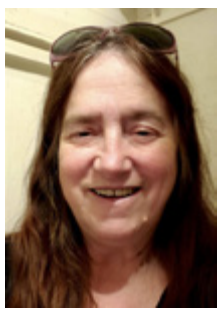


Feb-Mar-Apr 2026



Dear Members, We had a lovely banquet in February and the winning essays are inside this issue. Our youngest members are truly inspiring people! I also hope you will join me in April to learn more about the rich legacy of Pacific Northwest logging and the families who steward our forests and natural resources.

*-Joy'e Willman, SDOP President 2025-2026*

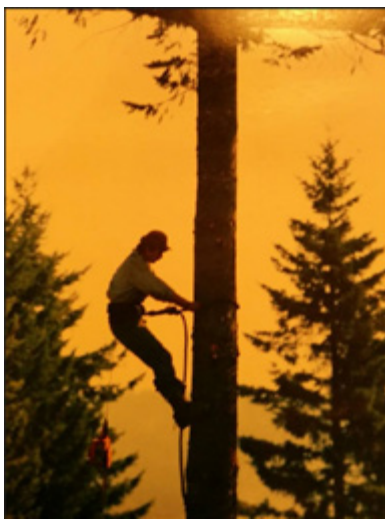
**Destination:  
Camp 18**

Date: Saturday,  
April 18, 2026

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: 42362  
US-26, Seaside, OR  
97138

**All are welcome.**



[https://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/native\\_american\\_loggers\\_in\\_oregon/](https://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/native_american_loggers_in_oregon/)



Located on Highway 26, 60 miles from Portland, 22 miles from Seaside

Oregon Statehood Celebration & Awards Banquet  
Keynote Speaker: *Victor Leo, President, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association*  
2026 Miss Pioneer Oregon Winners:  
*Shanti del Rosario and Addison Stabenow*





2021 was the first time that I attended a 'Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers' event. Many families were gathering for the annual picnic that takes place in early July at Champoeg State Heritage Area near the Willamette

River. It was a bright summer day as I was getting out of the car with my mom. I saw a girl just a couple years older than me in a beautiful traditional pioneer dress. Her dress with a simple pattern flowed to the ground, her hair was elegantly put up and she had a lovely antique shawl wrapped around her shoulder. I suddenly felt underdressed.

At the time I didn't have much knowledge of my family background or what this organization was. But this teenage girl was a visual representation of what 'Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers' is all about. Keeping the stories and history alive and valuing it.

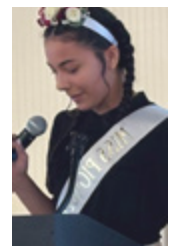
Later, I would come to understand that pioneer women spent years making their own clothes and preparing for the long journey ahead. Their clothes had to be rugged for the difficult conditions and their hearts had to be especially resilient. My mom very quickly noticed my interest and said I could be "her" one day. Of course, being eleven years old I did

not think it was possible, but after four strong years of coming to these events and learning about the significance of my family I would be honored if I could be the 2026 Miss Pioneer Oregon. I would attend each event excited to volunteer and speak, and I would offer encouragement to others who aren't yet in the organization to look into their family background with the goal of expanding this community.

Growing community was essential to the survival of our ancestors and is critical for the survival of this heritage organization. I have seen the pioneer spirit of courage and exploration in people of every different cultural background and ethnicity. Still, it is fascinating to discover why people from all over the world chose to come to what many call God's country. Whether they came here to live out the rest of their lives or came to work and send money home to provide for their families, all of us are indebted to those who came to the Oregon Territory to make it a better place, as we are to those people who were the earliest stewards of this blessed land.

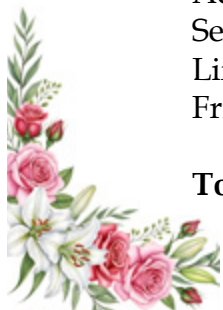
I would be so honored to represent Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers, and take on this endeavor to help improve the opportunities for those who would follow, just like our ancestors did for us.

