

Nancy Kay Jackson Lewis

(1942 - 2016)

Nancy served on the Board of Directors for the Santa Fe Trail Association as well as on the Board of the Missouri River Outfitters. For decades she gave programs to civic groups on various aspects of trail history (both Santa Fe Trail and the Oregon/California Trail).

Nancy was a lifelong educator and had an accomplished career. She graduated from the University of Missouri in Columbia and earned her Master's Degree from Webster University in St. Louis. Throughout her teaching career in the Independence School District, she specialized in American History and Missouri History.



Nancy was a People to People Ambassador to Central Europe. The National Council of the Social Studies awarded her the National Secondary Social Studies Teacher of the Year in 1999. The Independence Pioneers Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of which she later became a member, awarded her with Social Studies Teacher of the year. For several years, the Independence School District appointed her as exchange teacher to Oregon where she gave many programs on Independence and the Trails. She was a Missouri Humanities speaker for ten years and was a speaker for the four state Changed Lives Humanities Speaker Series for the Lewis and Clark bicentennial. She was a speaker for the State Historical Society's Speakers' Bureau. As a member of the Whistle Stop Project in conjunction with the Truman Library, Nancy presented numerous programs for teachers and students throughout the state of Missouri.

Nancy and Anne Mallinson worked together to demonstrate women's roles of the Trail era – they were called "Petticoat Pioneers," and provided programs for several SFTA and Chapter events. Her efforts to preserve the historical legacy of the Santa Fe Trail and associated topics will be missed.