

SPANISH TRACES



OSTA Wins Big Against Silurian Valley Solar

The BLM has denied Iberdrola USA's request for a variance to build a large solar plant in the Silurian Valley, California. In doing so, the BLM upheld the principle that large solar plants should be restricted to CA/BLM-designated Solar Energy Zones.

For nearly a year, OSTA, represented by the Tecopa chapter in BLM proceedings, voiced opposition to a variance for the Iberdrola plant, citing major adverse impacts it would pose to the Old Spanish Trail.

According to a news release by the BLM, "the impacts to the Silurian Valley, a largely undisturbed valley that supports wildlife, an important piece of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, and recreational and scenic values, had too great of an impact on the resources. The BLM concluded that these impacts likely could not be mitigated and that the project would not be in the public interest." The BLM has approved 18 solar, wind and geothermal projects on public lands in California since 2010. The Silurian Valley project is the first to be denied through the variance process.

Iberdrola still has an application before the BLM to construct a 15,000+ acre wind power farm in Silurian Valley. However, the same arguments that won the day against the solar plant are equally valid in weakening the case for another industrial development there, according to Jack Prichett, who took the lead in OSTA's campaign to preserve the Silurian Valley. His involvement had a large impact on the ultimate decision by the BLM.

"We will stay on top of the wind farm application, but meanwhile this is the time to celebrate preservation of a long segment of the OST corridor in California. Thanks to the OSTA Board and OSTA members for your support during this campaign," Prichett says.

The Partnership for National Trails (PNTS) has named Prichett as a member of its Policy and Advocacy Committee. The committee is tasked with developing PNTS policies and strategies broadly applicable to national historic and scenic trails throughout the U.S. ♦

OSTA News

| | |
|--|---------|
| Silurian Valley Solar Variance | 1 |
| Membership Form | 2 |
| Roster | 3 |
| President's Corner | 4 |
| Manager Musings | 6 |
| News | 7-8, 21 |
| Chapter Reports | 9-13 |
| Conference Photos | 34 |
| Conference Presentations: Warren | 35 |

Articles

| | |
|--|----|
| Lessons Learned In California: McClure | 14 |
| Ute Nation: A Culture in Jeopardy of Being Lost: Jefferson | 15 |
| Tribes Along the OST: Knudson | 17 |
| OST Tribal Conservation: Knudson: | 18 |
| Book: <i>The Mule Alternative</i> : reviewed by Ditmanson: | 18 |
| Travelers on the Last Caravan in 1841 From NM to CA: King | 22 |
| Porter Rockwell's Route Home: Johnson and Johnson | 27 |

News from the Trail

| | |
|---|----|
| Moving Forward, Looking Back: Ostapuk | 20 |
| PNTS: Grandrud | 32 |

THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL ASSOCIATION

The Old Spanish Trail (OST), one of America's long-distance pioneer trade routes, is recognized by Congress as a National Historic Trail. From 1829 to 1848, traders and pack mules followed the OST on a six-week trek from northern New Mexico to Southern California, where woolen goods from New Mexico were swapped for horses and pack stock raised on California's ranchos. Many took the trail – traders, frontiersmen, trappers, families, military expeditions and Indian guides.

The mission of the Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) is to study, preserve, protect, interpret and promote appropriate use of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail (OSNHT). OSTA promotes public awareness of the OSNHT and its multicultural heritage through publications, a website and interpretive activities; by encouraging research; and by partnering with governments and private organizations. We encourage you to join OSTA, help in trail preservation, and increase appreciation of the multicultural heritage of the American Southwest.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.oldspanishtrail.org

The OSTA website has an interactive map highlighting scenic trail locations, and is the place to go for both general background and recent news on the OSNHT and OSTA. The site contains maps, an overview history of the trail including a bibliography, a listing of relevant books with links to sites where they can be purchased, and a regularly updated news page that contains links to government reports, activities of OSTA members and other news related to the trail. The web page also links to National Park Service (NPS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) sites that have links to public documents and maps of the OSNHT. Copies of the DVD *Old Spanish Trail Suite*, a CD of back issues of *Spanish Traces*, books and pins can be purchased from the site. Memberships (new or renewal) may also be paid on the OSTA website.

Old Spanish Trail Association Membership Form

Memberships run for twelve months and include three issues per year of our journal, *Spanish Traces*.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Type of Membership _____ Quantity _____

\$5 of your membership supports your local chapter.

Indicate your chapter affiliation _____

Membership Types

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Individual | \$25/year |
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| Sustaining | \$50/year |
| Student | \$12/year |
| Institutional | \$30/year |
| Life (single or couple) | \$250 |
| Corporate | \$100/min |

Pay online at www.oldspanishtrail.org
or mail your check to:

**Judy Nickle, OSTA Membership
Coordinator**
**6267 S 157th Way, Gilbert, AZ
85298**

Email Judy with questions to
jnickle367@gmail.com.

Spanish Traces is the official publication of the Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado. *Spanish Traces* welcomes submission of articles, book reviews and OST-related news. OSTA assumes no responsibility for statements or opinions of contributors. *Spanish Traces* is copyrighted to OSTA in its entirety, but copyright to individual articles is retained by the author. The next deadline for submissions is March 10, 2015. All matters relating to *Spanish Traces* should be directed to the OSTA Editor.

Ruth Friesen, *Spanish Traces* Editor, 1046 Red Oaks NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87122
phone: 505.681.3026 email: ruthosta@comcast.net

OSTA Board - 2013-2014

President

Ashley Hall
4651 White Rock Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89121
702-433-7875
ashleyhall1@cox.net

Vice-President

Paul Ostapuk
PO Box 3532
Page, AZ 86040
928-645-2558
postapuk@cableone.net

Secretary

Lorna Hall
4651 White Rock Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89121
702-433-7875
lornahall@cox.net

Treasurer

C. Richard Dickinson, CPA
6600 W. Charleston Blvd,
Ste 122
Las Vegas, NV 89146
702-878-7227
richard@vegascpas.com

Arizona Director

Earl Fosdick
6267 S. 157th Way
Gilbert, AZ 85298
602-376-4277
ekfosstorm@netzero.com

California Director

Paul McClure, Ph.D.
1601 Calle de Armonia
San Dimas, CA 91773
909-305-0505
espabloaqui@verizon.net

Colorado Director

Mark Franklin
1911 Main Ave. Suite 236B
Durango, CO 81301
970-375-7992
id@animas.net

Nevada Director

Liz Warren, Ph.D.
PO Box 19039
Jean, NV 89019
702-874-1410
liz@xenei.net

New Mexico Director

Margaret Sears
1871 Candela St.
Santa Fe, NM 87505-5602
505-473-3124
margsears@cybermesa.com

Utah Director

Al Matheson
8847 West 2200 South
Cedar City, UT 84720-4829
435-586-9762
citabriair@yahoo.com

Director-At-Large

Reba Wells Grandrud, Ph.D.
2322 E Cholla St.
Phoenix, AZ 85028-1709
602-992-0339
rgrandrud@cox.net

Director Emeritus

James Jefferson, Ph.D.
3258 Highway 172
Durango, CO 81303
970-259-1038
jj1492@q.com

Association Manager

Dennis Ditmanson, PO Box 909, Las Vegas, NM 87701, 505-425-6039, osta@desertgate.com

Chapter Presidents

Armijo Chapter (AZ)

Paul Ostapuk
PO Box 3532
Page, AZ 86040
928-645-2558
postapuk@cableone.net

Mojave River Chapter (CA)

Tim Baggerly
16233 Kasota Ct.
Apple Valley, CA 92307-1442
760-242-0040
oldtrailnut@aol.com

Tecopa Chapter (CA)

Jack Prichett
857 Nowita Place
Venice, CA 90291-3836
310-895-4747
jackprichett@ca.rr.com

La Vereda del Norte Chapter (CO)

Ken Frye
635 Cherry Street
Del Norte, CO 81132
719-657-3161
Kennruth@gojade.org

North Branch Chapter (CO)

Bob and Juanita Moston
674 Lasalle Ct.
Grand Junction, CO 81504-5298
970-242-9443
bandjmost@bresnan.net

Nevada Chapter (NV)

Nicole Marie Dominguez
9625 Gondolier St.
Las Vegas, NV 89178
702-374-3812
nicolemdominguez@gmail.com

Salida del Sol Chapter (NM)

Pat Kuhlhoff
14 Duende Rd.
Santa Fe, NM 87505
505-466-4877
pglk@cybermesa.com

Fish Lake Chapter (UT)

Stephanie Moulton
2 North SR 25
Fish Lake, UT 84744
435-683-1000
fishlake@scintern.net

Red Pueblo Chapter (UT)

Jeff Frey
1386 S. Lee Drive

Kanab, UT 84741-6166

435-644-8471
condor@gmail.com

Southern Utah Chapter (UT)

Al Matheson
8847 West 2200 South
Cedar City, UT 84720
435-586-9762
citabriair@yahoo.com

San Rafael Chapter (UT)

Edward A. Geary
PO Box 1392
Huntington, UT 84528
435-687-2112
eageary@me.com

Tres Trails Chapter (UT)

Leo Lyman
PO Box 461326
Leeds, UT 84746
435-879-2345
lionman011@gmail.com

William Workman Chapter (UK)

William Ramsay
83A Urswick Rd.
Ulverston, Cumbria, UK LA 12 9LJ
david.fallowfield@btinternet.com



President's Corner

by Ashley J. Hall
OSTA President

Making the Old Spanish Trail Come Alive

Over the years, I have often expressed to OSTA members, my family and my friends that one of the great loves of my life has been the Old Spanish Trail and the romantic stories it tells about the hardy Santa Fe traders, mountain men, American Indians, the Western travelers and settlers who traveled the Trail between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Los Angeles, California, from 1829-1848, and later through the end of the 19th century. For example, all of my great-grandparents, grandparents and parents used portions of the Trail during their lives.

The exciting stories, histories and researched materials that tell the stories of the Trail and those who used it have fascinated me since I was a young boy. Much of the excitement I experienced about the

Trail came from my mother, who related to me many stories of family members and western pioneers who used the Trail.

I felt a heightened sense of excitement about the Trail and its history during the 2014 Annual OSTA Conference hosted by the Nevada Chapter on October 15-19. I found the attendees and presenters at the conference also had an enthusiasm for the OST that is contagious and helps to carry OSTA forward. Speaking of the exceptional presenters at the conference, I wish we had videotaped the entire conference for all of our members and chapters to enjoy during the cold winter months when it is hard to get on the Trail. I have asked Dr. Liz Warren, Nevada Director of OSTA, and part of the host committee, to provide a good overview of the presentations at the conference, which we felt were excellent, informative, and educational. I feel that the 2014 OSTA conference will go down as one of the great OSTA conferences, as each conference should be that enables the attendees to recharge their batteries and enthusiasm through their participation.

There were four major extracurricular activities that were designed to help maintain enthusiasm:

First, on Wednesday, October 15, several conference attendees retraced the original Armijo route that followed the Virgin and Colorado Rivers and now lies under the waters of Lake Mead. An additional OST historic site tour was conducted around the Las Vegas

Valley to several OST historic sites by Glenn Shaw.

Second, on October 16, OSTA conference attendees, accompanied by Clark County Commissioner Susan Brager, visited the Old Spanish Trail Park that contains one of the last known/recognizable segments of the OST in the Las Vegas Valley, toured the several kiosks that tell the story of the OST and listened to bluegrass music by the Blue Diamond Blue Grass Band. We then paid the highest compliment to the park and to all of Southern Nevada by planting one of the Nevada Centennial replacement markers along the Trail in the park.

Third, we hosted a Dutch-oven dinner at the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park that brought out the best of the OSTA spirit – thanks to some of the members of Troop 5 Boy Scouts, along with their leaders. We then visited the museum, visitor center, and reconstructed remains of the Old Las Vegas Fort built by Mormon missionaries in 1855. The Backcountry Trail Riders provided a mule packing demonstration, teaching us the great role mules played in the success of the OST. The mariachi band from Monaco Middle School, where two of our daughters are teachers, rounded out the evening with a great touch of mariachi music. We finished the evening with some delicious ice-cream bars from one of our sponsors, Anderson Dairy of Las Vegas, which has been in business in the city for over 110 years.

Fourth, on October 18, a recognition dinner was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel. Honorees included the late Hal Steiner to whom the conference was dedicated, out-going Utah Director Steve Heath for his untiring efforts to preserve and protect the Trail, and Nick Saines for leading the effort to construct the Old Spanish Trail Park in southwest Las Vegas. Others recognized were David Fallowfield and Bill Ramsey of the William Workman Chapter; Virgil Slade family and Scoop Garside for their part in the 1964 Centennial marking of the Old Spanish Trail through Nevada; Stuart Hall and Joshua Rhodes for photography and media stories during the British tour; Sammie Kost, conference intern; Dennis Ditmanson, OST Association Manager; Ruth Friesen, *Spanish Traces* editor; Aaron Mahr, NPS/NTIR Superintendent; and Robb Sweeten, BLM National Historic Trails Coordinator. Thank yous were extended to the conference sponsors: see Liz Warren's story on page 36.

