

# Wagon Tracks

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Issue 3 *Wagon Tracks* Volume 29, Issue 3 (May 2015)

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Article 1

2015

## Wagon Tracks. Volume 29, Issue 3 (May, 2015)

Santa Fe Trail Association

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# WAGON TRACKS

*The Quarterly Publication of the Santa Fe Trail Association*

volume 29 ♦ number 3

May 2015



**The American Invasion of New Mexico and Mexican Merchants ♦ page 14**

**SFTA Board of Directors Nominees ♦ page 19**

**Santa Fe Trail Association Hall of Fame 2008-2014 ♦ page 20**

## On The Cover:

### Watercolor by Doug Holdread

This issue of *Wagon Tracks* features people of the Santa Fe Trail, historic and of today. We gaze over the Trail and see the passage of wagons, leaving swales and traces for modern-day people, for you and me, to preserve and protect. We honor the past by creating a Hall of Fame to remind us of the efforts of traders and travelers of the Trail. Like those travelers, we continue to move forward, seeking new futures for our Association and the Trail. Thank you for joining us on that journey.

According to Elm Street Gallery, artist Doug Holdread has been exploring and depicting the landscapes of South-eastern Colorado for forty years. And he has explored his own inner landscape in the process. Doug's work has been featured in numerous solo exhibitions, including one at the National Palace of Fine Art in San Miguel, Mexico. His career began as an artist for the Coast Guard. He has been an educator, a television art director, and a historical illustrator. His paintings are on display at the National Santa Fe Trail Center, and the National Park Service has used a number of his paintings for exhibits along the Trail, from Missouri to New Mexico. Elm Street Gallery, [www.elmstreetgallery.com/doug-holdread.html](http://www.elmstreetgallery.com/doug-holdread.html)

A packet of 13 note cards and envelopes with 13 different watercolors of Trail scenes by Doug Holdread is available from the Santa Fe Trail Association, Last Chance Store, PO Box 3, Woodston, KS 67675, [www.lastchancestore.org](http://www.lastchancestore.org) for \$8.00.

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### 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.*

Follow us online at [www.santafetrail.org](http://www.santafetrail.org),  
Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and YouTube



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*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](http://www.santafetrail.org). Although the entire issue of Wagon Tracks is copyrighted in the name of the Santa Fe Trail Association, copyright to the article remains in the author's name. Articles may be edited or abridged at the editor's discretion.*

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# WAGON TRACKS

Quarterly of the Santa Fe Trail Association  
volume 29 ♦ number 3 May 2015

## Contents

- 2 On the Cover: Watercolor, Doug Holdread
- 4 President's Corner
- 5 Joanne's Jottings
- 6-11 News Along the Trail
- 12 Membership Survey: What You Said
- 18 Books: *The Men Who United the States*, Simon Winchester, and *Out Where the West Begins*, Philip F. Anschutz, reviewed by Ruth Friesen
- 28 Chapter Reports
- 32 Calendar



SFTA board member Faye Gaines celebrated her 88th birthday during the SFTA board of directors meeting held April 11. Faye rode Amtrak to Salina, Kansas, from her home in north-eastern New Mexico, the Santa Fe Trail landmark Point of Rocks. Prior to the Association meeting, she was interviewed by Dr. Jim Hoy of the Center for Great Plains Studies at Emporia State University. Steve Schmidt instigated and facilitated the interview and Faye's transportation. Her interview will be published in *Heritage of the Great Plains*, probably this summer.

14

The American  
Invasion of New Mexico  
and Mexican Merchants:  
Part Two

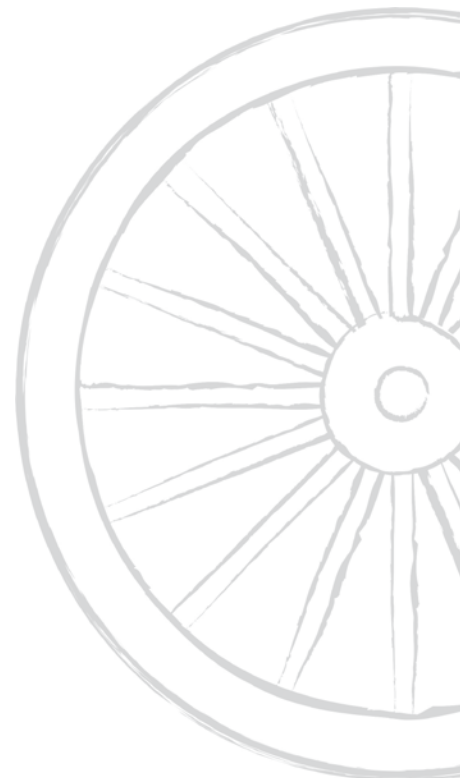
*By David A. Sandoval*

19

SFTA Board of  
Directors Nominees

20

SFTA Hall of Fame  
2008- 2014



## President's Corner *by LaDonna Hutton*



It was such a wonderful weekend in Salina, Kansas, for the National Park Service Interpretation Workshop and the Santa Fe Trail Board of Directors meeting. With the meetings, fellowship, and great food, the weekend was truly a success. As we arrived Thursday evening, we were treated to some great pizza and libations at the Blue Skye Brewery in downtown Salina.

Friday morning brought us all together at the Friendship Center for a workshop, "Interpretation on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail—Preparing for 2021 and Beyond," lead by the National Park Service interpretation staff. We looked at various forms of interpretation available, including new electronic media. We focused on how interpretation provides a vehicle to stewardship. At the end of the day, participants had interpretive designs that would fit their regions and sites.

Friday evening, we enjoyed a delicious Italian meal at Martinelli's. Following the meal, we enjoyed birthday cake in honor of Faye Gaines' 88th birthday. Entertainment for the evening was provided by Joe Basso, who presented "Why Do We Say That—What Does That Mean?", a fun-filled dialogue of sayings we use every day.

Saturday morning at the Santa Fe Trail Association Board of Directors meeting, we heard detailed officer, committee, chapter, and Partnership for National Trails System reports, as well as a National Park Service update. It is always amazing to me how much protection, preservation, and promotion of the Santa Fe Trail is happening at the local chapter

level. I know we have members in each chapter who are dedicated to the trail and to the association. We are in need of committee members. If you feel a "calling" to serve on one of our committees, please contact me or Joanne VanCoevern. Committees you could find a place to serve are: awards, budget, education, events, mapping and marking, membership, nominating, personnel, preservation, publications, and research. Anything sound interesting?

One of the highlights of the weekend was Saturday evening at the VanCoevern home. In addition to the delicious Brookville Restaurant fried chicken dinner, we met their Percheron horses and were treated to a wagon ride. Joanne and Greg told the stories behind the history of each of their wagons and buggies.

Another highlight of the weekend for those who could attend was the dedication of the Santa Fe Trail kiosk at the McPherson Museum. A delicious wagon train meal was prepared by Knackies BBQ and bluegrass music was enjoyed by all. A VanCoevern wagon and artifacts were on display at the event. Mike Olson was the presenter, "Oh! For a Tree!" – Gold Rush Emigrants on the Santa Fe Trail."

It is my hope that this motivates you to consider serving on a Santa Fe Trail committee, Board of Directors, and/or officer position.

Reminder: If you have not done so, please get your registration in for the Three Trails Conference, to be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, September 17-20, 2015. This will be the first joint conference of three historic trail associations: Santa Fe Trail Association, Old Spanish Trail Association, and the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association. You won't want to miss this historic event. Register today! The registration form was included in the last issue of *Wagon Tracks* and you may also register online.

*Joanne and Greg VanCoevern point out the details of their auto-top surrey to SFTA board members who gathered at their home after the recent board meeting. The surrey was a popular horse-drawn, doorless, four-wheeled carriage of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It has a folding top and features two seats. This style of carriage was one of the most popular and could be found in both towns and the countryside. The surrey was named for County of Surrey, England, where this type of vehicle was first manufactured and was known as a Surrey cart. Surreys came with a variety of tops including the auto top (folding), fixed top, fringed canopy-top and parasol top. Many of the first automobile bodies were styled after the Surrey. Google "first automobiles" to see the resemblance.*

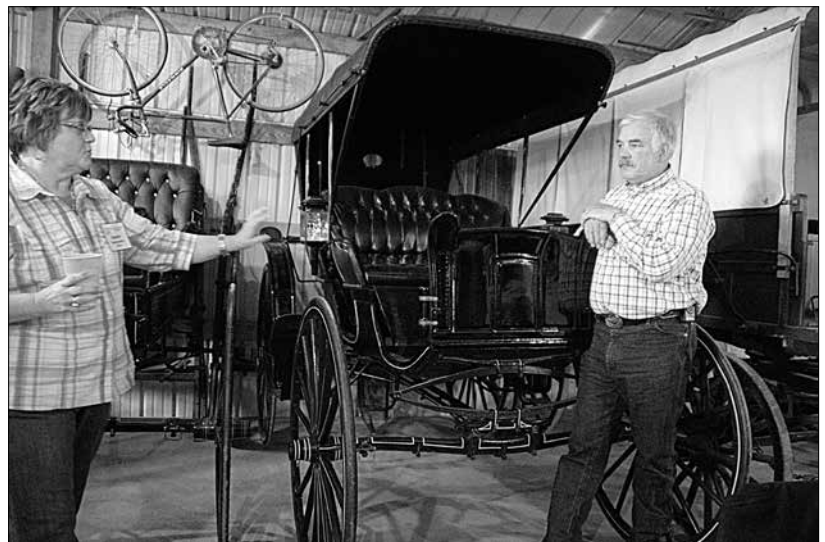


Photo: Ruth Friesen

## Joanne's Jottings

by Joanne VanCoevern, Association Manager



### Kiosk Dedicated at McPherson Museum

A special kiosk exhibit dedication and trail event was held at the McPherson Museum April 12. The McPherson Museum kiosk joins seven other sites where informational kiosks have already been installed: Gardner Junction, Kansas; the Boot Hill Rut Site west of Dodge City, Kansas; the Larned City Splash Park/Fort

Larned National Historic Site, Kansas; Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Colorado; Fort Union National Monument and Pecos National Historical Park, New Mexico; and Franklin, Missouri. The Santa Fe Trail Association has chosen informational kiosks panels as one of our contributions to the "Decade for the National Trails" project, led by the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) and American Trails, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the National Trails System Act in 2008 and to prepare the way for the 50th anniversary of the Trails Act in 2018. The three panels at the McPherson Museum provide information about the Santa Fe Trail sites to the east and to the west of McPherson, as well as a panel that covers the topic of "Road Ranches Along the Santa Fe Trail."

Also highlighted at Sunday's event was the SFTA/NPS Cooperative Signage program that has placed "Local Tour" and "Crosses Here" signs throughout Marion, McPherson, Rice, and Barton counties in Kansas. Travelers can follow the SFNHT with the aid of these signs. Future sign plans are being created for Douglas County, Kansas, and the Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter area which will connect central and eastern Kansas to signage already in place, or being planned, from Gardner Junction throughout the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter area to the east. Sign plans have also been created for parts of western Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico.

A special geocache event was held in conjunction with the dedication program at McPherson. Designed to celebrate SFTA's first year of hosting the Santa Fe National Historic Trail GeoTour, geocachers gathering for the event signed up for a drawing that included a cache repair kit and a kit to set a geocache, as well as a "First to Find" trackable for the first geocacher that signed in. Information/swag bags were handed out to all geocachers signing in and information about the GEOTOUR sites going east and west of McPherson was provided.

### 3 Trails Corridor Partnership Group Formed

The areas between Independence, Missouri, and Gardner Junction, Kansas, offer a unique opportunity for the National Historic Trails community. On March 21, interested persons from the communities and historical associations located throughout the Kansas City metro area gathered at the National Frontier Trails Museum to open a dialogue. Participating by video were Steve Burns and Kristin Van Fleet of the National Park Service in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

This first meeting of the 3 Trails Corridor Partnership (Santa Fe, Oregon, and California Trails) was to update all attendees about signage, marking, and trails construction projects that have already been accomplished and to provide details about the construction completed on the various segments of the pedestrian/bike trail between the Upper Independence/Wayne City Landing and Gardner Junction in Kansas. A description of work in progress, as well as what is needed to complete the entire length of the corridor, was presented.

The primary goal of this gathering was to establish a consensus between all entities along the entire corridor to develop a working plan for the area. The plans could include:

- areas where the existing pedestrian/bike trails would benefit with the addition of National Historic Signage
- areas where new trails would need to be constructed
- areas where new sign plans/wayside interpretation could enhance the user experience

The National Park Service—National Trails Intermountain Region will provide the lead in developing an overall plan for the 3 Trails Corridor Partnership. This plan will provide the groundwork to implement projects throughout the area. Once this initial plan is developed and agreed on by each of the affected entities, detailed plans can be created. Future meetings will be held at various locations along the entire length of the corridor.

### Symposium 2017 Theme Announced

The Missouri River Outfitters and Douglas County Chapters of the SFTA have announced a theme for the 2017 SFTA Symposium. The theme will be "The Santa Fe Trail: America's First Highway of International Commerce" and is being planned for September 28-30, 2017, in Olathe, Kansas.

## SFTA Award Nominations Sought

The SFTA Awards Committee is encouraging your nominations for individuals, organizations, businesses, or groups who have made a significant contribution to the Santa Fe Trail Association. There are a number of categories for awards and we encourage you to review the eligibility and criteria of each award on the Santa Fe Trail website - [santafetrail.org](http://santafetrail.org) under the tab "About Us." Select "Our Programs" and "Awards" to review the information. The Awards Committee encourages you to make your nominations online but handwritten or typed nominations will also be accepted if the following information is provided:

- Name of individual, organization, or business nominated, address, phone, and email
- Name of award you are nominating them for
- Provide a paragraph detailing why you feel the individual, organization, or business deserves this award. Provide detail according to the criteria of the award description.
- Educator awards require the name and location of the teacher and how the teaching about the Trail is handled. Include objectives, materials used, and developing and culminating activities.
- Nominator's name, address, phone number, and email

Nominations are due by July 15. If you have any questions or need additional information, contact Linda Colle, chairman of the awards committee, at [blkcolle@swbell.net](mailto:blkcolle@swbell.net) or 620-241-8719 or any member of the awards committee. Mailed nominations should be sent to Linda Colle, 724 Penn Drive, McPherson, Kansas 67460.

## 2016 SFTA Research Grants Available

Applications for SFTA Scholarly Research grants for 2016 are now being accepted. A total of \$1500 per grant is available. The deadline for applications is December 1, 2015.

Funds may be used for supplies and materials; services such as literature searches, computer use, and/or technical assistance, and copy fees; and travel. Funds may not be used for the purchase of equipment.

For more information, additional requirements, and an application form, visit the SFTA website at [www.santafetrail.org](http://www.santafetrail.org). Click on the menu item for Research. The SFTA Scholarly Research Committee will review all applications and awards will be announced on January 2, 2016.

