

Wagon Tracks

Volume 21

Issue 3 *Wagon Tracks* Volume 21, Issue 3 (May 2007)

Article 1

2007

Wagon Tracks. Volume 21, Issue 3 (May, 2007)

Santa Fe Trail Association

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/wagon_tracks

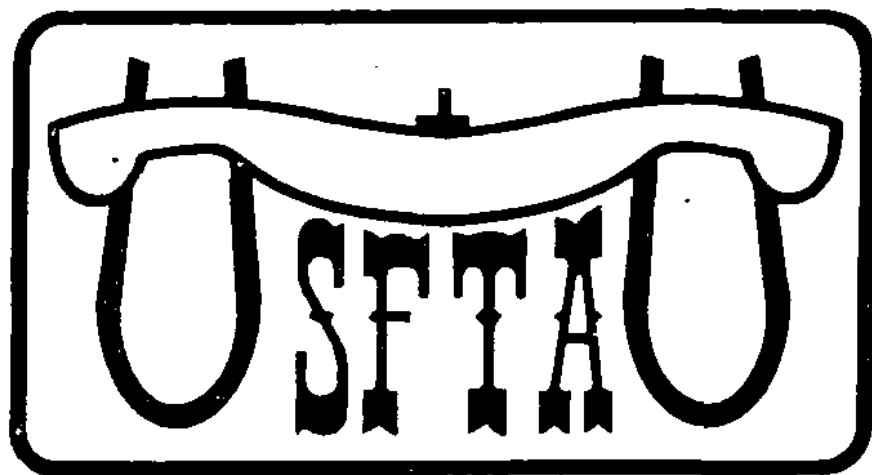


Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Santa Fe Trail Association. "Wagon Tracks. Volume 21, Issue 3 (May, 2007)." *Wagon Tracks* 21, 3 (2007).
https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/wagon_tracks/vol21/iss3/1

This Full Issue is brought to you for free and open access by UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Wagon Tracks by an authorized editor of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact disc@unm.edu.



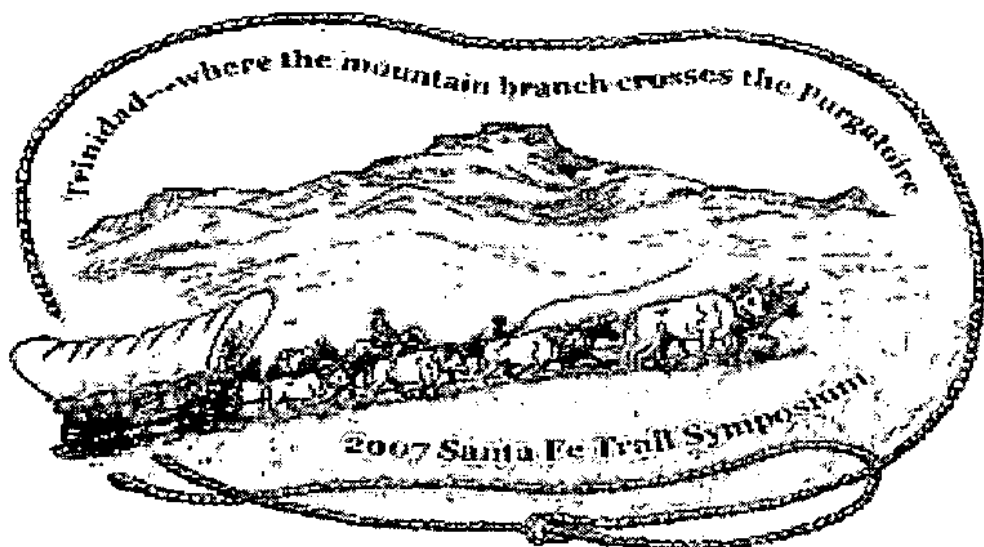
WAGON TRACKS

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY

VOLUME 21

MAY 2007

NUMBER 3



SYMPOSIUM 2007 TRINIDAD, COLORADO SEPTEMBER 27-30

**“Where the Mountain Branch
crosses the Purgatoire”**

YOU are especially encouraged to attend the 2007 symposium in Trinidad, where the SFTA began in 1986. Registration packets were in the last issue of *Wagon Tracks* or you may register online <www.santafetrail.org>. Note that August 15 is the early-bird registration deadline. More details about the program is included here for your information.

Following opening remarks of the symposium on Friday morning, September 28, Dr. Marc Simmons will present the keynote address “The Santa Fe Trail, Past and Present.” Using specific events, Simmons will show how the history of the Santa Fe Trail relates to what is happening along the Trail today. Within his presentation, Simmons will reflect on the people and the accomplishments associated with the Santa Fe Trail Association over the organization’s first 21 years, including the acknowledgment of Trinidad—the 1986 birthplace of the Santa Fe Trail Association.

Lolly Ming, local historian, past president of the Bent’s Fort Chapter, and rancher from Pritchett, Colorado, will then present a talk on the “Granada-Fort Union Military Freight Route.” She will illustrate how this branch of the Santa Fe Trail, though short-lived, had a tremendous impact on the development of all of the Southwest through pho-

(continued on page 5)

**AWARDS NOMINATIONS
DUE JULY 1, 2007**

**SFT SYMPOSIUM
TRINIDAD, COLORADO
SEPTEMBER 27-30, 2007**

VOTE NOW FOR SFTA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

IN this issue you will find inserts about the nominees for officers and directors and a ballot to mark and return by July 15, 2007. Please take time to vote.

The nominating committee, Deanne Wright, chair, Mary Honeyman, and Faye Gaines offer the following candidates: President Joanne VanCoevern, Vice-President John Atkinson, Secretary Marcia Fox, Treasurer Ruth Olson Peters, At-Large Director Vernon Lohrentz, Colorado Director (two candidates) Michael Olsen and Pat Palmer, Kansas Director Jeff Trotman, Missouri Director Richard Lawson, New Mexico Director Harry Myers, and Oklahoma Director Tim Zwink. No candidate was found for Texas Director, and write-ins are welcome so long as the person agrees to serve if elected.

ASSOCIATION MANAGER POSITION REVISIONS

by Joanne VanCoevern

AT the March 17 SFTA board meeting, it was decided to seek funding from the National Park Service to continue the position of Association Manager. It was also decided that the job description should be revised and that applications from all interested parties should be accepted. The deadline for applications is July 1, 2007.

The job overview for this position states: *As a predominately volunteer organization, the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) Board members have limited time and resources to carry out the goals of the Association. The Association Manager (AM) will provide full-time support for the As-*

(continued on page 6)



STEVE SCHMIDT JOINS SFTA BOARD

STEPHEN Schmidt, McPherson, KS, president of the Cottonwood Crossing Chapter, was elected by the SFTA board on March 17 to complete the term of Kansas Director Ron Parks who resigned for health reasons. Schmidt, well-known to many SFTA members, has been present at several board meetings and retreats.

A native of Oklahoma, Schmidt holds degrees in civil engineering from Oklahoma State University. Steve and his wife Glenda own a section of the historic Santa Fe Trail in Marion County, north of Lehigh, KS. This property includes the site of French Frank’s Trading Rancho on the Trail (operated by Claude Francis Lalage). Steve has also done extensive research on Lost Spring on the Trail. He brings many skills to the SFTA board, and he is especially interested in cultural resources, documentation, and preservation.

In a statement of goals for SFTA, Schmidt wrote, “important goals and challenges for SFTA should be increasing membership, sound financial policy, and being a resource to schools, historical groups, government agencies, and business/industry. Some concerns I have include relationships among chapters and between chapters and the national Association.”

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

ON March 17, 2007, members of SFTA's governing board, as well as other interested parties, met in La Junta, Colorado, at Otero Junior College. During the board meeting I announced that Ron Parks, Kansas director, had resigned due to health reasons. Steve Schmidt, McPherson, Kansas, was elected by the board to replace him.

The following motion was adopted: "The following officers of a Santa Fe Trail Association chapter must be a member in good standing of the Santa Fe Trail Association: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All officers and board members of SFTA must be a member in good standing of a Santa Fe Trail Association chapter." The motion was approved and comments and discussion indicated the hope that this resolution would emphasize good faith and support between local chapters and the national organization.

It has been noted that funds held at the Greater Kansas City Foundation are in a direct violation of the Santa Fe Trail Association bylaws. According to the bylaws all funds must be placed in a federally-insured account, which the Greater Kansas City Foundation is not. A motion was approved authorizing the removal of funds from the Foundation and placing them in a federally-insured account in order to fix the violation of the SFTA bylaws.

The SFTA does not have a written "Policies and Procedures" handbook. Without one, it is difficult to operate and has caused some confusion. Several members have volunteered to take on the task of putting such a handbook together. This will involve going back through all the minutes of previous meetings, as well as the bylaws, and then assembling it into handbook form. Linda Revello, Ruth Olson Peters, Sara Jane Richter, Kathy Pickard, and Marcia Fox have volunteered to help me with this very important task.

One of the goals of the Strategic Plan is to include reports from the chapters at the SFTA board meetings. Reports were received from: Carol Retzer for Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter, Steve Schmidt for Cottonwood Crossing Chapter; Lin-

All matters relating to *Wagon Tracks* should be directed to SFTA Editor Leo E. Oliva, PO Box 31, Woodston KS 67675.

Toll-free Phone: 888-321-7341

FAX: 785-425-6865

E-Mail: <editor@santafetrail.org>

Headquarters of the Santa Fe Trail Association are located at the office of Treasurer Ruth Olson Peters, Santa Fe Trail Center, 1349 K-156 Hwy, Larned KS 67550; Office Manager Linda Revello.

Telephone: 620-285-2054

FAX: 620-285-7491

E-Mail: <trailassn@gbta.net>

Association Manager is Clive Siegle, 9908 Shoreview, Dallas TX 75238. Telephone: 214-349-7419

E-Mail: <cgsiegle@earthlink.net>

VISIT SFTA ON THE INTERNET

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

da Colle for Quivira Chapter, Faye Gaines for Corazon Chapter, Jeff Trotman for Wagonbed Spring Chapter, Ross Marshall for Missouri River Outfitters, and LaDonna Hutton for Bent's Fort Chapter. The Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron and End of the Trail chapters submitted written reports. The Texas Panhandle Chapter is inactive. These reports are a good way for the board to learn what the chapters are doing, as well as for the chapters themselves to learn what others are doing. This was very informative and proved to be a good addition to the board meeting. I congratulate the chapters on the fine work they are doing to preserve, protect, and promote the Santa Fe Trail and also to thank them for taking the time to make these reports. Your work is appreciated!

The new Santa Fe Trail signage was shown to those in attendance and met with general approval. The Quivira and Bent's Fort chapters are set to begin using these new signs in their sections of the Santa Fe Trail and the Cottonwood Crossing Chapter is planning a project.

The recent offering of a James Aull manuscript through Ebay was discussed at length. The bound ledger listed merchandise purchased for the Santa Fe trade, from whom, and the costs during the years of 1827-1828. This manuscript sold for \$12,000 to an unknown buyer. Documents and artifacts such as this could prove to be a great benefit to the SFTA. As discussion progressed,

WAGON TRACKS (ISSN 1547-7703) is the official publication of the Santa Fe Trail Association, a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado. Letters and articles are welcome, but they become the property of *WT* and may be edited or abridged at the editor's discretion. All rights reserved. Annual subscriptions are obtained through membership in SFTA; dues are set per calendar year. Checks should be made payable to the Santa Fe Trail Association and sent to the treasurer (address below).

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

Editor: Leo E. Oliva, PO Box 31, Woodston KS 67675, 888-321-7341, <editor@santafetrail.org>

President: Joanne VanCoeven, 4773 N Wasserman Way, Salina KS 67401, 785-825-8349, <jvancoeven@juno.com>

Vice-President: John Atkinson, 1113 Safari Dr, St Joseph MO 64506, 816-233-3924, <atkinson@stjoelive.com>

Secretary: Kathleen S. Pickard, 4001 N Crystal Springs Rd, Salina KS 67401, 785-309-0694, <kath.pickard@hotmail.com>

Treasurer: Ruth Olson Peters, Santa Fe Trail Center, 1349 K-156 Hwy, Larned KS 67550, 620-285-2054, FAX 620-285-7491, <trailassn@gbta.net>

2007 Symposium Coordinator: Richard Loudon, PO Box 8, Branson CO 81027, 719-946-5513

Publicity Coordinator: Michael E. Pitel, PO Box 31386, Santa Fe NM 87594, 505-982-2704, <PitelTSNM@aol.com>

Directors:

Clint Chambers, TX, 806-791-3612

Dub Couch, CO, 719-254-3000
Michael E. Dickey, MO, 660-837-3330

Roberta Falkner, At-Large, 913-236-5627

Faye Gaines, NM, 505-485-2473
René Harris, NM, 505-476-5087

LaDonna Hutton, CO, 719-254-7266

Robert Kincaid, TX, 940-684-1531
Vernon Lohrentz, At-Large, 316-283-6361

Sara Jane Richter, OK, 580-349-2357

Steve Schmidt, KS, 620-245-0715
Alice Anne Thompson, MO, 314-434-3982

Jeff Trotman, KS, 620-356-1854
Timothy A. Zwink, OK, 405-373-4513

many questions were raised. What kind of items would be beneficial to SFTA? Where would they be housed? Where would funds come from to acquire artifacts? Who would have the authority to purchase items? Who would have access to items owned by SFTA? What kind of process would we go through when seeking donations of artifacts? How do we go about finding willing donors? Does the acquisition of Santa Fe Trail related artifacts fit into our goals of preservation? Board member Roberta Falkner made a motion to establish an "Acquisitions Fund" and to appoint a committee to create policies and procedures by which to operate. These should be presented to the SFTA board at its next meeting.

Finance committee chair Roberta Falkner presented information about a centralized database to record members, lapsed members, donors, appeals, volunteer hours, in-kind donations, and grants applied for and received. It was recommended that the Association invest in a proprietary donor database, and eTapestry was recommended because it is web-based and information can be accessed by many users. Roberta volunteered to find further information about types of databases that are used by organizations similar to the SFTA. Roberta also told the board that a policy that outlines Gift Guidelines/Investment Policies will be presented for approval at the September board meeting.

In addition to the board meeting, a planning and evaluation session was held on the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan, originally written in 2003, is a cooperative effort between SFTA, including all chapters, and the National Park Service and outlines our goals for several years. Andrea Sharon, NPS, began the Strategic Plan session with a PowerPoint overview of the Rediscovery project. The Rediscovery project began last summer when Association Manager Clive Siegle, SFTA members Ross Marshall and Craig Crease, and NPS staff John Conoboy and Andrea Sharon began an inventory of Santa Fe Trail related sites, markers, monuments, etc., located between Kansas City and Santa Fe. Experts from various areas joined them along the way. In November, their survey took them Kansas City to the east,

the Kansas City area, and the sites at Fort Leavenworth. In February, a work session was held in Kansas City to begin compiling all the information that was gained from this survey. When all the information from the Rediscovery project is compiled, we will decide what kind of format we should use to convey this information to interested parties.

Following Andrea's presentation, SFTA Vice-President John Atkinson led the session on Strategic Plan Development. He began with a PowerPoint presentation he has put together that outlines the goals of the Strategic Plan. Following this presentation, the attendees were divided into five groups: Education, Preservation, Information/Interpretation, Evaluating Budget Resources, and Marketing. Priorities were set for each of these areas, as well as what actions need to be taken to accomplish the priorities and who should take the lead in getting it done. In the future we hope to complete some of these priorities and determine what new areas we should concentrate on. John welcomes chapter invitations to present his program on the Strategic Plan. This program gives a greater understanding to the goals we are trying to achieve and what we have to do to achieve them. I thank both John and Andrea for the fine presentations they put together.

Plans for the symposium in Trinidad, September 27-30, 2007, are almost complete and will include a round of excellent tours, great speakers, and, of course, wonderful food. Registration information was included with your last issue of *Wagon Tracks*, or you can register online at <www.santafetrail.org>. I hope to see you in Trinidad.

—Joanne VanCoevern

MANAGER'S REPORT

What is in a Name?

IN September of 2000, the governing board of this Association approved a legacy bequest plan for its members and recommended that a "society" be created to honor those who advanced bequests to further the SFTA's mission. The name of the society, it was decided appropriately enough, was to be the Josiah Gregg Society. I use the term *appropriate* because Gregg's name, like the man,

himself, is demonstrative of the power of the concept of "legacy," just as those SFTA members whose actions on behalf of the Trail by initiating a bequest would become in a modern context.

In the case of Josiah Gregg, his active participation and fostering of the Santa Fe trade and travel, as well as his wish to inform and memorialize it through his writings, have left an iconic legacy that has served as his bequest to fans of Trail history of every stripe. Never mind that the location of his physical "resting place" is unknown today, his bequests have secured him the best place of all to exist after life has ended: the minds of generations who have followed.

Gregg probably didn't specifically tailor his personal Trail legacy, much less direct its trajectory, but **you** can, thanks to the offices of the society that the SFTA created in his name. The SFTA's Josiah Gregg Society incorporates what is known as "planned giving," which basically means that a person can provide a lasting legacy through an estate gift to assist the Association in its role as the steward of the Road to Santa Fe. Here's how it works:

1. The purpose of this society is to recognize and honor individuals who notify the SFTA that they have made a planned gift to the SFTA. Planned gifts include, but are not limited to: naming the SFTA as a beneficiary through a bequest, charitable remainder trust, testamentary charitable remainder trust, insurance policy, retirement plan assets, charitable gift annuity, or reserved life estate.
2. To be recognized in the Society, a member must notify the SFTA president that she or he has made such a provision in an estate plan. *Unless the individual wishes to voluntarily provide the information, the amount or type of gift is not required for membership.*
3. *Wagon Tracks* includes a listing of members of the Josiah Gregg Society (part of the insert in each issue delineating business, nonprofit, patron, and life memberships). Once an

YOUR MEMORY CAN LIVE ON
REMEMBER THE SANTA FE TRAIL
ASSOCIATION IN YOUR WILL

individual has declared his or her membership, they will remain on the roles of the Society and have their name included in each *Wagon Tracks* listing. Certificates of Society membership or similar gesture of appreciation shall be prepared and given to each member.