*Shanti del Rosario, MPO 2026*



**SUMMARY OF NEW MEMBERS IN 2025**

Junior	5
Adult	11
Senior	9
Life	8
Friend	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>



**IN MEMORIAM**

- Alice Adams
- Dana R. Botkin
- Dolores E. Egger
- Kelly Kay Franklin
- Ermine Hopkins
- Phyllis Naish
- Gary P. Smith
- Phyllis Stimert
- Sharon Ward Sullivan





I want to be Miss Pioneer Oregon because I feel I embody the spirit of Oregon. Since I was little, my mother has taken me camping and hiking from the Oregon coast to Mt Hood, Crater Lake, and the high desert.

During the spring and summer, we pick strawberries, blueberries, and blackberries. Over the years, I have learned how to make and preserve jam. Last summer, I decided to take up fishing. I am really excited to get my salmon tags and endorsements so I can further my love of fishing and dig deep into the hobby.

I feel close to my Oregon Pioneer roots because my family has a small pioneer cemetery that has an annual cleanup. I have had the opportunity to attend these with my grandmother, Charlotte Vanhorn as well as many Gribble family reunions. It has been a dream of mine to be Miss Pioneer Oregon because my mother was also a Miss Pioneer in 2001 and 2002 and I would like to carry on the legacy.

*Addison Stabenow, MPO 2026*



How has your family history, as the descendent of a pioneer, made difference in your life and how do you plan to keep your personal history alive?

My mom started getting really into our family's genealogical history around five years ago, and at the time, I didn't really understand why she was so interested in it. But through the years, as she would tell me cool stories about ancestors of ours, it helped me feel more connected to my family. I have very few family members in Oregon. As I grew up, the only relative outside of my household I saw regularly was my grandmother. The branch of my family descending from a pioneer is that of my dad's mom, Ruth. Grandma Ruth passed away before I was born, and according to my dad, she never really talked about her family. So the work my mom has done in tracing back her family history has made me feel like I know her better, even though I never got the chance to meet her in person. I plan to keep my personal history alive by preserving the work my mom does and sharing it with my future children so they can know their family history as well as I have been able to.

*Shelby Long, 2026 Scholarship Award Winner*

**NEW ADULT**

**Nathan Curtis Bell**

James Simpson Phillips\* 1852 KY  
 Samuel Thomas Phillips 1852 OT  
 Nancy Ann Raines 1852 IL  
 Matilda Humphries Boyd 1852 MO

**Caleb M. Bell**

James Simpson Phillips\* 1852 KY  
 Samuel Thomas Phillips 1852 OT  
 Nancy Ann Raines 1852 IL  
 Matilda Humphries Boyd 1852 MO

**NEW SENIOR**

**Deanna Jean Lucas**

Moses C. Davis Sr.\* 1852 VA  
 Harmon Wallen Davis 1852 TN  
 Isaac Silas Davis 1853 TN

**NEW LIFE**

**Pepper Toelle Johnson Kim**

Rebecca Enyart\* 1844 IL  
 Life Alexander Hamilton McQuinn 1844 NC  
 Sarah Stevens 1844 KY

\* Indicates Pioneer on certificate



If life was easy, we might never realize our potential. Each of us will encounter tough times, but the attitude we choose determines our outcomes. Willingness to face hardships and deal with setbacks can either make or break you. In my own journey to become a resilient young woman, I rely on God, community, and family. Family, present and past, help me embrace the pioneer spirit to get me past the obstacles in the road and prepare for challenges ahead.

