



News From the Plains

Summer 2009

Vol. XXIII

No. 3

Oregon-California
Trails Association

Colorado Hosts OCTA Convention

By Camille Bradford

The Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter is looking forward to hosting OCTA's 27th Annual Convention in Loveland, Colorado, Aug. 18-22. There is still time to register and participate in the many interesting convention events and tours.

Registration opens at noon on Tuesday, Aug. 18, at The Ranch in the Larimer County Fairgrounds and Events Complex. The convention will begin with a Welcome Reception on Tuesday evening. One of the highlights of the reception will be the arrival of Transworld Tractor Treks, a group of tractor enthusiasts from Western Australia. The group will be on a tour of the United States following historic trails along a 5,000-mile route.

In Pursuit of a Dream, OCTA's spectacular new movie about the journey of 24 students across the Oregon Trail, will have its premiere on Wednesday evening, Aug. 19, at the Rialto Theater in Loveland. The film is produced by Boston Productions in cooperation with OCTA. The premiere will be preceded by entertainment and a walking tour of downtown Loveland. Denny "Scott" Miller, an



actor whose long career included his role as Duke Shannon on *Wagon Train* in the early 1960s, will speak at the premiere. Miller will also be participating in Authors' Night and other convention events.

Other special convention guests include Dan Rottenberg, an historian and award-winning author from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Rottenberg's most recent book is *Death of a Gunfighter: The Quest for Jack Slade, the West's Most Elusive Legend*. He will be speaking at the opening ceremony on Aug. 19 and participating in Authors' Night and other convention events and tours.

The keynote speaker will be historian Lee Whiteley, a member of the Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter. His presentation is: *Pathways to Gold: Colorado's Cherokee Trail,*

1849 and The Smoky Hill Trail, 1859.

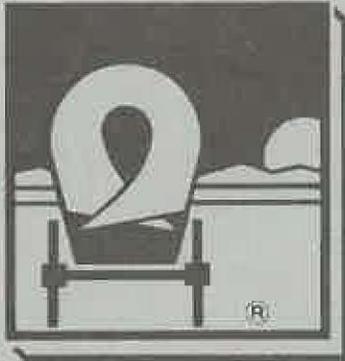
Convention tours are planned along the South Platte River, including visits to the sites of fur trade era posts, along the Cherokee Trail and the Virginia Dale Stage Station, and to sites in or near downtown Loveland.

The business of the organization will take place during the annual business meeting, with recognition of agency partners at a luncheon gathering and OCTA members and friends during the annual awards banquet.

A variety of papers and workshops on topics from the trails to topographical engineers and the fur trade are planned throughout the convention.

Full details about convention speakers, workshops, events, tours and a link to online registration are on the chapter Web site: www.octa-colorado.org.

Please be sure to check the Web site for the latest convention news and updates to the schedule as the date of the convention approaches.



News From the Plains

Editor

Candy Moulton
Star Route Box 29
Encampment, WY 82325
307/327-5465
nfpocta@aol.com

Contributing Editors

Robert Clark
Bill Martin
Glenn Harrison
Travis Boley
Kathy Conway

Oregon-California Trails Association

News from the Plains
Published quarterly,
P.O. Box 1019
Independence, MO
64051-0519
888-811-6282
816-836-0989 (fax)
octa@indepmo.org

Copyright 2009

Masthead photo by Candy Moulton

OCTA is a 501(c)(3)
Not For Profit Organization

Summer 2009 News From the Plains

2008-09 OCTA Officers

Officers, except Preservation Officer, are voting members of the Board

Glenn Harrison, *President*, 1132 30th PL. SW, Albany, OR 97321-3419;
gr.harrison@comcast.net

Bill Martin, *Vice-President*, 706 Country Club Road, Georgetown, TX
78628; lexiconomist@suddenlink.net

Lethene Parks, *Secretary*, 13020 NE 93rd Street, Vancouver, WA 98682;
lethene@comcast.net

Turner Rivenbark, *Treasurer*, 119 Sunset Rd., Wallace, NC 28466;
trivenbark@embarqmail.com

Leslie R. Fryman, *National Preservation Officer*, 6944 La Havre Way,
Citrus Heights, CA 95621; archaeo44@yahoo.com

Vern Gorzitze, *Past President*, 3026 Metropolitan Way, Salt Lake City, UT
84109; vergor@viawest.net

2008-09 OCTA Board of Directors

Robert Clark, Norman, OK
bob@ahclark.com

Frank "Pinky" Ellis, Casper, WY
jnellis_1010@juno.com

Patricia Etter, Mesa, AZ
patricia.etter@asu.edu

Patricia K.A. Fletcher, Sequim, WA
jpfletcher@olympus.net

Duane Iles, Holton, KS
96cruisin@embarqmail.com

John Krizek, Prescott, AZ
JKrizek@aol.com

Fern Linton, Green River, WY
flinton@wyoming.com

Barb Netherland, Scottsbluff, NE
npvm@earthlink.net

John Mark Lambertson Independence,
MO jlambertson@indepmo.org

Lethene Parks, Vancouver, WA
lethene@comcast.net

Dave Vixie, Paradise, CA
drvixie@yahoo.com

Bill Wilson, Boise, ID
ma_bill@msn.com

Committee A - Headquarters, Operations, and Publications

Dave Vixie, Chair
Duane Iles, Membership Chair
Bob Clark
Patricia Etter
Bill Martin, Vice-President
Deborah and Jon Lawrence,
Publications Chairs

Committee B - Finances, Grants, Long-Range Planning, and Governance

John Mark Lambertson, Chair
Barbara Netherland
Pinky Ellis
Pat Fletcher
Bill Martin, Vice-President &
Fundraising Chair
Turner Rivenbark, Treasurer

Committee C - Preservation, Collections, Public Relations, and Property Management

Lethene Parks, Chair
John Krizek, Public Relations Chair
Bill Wilson
Fern Linton
Leslie Fryman, Preservation Officer &
Preservation Chair

Glenn Harrison, President & ex officio
on all committees



Plan now to attend
OCTA's 27th Annual Convention
August 18-22, 2009
Loveland, Colorado



Hosted by the Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter



Convention Steering Committee

Winnie Burdan
Pat and Jack Fletcher
Nancy Houtz
Jane and Lee Whiteley

Convention Chair

Camille Bradford
bradford@usa.net



Convention website

www.octa-colorado.org

Online registration

www.octa-trails.org



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:

- Opening ceremonies
- 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.

From the Association Manager...

Travis Boley
Tboley@indepmo.org

Visit Trail Sites Near Loveland, Berthoud

The 2009 OCTA Convention is shaping up to be one of the best ones yet. We've already sold out one of our pre-convention tours, and the other two are now at near-capacity. Our regular tours and tickets to the world premiere of *In Pursuit of a Dream* are also selling rapidly. I'd like to take a moment to focus specifically on the "Loveland and Berthoud" tour.

The "Four Forts Along the South Platte River" tour and both of the "Cherokee Trail and Overland Stage Route" tours (the bus and hiking tour) seem to be very popular among this year's convention-goers, and rightfully so. Having traveled the routes of both tours on a couple of occasions, I know that the scenery is spectacular, the historic sites that remain are some of the more interesting found today on Western trails, and the guides involved are the most knowledgeable. The same things can be said for the "Loveland and Berthoud" tour.

I single this one out specifically because the title of it has changed a bit since it was first announced in our registration materials. Now billed as "Loveland and Berthoud: Trails Across the Thompson Valleys," the new name better reflects the actual content of this tour. Sponsored by our valuable partners at the Loveland Historical Society and the Berthoud Historical Society (a town that lies seven miles south of Loveland), this tour will feature both the Cherokee and Overland Trails as they approach the Little Thompson River from the south and then cross the Big Thompson River just west of the main sections of Loveland. Tour participants will spend a good deal of time traversing trail near

the foothills of the Rockies, so the scenery will be unparalleled. I'll not delve into all of the fantastic details here, but if I've piqued your interest and you've not yet registered for the convention, please visit www.octa-colorado.org/thompson_valleys.htm to read a fantastic summary of the trails in this area.

