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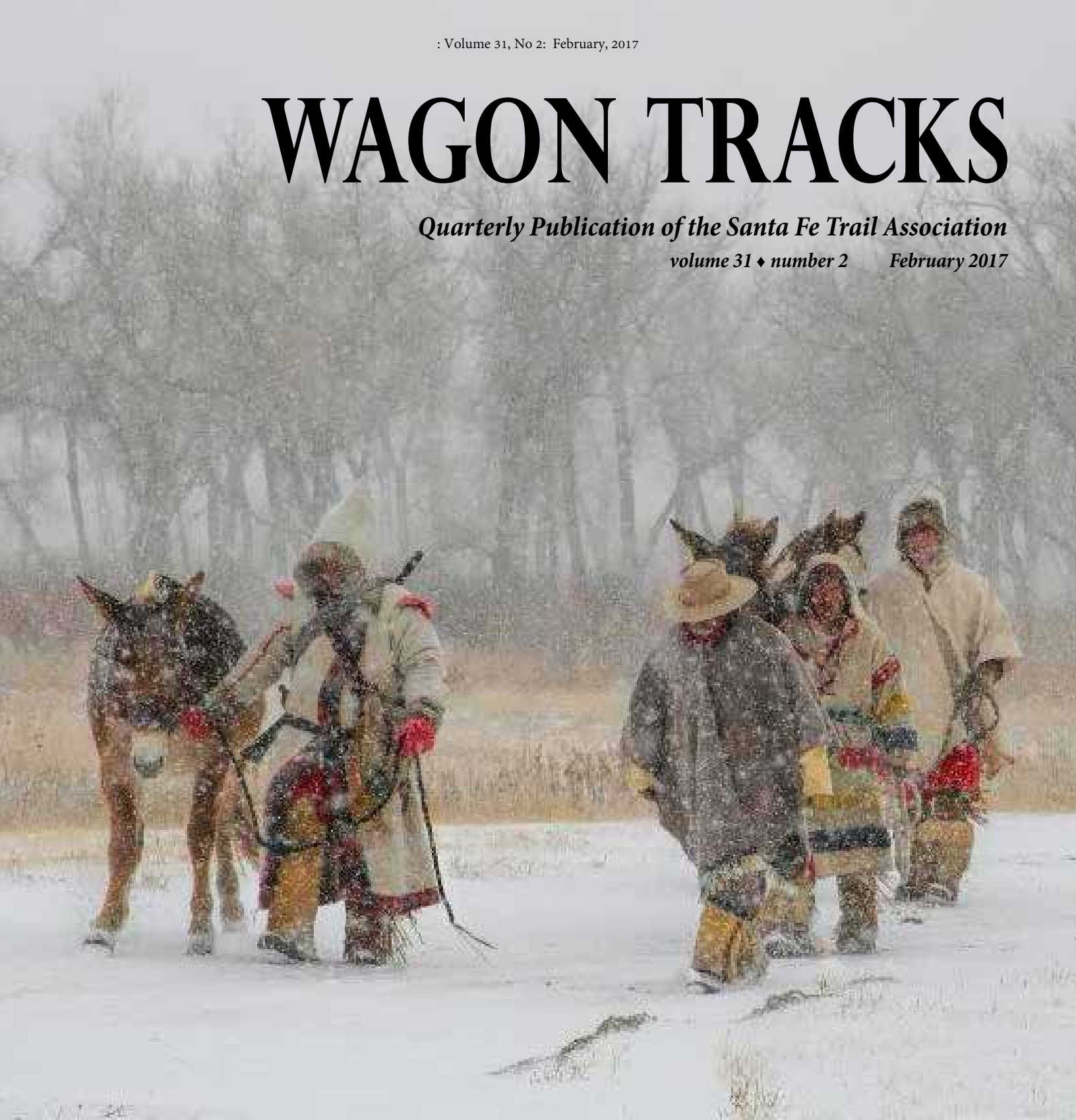
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WAGON TRACKS

Quarterly Publication of the Santa Fe Trail Association

volume 31 ♦ number 2 February 2017



How the DAR Marked the Santa Fe Trail ♦ page 9

Santa Fe Trail Hall of Fame ♦ page 12

Francisca Lopez Kimball: Across the Santa Fe Trail to Missouri ♦ page 16

Padilla Monument May Be Ancient Indian Landmark ♦ page 24

On The Cover: Winter at Bent's Old Fort

Photo courtesy the National Park Service (NPS)/
Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site (NHS)

John Carson, NPS Park Ranger-Interpretation at Bent's Old Fort, says, "[This] was taken on Saturday morning during our Holiday Celebration - December 2011 - snowing and a blowing and we were bringing the horses from the hunter/trapper camp up to the Fort that frozen morning (if I remember right - was told the wind chill that morning was like -11)." Pictured L to R: Bill Bailey, Ed Aragon, John Carson, and Lloyd Britton.

Winter Weather at Bent's Fort

Galvin, John (ed), *Western America In 1846 - 1847: The Original Travel Diary of Lieutenant J. W. Abert who mapped New Mexico for the United States Army*. San Francisco: John Howell - Books, 1966, pp 84 - 85.

Monday, January 18 [1847]: We left camp about sunrise [and] had a very smooth road, but the air, although still, was biting cold. Our breath condensed on our coat collars and moustaches; every part of the face was covered with frostwork. We followed the valley of the Timpa; there was no wood to be seen except some young cottonwood that grew in its bed. We went below the usual camping ground and found beautiful running water, a few dry sticks, and the greatest abundance of wild sage; the latter burns brilliantly and throws out a great heat, but is consumed so rapidly that it keeps several constantly supplying the fire with fuel. One of the men killed an antelope; we again had fresh meat. The cold drove us to bed early, for we got tired of burning sage and cottonwood green. Found some fossils today, and slate underlying. Collected a number of fine specimens. They are found near the three buttes [described in the report of the journey pursued in 1845].

Tuesday, January 19: This morning we found that the mules had wandered off to a great distance. It was 10 o'clock before we could get them all together. I gave directions to the men to camp as soon as they reached the [Arkansas] river, and immediately started off with one of the men; intended to reach Bent's Fort before night. It was 27 miles distant and 8 miles below the point where the road first strikes the river. We reached the Fort at 2 ½ o'clock after a rapid trot all day. On the road we saw many bands of antelope feeding amongst the wild sage that covers the valley of the Timpa. Above the point of junction of the road with the Arkansas we saw an encampment of several wagons. At Bent's I met Messrs. Holt,

continued page 8

About the Santa Fe Trail Association

The mission of the Santa Fe Trail Association is to protect and preserve the Santa Fe Trail and to promote awareness of the historical legacy associated with it.

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Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and YouTube



Wagon Tracks, the official publication of the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA), publishes well-researched and documented peer-reviewed articles relating to the Santa Fe Trail. Wagon Tracks is published in February, May, August, and November. Deadlines are the 10th of the month prior to publication. Queries are welcome. Complete submission guidelines are posted at www.santafetrail.org. Although the entire issue of Wagon Tracks is copyrighted in the name of the Santa Fe Trail Association, copyright to each article remains in the author's name. Articles may be edited or abridged at the editor's discretion.

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WAGON TRACKS

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Photo courtesy NPS/Bent's Old Fort NHS



*Shelter from the storm
at Bent's Old Fort.*

Contents

- 2 On the Cover: Winter at Bent's Old Fort
- 4 President: As I See It
- 5 Joanne's Jottings
- 7 Trail News
- 15 PNTS Report
- 20 Books: *Kearny's Dragoons Out West: The Birth*

of the U.S. Cavalry. Reviewer, Leo Oliva. *He Moved West with America: The Life and Times of Wm. Carr Lane, 1789-1863.* Reviewer, Leo Oliva. *Prelude to the Dust Bowl: Drought in the Nineteenth-Century Southern Plains.* Reviewer, Frank Norris.

- 23 Research Grant Report
- 28 Salem Park Sign Dedication
- 28 Chapter Reports
- 32 Calendar

9

How the DAR Marked
the Santa Fe Trail

*By Shirley Coupal
and Pat Traffas*

12-14

SFTA Hall of Fame

16

Francisca Lopez Kimball:
Across the Santa Fe Trail
to Missouri

By Doyle Daves

24

Padilla Monument
May Be Ancient Indian
Landmark

*By Kenneth W. Mc-
Clintock and Bob Blasing*

President's Corner *by Larry Justice*

As I See It



The best way to predict the future is to create it. – Peter Drucker

Please note my error in the previous Wagon Tracks for listing John Carson as the “great-great-grandson of Kit Carson.” John is the great-grandson of Kit Carson. John is a good friend and graciously accepted my apology. John said to me that I was not the first to err in this manner, and probably will not be the last.

Peter Drucker's statement embodies the challenge I offer as we begin a brand new year of 2017. This year holds many exciting opportunities and perhaps as many challenges.

First, the anticipated highlight of 2017 is the symposium in Olathe, Kansas, September 28-30. The theme for the symposium will be “The Santa Fe Trail: America's First Highway of International Commerce.” Those attending this significant event will learn about the historic Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm, discover means of travel with an extensive horse-drawn vehicle exhibit, explore the relationship of the SFT and the military – specifically connections with Fort Leavenworth, and enjoy the highlight event of an evening at the Steamboat Arabia Museum.

In addition, those attending will be able to see the remarkable work accomplished when the National

Park Service, trail organizations like SFTA, and government entities of Kansas and Missouri with their respective historical societies, city and community leaders, along with affected highway departments combine their fields of interest to accomplish great things related to Trail preservation and recognition. Kansas City has become the model for such trail-related cooperation for the entire nation. **Join us in Olathe.**

Second, significant emphasis in 2017 will be placed upon the SFTA spring board of directors meeting and workshop scheduled for April 21-22 in Salina, Kansas. Topics we will address include the Rendezvous presentations in 2018 and 2020, the symposium in St. Louis in 2019, and the commemoration of the bicentennial founding of the SFT in La Junta, Colorado, and Bent's Old Fort NHS and associated bicentennial celebrations all along the Trail for the years 2021-22.

Work has already begun toward making the 2019 St. Louis symposium a spectacular event. We will be dedicating the Sibley memorial at Lindenwood University in St. Charles. We will visit the Nathan Boone home and lovely St. Charles. Some have asked about the logic of meeting in St. Louis. The answer is simple. Those who built and developed the Santa Fe Trail did not magically appear in Old Franklin. They traversed the Boonslick Road and navigated the Missouri River bringing supplies for trade and living as the boundaries of the United States progressed westward. This symposium will be a great precursor to our bicentennial events of 2021-22. Plan now to join us at the beautiful Drury Inn at the Arch in September 2019. **You do not want to miss this very special event.**

Third, the Santa Fe Trail Association in conjunction with the National Park Service is in a wait-and-see

period, when a change in the nation's administration will no doubt offer new looks at the Trail organizations and the Interior Department. By the time you read this issue of *Wagon Tracks*, we will have a new President, a new Cabinet, a number of new members of Congress, as well as new local and state leaders. I sincerely appreciate the continued comments of PNTS Representative Ross Marshall, who reminds us that “Those on the Hill (Washington, D.C.) really like us.” As recipients of *Wagon Tracks*, and as members of the Santa Fe Trail Association, you need to be aware of items the Board of Directors addresses as we anticipate our board meeting in Salina this April.

Fourth, here is a simple challenge I leave on your plate. Peter Drucker's quote drives home the fact that initiative and intent create or propel success for the future. You joined the Santa Fe Trail Association because you loved the Trail and wanted to preserve its legacy for those who follow. Lessons are learned from the experiences of the past, from our forefathers.

As we begin 2017, we are the forefathers for those who need – even must – realize the impact of our nation's first international trail of commerce. Therefore, take a young person with you to visit the Trail, a museum, a kiosk, walk IN the swales of the Trail. Invite a friend to join you as a member of the SFTA. The cost is nominal but the rewards are tremendous as we preserve, promote, and protect the SFT. Talk with your Congressman and tell him/her about the value of preserving and funding the NPS and the trail systems. Read a book about the Trail and continue to learn about the tremendous history associated with those who walked the Trail.

Finally, join one or more of the 12 chapters along the Trail. Stoke the fire, light an ember, fan the flame in

a chapter to make a significant impact as we approach our bicentennial. Remember, the Trail Lives On only through the work and passion of pre-servers of the SFT.

Finally, we continue to look for individuals to fill various positions with the Santa Fe Trail Association. We need competent, energetic, imaginative people who love the Trail and desire to champion its legacy. We are looking for individuals to assist with scholarly research, particularly those who have a background in education and understand the processes of research. We are looking for a chairperson/co-chairpersons and committee members who can help us promote and develop research among individuals and educators. We need those who would help the SFTA carry on and discover the hidden gems surrounding the history of the Trail. Committee action lightens the load and produces great success. If you are interested or can recommend someone, please contact me. Thank you and wishing you a happy 2017. ♦



Joanne's Jottings by Joanne VanCoevern, Association Manager

"A Decade for the National Trails" Revisited: The Decade Goals and the SFTA Kiosk Project

The National Trails System Act, P.L. 90-543, was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson and became law on October 2, 1968. The Act and its subsequent amendments authorized a national system of trails and defined four categories of national trails, including National Scenic Trails, National Historic Trails, National Recreation Trails, and Connecting or Side Trails. The Santa Fe Trail Bill passed the House of Representatives on March 10, 1987, and passed in the Senate on April 22, 1987. When President Ronald Reagan, who once starred in a movie titled "The Santa Fe Trail," signed the bill on May 8, 1987, Santa Fe National Historic Trail was created and became part of the National Trails System. 2017 marks the 30th anniversary of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

In 2008, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the National Trails System Act, the "Decade for the National Trails" initiative was created by the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) and American Trails (the organization that supports America's national recreation trails). Goals identified in 2008 have been used to prepare for the 50th anniversary of the Trails Act in 2018. Activities, projects, and initiatives undertaken during the "Decade for the National Trails" are making the National Trails System fully available to Americans and international guests. These initiatives will also permanently preserve trail resources and ensure that dedicated public and private partnerships have the enduring capacity to sustain the trails for many years into the future.

When the PNTS challenged the partners to participate in this ten-year-long initiative, the SFTA accepted that challenge and incorporated the PNTS goals and projects into our own

Strategic Plan that has been developed in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS). The Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) and the NPS have had a Cooperative Agreement in place for several years, with the goals of that agreement being to preserve, protect, and promote the Santa Fe National Historic Trail (SFNHT).

As part of that Agreement and our cooperative planning, the SFTA, the SFTA chapters, and the NPS have identified specific goals, projects, and initiatives that have helped to fulfill what have become known as the "Decade Goals." As we prepare for the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act in 2018, we will highlight the various goals and projects undertaken by the SFTA for the Decade Goals initiative and provide an update of the progress that has been made.

We will begin with Goal 1--OUT-REACH and PUBLIC AWARENESS: (to) Increase public awareness of the National Trails System and its component trails so that it becomes well-known to every citizen and community in the United States. Under this goal of "Outreach and Public Awareness," SFTA has undertaken the following projects: to inform the public about the SFNHT through a series of kiosk projects, wayside exhibits, and signage plans; to promote the SFNHT through various media, including magazine articles, media tours, the SFTA website, and social media; and to undertake educational projects including the GeoTour, Jr. Wagon Master program, website and social media, and the annual Symposium/Rendezvous.

