

SPANISH TRACES



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Spanish Trail Mural Created by Taos High Students

Ed Heffernan, Art Instructor at Taos High School and UNM Taos, led 28 students at Taos High School in researching and creating an 8 foot by 12 foot triptych color painted mural relating to the Old Spanish Trail. The students conducted historical research (internet searches) of historical landscapes and human activity during the Old Spanish Trail period. Many students at Taos HS enrolled in the Fall semester re-enrolled for the art class in the Spring semester because of their desire to work on the mural, and several students not taking art continued working on the mural in Spring semester.

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2014 Conference Schedule and Registration Available

Plan to attend the October 16-19 OSTA Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. See pages 15-18 for the full schedule and registration or register online at www.oldspanishtrail.org.

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THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL ASSOCIATION

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

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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.oldsouthwesttrail.org

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

Old Spanish Trail Association Membership Form

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Type of Membership _____ Quantity _____

\$5 of your membership supports your local chapter.

Indicate your chapter affiliation _____

Membership Types

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

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

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

Email Judy with questions to
jnickle367@gmail.com.

Spanish Traces is the official publication of the Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado. *Spanish Traces* welcomes submission of articles, book reviews and OST-related news. OSTA assumes no responsibility for statements or opinions of contributors. *Spanish Traces* is copyrighted to OSTA in its entirety, but copyright to individual articles is retained by the author. The next deadline for submissions is November 10, 2014. All matters relating to *Spanish Traces* should be directed to the OSTA Editor.

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President's Corner

by Ashley J. Hall
OSTA President

During the first half of 2014 we have traveled to New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, California and Britain, meeting and participating with OSTA state directors, chapter presidents, members and friends of OSTA. Our most memorable events happen and commitments to OSTA are made as we engage in meeting OSTA's goals and objectives – protect, preserve and interpret the Trail.

We have found our directors, chapter presidents, members and friends, including the Workman Chapter in Northern England, actively engaged in the Trail. We continue to tell our OSTA leaders, members and friends how much we appreciate their dedication and commitment to the cause of OSTA. Highlights of our travels have been:

1. Re-marking the OST as part

of the Nevada Chapter's celebration of Nevada's 150th birthday in October 2014 has provided much opportunity to mingle and work with federal, state and local leaders, along with dedicated OSTA members and their friends as we re-mark the Trail.

2. The March 29 joint activity in replacing two of the original 1964 Nevada Centennial markers southeast of Blue Diamond, Nevada (southwest of Las Vegas), along the Trail with OSTA, the Blue Diamond History Committee, the Nevada Trail Riders Association, Future Farmers of America, the BLM, Nevada media and many community interests made this a memorable and productive day resulting in a great OSTA project and very positive publicity.

3. The April 12 joint activity to replace the Resting Springs marker just north of Tecopa, CA on the Trail with Pennee, Paul and all of the great California OSTA members in that area, along with the Nevada Chapter who brought the



new replacement marker, made for a very memorable day at that historic location in the middle of the Mojave Desert. Additionally, seven members of the Hernandez descendents attended the festivities to hear Liz Warren relate the story of the massacre that left only one small child alive, which brought tears to the eyes of the family who had never heard the details of the story before. As we camped out among the grove of Mesquite Trees on the southeast section of the ranch, one could easily imagine a thirsty group of OST traders riding into the spring area to quench their thirst and get their animals good pasture. Both the joy and the danger of this isolated spot on the OST could not be erased from our minds.

4. I spent May 6 on the OST with Stan Plum, Archeologist for Nevada BLM. Our goal was to identify, conduct an up-dated GPS, and photograph each of the OST markers that are located on BLM property from the Mormon Mesa north of Glendale, NV to the California state line. In my dealings with Stan, I have found him to be a good professional who is willing to listen, provide input, and help move the re-marking of the OST forward in Nevada. I consider Stan Plum to be a great friend of the OSTA.

Boy Scouts Jay and Deivy Dominguez helped replace OSTA markers at Blue Diamond, Nevada.

5. On June 14, my wife Lorna and I hosted Utah Director Steve Heath and a majority of Utah OSTA chapter presidents at our mountain cabin at Duck Creek, Utah (above Cedar City) where we conducted an OSTA Rendezvous. Here we provided the Utah OSTA leaders with the list of goals and objectives that have been provided to other state directors/chapter presidents over the past several months. Also attending the Utah Rendezvous was Dennis Ditmanson, OSTA Manager, who provided very valuable insights, training and informational materials for the chapter presidents. Heath provided a good overview of his objectives in assisting the Utah chapters become as successful as they can be. Following Heath, each of the chapter presidents provided an overview of the status of their individual chapters, the make-up of their membership, a calendar of activities and their goals for the remainder of 2014. One of the major issues discussed with the Utah delegation was their desire to organize a new chapter in the Moab, Utah, area and the

development of an at-large chapter in the Salt Lake City area because of the number of members who live there. (The concept of at-large chapters in places like Salt Lake and LA is to provide OSTA members not associated with an OSTA chapter the opportunity to connect through our At-Large Director Reba Wells Grandrud.)

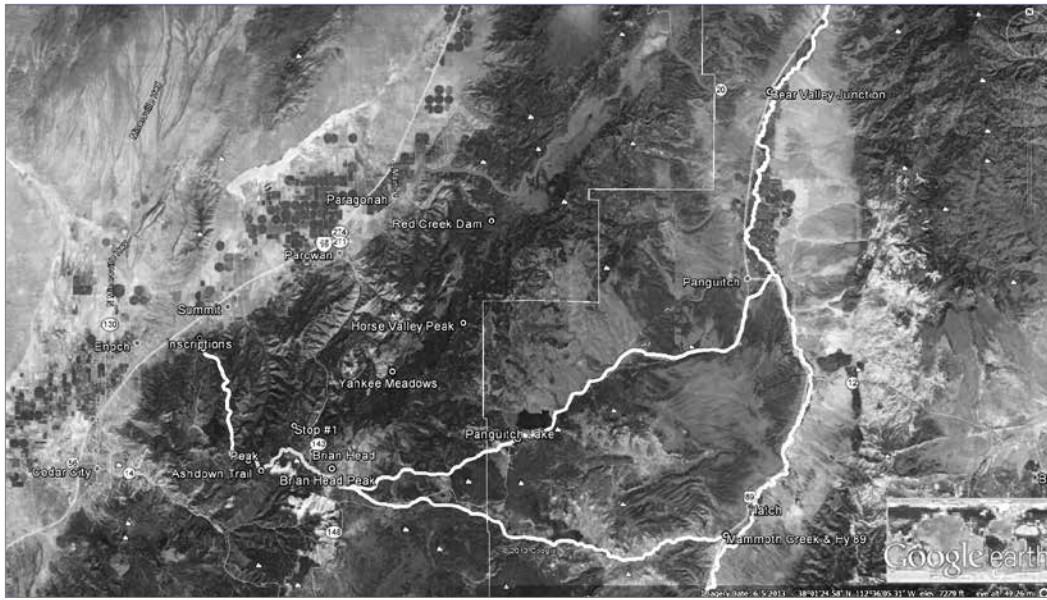
6. On June 25, 11 OSTA members traveled to Manchester, England, to visit and conduct a series of OSTA Rendezvous with the Workman Chapter and other members of OSTA in Britain. The travel was long, the visit exhilarating, the dignitaries very hospitable, and the sights most enjoyable. We wish to thank David Fallowfield as our tour director, Bill Ramsay, President of the Workman Chapter, chapter members and our very special guests who hosted us to wonderful dinners – Lord and Lady Inglewood at their beautiful estate home known as “Hutton-in-the-Forest;” Lady Mary Strathmore who dined with us at the Drybrough Abby Inn, and Andy Con-

nell, Mayor of Appleby, England, who welcomed us to City Hall. We broke bread with OSTA members, had many an enjoyable night swapping OST stories and reviewing the history of Britain and the Workman family. Our daily tours throughout Northern England and Southern Scotland included a day in historical, beautiful Edinburgh, capital of Scotland, and a day at York where the Tour de France was in full color – yellow! Lastly, I want to thank each of the OSTA members who participated in the British tour, including Stuart Hall and Joshua Rhodes, my oldest grandsons who were willing to stand in for Lorna whose medical status would not allow her to travel. The boys provided Chelsea with a short social media video of our daily activities, people and events for all to enjoy. Stuart and Joshua are the 6th generation of our family who have been involved in activities of the OST. ♦



Resting Springs ranch house and springs where the California and Nevada Chapters replaced a Trail marker.

Photos: Nicole Dominguez



Wolfskill and Yount Map Added to Lyman Story in Spring 2014 Issue

In Edward Leo Lyman's "A Historical Guide: Salina Canyon to Enoch," *Spanish Traces*, Spring 2014, pp 20-26, a second essential map-illustration was inadvertently omitted. Pages 22-23 of the article recount the instance when, in the winter snow, the two recognized founders of the main Old Spanish Trail Route through Utah, William Wolfskill and George C. Yount, themselves got lost. They missed the right turn at what is now the junction of Utah Highway 89 with Utah Highway 20, the so-called Bear Valley Junction, and instead continued straight south through later-Panguitch. They then chose either to go straight ahead south up the branch of the Sevier River to Panguitch

Lake or turned left on another branch of the same river headed east then south until they reach a junction with a major tributary to the Sevier, Mammoth Creek. If they followed Mammoth Creek, it would have taken them westward up to the 10,000 foot elevation plateau. By either route taken, they heroically survived a major blizzard and thereafter chose a westward route, descending the west side of the formidable Wasatch Mountain spur toward Braffits Canyon and the nearby springs of later Enoch on the Main Old Spanish Trail route. The accompanying map properly illustrates these features.



Manager Musing

OSTA Association Manager Dennis Ditmanson joined other OSTA members on the British tour and since then has been away tending to family matters. His column will appear again in the Winter issue of *Spanish Traces*.



www.3TrailsConferenceSantaFe.org

OSTA 2014 Election Of Officers And Directors

Two State Director positions and two Officer positions, all with terms beginning October 2014, are available in this year's election. If you would like to accept the challenge and volunteer for any future positions, please write your name on the appropriate line in the ballot and give us a call to discuss the responsibilities of the position. There are also a number of committee positions available. We need all of our members to be willing to contribute to the life of the organization, and hope that you will make the time to enrich us with what you have to offer.

