

Wagon Tracks

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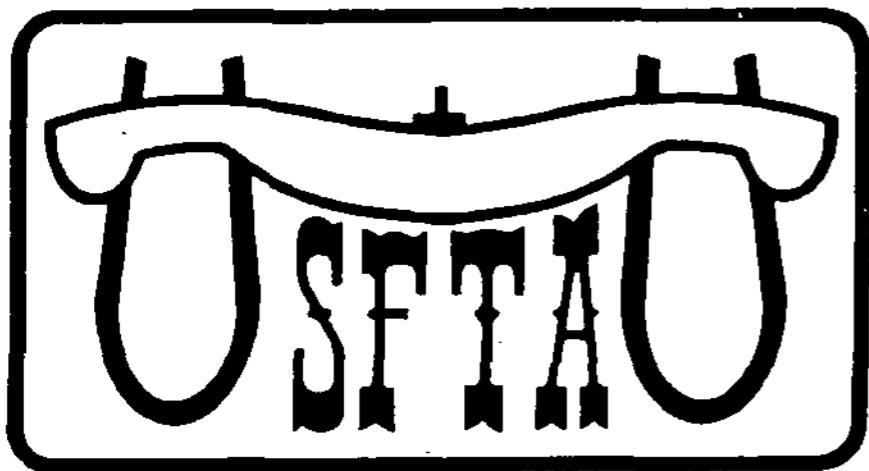


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WAGON TRACKS

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY

VOLUME 14

FEBRUARY 2000

NUMBER 2



NANCY LEWIS NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR

THE National Council of the Social Studies (NCSS), comprised of 27,000 educators from throughout the United States, recently presented SFTA Director Nancy Lewis, Blue Mills, MO, with their highest honor, Outstanding Secondary Social Studies Teacher of the Year. She received a trophy and \$2,500 at the 1999 annual conference in Orlando, FL.

The NCSS created the teacher of the year award to recognize exceptional K-12 teachers who successfully fulfill the mission of social studies: "helping young people to develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world."

Nancy, who holds degrees from the University of Missouri—Columbia and Webster University in St. Louis, has taught American history, world history, sociology, and Missouri history at Truman High School in Independence for nearly 30 years.

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February 2000

CLINT CHAMBERS NEW SFTA BOARD MEMBER

(Chambers, Lubbock, TX, was elected to complete the term of Jane Elder, Dallas, who resigned because of professional obligations. A brief biography follows. A photo was not available for this issue.)

CLINT Chambers was born and grew up in Chickasha, OK, where he graduated from high school. He graduated from Baylor University at Waco, TX, and from the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, Oklahoma City. After completing a rotating internship at Mercy Hospital, Oklahoma City, he served under the late Dr. Thomas A. Dooley on a volunteer medical team in Cambodia from 1960-1962.

In 1962 Dr. Chambers entered the Air Force and completed residencies in General Surgery and Colon and Rectal Surgery. His overseas assignments included Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand, and Germany. He was also stationed in Utah, Texas, Maryland, and Ohio. As an Air Force Colonel, he retired from active duty in 1984.

For the past 15 years Chambers has been in the private practice of surgery in Lubbock, TX. He has served as the President of the Lubbock County Medical Society, Sheriff of the Llano Estacado Corral of the Westerners, and at present is vice-president of the West Texas Historical Association and vice-president of the Texas Panhandle Chapter of SFTA. Welcome to the board Dr. Chambers.

BOARD TO MEET AT LARNED APRIL 8

THE SFTA governing board will meet at the Santa Fe Trail Center at Larned, April 8, 2000, to hear officer and committee reports and establish policies for the Association. Several committees will meet the previous day. All SFTA members are invited to attend.

MYSTERY WITH A TOUCH OF CLASS AT FORT UNION

by Alma Gregory

(Gregory is a member of Corazon de los Caminos Chapter and staff writer for the Hermit's Peak Gazette newspaper in Las Vegas, NM.)

GO easy," I told the guy running the Bobcat because we didn't know what might be under the dirt," Roger Portillo, Jr., said. Portillo said he is the maintenance supervisor at Fort Union, although Supt. Harry Myers calls him the foreman.

Fort Union National Monument is a key site on the Santa Fe Trail in northeastern New Mexico. Its ruins, museum, and bookstore are well worth a stop in your travels on I-25. Take exit 366 at Watrous and drive eight miles west and north on state highway 161. The phone number is (505) 425-8025. They are also on the Internet.

On October 25, 1999, Portillo's crew of nine were digging up an old dirt bridge across a small gully running from the corner of laundresses'

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New old steps discovered at Fort Union, with hospital in background (photo by Alma Gregory).

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

THE Board of Directors gathered in January to plan SFTA's direction for this term. This is important enough to be the centerpiece of this column, but how, pray tell, can I turn a phlegmatic, basic meeting into reportorial magic? Sam Arnold could achieve miracles by spouting seamen's ditties, emitting the familiar guttural "aargh" at the appropriate moment, but my poetic talents have been reduced to the first line only of Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven." Yet, you should be aware of that day's proceedings in its purity, sans the "aarghs." So, bear with me as we walk through the seven hours the board spent examining how well SFTA met the goals and objectives set in 1997, and the future that was charted.

Clearly, it is more gratifying to begin with completed goals, and there were several. First, we obtained nonprofit group status from the IRS following two plus years of our concentrated work, and purchased directors and officers insurance, an equally time-consuming process, last December. Our association structure was meticulously examined by a blue-ribbon task force, which opined that our structure is still appropriate to our needs, although the task force did suggest changes in the directors apportionment system.

Promoting SFTA and the Trail was achieved principally through Project Compadres (the Trail museums study), airing of public service announcements on radio stations in over 40 communities along the Trail, and the Travelers Credential incentive program, these being the primary objectives to expand promotion of SFTA. The two former projects are now in the follow-up phase.

A number of goals are moving steadily forward, but may be in progress for some time. The #1 goal set two years ago was to strengthen chapter relations. The board was in unanimous agreement that chapter visits by Sam, myself, and several directors were successes. Certainly, some serious discussions occurred at these meetings, and our hosts were the ultimate of graciousness and hospitality. For the future, the board decided that in addition to aiming for annual visits to each chapter, the

agendas set by the board visitors should be sharply focused. Scheduling a chapter workshop at Rendezvous also received much support. The breakfasts, held since 1996, have been most productive, but just when discussion at these events reached a high, the "bell rang," and "class was over!" A number of projects have been presented to the chapters for their consideration and possible action. Sam distributed copies to the board of the outstanding trail-dinner's guide he wrote for the chapters as fund-raisers. Fostering inter-chapter relations, another ongoing goal, has captured the interest of our western chapters who are planning a "West End" gathering this summer.

Mapping the Santa Fe Trail is also progressing, although the technical nature of the task may incline the general membership to wonder if anything is happening. The answer: Phil Petersen, Mapping Chair, reports that he is receiving completed mapping forms, and that most of the chapters are making progress. The very technical nature of the project may prompt us to explore new ways to support the project. Combining the Mapping and Markers committees is being actively explored to eliminate the overlapping nature of these committees. Also, although we are under a modified marking moratorium pending completion of mapping—that is to say, only *after* a given section is mapped, may markers be installed in that section—it may be necessary to motivate chapters to erect markers, and use the marker fund for this purpose.

It was unanimously agreed that our recent efforts in education being led by our Education Committee are a crowning achievement. Education workshops at recent Symposia and Rendezvous have drawn huge crowds. More teachers are designing Trail curricula and sharing with us their projects. Emporia State University will continue to offer a Trail course linked to our annual events. SFTA is a major player in the U.S. Department of Education's *Technology Innovation Challenge Grant*, whose theme is "life on the Santa Fe Trail." (Is SFTA membership really aware of the strides we are making in education?) And the list goes on.

Although we did not achieve our objective to increase membership by

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

Telephone: (888) 321-7341

FAX: (785) 425-6865

E-Mail: oliva@ruraltel.net

Headquarters of the Santa Fe Trail Association are located at the office of Secretary-Treasurer Ruth Olson Peters, Santa Fe Trail Center, RR 3, Larned KS 67550.

Telephone: (316) 285-2054

FAX: (316) 285-7491

E-Mail: trailassn@larned.net

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Membership Categories

Benefactor	\$1,000
Patron	\$100/year
Institutional	\$40/year
Business	\$40/year
Family	\$30/year
Individual	\$25/year
Youth (18 & under)	\$15/year

Editor: Leo E. Oliva, PO Box 31, Woodston KS 67675 (888) 321-7341, FAX (785) 425-6865

President: Margaret Sears, 1871 Candela, Santa Fe NM 87505 (505) 473-3124 or <margsears@roadrunner.com>

Vice-President: Samuel Arnold, 2221 S Fillmore St, Denver CO 80210 (303) 753-9161

Secretary-Treasurer: Ruth Olson Peters, Santa Fe Trail Center, RR 3, Larned KS 67550 (316) 285-2054, FAX (316) 285-7491

2001 Symposium Coordinator: Stephen Whitmore, 120 Gabaldon Rt, Las Vegas NM 87701 (505) 454-0683

Publicity Coordinator: Michael E. Pitel, PO Box 31386, Santa Fe NM 87504 (505) 982-2704

Directors:

Morris Alexander, Oklahoma

Helen Brown, Kansas

Anna Belle Cartwright, At-Large

Clint Chambers, At-Large

Faye Gaines, New Mexico

Mary Gamble, Colorado

Nancy Lewis, Missouri

Anne Mallinson, Missouri

Phil Petersen, Colorado

Mike Slater, Oklahoma

Joanne VanCoevern, Kansas

Stephen Whitmore, New Mexico

10 per cent in two years, there was no loss in 1999. Interpretation of this may be open to speculation. However, after all is said and done, we may not have been addressing the membership issue properly in the past, and a new tack may be necessary. If we are not asking the right questions, we will never get the answers we are seeking. SFTA continues to be haunted by chapter members who fail to join national. Some of the discussion raised serious issues for both chapters and national. Perhaps this is another issue which calls for different questions if we expect to resolve this conundrum.

Strengthening the partnership with National Park Service should be taking at least small steps with the appointment of Faye Gaines as our NPS Liaison Officer. NPS has improved the Challenge Cost Share Program process by informing chapters farther in advance of this program which provides funding for Trail preservation and improvement.

Two other goals: (1) conduct grants search, and (2) respond rapidly to problems, did not generate much discussion, possibly because our time had expired. As for the former, we received funding from NPS for Project Compadres, and to the latter, no one reported any complaints at any level that were not promptly addressed. The speculation was made that perhaps 12 goals for a two-year period was a tad ambitious.

The second planning retreat in SFTA's history is now behind us. My fear both this year and in 1997 was that people would have nothing to say, and we could head home before noon. This did not happen; instead, serious and meaningful discussion ensued. Few solutions resulted because that is not the purpose of strategic planning. Rather, it is the purpose of a board to set the course which motivates others to tackle the job and find solutions. Time will tell how well we do on that count. Now, aren't you glad you stayed with me until the end and the final "aargh" from Sam?

—Margaret Sears

**LEAVE YOUR LEGACY: PLAN
A BEQUEST TO THE SFTA**

INVITATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2005 SFTA SYMPOSIUM

THE next two biennial symposiums are scheduled: 2001 in Las Vegas, NM, and 2003 in the greater Kansas City area. Invitations to host the 2005 symposium are now requested. Chapters are encouraged to consider this.

The board of directors will receive invitations at its meeting during the September 2000 Rendezvous at Larned. Invitations should be in writing and include the following information: (1) name of the coordinator, (2) information about the facilities and services available in the community where the symposium will be held, (3) specific local Santa Fe Trail features and sites appropriate for a symposium program, and (4) related material to support the invitation.

Since 1986 symposiums have been held in five Trail states. There are significantly important locales that have not yet hosted a symposium, as well as those that have who should consider a return "visit." If you are interested, please contact President Margaret Sears, 1871 Candela, Santa Fe NM 87505, phone (505) 473-3124, or e-mail <margsears@cybermesa.com>.

SFTA COMMITTEES

PRESIDENT Margaret Sears announced the following appointments to standing and ad hoc committees, and there are still a few slots to fill. A total of 16 committees and special appointees serve the Association's various programs. Personnel is a mixture of new and retainees from the last term. Yet to be appointed is a nominating committee. Committee work is well underway. Should you wish to contact any of those listed, please write the respective chair. Addresses and some telephone numbers may be found in the SFTA 1999 Membership Roster. There are still openings on most committees, thus if you wish to serve notify President Sears.

Awards Committee: Harry Myers, chair, Leo Oliva, Mike Slater

Budget Committee: Ruth Olson Peters, chair, Stephen Whitmore, Margaret Sears, ex officio

Education Committee: Nancy Lewis, chair, Christine Day, Marcia Fox, Karla French, Janice Klein, Pam Najdowski, Joanne VanCoevern

Executive Committee: Margaret Sears, chair, Morris Alexander, Sam Arnold, Helen Brown, Nancy Lewis, Ruth Olson Peters, ex officio

Rendezvous 2000 Committee: Ruth Olson Peters, coordinator, Helen Brown, Andrea Chynoweth, Alice Clapsaddle

Mapping Committee: Phil Petersen, chair, appointments are made by each chapter and have not been confirmed at this time

Marker Committee: John Schumacher, chair, Mary Gamble, Anne Mallinson, Nancy Robertson, Roger Slusher

Membership Committee: George Bayless, Glenn Busset, Virginia Fisher

Publications Committee: Jesse Scott, chair, Clint Chambers, Pat Heath, Agnesa Reeve

Website Committee: Dave Webb, webmaster, Anne Mallison, coordinator, Mike Olsen, editor

Headquarters Task Force: Joanne VanCoevern, chair, Richard Dryden, Bonita Oliva, Ruth Olson Peters, Margaret Sears, ex officio

Chapters Boundaries Ad Hoc Committee: Carl Damonte, Jeff Trotman

Special Appointees

Bylaws: Jane Mallinson

NPS Liaison: Faye Gaines

Partnership for National Trails System: Ross Marshall

Project Compadres: Anna Belle Cartwright

Speakers Bureau: Rusti Gardner

SFTA WEBSITE IN NEW HANDS

THE recent resignation of Jane Elder from the board of directors and as webmaster for the SFTA web page has resulted in new appointments. The web page, <www.santafetrail.org>, will be handled by former board member Dave Webb, who serves as webmaster (make your own pun); current board member Anne Mallinson, who is web coordinator; and former SFTA vice-president Mike Olsen, who becomes the web-page editor. This team effort places this project in good hands.

All material and suggestions for the web page should be submitted to Anne Mallinson, 964 NW 600, Centerview MO 64019, (816) 230-7228, <sftamro@aol.com>. She is looking forward to updating the content of SFTA's website, so any contribution you can make at this time is appreciated. She will review it and forward it to Mike Olsen for editing, and he will forward it to webmaster Dave Webb to post on the web page.

SFTA BYLAWS REVISION

JANE Mallinson has been appointed to conduct an evaluation of SFTA's bylaws and recommend revisions to the board and membership. Some revisions have been recommended by the organizational task force, and others are invited. Suggestions for changes will be considered in the final report to the board.

Jane would appreciate hearing your comments. She says, "We are all busy, but it takes combined efforts to build and maintain a strong organization for the preservation of the Trail and its historical legacy. Thank you for your time and attention to this." Send suggestions to Jane Mallinson, PO Box 8604, Sugar Creek MO 64054, phone (816) 461-2454; fax (816) 833-1071.

SPEAKERS BUREAU GRANTS

SFTA chapters are hereby reminded that the Association awards grants for visiting speakers at chapter events. If you wish to apply for a grant in the year 2000, please refer to the *Speakers Bureau Guidelines* and attached application sent to all chapters last year. Reimbursement to cover travel expenses is available for a maximum of \$250 for a single event. If you have misplaced the guidelines or have questions, contact Rusti Gardner, Speakers Bureau Administrator, 801 Vernon Dr, Larned KS 67550, (316) 285-3433, <jaxrus@larned.net>.

TRAIL BICYCLE TREK TO BE BIENNIAL EVENT

by Willard Chilcott

AFTER 10 successful years, the Santa Fe Trail Bicycle Trek will change from an annual event to a biennial trip. Hence, the next trip will be in 2001, leaving Santa Fe on Sunday, September 9, and arriving in New Franklin, Missouri, on Friday, September 28. All other features of the trip will remain the same, though the fee may change if costs increase.

The maximum number of riders will remain at 50. An application form and deposit for this trip should be submitted before the end of February 2001. Anyone wanting more information or an application form, please contact Willard Chilcott (505) 982-1282 or <Chilcott1@aol.com>.

FORT LARNED OLD GUARD MEETING APRIL 29

THE annual meeting of the Fort Larned Old Guard, on April 29, will be held at Fort Larned NHS and the site of the Cheyenne and Sioux village captured and destroyed by the Hancock Expedition in 1867. There will be living-history demonstrations at the fort during the morning, a program by Indian reenactors at the Indian encampment at the village site during the afternoon, and an evening of activities back at the fort (including flag-lowering ceremony, dinner accompanied by music furnished by SFTA board member Anne Mallinson, a brief presentation on some humorous aspects of the Indian wars by Old Guard Chairman Leo Oliva, and a fund-raising auction).

The Old Guard is purchasing the land where the village site is located to make certain it is protected and preserved. In time the site will be donated to the NPS and attached to Fort Larned NHS. In addition to giving visitors an opportunity to view the site with a number of tipis and reenactors presenting the life of the Plains Indians, the activities (especially the auction) will help raise money to make the final payment for the land in June. Items for the auction will include books, Indian and military items, prints, and other things relating to the history of the era.

Those visiting the fort will need to pay the NPS entrance fee. There is no charge for events at the village site. Reservations are required for the evening dinner (a sumptuous buffet, all you can eat), \$15 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. To make reservations, call (316) 285-6911 before April 20.