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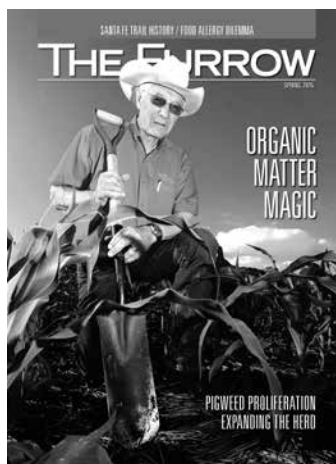
**July 10 is the submission deadline for the August issue of Wagon Tracks.**

## Missouri Bus Tour Offered on May 12

MRO and the Trails Head Chapter of OCTA are sponsoring a bus tour following the Santa Fe Trail from Franklin, Missouri, to Independence, Missouri, on Tuesday, May 12.

Ross Marshall and Larry Short will lead the group, following much of the original SFT route along the county roads of Saline and Lafayette counties. The tour will then follow the route to Salem Park where the Oregon and California Trails joined in. The journey will continue on to the Upper Independence/Wayne City Landing, McCoy Park, and finish at the Archibald Rice Home in Raytown. Many new NPS signs mark this original route. The all-day tour costs \$48 per person. Please call Larry Short at 816-835-4397 for reservations.

## SF Trail Featured in Deere *The Furrow*



Landowners who preserve pieces of the Santa Fe Trail was the theme for an article by Joe Link, "Keepers of the Trail" appearing in *The Furrow*, published by Deere & Company in the Spring 2015 Issue, Volume 120, Issue 4 on page 35.

It was the pleasure of the Santa Fe Trail Association to introduce Joe Link to many of these landowners and allow them to share

their story and the passion they feel for owning and preserving a portion of the historic Santa Fe Trail. You can view the article online at <http://m.deere.com/en.../docs/html/brochures/publication.html>

## Donate to the Marker Fund

The Special Appeals and Funding Committee has recommended to the board that this year's special funds be directed to the Marker Fund. Considerable time was spent during the spring board meeting discussing new markers installed and the need for many more to be placed. Contributions to the Marker Fund can be sent to Linda Revello, Santa Fe Trail Center, 1349 K-156 Hwy, Larned, Kansas, 67550, earmarked for the "Marker Fund."



## THREE TRAILS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

The Santa Fe Trail Association, the Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA), and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (CARTA) present the first joint conference of these historic trails. Field trips to segments of each trail leading out of Santa Fe will be featured. Presentations on Friday and Saturday mornings will highlight the western movement of exploration and trade in the United States. A special children's musical about the trails will be performed on Saturday evening, September 19.

The full registration information appeared in the February issue of *Wagon Tracks*. Complete conference information and online registration, or forms to fill out and mail, are available at [www.3trailsconferencesantafe.org](http://www.3trailsconferencesantafe.org). Registration fees increase after May 31, and special hotel rates will be offered until August 1, or until all room blocks are filled, whichever comes first. Make your reservations now to enjoy this unique event. Call 505-920-4970 with any questions.

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## Children's Narrative/Musical Slated for Three Trails Conference

The Santa Fe Trail Association and the National Park Service announce that Dolores Valdez de Pong has been selected as the composer/playwright for the Three Trails Children's Narrative/Musical.

Dolores Valdez de Pong of Santa Fe, New Mexico, is a retired educator who taught 38 years for Santa Fe Public Schools. She has written and produced numerous children's productions about the culture and history of New Mexico, which have been performed in various venues in Santa Fe. Among these was a performance at the kickoff event for Santa Fe's 400th Anniversary. She is the author of *A New Mexican Treasury of Songs and Plays for Children*, which contains many of her original children's songs, plays, and skits. Two of her songs have been used in the soundtrack for "Corazón de Santa Fe," an award winning documentary.

Valdez de Pong has written a script covering Old Spanish, Santa Fe, and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro national historic trails, along with musical scores and songs, which have been reviewed and approved by the Three Trails Con-

ference Steering Committee, National Trails Intermountain Region staff, and New Mexico State Historian Rick Hendricks.

Twenty-two children from Carlos Gilbert Elementary School in grades 2-5 were selected by auditions to perform in The Three Trails Narrative /Musical. Carlos Gilbert Elementary School is located close to historic downtown Santa Fe.

Ms. Valdez de Pong, as the seamstress, will make the costumes. Volunteers are needed to help with some of the props and perhaps with creation of a portable set. Contact Pamela Najdowski at 505-920-4970 or [pamnajdowski@yahoo.com](mailto:pamnajdowski@yahoo.com) to volunteer.

The performance will be held during the Three Trails Conference in Santa Fe on Saturday, September 19, during the evening banquet. It will be videotaped and placed onto National Park Service websites, YouTube, and association websites.



## Preservation

### SFTA Invited to Participate in Fort Carson Advisory Committee

The US Army at Fort Carson, Colorado, has invited the Santa Fe Trail Association to participate in an advisory committee in two projects providing offsetting mitigation in military training and support down range from Fort Carson. The projects are Archaeological Context "Gap Studies" and Santa Fe Trail Community Outreach.

According to the invitational letter sent by Carlos Rivero-deAguilar, Chief, Environmental Division, the goal of the archaeological project is "to look at past events, see the changing interpretations of those events in past research, pose (perhaps) new critical questions, uncover the data to answer the queries, and put it all in conversation with each other."

The Santa Fe Trail Community Outreach project's Goal is to "help uncover the history and stories hidden along the Colorado segments of the Santa Fe Trail. To give a voice to those who used the trail for more than just a transportation corridor for trade – to those who settled and worked along its route throughout history, making a living off the land and shaping the distinctive cultures still evident today.

A typical description of the Santa Fe Trail centers on its role in commerce and trade, interactions with Indian Tribes, the coming of the railroad, economic development, and settlement of the American southwest. However, in addition to documenting the remaining physical remnants of the main trail and its many off-shoots, it is important to continue a holistic approach and look at the Trail from many different perspectives. Through this project, Fort Carson will work with local, regional, and national Santa Fe Trail association members, archaeologists, historians, and involved members of the public to create an informational kiosk at the front entrance to the FCMS, and develop other aspects of community education and outreach."

Kevin Lindahl and Mike Olsen, SFTA board members, will represent the Association on this advisory committee.

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#### Thank You

*I want to thank everyone who assisted me in my incapacity during the board meeting. My traveling companions couldn't come with me and I probably should have stayed home. I'd only gone back to work that week. My back still needs more therapy. I greatly appreciate everyone who helped without asking. Thank you.*

*Shirley Coupal*

## New App Accesses SFT Media Tour

*By Carol S. Clark*

*Interpretive Specialist, NPS/NTIR*

A new look. A new way to access. Forget everything we told you.

We are very excited to announce that the Santa Fe National Historic Trail Media Tour has been migrated into a new template. There are more features, such as captioning photos, grouping stops into itineraries, and inserting photo galleries. It's a tour that fits into the visitor's pocket. TourSphere™ mobile apps allow you to harness the power of the technology that visitors already carry: their smartphones and mobile devices. And it's free.



Access the tour through [safe.toursphere.com](http://safe.toursphere.com)

Now you don't have to download anything. Access the "web app" (the tour) through your internet browser – such as Internet Explorer, Chrome, Firefox, or Safari – on your tablet, Android phone, or iPhone. The new template is optimized to look best on your mobile device, such as your phone or tablet, but you can also access it from your computer.

The tour helps engage a new generation of visitors, who always have their smartphones with them. It's a great interpretive and educational tool that is free to use. It has the potential to reach the largest number of visitors possible by offering a way to follow the trail anywhere along the historic route.

So, take the tour. There are stops along the full length of the trail, with many more to add. It's really important for you to spread the word about the tour. Show your friends, family, neighbors, and member groups.

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## NPS Welcomes New Chief of Interpretation

The National Park Service, National Trails Intermountain Region, announces that Carole Wendler has been named Chief of Interpretation, working at the Santa Fe office. Carole developed an appreciation of the wild places in the US as she grew up with a father who was a professional scenic photographer. Carole worked with the US Forest Service for 20 years in the Pacific NW, and with the National Park Service at Death Valley for the past 5 years. Her job as Chief of Interpretation affords her the opportunity to look over the big view. She can be reached at [carole\\_wendler@nps.gov](mailto:carole_wendler@nps.gov).

## Partnership for the National Trails System

by Ross Marshall, SFTA Representative to PNTS

**Hike the Hill:** Roger Boyd and I attended this annual event on February 6-12 in Washington D.C., representing SFTA. Roger has quickly become a fully participating partner and took the lead on many of our visits.

It was the usual busy week of meetings with agencies, congressional committees, and various (18 total) congressional members and their staffs. The purpose was to inform them what has been happening on all the trails, thank them for their help, and explain what our needs are.

The message we expressed was that the congressional funding has progressed to an efficient operating level, even though we asked for additional funding because so much remains to be done on our trails, including the Santa Fe Trail. We talked about the progress on trails funding from the time PNTS began 22 years ago (from \$2 million up to \$28 million today) and what this support has generated.

The National Trails System has a unified voice through PNTS partnering and has an army of volunteers working together as illustrated by our Gold Sheet. The agencies are now very supportive partners, thus fulfilling the National Trail System Act's strategy that the NTS be administered by a public-private partnership – in our case it is SFTA and the National Park Service. As always, we made sure they knew we were proud of the partnership SFTA has with the NPS Santa Fe office. The Santa Fe National Historic Trail is being preserved, interpreted, and made more and more accessible for those that want to be on it – driving or otherwise.

**PNTS 15th Long Distance Trails Conference:** The conference will be held in Franklin, Tennessee, from June 27 - July 1. The theme is *Find Your Trail! Planning Pathways into the 21st Century*.

Three tracks will correspond with the three Decade Goals of PNTS, which are to *Increase Public Awareness of the National Trails System, Complete and Preserve our Trails, and Build Organizational and Agency Capacity*:

Track 1 – *Telling Our Stories and Engaging New Partners*

Track 2 – *Preserving Special Places and Protecting Trails Resources and Settings*

Track 3 – *Strengthening our Trail Organizations and our Trail Communities*

Two mobile workshops, plenary sessions, plus a multitude of presentations and topics, will be included. Registration information is available at [www.pnts.org](http://www.pnts.org).

**Volunteer Hours and Expenses Reports:** Congress is very impressed with the Partnership's totals of volunteer hours and dollar contributions (the Gold Sheet) by National Trails System organizations. We appreciate very much every chapter, committee chair, and board member turning in their volunteer totals for 2014. **Please plan to accumulate these totals for 2015.**

### PNTS Youth Scholarships Due May 5

The Partnership for the National Trail System's (PNTS) Trail Apprentice scholarship application is now available for the 15th National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference. The conference will take place in Franklin, Tennessee, from June 27-July 1, 2015.

Fifteen scholarships are open for youths between the ages of 18 and 25 years of age with an interest in the National Trails System (NTS). Although it is preferred, no prior experience with the NTS is necessary. Scholarships include the cost of travel, registration, and meals. The application deadline is May 5. Additional information and the application form are available at <http://pnts.org/new/2015conference/youth-scholarships/>.

Youth participants will be an active part of the dialogue about outreach and the future of the trails system. Selected participants should come ready to explore, learn, and engage.

### Register for Fur Trade Symposium

Registration is now open for the 2015 Fur Trade Symposium, to be held at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site near La Junta, Colorado, on September 23-26, 2015. To register, visit [www.2015fts.org](http://www.2015fts.org).

#### Student Scholarships Still Available

The National Fur Trade Symposium is offering student scholarships worth \$100.00 to ten qualified students who apply. Awardees will agree to contribute with the operations of the Symposium by assisting with logistics such as registration, room monitoring, set up and tear-down, orienting attendees, and other duties as needed. For application information, visit [www.2015fts.org](http://www.2015fts.org). Application deadline is June 1.

## William Becknell Cemetery Designated a Historic Texas Cemetery



According to [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), the appearance of the cemetery was dramatically changed in 2013 with the addition of a highway pullout, a nice entry gate and a paved walkway to the cemetery. Please note the flagpole in place for the Texas State Flag. This information was added to the website by Lawrence and Sue Dale on November 21, 2013.

Photos of the cemetery can be seen on Facebook: search for Becknell Cemetery, also Red River County Historical Society. These images were also posted to the Santa Fe Trail Association Facebook page.

The William Becknell/Robbinsville Historic Cemetery near Clarksville, Texas, has been designated as a Historic Texas Cemetery. A ceremony to commemorate this historic designation will be held on Thursday, May 7 at 2:00 p.m. at the cemetery located six miles west of Clarksville on US Highway 82. At the dedication, Allan Wheeler, a former Santa Fe Trail director, will present some of Becknell's many history-making accomplishments. Wheeler will later present a more extensive reenactment that evening at the Red River County Historical Society's meeting at the First Presbyterian Church in Clarksville at 6:00 p.m.

Captain William Becknell is credited for establishing the Santa Fe Trail in 1821. In 1835 Becknell relocated his family to Texas and Red River County. He became a landowner of significance, is believed to have fought in the battle of San Jacinto in 1836, in 1841 led local minutemen in the protection of settlers in frontier settlements, and was buried in Red River County in 1856.

The importance of the site was first recognized in 1957 when local historians worked to have a granite marker installed by the state to record the historic value. The cemetery had fallen into disrepair and was nearly lost until recently when work began to have the site officially recognized as a Historic Texas Cemetery.

For more information please call the Historic Red River County Chamber of Commerce at 903-427-2645.

### ***Bent on Birding May 14-17***

The 18th annual "Rollin' Along the Santa Fe Trail" auto tours and "Bent on Birding and Heritage Festival" provide a popular venue for visiting southeast Colorado during May 14-17. Join the four day trips and three evening treks to celebrate birding and wildlife, and Colorado Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month. Contact [BentOnBirding@yahoo.com](mailto:BentOnBirding@yahoo.com) or call 719-980-1320 for more information. See brochure at [www.TheAVBridge.com](http://www.TheAVBridge.com).

### ***Deadwood Stagecoach Days July 10-11***

Deadwood History, Inc. and the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission invite everyone to attend the second annual Deadwood Stagecoach Days in Deadwood, South Dakota, on July 10-11. The event will include lectures on stagecoach travel, western art, early photography, and railroads. Other activities include fast-draw competitions, gold panning, old-fashioned children's games, chuckwagon

## *Events Along the Trail*

meals, music, and stagecoach demonstrations. For information on admission and meal costs, call 605-722-4800 or visit [deadwoodhistory.com](http://deadwoodhistory.com).

### ***Interpretive Writing Workshop May 19***

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is proud to offer this interpretive writing workshop to the Trail community at no cost. Dr. Alan Leftridge presents "Connecting to Your Audience" via Webinar on Tuesday, May 19 from 3 – 4 p.m. CDT. Natural and cultural heritage interpretive writing is a distinct genre. This session targets the need to use figurative language, vivid words, and to be concise and focused in order to meet your communication goals, and to honor your readers' interests. Dr. Leftridge's textbook, *Interpretive Writing*, is used in university interpretive programs throughout the United States. Please register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3617404616153608449>

## Amtrak Southwest Chief Sticks with Existing Route

By Milan Simonich

*The Santa Fe New Mexican*

March 28, 2015, reprinted by permission

As early spring softens into the tourist season, one of New Mexico's prized connections to the Midwest and Pacific Coast appears safe at last.

