

SPANISH TRACES



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No.1

Another Marker Is Up!



September 25, 2010 was National Public Lands Day. In Northern New Mexico, we celebrated at Abiquiu Dam and Reservoir by participating in general clean up, building eagle nesting poles, and putting up a new wayside exhibit marking the Old Spanish Trail. There were families from the local area as well as buses of school children from as far away as Albuquerque and Cuba. The event was coordinated by Superintendent Eric Garner of the local Army Corps of Engineers. Lt. Colonel Jason Williams from the Albuquerque District Office was there too. We met at the boat ramp of the reservoir and were given assignments and told to return at noon for hot dogs and hamburgers and an awards ceremony. I was on a detail to install a new OST wayside exhibit at the base of the dam near the picnic area. The sign was created by the Army Corps of Engineers in coordination with OSTA National. A large hole had been dug the day before and so it was a matter of getting the sign in the ground, getting it level, and then filling in the area around the base of the sign. Great fun was had by all as there was a lot of dirt and rocks to be put back. Isabel and Virgil Trujillo were there to help. Isabel is the Director of Cultural activities at the Village of Abiquiu and has been very active in helping us with Old Spanish Trail events in the area.

Pat Kuhlhoff, SDS Chapter President

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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 took 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 the OSTA 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, containing links to government reports, activities of the 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 which 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 via Paypal on the OSTA website.

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. The next deadline for submissions is June 30, 2011. All matters relating to *Spanish Traces* should be directed to the OSTA Association Manager or the OSTA editor.

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OSTA Membership:

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 or mail your check to:

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President's Corner *by Reba Grandrud - OSTA President*

Sometimes, being in a leadership role with the Old Spanish Trail Association can feel a tiny bit like riding a carnival roller-coaster. There's the thrill and excitement of being a part of the crowds at the State Fair or amusement park, the fun of being with good friends, seeing new sights, learning interesting things, and the bravery and daring to climb on for a fast scary ride! Then comes the speed, faster and faster, with bumps and blind curves! And maybe the thought comes, "Why did I think this would be fun?"

Since the last issue of Spanish Traces, a growing feeling of excitement and accomplishment has spread across all six of the Old Spanish Trail states. Membership keeps inching up and new chapters are being formed (three in Utah since early fall 2010); major projects are being implemented and completed; and "trail stewardship" is an expression that is not only

heard more often, but is being understood by more and more OSTA members, old and new. Serious threats to preservation of the Old Spanish Trail, its people, its stories have been recognized, sometimes thwarted, and concerns appropriately registered. Chapter leadership is functioning, networking is viable. Information is increasingly being shared.

But, true to the roller-coaster model, in addition to the highs, OSTA leadership has experienced a spate of lows, downturns, and blind corners. We had to reluctantly say goodbye to Don Mimms who had so admirably filled the Association Manager position since April of 2009; we wish him and Pat well as he copes with health problems. A quorum for planned board meetings continues to be difficult to achieve, and board vacancies continue to occur because of health issues, job and work schedule conflicts, and relocation. At the same time, the federal assistance process has gotten more stringent, requiring additional time from able volunteers. Federal partners cannot participate in OSTA gatherings as actively as before, due to budget cuts. And we do not yet have an editor for Spanish Traces — that crucial position is again being advertised. (Check out the job description on the OSTA website at www.oldspanishtrail.org). My apologies to the membership for our not being able to get out an issue for several months.

*President's Corner
(continued on page 4)*

But OSTA is alive and active with compelling prospects ahead. A new Association Manager, Dennis Ditmanson of Las Vegas, New Mexico, comes to us with excellent credentials. He started to work January 1, 2011. Several committees are gaining members and working on projects. The 2011 Conference Planning Committee has been in place since May 2010 and is doing a superb job under Co-Chairs Jack Prichett (Tecopa Chapter President) and Alexander King (Interim California Director). Mark your calendars for June 2-5, 2011, the Annual Membership Meeting and Symposium at the Kellogg Center in Pomona, California. There is still time to volunteer for one of the many aspects of producing an outstanding annual conference. Do plan to attend.

As a final word, may I suggest that you make checking the OSTA website a regular habit. It's the thing to do, and the best place to keep up with stimulating, absorbing news of the Trail and the Association.

Southern Ute Tribal Members & Ute Saddle Bag, circa 1880.
Photos courtesy of Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum.

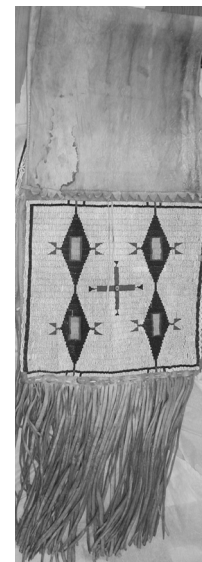
New Museum in Ignacio, CO

NEW SOUTHERN UTE CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM PLANS WORLDWIDE WELCOME MAY 21-22, 2011

Travelers seeking an authentic cultural heritage experience can expect to connect with Colorado's longest continuous residents when they visit the new Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum this summer in Ignacio, Colorado.

The 52,000-square-foot facility will open to the general public with a Circle of Life Worldwide Welcome Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22 from noon to 5 p.m. The two-day celebration will feature a multitude of activities and demonstrations, including lessons in Native American arts, crafts and skills. Southern Ute tribal members will present programs on horsemanship, archery, beading, pottery, basket making and hide tanning. Drumming and dancing

performances are scheduled in the museum's multi-purpose room. Visitors also can look forward to gaining insight into the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's rich history through interactive exhibits in the Permanent Gallery. The museum's Temporary Gallery will feature a basket exhibit, including contemporary creations made by White Mesa basketweavers. Tours of the 8.5-acre site will offer insights into native plant species and medicinal gardens. More than 20 years in planning, the new museum has been designed so that the story of the Southern Ute people will always be told and remembered. The iconic structure is located in Ignacio, Colo., headquarters for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, on Colorado Highway 172 at County Road 517, 25 miles southeast of Durango. More information is at www.southernutemuseum.org or (970) 563-9583.



Your Volunteer Time and Expenses = OSTA Funding = Trail Support

Barbara Milliken

Former OSTA Secretary

OSTA members! Chapter presidents need documentation of your donations of time, mileage and expenses. These "statistics" are vital because your efforts and expenditures are a measure of public volunteer involvement in OSTA. They paint a picture of high interest and involvement as demonstrated by our contributions.

Each year, trail associations send these numbers to Congress to demonstrate the amount of time and resources donated by volunteers in support of trails. This documentation translates into financial funding for OSTA operations and projects, including trail stewardship, annual conference support, mapping, publications, and all we do.

Blank documentation forms to record your time and expenses are now posted on OSTA's website under: Documents and Procedures. Within Association Documents you will find: **Volunteer Activities and Expenses - Blank**. The form is available in two formats: Microsoft Excel and Word. Choose the format easiest for you. If you do not have access to a computer, contact your Chapter President and a form will be mailed to you.

