



News From the Plains

Spring 2009

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Oregon-California
Trails Association

Lands Bill Boosts Historic Trails

By **Candy Moulton**
NFP Editor

Years of work, countless letters, phone calls, e-mails, faxes, and personal contact with U.S. Senators and Representatives, paid off on March 25 when the U.S. House of Representatives approved HR-146, the Omnibus Public Lands Bill.

The legislation is "the most significant boost for historic trail preservation since Congress established the National Historic Trails category of the National Trails Act in 1978," according to Glenn Harrison, president of the Oregon-California Trails Association.

The measure, which includes authorization to study 64 additional routes/cutoffs for the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express National Historic Trails, passed the House by a vote of 285 to 140. Earlier the bill passed in the Senate by a vote of 77-20.

"Many thanks for all your help over the past ten years. Please thank your Senators and Representative for passing HR-146, the Public Lands Bill," said Bill and Jeanne Watson, OCTA Legislative Liaisons.

"Our Park Service Trails

Superintendent, Aaron Mahr, thinks funds will be available early next year to start these studies," the Watsons said. "The bill specifies these studies should be completed in about three years."

"Passage of this legislation will have a long-term benefit for the preservation of the historic trails. It will help assure that thousands of miles of emigrant routes are not only identified, but are not lost to history," said OCTA Vice-President Bill Martin. "We are grateful to Bill and Jeanne Watson for their leadership and to all of the OCTA members who reached out to their elected officials to urge their support for the bill."

The bill now heads to President Barak Obama's desk. The bipartisan bill, the legislative vehicle for the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, will safeguard over 5,000 miles of national trails, including National Scenic Trail designation of the 1,200-mile Pacific Northwest Trail, and the Ice Age Floods Geologic Trail, which runs from Montana, through Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. It will also designate over two million acres of wilderness and protect more than 1,100 miles of rivers,

including protections for 350,000 acres of land along 86 new Wild and Scenic Rivers.

"We've been hoping for this for a long time," Harrison said. "This bill will enable the National Park Service to conduct feasibility studies for designation of important routes in 14 states from Missouri to the Pacific Coast, and may add thousands of miles of additional historic trails to the National Trails System."

Contributions to Trails

By **Bill and Jeanne Watson**
Legislative Liaison Committee

In late February Glenn Harrison, and Vern and Carol Osborne joined us in Washington, D.C., with other members of the Partnership for the National Trails System calling on Congressional members to thank them for all that they have done for our trails.

One highlight of our report to Congress is all of the volunteer hours and expenses that you reported. The Nampa Convention Volunteer report forms filled out by

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Spring 2009 News From the Plains

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on all committees

NPS Developing Long Range Plan

By Candy Moulton
NFP Editor

The National Park Service is developing a new long range interpretive plan and has already gathered information and comments from OCTA members. The agency is now coordinating with other partners including state parks, BLM Visitor Centers, Indian Tribes, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Pony Express Association, NPS officials told the OCTA Board at its mid-winter meeting in Yuma, AZ.

Among the responses are recommendations for multiple perspectives of trails stories, additional maps and signs, ways to connect with children such as Junior Ranger program, or something similar, such as the Santa Fe Trail Junior Wagon Master program. Other ideas relate to technology including portable interpretive products for people on the go such as virtual walks, podcasts, and downloadable directions

The OCTA Board also learned that work is progressing on marking trail highway routes in California under the Cal Trans Transportation Enhancement Act. Work also is underway on developing a guide for the Nevada Auto Tour Route.

The board approved Elko, NV, as the site for the 2010 Convention and approved a proposal to work on cooperative opportunities between OCTA and the National History Day program.

A list is being formulated of duplicate items in the Frontier Trails Museum Library Collection in Independence. Once it is completed, effort will be made to determine if some items can be transferred to other OCTA libraries in Sacramento, CA or Laramie, WY.

Chapter Presidents reported on the following activities:

- Oregon: Trails are being impacted by energy development including wind turbines and transmission lines.
- CA-NV: Some trails are very well known, but there are also many pieces that have never really been addressed, monitored or shepherded. The chapter will work to identify those trails and to get more people involved in monitoring them.
- Colorado-Cherokee: The chapter preservation committee, Bruce Watson and Roger Hanson, has been very active
- Wyoming: Pinky Ellis, Randy

Brown and Lee Underbrink made an investigation into the Trans Canada pipeline route, which has now been relocated away from Independence Rock. This is considered a preservation success since the pipeline will be routed farther west where the trail has already been obliterated. Another pipeline project is expected to have significant impacts to the Cherokee Trail.

- Nebraska: The chapter is reorganizing.

The meeting was followed by a symposium that involved a variety of speakers on topics related to the Southern Trails.

Crossroads Chapter

Southern Route Tour, Program Planned

By A. Oscar Olson

We are off to a good start for 2009. Our January mid-winter membership meeting was held January 8 and our speaker was our own Michael Landon, who discussed the 1857 migration through Utah.

We also held elections and selected Linda Turner as our new president. Roger Tschanz, a newcomer to OCTA is our vice-president. As past president, I plan to work closely with the new officers to make sure the transition is smooth. We have new ideas, goals, and horizons to keep our chapter active. Drew Wanosik is our hold-over treasurer, Craig Fuller, secretary; T. Michael Smith, preservation officer; Roy Tea, field trip chairman; Steve Berlin and Matt Ivory, Web site; Byron Billings,

newsletter; Lyndia Carter, speaker chairperson; and John Eldridge and George Ivory are on the board.

Our next membership meeting will be April 16 with a program by Edward Leo Lyman, author of five books including two related to the southern route to California, *The Arduous Road*, and *The Overland Journey From Utah to California*, which will be the theme for the April lecture. Our spring field trip, led by Roy Tea, will also focus on this road.

We will hold another board meeting in May, will emphasize the convention in Loveland, CO this year, and plan a fall trip to Tooele County's Benson Mill.

We wish the best for Greg Franzwa, who has experienced a set-back in health this year.

From the Headquarters Manager...

Kathy Conway
Kconway@indepmo.org

It was a joy to be in Yuma, AZ, this January. Both for the weather, of course, but also to observe our members, long-time and new, have a great experience learning about the historic southern trails that all converged through Yuma. Thank you OCTA volunteers, Yuma County Historical Society, National Park Service, John Krizek, Reba Grandrud, Pat Etter, and BLM Yuma Field Office for your participation in making this such a wonderful occasion.