Fifth, on October 19, three OST tours were offered, one north of Las Vegas to the Mormon Mesa, one south to China Ranch, via Resting Springs and Mountain Springs Pass and one west to the Red Rock National Recreation Area.

As we ended the very successful 2014 OSTA Conference, my thoughts turn to the question: What makes great OSTA members out of the gifted, dedicated, and resourceful members? In response to my own question, I feel OSTA members need to continue their momentum by pursuing the following:

1. OST history should tell an interesting story.
2. OST history should be as factual as possible, researched and double-checked.
3. OST history should be romantic.
4. OST history should inform.
5. OST history should include the story of people, places, events, and accomplishments.
6. OST history should be preserved in books, periodicals, journals, oral and written histories, preserved electronically, and be easily accessible.
7. OST history should be analyzed, digested, and understood in its context.
8. OST history should be interpreted.
9. OST history should be educational, protected, and archived.
10. OST history should be fun.

Lastly, history of the OST should be exciting, informative, educational, rewarding, a positive experience, contagious, motivating, produce psychic income, a pastime, a personal experience, a mission, a focus in life and a blessing to many.

Thanks again for all you do and we look forward to seeing and visiting with you along the Trail at events, activities, and chapter meetings this coming year. We look forward to meeting all of you at the Santa Fe Three Trails Conference scheduled for Santa Fe on September 17-20, 2015. ♦

Photo: Ruth Friesen



Las Vegas City Councilman Bob Beers presents a proclamation honoring the Old Spanish Trail Association to Elizabeth Warren and Ashley Hall.



Manager Musings

*by Dennis Ditmanson
Association Manager*

It has been a very busy time for the Old Spanish Trail Association since my last entry. In mid-summer a contingent of OSTA members headed by President Ashley Hall made the journey to England and Scotland to visit sites associated with Trail pioneer William Workman. Members of the William Workman Chapter welcomed us and I want to thank David Fallowfield and Bill Ramsey in particular for their hospitality and wonderful tour guide expertise. For Carol and me this was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

It seemed like the rest of the summer just sped by and then we were gathering in Las Vegas for the annual conference and membership meeting. Ashley, Liz, Nicole and others of the Nevada Chapter did a bang-up job of putting a quality conference together, highlighted by on-site events at the Old Mor-

man Fort State Park and the Old Spanish Trail Park, where another of the commemorative trail markers was placed. One action of significance that came out of the Board meeting was the approval of a change in the way membership renewals will be handled. More information on this will be found elsewhere in this issue and through your chapter president or secretary.

The conference was followed quickly by the 2014 National Historic Trails Workshop sponsored by the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) and by the Crossroads Chapter of the Oregon California Trail Association (OCTA). OSTA was represented by out-going Utah Director Steve Heath, Director at Large (and PNTS Board Member) Reba Grandrud, our e-newsletter and social media coordinator Chelsea Bodamer, and me. The workshop focused on the route of the emigrant trails across northern Utah with an outstanding field trip to sites on the infamous "Hastings Cutoff". Other sessions of interest included the release of a recreation and development strategy focused on the Old Spanish National Historic Trail in Iron County, Utah, developed by the Bureau of Land Management, and a discussion about upcoming changes to the U.S. Forest Service's forest planning rule which will require acknowledgement of national scenic and historic trails in future planning documents.

I want to thank Steve Heath for his tireless service as Utah Director and welcome Al Matheson

who was elected to fill that role at the membership meeting. Exciting things are happening in Utah, which now has five chapters and the possibility of a couple more. Steve may be leaving the role of Director but he will continue in an active capacity as we move to complete a driving guide of OSNHT related sites in central Utah and along the Armijo route in the southern part of the State.

I wish a joyous holiday season for all, good health and great Trail experiences in 2015. Hope to see you all in Santa Fe in September. ♦



Art Book Features Fishlake Cutoff

The Utah Pioneer Heritage Arts has produced "Valley of the Trails" (Sevier County), the latest in their Legacy Series of art books and CDs. The publication features the Fishlake Cutoff of the Old Spanish Trail with a three-page spread of photos and art and a song about it. It was created with the collaboration of Bob Leonard and can be purchased at www.upharts.org.

UK Visit Video Available Online

The slide presentation OSTA UK VISIT 2014 that David Fallowfield showed at the recent Conference can now be viewed online at <http://youtu.be/QMtuK2UgFMA> or by searching for "Osta UK Visit 2014".

New Process For Membership Renewals

The OSTA Board took action at its meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, in October to change the process by which OSTA members will be notified and billed for membership renewals.

Up to this point, a membership year ran for 12 months from the month in which a member first joined the Association. With something in the range of 350 paid members, this necessitated an almost constant stream of notifications from the membership coordinator and a relatively complicated system of keeping track of who was current, and who was not. Current Membership Coordinator Judy Nickle and past Coordinator Lorraine Carpenter worked together to devise a new system which will streamline the process and more closely involve the OSTA chapters in maintaining current memberships.

The idea is to link membership renewals to chapter designation. As you may know, a portion of your OSTA membership reverts back to the chapter which you designate for use locally in supporting chapter activities. That's why it's important that you designate a chapter, even if you cannot be a regular attendee at chapter activities. Under the new process, memberships will be renewed by chapter. For example, all memberships in the Armijo Chapter might come due in January. The members and the chapter will be notified in advance and the chapter will be involved in reminding members that their renewals are due. This could mean that a new member who joined late in the calendar year will get a renewal notice before 12 months have passed, but after the first year renewals will come on a 12 month cycle.

Full details of the new process will be developed by the Membership Coordinator and sent to the chapter presidents early in January 2015. All members who have not designated a chapter will be treated as one block and issued renewal notices in a single, selected month. Watch the mail for more information as this process is implemented over the next few months.

New OST Video Created

Bob Leonard shared a new Old Spanish Trail video, featuring the Fishlake route, at the conference in Las Vegas. This short movie shows historical evidence of the Old Spanish Trail--Fishlake Cutoff as it meanders through the Red Creek area of Salina Canyon. Bob Leonard, Archaeologist for the Fishlake National Forest, has researched this route for several years.

The video is available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_IaZnzl-Ig&feature=em-share_video_user. Look closely for the actual trails. All of it was shot on the trail system.

USGS Launches Lidar Mapping Program

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Geological Survey and other Federal agencies are launching a 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) partnership designed to bring Federal agencies, academia, corporate entities, states, tribes, and communities together to develop advanced 3-dimensional mapping data of the United States.

The primary goal of 3DEP is to systematically collect enhanced elevation data in the form of high-quality light detection and ranging (lidar) data over the conterminous United States, Hawaii, and the U.S. territories, with data acquired over an 8-year period.

On July 18, 2014, the USGS issued a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) that provides detailed information on how to partner with the USGS and other Federal agencies to acquire high-quality 3D data. The BAA was modified on Nov 21, 2014 (Amendment 7). Federal agencies, state and local governments, tribes, academic institutions, and the private sector are eligible to submit pre-proposals. For additional information, visit <http://nationalmap.gov/3DEP/>.



The submission deadline for the next issue of Spanish Traces is
March 10, 2015.

Annotated Bibliography Donated

OSTA member and writer Dr. Donald E. Rowland, DDS, has provided OSTA members and others with an important tool in researching the history of travelers on the Old Spanish Trail.

Dr. Rowland, a seventh-generation Californian and a descendent of the Portola expedition of 1769 and the Anza expedition of 1776, is retired from a Southern California dental practice, and is pursuing his interest in family and California history. His studies have so far resulted in the publication of *John Rowland and William Workman: Southern California Pioneers of 1841*, by the Arthur H. Clark Company, 1999.

In addition, Dr. Rowland has compiled a 65-page bibliography of many of the travelers on the Old Spanish Trail who later settled in California. The bibliography tracks some 60 individuals, referencing their mention in various publications. For example, the first entry is for David Alexander and includes a listing of ten publications where reference to Alexander may be found, along with a brief description of the reference. Dr. Rowland states, "The bibliography is not a comprehensive listing of all who traveled the Trail, nor all who settled in California, but it will provide a quick guide for those interested in the general topic and particularly for those individuals and families listed."



Photo: David Fallowfield

Don and Jean Rowland

Through this generous donation, the bibliography will be available as a free reference to OSTA members on the members-only webpage, and to non-members for a nominal charge through the retail sales page on the OSTA website, www.oldspanishtrail.org.

The Association wishes to express its thanks to Dr. Rowland for making this valuable tool available to our membership. ♦

Backcountry Horsemen Rode Section of Old Spanish Trail

Seen on Facebook: posted by Richard Waller

We Backcountry Horsemen finished our ride of the first half of the Old Spanish Trail last Friday [November 7] at Parowan, Utah....It was quite a trip, a month of riding the historic route. We used the Mojave River alternative as we could not get permission to ride on Fort Irwin. We found sections of the west bound mule trail intact. We found sections of the later Mormon Wagon Road. A great trip, we are looking forward to

riding the second half from Parowan to Santa Fe, starting next August.

[Check out the whole trip with photos on Facebook at Backcountry Horsemen Old Spanish Trail Trek. A trail to the video we are making is at <http://bit.ly/1vu2NgR>.]

Chapter Reports

Armijo Chapter

In September, members of the Armijo Chapter in Page, Arizona, teamed with Red Pueblo Chapter members in Kanab, Utah, and travelled to the Hurricane Cliffs on the Arizona Strip in search of a historic Armijo campsite. The objective of the overnight field trip was to search for the presence of limestone outcrops containing pools of water near the Hurricane Cliffs. On December 17, 1829, the Armijo party found water in a limestone canyon and rested for a day while dispatches were sent to search for a suitable route down the formidable Hurricane Cliffs.

Chapter members were pleased to report that the location of Rock Canyon on Hurricane Cliffs held the necessary components for an Armijo campsite. Rock Canyon is located on a path of least resistance straight west across a flat plain from Pipe Spring National Monument. At the head of Rock Canyon good camp site locations were noted with an abundant supply of grass. Most importantly, several pools of water (below) were located nearby in the Kaibab limestone formation.

| | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| Dec 16, 1829 | Al llano del Coyote sin agua | To the Coyote plain without water |
| Dec 17, 1829 | Al cañon Calosa: agua de agujas | To the Limestone Canyon. Water from water holes |
| Dec 18, 1829 | Demora, y salió la contada y volvió sin novedad. | Day's rest. The detachment left and returned without incident |

--- Paul Ostapuk



Tecopa Chapter

On the Ground. In the Spring 2014 *Traces*, we reported that the Tecopa chapter had found and recorded about a five-mile segment of wagon trail, corresponding to our hypothesized location of a segment of the OST mule caravan route. The wagon trail led west from Brown Springs near the California/Nevada border, across a shallow valley, to a point near the eastern end of the mule trace that we recorded between 2008 and 2011. Presumably the wagon wheels and oxen hooves obliterated the trace of the earlier mule track leading from Brown Springs.

Looking Ahead. In the 2014-2015 field work season (November through April), the Tecopa chapter plans to search for a similar segment of wagon trail/OST leading west from Hidden Springs. Hidden Springs, formerly a copious water source, is situated along the state line just south of Brown Springs. Since mule caravans and later wagon trains both used the two springs, a trail across the valley, similar to the Brown Springs segment, may still exist. The goal of our field-work is to locate and record this segment of trail/trace.

Enlisting High Tech. In locating and recording both the Brown Springs and Hidden Springs segments, Tecopa chapter plans to use a mini-helicopter drone aircraft, equipped with a camera (see photo). Scouting at low altitudes, the drone will help locate faint wagon ruts or mule traces as well as provide dramatic video for use in future presentations of our trail recording.

Turning to Local Archives. Finally, the chapter is turning to local archival sources to deepen our understanding of the California/Nevada border area just south of Pahrump, Nevada. Our search will focus on locating and scouring early settler accounts and reminiscences, historical maps, and late 19th-century photographs about the area. We hope the additional research will bolster archival accounts we have uncovered from 1849 and immediate post-Mexican Period sources.

--- Jack Prichett



Tecopa chapter members Richard Bent (right) and Jack Prichett demonstrated Bent's DJI Phantom 2 quadcopter during the 2014 OSTA conference in Las Vegas. The control module held by Bent allows the operator to see on a screen what the Phantom 2's camera is recording. The quadcopter will allow a small team on foot to examine much more ground for signs of the trail.

Photo: Ruth Friesen

William Workman Chapter

The main item to report is the recent attendance of Chapter President Bill Ramsay and Chapter Secretary David Fallowfield at the annual OSTA Conference held October 16-19 in Las Vegas, Nevada. They received a very warm welcome from President Ashley Hall and the other officers and members of OSTA and found the venue, Embassy Suites, a very comfortable, peaceful, and well-appointed hotel.

Arriving in the U.S. well before the conference dates, the two Brits put a strong Old Spanish Trail slant into their pre-conference planning. Their first night was in fact in Las Vegas and next morning they went up the trail and had breakfast in Mesquite. Later that day they were in Kanab, Utah, for a field trip on the Armijo Route beside the dried-up Paria River in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. That evening, in Page, Arizona, they had dinner with OSTA Vice-President Paul Ostapuk and his wife, Diane.

