

Wagon Tracks

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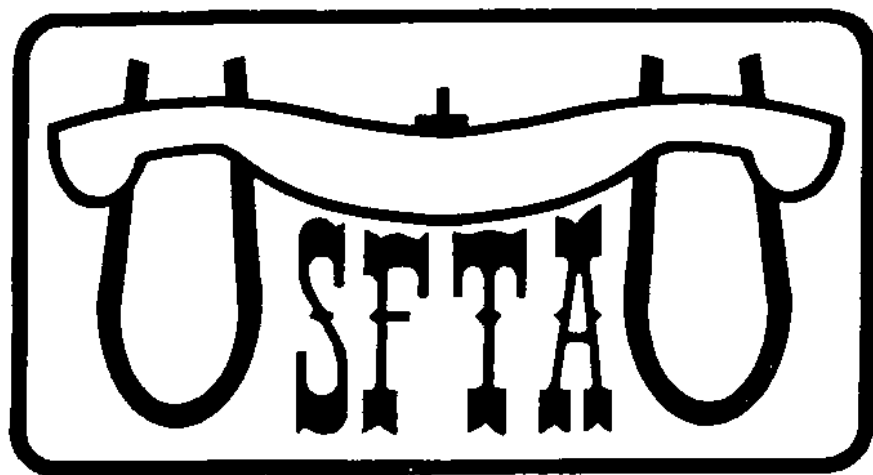


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WAGON TRACKS

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY

VOLUME 24

MAY 2010

NUMBER 3

RENDEZVOUS 2010 SEPTEMBER 16-19

by Ruth Olson Peters

PLAN now to *Rendezvous* at Larned, KS, in September. "Communication on the Santa Fe Trail" is the theme for this year's program. Planning is in full swing as we work to finalize the details of the event.

We had great news at the end of March when informed that principal funding for this program will be provided by the Kansas Humanities Council. The KHC grant request for \$7,448.00 was approved in full and will be used to cover honoraria, travel, and per diem for speakers, facilities rental, and promotion of the Rendezvous seminar. Assistance for the 2010 Rendezvous will also be provided by the National Trails System - Intermountain Region of the National Park Service. We are appreciative of the support from the Kansas Humanities Council and the National Park Service.

After the SFTA Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, September 16, the Rendezvous will open with a meal and program on the grounds of the Santa Fe Trail Center. "Letters of Fort Dodge and the Santa Fe Trail" will be presented by SFTA President Joanne VanCoevern of Salina, KS. Her presentation will focus on the correspondence of Isadore Douglas and Post Commander Major Henry Douglas to Isadore's mother in Pennsylvania. In addition to information contained in the letters, VanCoevern will display and discuss vintage clothing of the era as well as other items of everyday use in the 1800s. For those arriving earlier in the afternoon, former SFTA board member Dr. Alice Anne Thompson of Golden, CO, will discuss four Trail sites of Finney County, Kansas, with a presentation that will include both historical information as well as photographs.

The Rendezvous will convene Fri-
(continued on page 5)

SFT RENDEZVOUS
LARNED, KANSAS
SEPTEMBER 16-19, 2010
SFTA SYMPOSIUM
DODGE CITY, KANSAS
SEPTEMBER 20-25, 2011

KANSAS DAR MARKER RESTORATION CELEBRATIONS

by Shirley Coupal

[SFTA member Coupal is KSDAR State Regent. The restoration of the DAR markers in Kansas was assisted by grants from the SFTA and the NPS.]

PLANS are made to celebrate the restoration of the Santa Fe Trail DAR markers in Kansas. One marker per district is being commemorated, with a special celebration with the Santa Fe Trail Association at Larned. All dates are Saturdays and light summer refreshments will be served. Dress and shoes should be appropriate for being out on the Trail.

SFTA Manager Harry Myers will attend the celebrations at Larned and Elkhart. Supt. Of Long Distance Trails Aaron Mahr (representing the NPS) plans to attend the celebration at Elkhart.

All Santa Fe Trail Association members are invited. Invitations will be sent to SFTA officers, chapter presidents, and other interested individuals as well as the DAR chapters across the state. For more information, please contact Shirley Coupal, KSDAR State Regent, at <scoupal@kc.rr.com>.

The schedule follows, including date, time, marker location, and DAR Chapter and District hosting:

June 5, 2:30 p.m., Lone Elm Marker in Lone Elm Park, Olathe, Olathe Chapter, Northeast District.

June 12, 10:00 a.m., Council Oak Marker in Council Grove, Council Oak Chapter, Southeast District.

June 19, 11:00 a.m., Stone Corral
(continued on page 5)

PRESERVATION IS SFTA GOAL

by Jeff Trotman

[Trotman is a member of the SFTA board, president of the Wagon Bed Spring Chapter, and chair of the Mapping and Marking Committee.]

HOW long will the American public be able to appreciate, visit, and see the remains of the wagon road that became an international commercial highway used by American and Mexican traders? Today, adverse impacts along the Santa Fe Trail are ever increasing with the continuing development of oil and gas exploration, wind energy, urban sprawl, etc. The list of threats continues to grow. But with the watchful eyes of SFTA chapter members, the education of developers, municipalities, and the energy industry, we can stop and/or slow the effects of intrusions along the Santa Fe Trail. Preservation is one of the main goals of SFTA, and all members can be involved.

Persons or parties owning land with historic resources on their property should and need to be educated about the importance of their property. We all need to be encouraging the owners to preserve the cultural resources and artifacts on their property as priceless and non-replaceable treasures.

If SFTA members (or chapters) learn of the intention to damage, deface, or destroy any historical site along the Santa Fe Trail, or find that any such damage has occurred, they should contact Preservation Committee Chair Faye Gaines at faye-gaines@yahoo.com or 575-485-2473. She will then contact the proper State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and the Superintendent of the National Park Service Long Distance Trails Group Office for assistance. If the threat to a site is criminal in nature, local authorities of the historic site should be contacted as well.

Even well-intentioned actions can
(continued on page 24)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

THE SFTA had another successful Board of Directors meeting in April, as well as committee and chapter workshops. The Cimarron Cutoff Chapter did an excellent job of hosting the nearly 50 members that attended in grand style. SFTA thanks them and truly appreciates all the work they went to for the benefit of the Association.

At our board meeting we received reports from several committees on their activities. The Awards Committee reminded the Board that this will be the first time awards will be given at the Rendezvous and to be sure to send in nominations.

Chris Day updated us on activities of the Education Committee and their progress on the Junior Wagon Master project. Booklets for the eastern portion of the Trail have been sent to artist Diana Dickey and mentor Dr. Joyce Thierer, and the central portion of the Trail is ready for editing. It was announced that Chris Day and Janet Armstead received the Huck Boyd National Institute Award for leadership, based on their biennial Santa Fe Trail trips with students. Their next trip with students will be during the summer of 2011. Marcia Fox continues to submit Kids Activity pages to Wagon Tracks and four student essays were published in the Feb. 2010 issue as a result of the activity included in the Nov. 2009 issue.

Funding/Special Appeals Chair Phyllis Morgan informed the board that life memberships are continuing to increase and that we are up to 33 life members.

John Atkinson, chair of the Kiosk Committee reported that the native grasses and flowers are starting to grow at the Gardner Kiosk. The Franklin markers have not been set yet, but work is proceeding and they hope to have them installed in the next few months. The next kiosk will be installed at the Dodge City rut sites and work is beginning. The committee has identified sites to be included on the panels, and the text is being developed. The Trails to Parks project funded through the NPS is proceeding and will place kiosks at the four National Historic Sites along the Santa Fe Trail: Fort Larned, Fort Union, Bent's Old Fort,

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<<http://www.santafetrail.org>>

and Pecos. Site visits are planned for early June. The committee has also identified several sites as potential kiosk sites, including Jackson County, MO; near McPherson, KS; near Clayton, NM; and near Raton, NM.

Mapping/Marking Chair Jeff Trotman has almost completed his work on the Kansas Government Land Office (GLO) markings and will add CO and NM next. This information will then be converted to a form that will show the markers, signs, etc. along the Trail, and who is the custodian for each. He also told us that his committee had received an application from the Cottonwood Crossing Chapter to improve their auto tour route signage and that he had seen work being done on DAR markers in his area. (See related DAR article elsewhere in this publication.)

Membership, as always, continues to be of concern, and Linda Colle continues to lead her committee with ideas and suggestions of ways to increase it. Linda reported that this year our membership is down about 4% and that we had 713 members at the time the report was prepared. 152 membership recruitment letters were sent to chapter members who do not belong to SFTA and 20 memberships were received as a result of this letter. In addition, as your president visited chapters, several chapter members became new SFTA members. The committee has suggested that an emphasis be placed on recruiting more business members

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Membership Categories

Life	\$1,000
Patron	\$100/year
Business	\$50/year
Nonprofit Institution	\$40/year
Family	\$30/year
Individual	\$25/year
Youth (18 & under)	\$15/year

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along the Trail; that an information/membership recruitment booth be set up at several upcoming events; and that more membership brochures be printed.

Faye Gaines, as Preservation chair, reported that wind farms continue to be the major function of her committee's work. Proposed wind farms have slowed down, due to the lack of transmission lines to transport the electricity to major population areas. It should be noted that there are plans to build some of these lines from the Spearville, KS, wind farm north to Hays, as well as southeast to Wichita.

The Publications/Website Committee has had a huge responsibility this past year in determining the course that SFTA will take with the retirement of Leo Oliva as editor of *Wagon Tracks*. Along with his retirement, it was noted that the format of *Wagon Tracks* may be affected by changes in technology, as well as the cost of printing/mailling. As to a new editor of *Wagon Tracks*, it was reported that one will be hired and assume his/her duties on July 1, 2011. To that end the committee is developing a job description and a compensation package for this position within the constraints of the SFTA budget. In addition, an editorial board will be created to assist the editor. The current format of *Wagon Tracks* will be kept at least until the new editor is in place. Thanks was extended to former chair, Mike Olsen, and appreciation was expressed to new chair, Rod Podszus, for taking on this busy committee.

The Publicity Committee under the leadership of Larry Justice has recommended that a part-time, paid position for an Outreach Coordinator be considered. This position would be funded by the NPS. The purpose of this position would be to work with communities to make Trail development opportunities known, to raise public awareness of Trail opportunities, to publicize successes of Trail development activities, to coordinate awareness of commemorative activities, to help local outreach coordinators in reaching a wider audience, to work with other trail associations' outreach coordinators to develop local contact information for education purposes, raise volunteer opportunities, and identify and develop coop-

erative agreements with new communities and organizations as well as to reach a broader audience in Trail communities. The NPS would also hire an outreach coordinator who will offer support for the coordinators in the trail associations.

The results of the recommendations of the Santa Fe Trail Hall of Fame committee, now headed by Roger Slusher, can be found in the Action Items article in this issue. The committee also reported that they are considering innovative ways to display those inducted in the Hall of Fame, and are working with staff at the Santa Fe Trail Center in Larned. A special fundraising campaign will be conducted by the Funding/Special Appeals Committee to raise funds for the Hall of Fame exhibit.

Chair of the Scholarly Research Committee, Joy Poole, sent a report to the board that three grants have been awarded: Eveleth Hill, Marshall, MO, for her project "Where Wagon Wheels Rolled to Santa Fe" which will focus on property abstracts in Saline County, MO; Charles Strom, White City, KS, to assist in his research project on "Charles G. Parker, Wagon Master;" and Steve Schmidt, McPherson, KS, for his project "Mapping Joseph C. Brown's 1825 Survey of the Santa Fe Trail," in which files of his plots will be placed on modern-day maps in PDF format. The results of his work will be placed on the SFTA website for public access. The NPS has granted continued funding for these valuable grants.

John Atkinson, chair of the Symposium Committee, informed the board that his committee would be making updates/changes to the Symposium guide during the workshop on Saturday. Plans for the 2011 Dodge City, KS, Symposium are well underway and Jim Sherer, Symposium Coordinator and President of the Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron Chapter, updated us on those plans. It was also noted that the 2013 Symposium, which will be hosted by the Wagonbed Spring Chapter has started making plans. The committee is also seeking chapters/communities to host the 2015 Symposium.

Chapters reported on their various activities and it was noted that

there are many very interesting speakers and tours taking place all along the Trail.

As a highlight of the weekend, we were given the chance to visit three impressive museums in Elkhart, KS, Boise City, OK, and Clayton, NM. Anyone visiting the Trail should make every effort to take time and visit these museums. They are truly jewels on the Santa Fe Trail.

—Joanne VanCoevern

MANAGER'S COLUMN

WE recently completed a fantastic board meeting/strategic planning session hosted by the Cimarron Cut-off Chapter in Elkhart, Kansas. The chapter provided us with all our meals and breaks. Just imagine home cooking for an entire weekend and you will have some idea of just how good the board and chapter presidents had it. We invite all members to attend our board meetings. We have a good time and get a whole lot of business done.

This year we focused on committee meetings. In three different sessions we had nine committees meet. All of them were productive and will help chart the course of the SFTA over the next year and into the future. The publications committee tackled the big issue of Leo's retirement from *Wagon Tracks*. They have started on a plan of action that will give us a smooth transition to a new editor. The special appeals committee defined what the appeals will be in the next couple of years. Buying a touch-screen computer for the Santa Fe Trail Center for the planned Hall of Fame interactive display was set for the present appeal. That computer cannot be paid for through our NPS funds. The 2011 appeal will be for the Scholarly Research fund that provides resources for quality research on the Trail.

Mapping and Marking accepted a new sign agreement with the NPS and talked about an anticipated revision of the marker policy within the next six months. The Kiosk Committee pretty much laid out the Dodge City Kiosk and assigned tasks through a written timeline and responsibilities paper. The Education Committee continued to work on the Junior Wagon Master program and anticipated a product for a portion of the Trail to be available soon. They

also discussed involving higher education students, those at high school and college level, in SFTA activities. The Membership Committee discussed ways to increase membership. They came up with some great ideas that they will be sharing with us in the coming months.

Our Preservation Committee stressed the need for all persons involved in the Santa Fe Trail to be aware of threats to the Trail and to educate those whose developments could threaten the historic remnants. They ask that all chapter members and members of the SFTA be active and aware and report any threats to the committee. The Symposium Committee is planning on revising the symposium handbook and then putting that on the web site. They also discussed the issue of whether symposiums should make money or not for the SFTA. More should be coming on this issue at the next board meeting.

This is a brief overview of the committee work and discussions. It was really neat to see everyone excited about and discussing the future. SFTA is truly in good hands. But we can always use new help, new faces, and new ideas. Please consider joining a committee so you can help determine the future.

—Harry C. Myers

SFTA BOARD ACTIONS

by Mike Olsen

FOLLOWING are the action items from the April 16 board meeting (this executive summary is not official until the minutes are approved by the board).

It was moved, seconded, and passed that:

1. The Santa Fe Trail Association develop its own credit card payment system.
2. The Finance Committee become a subcommittee of the Budget Committee.
3. Recommendations from the 2021 Task Force and Publications Committee as reported to the board be accepted. These recommendations included:
 - A. That a new editor for *Wagon Tracks* be hired.
 - B. That the current format of *Wagon Tracks* be retained until such time as a new editor might

recommend changes.

- C. That an editorial board be developed to work with the new editor of *Wagon Tracks*.
 - D. That the Publications Committee present a report on the impact of new and changing technologies on SFTA publications at the Fall 2010 meeting of the SFTA Board of Directors.
4. Recommendations from the Hall of Fame Committee as reported to the board be accepted. These recommendations included:
- A. Inductees will be chosen by a committee of five.
 - B. In 2015, or sooner if nominations fall below 10 annually, deceased individuals who have made significant contributions to the history of the Trail will be eligible for the Hall of Fame.
 - C. A 100+ word justification, rather than a full page, will be sufficient to nominate a person to the Hall of Fame.
 - D. The Hall of Fame Committee will be responsible for making nominations as well as for encouraging others to do so. The goal is to have 25 nominees a year until the most obvious choices have been inducted.
 - E. Rather than hanging pictures and citations on the wall at the Trail Center, the Hall of Fame will be exhibited in a touch-screen computer at the Santa Fe Trail Center, and the Hall of Fame will be displayed on the Association website.
5. A new agreement with the National Park Service concerning funding for signage and replacement of existing wayside exhibits, in relation to the Signage Fund within the SFTA budget, be adopted.
 6. A special funding appeal be instituted to raise funds for an Interactive SFTA Hall of Fame display and complementary exhibit to be placed at the Santa Fe Trail Center.
 7. Funds from the 2011 special funds campaign be designated for scholarly research.

BOARD APPROVES HALL OF FAME EXHIBIT AND FUND-RAISING PROJECT

by Phyllis Morgan

[SFTA board member Morgan is chair of the Funding/Special Appeals Committee. The Hall of Fame exhibit is the focus of fundraising activities for the coming year.]

THE SFTA Board of Directors, meeting in Elkhart, Kansas, in April, voted unanimously to establish and install the SFTA Hall of Fame interactive exhibit at the Santa Fe Trail Center in Larned. This exhibit will include a touch-screen computer that presents significant individuals in the history of the Trail who have been officially inducted into the Santa Fe Trail Hall of Fame. This educational interactive exhibit, similar to those installed in museums and information centers across the country, will provide Center visitors, school groups, and others with the opportunity to learn about those people and the Trail's history. This project perfectly fits our important goal of educating all ages about the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

The Hall of Fame inductees are chosen by the Hall of Fame committee: SFTA Vice-President Roger Slusher, chair, and members Clint Chambers, Ruth Peters, LaDonna Hutton, and Bonita Oliva.

Every member of SFTA is encouraged to submit an eligible person from Trail history for induction. The nomination must be accompanied by a 100+ word paragraph justifying the selection as a viable nominee. Thus far, the following have been inducted: William Becknell, Pedro Ignacio Gallego, Kit Carson, William Bent, William R. Gordon, James Aull, Josiah Gregg, Susan Shelby Magoffin, Marion Sloan Russell, and Ceran St. Vrain.

The Board also approved a special appeal to raise funds for this worthwhile project. The necessary computer equipment, software, and exhibit design at the Trail Center is estimated at approximately \$10,000 (more details will be provided with the special appeal). Members will receive an appeal letter in the latter half of June, asking them to contribute generously to this special project. A variety of donation categories will receive a complimentary gift from the Last Chance Store. In addition, the Last Chance Store will match a portion of the contributions.

RENDEZVOUS 2010

(continued from page 1)

day morning at the Larned Community Center with SFTA Manager Harry Myers of Santa Fe, NM, giving the introduction to the theme and the first presentation, "Before the 'protecting care of the nation' Mail Service on the Santa Fe Trail up to 1850." His talk will describe early attempts of communication on the Trail prior to that date, including communication between the government in Santa Fe and the tribes of the Plains, particularly the Kiowa and Comanche. His presentation will also include communication sent back to Washington, D.C., by the U.S. Army involved at the time in exploration of the Southwest.

