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By Paul Andrew Hutton

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Michael Coleman (b. 1946). *Winter Camp*, 1976. Gouache. Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Cody, Wyoming, USA. William E. Weiss Contemporary Art Fund. 7.76 (detail)

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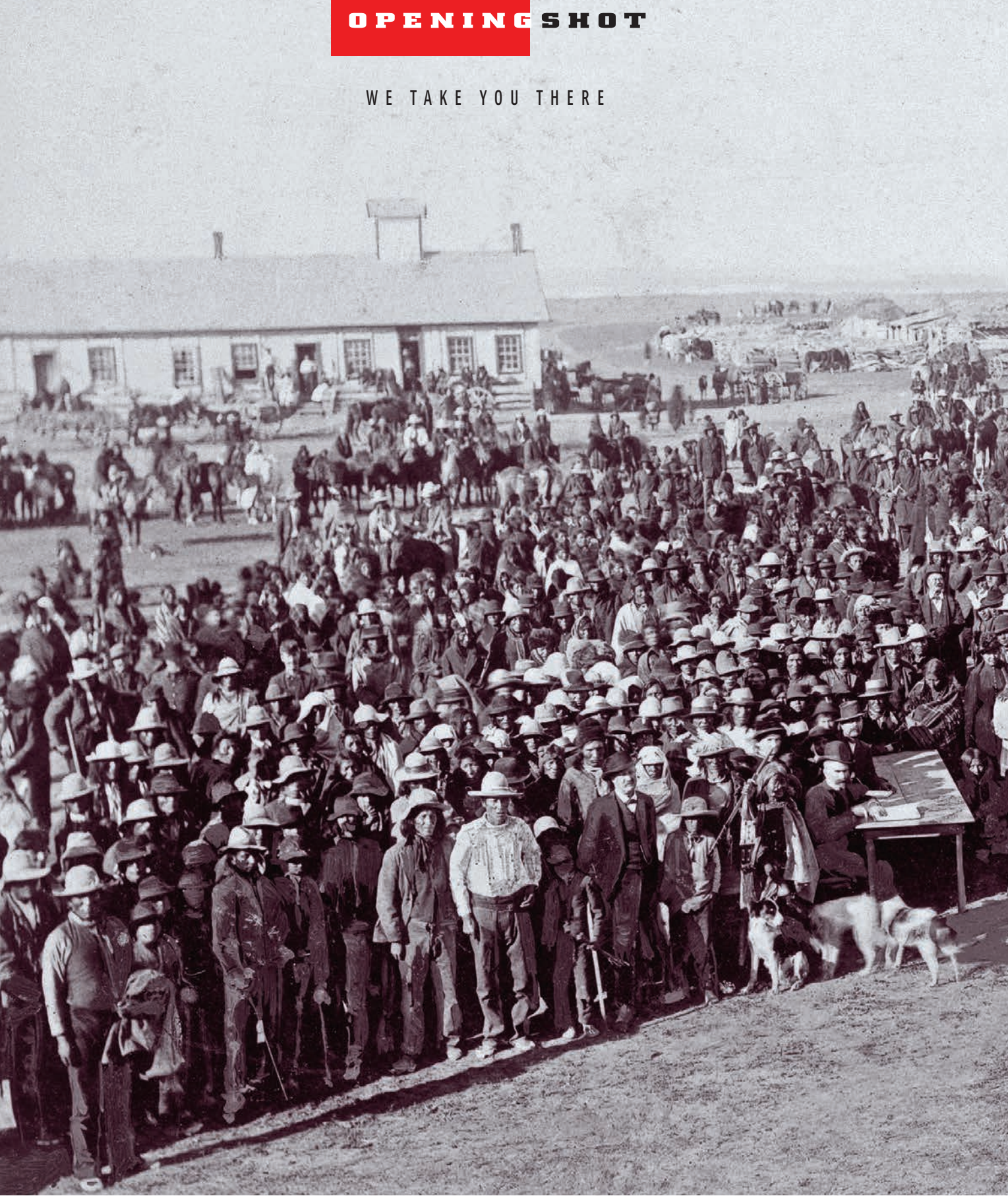

Standing Rock Agency's 1885 Census

The final Dakota Territory census before the Great Sioux Reservation was split into five reserves took place at Standing Rock Agency on July 1, 1885. Agent James McLaughlin sits at the left-hand table, while Chief Gall leans on the right-hand table where census collector Bird Robinson sits. Population figures were used to indicate Indian land allotments, resulting in nine million acres up for public settlement.

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

True West captures the spirit of the West with authenticity, personality and humor by providing a necessary link from our history to our present.

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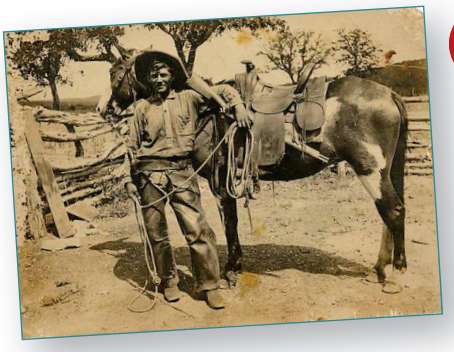
November 2018 Online and Social Media Content



This unidentified cowboy, circa late 1870s or 1880s, is armed with an 1873 Colt single action revolver and carries an 1873 Winchester carbine in his saddle scabbard. Find this photo and more historical photography on our "Cowboys" board.

Go behind the scenes of *True West* with Bob Boze Bell to see this sketch, *Ojos de Gringos, After Ed Borein*, and more of the executive editor's Daily Whipouts (search for August 10, 2018).

Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com

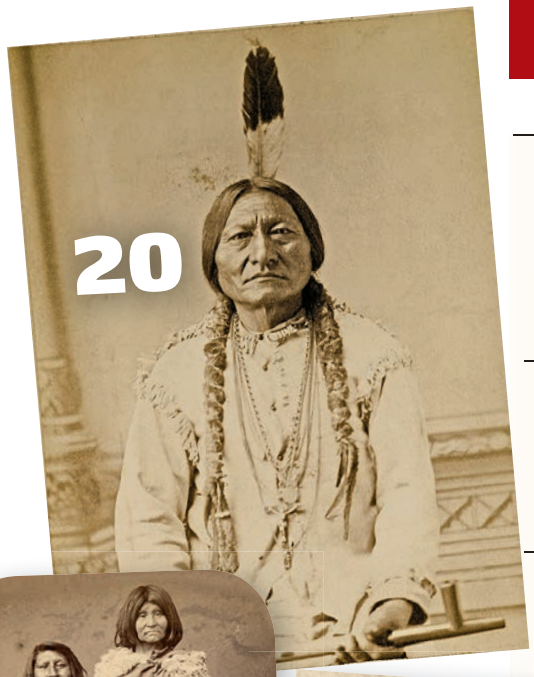
Join the Conversation: Shooting Sam Strawhun

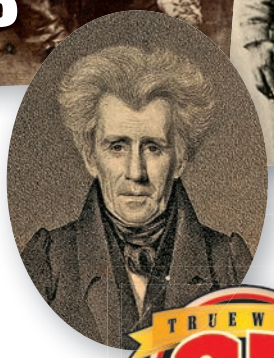
"Sam [Strawhun] approached ['Wild Bill' Hickok] with a beer mug, not a pistol. Seems like Bill got away with murder to me."