SFTA and the NPS determined that "information and signage" along the length of the SFNHT are a crucial part of our goals, and that a series of informational kiosks strategically placed along the length of the SFNHT would be one of our highest

continued next page

Joanne's Jottings, cont.

priorities. Preliminary discussions of a SFNHT kiosk project began as early as 2002 under the SFTA president at the time, Hal Jackson. Instrumental in the early discussions and creation of a kiosk plan along with Jackson were John Conoboy, retired NPS, and John Atkinson in his role as mapping/marking chair at that time. They located several strategic sites along the SFNHT. These sites are all visible from the highway and the SFT Auto Tour Route.

These information sites enable the traveling public to become informed and educated about many trail sites of interest. The most prominent feature of the kiosk project is the consistent use of exhibit panels that inform the reader about interesting places to visit in both directions from that point, as well as significant information about what happened at that particular location. The panels also identify local museums and/or centers that can provide information about visiting the trail and provide a Local Chapter Driving Tour when available. The panels include maps showing the locations of the highlighted trail sites as well as SFTA and NPS contact information. Only sites that are open to the public are included on the local map. SFTA has committed our resources to these projects by choosing the kiosk project as one of our primary goals for the PNTS Decade Goals Challenge.

The initial kiosk project was Gardner Junction, a Challenge Cost Share project that included nine partners and a budget of \$159,000. It was completed in 2008, with final native grass plantings completed in 2009. To date, the following kiosks have been created along the SFNHT:

- Gardner Junction, Kansas (2008-09)
- Boot Hill Rut Site west of Dodge City, Kansas (2011)

- Larned City Splash Park/Fort Larned National Historic Site, Kansas (2011)
- Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Colorado (2011)
- Pecos National Historical Park, New Mexico (2011)
- McCoy Park, Independence, Missouri (2012)
- Fort Union National Monument, New Mexico (2014)
- Franklin, Missouri (2012; Boone's Lick Road, 2014)
- McPherson Museum, Kansas (2014)
- Salem Park, Independence, Jackson County, Missouri (2016)
- New Mexico SFT Scenic Byways Kiosk Project (15 exhibits at 11 sites completed in 2013)

Our most recent kiosk completion was at the site of Salem Park. This site was identified very early in the planning of the kiosk projects because of its ideal location on the SFNHT, ease of access and parking, and safety. John Atkinson, serving as Vice-President of the SFTA at the time, and Roger Slusher, MRO President and then SFTA President, were instrumental in the early conversations with Jackson County Parks & Recreation and the NPS that brought this project to realization. On December 2, 2016, the Salem Park kiosk was officially unveiled with a dedication. See photos on page 28. Those making remarks at the dedication included Larry Short, President of the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter and SFTA Vice-President; Joanne VanCoevern, Manager, SFTA; Steve Burns and Kristin Van Fleet, Landscape Architects with NPS-NTIR; and Brian Nowotny, Deputy Director, Parks Operations, Jackson County Parks & Recreation.

We will continue to update the membership on our Decade Goals progress in future issues of *Wagon Tracks*.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NPS-NTIR hosted a 2-day workshop at their headquarters in Santa Fe on December 6-7, 2016. Kevin Lindahl, Rocky Ford, Colorado, attended on behalf of the Santa Fe Trail Association. The focus of the workshop was land protection for National Historic Trails and trail development and visitor experience planning with an emphasis on digital apps. Kevin will provide a full report to the Board of Directors at their meeting on April 22, in Salina, Kansas.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

In FY 2016, the Santa Fe Trail Association provided administrative support to Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site (NHS) in their efforts to create a curriculum-based education program.

Celia Dubin was hired as a Park Guide at Bent's Old Fort NHS. As an intern, she created a curriculum-based program that includes the development of a pre-visit program, post-visit program (or an alternative kit), restructuring of tours and demonstrations, redesign of the park's education web pages, and pre- and post-tests for students and teachers to measure both scholastic achievement and the effectiveness of the programs.

Because of its posting on the internet, most portions of the curriculum are available to any school whether they can afford to actually visit the site or not, and target fourth-grade classes, based on Colorado State Teaching Standards for fourth-grade history. This program serves to increase visitor understanding and appreciation of the significance of Bent's Old Fort and the Santa Fe Trail. To see all the activities she developed and has posted online, visit www.nps.gov/beol/learn/education/curriculummaterials.htm ♦

SFTA Awards and Hall of Fame Nominations

It is time to begin thinking about individuals or groups who deserve SFTA awards. The Symposium in Olathe where the awards are announced will be here before you know it, and the Awards Committee encourages you to get your nominations in early. Reward those individuals, organizations, businesses, or groups who have made a significant contribution to the Santa Fe Trail Association. You can review the categories and eligibility for awards on the Santa Fe Trail website www.santafetrail.org under the tab "About Us." Select "Our Programs" and "Awards" to review the information.

And while you are at it, nominate someone for the Hall of Fame. The criteria for the Hall of Fame nominations are also on the SFTA website, but these nominations must be for someone who is no longer living.

The Awards and Hall of Fame nominations are a great way to honor those who have been involved with the Santa Fe Trail. The Awards Committee challenges each chapter to provide at least one nomination for an SFTA award and one Hall of Fame nomination. Let's see what you can do.

52 Ways to Discover the SFT on Pinterest

The SFTA Publications and Interpretation Committee continues to post via social media our yearlong initiative of "52 Ways to Discover the Santa Fe National Historic Trail." Each week a new way to discover the SFNHT is sent out via the SFTA's e-blast as well as on other social media. One way to learn about the "52 Ways" is to visit Pinterest.com, a free website where users can upload, save, sort, share, and manage images—known as pins—and other media content (e.g., videos) through collections known as pinboards. It does require you to be a registered user and is very popular with both males and females. Once you are on Pinterest, search for #discoverSFNHT and you will discover some of the many ways to learn more and "discover the SFNHT."



2021 SFTA Logo Contest Entries Open

The commemoration of the opening of the Santa Fe Trail to trade 200 years ago will occur in 2021. Association members are invited to re-charge their creative juices and submit a logo design for the 2021-22 commemoration of the Trail. The logo design should reflect the commemoration and the history of the Trail centered on preserving, protecting, and promoting the legacy of the historical Santa Fe Trail.

March 1, 2017, is the final submission date. The digital submission should include an explanation of how the logo reflects the bicentennial commemoration. Include the submitter's name, address, phone number, and email address separately from the actual design: i.e. so the design can be judged without seeing the designer's name. Include all color combinations. The logo design must be original. The design selected will become the sole property of the Santa Fe Trail Association and cannot be reproduced apart from permission granted by the SFTA Publication Committee in written form. Send entries to info@santafetrail.org with "logo contest" in the subject line.

Not a member of the Santa Fe Trail Association? This is your invitation to join and be eligible to submit the winning logo design. Discover membership information in this issue of the award-winning quarterly publication of *Wagon Tracks*.

**April 10 is the submission deadline for the
May issue of Wagon Tracks.**

***Renew your Santa Fe Trail Association
membership now.***

***Your membership will be valid through
December 2017.***

Santa Fe Trail Bike Treks Discontinued

After 21 wonderful years of the Santa Fe Trail bike trips, our 2016 trip was the last one. Age has caught up with me. Thanks to all of you who rode the Trail with us. Keep pedaling.

*The Santa Fe Trail Bicycle Committee
Willard & Richard Chilcott and Ken Levine*



Winter at Bent's Fort, cont. from page 2

Hempstead, Dyer, Bransford, and Capt. Enos of the Quartermaster's Department. I immediately made arrangements for leaving my sick men, who numbered seven; Little, Owens, Jo. Suttle, O. Suttle, Miller, Grinston, Kemp. I procured them a comfortable room, got provisions for 40 days, and had all arrangements made. Had a bed in buffalo robes and supped off the dried meat. Thermometer all day at 0.7 [i.e., -7] degrees.

Wednesday, January 20: Arose late this morning. Bitter cold, but no wind. About 11 [o'clock] the wagon arrived. I went down to the wagon and had my men out with picks and spades. I made them fill cloths with sand and spread it over the slippery ice. It took some time, but we crossed the river without difficulty. In one place only, the river was clear of ice for 6 feet; all the rest of the way the ice was strong and firm. I immediately had the sick carried into their room. Had my wagons loaded with provisions for 40 days, my broken wagon exchanged, extra linchpins and extra axletree [supplied], tools sharpened, axes helved, and in two hours we were again on the march. Camped 6 miles east of the Fort, having made a march of 13 miles. My friends at Bent's urged me to stay all night and overtake the wagons in the morning, but I find it best to be with the camp; as all then moves on with much greater regularity.

We had tonight good grass and plenty of dry wood. I determined to save the little corn we had until we were unable to get any grass, as we understood that all the prairies were burnt from the Pawnee Fork to Council Grove; here our corn would be absolutely necessary.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Garrard, Lewis H., *Wah-To-Yah and the Taos Trail or Prairie Travel and Scalp Dances, with a Look at Los Rancheros from Muleback and the Rocky Mountain Campfire*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1955., pp 72-73.

[On the Trail from Big Timbers to Bent's Fort, 1846]: The first snow clothed the ground with its chilling drapery. When we arose, shivering with cold, we kindled fires and boiled coffee. Paint had gnawed off the cottonwood bark quite clean. It afford[s] considerable nourishment and is often given to animals in the spring, when the old grass is rotten and the new not yet fit for use, or in deep snows when grass cannot be reached. Too much of it causes the hair to come out, sometimes leaving the animals quite bare, though it renders them "seal fat."

Thanking Captain Fowler for his kindness, I soon was facing the same winds as yesterday - my course pointing me to Pike's Peak; and in an hour's ride, Las Cumbres Españolas. Near the mouth of the Purgatoire, a deer stopped, with his head turned to look at me, until I was within sixty yards; but my horse, disposed to act foolishly, snorted as I raised

my rifle, and away the buck bounded out of sight. Paint traveled pretty fast for an hour or so.

The country in the fort vicinity assumed a bleak appearance; the short grass scantily concealed the cold ground, and the white chalk bluffs, the leafless trees, and the chill air made me feel lonely. The fort mud walls were abominably cheerless. Near were some men digging a grave.

My own unenviable thoughts occupied me through the solitary day; and only when Paint was turned in the corral behind the fort to chew dry hay, and myself with numbed fingers gradually thawing in the long, low dining room, drinking hot coffee, eating bread, bufler, and "State doins," and listening to Charlotte, the glib-tongued, sable fort cook, retailing her stock of news and surmises, did I feel entirely free to throw off care. Shortly following did I sit by the bright wood fire, in the clerk's office, in a *dolce far niente* state, puffing a Mexican shuck cigarillo, wondering when originated the soothing luxury, until the combined effects of dinner, tobacco, and great change from cold to warmth threw me in a doze, from which I was awaked at dusk.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"The Charles Bent Papers," *New Mexico Historical Review* 30 (Oct. 1955): 352, in Mark Gardner's *Historic Resource Study of Bent's Fort, 2004*, p. 5, and in the Vertical Files at Bent's Old Fort NHS. A letter from Charles Bent to Manuel Alvarez [transcribed as best I, John Carson, can]:

Taos March 19th 1846

Mr. Alvarase
Sir

As Juan Aragon is going to Santafe to se Armijo, for the purpas of asertaining, weather a prisoner and two horses he has b[r?]ought, from the Kiaways, will be taken from him this man runaway from St. Vrain, he imediately on his arrival reported to me what he had done, I have forgiven him his disertion, in consequence of his having brought, a christian woman out of captivity; but some of the authoritys wish to deprive him, of his spoil.

George and Blair arrived heare on the 14th in, in six days from the forte are well, trade good, youse[?] Oxen and those I brought up are quite poore, the winter has bean very cold on the Arkansas, Blair had the Luck, to have George, the man that came in with up to See chianes frozen to death, he died fell from his mule dead, about half a mile this side of where the road strikes the Arkansas in crossing from the timber to that river. No nuse as yet from below, We shall visit Santafe in a fue dayes. The Priest is quite lively[?] particularly at night weighing[?] what he will produce we have no idea

Yours Truly
CBent

◆ ◆ ◆

How the DAR Marked the Santa Fe Trail

By Shirley Coupal

presented at the SFTA Rendezvous in September

The Santa Fe Trail was and remains a vital piece of America's story. Yet physical traces of the Trail might have been lost to history were it not for the dedication of members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, and New Mexico.

Dr. Ramon Powers, former Director of the Kansas State Historical Society, said at a monument rededication in 1996, "By placing monuments or other identifying markers... we create a patriotic landscape.... Monuments are a way of separating sacred space from the surrounding secular space. Although the story of particular events can change over time based on new evidence and new ways of looking at old evidence... history is our only guide to the future, and we have a responsibility to collect, preserve, and interpret that history as best we can."

The DAR adheres to this philosophy and focuses on placing monuments and preserving history as a guide to the future. The marking and preservation of the Trail's route from the Missouri state line to what is now Colorado is the Kansas DAR's single greatest undertaking, and the markers have provided guidance for Trail followers in the years since they were placed.

First Historical Marker Placed at Pawnee Indian Village in 1901

The National DAR encouraged chapters in all states to mark historical sites. At the first State Conference in 1899, the Kansas DAR, founded in 1896 (six years after the formation of the National Society), discussed suitable places in the state to erect a memorial. One of the sites suggested was the Pawnee Indian Village in Republic County in the center of the state. They drew up a bill for the Kansas Legislature to consider the purchase and marking of the site. The bill was approved on February 14, 1901.

The 1901 marker commemorating the site became the first marker placement by the Kansas DAR, and the first marked in conjunction with the Women's Kansas Day Club. The prevailing view at the time was this location was where Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike ordered the Spanish flag to be lowered and the flag of the United States to be raised on September 29, 1806. This view was later disproved: Pike visited a Pawnee Village in Webster County, Nebraska; Pawnee Village in Kansas did not exist in 1806. The Kansas State Historical Society misidentified the site. However, the marker still remains.

Santa Fe Trail Marking Proposed

In 1902, Fannie Geiger Thompson, fourth Kansas DAR

State Regent, initiated the idea of marking the Santa Fe Trail. At the DAR State Conference in November of that year, Mrs. Thompson called on the Kansas Daughters to take up the task. She wanted to preserve a part of Kansas history as important to the Kansas Daughters as the Revolutionary War sites were to their eastern sisters – the fast-fading vestiges of Kansas's first "highway." The Santa Fe Trail, she hoped, might be well-mapped and marked by a line of monuments across the state, and her enthusiasm and persistence awakened interest in the subject. Fannie Thompson died in the spring of 1903 without seeing her dream materialize.

Her successor, Emma Stanley, wife of Governor W.E. Stanley, became the fifth Kansas DAR State Regent. The completion of marking the Trail became the outstanding achievement of her administration. The project grew to involve the Kansas State Historical Society, the Kansas legislature, the Santa Fe Railroad, and the Kansas Department of Education. By 1914, the more than 500 miles of the Trail in Kansas were marked with 89 granite markers, at a cost of \$1,546.29. In addition, six special markers were purchased, some costing as much as \$300, by the nine Kansas DAR Chapters (with total membership of about 200-350 women, most belonging to the Topeka or the Wichita chapters) and Old Settlers Associations.