□□□

It's still not too late to help sponsor one of our student-actors at the World Premiere for *In Pursuit of a Dream*. Because these kids hail from all corners of the country, it will not be an inexpensive endeavor to bring them to Loveland for the premiere. If you'd like to sponsor one of our kids, please contact me toll free at 888-811-6282 or e-mail me. Better yet, mail a check to: OCTA, 524 S. Osage St., Independence, MO 64050 with "student actor sponsorship" in the subject line. In my last quarterly column, I mentioned the various sponsor levels we're seeking, and because this is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, I want to take this moment to repeat the information.

For \$800, you will be a "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 the \$400 level, you will be a "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. And at the \$200 level, you will be a "Lunar Level" sponsor and receive two general admission tickets at the premiere, thanks in the film program, and a DVD copy of the film. And of course, I thank the people who have already stepped up to sponsor some of our student-actors.

□□□

OCTA's new Visa Affinity Card program continues to grow and provide new, important income from OCTA. In addition to garnering \$50 for each new application processed by United Missouri Bank in Kansas City, OCTA also helps other non-profit organizations set up their own Visa Affinity Card programs. For our efforts, OCTA receives \$10 for each new card approved for other organizations, while that non-profit also receives the same \$50 we receive when our supporters sign up for the Affinity Card. If you've not yet applied for your own card, I encourage you to sign up online at www.octa-trails.org/store/octa_credit_card.php.

We can now also launch Chapter versions of the Affinity Card, allowing your Chapter to personalize the images on the card to something you work to protect and promote in your own territory. If you'd like to see your Chapter develop its own card, have your chapter president contact me for details. Chapters would garner \$50 and National would garner \$10 for each successful application, and you could choose up to four card designs.

Mapping Software

By Dave Welch

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 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

From the Headquarters Manager...

Kathy Conway
Kconway@indepino.org

We are certain to see and learn quite a bit of trail history this August during OCTA's Annual Convention in Loveland, Colorado. Located on the 1850 Cherokee Trail/1864 Overland Trail and 15 miles northwest of the Trappers /South Platte River Trail/1849 Cherokee Trail, Loveland will be brimming over with great history. Surrounded by trail and nestled in the Rockies with its warm summer days and cool August nights, Loveland seems like the ideal place for OCTA to hold its first convention in Colorado.

There is still time to register for this wonderful week our Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter has planned for us (August 18-22). You can register on-line by visiting OCTA-trails.org or call toll free 888-811-6282.

We are delighted to announce that our two long-awaited publications

are now available for sale through the OCTA bookstore: *The Look of the Elephant* by Andrew and Joanne Hammond and *Rediscovered Frontiersman Timothy Goodale* by James McGill. For your ordering convenience, please find order forms in this publication.

Chuck Dodd has published another informative trail guide, *Chuck Dodd's Guide to Traveling the Applegate-Lassen Trail* (5½ by 8½ inches. 224 pages, with a Supplemental CD. \$22.95). The book is spiral-bound, designed for use on the trail. We will have this available through the OCTA bookstore.

Several members have asked for our current listing of books and items that we offer for sale. We have enclosed that listing as an insert. If we can help with your trail book and guide selections, call us at our toll-free number. We'll be happy to help.

Turner Rivenbark is Stepping Down in September

OCTA Needs Treasurer

Turner Rivenbark, OCTA's national treasurer, is retiring September 30, 2009. We now are beginning our search to find a replacement. Turner has offered to continue doing the accounting work, on a volunteer basis, (preparation of financial reports, etc.) that he has been doing while serving as treasurer.

The new treasurer would be someone who has served as treasurer or finance officer of a nonprofit organization or a business and has financial management experience. The treasurer's primary responsibility is oversight of OCTA's finances, plus serving as chair of the endowment funds investment advisory committee.

If you are interested, please contact Vern Gorzitze (801-484-9623) <vergor@viawest.net>.

Continued on Page 14

OCTA Has Opportunities for New Work

OCTA's Web site is being enhanced with a virtual trail. You could add to the usefulness of the Web site by sharing your trail photos and videos. E-mail or send them to Travis Boley at OCTA Headquarters.

The 2009 Convention in Loveland, Colorado is coming up soon. Be sure to register on line at www.octa-trails.org or by mail.

OCTA always needs your help in contacting potential members. Encourage those who might be interested to attend a meeting or outing with you. A gift membership would be appreciated.

Darryl Montgomery was selected as the Southern Trails Chapter Legislative Liaison Officer. Because many of the Southern trails were not included in previous legislation, that committee will determine which routes should be recommended to OCTA to be included in a new trails bill. Bill and Jeanne Watson have once again agreed to assist in getting a new bill introduced and worked through Congress.

Trail Studies Coming

On March 30, 2009, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 became Public Law 111-11. For the entire text see <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=h111-146>.

The economic stimulus bill passed, giving additional funds to the National Parks System, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Forest Service. Then the Federal Budget for Oct. 1, 2008 - Sept. 30, 2009 finally passed with even more funding for these agencies and others. But the specific funding to begin the necessary feasibility study

with mapping of the various segments of the trails needed to officially get them added to a National Trails Act is anticipated in the next three U.S. budget years. Once the study shows that these routes should be added, it still takes Congressional action to make it official.

The Park Service team in Salt Lake City is moving all the material relating to all authorized study routes and cutoffs into a new database to be ready for next year's study. Much of the material was provided by OCTA members

Aaron Mahr, Superintendent, National Trails-Intermountain Region of the National Park Service, recognizes that there exists strong collaboration between NPS and OCTA. Over the next few years that cooperation will be demonstrated with the completion of the additional routes feasibility study amendment for the four national historic trails.

Aaron suggests several ways that OCTA Chapters and members may become involved with this important challenge. The NPS will turn to the OCTA trail experts for assistance in route identification and verification of route resources and for assistance in knowing what work is completed or ongoing on route identification and protection. The NPS will need to know what opportunities exist along the routes for protection, interpretation, and development.

Also the NPS will turn to OCTA for assistance in knowing what important trail constituencies exist. This would include people who have done extensive work on trail documentation, people

or entities who have done work on trail advocacy, important land owners or managers, and holders of documentation or other information.

The NPS will be holding public scoping and information meetings. OCTA can help greatly in identifying local constituencies, getting the word out, identifying local media outlets, political entities, land managers, etc. OCTA can also help in the logistical effort of identifying good places locally to hold public meetings.

These activities are for preparation and production of the feasibility study and do not address advocacy for the trail designation, which is something OCTA does on its own. The planning procedure is this: now that the bill has become law, the call has been made within the NPS Planning division to identify the study as eligible for planning funds. We expect funds to be made available in FY10, meaning that when our budget becomes available, probably this winter, NPS will have funds to begin public scoping and other intensive planning activities. However, we are beginning data gathering now. The issues of route documentation and identifying "current conditions" on the routes is pertinent.

Routes

Section 5302 lists OCTA's proposed additions to existing national historic emigrant and Pony Express trails recommended ten years ago. Section 5 of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1244) is amended by adding at the end the following:

- (g) Revision of Feasibility and
Continued on Next Page

The President's View

Continued from Previous Page

Suitability Studies of Existing National Historic Trails-

(1) DEFINITIONS In this subsection:

(A) ROUTE - The term 'route' includes a trail segment commonly known as a cutoff.

(B) SHARED ROUTE - The term 'shared route' means a route that was a segment of more than one historic trail, including a route shared with an existing national historic trail.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR REVISION:

(A) IN GENERAL- The Secretary of the Interior shall revise the feasibility and suitability studies for certain national trails for consideration of possible additions to the trails.

(B) STUDY REQUIREMENTS AND OBJECTIVES - The study requirements and objectives specified in subsection (b) shall apply to a study required by this subsection.

(C) COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF STUDY - A study listed in this subsection shall be completed and submitted to Congress not later than three complete fiscal years from the date funds are made available for the study.

(3) OREGON NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL:

(A) STUDY REQUIRED - The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the routes of the Oregon Trail listed in subparagraph (B) and generally depicted on the map entitled "Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870" and dated 1991/1993, and of such other routes of the Oregon Trail that the Secretary considers appropriate to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of one or more of the routes as components of the Oregon

National Historic Trail.