—Jerry Hopper of Rainbow City, Alabama

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NOVEMBER 2018 • VOLUME 65 • ISSUE 11





Cover design by Dan Harshberger; Sitting Bull photo courtesy Library of Congress

Oops!

September 2018: In "Time to Die," the year for Ben Thompson's trial should have been cited as 1883. In "Cole Younger, American Outlaw," Edmund is the first name of the Gen. Pope who coordinated efforts to hunt down the James-Younger Gang. In "Top 16 History Museums" feature, p. 76, the "People of the Plains" photo is from the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame. Please visit *TWMag.com* for an updated version of "New 'Old' Photo of 1896 Fight;" our readers helped correct a frequently misidentified photograph. **October 2018:** In "Justice Served," a photo of Matthew Perry was featured when his brother, Oliver Perry, was the War of 1812 hero who inspired the "Perry" name for Commodore Perry Owen.

TRUTH BE KNOWN

COMPILED BY ROBERT RAY

Quotes

"I am a Conservative to preserve all that is good in our constitution, a Radical to remove all that is bad. I seek to preserve property and to respect order, and I equally decry the appeal to the passions of the many or the prejudices of the few."

– Benjamin Disraeli, Former U.K. Prime Minister

"A stupid man's report of what a clever man says is never accurate, because he unconsciously translates what he hears into something that he can understand."

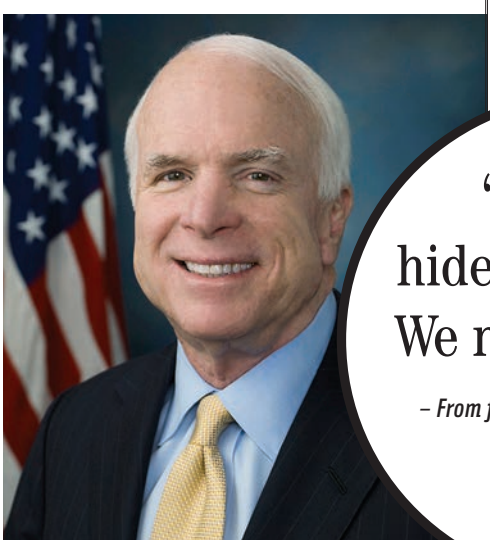
– Bertrand Russell, British Noble Laureate for Literature

"Observe good faith and justice towards all Nations, cultivate peace and harmony with all."

– George Washington, 1st U.S. President

"I tell my students that they don't need to be accurate to communicate. They do need to be accurate to be respected."

– Zoe Morosini, U.S. ESL Specialist



"We never hide from history. We make history."

– From final message by John McCain, U.S. Senator-Arizona (1936-2018)

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO

Letter

While reading my latest issue of *True West,* September 2018, I realized it has been well over 60 years since I first picked up my Dad's copy and enjoyed the tales of the Old West. For years, he always passed down his copy to me once he had finished reading it. After his passing in 2004, I did without the magazine for a while.

As a current subscriber, every time I receive my magazine, I always think of my Dad and how he enjoyed reading every issue, as do I. Thank you for maintaining a great tradition in Western history.

– Joe Stanley
El Reno, Oklahoma

"The wheels of justice turn slowly, but grind exceedingly fine."

Old Vaquero Saying

BY BOB BOZE BELL

The Fight for History

The past, the present and the future of True West.

When I was a nine-year-old kid, I idolized the people who put together *True West*.

Founder Joe Small, authors J. Frank Dobie and Fred Gipson, and artists Joe Grandee, Brummett Echohawk and Al Napoletano were among my heroes, and I have often wondered how each of them got interested in frontier history in the first place.

Since I can't go back in time and ask those iconic contributors, I got the idea to share the stories behind many of the talented folks who have helped produce the magazine in your hands today (p. 46).

As we approach the century mark for this magazine, I have a hunch the future staff of crazies who will inherit *True West* will be inspired by these true-life stories.

How we tell those stories have changed over the years. Swamped by hell-bent revisionists and axe-grinding identity politics, our American frontier history has turned upside down. Paul Andrew Hutton takes a good, hard look at the state of history today (p. 34).

Some of this change is warranted. After all, we want to know the truth, period. But much of it is a broad brush condemning the past. I agree with Bret Stephens, who noted in this year's *The New York Times*: Americans can overcome timeless and universal principals, "even if they were laid down by hypocrites."

On a heartening note, the Class of 2053 is already arriving. I hope this next generation will help carry on the tradition and the pursuit of the true West—warts and all.

For a behind-the-scenes look at running this magazine, check out BBB's daily blog at TWMag.com

The *True West* Class of 2053 may already be here. I predict this elite group of potential contributors will include Camille Gerhards, two years old, born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the daughter of Caitlin and Kyle Gerhards of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her superior reading habits may have something to do with Camille's grandfather, Paul Andrew Hutton.

– BY PAUL ANDREW HUTTON –

BY MARK BOARDMAN

"...Kill or Hang All Warriors..."

The Battle of the Washita heightened the conflict between the U.S. and American Indians.

If one winner came out of the Battle of the Washita, his name was Custer.

In 1868, Southern Cheyennes and other tribes were camped along the Washita River in present-day Oklahoma. They'd been at peace with the U.S. since the previous October's Treaty of Medicine Lodge, but the truth was more complicated.

Cheyenne Black Kettle and other chiefs couldn't stop their warriors from attacking white settlers. Some bands had moved north of the Arkansas River, violating the treaty.

Indian leaders met with Army officials at Fort Cobb on November 20—but left with no promise of peace and an order to move their bands. Black Kettle decided to hold off on moving until spring, hoping for another talk with the U.S. That never happened.

Instead, Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and 689 men of the 7th Cavalry followed tracks to Black Kettle's camp. They found 51 tipis and about 250 Cheyennes.

Custer's orders were specific and brutal. General Phil Sheridan wanted the troops "… to destroy [Indian] villages and ponies, to kill or hang all warriors, and to bring back all woman and children [survivors]."

For once, Custer followed orders.

At dawn on November 27, Custer and four columns charged on the unprepared Indians, marching to the tune of "Garryowen." Black Kettle and his wife were shot in the back. Others died as they grabbed weapons. Only when other bands approached did Custer order a retreat.

