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Santa Fe Trail Association

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: Wagon Tracks Volume 32, Issue 1 (November 2017)

WAGON TRACKS

Quarterly Publication of the Santa Fe Trail Association

volume 32 ♦ number 1 November 2017



Santa Fe Trail Association Hall of Fame ♦ page 12

Symposium 2017 Photos ♦ page 18

Gen. George McCall Provides Assessment of New Mexico 1849 ♦ page 20

On The Cover: Setting a Wagon Wheel Tire

Photo: Ruth Friesen

Don Werner of Werner Wagon Works, Horton, Kansas, demonstrated how to hot-set a metal tire on a wagon wheel. Rising from the wheel is steam, not smoke. He told the audience during the Santa Fe Trail Association Symposium at the Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Historic Farm in Olathe, Kansas, that wagon wheels are often made of white oak, which fights moisture. According to David Sneed, another presenter at the Symposium, wheels might also be made of rock elm, hickory, or black locust. Sneed's excellent blog, "Wheels that Won the West" at <http://wheelsthatwonthewest.blogspot.com> provides a photo essay of the SFTA Symposium.

Members of the National Stagecoach and Freight Wagon Association (<http://stagecoachfreightwagon.org>), including Greg VanCoevern, gave several presentations about harnesses and other gear related to wagons. Their annual conference will be March 15-18 in Tucson/Tubac, Arizona.



Photo: Ruth Friesen

Mike Strodtman, SFTA Dodge City Chapter, helps Don Werner place a heated tire onto the wheel, which has been wetted down to prevent wood turning to charcoal. The metal tire was heated on the bonfire in the back-ground.

About the Santa Fe Trail Association

The mission of the Santa Fe Trail Association is to protect and preserve the Santa Fe Trail and to promote awareness of the historical legacy associated with it.

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Photo: Ruth Friesen

Doug Hansen demonstrates a chain wagon brake on Greg VanCoevern's ambulance.

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SFTA Hall of Fame

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Symposium Photos

By Ruth Friesen

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McCall Letter Provides
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New Mexico: 1849

President's Corner *by Larry Justice* As I See It: Succeed Together, Fail Together



Leadership is based on inspiration, not domination; on cooperation, not intimidation. – Wm. Arthur Ward

The 2017 Symposium was a huge success. Thanks for the significant work in preparation and execution of a wonderful program and opportunity to further advance the mantle of the Santa Fe Trail Association: to preserve, protect, and promote the historical legacy of the Santa Fe Trail. My thanks to Roger Boyd and Larry Short who spearheaded the work of the Douglas County Chapter and the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter of the SFTA. And my gratitude to those who helped pull together those who demonstrated skill, talent, and expertise related to life along the Trail. The Symposium is another example of the success of the SFTA and a challenge to continue demonstrating the skill and planning of those who are preparing for the success of the 2019 Symposium in St. Louis and the 2021 Bicentennial events all across the breadth of the Trail.

We have some very talented people who serve as members of the Board of Directors, committee personnel, and chapter presidents and leaders. SFTA needs your help with a particular concern. There is a time in the life of any volunteer when the passion for the Trail remains strong but

the energy may wane slightly. New volunteers bring new vigor to an organization. We have several positions to marquee individuals who are willing to invest (Remember I used that term in a past edition of *Wagon Tracks*) their time and resources to ensure that the Trail Lives On. As I teach my Oral Communication students at Newman University in Wichita, the only way success can be accomplished is through the collaboration of many talented and energetic people, not through the actions of one.

We see a plethora of organizations where decisions and plans are confined to the limited vision of a few. I am a member of the Santa Fe Trail Association because I have seen and continue to see the possibilities when people like you realize your assistance can sustain the longevity of the Trail throughout the 21st century and beyond. We are on the cusp of commemorating the founding of the Santa Fe Trail by William Becknell in 1821. New opportunities lie ahead through collaboration by the SFTA and organizations like the Symphony in the Flint Hills in June of 2021. Challenges are met by the cooperative effort of our Board of Directors and our 12 chapters in addressing issues with energy companies, highway and road challenges, ignorance of Trail artifacts and locations, and the list goes on.

Finally, we are embarking on ventures to enhance the long-term viability, functionality, and effectiveness of the SFTA. Currently 77 percent of the SFTA budget comes from our strong partnership with the National Park Service while the other 23 percent comes from you and me. Another trail organization foresaw such figures as a potential problem 20 years ago and started the process to reverse such figures. They have been successful in their venture through emphasis on corporate partnerships, endowments, and financial planning. Yes, it was a struggle and took time. You will be hearing more about ways you can assist with these reversal efforts for SFTA.

We are MOST grateful for our partnership with NPS. But we all know the federal government is working to cut back funding in all areas in order to reduce our huge deficit spending. Our increase in dues is just a small part of that and cannot be the only answer. We are working with a complicated jigsaw puzzle. I challenge you to volunteer your time and expertise to help us put the puzzle together, piece by piece. The future is NOW. Thank you for joining me as an answer to keeping the Santa Fe National Historic Trail alive.

"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." – Anonymous

Faye Gaines and Margaret Sears share smiles after the Symposium.



Joanne's Jottings by Joanne VanCoevern, Association Manager



The Santa Fe Trail – 30 Years as a National Historic Trail, 1987-2017

(As we commemorate 30 years of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, I continue with part 4 of the update on the Santa Fe Trail Association's goals and projects undertaken as our part in the "Decade for the National Trails: 2008-2018" initiative created by the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) and American Trails. In anticipation of the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act in 2018, the "Decade Goals" initiative provides guidance for trails groups to prepare our trails to meet the needs of the public.)

The second goal identified in the "Decade Goals" initiative is: [To] **Complete and enhance the designated National Trails for public appreciation and enjoyment.** As PNTS was putting together the goals for the Decade Goals Challenge, SFTA and the NPS determined that it would be necessary to do another survey of the SFNHT to determine what actions would be necessary to "complete and enhance" the Santa Fe National Historic Trail (SFNHT).

The first "official" survey of the Santa Fe Trail was the Sibley Survey of 1825. Another survey of the Santa Fe Trail occurred almost 30 years ago, taking place shortly after the 1987 congressional designation of the Santa

Fe Trail as a national historic trail. In the spring of 1988, a survey team consisting of Jere Krakow, Gregory Franzwa, Leo Oliva, and Bonita Oliva undertook the task for the National Park Service to locate and assess the Santa Fe Trail as it existed some 100 plus years after its use as a trading route had ended.

In the years since that survey was made, there have been some changes along the Santa Fe Trail, including greatly increased knowledge of the history of the trail, especially what happened and where it happened. The physical landscape along the trail has also changed over the last three decades. Some changes have been natural progression, but many of the changes have been man-made, including a diversity of site development, trail marking, visitor services, and interpretive media. Some sites have little or no improvements, which is a viable alternative where improvements would either destroy the aesthetics of a site or endanger a fragile site by drawing undue attention to it.

Another development over the years is the discovery and documentation of the existence of many rut and swale segments that were virtually unknown, or undocumented, 30 years ago. And without a doubt, new technologies, such as Google Earth and LIDAR, have made the search for, or verification of, Trail segments easier.

These circumstances compelled the undertaking of another in-depth survey and assessment of the Santa Fe Trail in 2006 by a qualified team including Craig Crease, Ross Marshall, Clive Siegle, John Conoboy, and Andrea Sharon. The project became known as the Santa Fe Trail Rediscovery Project and the goals were to: 1.) Visit as many trail sites as possible, document conditions, levels of visitor services and interpretive media, potential threats to resources, and management issues; 2.) take documentary

photographs and GPS coordinates; 3.) arrange with local Santa Fe Trail Association chapter members to provide assistance to the survey team and input on the local trail resources; 4.) prepare a final report with copies of all site forms and photographs provided to the National Park Service and the Santa Fe Trail Association headquarters; and 5.) recommend sites that need additional development and interpretation, sites with resource management and protection needs, and sites that should not be developed and left in their existing condition.

During the survey, 339 sites were visited and assessed. Information was then compiled by survey members and a database was created. Many volunteers provided local guidance to trail sites and shared their knowledge of the Santa Fe Trail in their areas. Since 2006, the data collected by the Rediscovery Survey team has been considered as SFTA determines how to proceed to provide a better appreciation and understanding of the SFNHT by the public.

Perhaps one of the most significant projects to enhance the Santa Fe National Historic Trail for public appreciation and enjoyment was launched on April 15, 2014 – the Santa Fe National Historic Trail GeoTour. This project, which includes sites along the Trail, also has incorporated new technology, social media, and a new user group – geocachers. It is considered one of the biggest and most successful undertakings of the Santa Fe Trail Association.

With caches hidden currently at 73 locations along the length of the Trail, numerous chapter volunteers help maintain those caches. As geocachers find the cache through the help of GPS (global positioning system) coordinates, they have the option to log their finds and leave comments about

continued next page

Joanne, continued

their experience on the webpage created for each cache site.

Bob and Sharon Cram from Oregon, the most recent recipients of the challenge coin for completing the GeoTour Passport Activity, said in their log, "We just completed a month long road trip from Oregon that included geocaching in 16 states. On our way through Santa Fe we found the cache at the La Fonda Hotel and became aware of the Santa Fe GeoTour. We started by finding the caches around Santa Fe, then continued with our planned trip . . . [and] picked up the Trail at its beginning in Independence (also the start of the Oregon Trail). Then we changed our route to follow the trail through Kansas and Colorado. **We were amazed at all the history connected with this trail.** It was fortunate the DAR located and marked many trail sites early last century preserving that part of the trail's history. We saw the ruts in several locations and walked in them at one (Charlie's Ruts) - really brought the history of that era to life. We managed to find 55 caches before we had to head back to Oregon. Thank you for everyone's dedication to setting up and maintaining this GeoTour. By far the longest one, with the most caches, that we have attempted. We will spread the word to our Oregon geocaching friends."

Another project chosen by the Santa Fe Trail Association to fulfill the Decade Goals Challenge to enhance the SFNHT for public appreciation and enjoyment has been the Jr. Wagon Master program. The Jr. Wagon Master program was initially a vision of the NPS, and NPS asked the education committee of the SFTA to create an activity booklet for families to complete as they traveled the Santa Fe Trail. Through cost-share grants from NPS, the committee began on this big project. After five years of rewrites and reconfigurations, four booklets were developed for the

following age groups: Cavy-ages 5-8, Freighters-ages 9-11, Bullwhacker-ages 12-14 and Scout-ages 15 and up. Various Trail sites were selected which were not on private property and were likely to be open during prime daylight traveling hours. An activity was created for each age group for each site. Embroidered patches were created by NPS for the four sections of the trail: Eastern Terminus, Central, Mountain and Cimarron Routes, Western Terminus. Distribution sites were contacted and their cooperation solicited.

Funding for the first printing of two of the booklets, Freighters and Bullwhacker, was provided by the NPS. With NPS changing their priority from print media to digital media, the other two booklets, Cavy and Scout, were never printed. In addition, NPS determined that they would no longer manage the program which included restocking the sites with booklets, answering requests for booklets, and sending out the patches upon fulfillment of the requirements of the program. The SFTA education committee was asked to take over the management of the Jr. Wagon Master program, and Janet Armstead stepped forward to take on this task.

Corresponding with the 21 distribution sites is a key component of this program, as is corresponding with those using the booklets. Janet informed the SFTA board that, "This project connects with families from all across the United States who vacation along the SFNHT. These booklets cover over 900 miles of a national historic trail. Other national trails have looked at our booklets, but as far as we know, the Santa Fe Trail is the only entire trail covered in such a manner."

With changing priorities, and shrinking funding, the SFTA board must now determine the future direction of the Jr. Wagon Master program concerning the printing of booklets. A new format for

the Freighters booklet using "Story Maps" can now be found on the NPS website at: www.nps.gov/safe/learn/kidsyouth/juniorwagonmaster_freighters.htm ♦

Notes from the Junior Wagon Master Program

Travel season is winding down and those travelers are now taking the time to request their patches. Here are some comments from those who have taken our trail recently.