(B) COVERED ROUTES: The routes to be studied under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

- (i) Whitman Mission route
- (ii) Upper Columbia River
- (iii) Cowlitz River Route
- (iv) Meek Cutoff
- (v) Free Emigrant Road
- (vi) North Alternate Oregon
- (vii) Goodale's Cutoff
- (viii) North Side Alternate Route
- (ix) Cutoff to Barlow Road
- (x) Naches Pass Trail

(4) PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL:

The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the approximately 20-mile southern alternative route of the Pony Express Trail from Wathena, Kansas, to Troy, Kansas, and such other routes of the Pony Express Trail that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of one or more of the routes as components of the Pony Express National Historic Trail.

(5) CALIFORNIA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL:

(A) STUDY REQUIRED- The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the Missouri Valley, central, and western routes of the California Trail listed in subparagraph (B) and generally depicted on the map entitled "Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870" and dated 1991/1993, and of such other shared Missouri Valley, central, and western routes that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of one or

more of the routes as components of the California National Historic Trail.

(B) COVERED ROUTES - The routes to be studied under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

(i) MISSOURI VALLEY ROUTES:

- (I) Blue Mills-Independence Road
- (II) Westport Landing Road
- (III) Westport-Lawrence Road
- (IV) Fort Leavenworth-Blue River Route
- (V) Road to Amazonia
- (VI) Union Ferry Route
- (VII) Old Wyoming-Nebraska City cutoff
- (VIII) Lower Plattsmouth Route
- (IX) Lower Bellevue Route
- (X) Woodbury Cutoff
- (XI) Blue Ridge Cutoff
- (XII) Westport Road
- (XIII) Gum Springs-Fort Leavenworth Route
- (XIV) Atchison/Independence Creek Routes
- (XV) Fort Leavenworth-Kansas River Route
- (XVI) Nebraska City Cutoff routes
- (XVII) Minersville-Nebraska City Road
- (XVIII) Upper Plattsmouth Route
- (XIX) Upper Bellevue Route

(ii) CENTRAL ROUTES:

- (I) Cherokee Trail, including splits
- (II) Weber Canyon route of Hastings Cutoff
- (III) Bishop Creek Cutoff
- (IV) McAuley Cutoff
- (V) Diamond Springs Cutoff

Continued on Next Page

KANZA Chapter Alcove Spring to Create Flower Garden

By Duane Iles

Work has begun on creating an Oregon Trail Memorial Garden as a tribute to the pioneers who passed through Alcove Spring to begin new lives in the West. The garden was inspired by Gregory M. Franzwa and will be dedicated to his memory in recognition of his relationship with Alcove Spring and his many contributions to OCTA.

The garden will have for its focal point hollyhocks grown from seeds that Greg provided from the original seeds that were taken along the trail by the ancestors of Joyce Hunsaker. It will eventually include specimen plantings of flora found in the area as well. Trees and plant concentrations along the several miles of trail will be marked. The garden will be an educational resource.

The garden will be dedicated September 12 at a barbecue. Joyce Hunsaker will present her play "Fanny." Other events for the day are still being planned. A special native limestone marker recognizing Greg will be installed during the event.

The President's View

Continued from Previous Page

- (VI) Secret Pass
- (VII) Greenhorn Cutoff
- (VIII) Central Overland Trail

- (iii) **WESTERN ROUTES:**
- (I) Bidwell-Bartleson Route
- (II) Georgetown/Dagget Pass

Trail

- (III) Big Trees Road
- (IV) Grizzly Flat Cutoff
- (V) Nevada City Road
- (VI) Yreka Trail
- (VII) Henness Pass Route
- (VIII) Johnson Cutoff
- (IX) Luther Pass Trail
- (X) Volcano Road
- (XI) Sacramento-Coloma Wagon

Road

- (XII) Burnett Cutoff
- (XIII) Placer County Road to Auburn

(6) **MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL:**

(A) **STUDY REQUIRED** - The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the routes of the Mormon Pioneer Trail listed in subparagraph (B) and generally depicted in the map entitled "Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870" and dated 1991/1993, and of such other routes of the Mormon Pioneer Trail that the Secretary considers appropriate to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of 1 or more of the routes as components of the Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail.

(B) **COVERED ROUTES** - The routes to be studied under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

- (i) 1846 Subsequent routes A and B (Lucas and Clarke Counties, Iowa)
- (ii) 1856-57 Handcart route (Iowa City to Council Bluffs)

- (iii) Keokuk route (Iowa)
- (iv) 1847 Alternative Elkhorn and Loup River Crossings in Nebraska
- (v) Fort Leavenworth Road; Ox Bow route and alternates in Kansas and Missouri (Oregon and California Trail routes used by Mormon emigrants)
- (vi) 1850 Golden Pass Road in Utah.

(7) **SHARED CALIFORNIA - OREGON TRAIL ROUTES:**

(A) **STUDY REQUIRED** - The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the shared routes of the California Trail and Oregon Trail listed in subparagraph (B) and generally depicted on the map entitled "Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870" and dated 1991/1993, and of such other shared routes that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of 1 or more of the routes as shared components of the California National Historic Trail and the Oregon National Historic Trail.

(B) **COVERED ROUTES** - The routes to be studied under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

- (i) St. Joe Road
- (ii) Council Bluffs Road
- (iii) Sublette Cutoff
- (iv) Applegate Route
- (v) Old Fort Kearny Road (Oxbow Trail)
- (vi) North Side Platte River Trail
- (vii) Childs Cutoff
- (viii) Raft River to Applegate

There is much for OCTA members to do over the next four years. We can accomplish great things working together.

News From the Plains and Overland Journal Seeking Applications for Editor

By Deborah and Jon Lawrence
Publication Committee Chairs

OCTA is accepting applications for the positions of editor of *News From the Plains* and *Overland Journal*. Applications must be submitted by August 1, 2009.

The editor of *News From the Plains* will produce four issues of the journal each year on a schedule established by the OCTA Publications Committee. The editor assumes responsibility for solicitation, writing, and editing of articles and for design of the publication. The editor must have editing and/or reporting/photography experience. He/she must be proficient in the use of word processing equipment, the internet, e-mail, and other peripheral programs and be familiar with desktop publishing software. The editor must be highly organized, and must possess an excellent command of the English language, outstanding written and verbal communication skills, strong negotiating talents, excellent budgeting and scheduling capabilities, the ability to meet tight deadlines, and outstanding copyediting and proofreading skills. The person must be knowledgeable about overland trails and general Western history, and have strong research/reporting skills. The minimum requirement for previous experience is one year as an editor or reporter for a newspaper, magazine or similar publication.

The Editor of the *Overland*

Journal will produce four issues of the journal each year on a schedule established by the OCTA Publications Committee. The editor assumes responsibility for solicitation and editing of articles. The editor is also responsible for the historical accuracy and value of interpretive material. The editor must have a minimum three years' editing experience, preferably of scholarly journals or general western history publications. He/she must be proficient in the use of word processing equipment, the Internet, e-mail, and other peripheral programs. He/she must be proficient with appropriate publishing software. The person must be highly organized and must possess an excellent command of the English language, outstanding written and verbal communication skills, strong negotiating talents, excellent budgeting and scheduling capabilities, the ability to meet tight deadlines, and outstanding copyediting and proofreading skills. The person must be knowledgeable about the overland trails and general western history, and have strong research skills. The minimum education requirement is a bachelor's degree in history, English, journalism, or communications. Familiarity with other historical publications is desirable.

Please submit the application to Deborah and Jon Lawrence, OCTA Publications Committee, either online at <dlawrence@fullerton.edu> or by mail at 338 ½ Camino Cerrito, Santa Fe, NM 87505.

2009 OCTA Convention

August 18-22, Loveland, Colorado

Membership News: Gold Strike in Loveland

By Duane Iles
Membership Chair

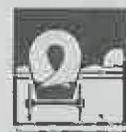
There is still time to win one of the three prizes in the Membership Bonanza Contest. The first prize is \$100, second prize is \$50, and third prize is \$25. A minimum of five new memberships is required for entry. The cash prize will be awarded at the Loveland Convention awards banquet in special OCTA gold pouches. Winners also receive gold pan awards.