Amtrak will stick with its existing route of the Southwest Chief passenger train that makes stops in the New Mexico towns of Raton, Las Vegas, Lamy, and Albuquerque, a company spokesman said in an interview. This ends more than two years of fear and uncertainty in Northern New Mexico's smaller communities about whether Amtrak would alter the route and leave them without a stream of visitors with money to spend.

Colorado and Kansas moved aggressively last year to secure a federal grant and to allocate money for repairs on their sections of the Southwest Chief tracks. This meant those two states would be able to continue accommodating higher-speed passenger trains on the Southwest Chief's daily run between Chicago and Los Angeles.

New Mexico's hold on its section of the route was much more tenuous. Gov. Susana Martinez in 2014 authorized \$150,000 for a study of the Southwest Chief's costs and benefits. Martinez was less willing than governors in Colorado and Kansas to commit to the project because she said Amtrak historically was the beneficiary of federal subsidies.

But now, even without New Mexico obtaining a grant or allocating funding directly for the Southwest Chief line, Amtrak is convinced that all three states have a sound plan in place for upkeep of the tracks.

Just as important, a Jan. 1, 2016, deadline for funding the project has been lifted, Amtrak spokesman Marc Magliari said in a telephone interview. "We are making progress. There is no imminent cutoff date. ... We do not want to move this train to another route," he said.



Photo: Ruth Friesen

*Rachel Penner and Ruth Friesen rode Amtrak from Albuquerque to central Kansas in 2014, and relished the stretch stop at Raton, New Mexico.*

BNSF Railway owns the tracks that the Southwest Chief traverses in western Kansas, Colorado, and northern New Mexico. It had told Amtrak and the three states that it wouldn't maintain the tracks after the end of this year.

But Magliari and state Rep. Bobby Gonzales, D-Taos, said the new plan contains no timetable because all the states now have a strategy to cover costs on their part of the route. BNSF Railway's regional spokesman declined comment Saturday until speaking with executives in his company.

Tom Church, Cabinet secretary of the New Mexico Department of Transportation, said his agency is devising ways to pay for repairs in New Mexico.

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## Rayado Restoration Underway

Philmont's restoration efforts are in full swing at Rayado, New Mexico, a trading post settlement 14 miles south of Cimarron on Highway 21. The efforts are part of Rayado 2021, a restoration project initiated to celebrate the Santa Fe Trail bicentennial in 2021. In 1849, after the Mexican-American War, Lucien Maxwell and Kit Carson founded Rayado as the first plains settlement in New Mexico east of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. It predates Cimarron, and its position on the Santa Fe Trail made it a hub of trade for the area. Rayado sits where the mountain branch of the

Santa Fe Trail intersects with the Cimarron Trail to Fort Leavenworth.

Currently restoration is commencing on the La Posta building. La Posta was one of the initial buildings constructed. It was a stagecoach stop in the 1850s and in the 1860s also served as a trading post and Cantina until around 1920.

Read the full story by Michelle Duregger of the *Sangre de Cristo Chronicle* at [http://sangrechronicle.com/news/article\\_72c26762-de3c-11e4-88fe-6f3a5479fcd4.html](http://sangrechronicle.com/news/article_72c26762-de3c-11e4-88fe-6f3a5479fcd4.html)

## Membership Survey: What You Said

By Larry Justice, SFTA Membership Chair

One of my pet peeves is completing a survey and never knowing the results. Included with the renewal letters the Santa Fe Trail Association sent to all members was a multi-page survey in which you were asked to share such information as the years of membership, how a particular member found his/her way to SFTA membership, and whether the member agreed or disagreed with various questions. In addition and equally as important, we asked for candid written remarks regarding the SFTA, as we are in the second decade of the 21st century and on the verge of celebrating the bicentennial of William Becknell's entrepreneurial venture in 1821.

In this article are excerpts from that report along with figures and reactions to the survey. The reason the Santa Fe Trail Association remains a viable protector, promoter, and preserver of the Santa Fe Trail and a valuable partner with the National Park Service and other trail organizations throughout the country is directly the result of your interest and financial support in dues and gifts.

Three hundred surveys were returned to the Santa Fe Trail Center in Larned. Considered by many a very good, successful venture, plans are being considered to make this an inclusion again in three years. To conduct a survey annually could result in failure because of redundancy. But waiting too long might hinder the encouragement desired for members and chapters to take the results and use them to help grow the SFTA.

Surveys continue to trickle in. Those returning the survey represented the immediate five-state region of the SFT, including Missouri, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado. Surveys were received from an additional 21 states and the District of Columbia, stretching from California to Washington to Massachusetts as well as Michigan and South Dakota to Texas and Arkansas. The only region without representation was the Deep South.

Respondents included 134 who have been members of the SFTA for at least ten years. Interestingly, those who noted membership of four years or less totaled the second largest group with 67 respondents. A few of those noted they have been members for less than one year.

The largest majority, 80% of responding members, noted they joined the SFTA "to learn about SFT." Education is and must remain at the heart of the Santa Fe Trail Association. In addition, 153 respondents asserted history enthusiasts should support SFTA. Translating these results echos the fact that preserving and protecting the Trail is a process of education. Not only should our current membership continue to learn about the history of the Trail but more and

more realize the impact the Trail had upon the growth of our nation from the Mississippi River to California.

A number of respondents noted the SFTA should "network with student groups at universities and community colleges." Marketing could be done to history majors and instructors by meeting with college instructors and officials in a partnership for educational impact. And the respondents were not shy in encouraging a development of Trail awareness among students in all levels of education. The education process is not limited to the professional educators but to parents and grandparents taking young people to museums and historical societies that emphasize the Santa Fe Trail.

Roughly 50% of those who completed the survey noted the importance of *Wagon Tracks* as their principle reason for joining the SFTA. One individual noted *Wagon Tracks* is the "most useful tool to add knowledge about The Trail, unusual and historic events, and those who traveled the Trail." Several respondents noted the "beautiful" WT is a gift with its pictures of Trail events and activities. Finally, one individual suggested adding a column in WT "about places to visit – especially places that may be known by a local chapter but not SFTA-wide."

One on-going discussion in SFTA circles is the value of national organization membership along with that of a local chapter. Although more than 60% noted the importance of dual membership in SFTA along with at least one local chapter, concern was voiced by those who do not live within easy driving distance of a chapter. Many noted that though they would love to participate in the protection and preservation of the Trail, distance from the Trail and increasing age-related limitations were concerns. As a result, *Wagon Tracks*, the SFTA website, and the SFTA e-blast continue to be vital arteries for the life of the SFTA. But the chapters remain a most important sustainer of the Association. About 56% held that dual membership should be a requirement, yet one individual voiced concern, "required national membership might discourage some people."

A few people gave specific statements related to membership dues. Several individuals agreed that "one payment for SFTA and chapter(s) would be nice. It makes no sense and is time consuming to pay separately." Others noted "people on fixed income have difficulty meeting dues." Additional comments include: "Increase is probably in order. Increase incrementally," "Hard to justify increase considering SFTA is being supported roughly 80% by NPS," and "Current dues are reasonable for individuals but not for business/institutions – raise to \$75."

When the subject of dues was addressed, only one person noted SFTA membership was "too expensive." Of the 300



respondents, 252 held that the current dues were reasonable. Of course, as expected, there were some who felt dues should be increased, but the interesting response centered on the amount of that increase. The most extreme increase was advocated by several at \$50 for an individual membership, \$75 for a family membership, and \$100 for a business/institutional membership. In addition, 179 people indicated "Membership promotion is a joint process of SFTA and local chapters." as the highest priority. Nearly equaling that contention was the belief both "Membership promotion should be by trained professionals." and "New SFTA membership should receive a gift for joining." were the lowest of priorities. That seems to say that people are fairly-well satisfied with the promotional elements of SFTA membership. Yet, it should be noted that several people emphasized, "No one ever invited me to a local meeting/event." and "No one ever invited me to join SFTA."

The SFTA Membership Survey was not scientific. It probably is better stated as a form of opinion poll. Yet, the survey provided some with an avenue to voice concerns and support. There were many who voiced strong support for the SFTA. Conversely there were only a few who voiced contrary opinions. Some of these voiced opinions include: "there seems to be more focus on the Park Service funding and protecting our cash 'reserves'," "seems to be turf wars between chapter units in preservation, maintenance, and repairs. I give up.", "I'm not teckie enough to have an opinion," and "I've lost my interest in the SFTA."

In conclusion, the time spent, the money invested, and the benefits of the survey should help the Santa Fe Trail Association to improve. The goal of the SFTA is to protect the Trail. At SFTA Board meetings, board members constantly become more aware of the attacks upon the protection of the Trail. The attacks come from energy interests, highway and road expansion and improvements, vandalism, weather deterioration, and simple neglect.

Another goal is to preserve the Trail. Again, the Trail always is susceptible to erosion and weathering. Increasingly, it is the responsibility of people like you and me to preserve as much of the Trail and Trail memorabilia as funds and ex-

pertise allow. Finally, a goal of the SFTA is to promote the Trail. For every pat-on-the-back for doing a good job of promotion, it remains an ongoing challenge to continue to invite people to join the process of protecting, preserving, and promoting the Santa Fe Trail for future generations. The SFTA and the local chapters remain the best avenues for accomplishing these goals and tasks.

Of course there were a few negative remarks, but also there were comments that provide some levity. For example, one individual provided the best relief to the drudgery of recording the results of the 300 surveys by stating: "At 71 I'm just too busy. Perhaps when I get older..." As chair of the Membership Committee, my thanks to all of you who took the time to provide some input into making the Santa Fe Trail even better than it has been since its inception and as we approach the 200th anniversary in 2021. Below, you will find a few random quotes from various sections of the survey.

From Marjorie Kern: "I'm Ralph Hathaway's granddaughter and I want to continue his work to preserve the trail."

From a member of the Boone's Lick Road Association: "I want to learn about [SFTA] as I preside over a similar one."

From Connecticut: "Keep up your good work. Our age and distance slows us down. Hope to make the next Symposium."

From a former teacher: "It [SFT] is an important part of our heritage to keep alive and keep interest growing."

From descendents of SFT travelers: "I took out my membership because my family traveled the Trail" (member lives in Massachusetts); "My great-great-grandmother was the first white woman to travel the Trail from Missouri to Santa Fe" (George Bayless); "My great-grandfather served on the Trail 1864-65" (from Albany, NY); "My grandmother (born 1863) traveled the Trail to Dodge as a 4-year-old and lived 9 miles west of Dodge City"; "My great-great-grandfather served along the Trail as part of US Vol. Inf. I want to learn more about how he lived (from Colorado). ♦



## *Kiosk Dedication in McPherson*

*Quivira Chapter President Linda Colle shares her delight in the new Santa Fe Trail kiosks at the McPherson Museum on April 12. Road ranches are featured on the first of the three signs.*

*Photo: Josh Arnett, McPherson Sentinel*

## The American Invasion of New Mexico and Mexican Merchants: Part Two

By **David A. Sandoval**, Professor Emeritus of History,  
Colorado State University-Pueblo

[The first portion of this article was published in *Wagon Tracks*, February 2015, pp 23.]

**The first elements of the invasion** had been sighted by Jose Pablo Gallegos, who reported on the 30th of June 1846 that several New Mexicans had encountered American troops (*El Provisional*, 14 July 1846, MF 472, Reel 2). Governor Manuel Armijo confirmed the news, and on July 1st sent an appeal for aid from the south. Mauricio Ugarte sent a letter stating that he could set out immediately with 500 cavalry and as many infantry. In light of the fact that Durango had also been ordered to assist New Mexico, Armijo was encouraged.

Mauricio Ugarte would use Mexican merchant information to inform military forces of the strength of American troops and ponder the paradox that Americans were protecting Mexican merchandise. Ugarte had been informed by Armijo on the 10th of July that merchants had accompanied the army on its way to conquer New Mexico and that the Army commander had extended an offer of protection. In his correspondence Ugarte noted the location of enemy troops, and their strength, and repeated his concern that the New Mexicans needed auxiliaries from Chihuahua and Durango. Concerned with defense, Ugarte sent a copy of the merchants' letter in order to inform officials of the enemy's approach and of the immediate need to reinforce New Mexico.

**Poised to invade New Mexico** after following the Mountain route of the Santa Fe Trail, Kearny sent emissaries to Governor Armijo. Armijo, Diego Archuleta, and a number of prominent New Mexicans met with James Magoffin and Philip St. George Cooke on August 12. Chihuahua merchant Jose Gonzales attended the meeting. Santiago [James] Magoffin had been naturalized as a Mexican citizen and served as a government official in El Paso del Norte (Juarez Municipal Archives, MF 513, pt. 2 Reel 34, Frames 87-88). He would be arrested and charged with treason by Mexican officials but would be able to purchase his freedom. He was reimbursed for the bribes that he paid out by the American government. Kearny sent a message stating what he would initially assert when he took Las Vegas—that the United States claimed jurisdiction in New Mexico because it had accepted the Texan claims to the Rio Grande. According to Kearny, the fate of the western portion of New Mexico would be determined by other circumstances (Clarke 136). This approach, that the United States was only interested in land to the Rio Grande and not west of it, probably encouraged Diego Archuleta to agree to American invasion, as he may have believed that he could

become leader of the western portion of New Mexico. That promise was not kept.

Late in the evening of August 12th about ten o'clock the emissaries were:

*Well received, and dined with his Excellency, had a long conversation with him and proved to him from Gen. K. letter that the troops then entering the Department were only to give peace and protection to the inhabitants and assured him that I had been dispatched by the President of the United States in order to inform him and the rest of the good people of New Mexico with whom I was acquainted that this was the only object of our Government. I found many of the rich of the Department here, also the militia officers, with whom I had ample intercourse.*

**Magoffin claimed that even Diego Archuleta** would not oppose General Kearny's entrance (qtd. Twitchell 48-49). Before crossing the *Jornada del Muerto*, a notorious 70-mile desert, the Military Commander of the State of Chihuahua, Mauricio Ugarte, recorded his initial impressions of the American invasion of Santa Fe. After organizing settlers to resist American troops, Ugarte had advanced with a small contingent of soldiers to Santa Fe. Twelve days before Ugarte penned his report, on August 14, 1846, Governor and merchantman, Manuel Armijo had assembled "*dos mil hombres de todas clases*" [2,000 men of all classes] at Canoncito at Glorietta for the purpose of defending New Mexico from the Army of the West.

Later, Armijo would report that he had been compelled to abandon his defensive position when dissension broke out among leaders of the auxiliaries. With an entourage of 70, including 12 or 13 regular cavalry, Armijo traveled south by way of Galisteo. Ugarte and his command would have to await a different time, the battle at Sacramento, to defend the Mexican nation. To this day, many New Mexicans still consider Armijo a traitor, a charge that Ugarte and others first made after Armijo's ignominious retreat.

Benjamin M. Read, in his work *Guerra Mexico-Americana* (Santa Fe: Compania Impresora del Nuevo Mexicano, 1910) attributes decent motives to Armijo, making reference to his heroics in 1841-42 as well as discussion with participants. A Beinecke Library 1848 Account [New Mexico State Records Center in Santa Fe] contains an account of Armijo and his actions against Kearny as well as a record of legal action. Apparently a March 13, 1846, order allowed the Governor to take the action he did. As such, he was acquitted of charges and returned to New Mexico where he can be found listed as a merchant in the 1850 census.