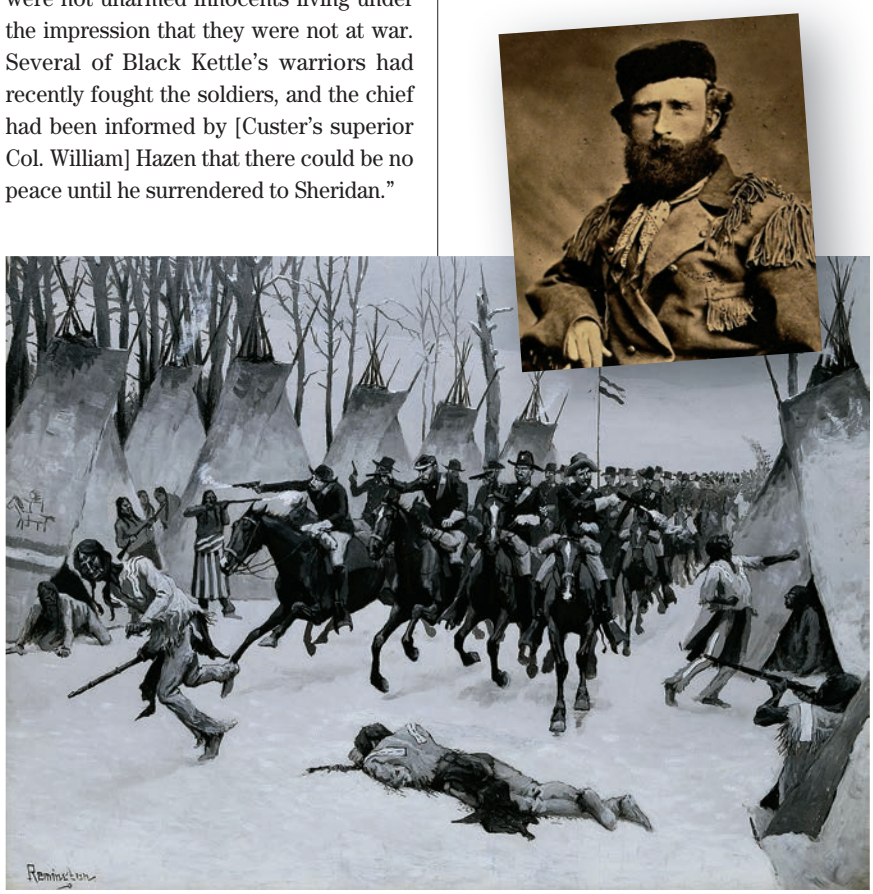
The 7th didn't come away unscathed; 21 were killed and 13 wounded. Indian casualty estimates ranged from 103 to 140 warriors (Custer's count), while Cheyenne prisoners put the count at 16 warriors. That didn't include the women who died.

Historians do know that 53 women and children were captured and used as human shields to prevent an attack on the retreating column. Custer's men left a destroyed village.

Even at the time, folks debated: was this a battle or a massacre? Custer argued it was a battle. New Mexico State University Professor Paul Andrew Hutton agrees.

"Although the fight on the Washita was most assuredly one-sided, it was not a massacre," Hutton wrote in *Phil Sheridan and His Army*. "Black Kettle's Cheyennes were not unarmed innocents living under the impression that they were not at war. Several of Black Kettle's warriors had recently fought the soldiers, and the chief had been informed by [Custer's superior Col. William] Hazen that there could be no peace until he surrendered to Sheridan."

The debate didn't matter to Custer. For the first time in more than three years, since his Civil War glory, Custer's name was in the headlines. He was newly renowned as a formidable Indian fighter, one battling the threat to American expansionism. This reputation would last him roughly eight years, until the Battle of the Little Big Horn put a finis to his story.



George Custer posed in his buckskin jacket and fur hat around the time of the 1868 Battle of the Washita (inset). He was portrayed above, in Frederic Remington's 1888 oil, leading the 7th Cavalry on the first victory for the U.S. Army in the Southern Plains Indian Wars.

– CUSTER PHOTO COURTESY NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, LITTLE BIGHORN BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL MONUMENT, #19_00633; REMINGTON ART COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, DECEMBER 11-12, 2012 –

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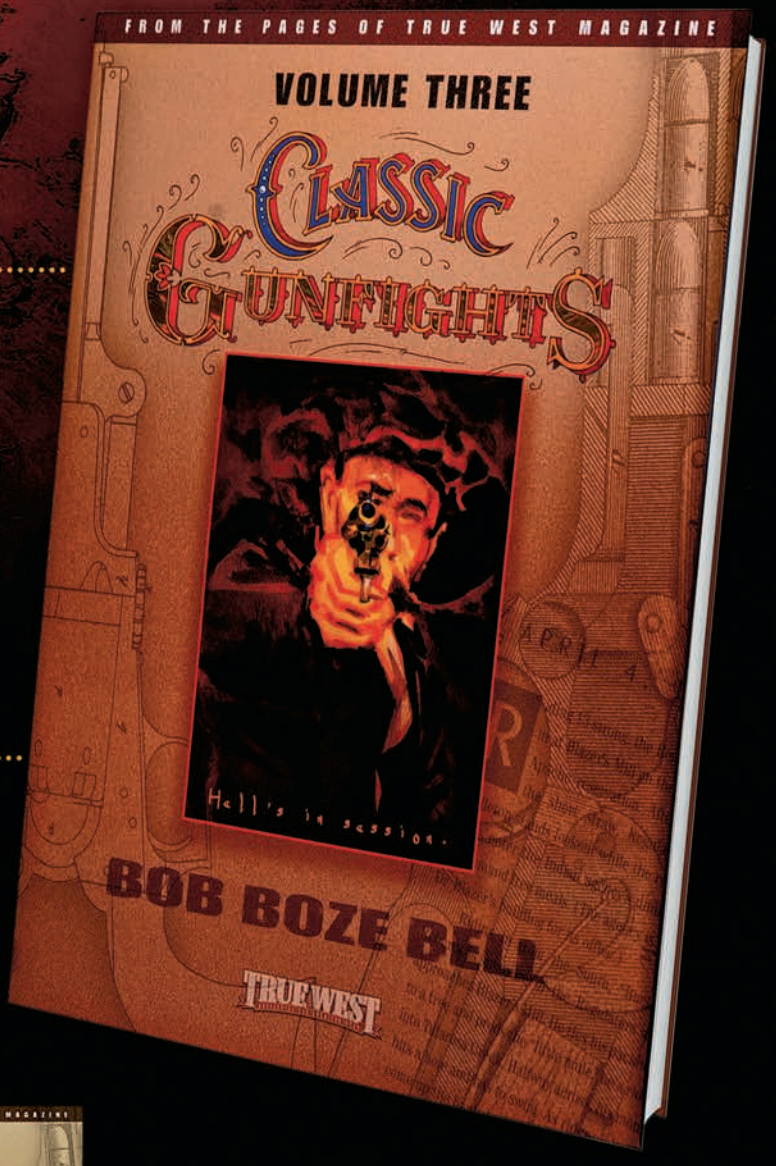

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TRUE WEST

BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Tejano History Under One Roof

A half-century effort to save San Antonio's Casa Navarro earns nationwide appreciation.

The entire history of early Texas—from a Spanish viceroyalty, to ownership by Mexico, to the Republic of Texas to statehood—was lived by the man who built Casa Navarro.

