

MILDRED KANIPE MEMORIAL PARK NEWS

July, 2009



Friends of Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 105, Umpqua, OR 97486

BIG CHANGES

Keep this newsletter and mark your calendar!

CHAIR RESIGNS

Due to family needs, health problems and other pressures, after much deliberation, I have come to the very difficult decision to resign my position as chair of Mildred Kanipe Memorial Park Association, Inc and drastically reduce my involvement. Those of you who know me know that the park and my many hours of dedication have been a labor of love.

We were formed on February 18, 2005 in response to then County Commissioner Dan VanSlyke's threat to give the park back to the trust, which, per Mildred Kanipe's will, would have resulted in it being sold to the highest bidder and lost to all of us forever.

In the slightly over four years of our existence we have accomplished much. The English Settlement School and the Baimbridge-Kanipe Farmstead Historic District, which includes Mildred's house and adjacent barns, farm buildings, and orchard, are now on the National Register of Historic Places, recognizing their importance to local, state, and national history. There is now a book on the history of the land, Mildred, and the others who made this beautiful place what it is, *FOR LOVE OF THE LAND, The Legacy of Mildred Kanipe*, written by yours truly, Lois Eagleton. A trail marking system and new trail map was designed and approved by the Douglas County Park Department, which promises to assist trail users to find their way around the

park. The trails are still being marked. We put in a nice fence around the school to keep the cattle from damaging the building. We sponsored a successful Living History Day at the park in May to celebrate Oregon's 150th birthday. Everyone thinks this should become an annual event but that isn't going to happen unless more people are willing to help and funding assistance can be found.

HELP NEEDED!

Hey, folks, though we have around 100 members, almost without exception, the members of the board have been doing all the work!

From the first I have encouraged all members to show up for ONE work party a year. Is this too much to ask? I have been at EVERY ONE. I can't do that any more.

From the first, we have encouraged all members to show up for ONE work party a year, we have even called/emailed members within a reasonable distance for our work parties, yet it seems it's always the same 4-5 people who come out to help. We're getting burned out and it's up to our other members to come help out so that we can continue to make our park even better!

We do have members that live a long distance away—New York, Nebraska, Idaho, and Washington states, and in not-so-close Oregon cities as well. We are happy for their support but don't expect them to show up for work parties. The rest of you don't have that excuse! The rest of you, who are local, really need to step up to the plate and help out.

There is something for everyone to do at every work party. For instance, someone who is not physically able can sit at a table and take care of the sign-up sheet that is required by the County Park Department.

PROJECTS

We are having a nice kiosk-type sign built for the Day Use Area and may need someone with a large truck or trailer to haul the kiosk from Wolf Creek Job Corps, where it is being made, to the park. Call Deb Gray at 541-459-3705 if you have that kind of a set-up and are willing to donate your services.

We plan to paint the English Settlement Schoolhouse this summer. This is an important project that NEEDS volunteers. Do help if you can.

SCHOOLHOUSE PAINT PROJECT

Work Parties

August 22nd - Saturday - 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Move plywood boards from the outside of the schoolhouse windows to the inside. Need MUSCLE power for this and some ladders, pry bars, nails, hammers.

September 19 - Saturday - 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bleach and power wash the schoolhouse.

October 3rd - Sunday - Possibly all day. Paint - primer. Bring your lunch.

October 4th - Sunday - Possibly all day. Paint Bring your lunch

LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to make this happen.

Contact: Karen Roberson, 541-459-2704,
kmroberson52@yahoo.com

POTLUCK PICNIC AT THE PARK

September 13, Sunday - **We are having our fall picnic on Sunday, September 13 at 11 a.m., joint, again with the Douglas County Historical Society. This is an annual affair that has been greatly enjoyed by those who attend. There will be a program-not yet determined. Mark your calendar! You don't want to miss this!**

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

The Board meets irregularly, on an as needed basis, always on a Friday, because three members work full time and have Fridays off. The next meeting will be Friday, August 21st at the Lane House Annex building (behind the Lane House) at 10:00 a.m.

All members (even interested non-members) are welcome. Also, we have a couple of vacancies on the board. If you are interested in checking that out come to this meeting.

E NEWSLETTER

In the interest of streamlining our operation, make less work and cut costs, our secretary/treasurer, Midge McGinnis has offered to send the newsletters out by email to those who have it. To do this we need to be sure we have your current email address.

We have for
you. If this is not correct, please email Midge at
midgemcginnis@ yahoo.com, or call her at 459-3757. Thank you
for letting Midge know.

IN NEED

They say everyone needs to be needed, and YOU are
needed!

Where you can help:

1. Serve on the board
2. Telephone committee
3. Grant writing
4. Help with newsletter
5. Grounds clean-up
Weed Eating, Mowing, Spraying
6. Living History Day
7. Trail marking

BOARD MEMBERS Contact info

John Robertson, 673-0466 (no email)
Karen Roberson - 459-2704, kmroberson52@yahoo.com
Midge McGinnis - 459-3757, midgemcginnis@yahoo.com
Diane Rannow - 459-9696, rrdiane1001@qwest.net
Debra Gray - 459-3705, ds_gray@charter.net
Celia Scott - 459-7952, Wildflower26@peoplepc.com

This is my final letter to the membership. Good luck, and do
help with our beautiful park!

Lois Eagleton