Your mailboxes will be full this spring with OCTA mailings! In April, look for the 27th Annual OCTA Loveland, CO, Convention Registration packet. We hope you'll be able to attend and enjoy everything the planners have in store for us. Later in the season, ballot and election information for the four Directors for OCTA's National Board (term 2009-12) will be delivered. Please look over each candidate's qualifications, cast your vote, and mail by the deadline date for your vote to be included in the count.

Elsewhere in this issue see our full-page ad that highlights some of our new items now available. For quick service call us toll-free 888-811-6282 or visit the OCTA Store on-line at octa-trails.org to place your order.

Inserted in this issue is a memorial piece paying tribute to Jeanne Miller, OCTA Headquarters' first executive who passed away January 26, 2009.

OCTA Founder Gregory Franzwa Dies

This is the most difficult e-mail that I will ever have to write. Gregory passed away last night, Sunday, March 29, at 10:08 Utah time. The Lord called his name and he left us peacefully, at home, with me at his side. He is free of pain now, and is reunited with family and friends who have gone before. A nurse and aide from hospice were here at the time also. Our friends Jess and Nancy Petersen kindly came over to stay with me awhile.

I cannot stress strongly enough how much his friends in OCTA and

the LHA meant to him. All of the letters, e-mails, and cards brightened his last days very much. He treasured his friends greatly. Thank you all for being his friends and for showing how much you cared about him.

I am honoring his requests that he be cremated and that there be no viewing, services or funeral. He asked that I scatter his ashes on the Oregon Trail, which I will do at a later date, privately. He wants no mourning.

—Kathy Franzwa



OCTA members and guests tour the Oatman Massacre site, above, and grave, below, while in Yuma, AZ, in January. (Photos by Bill Martin)

Southwest Chapter Reorganizes

By Albert Eddins

A steering committee of seven volunteers is hard at work reorganizing the Southwest Chapter of OCTA. All current officers of the chapter have resigned to make way for new leadership and a new direction for the Chapter. A meeting to solicit input from the membership and to elect new officers is being planned.

In the future the Southwest Chapter plans to balance emphasis on three major themes important to all trail enthusiasts – Preservation, Education and Identification of historic trails. A major goal of the Chapter will be to provide new activities of interest and enjoyment to all its members, while continuing the great efforts and contributions made by past activities.

Everyone in the region, or if you are a winter visitor, is encouraged to join the Chapter. You may join by contacting OCTA at octa@indepmo.org or 888-811-6282.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the reorganization effort or to serve as an officer of the Chapter, please contact Albert Eddins at aseddins@msn.com or 480-575-2733.

From the Association Manager...

Travis Boley
Tboley@indepmo.org

Help Us Bring "Dreamers" To Loveland Convention

We are quickly closing in on the end of what is a three-year odyssey. Back in September of 2006, the Malcolm E. Smith, Jr. Foundation gave us \$100,000 in seed money to kick off what has become our "In Pursuit of a Dream" film project. After raising nearly \$400,000, our film crew and cast participated in a wagon train across huge swaths of trail in central Wyoming and down the Barlow Road in Oregon during the summer of 2008.

The actions of these fourteen days and nights on the trail were captured in high-definition video and for the past six months, our editors back in Norwood, MA, have combed through over 100 hours of footage in order to create a feature-length film. On Wednesday, August 19, 2009, the film will debut as part of our annual convention festivities in downtown Loveland, CO.

Convention attendees will have the opportunity to attend a special opening of the film at the Rialto Theater, a beautifully restored 1920s movie house with a seating capacity of 450 people in downtown Loveland. We fully expect that the grand opening will be a sellout, so we've added additional showings on both Thursday afternoon and evening.

As part of the opening night festivities, we'd like to bring in our entire cast of 24 amateur student actors so that they can both meet the people who make up the organization they're representing, and also so that they can revel in seeing themselves on the enormous big screen at the Rialto Theater.

Because these kids hail from all corners of the country, it will not be an

inexpensive endeavor to bring them to Loveland. So we're looking for sponsors! Would you like to sponsor one of our students to come to the film premiere? If so, please contact me toll free at 888-811-6282 or e-mail me at tboley@indepmo.org. Better yet, mail a check to: OCTA, 524 S. Osage St., Independence, MO 64050 with "student actor sponsorship" in the subject line. As our student actors pursued their own dream of reaching Oregon, they were truly reaching for the stars. I'm hopeful that you can help them reach the film premiere so they can bask in the glow of a true once-in-a-lifetime opportunity—the chance to walk the red carpet at a movie premiere!

For \$800, you will be a Full "Constellation Level" Sponsor and will receive four reserved seats at the premiere, four complimentary convention registrations, thanks in the film program, and a DVD copy of the film. At a \$400 level, you will be a Half "Star Level" Sponsor and receive two reserved seats at the premiere, two complimentary convention registrations, thanks in the film program, and a DVD copy of the film. Finally, at a \$200 level, you will be Partial "Lunar Level" Sponsor and receive two general admission tickets to the premiere, thanks in the film program, and a DVD copy of the film.

With your help, we can get our cast of "Dreamers" to Loveland this summer!



In mid-March, Kathy Conway (OCTA's Headquarters Manager) and I attended a Fundraising Seminar

and gained a lot of fresh new ideas for everything from Special Events, Direct Mail, Online Fundraising, and Annual Giving. One of the more interesting sessions I attended dealt with Planned Giving. I'd like to let all of our members know that OCTA, via its relationship with the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation (GKCCF), is ready to help you set up everything from Gift Annuities to Charitable Remainder Trusts to Charitable Lead Trusts and beyond. With the assistance of the GKCCF, OCTA may be able to help you enjoy income tax savings, avoidance of some capital gains taxes, estate tax savings, and likely some guaranteed income for yourself. At the same time, you can help OCTA increase its capacity for planning and funding long-term programs, as you will likely be able to make a larger gift than you otherwise would via a direct donation. The GKCCF is ready to handle gifts of stocks, personal property, and other financial vehicles, so the strain on OCTA's staff to manage such gifts will be minimal.

In the coming months, we plan to promote Planned Giving to our members more often with more details, as we strongly feel it can be a win-win for OCTA and you! In addition to all of the financial benefits you could accrue by setting up a Planned Giving program with OCTA, you'll also have the satisfaction and joy of knowing you will be able to help OCTA in perpetuity. Please feel free to contact me any time for more information, as I'd be happy to walk you through the process of setting up a Planned Giving program tailored especially for your needs and desires.

