

SOUTHERN UTAH CHAPTER OF THE OLD SPANISH TRAILS ASSOCIATION

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Chapter Website: http://www.three-peaks.net/spanish_trail.htm
National Website: <http://www.oldspanishtrail.org/>
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President's Message

By Rob Dotson

This last year was the beginning of something great. We have had a few field trips and some great ideas expressed and implemented. But this was just the beginning. I see 2007 as an abundant year, full of great efforts and accomplishments.

To achieve anything great, it takes ordinary people with extraordinary effort. Nobody can accomplish much on their own. We all need each other. As a chapter, we need each and every person to make greater strides. I challenge all our members to make a little more effort to help us. And where will we go? What do we see as some mileposts that will help us move forward? Here are a few that have come to my mind;

1. An increase in membership. This will take some doing. Invite your friends and family members to come to chapter meetings. We will be learning about the amazing challenges and achievements of those who traveled the Spanish Trail.
2. Federal grants are available and can be obtained with some serious work. We have obtained some great volunteers to help. Being serious about plans and the future of The Old Spanish Trail makes a big difference in obtaining serious financial help.
3. Plans for a museum located on the Old Spanish Trail in Enoch City are being designed with the help of New Horizons Engineering and Bulloch Brothers Studios. I believe the residents of our local communities will benefit greatly from these efforts. Our elementary school teachers will be able to receive great tools in educating

our children and grandchildren throughout the years to come.

4. The idea of "Old Spanish Trail Days" has been brought forward for consideration. This type of event can further bring us together as neighbors and friends. We need more good ideas and help to implement this type of event.

As you can see, these four challenges can be daunting if one or two people try to do them all. We need each other. I challenge myself and all of you to join with our group with a renewed commitment to give what you can. Have a prosperous year!

Rob Dotson
President
Southern Utah Chapter
Old Spanish Trail Association

Meeting Schedule

Meetings are generally held at 7PM on the second Wednesday of each month in the Enoch City Office Building, 900 East Midvalley Road, Enoch, UT. The next meeting will be on 10 January.

In addition, the chapter plans regular fieldtrips to Old Spanish Trail sites. These field trips will be announced at the chapter meetings, local newspapers, and this website. See the chapter website for dates and times.

December Meeting Report

No meeting was held due to the holiday season.

November Field Trip Report

Story and Photos by Sherrie Singleton

The Southern Utah chapter of the Old Spanish Trails Association met November 18, 2006 for our second scheduled field trip to learn more about the unique history that our area holds. Lead by Col. Al Matheson, who has hiked and researched our area, took the chapter members to several historical sites. The group started on the main street of Enoch City, Utah.

First, we stopped at the area where the natural water springs used to run in the area, just east of the "Johnson Spring Fort" which was built on the only solid ground they could find in the area at that time. Then we went further down to where there is a "Spanish Trail Monument" that was built by the Boy Scout Troop 336 in 1936. The monument was



dedicated to the first scouts of the early west. They used an old hayrack for support and carved a large arrowhead out of stone to place on top of the rock monument. They said the night before the dedication the arrowhead broke and two men stayed up all night carving the large arrowhead that is still there today.

This monument sits in the old church yard across the street from the top of the "Johnson Springs Fort" road where there is still an original sign that was used to mark the "Spanish Trail."

Not many of them are left today. It is the chapter's goal to replace the markers along the trail.



We then went further down to find the "Old Blast Furnace" which was built in 1869 by John P. Jones and sons.



Moving from the "Johnson Spring Fort" they purchased land and springs on the east bench of the community. Jones, who was an ironworker, built a coke oven and a blast furnace where iron was melted and molded to make fire grates, pig iron, cogwheels, and even a 500 lb. hammer used to drive the piles for irrigation dams in Southern Utah. You can learn more by visiting the park that was donated by the descendants of John P. Jones to the city of Enoch, Utah.

We then went on to enjoy petroglyphs left in our area by the Native Americans and Pioneers that stayed or passed through our area.



Take a look at the photos taken on this adventure. Learn more about our field trips by watching for a date on the web site and "COME JOIN US".

