



# Arizona

# Trails

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NEWSLETTER - AZ CHAPTER - OCTA

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## JACK'S TRAIL BITS

This is written in the afterglow of A memorable Chapter Outing--thanks to the thorough planning of the Lees (Safford variety), the Tompkins and the expert guidance of old trail sleuth Dan Talbot. Twenty-two people came from as far away as Davis, California to see some rare sights (and sites) in remotest Southeast Arizona. Between tours, we held a meeting and potluck at the Douglas County Club.

"Read my lips", we did not raise the modest dues, but we did vote in a \$2 assessment for members and guests who attend our field trips--to help defray costs of planning, materials, mailings, etc.

Your president appointed a nominating committee at the meeting: Harland Tompkins (chairman), Bob Lee, and Mary Reber. Their job is to come up with a slate of Chapter officers for the ensuing year. The membership will have the opportunity to vote for them or to nominate others if they wish (with permission of the nominee). When the new officers are elected, let's give them our enthusiastic support as we build upon the fine beginning we have made as a vital chapter of OCTA. I have received such support and am grateful for it. The members of this chapter are the BEST!

Jack D. Root



With their backs against the Mexican border, participants at the November meeting pose in an area between Douglas and Naco. The Mormon Battalion passed across the area of the knobby hills in the background, this is now in Mexico.

## ARIZONA OCTA OUTING IN JANUARY, 1989

## EXPLORE-LEARN-LOOK-HEAR-HIKE-PHOTOGRAPH-VISIT-ENJOY-COME!

This is the perfect trip for members who prefer smooth roads and feather beds while learning their history. We will be following Father Kino's footsteps as we explore the Spanish Period in Arizona between Green Valley and Nogales, along Highway I-10. Stops will include the mission of Tumacacori, and Tubac Presidio. BUT THERE IS MORE! You will also be learning about the Butterfield Trail and route of the 49ers to California.

WHEN: JANUARY 14-15.

WHERE: HEADQUARTERS - GREEN VALLEY RV RESORT, GREEN VALLEY, AZ  
(located 20 miles south of Tucson)

You may want to check in by Friday night (Jan. 13) to be ready to go on Sat. morning. Our headquarters will be at the clubhouse at the RV park. We will meet there at 9 am on Saturday, ready for a full day of exploring. We will have a pot-luck dinner on Saturday evening in the ballroom of the clubhouse. If you are staying at a hotel or motel, you can always contribute snacks or drinks of some kind.

After the potluck dinner, we will have a slide program and lecture. Jim Carter and Doyle Reed will extend our knowledge of the Butterfield Trail. This is partly in anticipation of the March outing into California. Shirley and Gordon Stebbings of Julian, CA already have that section of the trail trip well planned...they even have a knowledgeable Park Service volunteer ready to guide us on this Butterfield, Kearney, Mormon Battalion, gold miners' route to California.

Stebbins have sent a package of materials to distribute at the January meeting in order to prepare us for the March 11-12 weekend. If you cannot make the January outing, but plan to be at the March outing, we will send you the materials (if there are extras). Contact person - Rose Ann Tompkins.

Meanwhile, back at Green Valley - YOU MUST MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATIONS. We suggest you do this ahead of time as this is snowbird season in the area. You may know where you wish to stay but we make these suggestions:

Green Valley RV Resort	(headquarters for the weekend)
50 W. Duval Mine Road	
Green Valley, AZ 85614	\$17.00 per night
Phone: (602) 625-3900	

Quality Inn	
111 South La Canada	
Green Valley, AZ 85622	\$37 to \$50 per night
Phone: (602) 228-5151	

POSSIBILITIES NOT YET WORKED OUT: Visit Father Kino's very first mission (visita) at Guevavi. Shop in Nogales? Go to San Xavier del Bac on Sunday?

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Susan Badger, Betty Lee, & Harland Tompkins enjoy the view from the mesa top at the Slaughter Ranch. They are looking into Mexico at this point, the Mormon Battalion would have moved across this valley on their journey.



