

OLATHE NSFVA CONFERENCE AND SANTA FE TRAIL SYMPOSIUM A SUCCESS

NEXT CONFERENCE TUCSON/TUBAC – MARCH 15-18, 2018



The Tenth Annual National Stagecoach and Freight Wagon Association Conference was held in conjunction with the Santa Fe Trail Association Symposium in Olathe, Kansas September 27-30 with over 150 attendees.

www.stagecoachfreightwagon.org

A broad range of speakers delighted audiences with a variety of topics. The NSFVA Association contingent provided a host of speakers and demonstrations during the event.

David Sneed of Wheels that Won the West fame led off the NSFVA members talks with a rousing and informative slide presentation on the Wagons of the Santa Fe Trail.



President Jeff McManus assisted by Cameron Bean worked the Blacksmith Shop.



Greg Couvern demonstrated his replica of a Civil War era Rucker Army Ambulance and described ambulance use in the military. Doug Hansen and Jim Pomajevich drew comparisons with the frontier “ambulance” – not a military nor medical vehicle at all. More on this in Tubac with a replica of the frontier ambulance.



Rawhide Johnson led a discussion on the perils of Stage and Wagon travel in the 1800s interspersing personal experience from a lifetime of driving horse drawn vehicles.



Here Doug Hansen holds up an original jockey stick, an integral component of the freighting jerk line hitch, the jockey stick transferred the near lead horse or mule steering to the off animal.



Doug, an expert Wheelwright, also gave an informative slide presentation on the art and engineering of wheelwrighting that was well received by the audience.

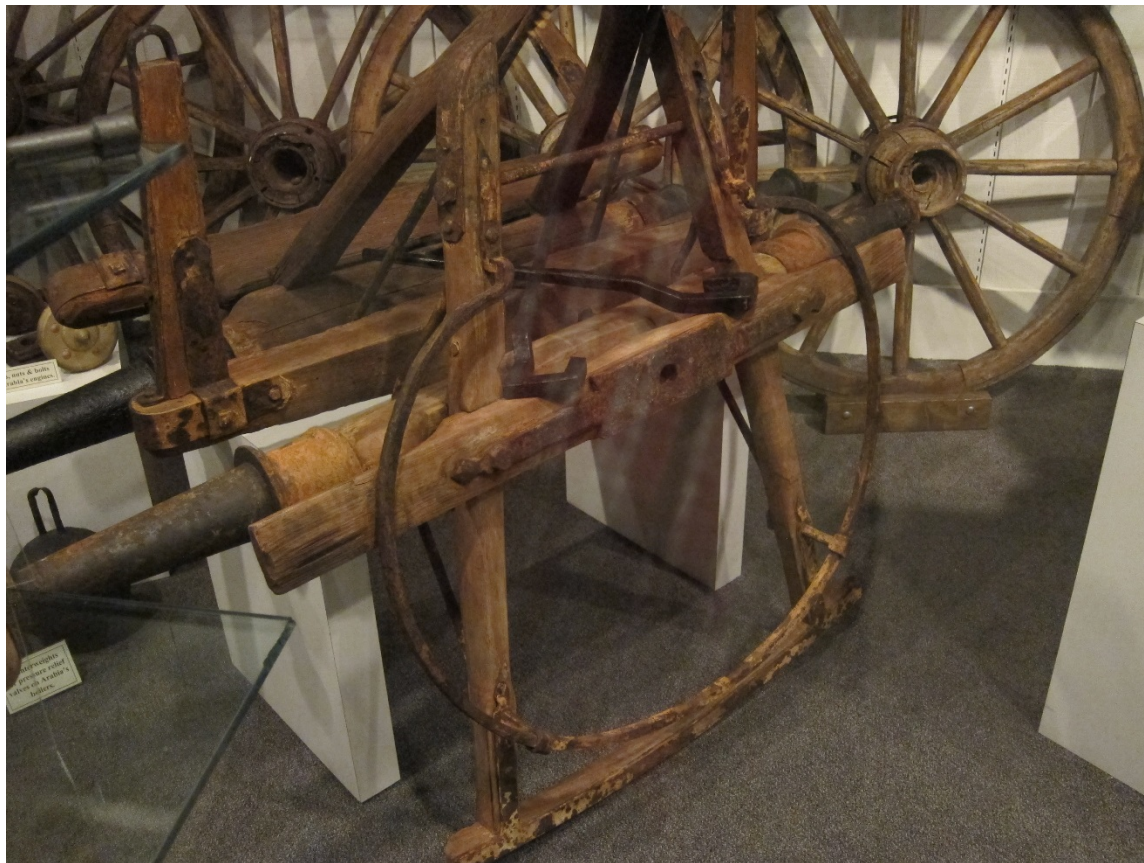


Many of these same topics will be covered again in Tucson/Tubac Conference March 15-18 at the Eleventh Annual NSFWA Conference. Please see the Tucson/Tubac program in prior emails and on the website.

The Arabia Steamship Tour. <http://1856.com/>

Touring the Aribia Steamship museum in downtown Kansas City, we examined the earliest known Peter Schuttler wagon in existence, 1856 and the earliest known wagon to implement a cast iron thimble skein.

The vast collection of artifacts in the Arabia steamship museum are a wealth of knowledge to historians seeking undisputable validation of artifact timelines. Loaded with 200 tons of new merchandise enroute for points as far north as Sioux City Dakota Territory, the ship sunk after hitting a snag in 1856.



Note the cast iron thimble skein, telltale Peter Schuttler bolster standard.

Fort Leavenworth Museum

[http://www.armyupress.army.mil/
Educational-Services/Frontier-Army-Museum/](http://www.armyupress.army.mil/Educational-Services/Frontier-Army-Museum/)

One of the many offerings at the Fort Leavenworth Museum is carefully scrutinized by some of the members in attendance. This is a replica and restoration of a Freight Wagon and one of the few non originals on display.



l. to r. Jim Pomajevich, Jeff McManus, Doug Hansen, Greg Couvern, Cameron Bean



Vehicle offerings at Fort Leavenworth included Army Escort Wagon, Army Ambulance, Eastern Abbot and Downing Stage Coach, Freight Wagons, Officers vehicles and Canon. This is a first class museum and a must see for the military history of the era..