Dr. David Clapsaddle, historian from Larned, KS, and current president of the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter of the SFTA, will speak next on "Regular Mail Service on the Santa Fe Trail." He will cover the decade of mail service from 1850 to 1860, including the rise of trading establishments in Kansas which hosted mail stations.

Dr. Michael Olsen, Professor of History Emeritus, New Mexico Highlands University, and retired Instructor of History at Pike's Peak Community College in Colorado Springs, CO, will present "Mail on the Santa Fe Trail - 1860-1880: The Impact of Political and Technological Changes." Olsen's program will review the delivery of the US mail in the final two decades of the Trail's existence and also incorporate the development of advancing communications technology, particularly with the advent of the telegraph and completion of rail links to the Southwest. His discussion will also provide information about the two territories that became states (Kansas and Colorado) during this time period.

Otis Halfmoon, Nez Perce Tribal Elder and National Park Service Tribal Liaison in Santa Fe, NM, will speak on "The Moccasin Telegraph." He will address communication as it relates to the Indian Tribes on the Santa Fe Trail both historically and today.

The final presentation at the Community Center on Friday afternoon will be given by Dr. Susan Calafate Boyle who will speak on "Com-

mission Merchants: Anglo-Hispano Joint Business Ventures." She will discuss the Santa Fe Trail as a major commercial route bringing together individuals and businesses from a wide geographic area and how coordination and effective communication became key factors to the success of these operations. She will also discuss the establishment of multi-ethnic firms. Dr. Boyle works for the Long Distance Trails Group Office of the NPS in Santa Fe, NM.

The program will pickup again in the early evening at the J. A. Haas Building near the Community Center, including dinner, SFTA Awards presentations, and a program, "My Life on the Santa Fe Trail" by Faye Gaines, owner of the historic Point of Rocks Ranch in New Mexico.

The Saturday morning programs will reconvene at the Larned Community Center with Dr. Alexa Roberts, Superintendent of Bent's Old Fort NHS, La Junta, CO as the first speaker. She will present "Bent's Fort as a Mail Station on the Santa Fe Trail," and will talk in conjunction with Greg Holt, Park Ranger and Historian at Bent's Old Fort NHS. Dr. Roberts's presentation will discuss how the mail delivery system between St. Louis and Santa Fe developed and the role Bent's Fort played as a stop along that route. Holt will talk about the importance and challenges of long-distance communications in the remote West during the mid-19th century.

Dr. Leo E. Oliva, author and historian from Woodston, KS, and editor of *Wagon Tracks*, will present the program "The Mail Station at Pawnee Fork and the Founding of Fort Larned." He will review the changing Indian-White relations in Kansas Territory following discovery of gold in the Rocky Mountains, changes in the U.S. Government contract for carrying mail on the Trail, attempts by a contractor to establish a mail station at Pawnee Fork, and military protection provided.

Dr. Doug Scott, retired archaeologist from the National Park Service and current professor at the University of Nebraska will speak on "The Mail Station at Fort Larned: Archaeological Reality of the Station." Dr. Scott conducted the archaeological work on this station in 1973 and 1974 for the NPS. He is most noted

for his work at the Little Bighorn in the mid-1980s. He worked out a field methodology that has enabled archaeologists to systematically investigate battlefields. His work is internationally recognized.

There will be a wrap-up session after Dr. Scott's presentation on Saturday afternoon. This session will include a panel of all speakers with interaction from the audience. It will be led by Harry Myers.

The afternoon will continue with activities at Fort Larned National Historic Site, including a visit to the mail station site, living-history programs, retreat ceremony, dinner in the Quartermaster Storehouse, and a program, "Escorting Mail on the Santa Fe Trail." The program will be a first-person account by Private Robert Morris Peck, Company K, First U.S. Cavalry, member of the troops that established Fort Larned and escorted mail on the Trail. Peck wrote detailed memoirs of his military life, and he will be portrayed by Dr. Oliva.

Sunday, September 19, will feature a bus tour from Larned to Dodge City following the Dry Route of the Santa Fe Trail. The tour will be led by Dr. Clapsaddle. The Dry Route was used by the mail companies almost exclusively in preference to the Wet Route. Participants will be limited to bus size, and the tour will be available in order of registration, with a waiting list if the bus fills.

Members of the Santa Fe Trail Association will receive registration materials for Rendezvous 2010 this summer. The target date for mailing is the first week of August. For any questions regarding this year's Rendezvous, please contact the Santa Fe Trail Center at 620-285-2054 or <museum@santafetrailcenter.org>.

DAR MARKER CELEBRATIONS

(continued from page 1)

Marker at Little Arkansas Crossing, Stone Corral Chapter, Northwest District, with Dutch lunch at Quivira Museum in Lyons.

June 19, 3:00 p.m., Fort Larned Marker, Fort Larned Chapter, KSDAR, 3:30 p.m., program at Santa Fe Trail Center, Larned.

June 26, 1:00 p.m., Point of Rocks Marker, Cimarron River Valley Chapter, Southwest District, program at Morton County History Museum, Elkhart.

RICHARD CONWAY, BERNARD HIGGINS, AND THOMAS McGRATH: IRISH SOLDIERS AT FORT UNION AND THEIR NEW MEXICAN FAMILIES

by Doyle Daves

[Doyle Daves has been writing about Anglo-American traders who married Hispanic women in New Mexico. During that research, funded in part by a grant from SFTA, he gathered information about three Irish-American soldiers who served at Fort Union on the Trail, remained in New Mexico, married local women, and contributed to the diversity of society. These fine articles demonstrate the value of the SFTA scholarly research fund. A photo of Richard Conway has not been found.]

RICHARD Conway, Bernard Higgins, and Thomas McGrath were each born in Ireland, immigrated to the United States, joined the army, and followed the Santa Fe Trail to take up posts as enlisted men at Fort Union in New Mexico Territory. They came from different parts of Ireland; they served at Fort Union at different times; they did not know each other. They did not leave many records; as a result, it is not possible to fully reconstruct their lives. However, following their discharge from the army, each of these Irishmen elected to remain and settle in New Mexico and each married a local woman and established a family.¹ Through these families, their legacies and surnames continue to be part of the wonderfully-diverse human mosaic of northern New Mexico.

Irish Soldiers in the American Civil War and Western Indian Wars

There were Irish, and particularly Protestant Scots-Irish, immigrants coming to America from very early times. However, it was only in the late 1840s that a great Catholic Irish migration began as a result of the potato famine that occurred in Ireland between 1845 and 1852.² During this period, approximately one million of the Irish population of about eight million died from starvation and disease and an equal number emigrated. Large numbers of these Irish emigrants arrived at Atlantic seaport cities of the United States and Canada where they created great burdens on the local resources as they were destitute, often suffered from disease, usually were uneducated, and mostly possessed only



Sergeant Thomas McGrath

peasant farming skills. In addition, these Irish immigrants represented the first significant influx of Catholics into major cities like Boston, New York, and Philadelphia.

Upon arrival in America, the Irish quickly dispersed, even to the western frontier. The 1850 census for New Mexico Territory lists 290 residents who were born in Ireland; by 1860, the number was 826. As an interesting contrast, the 1850 census for New Mexico Territory lists only eight residents born in Spain although the territory at that time was overwhelmingly Hispanic and Spanish-speaking. Many young Irish men who immigrated to America enlisted in the military as a convenient way to obtain shelter, food, and clothing. Andy Waskie and Kevin Kenny report that approximately 150,000 Irish immigrants served in the Union army during the Civil War; a much smaller number served in the Confederate Army.³

Most Irish immigrants made fine soldiers. There are numerous reports from military commanders, both Union and Confederate, attesting to their qualities. A typical appraisal from an unidentified military chaplain was quoted by John Maguire: "Commanders prefer them, not only for their bravery, but their cheerfulness, and for their cleanliness and

neatness as soldiers. When others would be resting, the Irishmen would be washing their clothes, and would then play games in their buff till they were dried. They were true soldiers—tigers in battle, lambs after. It was beautiful to witness their conduct to the enemy; they were kind as women to them, assisting the wounded, dividing their rations with them—losing every feeling of anger and hostility."⁴

During the Civil War, most immigrant soldiers served in regiments raised by the various states; however, as Waskie notes, "They were also well represented in the small Regular Army."⁵ This point is important as, particularly after the Civil War, it was regular army men who served on the western frontier in the ongoing struggles to subdue hostile Indians. A source on foreign-born soldiers noted: "At times foreign-born soldiers made up over half of the Regular Army enlisted ranks. . . . Americans of the 19th century tended to dislike the idea of a standing army. . . . The army was also unattractive due to low pay, deplorable living conditions and locales, poor food and harsh discipline."⁶ Conway, Higgins, and McGrath were all regular army soldiers who served in New Mexico.

Thomas McGrath and Maria Rufina Duran y Martinez

Thomas McGrath was the first of these three Irishmen to arrive in New Mexico as a soldier in the United States Army. McGrath was born in 1832 in County Fermanagh in northwestern Ireland bordering on Protestant Northern Ireland. It is not known just when he immigrated to America or whether he came alone or with family members. It is known that in 1855 he was in Newport, Kentucky, just across the Ohio River from Cincinnati. It was here that he enlisted on May 1 in the United States Army for a five-year tour of duty. His enlistment record indicates he was 23 years old and working as a laborer; he was illiterate as he signed with an X.⁷

McGrath was assigned to Company D, Third Infantry, and was

posted to the garrison at the recently-established (1851) Fort Union in New Mexico Territory. Fort Union had been established as a supply depot for military provisions freighted across the Santa Fe Trail from Missouri and to protect travelers and area inhabitants from Indian depredations. During the latter half of the 1850s, when McGrath served at Fort Union, soldiers were kept busy with patrols along the Santa Fe Trail and participated in multiple brief campaigns against one raiding Indian tribe or another.⁸

Thomas McGrath completed his tour of military duty and was discharged at Fort Union with the rank of sergeant on June 1, 1860. Interestingly, the 1860 census record, taken only a week later, shows McGrath (in this record, Magra) living in Ranchos de Taos, some 50 miles north of Fort Union. He was listed there living with his wife, Maria Rufina Duran, and their eight-month-old son José Dolores. McGrath listed his occupation as laborer and declared no assets. In contrast, in this record, his wife, Rufina claimed real estate valued at \$100 and personal goods worth \$400.

Maria Rufina and her twin sister, Maria Estefana, born January 5, 1834, were daughters of Antonio Buenaventura De La Encarnacion Duran and Maria De Jesus Martin(ez)⁹ who were both born in Taos of old, well-established families. Buenaventura Duran was a prosperous farmer who possessed real estate valued at \$1000 in 1850. No marriage record for Rufina and Thomas McGrath has been located, although they likely were married¹⁰ in early 1859 when Thomas was 27 and Rufina was 25, as their son, José Dolores McGrath, was born at Ranchos de Taos on December 4, 1859.

No further records have been found for Thomas McGrath. It remains unknown when or where he died. However, his wife Rufina was listed in the 1870 and 1880 census records living with her children, José Dolores, Adelaida, and Ana Maria. In the 1880 census she declared she was a widow. José Dolores (J. D.) married Maria Guadalupe Lucero on January 28, 1878, Adelaida married Isidro Torres in 1881, and Ana Maria married Emilio LeDoux in 1891. José Dolores McGrath died unexpectedly

March 12, 1907, at the age of 47, leaving his wife, Guadalupe, with a large family, a number of which were still at home. Rufina outlived her son; she is listed in the 1910 census for Mora County, living alone. Apparently she died before the 1920 census.

Richard Conway and Maria Virginia Archuleta y Gonzales

Richard Conway was born in 1838 in County Kilkenny in southeast Ireland not far from Dublin, the nation's capital. It was not determined when or how he came to the United States, but on February 8, 1858, in Chicago, as a young laborer age 19, he enlisted in the army for a term of five years.¹¹ He was assigned to Company F of the Seventh Regiment of Infantry and, apparently, he joined his unit at Jefferson Barracks near St. Louis. The Seventh Infantry had been stationed in New Mexico and along the Arkansas River protecting wagon trains of the Santa Fe Trail since 1850, but in early 1858 the regiment had been ordered to Jefferson Barracks to prepare for service against the Mormons in Utah.

Following the successful conclusion of this campaign, in the spring of 1860 the Seventh Regiment was sent back to New Mexico to reinforce troops along the Rio Grande where its units were initially separated and assigned variously to Forts Fillmore (near present Mesilla), Craig (south of Socorro near the desolate Jornada del Muerto on El Camino Real to Mexico) and Buchanan (along the Sonoita River near what is now Patagonia, Arizona). Richard Conway, as part of Company F, was stationed at Fort Craig. However, in July 1861, the troops at both Forts Buchanan and Craig were ordered to rejoin the units stationed at Fort Fillmore because the Confederate Army was advancing from Texas, bringing the Civil War to New Mexico.¹²

The commander of the Seventh Infantry at Fort Fillmore was Major Isaac Lynde, who proved to be an exceptionally inept commanding officer. On July 27, 1861, near San Augustin Springs, Lynde surrendered his command to the very much smaller Confederate (Texan) Army, essentially, without having engaged the invaders in battle.¹³ "So great

was the feeling toward Major Lynde, that he was not allowed to enter the garrison. This disastrous and disgraceful affair occurred July 20, 1861, and after due consideration Major Lynde was summarily dismissed from the service by order of President Lincoln, and ceased to be an officer of the army November 25, 1861."¹⁴

Richard Conway's unit fared differently. "Companies C, F and H escaped capture by returning at once to their respective posts. . . . Having escaped the unfortunate fate of the remainder of the regiment, Companies C, F and H, were concentrated at Fort Craig. On the 21st of February [1862] the severe battle of Valverde was fought in which Companies C, F and H participated. Company F was decimated and both the others lost heavily."¹⁵ Luckily, Richard Conway survived and remained in service in New Mexico until his discharge at Fort Union on February 3, 1863.

It is not clear when Richard Conway decided to remain in New Mexico or when he met Virginia Archuleta. Virginia was born in May 1844 in Santa Fe to Antonio Archuleta and Mariana Gonzales. By 1860, her mother had died and in the census for that year she was living with her father and two brothers in the Golondrinas community not far from Fort Union. Richard Conway and Virginia Archuleta probably married sometime in 1864 as their first child, daughter Dorotea, was born in May 1865. Two more children were born to the couple; Santiago in 1867 and Francisca in 1871.

The 1870 census lists the family, Richard, Virginia, the two oldest children, and Virginia's father, Antonio Archuleta, living at Loma Parda, a few miles west of Fort Union. Conway listed himself as a farmer and declared real estate valued at \$500 and other assets worth \$300, impressive for such a young man at the time. This 1870 census is the last record located for Richard Conway. It appears that he died about 1872 at the age of 34. The cause of his death is not known; it is possible that he succumbed to a lingering disability resulting from his military service.

Following Conway's death, Virginia married Antonio Maria Olona in December 1873 and had several more children. Oldest daughter,

Dorotea Conway (Congue in Spanish records), married Candalario Ortiz, December 13, 1879, when she was 14. Santiago Conway married Severa Lobato, December 15, 1890, at La Junta (now Watrous), and younger daughter, Francisca Conway, married José Telesforo Montoya on November 12, 1888, also at La Junta.¹⁶

Bernard Higgins and Emanuela (Emma) Roberts y Martinez

Bernard Higgins, almost a generation younger than McGrath and Conway, was the last of these three Irishmen to reach New Mexico. Bernard was born November 20, 1852, in Castlerea in County Rosecommon in northwest Ireland to Bernard and Sarah (Strock) Higgins. He immigrated to the United States and was working as a laborer in Lowell, Massachusetts, at the time of his enlistment in the army. He enlisted November 24, 1875, at Boston for a term of five years and was assigned to Company F, Fifteenth Regiment of Infantry, as a private. The Fifteenth Infantry, headquartered in the South following the end of the Civil War, was reassigned for service against the Western Indians, arrived in New Mexico in 1870, and remained there a little over twelve years; thus all of Bernard Higgins's military service (1875-1880) was in New Mexico. During many of these years, the command was divided and individual units served at various forts within the territory. The Fifteenth Infantry was particularly active in the Apache Wars in southern New Mexico and Arizona.¹⁷ Records show that, in addition to other duties, Higgins served as a cook while stationed at Fort Union. He was at Fort Union and still a private when he was discharged on November 24, 1880.

Following his discharge from the army, Bernard established a farm and ranch some three miles west of Fort Union in a place that is still called Higgins Canyon. He married Emanuela (Emma) Martin(ez) soon after leaving the army. Emma was born in Mora County in July 1864 to Richard Roberts and Deluvina Martin(ez). Roberts, born in England in the early 1830s, was a soldier stationed at Fort Union serving as a corporal in the Ordnance Corps Infantry. Following his discharge, he remained in the San Antonio commu-



Bernard Higgins

nity of Mora County where he became a farmer. In the 1870 census he and Deluvina are listed along with a hired hand; surprisingly, Emma is not listed in that record. In the 1880 census, the family is again in the San Antonio community; now Emma (Manuelita Martinez) is listed here as is her younger sister, Isadora. Importantly, in this record, Richard Roberts reported that he suffered from "paralysis." Roberts died before November 19, 1892, because on that day, Deluvina filed for a widow's pension from the Army.¹⁸

Bernard and Emma Higgins raised a large family. In the 1900 census for Mora, Emma reports that she has given birth to eight children with seven still surviving. The 1910 census lists two more children born after 1900. Family memory is that as many as nine other children were born but did not live to adulthood. Francis Cragin, who interviewed many old-timers in the Mora area in 1908, noted then that "Bernard Higgins (who lived near Ft. Union 25 yrs) now lives at Mora."¹⁹

The cause of the move from the Higgins Canyon ranch was a dispute over ownership of the land with the Union Land and Grazing Company. The principal of this company was Benjamin Franklin Butler, Union General during the Civil War, later a member of the House of Representatives, and then governor of Massachusetts.²⁰ Beginning in the early 1880s, General Butler began acquiring title to lands within the Mora Land Grant²¹ from Thomas B. Ca-

tron, Stephen B. Elkins, and other members of the notorious "Santa Fe Ring."²²

By 1885, General Butler, who may have never visited New Mexico, together with his son Paul and daughter Blanche and son-in-law Adelbert Ames, had formally established the Fort Union Ranch which, in 2010 is celebrating its 125th anniversary as a family-run operation. The acquisition of title to a large portion of the Mora Land Grant by the Butler faction was, from the beginning, fraught with many difficulties and resulted in a great many lawsuits.²³ The boundaries claimed by the Fort Union Land and Grazing Company included a number of small land holdings like that of Bernard Higgins. In 1905 the Fort Union Land and Grazing Company instituted a lawsuit against the Higgins family, disputing their land titles. The file for this lawsuit provides information concerning the Higgins' land and how it was acquired. In the file, a letter dated March 7, 1906, addressed to an agent of the company from local attorneys Jones and Rogers of Las Vegas, New Mexico, indicated that Higgins had occupied the land "since 1884, and that on June 28, 1905 had 140 cattle which he grazed in the Fort Union pasture. . . . [T]hat on September 4, 1894 he purchased from Jose Manuel Salas a tract of land 300 yards in width on the Mora River within the Fort Union pasture. That in 1884 he was in possession of a tract of land lying within the exterior boundaries of the La Cueva Ranch, which he exchanged with Thomas B. Catron for the tract of land lying within the Fort Union pasture. That . . . he has improved the same by erecting houses, planting trees constructing fences etc."²⁴ As has been true in most situations involving Spanish and Mexican land grants, with all the complications resulting from transition from one legal tradition to another that is radically different in fundamental ways,²⁵ gaining or defending land titles is difficult and usually expensive. In the case of Higgins, it is not surprising that the much larger and better financed Fort Union Land and Grazing Company prevailed in their dispute.