4. A separate SFTA financial account shall be established for gifts received which are designated as planned estate gifts, and the governing board will investigate the possibility of establishing an endowment as a repository for these gifts. Funds in the account shall be restricted to such purposes as designated by the donor. All undesignated gifts shall be available for purposes the governing board deems appropriate.

So far, a search of the Society's rolls turns up the name of not only the worthy Dr. Gregg, but also Margaret Sears, who is the society's first (and, so far, only) member. The rolls could use a few more names. While Gregg's name is on the billboard, in the eyes of the Association and in the annals of the Trail's legacy, as old Will Shakespeare opined, "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

—Clive Siegle

JESSE SCOTT



SFTA Ambassador Jesse Scott, Jr., 83, died Sunday, Feb. 18, 2007, at his home in Garden City, KS. A Garden City native, Scott served in the U.S. Navy during WWII as an aviation radio

man and a tail gunner. He was shot down in the South Pacific and was missing in action for 4½ months. After the service, he returned to Garden City to farm with his family in northeast Finney County. He became an auctioneer, acquired his real estate license, and established Scott Realtors and Scott Auction with an appraisal service. He owned and piloted his own airplane and acquired many hours of flying for his business and pleasure. He was an active member of the Finney County Historical Society.

Scott had a lifelong interest in the Santa Fe Trail. He helped Marc Sim-

mons research the Trail for his book, *Following the Santa Fe Trail*. Scott was a charter member of SFTA and attended most of the symposiums and rendezvous over the years. He was named a SFTA Ambassador in 1993. He was a historian and author of articles about the Santa Fe Trail, writing for *Wagon Tracks* and *Territorial* magazine. He was especially interested in and wrote about stage stations and historic remnants of the old Trail.

Scott had a wonderful sense of humor. The story is told that Marc Simmons stopped to see Jesse while he was conducting a farm auction. Marc arrived on the scene and waved to Jesse, who was selling some expensive piece of equipment and immediately said "sold" to Marc.

Jesse Scott will be missed at Trail gatherings. Sincere sympathy is extended to his family and friends. A request has been made to the family to consider donating Jesse's Trail research material to SFTA. Memorials to SFTA would be a fine tribute to this great friend of the Trail.

JEAN HINKLE

SFTA member Jean Hinkle, San Geronimo, New Mexico, died on February 21, 2007. Jean and her husband, Chuck, have been enthusiastic members of the Santa Fe Trail Association and the Corazón de los Caminos Chapter for more than a decade.

Jean often described themselves as "rut nuts." They put their shoulders to the wheel many times—with beloved pooches and a motor home or 5th wheel trailer—to explore, promote, and protect the old Trail ruts, which they had traveled entirely.

Jean was chapter historian, archivist, secretary, and torch-carrier more times than she cared to count. She helped in many ways with the symposium host by the chapter at Las Vegas, NM, in September 2001. In November 2006 the chapter presented her with a long-deserved award for Exemplary Service.

Jean had cancer and was a supporter of other victims of the disease. We extend our condolences to Chuck in New Mexico, their daughter Robyn and husband Terry Kocher with grandsons Ben and Wes all of Iowa, and their many friends around the world.

GARY GAINES

Garrett Edward Gaines, Jr., son of Faye Gaines and the late Pete Gaines, died April 25, 2007, in Albuquerque, NM, after a brief illness. Faye is the owner of Point of Rocks Ranch in New Mexico and a board member of the Santa Fe Trail Association and the Corazón de los Caminos Chapter. Gary was born April 28, 1947, in Raton. He grew up at Point of Rocks Ranch where Gary's memorial service was held on April 28, his 60th birthday. The pastor presided over a simple yet impressive ceremony that included tributes to Gary from his assembled friends and family. A Veteran's American Flag was presented to Faye with Taps. Gary had served in the United States Air Force in Viet Nam where he received a Bronze Star. He is survived by his mother Faye, sister Letha Redlich, children Victoria and Garrett Edward III, three grandchildren, and longtime companion Joyce Chambers.

After returning from military service, Gary worked in construction and on the ranch. He enjoyed rodeos and was a friendly, smiling, eager addition to any endeavor. Visitors to the Point of Rocks were unfailingly impressed with the welcome reception extended by all the Gaines family who have so generously shared their precious part of the Santa Fe Trail.

We offer our deep and sincere condolences to Faye and her family.

RICHARD GERMAN

Dick German, Arlington, KS, a charter member of SFTA and longtime member of the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter, died February 23, 2007. His wife Barbara serves as vice-president of the Wet/Dry Chapter. Sincere sympathy is extended to the entire German family. The Wet/Dry Chapter plans to place another of its interpretive markers in his honor.

NEW TRAILS SUPERINTENDENT

NPS Long Distance Trails Superintendent Jere Krakow retired in January. The new superintendent in the Santa Fe office is Aaron Mahr, who has been working with SFTA on various projects.

SYMPOSIUM 2007

(continued from page 1)

tographs and human-interest stories of the people who traveled this particular part of the Santa Fe Trail.

Paul Andrews has agreed to share the story of the "Felipe Baca Family" during Friday morning's session. He will examine the history of this vital family from its roots in Arroyo Seco, New Mexico, where the family ran a mill and farmed in order to supply Trail travelers and the army forces at Fort Union. The family biography will continue through the gold rush in Colorado when the Baca's traded grain to the miners at Cherry Creek, Colorado. On this trip, Baca first saw the opportunities that were offered by the area of this year's symposium site and two years later brought twelve families with him to become a founder of the town of Trinidad.

Dr. Susan Boyle, the Project Manager for the NPS's Cache la Poudre National Heritage Area, Fort Collins, Colorado, will conclude the addresses on Friday morning with her talk on "Mexican Culture, Packing and the Santa Fe Trail, 1825-1845." She will present evidence that, although frequently under recognized, much of the success of the trading expeditions on the Santa Fe Trail was due to the experience, skill, and expertise of those persons, primarily Mexican herdsman, who actually packed and drove the animals that carried the merchandise up and down the various branches of the Santa Fe Trail.

Dr. Diana Dunn, retired professor and administrator at Penn State University, will begin the presentations on Saturday morning with "Yankee Pioneers In Early Trinidad." Dr. Dunn will share her years of research on the family of Alexander and Lucy Hatch who came west along the Cimarron Route in 1847. The family was involved in the California and Colorado gold rushes. Following Mr. Hatch's ensuing involvement in the Civil War, Plains Indians conflicts and Comanchero trading, the family moved to Trinidad and became a leading family there in the later 1860s. This presentation will be linked with a tour Friday afternoon to some of the historic Trinidad homes.

Brenda Kaye Todd, Native Ameri-

can Grave and Repatriation Act Assistant at the Colorado Historical Society will address the symposium on her Master's degree research about the stories of four men who were buried near the Santa Fe Trail at Fort Union, 1863-1872. Within this talk, she will examine how the meetings of various cultures, especially on the Santa Fe Trail, proved to be a positive encounter for some and a negative experience for others.

Mark Gardner, historian, author, and musician from Cascade, Colorado, will wrap up the formal presentations symposium with a discussion on the Buffalo Hide Trade on the Santa Fe Trail's Mountain Route. Using Bent's (Old) Fort as the center point of this trade, Gardner will examine the effect of this trade on the economic development, experiences, and future of the various groups of people involved or effected by this trade throughout the West.

SYMPOSIUM TOUR CHANGED

THE 2007 Symposium Planning Committee has experienced a setback concerning the offered tour of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS). After a renewed effort, it can be announced that the problem has been resolved with some slight adjustments. The Cultural Resources Management team at Fort Carson has agreed to conduct two tours at Piñon Canyon for the attendees of the symposium. However, by necessity, these tours will be all-day tours (7:00 a. m.-4:00 p.m.) on both Thursday, September 27, and Friday, September 28. Each tour "can accommodate a group of up to 40 participants." Therefore, the first forty people to sign up for each of these tours will be given the opportunity to visit the Maneuver Site. When you register, please indicate on your registration form which day is your preference. If you have already registered for this tour, your name(s) will be placed at the head of the list for the Thursday tour.

According to the requirements of the Army, each participant will have to sign a participation form which includes the following: (1) Global Positioning System (GPS) units are not permitted on the PCMS, (2) photographs and/or videos may be restricted at some sites/locations as determined by the tour guides, (3) any

and all photographs and post-tour write-ups in newsletters, websites, blogs, e-mails . . . MUST be reviewed and approved by Army personnel prior to publication. These participation forms will be mailed to each participant as soon as the Planning Committee receives them from Fort Carson.

The Symposium Planning Committee also reminds all who sign up for this tour that they should expect to have to do some walking from the vehicles to the sites being presented on the tour. Appropriate shoes and protective clothing for all types of weather are highly suggested. The Planning Committee also reemphasizes the fact that "Due to ongoing military training activities, National Security, and safety concerns, down-range access at the PCMS can be withdrawn AT ANY TIME. At the discretion of the Army, Tours may be canceled up to and including the day of a scheduled tour."

If one/or both of these tours are canceled, the Planning Committee will continue to work on alternative activities for the people who have signed up for these tours, (especially the Thursday tour) and/or refunds of the tour fee will be offered.

The Planning Committee realizes that this change may be of concern to some of the participants. However, due to some unforeseen events, this seems to be a much better alternative than other possible remedies to this issue.

BEFORE & AFTER SYMPOSIUM TOURS IN NEW MEXICO

by Nancy Robertson

TRAIL stops in New Mexico on your way to and from the symposium include Fort Union, Pecos, and Capulin National Parks, Sugarite and Cimarron Canyon State Parks, museums in Clayton, Raton, Cimarron, Rayado, Springer, and Las Vegas, McNees Crossing, Point of Rocks, La Cueva, and San Miguel.

For specific information about what to see and do in New Mexico, please contact: the New Mexico Department of Tourism, 1-800-733-6396, <www.NewMexico.org>, and ask for the 2007 *Vacation Guide*; or check <www.SantaFeTrailNM.org>, <www.NENewMexico.com>, and <ratonchamber@bacavalley.com>.

ASSOCIATION MANAGER

(continued from page 1)

sociation in areas requiring special attention and effort, as directed by the Board and the Association President. The AM is an employee of the SFTA whose responsibilities involve assisting the Board and taking direction from the President. The AM is not a policy maker, but carries out the policies as set forth by the SFTA Board. In addition, the Association Manager will operate from a home-based office, with periodic travel as needed to conduct SFTA business. Residence in close proximity to the Santa Fe National Historic Trail is required. Salary has been set at \$36,000.00 with 2-week vacation. There will also be a travel and office allowance. Starting date for this position will be October 1, 2007.

The Association Manager will serve at the pleasure of the SFTA Board and is an "at will" employee in the State of Kansas. Just as the AM may terminate employment with two weeks notice, so may the Association terminate the employment of the AM with or without cause. This position is supervised and evaluated by the SFTA President and the Personnel Committee, which consists of the President and at least two other appointees. Primary contact person will be the President. The Association Manager must meet at least twice yearly with the Personnel Committee at which time the duties and responsibilities of the Association Manager will be outlined and prioritized, based on the Job Description and the SFTA/NPS Strategic Plan. Duties and Responsibilities may change as needed, depending upon the current needs and demands as set forth by the Personnel Committee. The goals of the SFTA/NPS Strategic Plan may be used as priorities. Evaluations will be based upon progress toward stated objectives.

The job requirements for this position are for a full-time, 40-hour-per-week position, which requires considerable travel and overnights away from home. The Association Manager must also be knowledgeable in the history of the SFT and American West of that time period. The Association Manager should possess the following qualifications and skills: managerial skills to plan, organize, implement, and manage

programs and projects; effective oral and written communication skills to present SFTA, its chapters, and the Santa Fe National Historic Trail effectively to members and to the public; human relations skills to communicate effectively with executives, volunteer leaders, community leaders, SFTA membership, and the public; excellent listening skills; computer literacy using word processing, data bases, spreadsheets, Internet, and e-mail; grant writing skills; negotiation and conflict resolution skills to coordinate project and program planning teams; ability to represent SFTA to third parties; supervisory skills to be a resource to volunteers and ability to work with paid staff; knowledge of the Santa Fe Trail and the history of the related time period as well as the cultural diversity it reflects; willingness to learn for the betterment of the position; familiarity with the organization of SFTA; ability to identify and prioritize work; self-motivation; time management skills; and the ability to take direction and input from SFTA President and Board.

Primary functions of this position include: support SFTA officers, board, committee members, *Wagon Tracks* editor, webmaster, and the office administrator as they carry out their duties; chapter liaison; assist with membership as directed; fundraising; coordination with the National Park Service on cooperative projects; and promotion of the Santa Fe Trail Association as well as the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

The deadline for applications is July 1. For a complete job description, as well as details about how to apply for this position, contact SFTA office administrator Linda Revello at <trailassn@gbta.net>.

SUMMER PROGRAMS OFFERED

THE Bent's Fort Chapter, along with Otero Junior College, La Junta, and the Boggsville Historic Site will again this year offer a two-day, one-credit course entitled "The History and Archaeology of Southeastern Colorado" on June 5-6, 2007. This course, to be held on the grounds of Boggsville and presented by Richard Carrillo and John Carson, will continue the tradition of providing, primarily, public school educators with an opportunity to examine the his-

tory, archeological treasures, and the impact of the prehistoric and historic Indian people, the Spanish, Mexican, and American people who came to or traveled through the area, and their continuing influence on that corner of present-day Colorado and the entire West. Using the Santa Fe Trail and the Boggsville settlement as center points, discussions, slide presentations, and tours of the Boggsville Site will provide the participants with information which can be carried back to be used in their classrooms and shared with their students.

Because of the continued emphasis on educational opportunities and the generosity of the Santa Fe Trail Association and the Bent's Fort Chapter, a limited number of scholarships to cover the course fees for this class will be offered to interested teachers who wish to enroll in this class. For more information on this course, you may contact Denise in the Office of the Associate Vice-President for Instructional Services, Otero Junior College, at 719-384-6884.

After the Boggsville program, for the next four days, June 7-10, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site will host an instructional "Living-History Encampment." This popular living-history event will provide participants with a unique opportunity to learn about life on the frontier in the 1840s by actually living it. Participants will immerse themselves in one of the numerous roles of people who made Bent's Fort and the Bent, St. Vrain Company the force that it was in its heyday—trader, trapper-hunter, laborer, blacksmith, dragoon, domestic. After a series of educational lectures on living history and interpretive skills, the participants will assume the roles of those who were originally a part of the scene at Bent's Old Fort.

There will be a participant fee for this 4-day, 3-night affair which will cover all instruction, food, accommodations, and necessary equipment. This program does meet continuing education requirements and college credit is available through Otero Junior College. Contact Greg Holt, Bent's Old Fort NHS, 35110 Highway 194, La Junta, Colorado 81050 (719-383-5023) for more information.

FORT LARNED SUMMER CAMP

FORT Larned NHS, in partnership with the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter, will host two two-day summer camps for children from Fort Larned USD 495, June 5-6 and June 12-13.

Alice and David Clapsaddle will conduct the camp, using David's recent book *I Heard a Coyote Howl*. The book tells the story of the Cheyenne and Sioux village destroyed by troops under command of Gen. W. S. Hancock in April 1867, through the eyes of a 12-year-old Cheyenne boy. The camp will meet at Fort Larned NHS the first day and enjoy a field trip to the village site the second day.

ANOTHER CAMINO REAL TOUR, AUG 23-SEPT 3, 2007

HAL Jackson reports that his June tour on El Camino Real in Mexico, "Following the Footsteps of Juan de Oñate" was canceled. He is offering another tour starting August 23.

For details, including itinerary, maps, photos, and registration information, go to <www.tourelcamino.com>. This is a great opportunity to visit Mexico with excellent guides, and the price is a bargain.

Jackson is planning a different tour in early 2008, which will begin in Mexico City and follow El Camino de la Plata north to Zacatecas. Details will be on his web site soon.

SAND CREEK MASSACRE NHS SITE DEDICATION

by George Elmore

[Elmore is park ranger and historian at Fort Larned NHS.]

A dedication ceremony was held for the newest unit in the National Park Service, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, on April 28. The dedication ceremony started much as any other dedication with speeches by the Director of the National Park Service Mary A. Bomar, along with speeches by both state and federal officials.

After the formal government speeches, the ceremony got very deep in symbolism as elders and decedents of the tribes whose ancestors were killed at Sand Creek started speaking one after the other about the meanings of what happened at the site to their people at the time and still today to the lives of the de-

cedents. All of the American Indian speakers talked from the heart without any notes or prepared speeches about the deep spiritual meaning of the site to them and the emotions that being at the site still have for them today.

Of the almost 1,500 people attending the dedication about 50% were American Indians. Everyone was very respectful of the feelings and emotions that were expressed during the almost 3-hour program.

TRAIL HALL OF FAME

THE SFTA board adopted the following resolution at the March 17 meeting, establishing a Santa Fe Trail Hall of Fame.

"A Santa Fe Trail Hall of Fame shall be established and the inductees information (illustration and summary of contributions to the historic Trail) shall be on display at the Santa Fe Trail Center at Larned, Kansas, with consideration for displaying the Hall of Fame on the SFTA web site at some later time. It is recommended that a Hall of Fame Committee (comprised of at least five Trail scholars) be appointed to receive and evaluate nominations for the Hall of Fame and be charged with the selection of all inductees into the Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame Committee will develop its own procedures and prepare its own lists of possible inductees. Initially, the inductees will be comprised of individuals who traveled the historic Santa Fe Trail and/or made a significant contribution to the history of the Santa Fe Trail. It is recommended that a certain number be inducted at each SFTA Symposium and Rendezvous, starting with a maximum of 25 each year until the most obvious choices have been considered and selected. This process should continue until the list of nominations becomes small in number (fewer than ten nominations). At this time a new category will be added to include individuals who have been significant in the study and preservation of the historic Santa Fe Trail. Nominations and selections in both categories should continue so long as there are nominations to consider.

