

Wagon Tracks

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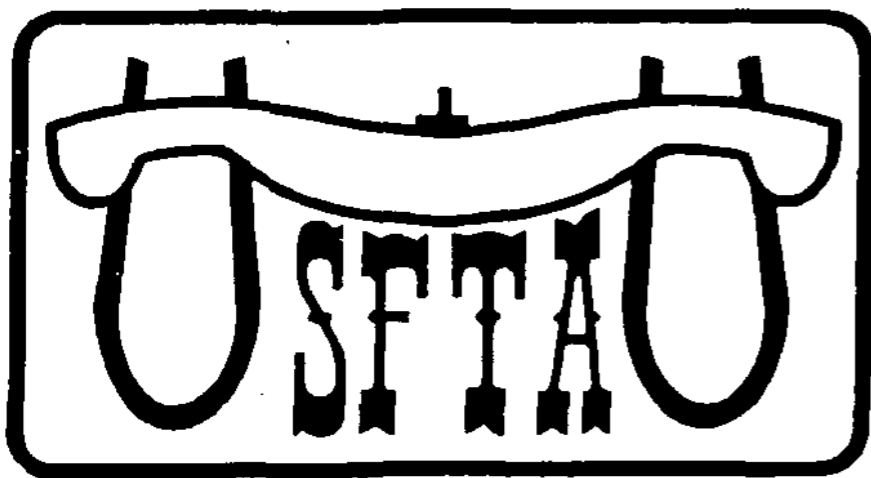


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WAGON TRACKS

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY

VOLUME 13

AUGUST 1999

NUMBER 4

MEETING AT THE GROVE SEPTEMBER 23-26, 1999

EVERYTHING is in place for the 1999 SFTA Symposium in Council Grove, "Treaties, Trails, and Traders," thanks to the hard work of numerous volunteers and Coordinator Jim Selby. Programs and preregistration materials have been sent to all members, and early registration is encouraged.

Remember college credit is available through Emporia State University (for information, call 877-444-8777). For lodging information, contact the Council Grove/Morris County Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-732-9211. See you at the Grove.

ELECTION RESULTS

THE ballots have been counted, and the following officers and directors have been elected. Anne Mallinson, head of the nominating committee, extends thanks to those who agreed to run and to all who took time to vote. Thanks too to the dedicated directors who will be leaving the board in September: Dave Webb (At-Large), Deanne Wright (Kansas), and David Hutchison (Oklahoma).

Incumbents elected to serve another term are President Margaret Sears, Vice-President Sam'l Arnold, and Directors Phil Petersen (Colorado), Nancy Lewis (Missouri), and Faye Gaines (New Mexico). New directors joining the board are Anna Belle Cartwright (At-Large), Helen Brown (Kansas), and E. A. "Mike" Slater (Oklahoma). Congratulations every one.

Other officers and directors whose terms will expire in 2001 are Sec/Treas Ruth Olson Peters and Directors Jane Lenz Elder (At-Large), Mary Gamble (Colorado), Joanne VanCoevern (Kansas), Anne Mallinson (Missouri), Stephen Whitmore (New Mexico), and Morris Alexander (Oklahoma).

10TH ANNUAL SFT BICYCLE TREK
September 11-October 1, 1999

SFTA SYMPOSIUM
COUNCIL GROVE, KS
September 23-26, 1999

ON THE ROAD WITH THE COMPADRES PROJECT

by Anna Belle Cartwright

(Cartwright, who received a SFTA Award of Merit for her research and publication of the Hinchey Diary in WT, recently retired as museum curator at the National Frontier Trails Center in Independence, MO. She is director of the SFTA Compadres Project. This is her first report on this program.)

THE notion of a survey of museums and interpretive centers on or near the Santa Fe Trail evolved from a November 1997 SFTA Board retreat, where promotion of the Trail in museums was one of the topics. Later, following up on this idea, President Margaret Sears asked me to be the

(continued on page 6)

TRAIL CROSSING MARKERS DEDICATED IN SANTA FE

THE formal dedication of the Trail Crossing Markers in Santa Fe was conducted during the afternoon of July 11, 1999, at the location of one of the markers. SFTA President Margaret Sears, chair of the End of the Trail Chapter Marker Committee, presented Santa Fe Mayor Larry Delgado with a commemorative certificate marking the event. Santa Fe National Historic Trail Superintendent David Gaines, National Park Service Long Distance Trails Group, presented commemoratives to President Sears and Mayor Delgado.

Both presenters stressed the importance of cooperation and commitment on the parts of the City of Santa Fe, represented by Mayor Delgado and Craig Watts of the Public Works Department, the Marker Committee of the End of the Trail Chapter, and the National Park Service. Peggy and Bill Jones, property owners, who have a marker in front of their property and some Santa Fe Trail ruts crossing it, hosted the celebration.



Dedication of Trail Crossing Markers in Santa Fe, July 11, 1999 (note marker at upper right); l to r, back row: Craig Watts, Marc Simmons, and David Gaines; front row: Joyce Remke, Anita Wallmar, Margaret Sears, Larry Delgado, Angie Delgado, Peggy Jones, S. A. Bennett, Bill Jones, Marjorie Greene, and Alex Greene.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

PERHAPS, like me, you collect bits and pieces of "stuff" which are more valuable than trivia, but for which you cannot find immediate use. Yet, if the collection sits too long, its timeliness will pass. My solution—a "President's Potpourri." Thus, this issue's column is devoted to all those tidbits which have been accumulating on my desk.

The first item I pulled from this grab bag is *Confrontation on the Fe Trail*, Leo Oliva editor. This SFTA publication contains proceedings from the 1993 and 1995 symposia. Whether or not you attended those events, you surely will want to add this collection of excellent symposia presentations to your Trail library. Looking at the table of contents, authors include Tom Chávez, Mike Olsen, Harry Myers, Leo Oliva, Benjamin Kracht, Bill Chalfant, Jane Lenz Elder, Ray Schulz, and David Clapsaddle—a veritable who's who of Santa Fe Trail scholars. Last Chance Store has an embarrassingly large supply on hand. The price is only \$10.

National Trails Day is celebrated annually on the first Saturday of June. Hopefully, this is not news to you, and that your chapter has been conducting events over the years. If not, you may want to plan a Trail field trip that day on a regular basis. It can provide a great opportunity to showcase our Trail to the public. If other historic, scenic, and recreational trails groups are located in your area, a joint event may open the door to long term collaboration. National Trails day in 2000 will be June 3. Mark your calendar and start thinking of ways to celebrate our Trail.

Several committees have completed their assignments, and I wish to heartily thank those for the work they have done for all of us. These are Organization Review Task Force, Jane Mallinson, chair, Mike Olsen, Virginia Fisher, Ramon Powers, Leo Oliva, and Marc Simmons, consultant; Nomination Committee, Anne Mallinson, chair, Lolly Ming, Morris Alexander; Symposium/Rendezvous Review Committee, Steve Linderer, chair, Helen Brown, Nancy Lewis. John Schumacher has recently come aboard as Marker

Committee chair. He hit the ground running with plans to continue the dedicated work of his predecessors. Rusti Gardner agreed to administer the Speakers' Bureau. She wrote the bureau policy and procedures, which were sent to the chapters in May.

The SFTA 1998 financial statements appeared with the May *Wagon Tracks*. Should you have any questions, please direct these to Ruth Olson Peters at our Larned office. I wish to call your attention to the term "profit" as used in the Income section. "Profit" is inappropriate in both instances and should be deleted. The income shown in the Symposium line represents gross income *before* expenditures were deducted. As for the printer, "sale of printer" should suffice.

Perusing the Symposium 1999 preliminary program recently received, it is obvious that another memorable experience is in store for us. Year after year the planners consistently find new and intriguing topics tailored to expand our knowledge and pique our curiosity about the Trail (although I am not sure how to characterize "Bloody Bill" alongside all those scholarly lecturers.) If the registration fee appears higher than 1997, you will note that it includes three continental breakfasts and three dinners. My previous visits to Council Grove confirm that those amiable folks will be friends for life when we leave on that last Sunday in September.

One of the privileges appended to this office is to receive the chapter newsletters. Now, I am well aware of the traditionally high caliber of the chapters' programs, but this appears to be a banner year. Would that I could attend each and every one. If you are not joining in your neighboring chapters' meetings, you are missing Trail experiences which may never come again.

As reported in the May *Wagon Tracks*, the Board of Directors approved purchase of directors and officers liability insurance for the SFTA Board and general liability for both national and chapters. We are moving forward but more slowly than expected toward a final decision. It was first necessary to locate a qualified person to review the policies. That was dead in the water when I discovered Craig Crease, a SFTA member

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

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Patron	\$100/year
Institutional	\$40/year
Business	\$40/year
Family	\$30/year
Individual	\$25/year
Youth (18 & under)	\$15/year

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Dave Webb, At-Large
Stephen Whitmore, New Mexico
Deanne Wright, Kansas

from the greater Kansas City area, is an insurance broker. He graciously agreed to provide the necessary expertise. Thus, yet another busy member stepped forward at a time of great need. Thanks, Craig. Now we are waiting to receive modifications to the policies—nothing stays constant for long. Hopefully, by the time you read this, that will be accomplished, and we will be able to wind up this lengthy project.

As impossible as it may seem, this Board term is about to expire. At Council Grove we will say a sad farewell to three valuable directors—our two Daves, Dave Webb, at-large, David Hutchison, Oklahoma, and Deanne Wright, Kansas. It is impossible to properly articulate the contributions they have made and will continue to make, but we know that SFTA is stronger because of them.

The last item in this grab bag is a most important tidbit. Actually, the only reason it is at the end of the missive is that to its sheer weight has plummeted it to the bottom. I am referring to our highly competent national headquarters staff—Ruth Olson Peters and Linda Revello. Without a doubt, they keep SFTA afloat, or metaphorically, sailing down that sea of grass which is much of the Trail. They are not only efficient, but, most importantly, they express genuine concern for our members' needs. It is not possible for us to adequately express our appreciation, but we must never stop trying.

The potpourri basket is empty. See you at the Grove.

—Margaret Sears

JEAN TYREE HAMILTON

Jean Tyree Hamilton, 1909-1999, grew up on the Santa Fe Trail, Lafayette County, Missouri, just east of Tabo Creek crossing. In the 1950s, then living in Saline County, she and her husband Henry platted the route of the Trail in Saline County. They talked with descendants of those who lived along the Trail and identified traces which are now gone.

In the early 1960s Jean wrote *Arrow Rock: Where Wheels Started West*. She served as vice-president of the Friends of Arrow Rock, 1960-1985. According to Kathy Borgman, executive director of the Friends of Arrow Rock, Jean was "simply a

grand and gracious lady in so many ways."

She was a charter member of SFTA. When legislation was proposed in Congress to add the Santa Fe Trail to the National Trails System, Jean promoted the Missouri portion of the Trail. She accompanied the NPS survey team and Gregory Franzwa's mapping expedition through Saline County in 1988.

At the 1989 SFTA Symposium in Santa Fe, Jean received the Award of Merit for Outstanding Achievement. In 1992 she received the distinguished service award from the State Historical Society of Missouri for outstanding contributions to state and local history.

In addition to Trail work, she and her husband were active in the Missouri Archaeology Society and were recognized for their studies and publications of the discoveries of Indian artifacts at Van Meter State Park in Saline County.

Kathy Borgman declared, "no other single individual has done as much for the historical integrity of the Friends of Arrow Rock than Jean Tyree Hamilton." Her work for the Santa Fe Trail was important, too, and she is fondly remembered.

DEDICATION ADDED TO SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

NATIONAL Park Service officials will be on hand at the symposium on Thursday afternoon, September 23, 4:45 p.m. for the dedication of the 10 wayside exhibits in Council Grove that the NPS has designated on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. The dedication will take place on the Neosho Riverwalk near the exhibit for the Neosho River crossing.

Andrea Sharon, interpretive specialist from NPS, and Kathy Snelling of the Council Grove Convention and Visitors Bureau will coordinate the program. The 10 exhibits are the most of any site on the Trail. The exhibits are four feet tall and have full-color interpretive panels that are three feet by two feet.

Two paintings by Charles Goslin are featured on the Council Oak treaty sign and the Campground sign. Goslin's works will be on display in the Symposium Book Store. Everyone attending the symposium is invited to attend this dedication.

SIXTH TRAILS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 12-16

by Ross Marshall

(Former SFTA President Marshall is SFTA representative to the Partnership for the National Trails System.)

THE Sixth Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails will be held at the Zephyr Point Conference Center on Lake Tahoe, September 12-16, 1999. These semi-annual conferences focus on the 20 National long-distance trails, including the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, which comprise the National Trails System.

This Sixth Conference is co-hosted by the Pacific Crest Trail Association, Oregon-California Trail Association, and the Tahoe Rim Trail Association, and each of these trails will be featured in the bus tours offered. Sponsored by the Partnership for the National Trails System and various other groups, including the National Park Service, the theme for the Conference is "Discover the Gold—Full Funding for America's National Trails." Several speakers will address this topic.

Coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the 1849 Gold Rush, the various interactive workshops and plenary sessions will examine how to secure federal, state, and private funding to support trail projects, how to protect trail resources, and how non-profit organizations (like SFTA) can develop more effective strategies in funding.

One or more SFTA members have attended each of the previous five conferences and that will be true this year. If you would like more information write PCTA, 5325 Elkhorn Blvd, Suite 256, Sacramento CA (916-349-1268) or call me at 913-262-6445 or e-mail marshall@gvi.net.

HELP NEEDED TO SAVE SWALES IN KANSAS CITY

A remnant of Trail swales at 85th and Manchester in Kansas City, MO, is being purchased by the Cave Spring Association in order to preserve these ruts. Funds are needed to match a \$10,000 grant to complete this purchase. Donations may be sent to Cave Spring Association, Save the Swales Fund, 8701 E Gregory, Kansas City MO 64133.

WET/DRY CHAPTER WEBSITE EARNS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

LARRY Mix's hard work developing and maintaining the outstanding Wet/Dry Routes Chapter internet website was recently rewarded. The site was selected as a featured page in StudyWeb, one of the best educational resources on the web. The professional staff at StudyWeb select only the finest sites to be included in StudyWeb's reviews. Each site in StudyWeb includes a detailed review describing its merits. The chapter website can now display the prestigious StudyWeb Excellence Award. Congratulations Larry!

The chapter web page is found at <<http://www.stjohnks.net/papagram/wdrindex/wdrindex.html>>. StudyWeb is located at <<http://www.studyweb.com>>. Inclusion on this site will increase the exposure of the Trail around the world.

The Wet/Dry website has averaged 13 hits per day since it has been on the World Wide Web. There have been visitors from throughout the United States and more than 20 foreign countries.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL WET/DRY SEMINAR

THE Wet/Dry Routes Chapter successfully completed its third annual seminar at the Kansas Soldiers Home in Fort Dodge, June 4-5, 1999. An art show was featured Friday evening and remained on display during the programs on Saturday. The work of Jerry Thomas was featured, as well as works by artists Keith Chadd and Bob Button, with works from the collections of Ray Schulz and David Clapsaddle.

The theme of the seminar was "Trading Ranches on the Santa Fe Trail," and speakers David Clapsaddle, Michael Olsen, Leo Oliva, and William Chalfant covered the topic thoroughly and interestingly. Janice Klein made local arrangements. Ida Yeager was in charge of registration. Chapter President Rusti Gardner was mistress of ceremonies. The sessions were well attended and comments were favorable.

The chapter's forthcoming book, *A Directory of Santa Fe Trail Sites*, was unveiled. Orders were taken. See following article for more information.

WET/DRY ROUTES TRAIL DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

THE Wet/Dry Routes Chapter is pleased to announce completion of *A Directory of Santa Fe Trail Sites*. This compilation is the culmination of a ten-year study of various Trail routes in the Wet/Dry area between Fort Larned and Fort Dodge and along the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road that served as the eastern end of Trail traffic during 1867-1868 and as a route for military supply trains until 1873.

Each of the 105 sites included is identified on the original township survey maps that showed the various routes as they appeared in the early 1870s. Each site is also identified by legal description (section, township, and range) and landowner, GPS location, topographical evidence, physical evidence, historic description, and distance as measured from another site as documented by contemporary accounts.

The format is loose-leaf, allowing for easy corrections. Each chapter is paginated by its own numbering system, which will allow for deletions and additions expeditiously.

The *Directory* is replete with historic maps and contemporary and modern photographs, all of which enhance the attractive volume. The price is \$35 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Make checks payable to the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter and mail to Ida Yeager, Sec/Treas, 416 Wichita Ave, Larned KS 67550.

The book may be picked up from David Clapsaddle, saving the shipping charges. Contact him at 215 Mann, Larned KS 67550 or (316) 285-3295.

TRAIL TALES: SEEKING MISSING KANSAS DAR MARKERS

by Shirley Coupal

(SFTA member Shirley Coupal is recording secretary of the Kansas Society Daughters of the American Revolution and chair of the Santa Fe Trail DAR Marker committee.)

DURING the summer of 1996, we had our own version of 42 days on the Trail as we searched for our DAR Santa Fe Trail Markers in Kansas. We were elated, and disappointed, to find all but two. We had set out with reports of as many as ten miss-

ing. We knew the Pierceville Marker was definitely missing. All the previous surveys had stated it was missing prior 1939.

We were not sure where the other one had been misplaced. A little more research located it in Hamilton County. Sure enough, on November 15, 1996, that was where we found it. The only DAR marker on the Aubrey Route of the Santa Fe Trail, it was reset and dedicated September 23, 1997. Mary and Leo Gamble relettered it in May 1998.

Locating the Pierceville Marker was not so easy. More researching and searching, media appeals, and interviewing just about everyone in Pierceville over age 80 proved fruitless. Our last hope was the Finney County newspapers of 1906-1908. Our 1999 Trail trip found us in the wonderful Finney County Historical Society's Research Library. With the help of Olga Montgomery and her staff, we read through the old newspapers and other files of the period.

Glowing accounts told about the markers' arrival, searching for the old Trail, and selecting the sites. Four markers arrived on December 29, 1906. "Old Timers" were enlisted to locate the Trail route. For awhile many did not believe that the Trail through Finney County had been the original route. From the very beginning, the markers were to be placed at Pierceville, on the east county line, at Sherlock, on the west county line, and two in or near Garden City. Right up to the day of the countywide dedications on September 2, 1907, Pierceville was mentioned as one of the marker sites. Reading on through the end of the year we found no reference to the marker being placed elsewhere.

However, we did notice a ruckus over in the County Superintendent's office. Mr. Nichols, who had been influential in procuring the markers for Finney County and having George W. Martin speak at the dedication, had been replaced. Now whether it was because he had been replaced or because a woman had replaced him, we could not discern, but he changed the locks on his office and locked her out. She went to court and regained access to her office. Under these circumstances, it is conceivable to presume she had the marker moved.

