

Wagon Tracks

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Article 1

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Wagon Tracks. Volume 26, Issue 2 (February, 2012)

Santa Fe Trail Association

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Santa Fe Trail Association Quarterly

WAGON TRACKS

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February 2012

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Wagons Ho! Trail Transportation through Time *Bent's Fort Gathers Wagons on May 11-13*



Dearborn Wagon, built by Doug Hansen for Bent's Old Fort NHS. (Photo: Hansen)

Six associations will join forces to hold a special weekend at Bent's Fort, Colorado, on May 11-13, featuring displays, demonstrations, and presentations about wagons. Visitors will have the opportunity to see wagons in action on Saturday and walk the prairie beside the wagons on Sunday. Presentations and demonstrations about wagons will be held both days.

The event, "Wagons Ho! Trail Transportation through Time" is hosted by Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site and the Bent's Fort Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association. The cost for attending the event is the admission to the site, which is \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for ages 6-12 and under 6 is free. Admission with a Senior or Annual Parks Pass is free. The Park will be open to visitors from 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday; 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The Koshare Museum charges a \$10 adult, \$5 child fee for their dance exhibition Saturday evening.

Organizations that are participating include the Santa Fe Trail Association, Cherokee
Read more on page 6

Rendezvous 2012

"Santa Fe Trail Characters – Rendezvous on the Road"

Planning for Rendezvous 2012, September 20-22 in Larned, Kansas, is in full swing. Representatives from the three co-sponsoring organizations – the Santa Fe Trail Center, Fort Larned National Historic Site, and the Santa Fe Trail Association – have chosen the theme for this year's Rendezvous: "Santa Fe Trail Characters – Rendezvous on the Road." The format will be a little different than past years as several of the programs and presentations will be given on the road during the Friday and Saturday afternoon bus tours. Don't worry...seating, restrooms, and refreshments will be provided at the stops.

After Thursday evening's opening event at the Santa Fe Trail Center, we'll meet at the Larned Community Center Friday morning for first person portrayals of William Becknell, Julia Archibald Holmes, and Pedro Sandoval.

These Santa Fe Trail characters will be portrayed by Allan Wheeler, Dr. Ann Birney, and Dr. David Sandoval, respectively. Afterwards, a panel session will give the



Allan Wheeler as William Becknell

Read more on page 10



President Roger Slusher

(Photo: Rich Lawson)

President's Column: Reaching Out to Grow

It's no secret that the Association needs to grow if we are to continue our mission of preserving the Trail and its history at an effective level. We have already taken major steps by revitalizing our website (santafetrail.org) and Wagon Tracks. Also, Larry Justice and the membership committee are sending out targeted letters and looking at other ways to get new members.

However, every member, chapter, committee, and officer needs to give this effort serious thought and support. To that end the Board has just passed two proposals.

The first supported the End of the Trail Chapter in arranging a joint Symposium in 2015 with the Old Spanish Trail

Association (OSTA) and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (CARTA) trail organizations. This is a great way to get acquainted with other trail lovers and to learn how the trails connected in the Southwest. In a similar effort, the MRO Chapter will soon be having a joint meeting with the newly formed Boone's Lick Road Association to discuss how the Santa Fe Trail connected to St. Louis.

The second proposal authorized the Association to spend up to \$500 for fees and associated expenses to participate in the Kansas Sampler Festival to be held in Liberal on May 5-6. This will be a great chance for Joanne and some SFTA volunteers to spread the word about our activities to folks from all over Kansas.

In a related action, I'll soon be forming a new committee to be known as the Outreach Committee. This group will look at tourism opportunities and other ways beyond our website and publications to get more people interested in traveling and studying the Santa Fe Trail. I have some thoughts of possible members, but if you're interested please contact me at rslusher@yahoo.com or 660-259-2900. Fortunately, we'll have Mike Pitel, who is currently our publicity coordinator, to advise us; Mike has a great background in New Mexico tourism.

Please give some thought to how we can reach out and grow. All the best in 2012!

Roger

Letter to the Editor

I am a former grant recipient from the SFTA (2005). I don't know if you guys track these things, but in case so, I'm attaching a copy of an article I recently published that resulted from research funded by that grant. ["Zebulon Pike and His 'Frozen Lads': Bodies, Nationalism, and the West in the Early Republic," *The Western Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 42, No. 1 (SPRING 2011), pp. 55-75, Utah State University on behalf of The Western History Association]. In addition, I have a contract with Oxford University Press, to which I recently submitted a book manuscript, *Zebulon Pike: An Environmental Biography of a Citizen Soldier*, for peer review. If all goes well, I'll revise it this summer and submit the final draft by September 1.

Thank you to the SFTA for supporting the research that led to this article and to the book manuscript.

Jared Orsi, Associate Professor, Department of History, Colorado State University

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Joanne's Jottings

by Joanne VanCoevern, Association Manager

How can similar organizations work together and pool our resources? With falling memberships, how can we ensure that our organizations will stay viable? How can we learn more about similar organizations? These are just a few of the questions that have prompted the first of, hopefully, many multi-organization gatherings.

I'm happy to announce that a number of organizations are joining together at Bent's Fort May 11-13 to present a weekend focused on wagons. In case you missed it, information is on the front page of this issue. Looking to the future, SFTA will be part of a joint symposium hosted by the End of the Trail Chapter in 2015, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The board of directors of the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro have already voted to join us and the Old Spanish Trail Association will vote on the joint meeting soon. This August, the Oregon California Trails Association is having their conference in Lawrence, KS. Some of their focus will be on the Trail that we share with them through the Kansas City area to the Gardner Junction. SFTA will set up an exhibit in the vendors area and we hope many of our members will participate in this event as well. SFTA is also cooperating with Scenic Byways and Kansas Sampler to determine projects that are beneficial to both parties. NPS, SFTA, and Colorado Byways are looking at ways to work together on Santa Fe Trail signage projects, not only to coordinate our marking efforts, but also to make the funding go farther. The coordination and sharing that is involved in making these joint events happen is a good way to share resources and helps to make each organization stronger.

Our own organization and chapters have a lot going on. Following are just a few of the activities happening within SFTA.

- Upcoming Board Meeting

The spring SFTA Board of Directors meeting will be held in Ulysses, Kansas, April 20-21. Sue Stringer, KDOT Local Byway Liaison, and Scott Shields, KDOT State Byway Coordinator, will get the meeting going with information about the Kansas Byways Program's new designation of "Historical Byway" and what is involved with receiving that designation. Along with the regular Board Meeting, NPS staff and SFTA will begin work on strategic planning for the next few years. There will also be a special mini-workshop on publicity and time scheduled for committee work. The general membership is welcome to attend.

- New Signs

Three chapters have received signs, thanks to our Cooperative Funding Agreement with the NPS. New signs will be appearing in the area of the Cottonwood Crossing Chapter, Wagonbed Springs Chapter (Grant County) and Bent's Fort Chapter (Otero County). There has also been new signage in Santa Fe and in Cimarron and Las Vegas, NM. Jeff Trotman, mapping/marketing chair, is scheduled to provide information to the Douglas County Chapter and the Dodge City Chapter as well. Joanne has been in discussions with interested parties in Council Grove and we hope to have the interpretive displays replaced there, and perhaps begin a sign plan for that area. These signs, which display the Santa Fe Trail National Historic Trail logo, are designed to bring public recognition to chapter's local tours and sites, and mark where the Santa Fe Trail crosses a modern road.

- Financial Assistance Available for Chapters

All chapters are reminded that financial assistance is available for speakers and education projects. If you have not done so, please contact the Association Manager with your requests for assistance. All chapters can receive up to \$250 for speakers and \$500 for education projects. Requests for reimbursements must be in by September 1, 2012.

- Kansas Sampler

On February 4-5, your Association Manager will attend the "Big Rural Brainstorm" hosted by the Kansas Sampler in Newton, Kansas. This event is intended to bring together a very wide variety of people from all across the state of Kansas with the common goal of how to improve life in rural Kansas. I've been asked to attend to emphasize that the Trails, especially the Santa Fe Trail, pass through many of these communities, and how communities can use the Trail to increase local activity, tourism, and bring attention to historic sites in their area.

Joanne

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Membership Categories

Life:\$1,000 Patron:\$100/year Business:\$50/year Nonprofit:\$40/year Family:\$30/year Individual:\$25/year
Youth,18 & under:\$15/year Dues are per calendar year. Make checks payable to the Santa Fe Trail Association, send to treasurer.

Visit us on the web at www.santafetrail.org

SFTA Call for Speakers

The SFTA Speakers' Bureau Committee requests that all previous and prospective presenters submit an updated description of their program(s), a recent bio, and a picture. The aforementioned will be used to provide chapters with more information for promotion once a chapter has booked a presentation. Information may be sent to annemallinson@gmail.com.

The SFTA Speakers' Bureau is fortunate to have had many fine speakers in the past but it is time to refresh information on the website.

Anne Mallinson, chair, Mike Dickey, committee member

2012 OCTA Convention Scheduled for August 6-11

The 2012 Oregon-California Trails Association annual convention---Trails, Tribes and Territories---will be held at Lawrence, Kansas, August 6-11, with bus tours on August 6, 7 and 11. Lawrence is located just off I-70 about 25 miles west of greater Kansas City. Registration information will be available about April 1. Check for periodic updates at [www.OCTA-Trails/Chapters/Trails Head](http://www.OCTA-Trails/Chapters/TrailsHead).

Hays House Reopens After Fire

The historic Hays House restaurant in Council Grove was damaged by a fire on December 14, 2011. The fire destroyed the kitchen and caused extensive smoke damage to both levels of the structure. No damage was done to the outside of the structure, except for the vents on the roof.

The Hays House was opened on the Santa Fe Trail in 1857 by Seth M. Hays, the grandson of Daniel Boone. Its customers have included Jesse James and George Armstrong Custer. It is considered to be the oldest continuously operating restaurant west of the Mississippi.

The restaurant plans to reopen around February 14, 2012. The Hays House Bakery is open for business two blocks west of the Hays House location.

BLM Names Juen NM State Director

The Bureau of Land Management announced the appointment of Jesse Juen, Associate New Mexico State Director, as State Director for the more than 13.4 million acres of public lands and 26 million acres of federal oil, natural gas, and minerals where about 855 employees work in New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. Juen replaces Linda Rundell, who recently retired. Juen has served as Associate State Director in New Mexico since 2003.

American Trails On-line Features SFTA

See the article featuring SFTA on-line at www.americantrails.org/resources/long/Santa-Fe-Trail-Association.html

Sara Jane Richter Announces Book Release

The Oklahoma Panhandle by Sara Jane Richter is a pictorial history of the Oklahoma Panhandle with prose captions and chapter introductions. Arcadia Publishing (www.arcadiapublishing.com) from South Carolina asked Richter last fall if she would like to write a book about the Panhandle, and she jumped at the chance. Richter is the secretary of the Santa Fe Trail Association Board of Directors and serves as the dean of the School of Liberal Arts and professor of English at Oklahoma Panhandle State University in Goodwell, in the heart of the Oklahoma Panhandle.

New Franklin Monument Proposed

We have been diligent in our work for the Santa Fe Trail monument at the highway crossing in New Franklin. We have currently raised \$25,000 through donations and have received a Transportation Enhancement Grant through the Federal government and MoDot for \$114,000 in conjunction with the city of New Franklin. Additional grant money may be needed due to the necessity of hiring an engineer. We have had to ask for an extension of the grant, which was granted for one year.

This is quite an undertaking for a small town of 1,200 people. We have scheduled a music show for March 10 at the Isle of Capri to raise some additional funds. For more information, contact Sue Thompson, Monument Chair, New Franklin, MO 65274, (660) 848-2880.

Sue Thompson

NPS Studies Butterfield Overland Trail

The National Park Service is conducting a special resource study and environmental assessment to evaluate the feasibility and suitability of designating the Butterfield Overland Trail as a national historic trail. The study addresses routes that span eight states and over 2,800 miles.

What became known as the Butterfield Overland Mail began from two eastern termini on the Mississippi River at St. Louis, Missouri and Memphis, Tennessee and followed a southerly course through Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona before running north to its western terminus in San Francisco, California. The trails arcing sweep across the southern rim of the country gave it another name; the Oxbow Route.

The National Park Service will hold public scoping meetings to identify alternatives for how the American people want to protect and develop the historic route and events associated with it. For further information or to learn the meeting schedule, visit <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/butterfieldsrs> or call Roger Slusher at 660-259-2900.

Partnership for the National Trails System

Ross Marshall, SFTA Representative to PNTS

FY2012 Appropriations – There is a Santa Claus after all! Just before the Christmas recess, Congress passed and the President signed an omnibus appropriations bill. Finally, after a couple of years, we will not be existing on continuing resolutions – at least until October 1 when the FY2012 year ends. I don't know all the details on this date in early January, but it appears that National Park Service funding, including the National Trails System, is relatively unchanged – which of course includes the SFT. However, from what I know, the Challenge Cost Share Program remains in limbo. But overall a pretty positive report – finally!

2012 Trails Advocacy Week in Washington D.C. – Plans have been finalized for this very important annual event, which will be February 11-16. Registration information is available at www.pnts.org/news-and-events. This is our annual combined National Trails System initiative to call on Congress members to share both what we are doing and what our needs are for not only appropriations, but legislation as well. We also meet with congressional appropriations sub-committees, national offices of our various agencies including NPS, administration branch committees, and just share information and encouragement with each other as we come and speak with one voice to our national leaders. It should be a much more encouraging atmosphere and less chaotic, with FY2012 funding in place, than we have had the last couple of years.

2012 National Historic Trails Workshop – This biannual workshop, sponsored by PNTS, will be May 15-18 in Socorro, NM., hosted by the El Camino de Tierra Adentro Association (CARTA). Registration information will be complete soon and will be accessible at www.pnts.org.

The tracks will be:

1. Preservation of segments and sites: Identification; Certification; National Register Nomination Process; working with land owners, managers, agencies, developers; protection, monitoring and stewardship.
2. Building a Constituency: Membership, volunteers, how social media can benefit non-profits.

I hope some of you can go to this event which gives support groups such as SFTA an opportunity to meet with other trails groups and federal and state agencies to share information and gain insights about available resources.

Volunteer Manhours and Dollar Contributions – At this writing, chapter presidents, committee chairs, board and officers are sending lots of reports in for 2011. I appreciate your response to this very important issue so that we can have an impressive presentation to Congress. SFTA totals alone, for 2010, were over 60,000 volunteer manhours and \$1,406,000 in donations!

Thanks for your support for PNTS as we work very hard to support the Santa Fe National Historic Trail and SFTA.

