perform again. The event date is Saturday, July 13. Chris reported that picnic costs could potentially increase if the Parks do not waive the \$200 use fee. To be eligible for a waiver, the Park Ranger suggested SDOP might explore doing a service project at the Park (such as informational panel displays). SDOP could also leverage the veteran status of a member when registering for the event to receive reduced fees. The audience inquired if the veteran status of Joyce or Dave could help lower the usage fee.

4. OREGON TERRITORY FOUNDERS' DAY

Founder's Day event at Champoeg State Heritage Area will be lower key this year. Dave will forward Chris flyer from Ranger Janet Land, Oregon State Park.

5. NEW BUSINESS – The Fred Meek historical Library at Champoeg needs support to remain available for public research. A point of contact for the library is Rachel Leo, past member of Friends of Historic Butteville. Rachel paid a catalog subscription for the Meek library. Chris will send Joyce contact information for Rachel Leo.

DIRECTOR/COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUMMER PARADES- The Grand Floral Parade application has been submitted by Michael Irving. Dave added that members are not being asked to ride in the wagon; it is already full. Chris reported that Gand Avenue Floral will charge \$1000 for flowers to create floral strands to put on Tom Marquette's Wagon. Joyce asked if the expectation was again for Joyce and Leif to refrigerate and transport the flowers, then bring them to the Brownsville parade for Tom later in the month. Joyce also asked

how SDOP could recover the flowers and supplies and banners.

MEMBERSHIP – Debbie Pedersen, Registrar, present and reporting. 5 New Senior members. 2 are Mother and Daughter who were at the Banquet. 4 new friends who want to be members but cannot find documents; upgrading is an option rather than let applications sit. 1 new Life Adult – Senior. 1 Senior Passed.

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY – Debbie Pedersen, Correspondence Secretary, present and reporting. Debbie is processing a \$1000 donation. Chris asked if 10 percent of all general donations are automatically going to the Awards committee.

TRADING POST – Reggie Burke, Trading Post Vendor, was not present to report.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Joyce asked SDOP to fund a Dropbox account to backup oregonsdop.org. Motion to approve \$25 per month for Dropbox services passed unanimously.
2. An ad-hoc Committee to improve the online "Registration" was formed. The mission is to have the online registration be more like the paper form. Zoom meeting to be scheduled by Joyce with Registrars and Treasurer.
3. Motion to approve 2024-2025 President, Chris Meinicke, and 2023-2025 Treasurer, Shauna Noon, to sign on bank accounts for Fiscal Year July 2024 – June 2025 passed unanimously.
4. Motion to pay museum \$100 for visit to Crook County Historical Society Museum passed unanimously.
5. Joyce mentioned that Newberg is hosting the Newberg Old Fashioned Festival July 25 - 28, 2024.

More information at <http://www.newber-goldfashionedfestival.org/>

6. Dawn reported that she shared about the Fourth Grade Essay Contest at schools around Prineville.

7. Dave and Chris produced the March 2024 issue of SDOP News. Dave reported that the newsletter will not have a birth-day section. Dave asked if the content from the book "Reflections" by Jeanne Sharpe Phillips could be reproduced in the future SDOP newsletters. Dave calculates SDOP could get 20+ years of articles from that book alone. Chris believes that SDOP owns all rights to "Reflections" and the News Team does not need any permission from the author to reproduce the book in the SDOP News. Joyce encouraged Dave and the SDOP News Team to contact the living author, Mrs. Jeanne Sharpe Phillips of Milwaukie, Oregon for her expressed permission.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Prepared by Joyce del Rosario
Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers,
Secretary May 4, 2024

NEXT MEETING:

Saturday, June 1, 2024, SDOP Board Meeting and 2024-2025 Board of Directors Installation

Optional Tour at 10:30 am Holmes House Museum at the Rose Farm, 536 Holmes Lane, Oregon City, OR 97045.

<http://www.mcloughlinhouse.org/the-holmes-house.html>

Optional Lunch Meal: Jimmy O's Pizzeria, 1678 S Beaver Creek Rd # R, Oregon City, OR 97045.

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):

Annual dues are due in June.

Junior [birth - 18]:	\$8.00
Adult Member/Friend [18 - 60]:	\$20.00
Senior Member/Friend [60+]:	\$15.00

Adjustments

Printed Newsletter fee:	+\$10.00
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The Oregon California Trails Association's 41st Annual Convention will be in Pendleton, Oregon July 21-25.

Click [HERE](#) for Program notes/registration.