It is easy if you update your numbers on a continuing basis. If you do not have exact amounts, your best estimates are fine. Whether you

contributed a little or a lot, it is all important to submit. Don't hesitate to report, even if you may think it is a small number. Small amounts add up fast and give a better picture of our work and involvement.

At the end of each year, send your numbers on all 3 items (time, mileage and unreimbursed

expenses) to your Chapter Presidents. They will submit these to the Association Manager for compilation and submission. Let's show Congress how hard we work, so we will be rewarded for those efforts. Thanks for all those contributions and your cooperation with reporting your volunteer numbers.

In 2010, OSTA Members Contributed:

**18,268 Volunteer Hours
= \$380,888 Estimated Value**

OSTA Out-of-Pocket Contribution - \$46, 374

Are Your Volunteer Hours Included?

OSTA BYLAWS

To OSTA Members:

The OSTA board would like the OSTA members to consider a change to OSTA Bylaws, Article XII - Amendments. This notification complies with the current bylaws that require notification 30 days before the annual meeting. A vote to accept these Bylaw changes will occur at the OSTA annual meeting in Pomona, California on Saturday, June 4, 2011. If you have any concerns regarding these Bylaw changes and would like them communicated at the annual meeting, please contact Mark Franklin at mf@animas.net.

Current Bylaws - ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended or repealed. New bylaws may be adopted by a 2/3 vote of the members present and voting at any annual members meeting providing the proposed amendment(s) have been approved by the governing board and mailed or e-mailed to the membership at least 30 days before the annual meeting. Members may, at any time, submit amendments to the governing board for its future consideration.

Recommended Bylaws - ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended, or repealed, or new bylaws adopted by a 2/3 majority vote of all OSTA board members. Changes will be reported to members on the OSTA website, in Spanish Traces, and at the next annual membership meeting. Members may, at any time, submit amendments to the governing board for future consideration.

Manager Musings

by **Dennis Ditmanson - OSTA Association Manager**

Hello from your new Association Manager!

2011 is not only a new year, it also marks a change of managers for the Association. As many of you know, Don Mimms elected to resign as the manager for the Old Spanish Trail Association at the end of 2010. Don served the Association faithfully and well but was experiencing some health issues that precluded his being able to continue in that role. Don will be missed and we wish him well as he works toward recovery.

I came on board in January and have been in a pretty steep learning curve ever since. My first impression is that this Association has an amazing array of projects and programs underway and has accomplished an incredible amount in its relatively short existence. Especially exciting is a recent grant to the Association administered through the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs which will result in the preparation of a National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form for the Old Spanish Trail. In addition, the grant calls for preparation of National Register nominations for six high-potential trail segments, one in each of the six Trail States. Successful completion of this project will not only provide a basis for any number of future



National Register nominations also strengthen the reputation of the Association as a solid research-based organization. I'm excited to be a part of this effort.

My background has been in the public sector. In 2006, I retired from the National Park Service where I worked as a park interpreter/historian in a number of parks before moving into park management. I served as Superintendent in six parks, most recently as General Superintendent for Ft. Union National Monument and Pecos National Historical Park. I also have a background with the National Trails System having worked with the Lewis and Clark Trail and the Santa Fe Trail. This opportunity seemed like a good fit for my interests and background and I'm delighted to be here.

I look forward to working with the Board, the State Directors and especially the various Chapters to strengthen their activities and the Association as a whole. I can be reached at: osta@desertgate.com I invite each of you to contact me with issues, concerns or ideas. See you down the Trail!

The Old Spanish National Historic Trail

**PROTECTING . . .
INTERPRETING . . .
PROMOTING . . .**



www.oldspanishtrail.org

NEW PULL-UP BANNERS:
OSTA now has pull-up banners for public events. If you would like a lightweight pull-up banner for your event, please contact Dennis Ditmanson.



Leo Lyman receives the 2010, Francis Armstrong Madsen Best Utah History Book award by the Utah Historical Society for *Amasa Mason Lyman: Mormon Apostle and Apostate, A Study in Dedication*

OSTA Banner in Santa Fe Leo Lyman Recognized

This year is the 400th anniversary of Santa Fe's being chosen as the official seat of government for the Spanish empire in North America. A number of events were planned including the hanging of a series of banners around town. The trail organizations in New Mexico worked together to purchase a banner. It has all three trail organization logos as well as the historic trail names. It is located on a lamp post at the west end of Tomasita's Restaurant on Guadalupe Street. The Trail organizations in Santa Fe are the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, The End of the Trail Chapter of Santa Fe Trail Association and The Old Spanish Trail, represented by the Salida Del Sol Chapter of OSTA.

Former OSTA Utah Director, Leo Lyman was recognized with three awards for his contribution to Utah history.

In 2009, Lyman received the Leonard J. Arrington Award for a Distinctive (lifetime) Contribution to the Cause of Mormon History.

Early in 2010, Lyman was awarded the Mormon History Association J. Talmage Jones Award of Excellence for an Outstanding Article on Mormon History with research on Ute Chief Kanosh.

Also in 2010, Lyman was awarded the Utah State Historical Society's 2010 Francis Armstrong Madsen Best Utah History Book Award for *Amasa Mason Lyman: Mormon Apostle and Apostate, A Study in Dedication*. See photo of Lyman receiving that award.

Lyman recently completed an article on Jedediah S. Smith, one of the first explorers of the Old Spanish Trail. His article on Smith will be included in a future issue of Spanish Traces.



Trail Families Found: Real Life Stories — John Rowland and William Workman

by Don Rowland

Background

In 1822, John Rowland came to the Taos Valley from St. Louis and engaged in trapping beaver in the territories of northwest New Mexico. In 1824, John Rowland, trapping in eastern Utah, came under Indian attack. He sought refuge back in Taos in February 1825.

In July 1825, William Workman, an Englishman, arrived from Missouri at the Santa Fe customs house. He had two mule loads of goods, subject to a 15% import tax and 3% excise tax.

In October 1825, Rowland was baptized into the Roman Catholic Church in Taos, then married Maria Encarnación Martínez, daughter of Felipe Martín and Ana Maria Trujillo.

In November 1825, Mexico City decreed that each territory report monthly on the number and activities of foreigners. Governor Antonio Narbona's first report from Santa Fe, in early 1826, mentioned John Rowland as holding a passport issued by the "government of St. Louis" and listed him as having no occupation.

In February 1826, William Workman wrote to his brother in Franklin, Missouri, requesting that distilling equipment be smuggled to him, admitting that it was

illegal to possess. Presumably the goods arrived in Taos via the Cimarron cutoff of the Santa Fe Trail, avoiding the Santa Fe customs house.

In 1826, reacting to the incursion of large trading companies in the southern Rockies, independent trappers such as John Rowland and Ewing Young turned their attention southward to trapping the headwaters of the Gila River.

In 1828, Padre Antonio José Martínez in Taos baptized Workman into the Roman Catholic Church as José Julian. Soon thereafter, Workman formed a common law "union" with Nicolasa Urioste, a Tiwa-speaking native of the Taos Pueblo. They were subsequently married at the Mission San Gabriel (California) in 1844.