Other scholars have asserted that Armijo was bribed by

Magoffin to give up defense of the region and have pointed to Magoffin's request for reimbursement for bribe money, although those monies may have gone to bribe officials in El Paso to release Magoffin from imprisonment.

While Ugarte erroneously reported that merchant and naturalized Mexican citizen Don Santiago Magoffin had been appointed American Governor, he also noted that the Santa Fe caravan following General Stephen W. Kearny's invading army was valued at a million pesos. Mauricio Ugarte observed on August 26, 1846, that Armijo had allowed not only Kearny to enter, but six days later the million dollar caravan. He noted that Enrique [Henry] Connelly had written to Armijo attempting to get Armijo to return (*Periodico oficial de Chihuahua*, Reel 3, frame 17). On his way south, Armijo had encountered the Englishman Ruxton who noted that Armijo, "the mountain of fat," asked about the going price for cotton products in Durango.

The *Daily Missouri Republican* reported that New Mexicans would not fight in the event of war. This claim, as well as Armijo's caravan of merchandise on the trail that fall, and an alleged bribe taken from Santiago Magoffin, has led some writers to conclude that venality prompted Armijo to forsake New Mexico (Manuel Alvarez Papers, "Dispatches" 9 February 1846, 26 March 1846).

**Advancing on Santa Fe, Kearny proclaimed** United States jurisdiction along the way. Because of the abandonment of defenses, Kearny marched into New Mexico without a shot being fired—the Bloodless Conquest, which should be noted as the Bloodless Entrance as Mexicans spilled blood in January 1847 and the war ended in 1848. After entrance, he began to consolidate his position by meeting with a number of influential New Mexicans. Not all of the New Mexican merchants fought against the United States. Don Jose Leandro Perea of Bernalillo and his prominent family visited Kearny and offered assistance. Reportedly, the governor's chair was offered Perea (Espinosa and Chavez 111-12).

The position was accepted eventually by Charles Bent. Antonio Jose Otero also accepted a position within the occupation government as did Donaciano Vigil, who had been Secretary to Governor Armijo but became second in command under Bent, the Lt. Governor. Even the son of Mariano Jose Chavez aided Kearny, while his uncles seemed to oppose the occupation of their homeland. Jose Francisco Chavez, returning home from an academy in Fishkill-on-the-Hudson in New York, claimed that Kearny asked him to interpret Spanish (Clarke 120).

In August, as Kearny was successfully conquering New Mexico, 60 wagons belonging to Armijo, Magoffin, and others were on the trail, as was Francisco Elguea with goods for J. Calistro Porras with a 46-wagon group. In late Au-

gust, Ambrosio Armijo and his 13 wagons were on the trail (Barry 591-661).

**General Stephen Watts Kearny issued a proclamation** to the New Mexicans that asserted jurisdiction over the New Mexicans and is presented in Spanish as well as English. [MANM Reel 41, frame 853]

*As by the act of the Republic of Mexico a State of War exists between that Government and the United States, and, as the undersigned, at the head of his troops on the 18th inst. Took possession of Santa Fe, the capital of the Department of New Mexico, he now announces his intention to hold the Department with its original boundaries (on both side of the Del Norte) as a part of the United States, and under the name of the "Territory of New Mexico."*

*The undersigned has come to New Mexico with a strong military force, and an equally strong one is following close in his rear. He has more troops than necessary to put down any opposition that can be possibly be brought against him, and therefore it would be folly or madness, for any dissatisfied or discontented persons to think of resisting him.*

*The undersigned has instructions from his Government to respect the religious institutions of new Mexico—to protect the property of the Church—to cause the worship of those belonging to it to be undisturbed, and their religious rights in the amplest manner preserved to them. Also to protect the person and property of all quiet and peaceable inhabitants, within its boundaries against their enemies—the Eutaws, the Navajoes and others; and when he assures all, that it will be his pleasure, as well as his duty, to comply with those instructions, he calls upon them to extant themselves in preserving order, in promoting concord, and in maintaining the authority and efficacy of the law. And he requires of those who have left their homes, and taken up arms against the troops of the United States, to return forthwith to them or else they will be considered as enemies and traitors, subjecting their persons to punishment and their property to seizure and confiscation for the benefit of the Public Treasury.*

*It is the wish and intention of the United States to provide for New Mexico, a free government, with the least possible delay, similar to those in the United States and the people of New Mexico will then be called upon to exercise the right of freemen in electing their own Representatives to the Territorial Legislature. But until this can be done, the law hitherto in existence will be continued until changed or modified by competent authority. And those persons holding office will continue in the same for the present, "provided" they will consider themselves good citizens and willing to take the oath of allegiance to the United States.*

*The undersigned, hereby absolves all persons residing within*

*the boundaries of New Mexico from any further allegiance to the Republic of Mexico and hereby claims them as citizens of the United States. Those who remain quiet and peaceable will be considered good citizens and receive protection, those who are found in arms or instigating others against the United States will be considered as traitors and treated accordingly.*

*Don Manuel Armijo, the late Governor of the Department has fled from it, the undersigned has taken possession of it without firing a gun or spilling a single drop of blood in which he most truly rejoices and for the present will be considered as Governor of the Territory. Given at Santa Fe, the capitol of the Territory of New Mexico, this 22 day of Aug., 1846 and in the 71st year of the Independence of the United States. S. W. Kearny, Brig. General, U.S. Army.*

**Another version of Kearny's** proclamation is given by Samuel E. Sisneros in his thesis and he attributes it to Twitchell. This may have been what he stated at Las Vegas before he entered into Santa Fe.

*New Mexicans: We have come amongst you to take possession of New Mexico, which we do in the name of the government of the United States. We have come with peaceable intentions and kind feelings toward you all. We come as friends, to better your condition and make you a part of the Republic of the United States. We mean not to murder you or rob you of your property. Your families shall be free from molestation; your women secure from violence. My soldiers shall take nothing from you but what they pay for. In taking possession of New Mexico, we do not mean to take away from you, your religion. Religion and government have no connection in our country. There, all religions are equal, one has no preference over the other; the Catholic and the Protestant are esteemed alike. Every man has a right to serve God according to his heart. When a man dies he must render to God, an account of his acts here on earth, whether they be good or bad. In our government, all men are equal. We esteem the most peaceable man, the best man. I advise you to attend to your domestic pursuits, cultivate industry, be peaceable and obedient to the laws. Do not resort to violent means to correct abuses. I do hereby proclaim that, being in possession of Santa Fe I am therefore virtually in possession of all New Mexico. Armijo is no longer your governor. His power is departed; but he will return and be as one of you. When he shall return you are not to molest him. You are no longer Mexican subjects; you are now become American citizens, subject only to the laws of the United States. A change of government has taken place in New Mexico and you no longer owe allegiance to the Mexican government. I do hereby proclaim my intention to establish in this Department a civil government, on a republican basis, similar to those of our own states. It is my intention, also, to continue in office those by whom you have been governed, except the governor, and such other persons as I shall appoint to office by virtue of the authority vested in me. I am your governor—henceforth look to me for protection. [Cited by Samuel E. Sisneros, "Los Emigrantes Nuevomexicanos: The*

*1849 Repatriation to Guadalupe and San Ignacio, Chihuahua, Mexico" Master's Thesis, UTEP History Department 2001, p. 175]*

**Manifest Destiny was imposed** upon the New Mexicans (Lopez y Rivas 40-41, 49, 169). The belief that Americans were extending democracy and fostering an era of enlightenment was supported by their economic success.

Men were thus told what they hankered to hear; by following their bellies, their egos, and their pocketbook nerve they could become moral agents, accumulate profits, contribute their share to the general welfare, and at the same time extend and strengthen the area of liberty and freedom. (Williams, 232).

Mexican merchants became involved in organized attempts to combat the American invasion and even Manuel Armijo complained to his former secretary, Donaciano Vigil, that New Mexican merchants continued to lament the conquest.

*I believe it to be very certain that this territory at this hour belongs to the United States....I fear, for having expressed our opinions Tomas Ortiz, Diego Archuleta, Manuel Pino and others are traveling in Mexico... Don Jose Chavez and Don Juan Cristoval Armijo have just left, imagine to yourself what all this faction will do there...You are the first to be brought out to dance to the Oteros...and it is certain that I will not remain without my slice...I am not like the Rich of New Mexico who become frightened at the idea of losing their wealth. (Manuel Armijo to Donaciano Vigil on May 18, 1848 [Ritch Collection, Reel 5, Doc. 25] New Mexico Records Center, Santa Fe, New Mexico.)*

**Kearny led his forces to California**, and the Occupation of New Mexico was left to Sterling Price and Charles Bent. When Bent was killed in January 1847, Donaciano Vigil became acting Governor. Price left in 1848 and was succeeded by Colonel Newby, Major Beall, Major Washington, and Colonel John Munroe (Twitchell 313).

Perhaps it was frustration with Kearny's broken promise, given at the meeting with Armijo and Magoffin, that only the eastern portion of New Mexico would be absorbed into the United States, and perhaps it was the broken promise that merchants would be allowed to continue to ply their profession—but there can be no doubt that the masses of New Mexicans opposed the American occupation, and by October groups were meeting to plan for guerrilla warfare. Senator Benton criticized Kearny for failure to abide by Magoffin's agreement (Clarke 139).

A plot of insurrection was found out in December 1846 and the ringleaders were arrested. They were probably betrayed by Tules, and another plot took place the following month.

Following the “Bloodless Entrance,” Mexican patriots rose in defense of their country in January 1847 and a resistance movement swept through every village in New Mexico. The promise by Kearny to treat Mexican patriots as American traitors came to pass, and a number were executed still proclaiming their fealty to their Mexican homeland. By July 1847 the resistance had been squashed and the New Mexicans were beginning to petition the new government for statehood, which did not happen until 1912. ♦

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## Endnotes

1. Pedro Olivares, b. 1787, died April 22, 1852. He was an official within the *Hacienda*, the system of trade control as *Administrador de Rentas Unidas* from 1 June 1824 to 31 Aug. 1825. He contributed 300 pesos for the brigade sent to New Mexico against Texans and served as Governor, August 21-24, 1845. In 1846 as a *Diputado el Congreso Constituyente Local*, he led opposition to the American invasion, in contradiction to those writers who assert that Mexican merchants desired American occupation. He also contributed to the “Harmony Report” which claimed certain damages and sought compensation from the American government.
2. *Archivo del Estado de Durango*, 1841-1847 [Hereafter MF492], R. 377. Oct. 1842, Guia 1.955 for Don Joaquin Harmony from Tampico; August 1842 from Tamaulipas Guia 1.519 for Castello y Harmony con Jose Sevilla with goods for Don Joaquin Harmony; Guías 712 through 727 goods from Mazatlan bound for Durango, Chihuahua and New Mexico for German merchants in those localities. MF 492, R. 382, Guia #674 for Mariano Chaves; #675 for Don Juan Maria Ortis, and #679 for Manuel Doroteo Pino bound for Socorro, New Mexico. In November 1840 Mariano Chaves acquired Guia #688 and set out for New Mexico, as he did again in 1841 when he acquired Guia #1276 in Durango.
3. Mexican Archives of New Mexico, Roll 40, frame 349. Guia #62 valued at over nine thousand pesos was issued on September 22, 1845 to Zuloaga for goods brought from the United States through Santa Fe to Galeana.
4. Matt S. Meier “Esteban Ochoa, Enterpriser.” *Journal of the West* 25 (Jan. 1986): 15-21.
5. Susan Shelby Magoffin, *Down the Santa Fe Trail and into Mexico*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1982, passim.

## New Lifetime Members of SFTA are:

John Carson, LaJunta, Colorado

Jim and Jan Groth, Satanta, Kansas

Pamela Parsons, Carrollton, Missouri

SFTA is thrilled to welcome these individuals to its growing list of Lifetime Members. Their commitment helps to preserve, protect, and promote the historical legacy of the Santa Fe Trail.



## BOOKS



## The Men Who United the States

Simon Winchester, *The Men Who United the States: America's Explorers, Inventors, Eccentrics, and Mavericks, and the Creation of One Nation, Indivisible*. Simon Winchester. New York, NY, Harper Perennial, 2014.

## Out Where the West Begins

Philip F. Anschutz, with William J. Convery and Thomas J. Noel, *Out Where the West Begins: Profiles, Visions & Strategies of Early Western Business Leaders*. Distributed by University of Oklahoma Press for Cloud Camp Press, 2015.

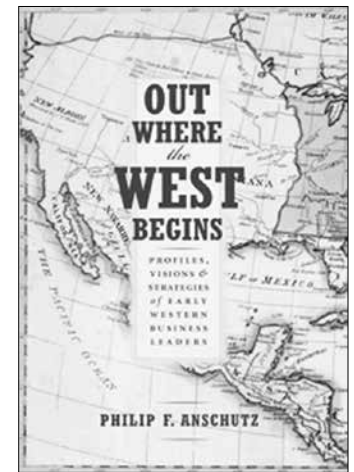
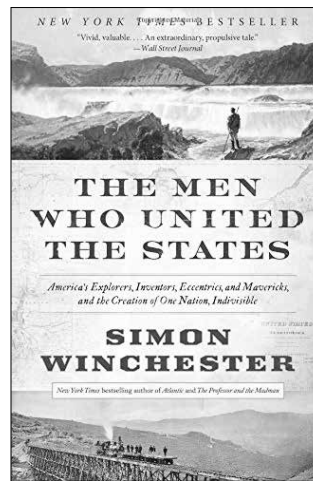
### Reviewed by Ruth Friesen

As I contemplated this issue's "people" theme, these two recent books caught my eye. Who created the West, and what was happening in the rest of the United States as the Santa Fe traders plodded along their route?

Winchester's theme, how America made a union for itself, considers "the strands of connective tissue that have allowed it to achieve all it has, and yet keep itself together while doing so." He begins with Thomas Jefferson's vision for America and the concept that Americans should have the right to own land, creating the Land Ordinance of 1785 which laid down the requirements for a survey, and the desire for public westward expansion. Alexander Mackenzie, a Scottish fur trader, became the first white man to cross the entirety of North America, albeit Canada.

Winchester moves through the historic trails, focusing primarily on the Lewis and Clark expedition, stating, "America's present-day global reach, insisted upon as a right....[began] more than two centuries ago." He continues on to William Maclure and his geological map of the United States, which "offered the keys to unlock the country's promise, bringing men out to inhabit the farther reaches of this country and create their nation." In 1840, the three principal westbound trails, the Santa Fe, Oregon and Mormon Trails, led people with a vision to, per a then-common saying, head off "to see the elephant," getting to see all there was to see.

Moving through more surveys, the discovery of Yellowstone, the creation of canals which breached the fall line in the Appalachian Mountains to move goods and people from East to West, Winchester states, "The moccasin and the covered wagon and the canal boat were not fast enough. Now it was necessary to harness raw power and bring engines...in bringing the nation together." Thus the era of trains, automobiles, and the interstate highways began.



Winchester quotes Gertrude Stein, of the era around 1919, of America as "a space of time that was always and forever filled with movement."