Choosing Markers for the Santa Fe Trail

The markers most likely would not exist today if less durable materials had been used. The initial plan was to place composite stones (a concrete mixture with embedded pebbles) with a bronze plaque in the counties through which the trail passed, with stakes or posts marking the trail in between the markers. The cost of these posts would be \$5 every few miles. Kansas State Historical Society Secretary George W. Martin and Zu Adams, a founding member of the Kansas State Historical Society who had worked there for 35 years, were zealous supporters of the composite stones. Mrs. Stanley noted that her own cement sundial pedestal, composed of the same material as the sample Zu Adams provided, was crumbling, and remarked in a letter to Grace Meeker, Kansas DAR Recording Secretary from 1904-1909, "I am not pleased with it." (Meeker wrote and hand-copied all correspondence of the Santa Fe Trail Committee, which had 14-16 members. She was also Mrs. Stanley's confidante in matters regarding the Santa Fe Trail project.)

Mrs. Stanley wanted a stone that would withstand the test of time. She met with Zu Adams on August 18. Not being able to change Zu's mind, Mrs. Stanley called a full committee meeting for August 28, 1906, to make the final decision. She stood firm in not using the composite stone and bronze plaques.

She was supported by Isabelle Harvey, second Kansas DAR

State Vice-Regent and a member of the Topeka Chapter, who had instigated the purchase of a red granite monument in memory of Fannie Thompson. Costing \$45, this stone was to be placed by the Topeka Chapter at Burlingame in September 1906. This was to be the first red granite marker on the Santa Fe Trail.

On August 21, 1906, Isabelle Harvey undertook a letter campaign to persuade the committee to use granite markers. She negotiated a bid from C.W. Guild, a Topeka stonemason, for end piece fragments. The DAR had enough money for 70 stones. The committee was swayed, voting on August 28 in favor of the red granite. Zu Adams cast the only nay vote. This tiff eventually led to her resignation from the committee. In a September 18 letter, Emma Stanley wrote to Grace Meeker, "... I was very much pleased that the decision was in favor of the granite. Of course we do not have so many of them but we will have the satisfaction of knowing they will last for all time." Subsequent donations in kind allowed the Kansas DAR to ultimately place 95 markers.

Mapping the Trail

Zu Adams was essential in procuring the services of Roy Marsh to create an accurate map of the Santa Fe Trail. Using Sibley's 1825 survey map, and the recollections of Trail travelers and old settlers, Roy Marsh traced the Trail across Kansas for the DAR and the Kansas State Historical Society.

To accomplish marking the Trail, the Kansas DAR relied heavily on local citizens, old settlers associations, county commissioners, and the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and the Rock Island Railroads. In 1905, the state legislature appropriated \$1,000 to the Daughters for this project. Even children helped the cause. In 1906, January 29 (Kansas Day, commemorating the 1861 elevation to statehood) was designated Trail Day, and children across the state brought at least a penny to school – bringing in \$584.

Saving Pawnee Rock

When the Kansas DAR began discussing marking the Trail and plans were being made to trace the correct route, the DAR Regent and State Historical Society were urged to "Save Old Pawnee Rock" at Pawnee Rock, Barton County, Kansas. This is one of the most well-known landmarks along the Kansas portion of the trail, a sandstone outcrop rising from the prairie. A July 23, 1905, letter from the town of Pawnee Rock written by T.H. Brewer and sent to Governor Hoch, Emma Stanley, and Grace Meeker, stated, "The prevailing sentiment now seems to be to preserve historical spots, especially along the Old Santa Fe Trail. Some of the most noted landmarks are being destroyed."

The owner of Pawnee Rock wanted \$3,000 and the DAR, still working on marking the Trail, didn't have the money. The Woman's Kansas Day Club, with strong support from

the Kansas DAR, undertook the project. By January 29, 1909, the owner had agreed to deed the five acres surrounding the Rock, including the Rock, to the State of Kansas as a gift, if the women of Kansas would make improvements to the value of \$3,000. The women's groups constructed the monument and built a sidewalk from the town to the Rock, as well as erected a fence around the property.

The May 24, 1912, dedication plaque reads, "Presented to the State of Kansas by the Women's Kansas Day Club, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Women's Relief Corps, and the Women's Christian Temperance Union." This effort was the Kansas DAR's last marking in conjunction with other women's groups.

Kansas DAR Markers

Kansas's portion of the Trail is approximately 500 miles, with the main route stretching from the Missouri-Kansas line to Cimarron, Kansas, where it splits into the Mountain Route and the Cimarron Route.

The Kansas Daughters marked the Santa Fe Trail with red Osage granite. The stones were not of uniform cut.

They were scrap rock cut from larger stones. For \$16, they were hand engraved and shipped at no charge to rail stations closest to the trail by the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and the Rock Island Railroads. The markers were delivered through the fall of 1906 and into the spring of 1907. The last ones were set in Morton County in 1914. Some had formal dedication ceremonies, others didn't

No two markers are alike; each has its own distinctive shape. The wording is more or less the same on all: "Santa Fe Trail / 1822-1872 / marked by the / Daughters of the / American Revolution / and the State of Kansas / 1906." In purchasing the 175th Anniversary marker in 1996, to be placed at Ralph's Ruts at his farm in Rice County in front of seven swales on unbroken pasture, it was discovered how valuable the 1906 markers had become. Their size and hand engraving have made them unique and irreplaceable.

Missouri DAR Markers

The Missouri Daughters marked the trail from mid-state New Franklin to New Santa Fe on the Kansas-Missouri state line with 29 red granite stones. Most of



Diamond Springs, Morris Co, KS



Tabo, Lafayette Co, MO

the stones are large, elegantly cut with a polished surface for engraving: “Santa Fe Trail / 1821-1872 / marked by the / Daughters of the / American Revolution / and the / State of Missouri / 1909.” All but six have the site name engraved below the polished surface. Four days of formal dedications including all 29 markers were held in 1913, with DAR and local dignitaries present.

Colorado DAR Markers

The Colorado Daughters marked their portion of the Santa Fe Trail from the Kansas state line to the New Mexico state line – the mountain route that went over Raton Pass – with 31 gray granite monuments and one special stone marking Kit Carson Park in Trinidad. The Cimarron Route was marked with three gray granite monuments across the southeast corner of Colorado along the Trail through remote ranch land.



Simpson, Las Animas Co, CO

The majority of the Colorado markers are compact gray granite engraved with “Santa Fe Trail / 1822-1872 / marked by the / Daughters of the / American Revolution / and the State of Colorado / 1908 [or] 1906.” There are seven special chapter markers cut from large granite slabs with the dates 1822, 1872, 1875, 1880, 1908, 1909, or 1910.

New Mexico DAR Markers

New Mexico Daughters followed in 1910, marking the Mountain Route from the Colorado line to Santa Fe. Historical records indicate 23 markers were to be placed. Only 19 of the original stones can be found. There is a new marker at Kearny’s Gap and a bronze plaque on the adobe wall opposite the entrance to the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe.



Ocate Crossing, Mora Co, NM

The New Mexico monuments are cut gray granite, with three special grey granite markers. There are two wording arrangements: those found from Raton to Fort Union say “Santa Fe Trail / (Via Bent’s Fort) / 1822-1879 / Marked by the / Daughters of the / American Revolution / and the / Territory of New Mexico.” Those found between Watrous and Santa Fe have the same wording, minus “Via Bent’s Fort.”

Many “Via Bent’s Fort” markers from Raton to Las Vegas

have been moved and are out of proper order. The New Mexico markers have had a hard existence. They have been stolen, thrown in scrap heaps, and moved, and gaps exist that suggest a marker may have been placed but lost.

Oklahoma DAR Markers

The High Plains Chapter of the Oklahoma Daughters of the American Revolution placed two stones in 1994. The markers mark the Cimarron Route crossing into the panhandle at the Colorado state line. The gray granite markers were placed on two spots along the route, which runs about 50 miles diagonally across the northwest tip of the state. They were dedicated in the fall of 1994.



OK NM State line, Cimarron Co, OK

Keeping the Trail’s Memory Alive

Almira Cordry, Kansas DAR’s first State Historian, published her book, *The Story of the Marking of the Santa Fe Trail*, in 1915. Parts of this work were gleaned from the letters of the old settlers to Emma Stanley and Grace Meeker. Her hope was to keep the memory of the old Trail alive, so that coming generations would never need to ask, “Where is it?” This correspondence remains in the Kansas DAR archives. As a result, Kansas is the only Santa Fe Trail state with a written history of the trail marking. In addition, during her term as Historian from 1910 to 1921, Cordry compiled two volumes of state DAR Society history from 1894 to 1911, which she gathered from old reports, letters, and records.

Cordry numbered the Kansas Santa Fe Trail markers 1-96, starting in Overland Park and ending at Point of Rocks in Morton County. Unfortunately, some markers were missed, out of order, or counted twice. In the 1997 *Ninetieth Anniversary Survey*, State Regent Patricia Traffas and State Historian Shirley Coupal gave each marker a unique name. They accounted for all the Kansas markers; none are missing. The markers are listed in consecutive order using the 1997 names assigned by Traffas and Coupal. The book is out of print, but libraries where the book can be found are listed in WorldCat at www.worldcat.org/title/ninetieth-anniversary-survey-of-the-santa-fe-trail-dar-markers-in-kansas/

Paraphrasing the ritual used at DAR marker restoration commemorations, “To all who pause in this place, may this marker be an effective voice of those who traveled this way, those who made this place sacred, and last forever in our memory. May it remind us of the nobility of life, of our forbearers, who sought a better life, found commerce and the bread basket of the world in this place called Kansas, and of those who lingered no longer than to rest and move on.”

continued next page

DAR, Addendum by Pat Traffas

1996 was a pivotal year for the Kansas Society DAR, as it marked 100 years for the State Society. The Centennial Administration, led by State Regent Pat Traffas, elected to compile a Centennial History book. Pat Traffas and State Historian Shirley Coupal soon realized that the greatest undertaking and achievement of the State Society had been the marking of the Santa Fe Trail beginning in 1903. Pat and Shirley learned there had never been a comprehensive inventory of the markers and their locations, and so, beginning in 1995, the two began what would become a 20-year effort to locate, document, inventory, photograph, and compile a comprehensive history of these granite assets along the Santa Fe Trail in Kansas. Numerous trips along the Trail provided great adventures, but more importantly, the women were amazed at what the women of the DAR had accomplished so mightily early in the twentieth century.

Pat and Shirley maintained extensive field notes over the past 20 years, as they located all the markers, assessed, moved back to original locations, and restored/conserved the markers as needed. They scoured newspapers, microfilms, and maps for primary information from the early days of the marking project. They established relationships with private property owners and municipalities where the markers were located and made the public aware that the markers were once again claimed and maintained by the DAR.

Pat and Shirley gathered GPS coordinates for each marker, shared them with the National Park Service and, cooperatively, digital maps were made. In more recent years, Pat and Shirley, along with Jean Coupal-Smith, located and inventoried all DAR Santa Fe Trail markers from New Franklin, Missouri, to Santa Fe, New Mexico. They anticipate publishing a book of these resources so that modern day trail travelers will know about the efforts of the DAR and the location of all the markers.

As with any physical resource, constant custody and attention must be the bywords. The work of the DAR was most instrumental in locating and marking the Santa Fe Trail starting in 1903, but truly the DAR can never rest on their laurels, as maintenance will always be necessary, and replacement and new markers will be placed as opportunities provide. With the 175th anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail in 1996-97, the Kansas DAR Society commissioned a unique 175th Anniversary marker which they placed at Ralph's Ruts in Rice County, Kansas, and they are planning a commemorative marker for the upcoming 200th anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail opening. Thus, the valued work of the DAR truly continues. ♦

Pat Traffas and Shirley Coupal are DAR Honorary State Regents. Pat was State Regent from 1995-1998; Shirley was State Regent from 2007-2010. Currently Pat is the Oregon-California Trails Association Secretary and Shirley is on the SFTA Board of Directors and parliamentarian. Marker photos by Jean Coupal-Smith.



Abzuga "Zu" Adams (1859 - 1911) SFTA 2016 Hall of Fame Inductee

Zu Adams was born in Atchison, Kansas, on January 13, 1859. Named Abzuga for her father's mother, she was always known as Zu. As a child she lived in various Kansas towns including Waterville, Wichita, and Topeka.

In 1896 she became a founding member of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Zu was KSDAR's first State Registrar. She belonged to the Topeka Chapter and was a member of the Santa Fe Trail Committee.

She worked for the Kansas State Historical Society during its first 35 years. In 1904 she served as president of the Kansas Library Association and recorded and cataloged Kansas territorial and state documents in addition to her work with the Kansas Historical Society. Her papers consist of two boxes and one letter book covering 1872-1911. Her long association with the historical society made her a perfect Santa Fe Trail Committee member. She supported the original plan to place cement posts that cost \$5 every few miles. Zu Adams, along with KSHS secretary George W. Martin, was a zealous supporter of the composite stones. The committee voted this down and the red granite markers were selected.

In 1876, when Zu was 17, her father became Secretary of the new Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka, and she became his unpaid assistant. Later she was given a salary and the title of librarian. At the time of her father's death in 1899, both she and he hoped that she would succeed him as Secretary. When George Martin emerged as a candidate for that position, however, Zu reluctantly withdrew her own candidacy. She worked as Martin's assistant until her own death on April 12, 1911. Zu never married, but adopted a daughter in 1896. She is buried in the Topeka Cemetery, Topeka, Kansas.



Fannie Geiger Thompson (1857 – 1903)
SFTA 2016 Hall of Fame Inductee

Fannie Geiger Thompson, fourth KSDAR State Regent, was born January 1, 1857, in Martin's Ferry, Ohio, and came to Kansas with her parents in 1867. They lived for a short time on the Kansas frontier at Ellsworth and then moved to Topeka. Fannie was the great-granddaughter of Lieutenant William Wallace, who was with Washington's army during the terrible winter at Valley Forge.

Mrs. Thompson attended Bethany College in Topeka and was a member of the Topeka Chapter. She married a dentist, Dr. Alton H. Thompson, in 1875, and was the mother of a son and a daughter. Her daughter died in 1897, shortly after graduating from Bethany College.

At the fourth Kansas DAR State Conference in Ottawa on November 5, 1902, Mrs. Thompson suggested marking the Santa Fe Trail through Kansas and asked the Kansas Daughters to take up this important work. She hoped it would be marked by a line of monuments across the State, and it was her enthusiasm and persistence that first awakened interest in the subject. The nominating committee unanimously chose Mrs. Thompson to serve another year as Regent.

This was not to be, as Fannie Geiger Thompson became ill with diphtheria and died at her home in Topeka on February 17, 1903. Her grave was marked by the Kansas Society. A memorial tablet to Mrs. Thompson was placed among the monuments along the Santa Fe Trail at Burlingame, Kansas, by the Topeka DAR Chapter in 1906. It was rededicated in September 1992.



**Almira Sheffield Peckham Cordry
(1863 – 1949)**
SFTA 2016 Hall of Fame Inductee

Almira Cordry was KSDAR's first State Historian. She served in this position from 1910 to 1921. During this time she compiled two volumes of history of the state society from 1894 to 1911. This seventeen-year history was gathered from old reports, letters, and records. In addition, she wrote the story of marking the old Santa Fe Trail separately, thinking it might be published some day. Parts of this work were gleaned from the letters of the old settlers to Emma Stanley and Grace Meeker. Almira's hope was to keep the memory of the old Trail alive so that coming generations would never need to ask, "Where is it?" This correspondence remains in the KSDAR archives. She made Kansas the only Santa Fe Trail state with a written history of the trail marking.

