



The 2016 Old Spanish Trail Conference July 29-30 Grand Junction Colorado

Your update on the latest info

Welcome to our first newsletter for our 2016 Old Spanish Trail Conference! We'll be sending out news and information about our conference every few weeks between now and mid-July, letting you know about our plans, how to register, special features, and a few previews of our presentations.

Register Now

Only \$65 for members, includes free transportation for field trips and reception.

Banquet only \$27 per person.



Noted Ute Storyteller, Filmmaker Slated to be Banquet Guest Speaker

Larry Cesspooch is a modern storyteller, who uses all forms of media to tell his stories, film, music, storytelling, and lectures. Cesspooch means "White Belly" in the Ute language. That was his Great Grandpa's Indian name who had a big white birthmark on his tummy. Larry's Indian name is "Eyee~Pooch," Young Man. He grew up on the Uintah & Ouray Ute Reservation in Northeastern Utah.

Larry served in the U.S. Navy as a Radioman in Vietnam, Hawaii, and Texas. He attended the Institute of American Indian Arts for his AA, and the Anthropology Film Center for his BA, both in Santa Fe, N.M. on the G.I. Bill, and tribal scholarships.

Larry returned home in 1979 to his tribe to create the "Ute Tribe Audio-Visual," one of the first tribal production groups in the states. They produced over 600 films for the Ute Indian Tribe on the culture, language and history.



During his 23 years, Cesspooch was also the Editor for the "Ute Bulletin" tribal newspaper, and did Public Relations for the tribe.

His own production company, "Through Native Eyes Productions.," produces short documentaries telling others stories.

Reserve Now

The Clarion Inn is our host for our conference with special room rates—but you are encouraged to reserve early to take advantage of this deal! Be sure to mention the conference when you make your reservation.



Visit Fort Uncompahgre—a special bonus for the OSTA Conference

As a unique highlight, Fort Uncompahgre in Delta, Colorado, will welcome us to a special Chuck Wagon Dinner Thursday evening, July 28! Re-enactors, music and personal tours of this historic fort will be highlights—and transportation is free from the Clarion Inn. Cost is only \$25 per person (\$5 more for beer/wine) and you can get more info and register on our website—oldspanishtrail.org.

Back to the Trail celebrates 20 years of riding, biking, hiking, and history

The Friday field trip for the 2016 Conference will take you to the trail-head of the "7mile Section" of Mesa County's Old Spanish Trail. Designated a Retracement Route just a few years ago, the trail was open to the public as a recreational area in 1996. This re-dedication ceremony is courtesy of a grant from the National Park Foundation, received by Mesa County, which will also fund new signage on Highway 50 as well as interpretive signs. We also want to thank Grand Valley Transportation for providing shuttles for both of our field trips!



Back to the Trail will feature Reenactors in period historical regalia—on mules!

PRESENTATION PREVIEW

A few of the interesting, informative, and entertaining presentations for your conference.



The North Branch of the Spanish Trail over Cochetopa Pass to the Valleys of Western Colorado—Jon Horn, Alpine Archaeological Consultants

The Beale and Gunnison Expeditions in 1853 show the variety of choices travelers on the North Branch of the Spanish Trail had journeying from the San Luis Valley over Cochetopa Pass to the Uncompahgre and Gunnison Valleys in western Colorado. These routes certainly originated as Indian trails that were utilized by Taos trappers, including Antoine Roubidoux (Roubideau), and Hispanic settlers of northern New Mexico for trade with the Ute in western Colorado, the Uintah Basin, and, perhaps, as far as Utah Lake on the Wasatch Front. Ongoing research is delineating these routes on the ground and correlating them with documentary sources. Some reconsideration of the designated route of the North Branch is in order.



Expeditionary Artists on the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail -Dr. David Miller

Miller's fascinating presentation focuses on the work of four expeditionary artists who made landscape sketches on the Old Spanish Trail in the 1850s. These artists are Gwinn Harris Heap, Richard Kern, Joseph Heger, and Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Egloffstein.

We thank the sponsors and partners of our 2016 OSTA Conference!

Register Now

In Our Next Issue:

- *Las Colonias and the Colorado River Crossing*
- *Engaging Your Community—Preserving the Trail*
- *Colorado Mesa University Professor Stephen Stern talks about 200 years of ecology on the trail*



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