

# ARIZONA TRAILS



DECEMBER 1989  
VOL. 2 NO. 5

ARIZONA CHAPTER  
OF OCTA

## JACK'S TRAIL BITS

With this issue of Arizona Trails you will receive information about our next outing. Our Chapter meeting and pioneer trail study will evolve around the fifth annual Hole-In-The-Rock Commemoration at Lake Powell. (Hereinafter referred to as HIRC, I'm not going to write that over again).

We attended the event last January and found it very worthwhile. The South Rim of the Grand Canyon made a good overnight stop on the return trip. It was a revelation to see this tourist mecca in winter, with only a few curious deer for company.

We had a good turnout for our November meeting in Las Cruces. The Carters led us to some obscure and thrilling points on the old Butterfield Stage Route. Not so obscure was the station in Mesilla, early capital of the Territory, where we dined in pleasant reflection of the day's excursion.

As the year comes to a close, it's time for another important action in our chapter. A nominating committee, appointed in Las Cruces, has selected a new slate of candidates for chapter office. My thanks to Doyle Reed, Ruth Root and Fred Rozum for taking on this task. Of course you may vote for anyone, provided they have agreed to run and serve, if elected. The important thing for all of us is to vote and then vigorously support whoever is elected. This chapter can only prosper if every member participates and takes an active part in pursuing the goals of OCTA and our AZ chapter.

We'll be off soon on our "family triangle" — Tucson to Denver to Ft. Worth, returning around the first of the new year. We feel fortunate to be able to visit our children and grandchildren in this way and in this season.

Here's wishing each and every one of you happy and blessed holidays as you share them with your loved ones.

Jack D. Root

## COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee consisting of Ruth Root, Fred Rozum, and Doyle Reed submit the following list of candidates for the officers to be elected.

President - Harland Tompkins  
Vice President - Robert Lee (Safford)  
Secretary - Wilma Haines  
Treasurer - Sheri Lee

All of the candidates have agreed to serve.

Doyle Reed

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## NOTE:

Voting will occur at the January meeting. If you won't be attending, you may send in your ballot by **January 20**. Two ballots are included in this newsletter for those mailing units that include two members. If you wish to vote for any other member, they must agree to serve prior to voting.

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## TIME TO PAY DUES

*If you have not paid your \$5 dues for the 1990 year, please use the enclosed form found elsewhere in the newsletter.*

## HOLE-IN-THE-ROCK IS GOAL OF THE CHAPTER'S JANUARY TRIP TO UTAH

On January 26, 1880, 250 Mormon settlers lowered 83 wagons and drove several hundred head of cattle down a precipitous 1000 foot chasm to cross the Colorado River. Horses were hitched behind the wagons and wheels were locked to slow descent. The site became known as Hole-in-the-Rock.

We will join the fifth annual commemoration of this event January 26 and 27. In addition to the all day boat trip Saturday, January 27 on Lake Powell to the Hole-in-the-Rock, there will be programs given by authors and historians, Dr. C. Gregory Crampton and Lamont Crabtree at 6:30 pm, Friday evening, January 26. They will also accompany the group on Saturday.

Enclosed you will find a flyer explaining the details of registering for the January trip. There is a package rate at Wahweap Lodge of \$79 per person, which includes two night's lodging and the boat trip. There is also a campground available. You are urged to arrive in time for the program on Friday evening as it will increase your knowledge and enjoyment on Saturday. Also please note that you need to make your own reservations. This is an opportunity to hear about an emigrant event and see the site of it, besides experiencing the beauty of Lake Powell. Jack Root said that at last year's event, the boat also stopped at Rainbow Bridge, hopefully, that remains a possibility. Weather can vary from quite pleasant to chilly at that time of the year, so come prepared.

Jack or Ruth Root can answer questions on details. Their phone number is (602) 749-9679, but they will be out of town until after the holidays.

