

# Wagon Tracks

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Article 1

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1994

## Wagon Tracks. Volume 8, Issue 4 (August, 1994)

Santa Fe Trail Association

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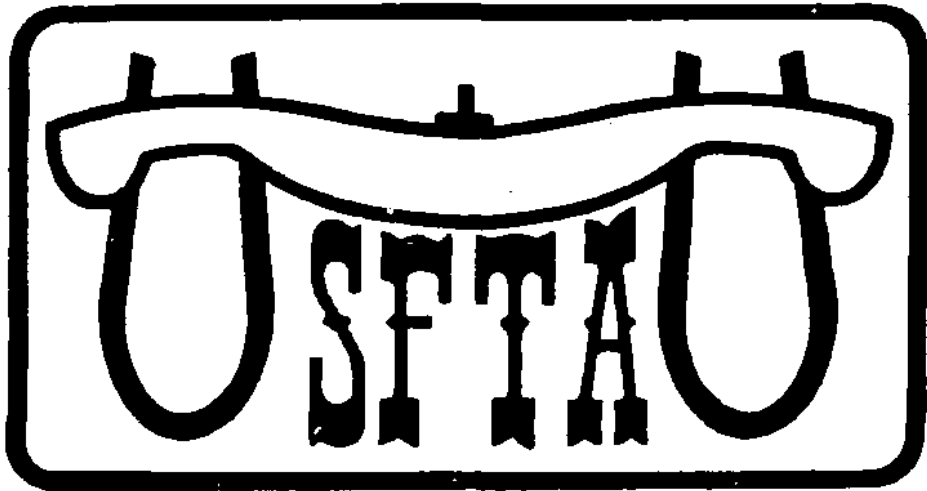
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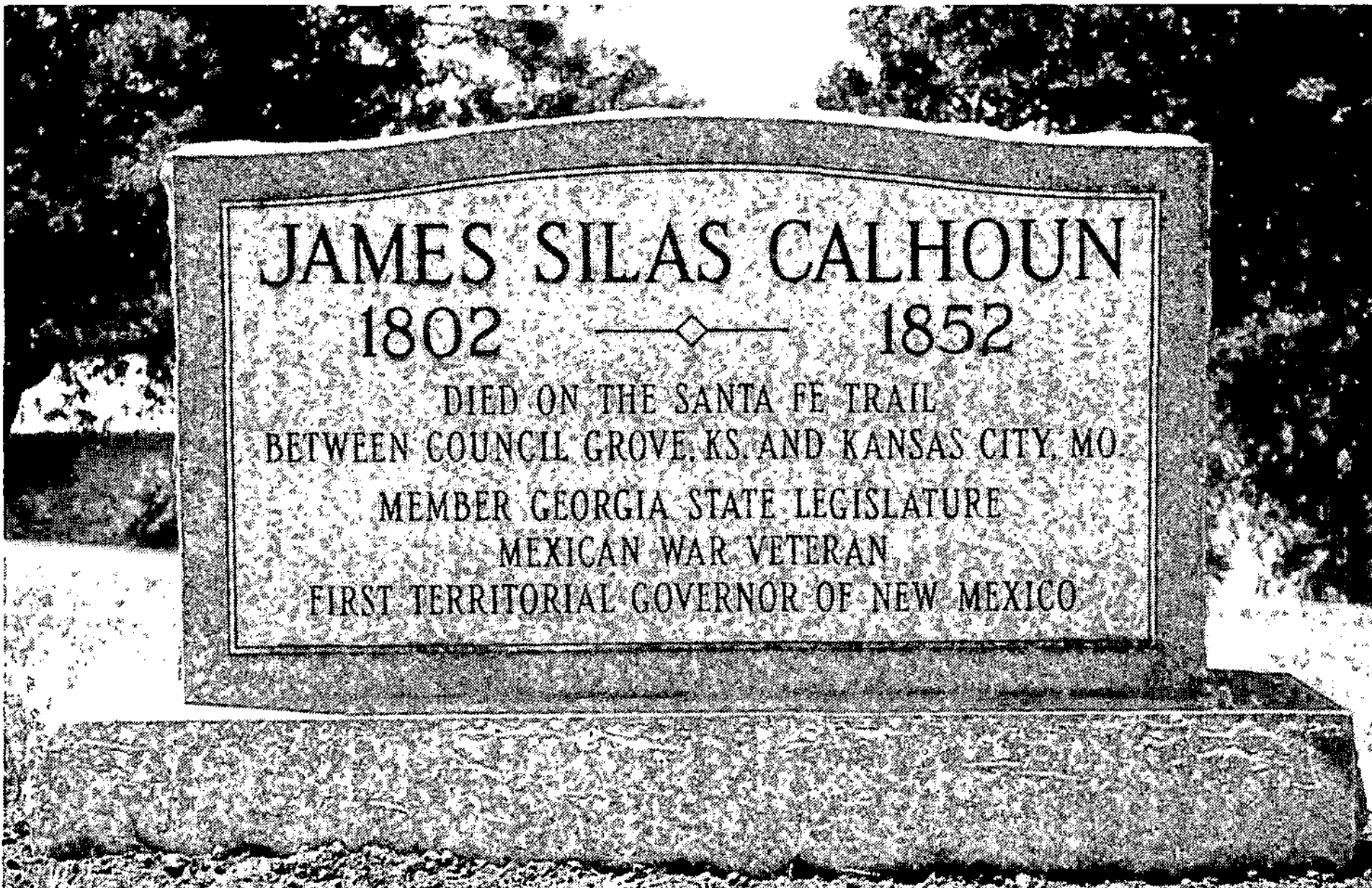
# WAGON TRACKS

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY

VOLUME 8

AUGUST 1994

NUMBER 4



The James S. Calhoun memorial marker was recently placed in Union Cemetery, Kansas City, MO, thanks to the efforts of Mary Jean Cook of Santa Fe, who researched the death of Calhoun on the Santa Fe Trail and made all arrangements for erecting this monument. She writes, "Polly Fowler, Harold DeGood (Union Cemetery Historical Society), Jerry Martin (a stranger from Fayetteville, AR, whom I met at my B&B in Independence who became terribly interested in the whole affair), and I toasted Gov. James S. Calhoun at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 2, 1994. The monument site in the cemetery is unparalleled in its timeless view of the skyline of Kansas City." This monument has been funded solely by private donations, and more funds are needed to pay the bills. Contributions may be sent to Calhoun Fund, SFTA, RR 3, Larned KS 67550.

## 175TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PLANS CONTINUE

by Harry C. Myers

AT the recent Rendezvous in Larned the board of SFTA urged chapters to continue with their plans for the celebration of the 175th anniversary of the opening of the Santa Fe Trail. Several items were recommended, with the realization that what each chapter can do will depend upon local conditions. It may not be feasible in some areas to do everything.

Chapters could involve the local schools through essay and art contests. They could encourage schools to do a unit on the Santa Fe Trail by providing resource people to assist the teachers in the preparation of the unit and in teaching it.

Chapters could encourage the production of pageants, plays, and songs

in commemoration of the anniversary.

Chapters could sponsor or encourage local wagon trains and trail rides and/or conduct auto tours along the Trail, stopping at appropriate sites.

Chapters could sponsor or encourage youth organizations (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, etc.) to walk along the Trail.

Chapters could encourage the collection of more information on their segments of the Trail, such as oral history interviews, gathering names from cemeteries, documenting names of Trail travelers, and seeking unpublished accounts of the Trail. The opportunity here is unlimited and to a degree untapped. Sometime a nation-

(continued on page 2)

## A FORT UNION TRIUMPH

by Marc Simmons

ONE of the most colorful and romantic chapters in the history of the American West is the story of the Indian-fighting army. Novelists and Hollywood screen writers have delighted in giving the public vivid images of blue-clad cavalymen marching in long columns across the picturesque western landscape.

Part of that tale includes the history of individual frontier garrisons, which housed the soldiers when they were not out on patrol or doing battle. Among the many military posts in the Southwest, a number have been studied and written up by skilled historians.

Good examples are Fort Davis and Fort Bliss in west Texas, Fort Bowie and Fort Defiance in Arizona, and at least a half dozen of the posts scattered across New Mexico. Now, a new addition to the list has just been published: Leo Oliva's monumental work entitled, *Fort Union and the Frontier Army in the Southwest*.

Oliva (author, professor, and Kansas wheat farmer) is best known as one of the foremost authorities on the Santa Fe Trail. But he is also a recognized military historian, having produced several smaller studies of Kansas forts. In this latest book, he was assisted by his wife Bonita Oliva, herself an able archival researcher.

First some basic facts that will suggest the magnitude of the Oliva achievement. The thick volume reaches almost 800 pages and it weighs in at six pounds on my kitchen scale.

It has 136 superb historical illustration, 15 tables, a dozen maps, and 15 key documents printed in appendices.

(continued on page 20)

TRAIL BICYCLE TREK  
SEPT 18-OCT 7, 1994

SFTA SYMPOSIUM  
LARNED & GREAT BEND, KS  
SEPT. 21-24, 1995



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

ANOTHER great time was had by all who attended the Santa Fe Trail Center's Rendezvous. All along the Trail local events are honoring those who used the Trail and are proving that "The Santa Fe Trail Lives On!"

A couple of times each year three of us here in Oklahoma City meet at a local barbecue joint and talk about the Trail. Mostly we lament the federal government establishing Indian Territory which prohibited the use of the Fort Smith/Santa Fe Trail which followed the South Canadian River (Texans call it the Canadian River because they call the North Canadian River the Beaver River, as do Oklahomans who live in the Panhandle.)

This natural trail to Santa Fe left the paddle-wheel steamer port of Fort Smith and followed the stream all the way across Indian Territory and the Texas Panhandle to New Mexico. Used historically by the Southern Cheyenne, and others, this route was closed when the government established the Nations of the Five Civilized Tribes straddling the South Canadian River and prohibited white travel and settlement. Here in Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle, the Santa Fe Trail does not live on. Along with the Confederacy, it is a lost cause. However, the barbecue makes our meetings worthwhile.

—Bill Pitts

## SFTA BOARD MEETINGS

by Ruth Olson Peters

SEVERAL meetings of the SFTA governing board were held during the Larned Rendezvous in June. The minutes of those sessions are briefly summarized here. Officer and committee reports were heard. One chapter, Mountain Branch, has disbanded, and two new chapters were chartered: Cottonwood Crossing and Bent's Fort.

The report of the 175th anniversary planning committee was approved (that information appears elsewhere in this issue). Norine Kruse, Director of Travel and Tourism in Kansas, reported that the Kansas legislature has granted the tourism office \$75,000 per year for the next three years to promote the 175th anniversary of the Trail. At the request of Les Vilda, the board agreed to support an educational trail ride and wagon train for the 175th anniversary.

Mary Jean Cook presented a proposal for the development of a database for the Santa Fe Trail and Camino Real, which was endorsed by the Association. The vacancy on the board of directors was filled with the selection of Ross Marshall, Merriam, KS, to complete the term of the Kansas representative which expires in 1995. An SFTA speakers bureau, coordinated by Pat Heath, was approved.

The board agreed to give special recognition to the DAR for their work in marking and preserving the Trail. The Kansas Heritage Center, Dodge City, will be asked to serve as a clearing house and coordinator for educational materials for the Trail. The board voted to establish a calendar of activities along the Trail to be published in *Wagon Tracks*. Willard Chilcott's annual bicycle treks on the Trail will continue to receive the encouragement and endorsement of SFTA.

Mary Jean Cook requested help from SFTA, through the marker fund or special projects fund, to erect the commemorative marker for James S. Calhoun, first territorial governor of New Mexico who died on the Trail. No funds were granted, and she was directed to take her application to the End of the Trail Chapter or the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter.

Special efforts will be made to identify and head off any threats to Trail resources. Speakers at SFTA symposia will be required to submit their papers for possible publication. An index for *Wagon Tracks*, which was authorized by the board two years ago, was again discussed. There will be no membership roster for 1994. New committee assignments are printed below. A number of topics were discussed at a special planning session on Sunday, June 5.

## SFTA COMMITTEES

THE following appointments were announced by President Bill Pitts at the Larned meeting:

Executive Committee: Bill Pitts, Mark L. Gardner, Ruth Olson Peters, Bill Chalfant, Virginia Fisher, and Margaret Sears.

Awards Committee: Marc Simmons

175th Anniversary Committee: Harry Myers and those listed on the proposal.

Sites and Markers Committee: Bill Chalfant, Mark L. Gardner, and Pat O'Brien.

Database Committee: Mary Jean Cook and Marc Simmons.

Publications Committee: Dave Webb and Margaret Sears.

## 175TH PLANS

(continued from page 1)

wide database will be instituted concerning Trail activities. Local chapter information would make an excellent addition.

Each chapter probably has its own or community celebration of the Trail or other historical events. Chapters can assist in giving those celebrations a Trail focus in the anniversary years of 1996 and 1997. In addition chapters should design special celebrations for the 175th.

Chapters should be encouraged to come up with their own ideas for the celebration and to share those ideas

with others through *Wagon Tracks*, SFTA officers and board members, and direct contact with other chapters.

Chapters in each state should meet together with their state travel and tourism agencies to work on unified publicity and events. The Kansas Department of Travel and Tourism has already met with all Trail communities in the state, will meet with them again, and has received money from the state legislature for the celebration.

The SFTA board approved the following goals for the anniversary. These should be kept in mind when planning activities and events. (1) Use the 175th celebration as a vehicle for long-term benefit of the Santa Fe Trail, (2) draw local and national attention to the Trail through an exposition of its history and its cultural significance, (3) coordinate an educational program concerning the history and preservation of the Trail, and (4) increase public awareness and visitation along the Trail.

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### Membership Categories

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Benefactor    | \$1,000    |
| Patron        | \$100/year |
| Institutional | \$25/year  |
| Family        | \$20/year  |
| Individual    | \$15/year  |

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President: Bill Pitts, 3824 N Oak Grove Dr #841, Midwest City, OK 73110

Vice-President: Mark L. Gardner, PO Box 879, Cascade, CO 80809

Secretary-Treasurer: Ruth Olson Peters, Santa Fe Trail Center, RR 3, Larned, KS 67550

1995 Symposium Coordinator: Steven Linderer, Fort Larned NHS, RR3, Larned, KS 67550

Publicity Coordinator: Michael E. Pitel, Tano Rd., Rt. 4, Box 240, Santa Fe, NM 87501

### Directors:

Adrian Bustamante, New Mexico  
William Y. Chalfant, Kansas  
Virginia Lee Fisher, Missouri  
Pauline Fowler, Missouri  
Mary Gamble, Colorado  
David Hutchison, Oklahoma  
Ross Marshall, Kansas  
Pat O'Brien, Colorado  
Joy Poole, At Large  
Margaret Sears, New Mexico  
Dave Webb, At Large  
Tim Zwink, Oklahoma

## OLD SPANISH TRAIL ASSOCIATION UNDERWAY

by Phil Carson

THE national OSTA meeting on June 4 at Del Norte, CO, drew a good crowd, took care of organizational matters and set in motion several projects. Interim officers were confirmed in office for two years: President Ron Kessler, Vice-President Pat Richmond, Secretary John Koshak, Treasurer Suzanne Off, and Historian Phil Carson.

Senator Ben Campbell, D-Colorado, on May 5 introduced the National Park Service study legislation using OSTA script, and he entered numerous OSTA-generated letters into the Congressional Record. That bill is headed for the Senate subcommittee on public lands.

Representative Scott McInnis, R-Colorado, has introduced the legislation in the House, and it is slated for the House subcommittee on public lands. McInnis's legislative assistant, Windsor Laing, attended the June 4 meeting and joined Ron Kessler in the field for a look at Old Spanish Trail wagon ruts. She seemed impressed by the need for study and protection of the trail, and by OSTA efforts in that direction.

In neither case are the study bills yet scheduled for a hearing. Both Campbell and McInnis advise us to wait until hearings are scheduled to begin the next round of letter-writing. However, thank you letters to both legislators for introducing "our" bill are definitely in order.

The search for a suitable logo is on, and alternatives will be considered at the next OSTA meeting.

Members interested in making careful distribution of membership forms in their area should get in touch with Ron Kessler, 1026 S. County Rd 2-East, Monte Vista, CO 81144, (719) 852-5225.

The next meeting has been set for Saturday, Oct. 1, 1994, at Rio Grande County Museum and Cultural Center, Del Norte, CO. However, there's a move afoot to hold that meeting in Gunnison. More to come on that.

Committees were formed and chairmen appointed: Chapter Development: John Koshak and Pat Richmond; Public Relations: Phil Carson and Brian Orr; Finance and Grants: Ken Carpenter; Membership Development: Ken Carpenter; Awards: Earl Casteel; and Short-Term Projects: Ron Kessler and Phil Carson.

Membership applications may be obtained from Barbara Carpenter, OSTA, c/o Rio Grande County Museum, PO

Box 430, Del Norte CO 81132. Dues are \$10.00 a year per individual, \$15.00 for a family, \$25.00 for an institution, and \$5.00 for students (under age 18).

The OSTA Reference Center has been established at Del Norte, CO, and will soon have in place a bibliography and a file of crucial articles on the Trail. You may request a copy of the bibliography, then order a copy of an article you want to read. Copying fees will be charged to cover the cost of reproduction and mailing, and those fees will be due up-front. The larger reports (over 15 pages) and books will not be available in this manner.

Those interested in the Old Spanish Trail will be pleased to know that C. Gregory Crampton and Steven K. Madsen's book *In Search of the Old Spanish Trail* became available again in August from Peregrine Smith Books, P.O. Box 667, Layton, UT 84041, no price given.

## SFTA SPEAKERS' DIRECTORY

THE Speakers' Directory is a service provided by the SFTA to help groups of all kinds find qualified persons who can make a meaningful presentation on a subject related to the Trail.

SFTA chapters are encouraged to use speakers listed in the Directory for their own programs and to call the Directory to the attention of other groups (such as service clubs, local historical societies, schools, libraries, museums, etc.), which might be interested in having a speaker and program on a Santa Fe Trail topic. A chapter, as a special project, might pay the travel costs and fee to bring in an outside speaker for a public lecture, and on the same trip visit one or more area schools.

The Directory is purely an information service. Those needing a speaker should communicate and negotiate directly with individuals listed in the Directory. The SFTA assumes no responsibility for speakers' arrangements or content of presentations.

The SFTA requires that all groups using a speaker from its Directory fill out a brief evaluation form following the program and return it to the Directory coordinator. The Directory will be up-dated periodically and unsatisfactory speakers (as determined by the evaluations) will be deleted.

Anyone wishing to apply for listing in the Directory should contact the coordinator, Patricia Heath, PO Box 907, Lakin KS 67860 (316) 355-7598, for the form. Applicants will receive a set of suggested guidelines for speakers.



SFTA Ambassador Paul Bentrup, the fastest tongue in the West, was presented a buffalo chip sandwich at the Rendezvous lunch. It was a rare occasion because his mouth was closed. When one spreads it on like Bentrup, however, it is necessary to resupply once in awhile. Photo courtesy of John Dollar, Manhattan, KS.

## CIMARRON COUNTY TOUR

THE Cimarron County Historical Society will sponsor its 4th annual tour of that portion of the Santa Fe Trail which crossed Cimarron County, OK, on Saturday, October 1, 1994. Participants will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Cimarron Heritage Center in Boise City and leave by 8:00 a.m. From there the tour will proceed to several Trail sites, return to Boise City for lunch, and then go back on the Trail.

Trail sites include Flag (Upper) Springs, Cold Springs, Autograph Rock, Signature Rock, the Aubry Trail connection, and Camp Nichols. A DAR marker dedication is tentative.

Tour participants must furnish their own off-road vehicle for the tour, if possible. The number of vehicles participation will be limited. Some space will be available for those needing rides. Reservations are necessary and may be made by calling Jo-Ann Wells (405) 544-3077 or Joan Wells (405) 544-2716.

## FRANKLIN OR BUST

FRANKLIN or Bust, Inc., held its annual membership meeting June 13 at New Franklin High School. The following officers were elected: President H. Denny Davis, Vice-President Stephen Rust, Secretary Doris Markland, and Treasurer Bill Rudloff. Other board members elected were Opal Meyer, Herbert Niebruegge, Gregory Franzwa, and Randy Robb.

Rust was named chair of a committee to select and erect a new marker at the original starting point of the Santa Fe Trail in Old Franklin.