"Anyone may nominate a person to be considered for the Hall of Fame by providing a one-page justification

for adding that nominee to the Hall of Fame. It shall be the duty of the Hall of Fame Committee to choose those to be inducted each year and to prepare the information to be displayed in the Hall of Fame. Illustration and text is to be framed for a display on a wall designated the Hall of Fame. When space becomes a problem, the displays might be arranged in folding display units that viewers can flip through to see the information.

"New inductees to the Hall of Fame will be added at each symposium and rendezvous at a special session for that specific purpose. The highlights of a few of the inductees should be presented at that session and the names of all inductees read and recognized.

"Because there are so many worthy people to be considered for the initial development of the Hall of Fame, a large number will need to be inducted at each annual meeting for a few years.

"The cost of materials for the displays in the Hall of Fame should be budgeted as an annual expense item of the Santa Fe Trail Association as recommended by the Hall of Fame Committee."

The following comprise the Hall of Fame Committee: Leo E. Oliva, Ruth Olson Peters, Sara Jane Richter, Clint Chambers, and Mike Olsen. Nominations should be sent to Leo Oliva (see mailing and e-mail addresses on page 2). The first round of nominees will be inducted at the 2008 Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous. Suggestions for the entire process are welcome.

SFTA AND LAST CHANCE STORE ON THE INTERNET

REMEMBER that SFTA, the chapters, and the Last Chance Store are available at the web site: <www.santafetrail.org>. You may pay dues and register for the symposium as well as order materials from the Last Chance Store online, using PayPal or a credit card. The Last Chance Store offers a monthly special and additional information each month via e-mail to everyone interested. Please contact the editor if you want to be included: <editor@santafetrail.org>. To receive a printed copy of LCS items, call toll-free 888-321-7341.

SFTA FINANCE COMMITTEE

by Roberta Falkner

[Roberta Falkner is a member of the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter and an at-large member of the SFTA governing board. She is chair of the Finance Committee. Her column is a regular feature of Wagon Tracks.]

THANK you again to all the members who responded to the 2006 Annual Appeal letter. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Funds we raise through our end-of-year annual appeals are, generally, used toward the Association's operating budget and one of the Association's only means of income. Membership dues basically pay for the membership program, meaning the dues collected cover the cost of printing and mailing *Wagon Tracks* to our members, libraries, and schools, leaving very little to use toward annual general operating expenses. That's why our end-of-year appeals are so important. I also want to say that I and the entire Board of Directors thank all our members for your ongoing support of the Santa Fe Trail Association.

Josiah Gregg Society: Santa Fe Trail Association's Legacy/Planned Giving Program

Several years ago, the SFTA Board created a legacy or planned giving program for those members who leave testamentary gifts to the Association and notify the Association of their intentions. They named the legacy program the Josiah Gregg Society. Check out Clive's article in this issue that explains what the Josiah Gregg Society is and how you can become a part of it. If you have a provision in your will for the Santa Fe Trail Association, please contact me toll free at 1-800-382-3665 or e-mail me at sftrail@toto.net so I can add your name to the Josiah Gregg Society roster. It is not necessary we know what type of gift you have left the Association nor do we need to know its value. We are only interested in knowing whether or not you have named the Association a beneficiary of your estate. We would greatly appreciate knowing the name and contact information of your legal representative so that we can add this information to our records. Please bear in mind that deciding to leave a legacy gift is not bind-

ing. You can always change your will—with no obligation to the Association—anytime you wish. If you have a provision in your will for the Santa Fe Trail Association, regardless of whether you notify the Association of your intentions, please inform your legal representative that the SFTA is a 501(c)(3) organization and your gift should be directed to:

Josiah Gregg Society
Santa Fe Trail Association
1349 K-156 Hwy
Larned KS 67550
Phone: 620-285-2054
Fax: 620-285-7491
E-mail: trailassn@gbta.net
Website: www.santafetrail.org

I'd like to thank our Josiah Gregg Society donor and all those members who are considering joining the Society. By doing so you are helping ensure the Santa Fe Trail Association's mission of preserving and promoting the historic Santa Fe Trail and educating our children, their children, and all future generations about the Trail's significance will continue.

So many of you filled out the survey cards I sent with the 2006 Annual Appeal letter. Thank you again! The information you provided helps us determine how we can best serve you, how we can continue to provide you with meaningful member benefits, what services/programs you enjoy or would like to see created, and also what interests you share so we can find others with similar interests who would enjoy being a Santa Fe Trail Association member. I absolutely enjoyed all the anecdotes some of you sent in about your great-grandparents or other family members and their experiences connected to the Santa Fe Trail. I've talked to a number of you on the phone the past three months, and I love hearing all the stories about your family's connection to land that saw trade along the Santa Fe Trail, or a relative who was involved in the Trail, or your own personal story about the Trail. The stories you tell are compelling, which made me think that it would be fun to compile all our stories and share them with our members. If you have a story about the Santa Fe Trail—from the past or from your own experience—call me toll free at 1-800-382-3665. I'd love to hear it. Some of these may be published in *Wagon Tracks*.

DONOR HONOR ROLL

THE Santa Fe Trail Association extends gratitude and appreciation to all our generous donors who responded to the 2006 Annual Campaign (this list includes some memorial gifts):

Peyton O. Abbott
Kenneth Warren Ackley
Arthur Adams, A & W Enterprises
Anonymous
Janet C. Armstead
Ethel C. Armstrong
Pete Armstrong
Chris Arrott
Dora and John Atkins
John and Barbara Atkinson
Carol Bachhuber
Harriett L. Barber
Evelyn A. Bartlow
Ruth K. Beamer
Larry Black
Bill Bockius
Gary and Carol Borchers
Montie and Tricia Bowen
Jeff Bransford
Mr. Carl Buchanan
Margaret and Robert Buck
Bill and Susan Bunyan
Tony and Martha Burghart
Dorene and Marvin Burke
Charlotta M. Burton
Adrian and Rebecca Bustamante
Joe D. and Donna Butcher
Anonymous
David and Alice Clapsaddle
Barbara Clark
Robert and Sally Conrad
Bradley E. Creed
Irwin and Florence Cromwell
Lucinda and T.C. Daeuble
Carlton and Marketta Damonte
Mrs. Linda M. Davis, CS Ranch
Debbie and John Divine
Dodge City Convention and Visitors Bureau
Sandra M. Doe
John and Diane Dollar
Barbara Doolittle
Dee and Stan Dorsch
Theron R. Dosch
Susan B. Doyle and Roger P. Blair
Diana Dunn
Wilmer and Hazel Ekholm
Carol Falkner
Roberta Falkner
Farmers and Drovers Bank
Kit and Sandra Farwell
Gerald and Marcia Faust, Best Western Bent's Fort Inn
Mary Peace Finley
First National Bank
Ted and Julie Fisher
Laura C. Ford
Kathy and Gregory M. Franzwa
Eleanor Fry
Bob and Sandy Gibson
Phil and Elizabeth Gilman

Don Goebel
 Robert E. Goodfellow
 C.T. Gordon, Jr.
 Rosetta Graff
 Dennis and Annette Gray
 Priscilla and Roger Greene
 John and Mary Grice
 Charles W. and Alison S. Guthrie
 Mary Ellen Hadad
 Helen B. Hageman
 Glenn Haller
 Earl Hayes
 Leo and Carole Hayward
 Jon E. and Karen Heit
 Wayne J. Hemmen
 Vance Hester
 Mr. Donald Hill
 Juanita Guy Perkins (Mrs. Paul) Hill
 Joanne Hinchliff
 Ted Holmes
 Jim Howk
 Mary Stevens Humphreys
 Marie Johnson
 Corinne Johnson
 Linda S. Johnston
 Gordon Jones
 Helen Judd
 Larry Justice
 Michael C. and Phylis Karas
 Kearny County (KS) Historical Society
 Neil D. Kelley
 George A. and Stormy Lee Kennedy
 Bill and Marjorie Knightly
 Mr. and Mrs. John F. Kofron
 Jo Ann and Donald G. Leitch
 Maurice and Virginia Lierz
 Edwin C. and Gloria S. Lindly
 Al Lowman
 Jody Lubbers
 Kerth and Mary Lundell
 Martha and Roland Mace
 Mary W. MacLeod
 Sarah Anne Mallinson
 Phyllis and John Mann
 Ross Marshall
 Gene and Mary Martin
 F. Michael Maurer
 Paul Maxwell
 Marion McGlohon
 Marilyn McGonagle
 Jeanne McGuire
 Raymond E. McKinley
 Tony and Gail McMillan
 Don and Lucile McNeal
 Joseph F. Meany, Jr., Ph.D.
 Thomas Merlan and Frances Levine
 Norman Meyer
 Howard and Marjorie Miller
 Steve Miner
 Jo Bennett Mitchell
 Martha Mitchell
 Kendyl and Barbara Monroe
 Phyllis S. Morgan
 Ann Mossman
 Keith Mull
 John Patrick Michael Murphy
 Emery and Betty Murray
 Michael and Pam Najdowski

Dick and Ruby Nelson
 Paul F. Nighswonger, Ph.D., O.V.
 Glen Norton
 Leo and Bonita Oliva
 Greg L. Olsen
 Carol H. Overstake-Wilson
 Pat Palmer
 M. Lethene Parks
 Robert Parrish
 Willis D. Penner
 Reed and Ruth Olson Peters
 Bruce and Linda Peters
 Pete Petruccione
 Charles L. Pfenninger
 Susan Pieper
 Michael E. Pitel
 Irene Pommerenke
 Richard and Lynn Poole
 Raymond Preddy
 Col. Charles Stuart Purviance (Ret.)
 Bonnie Ratliff
 Paul Rheingold
 Susan and Charles Richardson
 Inez A. Ross
 Phil and Sybil Russell
 Harold and Segrid Salmon
 Santa Fe Trail Bicycle Committee,
 Willard Chilcott
 Virgil Scheid
 SECED, Inc.
 Stan and Pat Seidel
 Lyle and Constance Senseman
 Clive Siegle
 W.M. and Jean Silverstrand
 Ron Silverthorn
 Marc Simmons
 Mr. Lynn F. Sipe
 Roger and Sandy Slusher
 Battle Smith
 Linda L. Spillman
 Clinton and Delaine Stalker
 John M. Stratton
 Malcolm Strom
 Tarabino Inn
 Territorial Magazine, Barbara Or-
 ingderff
 Joanne, Greg, Tyler and Kala Van-
 Coevern
 Phil and Carolyn Virden
 Kathy and Bill Wade
 Paul Waggoner
 Judy Wagner
 H.B. and Miriam Warren
 Ruth Weller
 Maurcena Eby Wells
 Steve and Pam Wetzel
 Edgar W. White
 Louise Heter White
 Mary and Stephen Whitmore
 John and Janett Wiebe
 Raymond F. Wiebe
 Charles Wilkinson
 Marian S. Wilson
 Gareth and DeAnn Wilson
 Norman Wolthers
 Jack and Donna Woods
 Robert E. Yarmer
 Leland Zerbe
 Tim, Ann and Alex Zwink

Additional Memorial Donations

Kit & Sandra Farwell, in memory of
 Marge Farwell
 Marcis Fox, Christine Day, & Janet
 Armstead, in memory of Wallace
 Carley (Education Fund)
 Clara Goodrich, in memory of Pat
 Heath
 Hal & Beverly Jackson, in memory of
 H. Denny Davis
 Maurice & Virginia Lierz, in memory
 of Dorothy Parker
 Beverly Carmichael Ryan, in mem-
 ory of Thomas White Carmichael
 & Joshua Barton Carmichael
 Marc Simmons, in memory of Pat
 Heath
 M/M Barry Sweeney, in memory of
 Sam Arnold

PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM

by Ross Marshall

*[SFTA Ambassador Marshall is the
 representative of the Association to
 the Partnership for the National
 Trails System.]*

FY07 Congressional Appropriations

Congress adjourned last year
 without passing appropriations bills.
 In other words, there is no new 2007
 budget. The new Congress passed a
 continuing resolution that carries
 the 2006 budget through October 1,
 2007. Thus there will be no increase
 for the Trail this year.

FY08 Appropriations

Pat and I recently were in Wash-
 ington D.C. attending various meet-
 ings of the Partnership for the Na-
 tional Trails System, including the
 Board of Directors and Leadership
 Council meetings. In addition, we
 spent a couple of days on the Hill
 calling on seventeen Senate and
 House offices from Missouri, Kansas,
 Colorado, and New Mexico plus the
 House and Senate Interior Appro-
 priations Subcommittees. As usual,
 the Santa Fe Trail is a welcome sub-
 ject in these offices and appropria-
 tions support for us should be good in
 next year's budget.

The appropriations increases I am
 currently seeking is based on what
 the NPS has developed as their own
 appropriations increase request,
 which they send up annually
 through their own chain of com-
 mand. Their appropriations increase
 request was developed using SFTA's
 Strategic Plan of 2003.

We spent a couple of additional

days attending administration leaders' briefings and calling on various administration-side offices like NPS, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and Office of Management and Budget.

The President's 2008 budget that was submitted in January has many significant cuts, but contains an increase for the National Park Service. I anticipate Congress will be generous for our trails for next year.

To a great extent, Congress's enthusiasm exists because of the army of volunteers, like all of you, that donate time and money in response to these appropriations. My thanks to the chapters, committees, board, etc. for sending me the totals of their man-hours and dollar donations. Still have a couple of chapters who do not turn anything in, but we will continue to work on that.

New Partnership governance structure

The Partnership developed a Strategic Plan a couple of years ago, which SFTA generously supported. It calls for the addition of a Board of Directors, partly for fundraising purposes. The Leadership Council continues its important role, as does the Executive Committee.

The new Board of Directors includes six at-large members from outside the Partnership. These people bring fundraising skills plus other skills.

The following were elected and will comprise the Executive Committee: President Ross Marshall, Santa Fe Trail Association; Vice-President for Governance Kent Wimmer, Florida Trail Association; Vice President for Development Bob Ballou, Pacific Crest Trail Association; Secretary Liz Warren, Old Spanish Trail Association; and Treasurer Liz Bergeron, Pacific Crest Trail Association. Gary Werner continues as Executive Director.

11th Long Distance Trails Conference:

Hosted by the North Country Trail Association, our next biennial conference will be in Duluth, MN, September 8-11 on the shores of Lake Superior. Registration material will be available in a couple of months. It would be encouraging for several of SFTA's leadership to be in attendance. President Joanne and

the SFTA HQ will have registration information which can be forwarded to anyone interested in attending.

Volunteer man-hours and contributions

Please start now, if you haven't already, to accumulate this information for 2007 and send it to me next January.

I appreciate the support for PNTS from the board and officers as well as the entire SFTA organization. The Partnership has opened doors for appropriations increases, legislative influence, and federal agency collaboration that we could only dream of a dozen years ago. SFTA is a partner with PNTS, the National Park Service, and others in the management of the National Trails System, which was the vision of the National Trails System Act. We are members of a very important family as we seek to preserve the historical heritage of our nation.

POST OFFICE OAK

—LETTERS—

Editor:

Thanks to the Bent's Fort Chapter for their informative paper inserted in the November 2006 issue of *WT*, expressing opposition to planned expansion by the Army of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site. I also appreciated your succinct response on the same subject to Robert Arko's pro-expansion letter, both in the February issue. I could have written a page and not have said it as well as those two sentences.

As a 20-year volunteer at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest retreat, and as a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, where historically valuable sites are always under threat by commercial and other development, I know how important it is to fight for preservation of such sites. When we lose them, they don't come back, and precious chunks of our nation's meaning and identity go with them.

Without a computer, I may not get to the Piñon Canyon web site. Can you provide other contacts so we can take action on this issue?

Beverly Carmichael Ryan
1515 Fairway Place
Lynchburg VA 24503

Thank you for speaking out. For those without a computer, please con-

tact PCEOC, PO Box 137, Kim CO 81049, phone 719-643-5265, to add your voice to the opposition.

Editor

CONVERSE OF THE PRAIRIES

—BOOK NOTICES—

Jack Kyle Cooper, *Zebulon Montgomery Pike's Great Western Adventure, 1806-1807*. Colorado Springs: Clausen Books, 2007. Pp. Xviii + 214. Maps, illustrations, notes, appendices, bibliography, index. Paper, \$35.00 postpaid from Last Chance Store.

Jack Cooper died of cancer before his book was published. He produced the only new book about Pike's Southwest Expedition to appear during the bicentennial. The research and information is admirable and extensive, but the book suffers from a decision to prove that Pike was a spy, part of a conspiracy led by Gen. James Wilkinson, with selection and interpretation of the evidence to that end.

There is some speculation and mistaken assumptions. For example, Cooper claimed Pike was seeking the source of the Canadian and not the Red River. Cooper declared that Pike was not lost when he was wandering in the Rocky Mountains but deliberately went off course only to deceive Spanish officials. Cooper seemed to be unaware of the maps that were available to Pike at the time.

If one can get past these points of view (which evidence does not support), the details of the expedition are carefully delineated. Cooper understood the geography, especially in Colorado, which is an asset. In fact, he has covered the experiences of Pike and his small party of explorers better than any other secondary study to date. The publisher should have done a better job, for there are numerous typos and the illustrations are not good.

Despite the weaknesses noted, this book is recommended to anyone interested in a good summary of the details of the expedition without reading the primary sources provided in Donald Jackson's 2-volume *Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike, With Letters and Related Documents* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1966).