Awards Nominations Due July 1

Nominations are needed for SFTA awards to be presented at the Rendezvous in September. All nominations must be submitted by July 1, 2012. Award categories are listed below. Nominations should include details of why the person, group, or organization should receive the award. No nominations are required for the Marc Simmons Writing Award. Please send nominations to Leo E. Oliva, PO Box 31, Woodston KS 67675 or oliva@ruraltel.net. The awards committee (Leo E. Oliva, Phyllis Morgan, and Roger Slusher) will select recipients from those nominated.

Award Of Merit (maximum of 4 awards)

This award, a recognition plaque, recognizes individuals, businesses, organizations, or groups who have made a significant contribution to the purposes of the SFTA.

Paul F. Bentrup Ambassador Award (1 award)

This award, a recognition plaque, is an honorary lifetime designation given to a member of the SFTA who has demonstrated exceptional promotion of the SFTA, development and dissemination of knowledge of Trail history, preservation of Trail remnants, or who has otherwise promoted an understanding of the Trail.

Louise Barry Writing Award (1 award)

This award is presented for a publication (major article or book) based on research about the Trail. The award includes a recognition plaque and \$100 cash. The recipient need not be a member of SFTA.

Ralph Hathaway Memorial Heritage Preservation Award (1 award)

This award, a recognition plaque, is presented to landowners, lease-holders, or tenants of Trail ruts, remnants, structures, or sites, who have preserved and protected significant portions of the Trail or sites associated with the Trail and provided public access.

Gregory M. Franzwa Memorial Award For Lifetime Achievement (1 award)

This award is presented to a SFTA member for extraordinary lifetime achievement in preservation, protection, and promotion of the historic Santa Fe Trail. This award includes a recognition plaque and \$100 cash.

Marc Simmons Writing Award (1 award)

This award is given for the best article in Wagon Tracks, volume 25, and will be selected by a special committee. No nominations are required.

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

Wagons Ho!

continued from page 1

Trail Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association, the National Stagecoach and Freight Wagon Association, the Smoky Hill Trail Association, the Comanche National Grasslands, and the National Park Service Intermountain Region staff, as well as local wagon enthusiasts.

"Planning for the event is still on-going," says Greg Holt, Bent's Old Fort employee and event coordinator. "For up-to-the-minute information, check our website at www.nps.gov/beol or call us at 719-383-5023." Greg continues, "If you would like to sign up for space to promote your books, artwork, or association, contact us at the park. We have limited indoor space and unlimited outdoor space. There is no charge to set up an exhibit; however, exhibitors may not sell items that are already sold by our bookstore. Give us a call for exhibit details."

When asked about bringing a wagon and/or livestock, Mr. Holt said, "There is no charge for bringing wagons and/or animals. Bent's Fort will provide corral space, hay, and water for livestock, or you can bring your own if you desire." Ranger John Carson will be coordinating that part of the event: to participate, you must contact him at john_carson@nps.gov or 719-383-5023 for registration information.

Friday, May 11, has been set aside for individual organizations to hold meetings or get-togethers, as well as for attendees to set-up at the Fort. In addition, there will be self-guided auto tours to Lamar Big Timbers Transportation Museum, the Broadmoor's El Pomar Carriage Museum, and other local attractions. Set-up for association booths, artists, and authors is all day Friday and Saturday morning by 9 a.m. Wagons can be set up Friday and exhibited through the weekend outside the Fort on the trail to the river. For more information on booths and set-up, see www.nps.gov/beol or call 719-383-5023.

A welcome reception, dinner, and evening program for the groups attending will be held Friday evening, under the stars. Hosts for the event will be the Bent's Fort Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association and the staff of the Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site. This event will begin as soon as Bent's Fort closes to the general public. You will need reservations to attend this opening event. To make those reservations, or to learn more about it, call LaDonna Hutton of the Bent's Fort Chapter at 719-254-7266.

Presentations scheduled for Saturday, May 12 include (tentative):

"Dearborn Wagon Reconstruction from Rumors, Writings and Recollections" by Greg Holt

"Time Line Wagon Walk – A Guided Tour of the Wagons and their Place and Time in History"

"Freighting Artifacts of the Santa Fe Trail" by David Clapsaddle, and

"Harness and Yoke" talk and demonstrations

Living history demonstrations include frontier cooking, trades vignettes, blacksmithing, trapping, animal packing, travois use, cart/wagon hitching, driving and use, and aparejo packing and use. In addition, there will be displays of artifacts, association and NPS information, books, and artwork, and of course, there will be WAGONS! There will be a one-mile demonstration trail for people who want to show their wagons in action. After dinner on their own, participants will reconvene at the Koshare Indian Museum in La Junta at 7:00 p.m. where the Koshare Indian Dancers will perform at the Kiva: there is an admission charge, as stated on page 1.

Sunday is "Santa Fe Trail Caravan Day." This is an opportunity to follow the original Santa Fe Trail through Comanche National Grassland. The general public is invited. Plan to travel/walk the original Santa Fe Trail for at least 7 miles of the trail if conditions are favorable and if not, 3 1/2 miles starting from Sierra Vista. The area is virtually unchanged from the time when caravans rolled by. Wagons that possess original qualities are desired, but not required. Greg Holt says, "We will not be able to give rides to visitors due to liability reasons--they will walk alongside or behind. (A chance to have a true Trail experience.) Shuttle service, restroom facilities, and a water station will be provided. The trip will provide some wonderful photo opportunities. We plan to have wagons of same time periods travel together. We will travel slowly and stop every 15 minutes to allow participants to rest, visit, and ask questions about the wagons and livestock."

If you are unable to walk with the caravan, there will still be spots for fantastic photos. You will also be able to view some of the action from a modern road. We will begin with a yoking and harness demonstration. Learn what the Trail travelers had to do before they could begin their journey. Bring a lunch to enjoy as we rest on the Trail. Upon the arrival of the caravan at Timpas, Mark Gardner will present a program of "Music of the Santa Fe Trail." When available, times and places for the trip will be posted at www.nps.gov/beol.

The Holiday Inn Express, 27994 US Hwy. 50 Frontage Rd., La Junta, CO, has reserved a block of rooms for this weekend. The rate will be \$77 and you need to mention that you are with the "Bent's Fort Group," or "BFG" to get the discounted rate when you call to make reservations at 719-384-2900. We have also been able to get a discounted rate at the Hampton Inn, 27800 US Hwy. 50, (719) 384-4444. Again, just mention "Bent's Fort Group" to get the discounted rate. Other motels in La Junta include: Super 8, (719) 384-4408; American's Best Value Inn and Suites, (719) 384-2571; Travel Inn, (719) 384-2504; Stagecoach Motel, (719) 384-5476; and the Mid-Town Motel, (719) 384-7741.

For more information, contact Greg Holt, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, 35110 Highway 194 E., La Junta, CO, 81050. Phone 719-383-5023. E-mail: greg_holt@nps.gov

The Sibley Expedition: 1825, 1826, and 1827

by L. Stephen (Steve) Schmidt, SFTA Ambassador, and
Richard E. (Rich) Hayden, Engineering Technician

Introduction A study of the Sibley Expedition was performed under a Scholarly Research Grant provided by the Santa Fe Trail Association. The objective of the study was to plot the Sibley Survey on base maps contained in the National Park Service's (NPS) *Santa Fe National Historic Trail, Comprehensive Management and Use Plan, Map Supplement* (May 1990). The maps and the full report can be viewed at <http://www.santafetrail.org/publications/new-research/>

Overview On March 3, 1825, a bill authorizing a road to be surveyed and marked from Missouri to the Mexican settlements (Santa Fe) was signed into law. George C. Sibley emerged as the leader and the driving force behind the survey which became known as the Sibley Expedition. Joseph C. Brown was appointed surveyor for the expedition.

The Sibley Expedition began its survey near Ft. Osage, Missouri, July 17, 1825, and arrived at the Mexican Boundary September 11. There was uncertainty whether they had authorization to continue the survey into Mexico. Finally, on September 22, 1825, Sibley, Brown, and party started for Santa Fe (via what we now call the Cimarron Route), making only cursory notes, with expectation of making a detailed survey on their return trip.

On October 19, after crossing the Canadian River, Sibley decided that the horses would not hold out to Santa Fe, so he decided to go to Taos (San Fernando) instead, arriving there October 30, 1825. After finally receiving authorization from the Mexican Government to complete the survey in Mexico, Sibley, Brown, and party left Taos August 24, 1826, arrived at the Mexican boundary September 16, and at Ft. Osage on October 12.

Then on May 18, 1827, Sibley embarked on the re-survey of the first 160 miles west of Ft. Osage, making corrections to the 1825 survey. On June 10 they reached Diamond Spring and turned around, returning to Ft. Osage July 8. Sibley's final

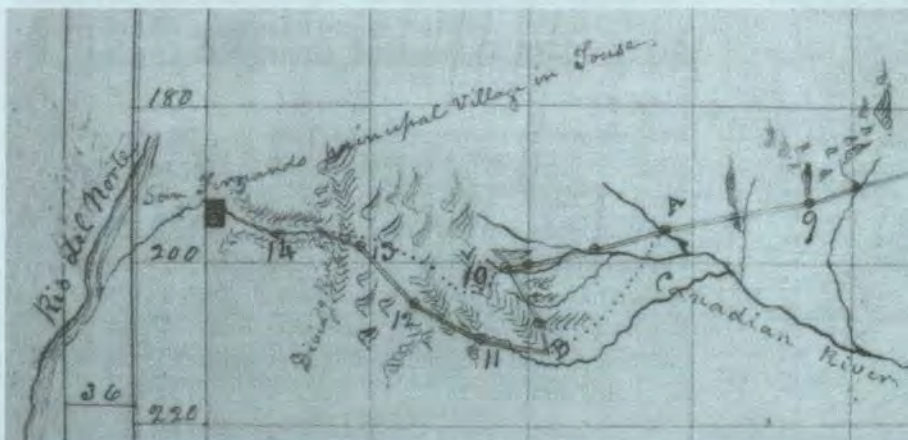
report to the Secretary of the Department of War was signed October 27, 1827.

The Survey Included with the report was a Field Book of the Expedition, with a map of the route on one page, and a corresponding narrative description of the route and compilation of mileages on the facing page. This was not a surveyor's field notebook at all. It was prepared after the expedition in October 1827 and was intended to be simply a guide for travelers. The maps of the survey in the Field Book depict a combination of actual locations of points on the trail in some places, and in other places deviations from the established route that Sibley thought would provide easier or shorter travel. Those maps are plotted on a grid at a scale of 1 inch = 4 miles.

The general surveying procedure was to use a surveyor's chain to measure distances along straight lines and a magnetic compass to determine the direction in which they were going. These measurements were supplemented by astronomical observations using a sextant to determine latitude. Considering the equipment and procedures of the time, the accuracy of the survey is rather astonishing. According to the Field Book, the calculated straight line distance is 645.2 miles from the beginning near Ft. Osage to Taos. Using Google Earth, the straight line distance from the point of commencement to the square at Taos is 650.2 miles. That is a difference of 5 miles in 650.2 miles, an error of 0.77 percent.

Present Study We electronically scanned the Sibley Field Book maps and the NPS maps from the Santa Fe National Historic Trail Management and Use Plan. Then we electronically oriented each Field Book map onto the NPS base map as best we could. We oriented the maps using the location shown on the Field Book maps of stream crossings and landmarks, supplemented by topographic maps and Google Earth terrain photos. We chose to make both the Field Book map and the base map the same scale, and oriented the Field Book map for a "best fit" onto the base map. We chose this approach so that the maps would "speak for themselves;" we chose not to "rubber sheet" the Sibley maps to fit our interpretation of what the survey should have shown.

Because the Sibley survey was plotted on a grid representing square miles, there is a tendency to assume the survey is much more accurate than it actually is. Unlike the later GLO surveys, the Sibley survey has no reference points that can be accurately reproduced on the ground today, and relatively few points that can be approximately located with any degree of certainty. In addition to the inherent errors in the



determination of bearings and distances, there are plotting errors in creating the maps. The pencil line alone is a tenth of mile wide, and the plotting accuracy is probably plus or minus one or two tenths of a mile.

Findings In our opinion, the Field Book maps of the Sibley expedition are what they are portrayed to be in the Field Book introduction --- a guide to travelers and not a precise map. The location of the Santa Fe Road shown on the Field Book maps should be considered approximations only, accurate to perhaps several tenths of a mile. Nevertheless, the survey is an amazing surveying achievement and an important document in the history of the Santa Fe Trail. The expedition contributed greatly to the understanding of the geography of the west and was relied upon for subsequent surveys of the west.

Some of the many interesting observations are:

- The route deviates significantly from the route shown on the NPS Base Map in the vicinity of "The Narrows."
- We had considerable difficulty orienting the maps in the vicinity of Cow Creek Crossing. The Sibley route appears to have passed several miles south of Ralph's Ruts.
- The crossing of the Pawnee Fork shown in the Field Book map is clearly adjacent to present Ft. Larned State Hospital, and not at the location described in Sibley's diary near present downtown Larned.
- The location of the Caches is shown as "Gravel Rock" on the Field Book Map.
- Not far west of present Garden City, Sibley's route crossed the Arkansas River and continued westward along the south bank of the river. This is a significant deviation from the Santa Fe Trail shown on the NPS base map
- The Sibley route would place Chouteau's Island a short distance southwest of "Mound on Hill" at approximately 37°53'04" North latitude and 101°21'08" West longitude on Google Earth.
- Sibley's route runs due south from the point where his route leaves the "Small Dry Creek" (present Bear Creek Pass) and passes through present Ulysses, Kansas, intersecting the Cimarron River at Wagon Bed Spring.
- Middle Spring was closer to Point of Rocks than shown on the NPS base map.
- We believe that Sibley did not cross Louse Creek (present Corrupa Creek) at McNee's Crossing, but instead crossed a few miles to the southeast.
- From Round Mound westward, the Sibley route lies considerably south of the NPS base map route until reaching the vicinity of Point of Rocks.

- The wagon road route (10-B-11-12-13-14) is different than the pack mule route (10-14) over the mountains east of Taos.

