

SPANISH TRACES



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Southern Utah University Becomes Official Repository for Old Spanish Trail Documents



Ashley Hall, OSTA President, signs an agreement with Southern Utah University to become the official repository for historical Old Spanish Trail documents, while SUU President Scott Wyatt and Al Matheson, OSTA Southern Utah Chapter President, look on.

The Special Collection Library at Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah, will be the repository for Old Spanish Trail historical documents. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on July 15, 2015, by OSTA President Ashley Hall and SUU President Scott Wyatt. Trail histories, books, collections, and associated Western histories will be available for researchers onsite as well as online. Several OSTA members have already made commitments to contribute their collections to this repository. Potential donors may contact Special Collections at 435-586-7976 or at specialcollections@suu.edu. See page 29 for related story.

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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 _____ Number _____

\$5 of each membership supports your local chapter.

Indicate your chapter affiliation _____

Membership Types

Individual	\$25/year
Family	\$30/year
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
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**6267 S 157th Way, Gilbert, AZ
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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 November 10, 2015. All matters relating to *Spanish Traces* should be directed to the OSTA Editor.

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President's Corner

by Ashley J. Hall
OSTA President

President's Annual Report FY 2014-2015

One of the great experiences of being President of the Old Spanish Trail Association is the opportunity to meet, greet and work with some of the most dedicated, impassioned, and highly knowledgeable western history buffs in the world. Each year is a new experience with problems to face, opportunities to pursue, challenges to overcome, and Trail activities to enjoy.

First a funny story - with a great deal of focus in our re-marking the Old Spanish Trail through southern Nevada over the past several years, we have spent many an evening in planning meetings with the Nevada Chapter, the BLM, and Eagle Scout candidates and their leaders to plan and help them carry out the replacement of individual OST markers across the

OST through southern Nevada. Recently, several of our grandsons were at our home swimming. About dinner time, Lorna began asking the boys, "Where is Grandpa, where is Grandpa?" Most of the boys shrugged their shoulders and did not know; however, our grandson Andrew, who is almost 11, said in a very serious voice: "Grandma, I think Grandpa is out on the Old Spanish Trail." It seems that if I am not at home or on Boy Scout business around town, I am "on the Old Spanish Trail."

More seriously, I feel OSTA has achieved several major priorities during FY 2014-2015.

First, the approval by the OSTA Board to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Southern Utah University (SUU) at Cedar City, Utah, to create an Old Spanish Trail Historical Document Repository at the University's Special Collection Library is significant. Here, OST histories, books, collections, and associated Western histories can be placed for safekeeping and easy access by researchers, students, and OSTA members at a central location directly on the Trail. Through electronic means, much of the research materials can be accessed via the Internet. The MOA was executed at SUU by President Wyatt and the OSTA President on July 15, 2015.

Second, the updates of OSTA administrative policies and positions allow OSTA to move forward ad-

ministratively and organizationally with confidence into the future, including the Board's newly created Director At-Large Native American, with Dr. James Jefferson being appointed to this position.

Third, the very successful Las Vegas OSTA Conference in October 2014 was both a highlight and very informative colloquium of OST experts, enthusiasts, and presenters that made the 2014 Conference an outstanding one to remember. (I wished we had videotaped the presentations.)

Fourth, the update of OSTA's 501 (c)(3) status allows OSTA to continue to move forward with the full confidence of the IRS, the National Park Service, and OSTA members.

Fifth, the process of reviewing and updating OSTA's strategic plan that began at the board meeting in Delta, Colorado, in June 2015, led by Paul Ostapuk, Vice President, will allow OSTA to set and achieve its goals well into the future.

Sixth, the March 2015 OSTA Board meeting at Page, Arizona, hosted by the great people of the Armijo Chapter, the National Park Service at Lake Powell, and the Page Chamber of Commerce, was held in a historic setting. The Saturday field trip to the "Crossing of the Fathers" in Lake Powell was a genuine highlight. Those attending were able to see firsthand the "1776 Inscription"

of the Fathers party as they made their way back to Santa Fe from their historic expedition into central and southern Utah, northern Arizona along the Utah/Arizona border to return to Santa Fe via the crossing of the Colorado River at this spot.

Seventh, the Nevada Chapter's efforts to re-mark the Old Spanish Trail through southern Nevada as part of Nevada's 150th birthday – from Arizona on the east to California on the west, a distance of over 160 miles, initially begun in 2010, will run through 2015. I feel the significance of the re-marking project by the Nevada Chapter and those who have assisted us is an example of positive planning and execution over a multiple-year period, having application for other chapters. We have sent photos of the many Eagle Scout projects that have been performed on the Trail, as new OST markers have replaced the original 1964 markers installed along the Trail to celebrate Nevada's 100th Birthday. As of this report, 19 Eagle Scout projects have been completed, with at least four more to be completed before the project is finished. During the re-marking of the Old Spanish Trail, we have engaged well over 600 people from a variety of historic backgrounds: Boy Scout Troops, families, Future Farmers of America youth, Back County Riders, community history groups, the Governor of Nevada, members of the Clark County Commission, the Mayor and City Council of Las Vegas, and hours of unselfish service by the members of the

Nevada Chapter of OSTA, along with many OSTA members who participated in the setting of the OST marker at the Old Spanish Trail Park in Las Vegas as part of the 2014 Conference. Additionally, we wish to recognize the unfailing support of the Nevada BLM Office, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Forest Service.

Eighth, the OSTA board meeting held in Delta, Colorado, was a great success. We were able to attend the reopening ceremony of Fort Uncompahgre, headed by OSTA member Chris Miller and her committee, who planned and executed the ceremony in conjunction with the Interpretive Association of Western Colorado Association, the North Branch Chapter of OSTA located in northwestern Colorado, with the support of many community-minded people, and the OSTA Board. A reception was hosted by the mayor of Delta, the Interpretive Association, and the Chamber of Commerce. Attending the opening were a number of Western Colorado history buffs, community leaders and their families, and the OSTA board members.

Ninth, over the past year or so, I have had the opportunity to fly over the Old Spanish Trail, first across southern Nevada from Arizona to California and more recently with Al Matheson, Utah Director, from Enoch, Utah (adjacent to Cedar City), west to the Escalante Valley and Antelope Springs, then south along the foothills to New Castle, the Jefferson Hunt Memorial, through Holts Canyon up into the Mountain Meadows. The springtime each year is a great time to see the contrast in the vegetation that grows along the Trail, making the Trail relatively easy to see. To experience the Trail from at about 1,000 feet, one can fairly easily see the Trail: due to extensive compaction of the Trail by hundreds/thousands of animals that traversed the Trail, very little vegetation actually grows on the Trail, thus leaving a distinctive pathway. However, one is disturbed with the amount of development, either directly on the Trail, or major energy projects and power transmission lines that run along the corridor of the Trail, thus obstructing or diminishing both the historical and aesthetic experience of the Trail.



North end of Mountain Meadows along the Pinto Road. Al Matheson was flying at about 1,000 feet while Ashley Hall took photos.

Tenth, with a sad note, OSTA is saying goodbye to our Manager, Dennis Ditmanson, who has served OSTA very well for many years. Having had the privilege of working with Dennis on an almost daily basis, I have found him to be focused, factual, and with a level of enthusiasm that has served OSTA well. We thank Dennis for his faithful service to OSTA, which has helped propel OSTA to its present position in the National Historic Trails Program. Dennis has been an effective communicator and advocate for both OSTA and the National Historic Trails Program, and has dealt effectively with our federal partners (NPS/BLM) as he has carried the OSTA banner to many parts of the country via the PNTS conferences and the OSTA member tour to Northern England and Southern Scotland in mid-2014. We thank Dennis for his outstanding service and achievements and wish him well as he turns the page in his life to support his wife, Carol, in her new role as the New Mexico Field Operations Manager for the Western National Parks Association.

So, as one year comes to a close in OSTA history, a new year begins with its challenges and opportunities, May we appreciate the past, understand the present, and look to the future with hope for our success in fulfilling the goals and objectives of OSTA. ✦



Manager Musings *by Dennis Ditmanson* *Association Manager*

The last few months have been very busy, resulting in quite a number of topics to cover this time, but I need to begin with a mea culpa. Last issue, in the article covering highlights of the Board meeting in Page, Arizona, I incorrectly stated that the 1776 inscription attributed to the Dominguez-Escalante Expedition had been discovered by “members of the Armijo Chapter.” Actually, the discovery occurred during a routine Graffiti Removal and Intervention Team (GRIT) activity in 2006. The GRIT program was developed at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area as a means of removing non-historic graffiti from rock faces and sandstone walls and from shoreline areas within park, and on the day in question Armijo Chapter President Jim Page happened to be the boat pilot for the team. Thank you to those who pointed out my miscue.

Following quickly on the heels of the March meeting in Page, Arizona, the Board met again in June, gathering in Delta, Colorado. The impetus for this event was an invitation from the Interpretive Association of Western Colorado (IAWC) to participate in public activities connected to the “repurposing” of the Fort Uncompahgre site in Delta. The replica Fort had been operated as a living history museum by the City of Delta for a number of years, but in recent times was only open by appointment and for school groups.

The site has an Old Spanish Trail connection due to the presence in the vicinity of a trading post (fort) built by Antoine Robidoux in the 1820s along what we now call the North Branch of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. IAWC’s goal is to reinvigorate the Fort as a major historic trails interpretive center, working in cooperation with the BLM and the NPS along with a newly formed Friends group. The Board heard a briefing on the project from IAWC Executive Director Chris Miller, was treated to a reception with Fort volunteers and community leaders, and participated in the public opening of the Fort on Saturday morning. We look forward to working with the Interpretive Association as this project moves forward.

Once again the Board had a full agenda and acted on a number of significant issues. For some time there has been discussion of the need to better represent Native

American and Hispanic concerns and interests at the Board level. At an earlier meeting, the concept of appointing a “Native American Liaison” was suggested but no action was taken. At the Page meeting, President Hall, citing the provision in the bylaws allowing for multiple directors-at-large, requested that the Board consider this means of addressing the issue. The matter was again on the table in Delta, with the result that a motion was made to establish a position of Director-at-large – Native American. Following an affirmative vote, President Hall appointed Dr. James Jefferson to fill the slot for a three-year term, at the end of which it will become an elected position. Congratulations to “Dr. J”.

One result of Dr. Jefferson’s appointment was his withdrawal as a write-in candidate for the Colorado Director vacancy. See the full report on the 2015 election elsewhere in this issue.

Also in this issue, please see the article about another major Board action, the formalization of a Memorandum of Agreement between OSTA and the Gerald R. Sheratt Library at Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah, to become the official repository for historical, archival materials related to the OST. Administrative records related to the Old Spanish Trail Association will continue to reside at the Denver Public Library. This significant step opens the door for the creation of an important research center for Old Spanish Trail collections, and

discussions are already underway with potential donors.

An immediate offshoot of the agreement is a decision by Southern Utah University to host a symposium on historic trails at the school in October of 2016. Watch future *Spanish Traces* and the OSTA e-newsletter for more information, as the 2016 general membership meeting will likely be held in conjunction with this event. And on a related note, Tres Trails Chapter President Leo Lyman is in conversation with the Crossroads Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) to hold a trails event at Dixie College in St. George, Utah, in the spring of 2017.

Several articles in past issues of *Spanish Traces* have highlighted the in-depth investigation that USFS Archaeologist Bob Leonard has undertaken on the Fish Lake Cutoff (FLCO). His work has generated a good bit of discussion and debate among those interested in the OST and now the issue has come to the fore in the form of a resolution from the Fish Lake Chapter calling for the recognition of the FLCO as a designated route of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. In Delta, the Board voted to support the resolution. The Chapter reports that the idea is supported by the City of Richfield, Utah, and the Fishlake National Forest and has been presented to members of the Utah congressional delegation.

The Board also was presented

with a resolution from the Tecopa Chapter (California) and the Nevada Director endorsing Senate Bill 414, the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015. The bill is in line with the stance OSTA has taken regarding proposed energy development projects in California and parallels OSTA’s policy regarding trail preservation and desert energy development. The Board voted in favor of endorsing this resolution.

And in a final action, the Board voted to support a historical marker to commemorate Jedediah Smith, to be installed at Fremont Indian State Park, with the details to be worked out with the Utah Director.