As of May 1, one person has qualified with five memberships and several others are near that goal. Don't miss your chance to be recognized with very unique awards for your contributions to OCTA's membership goals.

Even if you don't sign-up five new members or win, you still receive a \$5 OCTA store gift certificate for each membership you gain. Most important, you are doing your part to keep OCTA strong.

Bookmark

Our Site



www.octa-trails.org

Needs you!

Preservation Officer's Report

Leslie R. Fryman
archaeo44@yahoo.com

BLM Plans Trail Projects with Economic Stimulus Funds

This year the Bureau of Land Management received approximately \$320 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to be allocated to facilities and improvements, habitat restoration, remediation of abandoned mines, renewable energy authorization and permitting, and maintenance and construction of roads, bridges and trails. Approximately \$15 million of these funds will be applied to long-needed work on both historic and recreation trails. While recreation trail projects greatly outnumber those involving historic trails, projects involving National Historic Trails (NHTs) have been identified by BLM for nearly every western state. Use of ARRA funds for mapping, marking and monitoring (managing) NHTs presents a terrific opportunity for OCTA to participate with its trail partners and to accomplish more detailed documentation of trail trace and associated sites than ever before.

ARRA projects will be handled through normal BLM procurement processes in place at the state and field office level. Some general stipulations to project development do apply – agencies are encouraged to involve job corps for young adults (e.g., Youth Conservation Corps, Student Conservation Association) and concentrate on work that is “shovel-ready,” (think CCC and WPA!). Additionally, the BLM will use ARRA money to target “highly-rated” projects such as those located in units of the National Landscape Conservation System, explaining a project focus (in the list below) on the scenic qualities of historic trail “viewsheds” or landscapes.

In addition to trails work, the large number of new, non-trails projects generated by stimulus funds will also increase the potential for impacts to cultural resources, including historic trails. States not listed below are not excluded from project work that could affect historically significant trails.

BLM cultural or recreational staff has contacted OCTA for input and participation on only one or two of the trails projects listed below. Chapter presidents and preservation officers, please do not wait for an invitation from BLM offices managing your historic emigrant roads. Using the list below, please contact your state BLM archaeologist for direction on which field office and field office staff have been assigned to handle trail projects.

Arizona

- Juan Bautista de Anza NHT repairs and route marker installation

California

- Nobles Trail Inventory, Interpretive Design and Management Prospectus
- Stevens NHT, trailhead
- Trail condition assessments
- Viewshed analysis of Old Spanish NHT

Colorado

- Trail condition assessments (recreational or historical, and which trail, is not identified)

Idaho

- Inventory Oregon/ California Trail within field office
- Lewis & Clark NHT

Interpretation and Education

- NHT mapping and monitoring

New Mexico

- Old Spanish and Camino Real NHTs (type of work unidentified)
- Trail condition assessments (uncertain if this involves historic trails)
- Viewshed analysis of Old Spanish NHT

Nevada

- NHT viewshed analysis (Visual Resource Management)

Oregon

- National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center Trail

Utah

- NHT construction, reclamation and restoration

Wyoming

- Cultural impact mitigation – wind energy projects (may involve historic trails)
- NHT inventory, context development and landscape analysis pertaining to wind development
- NHT trail interpretive site maintenance/upgrade and trail marking

A complete list of BLM stimulus fund projects for each state may be found at <http://recovery.doi.gov/press/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/blm-recovery-act-projects.pdf>

Idaho Chapter

Chapter Has New Newsletter Editor

**By Doug Jenson
I-OCTA President**

The Idaho Chapter continues to undergo some reorganization. Amy Ballard has taken over as the new editor of *Trail Dust*, the chapter newsletter. She has professional

journalism experience and is off to a great start. As part of the changes, we have gone to almost exclusively electronic distribution of the newsletter. Links to it are available from the chapter Web site, www.idahoocta.org. The Web site is also used to provide up-to-date

information on chapter activities.

The chapter has several trail-related trips scheduled for this summer: one on the Lander Road, a tentative one to the City of Rocks area, and one on the North Alternate portion of the Oregon Trail in western Idaho.

Stabilization Project Completed at Fort Hall

Fort Hall was built in southeastern Idaho in 1834, and served as a waypoint for travelers on the Oregon and California Trails. It was located on the bank of the Snake River. As time progressed, erosion made inroads on the piece of ground where the fort was located.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, along with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, realizing the historic import of the Fort Hall site, took steps to stabilize the erosion situation.

On May 27, a ceremony was held at the site, dedicating 3,800 feet of riprap along the shore of the



SNAKE RIVER and re-dedicating the monument at the Fort Hall location. The president of the Idaho chapter of OCTA, Doug Jenson, attended the ceremony and represented the trails organizations.

For the past several years, the river shore upstream from the fort site had been eroding at the rate of 20-30 feet per year. The various agencies, led by the Bureau of Reclamation, applied for funding, and over the space of three years, installed a substantial quantity of rock material, stabilizing the shore from further erosion.

The Fort Hall site has great significance for the tribal personnel, as well as the emigrants. The area was used by the local inhabitants long before the white man appeared on the scene.



The Fort Hall Snake River stream bank stabilization project involved a ribbon cutting to recognize the work of tribal, trail, and federal partners. At right is Idaho Chapter President Doug Jenson with the Fort Hall Marker, show above.

Bridger Butte Wind Project Could Impact Trail

By Candy Moulton

The Kemmerer BLM has announced an open house to discuss scoping for the proposed Bridger Butte Wind Energy Project. Bridger Butte Wind Power, LLC, is seeking a right-of-way for a 138kV transmission line to support the proposed Bridger Butte Wind Energy Project. The project area, located in the area surrounding Bridger Butte in southwestern Wyoming, includes 13,286 acres along the I-80 Corridor in Uinta County. The phased development of the project could result in a maximum build-out of a 130 megawatt electrical generating facility consisting of up to 120 1.5 megawatt turbines.

The right-of-way application proposes a new substation that would connect to the existing Painter-Naughton substation. The transmission line would cross both private and public lands.

Among the potential impacts from this project are effects to the National Historic Trails in this area and impacts to the viewshed around Fort Bridger State Historic Site. This project also could lead to increased industrialization of the historic valley and possibly impact other historic and prehistoric sites.

Further details about the project are available from the Kemmerer BLM at 307-828-4505.

CA-NV Chapter

The Elephant Has Arrived in Elko...

By Bob Evanhoe

The same elephant referred to by Andy Hammond on the inside front cover of the *Overland Journal* now resides in the new California National Historic Trail Center near Elko. As a result, the 2010 convention will be titled: Emigrants, Elko, THE Elephant!

Interestingly enough, the Elko elephant was cast in a foundry in Loveland, Colorado, site of this year's convention. The astonished miner accompanies the figure of the pachyderm. Work on the interior furnishings of the completed structure continues; some exhibits are now in place, according to David Hancock of H.B. Stubbs, the fabrication company hired to prepare and install exhibits. BLM's Dave Jamiel and Gary Koy are the proud hosts who are already serving the public on a limited basis.

The gift that keeps on giving, in this case, is the Charlie Little Library. The extra copies not needed by the California State Library may become the nucleus of a California Trail library at the Elko center. Don Buck and Dave Jamiel are currently reviewing volumes that may become available. Again, OCTA is deeply indebted to the Little family for this

generous donation.

Chapter work parties this summer will be cleaning and marking the Carson River route in the Woodfords and Hope Valley areas and on the Johnson's Cut-Off north of the main route.

The Johnson's Cut-Off is not to be confused with Johnson's Ranch, which is a destination on the Truckee-Donner Trail. The Cut-Off left the Carson Trail near Carson City in 1852, climbed up into the Tahoe Basin, skirting the south end of the Lake, and eventually met another branch at Junction House, on the way to Hangtown (Placerville). U.S. Hwy 50 approximates the Cut-Off alignment. Work on this route has involved mapping to Mapping Emigrant Trails (MET) standards, and is coordinated by Ellen and Ford Osborn. Ellen is a great, great-granddaughter of "Cockeye" Johnson, builder of the cut-off.