## NEW CHIEF RANGER AT FORT UNION NM

by Terri Gardner

**MICHAEL J. (Mick) Clifford** of Toledo, Ohio, is the new chief ranger at Fort Union National Monument. He reported for duty in March, coming from Fort Stanwix National Monument, New York, where he served as supervisory park ranger. When asked how he liked Fort Union and the surrounding area, he replied, "I feel very fortunate to be here and look forward to many years of service researching, interpreting, and protecting this historic post and the Santa Fe Trail."

Clifford earned his BA degree in American history at the University of Toledo and is a member of Phi Alpha Theta international honor society for historians. He served one year with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. Other National Park sites where he has worked include Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, Valley Forge National Historic Park, and Independence National Historic Park. His special field of interest is the War of 1812.

Mick states that his plans for the future at Fort Union are "to follow in the footsteps of former Fort Union Chief Ranger T. J. Sperry and become a premiere interpreter of Fort Union and the Santa Fe Trail. I'll also be looking for ways to make the history of the Santa Fe Trail more relevant and accessible to the public."

## BCCC FALL TOURS

**BARTON** County Community College is pleased to announce two traveling seminars scheduled for the fall semester of 1994. On September 17-18 the Fort Wallace-Beecher's Island Seminar will visit the sites of Fort Wallace and Beecher's Island, with additional stops at the site of Sheridan, the town which served as the railhead and terminus of the Santa Fe Trail during 1868-1870, the Kidder Massacre, and Cherry Creek where the Cheyennes gathered with the northern Arapahos and Sioux following the Sand Creek Massacre in 1864.

On October 22-23 the Sheridan/Custer Campaign Seminar will feature a visit to the Washita battle site near Cheyenne, OK. Additional stops will be made at Forts Dodge and Supply. Instructors for both seminars are David and Alice Clapsaddle, long-time teachers in the college's historic series. For further information, contact Elaine Simmons, Coordinator of Seminars, Barton County Community College, RR 3 Box 136Z, Great Bend, KS 67530, (316) 792-2701.

## REENACTMENT OF 1850S TRAIL SURVEY

**THE** Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association, headed by SFTA member Dorothy Kroh, and the Kansas City Metro Surveyors Association, staged a reenactment of the survey of the Fort Leavenworth-Fort Scott Military Road on June 18 in Overland Park, KS. A portion of that road, from Fort Leavenworth to its junction with the main Santa Fe Trail, is an important route of the Santa Fe Trail network.

Dressed in 1850s attire and using 1850s technology, professional surveyors Dave Lavenburg and Mike McLaughlin showed how the 1857 survey was done. They also checked their work with electronic distance measuring and satellite position technology.

Early surveys are important in establishing the routes of historic trails. A program and demonstration of survey techniques of the 1825 Trail survey is planned for the 1995 symposium.



**Dave Lavenburg, left, and Mike McLaughlin demonstrated surveying techniques with equipment that was used in the 1850s.**

## TRAIL RIDE 1994

**THE** annual Trail ride sponsored by the Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter started June 5, one mile south of Gardner, KS, and traveled west past the Lanesfield school on the way to camp, two miles east of Baldwin City. It rained during the day and some riders got wet.

The next day we went past the Black Jack ruts and stopped at the Old Castle Museum in Baldwin City, then fol-

lowed the Trail by roads through old Brooklyn and on west to Willow Springs, the site of an early post office. Because of the rain, we moved camp to an old rock quarry two miles north of Globe. The place had been used as a feed lot, so we christened it "Manure Lake." The next day, June 7, at about 1:00 p.m., we were a mile south of Overbrook. A huge black cloud came from the northwest and it rained and blew. Riders took shelter where they could in barns, garages, and other places. One group of 20 riders and their horses got into a car wash, then it hailed and blew some more. That evening Ed Harmison, a local historian, talked about early settlers and the springs in the area.

That night, while camped in the Overbrook fairgrounds, two thunderstorms came through. By morning everything was wet. On June 8 the trip to Burlingame was uneventful. During the morning we saw and rode in Trail ruts at Charles and Joyce Noonan's. While camped at the Burlingame rodeo grounds, a representative from the Kansas Equine Council talked to the group about recent legislation.

We started the next day, Thursday, with some new people and headed west. We stopped for the noon break at the Wilmington school house, which belongs to the chapter. In camp that evening at 142 Mile Creek, Steve Zerby entertained us with his cowboy poetry, and Dick Dilsaver of Wichita discussed the American Discovery Trail. Also, representatives from the Wah-Shun-Gah Days committee passed out free meal tickets for Friday evening in Council Grove. More riders came Friday morning, making a total of 110. We rode through pastures north of Allen and saw several Trail ruts. During the noon stop near Agnes City, one horse pulling a cart ran pell-mell through the site, causing some excitement. We arrived in camp at Council Grove about 5:00 p.m. We rode in the Wah-Shun-Gah Days parade on Saturday, to conclude our 105-mile Trail ride.

## AUTO TOUR GUIDE RECEIVES WIDE PUBLICITY

**THANKS** to coverage provided by *Wagon Tracks* and *folio*, the *Self Guided Auto Tour of the Santa Fe Trail in Pawnee, Edwards, and Fort Counties, Kansas*, published by the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter has drawn nationwide attention. Chapter Secretary Ida Yeager reports that, in addition to Kansas, requests for the booklet have been received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, and Utah.



## EL MORO DAR MARKER RESET

by Mary B. Gamble

**THE** gray granite DAR Trail marker at El Moro, CO, which marked the Santa Fe Trail near the old Denver & Rio Grande railroad in 1908, was reset on its concrete base on June 22, 1994. The rededication will be held in the fall of 1994 by the Colorado State Society DAR and members of the Colorado Chapter.

The El Moro marker was first dedicated on March 2, 1910, when members of the Colorado Chapter DAR came in a chartered Pullman from Denver to Trinidad, and on to El Moro for the ceremony.

Ethel Tortorelli and her late husband, Frank, have been guardians of the marker since 1935 when they purchased the farmland on which the marker was located. Their farming included irrigated alfalfa, and they moved the huge marker and base to a site near their shed to protect it from being accidentally hit by farm machinery. There it remained until June 22.

Coordinating the action to reset the marker was Mrs. James Polliard, Aurora, CO, regent of the Colorado Chapter DAR which owned the marker. Mrs. Polliard was assisted by Mary Gamble, Springfield, CO, a member of the Arkansas Valley DAR Chapter, Pueblo, and a Colorado director of



**Up and away! Richard Musselwhite hoists El Moro marker on the way to its new location** (photo by Leo Gamble).

the Santa Fe Trail Association.

Mrs. Gamble contacted Robert Musselwhite, Raton, NM, who had expressed an interest in seeing the marker moved. He offered the assistance of his nephew, Richard Musselwhite of El Moro, who owned a front-end loader tractor which was used to lift and move the heavy base and marker. They were assisted by Leo Gamble. All are members of SFTA.

Frank Tortorelli, Jr., present owner

of the family farm, agreed to have the base and marker moved to the west end of his field where it is clearly visible from the county road.

Interested spectators with cameras recorded the historic event: Mrs. Polliard; Mrs. Danny Self, past regent of Fort William Bent DAR Chapter; Mrs. Carl Rondinelli, member of the Colorado Chapter; and Mrs. Nancy Robertson, Raton, member of SFTA and Arkansas Valley DAR Chapter. But the most interested spectator of all was Ethel Tortorelli, guardian of the granite marker.

## LEXINGTON MADONNA OF THE TRAIL VANDALIZED

by Jane Mallinson

*(Mallinson is the Missouri DAR Trails chairman and has written about DAR markers along the Trail for WT. She received an award of merit from SFTA at the last symposium for her work.)*

**THERE** are 12 DAR Madonna or Pioneer Mother statues placed on trails across the United States, and three are on the Santa Fe Trail: Lexington, MO; Council Grove, KS; and Lamar, CO. The Missouri statue was dedicated in historic Lexington on September 17, 1928. She was cleaned and restored in November 1990. Recently she was damaged.

Early in the 1900s the DAR placed granite markers from New Franklin, MO, to Santa Fe, NM, to mark the Santa Fe Trail. Encouraged by this venture, they decided to form a National Old Trails Road Committee to mark the ocean to ocean pioneer highways of America. In 1927 they accepted the design of St. Louis sculptor August Lumbach for the Madonna of the Trails to honor the pioneer mothers of covered wagon days. Each Madonna of the Trail is a pioneer clad in homespun holding her baby with a young son clinging to her skirt. The 10-foot-high figure and the base are made of algonite stone (a poured mass) with Missouri granite used as the main aggregate, which gives the monuments a warm pink shade. On two sides of the base are 25 words each of historical data and local commemoration. These 12 statues stand as silent tribute to our brave pioneer women who faced perils of unknown hardships to build homes and raise families in the West. Many consider these to be national treasures.

These monuments were erected in each of the 12 National Old Trails Road states, from Maryland to California, in 1928-1929, through the combined efforts of the DAR National Old Trails Road Committee and the National Old



**Mission accomplished! Gathered around the newly-located El Moro marker are, l. to r., Leo and Mary Gamble, Ethel Tortorelli, Robert Musselwhite, Mrs. Polliard, and Richard Musselwhite** (photo by Nancy Robertson).

Trails Road Association. The sites of the Madonnas were chosen by Harry Truman, president of the National Old Trails Road Association; Mrs. John Trigg Moss, DAR National Chairman for National Old Trails Roads; and Frank Davis who served as secretary-manager. They visited the states and consulted with locals about the best locations.

Each statue is compact and not easily marred, but somebody figured a way to vandalize the one in Lexington, MO, which stands at the junction of the National Old Trails Road and the old Jack's Ferry Road on the Santa Fe Trail overlooking the Missouri River. Mrs. William Moore, Regent of the Lafayette-Lexington DAR Chapter, reports that in late February or early March the Madonna's right arm was broken off at the elbow and most of the missing piece was removed from the scene. Only a 4-inch sliver was found at the base of the statue.

There is a fund for the repair of the statue. If you want to be a part of this effort, please send your contribution to Jane Mallinson, Missouri DAR Trails Chairman, PO Box 8604, Sugar Creek, MO 64054. Make check payable to Madonna fund.

## ANOTHER BIKE TREK

WHILE the fifth annual Santa Fe Trail Bicycle Trek is following the route from Santa Fe to New Franklin, September 18 to October 2, 1994, another group will be riding the same route from New Franklin to Santa Fe. From September 15 to October 3, thirteen crew members of the U.S.S. *Santa Fe* (a submarine based at Groton, CT, and presently in dry dock) and two of their wives will pedal westward. This group, organized by Fire Control Technician Ron Bauer, calls itself the Santa Fe Lightning Express Bicycle Club. At some point along the way the two groups of cyclists will meet. SFTA members along the route are encouraged to greet both groups and extend to them some old-fashioned hospitality.

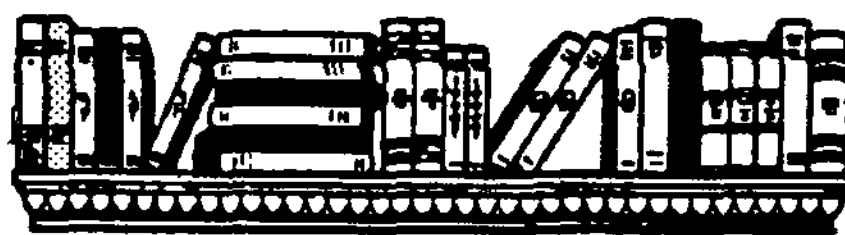
## NEED MEXICAN WAR ITEMS

A Dallas/Fort Worth TV station, KERA, is searching for historical materials to use in the production of a three-hour PBS series, "The Mexican War, 1846-1848," to be shown during the 150th anniversary of the conflict. The documentary, based on written and pictorial sources and interviews with historians and descendants of those who fought in the war, will be filmed on location in the U.S. and Mexico. Anyone with photographs, mementos, maps, letters, diaries, or other items related to the war can contact

the station at (214) 740-9371 or send a letter describing materials to executive producer Sylvia Komatsu at KERA, 3000 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas TX 75201.

## GLORIETA MAP INSERT

SFTA member Burt Schmitz, Cupertino, CA, has graciously granted permission to WT to include his copyrighted map of the Glorieta Pass Civil War battle area as a removable insert in this issue. The back of the map, prepared especially for Trail enthusiasts, contains details and directions for viewing sites in the area along I-25. All readers will want to visit the locale. We are grateful to Schmitz for sharing this fine piece of work.



## CONVERSE OF THE PRAIRIES

### —BOOK NOTICES—

Mark Simmons, *Treasure Trails of the Southwest*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1994. Pp. xiii + 163. Maps, illustrations, appendices, bibliography. Cloth, \$24.95; paper, \$13.95.

Marc Simmons has again produced a winning volume, easily demonstrating why he ranks among the best of today's writers of the lore and history of the American Southwest. The book is an anthology of Marc's pieces over the years dealing with treasure of all kinds: lost Spanish mines, a hidden statue of gold, buried Spanish mission treasure, train robbers' loot, etc. Santa Fe Trail enthusiasts will be especially interested in the stories of a Chihuahua merchant's buried silver near Dodge City; Ogam inscriptions (illustrated is a set at Autograph Rock); and gold ingots supposedly buried by Frenchmen near Flag Spring (also Upper Spring) about 1802. Marc was the impetus behind a "modern-day gold rush" for the latter not too long ago when he published an article about the treasure in a local Kansas newspaper.

*Treasure Trails of the Southwest* is the kind of book you'll have a hard time putting down until it's been read from cover to cover. In the preface, Marc invites the reader to "load up your burro with pick, shovel, gold pan, and canteen and set forth with me on wispy trails in pursuit of adventure and fortune. You will not be disappointed!" He's right.

—Mark L. Gardner

## PAPER TRAILS

### —BIBLIOGRAPHY—

by Mike Olsen and Harry Myers

(This bibliography keeps readers informed about Trail publications. Anyone with information about new materials is invited to advise Mike Olsen, 11729 Eighth St, Las Vegas NM 87701.)

Walker, Hollis, "Diary Opens Another Page in History of Santa Fe Trail." *New Mexico Magazine*, 72 (May 1994): 44-51.

Beautiful photos taken by Mark Nohl accompany the text about the discovery of the Gallego Diary and the retracement of his route to meet William Becknell in 1821. A color map showing Gallego's route enhances this well-written article.

Two long out-of-print books about the Trail are now available from Ye Galleon Press, Box 287, Fairfield, Washington, 99012, 1-(800)-488-8928. Both are high quality editions at reasonable prices. They are:

*Messages from the President on the State of the Fur Trade, 1824-1832*. 130 pp., 7x10, 1984.

This book contains Senate Document 90 [Serial 213], Washington, D.C., Feb. 9, 1832, which includes Alphonso Wetmore's diary of a trip over the SFT, May 28-Aug. 2, 1828, with data on other caravans 1821-1829. It also contains Bennet Riley's report of Sept. 28, 1831, on men killed on the SFT expedition of "1823" which should read "1829." There is an interesting list of others killed on the Trail or its vicinity, 1813-1830.

Wislizenus, Frederick Adolphus, *A Journey to the Rocky Mountains in the Year 1839*, which also includes *Memoir of a Tour to Northern Mexico*, Senate Misc. Document 26 [Serial 511].

Wislizenus traveled the trail in 1846 in advance of Kearny's Army of the West. He joined the caravan of Albert Speyer and continued on to Chihuahua. This edition of two books in one is a real value.

One book that Jack Rittenhouse missed, perhaps intentionally, was written by the author of the classic 1930 *The Santa Fe Trail*.

Duffus, Robert L., *Jornada*. New York: Covici Friede, 1935.

This romance novel takes place along the Trail and in Santa Fe during the Mexican War year of 1846. The glorious writing and phrases of Duffus's earlier book are missing and it would have been no loss had he stuck to historical narrative.



## NEW SIGNS FOR HISTORIC SITES AT FORT DODGE

by Betty Braddock

(Braddock is retired director of the Kansas Heritage Center in Dodge City, charter member of SFTA and the Dodge City/Fort Dodge Chapter, and a student of Fort Dodge as well as Dodge City history. She researched and wrote the text for the signs.)

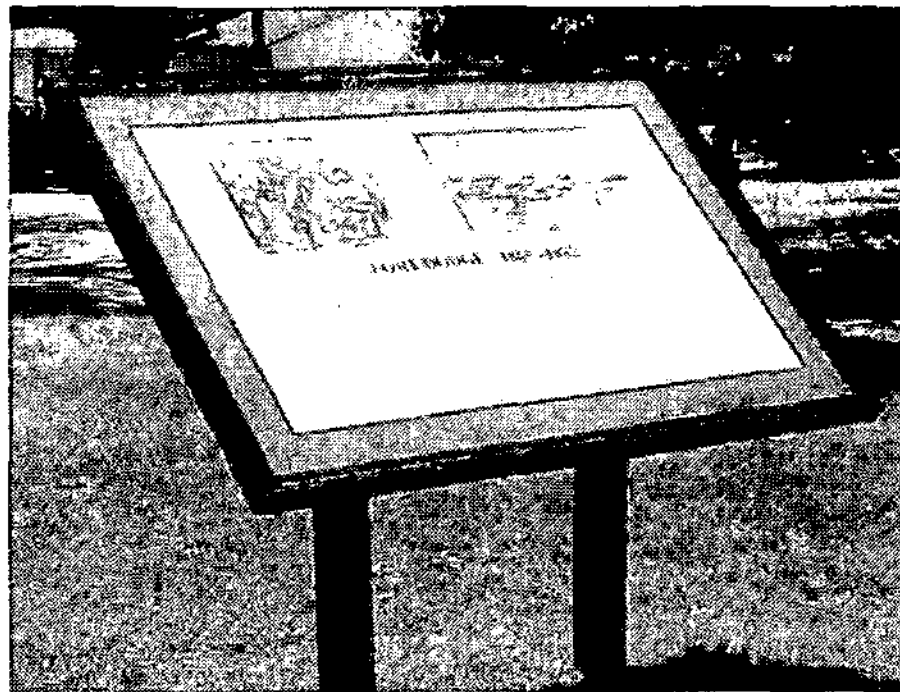
FORT Dodge was established in April 1865 to protect wagon trains between Fort Larned and Fort Lyon, a distance of 230 miles on the Santa Fe Trail. It was a pivotal fort during the Indian campaigns of 1868-1869 and 1874-1875. The Wet and Dry routes of the Trail met near here; the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Trail ended here; and the Fort Dodge-Fort Supply Trail began here. During the campaigns, millions of pounds of armaments and supplies were shipped south to the troops, in trains of as many as 270 wagons.

In its 17 years of operation Fort Dodge had at least 57 commanding officers. One of them, Major W. H. Lewis, was killed September 27, 1878, north of Garden City while pursuing Cheyenne Indians (he was the only commander of a military post killed in action during the Indian wars). Major Richard I. Dodge, commanding in 1872-1873, was a member of the Dodge City Town Company and was instrumental in founding the town.

The fort closed in October 1882 and was neglected until 1889 when the federal government allowed the remaining portion of the military reservation with the buildings to be sold for \$1.25 an acre to the State of Kansas to be used as a home for veterans and their dependents. The citizens of Dodge City raised the money for the purchase. The Kansas State Soldier's home was opened in January 1890 and has continued in operation since, occupying some of the fort buildings.

The first structures at the fort were dugouts in the river bank, tents, and shanties made of sod. The permanent buildings, erected during the next few years, were of stone quarried some 11 miles north of the fort. Four of these original stone buildings remain. They have recently been designated with attractive, highly visible signs telling the history of each structure and its use.

The buildings are the commanding officer's quarters, now the residence for the superintendent of the Soldier's Home; the hospital; a storehouse, now the library and museum; and the enlisted men's barracks, now a residence hall. Also described by signs are the parade ground, cemetery, and site of



One of the new signs at Fort Dodge, dedicated May 13, 1994.

the sutler's store. A large sign at the entrance to the fort gives a brief overall history of Fort Dodge.

These signs were dedicated on May 13, 1994, following a luncheon hosted by the administration of the Soldier's Home. A living-history group from Fort Larned added the appropriate military touch. The project was funded by the Dodge City/Ford County Development Corporation, First National Bank of Dodge City, and the Women's Chamber of Commerce. Brochures describing a walking tour of the fort and a driving tour of the Trail in Ford County are available from the Dodge City Convention and Visitors Bureau and at the Fort Dodge museum which is open weekdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 4 p.m.