Therefore, pursuant to the bylaws, the slate of Directors and Officers was nominated by the Nominating Committee of OSTA and is presented to you for your consideration. The candidates and their bios are shown on page 14. Please cast your vote for the nominees or write in your choice for any of these positions. Your "x" or "yes" following the name will represent your approval. **Each family membership is allowed two votes for each candidate.** Candidates for Director must live in the State they represent. All OSTA members are eligible to vote for all of these positions. The bylaws require the ballots be counted at least thirty days prior to the 2014 General Membership Meeting of October 18. In order to meet this deadline, please stamp and return the ballot enclosed in this mailer immediately to:

OSTA, PO Box 1080, Waxhaw, NC 28173-1009

BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED AND RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 10

Board Resolution: OSTA Policy Regarding Threats to the Trail (Approved - April 26, 2014)

Whereas, OSTA seeks to preserve, protect, and promote the enjoyment of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail in such a way that the natural, cultural, historic, scenic, and recreational resources of the Trail are not adversely affected by new projects;

Whereas OSTA believes many proposed development projects including linear facilities such as pipelines, transmission lines and service roads, pose threats to important western landscapes and cultural resources in proximity to the Old Spanish National Historic Trail;

Whereas OSTA supports properly sited projects that minimize visual/physical alteration of remote, scenic areas and calls for measures to ensure that proposed projects minimize specific direct effects, indirect effects and cumulative impacts regarding integrity of the trail and the trail corridor;

Therefore Be It Resolved:

OSTA will review planned undertakings and actions which may alter trail resources and will file comment

on said actions and undertakings with appropriate governing agencies; and

OSTA will endeavor to remove or mitigate adverse environmental impacts by suggesting changes in siting that will avoid adverse effects on trail resources. OSTA may determine that adverse impacts are of such a degree that it will oppose particular projects unless the impacts on cultural and visual resources can be suitably mitigated.

Should OSTA oppose a particular project, opposition will be based on the need to avoid adverse effects to trail resources. OSTA will not object to energy production and, transmission projects or other resource extraction projects when the adverse impacts of the proposed project are properly mitigated to achieve a result of "no net loss" of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail's natural, cultural, historic, scenic, and recreational values.

OSTA positions will be based on points and authority of the National Trails Act of 1968 as Amended.

Along the Old Spanish Trail: The Pfeiffer and Mercure Expedition of 1860

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In the fall of 1859, amid the frenzied activity of the Colorado Gold Rush around Pike's Peak in central Colorado, new discoveries of gold were reported in southwest Colorado, near present-day Silverton and Durango. The San Juan Gold Rush, as these later discoveries have come to be known, set in motion a series of events which led to development and settlement of not only the directly affected section of Colorado, but also a significant portion of then still unsettled Rio Arriba County in northern New Mexico. These events unfolded during the period's United States Government explorations of the region and the activities of a small group of New Mexican entrepreneurs with connections to the Ute Indian Agency at Abiquiú in Rio Arriba County, who had intimate knowledge of the routes associated with the Old Spanish Trail and resources of the country through which it wound.

During the mid-nineteenth century the United States Government dispatched expeditions throughout the Southwest which collected valuable data on the geography, geology and mineral resources of this recently acquired territory. In 1859 a memorial from the New Mexico Territorial Legislature promoted the potential of the yet unsettled region of northwest New Mexico and Southwest Colorado and petitioned Congress for \$25,000 to fund a comprehensive survey of the region, citing the "well known" fact that there "exists in abundance, in the mountain region [of New Mexico], gold, silver, copper, iron, stone coal, lead, and other metals, and precious stones."¹ That same year Congress did authorize an expedition to explore potential routes between New Mexico and Utah to determine the "practicability of opening a wagon road in the neighborhood of the San Juan between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the southern settlements of Utah."²

Captain John Navarre Macomb received orders to begin preparations for this expedition on April 6, 1859.³ Macomb selected Lieutenant Milton Cogswell

and Dr. J. S. Newberry, a geologist with experience in explorations of the southwest, to accompany the expedition.⁴ A small detachment of troops under the command of Lieutenant Cogswell provided military escort for the group.

Macomb and his party set out from Santa Fe in mid-July. They traveled northwest to Abiquiú, which was "the outpost of settlement in that direction." There, they were joined by Albert H. Pfeiffer, agent for the Capote and Weminuche Utes at that site, and Nepomíceno Valdez, the agency's Ute interpreter. Pfeiffer and Valdez guided the expedition north along the Rio Chama and then northwest for several days to a point about forty-five miles west of Pagosa Springs in present-day Colorado, after which they returned to Abiquiú. Macomb and his group continued west on their own and conducted extensive explorations of the Rio San Juan and its tributaries.⁵

Macomb completed his explorations through southwest Colorado and northwest New Mexico, returned to Santa Fe and filed his report. Macomb's official report, which was not published until 1876, makes only one reference to the possibility of gold or silver in the San Juan region. Along the southern edge of the "sierra de la Plata," he listed the presence of a dozen or so probable minerals, including, "doubtless... in certain localities silver and gold." He then alluded to the name of this mountain range to illustrate it was common knowledge there was silver in this region.⁶ Generally, the region Macomb referred to would consist of present-day counties of Hinsdale, Mineral, Ouray, San Juan, and parts of Rio Grande, La Plata, San Miguel and Dolores, all in southwest Colorado. It would also include portions of San Juan County in northwest New Mexico.⁷

Although they were not immediately published, Macomb's findings would have undoubtedly drawn much local interest. Among those who almost immediately attempted to capitalize on Macomb's explorations were Joseph Mercure and younger

brother Henry. Joseph and Henry "Don Enrique" Mercure were Santa Fe merchants who had been involved with various commercial enterprises in New Mexico since at least 1848. In the spring of 1853, Henry, Kit Carson and several partners drove several thousand sheep from New Mexico to California in what was described as a "most profitable venture." The firm of J & H Mercure also frequently conducted business with the Indian agencies at Santa Fe, Taos, and Abiquiú and the brothers apparently developed a close acquaintance with Albert H. Pfeiffer, who served as agent for the Utes at Abiquiú for several years between 1858 and 1865. The 1860 U. S. census shows Henry and his wife living in the Pfeiffer household.⁸

Communications between Dr. Newberry, Macomb's geologist, and Albert H. Pfeiffer, the Ute Agent at Abiquiú, indicate Newberry had sent Joseph Mercure some "specimens" from the San Juan in 1859, presumably for evaluation or assay.⁹ Newberry did not specify the nature of these "specimens" but they must have been significant enough that during the spring of 1860, nearly a year after Macomb had completed his explorations, Henry Mercure and Pfeiffer organized a private expedition which spent six weeks exploring the San Juan region. The actual purpose of their expedition is unstated, but when the *Santa Fe Weekly Gazette* published portions of the journal of their "visit" to the San Juan, it seems clear they were hoping to do more than augment the government's knowledge of the "character of that region."¹⁰

Their journal indicates they set out from Abiquiú at noon, April 30, 1860. The expedition consisted of Pfeiffer, Mercure, Henry Martin, "four Mexicans and three Utah Indians." They traveled northwest along the Rio Chama, crossed the Chama near present-day Los Ojos, and spent the following six weeks generally tracing the route followed the previous year by Macomb. Entries in the journal indicate they "found a mineral supposed to be silver" on the Rio La Plata, and gold along the "Rio Manguos" and the Rio Dolores. However, these locations are not elaborately described and their mention seems almost incidental to the expedition's daily activities and observations. They

returned to Abiquiú on June 19, "all well, but greatly fatigued."

No further mention of these findings or other significant activity is noted until later that fall, when the *Gazette* reported "considerable excitement" at Abiquiú. The paper indicated they had learned from a Mr. John Ward that "gold in great abundance" had been found on the Rio San Juan and its tributaries. A large number of men had assembled at Abiquiú and formed a company to prospect the region. These miners, boasted the paper, were "intelligent, industrious, moral and enterprising," characteristics which were necessary "to accomplish the undertaking they have in hand."

The *Gazette* then proceeded to remind its readers of the Pfeiffer and Mercure explorations and the "many gold deposits that came under their observation." The paper further indicated it had long been common knowledge that there was gold in the San Juan, but no "very vigorous efforts" had ever been made to prove the matter once and for all. The group at Abiquiú, however, was now prepared to make "a fair test" which was expected to realize everyone's "most sanguine anticipations." Pfeiffer and Mercure were praised for generously sharing all they knew about the region with the assembled miners.¹¹

The following is a transcript of the Pfeiffer and Mercure expedition as it appeared in *Santa Fe Weekly Gazette* of July 3, 1860. The geographic names mentioned will be familiar to devotees and students of the Old Spanish Trail and allow them to follow the route taken. Readers will note that the paper published only "extracts" of the journal and wonder not only what important details may have been remained unpublished but what became of the original journal.

Agent Pfeiffer and Company having returned from a visit to the San Juan country today have furnished us with a copy of their journal, extracts from which we today publish. But little is known of the character of that region and anything calculated to give information in reference to it will be read with interest.

JOURNAL.

Our party consisting of Alb.[ert] H. Pfeiffer, Sub Agent Henry Mercure, Henry Martin, four Mexicans and three Utah Indians, one of which was Tomache, a chief, left Abiquiú April 30th at 12, m. carrying with us ten pack mules and twenty five sheep. Traveled [?] miles west to Arroyo Seca (sic) and encamped [at] a deserted Rancho (sic) of Pablo Gallego (sic). At [?] o'clock at night Delgarito, Chief, and his servant came into camp and supped and slept with us. Here were excellent water and grass.

May 1st. Traveled up Arroyo Seco 11 miles to where the water of the Ojo del Navajo comes in; here one of the pack mules fell into the stream and occasioned a loss of [all] our cups, and wet some of our powder. Went two miles further to the Ojo del Navajo and camped. This spring received its name from the Indians. It is related by them that a Navajo Indian was watching, from the cliff above the spring, a party of Utahs [dan]cing and approaching too near the edge [was] precipitated to the bottom, near two hundred and fifty feet. Hence the name Ojo del Navajo. Good grass and water.

May 2nd. traveled 10 miles N.N.W., to the Savoya (sic), leaving the trail that goes to Laguna de los Caballos to the left and took the right hand trail to Sienega de la Sebola which we found full of water. Here we came [up] with Delgarito's village the inhabitants of which seemed well contented. Went 5 miles further and camped on the Rio Nutria. Very [mud]dy.

