

4-H Wagon Train News

March 14th, 2022

To start, thank you for visiting the 4-H Wagon Train website. I hope this is a better way to deliver information.

There will be two meetings for registration, collecting fees, information, and for face-to-face Q&A, pending OSU rules. These meetings will occur from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m, and will be presented as drop-in opportunities. Jeannie has secured a building for April 30th, near the Yamhill County Extension office. Sheldon has secured a building in Hillsboro for the same activities on May 7th. The addresses have been placed in the "Events" section on the website. Thank you Jeannie and Sheldon.

The website is the place to go to for enrollment. There is no cost to enroll. Please enroll now to give Jerry time to plan for meals. There are three types of enrollment, 1. Youth Enrollment. 2. Adult Enrollment. 3. Adult Background Check. (3. Is required for those 18 and older)

The scout position has not yet been filled. Not to fret, there will be many members performing the scouts job. The scout is under two board members, Jeannie and Sheldon, they have been informed that we will scout a route in Sisters that worked well in the past. The weather is dubious now for physical scouting, so, come back to this website to find out how things are going.

Scott Adams has agreed to manage support this year. When you see Scott, welcome him to the position. Scott has been a part of support by lending his truck and trailer for moving our pioneers' equipment from camp to camp. Scott is very familiar with the position and will not be too surprised of his upcoming adventure.

What about Medic ? Scott will provide his jeep and all his medical equipment as he has before. Scott, Ben, Mitch, and others are current EMTs. We also have others with a vast amount of medical experience. The Medic has for many years had plenty of experienced First Responders assisting in the unforeseen accident that needs tending to.

4-H Washington County Wagon train has received a total of \$18,500.00 in donations from Lyle Spiesschaert over the past several years. Turns out the Wagon Train has only spent about \$3,000.00 That means there remains nearly

\$15,000 for much needed expenses that will complete the cook shack, replace equipment, fund our scholarships, and to maintain an emergency fund for unexpected expenses. Mr. Spiesschaert was specific, and directed the board on what to purchase with his donations.

- The Cook Shack:
 - We have been needing a new upsized generator. This generator is super quiet (per Honda) and can run our new kitchen equipment. Tim Bielenberg worked with Pape in Salem and found a deal. We got a \$5,059 Honda Generator for \$4,500.
 - I (Mitch) went to Mac Gas and they donated us: one \$300 propane tank,, a two stage regulator with manifold and labor, and recertified two propane tanks. This was about a \$600-\$700 donation from Mac Gas from McMinnville.
 - Sheldon, Jerry and I moved all the pots and pans, etc. to the new cook shack recently. We now have an idea on shelving that a local fabricator can design a shelving system for us. The fabricator wants to be paid for materials only. Thank you Western Iron Works of Gaston.
 - Rose's Restaurant Equipment maintenance person came out and started up the new stoves and made sure the new propane system is doing well.
 - There will be a work party to do some small stuff to the shack: paint it, move a tank, move some lighting, etc. Please see the “events” section on this website for work party schedule (TBD)
- Hopefully, during the cook shack work party day, we will clean the other trailers and do an inventory and clean, etc.
- Check out the web site. The site has been improved to be easier to navigate. We want to tell everyone interested in Wagon Train to go to the website for current information and for all the what to know and how-to's.
- There is a possibility that a group of 4-H members from Eastern Oregon may attend. This is preliminary and is being discussed at this time (3/14). 4-H Wagon Train has been interested in a satellite group from Central and

Eastern Oregon for many years. We all have developed the ability to meet via Zoom, etc. and found long distance communication is possible.

- I (Mitch) have been getting inquiries via wagon master email. Those that are very interested. They each have been promptly replied to and have been told of the website.
- Please, refer any interested new folks to the website. We have worked hard for years to develop a great website. I invite even the experienced pioneers to browse the site. We value constructive input. Email the wagon master if you have helpful comments.

I hope this way of communication is good for you. You can go to the website at your own time and read the information.

Thank you for your valuable time.

Mitch Watson, Wagon Master