Steve Schmidt holds a BS and MS in Civil Engineering from Oklahoma State University. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Colorado and Kansas. He received an Award of Merit from SFTA for his booklet "Lost Spring, Marion County, Kansas, A Historical Perspective" (available from The Last Chance Store). Steve and wife Glenda received the Heritage Preservation Award from SFTA and received Site Certification from the National Park Service for preserving remnants of the Santa Fe Trail on their land in Marion County, Kansas. He also received the Paul F. Bentrup Ambassador Award from SFTA. Steve is an amateur historian interested in trails, the fur trade era, railroads, and settlement of the American West. He has served on the SFTA Board of Directors and is currently President of the Cottonwood Crossing Chapter. Steve considers it fortunate indeed that Rich Hayden had little prior knowledge about the Santa Fe Trail, thus eliminating any preconceptions about the route of the Sibley Survey that might influence his orientation of the maps. His unbiased interpretation of the Sibley Maps, enthusiasm for the project, and skills in computers and mapping are very much admired and appreciated.

Richard Hayden is an Engineering Technician. He learned mapping while working for a firm in Denver, Colorado digitizing aerial photography for 911 emergency systems. He currently works for the City of McPherson, Kansas, where one of his many responsibilities includes updating the City maps and GIS system. During his employment with the City of McPherson he has scanned and geo-rectified historical aerial photography for the City and surrounding areas in McPherson county. This training and experience was applied to the Sibley maps and to the Santa Fe Trail. Richard is grateful to Steve Schmidt for his insight and leadership, without which completing this project would have been nearly impossible.

Their research was made possible by a Scholarly Research Grant from the Santa Fe Trail Association.

2012 SFTA Research Grants Awarded

Jeff Campbell was awarded a continuation of his photographic research of the Mountain Branch of the Santa Fe Trail. Joy Poole received a grant to continue her work on the Autobiography and diary research of Dr. Rowland Willard. The introduction to her book, *Autobiography of Dr. Rowland Willard: Journey West along the Santa Fe Trail and Down El Camino Real 1825-1828*, is on page 26 of this issue. Jeff Campbell will have an article about his research in the May issue of Wagon Tracks.

Fort Larned Transient Quarters Hosted Visiting Father Colleton

by Ruth Friesen

The north officers' quarters at Fort Larned National Historic Site, Fort Larned, Kansas, are being restored and one of the rooms on display will be interpreted as a transient quarters. Used by military officers passing through or visiting the Fort, this room would also have been used by visiting priests, if it was not being used by an officer. According to George Elmore, chief ranger at Fort Larned, the post chaplains were Protestant, so the needs of Catholic soldiers were met as the traveling Jesuit priest visited the garrison to render services to the soldiers.

Elmore said that one-half or more of the garrison average of 300 to 350 soldiers was made up of recent immigrants, chiefly from Ireland, Germany, Scotland, and France, so the percentage of Catholic soldiers had to be high. He stated that it is not listed in the army records how many had attended services (religious life of the average soldier was not a high priority). However, as a priest visited on special occasions with some sort of formal religion, the Catholic soldiers may have attended in fairly high numbers.

The restoration is a work-in-progress but the quarters are open for viewing now. Completion is scheduled for Memorial Day.

One of the priests who most likely stayed at Fort Larned was an Osage Mission Jesuit missionary, Fr. Philip Colleton, an Irish priest who is credited with establishing the mission station at Fort Larned. In 1868 and 1869, he established 15 mission stations in Kansas, six with churches. Father Colleton established the Fort Larned station for the soldiers in 1869 and worked the fort on his missionary route, according to documents provided by Ron Brogan, volunteer at Osage Mission, Neosho County Museum, in St. Paul, Kansas.

Father Colleton's territory ranged along the border counties of Missouri and Arkansas, five counties of southeastern Kansas (Crawford, Cherokee, Labette, Montgomery, and Neosho), and the lands of Peoria, Seneca, and the Cherokee mostly in the neighborhood of Fort Gibson in Indian Territory. But between August and November, Father Colleton was in the saddle. During these months he made his southern circuit through the Indian Territory to the northern line of Texas, then west to the eastern line of Colorado by way of Fort Dodge. Most of Father Colleton's time was spent among the white settlers in Missouri and Kansas.

Father Colleton was at hand to assist at a train wreck between Fort Dodge and Fort Larned in 1873. In his house letter to Provincial Father Thomas O'Neil on July 1, 1873, Father Paul Mary Ponziglione, S.J. wrote: [spelling uncorrected]

"At the opening of this year Father Philip Colleton was leaving Pueblo a small town at the point where the Atchison Topeka and St. Fe Rail road crosses the eastern line of Colorado. Hav-

ing got through his missionary visit to that place he was in his course home travelling on a very large construction train, when just half way between Fort Dodge and Fort Larned a great snow storm overtook them, and in a very

short time they were fasten to the rails almost buried in the snow. As there were in the train some 200 laborers, all went to work to clear the track, but to no purpose, for in few hours new snow was drifted over it by the wind, and the whole work was lost. So they passed 3 long days with a very scanty supply of provisions, which consisted of some biscuits and cheese. At last on the 4th day the wind subsided, the weather became milder, and the snow began to melt away. Every heart was rejoicing on account of it, and all was ready for starting next morning early. Night came and the tired laborers were in the best of their slumber, when the watchman gave a repeated alarm. The head light of an unexpected train was showing itself in the far east, and was noticed to be rapidly. At once all the men were called on duty: lights are suspended in every direction, signals are given but to no avail: the engine is approaching more and more. As in the construction train there were from 60 to 70 cars it was impossible to steam backward with any advantage, so they were bound to stand their chances. The Collision came at last, and a terrible one it was. Number of people were hurt, but Father Colleton, thanks be to God, was saved. Immediately every man sprung out to see what could be done to help the suffering. The 2 engines were clutched together and between the timbers of these are fast bond the Conductor and 2 of his men. They are encompassed by the flames and the piercing despairing cries with which they make the air resound are above all description. Every imaginable effort to extricate the unfortunate men from the critical position they were in was tried, but to no use, for the fire was so strong that no one could approach them. Father Colleton was the only one who could give them an assistance better than any one by pronouncing on them a last Absolution. The poor men were burnt to ashes."

Father Colleton later received a serious injury while traveling on a handcar from Ladore to Parsons. His condition was critical for six months and he died on December 1, 1876.

Brogan says, "Father Colleton was here [at the Osage Mission] for about nine years but information written from his hand is hard to come by. We suspect much of his material is in the Jesuit archives. The more we dig into Fr. Colleton, the more we want to visit the archives. We know he served at St. Mary's before he got here which leads us to wonder what he did north of the Santa Fe Trail."

Continued on page 10



Colleton, continued from page 9

"The mural on the back wall of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Larned...depicts Fr. Colleton as one of the religious figures responsible for establishing Catholicism in Pawnee County," says Brogan. "I wonder if someone at the church or the historical society has done some work regarding Father Colleton in the past. If so and it goes beyond the above, we would certainly like to see it."

Sources:

Interview with George Elmore, Chief Ranger, Fort Larned Historic Site, Larned, Kansas

Interview with Ron Brogan, Osage Mission, Neosho County Museum, St. Paul, Kansas

<http://www.osagemission.org/colleton.html>

http://www.osagemission.org/mission_stations.pdf

"Osage Mission: A Distributing Center of Civilization,"

Osage Mission - Neosho County Museum nomination of the Osage Mission, St. Paul, Kansas for consideration in the 8 Wonders of Kansas History Contest.

House Letters or Reports from Father Paul Mary Ponziglione, S.J., to Provincial Father Thomas O'Neil, December 3, 1872

House Letters or Reports from Father Paul Mary Ponziglione, S.J., to Provincial Father Thomas O'Neil, July 1, 1873

<http://www.dcdiocese.org/register/2407-sacred-heart-church-in-larned-celebrates-50th-anniversary>

The Jesuits of the Middle United States, The Osage Mission, Chap. 27, page 588, <http://www.jesuitsmissouri.org/files/arch/vg/chap27.pdf>

Sister Mary Paul Fitzgerald, S. C. L., Ph. D., *Beacon on the Plains* (Leavenworth, 1939): 304

Tim Wenzel, *Priests of the Prairie*, <http://www.dcdiocese.org/archivist-diocesan/necrology>

Rendezvous, continued from page 1

audience an opportunity to converse with and question the presenters.

The Friday afternoon bus tour will take us on the road to Pawnee Rock and other area Trail sites where we will meet more characters. An added bonus to this year's seminar will be the Friday evening dinner where presenters will attend as their characters to both dine and mingle with conference attendees.

Plans for Saturday morning include presentations at the Larned Community Center with both formal and first person portrayals, again followed by a panel session. An afternoon bus tour will take us to the Cheyenne and Sioux Indian village site destroyed by General Winfield Hancock's troops in 1867.

Some of the other characters you'll meet or learn about during the seminar include John Calhoun, Kit Carson, Marion Sloan Russell, Alexander Majors, James Kirker, Maria De La Luz Beaubien Maxwell, and Wild Bill Hickok. You do not want to miss out on this unique opportunity.

Rendezvous 2012 will end with a late Saturday afternoon visit to Fort Larned National Historic Site and an evening dinner and program after the retreat ceremony. The Santa Fe Trail character featured for the evening's program will be frontier Army officer Edwin Vose Sumner as presented by Dr. Durwood Ball.

More details about the program and presenters will follow in the May issue of Wagon Tracks. Watch for your registration packet to arrive in the mail this summer...but, in the meantime, mark your calendar now for September 20-22 and plan to attend Rendezvous 2012.



25 Years on the Santa Fe Trail

for Leo Oliva

"The sutler store is a lounging place for all the idlers about the station—it is the grand hotel, restaurant and club house of the post." *Harper's Weekly* May 5, 1867

*Sitting in front of the sutler store,
Kansas breeze against my face,
Fort Dodge water tower silver against the sky,
I qualify to be an idler.*

—Sandra Maresh Doe

At the Santa Fe Symposium, September 24-26, 2011, Dodge City, Kansas, celebrating the Santa Fe Trail Association's 25th year, 25 years of promoting, preserving, protecting, and traveling the Santa Fe Trail.

Freemasons on the Santa Fe Trail

by Paul Gordon

Freemasonry has been described as the world's oldest and largest fraternity, with a goal of "making good men better." Freemasonry, or Masonry, has spread its branches over the four corners of the globe. Where man has gone, so has Freemasonry. This includes the American Southwest and the development of the Santa Fe Trail, which generally dates from its opening in 1821 by William Becknell. While there is no claim that Becknell was a Freemason, many Masons have contributed to the development and use of the Trail.

Freemasons, who refer to each other as "Brother," meet in groups called lodges. Most Masonic lodges in the United States trace their charters back to England in colonial times. Freemasons meet and work together for mutual and civic improvement. They use the working tools of stone masons as symbols of the values they promote, such as truthfulness, morality and brotherly love. A Mason knows he can trust and depend upon a brother Mason. This is very valuable, especially in circumstances such as the dangers, challenges and vagaries of the early southwestern frontier. While all are equal in the lodge and every Mason's participation and well-being is valued and appreciated, there are some who have become more well-known outside of Freemasonry. Many of these are associated with the Santa Fe Trail. In as much as Freemasonry helps to "build" the character of a person and a stable society, so have Freemasons helped "build" the Santa Fe Trail. From Franklin, Missouri to Santa Fe, New Mexico, many Freemasons have traveled from east to west over the Santa Fe Trail, some making the journey many times.

Freemasonry in the Southwest Before the Trail

Freemasons have been involved in some of the major events in the Southwest that predate the Santa Fe Trail and impacted its early development. Freemasonry came to central Mexico from Spain. In those areas once controlled by Spain from the 1500s to the Mexican Revolution, including what is now New Mexico, Colorado, Texas and other western areas, Freemasonry was slowed or actually discouraged by the effects of the Spanish Inquisition.¹

This was also the time of early American exploration and limited fur trading in the West and Southwest. One of the first fur traders to venture into the Rocky Mountains was Andrew Henry, a Freemason and member of Western Star Lodge No. 109 at Kaskasia, Illinois. His business must have been profitable because by 1808 he amassed sufficient capital to become a partner in the well-known Missouri Fur Co., an organization composed largely of Freemasons. Among the partners were Pierre Chouteau, Jr. and William Clark, both

members of St. Louis No. 111.² In 1804, Baptiste Le Land³ set up a Trading Post in Santa Fe for the Missouri Fur Company. This was the year the Lewis and Clark Expedition left St. Louis for the western exploration.⁴ A rival firm, The American Fur Company, also of St. Louis, was composed mainly of Masons.⁵

Lewis and Clark were both Freemasons. A branch of the Santa Fe Trail crosses the Missouri River at Leavenworth, Kansas, and thus intersects with the famous 1804 Corps of Discovery exploratory route of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. Brother Meriwether became a Freemason in 1797 in Door to Virtue Lodge #44 A.F. & A.M., Albemarle County, Virginia. Brother William became a Freemason after petitioning and being accepted for membership in Saint Louis Lodge No. 111, warranted under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. But there are no records of his initiation. Saint Louis Lodge No. 111 did issue a traveling certificate to him in 1809.



The first explorers to travel what later became the famed Santa Fe Trail, Captain Zebulon Pike and his second-in-command, Dr. John H. Robinson, were both Master Masons. Robinson was a member of Lodge 13 in Virginia, and later with Louisiana Lodge No. 109 at St. Genevieve, Missouri. These two discovered Pike's Peak in 1806.⁶ They were sent on this exploratory venture by General James Wilkinson, Commander of the U.S. Army and a Freemason. He was a member of Nova Caesarea Harmony Lodge No. 2, Cincinnati, Ohio.⁷ Robinson was actually General Wilkinson's eyes and ears in the foreign Spanish lands that the Pike expedition would ultimately find themselves in.⁸ They had followed the Arkansas river from the east, searching for its source. This took them along parts of what would later become known as the wet route where the trail splits west of what is now Dodge City, Kansas. At that time Spain actively discouraged American, French, and British expansion and exploration in the area it claimed as its own. On February 6, Pike reached the Conejos River, where he built a substantial stockade (near present day Alamosa, Colorado) for the protection of the men.

In 1810 Pike published reports of his 1806 exploration of the Spanish-held Colorado area. He included information as to how much profit could be made by bringing eastern US goods to the Spanish occupied areas.⁹ The travels of Masons Pike and Robinson would factor later into William Becknell's opening of the Santa Fe Trail.

Today, Pike's contribution to the opening of the Southwest is honored by the Zebulon Pike Memorial Plaza in Larned, Kansas. There is also a Pike National Trail supported by the National Park Service.