In a lifetime spanning 1795 to 1871, José Antonio Navarro stands as the most important Tejano in Texas history—he was one of two native-born Texans to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence in 1836; was the only Tejano delegate to the 1845 convention that voted to join the Union and wrote the state's first constitution; and, as senator, he championed Tejano rights for fellow Texans of Mexican and Spanish descent. This rancher and merchant also shared a vision for Texas with dear friend Stephen F. Austin.

Navarro County was named in his honor in 1846, and its county seat was named Corsicana in honor of his father's Corsican birth. His nephew by marriage was James Bowie, who died at the Alamo battle in 1836, leaving Navarro to help rescue his surviving relatives—two women and a child.

The most important Tejano in Texas history.

Now the adobe-limestone home, office and business complex this hero built during the 1850s along the San Pedro Creek has been given the nation's highest preservation status: In 2017, it was declared a National Historic Landmark, an honor bestowed on places that illustrate and interpret the heritage of America.

The Casa Navarro State Historic Site at 228 S. Laredo Street in San Antonio—the heart of downtown and once a thriving Tejano neighborhood known as "Little Laredo"—is a popular tourist stop.

José Antonio Navarro (above right) built Casa Navarro during the 1850s. The only preserved historical Tejano site in all of Texas, his complex features the adobe home (top left) and two-story mercantile (bottom left).

– NAVARRO PHOTO COURTESY CASA NAVARRO STATE HISTORIC SITE; SITE PHOTOS COURTESY *TEXAS HIGHWAYS* MAGAZINE –

"I love this *casa* because it's a part of the state's history that isn't discussed often," says Emiliano Calderon, educator at Casa Navarro. "This is the only Tejano site in the state."

San Antonio was a boomtown during the 1850s when Navarro built the complex—a one-story, deep-porched home for his family next door to a two-story merchant building. Today it is among the oldest adobes still standing in San Antonio. And it almost didn't escape the bulldozers.

During the 1960s, an "urban renewal" effort leveled entire blocks of this neighborhood to make way for parking lots and new buildings. But Navarro's descendants, joined by the San Antonio Conservation Society, saved the complex. In 1962, Texas first recognized the Navarro complex's historic significance with a Texas State Historic Landmark designation. The conservation society restored the property and deeded it to the state of Texas in 1975.

Now the whole nation knows its significance to America's legacy.

Jana Bommersbach has earned recognition as Arizona's Journalist of the Year and won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She cowrote the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and has written two true crime books, a children's book and the historical novel *Cattle Kate*.

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BY MEGHAN SAAR

The Thirsty Trapper

Another million-dollar auction record for rendezvous artist Alfred Jacob Miller.

When the hammer fell at $1.5 million on July 28, Coeur d'Alene Art Auction tied with Sotheby's New York on the highest auction price paid for an Alfred Jacob Miller artwork.

Labeled as *The Thirsty Trapper*, the oil was originally known as "Indian girl giving drink to a trapper" when Smith Thompson Van Buren paid $65 (equivalent to $2,130 today) for it on December 16, 1852, during the sale of the American Art-Union's assets.

Smith was the youngest son of Martin Van Buren, the eighth U.S. President, and his life was in upheaval. After the family moved into his father's Lindenwald home in the spring of 1849, Smith's wife, Ellen, died that October. He continued to make his father's home his own, adding to his art collection *The Thirsty Trapper* and other paintings from the 1852 sale, but wouldn't find a wife and a mother for Ellen and Edward until he married the niece of author Washington Irving, Henrietta, in 1855.

"One of the greatest privations to be combated on the prairies is the want of water," Miller wrote about *The Thirsty Trapper*. The artist knew this firsthand, having traveled as illustrator with Sir William Drummond Stewart to the 1837 Rocky Mountains rendezvous. The oil recalls his circa 1837 sketch of Stewart receiving a drink in a buffalo horn cup from an Indian maiden, owned by the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth, Texas.

Miller mainly lived in his hometown of Baltimore, Maryland. Although he, the oldest son of a tavern keeper, did study art in Europe, Baltimore was a natural place for artists, as the nation's fourth-largest city attracted patrons and collectors.

Yet had his father not died in 1836, leaving the family in debt, and had the Panic of 1837 not added to the economic turbulence, he might not have left in September 1837 to seek his fortune in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Alfred Jacob Miller sold *The Thirsty Trapper* (shown) to the nation's largest art union for $70 in 1851. Mismanagement of funds led to the American-Art Union's closure and a U.S. President's son paying $65 for the oil at the asset sale in 1852. This year, the painting tied for the artist's highest auction price, $1.5 million.

– ALL ARTWORK COURTESY COEUR D'ALENE ART AUCTION, JULY 28, 2018, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

Miller's chance meeting with the Scottish nobleman took him along the route later known as the Oregon Trail and, for Miller, a road to riches. He had reached New Orleans with $30 in his pocket and left with nearly 200 sketches of the frontier West and memories of fur trappers that would provide an unlimited supply of material for his art.

As his artist auction record demonstrates, Miller is still best remembered for his frontier West portrayals.

This year has also seen the auction of a drawing tied to Sotheby's top-selling Alfred Jacob Miller artwork, *Caravan en Route* (left), purchased on November 29, 2012. Brought to life in the colorful circa 1850 oil, the circa 1837 sketch (below) was given by the artist to his grand niece Louisa Whyte Norton. A collector successfully bid $40,000 for it at Butterscotch Auction on March 25, 2018.

– OIL COURTESY SOTHEBY'S NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 29, 2012; SKETCH COURTESY BUTTERSCOTCH AUCTION, MARCH 25, 2018 –

Alfred Jacob Miller's circa 1837 sketch *Receiving a Draught of Water from an Indian Girl* inspired the artist's circa 1850 oil that sold at Coeur d'Alene Art Auction.

– COURTESY AMON CARTER MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART, FORT WORTH, TEXAS –

Howard Terpning earned second place with a $700,000 bid for *Dust of Many Pony Soldiers.* The award-winning oil portrays Sioux warriors looking at what the artist says is U.S. Army cavalrymen, or pony soldiers, in the distance.

Henry Farny's experience of reservation life explains the rather immobile American Indians portrayed in his 1901 oil *Pastures New*; $450,000.

A contemporary artist to keep your eye on is Logan Maxwell Hagege, whose 2016 oil *Before the Cold Winds Come* broke an artist auction record; $80,000.

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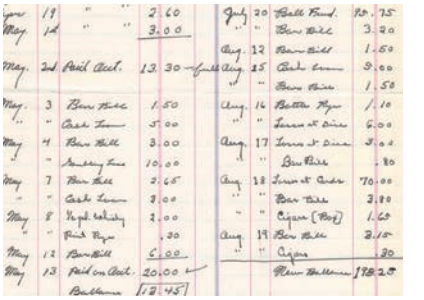
J.W. Hardin's signed Wigwam Saloon account - final entry, August 19, 1895

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BY PHIL SPANGENBERGER

Old West Reproductions—the Devil is in the Detail

For four decades Rick Bachman has crafted museum-quality, frontier-era gunleather that looks and feels like the real thing.