In 1829, John Rowland became a naturalized Mexican citizen. This made his trapping activities within Mexican territory completely legal. By the early 1830s, the beaver having been trapped to near extinction in the southwest, John Rowland turned his attention to business ventures and established a flour mill in the Taos Valley, south of the pueblo.

By the 1830s, John Rowland had become a friend and business partner of William Workman. They became well known as distillers and purveyors of "Taos Lightning." The raw liquor became highly sought after by the Mountain Men at their annual rendezvous.

On the Old Spanish Trail: 1831-1842

In the early 1830s, Ignacio Martínez, thought to be related to Rowland's wife, traveled with the New Mexico trading caravan to San Gabriel Mission in southern California.

Perhaps directly involved much earlier with trade over the Old Spanish Trail, Rowland and his wife are known to have purchased six horses from José Sepúlveda of Los Angeles in April of 1834. Ramón Cooper was most likely operating as Rowland's agent in trading ventures with the Californios. However, Rowland may have traversed the Old Spanish Trail on several occasions prior to 1841.

Throughout the 1830s, both Rowland and Workman traded goods to and from Missouri along the Santa Fe Trail. Some were legally imported through Santa Fe; others were smuggled over the Cimarron cutoff, through the Red River valley, and into Taos.

Times became difficult for the residents of Rio Arriba (above Santa Fe) in 1835 and 1836. A number of the native citizens became disenchanted with the opulent lifestyle of the Governor sent up from Mexico City. Some spoke of revolution.

In early 1837, the Inspector General of Mexico announced an investigation of customs departments throughout the Republic. He sent agents into New Mexico to enforce the decree. In July Rowland was charged with

smuggling. Witnesses had testified that a number of his mules, laden with flour, had met a caravan from the United States on the Red River, and then returned to Taos laden with American merchandise. Rowland went before the District Judge, Santiago Abréu, on July 18 and 19. The judge ordered him to remain in Santa Fe pending further investigation.

On July 24, 1837, Workman was accused of smuggling goods through the customs house at Santa Fe. The customs administrator was caught taking a bribe. The investigating government officials refused a more substantial bribe, detained Workman, and sought to confiscate his merchandise. Fellow merchants Charles Bent and Josiah Gregg at first refused the goods, but were forced to comply at gunpoint.

On August 1, 1837, a group of dissidents from Rio Arriba, known as the *Cantón del la Cañada*, published a proclamation denouncing the government in Santa Fe, and began raising an army. While Rowland and Workman were still being held in Santa Fe, the revolution unfolded.

Governor Pérez marched north from Santa Fe with a militia of about two hundred men, mostly Indians from Rio Abajo (south of Santa Fe). They intended to appease the rebels and send them packing. But Pérez and his troops were surrounded at La Mesilla. Shots were fired in a wild chain reaction, and the militia scattered, deserting Pérez and twenty-three Mexican soldiers. The next

day, the rebels found Pérez and his bodyguards near the Santo Domingo Pueblo and attacked. The rebels killed and beheaded Governor Pérez. They took his head back to a rebel camp near Santa Fe and rolled it around the encampment, spurring it and hacking it with sabers.

District Judge Santiago Abréu, who had arraigned both Rowland and Workman just weeks before, was captured on August 8 and taken in chains to the Santo Domingo Pueblo. The next morning the rebels cut off his hands, pulled out his eyes and tongue, taunting him all the while. Other officials were stripped of their fine clothes and slowly lanced to death. The rebels then entered Santa Fe and proclaimed José Gonzales as the new governor.

With the Governor and District Judge dead, Rowland and Workman were free to leave Santa Fe and return to their homes in Taos, and no criminal charges were made. It is unknown to what, if any, extent their arrests in July had to do with the outbreak of the rebellion. Perhaps it was a tipping point. It certainly can be surmised that many of the rebels knew the Martinez and Trujillo clans, into which Rowland had married, and it is probable that both Rowland and Workman had employed some of the rebels in their trading activities over the years, whether legal or illegal. Unfortunately, no comment on this monumental event, by either Rowland or Workman, has ever been found.

Little is known of Rowland's whereabouts until August 1839. Then a letter from his brother Thomas to another brother, Robert, living in Ohio, indicated that John had just returned home from a long journey, even missing the birth of a son. From the letter, we can assume that he had not been in the United States. The events of 1841-2 make it interesting to speculate that he had been in California making business arrangements, and thus having traversed the Old Spanish Trail to Los Angeles and back, after the Rio Arriba rebellion.

In 1839, the Republic of Texas claimed that its borders stretched westward to the Rio Grande, thus including Taos and Santa Fe as part of Texas. This resulted in the newly appointed Governor, Manuel Armijo, and many of the New Mexico clergy, fanning the flames of distrust and hatred for Texans and other foreigners.

On April 14, 1840, a letter from Texas President Lamar was smuggled into Santa Fe by Texas agents. The letter proclaimed New Mexicans as fellow citizens and stated that agents would soon be sent from Texas to bring about annexation of New Mexico to the Texas Republic. Lamar wrote: "until the arrival of the commissioners, I have empowered some of your own citizens, Captain W. G. Dryden, Mr. W. Workman, and Mr. Rowland (to whom the views and feelings of this government have been communicated) to confer with you upon the subject matter of this communication."

According to court testimony by Pio Pico, the last Mexican governor California, he first met John Rowland in 1840. Pico is not known to have ever been in New Mexico. Therefore we conclude that Rowland was in California that year, making contact with prominent Mexican officials in and around Los Angeles.

Records show that in 1841, John Rowland continued to trade legally with the United States, reporting imports of cotton goods through the customs house at Santa Fe in May of that year.

A letter dated May 1, 1841, came to Rowland from a former New Mexico businessman, then in Missouri. In anticipation of the recognition of Texas' claim to territory as far as the Rio Grande by Mexico and the United States, he advised Rowland to seek land grants from Governor Armijo.

In February 1841, Juan B. Vigil, a Taos lawyer, made accusations to Governor Armijo that Workman and Charles Bent were agents of Texas. Finding this out, Workman confronted Vigil, beating him with a whip and his fists, until Bent had to pull him off. Bent then warned Vigil of more dire consequences if he persisted with his accusations. Bent subsequently gave valuable gifts to Armijo, and no charges were filed against him or Workman.

By the spring of 1841, aware that Workman's situation was becoming more precarious, Rowland and Workman began liquidating assets, including the

flour mill, store, and whiskey distilling operations.

On July 13, 1841, Workman sought a permit from the customs house in Santa Fe to take 800 pesos worth of household goods and 40 bales of serapes to California.

Bancroft, attributing a Mexican historian by the name of Bustamante, alleged that in August 1841 William Workman led a gang of his countrymen from Taos to Santa Fe in an abortive attempt to kill Governor Armijo.

On August 11, 1841, Governor Armijo signed a passport granting Rowland the right to take a trading party and goods to California. Armijo then turned his attention toward the advancing band of Texans in the east. In mid-September 1841, a party of some 300 Texans invaded New Mexico, claiming to seek trading opportunities.