HITCHIN' YOUNG READERS TO THE SANTA FE TRAIL THROUGH STORY

by Mary Peace Finley



[SFTA member Mary Peace Finley, Boulder, CO, has written four novels about the Santa Fe Trail for young readers. Her books have won multiple awards, including the Colorado Book Award for *Meadow Lark*, a Benjamin Franklin Award for *White Grizzly*, and a Top Hand Award from the Colorado Authors' League for *Soaring Eagle*. She gives book talks and workshops in schools, conferences, and other events. For more information about her books and appearances and to view mini-slide shows of her school programs, visit her website: <MaryPeaceFinley.com> or e-mail <MaryPeaceFinley@worldnet.att.net>. Her books are available from the Last Chance Store, and Mary will autograph copies at the Santa Fe Trail Symposium in Trinidad, September 27-29.]

HISTORICAL fiction. What better way to bring up a new generation of Santa Fe Trail fans? Through stories, readers crawl under the skin of the characters to experience their adventures, smell the dust and Florida Water, taste the biscochitos, and hear the rumble of wagon wheels. Stories bring history to life. They capture imaginations and lure kids through library doors in search of more—more stories from then and now, both fiction and nonfiction, from the journals of Jacob Fowler and Susan Magoffin to histories by Marc Simmons and David Lavender—hitchin' up a new generation of Santa Fe Trail aficionados. A few excerpts will provide an introduction.

From *White Grizzly* by Mary Peace Finley:

Julio stopped at the crest of a sand hill and stared. Below, Bent's Fort rose from the prairie, tall and solid as rock, two stories high with double gates opened wide as if in welcome....

After three days alone since he had parted company with the Cheyenne, the noise from Bent's Fort thundered against his ears. It looked as if the whole world had come here to trade---or to join the eastbound spring caravan. A line of wagons stretched for half a mile, waiting to be hitched to mules or oxen or horses. Beneath a large United States flag that slapped against a pole above the second floor, people rushed back and forth between the Fort and the wagons....

"Vamos, Chivita," Julio whispered, patting his leg and eased into the cool dark entryway. He blinked in the sudden darkness, groping for the wall to guide him.

"Hey! Watch where you're going!" Silhouetted black against the glaring light, a burley man balancing a huge square bundle on his shoulder barreled into the dark passageway, nearly knocking Julio down. "You can't go inside! Injuns trade here." The profile of the man's bearded chin pointed toward the entryway wall. "At that window." The man swaggered on.

"What do you have?" A dim face appeared at the small opening in the thick adobe wall.

Julio backed away. "Nothing."

"Then git on back outside."

"I don't have anything to trade." Julio stepped up to the window. "I came to see Mr. Bent."

"Tarnation!" The voice exclaimed. "Hey, Red!" the man called over his shoulder. "This feller speaks English better than you do!"

"What does he want?"

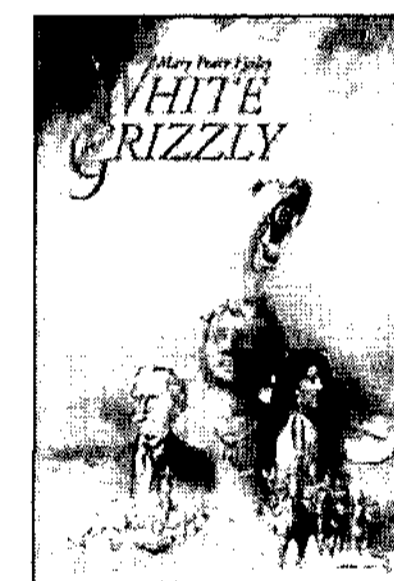
"Says he wants to see William."

As I was growing up in Southeastern Colorado, exploring the canyons of the Apishipa and Purgatory and the mysterious ruins of an old fort on the north bank of the Arkansas River, I didn't know that someday I would write about those places in historical fiction.

But that's what happened. Those sites, historical characters and events, and unexpected inspirations have woven together in four middle-grade and young adult novels set on the Santa Fe Trail.

The Santa Fe Trail Trilogy: *Soaring Eagle*, *White Grizzly*, and *Meadow Lark*, follow the 1845 adventures of Julio and Teresita Montoya who, despite rumors of war between the United States and Mexico, follow the Trail from Taos to Bent's Fort and on to the Missouri River.

In the first book, *Soaring Eagle*, Julio, accompanied only by his little dog named Goat-Chivita, struggles against loss, hunger, injury, and snow blindness before Bent's Fort finally comes into sight.



Julio continues his quest in *White Grizzly*, herding sheep and eating dust at the rear of Bent's wagon train from Bent's Fort to Bent's Farm on the Missouri River in the hope of finding his American grandfather. This story draws from two actual—and very dramatic—events. One, recorded in *The Journal of Jacob Fowler*, is the gory account of a grizzly attack on a party of early explorers at the confluence of the Purgatory and Arkansas in 1821. That attack provides perfect details for Julio's encounter with a grizzly 24 years later.

The only warning was a throaty, "Whuff."

Julio froze. "Ay, Dios!" he whispered.

No more than five wagon lengths away a grizzly rose up from the tall grasses, shaggy head wagging. It was feeding on a lamb. Peering at Julio with squinty red eyes, the grizzly lifted itself higher, higher on its hind legs until it loomed above him---two, three, four feet, sunlight glowing on the silver tips of fur.

From *White Grizzly*

The second event is the robbery and murder of Mexican trader Don Antonio José Chávez along the Trail in present Kansas in 1843, and the only two outlaws who were never apprehended, Gallatin and Christopher Sarcy from Clay County, Missouri. Now, two years later, the brothers are returning to Missouri with Bent's wagon train, the same wagon train where Julio herds sheep.

"Nights"--Gallatin's voice dropped to a more normal pitch---"Ma used to sit in her rockin' chair and read to me and Christopher-uh, I mean Zar--- and the other youngins. Ol' Coon he'd sit at her feet and listen real hard."

"Gallatin!" Julio exclaimed. "Can you read?" He remembered Charlotte's promise (Charlotte Green, Bent's cook at the Fort)---"If I learned to read you will too, 'specially with Mr. Forester your grandpappy." Julio pulled his canvas bag toward him. "Will you teach me?"

"I don't read real good. I'm kinda slow. Gallatin hesitated. "Sides, I don't got nothin' to teach you from."

From *White Grizzly*

Julio pulls out a Bible from his bag, the Bible with his American name penned in the family tree. "Teach me from this." After making his way through the words "Bless-ed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God," Gallatin grows pensive.

The punk wood in the fire smoked and sizzled; then flamed up, lighting Gallatin's features. He sat still, so still he hardly seemed to breathe. Then in a near whisper, almost as if he were half asleep, Gallatin said, "Me and my brother done a terrible thing."

From *White Grizzly*

The brothers do another terrible thing when they learn Julio's true identity.

Meadow Lark is the story of Teresita's independent journey as she follows in Julio's tracks, cleverly earning her way across nearly a thousand miles with Ju-



lio's Kiowa-Cheyenne friend Silent Walker and four goats—an unthinkable undertaking for a young Mexi-

can girl of that time.

Teresita grasped the wooden kickboard across the front of the wagon. "Doña Carmen, Don Ramón," she panted. "My name is Teresita Montoya. I helped you with Lupe."

"I remember you," the doña said flatly.

"You need someone to take on Lupe's work. I will go with you."

"Mmmm..." Doña Carmen eyed her with the haughty, unfeeling look of a hawk. "Well, we do need a servant, and you look healthy enough."

"Doña Carmen, I will not be your servant, but I will work for you. I will do your laundry, carry water, gather fuel, build the fire, cook, clean up, and help drive the oxen. I'm a good worker. I thought---" Teresita cast an angry look at Dr. Hempstead as he walked up beside her and took hold of her arm. "I thought the good doctor would help me, but---"

"Doctor, do you know this girl?"

"Oh, yes!" Dr. Hempstead laughed, trying to lead Teresita away. "Teresita, you mustn't delay these folks."

"Is she reliable?" Doña Carmen persisted.

"Anything she says she can do, she can do—and more! But I would not advise..."

"I will work for you, Doña Carmen. I don't want money." Teresita pulled away from the doctor's hold on her arm. "I'll work in exchange for carrying my things in your wagon. You have room."

Don Ramon and Doña Carmen both nodded politely.

"And I'll cook for you if I can also cook for myself and the Cheyenne, Mi-ah-tose, the one the Americans call Slim Face, at the same time." Don Ramon was still smiling and nodding, but his gaze had traveled down from her face along the leather cord toward her sheathed knife beneath her low-cut camisa.

"Oh, and one more thing. I'll have to take my goats---only four. You won't be sorry. We'll have fresh milk for our coffee."

"And one more thing--"

From *Meadow Lark*

The fourth book, *Little Fox's Secret, the Mystery of Bent's Fort*, takes place in 1849, the year Bent's Fort

was destroyed. Who destroyed it? Why? An eleven-year-old Cheyenne named Little Fox, commissioned for an impossible task, becomes a fictional witness to history.

"Grey Owl!" William Bent emerged from a room on the second floor catwalk. "Welcome!" His feet scraped down the open stairs that led into the courtyard. By the giant fur press stacked with buffalo pelts, he stopped.

Grey Owl had not spoken, and Little Fox could see that William Bent sensed something wrong. William Bent's eyes glanced to the side and gave Little Fox a look of recognition.

To his right, on the second floor, Little Fox heard coughing. Several American soldiers wearing blue pants and no shirts were sprawled against the adobe walls in the last rays of sun.

"Gray Owl." William Bent finally spoke. "I did not know you were coming. You did not send word. Where are the others?"

"The others will not come," Grey Owl said. "I myself bring word. Where is your wife, Yellow Woman, and Old Grandmother?"

"They and the children have gone to the Tribal Council with the Kiowa and Osage and others." Bent answered, but his voice was guarded. "Gray Owl, what is wrong? You can speak freely."

Gray Owl's chest rose. Little Fox could hear the air moving in, then out again. "These soldiers..." Gray Owl gestured upward without turning his head. "Your trading post is destroying us, William Bent. Now Bent's Fort shall be destroyed. This, I have seen."

Later, Little Fox learns what Gray Owl expects of him.

"Little brave of eleven summers--" Gray Owl's voice rasped of dry reeds. "Now you will know why I have brought you to this place." He tilted his head back, his face toward the dark sky. "I have seen this Fort crumbling into dust. Destroyed!" His hands swooped up high into the air, then leveled. One gnarled finger pointed straight into Little Fox's chest. "And I have seen that it is you,



small warrior, who destroys it."

Later yet, Little Fox hears William Bent's demand:

"And then, Little Fox, you would promise never to speak of what you have seen today."

From *Little Fox's Secret*

I invite readers young and old to take a look at these stories. Each will make you want to know more about the Santa Fe Trail.

TRAIL TROUBADOUR

—Traffic in Verse—

Sandra M. Doe, Editor

This column seeks poetry which addresses the history, realism, romance, and diversity of the Trail and demonstrates authentic emotion, original images, and skill in craftsmanship. Please submit poems for consideration to Sandra M. Doe, Dept. of English, Campus Box 32, Metropolitan State College of Denver, PO Box 173362, Denver CO 80217-3362.

Ruth Obee returns to *Wagon Tracks* with a poem (at right) about the U.S. Army's proposed annexing of Piñon Canyon.

Mary Peace Finley, a Colorado author of children's books, writes penetrating questions about Piñon Canyon, as well.

TANK TRACKS

by Mary Peace Finley

What would happen
to rings of standing stone
Pictographs
and petroglyphs
Art and history etched in stone
Who could solve the mysteries
of solstice sites and rock-chipped
ships
Ogam script and signs
Who would save
The prairie chicken
Rancher
Badger
Lynx
The twisted cedar
Fragrant juniper
That giant cottonwood tree
How could ancient dinosaur
tracks
and wagon ruts to Santa Fe
Survive the desert storm of tanks
if the Army has its way?

THE PURGATOIRE RIVER VALLEY

by Ruth Obee

Consequence: a result linked to its cause.

Unlike the relatively robust bones of large animals, footprints can be easily destroyed by the first rain or wave that washes over them. (Dinosaur Tracks: Lockley & Hunt 1995:18)

Approximately 100 million years ago, in time's infinite flow, beside the narrow, winding Purgatoire River, a creature appeared, both lumbering and slow, with its arched and boney spine supported by columns, ridged and plated like the Continental Divide. Experimental and dumb as dirt—these reptiles were incapable of entertaining a thought complex, oblivious to the warm earth, the end of life, unable to parse the meaning of a consequence.

Into the primal mud and ooze, they cast their giant, pocked and cratered footprints—

three-toed or clawed, sunk them into the ancient fossil bed of algae, clams, crushed

crustaceans, fish, snails and plants—hundreds of tracks—an ancient narrative waiting to unfold and be mapped, the greatest assemblage in North America.

Theropods, brontosaurus and members of the large suborder of sauropods—semi-aquatic and rubber-necking—walked ponderously back and forth beside the slow-moving river, a few lolloping along together, side by side, in lines that were parallel, showing unexpected signs of gregarious social behavior.

Before the word, pre-historic peoples pecked out petroglyphs into their rough canvases of desert-varnished stone, onto cliff faces and boulders,

dumped in the age of glaciers, amid the rugged copper cañons—dotted with piñons; spiny

with sharp-bladed yucca and claret-cupped cacti, struggling for a foothold.

Beyond the blunt mesas and arid draws and the plains of the river valley stretch the sparse yellow grasslands. A cobalt blue sky serves as an open showcase for a red-tailed hawk riding thermals. Not far from the life-giving river, Hispanic farmers built their homesteads. They left behind them a cemetery.

Marked with wood crosses, the cemetery is desolate and empty, full of tumbleweeds,

howling in the wind like La llorona, the wailing woman.

Then came the working ranchers and their families, on their small holdings, battling ever-present vagaries of weather, the ornery, castanet-tail-shaking rattlers.

The Purgatoire River, with its intimations of blazing heat in summers, was known as *Picket Wire* to these latter and hardy settlers—finding it difficult, as they did, to wrestle their tongues around the original French of the earlier trappers and explorers.

The Purgatoire River valley is a fragile landscape—rich in geology, with its back-to-creation feel, not well-suited to the trampling of heavy boots, the elongated tread of army tanks engaged in battalion-sized maneuvers and war games, conducted by special forces trained in the use of bombs.

A militarizing of cañons and ranchlands, the Purgatoire River Valley, and some 60 miles of the Santa Fe Trail would lead to a wrenching dislocation and displacement of working ranchers and families from place and home, a loss of irreplaceable landscapes and history, in a taking the size of the state of Rhode Island—the consequence of having lobbied so effectively and hard to get the military to set up its army base in our own back yard.

ARMY PLAN TO EXPAND PIÑON CAÑON SITE FUELS OPPOSITION

by Ruth Obee

[Ruth Obee is a writer whose poetry appears in Wagon Tracks. See her poem about this same topic in this issue.]

THE army's plan for a massive expansion of its Piñon Cañon maneu-

ver site has fueled angry opposition among an unexpectedly diverse alliance made up of ranchers, environmentalists, and peace activists. The 418,000 acres targeted in the proposal would affect the counties of Las

Animas, Otero, and Huerfano, as well as scenic and unique, ecologically-fragile areas near the historic Purgatoire River in South-eastern Colorado.

The Fort Carson Piñon Cañon maneuver site currently occupies some 235,000 acres. This added to the proposed 418,000 acre expansion (assuming the correctness of the figure cited) would cover a territory nearly equal in size to the state of Rhode Island. (Some sources believe the actual figure the army has in mind for its expansion is much higher than that stated and may, in fact, be closer to 2.5 million acres.)

The anticipated expansion would target an area that is remarkably rich—both in human and in natural history—with its open skies and arid landscapes, its colorful red rock cañons, draws, and mesas, and its rapidly dwindling short-grass prairie flatlands. It would impact some 60 miles of the historic Santa Fe Trail, not to mention an amazing collection of fossil footprints from those long-extinct "gentle giants" of the past. With its untouched and back-to-creation feel further enhanced by the profusion of pictographs to be found on the rocks, the area is rich in untapped potential for eco-tourism and recreational activities - whether it take the form of back-packing and cycling or ranger-guided tours.

Not only does the Purgatoire River Valley contain one of the richest dinosaur track sites found anywhere in North America, it is also the site of a historic Hispanic cemetery and the remnants of homesteads dating back to early nineteenth-century settlers.

According to the Piñon Cañon Expansion Opposition Coalition (PCEOC), founded by third-generation rancher and Kim general store owner Lon Robertson, the army's plan would not only have an impact on these sites, but would also affect the economic livelihoods of ranchers and their families who have worked the land for, in some cases, up to five generations and who fear that any resistance might be met with the army's use of its powers of eminent domain.

A story in the *Pueblo Chieftain* quotes Las Animas County Commissioner Jim Montoya as saying that

the army's proposal is already having an economic impact on working ranches. "Nobody is fixing up their homes or replacing cattle. Everybody is living their lives on hold right now," says Montoya.

The Nature Conservancy, among other groups, is reported to have taken a stance against the project, saying it would not endorse any proposal that would put farmers off their land through the use of federal land-seizure laws. A loss of ranches and farms in the area and the income they earn would also spell the loss of small, but vital health clinics, fire stations, and schools that help sustain the small communities making up the jurisdictions affected.

Lon Robertson was quoted on 11 KKTV News as challenging the army to come forward with more information about its current plans for expansion: "Prove to us where the advantage would be over land you currently have, over the needs you currently have with the kind of warfare you're fighting. If you could prove it, you'd have a lot more people open [to the proposal]," said Robertson.

Various state and federally-elected officials and entities have also weighed in on the issue. U.S. Senator Wayne Allard asked for a detailed report on Piñon Cañon as part of the 2007 Defense Authorization Act. In mid-February the Department of Defense granted its approval for the purchase of the land, clearing a major hurdle for the proposed expansion to take place.