Regardless, we deduced where it went. The newspaper accounts never mention Mansfield School as a possible site, nor anything about a fifth marker. A photograph of the Harmony School dedication was included in the 1907 Kansas Historical Society minutes. The marker is still in approximately the same location. A photograph taken at the Sherlock School dedication is on file at the library. This marker, now called the Holcomb Marker, is still on the school grounds. According to local records the marker placed at South Side School, now Fennup Park in Garden City, has never been moved. So it seemed logical that the site not mentioned in the newspapers was where the Pierceville Marker was set prior to the publication of the December 1907 Kansas Historical Society minutes. Those are the minutes which state that five markers were set in Finney County.

We may have solved the mystery of the Pierceville Marker, but we did not find the missing one. All this research has given us some clues; we have our suspicions but are not ready to disclose the location yet.

Other Markers On The Move:

#26, Trail Crossing, has been moved west of Council Grove, back to its original site. It will be rededicated during the Symposium.

#32, Cottonwood Crossing, has been moved closer to the road with space to pull off. Thanks go to the Cottonwood Crossing Chapter SFTA for overseeing this project. They are trying to raise money to have the Marion County and eastern McPherson County Markers relettered, *i.e.*, #31b, School District 90 west of Lost Springs (this is not a DAR Marker); #32, Cottonwood Crossing; #33, Waldeck; #34, Jones Cemetery; #35, Canton; and another one north of Durham (also not a DAR Marker).

#64, Fort Dodge, has been reset at the convergence of the Wet and Dry routes about a mile east of Fort Dodge. It was rededicated on National Trails Day, June 5.

Website:

The Kansas Society DAR now has a website. It is linked to the National Society DAR <www.dar.org> but can be accessed at <<http://www.southwind.net/~cafton/>>.

POST OFFICE OAK

—LETTERS—

Editor:

I am a former member (while resident in Colorado) who read stories out of the publication to my youngest son, Max, several years ago when he was little. Now he is 14 years old and still talks of the Trail and riding it for a few days on horseback, someday. He loved listening to me read to him. I'm sending a check for a membership for him, to keep alive his love of the Trail.

Charles Cashion
336 Everhard Rd SW
North Canton OH 44709

What a wonderful thing to do. We hope to see Max riding the Trail someday.

Editor

Editor:

I want you to know that, for my work in revising Marc Simmons's *Following the Santa Fe Trail: A Guide for Modern Travelers*, *Wagon Tracks* is indispensable. So much has been done on the SFT since Marc wrote the book, and it's all in WT. Hats off to you and the contributors. Gracias.

Hal Jackson
45 Calle del Norte
Placitas NM 87043



CONVERSE OF THE PRAIRIES

—BOOK NOTICES—

Dave Webb, *Santa Fe Trail Adventures*. Dodge City: Kansas Heritage Center, 1999. Maps, illustrations, activities, projects. Paper, \$7.95.

The best just got better. This is an expanded and revised edition of what was *Adventures with the Santa Fe Trail* (1989 & 1993). It remains the finest Trail book available for teachers and kids of all ages. It belongs in every school library and middle school classroom. Anyone can learn a lot about the Trail from this excellent and delightful book.

Hans von Sachsen-Altenburg and Laura Gabiger, with an introduction by Stephanie Kearny. *Winning the*

West: General Stephen Watts Kearny's Letter Book, 1846-1847. Boonville, MO: Pekitanoui Publications, 1998. Pp. Vi + 321. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, participants' journals. Cloth, \$59.00.

As a serious student and admirer of Stephen Watts Kearny, I find this book quite disappointing. I began historical research on the First Regiment of Dragoons while at Fort Scott, KS. During the period of Fort Scott, Kearny was the colonel of the First Dragoons and at times the commander of the Third Military Department which covered much of the western frontier. It quickly became apparent that Kearny was not only an excellent commander of the troops in his department but a skillful manager of the Indian peoples and settlers along the contentious frontier that he was responsible for.

Having clashed with John C. Fremont in California (Kearny arrested him in fact), Kearny was in turn retaliated against by Fremont's powerful father-in-law, Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri. Since then Kearny has been dismissed, ignored, or chastised. Dwight Clarke wrote Kearny's biography, published by the University of Oklahoma Press in 1961. It is a good but now somewhat dated biography. It was with pleasure then that I received an e-mail requesting permission to use some letters from Kearny to another dragoon officer from the U.S. Military Academy Library that I had transcribed and given to Stephanie Kearny. I was pleased that a new work on Kearny was in progress.

But it was with disappointment that I received the final product. The book is comprised of four parts: (1) a brief biography and genealogy of Kearny by his great (several times) grand-daughter, Stephanie; (2) a history of Europe, Mexico, and the United States and their interaction and motives leading up to the Mexican War, with an overview of Kearny command of the Army of the West in the invasion of New Mexico and California; (3) a transcription of Kearny's Letter Book from May 27, 1846, to September 21, 1847; and (4) a number of unrelated letters from and to Kearny and others from a variety of sources.

David J. Weber, in his books and the PBS special program on the Mex-

ican War, provides thought-provoking analysis of the causes and factors leading to the Mexican War. Instead of trying to rewrite that history, in the second section, a better service could have been done by introducing the reader to Kearny, the Army of the West, and the Letter Book that follows. Why was Kearny chosen to lead this invasion force? Who were the troops that made up the Army of the West? The answers to these and other questions could provide insight into the invasion and occupation of Santa Fe.

The Letter Book suffers from lack of context. There is no explanation in any of the notes to the Letter Book. They just deal with the orthography of the original manuscript. As such, the Letter Book does not tell the complete story of the invasion, nor does it give insight into Kearny and how he handled the invasion.

The final section of additional letters has no context at all, no explanatory notes, and little relevance that is explained in the book. One wonders if all of these letters were included only because they bore the name Kearny or, in some mysterious way, related to Kearny.

Mistakes abound. A few representative examples must suffice. On page 92 a portion of a voucher is reproduced. The signature of John Hatcher, famed mountain man (Jno. L. Hatcher), is transcribed as "Ino. S. Hatchin." On page 105 and following there is a discussion of the Battle of San Pasqual and the Army's cannons. However, there is no mention that these were mountain howitzers, a particular type of cannon. Pages 114 and 115 discuss bounty land and speculate that a land deed in 1877 from Mary Kearny to her son Clarence was military bounty land awarded to Stephen Watts Kearny. A simple check with the National Archives would have revealed whether Kearny received land-bounty warrant or not and whether indeed it was in Kansas or not. Pages 261 and 262 bear the initials of I.M.N. The correct initials are J.M.P. for James M. Porter, who was then the Secretary of War. On Page 255 the "National Library" is noted as containing RG (Record Group) 94. There is no "National Library" and Record Group 94 is in the National Archives. Mistakes ruin any credibility this book may

have and reveal that little or no original research was done in support of the contents.

Look at this book in a library and take with a grain of salt, or other documentation, any fact or point of interest that might catch your fancy. The book is too expensive to purchase, especially since one cannot rely absolutely on the information contained therein.

—Harry C. Myers

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Kathleen Ann Cordes, *America's National Historic Trails*, photographs by Jane Lammers. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1999. Pp. Xii + 370. Maps, illustrations, appendix, bibliography, index. Paper, \$19.95.

This attractive and well-written volume covers the 12 National Historic Trails, including the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, pp. 104-129. The section on the Santa Fe Trail utilizes recent scholarship and, despite a few errors, provides a good overview. Information on the Bent brothers and Kit Carson is weak.

Travelers planning to follow any of the National Historic Trails will find this volume a good place to start. Direction to more detailed sources is included.

• • • • •
Harriet Freiburger, *Lucien Maxwell: Villain or Visionary*. Santa Fe: Sunstone Press, 1999. Pp. 160. Maps, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. Paper, \$14.95.

Lucien Maxwell and the Maxwell Land Grant in northeastern New Mexico were closely associated with Santa Fe Trail history. Maxwell's settlements at Rayado and Cimarron were on the Mountain Route. His empire is well known.

Freiburger looks at the man, whom she obviously admires, and writes a favorable biography. Where some saw greed and duplicity, she sees resourcefulness and generosity. She builds a case that he was a visionary, not a villain. Maxwell was a remarkable man, but the bias in his favor in this book goes beyond the objectivity historians seek in evaluating powerful figures.

The facts and documentation are sound, but the selection process began with a self-proclaimed desire to defend Maxwell. Another annoyance, besides the adoration, is the tendency to fill space with extrane-

ous information about what was happening in the nation during the same era that Maxwell was doing his thing in New Mexico. Such information does not enhance but detracts from an understanding of the subject.

Despite these shortcomings, this volume contains a brief, basic biography of Maxwell and his times that general readers may enjoy. It should stimulate them to want to know more, always a good thing in the field of history.

COMPADRES PROJECT

(continued from page 1)

museum liaison, and we discussed some ideas for opening dialogs with Trail museums. It seemed to me that the first goal should be to learn just what facilities do exist along or near the Trail. I sent a rough blueprint for a survey to Margaret and during the summer we dubbed it "Compadres," shaped it with goals, and gave it substance with a questionnaire.

The prime objectives are to make friends, create an awareness of the Trail, and exchange materials and information. Where that awareness already exists, or the Trail is the reason for being, we will attempt to strengthen the liaison. Reports and a museum list in a booklet or brochure form will be final products. Virginia Fisher, David Clapsaddle, John Conoboy, David Hutchison, and Sam Arnold, along with various directors, lent their expertise in helping to pinpoint 47 museums near the Trail. The game plan was to send the questionnaire first, then follow up with a phone call and make an appointment to visit. By mid-August 1998, an operational plan with a time line for visits was developed and in September the board of directors, meeting in Larned, approved the plan.

The landscape of the Santa Fe Trail creates natural divisions, both geographic and demographic, useful for the purposes of this report and planning the travel itinerary. To the areas of woodlands and river, plains, and mountains, I added another category, the Greater Kansas City Area. This area offers trail-related museums that could be surveyed on rainy or snowy days in between traveling. The drives out from K.C. would be day-trips, but starting from Larned there would be two separate

trips of week-long overnights.

WOODLANDS AND RIVER COUNTRY

We had much rain in October and I prayed for a few sunny days as the first questionnaires began to come in. Here are excerpts from a letter sent to Margaret Sears on November 14, 1998:

Oct. 30th presented itself as a perfectly gorgeous day, the kind which would guarantee the success of any endeavor. It was an ideal time for driving to Arrow Rock, so husband Joseph and I started out with high hopes.

Kathy Borgman, Executive Director of the Friends of Arrow Rock Inc., turned out to be just the right person for the first visit. She and the Friends have done a marvelous job of marshaling nearly everyone in town, including students, to serve as guides and volunteers to accommodate 100,000 visitors a year. She was very tuned in to our tour and said that one of her visions is to create a scenic drive from New Franklin to Independence, partly using Hy 24. Funding is not so much a problem as some of the small towns along the way being worried about traffic, but the greatest need is for a coordinator or strong backer to see the plan through.

Later in the afternoon I visited with Supt. Michael Dickey at the State Visitor's Center. He is currently seeking a grant to research black culture in Arrow Rock, where at one time 50% of the residents were black. Wouldn't it be great to locate some black teamsters or traders? At the Visitor's Center I saw a small but quality exhibit on the SFT and a temporary exhibit of black dolls, some of which have permanent tears.

A few cold, rainy days later, I was commiserating with a Historical Society trio in New Franklin, so eager to see me and so dedicated, but unable to keep their Information Center open with consistence. The conversation came round to quilts and I mentioned just having seen a beautiful quilt in Booneville at the Historic Cooper County Jail. Not to be outdone, they referred me to a Howard County quilt maker extraordinaire! Competition seems to be healthy in that area. Later, Herb Niebrugge took me to the markers near the Missouri River and we stood on the Katy Trail in the rain while he pointed out the exact location of old Franklin town square. On Sat., Nov. 7 we went back to Howard County to find Ruth Frey in the hills and 'hollers' north of New Franklin. She showed us her Santa Fe Trail Anniversary quilt. The pattern was one she had found in a 1932 magazine, *Hard Times*. On the counterpane, the piecework trails, in browns, reds or greens, crisscrossed each other, grid fashion, over a cream colored

field. Ruth has made trunks full of quilts over the years, selling or raffling them, and has donated at least \$10,000 in proceeds to the New Franklin Historical Society.

Also on Saturday we saw Roger Slusher at Lexington, Mo. The spire of the (old) Methodist church marks the site of the Lexington Museum. Roger was just beginning a cleaning and restoration of the church interior. His displays, arranged in themes, are neat, clean and well labeled. A special panel documented the Santa Fe Trail. Portraits of home-town-boys, Russell and Waddell, looked down on us as Roger gave a great mini-Lafayette Co. history and told us of a \$20,000 grant received, to mark a city trail auto route.

These first five visits have been good for learning about pacing myself, keeping an eye out for unusual material, developing good repartee and spotting local political situations to avoid. So far, all the questionnaires that I have sent out have been returned. I decided not to send them all at once, but closer to the time (within 6 weeks) of the visit.

THE GREATER KANSAS CITY AREA

Upriver from Lexington, Fort Osage sits high on a bluff. It is a reproduction of the early fur-trade factory and fort, planned by William Clark and built there in 1809. The factor was George Sibley, now remembered as surveyor of the Santa Fe Trail in 1825-1826 and treaty negotiator for a passage through Indian lands at Council Grove in 1825. Today, as America gears up for the bicentennial of Lewis and Clark's explorations, County Director Gordon Julich sets the Fort Osage course to participate in the celebration along with other groups along the Missouri River.

Independence is home to the National Frontier Trails Center, operated by the City and owned by the State of Missouri. It was founded by concerned citizens, among them Jane Mallinson and the late Polly Fowler, who understood the need for such a facility in a town that received hundreds of inquiries about emigrants and wagon trains. The museum tells the history of the three trails that at one time left from Independence and also designates Independence as an "outfitting town."

Recent exhibit additions include the Mormon Trail and a good-sized exhibit on Lewis and Clark and the fur traders. In addition to a gift shop and auditorium, the Merrill Mattes

Library and Research Center serves many historians and students. Feeling "hard times" right now, Director John Mark Lambertson and Friends Board President Nancy Lewis have been working to fulfill the original plan of installing an elevator so that the second-story space can be made available for quality use. Since the Center's opening in 1990, the staff has been gradually cut from nine to three full-time employees who now wear many hats to deal with 25,000 visitors per year.

The 1859 Jail Museum and Marshal's Home in Independence, parented by the Jackson County Historical Society, owns more Trail artifacts and historical clothing than anyone around. The museum is directed now by Joe Kelley whom I found working on an unusual "I'll be home for Christmas" exhibit featuring uniforms from three or four wars. Joe very definitely needs volunteers and works very hard to stretch himself over the director's territory. Lack of space at the museum is balanced by a plan for more programming of events.

There are a number of smaller museums in Kansas City which stay alive through their supporters and dedicated volunteers. They all have the Trail in common.

In 1848, when William Ray bought land seven miles southwest of Independence, he leased it to Santa Fe traders for pasturing horses, mules, and oxen. Being himself an excellent blacksmith, Ray plied his trade on the site where the Trail jogs east-west, now the heart of Raytown. There is still a blacksmith shop there, but it is a fine exhibit in the Raytown Historical Society Museum. The little Museum has some growing to do, but it has much potential, a few forward-looking members, and an endowment.

Not far away is Cave Springs. During its checkered past, it was a country club and golf course, many think it was the eight-mile camp site of the Trail (eight miles out of Independence). For years this nature center has displayed Trail-related items and a big map of the SFT. Cave Springs, run by Susan Walsh and her board, has taken on the task of buying a section of Trail swale about ten blocks south. A Kansas City grant for \$8,000 has helped to move

the fund along toward the \$15,000 purchase price.

In the south part of the city is the large, white 1855 Alexander Majors House. Artifacts inside help to tell the story of Majors as a freighter on all the trails. Russell, Majors and Waddell had their offices in Leavenworth, KS, since much of their army freight business came from Fort Leavenworth.

Most travelers coming out of Westport as early as 1841 found that the Santa Fe Trail passed right through the Shawnee Methodist Indian Mission grounds. The three buildings have not changed much since that time. Supt. Lee Wright discusses the state financing, "We are short of help from a budget cut and I'm doing the maintenance now," he says. Despite setbacks, Lee and his wife Pat manage to produce several festivals a year on the Mission's spacious grounds with lecture series or craft workshops in its well kept brick buildings.

The Wednesday Magazine is a publication that serves the southwest parts of Kansas City. Intrigued by the idea of the "Compadres Project," writer Ann Vernon interviewed me and we focused on Santa Fe Trail Museums that could be used as summer day-trips out of the city. Here are excerpts from part of the article covering three museums in the area.

Cartwright's work picks up near Olathe at Mahaffie House, a Historic Farmstead and Stage Coach Stop right on the Santa Fe Trail. In the near future, the site will add livestock to enhance the farm and will add a new interpretive center on the east side.

"Every other little town has the word Museum spotted on the map, especially in Kansas," Cartwright said. "I found places I didn't know about, like the 'Old Castle' at Baker University in Baldwin City. Built in 1858, it was the first college in Kansas. The three-story stone building, stood alone in the prairies, you could see it for miles. One diarist called it a 'Site to behold.' The Old Castle was recently gutted, floors were rebuilt and walls were replastered in a \$200,000 restoration. When I was there, many of the items were in storage, except for a few whips and yokes. It was exciting to discover that 30% of their holdings relate to the trail. Energetic Curator Brenda Day whipped off her work apron and took us to Black Jack Park to see swales and I stood on the famous 'Narrows' damp ground and watched my feet sink slowly down-

ward."

One of Cartwright's most exciting finds on her hunt for museums is the Lanesfield School and Interpretive Center just beyond Edgerton, Ks.

"It sits on the grounds the Santa Fe Trail went through," she said. "As late as 1867 children could look out and see the wagon trains going by. The Interpretive Center is a little gem, just perfect in every way. The displays are done well by Johnson County Museums, and stay focused on the one room school. Exhibit artifacts are changed regularly. They cover really fun subjects like gifts the children gave the teacher or what the well dressed school marm might wear. Tracy Steits, who was playing school marm that day, reminded me to visit the restrooms for a pleasant surprise (architectural elevations of a two-holer on the wall) and pointed out the graded prairie walk that leads to the Santa Fe ford of Bull Creek."

WOODLANDS TO HIGH PLAINS-KANSAS

On a cold, windy day at the Kaw Mission in Council Grove, we sat hunched over cups of hot tea while Deanne Wright described her visitor orientation: "I give them the story of the Kansa tribe, then a map talk that describes the tall grass prairie region of the Flint hills, the naming of Council Grove, a video and an orientation to the SFT using the National Park Service map, which I open out to show each person. When they leave, I ask them what direction they are going, then suggest other sites that they could visit." With this kind of personal attention, is it any wonder that visitors to the Kaw Mission have been increasing by 1,000 per year, and half of them by word of mouth!