Official Spanish and Mexican Government attitudes towards Freemasonry changed dramatically in 1808 when Napoleon placed his brother, Joseph Bonaparte, on the throne of Spain. Joseph was the Grand Master of Masonry in France, having received the degrees in 1805.¹⁰ When he was placed on the Spanish throne, all restrictions on Freemasonry in Spain were immediately lifted. The Freemasonry of Spain and France differed from that of England and Scotland in that mainland European Masonry was strongly political, while English Masonry discouraged ties to politics. By the early 1800s, however, there was a strong Masonic presence in Mexico. The traditional Masonry in Mexico which came from Spain was called the Escosese (Scottish Rite). There is some evidence that indicates these Escosese Masons may have been involved with the movement which led to Mexican independence.¹¹

The official change of attitude toward Freemasonry is understandable by Freemasons. Freemasonry upholds the principles of "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth," otherwise related, as in France, "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity." Moral lessons are ritually given, working through the rituals by degrees. The French Revolution was fought for the equality, liberty and fraternity of the third social class in France. These ideas were carried on into the post-revolutionary era of Napoleon Bonaparte. It is not surprising that they would be extended by Freemason Joseph Bonaparte when he lifted the Spanish restrictions.

When Mexico did become independent from Spain in 1821, there were significant ramifications for Masonry and for what would become the Santa Fe Trail. The first three Presidents of Mexico were Masons. Another Mason displaced the third, and in February 1833 Freemason General Santa Anna was elected president.¹² Santa Anna's Masonic affiliations were tenuous.¹³ William Becknell would cross paths with Santa Anna, and many other Masons, later during the Mexican-American war. In the meantime, Freemasonry's growing popularity in Mexico would provide fertile grounds for the expansion of Freemasonry into areas such as New Mexico, Colorado, and Texas.

Another significant development after the Mexican revolution was the opening of trade with the United States over what would become the Santa Fe Trail. The new country of Mexico was eager for such trade and no longer attempted to exclude Americans from its territory. Thus, when Becknell came into contact with Mexican soldiers at Rock River and was escorted to Santa Fe in 1821, he was welcomed and trade was encouraged.

Freemasons Help Establish the Trail

Captain William Becknell is known as the Father of the Santa Fe Trail. Becknell had many contacts with Freemasons throughout his life. He served as a sergeant in the Missouri Militia during the War of 1812 under Captain Nathan Boone, who was the son of Daniel Boone. Considered a famous American Freemason,¹⁴ according to Nathan, Daniel Boone

was a Mason.¹⁵ Becknell may have been familiar with Daniel Boone as Nathan and Daniel lived in Missouri in the later years of the elder Boone's life before his death in 1820. Becknell made his first trading expedition from Franklin, Missouri, which is named after Benjamin Franklin, one of the great American Freemasons. Union Lodge No. 7 was chartered in 1821 at Franklin.

Pike's maps and notes were used by Becknell in 1821 when he opened the Santa Fe Trail.¹⁶ In deciding to seek his fortune in the Southwest, probably his main sources of information were an old trapper, Zeke Williams, and the man who was second-in-command under Zebulon Pike, Dr. Robinson. It is known that both men lived at that time within one hundred miles of where Becknell lived in Franklin, Missouri. Williams would have known the details of the fur traders' route followed by Becknell on this first trip to Santa Fe. Dr. Robinson could have supplied the latest details about the political situation in Mexico because he was in correspondence with other doctors and, apparently, with political figures in both Europe as well as the US.¹⁷

In later years Becknell served in the Texas Army during the Texas war for independence from Mexico. During that time he became a friend of Davy Crockett,¹⁸ who was later killed with other Masons at the Battle of the Alamo, where General Santa Anna had given his "no quarter" order. Crockett was a Freemason. Becknell was under the command of General Sam Houston, a Freemason. After the battle of San Jacinto, Houston had Becknell and his soldiers guard the captured Santa Anna.¹⁹

Freemasons were among some of the first to use the Trail. One Mason, Meredith Miles Marmaduke (1791-1869), was a famed Santa Fe trader and Governor of Missouri. In 1824 he led a wagon train to Santa Fe and his journal of the trip was published in the October 1911 "Missouri Historical Quarterly."²⁰ Arrow Rock Lodge No. 55 has several records of him as a Mason.²¹ He was buried according to the Rites of Freemasonry in Sappington Cemetery in Arrow Rock, Missouri.

The development of the Santa Fe Trail was quickly recognized as being in the national interest of the United States. Missouri Senator Thomas Hart Benton, charter member of Missouri Lodge #1, St. Louis, Missouri, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, one of the most powerful men in the Senate and the most influential advocate of western expansion, introduced a bill to have the Santa Fe Trail surveyed. In 1825, George Champlin Sibley was commissioned to survey the Trail, a clear "trace" having been worn in many places by the wagon wheels. His recommendations as to placement of forts and trading posts were acted on by Congress.²² Benton was the promoter of the slogan "Manifest Destiny." One of his lodge brothers, Charles Bent, helped establish trading posts, or forts, along the Santa Fe Trail and later become New Mexico's first American governor.

One of those hired onto an early trading trip on the Trail was Kit Carson, who made several trips over the trail as a guide and

in other capacities. Carson became a Freemason in 1854 in Montezuma Lodge #109 Santa Fe, Territory of New Mexico, under dispensation for the Grand Lodge of Missouri. He then became a charter member and first Junior Warden of the new Bent Lodge #204 in Taos, New Mexico, under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Missouri. He lived in Taos at the time. At various times in his life he was a mountain man, scout, Indian agent, soldier, and rancher. Built in 1825, his home in Taos remains and is now a museum remembering Brother Kit Carson and early Southwestern culture. It is owned by Bent Lodge #42 (reconstituted) and operated by the Kit Carson Memorial Foundation, Inc. Carson died in 1868 and is buried in the Kit Carson Cemetery in Taos.

In 1829 William and Charles Bent led a caravan to Santa Fe. A year later they formed Bent, St. Vrain & Company with Ceran St. Vrain, a Taos trader and ex-trapper. Charles directed the Santa Fe trade, taking up residence in Taos and making seasonal trips to St. Louis. Ceran St. Vrain ran the company stores in Taos and Santa Fe and served as American consul in Santa Fe during the 1830's. They established several forts, or trading posts, along what was becoming the wet route on the western part of the Santa Fe Trail. Charles Bent and St. Vrain were both Freemasons.

Bent had always been recognized as a brother by all Masons who came in contact with him. It was a matter of common knowledge among Freemasons that he had been buried with Masonic honors by his brethren and comrades at Santa Fe, that when a lodge of Masons was formed at Taos in 1860 it was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri as Bent Lodge, No. 204, and that when, in after years, a lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of New Mexico for Taos, it took the name of Bent Lodge, No. 42. It was not until a copy of the Reprint of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Missouri was obtained by Brother T. P. Martin, M. D., of Taos, a co-worker in Masonic research, that any definite information was uncovered. By it we find the name of Charles Bent standing alongside of Senator Benton as a charter member of Missouri Lodge, No. 1, of St. Louis. This was in 1821.²³

In 1826 Ceran St. Vrain was captain of a party of trappers leading an expedition down through New Mexico as far as the Gila River. It was on this expedition that Kit Carson made his maiden trip beyond the frontier. At this time St. Vrain was probably associated with William Bent, who, about 1824, had erected a stockade on the bank of the Arkansas River near where Pueblo now is. Soon afterwards the Bents and St. Vrain erected another stockade near the junction of the Purgatoire River with the Arkansas. In 1828 St. Vrain, associated with William and Charles Bent, commenced the erection of a formidable fort, afterwards known as Bent's Fort or Fort William, on the north bank of the Arkansas River, a few miles east of the present city of Las Animas, Colorado.²⁴ The Bent's Fort site is preserved by the National Parks Service.

Colonel St. Vrain, like many other sturdy men of the frontier, was long prepared in his heart to become a Freemason, before

he had had an opportunity to knock at the door of a lodge. He had been intimately acquainted and more or less associated with men like Charles Bent, Dr. David Waldo, James Kennerly, and Colonel Dodge, who had long been members of the Order. He therefore presented himself for initiation March 22, 1853, was passed April 16, 1853, and raised Jan. 28, 1855, receiving his degrees in Montezuma Lodge, No. 109, of the jurisdiction of Missouri, at Santa Fe. He demitted there from April 7, 1860, and together with Bros. Kit Carson, Peter Joseph, Ferdinand Maxwell, John M. Francisco, A. S. Ferris, and others he formed a lodge at Taos, under a charter from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, issued on June 1, 1860. This lodge was known as Bent Lodge, No. 204.²⁵

During the first ten years following Mexican independence a large number of trappers visited the Southwest. Mason Stephen Cooper, a trapper, went through New Mexico in 1821-1822, visiting in Santa Fe and Taos. Another Mason, George C. Yount, became intimately acquainted with Brothers St. Vrain, Bent, Kit Carson and others headquartered in Taos. Dr. Rowland Willard, Junior Warden of Hiram Lodge No. 3, St. Charles, Missouri, visited New Mexico in 1825.²⁶

Freemasonry teaches and encourages the tenants of fortitude and perseverance. No doubt these early Masons had ample opportunities to exercise and practice these virtues as they forged their way through the hardships and dangers along the Santa Fe Trail. As they crossed the Indian frontiers and into what was still Mexico in the early years of the Trail, these Masons were traveling into foreign countries to work and receive their wages. Many bettered their circumstances and had the opportunity to practice charity, the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart.

Freemasons On and Over the Trail

As more traders, pioneers, and settlers began using the trail, it was natural that Freemasons would be among them. At Independence, Missouri, Independence Lodge No. 76 would hold public and somewhat elaborate commemorations for the departure of Brother Masons as they set off over the Trail.²⁷

An influential Freemason, Albert Pike, was a relative of Zebulon Pike. Albert Pike was an author, lawyer, and soldier. He became the eighth Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the Southern Jurisdiction. He had traveled extensively in the undeveloped Southwest, arriving at Taos, New Mexico in 1831. He became a Master Mason in Western Star Lodge No. 2, in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1850. He rewrote the ritual of the rite of the Southern Jurisdiction, and authored "Morals and Dogma," the most extensive work ever written on the fundamentals and traditions of Scottish Rite Masonry.²⁸ There is included in the modern Scottish Rite Degrees a setting that takes place on the Oregon Trail, which intersects part of the Santa Fe Trail in northeast Kansas.

Another well known person was William "Buffalo Bill"

Cody, who as a young man hunted buffalo along the Trail to supply meat for the railroads as they worked their way west.²⁹ Indian scout, buffalo hunter, pony express rider, circus owner, Buffalo Bill Cody remains one of the all-time colorful heroes of Western lore. He became a Freemason in 1870. Cody was buried with Masonic pomp and ceremony by Golden City Lodge No. 1 of Golden, Colorado, at the request of his home lodge, Platte Valley Lodge No. 32, of North Platte, Nebraska. His body lies on Lookout Mountain near Denver, Colorado.³⁰

In settled areas and times there are and have been Masonic lodges, lodge buildings, and Masonic temples in most communities of any size. That certainly was not the case on the Southwestern frontier in the early days of the Trail. Masonic jurisdictions had not yet been clearly established by the Grand Lodges of States. For the frontier Freemasons, most of the meetings held before establishment of a state's Grand Lodge might be considered "irregular" or not correct today, but small informal gatherings happened whenever three or more Masons met on the trails, at trading posts or at small settlements. Sometimes they met in cabins, sometimes in tents.³¹

As communities developed, often Masonic lodges were soon established. Some communities that developed along the Santa Fe Trail are good examples. The Mora and Sapello Rivers join at La Junta (The Junction) now called Watrous. The Mountain and Cimarron Branches join there to make one Trail to Santa Fe. Samuel B. Watrous was Charter Master (1849) of the lodge meeting in the old Masonic Hall in La Junta. It also had members from the Fort Union military.³²

The military made good use of the Trail and helped spread Freemasonry along the way. Masonic lodges have sometimes been associated with military units, often called military lodges. As already seen, a great many military leaders were Freemasons. Several military forts were established along the Santa Fe Trail to protect travels and secure the frontier. Use of the Trail was very helpful for the military itself. On the eastern side of the Trail the departure point for most of the military goods became Fort Leavenworth on the Missouri River north of Kansas City. Here goods were received that had been shipped up the Missouri River by steamboat and then loaded on wagons for the trip to New Mexico.³³ Leavenworth, Kansas, on the Missouri River and a spur of the Santa Fe Trail, has a long and rich Masonic background.

During the Mexican War, the territory of New Mexico and Arizona was taken over by the United States Army under General Stephen Watts Kearny. Stephen Kearny and his army of some 3,700 men departed Ft. Leavenworth along the Santa Fe Trail to push the Mexican army out of the New Mexico territory and defend California.³⁴ General Kearny occupied Las Vegas, New Mexico, without opposition on August 15, 1846. Three days later he entered Santa Fe and issued a proclamation taking formal possession of the territory. The proclamation assured the inhabitants of freedom of worship and protection of property. Before General Kearny left New Mexico, he proclaimed a code of laws for the area known as

the Kearny Code.³⁵ The General on September 22 appointed the following to civil offices: Charles Bent, Governor; Donaisano Vigil, Secretary of the Territory; Richard Dallam, Marshal; Francis P. Blair, United States District Attorney; Charles Blummer, Treasurer; Joat Houghton, Antonio Jose Otero, and Charles Beaubien, Judges of the Superior Court. Of these, Bent, Dallam, Blummer, Houghton, Otero and Beaubien were Masons.³⁶

In January, 1847, Colonel Price quelled an insurrection at Taos in which Governor Bent was assassinated. Colonel Price was a member of Warren Lodge No. 74, Keytesville, Missouri.³⁷

One of the early military lodges to operate along the trail was Missouri Military Lodge No. 86, chartered by Grand Master Ralls. It held its first meeting in Independence, Missouri. It was called an ambulant or traveling lodge "holding its communications when called to labor in the movement of troops as occasion permitted." On September 18, 1847, a special meeting was held at Santa Fe. This meeting of Missouri Military Lodge No. 86 is believed to be the first sanctioned Masonic meeting to be held in the vast expanse extending from the Missouri on the east to the Pacific Ocean and from Canada to Texas and Old Mexico.³⁸

Hardin Military Lodge No. 87 was created at a meeting of Military Lodge No. 86 in Santa Fe, on October 8, 1847. At this meeting a petition was presented for a dispensation of a lodge which "should be without limit to a particular location but to be itinerant as may best suit the convenience of its members and be only limited in its duration to six months after the close of the Mexican War." This lodge apparently was attached to First Regiment of Illinois Fort Volunteers. The record shows Military Lodge No. 87 had its meetings in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Las Vegas, New Mexico.³⁹