The technology of telegraph, telephone, electricity, radio, and television furthered united the states. Winchester writes that "Radio was suddenly invested with an ideal—as a free, limitless site for a forum of ideas that could knit the nation together spiritually, intellectually, emotionally." However, he postulates that radio and television have not united the nation, but have bowed to a marketplace dissemination of a unified mass culture.

The book is an overview of history, passing quickly over topics that instill a desire for additional reading in books listed in the bibliography. Employing precious few primary documents, Winchester nevertheless creates a fast-paced vision of the uniting of the states.

Anschutz's book, *Out Where the West Begins*, focuses on the era of 1800 to 1920 and the innovators and entrepreneurs, all men, who laid the groundwork for the West. In categories of *early trade, agriculture and livestock, railroads and transportation, mineral extraction, manufacturing, finance and banking, and entertainment and communication*, he provides 8-10 page vignettes of 50 men with business acumen who made fortunes and created many of the companies and institutions we know today. Santa Fe Trail buffs will recognize the Bents and Ceran St. Vrain in the first segment, and most of the people in the remaining sections have familiar names, from Goodnight to Wells and Fargo to Judah to Rockefeller, Colt, Strauss, Coors, Ford, Morgan, and Cody. Each vignette is followed by a bibliography for additional reading.

For those who desire to see the Santa Fe Trail in a broader context of the United States, these books create a sense of place in history for the Trail.

## SFTA Board of Directors Nominees Presented

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The election for the SFTA Board of Directors is held in odd-numbered years. This year the offices of SFTA President and Vice-President have new nominees, with the incumbent Secretary and Treasurer running for office again. In addition, the vacancies on the board of directors left by Mike Najdowski, Rod Podszus, and Pat Palmer, who chose not to run, and Rich Lawson, who has reached his terms limit, have nominees LaDonna Hutton, Brian Martin, and Sandy Slusher hoping to fill their positions. Incumbent directors Linda Peters, Davy Mitchell, and Karla French hope to retain their seats on the board.

Ballots will be mailed to SFTA members in early summer. Please take the time to vote for these candidates.

### **Larry Justice: President**

I have been a member of the Santa Fe Trail Association since the late 1990s as a result of a friendship with Dr. Timothy Zwink. I have served as chairman of the Membership Committee since 2009. I firmly believe in the committee process and the impact our chapters can have upon the SFTA and their respective regions across nearly 900 miles. My career involved serving as a campus minister for over three years at Eastern Oklahoma State College and 34 years at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. I also taught philosophy, ethics, speech communication, and leadership. I have earned a BA in Speech and two Masters degrees, an MDiv in Theology and MA in Communication. I am married to Debby, my wife of nearly 42 years, and we have two married sons and five grandchildren, all in Oklahoma.

### **Larry Short: Vice-President**

My interest in the Santa Fe Trail began when I was in grade school and my parents built a new home just off the Santa Fe Trail as it passed along Blue Ridge Blvd. in Raytown, Missouri. I went on to major in History at William Jewell College. I am currently serving as the President of the MRO Chapter of SFTA and as the Events Coordinator for SFTA. I am the leader of the newly-created Three Trails Corridor Partnership and also serve on the Board of Directors of the Raytown Historical Society as the treasurer. As a firm believer in establishing strong partnerships with local government entities, local public works, and parks department personnel in the cities and counties where the trail crosses, I am committed to working with the National Park Service toward the preservation of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail as we move forward to complete the signage and interpretation of the entire trail from Franklin, Missouri, to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

### **Marcia Fox: Incumbent Secretary**

I have always been fascinated with history. I began to focus

on the Santa Fe Trail in the early 1980s when I became a charter member. About the same time, I helped organize the 11-day SFT Youth trip and over several years accompanied hundreds of 11-12 years-old students as they learned the history of the Trail. Throughout the years, I have tried to do what I can to preserve the Trail. I have served as co-chair of the Education Committee and served on several other committees along with being the Secretary of the Board. The Trail is definitely in my blood. I taught history and reading in middle school for 35 years and for the past eight years have been the curriculum specialist at the Kansas Historical Society.

### **Ruth Olson Peters: Incumbent Treasurer**

I retired as the director of the Santa Fe Trail Center at Larned, Kansas, and have served as secretary and/or treasurer of SFTA since it was founded. I am a native of Garfield, Kansas, on the Trail. I've served on many SFTA committees and am currently chairman of the Budget Committee and Acquisitions/Archives Committee. I was the Project Director of the SFT Rendezvous seminars since 1984 until my retirement in January 2012, and was involved with the seminars since they were first coordinated by the Trail Center in 1980. These Rendezvous are now a cooperative effort of the Santa Fe Trail Center, Fort Larned National Historic Site and the Santa Fe Trail Association.

### **LaDonna Hutton: Board Member**

As my term as President comes to an end, it would be a pleasure to continue to serve the association on the Board of Directors. I have been an active member of the Santa Fe Trail Association since 1996 and have served as the Bent's Fort Chapter Secretary and Vice President. I served on the Board of Directors from 2007-2011, then Vice-President from 2011-2013 when I accepted the position of President following the death of Roger Slusher. In addition, I served as the secretary and chairman of the 2007 Santa Fe Trail Symposium in Trinidad. I have a Masters Degree in Education from Colorado State University and have 34 years experience as a business educator and school administrator. I have held a Colorado Real Estate license since 1974, and a Colorado Broker's License since 2005. I believe the most important issues facing SFTA are education, trail preservation, and membership and public relations.

### **Brian Martin: Board Member**

I grew up in Wichita, Kansas, and have lived the past nine years in Hesston. I completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design from Wichita State University. My work experience includes farming, construction, land surveying, and for the past 30 years, as an Art Director/Graphic Designer for University Relations and Publications at WSU,

and for Pioneer Balloon Company, a worldwide manufacturer of latex and microfoil balloons and related materials.

I have always had a great interest in history, particularly the American West, the Civil War, and Arctic exploration. I learned of the SFTA 4 years ago and have been an active and enthusiastic member since. I am currently on the Geocaching/GeoTour Task Force committee, a board member of the Cottonwood Crossing chapter, as well as a member of the Quivira chapter. I was a contributor on the SFT wayside exhibits at the McPherson Museum.

#### **Sandra Slusher: Board Member**

I was born into a historic town, Lexington, Missouri. I taught English, art, and architecture for 36 year, and married Roger Slusher who was a history teacher and president of SFTA. I have travelled from Franklin, Missouri, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, and beyond along the Trail many times. I am vice-president of my local chapter of River Valley Master Gardeners. My garden around my 1840s Greek Revival home is period-accurate.

#### **Linda Peters: Incumbent Board Member**

I taught for 27 years in Elementary/Middle School positions and am now retired. I have been a Santa Fe Trail enthusiast since 1986 and have enjoyed serving you on the SFTA Board the last four years. I would like to serve you

another four years. I promote the SFT every chance I get. I belong to the Wagon Bed Springs, Wet/Dry Route, Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron, and Bent's Fort Chapters.

#### **Karla French: Incumbent Board Member**

I am a charter member of the Santa Fe Trail Association and former chairman of the education committee, and of the Wagonbed Springs chapter serving as treasurer of the Wagonbed Springs Chapter. I taught 5th grade in Ulysses, Kansas, taking 60+ students and sponsors on annual field trips to the Comanche National Grasslands at Elkhart, Kansas. I have researched the history of Wagonbed Springs (Lower Spring) and trail traveler Mamie Bernard Aguirre. I'm currently serving as a SFTA board member and member of the Education Committee and the Hall of Fame Committee. I have a Masters degree in History and live in Tipton, Oklahoma.

#### **Davy Mitchell: Incumbent Board Member**

I am a New Mexico native where I grew up on a farm. I graduated from Texas Tech University with a history major, and lived in Colorado for 13 years where I worked in real estate. I now live in Lubbock, Texas. I've owned my own business for 36 years. I have a wife and two grown daughters, with whom I've spent several years rodeoing. I've been a director of STFA since 2007.

#### **2008—**

William Becknell • William Bent • Christopher "Kit" Carson • Pedro Ignacio Gallego • William R. Gordon

#### **2009—**

James Aull • Josiah Gregg • Susan Shelby Magoffin • Marian Sloan Russell • Ceran St. Vrain

#### **2010—**

Catherine (Katie) Bowen • Isaac Bowen • William H. Russell • Alexander Majors • William Bradford Waddell

#### **2011 —**

William Allison • Francois X. Aubry • Ashael Beach • Abijah Beach • Francis Boothe • "Jack" Costello • George Armstrong Custer • Lucien Maxwell • Mary Donoho • Charles Fuller • Lewis Garrard • Franz and Ernestine Huning • Lydia Spencer Lane • "French Frank" La Loge • William E. Mathewson • Elizabeth (Inman) Mathewson • Ed Miller • Abraham Moore • Zebulon Montgomery Pike • George Peacock • Charles Rath • George Champlain Sibley

### ***Santa Fe Trail Association***

### ***Hall of Fame Inductees: 2008–2011***

### **Call for 2015 Hall of Fame Nominations**

Don't forget to submit your nominations to the SFTA Hall of Fame for 2015. In 2015, for the first time, Hall of Fame nominations have been opened to modern deceased persons--those persons who have made a significant contribution to keeping the history of the Trail alive and sparking that interest in others.

Please consider writing 100 words or more nominating a historic figure or a modern deceased person to the SFTA Hall of Fame. A photograph and a source is also needed. Nomination forms, as well as a list of all persons nominated to date, are found on the SFTA website. For more information contact bonita\_oliva@ruraltel.net or Association Manager Joanne Vancoevern.

## Santa Fe Trail Association Hall of Fame: 2012

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The inductees for the SFTA Hall of Fame for 2012 were:

Maria de la Luz Beaubien Maxwell • Charles Bent • Philip St. George Cooke • Frederick Hawn • James Butler (Wild Bill) Hickok • Julia Archibald Holmes • Alexander Majors • Stephen Watts Kearny • Black Kettle (Moke-tav-a-to) • James Kirker • Robert Morris Peck • William Gilpin • Bennett C. Riley • Pedro Sandoval • Edwin Vose Sumner • Robert Wright

Details about most of these illustrious Trail travelers have appeared in previous editions of *Wagon Tracks*. Following are the remaining travelers. No nominees were inducted in 2013 due to the death of Roger Slusher, Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee.

### Philip St. George Cooke

Gen. Philip St. George Cooke, who graduated from West Point in 1827, was part of Maj. Benet Riley's military escort of the 1829 Caravan to the Mexican border and back. As a captain, he and the First Dragoons led two escorts on the Trail in 1843, mainly to protect Mexican traders from attack by Texans, and they captured Jacob Snively just east of present Dodge City. Capt. Cooke commanded a company of Dragoons in Gen. Kearny's Army of the West, and he was sent ahead with James Magoffin to meet with Gov. Armijo to negotiate the peaceful occupation of Santa Fe. He then led the Mormon Battalion to California, opening what became known as Cooke's Wagon Road. In the 1850s he led troops against the Indians in the West, helped to restore peace in "Bleeding Kansas," participated in the Mormon War, and took command of the Second Dragoons. He became a student of cavalry tactics, and his book *Cavalry Tactics* became the official cavalry manual which earned him the title of "Father of the U. S. Cavalry." In the Civil War, he was promoted to brigadier general and led troops in several campaigns.

### Pedro Sandoval

Pedro Sandoval was born in 1793 and served in both the Spanish and the Mexican armies. He served under Vizcarra in the 1829 journey to the border with the United States to protect Spanish refugees who were ordered out of Mexico. In 1841-42 Sandoval helped Governor Armijo in conjunction with Capt. Philip St. George Cooke of the United States to defend Santa Fe traders of both countries against the "Texian Snively Invincibles" and other Texan groups threatening the Santa Fe Trail. In 1846 he served in the Mexican-American War as Mexican troops tried to stop the invasion of New Mexico by U. S. troops under Stephen Watts Kearny. By that time he had served nearly 40 years, and he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. Pedro San-

doval is a good example of a Mexican soldier who served his country by protecting the Santa Fe trade, just as many soldiers from the United States did the same from their perspective, proving that the trade was important to the economies of both countries.

### Robert Morris Peck

Private Robert Morris Peck served in the First Cavalry from 1856 to 1861. He was a member of Col. Edwin Sumner's Cheyenne Expedition in 1857, serving in Maj. Sedgwick's battalion and participating in the Battle of Solomon Fork. In 1858 he helped guard supply trains going to Utah during the Mormon War. In 1859 he was part of a battalion that provided protection along the Trail, spending much of that time camped at Ft. Atkinson west of present Dodge City. Later in 1859 he participated in events at Peacock's Trading Ranch on Walnut Creek, where he saw Kiowa Chief Pawnee killed, setting off a period of warfare that led to the founding of Ft. Larned, which he helped build. In the winter of 1859-60, he helped escort mail wagons on the Trail, including one trip to Ft. Union and back. In the spring of 1860 he was part of Sedgwick's Kiowa Expedition which established Ft. Wise (later Ft. Lyon) on the Mountain Route. He mustered out in 1861, but served as a wagon master for the military during the Civil War.

### William Gilpin

William Gilpin was born in Delaware in 1813, attended West Point, and was appointed a second lieutenant in the Second Dragoons in 1836. He resigned his commission in 1838 and settled in St. Louis as a lawyer and editor. In 1841 he moved to Independence, joining Fremont's expedition to Oregon in 1843. When the Mexican-American War began, he was elected a major in Col. Doniphan's Missouri Volunteers who marched to Santa Fe and then captured Chihuahua in the Battle of Sacramento. When Gilpin returned to Missouri in 1847, he was elected colonel of the five-company "Indian Battalion" of volunteers raised to protect the Santa Fe Trail from Indian attacks, and they were quite successful. The Battalion returned to Ft. Leavenworth in 1848 to be discharged. Gilpin returned to being a lawyer and became a major land speculator who strongly supported westward expansion and Abraham Lincoln. In 1861 he was appointed governor of Colorado Territory and he helped raise troops that helped win the Battle of Glorieta Pass on the Santa Fe Trail in 1862. Leaving office that year, he made large land investments in southeast Colorado and New Mexico before dying in 1894.

## Santa Fe Trail Association Hall of Fame: 2014

The inductees for 2014 are: Charles Autobees • Don Antonio Jose Chavez • Robert Hall Chilton • Joseph Bainbridge Doyle • Thomas Fitzpatrick • Charlotte • Dick • Edmund Guerrier • Albert (E.A.) Reynolds • Dr. John Sappington • John Simpson Smith • Thomas (Tom) Tate Tobin

### CHARLOTTE

Almost every record of a visit to Bent's Old Fort included lavish praise of **Charlotte**, Negro slave of William Bent and the wife of Dick, another slave at the fort. Her inclusion in so many journals is remarkable as she lived in an era when slaves were often ignored or kept in the background. Charlotte's fame along the Santa Fe Trail and throughout the entire Rocky Mountain fur trade region was based on two accomplishments.