Away from the OST they visited Grand Canyon (South Rim) National Park and stayed in Williams, Arizona. The following day they picked up the trail in the Mojave Desert and stayed the night in the trail town of Barstow. Then they headed north to the Sacramento area to spend four days with David's relatives, after which they crossed the Sierra and travelled south in Owens Valley to overnight in Lone Pine, California. Up before dawn, they photographed the sunrise on the Sierra Nevada from the Alabama Hills. Then via Death Valley National Park to again pick up the OST at Tecopa and travel via Resting Springs, Emigrant Pass and Mountain Springs Pass back to Las Vegas for the conference, where they participated fully in the various activities.

As always, the lectures were of a high standard and well-presented by very knowledgeable enthusiasts. The reception at the Old Spanish Trail Park was interesting and it was memorable to be involved with the setting up of a new Trail marker. The Friday night Dutch-oven dinner was also enjoyable, especially with the great atmosphere created by the Monaco Middle School Mariachi Band.

At the annual membership meeting on the Saturday morning, Fallowfield showed photographs taken during the OSTA visit to England and Scotland in June and July with music by Edward Elgar. He then amused the gathering by singing several verses and chorus of the "Song of the Trail" he wrote in 1999 to mark William Workman's bicentennial. (The words of this were published in *Spanish Traces*: Fall 2004).

That evening at the recognition dinner, Ramsay and Fallowfield were honoured by being recognised for outstanding work for OSTA.

The duo had signed up for the North Tour field trip to Mormon Mesa, which was very ably led by Ashley Hall (see photo at the Trail Marker #7 on Mormon Mesa). The following day, with time to spare, they visited the BLM Red Rock Canyon Recreation Area in the morning for great photography. It was Ramsay's first visit here and 31 years since Fallowfield visited the location. In the afternoon they went north for their first visit to the Valley of Fire State Park to photograph the tortured shapes of the brilliant red rocks.

Back home in the UK they have enjoyed updating other members of the chapter about the great success of their attendance at yet another OSTA conference. The early prediction is that there will be increased numbers attending the Santa Fe conference in 2015.

--- David Fallowfield





San Rafael Chapter

In the fall of 2012 while traveling through southern Utah, my husband and I journeyed through Kingston Canyon and saw the metal cutouts depicting the Old Spanish Trail riders. I was so impressed with this Trail reminder that I thought, “Emery County needs some of those.” The Old Spanish Trail runs right through the middle of our beautiful county just skirting the rugged San Rafael Swell area. What better way to help people remember or learn about this part of our history, than to see these metal sculptures?

This seemed like a great project for two organizations in our county, the newly formed San Rafael OSTA chapter and the Emery County Preservation Commission. At our next meetings the project was proposed and was excitedly accepted by both organizations. Bob Leonard, Fishlake National Forest archeologist, was very helpful in giving us information to get started. He also traveled to Kingston Canyon to take measurements of the silhouettes for us. Local metal artists were contacted to see who might be interested in submitting designs and bids for the project.

Our next task was to secure needed funding for the project. We contacted the National organization of the Old Spanish Trail and applied for a grant. Dennis Ditmanson, OSTA Manager, was interested enough that he made a trip to Emery County and with our County Chapter President Dr. Edward Geary as host, he was taken to the proposed site for the silhouettes. Emery County has recently

completed a Buckhorn Well Visitor’s Center in the Cedar Mountain area that will house visitor information about the County in its many kiosks, including information on the OST. We hoped to get permission from the BLM to install these silhouettes across the road, north of this center. This installation site is very near to the northernmost point of the Trail as it skirted the impassable cliffs and canyons of the San Rafael Swell. Dennis was impressed with the project and the OSTA Board of Directors subsequently awarded us a grant to be used toward the project. The Emery County Travel Bureau also provided grant money. These two grants, coupled with private donations, made the project a reality.

Eldon Holmes of Cleveland, Utah, was awarded the contract to do the metal sculptures. After much work, these beautiful OST reminders were installed on July 23, 2014. We wish to thank all who worked hard to get the necessary approval and permits to allow this project to be placed on BLM ground. We also appreciated the help given by the volunteers from the Emery County Corrections facility under the direction of Deputy Mike Jorgensen.

It is hoped that these sculptures will be enjoyed for many years to come. We invite the residents of the area to make a trip to see them and remind all that we hope everyone will work to discourage vandalism of any kind.

--- Bernice Payne

Salida Del Sol Chapter

On Saturday, August 16th, members of the Salida del Sol Chapter took a field trip to the Taos area. We met at the Pilar visitors station located at the base of the Rio Grande Gorge, which has a wonderful diorama of the landscape of the Taos Plateau and the Rio Grande Gorge.

At the top of the hill we stopped at the Taos overlook to get a feel for what the mule caravan drivers would have seen when they entered the plateau at the south end on their way north to Taos. From there we drove through town and on north to Arroyo Hondo where we were privileged to visit the private property where the Turley Mill and distillery was located in the 1830s.

Simeon Turley was born in Kentucky in 1806; he came from Boone's Lick, Missouri, to New Mexico in 1830. He first had a store in Taos before moving 12 miles out of town to Arroyo Hondo to establish his gristmill and distillery, which was very popular with the trappers and traders of the area. As the mill site was north of town, it was often the first stop for trappers and traders coming from the north to the Taos trade fairs. It would have been the last stop for those going west on the Old Spanish Trail to California and surely a little (or perhaps a lot) of Taos lightning helped on cold nights on the trail.



Our guides Corky and Paul view the remaining rock walls of the mill and distillery.

In 1831, Turley became a Mexican citizen. He never married but had seven children with a woman named Maria Rosita Vigil y Romero. Simeon and his brother Jesse partnered in the Santa Fe Trail trade. Simeon Turley died in 1847 in the Taos Revolt. The mill and property were burned down and over the years the adobe walls disintegrated and all that is left are the stone foundations of the compound.

We had lunch in town and then visited the Kit Carson Park and Cemetery and the Kit Carson Home. The day went by quickly and we had no time for the Martinez Hacienda which we will visit another time.

--- Pat Kuhlhoff

Trail which would have been used by OST traders, heading west out of the area

Lessons Learned in California

By Paul McClure, *OSTA California Director*

We learn from both our mistakes and our successes. In 2014, OSTA activities in California taught us some useful lessons about how we can better serve our members and our constituent communities. Here are some examples:

1. Joint Meetings

Problem: Declining membership, fewer chapter or association activities

Lesson Learned: Hold joint meetings with other historical organizations

Example: At a joint meeting with the San Dimas Corral of Westerners, 90 people turned out for dinner and to hear Jack Prichett speak about the Silurian Valley and other solar projects.

2. Display Materials

Problem: Booth display lacked eye-appeal for passers-by and enough handouts to meet the demand.

Lesson Learned: Obtain large attention-getting displays and plenty of handouts: maps, brochures, patches, and pins.

Example: At the Riverside Historical Symposium, our display lacked eye appeal and one teacher cleared the entire table of handouts for his students. We contacted Dennis Ditmanson, who immediately sent us some excellent large display posters and an array of handouts. The 4" x 9" cards with trail information are ideal for the teacher who wants something for each of his students as he taught about the Old Spanish Trail: small, informative, and not too expensive.

3. Legislative Connections

Problem: Legislators are unaware of Old Spanish Trail history and connections in their jurisdictions

Lesson Learned: Meet elected officials and their staff members, supply them with OST information, invite them to events, and introduce them

Example: When the California Department of Natural Resources blocked our request for the Governor to declare an Old Spanish Trail Day (probably due to our opposition to the Silurian Valley solar project), we asked our local Assembly member for help. He car-



Paul McClure displays Old Spanish Trail Day proclamation sponsored by California Assemblyman Chris Holden.

ried a bill for the State Legislature to declare Saturday, October 4, 2014, and the first Saturday in October of each subsequent year, as Old Spanish Trail Day in California.

4. Old Spanish Trail Day

Problem: Lack of gravitas for local Old Spanish Trail events

Lesson Learned: Have an elected official or legislative body declare Old Spanish Trail Day, preferably on the first Saturday in October so that all states are consistent.

Example: California Assemblyman Chris Holden carried a bill to the state assembly declaring Old Spanish Trail Day in California. The bill passed unanimously. This can be done at the city, county, state, or national level.

5. Community Identity

Problem: Local communities are unaware of their Old Spanish Trail connections

Lesson Learned: Develop a plan and install plaques and monuments with appropriate ceremonies.

Examples: 1. Spanish Trail Specific Plan in Barstow. View the video at <http://vimeo.com/106422389>, 2. Old Spanish Trail plaque in San Dimas, and 3. Old Spanish Trail mural in Barstow. ♦

Ute Nation: A Culture in Jeopardy of Being Lost

By Dr. James Jefferson

Traditionally, Native Americans have transferred their culture and history through oral means as told by elders. Each year at festivals and family gatherings, the elders tell stories of their tribe and passed along the mythological tales associated with their culture. After the arrival of white settlers and missionaries, however, the culture of the Native Americans began to be affected, and the oral stories began to disappear.

My people, the Utes, have always lived in the mountains of Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico, and our traditional hunting grounds extended far beyond the territory. The Ute people do not have a migration story like other tribes because our recorded history has always been set in the western mountain region. The Ute Nation is composed of several bands that are loosely affiliated in a tribal confederacy. Historically, a principal leader was chosen when the tribe had dealings with governmental agencies and foreign invaders of their lands.

Although we Utes were not forced from our lands in the late 1700s and early 1800s like so many other tribal groups, we nevertheless suffered some of the same impacts on our traditions and culture. When gold and other minerals were discovered on Ute lands, the U.S. Government forced our people to give up control of much of our land and to move to an ever-decreasing reservation land area. Government programs were designed to force assimilation into the white man's society and to become acculturated to the white way of life. For those forced onto the reservations there was a loss of language and knowledge of traditional culture. Those who were subjected to the Indian Boarding and Industrial Schools literally had their language and customs beaten out of them. When they returned to the reservation they no longer understood their Ute culture.

Many of our young people have forgotten their language and culture and traditions. They come into the world believing they must be like society wants them to be. They think they have to be acculturated



Dr. Jefferson stands next to a Ute Chieftain's burial marker

to the white man's society. As a Southern Ute elder I speak the language, know the songs, the traditions, and all aspects of my culture. I am one of the few elders that remain who can teach the younger generations. Though many of our people now believe they should have listened to the elders, time is running out as many of our elders have "walked on". Of those that remain, only some know the full extent of their tribal culture. Through interviews and filming of the stories, the culture and traditions can be saved for future generations. My hope is that at least half of the young people of the tribe can be educated about the Ute culture and heritage before it is lost.

One aspect of the Ute culture that I have been working on involves research about Ute Prayer Trees and Rock Art to help capture the knowledge of Ute elders on this unique tradition. Indian trail trees and rock art are sacred to Native Americans and their preservation is very important. Many of these trees can live to be 300 to 600 years old but some are near the end of their lives. Others have been destroyed by urban development and vandals. Like other aspects of our culture, the meaning of these trees and rocks is not completely known, and may never be, as those with that knowledge are all but gone. Some of the trees and rocks mark Indian trails while others point to water, shelter, and stream crossings. Spirit Trees, as they

Continued on next page

are known, hold the prayers and then they go to the Creator. Ute Burial Trees hold a special meaning to the Utes as the cedar tree has spiritual powers used by the medicine people.

The techniques for bending a tree into a particular shape have, for the most part, been lost, but these living artifacts are testimony to the skills and knowledge of Indian people and their being one with nature.

I have been meeting with different groups to identify locations of Prayer Trees which can be found across the United States. Most of the meetings have been held at the Sky Ute Casino in Ignacio, Colorado. Included in the meetings have been Kathy Whitson, Archeologist for the Carson National Forest in New Mexico; Carol Patterson, Archeologist; Patti Brady, San Juan National Forest in Colorado; John Anderson, Colorado Springs researcher; Don Wells, author of *Mystery of the Trees*; and Forrest Ketchin, Archeologist for the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve in Colorado. Others joining us include Chris Miller, Delta, Colorado; Pat Kuhlhoff, Santa Fe, New Mexico; Doug Knudson, South Fork, Colorado; and members of the Ute tribe.

Interest is growing wherever we do our presentation. For example, a recent public meeting at the La Forte Conference Center in the Black Forest area northeast of Colorado Springs attracted some 50 participants to learn about Prayer Trees in their area, including National Forest property. Attending were members from the Southern Ute, Ute Mountain and Northern

Ute tribes with Tri Ute Council members from Fort Duchesne, Utah, providing a blessing about trails and Prayer Trees in their area. Working with Carol Patterson, Clifford Duncan, a Ute elder from Fort Duchesne, has recorded much of his work on trees and rock art.

These meetings and other work on Prayer Trees and rock art are bringing life to the stories about the history of the early Utes. ♦



The World Tree and Ute Cosmology are all shown in this panel that is placed high up on the cliff face. It belongs to the higher level of knowledge known only to spiritual leaders of the Ute bands. The information was probably discussed among elders and initiated members. The images on this panel were not meant to be viewed by everyone and that is the reason it was not placed down on the valley floor where the general public could see it. The trail does not even go by this panel, because of its religious significance.