When the war was over and time elapsed, Harding Military Lodge No. 87 was dissolved and no longer was a lodge. That is why the Santa Fe Masons petitioned for a charter for Montezuma Lodge. They asked two different Grand Lodges for a charter, finally getting one from Missouri on May 8, 1851.⁴⁰ Montezuma Lodge from its beginning assumed a leadership role and did everything in its power to pave the way for Masonry in the entire territory. Montezuma Lodge brought men of like minds together, furnished them a social life and mutual protection. For nine years it was the only lodge in the territory. Most of the furniture of the original lodge was transported, at least part of the way, by wagon train over the old Santa Fe Trail from Missouri.⁴¹

At the forts along the Trail there were more permanent Masonic lodges. Fort Union, near Las Vegas, New Mexico, is important to the history of Freemasonry in the Southwest because it was here that Chapman and Union Lodges were established. Chapman Lodge was first organized as Missouri Lodge No. 95 and Union Lodge as Missouri Lodge No. 480. The first communication of Chapman Lodge was held March 28, 1862. On May 24, 1867, for military reasons, the lodges were

requested to move outside of the Government reservation, the last meeting at the Fort being held on July 27, 1867. Thereafter, Chapman Lodge was permanently established in Las Vegas. It was one of the four lodges instrumental in organizing the Grand Lodge of New Mexico in August 1877 and was chartered as Chapman Lodge No. 2.⁴²

Chapman Lodge No. 2, named for Colonel William Chapman, has a wonderful Masonic Temple building. Much of the woodwork, furnishings and accoutrements came from the east across the Santa Fe Trail. There is a wonderful 19 minute video showing the inside and outside of the Temple, and a detailed explanation of the lodge and its functioning, on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbuBzTpf3wQ. *October 12, 2011 entitled "Masonic Lodge 150 years + 116 yr Bldg, Las Vegas New Mexico."*⁴³

As the United States Territories and States expanded in the areas covered by the Trail so did Freemasonry. The Grand Lodge of Missouri was established in early 1821. The three founding lodges had originally been chartered by the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. Representatives of these three lodges met on February 22, 1821, in St. Louis. Grand Lodge Officers were installed on May 4, 1821.⁴⁴

The Grand Lodge of Kansas is the governing body of Freemasonry in Kansas, formed March 17, 1856, nearly five years before Kansas statehood. Bleeding Kansas, the prelude to America's Civil War, provided the backdrop to Kansas Freemasonry. In 1854, three Wyandot Indians and five white settlers—all of whom were Masons—coalesced in what is now Wyandotte County, Kansas, and petitioned the Grand Lodge of Missouri to establish a lodge of Masons in a Wyandot Indian village. On August 4, 1854, the dispensation was granted and one week later Kansas Lodge U.D. (eventually to become Wyandotte Lodge No. 3) opened for work. Within two years, two other lodges in Kansas were formed and in 1856 the trio formed the Grand Lodge of Kansas as America's Civil War loomed.⁴⁵

Colorado soon followed. In 1861 three chartered lodges with dispensations from Kansas and Nebraska—Golden City (today's Golden), Summit Lodge in Parkville and Rocky Mountain at Gold Hill, plus two lodges under dispensation from Kansas—Auraria and Nevada, sought to obtain permission to form their own jurisdiction for the purposes of advancing their fraternity. The Colorado Masons obtained their dispensation to form a Grand Lodge from the Grand Lodge of Kansas. Kansas obtained theirs from Missouri and Missouri from Tennessee in 1821. Tennessee was chartered by North Carolina's Grand Lodge. North Carolina was granted their charter from England in March 1754. So Colorado Masonry is only four steps from ancient Freemasonry. There were 52 Masons in Colorado when it became a Grand Lodge.⁴⁶

In New Mexico, the strain of life for Masons in that rugged country is believed to have manifested a great need for friendship with those holding like beliefs, but Masonic

representation for the ten lodges formed under the Grand Lodge of Missouri (a thousand miles away) was limited to a District Deputy Grand Master who was empowered to do about anything he deemed proper. It also took several weeks for the communications to travel such a great distance between the Mother Grand Lodge and so few Masons in the New Mexico Territory. Because of these factors New Mexico Masons felt the need of a Grand Lodge of their own. They wanted a Grand Lodge that was dedicated to building Masonic lodges and new communities within the Territory. So in the summer of 1877 eight men representing 165 Masons in four lodges chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri came together in Santa Fe to begin the process of creating a new Grand Lodge of Masons for the New Mexico Territory. On August 7, 1877, the Grand Lodge of New Mexico was declared formed.⁴⁷

Part of the Santa Fe Trail crosses what is now the panhandle of Oklahoma. On October 6, 1874, representatives of three lodges met and organized the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory. With the opening of Oklahoma Territory to white settlers, many of the brethren felt it was time once again for a new Grand Lodge. In 1892 the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma was formed. Thus, at this time there were two Grand Lodges in Oklahoma. In November 1907, things changed. Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory no longer existed as the State of Oklahoma was born. Since American Masonic tradition asserted that only one Grand Lodge could exist in any given political division, there was a problem with two Grand Lodges in the new state. They merged in 1909.⁴⁸

Prince Hall Freemasonry also followed the Santa Fe Trail. Prince Hall is recognized as the Father of Black Masonry in the United States. The origin of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Missouri began when the M.W. Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio, established in 1849, chartered H. McGee Alexander Lodge #8 in St. Louis, Missouri in 1864. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Missouri was formed in 1865.⁴⁹ In Kansas, John Jones was the Most Worshipful Grand Master in the organization and chartering of Western Star Lodge #1 at Lawrence in 1865, with D.G. Lett as Worshipful Master; soon followed by Euclid Lodge #2 at Topeka, and Mt. Oliver (later changed to Mt. Olive) Lodge #3 at Leavenworth. These three lodges remained under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ohio until 1875, when they met in the City of Lawrence and organized and established Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Kansas, A.F. & A. M., with Brother D.G. Lett as its first M.W. Grand Master August 24, 1875.⁵⁰ In Colorado, Rocky Mountain Lodge #1 F. & A.M., the first of several lodges in Colorado, was organized in 1867 by a warrant from the National Compact System of Kansas, on November 17. On January 10, 1876, Western Lodge #2 was organized and on January 11, 1876, Mount Olive Lodge #3 came into existence from the same source. Rocky Mountain Lodge #1 worked under the National Compact System of Kansas from 1867 until 1876. On January 17, 1876, in accordance with a previous call, the delegates from Rocky

Mountain Lodge #1, Western #2, and Mountain Lodge #3 met in convention in the hall of Rocky Mountain #1 of Denver for the purpose of organizing a Grand Lodge in the then Territory of Colorado.⁵¹ The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of New Mexico was organized September 21, 1921, and elected the Honorable T. B. J. Barclay, Grand Master. However, there was some difficulty experienced with regard to lodges working under the authority of a Sister Jurisdiction. These conditions continued until August 17, 1937, when a Board of Arbitration composed of members of several neighboring jurisdictions was called. In 1957 the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico upheld a lower court decision, holding that Prince Hall Grand Lodge is the Supreme Masonic Authority in the State of New Mexico under Masonic Law.⁵²

It has sometimes been said that Freemasonry follows the flag. In many cases it was a Freemason carrying the flag. As seen, it was sometimes carried by Freemasons on the Santa Fe Trail.

The glory days of the Santa Fe Trail faded after the completion of the railroads along the route. However, Freemasonry along the Trail continues to flourish and Masons continue their work. At present there are Masonic lodges in many cities and towns along the trail still "making good men better" and contributing to the well being of their communities. All lodges are active in charitable work and support the work of the appendant bodies. Among these efforts are innumerable college and technical college scholarships, research for a cure for schizophrenia, Masonic Learning Centers for children with dyslexia and other learning disabilities, and the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Many other local charitable events are supported by local lodges. All lodge-supported charities are without cost to those helped or their families and are available to anyone regardless of Masonic affiliation.

Paul Gordon is a Freemason living in Madison, Wisconsin. He is an attorney and labor arbitrator.

Endnotes

1. Freemasonry came to México sometime in the last twenty years of the 18th century. The scarcity of documentation is not surprising if we remember that our early brethren worked under the shadow of the Holy Inquisition. When independence came in 1821, many of the main actors are known or believed to have been Masons, but there was no Grand Lodge organization as such.

The first Lodge known to exist in México met at the shop of French watchmaker Juan Esteban Laroche, until the Inquisition arrested them while celebrating the Summer Solstice in 1791. The next mention of Freemasonry in Mexico is in 1806. In this year, a Lodge was established in Mexico City in the residence of Don Manuel de Cuevas Moreno de Monroy Guerrero y Luyando in Calle de las Ratat (today Calle Bolívar).

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10. Joseph E. Bennett, *Masons Along The Rio Bravo*, (Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas 1966): 2

11. Jack B. Pace, "The Influence of Freemasonry on Texas," (citations omitted), *Jacques De Molay Lodge No. 1390*, www.jd1390.org/Talks/influence.htm.

12. Bennett, *Masons Along The Rio Bravo*, 5, 6.

13. No body or lodge has ever acknowledged him as a member. The tenets of Freemasonry had little impact on Santa Anna. The attributes of brotherly love, relief and charity were not part of his character. He had ordered "no quarter" at the Alamo, although he must have known a few of the defenders were Masons, as he was. Bennett, 3, 12.

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15. Steve Harrison, "Daniel Boone," *One Minute Mason* (March 15, 2011), <http://oneminutemason.blogspot.com/2011/03/daniel-boone.html>.

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22. Friendly, *Kit Carson*

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29. Friendly, *Kit Carson*

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32. Friendly, *Kit Carson*

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In Memoriam

Melvin C. Cottom, Manhattan, KS, died November 19, 2011. He and his wife Mary were charter members of the Santa Fe Trail Association, and strong supporters through the years. He retired in January 1990 as Assistant Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering at Kansas State University. He was a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies and the York Rite Bodies, both of Lawrence. His wife Mary survives.

Josiah Gregg Society

The Josiah Gregg Society honors individuals who notify the SFTA that they have made a planned gift to the SFTA. Planned gifts include, but are not limited to, naming the SFTA as a beneficiary through a bequest, charitable remainder trust, testamentary charitable remainder trust, insurance policy, retirement plan assets, charitable gift annuity, or reserved life estate.

SFTA welcomes Bill and Susan Bunyan as new members of the Josiah Gregg Society. They join Margaret Sears and Dianna Dunn in this exclusive Society.

Thank you!

Editor's Note

Santa Fe Trail and the Big Picture

Ever since I read that the London Underground opened in 1863, I've been pondering the vast differences in technology between that and the Santa Fe Trail.

I'd like to see articles comparing the conditions of the Trail to other areas of the world. What other frontiers were being explored in the world around the same time? Were methods of transportation the same, i.e. wagons? How was the area east of the Missouri explored? How was the US Western frontier viewed by those in Europe or Asia?

Another angle is communications. I recently read about the Children's Blizzard of 1888, and noted that even though telegraph was available, there was no way to reach the farmer and his family. Was communication different elsewhere in the world? How did messages pass along the SFT?

A comparison and contrast in living conditions in the eastern US, and Europe, and the SFT area would also be interesting. Dodge City had a surprising degree of culture. What else would surprise us?

Inspired? Send me your article ideas.

The Trail Today: Point of Rocks, New Mexico

by Faye Gaines

Welcome to the Point of Rocks. I hope you enjoyed the drive from the highway. You had a good view of the Point on the way and probably saw a few pronghorn (antelope) also. The formation on top is called by the locals Hogback. Most of the formations you have seen on your way are volcanic but the Point was an upheaval and many unique micro-minerals are found here and are sought by collectors all over the world. The minerals here are good swapping material. This picnic area was provided by the National Park Service and designed by Steve Burns, and the wayside designed by Sharon Brown. Many have enjoyed their lunch here. Thank you all.



On top of the Point you can see a rock cairn. It was begun by three brothers of the Mormon Battalion on October 2, 1846. From John D. Lee's diary, I quote:

"whole Bat on the March 3 ms. Called ahault to refresh our teams & men with water which came out of the foot of the mountain, we were detained here about an hour on account of the stream not being sufficient to admit whole Bat getting to save it were by twos. Bro levi-hancock-J. King and Sessions assended this litle mountain which was about 300 feet in heighth, while on the Sumit they saw 36 other litle mountains at a distance around them, on top of this M they erected a pile of stone-taking each other by the hands-at the same time offered up a prayre-then called the place 3 Friends- reaching to the taulest ceder broke offa trvig- brought it down & gave a twig to the lightst to mself then to Samuel Gully his friend."

I have read that it became a custom when passing by to place another stone on top. There are two rock cairns at this site. From here two branches of the Trail are visible; the southern route crossed the Holekeo creek which is the arroyo crossed just south of here where the culverts are. Some maps call it Joe Cabin Arroyo. The crossing there has live water and is very boggy. I know because one day I followed the Trail and thought if I got some speed I could make it; I didn't and had to be pulled out. I believe that is the reason the Trail split and came north and passed where my house sits. I didn't realize we had built on the Trail. The crossing of the Holekeo here was a dry crossing usually. Look to the southwest and when the light is right you can see six swales on yonder hill. The southern route crosses Dorsey where the large culverts are. The Trail there has eroded and has a couple of earthen dams to stop the erosion. The canyon that you can see to the west is called "Youngblood." Youngblood was the last of the wolf trappers in this country, and had a cave up the canyon. He was here in my husband Pete's grandfather's time. Pete's family has lived on this ranch since 1926.

The spring that is mentioned often is just behind the big cedars

at the foot of the hill. It is cemented in and is my house water. It is not a strong spring but has never quit.

There are 11 graves marked here. One has a headstone marker: "Isaac Allen 1848." Because the rock here is a form of granite, he must have been well thought of for the time it took to mark the headstone. Harry Myers did a lot of research on Isaac to no avail. The rest of the graves are marked with a pile of stones; some have cactus and bushes as well. These graves are scattered near Youngblood canyon and several are on the prairie. It is possible one of these could be the black lady that was with the White party. There is a reference that her hair was found here.



Above Youngblood Canyon are remains of a Jicarilla/Apache hunting camp, dating to 1200s. These are short half-circles 5-6 rocks high. When they were built they would have been higher and covered with brush for

protection from the weather. In the early 1800s, these same Apaches had tipi rings still visible now at the bottom of the Youngblood canyon. Pete told me that when he was a kid there was a trail going to the bottom of the canyon, maybe for water. The top part of the canyon trail has been hit by lightning and is impossible to see.