WET/DRY SEMINAR JUNE 10 AT LARNED

THE 4th annual Wet/Dry Routes Chapter seminar will be at the Santa Fe Trail Center at Larned, on June 10. The program is "Specks of Civilization: U.S. Military Posts in Pre-Territorial Kansas." The stories of Forts Leavenworth, Scott, and Riley will be examined with a view of the relationship of each to the Santa Fe Trail. A schedule and registration information is included as an insert in this issue.

RENDEZVOUS 2000 SEPTEMBER 21-23

RENDEZVOUS 2000 is scheduled for September 21-23 at Larned. The theme will be nature and the Trail. Hosted by the Santa Fe Trail Center, Fort Larned National Historic Site, and the Santa Fe Trail Association, this year's program will look at how various cultures viewed natural science, such as weather, astronomy, plants, and wildlife. More information will appear in the next issue, and a detailed program and registration form will be sent to all SFTA members during the summer. Make plans now to attend.

COLLEGE CREDIT AVAILABLE FOR TRAIL STUDY

THE college-credit class offered by Dr. Joyce Thierer through Emporia State University last fall in connection with the symposium was so successful that Dr. Thierer will be offering two classes on the Trail in 2000. These are especially designed for teachers needing credit for recertification and wanting information they can use in the classroom.

For more information, contact Dr. Thierer, Department of Social Sciences, Emporia State University, Emporia KS 66801, (316) 341-5533 or <thiererj@emporia.edu>.

JOINT CHAPTER MEETING JULY 15-16 AT CLAYTON

by Sue Richardson

THE Cimarron Cutoff Chapter is organizing a joint meeting of the six western chapters of the SFTA on Saturday, July 15, and Sunday, July 16, 2000, in Clayton, NM. Tentative plans include a Saturday tour of Rabbit Ears Creek Campground (near Mount Dora) and the Round Mound area; cocktails and dinner Saturday evening at the old Eklund Hotel, with possible entertainment after dinner; a joint chapter meeting Sunday morning, followed by lunch at the Hi Ho Café Dining Room; and a Sunday afternoon tour of the Turkey Creek and McNeese Crossing sites. The guest chapters are Bent's Fort, Wagon Bed Spring, Corazon de Los Caminos, Texas Panhandle, and End of the Trail. Other SFTA members are welcome.

This will be an excellent oppor-

tunity to get to know each other better, to find out what other chapters are doing, and to exchange information and ideas. There are many outstanding Trail sites to visit with a tour guide. The dates are firm and details will be announced later. For more information, contact Sue Richardson, PO Box 366, Clayton NM 88415, (505) 374-9508.

TEXAS EL CAMINO REAL CONFERENCE, APRIL 7-8

THE Texas State Historical Association will sponsor a two-day conference about the Texas El Camino Real—the King's Highway—on the campus of Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos beginning the afternoon of Friday, April 7, and concluding Saturday afternoon, April 8. The gathering will feature highly regarded specialists from Coahuila, Texas, and Louisiana who will identify those archeological, historical, cultural, and scenic features along the trail that can be more effectively packaged for presentation to the touring public.

Cosponsors include the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Commission on Economic Development, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and the Texas Historical Commission. Funding is provided by the Summerlee Foundation, the Texas Council for the Humanities—an agency of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Lower Colorado River Authority.

This historic entryway was never a single route but consisted of numerous trails that shifted with the seasons and with the passage of time. From the 1690s through Republic of Texas days, it was the heart-beat of life from Saltillo in northern Coahuila to Nachitoches in northwestern Louisiana.

The conference is especially timely since Congress is now considering designating El Camino Real as a national historic trail. The goal is to revive the ancient routes in contemporary memory. The sessions will feature overviews of the trail's archeological and historical significance, followed by presentations on its Spanish missions, natural history, and folklore. The final phase will be devoted to the practical application of certain successful case studies to the potential development of

El Camino Real. *WT* editor Leo Oliva will review the founding and organization of SFTA as an example of a trail organization. A Camino Real society is projected.

These sessions will be of particular interest to volunteers who staff tourist information centers, convention and visitor bureau personnel, managers of Main Street Projects, sponsors of Junior Historian chapters, and landowners along the trail. The \$35 registration fee includes the Friday dinner and Saturday lunch. For further information and registration materials, contact the website at <www.History.swt.edu/CaminoReal2000>, or John Powell, Director of Continuing Education, Southwest Texas State University, 601 University Dr, San Marcos TX 78666.

CORONADO CONFERENCE APRIL 14-18, 2000

by Richard & Shirley Flint

(The Flints, New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, are coordinating the conference.)

THE Coronado Conference, April 14-18, 2000, is titled "Contemporary Vantage on the Coronado Expedition through Documents and Artifacts." The most important vantage on the actions and attitudes of both the Coronado expedition and its wary and often unwilling "hosts" has been provided by the rich documentary record generated by and resulting from the expedition. In recent years documentary sources have been increasingly augmented by archeological evidence. The discovery in the late 1980s of a portion of a campsite of the Coronado expedition near Bernalillo, New Mexico, and the identification during the 1990s of a second campsite in Blanco Canyon, Floyd County, Texas, have significantly increased our knowledge of the expedition. Likewise, the location and analysis of hitherto unstudied documents and reanalysis of previously known documents continue to modify our understanding of this pivotal event in the history of the Southwest.

The most recent major conference on the Coronado expedition was held at New Mexico Highlands University in August 1992. Knowledge about the expedition has grown substan-

tially in the last eight years. It is time again to present to the public in a comprehensive and coordinated way what has been learned since 1992. To that end, 20 historians, archeologists, geographers, and linguists from around the country will present the results of their recent and ongoing research on the Coronado expedition. The conference will be held at two venues: New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, NM; and the Plains Baptist Assembly, Floydada, TX.

The conference sponsors, New Mexico Highlands University and the Floyd County Historical Museum, invite you to attend. It is designed for scholars and the general public interested in the expedition.

Funding of the conference has been provided by New Mexico Highlands University, the Floyd County Historical Museum, the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities, the First National Bank of Floydada, and the Texas Humanities Council. The schedule of conference events is printed below; and a registration form is enclosed with this issue of *Wagon Tracks*. Pre-registration is required and is on a first-come basis. Early registration is strongly suggested, as a capacity crowd is expected.

April 14

7:00 PM (Hillcrest Restaurant, Las Vegas), Welcoming dinner with keynote address

April 15

8:30 AM - Noon (Sala de Madrid, NMHU, Las Vegas)

Michel Nallino (Nice, France): "Fray Marcos de Niza: Pursuit of Franciscan Utopia in the Americas"

Dr William K. Hartmann (Planetary Science Institute, Tucson, AZ) and Michel Nallino: "A Supposed Franciscan Exploration of Arizona in 1538: The Origins of a Myth"

Dr. William K. Hartmann and Dr. Richard Flint (New Mexico Highlands University): "Who Knew What and When Did They Know It?"

1:30 PM - 5:00 PM (Sala de Madrid, NMHU, Las Vegas)

Dr. Maureen Ahern (Ohio State University): "Llevando el norte sobre el ojo izquierdo: Mapping, Measuring, and Naming in Castaneda's *Relacion de la Jornada de Cibola*"

Shirley Cushing Flint (New Mexico Highlands University): "The Financing and Provisioning of the Coronado Expe-

dition"

Dr. W. Michael Mathes (Colegio de Jalisco): "New Research in Mexico Regarding Francisco Vazquez de Coronado"

Dr. Richard Flint: "New Information from Old Documents: A Case in Point, the Coronado Expedition Muster Roll"

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM (Douglas Hall, NMHU, Las Vegas)

Floyd Solomon (Laguna Pueblo, NM): "The Conquest in Copperpoint Images"

Floyd Solomon's copperpoint prints will be on display throughout the conference at Burris Hall. Also on display throughout the conference at Sala de Madrid will be an original document from the Coronado expedition and Spanish colonial artifacts of the mid-sixteenth century.

April 16

8:30 AM - Noon (Sala de Madrid, NMHU, Las Vegas)

Enrique Porrua (Texas Tech University): "The Hojas de Servicio: Written Testimonies of the Conquistadors' Dreams"

Felix Barboza Retana (Texas Tech University Museum): "Two Conquests, Two Discoveries, and Two Vazquez de Coronado"

Harry C. Myers (Fort Union National Monument, NM): "The Mystery of the Buffalo Plains: Coronado's Route from the Pecos River to the Llano Estacado"

Followed by Travel to Floyd County, Texas, with Interpretive Stops

April 17

8:30 AM - Noon (Conference Center, Plains Baptist Assembly)

John H. Madsen (Arizona State Museum): "Spanish Artifacts, a Trail, and a Diary: An Eighteenth-Century Trail from Sonora to Zuni, New Mexico"

Dr. Bill Hartmann and Betty Graham Lee (Thatcher, AZ): "Chichilticale: A Survey of Candidate Ruins in and about the Sulfur Springs Valley, Southeastern Arizona"

Dr. Ann Ramenofsky (University of New Mexico): "Jars Full of Shiny Metal"

Dee Brecheisen (Peralta, NM): "Looking at a Horseshoe"

1:30 PM - 5:00 PM (Conference Center, Plains Baptist Assembly)

Dr. Nancy Hickerson (Texas Tech University): "War and Peace in the South Plains during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries"

Dr. Carroll L. Riley (Southern Illinois University), Dr. Jack T. Hughes (West Texas A&M University), Dr. Judith Habicht-Mauche (University of Cali-

fornia, Santa Cruz), Dr. Nancy Hickerson, Dr. Donald J. Blakeslee (Wichita State University): Panel Discussion, "Bison Hunters of the Llano in 1541, Their Identity and Territory"

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (Dining Room, Plains Baptist Assembly)

Dinner and keynote: Dr. John Miller Morris (University of Texas, San Antonio)

April 18

8:30 AM - Noon (Conference Center, Plains Baptist Assembly)

Frank Gagne (Wichita State University): "Spanish Crossbow Boltheads of Sixteenth Century North America: A Comparative Analysis"

Dr. Donald Blakeslee: "The Jimmy Owens Site, 1541 Campsite of the Coronado Expedition"

Followed by tour of the Jimmy Owens Site and the Floyd County Historical Museum.

SIGN FOUND IN NEW JERSEY

ANOTHER of the oval signs designed by Irvin Shope and placed on schools along the Trail in 1948 has been reported in New Jersey. A query from Sue (no last name given) via e-mail described the metal marker, requested information about it, and asked how it wound up in New Jersey. She wrote: "I believe the sign was found in the basement of a house in Hopatcong, NJ, a friend bought about 20 years ago. It remained there until about five years ago, when the house was sold, and during the clean out of the house the owner was going to throw it away. Another friend kept the thing in a junk pile in her garage for about another year, and she too threatened to throw it away. The sign has been hanging in my kitchen ever since. I love it! Besides about ten marks that appear to be from bullets, which just add to the character, and a few surface scratches, it is still in pretty good shape, still white, not yellow at all."

Sue explained that Hopatcong was "a large summer resort in the early nineteen hundreds through the mid fifties. Many rich and famous people owned houses and vacationed here during the summer months. It is located on the largest lake in New Jersey, about 30 miles west of New York. There were many speak-easy restaurants, casinos, boat tours, many, many luxurious hotels. Could

it be possible that Shope may have vacationed here? Learning about our country's history, and heritage is a wonderful thing. Where was Irvin Shope from, and when was he born?"

If anyone can answer Sue's questions, please e-mail her at <lolatehdog@webtv.net>, with a copy to WT at <oliva@ruraltel.net>. Also, if anyone knows of other unreported Shope signs, please send that information to WT.

FAYE ANDERSON AWARD TO HOWARD LOSEY

by Alice A. Clapsaddle

(Alice Clapsaddle, Larned, is chairman of the Faye Anderson Award Committee of the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter.)

WET/DRY Routes Chapter President Howard Losey of Maize, KS, formerly of Garfield, was awarded the Faye Anderson Award of the chapter at their winter meeting January 16, 2000, in Kinsley, KS. In addition to officer duties (he was vice-president of the chapter), Losey is editor of *TRACES*, the chapter newsletter published quarterly, and was a contributing member of the team that researched the data for the chapter publication, *A Directory of Santa Fe Trail Sites*. The award was presented by Anderson's daughter Joan Forrest of Larned, KS.

The Faye Anderson Award is given annually by the chapter in recognition of some person/s or organization that has made a significant contribution to the interpretation and/or preservation of the Santa Fe Trail.

The committee, consisting of a representative from each of Ford, Edwards, and Pawnee counties and two at-large positions, thanks all those who submitted nominations for the award. Nominations for 2001 may be submitted to the committee beginning in June with the deadline being October 1, 2000.

NANCY LEWIS

(continued from page 1)

Her excellence in teaching has earned many awards, including High School Teacher of the Year from the Missouri Council for the Social Studies, Missouri Outstanding Teacher of American History Award

from the Missouri Daughters of the American Revolution, and two "Eddy" Awards given by the State of Missouri to outstanding educators.

She is noted for her ability to spark students' interest by using local history as a link to American history. Utilizing Independence's unique location as home of the Truman Library and starting point for the Oregon and Santa Fe trails, Nancy helps history come alive through class trips and innovative assignments. Her students have created an Oregon Trail HyperCard program, a Santa Fe Trail videotape, and their own "Book About Missouri." Nancy is especially recognized for teaching about historical contributions of women and minority groups. She helped create a documentary video, *Petticoat Pioneers*, which describes pioneer women's contributions to history. Lewis also teaches summer school, adult education classes, and is a speaker for the Missouri Humanities Council. She currently serves as chair of SFTA education committee. Congratulations Nancy!

EAGLE SCOUT MARKER PROJECT COMPLETED

by David Clapsaddle

THREE additional Trail markers, planned by the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter, have been placed thanks to an Eagle Scout project. Nick Niemeyer, Troop 121, Larned, KS, recently completed the project, inseting the bronze plaques on limestone posts and installing the markers. All of the markers are located on the original Dry Route: (1) Near Offerle, Site E8 in *A Directory of Santa Fe Trail Sites*, (2) near Bellefont, Site E9, and (3) near Spearville, Site 10.

Thanks are extended to Nick and his scoutmaster, Tom Walters, and to Mildred Yeager, Larry Mix, and David Clapsaddle, chapter members who assisted in the project. Not to be overlooked are the property owners Rean Stegman, Diana McKee, and Gaylord Moritz. These three markers bring the total number placed by the chapter to 105. Approximately \$10,000, plus in-kind expenditures of equipment, materials, labor, and transportation, have been devoted to the project. Chapter members can take great pride in this endeavor.



This photo, looking northwest, shows the old flagstone trail between the hospital and main garrison (in background) and dirt bridge at the right, with the new walking trail at the left (photo by Roger Portillo, Jr.).

MYSTERY AT FORT UNION

(continued from page 1)

row to the hospital. When the Bobcat shovel clinked against stone, they stopped and began digging more carefully. What they uncovered was a well-laid flagstone path with two stone steps at each end connecting the depression to the old flagstone path on top of the ground.

"The steps seem to add a touch of class," Myers said. "We figure it was built probably in 1868 or '69 at the earliest. The hospital was finished in 1866-67."

The flagstone was quarried from a mountain south of the fort. The trail would have been the enlisted men's path that troopers used, Myers said, because there is a swale indicating a former trail from the corner of officers' row over to the hospital.

"The officers - surgeons were officers - probably drove a carriage to the hospital. The hospital had stables and a number of other outbuildings," Myers said.

Fort Union has received a grant in the form of "spill-over" money from the National Park fee program. While Fort Union charges a very small entrance fee, Grand Canyon charges \$25 now. Eighty percent of the fees go to the park where collected, and 20 percent go into a na-

tional pot.

Fort Union applied for and received funds to build new pathways around the fort, both for safety reasons, because the old flagstone is uneven to walk on, and to preserve the historic walkways.

Portillo said they first considered tearing up the old flagstone and repairing it, but decided they might do more damage that way, so decided to just build new parallel trails.

"The dirt bridge was put in by the park service, which took over here in 1954," Myers said. "What we don't know is why. What was the alignment of the trails? We know the swales are defined accurately because of the erosion. What was this trail originally used for? Why was it abandoned? It tells us something about how the roads were used here, but we may never know the full answer."

Portillo came to Fort Union from the Grand Canyon where he was in charge of the Log Cabin Syrup pilot project restoring the North Rim gatekeeper's cabin. He said there is one old Fort Union plat that mentions building flagstone trails, but not this particular one.

"This proves again that history is not dead," Myers said. "There are things still to be uncovered, literally and figuratively."

DICK CURTIS, ALL BUT FORGOTTEN

by David Clapsaddle

(SFTA Ambassador Clapsaddle, program director for the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter, is a frequent contributor to WT.)

ASSOCIATED with the celebrated Hancock Expedition over a portion of the Santa Fe Trail in 1867 were a number of army notables who had made their mark in the Civil War. Chief among these personalities was, of course, Major General Winfield Scott Hancock, hero of Gettysburg. Assigned to Hancock's command were George Armstrong Custer, Alfred Gibbs, Andrew Jackson Smith, and John W. Davidson, each of whom had been brevetted to the rank of major general for meritorious service during the war.

