2016 Officers & Board Members:
President—Larry Short
Vice President—Mary Conrad
Treasurer—Wes Huskisson
Secretary—Anne Mallinson
Historian—Sandy Slusher
John Atkinson
Richard Lawson
Dick Nelson
Ross Marshall

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Santa Fe Trail Association
Santa Fe Trail Center
1349 K-156 Hwy
Larned, KS 67550
Phone: 620.285.2054
Email: trailassn@larned.net
www.santafetrail.org

MRO & DOUGLAS COUNTY SFTA CHAPTERS
COVERED DISH DINNER
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2016
GATHER at 5:00 PM / DINNER at 5:30 PM
THE LODGE
502 AMES STREET
BALDWIN CITY, KANSAS
Barbecue meat and drinks provided
Attendees bring a side, salad, or dessert
Entertainment by the Alfred Packard Memorial String Band led by Matt Kirby
The meeting will feature a program by Author Joy Poole who will give a PowerPoint presentation about one of her newest books: Over the Santa Fe Trail to Mexico: The Travel Diaries & Autobiography of Dr. Rowland Willard 1825-1828.
Dr. Rowland Willard (1794-1884) recalled in his memoir that Glass, subject of the Oscar nominated hit film, THE REVENANT, (starring Leonardo DiCaprio), had…”large chasms upon right arm and shoulder blade, the crest of which was wanting, also the upper portion of the right thigh…” Dr. Willard’s exam occurred in May of 1825, at the Blue Springs, a well-known mountain man rendezvous site on the Santa Fe Trail.
Mark your calendar today for this great joint chapter event!

National Frontier Trails Museum
318 W. Pacific
Independence, MO 64050
Phone: 816.325.7575

Follow MRO on Facebook
Cave Spring dedication

On June 4, 2016 a dedication of a new bench located at the site of the DAR Santa Fe Trail marker was held.

Congressman Emmanuel Cleaver, Raytown Mayor Mike McDonough and Cave Spring Association Director Al Maddox led the ceremonies. In attendance were members of SFTA, OCTA, MRO, Trails Head, KCAHTA, DAR, Raytown City Council, the Raytown Historical Society and the Jackson County Parks & Recreation Department.

The new bench was made possible by a grant from the Greater Kansas City Area Realtor's Association.

Located on the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California National Historic Trails, the Cave Spring at the Barnes Enclosure is a nationally certified site by the National Park Service. The park is owned by the Jackson County Parks and Recreation and managed by the local Cave Spring Association. Cave Spring Park covers approximately 40 acres and is one of the top rated trails parks in the greater KCMO area.

If you have never had an occasion to visit this beautiful and well maintained park you should do so in the near future. It provides a great spot for family outings and picnics. It is open from dawn to dusk each day of the year. To learn more about Cave Spring visit their web site at: www.cavespring.org
Powder Mill Bridge Dedicated

One of the major events of the PNTS (Partnership of the National Trails System) annual meeting and workshop which was held in Independence from June 7-9, 2016 was the formal dedication of the Powder Mill Bridge in south Kansas City, Missouri.

The pedestrian bridge, which is the longest span in the United States solely dedicated to National Historic Trails, is located along Bannister Road as it crosses Interstate 435. The newly finished bridge was a MoDot project and construction was completed by LG Barcus & Son’s Construction Company of Kansas City. The $1.5 project was funded by the 3-Trails West CID, MoDot, and Federal funds.

This beautiful bridge provides a major connection for the 3-Trails Corridor project which is currently under design as a major project by MARC (Mid America Regional Council) and funded by the National Park Service. Once completed the retracement pedestrian trail will follow in close proximity to the original route of the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California National Historic Trails as they traverse the greater Kansas City area from the Upper Independence Landing on the Missouri River to Gardner Junction in Kansas.

Planning for this major National Park Service Centennial event was done by: Michelle Compton and Melissa Black of MoDot, Lou Austin and Michael Graf of the 3-Trails West CID, and Larry Short of SFTA and MRO.

The ceremonies were led by Dan Niec, MoDot District Engineer. After the invocation by Pastor Cobbins of the Caanan Worship Center, Aaron Mahr, Superintendent of the National Trails Inter-

Ed Hassinger, MoDot Chief Engineer

Aaron Mahr, Superintendent, National Trails Intermountain Region

Marching Pythons
Partnership of the National Trails System

The Stoney Creek Hotel in Independence, MO was the headquarters for the meeting/workshop held by PNTS June 7-9, 2016. Attending the meetings were representative from across the nation representing the National Historic Trails and National Scenic Byways. Attendees came from as far away as Hawaii.

The meetings consisted of both workshops at the hotel but also of mobile workshops led by our own Ross Marshall. The bus tours provided a hands on visit to the sites along the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California National Historic Trails from the Upper Independence Landing on the Missouri river to New Santa Fe on 123rd Street just east of the Missouri/Kansas State Line. Travelers were provided with a visual tour of the new original and local tour route signs that have been provided by the National Park Service thru SFTA and OCTA. As a major part of the trails bus tour the riders also attended major events and dedications that were held during the Tuesday afternoon tour and the Thursday morning tour. On Tuesday afternoon they attended the dedication of the Fairbanks Oregon Trail Bronze Medallion Dedication on the Independence Courthouse Square and the ground breaking for a new section at McCoy Park in Independence for a playground that will feature signs in braille for the visually impaired and playground equipment designed around a trails theme.

