

SPANISH TRACES



7th Annual National Conference

Special Edition

June 10 - 11, 2000

Award Presented to Old Spanish Trail Preservationist and a Founder of the OST Association



Music box inscription reads, "Ruth Marie Colville, Your insight and perserverance set a course for Trail Fanatics who follow." Pat Richmond presents the award.

By Patricia Joy Richmond

In the late 1960s and into the early 1970s, Ruth Marie Colville, Del Norte, Colorado, ranch wife, mother, piano teacher, church organist, worked on several historic projects in her spare time. She was documenting names of San Luis Valley citizens who served in major wars, compiling a comprehensive time-line from geologic eras to the present for the newly fledged San Luis Valley Historian, translating the

1694 Vargas journal, and exploring forgotten trails and roads that passed through the San Luis Valley.

Sometimes a friend joined Ruth Marie in setting eye along the trace and foot to the track, but more often she parked her VW bug and proceeded alone by shank's mare into unfamiliar terrain. Her careful and thorough research culminated in notations kept on index cards record-

Continued on Page 7

Conference 2000 Report

OSTA's Seventh Annual Conference fell under the spell of the Enchanted Circle of Northern New Mexico in Taos, and was indeed a success. The Old Spanish Trail Association joined with the Taos County Historical Society and the Taos Historic Museums to present an outstanding panoply of events June 10 and 11, 2000.

Taos attendance set a new record. The speakers were historians and scholars. Short summaries of their talks are included in this issue. Two awards for outstanding contributions to the OSTA were presented June 10. Books, OSTA hats and shirts, thermal coffee mugs all sold swiftly at the OSTA "Mulepack" store. Saturday evening the reception was held at the Martinez Hacienda. Sunday morning, June 11, the tours began. As Kit Carson would say, "It's time to catch up!" Start reading...

OSTA's 2001 Meeting in Redlands, California, June 9-10.

Program Synopses

Dr. Marc Simmons, Santa Fe, NM, “Kit Carson and the Romance of the Old Spanish Trail”

Marc Simmons mounted a spirited defense of Kit Carson’s romantic character in the face of criticism by revisionist western historians.

Simmons provided evidence that paints a true picture of Carson’s character, his long association with the Old Spanish Trail and the romance of the trail itself. The Old Spanish Trail was portrayed as romantic by virtue of its spectacular beauty and the peculiar challenges that it provided for travelers who were accustomed to adventures and dangers that attend travel in remote country.

Carson’s association with the Old Spanish Trail started with his defection from the Workman saddlery in Franklin, Missouri. Carson reached Taos in 1827 and two years later he embarked on a trapping trip with Ewing Young that provided him with the experience and the tradecraft that are key to survival in the wilderness. His adventures continued in 1833 when he went on a trading expedition that started from Abiquiu and went to Utah via a segment of the Old Spanish Trail. Simmons noted that the trail was not called the Spanish Trail at that time even though Carson used the name in his 1856 memoirs.

In 1843 Carson accompanied John C. Frémont as a guide on Frémont’s epic tour through Oregon to California that returned to Utah over the “Spanish Trail.” Frémont’s use of the

term in his 1845 report survives to this day. The “Old” appellation was added somewhat later and enhances the romance of the name.

The 1843 – 1844 Frémont expedition included one of the episodes that added materially to Carson’s reputation. This was the Fuentes/



**Marc Simmons, keynote speaker
at the 2000 Annual Conference**

Hernandez incident at Bitter Spring that resulted in Carson’s and Alex Godey’s successful pursuit of the Indian band that decimated the Fuentes-Hernandez party. Frémont’s report on this incident gave Carson a national reputation as a frontiersman.

In 1847 Carson served as a courier who carried dispatches between California and Washington, D.C. On his return to California from Washington, Carson followed the Old Spanish Trail North Branch from Taos to the main trail in Utah and then westward. He once again dealt successfully with a large band of

Indians at the Muddy River in Nevada. He was able to extricate himself and his party from the surrounding band through sheer force of personality and courage.

The next year Carson again served as a courier on the Old Spanish Trail. This was the famous trip that is described so well by Lt. George Brewerton. Carson and we are fortunate that Brewerton was both a good observer and writer who left us with the only detailed description of travel and travail on the trail. This was Carson’s last trip over the length of the trail. Carson served with distinction in the Civil War and died May 23, 1868.