#### CHAPTER OUTING TO SOUTHEAST ARIZONA

Our November 12-13 meeting to the Douglas, AZ area turned out to be the best attended meeting of the year with 17 members and 5 guests. The weather was perfect with the clear air and sunny days adding to the experience.

Some of us met on Saturday morning for a bit of visiting at the Douglas Country Club RV Park before driving to the Slaughter Ranch about 15 miles east of Douglas. The group officially began its weekend at noon at the ranch. Upon checking in, each family group was given a notebook of material full of maps, diaries, and other information, in order to facilitate their weekend.

The afternoon was spent in an informal manner as the tour of Slaughter Ranch is self-guided. The present manager of the ranch was on hand to answer questions as we roamed about the grounds. This restored ranch was the site of early Spanish activity as well as a stopping place for later trail travelers due to its natural springs in a largely dry area. Views of the valley extended across the border as the ranch originally had extensive holdings in Mexico. A short walk to a small mesa gave evidence of the army camp that once occupied much of mesa, as well as a 360 degree view.

One carload headed further east to the Guadalupe Canyon area where the Mormon Battalion entered what is now Arizona, in the extreme southeast corner of the state. The canyon is not open to the public at the present time, but the ruggedness of the area that gave the battalion such problems was apparent.

Our evening potluck was a last minute affair, but food in abundance seemed to appear and no one walked away hungry. The Douglas Country Club allowed us to use a meeting room for our dinner and meeting. Dan Talbot shared his slides and extensive knowledge of the Mormon Battalion Trail through the area we were in. It helped to prepare us for the next day's activities. We also had a short business meeting.

On Sunday morning we headed west from Douglas in a caravan of cars, staying as close as possible to the border. Dan met us at one stop to help us get our bearings on Battalion sites of the immediate area. We stopped at Naco for a short walk into Mexico. At the San Pedro River valley, we turned north to follow the river. Lunch found us at a riverside park near where the Battalion had crossed. Our last stop was also near the river where the BLM plans an interpretive center. There we embraced a large cottonwood tree, literally. It took most of the group with joined hands to encircle the majestic tree. As some members left for their journey home, others walked to the river to enjoy more of the blue sky, colorful cottonwoods, soft breeze and good company.

There will be a fee for this field trip of \$2 per person. This is in accordance with the vote of the membership at the last business meeting. The purpose is to help with expenses of our field trips.

To make your weekend more exciting, the following references are offered for your review:

Bolton, Herbert E. RIM OF CHRISTENDOM: A BIOGRAPHY OF EUSEBIO FRANCISCO KINO, PACIFIC COAST PIONEER. New York: Macmillan, 1936.

Wyllys, Rufus Kay. PIONEER PADRE: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF EUSEBIO FRANCISCO KINO. Dallas: Southwest Press, 1935.

Jackson, Earl. TUMACACORI'S YESTERDAYS. Southwest Monuments Association Popular Series No. 6. Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1951.

Conkling, Roscoe & Margaret. THE BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND MAIL, 1857-1869. Glendale, CA: Arthur H. Clark, 1947. 2 volumes & atlas.

Martin, Mabelle Eppark (ed). FROM TEXAS TO CALIFORNIA IN 1849; DIARY OF CORNELIUS C. COX. Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Vol. 29 (1925-26).

Are you aware of Andrew Wallace's SOURCES AND READINGS IN ARIZONA HISTORY by the Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society? It is a wonderful checklist.

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ONE OTHER NOTE ON THE JANUARY MEETING - There will be a used book sale. Proceeds will go to the chapter treasury. Bring any donations you might want to contribute to this sale, extra copies or castoffs of reading that might interest other members. We hope to make this an ongoing book table with bargains for all.

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AND since we are on the subject of reading, there has been interest in setting up a sort of chapter lending library. Do you have reading materials that you would be willing to loan to other members? We are ready to make up a "master list" of books. If you would like to participate in this project, make up a listing of your "trail" related library. It would be helpful to include title, author, publication year, no. of pages, and a short one or two line summary. Give or send it to the newsletter editor and it will be compiled for later distribution.