The chapter is in the process of transferring all dues collection to headquarters. Those of you who are still paying chapter dues direct should now pay them along with your national dues. If you need further information concerning your dues anniversary and payment, contact the chapter at P.O. Box 1521, Yreka, CA 96097 or <canvocta@sbcglobal.net>.

Kansas Teacher Wins Workbooks

Marysville, Kansas, elementary teacher Brenda Edwards received a set of trails workbooks from OCTA as part of an ongoing Education Committee program. The books cover the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, Lewis and Clark, and Pony Express Trails.

KANZA Chapter President Alicia Keegan made the presentation in early April on behalf of Bill Hill, chairman of the OCTA Education Committee.

In Pursuit of a Dream



OCTA PREMIERE

**August 19
Rialto Theater
Loveland, Colorado**



Meet the Cast



Hear the Dreamer
Trail Band



Main Oregon Trail Back Country Byway Proposed

By Jerry Eichhorst

Two years ago, Frank Jenks of the BLM proposed creating an Oregon Trail scenic byway from Glens Ferry to Boise. His intention was to identify and publicize this historical resource before encroaching development destroyed the trail remains. The services of the Idaho chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association were soon enlisted.

Wally Meyer and I began the process of identifying the route, developing a scenic byway guide booklet and completing grants for funding to publish the booklet. Through the efforts of Meyer, Antonia Hedrick (BLM), Michele Porter (BLM), and myself, the booklet was published in time to be unveiled at the 2008 OCTA convention in Nampa. Copies were distributed to all attendees.

This year was to be dedicated to creating interpretive and directional signs along the byway route. As I soon found out, such an effort requires the approval of the route by the Idaho Scenic Byway Review Committee (SBRC) and the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD).

Before such approval can be obtained, a lengthy application document must be created describing numerous attributes about the byway and the impact of additional traffic, local groups must be contacted and willing to support the byway, and local highway districts and the state transportation department must grant approval for the route and expected sign placements.

Once a byway is approved and becomes "official," it will be included in the state byway publication and on state and federal byway Web sites. It will also receive state and local support for sign installation and maintenance.

For several months this spring, I dedicated myself to working towards approval of the Oregon Trail scenic byway. The name of the byway was changed to "Main Oregon Trail Back Country Byway" because over half of the route is on gravel or dirt roads. Maps were redrawn to accommodate changes in the route.

Numerous organizations in the Glens Ferry and Mountain Home areas were contacted and their support received. Local highway districts provided input and support

for the route of the byway. The ITD granted permission to develop poster displays of the byway for the Blacks Creek rest areas near Boise and the Bliss rest areas. Changes have been identified for the next version of the byway booklet. The application document which compiles all of the information was created and submitted to the SBRC on April 26.

On May 14, 2009, the Scenic Byway Review Committee gave their approval for the Main Oregon Trail Back Country Byway. Garry Young, ITD Scenic Byway Administrator, said, [we] "toured your proposed byway yesterday and I must say, we were impressed. It's a very pleasant travel and the sites are amazing! The Scenic Byway advisory Committee is 100% supportive of your proposal which will go to the ITD Board in June."

A great deal of work remains to be done. The byway was approved approved by the ITD Board in June. Poster displays will be developed for the rest areas and the Mountain Home tourism center. Interpretive and directional signs and full map displays must be developed and installed along the route. The byway booklet will need to be modified and reprinted.

I would like to thank all of the people at the ITD, the BLM, and the numerous Glens Ferry and Mountain Home organizations who have supported the byway and provided so much assistance in developing the application.

I look forward to the creation and installation of the signs and displays to draw attention to the excellent remnants of the Oregon Trail which remain along this route.

Mapping Software

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

Continued From Page 5
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.

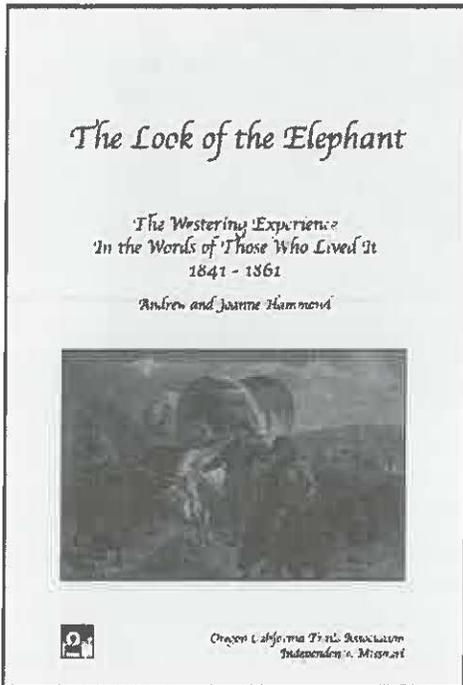
Now Available--A Great Book for Friends, Family, and Your Library!

The Look of the Elephant

The Westering Experience

In the Words of Those Who Lived It, 1841-1861

by Andrew & Joanne Hammond



Traveling the trail with the pioneers . . .

The words of those who actually left wagon tracks and boot prints in the dust of the emigrant trails are often more important than what modern historians say about the westward emigration.

Based on the popular "The Look of the Elephant" column featured in the *Overland Journal*, Andy and Joanne Hammond's exhaustive collection of diary quotes is a must-have for any student of the overland experience.

Keynoted by maps, overviews of the trails and jumping off places, and thumbnail biographies of the diarists, *The Look of the Elephant* puts the reader at the side of the men and women who surrendered comforts of the known in the middle of the 19th Century for the unknown promises of a future in an untamed wilderness.

Diary excerpts are organized chronologically by principal trail routes and retain the original writer's spelling, punctuation, and manner of speech. You will feel as if you are along for the journey.

No matter what your trail expertise – student, casual observer of the emigrant journeys, or devoted traveler of the trails – you'll want to add this collection to your personal library. And it will make a great gift!

The Look of the Elephant by Andrew & Joanne Hammond

250 pages

6 x 9 inches

maps, drawings and illustrations.

\$18.95 paperback

\$34.95 hardbound

Please send me paperback copies and/or

Hardbound edition

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Daytime Phone _____

Enclosed is my Money Order Check (to OCTA)

Please charge my credit card Mastercard Visa

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature: _____

SEND ORDERS TO:

**Oregon-California
Trails Association**

P.O. Box 1019

Independence, MO 64051-0519

(888) 811-6282 or (816)-252-2276

Fax: (816) 836-0989

email: octa@octa-trails.org

Payment must accompany orders from individuals. For domestic orders, please add \$5.00 USPS shipping for the first book and \$1.50 for each additional book. For UPS /Priority shipping, add \$8.00 for the first book, and \$2.00 for each additional book.

Old Man House: Tribute to Greg Franzwa



Bookmark Our Site



www.octa-trails.org

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

Lander Road Outing
(Eastern Idaho)
July 18, 2009

Passenger vehicles fine, high clearance not required. Details pending. Contact: Doug Jensen
jensendd@ida.net

City of Rocks Tour
August 8, 2009

Led by Wallace Keck, COR Park Supervisor. Travel the Salt Lake Road south of the park to the Kelton Road Station and the California Trail over Granite Pass to Goose Creek. High-clearance vehicles required.

Tour limited to 4 vehicles and 16 people. Contact: Jerry Eichhorst
jeicho@mail.com.

R. Joe King has constructed a potlatch house as a tribute to OCTA founder Gregory Franzwa. The shelter is located at 360 East Sunny Woods Road West, Shelton, WA, at the end of the Cowlitz Trail.

The "Old Man House" name is not an accident, King said. "Fifty miles from here on the Port Madison Reservation (Suquamish) is a park with the same name. Once there was a longhouse there about 900 feet long, where Chief Sealth (Seattle) lived. Greg's quarterly rag, *folio*, always had the 'Old Man's Corner.'"

"Gregory Franzwa supported me years ago when I questioned the alignment of a certain segment of the California Trail in Nevada and

California. Being a small fish in a big historical pond (which I still proudly swim in), I had been ignored by all in the trail organizations, as well as those in the academic community. His support and encouragement gave me the courage to carry on with the project, in spite of the difficulties," King said.

