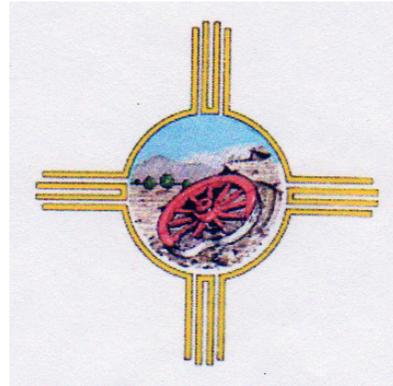


**CORAZÓN de los CAMINOS
HEART OF THE TRAILS CHAPTER
SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

**NEWSLETTER
July 2014**



**JULY MEETING, JULY 19, 2014,
VERMEJO PARK RANCH**

**MEET AT THE YORK CANYON MINE GATE AT 10:00 AM
(DIRECTIONS FOLLOW)**

Our next trip is scheduled for Saturday, July 19 at 10:00 AM on the Vermejo Park Ranch. Meet at the York Canyon mine gate at 10:00 a. m., and enter as a group after being admitted by special permission. Do not arrive late!

To reach this gate, drive west of Raton on Road 555 (commonly known as the York Canyon Road) about forty miles (please stay on the main road).

At 10:00 AM we hope to drive to the main headquarters where we will meet our guide. That morning is planned for Catskill (a former lumbering town known for its famous beehive ovens, etc.). We shall return to headquarters for lunch. The lodge has offered to feed twelve of us for \$25.00 each, or \$50.00 each for the evening meal. We suggest that you bring your own lunch. After eating, the group will tour the mansion at the site before returning home.

The President's Report

Dear Trail Trekkers,

On June 14 we met at the St. James Hotel, and while we dined, Steve Boyce, manager of the Express properties at Cimarron, talked to us about the UU Bar Express Ranch and the hotel. Our group consisted of twenty-five people (four people didn't show, and we replaced two in place of those who notified us ahead of time). We caravanned to our first stop at Rayado and then past Heck Canyon to Sweetwater Cow Camp. Steve talked to us at each stop. Our chief concern for the day was around Martinez Lake, where the playas can silt over the road. When that happens, it would be hard for a tractor to make it. Fortunately, the storms missed this area and we could drive around the mud holes and proceed. We were able to see many good ruts and go as far as Prospect Canyon, where our guide would take us no farther. He stated that on his last trip on that road, someone had lost a wheel. Maybe we can approach the canyon from the Ocate side on another trip. Needless to say, this must have been a very rugged section for wagons on the trail. This is a very remote section of the ranch, and we could not travel to all the historic points of interest. It was reported that the UU Bar is constructing a fence around the Calhoun cemetery near the Ocate crossing. We ended our tour back at

Rayado, where we viewed some Percheron horses, etc. Our thanks to Steve, Bob Funk, and the UU Bar Express Ranch for hosting us on this special day.



**Ruts on the
UU Bar Express Ranch**



A Playa on the UU Bar Express Ranch

Our next trip is scheduled for Saturday, July 19, at 10:00 a. m. on the Vermejo Park Ranch. This is another place that we ordinary people seldom have opportunity to visit. This ranch is owned by Ted Turner, and access is always limited to certain personnel. Our plan is to meet at the York Canyon mine gate at 10:00 a. m., and enter as a group after being admitted by special permission. Do not arrive late! To reach this gate, drive west of Raton on Road 555 (commonly known as the York Canyon Road) about forty miles (please stay on the main road). At 10:00 a. m. we hope to drive to the main headquarters where we will meet our guide. That morning is planned for Catskill (a former lumbering town known for its famous beehive ovens, etc.). We shall return to headquarters for lunch. The lodge has offered to feed twelve of us for \$25.00 each, or \$50.00 each for the evening meal. We suggest that you bring your own lunch. After eating, the group will tour the mansion at the site before returning home. The Tucumcari historical group has asked to join us on this trip, so we may have a larger attendance. They had asked Vermejo about a trip several years ago, and the ranch wanted to charge \$250.00. We have no limits on any of our remaining trips. We are planning over a hundred miles of mountain driving this day, so have the fuel tank full, and be geared up for the outdoors.

Looking ahead, J. D. Schmidt will lead us on a tour of the ruts between Wagon Mound and Watrous on August 9. Please plan for the September rendezvous at Larned. The Rock Crossing of the Canadian trip has been set for October 11. Everyone have a great summer, and make special plans to be with us. Dennis