I have always loved being active in sports and engaged with other students on a project or team. Recently, I committed to playing volleyball at a higher level. After recovering from an injury at the end of freshman year, I started my sophomore year on the junior varsity squad. However, I was chosen to suit up for varsity by the head coach because he believed "I had it in me." He saw the effort and energy I put in for JV and believed I could be on that varsity court with them. This growth opportunity came with a lot of pressure. It was tough to balance proving I was a good fit for the varsity squad that I had hardly spent time with and still be an engaged captain for my junior varsity team; I felt overwhelmed and disoriented. It was too easy to get down on myself and lose my strong mindset. I know that pioneer youth faced similar feelings as they crossed the uncharted territory mostly on foot, sometimes losing friends and family and finding it hard to carry on and start over.

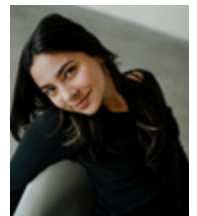
Between sickness and the lack of food, their time was very stressful. Yet they knew they had to provide for their family and be there for each other. I remember the fortitude of those young pioneers when I'm playing volleyball, being there for my team and knowing that if we stay strong, we can get through anything. Applying their stories of resilience in my own life helps me be there for my team and finish the season strong, winning districts. Building on that success, I chose to press in harder and set an even higher standard for myself as a student athlete. I've just started club volleyball on an 18-1s national team, a team of players up to eighteen and younger that will be traveling to national competitions, very similar to the situation I faced during my school season. I know there are very

high-performance expectations from both my team and coaches. I am expected to be mature, professional, and always improving. I also need to work to help pay for the additional travel and club expenses. I remember going to my first club practice and thinking I wasn't able to perform at the level required for the national competition and balance all the demands of school and work.

I can imagine many of the young people who walked the Oregon Trail sometimes felt inadequate or unsure of themselves along the way too. Struggling to adapt and feeling overwhelmed at times, I was tempted to give up. I really had to dig deep to lead with hope. It's already a physical stretch to play with girls who are older than me, but when I don't have classes with those people or go to the same school, it can be very hard to make the emotional connections you need for team sports like volleyball. However, I refused to accept defeat. I talked to God a lot and reminded myself of the sacrifices my whole family was making to help me follow my passion. Each day I take that positive mental attitude, I am more aware of what my team needs and that I need to leave my comfort zone and make those bonds that will get us across the finish line together. These interactions especially remind me of when our ancestors would trade with the Native Americans and make strong relationships. They were strangers, trusting each other and having love for one another.

When you have faith in the people around you, community builds and chances of success and survival increase. None of us is meant to go through life alone; we are all meant for community, on earth as it is in heaven. I know that more challenges will come my way, and I plan to reframe them as learning opportunities so I can continue to serve my family and community. Having this toughness of spirit, inspired by the pioneers, has gotten me through really hard times and gives me hope for the future. I will forever be grateful to be a descendant of them and will take every chance to share this hope with others.

- Shanti del Rosario  
Junior Award Essay Winner



**Writing Prompts for authors of all ages**

Describe the life of a pioneer.

Identify physical and mental demands they might have endured.

List some goals they set to help them along the path toward success.

Who would be on the team to ensure a safe passage?

Describe the pioneer spirit.

Describe a time you have seen people overcome difficult circumstances.

How could exhibiting a pioneer attitude help you in something you are facing today?

**[SDOP Membership Fees Structure](https://oregonsdop.org/membershipjoin/)**  
<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+)	\$15
Friend (all ages)	\$20

**Optional Annual Adjustments**

Printed Newsletter	+\$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

**SDOP Events**

[oregonsdop.org/events](https://oregonsdop.org/events)

**Saturday, April 18, 2026**

Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. Tour follows lunch  
 Camp 18, 42362 US-26, Seaside, OR 97138

**Saturday, May 2, 2026**

Founder’s Day Event 10:00 a.m.  
 Champoeg State Heritage Area  
 St. Paul, OR 97137