On September 22, 1841, Governor Armijo, believing that Rowland and Workman went to California as agents of Texas, wrote a letter to the Mexican Ministry of War and Navy. He denounced Rowland and Workman as "traitors who have gone to California to seduce and confuse its inhabitants...." By 1841, California had long since distanced itself from the unresponsive central government of Mexico. Most inhabitants considered themselves to be independent Californios.

On September 23, 1841, with Governor Armijo leading forces against the Texans, the

Secretary of State in Santa Fe, Guadalupe Miranda, issued an order prohibiting foreigners from leaving the town of their residence. Just days before, the Rowland-Workman party had grouped up in Abiquiú and departed the territory going northwest over the Old Spanish Trail.

The Rowland-Workman party reached the San Gabriel Valley in early November 1841. Rowland then went to Los Angeles to present a list of the members to the justice of the peace, Manuel Dominguez.

As if following a prearranged plan, Rowland then traveled to Monterey to see Governor Juan Bautista Alvarado. He sought a land grant for the Rancho de la Puente, lands once belonging to the recently secularized Mission San Gabriel. It is reported that Rowland took along \$1,000 in gold to gain Alvarado's favor. On January 14, 1842, Alvarado made the preliminary grant of Rancho La Puente to Rowland, alone. Workman left New Mexico for good in 1841. He took all his possessions with him. But John Rowland's family had remained behind in Taos with the Martinez and Trujillo families, and he needed to return for them.

Early in 1842, Comandante Francisco Estevan Vigil was preparing to return the annual caravan to Santa Fe from Los Angeles. Due to the size of the company, it was decided to divide the caravan into two groups, to make better use of the scant grass and water for the livestock being

driven back to New Mexico. Los Angeles Prefect Santiago Argüello appointed John Rowland as commander of one of the two divisions. On April 7, 1842, John Rowland departed Los Angeles for New Mexico to retrieve his family. Rowland's party drove three hundred head of stock that had been bartered for woven goods brought from New Mexico the previous fall.

In the fall of 1842, Rowland concluded disposition of his assets in Taos. Then he gathered his wife, six children, his son-in-law, and several adopted Ute children, and joined Lorenzo Trujillo and Hipólito Espinosa in a trade caravan led by Santiago Martinez, and returned to California. They arrived at La Puente on December 12, 1842.

It is believed that Rowland, over the years, made at least five, and possibly nine, journeys over the Old Spanish Trail.

Rowland and Workman became prominent citizens and owners of vast land holdings in Mexican and American California.

Descriptions of the Journey along the Trail

Unfortunately, Rowland and Workman left few comments about traversing the Old Spanish Trail, but other members of the party did.

See:

William Gambel to Elizabeth Richardson Gambel, 14 January 1842, MS Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the Bancroft

Library.

Isaac Given, "*A Pioneer of '41.*" MS pp. 10-12, Bancroft Library.

Albert G. Toomes, "*The Pioneer Overlanders of 1841,*" San Francisco Evening Bulletin, 27 July 1868.

Thomas Jefferson Farnham, *Life, Adventures, and Travels in California* (New York: Nafis and Cornish, 1849), pp. 312-318.

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Based on a presentation by John Rowland at the 2010 OSTA Annual Conference in Kanab, Utah.

Gabrieleño-Tongva People of Southern California—An Introduction

Compiled by Douglas M. Knudson

OSTA's national conference in California takes us into the ancient (and modern) homeland of the Tongva People. At the time of the Santa Fe-Los Angeles trading (1829-1848), many of them were living at San Gabriel Mission.

They surely must have had some encounters with the New Mexico traders as they arrived, tired and dusty, with their woolen goods packed on mules. Perhaps they were part of the welcoming group that heard the joyous packers shouting their "Olás" as they approached the beautiful Mission.

I looked up information about them in my 1991 Encyclopedia Britannica. I was surprised to read that "no identifiable Gabrielino now exist." (The spelling does vary.) Nevertheless, one or more Tongvas will greet OSTA members at our national Conference in June.

Although some have declared them "lost" as a people, the City of San Gabriel on Aug. 24, 1994 and the California Legislature on August 31, 1994, officially recognized the Tongva as the aboriginal tribe of the Los Angeles Basin. By formal resolution, the State of California recognizes the Gabrielino-Tongva

*Gabrieleño-Tongva People
(continued on page 12)*

OLD SPANISH NATIONAL HISTORIC



Mexican Traders

Fremont Map - 1848

Castle Dale, UT

Desert Amulet



TRAIL 1829-1848



Church Rock, AZ

Antoine Robidoux Inscription

Satillo Serape - Trade Good

Trade Caravan



Nation as the aboriginal tribe of the Los Angeles Basin and takes great pride in recognizing the Indian inhabitation of the Los Angeles Basin and the continued existence of the Indian community (1994 Calif. Assembly Joint Resolution 96).

They were certainly here in the days before Spanish settlement (early 1780s). Remains of early villages of 300-500 people have been found at 31 sites. Archaeologists have identified a total of 2,800 locations of Tongva activity. Villages existed north up Topanga Canyon to Malibu, where they probably contacted the Chumash, south to Laguna Beach, encountering the Juaneños, and East to the San Bernardino Mountains. They lived as far West as Santa Catalina Island. The younger, independent Cahuilla cultures derived partly from contact with Tongva religion, language, and trading activity.

The Tongva people were among the wealthiest and most advanced Indians in the region, having strong influence on their neighbors. They used pole houses covered with tule mats. They gathered acorns and other plant foods of the mountains and lowlands, supplemented by game and fish. They made baskets. They used soapstone to make pots, scoops, and vessels. They also made carvings, beads, and ornaments. They did extensive trading with interior tribes (Encyclopedia Britannica, 1991). The Tongva population was about 5,000. Warfare was not frequent.

In the 1700s, Father Junipero Serra directed the Tongva people to walk from their village at Kuruvunga to the San Gabriel valley. There they were enlisted in the labor to build the San Gabriel Mission. They were compelled to work and stay at the Missions (also at San Fernando for some of them).

By 1841, survivors of the mission period worked for subsistence wages on Mexican land grants, scattered mostly around the Los Angeles basin and nearby. John Rowland and William Workman and many Hispanic ranchers were among the compassionate ranchers who allowed them to live and work (for wages) on their new ranch holdings.

By 2009, based on Bureau of Indian Affairs records and tribal records, six Tribal factions exist, with nearly 2,000 people. The large majority (almost 1,700) belong to the "Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe". Federal recognition has been sought for decades. (California has over 50 well-documented Indian tribes that have not been officially recognized by the federal government and have received no assistance from the State.)

Apparently today's Tongvas have no reservations or rancherias. Their members work diligently on a cultural revival and seek federal recognition. From their headquarters in San Gabriel they maintain ties to the San Gabriel Mission, where I once interviewed a young musician named Matt who shared some of his culture.