May 3rd. Traveled 9 miles to the Nutria [de] Tierra Maria. The stream was so high [and] swift that we had to build a bridge on [which] to cross. Crossed over safe, killed [two] bears and went on 2 miles to the Rio Chama, which was passed with great difficulty, every person getting completely wet. Delgarito and his village came up and camped on the bank opposite us.

May 4th. Traveled 11 miles and camped on the western Nutria del Chama, the banks of which

were so miry that we were compelled to build a bridge again in order to get over. Cold drizzly rain and snow fell during the whole night.

May 5th. Traveled 9 miles to the Nutria del Puerto de la Tierra Maria. Five miles east from this point, crossed the ridge which divides the waters of the Atlantic from those of the Pacific.

May 6th. Traveled 12 miles to the Rio Navajoe. Crossed without trouble. Very cold. Geese and ducks abundant.

May 7th. Traveled 12 miles to Rio Blanco. Found good crossing. It is called by the Utahs Tatta-Dios-pa. The name Rio Blanco is given it because its water is white. About six miles east of the river the trail of the Laguna Caballos comes in to the left of our road. Snow fell during the most of the day.

May 8th. Traveled 8 miles to the Rio San Juan, crossed and went up one mile and encamped opposite the great hot spring called Pagosa. At the spring we found pure sulphur in large quantities. Remained at the spring all the next day. Killed geese and cranes.

May 10th. Traveled 8 miles to the Nutria de la Piedra Parida, followed it down ten miles and encamped. Killed Prairie chickens.

May 11th. Traveled six miles to the Rio Pi[edra], found it exceedingly difficult to cross and remained all night. The stream abounds with large trout; some that we caught weighing six pounds.

May 12th. Traveled 20 miles across a high ridge down the Nutria to the Rio de los Penos (sic).

May 13th. Traveled 10 miles to the Rio Florido (sic), crossed and encamped. Weather cold and windy.

May 14th. Traveled 8 miles to the Rio los Animos (sic). This river is called by the Utahs, Wasatche. It is very difficult to cross and is the largest stream on the road.

May 15th. Traveled 12 miles to the Rio la Plata, followed it up three miles crossed and

encamped. In it we caught and killed beaver; found a mineral supposed to be silver.

May 16th. Traveled 15 miles to the Rio Mangous (sic). In the river sand which we here washed we found deposits of gold.

May 17th. Traveled 15 miles to the Nutria de Dolores. A few miles to the North of this river we diverged from the trail that goes to Salt Lake and California. At 12 o'clock M. passed the Pala Flecha.

May 18th. Traveled 6 miles to the upper crossing of the Dolores and headed up the mountain 18 miles to cut off the canon of the river and camped late at night by a spring. No road and bad traveling. Two of the Utahs failed to get to camp. Saw a large smoke, supposed to arise from an (sic) Utah village at the head of the Dolores.

May 19th. The two missing Utahs came in this morning. Traveled 6 miles to the fork of the Dolores. Found the approach to the river very bad and steep. Three of the Mexicans did not come to camp.

May 20th. Crossed the South branch and encamped. The river high and bad to cross. The guard set the mountain on fire the flames from which spread rapidly in every direction and soon covered the face of the mountain for ten miles. Dug a large hole in which to place our provisions to keep them from being destroyed and drove our animals to a sandbank in the river to save them from the element[s].

May 21st. Traveled three miles on the South branch of the Dolores and cached some provisions. Went nine miles further up and encamped. Country rough and no roads.

May 22nd. Traveled three miles to the first crossing and had to swim the river on horses. Weather cold and cloudy. Found beaver.

May 23rd. Traveled 15 miles up, crossing the river three times. Found gold and seashells. Snow all around us.

May 24th. Snowed in the morning but

cleared off about 9 o'clock. Traveled six miles up crossing the river twice and killed deer and beaver. Very cold.

May 25th. Moved camp three miles up for grass. Plenty of beaver. All went hunting; some gold, some game. Saw much smoke south in the Tierra la Plata. Abundance of snow.

May 26th. Began our return by the same river and traveled 18 miles. Weather cold.

May 27th. Traveled 16 miles to our cache which was found to have been undisturbed. Proceeded 6 miles to the forks and encamped. Snowed all night and until 12 o'clock next day. Six miles from camping place met Tamouche looking for us, who informed us that the other party, under Capt. Andres, that had gone up the north fork had returned to the mouth where it was awaiting us. The party had not been successful.

May 28th. At 10 o'clock all moved camp together again and traveled down east side of Dolores 6 miles. No road. Bad grass.

May 29th. Traveled 12 miles down to the mouth of the Nutria del Dolores, crossing the river twice. Good road. Fine wide bottom lands.

May 30th. Traveled 7 miles to the crossing on the Salt Lake and California trail. Excellent camping. Remained here 15 days waiting for the Expressmen whom we had sent to look for the troops. The Pah Utahs visited us. From them we learned that they were contented with the whites and were fighting the Navajoes. We examined many old villages and discovered curiosities. There were remains of houses built of stone and in the shape of forts. The walls had among them sea shells of very large dimensions which indicated that they had been erected centuries ago. One of the party suggested that they might boast an age prior to that of Noah's flood, but all did not agree on that point. Had a consultation with the chiefs Nenas and Cabeza Blanca. Their people cultivate nothing, depending entirely on the chase and grass seeds for a subsistence.

On the 13th. June the expresses came in reporting

that the troops were not to be seen on this side of the Grand River. Provisions being nearly exhausted concluded to continue our journey. Raised camp and traveled six miles.

June 14th. Traveled 14 miles to the Manguos (sic) where we were compelled to rest in consequence of the sickness of one of the men.

June 15th. Traveled 30 miles to the Rio los Animos (sic) and encamped. River very high. Nenas accompanied us this far. Here we killed beaver again.

June 16th. Crossed the river with much difficulty nearly losing two men and a horse. Lost two valuable guns and some other articles. After having crossed, traveled eight miles to the Florido (sic) crossed that stream and took the spanish trail and went ten miles to the Rio los Pinos (sic), and nooned. At 5 1/2 P.M. started again; traveled eighteen miles and encamped at eleven o'clock at night on the Piedra.

June 17th. Traveled one mile to the San Juan river followed it up ten miles to the lower crossing which was rather high; crossed with some trouble but no loss. Nooned on the east side. At 4 P.M. started up the Coraque and traveled sixteen miles and encamped at Wall Spring.

June 18th. raised tent at 6 A.M. traveled eight miles to the Piedra Peseado (sic) crossed the divide and came down to the Ojo Heriondo (sic), 12 miles and nooned. Started at 4 P.M. and traveled 3 miles to the Rio Chama, found good crossing and proceeded eight miles encamping on the Nutrita del Chama at 9 o'clock P.M.

June 19th. Raised camp at 4 P.M. traveled 16 miles to the hill of Arroyo Seco down hill two miles to the river where we came into our old trail to the Ojo del Navajoe and arrived at Abiquiú at 10 o'clock, all well but greatly fatigued.

Pfeiffer and Mercure

Endnotes

1. United States Congress, House Ms. Document 36 (Serial 1016), 35th Congress, 2nd Session.

2. United States Congress, Senate, Report of the Secretary of War, 1859. Senate Ex. Document 2 (Serial 1024), 36th Congress, 1st Session.

3. A.A. Humphries to J.N. Macomb, 6 April 1859. U.S. Army Commands, District of New Mexico: Selected Letters Received, Record Group (RG) 98, National Archives Microfilm Roll 2 (1859-1860).

4. J.N. Macomb to J.D. Williams, 28 May 1859. U.S. Army Commands, RG 98, Roll 2 (1859-1860), and A.B. Bender, "Government Explorations in the Territory of New Mexico, 1849-1859," NMHR IX (January 1934): 26.

5. J.N. Macomb, *Report of the Exploring Expedition From Santa Fe, New Mexico, to the Junction of the Grand and Green Rivers of the Great Colorado of the West in 1859* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1876), p. 5.

6. Macomb, *Report*, p. 82.

7. Duane A. Smith, "The San Juaner: A Computerized Portrait," *The Colorado Magazine* LII (Spring 1975): 137; Robert J. Tórréz, "The San Juan Gold Rush of 1860 and Its Effect on the Development of Northern New Mexico," *New Mexico Historical Review* (July 1988): 257-272.

8. Joseph Mercure died in 1863. Henry moved to Tierra Amarilla in 1862 and was one of the area's leading merchants until his death in 1872. For more on the Mercure brothers, see Robert J. Tórréz, "The President of New Mexico" *'Round the Roundhouse*, 16 April- 28 May 2002; Tórréz, "Henry (Enrique) Mercure *'Round the Roundhouse*, 19 March – 15 April 2003; Tórréz, "El Campo: Forgotten Sentinel of the Tierra Amarilla" (MA Thesis, New Mexico Highlands University: 1973).

9. J.S. Newberry to Albert H. Pfeiffer, 17 August 1859. Records of the New Mexico Superintendency of Indian Affairs, 1849-1880, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Archives Microcopy T-21, Roll 4 (1859-1860). A connection between the Macomb expedition, or at least between Newberry and the Mercure brothers, is further illustrated on page 137 of Macomb's *Report*. There, among the fossils named

El Palacio Magazine Seeks Trail Articles

The editor of *El Palacio*, Cynthia Baughman, is actively seeking articles about three historic trails that have ties to Santa Fe, New Mexico, and to each other for the Fall 2015 issue. The Steering Committee for the “Three Trails Conference 2015: All Roads Lead to Santa Fe,” which is scheduled for September 17–20, 2015 in Santa Fe, would like to make sure that you know about this opportunity. The three trails are El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro or “the Royal Road to the Interior Land” (1598–1882), the Santa Fe Trail (1821–1880), and the Old Spanish Trail (1829–1848).

“Articles should be new, original scholarship on the trails,” Baughman advised, “and not an overview of previously published material. Authors are encouraged to query us in advance with a one-paragraph description of their project and clips, scans, or links to previously published work.” She would publish up to four major articles (1,800 to 3,000 words) about the trails in *El Palacio*’s Fall 2015 issue. Shorter articles (800 to 1,200 words) would fit in the quarterly’s editorial departments like Research Notes or In The Collections. Shorter articles, for example, might involve a state Historic Site’s ties to one or more of these trails. The deadline for the Fall 2015 issue is March 2015, but queries should be made as soon as possible and no later than December 15, 2014. (505-476-1146; cynthia.baughman@state.nm.us).