## POST OFFICE OAK

### —LETTERS—

Editor:

Thank you for your support of the Calhoun marker fund. So far contributions amount to \$350, and an additional \$1,200 is needed to pay for the project (the marker has been installed, see photo on page one). Despite my request for help at the recent SFTA board meeting, they chose not to contribute anything toward this project. Donations from individuals still are welcome.

Apparently some members of the SFTA board do not read *Wagon Tracks*, for they were unaware of the Calhoun story. One board member opposed using any of the SFTA marker funds for the Calhoun memorial because it might be "precedent-setting." I brashly said that, after listening in on two days' deliberations, there was no possibility whatsoever of this board being "precedent-setting." I regret to say that I found the board indecisive and unwill-

ing to make a clear-cut commitment to anything much, particularly that with a dollar sign attached.

Apparently some of the speakers at the Larned Rendezvous do not read *Wagon Tracks*, either, for one speaker was unaware of the Gallego-Becknell encounter near present Las Vegas. I felt it reasonable to expect lecturers to be keenly aware of the current research on their topics.

Regarding Greg Franzwa's recommendations in *follo*, I feel it would be a more-than-fatal mistake for SFTA to join OCTA because, quite simply, the Santa Fe Trail is an extension of the Camino Real. OCTA would be a geographical misfit as well as completely different in its total historical concept. Granted, the SFTA seems to have lost its way and has no leader to guide its financial success. On the other hand, it has survived eight years and has great potential that may be realized.

Our proposal for a Camino Real and Santa Fe Trail Database Project was endorsed by the SFTA board, but only because there was no dollar sign attached. We will now start seeking funding to get this venture underway.

Mary Jean Cook

PO Box 2676

Santa Fe NM 87504

*You are to be congratulated for single-handedly getting the Calhoun marker placed and undertaking the formidable database project. Although my schedule prohibits me from serving on your database committee, as you and the SFTA board recommended, I support the endeavor 110% and offer whatever Trail knowledge I have accumulated during the last 35 years to assist with the work. You make an excellent point about OCTA. Thanks for all your outstanding work.*

Editor

Editor:

In the last year or so the Santa Fe Trail Association has come under considerable attack for failing to fulfill its promise. This assessment is probably a fair one. But recently several have suggested that SFTA is a *dying* organization. This is an unfortunate image for us. First of all, *I don't believe it*, and secondly, *we can't let it happen*. The Santa Fe Trail needs a strong national support group. Neither the Santa Fe National Historic Trail Advisory Council nor the National Park Service can fulfill this need. SFTA can do it. I disagree with Greg Franzwa's proposal that a merger with OCTA is a solution.

There is a lot of work to be done to preserve this splendid historical legacy, the Santa Fe Trail. And it is time the Association rolled up its sleeves



and went to work.

The last board meeting was in Larned in June. The next is planned over *fifteen months later* in September 1995. And it's only scheduled for three hours! The Trail needs more than that and so do the chapters.

When the SFTA started eight years ago, the theme was "The Santa Fe Trail Lives On." I think it is time for a commitment so the SFTA also can "live on." Count me in.

Ross Marshall  
6624 Craig Rd  
Merriam KS 66202

*Marshall is former president of the Oregon-California Trail Association (OCTA). He was elected to the SFTA board of directors at the Larned meeting to fill a vacancy. He now has the opportunity to help SFTA achieve its many possibilities. Welcome aboard Ross.*

Editor

Editor:

I would like to add a couple of notes to SFTA Ambassador Jesse Scott's report in the last issue of WT on the new picnic shelters and other improvements at the Timpas Creek Stage Station site in Colorado.

The shelters can be seen across the railroad tracks, west of the highway, if one knows where to look for them. But there is no directional sign on the road and most travelers will miss the site. Near the shelters are two interpretive signs, mostly about the National Grasslands and containing only one brief, general reference to the Santa Fe Trail. No mention is made of Timpas Creek and the stage station.

At the rear of the fenced site is a gate and a new paved pathway leading 1/8th of a mile toward the Timpas. At the end of the path is the Timpas DAR marker and, near it, one of the limestone posts installed recently along this section of the Trail to mark the wagon ruts. Another post can be seen a short distance toward the northeast.

Incredibly, the builders of the gate and pathway have neglected to place any sign that would inform visitors about the walk to the marker. A couple from Rocky Ford, having a picnic there, called my attention to the gate and told me where it led. Otherwise, I would have missed the marker completely.

Ambassador Scott suggested that the SFTA ought to be consulted in the future on such projects. I agree. However, the simple use of common sense would have avoided several of the problems existing at the site.

Marc Simmons  
PO Box 51  
Cerrillos NM 87010

Editors:

I recently consulted your interesting article "A Few Things Marian Sloan Russell Never Told . . ." (WT, Feb. 1993). I so much enjoyed it when I first read it and recently referred to it again. The next day as I was reading the microfilm copy of the manuscript census for Santa Fe for 1860, I found the following entry:

"City of Santa Fe, Household entry # 331, June 30, 1860

"William J. Sloan 44 m Surgeon, U.S.A. \$16,000 in personal property, Pennsylvania [place of birth]

"Mary A. 34 f, State of New York

"Mary L. 11 f, New York"

His household also included

"Harriett Brown, 25 f m[ullato], Pennsylvania

"Frances [sic] Fox 24 m servant [no indication of race or color], \$500 in personal property," and no place of birth.

Harriett Brown was I believe a free black woman who came to NM in 1859 when New Mexico had a slave code and forbade free blacks from entering the territory. She became embroiled in a lawsuit (I don't remember the details) and somehow was allowed to stay when Dr. Sloan agreed to add her to his household. That story is told in Kate Parker, "I Brought With Me Many Eastern Ways: Euro-American Income-Earning Women in New Mexico, 1850-1885," (Ph.D. dissertation, University of New Mexico, 1984).

It would be interesting to know if the Mary, age 11, shown above was Marion Sloan Russell's half sister. Perhaps pension records for Dr. Sloan would show that.

I know this isn't much to add to the story, but I thought you might enjoy having it. Thanks for the great work on *Wagon Tracks*. I look forward to each issue.

Cheryl J. Foote  
1824 Rita NE

Albuquerque NM 87106

*This is a fascinating addition to the intriguing story of the Sloan family. Thanks for sharing this and for all your good work on the history of New Mexico and the Southwest. We think Surgeon Sloan was assigned to duty in New York at the close of the Mexican War. The young Mary could have been his daughter, born in New York in 1849 (she was only four years younger than Marion). If anyone has further information on Dr. Sloan, including his second family listed above, please share it with our readers.*

Editors

## HOOF PRINTS

### —TRAIL TIDBITS—

SFTA Vice-President Mark L. Gardner has completed another handsome booklet, *Fort Bowie National Historic Site*, published by Southwest Parks and Monuments Association. It presents an overview of the history of the Arizona post and features a number of impressive illustrations.

Jane Mallinson, DAR representative on the SFNHT Advisory Council, is assembling maps of DAR markers placed on the Santa Fe Trail. These will be identified by section, township, and range. This is designed for DAR permanent records, but there is so much interest by Santa Fe Trail students that extra copies will be available. If interested, contact Jane Mallinson, PO Box 8604, Sugar Creek MO 64054.

Darleen Clifton-Smith, former curator at the Boot Hill Museum, now is the director of the Carnegie Center for the Arts in Dodge City.

A photo of Cimmaronassaurus, the dinosaur sculpture at the Cimarron Heritage Center in Boise City, OK, appeared in the July/August 1994 issue of *Reminisce* magazine in an article about the nationwide travels of the six-horse hitch. No mention was made of the Santa Fe Trail.

SFTA Ambassador Paul Bentrup recently had knee replacement surgery. His other knee was previously replaced. Bentrup assures everyone that, although he is getting a lot of new parts to keep him going on the Trail, he will never replace the "fastest tongue in the West." Some wag, who shall remain unnamed, said that Medicare wouldn't touch that tongue but offered to raise funds to replace it anyway.

Mary Jean Cook has an intriguing article, "Pizarro and Doña Tules at the Palace," in the July-Sept 1994 issue of *Compadres*, newsletter of the Friends of the Palace of the Governors at Santa Fe.

The Citizens' Committee for Historic Preservation at Las Vegas, NM, scheduled its annual "Places With A Past" tour on August 27. This Santa Fe Trail community has over 900 buildings on the national register.

The Rice-Tremonti Home in Ray-

town, MO, is celebrating 150 years in 1994. The house was erected by Archibald Rice near the Trail in 1844. Efforts are underway to raise \$150,000 to pay for the property, restoration, and maintenance. Contributions may be made to Friends of Rice-Tremonti Home, 8800 E 66th St, Raytown MO 64133.

The Boggs and Prowers houses at Boggsville have been nearly restored to original condition. A search is underway there to locate the Kit Carson house, school house, and general store. Everyone is invited to attend Boggsville Day, September 24, and see what all has been accomplished.

The Dewey Trading Co., Santa Fe, sponsor of the Jack D. Rittenhouse Award for SFTA, publishes a newsletter, *Smoke Signals*. To get on the mailing list, contact Ray Dewey, Dewey Trading Co., 53 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe NM 87501.

Marc Simmons's "Adventuring on the Santa Fe Trail" appeared in the Spring/Summer 1994 issue of *Spirit Magazine*. Brian and Gretchen Orr do an outstanding job with this regional publication. Subscriptions are \$10.00 per year; send to Spirit Magazine, PO Box 346, Walsenburg CO 81089.

A public meeting at Fort Larned National Historic Site on July 7 received comments on the proposed master plan for the post that protected the Trail, 1859-1878. There was general support for the proposal that includes a new visitor center, restoring historic buildings to original condition, and construction of the sutler's complex, cavalry stables, and adjutant's office.

A new sign with information about historic Franklin, MO, has been erected by the South Howard County Historical Society on Highway 87 in front of the home of Steve and Cristy Solomon. The sign replaces the stone markers lost in the flood of 1993. The sign on Highway 40 that directs tourists to the start of the Santa Fe Trail was also swept away by the flood but was recovered, repaired, and placed just south of the parking lot of the new Snoddy's Store.

The 4th annual wagon train ride sponsored by the South Howard County Historical Society and the Lexington Bit and Bridle Club was held on June 19. The ride began at historic Franklin and concluded with a sym-

bolic raft crossing of the Missouri River at Arrow Rock. The Conestoga wagon built by members of the SHCHS was part of the 30+ riders and wagons.

The 12th National Trails Symposium, with the theme "Connecting Our Communities," will be held at Anchorage, Alaska, September 27-October 1, 1994. Activities will include more than 40 sessions on trail use and management and more than a dozen field trips. For more information call (907) 243-7420 or FAX (907) 243-0705.

SFTA Vice-President Mark L. Gardner's fine publication, *Brothers on the Santa Fe and Chihuahua Trails: Edward James Glasgow and William Henry Glasgow, 1846-1848*, has recently been reviewed favorably in *Western Historical Quarterly* (Summer 1994) and *New Mexico Magazine* (August 1994). The popular book is now in its second printing.

Stephen Zimmer, director of museums at Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, NM 87714, has recently printed a handsome and informative brochure, "The Kit Carson Museum at Rayado: A Historic Site on the Santa Fe Trail." Visitors are welcome at the site. A copy of the brochure may be obtained from the above address or call (505) 376-2281, ext. 46.

New officers for the South Howard County Historical Society are President Gregg Koelliker, V-P Howard Hendrix, Secretary Doris Markland, Treasurer Herb Niebruegge, and Directors Carl W. Fleck and Gene Owen.

Pat O'Brien, SFTA board member from Colorado, received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Colorado in May. His dissertation, of special interest to Trail historians, is "Independence, Missouri's Trade with Mexico, 1827-1860: A Study in International Consensus and Cooperation." O'Brien also has an article in the Summer 1993 issue of *Gateway Heritage* (Missouri Historical Society) on "Hiram Young: Pioneering Black Wagonmaker for the Santa Fe Trade."

Adrian Bustamante, SFTA board member from New Mexico, has been appointed to head the New Mexico Office of Cultural Affairs. Bustamante has been head of the College of Arts and Sciences at Santa Fe Community College, where he taught anthropology and history. He is past president of the Museum of New Mexico board of re-

gents and a former member of the New Mexico Arts Commission. He is currently president of the Colonial New Mexico Historical Foundation and a member of the executive board of the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities.

The Madonna of the Trail statue at Albuquerque, NM, may be displaced if McClellan Park in which it stands is used for a new federal courthouse. SFTA member Mary Della Smith, past regent of the Lew Wallace Chapter DAR, wants to retain the park and preserve the location of the statue. The issue has not yet been decided.

National Park Service Director Roger G. Kennedy recently expressed his congratulations to Gregory Franzwa, who was nominated to an Honor Roll of people essential to the National Trails System at the Third National Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails held last spring at Kansas City. Franzwa was honored for his many books and support of trails organizations. Franzwa received the information "a little humorously," given his constant admonitions to the NPS for its closed-minded administration of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

Cordell Tindall, operator of the historic Print Shop at Arrow Rock, MO, recently turned 80 and, to celebrate, started training an apprentice, Jeremy Stith, to demonstrate the art of printing to the public. Tindall published the special issue of the historic *Missouri Intelligencer* which was distributed at the Arrow Rock symposium.

The June-August 1994 issue of *The Northeast Kansas Pioneer Champion*, published at Baldwin City featured a series of articles on the Santa Fe Trail. Published by Loren K. Litteer, the quarterly paper is available for \$6.00 per year from Champion Publishing, RR 3 Box 88, Baldwin City KS 66006.

A new Catholic Museum has opened at 223 Cathedral Place in Santa Fe. The exhibits trace the history of the church in New Mexico. The archival collection includes records from the mission period (dating from 1678 to 1849), material from the diocesan period (1850-1900), and sacramental registers dating from 1694 to 1900. The office is open for research by appointment. The museum is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday morning. Admission is \$1.50; \$1.00 for students and senior citizens.



# ESCORT DUTY ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL, 1863: DIARY OF WILLIAM HEAGERTY AND MEMOIRS & LETTERS OF PETER F. CLARK, COMPANY A, ELEVENTH MISSOURI CAVALRY

edited by Leo E. Oliva

(This material appears in print for the first time, thanks to Hollis Heagerty, Aurora, Missouri, great-grandson of William Heagerty.)

**MILITARY** escort duty on the Trail was a common assignment from the time of the war between the U.S. and Mexico which began in 1846 until the railroad replaced the historic wagon road. This was especially true during the time of the Civil War, when the Trail was the supply route and major connection between the eastern states and the heartland of the American Southwest. Published diaries kept by enlisted soldiers of their experiences along the road to New Mexico remain rare items in Trail literature. All records kept by officers and soldiers add significantly to Trail history. William Heagerty, a volunteer cavalryman in Company A, 11th Missouri Cavalry, and Lt. Peter F. Clark, Heagerty's commanding officer, now join this genre.

The escort on which these men served accompanied government supply trains and a party of Arizona territorial officials, including Joseph Pratt Allyn, going to assume their duties. Allyn's letters of the 1863 trip along the Trail, edited by David K. Strate, appeared in *West by Southwest: Letters of Joseph Pratt Allyn, A Traveller Along the Santa Fe Trail, 1863* (Dodge City: Kansas Heritage Center, 1984). Allyn mentioned, not altogether favorably, the Missouri volunteers who protected the wagon train (see quotation below under Jayhawking). Interestingly, Lt. Clark was not enthralled with the officials he was assigned to guard (see his letter from Fort Lyon below). The writings of Clark and Heagerty provide additional information on the trip, and tell of the difficulties of traveling the Trail during winter months on their return to Missouri.

William Heagerty's diary of escort duty on the Trail was only recently discovered by Hollis Heagerty, a great-grandson, who recognized its significance. He has graciously permitted publication in WT. The diary is sketchy on details but is important to Trail enthusiasts because he names almost every place his unit camped, provides distances along the route, and tells of the hazards of crossing the plains during the winter. So far as can be determined, the dramatic story of Private John Bess's narrow escape from a blizzard (mentioned in the diary and explained more fully by Clark) has not

been published before. Heagerty's diary entries show, too, that travelers were constantly aware of the weather. Heagerty, like many other soldiers, also told about hunting experiences. He told little about the people in his unit or that he met along the way and gave almost no description of such places as Fort Larned, Bent's Old Fort, and Fort Union.

Hollis Heagerty has developed a keen interest in the story of his great-grandfather. He also possesses a treasured item that came into the family before the Civil War. In 1855 the 2nd U.S. Cavalry traveled through Lawrence County, Missouri, and camped one night a short distance from the home of William Heagerty. Among those troops, led by Robert E. Lee, were ten men who later served as general officers on one side or the other during the Civil War. The morning after the troops marched on, near a tree at their campsite, William Heagerty and his brother-in-law found two razors that had been left behind by the soldiers. Hollis Heagerty now has one of those razors, which may once have belonged to Lee or one of his lieutenants.

William Heagerty was born in 1830 in North Carolina and moved to Missouri with his parents in 1840. William married Julia Gray Nicholass in 1852. He taught school in 1857 and 1858. By the time of the Civil War he had a farm near Halltown in Lawrence County, Missouri. When the war broke out, William Heagerty helped organize a company of home guards and, later, a second such company. When those units were disbanded, Heagerty enlisted in Company A, 11th Missouri Volunteer Cavalry in 1863. He served as sergeant during the time of escort duty on the Santa Fe Trail in 1863-1864 and later served as lieutenant of his company. He served until discharged on June 23, 1865. He operated his farm until he moved to Aurora, Missouri, in 1886. His son, grandson, and great-grandson (Hollis Heagerty) were all born on the family farm, which remained in the family until recently.

Lt. Clark was also from Lawrence County, Missouri, and knew Heagerty before they joined the army. Clark's memoirs and letters, only a few excerpts of which appear here, supplement Heagerty's diary. Some years after the war Clark prepared a manuscript, "The War of the Rebellion, A Memoir," which was recently printed

by his descendants (there are copies at the Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, and the Oregon Historical Society in Portland). Permission to include portions of Clark's memoirs and unpublished letters (made available by Hollis Heagerty) was granted by a descendant, John Clark. From Clark's memoirs and other sources, additional information about the volunteer company and escort duty were derived.

Clark, Heagerty, and a number of men from Lawrence County, Missouri, were mustered into Company A, 11th Missouri Volunteer Cavalry in January 1863. Clark was appointed to the rank of lieutenant. Companies A and H were sent to Fort Leavenworth in August 1863 to form part of an escort for government trains going to New Mexico and Arizona. Company I, 4th Missouri State Militia Cavalry was also assigned to this duty. Major James A. Phillips, 10th Kansas Cavalry, was placed in command of the escort battalion. Company A was to escort an ox train of eighteen wagons loaded with supplies for the New Mexico volunteers commanded by Colonel Kit Carson. Additional supply wagons and a party of government officials going to Arizona Territory (including J. P. Allyn) followed a few days later accompanied by the other two companies.

Clark related that his company escorted the wagon train comprised of eighteen ox-drawn wagons, two six-mule teams hauling soldiers supplies, camp equipment, and forage for horses, with eighteen bullwackers, one wagon boss, two assistants, two drovers, and two cooks. There were some 300 head of horses, mules, and oxen. The other two companies, as noted, escorted additional wagons and the party of government officials. They all got together at Fort Lyon, Colorado Territory, and remained so until arriving at Fort Union, New Mexico Territory. Company H continued the escort to Arizona Territory, and the other two companies (including Heagerty and Clark) returned to Missouri during the winter of 1863-1864. On the return trip there were six 6-mule teams to haul supplies and forage for the mounted troops.

Soon after their return to Missouri, Clark, Heagerty, and their company were sent to St. Louis. They served in Missouri and Arkansas through the remainder of the Civil War. Heagerty and Clark returned to their homes in Lawrence County in 1865. In 1874 the

Clark family moved from Missouri to Oregon.

The documents are printed as nearly as possible as they appeared in the manuscripts, with two exceptions. Punctuation has been added in places for clarity and consistency, and a few abbreviations have been spelled out to avoid confusion. There may be a few errors of transcription, due primarily to illegibility. There are a few errors of fact, mostly geographical, in these records.

### WILLIAM HEAGERTY DIARY

On the march to Santa Fe N.M.

