

July 25, 1990

Dear Fellow Trail Enthusiast,

On July 20, 1990 30 people met in Offerle, KS to discuss the possibility of forming a local chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association. After introductions and discussion it was decided that there is definitely enough interest to form such an organization and plans are underway to accomplish it. It was decided that we will meet again on Saturday, Sept. 8, at 7:30 p.m. to continue our organizational plans.

Following the business portion of the meeting, Dr. David Clapsaddle showed us slides on the Wet and Dry Route of the Santa Fe Trail. This was enjoyed by all and we'd like to thank him for taking the time to present it to us.

On Sunday, July 22, David and Alice Clapsaddle met with 10 other trail enthusiasts at the Dora Wetzel farm south of Offerle. We left on our adventure in the newly named "Rutmobil" furnished by Tim and Lynda Burghart of Offerle and within 3 hours we had shown David and Alice existing ruts in 5 places on the Wet Route south of Offerle that they were previously unaware of. This informal group, now known as the "Rut Riders", is most anxious to load up again and continue on our next "Rut Hunt". If anyone knows of someone who may have some ruts on their property, please contact one of us, or Dr. Clapsaddle. All help is appreciated in our quests to document the ruts!

It has been noted that the D.A.R. marker on the Wright road is in need of repair. Do you think this should be one of our first projects? Anyone willing to donate materials, time and/or labor please volunteer at the next meeting, or contact one of the names listed below.

Be sure to spread the word to those in your communities that you think may also be interested in joining our group. Remember the next organizational meeting is scheduled for September 8, at St. Joseph's Hall in Offerle, KS, at 7:30 p.m. Hope to see you there.

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