The first was her amazing ability as a cook. Travelers along the Trail often wrote of their eager anticipation of arriving at the fort and dining at Charlotte's table. When Col. Henry Dodge visited the fort in 1835, he and his staff were treated to a "lavish dinner." In *Wab-to-yah and the Taos Trail*, Lewis Garrard described her as a "cultural divinity." George Ruxton noted in *Life in the Far West* that Charlotte's slap-jacks and pumpkin pies were celebrated in Colorado from Long's Peak in the north to the Spanish Peaks in the south. Presiding over a kitchen staff of Mexican and Indian helpers, Charlotte's culinary skills offered all workers and guests at the fort a delightful respite from the monotony of trail and trapper food.



Her second accomplishment was her gift as an entertainer. Ruxton noted that Charlotte loved to characterize herself as "de onlee lady in de dam Injun country." Garrard noted that dances were held nightly at the fort and that Charlotte and Rosalie, a helper in the kitchen, were eagerly let to the dance floor "to trip the light fantastic toe." Charlotte, however, was "the center of attention, the belle of the evening... who acted her part to perfection." She brought to the dance floor steps from the states, not the rude and wild dances of the frontier. She was in great demand as a partner by all.

Little else is known of Charlotte. Marc Simmons, in *Kit Carson and His Three Wives*, notes that Kit Carson may have asked Charlotte to care for his two orphaned children when he was employed at the fort as a hunter in 1841. The last we see of her is in 1847 when she and her husband left for

Missouri as free persons. William Bent had granted both Charlotte and Dick their freedom in gratitude for Dick's bravery in the battle at Taos Pueblo which resulted in the defeat of the Indian rebels who had murdered William's brother Charles. However, unlike countless other persons on the frontier, Charlotte lives on in the fond memories of her cooking skills and her grace as a dancer.

### DICK

Few facts are known of the life of **Dick**. He was a Negro slave of William Bent and worked at Bent's Old Fort. He was married to Charlotte and may have been the brother of Andrew, another Negro slave at the fort. However, what little we do know makes Dick a person worthy of being in the SFTA Hall of Fame.

Visitors to the fort always referred to Dick as the husband of Charlotte, the legendary cook and de facto hostess at special events. He was described as being Bent's "servant" and he may have worked in the blacksmith and carpenter shops. He and Andrew were also pressed into service as butlers at special dinners. David Lavender in *Bent's Fort* notes that when Col. Henry Dodge visited the fort in 1835, both Dick and Andrew served as butlers at the "lavish dinner" prepared by Charlotte for Dodge and his fellow officers.

When General Stephen Kearny and his troops seized Santa Fe in August 1846, he appointed Charles Bent as the American governor of the captured territory. Bent brought Dick to Santa Fe to serve as his personal servant. When Charles was killed in January 1847 by rebellious Taos Indians, Dick was grief-stricken and asked permission to join in the fight to suppress the rebellion. He was given arms and fought valiantly during the battle at Taos Pueblo. Marc Simmons notes that Dick was the first to rush into a shelled and smoke-filled church where the last of the rebels were fighting. Others followed his lead and the rebels were defeated.

During the fight Dick was severely wounded and later taken back to Bent's Fort. When William Bent learned of Dick's heroic actions, he granted both Dick and Charlotte their freedom. Simmons writes that newly-freed Dick and Charlotte were last seen bound for Missouri in a wagon train. From that point on, they disappear from written history. However, the records that survive establish that Dick was a valued employee of the Bents and a hero in the fight to defeat the Taos rebels.





CHARLES  
AUTOBEES

**Charles Autobees** was born in 1812 in St. Louis to Sarah, who may have been a Delaware Indian, and Francois Auto-bees. By 1828, Autobees was engaged in the northwest fur trade and was employed as a trapper by the Bent brothers and Ceran St. Vrain, becoming friends with Jim Bridger, James Beckwourth, and Kit Carson. He survived the battle at Pierre's Hole in 1832, which mountain men and Blackfoot Indians fought following a rendezvous.

By the 1830s Autobees was living in Taos and in 1833, by his account, he was employed as a laborer in the construction of Bent's Old Fort. During the years 1834-1847, Autobees was employed as a trader by Simon Turley at his whiskey distillery at Arroyo Hondo near Taos, and he made numerous trips over the Taos and Santa Fe Trails, often traveling with his half-brother, Tom Tobin.

In 1847, he joined forces that put down the Pueblo Indian Revolt. Following that event, Autobees farmed and ranched in the Mora Valley in New Mexico. In 1853, St. Vrain gave Autobees land at the junction of the Huerfano and Arkansas Rivers near present day Avondale, Colorado, where he farmed, traded for robes and pelts with the Indians, freighted goods between Bent's New Fort and New Mexico towns, and even built and operated a ferry on the Arkansas River near his settlement.

In 1864, Autobees was pressed into service by Colonel John Chivington and forced to march to the battle site at Sand Creek. According to John Smith, a scout and interpreter who was living in the Indian village at the time of the massacre, Autobees refused to fight and was credited with saving the life of Smith and his family.

During his life, Charles Autobees knew, and was known by, most of the important persons in the American West. He was called Charley, and known as "hoarse voice." He was over six feet tall, known for his strong arms and undaunted bravery, and worked as a trapper, trader, freighter, scout, rancher, and farmer. All admired his prowess. Today he is buried in the St. Vrain cemetery in Avondale, Colorado.

## DON ANTONIO JOSÉ CHÁVEZ

**Don Antonio José Chávez** belonged to an old Spanish family that had been prominent in New Mexico since it was created as a province in 1598. His paternal grandfather, Don Pedro, arrived in New Spain in the late 1500s and left Zacatecas with the Juan de Oñate expedition to colonize New Mexico, and was one of the founders of Villa Santa Fe in 1610.

Don Antonio was the second of four sons born to Don Francisco Xavier Chávez, who had large holdings of land and livestock. The Chávez family was involved in sheep-raising, gold and silver mining, and commercial freighting and trade, traveling the Santa Fe Trail and El Camino de Real. The Chávez family traveled the Santa Fe Trail to Independence and beyond, and returned with goods to be sold in New Mexico and farther into Mexico.

The Santa Fe trade continued without interruption until the year 1843, when there was planned military activity along the Santa Fe Trail by the armed forces of Texas, who claimed the north boundary of Texas to be the Arkansas River. In November 1842 it was reported in Santa Fe that Texan forces were planning to attack Mexican traders passing over the Trail, in the coming spring. Giving little heed to that rumor, Don Antonio José Chávez started from Santa Fe, destined for Independence, in February 1843. He took with him five servants, his personal conveyance, two wagons and 55 mules. He carried some \$12,000 in gold and silver, and some bales of furs. Severe weather was encountered, the month of March proving unusually cold. The men were frost-bitten, and all the mules save five perished in the storms.

By the 10th of April, Chávez had come to the waters of Owl Creek in present-day Rice County, Kansas. There he was intercepted by a company of 15 men commanded by John McDaniel, who had organized his band on the frontier of Missouri for the purpose of attacking the Santa Fe caravans under the supposed direction of the Texans. Chávez was made captive and taken off the trail. He was robbed, and his effects were divided among the group, seven of whom immediately set out for Missouri with their portions of the spoil. The others decided to murder Chávez, shooting him in cold blood. They then packed their loot upon Chávez's mules and also departed for western Missouri. Information of what they had done soon came to the Missouri authorities, and several of them were arrested. Some of the guilty escaped, including three of the actual murderers. But John McDaniel was tried at St. Louis and hanged for his crime. The United State was caught up in the middle of an international conflict between Mexico and Texas, which threatened the important trade with Mexico. The action taken and swift justice to punish the murderers helped resolve the situation.



**ROBERT HALL  
CHILTON**

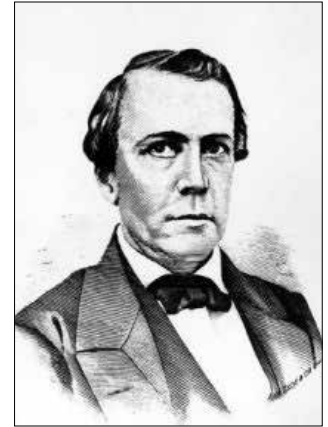
**Robert Hall Chilton**, a native of Loudoun County, Virginia, was born on February 25, 1815. He graduated from West Point in the class of 1837, brevetted as a Second Lieutenant, and was assigned to the 1st Regiment of Dragoons for western frontier duty. He served in the Mexican War under General Taylor. As a captain of dragoons he won the brevet of major for gallantry in Mexico. He was headquartered at Fort Leavenworth and was charged with the task of protecting the trails.

Major Chilton was the military chief at the Fort Laramie Treaty with the Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapahoe, Snake, Crow, and Blackfoot Indian tribes. He was very active in guarding the Santa Fe Trail and was the officer in charge with Indian Agent Thomas Fitzpatrick at the Fort Atkinson Treaty of 1853, with the Kiowa, Comanche and Plains Apache Indians.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Major Chilton resigned from the U.S. Army and served commendably as chief of staff to General Robert E. Lee, an old friend, and as inspector general of the Army of Northern Virginia; his appointment as brigadier was not confirmed by the Senate until February 16, 1864. The following April he was relieved from duty in the field at his own request and assigned to duty in the department in Richmond, in charge of the inspection branch, where he continued until the close of the war.

Chilton married Laura Mason, daughter of the Attorney General of the United States, in 1845 and had three children. After the war, Chilton was president of a manufacturing company in Columbus, Georgia. He died there on February 18, 1879, and is buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond.

Major Chilton is honored for the years he spent protecting the trails with a monument in Chilton Park in Dodge City, Kansas, which was dedicated May 28, 1931. This quote is from the program for the dedication of that monument: "Beacon Hill, the property east of the monument in Chilton Park, from whose eminence water flows northward to the Pawnee, was an old Indian signal point and videttes (mounted sentinels) from Chilton's camp stood there on guard."



**JOSEPH  
BAINBRIDGE  
DOYLE**

**Joseph Bainbridge Doyle** was born July 10, 1817, in Shenandoah County, Virginia. By the early 1830s the family had moved to Belleville, Illinois, across the Mississippi River from St. Louis. In 1839, the family moved to St. Louis and Joseph signed on with Bent, St. Vrain & Company working as a trader and freighter.

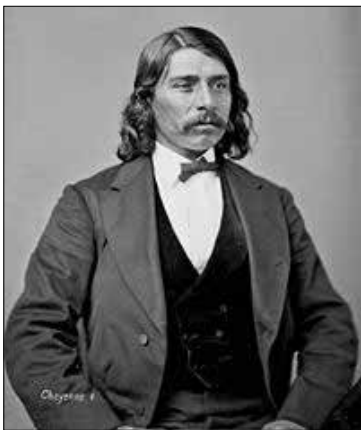
Doyle left St. Louis in July 1830, traveling with a Bent St. Vrain wagon train following the Santa Fe Trail to Bent's Old Fort. During the next five years, he worked at the fort as a store keeper and bookkeeper and traveled the trail many times. Records show him in St. Louis in 1842 and 1843. In 1844, Doyle made his last trip along the trail as an employee of the Bent St. Vrain Company. In St. Louis, he was paid his final year's salary by the firm's agent, F. Chouteau Jr. & Co.

However, his days of trading and commerce were not finished. During the next 15 years Doyle and various partners owned or built trading posts along the Arkansas, Huerfano, and St. Charles Rivers in Colorado. These posts dealt in hides, grains, horses, and Taos whiskey. Trade with Bent's Fort and other frontier forts was common. When gold was discovered in the Denver area in 1859, Doyle hauled wagon loads of food, grain, and other supplies to Denver City. The trade was so profitable that within a year he was a millionaire.

Doyle's final home was "Casa Blanca," a white two story clapboard mansion along the Huerfano River east of Pueblo on land he bought from Ceran St. Vrain. Here he built a magnificent ranch on thousands of acres of land that stretched for miles along the river. He raised corn, potatoes, beans, oats, cotton, melons, and tobacco. He built a flour mill, a trading post, post office, wagon and blacksmith shop, and a schoolhouse. In 1864, while serving on the Colorado Territorial Council in Denver, he suffered a fatal heart attack. Governor John Evans and other dignitaries escorted his body home to his ranch where he was buried in the family cemetery on a hill overlooking his ranch. At the time of his death, he was considered the richest man in Colorado.

**Edmund Guerrier** was born in 1840 in a Cheyenne village along the Smoky Hill River in present-day Kansas. (Some reports list his birthplace as being at a trading post along the North Platte River near Fort Laramie, Wyoming.) His father was William Guerrier, a Frenchman, and his mother was Tah-tah-tois-neh, a Cheyenne woman. His father was employed by William Bent as a trader. Following his mother's death from cholera in 1849, Edmund was sent to Saint Mary's Mission School in eastern Kansas and later attended Saint Louis University.

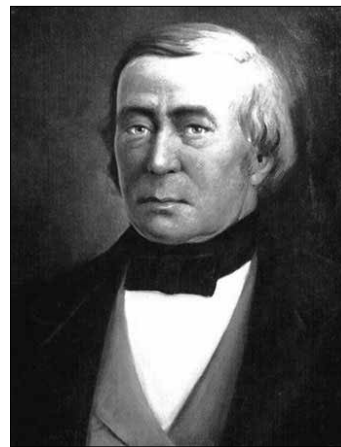
## EDMUND GUERRIER



In 1862 he left Saint Louis and returned to the west where he took a job as a bullwhacker on the Santa Fe Trail between Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and Fort Union, New Mexico. In New Mexico, he worked transporting Apache prisoners to Fort Sumner, where Kit Carson was the Commander. In 1864, he was present at Fort Larned where William Bent and a party of Cheyenne Indians had come for a peace council. This meeting gave Guerrier the opportunity to meet his Cheyenne relatives and also to meet William Bent and his son George and daughter Julia, whom Guerrier would later marry.

In November 1864, Guerrier was at Sand Creek, Colorado, when Col. John Chivington and 700 soldiers attacked the camp, massacring over 100 women and children while the men were away on a buffalo hunt. George and Julia were also there. Although George was wounded, he, Julia, and Edmund managed to escape the carnage. At the Treaty of the Little Arkansas in 1865, Guerrier was employed as an interpreter and courier. In 1866, he worked as a trader for William Bent and in 1867 he worked as a scout and interpreter for the Hancock Expedition in Kansas. That same year he and George and Julia Bent also participated in the Medicine Lodge Treaty in Kansas.

By the early 1870s, Guerrier had quit scouting for the Army and worked as a trader at Camp Supply, Texas, for the A. E. Reynolds and Lee Company. He and Julia Bent married in 1875 (some accounts have them married in 1865). They settled on the Darlington Cheyenne Reservation in Oklahoma where Edmund, Julia, and their children William and Anna each received 160 acre land allotments. Here Edmund operated a trading post for years. When a new post office was opened in the area in 1893, it was named for Guerrier, although the spelling of the name was changed to Geary. Edmund died on February 22, 1921, and is buried in the Geary Cemetery, as is his wife Julia.