Moved from Ft Leavenworth 12 M. [Meridian, meaning noon] Sept 21st/63. 4 P.M. camped for the night at Easton, Ks near Gallaghers Hotel, had a good nights rest. morning 22nd weather fair and fine. Marched at 7 A.M., halted after traveling a few miles, for the stock to graze. Marched at 11 A.M. again and at 1 P.M. passed through a Village called Dresden, Jeff. Co.

At 2 P.M. camped and picketed out horses, place called Hickory Point [?] Post Office, distance traveled 15 miles.

23rd. Marched at 8 A.M. 11 A.M. arrived at Osacka [Ozawakie], 1 Hotel, the Washington House by S. Osborn. Halted at 12 M. and grazed - at 3 moved. 4 P.M. halted and pitched tents for the night on a little creek called Rock Creek, 43 miles from Ft Leavenworth.

24th fair, cool morning wind from north. I did not rest well last night, but eat a hearty meal this morning. 7:30 ready to march, after travelling 1 hour we came to Mr. Floran's Indiana House. 11 A.M. passed in sight of Topeka - North. 12 crossed Soldiers creek at Indianola. 12:30 halted to graze and rest - and stay till tomorrow. We are in flat wet Prairie bottom between Soldiers creek and Kaw river.

25th Cloudy and cool wind north E, "health good," 55 miles from Ft Leavenworth. Marched at 8 A.M. 10 miles to next water, 1 1/2 hours march we come to Silver Lake, at 11:30 we cross Cross Creek at Rossville. 1:30 P.M. we camp in the Kaw valley - after having marched 17 miles.

26th fair fine weather. Marched at 8 A.M. 2 miles march we come to the Pottawatomie Mission "Bertrand House," "Catholic church" St. Mary's Mission. 12:30 camped after crossing little Vermillion Creek at a bridge—marched 18 miles, went fishing and hunting, caught some little fishes, killed 1 fox Squirrel, and 1 black one.

27—87 miles from Ft Leavenworth. Marched 3 miles to Lewisburgh, crossed Big Vermillion 9 A.M. 1 P.M. Camped after marching 18 miles, on Elbow Creek. Met an old farmer with a load of fine melons, bought him out.

28th fair fine weather, all well, 2 miles march we cross big blue, on a bridge built

upon boats. 1 Hotel, the Manhattan House, town of Manhattan, County Site [Seat] of Riley County, thriving place, eat breakfast at a private house, 104 miles out. 12 M. Camped on the bank of the Kaw near the Village of Holburn.

29. 113 miles from Leavenworth, weather fair and warm. Several men drunk last night. Sergt Stein and Private Welsh fought, Stein very drunk. Marched at 8 A.M. 7 miles march bring us to Fort Riley at 10:30 A.M. We camp in the Kaw Valley near by the Ft.

30th fair cool weather had high wind and a fall of rain last night, wind from N.W. this morning, all well. Marched at 9 A.M. 10:30 we cross the Republican fork of Kansas River on a bridge floating. 11:30 we pass through Junction City. 3 P.M. we camp on Smoky hill fork of Kansas 13 miles from Ft Riley near 7 Springs.

1st October 1863. Marched at 8:30. Weather fair and fine. 9:20 A.M. cross Chapman Creek. 1 P.M. camped at the town Aberline [Abilene], marched 19 miles today.

2nd fair fine morning, but cool. Marched at 8 A.M. 9 A.M. left the road in company with Steve, to hunt antelope. Saw several during the day but did not kill any. Crossed Solomon fork at 4 P.M., got into camp at 6 P.M. on Saline river. 23 miles marched today. Sergt. Lewis Coon very sick.

3rd fair and cool. 8:20 A.M. marched. 9:20 A.M. we pass thru Saline City. 12:30 M. marched 12 miles and camped on Spring Creek. Saw several buffalo in the fore noon but did not kill any.

4th clear and cool. Marched at 7:40 A.M. and saw three buffalo but did not get a shot, left the road went North. 11 A.M. found several buffalo lying in a cove between the sand hills and am now going to try to kill 1 of them. I am about 2 1/2 miles north of the road. (now for it.) I am alone. 12 M. have killed 1 and shot two. 1:30 P.M. have killed the second one, saw 7 antelope 1 wolf, got to camp at sunset. Made 13 miles. Camp on elm branch.

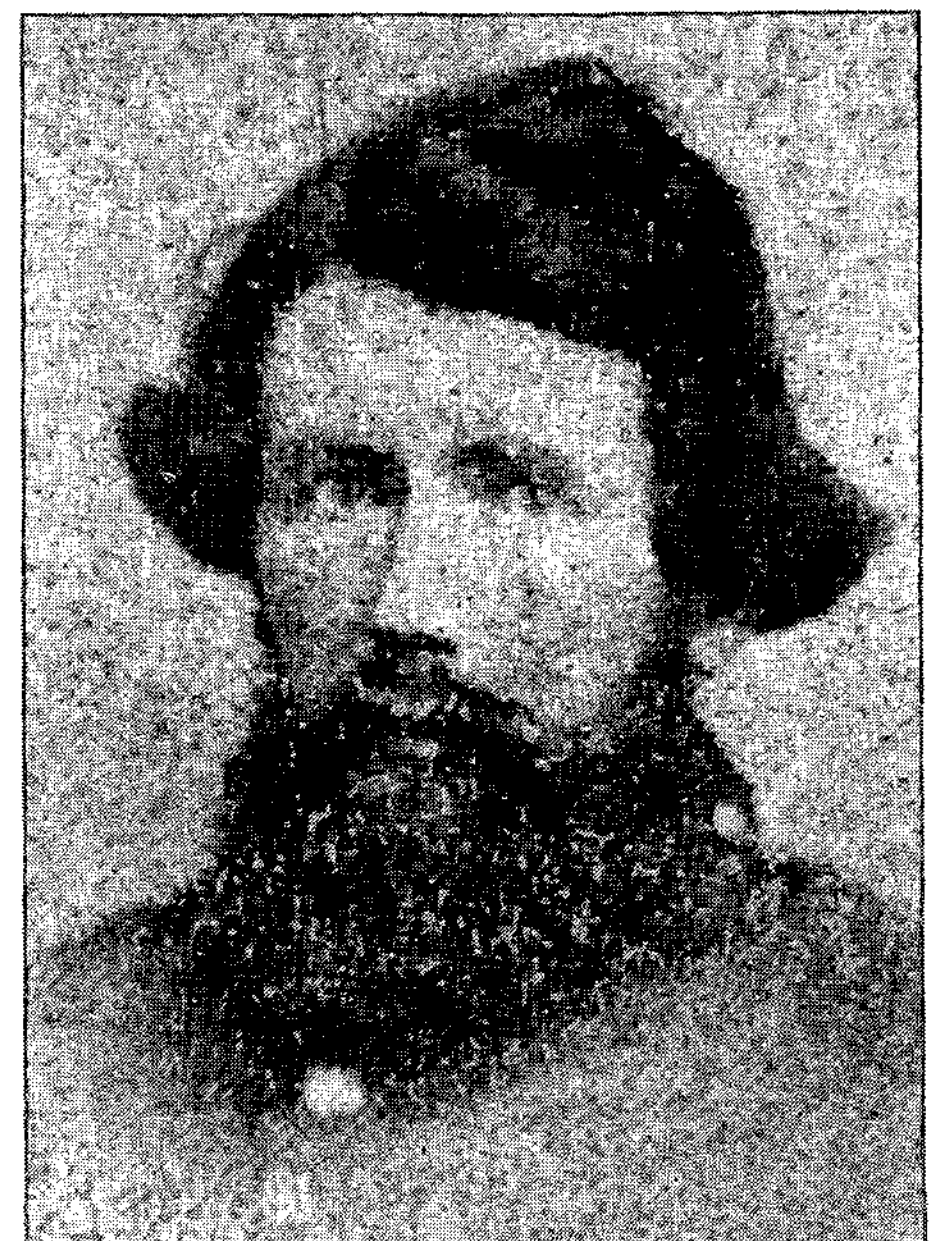
5th fair, cool and frosty. Marched at 8 A.M. 9:35 we cross Clear Creek. 12 M. camped on Smoky hill fork of Kansas River. 9 miles.

6 cool with thin Hazy clouds, wind N. Marched at 8:30 A.M. fore noon killed several buffalo. 2:30 P.M. camped on plumb creek. 15 miles today.

7 cool and clear, train lying still today for teams to rest. Went hunting & at 2:25 P.M. killed 1 antelope 6 miles from camp, got into camp at sunset.

8th cool clear, wind South. Marched at 8:15, beautiful day. Camped at 11:40 A.M. on Cow Creek at the sand hills, 12 miles today.

9th fine, warm, some thin, high hazy clouds, wind South. Marched at 8 A.M.



William Heagerty

11:10 camped on Walnut Creek, I picketed my horse & went hunting among the rocks and killed one rabbit, with my pistol. 12 miles today.

10 Marched at 8 A.M., fair, fine morning. 11:20 we halt in the Valley of Pawnee Fork, of Arkansas River, to rest and graze teams. 3:30 P.M. camped in Pawnee [Arkansas] River valley near Pawnee Rock.

11th Sunday. Cloudy, wind South. Marched at 7:15 A.M. Looks like rain. 12 M. got to Ft Larnard [Larned] and camped. Wind shifted to N.W. In camp near here is a group of Cadoes, they are from Texas & were driven out by the rebels because they were loyal to the U.S. 2:30 P.M. train to [?] [?] got up [?].

12th fair to the East & cloudy West with South wind. lying up and repairing wagons & shoeing horses.

13th Fair and fine, wind N.W. Lying up today for repairs. 1 P.M. [?] Sergt [?] Corpl Clements and 8 men went as escort to ox train.

14 fair fine morning. Marched at 11:30 A.M. 7:40 P.M. camped on Coon Creek 33 miles from Ft Larnard.

15th fair, fine. 8:30 went out to take a buffalo chase, got back to camp at 2:00 P.M. after killing 2 fat bulls. 2:30 P.M. marched, camped at [?] P.M. 10 miles. (Camp Stockton)

16th cloudy, cool, S.E. wind. 7:30 A.M. marched. 10 A.M. halted to water & rest. 10:30 moved on. 3:25 camped at the dry route ranch 62 miles from Ft Larnard.

17th cloudy, cold, N.W. wind all night. Marched at 1 P.M. 3:15 P.M. camped at old Ft. McKay. 10 miles marched today. 72 miles from Ft Larnard.

18 fair, cold, wind N.W. (Sunday.) Marched at 8:40 A.M., camped at 1:00 P.M.



at the Semirone [Cimarron] Crossing.

19th Cloudy and cool. Marched at 7:40 A.M. Camped at 1:30 P.M. at 3 miles from Point of rocks, 20 miles past today.

20 fair and cold. Marched at 7:25 A.M. Camped at 12:40, 10 miles today (Camp Rice).

21st light clouds and cool. Marched at 8 A.M. Camped at 1:30 P.M. 15 miles west of 9 mile ridge.

22nd Cloudy, cold and snowing. Wind East X wind changed to north. 11 A.M. quit snowing. Camped at 1 P.M. at Chouteau Island (left with ox train).

23rd Clear and cold, wind N.W. Marched at 8:30 A.M. Camped at 1:00 P.M. (20 miles).

I went hunting south of the river, saw a large buck about 10 A.M. upon an Island. 10:30 shot a Sandhill crane but only wounded him and then left the river and went to the hills, saw several antelope, shot at 1 of them but did not kill - turned toward the river, saw many antelope going to the river to water, got in the river before them, shot and wounded one but did not get him, then turned up the river, shot at some geese, killed none, found three deer lying on an island, they run, two made for mainland, I shot at 1 of them as they run (missed) then found the other hid in the bushes, shot twice at him through the bushes, wounded him slightly, he hid again, could not find him, found a great deal of beaver work but did not see any, passed a camp of Arapahoes of 20 wigwams, got to camp at 7 P.M. without any game.

24 Marched at 8 A.M. Clear and cold. Wind S.E. Camped at 12 M. near Big timbers. 1 P.M. killed a large rabbit. 3 P.M. went hunting deer upon the islands in the river, saw several fine ones, shot twice at them running, and Steve shot once, Gabe once, but killed none. (14 miles today).

25th Cold, with thin hazy clouds. Got up before daylight and went hunting for deer, saw none, got back to breakfast. Marched at 8:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. camped at the upper end of Salt bottom (16 miles today), killed two rabbits

26 fair, cold, wind West. Marched at 7:30 A.M. 12 M. halted to rest and eat a cold snack. the day has become fine and warm. We pass a number of Indian wigwams. We arrive at Ft Lyon 4 P.M.

27 fine & warm. We are lying still today & making out our payrolls &c.

28 the same as yesterday.

29 Lying still on account of snow and cold.

30 Clear, cold, the Thermometer 5 deg below Zero, snow 8 inches deep. Marched at 8:30 A.M. 11 A.M. we come in sight of the Spanish peaks. 5 P.M. Camped at the confluence of the Rivers Arkansas & Picket Wire. 24 miles.

31 Cloudy and cold. Marched at 7:30

A.M. 11 A.M. crossed at Bents Old Fort. 4 P.M. camped. I went hunting in the morning out on the march, saw several deer, shot a large buck, killed three large rabbits & one small one. Ferguson killed a young Panther after camping. We muster for pay this evening by Maj. Phillips. Marched 24 miles.

1st November 1863. Clear and cold. Marched at Sunrise. Camped at 5 P.M. Sunday. 32 miles.

2 Marched at 7 A.M. Cold, thin hazy clouds. 12 M. halted at Hole in rock, rested and watered. 2 P.M. marched on. 7 P.M. camped at Hole in the Prairie.

3 Marched at 8 A.M. 12 M. come to Picket Wire River. 2 P.M. camped at Grays Ranch.

4th Clear & cold. Marched at 7:30 A.M. 5 miles we pass through town of Trinidad. 12 M. watered at Beaver Dam. 4:30 P.M. camped at Russells cabins, 2 miles from the summit of the Rattoon Mountain (18 miles).

5 Clear, fine morning. Marched at 7:40 A.M. Went in advance 30 minutes, arrived on the summit, and had a magnificent view of the Spanish Peaks & Pikes Peak. Went hunting among the mountains, saw some deer, and some bear sign but killed none. Got to camp on Red river at 7 P.M. (18 miles).

6 Clear & warm. Marched at 7 A.M. 3 P.M. camped on Bermajo (Viermaho) [Vermejo] Creek, 25 miles. Saw a great many antelope & rabbits and the mexicans herding sheep.

7 clear fine morning. Marched at 7 A.M. 12 M. passed Maxwells. 4 P.M. camped at Maxwells Ranch, 23 miles, Koskloska on the Rio, bought 2 chickens & a mutton.

8 Clear fine - marched at 7 A.M. Camped at 4 P.M. in the Prairie, 23 miles. Camped at Okata [Ocate].

9 clear and cold. Marched at 7 A.M. 3 P.M. arrived at Fort Union. 19 miles.

10 fair and warm, lying still today.

11 fair and fine. Marched at 8 A.M. for Kansas City Mo. Co "B" Capt Fisk 1st Cal Cavl Vols in company with us to relieve Co "I" M.S.M. [Missouri State Militia]. 1:45 P.M. at Okata creek, 19 miles, (Cap Fritz not Fisk).

12 Marched at 7 A.M. 11 A.M. passed the meadows. 2 P.M. camped at Rio Creek, Koskloska Hacienda. 21 miles.

13 fair fine warm, lying still today. 2:30 P.M. Capt Rice comes up to us out of rations, left the ox train at Willow Springs.

14 fair and warm. Marched at 8 A.M. Camped on Bermajo Creek. 3 P.M. Went hunting & killed 1 Jack Rabbit. 9 killed in the company. (24 miles.)

15 fair cool, "Sunday." Marched at 7 A.M. went in advance to try to kill antelope. Saw a great number & shot several times but did not get any. Got into camp on Red River at sun down (18 miles).

16 Marched at 7 A.M. 6 miles we come to the Willow springs. 12 M. we arrive on the summit of Ratoon Mt. 12:30 P.M. arrived at Russells Cabins 12 miles from Willow spring. 3:15 P.M. we camp at the Beaver Dam 8 miles from the cabins, 26 miles. When upon the summit the Spanish Peaks can be seen to the north capped with snow. Also Pikes Peak looms up in the distance like a white cloud. Our camp is directly west of the high Ratoon Bute[?] which to look at seems to be only 2 or 3 miles distant but is ten. I have been sick with headache & diarrhea this afternoon but feel better this evening at sun-set.

17 fair & fine. Marched 7 A.M. left the command and went in company with Tom Jeffords to the top of the Ratoon Bute, distance about 7 miles from Beaver Dam. We arrived on the top at 11 A.M. We stayed up until after 12 M. The view is grand beyond description, it commands the entire surrounding country, Pikes Peak, the [?] Mountains, also the Spanish Peaks and the main range of the Rocky Mountains and in fact the view is of the most magnificent nature. The ascent is very difficult & somewhat dangerous. After coming down from the rock which has a surface of about 5 acres covered with grass & almost level, we turn our course eastward for several miles then to the N.E. to camp on Picket Wire. We arrived in camp 7:20 P.M. after having walked a distance of about 30 miles.

18 fair fine, wind S.W. Marched at 7 A.M. 10:30 came to the Hole in the Prairie, 13 miles. 3:30 P.M. camped at Hole in Rock, distance 15 miles.

19 Cloudy, cold, and snowing. Snow commenced falling before midnight with wind high from north, blew down several tents. Men, our saddles, and every thing is covered with snow though the cold is not very intense. Marched at 7:30 A.M. 11 A.M. cleared off and is fine & pleasant. Snow thawing considerable. 12:30 arrived at Iron Springs, 15 miles. 3:30 P.M. camped at water Holes in the valley 6 miles from Iron Spring, 21 miles from Hole in rock, and 26 from Arks. River.

20 Marched at 7 A.M. Clear and cold. 3:30 P.M. camped on Arks. River, 26 miles.

21 cloudy & cold, wind N.E. 10 A.M. arrived at Bents old fort, paid 50 cts per doz. for apples raised [?] [?] [?] in the State of Mo. 8 miles. 2 P.M. camped at the mouth of Pequetoirre[?] 12 miles from old Ft, 20 miles. At camp paid 10 cents per lb. for cabbages, 10 for onions, 8 for parsnips & beets. Went hunting, Saw deer. Killed none. Cold all day & cloudy at evening.

22 Cold E. wind with heavy fall of snow. Marched at 7:30 A.M. Very snowy & Stormy all day. Arrived at Ft Lyon at 3 P.M. Very cold, got into quarters, lost [John] Bess, 2 mules & 7 horses, and some other articles in the storm "dreadful night" Officers pay little attention to men & the animals after



**Tom Jeffords**

getting into camp. (Sunday)

23 Cold N wind & snowing. Snow 14 in. deep on level, & drifts of almost any depth. Very cold. Sent a file of men in search of Bess and the lost stock animals &c. It returned after hunting for several hours with some of the stock and &c but did not find Bess who appeared to be lost and froze to death. 5 P.M. snow quit falling and wind is calming down, clouds beginning to break up.

24 Cloudy, very cold, wind N.W. 9:40 A.M. Lt. Clark and several men go in search of Bess again. 11 A.M. Bess is brought in by one of the men, he is badly frostbitten. He was found with a train of wagons on the way here, & came to them sometime yesterday evening after having been out 36 or 38 hours in the snow. We found some more of the stock on the way in, only 5 or 6 head lost in all. P.M. pitched tents and moved out [of quarters at Fort Lyon].

25 Clear and cold, N.W. wind, lying still in camp today. The snow getting better.

26 Clear & cold, wind N.W. 12 M. fine & fair, snow thawing. I am now out hunting rabbits in company with W. T. Crosslen. 4 P.M. I have killed four and Crosslen three, and got back to camp. We killed them south of the river. We crossed and recrossed upon the ice on foot. 4:30 P.M. turning cold, wind N.E. 4:45 P.M. wind very high with snow flying thick.

27 Clear and cold, wind N.W. Still lying up on account of cold & snow, and the Maj. Comdg. having strolled off to an Indian camp, left the Post without giving orders. we could not get Provision returns approved, consequently had to stay another day.

28 Clear and very cold. Thermometer 11 deg. below Zero, lying still yet. We drew our rations and forage for ten days and intend to march tomorrow morning at 7 A.M. We have sent Bess to the Hospital.