Two civilians, frontier figures who had also served the Union during the war, accompanied the expedition: James Butler Hickok, scout, and Edward W. Wynkoop, Indian Agent.¹ Another civilian of some note was Edmond Guerrier, the half-breed son of William Guerrier, a Bent associate, and the husband of William Bent's youngest daughter, Julia. Were it not for Guerrier, another interpreter associated with the expedition might well have escaped notice. During a 1916 interview, Guerrier recalled, "Dick Curtis the interpreter was there." Guerrier's brief reference was to Theodore Richard Curtis, commonly known as Dick.²

Biographical information with regard to Curtis is scant. His name first appears in connection with trading activities on the North Platte in 1847. There Curtis took a Lakota wife known among the whites as Winty. By her own deposition, she was the sister of Red Cloud, the renowned Oglala chief. In subsequent years, according to historian Larry Skogen, "She and their children shared T. R.'s peripatetic life." Moving from the North Platte to the Arkansas, Curtis was engaged in several pursuits. In 1855 he was appointed interpreter for the Kiowas with the Upper Arkansas Agency; and in 1863 he and Frank Cole purchased a trading ranch at the great bend of the Arkansas near present Ellinwood, Kansas, from William "Buffalo Bill" Mathewson.³ Cole was left with the management of the

ranch as Curtis was in residence at Fort Larned maintaining his employment as interpreter. In 1864 the Curtis/Cole ranch came to a climactic close on May 17. Cheyennes, seeking retaliation for the unprovoked killing of Chief Lean Bear on the previous day northwest of Fort Larned by Colorado Volunteers commanded by Lieutenant George S. Eayre, arrived at the ranch. There they took four mules, nine horses, and a jackass. The warriors made it known to Cole that they intended to return and kill all white men in the area. Taking the Cheyennes at their word, Cole loaded all the merchandise he could carry in a single wagon and hurried eastward to the safety of the Cow Creek ranch operated by William Mathewson. Mathewson's arsenal included a cannon, and his ranch was reinforced by a number of employees. As promised, the Cheyennes returned to the Curtis/Cole ranch, looting the abandoned store and damaging the buildings and corrals.⁴

Subsequent to the demise of the ranch, Curtis continued to serve as interpreter at Fort Larned, but data with respect to his activities beyond 1864 are limited. In July 1865 Curtis filed a claim in accordance with the Indian Depredation Act for losses to the Kiowas. In the autumn of 1865 Curtis served as chief scout for General William T. Sherman and the Peace Commission that negotiated the Treaty of the Little Arkansas with the Kiowas, Comanches, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, and Plains Apaches in October. In 1867 he received a partial allowance for claims he made on behalf of himself and deceased partner Frank Cole resulting from the 1864 raids on their ranch at the big bend.⁵ Theodore Davis, illustrator and journalist with the Hancock Expedition, published a sketch of Curtis and Wynkoop posed in hunting attire in the May 11, 1867, *Harper's Weekly*. There is Guerrier's statement of his participation in the 1867 expedition. Louise Barry places him still at Fort Larned in 1868.⁶ Evidently, in the same year, he served a brief stint as interpreter at Fort Lyon before moving to Camp Supply. At Camp Supply Curtis interviewed the Cheyenne prisoners

captured by Custer's troops at the Washita on November 27, 1868. He remained at Camp Supply as chief interpreter and was engaged in business with James Richmond. He died at Camp Supply in 1876.⁷

Following Curtis's death, Winty and the children moved near Darlington, Indian Territory. By 1889 the family had become destitute, and Winty sought the assistance of John D. Miles, former Cheyenne/Arapaho Indian Agent, in gaining some settlement for Indian depredation claims filed by her husband. Curtis had filed over the years four such claims: two in conjunction with Frank Cole, one in conjunction with James Richmond, and one in his own behalf. Finally, in 1915, the year before Guerrier recalled his participation in the Hancock Expedition; Winty was awarded \$1,445 to settle the claim Curtis had filed against the Kiowas in 1865. Even then the monies were not granted until 1917. How ironic that Curtis's wife, an American Indian, did after 52 years receive such a settlement by means of a law intended to compensate white victims.⁸

NOTES

1. Francis B. Heitman, *Historical Register and Dictionary of The United States Army* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1903), 348, 355, 452-453, 894; Robert M. Utley (ed.), *Life in Custer's Cavalry: Diaries and Letters of Albert and Jennie Barritz, 1867-1868* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1977), 255-256, 259, 260, 262-263, 276-277, 282; William E. Connelley, "Wild Bill-James Butler Hickok," *Kansas Historical Collections*, 17 (1926-1928): 26; David Lavender, *Bent's Fort* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1954), 349.
2. Hancock Guerrier interview, October 24, 1916, Camp Mss. Field Notes, Walter Mason Camp Unclassified, Envelope 3, Camp Mss. Transcripts, Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.
3. Larry C. Skogen, *Indian Depredation Claims, 1706-1920* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1996), 119, 239n71.
4. Louise Barry, "The Ranch At The Great Bend," *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, 39 (Spring 1973): 96-100; Louise Barry, "The Ranch At Cow Creek Crossing (Beach Valley P.O.)," *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, 38 (Winter 1972): 432-433.
5. Skogen, *Indian Depredation Claims*, 118.
6. Barry, "The Ranch At The Great Bend," 97-99.
7. Skogen, *Indian Depredation Claims*, 119.
8. *Ibid.*, 118-119.

ALPHONSO WETMORE LETTERS

edited with an introduction by Leo E. Oliva

(SFTA Ambassador Les Vilda obtained the following two letters by Alphonso Wetmore from David Maron at Fort Atkinson, Nebraska. The letters were on a reel of microfilm from the National Archives prepared for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission in 1965 from Record Group 92, Adjutant General's Office, Selected Documents. So far as is known these letters have not been published until now. Thanks to Maron and Vilda for making these available.)

ALPHONSO Wetmore is best known to students of Santa Fe Trail history for two things: a letter written to Congressman John Scott from Missouri in 1824 in support of legislation for a government survey of the Trail and the diary he kept of the 1828 caravan trip to Santa Fe, of which Wetmore served as captain. As a resident of Franklin, Missouri, 1819-1833, he was in contact with many people associated with the Santa Fe trade.

There was much more to Wetmore, as Jami Parkison pointed out in "Alphonso Wetmore: Trail Diarist and Frontier Humorist," *Wagon Tracks*, 11 (November 1996): 20-22. Wetmore composed the first play written and produced west of the Mississippi River, *The Pedlar* (1821). Wetmore wrote with humor and, sometimes, irony, as seen in one of the letters below.

Alphonso was born in Winchester, Connecticut, in 1793. With the onset of the War of 1812 he joined the army infantry at the rank of ensign, and during a disastrous invasion of Canada lost his right arm. He remained in the army after the war as a paymaster, attained the rank of captain, and in 1819 accompanied Major Stephen Long on the "Yellowstone Expedition." He was stationed at Franklin, Missouri, from 1819 to 1833, as army paymaster and attained the rank of major.

He experienced some of the drama of frontier life. Once, while en route to a post with a \$12,000 payroll, Wetmore's canoe capsized during a storm on the Missouri River. He was able to swim ashore, but the money was lost. For this the government docked his salary. In an 1836 memorial for compensation, he described

the incident: "Thus, then, was your petitioner put afloat on the mad waters of the Missouri, with a *drunken* clerk as *steersman*, and three *disabled discharged* soldiers, and a *sick* passenger . . . [resulting in] cutting off from an invalid officer, the pittance of THIRTEEN dollars per month, his only means of support, given by his country as an *equivalent for the loss of his right arm!*" His widow Mary, whom Wetmore had married in 1813, was denied continuance of the \$13.00 pension in 1851.

Undoubtedly Wetmore, living in Franklin, was caught up with the enthusiasm and optimism of the opening days of the Trail. His 1824 letter to John Scott, written before Wetmore had traveled over the Trail and published several times, described William Becknell's 1821 initial trip to Santa Fe, the 1822 Becknell and Benjamin Cooper trips, an 1823 pack-train trip, and the 1824 caravan. He also outlined a plan for marking the Trail and suggested means of pacifying Indians and promoting trade with Mexico.

In 1828 Wetmore traveled to Santa Fe as captan of the trade caravan and kept a diary mentioning most of the landmarks on the route. That diary was published by the government and was reprinted in 1960, making it available to students of the Trail.

Wetmore was an entrepreneur as well as a paymaster and became a man of wealth, owning a flour mill, cooper's shop, and distillery in Franklin. He was a trustee of Franklin Academy. It is not known how the floods that eventually destroyed Franklin affected his business. He wrote for the *Missouri Intelligencer*.

In 1833 Wetmore moved to St. Louis, became a lawyer, and continued to write. He produced a gazetter of Missouri in 1837 and established a literary magazine the same year. He became interested in Oregon and California and made one trip to California. Wetmore died at St. Louis during the 1849 cholera epidemic.

The following letters contain information about the Santa Fe Trail. The first, written to Major James H. Hook in 1824 (where Hook was lo-

cated at that time was not determined), contains other information that is not entirely clear. David Maron, who found these letters, speculates that the first portion of the letter relates to subscriptions for newspapers and periodicals ordered by the post council of administration at Fort Atkinson, Nebraska. They apparently had given Wetmore \$100 when he was at the fort to deliver to Major Hook to complete the transaction. Maron believes the "enclosed 'half a loaf'" refers to a bank draft torn in two so it could not be used if stolen, and the other half was sent in a separate envelope. Some of the mutual acquaintances mentioned have not been identified.

Fort Atkinson was established on the west side of the Missouri River north of present Omaha in 1819, as a result of the "Yellowstone Expedition," which Wetmore accompanied. Built initially in the river bottom and called Camp and Cantonment Missouri, it was moved two miles south to the top of a bluff and called Cantonment Council Bluffs in 1820. The name was changed to Fort Atkinson in 1821, to honor General Henry Atkinson. The post was abandoned in 1827 when Fort Leavenworth was established.

Major Hook joined the army as an ensign during the War of 1812 and was promoted to captain in 1813. He was assigned to the Fourth Infantry after the war and was promoted to brevet major in 1823 for ten years service in one grade. By 1824 he and Wetmore were obvious friends. In 1829 Hook was appointed major in the commissary department. He was probably stationed at Washington, D.C., when Wetmore wrote to him in that year with information about Captain Bennet Riley's first military escort on the Trail.

Of special interest in the 1824 letter are references to the planned visit of the governor of New Mexico to Fort Atkinson and Wetmore's disparaging description of those engaged in the trade to Santa Fe. Actually New Mexico Governor Bartolome Baca did not make the trip to Fort Atkinson in 1824. He sent 26 delegates who, with assistance from the officers at the fort and the Indian

agent for the area, arranged a peace treaty with the Pawnee Indians. The Pawnees and New Mexicans had been enemies since 1720 when the Pawnees attacked the expedition of Pedro de Villasur and killed most of the command. The 1824 delegation departed from Fort Atkinson in early September to return to Santa Fe. They may have followed a portion of the Santa Fe Trail.

Wetmore's descriptions of the traders preparing to head for Santa Fe in 1824 gave a different view of those pioneers than is generally presented in the literature. The caravan which left Franklin May 16 included 83 men, 156 horses and mules, two wagons, some 20 carriages and carts, and the small cannon described by Wetmore. Alexander Le Grand was caravan captain. Other merchants who went in 1824 included Meredith M. Marmaduke (see "Meredith Miles Marmaduke's Journal of a Tour to New Mexico, 1824-1825," edited by Harry C. Myers, *Wagon Tracks*, 12 [November 1997]: 8-16), Augustus Storrs, Paul Anderson, Thomas L. Smith, and Jacob Gregg. They carried trade goods valued at \$30,000 and most of them returned in September with gold, silver, and furs reported to be worth \$190,000. That was not bad for a group described by Wetmore as "gentlemen cut throats [who] are mounted [upon] worthy members of the Jackass family, who might claim kindred with some few of their riders."

In the 1829 letter Wetmore thanked Hook for some magazine subscriptions and gave an advance, preliminary report on the Riley escort. For details of Riley's experiences on the Trail in 1829, see Leo E. Oliva, "The 1829 Escorts," *Confrontation on the Santa Fe Trail*, SFTA, 1996, 17-24. Both letters are printed in their entirety with explanatory information in brackets.

WETMORE TO HOOK, 1824

Franklin 6 May 1824

Dear Major

Since my arrival at my own domicile I have been so much employed that I have not found a moment to devote to "my friend & pitcher[?]" [pitcher apparently used here as one to whom money is owed] and if my conscience did not now admonish me that I had woefully neglected a little business transaction, that the enclosed "half a loaf" may serve to apologise for I might

have deferred it longer. The balance of this cutting you will find in another epistle of equal date with this; which, when spliced will purport to be one hundred dollars. Any balance they may owe you I will require my careless messmates to transmit you in due season. Some contracts I had pending with the milliners and mantriamakers [mantilla makers?] as agents for my spouse, in Baltimore detained me in that city on my way home seven days. I overtook Major Graham [possibly Richard Graham, former army major who was an Indian agent in Missouri in 1824] on the way and we traveled together to St. Louis. The picture by our friend Mr. Tilyard I transported safely to St. Louis, and I shall in a few days have the pleasure of introducing it to my wee *bit bairns* [children]. I traveled from Louisville to this place a distance (by water) of eight hundred miles in 7½ days. I found my wife & children in excellent health; and every member of my family, including the blacks & my Spaniel dog, were exceedingly glad to see me again among them. This classification of my negroes and dog together may appear a little unchristian, but when it is remembered the former poor devils have generally, (mine always excepted) a dogs life of it, it may not be esteemed malappropos.

As the only piece of intelligence that this country can boast the origin of, I take great pleasure in apprising you of the intended visit of the governor of Santa Fee, to Fort Atkinson. He has made known his intention to do so about the 10th proximo. As a preparatory measure for the sumptuous entertainment of the Don the officers of Fort Atkinson have remitted to this place \$50 Dollars for the purchase of Eggs [possibly a euphemism for delicacies of food and drink]. It is reported that this dignitary will be followed by 1500 men. His object I believe is to dictate terms of peace in some Indian Villages by the way, and to cultivate a friendly intercourse with our gentlemen of the foot.

In the next ten days a party, or caravan of traders, will leave this place for Santa Fee, carrying with them twenty waggons and some mule packs. About one hundred persons are engaged in this enterprise, and many of them are of great respectability. Several essays have been made in the last two years, and the trade is found to be lucrative. It is rather amusing to note the awful preparation they are making for defence of their sacred persons and property. They have mounted on a pair of half-worn cart wheels, a swivel [gun] That has never yet seen warmer service than that endured by fourth of July village salutes. But you can readily imagine the little gun begins to look

warlike, save it has exchanged its humble block for a pair of newly painted cart wheels! These "Santa Fee boys" as they denominate themselves, are armed at all points. A long backwoods rifle is thrown in real vagabond style over the shoulder; a tomahawk, or as it is here termed a "Tommy hatchet" and knife graces the waist belt – and these not being sufficiently indicative of Banditti, they add to them a pair of horse pistols. Taking their arms and habiliments into view, and I am constrained [to] cry out in the language of honest Jack Falstaff "Who ever saw such scare crows! – I'll not march Through country with them, that's flat!" Most of these gentlemen cut throats are mounted [upon] worthy members of the Jackass family, who might claim kindred with some few of their riders. Their merchandise consists of every species of wares from a sheet anchor up & down to a Jewsharp.

After having visited Fort Atkinson I hope to give you a merry account of his Excellency the Don whom "God preserve a thousand years."

Present my respectful salutations to Mr. Elgar and desire him to make my compliments acceptable to the fair members of his family.

I am with much esteem your friend
Alphonso Wetmore

Major J. H. Hook
U.S. Army

WETMORE TO HOOK, 1829

Franklin 4 Nov 1829

Dear Hook,

I feel indebted to some member of the Subsistence Dept. for a number of the shooting magazines.

It may be gratifying to the Secretary of War to have information of the Return of [Bennet] Riley's command – I have conversed with Mr. Samuels who left him on the little Arkansas – He is escorting the company of traders in – Mr. [Samuel C.] Lamme – one of our merchants was slain by the Indians on his way out, after Major Riley had halted. Mr. Samuels reports the loss of four soldiers whom the Indians succeeded in picking off – and that Riley made some reprisals – seven, for instance by one discharge of his artillery – he could never bring them within musket shot. One of the soldiers killed was bearer of letters from Canton[men]† Leavenworth – and after he had fallen, his comrade stood over him with both muskets charged, and defied the Indians – protected the body of his friend, and preserved his own, found and reached the command. Plutarch's heroes could not have done more.

Yours sincerely
Alphonso Wetmore

TEXAN RAIDS IN 1843: MEXICAN SOLDIERS ON THE TRAIL

by David A. Sandoval

(Professor Sandoval, University of Southern Colorado, Pueblo, is a founding member of SFTA and served on the board of directors. He presented this paper at the 1997 symposium while dressed in a reproduction uniform of a presidial soldier, with all the regulation equipment and weapons.)

THE Texan raids along the Santa Fe Trail and into New Mexico have received attention at several symposiums and in recent publications. The role of Mexican soldiers in the complex events of 1843 deserves further analysis. The following focuses on the Mexican presidial soldier.

The northern department of New Mexico faced more than the usual threats in the 1840s, and military units had been sent north to complement the strength of Presidio de Santa Fe troops. Don Felix Lerna commanded presidial troops from Chihuahua which were added to the Santa Fe command. Commanding the 68 soldiers of the Second Regiment of regulars who had come from Vera Cruz was Colonel Pedro Munoz, while Captain Francisco Ortiz commanded the 109 presidial soldiers from Santa Fe. When one adds the Third Regiment and other units, Manuel Armijo, governor and military commander of the province of New Mexico, commanded a regular army of 204 soldiers in April 1843. The Mexican Archives of New Mexico, roll 34, frames 620-651, contain the Journal of Field Orders by Governor Manuel Armijo which cover the period from May 1 to July 4, 1843.

When Armijo prepared to march to protect the trade caravan in the spring of 1843, he included Colonel Pedro Munoz along with captains Donanciano Vigil, Jose Francisco Ortiz, Francisco Martinez, and Francisco Baca who commanded the "presidiales." The bulk of Armijo's command was comprised of auxiliaries. He took fewer than 100 regulars with him and was accompanied by about 400 auxiliaries. One of those regulars was Sergeant Pedro Sandoval, 52 years old with a commendable service record. Sandoval had become a soldier during the Spanish era in October 1809 and had served

for 23 years and three months as a regular soldier. As the term of enlistment was for 10 years, Pedro was into his third term of enlistment when he was promoted to Cabo (corporal) in 1832.

Before he was promoted, he served in several campaigns. When the Navajos increased their raids in 1818, he served under Governor Facundo Melgares. He fought against the Navajo again in 1821 and 1823. During the summer of 1829 he served with an escort for Santa Fe traders to the "Rio Arcansas" under the command of José Antonio Vizcarra. This troop lost three men to an Indian attack, but the caravan got through with no losses. Pedro was in the field again against the Navajo in the winter of 1836-1837, attempting to rescue captives taken by the Navajo during one of their many raids. In 1840, after seven years and twenty days at the rank of Cabo, Pedro Sandoval was promoted to Sargento on January 21.