Members of the OSTA Board are highly knowledgeable about the general history of the Old Spanish Trail but often are not as aware of the specifics of the Trail story in any given geographic locale. To address this, the Board was treated to a series of presentations from local representatives familiar with Trail resources. Jack Pfertch, Alpine Archaeological Consultants, provided information on work performed by AAC on OSNHT sites on BLM land in the Wells Gulch and Fool’s Hill sites and other locations in the vicinity. Leigh Ann Hunt, Colorado Archaeological Society, retired archaeologist of the U.S. Forest Service, talked about OSNHT sites in the Gunnison and Rio Grande forests, especially in the vicinity of Cochetopa Pass. Kaye Simonson, Mesa County, Colorado, provided

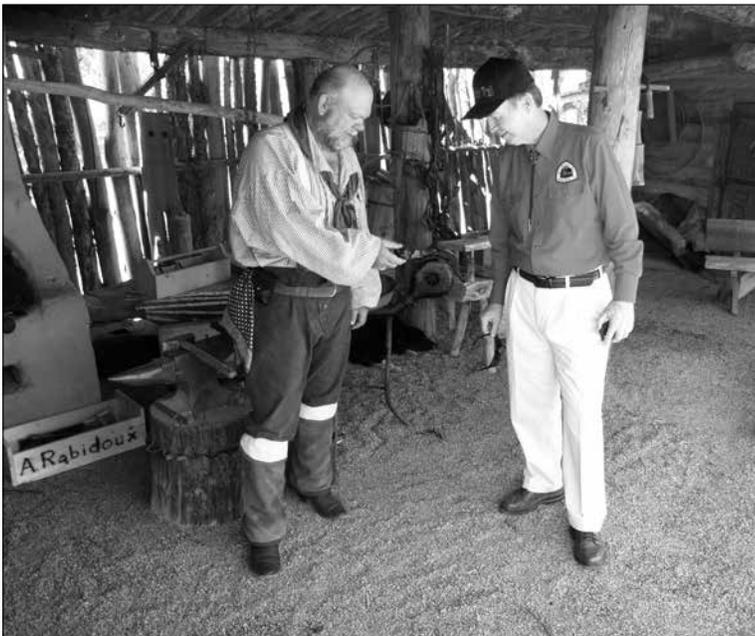
an overview of the work of Mesa County (Grand Junction area) in highlighting the OSNHT and provided the Board with copies of their Final Old Spanish Trail Plan. Chris Miller, Interpretive Association of Western Colorado, gave a history of their efforts to repurpose the facility at Fort Uncompahgre and to incorporate the OST story. And Glade Hadden, BLM Archaeologist, Uncompahgre Field Office, talked about the work of the BLM in documenting and potentially signing OSNHT sites in the Gunnison/Delta/Grand Junction and in the Dominguez/Escalante National Conservation Areas.

The Board also heard from Aaron Mahr, Superintendent, NPS National Trails Intermountain Region, who provided an update on NPS activities. Of particular interest was his report on the annual Task Agreement for Fiscal Year 2016 which, for the first time, will include specific provisions for the development of sign plans for the OSNHT. OSTA members and chapters will need to work with the NPS to identify locations for a variety of signs designating roads, trails, walkways, bike paths, etc., associated with the Trail. Then, with the development of these plans, funding can be identified for specific projects. As a start on this process, limited funding has become available for the installation of signage in the Santa Fe, New Mexico, area in preparation for the Three Trails Conference in Septem-

ber, and Salida del Sol Chapter President Pat Kuhlhoff has begun meeting with NPS and city officials to put the plan in action.

Following adjournment, the Board heard from incoming Colorado Director Vickie Felmlee and other Colorado members regarding the future of OSTA in the state and the potential for chapter growth.

And finally, a personal note. This will be my final Musings. The past four years have been a pleasure and a treat for me. I've met some wonderfully passionate people who care very deeply about the Trail story and the resources associated with it. I've been privileged to spend time on the Trail with some of you and to be shown those special places that the rest of the world doesn't get to see. To my "guides" - a very special thank you! I hope that in some way I've helped you in the important work of preserving, protecting, and interpreting the Old Spanish Trail. However, as a result of a wonderful opportunity that has been made available to my wife, Carol, I've decided to step away from OSTA and concentrate on supporting her, as she has supported me for so long. My thanks to the Board for the chance to work with you all, to the chapter leadership for bringing the Trail to life in your local communities, and especially to Ruth and Chelsea and Judy and Lorraine without whose behind-the-scenes heroics, things just wouldn't get done. Thanks! ♦



Ashley Hall learns more about Fort Uncompahgre at the recent board meeting in Delta, Colorado.

Photo: Al Matheson

OSTA 2015 Board of Directors Election

By Lorna Hall, Secretary

We would like to thank the 2015 OSTA Ballot Committee composed of Lorraine Carpenter, Judy Brewer, and Helen Nickel. Lorraine forwarded the results of the 2015 Ballot to the OSTA Board's Delta, Colorado, meeting on June 12, 2015, who acted as follows:

- President – Ashley Hall was elected to a second term.
- Treasurer – Debi Plum was elected to her first full term.
- Colorado Director – Vicki Felmlee of Grand Junction was elected to her first full term
- New Mexico Director – Dr. Robert Hilley of Santa Fe was elected to his first full term.
- Director-At-Large—Native American (newly-created Board position) – Dr. James Jefferson was appointed by President Hall to an initial term, with the approval of the Board.

President Hall clarified the ballot issue by stating that with the appointment of Dr. Jefferson to the newly created Director-At-Large—Native American's position, Dr. Jefferson was no longer eligible to be the Colorado Director. Because Dr. Jefferson and Vicki Felmlee, of Grand Junction, Colorado, received the same number of write-in votes on the ballot, and with Dr. Jefferson's withdrawal, Ms. Felmlee was declared the winner in that category. Those elected will take office at the general membership meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in September 2015.

A Board motion to accept the 2015 election results as clarified by President Hall was made by Al Matheson; 2nd by Paul Ostapuk, motion approved.

Thank each of you for your cooperation and participation in this year's OSTA ballot.

Incoming Directors Bios

Vicki Felmlee, incoming Colorado Director, is a Colorado native. She has been employed by the Grand Junction *Daily Sentinel* as a reporter and editor, and with a degree in geology, has been an Environmental Scientist for a DOE contractor. She has



studied Environmental Law and been assigned numerous environmental impact projects. She has worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratory, and Idaho Falls National Laboratory. Vicki has owned her own business, TCS Marketing Group, Inc., since 1996, and is planning to retire at the end of 2015. She is currently the president of Orchard Mesa Neighbors in Action.

Her articles and columns have been published locally and nationally. She has been active in researching local and area history and blogs at www.americamoreorless.com. She is frequently interviewed on national issues, most recently by CNBC.com and the New York Times.

Robert Hilley, incoming New Mexico Director, is a retired MD (Pathology and Infectious Disease), a member of OSTA for over 15 years, and has attended three national meetings. He and his wife (deceased nine years) have always been interested in western history, she with a BA and MA in Southwest History. They have traveled extensively throughout the West and have been over or close to the Old Spanish Trail in its entirety. His home has been in Santa Fe, New Mexico, for the past 54 years.

Debi Plum, Treasurer, was appointed earlier and her bio appeared in the Spring 2015 issue of *Spanish Traces*.

Ostapuk Receives Lifetime Achievement Award from PNTS

By Reba Wells Grandrud

The Old Spanish Trail Association and the Armijo Chapter were in the spotlight recently when Paul Ostapuk was presented an award by the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) at its National Scenic and Historic Trails meeting in Franklin, Tennessee. The Partnership gives its highest recognition biennially in four categories: Lifetime Achievement (Volunteer), Lifetime Achievement (Staff), Extraordinary Trail Partner, and Outstanding Congressional Friend of the Trails. Ostapuk's Lifetime Achievement (Volunteer) plaque reads:

In recognition of his many years of volunteer service, inspiring leadership, and outstanding achievements as an officer of the Old Spanish Trail Association, for his work on the trail, with agency partners, and especially for dedicated and sustained efforts to authenticate the "Paso Por Aqui – Año 1776" inscription.

Paul Ostapuk became interested in the Old Spanish National Historic Trail in early 2003 and became a member of the Association. He was elected as Arizona Director in 2004 when the Association met in Page and served in that capacity until 2010 when he was appointed, then elected, as Vice President, where he currently serves. Ostapuk has been the official webmaster



l. to r., Rob Sweeten, BLM-Utah Historic Trail Program Lead, Paul Ostapuk, Reba Wells Grandrud, OSTA's PNTS representative, and Aaron Mahr, Superintendent of the National Park Service National Trails Intermountain Region, at the PNTS Awards ceremony in Franklin, Tennessee. Photo: Deloris Gray Wood

for a number of years (www.oldspanishtrail.org). In 2006, he spearheaded the organization of the Armijo Chapter, the first, and so far only, OSTA chapter in Arizona. The chapter is centered in the Page area with members, meetings, and activities in Arizona and southern Utah. Armijo Chapter members also volunteer as Trail Stewards for the Arizona National Scenic Trail, which terminates at the Utah state line very near to the Armijo Route of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.

In early fall of 2006, James Page, Armijo Chapter President, was in charge of a graffiti-mitigation group of volunteers (GRIT) in the Glen Canyon National Recreational Area when a routine activity turned into an event of great historical significance. Volunteers found what appeared to be Spanish language script and a date scratched on the surface of a large lakeside boulder, almost hidden by more visible names and initials. "Paso Por Aqui – Año 1776." A fortuitous discovery? Yes!

Graffiti-removal volunteers at the inscription site panel

Members of the Armijo Chapter believed that the faint but discernable legend on the rock was historically significant and likely related to the well-known 18th century Dominguez-Escalante Expedition. In 1776, Franciscan padres Silvestre Vélez de Escalante and Francisco Atanasio Dominguez had successfully forded the Colorado River at a site, *El Vado del Los Padres*, or the Crossing of the Fathers, now under the waters of Lake Powell's Padre Bay. That historic ford was also related to the story of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, which began its formal existence in 1829 when a New Mexico merchant named Antonio Armijo led a commercial mule caravan from Santa Fe to Los Angeles, and utilized the same Colorado River crossing as the Spanish missionaries 53 years before. The chapter began what turned out to be a long campaign to determine if the writing had, indeed, been left on the rock face by the two Spanish priests, or by someone in their group.

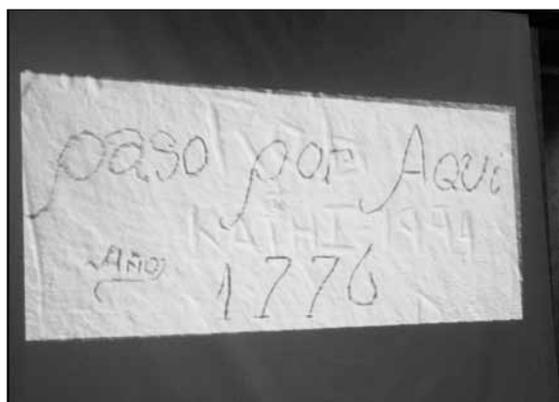


Photo: Chelsea Bodamer

For five years, undaunted in the face of great skepticism from various sectors, Ostapuk led the chapter's vigorous pursuit of truth. At their own expense, chapter members followed multiple lines of research in an attempt to confirm the authenticity of the inscription. Ultimately, they were successful. In the absence of absolute dating methods such as radiocarbon dating, all evidence pointed to confirmation that the inscription was inscribed on the rock surface by a member (name unknown) of the Dominguez-Escalante Expedition in 1776 (see www.nps.gov/glca/learn/nature/research.htm).

Ostapuk and the Armijo Chapter members continue to work closely with Rosemary Sucec, Cultural Resource-

es Program Manager at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, to seek the best method to protect and interpret a globally significant, one-of-a-kind artifact of a remarkable history. They have shown patience and persistence, along with a collaborative spirit, in working with a governmental agency/land manager.

Paul Ostapuk has served OSTA and the National Trail System consistently and well. In a quiet, unassuming but competent manner, he has envisioned and supervised a number of other successful projects. Two of those are noted here. Paul was Project Officer for a Cooperative Agreement (#L09AC15567) with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Arizona State Office to establish a long-term Trail Steward Program. In that capacity, he led in the preparation of a training manual, conducted a series of workshops for OSTA chapter members, and led in the establishment of long-term field monitoring of high potential trail segments and historic sites along the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. Recently, he has been Project Officer for a 360° immersive virtual experience, offering different levels of interactive content, in the form of an online self-guided virtual tour across some sections of the Old Spanish Trail. This experience will be demonstrated in a small portable dome exhibit at the Three Trails Conference in Santa Fe, September 17-20, 2015. ♦

New OST Book Published

Moving Forward, Looking Back: Journeys Across the Old Spanish Trail is newly released by photographer Janire Najera. She drove along the Old Spanish Trail following the footsteps of Antonia Armijo. "The book combines a collection of portraits and interviews with the travel diary written by Najera during the trip," according to the Spain Arts & Culture website. You can buy the book at <http://store.spainculture.us/product/moving-forward-looking-back-journeys-across-the-old-spanish-trail>

THREE TRAILS CONFERENCE

The first joint conference of the Santa Fe Trail Association, the Old Spanish Trail Association, and El Camino Real de Terra Adentro Association will be held on September 17 – 20 at the Santa Fe, New Mexico, Convention Center.