Among the very best companies offering replicas of mid- to late-19th-century assorted cowboy gear is Old West Reproductions, Inc., in Florence, Montana, an enterprise owned and operated by artisan Rick Bachman.

Bachman has been producing the finest handcrafted, yet commercially available, Old West-style gunleather along with an assortment of modern holsters, since he started his one-man company back in 1978.

Like many other craftsmen, Bachman started making authentic reproductions out of necessity. As a collector and shooter of frontier-era six-guns and other vintage firearms, Bachman favored using original holsters, but because they are rare and sometimes fragile due to age, he realized that putting them to work was not the best idea. In 1976 he decided to try his hand at reproducing frontier gunleather. To his surprise, his first attempt turned out to be quite pleasing. Eventually, after turning out a number of holsters and gunbelts for his own use, he realized that there was a market for his leather working.

Bachman recalls, "In 1978, I took the leap of faith, quit my job and started Old West Reproductions." By 1983, rather than relying solely on word-of-mouth, Bachman and his wife, Leslie, printed their first catalog. However, because of the difficulties in keeping a printed catalog up to date, they eventually switched to the Internet around 2010, allowing Rick to take full-color photos of his gunleather, and present them with information in just a few minutes. Now at age 68, and as passionate as he's ever

Old West Reproductions takes pride in re-creating frontier-era gunleather that looks and feels exactly like what was made 100 to 150 years ago. Owner/operator Rick Bachman's handiwork is evidenced by comparing his rig in the color photo to the 1880s photo of two Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, gents brandishing their holsters and money belt/cartridge belts (probably made by F.A. Meanea).

– COLOR PHOTO BY R.M. BACHMAN; PERIOD PHOTO COURTESY HERB PECK, JR. COLLECTION –

One of the signatures of Old West Reproductions' holsters and gunbelts is the exact duplication of hand carving styles of the 19th century, such as this exquisite example (left) of a California-style, "Slim Jim" holster, made to conform to an 1851 Navy Colt revolver.

– ALL PHOTOS BY R.M. BACHMAN UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

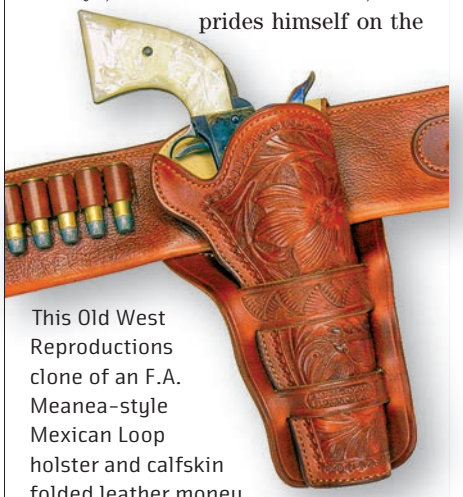
been about collecting and reproducing authentic 19th- and early 20th-century gunleather, ranging from derringer-type pocket rigs to extra-long "Buntline" holsters, and cowboy gear, such as cuffs, spur leathers, saddle pockets, pommel bags, rifle scabbards and more, Bachman says he's still a one-man shop.

Each piece is a copy of an original. Bachman's 19th-century holsters clone Mexican Loops made by F.A. Meanea, E.L. Gallatin and J.S. Collins in Cheyenne, Wyoming; E. Goettlich in Helena, Montana; Newton Porter of Phoenix, Arizona Territory; and other historical makers.

Bachman's California-pattern percussion holsters are copies of San Francisco's Main & Winchester, John Moore of Independence, Missouri, and other "Slim Jim" types. Gunbelts can be made for 1850s-'60s percussion six-gun holsters, 1870s-'80s-style single thickness cartridge belts, 1880s-'90s folded money belt/cartridge belts and double row (two rows of cartridge loops) money belts.

Quality is foremost and Bachman is his own critic, demanding the very best. He says, "The devil is in the detail," and prides himself on the fact that he doesn't overlook even the smallest element in any rig. Undoubtedly, this, along with his exceptional leather working talent, is the reason Old West Reproductions gunleather has been sought after by those who desire the most authentic looking, working gun rigs.

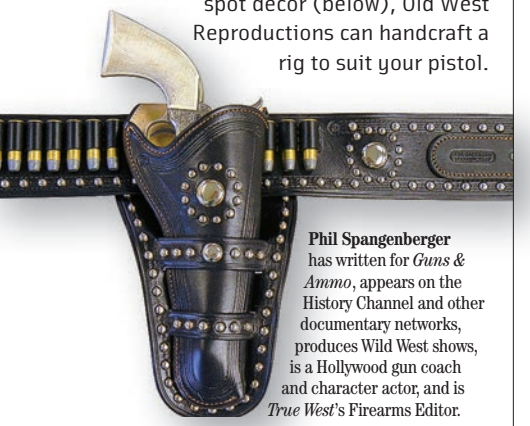
To re-create the authentic color, texture, look and feel of his rigs, Bachman uses the best Hermann Oak Leather, tanned in St. Louis, Missouri, just as it was back in 1881. He crafts his leather with original, pre-1900-era tools from his extensive collection of stamp and cutting tools, but if he can't find the tool he needs, he'll make his own. Each piece is hand-burnished along the edges and stitching is tight, close-set and straight. His work has been used in several Western movies—including *Dances With Wolves*, *Geronimo: An American Legend* and *Tombstone*—and is coveted by shooters and collectors alike. If you are looking for some "new/old" gunleather for your Peacemaker, or other frontier smoke wagon, you can't do any better than to have a rig crafted by Rick Bachman of Old West Reproductions. I know—I own several.



This Old West Reproductions clone of an F.A. Meanea-style Mexican Loop holster and calfskin folded leather money belt/cartridge belt features the famed Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, saddler's handsome carving style meticulously handcrafted by Rick Bachman. Examples from Bachman's collection of antique gunleather, along with his replica work are showcased in the classic volume *Packing Iron, Gunleather of the Frontier West*.

An interesting variation of an 1880s-style Mexican Loop holster is this handsome floral-carved, single loop, half-skirted scabbard, painstakingly adorned with Bachman's period-style hand-carved decoration, combined with rolled embellishments.

Whether you want an exact copy of a 19th-century-style plain, stamp-tooled, or carved holster and money-type gunbelt (above), or something more reminiscent of the turn of the last century and the silent movie-era, complete with flashy harness spot decor (below), Old West Reproductions can handcraft a rig to suit your pistol.



Phil Spangenberger has written for *Guns & Ammo*, appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows, is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor, and is *True West*'s Firearms Editor.

PHIL SPANGENBERGER

SALOON SHOOTOUT SPLATTERING TARGETS

Birchwood Casey offers a colorful set of Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) style targets called the "Saloon Shootout Splattering Targets." Cowboy Action shooters, or anyone who wants to practice some Old West fun shooting with any firearm or caliber, will enjoy blazing away at the SASS-type comical figures, red eye bottles and other objects that when hit, offer a bright white bullet splatter that allows shooters to immediately see their hits. Each 12-inch by 18-inch target offers up to 99 shots per sheet. Packaged in sets of eight, the targets make a fun training aid for lone shooters, or for a friendly competition with a sidekick.