As Cabo Sandoval was fighting Indians along the western frontier, political affairs were changing quickly in neighboring Tejas. In 1841 "los diablo tejanos" had mounted an invasion of New Mexico to seal their claims of the Rio Grande as Texas's western boundary, which would mean that Albuquerque and Santa Fe were part of Texas. Governor Armijo prepared to meet the Texans in battle. After the defeat of the Texans at Laguna Colorada, near present-day Santa Rosa, Mexican newspapers sang the praises of the hero of the hour, Manuel Armijo. *Corridos* were composed and poetry printed in *La Luna*. For relatively new Sergeant Pedro Sandoval the campaign "Contra los Rebeldes Tejanos" earned a medal for action against the Texans.

The presidio and the presidial soldier were certainly frontier institutions of the Spanish empire. The presidio was located in hostile country and its purpose was defense of frontier church as well as settlements. Spain seems to have first applied the principles of the presidio about 1570 in the north African desert. Soon thereafter the presidio was tried in northern Mexico. Regulations con-

cerning their nature were published in 1772, and the very same regulations were issued by the Mexican government in 1834.

There were significant changes made to the presidio system as a result of Teodoro de Croix, who reported directly to the king when he served as commander general between 1776 and 1783. The tremendous support required for the *soldado de cuera* could go to support more troops if the *tropa ligera* would be more extensively used. The difference in support included a difference of two horses. While five were required for the *soldado de cuera*, only three were needed for the light troops. As a result of the reform, almost a thousand more troops became available for duty by 1783. The *compañias volantes* (flying companies) which were designed to move and strike quickly were abandoned during the Croix reforms. They were emulated again after the reform impulse subsided.

The presidial soldiers were most often homegrown vaqueros and were outfitted differently from Spanish regulars. The chain of presidios that marked the northern frontier of New Spain ended at the northern end with the Presidio de Santa Fe. While the typical presidio contained 44 soldiers, the average number in Santa Fe was about 80. Their primary purpose was to protect settlers from Indians. This mission continued after Mexican independence in 1821. Following Texas independence in 1836, presidial troops were also used to protect New Mexico from Texan incursions. During the tumultuous 1840s the average number of soldiers at Santa Fe numbered slightly more than 100.

The potential recruit had to be at least five feet two inches in height, have no noticeable facial defects or racial coloration. He had to be Roman Catholic, swear to an understanding of a military code, and agree to a ten-year enlistment. They signed an enlistment agreement, and their age, place of birth, residence, color of hair, eyes, and skin were be recorded.

While presidio soldiers complained about not being paid, citi-

zens complained about presidio soldiers. The reputation of presidio soldiers among citizens was particularly poor. The soldiers were often induced into enlistment with the promise of land after service, which they saw as a way to elevate one's self. Most recruits for the presidio of Santa Fe were from the area, and these soldiers were often called out to protect their own families. Because the garrison was never large, these troops were supported as needed by a citizen militia. Presidio soldiers were supposed to provide defense for a frontier people, but they were not very successful in many respects. Many soldiers altered their equipment to address frontier considerations, thereby violating the regulations which attempted to ensure conformity.

The *soldado de cuera* was armed with an *adarga* and a *lanza*. The *adarga* was a shield made of three plies of bull hide about two feet in length and width. Each soldier decorated their *adargas* as they wished, and officers often placed their family coat arms on the shield. The *lanza* was eight foot in length with a blade attached that was 13 to 15 inches in length. Mexican horsemen became notable with their skill with the lance, and lancers fought their last major engagement against American troops in the War between Mexico and U.S. in 1846-1847.

The *soldado de cuera* gained his unique name due to the type of leather body armor known as the *cuera*. This was usually knee-length, although some horsemen wore *cueras* as short as a vest. Regulations called for the *cuera* to be bleached white and include seven or more plies of leather. The *cuera* served as a mattress as well as protection against arrows. Many of the presidial soldiers could not adjust to the heavy weight of the regulation *cuera*. In addition they thought the bleached skin made them an easy target for the Indians. Thus many soldiers replaced the internal plies of leather with cotton, and they kept the color of skins dark instead of bleached white.

Military commanders became quite concerned that the *cuera* was undergoing an evolution toward cotton filling and conducted experiments to determine if the cotton-

filled *cuera* was as effective as the heavier all-leather ones were in stopping arrows. The results were not found. Given the nature of the frontier with its scarcity of commodities, most soldiers made do with what they could get and the *cuera* came in a variety of sizes and colors.

Auxiliary troops (citizen militia) were required to possess the *adarga* and *lanza*, but the *cuera* remained a distinction for certain presidial troops. In addition to the shield, lance, and *cuera*, the Regulations of 1772, reissued in 1834, also required that the *soldado de cuera* be armed with an "*escopeta*" (shotgun) with a Spanish Miguelet lock, a sabre, and two pistols with Miguelet locks. In order to carry all of the materials to support the *soldado de cuera*, five horses and one mule were required per soldier. Of course the light troops without the heavy *cuera* only required three horses. The *soldado de cuera* was so heavily armed and burdened with supplies that his effectiveness was pronouncedly limited.

Until José de Galvez made numerous reform efforts in 1763, Spaniards were prohibited from trading rifles with the Indians. After 1763 the Spanish believed that the effectiveness of Indians with their bows and arrows could be more limited if the Indians became dependent on Spanish rifles and gunpowder. The restriction against rifle trade with the Indians was lifted. This fact points out to how deeply Spanish authorities looked for solutions to defense.

Generally the *soldado de cuera* was ineffective because he could never surprise the Indian with the size of *remuda* needed for support. The rifles and pistols were often of very poor quality, and the *soldado de cuera* usually could not get close enough to the Indians to fight them with the lance. Sometimes Indians raided a community in order to get the soldiers into the field, which allowed the Indians to raid the horses of the Spanish troops. They were also ineffective because they were not regularly trained, they used war tactics which were suited to European warfare not fighting Indians, and their weapons were often in a poor state while their morale was often low because of the lack of pay.

The presidial soldier was also distinctive from Mexican regular army

units because of their uniforms. The uniform was made of blue wool, both pants and jacket. *Botas* (top boots), leggings, a black kerchief, and a flat hat with a red hat band were also required. They wore a *bandolera* (shoulder belt), an inch and a half in width, made out of antelope skin, with the name of the presidio embroidered on it. The *soldado de cuera* also carried a *cartuchera*, or bullet box, with the capacity of 19 cartridges.

The Compania de Santa Fe in 1843 included three sergeants (Pedro Sandoval, Francisco de la Peña, and Lorenzo Tafolla) and two buglers (José Silva and Ygnacio Sena). Two captains, two lieutenants, two second lieutenants, three cadets, and six corporals completed the soldiers with rank. One of the most important soldiers was the *armero*, Henrique Sena, who would keep weapons in working condition.

As Armijo prepared marching orders he had the second and third companies of regulars lead the troops, followed by the presidial soldiers headed by Captain Francisco Baca. The desire to keep troops in a tight unit was expressed with the observation that "*ningun sargento, cavo o soldado separara del lugar que ocupe...si le tocaran la Diana.*" Not a sergeant, corporal, or soldier was to venture from the place until the unit was formed and the bugle call of La Diana was played.

These Mexican soldiers were responding to the request of three Mexican merchants (Ambrosio Armijo, the nephew of Governor Armijo and his sometime agent, José Ignacio Salazar, and Gaspar Ortiz). They requested protection for more than \$50,000 worth of goods at risk from Texan raiders on the Santa Fe Trail. The United States government responded to the Texan threat by ordering Philip St. George Cooke to escort the westbound caravan to the international border. The murder of Antonio José Chávez by brigands claiming to be part of a Texan army had shocked New Mexicans as it did Americans on their western frontier. The McDaniel gang, while granted a commission in the Texan army, had never been to Texas and their defense was ineffective in the trials that followed their capture for the murder of Chávez. John McDaniel

and another were hanged on August 16, 1844, for the Chávez murder, and other members of this "Texan Army" were imprisoned.

A week before Armijo set out on the Trail with his troops, an army of Texans calling themselves the Invincibles, led by Jacob Snively, set out from Texas to capture the trade caravan. They reached the border area about a month later. From the north Texas Colonel Charles Alexander Warfield was trying to make good on threats issued at Bent's Fort, and among any who would listen, that the Trail ran through Texas and the Mexican merchants and their trade goods would be captured for crossing Texas territory without permission. It was Warfield who had commissioned the McDaniel band as Texan soldiers. Warfield's recruitment had not mattered to the American courts.

Warfield led a force into New Mexico and attempted to strike a blow for the Lone Star Republic when he attacked a *cibolero* camp outside of Mora in mid May. The buffalo hunters responded by attacking Warfield and his approximately twenty-four men. They drove off the Texans' livestock, and Warfield and his men had to walk for help. Armijo and his troops were on the lookout for Warfield's party as they marched eastward on the Trail.

After camping at Cold Spring in the present Oklahoma panhandle in mid June, Armijo sent auxiliary troops under Buenaventura Lobato to scout all the way to the Arkansas River in order to determine the location of the trade caravan. Lobato's auxiliaries of about 100 men were poorly armed and some accounts indicated that they had only four working muskets among them. They met Snively's Invincibles on the Cimarron Route of the Trail in present southwest Kansas and were soundly defeated. The location of this fight became known to Santa Fe traders as "the battleground." Texan accounts of the battle, reported in the *New Orleans Picayune*, August 24, 1843, indicated that among "the dead was a man supposed to be an Irishman or an Englishman who was killed for resistance after surrender." Be that as it may, Lobato's forces were decimated by the Texans.

Several Mexicans escaped capture

and reported to Governor Armijo what had happened. They exaggerated the size of the Texan forces, and Armijo thought he was outnumbered by a better equipped military force. He abandoned his mission on June 25 and began the trek back to Santa Fe.

The Texan Invincibles were caught and disarmed by Captain Cooke's U.S. troops at Jackson's Grove east of present Dodge City, so named because of Cooke's admiration for the decisive action taken by Andrew Jackson in crossing an international border when he took U.S. troops into Florida in 1818. The confrontation between American soldiers who crossed the border and Texan soldiers who were also accused of crossing the border took place on June 30, 1843. When Snively's command was disarmed by Cooke, he asserted that the Mexican troops had been armed with new British muskets. The inventory of weapons taken from the Texans included 15 English flintlock shotguns, but it is very unlikely that auxiliary troops were armed with new British weapons. American politicians were concerned that the Lone Star Republic might make a political alliance with England or France during that era.

After the diffusion of the Texan threat on the Trail the Texas government through Isaac Van Zandt, charge d'affaires, charged the United States with the hostile invasion of its territory, the forcible capture and disarmament of a party of Texans under the command of Major Jacob Snively, violation of international law in regards to the alleged lack of humanitarian treatment toward the Texans, and contemptuous treatment of the honor and dignity of the Republic of Texas. The Texans were also upset with a position taken by Major General Edmund P. Gaines, commander of the Western Department, who had authorized American military protection all the way to the Rio Grande. And while the Secretary of State disavowed the Gaines position, Texans asserted that this doctrine would "inevitably lead to a collision between the two countries."

The United States took a rather interesting position. A. P. Upshur of the Department of State asserted: "There is every reason to believe that

the force of Colonel Snively was actually within the territory of the United States. It was the duty of Captain Cooke to protect the traders, both Mexican and American, throughout the whole extent of our territory. The least that can be said of it is, that there was not proof, and not strong reason to believe, that the place was within the territory of Texas. So long as the territorial jurisdiction was doubtful, both parties had an equal right to be there" (from *Senate Executive Documents*, No. 1, 28th Congress, 2nd Session, p. 103).

Upshur challenged the Texan boundary claims, and it was later determined that the Texans had been captured in U.S. territory. Upshur wrote that Santa Fe was "in Mexico," although Texas claimed everything to the Rio Grande, including Santa Fe. The United States annexed Texas in 1845, and ostensibly accepted their claims to the Rio Grande. War broke out between the United States and Mexico in May 1846 over the disputed land claims, and President James K. Polk asked for a declaration of war, following a battle with Mexican troops east of the Rio Grande, with the assertion that "American blood has been spilled on American soil."

Governor Armijo and his troops had not been successful in their attempt to protect the Santa Fe Trail in 1843. No *corridos* were written to commemorate his retreat, and no medals were given Mexican troops. The presidial soldiers had gone prepared to fight but returned without seeing the enemy. Three years later Manuel Armijo would have Mexican troops poised to defend Santa Fe from the invading Army of the West led by General Stephen W. Kearny. Pleading that he feared for his troops, just as he asserted fear for his troops in 1843, Armijo disbanded the defense of New Mexico. Kearny's army occupied Santa Fe without a fight.

Kearny accepted more than the Texan boundary claims in New Mexico. He appointed Charles Bent to be civil governor, with Donaciano Vigil as lieutenant governor. The military occupation of New Mexico was affirmed. While the transfer of territory would not take place until the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was signed in 1848, New Mexicans found

themselves treated as traitors when they defended their country in Taos in January of 1847. Kearny was also ordered to continue the trade between warring nations through the Santa Fe Trail, just as he declared that the Mexican citizens were now American citizens.

The last action take by presidial soldiers of Santa Fe was to serve as an escort for Armijo (described by George Ruxton as a "mountain of fat") as he fled into the interior of Mexico. Lancers would fight the American army at the battle of Sacramento in northern Chihuahua, but the promise of the *soldado de cuera* from the presidio of Santa Fe was betrayed. How many *soldados de cuera* took part in the battles of 1846 and 1847 in New Mexico? Did any? Who were they? How did they adapt to the new political reality? What finally happened to Sergeant Pedro Sandoval, who would have been 55 when the United States invaded? Did he ever get his retirement rancho? The personal questions remain.

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THE CACHES

—MUSEUM NEWS—

Anna Belle Cartwright, Editor

(Please keep sending those newsletters, your important dates, and happenings to Anna Belle Cartwright, SFTA Museums Coordinator, 5317 Charlotte St, Kansas City MO 64110, e-mail <Acartwrgh@aol.com>.)

THE momentum of the new millennium has stimulated the creation of a multitude of events and exhibits at museums along the Santa Fe Trail. Some of the exhibits explore trail related themes and others, the settlement of the land. A few even take a peek at developing material culture. There will be a good selection to choose from during 2000, reported here, and in future editions of *WT*.

At the Stauth Museum in Montezuma, Kansas, are two stand-out offerings. "Better Choose Me," May 14 through July 9, is all about collecting and creating with "freebie" fabrics and novelties that came with tobacco products in the industry's early days of advertising. Yellow silk ribbons that tied bundles of cigars and swatches of silk found in cigarette packs are converted to quilts and coats. Collector's cards abound in this beautifully designed traveling exhibit from the Kaufman Museum, Newton, Kansas.

"On the Land: Three Centuries of American Farm Life," July 16 through September 3, documents five of the oldest farms in America that have been held by the same families. Stunning photographs detail the farms and today's descendants as they go about their daily chores. Local participation in this theme exhibit will elicit additional photos and artifacts from area Kansas Farms. The exhibit is circulated by Exhibits USA.

In May the Las Vegas Museum will feature an exhibit of the history

of telecommunication in northern New Mexico with the irresistible title of "From Ernestine to 'Buono Bye.'" The exhibit is funded by the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities. A new exhibit at the museum is three small theme rooms that are furnished with items from the collections: an 1850s Spanish style "casita" of adobe focuses on the Santero's craft, a high Victorian parlor features mahogany furniture, while a 1930s ranch kitchen evokes memories with the addition of *Life* magazines and canned food from the era. "Caches" can be found almost anywhere, even stuffed into a Las Vegas trash can as was recently the case when three U.S. Indian-War era uniforms, in good condition, were found. Now owned by the museum, the uniforms may be seen on display.

The long awaited exhibition, "Jewish Pioneers of New Mexico," will open at the Governor's Palace in Santa Fe in October. This exhibit endeavors to tell the story of the first Jews who came to New Mexico in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Included are pioneers who were the first to arrive via the Santa Fe Trail, those who first moved to rural areas or lived among the Indians, those who helped establish community institutions, and those who helped establish religious congregations. Photos, documents, and artifacts tell the story. Items on display range from small personal items such as pipes or clocks to a miner's lamp or wagon jack, and even a circus wagon.

Another promising exhibit in the works at Friends of Arrow Rock, Missouri, features Dr. John Sappington who developed anti malaria pills that were highly prized for use on the Santa Fe Trail (see article in this issue). The narrative for the exhibition has been written and it is all ready to turn over to the exhibit designer. The opening of this fine exhibit is schedule for later this year.

A Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition that has been circulating Kansas this past year will have a grand finale at the Morton County Museum in Elkhart during the months of April and May. "Barn Again," an exhibit promoting that great American icon, the barn, will be enhanced with six weekends of activities. Festivals and fairs, a barn dance, a mini barn raising with

down-home cooking (the barn to be auctioned), speakers, programs, and a play based on a Morton County manuscript, written and presented by Kay Kuhlman.

In the jail cell once occupied by Jesse James, an exhibit, "The James Gang," is currently on display at the 1859 Jail and Marshal's Home. These famous Missouri outlaws, among them Frank and Jesse James, Cole Younger, and William Quantrill are identified by photos and artifacts.

"Mill by the Spring" (working title) at the National Frontier Trails Center in Independence will feature a history of the terrain now occupied by the Center. It once was the home of the Waggoner Gates Milling Co., manufacturers of the famous Queen of the Pantry Flour, from a soft, red, North Dakota wheat. Nearby, the, "largest public spring west of the Mississippi," powered earlier mills and filled water barrels of wagon trains heading out on the Santa Fe Road. The exhibit will be in place by mid-year.