**HOPE YOU LIKE THE NEW  
FORMAT. COMMENTS AND  
ARTICLES ALWAYS WEL-  
COME.**

Rose Ann Tompkins, Editor  
1125 W. Mission Dr.  
Chandler, AZ 85224



No doubt the travelers on the Butterfield Stage found there were times when a wheel needed changing. During the weekend of visiting sites in New Mexico, this "stage" needed a change also.

### SUMMARY OF BUSINESS MEETING NOV. 4, 1989 LAS CRUCES, NM

Meeting called to order at 9:15 pm. Present were Jack & Ruth Root, Jim & Marian Carter, Pat & Paul Etter, Bob & Sheri Lee, Robert Lee, Doyle & Fiona Reed, Harland & Rose Ann Tompkins.

Reminder that future national OCTA conventions will be in Omaha in '90, Sacramento in '91, Rock Springs, WY in '92, and Baker or Pendleton, OR in '93.

Discussion of expenses for the weekend. Motion passed that we reimburse Jim Carter \$12 apiece for expenses. Jack thanked Carters for the well-planned and interesting weekend.

Treasurer reported \$86.78 in the Treasury with dues due on Dec. 1. Many present paid at that time.

COED report found that Robert Lee, Pat Etter and Rose Ann Tompkins have worked on it. A discussion of how to

make COED more effective with respect to our chapter followed.

The Mapping Project was discussed. Gary Keller has the first set of working maps that OCTA bought for us covering part of the Beale Road. Rose Ann has a set of maps also. This is a long time project. Discussion of those interested spending part of a week next Sept. on it, and of a possible Rendezvous on the Beale Road in 1991.

We will plan for a book auction next meeting.

Jack appointed a nominating committee of Doyle Reed, Ruth Root and Fred Rozum. We plan to have new officers to install at the Hole-in-the-Rock meeting in January.

Brochures on the January weekend will go out to all members. They will be responsible for making their own reservations.

Our symposium is still planned for June, primarily presented by Arizona Chapter members.

Submitted by  
Ruth Root, Substitute Secretary

## BUTTERFIELD SITES WELL WORTH THE TRIP

The first weekend in November was our field trip planned by the Carters in Las Cruces, NM. Jim rented a van so we just sat back and left the driving to him!

It was nippy start of a beautiful day on Saturday morning when we headed for the fairgrounds, our first stop. We met Jerry McDonald, a Paleontologist who has unearthed a variety of animal trackways, left in an ancient muddy shoreline. He is gradually reconstructing the 280 million year old layers taken from the original site to a building at the fairgrounds. It was very impressive and will be written up in a spring issue of National Geographic.

Next were several of the Butterfield Stage stops in central New Mexico, including Rough & Ready, Goodsight and Cooke's Spring. We also stood on the hilltop where Whipple's boundary marker for the US/Mexican border was put in before the Gadsden purchase. At Cooke's Spring, we also saw the adobe remains of Fort Cummings, including the graveyard. All of these sites were miles from anywhere, looking just as remote as they did when used by the stages and emigrants. There were several local experts along with us to explain what we were seeing, and that added to our understanding.

We broke up the travel with lunch in

the city park at Deming. Carters had arranged to have sub sandwiches made up special for us and they were very good, and very large! No one went away hungry.

After a flat tire and a quick change by the wagon master and passengers on our way back to Las Cruces, we met for dinner at La Posta in Mesilla. This wonderful Mexican restaurant is the site of another of the stage stops. We met after dinner at Carter's home for dessert and business meeting.

Sunday morning we were off again, stopping to see the Picacho station site, and another boundary marker. There was also an unscheduled stop for purchase of chili strings, fresh from the fields. The final stop was at Fort Seldon, now a state park. It is quite well preserved and well worth the stop.

As we all scattered for home, we felt again that we had seen and experienced a bit of history. Our thanks to Jim and Marion Carter for all the planning that went into this successful outing. What a great way to spend a beautiful fall weekend!