**Saturday, June 6, 2026 6:30-10:30**

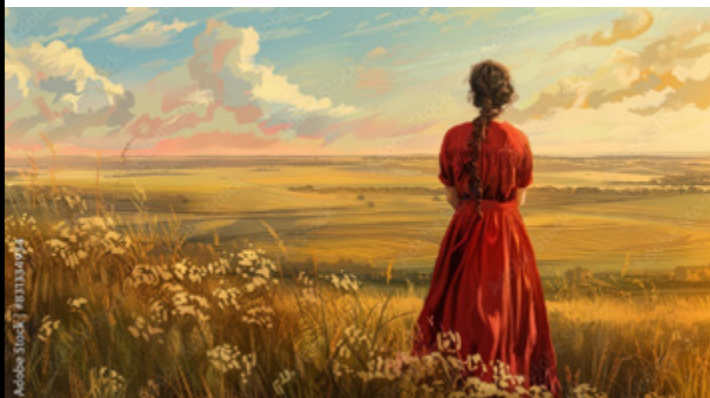
Grand Floral Rose & Starlight Parade

**June 6, 2026**

Board Meeting 11:00 a.m.  
 Stark Street Pizza Company  
 9234 SE Stark St, Portland, OR 97216

**Saturday, July 11, 2026**

Board & Volunteer Training 11:00 a.m.  
 Picnic at the Pioneer Memorial Pavilion Noon  
 Champoeg State Heritage Area  
 St. Paul, OR 97137



## Abridged Timeline of Chinese in the U.S.A. in the 1800s

Collected by SDOP  
Research Team and  
Armchair Historians



1820s

"The initial arrival of Chinese immigrants to the United States began as a slow trickle in the 1820s, with barely 650 living in the U.S. by the end of 1849. However, as gold rush fever swept the country, Chinese immigrants, too, were attracted to the notion of quick fortunes. By 1852, over 25,000 Chinese immigrants had arrived, and by 1880, over 300,000 Chinese lived in the United States, most in California." (Source: <https://oercommons.org/courseware/lesson/15487/student-old>)

1830s

"Among the earliest documented arrivals of Chinese immigrants in New York City were of "sailors and peddlers" in the 1830s." (Source: <https://culturenow.org/site/1st-chinese-immigrants-in-nyc>)

1840s

"In 1849, Chinese began immigrating to the United States in order to become gold miners in various western states, including California and North and South Dakota." (Source: [https://blogs.loc.gov/inside\\_adams/2021/01/chinese-americans-gold-rush/](https://blogs.loc.gov/inside_adams/2021/01/chinese-americans-gold-rush/))

1850s

"Beginning in the 1850s, Chinese immigrants began work to wherever gold was discovered" (Source: [https://blogs.loc.gov/inside\\_adams/2021/01/chinese-americans-gold-rush](https://blogs.loc.gov/inside_adams/2021/01/chinese-americans-gold-rush))

"In the 1850s, Chinese workers migrated to the United States, first to work in the gold mines,

but also to take agricultural jobs, and factory work, especially in the garment industry. Chinese immigrants were particularly instrumental in building railroads in the American west, and as Chinese laborers grew successful in the United States, a number of them became entrepreneurs in their own right." (Source: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1866-1898/chinese-immigration>)

"Block 14 Chinese immigrants have been in Portland since 1850 and were integral in the building of the city. They performed much of the most brutal work in the region building railroads and mining, and in Portland, building the seawall and the original sewer system. They removed the stumps out of the roads after the ancient fir trees were cut. They chopped firewood, ran laundries, and grew produce for the entire town. Lone Fir Cemetery's Block 14 (in the southwest corner of the park) was set aside for Chinese immigrants and was referred to as the Old Chinese Burial Ground." (Source: [https://www.friendsoflone-fircemetery.org/?page\\_id=1216](https://www.friendsoflone-fircemetery.org/?page_id=1216))

1860s

"Figure 35. This table, included in 1860 US Census results, shows the population of Oregon by county and by race. A note at the bottom explains, "52 male and 97 female Indians, 12 male and 16 female half-breeds, 405 male and 20 female Chinese are included in the white population." (Source: [https://www.nps.gov/oreg/learn/historyculture/upload/3195\\_First-YearInOregon\\_HistResearchAssociates\\_Full-FINAL\\_210928.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/oreg/learn/historyculture/upload/3195_First-YearInOregon_HistResearchAssociates_Full-FINAL_210928.pdf))