Bernard and Emma Higgins continued to live in Mora until at least

1920 when they were listed in the census there that year. At some point, they acquired land in the Trujillo community of San Miguel County, but if they moved there it was only for a brief time, although they did retain the land which still remains in the Higgins family. The couple then moved to Dawson, New Mexico, now a ghost town but, from 1906 to 1950, it was a thriving coal-mining community. Their son John and his family had moved to Dawson earlier, where he found work. Bernard acquired a job as a salesman in a local establishment. It was in Dawson that Bernard Higgins died in 1924. Later that same year on December 5, Emma applied for a widow's pension from the Army.²⁶

New People, New Ways - A New Age in New Mexico

William Becknell's opening of the Santa Fe Trail in 1821 signaled that great change was coming to Spanish-speaking New Mexico, which had been essentially isolated and self sufficient from the time of "la entrada" by the soldiers and settlers led by Don Juan de Oñate in 1598. The conquest, in 1846, by General Stephen Watts Kearny and his Army of the West, which made New Mexico part of the United States, and the subsequent establishment of Fort Union in 1851, dramatically accelerated change. Emphasizing the importance of Fort Union, Robert Duffus put it this way: "Fort Union...was a military distributing point, to which regularly came the supply trains, adding their rumbling wheels, their trampling hoofs to the growing commercial traffic from the Missouri River. More and more the old Trail was being beaten into a broad highway, on which one could not travel long without meeting or passing somebody. An age was dying—but an age was being born."²⁷

An especially important factor in the newly emerging age was the arrival of men (and a very few women²⁸) of very different backgrounds and character. Richard Conway, Bernard Higgins, and Thomas McGrath, who grew up half-way around the world in Ireland, came via the Santa Fe Trail as soldiers and chose to settle and establish families. For good or ill, they brought with them different language, habits, ideas, and preconceptions. Through their many de-

scendants, their legacy has been incorporated into the human fabric of New Mexico, increasing its diversity and enriching its culture.

NOTES

1. Interviews with Leroy LeDoux, Billie Higgins, Michael Branch, Amalia Gallegos, Joe Lopez and Catherine Montano.
2. Christine Kinealy, *The Great Calamity: The Irish Famine 1845-1852* (New York: Gill & McMillan, 1995); Cecil Woodham-Smith, *The Great Hunger: Ireland 1845-1849* (New York: Signet, 1964).
3. Andy Waskie, "Foreign Soldiers in the American Civil War," http://wesclark.com/jw/foreign_soldiers.html; Kevin Kenny, *The American Irish: A History* (New York: Pearson Education, 2000).
4. John Francis Maguire, *The Irish in America* (London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1868), 577.
5. Waskie, "Foreign Soldiers."
6. "An American Melting Pot: Foreign Born Soldiers." in *Experience Your America* (February 1996), *The Museum Gazette*, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, National Park Service: www.nps.gov/jeff/historyculture/upload/melting_pot.pdf.
7. Thomas McGra'h's military record, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
8. Leo E. Oliva, *Fort Union and the Frontier Army in the Southwest* (Santa Fe: Southwestern Cultural Resources Center, Professional Papers No. 41, National Park Service, 1993), chapter 3.
9. Before the nineteenth century, in New Mexico the surname Martin (Mar-teen) was common while Martinez was rare. By the last third of the nineteenth century the transition to Martinez was essentially complete.
10. That they were formally married is indicated in the record of son José Dolores McGrath's marriage to Guadalupe Lucero, dated January 28, 1879, which identifies him as the "legitimate son of the deceased Tomas McGrath and of Rufina Duran." Marriage Records of Santa Gertrudis Church, Mora, New Mexico.
11. Military record for Richard Conway, U. S. Army, Register of Enlistments 1798-1914, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
12. A. B. Johnson, "The Seventh Regiment of Infantry" in Theophilus Francis Rodenbough and William L. Hardin, eds., *The Army of the United States, Historical Sketches of Staff and Line with Portraits of Generals-in-Chief* (New York: Maynard, Merrill & Co., 1896), 500-503.
13. Oliva, *Fort Union*, 252
14. Johnson "The Seventh Regiment of Infantry," 503.
15. Ibid.

16. Marriages, Volume 1 for La Junta, Territory of New Mexico, September 1873 to April 1908.
17. H. R. Brinkerhoff "The Fifteenth Regiment of Infantry" in Rodenbough and Hardin, *The Army of the United States*, 625-627.
18. General Index to Pension Files 1861-1934, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
19. Francis Whittimore Cragin, "The Early Far West Notebooks, XII (8)," unpublished, Pioneer Museum of Colorado Springs, Colorado, 4.
20. Benjamin Franklin Butler, *Autobiography and Personal Reminiscences* (Boston: A. M. Thayer, 1892).
21. Robert D. Shadow and Maria Rodriguez Shadow, "A History of the Mora Land Grant: 1835-1916," Office of the New Mexico State Historian: www.newmexicohistory.org/filedetails.php?fileD=22561.
22. Malcolm Ebright, *Land Grants and Law Suits in Northern New Mexico* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1994), 43.
23. See, for example, "Suing Gen. B. F. Butler; He is Asked to Explain this Real Estate Transaction," *New York Times*, September 17, 1890, 8.
24. The Union Land and Grazing Company vs W. Lynam, Emma Higgins de Martinez, Bernard Higgins et al. A. A. Jones Collection, Box 24, Folder 78-85, Case 2261. New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe.
25. Ebright, *Land Grants and Law Suits*, chapter 1.
26. General Index to Pension Files 1861-1934, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D. C.
27. R. L. Duffus, *The Santa Fe Trail* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1972), 227.
28. Marian Meyer, *Mary Donoho, New First Lady of the Santa Fe Trail* (Santa Fe: Ancient City Press, 1991).

SANTA FE TRAIL BICYCLE TREK SEPTEMBER 5-24

WILLARD Chilcott has announced the itinerary for the 16th Santa Fe Trail Bicycle Trek, from Santa Fe to New Franklin. For details and registration, please contact Chilcott at <Willard@cybermesa.com>. The itinerary is published here so SFTA members can meet the riders along the way.

- 9/5 Santa Fe to Las Vegas, NM
- 9/6 Las Vegas to Wagon Mound
- 9/7 Wagon Mound to Cimarron
- 9/8 Cimarron to Trinidad, CO
- 9/9 Day off in Trinidad
- 9/10 Trinidad to La Junta
- 9/11 La Junta to Lamar
- 9/12 Lamar to Lakin, KS

9/13 Lakin to Dodge City
 9/14 Day off in Dodge City
 9/15 Dodge City to Larned
 9/16 Larned to Sterling
 9/17 Sterling to Hillsboro
 9/18 Hillsboro to Council Grove
 9/19 Day off in Council Grove
 9/20 Council Grove to Baldwin City
 9/21 Baldwin City to Independence
 9/22 Independence to Lexington
 9/23 Lexington to Arrow Rock
 9/24 Arrow Rock to New Franklin

CATCH UP! CATCH UP!

—New Technologies—

by Rod Podszus

[SFTA member Rod Podszus, Colorado Springs, generously writes this regular column. If you have questions about anything he writes, please contact him at <rodpodszus@gmail.com.].

DO you remember when your mother reminded you to say *thank you* when someone gave you a present or did a favor for you? How about *you're welcome* when someone said thanks to you? And, don't forget to send grandma a thank you note for the Christmas present and remember to RSVP to the birthday party invitation. As children, if we were lucky, our parents spent lots of time educating us about proper etiquette in social interactions.

Today many of our social interactions come from social media forms such as Facebook, Twitter, e-mail, and instant messaging. What are the rules of etiquette when we use these methods to interact? This column will look at some rules that bloggers and social media experts have put together. All information has been gleaned from web sites easily found online. All of the points covered have come from comments and concerns addressed to me, and I thank everyone for bringing these issues up.

Let's first look at e-mail. I send out lots of information via e-mail newsletters and "blasts" promoting local events that might be of interest to members of our local SFTA chapter. Someone recently alerted me to privacy concerns because these e-mails reveal the e-mail addresses of all the recipients. For lots of good reasons, some people simply do not want to share their e-mail addresses. Also, e-mails can be forwarded and re-forwarded so who knows where your address eventually ends up.

Unscrupulous recipients may "mine" the addresses for sale to marketers or other list compilers.

So, if you e-mail newsletters or announcements to groups of people, here's an easy way to avoid displaying the addresses. Simply put the addresses in the "blind carbon copy" field at the top of your to section. If you use Internet Explorer, you'll notice the words *Show Cc* and *Show Bcc* somewhere close to address line, usually to the upper right of it. Click on the "Show Bcc" icon and an address line will open up. Put all of your addresses in that space and none of them will be displayed. Now, you will have to put at least one address in the top to line so just put your own address there. Other e-mail providers such as Gmail may label the icon as *Add Bcc* or some similar identifier but all providers give you this option.

A second issue is responding to e-mails (and instant messages and tweets). Probably everyone has sent an e-mail and then sat back and wondered if it was received. When we communicated via written letters and phone calls, it took effort to reply to someone. Today, it can be done instantly by hitting the *reply* button at the end of the e-mail. Simply say "got it" or "thank you" and let the sender know that you got the message. If you use Facebook as your main messaging system you can respond instantly by simply clicking on the *comment* button. Every web site I researched recommended responding instantly if at all possible and within 24 hours at the very latest. It's kind of like sending Grandma that thank you note right now, today.

Lots of people have questions about proper etiquette on Facebook (FB) and other social media sites. Let's focus on FB since it's the main site used. Some people are reluctant to get a FB account because they don't want all of their personal information out on the Internet for everyone to see. However, to get a FB account, the *only* information that you have to provide is your name, e-mail address, and (for security reasons) your birthday. That's all. You don't have to put up a picture, where you live, where you went to school, etc. So, you can provide very minimal information, get an account, sign on, and then explore the site and see if it

has areas that interest you.

However, there is a big drawback to the above. To take advantage of a social network site, you really need to share information about yourself. The more you give, the more you receive back. So, if you're willing to put down where you grew up, where you went to school, what church you attend, jobs you've had, hobbies and interests, etc, you will greatly increase the odds that others with similar pasts and interests will find you and share their information. But, you don't have to put all that down. Just name, e-mail address, and birth date will get you on the site.

On FB, some of your friends will just love to play games like FarmVille and Mafia Wars. They may deluge you with requests for pieces to the games and offer to swap pieces with you. If these requests drive you crazy, you don't have to *unfriend* (remove) this person. Simply block his game requests. Just look at the post and you will see the word *hide* beside it. Click on *hide* and you will be given an option to hide all posts from this person or to hide the game requests. Click on the option to hide the game requests and you'll never receive another one.

Other friends love to tell you every cute thing their parakeet has done, what their 3 year old said this morning, etc. You might want to send a private e-mail FB message to this friend advising him to cool it, to quit cluttering up the site with trivia. (Probably you'll word it better than I just did.) To send a private message, click on the friend's name or picture and you'll get a drop-down menu with an option to send that friend a message. The message you send will not show up on FB; it's just between the two of you. If this approach doesn't work, you can then opt to hide your friend's posts. Just position your cursor over the posting and the word *hide* will appear to the right. Click on it and you will hide that friend's postings. You're still friends and he can still see your postings and news but his will be blocked.

Also on friends, you don't have to accept everyone who sends a friend request to you. Lots of people on the web are in contests to see how many *friends* they can accumulate. If you don't know the person, check out his profile by clicking on his name. He

may well be someone with a similar interest or background to yours. If not, just decline the request. The value of social network sites is in building quality relationships with people who will enrich your experience and the sites, not in how many friends you can claim.

Last, all commentators emphasize the importance of respecting the social network community. Be nice. Don't be a shameless promoter of yourself. Don't clutter the site with trivia that few people care about. Post photos, videos, and links only to those areas of interests that your other friends care about. Skip the religious jokes and political commentaries. Don't use crude language. Respect the intelligence of the members. Take time to listen to others and try to understand their point of view. The social skills your mother taught you to value in real life are the same ones to value online.

POST OFFICE OAK

—LETTERS—

Editor:

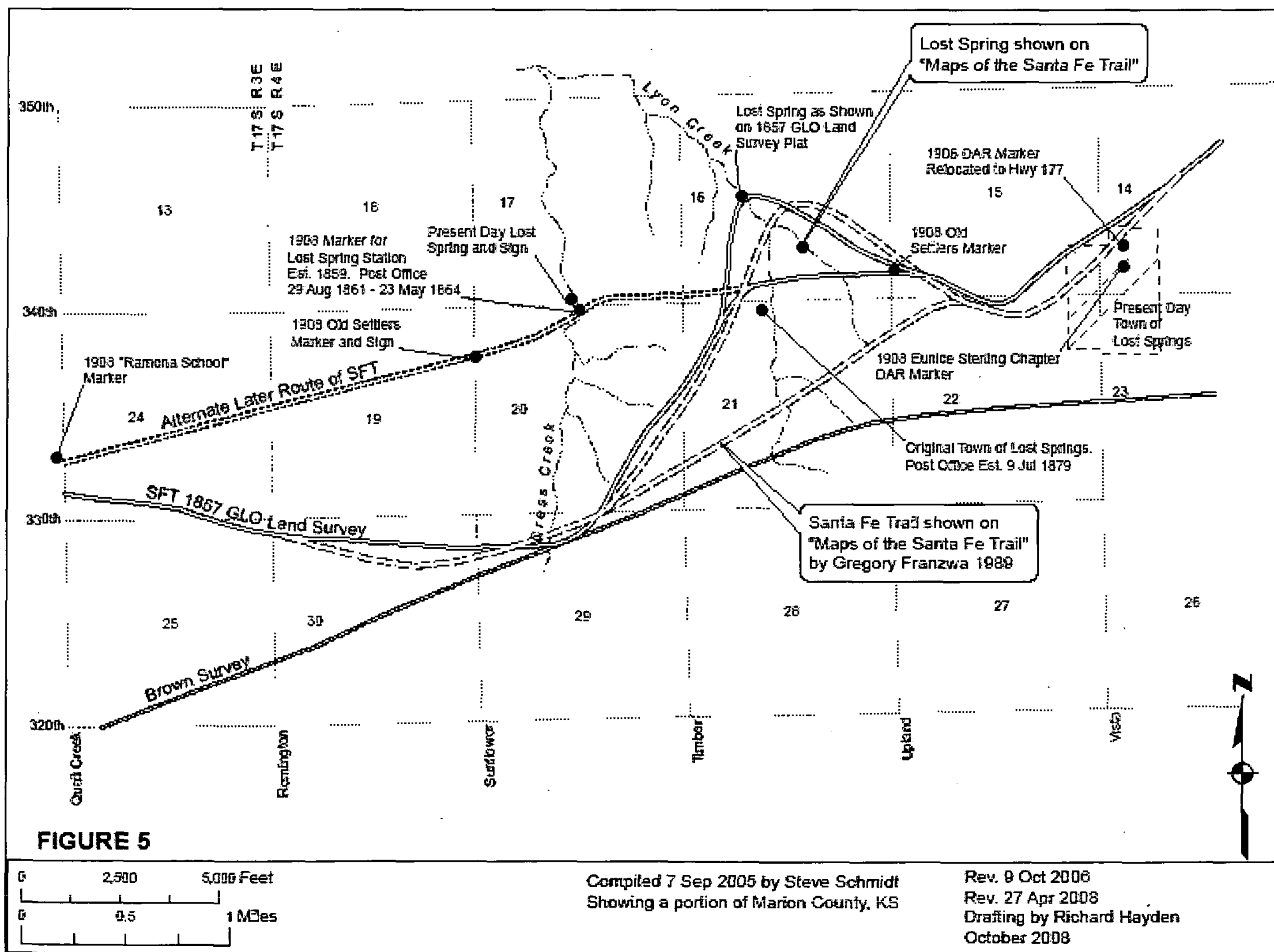
In his fine article, "A Frail Thin Line: Trading Establishments on the Santa Fe Trail, Part I," in February 2010 *Wagon Tracks*, David Clapsaddle correctly states that "A short seven miles west of Six Mile Creek was Lost Spring, named for its lack of water at certain periods of the year. Emptying into Lyon Creek, it was a well-known location on the Santa Fe Trail." This is the Lost Spring referenced in diaries and documents prior to 1857. However, it is not where George Smith established a ranch in 1859. George Smith's ranch or "station" was located approximately one mile to the southwest on Cress Creek near what is today known as Lost Spring (See L. Stephen Schmidt, *Lost Spring, Marion County, Kansas, A Historical Perspective* [L. Stephen Schmidt, First Printing, October 2008], avail-

able from SFTA Last Chance Store).

Rather than Hockady and Hall, Smith would have contracted to run a mail station with Hall and Porter which was the mail contractor 1858-1860 (Morris F. Taylor, *First Mail West, Stagecoach Lines on the Santa Fe Trail* [Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1971], First Paperback Edition 2000 with Foreword by Mark L. Gardner, available from SFTA Last Chance Store).

Costello did not homestead his 160 acres (comprised of four 40-acre tracts in four different quarter sections and two different sections). In 1864 Costello purchased the 160 acres using a military bounty warrant (Patent Record, Book 15 Page 608, Register of Deeds, Marion County, Kansas Courthouse).

I offer the attached map for the reader's consideration (Figure 5, Schmidt, *Lost Spring*). On that map, Hwy 177 should read Hwy 77; and, the Brown Survey route is the Sibley



Expedition. Neither Gregory Franzwa's *Maps of the Santa Fe Trail* nor the National Park Service's *Santa Fe National Historic Trail, Comprehensive Management and Use Plan-Map Supplement* correctly shows the location of the spring and the Santa Fe Trail in the vicinity of Lost Spring Station. The Map Supplement contains a particularly egregious map.