29 Very cold, wind West. Marched at 8:40 A.M., left Sgt. Campbell, Privates Young & Scholte in Hospital. 12 M. passed camp of 2nd Colorado Inf. 3 P.M. camped at Sand creek 15 miles, the Navajo Indians are camped here.

30 Marched at 8 A.M. 12 M. water at an Indian Camp. 2:40 P.M. camped at the old stage ranch. By me named (Camp Arapahoe), 20 miles, near big timbers.

1st December 1863. Clear & cold. Marched at 7 A.M. 3 P.M. camped at Arapahoe, 23 miles, lost 1 U.S. horse and 1 mule.

2nd Clear and cold. Marched 7:20 A.M. Steve kills an Antelope at 9 A.M. Man of Co. "I" M.S.M. kill [one] about the same time. I have been very sick for two or three days and and Corpl Stokely is sick like unto death. 1:30 P.M. camped at Chouteau Island. 20 miles.

3rd Marched at 7 A.M. Cold and cloudy. Camped at 2 P.M. west side 9 mile ridge. I have been very sick all day. Saw several buffalo in afternoon. 18 miles.

4th Marched 7 A.M., fore noon Steve kills one antelope, men of Co 'I' 2, afternoon D. D. Clements & Colt kills buffalo calf, some others are killed also. Mex kills 3 antelope. 1 P.M. Camp Rice, 15 miles.

5th Clear, cold. Marched at 7 A.M., forenoon pass U.S. Supply train snowed in, saw thousands of buffalo during the day & one small flock of Antelope ran between the command & the river, some 40 or 50 shots fired, but 1 killed. 3 P.M. camp west side 12 Mile ridge. I am getting better. Stokely is a little better, but not rational at all times yet. 15 miles.

6 Cloudy, cold & high SW wind. Snow thawing very fast. Several buffalo killed today. 2 P.M. camped 3 miles W of old Ft McKay, 25 miles. 7 P.M. wind high, cloud looks like rain. 8 P.M. commences to rain, wind very high with lightning & thunder. Midnight ceases to rain, becomes calm.

7 4 A.M. cloudy, cold, high North wind with snow. 4½ A.M. wind blow down tents, snow falling very thick. 7:30 A.M. marched in a dreadful storm. Snow is so thick that we can not see 100 yds. We lost the road several times during the day and had to stop for the buffalo to pass in the storm. 2 or 3 P.M. the wind begins to calm, quit snowing about 4 P.M. The snow is very wet and sticks to everything. Camp at 3 P.M. 25 miles. Myself & Stokely are both better.

8 Clear & cold. March at 7 A.M. I am able for my grub this morning. Stokely is better. 12 M. fine and pleasant. Snow thawing off very fast. We see thousands of Buffalo. The men kill several. 2 P.M. camped at Camp Stockton. 20 miles.

9th Dec. Fair fine day wind South. Marched at 7 A.M. 2 P.M. camped near Coon Creek. 20 miles. I rode my Horse today but feel very much fatigued. Stokely is better. Very few buffalo near the road

today.

10 High hazy clouds, cold N.W. wind. Marched at 7 A.M. 11 A.M. arrived at Ft Larnard.

11 We are lying up to rest our horses and make repairs. Cool and cloudy.

12th the same as above. 11 A.M. Steve & Crabtree go out & kill a buffalo the men see from camp. We had inspection of arms this evening.

13th Clear and cold, wind very high since 11 P.M. last night. P.M. wind calmed.

14th. Clear cold, & wind South. Marched at 10 A.M. 12:30 P.M. camped on Ash Creek. 10 miles from Larnard and 7 from Pawnee Rock, west and in sight of the Rock.

15 Marched at 6:40 A.M. Cloudy & very cold wind N.E. Soon after passing Pawnee rock 2 large buffalo cross the road very near us & Corpl Bliss of Co "G" 4th M.S.M. shot one of them down upon the road side at 1 single shot. Steve and Riley went hunting and took the road toward Ks City, and went as far as Peacock ranch, did not get into camp until dark. The Q.M. got hay here for our stock. I killed 1 Prairie chicken here. The Kiowas are camped here (Camp on Walnut Creek, 22 miles) fire wood plenty here.

16 Cold wind from North, and snow falling very thick. 12 M. storm worse. 4 P.M. the most dreadful snow storm that I have ever witnessed, it can not be described with the pen, just let the imagination run to its worst and then justice will hardly be done. Nothing but bitter experience can do any thing like realize this case. The cold is very intense, the wind the very highest, almost a gale, in fact it is strong enough to blow down tents. The snow is flying so thick that I can not see a man at the distance of 50 yards. We have not moved today on account of the storm. Men could not travel today without being in danger of freezing to death. We get hay here again from the rancher, for our horses.

17th Clear & cold, wind high from North. Snow flying in air. We lay still today.

18 Clear, cold wind from N.W. Marched at 8 A.M. 1:30 P.M. camped on Cow Creek, 15 miles. (Talfara kills our last buffalo)

19 Clear & cold wind N.W. Marched at 8:40 A.M. 11 A.M. cross Plumb Creek 12 miles. 3 P.M. camped on Smoky Hill Fork 15 miles from Plumb Creek, 27 miles.

20th Dec. Sunday. Clear & cold wind N.W. Marched at 6:30 A.M. 5 miles, cross Clear Creek, get hay from the rancher, 3 miles cross Clear Creek. 7½ miles pass rock spring ranch, 9 miles camp on Spring Creek, 25 miles. 2 P.M. we see the last buffalo.

21 Marched at 6:20 A.M. 9:20 A.M. pass thru Saline City. Here we pay 25 cents per lb for butter & 25 cents per doz. for Missouri apples. 10:40 cross Saline fork of Kaw.



2:30 camped on Solomon Fork of Kaw. Here we bought corn & hay. McKinney bot 8 Prairie hens, dressed, for \$1.00. We cross upon a swinging bridge. 25 miles.

22nd Marched at 6:45 A.M. Cold & very foggy. 1:30 P.M. camped on Chapman's Creek. 25 miles. 9:40 A.M. pass Abiline.

23 Clear and cold, wind East. Marched at 7 A.M. 9:45 A.M. come in sight of Fort Riley and Junction City. 11 A.M. we cross Republican Fork of Kaw upon a floating bridge on boats. 11:40 A.M. arrived at Fort Riley.

24 Cloudy & foggy, thawing. We are lying up today. Maj. Phillips & his adjt are gone to a wedding to take a Christmas spree, will not be back till tomorrow, Capt Daron Rice in command. We were making out pay roll warrants. Dr. Owens and his boys take a stage and leave us for their home in Delaware. We get no letters here. (Friday)

25 Cloudy, cool S Wind with rain. Very dark, cloudy weather. Lying up today.

26th Lying still yet. Cloudy and cold. N.W. wind, with snow this evening.

27th. Snow storm. We lying up as usual, evening move our horses into stable.

28 Clear and cold. We lying in quarters yet, draw more rations & propose to march tomorrow morning.

29 Clear and fine. Marched at 7:45. 9 A.M. pass thru village, Ogden. 2 P.M. pass thru Town of Manhattan. Cross big Blue upon a floating Bridge, and camped. 18 miles.

30 Cloudy and very cold. Marched at 7 A.M. 12 M. arrived at Louisville and cross Rock Creek, dreadful cold. Several men badly frost bitten. 1 P.M. go into camp. 15 miles.

31st Dec. the last day of 1863 and as cold and wind as high as it ever gets except in gales. We do not march today on account of the cold. We muster for pay today. 4:30 P.M. we have just mustered for pay. The cold continues very intense. Wind from North and very high with snow flying. Corpl Stokely very sick this evening. Forwood, Trampe[?], Foster, Wittenberg, Crabtree, Corpl Crosslen, Jeffords, Sgt Stockton, Pendleton 1st and a number of others are frostbitten. We march tomorrow morning at 7 A.M.

1st January 1864. Clear and cold, wind N.E. Marched at 9 A.M., 3 miles cross Vermilion Creek on the bridge. 4 P.M. camped at Rossville, on Cross Creek. 2 P.M. pass St. Mary's Mission (Potawatomie).

2. Marched at 7 A.M. 8 miles pass Silver lake. 12:30 pass Indianola. 2:30 P.M. crossed Kaw River at Topeka upon the ice. 3:40 P.M. camped near the village of Tecumseh, 22 miles.

3 cloudy and cold wind north. Marched at 7 A.M. 2:40 P.M. camped at Lawrence.

4 cloudy & cold, wind North with heavy shower of snow. 8 miles cross Waukarusa upon a bridge at Eudora City, thence through Lexington. 3 P.M. camped on Cedar Creek. 22 miles.

5th clear and very cold wind N. Marched at 7 A.M. 4 miles, pass Monticello, thence to Shawanee Town, thence to Westport Mo. 1:30 P.M. thence to Kansas City. 23 miles. Private Christian Balsinger died about 3 A.M. this morning from effects of cold. We take the body with us to Kansas City and inter it in the Soldiers Cemetery, with the honors of war.

6th We march back to Westport and take Quarters in Smith Hotel, here we expect to stay two or three weeks and in the time get 4 months pay now due us.

### PETER F. CLARK MEMOIRS

#### Story of John Bess (pp. 26-28)

In order to protect their faces from freezing, everyone, before marching, brought the cape of his overcoat over their head. Then they tied their handkerchief or scarves, if they happened to have any (which luckily I did) around their necks to hold the cape in position. The result looked something like a Quaker bonnet with a very small opening. It was so very cold that it was impossible to keep all the men mounted all of the time. They would get off to walk where the snow was blown off and we had great trouble keeping the men from becoming lost. If a man got a hundred yards from the column it would be impossible for him to see it again. With all this to contend with, we did not lose but one man which happened as follows.

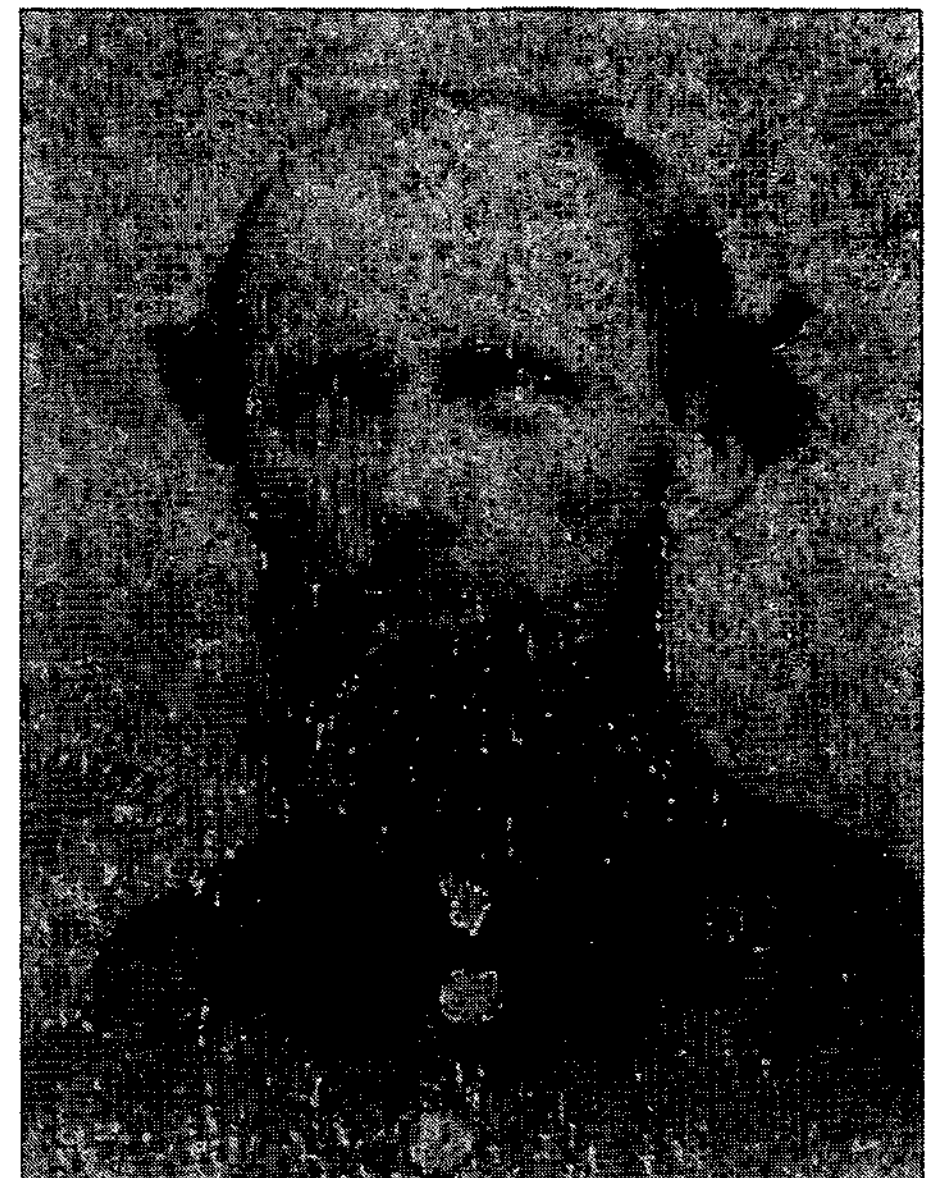
About six p.m. Sergeant Stockton found John Bess, a private from Company A, who had dismounted a few steps behind the column to adjust his cape which had blown loose. The sergeant ordered him to mount up and follow his ranks.

"All right, Sergeant," he said, "let me take off my saber and tie it to my saddle. I won't get out of sight."

The sergeant cautioned him to be quick about it and passed on to attend to other duties.

Late in the evening the wind ceased to blow, and between 8 and 9 o'clock p.m. we reached Fort Lyon and rode into a large stone stable where lanterns were furnished to us. When we called the roll, we found all present and accounted for except John Bess. Sergeant Stockton came forward and stated when he'd last seen him. None had seen him since, but lo and behold, his horse was in his place with the saber strapped onto the saddle. We gave him up for lost.

Soon our poor horses and mules were made comfortable in a warm stable, the first since we went out. The soldiers and officers turned to help us and we soon were conducted into the fort where we found good



Peter F. Clark

fires, hot coffee, and warm supper. It was delicious.

The next morning was clear and cold. I detailed Corporal Jeffords, and three men who were of the rear-guard the day before and saw Bess, to take pick and shovel and find Bess's bones and bury them, for no doubt the wolves had stripped them. They returned at noon and reported no sign of him. I did not think they went far enough so I took Sergeant Stockton and two other men and went back until I was sure we were beyond where he was last seen. We were compelled to return when, within about two miles of the fort, we saw smoke three quarters of a mile away in the cotton timber on the banks of the river. So we rode there a found a wood chopper's camp and Bess sitting by their fire.

The wood chopper's story was that sometime in the afternoon one of them thought he saw a very large wolf, which moved so curiously and slowly that he took his gun out and went to investigate. He soon found that it was a man, and he called his comrades and carried Bess to their fire.

Bess for his part said that soon after the rear-guard left him, he attempted to mount his horse when a severe blast of wind blew his overcoat in such a manner as to cause his horse to break away from him. He followed the horse for a long time hoping to catch him, but finally the horse ran off and left him. He had long lost sight of the company and wagons, but by sometimes catching sight of the river and the course of the wind, he struggled on until after dark. Being entirely exhausted, he fell down — as he thought — to die. He felt drowsy and went to sleep or became unconscious. He finally woke fairly comfortably and tried to get up. He found that he was in a snow drift and when he got out, the sun was shining. He thought it was about noon. He could not

stand. Eventually he saw the smoke of the wood chopper's camp. He thought that he crawled more than a mile before he was discovered and carried in.

We took Bess into the fort hospital, thinking, should he recover, he would loose both feet and hands. We never expected to see him ever again but six months later, he rejoined the regiment with only the loss of his toes and one finger.

#### Incident at Walnut Creek (p. 32)

When we reached Walnut Creek, we crossed over and camped near a stage station. The crossing of the creek was a narrow cut in the prairie about 25 feet deep and 100 [10?] feet wide. It was snowing when we crossed but turned into a blizzard and the creek was soon drifted full of snow. The east bound stage arrived and the passengers managed to get across, but the mules and stage could not be crossed over. The stage agent applied to Major Phillips to have the men assist him in beating down the snow so that they might bring the stage and mules over, but they soon found that impractical as they could not shovel the snow out while the blizzard continued. After all had failed, William Heagerty came to and said that if I would give my consent, that he, with the help of the company, could bring the stage and mules over. The mail agent agreed to give Sergeant Heagerty one dozen bottles of brandy to bring the stage safely over. What is it that a soldier will not do for brandy?

#### Death of Charles Balsinger (pp. 34-35)

Charles Balsinger got two canteens of whiskey, and pretty early Monday morning, one of the rear-guard came forward and informed me that Balsinger was so drunk that he could not ride. (Major Phillips and Captain Rice had stopped at Lawrence as it was their want to fire up too, and this left me in command, as usual.) When I fell back and found Balsinger helplessly drunk, I brought him up to the wagons, took a canteen of whiskey from him, rolled him in blankets and a buffalo robe. About the time I had disposed of him, Jim Crabtree, one of my company teamsters, broke his wagon pole. I went to a nearby house, borrowed tools, and spliced the pole.

I had that morning taken my buffalo overshoes and given one to Crabtree and one to Pendleton who each had a frost bitten foot so they could not wear boot or shoe. I knew my own feet were cold but did not think of their frosting. I then mounted my horse, galloped to the front, and found that my feet were freezing. I took a drink of whiskey to take the frost out of my feet, forgetting all about Balsinger when the column came up.

We went on in advance to find a camping place. The companies then came up, made camp and fires. Crabtree's wagon was late getting in, probably due to delay from his

broken pole. He reported that Balsinger had about frozen. I then found that he had the robe and blankets off of him and was just about gone. A canteen half full of whiskey was by him. I do not know if he drank any after he was put on the wagon, as the front of the wagon was closed up. Crabtree, the driver, did not see or pay attention to him. We took him to a fire, washed him with snow but he died in a few minutes, frozen nearly stiff, his knees drawn up, so they could not be straightened out. We hauled him on to Westport, a two days' drive, and we had to bury him in a box since we could not get him into a coffin.

My frosted feet did not give me much trouble: they only peeled a little. I suppose the drink of whiskey saved them.

### PETER F. CLARK LETTERS

#### Jayhawking

Joseph Pratt Allyn was critical of the Missouri troops and their practice of "jayhawking." What Allyn had to say helps set the scene for Clark's letter that follows Allyn's statement. Allyn described the Missouri soldiers comprising the escort, *West by Southwest*, p. 52: "These Missouri cavalry men are a gay set of birds, not remarkable for discipline or soldierly bearing, they have a remarkable *penchant* for jayhawking, which means appropriating whatever you want wherever you find it, under the plea of military necessity; rails and hen-roosts suffer uniformly, and I have noticed sometimes a new horse without the brand U.S. led along but of course he was bought; and I have heard of sheep disappearing."

Clark explained the practice in a letter to his wife, Peter F. Clark to Margaret Jane Clark, September 25, 1863, St. Mary's Mission, Pottawatomie Nation:

I again embrace the present opportunity to address you a short letter. Our train travels slow and there being no danger I leave camp in the morning and go ahead, leaving only a small guard with the train. We generally make camp by two o'clock p.m. The train gets up about sundown, so you can see I have nearly half a day to lie in camp and amuse myself any way I can.

Yesterday afternoon I went fishing but with poor success. Gabe went hunting to day and came in with a fine deer, no hog. It is now cooking over the fire, giving forth a savory smell very like pork. Yesterday a Frenchman and his Indian wife came to my tent complaining that four of his hogs had mysteriously disappeared leaving only their hides. They being in close proximity to our camp, he thought it looked suspicious that Uncle Sam's boys were fond of much pork while passing through Kansas. The boys took pay for the kindness of the Kansas troops in Missouri last winter. I cannot keep

the boys from helping themselves to sundry little articles such as chickens, turkeys, geese, hogs, and in fact I do not try. For a frequent change of diet is conducive to good health and I feel it my duty to promote good health in the company.

. . . The nights are quite cool out here now. The grass is all dead. We get half a feed of corn. The stock is doing well.