"The original photo commemorating the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in 1869 did not include Chinese laborers." (Source: <https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2014/05/10/311157404/descendants-of-chinese-laborers-reclaim-railroads-history>)

1870s

"The history of Asian immigration to the area begins in the 1870s, when Chinese people settled

in Memphis, building businesses and lives in the Delta. But only a few years prior, southern land-owners and businessmen established the roots of a doomed plan to contract Chinese laborers to work farmland.” (Source: <https://tnmuseum.org/Stories/posts/the-story-of-chinese-laborers-and-the-reconstruction-south>)

1880s

“In September 1885, an “anti-Chinese Congress” was held in Seattle, which passed a resolution declaring that Chinese must leave Western Washington by November 15. Gov. Watson C. Squire asked the federal government to dispatch troops to Elliott Bay to ward off anticipated violent incidents and to detain several expulsion leaders. Before law and order took hold, 196 Chinese were forced aboard a steamer in Elliott Bay.” (Source: <https://www.postalley.org/2021/12/01/injustices-seattles-brutal-past-with-chinese-immigrants/>)



美國俄勒岡中華會館  
OREGON CHINESE CONSOLIDATED  
BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

Explore more with the Oregon Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association  
<https://www.oregonccba.org/>

### Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers SUSTAINABILITY

Thank you for financially supporting our efforts to promote an interest in Oregon history with diverse audiences. Special thanks to Sue Miholer of Picky Picky Ink for donating her copyediting services. Monetary 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**

### SDOP CONTACT LIST

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

- President – Joy’e Willman  
president@oregonsdop.org
- President Elect – Joyce del Rosario
- Secretary – Joyce del Rosario  
secretary@oregonsdop.org
- Treasurer – Shauna Noon  
treasurer@oregonsdop.org
- Assistant Treasurer – Vacant

#### EX-OFFICIO VOTING DIRECTORS

- Immediate Past President – Chris Meinicke
- Registrar – Debbie Pedersen  
registrar@oregonsdop.org

#### DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Term July 2026-June 2029

- Debbie Pedersen
- Priscilla Belin

Term July 2025 – June 2028

- Dave Thompson
- Sherry Fuller

Term July 2023 – June 2026

- Mel Fuller
- Janet Wilson

Website: [webmaster@oregonsdop.org](mailto:webmaster@oregonsdop.org)



**Oregon 250 Silk Scarfs**

\$25 (plus \$2 shipping)

Order by emailing [joyce@oregonsdop.org](mailto:joyce@oregonsdop.org)

**Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers  
Board Meeting, January 17, 2026  
(Online)**

Minutes of Board Meeting (Zoom)

Roll call: Board of Directors: Chris Meinicke, Dave Thompson, Debbie Pedersen, Joy'e Willman, Joyce del Rosario, Shauna Noon, Priscilla Belin. Member Sons and Daughters: Pam Wirkkala, Sophie Curley, Tom Marquette

Call to order approximately 10:05 Meeting Called to Order

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**PRESIDENT:** Joy'e Willman waived President's time to speak to appoint Pam Wirkkala to a board vacancy and serve on the Bylaws Team. Joy'e verbally asked if she could appoint or did we need to take formal vote, no one requested a role call vote but did ask Pam to introduce herself. No one else spoke up and a few offered a welcome to Pam on the chat.

The board was asked to approve Joy'es appointment and welcome Pam. No objections were raised. Pam shared some of her story and interest in genealogy with the members at the meeting. Pam was selected to fill a vacancy

**PRESIDENT-ELECT:** Joyce del Rosario deferred time to reporting under Nominating Committee and Banquet.

**SECRETARY:** Joyce del Rosario reporting. November Board Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved to form and content. Secretary is working with Treasurer, Registration Team and Finance Committee to address infrastructure needs and systems of accounting to better track donations and invoices. SDOP recognizes the complexity of migrating legacy systems and is identifying priorities and moving forward with corrective action and prospective thinking.