OCTA Has Many Successes

It is great to have you as a part of this wonderful success story.

1- After 10 years of trying, our trails bill, HR-146, the Omnibus Public Lands Bill, has been approved by Congress. The success is a great accomplishment with many thanks due to Bill and Jeanne Watson, the Partnership for the National Trails System, and all of you who contacted your Senators and Representatives.

2- In January a great Roads to Yuma Symposium was conducted with excellent speakers and tours. 200 people participated (205 registered but five canceled for various reasons). Many thanks to John Krizek, Patricia Etter, Reba Grandrud, and other planners as well as the representatives of other trail organizations, federal agencies, and historical societies.

There was good cooperation with the community leaders and the Yuma Visitors Bureau. Newspaper and TV coverage was excellent. An OCTA-commissioned, six-foot map of the Southern trails was donated to the citizens of Yuma for display and education. So there is a lasting remembrance of the the many trails in the Southwest and the importance of the Yuma Crossing now located in the Arizona Historical Society's Sanguinetti House Museum in Yuma.

3- Our membership is stable thanks in large part to 52 new members who attended the Yuma Symposium (40 memberships plus 12 pioneers - family). Be sure to renew your OCTA membership promptly. Renewals have been slow in recent months. Your help is appreciated.

4- The Southwest Chapter is in

the process of reorganizing and is selecting its new leadership. Two meetings of the steering committee have been held.

5- Later in January, two days of convention planning held in Loveland, CO, demonstrated that we will have another excellent OCTA Convention with lots of things to see and do.

6- The film, "In Pursuit of a Dream" is well on the way for its premiere at the convention in August. You will want to meet the students and others who made this project possible.

7- Our web site continues to improve and a virtual trail is being developed.

8- OCTA members and the OCTA documentary crew donated a total of 77,261 hours and \$641,704 for a total of \$2,149,066. That is a great boost in gaining other funding to support our efforts.

9- The CA-NV Chapter will host the 2010 OCTA Convention at Elko, NV.

10- If you or a member you know would be a good OCTA Board member, encourage him or her to contact Vern Gorzitze and become a candidate. We have an excellent Board and I'm sure it will continue that way as new members join it.

11- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is now law and money is flowing to our trail partners - Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management & the National Park Service. An emphasis is on employing youth. These agencies could hire youth to assist with trail projects.

12 - At press time we learned that the Wyoming Film Festival has selected "In Pursuit of a Dream" as

one of its feature films to present during the 2009 event, August 20-22 in Saratoga, WY. The Festival plans to showcase the film as a way to encourage families to participate in the event. Watch the film blog, www.octatrails.blogspot.com, for more details on this and other film related activities.



I was glad to participate in the Yuma Symposium, the Loveland Convention planning meetings, and the Partnership for the National Trails System meeting in Washington, DC. Those of us representing OCTA and attending the Trails Partnership meeting spent much of the week making legislative contacts in support of the Omnibus Public Lands Bill and the funding for the National Park Service so that the necessary feasibility studies on the 64 trail segments and cutoffs can take place. Other trails and wilderness areas were also recognized.

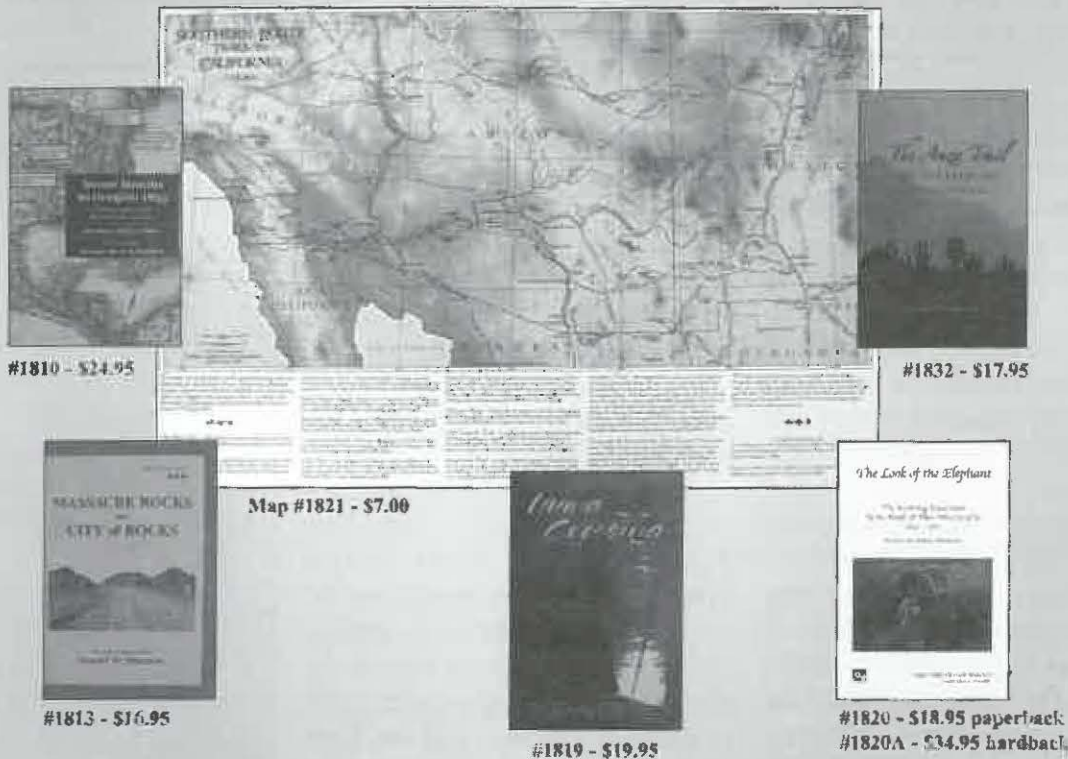
Be sure your OCTA dues are current. If you can renew at a higher level or make a donation to OCTA, it would be appreciated. Find information online at www.octa-trails.org/about/join_octa.php.

I encourage you to join and take part in all the OCTA chapters that are of interest to you. If you are an Ezra Meeker Life Member, you should join chapters as well.

For information on the dues for each chapter, contact Headquarters at 888-811-6282 or find information at www.octa-trails.org/chapters/index.php.