Steve Schmidt
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McPherson KS 67460

TRAIL TROUBADOUR

—Traffic in Verse—

Sandra M. Doe, Editor

Before the retirement of our editor, this column presents *Santa Fe Santa Fe*, a poem in ten parts, by Albert Edmund Trombly, over the next few issues of *Wagon Tracks*.

To write *Santa Fe Santa Fe*, Albert Edmund Trombly (The Press of James A. Decker, Prairie City, Illinois, 1941) drew upon Josiah Gregg's *Commerce of the Prairies*, as well as the diaries and journals of William Becknell, Augustus Storrs, Alphonso Wetmore, George C. Sibley, and Meredith Miles Marmaduke. He states that he read accounts of the Trail by Henry Inman and R. L. Duffus as well. To construct the poem, he invents a protagonist who maintains a diary and recalls his days on the Trail. Using language as a painter uses his palette, Trombly writes, "While I trust that it contains nothing which cannot have been true, it is essentially an imaginative recreation."

Born in Clinton County, New York, in 1888, Albert Edmund Trombly took a B.A. from Harvard in 1913 and an M.A. from University of Pennsylvania in 1915. He served as Professor of Romance Languages from 1922 (his title was changed to Professor of French and Italian in 1926) to 1958 at the University of Missouri at Columbia where his papers are held. A published poet and writer, Trombly was a friend and biographer of the vagabond poet Vachel Lindsay.

A word about their association seems appropriate. At the time Trombly was graduating from Harvard, Vachel Lindsay was published in *Poetry Magazine* in 1913, and he subsequently won the prize for his poem, "General William Booth En-

ters Heaven," the best poem published in *Poetry Magazine* that year. In 1929, Trombly published *Vachel Lindsay, Adventurer* in Columbia; Trombly gave an address to the Vachel Lindsay Association of Springfield, Illinois, on November 10, 1948, so his friendship was sustained over a long period of time, and his papers contain many items related to Lindsay, including a photograph of Lindsay and his wife, Elisabeth Conner, taken in 1925.

Lindsay himself wrote and recited a poem called "The Santa Fé Trail" (which includes a chorus of automobile horns: "Ho for the tear-horn, scare-horn, dare-horn, Ho for the gay-horn, bark-horn, bay-horn. *Ho for Kansas, land that restores us. . .*" (*The Congo and Other Poems*, 1914). "Lindsay's recitations were the basis of his fame. He would rock on his feet and pump his arms as he shouted and sang his poems. Lindsay dubbed these compositions 'the Higher Vaudeville,' poems written in 'a sort of ragtime manner that deceives them [his audience] into thinking they are at a vaudeville show'" (http://www.english.illinois.edu/map_s/poets/g_l/lindsay/lindsay.htm).

So it happened that when Trombly's book-length poem was reviewed in the *New York Times* in 1942, the reviewer concluded, perhaps with a sneer, "It is a kind of popular poetry." Indeed, how could it be otherwise, given Albert Trombly's association with Vachel Lindsay? The reviewer continues, "It belongs to radio, to the movies, to sound track documentary films—to practically everything removed from poetry." However, he concedes, "it is written so well that it gets one's interest from page to page" (Peter Monro Jack, "The New Books of Poetry," *New York Times*, 8 February, 1942; ProQuest Historical Newspapers, The New York Times, 1851-2003).

The poet begins with a prelude: he speaks of the "lodestone" of the Trail, and we SFTA members admit to being drawn; he invokes the sustenance of water and food; he invokes the trials of weather and Indians; he speaks of the "instinctive call old as the race and strong, /Adventure. . . ." Thus we readers begin *Santa Fe Santa Fe*. Something draws us: "That was the Trail."

SANTA FE SANTA FE

Santa Fe! Time and again I've seen it,
Known it as one knows a second
home,
Hungered for it, loved it, loathed it, left
But to return to it; yet even now
Remembering it, the thing that comes
to mind
Sooner, sharper than reality
Is the enchanted cloudland El Dorado
I built of fancy and shreds of hearsay.

Santa Fe! It was a lodestone then:
Sons restive in the shadow of their
elders;
Covetous men with an eye to the har-
vest
Enlarging their bins; men who had
breathed
The air of settlements thin and needed
broader,
Fresher; men who had known a falling
Out with justice; these were the iron fil-
ings.

And there were tales to rein the weak,
Goad the strong; tales of creeks and
rivers
Swollen by sudden rains, impassable
For days; streams with waters so
brackish
No man nor mule could stomach
them; streams
Milky and sweet; streams that over-
flowed
Their banks one day and disappeared
the next;
Streams come upon unexpectedly
Whose beds lay far beneath
Their sheer-cut banks; sands that
shifted
Daily with the winds and left no trace
Of caravans once passed; false
Ponds that promised water just be-
yond
And evanescenced only to reappear
Still farther on, luring men
Beyond their strength to stagger off to
death;
Plains where at times was flesh
elk,
Buffaloes, antelopes
and where at others
No living thing appeared; cold
Summer nights and days of insuffer-
able heat,
And winds that drove sand like hail
Blinding man and beast, halting the
march,
Blotting out the sun; and prairie fires;
And always the menace of Indians
changeable
As a creek-bed, hostile when the
stronger,
Professing friendship when outnum-
bered,
But waiting for the momentary rift
In vigilance to strike, plunder and kill.
And luck and the season favoring
running
Through the darker days like a vein
Of gold in slate
day on journeying day

In Earth's good plenty: victuals, sir
To make the hardy hardier, strengthen
Limbs and lungs softened by sheltered
living;
And over and above all else the
promise
Which draws us still when every other
Has lost color and savor, promise of
wealth.

That was the Trail: at one end lay Mis-
souri,
The ordered life, the dull security,
The commonplace of villages and
farms;
At the other Santa Fe; between the
two
The instinctive call old as the race and
strong,
Adventure with its delicate scales flut-
tering
Daily, hourly between life and death.

I

The word was: "Council Grove third
week in May."
Council Grove
outpost of safety
From Indian attacks, focusing-point
for units
From up the river and down,
starting-point
Proper of caravans bound for
Santa Fe.

Singly, in twos, groups, on horse, in
wagons
Destined for the trail our contingent
Gathered at Independence from Fort
Osage,
Arrow Rock, Franklin, St. Louis;
Some going as traders, most hired out
As mule or ox drivers, scouts, hunters.

With Franklin
built on sands
slipping away
Down the river
the unpredictable turns
That river will take, always restive in
bounds,
Making its bed where it will from
season to season,
Now looping its once straight
course,
Now lopping off a lazy arc
It once lolled in, now trickling,
Now running high and undermining
A town as it did Franklin just when
The Santa Fe trail rolled by
Promising trade and wealth
Independence
Accessibly close to the river and
nearer the plains
A hundred miles and more than Frank-
lin, seizing
The golden chance became and
long remained
Outfitting-post for the trail and west.

The Trail! It furrowed every thought;
and talk,
Wherever it started, wound up there.
Around a veteran of the trail listeners
Crowded as listeners must have

crowded
Around Columbus when he brought
the first
News to Europe of America.
All that winter talk had boomed with
profits
Of the last caravan returned in late
October; some reckoned them five or
six,
Others eight times the invested capi-
tal.
My uncle Peter Scott whose Bible
reading
He never made a journey without
the Book
And seldom lived a day without a
chapter
Seems not to have been at odds with
shrewdness
Had gone that year, and little though
he said
A close-mouthed man good at talk
Better at holding his tongue

seemed to hint
By fitting out two wagons for himself
Against a single one in partnership
The year before that he'd not been a
loser.

Talk of hardships too and loss of
goods,
Animals, wagons, even of human
lives;
But louder rose the other and louder
still
The ring of Spanish dollars. So many of
them,
So little else, you might have thought
Missouri
A Spanish colony; and much more
prized
They were than ours.

Paper money is paper;
Better in ring and feel is good hard
silver.

Arrivals day on day; men, mules,
Oxen, wagons; the town alive, loud
With preparations; seeming idlers,
some
In fustian, some in blue jean jackets,
In leather hunting-shirts or flannel-
sleeve
Vests, bartering, arguing merits and
faults
Of mules and oxen;
mules, if speed were an end,
As it was, were faster, but in fording
a stream would lose
Their heads, flounder, sometimes
drown;
Slower, oxen were steady, enduring
thirst
More readily, good in the sands
And fords, but hard to shoe, caring
little
For buffalo grass; often so thin
And worn at journey's end they
hardly fetched
The price of their carcasses;

men guffawing
Over tales of riotous life in Santa Fe
Wild fandangos running down the
night

Even to dawn, gambling, Mexican
wines,
The easy ways of the women
bought for a shawl
Or trinket: tales to quicken and
purge the blood
Of old austerities;
men already

Intriguing
though caravan captain and aides
Would not be chosen until all were
met
At Council Grove
talking up this man or that,
Trying to bag the election;
traffic in all
The caravan's varied needs
clothing, saddles,
Yokes, harnesses, camp utensils,
lead,
Gunpowder, flour, sugar, bacon,
coffee
Salt, tobacco;

traders loading their wagons
Clean to the canvas with goods for
the Santa Fe market
Cottens, woolens, stockings, hand-
kerchiefs, shawls,
Looking-glasses, knicknacs, cutlery:
Wares of threefold profit though
they sold
Cheaper than those hauled up
from Vera Cruz.

Abundant rains in fall and winter, rains
That suckle the sod and through the
wilted mat
Of the old thrust the fresh grasses.
And spring
Fulfilling what had been so well be-
gun,
We were assured of forage, even
hoped
The long-stemmed grasses of the east-
ern plains
More succulent than the buffalo
grass to the west
Might tempt the buffaloes
the plainsman's
Living commissary, elusive at times
But needful to men as forage to
their beasts.

A glorious sun
we took it for an omen
Of good
dew on the grass, the hawthorn
In bloom, trees hazy with the soft
green
Of new leaves, the morning we took
off.
A goodly sight with the whole town to
see it
When we fell into line: two or three
Horse-drawn dearborns carrying trad-
ers
Town-bred fellows afraid to trust
their comfort
To wagons or choosing not to rub
elbows
With hired hands;
thirty-odd wagons
Gleaming for their canvas
save ten or a dozen

A FRAIL THIN LINE: TRADING ESTABLISHMENTS ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL, PART II

by David K. Clapsaddle

Weathered by previous journeys;
 wagons made
In Pittsburgh, wagons made in St. Louis,
 wagons
Come in from the country, wagons
 bought at the outpost,
Ox-drawn wagons, mule-drawn wag-
 ons,
Creaky wagons, jaunty brave wag-
 ons.

The oxen settling at once to a heavy
 gait
As if they guessed the long long trek
 ahead;
The mules rambunctious for the noise
 and crowd,
Hard to get into line, to keep from
 bolting;

And men on horses, I among them,
Just turned twenty, off for my first ad-
 venture
With a caravan, riding a sorrel gelding
 A well-shouldered horse with a sec-
 ond wind,
Responsive to the merest nudge,
 docile,
Fleet as an antelope

driving up

Oxen and mules
 relays to take their place
At the wagons whenever need
 might be.
The line shaped up scouts ahead

The dearborns next, then the lead-off
 wagon,
Jean-Pierre's
 light-hearted Jean-Pierre
Peer of the best frontiersmen,
Experienced trail-hand, knowing
the Indians'
Ways and lingo, having a wisp of
Spanish,
Mixing it in with his French and bro-
ken English,
Agile as a mustang, tough as raw-
hide,
Clever down to the last of his ten
fingers,
Always running over with stories,
songs,
And many-colored oaths; never
complaining,
Always ready to help

Jean-Pierre

Cracking his whip, shouting: "Allons!
Allons!
Catch up! Catch up!"

And the living

Winding line stretching on and on,
Its far tail lost in a cloud of dust;
Townfolk waving, cheering; we an-
 swering;
And high in that spacious din the lusty
voice
Of Jean-Pierre singing at the top of his
lungs
"C'est un garçon vive-la-joie
S'en allant en campagnes. . ."

[SFTA Ambassador Clapsaddle, president of the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter, is a frequent contributor to Wagon Tracks. The first portion of this article appeared in the previous issue.]

Cottonwood Creek

Seventeen and a half miles west of Lost Spring was Cottonwood Creek in present Marion County. Sometimes called Cottonwood Grove for its fine stand of timber, it was the last place on the Santa Fe Trail where wood could be obtained for many miles. There George Smith, the same George Smith of Lost Spring fame, established a ranch sometime in the mid-1850s.⁶⁴ The precise date that Smith came to Cottonwood Creek is unknown, but the ranch was in operation when Major John Sedgwick's troops arrived at the crossing in 1857.⁶⁵ At that time Smith was conducting business from a single log house. According to the 1858 table of distances, a mail station was located at the ranch where Smith sold hay, corn, and provisions. The ubiquitous entertainment was also listed.

In that year, Abraham Atlantic Moore and his brother Ira stopped at the ranch on a return trip from Santa Fe. Thinking the ranch to be a good investment, they purchased the business, built a second log house, and continued to operate the business.⁶⁶ A post office named Moore's Ranch was opened in November 1860. Ira Moore was appointed postmaster.⁶⁷

In 1861 Abraham, sometimes called Lank, moved to Marion Centre and opened a store. In the following year, he married Nancy Waterman. At the organization of Marion County, he was elected county treasurer. Ira, too, moved to Marion Centre where at a later date he built a grist mill west of the town in partnership with Charles Fuller. In the Moores' absence, William Shreve was employed to manage the ranch, and upon his death in 1865 his daughter Charity assumed his place.⁶⁸ In the same year, Abraham was elected to the Kansas House of Representatives.⁶⁹

Like the other trading establishments east of Walnut Creek, the ranch ceased to serve overland traffic after 1866 when the railroad superseded the Santa Fe Trail in the Marion County area.

Cottonwood Hole

Distant from Cottonwood Creek six miles was a campsite identified by Brevet Major Henry Kendrick as Water Holes.⁷⁰ Sometimes called Cottonwood Hole, it became the location of a ranch established by Frank Laloge in 1861. Soon after, he was joined by Peter Martin whom he had met aboard ship while traveling from France in 1857.⁷¹

Lalogue married in 1863 and brought his bride to the ranch. Earlier, he had filed on 160 acres in the Cottonwood Hole area. However, he did not stay to prove up the claim but rather sold the ranch to George Russell. The new owner did not stay in business long as the Union Pacific's westward march eliminated overland traffic east of Walnut Creek in 1866, and Russell found himself bereft of patrons.⁷²

The last record of Russell was in 1866 when he paid a dram license levied by Marion County to provide funds for the operation of the county's only school in Marion Centre. At that time Marion County extended westward to Colorado Territory and south to Indian Territory. In that vast area, a number of ranches along the Santa Fe Trail were subject to the dram license. As far west as Walnut Creek, Charles Rath paid for a six-month license in 1866.⁷³

The ranch was commonly called French Frank's, but the only reminder of Laloge's presence is the stream which bisects Marion County named French Creek.

Running Turkey Creek⁷⁴

Beyond French Frank's twelve and a half miles was Running Turkey Creek in present McPherson County. There, in 1855, Charles Fuller established a trading ranch.⁷⁵ A native of New York, well acquainted with Santa Fe Trail traffic, Fuller had previously been a driver for Waldo, Hall and Company.⁷⁶

On May 17, 1859, William Salisbury, bound for the Rocky Mountain gold fields, visited the Running Turkey Creek Ranch and recorded in his journal: "Have traveled 21 miles today and are somewhat fatigued we are camped on the Running Turkey. There is no timber here and poore water. There is wone house here maid of small logs and turf and a grocery in a waggon [illegible word]. The nearest timber is within 8 miles."⁷⁷ It is not known how long Fuller operated this ranch; but he may have been there until 1864. In May 1860 a post office was established at "Big Turkey Creek," with Harvey Bickford as postmaster. This post office operated until 1866.⁷⁸

The ranch became a favorite stop on the Santa Fe Trail because of the fine table set by two sisters employed at the ranch, Clare and Norma Nomi. Norma married a Mr. Schmidt, a butcher at Fort Dodge. Clare married Henry Schonfeldt. The identity of Schonfeldt is murky. In 1866 a Henry Shonfield paid a dram shop license fee in Marion County.⁷⁹

The ranch was the scene of an Indian raid on July 21, 1864. Two wagon loads of trade goods en route to the Curtis and Cole Ranch at the big bend of the Arkansas River stopped at the ranch. There the mules and horses were unhitched and turned out to graze. A short time later a group of Kiowas drove off eight mules and two horses belonging to Curtis and Cole and eleven head of stock owned by M. Cotrill and Company, mail contractors, and Eli Waterman.⁸⁰

According to A. A. Moore, who had married the daughter of Eli Waterman, Moore had rented his ranch at Cottonwood Creek to Charles Fuller in 1864 (perhaps earlier), had purchased a farm on the edge of the town of Marion Centre from Waterman, and "the Watermans had moved out to 'Running Turkey' ranch and were running a mail station."⁸¹ Thus the Waterman losses in the Indian raid.

A more serious loss to Indian raids was the death of Ed Miller on July 20, 1864. There are many stories about the death of Miller, but there is some agreement on the following.⁸²

Nancy Waterman Moore had become ill at Moore's home at Marion Centre and a youthful Ed Miller was dispatched to the Waterman Ranch to tell the family of Nancy's illness and request that Mrs. Waterman come to Moore's place to nurse her daughter. En route Miller was attacked and killed by Cheyennes. The next day, a search party found the body near the Santa Fe Trail and buried him on the spot. In time a pioneer cemetery was developed around the grave which today is marked with a handsome black granite tombstone.⁸³

The Running Turkey Creek Ranch, like others east of Walnut Creek, fell prey to the railroad in 1866 and ceased to function for overland travelers. Fuller, who founded the ranch, later resided in Marion Centre where he was a business leader until his death in 1879.

Little Arkansas River

To the west of Running Turkey Creek Ranch a long day's travel by wagon, 22 miles, was the Little Arkansas River in present Rice County. The crossing of the Little Arkansas had been the location of William Mathewson when he traded with the Indians of the area in 1857-1858.⁸⁴

In 1858 the same location was chosen by William Wheeler and a man known only as Gains to establish a ranch and construct a toll bridge. Charles Post paused at the crossing in May 1859. He confided to his diary, "The bridge built last season by Gains and Wheeler, the owners of the ranch, twenty-five cent toll and ten gallons of water or twenty-five cents for ten gallons and cross at the ferry."