Almira Sheffield Peckham was born at Onarga, Illinois, on October 10, 1863, the daughter of James P. Peckham and Almira Chesebrough Sheffield, pioneer residents of Illinois. At the age of five she moved to Kansas with her parents, who settled in Manhattan. She grew to womanhood there and graduated from Kansas State College (Kansas State University). She married Thomas A. Cordry in 1888 in Clay Center. The couple subsequently lived in several central Kansas towns where Cordry was engaged in the newspaper business. He died in 1914 of a heart attack.

She was a life member and state historian of the DAR, and a member of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. She took a special interest in the welfare of ex-servicemen and corresponded regularly with many of them throughout the country. Almira died October 16, 1949. Funeral services were held at St. John's Episcopal Church and burial was in Oakwood Cemetery in Parsons, Kansas.



Emma Hills Stanley (1858 - 1939)

SFTA 2016 Hall of Fame Inductee

Emma Hills Stanley, fifth KSDAR State Regent and named first honorary KSDAR State Regent, was born in Covington, Indiana, April 4, 1858, and came to Wichita with her parents in a stagecoach in 1870, two years before the railroad reached Wichita. In 1876, she married William Eugene Stanley, who became Governor of Kansas in 1899. She had the honor of being mistress of Kansas' first executive mansion.

The outstanding achievement of Mrs. Stanley's administration was the marking the Santa Fe Trail, first suggested by the previous State Regent Fannie Geiger Thompson. From 1906-1914, the Santa Fe Trail was marked in its entirety through Kansas, a distance of more than five hundred miles, with 95 granite markers at a cost of \$1,546.29.

The initial plan was to place composite stones (a concrete mixture with embedded pebbles) with a bronze plaque. Mrs. Stanley, contemplating her crumbling sundial, wrote to Grace Meeker that the composite stone just would not do. For the final plan, Isabelle Cone Harvey solicited a quote for \$16.00 for each marker which came from red Osage granite in Oklahoma. Each marker would be hand-engraved with "Santa Fe Trail marked by the State of Kansas and the Daughters of the American Revolution 1906." Emma Hills Stanley died on Kansas Day, January 29, 1939.

Photo of Zu Adams used by permission, kansasmemory.org, Kansas State Historical Society. Other DAR photos appeared in Almira Cordry's book Marking the Santa Fe Trail, published circa 1921.



Grace Ruth Meeker (1865 - 1947)

SFTA 2016 Hall of Fame Inductee

Grace Meeker, seventh KSDAR State Regent, was born February 5, 1865, in Franklin, New York. In 1870, the Meeker family moved to Ottawa, Kansas. She was librarian at the Ottawa Public Library for 15 years and a naturalist who wrote several books on native plants. Grace was a charter member of the KSDAR General Edward Hand Chapter.

Due to an unexpected vacancy in the State Regent's office, Mrs. William E. Stanley, Vice President General, requested that the National Board appoint Grace Meeker in February 1909 to fill the unexpired term until the confirmation of the elected State Regent at the Continental Congress in April 1909. Even though Miss Meeker served as State Regent for only few months, her contribution as State Regent came at a critical time for the State Society, and it was deemed enough to make her an Honorary State Regent.

Her greatest contribution to the Kansas Society was as State Recording Secretary and as secretary for the Santa Fe Trail Committee. She was Mrs. Stanley's confidante in conflicting matters regarding the Santa Fe Trail project. As secretary, she wrote and copied all correspondence to the committee members and other interested persons.

She was a devoted member of General Edward Hand Chapter throughout her life. Grace Meeker died at the family home on December 4, 1947, and was buried in Highland Cemetery in Ottawa, Kansas.



Isabelle Harvey (1873 - 1962)
SFTA 2016 Hall of Fame Inductee

Isabelle Harvey, second KSDAR State Vice Regent, was born March 10, 1873, in Wabaunsee County, Kansas. She was a member of the Topeka Chapter. Isabella served as Emma Stanley's Vice-Regent and was a member of the Santa Fe Trail Committee.

She was well aware of Mrs. Stanley's dislike of the composite stones. Isabelle had instigated the purchase of a red granite monument in memory of Fannie Thompson. Costing \$45, this stone was to be placed by the Topeka Chapter at Burlingame in September 1906. This would become the first red granite marker on the Santa Fe Trail. Mrs. Harvey was a staunch supporter of the granite markers. On August 21, 1906, she undertook a letter campaign to change the Santa Fe Trail Committee member's minds. She negotiated a bid from Guild's, a Topeka stonemason, for end piece fragments at \$16 per stone.

Isabella Cone married Alexander Miller Harvey on December 16, 1896, and they had three sons. Alex was a lawyer, soldier, statesman, and author. He served two terms as Lieutenant Governor of Kansas. He and Isabelle were instrumental in helping establish Capitol Post #1 of the American Legion in Topeka. Isabelle died April 12, 1962, at Topeka, Kansas, and is buried in Ridgeway Cemetery, Osage County, Kansas.

**Partnership for the
National Trails System**

by Ross Marshall, SFTA Representative to PNTS

Hike the Hill: By the time you read *Wagon Tracks*, this event in Washington, D.C., may already be over. Held February 11-16, this annual event is a joint effort between the Partnership for the National Trail System and the American Hiking Society. It is aimed at increasing congressional and federal agency leader awareness of funding and other needs that sustain the National Trails System. Each February, trail partners and organizations from across the nation head to Washington, D.C. to discuss current initiatives, legislation, and goals for the future with federal partners, congressmen or their staff, and fellow trail organizations.

I will attend on behalf of the Santa Fe Trail Association. Meetings with agencies, congressional committees, and with various congressional members and their staffs will be scheduled. In an election year, some faces will have changed and congressional members will change offices, but we'll track them down. The purpose is to inform all of them what has been happening on all the trails, thank them for their help, and explain what our needs are.

The Partnership for the National Trails System will host a meeting for board members and leaders on Saturday, February 11. I am completing my second round as Vice President and am chairing one of the five committees working on a PNTS Strategic Plan. This completed plan will be submitted for PNTS Board approval at the meeting, the culmination of a year and a half effort.

Planning is also underway for events and celebrations in 2018 concerning the 50th anniversary of the passage of the National Trails System Act in 1968. Our old friend Steve Elkinton, retired from the National Park Service, will serve as committee chair. More later as details are available.

Thanks to all SFTA leaders and members for collecting Volunteers in Parks volunteer hours, expenses, and mileage that were compiled last month. I use the same totals for the Partnership's Gold Sheet which is distributed to Congress and other entities in Washington, D.C. ♦



Francisca Lopez Kimball: Across the Santa Fe Trail to Missouri

By Doyle Daves

Francisca Lopez lost her mother at a young age. As a consequence, she traveled with her father across the Santa Fe Trail from New Mexico to Missouri and on to St. Louis where he placed her in a convent boarding school. There, Francisca was confronted with a new language and a new culture – indeed a new life. She never returned to New Mexico and remained in St. Louis the rest of her life. She married Benjamin Kimball, a descendant of early French settlers of St. Louis. The Kimballs had a large family. Their children and grandchildren became notable citizens of late nineteenth and early twentieth century St. Louis society.¹

Francisca's Spanish, Mexican and New Mexican Heritage

Francisca's father, Damaso Lopez, was born in the Basque region of northern Spain in the province of Viscaya. As a young man, he and his older brother Lorenzo immigrated to Spanish America before 1818, where they settled in Chihuahua and quickly became prominent merchants. Francisca's mother, Maria del Carmen Severina Esparza, was born of Mexican parents who, following their marriage in Durango in 1811, moved north into the province of Nuevo Mexico, probably first to Santa Fe and then to the eastern frontier outpost of San Miguel del Vado.

Maria Francisca Lopez was born on October 21, 1841, the only daughter and third of four children of Damaso Lopez and Carmen Esparza. We have birth records for her three brothers, all born in New Mexico. Surprisingly, Francisca tells us that she was born, not in New Mexico, but in Chihuahua where she was "baptized at the old Cathedral there [and] had four Godmothers and four Godfathers."² We have not found a confirming record.

Damaso Lopez³ was a prominent businessman and a partner of United States Consul Manuel Alvarez⁴ in a large mercantile establishment in Santa Fe. A testament to the standing of the Lopez family during Francisca's early years is the fact that New Mexico Governor Manuel Armijo and his wife, Trinidad Gabaldon, served as godparents for her brother Melquiades, born in Santa Fe in 1838.⁵ Thus, as an infant and young girl, Francisca Lopez lived in a wealthy household and was unusually privileged; she led a life far different from most New Mexican children whose parents eked out a bare living by subsistence farming.

The Lopez Family in New Mexico

While each of Francisca's brothers was born in a different New Mexico community,⁶ Trinidad in Abiquiú, Melquiades in Santa Fe, Francisco in San Miguel del Vado, it seems that the family lived mostly in Santa Fe. We know that the Alvarez-Lopez mercantile store was in Santa Fe and that

Damaso owned a home on the Santa Fe Plaza.⁷ Francisca remembers living there in "a one story house with many rooms and a court[yard] in the center." She also notes that Damaso's partner, Manuel Alvarez, a life-long bachelor, lived with the Lopez family.

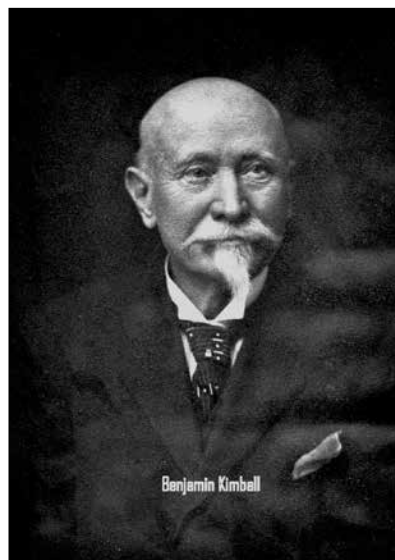
The business interests of Damaso Lopez kept him on the move and away from home for extended periods. As a result, Carmen was frequently left to care for her children and the household with the help of servants. Noteworthy was a trip Damaso took to California in the 1840s with a large flock of sheep that were in much demand there.⁸ We have an interesting document⁹ that tells us much about the life Carmen led. It involves the sale of a home in Santa Fe, owned earlier by Ramon Abreu (a prominent government official murdered in the Chimayo Revolt of 1837).¹⁰ Here we learn that Damaso was away in California (September 1845) and that he had left instructions for Carmen to sell the property and to use the proceeds as she needed. This indicates that Damaso recognized that, in the absence of banks or other convenient ways to transfer money, Carmen had to make needed financial decisions in his absence.

Family Tragedy and the Life-Changing Move to Missouri

We have no details of the family routines as the children were growing up in Santa Fe during the 1840s. It is likely that at least the older boys, Trinidad and Melquiades, were receiving some tutoring,¹¹ as Damaso was a well-educated man with strong ties to the elite of New Mexico and to traders and merchants in Missouri and Chihuahua where he maintained active commercial relationships. Whatever calm and routine the family enjoyed was surely disrupted by the coming of Brigadier General Kearny's Army of the West to Santa Fe and the annexation of New Mexico in the summer of 1846.¹² New Mexicans lived under martial law with significant civil unrest for more than two years. Hafen¹³ has noted that, during this period, disease was rampant in Santa Fe, leading to many military and civilian deaths. Indeed, Kimball stated that "New Mexico became a graveyard to many of the...soldiers...over 220 died of disease, many in the Santa Fe Army hospital."¹⁴

Whether as a result of this epidemic or not, Carmen Esparza de Lopez unexpectedly died, probably in 1848 although we have not succeeded in finding a death or burial record. This tragedy completely changed the lives of the remaining family members. Damaso was left to care for four motherless children; Trinidad was twelve, Melquiades was ten, Francisca was six, and Francisco was only four. How he managed to care for them during the following two years is not known.

Then in the spring of 1850, Damaso took the four children across the Santa Fe Trail to Missouri, arriving at Independence in early May.¹⁵ The two younger boys, Melquiades and Francisco, were placed at an academy at Chapel Hill in Lafayette just east of Independence. Trinidad was enrolled at St. Louis University, and Francisca was installed with the nuns at Visitation Academy in St. Louis.



indicates that in the two years Francisca had been in St. Louis she had already become fluent. In this letter, she tells her father that she is “well and happy” but expresses significant loneliness, telling her father that “I think a great deal about you... especially when I am going to bed at night.” Further she indicates regret that she cannot see him or “my little brothers.” On a positive note, she indicates en-

thusiasm for her studies as she reports that she is “improving in my music very fast and like it very much.” There seems no doubt that Francisca has adjusted well and, despite missing her family, is generally thriving in her new life

Francisca, Unintended Migrant to Missouri

The Santa Fe Trail was a commercial trail. Children did occasionally travel the Santa Fe Trail. In particular, prominent New Mexican families often sent boys, and a very few girls, along the Trail to attend school in Missouri and states further east.¹⁶ A prominent example of a girl traveling the Trail to attend school was Adaline Carson, daughter of Kit Carson and Waanibe (Singing Grass), his Arapaho wife. Adaline was taken to Missouri in 1842 by her father and left with relatives there who raised her and saw to her education.¹⁷

What makes Francisca unusual, and perhaps unique, is that she came to Missouri from New Mexico and never returned; in effect she was an immigrant. Immigration of native New Mexicans to the eastern states was essentially unheard of.

Francisca's Early Years at Visitation Academy

Francisca arrived in St. Louis at age eight, was enrolled at the convent school, Visitation Academy, and left alone, as her father quickly returned along the Trail to New Mexico. When she arrived, she was instantly immersed in a foreign culture. She was without family or other familiar faces; she knew no one there. She spoke only Spanish in an English-speaking community. The food was strange, likely Missouri girls dressed differently, and she had no experience with dormitory living or a school setting with the inevitable rules and regulations that had to be mastered. Undoubtedly, despite reassurances from her father and the nuns, Francisca must have experienced significant anxiety in the beginning. But she was a strong and resourceful little girl and quickly adjusted.

We have a letter¹⁸ that Francisca wrote to her father in April 1852 that provides insight concerning her adjustment to her life at Visitation Academy. The letter is in English and

Another Tragedy, Francisca Loses Her Father and Becomes an Orphan

In 1852, Damaso Lopez again drove thousands of sheep to California to take advantage of the strong market there, greatly enhanced by the arrival of thousands of gold seekers beginning in 1849. He got as far as Warner's Ranch near San Diego when he died August 29, 1852, at the age of 59.¹⁹ This second family tragedy left Francisca and her brothers, all still in boarding schools in Missouri, orphans. Manuel Alvarez, Damaso's business partner and close family friend, became executor of the Lopez estate and guardian of the Lopez children. We have two letters Francisca wrote to Alvarez, the first in August 1853 and the second later that year in December. Now age 12, Francisca again expresses loneliness, complaining that her brothers do not answer her letters, and expressing the hope that Alvarez will visit. Both letters tell of her special friendship with Donaciana Waldo,²⁰ perhaps the only other Spanish-speaking girl at Visitation Academy, who “treats me very kindly [and] makes all my dresses.”

For the Lopez children, tragedy continued, as in August 1856, Manuel Alvarez also died. Another close family friend from Santa Fe, Anastacio Sandoval, then became guardian of the children and executor of the Lopez estate that, after four years, had still not been settled. The available evidence is that throughout the changes in adult responsibility, the children were well supported financially, if not emotionally. We have not learned of the final disposition of the Lopez estate, but we do know that the boys never achieved the status and wealth of their parents.