*Preserving the emigrant trails begins
with learning their history....
....what better way is there to do this
than by increasing our knowledge....*

Below are some of our recent additions to the OCTA Store.



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Mapping and Marking Reorganizes

By Dave Welch
Mapping and Marking Chair

The committee has continued its efforts to establish guidelines for the use of mapping software and GPS devices for OCTA's trail mapping. In the adjacent column there is a statement that summarizes our conclusions to date.

It should be noted that the statement addresses the use of GPS devices and software for generating maps. While many are now using this approach, hand-plotting of the trail location on a quad map as per the MET Manual remains a viable option. In fact, in the absence of the ability to accept digital inputs, the NPS prefers this approach. When a paper quad map is sent to the NPS in Salt Lake City, it is scanned, geo-referenced, and the trail data is digitized for use in their GIS system. This introduces a number of errors as the data moves through the collection, plotting and digitization process, but it is adequate for locating the trail for most purposes.

Currently, the NPS is working with three sets of trail data. These data are not necessarily the same since they were gathered (or are being gathered) at different times using different processes. The first is the "100K Map Set." These maps were prepared by OCTA members (and others) in the 1980s and 1990s on 1:100,000 scale maps for use in the development of the comprehensive management plans. Their underlying source was the expertise of individual members. In some cases multiple versions for the same area were submitted and the NPS prepared a final map based upon all inputs.

It is the NPS's intent to make the 100K information available to OCTA

members and the general public. To that end the maps are being scanned and will be available as "tiff" files. Each map requires 30 to 40 MB for storage. At this time, about seventy percent of the maps have been scanned. The maps will be available to OCTA members through the Mapping and Marking Committee.

The second data set consists of the MET standard 24K (i.e., 1:24,000 scale) quads. At the present time we are preparing an inventory of the 24K maps that have been submitted. Once that is prepared, we will have a basis for planning new work. The finished maps are not generally available to the public since they are much more accurate than the 100K maps and could lead to exploitation of trail artifacts by unauthorized personnel. A procedure for making this data available to OCTA members is still being worked out.

The final data set is based upon collection using the NPS's Trimble mapping hardware and software. This is the most accurate data set and is supported by extensive documentation. Some OCTA members have been trained on the use of this system, but it is complex and requires frequent use to maintain proficiency. Based upon experiences to date, it appears that the best approach is to complete the 24K maps using the MET standards (either manually or with mapping software) before doing a final pass with the Trimble system. When completed, this data will support generation of maps at any scale.

As a reminder, training on mapping processes is available through OCTA's preservation training project. Most chapters have hosted training, but it can be presented again. Chapters

should contact Leslie Fryman if you are interested in hosting a session.

If you have questions or comments concerning our mapping efforts, please contact Dave Welch at welchjd@comcast.net or 360-923-0438. Thanks to all of the members of the Mapping and Marking Committee for their efforts and support.

Mapping Software

Mapping has been a part of OCTA activities from the founding of the organization. Over the years the activities have evolved with three objectives: mapping for personal use, mapping for OCTA's national mapping project, and mapping in support of the National Park Service's (NPS) mapping project. At various times it has been suggested that OCTA establish a mapping standard for GPS devices and software to provide consistency and interoperability among those doing mapping projects. This statement addresses that issue.

It is not our purpose to dictate how individuals pursue mapping activities for their own use. However, it is suggested that the standards for OCTA's national mapping efforts be used if possible, especially for new projects.

The NPS mapping project uses the sophisticated Graphics Information System (GIS) software products of ESRI, Inc. These products are components of the ArcGIS Desktop. This state-of-the-art system is widely used, but is complex

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CA-NV Chapter

Beginning the Trek to Elko in 2010

By Bob Evanhoe

The CA-NV chapter will hold the 2010 national convention in Elko, NV. It will have been 14 years since the 1996 convention in Elko, and a new generation will be in charge. Jan Petersen, daughter of longtime members Pat and Bob Pearce, is chairing the event. Mark on your calendars now: Aug. 9-15, 2010, for some old favorites and new delights. Elko is a can-do town, having just hosted 5,000 people for the annual Cowboy Poetry gathering. And the locals are very much interested in our history-oriented group of 500.

A highlight of the week will be a dinner and presentation in the new BLM California National Historic Trail Center. This beautiful structure and grounds are located just west of Elko and above I-80.

Carson River Route Cleanup Planned

A trail cleanup and marking project on several segments of the Carson River Route from above Woodfords

Interior furnishing is underway, with installations continuing throughout the next two years. The location of the center was chosen to view the mouth of the South Fork of the Humboldt River, across the valley of the main stream. This is where the Hastings Cutoff rejoined the California Trail. The Bidwell-Bartleson and Donner parties, users of the route, will be featured in the Center.

Work continues on the transfer of Charlie Little's vast Western history library to the Western Overland Trails Collection at the California State Library. Don Buck has overseen this massive effort. And Shann Rupp has taken possession of many boxes of diaries for OCTA's COED program. Personally and on behalf of our organization, we thank Nola for this more-than-generous donation in Charlie's memory.

to the upper area of Hope Valley will be held July 20 and 21, 2009.

Participants will be cutting brush and fallen trees that cross the Trail and installing California Trail logo markers. Participants are asked to provide their own work gloves, tools, and lunch and drinks. Some chain saws will be needed. For those without any tools, please let us know so some may be provided.

This is a fun event with some work, socializing, and a bit of trail exploring. This outing is limited to 25 people on a first-come, first-served basis. More detailed information will be provided after signup. To register contact Frank Tortorich, e-mail: fotrtorich@volcano.net Tel: 209-296-7242.

BLM Internship Opportunity

The California Trail Center is looking for applications for a paid internship sponsored by Americorps, the Nevada Conservation Corp, and the Great Basin Institute. This is a great opportunity for the right person.

For details contact: Gary Koy, Park Ranger, Bureau of Land Management - Elko District, California National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, Elko, Nevada 89801 775-934-2467

Mapping Software

Continued From Previous Page

and expensive. In most cases it is not practical for individuals to acquire these products and develop a proficiency in their use. Therefore, the selected approach is to produce mapping products that can provide input into GIS software like ArcView (a component of ArcGIS Desktop).