"The deck, walkway and potlatch shelter are not just there as a constant reminder to me of the influence he had in my life, they provide a logical excuse to talk about a man who did so much in terms of the historical preservation of the emigrant trails in his lifetime, but a man who left a solid trail for other generations to follow," he added.

Visit the OCTA Bookstore

www.octa-trails.org
888-811-6282

Southwest Chapter

Chapter Reorganizes, Seeks to Change Name

By Albert Eddins



The Southwest Chapter is reorganizing by electing new officers and changing its name. New officers elected in April are President Albert Eddins, Vice-President Reba Wells Grandrud, Secretary John Fromm, Treasurer Shannon Perry, Historian Rose Ann Tompkins, Webmaster Tom Jonas, Legislative Liaison Darryl Montgomery, and Activities Officer Dave Schimberg.

With the election over, we set out to define a new course of direction for the chapter. Many of the ideas and changes come from the work of the steering committee which has been in place since the Yuma Symposium on Jan. 16, as well as, input received from many chapter members.

The new chapter leadership has set six goals that will redefine the chapter going forward. In accomplishing these goals, we will go a long way toward restoring greater interest and participation in the chapter by existing members and encourage new members to join us.

The first goal is to seek approval from the National OCTA Board to change the name of the Chapter to Southern Trails Chapter. The current official name is "Oregon-California Trail Association, Southwest Chapter."

Other goals are to increase contact with membership by continuing the chapter newsletter, *Desert Tracks*, and holding regularly scheduled chapter meetings. Beginning this year four chapter meetings per year -- summer, fall, winter and spring -- will be held,

at rotating historical locations across the chapter territory.

The first four meetings have been scheduled as follows: August 2009 at Loveland, Colorado – To coincide with the OCTA convention so members attending the convention can also attend the chapter meeting; November 2009 at Fort Mojave, AZ; February 2010 at Tubac, AZ; and May 2010 at Silver City, NM.

The chapter plans to create a new Web site, to create programs and activities for all members, to establish a chapter archive, and to seek National Historic Trail Status for the Southern Trail.

A special invitation goes out to all OCTA members to join the Southern Trails Chapter.

Even if you don't live within our area we need your support, especially in our effort to obtain National Historic Trail status for the Southern Trail. Increasing chapter membership and support in Texas and Oklahoma will be vital to this effort. If you plan to visit Arizona next winter, please plan to join us at one of our chapter meetings.

The chapter also has a new Web site at www.southern-trails.org.

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

♦♦♦

News From the Plains

Fall Issue Deadline

August 28, 2009

Send materials to
nfpocta@aol.com

♦♦♦

Idaho North Alternate Tour
September 19

North Alternate Oregon Trail tour led by Jerry Eichhorst. Plan is to follow the route of the newly-discovered route from the crossing of the Snake River near Salmon Falls to where the Kelton Road joined the route at Clover Creek. If time permits, the remaining route westward to Hot Springs Creek can be followed. High clearance vehicles will be required.

Contact Jerry for more information.

I-OCTA Fall Membership Meeting

Saturday, October 10, 2009
 Jerome Public Library

Crossroads Chapter Event
September 12, 2009

Fall Barbecue, Grantsville

Resettling Charlie Little's Trails Collection

By COED Committee

Charlie Little loved trail history and enjoyed collecting copies of diaries in their original form. After Charlie died in 2008, his wife Nola and daughter Nancy donated his collection of trail books and diary photocopies to OCTA. Thus begins a story of a major volunteer effort by a number of people, an effort you may be able to join.

Don Buck has a great appreciation of the work that Charlie put in to develop his major collection. He and several others in California packed up Charlie's collection at the Little home, sorted it and separated out and delivered items from the collection that were suitable for the OCTA library in Sacramento.

Shann Rupp has been an avid supporter of the Census of Overland Emigrant Documents (COED) project for many years, and is personally

responsible for completing almost a third of the diary surveys available in the system. She and her husband Bill drove to Nancy's home to retrieve the 26 boxes of Charlie's materials that remained. Rupp's plan to handle the materials had two parts: first, to index the collection, and second, to locate any diaries that had not yet been surveyed for COED. She has worked long hours for four months to complete the two tasks. Fifty-seven diaries that have not been surveyed were located and copied for mailing to surveyors. They are being surveyed for inclusion in the COED library and the online Paper Trails database (<http://www.paper-trail.org/>).

Two large notebooks of material not suitable for COED have been donated to the Tuolumne County Library.

A large portion of the materials can be incorporated into the National

Frontier Trails Museum (NFTM) in Independence, but transportation is needed to move the collection. Freight transport from Jamestown, California, to Independence, Missouri, for perhaps as many as 18 boxes, is very costly, and it would come out of OCTA's operating funds. To save on those costs, members in the California chapter driving to the convention in August are being asked to transport the boxes. Once in Loveland, they can be ferried on to Independence by John Mark Lambertson, director of the NFTM and an OCTA National Board member, and by Association Manager Travis Boley.

Anyone who can assist with this transfer is asked to contact Rupp by e-mail at <syr50@sbcglobal.net> or call her at 209-984-3401.

Placement of the files that do not go to NFTM is still being determined.

Crossroads Chapter

Condolences to Kathy Franza, Chapter Events Planned

By Oscar Olson

First and foremost, we want to express our sympathy collectively and individually to Kathy Franzwa for the loss of her husband Greg Franzwa. He truly will be missed. We feel the loss even more as he was a resident of our state and he and Kathy attended nearly every function and event we hand, be it OCTA, Lincoln Highway, or any trail or history gathering.

We had our Spring membership meeting April 16 with 45 in attendance. Edward Leo Lyman spoke about the southern emigration routes to California, a topic on which

he has written several books.

On April 25, we did a spring field trip on a chartered school bus to trace the routes south from Salt Lake City through Utah County (Provo area), to Nephi. It rained almost all day, and we thought the bus idea would be good because trying to keep a motorcade together through urban and suburban traffic would be difficult, if not impossible. The bus experience was good to bad depending on where you sat and how you were able to enjoy a ride in a school bus. There were 27 on the bus. Directors for the event were Roy Tea, and Robert and Lyndia Carter.

On May 9, Tea organized a six-member work group that went west along Interstate 80 to place 18 carsonite markers. Markers were placed along the Hastings Cut-off in the areas of Grassy Mountain and Greyback between Hastings Pass and the Salt Flats. They also gathered GPS data on 30 markers that day.

The chapter will have a fall field trip. Plans are also underway for a BBQ at Bensons' Mill near Grantsville on Sept. 12.

Members from any chapter are invited to join us for these events.

Northwest Chapter

Pioneers, Trails and Oregon 150

The Ezra Meeker Historical Society, Puyallup, WA, and the Northwest Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association, have teamed up to help Oregonians celebrate their sesquicentennial, or Oregon 150. From June 10 to June 15, pioneer reenactors from these organizations Accompanied a covered wagon to five locations in Oregon—Oregon City, Salem, Grants Pass, Jacksonville and Rainier.

At each location the restored Meeker wagon was on display and members offered three presentations: Actor Ray Egan, interpreting Ezra Meeker, who first came over the Oregon Trail in 1852; Andy Anderson, historian of

the Ezra Meeker Historical Society, highlighting Meeker's trail marking activities in Oregon; and David Welch, former Oregon-California Trails Association Preservation Officer, reporting on current efforts to locate, preserve and mark the trail with special focus on the Applegate or Southern Trail.

On June 12 in Grants Pass, ox drover Dixon Ford from Utah joined the group with his two oxen, Ruff and Ready, for an appearance in a celebratory parade in the pioneer town of Jacksonville.

In 2006 this entourage took the restored Meeker wagon back over the Oregon Trail to Saint Joseph,

Missouri, stopping for presentations at 23 sites in five states where Meeker had organized Oregon Trail markers 100 years prior. For the 2006 effort, the group received the prestigious David Douglas award from the Washington State Historical Society.