In addition to *El Palacio*, the *Santa Fean* has in-

dedicated an interest in proposals for stories/articles about the trails prior to the Three Trails Conference in September 2015. Bruce Adams, editor of the *Santa Fean*, is particularly receptive to hearing proposals soon. (editor@santafean.com).

The *New Mexico Magazine* may be interested as well. They recommend reading its writers’, photographers’, and multimedia guidelines on their website before submitting any story idea proposal. (www.nmmagazine.com/guidelines).

For more information about the conference, which is being jointly sponsored by the nonprofit El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, Santa Fe Trail, and Old Spanish Trail Associations, go to the conference website, www.3TrailsConferenceSantaFe.org. ♦

Spanish Traces Seeks Research Articles

What do you know about the Old Spanish Trail? What are you researching? What needs to be preserved in your area? What have you discovered along the Trail?

Please share your knowledge with others and preserve it for the future. Write an article for Spanish Traces. Contact the editor, Ruth Friesen, at ruthosta@comcast.net with your ideas. Deadlines are November 10, March 10 and July 10.

Conclusion: Pfeiffer and Mercure

and described by Newberry is “*Deltodus Mercurei*.” A few pages later, “*Otozamites Macombii*” is listed.

10. *Santa Fe Weekly Gazette* (SFWG), 3 July 1860.

11. SFWG, 27 October 1860.

Robert J. Tórréz served as the New Mexico State Historian from 1987 until his retirement in December 2000. In the past four decades he has published more than one hundred scholarly and popular articles in regional and national publications and contributed to more than a dozen books, including three recent

anthologies, Telling New Mexico: A New History (Museum of New Mexico Press), Nuevo México, An Anthology of History (Semos Unlimited), and Voices of New Mexico, A Centennial Anthology (Rio Grande Books).

Since 1992, his monthly column, “Voices From the Past,” has appeared in Round the Roundhouse. He has also recently published UFOs Over Galisteo and Other Stories of New Mexico’s History (University of New Mexico Press, 2004); New Mexico in 1876-1877, A Newspaperman’s View (Rio Grande Books, 2007); Myth of the Hanging Tree (UNM Press, 2008) and Rio Arriba, A New Mexico County (Rio Grande Books, 2010).

About The OSTA Candidates

Treasurer – Richard Dickinson, Las Vegas, Nevada

From Hal Steiner's book, Richard discovered that his office location in Las Vegas is approximately 400 yards from the original trace as it passed to the southwest across the Las Vegas valley. He has always considered himself to be an explorer and a historian. He enjoys associating with OSTA and all its members, sharing the Trail experience. "The obligation to pass the Trail to our children and grandchildren requires our continuing efforts," he says.

Secretary – Lorna Hall, Las Vegas, Nevada

Lorna Marie Hall was born in Cedar City, Utah, but is a long time resident of Las Vegas, Nevada, and considers herself a "Desert Rat." She met Ashley Hall when she was still in high school and asked him out for a "Girls Reverse" dance. Five years later they were married. She has five children and seventeen grandchildren whom she adores.

Lorna attended the University of Nevada in Las Vegas and Reno, studying elementary education. She worked at the Nevada Test Site at the Nuclear Rocket Testing Area for several years and was a flight attendant for TWA. She served as a volunteer for girls' summer camp for thirteen years and has also worked as a leader and teacher with young children and women's groups. Lorna loves traveling, history, genealogy, and being involved in the Old Spanish Trail Association. She is currently serving as OSTA Secretary, completing Judy Nickle's term.

Director, California – Paul McClure, San Dimas, California

Paul McClure currently serves as California Director of OSTA. He has a Ph.D. in Public Administration from the University of Southern California, was a RAND Fellow in Policy Analysis, and was a Certified Financial Planner. He has written *Folk History: The Settlement Years*, *Country Dance Etiquette*, *Pablo Stories: A Slice of the Country Western Dance Era*, *Pomona Valley Poetry*, as well as more than 150 articles on Southern California history and Country Western culture and dance.

Over the years, Paul has been Physics Department Administrator at the RAND Corporation, City Manager of Adelanto (California), Vice President of EF Hutton, owner of American Art Glass Company, and an administrator with the Pomona Unified School District. He has served as Chairman of the Adelanto Planning Commission, President of the Adelanto School Board, and Sheriff of the San Dimas Corral of Westerners. He is currently Deputy Sheriff of the Los Angeles Corral of Westerners and a board member of the San Dimas Historical Society.

Director, Utah – Al Matheson, Cedar City, Utah

Al left civilian life as a welding engineer for U.S. Air Force flight duty as an EC-121R at Korat RTAFB and then again as a Forward Air Controller flying OV-10 and O2-B aircraft at Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, Thailand. Following the Viet Nam war, he flew global airlift and humanitarian missions in the C-141 and C-5 before attending the Air Force Institute of Technology, and Air University. A rated Master Navigator and Senior Space Operations Officer with more than 6,000 flight hours and 140 combat missions, Col. Matheson has received multiple decorations and honors.

Retirement from the Air Force left Al with airplanes and time to photograph and explore the Trail. He is a recent past-President of the Iron County Historical Society, having served for a number of years in that capacity, and was the Iron County Chairman for the Utah Centennial. He is also an adjunct instructor at the Southern Utah University. Al previously served as OSTA Director for Utah for six years and is currently President of the OSTA Southern Utah Chapter, the BLM/NPS focal point for trails issues for OSTA in Utah, and is Monuments and Memorials Director for the Sons of Utah Pioneers. ♦

Please Vote

**Ballots must be returned
and received by September 10**



2014 Annual Conference

Hosted by the Nevada Chapter

The Old Spanish Trail Across the Mojave Desert

October 16-19, 2014

Las Vegas, Nevada

Featuring

Tours:

Early bird boat tour of Armijo Route, presently covered by Lake Mead
Sunday all-day tours in three directions outside of Las Vegas

Friday Western Style Dinner:

An authentic Dutch oven trail period dinner will be served at the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park. Native American music and dancing.

Saturday Night Recognition Dinner:

This very special "best Old Spanish Trail dress" dinner will be catered at the Embassy Suites.

Silent Auction:

Discover treasures and great deals. Contribute your special items to this auction.

Conference Location:

The Embassy Suites Hotel at 4315 South Swenson in Las Vegas, adjacent to UNLV. Las Vegas, Nevada 702-795-2800.

Registration Deadlines:

Mail-in: received by October 1

Online: October 8. Register at www.oldspanishtrail.org

Walk-in: accepted through Friday of the conference; however, to order the meals/barbecue/dinners, register and pay by Friday morning.

Available only to those who have registered/paid in advance:

Wednesday, October 15 – Early bird tours

Thursday, October 16 – Opening night reception

Friday, October 17 – Dutch oven dinner

Saturday, October 18 – OSTA recognition dinner at the Embassy Suites Hotel

Sunday, October 19 – Sunday field tours

Conference Schedule

Wednesday, October 15 -- Early Bird Tours	
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Boat tour of Armijo Route. Presently covered by Lake Mead – Ashley Hall and Liz Warren
1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Springs Preserve and Nevada State Museum - Nicole Dominguez
1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Wetlands Park Visitor Center, Las Vegas Wash, Duck Creek Trailhead and Armijo Campsite at Whitney Mesa Park – Glenn Shaw/Jon Wall
6 p.m.	Welcoming reception/refreshments at Embassy Suites Hotel – Blue Diamond Bluegrass Band
Thursday – Oct. 16	
	Registration continues
9 a.m. – 12 noon	Set up for conference – hotel conference area
1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	OSTA board meeting – hotel conference room
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Membership/guest reception – bus provided. Music provided by Mariachi Band–Monaco Middle School Old Spanish Trail Park dedication of OST marker at Old Spanish Trail Park (Clark County), located at Tara and South Cimarron, one block south of West Sahara Avenue and Cimarron – Southwest Las Vegas Valley – refreshments OSTA members, state and local dignitaries, media
Friday – Oct. 17	
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Speakers, classes, presentations, book reviews. Hotel conference area
6 p.m. – 8 p.m. (Tickets required)	Dutch oven dinner, Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park (Las Vegas Blvd. North at Washington Avenue). Bus provided. Pack mule demonstrations/Back Country Riders/Jim Sage Paiute dancers/drummers
Saturday – Oct. 18	
8 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Hotel breakfast buffet, water, coffee, juice Annual membership meeting – hotel conference room
12:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Speakers, classes, presentations, book reviews. Hotel conference area
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Annual awards recognition dinner – hotel conference room/patio Silent auction Piano/violin entertainment

Sunday – October 19	OST Tours – North/South/West – hotel sack lunches – 3 buses
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.	North – Ashley Hall - Inspect OST markers/historic sites, stopping at: • Paiute Indian Reservation Community Center • Fremont Camp at Hidden Valley Ranch • Lost City Museum – Logandale/Overton • Valley of Fire Petroglyphs South – Liz Warren- Inspect OST markers/historic sites, stopping at: • Mountain Springs Pass • Inspect the OST/Mormon Road – Sandy Valley turn-off • Stump Springs • Emigrant Pass • Resting Springs • China Ranch and BBQ/Brian Brown West – Nick Saines/ Robby Spurlock – Inspect OST markers/historic sites, stopping at: • Red Rock Visitor Center/BLM • Spring Mountain Ranch • Blue Diamond OST Hike

Stay up-to-date with conference details at
www.oldspanishtrail.org

Old Spanish Trail Association

2014 Conference Registration

Las Vegas, Nevada

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____ Phone No: _____

Conference Events and Fees:

Member(s), full conference	_____ persons	@ \$75.00	\$ _____
Member(s), Oct 15 only	_____ persons	@ \$20.00	\$ _____
Member(s), Oct 16 only	_____ persons	@ \$20.00	\$ _____
Member(s), Oct 17 only	_____ persons	@ \$40.00	\$ _____
Member(s), Oct 18 only	_____ persons	@ \$40.00	\$ _____

Special "Register and Join" Conference Fee

Full conference, plus 1-year single membership @ \$90.00 \$ _____

*Normally, OSTA memberships are \$25.00/\$30.00 per year, without conference registration. Membership includes three issues of *Spanish Traces*, the OSTA's periodical of technical papers, news, book reviews, local chapter information, and updates of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.