Carson became well known for his exploits, in part because of the publicity he received from his friend and admirer, John C. Frémont and the Brewerton work published serially in Harper’s New Monthly Magazine. He also benefited from a knack for being in the right place at the right time. The most important factors, however, were his personal courage, his exceptional competence, and his strong character.

The complete text of Dr. Simmon’s keynote address will be printed, with his permission, in the Fall, 2000 issue of Spanish Traces.

Colonel Harold Steiner, Las Vegas, NV, “From Taos to Los Angeles: Corridors of History.”

In Nevada and eastern California are 150 segments of the Old Spanish Trail (OST) that are still visible. These visible segments are vulnerable—not from nature but from man.

We must try to preserve these segments.

Our biggest challenge is to convince the people who have the power and resources to preserve the OST. Presently, there has not been much official interest in the OST. Name recognition and the important role of the OST in the exploration, commerce and settlement of the West provides good reason to advocate Historic Trail designation for the OST. It is worth noting that the Mormon Road and the California Road have received attention from the Mormons and have gained some recognition—yet, they are only segments of the OST. This is not to say that the contribution of the Mormons to the preservation of the OST is not appreciated. Mormon diaries have the best descriptions of the OST. We owe the Mormons a lot. The OST must pursue its unique identity.

Terrain and climate play big roles in determining the track of a trail—the northern and eastern segments of the OST were generally governed by the terrain of the Colorado Plateau and there the OST route is pretty straight forward. However, terrain and climate have combined to contribute a diversity of routes across the Mojave Desert as shown on the National Park Service (NPS) Trails map. Diversity was caused by the availability of water and feed in the desert.

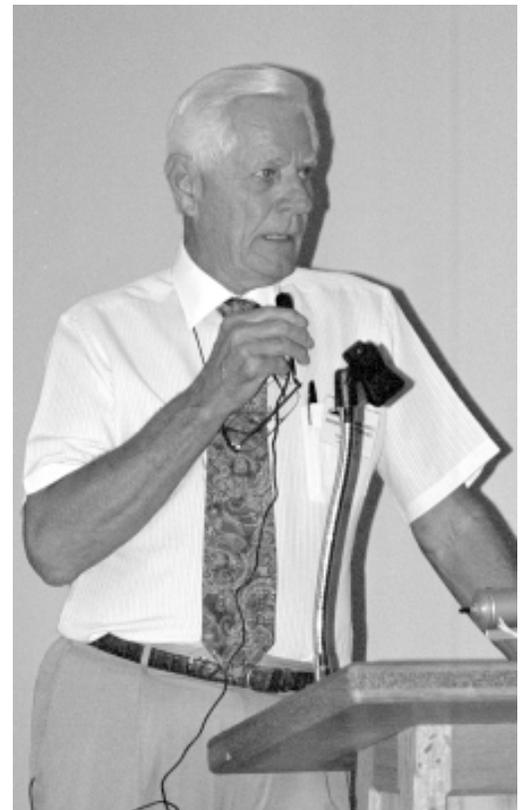
Local chapters try to get visible segments of the trail preserved, but they are not always successful. However, nationwide attitudes towards trails are changing. Various groups with mutual interests should

work together to preserve the OST and seek to educate officials and agencies of its historic value. For instance, efforts in Las Vegas to preserve a half mile remnant failed when developers were unwilling to change their plans because of the concomitant expense. A compromise was reached and the developer will set aside a small plot for a monument and plaque indicating “the OST passed this way.” This is small comfort, but is better than nothing.

However, to satisfy the growing interest in local history, Clark County, NV (containing Las Vegas) encouraged the formation of the Southern Nevada Regional Trails Partnership for all types of trails i.e. hiking, biking, equestrian, OHV, ... and the OST. The Partnership meets monthly and has recognized the importance of the OST, which will be put on an official Regional Trails map. More importantly, resources were made available to the Partnership to survey and map the location of the OST in Southern Nevada. A map showing the OST from Las Vegas to Cottonwood Spring has already been created. This map shows a straight line connectivity between the two water sources: in the desert you want to get to water the quickest way.

How do you know you have found the true trail? The “corridor” concept for the trail may help government agencies and others to see more readily the areas that need to be preserved. Rather than concentrate on only one possible path for the OST we should accept that deviations occurred when weather, safety, terrain, water and feed so

dictated. We should accept that the traces of mule caravans and wagons overlap: the mule caravans blazed the way and, limited by the availability of water and the local terrain, Mormon wagons followed the original trace of the OST. In many locales, a “trail corridor” is as close to the original OST we can ever hope to find.