"We finished our trip (which included most of the SFT) a few weeks back. We also completed the required number of activities for the Eastern, Central, and Mountain/Cimarron sections. We enjoyed all the monuments, markers, forts, and such and learned much. I think our favorite stop was Bent's Old Fort." A family of 9 from Maryland

"Thank you for having this program and all the hard work that the staff put into it. The amount of work the kids do and the time it takes to earn these patches are part of them getting a sense of the toil and work people on the trail went through, though the road trip is much easier by car than wagon train, lol." A grandmother from CO

"Thanks so much for the badges and certificates. We all enjoyed the books. I think what we all enjoyed the most (other than Santa Fe itself) was El Rancho De Las Golondrinas and Arrow Rock. Thanks for having a great program. We wish other trails would start something like this." Three friends who traveled the trail in August, 1 from GA, 2 from Ft. Hood, TX.

The Santa Fe Trail Lives On!

--Janet C. Armstead, Director

Santa Fe Trail to be Theme of 2021 Symphony in the Flint Hills

Symphony in the Flint Hills, Inc. of southeast Kansas, has announced its annual themes for the next four years. The Santa Fe Trail will be featured in 2021, the 200th anniversary year of the beginning of the use of the marketing route to Santa Fe.

The organization surprised attendees at its fall family event by announcing themes for 2019-2021. In the past, themes have been announced one year in advance. "We hope that sharing these themes in advance will inspire other people and organizations to develop creative programming in their own Flint Hills communities," said Christy Davis, Executive Director of Symphony in the Flint Hills, Inc.

The organization aims to heighten the appreciation and knowledge of the tallgrass prairie in the Flint Hills of southeast Kansas. In 2006, the organization held the first of its annual prairie concerts, a Kansas tradition that now attracts approximately 7,000 attendees from all over the world.

The Symphony in the Flint Hills Signature Event features the Kansas City Symphony for the sunset concert and always falls on the second Saturday in June. The exact location is revealed a few months prior to the event date. Visit www.symphonynintheflinthills.org for more information.

The Santa Fe Trail Association board of directors has approved the President, Vice-President, and Manager to develop a memorandum of understanding to work with the Symphony in the Flint Hills in serving as an education partner for the event. ♦

SFTA Spring Board Meeting Time Changed

The SFTA/NPS Spring Workshop will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2018, beginning at 1:00 p.m. and the SFTA Spring Board of Directors meeting will be held on Friday, April 20, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Both will be held at the National Guard Armory, 1018 Old Hwy 56, Council Grove, Kansas. Events to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act, which resulted in the creation of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, will begin Friday late afternoon/early evening, all day Saturday, and possibly some events on Sunday.

Note the different starting time for the workshop. We are going to begin at 1:00 p.m. to allow people time to drive into Council Grove that morning. We will probably be in the workshop from 1:00 p.m. to approximately 8:00 p.m.

2019 SFTA Symposium is in St. Louis

The Santa Fe Trail Association's 2019 Symposium is "St. Louis: Gateway to Santa Fe." We invite you to participate in this unique experience at the very beginning of the trails. Programs will focus on the people arriving to go west, genealogy, transportation, trading, and financial sources.

Events may involve the history of St. Louis and St. Charles and development of communities along the Boone's Lick Road, the Daniel Boone Farm, river traffic, and educational opportunities. A plethora of great exhibitors dealing with multi-cultural groups, transportation, animal industry, and container manufacturing will participate.

The Missouri History Museum is the venue for speakers and departing tours. Convention headquarters will be the Drury Plaza at the Arch, with two other properties to accommodate attendees. The Drury Plaza is part of the old International Fur Exchange Building, which is in the National Register of Historic Places.

All symposium information and registration forms will be online at www.santafetrail.org.

--Shirley Coupal, 2019 Symposium Coordinator

Rock Creek Crossing Receives NPS Certification

Della Orton, landowner of the Rock Creek Crossing site on the Santa Fe Trail located six miles east of Council Grove, Kansas, announced that the National Park Service has certified the site.

NPS certification is a partnership that helps a landowner protect and preserve their historic trail properties, as well as share them with others. The certification process begins with an evaluation of the property as to its historical significance and its condition. If the owner agrees to allow at least occasional public access, the partners prepare a certification agreement. The landowner can establish visiting times and set other reasonable conditions. The partners can then begin planning for site protection and other needs such as walkways, signs, and exhibits.

It has been Della's desire to share the Rock Creek crossing with Santa Fe Trail enthusiasts, so she and the National Park Service will be developing plans to create a parking place and a pedestrian walkway along the border of her pasture to provide public access. ♦

Share the Opportunities Along the Trail

The 2017 Santa Fe Trail Association Symposium was a great success. The members of the host chapters, Missouri River Outfitters and Douglas County, worked hard to contribute to the education and enjoyment of all those attending and should be congratulated. The entire SFTA membership, including the newest members—Marty Zahn from Wamego, Kansas, and Saddle Rock Café of Council Grove, Kansas, thank you for a great symposium.

Although the Symposium occurs only every two years, there are many other opportunities to learn about, enjoy the sights and sounds of, and assist in saving the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. The 12 chapters along the Trail offer members an opportunity to see sites of the Trail not normally visited by travelers. If you are interested in marking the Trail, chapters are always looking for “feet on the ground” to help with preservation and marking. Other ways members and those who live far from the trail can learn more about the history and preservation of it are through *Wagon Tracks*, the Association’s quarterly publication, the website (www.santafetrail.org), and the weekly SFTA email newsletter; and for you geocachers, the Santa Fe Trail caches are a great hit. Don’t forget the Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous will be held in 2018 at Larned, Kansas, and in 2019 the Association will hold its Symposium in St. Louis. All this works toward the 2021 Commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail.

The membership committee urges all 610 members of the Association to share their enthusiasm and love for the Trail with others. Invite your friends and relatives to a chapter meeting, share *Wagon Tracks* with them, and provide them with a membership form and urge their continued support. Better yet, now that it is the time to pay your 2018 dues, why not pay yours and include a gift membership for a friend? Don’t forget you can also donate to the Association, a 501(c)(3) organization, and therefore the gift is tax deductible. ♦



SFTA Life Members

Thank you for your continued support

Arizona

Rowene Aquirre-Medina

California

Jon Heit, Theo Hunt, Richard Smith

Colorado

John Carson, Charles and LaDonna Hutton, Harold and Beverly Jackson

Kansas

Janet Armstead, Bill and Susan Bunyan, Debbie Calhoun, Barbara Clark, Mary Conrad, Jim and Jan Groth, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Hall, Kearny County Historical Society, Ross and Shirley Marshall, Leo and Bonita Oliva, Clara and Duane Shook, Mike Strodtman, Joanne and Greg VanCoevern

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New York

Bill and Jan Hill

Oklahoma

Richard Poole, Mike Rogers, Laura Poole and Phil Ross

Texas

Clint and Siva Chambers, Nick Cirincione, Davy Mitchell

Washington

Jack and Patricia Fletcher

Washington, D. C.

Larry and Linda Nelson

January 10 is the submission deadline for the February issue of *Wagon Tracks*.

Fur Trade Symposium Book Available From Last Chance Store

Bent's Old Fort NHS has generously donated to the Santa Fe Trail Association many copies of *Proceedings of the 2015 Fur Trade Symposium: Bent's Fort and the Southern Fur Trade* to sell through the Last Chance Store. The income from all sales will go to SFTA. The book, 370 pages, may be ordered for \$25 postpaid at www.lastchancestore.org, item B-103.

The academic papers listed below include much about the Santa Fe Trail, and much additional information is included in the handsome volume.

- Barton Barbour, "The Trade and Intercourse Laws, Fur Traders, and the US Government: Symbiosis in 'Indian Country,' 1800-1840"
- Susan Calafate Boyle, "Contraband and the Regulation of the Santa Fe Trade in New Mexico, 1820s-1830s: Mexican and American Perspectives"
- Jay H. Buckley, "William Clark, the Southern Plains Fur Trade, and the Santa Fe Trail"
- Mike Moore, "The Culinary Aspects of the Early American Southwest (or 'What's for dinner, hoss?')"
- Craig Moore, "Red Moon Rising Program Outline"
- Michael Schaub, "The 1837 Fort Jackson Trading Camp Inventory: A Typical Outfit for the Plains Indian Trade and What it Tells Us About the Plains Indian Consumer"
- Jim Hardee, "Taos Trappers' and the Demise of the Rocky Mountain Rendezvous"
- James Hanson, "Empires of Similar Differences: The Cooperative Struggle between Pierre Chouteau Jr. & Company and Bent, St. Vrain & Company"
- John C. F. Luzader, "Living History Archeology: Re-discovering the Past Through Living It Today"

The book includes photographs, "guidebooks" for two field trips in the area, and five appendixes of additional information. ♦

Iron Springs Named National Historic District

The Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands (PSICC) has announced the designation of the 210-acre Santa Fe Trail Mountain Route - Iron Springs Vicinity National Historic District on the Comanche National Grassland.

It is located in Otero County, Colorado, on the Comanche National Grassland and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Over 21 miles of the Mountain Route of the Santa Fe Trail are located in the Comanche National Grassland. To access the trail segments near Iron Springs, take Colorado Highway 350 southwest of La Junta to the Iron Springs Interpretative Site (about 28 miles on the Santa Fe National Scenic and Historic Byway and the Santa Fe National Historic Trail). The Trail is marked by a series of limestone posts. For additional information, see www.fs.usda.gov/goto/psicc/com.

This National Register listing is the result of a multi-year partnership between the National Park Service, Colorado State Historical Fund, and History Colorado.

Book Review



Regular Army O! Soldiering on the Western Frontier, 1865-1891

Douglas C. McChristian, *Regular Army O! Soldiering on the Western Frontier, 1865-1891*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2017. Foreword by Robert M. Utley. xix + 762 pp. Maps, illustrations, notes, bibliography, and index. \$45.00, cloth.

By Dr. Leo E. Oliva

Doug McChristian is undoubtedly the world's leading authority on the life of the enlisted soldier in the American West after the Civil War. This thorough study of all phases of military life is a sequel to the late Don Rickey's *Forty Miles a Day on Beans and Hay: The Enlisted Soldier Fighting the Indian Wars* (1963). Both book titles come from the lyrics of a popular military song published as early as 1874.

Each chapter looks at a phase of the soldier's life, including enlistment, training, regiments and companies, officers, garrison duties, daily life, medical care, recreation, desertion, field service and combat, and discharge. Every topic is enhanced with numerous quotations from primary sources. The book is essential for everyone reenacting as a frontier soldier and recommended to anyone interested in life of the common soldier on the frontier. ♦

Partnership for the National Trails System

By Marcia Will-Clifton

Fiftieth Anniversary Commemoration

The launch of the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act is underway. During the SFTA Board of Directors Meeting in Olathe, the National Park Service-National Trails Intermountain Region (NPS-NTIR) staff gave an informative presentation on the National Park Service initiatives and introduced intern Diane Weddington who will work closely with Trail associations on Anniversary events and media outreach for 2018.

The PNTS 50th Anniversary Committee with Ross Marshall's leadership has recommended an evening reception to be held during the February 2018 Hike the Hill event. This reception will publicly announce the dual 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and include allied groups from the rivers, conservation, recreation, historic preservation, and outdoor industry communities. Invitations will be sent to House and Senate members and staff plus federal partners.

This PNTS committee also described the four key tracks for the 2018 Biennial Conference slated for Vancouver, Washington, in October 2018. They are:

- Legislative and Policy
- Engaging New Audiences
- Strengthening Your Organization
- Strengthening Your Trail

Advocacy Update

I serve on the Trail Leaders Council as Representative from the Santa Fe Trail Association. This summer the advocacy activists have been busy communicating with Congressional representatives on funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for fiscal year (FY) 2018. In September the House Interior bill provided \$275 million from the LWCF for land acquisition projects by the four federal land managing agencies. Although this is less than the FY 2017 amount, it is considerably more than what the Administration proposed for FY 2018. An update on the Senate Interior bill will be included in the next *Wagon Tracks* article. ♦

Conrad Named Research Grant Chair

Mary Conrad has been appointed the SFTA Scholarly Research Grant Chair. She is a recently retired school librarian of over 40 years who was a once-upon-a-time history major. Due to the late Dr. Orvel Zabel of Creighton University, Conrad became interested in western history. She was a charter member of SFTA and missed becoming a charter member of the Oregon-California Trails Association by just months.