## THOMAS FITZPATRICK

**Thomas Fitzpatrick** was born in County Caven, Ireland, in 1799 and came to the U.S. as a young man in about 1816. He soon moved west and became involved with the Ashley Fur Company. On June 1, 1823, Ashley and his party of 70 men were attacked by 600 Arikara Indians, inciting what is known as the Arikara War. Twelve of Ashley's men were killed and the rest were forced to retreat. Fitzpatrick and Jedediah Smith led the party that discovered South Pass, which made crossing the mountains to Oregon much easier. In 1830, he and four other men purchased the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, of which he became the head. In 1836, he sold his interests in the fur company, but continued to independently hire out as a guide to the American Fur Company. He and Smith led a trade caravan on the Santa Fe Trail in 1831, during which Smith was killed by Comanches. In 1836 a gun accident took two fingers from Fitzpatrick's left hand; thereafter he was known to the Indians as "Broken Hand."

Fitzpatrick was a leader of mountain men fur trappers, an explorer of the mountain west, head of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, a guide for emigrant trains to the West, and a guide for John C. Fremont. He guided General Stephen W. Kearny's Army of the West to Santa Fe on the Mountain Route of the Santa Fe Trail in 1846.

He was appointed Indian Agent for the Agency of the Upper Platte and Arkansas Rivers to deal with the plains tribes. He met with the Indians at many places: Fort Laramie, Bent's Fort, Fort Mann, and Fort Atkinson. At Fort Atkinson in 1853 he and Major Robert Chilton signed a treaty with the Comanche, Kiowa and Plains Apache tribes to protect travelers on the Santa Fe Trail.

During his lifetime, he married a woman of mixed French-Snake ancestry and fathered two children. While in Washington, D.C., in 1854, he fell ill with pneumonia and died on February 7, 1854. He was buried in the Congressional Cemetery.

## ALBERT (AE) REYNOLDS



## DR. JOHN SAPPINGTON

**Dr. John Sappington** was born on May 15, 1778, to Dr. Mark and Rebecca Sappington. In 1786 his family moved to Nashville, Tennessee. John studied medicine as an apprentice to his father for five years. About 1800, John moved to Franklin, Tennessee, to practice medicine. In 1804 he married Jane Breathitt of Russellville, Kentucky, and they had seven daughters and two sons.



**Albert (AE) Reynolds** was born in Newfane, New York, on February 13, 1840. His father was a merchant and AE followed in the family business. By 1865, the lure of the west captured him and he and his brother went west to seek their fortunes, setting up mercantile businesses in Junction City, Kansas, and Richmond, Missouri. In 1867, AE was awarded the position of Sutler at Old Fort Lyon near the site of Bent's New Fort. When New Fort Lyon was constructed in 1868, Mr. Reynolds was appointed the sutler there as well. During the next decade, he and various partners were awarded sutler positions at several southwestern military sites. He also engaged in trade with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, was a horse trader, dealt in buffalo hides, and bought thousands of acres of land in the Arkansas River Valley near present day La Junta.

That land included the site of Bent's Old Fort. By the early 1900s, when Mr. Reynolds was a wealthy man living in Denver, he often spoke of the "good old days" when he lived and worked in the Arkansas River Valley, when William Bent was still alive, when the Plains Indians were still free, and when the Santa Fe Trail still ran through the valley. When the Daughters of the American Revolution began marking the Mountain Branch of the Santa Fe Trail in 1908, Mr. Reynolds paid for the first granite marker, which was placed in Lamar. In 1912, Mr. Reynolds not only made land available for the DAR to place its final Colorado marker at the site of the old fort...he also paid for it. He also permitted the DAR to erect a large stone gate at the entrance to the fort.

By 1920, just a year before he died, Mr. Reynolds made known his intention to preserve the site of Bent's Old Fort and turn it into a park that travelers along the Trail might visit to honor the historical place. He found the perfect partner in the La Junta Chapter of the DAR and deeded to them the 4.5 acres of land that included the site. The Chapter preserved and protected the site until 1954 when it was deeded to the State of Colorado which eventually deeded it to the United States, which resulted in the reconstruction of the fort to its original size and function.

In 1814-1815, John went to Philadelphia and attended lectures at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He returned to medical practice in Tennessee, but, at the suggestion of Thomas Hart Benton, moved his family to Missouri in 1817 and settled near Arrow Rock on the Santa Fe Trail.

Dr. John Sappington was the first physician in Saline County, Missouri, arriving in 1819. He amassed a fortune by developing and mass-marketing quinine in pill form to treat malaria. The Sappingtons and their extended families owned large numbers of African American slaves whose labor and skills contributed directly to their success and prosperity. Sappington was the patriarch of a family political dynasty that included three Missouri governors (two sons-in-laws, Meredith Miles Marmaduke and Claiborne Fox Jackson, became Governor of Missouri, as did Sappington's grandson, John Sappington Marmaduke). Sappington started an education fund for indigent children of Saline County that today still provides college scholarships. He is the great-great grandfather of singer, dancer, and actress Ginger Rogers.

In the practice of medicine, Dr. Sappington avoided the standard medical practice of bleed, blister, and purge and only relied on quinine to treat the fevers, most of which were due to malaria. Shunned by the medical establishment, he manufactured "Dr. Sappington Anti-Fever Pills" which contained quinine. His pills were very successful when used by travelers on the Santa Fe Trail.

Susan Magoffin's diary documented the successful use of his pills in relieving her fever, and a friend's, on the Trail. In 1844, Dr. Sappington published *The Theory and Treatment of Fevers*, the first medical book published west of the Mississippi. In it he made public the recipe for the pills.

Although Dr. Sappington was a successful farmer and business, his promotion and use of quinine for Malaria Fever on the Santa Fe Trail is his lasting legacy.



JOHN  
SIMPSON  
SMITH

**John Simpson Smith**, aka Uncle John and Blackfoot Smith, was born in Frankfort, Kentucky, in 1810. Little is known of his early life except that his family moved to St. Louis and that Smith was apprenticed there to a tailor. In 1830, Smith headed west to join the fur trade, probably as an employee of one of the major fur companies operating out of Saint Louis. Smith earned his nickname in 1830 when he outsmarted a group of seven Blackfoot Indians who had captured him as he was trying to float his winter's cache of furs down the Missouri River. In the years that followed, Smith married a Cheyenne woman, Wapoola, who bore him several children. He also learned four Indian dialects plus French and Spanish and served as an interpreter at several important councils.

In 1846, Smith was a trader for William Bent, working out of Bent's Fort and trading with the Southern Cheyenne. When Louis Garrard wanted to experience the life of a trader, he was partnered with Smith on a trading venture and recounted the experience in *Wah-to-yah and the Taos Trail*. In 1847, the young Englishman George Ruxton visited the Fort and described Smith as one of the interpreters working to translate the words of Arapaho and Cheyenne into English. In 1851, Smith was employed as one of the translators at the treaty signing in Fort Laramie.

In 1864, Smith persuaded Black Kettle and his Cheyenne followers to camp at Sand Creek, Colorado, where Smith was assured that the Indians would be safe. However, in November, 700 soldiers under the command of Colonel John Chivington attacked the camp while most of the fighting men were away on a buffalo hunt, massacring over 100 Indians, mostly women and children. Smith, his Cheyenne wife, and children were there and his son Jack was killed. Smith later gave testimony before a congressional committee investigating the event, testimony that contradicted Chivington's claims that 500-600 Cheyenne warriors had been killed in the battle.

In 1865, Smith served as interpreter at the Treaty of the Little Arkansas. In that treaty, his surviving children, William and Armama, were each awarded 640 acres of land in the Arkansas River Valley as a "courtesy" by the government. That land was fewer than 10 miles from Bent's Old Fort and the Santa Fe Trail crossed it. After the Treaty of the Little Arkansas, Smith moved with his family to the Cheyenne Reservation in Oklahoma where he died in 1871.

During his lifetime, **Thomas (Tom) Tate Tobin** was renowned as the bounty hunter who tracked down and single-handedly killed the notorious Espinosa brothers who



THOMAS  
TATE TOBIN

murdered over 30 Anglos in Colorado and New Mexico, allegedly in retaliation for relatives killed in the Mexican-American War. After numerous failed expeditions by posses and Army troops, Tobin, who was known for his scouting and tracking skills, was hired and succeeded in killing the men. However, Tobin was much more than a skilled tracker and bounty hunter. Tobin was born in 1823 in Saint Louis to Bartholomew and Sarah Autobees Tobin. His half-brother was the famous frontiersman Charles Autobees. In 1837, at the age of 14, Tobin left Saint

Louis with Autobees and Ceran St. Vrain and traveled along the Santa Fe Trail with supplies destined for Simon Turley's whiskey distillery in Arroyo Hondo, New Mexico. Between 1837 and 1847 Tobin worked at Turley's distillery, made numerous trips along the Taos and Santa Fe Trails in the employ of Turley and the Bent St. Vrain Company, trapped, scouted for the Army, and farmed. He was friends with the Bents, Kit Carson and Wild Bill Hickock.

In 1847, Tobin was working at Turley's distillery when the Pueblo Indian revolt erupted. The mill was attacked and Tobin was one of only two men who managed to escape. Arriving in Taos, he and his brother Charles joined the militia led by Ceran St. Vrain that successfully defeated the insurrectionists.

That same year he and his wife Pascuala began farming along the San Carlos River near the settlement of El Pueblo in southeastern Colorado. His crops were sold to Lt. Col. William Gilpin's troops who were camped near Bent's Fort.

Tobin farmed and ranched and served as an occasional guide and scout for the Army. His frontier skills and knowledge were said to rival Kit Carson's. His relationship with the Carsons took an odd twist in 1888 when he was shot and stabbed by Billy Carson, Kit's son, who was married to Tobin's daughter Pascualita. Tobin had confronted Carson after he beat Pascualita and in the altercation Carson beat and shot the elderly Tobin. Although seriously wounded and expected to die, Tobin recovered to live another 16 years. (Carson died in 1889 of lockjaw after accidentally shooting himself in the leg.) Tobin's final years were lived in near poverty on his ranch near Fort Garland, Colorado, trying to collect pensions and old government debts for services performed, including the killing of the Espinosa brothers. Few funds were ever collected. He died May 15, 1904, and is buried near Fort Garland.



## Chapter Reports

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

### Missouri River Outfitters

President Larry Short

3930 S Jackson Drive #106, Independence, MO 64057

816-835-4397 ♦ ldshort@comcast.net

Progress continues on the Salem Park Kiosk and a design has been selected that will complement the park area at Hwy. 24 and Blue Mills Road in eastern Independence, Missouri. Currently Ross Marshall and Craig Crease are completing the site panel wording and pictures. The east panel will include sites east of the location including Fort Osage and Lexington. Sites to the west will include the Upper Independence/Wayne City Landing, McCoy Park, the Independence Square, and the National Frontier Trails Museum. Also located in the open air kiosk will be the DAR Santa Fe Trail marker and an interpretive panel placed by the Civil War Roundtable relating the story of the Civil War Battle of the Little Blue.

A major move is being made in the Kansas City metro area to expand the 3 Trails Corridor Partnership group (Santa Fe, Oregon, and California Trails) which now includes representatives from SFTA, MRO, OCTA, Trails Head Chapter, KCAHTA, New Santa Fe Historical Society, Trailside Center, Cerner Corp., KCMO Public Works, officials of the cities of Sugar Creek, Independence, Raytown and Kansas City, Jackson County Parks and Recreation, the Kansas City Parks Department, and many other local groups interested in the preservation, interpretation and signage along the 40-mile corridor from Sugar Creek to west of Gardner Junction. This is an expansion of the original 3 Trails CID started by Lou Schumacher and currently being led by his son Lou Austin. The National Park Service is taking a leadership role in the development of a comprehensive plan for a pedestrian/bike trail. There are many miles of current greenways in near proximity to the National Historic Trails that will be marked with NPS signs. The partnership of all of these various groups will be united as one voice. Our initial meeting was held on March 21, 2015, at the National Frontier Trails Museum in Independence.

MRO and the Trails Head Chapter of OCTA held a joint meeting on March 28. It is our goal to hold more joint meetings in the coming years. With all three of the National Historic Trails traversing our coverage area, we feel that by working together we can achieve so much more. This is particularly evident in the sharing of the costs of the local tour route signs that run from the Upper Independence/Wayne City Landing all of the way to Gardner Junction.

MRO and the Trails Head Chapter of OCTA are sponsoring a bus tour following the Santa Fe Trail from Franklin, Missouri, to Independence, Missouri, on Tuesday, May 12. See details in article on page 6 of this issue.

A joint meeting between the MRO Chapter of SFTA, the Trails Head Chapter of OCTA, and the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association (KCAHTA) will be held on Saturday, August 29, at the Trailside Center in south Kansas City.

### Douglas County

President Roger Boyd

PO Box 379, Baldwin City KS 66006

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Douglas County Chapter had their annual potluck on a snowy night, February 28, and still had a crowd of 24 who were able to make it. Our chapter is working with the NPS office to finalize their plan for 48 signs. We also have a Local Tour committee that is developing a brochure which will guide visitors to the local historical sites in southern Douglas County. This will tie into the tour we have planned for the 2017 Symposium. We have been successful in erecting two more information signs, one at the Simmons home and the other at Andrew T. Still home. Our chapter has also taken over management of the Clearfield Rural School House which was recently placed on the National Register of Historic Places. We are developing grant proposals for renovations on several buildings in Baldwin: Santa Fe Depot (built in 1906) and the Palmyra Post Office/Blood's General Store (built in 1857 but moved several times to its current location next to Old Castle Museum).

### Heart of the Flint Hills

President Sharon Haun

704 Hockaday Street, Council Grove, KS 66846

khaun@tctelco.net

The Terwilliger/Rawlinson House in Council Grove (CG) has been certified by NPS as an official site on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. A ceremony was held recently with local officials and newspaper coverage to mark the event.

The Santa Fe Trail ran directly in front of the house. This was the last house Santa Fe freighters passed leaving Council Grove as late as 1863. Present research indicates that it is the third oldest residence remaining in Council Grove, and the fourth oldest remaining residence located directly on the Santa Fe Trail in Kansas. Today, it houses the Trail Days Café, a museum with historical food and museum exhibits.

Eleven SFT site marker signs are about to go into place in Council Grove, with the help of the NPS and SFTA who purchased the signs and got them to CG, and the city, which is purchasing the posts and placing the signs. Next step in the sign project is directional signs for CG, and trail marker signs in the Heart of the Flint Hills (HOTFH) counties.

Recent work by the city-appointed Historic Sites Committee includes two trail sites. Considerable structural work has been completed on the Council Oak canopy, making it look cared for and visitor friendly. Access to Hermit's Cave has been unfriendly. The committee has obtained architectural drawings for ADA access to the site, and contracted with Brenda Spencer to write the nomination for listing on the National Historic Site list. The cave has been accepted to the state register, and we are awaiting word that it has been accepted on the national register. Hopefully, with that designation, the city will be able to obtain some historic preservation grants to continue the work. Brenda Spencer will present a program on the Hermit's Cave, and the new research she uncovered, to the HOTFHs group later this spring.

## SFTA Annual Membership January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Life \$1000, 1 time or 3 installments  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Patron \$100/year  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Family \$40/year  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Individual \$35/year  
☐ Business \$50/year ☐ Institutional \$50/year ☐ Youth (18 and under) \$5/year  
☐ **New member** ☐ **Renewing member**

I am a member of the following chapter \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to make a donation to assist the SFTA with programs and events.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to donate to the Leo E. Oliva Scholarly Research Fund.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to donate to the Marker Fund.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To pay by credit card, go to [www.santafetrail.org](http://www.santafetrail.org), and click on "Join the Organization."

