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News Along the Trail

Wagon Tracks Staff

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Historic Trails Through South Central Kansas Symposium Scheduled for September 25-28

The Oregon California Trail Association (OCTA) is hosting a Cherokee Trail Symposium "Historic Trails Through South Central Kansas" on September 25-28 in Newton, Kansas. The focus will be on the Cherokee Trail, Chisholm Trail, Great Western Cattle Trail and the Santa Fe Trail. Presenters and topics include "Santa Fe Trail 101" by Steve Schmidt, "Early Surveys of Southern Kansas" by Steve Brosemer, "The Cherokee Trail: Cattle Drives and Emigrants" by Dr. Jack Fletcher, "The Cherokee Trail Through South Central Kansas" by Brian Stucky, "Augusta Stewart, Pioneer Woman of El Dorado" by Patricia Fletcher, "Chisholm Trail" by Jim Gray, "The Great Western Cattle Trail" by Gary and Margaret Kraisinger, and "Indian-White Relations on the Santa Fe Trail in Kansas" by Dr. Leo Oliva. Gretchen Ward, NPS, will discuss the Cherokee Trail Feasibility Study. Bus tours on the Cherokee, Chisholm and Santa Fe Trail will get participants boots on the ground. For more information, visit <http://www.octa-trails.org/activities/chokeee-trail-symposium>.

Photos Sought for Wagon Tracks Cover

What do you think of *Wagon Tracks'* new magazine style cover? Beginning with the November issue, the cover will feature a full-color photo (or perhaps sepia-toned historic artwork). If you have great photos of a feature of the Santa Fe Trail, or historic artwork that is high resolution, we'd like to see it. You might have your submission featured on the cover. Be sure that you have permission to use the photo that you submit. For details, contact the *Wagon Tracks* editor at editor@santafetrail.org.

Do you have winter scenes from along the Trail? Even though historically it wasn't traveled in winter, we do travel it now. Submit your photo no later than October 10 for the November issue, or January 10 for the February issue.



Partnership for the National Trails System

by Ross Marshall, SFTA Representative to PNTS

National Historic Trails Workshop October 27-31: Sponsored biennially by PNTS, this year's workshop will be held the last week of October in Salt Lake City, Utah. Registration information will be published around Labor Day.

There will be three tracks – **Preservation, Social Media, and Capacity-building.** The Preservation track will have a full day mobile workshop in the Pilot Valley on the west end of the Great Salt Lake Desert area, where potash mining threatens the California Trail. There will also be a half-day mobile workshop in Echo Canyon east of Salt Lake City, where a partnering strategy has been used to preserve the trail. The social media track will be conducted entirely in the hotel. Leaders of the workshop come from the Bureau of Land Management, the Crossroads Chapter of OCTA, and several other National Historic Trail organizations. The last NHT Workshop was in the fall of 2012 in Socorro, NM and was well-attended, including several attendees from SFTA.

The Value of the Partnership for the National Trails System: The value of PNTS is GREAT. It is one of the most successful entities I have ever been involved with in my life. Who could have imagined, when some of us got together in 1991 to form what was then called the Committee of 17 because there were 17 National Trails at the time, the success that PNTS would achieve.

The Partnership is not 'them,' it is 'us.' The office in Madison, Wisconsin, is not a separate company – it is **us**. Therefore, as it (or actually 'we') achieves success with Congress, agencies, and Executive Branch offices, these successes accrue to our benefit.

A high percentage of the SFTA annual budget is through cooperative agreements with the Santa Fe office of the National Park Service. I can remember when there was none. And most of the other National Historic Trails organizations twenty years ago had little or none. The funding and the partnering we now have with agencies is due completely to the Partnership.

SFTA annual dues to the PNTS have been \$700, which is less than 1/2 percent of what we receive from NPS. If we needed to we could easily do more, and the return on any such increase would be manifold. We have a unique privilege to be a part of PNTS, and SFTA and the SFNHT is benefiting greatly.

Volunteer hours and expenses reports: As usual, Congress is very impressed with the Partnership's totals of volunteer hours and dollar contributions (the Gold Sheet) by National Trails System organizations. Thanks to every chapter, committee chair and board member turning in their volunteer totals every year. **Please plan to report these totals for 2014 at the end of the year.** ♦

Cleveland Mill Holds Benefit Dance on August 16

The Cleveland Mill Museum's Benefit Dance will be held on August 16 in Cleveland, New Mexico. The dance features The Rifiers, one of New Mexico's best-liked country western dance bands. This event features an optional potluck for those interested. The potluck begins around 4:30 p.m. and dancing begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 at the door or in advance. Bring a lawn chair. Camping is available free. So is breakfast. For more information contact Dan Cassidy 575-387-2645, dancas@nnmt.net, or visit www.clevelandrollermillmuseum.com.



August 15 Concert in Cottonwood Falls Opens Annual Chautauqua

The opening event at the Cottonwood Falls Chautauqua August 15-17 will be a concert by the Tallgrass Express String Band. They will perform "Trail to Santa Fe," an original song featured on their new CD, which will be available at their CD Debut Concert Saturday, September 13, 2014 in Cottonwood Falls, Kansas. See the Chase County Historical Museum website www.chasecountyhistoricalmuseum.com for more details.

Youth Expo Scheduled In McPherson

The Quivira Chapter of the SFTA is holding its first Santa Fe Trail Youth Expo on October 4 in McPherson, Kansas. This event for 4th-8th graders will begin with an overview of the Santa Fe Trail. Participants will have the option to pick from a number of topics for a day spent learning about the Santa Fe Trail. Cost is \$5. Registration is open through September 12. For more information, contact Linda Colle at blkcolle@swbell.net or 620-241-8719.

Marshall, MO Celebrates Santa Fe Trail Days September 27

Enjoy a full day of events, including a Santa Fe Trail exhibit and historical figures, a 10K run, craft show, farmers market, entertainment by a Mexican folk dancing troupe, and a presentation by Preston Tonepahote, Kiowa storyteller and orator, with traditional dancers and drummers. Marshall, Missouri, is south of the Weinrich ruts of the Santa Fe Trail. For more information, call 660-229-4845 or visit <http://marshallmochamber.com>.

Adobe Walls Event Scheduled October 4 *Registration required by August 15*

A tour of the Civil War battleground of Adobe Walls in the Texas Panhandle will be held October 4. Enjoy speeches from both sides of the battle including appearances by Kit Carson's great-grandson and Kiowa and Comanche tribe members. Buses leave from locations in Amarillo. Cost is \$50 per person, including transportation and refreshments. Reservations must be made by August 15 by contacting Amy Mitchell at Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum at 806-651-2242 or amitchell@pphm.wtamu.edu. For more information visit www.panhandleplains.org.

October 10 is the submission deadline for the November issue of Wagon Tracks.

Raytown SFT Signage Approved

On Tuesday, June 17, the Board of Alderman of Raytown, Missouri, unanimously supported passage of an ordinance to authorize the installation of 24 official National Historical Trail signs that will mark the Santa Fe, Oregon and California National Historic Trails within the city limits of Raytown. In the coming weeks, the Public Works department of Raytown will begin installing the Original Route signs that mark the Trail from 51st Street and Blue Ridge Boulevard to 63rd Street and Blue Ridge Boulevard. An historical site identification sign has already been installed at the Rice-Tremonti home, pictured at right.

Photo by Larry Short