Very early maps show a Trail at Point of Rocks. This is the Trail to the mountains that is now called the Taos Pack Trail. It was no doubt used long before the Santa Fe Trail, an ancient Trail from Taos "San Fernando de Taos" used by Americans, Indians, Spanish, French explorers, Mexican, US army and Spanish detachments. It was also a trade route for hides, meat, corn, beans and tobacco. The Trail dates in recorded time from September 1598 by Vicente de Zoldivar, a lieutenant with Juan de Onate.

Even in modern times, the only person ever hung for train robbery had a hang-out in Black Jack Canyon. If you listen, you will surely hear the wagons going by and travelers making preparations for a nooning or to spend the night. Thank you for stopping by for a short talk and taking time to explore. There are no trails, just the way it was, if you overlook the fences and other signs of civilization. Enjoy and come back.

(To reach Point of Rocks, travel on US Highway 56, 30 miles east of Springer, New Mexico. Between mile markers 23 and 24, National Park Service markers provide direction to Point of Rocks, 10 miles from Highway 56. No appointment is necessary to visit the site although it is on private property. At the site you will find a wayside exhibit, a picnic area, and a toilet facility. Please respect the property.)

Notes on Point of Rocks

Given to Faye Gaines by Harry Myers (former SFTA manager)

Santa Fe, April 15, 1851

Bvt. 2nd Lt. Corps T. E. writes about his reconnaissance of the country between Rayado & Pt. of Rocks surveying for a wagon road

Sibley's diary - 1825-1827, Surveying and marking a road from the Missouri frontier to the settlements in New Mexico

Oct 11, Upper Semerone Spring (a puddle) camped at "Louse Creek"

McNees to Wislizenus - now called Carruopa

Wed, Oct 12

Turkey Creek

Fri, Oct 14

Rabbit Ears located 2 1/2 mi SE, traveled on

Sun, Oct 15

Passed Siena Grande, Whetstone Creek

Mon, Oct 17

Don Carlos

Tues, Oct 18

Starting for Point of Rocks - 15 miles away resting at a Rocky Creek (Ute Creek)

walked on to Point of Rock (#6) 1 1/2 mi away over stony Prarie. Ascended to the Top of the mount - about 500' and stayed an hour. From the top a very full view of the Great Range of mountains before us, many covered by snow. The view is sublime. At the foot of this mound are several very large springs of excellent water. At this point we fell onto a trace which leads directly to the Pass of the Mountains by which mules usually enter the Valley of Taos. (Taos Pack Trail?)

Oct 19

Crosses Canadian plans to go on to Taos

1852 - Gov. William Carr Lone, July 31 to Sept. 9, 1852

awakes, sick in pain, vomiting. "after a long, harried march of 30 miles during which I was absorbed in my suffering so I saw nothing & knew nothing, the Detachment was camped (I believe) at a place called Point of Rocks. Some miles from this place, Ft. Union, & after a halt until midnight, Major Carleton with 6 men made a forced march & by 8:00 PM on eve of next day, the 26th, reached Ft. Union.

1828 - Major Alphonso Wetmore's Diary

1828, 24th DK month

"after 4 hours march we find ourselves at the Pt of Rocks. We were today gratified with a full view of the Rocky Mtns ranging along to the right. When our Miexon, from a hill top, caught a distant view of the mountain, he lept for joy, discharged his carbine and exclaimed "To luz de mios ojos, mi casa, mi alma light of my eyes, my house, my love. Such an emotion as these we call in Spanish amore de la patria. Marched 15 miles."

25th Crossed Canadian

Over the Chihuahua and SF Trails, George Rutledge Gibson, traveling north, 1848

May 6 as usual we left at 6 o'clock and only stopped at the Rio Colorado (Canadian?) to lay in a supply of water, having it only at long distance for 500 miles. Early in the evening we stopped and watered our mules at the Point of Rocks and then continued our march 5 miles further and encamped, having seen smoke both above and below us on Red River & other indications of Indians being in the neighborhood with whom we have no particular desire to form an acquaintance as they are Comanche or Apache or both. We have only a little brush at camp, scarcely sufficient to boil coffee, but the grass is passable and there is water in a Ravine. We traveled today 30 miles.

May 7 - Mountains have all disappeared except a few detached spurs - camped at Rabbit Ears

The Santa Fe Trail to California 1849-1853, H.M.T. Powell (from Whetstone)

July 4, 1849

Rained before day. Started about 6; 2 miles brought us to a rocky run; 3 miles more we went down a rocky declivity to a creek in a swale of land which we followed on the north side, say 2 miles, when arriving at the rocky end of the hills which had been to our west & north we discovered it to be the Point of Rocks. Had I know it before I should have taken a sketch of it. The map placed it further west from the creeks we have passed. As we turn the point we had a splendid view of the Rocky Mountains from the plains for the 1st time. We went on a little more than a mile beyond the Point of Rock & encamped. I then had the pleasure of coming back said mile or more and going up a Rocky ravine a quarter of a mile or more for water. The water we found in the last ravine or gorge to the west opening on the South (Blackjack). We afterwards learned that there was a spring at the point which is indicated on the road which looks wet, the later losing itself in the ground. Follow the wet ground to the rocky precipice and you will find the Spring. A gorge opens to the west, also, about a mile from the point, up which there is a fine spring, and at the mouth of this gorge we should have encamped. Whilst at dinner Colonel Collier the new Collector of the Port of San Francisco passed us. --- about 2 we left and went about 4 miles over a wavy prarie to a hill down which we passed from table lands on which these systems of Prarie hills stand. The hill goes down between sand ridges and knolls. Toward the bottom on the left hand side is a fine spring. Our course then was down hill. We continued on till late and passed Col. Colliers camp. & about 9 miles from last hill came at dark to another, at the bottom of which we encamped near a creek, up which there is good grass for cattle. We made 21 miles today, about 2 miles back there was a dead mule which was recognized as one belonging to the party that left us yesterday. A note near it from Mrs. Harrison informed us they had experienced a dreadful storm last nite. Blew over their wagons, etc. etc.

A tour of Northern Mexico, Connected to Col. Doniphans Expedition 1846-47

June 20, 1846. In the morning we made about 5 miles to

Whetstone Creek, & halted, with good grass & water. The sandstone here contains some lime and may be used for coarse whetstones. The amygdaloidal basalt which I found near our noon camp, is inter-mixed with silicious particles glittering like mica. In the afternoon we made 14 miles to Point of Rocks the projecting spur of a chain of mountains, to our right, that here approached the road. In going to our nite camp we passed extensive strata of yellow quartzose sandstone, dipping gently towards the NE. Point of rocks itself is a mass of large blocks of sienite, towering to the height of several hundred feet. A clear mountain spring comes out of the rock. Here we camped.

June 21. Traveled in the morning 8 miles over excellent road & halted at noon in a ravine, or cañon 6,486' above the sea. During the whole day we enjoyed a beautiful view of the mountains before and around us the most distant of them being covered with snow - - he goes on to speak of mirages

Covered Wagon Women - Diaries & Letters from the Western Travels 1840-1890, Diary of Anna Marie Morris

Tues July 2nd 1850

Left Whetstone Creek at 6 o'clock. Marched 20 miles to water pool, very poor water & scarcely sufficient for the animals. - We have water in our packs for our own use, some of our neighbors have none. We are camped now 2 o'clock three miles beyond the point of Rocks scene of the White tragedy which we passed this morning. We did not see the skulls of the murdered party so conspicuously displayed in the sand as I expected to from what I had been told. The Maj. however found a skull with a beautiful set of teeth-- farther on we saw holes dug for the defence of a party of Mexicans who accompanied White and who were likewise killed - the parry of 7 in number was 3 days ahead of their company when they were surprised by the Indians. The place seems the most favorable for an ambascade that we have seen on the journey.

Marching with the Army of the West 1846-48

Begins with Polk's proclamation May 13, 1846 to Colonel Kearney to organize a body of mounted volunteers including 2 companies of artillery and 7 companies of the 1st dragoons to be consolidated with the volunteers.

Aug 13 camped at Rabbit ear creek.

14 at Round Mound at noon

15 The next day we camped for the night at the foot of a most singular range of hills called Point of Rocks being as the name indicates, very pointed, the base ends of the huge rocks pointing to the SW broken in various rugged shapes. Met here 3 companies returning home. Wrote to Prospect by them. On starting the next morning, one of our wagons had to be left on account of the melles giving out. Camp on Rio Colorado or Red River a stream about 15' wide. An antelope was killed today & it ate pretty well

On 16 made about 30 miles

Short raveling from a long yarn, or camp march sketches of the Santa Fe Trail, Notes of Richard L. Wilson. Not enough dates for the year. He speaks in flowery terms and says

Three days brought us to the Point of Rocks fairly among the breaks of the mountains. The mountains! Thanks be to God for the mountains! And he writes on

Utah Historical Quarterly, July 1931. Journal of Robert S. Bliss with Mormon Battalion.

Tues, Sept 29 camped at Rabbit Ear Creek

Weds Sept 30 marched 20 miles

Thur Oct 1 marched 3 miles before sunrise & halted 5 hours to refresh and graze teams on for 20 miles

Fri Oct 2 Started before breakfast. Halted at a spring at the side of a high Rock Peak for refreshments. Continued our March 20 miles and encamped on a stream of water called the Red River.

New Mexico Historical Review Oct 1969 Mormon Battalion Diary John D. Lee

Friday Oct. 2, 1846

Morning clear, marched 3 mi called a halt to refresh men and mounts with water which came out at the foot of mts detained an hour because stream not sufficient.



After a recent visit to Point of Rocks, Steve Schmidt said, "While dramatic views of swales of the Santa Fe Road can be seen from public roads in several places near Point of Rocks, the best view is from on top of the Point itself. With both naked eye and binoculars, you can trace the trail for miles, both east and west, winding across the vast expanse of the northeastern New Mexico landscape; and you can even see the Wagon Mound to the southwest. If you cannot personally be there, you can trace the Santa Fe Road all across northeastern New Mexico using Google Earth. In fact, you can even see swales on Google Earth's Street View on NM Hwy 193." He took these three photos on his visit.

National Park Service: Certified Partners

by Frank Norris

The owners and managers of these historic sites and interpretive are certified partners with the National Park Service on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

COLORADO

Boggsville Historic Site: near Las Animas on Colorado Highway 101
Hough-Baca House and Santa Fe Trail Museum: 312 E. Main St., Trinidad
Trinidad Lake State Park: five miles west of Trinidad

KANSAS

Barton County Historical Society Museum: 85 S. Highway 281, Great Bend
Boot Hill Museum Ruts: west of Dodge City on U.S. Highway 50
Buffalo Bill's Well (Beach Ranch Well): five miles southwest of Lyons, Rice County
Coronado/Quivira Museum: 105 W. Lyon St., Lyons, Rice County
Council Grove (Morris County) Sites:
* Council Oak: E. Main St., near N. 4th St.
* Hays House (Restaurant): 112 W. Main St.
* Hermit's Cave: Belfry St. near Hays St.
* Kaw Mission State Historic Site: 500 North Mission St.
* Last Chance Store: Main St. at Chatauqua St.
* Pioneer Store: 131 W. Main St.
* Seth Hays Home: Wood St., near Hall St.
* Simcock House: 206 and 208 W. Columbia St.
Cow Creek Crossing: six miles southwest of Lyons, Rice County
Davis Segment/Ruts: nine miles north of Wilburton, Morton County
French Frank's Trail Segment, Lehigh, Marion Co.
Gardner Museum: 204 W. Main St., Gardner, Johnson County
Harmon Park Trail Swale: 7727 Delmar St. (at 77th Place), Prairie Village, Johnson County
Historic Adobe Museum: (Grant County Museum): 300 E. Oklahoma, Ulysses
Kern Ruts: near Chase, Rice County
Lone Elm Campground: at S. Lone Elm Road and W. 167th St., Olathe
Mahaffie Farmstead and Stagecoach Stop: 1200 E. Kansas City Road, Olathe
Morton County Historical Society Museum: 370 E. US Highway 56, Elkhart
Pawnee Rock: located in Pawnee Rock State Historic Site, on Centre St. (SW 112th Ave.), one-half mile north of U.S. Highway 56 near the town of Pawnee Rock
Ralph's Ruts: 422 Avenue L, near Chase, Rice County
Santa Fe Trail Center: 1349 Kansas Highway 156, which is two miles west of Larned
Sapling Grove: 8210 Grant Ave. (at 83rd Street), Overland

Park

Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site: 3403 W. 53rd St., Fairway, Johnson County
Simmons Point Trail Corridor and Ruts: one mile north of U.S. Hwy. 56 (N. 300th Rd.), 12 miles west of Baldwin City, Douglas County
Watkins Community Museum of History: 1047 Massachusetts St., Lawrence

MISSOURI

Alexander Majors House: 8201 State Line Road, Kansas City
Archibald Rice House: 8801 E. 66th St. (at Blue Ridge Blvd.), Raytown
Arrow Rock Ferry Landing: foot of 2nd Street, Arrow Rock
Boone's Lick State Historic Site: between Lisbon and Petersburg, Howard County
85th and Manchester Trail Rut: 7558 East 85th St., Kansas City
Fort Osage Museum/Visitor Center: at 105 Osage St., Sibley, Jackson County
Harley Park Overlook: one mile west of central Boonville, Cooper County
Harris House: 4000 Baltimore Avenue, Kansas City
Hart Grove Creek Trail Segment (Marion Park): U.S. Highway 71 and East Bannister Road, Kansas City
Lewis-Webb House: 302 W. Mill St., Independence
Minor Park Ruts: E. Red Bridge Road at Blue River Road, Kansas City
National Frontier Trails Center: 318 W. Pacific Ave., Independence
New Santa Fe Cemetery Trail Rut: W. Santa Fe Trail near State Line Road, Kansas City
Old Franklin Site: just north of the Missouri River and 0.5 miles west of Highway 87, near Boonville
Owens-McCoy House: 410 W. Farmer St., Independence
Raytown Historical Society Museum: 9705 E. 63rd Street, Raytown
Santa Fe Spring: just south of Arrow Rock village, Saline County
Schumacher Park trail segment: 6601 E. 93rd St., Kansas City
3 Trails Greenway, Bannister Mall Segment: E. Bannister Rd. near Hillcrest Rd., Kansas City
3 Trails Greenway, Hickman Mills School District Segment: 9000 Old Santa Fe Rd., near Eastern Ave., Kansas City
Upper Independence Landing (Wayne City) Overlook: N. River Blvd., north of E. Kentucky Rd., Independence

NEW MEXICO

Amelia White Park: 981 Old Santa Fe Trail (at Camino Corrales), Santa Fe
City of Las Vegas Museum and Rough Rider Memorial: 727 Grand Ave., Las Vegas

El Zaguán: 545 Canyon Rd. (near Delgado St.), Santa Fe
 Fort Marcy: along Kearney Ave. near Artist Rd., Santa Fe
 Goat Hill Overlook, Raton
 Herzstein Memorial Museum: S. Second St. at E. Walnut
 St., Clayton, Union County
 Kit Carson Museum: on State Highway 21, 11 miles south
 of Cimarron
 Las Vegas Plaza: Plaza St. at Pacific St., Las Vegas
 Las Vegas Santa Fe Trail Interpretive Center: 116 Bridge
 St., Las Vegas
 McNees Crossing: State Highway 406, 1.5 miles south of
 Moses, Union County
 Palace of the Governors: 105 West Palace Ave., Santa Fe
 Point of Rocks: 25 miles east-northeast of Springer, Colfax
 County
 Point of Rocks Ranch Trail Segments: adjacent to the Point
 of Rocks site
 Rayado (Lucien Maxwell House): on State Highway 21, 11

miles south of Cimarron
 St. James (Don Diego) Hotel: S. Collinson Ave. at 17th St.,
 Cimarron
 Santa Fe Plaza: downtown Santa Fe
 Santa Fe Trail (Goat Hill) Overlook: top of Hill St.,
 overlooking the City of Raton
 Santa Fe Trail Ruts: Camino Lejo near Old Santa Fe Trail,
 Santa Fe
 William Tipton House Site and Stage Station: in Tiptonville,
 Mora County.