In other Oregon 150 news, the Oregon Statehood Wagon Train organized by Ben Kern is gearing up to travel a portion of the Fort Boise-Fort Dalles Military Road. This wagon train begins in early August in Huntington and concludes the weekend of Sept. 19-20 at The Dalles.

Travel 2,000 miles on the OREGON TRAIL in just ONE HOUR! In just one hour take a simulated 2,000 mile journey inside the comfort of our spacious trail center. Experience a wagon trail encampment with our live cast of pioneers in a fun and interactive adventure for the entire family.

888-847-3800 (toll free) or 208-847-3800
www.oregontrailcenter.org

THE NATIONAL OREGON/CALIFORNIA TRAIL CENTER
 at Montpelier, Idaho

320 N. 4th St. Montpelier, Idaho 83254
In Beautiful Bear Lake Valley

CLEAN RESTROOMS
 NATIONAL OREGON/CALIFORNIA TRAIL CENTER
 GIFT SHOP - THEATRE - TOURS

Tour & Theatre Tickets Sold On-line

Juni Fisher August 28th
Allinger Community Theatre
 © The National Oregon/California Trail Center
 Nino Reyes September 11th

Rediscovered Frontiersman: Timothy Goodale

by James W. McGill

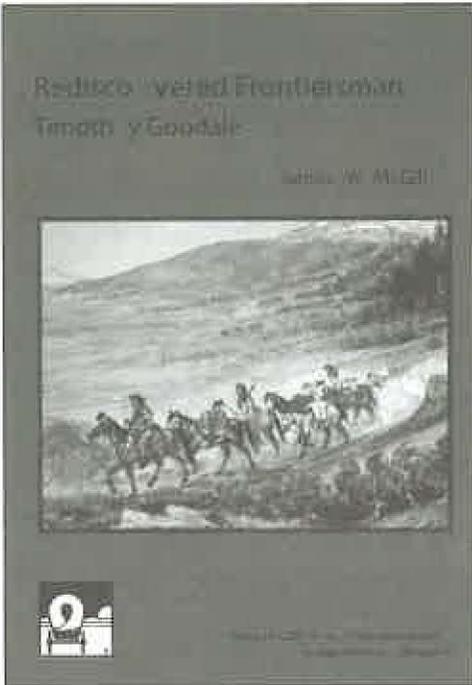
An important new biography and trail history.

Timothy Goodale (1810-1869), and the Oregon Trail cutoff that bears his name, loom large in the history of the West and overland travel. Author James W. McGill has rescued the man and his work in this thoroughly researched, comprehensive account of a remarkable western frontiersman, his Indian wife, and the trail he pioneered.

Goodale sought adventure and a new life in the West when he left his boyhood home in Potsdam, New York, in 1830 at age 19. Beginning as a fur trapper and trader throughout the West, he learned the routes of the Indians and shared their lives. He associated with Kit Carson, John C. Frémont, Frederick Lander, and many other notable westerners.

Rediscovered Frontiersman tells Goodale's adventurous tale until his tragic death in 1869, and the after-story of his Lemhi Shoshone wife, Jennie, and descendants from the Goodale's youngest daughter, Mary Winona. At various times he was an explorer, mountain man, hunter, cattle and sheep drover, guide, surveyor, road builder, trading post operator, ferryman, Indian-emigrant relations mediator, U.S. mail carrier, and Indian representative to the U.S. government.

The opening of the Goodale Cutoff in 1862, a mining trail to the goldfields in the mountains of Eastern Oregon and the Boise Basin in Idaho, is recounted in detail. Detailed maps illuminate that story.



**Rediscovered Frontiersman:
Timothy Goodale
by James W. McGill**
272 pages
7 x 10 inches,
profusely illustrated
historical and trail maps index
\$24.95 paperback
\$65.00 hardbound collector's
edition (numbered & signed)

Please send me paperback copies and/or
 collector's edition

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Daytime Phone _____

Enclosed is my Money Order Check (to OCTA)

Please charge my credit card Mastercard Visa

Card # _____
Exp. Date _____
Signature: _____

SEND ORDERS TO:
**Oregon-California
Trails Association**
P.O. Box 1019
Independence, MO 64051-0519
(888) 811-6282 or (816)-252-2276
Fax: (816) 836-0989
email: octa@octa-trails.org
Payment must accompany orders from
individuals.

SHIPPING CHARGES: For domestic orders, please add \$5.00 USPS shipping for the first book and \$1.50 for each additional book. For UPS /Priority shipping, add \$8.00 for the first book, and \$2.00 for each additional book.

Newly Discovered Goodale Trail Segments

By James W. McGill

The route of Goodale's Cutoff leading into the Payette Valley, following a route pioneered in 1862 on the narrow top of what became the first "Freezeout Hill" road, has been known for decades. The same has been marveled at and appreciated by many viewers.

People who have little experience involving the historic emigrant trails across Idaho are often surprised at the fact that there are still trail remnants, which except for various amounts of erosion, are unchanged. Idaho's somewhat dry climate has prevented much water-flow erosion of the trails in the desert areas. Sometimes, even near streams where land has not been disturbed by cultivation, old trails still show clearly. Such is the instance of part of Goodale's Cutoff near the mouth of Mann Creek, in Payette County.

During the planning for a recent bus tour of that trail from Emmett to Cambridge, ID, a Google Earth search to help setup the maps for the tour booklet led to a surprise. About one-half mile north of the present Weiser River Road, at the lower end of the Mann Creek Valley and approaching on the west side of the stream, a trail crossing was found. Tim Goodale led his September 1862 Wagon Train up that valley and opened a new road west of the present road and near the stream.

Some thought that present farm land had destroyed all evidence of that first wagon trail along Mann Creek. As the Google search scanned along the route indicated on the 1870 GLO Maps, on which the stream crossing was shown about one mile directly north of the Weiser River, a straight swale of about 200 yards going north became evident. A ground search



confirmed that this was indeed a trail remnant. It was quite deep compared to a present rancher's road running parallel.

On May 8, 2009, as the whole tour route was pre-run, the evident dirt rancher's road was taken north. As the stream was approached, even though the grass had grown much longer than seen on the satellite view, the straight swale appeared very evident all the way to the stream. At the crossing, the worn area on both sides of the stream – ramps to and from the high ground down to the water level – were quite evident, even though the stream itself was running very full.

Area ranchers have no doubt used that stream crossing, as some newer vehicle tracks do indicate, but the land owner was not aware of the old trail route there. Just imagining that

70 or more trains of wagons started up Mann Creek in 1862 and probably camped on the stream and crossed to follow on the east side for eight to nine miles, was an intrinsically satisfying experience!

Just before the August 2008 OCTA Convention in Nampa, ID, a similar trail section was discovered, researched, and proven, that showed where wagons climbed up a very steep bluff near Buttermilk Slough in Payette County.

This was one of the trail sections that Dunham Wright, who was with Goodale, wrote about later in his



book. This required a lot of trail building, something that Goodale's train of miners, with equipment, did more than most other emigrant trains ever did along the tails. The trail segment is about four miles southwest of the Mann Creek swale.

Stub and Helen Vallotton have sat in their front yard across Hill Road from that evident trail and wondered for years what that road was, and when it was built. Their daughter owns the land. Now, due to our OCTA work, they know. These people became quick "Friends of the Trails!"