Francisca (now Fanny) Grows Up, Joins the St. Louis Elite and Finds a Husband, Benjamin Kimball

As the years went by at Visitation Academy, Francisca grew into an impressive young woman. She became “Fanny” as she lost almost all traces of her Hispanic heritage. Many of the girls at the Academy came from the leading families of St. Louis, allowing Fanny access to this society. She seems to have been popular with her fellow students. In a letter (July 26, 1854)²¹ to Manuel Alvarez, J. L. Collins of Boonville, Missouri, asked that “your little favorite, Fanny Lopez” be permitted to spend vacation time with Collin’s granddaughters, also students at the Academy, who “speak of her in the highest terms.” More importantly, Fanny developed a special friendship with Pelagie Berthold. Pelagie’s mother was a Chouteau of the founding family of St. Louis²² and her father, Bartholomew Berthold, was an impressive man. He was born in the Italian Tyrol; as a young man, he was secretary to a general and fought against Napoleon before fleeing Europe to the United States. Berthold arrived in St. Louis in 1809 where he married Pelagie Chouteau and entered the fur trading business first with his brother-in-law, Pierre Chouteau, Jr., and later with John Jacob Astor. He became wealthy and prominent.²³ When Fanny Lopez completed her studies at Visitation Academy, she was invited to live in the Berthold mansion “one of the best in St. Louis...and a social center for the city’s Creole families.”²⁴ This move established Fanny Lopez as an emerging St. Louis socialite. It was in this heady environment that Fanny met Benjamin Kimball and chose him as her husband.

While Fanny was enrolled at Visitation Academy, Benjamin Kimball was a student at Saint Louis University where Fanny’s brother, Trinidad Lopez, had also studied. After finishing their studies, Fanny Lopez, not quite 19, and 22-year-old Benjamin Kimball were married on June 28, 1860. In the 1860 census for St. Louis, we find the newlyweds living with Benjamin’s parents and siblings.

Benjamin Kimball’s Old New England and Early St. Louis French Heritage

Pierre Benjamin Bullard Kimball was born in St. Louis on May 29, 1838, the son of Ezekiel Bullard Kimball and Julia Antoinette Soulard. Ezekiel was born in 1810 in the village of Gouverneur in St. Lawrence County near the Canadian border in northern New York state; his Kimball ancestors had left England and arrived in Massachusetts by 1650. As a young man, Ezekiel left the Northeast where his family had lived for generations. He came to the still comparatively raw, polyglot western city of 1830s St. Louis with its rich mix of Americans, Frenchmen, Spaniards, rough and ready mountain men, and Santa Fe Trail merchants and traders. There he entered the commission business and later became a leading banker, serving as president of the Southern Bank of St. Louis.²⁵ Ezekiel married Julia Soulard, a member of one of the elite French families of the city; the couple were

leaders of St. Louis society.

Julia was the granddaughter of Antoine Pierre Soulard,²⁶ a Frenchman who came to America to escape the French Revolution and arrived in then-Spanish St. Louis in 1794, almost a decade before the cession of Louisiana to France and the subsequent Louisiana Purchase. Soulard’s impressive background led to his appointment by the Spanish government to the post of King’s Surveyor General of Upper Louisiana. This important position assured his success. His prominence was such that a section of St. Louis is still today known as “Soulard”. Also noteworthy is the present-day Soulard Farmers’ Market, first organized almost two centuries ago by Antoine Soulard on his farm.

Julia Soulard’s maternal grandfather, Colonel Thomas Hunt, is also an important figure of early St. Louis history.²⁷ Hunt, from Massachusetts, served in the Revolutionary War at the battles of Lexington and Concord. After the war ended, he remained in military service. Shortly after the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, Fort Bellefontaine, the first American fort west of the Mississippi River, was established at St. Louis. Colonel Hunt served as its second commander from 1805 until his death in 1808.

Benjamin Kimball Establishes a Business

The 1860 census for St. Louis lists Benjamin Kimball’s employment as “commission merchant.” A brief biography²⁸ written in 1899 indicates that he began his career “in the commission business...as successor to his father.” Ezekiel Kimball was doing business as “E. B. Kimball & Company, Commission and Forwarding Merchants.” Anticipating Benjamin’s marriage and need for a career, his father turned the company over to him and a partner, A. W. Senter, at the beginning of 1860 (*Daily Missouri Democrat*, May 12, 1860) which operated as “Kimball and Senter.” It is likely that, as St. Louis Commission Agents, they were involved with the Santa Fe Trail trade.

Apparently, Benjamin either was not successful at the commission business or for other reasons chose to make a change. In any event, by the end of 1865, the company was again “E. B. Kimball & Company” (*Daily Missouri Democrat*, December 14, 1865). By the time of the 1870 census, Benjamin had become a “life insurance agent.” Not long afterward, he had established the Fire-Wall Insurance Company, focused on providing fire insurance to the business community. A report²⁹ notes that “[Benjamin Kimball] is extensively known and appreciated in our business circles...” His earlier experience as a commission agent and his father’s prominence as a leading banker undoubtedly accounted for his large number of acquaintances and solid standing among businessmen.

In addition to these businesses, Benjamin Kimball had other commercial and investment interests. A trade journal,

The Age of Steel (Vol. 90, November 30, 1901, page 33), reported that Kimball was a corporate director of the Domestic Oil Company of Beaumont, Texas. A United States Patent Office Report (February 26, 1895) states that Kimball had acquired (presumably purchased) a two-thirds interest in a patent for an "automatic alarm check and guard," apparently related to oil processing. In addition, in 1873 Benjamin Kimball filed a patent application for an invention of his own for a new "cotton bale tie."³⁰ The idea for this surely dated from his time in the commission business, where he undoubtedly was involved with cotton shipped up river from New Orleans. Clearly, Benjamin Kimball was an active and successful business man.

Fanny and Benjamin Kimball Have a Large Family

By the time of the 1870 census, the Kimballs, now married ten years, had their own home and a large, complex household. There were now five children; in addition, James Kimball, Benjamin's much younger brother, was living with them, and there were also three servants to help Fanny with all the work of the household.

Over time, Fanny gave birth to eleven children. Unfortunately, only seven of them survived to adulthood. These seven consisted of four daughters, Virginia Bertold, Francisca Isabel, Florence Gorley, Mary Jane, and three sons, Francis Lopez, John Harney, and Benjamin Soulard. As adults, this generation of Kimballs continued the economic and social success of their parents. Two of the Kimball sons, John and Benjamin, followed their father into the insurance business. The oldest son, Frank, became a solicitor for a newspaper in Philadelphia. The Kimball daughters married men who became successful. Virginia Berthold Kimball married Kearny Mason, a grandson of General Stephen Watts Kearny of Mexican War fame. Kearny Mason was an official with the Standard Oil Company in Texas. Francisca Isabel (Fanny) Kimball married

Walter Bond Douglas,³¹ a graduate of Harvard Law School, who served as a Circuit Court Judge in Missouri and was also a noted historian. James Marsh Douglas, Fanny and Walter's son, became a Missouri Supreme Court Justice. Florence Gorley Kimball married Charles Smith Peek, who was a bookkeeper for a Galveston, Texas bank. Mary Jane Kimball married Dr. Herman von Schrenk. Dr. von Schrenk³² was a prominent botanist with degrees from Cornell, Harvard, and Washington Universities.

Last Years

Fanny (Lopez) Kimball died on November 19, 1907 at her home in St. Louis at the age of 66. She had removed a painful corn from her toe, and blood poisoning set in which led to her death (*St. Louis Times*, November 19, 1907). Benjamin soon gave up the family home. In the 1910 census he is listed in the household of son John in Pennsylvania. He then moved to Texas where he lived with daughter Virginia Mason. Benjamin died at the age of 74 on November 26, 1912, just five years after Fanny's death.

Francisca (Fanny) Lopez and Benjamin Kimball came from very different backgrounds. Francisca was born into a rich and prominent Spanish-Mexican family. When tragedy left her an orphan in a St. Louis convent school, she made a new life for herself. Benjamin Kimball, with ancestors prominent in the American Revolutionary War and in the establishment of the western frontier town of St. Louis, was a highly successful businessman in the last third of the nineteenth century. Together, Benjamin and Fanny were leaders in St. Louis society. They raised a large family and their children also became successful and prominent. The Lopez-Kimball story is an impressive one that bridges, via the Santa Fe Trail, the western frontier of New Mexico Territory with eastern American urban sophistication.

NOTES

1. Interviews with Mary Kimball Outten, summers 2015 and 2016. Mary descends from Benjamin and Francisca (Lopez) Kimball. She made available to me a collection of family records consisting of letters (some from the 1850s), clippings from newspapers and other publications, and photos.
2. Francisca (Lopez) Kimball, unpublished remembrances, April 5, 1897, Mary Kimball Outten collection.
3. Doyle Daves, "Damaso Lopez: He Traveled El Camino Real and the Santa Fe Trail," *Wagon Tracks*, 29 (August 2015) 26-30.
4. Thomas E. Chavez, *Manuel Alvarez, 1794-1856, A Southwestern Biography* (Boulder: University of Colorado Press, 1990).
5. Margaret Leonard Windham and Evelyn Lujan Baca, New Mexico Baptisms of Santa Fe, Vol. III, 1823-1839 (Albuquerque: Genealogical Society of New Mexico, 2002), 295.
6. Doyle Daves, "Trinidad Lopez, College Boy on the Santa Fe Trail," *Wagon Tracks*, 24 (February 2010), 1, 16-19.
7. Damaso Lopez rents to Alexander Duvall, April 28, 1851, Manuel Alvarez Papers, Correspondence, Series I folder, New Mexico Archives and Records Center, Santa Fe.
8. John O. Baxter, *Los Carneros, Sheep Trade in New Mexico 1700-1860* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1987), 117.
9. Carmen Leyba to Antonio Sena, conveyance of a house and lot, Spanish Archives of New Mexico, Reel 3, Frame 511, New Mexico State Archives and Records Center, Santa Fe.
10. Doyle Daves, "Jesus Gil Abreu: Santa Fe Trail Traveler and Man of Affairs in Territorial New Mexico," *Wagon Tracks*, 27 (May 2013), 27-30.
11. There were no schools in Santa Fe until Bishop Lamy established one in 1852. See: Paul Horgan, *Lamy of Santa Fe* (Middletown: Wesleyan University Press, 1975), 127, 317.
12. William A. Keleher, *Turmoil in New Mexico* (Santa Fe: Rydal Press, 1952), 3-26.
13. LeRoy R. Hafen, Broken Hand, *The Life of Thomas Fitzpatrick, Guide and Indian Agent* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1987), 248.
14. Timothy L. Kimball, "Fischer's German-American Artillery Volunteers on the Santa Fe Trail, 1846-1847," *Wagon Tracks*, 26 (November 2011), 23.

continued next page

Lopez Kimball, *continued*

15. Letter from Damaso Lopez to Manuel Alvarez from Independence, Missouri, dated May 17, 1850, Mary Kimball Outten collection.

16. Mary Jean Cook, "New Mexico Students Travel the Trail, 1832-1880," *Wagon Tracks*, 10 (November 1995), 6-10.

17. Marc Simmons, *Kit Carson and His Three Wives, A Family History* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2003), 46-50.

18. Mary Kimball Outten collection.

19. Doyle Daves, "Damaso Lopez"

20. We have not definitively identified Donaciana Waldo. In the 1850 census, she is listed with the other residents of Visitation Academy as age 14, born in "Mexico." She is possibly Donaciana Howland, who as the ward of Dr. David Waldo is mentioned in William Patrick O'Brien, *Merchants of Independence, International Trade on the Santa Fe Trail, 1827-1860* (Kirkville, MO: Truman State University Press, 2014), 48.

21. Letter, J. L. Collins to Manuel Alvarez, July 26, 1854, Benjamin M. Read collection, series 1, folder 109, serial number 8419, New Mexico State Archives and Records Center, Santa Fe.

22. Mary B. Cunningham and Jeanne C. Blythe, *The Founding Family of St. Louis* (St. Louis: Midwest Technical Publications, 1977).

23. Mary Bartley, *St. Louis Lost, Uncovering the City's Architectural Treasures* (St. Louis: Virginia Publishing Co. 1994), 20-21.

24. William C. Winter, *The Civil War in St. Louis: A Guided Tour* (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 1994), 31.

25. John Thomas Schraf, *History of St. Louis City and County: From the Earliest Periods to the Present Day* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Evarts & Co., 1883) Vol 12, 1393.

26. Antoine Pierre Soulard, <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-fg.cgi?page=gr&Grid=20567> (accessed September 6, 2016)

27. Fredric L. Billon, *Annals of St. Louis in its Territorial Days from 1804 to 1821* (St. Louis: Printed for the author, 1888), 225.

28. Haldeman, Conard & Company, *Encyclopedia of the History of St. Louis, A Compendium of History and Biography for Ready Reference* (New York: Southern History Company, 1899), Vol II, 1174.

29. Camille N. Dry and Rich J. Compton, *Pictorial St. Louis - The Great Metropolis of*

**Kearny's Dragoons Out West: The Birth of the U.S. Cavalry**

Will Gorenfeld and John Gorenfeld, *Kearny's Dragoons Out West: The Birth of the U.S. Cavalry*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2016. xiii + 466 pp. Maps, illustrations, notes, bibliography, and index. Cloth, \$34.95.

Reviewed by Leo Oliva

This study of the founding and formative years of the First U. S. Dragoon Regiment (1833-1848), which was renamed the First U.S. Cavalry Regiment in 1861, examines the leadership of Colonel Henry Dodge (1833-1836) and Colonel (promoted to Brigadier General, 1846) Stephen Watts Kearny (1836 -1848) and the peacekeeping activities of the regiment with American Indians until the warfare of the U.S.-Mexico War, 1846-1848. Thereafter warfare dominated U.S. policy toward western Indians for the next 42 years. The father-son authors searched

the Mississippi Valley, A Topographical Survey Drawn in Perspective, A. D. 1875 (St. Louis: Compton & Company, 1876), Plate 1, Number 69.

30. U. S. Patent Office, "Specifications and Drawings," Application 143,911 filed October 2, 1873, (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, October 1873), 480.

31. Charles P. Pettus, "Judge Walter Bond Douglas," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, 13 (January 1921), 595-597.

32. James E. Cronin, *Herman von Schrenk, A Biography: Botanist, Plant Pathologist, Wood Preserving Scientist, Pioneer in American Wood Preservation, Forest Scientist, Forest Timber Engineer* (Chicago: Kuehn Publishers, 1959).

Doyle Daves has written extensively about Santa Fe Trail travelers. His articles have appeared in previous issues of Wagon Tracks, and can be found online at www.santafetrail.org. ♦

BOOKS

the primary sources thoroughly (there are 70 pages of notes and 15 pages of bibliography). The First Dragoons were closely associated with the Santa Fe Trail, and readers should expect contributions to trail history. Unfortunately, what could be a masterful study is marred throughout with errors, recounted after looking at what the volume purports to do.

The thesis, cogently argued and documented, is clearly stated, that from 1832 -1846 the Dragoons "encountered and dealt with dozens of tribes on the Great Plains while avoiding battle . . . [and] enforced a new western order of peace, a pax Jacksonia, without engaging in open warfare" (p. 7). The regiment protected the "Permanent Indian Frontier," including the removed tribes from the East, and protected Euro-American travelers traversing the Great Plains to New Mexico, California, and Oregon.