4th grade Essay Contest Due Date May 15, 2024

The 4th grade essay contest is open to ALL 4th graders in Oregon. Members, Parents, grandparents and great grandparents please tell your family members and/or neighbors and friends (especially any teacher friends) about this very exciting essay contest.

One of our goals is to get the word out about our organization so if you know of a 4th grade student, or teacher, we would appreciate your help in spreading the word on this contest.

4th graders who apply for this scholarship do *NOT* have to be youth members of SDOP.

SDOP would like to see lots of applications this year. Here is the website for the 4th Grade Essay contest: <https://oregonsdop.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/4th-grade-essay-contest-2021.pdf>.

Awards:

1st place winner receives..... **\$150.00**
2nd place winner receives **\$75.00**

By the Scholarship Committee

We would love to see our College Scholarship and Jr. awards program grow. If you would like to donate to these programs, visit the Donations and Dues link on our website.

New Members

Member's Name,

Ancestor (State of Origin) Date Arrived in Oregon Territory

Senior

Patricia Karapinar

Pike (MA & NY) 1852

Darla Ann Sturdy

McNary (KY) 1847

Waller (IL) 1849

Boothby (OH, IL) 1849

Duran (OH) 1850

Arla J. Weis Ruthven

McNary (KY) 1847

Waller (IL) 1849

Boothby (OH, IL) 1849

Duran (OH) 1850

Life

Barry Orell

Houston (OH) 1848

Jennifer Smith (converted to life)

Nancy M Sharp Herron

Webb (OH) 1847

Leach (OH) 1847

Webb (OT) 1855

Friend

David M Witter, Jr.

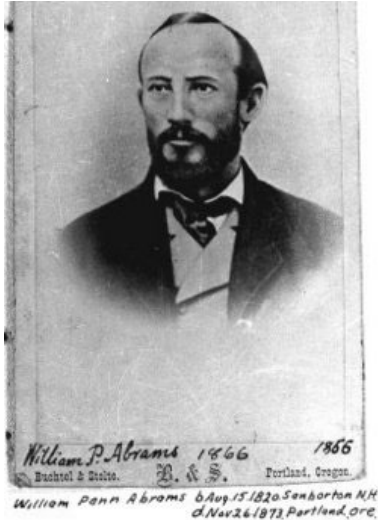
Mary C. Shaer Thompson

Wanda Taylor

Julie Ann Smith Peterson

Reflections of Oregon Pioneers

The following is an excerpt from *Reflections of Oregon Pioneer Families*, a collection of pioneer stories compiled by SDOP life member Jeannie Sharp Philips. ©1994



**William Penn Abrams
1820-1876**

My great-grandfather, William Penn Abrams, came to Portland in 1849. He was shocked because there were no books available. Before he returned to the East for his family in Claremont, N.H., he raised \$1200. to buy books for Portland.

Just before he and his family sailed from New York City on the return voyage around the Horn, he went to McClures to select the books. While there, he met Henry W. Corbett and told him of the great opportunities in Portland. My family sailed from New York 7 November 1850 on the bark "Francis and Louise". After a hazardous journey around the Horn, they arrived in Portland in April 1851. I do not know how Henry W. Corbett came to Portland, but I do know that the goods for his first store came on the same ship.

My father's father, William Rollins Abrams was a small boy; his sister, Sarah Lavina, also made the voyage. Later she married Harvey Hogue. Before my great-grandfather left for the East, he and Mr. Coffin built a steam sawmill at the foot of Madison and Jefferson streets. Timbers were cut from trees on the blocks now bounded by Front and Third, Main and Columbia. The mill was a joint venture of Abrams and C. A. Reed with Stephen Coffin as a silent partner. This mill cut the boards for the Jefferson Street planked road, which enabled the Tualatin farmers to bring their products to Portland.

Great-Granddaughter
Eleta L. Corbitt

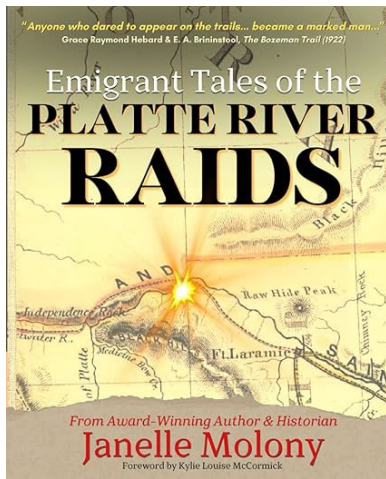
Editor's note: For more information about his life and travels, see an online transcript of his diaries at the Southern Oregon Historical Societies website:

<https://truwe.sohs.org/files/abrams.html>



If you have a pioneer story you'd like to share from your family, please send it to Dave (Dave_tek@yahoo.com) and Mark (mark@oregontrailgenealogy.com)! We'd love to print it!