Harold A. Steiner
OSTA's new President

Should we map the OST and publicize its location, or, should the OST be a secret known to only a select few? If the OST is to be properly recognized, we can't keep it a secret. If, consequently, the trail is occasionally abused, then that's the price we have to pay. The OST will be remembered when we display its course and history on maps and interpretative sites.

**Robert Shlaer, Santa Fe, NM,
“Sights Once Seen:
Daguerreotyping Frémont’s Last
Expedition through the Rockies.”**

The Old Spanish Trail was given its name by John Charles Frémont even though the trail was already well traveled prior to Frémont’s contact with it.

Frémont’s last expedition was his Fifth. His First Expedition in 1842 mapped the Oregon Trail as far as South Pass and aided emigration. His Second Expedition (in 1843 and included Kit Carson) completed surveying the Oregon Trail to the Pacific and then headed south to make a winter crossing of the Sierras. Frémont’s Third Expedition in 1845 was again guided by Kit Carson and went through the Central Rockies (Arkansas, Rio Grande and Colorado rivers), northern Utah to search for possible passes through the Sierras into California. When war broke out with Mexico, Frémont was well positioned to participate in the Bear Flag revolt (an uprising of Americans in northern California) and with the California Battalion went to Los Angeles. Afterward, refusing to obey the orders of General Kearny, Frémont was court martialled and convicted. Frémont then resigned from the Army.

It should be noted that in 1841 Frémont married Jesse Benton - the daughter of Missouri Senator Thomas Hart Benton. It is Benton’s influence and his deep conviction in America’s Manifest Destiny that propelled Frémont into his expeditions. Also, Benton favored building a transcontinental railroad to open



**Robert Shlaer
Daguerrotypist**

the West from St. Louis along the 38th parallel. Thus, Frémont’s Fourth Expedition was fielded to find a route for building a railroad along the 38th parallel. Heavy snows in the San Juans forced the expedition to be abandoned and conclude in Taos.

In 1853-54, Frémont’s Fifth, and final, Expedition tried once again to make a mid-winter crossing along the 38th parallel. It, too, failed. However, on this final expedition Frémont recruited Solomon Carvalho to photograph the route. Frémont hoped that Congress would be impressed with the photographs to favor the 38th parallel railroad route. Carvalho was a daguerreotype photographer who took hundreds of daguerreotypes during the expedition.

Frémont returned to New York with Carvalho’s pictures. There, Mathew Brady, the great Civil War photographer, made photographs of Carvalho’s work. Brady’s photos

were then made into printing plates to illustrate the report that Frémont intended to make of his final expedition. Frémont never wrote his report and the works of Carvalho and Brady along with the printing plates were put into storage. Unfortunately, a fire destroyed the photos by both men. Carvalho probably lost his chance at fame and we have no record of Frémont’s final expedition. However, some, perhaps all, of the metal printing plates survived because illustrations that appeared in Frémont’s “Memoirs Of My life” in 1887 were likely based on Carvalho’s photos: twenty of Carvalho’s photos were landscapes .

It is Carvalho’s landscapes that Shlaer decided to capture in his own daguerreotypes and thus memorialize Carvalho and Frémont for the Fifth, final, Expedition.

Shlaer explained that the daguerreotype was the first successful photographic process. In 1837 it was Louis Daguerre who perfected the process. Daguerreotype pictures cannot be directly reproduced. Every picture is unique. Pictures are housed under glass in a case because they are so delicate. The daguerreotype image is laterally reversed as in a mirror (cameras sometimes had a mirror or right-angle prism to correct this problem). Chemicals used in the process are highly toxic.

It is unfortunate that the daguerreotypes taken on Frémont’s Fifth Expedition were lost in a warehouse fire before they could be published. Shlaer was able to find paintings, drawings and engravings made from them and has since pursued his

quest to replicate the same scenes photographed during the expedition. Shlaer described his efforts to find the same scenes and the help he received from Park Rangers, local people and his own sleuthing. Shlaer has a van outfitted to process his daguerreotypes.

Shlaer's adventure of replicating the process of photographing Frémont's Fifth Expedition is told in his wonderful book, "Sights Once Seen, Daguerreotyping Frémont's Last Expedition Through the Rockies."