Non-member(s), full conference (students 50%)	_____ persons	@ \$85.00	\$ _____
Non-member(s), Oct 17 only (students 50%)	_____ persons	@ \$55.00	\$ _____
Non-member(s), Oct 18 only (students 50%)	_____ persons	@ \$55.00	\$ _____

Wednesday, Oct 15, OST Tour of Armijo Route _____ persons @ \$25.00 \$ _____

Boat Tour: Armijo Original Route – now under Lake Mead – Ashley Hall and Liz Warren will lead

Thursday, Oct 16, Conference Registration: 12:00 noon - 6 p.m. – non-registrants

Lunch at Embassy Suites _____ persons @ \$12.50 \$ _____

Opening reception at OST Park _____ persons @ \$20.00 \$ _____

(free to full conference registrants. Indicate number of attendees for planning purposes.)

Friday, Oct 17, Conference registration continues: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Lunch at Embassy Suites _____ persons @ \$12.50 \$ _____

Dutch Oven Dinner _____ persons @ \$25.00 \$ _____

Saturday, Oct 18, Conference registration continues: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Lunch at Embassy Suites _____ persons @ \$12.50 \$ _____

Recognition Dinner-Embassy Suites _____ persons @ \$25.00 \$ _____

Sunday, Oct 19, OST Tours (choose one) _____ persons @ \$25.00 \$ _____

___ **North** Ashley Hall (Las Vegas North to Mormon Mesa)

___ **South** Liz Warren (Las Vegas South to Emigrant Pass, CA)

___ **West** Nick Saines (Red Rock Recreation Area + hike of OST at Blue Diamond)

TOTAL FEES..... \$ _____

Make checks payable to: OSTA Conference

Mail to: Richard Dickinson, Treasurer, 6600 West Charleston Blvd., Suite 122, Las Vegas, NV 89146

www.oldspanishtrail.org

OSTA Tour of England and Scotland a Success

By David Fallowfield

Eleven US members of the Old Spanish Trail Association have now returned home after enjoying 10 days of touring in Cumbria and adjoining counties in England and Scotland from June 26 through July 5. The group was mainly based at B and B's in Penrith (six nights) and for three nights in Scotland at Moffat and Dryburgh. They were here at the invitation of members of the local William Workman Chapter of the Association, who over eight years have attended conferences in the USA and encouraged the members there to come to Britain. They came from California, Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada and included the National OSTA President Ashley Hall, who travelled with his two grandsons Joshua and Stuart. Also in the group was a descendant of the pioneering William Workman, from Clifton, who emigrated to America in 1822 and gained fame and fortune in New Mexico and California. From the Los Angeles area was William Workman's great great-great-grandson Dr. Donald Rowland, accompanied by his wife Jean: he is also descended from William Workman's business partner and co-leader of the historic Rowland-Workman Party expedition from New Mexico to Los Angeles in 1841, John Rowland.

One of the highlights for Dr. Rowland was the visit to the former Workman home "Whitrigg House" in Clifton village. In Clifton the group viewed the Workman grave-



Pictured at Carlisle Castle, the tour members were: L to R: Dr. Don Rowland, Jean Rowland, Dennis Ditmanson, Carol Ditmanson, Joshua Hall, OSTA President Ashley Hall, Stuart Hall, Judy Nickle, Jerry Nickle, Dr. Reba Grandrud and Colin Benge.

stones in the churchyard of St. Cuthbert's church. Others in the group were Dr. Reba Wells Grandrud from Arizona accompanied by her son Colin Benge from New Mexico, Jerry and Judy Nickle from Arizona, and OSTA Manager Dennis Ditmanson and his wife Carol from New Mexico.

The group were met at Manchester Airport and after travelling 70 miles north they diverted through the limestone scenery of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and had lunch in a quaint pub in the market town of Hawes. Several old castles were seen on the way to the accommodations in Penrith.

The detailed itinerary for the ten days of tours was planned by local chapter secretary David Fallowfield of Penrith, himself a descendant of the same Workman family. His great-great-great-grandmother

was Mary Workman of Brown Howe Farm, Melkinton. The Fallowfield coat of arms can be seen in the east window of Clifton Church, and David's brother Alan, also of Penrith, was the last constable of Clifton.

The second day of the visit commenced with a seminar in Penrith when the group were warmly welcomed by Chapter Director Donald Harrison (standing in for Bill Ramsay who was attending a family funeral). Unfortunately, another Director, John Thompson, was in hospital and his wife Anne was naturally otherwise engaged. The group then heard two lectures by David Fallowfield on the Workman brothers David and William. The first talk was "The Workman Brothers of Clifton: Their Masonic Careers in the USA" and this was a review to what they achieved in America. The second talk entitled

“William and David Workman: Their English Background” was a paper originally written for presentation at the OSTA conference at Pomona held June 2011 which due to unforeseen circumstances was never presented. It served as a great introduction to the history and geography of the area the OSTA members were due to visit during the following few days. Ashley very kindly presented shirts for each of the 12 members of the Workman Chapter, which his wife Lorna had badged with OST badges. (These have now been distributed, except for the Aldersons who are in Spain, and have been greatly appreciated).

After lunch we toured Yanwath, Lowther, Clifton and Brougham Hall and Castle. The next day touring was spent in the northern Lakes area, commencing with a visit to Aira Force waterfall and on to Castlerigg Bronze Age Stone Circle followed by a walkabout in the town of Keswick. In the beautiful Borrowdale Valley the group had lunch at the Borrowdale Hotel. After lunch they went via Honister Pass to Buttermere Lake, Crummock Water, Bassenthwaite Lake and back to Penrith.

Day four was spent in the south Lakes area, with stops at Thirlmere Lake and the poet William Wordsworth sites in Grasmere village. Lunch was at Brantwood, on the shores of Coniston Lake, where many of the group heard about John Ruskin for the first time. Brantwood is regarded as having the finest lake view of any house

in England. They were joined here by Bill Ramsay of Ulverston, President of the Workman Chapter. Later they visited the Arts and Crafts house Blackwell at Bowness on Windermere, travelling home via Kirkstone Pass and Ullswater Lake. That evening we visited Temple Sowerby, where David and William Workman were born in 1797 and 1799 respectively, on the way to Appleby, where Donald and Thelma Harrison, Appleby members of the William Workman Chapter, joined us. Tourist Officer Alison Taylor had opened the Moot Hall and arranged an audience with Mayor Andy Connell. In the council chamber, Mr. Connell told us of the many connections of the town to the Washington family of the USA. He was made an honorary member of the Association by President Ashley Hall. Dinner was enjoyed at the Midland Hotel owned by Donald and Thelma's daughter Amy.

On the fifth day we visited historic sites in Dumfriesshire, including Ruthwell Cross, a unique and remarkable 18-foot-high 7th century carved cross, 13th century Caerlaverock Castle and Drumlanrig Castle, the home of the Duke of Buccleuch. We spent the night in the Scottish town of Moffat. On day six we toured the Scottish Borders, visiting the town of Kelso; Floors Castle (largest occupied castle in Scotland) home of the Duke of Roxburghe; Smailholm Tower (a fortified tower house); and Scott's View, a vista point favoured by Sir Walter Scott. That evening Mary, Countess of Strath-

more, joined the group for dinner at the Dryburgh Abbey Hotel where they were staying. The following day was in Scotland's Capital City of Edinburgh. We returned to Penrith via the Northumberland National Park and World Heritage Site Hadrian's (Roman) Wall and Lanercost Priory.

The next day at Carlisle we saw the Tithe Barn, the Cathedral and Castle, and had lunch at Tullie House. The group learned that President Woodrow Wilson's mother was born in the city. That evening (Fourth of July/Independence Day) there was a reception for the visitors, chapter members and invited guests at Hutton in the Forest. Lord and Lady Inglewood, who own the castle, were among the guests and were made honorary members of the Old Spanish Trail Association by Ashley Hall. We were happy to be joined by John Thompson, who was present following his recent operation.

The final day was spent in the City of York (another World Heritage Site) with its Minster (largest Cathedral in northern Europe), city walls, castle and river waterfront. Feedback from the American visitors indicates they were extremely impressed with everything they saw. Their highlights were the visit to Clifton, Appleby, the Lakes and Hutton in the Forest together with Scotland, Hadrian's Wall, Carlisle and York. ♦

Honorary OSTA Memberships Bestowed

President Ashley Hall bestowed honorary OSTA memberships on the following distinguished British individuals: The Dowager Countess of Strathmore, Melrose, Scotland; The Lord and Lady Inglewood, Penrith, Cumbria, England; and Mayor Andy Connell, Appleby-In-Westmorland, Cumbria, England.



OSTA member Dr. Donald Rowland with Lord Inglewood, patron of Cumbria Family History Society, at Hutton in the Forest.

Dr. Reba Grandrud, immediate past president of OSTA; Mayor of Appleby Andy Connell; OSTA President Ashley Hall



The Dowager Countess of Strathmore

Jerry Nickle Featured in *Cumbria Crack*

Following the OSTA tour, Jerry Nickle, a descendent of the "Sundance Kid," was featured in the *Cumbria Crack*. The article began: "The great-grandson of a famous American outlaw, William Henry Long also known as Harry Alonzo Longabaugh, but better known as the 'Sundance Kid' and member of Butch Cassidy's 'Wild Bunch' in the American Old West, visited Penrith last week. Jerry Nickle, 71, from Arizona, author of the book *Bringing Sundance Home* "The Real Sundance Kid – My Great Grandfather," visited Penrith for six nights with his wife Judy."

Hall Grandsons' View of British Tour

By Stuart Hall and Joshua Rhodes

About a month prior to the OSTA tour to Britain, our grandfather, Ashley Hall, President of OSTA, met with us and explained that due to our Grandmother Lorna Hall's pending surgery, she would not be able to accompany him to Britain and asked if we would be willing to join him and the other eight OSTA members on the planned visit. How could we resist such an offer to join him? He immediately gave us an assignment that he felt would be worthwhile to all OSTA members, especially youth – make a brief video recording of the beautiful and exciting places we would visit, and take many still photos that could be shared with all of the OSTA members via website. We were to shoot a short video each day and send it back to Chelsea Bodamer for placement on YouTube for young people to enjoy.

We were able to meet many people, tell them the Old Spanish Trail story and how the OST is related to Britain; the Workman brothers from Clifton, Cumbria, England were part of the development, use and success of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Los Angeles, California, from 1829 – 1848 and was over 1,200 miles long.