#### Letter from Pawnee Fort

Peter F. Clark to Margaret Jane Clark, October 20, 1863, Camp near old Pawnee Fort, Arkansas River:

I have marched twenty miles today and camped at two o'clock. The roads are fine. We have travelled one hundred and fifty miles up the Arkansas. We have to follow it two hundred more. For one hundred it has been dry so that we have had to dig for water for that distance. But for three days we have had plenty of water. The river is about a half a mile wide. The water will average about one inch deep. I have just come from walking across the river. This is a more barren road than the California road. There's not a single tree nor shrub to relieve the monotony of our vision. For three hundred miles we have had no fuel except the bois d cache - that is Buffalo chips. The boys have bags tied to the wagons, and through the day fill them with chips. You must know at night, when a hundred or more camp fires are lighted, that they give forth a delicious odor. I have on several occasions used buffalo bones and meat for replenishing my fire. I have a good sheet iron stove. It burns chips quite well. It has been quite cold for the last week. The wind cuts to the quick during the day, but when I get my tent pitched and stove up, I can laugh at wind, cold or rain. I have a good buffalo robe and two blankets which made me a comfortable bed. I have suffered much with a cold since I left Leavenworth. It settled on my lungs and caused something like pneumonia which I am not quite well from yet, but I have not lost a day from my duties. . . . Stockton, Jeffords and Young have made my duties as light as they could, and done everything they could to make me comfortable. . . .

I have been overworked ever since I left St. Louis, there being no officer to assist me. I have not heard from you yet but I will get letters at Fort Wise. . . . I am thirty days out from Leavenworth about halfway to Santa Fe. . . .

We have a thousand head of mules, horses and oxen, and three hundred men. We have had but little trouble with the Indians. I had a little trouble before Major Phillips came up with some Apaches and Comanches. They tried to rob a small train that was near us, and they succeeded in getting a few sacks of flour, sugar, and one sack of coffee, before I got up. They thought there being but one company of us, they could clean us out, but when the boys



came on like an avalanche with naked sabres, they vamoused to the ranch. There were fifteen hundred of them armed with bows and arrows. They are very thick along here. Kiowas, Shians, Yute, Navajos, Comanches, Apaches and Cadoes. The most trouble we have is to keep them from stealing. WE do not expect to have much fighting to do out here, but yet I may be mistaken. Captain Bucher happened on an awkward accident a few days ago. He went to shoot a wolf, his horse stumbled, and he shot himself in the knee, though he is doing well now. He rode on horse back today. The health of the escort is very good. Some few cases of ague and some colds.

#### Letter from Fort Lyon

Peter F. Clark to Margaret Jane Clark, October 27, 1863, Fort Lyon, Colorado Territory:

... We will get to Santa Fe in eighteen days as from this place I will leave the ox trains and go on through. I overtook Major Phillips yesterday. He awaited me here. His company takes my place with the bull trains, while myself with Company A and Captain Bucher with Company H, will make as good time through to Santa Fe as we can. We escort the mule train the Governor's secretary use, the post master, and many more dignified officials that I long to be rid of.

The weather has been very cold. The river froze hard for three days but it has now moderated. We do not look for much more cold as we have turned south. We are now in one hundred and forty miles of Pikes Peak Mines, still on the Arkansas River. We follow it forty miles farther and then take the Ratoon Mountains. I hope to kill a bear when I get there. ...

#### Letter from Fort Larned

Peter F. Clark to daughter, Elizabeth Clark, December 10, 1863, Fort Larned:

... On the 22nd day of November our troubles began, trying the iron nerves of our brave boys many of them who dare to face lead and steel in any shape. It may come as a shudder to reconstruct their sufferings and narrow escape of becoming food for wolves of the desert. On the morning of the 22nd began the worst snow storm that I had ever seen, the thermometer falling far below zero. We were then twenty seven miles above Fort Lyon. Our rations expired that day and we were obliged to move before the snow should get so deep that we could not move. The storm was in our faces. We moved out of camp at seven o'clock. But it did not last long. We were soon stringing along for two miles, each one struggling to save himself, nearly all forgetting the ties of friendship and humanity, but by good fortune and hard labor, all but one man and ten or twelve horses and several mules, got into the fort, but many badly frozen. Two

days after we found and brought in the missing man still alive, had lay down to die, but happened to lie down in such a place that the snow was drifting and it soon covered him to such a depth that it excluded the cold and saved his life, though he will loose his feet and some of his fingers. I left him at the Fort in the hospital.

We stayed at the Fort seven days, the thermometer never showing the mercury above zero but once, and the snow fifteen inches on a level. On the 8th day, being the 28th day of November, we left with twelve days rations as we thought, but we found afterwards that by mistake of the Commissary Sergeant we had but about eight days rations of hard bread. So for one hundred miles we were on less than half rations and one hundred and forty miles without wood and buffalo chips under the snow. Then on the morning of the 4th of December there blew up another storm more terrible than the first and we were again obliged to move because we had no wood and to lie still we were bound to freeze first and starve afterwards, but the wind was on our backs. No living animal could have faced that raging storm, not even the hardy buffalo. But the storm only lasted eight hours and cleared off warm. Had it continued cold as it did before, I do not think you would have ever read this letter because every man would have frozen before morning. As it was, about fifteen were frost bitten more or less, but here we are safe and sound except we are a little lame. Some are loosing their toe nails and some getting new skin on their heels, ears, noses, etc.

I am enjoying the luxury of a roaring big fire with plenty of rations and weather not very cold. The snow is nearly gone but it looks as if we will have more before morning. But we care not from now on we camp no more without wood and ninety miles brings us to the settlements. ...

We will stay here three days to rest our animals. ...

#### Letters from Walnut Creek

Peter F. Clark to Margaret Jane Clark, December 16, 1863, in camp at Walnut Creek, Kansas:

Snowing and blowing and freezing at such a rate that an attempt to do the case justice is out of the question. WE have had a series of snow storms and hurricanes that has never been seen or dreamt of east of Kansas or South of Canada. No matter how cold it gets or how deep the snow falls, you need never expect to hear of Company A freezing or starving for as you are aware I have seen hardships and been exposed some little before and thought I had seen hard weather, but it is all a sham. ... This is the fourth severe storm since we have been on the trip. The first was the worst I ever saw and I thought about the worst that could be, but each has increased in severity and intensity of cold until the present which

is now raging with all the fury of a demon. It began about midnight last night, wind from the north, the snow blowing in such quantities that nothing animate could face it. ...

... To stand and face the wind fifteen minutes in ordinary winter clothing will freeze any man to death. The prospect is good for all of our horses and mules to freeze if the storm does not abate before morning. We left the fort two days ago. It was severely cold then, but from yesterday, although there was no wind, it was impossible for a man to ride. It was so cold consequently we marched on foot. Now, in Missouri it would have had to turn warmer before it could have snowed, but here it can blow and snow anytime cold or hot. We expected to get to Fort Riley by the 20th and to Kansas City by the 26th, but that is played out. For when we leave here I cannot tell, not while the storm still continues with unabated fury. I have tied lariets to the top of my tent and staked them to the ground, yet I expect it every moment to come down while I write. If it does I will crawl under my buffalo [robe] and trust to luck. To keep fire is impossible out of doors. My stove keeps my tent tolerably comfortable. I have just been around to the men's tents. Poor fellows. They have turned in and the snow has blown into their tents and covered them to the depth of several inches, though the snow covering them is all their hope from freezing. Many, as I have written you before, have had their feet frozen already and suffered dreadfully. But strange to tell, all seem buoyant and laugh at their hardships with some few exceptions, and sing and holler the same as if all was well, at the same time vowing vengeance on the authors of their troubles and hardships, that is the rebels, and it is making the men hardened veterans. They begin to believe they can do and endure more than any other men and I begin to believe the same. On the day that Company A meets the enemy in the field, you may expect to hear of deeds of valor. Now, here comes the guard in to warm. Poor fellow. How he shivers. Who would not honor the man that can face this howling blast and shrink not from his duty when the marrow in his bones is almost chilled?

Peter F. Clark to Margaret Jane Clark, December 17, 1863, in camp at Walnut Creek, Kansas:

Sun rose clear but the wind continues to blow and the snow is flying so thick that the sun seems to be shrouded in mourning. It is still very cold yet no one froze last night. One man froze his fingers this morning making a fire. Some tents blew down last night but mine stood through the storm. We will march tomorrow morning if the wind stops blowing. The snow is about twelve inches deep on an average but some drifts are fifteen feet deep and still piling up. We will have fun floundering through them. A

wagon has just come in from Pawnee rock with a woman and three children. They were caught out in the storm and layed all night on the prairie without tents or fire. We had to carry them over the creek, the wagon could not cross. The banks are high and blown full of snow. They kept from freezing by having plenty of buffalo robes. The little fellows were nearly naked and barefoot, but they are safe in the ranch now and will stay until it turns warm.

The stage is due from Lamard but I do not think it can come while the wind storm continues, for no six mules could be forced to face it. There is a post office and stage station here. I have succeeded in getting the late papers and feel much elated with the present state of affairs. I think the late victories of General Grant and others have broken the spirit of rebeldom. I have hopes that when another year rolls around that the hostile armies will cease to slaughter each other on the fields of our once happy but now miserable country.

... It is now night. The wind has lulled a little. I think we can march in the morning but it will be very cold, if not colder. ...

... The stage has come. We had to put ropes to it and hitch fifty men to it and haul it over the creek. They go on tonight at eight. It is now seven. We march in the morning at eight. The wind has quit blowing and it is clear but oh how cold. We will have to make 25 miles tomorrow. Starting is difficult, but when on the march there is no danger of freezing. ...

#### Letter from Westport

Peter F. Clark to Margaret Jane Clark, January 9, 1864, Westport, Missouri:

As soon as I started back [from New Mexico] my health began to improve. Had it not, I should have gone under, for I have exposed myself and come through what I did not believe any man could and still improve in health, until now I am stout as a mule and cold weather cannot touch me, although it did freeze my nose and one foot a little, but not enough to keep me from wearing my boot or smelling out cabbage and potatoes in Kansas. ... If you could compare our present condition with two weeks ago, you would see that I had reason to feel thankful. We are now quartered in a large brick hotel sufficiently large to hold half a regiment with stoves and plenty of wood. I have a room to myself for an office. ... I am now in command of two companies.

... All the boys that you know are well except for frost bites. Some of them are going around with corn bags tied around their feet as they cannot wear their boots. I had one man frozen to death the day before I got in, the only man I have lost on the trip. We will stay two or four weeks and then go to our regiment wherever it is.

## "THE REGION OF RED SANDSTONE": UP AND DOWN CHACUACO CREEK WITH VIAL, LONG, AND BECKNELL

by Phil Carson

*(Phil Carson is a veteran Colorado journalist, who is working on a monograph on Spanish exploration beyond the northern frontier of colonial New Mexico, 1598-1821. He is also the historian of the recently-organized Old Spanish Trail Association. Carson suggests that information in this article will be aided by maps of the region, and he recommends the relevant USGS topographic series. A portion of a map drawn for another publication is included for general reference.)*

WILLIAM Becknell's 1821 journey deservedly looms large in the genesis of the Santa Fe trade. Recently his route over the divide between the Arkansas and Canadian rivers in that year has been brought into sharper focus.<sup>1</sup> In light of the discovery and publication of Pedro Ignacio Gallego's journal by Michael Olsen and Harry Myers, and their hypothetical route for Becknell over the Arkansas-Canadian divide in 1821, it seems appropriate to review the earliest documented journeys before Becknell along that Chacuaco Creek route.

This review focuses upon Pedro Vial and his documented journeys in 1804 and 1805, and this author's view of Vial's route in those years. Major Stephen H. Long's journey of 1820 sheds some light on the matter. Such a review produces no startling revelations on Becknell's journey, but it suggests that the Chacuaco Creek route had been regularly used by explorers in Spain's service since 1804 and possibly as early as 1795. That in turn merely underscores the feasibility of the route for later travelers, though it proves nothing.

Yet discrepancies arise; regular campsites established in Chacuaco Creek canyon in the 1804-1805 period were not mentioned in either Edwin James's report of Major Long's passage in 1820 or Becknell's 1821 journal. Thus the perennial difficulty for historians is to establish beyond the shadow of a doubt the actual routes of journal-keeping travelers.

Up to 1821 the journeys by Vial, Long, and Becknell are the only well-documented accounts for which the Chacuaco Creek route has been suggested, aside from obvious use by American Indians who left pictographs. As Olsen and Myers noted, John Tucker's article on Long's route from the Arkansas to the Canadian, published in the *New Mexico Historical*

Review (1963), is the best piece of scholarship on that issue. Tucker suggested that Long and James in July 1820 headed nearly due south from the Arkansas River near present Rocky Ford and dropped into the Purgatoire just downstream of the mouth of present Bent Canyon. From there the party crossed the river and ascended perhaps five miles of the Purgatoire, then rode up most of Chacuaco Creek en route to Emery Gap/Tollgate Canyon and the Dry Cimarron Valley.<sup>2</sup>

James, a botanist and geologist, who penned the Long expedition's report, later mentioned potentially significant details of that route in his description of travel through the Purgatoire and Chacuaco canyons. According to Tucker (who quoted James), on July 25, 1820: "The [Long] party struck the Purgatoire in the middle of the day and after following up it for only a few miles '... entered the valley of a small creek, tributary from the southeast...' This must have been Chacuaco Creek, as surmised by Chittenden and Thwaites."<sup>3</sup> Actually, while Chacuaco Creek enters the Purgatoire from the southeast, the former soon trends south-southwest, the desired direction for Becknell, if not for Long.

Tucker did not cite James's description of the Purgatoire-Chacuaco confluence area. James wrote for that day: "Following up the bed of the creek, we ascended ... to the surface of the stratum of red sandstone. ..." The following day, July 26, he wrote: "After leaving the region of red sandstone," the party continued up the creek.<sup>4</sup>

A physical inspection of the Purgatoire-Chacuaco confluence confirms that, after entering Chacuaco Creek canyon at the confluence and heading upstream, the rock turns to prominent red sandstone formations and continues likewise up the canyon a mile or so before giving way to less dramatically colored canyon walls. This matches James's "region of red sandstone."

Becknell's terse itinerary for that same stretch mentioned only the "immensely high" canyon walls of the Purgatoire, his successful hunt for a big-horn sheep, then his ascent of cliffs "almost insurmountable," thought to be his description of exiting Chacuaco Canyon.<sup>5</sup> Becknell did not mention seeing tracks, trails, or campsites, though Long, James, eight others, and their mounts had preceded him by only one year. It is reasonable to be-



lieve, however, that ten mounted men could have passed that way once without leaving an obvious trace. On the other hand, if this route were frequently used by Indian travelers, tracks and trails may have been obvious and not recorded.

James further mentioned that, after ascending Chacuaco Creek past the "region of red sandstone," the men followed "a bison path, which we believed, would at length conduct us to the open plain."<sup>6</sup>

One wonders about this observation. Was this "bison path" merely a game trail? Could it also have been an Indian trail? Could it represent remnant signs of travel by a score or two of mounted men and spare horses under Pedro Vial 15 or 16 years earlier? Vial was accompanied by 20 men in 1804 and 50 in 1805.

This author walked a relatively short segment of Chacuaco Creek, near its confluence with Goat Ranch Canyon, in November 1993, led by local ranchers Lonnie Jackson of Kim, CO, and Willard Loudon of Branson, CO. We found buffalo bones tangled among the weeds at the back of a large cave, and Jackson reported having previously seen a buffalo skull protruding from an exposed strata of soil at a nearby location. So large game once traversed Chacuaco Creek and undoubtedly created one or more paths. Whether or not Vial's travels along the route created or enhanced such a trace is a question that probably cannot be answered.

While Becknell's journal of 1821 was of little help in establishing a connection with Pedro Vial, James's description of the "region of red sandstone" was significant.

Pedro, or Pierre, Vial was born at Lyon, France, about 1746. By 1779 Spanish officials found him living among Indian tribes along the Red River of present Texas, speaking the native tongue and repairing guns. In 1785 Spaniards convinced him to relocate to their settlement at San Antonio de Bexar and work for them. Pierre became Pedro.

Vial immediately began making amazing journeys in Spain's service, usually alone or with a single companion, that have few parallels in this continent's exploration. In 1785 he traveled from San Antonio to the Comanche at an as-yet unidentified location.<sup>7</sup> He connected San Antonio to Santa Fe in 1786, Santa Fe to St. Louis in 1792-93, and Santa Fe to the Pawnee villages on the Platte in 1795. The two latter journeys may well have bearing on Chacuaco Canyon.

Vial spent 1797-1801 trapping and mining in French Missouri. But by 1803 he was back in Santa Fe working for the Spaniards. The following year Spanish officials were alarmed to learn of Lewis and Clark's mission to the Columbia. Because they believed that the Americans would cross the frontier of "Nuevo Mexico," a province that extended (in Spanish minds) indefinitely east, north, and west of the present boundaries of the state of New Mexico, and win neighboring tribes to American allegiance, they ordered Vial to stop the Americans.

The details of that intriguing, little-known mission and its far-ranging implications are beyond the scope of this study, which will concentrate solely on Vial's journey from Santa Fe to the Arkansas, particularly the stretch involving Chacuaco Creek and its canyon.<sup>8</sup>

On his 1804 journey Vial stopped at Taos and was furnished with 20 men, 10 Spanish settlers and 10 Indians, and he soon crossed the Sangre de Cristos by one of several venerable passes east of Taos Pueblo, used by Spaniards for two centuries. As he traveled northeast across the high plains he crossed the "Rio Vermejo" and other landmarks that still retain their names.

Vial's diary casually mentioned these landmarks by name, indicating that they were probably well-known at the time. Perhaps he had used the same route on the 1792 journey from Santa Fe to St. Louis and/or his 1795 journey from Santa Fe to the Pawnees.

On August 15, 1804, after crossing the present New Mexico-Colorado state line, perhaps by Trinchera Pass, Vial wrote that "we entered the canyon of the Casa Colorada, having traveled approximately 8 leagues."<sup>9</sup> The next day he wrote: "We left in the morning and traveled about 1 league. Arrived at the Rio de la Animas. . . ."<sup>10</sup> From there Vial followed the Animas (Purgatoire River) to the "Nampeste," or Rio Napeste, today's Arkansas River. Ultimately Vial reached the Pawnee villages on the Platte, not far from the site of Pedro de Villasur's massacre at Pawnee and Oto hands in 1720.

Upon his return journey Vial led several Pawnee chiefs and "a Spanish captive who was living among them" along his outward route, and remarked that "we reached the mouth of the Rio de la Casa Colorado, where about 100 Comanches met us."<sup>11</sup> He remarked no further on his route, and it may be assumed to be the same as his already-documented outward journey.

In his 1805 diary of a similar journey,

Vial's entries suggest that he took the same route as in 1804. This time he had about 50 men, including Spanish soldiers, Spanish and French settlers, and probably some Pueblo Indians. For instance, on October 29, he recorded that he arrived "as usual" at the "Agua de la Cueva." This landmark, not mentioned in the 1804 diary, may be the same as "El Charco." The Puddle, visited the year before. In 1805 Vial mentioned having camped on the "Rio de la Trinchera," then the "Agua de la Cueva," perhaps indicating that he had stopped at present Trinchera Creek, west of Chacuaco Creek, then entered the latter via today's Aguaje Canyon. In any case, Vial continued his 1805 journey from the "Agua de la Cueva" on October 31, when he wrote: "We left in the morning in said direction through said canyon. We traveled about two leagues, the bad weather making us stop in the Cueva del Chacuaco until the following day. Two leagues."<sup>12</sup>

The next day, November 1, Vial wrote: "We left in the morning and made camp at the Casa Colorado [7 leagues]." The following day he recorded: "We left in the morning in the same direction throughout the whole Canyon of the Casa Colorado until we arrived at the Rio de Animas [Purgatoire River]; camped as usual. [5 leagues]"<sup>13</sup> Vial then continued down the Purgatoire to the Arkansas, where his party was turned back by 100 attackers who "neither spoke nor cried out in any language; they only gave, while fighting, a very extraordinary shout. . . ." Further, he wrote of this nighttime attack: "They were all fully dressed in the colors of white, red, and blue with a cloth tied on their heads. They had no arrows, but all had firearms."<sup>14</sup>

Vial's questionable detail of the white, red, and blue garb (seen at night in the dark?) may have been apocryphal and designed to suggest, as do other details, that this was a band of American trappers of which there is no other record. The attackers may have been Americans, but Vial's dubious details seem designed to convince his superiors that circumstances beyond his control aborted the 1805 mission.