**John Sharpe, Clifton, England,
"William Workman, 1799-1876:
An Englishman's Place in the
History of the of the American
West"**

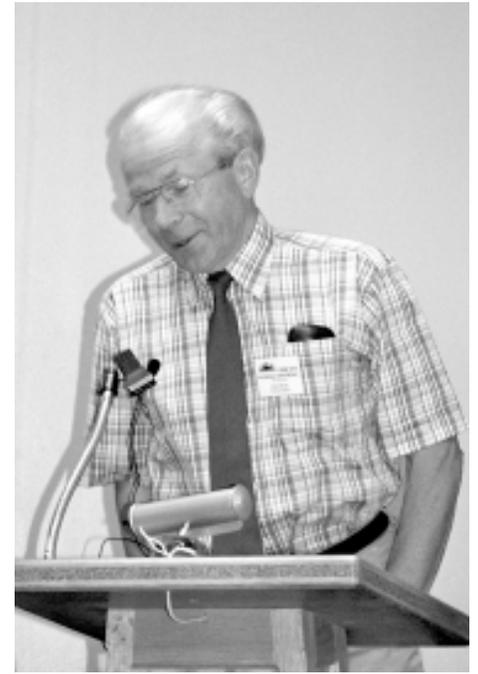
The old house where pioneer William Workman began his remarkable adventures in 1822 still stands about 200 yards up the road from John Sharpe's home in Clifton, England, a village of about 400 today and in William Workman's time. John Sharpe suggested that his accent was probably the same way that Workman spoke...nothing much has changed in Clifton. John has spent five years researching the story of Workman and has made four trips to the U.S. John has driven the OST from Santa Fe to Los Angeles to further appreciate the Workman saga.

How was it that William Workman left a small, quiet village to go the US and then adapted so successfully to the turbulent conditions of the early West? Actually, it was William's elder brother, David, who

first came to America to seek his fortune. In 1818, David was 21 and in Franklin, Missouri. He was a saddler—4,000 miles away from Clifton, England. In 1822, David returned to Clifton after encountering difficulties in making a living in Franklin. He returned to claim additional money owed to him from an inheritance and persuaded his brother, William, to come to the U.S with him. In 1824, the Workman brothers hired 14-year old Kit Carson as an apprentice in their saddlery. In 1825, William takes the Santa Fe Trail to New Mexico. In 1826, Kit Carson "escapes" from his apprenticeship to go West and launch his legendary career.

William Workman settled in Taos and worked at trapping and making moonshine - "Taos lightning." He became a Mexican citizen and had two children with a local girl. In Taos, William went into business with John Rowland. They ran a mill and general store along with dabbling in the fur trade and selling moonshine. At the end of the 1830s, Mexico became suspicious of the Americans in Taos and believed they were conspiring with Texas to expand the northern boundary of Texas as far as the Rio Grande. Because they were facing increasing hostility, William Workman and John Rowland assembled a party of American settlers and headed 1,200 miles west to California over the Old Spanish Trail. In California, Workman and Rowland secured a 20,000 acre land grant at La Puente near Los Angeles.

By 1845, California was in turmoil as rival Mexican forces fought to



**John Sharpe
Clifton, England**

govern California. Workman backed the victor, Pio Pico. Governor Pico rewarded Workman with additional land: the La Puente land grant was increased to 50,000 acres. Workman acquired other tracts of land including the island of Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay. In 1846, the War with Mexico started and American forces reached California. Workman tried to sell Alcatraz to Frémont, but the deal did not go through even though the U.S. built a fort on Alcatraz. The Mexican War ended in 1848.

When the Gold Rush commenced in 1849, William Workman became rich selling beef to miners. He returned to England via Vera Cruz, Mexico and New York in 1850; and after visiting family in Clifton, William goes to London's 1851 Great Exhibition.

Back in California, William is joined by his brother, David and his family

from Missouri, a 2,000 mile trek to California. In 1855, David is killed accidentally while driving livestock to the gold fields. William prospers at La Puente. He opened a bank in Los Angeles with his son in law, F.P.F. Temple. The collapse of the American economy spread to California in 1873; and in 1876, Workman's bank collapsed. He lost everything. Facing ruin, on May 17, Workman killed himself.

The legacy of William Workman is preserved in the present day La Puente area of Los Angeles where the Workman name is on streets, parks, medical facilities and schools. Workman is buried along with his brother, David, and his old friend, Pio Pico, in the mausoleum near his old home at the Workman and Temple Family Homestead Museum.

Dr. Dorothy Parker, Santa Fe, NM, "Four Legs Out and Four Legs Back on the Trails to California"

The sheep trade in New Mexico began with the Church's mission system in the early 17th century. Between 1620 - 1670 New Mexico flocks increased significantly and were being driven down the Camino Real to markets in Mexico. The Pueblo Revolt in 1680 forced the Spanish to evacuate and abandon New Mexico until de Vargas and the Spanish returned in 1692 -1693. Although trade started again down the Camino Real in the mid 1730's, sheep exports could not be sustained until 1750 when New Mexico flocks became reestablished under government export regulation. To stimulate

a textile industry, New Mexico officials imported skilled craftsmen to instruct local weavers. The result was improved quality, larger production and more competitive products.

Between 1810 - 1821, when Mexico won its independence from Spain, the sheep trade continued in an unstable situation. New Mexico was



**Dorothy Parker
Historian**

distant from the revolution and there was great uncertainty in trading in Mexico during the revolution. New Mexico's sheep population increased dramatically when trade slowed during the Mexican Revolution. After Mexico won independence, traders started to move large numbers of sheep to Chihuahua and Durango. Mexico eventually required all traders to obtain permits that listed the value, contents and destination of their caravans. The information in these permits shows us that through 1835 - 1840 permits were issued for 204,200 sheep.

In 1829, Antonio Armijo led the first trade caravan from Santa Fe to Los Angeles over the Old Spanish Trail. Armijo traded New Mexico sheep products for California horses and mules. California mules were prized the most and brought traders huge profits when they were returned to New Mexico.

Commercial trade caravans continued over the OST through at least 1848. After the Mexican War, 1846 - 1848, the US Army developed wagon roads to California and the traditional OST was bypassed. The last caravan over the OST was in 1848.

After U. S. troops occupied New Mexico, commerce with Mexico stopped. It was the California Gold Rush that revived the sheep trade. However, sheep drives were no longer exclusive to Hispanic merchants. Anglos, too, hoped to profit by driving sheep to California.

Here are but a few of the sheep drives to California mentioned by Dr. Parker:

In August, 1849 among a group of 49ers, "Old Roberts" bought 500 sheep for \$250 in New Mexico. The sheep sold in California for \$15-16 each!

In 1850, William Angney bought 6,000 sheep and drove them from Abiquiu over the Old Spanish Trail to Los Angeles.

In 1852, Uncle Dick Wooton and Jesse Turley drove 9,000 sheep through the San Luis Valley, over Cochetopa Pass, along the Gunnison River to its junction with the Colorado, then west through Nevada and over Donner Pass to Sacramento. Wooton recorded that he completed his 1,000 mile journey in 107 days and lost only 100 sheep! Wooton and Turley had paid \$9,275

for 9,000 sheep. They sold the sheep in Sacramento for \$8.75 each!

In 1853, Kit Carson, Lucien Maxwell and John Hatcher drove three separate flocks to California and sold them in Sacramento for \$5.50 each. Prices were now falling.

Carson, returning to New Mexico, encountered 100,000 sheep being driven to Los Angeles in three flocks: 35,000 sheep driven from Chihuahua, 15,000 sheep from New Mexico driven by Nicolas Pino and a flock of 50,000 driven by Aubry and several New Mexicans including Judge Otero with his boat in the desert.

In 1855, San Francisco was in a depression. When J. Francisco Chaves drove 18,000 sheep to San Francisco, he had to hold on to them because prices were so low. Low sheep prices did not offer Anglos big enough profits to buy sheep in New Mexico and take the risks of a drive. However, New Mexico sheep owners were willing to carry on. Following a few drives between 1856-58, 100,000 head were gathered and driven in two flocks to Southern California. They arrived in the Spring, 1859 with the owners asking \$4 a head.

The last drive took place in 1860. Francisco Perea and Jesus Luna sold 50,000 sheep in

San Francisco.

The coming of the railroads and the fencing of open range made sheep drives impractical: the era of sheep drives was over.

This Special Edition was prepared by Richard and Marie Greene, Charles and Judy Querfeld with photographs by John Coffman.

Colville - Continued from Page 1

ing official and local names for each route, precise location, physical and historic descriptions, and methods of access.

Two major north-south trails circumvented the San Luis Valley's marshy bottoms by clinging to hills and terraces basing the encompassing mountain ranges. One of Ruth Marie's index cards reads: "The west fork, also known to earliest Spanish travelers, including Anza, was part of the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail to California. A splendid route with two problems for men and beasts--water between Ojo Caliente and Rio de San Antonio and fording the Rio Grande, once in New Mexico and again in San Luis

Valley." Of the trail at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains she noted: "It was also called the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail to California. As a caravan route it connected Taos, Santa Fe, and Los Angeles."