The Santa Fe Trail Center at Larned is one of the most important museums on the Trail because so much space is devoted to telling the Santa Fe Trail story. It interprets the entire geographic region of the Trail from prehistoric days to the commercial era, including settlement. Ruth Olson Peters wants the Center to become the best that it can be and in a "walk through," pointed out areas that need refurbishing. Funding is a major need at this time and Ruth writes grants diligently.

A few miles away, at Fort Larned National Historic Site, George Elmore referred us to a large new exhibit, the enlisted men's barracks and the kitchen. Everything is prop-

erly worn and aged to look realistic, even the men who, frozen in time, are portrayed during their leisure, writing letters, playing cards, or just loafing. This kind of exhibit is very hard to do and they have done it well. Supt. Steve Linderer talked about long-range plans for another building containing SFT, Indian, and military exhibits, with a new foot bridge across the Pawnee River.

Museums of the 1700s and 1800s were often the private collections of noblemen and wealthy patrons of the arts and sciences. It was a matter of prestige to show off curiosities and unusual collections all at one time, in what is the equivalent of a huge trophy room. Today, the concept of everything shown at once is still seen in many museums visited. At least five of them near the Trail in Kansas reflect the settlement, growth, and agrarian nature of their communities through objects of everyday or special-day use: Barton Co. Museum in Great Bend; Edwards Co. Museum in Kinsley; Stevens Co. Gas and Historical Museum in Hugoton; Kearny Co. Museum in Lakin. The museum in Ingalls, Ks. was closed the day we were there. Two others were included in our grasslands tour, the Cimarron Heritage Center in Boise City, OK, and the Herstein Museum in Clayton, NM.

These museums serve a purpose in the community and often have a social role too. My main interest was to see how many of these places reflected the Trail as part of their heritage. At the Barton Co. complex, Director Beverly Komarek pointed out their SFT literature and handed me a copy of their new SFT video, *Long Day's Journey*, made in cooperation with the Barton Co. Community College. She told us of an upcoming 30' by 60' addition to the museum, funded locally. I spotted a small diorama of the Plum Buttes area by Bob Button and thought that it would be even better if done in a larger scale.

At the Kinsley museum there was a table display of Trail artifacts with good biographical text by David Clapsaddle. Kudos to David for sharing this material with the public and doing it so well.

At Lakin, Pat Heath gave us the grand tour of the Kearny Co. Museum and I was delighted to see aerial photos of the SFT as well as a

Conestoga wagon in very good condition. The makins' are there for an expanded SFT exhibit. All three of the above museums have many other historic buildings on their grounds.

Approximately 70 miles of the Trail traverse the northern part of Cimarron Co., OK. The Cimarron Heritage Center sponsors tours of this section annually, on the first Saturday of October. In addition to a "Life on the Trail" exhibit, there is a short video showing Trail sites. Director Phyllis Randolph and SFTA Director Morris Alexander were hosts during our visit.

Our travel plans included going as far as Clayton, NM, from Boise City, then returning to Elkhart, KS. The Union County Historical Society in Clayton governs the Herstein Museum. The sturdy gray stone church bears the name of its donor and accommodates the kind of space that other museums would envy. Curator Sue Richardson comments, "We have always wanted a quality Santa Fe Trail display but don't have funds available." She goes on to say that the facility's greatest need is, "Money and new ideas."

We found a great mix of museum exhibit concepts, the old and new and some that are undergoing a change of face. Three such places in Kansas are the Coronado Quivira Museum in Rice Co., the Morton Co. Museum in Elkhart, and the Grant Co. Museum in Ulysses. One of the things that they all have in common is a backing from their community and strong leadership, someone in charge that has a good sense of direction for the museum and its story. At Coronado Quivira, Director Janel Cook has an advantage by having a built-in major theme for the museum, with collections to back it up. Moreover, she has some great help in the form of SFTA members and local volunteers.

A May 3, 1999, report to Margaret Sears discusses the Elkhart, Ulysses, and Hugoton museums:

In Elkhart, Helen Brown has a lot of energy to give. Open to new ideas, she is quick to spot opportunities for the museum. They are in the process of having a buffalo specimen mounted and are planning to put him in his own corner with a mural behind him, not far from the wagon, with its mural. On April 22nd we enjoyed being at a Ham and

Bean Dinner there, an annual occasion for a touring RV group. What a clever way to boost attendance!

Another pleasurable visit was to the Grant Co. Museum in Ulysses. Board member, Jeff Trotman and Curator Ginger Anthony took us to a Rotary lunch that was warm and friendly. A woman seated at an upright piano played, "In a Country Garden" and a few other selections which I haven't heard for years. The rest of the program was a video by a preacher turned comedian. For the Grant Co. Museum expansion, they have found a man who is a talented carpenter, Phil Hammond, and another man who is a muralist, Larry Britton. They have been designing, building, and painting new exhibits for the whole museum. Larry and Phil are doing a good job with the interpretive exhibits, all relating to each other in style. The four seem to be working well together and are getting a lot accomplished. They would benefit from NPS certification.

Later, on the same day, we received a rousing send off from the Hugoton Gas and History Museum when Curator Gladys Renfro hopped into a Victorian Parlor exhibit and began to play a turn-of-the-century Sears and Roebuck pump organ. The concert began with, "Shall We Meet at the River" and ended with "Roll Out the Barrel." There was a lot of music that day.

From Gladys Renfro and board member, Marjorie Persinger we heard the same complaint that we have heard from every other county historical museum. "We are running out of space and don't know where we'll put anything more."

A couple of very important expansions are noteworthy. Both the McPherson Museum in McPherson and the Boot Hill Museum in Dodge City have plans on the drawing board for some major building. David Flask, administrator of the McPherson Museum writes in his questionnaire: "We are working on plans for a new facility which would be centrally located and possibly combine an art and history museum. Our current location (the 1920 Vaniman Mansion) will be retained and developed as a period house museum/rental facility. The new museum will allow us to present the complete story of our area and would include the Santa Fe Trail. Staffing would also increase at that time. Tentative plans call for breaking ground in 2000." A non-profit foundation has raised a good part of the three million dollars

needed.

Boot Hill Curator David Kloppenborg writes of the future Dodge City expansion: "We are planning a major capital campaign to rejuvenate the existing facilities and build a new building which will house ticket gate, museum store, and first-class steak house. When we build the new building, the existing museum store will be converted into exhibit space. We plan on moving buggies and wagons into this location as well as expand on the Santa Fe Trail exhibit. The exhibit we have now is very cursory."

The museum also owns 143 acres west of town that contain swale remnants from the Santa Fe Trail. With NPS assistance, signs and walkways have been added to the site. The well accredited Boot Hill Museum lists among its employees 10 full-time and 250 part-time staff.

Probably the newest Museum near the Trail is the Stauth in Montezuma, KS, a memorial to world travelers and collectors, Claude and Donald Stauth. The three-year-old brick building is a refreshing sight on the prairies, and travel exhibits inside are professionally designed. Curator Kim Legleiter is handing out Santa Fe Trail and National Trail brochures and writing for more.

Two other Kansas museums not too far from the Trail are a "must see." At Salina, the Smoky Hill Museum, a former U.S. post office with a \$700,000 renovation, presents a sparkling clean image for visitors. A talk with Curator Ann Deegan leaves no doubt that the Museum is in good hands. At the Kauffman Museum in Newton an exceptionally good exhibit design team has done beautiful exhibitions of local history with some innovative, hands-on aspects. Seeing this fine work is worth driving out of the way.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS-COLORADO

It seemed that almost as soon as we entered the State of Colorado, we began to see signs with Kit Carson's name on them and continued to do so all the way to Santa Fe. We were becoming more knowledgeable about him all the while too.

Just outside Las Animas is Boggsville, an early community on the Trail that had served as a trading

point on the Mountain Route. As we walked along the reclaimed pathways on the site, markers gave us an idea of the layout of the settlement. Two adobe houses have been restored, with furnishings in one. There we found Resident Archeologist Richard Carrillo, and we sat at a table in one of the nine rooms and felt the cool air from a breeze-way of the L-shaped house. In an old 1870s lithograph of the site, Richard pointed out the small house where Kit Carson had lived just prior to his death. That day he was preparing for an archeological field school for college students, arriving soon from Colorado Springs. He showed interest in the Compadres Project, and we traded brochures. His were stacks of shiny new ones. "Women of Boggsville," was hot off the press. Mine, collected across Missouri and Kansas, were stored in boxes in the trunk of the car.

The Kit Carson Museum, open seasonally, is a site in Las Animas that had been a German Prisoner of War Camp during WW II. In the long, low building, the cubicles to the right and left of a center hall lend a convenient, thematic order to the items of yesteryear. Other historic buildings have been moved to the same site. Perhaps the most sobering thing to be seen was a reconstructed gallows across from a small jail. It commemorates the first hanging in Colorado that happened in this century.

At Bent's Old Fort we saw a new aspect of the restored fur-trading post. In a secured metal building on the grounds, Curator Nancy Russell is at war with the insect world. Miller moths, webbing clothes moths, domestic and carpet beetles are among her enemies. Beetles that live in furs are freeze dried. "I can get three buffalo robes in that freezer," she says, pointing to a unit near the door. "The moths are especially bad this year due to the rains and they have been eating textiles at the Fort." A new, wool felt 6' X 12' billiard table cover had to be ordered from England (since in the U.S. only synthetic fiber ones of that size are available). Generations of carpet beetles, ensconced between the blocks of wood that formed the billiard table surface, had eaten through the wool in a perfect grid

pattern. She has offered to help other area curators identify their insect pests since not all pests respond to freeze drying. Nancy pulled open drawers containing shards of English china, wine bottles from France, and beads from Italy, all from digs at the site. "It's an international story," she says.

She continues, "here are parts of the original telescope found at the base of the tower. Later a local woman brought in at least a third more of it!" What's for dinner in 1846? The bones of bygone meals salvaged from two Bent's Fort garbage dumps will tell you.

On June 15 we arrived at the Santa Fe Trail Museum in Trinidad, behind the Hough-Baca House in a long, low adobe structure once used as living quarters for ranch hands and other Baca workers. Excellent museum exhibits, beautifully done, interpret area history from the days of the Santa Fe Trail to Trinidad's development as a thriving trade and cultural center. An opening centerpiece features Kit Carson's knee-length deerskin coat. Praise goes to Director Paula Manini, and some who were there before her, for curating such a fine exhibition.

While in Colorado I learned of two museums I had missed, The Big Timber, in Lamar, and the Otero Museum in La Junta. Apologies to all concerned.

UNA HERENCIA NUEVO MEXICANA

Overlooking a very long stretch of Trail is the National Park Service Capulin Volcano. Park Ranger Alison Mathis at the interpretive center showed us references to the Trail in the park's exhibit texts and in their bookstore. We drove to the top. The view to the southwest was spectacular. The landscape of the volcanic fields, in pale golds and beiges, was so unreal they looked painted.

At the southern base of Raton Pass is the City of Raton. It developed in the 1880s as a railroad and mining town, but the small museum there did have some SFT related items: a group of arrowheads found on the Trail and a heating stove that belonged to Richens "Uncle Dick" Wootton, who in 1865 opened a toll road over the pass.

Moving south along I-25 we arrived in Springer. We had lunch with

Dr. Michael Taylor of the Santa Fe Trail Museum. We met at El Taco, a pleasant restaurant with real flowers on the tables, and tried the local posole. The museum has recently been awarded a sizable grant to develop an interpretive museum. Taylor discussed plans for a center that would truly reflect its title. Springer, also a town developed after the Trail era, has very little in the current museum that deals with the Trail. The plan is to develop a floor of the Colfax County Courthouse as a SFT Interpretive Museum. Landscaping the courthouse grounds is also included in the scheme.

Cimarron offers many sites and such beautiful country in which to see them. The Philmont Museums as well as the whole Boy Scout Ranch with outlying camps is an impressive system. Since we had accommodations nearby, we enjoyed having occasions to drive along the tree-lined avenue with its shady walking paths. The adobe Seton Library and Philmont Museum are just off this avenue. We were there at the peak of the season. The gift shop, just inside the entrance doors, was doing a brisk business; people waited in line to buy. Director Steven Zimmer told us that the gift shop makes enough to support two of the museums, and when I asked him about his formula for success, he said, "Buy value."

Seven miles south of Cimarron is Rayado, another Philmont Museum. This one committed to living-history, was once the wilderness home of landowner Lucien Maxwell and Kit Carson. This site, being near the Trail and also subject to Indian attacks, sometimes had military escorts based there. It was built in Mexican hacienda style of the 19th century. We went in through large double doors and the first thing to catch the eye (and the ear) were chirping barn swallows, swooping and diving in their own orbit around the center courtyard. We walked through the contiguous rooms around the same courtyard, escorted by Kevin Gullledge, a seasonal student from Utah.

Nothing had prepared us for the amazing variety or value of artifacts and curiosities that were inside the three-story Old Aztec Mill Museum in Cimarron. The mill had been built by the prospering Maxwell in 1864 to

supply flour for Fort Union and Ute and Apache Indians. It is now owned by C S Cattle Company and operated by the Cimarron Historical Society. In the basement were the giant and beautiful wooden mill works themselves, like giant sculptures, a couple of doors from the town's Catholic church leaned against the wall nearby, to form a gothic arch, and tools for shaping wood and iron were displayed in the basement. There was a case of Indian moccasins, one had been left behind by an Apache raider, small trade beads from the mountain man era, firearms, saddles and whips, a chuck wagon with all its accouterments, a printing press, silver service, framed documents, and a mounted two-headed calf (the third seen on the tour). Upstairs are several generations of china from the St. James hotel and a hexagonal poker table with trays for chips. In a corner was the two-foot-long shoe of 1930s giant Robert Wadlow, and to keep it company a life-size portrait of Tom Thumb. We sat on a bench outside the mill with owner Les Davis of C. S. Cattle Co. He is the grandson of Frank Springer, brilliant lawyer and philanthropist who worked for Lucien Maxwell. Les told us stories of the mill and of the area. He himself is connected to Cimarron's history and is an ongoing part of it.

We drove to Mora to the St. Vrain Roller Mill (also a supplier of Fort Union) but hadn't counted on the winding roads and the rain and missed our appointment there. The drive was worth the trip.

They were making a movie in Las Vegas, "All the Pretty Horses," and were also blocking the way to our motel. Finally the giant cranes lumbered down the street. The movie company had swelled the town so it was difficult to get reservations for dinner, anywhere! Melanie LaBorwit, new at the museum, explained her schedule for upcoming and long-range plans. A carpenter was building an exhibit front at the back of the long museum hall while Melanie was trying to talk with a lot of people at once. A person with tremendous energy, she has a tremendous job ahead of her. I promised to write a letter to the mayor and city manager in support of the museum.

We drove to San Miguel del Vado to see the church and meet Ray Val-

dez, a leader of the Citizen's Committee for Historic Preservation in Las Vegas. His group has just published an attractive walking-tour booklet and, moreover, have received grant money to create an interpretive exhibit of the impact of the SFT on ethnic cultural groups of Las Vegas. He was looking for a building in Las Vegas to house the exhibit. He invited us for lunch at The Sad Café in San Miguel. We dined on homemade bread with freshly-made goat's cheese and homemade tomato soup, exceptional! The chipotle soup with cheese looked tempting, but too pisco for me.

A late afternoon visit with Supt. Duane Alire at Pecos National Historic Park again reflected the great courtesy of NPS employees. He talked of sending a couple of his volunteers to the SFTA Symposium and told us about a field school the next day for students of Andover Academy, joined with Indian students of Jemez Pueblo. The students would hear and see talks on native plants on the grounds, in association with the Native Plant Society in Las Vegas. The site is also responsible for swale interpretation in the area and for the Glorieta battle area.

Santa Fe was close now, and we hurried to be there, bone weary. Since our budget did not allow for motels for eight nights, we arranged with various compadres to stay in homes while in Santa Fe. I stayed with Margaret Sears and her overwhelmingly friendly dog, Lance; Joe with old Kansas City friends.

Next morning, bright and early, Margaret and I went to the crowded administrative offices of the Palace of the Governors to see Acting Director Charles Bennett. We were intrigued by a white scale-model of the Palace with extensions. Bennett explained that we were looking at a plan for a \$30 million dollar annex that will extend the crowded quarters of the history museum. The roofs of the annex which extends north from the Palace will have a stair-stepped appearance. One aspect of the plan includes the display of 90% of the collections in a "visible storage" concept (a technique used in some larger museums to augment overcrowded storerooms, where collections may be shown like books in a library, without interpretation, on

glassed-in shelving). The "when?" aspect of this expansion may hinge on a bill being introduced in Congress this fall or early next year. Of our visit with him he says, "The Trail is important to us, and we hope to be doing more with it." He goes on to say, "My two favorite history journals are, *Southwest Mission Research Journal* and *Wagon Tracks*. I always read them." That same day, we stopped by the NPS office to talk with David Gaines about Compadres, and then Margaret and I drove back and forth around the eastern part of town to see Trail swales.

Harry Myers was having a strenuous two days at Fort Union during our visit there. Hosting an open house at the fort's earliest site one day and hosting a tour bus of botanists the next day, he sandwiched our visit in between the two, early on a Sunday morning. We had spent the night in empty quarters there. We had good talk, especially about the whole Compadres program, and good coffee too. We went with him to inspect the fort's artifact collection and saw that the end of the storage room was devoted to bottles—bottles for beer, bitters, brandy and wine, bottles for pickles and pepper sauce, simple, round medicine bottles and cocaine too. Harry brings the bottles out of storage on special occasions and asks bottle experts to come and interpret them to the public. Also, there we saw officers' fancy china and enough square nails to rebuild some of the old areas. As his botanists appeared, we started for our car and home with Harry's words in mind, "Lighten up!"

A great many people have helped in the Compadres Project. For making it possible to complete the last two-thirds of the tour, a Cost-Share Program bequest from the National Park Service has been of great assistance. There has been support and interest from David Gaines, John Conoboy, and Andrea Sharon of the Southwestern Trails office. The SFTA headquarters in Larned has had the fun of tracking all the debits and credits. Kudos to Linda and Ruth. Here's to Margaret Sears, who has given support and encouragement, every step of the way. A big "Thank you" goes to all the museum personnel who took time out from busy days to participate in Compa-

dres and to those who fed us and slept us. A special thanks to Joe, my husband, who as designated assistant, moved boxes of brochures and suitcases twice a day, did more than his share of driving, and was able to bring his own expertise into many interviews. Thanks to daughter Jessie for watering the flowers and checking the house while we were gone.