Grandfather tree at La Forte, Colorado

Tribes along the Old Spanish National Historic Trail

By D.M. Knudson

For centuries before the Spanish (and more recently the Anglos) arrived in the Southwest, various tribal peoples had found long routes of commercial travel east and west, north and south. They followed the easiest passages through the mountains, canyons, and deserts. They found the water sources and the best river crossings. They learned the safe routes through western deserts where water was most available.

Tribal traders found long routes. They traded shells from the ocean for hides from the mountains and plains. They exchanged goods and ideas with the Mississippi River tribes. They obtained feathers and other goods from the American Tropics. *(Several tribal museums and federal interpretive centers along the Old Spanish Trail possess ancient trade goods from Alaska, California, Guatemala, and Illinois).*

For hundreds—perhaps thousands—of years, they traded and raided across these vast expanses of deep canyons and high mountain ridges. Native traders traveled rapidly and efficiently across vast deserts and rugged high plateaus, carrying shells, hides, feathers, valuable stones, seeds, and cloth.

When the Spanish came in the 1500s, they at first sought metals and gems rather than a way of life. However, long before the

English and Dutch began to settle on the eastern shores of North America, the Spanish had settled into villages and farms in the Caribbean islands, Florida, Mexico, and northern New Mexico. Before 1520, the western hemisphere's first Spanish cathedral and university were under construction—and still function—in the Dominican Republic.

Spanish found clever farmers and many trails. As the Spanish explorers/discoverers/settlers moved into New Mexico's river valleys, they found nearly all of them occupied and farmed, with irrigated fields of cotton, corn, beans, squash. They noted that the Pueblo people and Apaches had many leather goods, woven cloth, and a usually rich supply of meat from wild animals.

The Spanish colonists became familiar with the land, with the help of Pueblo, Ute, and Paiute guides. They found they could follow trails and trade routes that Native American tribes had used for centuries. Many of these routes were probably the same paths of least resistance that migratory animals used as they “followed the grass” in their seasonal migrations.

When, in 1829, Antonio Armijo and friends decided to take trade goods to the new village of Los Angeles, they had some guidance from the Miera y Pacheco maps of the 1776 trip of Dominguez and Escalante. They also got ad-

vice along the way from native residents who pointed the way or led them through complicated canyons.

The tribes still reside here. Today, 23 or more tribes or bands live along the three routes of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. Their home ranges and traditional ways of life have been severely confined by more and more intruders from various cultures. Yet, most tribes have people who retain their traditions and remember their history. Some have Ph.D. degrees; others have “Doctor of Experience and Heritage” credentials.

The tribal people who were affected by what we call the Old “Spanish” Trail include the following. (Public facilities/access known to the author are indicated in parentheses.)

Pueblo Communities:

- Taos (tours)
- Ohkay Owingeh (crafts co-op)
- Picurís (tours, museum, pottery)
- Santa Clara (ruins tours, interpretive center)
- Nambé (outdoor recreation)
- San Ildefonso (visitor center, famous pottery).
- Tesuque (trade fair, flea market, festivals)
- Pojoaque (mini-museum, arts and crafts center, cultural center)

Jicarilla Apache Nation (cultural museum/shop, hunting/fishing/camping program)

Continued on next page

Ute:

- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe (tribal park guided visits)
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe (museum/cultural center)
- (Northern) Ute Indian Tribe of Utah (museum)

Navajo Nation (tribal parks, zoo, tourism centers, national monuments)

Southern Paiutes:

- Kaibab Band (visitor center)
- Las Vegas Community
- Shivwits Band
- Cedar City Community
- Moapa Band (commercial enterprise)
- Others in W. Utah
- Chemehuevi Tribe (comprehensive outdoor recreation center)

Western Shoshone Tribes/bands (near)

Mojave Tribe (near)

Serrano/Mission Groups:

- Gabrielino/Tongva People
- Fernandeño People
- Vanyume People
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Tataviam People
- others

Cahuilla Tribes/Bands ♦

OST Tribal Conservation

By D. M. Knudson

Many tribes are restoring or conserving their renewable natural resources, in consonance with their offerings of high-quality outdoor recreation activities. National Historic Trail travelers can observe tribal care for the land as they cross the following tribal properties.

The Santa Clara Pueblo was featured in *National Geographic* in 2010 for its reforestation of a wildfire burn in 2000 (spread from outside the reservation) plus removing invasive exotic species and replacing them with native conifers and hardwoods. Its cliff-top ruins have grown as a tourist destination with reactivated interpretive tour opportunities. Reintroduction of beaver and restoration of riparian vegetation allow visitors and tribal members alike to enjoy “the canyon we once knew” (Bowden, 2010).

Other notable conservation efforts, some with very positive financial benefits, have proven fruitful on

most reservations. Some examples:

Taos Pueblo’s 1970 restoration to tribal domain of Blue Lake and its close surroundings has produced positive spiritual and hydrologic benefits by giving the tribe control over its key watershed. Restoration of the vegetation along the stream and careful use of the water has benefitted the tribe’s economy.

Jicarilla Apache wildlife and grazing management has allowed development of profitable guest hunting business for wild turkey, mule deer, trophy elk, and income-producing fishing in several well managed lakes. Recent reintroduction of a small bison herd should allow opportunities for visitors to learn of the tribe’s traditional reliance on this species when they seasonally roamed the vast areas of high prairies in southeastern Colorado, northeastern New Mexico, and parts of the Texas Panhandle.

Southern Utes tested (later closed) a hunting program in the high elevations of the southern part of its shrunken homeland. They de-

The Mule Alternative

By Dennis Ditmanson

I came across a slim volume in a used book store the other day that I thought worthy of bringing to your attention. It was the title that caught my eye, *The Mule Alternative: The Saddle Mule in the American West*. Written by Mike Stamm (Michael P. Stamm) and published by Medicine Wolf Press in 1992, it carried the intriguing subtitle, “Testimony from Explorers, Mountain Men, Traders, Soldiers, Settlers, and Gold Rushers of the Nineteenth Century.” While I found no mention

of the Old Spanish Trail among the references, the author makes a sound case for the role of the mule in the westward movement, especially for the place of the mule as a saddle animal. Chapters include discussions of the role of the mule, mule characteristics and liabilities, and the place of the mule in modern times and there is a good bibliography of source material. I think anyone looking for a bit of background on mule usage on the Trail will find this book of interest.

veloped and kept a rational forest management program. It supplies lumber and heating pellets for sale to tribal members and neighbors while maintaining the health of the forest resources.

The Ute Mountain Ute tribe has purchased off-reservation lands in the uplands south of the Curecanti National Recreation Area. It protects and enhances this large area for watershed protection, wildlife conservation, and outdoor recreation. This enhances the cultural diversity of their lands that were long used as part of their vast territory. In addition, their tribal park near the Four Corners preserves and interprets the rich cultural heritage of pre-Puebloan people whose descendants now occupy pueblos in New Mexico and Arizona. Guided tours (from south of Towaoc) allow the public special experiences.

Over 190 miles of the Armijo Route travels through Navajo land. The Navajo Nation has preserved many tribal parks and shares them with visitors along the trail. These lands have great scenic, cultural, and historic value. They provide guide services for tourists as well as being protected for their natural vegetation and watershed values. Several areas are also providing traditional grazing and agricultural income to tribal members.

The Kaibab Band of Paiutes practices careful management of their water and agricultural resources to assure renewal of their forest and watershed assets. Several tribal members work with the USDA

Forest Service in Fredonia, Arizona, and the National Park Service at Pipe Spring National Monument to interpret their traditions of land use on their reservation and on the whole Kaibab Plateau that was once their refuge from the Old Spanish Trail travelers and Anglo settlers.

The Moapa Band of Paiutes in southern Nevada collaborates with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in watershed management and protection of endangered species of small fish species that once thrived on their homeland.

Southern California tribes and bands often lack federal recognition. Some have little land of their own. However, several have recently found opportunities to collaborate with the USDA Forest Service and other entities to create at least small islands of cultural demonstrations of their conservation traditions, amongst the burgeoning population pressures of the Los Angeles to Santa Ana River valleys (McCawley, 1996).

Farther east, the Morongo Museum has done excellent work in researching and demonstrating agricultural practices and reporting on traditional methods of sustainable living in the harsh environments of the Cahuilla, Serrano, and Vanyume people.

Scholars among the Gabrielino-Tongva people have recorded and reported the traditional methods used to ensure adequate food from the oaks growing on the mountains and sustainable water supplies in

the lowlands. They have constructed small traditional village “camp site” installations at strategic spots where visitors can learn of their traditions. They offer educational talks about ancient conservation practices, along with dance teams and musicians, and schedule performances on San Clemente Island and several mainland museums, as well as at the San Gabriel Mission.

The number of tribal people living on or near the Old Spanish National Historic Trail presents unrivaled opportunities for tribal people and tourists to exchange information, cultural heritages, and friendly, sometimes humorous discussions about natural resource conservation practices.

References:

Bowden, Charles. 2010. Native lands. *National Geographic* 218(2):80-97.

McCawley, William. 1996. *The First Angelinos; the Gabrielino Indians of Los Angeles*. Banning, CA: Malki Museum Press. 288 pp.

Various tribal websites and personal site visits. ♦

Douglas Knudson is the author of Characters of the Old Spanish Trail and two major textbooks, Outdoor Recreation and Interpretation of Cultural and Natural Resources, among others. A retired forestry professor from Purdue University, now living in South Fork, Colorado, he has studied trails, rivers, parks, and forestry in Indiana, a dozen states, Canada, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Bolivia, and Indonesia. He is a Fellow of the National Association for Interpretation.

Moving Forward, Looking Back

By Paul Ostapuk

Travelling in Orwell, their beloved 1984 RV home and modern day mule, international photojournalists Janire Najera and Matt Wright recently explored the Old Spanish Trail in the footsteps of merchant Antonio Armijo along his chosen 1829 route to California.

Their field project “*Moving Forward, Looking Back*” explores the Spanish legacy found along the Old Spanish Trail and documents how traditions of the first settlers since the early 19th century have merged with domestic cultures. The RV acted as a portable studio and a meeting place from which to engage the Spanish descendants.

The project was sponsored by SPAINred, a professional network of emerging and established artists and cultural organizations across Spain and the U.S. The program is supported by the Embassy of Spain’s Cultural Office in Washington, D.C. and its network of General Consulates and Cervantes Institutes in the United States. Together with the Spain-USA Foundation, the effort aims to further Spanish-American cultural cooperation and promote the modern spectrum of contemporary artistic expression. The program includes a series of exhibitions and conferences each year at prestigious American cultural institutions to showcase the creativity and talents of Spanish artists to the American public.

With Antonio Armijo’s brief diary in hand, Najera and Wright followed, wherever possible, the original 1829 route. Western landscapes have evolved since those times and the speed of modern transportation of today substantially shortens the perceived distances experienced during the time when commercial mule caravans traveled around 15 miles a day en route to California to exchange New Mexican woolen goods for California bred mules and horses.

“We kept as far from the freeways as we could and camped in the wild as much as possible in the hope of experiencing something of what it might have been like to travel within these impressive and sometimes imposing landscapes, as Armijo did in 1829,” Najera said.



Janire Najera and Matt Wright pause in front of their camping van in St. George in April 2014. Photo: Trevor Christensen / *The Spectrum & Daily News*, St. George, Utah

Najera studied Journalism in Madrid, Spain, and Documentary Photography at the University of Wales, Newport. Her documentary practice is concerned with highlighting communities around the globe which have been displaced through changing social and economic climates.

Born in Bilbao, in the Basque Country, she always felt deeply connected to the language and cultural traditions celebrated throughout the region, even though her childhood was spent elsewhere. “Growing up in Spain I was not taught much about the Spanish influence on the historical development of the United States. The history books of my childhood focused on the endeavors of Cristobal Colón, Hernán Cortés and Francisco Pizarro, their discovery and exploration of Central and South America.”

“I wasn’t familiar with Juan de Oñate, Diego de Vargas, Pedro de Peralta or Junípero Serra until much later. Visiting New Mexico for the first time a couple of years ago it was a shock to observe such prominent Spanish heritage in the language, religious beliefs, art and other traditions celebrated throughout the state.”

Seeking out descendants of Spanish settlers who still proudly celebrate their heritage, Janire hopes her

travels will lead to a deeper understanding of Spanish culture throughout North America's southern deserts.

"I visited villages such as Truchas, Cundiyo, Chimayo, Galisteo, Española, Ojo Caliente, Regina and Gallina. Almost all of the descendants that I met were over 50 years old, this age group being the most interested in their genealogy. The younger generations seem to have different priorities and are less concerned with defining where they are from, upholding traditions or even learning the Spanish language," she said.

Traveling along the Armijo Route into northern Arizona, Janire and Matt attended a presentation by OSTA Vice President, Paul Ostapuk regarding the 1776 Dominguez-Escalante expedition and on the following day visited the "Paso Por Aqui Año 1776" inscription on Lake Powell led by James Page as part of an authorized field trip by the Utah Rock Art Research Association.