From the perspective of low cost and moderate complexity, MapTech Terrain Navigator Pro is preferred. The cost is \$299 per state. The "Pro" version includes the capability to import other maps and images for use with the quads included in the software. If this capability is not needed, then the standard version is appropriate at a cost of \$99 per state. The Pro version also accepts "ArcGIS Extensions" to provide interoperability with ESRI ArcGIS Desktop products.

A capability similar to ESRI's products is provided by Global Mapper (GM). Like ArcView, this software uses maps and data from other sources which are generally available at no cost. GM's complexity is greater than the Terrain Navigator products, but it provides some additional capabilities. Its cost without maps is \$299.

Other mapping software such as the National Geographic and DeLorme maps are acceptable, but these software packages do not permit import of external maps and images nor do they have the capability to segregate information in layers on a map. Their cost is about \$99 per state.

Y IS FOR YUMA WITH A YEN FOR YESTERYEAR

An Alphabet, not An Algorithm

Adapted by Patricia Etter

A is for *Awesome* maps that *Accurately* define the *Amazing* fact that in 1849 *All* trails led to Yuma, Arizona. On the way, goldseekers passed *Abo*, *Antelope* Mounds, *Animas* Valley, and *Anza* Borrego, and watched out for the *Apache* on the way.

B is for historical *Boundaries* followed by Edward Fitzgerald *Beale*, and also Jack *Beale* Smith, who is not *Bonkers* *B* ut *Buckles* down to *Blaze* southern *Bona fide* trails with no *Blather*. It was no *Ballyhoo* when Dr *Bunnel*, safe from the Yuma Crossing, could *Boast* on the *Beauties* of Yosemite.

C is for cartographer, Tom Jonas, who *Creates* maps *Capturing* with the utmost *Clarity*, *Celebrated* trails like *Camino del Diablo* and *Cooke's* Road, and with *Ceaseless* accuracy, *Charts* the location of *Colorful* Natives, the *Cocopah*, *Chiricahua*, *Comanche*, *Choctaw*, without forgetting *Col. Choteau*, and the *Celebrated* *Kit Carson*. Oh, and let's not forget the *Canadian* River, *Colored* red, that guided *Crowds* west. *Aye Carrumba!* Consider the *Casinos*.

D stands for *El Camino Diablo*, the *Devil's* Highway and *Juan Bautista De Anza* who *Did* not *Dally* and *Dared* to *Depart* from *Tubac*, Arizona, and with *Determination* and *Due Diligence*, *Did* not *Deviate* from his *Dynamic* goal to found the city of *San Francisco*.

E stands for *El Paso*, the *Evolving* city east of the *Rio Grande* first known as *Franklin*, while *El Paso del Norte* west of the *Rio Grande* *Elected* to *Evolve* as *Juarez*. Oh, and there is no *Excuse* to *Exclude* Lieutenant

Emory who *Eloquently* *Explained* the *Exodus* to California.

F is for *Fort* Smith in old *Arkansas*, where thousands of *Fearless* and not *Feeble* emigrants *Fattened* their not yet *Footsore* mules and horses, then with *Frivolity* and *Friendship*, marched into *Indian* country. A *Favorite* sport in every town was the *Fandango*, where "the way the population waltzes is a caution to cripples," moaned one *Footsore* *Fool*.

G *Good* Heavens, *G* is always for *Josiah* *Gregg*, the *Santa Fe* trader who was no *Goof* off but with *Get* up and *Go*, and *Gobs* of *Grit*, *Guided* his wagons filled with *Goods* and *Gin*, to the expectant and *Genial* citizens of *Santa Fe*. We must not forget the *Gila* Trail that *General* *Kearny* forged with his *Gutsy* army who did not *Grumble*. Nor should we forget the two passes of *Guadalupe* in *Texas* and *New Mexico*, and *Grand* *Mount* *Graham* on the *Gila* Trail, where one must *Giddy-up* and not *Gad* about.

H *Has* to be for *Ho!* To *California*, and *Hardtack*, not the *Hallowed* *Hamburger*. *Hurrah*, for *Texan* *John* *Coffee* *Hays*, who survived *Apache* *Pass* and without *Hesitation*, founded the *Hospitable* city of *Oakland*. Then there were the *Heavy* loads the emigrants packed in *Haste* and *Had* to *Heave-Ho* on the *Hazardous* sands of the *Colorado* Desert. Don't forget *Horsehead* Crossing, *Texas* where *Horse* skulls pointed the way.

I So many *Interesting* *Indian* villages. They passed the *Idyllic* village of *Isleta* on the *Rio Grande*, where no one was *Idle*. They *Indulged* in *chile* *Indiscreetly* and found the heat *Index* *Inexorably* high.

J The *Jornado del Muerto* was a *Journey* *49ers* *Justifiably* *Jettisoned*

and *Jogged* on, but such was not the case in *Janos*, *Chihuahua*, where some avoided a *Joint-operation* in a *Joyless* search for *Apaches*.

K Way back, *Father* *Kino*, a *Keen* *Keeper* of the faith, *Knew* that *California* was not an island. Later, *General* *Kearny* who was not *Kittenish* but wanted the *Keys* for the *Kingdom* of *California*, and he got them after a *Knock-down-drag-out* fight where he was almost *Kicked* in the *Keister*.

L Oh for the *Llano* *Estacado*, a *Legendary* *Land* of *Limitless* grass where one does not *Loiter*. Nor did travelers *Luxuriate* or *Linger* in *La* *Joya* on the *Rio Grande*, "a brick-yard looking place." *Lemitar*, just down the road, was where *Legendary* *Governor* *Armijo* *Listed* his address since his *Leadership* was now *Limited*.

M *Mamá* *Mía!* Must not leave out *Möllhausen* who was no *Milquetoast* and while on the *March* with *Whipple* *Managed* *Meticulous* and not *Monotonous* *Masterpieces*. Don't forget the *Mimbres* River which was not *Malodorous*, or the *Marvelous* *Mesquite* with its *Multitude* of life-saving *M* orsels. Add *David* *M* iller, who *Magnanimously* and *Methodically* shared *Millions* of notes, *Mindful* that they were not *Metaphysical*.

N Never forget the *No-nonsense* *Robert* *Neighbors*, *Nominated* to *Navigate* a *N* ovel and *Mifty* road on *Neutral* ground to the *Pass* of the *North*. In *California*, there was *Nothing* of the kind like *Non-existent* *New* River, that flowed north in not *Miggardly* amounts. And *Nobody* missed the *Notorious* *Night* Creek.