Registration

You still have time to register for the conference. 265 people have registered as of mid-July, and all of the field trips and events are still available. You can either register using materials sent in the Spring *Spanish Traces* or go to the conference website at www.3trailsconferencesantafe.org and download the registration materials, or register online. It will be a great time to gather and learn about the linking trails in our western heritage.

Accommodations

Three hotels still have rooms remaining in their room blocks for the conference. These rooms will be held only a few more days. Please see the Accommodations page on the website or call directly and refer to the Three Trails Conference or Santa Fe Trail Association: **Hotel Santa Fe at 800-825-9876 (block expires August 1), the Lodge at Santa Fe at 505-992-5858 (block expires August 17), or the Santa Fe Sage Inn at 505-982-5957 (block expires August 17).** All three hotels have a shuttle to the plaza area or directly to the convention center. There is also convenient underground parking at the Convention Center.

Raffle Items

Two special raffle items will be offered at the Three Trails Conference. Ann Barker of Santa Fe has donated her original quilt of “Southwestern Wild Flowers” in counted-cross stitch with hand quilting. The Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association and the Roy Du-Pree Family of Cimarron donated a dramatic laser-etched hide commemorating the Conference and featuring a map of the Santa Fe Trail and wagon trains. Tickets will be sold at \$5 per ticket and a 5 ticket package for \$20.



Trail Traveler Session: Saturday, September 19

Seven trail travelers will tell their tales to the conference attendees at the final Saturday morning general session at the Santa Fe Convention Center. Dr. Mike Olsen will moderate this special session which includes individuals representing a variety of trail travelers on all three trails. Included will be:

- Dr. James Jefferson – Ute Indian
- John Carson – Kit Carson
- Bob Mizerak – Josiah Gregg
- Ron Miera – Bernardo Miera y Pacheco
- Joy Poole – Dr. Roland Willard
- Julianne Burton-Carvajal – Josefa de Pas Bustillos y Ontiveros
- Alexander King – Juan Manuel Baca

Book Signing

Phyllis Morgan’s new book *As Far as the Eye Could Reach: Accounts of Animals Along the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880*, will be hot off the press at the time of the conference, and available for purchase. Marc Simmons, who wrote the foreword, and Ron Kil, who illustrated the book and also designed the conference poster, may be available for book-signing along with the author.

Trail Riders

The Backcountry Horsemen of America organization is commemorating the 1,200 mile Old Spanish Trail trading route from Cajon Pass, California, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, with a team of riders and others, some of whom who plan to arrive on the Plaza in front of the Palace of the Governors at about 3 p.m. on September 16, helping to kick off the Three Trails Conference. For more information about the trek and to view a trailer about the documentary being made, see <http://wanderingthewest.com/old-spanish-trail/ost.html> ♦

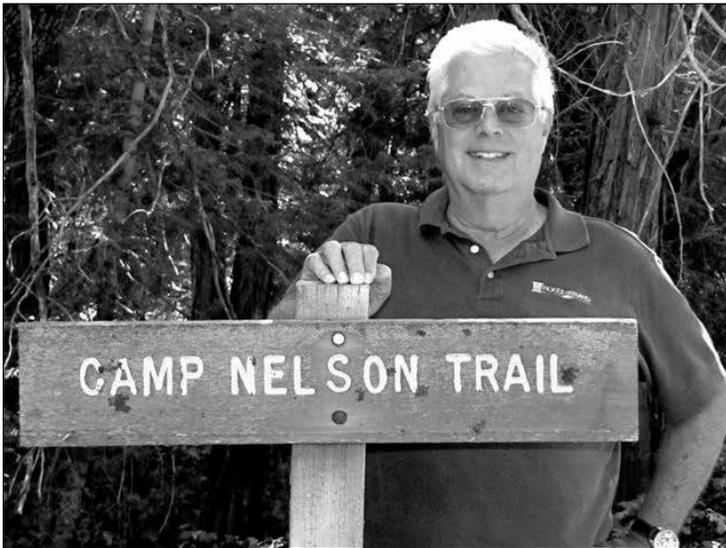
Chapter Reports

Mojave River Chapter

Nelson Miller is the new president of the Mojave River Chapter. He is a recently retired land-use planner who has lived in Apple Valley, California, and worked in the High Desert of San Bernardino County and other parts of Southern California for the last 35 years. Besides the Old Spanish Trail (OST), he is interested in early trails and highways of all types, but the Old Spanish Trail was among the earliest in the chapter's region. He has explored significant portions of the OST corridor from Green River, Colorado, across the San Rafael Swell, and followed much of Harold Steiner's book, *The Old Spanish Trail Across the Mojave Desert*.

Along with other members of the Mojave River Chapter, we are working with BLM on preparation of a Recreation and Development Strategy for the OST in Southern California, similar to the one prepared for Iron County, Utah. We are also working to locate actual traces of the OST in San Bernardino County and would like to see installation of markers along the OST similar to what was done in Nevada, with 4-foot-tall, concrete obelisks.

--Nelson Miller



Nelson Miller

William Workman Chapter

There has been very little activity within the Chapter since our last report. Chapter President Bill Ramsay and Secretary David Fallowfield have both registered for attendance at the Three Trails Conference in Santa Fe (September 17-20) and continue to encourage other members to attend.

One of the Chapter Directors, Bruce Alderson, has unfortunately suffered a stroke and is still in hospital. In fact the Secretary delivered his recent copy of *Spanish Traces* to him in Penrith Hospital, where he found him in good spirits and showing a very positive attitude. Bruce said he would enjoy reading the newsletter. He reported he had also



Bruce Alderson in finer health

been visited by fellow Appleby Director, Donald Harrison. The Secretary also conveyed Bill Ramsay's best wishes for a speedy recovery to full health.

Bruce, who has been a member of the Chapter since November 1998, recalled all the wonderful times he had experienced in the American South West. We all wish him a complete restoration of the physical attributes he has currently lost due to the stroke.

--David Fallowfield, Chapter Secretary for President Bill Ramsay

*What has your chapter been working on?
Your activities could be listed here, too.
The submission deadline for the Winter
edition of Spanish Traces is November 10.*

Salida del Sol Chapter

The Salida del Sol Chapter held an annual meeting in April. Pat Kuhlhoff will continue as President and Mike Najdowski as Secretary and Newsletter Chair. Our speaker for April was Tom Jervis, who gave a wonderful review of William Gamble's trek on the Old Spanish Trail in 1841 and told us about the many species of flora and fauna named after him. This meeting was recorded by June and Rob to add to our chapter archives. Thank you for helping out and participating in chapter events.

Our June meeting, which was to be a field trip from Cebolla to El Vado Lake on the Main Route of the trail was canceled. See the photo of the high water and deep mud conditions. This was the second time this trip was canceled due to trail conditions at the Rio Nutrias crossing. We will try again when it is dryer.

In June, the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America held their meeting in Santa Fe, and OSTA had a presence there with our display of great pictures and information about the trail and membership applications. There was real interest by many folks at the conference. Thanks to Bob Hilley, Lisa Bonney, Dennis Ditmanson, and Pat K. for staffing the table over the weekend.

In August we plan to visit the Taos Overlook and the Martinez Hacienda, with an emphasis on the trade and trade goods on the trail.

We are pleased to have our chapter member Dr. Robert Hilley as the new State Director for New Mexico. Thanks for serving, Bob, and let us know if we can help you in any way.

We are now under 10 weeks till the BIG 3 Trails conference. The steering committee and all subcommittees continue to work hard on the myriad of details that pop up as well as the stuff that we know we need to do. We are pleased with the number of registrations that have come in. If you aren't registered yet, you'd better get on the stick, and if you aren't coming, you'll



Rio Nutrias flooding, which caused cancellation of our June field trip

be missing a great time and some wonderful speakers and field trips.

In October we plan to visit Abiquiú Dam and to hear from the new director there about Abiquiú Reservoir and its relationship to the Main Route of the trail.

The Salida del Sol Chapter is very concerned about pending changes in the management plan of the BLM in the San Juan Basin, as they will affect 2/3 of the trail in New Mexico with a greater potential of destruction. We are happy to see that our Congressmen are also interested in this issue and made visits to the area in June this year.

As a chapter, we wish all good luck and success to Dennis Ditmanson. We will miss you as Association Manager and look forward to seeing you at our meetings as a member of Salida del Sol Chapter. Thanks for all your hard and good work over the years.

--Pat Kuhlhoff

Fish Lake Chapter

On Monday, June 1, several members of the Fish Lake Chapter took a field trip to the Sleepy Hollow area, burned April 14, to look at multiple traces and swales uncovered by the fire. Hal Marquardsen, a resident of Sleepy Hollow, had observed some definite trail trace just below his cabin and invited chapter members to investigate. Permission was obtained from the private landowner for chapter members to walk down the trail. U.S. Forest Service archaeologist Bob Leonard joined in the fact-finding mission.

As we walked down the trail following the gentle curve of the hill, Bob became convinced that we were on one of the earliest wagon roads into the Fish Lake area. When we reached the bottom of the hill the trail headed northeast toward the lake. Looking behind us on the opposite hillside, Bob found what he was looking for, meandering trails up the hillside. As we walked back up the road, Bob followed the traces, mapping them as he went. Once back at the cabin, Hal took a couple of members to another nearby archaeological site. Bob continued mapping the trace around the hill and down the next draw.

The fast-moving wildfire of April 14 consumed two cabins, destroyed a handful of outbuildings, and damaged many more structures before jumping State Road 25 and burning on up the face of Hightop Mountain,

torching through aspen, mixed conifer and sagebrush. Fire crews mapped the burn area to be a total of 492 acres. Further research, mapping, and recording of the area are planned by the Fish Lake Chapter.

Our chapter is now handling the interpretive association for the Fishlake National Forest. Through the Fishlake Discovery Association, we will sell items such as guide books, visitor maps, conservation and forestry related books, area history books, textiles, handicrafts, interpretive and educational materials and other theme-related products to the public at U.S. Forest Service facilities in Beaver, Fillmore, Richfield, and Loa, Utah. Materials will also be available at the Fish Lake Lodge at Fish Lake, Utah, and Wildcat Guard Station on Boulder Mountain. Proceeds from the sales will go toward projects on the Forest and operating expenses of the interpretive association.



--Story and photos Stephanie Moulton

North Branch Chapter

The North Branch Chapter of the Old Spanish Trail has a new president - Jonathan Carr. Robert and Juanita Moston are stepping down and have done a truly outstanding job representing the trail in our community.

Jonathan brings a wealth of experience in historical research and working with a wide variety of organizations and people throughout Western Colorado. A Delta native, he was a machinist before returning to college in 2012 to complete a bachelor's degree in history. He is an active member of Colorado Mesa University's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta (National History Honor Society) and has participated in several public history projects through the History Department as well as Tomlinson Library Special Collections and Archives.

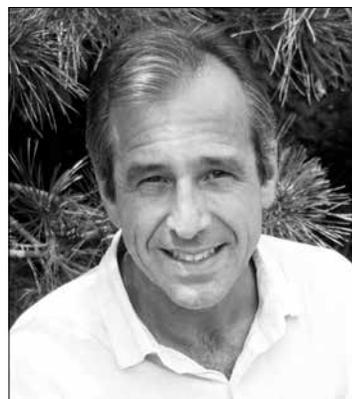
With fellow CMU students, he put together two small exhibits for the first two years of the Western Slope Heritage Rendezvous at the Museum of the West in Grand Junction, the first one focusing on the history

of Colorado Mesa University and the second one dealing with sugar beet culture and migrant farm workers in the Grand Valley.

During the last year, he has aided the Oral History Program in the Special Collections and Archives at CMU Tomlinson Library and also collaborated with a fellow student, Claire Kempa, on an extensive research project for Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Department regarding the history of the Las Colonias Park area along the Colorado Riverfront. The project consisted of extensive research and writing on the Old Spanish Trail, and of course, more specifically on its North Branch that crossed through this area.

His short-term goals are to select other officers, establish the chapter's own set of bylaws. He has already set up a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northbranchost.

--Vicki Felmlee



Nevada Chapter

The Nevada Chapter of OSTA has continued to focus its efforts on five action projects.

First, we continue to be engaged in re-marking the Old Spanish Trail with several Eagle Scout Projects this spring and summer. We recently completed two Eagle Scout projects on one Saturday in mid-June. Eagle Scout candidates Cody Beckstead and Carson McCulloch placed two Old Spanish Trail replacement markers along the Old Spanish Trail.