In Las Vegas, Nevada, the team interviewed OSTA President Ashley Hall and Nevada Director Liz Warren. One of the first places visited in California was Resting Springs, near Tecopa, a small desert oasis with a rich heritage as a vital resting place for the traders, Indians and trappers who passed through the tough environment. It was here they were fortunate enough to meet with some of the descendants of the first traders to leave New Mexico and settle in California, looking for better land and a less hostile climate.

Upon reaching Los Angeles, Janire and Matt visited San Gabriel Mission, once the key destination in California for travelers from the east to trade blankets for horses and mules. They interviewed OSTA member Alex King and some of the descendants of the original settlers that founded El Pueblo de Los Angeles in 1781.

Janire posted on her blog that from interviewing these men and women she was able to gain a clearer understanding of how Spanish heritage is celebrated in California today and what traditions remain, such as the "Walk of Los Pobladores" and the "Blessing of the Animals." The Walk of Los Pobladores begins at the Mission San Gabriel and finishes about three hours later at Olvera Street in downtown Los Angeles. The



Interview with Abiquiu's Pueblo Historian David Lopez

trek commemorates the final nine-mile leg of the 1781 journey made by original settlers.

For more information on the *Moving Forward, Looking Back* project and to view video interviews, visit www.movingforwardlookingback.us/. There are also plans for a project exhibit at the Spanish Embassy's Cultural Office in Washington, D.C. in 2015. ♦

NPS Announces Retirements

The National Park Service, National Trails Intermountain Region, announces the retirements of three staff members in their Santa Fe office. Sharon Brown, Chief of Trail Operations, and Dr. Susan Boyle, Historian, will retire in December. Otis Halfmoon, American Indian Liaison, has transferred to a new position with Special Projects in the Washington, D.C. office. No replacements have been announced at this time.

New NPS NTIR Website Announced

The National Trails Intermountain Region of the National Park Service has recently acquired its own webpage at www.nps.gov/ntir. Each of the nine distinct national historic trails and the historic road preservation program the NTIR administers has a feature page with links to more information. The website will be the central information hub for the wide range of partners who manage lands or stories along these historic routes.

Travelers on the Last Caravan in 1841 from New Mexico to California

By Alexander V. King

The comprehensive list was part of the author's presentation at the 2014 Old Spanish Trails Association Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

In September 1841, a large party left Abiquiú, New Mexico, and arrived in Los Angeles, California, in November 1841, over what's become known as The Old Spanish Trail. They were not the first to do so. Several Hispanic individuals and families had emigrated from New Mexico to Alta California during the previous decade. However, this group was unusually large and included many foreigners [non-Mexican citizens], both of concern to the Ayuntamiento in Los Angeles.

The people listed below are all individuals currently known to have comprised this party, through information gathered during over 25 years of research, using standard genealogical methods. They are presented in the same order as on the original copy of John Rowland's list, made by Manuel Dominguez in Los Angeles on 26 February, 1842. Yet it is augmented here by the wives, children and others only alluded to in that document. The profile commonly held of this group of travelers for the last 150 years is necessarily altered by their inclusion: The bulk of its members were actually Hispanic.

Previously, this fact has been overlooked and undervalued by historians. Of the 25 names cited by Rowland [26, including his own] all but four appear to be non-Mexicans and all but five of the entries present single itinerant males. No doubt this is one reason historians have heretofore (and unfairly) labeled the group, the "Rowland-Workman Party." Another is the assumption that the list was intended to completely describe the group. In fact, John Rowland—a Mexican citizen, himself—appeared before the local authorities mainly to explain the foreigners' intentions; thus his listing barely acknowledges the emigrant New Mexicans who made up the bulk of the caravan. His four "y familia" ["and family"] references and the single "y sirbientes" ["and servants"] reference encompass these Hispanic individuals who comprised over 50 percent

of the party. [Note line #s 2-4, 6-13, and 35-67, below].

In the numbered comprehensive list that follows, names in plain bold-face indicate individuals on the original document; those underlined and italicized indicate the individuals not on the original document. The corresponding entry as found on Dominguez' copy of Rowland's list is given, enclosed within braces ("{" }"), and includes the name and often the person's occupation. I have added the person's marital status, place of most recent residence and age in 1841, if known to me. Finally, their birthplace and/or other notes are presented in brackets ("[]").

[NOTE: John Rowland's original list cannot currently be located; however, a contemporaneous copy of that original, dated 26 February, 1842, was made by Manuel Dominguez of the First Tribunal of Los Angeles and a member of the Ayuntamiento. (This original copy is in the "Archives of the Prefecture of Los Angeles" collection in Los Angeles County Records, currently housed at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California.) Ironically, Dominguez likely mis-copied the references in Rowland's original for the men actually known as "Tiboux" and "Albert G. Toomes". (Dominguez lists their names incorrectly as 'Albert G. Tibeau' and '____ Toomes', respectively.) Not only would Rowland have been well acquainted with both men and their names by the time he reached Los Angeles (thus unlikely to have made such an error), but Rowland had subsequent dealings with Tiboux, which were duly reported to the Ayuntamiento at Los Angeles during the spring of 1842.]



www.3TrailsConferenceSantaFe.org

All known travelers on the last caravan in 1841 from New Mexico to California

1. **Julian William WORKMAN** {"Guillermo Workman"}, married, of Taos, New Mexico, age 42 [b. Clifton Penrith, England]
2. {"y familia" (and family)} His wife, Nicolasa URIOSTE, age 39 [b. New Mexico, México]
3. His children: Antonia Margarita WORKMAN, age 10 [b. New Mexico, México; m. F.P.F. Temple in 1845]
4. Jose Manuel [Valencia] WORKMAN, age 8 [b. New Mexico, México]
5. **William GORDON** {"Guillermo Gordon"}, married, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, age 40 [b. Ohio, U.S.A.]
6. {"y familia" (and family)} His wife, Juana Maria LUCERO, age 36 [b. New Mexico, México. ---She was 8 months pregnant on arrival!]
7. His children: Jose Tomas [Thomas] GORDON, age 14 [b. New Mexico, México]
8. Juan de Jesus [John] GORDON, age 12 [b. New Mexico, México]
9. Maria Isabela GORDON, age 10 [b. New Mexico, México; m. Nathan Coombs after 1845]
10. Julian [William] GORDON, age 8 [b. New Mexico, México]
11. Jose Manuel [Joseph] GORDON, age 6 [b. New Mexico, México]
12. Maria Serafina [Sarah] GORDON, age 3 [b. New Mexico, México; m. Charles Ingraham]
13. Jose Ricardo GORDON, age 1 [b. New Mexico, México]
14. His sister-in-law: Maria Rufina LUCERO, age 16 [b. New Mexico, México; m. Cyrus Alexander in 1844]
15. **James D. MEAD** {"James D. Mead, Medico" (physician)}, single [b. Iowa, U.S.A.]
16. **Benjamin 'Benito' Davis WILSON** {"Benjamin Wilson"}, single of Santa Fe, New Mexico, age 29 [b. Tennessee, U.S.A.]
17. **William KNIGHT** {" — Knight"}, married of Santa Fe, New Mexico [b. Indiana, U.S.A.]
18. **Jacob FRANKFORT** {"Jacob Frankfort, Sastre" (tailor)}, single [b. U.S.A.]
19. **William GAMBEL** {"Guillermo Gambel, Naturalista" (naturalist)}, single, of Philadelphia, PA, age 18 [Wilson: "Campbell"]
20. **Thomas LINDSAY** {"Tomas Linsay, Mineralogista" (mineralogist)}, single [b. U.S.A.]
21. **Hiram TAYLOR** {"Hiram Taylor, Mucico" (musician)}, single [b. U.S.A.]
22. **Wade HAMPTON** {"Wade Hampton, Armero" (gunsmith)}, single [b. U.S.A.]
23. **Isaac L. GIVENS** {"Isaac Givens, Ynginiero" (engineer)}, single, of Ohio, age 28 [b. Ohio, U.S.A.]
24. **John McCLURE** {"Juan McElure, Esq" (gentleman)}, single [b. U.S.A.— he was likely NOT an attorney]
25. **James DOKE** {"Yams Doke"}, single, of Tennessee [b. U.S.A.-?]
26. **L. LYMAN** {"L. Lyman, Medico" (physician)}, single, of Northampton, Massachusetts [b. U.S.A.; Wilson: "J.H."Lyman]
27. **Daniel SEXTON** {"___ Serton, Carpintero" (carpenter)}, single, of Arkansas [Bancroft: b. in "LA" (Louisiana-?), U.S.A.]
28. _____ **TIBOUX** {"Albert G. Tibeau"}, single, of St.Louis, Missouri [he was a gambler]
29. **Albert G. TOOMES** {"___ Toomes, Carpintero" (carpenter)}, single, of Missouri [b. U.S.A.; Wilson: "Loomes]
30. **William C. MOON** {"Guillermo Moon, Tonolero" (cooper)}, single [b. U.S.A.]
31. **Fred BACHELDER** {"___ Bacheldor, Tonolero" (cooper)}, single [b. U.S.A; Bancroft: "Bachelor"]
32. **Francis BEDIBEY** {"Francisco Bedibey, Carpintero" (carpenter)}, single [b. U.S.A; Bancroft: "Frank Bedibey"]
33. **Francis GUINN** {"Francisco Guinn, Herrero" (blacksmith)}, single [b. U.S.A.]
34. **Michael Claringbud WHITE** {"Miguel Blanco"}, married, of Los Angeles, California, age 39 [b. Margate, England]
35. **Juan Manuel BACA** {"Juan Manuel Baca"}, widower, of La Cienega, New Mexico, México, age c.51
36. {"y familia" (and family) [part 1]} His children: Juan Nepomuceno Tomas BACA, single, age 24 [b. New Mexico, México]
37. Marcos Anastacio BACA, single, age 22 [b. New Mexico, México]
38. Maria de Jesus BACA, possibly married, age c.20 [b. New Mexico, México]
39. (perhaps) her husband, [Given name unknown] BACA [?][b. New Mexico, México]
40. Her child, Juan de Jesus Baca, age 6 mos. [b. New Mexico, México]

41. *Maria Magdalena BACA*, married, age 18 [b. New Mexico, México]
42. Her husband, *Julian GAUTIER*, age c.40
43. (perhaps her child, *Jose Maria [Gautier] PICO*, age 3 [b. New Mexico, México] ?)
44. *Maria Anastasia BACA*, single, age c.16 [b. New Mexico, México]
45. *Jose Teofilo BACA*, single, age 15 [b. New Mexico, México]
46. *Jesus Maria Cimieon BACA*, age 11 [b. New Mexico, México]
47. *Maria Antonia Apolonia BACA*, age 3 [b. New Mexico, México]
48. {"y familia" (and family) [part 2]} His partner: *Juan Felipe ARMIJO/PEÑA*, married, of La Cienega, New Mexico, age 43
49. His partner's wife, *Maria Ysabel GONZALES*, age c.43 [b. New Mexico, México]
50. His partner's children: *Juan de Jesus Teofilo PEÑA*, single, age 17 [b. New Mexico, México]
51. *Jose Demetrio PEÑA*, single, age 15 [b. New Mexico, México]
52. *Jose Francisco PEÑA*, age 13 [b. New Mexico, México]
53. *Juan Antonio ARMIJO/PEÑA*, age 11 [b. New Mexico, México]
54. *Gabino ARMIJO/PEÑA*, age 8 [b. New Mexico, México]
55. *Nestora ARMIJO/PEÑA*, age 4 [b. New Mexico, México]
- 56. Manuel Lorenzo TRUJILLO** {"Lorenzo Trujillo"}, married, of Abiquiú, New Mexico, México, age 47
57. {"y familia" (and family)} His wife, *Maria Dolores ARCHULETA*, age c.45 [b. New Mexico, México]
58. His children: *Teodoro Dolores TRUJILLO*, single, age 23 [b. New Mexico, México]
59. *Maria Matilde TRUJILLO*, single, age c.22 [b. New Mexico, México]
60. *Jose Manuel Esquipulas "Escipulo" TRUJILLO*, single, age c.20 [b. New Mexico, México]
61. *Jose Julian TRUJILLO*, single, age c.15 [b. New Mexico, México]
62. *Jose Doroteo TRUJILLO*, single, age 13 [b. New Mexico, México]
63. *Maria Gertrudes TRUJILLO*, age 10 [b. New Mexico, México]
64. *Maria del Rosario TRUJILLO*, age c.2 [b. New Mexico, México]
- 65. Ygnacio SALAZAR**, {"Ygn.o Salazar"} married, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, age c.43
66. {"y sirbientes" (and servants)}: "servant" #1 [might be his wife, *Josefa ALARID*, age 41 – *but probably was a Native American*]
67. "servant" #2 [might be one of his children, *Jesus or Concepcion* – *but probably was a Native American*]
- 68. John ROWLAND** {"John Roland"}, married, of Taos, New Mexico, age 50 [b. Pennsylvania, U.S.A.]

Over the years, others have been attributed as members of the group by a variety of sources, including the recollections [some 30 years after the fact] of Albert G. Toomes and the memoirs of Benjamin Wilson. For example, included as members of the party in some histories have been:

John BEHN, single, of Germany [per B. Wilson; but not per Rowland];
 John REED, single, of Missouri, age c.23 [per B. Wilson; but not per Rowland]; and
 Mr. PICKMAN, [per A. Toomes; but not per Rowland]

But surely none of these were actually part of the 1841 group. It seems unlikely Rowland would have omitted any of the foreigners from his report. It is especially improbable he could have forgotten John Reed, since Reed was his son-in-law, having married Rowland's daughter in New Mexico in 1840.

