

CORAZON de los CAMINOS
HEART OF THE TRAIL CHAPTER
SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2012

Seasons Greetings everyone! The holidays are over and Corazon is making plans for the New Year. Come join us!

Dennis Schneider, charter member from Cimarron, was elected president for 2012-2013.. Board members are: Tom Ferguson, vice president, Martha Sauble, secretary, Peggy Ferguson, treasurer, Dixie Odom, Newsletter, Henri VanderKolk, archives, and Martha McCaffrey.

Dennis had surgery in the summer and has been plagued by an infection. We wish him well and hope he will be ready to lead us on the Trail in March. Nevertheless, Tom and the Board have made plans for the New Year. The schedule:

MARCH 17, SATURDAY---Business meeting and program in Raton. Roger Slusher, president of the SFTA, will give his presentation on James Aull, merchant.
APRIL 15, SUNDAY---Program at Elida's in Springer. Apollonio Ortiz, a new member, will talk about history and his ancestry.
MAY 19, SATURDAY---Auto tour of the Kiowa National Grasslands
JUNE 10, SUNDAY---Trail south out of Las Vegas Plaza and on to Kearny Gap
JULY 21, SATURDAY---Fort Union
AUGUST 19, SUNDAY---Wagon Mound
SEPTEMBER 15, SATURDAY---Cimarron
OCTOBER 7, SUNDAY---Old French
NOVEMBER 17, SATURDAY---Business meeting in Las Vegas, Program in observance of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in New Mexico

Note that there are different meeting days. This change is because all three adjoining chapters---Bent's Fort, End of the Trail, and Corazon--- have the same meeting date, the third Saturday of the month. As Faye Gaines said, "Maybe someone should blink." Corazon has blinked. If a change makes it possible for more of our members to attend, it can be addressed in a business meeting.

THANKS ALL AROUND

A heart-felt vote of thanks goes to the outgoing officers. They continued their duties at a very difficult time after the death of Harry Myers. Paula Steves worked very hard to bring Corazon into the cyber age and put our name and schedule on a wide variety of web site. She also worked closely with the national association to obtain funding for our activities. Nancy Robertson, who resigned at the end the term, had been our efficient treasurer for several years. Paula, Nancy, Faye, and Doyle Foreman, many thanks and PLEASE continue your active roles.

Thank you, J.D. Schmidt, for effort beyond the call of duty in video taping the Chapter programs and meetings. The Chapter voted \$200 to him for supplies. The videotapes are in the archives at Fort Union and the Fort intends to use some of them in its video presentations.

Martha Sauble has completed the 2011 Scrapbook. Thank you, Martha, for a job well done. The book will be on display at our March meeting. By the way, a volunteer is needed to keep the 2012 Scrapbook. Any takers?

NOTES FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING

Roger Slusher and his wife Sandy and Joanne VanCovern, manager of the Association, and her husband Greg attended the November meeting and program. We were happy to welcome them.

Paula submitted a proposal that Corazon work with the town of Springer to keep the Santa Fe Trail Interpretive Museum open on weekends from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Corazon would pay minimum to docents at the Museum during that period. Paula was appointed to explore the possibility of the Chapter helping the Museum.

Joanne announced that the Association would give Corazon a new educational trunk so that the first one can continue to be used by Fort Union where it has been on loan and used extensively in their youth programs. The Chapter gratefully accepted. Nancy Poe will be charge of the trunk. The trunks are the educational tools given to each of the chapters, filled with items that would be of interest to young people and meant to be used in schools and at other teaching opportunities.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

History Week will be observed in Santa Fe the first week of May. It is a celebration of New Mexico's 100 years of Statehood. Tentative plans were made for Corazon to join other organizations including End of the Trail Chapter in the celebration. Faye is coordinating the project and she will need help. More details will be arranged at our business meeting in March.

Bent's Fort is planning a "Transportation Weekend " May 10-13. The National Stagecoach and Freight Wagon association is joining with SFTA and similar organizations to emphasize the wagons and animals used on the Santa Fe Trail and arrange for presentations that relate to their use. In addition there will be a Trail trip and the Koshare Indian Dances will perform.

CCHP of Las Vegas has resumed the "Glimpses of the Past" programs given the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at 116 Bridge Street.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The high point of the year was "Round Up on the Trail" at the Point of Rocks in July. Some seventy trail enthusiasts and guests gathered under trees and tents for a hot dog/hamburger fry and enjoyed the programs by Henry Ostrander, Victoria Baker,

Gilbert Quintana and Mike Olsen. Tom Perry provided dinner music. Faye was the gracious hostess and tour guide for the historic site.

In March, Dr. David Sandoval, history professor at Colorado State-Pueblo University, donned period costume to tell of New Mexico as part of the Spanish Empire. We learned about the XIT Ranch and then toured the Springer Santa Fe Trail Museum at the April meeting.

A large group from Bent's Fort Chapter joined us in the May tour of Pecos National Historical Park. Faye, Dixie and other chapter members participated in the Cultural Encounters weekend at Fort Union in June.

One highlight of the Auto Tour from Raton to Cimarron was the viewing of Ronald Kil's murals of scenes along the Santa Fe Trail. They had been added since the last stop at NRA Whittington Center. Mr. Kil was given an "Award of Merit" for these murals at the SFTA Symposium.

Martha McCaffrey introduced the Chapter to another way of enjoying the Trail when she told of her experiences in "Geocaching on the Santa Fe Trail." A walking tour of Las Vegas Old Town Plaza followed the program in September.

Linda Davis, of CS Ranch, together with her daughter-in-law, Mary, welcomed the tour in October and told the history of the ranch whose founding dates from 1873 and of Frank Springer, the founder.

An interesting program by Dorothy Smoker rounded out the year. Ms. Smoker told, in a first-person monologue, the life of Luz Beaubien Maxwell. She looked back on her life under three governments as she prepared to leave Cimarron for yet another change---life in Fort Sumner.

Chapter membership has remained about constant for 2011 with 68 members. The bank balance is \$6,602.94. However, attendance has dropped. Mark your calendars for our meetings and see if we can't discover new things about old places

MEMBERSHIP

All memberships expired Dec 31. There is form attached for your convenience in joining. Be sure to note there is a new treasurer, Peggy Ferguson, whose mailing address is on the form.

See you on the Trail in March!

Dixie