Cody Beckstead and his project team (30 people) replaced the OST marker located in the putting green in front of the World Famous Bar & Grill and replaced another down Highway 160 adjacent to an OST kiosk about the Trail toward Blue Diamond. At both marker replacements for Cody, many Nevada Chapter mem-

bers participated, including my brother, AJ Hall (Ironman), who rode his long-distance bike 45 miles each way to assist in this Eagle Scout project on his way to and from the Mt. Potosi BSA Camp.

Carson McCulloch and his project team (18 people) replaced two OST markers north of Las Vegas along the Old Spanish Trail, the first along the frontage road (Old Hwy 91) south of Apex and the other replacement marker adjacent to the railroad underpass north of Apex and south of the Valley of Fire exit along I-15.

Second, the Nevada Chapter had 30 OST hats made for its members and other interested people. The hats are \$25 each and can be bought from me. The hats are black or navy blue – fits all and very high quality. Email me and I can handle your order if you want one.

Third, the Nevada Chapter has placed several copies

Tres Trails Chapter

Members of several Utah OSTA chapters met at Circleville, Paiute County (located along the OST), on Saturday, July 18, to hear William Smart, coauthor and editor with his wife, Donna, of *Over The Rim: The Parley P. Pratt Exploring Expedition to Southern Utah, 1849-50* (Logan: Utah State University Press, 1999). While a relatively old book, we have never before had the privilege of hearing this honored former editor of the *Deseret News* speak to us in our region. We also followed him out over the trail which both Pratt's and John C. Fremont's expedition took four years later, both in the snow. We looked for markers and inscriptions from both expeditions as we traveled westward through Fremont Canyon towards Interstate 15 northbound offramp, where there are several relevant monuments.

Also, many OSTA members are anxiously awaiting completion of a major monument, financed mainly by the U. S. Forest Service and the State of Utah, to Jedediah S. Smith, the main original blazer of our trail, being constructed on his initial route up Clear Creek Canyon (toward the later Cove Fort area across the mountain range, near Interstate 15). There will be two main interpretive panels on the monument. Our hope is to raise the \$2,000 cost of the panel through donations from OSTA members and chapters so that this organization will be recognized as the donor, and the OSTA logo can be featured on the panel. Please see the contact information for the Tres Trails Chapter on page 3 if you would like to contribute.

--Leo Lyman

[See related story on page 18.]

Nevada Chapter, continued

of Hal Steiner's book *The Old Spanish Trail Across the Mojave Desert* at many of the Southern Nevada history sites (Red Rock, Mormon Fort, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park) and have distributed several copies to Doug Knudson and Chris Miller, Interpretive Association of Western Colorado, at Fort Uncompahgre in Delta, Colorado.

Fourth, Liz Warren, Ashley Hall, and I have been very busy with a combined group of impacted parties with the BLM on the new transmission lines that are running through Southern Nevada, in an attempt to reach a mitigation impact suitable to the Nevada Chapter of OSTA. Liz Warren has taken the lead in this.

Fifth, Ashley and Liz met recently with the head of Howard Hughes Properties (HHP) to discuss the need for an MOU between OSTA and HHP as they proceed with the development that impacts the OST of Hughes Properties at the very southwest portion of the Las Vegas. The Nevada Chapter has recommended a small lineal park patterned after the Old Spanish Trail Park visited by the participants of the OSTA Conference in Las Vegas last October.

--Nicole Marie Dominguez

Trail Events of Interest

"Bent's Fort and the Southern Fur Trade" is the focus of the 2015 Fur Trade Symposium to be held at Bent's Fort near La Junta, Colorado, on September 23-26. A stellar line-up of speakers and topics, along with 60 juried living history presenters, ensure that the symposium will be informative and entertaining. See www.2015fts.org for details.

Robert Tórréz, retired New Mexico State Historian, will present the topic "Genizaros Settlements" on September 27 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as part of a "Stories of the Middle Rio Grande" series of lectures. Sponsored by Bernalillo County Open Space and Historic Albuquerque, Inc., the event will be held at the Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW at 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.bernco.gov/openspace.

A Utah Monument To The Legacy Of Jedediah Smith Trapper, Explorer and Adventurer

By Bob Leonard

On August 7, 1826, Jedediah Smith and a trapping party of 18 men and livestock left the “bend of the Bear River” and headed south to trap beaver. The other half of the company, led by Messrs. Jackson and Sublette, had already separated and were traveling towards the Missouri River. Smith’s journey would take him past the “big” Salt Lake, Utah Lake, through Spanish Fork Canyon, past the towers of Castle Valley, through Red Creek, over Wasatch Pass and along the Sevier River. Being literate, Smith kept a diary of his travels and wrote the following passage about country in central Utah.

After traveling three days from the place where I turned westward [Ivie, Red Creeks- Wasatch Pass] I came to the River of which the indian had spoken it was about 60 yds wide muddy water and runs N W. This river I named Ashleys river [Sevier River] in compliment to my friend the enterprising Genl. W H Ashley. . . . Just above where I left the river a range of high hills cross the valley. I ascended a small creek [Clear Creek] coming in on the west side and at its head crossed a range of Mts and 3d short days travel Brought me into a low country on the west side of the Mt. some small streams flowing from the Mt which I had crossed and running West I followed down and was not a little surprised to find that they all sunk in the sand. As it was useless for me to look for Beaver where there was no water I retraced my steps to where there was water and grass And encamped [I-15 corridor near Beaver, Utah].

Where the “range of high hills crossed the valley” [Sevier Canyon], Smith followed Clear Creek to the west past the present-day site of the Fremont Indian State Park. Using funds from the USDA Forest Service, the Utah Division of Natural Resources, the Old Spanish Trail Association, and private donations, Jim Squitter

(park maintenance supervisor), Myschell Sorenson (park maintenance aid), Don Merritt (park curator), his brother Chris Merritt (Deputy Utah State Historic Preservation Officer), USFS technician Ralph Smith and I (USFS archaeologist) began building the display above Clear Creek on the east end of the canyon near its mouth.



*Jake Christiansen of the Jacob Dean Studio created this metal sculpture of Jed using Harvey D. Dunn’s painting as a template. It is made of iron, brass and copper.
Photo: Bob Leonard*



Open-panel metal horse (full-sized) from the Sun Studio in Half Moon Bay, California. There are two horses, one behind the monument and one to the side.

Photos: Bob Leonard



Finished monument

The interpretive display consists of a split rail fence, adobe-like pavers, a ledge rock monument, a metal sculpture of Jed following the painting of Harvey D. Dunn, a time capsule, two full-sized open panel metal horses and 2' x 3' interpretive signs. The signs are in production and, under the guidance of Dr. E. Leo Lyman, they will address the life and times of Jedediah Smith.

If you would like to visit the exhibit and the Fremont Indian State Park, it is located 20 miles south of Richfield, Utah, and can be easily reached by taking Exit 17 on Interstate 70 and following the old Clear

Creek Highway for 3 miles. The display is accessed by a short gravel road on the north side of the highway. If you get back on the highway and travel west, the Park's Visitor Center lies another two miles west. A \$6.00 per vehicle fee will give you access to the museum, where you will find the Fremont Indian artifacts that were unearthed during the construction of I-70, a video presentation about the early inhabitants of the canyon, and a gift shop. The canyon is also home to hundreds of rock art panels accessed by foot trails.

All and all, it's a wonderful way to spend several hours or several days in a place that drips with human history. ♦

San Rafael Chapter

Six sheet-metal figures symbolically representing travelers on the Old Spanish Trail were installed on the outskirts of Green River, Utah, on Thursday, July 16. This project, designed to raise public awareness of the importance of the Green River crossing in the history of the OST and of transcontinental travel in general, was sponsored by the San Rafael chapter of the Old Spanish Trail Association in partnership with the Emery County Historic Preservation Commission and with the support of Green River City.

The silhouettes were created by local artist Eldon Holmes, who also assisted with the installation. The project itself was the brainchild of Bernice Payne, who has worked for many years to mark more clearly the route of the OST through this area. Ms. Payne secured a grant from OSTA and vigorously pursued other funding sources. These silhouettes were originally installed at another site farther west, near the Buckhorn Well Visitor Center. Unfortunately, however, they were seriously damaged by vandals a few months later. After Mr. Holmes repaired the figures, it was decided that they would be better suited to a less remote location with a higher traffic flow and more readily available law enforcement. They now stand in a highly visible



setting on top of a ridge near the East Green River exit from I-70. Eldon Holmes is currently working a new set of figures, more heavily reinforced, for the Buckhorn Well site, which is situated at the northernmost point of the main OST.

A large group turned out to assist with the installation and learn more about the Old Spanish Trail. Among those present, in addition to Mr. Holmes and Ms. Payne, were Green River City councilwoman Kathy Ryan, several representatives from the Green River Epicenter, a large group of students and leaders from the Colorado Outward Bound School, and several Boy Scouts.

--Edward Geary

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Historical Society of New Mexico invites papers, session proposals, and presentations for the 2016 New Mexico History Conference, to be held at the Farmington Civic Center, Farmington, New Mexico, April 14-16, 2016. Deadline for submissions is September 30, 2015.

Papers on any aspect New Mexico history, the Southwest or Borderlands will be considered. However, individual papers and full sessions related to the history, development and growth of San Juan County and northwest New Mexico will be welcome. Topics associated with the greater "Four Corners" region of

southwest Colorado, Southeastern Utah, and northeast Arizona are suggested. This may include a broad range of subjects that explore the influence of the region's ethnic groups, as well as history of the Navajo, Jicarilla, and Ute Nations and the region's historic sites.

Proposals may be submitted as attachments to email at robertjtorrez@gmail.com or by mail to HSNM Program Committee, P.O. Box 1912, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1912. Notification of acceptance will be sent on or about January 1, 2016. To learn more about the Historical Society of New Mexico visit www.hsnm.org or if you have questions contact Robert J. Tórréz, program chair, at robertjtorrez@gmail.com or 505-836-9699.

Nevada Director's Report: Liz Warren

April 14, 2014 – July 10, 2015

The OSTA meeting in Las Vegas in October 2014 consumed much time during 2014. Our planning committee asked me to take charge of program development, which included presentations at the hotel and field trips. The conference was judged a success by many attendees, who later complimented us on the topics, the presenters, and the field trips.

I attended the OSTA board meeting in Page, Arizona, and was delighted to learn of the many projects OSTA members are engaged in.

Additionally, I have participated in numerous meetings with the BLM and Stan Plum, archaeologist of the BLM's Las Vegas Field Office, to confront threats to the OST from solar and wind farms, and from numerous transmission lines that cross Las Vegas and Clark County to bring power from Wyoming, Colorado, or elsewhere, to Southern California. In this regard, Jack Prichett, OSTA California Director, and I have consulted on projects that affect both states. We have testified at California meetings at the BLM in Barstow regarding projects that affect the OST in Silurian Dry Lake and other portions of the Southern California desert, and have met with success in fending off these damaging projects. These threats to the trail continue to arise, however, and will consume much time and energy in the future.

The Nevada Chapter is also examining the possibility of developing a program center for OST at the Oliver Ranch, located in Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. This project would offer to OSTA a place to stage field trips and programs along the OST, possibly attracting larger audiences because the setting is so spectacular. This project is still under consideration; the ranch, owned by the Nevada BLM, is eligible for Historic Site designation, and we are therefore working with the BLM's Historic Preservation staff as well as the staff archaeologist.

A major effort was mounted for the Nevada Chapter to obtain the right to publish Hal Steiner's book, *The Old Spanish Trail through Clark County*. Ashley Hall and I made our case to Dorris Steiner (Hal's widow)

and to their children, and succeeded in this endeavor. OSTA Nevada now owns the rights to publication and distribution of this important book.

The Nevada Chapter is currently engaged in replacing dozens of OST monuments along the OSNHT through Clark County. These obelisks were erected during Nevada's Centennial (1964), and in the subsequent 50 years many have been completely obliterated, all at least subjected to vandalism (shot at, defaced with graffiti, etc.). President Hall is the lead on this, working closely with the Boy Scouts to erect these heavy concrete monuments. The project is nearing completion, with the help of Scouts earning their Eagle Scout status, and we have met many family members of these boys. My role is to give a short verbal sketch of the OST, its history, and its importance to Southern Nevada. I have received written thank yous from some of these Scouts. I appreciate their work, and at the same time, the opportunity to educate their families is invaluable for OSTA.

Originally, these monuments were placed to mark Nevada's centennial year, 1964. Fifty years later, to mark Nevada's sesquicentennial, the current project was conceived. In the intervening years, more historical research has been conducted on the trail, its development, and significance for Nevada. This has enabled our chapter to erect monuments in places not included originally, but now recognized as important trail sites. Thus, the first monument erected in 2014 was placed at the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park. Governor Sandoval was present and addressed the public at this occasion.