The authors missed the importance of Major Bennet Riley's 1829 escort on the Santa Fe Trail with companies of the Sixth U.S. Infantry, who were unable to deal with mounted Indians, followed by Riley's plea for a mounted division in the U.S. Army. That request was taken up by Missouri Senator Thomas Hart Benton, leading first to the creation of the temporary Mounted Rangers in 1832, followed by founding of the permanent First Dragoons in 1833. The authors mention the 1829 escort in one sentence and Bennet Riley not at all.

Colonel Dodge (who resigned in 1836 to become governor of Wisconsin Territory) faced difficulties getting the new regiment organized (Kearny would assume that task with good results), but Dodge established the peaceful mission of diplomacy and fair play with no major attacks on Indians. These activities of the Dragoons are

chronicled in detail: Captain Wharton's escort of the 1834 caravan on the Santa Fe Trail, the "grand expedition" led by Colonel Dodge with General Henry Leavenworth in 1834 to meet with several Plains tribes, Kearny's battalion sent to present Iowa in 1834, Colonel Dodge's Rocky Mountain Expedition of 1835 which returned via the Santa Fe Trail, Kearny's 1835 expedition to meet with Indians and explore locations for a new military post in present Iowa, numerous constabulary duties on the Great Plains prior to the war with Mexico, Captain Philip St. George Cooke's 1843 escort on the Santa Fe Trail to protect Mexican merchants from Texan forces, Kearny's 1845 expedition to South Pass and return via Bent's Fort and the Santa Fe Trail, the Army of the West that Kearny led over the Santa Fe Trail in 1846 to capture New Mexico and proceeded to help conquer California, Lieutenant John Love's battle with Comanches on the Santa Fe Trail in 1847, and the First Dragoons who fought with other units in Mexico at Buena Vista, Churubusco, and Santa Cruz de Rosales.

Biographical sketches of several officers and a few enlisted men enhance the story of the early years of the regiment, as do the illustrations and maps (there are only two maps and more would be helpful). Weapons, uniforms, health, and living conditions are explained. The deleterious effects of alcohol in Indian-White relations are properly emphasized. Internal conflicts within the regiment are assessed, including disagreements between Major Richard Mason and Lieutenant Jefferson Davis and between Mason and Kearny. The evaluation of Kearny's troops at the Battle of San Pasqual (near San Diego) in December 1846 is especially well done. Following Kearny's death in 1848, the First Dragoons changed under new officers from intermediaries between Indians and Euro-Americans to Indian fighters, confirming how unique that brief era of diplomacy, 1833-1846, was and how important Dodge and Kearny were to its success.

Given the research and detailed history, it is regrettable that the book is riddled with errors which reflect badly on the authors, University of Oklahoma Press, and the scholars who reviewed the manuscript and approved publication. The worst thing about publishing errors is that, once in print, they spread. The following selected mistakes illustrate the problem.

A company of the Mounted Rangers did not escort the 1832 Santa Fe Trail "caravan to Santa Fe" (p. 22); the escort went only to the crossing of the Arkansas River. The Dragoon escort on the Santa Fe Trail in 1834 did not go to the "Cimarron River" (p. 53) but to the Cimarron Crossing of the Arkansas River, and there is no mention of Captain Wharton's meetings with Pawnee, Kanza, and Little Osage on his return to Fort Gibson. The Grand Expedition of 1834 went to the village of "Pawnee Picts," who are treated as Pawnee rather than the Wichita (as students of Plains Indians readily know), and Colonel Dodge did not council with any Pawnees on that expedition. The authors fail to un-

derstand that Camp Des Moines (1834-1837) at the mouth of Des Moines River is not the same as Fort Des Moines (1843-1846) where the City of Des Moines, Iowa, is located, and thus almost everything written about Kearny and Fort Des Moines is in error. The statement that Kearny and his Dragoons left Fort Des Moines in 1835 and crossed the Missouri River at Boonville (p. 80) on their way north is impossible regardless of which Fort Des Moines they departed. Thomas "Broken Hand" Fitzpatrick is sometimes referred to as "Bad Hand Fitzpatrick." Private William Anderson was not the soldier who died during the Rocky Mountain Expedition of 1835 on September 10 (p. 79); that was Samuel Hunt who died September 11 and whose grave is still marked today west of Burlingame, Kansas.

Kearny was not sent off by Dodge in 1835 to map "the Canadian border" (p. 86). Fort Leavenworth was established in 1827, not 1829, and it was not "the westernmost outpost of the United States" (p. 86); Forts Gibson, Towson, and Washita in present Oklahoma were all farther west. Fort Scott was not in "Missouri Territory" (p. 100); Missouri became a state in 1821 and Fort Scott was in present Kansas. There were no "Pawnee villages on the Neosho River" in 1836 (p. 105). Troops did not "force members of the Osage tribe . . . back across the Missouri River into Indian country" (p. 109); they pushed them back across the Missouri border far south of the Missouri River. The 1839 Santa Fe caravan that crossed present Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle, escorted by First Dragoons, did not reach "the Mexican border near Bent's Fort" (p. 112); the troops left the caravan southeast of present Perryton, Texas, some 240 miles from Bent's Fort in present Colorado. Kearny investigated Table Creek in present Nebraska as a site for a possible military post in 1839, but that was not on the "Overland Trail" (p. 112), which was opened a few years later. Captain Cooke did not confront Jacob Snively and his Texas military force "at the crossing of the Arkansas River" (p. 138); they were east of present Dodge City (clearly east of the 100th meridian and within U.S. territory). Following the disarming of the Texans, the Mexican trade caravan did not cross "the Arkansas at the Caches" (p. 141); the Dragoons accompanied them to the Cimarron Crossing. Fort Atkinson, founded in 1842, was in Iowa Territory, not Wisconsin Territory (p. 177).

The authors switched the commanders of the First and Second Missouri Volunteers that accompanied and followed the Army of the West over the Santa Fe Trail in 1846, claiming Alexander Doniphan commanded the Second and Sterling Price commanded the First (p. 229), when the opposite is true. The following undocumented statement, as Kearny's Army of the West approached Apache Canyon near Santa Fe in August 1846, is more fiction than fact: "With every hoof beat, their hearts beat faster as they neared the awesome guns and poised bows of the defenders" (p. 228).

Lt. John Love left St. Louis in 1846 and "went up the Mississippi River to the Ohio River" (p. 291), but the Ohio joins

the Mississippi downstream. In 1847 Lt. Love provided escort for Paymaster Major Charles Bodine (not Edward Bodine, p. 294). Council Grove is not at the junction of the Neosho River with the Arkansas River (p. 295); that would be Fort Gibson in present Oklahoma. Fitzpatrick joined Love's command 70 miles west of Fort Leavenworth on June 10, 1847, not at Council Grove on June 14 (p. 295). High water delayed Love's crossing of Pawnee Fork, not crossing of the Arkansas River (p. 296). The location of Love's camp attacked by Comanches is incorrect (pp. 297-298). Colonel William S. Harney is misidentified as David Harney (p. 305). Lt. Col. Clifton Wharton died July 13, 1848, not July 17, 1847 (p. 357).

This book cannot be recommended as printed, but it could be valuable if the errors were corrected. The publisher would do good service to withdraw this edition, correct the mistakes, and issue a new edition that the research deserves. As published, it is especially flawed regarding the Santa Fe Trail.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

He Moved West with America: The Life and Times of Wm. Carr Lane, 1789-1863

William C. Carson, *He Moved West with America: The Life and Times of Wm. Carr Lane, 1789-1863*. Bloomington, Indiana: Archway Publishing, 2016. xiv + 281 pp. Notes and bibliography. Cloth, \$35.95; Paper, \$18.99. Available from SFTA Last Chance Store, postpaid: Cloth, \$32.00; Paper, \$18.00.

Reviewed by Leo Oliva

William Carr Lane traveled the Santa Fe Trail to New Mexico in 1852 to serve as the second governor of the territory, and he returned to Missouri via the trail in 1853. That venture, including extensive travels in New Mexico Territory, was a small part of his remarkable life and career, chronicled now for the first time by his great-great grandson, William Carson of Santa Fe. Carson is a longtime member of SFTA and author of the popular novel, *Peter Becomes a Trail Man* (2002), a book for young people about the trail.

Lane was born in western Pennsylvania and did move west with the nation. During his lifetime he traveled far and wide in the United States. He studied medicine, served in the military as a surgeon's mate, and practiced medicine in St. Louis. His marriage to Mary Ewing was rocky, and she spent much time living with her parents in Indiana. They had eight children; only two survived to adulthood. His daughter Sarah married William Glasgow, Jr., a Missouri businessman who helped manage Lane's many enterprises.

This volume is truly a "life and times" biography, providing extensive background (including detailed family history) and the social environment in which Lane served as a medical doctor and politician. He was the first mayor of St. Louis when the city was incorporated in 1823 and served a total of nine terms as mayor. He served in the Missouri state legislature, engaged in numerous business ventures (many of which failed and a few succeeded), served as governor of New Mexico territory, and lost a contested election for delegate from the territory (for which he traveled to Washington, D.C., to seek redress from Congress, and failed). He spent his final years in St. Louis.

Lane's life is told mainly through his voluminous letters and journals (frequently quoted), plus broad research about the places where he lived and the times in which he worked. Carson provides much information about the history of St. Louis during Lane's time there and the same about New Mexico during his brief term as territorial governor. Carson provides an interesting comparison and contrast of Lane and Thomas Hart Benton, who were opposites in almost everything. Lane was a Whig and a slaveholder who despised Abraham Lincoln and sided with the Confederacy during the Civil War. He held strong opinions about almost everything, which makes his letters and journals especially interesting. Lane's life deserves this attention. Carson provides a full rendition, filling a gap in the history of St. Louis and the Santa Fe Trail while telling the story of a noteworthy and somewhat controversial public figure.

Overall, this is a fine biography, carefully researched and objective. Santa Fe Trail enthusiasts would appreciate more quotations from Lane's journals of travels to and from New Mexico. It would be a good project for Carson or someone to edit Lane's trail journals for publication in *Wagon Tracks*. There are some typos and an index would be appreciated. As the groundbreaking biography of Lane, this volume is recommended.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Prelude to the Dust Bowl: Drought in the Nineteenth-Century Southern Plains

Kevin Z. Sweeney, *Prelude to the Dust Bowl: Drought in the Nineteenth-Century Southern Plains*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2016. xv + 283 pp. Maps, illustrations, notes, bibliography, and index. \$34.95 cloth.

Reviewed by Frank Norris

One and all are aware of the Dust Bowl of the 1930s, which was a drought – up to eight years long in some places – that had a tremendous impact on the ecology, economy, society,

and psyche of farmers and other residents living in all or parts of nine U.S. states, from Arkansas west to Colorado and from Texas north to Nebraska. Sweeney, however, recognizes the Dust Bowl for what it was: specifically, as one of a series of droughts that has periodically visited the southern Great Plains states over the years. The author specifically identifies six nineteenth-century droughts and, using primary sources from the period, shows how either travelers or residents reacted to the droughts, and he also describes in extensive detail the impact of each drought on settlement patterns and upon observers' perceptions of the desiccated landscape.

Given the broad scope of this work, should Santa Fe Trail students be concerned about Sweeney's subject matter, and the facts that he has marshaled about these various droughts? The short answer is – absolutely. When William Becknell and his party headed west in 1821, for example, the High Plains were in the fourth year of a crippling drought, one which had a catastrophic effect on members of Major Stephen H. Long's 1820 expedition into that area. And for that reason, Long's report on the exploration (p. 3) called the area "The Great American Desert," a name carried down to generations of Santa Fe Trail travelers.

Because of the southern Great Plains' fickle weather patterns, nineteenth-century travelers had widely varying perceptions of the area and its potential for settlement. Those who crossed the area between the mid-1820s and the early 1840s, for example – when seasonal rains came through as expected – saw much of the trail corridor as verdant and well-watered; Josiah Gregg, for example, insisted that Long's eastern "desert" boundary should be moved several hundred miles to the west (pp. 33-34). But starting in 1846, drought began to roar back with a vengeance, and many if not most years until 1864 were characterized by varying degrees of drought. The worst years, Sweeney notes, were the mid-1850s (p. 94), although both the late 1840s and the early 1850s also had destructive (if brief) drought periods (p. 53). Fortunately for Santa Fe Trail travelers, widespread drought did not again visit the trail corridor until the mid-1880s, after long-distance trail traffic had given way to railroad travel.

Sweeney's level of research of research can be frustrating at times. Those who may be seeking a broad-based, sequential treatment of the various nineteenth century droughts are apt to be disappointed; he spends far more time on the 1846-1864 drought period, for example, than on earlier or later drought periods. And in something of a departure from the book's primary theme, the author spends several chapters covering regional historical topics – the Texas Indian Reserves (Chapter 5) and the Early Civil War Years in Indian Territory (Chapter 8), for example – in which he notes, with varying degrees of success, the impact that drought had on the major historical events in those areas.

Underlying Sweeney's description of each drought period

is a hard, difficult truth: that those Americans who chose to live in the southern Great Plains – particularly areas west of the 100th meridian – were, in effect, gambling with nature. For years or even decades, nature cooperated by providing abundant rains, and the region prospered. But dry years inevitably followed, and throughout the early- to mid-nineteenth century residents were at the mercy of the rain clouds. Sometimes the rains simply wouldn't come, and one of Sweeney's most entertaining research topics (Chapter 12) deals with a series of "scientists" (later revealed as charlatans) who were paid handsomely to coax rain out of otherwise-clear skies. Not until years later would windmills, irrigation canals, and other technological innovations allow long-term agricultural settlement in historically dry areas.

As noted above, Sweeney's book is not about the Santa Fe Trail, and certain portions of his book are marginal, at best, to understanding trail history. Many readers, however, will greatly benefit from his insight and the depth of his research.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

RESEARCH GRANT REPORT

Camilla Kattell, "A Clash of Cultures"

I became fascinated by the Bent family while researching another book, *Youth on the Santa Fe Trail*.

William Bent established Bent's Fort in what is now southeastern Colorado and traded with the Indians at the Fort, developing a mutual trusting relationship with them. In time he married into the Cheyenne tribe and raised five mixed-blood children, Robert, Mary, George, Charley, and Julia.

His children could mix with diverse people without fear or oppression. As the government became involved with making land available for white settlement and exploitation, the Indians realized that their way of life was being destroyed, and a very different West emerged. The diverse world of the Bent's children's father and mother became one of Indian vs. white.

I used SFTA grant funds to travel to sites that were pertinent to this story, including Bent's Old Fort NHS and the site of the Sand Creek Massacre. My book titled *At the Confluence of Two Cultures: William and George Bent Confront Manifest Destiny, 1829-1918* will be published soon.

Padilla Monument May Be Ancient Indian Landmark

By *Kenneth W. McClintock*
and *Bob Blasing*

A monument of stone stands as a silent sentinel in the Flint Hills of east-central Kansas. Atop a hill within a quarter mile southwest of the city limits of present-day Council Grove, the monument has been known for more than a century as the Padilla Monument, supposedly marking the site where Father Juan de Padilla was killed in 1542. However, it is instead most likely an ancient Indian guide, or landmark, erected along a prehistoric Indian trail which passed through the area.

The monument was named after Father Juan de Padilla, who accompanied Coronado in 1541 in his search for Quivira and the cities of gold. The next year, Father Padilla returned to Kansas, with others, as a missionary to the American Indians. There he died at the hands of the Quivirans, making him the first Christian martyr in what became the United States.¹

This monument, less than a mile south of the Santa Fe Trail, would have been clearly visible to travelers on the Santa Fe Trail in the western part of present-day Council Grove and farther west, as described by George P. Morehouse in 1908,² and confirmed by present-day observations of co-author McClintock. For east-bound travelers it would have been a harbinger of Council Grove campgrounds along the Neosho River. No one knows how many venturesome souls took an excursion to the top of the hill to satisfy their curiosity as to what it was that they were seeing.