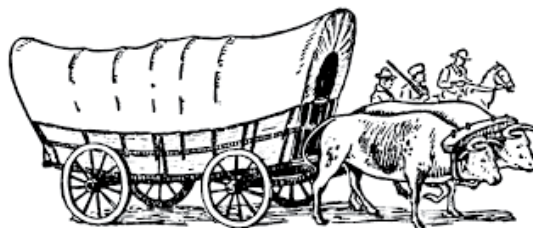
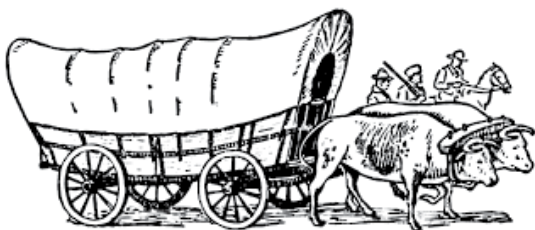
Scholarly Research Grants Available

The purpose of the Santa Fe Trail Association Scholarly Research Fund is to stimulate significant scholarly research on the Santa Fe Trail suitable for publication. The fund is open to anyone whose proposal meets the requirements and fulfills the procedures set forth below.

Funds may be used to pay for: 1) Supplies and materials; 2) Services (literature searches, computer use, clerical and/or technical assistance, and copy fees); 3) Travel. Funds may NOT be used for the purchase of equipment. Up to \$1,500 is available per proposal. The Santa Fe Trail Association Scholarly Research Committee will consider the purchase of items such as books and maps used in research, but the purchase of such items is discouraged.

The SFTA Scholarly Research Committee will review all proposals, which must follow the form linked to these guidelines. Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on December 1 of the current year. Recipients will be notified by January 1 of the following year.

The Scholarly Research Grants are available for use for 8 months, ending on August 31. All funds must be expended in that timeframe. Recipients may receive only two consecutive awards. Grantees must file a final report on the results of their research by October 15 with the Santa Fe Trail Association--Scholarly Research Committee. See complete information and the application form at www.santafetrail.org.



SFTA Awards Presented at Symposium

Photos: Ruth Friesen



Awardees l. to r.: Steve Schmidt, Pat and Jack Fletcher accepting for Jere Krakow, Ross Marshall, Steve Kidwell, Lou Austin, Sharon Haun accepting for Bill Downes, and Pat Palmer accepting for LaDonna Hutton. Inset: Linda Colle presenting award to Joy Poole.

Linda Colle, Awards Chairperson, presented awards at the 2017 Symposium to the following:

Award of Merit

- Bill Downes
- Steve Kidwell
- Lou Austin
- Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop

- Larry Short and Roger Boyd, Symposium Co-Chairs
- MRO and Douglas County Chapters, Symposium Hosts

President's Award of Merit

- Ross Marshall

Paul F. Bentrup Ambassador Award

- Dr. Jere Krakow
- LaDonna Hutton

Marc Simmons Writing Award

- Joy Poole

Pete and Faye Gains Memorial Heritage Preservation Award

- Central Plains Cement Company, Steve Kidwell

Jack D. Rittenhouse Memorial Stagecoach Award

- Steve Schmidt



Accepting Hall of Fame awards are (l.) Diana Dunn on behalf of the Alexander and Lucy Hatch family, and (r.) descendants of Marie Felicite St. Vrain-Bisch.





Roberta Bonnewitz (1911 – 2016)
SFTA 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee

Roberta spent many years researching the history of the Santa Fe Trail, particularly as it related to the Raytown, Missouri, area. She was a founder and charter member of the Raytown Historical Society and was one of the original members of SFTA, as well as a founding member of the MRO Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association.

During her tenure as a teacher in the Raytown School system, she discovered that there was just not much written history about the area. Determined to remedy that and provide material for the classroom, she began her years-long research into the history of the area and the impact of the Santa Fe Trail and later the Oregon and California Trails on the settlement of the region.

Roberta was the author of numerous books on the Rice family, the Barnes family, and William Ray. She spent numerous hours searching through old court records, land ownership records, and trail diaries to determine the truth about the trails. In addition to researching and writing about the area, she was very active in saving historical sites along the trails.

Among them was the Archibald Rice Home. She formed a group called the Friends of the Rice-Tremonti Home Association to help purchase the home and three-and-a-half acres on which it stands. After many years of fund raisers, the group was able to purchase the home with a final grant from the Department of Transportation. This historic 1844 home in the National Register of Historic Places and a certified historic site by the National Park Service is now owned by the Raytown Parks Department and maintained by the Friends Group that Roberta formed back in 1978.

Roberta died at the age of 105 on September 18, 2016.



Anna Belle Campbell Cartwright (1929 – 2001)
SFTA 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee

Anna Belle Campbell Cartwright was born December 5, 1929. She grew up in Springfield, Missouri, and worked at the Springfield Art Museum (where she developed a life-long interest in sculpture) and a number of other museums in the Midwest. In 1950, she was commissioned to create a sculpture at the Prairie Village, Kansas, shopping center. Her 12-foot sculpture “The Homesteaders,” representing families who settled on the prairie during the mid-19th century, was the result.

Anna Belle was a SFTA director and member of the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter. Among her many endeavors, she served as the curator of the National Frontier Trails Center in Independence, Missouri, from 1990-1998.

In 1998, Anna Belle was tapped to design a survey of all museums along the Santa Fe Trail as part of a grant from the National Park Service. Anna Belle found the perfect name for the program: Compadres Project. As a follow-up to the initial project, her column, “The Caches,” was introduced to *Wagon Tracks* in the November 1999 issue.

Anna Belle was twice honored by SFTA with an Award of Merit. She received the award in 1997 for editing the Hinchey Diary for *Wagon Tracks*, and the second award was presented in 2001 for the Compadres Project. Anna Belle’s contributions to the Missouri River Outfitters chapter and the SFTA board and her tenure as curator at the National Frontier Trails Center further exemplify an outstanding career.



Nancy Kay Jackson Lewis (1942 - 2016)

SFTA 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee

Nancy served on the Board of Directors for the Santa Fe Trail Association as well as on the Board of the Missouri River Outfitters. For decades she gave programs to civic groups on various aspects of the history of the Santa Fe Trail and the Oregon/California Trail.

Nancy was a lifelong educator. She graduated from the University of Missouri at Columbia and earned her Master's Degree from Webster University in St. Louis. Throughout her teaching career in the Independence School District, she specialized in American History and Missouri History.

Nancy was a People to People Ambassador to Central Europe. The National Council of the Social Studies awarded her the National Secondary Social Studies Teacher of the Year in 1999. The Independence Pioneers Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of which she later became a member, awarded her with Social Studies Teacher of the year. For several years, the Independence, Missouri, School District appointed her as exchange teacher to Oregon where she gave many programs on Independence and the Trails. She was a Missouri Humanities speaker for ten years and was a speaker for the four-state Changed Lives Humanities Speaker Series for the Lewis and Clark bicentennial. She was a member of the State Historical Society's Speakers' Bureau. As a member of the Whistle Stop Project in conjunction with the Truman Presidential Library and Museum, Nancy presented numerous programs for teachers and students throughout the state of Missouri.

Nancy and Anne Mallinson worked together to demonstrate women's roles of the Trail era. Called "Petticoat Pioneers," they provided programs for several SFTA and chapter events. Her efforts to preserve the historical legacy of the Santa Fe Trail and associated topics will be missed.



Lou Schumacher (1922 - 1998)

SFTA 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee

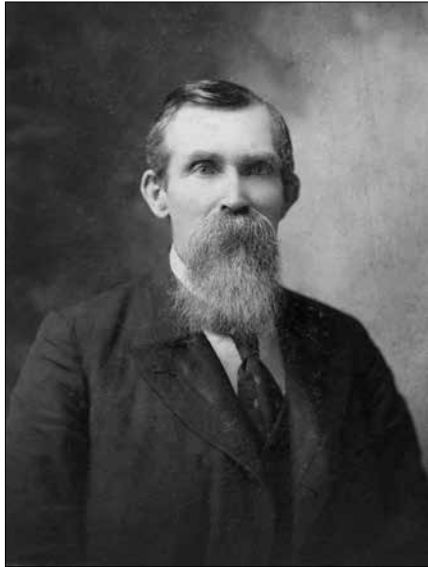
Lou was born May 5, 1922, in Portland, Oregon, and graduated from Oregon State University in 1947 with a degree in mechanical engineering. He served as a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from 1942-1946. On December 27, 1947, he married former 1st Lieutenant "Topper" Price.

Lou became a developer and community activist in Hickman Mills and served with a number of community organizations. For his community involvement, Lou was awarded the Keys to the Cities of Kansas City and St. Louis. His tireless work provided leadership in the economic development of the Hickman Mills area and the revitalization that is occurring today.

Lou founded 3-Trails West, a not-for-profit organization, to identify, certify, and preserve the principal routes of the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California routes through the Kansas City area. Lou and his wife, Topper, donated three acres of land on a strip of the Old Santa Fe Trail and established it as Schumacher Park. Lou and his team of local trail enthusiasts continued their search for the historic trail, and it is the trail they found in conjunction with the National Park Service that we preserve and protect today.

Lou received numerous awards: Friends of the Trails Award from OCTA in 1990; a Certificate of Appreciation from the National Park Service, the Santa Fe Trail Award of Merit, Proclamation of Appreciation of Community Service from Kansas City, Missouri, in 1991; Certificate of Appreciation from the DAR and the Gold Award from the Department of Interior, National Park Service, both in 1996. Lou served on the board of directors for both SFTA and OCTA.

Lou died May 12, 1998. Lou's two sons, John Schumacher and Lou Austin, continue to promote the ideals of Lou.



Frank M. Stahl (1841 - 1937)
SFTA 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee

Born in Darke County, Ohio, on May 23, 1841, Frank M. Stahl left home at age 15 for the west. From Ohio, he traveled by railroad to Jefferson City, Missouri, and by steamboat up the Missouri to Westport Landing. Leaving Westport, he started west on foot. In March 1857, he arrived near Auburn, Kansas, on Six Mile Creek, without a cent to his name. He was employed by Robert Simmerwell. Stahl later worked for two years at one of the first mills in Auburn.

Frank crossed the plains on foot to Denver in June 1860. He mined around Central City and Blackhawk. During the winter of 1861-62 he walked back across the plains to Kansas, taking a commission to drive six yoke of oxen over the Santa Fe Trail to New Mexico. His team carried a wagon loaded with 6,500 pounds of revolvers and ammunition. Returning to Kansas in August 1862, Frank enlisted as a private in Company I of the 2nd Kansas Cavalry. He was in 27 engagements and received two severe wounds, one through the body and the other through the left arm and hand. In 1865 he received his honorable discharge at Fort Gibson in Indian Territory. He returned to Kansas and built stone fences for the next two years.

In July 1867, Frank was commissioned in the 18th Kansas Cavalry, Company B, as a second lieutenant, serving for six months. He delivered 1,123 head of cattle to Fort Union, New Mexico, and again he traveled a large part of the Santa Fe Trail.

Returning to Kansas he resumed his trade of building stone fences. Soon he married, ultimately raising eight children, and became a farmer and stock grower in Shawnee and Osage Counties in Kansas. He served in the State Legislature and as treasurer of Shawnee County. He moved to Topeka and in 1900 was appointed chief of police of Topeka. Frank died in 1937.



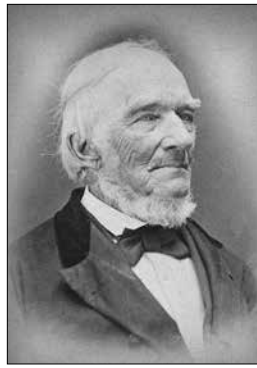
**Marie Felicite St. Vrain-Bisch
(1823- 1902)**
SFTA 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee

Marie Felicite St. Vrain was the niece of the well-known mountain man, fur trader, frontiersman, and entrepreneur Ceran St. Vrain. Her father was Ceran's older brother Felix St. Vrain, an Indian Agent who was brutally murdered during the Black Hawk War of 1832. She was a mere 16 years old when she traveled down the Santa Fe Trail with her Uncle Ceran, destined for Bent's Fort, the "castle on the plains."