In any case, Vial's rather confusing diaries for 1804 and 1805 do not match in all particulars. While some place names and distances traveled from year to year point to an identical route for both expeditions, as does his consistent remark "stopped as usual," some names (including "Cueva del Chacuaco") appeared in the 1805 narrative but not in that of the previous year.

This author's theory is that Vial repeated his 1804 route in 1805, one that dropped into Chacuaco Creek canyon near its head on the north side of the present Colorado-New Mexico state line, and used that canyon to reach the Purgatoire, thence to the Arkansas. In 1805 he provided his superiors with a more detailed description of his travels, perhaps due to complaints about the vagueness and brevity of the previous diary.

There may be additional reasons for the discrepancies between the two diaries, as well as their brevity. Possibly Vial was, by inclination, not given to careful journal keeping, and it is conceivable he may have reconstructed from memory both journals after returning to Santa Fe, to fulfill his obligation to provide a record of his travels.

Such a theory would account for the terseness of both diaries, the apparent

discrepancies between the 1804 and 1805 versions, and the confusing descriptions given in both. Taking the 1805 diary as the more reliable, this author deduced that "Casa Colorado," a redrock formation that reminded Vial of the Spanish pueblos of New Mexico, probably referred to the terrain near the confluence of the Chacuaco Creek and the Purgatoire. A physical inspection of that area, although from a distance, suggested this to be the case.

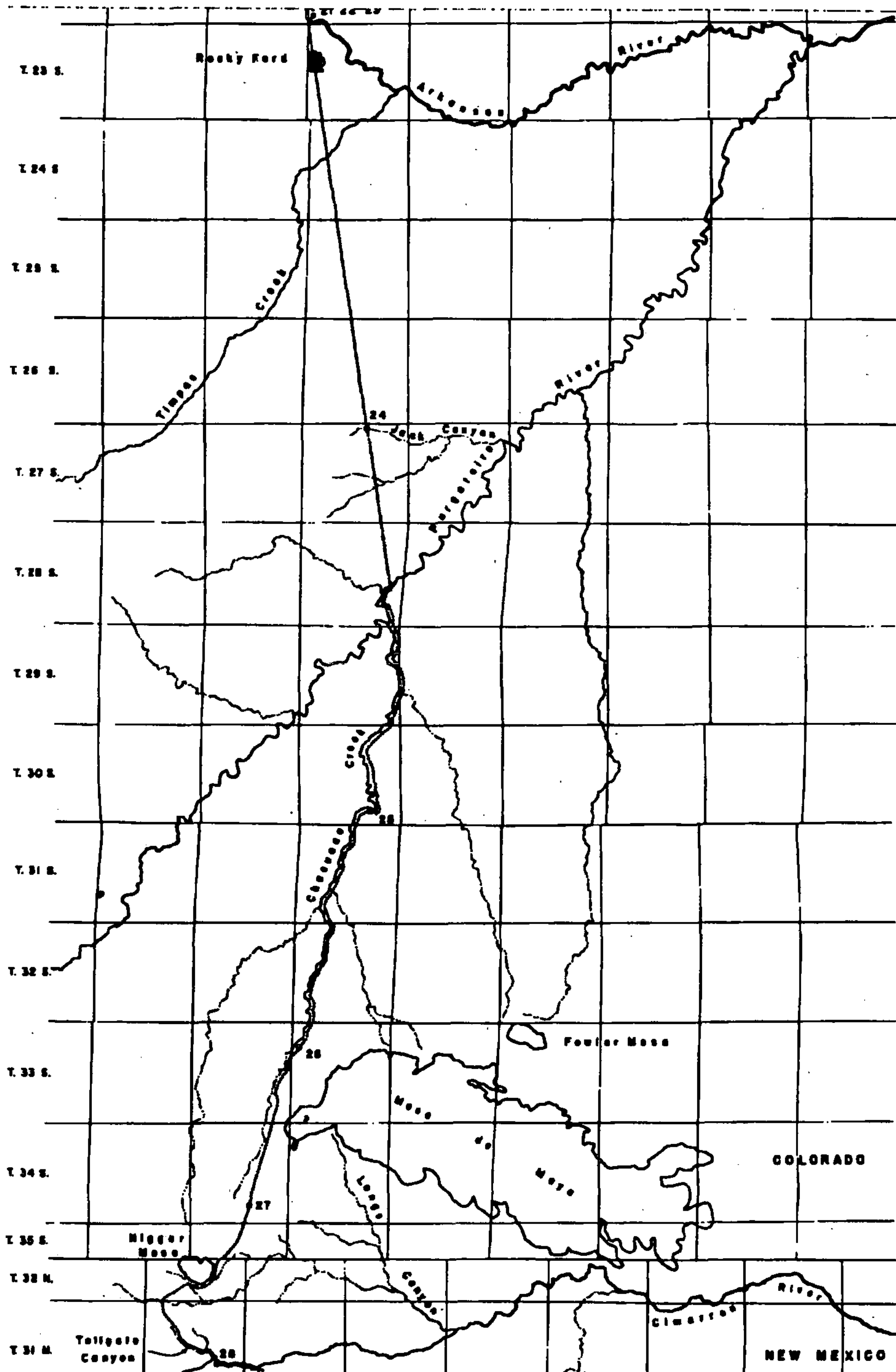
Recall that Vial wrote that he stopped at the "Cueva del Chacuaco." This was likely one of several natural, large overhangs in the meanders of that canyon and possibly, given the distances he records, the site of what is now known as Lopez Cave House, an early pioneer abode built into a cave near the upper end of the canyon.<sup>15</sup>

From that point Vial traveled seven leagues to "Casa Colorado," where he camped. The next day his party traveled "throughout the whole Canyon of the Casa Colorado until we arrived at the Rio de Animas," where the party camped "as usual." The unmistakable redrock formations that exist in the lower end of Chacuaco Creek canyon, near its confluence with the Purgatoire, support the conclusion that Vial's "whole canyon of the Casa Colorado" was the same as Edwin James's "region of red sandstone."

If that is so, however, how could Long and James have missed the established campsite at "Cueva del Chacuaco"? According to Lonnie Jackson, who has seen the Lopez Cave House, that cave sits low in the stream's floodplain (which formed it) and cannot be missed by traveling along the margin of the stream bed. Maybe Long and James saw it but failed to record it, or by that time in their journey, in the deep summer heat, they had eyes only for their destination.

The foregoing narrative and speculations may be rather confusing but will be much clearer to readers who have copies of the documents and a topographic map of the region. It must be pointed out that James H. and Dolores Gunnerson, renowned anthropologists at the University of Nebraska, have performed outstanding route reconstructions for the likes of Spanish explorers Juan de Ulibarri (1706) and Antonio Cosío y Valverde (1719), who also traveled in this general vicinity. The above explanation for Vial's route conflicts with James Gunnerson's latest proposed route.

James Gunnerson proposed earlier this year that his reading of Vial's route takes the explorer west-to-east



Portion of a map showing Chacuaco Creek, taken from John M. Tucker, "Major Long's Route from the Arkansas to the Canadian River, 1820," *New Mexico Historical Review*, 38 (July 1963).



from the head of Chacuaco Creek to the head of adjacent Smith Canyon, then down Smith Canyon (which Gunnerson considers to be the "Canyon of the Casa Colorado") to the Purgatoire. In his reconstruction, Gunnerson relied on the literal distances and directions given in Vial's 1805 diary. Discrepancies of distances provided therein he partially explained by noting that in Spanish script, numerals 4 and 9 look alike. He downplays the fact that Vial did not mention descending into Chacuaco Canyon only to re-emerge and then descend again into Smith Canyon, although that is rugged country.<sup>16</sup>

This author's hypothesis that Vial traveled through Chacuaco Canyon was based on the local terrain and Vial's ultimate objectives, and the discrepancies of distance and direction given in the diaries were downplayed. Those aspects were notoriously inexact throughout the body of Spanish exploration literature for this region. Furthermore, in Vial's case, these factors may be especially suspicious if, as suggested above, he jotted down his itinerary upon his return to Santa Fe.

Thus Gunnerson and this author have made selective use of certain details, while explaining away discrepancies with equally selective reasoning.<sup>17</sup> This author would also enter into the argument the conjectural routes for Long in 1820 and Becknell in 1821 to suggest that Chacuaco Creek, perhaps as early as 1795 and as late as 1821, formed the route of choice for travelers in this area. While a number of conjectural observations placing Vial, Long, and Becknell through Chacuaco Creek canyon hardly makes a convincing argument, the matter is certainly worthy of further investigation.

Extensive fieldwork into the question has been hampered by local landowners who wish to retain their privacy and discourage widespread attention to this particularly recondite terrain, and that is to be respected. Yet one hopes that someday a top-to-bottom survey of Chacuaco Creek will shed more light on the matter.

Such sparse documentary clues point up the difficulty (some, like archaeologist Bill Buckles, say impossibility) of reconciling written accounts with the terrain without some archaeological corroboration. Perhaps some diagnostic artifacts await discovery at the Lopez Cave House or somewhere near the confluence of Chacuaco Creek and the Purgatoire River that will establish the routes of Vial, Long, and Becknell. Such tantalizing possibilities keep alive the mysteries of the Santa Fe Trail.

## NOTES

1. Michael L. Olsen and Harry C. Myers, "The Diary of Pedro Ignacio Gallego . . .," *Wagon Tracks*, 7 (November 1992): 1, 15-20.
2. John M. Tucker, "Major Long's Route from the Arkansas to the Canadian River, 1820," *NMHR*, 38 (July 1963): 185-219.
3. *Ibid.*, 195.
4. Edwin James, *Account of an Expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains*, 2 vols. (Philadelphia: Carey & Lea, 1823; reprint 1966), II, 72, 73; see Tucker, "Major Long's Route," 196, for a clarification of James's apparent errors as to dates.
5. William Becknell, "Journal," *Missouri Historical Society Collections*, 2 (July 1906): 57-75.
6. James, *Account*, II, 74.
7. Anthropologist Tom Kavanaugh, curator of the American Indian Studies Research Institute at Indiana University, has recovered Vial's manuscript journal of 1785 and is preparing it for publication. Personal communication with the author, September 1993.
8. Readers are referred to several books and articles on the matter for closer examination of Vial's movements and purpose in 1804 and 1805: Noel Loomis and Abraham Nasatir, *Pedro Vial and the Roads to Santa Fe* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1967); Warren Cook, *The Floodtide of Empire: Spain and the Pacific Northwest, 1543-1819* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1973); Abraham Nasatir, "More on Pedro Vial in Upper Louisiana," *The Spanish in the Mississippi Valley, 1762-1804*, ed. John F. McDermott (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1974), 100-119; James H. Gunnerson, "Documentary Clues and Northeastern New Mexico Archaeology," *New Mexico Archaeological Council Proceedings*, VI (1984): 67-72 (plus revisions in a letter to this author, Jan. 12, 1994); and Phil Carson, "Tracing the Journey of Pedro Vial," *The Pueblo Chieftain*, Nov. 14, 1993, D-1.
9. Nasatir, "More on Pedro Vial," 115.
10. *Ibid.*, 115.
11. *Ibid.*, 118.
12. Loomis and Nasatir, *Pedro Vial*, 434.
13. *Ibid.*
14. *Ibid.*, 436.
15. Conversations with Lonnie Jackson and Willard Loudon, November 1993.
16. James Gunnerson to author, Jan. 12, 1994.
17. Gunnerson and this author are not at odds, however, and agree that much work remains to be done. Further fieldwork may take place in 1994.

(Editor's Note: Could Becknell have had contact with anyone from the Long party before beginning his trip in 1821? Any documentation of that possibility will be published in WT, with credit to the contributor.)

## A FORT UNION TRIUMPH

(continued from page 1)

There are hundreds of footnotes and an extensive bibliography. In short, virtually everything any person might want to know about old Fort Union can be found between the covers of this book.

As guardian of the Santa Fe Trail, Fort Union had an unusually long history for a western fort. It endured for 40 years, from its founding as a small trail-side garrison in 1851 down to its final closing in 1891, when its services were no longer needed.

During these decades, three sepa-

rate forts were built in succession, all upon an open plain within sight of one another. The first fort was erected by the departmental commander Col. E. V. Sumner at the base of a low mesa.

At the time of the Civil War, a second fort in the form of an earthen fieldwork was constructed on the flats a mile to the east. Considered more defensible, its purpose was to repel an expected Confederate attack during the Texan invasion in 1862. Since the rebels were stopped at the Battle of Glorieta Pass, 70 miles to the west, it was not needed.

Soon afterward, building of the third fort was begun next to the fieldwork, and this was the one that evolved into a huge military complex that included not only barracks, officers' quarters, stables, and a hospital but also enormous commissary and quartermaster warehouses.

Many well known military figures served at Fort Union, including Kit Carson, and their activities comprise an integral part of the story. Nor does Oliva neglect daily life of the average trooper. "The common labor expected from soldiers," he says, "may have been a critical factor in the high rate of desertions."

The author has searched far and wide, turning up lost diaries, journals, and reminiscences of people who saw the fort in its prime. Thus his pages are filled with new, first-hand information that helps grant us an in-depth picture of how things here once really were.

In the early 1950s Congress created Fort Union National Monument and the site was opened to the public in 1954. Today the extensive fort ruins, perched in the middle of an unspoiled plain beside the deep ruts of the Santa Fe Trail, is a paradise for visitors with an interest in Southwest history.

Anyone traveling Interstate 25 between El Paso and Denver should save time to take the Fort Union turnoff at Watrous, NM (20 miles east of Las Vegas) and tour the ruins and visitors' center at the Monument, eight miles to the north.

Leo Oliva's *Fort Union and The Frontier Army* was commissioned and published by the National Park Service, mainly for its own use in site interpretation. Just 600 copies were printed and they are sold only at the Monument (soft cover; \$24.95).

However, Fort Union Superintendent Harry Myers tells me that librarians and others, who just must have a copy, can phone the Monument (1-505-425-8025) to get information on ordering by mail.

I don't hesitate to pronounce Oliva's book a scholarly masterpiece. The text

is all meat and potatoes, containing no watery gravy such as is often found in government-sponsored writings. It will always remain a standard reference on the subject.

## CAMP TALES

### —CHAPTER REPORTS—

#### Cimarron Cutoff

President Helen C. Brown  
PO Box 1400  
Elkhart, KS 67950

Harry Myers, superintendent of Fort Union National Monument, was guest speaker at the summer meeting at the Cimarron Heritage Center, Boise City, OK, on July 16. A chuckwagon supper was provided for members and guests.

Myers told of plans for the 175th anniversary of the opening of trade on the Santa Fe Trail. It will be observed in 1996 and 1997 with the final celebration being the 1997 symposium in the Cimarron Cutoff Chapter area of the Trail in Oklahoma, Kansas, New Mexico, and Colorado. His program was on "Folklore of the Santa Fe Trail."

A business meeting followed the program, with President David Hutchison presiding. Officers elected for two-year terms were Helen C. Brown, Elkhart, president; Mary B. Gamble, Springfield, vice-president; and Sue Richardson, Clayton, secretary-treasurer.

Hutchison presented the question of whether Camp Nichols should be open to the public. This question had been asked of him by the landowner Allen Shields, who opens his ranch once a year for the Cimarron County Historical Society tour in October. A discussion of the question followed.

Following the meeting a planning session was held on the 1997 symposium. Another meeting on the symposium will be held in Boise City later this summer. The fall chapter meeting is at Elkhart on October 29 at the Morton County Museum at 7 p.m.

#### Texas Panhandle

President Kathy Revett  
3505 Cinderella  
Amarillo, TX 79121-1607

Tecovas Springs near Bushland, TX, was visited by chapter members on April 17, 1994. The site is assumed to be a watering place for Josiah Gregg's Santa Fe Trail caravan during his 1840 trip across the Panhandle. According to Frederick W. Rathjen, noted area historian, in relating Gregg's trip in his book, *The Texas Panhandle Frontier*, Gregg recorded that the party stopped at *Agua Pintada* or *Agua de Piedras*, known later as Rocky Dell Creek. Rathjen goes on to say that the site was probably Tecovas Springs in

southwestern Potter County. The site was also a place for trade between Mexican traders known as *Comanche-ros* and the Comanche Indians in the 1800s. Further history and lore about the spring was given by R. L. and Pauline Robertson who did an extensive study of the Panhandle for their book *Panhandle Pilgrimage*. The spring still flows clear, cold water, and following the short hike to the site the 22 "trail junkies" enjoyed a refreshing draught and the shade of the big cottonwoods beside the spring.

On May 1 living-history Indian trader Jerry Hays, from Bent's Fort, described his travels to the Canadian River territory and the Abode Walls trading post to trade with the Indians for buffalo robes. He'd found it unprofitable and had told Bent that they ought to move on. Trade items included tobacco, Italian beads, green coffee, horsehair ropes, lead, axes, beeswax, and mirrors. Jerry's beautifully-adorned Indian wife, Woman-Who-Steals-Thunder, was also present to assist in the presentation.

Actually, Jerry and Lavern Hays, chapter secretaries, are experts on the life of Bent's Fort traders. Jerry created and sewed their costumes. Most of the authentic reproduction equipment had been purchased at Bent's Fort.

On July 10 the Chapter met at the Amarillo Public Library for a video and slide program on Bent's Fort given by Jerry and Lavern Hays and Andy and Beverly Lyle. The Texas Highway Department has had the Tascosa Road Gregg marker recast and has it in storage. Plans for a ceremony to place and dedicate this marker were discussed. A September meeting is being planned at Creekwood Ranch. For information, contact Kathy Revett (806) 358-7320 or Ruth Mary Maples (806) 383-2028.

#### Wagonbed Spring

President Edward Dowell  
521 W Janice  
Ulysses, KS 67880

Members and guests were treated to a slide show of Kansas wildflowers at the quarterly meeting on July 14 in Ulysses, KS. The meeting was preceded by a buffet dinner.

Marion McGlohon, Ulysses, showed slides of wildflowers along the Trail at Wagonbed Spring and at Point of Rocks in Morton County. She said that Mother's Day in May was a good time to take pictures. Some of the showy favorites were Indian blanketflower, western wallflower, pincushion cactus, winecup mallow, and evening primrose. The speaker handed out lists of the flowers with both the common and Latin names.

Ed Lewis, vice president, conducted the business meeting. He discussed the goals for celebrating the 175th anniversary of the opening of the Trail. Local chapters will have the celebrations during the years of 1996 and 1997. One suggestion was for the chapter to mark their portion of the Trail with limestone postrock with an inscription on a metal plaque. A committee will be needed to study this project. The metal buffalo has been place at Wagonbed Spring site. A flash flood has eroded the site with water surrounding the wagon box. Plans are being made to correct the damage.

Mary Gamble reported on the SFT business meetings at the Larned Rendezvous in June. The fall meeting will be in Hugoton on Oct. 13.

#### Heart of the Flint Hills

President Donald B. Cress  
RR 1 Box 66  
Council Grove, KS 66846

Fifteen members and fourteen guests attended the July 12 meeting. Some residents told of attending school in the Wilmington School, built of stone in 1870. Others recalled attending community parties and ice cream socials there.

Preservation of the schoolhouse was started by the Wilmington Farm Wives EHU unit. When they disbanded in 1990, the schoolhouse was presented to the Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter.

During the business session reports were given on the following activities: (1) 1994 trail ride, (2) plans to install the SFT marker on 142 Mile Creek, (3) chapter plans for the 175th celebration, (4) documentation of Wilmington's history, (5) plans for Old Stone Barn Day Sept. 25, and (6) plans for a consignment auction Oct. 1. The chapter annual meeting will be held on Sept. 25, Barn Day.

#### End of the Trail

President Margaret Sears  
1871 Candela  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

On May 14 chapter members and guests were hosted by Doug Peterson who led them through the colorful story of Santa Fe's military history during the years 1846 to 1894. There are not visible remains of Fort Marcy today, but as the tour concluded at the site of the former Fort Marcy high upon the hill overlooking Santa Fe, those present could all visualize how it must have looked years ago.

#### Corazon de los Caminos

President LeRoy LeDoux  
PO Box 94  
Wagon Mound, NM 87752

In June, a caravan of 27 cars, headed by LeRoy LeDoux, left Watrous and



traveled to Loma Parda on the banks of the Mora river. Over 85 friends and members crossed over the river on a foot bridge to reach the village's ruins which bespeak of a prosperous town at the end of the 19th century.