Given the treeless hills of the nineteenth-century, one could have stood atop Belfry Hill adjoining today's downtown business district and seen the monument prominently in view. Although trees now obscure

the view from the top of the hill entering Council Grove from the east, in the early days a keen-eyed observer on the crest of that hill probably could have discerned the monument about two miles distant.³

From Highway K-177 immediately south of Council Grove, one can see the monument atop a hill less than a mile west. George P. Morehouse, a former president of the Kansas State Historical Society, identified the monument as marking the site of Padilla's martyrdom. His conclusions appear in an article, "The Story of Padilla," published in Vol. 10 of *Kansas Historical Collections* (1908). However, the location of the monument suggests that it is not associated with Padilla's death.

In Morehouse's day the towering column of loose limestones stood about ten feet high, with a base about six feet square, composed of larger stones, with smaller stones gradually

tapering to the top (See Figure 1). He reported that "formerly near the monument was a large pile of smaller stones of all kinds, colors, and shapes, which had evidently been brought from a distance." No trace of that pile of stones remains today.

Most likely, Morehouse based his identification of the monument on the research of Jacob V. Brower,⁴ who concluded in 1896 that Coronado's expedition ultimately reached a location about two miles south of Junction City, before returning to Mexico. This research is now questioned by most authorities.⁵ It is known that Father Padilla and others returned in 1542 to minister to the Quiviran Indians, who have been identified as ancestors of the Wichita tribe, and other tribes in what became the state of Kansas.⁶

After meeting with the Quivira Indians, Padilla traveled southeasterly to minister to the Guas,⁷ who were enemies of the Quivirans. After more than a day's journey, Father Padilla and his party were overtaken by the Quivirans, and Father Padilla was killed.⁸ Since Council Grove would be a little more than a day's journey from Junction City, Morehouse apparently concluded that the ancient stone monument must have been erected to mark the site of Father Padilla's death. Based on research by former Smithsonian archaeologist Waldo Wedel,⁶ Coronado's destination was actually the Council Circles Site in Rice County. That would place Padilla's probable burial site well to the southwest of Council Grove.

Stone cairns similar to Padilla's monument have also been reported as "shepherd's mounds" in Kansas. Basque shepherds were known to construct such cairns on prominent bluffs. However, shepherds were not likely to have been in this area, and recognized "shepherd's mounds" oc-



Figure 1: Padilla Monument, probably newly rebuilt near the turn of the century, as shown in the Morehouse 1908 article.

cur later in time and farther west than the cairn near Council Grove.

Stone mounds were used in other instances during the historic period. *Kansas Facts* states that in 1804, Baptiste LaLande marked his route to New Mexico with piles of stone and mounds of dirt.⁹ However, this monument quite likely represents efforts by Indian groups to mark a prehistoric Indian trail. It is likely to have been there before 1542, pre-dating both LaLande and Father Padilla, and cannot be attributed to either of them.

The following evidence indicates that the stones were a pre-historic Indian guide, possibly marking the intersection of a prehistoric Indian trail that preceded the Santa Fe Trail and an ancient Indian trail which roughly followed the route of K-177 through the Flint Hills. The Santa Fe Trail is reported to have been used by Indians long before the early white settlers. The Flint Hills Trail was described in co-author Bob Blasing's thesis,¹⁰ extending from trail segments identified on Deep Creek in Riley County southward along the divide of the Flint Hills.

Confirmation of a portion of that same Flint Hills trail comes from an article by Chase County resident George Starkey in 1936,¹¹ in which he describes a trail formerly used by the Kaw tribe. He described the trail as leaving Council Grove "near where Highway No. 13 [now K-177] now runs," passing points he described in Chase County, and eventually into Oklahoma.

There is ample evidence that American Indians built monuments, such as the one near Council Grove. It is interesting to note the words of Isaac McCoy¹² when he passed through the northern Flint Hills in 1828. He states:

On the summit of high natural mounds and hills, I frequently found a heap of stones formed

by the hands of man. Heaps of stones are frequently made over the bodies of the deceased among the Indians of these regions. But the heaps of which we speak appear to be the result of amusement of the traveler, who invited to the elevation by its gaiety or grandeur, leaves a monument of a few stones thrown together to advertise a subsequent visitant that a human being had been there. To this heap each successive visitant invited thither by curiosity, contributes a stone or two. It was amusing to see our Indians in good humor, contributing their portion to the increase of this social heap.

Very similar stone cairns along trails in Montana are described by Carling Malouf¹³ who says, "Rock piles along trails were built gradually by travelers who added a stone or two at a time... as an offering to the guardian spirit as they passed." These descriptions of travelers contributing stones fit well with Morehouse's description of "large pile of smaller stones of all kinds, colors, and shapes, which had evidently been brought from a distance." Other nearby areas where similar stone cairns have been reported include east of Peabody, on the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, on Bluemont Hill in Manhattan, and near the Pawnee Trail where it passes the present location of Wilson Reservoir.¹⁴

In describing the Kaw Trail which proceeds west from Council Grove a mile or so to the south of the Santa Fe Trail, Morehouse says,¹⁵ "In many places along this trail, on the highest points they (the Kaws) had erected crude monuments, piles of rock which were visible for long distances." In 1839, Thomas J. Farnham recorded a legend of local tribes which says that the area near Council Grove was formerly a holy ground, where nations were accustomed to meet and adjust their difficulties. He mentions a collection of dilapidated mounds there, which he feels may be

associated with this function.¹⁶

A number of early sources confirm the monument as being an Indian guide. John Maloy, in his *History of Morris County*, although not referring to this monument specifically, describes Indian guides in general. He mentions that travelers (circa 1880s) can still see the Indian monuments and landmarks on hilltops, serving from time immemorial as mile stones and finger-boards while on their [the Indians'] journeys.¹⁷

An article published in the *Council Grove Republican* of September 27, 1901, describing various historic sites in Council Grove, states that "to the south one can see the old Indian guide post, known to all western Indians and later noted by the whites."³ The 1923 Atlas of Morris County identifies the monument as "Indian Guide," and the farm across the road is named the "Guide View Farm."¹⁸

Alice Strieby Smith, daughter of Christopher Strieby, a long-time blacksmith who came to Council Grove in the 1850s, wrote "Through the Eyes of My Father," published in *Kansas Historical Collections*. In that article, she stated that the oldest Indians had no memory or tradition of an early day missionary being buried at the Indian guides on the hills above Elm Creek. "They said that the stones had been piled up years before by their forbears, as a guide or signal."¹⁹

Unfortunately, the towering stone pillar at the turn of the twentieth century has not fared well in the twenty-first century. The original monument was composed of loose stones piled atop each other. Over the years, stones disappeared (See Figure 2), and in 1931, the local Knights of Columbus²⁰ cemented the then-remaining stones into a monument resembling the previous configuration (See Figure 3). That preserved the historic fabric for some 78 years, until a 2009 bolt of lightning



Figure 2. *The diminished monument, probably just prior to reconstruction in 1931. (kansasmemories.org, Kansas State Historical Society, Item Number: 316187)*



Figure 3: *The Padilla Monument as restored in 1931. Photo 1999 by Bob Blasing.*

destroyed the monument. Later that year, the local Knights of Columbus again cemented the then-remaining stones together into a smaller monument.

In 2015, the Knights of Columbus employed a local stone mason to construct a new monument utilizing the surviving stones, but with the addition of non-historic stones (See Figure 4). Although of excellent workmanship, the new monument no longer resembles its predecessor.

The base of the monument is constructed solely from the surviving historic stones. Atop the base, the upper portion of the monument is new cut limestone in courses of about four or five inches thick, in the configuration of a truncated pyramid. Embedded on the front of the upper portion is the descriptive bronze plaque salvaged from the 1931 rebuilding of the monument, and a new stone engraved "Knights of Columbus 2015." (See Figure 5)

The Indian guide/Padilla Monument is located on private land. Not open to the general public, it can be viewed from 900 Road, which intersects Highway K-177 at the south edge of Council Grove. Although the monument probably does not mark the site of the death of Father Padilla (who was the first known martyr to the Christian cause in what is now the United States, and whose sacrifice is quite worthy of recognition), the present monument is partly composed of stones from a



Figure 5: *1931 Plaque as placed on face of Monument in 2015. Photo by Bob Blasing*

Figure 4: *Padilla Monument as rebuilt in 2015. Photo by Bob Blasing*

prehistoric Indian guide which stood there—one of the very last of the numerous Indian guides which once graced the tops of Kansas hills as landmarks guiding Native Americans on their cross-country travels.

Today's travelers, following the auto tour route of the Santa Fe Trail on U.S. 56, can view the monument at points along the highway just west of Council Grove. For a better view, they can turn off U.S. 56 onto Sunset Drive (on the west side of Greenwood Cemetery) and, reaching the area of the Diversicare nursing facility, have an unobstructed view of the monument nearly directly south of that location.

Notes

1. Connelly, William E., *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, (Lewis Publishing Co., 1918), Vol. 1, page 15; Rossini, Ellen, "New Focus on Franciscan Martyrs of North America," *National Catholic Register*, October 10-16, 2004, p. 2.
2. Morehouse, George P., "Padilla and the Old Monument Near Council Grove," *Kansas Historical Collections*, (Kansas State Historical Society, 1908), Vol. 10, p. 45.
3. "Seen From Belfry Hill", *Council Grove Republican*, September 27, 1901, page 1. The Indian Guide was still visible from Belfry Hill in 1901. Towering trees now obscure the view.
4. Brower, J. V., *Quivera. Memories of Exploration in the Basin of the Mississippi*, Vol. 1 (1899).
5. Those discrediting the research of J. V. Brower include: Connelly, William E., "Quivira," *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, (Lewis Publishing Co., 1918) pages 24-25; and Wedel, Waldo R., "Coronado, Quivira, and Kansas: An Archaeologist's View," *Great Plains Quarterly*, 10 (Summer 1990), pp. 139-151.
6. Waldo R. Wedel, "Coronado, Quivira, and Kansas: An Archaeologist's View," *Great Plains Quarterly* 10 (Summer 1990), pp. 139-151.
7. The identity of the Guas is uncertain. George P. Morehouse, in his article on Father Padilla, described above, identified them as the Kaws, but others believe the Kaws did not come to present-day Kansas

(and, even then, just to the northeast corner) until a couple of centuries later: i.e. Unrau, William E., *The Kansa Indians, A History of the Wind People, 1673-1873*, (University of Oklahoma Press, 1971), pp. 12-13. Hodge, Frederick Webb, *The Handbook of American Indians North of Mexico*, (Bureau of American Ethnology, Government Printing Office, 1906) Vol. 1, pp. 508-509, writes: "Guas, a people of whom Coronado learned in 1542 (sic)." He states that the name bears a resemblance to Kaw, but that they probably were not the same people, "Guas or Guaes being apparently a Wichita or Pawnee name, or a corruption thereof."

8. One of the many accounts of Father Padilla being overtaken and killed by the Quiviran Indians is by Davis, Gen. W. H. H., *The Spanish Conquest of New Mexico* (1869), p. 231.

9. *Kansas Facts*, (1929), Vol. 1, p. 53.

10. Blasing, Robert, *Prehistoric Geography of the Flint Hills*, M. A. Thesis, (1986), Wichita State University.

11. Starkey, George, "The Kaw Trail" (1926), a two-page, typewritten document archived at the Kansas Historical Society. Starkey's Kaw Trail is different from the Kaw Trail which extended from the Kaw Reservation at Council Grove west to near Lyons, roughly paralleling, and south of, the Santa Fe Trail. That Kaw Trail took the Kaws to their traditional buffalo hunting grounds in western Kansas.

12. Barnes, Lela, "The Journal of Isaac McCoy for the Exploring Expedition of 1828," *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, (Kansas State Historical Society, 1936) Vol. 5, pp. 227-277, at p. 254.

13. Malouf, Carling I., "On the Trail of the Indian," *Archaeology in Montana*, (1980).

14. **Peabody**: <http://genealogytrails.com/kan/marion/Peabody>; **Bluemont Hill**: Sketch at University Archives, Kansas State University; **Tallgrass Prairie**: Bruce Jones 1999 Archeological Overview and Assessment for Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, Chase County, Kansas; **Wilson Lake**: Blakeslee, D. J., Blasing, R., and Garcia, H., *Along the Pawnee Trail: Cultural Resources Survey and Testing at Wilson Lake, Kansas*, Report to the Kansas City District, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (1986).

15. Morehouse, George P., "Along the Kaw Trail," *Kansas Historical Society Transactions*, (1903) Vol. 8, pp. 206-212.

16. Thwaites, R. G. (Ed.) *Early Western Travels*, (Arthur H. Clark Company, Cleveland, 1904), Vol. 28, p. 64.

17. Maloy, John, *History of Morris County*, (Morris County Historical Society, 1981), p. 77.

18. *Standard Atlas of Morris County, Kansas*, (Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1923), p. 25.

19. Smith, Alice Strieby, "Through the Eyes of My Father," *Kansas Historical Collections*, (Kansas State Historical Society, 1926-28), Vol. 17, p. 717.

20. Souvenir program for the "Echoes of Yesterday" Kansas Territorial Centennial pageant performed at Council Grove in May 1954, at page 3, describing the history of the Padilla Monument, states: "The present monument, built from the original stones was dedicated by the Knights of Columbus on October 25, 1931." [Unfortunately, issues of the *Council Grove Republican* for October 1931, and several preceding months are missing—which would contain information about the rebuilding of the monument.]

Kenneth McClintock is a local historian. McClintock and his wife Shirley, as volunteers, operate the Trail Days Café and Museum, a certified site on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. Bob Blasing is retired as Area Archaeologist for the Bureau of Reclamation. The authors' joint interest in the Indian Guide / Padilla Monument began in 1997, when Bob Blasing presented a program at the Kaw Mission State Historic Site in Council Grove about ancient Indian trails. One prehistoric trail roughly followed highway K-177 through the Council Grove area. Research by Kenneth W. McClintock, who was in the audience, had established that what was then known as the Padilla Monument was actually an ancient Indian Guide. In the following years, they discovered additional information about the Indian Guide, the prehistoric trail, and Father Padilla, resulting in the article here published.

SALEM PARK, INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI DEDICATION OF SIGNS

Photos: Joanne and Greg VanCoevern



Chapter Reports

Chapters are listed in order from the beginning of the Trail in Missouri westward.

Missouri River Outfitters

President Larry Short
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The Missouri River Outfitters Chapter continues to move forward with the completion of another major project. On December 2, 2016, we held the dedication of the three newly-installed interpretive panels at Salem Park in eastern Independence, Missouri. This was the final installment of the project, a joint venture with Jackson County Parks and Recreation (JCPR), which began in 2008. In 2012 Roger Slusher formed a task force made up of John Atkinson, Larry Short, Dick Nelson, and Ross Marshall of MRO, Gordon Julich and Bruce Wilke of JCPR, and Joanne VanCoevern, the manager of SFTA. On April 24, 2012, the group met at the site to outline

a plan and prepare to develop a task force agreement with the National Park Service. Jackson County Parks would pour the pad, MRO would be responsible for moving the DAR marker, and NPS under the direction of Kristin VanFleet and Lynne Mager would develop the interpretive panels and pad design. Craig Crease was instrumental in the storyline for the panels to ensure the historical integrity of the project.

