



Spring 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Just over 180 years ago, members of what came to be called the Oldworld Shoshone party were beginning their preparations for the first attempt to take wagons overland to California. Four months after their May departure from Missouri they abandoned their wagons in northwestern NY (near Big Springs) and continued on to California. They arrived in November after a six-month journey! Today, the route they traveled has been determined to be eligible as a part of the National Historic Trails System (NHTS). We are hoping it will be included in a post-election public lands omnibus bill. Two other segments in northeastern Nevada, the Bishop-Cook Cutoff and the Greenhorn Cutoff, were also determined to be eligible.

There are 21 Wayrides along I-80 that interpret the story of the California Trail across northern Nevada. The closest ones to Elko are those located in the City Park just west of the Northeastern Nevada museum, and at South Fork State Park. Erin Lee photographed these sites in 2021 and uploaded the information into Survey 123, the National Park Ser-



Helen Heston,
President

vice's data base for signs and other projects. In meetings on April 1, Helen Heston discussed the need to replace the interpretive panels at some of these locations. The next step is for CTHA to prioritize which sites need attention first and to share this with the Oregon-California Trail Association. This will put these sites in the queue for future work.

The American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AINATA) is gearing up for a competition to design a poster highlighting Native American illustrations along the California Trail. A member of CTHA has made a small donation to support this project. More details will be available in late spring.

Elko County received a Transportation Alternative Program grant from NDOT for a feasibility study of a multi-use path from Carlin to Lamoille along part of the California Trail. The grant will provide more than \$230,000 for the study.

Trail marking and mapping is planned in a big way this summer! Dick Wough, and OCTA member,

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Trail Center Hours

Open 7 days a week from 8:30AM to 5PM

Upcoming events

Jun. 1-2	Trail Days at CTC
Jun. 10	Board Meeting
Jul. 29	Preservation Workshop at OCTA Conventon-Pendleton, OR
Jul. 29-30	OCTA National Convention - Pendleton, OR

*At this time, California Trail Heritage Alliance board meetings will begin at 5:30 pm.