This also reminded us again that the trails we study here in Arizona were usually going through our state, to and from other locations.

## LET'S GET ACQUAINTED

This issue profiles Harland Tompkins, another of the chapter's charter members. Harland is in his early fifties, a staff scientist at Motorola in Mesa, though he lives in Chandler.

Born and raised in Williamstown, Missouri, he and wife, Rose Ann, left that state after undergraduate school to live in a variety of places including Hawaii, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Ohio, Idaho, Texas and Arizona. A Navy ROTC commission got him to Pearl Harbor, job opportunities and graduate school account for other moves. He has a PhD in Physics from the Univ. of Wis.-Milwaukee, and he does research on surfaces and thin films. He also teaches short courses for the American Vacuum Society in various parts of the country.

He and Rose Ann have two children, Andrew, an USAF Officer, and Ellen, a CPA. They have one granddaughter, with another grandchild expected soon.

Among his interests, he lists skiing, travel, photography, computers, history and exploring the backroads with his 4WD. He joined OCTA in 1986 and attended the Boise convention. He was the program chairman for our symposium last June and has attended most of our field trips.



After a great deli lunch arranged by Carters at the park in Deming, NM, the group gathered for a photo. Pictured are the thirteen members, plus five guides and guests that made the trip on Saturday, November 4.



## BEALE ROAD RESEARCH CONTINUES

In anticipation of the April field trip to the Kingman, AZ area to see traces of the Beale Road, I thought it might be appropriate to explain to the chapter members the status of our research on this early "highway" across the state. Harland and I became interested in the Beale Road after Aubrey Haines led a field trip to El Morro, NM in April of '87 (the famous snowstorm trip).

Edward F. Beale (1822-1893) figured in several chapters of United States history. He was considered one of the heroes of the Battle of San Pasqual; he carried the first gold samples to the east in 1848, starting the California Gold Rush; he held several positions in California politics and owned the large Rancho El Tejon in that state; he experimented with camels as pack animals in the west while constructing the federally financed wagon road from Fort Smith to the Colorado River; and he was later active in Washington politics, which included being the minister to Austria-Hungary. It would seem that he was one of those men who influenced many areas, but never became a legend like his contemporaries, Fremont and Carson. The wagon road was used for many years by emigrants, miners, cattle-men and military groups as one extension of the Santa Fe Trail into California. It was later roughly followed by the railroad and Route 66 through Arizona.

As our interest in Beale and his wagon road grew, we began gathering resource material, books, government reports, journals and maps. We made contact with two people in Kingman and one person in Flagstaff who had information about locations of the road. The chapter decided that we would attempt to survey and map the road for OCTA's emigrant trail mapping program, and Gary Keller, as coordinator of that project, acquired some of the appropriate topographic maps from OCTA.

Last July we spent a weekend in Kingman, meeting with Loren Wilson and Ed Edwards. They took us to various sites in the area, and shared their knowledge of the road in Mohave County. We visited Beale Springs, later an army post, Sitgreaves Pass, and other places with

road remnants. It is our hope that both will be available as guides for our April outing.

We have also gone to Flagstaff on two weekends to meet with Jack B. Smith. He has researched the road for years and has been marking it in the Kaibab and Coconino National Forest for the Forest Service. He showed us a number of sites and road traces both east and west of Flagstaff, including Leroux Spring, Turkey Tanks, some register rocks, and camping areas used along the road. Hopefully, Mr. Smith will be available at some future time for another field trip in the Flagstaff area.

I am currently working on organizing the various journals into a format for comparison purposes, to help locate sites, and to increase our understanding about how the road was used. I have only a few actual emigrant accounts, so any additional information you might be aware of would be appreciated.

Future plans include more chapter field trips (some of this area can be visited when it is too hot elsewhere in the state), mapping the road for OCTA, and hopefully the offering of a rendezvous by the fall of 1991.