BirchwoodCasey.com

EVERYTHING WE KNOW ABOUT SITTING BULL'S CRUCIFIX IS WRONG

Does a historical society or a biographer's family have the authentic Sitting Bull crucifix?

BY KARL VAN DEN BROECK

One picture of the famous Hunkpapa Lakota Chief Sitting Bull wearing a crucifix is as iconic as it is enigmatic. History claims missionary Pierre-Jean De Smet gave Sitting Bull the crucifix.

In late January 1885, Sitting Bull arrived in Bismarck, Dakota Territory, with his brother-in-law Gray Eagle. During their stay, D.F. Barry took their pictures. Both men wear a crucifix around their necks.

New research reveals that everything we know about the crucifixes they wore is wrong.

The One Bull Link

Stanley Vestal, Sitting Bull's first biographer, linked the crucifix to De Smet. The Catholic Belgian missionary had tried to establish an "Indian State" in the Rocky Mountains area during the 1840s and 1850s. When he failed, the American government hired him to convince "hostile" Hunkpapa to sign the Treaty of Fort Laramie.

De Smet traveled to the camp without a military escort, a move deemed suicidal. Sitting Bull's reputation at that time can be compared to that of Osama bin Laden after the attacks of 9/11.

The missionary succeeded in convincing some Lakota Sioux to sign the 1868 treaty, which ended Red Cloud's War, a bloody conflict that forced the U.S. Army to abandon all forts in Montana Territory. A treaty negotiation is how De Smet and Sitting Bull first met, on June 19, 1868, along the Powder River. They never saw each other again.

After these peace talks, De Smet gave Sitting Bull a crucifix, Vestal claimed. He wrote that the crucifix was shown in a "well-known photograph of the chief by D.F. Barry."

SIOUX, CATHOLICS AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (1863–1896)

1863: U.S. Army establishes Standing Rock Cantonment in Dakota Territory to oversee various Sioux bands.

July 28–29, 1864: Lakota leader Sitting Bull and trusted lieutenant Gall fight Army at Battle of Killdeer Mountain.

July 2, 1868: At the behest of Father Pierre-Jean De Smet (right), Gall and others at Fort Rice ratify Treaty of Fort Laramie, forming the Great Sioux Reservation.

1869: Grand River Agency is established. President U.S. Grant appoints Ely S. Parker as first American Indian commissioner of Indian Affairs, helping divide Indian agencies among religious denominations.

October 1871: Grand River Agency reports 7,966 Indians on reserve, based on tipis multiplied by seven.

1873: Grand River Agency moves to Standing Rock.

1874: Agency is renamed Standing Rock Agency. Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions is created to expand schools.

January 31, 1876: Fort Laramie Treaty deadline for Lakotas to move to Great Sioux reserve.

June 25–26, 1876: Sitting Bull and Gall annihilate Army Lt. Col. George Custer and 7th Cavalry at Battle of the Little Big Horn.

August 1876: Standing Rock Agency reports 1,525 on reserve, based on tipis now multiplied by five. Inconsistent data methods, as well as ignoring Indians off the reserve on hunts or trips, result in unreliable early Indian census figures.

August 15, 1876: U.S. violates Fort Laramie treaty by ceding Black Hills to the government without three-fourths of Sioux adult males agreeing.

September–December 1, 1876: Military handles oversight of Standing Rock Agency.

May 1877–1881: Sitting Bull is exiled with Gall in Canada.

1878: Great Dakota Boom begins. Up to 1887, Americans

Sitting Bull biographer Stanley Vestal claimed the crucifix he owned was the one the Sioux chief got from Father Pierre-Jean De Smet. This 1885 photo of Sitting Bull taken by D.F. Barry may solve the argument.

– COURTESY BONHAMS, OCTOBER 16, 2013 –

The State Historical Society of North Dakota claims it owns Sitting Bull's crucifix. But a close examination of the crucifix worn by Sitting Bull's brother-in-law Gray Eagle—when he sat for this 1885 photograph in D.F. Barry's studio in Bismarck, Dakota Territory—proves otherwise.

– COURTESY COWAN'S AUCTIONS, MARCH 31, 2007 –

Neither De Smet nor any other eyewitness of the talks wrote that the missionary had given Sitting Bull a crucifix. Vestal got his information about De Smet's gift from two others.

Vestal recorded the testimony of Sitting Bull's nephew One Bull in 1929: "He [One Bull] has in his possession a crucifix, which Father De Smet had presented to Sitting Bull in 1848 *[sic]* at Powder River Country and another crucifix he was presented by Bishop Marty, when Sitting Bull was in Canada."

Father Martin Marty had visited Sitting Bull when he was exiled in Canada. The bishop tried to convince Sitting Bull to surrender and join his people at Standing Rock. He also wanted to convert Sitting Bull to Catholicism.

His first attempt was successful; Sitting Bull surrendered in 1881. Yet the chief refused, to his dying day, to convert to Catholicism because he did not want to become monogamous.

Eugene Little Soldier corroborated One Bull's testimony. He was a member of the detachment of Indian Police that arrived at Sitting Bull's cabin on December 15, 1890, to arrest him. During the debacle, Sitting Bull was fatally shot twice.

Vestal recorded Little Soldier's words in shorthand: "SB [Sitting Bull] not in church. SB got crucifix from miss. [missionaries] twice. 2 catholic miss. Went out. Bishop Marty came to SB in Canada."

Both claimed Sitting Bull owned two crucifixes. One named Father De Smet as the giver; both named Father Marty. One Bull mentioned the wrong date (1848), but the correct place (Powder River).

So where are the crucifixes?

Vestal wrote about the crucifix in One Bull's possession. In 1935, Vestal unsuccessfully tried to sell it to Albert G. Heath's Museum of Amerind Arts in Chicago, Illinois. In a March 1957 letter, he wrote that he still owned the crucifix "which father Pierre Jean DeSmet gave him [Sitting Bull] at the treaty on Powder River. He is shown wearing this in one of the old photographs."

One Bull's crucifix stayed with Vestal's family. Hayden Ausland, one of Vestal's

SIOUX, CATHOLICS AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (1863–1896)

file for nearly 25 million acres of Dakota Territory land.

Summer of 1878: Indian Affairs Commissioner Ezra Hayt removes agent William T. Hughes due to corruption charges.

October 16, 1878: Catholic Rev. Joseph A. Stephan replaces Hughes at Standing Rock, serving as both Catholic priest and civilian Indian agent.

December 30, 1878: Standing Rock Cantonment is renamed Fort Yates to honor Capt. George Yates who was killed at the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

1880: A special Indian census is authorized for Washington and Dakota Territories, and California. Standing Rock is the only Dakota reserve counted.