I would like to have snapshots, but I'm leaving these images instead: the awed faces of Boy Scouts crammed into a doorway, looking up at the bullet holes in the ceiling of the St. James Hotel; the Elkhart Ambassadors Club all decked out in their snappy black and white uniforms, jackets and hats adorned with shiny medals and buttons; an exhibit with a woman mannequin all dressed up with an outdated expression and attached to an electric chair while holding the headpiece in her lap; and iron crosses made of mule shoes in Cimarron's Mountain View Cemetery where wild flowers grow in gaudy profusion and compete with fading silk bouquets.

TRAIL TROUBADOUR

—TRAFFIC IN VERSE—

Sandra M. Doe, Editor

This column seeks quality poetry that demonstrates authentic emotion, original images, and skill in craftsmanship. Poetry, in open or closed form, which addresses the history, realism, romance, and diversity of the Trail should be sent to Sandra M. Doe, Dept. Of English, Campus Box 32, Metropolitan State College of Denver, PO Box 173362, Denver CO 80217-3362.

Mark L. Gardner submitted "The Trail of Santa Fe," by Harry E. Reiseberg, which was published in *The Trail Magazine* (January 1918, printed in Denver by the Society of Sons of Colorado). It is written in trochaic tetrameter. Its rhythms echo the famous poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow entitled "The Song of Hiawatha," first published in October 1855. Given Longfellow's popularity, some prairie travelers might have carried a volume of "The Song of Hiawatha" with them.

Longfellow's influence surely extended to the poetry of Harry E. Reiseberg, publishing his work thirty-

eight years after the 1880 close of the Trail. As Marc Simmons has pointed out, many poets are ordinary people, caught up in "the spirit of the trail," wrapped in its "drama, its color, romance, tragedy, and humor."¹ So Reiseberg speaks of the "dreaming trail" and "echoes" whispering "Where?" as the poem joggles along at a leisurely pace as if it were itself "sweet monotony"² on the prairie.

However, the poet admits two significant variations: he uses a spondee to emphasize the "dim trail" in line two of stanza eight, and line three of stanza six might be read as iambic: "Lost! Ah, yes, destroyed by progress."

Because of his distance from the time of the actual Trail, perhaps, the poet supposes that the Santa Fe Trail is a trail of "settlers": "grim men," and "haggard women," that the trail is a trail of "pioneers." Yet, in an ironic reversal, he closes the poem with the idea that the trail leads those of us still caught up in its spirit "through the frontiers of the Past." Thus there is much in his poem that "rings true."

This editor has been unable to find the biography of the poet; we can suppose that "Lives of great men all remind us/ We can make our lives sublime/ And, departing, leave behind us/ Footprints in the sands of time."³

NOTES

1. Marc Simmons, "The Poetry of the Santa Fe Trail," *The Santa Fe Trail: New Perspectives* (Denver: The State Historical Society of Colorado, 1987), 2.
2. Samuel Austin Allibone, *A Critical Dictionary of English Literature and British and American Authors* (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott, 1900), 14.
3. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, "The Psalm of Life," found on a flyleaf to a *Who's Who in Colorado* while searching for biographical information on Harry E. Reiseberg.

THE TRAIL OF SANTA FE

by Harry E. Reiseberg

Stretching onward, toward the sunset,
Over prairie, hill and lee,
Far beyond the Rocky Mountains
Winds the trail of Santa Fe.

Oh, what thoughts and frontier
mem'ries

Does that dreaming trail suggest;
Thoughts of travelers gone forever
To the twilight realms of rest.

What are now the scouts and soldiers,
And those wagon trains of care?
Those grim men and haggard
women?

And the echoes whisper "Where?"

Oh, what tales of joys and sorrows
Could that silent trail relate—
Tales of loss and wrecked ambitions,
Tales of hope and love and hate;
Tales of hunger, thirst and anguish,
Tales of skulking Indian braves,
Tales of fear and death and danger,
Tales of lonely prairies graves.

Where are now that trail's processions
Winding westward sure and slow?
Lost! Ah, yes, destroyed by progress,
Gone to realms of long ago.

Nevermore shall bold frontiersmen
With their brave and dauntless
band,

Guide the restless roving settlers
Through the western prairie land.

Yes, the pioneer's work is over,
And the dim trail rests at last;
But their name and trail still lead us
Through the frontiers of the Past.

THE WAGON TONGUE

—OBSERVATIONS & OPINIONS—

I recently attended the SFTA board meeting held at Larned. The notices of board meetings included a comment such as "all SFTA members are invited to attend." I have always thought a statement such as that meant visitors were welcome, but apparently that is not the case. Visitors at the Larned meeting were about as welcome as a thunderstorm at a summer picnic.

Visitors were not introduced (nor were the board members present), and we were not given an agenda for the meeting. Anyone daring to ask a question or make a comment was summarily told to be silent. The meeting was lacking in what I call "civility."

It is certainly the prerogative of the board and president to conduct meetings in whatever fashion they choose. My suggestion to you as editor of *Wagon Tracks* is to make it clear through *WT* that, for those wishing to attend the board meetings, it will be a very passive and frustrating experience. Inviting is not necessarily welcoming.

Hal Jackson
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"These Wanton Cruelties": Indians and the Santa Fe Trail

by Mary Jane Warde

(Dr. Warde is a historian at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. Her field is American Indians. This paper was presented at the 1997 symposium.)

IN 1824 Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri, attempting to elicit information about the Santa Fe Trail, sent a questionnaire to trader Augustus Storrs. "What tribes of Indians inhabit or traverse the Country through which the line of communication lies, between Missouri and the internal provinces [of Mexico]?" Benton asked. "The Osages, Kansas, Pawnees, Chiennes, Arapahoes, Snakes, Kiaways, Camanches and Appaches," Storrs replied.¹

Trader Storrs's list highlights an important point in considering the Santa Fe Trail. While it is generally viewed in terms of commerce and communication between the far-western reaches of the United States and the Mexican outpost Santa Fe, it crossed a country inhabited by aboriginal Americans, who also had a vested interest in that trade route. Three of these tribes, the Osages, Pawnees, and Comanches, greatly affected and were greatly affected by the Santa Fe Trail.

The largest of these tribes was the Osages, a Siouan people who migrated west from the Ohio Valley before 1700, "chain-pressured," as John Joseph Mathews aptly described it, by enemy tribes newly armed with European weapons. The Osages settled along the Missouri River west of St. Louis, centering along the Osage River and occupying the future eastern terminus of the Santa Fe Trail.²

Warfare was a major focus of Osage life. At six feet tall or more, their heads shaved except for a bristling roach, Osage men painted for war inspired fear among their neighbors. Trained to travel sixty miles a day on foot, they ranged over Missouri and Kansas, out onto the Great Plains, and as far west as the Rocky Mountains. There they did battle the Apaches, whom they called the "Makes Us Stoop People" as they bent double to ransack the dwellings

of their small-statured enemies. The Osages became even more mobile when they traded or captured horses from the Missourias and Kansas by 1700.³

At about the same time, they acquired European firearms, a by-product of French-Spanish colonial competition. From their advent into the Mississippi Valley and the creation of the sprawling colony of Louisiana, the French worked to secure a trade route to Santa Fe, which Noel M. Loomis and Abraham P. Nasatir described as a "seven-thousand-foot-high village of adobe huts and barking dogs."⁴

That village, though isolated at the end of a long, long road through Chihuahua and beyond to rich, exotic Spanish Mexico, became more beckoning image than reality to generations of frontier dreamers and adventurers. Spanish colonial administrators worked diligently to see that their colonial rivals failed to use Santa Fe to make their dreams of continental commerce come true, even after 1715, when a dynastic marriage allied France and Spain.

In the semi-arid midsection of North America, the most promising trade routes across the Great Plains lay along the Missouri, Arkansas, and Red river valleys. The Spanish partially blocked the Red River approach by colonizing Texas in the mid-1700s. The east end of the Missouri River approach, however, was the domain of the Osages. By 1700 the French had opened a lucrative trade with them, exchanging firearms and other European manufactured items for their buffalo robes and furs. These weapons allowed the aggressive Osages to control the valleys of the lower Missouri, the middle Arkansas, and the middle Red rivers. Within this "Osage empire," which stretched from the Republican River in Kansas to north Texas and from the Mississippi River to the 100th meridian, the "children of the middle waters" tolerated few interlopers. This included the Spanish, whose colonial policy prohibited their trading firearms with Indians.⁵

Upstream from the Osages on the Missouri and its feeder streams lived

the Pawnee and Skidi Pawnee Indians, Caddoan tribes with whom the Osages were constantly at war. Along the Red River in the far southern reaches of the Osage domain, lived the Wichitas or "Pani Piquet," tattooed Caddoan kinsmen of the Northern Plains Pawnees. Both were fair game to the Osages, armed by French traders with French firearms. Gradually in the early eighteenth century, the Osages substituted yellow "bluff" war paint for black, the color of death, as they switched from traditional revenge-inspired warfare against the Caddoan Pawnees and Wichitas. Instead, the Osages engaged in slaving raids, taking so many Pawnee and Wichita captives for the French trade from St. Louis that the word "Pani" became synonymous among traders with the word "slave."⁶

The Pawnees, though, with their earth-lodge villages built along the feeder streams of the Missouri, Arkansas, and Red rivers, occupied another strategic position on the Great Plains. As the French probed westward toward Santa Fe from St. Louis and along the Red River from Arkansas Post in 1719, the New Mexican Spanish reacted with alarm. The same year the governor of New Mexico initiated explorations eastward aimed at locating the generic "Pawnees"—Red and Arkansas River Wichitas—alienating them from France, and attaching them to Spain. Both these initial efforts and one the next year led by Pedro de Villasur ended in failure.

George E. Hyde, historian of the Pawnees, blamed the Villasur fiasco on Spain's restrictive trade policy which stifled individual, entrepreneurial commerce with the Indians and, consequently, the New Mexicans' knowledge of them and their territory. The inexperienced and Plains-ignorant Villasur was forced to rely on Apache guides who led him not to the Wichita "Pawnees" on the middle Arkansas but toward the Pawnees and Skidi Pawnees farther north. Somewhere in the vicinity of the Northern Plains Pawnee villages, Villasur and most of his contingent were killed. Subsequently,

the Spanish blamed the French for the disaster, while the French in St. Louis relayed inflated tales of the attempted Spanish advance to Paris. To checkmate this Spanish move, in 1724 the French engineered a general armistice among the Missouri Valley Kansas and Otoes, the Pawnees and Skidi Pawnees, and the Plains Apaches, aimed at opening trade with these tribes, drawing them into the French commercial sphere, and placing French traders within commercial striking distance of Santa Fe.⁸

But two insurmountable obstacles still stood in their way: First, the French needed to maintain their friendship with the powerful Osages. Making peace with the Pawnees and bringing them into the French trade network would interfere with the highly lucrative French-Osage trade in Pawnee slaves. For the time being, the Osages, who controlled the lower Missouri Valley, were more important to France. Second, a new Indian power was taking its place on the plains along the headwaters of the Arkansas and Red rivers.⁹

The new power was the Comanche tribe, nomadic Uto-Aztecs who about 1700 abandoned the Rocky Mountains for the buffalo-rich Great Plains. By the 1730s they had acquired horses and become horsemen of legendary skill. According to new research by Thomas Kavanagh, two divisions existed at that time among the Comanches: One east of the Pecos River in Texas was hostile to the Rio Grande Valley Pueblos and the New Mexican Spanish centered at Santa Fe. But the other Comanche division, located northeast of Taos, traded regularly with the New Mexicans and by the 1720s had become important to the colonial economy. The trade with New Mexico was equally important to the Comanches. It not only enriched the Comanche people; Comanche chiefs used the distribution of piles of trade goods received at treaty negotiations and trade fairs to gain and maintain personal power.¹⁰

In spite of trade ties with Spanish New Mexico, by the mid-1700s the Comanches had also become indirect trading partners of the French. The 1719 contact of Bernard de la Harpe with the various Caddoan peoples along the middle Arkansas and Red

rivers in Oklahoma resulted in a lucrative trade between the Wichita villages and *coureurs de bois* from Arkansas Post and St. Louis. By 1740 the French had extended it by effecting an alliance between the Comanches and the sedentary, primarily agricultural Wichitas. French trade goods, including firearms, arrived in the Wichita villages to be exchanged for buffalo robes, furs, horses, and slaves. The last two were plunder from Comanche raids deep into the Spanish colonies in Mexico, plunder which the Comanches traded to the Wichitas for French goods and the Wichitas' agricultural surplus. This "Wichita exchange" worked by Wichita middlemen in Southern Plains commerce infuriated Spanish officials of the victimized colonies, but they were generally helpless to stop it. The paradox of lucrative Comanche trade with Santa Fe at the same time Comanche raiders scourged Spanish-Mexican colonies elsewhere lasted well into the 1870s.¹¹

Concurrent with the Wichita exchange of the mid-1740s, the French built Fort Cavagnolle at the Kansas village near present Kansas City, a future terminus of the Santa Fe Trail. It seemed that, at last, with the French-Wichita-Comanche trade network opening up the Arkansas River route and a French presence on the lower Missouri, French trade with Santa Fe might at last be possible. Unfortunately for the French and the enterprising Wichitas, the Osages viewed these events as a threat to their empire. First, the coming of the Comanches to the Great Plains introduced another powerful territorial rival. Then, the Osages objected to French trade, which included firearms, with the Northern Plains Pawnees and Skidi Pawnees, Comanches, and Wichitas. Better armed enemies meant less profitable slaving and horse-stealing ventures for Osage raiders.

The Osages, whose ferocious attacks on the Wichita villages finally forced Oklahoma's Caddoan peoples to migrate south from the middle Arkansas Valley to the greater safety of the middle Red River Valley by the mid-1700s, showed their displeasure by attacking individual French traders wherever they found them. Briefly during King George's War be-

tween France and England (1744-1748), the Osages flirted with the idea of allying themselves with the English. All this meant that, even with one major obstacle to St. Louis-Santa Fe trade—the Comanches—overcome, the other primary obstacle—the Osages—remained.¹²

The Great Plains dynamics changed, however, in the last third of the eighteenth century. The conclusion of the Seven Years' War (French and Indian War) in 1763 saw the French driven out of North America. France, wanting to keep the great trans-Mississippi colony of Louisiana out of English hands, transferred possession to Spain, the lesser of two evils from the French perspective. The new Spanish dominion in Louisiana, loose as it was, had definite ramifications for native Great Plains peoples. The Pawnees and Skidi Pawnees, who might eventually have gained access to the French trading sphere, remained isolated. At the same time, restrictive Spanish trading policies disrupted and spoiled the Wichita exchange, eventually reducing Oklahoma's Caddoan peoples to poverty. Perpetually victimized by slaving raids from several tribes, they retreated to the protection of the Wichita Mountains in present southwestern Oklahoma.¹³

Also affected were the powerful Osages. The "Osage empire" remained intact, but there was enduring friction between them and Spanish authorities in the colonies of New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana. The Osages refused to recognize the authority of Spanish-licensed traders, preferring their long-time French trading partners. They particularly objected to the boat loads of lead, gun powder, flints, firearms, hatchets, and trade goods shipped past them up the Missouri and its tributaries to friends as well as enemies—the Pawnees and Skidi Pawnees, Kansas, Otoes, and Missourias, as well as lately-arrived and hostile Kickapoos and Sacs and Foxes. Punitive Osage raids on these peoples and white traders provoked protests and petitions to St. Louis.

Spanish authorities reacted to the complaints by planning ambitious expeditions to punish the Osages but never followed through. They realized that their first concern was to keep relations with the Osages at

least nominally friendly to protect the Missouri River trade route. Second, they must prevent an alliance between the powerful Osages and the English threatening New Mexico from Canada.¹⁴

At the same time, the Osages resented the increasing numbers of Euro-Americans, Plains Indians, and Eastern Indian immigrants, who filtered into their domain near the end of the eighteenth century. They sustained themselves in large part by commercial hunting and trading, and they regarded as poachers anyone else taking meat, furs, or hides in the territory they claimed. The punishment they meted out was ruthless and instructional: Poachers' heads were severed from the bodies and placed in prominent places. A prime example was the 1833 Cut-Throat Gap Massacre of Kiowas,¹⁵ recent arrivals on Southern Plains. Given Osage belligerence toward the Spanish, other Indians, traders, and travelers during the era of Spanish-held Louisiana, it is remarkable that Pedro Vial succeeded in traversing what was to become the Santa Fe Trail through the Osage domain in 1792-1793.¹⁶

Vial's route from Santa Fe, which ran eastward along the upper Arkansas before turning northeastward across present Kansas, then eastward again into St. Louis along the lower Missouri, demonstrated, according to Loomis and Nasatir, that fabled Santa Fe was much closer to St. Louis in distance and accessibility than colonial administrators had imagined. That diminished distance became even more important as new players entered the Great Plains commercial stakes.

Anglo-American trappers, traders, and settlers crossed the Mississippi River in ever-greater numbers after the United States won its independence, alarming the powerful Osages as much as the thinly-stretched Spanish. Unlike the French and Spanish, the newcomers put down deep roots, especially after Louisiana passed into the United States's possession in 1803. It was only a matter of time until Anglo-Americans pushed on toward Santa Fe.¹⁷

Ambitious fur-trader Manuel Lisa understood this in 1803 when he attempted to effect an alliance between the Spanish at Santa Fe and the pri-

mary Indian tribes along the route of Vial's Santa Fe Trail. He hoped to win over the Osages and their neighbors—the Kansas, Pawnees, and Comanches. To forestall this move, Lieutenant Zebulon Montgomery Pike set out to ingratiate himself with the Osages by ransoming and returning forty-six Osage captives held by the immigrant Pottawatomis.¹⁸

At the other end of the trail, Spanish representatives met the Anglo-American threat by contacting the long-ignored Pawnees and initiating regular trading visits by them to Santa Fe. Perhaps the indication of Spanish success was that the Pawnees told Vial in 1804 that they intended to remain loyal to Spain. In 1806 Lieutenant Don Fecundo Melgares set out for the Pawnee and Skidi Pawnee villages, intending to open diplomatic relations with them, the Otoes, Kansas, and Omahas. Melgares located the Pawnees on the Republican River, but their reception was cool in spite of his gifts of flags, metals, and commissions for their chiefs. Intimidated, Melgares withdrew south of the Arkansas, leaving the field open for a similar visit from Pike shortly afterward. Pike, like Melgares, found the Pawnees not very friendly, and he noted that their constant warfare with the Comanches was an obstacle to the general peace needed to secure regular trade with Santa Fe.¹⁹

The triangular warfare that pitted Comanches, Osages, and Pawnees against each other remained a problem as international events once again reverberated across the Great Plains. In 1821 Mexico at last won its independence from Spain, and, even before confirmation reached Anglo-American territory, prospective merchants set out for Santa Fe with trade goods. Among the first, in addition to William Becknell, was Thomas James, who traveled up the North Fork of the Canadian River from the Three Forks area near present Muskogee in 1821. James reported encountering Comanches on the North Fork and being saved from attack by the elderly Chief Cordero.