Happy Birthday Kansas City

The city at the bend in the Missouri River is celebrating its 150th anniversary throughout 2000 with hundreds of events, festivals, exhibits, and concerts. For more information visit the KC150 Web site at <www.kc150.org> or call (816) 374-5400.

For the past year, the KC150 Foundation has encouraged preservation projects by offering substantial grants. Preservation and marking of the Santa Fe Trail has fared well. Grants have been awarded as follows: (1) \$8,000 toward purchase of property containing a fifty foot swale near Raytown, (2) \$10,000 for signs to mark the Westwood, Kansas, neighborhood west of Westport, (3) \$10,000 to mark the Independence Route of the Trail in Kansas from the State Line to where Johnson County meets Douglas County, (4) \$10,000 cost share for building a pedestrian bridge across a ravine on a pathway leading to recently identified trail swales in Independence on the Bingham Waggoner Estate property near the National Frontier Trails Center, and (5) \$9,500 for placing an interpretive sign near the site of the village of the City of Kansas.

TRAILS MARKED IN JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

by Ross Marshall

(SFTA Past-President Ross Marshall serves SFTA as representative to the Partnership for National Trails System.)

IN recent weeks more than 150 markers have been placed on the Westport and Independence routes of the Santa Fe Trail, mostly in Johnson County, KS, from the Missouri-Kansas line to the Douglas County, KS, line. Leadership for these projects was provided by the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association.

These marking projects have been made possible by grants from the \$1 million KC150 Legacy Fund administered by the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation as part of the 150th Anniversary Celebration of Kansas City's official incorporation in 1850.

The Westport Route project is a joint effort between KCAHTA and the Westwood Neighborhood Association of Westwood, KS. The Independence Route project is a similar grant made directly to KCAHTA.

The markers have been placed at the exact locations as surveyed by the U. S. General Land Office Kansas Territorial Survey of 1854-56. This survey was researched primarily by Lee Kroh, a member of both KCAHTA and SFTA, from copies of the original GLO maps and field notes available through the Kansas State Historical Society.

In the Kansas City area the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California trails followed two main routes; one from Independence and one that includes two branches from Westport. The markers say "Westport Route Santa Fe Oregon California Trails crossed here," or "Independence Route Santa Fe Oregon California Trails crossed here." In addition, each of the markers displays a three-hitch ox team and covered wagon, similar to the 138 markers placed in recent years by KCAHTA through Leavenworth, Wyandotte, and Johnson counties on the Fort Leavenworth-Fort Scott Military Road

The 18"x24" and 24"x30" rectangular brown markers are being placed by city and county public

works departments on each side of streets where the trail crossed the section lines as precisely noted by the GLO surveyors, and as located by KCAHTA. When completed, a total of 184 markers will have been placed in these two projects.

TRAILS MAP WINS AWARD

by Ross Marshall

THE Historic Frontier Trails Map of Johnson-Wyandotte-Leavenworth Counties of Kansas, USA, was awarded the honor of being pictured in the *ESRI Map Book*, volume 14, as the "International Tourism Map of the Year". The multicolor map was produced and published by the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association, principally from research by Lee Kroh, and shows the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California trails as well as the Military Road as discussed in the above article.

The *ESRI Map Book* has been produced annually since 1984 by Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc., the world's leading provider in innovative GIS (Geographical Integrated System) software. ESRI will distribute 30,000 copies of their book throughout the world. A two-page article in the 121-page book pictures the map and tells the story of how the two-sided map was produced. The map and its information is now available on GIS. Copies can be purchased for \$8.00 postpaid from Lee Kroh, 8812 W 66th St, Merriam KS 66202.

MARC SIMMONS IN 2000

MANY readers are aware that the Father of the Santa Fe Trail Association and the first president, Marc Simmons, Cerrillos, NM, has been embroiled in a lawsuit with a land developer for several years. He has fought tooth and nail to the near exclusion of any historical writing during the entire time. The most recent report is that the final wording on the settlement is being worked out by the lawyers. There are pitfalls remaining, but Simmons is hopeful that he will be out of the woods in a couple months.

In December, at the request of University of New Mexico Press for a manuscript, he submitted a number of his scholarly journal essays going back to the 1960s and wrote a new

one to make an anthology. Hal Jackson has been at work for some time revising *Following the Santa Fe Trail: A Guide For Modern Travelers*. Simmons is now reading the copy in preparation to submit it to the publishers. He plans to resume writing his biography of Kit Carson soon.

In a recent telephone interview, (*Albuquerque Prime Time*, January 2000) the reporter asked "We're changing millennia. Do you care?" Marc Simmons was blunt: "No I'm interested in the past." He paused and then: "Oh, I wouldn't want to give up certain great books but I'm certainly not fascinated by the Twentieth Century." Pause. "Of course, now I'll be *two* centuries behind the times." The reporter wrote "And I hear him smile over the phone."

Simmons has written 35 books and many articles on Southwestern history, and several newspapers carry his columns. Since reading a history book in the fifth grade, he has dedicated himself not only to learning about the past, but also living in it. He moved from Dallas, Texas, to New Mexico, because "in New Mexico, history was on the surface, it hadn't been buried. . . . Also, people here still had a connection with the past." Before relocating, he earned degrees at the University of Texas and University of New Mexico, the last a Ph.D. in history. Not satisfied with merely learning about the past, Simmons attempts to live there as well. In 1963 he built his own house from his own sun-dried adobes near Cerrillos, without the modern conveniences of electricity or plumbing. And he hates the idea that this is eccentric. "Everything that I've done from travel to working as a horseshoer has gotten me closer to the history of this part of the country. The way I live is part of the overall campaign."

Noting that these days few people know history, or like to read it, Simmons writes his histories so they are easy reading and story-like. "History is making a story out of the past. And it does no good to be a historian if you are not reaching people." Simmons has an attentive following in the SFTA who are eagerly awaiting book number 36, due out sometime in 2000.

MATCHES STRIKE THE TRAIL

by Marc Simmons

(*Simmons, founder and first president of SFTA who holds the official designation of "father of the SFTA," offered this item from his syndicated "Trail Dust" column that appeared in the Santa Fe Reporter, November 3, 1999. Thank you Marc.*)

WHEN was the first friction match brought over the Santa Fe Trail to New Mexico? That is an interesting question I have been trying to answer for some time. Prior to the introduction of matches, New Mexicans wanting to start a fire had to use the cumbersome flint and steel. When the two were struck together, they produced sparks that could be caught in tinder and fanned into a flame.

Handy friction matches began to appear on the American frontier in the latter 1820s. One report mentions that they were being used in central Missouri, at the head of the Santa Fe Trail, by 1829. Soon after that, a stray traveler probably carried the first match overland to New Mexico.

I wrote about this subject in my book, *The Old Trail to Santa Fe*, published several years ago. Therein, I said this: "In 1864, a wholesale grocer in Leavenworth, Kansas filled an order for New Mexico merchant José Albino Baca at Las Vegas that included a box of matches at 75 cents." The high cost of transportation by ox wagon make them expensive, indeed a luxury item. That was the first documented reference to the importation of matches that I had seen.

I stated in the book that I fully expected earlier mentions to turn up sooner later. Now one has.

I received a letter the other day from Michael Long of St. Louis, a researcher and author. He's writing a biography of the famous German botanist George Engelmann who settled at St. Louis in 1833 and helped establish the Missouri Botanical Garden, which still exists. George's name is attached to one of the two spruces that grow in the mountains of New Mexico, the Engelmann spruce. (The other is the Colorado blue spruce.) He was an early expert on conifers.

Mr. Long in his letter said that he

had recently read my *Old Trail to Santa Fe* and noted the section on matches. He enclosed a letter written from Santa Fe in 1846 by August Fendler and addressed to Engelmann that referred to matches. (Original letter owned by Missouri Botanical Garden.)

It seems that Engelmann was paying several men going out west to collect botanical specimens for him and ship them back to St. Louis. One of those was young Fendler, also a German immigrant, who accompanied Col. Sterling Price's army on its march to Santa Fe.

During his first weeks in New Mexico, Fendler collected seeds, cacti, tree branches, fruits, plants, and mosses. He packed them in barrels for shipment east by freight wagon. By November, he was running out of money, as he complained to his sponsor, because everything was so expensive here in the Territory.

Writing to Engelmann, he suggested they start up a small business as a sideline to bring in some cash. "You will probably smile," he elaborated, "if I tell you the business is nothing else but the manufacture of matches. A small box of matches is being sold here for 6¼ cents, the demand is great and reserves in local stores are exhausted. By entering into this, we would be able to take care of most of our expenses."

It is clear that Fendler thought that 6¼ cents per matchbox was outrageous, two or three times the price in St. Louis. By undercutting it, he expected to prosper. So he asked Englemann, if he approved of the plan, to send him the materials needed to begin manufacture, including sulfur and phosphorus. He also requested instructions on how to mix them, and stiff paper from which to hand-make the matchboxes.

There is no indication that George Engelmann went along with Mr. Fendler's proposal to launch match manufacturing in the far Southwest. Certainly nothing more was heard of it.

Incidentally, the Fendler letter I received from Michael Long, and which I have been quoting, was a translation, the original having been composed in old German script. He tells me that there is scarcely anyone

left in St. Louis who is able to translate that script.

The remainder of August Fendler's letter contained mostly gripes about the high cost of living in Santa Fe and the backwardness of local life. "Good mules," he reported in astonishment, "are being sold for 50 and 60 dollars."

In the final lines, he advised Engelmann that the next departing freight caravan would not get away until spring. "Do you think the cacti in barrels will spoil?" he inquired.

WILD & WICKED CIMARRON

by Marc Simmons

(This item on Cimarron, located on the Mountain Route of the Santa Fe Trail in New Mexico, appeared in Simmons's *New Mexico Scrapbook* column in *El Defensor-Chieftain*, Socorro, NM, October 9, 1999. Thanks Marc for sharing this.)

IT must have been 40 or so years ago when I began exploring New Mexico's back country that I first discovered and fell in love with Cimarron. Scenically situated where the plains meet the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, it is a place that still seems rooted in the Old West.

During the 1870s, Cimarron felt the full force of the bloody Colfax County War, a conflict involving dirty politics, hired gunmen, and a famous land grant. Landmarks from those turbulent days remained scattered about the little town.

A key figure in Cimarron's early history was the eccentric ranching baron Lucien Bonaparte Maxwell. He occupied a stately mansion, which later burned, and operated the huge Aztec grain mill that today serves as a museum. Most of all, he is remembered as owner of the million acre Maxwell Land Grant.

Stories abound concerning Mr. Maxwell's unusual behavior. One of my favorites illustrates his utter carelessness in the handling of money, all the more remarkable when it is recalled that he was a founder of the First National Bank of Santa Fe.

On the occasion in question, he went to nearby Fort Union to collect for a hay and corn contract he had completed. Upon arrival, the paymaster delivered to him \$39,000 in

cash. Maxwell stuffed the money into his saddlebags and started for home.

Back at Cimarron, he went into his stable, threw the saddle into a corner, and turned out his horse. Days later, needing a large sum of money to make a payment, he rummaged about in his room. But all his searching failed to turn up the Fort Union cash.

Calling his wife, Maxwell asked her where was that \$39,000 he had brought from the fort. She disclaimed any knowledge of its whereabouts and then scolded him for being so careless.

A week later a stable boy brought to the house some torn pieces of greenbacks. It suddenly dawned on Maxwell that he had left his money in his saddlebags. Rushing out, he discovered that hogs had gotten in the bags and eaten part of the contents. The bulk of the bills, however, were recovered.

My musings on Cimarron and Maxwell are prompted by the recent appearance of two new books on these subjects. The first is Harriet Freiburger's *Lucien Maxwell: Villain or Visionary* (paperback, \$14.95), and the second, *For Good or Bad: People of the Cimarron Country*, compiled by Stephen Zimmer (paperback, \$12.95).

Both titles are releases of Santa Fe's Sunstone Press, one of the state's leading small presses that publishes *New Mexicana*. Sunstone lately had a megahit with Governor Bruce King's autobiography, *Cowboy in the Roundhouse*.

Frieberger, in her Maxwell biography, admits that in his day the man was both admired and maligned. No middle ground existed for those who knew Maxwell personally: he was either hero or a villain.

One review I've seen criticizes the book for leaning toward a favorable view of Maxwell. But biographers tend to do that, because after living with their subject for a long period, they become more understanding of their flaws and more appreciative of their successes.

In the second book, Stephen Zimmer has assembled a series of fascinating sketches about people who gave Cimarron its special character. They range from Maxwell and Kit

Carson, through the outlaws Clay Allison, Charles Kennedy (beheaded by vigilantes) and Black Jack Ketchum (beheaded by the hangman's rope), to more productive citizens like Henrietta Chase, Fred Lambert, and cowboy author Will James.

Zimmer, who is the able Director of Museums at the local Philmont Scout Ranch, knows the history of the Cimarron country about as well as anyone now. His introduction to the sketches is right on target, putting them into perspective for novices who don't know much history yet.

Incidentally, Maxwell sold his mammoth grant to speculators in 1870 and moved down to a new ranch at Fort Sumner. He died there five years later. His grave is not far from that of Billy the Kid.

New Mexicans with a yen to rub shoulders with our rich past ought to visit Cimarron. But be sure and read up on the town before you go. The knowledge gained will add much to your experience.



CONVERSE OF THE PRAIRIES

—BOOK NOTICES—

Kathleen Ann Cordes, *America's National Historic Trails*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1999. Pp. 370. Maps, color illustrations, bibliography. Paper, \$19.95.

As a result of the passage of the National Trails System Act of 1968, the Federal government to date has designated twelve National Historic Trails, one of which is the SFT. This attractive book provides an introduction to the program and brief overview of each trail.

The 25-page section on the SFT opens with a historical survey borrowed from the National Park Service's Comprehensive Management and Use Plan and appends a biographical feature, "The Bent Brothers." A short middle section, "The Trail Today," covers recent history. The last part sketches 26 major points of interest, keyed to a map of

the Trail.

Since this is a general reference work meant for a popular audience, persons already well-versed in Santa Fe Trail studies will not find anything new in that chapter. However comparing the SFT to other National Historic Trails described here can lead to fresh perspectives.

—Marc Simmons

Jane Atkins Vásquez and Carolyn Atkins, eds., *Remembering Presbyterian Mission in the Southwest: 25th Anniversary of the Menaul Historical Library*. Albuquerque: Menaul Historical Library of the Southwest, 1999. Pp. 130. Map, illustrations, index. Paper, \$15.00 plus \$5.00 shipping, order from Menaul Historical Library of the Southwest, 301 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque NM 87107.

The Menaul Historical Library has been an institutional member of SFTA since 1990. *Remembering Presbyterian Mission in the Southwest* takes readers into the archival collection of the library. Letters, reports, memoirs, photographs, oral histories, and other records tell the story of the meeting of cultures in the region. The documents, enhanced with 65 black-and-white photographs, focus on the ministry of Anglo, Hispanic, and Indian Presbyterians during the last 140 years. Without these materials we would know far less about southwestern social and religious history.

Researchers in Southwest history should be aware of the collections at this library. Records of missionaries provide another view of the diversity of cultures in the region. This volume provides a good introduction to the materials available.

COUNCIL TROVE

—DOCUMENTS—

TRAIL RESURVEY, 1876

Paul Bentrup, Phil Petersen, Jane Mallinson, and others have been looking for more information on a resurvey of the Trail in 1876. Only bits and pieces have been found to date, but two newspaper items reprinted here shed some light on the subject. If anyone knows of more details or can locate a copy of the survey records, please send the information to

WT editor.

Phil Petersen located the following brief item in the *Las Animas Leader*, July 28, 1876, under the heading "The Santa Fe Trail Being Re-Surveyed."

During the years 1863, 1864 and 1865 the Government contracted with a firm in Leavenworth to transport freight from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Union at a certain price per mile. When the contract expired the Government paid the contractors for 735 miles. The contractors claimed the distance to be about thirty miles greater, and for this distance the contractors sued the Government for the balance of \$2,000,000. To ascertain the exact distance, both contractors and Government are now re-surveying the entire route by different corps of engineers. The two companies will pass through this city to-day or tomorrow.

Jane Mallinson located the following article, "A Long Long Trail" by Elizabeth R. Jones, in the Jackson County (MO) Historical Society newsletter for March 1964. Only relevant excerpts are reprinted here, with details of Jones family history and some general observations about the Santa Fe Trail omitted.

A dispute over distances of the Santa Fe Trail between the freighting contractors and the government, who paid them so much a mile, led to Martin Ozias Jones being hired by the government to resurvey the Santa Fe Trail in 1876. The freight contractors who hauled government supplies, contended that the government was short-distancing them in mileage. Martin O. Jones was engaged to survey and measure the exact distance from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Union terminal in New Mexico. A corps of army engineers was detailed to follow the Jones party and check their work.

How Jones prepared his field notes or what happened to them the family does not know. His surveying instruments included a Jacobs staff, measuring chain, compass, and a field note scroll. Harvey A. Jones has his grandfather's compass transit, Jacobs staff and measuring chain.

Martin O. Jones came to Independence in 1849 at the age of 28 from Troy, New York. He married Elizabeth Dornon Gray on November 21, 1850, daughter of Jeams Gray, judge of the county court at the time. Ten children were born to this union. . . .

M. O. Jones served as county surveyor from 1854 to 1860, and helped lay out the city limits of Independence in 1853.

According to the description given by the late P. H. Grinter (son-in-law of M. O. Jones) who was in charge of the chainmen who measured the distance of the Santa Fe Trail with a measuring chain, the party set out from Fort Leavenworth on June 15, 1876. It consisted of Martin O. Jones, the chief of the surveying party, five wagons, twenty-five surveyors, and some soldiers.

. . . [T]hey returned to Independence three months later, September 15, 1876. The results of the survey showed that the mileage claimed by the freight contractors was correct and their position with the government was sustained. The dispute was settled in favor of the contractors.

THE WAGON TONGUE

—OBSERVATIONS & OPINIONS—

After recently completing an Amtrak trip on the Southwest Chief from Newton, KS, to Los Angeles, and then to Seattle and back, it occurred to me that there is another avenue that we could be using for public education/awareness of the Santa Fe Trail.