Kuruvunga Springs is a sacred site

comprised of three natural springs that supplied fresh water to Tongvas since at least AD 400. In the late 1800s, the springs fed into the water supply of the City of Santa Monica. They still flow at 22,000-25,000 gallons/day. Today the surrounding land is part of the University High School. The school's horticulture class has maintained a traditional foods garden there. The Gabrielino/Tongva Springs Foundation works with the community to preserve and protect this sacred site.

Another sacred site, Puvungna, was the home of Tongva/Gabrielino lawgiver Chungich-nich. It lies on land of California State University-Long Beach.

They have a Young People's Village in El Monte, CA, at 4528 Baldwin Ave. at Lower Azusa Rd. 626-442-2480. Mr. Andrew Morales captains a major cultural organization—a traditional dance team that performs throughout southern California at festivals and other special events. The "People of the Earth" also maintain La Casa Community Center, 203 E. Mission in San Gabriel, CA.

Tongva place names include Cahuenga, Topanga, Tujunga, Cucamonga, and Azusa.

Sources:
National Geographic Society 2010. *Indian Nations of North America*. Washington, D.C.: NGS. 384 pp.

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Tribal website:
www.gabrielinotribe.org

Research on the North Branches of the Old Spanish Trail, San Luis Valley

By Ruth Marie Colville
Compiled by Suzanne Off

Ruth Marie Colville was a historian of the San Luis Valley and Northern New Mexico. Her careful research, documentation and on-the-trail investigations began in the early 1950s and continued throughout her life. She authored *La Vereda, A Trail Through Time*, which was published in 1994 when she was 90. Mrs. Colville was a founding life member of the Old Spanish Trail Association. In 1972 Ruth Marie Colville first presented to the San Luis Valley Council of Governments (southern Colorado) 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.... 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." (From the speech by Patricia Joy

Richmond in *Spanish Traces*
Special Edition June 10-11, 2000)

I copied the text from her actual typewritten cards on which she recorded her research. I have the original research cards.

Trail-Wagon Road

Name: North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail to California-also known in part as Del Norte Conejos Road, Old Conejos Lane-recorded use 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th centuries.

Location: Santa Fe, Ojo Caliente, Rio Conejos to ford of the Rio Grande, to Cochetopa through counties Conejos, Rio Grande, Saguache.

Significance: Traditional trail for pre-Hispanic, Indians, Ancient Man, Pueblos, etc.; for historic Pueblos, Utes, Navajos, Comanches, Kiowas; for Spanish and Mexican New Mexican Military, traders and explorers; for American and French Mountain Men; used by Fort Garland Military, by first New Mexican settlers in Guadalupe-Conejos.

Access: Most on Public Land, accessible by foot, horse, pick-up, and in some places from U.S. 160, and the Del Norte-La Garita road.

Trail Wagon Road

Name: North Branch of the

Old Spanish Trail to California (east side of SLV) known also as Taos Trail, the Trail to Santa Fe, Trappers Trail and today Kit Carson Trail. Recorded use 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th centuries

Location: In Costilla, Alamosa and Saguache counties, coming from Costilla, NM to San Luis, Fort Garland and north or north by west to Saguache, west of Cochetopa Pass to Utah and Los Angeles.

Significance: A traditional Indian trail for centuries, used by ancient man, by plains Indians in trade or war to Taos, and other NM pueblos; used by Yutas, Navajos, Apache, Comanche, Kiowa; used by Spanish and Mexican civil and military officials, also explorers and traders east to high plains, north via Poncha Pass, west to Utah; used by French-Canadian and American trapper-traders; by Fort Garland and other U.S. military, by merchants; by NM Spanish settlers to Culebra area; used as part or the whole length.

Access: Most of the route is on private, fenced land, Spanish and Mexican land grant origin; NM 3, Colorado and county roads are near to the old trail, sometimes on it.

{See San Luis Valley Historian IV #1}



OSTA Grant - Trail Stewardship

Trail Steward Program Takes Three Big Steps Forward

By Don Mimms, Former OSTA Association Manager

The OSTA Trail Steward Program took some big steps forward in the fall of 2010 as the first round of training workshops were conducted in Utah and Nevada.

The session in Kanab, UT, on September 10-11, attended by 12 people, marked the inauguration of the training phase of the program, which has been in the planning stage for over a year. The second session, in St. George, UT, on Sept. 17-18, was attended by 16 people, and attendance was 15 at the final session for the year, in Mesquite, NV, on Oct. 8-9.

The Trail Steward Program is designed to make volunteer, in-the-field trail steward assistance available to federal partners such as BLM, NPS and USFS, who manage lands on which the OST is located. The primary goal of such efforts is to identify and protect trail segments.

The training sessions this fall were part of a pilot project funded through the BLM Arizona Strip District Office, where Diana Hawks has led BLM's involvement. Additional funds, coordinated by Sarah Schlanger, BLM - National Trail Lead based

in the Santa Fe office, have been made available for expansion of the program to other portions of the six states through which the trail passes.

OSTA Vice President Paul Ostapuk, who serves as project manager for the Arizona Strip program, said his expectations for these first three training sessions were "met and exceeded." He said the class sizes were just right for a positive training experience, and that there was good dialogue and many insightful questions. He also commented that there was a great deal of positive interaction and energy. "I was impressed by the participants' passion for the trail and the amazing spirit of cooperation they showed," he said.

OSTA Stewardship Committee Chair Mark Henderson, who assisted Ostapuk in development of the 175-page training manual, also spoke highly of the sessions, saying participants were "chomping at the bit" to begin their volunteer work with BLM in actual monitoring of the trail. Henderson was instrumental in working with BLM in the formative stages of the program, and also played a vital role in GPS and field documentation aspects of the training.

Armijo Chapter member John Crowther, of Page, AZ, attended all three of the training workshops in his crucial capacity as Trail

Steward Field Coordinator for the Arizona Strip segment of the trail. A field coordinator, responsible for trail steward assignments and for processing the resulting data, will be appointed in every region where the program is introduced in the future.

The two-day workshops featured one day of classroom instruction, focused on establishing a good understanding of theoretical concepts involved in trail monitoring, and one day of field training to prepare students for use of GPS devices, cameras and reporting forms.

Ostapuk commented that the next phases of the program will stress further development of collaborative efforts between OSTA and federal partners, to prepare for actual implementation of the program in specific areas, along with efforts to expand the program to other trail segments.

Don Mimms tells *Spanish Traces* that his association with the Trail Steward Program has convinced him that it is "... one of the most important things OSTA can be doing right now." He said he values the program not only for its focus on stewardship but also its potential as a recruitment tool and as a means of building effective teamwork between OSTA and its federal partners.

For more information:
Paul Ostapuk: 928-645-2558
postapuk@cableone.net.