Unlike the New Mexicans, only a few of the non-Hispanic-surnamed people on the list settled in California. John Rowland was among them. Liking what he found, he returned to New Mexico the following year to retrieve his wife and children. They arrived in California in the fall of 1842, along with other emigrants from New Mexico and elsewhere who came to stay.

Transcription and Translation of Archival Listing

TRANSCRIPTION:

[non-original marks (in top margin): "1842" (p.) 334

Lista de los que acompañan al

Sr. que subscribe, en su llegada al Territorio de

la Alta California. [non-original mark: "Workman-Rowland Party"]

Guillermo Workman)
) y familias
 Guillermo Gordon)
 James D. Mead.....Medico
 Benjamin Wilson.
 ----- Knight.
 Jacob Frankfort.....Sastre
 Guillermo Gambel.....Naturalista
 Tomas Linsay.....Mineralogista
 Hiram Taylor.....Mucico.
 Wade Hampton.....Armero
 Isaac Givens.....Ingeniero
 Juan McClure.....Esq.
 Jams. Dokes.....Medico
 Sexton.....Carpintero
 Albert G. Tibeaux.
 Toomes.....Carpintero
 Guillermo Moon.....)
) toneleros
 Bachelдор.....)

[non-original marks (in upper left margin): (p.) 335 (p.) 335 Huntington Library
 L.A.Prefecture Vol.2, p.335]

Francisco Bedibey.....Carpintero
 Francisco Guinn.....Hererro
 Miguel Blanco.....
 Joan Manuel Baca)
) y familias
 Lorenzo Trujillo.....)
 Ygn.º Salazar..... y sirbientes

Cada uno con sus arma[s de]
 fuego que neseditara por [...]
 fuerza en el biage.

Los Señores con familias
 vienen con intención de
 descance en este Departamento
 y los Señores que tienen [...]
 en requimientto de que ocupa[...]
 y algunos de los demás a ex[a-]
 minar ó mirar este Depar[ta-]
 mento con objeto de radicar [...]
 ahora ó volver después [y]
 regresa a su país. = John Ro[land]

Es Copia - Juzgado 1.º de los Angeles
 Feb.º 26 de 1842.
 [signed] Man.¹ Dominguez.

TRANSLATION:

[non-original marks (in top margin): "1842" (p.) 334

List of those accompanying the

undersigned person on his arrival to the Territory of

Upper California. [non-original mark: "Workman-Rowland Party"]

William Workman)
) and families
 William Gordon)
 James D. Mead.....Doctor
 Benjamin Wilson.
 ----- Knight.
 Jacob Frankfort.....Tailor
 William Gambel.....Naturalist
 Tomas Lindsay.....Mineralogist
 Hiram Taylor.....Musician
 Wade Hampton.....Gunsmith
 Isaac Givens.....Engineer
 John McClure.....Esq.
 James. Dokes.....Doctor
 Sexton.....Carpenter
 Albert G. Tibeaux.
 Toomes.....Carpenter
 William Moon.....)
) coopers [barrel makers]
 Bachelдор.....)

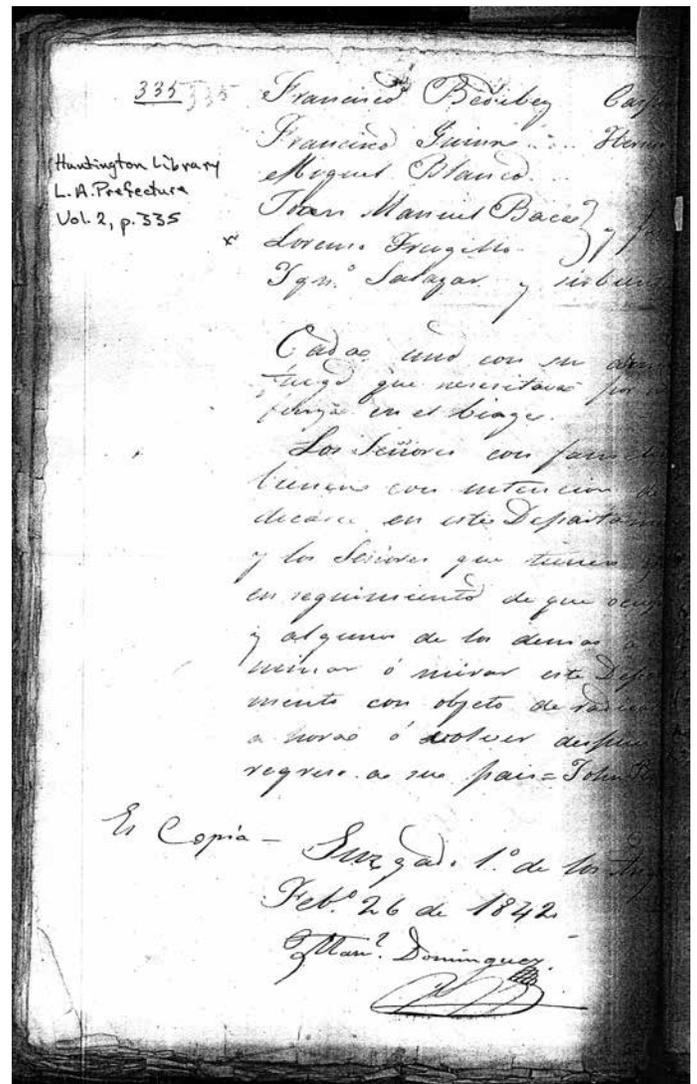
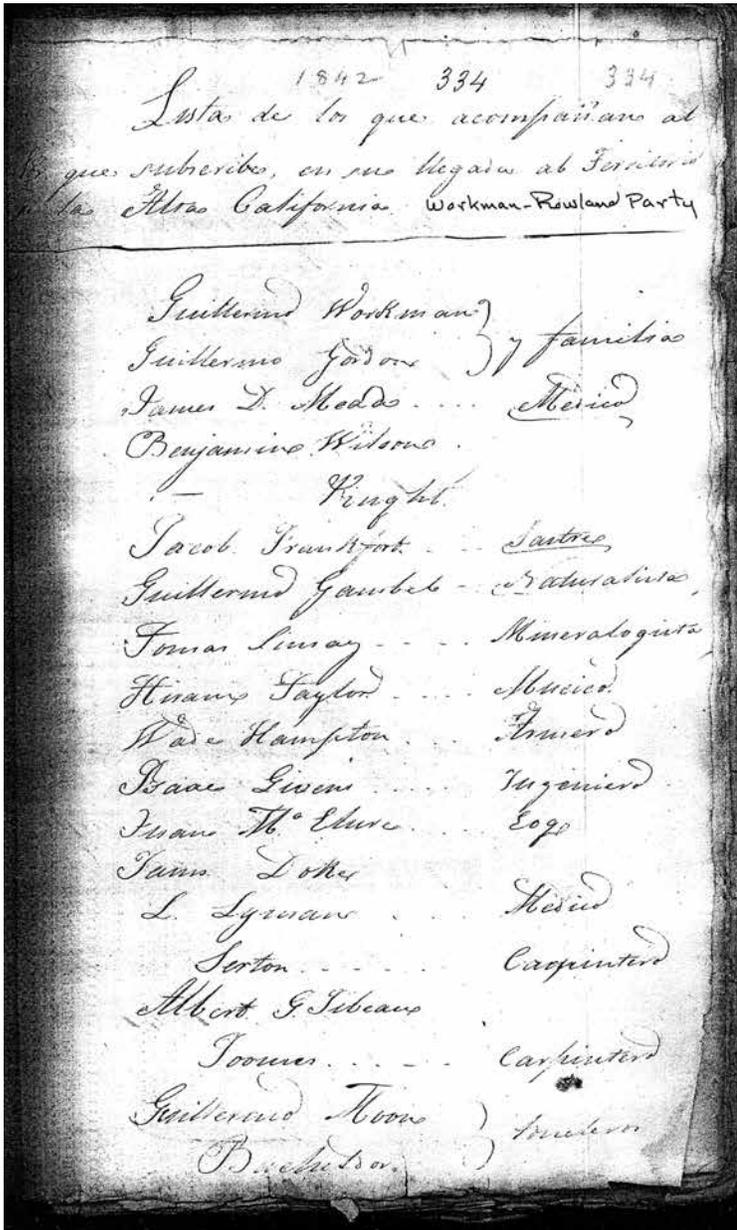
[non-original marks (in upper left margin): (p.) 335 (p.) 335 Huntington Library
 L.A.Prefecture Vol.2, p.335]

Francisco Bedibey.....Carpineter
 Francisco Guinn.....Blacksmith
 Michael White.....
 Juan Manuel Baca)
) and families
 Lorenzo Trujillo.....)
 Ygnacio Salazar..... and servants

Each one with his
 firearms as needed for [...]
 force on the journey.

Those with families
 come with the intention of
 staying in this Department
 and those that have [...]
 because of their occupation[...]
 and some of the rest to exa-
 mine or look over this Depart-
 ment with the object of filing [...]
 now or return to later [and]
 go back to his country. = John Rowland

Copy - 1st Tribunal of Los Angeles
 February 26, 1842.
 [signed] Manuel Dominguez.



A copy of the original documents are located in the Archives of the Prefecture of Los Angeles at the Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

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Porter Rockwell's Route Home

By LeRoy Johnson and Jean Johnson

A battalion of Mormon men signed up for one-year tour of duty in the Mexican-American War, and when they were mustered out of the U.S. army in July 1847, a large number of them were in Southern California. They had heard about the Old Spanish Trail, but none of them used it to venture back toward Iowa because they did not know where in the west the Mormons had decided to create their New Zion. Instead, they went north and followed the California Trail eastward via the Humboldt River.

At Sutter's Fort, they learned about the Donner Party tragedy of the previous winter, and while returning eastward they passed through the Donner camp near today's Donner Lake (Bigler and Bagley 2000, 236-238). In the meantime, Brigham Young had decided to establish the Mormons' New Zion in today's Utah. Upon hearing this news, the men from the battalion left the California Trail and veered southeastward into the Great Basin. On the eastern side of Great Salt Lake they met the pioneering contingent of the first wave of Mormons who had fled from Winter Quarters on the right bank of the Missouri River.

One of the captains from the Mormon Battalion—Jefferson Hunt—was among the men who arrived in the nascent Great Salt Lake City on October 11, 1847. He knew the southern California *ranchos* held vast herds of cattle they were willing to sell at a reasonable price (\$6.00/head), and he reasoned California's grains and vegetables were adapted to the Great Basin environment. Hunt convinced the Mormon Church's High Council that he and a small group of men should immediately go to California to purchase crop seeds and livestock.

The favorable decision was made so late in the season, they knew they should not attempt a Sierra Nevada crossing; they had dolorous memories of the squalor they saw at the Donner camp. Hunt learned, possibly from Miles Goodyear, they could trek southward and intersect the Old Spanish Trail, a clearly beaten route to *Pueblo de Los Angeles* (Sutak 2012, 240-241, 254).



Map traced from U.S. quadrangle map (TOPO! software). Large black dots are correct locations for sites mentioned in the text. The dashed line is the route Hunt and Rockwell followed to Pueblo de Los Angeles and the route Hunt returned on; the dotted line is Rockwell's route. The trail, in relation to Interstate 15 is approximate.

On November 18, 1847, Jefferson Hunt, Porter Rockwell, and seventeen other men left Great Salt Lake City to follow a prominent Indian trail southward (Sutak 2012, 241). When they reached the Beaver River near today's Greenville, they forded the river and began the arduous trek over the Black Mountains. They crossed the eastern shoulder via a pass between the mountains and the South Hills (a vertical rise of 1,300 feet in about 8 trail-miles). This was a steep, rocky, and densely wooded passage that in 1849 proved to be a difficult route for the gold-seeking emigrants who pioneered a wagon road over the mountain.

After descending the mountain, the Hunt party soon

reached Parowan Valley where they intersected the Old Spanish Trail at today's Paragonah, Utah. They followed the trail to the voluminous springs that once existed in and around today's Enoch, where they likely recruited their horses and mules for a day or two. This area became noted for its vast fields of horse, mule, and cattle fodder. The Old Spanish Trail crossed Cedar Valley about 6 miles north of today's Cedar City and continued westward past Iron Spring, and thence to Antelope Spring, which was a mile south of the trail on elevated ground at the north toe of Antelope Peak. From there they trekked southwestward to the large springs at Las Vegas where the trail turned west to cross the Spring Mountains. They stayed on the trail to Stump Spring, Resting Springs, Salt Springs, Bitter Spring, the Mohave River, and they finally crossed Cajon Pass into the San Bernardino Basin. They terminated their trek on or about January 2, 1848, at *Rancho Santa Ana del Chino*, owned by Isaac Williams (Sutak 2000, 254).