By 1860 Wheeler was sole proprietor of the ranch. In the November 6 election of that year at the Cow Creek Ranch, Wheeler received a unanimous vote of 12 for the office of Probate Judge, Peketon County, the newly-organized jurisdiction which reached westward to the present Colorado line. By this time Wheeler was a well-known man on the Kansas frontier. The March 16, 1861, Council Grove *Press* described Wheeler and his colleague Ashael Beach, proprietor of the Cow Creek Ranch, as "pioneers in the true sense of the word; living far out on the

western frontier." Capitalizing upon his new found fame, Wheeler advertised in the March 23 *Press*:

"LITTLE ARKANSAS RANCHE The Traveling Public are respectfully informed, that the undersigned is located on the Little Arkansas, where the great Santa Fe road crosses the same. I keep always on hand, Provisions, groceries and Liquors, also are prepared to accommodate travelers. I have also several large corrals for penning stock, Also, have built a strong and substantial bridge across the Little Arkansas, for the accommodation of the traveling public."

With the death of the *Press's* editor and owner, I. A. Baker, at the hands of Bloody Bill Anderson, the paper ceased circulation. Not until 1863 when the *Press* reopened was word printed concerning the Little Arkansas Ranch. The July 6 *Press* stated: "We learn that W. P. Wheeler and all his hands at Little Arkansas where he has a ranche and store have been very sick. Supposed to be poison thrown into the well."

In the summer of the following year, ranches west of the Little Arkansas were raided by Indians. Though Wheeler's ranch escaped attack, nothing is known of his whereabouts following that date. Assumption is that he abandoned the Little Arkansas at the height of the Indian scare. While Wheeler escaped Indian raids, his successor A. J. Greenway was not so fortunate. Kiowas raided the ranch July 22, 1864, stealing seven horses.

Greenway was joined at the crossing in April 1865 by Captain Theodore Conkey and a company of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry. Their camp was designated as Station Little Arkansas. In the following month, Captain Carter Berkley and Co. K, 2nd U.S. Volunteer Infantry (Galvanized Yankees), replaced the Wisconsin troops. In the following June reinforcements from the 13th Missouri Cavalry arrived at the post, and Captain Joel H. Shelby assumed command. On the last day of June Indians killed three of Shelby's men and a corporal from the 2nd Colorado Cavalry in two separate attacks near the crossing. The men were buried near the ranch at what became known as the Cottonwood Cemetery.

The ranch suffered the same fate as other ranches east of Walnut Creek thanks to the displacement of overland traffic on the Santa Fe Trail by the Union Pacific Railway.

As an addendum, Greenway stayed at the ranch through 1867 when the crossing became the location of Camp Grierson, garrisoned by Co. C, 10th U.S. Cavalry (Buffalo Soldiers) and occupied between June and November of that year. In 1870 the site was purchased by a private party at which time the corrals originally built by William Wheeler were enlarged to become what later was called the Stone Corral.

Cow Creek

Cow Creek, another day's travel, was 18 miles west of the Little Arkansas.⁸⁵ The ranch at Cow Creek was operated by three proprietors during its eight-year tenure: Ashael and Abijah Beach, 1858-1861; John Stanton, 1862-1864; William Mathewson, 1864-1866. Dr. Ashael Beach and his son, Abijah, recently graduated from an Ohio medical school, arrived at Cow Creek in present Rice County in the fall of 1858. It would appear that by December 4 the business was in full operation as the *Kansas News* of Emporia reported that a bridge was in the initial stage of construction and corn was for sale at \$3.00 a bushel. Soon after, on December 23, Kaw warriors raided the ranch. Young Dr. Beach was beaten, stabbed, and robbed of his clothing, money, and provisions. The Kaws also drove off livestock belonging to the elder Beach and John Burr.

The following year, 1859, was an active year for the Beaches. A post office named Beach Valley was established at the ranch with Abijah appointed postmaster. Hall and Porter situated a mail station at the crossing. By the summer of the same year, the ranch was fully established as documented by the June 11 *Leavenworth Herald*.

"At the crossing of Cow Creek, on the Santa Fe road . . . Dr. A. J. Beach and Mr. A. Beach, formerly of this city, have located and established a ranche. A post-office is located there, and a mail passes weekly from California, Santa Fe, and Fort Union, to Independence, Mo. About six hundred letters a week are mailed at the office. The stages usually have six

mules attached, and four extra ones to use in case of accident.

"This valley is very large, extending from the Arkansas river east and west for many miles, but northward it becomes narrow until it terminates at the Smoky Hill Fork. . . .

"The Messrs. Beach have built three houses, and have a good corral for taking care of stock, and are now raising corn, potatoes, beans, and other vegetables. They herd a good many stock for those who travel the road. They also do a considerable business in the grocery and provision line. Corn sells there readily at \$3 00 per bushel and hay at \$50 00 per ton. There is an immense travel on this road. . . .

"These gentlemen are engaged in the buffalo trade. They are killing and putting up large quantities of buffalo meat, and will during the coming season, which will commence about the 1st of September, have ready for market about one hundred tons. They have hunters out who do nothing but kill buffalo, and each hunter will kill as many as ten men can haul in and take care of. The meat is sugar-cured and well smoked. Besides this, they save all the tongues and hides and marrow. This last article is much superior to ox marrow. . . .

"Large quantities of buffalo roam over this valley, and from Beach's ranch may be seen at any time as many as 20,000. At times the plains seem black with the buffalo.

"On Cow creek there is not a great deal of timber, but sufficient for fuel and all practical purposes. The principal timber is box-elder, with a good deal of ash, hackberry and elm.

"Fencing is made in this way: Posts are set in the ground, about twelve feet apart, and strings about an inch wide are cut out of raw buffalo hide. These are stretched and fastened from post to post, and answer all the purposes of rails. Indeed they are a good and durable fence.

"Cow Creek is a very bad stream to ford. So great is the travel on this road that wagons are often detained from one to two days waiting on others who are in advance of them. . . ."

During the following winter, the toll bridge was completed, but not before the elder Dr. Beach died. He was found six miles west of Diamond

Spring lying in the snow. He died at Council Grove on February 16, 1860. Neither did he live to see the town of Beach Valley materialize. The town company, incorporated on February 23, 1860, was named the temporary seat of government for Peketon County, but no further attempt was made to develop it.

In May 1860, a dispute erupted with regard to a bridge built by William Edwards and O. G. Stanley on Cow Creek, which Abijah claimed to be within the limits of the charter issued by the territorial legislature. He threatened to sue the interlopers, but no litigation ensued as he paid \$50 to Edwards and Stanley on the promise that they would remove the bridge and not rebuild it. The problem surfaced again in March 1861 when Edwards rebuilt the bridge; but Beach took the matter into his own hands and with a crew of employees removed the bridge.

In the meantime matters of a civic nature took center stage at the ranch. On November 6, 1860, an election of one legislator and county officers was conducted for the 23rd district which included the counties of Madison, Chase, Peketon, and Morris. The following candidates were elected by the unanimous vote of the 12 men present: Legislature: S. N. Wood; County Commissioners: H. Bickford, A. I. Beach, and George Gordon; County Assessor: L. Hubble; Probate Judge: W. P. Wheeler, County Clerk: Robert O'dell; Sheriff: William Mason; Treasurer: William Edwards; Justice of the Peace: Chauncey Jones; and Constable: Charles Rath. Interestingly, most of the men elected were associated with trading ranches on the Santa Fe Trail.

Late in 1861 or early 1862 Abijah left the ranch, married, and settled at Council Grove to practice medicine. He never returned to Cow Creek.

John Stanton apparently succeeded Beach in the operation of the ranch. On July 17, 1862, he was appointed postmaster. Presumably he was in charge of the ranch until the spring of 1864 when William Mathewson became the proprietor. Mathewson had an earlier association with the ranch, being one of the men employed in the early days of the ranch as a buffalo hunter.

In May 1864 the so-called Indian War erupted. From Walnut Creek eastward, Cheyennes and their allies raided ranches at the Great Bend of the Arkansas River, Cow Creek, and Running Turkey Creek. On July 20-22, Kiowas attacked Mathewson's establishment. Mathewson and his men withstood the siege, and on the third day, they stationed a field piece on the front porch of a ranch building and fired into a large group of warriors congregated on the bridge. The Kiowas forsook their attack on the ranch and turned their attention to a government train encamped nearby. Unknown to the wagoners was that about 20 of the wagons were loaded with Sharps rifles and ammunition. Mathewson, knowing of the weapons, rode through Kiowas' line of attack and armed the wagoners with the Sharps. Putting the rifles to good use, in minutes they routed the Kiowas.

In the following month Mathewson married Elizabeth Inman at St. Joseph, Missouri. No sooner had he situated his bride at the ranch than he left to serve as a guide for Major General James Blunt's fall expedition against the Plains Indians. It is assumed that he was back at the ranch during the winter of 1864-1865.

Sometime in 1865 Jesse Leavenworth, agent for the Kiowas, Comanches, and Plains Apaches, transferred his headquarters from Fort Larned to the ranch. There he hoped to council with peace-minded tribes in anticipation of the proposed treaty to be conducted in October 1865 on the Little Arkansas River. At the same time, Mathewson was afield in an attempt to bring the tribes to the treaty site.

During her husband's many absences from the ranch, Elizabeth busied herself with the ranch's milk cows. Hours were spent in the making of cheese and butter which received a glad welcome from the ranch's patrons. At some date in 1865, Elizabeth's mother Charollete Inman and her teenage daughter Alice came to live at the ranch. Alice's time at the ranch was brief. She died on February 6, 1866. Suffering from "lung fever," she was mistakenly given a dose of some toxic substance instead of the intended quinine.⁸⁶

By 1866 Mathewson was at Fort Zarah, it would appear, most of the time. There he acted as an agent for E. H. Dufee, licensed to trade with the Kiowas, Comanches, and Plains Apaches. As such, much of his time was with those tribes in Indian Territory.

The Beach Valley post office was discontinued on June 22, 1866, and the toll bridge began to collapse. Perhaps both were a preamble to the ranch's demise. In July 1866 the Union Pacific Railway eliminated overland traffic at Walnut Creek and eastward on the Trail, and the ranch at Cow Creek came to a close.

Great Bend of the Arkansas River

Seventeen miles west of Cow Creek was the point where trade caravans struck the Arkansas River. This location was variously known as the great bend, big bend, and north bend. The latter was so called because of its opposition to the south bend in present Ford County where the river makes an abrupt turn to the northeast.

The great bend, in present Barton County, became the location of a trading ranch established by Charles Rath sometime prior to 1858. By 1859 Daniel Jones was managing the ranch along with W. H. West.⁸⁷

Louise Barry reported that William Mathewson established a ranch at the great bend in 1862. Whether the ranch was one other than that belonging to Rath or that he assumed ownership of Rath's business remains moot. Mathewson made two substantial improvements at the great bend location, digging a well and building a corral, before selling the ranch to Dick Curtis and Frank Cole.⁸⁸

The new owners quickly obtained a license to trade with the Kiowas, Comanches, and Plains Apaches. Because of their diverse activities and Curtis being away much of the time at Fort Larned where he was employed as an interpreter, the partners hired two men to help at the ranch, Frederick Jones and H. O. Corbin. Curtis and Cole were only in operation for a single year before trouble came to the ranch. Cheyenne warriors, on May 17, 1864, raided the Walnut Creek Ranch before driving off livestock at the great bend. There the warriors warned Cole they

intended to kill all white men on the Santa Fe Trail.

Immediately, Cole packed up as much merchandise as possible on a small wagon and made a hasty retreat to Cow Creek. Later the Cheyennes returned to the ranch, plundered the store, and did damage to the house and corral. In a claim registered against the Cheyennes, Cole and Curtis listed the following goods which were stolen or destroyed.

20 bushels of corn at \$1.75	
per bushel	\$35.00
2 boxes soap at \$5	
per box	10.00
1 box candles weighing 40	
pounds each, at 24¢	
per pound	9.60
12 pounds tobacco at 65¢	
per pound	7.80
2 bushels dried apples at	
\$1.50 per pound	3.00
200 bunches of [?], at 15¢	
per bunch	30.00
260 pounds sugar, at 19¢	
per pound	49.40
165 pounds of coffee, at	
46¢ per pound	75.90
12 half-gallon bottle pickles	8.00
12 one-quarter gallon	
bottle pickles	7.00
12 bottles pepper-sauce	2.50
12 bottles catsup	3.50
1 hay-knife	3.50
2 hay-forks, \$1 each	2.00
2 scythes and snaths,	
\$2.50 each	5.00
400 skunk-skins, at	
12 1/2¢ each	50.00
10 wolf skins, at 75¢ each	7.50
10 wildcat-skins, at \$1.50	15.00
2 otter-skins, at \$3 each	6.00
5 chopping-axes and	
handles, at \$3 each	15.00
2 heating stove[s]	8.00
1 skillet	2.00
3 water-buckets, at 25¢ each	.75
4 sets cups and saucers,	
at \$1.25 per set	5.00
1 set of plates	1.00
2 large dishes, at 75¢ each	1.50
4 soup-dishes, at 25¢ each	1.00
3 brooms, at 40¢ each	1.20
2 sacks flour at \$5 per sack	10.00
2 bushels oats at \$1.50	
per bushel	3.00
25 pounds lead at 17¢ per pound	4.25
12 1/2 pounds powder,	
at 60¢ per pound	7.50
1,000 percussion caps	3.00
12 pounds brass wire,	
at \$1.25 per pound	15.00
1 map of the United States	7.50
1 pound patent thread	2.00
4 bunches necklace beads,	
at \$2.50 each	10.00
6 snaffle-bit bridles,	

at \$24 per dozen	12.00
1 doz. snaffle-bit bridles,	
at \$18 per dozen	18.00
1 1/2 doz. Surcingles	
at \$15 per dozen	22.40
1 glass lantern	2.50
1 counter-scales	2.85
1 barrel salt	8.50
1 bedstead	40.00
1 bedstead	15.00
1 wardrobe	10.00
1 desk	7.00
6 chairs	6.00
1 washstand	2.50
1 small bureau	5.00
1 small table	2.50
1 large table	7.00
2 spades at \$1.25 each	2.50
1 shovel	1.25
200 pounds bacon	
at 10¢ per pound	20.00
1/2 barrel pickles	9.00
1 sausage-grinder	6.00
1 large looking-glass	1.50
1 small looking-glass	1.00

This inventory demonstrates the type of merchandise purveyed at trading ranches and the prices charged.

The Cheyennes were not alone in the 1864 raids. On July 21 or 22, Kiowas set fire to the remains of the ranch before running off the livestock at the Running Turkey Creek Ranch, some of which belonged to Curtis and Cole as discussed previously. So ended the brief tenure of the ranch at the great bend.

Walnut Creek

West of the great bend was Walnut Creek, so called for the unusual species of timber along its banks. Long a favorite campsite on the Santa Fe Trail, the crossing there became the temporary home of the Fort Atkinson garrison when the little post was deactivated in 1853. Accompanying the troops to Walnut Creek was the Fort Atkinson post office. The troops and the post office remained at the crossing for a brief period, the troops being transferred to Fort Riley and the post office discontinued, both within a matter of weeks.⁸⁹

Two years later, a settlement of a more permanent nature came to Walnut Creek, in present Barton County. En route to the Rocky Mountains on a trading expedition, William Allison and Francis Boothe found themselves some place west of Walnut Creek, their provisions depleted and their mules in poor condition. Retracing their steps, they re-

turned to Walnut Creek, unloaded their trade goods, and set up business. The men put themselves to work constructing a ranch of unusual proportions. The store and living quarters topped with a lookout were enclosed in a stockade, not common on the Kansas frontier. William Parsons wrote, "This ranch is a large building made of logs of equal length, set endwise in the ground." He was describing the stockade. A description of the store and living quarters from the 1969 excavation by the Kansas State Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological Association concluded that the building was a large sandstone structure, eighty by twenty feet, with footings two to three feet thick.⁹⁰

Though the ranch was far removed from any printing press, newspapers of the day regularly reported on its activities. The *Santa Fe Gazette*, February, 1857, published, "Walnut Creek Station, Allison and Booth, Respectfully informs their friends, and public generally, that they have established a trading house, and general depot, at Walnut Creek, on the Santa Fe road, where they keep constantly on hand Groceries, and provisions, suitable for the travelers. Also Forage. With Corals, and inclosures for the security of animals. . . . Prices reasonable."

A post office named Walnut Creek was established at the ranch in 1856 with Allison appointed postmaster. Less than a year later it was discontinued. Beginning with the transfer from Fort Atkinson in 1853, the post office at Walnut Creek was to experience several openings and closings with the name changed from Fort Atkinson, to Walnut Creek, to Kiowa, to Fort Zarah.⁹¹

Allison and Boothe's partnership came to an abrupt end in September 1857 when a Mexican named Cineros split open Boothe's head with an axe. His death was followed in 1858 by a mail station being built by Hall and Porter, a log structure on the west side of Walnut Creek.⁹²

In the following spring, Allison died at Independence. While loading his wagons at the Wayne City landing, he succumbed to heart failure.⁹³

Allison's successor at the ranch was George Peacock, a native of Independence and a Santa Fe trader dur-

ing the 1840s. Peacock continued to operate the ranch, but it appears that he devoted much of his time, as had Allison and Boothe, to killing wolves by baiting buffalo meat with strychnine.⁹⁴ Peacock was also buying furs. Private Robert Morris Peck, stationed at Camp on Pawnee Fork (later Fort Larned) during the winter of 1859-1860, using the same method to kill wolves and coyotes, reported that he sold his winter's catch to Peacock, "getting 75 cents each for coyotes and \$1.25 for the big gray wolves."⁹⁵ The April 7, 1860, *Kansas City Journal of Commerce* reported, "Mr. Peacock of Peacock's ranch has brought over 5,000 wolf pelts this spring, besides a large amount of furs." Life was fleeting for Walnut Creek Ranch proprietors. Peacock met his death on September 9, 1860. Several conflicting accounts of the twentieth century described his demise. Perhaps, contemporary accounts might be more accurate. The *Westport Border Star* of September 22, 1860, printed the following.

"Mr. Geo. H. Peacock, formerly of Independence . . . was killed on last Sunday week by a Kiowa chief named Satank. Satank and two or three others of the tribe reconnoitered around Peacock's Ranch until an opportunity offered when they fired on him, one ball entering his left temple, killing him instantly. They then fired upon a man named Myers, a German, also from Independence and wounded him so that he died in a short time. There was another man in the house lying sick, but he was not molested. The Indians then loaded themselves with considerable plunder and left."

The *Kansas City Western Journal of Commerce*, September 1860, provided the following.

"Sometime last spring Satank applied to Mr. Peacock for a letter of recommendation to any whites that he might meet, as to his character and honorable conduct. Mr. Peacock, knowing the treachery and cunning of the old red skin, instead of commending him to whomsoever he met, gave him a piece of writing warning all who might be called upon to read, to beware of the bearer as he was treacherous and dangerous; presuming that as the old fellow could not read it, he would never know what it contained. . . . Some Mexicans to

whom it was shown translated it for him, and told him what it read. He swore vengeance against Peacock; but the latter being on good terms generally with the Kiowas and paying little attention to the bravado of old Satank thought nothing of it. Even a few days before [his death], he had intervened to protect him [Satank] against a sergeant and corps who sought to arrest him while on Peacock's premises and take him to the Fort."