Finally, I have frequently been asked to deliver a talk about the Old Spanish Trail to other organizations. These include Siena Rotary, Sandy Valley Grange, Goodsprings Historical Society, Archaeo-Nevada Society, and various schools and university classes. I participate in the training of the Spring Mountain Ranch docents, and have taken them on field trips to acquaint them with the Old Spanish Trail through the ranch and Red Rock Conservation Area. ♦

Illicit Trade Along New Mexico's Old Spanish Trail

Robert J. Tórréz, Copyright 2015

As is well known to students of New Mexico history and advocates of the Old Spanish Trail, on July 29, 1776, two Franciscan friars, Francisco Atanacio Domínguez and Silvestre Vélez de Escalante, left Santa Fe at the head of a small expedition that had been assigned the task of finding a route between New Mexico and the Spanish missions and settlements being established along the coast of California. The expedition returned to Santa Fe nearly six months later without finding the route to California. However, these intrepid explorers had succeeded in exploring much of what we now know as the Four Corners region of New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona along what has become known as the Old Spanish Trail.

More importantly, Domínguez and Escalante left behind an extraordinary record of their journey. Numerous authors, including Herbert Eugene Bolton with *Pageant in the Wilderness*, and Fray Angelico Chavez and Ted J. Warner with *The Domínguez-Escalante Journal*, have published versions of the journals and reports filed by Domínguez and Escalante about the route they took. More recently, John L. Kessell's *Miera y Pacheco, A Renaissance Spaniard in Eighteenth Century New Mexico*, has provided us an intimate look at Bernardo Miera y Pacheco's role in the Dominguez-Escalante expedition and the maps Miera y Pacheco made of their route. One of the more important elements of these reports include Fray Domínguez' extraordinary description of the mission churches, villages, and other conditions he found in New Mexico. More than thirty years ago, Eleanor B. Adams and Fray Angelico Chavez translated, annotated, and published this report under the title, *The Missions of New Mexico, 1776*.

This report includes detailed accounts of the *rescates*, the official government-sanctioned trading opportunities with the tribes that populated the New Mexican frontier. These rescates are usually described as trade fairs, but the term was seldom used in the Spanish and Mexican-era documents. These official

trading opportunities were held at or near various frontier settlements, the most common being the northern frontier towns and pueblos of Taos, Abiquiú in the northwest, and Pecos along the eastern outskirts of Spanish settlement. It should be pointed out, however, that rescates were probably not held within the confines of these communities. Spanish era documents regularly cautioned local officials that they should not allow certain tribes to enter the confines of their community, as these often used the trade opportunity to gather intelligence they could use to plan raids.

While most frontier tribes participated in these rescates, Fray Dominguez emphasized that when the Comanche were at peace, they never failed to come to trade with the settlers at Taos every fall. In addition to buffalo hides, meat, horses, mules, and other trade goods, they also brought captive Indian children they had kidnapped from other tribes and sold them to willing buyers among the Spanish and Mexican traders. Fray Domínguez described the manner in which the Comanches sold their goods to the settlers:

A buffalo hide for a *belduque*, or broad knife made entirely of iron which they call a trading knife here;...for a very poor bridle, two buffalo skins; the meat for maize or corn flour; an Indian slave, according to the individual, because if it is an Indian girl from twelve to twenty years old, two good horses and some trifles...If the slave is male, he is worth less...¹

Fray Domínguez seemed amused by his observation of the Comanche fondness for trading (sometimes referred to as *cambalache*), noting they usually sold or exchanged whatever they bought as soon as they acquired it. With each transaction, however, they tended to lose a little until they were eventually left with nothing. "The occasion when they gain being very rare," Domínguez noted, "because our people ordinarily play infamous tricks on them."²

Individuals and groups that planned trading expeditions into Indian territory were required to seek formal

approval and obtain a license from Spanish, Mexican, and later, American authorities. However, not all commerce with the Indians along the New Mexican frontier was conducted during these formal rescates. Government officials regularly issued orders and decrees reiterating the standing prohibition of trade with gentile, non-Christian Indians without the formal approval of the governor or other authorized judicial officer.

One such *bando*, or order, issued in 1737 by Governor Olavide y Michelena, set the penalty for conducting illegal trade at two hundred pesos in fines. Españoles, mestizos and mulattoes would also sustain the loss of their goods while Indians would suffer two hundred lashes.³ Colonial officials issued numerous edicts reiterating this ban on illegal trade and commerce with frontier tribes. The November 26, 1784, *bando* issued by Governor Francisco Antonio Marín del Valle, noted that some *vecinos* (Spanish citizens) regularly disregarded the laws and regulation of rescates, especially those that prohibited the sale of offensive weapons such as lances, swords, large knives, mares, stallions, and mules to hostile tribes. Marín del Valle set the penalty for those who broke the law at fifty pesos or two months in jail for those convicted of carrying out unsanctioned trade.⁴ Despite the threats of severe punishment, every indication is New Mexican trading parties frequently loaded their pack animals and ventured into Ute or Comanche territory without going to the trouble of acquiring necessary permits.

The Spanish and Mexican Archives of New Mexico provide us with numerous examples of these occasions, but the following will serve as typical, well-documented cases. In 1783, don Santiago Martín, the *teniente*, or assistant alcalde mayor of Abiquiú, detained one such group because he suspected they were attempting to trade with the Utes without the proper license. The inventory of goods don Santiago confiscated from the members of this trading party, which was reported to consist of “dies hombres Españoles y dos Indios,” provides an interesting look at the seemingly mundane, but nevertheless valuable trade items these men carried. Among the goods Encarnación Espinosa carried, were eighteen *almudes* (a measure which was

a fraction of the larger *fanega*, which was slightly more than two bushels) of corn; twenty five *alesnas* (awls), ten *cuchillos de rescate* (trade knives), thirteen *manolos de punche* (bundles of native tobacco), three *almudes* of flour, and one *talega de biscocho* (a small sack of toasted bread).

Espinosa’s companions, Clemente Benavides, José Mariano Mondragón, Pablo Gonzales, Juan Calletano Gonsales, Melchor Lopes, and brothers Carlos and Manuel Bejil (Vigil) each carried varying amounts of corn, flour, punche, and trade knives. The party also had horses and mules, which each declared were for their personal use.

As it turned out, Espinosa and his partners were able to prove that this particular expedition was operating legally under a permit issued to another individual. Their property was returned to them, and they apparently continued on their way, the report of their short detention having provided us a brief glimpse of one aspect of the commerce conducted by Abiquiú’s citizens along New Mexico's frontier.⁵

In a similarly well documented case from 1785, Esteban García Noriega, as *jues receptor* (presiding judge), reported that on orders of the alcalde mayor don Joseph Campo Redondo, he had gone to the *placas de Chama* (likely today’s Chamita and San José de Chama, today’s Hernández) on April 10, and arrested Marcelino Mansanares, Bisente Garcia, Miguel Sandobal, and Christobal Salazar (names spelled as in the document) to investigate “...with what license they had gone to the Yutas and what goods they had taken...” The goods each detainee reported were similar to those that had been traded by those arrested and released in the 1783 case cited above – corn, tanned hides, punche, and assorted pieces of cloth. In this case, however, the men could not produce a license and Governor Juan Baptista de Anza pronounced swift justice. In April 23, 1785, less than two weeks after they had been arrested, Mansanares, Garcia, Sandobal, and Salazar and were found guilty of “having gone to conduct commerce to the Interior of Ute country in breach of repeated decrees that prohibit it...” and each fined twelve pesos in reales (coin or cash) in lieu of

100 pesos in products of the land. They were also to suffer forfeiture of their trade goods and pay two pesos each to Estévan García Noriega for costs incurred in the proceedings. They were also given the option to serve two months at labor on the *casas reales* (government buildings) in Santa Fe in lieu of the cash fines. On April 26, 1785, Campo Redondo served notice of the sentence to the prisoners being held in the jail at Santa Cruz de la Cañada. Campo Redondo reported they had decided to carry out the two-month royal service because they did not have the money to pay the fines. The case ends with the prisoners being sent to Santa Fe to be dealt with at the discretion of Governor Anza.⁶

A number of similar cases are found among the often ignored and little utilized resources in New Mexico's Spanish and Mexican era archives. These and other reports of commerce tell us of the manner in which New Mexicans made their living and supported their families. These have included details of how they farmed, the crops they grew, the livestock they raised and goods they manufactured. In addition to agricultural and commercial pursuits, these reports make it clear that New Mexicans' trade with the various Indian tribes that inhabited the frontier added an important element to the manner in which they made their livelihood. These documents also provide us numerous examples of the goods that eighteenth and nineteenth century New Mexicans traded with the Comanche, Utes, Navajo, and other frontier tribes.

The reason we know so much about this trade is not because these enterprising frontiersmen kept good records, but because such trade was regulated and watched over by the Spanish, Mexican, and later, the American governments. Regulation was supposed to keep hostile tribes from acquiring contraband goods such as horses, firearms and gunpowder. New Mexicans, however, often skirted the regulations and conducted their trade away from the prying eyes of government officials. Much of what we know about this trade comes from the fact that a significant amount of this commerce was conducted illegally, and the government offered lucrative incentives in the form of one-third of the goods confiscated, to those who turned

in or "ratted out" anyone suspected of conducting illegal trade.⁷ When these illegal traders were caught, their capture was reported and a record made of the confiscated goods and subsequent prosecutions.

This unsanctioned trade continued after the American occupation of New Mexico in 1846. One well-documented early American-period example of this illegal trade took place in the fall of 1850. On September 29, 1850, Major L. P. Graham, commanding officer of the company of United States Dragoons stationed at Abiquiú, reported the arrest of 27 men for attempting to trade contraband goods to the Utes. Superintendent of Indian Affairs for New Mexico, and soon to be territorial governor, James S. Calhoun apparently issued a license to José María Chávez to trade with the Utes, and Chávez had presented the license to Major Graham before the trading party set out for Ute territory. The papers that Chávez, or his personal representative Juan Nepomuceno Baldez (Valdez), presented supposedly listed the names of the individuals in the trading party and all the goods they were taking. Graham reported he reviewed the papers, approved everything, and the traders began their trek to the Ute country on September 27, 1850.⁸

The list provided by Baldez looks simple enough. The party consisted of 27 men and 36 head of livestock, which apparently included the pack mules that carried their goods and the horses they rode. The official list of trade goods they carried was very general, but included flour, bridles, *sarapes*, various types of cloth, knives, shirts, mirrors, corn husks, pots, kettles, tin pans, trinkets, shirts, and a sack of arrowheads. For reasons he did not explain, Major Graham became suspicious soon after Baldez departed, and sent a detachment of Dragoons to overtake the trading party and search their packs. The party had not gone far. The troops found Baldez about 15 miles west of Abiquiú, and discovered 102 pounds of powder and 151 pounds of lead tucked away in the packs. The entire party was arrested and brought back to Abiquiú, where the men were placed in the guardhouse while Graham filed his report and waited for a response from headquarters on what to do with the prisoners.

Major Graham's report included a list of names of the men he had under arrest and a detailed inventory of all the confiscated goods. The list of names should be of special interest to those who have ancestors from the Abiquiú area. It includes Tomás Chacón, a noted frontier scout and Ute interpreter,⁹ and Bernardo Sanches, a frontier trader and pioneer settler of the Tierra Amarilla. No doubt, each of these individuals listed holds a special place in the history of New Mexico's pioneer families:

Miguel Velasques
 Antonio José Archuleta
 Desiderio Valdez
 Antonio María Vigil
 Tomás Chacón
 Francisco Montoya
 Francisco Espinosa
 Baltazar Morfin
 Martín Martines
 Luciano Archuleta
 José Gabriel Velasques
 Pedro Velasques
 Francisco López
 José Maria Valdez
 Bernardo Sanches
 José Angel Griego
 Fernando Montañaño
 Juan de Dios Revalli
 Nicolás Archuleta
 Ignacio Archuleta
 José Antonio García
 Juan Santo Jirón (?)
 Andres Trujillo
 Fernando Montoya
 Antonio Rafael Trujillo
 Antonio María Martines
 Mariano Griego

So what became of the case against these men? The paper trail is incomplete, but indica-

tions are that their case never came to trial and all were eventually released. The case of "Territory of New Mexico –vs- Martín de Jesús Martín, Francisco Lopes, et. al.," came before Judge Charles Beaubien at district court for Rio Arriba County at Los Luceros during the November 1850 session of the court. Charged with "trading with Indians in contraband articles," the court ordered the men to post an unspecified bond and present themselves before an unnamed justice of the peace to answer the charges.¹⁰ The case does not appear again in the district court records and no justice of the peace records for that period have surfaced so it is likely that charges against all the defendants were dropped.