Over the years, an Old Spanish Trail chapter was chartered in Penrith, Northern England, where members of the Workman family and their relatives still live and carry on their lives. Being a member of the Old Spanish Trail Association has become a part of the lives of both descendants of the Workman family, as well as a number of British people who love America's western history.

We immediately begin to prepare for the 10-day tour of Britain, from June 26 - July 6, 2014. We read British history, *Spanish Traces* stories about the British Chapter and the details of the OST. We represent six generations of our family who have been actively involved in the Old Spanish Trail, either as users of the Trail or as members of OSTA and activities along the Trail.



Joshua Rhodes and Stuart Hall

We tried to design our videos for youth to be informative, exciting and scenic. Each day of the trip we discussed the places we visited, the people we met and the activities we did. Finding the right places, people and activities came very naturally as every day unfolded. All told, we provided Chelsea Bodamer with a short video for almost every day of our trip covering a range of interviews, interesting people and historic sites throughout Northern England and Southern Scotland.

We took over 1,000 scenic photos that we plan to provide to the OSTA website for viewing by all OSTA members and friends once we review, cull the duplicates and provided a site description for those we liked best.

This was an opportunity of a lifetime. We thank our grandfather, David Fallowfield our tour guide, and each of the members of the OSTA British Tour group. We look forward to seeing you at the Las Vegas OSTA annual conference on October 16-19, 2014. ♦

Chapter Reports

Salida Del Sol Chapter

On Saturday, May 17, Pat Kuhlhoff, chapter president, and Mark Henderson, stewardship committee chair, attended the dedication of the mural funded by the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area. A group of local high school students under the direction of Ed Hefferen, their art teacher, learned about and created the mural about the Old Spanish Trail (see photo page 1). Mark Henderson was the lead on this chapter project.

On Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22, seven chapter members, non-member Grant Glover and Colorado chapter member Doug Knudson showed up at the Step Back Inn in Aztec, New Mexico, where we were joined by three members of the BLM Farmington Field office for an afternoon adventure on the OST between Aztec and La Plata. This is a 15-mile stretch of the trail between the Animas River and the La Plata River traveled by Antonio Armijo in the fall of 1829. Some of us had been here before and so we were do-

ing some stewardship activity and for others this was a first time visit to this piece of the trail.

Brian Deaton provided great corridor maps for us to follow and gave us a good introduction into the area and what we would be seeing. Janelle Allman, Outdoor Recreation Specialist, and Geoffery Haymes, an archeologist, all from BLM, accompanied the group to discuss ideas and issues of the trail in this area.

Our August 16 field trip will be a one-day trip to Taos, where we hope to visit some trail sites, the Martinez Hacienda, the Kit Carson Cemetery (Red Willow Cemetery), the Plaza and the Turley Mill. A report on this trip will be in the next issue of *Traces*.

Chapter members are working diligently with members of the Camino Real and the Santa Fe Trail Associations on plans for the Three Trails conference September 17-20, 2015.

--Pat Kuhlhoff

Taos Mural, continued from page 1

Creation of the mural in Fall 2013 was an extension of the La Vereda Vieja field experience by Taos High School students in Jeff Carr's New Mexico history class and Janet Eider's geology class at Penasco High School in Spring 2013. A particular success of the project was the benefits of teaching history through art, as pointed out by Dr. Rick Hendricks, NM State Historian and member of the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area (NRGNHA) Board. Student research of historic art particularly with modern internet access gives students particular insight into historic context.

The finished mural was presented at the NRGNHA board meeting in the Taos County Courthouse on May 17, 2014. The mural may find a permanent home

in the Taos Municipal Schools Board Room. In the meantime the mural is mounted on a hinged frame so it can be freestanding or mounted flush against a wall as a traveling exhibit.

Mark Henderson, project representative for the Salida del Sol Chapter of the Old Spanish Trail Association, prepared the grant application and reports. Dal Henderson, an artist in Fresno, California, prepared a print of the mural in near complete form. ♦

Fish Lake Chapter



Using the flags shown in the photo, Mayor Dave Ogden explained about four groups of people who used the trail. From left to right, the flags represent the Southern Ute Nation, Spain, Mexico, and finally the United States. Photo by Steve Rodriguez.

In late April, Richfield Mayor Dave Ogden (dressed as Jedediah Smith) and Steve Sanchez of the Fish Lake National Forest greeted hundreds of school children from throughout the Sevier Valley and beyond to educate them about the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, as part of the annual Natural Resource Festival at the Sevier Valley Center in Richfield. Thanks to the efforts of some very good history teachers in Central Utah Schools, many students already knew about this important trade route. Some even knew about the Fish Lake Short Cut, which was used extensively during the heyday of the trail from 1829 to 1848.

Many mountain men, including Jedediah Smith, used parts of the trail. He was on the trail in 1826 and again in 1827. He likely encountered the trail first in 1826 near what is now Castle Dale, Utah, followed it through the Wasatch Pass (Salina Canyon), then traveled through the Sevier Valley until reaching Clear Creek Canyon where he left the trail. He rejoined it near Parowan and was on it periodically all the way to California. In 1827 he came through the Sevier Valley again. This time he traveled directly south from Utah Lake to the Sevier Valley.

The natural corridors of the Wasatch Pass, Clear Creek Canyon, the pass known as Poverty Flat, and Sevier Canyon leading to Marysville, are just some of the reasons the Sevier Valley is referred to as The Valley of The Trails.

At the end of each student session, I awarded a special Old Spanish Trail Pin to anyone who knew the name of the mayor of Richfield. Of several hundred students, only my nephew knew that I am the Mayor of Richfield. No one much cared. There's no better way to keep the mayor humble!

During the lunch break of the second day of the festival, I was asked to come to city hall to perform a marriage. I informed the requesting couple that I would be happy to perform the ceremony, but I was dressed to portray Jedediah Smith, and time constraints would make it difficult to change in and out of the costume. No problem---they thought it was great being married by Jed! I gave them some straight marriage talk as I expected Jed would do, and then sealed the deal. I also told them to never go into a thicket without a long rifle or "Old Ephraim" might make a permanent mess of their face. My wife wasn't surprised when I gave them a quick history lesson but gave me the "wrap it up" look after a few minutes.

This festival was a great opportunity for us to meet students and teachers who will become the trail stewards of tomorrow and interpret, protect and enjoy the Old Spanish Trail.

--Dave Ogden

Tres Trails Chapter

The Tres Trails chapter of the Old Spanish Trail Association for Washington County, Utah, is proud to be located in the only place in the entire western United States where all three branches of the historic trail converge (including the predecessor 1776 route of Dominguez-Escalante, with the initial trail blazed by Antonio Armijo in 1829 and the main trail established toward the end of the next year, 1830-31, by William Wolfskill and George C. Yount). We have been busy this first half the year, mainly cooperating with Paul Ostapuk and members of the Armijo Chapter in Arizona and Mark Henderson of Taos, New Mexico, to finalize the optimum version of the eastern half of the Armijo route in our area, formerly wrongly assumed to have followed the path of Jedediah Smith through the Mojave Narrows of Arizona, along with several other places where there are alternative possibilities for the trail chosen. The most likely western half of the route was essentially agreed upon some half dozen years ago at a meeting in Phoenix, where OSTA officials, led by Liz Warren, along with representatives from the cooperating federal agencies---National Parks Service, U. S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management---made rather conclusive decisions on the matter for that segment.

Chapter members also devoted considerable time to clearing brush and roadside litter from the area around one of the oldest Old Spanish Trail marker-monuments constructed by members of the original Old Spanish Trail Organization in Utah in about 1950. This structure, pictured at right, shows its certain stateliness, and the need of the plaque to be cleaned in some manner to make it more readable from the nearby roadside. It is on Utah Highway 56 thirty miles due west of Cedar City, near the east entrance to the southern Utah town of Newcastle.

In June, in cooperation with even more members of the Southern Utah Chapter (mainly Iron County, Utah), some of our chapter members attended a charrette (brainstorming workshop) sponsored by the

Bureau of Land Management concerning the entire Old Spanish Trail through Iron County. A great deal of public input was gathered and promptly processed by very capable bureau interns under the adept direction of Rob Sweeten, BLM National Trail Lead. Some of the old issues and projects which have long remained unresolved and some essentially ignored, appear now in process of being fully considered with good prospects of OSTA-federal management agencies' cooperation in implementation of those projects chosen, partly through public hearings, in the near future. The entire process was most enlightening and encouraging.

Chapter members have also volunteered to work under the supervision of Dixie National Forest personnel to halt the soil erosion threatening an important historical artifact-in-place on a segment of the Old Spanish Trail near the high ridge between Little Creek, just south of Paragonah and Bear Valley some distance to the northeast (partially pictured on page 24 of the Spring issue of *Spanish Traces*). We are anxiously awaiting their go-ahead on this project.

--Leo Lyman



OSTA marker near Newcastle, Utah, needs cleaning to be more readable.

La Vereda del Norte Chapter

Max Lara, OSTA Leader, Dies

Max Abad Lara, a San Luis Valley, Colorado, rancher and civic leader, died on June 3, 2014, at age 91. Max loved exploring the historic trail that brought his ancestors first to the Conejos Land Grant settlements and later to the *Loma* district that would become Colorado's Rio Grande County.

Max had familial ties to a notable historic San Luis Valley hero, Jose Pablo Martinez. Max's interest in and devotion to preserving the West Fork route of the San Luis Valley's Old Spanish Trail and his ongoing personal efforts to promote awareness of the trail, its history, and the people who traversed its course were exemplary of his commitment to both family heritage and the San Luis Valley's documented history, which predates other regions in Colorado.

Max was born near the base of the San Luis Valley's dominant landmark, Sierra Blanca. The East Fork of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail's North Branch skirted the base of Sierra Blanca less than a century before Max was born. However, Max's mother, Cleofes Martinez, carried an ancestral legacy linked to pioneering families who traveled the North Branch's West Fork trail into the virtually unsettled wilderness of the Guadalupe Land Grant, known later as the Conejos Land Grant. This communal grant, encompassing all of the terrain west of the Rio Grande to the mountain summits, extended from San Antonio Mountain on today's Colorado-New Mexico boundary as far north as the tributaries of the Saguache River. During the mid-19th century, Max's maternal great grandfather, Jose Pablo Martinez, distinguished himself as one of a handful of settlers who defended the infant village of San Margarita against a Kiowa attack in late summer of 1842. (Tony Valdez, a Del Norte, Colorado pioneer, recounted the story years later to assure that Jose Pablo's valor should not be forgotten.)