**TREASURER:** Shauna Noon reporting. Schedule of bank account balances were estimated for De-

ember 2026. Last November, \$1500 was pulled as a working capital shortage, and that has not happened since. Some new life memberships will be going in Heritage Account. Earned \$1620 in interest this fiscal year to date. Operating statement as of December, collected \$2400 in receivable income. \$3465 in other types of income, i.e. \$900 in new life membership dues, \$380 in new member apps, \$800 for scholarships. Other donations are lighter than in previous years. Banquet and scarf expenses are offset by monies coming in for banquet reservations or purchase of scarves. \$1568 profit for this fiscal year. Chris had questions about allocating money toward awards and scholarships that are referred to the Awards Committee.

**DIRECTOR/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Nominating:** Joyce del Rosario reporting. Full Slate presented to the board and membership. Notice of Slate was sent to members by email. Additional interest was received from in and out of state members. Vacancies. Pam Wirkkala was nominated by Joy'e Willman to fill the remainder of Richard's position. Sophie Curley expressed interest in serving on a three-year cohort. There was some confusion about when terms start and end and why some directors hold both a cohort role and another voting position. It was explained that both Registrar and Immediate Past President were granted ex officio voting rights as well according to the 2015 bylaws. Debbie Pedersen was recruited by the Immediate Past Registrar, Priscilla Belin, and retained a cohort spot when she started registrar duties in July 2023. Dina Saunders was voted in nominated at the banquet to fill vacancy left by Dawn Alexander (Past Secretary), but Dina was not allowed to vote on the board until the following FY began. Joyce del Rosario served as Secretary during the year she was voted to be President-elect, and Shauna Noon has been doing double duty as well as fulfilling roles of both Treasurer and Registered Agent. Each year three people are to join and three people are to come off the board. Members more advanced in age with multiple terms

serving on the board are highly encouraged to nurture emerging leaders to step in and lead our organization into the future. SDOP doesn't want people to feel they don't have agency just because they don't have a director role. SDOP wants to be accountable and accessible.

**Governance:** Joy'e Willman reporting. The committee has identified work to be done on SDOP governing documents to get bylaws and policy and procedures in alignment with state and federal laws and regulations. Ongoing recruiting efforts brought additional members and directors to the Governance committee, Rules Committee and Bylaws Team. The Governance Committee and its sub-committees will continue to invite feedback from directors, members and the interested public. Revision of the bylaws will require membership approval, and policies and procedures will require board approval. If not at an annual meeting, the amendments may be approved by special meeting. The Governance Committee has a standing Zoom call that can be joined. As a public benefit nonprofit, all SDOP meetings remain open to members and the public unless being held in executive session.

Upon a deeper dive into the corporate record, governing document deficiencies were identified. There appears to be an amended set of P & Ps that were approved in 2018/2019 that are not in the possession of the current executive committee or any one serving on the current board that was voting at the time. The President's book Chris presented to Joy'e in 2025 did not have any Policy and Procedure documents later than 2014. Efforts are being made to locate the amended documents and complete the missing record. Every member is entitled to have a current set of governing documents to inspect. If you have the Bylaws or Policy and Procedures since 2016, please a copy to [president@oregonsdop.org](mailto:president@oregonsdop.org). Once we have the latest set, the website file can be updated and we can properly execute our fiduciary duties and prevent further loss of institutional knowledge

**Technology.** Joyce reporting on behalf of Mel Fuller. The tech committee is looking at options for an updated website and accounting system.

If you have a web page that you like, please send links to [editor@oregonsdop.org](mailto:editor@oregonsdop.org). The tech team is interested in partnering with the finance committee to create a fin-tech internship to help with SDOP projects. Multiple persons have expressed interest supporting the paid internships. Should the intern be under the age of 18 or still in high school, SDOP would have a policy and procedure for working with youth to include background checks. The internship will be marketed to students and members.