The chief, according to James, "expressed his pleasure that we and the Spaniards were friends, that he would be pleased to see us living together like brothers and he hoped

that the American trade would come to his country as well as to the Spaniards. He complained that we traded with their enemies, the Osages, and furnished them with powder, guns, and lead, but had no intercourse with the Comanches. He hoped the government of the United States would interfere and stop the depredations of the Osages upon his nation."²⁰

The following year a second Comanche chief expressed his hope to James that Anglo-American traders would bring their goods into Comanche territory. But he reminded James that the Comanches resented Anglo-American trade with the Osages which supplied their enemies with the materiel of war.²¹

While it was clear that the Comanches hoped Santa Fe Trail commerce would improve the quality and quantity of goods available from trade-starved Mexican Santa Fe, Anglo-Americans were skeptical that the early friendly meetings of Plains Indians and Santa Fe traders would continue. In 1825, when Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri requested the information from Augustus Storrs noted previously, it reflected wariness in regard to Indian-white relations. Along with the names of tribes whose territory the Trail traversed, Storrs supplied Benton a list of Indian depredations attributed to Pawnees and Comanches. Hyde in his study of the Pawnees noted the name "Pawnee" remained rather generic on the Great Plains and was frequently applied by the ignorant to Comanches, Kiowas, and other tribes. Similarly, according to Thomas Kavanagh's recent study, while depredations did occur in the region, none on Storrs's list was actually associated with the Santa Fe Trail. Still, Senator Benton, on behalf of the citizens of Missouri, was able to secure federal funds for marking the Trail and, citing Storrs's list of depredations, called for military protection of the trade.²²

The first recorded instance of Anglo-Indian violence on the Trail, the attack on Robert McNees and Daniel Monroe (or Munro) at Corrupa Creek, according to Kavanagh, also calls for re-examination. Oddly, news of the incident and the deaths of the two young men did not make contemporary St. Louis

newspapers.²³ Nevertheless, Santa Fe commerce-promoter and writer Josiah Gregg commented on the subsequent retaliation against curious but unidentified Indians at Willowbar Crossing, "These wanton cruelties had a most disastrous effect upon the prospects of the trade; for the exasperated children of the desert became more hostile to the 'pale faces' against whom they continued to wage a cruel war for successive years."²⁴

Even though the blame for and truth of Indian depredations might be in doubt, the federal government in 1825 pursued a new policy of securing Santa Fe Trail commerce by diplomacy. They first approached the Osages, who were witnessing the crumbling of their old empire to the unstoppable Anglo-American invasion. At Council Grove they agreed not only to give up claim to lands north of the Canadian River but also to a right of way for the Santa Fe Trail through their remaining territory. At negotiations at Fort Atkinson, the Pawnees and Skidi Pawnees also agreed not to molest commerce along the Trail. Soon they, too, saw their old domain diminished as more Anglo-Americans pressed onto the Northern Plains. The Comanches were not asked to yield a right-of-way. They had already retreated farther south as the Cheyennes and Arapahoes arrived to challenge them for control of their old range north of the upper Arkansas.²⁵

These treaties, though, along with so many more, failed to maintain the security demanded for the Santa Fe Trail, and Indian attacks were a fact of life. In sacking the Kiowa village at Cut-Throat Gap in 1833, the Osages found Mexican silver coins the Kiowas had looted the previous year and kept even though they had as yet little use for metal currency. Two years later the Osages and Kiowas attended the general council at Camp Mason but refused to sign a new treaty guaranteeing safety for Santa Fe Trail commerce. Their enmity was simply too deep at that point for them to cooperate in the same negotiations.²⁶

Nor were the Comanches blameless. They regarded loot and livestock taken from Santa Fe Trail traders as a source of tribal and personal income. Moreover, attacking

travelers provided a way to win the war honors necessary to attaining social status in the tribe. Comanche raids were especially prevalent during the Civil War, but in other years they stayed away, notably during the Mexican War and in 1851 when cholera threatened all people on the Great Plains.²⁷

From this sketch, it may be seen that for nearly three hundred years aboriginal Great Plains peoples were much involved in developing trade between the Missouri and Mississippi river valleys and Santa Fe. Given the strategic locations of their homelands astride the promising river valley routes, the Osages, Pawnees, and Comanches in particular had some degree of control of when and where the Santa Fe Trail was established. Spanish and French colonial administrators were forced to juggle their own and divergent tribal interest as they flattered, wooed, bribed, scolded, threatened, and manipulated native peoples to keep their good will and cooperation. In turn in the eighteenth century, the tribes, most notably the Osages, were the manipulators as the Spanish struggled to close the doors the French opened.

In the early nineteenth century, the actors changed but the play remained the same. It was not until Mexico achieved its independence in 1821 that the Santa Fe Trail became the commercial reality several generations of Euro-Americans had envisioned. The federal government too, as exemplified by Senator Thomas Hart Benton, recognized the importance of Indian peoples along its route and worked to assure safe passage through their domains. Where the French and Spanish had used trade for leverage with these tribes, the United States used treaty negotiations to clear a secure corridor to Santa Fe.

A part of the romance of the Santa Fe Trail has always been the determination of intrepid travelers to overcome weather, distance, hardship, and danger along the way—including danger from Indian attacks. Only in the last generation have Americans begun to look more closely at this one-dimensional picture that classified Indians with other natural obstacles to be overcome. New research has allowed us

to see that the idea of a road to Santa Fe was old long before Pedro Vial and William Becknell showed the way and that Indian peoples had a vested interest in it in terms of economics, social structure, politics, diplomacy, even tribal survival. To them, it was much more than just the site of "wanton cruelties."

NOTES

1. "Trade Between Missouri & Mexico," presented to the Senate, January 3, 1825, by Senator Thomas Hart Benton, at <http://www.nmhu.edu/research/sftrail/congress.htm>.
2. John Joseph Mathews, *The Osages: Children of the Middle Waters* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1961), 122.
3. *Ibid.*, 122, 126, 138-139.
4. Noel M. Loomis and Abraham P. Nasatir, *Pedro Vial and the Roads to Santa Fe* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1967), xix.
5. *Ibid.*, 126-139.
6. *Ibid.*, 156.
7. George E. Hyde, *The Pawnee Indians* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1951), 64-65.
8. *Ibid.*, 66-72.
9. *Ibid.*, 72.
10. Thomas E. Kavanagh, *Comanche Political History: An Ethnohistorical Perspective, 1706-1875* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1996), 121-131.
11. See Henry Eaton Allen, "The Parilla Expedition to the Red River in 1759," *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, 43 (June 1939):53-71 and Kavanagh, *Comanche Political History*.
12. Mathews, *The Osages*, 184-185, 218-219.
13. Loomis and Nasatir, *Pedro Vial*, 74-75.
14. Mathews, *The Osages*, 218-219, 237-240.
15. The Kiowa Calendar for the summer of 1833 "commemorates a massacre by the Osages, who cut off the heads of the Kiowa victims and left them in their own copper cooking kettles." Mildred P. Mayhall, *The Kiowas* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1962), 169.
16. Mathews, *The Osages*, 554-557; Loomis and Nasatir, *Pedro Vial*, xvii.
17. *Ibid.*, xx, 266; Mathews, *The Osages*, 350-353.
18. *Ibid.*, 356, 373-380.
19. Hyde, *The Pawnee Indians*, 148-151.
20. Quoted in Kavanagh, *Comanche Political History*, 210-211.
21. *Ibid.*, 212-213.
22. *Ibid.*, 216-217; Hyde, *The Pawnee Indians*, 179.
23. Kavanagh, *Comanche Political History*, 217.
24. Quoted in W. E. Baker, "A History of Cimarron County," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, 31 (Autumn 1953):263.
25. Mathews, *The Osages*, 560-561; Hyde, *The Pawnee Indians*, 179; Kavanagh, *Comanche Political History*, 215-216.
26. Mathews, *The Osages*, 560-566.
27. Kavanagh, *Comanche Political History*, 317, 343, 397, 463.

DIARY OF WILLIAM ANDERSON THORNTON: MILITARY SERVICE ON THE TRAIL AND IN NEW MEXICO, 1855-1856, PART II

Transcribed by Stephen Clyde Blair and Bonita M. Oliva

THE introduction to this diary and biographical information about William A. Thornton appeared in the last issue. The party had encamped near Point of Rocks, New Mexico, the previous night when the horses and mules stampeded. Many had been recovered (actually all of them, but all apparently were not counted and search parties were sent out again, as explained in the next entries).

THORNTON'S DIARY

August 13th 1855

In Camp and four Armed parties Sent out to recover the balance of our animals. March at 6 p.m., None of the parties having returned

This was an unjust act, after the assurance that had been given that we would remain on the ground until the parties Came in and at Night light Signal fires. Haulted at 11 p.m. for the balance of the Night but put up no tents. Distance 12 Miles.

August 14 1855

Morning Cold, the Ratoon Mountains looming up beautifully in the distance of at least 60 Miles Capped with Clouds. Our Armed parties reached us just after day light having travelled all day and night for Animals that were with us when the parties were Sent out, which Shows the Management of our Commander.

Marched at 8 A.m. and reached Red [Canadian] River at 1 p.m. Haulted an hour and resumed our March, and encamped at the Ocate Creek, at 5 p.m. The Scenery of the Country resembling that at West Point, but much more grand. The Ratoon Mountains although very remote, appear at the grate distance full as high as as the Crowsnest when near at hand. Our parties while out after our Supposed lost Animals Came on Some Small parties of Indians, good grass and plenty of wood & water, distance 22 Miles.

August 15-1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and encamped at 3 p.m., at Burgwin Springs, a thunder Storm when we encamped. The Country becoming mountainous and beautiful, plenty of grass & water, and wood obtain[ed] by Sending a wagon about 2 Miles for it at the foot of the Turkey Mountain. Met a party of Dragoons going out to Point of Rocks to escort the expected Mail to Fort Union, distance 22 Miles.

August 16th 1855

Marched at 6 A.m. and encamped at 11 a.m. at Fort Union. Country beautiful in Mountain and prairie Scenery. Met Several officers from Fort Union who Come out to Meet us, and escort us in. Dined at Captain [William Rawle] Shoemakers the Military Store Keeper of Ordnance. A heavy thunderstorm at Sun down Our commander resolved to resume the March the next Morning owing to the interference of Col [Thomas Turner] Fauntleroy [First Dragoons, commander of Fort Union] with his Command. Distance only 10 Miles.

August 17th 1855

Marched at 7 A.m. road very bad, Causing Much delay to our teams. Met General Garland on his way to Fort Union. Turned back about 2 Miles and encamped at 5 p.m. Night Set in Stormy and it rained heavily the greater part of the night. Camp ground flooded with water. Distance from Fort Union about 10 Miles.

August 18th 1855

Prospects bad. Many of our teams had Sunk to their hubs in the ground which had been So badly Soften[ed] by the great fall of water during the past night. A 15 Gallon Keg had been Set by accident the night previous under the fly of My tent, and when we got up in the morning it was found full and runing over, Showing Conclusively that not less than 4 inches of water had fallen during the night, and from the prospects amoung us it was the general belief that at least 8 inches of rain had fallen in about 10 hours. Marched at 10 A.m. and it was after one o clock before our last wagon had been pried out of the Mud on the road. We found the Country Covered with water, and the Streams So much Swollen as to render them unpassable. Our teams of Six Mules were Constantly Miring down, requiring the aid of Many Men to free them. Reached the Sapio [Sapillo] Creek at 5 p.m., and found that we Could not Cross it, and Consequently encamped on an adjoining ridge of up land. Men and Animals Much fatigued by the days work. Obtained Green Corn, Chickens and eggs from Some Mexican families residing on the Creek. Prospect of an other Stormy night. Distance about 5 Miles.

August 19th 1855 Sund[ay]

Remained in Camp all day. The Morning Clear. It had rained heavily during the Night. Thunderstorm during the afternoon. The Sapio booming full of water, which prevents our advance.

General Garland returning from Fort Union reach[ed] our camp about 4 p.m. and is very urgent to Cross, but has to give it up.

August 20th 1855

More rain during the past night and therefore Still detained in Camp. Time employed in disposing of property and dividing the Men [recruits] for the Post[s] to which they are assigned in the Department [the assignments were made by General Garland]. A heavy thunderstorm in the Mountains from whence the Sapio draws its water, and the Creek rising rapidly.

August 21st 1855

In Camp Still prevented from Crossing the Creek which is very much Swollen by the fall of rain during the past Night.

August 22nd 1855

Made an effort to form a raft of feed troughs, but the current was So Strong that it would Sink the raft, when it was attempted to haul it across. Weather very warm and indications of More rain.

August 23rd 1855

Received an order to bridge the Stream if possible. Only two Cottonwood trees to do it with. Swam Some men over with axes, and in So doing lost one by drowning. Cut down the trees and by much labor formed a foot bridge. Unloaded our wagons and carried our baggage over, then Swam over our Animals and hauled our wagons across. At 10 P.m. the General and his Staff over. Commenced the bridge at 8 A.m. and reported it ready at 1 P.m.

August 24, 1855

It was found impracticable to Cross the heavy wagons and bagage of the troops over the bridge and Stream and therefore the Commander was Ordered to Make the Crossing as Soon as he Could and follow. Marched at 8 A.m. with General Garland and passed Las Vagus [Vegas] at 1 p.m. and encamped at 5 p.m. Tucolota [Tecolote]. Shortly after encamping one of Colonel Graysons [John Breckinridge Grayson, commissary department] Servants Killed his Comrade in a fight, in Self defense. From the Sapio to Vagus the Country is a rolling prairie, which had be Come So Softened by the heavy rains that in each Swale our teams mired down, and Causing us much hard labor and fatigue to progress. from Vegus to Tucolota the road better but our animals So Much fatigued and

jaded by the Mornings work that we Could not urge them beyond a walk. Country exceedingly pretty as we have entered Mountain Scenery and Commenced Crossing a Spur of the Rocky Mountains. From the Storm we Could See at various points remote and near at hand the tops of the Mountains covered with Snow.

The villages of Vagus and Tucalota Made from unburnt Clay and in appearance resemble unburnt brick Kills [kilns] in the States. Pepole [people] poor and dirty. Flocks of Sheep, Goats and Cattle very numerous. Wheet & raised by irrigation. From Vagus to Tucolota 10 Miles, had to unload our wagons at Vagus and Cross our baggage on a foot bridge [Gallinas River], and then as at the Sapio Swim our Mules and haul our wagons over. As Soon as we left Vagus we turned Short to the right and entered the gorge of a Mountain pass [Kearny Gap], about 50 feet wide; evidently the effect of water in forming the passage way. The Sides of the passage rising almost vertical Many hundred feet above the road. The Scenery as we advanced toward Tucolota becoming more grand and beautiful. Our Camp is located on a beautiful Spot over looking the Mud Village through which we had passed. distance about 22 Miles.

August 25th 1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and Crossed the lower ford of the Pecos at San Migull [San Miguel] 15 Miles, to San Jose 3 Miles and to Gosano [Gusano, south-east of present Rowe, exact location unknown today] 7 Miles. Encamped at 5 p.m. En route we passed about 7 Miles from San Migull the San Barnard Mountain [Bernal Peak] about 1500 feet high. It rises with a rapid Slope for about 1400 feet and then terminates with a perpendicular, in fact an overhanging top resembling a Stupendous Castle Set high in the air neatly roofed. I could not be[but] wish, that the Stars and Stripes were waving from its top. General Karney [Stephen Watts Kearny who led the Army of the West over the Santa Fe Trail in 1846 to capture New Mexico for the U.S. in the war with Mexico] strove to place a flag on it, when he marched around its foot, during the War with Mexico but he found it an impossible job. The villages, grounds, Soil, productions, heards &c as before named; but the Scenery even hourly becoming More grand and beautiful. The nights Cool, and roads rough. Distance 25 miles

August 26th 1855

Marched at 7 A.m. To old Pecos 12 Miles, to Pigon Roost [Pigeon's Ranch, founded by Alexander Valle, a Frenchman whose surname means pigeon] 5 Miles to Rock Corral 9 Miles. en-

camped at 5 p.m. Passed the Old Pecos Church, the age of which is not Known to the people of the Country. The builders were fire worshipers and until but about 7 Years Since, fires were Constantly Kept burning by the devotees expecting that their King whom the[y] worship, would appear with the rising Sun, to resume his Earthly duties under the Name of Montazumie. Country and Scenery the Same as the day previous in grandure and beauty. Distance 25 miles.

August 27th 1855

Marched at 8 A.m. and reached Santa Fe at Noon. Roads badly washed by the heavy rains, which had detained us on the Sapio. The City of Santa Fe had Suffered very much by the heavy rains.

The flood that had been poured down from the Mountains had Swept away the Mud houses as if they were only Cobwebs, and full half of the town had been More or less thus injured. Our friends however had Made arrangements for us until we could do better and I was accordingly accomodated with a Sleeping place by Judge Houton [Joab Houghton] and Lawyer Smith [Hugh N. Smith?]. Mjr [Major Albert J.] Smith [paymaster department] and brother received like accomodations and as we had Messed together across the plains, we determined to remain together and to find quarters that would accommodate us accordingly. Every thing exceedingly filthy and the people of the town of the vilest class. Mrs Mjr Fry [Major Cary Harrison Fry], the Paymaster wife Say[s] that there is but one hotter place than Santa Fe, and that Santa Fe is the place of all others for the old Gentleman. Distance 10 miles.

Distances-	Miles
From St. Louis to Fort Leavenworth	430
" Fort Leavenworth to Riley	133
" Fort Riley to Union	619
" Fort Union to Santa Fe	97
	<hr/> 1279

[There were no entries between August 27 and September 10.]

September 10, 1855

At 8 A.m. Mjor Smith with an Escort of 10 Infantry Men, Started on a tramp. He to pay the Men at Cantonement [Cantonment] Burgwin [approximately 10 miles south of Taos, a small military encampment established in 1852 and abandoned in 1860] & [Fort] Massachusetts [in present Colorado on Ute Creek in the San Luis Valley, established in 1852 and closed in 1858 when Fort Garland was founded six miles to the south], and I to examine the Condition of the Ordnance at the Several Posts. Our route was North from Santa Fe, and as we progressed we crossed the Tesu-

que Creek, the Pogouque [Pojoaque] Creek, and the Cannada[?] Creek. All Mountain torrents, and we encamped at Goat Heard Rancho.

The Morning was Stormy, and it continued to rain all day. The Country Mountaneous and wild, and the road very rough and bad. The Scenery very fine as there have been heavy frosts in the Mountains which varegated the Coloring of the Sides of the Mountains which were lofty & grand. The vallies through which we passed were loaded with Corn, Oats & Some wheet, and also clad in the beauteous Colours of the Autom.