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The newsletter editor continues to hope for contributions from the membership. I would like to have short articles, book reports or reviews, writeups of recent trips you may have made that are trail related, anything of interest to the rest of us. Share your knowledge! Send to: Rose Ann Tompkins  
1125 W. Mission Dr.  
Chandler, AZ 85224



## LET'S GET ACQUAINTED !

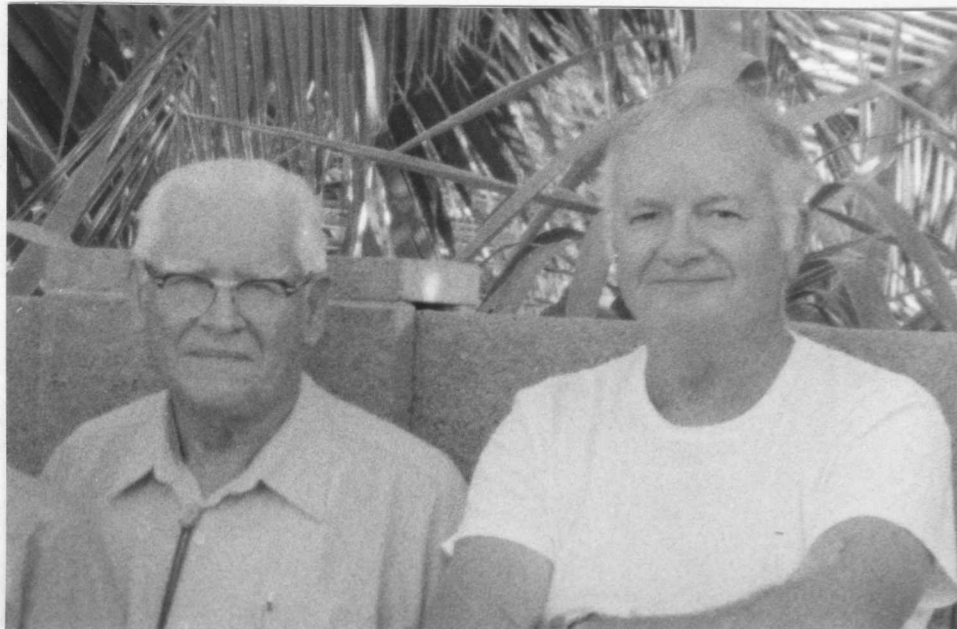
Continuing with our series of articles designed to introduce us to each other, this issue profiles another charter member of our chapter, Aubrey L. Haines.

Aubrey and his wife, Wilma, retired to Tucson after many years with the National Park Service. A lifelong resident of the American west, he began life in Portland, Oregon about 74 years ago. He received a degree in forestry at the Univ. of Washington, followed by a masters degree at the Univ. of Montana, with more graduate work at Montana State Univ. Occupations have included Civil Engineer, Park Ranger, Historian, and Author. Along the way, he lived in Seattle, WA; Bozeman, MT; and Mount Rainier and Yellowstone National Parks. We probably all can envy someone who has LIVED in those two parks. He was park historian at Yellowstone for ten years.

The Haines have two sons, both of whom live in Arizona. They also have one grandson.

Aubrey lists his hobbies as photography, archaeology, and writing. Most OCTA members are well aware of his "writing", as his book, HISTORICAL SITES ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL is considered to be one of THE definitive works about the trail. Among his other books is a two volume set on the history of Yellowstone. Word has it that he is currently finishing up another book, so "retirement" is a relative term with Aubrey. He also is a member of several historical societies, and the Montana Archaeological Society.

While under a NPS contract to survey sites along the Oregon Trail, Aubrey & Wilma met OCTA organizers at some conferences. He has attended several of the annual OCTA conventions as well as providing our chapter with the wealth of his knowledge and research. Health problems have taken him out of some activities recently, but hopefully we will soon have his wit and wisdom with us again.



Aubrey Haines, left, and Jack Root, right, at the summer planning meeting.