BOOK RECOMMENDATION –

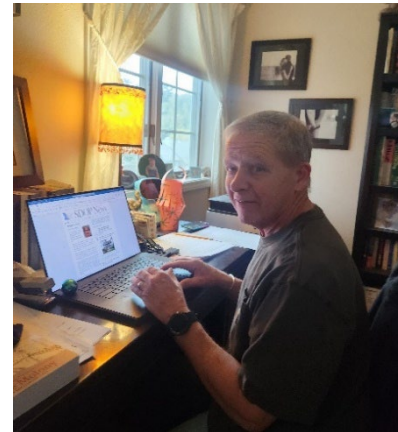


Emigrant Tales of the Platte River Raids: An 1864 Trail Diary Companion

by Janelle Molony (Author), Kylie Louise McCormick (Foreword)

While the Civil War raged in the east, the Platte River Raids would begin an entirely new battle for the American West. In July of 1864, Northern Plains Indians in Idaho Territory (Wyoming) appeared to be on a warpath to cease all emigrant travel on the Bozeman, Oregon, and Overland Trails by any means. On a signal, hundreds of warriors launched a series of attacks and robberies on unsuspecting emigrants through the winding "Black Hills." This is not just another "tale of the Trail" but rather a study of several specific wagon trains, their routes, and importantly, rosters listing the surnames of the travelers.

Read the eyewitness testimonies of nearly 70 survivors, vetted by living descendants, mapped out, annotated, and presented in one accord for the first time.



Mark Goddard, SDOP Editor

Over forty years ago I found myself in the small eastern Oregon town of Canyon City, peering through their modest historical museum. Besides my interest in family history was an unfolding fascination with Oregon's history, and I was soon to learn they were inexplicably intertwined.

On that day, I looked up at the portraits of a man and a woman from the late 1800's, and looking down at the placard beneath them, saw the name Fisk, the same maiden name as my grandmother's. I was staring back five generations to my grandparents, who traveled the Oregon Trail in 1852.

Since that moment I have continued studying the history of Oregon through the lineage of 13K+ people in my family tree, unraveling stories of family and the PNW, and helping other find their own family histories.



It is with great pleasure that I take on the duties of SDOP editor. I can be contacted at:

mark@oregontrailgenealogy.com

Lessons of Resilience and Independence - The Hen Party

Many of us are familiar with the hardships our ancestors endured while crossing the Oregon Trail. Similarly, we have learned about the hardships of settling in the new Oregon Territory, of establishing homesteads and then the hardscrabble life. It is hard to imagine just how difficult it was, and it took a great deal of self-sufficiency to build a home, feed the family, and face the danger in the wildlands beyond.

[Mike Staver](#) said, "...what makes a person stronger is their perspective and their willingness to manage the hardship they face in a way that constantly moves them forward." From this willingness to manage the challenges of settling a new land came a certain amount of resilience and independence. They strove to endure and focused on overcoming hardship to establish a life for their families.

These lessons of resilience and independence were, in turn, passed on to their children. We still see the strength of those qualities in the hard-working people of eastern Oregon, not only in the men who are still pushing cattle through the mountains of the Imnaha and Wallowa's, but in the women who raise family and work the farms and ranches.



Jean McDonald Birnie

We find those qualities in Jean McDonald and her dear friend, Grace Carter McKennon.



Grace Carter McKennon

As stated in the La Grande Observer article of April 6, 2024, "*By all accounts, Jean MacDonald Birnie and Grace Carter McKennon were unusual women for their time.*"

Born in 1885 in Island City, outside of La Grande in Eastern Oregon, they were lifelong friends. As girls, they'd ride their horses in the hills above the Grande Ronde Valley in search of wildflowers and dine on berries they foraged along the way.

"Early on, Jean and Grace would take off on their own and kind of discover who they were as individuals and their relationship with nature and horses," said Grace's granddaughter Melissa Reece Over. "It just was so much a part of who they were."

Melissa said the time spent in the outdoors helped the friends develop resilience."

Read the full article here or listen to the story on OPB here: [Early 20th-century adventurers left a legacy of female empowerment in the wilderness.](#)

Lessons of Resilience... in it's entirety can be found [HERE](#), authored by Mark Goddard



SDOP News

Oregon Pioneers'
Newsletter

Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers

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