No just idea Can be formed of the beauty of the prospect far and near around us of the Country, and of the filthy Squalid Misery in the Ranches, and Mexican villages through which we passed. Distance 37 Miles.

September 11th-1855

We Started at day light and after passing La Joya village about 6 Miles from our Camp, we turned abruptly to the right and ascended a vallie called a Cañon, down which in rain Storms, the water rushed in torrents. As we were progressing Slowly up this Cañon over i[t]s bed of Sand, gravel, little and big bolder, Making the labor So much for our Animals that the Men Major and My Self were walking to Spare our Mules, who had only a light Carriage to haul. We Met Suddenly a torrent of water 18 in in depth, white with foam, rushing down the Cañon over the very and Only road for us to travel. We had to take to our teams, and they to Make the best of it. The Cause of this rush of water was a Cloud had Cross[ed] the Cañon a few Miles a head of us and had pourered out its waters, & in less than an hour it had passed us and we were again Moving on dry ground. At the end of five hours, we found ourselves unexpectedly at the top of the Cañon. On the crest of the Mountain, much like being on the ridge of the roof of a house. From our position we had to descend into to a valley of more than a 1000 feet in depth, as it were going down the Steep roof of a house, and to prevent our wagons from injuring our mules, notwithstanding our wheels were locked. We had to fasten ropes to them, and Cause the Men to hold back the wagons from their rush upon the mules. The Cañon we had been climbing was Eight miles in length, and we were five hours in making its ascent. When we reached its crest, the grandeur and beauty of the Scenery and valley before us Surpassed any thing I have Seen before. The Yellow and Red colouring of leaves mixed in with the deep ever green foliage, which clothed the Mountains amoung us, caused us to halt for a time before we

commenced the descent. In our front, and not more than a mile from where we stood, rose an immense Mountain [Wheeler Peak?], So high that much of its top was hid by clouds. Passed Los Franquas [Las Trampas?] Creek, and encamped at dark. Our route throughout the day has been over the roughest roads, and the wildest Country I have ever seen. The wolves as we passed along would stand and bark at us, and there was not a mile of the route that was not marked by a pile of stones, to show where some poor traveller had been murdered by Indians or worse Mexicans. It is a common practice of the Country, for every passer to place a stone on the spot, where persons have been murdered, and during the day we passed many places, where there were five or six such heaps distance 38 Miles.

September 12th 1855

Started Early and Shortly after we crossed the Picorus [Picuris] Creek and at noon reached Contonement Burgwin. Shortly after leaving camp, we reached Captain Scummons [Eliakim Parker Scammon, topographical engineers] Camp on the Picorus Creek. The captain with a strong party is examining the Country for a better route to the Contonement and beyond; but as he has been a long time on the examination and has done nothing it is presumed he will expend the appropriation for the road and that will be the end of it [Captain Scammon was dismissed from the service on June 4, 1856]. This day's March was more rough than the day previous. In many places the Scenery was very beautiful, but as we were more shut in by woods the views were not so extensive or grand. The Contonement is in the valley of Taos, at the foot of a high ridge of the Taos Mountains. The post is beautifully located and commanded by Captain McCrae [Nathaniel Chapman Macrae]. Lieut McCook [Alexander McDowell McCook] and Doctor Bary [E. J. Barry, contract surgeon] are the officers on duty with him. The Doctor is a hired citizen. Distance 12 Miles.

September 14th 1855

Left Burgwin at daylight and reached Taos about 8 A.m. Here is where Captain [John Henry K.] Burgwin fell during the late War with Mexico in an assault made on an Indian Church which was defended by Indians and Mexicans [on February 4, 1847, and Burgwin died three days later]. Doctor Decamp [Surgeon Samuel G. I. De Camp] was present when the Captain fell. The church is still standing but not used for worship. Still a fire is kept burning in it for the Sun and Montazume their god and King. The latter is to come at the rising of the former to give back

to the Indians the Country occupied by all other people. We left Taos and for miles our road wound around its mountain, which rose about 3500 feet above the prairie road over which we travelled. We crossed the Aroya [Arroyo] Hondo and the Rio Colorado. On the bank of the latter we encamped. Met Col. [Horace] Brooks on his way to the States. The country beautiful in places and Scenery grand. The White Mountains, at the foot of which is Fort Massachusetts is seen looming up at 75 miles ahead topped with snow. From Burgwin to Taos 12 Miles, from Taos to Aroya Hondo 12 Miles distance 38 Miles.

September 15-1855

Marched at day light and crossed during the day the Dollorous [Dolores], Costillar [Costilla] and Colobra [Culebra] Creeks and encamped at dark. The country Mountaneous and prospect very fine. Road in part very good. Valley loaded with Corn, Oats and wheat. People half naked, dirty, gathering their crops and making molasses from the juice of the Corn Stalks. The Rio Grandy on our left with high Rocky banks, distance 40 Miles.

September 16th 1855

Started at day light, and during the day crossed the Tranchero [Trinchera], the San Christo and Utah Creeks, and reached Fort Massachusetts at noon. The post is at the foot of the White Mountain called So because during the greater portions of the Year its top is covered with snow, which was the case when we reached the Fort. The Fort is 10,000 feet above the ocean and the Mountain top 2500 feet above the Fort, or 12,500 feet. Weather cold causing us to use our over coats. Grizzly bears are numerous in this mountain, not long since one attacked a soldier close to the Fort; and the hunter who supplies the Garrison with game, had a most desperate fight with one. He killed the bear, but was almost eaten up by the animal. Elk, Deer and small game is found in great numbers in the gorges of this Mountain, and the streams which flow from it are alive with trout. The officers on duty at the Fort are Lieuts Beall [Lloyd Beall, 2nd Artillery, commanding the post] and Smead [John Radcliff Smead, 2nd Artillery] & Doctor Peaters [Surgeon DeWitt Clinton Peters]. Distance 25 miles.

September 17th 1855

Marched at 2 p.m. and encamped at our former places and reached Santa Fe about 5 p.m. on the 22. Thus travelling about 400 Miles in 13 days over the roughest roads and through a Mountaneous Country; in fact nearly crossing the famed Rocky Mountains. One hour after our return to Santa Fe, a thunderstorm passed over this place and for violence I think I think I rarely

[rarely?] saw its equal—The rain fell in torrents and came rushing down from the Mountains, doing much damage to the mud houses of Santa Fe, of which many were washed away. Two persons were killed by the fall of one of these houses. It was well for us that we reached Santa Fe, for if we had not we would have had to encamp for the night as it would have been impossible to have crossed the foaming streams that supervened on our route.

Distances

From Santa Fe to Burgwin 87 Miles

" Burgwin to Massachusetts 103 "

[There were no entries between September 17 and October 24.]

October 24th 1855

Left Santa Fe at 7 A.m. and reached Algodones at 4 p.m. Country barren, hilly and Mountaneous. Road good and descending. Distance 43 Miles

October 25-1855

Left Algodones at 8 A.m. and reached Albuquerque at 1 P.m. Country much the same as the day previous. Pass Indian and Mexican villages. The former much the best in appearance. Albuquerque dirty; people filthy. Public Depot and QrMaster Stores here. A Company of Dragoons on duty here Comd by Bt Mjr [Brevet Major James Henry] Carleton. distance 24 Miles.

October 26th 1855

Left Albuquerque at 9 A.m. Crossed the Rio Grande by fording, and encamped at 4 p.m. on Rio Percoi [Puerco]. Road uphill and sandy. Water bad and scarce. Wood hardly any to be found. Country very barren with sand hills, distance 18 Miles.

October 27-1855

Left at 7 A.m. and reach Sheep Spring at 10 A.m. distance 10 Miles, road sandy and in many places very heavy. Country barren bluffs of red and white sand stone. Reached Lagoona [Laguna] at 1 p.m. distance 12 Miles. Country Volcanic and desolate in appearance. Reached Covaro [Cubero] at 4 p.m. distance 12 Miles. Country more Mountaneous. Road good, grass and ground white with soda [soda, perhaps sodium carbonate or sodium hydroxide]. distance 34 Miles.

October 28-1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and encamped at Agua Sue [Agua Azul], or blue water, at 4 p.m. Passed through Covaro [Cubero] Village at 7½, people and place exceedingly filthy, took corn for our Animals. Reached a bed of Lava at 9 P.m. Country not describable, being a bed of a crater. The deep feelings that the mass is still burning hot comes over you and you look around you with dread. There before you is a stream of fresh black lavey [lava] looking as if it

had been just thrown up and so porous that appears like foam standing fifteen or twenty feet in height. Every thing around you, indicates that there must have been terrible commotion there. Mountains from 500 to 1500 feet in height constitute the wall of the once burning lake, distance 35 Miles.

October 29th 1855

Marched at 5 A.m. and reached Bacon Spring at 1 P.m., distance 26 Miles, and Bear Spring at 4 P.m, distance 9 Miles. Wood, Water and grass plenty, Road in places sandy and heavy, otherwise good. North Side of valley, one continuous chain of jutting mountains of red and white sand stone and so regular in distance and formation that it looks like an extensive chain of fortification supported and flanked by huge forts, many hundred feet in height constituting the walls of the vast basin of liquid fire. The South Side generally sloping to the crest of lake walls, but as it rises the ground is covered with stunted pine, cedar and pinion trees, many of which have been a long time dead but so sound that one would think their decay had taken place but yesterday. No indication of young trees springing up, and the drying up of the streams, show plainly that the country has been better than at present. Lava at the beginning of our days march and our road the entire day has been over its black mass distance 35 Miles.

October 30 1855

Marched at 5 A.m. and reached Fort Defiance [established in 1851 just west of the present New Mexico-Arizona boundary at the mouth of Cañon Bonita] at 3 P.m. At 9 A.m. passed out of the crater, at the head of which stands a lofty mound or bluff of red & white sand stone. To the east of which is a beautiful mass of stone, which at the distance of 8 or 10 miles looks like large fortress having a thousand chimneys: but as you approach it, it changes in appearance and when you get in front of it, it looks [like] a Colossus seated on a huge throne with his septure over his left shoulder and a vast concourse of people around him, both seated and standing. This is no flight of fancy, but was so striking to both of us that we halted to admire its greatness and beauty. The throne is on a beautiful foot piece, and it is full 200 feet in height, and the surrounding multitude looks as if they were in amphitheater in attendance. As we progressed the country became more rolling, formed of sand hills, and high bluffs of rocks. Within two miles of the fort is a black mass of trap rock, standing like a wedge on its back, across the valley. The fort is at the gorge of the Bonito Cañon in latitude and longitude and about 210 miles of the head waters

that flow from Sierra De San Juan to the Pacific Ocean, distance 44 Miles.

October 31st 1855

Mustered the troops and inspected the Ordnance property at the Post.

November 1st 1855 at work at papers and indications of a storm. Post commanded by [Brevet] Major [Henry Lane] Kendrick [Captain, Second Artillery].

November 2nd 1855

Rain and snow in gusts. Closed our work and made preparations to return.

November 3rd 1855 detained by a heavy snow storm.

November 4th 1855 Sund[a]y

Remained at the fort. Weather cold but fine. Road through the Cañon Bonito or pretty pass through the mountains. This defile is about a mile in length, and at no point over 200 yards wide—in places it is not 100 yards from crest to crest of the perpendicular walls that form its sides about 300 feet in height. The top of the northern wall overhangs the road so that a stone could be dropped on the head of the traveller below. It is a fearful pass, for a stone loosened by an eagle, or crow might kill the passer through.

November 5-1855

Left at 7 A.m. and encamped at 6 P.m. at our former stopping place. Road very heavy caused by the snow.

November 6th 1855

Left at 6 A.m. and encamped at 4 P.m. at Agua Azul [Azul] or blue water spring.

November 7th 1855

Marched at 5 A.m. and encamped at 3 p.m. at Cavaero [Cubero] village.

November 8th 1855

Marched at 6 A.m. reached Laguna at 9 A.m. left the road to Albuquerque at 11 A.m. en route across the country for Los Lunas, and encamped at 4 p.m. on the Perco [Rio Puerco]. The road good, but no wood and consequently we had to lay in our supply before we reached our camp. The country more volcanic [than] that on the Albuquerque road. Crossed many beds of lava in ridges, and snow capped mountains seen in every direction around us. Night very cool. Distance 40 Miles.

November 9th 1855

Marched at 6 A.m. and reached Los Lunas at 10 A.m. Road good country descending to the river, and volcanic. Los Lunas is commanded by Lieut [Isaiah N.] Moore [First Dragoons], having with him a company of dragoons distance 20 miles.

November 10th 1855

Closed our duties at Los Lunas and started at noon for Albuquerque which we reach after dark. Road up

the valley of the Rio Grande in part deep mud or sand, country a valley, not very interesting and towns or ranches through which we passed very dirty distance 23 Miles

November 11-1855 Sund[a]y

Remained at Albuquerque during the day and started at noon on the 12th and reached Algodones that day and left early on the 13th reached Santa Fe at 4 pm

distances

From Santa Fe to Albuquerque	67 miles
Albuquerque-Fort Defiance	166 "
Do - Los Lunas	23 "
	256

November 15-1855

Started at 9 A.m. from Santa Fe to make an inspection of Ordnance property at Fort Union and reach Peats Rancho [later owned by James Gray (1856), followed by Martin Kozlowski (1858)] at the old Pecos Church at 4 p.m. Road bad and weather cold. Distance 26 Miles

November 16-1855

Left Peats at 7 A.m and reached Tucolota [Tecolote] at 4 p.m. weather still cold, Roads better distance 37 Miles

November 17-1855

Left Moores [William H. Moore operated a trading post and military forage station at Tecolote] at 7 A.m. and reached Fort Union at 8 P.m. Weather warm at mid day, which melted the snow, and made the wheeling very heavy, and consequently fagged our mules. distance 34 miles.

November 18th Sund[a]y

Remained at rest, and on the 19th commenced my inspections, and closed the same on Saturday the 1st of December and made preparations to return

December 2nd Sund[a]y

Started for Santa Fe to join General Garland who it was presumed would leave on the 6th for El Paso. To aid us as the road was heavy obtained the service of four mules to Vagus and reached Tucolota at night fall—34 Miles

December 3rd 1855

Left Tucolota at 8 A.m and reached San Jose at noon and Peats at 4 pm, Passed the mail for the States near San Jose. distance 37 Miles

December 4-1855

Left Peats at 8 A.m and reached Santa Fe at 8 P.m Road better than when we passed over it for Fort Union. Weather cold—26 Miles

	Distances	Miles
From Santa Fe to old Pecos Church	26	
" " " " San Jose	41	
" " " " San Miguel	48	
" " " " Tucolote	63	

"	"	"	"	Los Vegas	74
"	"	"	"	Fort Union	97

December 8th 1855

Left Santa Fe for El Paso at Mid day and reached Degordoes [Delgado's] Ranch at 5 p.m. day very Cold and Snow Squalls. Two officers dismounted distance 16½ Miles

December 9-1855 Sund[a]y

Left delardoes [Delgado's] at 7 and reached Algadones at at 1 P.m day Cold and Clear distance 26½ Miles

December 10th 1855

Left Algadones at 7 A.m. and reached Albuquerque at Mid day day Cold and Winday[windy] Distance 24 Mil[e]s

December 11th, 1855

Remained at Albuquerque to prepare for our March.

December 12-1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and reached Los Lunas at 2 P.M. day very winday The Mountain of Los Ladrones or Robber Mountain Seen looming up a great distance ahead Covered with Snow. our route down the Vallie of the Rio Grande. Country very barren and uninteresting. General Garland, Col Grayson, Majors Nichols, Kendrick, Smith and Thornton Captain [Langdon C.] Easton [quartermaster department] Constituting the party—Escort of 25 Dragoons distance 23 Miles—

December 13th 1855

Left Los Lunas at 7 A.m and reached Sabinal at 3 p.m. Weather fine. Country disolate. Village, dirty. Pass Mount Los Ladrones on the right. The Succoro [Socorro] Mountains Seen far in advance of us. distance 23 Miles.

December 14th 1855

Marched from Sabinal at 7 A.m and reached Limita[r] [now Lemitar] at 1 P.m. Day very pleasant but Cold, Country quite uninteresting. Village at the foot of the Succoro Mountain. the place of the late General [Manuel] Armijo residence, at whose house we lodged for the night. Mount St. Christopher Seen rising ahead people and places no better than named before. distance 26¼ Miles

December 15-1855

Marched from Limita[r] at 7 A.m and reached old Fort Conrad at 3 p.m. day very pleasant. Passed clumps of Cotton wood trees along our route, called Boskers [Bosques]. Hills very barren as scarcely any thing else Could be Seen than Masses of Stone generally volcanic or trap rock, with a few Stunted Cedar trees intervening. Mount Ch[r]istopher becoming more prominent. passed Fort Conrad about a mile & Stopped at Beckwiths Rancho [military forage station] for the night distance 31¾ Miles

December 16th 1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and reached Fort Craig at 10 A.m. [Brevet] Col. [Daniel T.] Chandler [Captain, Third Infantry] Commanding. Country the Same as the day previous. day very fine distance 10½ Miles.

December 17th 1855

Marched at 9 A.m. and encamped at the foot of Mount Christopher at the Adoby Wall at 3 p.m. Country More rough and barrent[?]. The Mountain on the opposite Side of the river. Being in the vall[e]y the night was very Cold. Made the inspection of the Ordnance property at the Fort previous to leaving which employed all of My time distance 20 Miles

December 18th 1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and encamped at Sun down. Wood Scarce and that obtain was green Cotton Wood, about as good for fires as ice. Road very bad during the day being Mostly over rough lava on pedregal hills, and deep Sand vallies, high Mountains Seen at great distances around us.

Passed Mount Christopher on our left during the day. Detailed as officer of the Night, and in the inspection of the guard, a Musket doubly loaded was accidentally fired, and by its recoil My hand was injured. Camp at South End of "E" Company Grove distance 31¼ Miles—

December 19th 1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and reached Fort Thorn at 3 p.m. Road over pedregal hills and very bad. By Some Care it [could] be much Shortened and improved Country rugged and uninteresting Weather very fine. distance 31¼ Miles. [Brevet] Mjr [William Nicholson] Grier [Captain, First Dragoons] Commanding

December 20th 1855

Served as a Member of a General Court Martial and Inspected the Ordnance property at the Post. General Garland an[d] others officers left at 3 p.m. and encamped about 10½ Miles from the Post. Having Closed My duties I started with a Dragoon as an Escort to over take the Command. When I left fort Thorn it was after dark and I Saw a heavy fire ahead, and Came to the Conclusion it Must be at the Officers Camp. As I rode on the fire Could be Seen extending its Self & I was apprehensive that it might prevent me from reaching Camp. Passed many large Wolves out prowling on the road, Reach Camp about 10 p.m. and found as I Supposed that the fire had originated by lighting the Camp fires. Captain was out hunting when it took place, and he came very near being bur[n]t by it. distance 10½ Miles.