#### Public Relations and Membership Development

**SPEAKERS BUREAU:** System for sharing requests for speakers needs to be set up. Miss Pioneer Oregon from prior years who all receive Lifetime memberships would be ideal spokespersons. Any members interested in being on the roster of the speaker's bureau, please email [president@oregonsdop.org](mailto:president@oregonsdop.org)

**MERCHANDISING: TRADING POST:** Reggie Burke reporting. No sales in final quarter of 2025. Chris and Reggie explained the verbal agreement between SDOP and the for profit "Trading Post" operated by Reggie was made back in 2014-2015. A licensing agreement has not been prepared to date but will be. Reggie uses a free website on Square. Reggie has an agreement to give SDOP 25% of the profit of all items sold in the Trading Post.

**MERCHANDISING: AWARDS/SUPPLIES:** Reggie Burke reported that Merle Miller spent \$463 to solder 3 membership pins with gavels without Board approval. Merle requested donation credit for part of the expense. Another vendor was found that can do the same pins for \$5/each. Going forward there will be a working agreement and invoice submitted for expenses that are outside the approved budget.

**MERCHANDISING: TRADEMARK USE:** In some cases, the SDOP corporate trademark was used without approved licensing agreements. Trademark users shall produce a list of where they have used the logo or trademark to the office

of the Secretary for recordkeeping. Trademark registration may be completed for each state that is incorporated into our geographic area.

#### MERCHANDISING: COMMEMORATIVE

MERCH: Dina Suanders reporting. 98 Commemorative scarves were received, and the total order was split with Daughters of Washington Pioneers. 30 of our 49 remained as of January 17. Any additional orders should be sent to joyce@oregonsdop.org Payments can be done online using Paypal, by check or in person at banquet. Each scarf is \$25, pick up at the banquet or add \$2 in shipping.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook Page: Wes Potter Facebook Administrator reconnected with directors this year to strategize SDOP social marketing strategies and member engagement through books and media.

NEWSLETTER: January newsletter was delayed allowing the board meeting to occur. Mark Goddard resigned from Newsletter Team. SDOP encourages the use of QR codes to drive more newsletter traffic back to the website for expanded articles about pioneer ancestors. Any members with stories of their pioneer ancestors should send them to editor@oregonsdop.org. Stories may appear in the newsletter, online on Facebook and can be linked to with QR codes.

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR'S REPORT from November to January. Processed applications include: Adult Life (1), Adult (3); Senior Life (1).

#### Events

#### AWARDS COMMITTEE

Chris Meinicke reported that she and Dawn Alexander made decisions about MPO, Junior Awards. Due to the high number of applicants, Dawn and Chris reached out to retired teachers outside of SDOP to help with Scholarship selection. Dawn has since resigned her position as Chair of the Awards Committee.

Board entered into executive session. Executive session was broken, while board direc-

tors remained in the breakout room and participants waited in the main Zoom lobby. Executive Session formally concluded by the President and the breakout room session ended.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

MEMBERSHIP EVENTS/AWARDS: Joy'e will appoint new members to the Awards Committee in preparation for this year's Statehood Birthday Banquet to follow the Annual Meeting and Elections to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 14, 2026 at Oaks Park in Portland, Oregon.

Meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

The breakout room session ended. Executive Session formally concluded.

Prepared by Joyce del Rosario, Secretary



**Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers  
Board Meeting, February 8, 2026  
Portland, OR**

Roll call: Chris Meinicke, Dave Thompson, Debbie Pedersen, Joy'e Willman, Joyce del Rosario, Shauna Noon, Reggie Burke.

Meeting called to order at 10:30 a.m.

Board approved award winner expenses.  
Board approved Code of Conduct for distribution.

Meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Prepared by Joyce del Rosario, Secretary

**Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers**  
**Annual Membership Meeting**  
**February 14, 2026**  
**Oaks Park, Portland, Oregon 97202**  
**Minutes**

Roll Call & Introductions

Present: Janet Wilson, Zoe Godsey, Joy'e Willman, Kim Nurmi, Sherry Fuller, Joyce del Rosario, Dave Thompson, Sophie Curley, Shauna Noon, Chris Meinicke, Reggie Burke, Debbie Pedersen, Dina Saunders, Bill Wise, Pepper Kim, Lyn'd Tillman, Charlotte VanHorn, Andrew VanHorn, Elie Nelson, Jane Nelson- Brenner, Francie Fessler, Brian Dueltgen, Robert Dueltgen, Debbie Ketchum, Suzy Deeds, Pam Paullin, Jayne Jergentz.

Officer Reports

Minutes from 2025 Annual Meeting were read into the record and approved unanimously.

Membership Report for period 2/2025-02/2026 sent by attachment.

Treasurer report sent by attachment.

Motion to proceed with election on February 14, 2026 approved by majority. Discussion about forms of notice (online, print, email, social media) used for Annual Meeting was held.

Recess was taken to allow for nominations from the floor.

Executive Board Slate as elected February 14, 2026

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

- President – Joyce del Rosario
- President Elect – Dina Saunders
- Secretary – Joy'e Willman
- Treasurer – Shauna Noon
- Assistant Treasurer – Vacant

**EX-OFFICIO VOTING DIRECTORS**

- Immediate Past President – Joy'e Willman
- Registrar – Debbie Pedersen

**DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

Term July 2024 – June 2027

- Mel Fuller

- Janet Wilson
- Pam Paullin\*\*

Term July 2025 – June 2028

- Dave Thompson
- Sherry Fuller
- Jane Nelson- Brenner \*

Term July 2026-June 2029

- Zoe Godsey\*
- Sophie Curley\*
- Kim Nurmi\*

\*Newly elected to Board of Directors

\*\*On March 9, Paullin rescinded her candidacy.

Terms expiring June 2026

- Priscilla Belin
- Reggie Burke
- Chris Meinicke

Cohort positions vacated

- Dina Saunders
- Debbie Pedersen

**Election Results of Executive Board Slate**

Abstentions: None

Opposed: Chris Meinicke, Reggie Burke, Debbie Pedersen, Dina Saunders

In favor: Janet Wilson, Zoe Godsey, Joy'e Willman, Kim Nurmi, Sherry Fuller, Joyce del Rosario, Dave Thompson, Sophie Curley, Shauna Noon, Bill Wise, Pepper Kim, Lyn'd Tillman, Charlotte VanHorn, Andrew VanHorn, Elie Nelson, Jane Nelson- Brenner, Francie Fessler, Brian Dueltgen, Robert Dueltgen, Debbie Ketchum, Suzy Deeds, Pam Paullin, Jayne Jergentz.

Slate approved by majority of members present.

Next Meeting: Saturday, April 18, 2026, Camp 18, Seaside, Oregon

Meeting adjourned approximately 11:30 a.m.

Prepared by Joyce del Rosario, Secretary



# Oregon History Essay Contest

open to all students in the 4th grade

First-place winner receives \$150

Second-place winner receives \$75

## Essay Contest Topic:

**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.**

*Feel free to use this template to start your initial draft and ask family members or teachers for help with spelling, grammar and research. More writing prompts on page 5.*

Discuss the pioneer spirit of determination under difficult circumstances.

What did they go through?

What made it difficult?

What helped them overcome those circumstances?

Discuss how you show a determined spirit in your own life.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Due May 15, 2026 Email essay submissions to [president@oregonsdop.org](mailto:president@oregonsdop.org)  
More online: <https://oregonsdop.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/4th-grade-essay-contest-2026.pdf>



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**Please email your story ideas or photos to [editor@oregonsdop.org](mailto:editor@oregonsdop.org)**

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