

National Stagecoach and Freight Wagon Association's

News Letter

Fall 2012

www.stagecoachfreightwagon.org

Hello Fellow NSFVA Members!

After a summer full of events and gatherings, we hope that our *Fall Newsletter* finds you all safe and sound from all of the disasters that have occurred this past season. The NSFVA was very busy this year with promoting our organization and making preparations for next year's annual conference.

In this Newsletter, we will highlight where we were over the spring and summer months of 2012, as well as announce next year's annual conference. We also would like to remind people about Dues Renewals, and introduce you to some of our new friends and contributing members.

We were very encouraged to see so many of our members this year and we are even more excited at seeing the rest of our membership at a future event!

Happy Trails –
NSFVA Board of Directors

Don't forget to visit our web site for updates on events that we are planning to attend!

If *YOU* are planning on attending an event this fall, let us know so we can post it on our website – the more the merrier!

And if you would like to help promote the NSFVA at an event, please contact our Executive Director, so that we can share information and promotional material with you!

*The National Stagecoach and Freight Wagon Association is **PROUD** to announce that our **6th Annual Conference** will be held in **Virginia City, MT July 10th-14th, 2013!***

(See attached paper for more details)

Please come and join the NSFVA for a historical symposium which will immerse you in the rustic history of a community that was ruled by gold, outlaws, vigilantes and now – legends and memories!

~~ 2013 also marks Virginia City's 150th Anniversary! ~*~*

Where Have We Been in 2012?

- ~The NSFVA started off our 2012 spring, by gathering in Cheyenne, WY for our **Annual Director's Meeting**. The Cheyenne Frontier Days Museum was gracious enough to allow us to host a mixer party in their Art Gallery on Friday April 13th from 6pm until 9pm. We had a wonderful turnout of about 50 guests, representing several organizations. Saturday the 14th was largely devoted to our Director's meeting, with an exciting field trip out to tour CFD's Carriage and Wagon Collection!
- ~May 11th-13th found our group in La Junta, CO at **Bent's Old Fort**. In conjunction with their wonderful event, we held our 5th Annual Conference. Gerry Groenewold, Rawhide Johnson, Doug Hansen and Greg VanCoevern were all attendees at Bent's Fort. Not only did some of our director's bring their own vehicles, but some were speakers and presenters as well. It was an energetic gathering of trail authorities, re-enactors, wagon buffs and history enthusiasts – all meshed into one great big group of Bent's Old Fort supporters!
- ~NSFVA member, Ray Stokes, generously volunteered to attend and represent the NSFVA at **Virginia Dale's 150th Celebration** held June 8th-10th, 2012 in Virginia Dale, CO. He had nothing but exciting endorsements for this grand event in this little, off-the-beaten-path community. While attending this celebration he took several photographs and sent them to us. You can go to our website and enjoy Virginia Dale all over again, thanks to Ray!
- ~The 4th weekend in June found two of our Director's at **Brian Lebel's Old West Show and Auction** in Denver, CO. Both Rawhide Johnson and Ashlee Ganoung were on hand at the vendor show, with a table to help promote the NSFVA.
- ~**The Oregon California Trail Association (OCTA)** held their annual conference in Lawrence, KS August 6th-12th. Greg VanCoevern, our newest director, cordially promoted our Association to the trail enthusiasts that flocked to the OCTA convention.
- ~August 25th was a day for good food and good people, as long-time member **Jem Blueher** hosted a small "membership drive" at his shop in Livingston, MT. It was a potluck affair with tasty treats, cold drinks, history lessons and the most heart-felt camaraderie that we feel privileged to call part of our young association.
- ~And last but not least, was **Meeteetsee's 100 Year's Celebration** held over the Labor Day Weekend in Meeteetsee, WY. Director Jeff McManus was vital to this event, not only by promoting stagecoaches and freight wagons – but by driving one of them in the local parade, as well!

New Museum Forming in California

California, August 30, 2012

- ~A new carriage and horse powered museum is forming in California and anticipates being operational within the next few months. The stated purpose and mission of the museum is to "conserve, restore and protect the artifacts of the horse powered era, presenting to current and future generations the opportunity to experience, research and educate themselves in the rich history of our past".
- ~The heart of the new museum is expected to be a collection of 100+ carriages and wagons....private and public transportation, fire-fighting equipment, freighting, local delivery, agricultural implements and other horse powered equipment that represents a significant part of California's golden history.
- ~Full details will be forthcoming once the museum has finalized key aspects of their organization.

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