VITAL ROLE:
Diana Hawks (center, facing camera) has played an important part in development of the OSTA Trail Steward Program. Hawks is Team Lead for Recreation, Wilderness and Cultural Resources in BLM's Arizona Strip District. Photo by Pat Talbott



TALKING IT OVER:
Participants in day one of the Trail Steward Training Workshop in Mesquite, NV, Oct. 8th, gathered at Falcon Ridge Country Club that evening for an informal reception sponsored by OSTA's Nevada Chapter. Chapter President Ashley Hall (pictured, second from right) and his wife Lorna hosted the event, which was attended by about 20 people. Photo by Frank Talbott

Significant OSNHT Location

Green River Crossing:

By Al Matheson, President, OSTA
Tres Rivers Chapter

There are two mid-trail locations that define the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. One of these is the Castle Cliff portal to the Great Basin of the Southwest; the other is the crossing of the Green River, a penultimate trail marker for every individual who ever sought to traverse the Old Spanish Trail. Located precisely at the issuance of the Green River from Desolation Canyon of the High Uinta Mountains in eastern Utah, the Green River broadens out to the invitation of a shallow flat valley before beginning a tortuous descent through the rugged canyons of Canyonlands and the Colorado River Basin. It was this singular location that drew Old Spanish Trail travelers from their origins as far away as Los Angeles, California and Santa Fe, New Mexico, because it was here they could in reality say they had succeeded in crossing the intervening barrier that was the Colorado River.

Location: N 039 deg 05.35min
W 110 deg 07.46 min
Elevation: approx. 4300 ft.
Ecology: pinon, juniper, and sage

Green River Old Spanish Trail
Crossing — Green River, Utah.

The Green River ford of the Old Spanish Trail is located about one mile above the town of Green River,

Utah, likely near or possibly at the same crossing as that used by the Spanish exploration party of Dominguez/Escalante in 1776. It was also the crossing used by Native Americans for centuries before the advent of Spanish influence, and for the wagons of the pioneers for years thereafter, and it is the same location that is still used by the modern interstate highway I-70 for transcontinental commerce.

Discussion: The location of Green River Ford on the Old Spanish Trail is in somewhat of a dispute between individuals, with the more likely realization that the Trail crossed the Green River at different times at different places due to seasonal water levels and river conditions. What is not in dispute is the general location of the crossings, and the need to identify the general area of the crossing with interpretive materials and trail information. It appears that the actual crossing alternatives are on private farm land. There are several signs alluding to an “Escalante” crossing location, but they are characteristically in conflict with other signs in other locations. The land to the east of the river access road appears to be private on the west, public lands on the east in the vicinity of the river ford.

Recommendation: This natural trail site is one of the most significant and defining points

along the entire Old Spanish National Historic Trail. Its presence, its significance and its location should be incorporated into an interpretive information center at the John Wesley Powell Museum in Green River, Utah. It should also be available in roadside informational kiosks local to the approximate crossing areas. It should also be noted that this same location was used perennially by Native Americans over the centuries. This is a fascinating and real story of the Old Spanish Trail that needs to be told, and this is a place to do it!

There is no protection for this site, and no true or authentic crossing location has been identified, nor will there likely be one, but the general area is open to visits and the final decisions can just as easily and appropriately be left up to the observers and tourists.

With a reasonable initiative the Town of Green River will cooperate in any joint venture to advertise the Old Spanish Trail; they are proud of their involvement and history and willing to share their history in any way they can. I-70 routes thousands of visitors through the Town of Green River, Utah each day, generally only for fuel and a rest stop. There is ample opportunity to reach thousands of travelers with the Trail story at this location.

OSTA Research Committee

By Pat Richmond - Research Committee Chairperson

The charge to this committee is to initiate discussion and recommendations that would promote the development of a process whereby OSTA could solicit through the general membership resources information that would become available for research through the OSTA website and linked to partnership websites.

The initial contact with suggested committee participants brought the following responses:

1. identify goals for canvassing research resources.
2. establish an electronic archive that would promote storage of and access to source materials.
3. link source materials to a geographic information system.
4. organize information on a State by State basis using a simple GIS system.
5. request assistance from NPS to set up an OST research archive or bibliography.
6. develop an on-line bibliography system for contributions to an archival resources database.
7. get started soliciting resources for a research database.
8. set guidelines for the kinds of data being solicited as well as for an on-line or printed format that contributors can follow.

The second round of contacts expanded participation to incorporate broader state and

chapter representation of OSTA members. Participants were asked to respond to the following:
Discussion points for the OSTA Research Committee – OSTA Mission Statement: The mission of the Research Committee shall be to develop a process for soliciting information about resource data pertinent to the Old Spanish Trail and to promote establishment of an electronic archive of resource materials available to OSTA members and others interested in the Old Spanish Trail.

To accomplish the Mission Statement, the Research Committee shall:

1. initiate guidelines for a submission form of resource data.
 - a. state the relevance of the resource data to the Old Spanish Trail and/or the Mission Statement of the Old Spanish Trail Association and/or the National Historic Trails criteria for the Old Spanish Trail.
 - b. indicate whether the resource data is available to the general public. If not, give a specific location or method of retrieval for the resource data.
 - c. identify the type of resource data: map, diary, journal, manuscript, book, periodical article, newspaper report, etc. Include bibliographic information.
 - d. assign a geographic relevance for the resource data by state(s), location, site(s), Ex: entire route, Utah segment, Colorado branches, Armijo route, Moab, North Branch, Green River crossing, San

Luis Valley trails, Mohave Desert, Grand Junction crossing, Santa Fe, desert campsites, etc.

e. other suggestions for information OSTA will need to consider receiving to begin developing an electronic archive?

2. design convenient paper and on-line resource data forms that can be used by OSTA members and others to submit recommendations for inclusion in the electronic archives.

3. develop an organizational plan for compiling resource data placed within the electronic archives in order to implement the Research Committee's Mission but with the objective of being flexible enough to accommodate future modifications.

- a. assign the resource data by research topic(s): state, trail branch, date of use, type of use, etc.
- b. catalog the resource data by type and within primary or secondary source categories.
- c. link the electronic archives to OSTA's website, to other data resource websites, and to trail partners' websites.
- d. other suggestions for compilation and retrieval of data resources?

Participant responses to the proposed discussion points include:

1. use the guidelines to get started and then make modifications according to operating experiences.
2. establish cataloging protocol at the outset to keep the project from becoming overwhelming.

3. consider Denver Public Library's cataloging protocol because OSTA's "official" organizational archive resides at DPL.
4. integrate with NHT data gathering projects and NPS/BLM database programs.

Additional comments suggest that the following topics may be relevant to establishing a Mission Statement, goals and objectives for OSTA's Research Committee:

1. expand participation in Research Committee topics by drawing upon the "State and Chapter" model used in other committees as well as incorporating state and federal partners.
2. establish sub-committees to proceed efficiently with research related projects.
 - a. Resources sub-committee – work toward creating a form to be used in soliciting source information; determine cataloging protocol; establish an archival database with links to partnership websites.
 - b. Projects sub-committee - determine areas that need additional research; explore research opportunities and resource databases; promote coordination and exchange of research sources and data.
 - c. Mapping sub-committee – identify and revitalize mapping projects.