Charles Rath assumed operation of the ranch in the wake of Peacock's death. Only 24 at that time, he was elected constable at the time Peke-ton County officers were seated in November 1860.⁹⁶ A seasoned frontiersman formerly employed by William Bent, Rath was married to Making Out Road, reputedly the most beautiful woman of the Southern Cheyennes, formerly married to Kit Carson. Due to the marriage, Rath had good relationships with the Southern Plains tribes and enjoyed a lively trade with the various tribes both at the ranch and at their villages to which he dispatched his brother Chris on extended trading trips. However, he did not bother to apply for a trading license until 1863.⁹⁷

About the same time Rath came to Walnut Creek, he was joined by William Griffenstein who established another ranch at the upper crossing of Walnut Creek. There is no evidence, even though the men were business rivals, that there was any animosity between the two. Griffenstein was also married to a Cheyenne woman, called by the whites Cheyenne Jennie. From all accounts she was a woman of fine features. Perhaps their wives contributed to the lack of discord between Rath and Griffenstein.⁹⁸

Another addition came to Walnut Creek in 1862, a station operated by the Kansas Stage Company which delivered mail on a weekly basis between Junction City and Fort Larned.⁹⁹

Yet another improvement was added in the following year. In January 1863 Rath and some associates organized the Walnut Creek Bridge Company to construct a toll bridge across the Walnut.¹⁰⁰ While the normal flow of the creek was narrow and shallow, the bridge spanned 250

feet.¹⁰¹ Such was necessary to accommodate the flood waters which often changed the languid stream into a torrent of water.

Trouble came to the crossing in 1864. In a retaliatory raid following the May 16, 1864, killing of Chief Lean Bear (also known as Starving Bear) and warrior named Star by Colorado volunteers northwest of Fort Larned, Cheyenne warriors came to Rath's ranch on the following day. They drove off livestock and later killed Suel Walker at the Cow Creek Station on the road from Junction City used by the Kansas Stage Company. Rath fled to the safety of Fort Larned, and Griffenstein left, never to return.¹⁰²

Subsequent to the May 17 raid, an army post was established at the crossing. Originally known as Camp Dunlap, it was renamed Fort Zarah by Major General Samuel R. Curtis in the following July to honor his son Major Zarah Curtis. The younger Curtis was killed at Baxter Springs, Kansas, in the previous year by Quantrill's forces.¹⁰³

Two years after Fort Zarah's founding, the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern Division, reached Junction City, Kansas, and Barlow and Sanderson superseded the Kansas Stage Company, dispatching stage coaches on a tri-weekly schedule to Fort Zarah and on to Santa Fe. Using the same route as the Kansas Stage Company (the Fort Riley - Fort Larned Road), Barlow and Sanderson established a station at Walnut Creek. In the fall of 1867, the railroad reached Hays City. From there, stage coaches and freight wagons rumbled down the 70-mile length of the Fort Hays - Fort Dodge Road and on to Santa Fe. Thus overland traffic on the Santa Fe Trail ceased to run through the Walnut Creek area.¹⁰⁴

Earlier in 1867 Major Henry Douglas, Fort Dodge's commanding officer, accused Rath of selling arms and ammunition to the Kiowas, and Major General John W. Davidson reported that Rath sold whiskey to the Indians and should be removed from the Fort Zarah reservation.¹⁰⁵ Rath was innocent of the charges. The real culprit was David Butterfield, who operated a trading post at Fort Larned. He was licensed to sell guns and ammunition to any tribe living at peace with the United States. His

agents, according to Donald Berthong, "were selling arms by the case to Indians along the Arkansas River."¹⁰⁶ Regardless, Rath left the ranch, ending its 12-year tenure at Walnut Creek.¹⁰⁷

Ash Creek

To the west of Walnut Creek 22 miles was Ash Creek situated midway between Pawnee Rock and Pawnee Fork in present Pawnee County. There in 1860 Orville (William) Thompson established a trading ranch. How long the ranch remained in operation is not known, but apparently the tenure was brief. On July 9 three Kiowas attacked the ranch. Two men were killed, Christopher Krauss, characterized as a "poor German," and John Cunningham, recently discharged from Fort Larned. The attackers ran off livestock belonging to Thompson and attempted to torch the building. That night, Thompson escaped in the darkness, never to return.¹⁰⁸

Pawnee River

Six miles beyond Ash Creek, still in present Pawnee County, was the Pawnee River, commonly called Pawnee Fork for its tributary-relationship to the Arkansas River. Just west of the crossing Samuel Parker established a ranch in 1864. In the subsequent year he opened a second ranch upstream on the Pawnee at the Dry Route Crossing of the Santa Fe Trail. The ranch changed hands several times before being purchased by a man known only as Wagginer. In 1867 Indians raided the ranch, running off the livestock, and burning the buildings. Thinking discretion to be the better part of valor, Wagginer sold the ranch to Albert Henry Boyd and left for safer quarters.¹⁰⁹

Boyd, discharged from an Illinois volunteer regiment, came to Kansas in 1864 where he found employment at Fort Leavenworth before becoming engaged in a number of freighting expeditions to Colorado and Santa Fe. During the trip to Santa Fe he became acquainted with Fort Dodge, where in 1866 he was employed by the wood contractor. In 1867 he moved to Fort Larned and secured the wood contract. In the following year he purchased the ranch.¹¹⁰

Boyd set up living quarters in a

dugout while he began construction of a sod house 50 feet wide by 100 feet long. All the outbuildings, except the frame chicken house, were made of sod. Even the corral was constructed of sod, four feet high. From the ranch, Boyd conducted several business ventures. Selling provisions to buffalo hunters, he, in turn, became a dealer in hides and furs. In addition, he established a freighting business hauling goods from both Ellsworth and Hays City to Forts Larned and Dodge. He also secured hay and wood contracts at Fort Larned and engaged in cattle trading. Another investment was the toll bridge built across the Pawnee. Unfortunately, flood water destroyed the bridge in 1869.¹¹¹

The ranch, located just outside the Fort Larned Military Reservation, catered to both civilians and soldiers. Liquor was dispensed in abundance, and there is ample evidence to suggest that Boyd also dealt in the oldest commodity known to men.¹¹²

While the ranch did not suffer the same fate as did the other trading establishments east of Walnut Creek which were closed by the westward expansion of the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern Division, a similar death knell was sounded for Boyd's business in 1872 with the arrival of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad and the establishment of the City of Larned. Moving quickly to meet the challenge of a more civilized society, Boyd turned the ranch into a working farm and built a hotel in the infant town of Larned. Early in 1873 he moved to Dodge City where, in partnership with George B. Cox, he opened the celebrated Dodge House.¹¹³

As to Samuel Parker, his original ranch was still in operation on February 28, 1867, when a small party of Cheyennes arrived on scene and ordered him to cook supper for them. When they discovered he had no sugar to give them, they threatened to kill him. Like Wagginer, Parker soon left for safer quarters.¹¹⁴

Beyond Pawnee Fork, three stage stations were established: one at the Big Coon Creek crossing, 25 miles southwest of Fort Larned; one at the future site of Fort Dodge called Atkin's Ranch; and the third at the old Fort Atkinson. Farther west, Robert Wright supervised the construction

of seven stage stations on the Bent's Fort Road (Mountain Route). The locations of most of the stations remain unknown, but one was situated at Pretty Encampment, a popular campsite east of Sand Creek.¹¹⁵ None of the stations could be characterized as trading establishments.

Cimarron Ranch

The next settlement which could be characterized as a trading establishment was the Cimarron Ranch located 26 miles west of Fort Dodge in present Gray County. It was so named for its proximity to the ford of the Arkansas River where the Cimarron Route was initiated. There the Hartwell brothers came to establish the ranch following their abbreviated tenure at Six Mile Creek. Accompanying the Hartwells were six other men: a man known only as Ripley, another called Dutch Henry, and the remaining four unnamed. William Hartwell described the ranch's improvements as follows.

"It behooved us to build as rapidly as possible. The material used was turf and we had to go twenty miles for timber upon which to lay the roofing, consisting first of poles, then a layer of buffalo hides and gunny sacks and upon this an eight inch course of dirt or sod. When Cimeron [ranch] was completed she consisted of a kaavl [corral] one hundred steps square, the main building-forty by sixteen feet-joining on the South West corner with a two story round tower-pierced with loop holes from which we could fire our trusty carbines in any direction. In the North East corner of our kaavl was a stage driver's lobby and a similar tower arose out of it, while the remainder of this enclosure furnished stabling capacity for forty heads of mules. The walls were two feet thick, so that every part of the building was not only secure against fire and weather, but also proof against bullets. With a supply of water which we kept in barrels, we could have withstood a siege."¹¹⁶

While Indians drove off livestock in 1866, which were later recovered, the year passed without difficulty. Things changed, however, in 1867 when some young Arapahoes made an attempt to loot the store. Quick thinking on the part of brother William saved the day. Contriving a smoke bomb of sulphur, he drove the

intruders, coughing and gasping, from the building.

Following this incident, the threat of Indian attack increased and stage-coaches ran double with an escort of Fort Dodge soldiers. In addition, 11 troopers were stationed at the ranch. The reinforcements were well received on June 16 when Indians attacked the ranch and a nearby wagon train. The warriors were driven off at the ranch, but the wagoners were not so fortunate. Two men were killed, the wagons were plundered, and eight mules and twenty oxen were run off.

The Hartwells' fortune was bolstered by way of a contract with the stage company for a hundred tons of hay for \$2,000. On July 18, only two days after the previous attack, the Hartwells and their associates set out to mow grass in the nearby river bottom. Engaged in their work, the men were caught off guard when Indians attacked. William Hartwell made his escape in the river, rescued one of the men who had been shot, and carried him about one-half mile to a Mexican wagon train approaching from the west. He then began an immediate search for his brother. He did not find Frank, but he did discover the body of one of the hay crew. Another man was found by the Mexicans and taken to Fort Dodge hospital for treatment. Sick at heart, William sold the ranch and returned to his native New Hampshire. Frank's body was found in the river the subsequent fall.

The new owners, A. J. Anthony and Robert Wright, were both formerly employed by the Barlow Sanderson Stage Company. Wright had previously operated ranches at Spring Bottom, west of Bent's Fort, and at Fort Aubrey.¹¹⁷ Difficulties for the new owners came from an unexpected source on September 11, 1867. Three drunken soldiers besieged the ranch, demanding liquor and threatening the proprietors, some stage drivers, and soldiers escorting a westbound train. Two of the ranch employees were mortally wounded and one of the inebriated soldiers was killed.

In the following month, Indians attacked ranch employees as they were making hay. Small parties of men from the ranch attempted to go to the rescue of the hay crew who had

taken refuge in the willows along the Arkansas. The warriors charged the willows several times without success, and later turned their attention to an army paymaster's party approaching from the west. Several companies of soldiers intervened, and the warriors fled. Fortunately, no one was killed in either engagement.

Following the Medicine Lodge Peace Treaty in the fall of 1867, Wright brought his family from Missouri to live at the ranch. But in the face of continued Indian threat, Wright and Anthony abandoned the ranch in July 1868. On the day following their departure, Indians burned the ranch along with several tons of hay.

Fort Aubrey Ranch

Prior to buying the Cimarron Ranch with partner A. J. Anthony, Robert Wright and James Anderson established what Wright called "a fine ranch" in the spring of 1864 at the site of Camp Wyncoop in present Hamilton County some 80 miles west of the Cimarron Crossing.¹¹⁸ Wright, uncharacteristically of a frontiersman, brought his wife and two small children to the ranch. The family had been with him earlier at the Spring Bottom Ranch where Indian attacks had compelled Wright to abandon the ranch. At the Camp Wyncoop location, Wright built "one of the strongest little forts in the country."¹¹⁹

In September 1865 an army post named Fort Aubrey was established at the ranch site and remained in operation through April of the following year. Throughout the army's presence at the ranch, Wright continued to operate his business which also functioned as a stage station.

Wright left the ranch in the fall of 1866, and his whereabouts between this time and August 1867, when he and A. J. Anthony purchased the Cimarron Ranch, is not known.

Fort Wise / Fort Lyon

The previously-mentioned 1858 table of distances listed Trading Post, 490 miles from Westport, three log houses, once occupied by Bent. The reference was to the trading post established by William Bent in 1852 which became the site of Fort Wise in 1860. The trading post was not in operation at the 1858 publication of the

table of distances. By that time, Bent's New Fort, constructed a mile east of the trading post where merchandise could be purchased, had been leased to the government as a storage place for Indian annuities.¹²⁰ However, provisions and supplies were available to civilians at the Fort Wise (changed in name to Fort Lyon in 1862) sutler's store and later at the post trader's store at Fort Lyon's new location, established in 1867, 20 miles to the west.¹²¹

Bent's Fort

The last trading establishment listed in the 1858 table of distances was Bent's Fort, 30 miles west of Bent's New Fort. Established in 1832, it served as the centerpiece of the Bent, St. Vrain Company.¹²²

Abandoned in 1849, a portion of its ruins remained in 1858 when the 1858 table of distances listed, "Everything necessary for men and animals."

Gray's Ranch

Between 1861 and 1866, the Missouri Stage Company and later Barlow and Sanderson established four stations southwest of Bent's Fort on the Bent's Fort Road: Iron Springs, Hole in the Prairie, Hole in the Rock, and Gray's Ranch on the Purgatoire, none of which functioned as a trading establishment with the exception of Gray's Ranch. There, a post office was added in 1863, and Dan Taylor opened a general store in 1865.¹²³

Beyond the Purgatoire, at Raton Pass, was Dick Wootton's fabled establishment which served as a stage station. Uncle Dick, a legend in his own time, hosted many a dance and sold quantities of liquor, but his place could hardly qualify as a trading establishment.¹²⁴

At the south side of Raton Pass was Willow Spring, a forage station established by the army and operated by S. A. Sayre. Its fine spring made the station a welcome water stop, but in no way was it a trading establishment.¹²⁵

A few miles south of Willow Spring was the Clifton House built in 1866-1867 as a gathering place for cattlemen. Later it became the home of the Red River stage station. It, too, could not be characterized as a trading establishment.¹²⁶

The next stop on the Bent's Fort Road was Cimarron, New Mexico,

which found its roots in the 1857 settlement of Lucien Maxwell and blossomed into a fair-sized community with a number of businesses which catered to Santa Fe-bound travelers.¹²⁷

Beyond Cimarron was Rayado, a precursor to Cimarron, established by Maxwell in 1848. The little settlement became the home of Post at Rayado in 1850. The post was deactivated in 1851 with the advent of Fort Union, 30 miles away. While Maxwell sold supplies to travelers on the Bent's Fort Road during the early days of Rayado, there is no record that he ever operated what could be described as a retail establishment. However, the Barlow Sanderson Company did locate a home station there where meals were served to stagecoach passengers at the station/store operated by Jesus Abreu.¹²⁸

South of Rayado, the Bent's Fort Road crossed the Ocate River and proceeded on to the junction of the Mora and Sapello Rivers, also the junction of Bent's Fort Road and the Cimarron Route of the Santa Fe Trail, the starting point of this study.

En route travelers would have arrived at Fort Union. There, civilians could access the sutler's store (post trader's store after 1867) to purchase a wide variety of goods.

Almost as an addendum, the ranches which populated the roads emanating from the several railheads of the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern Division (changed to Kansas Pacific in 1869) deserve mention. Running from Junction City, Kansas, in 1866, what became known as the Fort Riley - Fort Larned Road struck the established route of the Santa Fe Trail in 1866 at Walnut Creek. Prior to the railroad's arrival, the road had been used by the army and the Kansas Stage Company. But with the advent of the railroad at Junction City, the Barlow Sanderson Company initiated thrice weekly mail deliveries down the road to Walnut Creek and on to Santa Fe. Both the Kansas Stage Company and Barlow Sanderson established stage stations along the 120-mile route, but there is no evidence to suggest that any station functioned as a trading establishment, with the exception of the ranch at the Smoky Hill crossing.¹²⁹

Smoky Hill Ranch

In 1860 Daniel Page and Joseph Lehman established a hunting ranch at the Smoky Hill Crossing in present Ellsworth County. There the Kansas Stage Company located a stage station in 1862. Retailing merchandise to both local patrons and overland travelers, the partners prospered until May 1864 when the Indian War erupted with the killing of Suel Walker at the Cow Creek station a few miles southwest of the Smoky Hill. At the time, Page and Lehman deserted the ranch, never to return. In the same summer Fort Ellsworth was established at the ranch site.¹³⁰

Hohneck's Ranch

Farther north, 11 miles south of Salina, Kansas, Ernst Hohneck established a trading ranch in 1864. The ranch is best remembered by the lofty praise of Henry Stanley, the journalist who accompanied the Hancock Expedition of 1867. Stopping at the ranch on March 31, officers of Hancock's command were invited to dine at Hohneck's table. Following is Stanley's appraisal of the meal:

"We stopped at Hohneck's ranche, our quondam friend, for dinner, who had already prepared, in the delightful anticipation of our visit, an elegant and plentiful repast, consisting of bona fide buffalo, deer meat, smoked ham and quinces. We enjoyed it amazingly, and therefore suggest to the belated travelers that they always stop at Hohneck's ranche when they come this way. Hohneck proved himself a gentleman and a scholar, and it was with something akin to sadness that we departed from the adobe mansion that he had himself built on the wild wastes of the desert."¹³¹

With railroad extending its tracks to Hays City in October 1867, Santa Fe traffic on the Fort Riley - Fort Larned Road was transferred to the Fort Hays - Fort Dodge Road which ran between Hays City and Fort Dodge. Unlike its predecessor, the new road did not have a single stage station during the period it served as the far eastern leg of the Santa Fe Trail.¹³² However, one trading ranch was located on its 75-mile route.

Sawlog Creek

At the Sawlog Creek crossing of

the Fort Hays - Fort Dodge Road in present Ford County, Kansas, 12 miles from Fort Dodge, a man known only as Boyd operated a ranch for a brief period. A single reference to the ranch was written by Richard Blinn in his April 10, 1868, diary entry. Not the most literate person on the frontier, he spelled the name of the stream "Sligelog." Blinn is best known as the husband of Clara Blinn and the father of Willie Blinn captured by Cheyennes on October 9, 1868, on the Bent's Fort Road east of Fort Lyon. Both were killed in the melee of Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer's attack on Black Kettle's Washita River village on November 27, 1868.¹³³

Bent's Fort Again

Hays City's grip on the eastern terminus of the Santa Fe Trail did not last long. By June 1868 the railroad had extended its tracks to Phil Sheridan, an end-of-the-tracks town in present Logan County, Kansas, 12 miles northeast of Fort Wallace. From this railhead freight was shipped on a newly-developed 120-mile road to Fort Lyon on the Bent's Fort Road. However, the Southern Overland Mail and Express Company moved its headquarters to Pond Creek Station, formerly a stop on the Butterfield Overland Despatch near Fort Wallace. Between Pond Creek and Fort Lyon, the mail company established six stations, none of which functioned as a trading establishment.