While traveling from Gallup to Albuquerque we had the opportunity to listen to a Navajo chief interpret the history and describe the present landscape of western New Mexico. Many interesting remnants of various tribal dwellings were pointed out to us.

Surely there must be an opportunity to interpret Santa Fe Trail history from La Junta, CO, to Las Vegas or Lamy, NM (Amtrak does not go through Santa Fe). It would even be possible to include portions of Kansas. This would work best on the westbound train because darkness overtakes the eastbound train before it reaches Raton during most of the year. Even so, some adjustments could be made to accommodate the seasonal changes.

Is this a feasible option for some Trail connoisseurs of Colorado or New Mexico to help provide such a resource? Could we enter into a partnership with Amtrak and maybe even sponsor a train trip from La Junta to Lamy?

Let's keep thinking of new ways to make our Trail a living resource to more and more people.

Vernon Lohrentz
205 Beverly
Newton KS 67114

Dr. John Sappington: Southern Patriarch in the New West

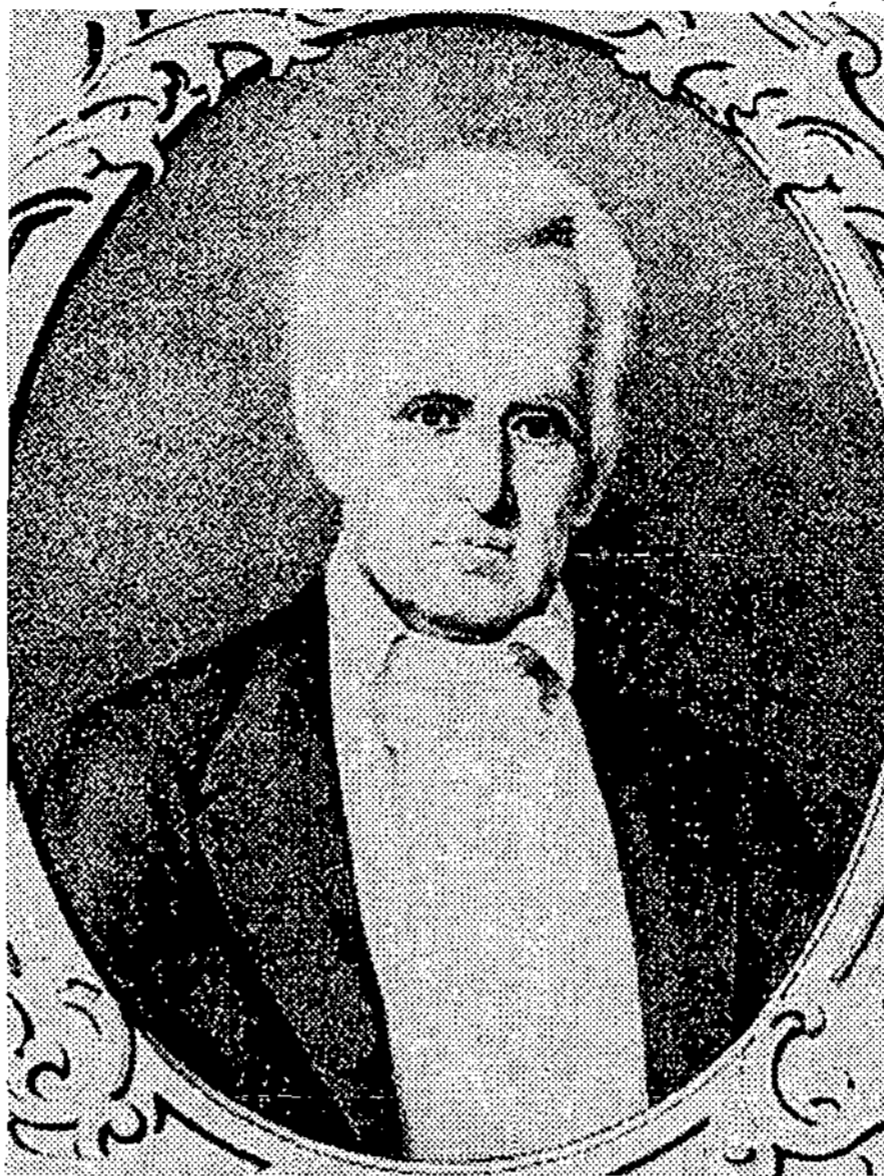
by Thomas B. Hall III, Kathy Borgman, and Pam Parsons

(The Friends of Arrow Rock are replacing all exhibits at the Sappington Memorial Museum as a 40th anniversary project. Exhibit chairman Thomas B. Hall III and Friends staff members Kathy Borgman and Pam Parsons have prepared a working narrative for design consultant Rebecca Young. Their three major references were Dr. John Sappington of Saline County, Missouri, by Thomas B. Hall, Jr., and Thomas B. Hall III, second edition, published by the Friends of Arrow Rock in 1986; "Dr. John Sappington: Southern Patriarch in the New West" by Lynn Morrow, published in the Missouri Historical Review, October 1995; and John Sappington, Doctor and Philanthropist by Eula Gladys Riley, Master's Thesis, University of Missouri, 1942. The following is reprinted by permission from the Friends of Arrow Rock newsletter, Spring, Summer, and Fall issues of 1999, with special thanks to the authors and the Friends of Arrow Rock. Annual membership in the Friends is \$25; send check to PO Box 24, Arrow Rock MO 65320.)

LYNN Morrow wrote, "Dr. John Sappington earned a distinguished reputation as a physician and a promoter of quinine in Missouri's Boon's Lick region. His influence transcended Missouri in long-distance trade managed by relatives who all became wealthy in the profits. Much more than a country doctor, Sappington was a frontier merchant, a land speculator, a progressive agriculturalist, a moneylender, and a political confidant in Jacksonian politics. He entered Missouri prior to statehood with an anxious spirit of gain."

Born one of seven children to Dr. Mark Brown Sappington and Rebecca Boyce Sappington on May 15, 1776, in Harve de Grace, Maryland, John and his family soon began their westward migration. Settling in Nashville, a frontier outpost in 1785, John learned to do farm chores and began studying medicine under his father's instruction.

One account states he read medicine with his father for five years. Formal education would come in



Dr. John Sappington (1776-1856).

1814-1815 when he attended a five-month medical course at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, riding 700 miles from Nashville to Philadelphia. By this time Sappington was developing his own theory of the proper treatment of fevers. His exposure to the university only confirmed his feelings that there were alternatives to current methods of treatment.

Unlike today when the practice of medicine often comprises one's total career, John's father trained him in both medicine and trade. While in Tennessee John practiced medicine but also made money in the keelboat trade by exporting cotton and tobacco to New Orleans and trading in slaves and land, a pattern learned from his father and relatives and continued later in the Boon's Lick.

On November 22, 1804, John married Jane Breathitt of Russellville, Kentucky. The Breathitts became a prominent political family; her brother John was elected governor of Kentucky and another brother, George, was private secretary to Andrew Jackson. The Breathitt connection was to continue as their two sons married first cousins, daughters of Governor John Breathitt. Dr. and Mrs. John Sappington had nine children, seven daughters and two sons.

By 1816 the forty-year-old doctor was experiencing personal economic

success like that of neighbor Thomas Hart Benton, a lawyer in Nashville. Benton moved to Missouri, later becoming its first senator. He encouraged Sappington to consider "laying the foundations of a great fortune" in the Missouri Territory. Various Sappington friends advised him on tracts of land for investment. Sappington chose the Boon's Lick country, a decision he would not regret. In 1817 he first settled in Chariton in Howard County, Missouri. Two years later he moved his family across the Missouri River, settling on a tract of land in Saline County, five miles southwest of the Arrow Rock ferry. This area was to become known as the "Sappington Settlement."

Dr. John Sappington, Physician

As a physician in a rapidly developing frontier settlement, Dr. Sappington's services were in constant demand. He rode pioneer trails with his medicine case in his saddlebags to nearby or distant homes where he might encounter any one of many illnesses. His fees were often paid in pork, beef, salt, corn, or barrels of whiskey. One visit ten miles away netted him \$3.50, another time he rode 65 miles and attended the patient three days and nights for a fee of \$50.00 and \$3.00 for quinine. Accounts show he treated patients in all surrounding counties and as far away as Independence.

The following is a letter from Duff Green to Dr. Sappington. This is probably a case of "Blackwater fever" or malaria involving the kidneys.

Chariton June 2nd 1818

Dear Sir,

Mrs. Green was taken about 1 o'clock today with a violent pain in her side and bowels. I gave her two tea-spoonsfull of Bale man's drops with fifteen drops of peppermint after severe pain. She puked and found some relief—we were then able to take her from the kitchen to the house on a quilt. She is now very bad and in addition to the symptoms when you were here she now had a considerable fever altho I feel alarmed at the Hemorrhage yet it is not attended with pain. If you possibly can I wish you to come to see her.

Your Friend
D Green

The following comes from "Life of George R. Smith" of neighboring Pettis County.

"We Yet Bless Their Memories"

"When there was a case of serious fever to contend with, and a doctor became absolutely necessary, a man had to be dispatched on horseback to Arrow-rock on the Missouri river, for Dr. Sappington or Dr. Penn. The despondent were always relieved when these men entered the door, for they were very successful and we yet bless their memories."

Illnesses of the 19th Century

Numerous diseases affected new settlers in Missouri. Many struck in epidemic proportions, such as scarlet fever, measles, mumps, smallpox, whooping cough, and diphtheria. Diarrhea resulting from dysentery was so common it was almost regarded as a normal event and was called "summer complaint." Then there were boils, headaches, toothaches, earaches, rattlesnake bites, and spider bites. Death in childbirth and infant mortality were all too frequent. Pneumonia seemed to be synonymous with death, and surgery offered little hope of survival.

Of the many diseases that were prevalent in Missouri in the mid-19th century, the two most destructive were cholera and malaria. It is significant that Dr. John Sappington was successful in treating both!

Cholera, The visit of the "All-Devouring Demon."

Cholera is an acute infectious disease caused by bacteria and is prevalent in regions where public sanitation is poor. It affects the intestines causing diarrhea and severe fluid loss. If untreated, it can result in death.

In his 1844 book, *The Theory and Treatment of Fevers*, Dr. John Sappington gives a personal account of his experiences treating cholera:

"In the summer of 1833, the first case of cholera occurred in my immediate neighborhood. The disease made its appearance on the opposite side of the Missouri river, in Howard county, eight or ten miles below my residence.

"No sooner was it ascertained that it was cholera, than the people fled to this side of the river and encamped, panic-struck, as if an all-devouring demon had visited them. Dr. Penn and myself being the only physicians residing in this county at that time,

they kept us most of the time with them; and we were, perhaps, as much alarmed as most of them; yet we encouraged them to be of good cheer, and not to be affrighted at what had happened."

In the general panic that ensued, patients came to Sappington and Penn "hourly" seeking medicine and advice. Sappington and Penn furnished them with laudanum and essence of peppermint to arrest the looseness of the bowels. They also advised them "to be cheerful; to follow their usual employments in moderation; and to eat and drink as usual." Sappington concludes, "The whole number of cases in the two years, that is, the two visitations of 1833 and 1835 were about 80 well marked cases; of this number we lost but three. The same year that cholera raged here it also raged at St. Louis and in other parts of the State with its usual fatality—under the common treatment of bleeding, puking, and purging . . . at least three-fourths, if not more of the cases proved fatal."

The following Arrow Rock letter also speaks of the fear of cholera.

Arrow Rock, January 15, 1849

"I suppose that you have all heard of the near approach of the cholera and of course prepare to meet it as there is no doubt but that it will be amongst us in the spring. Some talk of running from it but we think that the best way to meet it is to neither dread nor run from it but to prepare and use all persuasions against it. It is true that no one can tell but that himself may be the first victim to its dread ravages but if we use caution we will at least stand a better chance to escape. From all we can learn it is not so violent in its attack and more easily cured than when in the country before."

Oscar F. Potter

"Missouri Chills" or "the shakin' ager"

The major illness that hindered successful settlement of the Missouri River valley was ague, today known as malaria. As early as 1819, almost all Tennessee settlers in Cox's bottom near Arrow Rock were afflicted with "the shakin' ager"; the "miasm of the Missouri was very abundant and very noxious." Lying in their cabins shaking with ague or burning with fever, many a settler wished himself back among the green hills

and the pure air of old Tennessee. When emigration began to California in the early 1840s, one of the lures of the "Golden State" was that there were no chills or fevers there!

Characteristics of Malaria in the 19th century

Symptoms – Fever and chills, anemia, severe and prolonged weakness

Mortality – 2% - 10%

Morbidity – Over 50% during sickly season.

Sickly Season – July, August, and September until the first frost kills mosquitoes.

Consequences – Continued weakened health, lifetime recurrences, incalculable economic loss.

Modern medical historians consider malaria, "the lazy disease," as a primary reason (with hookworm and pellagra) for the Yankee stereotype of the "lazy southerner." John Duffy, in "The Impact of Malaria on the South" in *Disease and Distinctiveness*, claims that disease may be the most distinctive trait of southernness in the nineteenth century.

Dr. Sappington Challenges the Prevailing Medical Practices of the Day

To understand the important contribution Dr. Sappington made to medical progress, one needs to understand the theories of treatment that were generally accepted during his time.

The majority of doctors accepted the "fever" theory as the prime explanation of disease, namely, that fever was a result of irritation or excitement. The first treatment was to "calm" the patient, next it was necessary to "balance the deranged humors." Purging, puking, and bleeding were the most common methods to accomplish this. In the case of bleeding most textbooks recommended taking 10-12 ounces of blood and then continuing the depletion with sweating, diuretics and emetics. Sometimes additional blood was taken and huge amounts of diuretics were administered. Generally more was considered better than less.

The prevailing attitude toward quinine was that it was a stimulant and could only be administered in the absence of a fever and only after a period of purging, puking, and bleeding.

In an age when theories of medicine were adhered to with little experimentation by practitioners, Dr.

Sappington observed the deficiencies of the current practices. Likewise, Sappington observed the beneficial effects of cinchona or Peruvian bark. He began to experiment with the bark, on himself and on his patients, administering it at any stage of the fever. His conclusion was to reject the methods of purging, puking, or bleeding in favor of the bark. After he brought a large supply of quinine to Arrow Rock in 1824, he became known as the doctor who treated with "the essence of the bark."

The Story of a New Wonder Drug: Dr. Sappington's Anti-Fever Pills

In 1835 Sappington launched John Sappington and Sons, the business enterprise that would introduce Dr. Sappington's Anti-Fever Pills first to the Boon's Lick country, then to Missouri and the entire Mississippi River valley, and via the Santa Fe Trail, to the southwestern United States.

That same year Dr. Sappington made a list of items to be secured during a trip to St. Louis: 10 pounds of sulphate of quinine, 15 pounds of pulverized liquorice, 2 ounces oil of sassafras, 1500 vials, 2000 vial corks, 1500 pill boxes, "of medium size, not material as to form" and 3000 printed directions.

Three instructions are added to the end of the list. The first concerns how to test the purity of quinine, the second requests that the prices and work of several print shops be investigated, and the third instructs that inquiry be made for an instrument which could be used for molding pills.

The newly formed enterprise of 1835 proved an immediate economic success. Pill salesmen traveled into the Ohio River valley, especially Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee, the Mississippi River valley from St. Louis to New Orleans, particularly Mississippi and Louisiana, the White and Arkansas River valleys of southern Missouri and Arkansas, and the Red River valley in Texas.

By 1837 William Eddins, a route salesman from Howard County, wrote that he "could sell any quantity." Receipts found in the Sappington Papers for hundreds of pounds of quinine purchased in Philadelphia and New York support this claim. In 1837 five hundred pounds of quinine

were purchased for \$10,800 producing 60,000 boxes of pills each selling for \$1.50 or \$90,000.

The Sappington pills became so popular they tempted the unscrupulous to take advantage. In one such case a Mr. Immerson ran Sappington's route through the Arkansas River valley supplying a substitute pill and taking off with thousands of dollars. The Sappingtons countered with increased advertising of accredited salesmen selling boxes of pills that were sealed with Dr. Sappington's signature.

Sappington knew his theory on the treatment of fevers would be met with opposition from the medical establishment. He chose to take his case to the people through his book, *The Theory and Treatment of Fevers*. It was published from Arrow Rock in 1844.

Far from being a quack, as some contemporaries maintained, Sappington may have been well ahead of his time. He applied a tried method of treatment that was being ignored by the established practitioners of the day and engaged in personal experimentation. He did not claim that his pills were a "cure-all," and he didn't use his book to sell his pills. On the contrary, he gave his formula to the world and encouraged patients to make their own pills. Dr. Sappington found a real treatment for a very serious illness.

Medicine on the Santa Fe Trail

Malaria affected Santa Fe traders more than any other disease. Those with the illness found the journey increasingly difficult as they gained altitude during the trip, taxing their weakened condition.

In 1824 the Marmaduke-Storrs caravan crossed the trail to Santa Fe, the largest and healthiest outfit to have made the trip up to that time, the first trip being made in 1821. There was good reason for its health; the first stop made by Marmaduke out of Franklin was in the Sappington neighborhood to secure the "essence of the bark." He was also to marry Sappington's daughter, Lavinia, and become a partner in the Sappington family enterprises.

George Sibley, who marked the Santa Fe Trail in 1825, interviewed Marmaduke at Fort Osage in July of that year. Perhaps he and his party

used the "essence of the bark," helping them successfully complete their assignment. William Becknell, "father of the Santa Fe Trail," was a longtime acquaintance of Dr. Sappington. A letter of September 12, 1840, from the Republic of Texas indicates Becknell sold Sappington's anti-fever pills.

Dr. George Penn, partner of Dr. Sappington, was surgeon for the famous Doniphan regiment crossing the Trail to Santa Fe in 1846 during the war with Mexico. Most certainly he, too, would have prescribed Sappington's pills.