O *Oyez!* *OCTA* is *Openly* *On* record for not *Opposing* or *Objecting* to the study of *Organized* trails below *Oregon*. Once on the road, *Overlanders* showed *Optimism* until *Overstuffed*



In Memory

JEANNE MILLER

February 21, 1923 - January 26, 2009

OCTA Executive Director 1988-1997

**Richard Ackerman, OCTA's President
from 1987-1989 who was responsible for
hiring Jeanne Miller, said of her:**

**"I don't think I ever thanked her enough for
coming to work for us, but I think she liked
the job and we all liked having her there
helping all of us. She was a new player that
came and helped a New Struggling
Organization develop into the Organization
we can be proud of today.**

THANK YOU JEANNE MILLER."



We Remember Jeanne Miller

Jeanne Miller came to OCTA during a chaotic time, which had resulted from a renewed national interest in the preservation of the historic emigrant trails. OCTA's membership was growing rapidly as were the numerous tasks required to serve the new members, publish our periodicals, plan conventions, establish the OCTA store, and try to keep an unruly group of Officers and Directors content. This was certainly not an easy task, but Jeanne being a "true Renaissance Woman" brought badly needed leadership skills and an enthusiasm and energy to this task and accomplished all this well beyond our wildest expectations.

Jeanne continued to serve OCTA for well over a decade and during her retirement continued to maintain a lively interest and concern for OCTA. She accomplished all this in a kind, ladylike manner.

She would always get the work done, not for her personal gain, but for the benefit of OCTA. By doing this, she brought a oneness and unity to the organization that was sorely needed and essential to the position of respect and awe that OCTA holds today in the historic trail community.

"Her face was fair, her person pleasing, her temper amiable, her heart kind, she delighted in relieving the wants of her fellow creatures, and cultivated that divine pleasure by the most liberal and unpretending methods."

(From the Epitaph for President Jackson's Beloved Wife, Rachel)

Jeanne will be greatly missed. Rest well, good and gentle lady. you have "fought the fight, and run the race" and now you are safely home with loved ones that have gone before you.

Jim and Judy Budde

**Donations may be made to
OCTA in her memory.**

**Memorial contributions to
OCTA can be sent directly to
OCTA headquarters or through
the Network for Good by
visiting octa-trails.org and type
in Network for Good in the
search box on the home page.**

Y IS FOR YUMA WITH A YEN FOR YESTERYEAR

conveyances Overturned all Out of whack. This is not an Oxymoron.

P Ah, Pecos! The Place where one not so Preposterous Persona Picked off layers of dirt to Penetrate a Pithouse for booty. Providence Propelled these Persistently Pusillanimous People across the desert to Provoke Pueblo People with their Prowess and steal their Provisions. Take Puyas Lake. Nothing to Plunder there except to Ponder the geothermal springs. We must not pass up the peaceful Pima P opulace, who were P ivotal in Preserving lives with Pumpkins that travelers who were not P ussycats, did not P ush aside.

Q Quitobaquito. A Quiescent spring near El Camino Diablo, where only the Quail will go. But ancient Quarai, way off in New Mexico, caused a Quandary about its origins so travelers Quietly Quit the place. Next came the Quirky Quechan who Queued up for a Quarrel causing the Quivering emigrants to think the Indians were Queer ducks.

R Rivers Ran free and clear and travelers were not Rigid in either Rhapsodizing or Renouncing the Representative traits. The Rio Grande was Repulsively silty; sandbars Ruled the Gila; while a Rude awakening came at the fast-R unning Colorado. Oh, the Rockies. One person, definitely not a Rogue, Rhapsodized on the deep Ravines, Rocky precipices and Rich grasses.

S Out of Texas came a bunch of Scoundrels and Scallywags, who were later Secessionists, and Set out to Shoot down Apache and Sneer at the Santa Cruz villagers, while the Socorro Texans, on the other hand, were neither Scrooges nor Stuffed shirts, and Structured a Splendiferous fandango. Sleepy San Miguel del Bado on the Southern Trail Splurged for the travelers who Sipped too



OCTA presented a map of the Southern Trails to the Yuma, AZ, mayor during the Symposium and Mid-Year Board meeting, gaining publicity in print and on television. (Photo by Jim Conway)

much and Skulked off to Sleep it off. We must not forget Santa Fe and the So-called hotel filled with Stinging creatures.

T Tucumcari, New Mexico was no Tacky hill, but some might Testify it to be a T hree-layer cake. Now, T umacacori in Arizona, still had Trappings of a 17th century church with T hree bells They tried hard to ring. To this point, we can say that many 49ers were not T actful in Treating with the Natives. They Took stuff. Their manners were Tarnished, and T he number who were T houghtful was matched by T houghtlessness. It is called ethnocentrism.

U Welcome to the Upper Emigrant road, Unveiled in 1849 when Upright Robert Neighbors, who was not Uppity, Ushered in a Useful road between Fredericksburg, Texas and El Paso. Untouched by fear, gold rushers accepted the Ups and downs of travel. Then there were those who were Utterly Used up, and suffered Unspeakable adventures. Most all United in Unveiling portions of the Gila Trail as Universally Unfit for travel.

V Welcome to Ojo de Vaca (Cow Springs) on the Southern Trail near Deming, New Mexico. It is easy to Vouch for the fact that Voyagers on the Various Villaneous trails Vied for the opportunity to Verbalize Vicissitudes Vividly, and they did, with great Vitality, Verbosity, and Veracity.

W Most exciting are the Wild Bulls in Sonora that did not Wallow, but Went running off While both Worthy and Worthless overlanders Whooped it up for a Windfall kill. Winding over W hitmire

Pass in the Boot Heel was Wholly Win Win when travelers gazed on the Wondrous Animas Valley. Wow for the Wonders of the West!

X is for the Xylophone, which no one played, but also for Xenophobia a form of which everyone had. Then there are Xerox copies for which we give thanks, and to Xandu, wherever one found it on the overland trail. Some stuff was X-rated so we won't go there.

Y Well, here we are to Yuma at last, for which we have no Yeeuck! feeling. And at Yuma there is no Yellow Fever. But everyone who arrived from the Youthful Yodeler to the Yammering Yeoman, shouted "Yipee, we made it to California, but not on a Yacht. At the same time the Yumans were strong swimmers who like the travelers, didn't know about Yogurt.