In the fall of 1972, Ruth Marie presented to the San Luis Valley Council of Governments a definitive *Historic Site Inventory* for the six San Luis Valley counties. The section, "Landmark Trails and Wagon Roads," includes narrative descriptions for both forks of the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail. She wrote: "The trail qualifies as a remarkable national landmark for its primordial beauty and its

significance. Its history is well-documented and the road traces remain as living evidence." Thanks to Ruth Marie's dedication to historic preservation, in 1973 the San Luis Valley Council of Governments prepared a well-executed map depicting the "North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail to California via Cochetopa Pass."

Ruth Marie recently responded to her day in Taos: "...that amazing day with the 300+ people all symbolized in the beautiful little *cajita* presented to me! I have held it, opened it, and been touched by it many times since being home...It is part of my life. My mind and heart are touched by what the Trails "fanatics" thought to do."



OSTA's Mulepack opens for business.



An attentive audience enjoys the plenary session.

Recepción

The final highlight Saturday was the reception at the Hacienda de los Martinez.



Let the tour begin. The hacienda dates back to 1804...



and over the years grew to encompass 21 rooms.



This Carreta de la Muerte is an example of the many treasures preserved within the hacienda.



Members clearly enjoy early evening on the placita.



Food compliments of the Taos Historical Society. Sangria by Kay Lewis!



Peter Mackaness, our tour guide, samples the refreshments... and enjoys the live folk music.



Sunday Tours

Walking Tour of Historical Homes in Taos with Portrayals of Their Historic Residents

Roberta Courtney Meyers took us on a back-lane walking tour of homes occupied by historically important residents of Taos. We bypassed the cemetery in the interest of time and went to now-private homes where Georgia O’Keeffe, Rebecca Strand and D. H. and Frieda Lawrence had stayed as guests of Mabel Dodge Luhan. These homes were split from the greater Luhan property after later ownership by Dennis Hopper. We toured the main house built by the Luhans and at the appropriate times, Ms. Meyers assumed the personas of Miss O’Keeffe, Frieda Lawrence and Mrs. Luhan. After a walk down Morada Lane, we had a tour of the home and studio of E. I. Couse, who owned adjoining property with Joseph Sharp on Kit Carson St. It was a most interesting morning and Ms. Meyers did a very nice presentation which all enjoyed.

Reported by Kay Lewis

Tour to San Gabriel and Santa Fe

Guided by Willard Lewis

Nine of us departed Taos Sunday morning. After a stop to overlook the Rio Grande Gorge, south of Taos, we drove to San Gabriel at San Juan Pueblo. San Gabriel was the first capital of New Mexico, established by Onate in 1598. By special invitation, we visited a nearby home where excavations of a pueblo, Onate’s headquarters, and

the church took place. San Gabriel, at the convergence of the Chama River with the Rio Grande, marks the dividing point of the East and West Forks of the North Branch of OST from the main OST.

We then visited the recreated Mision Convento, based on that first church. The re-creation is on the Espanola Plaza, several miles south of the actual location.

We then drove to Santa Fe to the Palace of the Governors State History Museum, where we were met by Charles Bennett, Assistant Director of the Palace Museum, and Robert Schlaer, one of our conference speakers. Schlaer hosted the group at the exhibit of his daguerreotypes and photos of the Frémont Fifth Expedition. Bennett conducted a general tour of the Spanish Colonial portion of the Palace, and did a special presentation on the Segesser Hide Paintings depicting an 18th century battle between New Mexican Spanish troops and French intruders and Indian auxiliaries on the Great Plains to the east of New Mexico. We had a great day!

Reported by Willard Lewis

Tour to Horse Lake

Guided by Charles Querfeld

We left Taos at about 8:25 a.m. with the intention of visiting sites on the East and West Forks of the OST North Branch and a variety of locations on the Southern or Main Branch. Twenty-two people went on the tour.

The tour visited, in passing, the East

Fork of the OST North Branch by driving north from Taos on US 64 which closely follows the old trail for a few miles north of Taos. The first stop was at the bridge over the formidable Rio Grande Gorge where we were all able to understand one of the reasons why the North Branch has two forks. The second stop was at the U.S. Forest Service Ranger Station in Tres Piedras, about a quarter mile from the spring that lies on the West Fork, North Branch. We could not visit the spring since the Forest was closed because of the extreme fire danger.