The Santa Fe Trail Association is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt corporation, and all donations beyond membership dues are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Santa Fe Trail Association**

**Mail to Ruth Olson Peters, Treasurer, Santa Fe Trail Center, 1340 K-156, Larned, KS 67550**

**Renew by mailing the above form or renew online at [www.santafetrail.org](http://www.santafetrail.org)**

If you have renewed your membership, pass the form along to a friend or colleague.

### Chapter Reports, *Continued*

A summer program will be Kittie Frank doing a first-person interpretation of Kittie Hayes at the last home of Seth Hays, a SFT Historic Site. Seth, a bachelor, adopted Kittie, and she inherited his property.

And finally, an auto tour of trail sites in Lyon County is planned for this fall. Final dates will be listed on the SFTA email newsletter.

#### **Cottonwood Crossing**

President Steve Schmidt

1120 Cobblestone Court, McPherson KS 67460

620-245-0715 ♦ [wfordok@yahoo.com](mailto:wfordok@yahoo.com)

Programs for 2015 Chapter meetings will be at 7:00 p.m. at the Goessel Kansas Community Center and will include:

- May 28 -Mark Berry will present his program "Army of the West and Doniphan's expedition: an account of the journey down the Trail to Santa Fe as a volunteer soldier."
- July 23 - Dr. Don Blakeslee, professor of anthropology from Wichita State University, will present his program "Kansas BC."
- October 22- John Sharp, professor of history at Hesston College, will present a program on the orphan trains and their impact on central Kansas.

Projects identified for 2015 include:

- Repaint line work and lettering on the stone marker at the McPherson/Marion county line.
- Install site identification signs and the historic interpretive panel at French Frank's.
- Inspect/inventory the Local Tour and Crosses Here signs, and repair/replace any that have been damaged over the

winter.

- Need to replace the deteriorated literature boxes. The new ones furnished by SFTA are too big and not practical for our brochures. Brian will see what he can come up with.

Approximately 2/10s of a mile of SFT ruts in a pasture NE of the town of Lost Springs were recently plowed up and the pasture converted to a wheat field. Doug Sharp is working with a chapter member who is a former county FSA director to institute a program to identify existing SFT remnants and the associated landowners, and then contact the landowners to educate them about the SFT and encourage them to preserve their remnants. Maybe this would have prevented the loss of ruts NE of Lost Spring, maybe not. But it might save some other ruts in the future.

#### **Quivira**

President Linda Colle

724 Penn Drive, McPherson KS 67460

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The Quivira Chapter and the McPherson Museum hosted the dedication of the McPherson kiosk and the Quivira Chapter Auto Tour on Sunday, April 12. Approximately 75 people enjoyed a wagon train lunch catered by Knackies BBQ with music provided by the bluegrass band Dan Bruce and Friends. After lunch, Quivira Chapter President Linda Colle welcomed over 100 people and introduced our partners in the project, the National Park Service. Representing the NPS National Trails Intermountain Region were Superintendent Aaron Mahr, Chief of Interpretation Carole Wendler, and Interpretive Specialist Carol Clark who worked with the chapter to design

the signs. Brett Whitenack, Curator/ Director of Operations for the McPherson Museum and Arts Foundation, welcomed the group.

Association Manager Joanne VanCoevern spoke on behalf of the Santa Fe Trail Association and emphasized the importance of the chapters and their work on the Trail. Joanne also set up and coordinated a Geocache event in conjunction with the dedication event, which brought in more than a dozen additional attendees. A drawing was held for prizes for the people participated in the Geocache event.

President Linda Colle thanked the following people and groups for making the projects possible:

- Sign installers Britt Colle, McPherson kiosk sign; Duane Johnson and Tony Renollet, Quivira Chapter Auto Tour sign in Rice County; and Linda Andersen and Galva Historical Society, Running Turkey Creek sign
- Steve Schmidt and the Cottonwood Chapter – Funding for the McPherson kiosk
- Eagle Scouts Ethan Grennan, Joseph and Jaxon Jumonville, for the Quivira Auto Tour Project; future Eagle Scout Jayden Thanel for installation of site specific signs; and Matt Duncan and Troop 683, maintenance of the Quivira Auto Tour
- Carol Clark for her help in designing the sign panels; Quivira Chapter member Brian Martin who designed the map on the Road Ranch panel.

Greg and Joanne VanCoevern provided a wagon and artifacts for viewing. At 2:00 p.m Dr. Michael Olsen presented a talk, "Oh for a Tree! Gold Rush Emigrants on the Santa Fe Trail."

Anna Ruxlow, Executive Director McPherson Museum and Arts Foundation, provided closing remarks. The event was a great success and the Quivira Chapter looks forward to future activities with the McPherson Museum.

### Wet/Dry Routes

Dr. David Clapsaddle  
215 Mann, Larned KS 67550  
620-285-3295 ♦ adsaddle@cox.net

Forty-five members and guests attended the spring meeting of the chapter on April 18, with Becca Hiller and Linda Revello as hosts, assisted by the Larned Santa Fe Trail Center staff. Following the 1:00 p.m. luncheon of beefy stew and home-made pie, a short business meeting was conducted. Current rosters were distributed, and several members who repaired various area markers which had been vandalized were thanked.

Officers for the 2015 year are: Dr. David Clapsaddle of Larned, president and program chair; Rosetta Graff of Kinsley, vice president; and Diane Dodez of Larned, secretary/treasurer. Rosters of the chapter are available from Alice Clapsaddle, membership chair, at adsaddle@cox.net. Chapter memorabilia may be sent to Carolyn Churchill of Larned, historian.

Dr. Leo Oliva presented the program, "Susan Shelby Magoffin and Her Literary Sisters Who Wrote on the Santa Fe Trail" featuring Susan Shelby Magoffin, Marion Sloan Russell, Katherine (Katie) Bowen, and Julie Archibald Holmes. Following the program, the chapter voted to erect a large interpretive marker at the site of the Ash Creek Crossing of the Santa Fe Trail with the dedication to be held at the 2016 Rendezvous in

Larned. The summer meeting will be held at the crossing, time and date to be announced, and will be the favorite ice cream social.

### Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron

President Bill Bunyan  
PO Box 1656, Dodge City KS 67801  
620-227-8203 ♦ dchawk38@gmail.com

It has been a busy time for our chapter since Rendezvous. We dedicated the Fort Hays/Fort Dodge sign on Highway 283, north of Dodge City. The sign was paid for by the Wayne Strodtman Memorial Fund. Wayne was the father of chapter vice-president Mike Strodtman. Prior to the dedication, Dr. Oliva spoke to our chapter about the military road. At Rendezvous our chapter and president were honored for working to save as much as possible of Point of Rocks just west of Dodge City.

Our Christmas party at Boot Hill was held with the Great Western Cattle Trail chapter and everyone enjoyed the Christmas cheer. The winter meeting had National Association Manager Joanne VanCoevern as our speaker, who talked about Geo-Caching on the Trail and how successful it has been. We have five sites in our area.

Our south highway 283 sign is in the works. One side will explain about the lower crossing of the trail and also about the Fort Dodge- Fort Supply road. The text will be written by Dr. Oliva. The other side will be about the Great Western Cattle Trail and other trails to Dodge City. Gary Kraisinger, the authority on the Great Western, is writing the text.

Our spring meeting will be held May 3 and hopefully will be about mules and their use on the trail. The summer meeting will be September 13 and Gary Kraisinger will tell us about the Great Western Trail. This is important to our chapter area since the Great Western and Chisholm Cattle Trails are in the processes of becoming part of the National Park System's Historic Trails Division. After our dinner meeting we will journey 10 miles south to dedicate the new sign for the Lower Crossing-Fort Dodge-Fort Supply Road and the Great Western Trail.

We are planning a joint booth at the 3-I Show with the Great Western Kansas Chapter to promote our organizations. Also in the works is a joint float with the Great Western in the Dodge City Days parade.

### Wagon Bed Spring

President Jeff Trotman  
PO Box 1005, Ulysses KS 67880  
620-356-1854 ♦ swpb@pld.com

### Cimarron Cutoff

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

Fourteen members and guests attended the fall chapter meeting that was held in Boise City, Oklahoma, at the Cimarron Heritage Center. The group met for their meal and business meeting in the Museum Veterans Chapel. The weather did not

cooperate for their trip on the Trail. Some of the group went to Autograph Rock following the meal and meeting. Others toured the Museum.

The spring meeting was held in Elkhart, Kansas, on March 21, with Leo Oliva doing a program on "The Santa Fe Trail and the Civil War."

141 fifth grade students from Elkhart, Rolla, Yarbrough, and Hugoton attended the OWLS classroom at Middle Spring on the Cimarron National Grassland. Most students liked the Santa Fe Trail stop the best. The MCHS Museum had a table of artifacts taken from the SFT Trunk, and Lance Brown, CNG District Ranger, and his sidekick Travis portrayed two bullwackers traveling the Trail and told the children about their journey and camp. All students and teachers received a packet of Trail food and the students got a kit to build a fort. These items were paid for from the education grant received by the chapter. A box of fort kits was sent to the Clayton Museum as well.

A program about the marking of the Santa Fe Trail by the DAR was held November 8 at the Morton County Historical Museum in the Santa Fe Trail Room. It began with a period meal followed by the program presented by Shirley Coupal. Forty people attended the event.

Both the Boise City Museum and the Elkhart Museum joined other area museums in Guymon, Oklahoma, with displays of their museums as well as a Cimarron Cutoff Chapter display at the Michael Martin Murphy concert held on October 25. 775 people attended the event with many of them stopping to pick up information.

### **Bent's Fort**

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

The Bent's Fort Chapter annual meeting was held in January. Chapter member Tony Juarez gave a presentation on his 4x-grandfather Don Antonio Jose Chávez, a prominent trader and rancher in New Mexico, who was murdered along the Santa Fe Trail in 1843.

A really new and innovative event was held in February, "Love to Read Along the Santa Fe Trail." Mike Olsen moderated a panel discussion on "Books I Have Read and Recommend about the history of the Santa Fe Trail" and/or historical events surrounding the Trail and those who traveled along it. The four panelists reviewed several of their favorite books. Then everyone enjoyed trading and lending books.

In March, the chapter enjoyed a geocaching day. As many of our members are not familiar with geocaching, this proved to be a fun day learning how to find geocaches using today's new technology. As we traveled from one geocache to another, we filled the caches and maintained them.

Each year in April, the chapter cleans and maintains Boggsville. Boggsville is very important to the history of Southeastern Colorado and the Santa Fe Trail.

May 9 the chapter will visit many interesting sites in Trinidad, Colorado. June 13 we will visit the Beatty Ranch. We would

love to have you join us if you are able.

Thanks to Charlie Hutton and Jerry Campbell, eight Santa Fe Trail Crossing signs are now ready to be erected in Bent County. Pat Palmer and a Boy Scout troop will install Santa Fe Trail Crossing signs in Prowers County.

### **Corazon de los Caminos**

President Dennis Schneider  
828 South Euclid Ave., Cimarron, NM 87714  
575-376-2527 ♦ schneidermusic@q.com

The chapter met on January 10 and mapped out our desired events for the year. We try to have a backup plan for each activity if speakers or weather causes the original plan not to materialize.

Our annual spring business meeting was held on March 14. Dominic Gonzales-Montoya was our guest speaker, telling us about the Ocate trails and area history. The chapter has purchased an outdoor bench to be installed at the Whittington Center wayside exhibit. We are awaiting the production of a recognition plaque to be placed on the bench.

May 9 - unconfirmed trip.

June 13- Steve Schmidt speaking on the Sibley trails and surveys at Cimarron High School, Cimarron, New Mexico. Public is invited. Backup: Tour Point of Rocks area.

July 11- Tour Ocate crossing and trail north on UU Bar Express (limit of 30 people- contact Dennis Schneider 575/376-2527) Backup: Historical Las Vegas, New Mexico.

August 8 - Metcalf Station on Philmont Scout Ranch (Limit of 11 people - Contact Dennis Schneider) This is not directly related to the trail and is scheduled for area interest. Philmont uses 4WD vehicles to transport. Backup in case of rain: tour Cimarron Cita Ranch, Ute Park, New Mexico.

September - Symposiums - Santa Fe and Bent's Fort

October- Author and speaker at CCHP in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Unconfirmed. Backup: Rough Riders museum

November 14- Fall business meeting at the St. James Hotel in Cimarron, N. M. Guest speaker is author and historian Stephen Zimmer. Backup: Chase Ranch house.

### **End of the Trail**

President Joy Poole  
125 Lupita Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505  
505-820-7828 ♦ amusejoy@msn.com

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### ***In Memoriam***

Teresa Pickett of Los Alamos died January 28. She and her husband Walter, who survives her, are remembered for their care of the D.A.R. markers along the Santa Fe Trail in New Mexico. They cut weeds, cleared away trash, and planted wildflowers near the stone monuments. She is sorely missed by all the Trail people.

Submitted: Inez Ross, SFTA Life Member, EoT Chapter

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Albuquerque, NM 87122  
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## CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## EVENTS

**May 3: Council Grove, KS.** Kaw Mission. "The Kanza Language: Then and Now," Justin McBride

**May 7: Clarksville, TX.** Becknell cemetery ceremony

**May 9: Trinidad, CO.** Bent's Fort Chapter

**May 9:** Corazon de los Caminos Chapter

**May 12: Franklin, MO.** Bus Tour

**May 14-17: SE Colorado.** Bent on Birding

**May 19:** Interpretive Writing Workshop

**May 28: Goessel, KS.** Cottonwood Crossing Chapter. "Army of the West"

**June 1:** Fur Trade Symposium scholarship applications due

**June 13: Colorado.** Bent's Fort Chapter. Beatty Ranch

**June 13: Cimarron, NM.** Corazon de los Caminos Chapter. "Sibley Survey"

**June 27-July 1: Franklin, TN.** PNTS conference

**July 10:** Submission deadline for August *Wagon Tracks*.

**July 10:** Corazon de los Caminos Chapter. UU Bar Ranch

**July 15:** SFTA Award nominations due

**July 23: Goessel, KS.** Cottonwood Crossing Chapter. "Kansas BC"

**May 10-September 7: La Junta, CO.** Trails and Rails trips on Amtrak Southwest Chief. 719-383-5024.

**September 16: Santa Fe, NM.** SFTA Board of Directors meeting

**September 17-20: Santa Fe, NM.** 2015 conference with Old Spanish Trail and CARTA

**September 23-26: Bent's Old Fort NHS.** National Fur Trade Symposium. [www.2015fts.org](http://www.2015fts.org)

**June 17-20, 2016: Las Vegas, NM.** Santa Fe Trail Travelers and Their Descendants. sponsored by Doyle Daves

**September 16-17, 2016: Council Grove.** Voice of the Wind People

**September 22-24, 2016: Larned, KS.** 2016 Rendezvous

**September 28-30, 2017: Olathe, KS.** Symposium