Even if these men were prosecuted, it did little to stop or slow illegal trade with Indians along the frontier. Within six months, Major Graham was again reporting the arrest of ten New Mexicans for trading with the Navajo without a license. Life and commerce along the frontier communities of the Old Spanish Trail went on.

Endnotes

1. Eleanor B. Adams & Fray Angelico Chavez, *The Missions of New Mexico, 1776, A Description by Fray Francisco Atanacio Dominguez With Other Contemporary Documents* (Albuquerque: The University of New Mexico Press, 1956) p. 252.
2. Adams & Chavez, p. 252.
3. January 1-22, 1737, "Olavide y Michelena, Santa Fe, bando reaffirming order forbidding trade with non-Christian Indians." *Calendar of the Microfilm*

Edition of the Spanish Archives of New Mexico 1621-1821, (Santa Fe: State of New Mexico Records Center, 1987 reprint), Twitchell #415, microfilm roll 7, frame 552. Hereafter cited as SANM II.

4. November 26, 1754, "Governor Francisco Marín del Valle, Santa Fe, bando prohibiting sale of livestock and arms to hostile Indians." SANM II #530, microfilm roll 8, frame 1191.

5. February 3, 1783. "Proceedings, re. illegal trade of Abiquiú citizens with Utes," SANM II #855, microfilm roll 11, frame 520. Note that although the report specifies the party consisted of 10 Españoles and two Indians, only eight individuals were identified by name.

6. April 10-26, 1785. "Case against Marcelino Mansanares and others for illegally trading with the Utes." SANM II #912, microfilm roll 11, frame 845.

7. September 13, 1778. "Bando prohibiting trade with the Utes, Santa Fe." SANM II #740, microfilm roll 10, frame 1055. The bando reiterates the standing fine for illegal trade at loss of goods plus 100 "pesos de la tierra" for vecinos, to be applied in thirds to the "denouncer," the judge or prosecuting official, and repair of the casas reales.

8. September 29, 1850. Bvt. Major L.P. Graham, 2nd Dragoons, commanding at Abiquiú, to Lieutenant L. Mc Laws, Santa Fe. "Reporting captured Mexican property, also enclosing a list of prisoners & articles of goods." Register of Letters Received and Letters Received by Headquarters, 9th Military Department, 1848-1853, Roll 2, Letters Received, 1850. National Archives Microfilm, Microcopy 1102. Washington D. C., 1980.

9. See "Tomás Chacón, Frontier Scout and Pioneer," in Robert J. Tórréz, *UFOs Over Galisteo and Other Stories of New Mexico's History* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2004) pp. 132-134.

10. Rio Arriba County District Court Records. *Criminal & Civil Journal, 1848-1865*. November Term, 1850. District Court Records, New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, NM. ♦

Early Army Rations and Mormon Battalion Food

By Kevin Henson

In 2001, my Scout troop wanted to become living history reenactors, choosing to portray the Mormon Battalion. My background in imaging technologies and mapping led me to construct a new 3-D interpretation of all the Battalion routes in Google Earth™. This Food List compilation developed as a side project from working in about 30 original journals and related texts.

Background: Early Army Rations

*Courtesy of U.S. Army Quartermaster Foundation
www.qmfound.com/*

The problem of feeding an armed force engaged in combat, whether in alien or in home areas, has occupied the attention of military leaders since the beginning of organized warfare. Leaders learned that the ability of men to fight was related to the way they were fed and that the answer to the feeding problem often determined victory or defeat. The axiom that an army travels on its stomach is as good today as it has ever been, only now that classical stomach rides in airplanes, ships, tanks, submarines, and jeeps in every terrain and climate of the world. But there is no question that the problems of the army stomach have entered the age of specialization. This fact is increasingly evident as the story of army subsistence unfolds from the early simplicity to the contemporary complexity of the military feeding program.

The earliest rations of the United States Army were all-inclusive in purpose. For more than a century after 1776, the basis of all troop feeding – for soldiers in camp, on the march, in action, or just surviving – was the simple fare of meat and bread, and sometimes vegetables, known as the garrison ration. From the Revolutionary War to World War I, the garrison ration served the unit, the small group, and the individual. Moreover, it was intended to serve them in organized messes, in isolated groups, and in individual situations of combat and survival.

In the Revolutionary War, this all-purpose ration established by resolution of Congress included beef, pork, or salt fish; bread or flour; peas or beans (or "vegetable equivalent"); milk; rice or Indian meal; and spruce beer or cider. Candles and soap also were authorized "essentials."¹

Ordinarily, preparation of the food was up to the soldier. To provide fresh meat, cattle and hogs were driven to camp at "proper seasons" for slaughter and curing. Depending on the availability of supplies, other occasional variations were provided from time to time. One of the most welcome was "spirits."²

Immediately after the Revolutionary War, the issue of meat was reduced and fresh foods virtually disappeared from the ration. The changes were not without their effect on the health of the soldier, nor was this result to go unnoticed. Dr. Benjamin Rush, Army Surgeon in 1777-78, and others, complained of the lack of fresh vegetables and pointed out that more soldiers died from sickness than were killed by the sword.³ There was, however, little that could be done to increase the supply of fresh foods. Food preservation and transportation facilities were primitive and undeveloped and decades were to pass before these factors helped improve military subsistence.

Some attempt was made after the Revolution to increase the fare of the soldier serving on the frontier. In recognition of the severity of frontier life, Congress, in 1796, authorized the issue of additional amounts of flour or bread, beef, pork, and salt as supplementary items to the regular garrison ration.⁴ Coffee appeared in the ration in October 1832, when President Andrew Jackson substituted coffee and sugar for rum and brandy. This Presidential substitution was recognized by Congress in the Act of July 5, 1838, which declared "that the allowance of sugar and coffee to the noncommissioned officers, musicians, and privates, in lieu [of whiskey], shall be fixed at six pounds of coffee and twelve pounds of sugar to every one hundred rations, to be issued weekly when it can be done with convenience of the public service, and, when not so issued, to be provided for in money."⁵

Notes

1. Raphael P. Thian, *Legislative History of the General Staff of the Army of the United States* (GPO, 1901), p 241.
2. Thian (pp 285-310) noted that in 1778, one gill of whiskey or spirits was included in the ration fixed by General Washington. In 1789, this issue was apparently too good to be true, at least for the "GI," for, because of "irregularities" in issue, individual status determined who was to get whiskey and how much. Allowances ranged from a half-gallon a week for a colonel to a pint-and-a-half for a subaltern; for the ordinary soldier, the issue of rum was limited to rainy weather and fatigue duty and then at the rate of only a gill per man.
3. Herbert R. Rifkind, *Fresh Foods for the Armed Forces-The Quartermaster Market Center System, 1941-1948* (QMC Historical Studies No.20, Washington, D. C., 1951), pp 1-2. In tracing the decrease in the ration after the Revolution, Rifkind cited John W. Barriger, *Legislative History of the Subsistence Department of the United States Army* (2d ed, Washington, D. C., 1877) and Elliott Cassidy, *The Development of Meat, Dairy, Poultry and Fish Products for the Army* (QMC Historical Studies No. 7, Washington, D. C., 1944), and others as sources of information.
4. As noted by Thian (p 330) the Act of May 30, 1796, provided "that every noncommissioned officer, private, and musician shall receive the following rations of provisions, to wit: One pound of beef or three-quarters of a pound of pork, one pound of bread or flour, half a gill of rum, brandy, or whiskey; and . . . one quart of salt, two quarts of vinegar, two pounds of soap, and one pound of candles to every hundred rations."
5. Barriger, *Leg Hist*, pp 90-91. (2) For a more extended discussion of the introduction and early use of coffee in the Army ration, see Franz A. Koehler, *Coffee for the Armed Forces: Military Development and Conversion to Industry Supply* (QMC Historical Studies, Series II, No. 5, Washington, D. C., 1958), pp 1-11.



People often ask, "What did members of Mormon Battalion eat during their trek west?" The answer is very simple: "Whatever they could find."

True, the United States Army did promise to provide some very basic food rations to the enlisted men: flour, hard bread, fresh beef and salt pork, sugar, coffee, beans, rice, and a few other items. Officers had the latitude to bring along some extra items for themselves. The Mexican War ration was established in 1838. From a 1949 paper presented at the U.S. Army Quartermaster's College, we have one version of an official ration list effective in 1846:

16 oz beef (or pork)	6.8 oz peas
0.1830 oz soap	18 oz flour (or hard tack)
1.4 oz rice	0.0686 oz candle
16 oz milk	1 qt spruce beer

[www.qmfound.com/history_of_rations.htm]

Men were expected to supplement their rations with anything else they could lay their hands on. Foraging for food has been a necessity for armies on the move in all time periods. Living off the land was standard practice for every army. Col Kearny's South Pass Expedition of 1845 did it. Belts got tight and stomachs growled even amongst the experienced and trail-worn regular Army. The Mormon Battalion's experience with short rations was no different than any other frontier unit in the service.

Read almost any journal kept by any military group on any extended frontier march and you will find that rations had been cut to half portions or less. With no grocery store and without the confidence they would soon find food, commanding officers would prudently reduce rations early in a campaign and send men out to hunt and forage. It was the smart thing to do – especially in the desert.

Let us address claims made by some Battalion journalists of poor commissary management by the military quartermasters – that they started from Santa Fe without sufficient food – that they could and should have procured more. General Kearny, in appointing P. St. George Cooke as Battalion commander specified: "*Fit them out with 60 days provisions – not to encumber your selves with baggage as a part of the route will be difficult for the passage of waggons & follow on my trail...*" (Lee, John D.; *Mormon Battalion Diary; New Mexico Historical Review*, October 1967, p 302). Col. Cooke followed his orders.

What about the military units that remained in Santa Fe during the winter of 1846-47? Their journals reveal they too were on reduced rations. When you nearly double the population of a city in a short time, the food situation is going to be very tight. The logistics of providing food for thousands of men, forage for the animals, and equipment needed to carry out assigned tasks is something few of us will ever appreciate the

difficulty of organizing. What private in the Army has EVER understood the difficulties their commanding officers operated under? Most of the Mormon complaints are of that sort. They had no idea how tight the food situation really was. Ignore their whining. It's what enlisted men do to pass the time of day.



The Food List

To be included on this list, a food or item had to be referenced by someone in the Mormon Battalion – either officer or enlisted man or by someone traveling with them (John D. Lee, for instance). This list covers just the enlistment year of July 16, 1846, to July 16, 1847, plus what the Kearny escort mentioned eating before reaching Fort Leavenworth August 23, 1847. The list closes on that date.

Our list contains:

1. Rations (1838 Army ration list)
2. Grains, beans, and legumes
3. Meats and nuts (proteins)
4. Vegetables and related foods
5. Fruits
6. Dairy and dairy products
7. Confections (sweets)
8. Beverages
9. Spices
10. Medical items mentioned
11. Logistics
12. Other Items

Authentic recipes are something we seek. How would they really have cooked these foods? The kinds of pans, kettles, skillets, and ovens they used, and their fuels, also influenced what they could cook and how. Buffalo chips actually work pretty well as a fuel. Use this list to try your hand at “campaign cooking.” If you want a Battalion experience, try eating what they ate, sleeping as they slept, hiking as they hiked.

The fact that many Battalion men drank coffee, tea, and alcoholic beverages should not shake any Mormon's testimony. The LDS “Word of Wisdom”

(D&C 89) was not a major issue in 1846. Drunkenness was certainly frowned upon, but having a beer or wine was still acceptable and did not say anything about a man's religious commitment. Be not troubled by things these young men did when the LDS church was only 17 years old. They were still ‘growing up.’ It isn't fair to judge 1846 behaviors by 21st century standards.

Special thanks to Randy Madsen who helped spot omissions and suggested corrections. If you find other omissions, have comments or suggestions, please contact me. Kind regards and happy Battalion eating. ♦

[The food list on the following page is a condensation of a detailed 20-page list, with dates, locations, primary and secondary source document cites, journal extracts, and explanatory notes. To obtain this list, contact the *Spanish Traces* editor at ruthosta@comcast.net or Kevin Henson at kevin@battaliontrek.com.]



Exploring Downtown LA

Olvera Street: Discover the Soul of Los Angeles, one of Mike Harris' Travel Guides, has recently been published by La Frontera Publishing and distributed by the University of New Mexico Press. This book, with plenty of photos, is a walking tour of a key part of El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument. In September 1781, 44 persons arrived at this place after walking from Mexico to establish a pueblo which was to become the City of Los Angeles.