Here Hunt purchased 200 milk cows, grain seeds, fruit trees, and vegetable seeds, and Williams gave him a gift of 40 bulls. On February 15, 1848, Hunt and his party left Williams' *rancho* and followed the Old Spanish Trail back to Paragonah. Here he picked up his previous trail from Great Salt Lake City, and made the difficult traverse back over the Black Mountains driving their large herd of cattle and a string of pack mules. They arrived in Great Salt Lake City in early May, but only one of the bulls made it back to Utah and about half the cows survived the arduous trek (Schindler 1966, 178 and Sutak 2012, 260).

Porter Rockwell, for various reasons, did not return with Jefferson Hunt and lingered in Southern California for another two months. Additional Mormons were discharged from the U.S. Army, and they wanted to join the Mormons in their New Zion, so Rockwell organized thirty-four men and the Davis family and agreed to guide them over the Old Spanish Trail to southern Utah and thence north to Great Salt Lake City. They left April 12, 1848, driving a herd of 135 horses and mules. The Davis family included Capt. Daniel Davis, his wife, and their young son. They had a light wagon, which would be the first wagon to traverse an inland route from the Pacific

Coast to the Mormon settlement (Schindler 1966, 179 and Sutak 2012, 266). Rockwell knew the most strenuous part of the route could be crossing the Black Mountains with the Davis' wagon.

When Rockwell reached Antelope Spring, 13 trail-miles northeast of today's Newcastle, Utah, he had a commanding view northward up the Escalante Desert. At the far northern end of the desert he knew, or at least strongly suspected, the Beaver River flowed. Before him, he could also see the bleakest and most desolate desert imaginable. If someone in the party had a "glass" (monocular) they assuredly scanned the northern extremity of the desert for some vestige of Beaver River (telltale willows or cottonwood trees). From their vantage point, the heat waves likely would have obliterated any trace of the river.

They continued to Iron Springs and eastward where the Old Spanish Trail crossed the marshes that once covered the bottom of today's Cedar Valley, as they headed for the springs near today's Enoch. Rockwell could readily look north, in the valley, and see the Black Mountains barring their way, and he could see how their west end dipped down and terminated beyond the muddy valley they were in. Soon the party arrived at the copious springs that once flowed from the southwestern extremity of the Red Hills north of today's Enoch. Here a decision had to be made; should they attempt to get the wagon over the arduous pack trail the Mormons had followed over the Black Mountains or should they search for an easier route.

Recorded in the Mormon *Journal History* is this exceedingly condensed record of Rockwell's trek: "[He] followed the Old Spanish Trail from Williams' Ranch, through Cajon Pass, across the Mohave Desert to Las Vegas, up the Muddy Valley and across the Escalante Desert to Beaver Creek...[thence] to Great Salt Lake City" (*Journal History*, June 5, 1848; see also Heath 1995).

Based on this cryptic posting and other data, we deduce Rockwell's company stayed on the Old Spanish Trail to Iron Spring and crossed Cedar Valley to the copious springs that once flowed north of Enoch. Here

they likely spent a couple days recruiting their livestock and discussing how to get over (or around) the Black Mountains. Knowing it would be a difficult task to build a road and chop a route for the wagon over the eastern shoulder of the Black Mountains, Rockwell reasoned they could go northward from the springs and try to find a way around the west end of the mountains to intercept the Beaver River. Rockwell knew the river flowed westward paralleling the Black Mountains on the north. He was pretty sure that wherever they reached the Beaver River, they could turn eastward, up the river, to the trail he and Hunt had used late last year.

The *Journal History* noted Rockwell's company went "up the Muddy Valley and across the Escalante Desert to Beaver Creek." Unscrambling this conundrum requires identifying what and where the Muddy Valley is and what the words "up" and "across" mean in context of this discussion. As to "up," this could mean gaining elevation or going north. We conclude the latter use—going north—is the proper context since that is the direction they needed to travel and the valley was virtually flat.

"Across" usually means going from one side to the other side of something, in this case a valley. We don't have a word for going from one end of a valley to another unless we say up or down the valley. If we talk about traveling over part of a valley we do not have a special word for that and often use "across." But we need extra words to be specific; "across the west end," "across the hilly part," etc. The cryptic description in the *Journal History* left no room for extra detail. Thus, we need to be wary of a narrow interpretation of "across" because it may mean something other than going from one side of a valley to another.

Now we need to identify the location of "Muddy Valley" and how it got its name in the mid-1800s.

At Great Salt Lake City on August 20, 1849, Jefferson Hunt talked to a group of gold rush emigrants about his trip (with Rockwell) down the "S[outhern] route to

the Pacific" (Hunt in Sutak 2012, 297-298). Thomas Bullock, the Church secretary, recorded Hunt's group went from the "1st Muddy to a spring 8 [miles] plenty grass in Nov." We don't know if Hunt uses the words Old Spanish Trail in his presentation but assuredly he was talking about it.

Eight trail-miles westward from the Muddy Creek of yore, in the center of today's Cedar Valley, is Iron Spring.

We need to be wary of a narrow interpretation of "across" because it may mean something other than going from one side of a valley to another.

On October 29, 1849, George Q. Cannon, while en route to Southern California following the Old Spanish Trail, recorded in his diary: "Traveled down [into] Muddy Creek Valley... [and reached] Muddy Creek" (1999, 28). We concur with Michael Landon who edited Cannon's diary: "[Cannon's trail] now moved south to what the forty-niners called Muddy Creek or Little Muddy, known today as Coal Creek, approximately six miles north of present Cedar City, Utah" (Landon in Cannon 1999, 99). We conclude, Cannon's "Muddy Creek Valley" is the "Muddy Valley" mentioned in the *Journal History*, and is today's Cedar Valley. We conjecture someone in the Hunt or Rockwell group derived the valley's descriptive name—Muddy Valley, ergo the name Muddy Creek.

Coal Creek is the present name for the Muddy Creek of yore. It once flowed into the valley and became a braided creek, which made a large muddy marsh in the valley bottom. Robert Land Campbell, a member of the Mormon Southern Exploring Company, described present Coal Creek on December 28, 1849: "Pass over the Muddy creek where it flows in 2 considerable streams each about 12 feet wide, 5 or 6 in[ches] deep, down a little ways it flows apparently in about 40 or 50 streams overflowing all round... all over cedars abundant.... [The valley is] miry & muddy, horses sink 3 & 4 inches every step" (Campbell in Smart and Smart 1999, 85).

Then a week later, Campbell described Muddy Valley thusly: "[I] go thru a swampy place where muddy

[creek] loses itself as a consolidated stream” (ibid., 108). The *Muddy* moniker did not connote a muddy creek *per se*. It applied to the extensive acreage in the valley that was muddy or marsh-like. In Campbell’s report to Brigham Young he described the Muddy Valley thusly: “...there is a handsome expansive plain of very rich land, consisting partly of overflowed wire grass meadows, all of which might be drained and cultivated” (ibid., 179).

As William and Donna Smart, editors of the Campbell account, point out, “in the broad valley west of Enoch [Cedar Valley], Coal Creek loses itself in swampy ground easily traversed by the Old Spanish Trail’s horses and mules but difficult for wagons. So the ’49er wagon trains continued south to cross Coal Creek” near today’s Cedar City (ibid., 83). This creek is now entirely captured for domestic and agricultural use and only flows into Cedar Valley during periods of extremely high rainfall. During these rare occurrences, Coal Creek flows all the way north to Rush Lake, and in historic times it has flowed down Mud Spring Wash into the Escalante Desert.

The creek has been called variations of “the Muddy”—“near Muddy” (the Far Muddy being in Nevada), “1st Muddy,” and “Muddy Creek.”

When Rockwell was returning to Great Salt Lake City, he crossed Muddy Valley via the Old Spanish Trail and reached the copious springs north of today’s Enoch. Some of them flowed into Johnson Creek (now extinct), which emptied into Rush Lake. These springs, collectively known as Johnson’s Springs, are now dry due in large part from depleting the aquifer with pumping. In the 1800s the springs irrigated large fields of native grasses and semiaquatic plants. They provided a welcomed respite for travelers on the Old Spanish Trail. These springs, coupled with the discharge from Coal Creek (Muddy Creek) made the south-central part of Cedar Valley a slushy marsh.

Rockwell correctly reasoned, by going north from the springs, he could find a route that would avoid traversing the Black Mountains. After six miles they came to today’s Rush Lake. From here, near the northern end of Cedar Valley, they followed the ancient watercourse

that drained Rush Lake during pluvial periods. This was the easier and more logical route northwest down Mud Spring Wash, which (after 12 miles) brought them to Mud Spring where the wash debouched into the Escalante Desert. The estimated flow from the spring is one gallon per minute (Bjorklund, Sumsion, and Sandberg 1978, 42).

After spending the night at the spring they headed northwest on the Mud Spring Bench, then circumnavigated the Black Mountains along the elevated edge of the Escalante Desert. They likely stayed near the 5,200-foot elevation contour keeping Blue Knoll, Brown Knoll, Old Ranger Hill, and Ninemile Knoll on their left as they trekked toward Beaver River. There was no need to lose elevation because they could see no promising signs of potable water on the valley floor as they curved eastward around the mountain to the Beaver River near today’s Minersville. The 30-mile waterless trek from Mud Spring to the river was not a particularly taxing one. They did not gain a foot of vertical rise from the springs at Enoch to Minersville, and they did not have to spend time sawing and chopping a wagon road through the dense Utah juniper forest. Another benefit was that the wagon’s team spent far fewer valuable calories dragging the wagon down Mud Spring Wash versus climbing the Black Mountains.

The route we hypothesize Rockwell and company used fits the description found in the June 5, 1848, *Journal History*: “up the Muddy Valley and across the Escalante Desert to Beaver Creek.”

The logic of this route helps explain the otherwise bizarre behavior of Jefferson Hunt when he advised the San Joaquin Company (a train of over 100 wagons) to detour down the Beaver River and into the “valley beyond”—the Escalante Desert.² Hunt spent two exhausting days and nights looking for the trace of Rockwell’s route to the copious springs at Enoch in Cedar Valley, but he could not find it. One of the tasks assigned to Hunt by the Mormon elders was to break a road from their land-locked Zion to the Pacific Coast, and Rockwell’s route had great potential if sufficient water could be found.

Hunt did not understand the local geography adequately to realize the copious springs he was looking for were not in the Escalante Desert. His confusion is made clear in two diaries written by members of the San Joaquin Company—Adonijah Strong Welch and William Lorton.

On October 21, 1849, Welch, diarist for the San Joaquin Company, had just returned from reconnoitering down the Beaver River. He wrote that “acting on his [Hunt’s] advice” the company rolled down the Beaver River and 12 miles into the Escalante Desert where they camped without water and with scant feed for the stock. “Capt Hunt [said] that we could strike the Spanish trail by taking down [south] the valley beyond [Escalante Desert] and that plenty of water would be found on the road from the fact that Little Muddy River runs across its further extremity” (Welch in Ressler 1964, 266). Hunt had confused the Escalante Desert for Cedar Valley. Welch summarized the crux of the Escalante Desert debacle when he wrote on October 27, “there was a small valley between that of the L[ittle] S[alt] L[ake] and the Valley of Errors [Escalante Desert]. This fact explained the mistake made by our guide who had intended to enter the valley [Cedar Valley] contiguous to that of L S L.”

Hunt’s mistake was further described by Lorton who calls the Escalante Desert “retreat valley” because the train traveled 12 miles southwest into it, did not find water, and had to retreat to the Beaver River. Lorton explains this after he passes through today’s Cedar City (circumventing the quagmire in muddy, Cedar Valley) and approaches Antelope Spring on November 2. He says, “We now see our folly & see that in 25 or 30 miles [from where they camped in Retreat Valley] we could have reached water” at Antelope Spring.

The San Joaquin Company may have disintegrated anyway, but its demise was accelerated by its waterless detour into the upper Escalante Desert while Captain Hunt looked for Rockwell’s wagon route. Bits and pieces of the train retreated from the Escalante, headed back up the Beaver River, and battled the difficult passage over the Black Mountains.

To establish a major wagon route from Great Salt Lake

City to the Pacific Coast, sufficient water had to be found to support way-stations. The Rockwell route, with its many advantages, could not provide this essential attribute.

The route we hypothesize that Porter Rockwell pioneered fits the description given in the *Journal History*, June 5, 1848: “up the Muddy Valley and across the Escalante Desert to Beaver Creek.”

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Continued next page

PNTS Workshop A Success

Reba Wells Grandrud

OSTA Director at Large; PNTS Liaison

Whether wanting to attend and couldn't, or could have but just didn't take the time, missing the recent National Historic Trails Workshop in Salt Lake City was a loss to anyone interested in or involved with a historic trail. From Monday night through Thursday night, the seasoned trail pro and the newbie, whether volunteer, contractor, or staff, were brought together by the fun and benefit of continuous networking. Over and over, one heard expressions of praise for the planning, the variety and quality of sessions, the vitality of Trail Apprentices, the workshop relevance to the National Historic Trails community, and, of course, the autumn beauty of Salt Lake City and its natural surroundings.

Rockwell's Route, continued

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Welch, Adonijah Strong. 1850. In Ressler, pages 255-274. [Ressler incorrectly ascribed Welch's diary David Switzer.]