Rose Ann Tompkins



This rock retaining wall is on the Beale Road just east of Sitgreave's Pass, near Kingman.

### SCHEDULE REMINDERS OF CHAPTER EVENTS

**Jan. 26-28** Boat trip on Lake Powell from Wahweap to Hole-in-the-Rock, Utah

**Jack Root**  
(602) 749-9679

**April 7-8** Beale Road traces in the Kingman, AZ area.

**Rose Ann Tompkins**  
(602) 963-3565

**June 16** 2nd Annual Trails Symposium in Tucson

**Harland Tompkins**  
(602) 963-3565

**July 14-15** Annual planning session at Lee's cabin on Mt. Lemmon

**ARIZONA OCTA  
BALLOT for 1990 Officers**

Vote for one  
for each office

PRESIDENT

Harland Tompkins

☐☐

VICE PRESIDENT

Robert Lee (Safford)

☐☐

SECRETARY

Wilma Haines

☐☐

TREASURER

Sheri Lee

☐☐

Return mail ballots by January 20 to:

Jack D. Root

8422 E. Tourmaline Dr.

Tucson, AZ 85715

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Tucson, AZ 85715

Dues for the Arizona Chapter of OCTA are \$5 per mailing address, payable each December 1st. You must be a member of the national organization to join the Arizona Chapter.

Fill out this form and return to the Treasurer, Sheri Lee, along with your dues.

**Please make your check out to Sheri Lee, not OCTA.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Sheri Lee, Treasurer  
Arizona OCTA  
5790 E. Territory Ave.  
Tucson, AZ 85715



## **The Fifth Annual Hole-In-The-Rock Commemoration**

**January 27, 1990**

**Sponsored by: A.R.A. Recreational Properties  
Originating from: Wahweap and Bullfrog Marinas**

On Friday evening, January 26, 1990, Dr. C. Gregory Crampton, noted historian, author, photographer and professor from the University of Utah, will be at Wahweap Lodge at 6:30 pm. He will give a slide presentation and lecture covering the history of Glen Canyon and its people before it was inundated by the water of Lake Powell. Lamont Crabtree, historian and author from Provo, Utah will be at Bullfrog Marina on January 26, 1990 to give a lecture and slide presentation on the history of "Hole in the Rock" and the Glen Canyon area. Both programs are free to our participants!

On Saturday morning, January 27, 1990, the tour boats will:

Depart: From Wahweap and Bullfrog Marinas at 7:30 a.m.

Arrive: At Cottonwood Canyon 10:00 a.m.

Program/Lunch on the Beach from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Boat to base of "Hole-In-The-Rock" — 12:15 p.m.

Depart from "Hole-In-The-Rock" — 2:30 p.m.

Arrive: Wahweap/Bullfrog 5:00 p.m.

Travel in comfort aboard a luxurious tour boat to "The Hole-In-The-Rock" crossing. Have lunch on the beach at Cottonwood Canyon and enjoy a program put on under the direction of Rosalie Zufelt.

**Tour Boat Tickets include  
a Lunch — \$38.50 per  
person, children under 12  
years of age — FREE.**

Please mail check or money order to the marina (Wahweap/Bullfrog) where you wish reservation to be made. Room reservations are not included, and can be made individually by calling Central Reservations at 1-800-528-6154. Or by calling Harold Johnson at (602) 645-2433 Extention 6359. Ask about special packages that include lodging.

**PLEASE FILL IN AND RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR DEPOSIT: This information is needed to complete program folders.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DESCENDANT OF: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER IN YOUR PARTY: \_\_\_\_\_

Wahweap Lodge and Marina  
P.O. Box 1597  
ATTENTION: Harold Johnson  
Page, AZ 86040

OR

Bullfrog Resort and Marina  
Lake Powell  
ATTENTION: Kris Morri  
Bullfrog, UT 84734

**Reservations are recommended.**