December 21st 1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and reached Don Auna [Doña Aña] at 2 p.m. day very fine. passed Mount Argons & Santa Aige[?] Scenery exceedingly beautiful. Road very heavy being Sandy in places. Cross the Rio Grande about 6 Miles from Camp. Struck the Hornado [Jornada] an[d] desert road about 2 Miles from the River. This Hornado is 90 Miles across and on account of the Indinas [Indians] who live in the adjoining Mountains, and the extreme Cold, and band [sand?] Storms; and the great want of wood and water, it is very dangerous to cross. Hence the Cause why we have Kept down the river route as we have done. The Southern Mail takes the hornado road always as it is Much Shorter and better trav[e]lling, but it often [has] been exposed to great privations and danger distance 25½ Miles—

December 22nd 1855

Marched at 8 A.m. and reached Fort Fillmore at 11 A.m. Road Sandy and heavy. wind Strong which drifted the Sand, and made it very unpleasant travelling. Organ Mountain Close on our left, and from its numers [numerous] points, like organ pipes, it takes its Name. It is rich with Silver ore. A Man by the Name is working a Mine which is exceedingly rich. We passed his furnace. [Lt.] Col [Dixon Stansbury] Miles [Third Infantry] commanding at Fort Fillmore. And Captain [John] Pope with a force of citizens and a Company of Infantry at Dona Anna Making experiments in Sinking Artesian Wells. Made the inspection of the ordnance property at Fort Fillmore distance 13½ Miles

December 23-1855

Marched at 7 A.m. and reached Fort Bliss three Miles below the falls of El Paso at 4 pm. day Cold and high wind. Making the travelling quite unpleasant Country rough. Passed the Monument Set up by the boundary Commissioners between the U.S. and Mexico. [Brevet Lt.] Col. Reeves [Isaac Van Duzer Reeve, Captain Fourth Infantry] Comd Fort Bliss. distance 40½ Mil[e]s

December 24th 1855

Made the Inspection of the Ordnance property at Fort Bliss.

December 25-1855

Dined at Judge Heart's [Simeon Hart] who has an extensive F[l]ouring Mills at the falls of El Paso, and returned to the Fort.

December 26th 1855

On duty as a Member of a General Court Martial. An extensive rob[b]ery committed by four Soldiers who escaped with their plunder across the Rio Grande into Mexico.

December 27-1855

Visited Mr Hearts [Hart's] to hear a Masonic address by Col. Grayson and

after some refreshment given by Judge Heart returned to the Fort.

December 28-1855

Closed our duties as a General Court Martial, and the inspection of Ordnance property

December 29-1855

The General, Major Nichols, Grayson[,] Smith and Kendrick [Henry Lane Kendrick?], went down the River to the Village of Sucora to a Ball on Bylie[?]

December 30-1855

Partie [Party] returned from the Ball, Weather very Cold.

December 31st 1855

Mustered and Inspected and finished our duties.

(concluded next issue)

FORT LEARNED

—TEACHERS' TRADING POST—

Karla French, Editor

(Karla French is chair of the SFTA Education Committee and may be reached at PO Box 2, Bairoil WY 82322, email <kfrench@trib.com>.)

The education committee is discussing ways to educate young people about the Trail and its heritage. We would like to hear from members. We know that there are many activities going on in a number of communities along the Trail. Please send information about these so we can let others know.

We also want to educate teachers by having workshops whenever possible. This will be done at the 1999 symposium. Although not all of us are professional teachers, we can be educators about the Trail.

We encourage members to brainstorm new ideas to reach youth and families. Some communities already use their local recreation department to offer short programs or field trips for youth during the summer months. Adult short courses are also avenues for education.

Perhaps a chapter could sponsor a "mini" symposium in the summer months aimed at youth and families, with hands-on activities related to the Trail. The Symposium/Rendezvous Review Task Force suggested mini symposiums. Some topics for these could be cooking, crafts, setting up camp, loading a wagon with supplies and trade goods, seeing wagons and horses (mules and oxen) as they harness or yoke up and move out. Students could hike the Trail,

bike, take a wagon ride in some areas such as the Cimarron National Grassland near Elkhart, camp out, learn about the clothing of the day, play period games, go see a buffalo herd, make and eat jerky, and whatever else could be thought up. The list is endless.

Picture a Vacation Santa Fe Trail School with learning centers, short lessons and activities put on for a few hours, a day, or even a few days. We could promote these activities on the web site as a family vacation. Perhaps we could have several over the summer at sites along the Trail so that families could travel the Trail and attend more than one.

For special occasions, consider reenactors who accurately portray life on the Trail. Each of the sites on the Trail has a unique point of view, a particular history of who, when, and why travelers were there. We could capitalize on the uniqueness.

Is anyone coordinating with or supplementing Boy Scout programs on Trails. Do Girls Scouts or 4-H programs include heritage projects? How could we encourage this?

I would like to hear from the membership at large. Let me know your present activities and your ideas for additional programs to reach youth and families. Those of you not affiliated with a chapter, let us hear from you. We want to promote youth and families along the Trail during the year 2000, and we need your input. Thank you for your help.



HOOF PRINTS

—TRAIL TIDBITS—

Doris Lyons, Santa Fe, member of the End of the Trail Chapter, died June 26, 1999. She was 82. She was a longtime volunteer at the Santa Fe Public Library, to which memorials are suggested. Sympathy is extended to her family.

A new permanent exhibit, "Blazing the Way West: From Lewis and Clark to Fur Traders and Trappers," opened at the National Frontier Trails Center, Independence MO, on June 19, 1999.

An article on "The Two Leaven-

worths," featuring Fort Leavenworth and the City of Leavenworth, appeared in the February 1999 issue of *Motorhome Magazine*. Both Leavenworths were closely connected to the Santa Fe Trail.

Bonita Oliva's fine article, "Rare Jackson County Trail Swales Discovered," that appeared in the last issue of *WT* was reprinted as "Rare Swales Discovered in Missouri," in the Spring 1999 issue of *Pathways Across America: A Newsletter for National Scenic and Historic Trails*.

Wet/Dry Routes Chapter Vice-President Howard Losey has assumed the duties of editor of the chapter's newsletter, *Traces*. He produces a handsome and informative publication.

Wet/Dry Routes Chapter member Shirley Stein was recently inducted into the Kansas Teachers' Hall of Fame. Congratulations Shirley!

Charles and Jean Hinkle, Las Vegas, NM, recently completed their trip over the Trail and earned the dinner certificate for The Fort. They are the sixth entrant to complete the Traveler's Credential, and they had the most stamps so far.

The new sod house at the Santa Fe Trail Center, Larned KS, is now completed. Visitors are welcome.

SFTA members Chris Day and Marcia Fox conduct a Trail trip for 5th and 6th grade students at Wamego, KS, in odd-numbered years. Their web page is at <<http://www.usd320.k12.ks.us/sft/sft.htm>>.

The *Lamar Daily News* carried a feature article about the Trail on June 11, 1999. The story and photos by Joy Blanton opened the special travel and tourism section.

The Missouri River Outfitters Chapter and the National Frontier Trails Center have produced an informative brochure on "Frontier Trail Sites of Independence Missouri." It includes a map and information on 17 sites.

A brand new 2-vol. book, *Cherokee Trail Diaries*, has just been published by Patricia and Jack Fletcher and Lee Whiteley. The Cherokee

Trail followed a portion of the Santa Fe Trail. For more information and to order, see their website at <www.Olympus.net/personal/jpfletcher/che rokettrail/home/html>.

Several organizations in Las Vegas, NM, have joined together to create a new brochure, "Historic Las Vegas New Mexico: Along the Santa Fe Trail." Copies are available from the Las Vegas CCHP, PO Box 728, Las Vegas NM 87701.

Robert L. Duffus's classic, *The Santa Fe Trail*, is back in print and available from Last Chance Store.

COUNCIL TROVE

—DOCUMENTS—

INDIAN VILLAGE ON PAWNEE FORK

Dave Webb located the following material about Gen. W. S. Hancock's destruction of the Cheyenne and Sioux village on Pawnee Fork, on April 19, 1867, in a letter from Indian Agent E. W. Wynkoop to Thomas Murphy, superintendent of the Central Indian Agency, dated September 14, 1867. Only a portion of the letter is reproduced here:

My attention having just been attracted to a communication in the "Army and Navy Journal" and other papers from Major General Hancock to General Grant in reference to his late operations in the country of the Indians included in my Agency, which is calculated to cast some reflection upon me in consequence of the representation that I made at the time to my Department in regard to his course; which representations were simply the facts in the premises, but which Gen. Hancock endeavours to prove were misrepresentations, on my part, I consider it a duty I owe to myself to set myself right before the Dept. and the public; by replying to the communication mentioned, and endeavouring to prove that Gen. Hancock and not myself was mistaken in some particulars referred to by him, I shall also endeavour to prove that Gen. Hancock was not only mistaken in certain particulars but that his whole course in reference to the Indians of my Agency was a mistake and as long as Gen. Hancock's communication has had publicity given to it by being published in numerous Journals throughout the United States, I think it will be no more than an act of justice to myself, to have the same publicity given to this, my reply.

In the first communication that Gen. Hancock addressed to myself informing me of his intention of making an expedition to the plains he says, "I request that you will inform them (the Indians) in such a manner as you may think proper, that I expect shortly to visit their neighbourhood and that I will be glad to have an interview with their chiefs."

[text of Hancock's March 11 letter:]

I have the honor to address this letter to you for the purpose of informing you that I have about completed my arrangements to move a force to the plains, and only await a proper condition of the roads to march.

My object in making an expedition at this time is, to show the Indians within the limits of this Department, that we are able to chastise any tribes who may molest people who are traveling across the plains. It is not our desire to bring on difficulties with the Indians, but to treat them with justice and according to our treaty stipulations, and I desire especially in my dealings with them, to act through their Agents as far as practicable.

In reference to the Cheyenne of your Agency in particular, I may say that we have just grounds of grievance. One is that they have not delivered up the murderer [said to have been Fox Tail, son of Medicine Arrows] of the New Mexican at Zarah [in November 1866]. I also believe that I have evidence sufficient to fix upon different bands of that tribe, whose Chiefs are known, several of the outrages committed on the Smoky Hill, last summer.

I request that you will inform them in such a manner as you may think proper, that I expect shortly to visit their neighborhood, and that I will be glad to have an interview with their Chiefs; and tell them also, if you please, that I will go fully prepared for peace or war, and that hereafter, I will insist upon their keeping off the main lines of travel, where their presence is calculated to bring about collisions with the whites.

If you county prevail upon the Indians of your Agency to abandon their habit of infesting the country traversed by our Overland routes, threatening, robbing and intimidating travellers, we will defer that matter to you. If not, I would be pleased by your presence with me when I visit the locality of your tribes, to show that the officers of the Government are acting in harmony.

[Wynkoop's September 14 letter continues:]

In accordance with the request made by Gen. Hancock I assembled the principal chiefs of the dog soldiers of the Cheyennes at Fort Larned for the purpose of having an interview with him (Gen. Hancock). These chiefs

obeyed my summons with alacrity coming a distance of 35 miles to this Post through a deep snow though their ponies who subsist entirely upon grass were in miserable condition being scarcely able to travel[.] The chiefs referred to belonged to the village which was afterwards destroyed by Gen. Hancock. a council was held with these chiefs by the General in his camp at night such a thing being heretofore unknown as holding a friendly converse with an assemblage of Indian chiefs after sunset it is as they term it "against their medicine" and that fact alone was calculated to a certain degree to make them feel suspicious.

Gen. Hancock says in his communication from which I have quoted that he will defer certain matters to me connected with the Indians of my Agency but in the council referred to he took upon himself the whole conduct of affairs, reprimanded the Indians for supposed depredations committed by them and stated that he was about to march his column of troops up to their village which village was 35 miles from any travelled road. "Tall Bull" one of the principal men of his tribe in reply to Gen. Hancock stated—that from the time that he had taken me by the hand about a year previous he had held firmly to the peace then made and that his band had not been engaged in any acts of hostility towards the whites subsequent to that date; and afterwards in a conversation with myself said that he was fearful of the consequences of Gen. Hancock marching his column up to his village as it was calculated to frighten the women and children who had not yet forgotten the fearful massacre at Sand Creek; previous to Gen. Hancock's departure from this Post I expressed to him my fears of the result of his marching troops immediately on to the Indian village but notwithstanding he persisted in doing so[.] The village was located 35 miles west of this Post on the Pawnee Fork and the column started directly away from the Santa Fe road, the great highway of this country and marched up the Pawnee Fork in the direction of the Indian village; said column was composed of Cavalry, Infantry, and Artillery together with a Pontoon train and had as formidable an aspect and presented as warlike an appearance as any that ever marched to meet an enemy on a battle-field[.] I accompanied the column for the purpose of subserving the interests of my Dept. by looking after the interests of the Indians of my Agency as far as lay in my power; some of the chiefs who had been in council on the first days march rode along side of me exhibiting in various ways their

fear of the result of this expedition not fearful of their own lives or liberty as they rode boldly in the midst of the column but fearful of the panic which they expected to be created among their women and children; upon the arrival of the troops; some 22 or 23 miles from Fort Larned we went into camp[,] the chiefs still remaining with the troops as well as another small party of warriors who had met the column during the day, upon going into camp it was the understanding that we were within five or six miles of the Indian village and Gen. Hancock despatched some of the chiefs that night to bring the principal men in at 9 o'clock the next morning for the purpose of having a talk with them; the Indians had not made their appearance at the time specified the Gen. allowed a short time to elapse and their not still making their appearance he expressed himself to the effect that he believed that they felt guilty and would not come and accordingly struck his camp and started in the direction of the Indian village the majority of the chiefs who had been present at the council still remaining with the column, after making a march of about six miles we came in sight of about three hundred Indians rapidly marching toward the camp, we had left, our column was immediately halted the Infantry and Artillery formed in line the Cavalry coming up at the same time with drawn sabres the whole command presenting such an appearance as I have seen just prior to the opening of an engagement[.] The consequence was that the Indians halted at some distance became unsteady and some of them who were in the rear on foot precipitately fled, not knowing what the Indians might do under the circumstances I asked permission of Gen. Hancock to ride toward the Indian lines for the purpose of reassuring them with my presence, permission being granted I rode into the centre of their line, apparently overjoyed when they recognized me the surrounded my horse expressing their delight at seeing me there saying that now they knew everything was all right and they would not be harmed, recognizing one of their principal war chiefs Roman Nose I galloped toward him instructing him to immediately send and bring those Indians who were in flight and keep all his people steady as they would not be harmed. I then learned that the Indian village instead of being five or six miles from our camp as we had supposed, was at least fifteen—that the Indians had started as soon as possible after receiving Gen. Hancock's message for the purpose of obeying his instructions by coming to talk with him I conducted the principal

men and met Gen. Hancock with his Generals and their staffs nearly midway between the two lines. Gen. Hancock then told the chiefs that it was too windy to talk then and there, that he was going to march on to their village and he would hold a council there that evening. The chiefs then left and the balance of the Indians then moved off rapidly in the direction of their village. Gen. Hancock's column then took up the line of march in the same direction in a short time afterward, during one of the halts, at the solicitation of Bull Bear the principal chief of the Dog Soldiers as interpreted by Edmond Guerrier I appealed to Gen. Hancock requesting him not to march his column of troops up to the village as I feared the result would be the flight of the women and children from the same. He said, it was his intention to camp his troops in the immediate vicinity of said village; upon our arrival after having made camp within a few hundred yards from said village we learned that the women and children had fled but that the men still remained. Gen. Hancock immediately summoned the principal men before him which summons they obeyed promptly and presented themselves before his tent, he asked them why the women and children had fled on his approach. Roman Nose one of the chiefs replied by asking him the question whether the women and children of the whites were not as a general thing more timid than the men who were supposed to be warriors and not afraid of anything that he himself (Roman Nose) who was a warrior and his comrades who surrounded him were not afraid of Gen. Hancock and his troops but their women and children were and also desired to know whether Gen. Hancock had ever heard of the massacre at Sand Creek where many women and children of his tribe were murdered by U.S. troops who came under the same aspect as that now presented by Gen. Hancock's column and whether it was not natural under those circumstances for their women and children to become panic stricken; the only reply that I heard from Gen. Hancock was that he wanted them (the principal men) to immediately start out and bring in their women and children as he considered it an act of treachery on their part the fact of their having fled. Three of the chiefs replied that they were willing to start immediately and that they would endeavour to bring back the women and children but appeared doubtful as to their meeting with success. They asked the General to loan them some horses as their ponies were not in condition. The horses were furnished, and they started, returning at midnight

sending back the horses borrowed and stating that it was impossible to return their women and children who were then scattered in every direction on the Prairie. A short time after the chiefs returned Gen. Hancock surrounded the village with his Cavalry and found it evacuated by all except an idiot girl and an old broken legged Sioux Indian. That night in my presence, expressed his determination of burning the village the next day; in his letter he says—"My official report of the operations of the Expedition last Spring shows conclusively that I did not determine to destroy the Indian villages until I had learned officially of the outrage committed on the Smoky Hill by the Indians (Sioux and Cheyennes) who had treacherously left their camps on Pawnee Fork on the 14th of April or during the previous night.["]

Although Gen. Hancock states that no offensive operations were carried on against the Indians of my Agency prior to the burning of the Station on the Smoky Hill I have to refer to his own report with reference to the killing of the six Cheyenne Indians who were attempting to cross the Arkansas River near the Cimerone Crossing. Those Indians were killed before any word had been received from Gen. Custer and in accordance with an order from Gen. Hancock despatched on the night of the Indians flight to stop all Indians from crossing the Arkansas River. Prior to the burning of the village I sent to Gen. Hancock the following letter of protest to which I never received any written reply:

Camp on Pawnee Fork

April 13th [18th] 1867

General:

For a long time I have made the Indian character my chief study. I regard the late movement for the Cheyennes of my Agency as caused by fear alone, so far as I am able to judge. They met us at first with a determination to have a peaceful talk, at such a distance from their village as would make their women and children satisfied that no danger need be apprehended by them. Your movement toward the village terrified the squaws and children, who left with such movable property as they could gather.

I learn that you propose destroying the lodges and other property now remaining in the village. I would most respectfully request you not to do so.

I am fully convinced that the result would be an Indian outbreak of the most serious nature, while at the same time there is no evidence, in my judgment, that this band of Cheyennes are deserving this severe punishment. I am influenced alone in this communicat-

ing with you by what I consider a strict sense of duty.

