

(Letter sent to newspapers in the area of the Wet and Dry Routes.)

September 20, 1990

Below is some information concerning the formation of a local chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association in your readers' area. We would appreciate it if you would run an article about the formation of the chapter. If you have any questions, please contact either David Clapsaddle at 316-285-3295 or Joanne VanCoevern at 913-825-8349. We encourage you to attend this meeting, or to contact one of us for information concerning future events.

The Santa Fe Trail Association is an international, non-profit organization with more than 1,000 members. It was formally established in 1986. Its purpose is to promote public awareness of and appreciation for this historic trail that served as the major trade route between Missouri and New Mexico, as well as preservation of existing trail sites.

A main feature of the Association is the biennial symposium, held in September of odd-numbered years, where dedicated trail enthusiasts gather to exchange views and information, and to make new friendships. There are lectures, panel discussions, field trips, and social gatherings. In September 1991 the symposium will be held in Arrow Rock, Missouri. In 1993 it will be at Bent's Fort, Colorado and in 1995 it will be held in the Larned/Great Bend area.

The Santa Fe Trail Association is urging the formation of local chapters along the Trail. A meeting has been scheduled to continue plans for the formation of such a chapter. The area of the Trail that will be covered by this chapter lies between Ft. Larned and Ft. Dodge. This part of the Trail split into two trails that were known as the Wet Route and the Dry Route. This meeting will be held on Saturday, October 13, at 7:30 p.m., at St. Joseph's Hall in Offerle. All interested persons are encouraged to attend this meeting. For more information, contact one of the following: David Clapsaddle at 316-285-3295; Pam Wetzel at 316-659-2305 or Joanne VanCoevern at 913-825-8349.

Thank you for your help in our endeavor to form Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association.

Sincerely yours,

Joanne VanCoevern