The year was about 1839, well before Susan Magoffin's adventures in 1846. Kit Carson had a romantic interest in Marie (something rarely spoken of), which developed quickly during her visit to the fort. Ceran and the family, however, quashed the romance. Feelings were still very tender over the murder of Felix St. Vrain by Indians, and Kit was known to be looking for a wife to help raise his half-Arapahoe children. Marie was quickly shipped back to family in St. Louis, and rumors grew that with a broken heart she became a nun, but she didn't. She married in 1840, had 15 children in 25 years, and lived to the age of 78.

Marie did not leave a diary, so we are left to speculate what was going on in her life to prompt her, at the age of 16, to be so bold and adventurous as to travel down the Santa Fe Trail. As one of the first white women to do so, she deserves to be remembered.

Marie died in 1902, outliving her "first love" Kit Carson by 34 years.



Alexander Hatch, wife
Lucy Seymour Hatch
(photo not available)



Helen Hatch, husband Samuel Streeter
(photo not available)



Flora Hatch



Augusta Hatch

George Hatch
(photo not available)



Augustus Streeter



George Streeter

Alexander & Lucy Hatch Family (Trail Travelers 1848 – 1849)

SFTA 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee

In 1847, eight members of the Hatch family left Lockport, New York, and traveled to St. Louis. The following spring, the group split, with eldest daughter, Helen Naomi, her husband, Samuel L. Streeter, their young son, and an expected child remaining another year near St. Louis. Alexander and Lucy, with their other two daughters and a son, traveled to Independence then on to Santa Fe with a Webb and Doan wagon train via the Cimarron Route, arriving in June 1848. In March 1848, middle daughter Flora married Charles G. McLure in Santa Fe.

Photos courtesy Hatch Collection, Haley Memorial Library, Midland, TX

Helen and Samuel Streeter had remained behind near St. Louis, where in May 1848 Helen gave birth to a second son. The following spring Helen, Samuel, their two-year-old son Gus, and baby George traveled the Santa Fe Trail on a James J. Webb wagon train, meeting the first group in Las Vegas, New Mexico. In April 1853, youngest daughter Augusta married Edward F. Mitchell in Las Vegas.

Members of the Hatch Family operated the first hotel on the plaza in Las Vegas. They were homesteaders, ranchers, farmers, and traders and established Hatch's Ranch in San Miguel County, New Mexico. They were engaged in the California and Colorado gold rushes, the Civil War, Plains Indian conflicts, and Comanchero trading. Most of the Hatch family are buried in the Masonic Cemetery in Trinidad, Colorado.

The only son, George Hatch, died at 17 in Las Vegas in 1848; thus no male descendant perpetuated their surname. Some of their nearly 1,000 known direct descendants still live along the route of the old trail. Today, the surnames of the men the Hatch daughters wed survive – Streeter, Boice, McLure, and Mitchell. These names are linked with ranching in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wyoming.

Lightning Strikes Fort Union

By Trinidad Gallegos, Ft. Union Park Guide

Fort Union National Monument is usually a quiet site with walls standing tall on the high plains. The seasonal monsoon rain that arrives during the summer months brings lightning danger and also plays a significant role in the Fort's deterioration. The first casualty at Fort Union, in fact, was Private William Davidson, Company F, 1st Dragoons, who was struck by lightning on August 18, 1851.

Preservation efforts at Fort Union are done annually during August to preserve the remnants of walls, which are also at risk from lightning. On August 8, 2017, a late afternoon storm surrounded the Fort. Although clouds were not directly overhead, suddenly a thunderous boom shook the Visitor Center and sent the one visitor who was outdoors running inside.

Lightning had struck a wall of the guard house near the prison. A small plume of dust arose from the vicinity of the strike. After waiting for the storm to clear, staff members were pleased to see that the bolt had cut into the wall but hadn't knocked it down. The adobe hadn't been charred or crystallized, merely pulverized.

The following day, the preservation crew began repairs on the wall, scheduled for completion in early September. Using adobe bricks, they stitched the wall back together, which mends the wall and also strengthens it. When the repair is complete, the wall will look no different than before the strike, plus it will last much longer.



Adobe wall at Ft. Union was struck by lightning.

Photos: National Park Service

It is a constant battle with the weather to preserve the remnants of Fort Union. Over the years, the preservation staff have diligently maintained these remnants to allow them to be enjoyed by those who are here today and by generations to follow. The seasonal preservation staff of 12 works on the 86-acre fort complex with an approximate surface area of 250,000 square feet of adobe walls. Without continuing maintenance and preservation, the only remains of the fort would be foundations. ♦



HS-22 North During 8/17/2017

Via adobe stitching, incorporating new adobe into the original bricks, the wall remnants are repaired and strengthened.

Letter to the Editor

Clarification regarding Sibley's Expedition

October 2, 2017

At the 2017 SFTA Symposium, during the question and answer part of my talk about the Sibley Expedition, I gave two answers that were correct, but not complete. I would like to clarify a couple of things.

In response to the question "Did Sibley use the Upper Crossing of the Arkansas River?", the answer is "No." Westward from present-day Dodge City in 1825, his route of travel was on the north side of the Arkansas. He crossed the Arkansas approximately 20 miles below Chouteau's Island, approximately at present-day Holcomb, Kansas. He then traveled along the south side of the river to a point opposite Chouteau's Island before turning south, passing through what we call Bear Creek Pass and present-day Ulysses, Kansas, on his way to the Lower Cimarron Spring (Wagon Bed Spring). This route was traveled in reverse in 1826.

In response to the question, "Did Sibley survey the Mulberry Creek Route which runs southwestward from present-day Ford, Kansas?", the answer is "No." The mouth and a short stretch of Mulberry Creek are shown on his maps, but their positions are only estimated, not surveyed. Location was measured for features actually crossed by the surveyed route; locations for features not actually on the surveyed route were estimated.

The way the survey was conducted, the Surveyor Joseph Brown could compute for any point on the survey how far west and how far south of Ft. Osage that point was. Therefore, he could calculate the distance and direction between any points on the survey. In this way he was able to compute and show on his maps that from the Lower Cimarron Spring (Wagonbed Spring) it was 71 miles in a direction 71-3/4 degrees east of north (direction is based on his survey coordinates) to what he called the Lower Crossing of the Arkansas (which he located as being between The Caches and Point of Rocks and which we now call the Middle Crossing). Of that route he says, "This is a very good way when the weather is not too dry." From this information, we can infer that by 1826 the route running southwest from what we call the Middle Crossing west of Dodge City and the route running south from what we call the Upper Crossing west of Lakin, were in use, but what we call the Lower Crossing at Ford and the associated Mulberry Creek Route were not.

--Steve Schmidt, McPherson, KS

Call For Papers

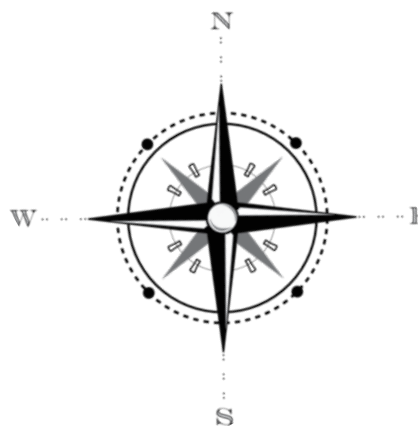
SFTA 2019 Symposium - St. Louis

The Santa Fe Trail Association will be holding its 2019 Biennial Symposium in St. Louis from September 25-28. The theme for the conference is "St. Louis: Gateway to Santa Fe." The 200th anniversary of the opening of the Santa Fe Trail will be commemorated by the SFTA in 2021, so the St. Louis symposium is being planned as a "lead in" to that commemoration.

The presentations at the symposium will highlight the role of St. Louis in the economic, social, political and logistical development of the Santa Fe trade. The 2019 Symposium Program Committee has already lined up speakers on various pertinent topics but would welcome proposals on the following themes:

- Steamboats and the Santa Fe Trail/trade - Missouri River
- Doing business on the Santa Fe Trail - St. Louis banking exchange houses, retail and wholesale merchants
- The manufacturing of boxes and barrels - packaging goods for the 900 mile journey to Santa Fe
- The history of St. Louis, especially from the 1820s to the 1870s.
- Hispanic families and St. Louis (in St. Louis social life, sending children to school in St. Louis)
- The Boone Family (session at the Boone Family Home and Heritage Center)
- Thomas Hart Benton and the Santa Fe Trail
- Missouri and the Santa Fe Trade (mules, Mexican silver, the Missouri economy)

A one page synopsis of a proposal and contact information can be sent to Dr. Mike Olsen, mpolsen1@comcast.net. ♦



Another Steamboat, Malta, Discovered

Since 1991, the Arabia Steamboat Museum in Kansas City's City Market has housed 200 tons of cargo preserved when the Steamboat Arabia sank in 1856. Attendees at the 2017 SFTA Symposium spent an evening at the Museum.

The team responsible for the Arabia Steamboat Museum has its sights set on another buried steamboat: the Malta. After a three-year search, River Salvage Inc. discovered the location of a fur-trading boat fifteen years older than the Steamboat Arabia. David Hawley is hoping that an excavation in winter 2017-2018 will yield artifacts telling a tale of American enterprise on the frontier.

At the beginning of the 1840s, a couple dozen steamboats were operating on the Missouri River, bringing supplies from St. Louis to Westport in present-day Kansas City—where travelers embarking on the Santa Fe Trail could stock up at trading posts—but only a couple of boats per year ventured further northwest. When John Jacob Astor partnered with St. Louis company Berthold & Chouteau to create the American Fur Company, they founded a trading monopoly and expanded Midwestern trading routes.

The Steamboat Malta was carrying goods for the American Fur Company when it hit a tree snag on August 8, 1841, and sank. At the time, steamboats for the American Fur Company were supplying trading posts in the Nebraska Territory. They would ship goods from Europe, including glass beads, fabric, knives, traps, tinware, coffee, tobacco, and much more. This merchandise was traded for furs obtained and processed by members of many American Indian Nations, including Sioux, Arikara, Assiniboine, and others. By 1850, the American Fur Company was shipping up to 100,000



Hardware recovered from the Arabia Steamboat is displayed at the Museum in Kansas City.

bison robes (buffalo skins) per year, many of which were then transported to the fur markets of Germany and England. The fur trade of the 1840s was a global enterprise.

Today the Steamboat Malta is lying under a farmer's field near Malta Bend, a Missouri town halfway between Waverly and Miami, named for the boat that was never forgotten by local residents. The Malta may still contain an assortment of early American frontier trade goods—a collection unlike any other in the world. Testing yielded vivid red and black woven fabric, along with wood believed to be from the boat's paddle wheel and deck. The recovery team is hoping to reveal another time capsule of life on the American frontier. You can follow the discovery of the Steamboat Malta at www.moexplorer.com.



A train whizzes past a group of SFTA members inspecting a DAR marker on the Santa Fe Trail in Levasy, Missouri.



Jan Bergdorfer quilts on the porch of the Mahaffie House.



Doug Hansen points out that harnesses for stage-coach horses have a left and right, marked with studs so the horses can be harnessed correctly and quickly.



Tim Talbott said that an oxen yoke adjusts as a load is pulled, so the wood doesn't rub the neck of the ox. Oxen are trained as either left ox or right ox of the pair, with the dominant one usually on the left near the teamster.



Greg VanCoevern points out the features of a replica of a Rucker-style ambulance, which he built, that was popular during the Civil War.

SYMPOSIUM 2017 AT OLATHE, KANSAS

Photos: Ruth Friesen



Black Jack ruts near Baldwin City, KS are covered with tall grass prairie. Steve Schmidt demonstrates the height of the grass, saying he can reach eight feet from the ground.