Endnotes

1. Space did not permit us to detail the creation and demise of the San Joaquin Company wagon trail. In November 1849, Hunt was hired, at \$10 per wagon to pilot the train to *Pueblo de Los Angeles*. We recommend the following books that provide the needed details: Manly 1994, 76-143; Hafen and Hafen 1954, 15-130; Sutak 2012, 290-380. ♦

LeRoy is a retired forest geneticist and his wife Jean is a professional cellist. They are noted authorities on Death Valley history dealing with the emigrants who blundered into the valley in 1849. With Will Bagley, they are currently editing the Gold Rush diaries of William Lorton and Adonijah Welch, which induced LeRoy and Jean to unscramble Rockwell's route.

The Partnership for the National Trails System sponsors three major events each two years: a National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference for member organizations of all thirty trails of the National Trails System; then the succeeding year, two separate workshops—one for scenic trails, one for historic. In 2013, the biennial conference was in Tucson; this year, the National Scenic Trails Workshop was held at Lake Tahoe in May, then the last week in October, National Historic Trails advocates got together in Salt Lake City. Rob Sweeten, BLM National Trail Administrator of the OSNHT, and the Crossroads Chapter of the Oregon-California Trail Association (led by its president, Gar Ellison) served admirably as the Host Committee. Activities were centered in downtown Salt Lake City, at the spacious conference hotel--Salt Lake Plaza Hotel--and the beautifully maintained Joseph Smith Memorial Building (formerly the ornate historic Hotel Utah). Both buildings are adjacent to the ten-acre historic Temple Square. The big surprise: having gourmet meals at the top of the Memorial Building as part of conference registration was a unique experience.

In addition to special guest/presenters, sixty-seven people registered for the workshop, and all but two of the nineteen National Historic Trails were represented by volunteers and/or staff. In perhaps two cases, one person was an active member of two different NHTs. The two Trails not represented were: Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT, and Selma to Montgomery NHT. A compatible mixture of speakers from all aspects of the historic trails community provided what participants had asked for--topics of value, including capacity building, partnering, marketing/tourism, how to work with federal land managers/policies/new plans, preservation of scenery, setting, cultural resources, how to utilize technology to build interest and membership, social media and trail mapping. Two conference highlights were:

1) Gar Ellison, President of Crossroads Chapter/OCTA, assisted by John Krizek, OCTA President, presented a chapter award to Juan Palma, State Director of Utah BLM, because of his consistent support for National Historic Trails in Utah. In his acceptance

speech, Palma offered a brief but poignant look back at “the path he had trod,” his own life: a Mexican kid, marveling at “awesome scenery that he thought must be heaven,” seen from the back of a slow-moving, flatbed truck as his migrant worker family followed the yearly harvests from California to Washington to Texas and back to California. Now as an adult and in BLM management, he has the privilege of “helping to protect those same magnificent mountains and valleys.” Palma’s conclusion: “Only in America.”

2) An exhibit of artifacts, packaged so they could be individually handled, from the Donner-Reed Party was provided by Christopher Merritt, Archaeologist/Senior Preservation Specialist of the Utah State Historic Preservation Office. Merritt told how the artifacts were unearthed over a century after the emigrant party’s disastrous trek over the Hastings Cutoff. He also discussed threats to historic trails. Merritt strongly stressed benefits for everyone when trail organization members personally become acquainted with the staff in their own State Historic Preservation Offices (there is a SHPO in each of the 50 states).

It was refreshing again this year to enjoy the company of eight young adult trail apprentices, two of whom are familiar to active OSTA members: veteran PNTS Trail Apprentice and our own valued social media leader, Chelsea Bodamer (Facebook; Notes from the Trail—E-News); and first-timer Samantha “Sammi” Kost, BLM intern in Las Vegas who served as staff for the Nevada Chapter’s hosting of the recent annual OSTA conference. The young people all had active roles. Bodamer moderated a panel that spotlighted Kost and the rest of the group: Kelsy Sackrey, Oregon-California Trail Association intern, who is particularly interested in land preservation and advocacy efforts; Caitlan Dowling, Iditarod Trail Alliance intern and GIS specialist who hopes to continue with conservation efforts in Alaska; Nathan Garza, a GIS tech working on historical map research for El Camino Real de los Tejas Association; and Michael Knight and Jared Lundquist, landscape architectural students who are historic trail interns in the Salt Lake City office of BLM Utah.

Two presentations featured Michael Knight and Jared

Lundquist. In one, Lundquist reported details of an Iron County charette, part of a potential Old Spanish Trail recreation and development strategy in Utah. In the other, Knight and Lundquist discussed their participation and photography work for the exciting new documentary, “Hastings Cut-off: Retracing the Footsteps of the Donner-Reed Party.” Members of the Crossroads Chapter, T. Michael Smith, A. Oscar Olson, Craig Anderson, and John Eldredge, provided historical details and the resulting balanced film, no doubt, is a keeper. The film made its much-acclaimed debut at the NHT Workshop on October 28 and now can be seen on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=YV6WvQN4pa8. Check it out.

Throughout the workshop, Trail Apprentices were visible, beneficially sharing and learning with each other and other attendees. The continuing TA program is a huge stride forward, a vital aspect of the Partnership’s work with its member organizations. Substantial support and funding come from the five federal National Trail System agencies: NPS, BLM, USFS, USFWS, FHWA.

Continued next page



Photo: Reba Wells Grandrud

Christopher Merritt, archaeologist, displays Donner-Reed Party artifacts.

PNTS Workshop, continued

Dire winter weather (as reported locally) never materialized, so the half-day and whole-day mobile workshops proved to be pleasant outings as well as outdoor laboratories which followed and built on classroom presentations. On Tuesday afternoon, the bus and overflow vans headed east into the Wasatch Mountains, taking essentially in reverse the route that Mormon pioneers had used when arriving into the Great Salt Lake Valley in the 1840s, with stops at

many interesting historic sites.

The Wednesday outdoor sessions were west of SLC to development-threatened Pilot Valley and the legendary Hastings Cut-off emigrant route. A first-hand, how-to-preserve look at critical sites and segments in the face of accelerating energy development, and how to develop trail corridors for both preservation and recreation spawned much praise, even to one person stating afterward that it was “the best mobile workshop he had ever attended.” ♦



Conference Activities

Top, clockwise: Tracing the Armijo route covered by Lake Mead several members of OSTA; exploring the Trail near Red Rock Canyon; David Fallowfield shoveling dirt to install a marker, while Joe Dominguez stands by; intern Sammi Koss with President Ashley Hall; Nick Saines reads from Hal Steiner's book, *The Old Spanish Trail: A Voyage of Discovery*, at a marker near Las Vegas.

Photos: Ruth Friesen



National OSTA Conference 2014 Presentation Topics

By Elizabeth Warren

The National OSTA Conference, held in Las Vegas, Nevada, from October 16-19, 2014, offered 22 presenters an opportunity to address the history of the trail, the people who developed and used it, and the challenges of managing it on the ground. Management issues are complicated by the difficulty of finding trail traces, a problem which continues to impact plans of those who wish to develop projects that affect the trail and those who are dedicated to defending it, in support of its National Historic Trail status.

Management issues were addressed by the several federal agencies responsible for the physical trail and its interpretation: Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and Forest Service. We also heard from Reba Grandrud, OSTA's representative to the trails coalition, the Partnership for the National Trails System. The agencies all reported progress in preparing the final Comprehensive Management Plan, and we look forward to its completion in the near future. The Partnership asked for consideration of increased financial support, to enable it to continue its work, representing the trail in Washington, D.C. and notifying trail organizations about relevant developments in the Congress.

Trail identification was also the focus of two presentations: Finding the Trail through Modern Technology (Jack Prichett, Tecopa chapter), and Old Spanish Trailheads Adjacent to Highways, by Doug Knudson (Colorado chapter). Prichett has experience with lidar technology, used to locate trail traces not visible on the surface of the ground. This technique would be very useful in locating sections of the trail that have largely vanished from view. Lidar is expensive, involving the use of ground-penetrating radar. Nonetheless, it offers a valuable opportunity to connect often widely-separated visible traces.

The history of the trail and its users received the attention of most presenters. Native American influence was discussed by Dr. James Jefferson of the Ute

Tribe, in collaboration with OSTA President Ashley Hall, and Cliff Walker of Barstow focused on the slave trade along the trail, a topic he explored in depth in his recent book about the slave trade in California. Alex King detailed the history of some early Old Spanish Trail immigrants to California and their role in its development. Conchita Marusich, a descendant of William Wolfskill, joined us from northern California to present her findings on contributions of Wolfskill and his contemporaries to California's early political and economic growth. Jerry Nickle, Utah member, recounted the influence of the trail on the Sundance Kid, who lived along the trail in Utah.

John C. Fremont's expedition of 1844 via the Old Spanish Trail was a topic selected by Liz Warren, with the focus on how Fremont came to travel the trail via Bitter Springs, Resting Spring, and through Southern Nevada to Mountain Meadows in Utah. Her major focus was on who led Fremont from the Mojave River to southern Utah, not a region known to Kit Carson or Alexis Godey, principal guides for the expedition. The guide was Andreas Fuentes, one of the principals in the tragedy at Resting Springs, a man who had travelled the route as part of the regular caravan of 1843-44. His name is not known to most historians, nor is his role in leading Fremont through southern Nevada.

Events that occurred along the trail after 1848, the year the NPS has designated the end of significant OST activity, were also explored. Leo Lyman presented a detailed paper on the influence of the OST on the Mormon Battalion, which followed the OST to Utah and then returned to California by way of the OST. Orchards, grapevines, and other important plants and products were later brought to Utah via this route. In the process, the OST was changed to accommodate wagons, and its trace then became two ruts instead of one. Military historian Jim Hinds offered a paper on Carleton's Paiute Campaign, relying primarily on Dennis Casebier's publication of the same name. This campaign made a strong impact on Mohave Desert Paiutes, a story recorded in Paiute rock art in southern Nevada. Harold Larson of Archaeo-Nevada (Nevada's

oldest group focused on prehistory of Nevada) and Jeanne Sharp Howerton of Southern Nevada Rock Art Association, who have done extensive work on locating petroglyphs and pictographs of southern Nevada, shared slides of this rock art at the conference. One of the panels contains the basic elements of punishment that Carleton administered to the Paiutes. This story panel is not widely known; the panel itself is very difficult to see. It lays on the ground with little room for the artist who is working to record this historic, terrifying event which punished the Paiutes for attacking wagon trains along the trail.

Marking of the Old Spanish Trail through Clark County, Nevada, and in close-by places in California and Utah was [scheduled to be] addressed by Nicole Dominguez, President of the Nevada Chapter of OSTA, and Ashley Hall, who has recruited numerous Boy Scout troops to assist in placing the monuments. This is a project that involves locating monuments originally erected during Nevada's centennial which, 50 years later, have been so heavily vandalized that in some cases these heavy, reinforced concrete obelisks have been reduced to a piece of steel rod sticking out of a pile of concrete rubble. As a sesquicentennial project, OSTA is replacing these monuments, which offers a superb opportunity to involve young people. Thus far, five Eagle Scout projects have been completed involving the monument placements.

A session on improving OSTA included suggestions regarding enhanced social interaction opportunities. Ruth Friesen, *Spanish Traces* editor, presented a tutorial on using MS Word's "References" tool, with a handout available for those not attending the session.

A program focused on the Old Spanish Trail Association founded in 1946 was presented by Al Matheson of Southern Utah; this early organization placed signs along the trail, many of which have survived the passage of time. This Association provided Ashley Hall's introduction to the OST when he was a young boy in Utah, but it has all but disappeared from memory.

The conference was dedicated to the memory of Hal Steiner, author of the important book detailing *The Old*

Spanish Trail Across the Mojave Desert (Haldor Company, Las Vegas, NV, 1999), and invaluable partner in producing OSTA's response to the early NPS discussion about the Old Spanish Trail and its proposed status as a National Historic Trail. Hal's family attended the recognition banquet on Saturday night, where a special honor was awarded to Doris Steiner, Hal's widow, and to OSTA members who earned recognition for their contributions to OSTA: Ted Worthen, Scoop Garside, and Virgil Slade for the 1964 OST marking project; Nick Saines for his work in acquiring the land for the Old Spanish Trail Park; Bill Ramsay, President and David Fallowfield, Secretary of OSTA's British Chapter, for outstanding assistance to the OSTA members when they visited the UK earlier this year. Ruth Friesen was recognized for her invaluable work in editing *Spanish Traces*, and Steve Heath, retiring Utah State Director, for his efforts on behalf of the OST.

Special recognition was also accorded conference sponsors, solicited by OSTA President Ashley Hall to help finance the cost of this conference. In-kind sponsors, whose assistance was vital to the success of conference tours, were Nevada State Parks, Clark County, and City of Las Vegas. Major sponsors were Sugar Factory, Chinatown Plaza, and Ashley Hall & Associates. Other sponsors were Anderson Dairy; Bob Beers, Las Vegas City Councilman; David C. Hall, CPA, SBA; Jim Marsh Used Cars; Quest Auto Parts, Ivan Cannon; and the John E. Warthen Family Trust. ♦



Photo: Ruth Friesen

Mrs. Hal Steiner receives an OSTA certificate honoring her late husband.