New Members

A. Glenn Barlow
37249 Martin St., Unit #6
Rehoboth Beach, DE
19971
302/542-8562
chbarlow@aol.com

Dave and Linda Berger
3003A Hirter Dr.
St Joseph, MO 64506
816/279-0210
bergerdl@sbcglobal.net

Richard Blue
1090 River Point Dr.
Destrehan, LA 70047

Kelly Breen
8318 Mackey St.
Overland Park, KS 88212
913/341-2037
kelly.breen@yahoo.com

Jack Carlson
536 E. Manhattan
Tempe, AZ 85282
480/968-3362
jcarlson@fastq.com

John Cater
69 Primrose Ln
Concord, NH 03303
603/753-2532
jdatmcater@aol.com

Sabrina Cox
P.O. Box 665
Entiat, WA 98822
509/784-0641
otrn99@yahoo.com

Landen Enninga
10339 County Rd 12
Sedgwick, CO 80749
970/520-4576

Jerold D. Freeman
23916 Archwood St.
West Hills, CA 91307
818/348-2425
Lafire28@aol.com

Sharon Hanson
4296 Alameda Rd.
Placerville, CA 95667
530/644-1530
skhanson0805@internet4
9.com

Karen Heath
103 Elm Street
Medicine Bow, WY
82329
307/399-9125
chandene@hotmail.com

Burns and Barbara Hesse
12920 NW 17th St.
Topeka, KS 66615
785/256-4586

Annette Hooker
S68 W 22700 National
Ave.
Big Bend, WI 53103
262/662-3062
annhooker@earthlink.net

Tom Jonas
4841 E Calle Tuberia
Phoenix, AZ 85018
602/808-8680
tom@tomjonas.com

Sarah Keyes
1000 Cordova St. Spt 206
Pasadena, CA 91106
650/387-8859
skeyes@usc.edu

Cyndi McCullers
2015 Colorado Dr.
Green River, WY 82935
307/870-6389
mccyndi@gmail.com

Ellen Messick
41 Raleigh Dr.
Kilmarnock, VA 22482
804/435-8729
ellenmh@verizon.net

Antoinette Miles
16415 SW Royalty Pkwy
King City, OR 97224
503/639-4464
admiles@aol.com

LaDene Morton
5014 Tracy
Kansas City, MO 64110
816/809-4310
ladmorton@aol.com

Jeanne Muller
15165 Daniel St.
Caldwell, ID 83615
208/459-0156

Bill Oudegeest
P.O. 728
Soda Springs, CA 95728
209/606-6859
info@donnersummithistor
icalsociety.org

Michael Perez
850 Wheatland Ctr Rd.
Scottsville, NY 14596
585/889-3058
Perez412@aol.com

Alfred Ploetz
503 Kent Dr.
Papillion, NE 68046
402/331-3916
aploetz@aol.com

Louise Power
123 Edith Circle
Eagle Point, OR 97524
541/618-2211
power_
louise@hotmail.com

Debra Prow
P.O. Box 34
Elk Mountain, WY 82324
307/348-7577
dan.debrow@yahoo.com

Dr. Jerry V. Ramsey
1002 Pacific Tower
3201 Pacific Ave.
Tacoma, WA 98418
253/474-5561
jvramsey@wamail.net

Steve, Lisa and Lacey
Rhodes
8954 Lookinglass Rd.
Roseburg, OR 97470
541/679-4747

Carole Sargent
20 Stanwood St.
Brunswick, ME 04011
207/710-0405
oarc24@gmail.com

Harry Smith
8027 Sitio Caucho
Carlsbad, CA 92009
harry.smithg@acm.org

Laura D. Steele
P.O. Box 1003
Evanston, WY 82931
307/789-1403
lasteele@uintacounty.com

April L. Whitten
11715 Hwy 238
Applegate, OR 97530
541/846-0525
trailslady@apbb.net

Jeanne Wolff
1635 Tumalo Dr. SE
Salem, OR 97317
503/365-0539
cleanjean100@msn.com

**Address changes
should be submitted to
kconway@indepmo.org,
or 888-811-6282**

Annual Fund Drive Contributions

Thanks to our members for their generous support in the Annual Fund Drive. We are pleased to report the following results:

General Operating Fund \$12,513
 Education \$350
 Endowment \$495
 Preservation \$3,070
 Publications \$40

Total \$16,468

Donations received since the publication of our 2009 Spring NFP come from the following members:
 Barbara Abrahamer
 Ron & Dee Anderson
 William G. Bate

Mary Glennys Baker Bay
 Brad & Jennifer Bennett
 Todd Berens
 Harold Biebel
 J. Cordell Bott
 Robin Broumley
 Marvin & Dorene Burke
 Glenn & Peggy Calhoun
 Robert & Sheila Clark
 Jim & Karin Clawson
 Robert & Karen Corder
 Arthur & Nancy Costa
 Robert R. Coward
 Ronald O. Downs
 Sandra Sue Dragoo
 Bob & Sharon Evanhoe
 Clifford H Fiscus
 Marilyn Gaddis
 & George Carruthers
 Ralph Gamboa
 William & Shirley Gloy
 Karen Haas
 Sharon Hamby

John and Norma Haner
 William G. Hartley
 Richard Herman
 James B. Herring
 James & Virginia Hoelter
 Darwin Hunt
 Duane & Carolyn Iles
 Jim Johnson
 Kay Kelso
 Kent Kemmerling
 James King
 Carol Koroghlanian
 Jere L. Krakow
 Lyle & Nadine Lambert
 Kalista S. Lehrer
 Charles & Harriet Lewis
 Tom McCutcheon
 Vernon A. McDannald
 Tony Miller
 Phil Miller
 Leta & Joe Neiderheiser
 Barb Netherland
 Norma Norman
 Alma O'Hare

M. Lethene Parks
 Judson Parsons & Diana Gardener
 Mildred & Gordon Patterson
 Penelope & Dick Peterson
 Richard Pingrey
 Joyce Pollock
 Brooks Ragen
 Jan Redding
 Turner & Barbara Rivenbark
 Jeanette Roberts
 Tom & Carolyn Russell
 Kevin Sanberg
 Warren Schmidgall
 Mark Schumacher
 Bernadine Scoles
 William & Joyce Tapley
 Richard & Shirley Treallee
 Linda Turner
 Gareth & DeAnn Wilson
 William J & Mary Alice Wilson
 Daniel Woodhead, III

www.TourWyoming.com




SWEETWATER COUNTY, WY HAS MORE MILES OF STILL-VISIBLE PIONEER TRAILS THAN ANY OTHER AREA IN THE UNITED STATES.

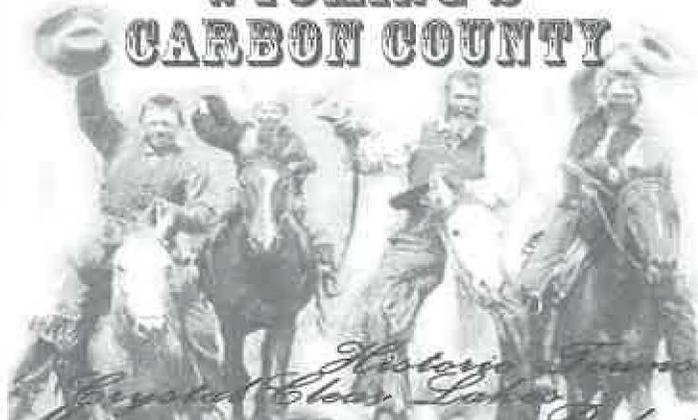


The Oregon Trail, Pony Express Route, Cherokee Trail, Overland Trail, Parting of the Ways, and Old Emigrant Trail all pass through Sweetwater County.

1.800.46.DUNES 1.800.FL.GORGE

www.TourWyoming.com

ALL TRAILS LEAD TO WYOMING'S CARBON COUNTY



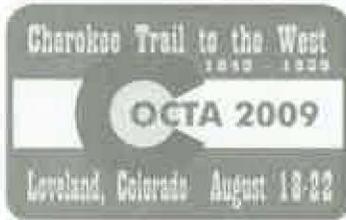
*Historic Trails
 Crystal Clear Lakes
 Museums
 Camping
 Majestic Mountains
 Fishing
 Hunting
 Prisons
 West Branches
 Natural Hot Springs
 Historic Hotels
 Hunting
 Continental Divide Trail*

Call or logon for your FREE visitor's guide
 1-800-228-3547 wyomingcarboncounty.com



Oregon-California Trails Association
 P.O. Box 1019
 Independence, MO 64051-0519

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Indep. MO
 Permit No. 244



Inside

BLM Trail Projects.....10
Idaho Byway.....14
Oregon 150.....19
New Members.....22

24 students
3 teachers
2 weeks on the Trail

www.octatrails.blogspot.com

In Pursuit of a Dream

Premiere August 19, 2009, Loveland, Colorado
 Also Showing August 22, 2009, Wyoming Film Festival
 Saratoga, Wyoming