[Wynkoop's September 14 letter continues:]

Gen. Hancock states that the depredation[s] committed on the Smoky Hill immediately after the evacuation of the village were committed by a portion of the same body of Indians about eight hundred strong who crossed the Smoky Hill road on the 16th of April and reported themselves to be "Sioux" "Cheyennes" & "Pawnees"; I would beg leave to draw your attention to the fact that is well known by every man who has the least knowledge of Indian Affairs in this country; that the Pawnees are the hereditary enemies of the Cheyennes and Sioux and war has always existed between them. I also reiterate what I have stated in former communications that he first courier who arrived from Gen. Custer after leaving in pursuit of the Indians brought the news that the Cheyennes had turned south while Gen. Custer has following the Sioux trail.

Gen. Hancock also says:—

"In reference to the statement of Colonel Wynkoop that the village of the Cheyennes was distinct from that of the Sioux I can only say that the villages stood upon the same ground, and I was unable after an inspection which I made in person to distinguish with any certainty the lodges of the Cheyennes from those of the Sioux; nor could any of the officers who were with me say positively where the line of separation between the villages commenced."—

And yet Gen. Hancock ordered his Inspector General to furnish me with an inventory of the property contained in the Cheyenne village as well as the Sioux which inventory was made out under the head of "Cheyenne village" and "Sioux village" and forwarded by me to your Dep't.

Gen. Hancock again says "that it is not seen upon what grounds the Indians became fully impressed with the belief that he had come for the purpose of murdering their women and children as had previously been done at Sand Creek." In reply to that I would state that the only way the Indians had of judging what his intentions might be were from appearances and appearances were much the same as those prior to the massacre at Sand Creek.

The nation knows, and I know who Gen. Hancock is—know him for the good, brave, faithful soldier, who has won the proud position he now holds through gallant and meritorious services but, the Indians were not aware of Gen. Hancock's antecedents, and had no means of discriminating between

him and Colonel Chivington; or distinguishing the man from the monster.

CAMP TALES

—CHAPTER REPORTS—

Chapter presidents with e-mail, please provide that address to *WT*.

Wet/Dry Routes Chapter Webmaster Larry Mix has offered to put all current chapter newsletters on the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter web page. Send him your newsletter by e-mail or on disk (he will not keyboard from your hard copy) to 202 N Gray St, St John KS 67576.

Cimarron Cutoff

President Helen C. Brown
PO Box 1400
Elkhart KS 67950
(316) 697-4597

The chapter met April 24 in Clayton, NM, with 23 persons present. Following a catered buffet, Wanna Hall presented a program on Baby Doe Tabor. President Helen Brown reported the results of the chapter survey taken in January.

Brown presented the following Presidential Awards: Chapter Ambassador, Phyllis Randolph; Bullwacker Award, Florence Merritt; Wagon Master Award, David Hutchison; and Trail Buff Award, Leo and Mary Gamble.

Brown reported on the SFTA Board meeting she attended on April 17. The July 10 chapter meeting was held in Springfield, CO.

Texas Panhandle

President Kathy Revett
1227 S Bryan
Amarillo TX 79102
(806) 371-9309
<krevett@arn.net>

The summer meeting will be held August 8 at the Amarillo Central Library. Revised bylaws for the chapter will be presented for adoption. Vice-president Clint Chambers will present the program.

Wagonbed Springs

President Jeff Trotman
PO Box 1005
Ulysses KS 67880
(316) 356-1854

The quarterly meeting was held July 8 in Ulysses, KS.

Wagonbed Springs has become a popular place for end-of-year school field trips. On May 12 Shirley Stein's 5th grade class from Sullivan School

toured the area, some of them wore pioneer dress. Other groups at the site included Rolling Hills Christian School of Lakin, two groups from the local Grant County Recreation "Kids Club," and Ulysses 4-H Club Trail Ride for St. Jude's Hospital.

On May 4 the Cimarron River was running with great force. Many visitors commented about how nice it was to see water flowing in what usually is a sandy river bed. The river is dry again now, but it has a much cleaner appearance due to the recent flow of water.

The spring rains in southwest Grant County over the past five or six years have had a permanent effect on the Trail ruts at Wagonbed Springs. They have been eroded away by the runoff. Gary Begnoche and James Pena of the Natural Resource Conservation Service surveyed the area and concluded that the total amount of runoff affecting the area consists of approximately 638 acres of upland area to the northwest of the Trail ruts at the site.

Erin Batman and James Pena of the Grant County Natural Resource Conservation Service in Ulysses have been working with landowner Jim Allen on a cost-share program to install a graded diversion, to divert the runoff from the historic site. In mid-June the diversion project was completed.

Heart of the Flint Hills

President Donald B. Cress
RR 1 Box 66
Council Grove KS 66846
(316) 767-5826

Everyone in the chapter is busy with preparations for the symposium and looks forward to seeing you in Council Grove in September.

End of the Trail

President George Donoho Bayless
PO Box 156
Chama NM 87520
(888) 368-4868

On May 15 the End of the Trail and Corazon de los Caminos chapters co-sponsored an outing to San Miguel del Vado during New Mexico Preservation Week. Elisia Bustamante, owner of the endangered "customs house" at San Miguel, welcomed us to her home and the town. Frances Levine, ethnohistorian and head of the Arts and Sciences De-

partment at Santa Fe Community College, presented a historical summary of San Miguel. Father James Foley, pastor at San Miguel, discussed a history of the church. About 100 people attended. The presenters made an outstanding contribution to our knowledge of this historical treasure. Ann Ortiz, who has been mapping the Trail in the area for our chapter, pointed out some interesting ruts near San Miguel and at San Jose.

On July 11 the formal dedication of the Trail crossing markers to the City of Santa Fe was held (see article on page 1).

The July 17 meeting was held at the Albuquerque Museum. David Kammer, who researches cultural landscapes with an interest in historical preservation, gave a presentation, "Route 66 and the Santa Fe Trail." He discussed the evolution of "corridors" developed for the movement of people, from old trails to modern highways. Interestingly, old Highway 1 in New Mexico, before federal involvement, followed the Santa Fe Trail from Raton to Santa Fe and then followed the Camino Real to El Paso. Kammer concluded that the stories around trails, railroads, highways, and the interstates make up the history of a state like New Mexico.

On July 29, at the Eldorado Community Center, the chapter presented "Petticoat Pioneers" by SFTA board members Anne Mallinson and Nancy Lewis. Dressed in 19th-century attire, they related the story of western women who helped shape American social progress.

The next meeting will be September 18. Don Alberts will conduct a tour of Civil War sites around Glorieta Pass.

Corazon de los Caminos

President Steve Whitmore
120 Gabaldón Rd
Las Vegas NM 87701
(505) 454-0683

About 30 members made the trip to Elizabethtown on May 16 for an excellent program by Jack Urban. Urban recounted the history of this gold-mining boom town, once home to 7,000 fortune hunters, now truly a ghost town. A few stone walls remain, plus a cemetery, a private museum (opened this year early for our



Dedication of Trail Crossing Markers in Santa Fe, July 11, 1999, l to r, Craig Watts, George Bayless, Marc Simmons, Margaret Sears, David Gaines, and Larry Delgado.

meeting), and lots of hills which are actually gravel heaps from the mines. In its heyday E-town was an important market for Santa Fe Trail traders, who left the Mountain Route at Cimarrón or brought their wagons directly up Cimarrón Canyon, using the toll road built by Lucien Maxwell.

The preceding day 20 members attended the program at San Miguel del Vado organized by the End of the Trail Chapter for New Mexico Heritage Preservation Week, and co-sponsored by Corazón de los Caminos. We met in the San Miguel church for a talk by Father James Foley about the church, then heard a talk by historian Fran Levine of Santa Fé on the history of San Miguel del Vado and neighboring settlements on the Pecos River. Some restoration is underway on the church and its artwork; more is planned. Levine has a book scheduled for publication this fall on the history of the Pecos Valley.

Elisia Bustamante, who with her family owns several buildings in San Miguel, guided a walking tour of the village. After lunch in her placita, participants drove to San Jose del Vado and saw some classic deep Trail ruts en route.

The location of the June 19 and 20 meeting was the Stonewall and Trinidad areas. Twenty-two members gathered at the grave sites of Marion and Richard Russell at the cemetery at Stonewall, CO. Local historian Richard Loudon gave an

account of the years the Russells lived in Stonewall that ended with the tragic death of Richard during a confrontation between deputies representing the Maxwell Land Grant and local residents, whose land holdings were being taken over by the land-grant interests. Loudon, Branson, CO, is a well-known rancher and local historian in the Southern Colorado area and very kindly entertained the group with his knowledge of the Russell family and the area. The following day, twelve members visited the Baca and Bloom houses in Trinidad and the newly organized SFT and local history museum. The tour of these three buildings was arranged by Paula Manini, museum director.

The chapter's efforts in mapping the SFT from the Pecos River to the Colorado border was the focus of the July 18 meeting. Mapping chairman, Mike Macklin, and Hal Jackson demonstrated the fundamentals of mapping including the Global Positioning System (GPS), and led the group to two sections of the Trail with impressive ruts near Steve and Mary Whitmore's home.

Teresa and Walter Pickett have given the chapter a record which they have compiled of all the DAR SFT markers in New Mexico, with many color photographs of the markers and their surrounding locations. It is a valuable and handsome document, not only about the Trail, but also about efforts to commemorate and preserve the it.

Wet/Dry Routes

President Rusti Gardner
801 Vernon Dr
Larned KS 67550
<jaxrus@larned.net>

The June 26 meeting was held at the "Little Red House" in Larned, KS. The "Little Red House" is a replica of Larned's first building, originally the sutler's mess house at Fort Larned. Town founder, Henry Booth, moved the building from the post down the south bank of the Pawnee Fork and floated it across the swollen stream to a site now occupied by Schnack Lowrey Park. It served as a post office, residence, saloon, dance hall, and school. The first school teacher christened it "The Little Red House" and it has been called that since. The replica is now located at 2nd and State streets and when completely renovated will serve as a historic landmark.

The featured event at the meeting was a sumptuous potluck supper with the mouth-watering entrée of deep-fried turkey furnished by hosts Alice and David Clapsaddle.

Items discussed during the business meeting included completion of the *Directory* book, report on the recently-held seminar, preliminary plans for the 2000 seminar, Faye Anderson Committee member continuity, liability insurance for interpretive marker sites, chapter boundaries for mapping purposes, bylaws, and speakers' bureau grant for 1999.

After the meeting, members were treated with a tram ride visit to Larned's historic sites.

Recently three of the chapter's five new interpretive markers were placed at the Pawnee Fork crossing on the Wet Route, at the roadside park in Offerle explaining that the original Dry Route passed one mile north of the marker on its course between Big Coon Creek crossing and the Caches and that the later Dry Route passed one mile south of the marker, and at the junction of the Wet and Dry routes one mile east of Fort Dodge.

The two additional markers will soon be installed at the Forks in Santa Fe Road and at the junction of the Fort Larned Military Road and the Wet Route.

Dodge City/Fort Dodge

David Kloppenborg

PO Box 441
Bucklin KS 67834
(316) 826-3537

SFTA President Margaret Sears was a guest at our noon meeting on May 7. Her update on SFTA happenings was interesting and informative. We also presume she enjoyed the D.C. steak served at the Cowtown Club Thursday evening in honor of her visit.

On July 3 the third annual July 4 celebration was held at Fort Dodge. And for the third year our chapter sponsored an event for the day-long celebration. This year the chapter featured Marla Matkin's first-person interpretation, "Elizabeth Bacon Custer, Libbie's Story." Over 200 adults and youngsters crowded Eisenhower Hall to learn more about the life of George A. Custer.

On September 17 we will present another lady of history, Arlene Feldman Junken. She is the great-granddaughter of Sophia German and will be our presenter for a noon meeting at the Gunsmoke Restaurant.

Missouri River Outfitters

President Roger Slusher
1412 South St
Lexington MO 64067
(660) 259-2900

The chapter met July 25 at the National Frontier Trails Center in Independence, MO. John Atkinson presented a fascinating slide program on the Bent brothers.

The mapping/marketing committee has been researching archives for verification of Trail locations. Chairman John Schumacher has obtained matching funds to hire a graduate student to do additional research.

The next chapter meeting will be held jointly with the Friends of the NFTC on September 16 at the National Frontier Trails Center. The program will be on riverboat travel. For more information, contact Nancy Lewis (816) 229-8379.

Quivira

President Wayne Smith
1635 2nd Rd
Raymond KS 67573-9624
(316) 534-2821

No report.

Cottonwood Crossing

President Vernon Lohrentz
205 Beverly
Newton KS 67114
(316) 284-2095

On May 13 the chapter met at the Maynard Krehbiel farm, two miles north of Elyria. Krehbiel raises draft horses, including a Percheron stallion which he prizes highly. The highlight of the evening was a horse-drawn hayrack ride out to the location of the Trail, 3/4-mile north of his farm.

The chapter is working on a map of all the Trail markers, from Empire to the eastern Marion County line near Lost Springs. This will include the six stoneposts the chapter placed at various Trail sites earlier this year. These maps should be ready to use in time for the symposium.

The next chapter meeting on September 30 will feature Jack Fletcher of Sequim, WA (meeting place to be announced). Fletcher has written a book about the Cherokee Trail, which connected with the Santa Fe Trail near Elyria in McPherson County. John Dick is searching for a stone that placed years ago to mark the juncture of the two trails. Any information on the present location of that stone would be greatly appreciated. The Cherokee Trail angled across Marion County from near Burns toward Goessel. It came from southeastern Kansas to this area. It figures most prominently in Santa Fe Trail history during the gold rush of 1849 and 1850. Fletcher plans to attend the symposium to promote his new book.

Bent's Fort Chapter

President Lolly Ming
1841 County Rd DD
Pritchett CO 81064
(719) 523-6968

No report.

NEW SFTA MEMBERS

This list includes new memberships received since the last issue. Those received after this printing will appear in the next issue. If there is an error in this information, please send corrections to the editor. We thank you for your support.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Shirley E. & Max E. Brown, 5001 S Beller St, Greenwood Village CO 80111
Jerry & Ruth Eskew, 52679 Road M, Walsh CO 81090
Frances M. Gordon, 15 Highland St #113, West Hartford CT 06119
Cynthia Leespring & Rick Tashi, PO Box 642, Ribera NM 87560

Al Lowman, 3603 Hunter Rd, San Marcos TX 78666
 M/M Howard Miller, 702 That Way, Lake Jackson TX 77566
 Phyllis Morgan & H. Thomas Cox, 5801 Eubank Blvd NE Apt 295, Albuquerque NM 87111
 Charles & Anita Kay Strom, 407 Main - Parkerville St, White City KS 66872

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Linda S. Johnston, 3632 Falkner Dr, Naperville IL 60564
 Richard Klein, 1537 7th St, Bremerton WA 98337
 James I. Matsler, PO Box 594, Alto NM 88312
 Dana Pabst, 920 South Third, Jacksonville OR 97530
 Helen Parker, HCR 3 Box 6, Boise City OK 73933
 Kent Sherman, 911 N Durham, Ulysses KS 67880
 Joseph W. Smith, 235 Lyell St, Los Altos CA 94022

YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS

Max Cashion, 336 Everhard Road SW, North Canton OH 44709

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 November, so send information for December and later to arrive by October 20, 1999. Thank you.

Sept. 10-11, 1999: Fort Osage Rendezvous, Jackson County MO.

Sept. 11, 1999: Boonslick Folk Music Festival, Arrow Rock MO (660) 882-7821 or (660) 837-3210.

Sept. 11, 1999: Bent's Fort Chapter tour, Higbee area and Nine Mile Valley (719) 523-6968.

Sept. 11-Oct. 1, 1999: 10th Annual SFT bicycle trek. Contact Willard Chilcott (505) 982-1282 or <Chilcott1@aol.com>.

Sept. 12, 1999: Corazon de los Caminos Chapter meeting, Pecos National Historical Park.

Sept. 16, 1999: Missouri River Outfitters Chapter meeting, National Frontier Trails Center (816) 229-8379.

Sept. 17, 1999: Dodge City/Fort Dodge Chapter meeting at Gun-smoke Restaurant, Dodge City, 12 noon.

Sept. 18, 1999: End of the Trail Chapter field trip to Glorieta Battle sites, conducted by Don Alberts, 10 a.m.

Sept. 18-19: Friends of Arrow Rock Home Tour (660) 837-3231.

Sept. 21, 1999: Living-History Day, Cimarron Heritage Center, Boise City OK (580) 544-3479.

Sept. 23-26, 1999: SFTA Symposium, Council Grove KS. Contact Jim Selby, 200 N Chautauqua, Council Grove KS 66846 (316) 767-6994.

Sept. 25-26, 1999: Old Taos Trade Fair, Taos NM (505) 758-0505.

Oct. 2, 1999: Cimarron County, OK, Santa Fe Trail Tour (580) 544-3479.

Oct. 7-10, 1999: Bent's Old Fort NHS Winter Quarters training program (719) 383-5010.

Oct. 9, 1999: Candlelight tour, Fort Larned NHS, required reservations accepted starting Sept. 20 (316) 285-6911.

Oct. 9-10, 1999: Arrow Rock Annual Heritage Craft Festival (660) 837-3210.

Oct. 9-10, 1999: Wild West Weekend, Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm, Olathe KS (913) 782-6972.

Oct. 14, 1999: Wagonbed Springs Chapter meeting, 6:30 p.m., Daylight Donut, Hugoton KS.

Oct. 17, 1999: Corazon de los Caminos Chapter meeting, Placitas NM, chili feed and guest speaker.

Nov. 6, 1999: Bent's Fort Chapter meeting, place and program to be announced.

Nov. 20, 1999: End of the Trail Chapter meeting at Eldorado Community Center, 1:30 p.m., "Literature on the Santa Fe Trail" by Tom Merlan.

Nov. 21, 1999: Corazon de los Caminos Chapter meeting, Santa Clara Cafe, Wagon Mound NM.

Dec. 3-4, 1999: Traditional Holiday Celebration, Bent's Old Fort NHS.

Dec. 4-5, 1999: Christmas at Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm, Olathe KS (913) 782-6972.

Dec. 11, 1999: Christmas Open House, Fort Larned NHS.

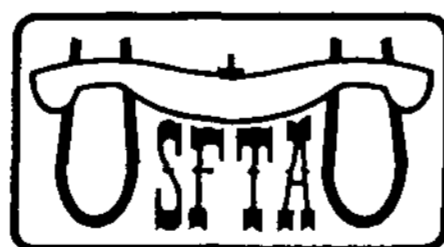
FROM THE EDITOR

This issue marks the end of 13 years of SFTA and *Wagon Tracks* (this is issue number 52). Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this publication over the years. Every issue depends on your assistance. We plan to keep working at it until we get it right. Thanks for the opportunity to be of service to a worthy Association.

We will see you at the symposium. Happy Trails!

—Leo E. Oliva

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