On Tuesday, March 6, a House committee in the Colorado legislature passed a bill whose purpose is to prevent the Army from condemning private land in order to expand its Piñon Canon Maneuver Site. Its supporters say that while the bill may not, in fact, be constitutional, its intent is to make a statement and to require the Army to negotiate fair market prices with landowners.

Meanwhile, Senator Ken Salazar has asked the Army, in a letter to Army Assistant Secretary Keith Eastin, to forgo the use of eminent domain, that is, forcing ranchers to sell their private land on terms dictated not by market value, but by the army. Salazar has suggested several alternatives to forced land sales. These include (from an AP story in

the Metro section of the March 10 *Colorado Springs Gazette*: pg. 2) "allowing grazing to continue at the site, leasing instead of buying land and allowing public access to cultural and historic sites on the training grounds."

Army officials have recently justified the expansion in terms of a projected buildup of 9,000 more troops expected to be at the site by 2009, over the current number of 16,000—for a total of 25,000.

To find out more contact: PCEOC at PO Box 137, Kim CO 81049, phone 719-643-5265, e-mail <pceoc@hughes.net>, or web site <www.pinoncanyon.com>.

HOOOF PRINTS —TRAIL TIDBITS—

The Point of Rocks geocache is on line at <www.geocaching.com>. You may find the listing by Hide and Seek a cache: Waypoint: GC12GKX; Zipcode 88422 [Gladstone] Zipcode 87747 [Springer]; or Keyword: Point of Rocks.

The Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous will be held at the NRA Whittington Center, just south of Raton, June 10-16, 2007. Information at <http://capn-ball.com/raton/>.

Bent's Old Fort NHS has a new orientation film, "Traders, Tribes and Travelers: The Story of Bent's Old Fort," narrated by Peter Coyote.

The Fort Larned Old Guard has received an award from the Kansas Preservation Alliance for preserving the site of Cheyenne and Sioux village destroyed by Gen. W. S. Hancock in 1867.

As part of the centennial of Oklahoma statehood, a special "Centennial Corner," including a clock, bench, and water fountain, will be dedicated at the courthouse square in Boise City on June 1, 1:00 p.m.

The Cimarron Heritage Trail Scenic Byway was approved by the Oklahoma state scenic byways advisory council. Congratulations to all who worked for this designation.

Arrow Rock, MO, has received a federal Historic Preservation Grant to enhance the historic district. Congratulations.

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 10, 2007. Also, please keep sending any changes regarding e-mail addresses, contact people, etc.

Arrow Rock State Historic Site

PO Box 1

Arrow Rock MO 65320

Telephone: 660-837-3231 or 3330

E-mail: kborgman@iland.net

Websites: www.arrowrock.org;

www.mostateparks.com/arrowrock.htm

- Arrow Rock was chosen a 2006 Dozen Distinctive Destination by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

- Open daily 10 am. to 5 pm. Friends of Arrow Rock Tours scheduled five times daily, Monday through Saturday and by reservation on Sunday.

- June 7: Lewis & Clark Picnic, 6:30 p.m. Park Shelter House, program by Michael Dickey on James Mackey, an explorer who predated Lewis & Clark. Free.

- June 30: Masonic Lodge Hall Fish Fry, 4:00-7:00 p.m. Zion Church, Main Street.

- July 4: Tom Sawyer Movie 35th Anniversary Celebration, 1:00 p.m. Parade and special events all day. At 2:00 p.m. Lyceum Theatre Live Professional Production of "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer."

- August 1 John Emerson Memorial Band Concert, 7:00 p.m. Tavern Lawn. Free.

- June 8: 2007 Lyceum Theatre Season Opens. For more information, contact www.lyceumtheatre.org. Schedule: Into the Woods (June 8-20); The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (June 23-July 4); Sugar (July 7-18); The Sunshine Boys (July 21-Aug. 1); The Philadelphia Story (Aug. 3-15); Misery (Aug. 17-26); Smoke on the Mountain Homecoming (Sept. 5-16); and Children of a Lesser God (Sept. 26-Oct. 7).

- September 1: Bluegrass Concert, Jerry Rosa String Band, Community Center, 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm Ice Cream Freeze Off, 3 pm. Fee

charged.

Barton County Museum & Village

PO Box 1091

Great Bend KS 67530

Telephone: 620-793-5125

Website: www.bartoncountymuseum.org

- Open Wednesday-Friday, 10 am-5 pm; Saturday, 1-5 pm.

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](http://www.nps.gov/beol)

- June 1-August 31: Open 8 am-5:30 .m. Guided tours at 9:30 am, 11 am, 1 pm, and 2:30 pm. New orientation film shown throughout the day.

- June: 1840s Living History Encampment. Training begins June 7 and public viewing June 9-10. Pre-registration is required for training; call (719) 383-5023.

- July 14: Kids' Quarters. Seven to eleven year-old children experience the life of a trapper, trader, laborer, craftsman, Indian or soldier and learn 19th century skills. Registration required; for application call (719) 383-5026.

- October 6 - 7: "Santa Fe Trail Encampment" celebrates Trail traders, tribes, and travelers. Their camps, set up near the fort, will be open for touring.

- December 7 - 8: "Holiday Celebration" features the joys, pleasures and pastimes at an isolated trading post in the 1840s. For reservations, call after October 16.

Boggsville Historic Site

PO Box 68

Las Animas CO 81054

Telephone: 719-456-1358

E-mail: boggsville67@yahoo.com

Website: www.bentcounty.org/site-sandcelebrations/historic/htm

- Open 10-4 daily for self-guided walking tours.

Boot Hill Museum

Front Street

Dodge City KS 67801

Telephone: 620-227-8188

E-mail: frontst@pld.com

Website: www.boothill.org

- May 28: Museum open 8 am-8 pm Monday-Saturday, and 1-5 pm Sunday. Admission charged. Summer hours 8 am-8 pm daily.

- Boot Hill Cemetery, Boot Hill & Front Street. Open Monday-Saturday 9 am-5 pm and Sunday 1-5 pm.

- Santa Fe Trail Ruts nine miles west of Dodge City on US Hwy 400; markers and observation point. Open during daylight hours.

- Starting May 28: Chuck wagon dinners, gunfights, Long Branch Variety Show, and stagecoach rides in

historic Dodge City. Call for schedule and prices.

Cimarron Heritage Center Museum

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 am-12 pm and 1-4 pm except major holidays

- May 29-June 3: Santa Fe Trail Daze in Boise City in celebration of Oklahoma's Centennial.

- June 1: Mini-Living History Day from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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

- June 3, 8:30 am-Noon. Fishing Derby for ages children 0-16 and adults age 55. and over. Prizes and hot dog lunch.

Citizens Committee for Historic Preservation

PO Box 728

Las Vegas NM 87701

Telephone: 505-425-8802

E-mail: historic@cybermesa.com

- Call for hours and events.

Coronado Quivira Museum

Rice County Historical Society

105 West Lyon

Lyons KS 67554

Telephone: 620-257-3941

E-mail: cqmuseum@hotmail.com

- Open Monday - Saturday 9 to 5, Sunday 1 to 5, closed major holidays.

- Free historic tours on the first three Thursdays in June at 7:00 pm; must carpool.

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; www.lyceumtheatre.org

- Call for hours and events.

Fort Union National Monument

PO Box 127

Watrous NM 87753

Telephone: 505-425-8025

E-mail: debbie_archuleta@nps.gov

Website: www.nps.gov/foun

- Open Monday-Sunday except for major holidays. Through Memorial Day hours are 8:00 am-4:00 pm. From Memorial Day to Labor Day: 8:00 am-6:00 pm. Located 8 miles north of Interstate 25 at the end of 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.

- Summer: scheduled interpretive talks, guided tours, and living history programs. Commercial and school groups numbering ten or more interested in a guided tour need advance reservations.

- June 9: First Fort Tours (normally closed to the public).

- July 21-22: Cultural Encounters (guest speakers and living history programs).

- August 25: An Evening at Fort Union (candlelight tours).

**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 hours and events.

**Herzstein Memorial Museum
Union County Historical Society
PO Box 75 (2nd & Walnut Sts.)
Clayton NM 88415**

Telephone: 505-374-2977

E-mail: uchs@plateautel.net

- Call for hours and events.

**Historic Adobe Museum
PO Box 909 (300 E Oklahoma)
Ulysses, KS 67880**

Telephone: 620-356-3009

E-mail: ulyksmus@pld.com

- Call for hours and events.

**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 the Old Courthouse. This National Park 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.

- Arch and Museum open daily, 8:00 am-10:00 pm in the summer. Library open 8 am-4:30 pm. Old Courthouse open daily 8 am-4:30 pm.

- All ranger-led and special museum programs are free of charge. Fees charged for the tram ride to the top of the Gateway Arch and films shown in the visitor center.

- Through September 23: "Lewis and Clark: Remaking the American West, 1808-1838" features period artifacts, books, documents, and a recreation of a portion of William Clark's Indian Gallery and Council Chamber.

Koshare Museum

Otero State Junior College

115 West 18th Street

La Junta, CO 81050

Telephone: 719-385-4411

E-mail: tina.wilcox@ojc.edu

Website: www.koshare.org

- Open daily June - August, 10:00 am-5:00 pm. See some of the most significant and beautiful Native American art and artifacts in the West. Admission charged.

- Koshare Indian Dancers perform authentic Pueblo and Plains Indian dances. All performances begin at 7:30 pm on June 8-9, 13, 16, 18, 23, 30; July 1, 2, 7-10, 13-14, 21-22, 28; and August 4, 8.

- The Museum and Trading Post open till 9:00 pm on the night of the performances.

- Trading Post: online at koshare.org.

Las Vegas Museum

727 Grand Ave

Las Vegas NM 87701

Telephone: 505-454-1401, ext 248

E-mail: lgegick@desertgate.com

- May 19-20: "LAND: Resource, Right, Refuge" at the Vital Arts Gallery, 423 Grand Avenue Las Vegas. Free and open to the public.

- May 19: Panel discussion with scholars and historians speaking about land use, ownership, tenure, history, and sustainable programs.

- May 20: Historical re-enactors portray a sheepherder, rancher, and curandera. Hands-on activities include planting seeds of New Mexico crops and a "water wagon" to test effects of water on the terrain. For children and adults.

Morton County Hist. Society Museum

370 E Highway 56 (PO Box 1248)

Elkhart KS 67950

Telephone: 620-697-2833

E-mail: mtcomuseum@elkhart.com

Website: www.mtcoks.com/museum

- June-August: open Tuesday-Friday 10:00 am.-5:00 pm. Weekends by appointment. Official Interpretative Facility for the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

- June 3-9: Grassland Heritage Festival (call for fees).

- June 3 - Dinner and circuit riding preacher Rev. A. C. Todd.

- June 7 - Children's Day with Mother Goose and other activities

- June 8 - Welcome with meal and entertainment at 81 Corrals.

- June 9 - Bus tour of Cimarron National Grassland with re-enactments. Story of the Mormon Battalion during lunch.

- June 9 Bluegrass music by South-bound Mule.

Otero Museum

706 W. Third St.

La Junta, CO 81050

Telephone: 719-384-7406

Cell phone: 719-980-3193

E-mail: oteromuseum@centurytel.net

- Displays of historic fire engines, hose carts and other fire-fighting memorabilia

- Displays about local organizations and historic photographic equipment.

- Opens June 1, 1:00 - 5:00 pm Monday-Saturday.

- School groups and other special tours by appointment.

- June 1: Third Annual Wine Tasting Party, 5:00-8:00 pm. A fine evening of fine Regional American Wines. \$25 per couple, \$15 per single.

- October 13: 15th Annual Chuck Wagon Bean Supper. 5:00-8:30 pm.

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

Larned, KS 67550

Telephone: 620-285-2054

Email: museum@santafetrailcenter.org

Website: www.santafetrailcenter.org

- Santa Fe Trail Center: Open Daily, 9 am - 5 pm.

- May 4-June 17: "Between Fences" features artifacts, photographs and illustrations and explores fences and their influence on human relationships. Speakers, book discussions, and other activities TBA.

- June 16: Juneteenth Celebration - Black Heritage Club commemorates Emancipation and addresses cultural barriers. Speakers, music and food.

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.

- Visitor Center open 10:00 - 3:00 Wednesday-Sunday.

- June: potluck at 6:00 pm and monthly meeting at 7:00 pm with program TBA.

- Trapper Days Rendezvous begins September 8.

Trinidad History Museum

(Colorado Historical Society)

312 E Main (PO Box 377)

Trinidad CO 81082

Telephone: 719-846-7217

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

Website: www.coloradohistory.org/hist_sites/trinidad

- May 1: The museum complex opens for the season. The Baca House, Bloom Mansion, Santa Fe Trail Museum and Baca-Bloom Gardens are open Monday-Sunday, including holidays, 10 am-4 pm, through September 30. The Museum Bookstore and Information Center has the same hours.



PIKE'S COLUMN

[This special column will continue as a series in Wagon Tracks until the close of the Pike Southwest Expedition Bicentennial activities in 2007. It features documents, articles, bibliography, and notes which tell the story of Pike, his expeditions, and related topics. This column will conclude in the next issue.]

There are two items for this issue, an article by Jared Orsi about Pike's attachment to James Wilkinson and the seventeenth installment of Pike's journal. Keep informed with the Pike Bicentennial plans at <www.zeublonpike.org>.] Please note that maps of Pike's route are on that web site.

READING WITH PIKE: THE MYSTERY OF HIS AFFECTION FOR JAMES WILKINSON

by Jared Orsi

[Jared Orsi is Associate Professor of History at Colorado State University. He was one of the Pike scholars who spoke at the Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous last year. Research for this essay was generously funded by the Colorado Endowment for the Humanities, Colorado State University, the Huntington Library, the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, and the Santa Fe Trail Association. Special thanks to Dr. Orsi for sharing this research.]

THE western expedition of Zebulon Montgomery Pike in 1806-1807 is full of mysteries. Was he a spy? Was he in league with Aaron Burr? Which mountain did he climb? Did he build

a fort on the Rio Grande? Was he lost? The recent burst of research that the expedition's bicentennial has inspired has begun to supply new answers to many of these questions. One mystery, though, remains elusive.

Why was Pike so loyal to General James Wilkinson? At the time of the western expedition, Wilkinson was the commander of the United States Army and governor of Upper Louisiana Territory, and it was he, not Thomas Jefferson, who conceived and authorized Pike's journey. He was also a notorious rogue, who used his offices to advance his own financial interests and political ambitions, often at the expense of the nation. Years later Theodore Roosevelt would compare Wilkinson's character to Benedict Arnold's, "though he entirely lacked Arnold's ability and brilliant courage. He had no conscience and no scruples; and he had not the slightest idea of the meaning of the word honor." Pike's biographer W. Eugene Hollon was even less kind, calling Wilkinson "one of the most egotistical, bombastic, treacherous, and inefficient personages in United States history."¹ Pike, however, remained a lifelong admirer and ardent defender of the general, a stance that has confounded historians. Some have cast it as evidence that Pike himself was involved in some of Wilkinson's treachery. Others have dismissed it as youthful naiveté. Still others have been content to leave it unexplained. For Hollon it was simply irresolvable, a "paradox in the otherwise unblemished life of Zebulon Montgomery Pike."²

The blemish has been difficult to explain because Pike left so few records. Aside from the voluminous journal and other official reports related to his expedition, few scraps of paper today still bear Pike's hand. Consequently, although the record is clear that he stuck up for Wilkinson, we have not a shred of testimony from Pike about why. To solve this problem let's think about Pike as part of the larger intellectual world of the early American republic. We know that he read voraciously, often studying deep into the night after completing his day's army duties. What if we could read a few of the books he most admired? Collectively, these might piece together a picture

of the set of ideas to which a man like Pike had access, and through those ideas we might get some hints about what he may have thought about many subjects, including his thoughts about Wilkinson. This is exactly what I am doing in the biography of Pike I am currently writing. Unlike other historians, who trace the lives of their subjects through what they *wrote*, I am relying on what mine *read*.

Teach Your Children Well

And what did Pike read? For one thing, he almost certainly read or at least was aware of *Clarissa*. This 1748 novel by British writer Samuel Richardson was one of the century's most widely read novels in both England and North America and part of the era's revolution in beliefs about parenting, especially fatherhood. The protagonist Clarissa Harlowe is the daughter of a domineering patriarch who seeks to marry her to a wealthy suitor. In direct contradiction to the prevailing parenting ideology of the era, it is family social rank, not Clarissa's preparation for moral independence, that motivates Mr. Harlowe, and the headstrong Clarissa instead flees with another man who eventually abandons her. She dies in the end, estranged from her parents. The moral was unmistakable: overbearing parenting prevents children from establishing their own self-sufficiency and casts those children into the world with only partial moral formation—with tragic results.

Pike's own parents had prepared him only somewhat effectively for independence. In the early years of the American nation, the predominant civic ideology was known as republicanism, and it held that the outrageous experiment of resting a government on the consent of the governed would succeed only if virtuous citizens sacrificed their pursuit of self-interest for the good of the community. In order to be virtuous, citizens like Pike had first to be morally independent—which is why parents like Mr. Harlowe who sought to make all decisions for their children were such villains. In addition to good parenting, however, independence required property. Citizens who held no property of their own, it was widely theorized, were necessarily dependent on others to pay them

wages. In matters of politics, dependent citizens could be bribed by their benefactors or swayed by irrational emotional appeals. Although Major Zebulon and Isabella Pike had inculcated the moral self-sufficiency that Richardson and others called upon parents to provide their offspring, they had been unable to bequeath him any property, and thus jeopardized his potential for putting his moral independence into practice.

What they had given him, however, was an entrée into the army. Following in the footsteps of his soldier father, Pike entered the army around the age of fifteen and was assigned to the Ohio Valley, which is where he met Wilkinson. Pike was the impressionable cadet, Wilkinson the dashing soldier who had fought in the Revolution and who represented everything a teenage frontier boy could hope to be.