OKLAHOMA

Autograph Rock: fourteen miles northwest of Boise City,
 Cimarron County

Young People and the Trail

by Jacquelyn Ferriera

The following excerpts, edited by Chris Day, are from the
 journal of Jacquelyn Ferriera from Junction City, Kansas.
 Eleven year-old Jacquelyn took the 2011 Santa Fe Trail Youth
 Trip co-directed by Janet Armstead and Chris Day.

Day 1: May 29, 2011

Driving and walking tour of Council Grove, Kansas Sites:

*I was really amazed at them because they are nice and
 there was a lot interesting things to learn. I think the people on
 the trail were hot, tired, and happy to be exploring.*

Day 2: May 30, 2011

Kansas Sites: Pawnee Rock, Wagon Bed Springs, and Morton
 County Museum

*My favorite site today was Pawnee Rock because you can
 climb the rocks.*

Day 3: May 31, 2011

Kansas/Oklahoma/New Mexico Sites: Point of Rocks, Au-
 tograph Rock, and Clayton Lake State Park Dinosaur Tracks

*I thought the signatures at Autograph Rock were cool
 and I found three of Delgado. The handwriting was good just
 like mine. The Dinosaur Tracks at Clayton State Lake were
 awesome. There were worms that were trapped in the mud and
 facts about dinosaurs.*

Day 4: June 1, 2011

New Mexico Sites-Point of Rocks, Wagon Mound, and Wagon
 Mound Cemetery

*The volcanic rock at Point of Rocks is mostly black.
 I did stone rubbings at Wagon Mound Cemetery.*

Day 5: June 2, 2011

New Mexico Sites: Pecos National Park and Santa Fe walking
 tour

Miracle Staircase was my favorite site today. It wasn't

*connected to a wall and it has a railing. We couldn't go up the
 stairs and there was also a story about the staircase.*

Day 6: June 3, 2011

New Mexico Sites: Bandelier National Monument and Los
 Alamos

Climbing up to the Kiva was a pretty view.

Day 7: June 4, 2011

New Mexico Sites: Santa Fe National Cemetery and El Ran-
 cho de Las Golondrinas

*Walking through the cemetery, the grave stones are all
 in rows. There were cool things to see at El Rancho de Las
 Golondrinas. I bought two postcards and a huge cookie.
 We had a talent show back at the church and I sang with two
 other girls.*

Day 8: June 5, 2011

New Mexico Sites: Santuario de Chimayo, Taos, and Raton

*I decided to attend the church service at the camp. It was
 fun.*

Day 9: June 6, 2011

New Mexico/Colorado Sites: Capulin National Monu-
 ment, Kit Carson Statue and Marion Russell Gravesite

*Capulin Volcano is very big. A bug flew into my mouth
 and I had to spit it out.*

Day 10: June 7, 2011

Colorado Sites: Bent's Old Fort and Boggsville

I really liked the story about Bent's Old Fort.

Day 11: June 8, 2011

Colorado/Kansas Sites: Ruts/Swales near Cimarron, Kansas
 I enjoyed looking at the ruts.

**Day 12: June 9, 2011 (Travel back to Wamego, Kan-
 sas)**

*The life lesson I gained from experience on the Santa Fe
 Trail Trip is always do what you are supposed to do.*

BOOKS



Ned Wynkoop and the Lonely Road from Sand Creek

by Tom Pelikan

Louis Kraft, *Ned Wynkoop and the Lonely Road from Sand Creek*. University of Oklahoma Press. 2011.

Louis Kraft's new biography of Ned Wynkoop isn't strictly a Santa Fe Trail book, but it is a thoroughly-researched, meticulously-documented story of pioneer Colorado and relations between whites and American Indians in Colorado and elsewhere seen through the life of one good man.

Wynkoop came west from Pennsylvania seeking his fortune in the original rush to Colorado in 1859. He was the first appointed sheriff of Arapahoe County and was quite involved in the early development of Denver. When the Civil War started, he enlisted with the Colorado volunteers and eventually earned the rank of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel. He served under Chivington at Glorieta Pass and helped turn back the Texan invasion of New Mexico in 1862. By 1864 Wynkoop was in command of troops working to fight American Indians. Then, on September 10 he met the Southern Cheyenne Peace Chief Black Kettle. Kraft quoted a writing by Wynkoop that Black Kettle's "dignity and lofty bearing, combined with his sagacity and intelligence, had that moral effect which placed him in the position of a potentate. The whole force of his nature was concentrated in the one idea of how best to act for the good of his race; he knew the power of the white man, and was aware that thence might spring most of the evils that could befall his people." The meeting brought Wynkoop an epiphany and after the Sand Creek Massacre, as Kraft said, "he chose humanity and let the rest be damned."

Wynkoop spent the rest of his life working for peace and justice for American Indians when he wasn't working, as so many good people have to do, to support his family. He was also involved, when he lived in Santa Fe late in his life, in securing a proper memorial for Kit Carson there and even corresponded with John C. Fremont about the effort. Kraft uses the writings of a "notorious" Santa Fe Trail Association character, Leo Oliva, about Fort Larned, Fort Dodge and Fort Harker to set the stage for the Indian Wars of 1867-1868.

I had the pleasure of meeting Louis Kraft at a book signing he did in Denver in December and his book would make a great addition to any Western history buff's library. It constantly had me thinking, "I really wish I knew more about" Kraft is very pro-Wynkoop and that's not a bad thing for a biographer, especially one who never loses sight of his subject's humanity. I appreciate his research and his citations and I'll almost certainly look to the bibliography for more additions to my own library.

Footlights in the Foothills

by Mike Olsen

Edwina Portelle Romero. *Footlights in the Foothills: Amateur Theatre of Las Vegas and Fort Union, New Mexico, 1871-1899*. Santa Fe: Sunstone Press, 2011.

From the 1870s through the 1890s, Las Vegas, New Mexico, was one of the leading economic, political, and cultural centers of the American Southwest. Its early connection with the Santa Fe Trail, beginning with the fateful meeting of William Becknell and Don Pedro Ignacio Gallego just a few miles south of the town in 1821, assured its rise to prominence in the 19th Century, as did its proximity to Fort Union from 1851 to 1891.

Given its position, it is not surprising that the city's rich cultural life included decades of professional and amateur theatrical companies, along with a variety of opera houses, theaters, and the improvised stages that housed them. Edwina Romero's intriguing volume, *Footlights in the Foothills: Amateur Theatre of Las Vegas and Fort Union, New Mexico, 1871-1899*, chronicles this story.

Santa Fe Trail *aficionados* will particularly appreciate three elements of this tale. First, Romero references the multicultural heritage of the trail by surveying the varied Spanish-language productions during these decades, beginning with a full chapter on the traditional *Los Pastores*, the dramatization of the Christmas story. By 1891 the Las Vegas area boasted three Spanish-language amateur companies, *La Sociedad Dramática Hispano-Americano*, *La Sociedad Dramática* and *El Club Dramático de Las Vegas*.

Second, we encounter "old trail friends," such as Miguel Antonio Otero, Jr., his brother Page and his sister Maimie, (their father was the "Otero" of the important trail merchant firm, Otero, Sellers and Company) who were among the founding members of the Las Vegas Opera Company in the mid-1880s. In 1890 this group staged a production of Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta *The Mikado*, followed by *H.M.S. Pinafore* in 1892.

Romero devotes a full chapter to amateur performances at Fort Union between 1883 and 1886. In that short span of years enlisted men at the fort organized four distinct acting companies. One of them, the Fort Union Dramatic Society, even took a show "on the road" to Las Vegas, where the actors donated part of the house proceeds to "the benefit of little children whose parents are soldiers, and who have no educational benefits whatever."

The author leaves readers wanting to know more about this aspect of Las Vegas and trail history – and wishing to "time travel" back and catch a performance. This book is a very satisfying read.

Autobiography of Dr. Rowland Willard: Journey West along the Santa Fe Trail and Down El Camino Real 1825-1828

Introduction *by Joy Poole*

The Rowland Willard Autobiography is part of the Rowland and Elizabeth S. Willard Papers in the Western Americana collection at the Beinecke Library, Yale University. Publication of the Rowland Willard diary and autobiography is under consideration by Yale University Press.

The Rowland Willard Autobiography described in this volume expands upon his diary of an 1825 journey that Dr. Willard took west along the Santa Fe Trail and south down El Camino Real. Over the next three years as noted in his diary he would reside for three months in Taos, then he would travel to Chihuahua via Santa Fe and El Paso del Norte where he lived for two years with a three month residency in Valle de Allende¹ which Willard refers to as Allende throughout his autobiography. The original name of the community was Valle de San Bartolomé. He had previously written about this trip in a pocket diary and sometime prior to the 1870's, he wrote the autobiography while consulting his diary. It should be noted that some of the dates in the diary are wrong and therefore some of the dates referred to in this autobiography are wrong as well. Interested readers should refer to the original diary, which is annotated with the correct dates. This autobiography provides more descriptions of events and Dr. Willard's observations and opinions that he didn't have the time to write while traveling and writing by campfire at night or in the early morning while en route. It also provides the reader with some of the reasons for decisions that were made, namely his reason for leaving Mexico that was due to the expulsion of Mexico's Spaniards, many of whom were his patients.

Rowland Willard started westward from St. Charles, Missouri, where he had resided for the previous eight years. When Willard arrived in St. Charles in 1817, his profession was carpentry. His first customers were two brothers, Jeremiah and Seth Millington, who resided in St. Charles. Willard built more houses and was successful in his trade. About 1822 Dr. Millington convinced Willard to switch professions and become a physician: thus Willard began the study of medicine under his tutelage. Willard became a member of the Masonic Lodge in St. Charles, and through the Lodge established enduring relationships with other influential members and their acquaintances. At this time, lawyers, judges, legislators, and others were creating the Missouri State Constitution. Willard knew many of the state leaders and socialized with them both professionally and personally during this exciting time of Missouri becoming a state. When Willard decided to go to Mexico in the spring of 1825 he traveled southward on El Camino Real to Chihuahua, which he reached in the fall of 1825. Due to his status as an American and a physician, he was accepted by both the Spanish aristocracy and Chihuahuas' political elite, who wrote the Chihuahuan constitution the previous year. His dinner conversations on both frontiers must have been quite

stimulating.

At the beginning of his Santa Fe Trail journey he describes Negroes baking crackers all night, thus giving insight into the work of these Missouri slaves and the food preparations required to make the journey to Taos. He identifies the location of the rendezvous with four mountain men at Blue Springs Campground south of Independence, Missouri, an early trail rendezvous location. Dr. Willard reports in detail his physical examination of mountain man Hugh Glass at a campsite along the trail, this being the only extant medical record of Glass's deformities after his grizzly bear attack.

Dr. Willard depicts his first encounter with buffalo on the short-grass prairies of western Kansas, which resulted in a calamity when the greenhorns approached a buffalo herd on all fours and selected and shot them one by one within the large herd. He explains how they butchered the buffalo, loaded the meat and manufactured bull-skin tub boats to cross the Arkansas River. As they continue on the trail he describes Rabbit Ears, in northeastern New Mexico as a "way mark" whereas others have described such landmarks as pilot knobs on what is today known as the Cimarron Cut-off.

Upon arrival in Taos, Dr. Willard describes a 4th of July celebration which included a procession and fandangos in the evening, which is the earliest account of a 4th of July celebration in New Mexico.

He starts learning Spanish in Taos while he practiced medicine for three months. In his diary he wrote Spanish words phonetically; in his autobiography he has a better command of the Spanish language. Still, there are many misspelled Spanish surnames and place names.

He describes many of the diseases and illnesses he encountered with his patients in Taos, Santa Fe, Chihuahua and Valle de Allende. As a physician he also learned how to negotiate with family members and priests who were called to administer last rites or unction. When he thought he could save a patient and time was of the essence, it was a challenge for him to negotiate with family members to give him access to the patient and therefore priority over the clergy, rather than defer to the religious authorities to administer last rites to the patient. Both the clergy and the physicians were often sent for simultaneously, thus it depended on who arrived first, the physician or the padre.

Willard revealed a great deal about his perceptions of Mexican and Spanish cultures as well as the impact of the Catholic faith on daily life. Dr. Willard lived on the plaza in close proximity to the parish church and visiting Americans would often stay with him. Therefore, they would have witnessed daily processions, bells chiming throughout the day, and the Catholics

going to and from the church for mass. As a local resident and host for American traders and United States government officials, he was often summoned by the Mexican officials to respond to complaints that the foreign traders and officials were disrespectful of their religious customs.

Dr. Willard himself was a Protestant who learned to exercise tolerance for the Catholic practices which were omnipresent throughout society. Susan Shelby Magoffin in her 1846 diary commented about the church in Santa Fe "being well supplied with bells which are chiming it seems to me 'all the time' day and night."²

He provides lively accounts of bullfights and a horse race staged in Chihuahua by the Missouri traders.

In summary Dr. Willard met and traveled with over 130 people during his trip to Mexico. His characterizations of these people is revealing and provides insights into the various levels of cultural and ethnic differences, and the resulting tolerances or lack thereof practiced by both travelers and residents.