If you would like to be involved on the OSTA Research Committee, please contact Pat Richmond: patsjoy6@yahoo.com



ISN'T THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL EXCITING?!

OSTA member Mark Henderson makes a presentation to Warren Kelly's 5th grade class at Taos Charter School in Taos, NM. Warren, who teaches Spanish, regularly includes a several-week 'module' on the Old Spanish Trail, supplementing his materials with outside presentations by speakers such as Henderson.

Photo by Warren Kelly



INTERPRETING THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL

This historic marker was recently installed at Abiquiu Reservoir in New Mexico as part of National Public Lands Day.

Photo by Pat Kuhloff

New from the Museum of New Mexico Press

In Search of Dominguez & Escalante Photographing the 1776 Spanish Expedition through the Southwest

By Greg Mac Gregor and Siegfried Halus.

Foreword by Frances Levine

Essay by Joseph P. Sánchez

On July 29, 1776, Franciscan friars Francisco Atanasio Dominguez and Silvestre Velez de Escalante embarked on an expedition to seek an overland route from Santa Fe, New Mexico to Monterey, California. Although the Spaniards did not reach their final destination, the expedition is widely regarded as one of the great explorations in western U.S. history for its documentation of the land and Native peoples in the Four Corners. The group—including cartographer Don Bernardo Miera y Pacheco, Ute-speaking guides and the alcade (mayor) of Zuni—circumnavigated 1800 miles of uncharted territory never before seen by Europeans, an arduous five month trip documented in Escalante's journal, a widely read historical account of the exploration.

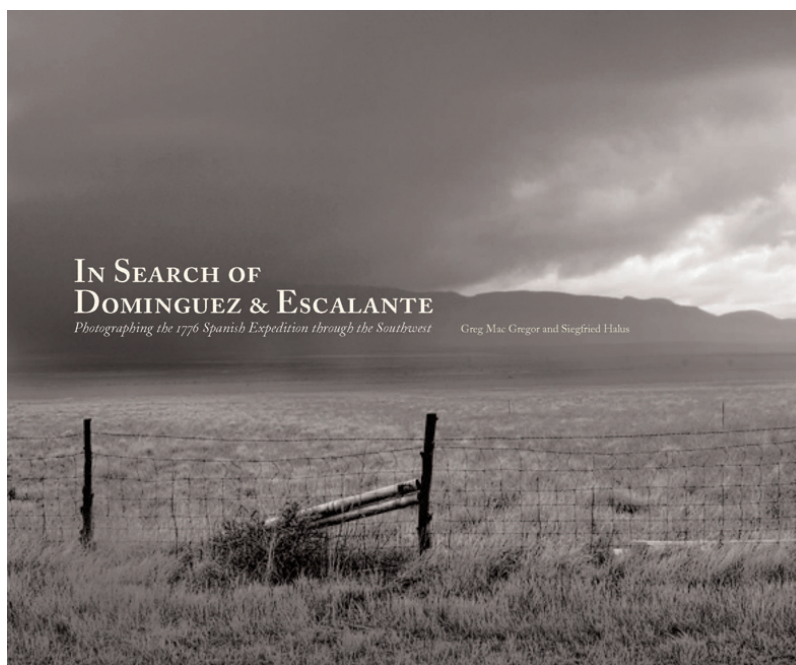
More than two hundred years later Greg Mac Gregor and Siegfried Halus have created a remarkable visual record of the expedition. Using Escalante's journal as their guide, the photographers followed the expeditionary route, circling through New Mexico,

Colorado, Utah and Arizona, and documenting the frontier as first witnessed by the Spanish explorers on horseback. The expedition passed what today are major national parks and landforms: Zion Canyon; Dinosaur Monument; and the Grand Canyon. The photographs show many areas virtually unchanged over centuries; other images reveal the passage of time in pictures of dammed rivers, power lines, and towns where once stood virgin forests.

Quoting widely from Escalante's journal, the authors present first-hand accounts of the expedition alongside their photographic narrative. Essays by the photographers discuss their methodology and experiences as modern day explorers retracing the

steps of the friars. In his historical essay, Joseph P. Sánchez writes about the lasting legacy of the Spanish expeditions.

Greg Mac Gregor and Siegfried Halus are renowned photographers and educators whose works have been exhibited internationally. Mac Gregor is professor emeritus of photography at California State University. He is the author of *Overland: The California Emigrant Trail of 1841-1870* (University of New Mexico Press). Halus is former director of the art department of Santa Fe Community College and the author (with Marie Romero Cash) of *Living Shrines: Home Alters of New Mexico* (Museum of New Mexico Press). They both live in Santa Fe.



IN SEARCH OF DOMINGUEZ AND ESCALANTE
is now available for purchase on OSTA's website.

Book Review

History of Victor Valley by Edward Leo Lyman

(*History of Victor Valley Victorville*: Mohahve Historical Society, 2010) 409 pp., maps, photographs, bibliography, index.

Southern California's Victor Valley, centered around the nourishing waters of the upper Mojave River, has a surprisingly rich and diverse history. In years past it has served as a major crossroad for travel and trade, as well as a center for mining, cattle ranching, and agriculture. Today it encompasses the vibrant communities of Hesperia, Victorville, and Apple Valley.

No one is more qualified to write its history than Edward Leo Lyman, former professor of history at Victor Valley College. Dr. Lyman, well known for his books on Mormon San Bernardino and the Salt Lake-Los Angeles Trail, has done it again. More than twenty years in the making, his *History of Victor Valley* is another thoroughly researched and superbly written work.

Lyman begins with a description of the Vanyume people, early inhabitants of the upper Mojave. Relying heavily on the notes of the late anthropologist John Peabody Harrington, Lyman portrays the Vanyume as a contented people well adapted to their desert environment. He points out that the Vanyume, contrary to some writings, were a desert branch of

the Serranos of the San Bernardino Valley and Mountains, speaking the same language.

The first European to traverse Vanyume lands was the Franciscan padre Francisco Garces, traveling the ancient Mojave Trail from the Colorado River to the coastal lowlands in 1776. The padre's diary is an invaluable source on Vanyume culture. The establishment of the Spanish mission system along coastal California little affected the Vanyume at first. Victor Valley was never brought under the control of the missions, other than occasional Spanish military forays over Cajon Pass to recover stolen livestock and bring back escaping mission neophytes.

In 1826 Jedediah Smith became the first Anglo-American to journey cross-country to coastal California, following the Mojave route through the Victor Valley. Three years later saw the beginning of the Old Spanish Trail, bringing New Mexican woolen goods to exchange for California horses and mules. The trail, which traversed the Victor Valley, became an important trade and immigrant route, and unfortunately a conduit for horse thieves and slavers.

The American conquest of California and the Southwest led to great change, beginning with the 1848 discovery of gold at Coloma. Gold seekers by the tens of thousands rushed to California, an estimated 5,000 of them taking the so-called Southern Route from Salt Lake to Los Angeles. The Mormons, who had just settled in

the Salt Lake Valley, established a colony in San Bernardino in 1851. The Salt Lake-San Bernardino Trail, used by Mormon settlers and traders, became a major route of travel. Hundreds of wagons crossed the Victor Valley and made the painstaking climb over Cajon Pass. Lyman goes into great detail on parties travelling the Salt Lake Trail that soon became a well-rutted wagon road.