Maj. Gen. George McCall Letter Provides Assessment of New Mexico: 1849

Excerpted from *Letters from the Frontier: written during a Period of Thirty Year's Service in the Army of the United States*

**By Major General
George A. McCall**

*Late Commander of the
Pennsylvania Reserve Corp*

Published in Philadelphia by J.B. Lippincott & Co. 1868 and reproduced by the University of Florida as a part of the Bicentennial Floridiana Facsimile Series, The University Presses of Florida, Gainesville, 1974.

[Dotti Russell, Bent's Fort Chapter newsletter editor, has been printing this letter in the chapter newsletter, and she kindly provided permission for it to be published in *Wagon Tracks*. Excerpt begins on page 486 of *Letters from the Frontier*. The opinions expressed are attitudes of the time and place.]

11/18/1849

Requested to do assessment of NM in the event the residents wish to become a state in the Union by Geo. W. Crawford, Sec of War

Report to the Secretary of War

Santa Fe, New Mexico, July 15, 1850

Sir:-- Since my arrival in New Mexico, having kept in view your letter of November 19, 1849, to wit: "It will be instructive and probably necessary information, when the people of New Mexico form a constitution and seek admission into the Confederacy of the States, to have your observations and views on their probable numbers, habits, customs, and pursuits of life;" and the people of New Mexico having formed and adopted a State constitution, and transmitted it to the Executive, to be laid before the Congress of the United States, I have

now to submit, in compliance with your instructions, a few remarks, the result of much inquiry, and of such personal observations as could be made while in the regular discharge of military duties.

First. The population of New Mexico is, I am satisfied, less than it has been represented.

According to the statistics presented by Governor Martinez, at the division of the Department of New Mexico into districts, in the year 1844, the population, including the Pueblos of civilized Indians, amounted to one hundred thousand.

If at the period alluded to, the number of inhabitants was not overrated, which is more than probably, it has certainly since then diminished in a most unacceptable manner. I have taken pains to ascertain the number of Mexicans, residents of this Department, who at the time of its cession to the United States declared their adhesion to the republic of Mexico; and of these, how many afterwards withdrew their declaration and remained here, and how many actually left our territory; and of the latter, how many have since returned to make it their permanent home; and I am satisfied that the loss in numbers does not exceed one thousand, or, at the most, twelve hundred souls. In addition to those above mentioned, a few men of wealth, with their peons, have within the past year removed to Guadalupe, a settlement on the right bank of the Rio Grande, twenty-five miles below El Paso del Norte, where inducements have been held out by the Mexican government to bring over to their side the rich and better class of people. The numerical loss thus sustained is scarcely appreciable. In fact, there is no known cause that could have materially reduced the population of New Mexico within the last six years; yet from positive data, it



Maj. General George Archibald McCall
Photo: www.wikiwand.com/en/George_A._McCall

is very clear that it does not now amount to the number above stated.

Where but little is known, and where, in seeking that little, conflicting statements are frequently encountered, it is no easy matter to arrive at the truth; therefore, I will not venture the assertion that the population of new Mexico, at the present time, greatly exceeds the quota required to give one seat in the house of Representatives of the United States; and, indeed, so great a portion of the face of the country is made up of rugged mountains and waste plains, that it cannot be expected soon, if ever, to receive and support a population in numbers and wealth at all proportional to its extent of territory.

Besides the native Mexicans, the present population includes, of persons born in the United States and in Europe, who have become citizens of the State, at the extent twelve hundred. And of the natives, besides those whom strictly speaking we call Mexicans, there is another distinct and numerous class which seems to

invite particular attention. I mean the Pueblo Indians.

Having embraced Christianity under the Spanish rule, the Pueblos were admitted to the rights of citizenship by the Mexican government under Iturbide; and these rights, which they have enjoyed to the present time, (at least in name,) are confirmed to them by the State constitution. Under this they are subject to taxation (by legislation) in common with other inhabitants. It is to be hoped, however, the legislature will, in its wisdom, adopt a mild and conciliatory policy towards these people. Under the present change of government, the impressions first made it will be difficult to remove from their minds; and dissatisfaction produced at the outset, may ultimately lead to more serious results than would at first glance appear. To explain this, it will be necessary to state in what way the Pueblos may be made an element of much good or evil to the State. These Indians still carry on an occasional traffic, and are careful to maintain a good understanding with the wild Indians. Not only, then, may their influence be used to advantage in controlling and, indeed, in reclaiming, several of the least savage of these tribes; but if at any time the united States find it necessary to chastise an open declaration of hostilities by several of the border tribes,—a thing not impossible, when a decided effort to restrain their predatory habits comes to be made,—they will find valuable auxiliaries in the Pueblos, who count at least twenty-five hundred warriors. On the other hand, should the latter from any cause become dissatisfied, either from what they might conceive to be the oppressive bearing of a law of the State, or its maladministration by the petty authorities (for they still look upon the Mexicans with distrust), it would be easy for their parties at different points to unite with the enemy for marauds or for battle without fear of detection.

They have twenty towns or settlements, which contain at least two thousand four hundred families. These, at the moderate composition of four to

each family, give a total of nine thousand six hundred souls; but they probably exceed ten thousand. Each town is a distinct community, having its *gubernador*, or chief, and council; and each community (as a corporation) owns the soil it cultivates. This, a grant from the Spanish crown, is embraced within a circle whose radius is a league—the town its centre. The Pueblos are intelligent, moral, sober, and industrious; and, generally speaking, they are better off than the lower class of Mexicans. Many of them in each town the Spanish intelligibly, and some of the principal men read and even write the language as far as is required in their simple business transactions.

The “habits and customs” of the Mexican portion of the inhabitants do not differ materially from those of Mexicans elsewhere; yet, in some particulars, changes, the effect of intercourse with our people, have already begun to show themselves. An impression has been made, and perhaps the first step towards better things has already been accomplished. Here, in Santa Fe, the diminution of filth in the streets, and the improved dress and personal cleanliness of the people, together with the cloaking of immorality, show that precept and example are not altogether thrown away upon them.

The number who are of Spanish blood, unmixed, is small: in the mass, that of the Indian predominates,—so in the mass the character and disposition of the latter are to a greater or less degree inherited. This is evinced in more than one trait; but it is sufficient to cite their extreme aversion to continued labor. If a Mexican has not inextricably involved himself as the debtor of his employer, and, through the action of the law (Mexican) against debtors, become a peon for life, it is with difficulty he can be kept at work longer than is requisite to earn a few dollars; and while this lasts, he indulges to the full the luxury of lounging away the hours of the day with his *cigarito*, and perhaps the evening in the more exciting amusements of the fandango and the monte-table; nor does he resume his

task until compelled by want. Being moderate in his appetites, he requires but little to subsist on, and therefore is constrained to labor but little.

The lower class are as ignorant as idle; and even among their superiors education is wofully neglected. From this it may be inferred that no great improvement in the moral condition of the present generation can be expected from the introduction of our institutions, which they can neither understand nor appreciate. It is to the coming generation we must look for this; and therefore the introduction of primary schools at as early a day as practicable, is a consideration of much interest.

Of their “pursuits of life,” manufactures, perhaps, stand lowest on the scale; they are certainly primitive in their character. Yet this is not so much to be attributed to a deficiency of aptness and manual skill or dexterity, as to the want of proper instruction and better models, with more continued and systematic application. Gradual improvement in this branch may, therefore, be looked for, if their natural indolence can be overcome, or their love of gain be stimulated through the influence of our own enterprising countrymen. The establishment of manufactories would do much to accomplish both, and, by fixing the price of labor at a fair rate, would probably prove to be the greatest lever that could be used in overturning the present system of *peonage*.

The cheapness of wool (which in time will be improved in quality, as well as reduced in price) will *at once* lead to the erection of factories for making carpets, blankets, and the courser cloths; and they will not only supply the wants of the State itself, but to some extent the adjoining departments of Mexico. These fabrics will likewise eventually become important articles of traffic with the large tribes of mountain and prairie Indians. The course woollens, if with the exception of the head workmen, Mexican operatives can be used, may be afforded here at prices to pre-

clude competition; for, independently of the price of transportation, the price of wool and the price of labor are here from one-third to one-half less than in the United States.

To a moderate extent *iron works* may also be profitably established. Iron is abundant and of fair quality, as is the coal, which is more or less bituminous, and will answer to reduce the ore. The heavy cost of transportation from the United States will, it is probable, soon call attention to this subject.

At present but little attention is paid to *mining*, for two reasons,—a want of capital, if not a want of enterprise among the people,—and an inherent fear of “*los Indios*.” There is, however, reason to believe that the mines may hereafter become the principal source of wealth to the State. The mines of New Mexico have always been represented as rich in gold, and immensely productive to the Spaniards, until repeated incursions of hostile Indians caused them to be abandoned. The localities of these mines are at this time for the greater part unknown; the wild tribes who inhabit the supposed gold regions having prevented their exploration. And for the same reason, under present circumstances, their exploration is beyond the reach of private enterprise. Nothing, therefore, can be satisfactorily known of the richness or poverty of the State in this respect, until its vast mountain regions are thoroughly and scientifically explored. With this view, it would be well if a topographical engineer were associated with an able, practical geologist, in order that the Government might receive full reports, with accurate maps, both geographical and geological, of the whole country. For this purpose there would be required a military escort of sufficient strength to enable the party to push its examinations to the most remote parts of the State, now the constant haunts of Indians.

Formerly, of the profitable pursuit of New Mexico, “*stock raising*” stood high upon the list, and although now

sadly reduced by the continued inroads of the Navajoes and Apaches, it will again, when protected from their marauds, yield large profits to the proprietors. There are in New Mexico grazing lands of great extent, where countless flocks and herds may be reared at a very trifling expense. They require neither stabling nor forage during the winter; the nutritious “*gramma*,” a species of grass found on the mountain-sides and the adjoining uplands, affording abundant sustenance during that season. The climate, too, is well adapted to all kinds of stock, particularly sheep, which, owing to the dryness of the atmosphere, are almost exempt from “*rot*,” and other diseases common to low countries. Some twenty or five-and-twenty years ago, before the hand of the red man had fallen so heavily upon them, the people of this State, as well as Chihuahua, sent annually to the city of Mexico vast numbers of sheep,^{*(1)} as well as cattle and mules. At this day not one thousand are sent from districts that formerly furnished their hundreds, such has been the rapacity and the relentless spirit of hostility of the Navajoes and Apaches.

The hillsides and the plains, that were in days past covered with sheep and cattle, are now bare in many parts of the State; yet the work of plunder still goes on. The predatory operations of the two tribes just mentioned are even now carried on in the close vicinity of our military posts; the shepherds are pounced upon and shot with arrows to prevent their carrying information, and with their spoil the Indians dash at speed to the mountains, and are beyond reach before the loss is known. In this way they (I mean now the Apaches only) run the flocks from seventy to one hundred miles in twenty-four hours. And, consequently, out of ten thousand sheep that may be started, probably not more than one thousand will reach their destination. As the over-driven animals falter from exhaustion, those that do not fall dead by the wayside are lanced, as the Indians pass, to prevent their falling into the hands of the Mexicans. Thus

the destruction is usually tenfold the gain of the Indians. The Apache is satisfied with that, because all his care is to supply his present wants. The more provident Navajo is more careful, because his principal object is to increase his stock at home. Within no more than three months past, between fifteen and twenty thousand sheep and several hundred head of cattle and mules have been driven from the Rio Grande, above Socorro, and from the vicinity of Vegas, and several shepherds killed, with entire impunity, by the two tribes already named.^{*(2)} They were on several occasions pursued by the troops, but without success.

It is only necessary to free the mountain founding the valley of the Rio Grande from the incursions of these Indians, in order to increase again in a few years the stock to its former numbers; then wool of improved quality, besides supplying the home consumption, would be sent to Missouri, and bring large returns; and horned cattle, mules, etc., raised at little or no expense, would secure large profits at the same market.

I place agriculture last, or as the least productive wealth of the three principal industrial pursuits of New Mexico, viz., mining, stock-raising, and agriculture; but I do so rather in reference to the past history and the future prospects of the State than its present circumstances. Formerly, under the Spanish government, *mines* were the most productive of wealth; towards the close of that era, and during the early period of the Independence of Mexico, the immense droves of horses and mules, the herds and flocks which covered the face of the country, constituted the chief riches of this department. Of both these, in success, the inhabitants of New Mexico have been despoiled by their more warlike borderers, and therefore at this day their soil is almost all that remains to them. Its produce, through sufferance of the Indians,⁽³⁾ has saved them from starvation during this infliction of a twofold scourge; but it has not, nor

will it ever make them rich; such is the history of the past and the present.