The tour followed US 64 west and stopped on the crest of the Brazos ridge that overlooks the Brazos Cliffs and the Chama Valley. We then dropped rapidly past Tierra Amarilla to Los Ojos and took a back road to a gravel mine in the Chama River where the OST Horse Lake route and the Dominguez-Escalante route cross the river. Here we had an unexpected treat in the form of Ross Casados, a nearby resident with a long-standing interest in local history. Mr. Casados pointed out the river crossing with the remark that bluffs along the river preclude any other crossing in the stretch between Los Ojos and La Puente. He lives on the bluff above the gravel mine on the site of old Ft. Lowell.

After passing through La Puente, the group traveled to the Visitor Center at Heron Lake State Park. From the Visitor Center the path of the trail can be visualized along the north shore of the lake. We then stopped along the lake’s south shore for lunch.

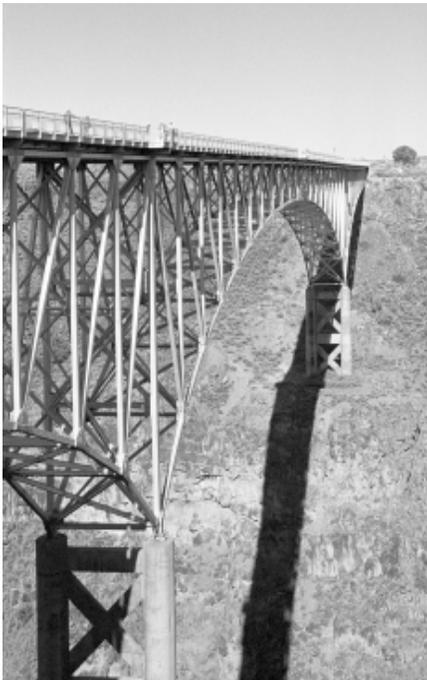
After lunch we continued west to the east shore of El Vado Lake from which we had a good view of the entrance of La Puerta Grande, a canyon that penetrates the mesas west of the two lakes. The Crampton and Madsen version of the OST route passes through this portal on its way to the Carracas crossing of the San Juan River. While passing through the portal we stopped at a cove of Stinking Lake to marvel at the presence of water. We then

west and northwest to the head of Carracas Canyon. We read the passage from the Dominguez-Escalante journal that so well describes the gate.

After leaving Horse Lake the group returned to Taos at about 6:15 p.m. via Dulce, Chama, Tierra Amarilla and Tres Piedras.



The OST Chama River Crossing. The trail passed just in front of the barn at the upper left.



The Rio Grande Gorge Bridge

headed west and north through the Jicarilla Reservation on the west side of the mesas past Stone Lake to a road that carried us east to Horse Lake.

At Horse Lake we stopped on its south shore in the natural gate that separates two mesas. The OST reached Horse Lake by following Horse Lake Creek from the (now) northwest corner of Heron Lake. From Horse Lake the OST turned



La Puerta Grande seen across El Vado Lake



Tour survivors at Horse Lake

**OLD SPANISH TRAIL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
BUSINESS MEETING
TAOS CONVENTION CENTER
TAOS, NEW MEXICO
JUNE 10, 2000**

President Charles Querfeld called the meeting to order at 4:55 PM. Charles thanked everyone for their help during his two year tenure as President.

MINUTES: Marie Greene

MOTION: To dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last general membership business meeting. Made by Judy Querfeld, seconded by John Coffman and passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Richard Greene

The detailed report is attached. This year we increased the publication of Spanish Traces to three editions, so \$7 of the \$12 membership fee goes to the production and mailing of Traces. Membership has grown by approximately 10% per year. We have been working hard to provide funds to cover the liabilities, the life memberships and Crampton Award fund, of OSTA.

NPS STUDY REPORT: Jack Nelson
The Colorado OSTA members have been working closely with the State Legislature to have the OST designated a National Historic Trail. The National Trails Registry of Colorado has reaffirmed their position in support of this effort. We need to concentrate on working at the National level now. We should get a report from the National Park Service this year. The NPS estimates that the preliminary report will be released in late July or August. There may be an early release on the NPS web site. OSTA members with an e-mail address listed in the membership list will receive an e-mail notification of the NPS posting. It is unclear when the 90 day comment period will commence.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: Marie Greene

The slate of Officers and Directors as presented to the membership in the official ballot were elected by a majority vote.

Ballot results are available. Present Officers and Directors are as listed below. Terms expire at the end of the Business Meeting that follows the Annual Conference plenary session.