In 1858, Aaron Lane became the first permanent Anglo settler in the lower Victor Valley, establishing a ranch and way station where the Salt Lake Trail crossed the Mojave River.

Lyman calls the 1860s the tragic decade, primarily because of friction with the native peoples of the desert. Atrocities were committed by both sides, and pitched battles were occasionally fought, such as the encounter at Bitter Springs. The 1860s also saw the completion of John Brown's turnpike over Cajon Pass, allowing easier wagon access to Victor Valley, and the Van Dusen road up to the Holcomb Valley gold mines. Throughout the 1860s, 1870s, and early '80s, lines of heavily-loaded freight wagons lumbered over Cajon Pass and across the Victor Valley, supplying the many new desert mining districts. Herds of cattle grazed in the upper valley, driven every summer up to the rich grasslands of Bear Valley. Homesteaders began to trickle in, many of them settling alongside or close to the upper Mojave River.

The coming of the railroad played a major roll in the development of Victor Valley. Lyman thoroughly describes the various efforts to build a railroad over Cajon Pass, finally resulting in the successful effort by the California Southern, a subsidiary of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, in 1885. Victor Valley was now connected with a trans-continental line.

Well covered were the many schemes to develop agriculture in the valley, often frustrated by legal wrangling over water rights. Proposals were advanced to dam the upper Mojave River to provide for irrigation. The intense legal struggle with San Bernardino over water from Little Bear Lake (Lake Arrowhead) provided enough litigation to fill a law library.

By the turn of the 20th century, Victor, soon to be named Victorville to differentiate it from the town of Victor, Colorado, was well on the way to becoming a most successful desert community. The town became a major supplier of mountain and desert mining ventures.

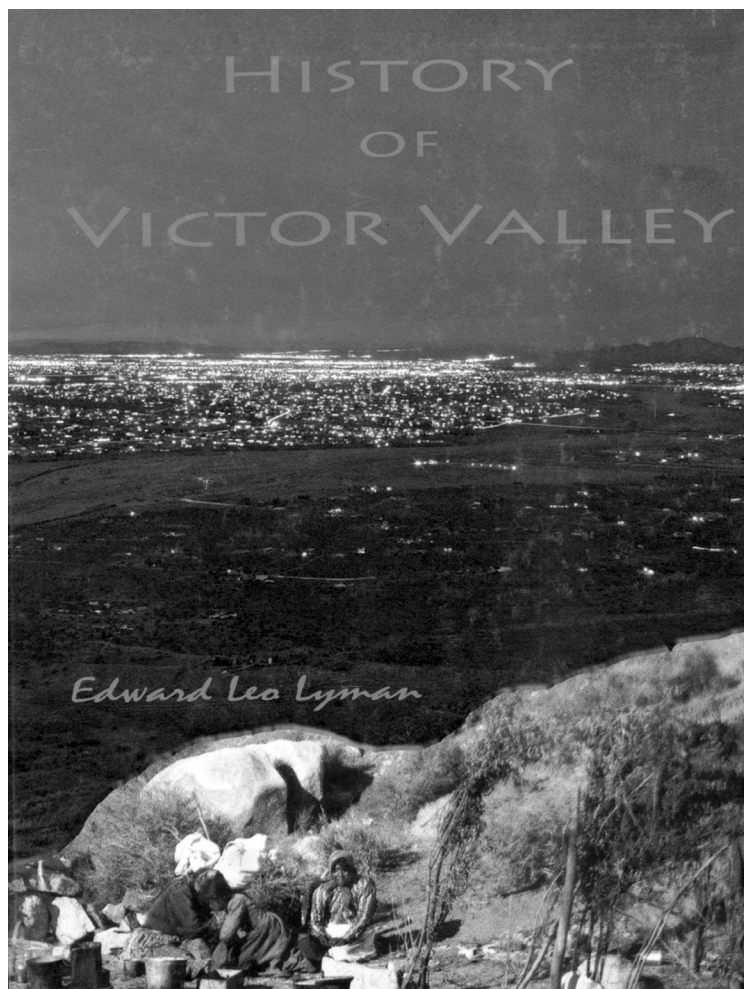
The depression years witnessed federal and state work projects. Road construction and highway improvements, especially along the National Old Trails Road (renamed U.S. Route 66 in 1926) and the Arrowhead Trails Highway (U.S. 91) provided high speed access to, and through, the Victor Valley. Lyman states that the valley people survived the depression much better than like-sized communities elsewhere.

Lyman goes into great detail covering the development and growth of the Victor Valley communities, particularly the explosive expansion and population growth after World War II. Victorville, Hesperia, and Apple Valley became good-sized cities with efficient local government and expanded community services. The military played its part with Victorville Army Air Field, which trained great numbers of bomber pilots and bombardiers during World War II. The air field was greatly expanded to become George Air Force Base in 1950.

Dr. Lyman has produced what is undoubtedly the definitive history

of the desert-edge valley for years to come. His scholarship is impeccable; his coverage is all-inclusive but not exhaustive. What's more – unlike some historical tomes – his literary skills make this volume a pleasure to read, and the book is enhanced by the liberal use of maps and photographs. For readers with an interest in the heritage of the American Southwest, *History of Victor Valley* is highly recommended.

Book review written by:
John W. Robinson
Fullerton, California



HISTORY OF VICTOR VALLEY is available for purchase on OSTA's website as a special order.



The Kellogg West Hotel in Pomona, CA, will serve as the conference venue for OSTA's 2011 conference. Kellogg West, which is a part of Cal Poly, Pomona, boasts excellent conference facilities in a resort-like setting. The hotel is located within the trail corridor leading to Los Angeles, which is some 30 miles to the west. A block of rooms will be reserved for conference registrants.

Make Plans to Attend!

OSTA's 2011 Conference — June 2-5, in Pomona, CA

Follow the Old Spanish Trail to its western end in Los Angeles — “*The Old Spanish Trail in California.*” OSTA's 2011 Conference will take place in Pomona, California, 30 miles east of Los Angeles.

The program will center on California portions of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. Speakers and panels will explore topics from trail-period immigration to the history of locations and people associated with the trail in California. Attend the opening reception on the evening of June 2 at the Workman-Temple Homestead Museum and feast on Saturday, June 4, at a trail-period barbecue, prepared by former LA Times food writer, Charles Perry.

OSTA is expecting a large attendance from members of dozens of historical societies, genealogical associations, Hispanic heritage groups, and representatives of federal, state, and local government agencies.

Plan now to attend. We expect this conference to open new vistas for OSTA. In addition, you might plan to stay a few days more to visit family or attractions in southern California.

Visit the Old Spanish Trail Association's web site for details, updates, and to register.
(www.oldspanishtrail.org)