The future of New Mexico, it is to be hoped, will disclose another picture; the Indians subdued; the hill-sides white with flocks; and the neglected mines again yielding up their hoards of the precious metals; and then the cultivation of the soil, although I believe it will always supply the wants of the inhabitants, will be productive of less wealth to the State than either of the other pursuits; because, were its products ten times what they ever can be, the isolated position of the State, and its entire want of the common requisite facilities of transportation, either by water communication or otherwise, would render the products of agriculture, in whatever excess above the house consumption, unavailable for exportation. And here it may not be inappropriate to give the opinion of many persons here with whom I have conversed respecting the navigableness of the Rio Grande. Although no accurate knowledge is professed to have been derived from close examination of the great bend of the Jornada, yet its course has, with extreme difficulty, been followed throughout, over steep mountains and rugged cliffs that overhang the water; and judging from the appearance of the river in its rapid and

irregular descent through this pass, a distance of near one hundred and fifty miles, the opinion entertained was very decided that loaded boats would not be able to make the passage in safety even at the highest stage of water; at low water it would be perfectly impracticable. And above the Jornada, it would be borne in mind, lie more than three-fourths of the arable land of the river, or at least nine-tenths of that of the State at large.

In future, as heretofore, it is probable that to the narrow valley of the Rio Grande (the “river bottom”) will be confined the greater part of the strictly agricultural portion of the State. The affluents of the great river, the Pecos on the east, and the Puerco on the west, have along their courses large tracts of good land, but the want of timber on the first, and the too frequent occurrence of a partial or total want of water on the last, are serious hindrances to their improvement.

There are spots on each, where, but for the danger to be encountered from Indians, isolated settlements might be made to advantage; but these would add but little to the total amount.

The best lands on the Rio Grande are between Piña Blanca and the Jornada

del Muerto—in a narrow strip on either bank of the river, that would measure, following its meanders, about one hundred and eighty miles. These lands—the bottom lands—vary in depth from one-half of a mile to two miles and a half, but probably do not exceed on an average one mile.

The soil is light, but where within reach of irrigation is enriched by the fertilizing waters of the river, and produces abundant and almost unfailing crops of wheat, corn, beans, and onions.

The uplands, even on the very borders of the river, and although the soil be good, are unproductive, for the reason that irrigation is impracticable in the ordinary way. If, by *boring*, water in sufficient quantity for irrigation could be got, many large tracts of uplands, now worthless except for grazing, would possibly become as productive as the bottoms; but this in both respects is problematical.

At points where bodies of this land are found sufficiently large to warrant the expense, another mode eligible may be adopted. The fall of the river in its passage through this part of the State being about two and a half feet to the mile, the distance it may be necessary

Youth Photography Contest Winner Announced

Katie Zachgo of Wamego, Kansas, won the older age-division photography contest with a picture she took at McNees Crossing during the youth Santa Fe Trail trip in 2015.

Katie's comment about the picture:

I snapped this picture two years ago on the Santa Fe Trail Trip. This was a landscape of McNee's Crossing. As we were standing on the rocks, I decided how beautiful it was and decided to take a picture. Some people would see this as just a muddy pond, but I see it as history that people just don't realize. If you venture out to see new things, there is beauty. There is also reverence, because the young trader named McNees was killed here by Indians in 1828. Although bad things happen, they helped to pave the way for all of the beautiful things that are soon to come.



to bring the water from above is easily calculated; thus, a large “*acéquia*” or canal, opened five or eight miles above, would throw its branches in every direction over land from twelve feet above the level of the river, at the point cultivated.

On the march from El Paso del Norte to Santa Fé the river lands were carefully noted, and a rough estimate made of the amount at present in cultivation, etc., etc.; it is given here, and may be regarded as an approximation.

On the left or east bank of the river, on the line above indicated, from El Paso to Don’ Aña, there is but little land under cultivation, say thirty-two hundred acres, and as much more cultivable still vacant, while there is along the river-bank at least forty-five thousand acres worthless for agricultural purposes.

Twelve miles above Don’ Aña commences the noted Jornada, crossing the high table-land that fills the great western bend of the river—a stretch of ninety miles from the north end of the Jornada, by taking a trail, (impracticable for wagons,) is found at the distance of six miles westward the *Ojo del Muerto*, or Dead Man’s Spring, where there is running water; but the fatigue of the animals occasioned by this extra march of twelve miles is not compensated by the draught of water; and most trains, unless they can command time to lie by here, push on to the end of the journey without halting. During the rainy season two or three pools may be found, containing perhaps water enough for two hundred and fifty or three hundred animals—not more; and this may not last three weeks after the rain ceases.

Around this bend impassable mountains close in upon the river-banks as far as Fray Cristobal, eighteen miles below Valverde; and from Don’ Aña to Lopes, a distance of one hundred and forty miles, there is not a human habitation; that of Valverde having

been abandoned many years since in consequence of overflow.

From the north end of Jornada to Piña Blanca there is at present under cultivation about sixty miles of bottom-land, with an average depth of one mile, giving sixty square miles, or thirty-eight thousand four hundred acres; of cultivable land unimproved about fifty square miles, or thirty-two thousand acres; and of land uncultivable—the greater part entirely sterile—about seventy square miles, or forty-four thousand eight hundred acres.

The different qualities of land (it will be understood) are in greater or less bodies interposed amongst each other along the whole line, though the best lands, and in the largest bodies, lie between Lopez and Algodones.

On the right or west bank of the river, following its meanders, there may be from El Paso to Pina Blanca about forty-seven square miles, or thirty thousand two hundred and eighty acres, now under cultivation; of good land vacant, one hundred two hundred acres; and of land waste, and fit only for grazing, two hundred and three square miles, or one hundred and thirty thousand acres.

Here also, on the right bank of the river, the good, bad, and indifferent lands are intermixed in tracts of various sizes along the route.

In addition to the foregoing there are, in isolated tracts, many considerable bodies of arable land, the principal of which are here enumerated.

First, the beautiful valley of Taos, begirt almost by the Rocky Mountains, their spurs and other detached peaks. The valley may be from twenty-five to thirty miles in circumference, and may contain, immediately on the margins of the several streams that unite near the town of (San Fernando de) Taos, forming the Rio de Taos, and thence to its debouch into the Rio Grande, about fifteen thou-

sand acres now in cultivation, and ten thousand acres arable vacant. The remainder, though the soil is generally good, lies too high for irrigation in the ordinary way, even supposing that the streams afforded water enough, which is doubtful.

Passing from the valley over a spur of the Rocky Mountains there is from La Joya to Cañada a stretch along the Rio Grande of about fifteen miles, with an average depth of two miles, say twenty thousand acres of good cultivable land, little of which is improved.

Crossing the Rio Grande at Cañada, we ascend the Rio Chamas to the town of Abiqui, adjoining which the river-bottom is cultivated for about three miles, with an average width of one and a half, or twenty-eight hundred and eighty acres. The unimproved lands on this stream, equally good in quality and position, amount to thrice that quantity; in this estimate both banks of the river are included.

Recrossing the Rio Grande, there will be found at Rayado and Morotown, some twenty thousand acres of good land, about one-tenth of which is improved; at the former a portion of the land lies high, but may be irrigated by bringing the water some miles.

Around Las Vegas, Upper and Lower Tecolote and Barclay’s Trading-house, there may be one hundred thousand acres, of which nearly one-fifth is improved.

On the Pecos River, at the towns of Pecos, San José, San Miguel, Anton Chico, etc., probably six thousand acres in cultivation, and thrice that amount of arable land vacant.

Of several of the last-named bodies of land it should be remarked that doubt exists whether the streams on which they lie will afford a sufficiency to irrigate the whole of what is actually within reach of their waters.

Returning westward, we have on the Rio de Santa Fé, below the town, not more than five thousand acres in cultivation: all that around still vacant is worthless for agricultural purposes. And from Cañada to Peña Blanca, along the river, there is but little good land on this side. The lands on the Pecos, as far as yet settled, are included in the above estimates. Below the settlements there is timber at but two points. These are the Bosque Redondo, or round forest, and the Bosque Grande, or great forest. The latter, in or about the parallel of Valverde, extends along the river for fifteen miles, with a breadth of eight or ten miles, including both banks. Sixty miles above is the former, lying equally on both banks, with a diameter of ten miles. Each has good timber in abundance, but it is impossible to say what quantity of land adjoining either is fit for the plough; and they are the only points on the Pecos below the Anton Chico settlement where wood enough even for fuel is found.

The Puerco and its west tributary, the Rio San José, the Rio de Jemez, and the country thence along the Rio Grande to the mouth of the Rio Chamas, have some small tracts of land in cultivations, principally by Pueblos. I have been unable to ascertain the amount from any reliable source, and therefore have not included it in the estimate. But it is believed, as mentioned above, that the frequent sinking of the Puerco in deep sands, under which, upon a hard clay, it follows its course for miles, reappearing at intervals in the form of pools, until finally lost entirely before reaching the Rio Grande, will prevent its ever adding much to the agricultural produce of the State.

On the headwaters of the Arkansas, I have been told by old trappers, there is a beautiful country of great extent, where the land, well watered and well timbered, is sufficiently level for farming. They expressed the belief that good crops of wheat and corn might be raised here without irrigation, the

rains being seasonable and sufficient.

More minute examination of this country will be necessary to determine its character and value.

I shall now proceed to recapitulate and sum up what may be considered the agricultural districts of New Mexico; not including any portion of the State now held by wild Indians. [see chart below]

From the foregoing statement, based upon close personal observations and much minute inquiry, it would appear that more than one half of the arable land, either improved or vacant, as far as now known with any degree of certainty, lies in the immediate valley of the Rio Grande.

The method adopted in estimating, it is true, is rude, but neither time nor opportunity admitted of a more regular and satisfactory examination. The figures, I may assert with confidence, are not too high; nor do I believe they will be found very greatly below the truth with respect to the lands specified; what amount of farming lands may be in addition to these, further examination will determine.

In looking at the past, in the history of New Mexico, it is clear that the fruits of labor in the principal pursuits of life above mentioned, have, up to the time of the cession of the territory to the United States, been blighted by the presence of formidable tribes of Indians, who *still* infest the country; and it would from certain indications appear that the future prosperity of the State to arise from the steady, uninterrupted prosecution of these pursuits, will in a great measure depend on the impression *now* to be made on these Indians.

It may be apprehended, that, if they are not in the beginning impressed with the ability and the settled purpose of the United States to chastise those who plunder and murder its citizens,—if acts of this kind, now of almost monthly occurrence and utterly beyond the power of the present military force to check, are continued longer unpunished, the Indians will hold us in the contempt with which they now look upon the Mexicans, whom they have wantonly robbed and murdered for two centuries past. And the inevitable consequences will be, sooner or later, a *war*, more or less general, with the surrounding tribes.

	<i>Land now in cultivation Acres</i>	<i>Land cultivable now vacant Acres</i>
<i>Left or east bank of Rio Grande:</i>		
From El Paso to Don Aña	8,200	3,200
From Fray Cristobal to Peña Blanca	38,600	32,000
<i>Right or west bank of Rio Grande:</i>		
From El Paso to Peña Blanca	80,280	115,200
Valley of Taos	15,000	10,000
<i>On Rio Grande:</i>		
From La Joya to Cañada	2,000	18,000
<i>Valley of Chamas:</i>		
At Abiqui	2,880	8,840
Rayado and Morotown	2,000	18,000
<i>Las Vegas, Upper and Lower Tecolote and Barclay's Trading-house</i>		
	20,000	80,000
<i>Pecos, San José, San Miguel, and Anton Chico</i>		
	6,000	18,000
Santa Fé	<u>5,000</u>	
Total number of acres	124,760	303,240

Of the eight tribes of wild Indians who inhabit the mountains and plains of New Mexico and the contiguous country, the Navajoes and Apaches are the most formidable as enemies, the most troublesome as neighbors.