Foods List – one page version

Pages which follow give more details, source quotes and additional information

Grains, Beans & Legumes

Beans, dry (unknown variety)
Beans, "English" (possible)
Bread, "cake"
Bread, "Johnny cake"
Bread (form not specified)
Bread, Tortillas as "cake"
Breads, "hard" bread
Breads, "light" bread
Breads, ashcakes
Breads, dough on a stick
Breads, Mesquite
Breads, Pancakes
Breads, salt rising
Breads, Tortillas
Breads, Tortillas as "pancakes/flapjacks"
Corn (unspecified)
Corn, boiled
Corn, grain
Corn, green
Corn, ground meal
Corn, hominy
Corn, parched
Corn, roasted
Flour, gravy
Flour, wheat
Hops, wild
Mesquite, mush ("puding")
Mesquite, raw & roasted
Oats, wild
Peanuts
Peas
Rice, unspecified
Wheat, boiled
Wheat, cakes
Wheat, grain
Wheat, ground
Wheat, parched

Spices

Ginger, ground
Herbs, "bitter"
Lemon, extract
Molasses, cane and Saguaro
Pepper, black
Pepper, cayenne
Peppers, red
Saleratus (baking soda)
Salt
Vinegar

Not included on this page

Medical, Logistics, Other (see pages 23-25)

Meats & Nuts (proteins)

Acorns
Antelope
Bacon (? Salt pork)
Bear
Beef, "melt" [sic – "milt"] or spleen
Beef, dried, smoked, or jerked
Beef, entrails
Beef, fresh
Beef, hide
Beef, soup
Bird, Chicken
Bird, Crow or Raven
Bird, Duck
Bird, Geese, wild
Bird, Pelican (probable)
Bird, Turkey
Bird, Turkey Buzzard
Buffalo, fresh
Buffalo, pot pie
Clams
Deer (venison)
Eggs, chicken
Eggs, duck
Fish, dried
Fish, fresh water
Fish, salt water
Goat
Horse, raw
Leather/rawhide, chewed or as soup
Mule
Mussels
Nuts, pine
Oxen (beef)
Oysters
Pork, fresh
Pork, salt ("pickled")
Rabbit
Sardines
Sheep, "lights" (lungs)
Sheep & lambs
Snake, roasted (rattlesnake?)

Beverages

Alcoholic, Brandy
Alcoholic, Mescal
Alcoholic, Whiskey (unknown grains)
Alcoholic, Wine
Chocolate, hot – American style
Chocolate, hot – Mexican 'Champurrado'
Coffee
Tea, ginger
Water

Vegetables

Agave, raw & baked
"Bread root"
Cabbage
Mescal leaves, baked

Mustards, boiled
Onions
Parsley, boiled
Potatoes
Pumpkin
Pumpkin, "sauce"
Pumpkin, dried
Pumpkin, stewed
Squash
Watermelon

Fruits

Apples
Apricots
Cactus, Saguaro "molasses"
Cherries
Coconut
Currants
Dates
Figs
Grapes, red
Grapes, "raisin kind"
Melons
Olive trees
Orange
Peaches
Pears, dried
Pears, fresh
Plums
Pomegranates
Quince
Rasins
Tomato

Dairy & dairy products

Butter
Cheese, goat
Ice cream
Milk, cow
Milk, goat

Confections

Honey
Penoche or Penuche (Anglo);
Cajeta (Spanish)
Pies
Sugar

Southern Utah University Named Repository For OST Materials

By Al Matheson

Southern Utah University (SUU) in Cedar City, Utah, has long been recognized by historians and researchers as the center of choice for trails research and information, being at the source of what would later become a national trails movement. As early as 1897, the acclaimed western historian Howard R. Driggs took a teaching position at the Utah State University Branch Agricultural College (BAC). His interest in trails history blossomed during his association with Ezra Meeker, who was an emigrant pioneer to Oregon in 1854. At the age of 76, Ezra decided to preserve the memory of the Oregon Trail by reenacting his original journey, traveling west-to-east on the Oregon Trail and doing so in by motor coach in 1906. The two men eventually shared their interest in historic trails by publishing a collaborative trails work they titled *Covered Wagon Centennial & Ox-Team Days*.

Ezra Meeker became the first president of the Oregon Trail Association; he was followed by Howard R. Driggs upon Ezra's death in 1928. Driggs eventually joined company with another trails advocate, William R. Palmer, a professor at BAC, and together they formed the *Spanish Trail Association*, with Palmer being the first president. Some of my most cherished memories are of sitting in President Palmer's living room as he regaled the frequent crowd with stories of the Old Spanish Trail and local Indian legends. He put many of them in a timeless book entitled *Why the North Star Stands Still* (which, by the way, is still in print).

In early 1947, Driggs and Palmer met with Alva Matheson of the Sons of Utah Pioneers and together they formed an alliance to mark the Old Spanish Trail (now the National Historic Old Spanish Trail). Their coalition solicited funding for one hundred Old Spanish Trail markers to be placed in monuments at approximately 100-mile intervals along the OST. The placement of monuments began on September 19, 1950, with Matheson constructing/supervising the placement of the local trail monuments.

From these roots, Driggs, Palmer, and Matheson, came the force that was necessary to spearhead what would eventually become a national trails initiative. Each individual left an indelible legacy across six trail states, with their efforts culminating in National Historic status for the Old Spanish Trail in 2002. But wait...that is not the end of the story. Each of the three principal players left individual legacies as well, and they are most evident at Southern Utah University in the form of libraries and collected works for future research.

Howard R. Driggs became a prolific if not world-class author of western history, publishing over 50 volumes. *The White Indian Boy* and *Westward America* are notable works from opposite ends of the spectrum for this highly acclaimed author. But beyond his literary contributions, Driggs also assembled one of the largest collections of western Americana and trails resource material relating to his authorship, all of which now reside in a dedicated room in the Special Collections Library at SUU, along with a complete collection of his published works and documents.

William R. Palmer continued his career at BAC, soon to become the College of Southern Utah (now SUU), and published a wide variety of narrative works on tribal issues and Western History. Palmer served as a Branch President for the Southern Paiute Tribe in Cedar City for most of his life, listening to Native American stories and legends while working to improve their cultural and social livelihood. His friendship was returned by generous gifts from Native American tribesmen. Eventually Palmer came to enjoy one of the largest and most authentic collections of Southern Paiute Indian artifacts in existence. The artifacts reside in the Palmer Room at SUU in company with Palmer's extensive library of historical resources and manuscripts, published and unpublished.

Alva Matheson was often the "hands on the wheel" of trails progress, never politically minded but always goal oriented. His work with local history resulted in the acclaimed *Paiute Indian Stories and Legends*, *Reflections*, and *Reflections of Cedar City* publications.

The *Legends* book is still in print after 65 years and provides a singular source for hieroglyphic writings, petroglyph interpretation, and Paiute place names. A diligent collector of historical ephemera and pioneer history, Matheson also amassed a large collection of original documents and photographs. Having grown up on the Old Spanish Trail, Matheson often remarking to audiences that the Old Spanish Trail was easy to find “because nothing would grow there.” His entire collection of source materials was donated to CSU/SUU, together with a number of historical artifacts and multiple endowments to the University.

With these and many other contributions, it is no surprise that Southern Utah University Library, Special Collections, is likely to become one of the most trails friendly repositories in the Southwest. Research assets and research facilities continue to grow. Special Collections can now boast:

- 2,200 linear feet of bound volumes in environmentally controlled vaults
- 200 manuscript collections from donors throughout the western states
- 44 separate photographic collections, including the massive Homer Jones photo archives
- 1.4 million stored images available for digital scanning or recovery
- 29,000 volumes of rare, historical, and significant resource materials
- Designated recipient for a variety of organizations, including the Sons of Utah Pioneers
- Printing and copying services on site, with a plethora of University assets available

Now, what does all of this mean, and where does it get to us at OSTA?

While I was working with a former classmate, Leo Lyman, doing parallel research in the Special Collections reading room, we both observed that we were enjoying one of the best-kept secrets in the history community, arguably the best facility for trails research that exists in the nation. It was not as voluminous as others, perhaps, but certainly more accommodating. Lyman averred that his entire library of books and research

materials was to be given to the SUU Special Collections. Perhaps there were others of like mind?

Almost on cue, I received a note from OSTA stalwarts Kenn and Lorraine Carpenter suggesting that they too were looking for a location to donate their wonderful collection of trails-related materials. Would I approach the University and/or suggest a worthy recipient for some 450 trails-related volumes, they asked?

Since Barbara and I had already had extensive discussions with SUU over the years regarding an endowment of books by, for, and about women, we arrived at the same decision that Lyman and I had...an endowed National and Historic Trails Research Center. We approached Paula Mitchell, Special Collections Librarian, with the idea of soliciting similar donations. The result was almost instantaneous. Within days I was asked to carry an unsolicited proposal from her as Special Collections Librarian, endorsed by the Dean of the Gerald R. Sherratt Library, Richard Saunders, and signed by Scott Wyatt, President of Southern Utah University, to the board meeting of OSTA in Page, Arizona.

The letters of proposal by SUU were circulated to the OSTA Board in October 2014, and as Utah Director of OSTA, I made a motion that we should consider the SUU offer favorably... “That the Southern Utah University, Special Collections Library, should be



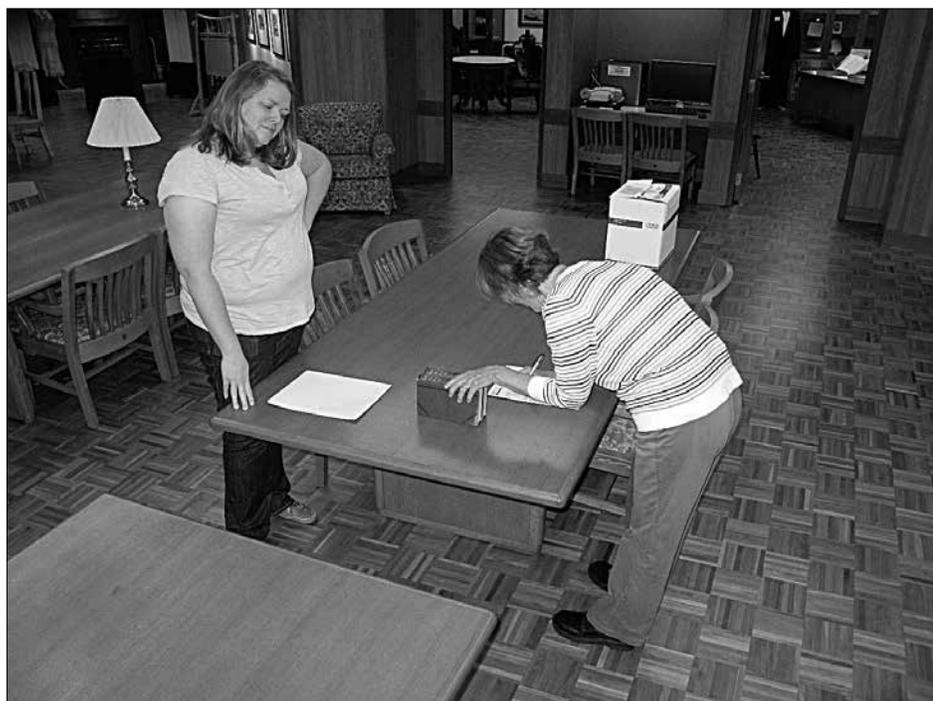
Howard R. Driggs study room and collection, Southern Utah University Special Collections. Photo: Al Matheson

designated by the Old Spanish Trail Association as a National and Historic Trails repository for the association.” A discussion of the alternatives and merits of the SUU proposal ensued. The Board voted unanimously to accept President Wyatt’s offer, and I was directed by President Hall to negotiate a Memorandum of Agreement between Southern Utah University and OSTA, to be presented at the Delta, Colorado, board meeting.

In the intervening months, I discussed issues, concerns, observations, and comments rendered by the OSTA board and potential donors. The result was a draft memorandum and a procedural flow-chart for accession of anticipated collections. The basic tenet of the arrangement was a proposal that each contributor and/or donor of a collection would be entitled to a separate contract. Each Deed of Gift would detail their specific desires and the terms and conditions of accession, to include the stipulations of their endowment. The Deed of Gift to the University would express any limitations or conditions associated with the gift,

whereupon Special Collections specialists would enter the donated items into the Special Collections inventory and proceed to catalog and service the collection as specified.