January 2, 1881: Gall (right) surrenders to Army at Fort Buford in Dakota Territory; David F. Barry takes the first photograph of Gall, calling it the only one he ever took of an Indian as a hostile.

March 31, 1881: Stephan gives notice of resigning as agent.

May 29, 1881: Gall arrives at Standing Rock Agency.

July 19, 1881: Sitting Bull surrenders at Fort Buford.

August 1, 1881: Sitting Bull arrives at Fort Yates at Standing Rock Agency. Gall greets him.

August 26, 1881: Dakota Indian William Selwyn takes census of Sitting Bull, Gall and others. He counts 4,293, in the first and earliest known complete census from any Lakota reservation.

September 17, 1881: After being forced to leave Standing Rock on September 10, Sitting Bull and band arrive at Fort Randall.

Fall 1881: James McLaughlin arrives as Standing Rock agent.

November 1882: Former Dakota Territory Gov. Newton Edmunds arrives at Standing Rock to negotiate a land agreement. His commission fails to secure three-fourths of adult male Sioux as 1868 treaty requires.

November 30, 1882: Gall agrees to divide Great Sioux Reservation into separate

This painting of Sitting Bull created by Caroline Weldon, signed C.S. Weldon 1890, was among the artifacts stolen after the chief was killed. Turn to *Western Movies* for a discussion on Weldon.

–COURTESY DANIEL GUGGISBERG COLLECTION –

The Philip Bullhead crucifix owned by the North Dakota historical society (above left) and the One Bull crucifix owned by the Ausland family (above right) differ in one obvious detail: the distance between Jesus Christ's feet and the skull and bones is much bigger on the crucifix owned by One Bull.

– BULLHEAD CRUCIFIX COURTESY STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH DAKOTA; ONE BULL CRUCIFIX COURTESY HAYDEN AUSLAND –

grandchildren, says the crucifix is now on display in the visitor's center at the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument.

Vestal "claimed some members of Sitting Bull's family had given him [the crucifix], telling him it was the very one that De Smet gave Sitting Bull," Ausland says. "I myself doubt at least the identification, since some details compare only approximately with the one hanging around the chief's neck in the well-known photo."

The Bullhead Link

Another crucifix attributed to Sitting Bull is on display at the State Historical Society of North Dakota museum in Bismarck, North Dakota. It was acquired by the museum in 1930 from Frank Zahn, who acted as an agent for Philip Bullhead.

On Sitting Bull's last day of life, Philip's father, Lt. Henry Bullhead, headed the detachment of Indian Police sent to arrest the chief. Bullhead was mortally wounded during the incident. One of his subordinates was Eugene Little Soldier.

Testimonies bolster the claim that Sitting Bull's cabin was plundered and his body was mutilated. During the autopsy, U.S. Army Dr. Horace M. Deeble cut off a piece of Sitting Bull's hair to save and stole his leggings.

Another soldier stole the painting of Sitting Bull made by Caroline Weldon, a New York activist helping Sitting Bull in his struggle against the cutting up of the Hunkpapa reservation.

Several museums in the Midwest, including the Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, Wyoming, and the museum in Bismarck, North Dakota, own artifacts that once belonged to Sitting Bull and that were in the chief's cabin at the time of his death.

Bullhead's family may have owned objects stolen that day. On the other hand, no known record states Sitting Bull was wearing a crucifix when he was shot or that one was found in his cabin after his death.

The Bullhead crucifix is strikingly different than the crucifix Sitting Bull wears

reserves, unaware Edmunds plan also opens to settlement lands not allotted to Indians. Sioux travel to Fort Randall to seek counsel from Sitting Bull, who says he doesn't trust plan.

December 1882: Indian Rights Association is organized; one of the founders, Herbert Walsh, toured Great Sioux Reservation in summer of 1882.

May 1883: Reformers, including Massachusetts Sen. Henry L. Dawes, help defeat Edmunds plan by revealing how it concealed land cession, despite Bishop Martin Marty assuring no abuses took place at Standing Rock. Lakota John Grass testifies about abuses.

May 10, 1883: Sitting Bull returns to Standing Rock.

May 15, 1883: Under Standing Rock Agent James McLaughlin, Gall becomes assistant farmer. By September, he becomes district farmer, which he serves until 1892.

August 15, 1883: McLaughlin writes how Sitting Bull is much inferior to Gall.

September 5, 1883: Sitting Bull leads a parade to celebrate Bismarck becoming capital of Dakota Territory. McLaughlin recommended Sitting Bull for the parade, setting off a nearly two-year celebrity tour that takes Sitting Bull to New York, Washington and Canada. This includes a four-month stint with Buffalo Bill's Wild West (see pair in photo).

July 4, 1884: Indian agents are told they must include an Indian census in annual reports.

Winter 1884–85: In 1885, D.F. Barry takes photo of Sitting Bull when he is in Bismarck, Dakota Territory, with Gray Eagle.

July 1, 1885: Census taken at Standing Rock Agency.

1887: Standing Rock census reports 4,545 Indians.

February 8, 1887: President Grover Cleveland signs Dawes General Allotment, replacing tribal land ownership with

in the Barry photograph. "Note especially the extent of the ebony inlay beneath the memento mori," wrote R.C. Hollow, in the article "Sitting Bull: Artifact and Artifake."

The distance between Jesus Christ's feet and the skull and bones is much bigger in the Sitting Bull photograph than it is on the Bullhead crucifix.

"This does not establish that our crucifix was not owned by Sitting Bull; Sitting Bull, after all, may have had a whole parflesche full of crucifixes, but the non-identity of the Zahn [Bullhead] crucifix with the one positively associated with Sitting Bull certainly does nothing to relieve healthy skepticism," Hollow concluded.

The Sitting Bull Link

Sonja LaPointe, Sitting Bull's great-great-granddaughter, sheds new light on the discussion. "As for the crucifix, even if Father De Smet gave him one, we do not have it. There is no proof that Sitting Bull ever owned one. Sitting Bull did not believe in Christianity, that's why he was killed. The crucifix he was wearing in a picture belonged to his brother-in-law Gray Eagle. Gray Eagle was a Catholic and always tried to convince Sitting Bull to convert."

Gray Eagle did indeed convert to Catholicism. He also plotted against Sitting Bull in the days before his arrest and killing.

> Sitting Bull's reputation at that time can be compared to that of Osama bin Laden after the attacks of 9/11.

Father Francis M. Craft, who worked at Standing Rock during the 1880s, also tried to convert Sitting Bull to Catholicism. He was asked to do so by Bishop Marty. The conversion of one of the best-known American Indians would have been a huge propaganda move for the Catholic Church. The competition between Catholic and Protestant missionaries was strong.

Marty requested as many pictures of Indians wearing a crucifix as possible. He wanted to show them to Pope Leo XIII during an official visit in April 1885, a few weeks after Sitting Bull's and Gray Eagle's photo shoot with Barry in Bismarck.

Barry took several pictures of Indians wearing a crucifix. Gray Eagle wears one that appears identical to the one Sitting Bull is wearing in his photo.