By this time, Wilkinson was also a noted scoundrel. After dabbling unsuccessfully in national politics, Wilkinson moved west after the Revolution, settling in Kentucky, where he speculated in land and commerce on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. In 1787, he journeyed to New Orleans to meet with the Spanish governor. Although the details of the conversation are not known, Wilkinson and his friends began to enjoy preferential trading rights at New Orleans, likely in exchange for information about western secessionist sentiment and for plotting with other prominent Kentuckians and Tennesseans to sever western territory from the U.S. and to attach it to Spain in the infamous though stillborn Spanish Conspiracy. Even after secessionist talk subsided temporarily with the admission of the two states to the union in 1792 and 1796, respectively, Wilkinson continued his intrigues. Around the time he likely first met Pike, Wilkinson, now having resumed his military career, entered a new round of treachery, selling American state secrets to the Spanish only to double-cross them by alerting the U.S. government of Spanish movements. By the time of Pike's western expedition, Wilkinson was in thick with former vice-president and murderer of Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, and together they were plotting to raise a

private army to capture parts of northern Mexico and possibly Louisiana as well in order to form a new country, with the two of them at its head.

Before all this unfolded, however, Wilkinson played the role of republican father in Pike's early army career, providing the young soldier some of the opportunity his parents had not been able to give him. It is easy to overstate this case, and many have. As Colorado Springs historian John Murphy points out, however, Wilkinson's lengthy memoirs barely mentioned Pike at all, which should caution us against casting Pike as the general's protégé. Still, Pike himself recognized Wilkinson as something of a father figure, writing to him on one occasion "not only as my general, but as a paternal friend."³

Regardless of Pike's standing in Wilkinson's eyes, the general's actions were critical in advancing the subordinate's career. In trusting Pike with important military posts and errands to Washington, in modeling the gallantry becoming an officer in the United States Army, in recommending regular promotions, and in assigning to him high-profile expeditions, first to the headwaters of the Mississippi River and then to the Rocky Mountains, Wilkinson filled the gaps in Pike's spotty education and upbringing and helped Pike make the transition from teenage soldier into manly officer. In a world that condemned Mr. Harlowe and other failed parents, Pike's undying admiration and public defense of his mentor, then, can be partly explained by the fatherly role Wilkinson played in facilitating Pike's path to independence.

Although this perhaps explains Pike's initial affection for the general, however, it does not explain why the attachment endured once Wilkinson's own lack of virtue came inescapably to light with the Aaron Burr trial in 1807. By that time, Pike was an established officer with two notable expeditions on his résumé and thus less in need of Wilkinson's patronage. According to republican ideology, such independence should have given Pike immunity from any remaining influence his mentor held over him and should have enabled him rationally to judge the facts on their merit, not on his own need for

advancement in the world. Why, then, did Pike alone among his contemporaries fail to perceive that James Wilkinson was a scoundrel? An answer to that lies elsewhere in Pike's personal library.

Honor Thy Father

Nationalist intellectuals of the early republic believed that America could not survive as a mere derivative of European culture and must instead adopt the best of all cultures, reject the worst, and unfailingly prevent the vices and corruption of Europe from creeping into the New World.⁴ Think Noah Webster here. The man whose name is today synonymous with the dictionary fought a life-long losing battle to persuade Americans to reject what he took to be the guttural savagery of English and replace it with the more enlightened orthography and pronunciation he advocated. Pike may have read Webster and others, but like many Americans, he also likely read appalling amounts of English advice literature. These ever-popular tracts vexed Webster and other nationalists by deceiving aspiring young Americans like Pike into looking abroad for inspiration on the virtue that republicans deemed so vital to the nation's survival. But no matter how hard they tried, the nationalist intellectuals could not prevent people like Pike from reading according to their own tastes and forming their own opinions on virtue—or even from coming to the abominable conclusion that rogues like James Wilkinson were honorable.

In particular, Pike read—and was very much taken by—Robert Doddsley's *Economy of Human Life*. Doddsley was one of the most significant English publishers of the mid-eighteenth century, and in 1750⁵ he published a curious little book called the *Economy of Human of Life*, which purported to be a translation of an ancient Tibetan book of wisdom. Its almost certainly fanciful introduction narrated a fantastic tale of a Chinese emperor who sent a linguistic scholar to remote Tibetan monasteries to translate ancient documents so old that even the lamas themselves had lost the ability to read them. The wisdom of one of the recovered texts so enthralled an English gentlemen who happened to be traveling in the China at the time

that he translated it from Chinese and sent it off to an unnamed English nobleman, who passed it on to Dodsley.⁶ Under the cover of oriental antiquity the text drips with the values of the European Enlightenment, offering more than one-hundred pages of proverbs on religion, knowledge, self-discipline, family relations, happiness, duties of individuals to the community, and a range of other subjects. It was reprinted dozens of times in at least three languages over the next seventy-five years both in Europe and North America.

Whatever its true origins, its impact on Pike appears to have been considerable. He probably got hold of one of the many copies published in America in the 1790s, and he read it several times. He gave it as a gift to his wife shortly after their marriage, and he scribbled notes and bits of wisdom in the margins and blank pages of his own copy.⁷ Conscious of his fatherly duty to prepare his children for moral independence, he asked that it be passed upon his death to his son, "as the gift of a father who had nothing to bequeath but his honour, and let these maxims be ever present to his mind as he rises from youth to manhood."⁸ Regrettably, Pike's copy burned in a fire in 1890, just five years before Elliott Coues edited and republished Pike's expedition journals, the first original scholarship on Pike in half a century. Had it survived for Coues to find, Pike's annotations would likely add immensely to our knowledge of his character. As it is, the few remaining flickers of insight into his study of the text reveal much.

Among other things, the volume provides some clues to his unflinching defense of Wilkinson. If Pike was inclined to look to Dodsley for wisdom in thinking about Wilkinson—and we have no reason to doubt that he was, for Dodsley's advice seems to have shaped Pike's interactions with siblings, parents, soldiers, children, and his spouse—he would have found plenty to guide him. At one level, Dodsley's manual might have warned Pike to beware of men like Wilkinson: "Man purchaseth nothing of his superiors but for a price," and "To the selfish and avaricious have no obligation."⁹

Many other proverbs, however,

would have recommended charity toward the old general. "Mistrust not without reason," might have encouraged Pike to give Wilkinson the benefit of the doubt, while "Let thine own business engage thy attention; leave the care of the state to the governors," could have justified simply not looking too closely at whatever Wilkinson was up to.¹⁰ Inescapably compelling to the independence-minded Pike in the age of republican parenthood would have been Dodsley's advice about father figures: look upon your "benefactor with love and esteem" and "be grateful then to thy father . . . he hath watched for thy welfare, he hath toiled for thy ease. . . . Forget not thy helpless infancy."¹¹

Once Pike's mind was made up about Wilkinson, Dodsley might have helped him close it: "When thou hast proved a man to be honest, lock him up in thine heart as a treasure; regard him as a jewel of inestimable price."¹² History, of course, has revealed James Wilkinson to have been anything but an honest man, but from Pike's perspective, however, it must have looked quite different. Dodsley cast as positively divine a man who had done for Pike what Wilkinson had: "The hand of a generous man is like the clouds of heaven, which drop upon the earth, fruits, herbage, and flowers." And Wilkinson had been nothing if not generous to Pike. In the face of a mentor's largesse, an ungrateful Pike would have been "like a desert of sand, which swalloweth with greediness the showers that fall, and burieth them in its bosom, and produceth nothing." In contrast, "the humility of gratitude toucheth the heart, and is amiable in the sight of both God and man."¹³

Given his reading of Dodsley, deciding how to respond to the criticisms of Wilkinson could not have been very difficult for Pike. One option was humble, admirable loyalty to the man who had enabled him to escape helpless infancy for manly independence; the other choice was greedy, mistrustful, even unproductive (after all those late nights of studying!) ingratitude. Never, to the day he died, would Pike fail to heed Dodsley's advice to "do honour" to his benefactor, even as public scorn heaped upon Wilkinson in his ad-

vancing years. Never would Pike let his mentor's "grey hairs be treated with irreverence."¹⁴ There is, therefore, less mystery than might appear in Pike's scandalous loyalty to Wilkinson. Pike merely defended a scoundrel for being exactly what Dodsley's advice said he was—good.

The Logic of Independence

As far as Webster and the other nationalist intellectuals would have been concerned, there could be no better example of the dangers of falling under the spells of foreign soothsayers. Pike had bought into the nationalists' faith that human reason could be trained to be selfless and virtuous; he had set himself the virtuous task of studying while off-duty to overcome his educational deficiencies; and yet with one small slip in his selection of reading matter, he had come to the abominable conclusion that the nation's enemy was a friend.

Still, he had come to other conclusions as well. The virtue of loyalty that Pike learned from Dodsley he also applied to country as well. On a blank page at the back of the book, Pike scrawled that one must always be ready to die for one's nation—which of course, is exactly what Pike did, falling at the end of the American victory at the Battle of York in the War of 1812. The same independence that induced Pike to defend a traitor to the nation also led him to make the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Here, then, was the strange logic of independence. To preserve the nation founded on the idea of liberty, nationalist intellectuals had to tolerate genuine liberty for men like Pike, independence that often led them to conclusions and actions contrary to the interests of the nationalists. The people had to be free to vote down the constitution. They had to be free to read *Clarissa* and the *Economy of Human Life*. They had to be free to defend the honor of the traitor James Wilkinson. The nationalists' own logic required them to accept The People, whom they themselves had conjured, as a partner in building the nation. Pike and innumerable others who sought and attained the independence the Revolution promised was one of those partners, and that partnership built an enduring nation. The freedom that led Pike to de-

fend Wilkinson was the same freedom that led Pike to give his life in a decisive battle to preserve the sovereignty of his country.

Here, then, is what is great about America: the liberty to defend even a traitor ensures the endurance of the nation that permits such a scandal.

NOTES

1. W. Eugene Hollon, *The Lost Pathfinder: Zebulon Montgomery Pike* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1949), 42.
2. *Ibid.*, 18.
3. Pike, Camp Independence, near the Osage Towns, to James Wilkinson, 28 August 1806, in *The Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike*, 2 vols., ed. by Donald Jackson (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1966), II:144.
4. Eve Kornfeld, *Creating an American Culture, 1775-1800: A Brief History with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2001), 20.
5. Elliott Coues says earlier, but the document itself implies 1750.
6. Robert Dodsley, *The Economy of Human Life: Translated from an Indian Manuscript, Written by an Ancient Bramin in a Letter From an English Gentleman Residing in China* (Philadelphia: Joseph Cruikshank, 1795), ii-xii (electronic version reprinted by Early American Imprints, First Series, available through University of Wyoming Libraries).
7. John M. Niles, *The Life of Oliver Hazard Perry* (Hartford: William S. Marsh, 1820), 319-20; Henry Whiting, "Life of Zebulon Montgomery Pike," in *The Library of American Biography*, ed. by Jared Sparks (Boston: Charles C. Little and James Brown, 1845), 314.
8. Niles, *Life of Oliver Hazard Perry*, 319-20.
9. Dodsley, *Economy of Human Life*, 112, 48.
10. *Ibid.*, 11, 10.
11. *Ibid.*, 47, 33.
12. *Ibid.*, 11.
13. *Ibid.*, 48.
14. *Ibid.*, 33.

PIKE'S JOURNAL, PART XVII

This reprint of Pike's journal of the expedition of 1806-1807 continues, starting with the entry for May 14, 1807, when they were near the Rio Nazas in Mexico, heading back to the United States across Coahuila and Texas to Natchitoches, Louisiana.

Pike's Journal

14th May, Thursday.—Did not march until half past four o'clock, and about nine o'clock an officer arrived from St. Rosa with 24 men and two Appaches in irons. They were noble looking fellows, of large stature, and appeared by no means cast down by their misfortunes, although they knew their fate was

transportation beyond the sea, never more to see their friends and relations. Knowing as I did the intention of the Spaniards towards those people, I would have liberated them if in my power. I went near them and gave them to understand we were friends, and conveyed to them some articles which would be of service if chance offered.

This day the thermometer stood at 30° Raumaer, 99° 1-2 Farenheit and the dust and drought of the road obliged us to march in the night, when we came 15 miles and encamped without water—indeed this road which the general obliged us to take, is almost impassable at this season for want of water, whilst the other is plentifully supplied.

.15th May, Friday.—Marched early and came on five miles, when we arrived at a pit dug in a hollow, which afforded a small quantity of muddy water for ourselves and beasts. Here we were obliged to remain all day in order to travel in the night, as our beasts could enjoy the benefit of water. Left this at half past five o'clock and came on 15 miles by eleven o'clock, when we encamped without water or food for our beasts. Passed a miserable burnt up soil. Distance 20 miles.

16th May, Saturday.—Marched two hours and arrived at a wretched habitation, where we drew water from a well for all the beasts. Marched in the evening and made 15 miles further. The right hand road we left on this side of Maupeme, and joined it after four miles further. Distance 15 miles.

17th May, Sunday.—Marched and about seven o'clock came in sight of *Paras*, which we left on the right and halted at the Hacienda of St. Lorenzo, a short league to the north of said village. At the Hacienda of St. Lorenzo was a young priest, who was extremely anxious for a change of government, and came to our beds and conversed for hours on the subject.

18th May, Monday.—Marched early and came through a mountainous tract of country but well watered, and houses situated here and there amongst the rocks. Joined the main road at a Hacienda of -- belonging to the marquis De San Miquel-gardens and fruit-also a fine stream. The

mules did not arrive until late at night, when it had commenced raining.

19th May, Tuesday.—Did not march until three o'clock, the captain not being very well. He here determined to take the main road notwithstanding the orders of general Salcedo. Came on ten miles. Met a deserter from captain Johnston's company. He returned and came to the camp, and begged of me to take him back to his company, but I would not give any encouragement to the scoundrel, only a little change, as he was without a farthing.

20th May, Wednesday.—Came to the Hacienda of Pattos by nine o'clock. This is a handsome place, where the marquis De San Miquel frequently spends his summers, the distance enabling him to come from Mexico in his coach in ten days. Here we met the Mexican post-rider going to Chewawa. Don Hymie who had left us at Paras, joined in a coach and six, in which we came out to a little settlement called the Florida, one league from Pattos, due north. Distance 18 miles.

The Hacienda of Pattos was a square enclosure of about three hundred feet, the building being one story high, but some of the apartments very elegantly furnished. In the centre of the square was a Jet d'eau, which cast forth water from eight spouts, extended from a colosean female form. From this fountain all the neighbouring inhabitants got their supply of water. The marquis had likewise a very handsome church, which, with its ornaments cast him at least 20,000 dollars; to officiate in which, he maintained a little stiff superstitious priest. In the rear of the palace (for so it might be called) was a fish-pond, in which were immense numbers of fine fish. The population of Florida is about 2,000 souls. This was our nearest point to the city of Mexico.

21st May, Thursday.—Marched down the water course over a rough and stony road about ten miles, when we left it on the right, and came on eight miles further to a horse range of the marquis's, where he had four of his soldiers as a guarda caballo. Halted at half past nine o'clock. At this place we had a spring of bad water.

22d May, Friday.—Marched at three o'clock and came on 16 miles to a small shed, and in the afternoon to la Rancho, eight miles to the left of the main road near the foot of the mountain, where was a pond of water but no houses. Some Spanish soldiers were here. We left Pattos mountain on our left and right, but here there was a cross mountain over which we were to pass in the morning.

The marquis maintains 1500 troops to protect his vassals and property from the savages. They are all cavalry, and as well dressed and armed as the king's, but are treated by the king's troops as if vastly inferior.

23d May, Saturday.—Marched early and came to a spring in the mountain.

24th May, Sunday.—Marched at an early hour and passed through the mountain, (scarcely any road,) called the mountain of the Three Rivers. At the 13th mile joined the main road which we had left to our right on the 22d instant, and in one hour after, came to the main Mexican road from the eastern provinces; from thence north-west to the Rancho, nine miles from Montelovez [Monclova], whence the captain sent in an express to give notice of our approach.

25th May, Monday.—In the afternoon lieutenant Adams, commandant of the company of Montelovez arrived in a coach and six to escort us to town, where we arrived about five o'clock, P.M. In the evening visited captain De Ferara, the commandant of the troops of Cogquilla [Coahuila], and inspector of the five provinces.

Lieutenant Adams who commanded this place, was the son of an Irish engineer in the service of Spain. He had married a rich girl of the Passo Del Norte, and they lived here in elegance and style for the country. We put up at his quarters and were very hospitably entertained.

26th May, Tuesday.—Made preparations for marching the next day. I arose early before any of our people were up and walked nearly round the town; and from the hill took a small survey, with my pencil and a pocket compass which I always carried with me—returned and found them at breakfast, they having sent three or four of my men to search for

me. The Spanish troops at this place were remarkably polite, always fronting and saluting when I passed. This I attributed to their commandant, lieutenant Adams.

27th May, Wednesday.—Marched at seven o'clock, after taking an affectionate leave of Don Hymen, and at half past twelve arrived at the Hacienda of Don Melcher, situated on the same stream of Montelovez.

Don Melcher was a man of a very large fortune, polite, generous and friendly. He had in his service a man who had deserted from captain Lockwood's company, first regiment of infantry, by the name of Pratt. From this man he had acquired a considerable quantity of crude indigested information relative to the United States, and when he met with us his thirst after knowledge of our laws and institutions appeared to be insatiable. He caused a fine large sheep to be killed and presented to my men.

28th May, Thursday.—Marched early and arrived at Encina Hacienda at ten o'clock. This place was owned by Don Barego.