The dedication was held on a beautiful sunny day at the park and was well attended by more than 40 representatives from the various historical organizations in the area as well as representatives from the local and county governments. More details and pictures are available in our MRO Outfitters Journal January newsletter. If you would like an email copy please contact me at the above address and I will send it to you.

Our annual holiday potluck dinner was held on Sunday afternoon, December 4, 2016, at the historic home of Sandy Slusher in Lexington, Missouri. Twenty-six members dined on

SFTA Annual Membership January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Name(s) _____ ☐ Life \$1000, 1 time or 3 installments
Address _____ ☐ Patron \$100/year
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ ☐ Family \$40/year
Phone _____ Email _____ ☐ Individual \$35/year
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I'd like to donate to the Junior Wagon Master Fund.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ _____

I'd like to donate to the Marker Fund.

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Chapter Reports, continued

a variety of homemade dishes and desserts that complemented the baked ham and turkey provided by Sandy. This event is always a highlight of MRO's year.

A new year has begun and we at MRO are excited to move forward with the NPS retracement trail project, several new interpretive panels, and the joint effort with the Douglas County Chapter in the implementation of the Olathe Symposium next September.

Wishing all of our fellow SFTA members a successful 2017 along the trails.

Douglas County

President Roger Boyd
PO Box 379, Baldwin City, KS 66006
785-594-3172 ♦ rboyd@bakeru.edu

The annual meeting will be Saturday, February 25. We will meet in the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church, located at 8th and Grove in Baldwin City, with a social time at 5:00 p.m. and covered dish dinner at 5:30 p.m. Please bring a covered dish that can feed 6. Our speaker for the evening is Craig Voorhees. His topic is entitled "The Army of the West Strikes the Santa Fe Trail." Mr. Voorhees has done a lot of research on the route, finding evidence of the trail in several locations. The public is invited.

Heart of the Flint Hills

President Sharon Haun
704 Hockaday Street, Council Grove, KS 66846
khaun@tctelco.net

After 160 years (it was built in 1857) the Last Chance Store, beside the trail in Council Grove, is about to be open again. The structure was donated to the State of Kansas by Connie and Don Essington, and after extensive work on the exterior and interior, and an archeological dig in the cellar, under the floor, and around the building, the work is nearly done. All the exterior walls have been cleaned and tuck-pointed, the windows and doors repaired and painted, interior walls repaired, the chimneys repaired according to historic photos, and the interior floor is nearly all put back in place. The State hopes to have it open for tours this spring. All those details have not been worked out yet, but this historic site will be administered through the Kaw Mission State Historic Site. Plans are being developed for the interpretation of the interior, but those are yet to be revealed. Council Grove is proud to add another historic site to its list of sites that are or can be open to the public.

Council Grove is planning another new festival - Seth Fest, April 28-30. This is in honor of the SFT trader, Seth Hays, and is held in April to honor his April 23rd birthday. It will include tours of the historic sites, an art and music festival, barbecue, a look-alike contest, and of course Seth himself. Check the Council Grove website www.councilgrove.com for more information closer to the date.

The Heart of the Flint Hills has lost a long-time member. Joleen Day died on January 6th, 2017. Joleen loved the SFT and the outdoors and was an expert horsewoman. As an avid trail rider, Joleen rode her horse on multiple trail rides, including one trip following the Santa Fe Trail from Larned, Kansas, to the eastern Kansas state line over the course of one week. In addition, she was the treasurer of our local chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association from the beginning of its organization. Joleen will be missed.

Cottonwood Crossing

President Steve Schmidt
1120 Cobblestone Court, McPherson, KS 67460
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The 2017 Chapter meeting dates are February 23, April 27, June 22, August 24, and October 26.

Quivira

President Linda Colle
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The Quivira Chapter has gone into hibernation for the winter, but we are in the process of planning programs for 2017. Our project this year will be to work with the National Park Service to develop a wayside exhibit for the Ralph's Ruts site.

Wet/Dry Routes

Rosetta Graff
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620-659-2534 ♦ librarian281942@yahoo.com

The winter meeting of the chapter was canceled because of weather. The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Fort Larned Old Guard on April 29, with a program commemorating the 150th anniversary of General Winfield S. Hancock's Expedition and Hancock's War of 1867. There will be morning and evening activities and speakers at Fort Larned, with the afternoon spent at the Cheyenne and Lakota village site where the army burned the Indians' camp. A small Indian encampment will be set up there with a program on Plains Indian material culture. There will also be a buffalo hunter's camp because this site was used by a group of buffalo hunters, 1869-1871, operating under the name of New York Meat Company. Everyone is invited to attend this program.

Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron

President Bill Bunyan
PO Box 1656, Dodge City, KS 67801
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The chapter met at Boot Hill on Sunday, November 20, for our fall meeting. After a meal of chapter-furnished fried chicken and side dishes brought by chapter members, President Bunyan presented the chapter accomplishments of the past four years. The chapter has had six storyboards constructed at important Santa Fe Trail sites in our chapter area, worked very hard to save our Point of Rocks from future highway work, kept the Santa Fe Trail geocaches going, and had many interesting programs and several field trips. All in all it has been a very productive four years.

Our latest project is the restoration of the Chilton Park Monument. The monument was dedicated in 1931 in honor of Major Robert Chilton, who was the commanding officer in charge of Fort Atkinson at the Treaty of 1853 with the southern plains tribes to stop raids on the Santa Fe Trail. The monument had been vandalized during past years, but since the Dodge City Park System developed a walking trail and a nice area around the monument, the chapter decided to replace Chilton's picture, and an ox-yoke has been purchased and given to park personnel to place on the monument. It must be permanently attached. We have applied for a marker grant from the SFTA to help pay for the restoration. We hope to have a re-dedication in the spring.

The annual Christmas party with the Great Western Cattle Trail chapter was held on Thursday, December 15, at Cowtown. Thirty-five members of the two chapters attended. Susan Bunyan made Ace Reid place mats and cowboy hats with candy party favors. A drawing was held for western-type Christmas ornaments and a Keith Chadd detailed historic map of Ford County, which includes all the historic places and events of the county. Keith was a long-time member of our chapter and devoted untold hours into producing this map.

Our winter meeting will be held Sunday, February 12, at Boot Hill at 1:00 p.m. SFTA Manager Joanne VanCoevern will tell us about Isadora Douglas, the wife of an early commanding officer of Fort Dodge, and what it was like at the beginning of the Fort and the hardships endured. Unfortunately Isadora died of cholera at Fort Dodge. Election of officers for a two-year term, 2017-18, will also take place, and the current officers have agreed to serve again.

Wagon Bed Springs

Linda Peters
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Around 20 people gathered at the Kearny County Museum in Lakin, Kansas, on October 10 to enjoy a tour of two Santa Fe Trail sites in the county. The first stop was Charlie's Ruts, about four miles east of Lakin on Hwy 50. Charlie's Ruts are some well-preserved Trail swales that show how wagons moved four or more abreast out on the prairie. This allowed them to circle the wagons quicker and easier at noon break, evening, or if attacked. Charles Bentrup realized the importance of the swales that he found on his property. His son Paul continued to preserve the area. It is on the National Register of Historical Places, and the Kearny County Historical Society is now in charge of it.

The second site toured was Indian Mound west of Lakin. Indian Mound is a low, flat-topped hill rising above the Arkansas River Valley. It was a landmark on the Trail marking Chouteau's Island. It was here that the wagon trains turned south and traveled through Bear Creek Pass to Wagon Bed Springs. This site is on private property and can be accessed by walking across a footbridge over the Amazon Ditch. It is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The group returned to the Museum for a short meeting and tour of the Museum's main building. Even though the attendance number was low, five southwest Kansas counties were represented. The Chapter wants to increase its membership in order to continue to preserve and protect the Trail in this area. Our following meeting was on January 16 at the Haskell County Museum in Sublette, Kansas.

For more information contact: Lynda Fort at 620-356-2570; Jim Groth at 620-544-9701; Marieta Hauser at 620-356-4700; or Linda Peters at 620-640-3155.

Cimarron Cutoff

President Leon Ellis
PO Box 668, Elkhart, KS 67950
620-453-2286 ♦ lbe@elkhart.com

Bent's Fort

President Pat Palmer
PO Box 628, Lamar, CO 81052
719-931-4323

The Bent's Fort Chapter closed 2016 on a strong note. At the chapter's educational meeting, held November 12, over 50 members enjoyed a wonderful presentation by Sandy Dexter, who gave an excellent talk on Amache Ochinee Prowers from her birth in 1846, her family with nine children, marriages including stories of her two husbands, John Prowers and Dan Kesse, until her death in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Sandy has been doing research for two and a half years on the life of Amache, and has found some very interesting material, including what life was like for a Cheyenne child and adult woman, her closeness to Mary Bent, and the prejudice she faced as wife of John Prowers.

December 10 was a very busy day for Bent's Fort Chapter members. The day started with the Chapter's 2017 planning meeting followed by a 2021 Symposium planning meeting.

2017 Bent's Fort Chapter events planned are:

February 11: Annual meeting (rescheduled from January 14 due to weather) beginning at 11 a.m. with a catered lunch at noon. Cost of lunch is \$10/person. Please RSVP to Pat Palmer at gpatpalmer@hotmail.com or call 719-931-4323. Mike and Patti Olsen will present "Those Literate Ladies: Women Writing on the Santa Fe Trail," and we will have an update on Goodnight Barn. The meeting will be held at the JW Rawlings Heritage Center and Museum located at 560 Bent Avenue, Las Animas, Colorado.

March 11: Geocaching along the Trail. The geocache event, while open to all members, is geared to inviting local youth to learn about the Trail, and to participate in finding the geocaches in this area. A side trip to see some wagon ruts in the area is also planned.

April 8: Boggsville clean-up. We will help clean up Boggsville in anticipation of its opening for the summer. Remember to bring along cleaning supplies.

May 12-14: Weekend trip starting in Clayton, New Mexico. This year's weekend trip will take us from Clayton, New Mexico, across northern New Mexico to Wagon Mound, with a stop at Fort Union on our way home. This trip is still in the early planning stages.

June 10: The McEndree Ranch (near Pritchett, Colorado). The McEndree Ranch has some of the best wagon ruts in the area along the Granada Fort Union Military Freight Road. We'll explore these ruts and other historic sites in the area.

July 8: Speaker TBD

August 12: Trinidad and Stonewall. Another field trip still in the early planning stages.

September 28-30: 2017 SFTA Symposium in Olathe, Kansas

October 14: Historic Sites along Hwy 350. We'll stop at Iron Springs and other historic locations along Hwy 350.

November 11: Education meeting (Speaker TBA)

December 9: 2018 Planning meeting

Mark your calendars and plan to join the Chapter on these great events.

Corazon de los Caminos

President Dennis Schneider
828 South Euclid Ave., Cimarron, NM 87714
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In November our group had a very productive meeting at the St. James Hotel in Cimarron. After the business meeting, Steven Zimmer spoke to us about the history of early ranch-

ing in this area. On January 13 our group met at Elida's Cafe in Springer and put together a rough draft of plans for 2017. We are trying to schedule more speakers on the agenda so that some of our older members can attend the less arduous activities. Here is a brief outline of the plans, which are subject to updates and changes.

March 18 - Annual spring board meeting at Las Vegas, New Mexico. Speaker to be arranged.

April 8 - Speaker at Las Vegas, New Mexico. Requesting Leroy LeDoux if possible.

May 12 - Roger Sanchez speaking at the Raton Museum

June 17 - Point of Rocks Ranch. Faye Gaines updating us on recent research findings. Bring your own lunch.

July 14 - Gateway and E Town Museums, and possibly Eagle Nest Dam

August 12 - Johnson Mesa and Manco Burro Pass

September 27-30 SFTA symposium, Olathe, Ks

October 13 - Doggert's Corral. CS Ranch

November 10 - Fall business meeting. St. James Hotel in Cimarron. Steve Zimmer speaks.

We hope this lineup pleases all of our members. We wish all the chapters great success in 2017.

End of the Trail

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Guests for our final 2016 chapter meeting on November 19 included Joanne VanCoevern and her husband Greg. The presentation about the French on the Santa Fe Trail and in Northern New Mexico was given by François Patorni.

There were many interesting facts presented, including the fact Charles Autobees name was an anglicized version of Hurtubise. The owner of Pigeon's Ranch was a Frenchman named Alfred B. Peticolas. Pierre (Pedro) Vial, who was from Lyon, France, is considered one the greatest explorers of the American West. His 1787 map shows the three forks of the upper Missouri in Montana long before the publication of Lewis and Clark's early 19th century map. Many End of the Trail members especially enjoyed the "Franglaise" that was used during trail days, such as the word ambulance, referring to a small wagon to transport goods, and the French origins of the words "rendezvous" and "cache".

Joyce Fox, our 95-year-old chapter member, was recognized for her WW II service in the WACs. She was also featured in the *Santa Fe New Mexican* on Veteran's Day with a front-page article. 2017 will kick off with a presentation on Ceran St. Vrain by Christine St. Vrain Fischahs on January 21. This will be followed with "Poetry on the Trail" by Sandra Doe, Professor of English from Metropolitan State University in Denver, on March 18 at 1:30 p.m. These chapter meetings will be held at the Eldorado Community Center.

Finally, this past year Joy Poole was recognized with a national award for her book *Over the Santa Fe Trail to Mexico* by the American Association for State and Local History in Detroit. She was honored to accept the SFTA Louise Barry Writing Award at the November meeting of the End of the Trail Chapter.

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

EVENTS

February 11-15: Washington, D.C.
PNTS Hike the Hill

February 11: La Junta, CO. Bent's Fort Chapter meeting

February 12: Dodge City, KS. Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron Chapter meeting

February 23: Cottonwood Crossing Chapter meeting

February 25: Baldwin City, KS. Douglas County Chapter potluck

March 1: Deadline for 2021 SFTA logo contest

March 4-5: Admire, KS. "Preserving our Past through Performance" workshop

March 11: La Junta, CO. Bent's Fort Chapter geocaching

March 17: La Junta, CO. Bent's Old Fort NHS, Frontier Skills Day. Applications available

March 18: Las Vegas, NM. Corazon de los Caminos Chapter meeting

March 18: Santa Fe, NM. End of the Trail Chapter meeting

April 8: Las Vegas, NM. Corazon de los Caminos Chapter meeting

April 8: La Junta, CO. Bent's Fort Chapter, Boggsville cleanup

April 10: Deadline for May *Wagon Tracks*

April 20-22: Salina, KS. SFTA /NPS Workshop and SFTA board meeting

April 28-30: Council Grove, KS. Seth Fest

April 29: Larned, KS. Wet/Dry Routes Chapter meeting

May 12: Raton, NM. Corazon de los Caminos Chapter meeting

May 12-14: Clayton, NM. Bent's Fort Chapter weekend trip

May 27: Waynesville, NC. GeoWoodstock 2017

September 27-30, 2017: Olathe, KS. SFTA Symposium "America's First Highway of International Commerce"

April 20-21, 2018: SFTA /NPS Workshop and SFTA board meeting

September 20-22, 2018: Larned, KS. SFTA Rendezvous

March 29-30, 2019: SFTA /NPS Work-

shop and SFTA board meeting

September 25-28, 2019: St. Louis, MO. SFTA Symposium

September 24-26, 2020: Larned KS. SFTA Rendezvous.

September 22-25, 2021: Bent's Old Fort, CO. SFTA Symposium