

Meet our *Wagon Tracks* editor!

Ruth Friesen's official duties as editor of *Wagon Tracks* began July 1, 2011. Her first issue as editor of *Wagon Tracks* was the November, 2011 issue.

Ruth Friesen grew up in Inman, Kansas in McPherson County near the Santa Fe Trail and now lives near the end of the Trail in Albuquerque, New Mexico. As an Air Force wife, she ventured far from the Trail, including four years living in Germany.

Ruth began editing Air Force social organization newsletters when cut and paste actually involved scissors and adhesive. Ruth previously was the editor of *SouthWest Sage*, the monthly newsletter of SouthWest Writers (www.southwestwriters.com). "I enjoy the puzzle aspect of putting together a publication," she said, "making everything fit and please the eye." Under her leadership, the *Sage* won second place in the 2010 National Federation of Press Women's Communication Contest.



With degrees in Education and Business, Ruth has managed a high tech trade show, shepherded aircraft equipment contracts with Honeywell and created monthly seminars as the Chamber of Commerce staffer in charge of Leadership Albuquerque. In 2002 she spearheaded the creation of Habitat for Humanity's ReStore, a recycled building materials store, in Albuquerque and managed it for three years.

In addition to writing marketing materials for business, her creative nonfiction essays have been published in several anthologies and magazines. She is also an amateur photographer with awards from the Kansas City Star and the Albuquerque Journal.

When Ruth took over as editor of *Wagon Tracks* she had this to say, "As I assume the *Wagon Tracks* editorship with the November 2011 issue, I'm pleased to work with an editorial advisory board comprising Santa Fe Trail scholars Leo Oliva, Michael Dickey, Jere Krakow, Mike Olsen and Sara Jane Richter. They will help ensure the historical accuracy of articles and provide general advice as needed."

The focus of *Wagon Tracks* continues to feature historical research articles as well as articles about current activities along the trail. If you are planning to submit an article, please contact Ruth at editor@santafetrail.org. Guidelines for article submission can be found [here](#).

"I'd like to hear your ideas and suggestions," Ruth said. "If you have ideas for a special issue, a feature you'd like to see, or a topic that you'd like to know more about, please let me know."