In his book *The Extranjeros*, the late Dr. David Weber wrote that Dr. Howard Lamar, Professor Emeritus at Yale, had suggested in his book *The Far Southwest* that the "conquest of Mexico" was a "conquest of merchants." Those merchants who served as an advance guard for America's manifest destiny were largely unknown until Stagecoach Press published Dr. Weber's research from the Mexican Archives of the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives. Dr. Weber began by identifying the foreigners (e.g. the American traders') names which helped immensely with this work. The Rowland Willard diary and autobiography taken together provide insight into the trappers, traders, physicians, government officials, and clergy. Dr. Willard assists the reader in understanding what their motivations and personalities were and what their perceptions and attitudes were towards the trade, Mexico, and its people. Certainly that is true of the time frame of 1825-1829.

Endnotes

1. Valle de Allende received its current name in 1825 in honor of Ignacio Allende, a military leader during the Mexican War of Independence. Prior to 1825 the community was Valle de San Bartolomé. It was founded in 1569 by Franciscan monks and is one of the oldest communities in Chihuahua, Mexico. Retrieved on September 5, 2011 from http://www.museumstuff.com/learn/topics/Valle_de_Allende

2. Drumm, Stella, (ed.) *Down the Santa Fe Trail and into Mexico: The Diary of Susan Shelby Magoffin*. Lincoln: 1962. p. 103.

This research was funded by a Cooperative Task Agreement research grant with the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) and the National Park Service (NPS), National Trails Intermountain Region; key official, Frank Norris for NPS.

Joy Poole co-founded the Santa Fe Trail Association while serving as Administrator for the Colorado Historical Society's Trinidad Museum Complex in Trinidad, Colorado. She was appointed to the Advisory Council to the National Park Service for the Management Plan of the Santa Fe Trail. Joy served on the SFTA Board in the early 1990's, has been a presenter at several symposia, and recently served as Chair of the Santa Fe Trail Scholarly Research Committee.

Looking for Wagon Tracks?

An index and back copies from 1986 to 2008 are on-line at www.santafetrail.org/publications

Current copies are a benefit of membership

See page 27 for membership form

Chapter Reports

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

Missouri River Outfitters

Harry Rinacke
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Independence MO 64058
816-796-8276
hrinacke@earthlink.net

MRO met on Sunday, December 11 at the historic home of Sandy and Roger Slusher in Lexington, Missouri. John Atkinson reported that the native grasses MRO members helped plant at the Gardner Junction site in 2003 are doing well. The Indian grass is especially prominent. Native flowers are thriving and bloom in abundance in late spring.

Dick Nelson will give a presentation at Barstow School on Trail History, using the map and the SFTA Education trunk to entertain 40 second graders. MRO Board member Larry Short recommended that the newsletter be sent via email where possible. Dick Nelson thanked Harry Rinacke and John Atkinson for their work on preparing and installing markers.

Dick said that he, John Atkinson, and Larry Short are on the sign plan committee. They will survey sites for signs in Howard County, proceed to Saline County, and work westward to Jackson County. Stone Posts: MRO President Harry Rinacke has prepared two posts to receive the signs. Additional signs have been added to the post at Old Town in Lexington and also to the post at the Burns Swale south of Napoleon. The next MRO meeting will be in late March but the specific time and date has not yet been finalized. John Atkinson will present a program on Antoine Robidoux. For more information, contact MRO president Harry Rinacke at hrinacke@earthlink.net or 816-796-8276.

Douglas County

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

The Douglas County Chapter will be holding their annual potluck dinner at the Baldwin City United First Methodist Church, 8th and Grove, on Saturday, March 3. The social begins at 5:00 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Our speaker will be Jeff Trotman talking

Chapter Reports, *continued*

about the SFTA/NPS signage program.

Heart of the Flint Hills

Carol Retzer
4215 East 245th St.
Lyndon KS 66451
785-828-3739
success.retzer@gmail.com

Cottonwood Crossing

Steve Schmidt
1120 Cobblestone Ct.
McPherson KS 67460
620-245-0715
wfordok@yahoo.com

The Chapter met November 17, 2011 at the First Christian Church in Galva. The meal was provided by the Galva Christian Church Disciples Women, and a fine meal it was.

The program, presented by Dr. David Clapsaddle, was the first of two "Traveling Trunks." The Chapter was honored to have among its guest a group of home-schooled students who initiated lively discussions with their pertinent questions.

The slate of officers for 2012 was presented and elected, with Steve Schmidt returning as president. Thanks, Steve, your tireless work is greatly appreciated. The chapter members were asked for input regarding future meetings regarding when, where, should there be a meal, etc. Members are to be ready to discuss these issues at the next meeting.

Steve announced that as of November 19, all the new Santa Fe Trail Local Auto Tour signs should be in place across Marion County, leaving only the new signs for the Cottonwood Crossing kiosk and the Lost Spring Historical Site to be installed. The Chapter was delighted by a news story carried by the local paper regarding long time chapter director Bill Silverstrand and his wife, Jean, acting as volunteers with a group that makes quilts to be sold for charity. Bill and Jean have been doing this for several years. Way to go, Bill and Jean!

Our next chapter meeting will be March 15 at the Galva First Christian Church at 7:00 p.m. Come join us... you'll be glad you did.

Quivira

President Linda Colle
724 Penn Drive
McPherson KS 67460

620-241-8719
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Wet/Dry Routes

Dr. David Clapsaddle
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Larned KS 67550
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Sixty members and guests met on January 22 at the Kinsley Municipal Center. In the absence of the president, Rosetta Graff, vice president, conducted the business meeting. Following reports from the secretary/treasurer, an election of officers was held for the 2012 year: David Clapsaddle, president; Rosetta Graff, vice president; Merlene Baird, secretary/treasurer; and David Clapsaddle, program chairmen.

The Faye Anderson Award was presented by daughter Joan Forrest of Larned to the Fort Larned National Historic Site for their outstanding contribution to preserving the Santa Fe Trail since the 19th century. Kevin McMurry, Superintendent, accepted the award and cited the contributions of Chief Ranger George Elmore and those attending the meeting who have served throughout the years. The program was presented by Dr. Leo Oliva, in cooperation with the Kinsley Library, on the Civil War in Kansas.

Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron

Jim Sherer
1908 La Mesa Dr
Dodge City KS 67801
620-227-7377
jim.sherer@yahoo.com

Our chapter met on December 15 for our Christmas dinner at Casey's Cowtown with 27 members attending. Susan Bunyan created neat table decorations and Bill Bunyan arranged for special door-prize drawings. Everyone enjoyed getting together for a final wrap-up of the Symposium. President Sherer stated that the final report for the Symposium had been completed and mailed along with a check to the SFTA. Bill Bunyan shared some thoughts and ideas about how we might utilize our share of the funds to enhance signage at some of our significant SFT sites.

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 19 in the Occident at Boot Hill Museum at 1:15 p.m. Bill Bunyan will present a program about the Cimarron

ron Crossing Stage Station located in the Cimarron area in the late 1860's. Joanne VanCoevern and Jeff Trotman will explain the signage program that is available through the SFTA and we'll discuss how we might use this program in enhancing signage at our SFT sites.

Wagon Bed Spring

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

Cimarron Cutoff

Leon Ellis
PO Box 668
Elkhart KS 67950
620-453-2286
mtcomuseum@elkhart.com

The Cimarron Cutoff Chapter meeting will be held March 10, at noon in the Santa Fe Trail Room of the Morton County Historical Museum in Elkhart, Kansas. The program will be by Dr. Sara Jane Richter on "The Cimarron Route". A chicken fried steak dinner will be served for the cost of \$10.00. Members and guests may RSVP to the Morton County Museum at mtcomuseum@elkhart.com or 620-697-2833.

Bent's Fort

Pat Palmer
PO Box 628
Lamar CO 81052
719-931-4323
gpatpalmer@hotmail.com

In November, 62 chapter members and guests met at the Otero Museum in La Junta, CO, to learn about Penitentes in the southwest from guest speaker Ruben Archuleta. Mr. Archuleta's grandfather and great, grandfather were Penitentes and he shared with us their stories and some of the artifacts used in the moradas they joined.

In December, BFC officers and committee chairs met to plan our 2012 events. We've planned 11 separate programs that include tours, guest speakers, kiosk dedications, DAR Trail Marker rededications, and trail marking days. We'll travel from western Kansas to southern Colorado on our tours. Also, we have received 22 beautiful new Santa Fe Trail Crossing signs that we will start placing along county roads starting in March.

STFA Annual Membership January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012

Name(s) _____ ☐ Life \$1000, 1 time or 3 installments
Address _____ ☐ Patron \$100/year
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ ☐ Family \$30/year
Phone _____ Email _____ ☐ Individual \$25/year
☐ Business \$50/year ☐ Nonprofit Institution \$40/year ☐ Youth (18 and under) \$15/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 \$ _____
I'd like to donate to the Leo E. Oliva Scholarly Research Fund ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 \$ _____

To pay by credit card, go to 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 Olsen Peters, Treasurer, Santa Fe Trail Center, 1340 K-156, Larned, KS 67550

**All memberships expire on December 31.
Renew by mailing the above form
or renew online at www.santafetrail.org**

In May, we'll be helping with the "Wagons Ho! Trail Transportation Trough Time" event at Bent's Old Fort. This event will be a major one in our area involving several chapters and national associations over a 3-day period.

Our January 14th meeting featured a presentation by member Ed Stafford on Confederate influence on the southwest during the Civil War.

Our chapter ended 2011 with 113 paid members and we encourage everyone to rejoin now. 2012 will be packed with lots of fun and educational opportunities for all who join.

Corazon de los Caminos

Paula Steves
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Angel Fire NM 87710
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elkrun2007@yahoo.com

Dennis Schneider, charter member of the chapter, was elected president for the 2012-13 term. Other officers are: Tom Ferguson, vice-president, Martha Sauble, secretary, Peggy Ferguson, treasurer, Dixie Odom, Newsletter, Henri VanderKolk, Archives and Martha McCaffrey, board member.

The chapter will begin the year with

a program by Roger Slusher depicting the life of James Aull, Santa Fe Trail merchant. We will meet in Raton at the Sands Restaurant, March 17 at 1 p.m.

Programs for the year are being planned: April 15 history and genealogy with Apollonio Ortiz, who traces his family for 13 generations; May 19, Kiowa National Grasslands tour; June 10, tour the Trail south out of Las Vegas; July 21, participate with Fort Union; August 19, Wagon Mound; September 15, Cimarron; October 7, Old French, November 17 program marking the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War.

Corazon plans to be a part of History Week in Santa Fe the first week of May that will celebrate 100 years of New Mexico Statehood. Faye Gaines is in charge of plans to cooperate with the End of the Trail Chapter and other organizations.

The Chapter gratefully accepted a replacement educational trunk that SFTA manager Joanne VanCoevern offered, to replace the one we had loaned to Fort Union. The Fort is making good use of the materials, so now we too have a trunk. Nancy Poe is in charge.

Our aims for this year include possibly

adopting a chapter project and increasing attendance at our tours.

End of the Trail

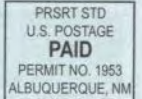
Pam Najdowski
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Santa Fe NM 87501
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pamnajdowski@yahoo.net

George Donoho Bayless
PO Box 4126
Santa Fe NM 87502
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At our November 19 meeting, 37 members and guests heard Rafael Chacon, aka UNM Professor Enrique Lamadrid, wearing his New Mexico Volunteers officer's uniform, tell his experiences in Mexico and Territorial New Mexico. Rick Hendricks, New Mexico State Historian, gave a presentation on "New Mexico's Long Road to Statehood" at our meeting on January 21.

We have organized a steering committee for the 2015 Meeting of the Trails Symposium to be held September 17-20, 2015, in Santa Fe, hosted jointly by SFTA and CARTA (El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Assoc.). OSTA (Old Spanish Trail Assoc.) may join in as well.

Santa Fe Trail Association
1046 Red Oaks NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
www.santafetrail.org



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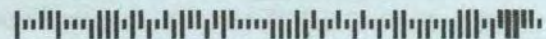
Center For Southwest Research Comp

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EVENTS

February 12: Kinsley, KS. Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the Civil War, with Dr. Leo Oliva, Kinsley, Library, Sundays, 2-5 p.m.

- March 11
- April 15
- May 6

February 19: Dodge City, KS. the Occident at Boot Hill Museum at 1:15 p.m. Bill Bunyan about the Cimarron Crossing Stage Station.

March 3: Baldwin City, KS. Douglas County Chapter annual potluck dinner at the Baldwin City United First Methodist Church. The social begins at 5:00 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 p.m.

March 10: Elkhart, KS. Cimarron Cutoff Chapter meeting at noon in the Santa Fe Trail Room of the Morton County Historical Museum in Elkhart, Kansas. Dr. Sara Jane Richter on "The Cimarron Route."

March 15: Galva, KS. Cottonwood Crossing Chapter meeting at the Galva First Christian Church at 7:00 p.m.

April 11: Albuquerque, NM. Dona Tules – Gambling Queen of Santa Fe, 2012 NM Centennial Living History Series: Kimo Theater, 7 p.m. Performed by VanAnn Moore

April 20-21: SFTA Board of Directors Meeting and Spring Retreat, Ulysses, KS.

May 4-6: Santa Fe, NM. NM Historical Society Annual Conference

May 9: Albuquerque, NM. Buffalo Soldiers – Black Cavalry in New Mexico, 2012 NM Centennial Living History Series: Kimo Theater, 7 p.m. Performed by Fred Hampton – Historian, Secretary of Buffalo Soldier Society of New Mexico

May 11-13: Bent's Fort, CO. Wagons Ho! Trail Transportation through Time

May 15-18, 2012 National Historic Trails Workshop: Socorro, NM. Sponsored by PNTS, hosted by the El Camino de Tierra Adentro Association (CARTA)

August 6-11, OCTA Conference: Lawrence, KS.

Scholarly Research Grants

- September 1, 2012: Receipts and draft reports due.
- September 15, 2012: Final reports due.

September 20-22, 2012: Larned, KS. "Rendezvous," Co-sponsored by the Santa Fe Trail Association, the Santa Fe Trail Center and Fort Larned National Historic Site. SFTA Fall Board of Directors meeting and General Membership meeting.

September 26-29, 2013: Ulysses, KS. SFTA Symposium, "Surviving the Plains." Hosted by Wagonbed Springs Chapter, Ulysses, KS.

September 2014: Larned, KS. Rendezvous.

September 17-20, 2015: Santa Fe, NM. SFTA Symposium, "Meeting of the Trails," hosted jointly by SFTA and CARTA