The Union Pacific, changed to Kansas Pacific Railway in 1869, reached Kit Carson, Colorado Territory, in 1870. Two roads were developed running from Kit Carson. A stage route ran due south where it connected with the older road out of Pond Creek at the Big Sandy Station, thence on to Fort Lyon. A stage road ran south from the railhead to a point a few miles north of the Big Sandy Station and veered southwest to a ranch on a stream labeled Big Creek by Ado Hunnius.¹³⁴ The nature of that ranch is unknown. From that point, the road continued to Bent's Fort where the stage station was still in operation with a post office being added in 1863. There in 1870 W. R. Thomas, reporter for the *Rocky Mountain News*, wrote that he was never served a more excellent meal. At that time the station where

"everything necessary for men and animals" was available in 1858, was operated by Messrs. Price and Lander, local cattlemen.¹³⁵

As the Union Pacific/Kansas Pacific Railway was building in an east-west orientation across Kansas and into Colorado Territory, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway was laying tracks in a southwest direction across Kansas, reaching Granada, Colorado Territory, in 1873. The construction of the railroad westward from Granada was stymied for two years as the railroad officials found themselves without funds. The panic of 1873 had essentially stopped all railroad construction in the West.¹³⁶

While the railroad languished, Granada flourished thanks to the presence of two large commission firms, Chick, Browne, and Company, and Otero, Sellar and Company. These two companies, moved to Granada from Kit Carson, shipped great quantities of freight from the railhead to Fort Union on what has become known as the Military Freight Road.¹³⁶ The road had its roots in the expedition led by Lieutenant John Pope in 1851 to discover a new route from the present Oklahoma panhandle to the Arkansas River.¹³⁸ The road was used sparingly until 1873 when the two previously-mentioned commission firms transported 723 tons of freight to Fort Union.¹³⁹ However, the tenure of the road was brief as the railroad pushed its tracks westward to Las Animas from where freight was dispatched on the Bent's Fort Road over Raton Pass.

As to trading establishments on the Military Freight Road, Richard Loudon identified two such enterprises. One was established early in 1857 by F. W. Matthews, a few miles from present Branson, Colorado, and another at Toll Gate operated by Bill Metcalf.¹⁴⁰

After a tenure of 60 years, the Santa Fe Trail met its demise in 1880 when the railroad reached Santa Fe. With its closing, the trading ranches along its multiple routes faded fast into history's evening shade. Reflecting on such enterprises throughout the West, Everett Dick wrote, "The first permanent settlers on the prairie were those adventurous ones who feared neither the dangers of Indian attacks nor the

privations of life in a region remote from civilization. They formed a frail, thin line of settlement along the overland trails. These little frontier islands of settlements stretched out across the lonesome bleak ocean of savagery connecting two continents, so to speak, of settlement. This development was a new thing in the history of the frontier. It is true that settlement often followed rivers but never before had settlement pushed out across a barren area and formed a chain hundreds of miles long."¹⁴¹

The intrepid traders were among the first to brave the nineteenth-century West. Before the army made a permanent presence; before the farmer came with his ubiquitous plow; before the church arrived with Bible and bell; before the railroad bisected the continent, this frail, thin line was constructed with Yankee ingenuity and frontier fortitude. In many ways, those of us who inhabit the plains are recipients of the society they created.

Notes

64. McCoy, "Central Kansas Trading Ranches," 112.
65. Robert Morris Peck, "Recollections of Early Times In Kansas Territory," *Kansas Historical Collections*, 8 (1903-1904): 488.
66. McCoy, "Central Kansas Trading Ranches," 112.
67. Baughman, *Kansas Post Offices*, 86, 204.
68. McCoy, "Central Kansas Trading Ranches," 112-113.
69. "The Legislature of 1868," *Kansas Historical Collections*, 10 (1907-1908): 267.
70. Randolph B. Marcy, *The Prairie Traveler* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1859), 616-71. McCoy, "Central Kansas Trading Ranches," 114.
72. Ibid.
73. Marion County Treasurer's Vol. 1, "Account of money received for Dram Shop Licenses for the Year 1865 and 1866."
74. There may also have been a trading ranch at Dry Turkey Creek crossing, some eight miles west of Running Turkey Creek. Additional research is underway and a more detailed article will be written about this site for a later issue. There is confusion about the locations on Turkey Creek because of the use of several names, including Running Turkey, Big Turkey, and Dry Turkey.
75. For the life of Charles Fuller and his ranch, see John Stratton, "The Life of Charles O. Fuller in Central Kansas, 1855-1879," *Wagon Tracks*, 18 (Feb. 2004): 9-13.
76. "Legislature of 1868," 271.
77. David Lindsey, ed., "The Journal of an 1859 Pike's Peak Gold Seeker," *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, 22 (Winter 1956): 328.
78. Baughman, *Kansas Post Offices*, 12, 202.
79. Marion County Treasurer's Book, Vol. 1.
80. Louise Barry, "The Ranch at the Great

- Bend," *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, 39 (Spring 1973): 98-99.
81. Quoted in Stratton, "Life of Charles O. Fuller," 11.
82. See John Stratton, "'A Bold and Fearless Rider': Ed Miller and the Paper Trail," *Wagon Tracks*, 17 (Nov. 2002): 14-18.
83. Gregory M. Franzwa, *The Santa Fe Trail Revisited* (St. Louis: The Patrice Press, 1989), 87-89.
84. All the material for this portion of the study subtitled Little Arkansas River was taken from Louise Barry, "The Ranch at the Little Arkansas Crossing," *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, 55 (Autumn 1972).
85. The majority of the material for this portion of the study subtitled Cow Creek was taken from Barry, "Ranch At Cow Creek Crossing." The single exception is cited in note 86.
86. McCoy, "Central Kansas Trading Ranches," 117.
87. Ida Ellen Rath, *The Rath Trail* (Wichita: McCormick-Armstrong Co., Inc., 1961), 14.
88. The remaining material for this portion of the study subtitled The Great Bend of the Arkansas River was taken from Barry, "Ranch at the Great Bend."
89. Taylor, *First Mail West*, 34.
90. Barry, "Ranch at Walnut Creek," 121-122, 146-147.
91. Baughman, *Kansas Post Offices*, 160-161.
92. Barry, "Ranch at Walnut Creek," 126, 128.
93. Ibid., 129.
94. Ibid.
95. *National Tribune*, June 13, 1901.
96. Barry, "Ranch at Cow Creek," 425.
97. Barry, "Ranch at Walnut Creek," 140-142.
98. David K. Clapsaddle, "Trading Ranches on the Fort Riley - Fort Larned Road: The Other Ranch at Walnut Creek," *Wagon Tracks*, 12 (February 1998): 128.
99. Clapsaddle, "Conflict and Commerce," 129.
100. Barry, "Ranch at Walnut Creek," 141.
101. Letters Received, Adjutant General's Office, 1867, Microcopy 619, roll 562, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C.
102. Clapsaddle, "Conflict and Commerce," 129.
103. Barry, "Ranch at Walnut Creek," 144-145.
104. Clapsaddle, "Conflict and Commerce," 134, 137.
105. Barry, "Ranch at Walnut Creek," 145-146.
106. Donald J. Berthong, *The Southern Cheyennes*, (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1963), 269.
107. Following Rath's departure, the ranch building was occupied by Joseph Douglass, Fort Zarah's post trader. A party of Cheyennes and Arapahoes burned the building in May 1868. Barry, "Ranch at Walnut Creek," 146.
108. Ibid., 137.
109. Henry Booth, *Centennial History of Pawnee County*, Santa Fe Trail Center, Larned, Kansas.
110. David K. Clapsaddle, A. H. Boyd, *Entrepreneur of the Prairie* (Larned, KS: The Larned Tiller and Toiler), 8-9.
111. Ibid., 9-17.
112. Ibid., 17.
113. Ibid., 21, 22.
114. Capt. Henry Asbury to Asst. Adjutant

- General, Headquarters, District of the Upper Arkansas, March 6, 1867, Fort Larned National Historic Site Archives.
115. Taylor, *First Mail West*, 95, 107.
116. The majority of the remaining material used for this portion of the study subtitled Cimarron Ranch was taken from Barry, "Ranch at Cimarron Crossing." The single exception is cited in note 116.
117. R. M. Wright, "Personal Reminiscences of Frontier Life In Southwest, Kansas," *Kansas Historical Collections*, 7 (1901-1902): 53-55. The Spring Bottom Ranch is beyond the scope of this study, but those interested are referred to Wright's article.
118. Camp Wyncoop, a temporary post, was established in late spring of 1864 at the direction of Col. John M. Chivington. Leo E. Oliva, *Soldiers on the Santa Fe Trail* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1967), 152.
119. Wright, "Personal Reminiscences," 53-55. Much of the remaining portion of this study subtitled Fort Aubrey Ranch was taken from Louise Barry, "Fort Aubrey," *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, 39 (Summer 1973), 188-199.
120. David Lavender, *Bent's Fort* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1954), 339, 356; Robert W. Frazer, *Forts of The West* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1965), 41-42.
121. Ibid., 39-40.
122. Lavender, *Bent's Fort*, 142-338.
123. Taylor, *First Mail West*, 78, 96, 108.
124. Ibid., 149.
125. Nancy Robinson, "Letter to Editor," *Wagon Tracks*, 4 (November 1989): 18.
126. Brown, *Santa Fe Trail*, 193-194.
127. Ibid., 196-200.
128. Lawrence R. Murphy, "Rayado: Pioneer Settlement," *New Mexico Historical Review*, 46 (January 1971), 38-39, 49; Simmons, *Following the Santa Fe Trail*, 146.
129. Clapsaddle, "Conflict and Commerce," 128-134.
130. Ibid., 128-131.
131. David K. Clapsaddle, "Trading Ranches on the Fort Riley - Fort Larned Road, Part II: Hohneck's Ranch," *Wagon Tracks*, 12 (May 1988): 16.
132. David K. Clapsaddle, "The Fort Hays - Fort Dodge Road," *Kansas History*, 14 (Summer 1991): 101.
133. All the material for this portion of the study subtitled Sawlog Creek was taken from David K. Clapsaddle, "The Fort Hays - Fort Dodge Road, a Ladder of Rivers," *Overland Journal*, 18 (Fall 2000).
134. Most of the material for this portion of the study subtitled Bent's Fort Again was taken from David K. Clapsaddle, "The Fort Wallace / Kit Carson Roads," *Wagon Tracks*, 8 (February 1994): 161-162. The lone exception is cited in note 135.
135. Taylor, *First Mail West*, 96, 150.
136. Ibid., 162.
137. Miguel Antonio Otero, *My Life On The Frontier, 1864-1882* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1987), 69-70.
138. Barry, *Beginning of the West*, 1038.
139. Richard Loudon, "The Military Freight Road," *Wagon Tracks*, 7 (May 1993): 9.
140. Ibid.
141. Everett Dick, *The Sod House Frontier, 1854-1890* (New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, Inc., 1937), 102.

TRAIL SYMPOSIUM AT NORTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY, OCTOBER 1-2

by Larry Justice

YOUNG blood—that is one of the goals for the Northwestern Oklahoma State University symposium at the Woodward campus, October 1-2, 2010. One of the singular, most significant needs for SFTA relates to increasing membership. All of us are getting older, thus the demographics of our beloved SFTA is one of gray hair. It has become a genuine concern of the Board of Directors that membership is a critical matter. The symposium at NWOSU is a step toward alleviating some of those concerns by challenging students and faculty from colleges and universities to write academic papers relating to the conservation, preservation, military, economic, and gender impact enhanced by the development of the Santa Fe Trail. You are invited to join this event.

Nearly 70 flyers and invitations have been sent to college and university history/social science departments requesting the academic papers be sent to Dr. Aaron Mason and Larry Justice (SFTA board member) by September 1, 2010. Papers will be read and evaluated by Santa Fe Trail BOD members Leo E. Oliva, Mike Olsen, and Tim Zwink.

Presentations by National Park Service representatives from Bent's Old Fort NHS in Colorado and Fort Larned NHS in Kansas will be a part of the Friday, October 1, evening dinner at the Woodward County Museum. Other guests have been invited to speak at the symposium.

Displays relating to the Santa Fe Trail are being encouraged and prepared by various chapters of SFTA. A membership table will be manned by SFTA board members.

The goals are simple. If the SFTA is to survive, we must enlist young, college-age people to carry on the mantle of one of the most important historical investments in the development of our nation.

Of course, the second goal relates to the development of NWOSU. Recruitment of students is a key ingredient in the life of Northwestern. The university will use the symposium to encourage community and junior col-

lege students to consider Northwestern for completion of their degrees.

The presentations will occur on Friday, October 1, at the NWOSU Woodward campus and the Woodward County museum. Saturday participants will be encouraged to caravan to Larned to visit the Santa Fe Trail Center, pause for lunch (on your own) in Larned, then join a tour of Fort Larned NHS. Cost of the symposium tentatively will be \$35 until September 1, 2010. After that date, the registration will increase to \$50. For information regarding registration, submission of papers, hotel accommodations, contact Dr. Aaron Mason at <mason@nwosu.edu> or Larry Justice at <lljustice@nwosu.edu> or call the campus operator at 580-327-1700.

PRESERVATION GOAL

(continued from page 1)

adversely impact a historical site. All parties, organizations, or others involved in marking or erecting interpretive signs or exhibits along the Trail are encouraged to consult with the Preservation and Mapping Marker chairs and State Historic Preservation officer before altering a historic site in any manner.

In 2004 SFTA received \$25,000 from the El Paso Gas company for Trail preservation efforts. This money was received as result of SFTA concern expressed during the construction of the "Cheyenne Plains Pipeline" by El Paso Gas Company that crossed the historic Trail near the corner of Ford and Edwards counties in Kansas. The landowner of the affected resource declined to enter into a "Conservation Easement" that would protect the Trail segment on his property from future impacts. The easement would have interfered with the landowner's agriculture operations and contracts with USDA. El Paso Gas Company was impressed with the efforts of SFTA to preserve this cultural resource and awarded the funds for preservation efforts.

The SFTA has placed this money in an account for use for preservation issues along the Trail. Preservation expenses can be drawn from this account for mitigation of threats and emergency preservation aid situations. The Preservation Chair can authorize expenditures up to \$1000

in consultation per situation with the president of SFTA.

THE CACHES —MUSEUM NEWS—

Paula Manini, Editor

This column lists events and news from Trail sites, museums, and related organizations. Please send information following the format below. Be sure to include your address, phone number, and e-mail. The next column will list hours and activities scheduled for September through November. To be included, send information to Paula Manini at the Trinidad History Museum (see below) by July 15, 2010. Also, please send news and changes regarding e-mail addresses, contact information, and open hours.

A. R. Mitchell Museum of Western Art
150 East Main St

Trinidad CO 81082

Telephone: 719-846-4224

E-mail: mitchellmuseum@qwest.net

- Western art by Trinidad native A. R. Mitchell and Harvey Dunn, as well as Hispanic folk art, Indian artifacts, and cowboy gear.
- Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Free on Sunday, 12-4 p.m.

Arrow Rock State Historic Site

Friends of Arrow Rock

PO Box 124

Arrow Rock MO 65320

Telephone: 660-837-3231 or 3330

E-mail: kborgman@iland.net

Websites: www.arrowrock.org;

www.mostateparks.com/arrowrock.htm

- Call for information..

Barton County Museum & Village

PO Box 1091

Great Bend KS 67530

Telephone: 620-793-5125

Website: www.bartoncountymuseum.org

- October-April: Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call for visiting on weekends and Mondays. Group tours by reservation.

- The site is a Santa Fe National Trail Interpretive Center.

Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site

35110 Highway 194 East

La Junta CO 81050

Telephone: 719-383-5010

E-mail: rick_wallner@nps.gov

Website: www.nps.gov/beol

- Hours: 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily. Guided tours at 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. Orientation film and self-guided tours throughout the day.
- Visit the trade room & bookstore.
- June 4-5: "From Ruins to Reconstruction" 50th Anniversary Cele-

bration, many special programs.

- July 10: Kids' Quarters, ages 7-11; pre-registration required, call for application.

Boggsville Historic Site

PO Box 68

Las Animas CO 81054

Telephone: 719-456-1358

E-mail: boggsville67@yahoo.com

Website: www.bentcounty.org/sitesandcelebrations/historic/htm

- Contact for information.

Booth Hill Museum

Front Street

Dodge City KS 67801

Telephone: 620-227-8188

E-mail: frontst@pld.com

Website: www.boothill.org

- Museum: Call for hours.
- Boot Hill Cemetery, Boot Hill, & Front Street: Open Monday-Saturday 9:00-5:00 and Sun. 1:00-5:00.
- Santa Fe Trail Ruts nine miles west of Dodge City on US Hwy 400; markers and observation point. Open during daylight hours.

Cimarron Heritage Center Museum

1300 N Cimarron

PO Box 214

Boise City OK 73933

Telephone: 580-544-3479

E-mail: museum@ptsi.net

Website: www.ptsi.net/users/museum

- Open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-4 p.m., except major holidays.
- A new Chapel is available for meetings; a one-room school is being restored.

Cimarron Recreation Area

Cimarron National Grassland

PO Box 300

242 E Highway 56

Elkhart KS 67950

Telephone: 620-697-4621

E-mail: sharilbutler@fs.fed.us

Website: www.fs.fed.us/r2/psicc/cim

- Call or visit the web site.

Citizens Committee for Historic Preservation

127 Bridge Street

PO Box 728

Las Vegas NM 87701

Telephone: 505-425-8803

E-mail: historic@cybermesa.com

Website: www.lasvegasnmcchp.com

- Aug. 7-15: "Las Vegas Heritage Week" celebrates 175th anniversary of founding of Las Vegas, with special programs
- Aug. 7, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: "Places with a Past Historic Homes and Buildings Tour." Go at your own pace with guides at 10 venues. Cost \$20 each.

Cleveland Roller Mill Historical Museum

PO Box 287

Cleveland NM 87712

Telephone: 575-447-2646

E-mail: dancas@nmmf.net

Website: angelfire.com/folk/rollermill

- Visit a historic flour mill with machinery, artifacts, and exhibits in the Mora Valley, a wheat-growing and milling area.
- Located 44 miles southeast of Taos and 32 miles west of Watrous.
- Aug. 21: Benefit dance with The Rifiers

Coronado Quivira Museum

Rice County Historical Society

105 West Lyon

Lyons KS 67554

Telephone: 620-257-3941

E-mail: cqmuseum@hotmail.com

- Call for information.