When we arrived at the Hacienda of Encina, I found a youth of 18 sitting in the house quite genteely dressed, whom I immediately recognized from his physiognomy to be an American, and entered into conversation with him. He expressed great satisfaction at meeting a countryman, and we had a great deal of conversation. He sat at a table with us and partook of a cold collation of fruits and confectionary, but I was much surprised to learn shortly after we quit the table, that he was a deserter from our army, on which I questioned him, and he replied, that his name was Griffith, he had enlisted in Philadelphia; arrived at New Orleans and deserted as soon as possible; that the Spaniards had treated him much better than his own countrymen, and that he should never return. I was extremely astonished at his insolence, and mortified that I should have been betrayed into any polite conduct towards the scoundrel. I told him "that it was astonishing he should have had the impertinence to address himself to me, knowing that I was an American officer." He muttered something about being in a country where he was protected, &c. on which I told him, "If he

again opened his mouth to me, I would instantly chastise him, notwithstanding his supposed protection." He was silent, and I called up one of my soldiers and told him in his hearing, that if he attempted to mix with them to turn him out of company, which they executed by leading him to the door of their room a short time after, when he entered it. When dinner was nearly ready, I sent a message to the proprietor, that "we assumed no right to say whom he should introduce to his table, but, that we should think it a great indignity offered to a Spanish officer to attempt to set him down at the same board with a deserter from their army; and that, if the man who was at the table in the morning, was to make his appearance again, we should decline eating at it." He replied, "that it was accident which produced the event of the morning; that he was sorry our feelings had been injured, and that he would take care he did not appear again whilst we were there."

Our good friend Don Melcher here overtook us, and passed the evening with us.

This day we passed the last mountains, and again entered the great Mississippi valley, it being six months and thirteen days since we first came in sight of them. Distance 20 miles.

29th May, Friday.—Marched at seven o'clock and came to the river Millada and Rancho.

30th May, Saturday.—Marched at five o'clock and arrived at the river Sabine at eight—forded it. Marched in the evening at four o'clock, at ten encamped at the Second Ridge without water. Distance 27 miles.

31st May, Sunday.—Marched early and at nine o'clock arrived at a Rancho, a fine running water—course east and west. Marched eight miles further to a point of woods and encamped. No water. Distance 23 miles.

1st June, Monday.—Arrived at the Presidio Rio Grande at eight o'clock. This place was the position to which our friend Barelo was ordered, and which had been very highly spoken of to him, but he found himself miserably mistaken, for it was with the greatest difficulty we obtained any thing to eat, which mortified him ex-

tremely. When at Chihuahua, general Salcedo had asked me if I had not lost a man by desertion, to which I replied in the negative. He then informed me that an American had arrived at the Presidio Rio Grande in the last year: that he had at first confined him, but that he was now released and practicing physic, and that he wished me to examine him on my arrival: I therefore had him sent for; the moment he entered the room I discovered he never had received a liberal education, or been accustomed to polished society. I told him the reason that I had requested to see him, and that I had it in my power to serve him if I found him a character worthy of interference.

He then related the following story; "That his name was Martin Henderson, that he was born in Rock Bridge county, state of Virginia; that he had been brought up a farmer, but; that coming early to the state of Kentucky and Tennessee, he had acquired a taste for a frontier life, and that in the spring of 1806, himself and four companions, had left the Saline in the District of Saint Genevieve, Upper Louisiana, in order to penetrate through the woods to the province of Texas; that his companions had left him on the White River, and that he had continued on: that in swimming some western branch his horse sunk under him, and it was with difficulty he had made shore with his gun. Here he waited two or three days until his horse rose, and he then got his saddle bags, but that all his notes on the country, courses, &c. were destroyed. He then proceeded on foot for a few days, when he was met by 30 or 40 Osage warriors, who on his telling them he was going to the Spaniards were about to kill him, but on his saying he would go to the Americans, they held a consultation over him, and finally seized on his clothes, and divided them between them; then his pistols, compass, dirk and watch, which they took to pieces and hung in their noses and ears; then stripped him naked, and round his body they found a belt with gold pieces seed in it; this they also took, and finally seized on his gun and ammunition, and were marching off to leave him in that situation, but he followed them, thinking it would be better to be killed than left in that state to die

by hunger and cold. The savages after some time halted, and one pulled off an old pair of leggings and gave him, another mockinsons, and a third a buffalo robe, and the one who had carried his heavy rifle had by this time became tired of his prize, (they never using rifles) and they counted him out 25 charges of powder and ball, then sent two Indians with him who put him on a war trace, which they said led to American establishments; and as soon as the Indians left him he directed his course as he supposed for Saint Antonio. He then killed a deer and made himself some clothes. He proceeded on and expended all his ammunition three days before he struck the Grand Road, nearly at the Rio Grande. He further added, that he had discovered two mines, one of silver and the other of gold, the situation of which he particularly described; but, that the general had taken the samples from him. That he would not attempt to pass himself on us for a physician, and hoped as he only used simples and was careful to do no harm we would not betray him. He further added, that since his being in the country, had had made (from information) maps of all the adjacent country, but that they had been taken from him."

I had early concluded that he was an agent of Burr's, and was revolving in my mind whether I should denounce him as such to the commandant, but felt reluctant from an apprehension that he might be innocent, when one of my men came in and informed me that it was Trainer [Tranium?], who had killed major Bashier [Brashear] in the wilderness [1803], between Natchez and Tennessee, when he was his hireling. He shot him (when taking a nap at noon through the head) with his own pistols. The governor of the state and the major's friends offered a very considerable reward for his apprehension, which obliged him to quit the state; and with an Amazonian woman, who handled arms and hunted like a savage, he retreated to the source of the White River, but being routed from that retreat by captain Maney [James B. Many], of the United States army, and a party of Cherokees, he and his female companion bore west, and she proving to be pregnant, was left by him in the

desert, and (I was informed) arrived on the settlements of Red river, but by what means is to me unknown. The articles and money taken from him by the Osage's were the property of the deceased major. I then reported the circumstance to captain Barelo, who had him immediately confined, until the will of governor [Antonio] Cordero was known, who informed me (when at Saint Antonio) he would have him sent to some place of perpetual confinement in the interior. Thus vengeance has overtaken the ingrate and murderer when he least expected it.

In the evening we went to see some performers on the slack rope, who were no wise extraordinary in their performances, except in language which would almost bring a blush on the cheek of the most abandoned of the female sex in the United States.

2d June, Tuesday.—In the day time were endeavoring to regulate our watches by my compass, and in an instant that my back was turned some person stole it; I could by no means recover it, and I had strong suspicions that the theft was approved, as the instrument had occasioned great dissatisfaction.

This day the captain went out to dine with some monks, who would have thought it profanation to have had us their guests, notwithstanding the priest of the place had escorted us round the town and to all the missions; and we found him a very communicative, liberal and intelligent man. We saw no resource for a diner, but in the inventive genius of a little Frenchman who had accompanied us from Chihuahua, where he had been officiating one year as cook to the general, of whom he gave us many interesting anecdotes, and in fact he was of infinite service to us; we supported him and he served us as cook, interpreter, &c. It was astonishing with what zeal he strove to acquire news and information for us; and as he had been four times through the provinces, he had acquired considerable knowledge of the country, people, &c. He went off and in a very short time returned with table-cloth, plates, and a dinner of three or four courses, a bottle of wine and a pretty girl to attend on the table. We enquired by what magic he had brought it about, and found he had

been to one of the officers and notified, that if was the wish of the commandant that he should supply the two Americans with a decent dinner, (this we explained to Barelo in the evening, and he laughed heartily) which was done, but we took care to compensate them for their trouble.

We parted from the captain with regret, and assurances of remembrance. Departed at five o'clock, escorted by ensign — and — men, and came on to the Rio Grande, which we passed and encamped at a Rancho on the other side. Distance 7 miles.

3d June, Wednesday.—The musque-toes which had commenced the first night on this side Montelovez, now had become very troublesome. This day saw the first horse-flies—saw some wild horses—came on in the open plain, and in a dry time, where there is no water. Distance 30 miles.

4th June, Thursday.—Came 16 miles to a pond and dined—great sign of wild horses—in the afternoon to the river Noissour [Nueces River] swimming, where we arrived, although not more than ten steps wide. Distance 36 miles.

5th June, Friday.—After loosing two horses in passing the river (the water having fallen so that we forded) crossed and continued our route. Passed two herd of wild horses, who left the road for us. Halted at a pond on the left of the road, 15 miles, where we saw the first oak since we entered New Mexico, and this was scrub oak. Passed many deer yesterday and to day. Came on to a small creek at night, where we met a party of the company of Saint Fernandez returning from the line. Distance 31 miles.

6th June, Saturday.—Marched early and met several parties of troops returning from Texas, where they had been sent to reinforce, when our troops were near the line. Immense numbers of cross roads made by the wild horses. Killed a wild hog, which on examination I found to be very different from the tame breed, smaller, brown, long hair and short legs: they are to be found in all parts between Red river and the Spanish settlements.

Passed an encampment made by the *Lee Panes* [Lipan Apaches]—met one of said nation with his wife. In

the afternoon struck the wood land, which was the first we had been in from the time we left the Osage nation. Distance 39 miles.

7th June, Sunday.—Came on 15 miles to the river Mariano, the line between Texas and Cogquilla—a pretty little stream, Rancho. From thence in the afternoon to Saint Antonio. We halted at the mission of Saint Joseph—received in a friendly manner by the priest of the mission and others.

We were met out of Saint Antonio about three miles by governors Cordero and [Simón de] Herrera [Herrera], in a coach. We repaired to their quarters, where we were received like their children. Cordero informed me that he had discretionary orders as to the mode of my going out of the country: that he therefore wished me to choose my time, mode, &c. and, that any sum of money I might want was at my service: that in the mean time Robinson and myself would make his quarters our home; and that he had caused to be vacated and prepared a house immediately opposite for the reception of my men. In the evening his levee was attended by a croud of officers and priests, at which was father M'Guire and Dr. Zerbin. After supper we went to the public square, where might be seen the two governors joined in a dance with people, who in the daytime would approach them with reverence and awe.

We were here introduced to the sister of lieutenant Malgares's wife, who was one of the finest women we saw—she was married to a captain [Joaquín] Ugarte, to whom we had letters of introduction.

8th June, Monday.—Remained at Saint Antonio.

9th June, Tuesday.—A large party dined at governor Cordero's, who gave as his first toast, "The President of the United States."—Vive la—I returned the compliment by toasting "His Catholic Majesty." These toasts were followed by "General Wilkinson," and one of the company then gave, "Those gentleman; their safe and happy arrival in their own country—their honorable reception, and the continuation of the good understanding which exists between the two countries."

10th June, Wednesday.—A large

party at the governor's to dinner. He gave as a toast, "His companion, Herrera."

11th June, Thursday.—Preparing to march to-morrow. We this evening had a conversation with the two governors, wherein they exhibited an astonishing knowledge of the political character of our executive, and the local interests of the different parts of the union.

12th June, Friday.—One of the captains from the kingdom of Leon having died, we were invited to attend the burial, and accompanied the two governors in their coach, where we had an opportunity of viewing the solemnity of the interment, agreeably to the ritual of the Spanish church, attended by military honors, which was conferred on the deceased by his late brethren in arms. Governor Cordero gave the information of my intended expedition to the commandant general as early as July. The same month I took my departure. His information was received via Natchez.

13th June, Saturday.—This morning there was marched 200 dragoons for the sea coast to look out for the English, and that evening colonel Cordero was to have marched to join them.

We marched at seven o'clock; governor Cordero taking us out in his coach about two leagues, accompanied by father M'Guire, Dr. Zerbin, &c.

It may not be improper to mention here, something of father M'Guire and doctor Zerbin, who certainly treated us with all imaginable attention while at Saint Antonio. The former was an Irish priest, who formerly resided on the coast above Orleans, and was noted for his hospitable and social qualities. On the cession of Louisiana, he followed the standard of the "king, his master," who never suffers an old servant to be neglected. He received at Cuba an establishment as chaplain to the mint of Mexico, when the instability of human affairs carried him to Saint Antonio. He was a man of chaste classical taste, observation and research.

Doctor Zerbin formerly of Natchez, but in consequence of pecuniary embarrassments emigrated to the Spanish territories. Being a young

man of a handsome person and insinuating address, he had obtained the good will of governor Cordero, who had conferred on him an appointment in the king's hospital, and many other advantages by which he might have made a fortune; but he had recently committed some very great indiscretions, by which he had nearly lost the favor of colonel Cordero; but whilst we were there he was treated with attention.

We took a friendly adieu of governor Herrera and our other friends at Saint Antonio.

I will here attempt to pourtray a faint resemblance of the characters of the two governors whom we found at Saint Antonio; but whose super-excellent qualities it would require the pen of a master to do justice.

Don Antonio Cordero, is about five feet ten inches in height, fifty years of age, fair complexion, and blue eyes: he wore his hair turned back, in every part of his department was legibly written "The Soldier." He yet possessed an excellent constitution, and a body which appeared to be neither impaired by the fatigues of the various campaigns he had made, nor disfigured by the numerous wounds received from the enemies of his king. He was one of the select officers who had been chosen by the court of Madrid to be sent to America about 35 years since, to discipline and organize the Spanish provincials, and had been employed in all the various kingdoms and provinces of New Spain. Through the parts which we explored, he was universally beloved and respected; and when I pronounce him by far the most *popular man* in the *internal provinces*, I risk nothing by the assertion. He spoke the Latin and French languages well—was generous, gallant, brave, and sincerely attached to his king and country. Those numerous qualifications have advanced him to the rank of colonel of cavalry, and governor of the provinces of Cogquilla and Texas. His usual residence was Montelovez, which he had embellished a great deal, but since our taking possession of Louisiana, he had removed to Saint Antonio, in order to be nearer the frontier, to be able to apply the remedy to any evil which might arise from the collision of our lines.

Don Simon de Herrera, is about

five feet eleven inches high, has a sparkling black eye, dark complexion and hair. He was born in the Canary Islands, served in the infantry in France, Spain and Flanders, and speaks the French language well, and a little of the English. He is engaging in his conversation with his equals; polite and obliging to his inferiors, and in all his actions one of the most gallant and accomplished men I ever knew.

He possesses a great knowledge of mankind from the experience in various countries and societies, and knows how to employ the genius of each of his subordinates to advantage. He had been in the United States during the presidency of general Washington, and had been introduced to that hero, of whom he spoke in terms of exalted veneration. He is now lieutenant-colonel of infantry, and governor of the kingdom of New Leon. His seat of government is Mont Elrey [Monterey]; and probably, if ever a chief was adored by his people it is Herrera. When his time expired last, he immediately repaired to Mexico, attended by 300 of the most respectable people of his government, who carried with them the sighs, tears and prayers of thousands that he might be continued in that government. The viceroy thought proper to accord to their wishes *pro tempore*, and the king has since confirmed his nomination.

When I saw him he had been about one year absent, during which time the citizens of Rank in Mont Elrey had not suffered a marriage or baptism to take place in any of their families, until their common father could be there, to consent and give joy to the occasion by his presence. What greater proof could be given of their esteem and love?

In drawing a parallel between the two friends, I should say that Cordero was the man of greatest reading, and that Herrera possessed the greatest knowledge of the world. Cordero has lived all his life a bachelor. Herrera married an English Lady in early youth, at Cadiz, who by her suavity of manners makes herself as much beloved and esteemed by the ladies as her noble husband does by the men. By her he has several children, one now an officer in the service of his royal master.

The two friends agree perfectly in

one point, their hatred to tyranny of every kind; and in a secret determination never to see that flourishing part of the New World, subject to any other European lord, except him, whom they think their honor and loyalty bound to defend with their lives and fortunes. But should Bonaparte seize on European Spain, I risk nothing in asserting, those two gentlemen would be the first to throw off the yoke, draw their swords, and assert the independence of their country.

Before I close this subject, it may not be improper to state, that we owe to governor Herrera's prudence, that we are not now engaged in a war with Spain. This will be explained by the following anecdote which he related in the presence of his friend Cordero, and which was confirmed by him. When the difficulties commenced on the Sabine, the commandant general and the viceroy consulted each other, and they mutually determined to maintain (what they deemed) the dominions of their master, inviolate. The viceroy therefore ordered Herrera to join Cordero with 1300 men, and both the viceroy and general Salcedo, ordered Cordero to cause our troops to be attacked, should they pass the Rio Oude [Hondo]. Those orders were positively reiterated to Herrera, the actual commanding officer of the Spanish army on the frontiers, and gave rise to the many messages which he sent to general Wilkinson when he was advancing with our troops; but finding they were not attended to, he called a council of war on the question to attack or not; when it was given as their opinion, that they should immediately commence a predatory warfare, but avoid a general engagement; yet, notwithstanding the orders of the viceroy, the commandant general, governor Cordero's and the opinion of his officers, he had the firmness (or temerity) to enter into the agreement with general Wilkinson, which at present exists relative to our boundaries on that frontier. On his return he was received with coolness by Cordero, and they both made their communication to their superiors. Until an answer was received, said Herrera, "I experienced the most unhappy period of my life, conscious I had served my country faithfully, at the same

time I had violated every principle of military duty." At length the answer arrived, and what was it, but the thanks of the viceroy and the commandant general, for having pointedly disobeyed their orders, with assurances that they would represent his services in exalted terms to the king. What could have produced this change of sentiment is to me unknown, but the letter was published to the army, and confidence again restored between the two chiefs and the troops.

Our company consisted of Lieutenant Jn. Echararria, who commanded the escort. Captain Eugene Marchon, of New Orleans, and father Jose Angel Cabaso, who was bound to the camp at or near the Trinity, with a suitable proportion of soldiers. We came on 16 miles to a place called the Beson, where we halted until the mules came up. Marched

again at four o'clock, and arrived at the river of Guadalupe at eight o'clock at night. Distance 30 miles.

(continued next issue)

JOKER THE DONKEY



Joker was born in 1980 in Kansas and died in 2007 on a farm near Milford, NE. He lived to be 27 years of age, owned by Santa Fe Trail Ambassador Les Vilda of Wilber, NE, for the last 23 years.

He grew up to weigh 600-650 pounds. He was a light brown color with a white face, belly, and legs and had the black stripe down his back and across his shoulders. He was a very docile donkey that really enjoyed being around people.