The Guadalupe Grant initially conveyed land to 50 northern New Mexico families who would hold pas-

ture, water and other resources in common. Following the West Fork of the North Branch past San Antonio Mountain, these pioneering families established the first settlement in the San Luis Valley, San Francisco, near the confluence of the Conejos and San Antonio rivers in 1833. Harassment by the Moache Ute band that traditionally camped and hunted in the area or by Kiowa intruders discouraged the New Mexicans' primary settlement effort. In 1842, some of the original land grant families returned to the area to fulfill the grant's requirement of a permanent settlement. The second village, San Margarita, was located at the same confluence but to the east of the San Antonio River. In late summer, the village came under attack. This time, Kiowas, who sometimes penetrated the traditional Ute region not only to hunt buffalo but also to collect willows for baskets, were the assailants. Women, children, and most of the men fled and hid among the willows. Jose Pablo Martinez's younger brother was killed as the attack began. Only nine men stood against the Kiowas – one being 15-year old Jose Pablo. According to Tony Valdez, as the village heroes battled to protect families and homes, the women began beating husbands hiding in the brush until they, too, joined the defenders. Eventually, the villagers claimed victory, but the violence of the day caused them to abandon the settlement and return to their New Mexico homes.

Jose Pablo and other grantees, or their descendants, returned to settle the Conejos Valley in the early 1850s after the San Luis Valley became part of the United States through the Treaty of Guadalupe Hildago. Some of Jose Pablo's children by his first wife, including daughter Maria Teodosia, were born at Conejos plaza. Jose Pablo may have been one of the Conejos pioneers who explored and marked the West Fork trail from the Conejos River northward into frontier territory known as the Loma district that encompassed hills and cuestas from present day Del Norte northward toward La Garita. Fellow pioneer Juan Bautista Silva noted in his diary that some men among the fourteen families who founded La Loma de San Jose had traversed the West Fork route prior to 1859 and had placed blaze marks on trees. La Loma de San Jose became the first

settlement beyond the small plazas in the Conejos Valley. Silva's penciled diary described a torturous and treacherous month-long journey through unfamiliar and hostile country. Two-year-old Maria Teodosia, Max Lara's great grandmother, survived the hazardous journey. Within a decade, most of the La Loma de San Jose settlers, including Jose Pablo, had moved from the original village and established family plazas along the Rio Grande toward today's Monte Vista.

At a tender age, Maria Teodosia, a pioneer in her own right, married Quirino Jesus Martinez, the son of Jose Antonio Martinez, another West Fork traveler and Loma pioneer. After leaving La Loma, Quirino and Maria Teodosia resided at Los Valdezes near the West Fork trail's ford of the Rio Grande. (Known today as Seven Mile Plaza) The couple's son, Manuel Sabino, born in 1876, was Max Lara's grandfather. Max Lara was proud of his ties to San Luis Valley history and especially to the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail.

He attended the initial meeting held at the Rio Grande County Museum in Del Norte in late winter 1993 to discuss how best to save the West Fork trail's traces and encourage public awareness of the route and its importance in local and national history. That meeting led to the official organization and incorporation of the Old Spanish Trail Association. Max eventually became president of La Vereda del Norte Chapter of the Old Spanish Trail Association. In that capacity he acquired a grant from the Temple Buell Foundation to promote public awareness of the West Fork trail. As a leader in

his community and county, Max had undertaken many civic initiatives. On behalf of the La Vereda Chapter, he contacted the Conejos County Commissioners and received permission to place road signs marking the West Fork trail so that residents and others traveling the county roads would become familiar with the historic landmark. Some of the grant funds produced a color brochure and map documenting the West Fork's location and historic uses. In conjunction with highlighting sites indicated on the map, the remainder of the grant money funded production of West Fork-Old Spanish Trail signs. Following Max's leadership in Conejos County, officials in Rio Grande and Saguache counties authorized placement of West Fork-Old Spanish Trail signs at intersections of the trail and county roads. The lead story in *Spanish Traces* (Vol. 15, #3, Autumn 2009) featured the setting of the West Fork signs by Max and other members of La Vereda del Norte Chapter.

Max had explored the West Fork trail from Ojo Caliente through Comanche Canyon to the Conejos Valley. For the annual OSTA conference in 2004, he accompanied a wagon train across the West Fork route from Conejos into Del Norte. The following year, he continued the journey along the trail past Los Mogotes (near La Garita) toward the Saguache Valley where the West and East Fork trails converged. La Vereda del Norte Chapter and the national Old Spanish Trail Association are greatly indebted to Max Lara's leadership and dedication. Like his pioneering forbearers, he was a man of notable character. ♦

Silverthread Scenic Byway Signs Installed

Fifteen interpretive wayside signs for the Silverthread Scenic Byway (Highway 149) between Gunnison and Lake City, Colorado, were recently installed by the Gunnison BLM. One panel is exclusively about the Old Spanish Trail. Other signs relate to the OST such as the Saguache Toll Road, Ute History, Lt. Howard Ruffner expedition (Brunot Treaty), and Alfred G. "Alferd" Packer - Colorado's infamous cannibal. All sign panels were designed by Interpretive Design LLC in partnership/ contract with the Interpretive Association of Western Colorado. Photos courtesy Doug Knudson.



Tecopa Chapter

Resting Springs, in Tecopa, was a renowned watering stop on the Old Spanish Trail, made infamous by the Hernandez massacre as recorded by John C. Fremont, who with Kit Carson stopped there in 1844.

In April, OSTA's Tecopa and Nevada chapters held an installation ceremony to mark the replacement of a damaged OST marker on Resting Springs Ranch with a new concrete obelisk. The replacement was an extension of OSTA president Ashley Hall's campaign to replace similar markers in Nevada, since 2014 marks the Silver State's sesquicentennial. Some 50 OSTA members and guests attended the ceremony.

The Tecopa chapter suspends field survey work each year in late spring and summer, due to temperatures routinely above 100 degrees. Chapter president Jack Prichett has been busy at his keyboard, however. His illustrated article on two proposed desert power plants that would impact the OSNHT in California's Silurian Valley appeared in the June 2014 issue of *Desert Report* magazine (www.desertreport.org). A second article on the OSNHT and heritage tourism appeared in late July in *Preservation Matters*, a publication of California's State Historic Preservation Office, and is reprinted with permission on the following pages of *Spanish Traces*.

--Jack Prichett

Encampment at Fort Uncompahgre

The encampment on May 17-18 at Fort Uncompahgre, Colorado, designed to create interest in a new future for the fort, was a great success. Over 100 people attended on Saturday and approximately 60 attended on Sunday. Many youngsters and their families attended both days. In addition, 79 folks signed up to receive continued information about the future of the Fort and its link to history with the Old Spanish Trail and the opening of western Colorado to trade.

Mark Franklin, Colorado Director of the Old Spanish Trail Association, Doug Knudsen from the La Vereda del Norte Chapter, and Dr. Jim Jefferson, OST Director Emeritus, helped for both days and Juanita and Bob Mosten from the Grand Junction's North Branch Chapter helped on Saturday. Also assisting were Jody Kliska, Brad Link with photography and Jon Nelson with videotaping. Bill Bailey organized re-enactors for the two-day event.



Storekeeper Sam Picotta and cooks Jenny Day and Violet Lane reenact their historical roles during the encampment at Fort Uncompahgre.

Photos: Chris Miller

Heritage Tourism in the Mojave: The Old Spanish Trail

By Jack Prichett
President, Tecopa Chapter

[This article appeared in the Summer 2014 issue of *Preservation Matters*, the newsletter of the California Office of Historic Preservation. Reprinted with permission from California Office of Historic Preservation © 2014 all rights reserved.]

The Old Spanish Trail was a long, arduous trade route plied by mule caravans between 1829 and 1848. Herds of as many as 2,000 horses and mules were moved along the trail, and historic figures such as Colonel John C. Frémont and Kit Carson also traveled its path. Linking Santa Fe, New Mexico, to Los Angeles, the Old Spanish Trail provided one of the first entryways to southern California from the desert southwest.

From Santa Fe, the trail followed a roundabout course through southern Colorado and Utah, then down through Nevada and into California. The first caravan, led in 1829 by Antonio Armijo, followed a more direct route, but suffered tremendous hardships in crossing the Grand Canyon. Later parties avoided the Canyon by following the Northern and Main branches, which also offered more plentiful water and grass for the animals. In California, the trail led across the Mojave Desert proceeding from one desert spring to the next. From Barstow to Rancho Cucamonga, the Interstate 15 freeway roughly follows the path of the Old Spanish Trail. From the foot of Cajon Pass, the trail wound through today's Pomona, El Monte, and on to Mission San Gabriel. The last leg went from the Mission to Los Angeles' Central Plaza.

Less famous than El Camino Real, the Old Spanish Trail is nonetheless winning recognition as a historic trade route and a contemporary boon to heritage tourism in California's Mojave Desert. In 2002 Congress designated the Old Spanish National Historic Trail (OSNHT) as the 23rd of more than 30 national scenic

and historic trails. The non-profit Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) provides trail maps, history, and other information through their website, and coordinates a number of trail-related activities (www.oldspanishtrail.org). Barstow, California—a fuel and food stop for millions of motorists traveling between Los Angeles and Las Vegas—is using the OSNHT to boost its tourism appeal. Last fall, the city, together with the OSTA and the National Park Service, sponsored Old Spanish Trail Day, attracting more than a thousand participants. This year's event is expected to be even bigger, according to OSTA organizer Viola Basulto. Barstow now plans to build Old Spanish Trail interpretive displays in the city's Desert Discovery Center.