One of the most famous references to Dr. Sappington's Anti-Fever Pills comes from the 1846-1847 diary of Susan Shelby Magoffin, one of the first women to travel the Santa Fe Trail. "I was sick in the tent several days taking medicine all the time. . . . A physician was sent for to the camp of the traders below us and Dctr. Simpson of the dragoons, came to my relief. He prescribed blue pills, oil and other nauseating doses, and though they relieved me some, the chief cure was Dctr. Sappington's Pills which I must ever eulogize as a medicine of fine qualities. One box of them administered by *mi alma* [her husband] cured me, or at least broke the fever."

The Wider Influence of the Sappington Dynasty

Beyond the influence of Dr. Sappington's medical practice, the Sappington settlement became the center of great agricultural wealth and political power. Sappington and his circle of "southern landed gentry" controlled state politics to such an extent as to be known as the "Central Clique" of the Boon's Lick region. Two of his sons-in-law and one grandson became governors of Missouri. (M. M. Marmaduke 1844, C. F. Jackson 1861, and J. S. Marmaduke 1885). His sons, William Breathitt and Erasmus Darwin, each built elaborate brick mansions. Tradition says Dr. Sappington referred to them as "monuments to damned fools." Dr. Sappington, himself, lived in a two-story log house he had built in 1819.

On holidays throughout the year the landed gentry of the Boon's Lick gathered to discuss religion, philosophy, economics, and politics. Such gala affairs lasted for days, with

friends and neighbors such as agriculturalists General Thomas A. Smith, John Locke Hardeman, Thomas Shackelford, and Governors Meredith Miles Marmaduke and Claiborne Fox Jackson in attendance.

Upwardly mobile immigrants, many from Middle Tennessee, sought Dr. Sappington's advice. The marketing success of his businesses created a cash flow that was impressive for a money-scarce frontier. He made loans, kept careful records, and hired attorneys to collect debts and sue debtors. His financial advice was sought and his resources made extensive moneylending possible. In 1824 Sappington developed Jonesborough, (now Napton, Missouri) as the "metropolis" of Saline County, serving as the county seat from 1831-1839.

As an agriculturalist he was also successful. By 1843 he owned 16 tracts of land totaling 1,323 acres. Within six years he added another 42 farms of over 4,500 acres, totaling approximately 7,000 acres. His slaves and tenants raised wheat, corn, and tobacco and traded in mules, cattle, sheep, and hogs. He experimented with cotton in the 1820s, but did not pursue this. In 1849 he bought Saline County's first McCormick reaper. In 1850 he led the county in value of slaughtered animals and his orchard products were double in value those of his nearest competitor. He traded in slaves, accepted slaves as collateral, and owned slaves. In 1853 his 24 slaves were valued at \$17,750.

Dr. Sappington chose talented associates for all phases of his business ventures. Virginian Richard Marshall became his slave overseer, and Jesse Lankford, a master builder, constructed the family home and stores at Jonesborough. Dr. George Penn, a young graduate from the University of Pennsylvania medical school, became his partner. Dr. William Price, a son-in-law, was a talented businessman who assumed the management of the production and packaging of the famous "Sappington's Anti-Fever Pills." Dr. C. M. Bradford was another eastern-educated doctor who came to Arrow Rock and married into the Sappington family.

Sappington's Wealth Establishes School Fund

On October 24, 1853, three years prior to his death, Dr. John Sappington filed his will and trust deed that established the Sappington School Fund Trustees. The disposition of his property had concerned him earlier, for in 1847 he made a proposition to the public that he would give \$10,000 worth of land as a site for a manual training school for Saline County if as much as \$28,000 more would be raised within two years. He must have been disappointed in his fellow citizens when the money was not forthcoming. However, he did not give up his idea to support education, and in 1853 he set aside \$20,000, the interest on which was to be used for free education for the most needy children of Saline County.

In the 1880's the existence of the fund insuring a student body in Saline County, was a crucial factor in the founding of Missouri Valley College in Marshall, Missouri, the county seat of Saline County. Efforts by some Sappington descendants in 1894 to secure the school fund assets for themselves met with defeat in the Missouri Supreme Court and the Fund remains active to this day.

"A Truly Honest Man is the Noblest Work of God."

Dr. John Sappington died September 7, 1856, at the age of 81 years and was laid to rest at the family cemetery, beside his wife of 48 years who died in 1852. He was buried in a lead coffin, purchased, as the story goes, before his death and kept under his bed. The doctor and his wife lie in stone vaults above the ground; his bears the inscriptions, "A Truly Honest Man is the Noblest Work of God," and "He lay like a warrior taking his rest."

The Sappington Cemetery State Historic Site, five miles southwest of Arrow Rock, may be visited during daylight hours. Dr. John Sappington's immediate family is buried there, as well as Governors Meredith Miles Marmaduke and Claiborne Fox Jackson, Dr. Sappington's sons-in-law.

[Editors note: the following two tables of information were presented as supplemental material in the articles and are reproduced here as appendices.]

APPENDIX 1

Development of the "Essence of the Bark," Quinine

{1630}

Jesuit Missionaries returning from Peru were the first to bring cinchona bark with its antimalarial qualities to Europe.

{1785}

Formula for preparation of cinchona bark (from Buchans Domestic Medicine, 1785):

"Take of Peruvian Bark two ounces, of Seville orange peel and cinnamon of each half an ounce. Let the bark be powdered and the other ingredients then infuse the whole in a pint and a half of brandy for four or five days in a closed vessel. Afterwards drain off the Tincture. The dose is from one drachum to three or four every fourth or sixth hour."

{1820}

French Chemists Pelletier and Caventou isolate quinine from Peruvian bark.

{1823}

Quinine was first extracted from cinchona bark in the United States in Philadelphia.

{1824}

It is a tribute to the clinical acumen of Dr. Sappington who, tradition records, brought quinine to the Boon's Lick frontier just one year after it was available in Philadelphia.

APPENDIX 2

Sappington Business Ventures

1824, Pearson and Sappington Company, centralizes family marketing

1828, Marmaduke and E. D. Sappington, Santa Fe Trade

1830, Dr. Penn becomes partner with Dr. John Sappington in medicine and business

1835, John Sappington and Sons, manufacture and market Anti-Fever Pills

1845, John Sappington and Sons dissolved and reorganized into five companies

E. D. and W. B. Sappington

Marmaduke - Bicknell

C. F. Jackson

William Price and Company

Dr. Bradford and Pearson Children

1846, John Sappington and Company, blacksmithing

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN: ATTEMPTS TO TRUNCATE THE SANTA FE TRAIL

by David Clapsaddle

(Clapsaddle, Larned, KS, is program director of the Wet/Dry Routes Chapter and a frequent contributor to WT.)

DURING the first three decades of the Santa Fe Trail, the traders rarely deviated from the established route which departed western Missouri to traverse the prairies of Indian territory before reaching the big bend of the Arkansas River, 270 miles from Independence. From that point the Trail followed the north bank of the river in a southwesterly orientation to its south bend near present Ford, Kansas, before turning northwest to the Arkansas crossing. There it forded the river to pursue a southwest course across the dry Jornada to the present Oklahoma panhandle and on to Santa Fe.

The convoluted route along the Arkansas between the big bend and the Arkansas crossing consumed 122 miles, a distance that could well be shortened if the trail were to take a more direct route to the southwest. But little thought was given to truncating the traditional route, perhaps because of the availability of water along the Arkansas, perhaps because the route had been used from the earliest days of southwest exploration beginning with Zebulon Pike and continuing with William Becknell and the steady stream of Missourians who followed in his wake.¹

However, in the 1850s, three different trailblazers attempted to pioneer a shorter, more direct route than was afforded by the meandering Arkansas. The first of the three was François X. Aubry, a 27-year-old French Canadian who had entered the Santa Fe Trade in 1847. Following an ill-fated attempt to find a route from near Cold Spring in the present Oklahoma panhandle to some point on the Arkansas, above the Arkansas crossing in the spring of 1851, he successfully charted such a course the following fall. Described as "an excellent wagon road, well supplied with water and grass, and avoiding the Jornada and Cimarron trail altogether," the new route was estimated to save fifty miles of travel as compared to the established route. Thus was born what came to

be called the Aubry crossing, the Aubry route, or the Aubry cutoff.

Not content with the distance saved by his new road, Aubry began to pursue a new notion. In April 1852 he departed Santa Fe with a number of passengers, including William S. Allen, former Secretary of New Mexico Territory. Arriving at Cold Creek, Aubry directed his wagons up the new road to the Arkansas twelve miles above Chouteau's Island. From that point, he led the retinue downstream to a point twenty-five miles above the Arkansas crossing. There, he veered northeast and, after changing course several times, followed Walnut Creek to the big bend of the Arkansas. Allen, in notes of the expedition, concluded that the route north of the Arkansas along the Walnut to the big bend measured 101 miles, this in comparison to the regular route along the Arkansas which totaled 153, a difference of 52 miles. Subsequently Aubry, as did others, made repeated use of his new road from the Arkansas to Cold Creek; but for whatever reason, no further travel was made on the Walnut Creek route.²

Also in 1852 a second cutoff to the Arkansas was explored in a rather serendipitous manner. Early in June Lieutenant Israel C. Woodruff, topographical engineers, was dispatched from Fort Leavenworth to make a reconnaissance of "a portion of the Kansas River; of Walnut Creek; of Pawnee Fork; and other streams lying between the Smoky Hill Fork of the Kansas and Arkansas Rivers." His mission was to locate suitable sites for the establishment of military posts. On June 7, after three or four days, Woodruff and his party arrived at St. Mary's Mission. Subsequently crossing the Kansas, he proceeded to the mouth of Clarke Creek and followed its course south to strike the Santa Fe Trail east of Lost Spring. Further exploration brought the party to Pawnee Fork, and thence southwest to Buckner and Sawlog creeks, streams which he identified respectively as the north, middle, and south branches of the Pawnee. Concluding his expedition at Fort Atkinson (just west of present Dodge City), he rec-

ommended that (1) the mouth of Clarke Creek be the site for the proposed army post which was to be established in 1853 as Camp Centre, later Fort Riley, and (2) that a Santa Fe route along Pawnee Fork and Buckner Creek be developed to intersect with the Aubry cutoff someplace between the Arkansas and Cold Spring. Neither recommendation was honored. The site eventually selected for Camp Centre was upstream from the mouth of Clarke Creek at the confluence of the Smoky Hill and Republican rivers; and the road along the Pawnee and Buckner never materialized.³

A third cutoff to the Arkansas was explored in 1855. Following the advent of Camp Centre/Fort Riley in 1853, the army began to consider a more direct route from the new post to New Mexico than was afforded by way of the Arkansas River. In 1855 \$50,000 was authorized for the construction of a road from Fort Riley to any point on the Arkansas deemed desirable by the secretary of war.

On July 30, 1855, Lieutenant Francis T. Bryan, of the topographical engineers, departed Fort Riley with a survey crew and military escort to map out the new road to the Arkansas. Crossing the Solomon and Saline rivers, Bryan's party turned southwest to cross the Smoky Hill River and continue on to Walnut Creek and Pawnee Fork, tracing the latter to its headwaters before turning south to strike the Arkansas at recently abandoned Fort Atkinson. From Fort Atkinson Bryan led the expedition up the north bank of the Arkansas to Bent's New Fort. Returning to Fort Riley, Bryan reported that bridges would be required at the Solomon, Saline, and Smoky Hill.

The following February a \$38,000 contract was awarded to J. O. Sawyer for the construction of bridges at the three sites recommended by Bryan in addition to bridging two small streams between Fort Riley and the Solomon: Sycamore and Armistead's creeks. Work on the bridges was completed by February 1857, and Bryan notified his superiors that the road from Fort Riley to

Bent's Fort was "passable for trains of any kind." He also recommended that a large caravan be dispatched over the road to mark its course for future travelers and that a pioneer party of 20 men be sent a day in advance of the next train to prepare cutdowns at those streams not bridged. However, no wagons were sent to test the road, no pioneer party was dispatched to prepare the cutdowns, and the bridges built in 1856/1857 were destroyed by floodwaters in 1858. In short, the road surveyed by Lieutenant Bryan was never used.⁴

All three attempts to lessen the distance of the Santa Fe Trail occasioned by the winding course of the Arkansas River in the 1850s were not well received by those using the Trail. It was not until 1867 that such a notion met reality. In October of that year the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern Division, reached Hays City. At once the little municipality became the eastern terminus of the Santa Fe Trail, dispatching freight wagons and stagecoaches down the 75-mile length of a newly developed road to Fort Dodge on the north bank of the Arkansas River and, from there, on to Santa Fe. This road, which came to be called the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road, was foretold by Major General Winfield Scott Hancock following his ill-fated campaign in which he traversed the plains of west central Kansas in the spring of 1867. Writing to his replacement as commander of the Department of the Missouri, Major General Phillip H. Sheridan, he opined: "My impression is that the real route of travel for emigrants hereafter will be from Fort Hays or Harker (most probably from Hays) directly across to some point a little west of Dodge, crossing Walnut creek and branches of Pawnee Fork, where the country affords excellent grass, good running water, plenty of wood, good roads—wood, water, and grass at convenient intervals."⁵

"Walnut Creek and branches of Pawnee Fork" was strangely reminiscent of the routes prescribed by Aubry, Woodruff, and Bryan. After a duration of 12 years and the intervention of the railroad, a cutoff to the Arkansas had come to pass.

NOTES

1. One paramount exception was the Dry

Route which left the Wet Route just west of Pawnee Fork to follow a highland course to the Caches. This route produced a savings of 11.5 miles in comparison to the route along the Arkansas. See David K. Clapsaddle, "The Dry Route Revisited," *Wagon Tracks*, 14 (November 1999): 8-11. See Louise Barry, "Table of Distances of the Santa Fe Trail ('Kansas' Section) From Independence, Mo.," *The Beginning of the West: Annals of the Kansas Gateway to the American West, 1540-1854* (Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society, 1972), 814. This itinerary by Josiah Gregg, published in 1844, identifies the ford where the traders crossed the Arkansas to initiate the crossing of the Jornada as the "Ford of Arkansas." Other contemporary writers listed the ford as "Crossing of Arkansas."

2. The material related to the Aubry explorations was taken from Donald Chaput, *François X. Aubry: Trader, Trailmaker and Voyageur in the Southwest, 1846-1856* (Glendale, CA: the Arthur H. Clark Company, 1975), 20-111; Leo E. Oliva, "The Aubry Route of the Santa Fe Trail," *Kansas Quarterly*, 5 (Spring 1973): 18-29.
3. The material used for the Woodruff explorations was taken from Barry, *Beginning of the West*, 1103-1104, 1106, 1121, 1122, 1131, 1132; Records of the Office of Chief Engineers, National Archives.
4. The material used for the Bryan exploration was taken from David K. Clapsaddle, "Conflict and Commerce on The Santa Fe Trail; The Fort Riley-Fort Larned Road, 1860-1874," *Kansas History*, 16 (Summer 1993): 124-126.
5. The material for the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road was taken from David K. Clapsaddle, "The Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road," *Kansas History*, 14 (Summer 1991): 101-102.

POST OFFICE OAK

—LETTERS—

Editor:

It was very nice of you to feature Ann Birney and me in the front-page center column of the November *WT*, but I did not do anything to deserve it. Like they say, "I owe it all to my grandmother." She must have been a very determined person.

Ted Holmes

810 N Camino Santiago # 15
Tucson AZ 85745

Your presence at the Council Grove Symposium gave that gathering a special meaning. Many felt the spirit of your grandmother, Julia Archibald Holmes, was there as well. We thank you for caring about the Santa Fe Trail.

Editor

Editor:

Thanks for reprinting SFTA Ambassador David Clapsaddle's "The

Dry Route Revisited" from the *Overland Journal*. It clarified a number of questions I had concerning this section of the Trail, especially as relates to the fluidity of the Dry Route over time. I tip my hat to Clapsaddle for another excellent piece of work.

Richard Poole
815 S Shumard Dr
Stillwater OK 74074-1136

Editor:

I am pleased to report that my set of the first 12 volumes of *Wagon Tracks*, offered in the last issue, went to the Library Archives at Arizona State University, Tempe. SFTA member Patricia Etter requested these for their library. *WT* will now be available for students doing research at ASU.

Ethel Armstrong
507 Twin Diamond Rd
Roswell NM 88201

TRAIL TROUBADOUR

—Traffic in Verse—

Sandra M. Doe, Editor

This column seeks poetry which addresses the history, realism, romance, and diversity of the Trail and demonstrates authentic emotion, original images, and skill in craftsmanship. Submit poetry in open or closed form, along with a brief biography to Sandra M. Doe, Dept. of English, Campus Box 32, Metropolitan State College of Denver, PO Box 173362, Denver CO 80217-3362.

Thanks to Craig Crease of Shawnee, Kansas, who alerted this editor to the Margaret Long papers housed in the archives of the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Margaret Long, 1873-1957, was a physician educated at Johns Hopkins Medical School. After contracting tuberculosis, she moved to Denver in 1905, where she specialized in care for destitute women. She founded and was the medical director for Sands House, a home for women without means for their own tubercular care.

Long's hobby was desert and pioneer trails, and she both rote and collected others' poetry from these travels. She seems jolly and high spirited, full of adventure for the expeditions which she undertook, and she is not above doggerel. For example, a poem set near Council Grove mimics

the tune of "The Star Spangled Banner" but worries about losing a license plate. If we envision an open touring car, and plenty of gusto, we can hear singers and almost forgive the doggerel (pick up the tun with "the rocket's red glare"): "As onward we go, the road towards us doth flow/ At dawn and at dark with the sun's crimson glow./ Our emblem so true ever with us doth fare/ Oh look, can you see is the license plate there?"

The series "On the Road to Santa Fe" is contained in a larger collection entitled *The Apologia or Deathless Verse Recording Incidents of Motor Wayfaring*. The series contains four poems and each addresses arrival at Santa Fe from a different direction. Below find poems concluding their verses with "westward bound" and "northward bound" to Santa Fe. In the next issue Trail Troubadour will present the "southward bound" and "eastward bound" parts of the series. The author's punctuation and spelling have been maintained. These poems are from the Margaret Long Papers, Box 4, Folder 24 (Poetry 1918-1951), courtesy of the University of Colorado at Boulder Archives.