Z Zounds! We know the overlanders didn't go to ZyZZyx in San Bernardino County. But we do know that they Zealously Zigged and Zagged over a Zillion trails wishing for Zeppelins to ease the way.

Zee End.



OCTA's 27th Annual Convention

August 18-22, 2009

Loveland, Colorado



Hosted by the Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter



Convention Steering Committee

Mary Ann Tortorich, Chair

Annamae1846@gmail.com

209-296-7242

Ginny and Jerry Blanz

Winnie Burdan

Pat and Jack Fletcher

Nancy Houtz

Mary Ann Tortorich

Jane and Lee Whiteley



Convention website

www.octa-colorado.org

Online registration will be available after March 31, 2009.



Convention host hotel

Best Western Crossroads Inn & Conference Center

5542 East U.S. Highway 34

Loveland, Colorado 80537

Convention highlights

August 17-18:

- Pre-convention tours

August 18:

- Chapter Presidents Breakfast
- OCTA Board meeting
- Opening reception

August 19:

- Annual General Membership Meeting
- Keynote speaker: Lee Whiteley
 - Pathways to Gold: The Cherokee Trail, 1849 and the Smoky Hill Trail, 1859
- Agency Appreciation Luncheon
- Afternoon speakers
- Chapter meetings
- Premiere of *In Pursuit of a Dream* at the Rialto Theater

August 20:

- All-day bus tours
- Happy hour
- Awards Banquet
- Live Auction

August 21:

- Morning speakers
- Luncheon: National History Day Student Presentations
- Afternoon speakers
- Workshops
- Authors' night

August 22:

- All-day bus tours
- Closing Barbeque

📖 Book Room open August 18, 19, 20 and 21.

Bookmark

Our Site



www.octa-trails.org

Needs you!

Visit our newly-designed home page and see the changes.

Quick and easy links to trail facts, people and places, resources, events, partners, and more.

The best bookmark for trail and heritage information.

Upcoming Events

Partnership for the National Trails System Bi-Annual Conference

Missoula, MT
July 10-15, 2009

OCTA Convention
Loveland, CO
Aug. 18-22, 2009

News From the Plains

Summer Issue Deadline

May 22, 2009

Send materials to
nfpocta@aol.com

27th Annual OCTA Convention

Cherokee Trail to the West: 1849-1859

Plans continue to come together for the 27th Annual OCTA Convention to be held Aug. 18-22 in Loveland, CO, hosted by the Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter.

Registration materials are being finalized and will be mailed in early April. The convention web site, www.octa-colorado.org, will have a link to the OCTA web site for online registration.

"In Pursuit of a Dream," OCTA's movie, is nearing the finishing stages of editing and will be ready for its premiere in Loveland during the convention. There are only a limited number of seats available at the Rialto Theater, so register as early as possible so you can join the cast and crew on Wednesday evening, August 19. There will be entertainment and surprises galore before the showing. Additional showings of the film are planned during the week.

Before the premiere, a walking tour of historic Loveland will be offered, free of charge, to the first 35 people to pick up tickets at the Loveland Historical Society's table in the convention book room.

The annual raffle and auction will be held to benefit the local chapter and donations are still being sought for that event. Donations may either be mailed ahead or brought to the convention.

As in the past, items suitable for the raffle and auction include books, art work, historical memorabilia, photographs, gift items, gift baskets, note cards, handcrafted gifts, and a wide variety of other items.

If you would like to donate items



or have any questions at this time, please contact Camille Bradford: bradford@usa.net; 303-460-0371. Mail: 11515 Quivas Way, Denver, CO 80234

Display and sales tables are available for booksellers at the convention, which is a great venue for advertising and selling your trail-related books, art, and other merchandise. Attendance of over 400 enthusiasts is expected.

Tables for display of books and other merchandise must be reserved in advance. For more information, contact OCTA headquarters, or Robert Clark, 3334 W. Main St #506, Norman, OK, 73072; e-mail: bob@clarkrarebooks.com.

The members of the Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter look forward to having you as guests for the first ever Colorado OCTA convention. Come and join your OCTA friends and newcomers this August and learn about Colorado's historic trails.

Hotel, motel, RV park information and rates are available on the convention web page. Special rates for the OCTA Convention are offered by Best Western, the convention host hotel, and by Candlewood Suites, Holiday Inn Express, and Embassy Suites Hotel.

OREGON-CALIFORNIA TRAILS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents:		
General Operating Accounts		19,479
Restricted Accounts		
Film "In Pursuit of a Dream"	95,228	
Deferred Revenue	19,517	
Other	11,187	125,932
Investments (Endowment Funds):		
Heritage	421,294	
Loomis	179,869	
Martin	233,574	834,737
Receivables		28,942
Prepaid Expenses		1,093
Inventory		46,164
Office Furniture and Equipment-Cost \$35,754 less \$34,702 Accumulated Depreciation		1,052
Total Assets		<u>1,057,399</u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	35,694	
Payroll Taxes and Other Payables	3,577	
Deferred Revenue	19,517	
Total Liabilities		58,788

Net Assets

Unrestricted:		
Designated by Governing Board	304,624	
General	57,459	362,083
Temporarily Restricted		261,556
Permanently Restricted		374,972
Total Net assets		998,611
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		<u>1,057,399</u>

OREGON-CALIFORNIA TRAILS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

	General Operations	Restricted	Endowments	Total
Support and Revenue				
Membership Dues	82,015			82,015
NPS Grants	116,365			116,365
Convention Revenue, Net of Expense	32,445			32,445
Contributions	22,203	87,079	5,727	115,009
Life Memberships			3,000	3,000
Book and Mdse. Sales, Net of Costs	15,585			15,585
Investment Gains (Declines)		9,956	(169,190)	(159,234)
Other Income	11,124			11,124
Total Support and Revenue	<u>279,737</u>	<u>97,035</u>	<u>(160,463)</u>	<u>216,309</u>
Expenses:				
Board and Officers	8,030			8,030
Preservation, Education and Other Committees	18,092			18,092
Cooperative Agreement Salary and Expenses	81,919			81,919
General and Administrative	86,681			86,681
Publications	56,361			56,361
CCSP Projects	36,476			36,476
Film Production		187,252		187,252
Books and Mdse. Promotion	5,295			5,295
Total Expenses	<u>292,854</u>	<u>187,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>480,106</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	<u>(13,117)</u>	<u>(90,217)</u>	<u>(160,463)</u>	<u>(263,797)</u>

Operating expenses exceeded revenues by \$13,117. Budget projections for the year indicated expenses would exceed revenues by \$20,000 so the actual results were better than estimated, although we strive to at least break even each year.

