

# Wagon Tracks

---

Volume 28

Issue 4 *Wagon Tracks* Volume 28, Issue 4 (August 2014)

Article 10

---

2014

## Joanne's Jottings

Joanne VanCoevern  
info@santafetrail.org

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/wagon\\_tracks](https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/wagon_tracks)



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

VanCoevern, Joanne. "Joanne's Jottings." *Wagon Tracks* 28, 4 (2014). [https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/wagon\\_tracks/vol28/iss4/10](https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/wagon_tracks/vol28/iss4/10)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Wagon Tracks* by an authorized editor of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact [disc@unm.edu](mailto:disc@unm.edu).

## Joanne's Jottings

by Joanne VanCoevern, Association Manager



Santa Fe National Historic Trail GEOTOUR is a HUGE success!

The launch of the GeoTour on April 15, 2014, has met and surpassed all of SFTA's expectations. SFTA hoped that the creation of a geocaching project, such as the GeoTour, would bring new users to the Santa Fe Trail, especially families, and a broad age of users.

That has happened. To date, all

73 caches have been visited by geocachers and the GeoTour is getting great reviews from those visitors. Just a few of the comments from geocachers include:

"... Took map about Santa Fe Trail that created enough interest that we took a trip to Ft Union, I am a native of NM and had no idea that this was here. Thank you for the cache."

"This was our only Santa Fe Trail cache that we were able to pick up, but definitely not our last. Such a great idea. I love the history that we are seeing here... Thanks for placing these caches for us to find."

"This was part of a 13 state, 3200 mile, 3 1/2 day trip to find some old caches and some needed for challenges. I wanted to find a second cache in New Mexico. This cache was it."

"This was an easy find and I really appreciate it when a community group puts these out since it gives me an excuse to stop and really look at places I would otherwise pass without appreciating. TFTC! (Thanks for the Cache!)"

"Wow! Last site to visit on the SFT geo tour. Out of 73, I found 71. One had been officially posted as removed. So only one DNF. Followed from the beginning to the end. Time to head back to MO. Have a better understanding and appreciation of what my ancestors went through. Thank you SFTA for putting this together."

"One of the many caches we did as we attempt to find all 73 on the Santa Fe Geotrail! Having a great adventure as we camp on the way down and back. Will we find them all. Stay tuned to find out.... TFTC!"

And we have had successes with the Passport Activity that requires a visit to at least 50 of the 73 caches on the Geo Tour. Several prizes have already been mailed to participants in the Passport Activity. "I've now found 51 geocaches on the geo tour, so I'm happy to say I qualify for the challenge coin. The SFGT has been a lot of fun and it introduced me to some places I certainly would not have seen if not for the

tour. I even took my first steps in New Mexico thanks to the SFGT!"

To read more comments, go to the GeoTour site at [www.geocaching.com/adventures/geotours/santa-fe-trail](http://www.geocaching.com/adventures/geotours/santa-fe-trail) and then click on the site you are interested in and scroll down to logged comments.

**National Registry:** We have received word that the Lone Elm Campground Swale was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 6, 2014.

**New Task Agreements With National Park Service:** Three new task agreements have been entered into through our partnership with the National Park Service (NPS). The first is our Funding Task Agreement for Fiscal Year 2015 which provides funding through the NPS for the SFTA Manager and staff at our headquarters, administrative support, distribution of *Wagon Tracks*, website maintenance, support of SFTA conferences/board meetings/workshops, support for SFTA programs of the speakers bureau, scholarly research and chapter and trailwide education projects, focus meetings on specific topics of importance to the administration of SFTA and the SFNHT and funds to continue work on our Cooperative Sign Plans along the SFNHT.

The second task agreement is for the Salem Park Interpretive Waysides. This project is to develop a visitor use site on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail in Independence, Missouri, in Salem Park, which is a Jackson County Parks and Recreation site. The project consists of planning, designing, fabricating, and installing three upright orientation panels and bases and one site identification sign. The three exhibits will (1) interpret a site-specific trail story; (2) provide orientation for other Santa Fe NHT sites east to Franklin, Missouri; and (3) provide orientation for the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California NHT's sites west to Gardner, Kansas.

The third task agreement is for the Three Trails Children's Musical to be performed at Symposium 2015. This project is to develop an approximate 45-minute narrative musical program, to be performed by Santa Fe area elementary school children at the 2015 Santa Fe Historic Trails Conference, to be hosted by the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA), Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA), and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association (CARTA). The project consists of (1) planning, development, and performance of a musical that features the history of three national historic trails that converge in Santa Fe; (2) filming of the performance; and (3) posting the filmed performance on the Internet, along with any associated materials developed by trail partners, including curriculum guides, script, musical scores, costume and prop patterns or other associated student activities.

*Continued on page 10*