ON THE ROAD TO SANTA FE

(two in a series of four poems)
by Margaret Long

THE SANTA FE TRAIL. U.S. 50

On the highway cars are speeding,
Winding thru the sage and sand,
Past the canyons and the mesa
Sculptured by the Rio Grande.
Winds are sighing in the pinyons,
Whispering of another day,
Of the Argonauts who followed
Lonely trails to Santa Fe.

Valient Pike who led the way,
Pioneers of yesterday,
Prairie schooners, white tops sailing
O'er the plains to Santa Fe.

On the Road to Santa Fe
Scouts and soldiers blazed the way,
Breaking trail across the desert
From the east to Santa Fe.

On the road to Santa Fe,
Up the River's bank they stray,
Covered wagons creeping, creaking,
Westward bound to Santa Fe.

LA JORNADA DE LOS MUETROS, N.M.

Ninety miles across the desert,
Where the sand drifts to and fro,
Winds the trail the Spaniards followed
In the days of long ago.
Two nights march between its borders,

Midway, daytime rest was made
Where they camped beside scant
water

And awaited evening shade.

Journey of the Dead they say,
Drifting back from yesterday
Armoured Spaniards, hostile red men,
Throng the long abandoned way.

On the Road to Santa Fe,
Yucca Trees beside the way
And immortal greasewood, bushes
Just the same as yesterday.

On the Road to Santa Fe
Where the desert breezes play,
Phantom caravans are drifting
Northward bound to Santa Fe.



HOOF PRINTS

—TRAIL TIDBITS—

Ruby Warner, a rancher and Morgan horse breeder near Dodge City, died January 21, 2000. Wife of the late John Warner, on whose property a portion of the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road remains, she was a steward of the land and its heritage. The Warners, charter members of SFTA, received an award of merit a few years ago for their preservation efforts. Sympathy is extended to the family.

Congratulations to SFTA member Marsha K. King, Special Projects Archeologist for the Kansas State Historical Society, on the publication of her impressive 333-page *Results of Phase III Archeological Investigations at Fort Wallace (14WC303) Wallace County, Kansas*. King is working to complete her PhD in historical archeology. Her dissertation will study settlement and development along the Santa Fe Trail.

The National Frontier Trails Center has acquired a rare letter written by Abigail Smith, one of the first white women to cross the Rocky Mountains. Smith and her husband Alvin T. Smith made the journey from Independence to the Oregon Country in 1840. The eight-page letter describes the second half of their trip from the fur trappers' rendezvous on the Green River to the Whitman Mission, via Forts Hall and Boise. The letter is currently on

display.

The Kansas City 150th Legacy Fund has awarded the Friends of the National Frontier Trails Center \$10,000 for purchasing a pedestrian bridge for the ravine on the Bingham Waggoner Estate grounds. John Mark Lambertson, director, is now preparing an application for a matching grant to help with the installation of the bridge. The bridge would give the public better access to wagon swales discovered in January 1999.

The 2000 Oregon-California Trail Association Convention will be held in Kansas City August 7-12. Volunteers are needed for registration, hospitality, and leading bus tours. To volunteer call Ross Marshall at (913) 262-6445.

The Doña Ana County Historical Society has published the papers presented at their 1998 "sesquicentennial" symposium commemorating of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848). The speakers were Richard Griswold del Castillo, Mark J. Stegmaier, Malcolm Ebright, Deena J. González, Josephina Zoraida Vázquez, and John Grassham. The 100-page *Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo: The Rest of the Story!* may be ordered from Doña Ana County Historical Society, 500 N Water St, Las Cruces NM 88001. The cost is \$11.95 per copy, plus \$3.00 for postage and handling.

Two SFTA members received awards from Westerners International Co-Founders "Best Book" contest in 1999. David Dary's *Red Blood and Black Ink, Journalism in the Old West* received second place. Don E. Alberts's *Battle of Glorieta*, a book about Trail history, was the third-place winner. Congratulations!

CAMP TALES

—CHAPTER REPORTS—

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

Cimarron Cutoff

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

A reception will be held for the chapter's out-going officers, Helen Brown, Mary Gamble, and Sue Richardson on Saturday, February 26, at 3:00 p.m. (CDT). We will celebrate and honor their years of dedicated work for our chapter and the SFTA. Election of officers and the regular quarterly business meeting will be held after the reception.

One of the accomplishments during President Brown's terms, besides the SFTA symposium and a mapping workshop, that has not been publicized, is the placement of 81 copies of Dave Webb's *Adventures With the Santa Fe Trail* in each grade school and library in Union County, NM, Baca County, CO, Cimarron County, OK, and Morton County, KS.

In October 1999 the chapter decided to host a joint meeting of several chapter, and Sue Richardson suggested it be held in Clayton, NM. Six western chapters have been invited to a joint meeting on July 15 and 16 in Clayton, with tours planned for both days. See article in this issue for more information.

Texas Panhandle

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

The winter meeting was February 6 at the Amarillo Central Library. Alvin Lynn presented an update on his work with the Red River Wars survey and information about the Tucumcari area trails. Election of officers was held.

The spring meeting should be at the Wild Cat Bluff Nature Center, just outside of Amarillo on Loop 335, the date in April or May to be announced later. Alvin Lynn will guide us on a hike along the segment of the Gregg-Marcy Trail that crosses the land.

Wagonbed Springs

President Jeff Trotman
PO Box 1005
Ulysses KS67880
(316) 356-1854
<jtkb@pld.com>

On January 13, 23 chapter mem-

bers met at the Peddlers Inn Restaurant in Ulysses for the quarterly meeting. A total of 508 visitors had signed the registration book at the Lower Cimarron (Wagonbed) Spring Site for the year of 1999, with the following breakdown: in county, 213; out of county, 163; out of state, 120; and international, 2.

The officers for 1999 were elected to serve another term in 2000: President Jeff Trotman, Vice-President Bill Leonard, Secretary Marjorie Persinger, and Treasurer Lois Hileman.

Jeff Trotman and Ed Dowell met with the Haskell County Historical Society about the Santa Fe Trail Association and the Wagonbed Springs Chapter. We are pleased to announce that they have become members of both the SFTA and the Wagonbed Springs Chapter.

The interpretive sign at Wagonbed Springs and new brochures for the chapter were discussed. Outlets and funding for the projects are being looked into and will be decided on at the next meeting.

The Grant County Conservation District and Natural Resource Conservation District Annual Meeting was held on February 4, and the chapter presented a plaque to the Conservation District and land owners Jim Allen and Jeff Porter of PAK Partnership in appreciation of their historic preservation efforts at Wagonbed Springs Site. The Grant County Conservation District funded the cost share project, and PAK Partnership furnished the labor and equipment for the diversion terrace for the erosion problem at the historic site.

The meeting concluded with a video from the Kansas Heritage Center titled "Jedediah Smith, The Ten Who Dared."

Heart of the Flint Hills

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

No report.

End of the Trail

President Tom Steel
691 Callecita Jicarilla
Santa Fe NM 87502
(505) 982-0254
<tomcarly@swcp.com>

At the January 22 meeting Jean

Jordan portrayed "Mary Donoho: First Anglo Woman in Santa Fe." We learned about Mary and her adventure on the Santa Fe Trail and also about the culture in Santa Fe in the 1830s. Mary and her husband operated the "Old Fonda" or the Exchange Hotel on the Plaza. George Donoho Bayless presented Jean with a hard copy of Marian Meyer's *Mary Donoho: New First Lady on the Santa Fe Trail*. Jean described her research of Mary Donoho and thanked Marian Meyer for her valuable help in providing references. Marian was unable to attend the meeting but Marc Simmons who wrote the foreword was present.

At this meeting we had an election of officers for the next two years. George passed the emblem of leadership, a red bandana, to Tom Steel our new president. Pam Najdowski was elected alcalde segunda; Joan Sudborough, la escribana; Helen Greer, la tesorera; and Carol Klawa, board member.

Our next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Salida del Sol Chapter of the Old Spanish Trail Association, March 18. Stephanie Kearny, great-great-granddaughter of General Stephen Kearny, will speak. She is the author of the introduction to *Winning the West: General Stephen Watts Kearny's Letter Book 1846-1847*.

General Kearny led the Army of the West in 1846 which led to the annexation of New Mexico and territory to the west to the United States. His Army traveled the Trail, then continued to California.

Corazon de los Caminos

President Steve Whitmore
120 Gabaldon Rt
Las Vegas NM 87701
(505) 454-0683

Twenty-four members made the trip to Rio Abajo in October and were welcomed, informed, and refreshed by members of the Sandoval County Historical Society. We learned a lot about early Bernalillo and its connection to the Santa Fe Trail. From there Bev and Hal Jackson led us through historic Placitas, once the location of several small Spanish villages (hence the name), and showed us where the wagon road to Missouri probably left the area (bypassing Santa Fe).

On November 21, chapter members gathered at the Santa Clara Café in Wagon Mound. The speaker was Dr. Daniel Aragon y Ulibarri, author of *Devil's Hatband*, a fictional account of the struggle to defend long-standing land grants against western expansionism and corruption. Dr. Ulibarri is a direct descendent of the alcalde who wrote the plan for settling the Las Vegas Land Grant in 1832, and who then lost his own lands on the grant through American expansionism and opportunism. Dr. Ulibarri earned his Ph.D. at the University of California at Berkeley. He currently lives in Corrales, but is planning to build a home on land he purchased in Las Vegas, New Mexico. His talk was especially interesting because much of the story he has written takes place in San Miguel County.

Wet/Dry Routes

President Howard Losey
726 James St
Maize KS 67101
(316) 722-8669
<hlosey@swbell.net>

The Wet/Dry Routes web page has a new address: <<http://www.stjohnks.net/santafetrail/>>.

The chapter had its first Y2K meeting on Sunday, January 16, at the Municipal Building in Kinsley, Kansas. Chapter members from Kinsley, Loretta Graff and Mrs. John Riisoe, arranged for the meeting room and provided the refreshments. Thanks ladies. Good job.

President Rusti Gardner was absent. Her husband Jack was scheduled for open-heart surgery on Monday morning and she felt her place was with him. As this is being written, a report was received that he survived the surgery in fine fashion and is out of danger. By the time you read this, he should be back home in Larned.

Secretary/Treasurer Ida Yeager was also absent on other business in Kansas City. Vice President Howard Losey chaired the meeting and Alice Clapsaddle and Janice Klein took care of the clerical duties.

Reports were given by the Faye Anderson award committee and the mapping/marketing committee.

Officers for 2000 were elected: President Howard Losey, Vice-President Barbara German, Secre-

tary/Treasurer Anita Thomas, and David Clapsaddle, program director. The chapter voted to expend funds to pay mileage expenses for the program speaker.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Boy Scouts Tyson Keast and Nicholas Niemeyer in recognition of their Eagle Scout projects completed in behalf of the chapter. Howard Losey was honored with the Faye Anderson Award. Guests at the meeting were Merlene Baird, President of the Fort Larned Historic Society, and Morris Alexander, SFTA board member from Boise City, Oklahoma.

Following the business meeting, a well-received program was presented by Dorothy and Lee Kroh, chapter members from Merriam, KS, followed by a musical program presented by Bob Sallee from Larned. The spring meeting is scheduled for 12:30 pm, April 9, 2000, at the Larned Episcopal Church.

Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron

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

At the November meeting, Stan Reed, Superintendent of Fort Dodge, gave a talk entitled "Lost Legions—Galvanized Yankees Protecting the Santa Fe Trail." During the business meeting members voted to change the name of the chapter to "Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron Chapter."

The first meeting of the new year will be held February 11, 2000. Election of officers will take place as well as planning for the coming year.

Missouri River Outfitters

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

The chapter will meet on Sunday, February 27, at 2:30 p.m. at the Mahaffie Farmstead in Olathe, KS. The public is invited to attend. Treasurer Glenda Sours will conduct a tour and artisans will demonstrate skills of the time period. Vice-president Nancy Lewis will provide refreshments made from Mrs. Mahaffie's recipes. Committee chairs will report on works in progress and the membership will elect a nominating committee for the April elections. The

MRO board of directors will meet after the chapter meeting.

The April chapter meeting will be on Sunday, April 30, at 2:00 p.m. at the National Frontier Trails Center in Independence, MO. Board member Lou Schumacher will present information on mapping, marking, and developing plans for the Trail corridor in western Missouri. He will also share how the Hickman Mills School District is planning to create curriculum utilizing the Santa Fe Trail. Election of officers for 2000 will be held and refreshments will be served. The public and members of other historical organizations are invited to attend.

Quivira

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

No report.

Cottonwood Crossing

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

No report.

Bent's Fort Chapter

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

No report.

NEW SFTA MEMBERS

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

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Salina Public Library, 301 W Elm St,
Salina KS 67401

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Len & Cyndy Alaimo, 23 Rising Moon,
Santa Fe NM 87501
Ken & Coleen Anderson, 788 Hwy 177,
Council Grove KS 66846
Roger & Mary Ann Davis, 31451 Co Rd
402, Trinidad CO 81082
J. B. & Norma McElroy, 632 W 8th,
Springfield CO 81073
Mary & Lloyd Muilenburg, 6735 Scath-
clock Rd, Topeka KS 66614
Don & Alma Lee Powers, 943 N Arapa-
hoe, Ulysses KS 67880

M/M J. D. Rice, 31938 Co Rd L, Holly CO 81047

Roderic Ruggler & Deborah Nottingham, 3645 Knoll Lane #168, Colorado Springs CO 80917

Joe & Judy Thomeczek, PO Box 387, Las Animas CO 81054

M/M Ed Westeman, HC 01 Box 21, Syracuse KS 67878

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Barbara Fentiman, 83 Verano Loop, Santa Fe NM 87505

Joe P. Flores, PO Box 147, Stratford TX 79084

Edson R. Follett, 2247 W Plata Ave, Mesa AZ 85202

Mary Jane Johnston, 18205 Corte De Casares, Rancho Bernard CA 92128

Sandy Matthews, 1702 S Hayes, Enid OK 73703

Linda Maxwell, 1208 W 14th Ct, Chanute KS 66720

Thomas M. Morales, 9900 Spain Rd NE #W-1127, Albuquerque NM 87111

Genevieve W. Norris, 2 Verano Ct, Santa Fe NM 87505

Richard Prough, PO Box 224, Hedrick IA 52563

Angela N. Stiffler, 700 E 8th St #1115, Kansas City MO 64106

Bill Tackett, PO Box 1, Woodward OK 73902

Jack Tinnell, Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop, 1100 Kansas City Rd, Olathe KS 66061

Jim Wilson, PO Box 2428, Pensacola FL 32513

YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS

Aaron Becker, PO Box 604, Cheney KS 67025

Luke Becker, 5231 Honeysuckle Branch, Bulverde TX 78163

TRAIL CALENDAR

Everyone is invited to send no-

tices for this section; provide location, date, time, and activity. This is a quarterly. The next issue should appear in May, so send information for June and later to arrive by April 20, 2000. Thank you.

March 18, 2000: End of Trail Chapter and Old Spanish Trail Association Chapter joint meeting, 1:30 pm, Eldorado Community Center, Santa Fe.

March 19, 2000: Sara Jane Rickter, "Women on the Santa Fe Trail," Santa Fe Trail Center, Larned, 2pm.

March 25-26, 2000: Spring soup and craft fund raiser, Rice Tremonti Home Association, 66th & Blue Ridge, Raytown MO, 10 am to 5 pm daily.

April 9, 2000: Wet/Dry Routes Chapter meeting, 12:30 pm, at the Larned Episcopal Church.

April 27-29, 2000: Annual garage sale, Rice Tremonti Home Association, 66th & Blue Ridge, Raytown MO, 8 am to 5 pm daily.

April 29, 2000: Fort Larned Old Guard annual meeting, Indian encampment, fund-raising auction, entertainment, call (316) 285-6911 for details and dinner reservations.

May 20-21, 2000: Frontier Days, Rice Tremonti Home Association, 66th & Blue Ridge, Raytown MO, 9 am to 5 pm daily.

May 27-29, 2000: Santa Fe Trail Days at Larned, Santa Fe Trail Center, and Fort Larned NHS.

July 4, 2000: Old Time Independence Day Celebration, Fort Larned NHS.

Aug. 7-12, 2000: OCTA national convention, Kansas City.

Aug. 25, 2000: National Park Service Day with free admission to NPS sites along the Trail.

Sept. 21-23, 2000: SFT Rendezvous, Larned, Santa Fe Trail Center, and Fort Larned NHS.

Sept. 27-30, 2001: SFTA Symposium, Las Vegas, NM. Contact Steve Whitmore, 120 Gabaldon Rt, Las Vegas NM 87701, (505) 454-0683.

FROM THE EDITOR

Y2K turned out to be more of a humbug than a bug, and I hope the final year of the century and millennium is good to you. Although little has been said about it, SFTA is pursuing a goal of 2000 members in 2000. We need your help. There is strength in numbers, and the Trail needs you to be involved, involved with a chapter (if you live in an area served by a chapter) where much of the work of SFTA is done, involved in the preservation and promotion of the Trail. Invite someone to join today.

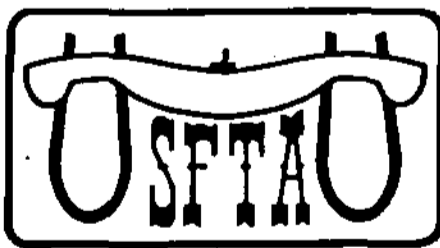
A drive to recruit business members along the Trail will begin soon. These will be identified by a small sign in the window, noting SFTA membership, and by a directory of business members in *WT*. Travelers will be encouraged to patronize these members and thank them for their support of the Trail. Tourism along the historic route is good for business as well as the heritage of the Trail.

Let's work together to reach the goal of 2000 in 2000.

Happy Trails!

—Leo E. Oliva

Santa Fe Trail Association
PO Box 31
Woodston, KS67675



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