At the Upper Independence Landing we were treated by performances by members of the Independence School system drama clubs. They related exciting stories of life along the trails.

Continued on page 5...
Tuesday was capped off with a dinner at the Mallinson Vineyard featuring re-enactors portraying various personages from the trails era in the 19th Century.

The Thursday morning bus tour provided the PNTS members with a tour of the trails along the south segment from the Powder Mill Bridge to New Santa Fe and a return for the dedication of the Powder Mill Bridge which is covered in an article on page 3 of this newsletter.
Salem Park Project: Special Appeals

In 2013 the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association entered into an agreement with the National Park Service and Jackson County Parks & Recreation to fund the construction of an interpretive site at Salem Park in eastern Independence, MO.

This site, along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, was first designated as a premier location along the trails by the DAR in 1909 when they placed one of their granite markers. Because of their foresight in marking the trails many years ago, we want to now enhance that legacy for years to come. In the years that followed this historic location was purchased by the Jackson County Parks & Recreation Department and is now a small community park located in the northwest section of Blue Mills Road and Missouri Highway 24.

The proposed plan was submitted to JCPR and NPS and a task force agreement was signed. Funding for the project was: NPS would fund the cost of the development and production of the three interpretive panels; JCPR would fund the cost of the construction of the parking area and pad onto which the three panels would be installed; and MRO would secure the funds required to relocate the DAR marker so it would be an integral and prominent part of the entire area.

The three panels are now under production and JCPR is in the process of finalizing an agreement for the construction of the pad area. Only one part of the project remains: the relocation of the DAR marker.

The cost of the relocation of the DAR marker is approximately $3500 depending on the depth of the current base. Time is of the essence to raise the funds to cover this major expense as deadlines of the task force agreement are approaching.

MRO is now issuing a special appeal to raise the funds necessary to move the DAR marker and are asking for your financial support. Please consider making a donation today. MRO is a not for profit organization and all donations qualify as tax deductions.

Larry Short
President, MRO
VP, SFTA
3930 S. Jackson Dr #106
Independence, MO 64057
lshort@comcast.net
MRO: The first 6 months of 2016 in pictures
MISSOURI RIVER OUTFITTERS
CHAPTER OF THE
SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION
Membership Application

Name: _____________________________________________________________________

Street: _____________________________________________________________________

City, State, ZIP: ______________________________________________________________

Phone: _____________________________________________________________________

Email: _________________________________________________________________

Dues: $10.00 per year
(Individual or Family)
Make check payable to: 3008 E. 107th Ter
Missouri River Outfitters Kansas City, MO 64137

Santa Fe Trail Association Membership Application

Name: _____________________________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________

City: __________________ State: __________ Zip Code: __________

Phone: _____________________________________________________________________

Membership Category:
  o Youth (18 and under) $5/year
  o Individual $35/year
  o Family $40/year
  o Institutional $50/year
  o Business $50/year
  o Patron $100/year
  o Life $1000

We encourage our members to share this newsletter with others in your family and community. Invite them to join MRO and SFTA.
Please feel free to contact any of the board members for additional information and visit the MRO web page at:
www.santafetrail.org

2016 National Park Service CENTENNIAL
FIND YOUR PARK

SANTA FE National Historic TRAIL

An Official GeoTour

Santa Fe Trail Association

www.santafetrail.org
“The Santa Fe Trail: America’s First Highway of International Commerce”
September 27-30, 2017 - Olathe, KS

Plan to join us in Olathe, KS for the 2017 Santa Fe Trail Association Symposium, hosted by the Douglas County Chapter and the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter of the SFTA and featuring speakers, tours, living history, entertainment and fellowship. Some of the proposed highlights will include:

• Life at the historic Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop & Farm
• Military use of the Santa Fe Trail
• Explore an extensive horse drawn vehicle Exhibit
• Fort Leavenworth's Connection to the Santa Fe Trail
• A Night at the Steamboat Arabia Museum - Trade Goods on the Santa Fe Trail

For more information visit: www.santafetrail.org
UPCOMING EVENTS

September 18, 2016 Joint meeting with Douglas County Chapter, Baldwin, KS
September 22-24, 2016, SFTA Rendezvous, Larned, KS
December 4, 2016, Annual MRO Covered Dish Dinner, Lexington, MO
April 20-22, 2017, SFTA Board Meeting/Workshop, Council Grove, KS
September 27-30, 2017, SFTA Symposium, Olathe, KS
April 19-21, 2018, SFTA Board Meeting/Workshop, Site TBD
September 20-22, 2018, SFTA Rendezvous, Larned, KS
March 28-30, 2019, SFTA Board Meeting/Workshop, Site TBD
September 25-28, 2019, SFTA Symposium, St. Louis, MO
April 16-18, 2020, SFTA Spring Board Meeting, Site TBD
September 24-26, 2020, SFTA Rendezvous, Larned KS
2021 The 200th Anniversary of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail