

Santa Fe Trail Ranch Women's Group Meeting—January 13, 2018

The SFTR Women's Group met at the home of Sharon Beaver on January 13, 2018. Those attending included Sharon Beaver, Ann Kost, Lynne Parker, Nancy Scott, Carol Smith, June Stephens, Dena Wagner, and Sally Wilson. Sending regrets were Roxanne Briggs, Trina Ceplina, and Mary Ghormley.

The stated purpose of the meeting was to bring together suggestions for activities or experiences (other than picnic and harvest dinner planning) which the group and any other ranch residents upon occasion might enjoy sharing. It is understood that weather will determine when some activities may be realized; some will require reservations in advance and others may be spur of the moment with notice of an invitation to anyone interested in joining in the event to be placed on the ranch website. Following is a list of the results of much conversation and sharing:

- A visit to the Maxwell National Wildlife Refuge (south of Raton, NM) in February to watch the eagles nesting as well as lots of other birds (This will be the February meeting. Watch the website for the date and time.)
- Organizing a greenhouse and/or garden tour of various sites on the ranch.
- Inviting those interested to an exchange of cuttings, starts and/or seeds in the spring.
- Organizing a tour of homes on the ranch.
- Visiting the dinosaur tracks near La Junta in early May or late September when it's not too hot. (RSVP is required and one will need a vehicle with high clearance or truck.)
- A visit/tour of a lavender farm during the July harvest.
- A visit to a salmon/raspberry farm—possible to pick berries in June/July.
- A guided tour of Red Rock Canyon Open Space near Colorado Springs.
- A visit/lunch(?) to Rosemont Museum in June for the bridal display and/or at other events presented there during the year.
- A trip to Bent's Fort.
- A day visiting Philmont Scout Ranch and the mansion with a meal at the St. James Hotel in Cimarron NM.
- A lunch at the St. James Hotel followed/or preceded by a visit to the museum in Cimarron.
- A tour and brunch at the Vermejo Park Ranch.
- An outing to Capulin Volcano National Monument
- A visit to see the dinosaur tracks at the Clayton, NM Park.
- Visits to any number of museums in our area—including...
 - ...museum at the NRA Whittington Center.
 - ... Raton Museum (lots of mining history)
 - ... various museums in Trinidad
- Attending plays at the SCRT, which has a new concept on the horizon this summer

In addition to the above, the group expressed concerns about how the cows will be prevented from crossing the new bridge. For tax purposes, it is very important that the ranch not lose its agricultural status! Another item discussed was the possibility of a community building. The group is in favor of such an endeavor and encourages everyone interested to think about what such a facility should include and to make some notes to that effect for consideration during the planning for the building itself as well as for how and who should maintain the structure/area once it is realized.

THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL PICNIC WILL BE SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018.

There will be no formal February meeting. Watch the website for the time and place for the March meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Beaver