Restricted revenues and expenses relate to the production of the film " In Pursuit of a Dream". It is expected the film will be completed in 2009. The above amounts are for the year only. Contributions and expenses since the project began through September 30, 2008 totaled \$286,944 and \$203,884 respectively.

The value of the investments in our endowment funds declined by \$169,190 for the year ended 9-30-08.

Turner Rivenbark
Treasurer

Annual Fund Drive Underway; Goal: \$22,000

Our members have remained loyal to trail preservation, even in times of an economic downturn.

We are extremely grateful for their consistent generosity. The accounting shows we are half way toward meeting our objective. If you haven't sent your donation yet, there is still time to do so as our campaign will conclude in May.

Results as of February 26, 2009:

General Fund,	\$ 8,895
Education,	300
Endowment,	375
Preservation,	1,375
Publications,	40
Total	\$10,985

Contributing so far:

Jay & Susan Aldous
 Lyle & LaVon Allen
 Bill & Jacque Arends
 Norman J Barker
 Rich Bartke
 Richard Bennett
 Gary J & Nancy Bjorge
 Roger Blair & Susan Doyle

Robin & Tom Broumley
 Judy Brown
 Lloyd & Marge Brownell
 Timothy A Burns
 Brian Burton
 Gail & Muriel Carbiener
 Robert & Margaret Carey
 Hayworth Clover
 Evelyn A Colvin
 Mary E Conrad
 Dr Howard Cramer
 Doug Crary
 Clarice Crowle
 Connye S Crump
 Jo Anna Dale
 Richard M & Virginia S Davis
 Robert P DeVecchi
 Howard Dugger
 Elmer & Betty Eberhardt
 Raymond & Maura Egan
 Frank J & Jackie Ellis
 John Everingham
 Tom Fee
 Gregory & Kathy Franzwa
 Charlotte Glinski
 Curtis & Nancy Grant
 Paul Grunland
 Carol Guthrie
 Virginia Hammerness
 Glenn & Carol Harrison
 Theodore Heil
 James Herring
 Barbee Hodgkins
 Connie C Holbrook
 Lu Ann Hunter

Duane & Carolyn Iles
 Robert A Iverson
 Art & Kathy Iworsley
 Dr Leon & Judith Jones
 Drs Robert H & Hedy Jones
 Polly Kennison
 Kay Kirkland
 William & June Knight
 Linda & Larry Lacey
 John & Terry Latschar
 Lawrence F Lenard
 R Lingner
 (in memory of wife, Sally)
 A S Littlefield
 Mrs Sarah Lund
 Francis A Madsen Jr
 Hugh & Carol March
 Ross Marshall
 Bill & Diana Martin
 Helen Martin
 Mike McCarthy
 Vernon A McDannald
 Michele & Michael
 McGeeney
 Keith Meldahl
 Jennifer Miller
 Dan Miller
 Howard & Bonnie Miller
 Mary Mueller
 D Jeanne & James Murray
 Dick & Ruby Nelson
 Virginia Nelson
 William & Margaret Nolan
 A Oscar Olson
 James T Owen

Keith A Palmquist
 Raechel Parker
 M Lethene Parks
 Henry Pittock
 Jim Rhine
 Dick & Maureen Rieck
 James & Sally Riehl
 Louis N Ritten
 Charles R & Claire Rossbach
 Tom & Carolyn Russell
 John Russell
 Cathleen Sato
 Raymond E Schoch
 Gene Serr
 Gary & Marley Shurtleff
 Zeke & Nancy Scotte
 Ariane Smith
 Stanley M Sorensen
 Theresa Speer
 Bill Speiden
 James & Carlene Spomer
 Alan Stockland
 Dr Jay & Mrs Leo Stovall
 Michael C Sullivan
 Harry Tuten
 Janet Uhler & Lorna Waltz
 David Valentine
 Ron Vines
 Ron Volk
 Gil Ward
 William J Weaver
 David & Wendy Welch
 Morris Werner
 Joseph Whitehorne
 Alexa Wood

OCTA Volunteer Contributions for 2008

Continued from Page 1

most members gave us actual information about the hours and expenses of those attending that convention. And, the Colorado Chapter provided first time reports on the hours and expenses in planning for the 2009 Loveland convention. With all your input, we greatly exceeded last year's 2007 report of 56,400 OCTA Volunteer Hours.

Based on Congressional formula:

VOLUNTEER	HOURS	EST. VALUE	+	FINANCIAL	= EST. TOTAL
OCTA Membership "In Pursuit of A Dream"	62,482	\$ 1,219,024.		\$ 597,013.	\$ 1,816,037.
Documentary *	14,779	\$ 228,388.		44,691.	\$ 333,029.
OCTA TOTAL	77,261	\$ 1,507,362.		\$ 641,704.	\$ 2,149,066.

New Members

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Membership Memos

Checking Your "To Do" List for OCTA

By Duane Hles
Membership Chair

Congratulations to the winners of the drawing for the Bonanza recruiting contest. At the mid-year board meeting, President Glenn Harrison drew from the recruiters to date. Winners were Vern Gorzitze – one free convention registration; Theodore Heil – one free tour; and Jerry Eichorst – one free tour. There is still plenty of time to get in the running for the big prize to be awarded at the convention. Remember that each recruit will earn you a \$5 certificate good at the OCTA store.

Congratulations to the Southwest Chapter. The Yuma Symposium and new energy has created a whole new level of excitement in the South. Here is a great opportunity for OCTA members to get double their money. If you are a northern OCTA member and a snowbird, you can hit the trails all year long. When you go south for the winter hook up with the Southwest Chapter and stay active! What a deal.

You are all recruiters. When you go to your Rotary, Lions, church events, etc., wear a cap with the OCTA patch. The OCTA store has a lot of them and will make you a good deal. Sew one on a jacket. Someone will ask what it is, and you now have an opportunity to sell OCTA. Volunteer to give a program to the service clubs, schools, social clubs, or any other group. They are always looking for a program. Call Kathy Conway at Headquarters, 888-811-6282. She will set you up with all the support material you can carry.

New Members

Sid Hagel
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