Following a recap of the deep roots of OSTA within SUU and acknowledging the historical location of SUU (virtually on top of the Old Spanish Trail), I made a PowerPoint presentation of facilities, attributes, and resources to the OSTA governing board as requested. After an extensive discussion and period of comment, a motion was made that OSTA should accept the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement that was before them, and that OSTA President Ashley Hall should join with SUU President Wyatt in formally executing the Memorandum of Agreement designating the Southern Utah University Special Collections Library as the official OSTA Repository for National and Historic Trails Resources. OSTA and SUU? Both winners in my book! ♦



Sally McDonald, Special Collections Analyst, and Paula Mitchell, Special Collections Librarian, Southern Utah University, recording the first accession of an OSTA contribution, matched volume sets of the 1847 History of Mexico and History of Peru by Prescott. They were donated by Al and Barbara Matheson.

Photo: Al Matheson

Cañada de Apodaca Trail Recommended for Nomination to National Register as Part of Old Spanish Trail

By Rachel Preston Prinz and Mark Henderson

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In a nondescript drainage on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land just west of Dixon, one of northern New Mexico's stories comes to life in a landscape that has changed little since indigenous people used these pathways as far back as 600 years ago to move between the pueblos of Picuris and Taos and points further. This is the story of the *Cañada de Apodaca*, a historic trail recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing intact segment of the Old Spanish National Historical Trail (OST). *Cañada de Apodaca* is one of two routes into Taos on the 70-mile commercial goods pack trail and livestock driveway that connected the Mexican territorial center in Santa Fe to the wool-production and weaving industry in the Spanish Colonial towns in the Española Valley, to the agrarian *plazuelas* in the Taos Valley, and on to markets in Nuevo México and beyond, during the Spanish Colonial, Mexican Territorial, and early U.S. Territorial periods.

Prior to being used as a formal trail between Santa Fe and Taos, the only trail to or from Taos was a network of prehistoric aboriginal footpaths along the Río Grande. The more formalized trail of the Hispanic settlers followed those paths and then turned slightly eastward to avoid the *fragoso*, or rugged, Río Grande Gorge (*La Caja del Río*) and the gorge's *embudo*, or funnel/chokepoint. Just outside Dixon, the trail split into two routes. The High Road, known as the *Camino Alto* or summer route, is the same route that visitors taking the High Road to Taos enjoy today. This passes through the Colonial settlements of Chimayó, Truchas, Ojo Sarco, Las Trampas, Chamisal and Picuris Pueblo. The 3-mile-long *Cañada de Apodaca* National Historical Trail occurs on the Low Road alignment, the *Camino Abajo* or winter route. The natural drainage is associated with the North Branch of the Old Spanish National Historical Trail and was heavily used be-

tween 1829 and 1848 as a pack trail from Taos on New Mexico's northeastern frontier with the United States.

Historic documents offer us a glimpse into life along the route both before and after the Mexican period. One of the first known records of travel on the route between the Española Valley and the Taos Plateau was made as part of DeVargas' reconquest expedition of 1694, where De Vargas and his cadre apparently traveled to Taos via Picuris on the High Road.

Historic trails are as much a concept as a reality. Many factors dictated regular shifts in the path of travel. Where in one season a user might traverse the path in a certain manner, a flooding stream, a fallen boulder, or an unknown visitor sharing the road might cause the user to adjust the path accordingly. So, what we know of today as a trail, when all the routes are mapped, looks more like a corridor of interwoven paths along a general way. We can see this illustrated in historic documents. In 1705, Roque Madrid was ordered by interim New Mexico Gov. Francisco Cuervo y Valdez to lead a military expedition against the Navajos. Madrid led a force of 100 soldiers and militia with 300 pueblo auxiliaries into the contemporary core of Eastern Navajo territory. Madrid's account implies that Picuris Pueblo and Taos Pueblo are the gateway settlements of the northern frontier, and he discusses in some detail the challenges of utilizing a small and rugged pack trail for moving a large force of men. He had to adapt to the conditions of the path.

In 1776, Friar Francisco Atanasio Domínguez conducted an inspection of the Catholic missions of New Mexico, including those at Taos and Picuris. He wrote specifically about each of the two routes to Taos in his account, reporting that the "best highway leads through" the "*Cañada de Apodaca*." In 1779, Gov. Anza returned from the campaign against the Comanche via the Camino Real to Embudo along the same well-used pack trail.

The *Cañada de Apodaca* Trail negotiates a drainage between the Picuris Range and the Río Grande Gorge.

The trail travels north from the Española Valley, where the Río Grande emerges from the gorge to flow through soft pinkish sediments of the Tesuque Formation, through the community of Embudo. Here, the trail parallels Highway 68 up the Rito Cieneguilla to the Río Vista hill, with its commanding view of the *Llano de Taos*, or Taos Valley, an expansive plain formed from 3- to 5-million-year-old basalt lava flows. The upper part of the Apodaca Trail trace, called the Spur Ridge, is currently one of the few identified segments of intact historic pack trail that has not been substantially altered by later wheeled-vehicle use or grade construction on the entire OST.

A number of natural landmarks and features are visible from the trail. At the entrance to the Cañada to the south are *Cerro de Arriba* and *Cerro Abajo*, upper and lower hills, respectively, with *Mesa de la Cejita*, a dark-colored volcanic basalt-capped mesa beyond. Around the corner of the upper and lower hills, just beyond view, is a natural pillar from the Santa Fe Formation, which was used as a landmark for travelers to know they were on the right path. To the southwest is the distinctive flat-topped Pedernal. To the west are a cluster of hills known as Cerro Azul and the three-pinnacled hill Tres Orejas, both of which emerge from the volcanic tablelands of the Taos Plateau. Looking slightly southwards, the traveler sees the Jémez Mountains, the volcanic peaks on the north margin of the Valles Caldera. To the northwest, the ridge of the Tusas Range, and towards the east, Picuris Peak comes into view at the crest of the historic trail. To the southeast are Trampas Peak and the Truchas Peaks, the second-highest peaks of the Sangre de Cristo Range.

The complicated topography of the Cañada de Apodaca illuminates the isolated frontier outpost landscape at the Taos trade center in the early historic period around the 1600s. Taos emerged as the information center of northern New Mexico, where knowledgeable guides could be engaged to navigate the complex networks of trails from New Mexico to California, which most often passed through vastly varied and often extremely complicated terrain. These guides were often able to help travelers to connect with—or avoid—the different indigenous peoples encountered along the way.

The Cañada de Apodaca Trail was known as a particularly difficult obstacle between Taos on the northern frontier and the core settlements and governmental administration at Santa Fe in the Mexican Territorial period in the 19th century. By this time, the Española Valley had become the most populous settled region in Mexican Territorial New Mexico, and it developed homespun workshops of exportable goods, or *efectos de país*, including woolen woven outer garments called *serapes* and woven blankets for bedding called *fresadas*.

Meanwhile, Taos continued to transition as a center of commercial activity in the Santa Fe trade, based on the activities of trappers and Indian traders like the iconic Kit Carson and the lesser-known Antoine Robidoux. Information and isolation were critical pieces of the puzzle in answering why people would make Taos a central place in commerce. The use of the Taos route was probably less about transporting woven goods to California than it was about Taos being the source of knowledgeable guides, scouts, and traders who had geographic knowledge required by the merchants and packers, or *arrieros*, that were transporting already-procured woven woolen goods to California and herding thousands of mares from California for breeding stock to produce Missouri mules.

By 1821, when México declared independence from Spain, the frontier trade center and commercial functions at Taos Pueblo were being supplanted by commercial trapping, particularly for beaver pelts harvested from the Great Basin by Spanish-, English-, and French-speaking entrepreneurs and guides based in the agrarian settlements in the Taos Valley. Traveling the trail was part of doing business. By the American Territorial period, the pre-Colombian aboriginal network of footpaths had been reorganized to accommodate pack animals—mules, horses and donkeys—for transport of commercial items. Charles Bent, Kit Carson, Antoine Robidoux, William Wolfskill, Isaac Slover, and William Workman all built on the business- and family-friendly policies of the Mexican government as trappers. It is probable that all were regular users of the Apodaca Trail.

The only known historical accounts that specifically

document the trail during the Old Spanish Trail period of 1829-1848 are related to the “Insurrection Against the Military Government in New Mexico.” In 1847, the multinational war hero George A. F. “Fredrick” Ruxton left military service and embarked upon a voyage to explore the frontier territory in what is now New Mexico and Colorado. He describes his trip from Santa Fe to Taos:

We crossed, next day, a range of mountains covered with pine and cedar; on the latter grew great quantities of mistletoe, and the contrast of its bright green and the somber hue of the cedars was very striking. The snow was melting on the ascent, which was exposed to the sun, and made the road exceedingly slippery and tiring to the animals. On reaching the summit a fine prospect presented itself. The Rocky Mountains, stretching away on each side of me... whose isolated peaks stood out in bold relief against the clear, cold sky. Valleys and plains lay between them, through which the river wound its way in deep cañones. In the distance was the snowy summit of the Sierra Nevada, bright with the rays of the setting sun, and at my feet lay the smiling vale of Taos, with its numerous villages and the curiously constructed pueblos of the Indians.

In the middle decade of the 19th century, W.W.H. Davis, a decorated officer from the Mexican War, was appointed to the New Mexico Territory as U.S. attorney. With a great curiosity about the territory and its people, he traveled around the state, keeping a prolific diary. In 1856, Davis described the Apodaca route and its landmark features, including the natural pillar formation that identified the trail’s southern boundary.

Portions of the route were improved sometime after Davis’ account, and the Apodaca Trail was effectively abandoned with the completion of the Military Road through the Río Grande Gorge in 1876. Lieutenant George Ruffner of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers described what remained of the road as follows:

Between Taos and Santa Fe there formerly existed a very disagreeable passage by a steep and bad road over a mountain spur reaching from the main chain to the cañon of the Río Grande. Freight, except such

as could be carried by burros, was almost prohibited... Now, however, through the munificence of the General Government, a new road has been constructed down the cañon of the Río Grande, and a level route, straighter than either of the old roads, can accommodate all possible travel.

By the early 20th century, the Cañada de Apodaca route was relegated to “historic trail” when the route to the Harding and Copper Hill mines and the modern highway from Dixon to Peñasco were developed on a bypass to the south. This realignment of the major transportation corridor has helped to protect the historic road to some degree.

The Cañada de Apodaca Trail was first recognized and described by Taos matron, artist, and historian Helen Blumenschein in 1968. Since that time, field historians John Ramsay and Charles “Corky” Hawk, along with their collaborators, have mapped and documented the various pieces of the trail from Taos to the Española Valley. While the landscape remains largely intact and shares the same amazing vistas witnessed by the first European settlers from 400 years ago—and even before—our understanding of the importance of this arterial network from Santa Fe to Taos continues to evolve.

The intact historic landscape includes a contributing structure of braided trail that features an intact historic pack-trail alignment. This unique site, unknown to most and protected on BLM property, provides visitors with the opportunity to experience a setting that has changed little since its original travelers transported goods, services and people to markets near and far.

New Mexico’s Mark Henderson is a career archaeologist with over 30 years experience in the field and on the ground. The mission of his firm, Chupadero Archaeological Resources, is to encourage public participation in archeological research. ♦

Aaron Mahr Receives PNTS Extraordinary Trail Partner Award

The Extraordinary Trail Partner Award that NPS Superintendent Aaron Mahr Yáñez received at the recent PNTS trail conference details what Aaron's colleagues and friends already know: he is remarkable in his successful oversight of not one, but nine National Historic Trails, the Route 66 Corridor Preservation program, and the 1930s iconic adobe Old Santa Fe Trail building. The award reads: *In recognition of his years . . . as Superintendent of the NPS Intermountain Region National Trails System office, in personal availability, promoting public-private partnering, high standards for research and trail corridor planning, completing on the ground trail projects, strategic planning, and strong support for the Partnership.*

A historian, Mahr holds degrees in Spanish and Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico. He began his career with NPS in Texas in 1990, working first with Joseph P. Sánchez at the Spanish Colonial Research Center in San Antonio, and in 1993 became the first Historian and Chief of Resource Management at Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site in Brownsville. Beginning in 2000, Mahr served as Historian in the National Trail System-Santa Fe office, then in 2007 was named to the position he currently holds: General Superintendent for the Intermountain Region National Trails System Program with offices in Salt Lake City and Santa Fe. In addition to the Old Spanish NHT (co-administered with Rob Sweeten, BLM-Utah State Office, Salt Lake City), Mahr over-



Aaron Mahr, left, receives an award at the PNTS conference on July 1. Ross Marshall, past president of PNTS, congratulates him.

Photo: Chelsea Bodamer

sees eight other National Historic Trails: Santa Fe, Trail of Tears, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, El Camino Real de los Tejas, Oregon, California, Pony Express, and Mormon Pioneer. Aaron and his wife, Eva, live in Albuquerque.