The first are, with the exception of the Moqui, the most civilized: they are without exception the most wealthy of all. They are not so war-like nor so bold in attack as the Apaches, but they are numerous, well equipped, and occupy a country well fortified by nature. Their country, extending from the San Juan to the Gila, with a breadth of 150 miles, consists chiefly of mountains and high tablelands, and is full of fastnesses. Their possessions consist of large stocks of horses, mules, horned cattle, and sheep, which are perhaps extravagantly represented, by persons who have had intercourse with them, as numerous beyond calculation—many times more so than those of all New Mexico at present. There may be great extravagances in all this, but it is well known that these Indians do possess stock, more or less. If such be the case, and they are supposed to have retained one out of ten, or even one out of every twenty, of the countless flocks and herds they have driven off from the Rio Grande within the last twenty years, to increase their own stock, their progeny would in less time have swelled the amount to extravagant numbers. Although they have not permanent villages, they cultivate the soil to a considerable extent, making periodical visits to their fields at planting and harvest times. In this way they make a sufficiency of grain for all their wants, besides a few vegetables and fruits. They are said to be intelligent and industrious, and their manufactures (blankets and coarse cloths,) in their neatness and finish, go far to prove this; these articles being made (of wool of their own growing) not only for their own use, but for traffic also to a large amount.

For some years past they are believed

to have steadily increased in numbers, and to count now about eighteen hundred lodges, which, at six per lodge, would give ten thousand eight hundred souls.

From the aptness of these Indians and the advancement they have made in the arts of civilization, it occurs in the mind that they might with proper management be induced to settle themselves permanently, as the Pueblos have done; after which they might be advantageously employed in an attempt to reclaim their more wild and savage neighbors. And the accomplishment of an object so important would seem worthy of notice.

The forays which the Apaches make upon the Mexicans are incited by want; they have nothing of their own, and must plunder or starve. This is not the case with the Navajoes—they have enriched themselves by appropriating the flocks and herds of an unresisting people, and cannot offer the plea of necessity.

In the first place, before anything can be done with this people, it is believed it will be indispensable to open the communication with them in their own country, in the presence of a sufficient military force to impress them seriously with the weight and importance of the conference; that the object is not in idle “talk,”—a treaty such as they have been in the habit from year to year of making with the New Mexicans, to be continued in force only until their own immediate objects are quietly attained,—but a treaty, the violation of which will bring upon them war in all its severity. Then (the treaty being concluded) let the first offence be so punished as to prove that we are in earnest. Forbearance exercised towards the Navajoes would be mistaken humanity; and the blood of our own citizens would be the fruits of it. It would be dealing with them too much in the style they have been accustomed to; and the only effect would be to excite their contempt for us.

But I am satisfied that the presence of a strong military force in their country—(the Navajoes muster over two thousand warriors)—would insure the observance of any treaty it might be important to make with them. Their thievish propensities could then be controlled; and they might in a short time, by judicious management, be induced to give up their roving habits and settle themselves in permanent towns, in the vicinity of their fields. They could, with little labor, live well on the increase of their flocks, and the bountiful product of their soil, which, with little attention, gives growth to noble crops of wheat, as well as corn. Nor would the change of life to them be very great.

If the Navajoes are first secured, and their chiefs enlisted in our cause, their influence may at once be brought to bear upon the other tribes. They entertain the most friendly relations with their northern neighbors, the Utahs; as do the latter with the tribe adjoining on the east, the Jicarilla Apaches; and by the last the communication is kept up with the several bands of their own tribes on the east of the State, and so on to the Gila bands on the south. And here, if the Gila Apaches prove refractory, the Navajoes may be brought against them without difficulty, for they are far from friendly now, and frequently have a brush when they meet.

To an end so desirable, the Pueblos of the State might in the first place be well employed in bringing about the reformation of the Navajoes; although at present they are not friendly.

The Moqui Indians, who live to the southwest of the Navajoes, are weak in numbers, and are too remote to give annoyance to the State, were they so disposed. They have, however, no such disposition; but on the contrary, are pacific, honest, and hospitable; and are, besides, the most civilized of the western Indians. They always proved themselves

good warriors in their former contests with the Navajoes and Apaches; and though much reduced in numbers by their more powerful enemies, were never subdued.

The cultivation of a friendly understanding with them might be repaid at some future day, by their services in various ways, as guides, etc., in the event of a war with either of their old enemies. The Moqui live in permanent villages; cultivate large farms; have a large amount of stock; and make blankets and cloths from wool of their own growing. The number of their lodges is about three hundred and fifty, which, at seven per lodge, would give a population of twenty-four hundred and fifty souls.

On the north of the Navajoes are the Utahs, occupying the territory between the San Juan and the head of the Arkansas—a rugged country, but well stocked with game. They have neither permanent villages nor cultivated fields, and subsist chiefly on game. They are a warlike people, and much attached to a wandering life, frequently extending their excursions to California. Altogether, they amount to four or five thousand, though there are rarely at a time more than one thousand immediately on the borders of the State. These people do not extend their forays further south than Abiqui, Taos, and Morotown; and in these they are very often united with the Jacarilla Apaches. In event of an active campaign being set on foot for the purpose of punishing the outrages committed recently by the latter, the Utahs would undoubtedly render them great assistance, covertly, and at the same time send in to inform us of their determination to remain neutral. It is not probable, however, they would openly join them.

Adjoining the Utahs on the northeast are the Cheyennes and Arrapahoes, who range from the headwaters of the Arkansas eastward upon the plains. They subsist entirely upon the buffalo; commit no depredations; are friendly to the white man—though in

the event of a war with other tribes, could not perhaps be depended upon. Together, they amount to about three thousand five hundred souls.

The eastern part of New Mexico (up to the Rio Pecos) is a part of the range of the Comanches, and they visit these grounds at least once a year, generally after the breaking up of their winter-quarters near the sources of the Brazos and Trinity rivers in Texas. They rarely commit depredations in New Mexico; and their movements are principally of interest to the State, from their intimate connection with the Apaches. They meet the latter on the Pecos, and there concert their campaigns into Chihuahua and Sonora. From these departments they annually bring off large numbers of mules; and often from Durango, into the centre of which they sometimes make their way in company with the Mescaleros (Apaches). And from these departments they also bring off many prisoners.

Again, on their return, they halt at the Pecos, and are now met by the New Mexican traders. Their mules are many of them exchanged with the latter for arms and ammunitions, cloths, and paint, etc., etc.; the remainder are driven with them on their return, and their meat eaten until they again enter the buffalo range.

Their prisoners are said to amount to large numbers; they consist principally of women and children, though men also are often brought over. A New Mexican, living at San Miguel, recently returned from a large camp of Comanches and Apaches, on the Pecos, stated that in the camp of the former there were almost as many Mexican slaves—women and children—as Indians. It will be a difficult matter to induce them to restore these prisoners. And until this unlicensed trade is broken up, their predatory incursions into Mexico can never be checked.

The Comanches, divided into three bands, have in all upwards of twelve thousand souls.

The *Kayuguas*, who occupy the country west of the Brazos, are rarely seen on the borders of New Mexico. They do not exceed two thousand souls.

Lastly, the several bands of *Apaches*. These Indians, owing to their numerical strength, their bold and independent character, and their immemorial predatory habits, will, it is to be apprehended, prove more difficult to reclaim or subdue than any other of the (strictly speaking) New Mexico tribes.

From the earliest accounts we have of them, they have been regarded by their kindred tribes as mountain robbers. On the Gila, at the period of the Spanish conquest, they were in the habit of despoiling the fields of their more industrious and pacific neighbors, the Moqui. By these they have latterly been successfully resisted. But the inhabitants of Chihuahua and Sonora are still groaning under their relentless spoliations. They complain bitterly; but continue to submit without resistance.

The Apaches, divided into six bands, inhabit the country enclosed between the eastern chain of the Rio Grande mountains and the river Pecos, from the northern to the southern boundary of New Mexico, and on the south the country bordering on the Gila River—thus completing the chain by uniting with the Utahs on the north, and with the territory of the Navajoes on the west.

Of the different bands, the *Jicarilla* Apaches, on the extreme north, are one of the smallest, but at the same time one of the most troublesome of the tribe. They have latterly committed more murders on our people than all the others together. Ranging from the upper Arkansas to the Canadian, their trail crosses the Independence and Santa Fé road between the “Point of Rocks” and the “Wagon Mound” or Santa Clara Spring, and this ground is known as the scene of several recent and deplorable tragedies. They have suffered severely in two or three conflicts with our troops during the past

year, and are supposed now to number less than one hundred warriors—four hundred souls. They (as well as all the other bands of the tribe) have no permanent villages—no fields of grain; and fearing collision with the stronger tribes that roam [the] buffalo plains, the Jicarillas depend of their subsistence chiefly on the success of their marauding parties.

This band is considered as incorrigible, and it is believed they will continue to rob and murder our citizens until they are exterminated. I know of no means that could be employed to reclaim them.

Next in succession, southwesterly, are the *White Mountain Apaches*, numbering one hundred and fifty warriors; they are in close communication with the *Sacramento Apaches*, who have about the same number of warriors. These two bands inhabit the White and Sacramento Mountains, and together they range the country extending north and south from the junction of the Gallinos with the Pecos to the lower end of the Jornada del Muerto. They continue to drive off the stock of Vegas and along the Rio Grande from Sandival's to Don' Aña.

Next come the *Apaches Mescaleros*, consisting of two bands, under the chief's Marco and Gomez; the former (the more northerly) having two hundred warriors; the latter, four hundred. They hold the country east of the Rio Grande from the Guadalupe Mountains to Presidio del Norte.

These two bands are the strongest and the most warlike and fearless of their tribe. They have rarely molested the inhabitants of New Mexico north of El Paso; nor were they unfriendly to United States citizens whom they met on the road, until a feeling of hostility was aroused by the infamous attack of Glanton, an American citizen in the pay of the government of Chihuahua, on a part of Gomez's band in 1849. They have however,

for years, in conjunction with the Comanches, committed fearful havoc in Chihuahua and Sonora, and like them have carried off women and children, though not by any means to the same extent.

These bands have no manufactures whatever; and having no agriculture and but little game in their own country, they subsist in a great measure on the meat of horses, mules, and sometimes cattle, driven from Mexico by their foraging parties. They are not, however, altogether without a farinaceous food. A kind of cake or paste is made from the mezquite bean, and the root of the magnolia plant is roasted and eaten.

The *Gila Apaches*, subdivided into three or four smaller bands, make their home—if an Apache can be said to have a home—on the Gila River.

Their foraging parties sometimes make their appearance on the Rio Grande, near Don' Aña; but by far the greater portion of their supplies are brought from Chihuahua. They are bold and independent, and together muster about four hundred warriors.

To take into view the different bands collectively as a tribe, and the extent of country held by the tribe; to consider their restless habits, their aversion to permanent villages and the labor of agriculture; at the same time bearing in mind the scarcity of game throughout a great part of their country, and therefore the temptation, in fact the almost necessity, to poach upon their neighbors, it would seem like the undertaking of a tedious task to attempt to reclaim the Apaches. It is true, it will require time to subdue their propensity to plunder, to control their movements, to settle them in permanent villages, and to induce them to commence the cultivation of the soil; and until this is effected, they must continue to plunder, or they must starve; still, it may be possible to accomplish all

this, by judicious management, in a few years' time. During at least the early part of this period it would, of course, be necessary to feed these Indians; to give them cattle and sheep, and to encourage the rearing of them; to employ suitable persons—New Mexicans would be the best, as the Apaches understand their language—to teach them how to prepare their fields and plant their corn for the first year or two: and the greatest difficulty, perhaps, would be found in carrying out this part of the scheme, to overcome the pride of the Apache warriors, who think any pursuits but those of war and the chase beneath their dignity.

From the following little incident may be drawn very fair conclusions as to the present condition and temper of the Apaches.

In March last Mr. F. X. Aubrey, on his way from San Antonio to El Paso with a train of wagons, fell in with *Marco's band* near the Limpia River. The former had with him near sixty men, which perhaps had some influence on the character of his reception. An amicable meeting, however, took place, and some mules were obtained from the Indians.