Fort Larned National Historic Site

1767 K-156 Hwy

Larned KS 67550

Telephone: 620-285-6911

Website: www.nps.gov/fols

- Open daily, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., except major holidays.

Fort Union National Monument

PO Box 127

Watrous NM 87753

Telephone: 505-425-8025

E-mail: Claudette_Norman@nps.gov

Website: www.nps.gov/foun

- Open daily except for major holidays. Located 8 miles north of Interstate 25 on NM Highway 161.
- Self-guided interpretive trails (1.6 mile and .5 mile) through the ruins. Guided tours by request; groups of ten or more people need advance reservations.

Friends of Arrow Rock

309 Main

Arrow Rock MO 65320

Telephone: 660-837-3231

E-mail: kborgman@iland.net

Websites: www.friendsar.org; www.arrowrock.org

- Call for information.

Gas and Historical Museum

Stevens County Historical Society

PO Box 87

Hugoton KS 67951

Telephone: 620-544-8751

E-mail: svcomus@pld.com

- Call for information.

Herzstein Memorial Museum

Union County Historical Society

PO Box 75 (2nd & Walnut Sts.)

Clayton NM 88415

Telephone: 575-374-2977

- Call for information.

Highway of Legends Scenic & Historic Byway

PO Box 377

Trinidad CO 81082

Telephone: 719-846-7217

Website: www.sangres.com

- Enjoy spectacular scenery, historic towns, and museums along

Highway 12. Stop at Marion and Richard Russell's beloved Stonewall and the cemetery.

- From Cordova Pass trailhead, hike in the Spanish Peaks Wilderness Area and experience Trail landmarks up close.

Historic Adobe Museum

PO Box 909 (300 E Oklahoma)

Ulysses, KS 67880

Telephone: 620-356-3009

E-mail: ulyksmus@pld.com

- Call for information.

Historic Trinidad

City of Trinidad Tourism Board

PO Box 880

Trinidad, CO 81082

Website: www.historictrinidad.com

- Trinidad's Main Street, on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail Auto Route, offers self-guided walking tours, shopping and dining in an acclaimed national historic district near the Purgatoire River Walk.
- Visit the Loudon-Henritze Archaeology Museum at Trinidad State Junior College. Open 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Thursday.

Jefferson Nat. Expansion Memorial

11 N Fourth Street

St. Louis, MO 63102

Telephone: 314-655-1631

E-mail: tom_dewey@partner.nps.gov

Website: www.nps.gov/jeff

- Visit the Gateway Arch, Museum of Westward Expansion, and Old Courthouse. This National Park Service site commemorates St. Louis's role in westward expansion during the 1800s and honors individuals such as Dred and Harriet Scott who sued for their freedom in the Old Courthouse.
- Free ranger-led and special museum programs. Fees charged for the tram ride to the top of the Gateway Arch and films in the visitor center.

Kearny County Museum

111 S Buffalo St

Lakin, KS 67860

Telephone: 620-355-7448

E-mail: kchs@pld.com

- Open Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-4 p.m., and Sunday 1-4 p.m. Closed major holidays.
- The museum features a Conestoga wagon and attractions from 1872 to the future. The complex also has Lakin's oldest house, a one-room schoolhouse, train depot, 12-sided barn, and a machinery building.
- West of Lakin is Chouteau's Island, Indian Mound, and Bluff Station. Approximately 3 miles east, wagon ruts can be seen at "Charlie's Ruts" site.

Koshare Museum

Otero State Junior College

115 West 18th Street
La Junta, CO 81050
Telephone: 719-384-4411
Website: www.koshare.org

- Call for information.
- Trading Post: online at website.

Las Vegas Museum
727 Grand Ave
Las Vegas NM 87701
Telephone: 505-454-1401, ext. 248
E-mail: lgegick@desertgate.com

- Call for information.

Morton County Hist. Society Museum
370 E Highway 56 (PO Box 1248)
Elkhart KS 67950

Telephone: 620-697-2833 or 4390
E-mail: mtcomuseum@elkhart.com
Website: www.mtcoks.com/museum

- Visit this Santa Fe National Historic Trail official interpretive facility, Tuesday-Friday, 1.-5 p.m., and weekends by appointment.
- June 5-12: 10th Annual Grassland Heritage Festival. See website for details.

National Frontier Trails Museum
318 W Pacific St

Independence MO 64050

Telephone: 816-325-7575

E-mail: rwedwards@indepmo.org

Website: frontiertrailsmuseum.org

- Contact museum for information.

Otero Museum

706 W. Third St.

La Junta, CO 81050

Telephone: 719-384-7500

Cell phone: 719-980-3193

E-mail: oteromuseum@centurytel.net

- June 1-Sept. 30: 1-5 p.m. Daily except Sunday. Free admission, donations welcome.

Santa Fe Trail Center Museum & Library
1349 K-156 Hwy

Larned, KS 67550

Telephone: 620-285-2054

E-mail: museum@santafetrailcenter.org

Website: www.santafetrailcenter.org

- Open Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Memorial Day through Labor Day.
- June 19, 3 p.m.: "DAR Marker Restoration Celebration"
- Oct. 9-10: Tired Iron Show

Santa Fe Trail Scenic & Historic Byway

PO Box 118

Trinidad CO 81082

Telephone: 719-846-2396

E-mail: Wyvonne@hughes.net

Website: www.santafetrailco.com

- Follow the Mountain Route from Lamar to Raton Pass to enjoy a variety of historic sites, museums, communities, and special events.

South Platte Valley Historical Society

PO Box 633

Fort Lupton CO 80621

Telephone: 303-857-2123

Website: www.spvhs.org

- Call ahead to visit the Donelson

Homestead House, 1875 Independence School, and the Fort Lupton Museum. Call for addresses and hours.

Trinidad History Museum

(History Colorado)

312 E Main (PO Box 377)

Trinidad CO 81082

Telephone: 719-846-7217

E-mail: paula.manini@chs.state.co.us

Website: www.coloradohistory.org

- A whole block of history features the Baca House and Santa Fe Trail Museum, both designated Trail sites, plus the Bloom Mansion. Also visit the Heritage Gardens, Book and Gift Shop, and Byways and Tourism Center.
- Open May 1-Sept. 30, Monday-Saturday. Gardens open at 9 a.m. and buildings at 10 a.m. Last tour starts at 4 p.m. Admission charged. Closed state holidays and furloughs.
- "Celebrate Japan!" is about Japanese culture and Japanese American history in southeastern Colorado. Children's workshops, festivals, and an ethnic garden are at the museum and lectures are at Trinidad State Junior College. Call for fees and to register for the children's workshops.
- June 10, 7 p.m.: "The Archaeology of Camp Amache: A World War II Relocation Camp for Japanese Americans," by Dr. Bonnie Clark.
- July 17, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.: Japanese Arts Workshop for children.
- July 17, 8-10 p.m.: Star Gazing Festival with a variety of family activities.
- July 8, 7 p.m.: "Sex, Race, and the Fate of Three Nisei Sisters," by Dr. William Wei; about sisters from Camp Amache who were put on trial for their role in the escape of prisoners of war from Camp Trinidad.
- July 22, 7 p.m.: "The Ogawa Family of Trinidad," by Dean Ogawa. Lecture and reception.
- Aug. 14, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Japanese Arts Workshop for children.
- Aug. 14, 1-3 p.m. Latern Festival with variety of family activities.
- Oct. 2, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.: Japanese Arts Workshop for children.
- Oct. 2, 1-3 p.m.: Chrysanthemum Festival with variety of family activities.

CAMP TALES

—CHAPTER REPORTS—

Cimarron Cutoff

President Leon Ellis

PO Box 668

Elkhart KS 67950

(620) 697-2517 (home), -4321 (work)

<leonellis@elkhart.com>

No report.

Wagon Bed Spring

President Jeff Trotman

PO Box 1005

Ulysses KS 67880

(620) 356-1854

<swpb@pld.com>

The chapter met April 10 at the Haskell County Museum in Sublette, KS, with a good showing of members and guests. After the short business meeting, the "Bring a Child" program was presented by chapter members Jim Groth and Ken Weidner. Jim visited with the group about the beginnings of the Santa Fe Trail and showed some trail-related items. Ken, dressed in Cheyenne Indian attire, spoke to the group about Indians along the Trail.

The next meeting for the Wagon Bed Springs Chapter will be held in Hugoton, KS., date and time to be announced.

Heart of the Flint Hills

President Carol L. Retzer

4215 E 245th St

Lyndon KS 66451

(785) 828-3739

<carolretzer@direcway.com>

No report.

End of the Trail

La Alcaldesa Pam Najdowski

1810 Paseo de la Conquistadora

Santa Fe NM 87501

(505) 982-1172

<pamnajdowski@yahoo.net>

No report.

Corazón de los Caminos

President Harry Myers

16 Descanso Rd.

Santa Fe, NM 877508

(505) 466-4129

<hmyers@cybermesa.com>

The calendar of events for the year has been set. In June we will participate in and assist the village of Cimarron with Santa Fe Trail Days to be held June 11-13. A myriad of activities is being planned to celebrate the opening of a Santa Fe Trail Interpretative Park. On July 17 the First Fort at Fort Union will be open to visitors and we will visit this historic area. We will join the End of the Trail Chapter to tour San Jose del Vado on August 29. September 25 we will go to Watrous, a trail town first known as La Junta. On October 17 we will meet at

Rayado for a program by Steve Zimmer. A business meeting in Las Vegas with Robert Torrez, retired New Mexico State Historian, as speaker will round out the year on November 13.

We joined the Wagon Bed Springs Chapter for a camp out, cook out at Point of Rocks Ranch on April 24. A program and tour of the many interesting sites including graves, ruts and tipi rings completed the evening. In May the Chapter helped with the clean up of the Vermejo Cemetery near Maxwell. We built fence, restored gravestones, and tidied the area. After a picnic lunch, we visited nearby Trail ruts.

Wet/Dry Routes

President David Clapsaddle
215 Mann
Larned KS 67550
(620) 285-3295
<adsaddle@cox.net>

Sixty members and guests attended the spring meeting of the chapter on April 25 at the Episcopal Church in Larned. Following lunch, the business meeting included approval for two projects; "talking tombstones" to be conducted at a date to be selected this coming summer; serving a meal at the Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous, September 18, 2010. Ann Hicks, president of the Larned's Quilting Bees guild reported on the "quilt project" involving fourth-grade students from Larned's Northside Elementary School. Ed and Joyce Jumper, Rush Center, KS, were welcomed as new members. The summer meeting is scheduled on July 18, 4:00 p.m., at the Clapsaddle residence in Larned.

Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron

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

Thirty-six members and guests met February 28 at the Boot Hill Museum in Dodge City, with a pot-luck dinner, business meeting, and comments by guests. SFTA President Joanne VanCoevern spoke about national developments and plans. Wagon Bed Spring Chapter President Jeff Trotman spoke briefly

about his chapter's activities. President Sherer discussed plans for the 2011 symposium. The next meeting was planned for May 16.

Missouri River Outfitters

President Roger Slusher
1421 South St
Lexington MO 64067
(660) 259-2900
<rslusher@yahoo.com>

No report.

Quivira

President Linda Colle
PO Box 1105
McPherson KS 67460
(620) 241-3800
<blkcolle@swbell.net>

The chapter is excited to be one step closer to completing the auto tour project. Duane Johnson completed the installation of signs in Rice County. We are grateful to him and his friend Tony Renolett.

The chapter met at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center at Cheyenne Bottoms on April 10. Curtis Wolf, Site Manager, provided an overview of the facility and the area. Fort Hays State University manages the Center. Cheyenne Bottoms is the largest wetland area in the internal United States, with 41,000 acres.

Cheyenne Bottoms is just north of the Santa Fe Trail and the Wetlands and Wildlife National Scenic Byway has several sites on the Trail. Not many diaries exist regarding the Trail and the wetlands, but David Clapsaddle's book *Braving Cheyenne Bottoms* presents three encounters of Santa Fe Trail travelers with the wetlands of Cheyenne Bottoms.

Our next meeting is in McPherson on May 1, a joint meeting with the McPherson County Historical Society at 2:00 p.m. at the McPherson Municipal Center, 400 E Kansas, in the Commission Meeting Room. John Martin will discuss the death of Ed Miller who was killed by Indians near Canton in 1864.

The chapter will offer a guided tour of Ellsworth and other historic sites in the area on Saturday, July 17. If there is enough interest, a bus will be chartered. The cost is \$40 and will include lunch and snacks.

Cottonwood Crossing

President Steve Schmidt
1120 Cobblestone Ct
McPherson KS 67460
(620) 245-0715
<wfordok@yahoo.com>

July 3 is the re-dedication ceremony for the Lost Spring monument and installation of the new time capsule. The Fort Riley Commanding General's Color Guard will perform.

Bent's Fort

President Pat Palmer
PO Box 628
Lamar CO 81052
(719) 931-4323
<gpatpalmer@cminet.net>

On Saturday April 10, 2010, over 20 members of the chapter spent the morning spring cleaning at Boggsville Historic Site, south of Las Animas. Leaves were raked, windows washed, floors swept, furniture dusted, and columns and woodwork were given a fresh coat of paint. Members began the day with a breakfast provided by Cuartelejo HP & Associates. The day ended with a lunch prepared by Pat Palmer. Boggsville will open for the season on April 30.

Douglas County

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

No report.

CYBER CHAPTER INQUIRY

Are you a member of SFTA who does not live on or close to the historical path of the Trail? Are you interested in a cyber chapter?

You may live on the east coast or west coast, overseas, or another location that prevents significant participation in the activities of SFTA chapters. Send response to Larry Justice at <lljustice@nwosu.edu>. Please consider these questions.

1. Would you like to stay in contact with other members like yourself, members who live a significant distance from the Trail?
2. Would you like to make an impact on the research and development of various aspects related to the Trail?
3. Would you like to have a voice to the SFTA board?
4. Would you like to learn about research and development, preservation, building of kiosks, threats to the trail, as well as other situations through interaction with members knowledgeable about Trail matters?

If you answered "Yes" to any of

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ASSOCIATION IN YOUR WILL

these questions, please send us your recommendations regarding a cyber chapter of SFTA.

NEW SFTA MEMBERS

This list includes new memberships received since the last issue (and several accidentally omitted in the last issue). If there is an error in this information, please send corrections to the editor. We thank you for your support.

INSTITUTION MEMBERSHIPS

Cimarron River Valley NSDAR, PO Box 2137, Liberal KS 67905

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Debra Cahoun, PO Box 632, Cimarron KS 67835

Rod & Tanna Collins, 11530 W Main Rd, Dodge City KS 67801

J. Marion Doar & Peggy Stuart, 1507 Village Sq, Mt Pleasant SC 29464

Tom & Anna Dyer, 220 Westview Dr, Athens GA 30606

Tom & Sheryl Giessel, 1392 T Rd, Larned KS 67550

Clyde & Carol Greer, 11707 CR SS, Springfield CO 81073

Dick & Suzanne Lawrence, 45 Camino Quien Sabe, Santa Fe NM 87505

Stephen & Susan McCollum, PO Box 566, Baldwin City KS 66006

Don & Kitty Overmyer, PO Box 68, Rocky Ford CO 81067

Troy Robinson, 214½ W W Earp, Dodge City KS 67801

Lisa Morrelli & Sue Stanberry, PO Box 252, Rocky Ford CO 81067

John & Cheryl Webb, 30997 US Hwy 287, Springfield CO 81073

Chris & Vicki Wilkinsson, 511 Stewart Place, Lamar CO 81052

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Larry Blevins, PO Box 142, Arrow

Rock MO 65320

Alida Boorn, 15112 Moscelyn, Wichita KS 67235

Kathy Borgman, PO Box 21, Arrow Rock MO 65320

Jacquelyn E. Chase, PO Box 98, El Prado NM 87529

Peggy Jo Dowell, 1404 Washington, Rocky Ford CO 81067

Mary Duncan, PO Box 23, Arrow Rock MO 65320

Wes Ehrlich, RR 2 Box 5, Gage OK 73843

Doyle Foreman, PO Box 255, Ute Park NM 87749

Benetta Foster, PO Box 363, Eskridge KS 66423

Joseph A. Hambright, PO Box 3868, Grand Junction CO 81502

Mervin J. Harlan, PO Box 116, Madison KS 66860

Judy Horton, 3610 Rue de Renard, Florissant MO 63034

Gene James, 108 NW Elmwood Ave, Topeka KS 66606

Linda Jones, 1056 Rd E, Emporia KS 66801

Marilyn Kersting, 10645 136 Rd, Offerle KS 67563

Tim J. Kirwin, PO Box 855, Yankton SD 57078

Joe M. Lopez, PO Box 56, Watrous NM 87753

Nancy E. Marr, 1625 Old Mill, Marion KS 66561

Jeannie Mitchell, 12301 Dawson Rd, Elbert CO 80106

William Nels, 2201 Collins Dr, Las Vegas NM 87701

Richard L. Noblet, 319 W 10th, Larned KS 67550

Nancy G. Poe, 928 N Third, Raton NM 87740

James Randle, 845 S Rd L, Ulysses KS 67880

Deborah Rubenstein, 6799 Armstrong Rd, Imlay City MI 48444

Dwite Sharp, PO Box 55, Council Grove KS 66746

Brian D. Stucky, PO Box 177, Goessel KS 67053

Audrey Thompson, 5331 Nursery Rd, Dover PA 17315

Robert J. Torrez, 8109 Corte del Viento NW, Albuquerque NM 87120

Allan J. Wheeler, 13 Ravens Ridge Trail, Santa Fe NM 87505

TRAIL CALENDAR

Everyone is invited to send notices for this section; provide location, date, time, and activity. This is a quarterly. The next issue should appear in August, so send information for September and later to arrive by July 20, 2010. Other events are listed in chapter reports.

June 11-13, 2010: SFT Celebration, Cimarron NM, details at <www.cimarronnm.com>.

July 3, 2010: Lost Spring Monument Rededication, two and one-half miles west of the town of Lost Springs beginning at 9 a.m.

Sept. 5-24, 2010: Santa Fe Trail Bicycle Trek, contact Willard Chilcott at <Willard@cybermesa.com>.

Sept. 16-19, 2010: Trail Rendezvous, Larned KS.

FROM THE EDITOR

Some items have again been omitted or reduced because of space. See inserts for additional information. Many wonderful activities are scheduled along the Trail during the coming months; please attend as many as possible. It is a good year to travel the historic routes. Be sure to get the Rendezvous on your calendar. I hope to see you there.

Happy Trails!

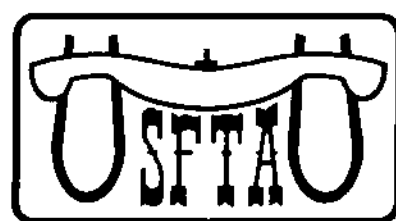
—Leo E. Oliva

Santa Fe Trail Association

PO Box 31

Woodston, KS 67675

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