President Harold Austin Steiner	2000 - 2001
Vice President Willard E. Lewis	2000 - 2001
Past President Charles W. Querfeld	2000 - 2001
Secretary Lorraine Carpenter	2000 - 2002
Treasurer Kenn Carpenter	2000 - 2002

Director, NM Richard A. L. Greene	2000 - 2003
Director, CO Patricia Joy Richmond	2000 - 2003
Director, UTRonald K. Jewkes	1999 - 2002
Director, CA John W. Robinson	1999 - 2002
Director, AZ Reba Wells Grandrud	1999 - 2001
Director, NV Elizabeth von Till Warren	1999 - 2001

MOTION: To adjourn meeting. Made by Jack Nelson, seconded by Richard Greene, and passed unanimously.

New President Hal Steiner reconvened the meeting at 5:25 PM. Charles Querfeld presented Hal with the gavel. Hal stated that he will maintain the momentum the organization presently has. The past Officers and Board have turned OSTA around and made it a thriving organization once again. With Spanish Traces being the most important part of OSTA we need more help in its publication. Any volunteers will be welcome. The new Board will meet for the first time in early September.

President Hal Steiner adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
(S)
Marie Greene
Secretary, OSTA

**TREASURER'S REPORT
JUNE 1, 1999 - MAY 31, 2000
(INCLUDES 2000 NAT. CONF.)**

ASSETS	
MARKER FUND	\$ 4,750
GENERAL FUND	
CHECKBOOK	\$ 1,340
PRIME RESERVE	\$ 2,790
TOTAL	\$ 8,880
LIABILITIES	
NAT. CONF. UNPAID EXP.	\$ 500
NET ASSETS	\$ 8,380

FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUES - 2000		EXPENSES - 2000	
BALANCE 5/31/99	\$ 2,549		
MARKER FUND	\$ 5,000	MARKER	\$ 250
MISC	\$ 117	MISC	\$ 43
DONATIONS	\$ 87	RETAIL	\$ 315
MEMB.FEES	\$ 2,623	ELECT	\$ 108
RETAIL SALES	\$ 180	BD. MTNGS	\$ 57
2000 NAT CONF	\$ 2,040	TRACES- PRINTING	\$ 1,654
		TRACES- MAILING	\$ 373
		NAT CONF- REPT	\$ 147
		POSTAGE	\$ 210
		M'SHIP- RENEWALS	\$ 63
		2000 NAT- CONF	\$ 800
		AWARDS	\$ 196
TOTALS	\$12,596		\$ 4,216

**PROPOSED BUDGET
JUNE 1, 2000 - MAY 31, 2001**

ASSETS & ESTIMATED REVENUES

GENERAL FUND 5/31/00	\$ 3,630
MARKER FUND 5/31/00	\$ 4,750
MEMBERSHIP	\$ 3,000
RETAIL SALES	\$ 200
2001 NAT CONF	\$ 2,500

TOTAL \$14,080

ESTIMATED EXPENSES

MARKER	\$ 1,000
MISC	\$ 50
RETAIL	\$ 200
ELECTION	\$ 100
BOARD MEETINGS	\$ 100
TRACES	\$ 2,100
2001 NAT CONF	\$ 2,300
POSTAGE	\$ 200
M'SHIP RENEWALS	\$ 80

TOTAL \$ 6,130

ESTIMATED BALANCE - MAY 31, 2001

MARKER FUND	\$ 3,750
GENERAL FUND	\$ 4,200

LIABILITIES

28 LIFE MEM	0
CRAMPTON D	0
TOTAL LIAB	0

Richard and Marie Greene receive Crampton Award

Richard Greene, OSTA Treasurer and Membership Chair, and his wife, Marie Greene who is the Secretary of OSTA at the national level received the C. Gregory Crampton Award at the 7th OSTA Annual Conference at the Taos Convention Center on June 10. The award was given to the Greene team for their outstanding contributions in membership growth and for their hard work and dedication to the Old Spanish Trail Association.



The Greens, Recipients of the second C. Gregory Crampton Award

The Crampton Award is named for C. Gregory Crampton, a well-known Utah historian and co-author, with

Steve Madsen, of the book, *In Search of the Spanish Trail*. Funding for the award was made

possible by a grant provided by the late Maria Crampton in memory of her husband, Professor Crampton.

Old Spanish Trail Association
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Angel Fire, NM 87710



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*See you in Redlands, CA for the
2001 OSTA Conference, June 9-10*