In the desert town of Shoshone, California, Susan Sorrells, descendant of the town's founder and owner of the Shoshone Museum, includes an Old Spanish Trail exhibit among the museum's offerings. Cynthia Kienitz, owner of Cynthia's Lodgings in the town of Tecopa, notes that "the Old Spanish Trail is as much a part of our local environment as the Amargosa Wild and Scenic River canyon, the old mines, or the Dumont Dunes Off-road Vehicle Recreational Area. It's

part of what fascinates both European and American visitors who visit Tecopa." Moreover, Kienitz says, tourists setting foot on the trail's rocky path can vicariously experience the awesome challenge faced by 19th century travelers traversing the desert. "They feel the heat and sense the vastness confronted by Mexican and Anglo traders traveling on foot and mule-back." Amazingly, in a few California locations the single-track mule trace remains intact some 170 years after its last use. OSTA's Tecopa Chapter, working in the remote desert east of Tecopa, has recorded some seven miles of trace. Other portions of the Old Spanish Trail have been recorded in the Silurian Valley, south of Tecopa. These remarkable vestiges of the trail are fragile, and to protect them their location is not made public. However, tourists are able to closely parallel the trail route when traveling on the Old Spanish

"Tourists setting foot on the trail can vicariously experience the awesome challenge faced by 19th century travelers traversing the desert."

Trail Highway from the Nevada state line to Tecopa. A Bureau of Land Management (BLM) roadside kiosk provides information, and the BLM is developing a self-guided auto tour that would allow motorists in California to hear trail descriptions at key desert locations. In short, the OSNHT uniquely fuses cultural heritage with awareness of the desert environment.

Yet, even as the OSNHT is growing in popularity as a heritage tourism attraction, it faces new threats in the desert: proposed industrial-scale solar and wind-powered electrical generation plants. The proposed 3,200-acre Hidden Hills solar plant would place 170,000 mirrors and two 750-foot high towers atop the trail corridor right along the Old Spanish Trail Highway. In the Silurian Valley north of Baker, a planned solar plant and wind farm would occupy 41,000 acres on BLM land that falls outside the agency's designated Solar Energy Zones. These massive installations would impact the OSNHT corridor and intrude upon the expansive vistas along California Highway 127. Heritage tourists passing by these industrial plants would lose connection with the Valley's wild beauty, which today makes it a fitting "southern Gateway to Death Valley."

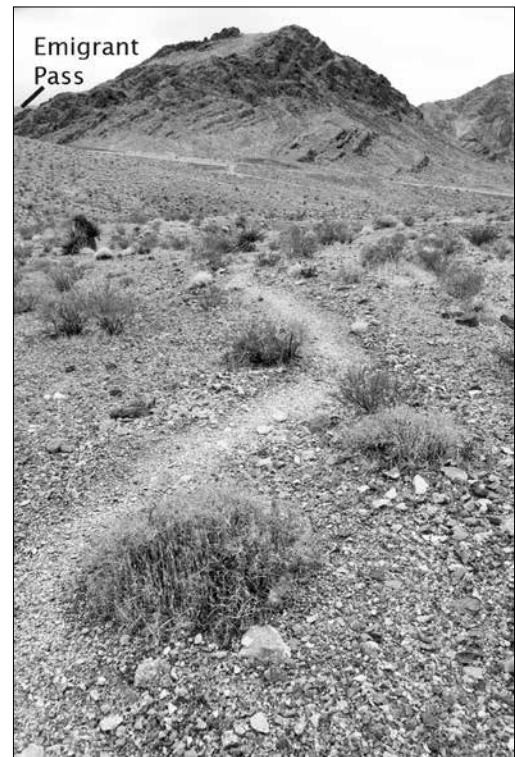
Just as groups in cities have organized to preserve historically significant urban settings, Mojave Desert residents, preservation and conservation organizations, and local businesses have formed a broad coalition to protect the OSNHT and the desert environment. Coalition members include the National Parks Conservation Association, the Wilderness Society, OSTA, and owners of lodgings and tourist destinations. The coalition's goal is to have the Silurian Valley designated as a protected conservation corridor, linking the National Park Service's three desert properties (Death Valley National Park, Joshua Tree National Park, and the Mojave Desert Preserve) and the BLM's adjacent environmentally sensitive areas. David Lamfrom of the National Parks Conservation Association says, "The Silurian Valley, with the Old Spanish Trail running through it, represents a beating heart of the Mojave Desert in California." ♦

Jack Prichett has made numerous conference presentations on the trail in California.

BLM Proposes Emigrant Pass For National Register of Historic Places

The BLM-Barstow Field Office is proposing to nominate Emigrant Pass on the Old Spanish National Historic Trail in California to the National Register of Historic Places. As you know, members of OSTA had participated in the preparation of a similar nomination almost three years ago, along with a multi-property form, under contract with the New Mexico SHPO. We have not been able to move forward with those nominations for various reasons, so this will help get one of the first Old Spanish Trail sites in California listed on the National Register, which would be exciting news and help protect the area. We have asked for the opportunity to review the draft nomination as trail co-administrator. BLM also co-administers the trail with us. The area proposed for nomination is on BLM land.

If you or OSTA would like to participate in any way in the process, please contact Jim Shearer of the BLM in Barstow at 760-275-4611 or jshearer@blm.gov.



Emigrant Pass as seen from the east. Old Spanish Trail in foreground.
Photo: Jack Prichett

Discover Beauty and Heritage--Experience a National Trail

By Reba Wells Grandrud

OSTA Director at Large; PNTS Liaison

OSTA members who live close to the historic route have special opportunities to enjoy the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. Many do so with knowledge, energy, and enthusiasm and thus discover, for themselves, a rich sense of ownership in a shared past. In parts of New Mexico, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, and Arizona, it is possible to walk on or near segments of the actual trail, getting to know the terrain and the weather, often seeing the same beauty and the same landmarks that early travelers saw. One can learn fascinating trail legends and lore from older members of the communities, perhaps even from those whose Native American or European ancestors utilized the route between 1829 and 1848.

Additionally, if one chooses, it is possible to join a chartered group, formed specifically to cherish and benefit the Trail. Through combined efforts, OSTA membership can help make sure that the Trail continues to be protected and preserved for future generations to appreciate and enjoy. New Mexico, Arizona, and Nevada each have one chapter, Utah has five, Colorado has two, and Cumbria County, England, is home to a commemorative group, the William Workman Chapter. English members organized in 1998 to honor William Workman of the Village of Clifton who is credited with being

co-leader of the first group of *settlers* (as opposed to *traders*) to use the Old Spanish Trail as a route from Santa Fe to California in 1841. Even though they are located more than 4000 miles from the actual Trail, William Workman Chapter members are role models—knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and continually promoting the good image of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail—to English listeners, as well as those in the U. S.

Not everyone with an expressed interest in the Old Spanish Trail lives near the Trail or a chapter. In the interest of better serving *all* Association members, OSTA leadership is beginning to seriously explore the possibilities of developing At-Large Chapters. The concept of an at-large “Descendants Chapter” has been informally discussed since 2011 at annual meetings in Pomona, Richfield, and Cortez. The at-large idea might work well in a specific location where a sizeable OSTA membership exists and the distance is too great for conveniently attending events and activities of the existing state chapters. Examples are the Phoenix Metro Area, Salt Lake City-northern Utah or Los Angeles. There are, too, those who may be the only OSTA members in their state or region. The goal is keeping open communication between OSTA leadership and OSTA members wherever they may be living or working. All members are valued.

In addition to personal enjoyment on the Trail as noted above, there are “giving back to the community” activities that benefit and satisfy people who get involved. One outstanding way of having fun while providing useful service is to *spread the historic word*. Have you thought of searching out those little-known but fascinating stories, true or legendary, and making them known to others? Perhaps you could help sponsor an oral history program to record the memories of pioneer families. Or organize a panel or a talk that could be offered to the local historical society, to local school children, or to other community non-profits (local organization and clubs often are looking for interesting, entertaining speakers). Do you have writing skills? What about contributing the stories to local newspapers, organizational newsletters or a local radio or television station? After you dig out those tidbits of exciting history, share the wealth. By the way, if you qualify, often there are nice perks to being a part of a state humanities council’s speakers bureau. Each state has a humanities program—check online for scholar qualifications.

The Old Spanish is one of two national historic trails that are jointly **administered** by the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Administratively for OSNHT, those agencies are located in Santa Fe (NPS, National Trail Intermountain Region, Supt. Aaron Mahr) and Salt Lake City (BLM

Utah State Office, Rob Sweeten, Old Spanish Trail Administrator/Utah Historic Trails Lead). In addition, the OSNHT passes over lands in each of the six states that are **managed** by BLM, the US Forest Service, or other agencies, or belong to a specific Indian tribe or community. It would be well to get to know members of those entities, as well as those of county planning commissions and departments of tourism, and members of local community groups.

Of special interest are communities, towns and cities that promote appropriate civic or historic tourism and partnership with them, and with other trail groups. Get to know the other trail groups in your state or region. Most have websites that are easily accessed and many have tapped into national sponsorships. Think about the advantages of THAT. Several national trail organizations have developed valuable partnerships with local

communities through which their trails pass. One fine example is the *Gateway Community* concept that Arizona Trail Association (www.aztrail.org) has developed. From March 14- May 31, 2014, Sirena Dufault hiked the north-south length of Arizona to raise awareness for the Arizona National Scenic Trail. Along the way she had 13 Gateway Community Events as well as public hikes and backpacking trips where folks joined her on the thru-hike, and raised more than \$17,000 for ATA.

Threats to all national trails, scenic or historic, are a continuing concern. OSTA members must be particularly vigilant as the search for alternative energy sources continues to intensify in each of our six states—**we are not anti-alternative energy, but it is our responsibility to be sure the Old Spanish National Historic Trail shows up on planning maps.** In order to be effective, OSTA

members and leaders in each state must get to know appropriate land managing agencies, at all levels: federal, state, county and municipality, preferably BEFORE there is any problem. Make a friendly, informative visit, perhaps with a brochure to leave. Keep the visit short.

Becoming more involved in one's own community can be immensely interesting, even valuable, a learning experience that might contribute to enhanced citizenship, as well as increased enjoyment of the Trail. As you think more about how you can become an even more valued member of your community, let us hear from you. We're interested in YOUR ideas and thoughts. ♦

PNTS Workshop Planned for October

The Partnership for National Historic Trails (PNTS) has selected Salt Lake City for their proposed workshop October 27-31. The topics for this workshop are social media, preservation and capacity building. Activities will include a mobile workshop by bus through Echo Canyon (California, Mormon Pioneer, Pony Express NHT corridor), another mobile workshop to Pilot Valley, viewing the Donner Party collection at the Utah History Museum, a tour of the LDS Church History Library, and listening to the Tabernacle Choir practice. To attend the workshop, contact Dennis Ditmanson at 505-425-6039.



Donner Party, Hastings Cutoff, Utah