He lived the first four years of his life in Kansas. He was purchased from an auctioneer at the Overbrook, KS, Livestock Barn by Les Vilda in 1984. This was the year that Les and three traveling companions (Valerie

Havorka and David and Denise Fikar) walked the Santa Fe Trail from Fort Osage (near Sibley, MO) to Santa Fe, NM. Les's feet had given out on him during the trail walk—he couldn't support the 40+ pounds that his backpack held, so he bought Joker to carry his backpack. The purchase was made at a highway interchange west of Overbrook, KS.

Joker received a lot of attention during the Trail walk. When the travelers camped in a town, it would be only a few minutes after their arrival that the area was swamped with people (young and old) who wanted to pet and/or feed the donkey.

As the travelers made their way to Dodge City, KS, they were passed on the highway by the Budweiser Clydesdale Team. A few days later the travelers learned that the people caring for and operating the Budweiser team were considering Joker as their new "lead horse."

When the travelers arrived near Wagon Mound, NM, Joker found himself the subject of a photograph that made him part of a Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit of the Santa Fe Trail. The same photo became part of the book *Along the Santa Fe Trail*, photography by Joan Myers and essay by Marc Simmons. The same photo was used yet again in the March 12, 1987, edition of *The New York Review of Books* as part of the review of *Along The Santa Fe Trail*. Joker has now gone international!

Joker was quite an asset to the travelers. He was able to carry extra food and water into areas of the Trail where there were none. He proved to be quite the "watch dog," braying at intruders (2- and 4-legged) trying to get into camp during the middle of the night. Intelligent? It didn't take him long to figure out that if he pulled the short end of the rope that tied him to fence posts, he could walk away. (Les needed to find a new knot to tie.)

When Joker arrived in Santa Fe, the question came up: "Was Joker the first donkey to walk the Santa Fe Trail since the railroad first arrived in Santa Fe?"

When the travelers arrived in Santa Fe, Dr. Marc Simmons took them to see the La Fonda Hotel.

Upon their return to the Plaza, the donkey was gone. A while later, the travelers found him tied to the tree in the courtyard of the Palace of the Governors. When was the last time a donkey was allowed to do THAT? But, naturally, no camera!



Les, on left, & Joker

Joker spent the next 2 years in Wilber, Nebraska on the farm of Donald and Violet Vilda (parents of Les). During that time he visited several schools and museums, including two visits to the Omaha Children's Museum in Omaha, NE. Joker would go on weekend camping trips with Les and would sometimes pull Les around in a small 4-wheeled wagon. Several trips were made with the wagon from the farm to Wilber (about a 4-mile trip taking nearly 1.5 hours one way) as a novelty way to pick up groceries. The town's people always seemed to enjoy seeing him come into town.

April of 1987 found Les on the Santa Fe Trail again. Joker started the journey with him. They started this trip from New Franklin, MO. Near Lexington, MO, Joker threw a shoe. The guy that put the shoe back on ran the shoe nails too high into Joker's hoof and by the time the team had made it to Buckner, MO, Joker had developed a very bad limp. Joker was given a ride back to Nebraska and Les finished his journey to Santa Fe with a horse and wagon.

In 1992, Joker pulled a wagon filled with food, water, and equipment for Les Vilda and Terri Tuxbury as they traveled about 170 miles of the Nebraska City Cut-Off of the Oregon Trail.

Joker lived most of the rest of his life on the Vilda farm. As the years went by and organizations became more "liability conscious," Joker did fewer and fewer school, museum, and community events. By the early 1990s, Joker was pretty much retired.

Donald and Violet Vilda retired from farming in 2001 and moved off the farm. At this time, Les moved Joker to the farm of Don and Donna Strinz—canvas tent and tipi makers

near Milford, NE. Here, Joker had a new playmate—a horse. (Prior to this, Joker's only playmates were cattle.) Strinz's grandchildren loved coming on the farm for a donkey ride—it was easier to get onto his back than the Tennessee Walker horse.

Joker was noticed missing on Valentine's Day (February 14) 2007. He was in the pasture on Monday but not there on Wednesday. After an extensive search of nearly 2 months, his body was discovered on Saturday, April 28, 2007. Cause of death is unknown.

Joker will be greatly missed by friends and family and practically anyone who ever met him. It would be nice to think that Joker, like the Santa Fe Trail, will continue to "Live On!"

CAMP TALES

—CHAPTER REPORTS—

Cimarron Cutoff

President D. Ray Blakeley
PO Box 222
Clayton NM 88415
(505) 374-2555

The chapter met at Elkhart on March 31 with a program by Marla Matkin, "Cattle Towns and Soiled Doves."

Texas Panhandle

Inactive.

Wagon Bed Spring

President Edward Dowell
602 E Wheat Ave
Ulysses KS 67880
(620) 356-4525

Members met March 22 to plan spring and summer events. An auto tour of Trail sites in Grant and adjoining counties was held April 28 with Jeff Trotman as tour guide. Other events will be announced later.

Heart of the Flint Hills

President Carol L. Retzer
4215 E 245th St
Lyndon KS 66451
(785) 828-3739
<carolretzer@direcway.com>

The chapter met April 26 at the Kaw Mission in Council Grove with a potluck dinner, short business meeting to discuss the trail ride and Wilmington School project, and attended the Kaw Councils program on wild flowers.

End of the Trail

La Alcaldesa Joy Poole

125 W Lupita Rd
Santa Fe NM 87505
(505) 820-7828
<amusejoy@aol.com>

On March 17, 1:30 p.m., at the Eldorado Community Center, Allan Wheeler presented a reenactment of William Becknell, considered the first trader on the Santa Fe Trail after trade was opened between the U.S. and Mexico in 1821.

On May 19, 1:30 p.m., Doug Peterson will present a slide show and conduct a walking tour of downtown Santa Fe on the topic of "Santa Fe-Fort Marcy as a Military Town."

Corazón de los Caminos

President Bill Soderman
1003 Fifth St
Las Vegas NM 87701
(505) 425-9435

Our March meeting was well attended with Harry Myers, National Park Service Team Leader of the Long Walk National Historic Trail Feasibility Study, Ed Lee Natay of the National Park Service, and Judy Martin, a cultural specialist with the Navajo National Historic Preservation Department, presenting the program about the forced removal of the Mescalero Apache and Navajo People from their homelands in New Mexico and Arizona to the Bosque Redondo Reservation at Fort Sumner on the Pecos River, 1862-1868. In 2003, after funding by Congress, Myers, Natay, Martin, and Holly Houghton, Mescalero Apache Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, began working on developing a history of the Long Walk. Their presentation was exceptionally poignant; the subject matter was another chilling chapter in the history of our country.

President Bill Soderman presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation for Exemplary Service to J.D. Schmidt of Wagon Mound and to Nancy Robertson of Raton.

Our April field trip for the annual workday at Fort Union National Monument had nearly 20 volunteers and FOUN support staff turn out for trash pickup along the entrance to the Fort. The weather was moderate with mild Fort Union winds (which means they were blowing at about 85 mph) and cloud cover. No snakes were sighted till after the event, no injuries occurred, and a pickup load of trash was harvested. Hot pizzas

and cold sodas were enjoyed indoors this year.

We lost a wonderful longtime member of our chapter in February, Jean Hinkle. In April, we lost Faye Gaines's son, Gary Gaines. Please see the notices about them elsewhere in this issue.

We note two program changes for later this year: Aug. 18 will be the Fort Union Ranch and the Turkey Mountains; Oct. 20 will be the City of Las Vegas Museum/Rough Rider Memorial Collection, Santa Fe Trail exhibit.

Wet/Dry Routes

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

Thirty members and guests met for the postponed winter meeting on February 18 at Kinsley, Kansas. Featured was the presentation of the Faye Anderson Award to the Warner Family which has preserved more than two miles of the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road through three generations. Officers for the 2007 year were elected: President and Program Director David K. Clapsaddle; Vice-President Barbara German; Secretary-Treasurer Merlene Baird. In other business, reports were given with respect to the poster contest and the marking project.

Following the business meeting, the program was presented by President Clapsaddle, "A Tale of Two Cities: Franklin, Missouri and Santa Fe, New Mexico."

The chapter regrets to report the death of Dick German on February 23, and extends sympathy to his wife Barbara, chapter vice-president. The chapter will place another one of its interpretive markers in his honor.

Forty members and guests met for its spring meeting on April 22 at Mom's Café in Seward, Kansas. Following the meal, business was conducted as follows: announcements were made with regard to the Fort Larned Summer Camp, June 5-6, 12-13; the Dick German Memorial Fund, the Day Trip on the Dry Route planned for April 28; recent work accomplished at the Zebulon Pike Plaza; the First Ladies of Larned first-person interpretation by Alice Clapsaddle and Becca Hiller on May

5, and the loss of Joyce Losey. Joyce, as many will recall, was the wife of Howard Losey, past president of the chapter. Members signed a card for Cecil Cottingham of Emporia. The chapter voted to update the bronze plaque on the Mulberry Creek Crossing in conjunction with the Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron Chapter. Subsequently, a music program of Stephen Foster songs was presented by Alice Clapsaddle and Diann Morell.

The chapter has four separate exhibits on display in Larned. At the First State Bank is "Freighting on the Santa Fe Trail," a collection of artifacts (pack saddle, ox yokes, ox chain, ox shoes, etc.) authentic to the historic period. There are two exhibits at the American State Bank: "Westport Landing at Kansas City" and "Prairie Ports on the Santa Fe Trail." The first features engravings and paintings of the landing on the Missouri River. The second features photographs of railroad construction and depots related to western expansion in the 1860s and 1870s. At the Jordaan Meeting Room in the Chamber of Commerce building, "Crossings on the Santa Fe Trail" presents paintings, sketches, photographs, and maps of crossings of various streams in west central Kansas. All images except one were taken from 19th-century sources.

The chapter has placed an interpretive marker at the Small Drain site east of Fort Dodge. The text reads:

SMALL DRAIN

South of this location near the Arkansas River was Small Drain, one of several campsites identified in an 1842 itinerary published by Charles Folsom. The campsite was so named for the cut visible in the ridge a short distance to the northwest of this point.

Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron

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

On Feb. 18 eleven members and three guests met at Boot Hill Museum, Dodge City. Guests were SFTA President Joanne VanCoevern, SFTA Secretary Kathy Pickard, and Robert Steele from Dodge City. President Sherer presented

Bill Bunyan a plaque in recognition of his four years as chapter president. President Sherer encouraged all chapter members to join SFTA. President Sherer met with Dave Long in Cimarron and has spoken to the Rotary Club in Cimarron about the chapter. We want to get members from the Cimarron area. He is going to try to schedule a meeting in Cimarron sometime in the future. Following the business meeting, SFTA President VanCoevern to give a program on letters written by an officer's wife from Fort Dodge during the 1860s. The next meeting is May 20.

Missouri River Outfitters

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

MRO held a joint meeting with the Heart of the Flint Hills chapter on January 27, 2007. 24 gathered at the Santa Fe Cafe in Burlingame, KS. After business affairs had been conducted, members visited trail sites west of Burlingame, including the Wilmington School and the grave of Private Samuel Hunt, who died on the trail in 1835. Trail enthusiasts of both chapters enjoyed getting to know one another.

The chapter met at Huston Tavern in Arrow Rock on May 5. New officers and board members: President Roger Slusher, V-P Mary Conrad, Sec. Anne Mallinson, Treas. John Atkinson, Historian Sandy Slusher, and Board Members Rich Lawson, Pat Marshall, Ross Marshall, and Dick Nelson. Rich Lawson offered a guided tour of his property on which he located a Missouri River ferry crossing site.

Roger Slusher and Ross Marshall served as guides for the bus tour along the Santa Fe Trail from Independence to Arrow Rock. The group toured the visitor center in Arrow Rock and viewed Dr. John Sappington's family homes and cemetery, the Weinreich ruts north of Marshall, and the Missouri River bridge site in Waverly. Along the way participants heard about the early history of the Trail from 1821 and its importance to commerce, the Boonslick Road, information about William Becknell, Dr. John Sappington, William Ashley, and others involved with Trail

trade. They also heard about the impact of the War of 1812 in the Boonslick area. We were delighted that SFTA board members Vernon Lohrentz and Alice Anne Thompson joined us for the tour.

Quivira

President Linda Colle
PO Box 1105
McPherson KS 67460
(620) 241-3800

Janel Cook resigned as chapter president, effective 2-6-07. Vice-President, Linda Colle assumed the office. Elections were held March 31: President Linda Colle, Vice-President and Secretary Lorna Nelson, Treasurer Nancy Marteney, and Directors Britt Colle, John Martin, Pat Hall, Janel Cook, Robert Button, and Robert Yarmer.

The program for the March 31 meeting was "A Taste of the Trail" by Anne Mallinson and Nancy Lewis. On April 16 the chapter met with the Cottonwood Crossing Chapter at Galva, with a program by John Stratton, "The Life of Charles O. Fuller in Cenral Kansas, 1855-1879."

The major project for the chapter in 2007 will be completion of the Quivira Auto Tour to mark the Trail through the area. The chapter will also continue to work with the SFTA and the NPS to develop the 1825 Peace Treaty Interpretive Center near Elyria.

Goals of the Quivira Chapter for 2007 are to increase landowner involvement in chapter activities and to increase overall membership.

Cottonwood Crossing

President Steve Schmidt
1120 Cobblestone Ct
McPherson KS 67460
(620) 245-0715

No report.

Bent's Fort

President Don Lowman
1202 Park Ave
La Junta CO 81050
(719) 384-7406
<dlowman@centurytel.net>

The chapter continues with preparations for the 2007 Symposium in Trinidad, September 27-30, 2007 (see article in this issue). The chapter is supporting opposition to the army's proposed takeover of additional land for the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site; for more information see <www.pinoncanyon.org>.

NEW SFTA MEMBERS

This list includes new memberships received since 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

McPherson Museum & Arts Foundation, 1130 East Euclid, McPherson KS 67460

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Todd & Laura Johnson, 11555 Law 1245, Marionville MO 65705

William & Leesa Kerns, 953 Lawson St, Chattanooga TN 37415

Carthel & Wilma McCollough, 10042 US Hwy 50 #347, Dodge City KS 67801

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Sandra Berney, 2715 Westport Rd, Independence MO 64052

Laura L. Brewer, 1001 Lincoln Ave Raton NM 87740

Jackie Frank, PO Box 382, Tyrone NM 88065

Steve Glassman, 207 Frances Dr, Edgewater FL 32132

Tim Hagaman, PO Box 292, Springer NM 87747

V. Pauline Hodges, PO Box 177, Beaver OK 73932

George Isted, 2-4-8 Umaminaka, Koryo-cho, Kitakatsuragi-gun, Nara-ken 6350832 JAPAN

Davy J. Mitchell, 6801 Norfolk, Lubbock TX 79413

Joseph Reorda, 415 W Topeka, Trinidad CO 81082

Carlos Sandoval, 7801 CR 85.5, Trinchera CO 81081

Don Wiles, 409 Lealand Circle, Dodge City KS 67801

YOUTH

Eric Beyer, 2033 Beck St, Manhattan KS 66502

SERVICES AVAILABLE

A large-print edition of *Wagon Tracks* is available on request for any member of SFTA. A printed copy of Last Chance Store offerings is also available on request. Contact the editor, 888-321-7341.

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 15, 2007**. Other events are listed in articles and chapter reports. Thank you.

May 29-June 3, 2007: Santa Fe Trail Daze Centennial Festival, Boise City, OK.

June 7-10, 2007: Old Spanish Trail Association annual meeting, Barstow, CA.

June 9, 2007: Fort Union National Monument, First Fort Tours, 505-425-8025.

June 15-17, 2007: Wah Shun Gah Days, Council Grove, KS.

June 16, 2007: Corazón Chapter trip, Ocaté Crossing.

July 21, 2007: Corazón Chapter trip, Cimarron and Rayado.

July 21-22, 2007: Fort Union National Monument, Cultural Encounters Program, 505-425-8025.

Aug. 18, 2007: Corazón Chapter trip, Fort Union Ranch, Turkey Mountains.

Aug. 23-Sept. 3, 2007: Tour of El Camino Real in Mexico, led by Hal Jackson; details at <www.tourel-

caminoreal.com>.

August 25, 2007: Fort Union National Monument, Candlelight Tours, 505-425-8025.

Sept. 1-2, 2007: Cleveland Millfest, 2 miles NW of Mora, NM, (505) 387-2645 or <http://www.angelfire.com/folk/roller_mill>.

Sept. 27-30, 2007: SFTA symposium, Trinidad, company

Oct. 20, 2007: Corazón Chapter meeting, Las Vegas Museum, Santa Fe Trail exhibit.

Nov. 17, 2007: Corazón Chapter meeting, Las Vegas, NM.

FROM THE EDITOR

The 2007 Symposium promises to be an outstanding event, and I hope you are making plans to be there. There are many other events scheduled along the entire Trail during coming months. Please take the opportunity to visit those close to you. With rising fuel costs, plan your Trail visits carefully to include as many sites as possible during any excursion.

If anyone has experienced problems ordering from the Last Chance Store online, paying dues online, or any other problem with the web site, please let me know the nature of the problem. Sometimes checking out may be a little confusing, and we want to make your use of the site as friendly as possible.

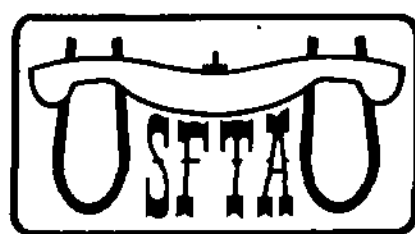
Please note the early deadline for material for the next issue: July 15. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Happy Trails!

—Leo E. Oliva

Santa Fe Trail Association
PO Box 31
Woodston, KS 67675

Change Service Requested



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO. 2

WOODSTON KS 67675