In the "talk" held between the parties, Mr. Aubrey told Marco that the United States desired to be on friendly terms with him; and that, consequently, he must not allow his people to kill our citizens, or carry off their stock. This he promised to do. He was then told he must also give up plundering the Mexicans. After a long pause he replied: "I had supposed that my brother was a man of good sense. Has he, then, seen between the Pecos and the Limpia game enough to feed 3000 people? We have had for a long time no other food than the meat of Mexican cattle and mules, and we must make use of it still, or perish." He said subsequently: "If your people will give us cattle to feed our families, we will no longer take from the Mexicans."

SFTA Annual Membership January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

Name(s) _____ ☐ Life \$1000, payable over 4 years
Address _____ ☐ Patron \$100/year
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ ☐ Family \$65/year
Phone _____ Email _____ ☐ Individual \$50/year
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_____ ☐ Business \$65/year
I'd like to make a donation to assist the SFTA with programs and events. ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ _____
I'd like to donate to the Junior Wagon Master Fund. ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ _____
I'd like to donate to the Marker Fund. ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ _____
To pay by credit card, go to www.santafetrail.org, and click on "Join the Organization."

The Santa Fe Trail Association is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation, and all donations beyond membership dues are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____
Make checks payable to Santa Fe Trail Association

Mail to Ruth Olson Peters, Treasurer, Santa Fe Trail Center, 1349 K-156 Hwy, Larned, KS 67550

Renew by mailing using the above form or renew online at www.santafetrail.org

If you have renewed your membership, pass the form along to a friend or colleague.

If these people were maintained in idleness, they would, perhaps, remain quiet; but whether they could be induced to take upon themselves the task of providing for their future subsistence, by their own manual labor, is a question that nothing but actual experiment will solve.

The whole of the Indians of the country are ignorant of the power of the United States, and also of its views as regards themselves. And it would do much to enlighten them as to the policy of our government if delegations from the Pueblos and the principal wild tribes were called to the United States. A journey through the States, and a visit to our principal cities, would likewise impress them as to the means and resources of the country to carry on a war. If, however, by such means as have been referred to, these people may not be reclaimed, it is very certain that a considerable augmentation of the armed force will be required to control them.

Within the last hour, information of a perfectly reliable character has been received that near Padillas, about seventy miles south of Santa Fé, seven thousand sheep were driven off by Navajoes a few days since; and a few miles lower on the river, six hundred; the shepherd of the last flock being pierced with fourteen arrows.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
Geo. A. McCall

*(1) The Chavez connection, consisting of three or four families, residing below Albuquerque, are known to have sent as many as two hundred thousand sheep to the city in one year [Mexico City].

*(2) Since the above was written, an official report has been received that a flock of sixteen thousand had been carried off from Puerco, opposite Cibolletta.

(3) The Navajoes said, on a recent occasion, that their only reason for not exterminating the New Mexicans long ago was, that it was their interest to keep them as their shepherds.

Notes:

1) Geo. A. McCall entered the army in 1823 and served until 1853.

2) By letter written June 11, 1850, Geo. A. McCall received notice of his commission as Inspector General. He finished his overview of New Mexico and then went east late in 1850. He then served as Inspector General until 1853 when he resigned for health reasons. ♦

Chapter Reports

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

TO CONTACT CHAPTER PRESIDENTS,
PLEASE EMAIL THEM AT info@santafetrail.org.

Missouri River Outfitters

Independence, MO
President Larry Short

The main focus of MRO over the past few months has been the planning of the SFTA Symposium 2017 which was held in Olathe, Kansas. We worked in partnership with Roger Boyd, Co-Chair, and the entire Douglas County Chapter of SFTA.

Douglas County

Baldwin City, KS
President Roger Boyd

On Sunday, September 10, the Douglas County Chapter had their fall covered dish supper at the Black Jack Cabin, three miles east of Baldwin City on U.S. 56. The program was "Virtual Tour of the Santa Fe Trail from Mahaffie Stagecoach Station through Douglas County to the West." Presenters were John Richards, Professor of History at Baker University, and Nicholas Pumphrey, Professor of Religious Studies at Baker University.

We partnered with the MRO chapter to put on the 2017 SFTA Symposium in Olathe. We are already looking forward to the 2019 Symposium.

Heart of the Flint Hills

Council Grove, KS
President Sharon Haun

Cottonwood Crossing

McPherson, KS
President Steve Schmidt

Our meeting on October 26 featured Pauline Sharp speaking about the Kaw Indians. We recently received a donation from the Scully estate. One of the chapter's members, Mr. Dudley Donahue, has had some SFT ruts on his property in Marion County listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places. The Marion County Historical Society was recently reorganized, and the Cottonwood Crossing Chapter is represented on the Society's Board of Directors.

Quivira

McPherson, KS
President Linda Colle

The Quivira Chapter is working with the National Park Service to install an interpretive sign at Ralph's /Kern's Ruts. In addition, we are working on a project for four interpretive signs to be placed around the Little Arkansas Crossing area, at Swanson's Swales, Camp Grierson, the Stone Corral, and Fry Ruts. Each of these signs will cost approximately \$800-\$1,000. We are in the process of raising funds to pay for the signs. We have received donations from several chapter members and friends, but can always use more to ensure we have enough to cover the installation. We have our remaining tee shirts for sale, with all proceeds going towards the sign fund. We are also planning a sign fundraiser this fall, with details still to be determined.

Wet/Dry Routes

Great Bend, KS
Wilmer Wegele

Members of the Missouri River Outfitters (l.) and Douglas County Chapters (r.) received Awards of Merit for their work in organizing the 2017 SFTA Symposium. MRO Chapter committee members were Ross Marshall, Mary Conrad, Dick Nelson, Anne Mallinson, Sandy Slusher, John Atkinson, Rich Lawson, Wes Huskisson, and Craig Crease. Douglas County Chapter members were Linda Ballinger, Jan Boyd, Sara DeCaro, Diane Deitz, Marvin Jardon, Tom Kliet, John More, Nick Pumphrey, and John Richards.



Photos: Ruth Friesen

The August 6 meeting at the Santa Fe Trail Center featured a program on "Buffalo Soldiers" by Celeste Dixon. Rosetta Graff's resignation as vice-president was accepted. Dr. Stanley Hatesohl was elected to serve in that position. Plans for the marker commemorating Boyd's Rancho were presented and a committee appointed to complete the project. The marker will be dedicated during Rendezvous in September 2018. The October 29 meeting at the Rozel Community Center included lunch and program by Ellen Jones on "Mexican Culture on the Santa Fe Trail." Our chapter annual meeting will be at Kinsley on January 21, 2018. Guests are always welcome.

Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron

Dodge City, KS

President Bill Bunyan

Your president joined SFTA Manager Joanne VanCoevern and SFTA President Larry Justice at a meeting with the Spearville Recreational Commission about the Moritz Ruts, which are where a new ball diamond has been placed. These ruts are part of the pre-1850 dry trail from Larned. Signage may be developed in the future for this site.

The chapter is developing a new story board project for the Custer House at Fort Dodge. Dr. Leo Oliva has written the text. Photos of Major Henry Douglas and Isadore Douglas, along with early photos of the Custer House and the commanding officer's sod house where Isadore died, will be included.

Our fall meeting was in Cimarron on October 15, with a presentation by Dr. Oliva about the importance of the Cimarron area to the trail. After the talk, the new Cimarron County Club sign was dedicated.

Wagon Bed Spring

Lakin, KS

President Linda Peters

The Wagon Bed Springs Chapter met on July 10, at the Ranchito Tex Mex Restaurant in Hugoton, Kansas. Most of the 14 people attending enjoyed a Mexican meal before the business meeting. During the meeting, Linda Peters said she would volunteer to be the President unless someone else wanted the job. There being no other volunteers, she is now the President. Jim Groth is Treasurer and Marieta Hauser is Membership Chairman. Linda explained the reporting of volunteer hours, expenses and mileage, and asked that those totals be sent to her by September 1. After the constitutional amendments were discussed, a motion to approve was given, and all voted in favor of the amendments.

Following the meeting, Ed Dowell of Hugoton presented his collection of artifacts from around the Wagon Bed Springs area. He also showed a video of a flood in that area in the 90s. There were four couples from Elkhart in attendance, and they placed membership with us. The next meeting will be on October 9, hopefully at Wagon Bed Springs.

Cimarron Cutoff

Elkhart, KS

President Jay Williams

On August 15, Jay Williams and Leon Ellis met with Michelle Stevens of the US Forest Service and Mike Taylor of NPS

about promoting the trail on the Cimarron National Grasslands. The Forest Service will place signs along the trail there. We are working with the Forest Service making preparations to fly a drone over the trail and film it sometime in the spring. The chapter has received new signs from NPS to be installed at the Morton County Historical Museum and along the roadsides giving locations of where the Santa Fe Trail is.

Our next chapter meeting will be in Boise City on October 14 at the Cimarron Heritage Museum. We are planning to tour Wolf Mountain, Flag Spring, Camp Nichols, and possibly other locations.

Bent's Fort

Lamar, CO

President Pat Palmer

In August our chapter visited Trinidad and Stonewall and in October we toured historic sites along Highway 350. Future chapter events are:

November 11: Educational meeting, program: Goodnight Barn, December 9: 2018 planning meeting and 2021 SFTA Symposium planning committee meeting, and January 13, 2018: Bent's Fort Chapter annual meeting.

Corazon de los Caminos

Cimarron, NM

President Dennis Schneider

We have had the most rainfall in 25 years in our country this summer, and the countryside is beautiful and green. We had to cancel our August outdoor event due to rain and mud, and may reschedule this fall. In October we toured the CS ranch, and our annual fall business meeting will be in November with speaker Steve Zimmer.

End of the Trail

Santa Fe, NM

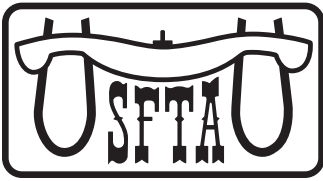
President Joy Poole

In June, members completed an architectural walking tour of the South Capitol Hill neighborhood otherwise known as the Don Gaspar Historic District. The neighborhood is bordered by the Old Santa Fe Trail and Galisteo. Spanish-Pueblo Revival architecture predominates throughout the neighborhood.

On September 23, we toured Fort Burgwin near Taos, which is operated by Southern Methodist University. We visited remnants of the restored fort as well as the old road between Fort Burgwin and Santa Fe, which is east of the current highway.

Our November 18 program will be at the Eldorado Community Center, presented by Julie Seton, a direct descendent of Ernest Thompson Seton, who was an author, wildlife artist, professional animal trapper, and early pioneer of the Boy Scouts of America. Her presentation will focus on her grandfather's work with wolves in the Clayton area.

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



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

EVENTS

November 11: CO. Bent's Fort Chapter meeting

November 12: Council Grove, KS. Kaw Mission, "Women Writers of the Santa Fe Trail"

November 18: Santa Fe, NM. End of the Trail Chapter meeting

December 9: CO. Bent's Fort Chapter meeting

January 10: *Wagon Tracks* submission deadline

January 13: CO. Bent's Fort Chapter meeting

January 21: Kinsley, KS. Wet/Dry Chapter meeting

April 19, 2018: Council Grove, KS. SFTA /NPS Workshop and SFTA board meeting

April 20-22, 2018: Council Grove, KS. Seth Fest in honor of Seth Hays

September 20-22, 2018: Larned, KS. SFTA Rendezvous

March 29-30, 2019: SFTA /NPS Workshop and SFTA board meeting

September 24, 2019: St. Louis, MO.

SFTA board meeting

September 25-28, 2019: St. Louis, MO. SFTA Symposium

September 24-26, 2020: Larned, KS. SFTA Rendezvous.

September 22-25, 2021: Bent's Old Fort, CO. SFTA Symposium

*For information on Fort activities: See https://www.nps.gov/nts/nts_trails.html
See also www.santafetrail.org for more details.*



Photo: Ruth Friesen

Leo Oliva alights from the stagecoach to make his appearance as Robert Morris Peck, who served with the military along the Santa Fe Trail.