The following is a Summary of the January business meeting minutes taken by Susan Badger Doyle, Secretary, on November 12, 1988.

The Chapter business meeting was called to order by President Jack Root.

Present were: Susan Doyle, Dan & Geri Talbot, Tom & Frances Hutchinson (guests) Lamar & Verdene Chapman (guests), Ruth & Jack Root, Bob & Sheri Lee, Harry & Mary Reber, Bob & Betty Lee, Doyle & Fiona Reed, Rose Ann & Harland Tompkins, James & Marion Carter, and Gini Nelson (guest), total of 22. It was noted that Reeds came from Calif., while Carter, Doyle, & Nelson were all from New Mexico.

Motion passed to change our fiscal year to coincide with National's, which begins on Dec. 1. Announcement to be made in the next newsletter, and a tear-off mailer will be included. Dues remain at \$5 per address.

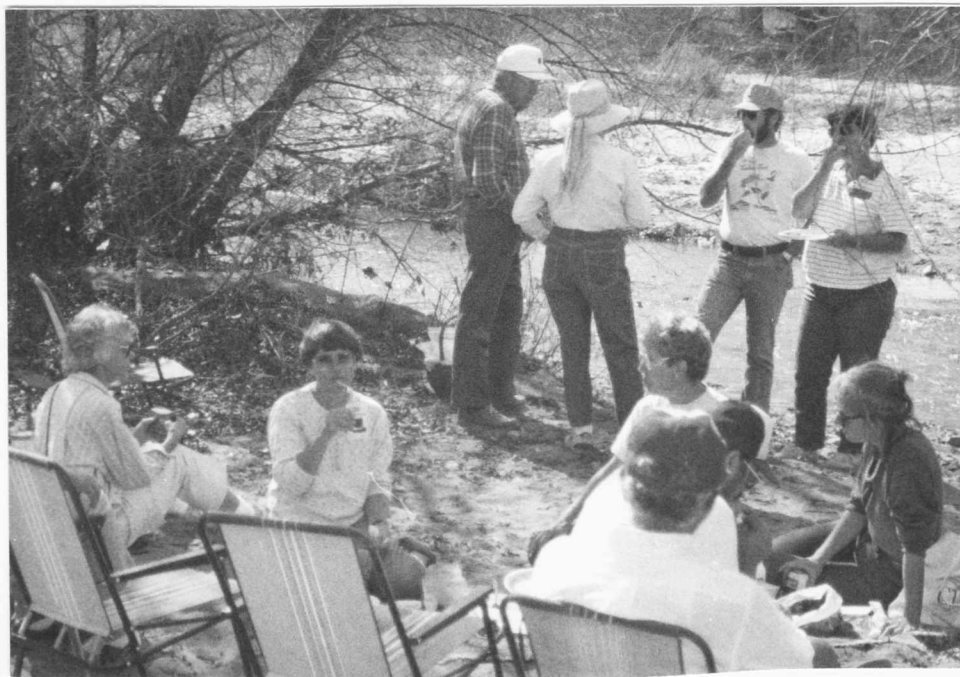
Motion passed to have a \$2 per person donation for each field trip in order to help defray costs associated with the trips. This will begin with the next trip. The fee will be announced in each field trip invitation.

Jack Root reviewed the National meeting last August. He announced that Betty Lee is retiring as Nat'l Chair of the Archaeology Comm. and Susan Badger Doyle is the new Nat'l Secretary of OCTA.

Betty Lee asked for clarification of the status & duties of the Program Comm. which consists of Dan Talbot, Gary Keller, and herself. Discussion was held about future possible programs leading to a future rendezvous to be offered to the national membership. Jack appointed Betty Lee as chairman of the committee for the Jan. and March trips.

Rose Ann Tompkins has prepared an insert flyer for the Arizona chapter to use in the National OCTA brochures.

Jack appointed a nominating committee to compose a new slate of officers for an election in December. The committee is Harland Tompkins, Mary Reber, and Bob Lee (of Tucson).



Chapter members  
enjoying a picnic  
lunch along the  
San Pedro River.