In July chapter members and friends visited the Church of the Sacred Heart in Bueyeros in celebration of its 100th anniversary and then drove to the Gonzales ranch for lunch.

### Wet/Dry Routes

President Lon R. Palmer  
358 West 8  
Hoisington, KS 67544

The chapter met June 12 at the Santa Fe Trail Center in Larned. Reports were given with regard to (1) the Chuckwagon lunch served by the chapter at the Trail Rendezvous with commendation and thanks extended to Rusti Gardner for her leadership in the project, and (2) the Henry Booth project. This project includes (1) the construction of a mobile display with 19th-century photographs depicting the life and times of Booth, who was post sutler at Fort Larned from 1869 to 1873 and the principal organizer of both Pawnee County and the City of Larned, (2) the marking of nine locations in the Larned area associated with Booth, and (3) publication of a self-guided auto tour of those sites. July 4 was selected as the date for dedicating the Booth markers, with dedicatory services at 10:00 a.m. at Sts. Mary and Martha of Bethany Episcopal Church, Larned, KS, followed by a tour of the sites. The fall meeting is scheduled for September 11 at Pawnee Rock.

### Dodge City/Fort Dodge

President Janet Bevers  
513 Andrew Street  
Dodge City, KS 67801

No report.

### Missouri River Outfitters

President Robert Dorian  
13211 E 45th Terr  
Independence, MO 64055

On June 23 member Ona Geischen was our tour guide through the Save-A-Connie Museum at the KC Downtown Airport. Save-A-Connie, Inc. was formed for the preservation of propeller driven transport aircraft. TWA flew the route of the Santa Fe Trail and featured the Trail in its advertising.

On August 13 Polly and Eric Fowler will lead us on a Trail trek through Independence. We will meet at the Buckner school and join the trail at the Fort Osage cemetery. The trek will feature two DAR markers, Independence Square, the route of the old Wayne City and Independence Railroad, the Wayne City overlook, a worn down

Trail corner, and related sites.

### Quivira

President Wayne Smith  
RR 1 Box 44  
Raymond, KS 67573

No report.

### Cottonwood Crossing

President Dudley Donahue  
RR 1 Box 9  
Durham, KS 67438

No report.

### Bent's Fort

President Earl Casteel  
5666 S 106 Rd  
Alamosa, CO 81101

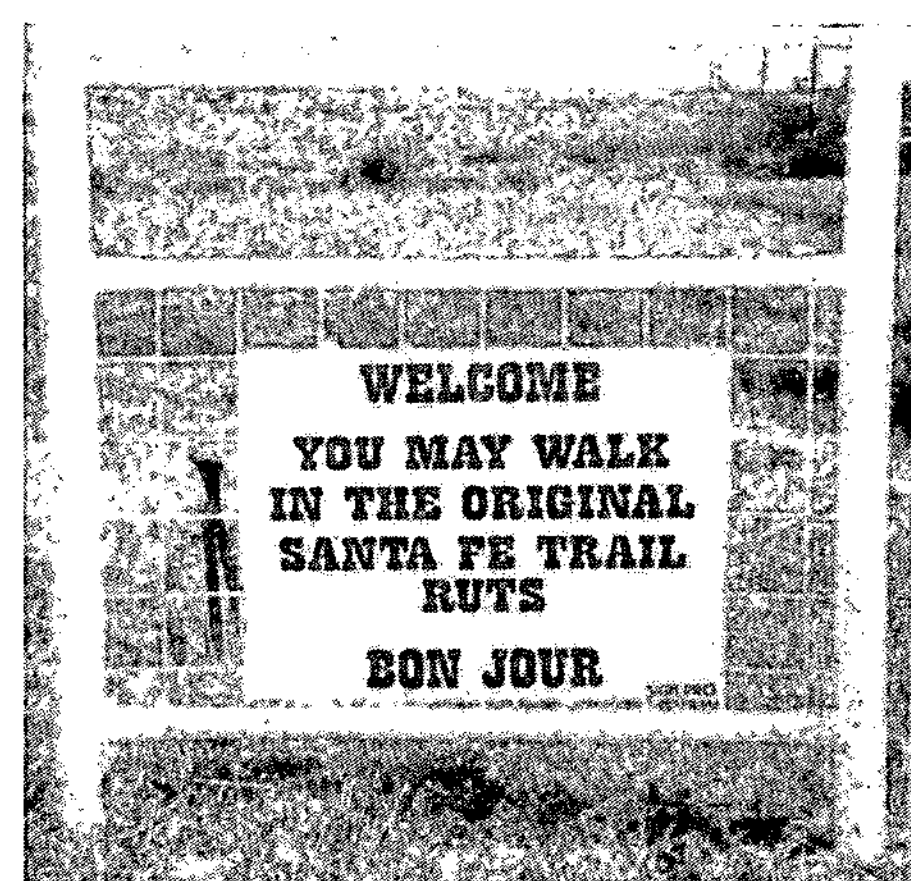
On May 15, 1994, a small group gathered to form a new chapter and temporary officers were elected. The Bent's Fort Chapter is organized to protect and preserve the Santa Fe Trail along the Mountain Route and its related side trails and sites in the following counties of southeast Colorado: Prowers, Bent, Otero, Las Animas, and Baca. The first concern was to complete requirements to obtain a charter from SFTA. This was quickly done and on June 3, 1994, the chapter was granted a charter by the SFTA board.

The first "official" meeting was held on June 25 at the Capri Restaurant in La Junta, CO. Interim Vice President Dale Kesterson presided. Other interim officers are President Earl Casteel, Secretary Teresa Kesterson, and Treasurer Sue Petersen. It was decided to continue with these officers until the first annual meeting after the first of the year.

The 26 chapter members at the meeting worked through details of organizing the chapter, work that will continue through the next few meetings. Bylaws, a chapter logo, and dues were discussed. Bob Musselwhite of Raton, NM, presented the chapter with a gavel and block to be used at meetings. He was thanked for his gracious gift. Mary Gamble spoke on the upcoming 175th anniversary commemoration of the opening of the Trail. The group will discuss plans to participate at a later meeting. Ron Kessler, president of the Old Spanish Trail Association, presented a short program to the group. Following the meeting the group enjoyed a special tour of Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, led by Fort Historian Craig Moore.

The next meeting will be held at Boggsville, at the "Back to Boggsville" celebration, on September 24, at the Prowers House which is being restored. Another meeting will be held on October 15, 1994, with a program by Jesse Scott on stage stations in our area. The tentative agenda also includes visits to the Otero Museum and

the sites of Sierra Vista, Timpas, Iron Spring, and Hole in the Rock. At this writing there are 30 enthusiastic members of the chapter. All of us are looking forward to working and learning together and furthering the interests of the Santa Fe Trail Association. Anyone interested in attending the two meetings mentioned above should call Dale Kesterson (719) 456-0504 for further details. Anyone interested in joining the chapter may call Sue Petersen (719) 384-8113 or Teresa Kesterson (719) 456-0504.



Paul Bentrup recently erected this sign at the entrance to "Charlie's Ruts" near Lakin and Deerfield, KS, his form of protest against National Park Service recommendations that visitors not be permitted to walk in Trail ruts.

## COUNCIL TROVE —DOCUMENTS—

### REMINISCENCES OF H. H. GREEN

Marc Simmons sent a copy of the following recollections of "Old Foggy," printed in the Las Vegas, NM, *Daily Optic*, July 17, 1891. H. H. Green, alias Old Foggy, had traveled to New Mexico over the Santa Fe Trail in 1851 with troops under command of Colonel Edwin V. Sumner, new commander of the Ninth Military Department which included New Mexico Territory. One of Sumner's objectives was to provide better protection for the Santa Fe Trail, and he established Fort Union soon after his arrival in the territory.

Green published these reminiscences a few weeks after Fort Union was closed in the spring of 1891. This information was useful to Leo and Bonita Oliva and their history of Fort Union compiled for the NPS. It will also be of interest to Trail buffs and students of frontier history. Green, who wrote two years before Frederick Jackson Turner delivered his famous paper on the closing of the frontier, lamented what "civilization" had done to the

American West. Perhaps he was the first "revisionist" western historian, forerunner of the "New Western History." The article is reproduced as printed:

**PIONEER FACTS:** The Optic's Old Foggy Taps the Cask of Remembrance, and Draws of the Wine of Reminiscence.

*To the Editor of the Optic.*

Mora, July 15th.—Forty years ago this evening, the command of Col. E. Sumner, U.S. dragoons, formed camp at what was then known as Los Posos, now Fort Union.

We had been forty days out from Fort Leavenworth, and on account of the scarcity of grass and water, had abandoned the old Santa Fe trail at Fort Mann, on the Arkansas, and from thence followed up the river to Bent's old Indian trading post, crossing the Arkansas at the Big Timbers. Here it was I first saw Indians buried in the trees. A thoughtless young dragoon robbed one of the late burials of a comparatively new, red blanket, and our stern old commanding officer dismounted him for the remainder of the entire march to Las Vegas.

Our command of two companies of dragoons and two of infantry had experienced, en route, some very rough handling. It was the demon cholera year of 1851, and that terrible disease staid with us until crossing Pawnee Fork, decimating our ranks with its deadly grip, at the rate of five young men a day. At Soldier Creek we had lost our eminent surgeon, Doctor Reynolds, after two hours sickness; but as good luck would have it, a jolly young Irish doctor, of Dublin university, all life and soul, had attached himself to the writer's party, more as an amateur adventurer of fickle fortune amid the ups and downs of the wicked west. He was immediately employed, after showing his papers to our rugged colonel, and met with great success. Captain John Pope, of the United States topographical corps, was the last to be taken down with the fell disease, at Pawnee Fork, and Doctor Barney Barry plastered him with mustard from his neck to his heels until he resembled a bronze statue of George Washington and although Pope complained that the remedy was worse than the disease, yet it saved him for posterity and Stonewall Jackson, at the second Manassas, and there wiped him out forever.

In those days of "Injuns" and Innocence, the cholera was never known to cross the Arkansas river or to ascend the Rio Grande higher than Las Cruces. It left our command as we approached Fort Mann and all enjoyed perfect health to Las Vegas, then garrisoned by three companies of regular troops—one of artillery, one of dragoons and one of infantry.

It took us two days to let by ropes our train of 100 wagons down the rugged hill of the Raton, whilst blacktail deer stared at us

in wonder, from the neighboring crags, and thousands of graceful antelope gazed, more in astonishment than fear, from the plains.

The only sign of cultivated humanity between Council Grove and the Ruidoso [Rayado?], was Fort Mann, at the lower crossing of the Arkansas and the abandoned walls of Bent's old fort.

The following month of August, 1851, Fort Union was located and the first sound of the axe awoke that beautiful valley from its slumber of 4,000 years to the echo of civilization. About this time a novel idea took possession of the noddle of the secretary of war, by which the army of the extreme west was to be made self-supporting—turning the soldier into a farmer and his sabre and musket into hoes and rakes. Preparatory to this new kind of "grim visaged war," the agricultural bureau shipped us large quantities of assorted seed, grains and vegetables, farming tools, plows, mowers and thrashers, stallions and brood mares, hogs and thoroughbred cows and bulls. Rugged old soldiers of fifty battlefields, gazed with amusement at this exhibition of the rural, and proud old officers disgustingly said, "d—n it."

The Ocate was selected for opening out a model government farm and a detail under Sergeant Thomas Pollock (subsequently an old-time resident of Las Vegas) was dispatched to the scene of action. Good, old Don Manuel Alvarez, of Santa Fe, hearing of this contemplated move on the part of our commanding general, had appointed me his agent to warn off all trespassers on what was then known as the "Alvarez grant;" and, of course, I declared war at once against the government, and was simply laughed at for my officiousness.

Col. Sumner, a martinett of the old school, smilingly acknowledged the justice of Don Manuel's claim to the Ocate, and took immediate steps to have an amicable understanding with him. This was accomplished, and the farm opened.

Under the government wing of protection, scores of land-grabbers rushed to the new El Dorado and located.

The Alvarez grant is a narrow strip of land occupying the country between the northern boundary of the Mora grant and the southern boundary of the Beaubien and Miranda grant, and its title is an unblemished record; but the heirs of Don Manuel, I am told, reside in Chihuahua. Their rights, however, are now being threatened to come before the new federal court of private land claims, and if they do, there will be a terrible rustling among the dry bones of squatter sovereignties on the Ocate.

The government farm, after a trial of four or five years, proved, of course, a failure and all its live stock and machinery were sold at public auction at a ruinous discount.

Such a life in the far west! The buffalo is annihilated; the picturesque antelope of the plains dead, and the majestic elk and graceful deer of the hills of Rincon del Tecolote a tale that is told; poor Lo, to the manor born, a government pauper, and the far-off west an imaginary myth. Alas, alas, that civilization, railroads, religion and modern morality, should scatter to the winds the fascinations of a continent and blot out forever the romance of the good God of nature.

Old Foggy. [H. H. Green]

## HELP WANTED

I will be retiring from the real world of work in the near future and am interested in doing historical Trail projects, living-history demonstrations, tours, consulting work, and almost anything in which I am interested. I hesitate to mention consulting since being told that Adam was the first man, Eve was the first woman, and the snake was the first consultant. Others have told me that I qualify. I'm not always free, but I can sometimes be cheap. All offers will be considered, and Alice will thank you if you can keep me busy.

David K. Clapsaddle  
215 Mann  
Larned KS 67550

I am interested in frontier medicine on the overland trails. I am now trying to verify the story that U.S. soldiers planted watercress (which is high in Vitamin C) at the springs along the Santa Fe Trail in order to prevent scurvy. I have collected samples of watercress at Lost Spring and analyzed it for Vitamin C. I would like to document how the watercress got there and whether or not the army was responsible. If anyone can provide such documentation, I will be grateful.

F. E. Cuppage, M.D.  
4740 Black Swan Dr  
Shawnee, KS 66216

The Pioneer Historical Society of Bent County and the Boggsville Revitalization Committee have received a grant to conduct further research on Boggsville. I plan to research at the National Archives and in the Kansas City area as part of this project. I am especially looking for materials relating to business conducted between Boggsville and Fort Lyon, business activities of Tom Boggs and John Prowers, any records of manufactured components used in the construction of the Boggs and Prowers houses, and family history for the Boggs and Prowers families. If anyone has suggestions as to where I might look for this infor-



mation and/or people to contact at the National Archives or the Kansas City area, I would appreciate hearing from them soon.

Phil Petersen  
PO Box 357  
La Junta, CO 81050

## 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

Victor & Georgie Cope, 4321 Snowden Ct NE, Rio Rancho NM 87124-4831  
M/M Bryan L. Denson, 3600 Amherst, Amarillo TX 79109  
H. L. & K. K. Hagerman, Rt 9 Box 57, Santa Fe NM 87505  
Carol H. Overstake, 6120 Croyden, Wichita KS 67220  
Verlyn & Carol Osborne, 6950 Flush Rd, St George KS 66535  
Tom & Virginia Pointon, 34805 Rd 17, Las Animas CO 81054  
Ron & Pam Zolman, 1525 23rd Rd, Lyons KS 67544

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Laura Bolinder, 21 S 7th, Council Grove KS 66846  
Virginia F. Brunner, 15 S 10th St, Herington KS 67449  
Gary Cummings, Colorado Mountain College, 901 S Hwy 24, Leadville CO 80461  
Linda M. Diehl, 12119 W 93rd St, Lenexa KS 66215  
Dorothy Forsberg, 14125 E Bayley, Wichita KS 67230  
Leone T. Fox, 755 S Clinton St # 10B, Denver CO 80231  
Allen T. Hjelmfelt Jr., 1004 Maplewood Dr, Columbia MO 65203  
Chuck Magerl, 1503 E 1584 Rd, Lawrence KS 66046  
Tom McCutcheon, 7311 W 55th St, Over-

land Park KS 66202  
Nicholas G. Penniman, 1240 Lay Rd, St Louis MO 63124  
Nathaniel Peters, 2498 Pineview Dr, Orchard Lake MI 48324  
Dalton B. Pittman, 8374 Shoop Ave, West Hills CA 91304  
Alfred Shaw, 1688 Chatsworth Blvd, San Diego CA 92107  
Bill Sheldon, 8916 Millstone Circle, Lenexa KS 66220  
David Sielert, 823 Mechanic, Emporia KS 66801  
Tim Stacy, PO Box 1241, Southgate MI 48195  
David Zellar, 1512 University Ave, Huntsville TX 77340

## TRAIL CALENDAR

Everyone is invited to send notices for this section; provide location, date(s), time(s), and activity. Remember this is a quarterly. The next issue should appear in November, so send information for December and later to arrive by October 20. Thank you.

**Sept. 3-5, 1994:** Heart of the Flint Hills Bluestem-Blue Sky Trail Ride. Contact Don Cress at (316) 767-5826.  
**Sept. 10, 1994:** Trail celebration at Cimarron National Grassland. For more information, call (316) 697-4621.  
**Sept. 11, 1994:** Wet/Dry Routes Chapter meeting at Pawnee Rock, KS.  
**Sept. 17-18, 1994:** BCCC Tour, Fort Wallace and Beecher Island.  
**Sept. 18, 1994:** Corazon de los Caminos Chapter meeting, Eklund Hotel Dining Room, 15 Main Street, Clayton NM, noon.  
**Sept. 18-Oct 7, 1994:** 5th Annual Santa Fe Trail Bicycle Trek from Santa Fe to New Franklin. Contact Willard Chilcott (505) 982-1282.  
**Sept. 24, 1994:** Boggsville Day and Bent's Fort Chapter meeting at Prowers House. Contact Phil Petersen at (719) 384-8113.  
**Sept. 24-25, 1994:** 8th Annual Old Taos Trade Fair, Taos NM. (800) 732-TAOS.  
**Sept. 25, 1994:** Santa Fe Trail Arts Festival

at the Stone Barn east of Council Grove, and Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter meeting at 4:30 p.m.

**Oct. 1, 1994:** Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter horse tack and equipment sale at the fairgrounds east of Council Grove, KS, a benefit for the Stone Barn.  
**Oct. 8, 1994:** Wet/Dry Routes Chapter Tour of Fort Hays- Fort Dodge Trail.  
**Oct. 9, 1994:** Quivira Chapter Tour of Trail sites in McPherson, Rice, and Barton counties to Pawnee Rock.  
**Oct. 13, 1994:** Wagonbed Spring Chapter meeting at Hugoton, KS, 7:00 p.m.  
**Oct. 15, 1994:** Three Trails Craft Show, Alexander Majors House, 8201 State Line Rd, Kansas City, MO, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
**Oct. 15, 1994:** Bent's Fort Chapter meeting and tour. Contact Dale Kesterson at (719) 456-0504.  
**Oct. 16, 1994:** Corazon de los Caminos Chapter meeting, Brown's Bed and Breakfast, 308 Maxwell Ave, Springer NM, 2:00 p.m.  
**Oct. 22-23, 1994:** BCCC Tour, Sheridan-Custer Campaign.  
**Oct. 29, 1994:** Cimarron Cutoff Chapter meeting at Morton County Museum, Elkhart, KS, 7:00 p.m.  
**Dec. 6 & 8, 1994:** Candlelight Christmas Tours, Alexander Majors House, 8201 State Line Rd, Kansas City, MO, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Adults \$3.50, children 6 to 12 \$2.00, and children under 6 not admitted.  
**Sept. 21-24, 1995:** Biennial Symposium, Lamed and Great Bend, KS, Steve Linderer, Fort Larned NHS, program coordinator.

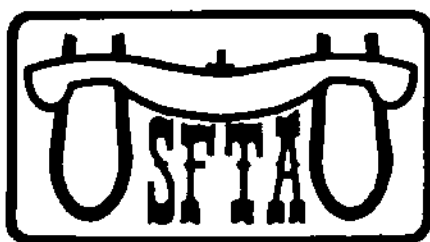
## FROM THE EDITOR

The Fort Union study is in print at last, but we are as far behind schedule as usual. This also wraps up eight years of *Wagon Tracks*. Bonita and I extend heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to this publication during that time.

Happy Trails!

—Leo E. Olliva

**WAGON TRACKS**  
**Santa Fe Trail Association**  
**PO Box 31**  
**Woodston, KS 67675**



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