This corroborates LaPointe's account: the crucifix around Sitting Bull's neck was not one Father De Smet gave him, but one Gray Eagle hung around his neck to please Bishop Marty.

The Biographer's Crucifix

Was Vestal wrong about the Sitting Bull crucifix his descendants have been preserving? Is the crucifix worn by Sitting Bull not a gift from De Smet, but one Gray Eagle gave him to wear for a photo shoot?

An examination of the crucifix worn by Gray Eagle in the Barry photo shoot reveals that his crucifix is different, not the same, as the one worn by Sitting Bull. He didn't just loan his crucifix for his brother-in-law to wear after all. Sitting Bull had his own crucifix to wear.

The biographer's crucifix offers a clear chain of ownership: De Smet, Sitting Bull, One Bull, Stanley Vestal and Hayden Ausland. One Bull, who lived with Sitting Bull for decades, had more opportunities to obtain the crucifix from his uncle than Bullhead or his family did. One Bull was also close to Gray Eagle.

The Bullhead crucifix provenance is more problematic. The raiding of Sitting Bull's cabin and body is well-documented in official reports, but not one mentioned a crucifix.

Astonishing how specialists failed to compare the two crucifixes and ended up calling the "real" De Smet crucifix a "fake."

Belgian journalist and writer **Karl van den Broeck** based this article on research for his 2016 historical novel, *Why I Want to Save the Indians: In Search of the Cross of Sitting Bull*.

SIOUX, CATHOLICS AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (1863–1896)

individual land ownership. Lakota population calculations claim more than half the reserve—nine to 11 million acres—will be up for grabs as surplus.

August 21, 1888: Gall gives a speech in Washington, D.C. to respond to Pratt Commission's attempt to convince Sioux to agree to the Dawes Act.

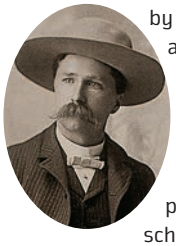
March 2, 1889: Congress passes general allotment act to partition Great Sioux Reservation into five reserves.

July 1889: At Standing Rock, Crook Commission convinces Gall and others to sign the Sioux bill. Sitting Bull refuses to sign. The separate reservations mean Lakotas must get permission to cross land claimed by settlers to travel to kin and friends.

November 2, 1889: Dakota Territory splits, with North Dakota and South Dakota entering the Union as states.

February 10, 1890: President Benjamin Harrison signs Sioux Act into law and opens surplus land to settlers. Shortly after, the beef ration is halved. Incorrect census data from the previous two years allowed Congress to slash annual funding by roughly $1 million.

November 28, 1890: "Buffalo Bill" Cody arrives at Fort Yates to arrest Sitting Bull under Gen. Nelson Miles's orders. Since he's drunk, officers help him sober up and hit the road.



December 15, 1890: Sitting Bull is killed while being arrested by Indian Police under McLaughlin's orders.

December 29, 1890: 7th Cavalry attacks Big Foot and his Lakota band at Wounded Knee Creek.

December 5, 1894: Gall dies by drinking too much of an unsafe medicine, reports his friend and photographer D.F. Barry (left).

1896: Congress decides to phase out Catholic contract schools on Indian reserves; appropriations end in 1900.

– ALL TIMELINE PHOTOS COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS EXCEPT: GALL COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION; BARRY COURTESY COWAN'S AUCTIONS, FEBRUARY 21, 2017 –

Eye Infection or Trendsetter?

Photographed on July 31, 1881, only 12 days after the Canadian exile surrendered to the U.S. Army, Sitting Bull looked tired and weary from lack of food, and he shielded his infected eyes with a pair of green wire goggles.

But perhaps Sitting Bull was not suffering from an eye infection, as claimed by James Welch and Paul Stekler in 1994's *Killing Custer*. A contemporaneous account suggests wearing goggles may have been a trend among Lakotas.

When Laura Winthrop Johnson met a group of Lakotas in 1875, six years before O.S. Goff took this photograph of Sitting Bull, she reported, "Several wore blue goggles—we knew not whether for use or beauty."

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

OUT OF THE BLOODSHED

A survivor of the largely overlooked Bear River Massacre held his people together.

BY ROD MILLER

On January 29, 1863, Sagwitch Timbimboo stepped out of his lodge in pre-dawn darkness and sub-zero cold. He stood in the Northwestern Shoshone winter camp along Beaver Creek, where it cut through bluffs lining the Bear River at the northern end of Cache Valley in what is now southeastern Idaho.

Off to the east, perhaps a mile from the village, Sagwitch sensed activity on the face of the steep bluffs. Having heard reports of soldiers coming, he realized the cavalry had arrived and were even now crossing the ice-choked waters of the Bear River.

Before the morning ended, Sagwitch would find himself crossing the same frigid stream with a bullet-shattered hand, seeking escape from the worst massacre of American Indians by the U.S. Army in the history of the West.

Miner Mishap

Sagwitch knew he must warn the roughly 75-lodge village. A few weeks before, hundreds more Shoshones had gathered there to celebrate a Warm Dance to invite spring. On January 8, with the celebration underway, a wandering group of Shoshone braves killed a miner in a group traveling from the Grasshopper mines in Montana Territory to Utah Territory's Salt Lake City.

Upon reaching the city, the miners went to the law. Chief Justice John F. Kinney handed a warrant to "Marshal Isaac L. Gibbs, for the arrest of Bear-hunter, Sandpitch and Sagwitch, chiefs of a band of several hundred warriors, now inhabiting Cache Valley," *The Deseret News* reported.

The attack on the miners likewise upset the Shoshone encampment. Mae Parry, Sagwitch's great-granddaughter and a Shoshone historian, gathered oral accounts from tribal elders. In 1976, she wrote: "[T]he Indians were getting restless. They could feel that trouble was going to start soon."

Then, Parry added, an old man named Tin Dup dreamed "he saw his people being killed by the pony soldiers. He told the Indians of his dream and told them to move out of the area…. Some families believed Tin Dup's dream and moved, thus sparing their lives."

Beshup Timbimboo, at two years old, was shot seven times, but survived the Bear River Massacre. He was Sagwitch's son by his wife Dadabaychee, who was killed at the massacre. Beshup was later adopted into a Mormon family and raised as Frank Warner. He is shown here at about 20 years old.

– COURTESY LDS CHURCH ARCHIVES –

Colonel Patrick Edward Connor commanded U.S. Army troops in the worst massacre by the military in the history of the West. As a result of his Bear River attack, Connor was promoted to brigadier general.

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

Take No Prisoners

Back in Salt Lake City, Gibbs turned for help from Col. Patrick Edward Connor, commander at Camp Douglas. Connor, bristling for a fight, wrote to the Army's Department of the Pacific:

"Chief Justice Kinney, of Great Salt Lake City, made a requisition for troops for the purpose of arresting the Indian chiefs Bear Hunter, San Pitch, and Sagwitch. I informed the marshal that my arrangements for our expedition against the Indians were made, and that it was not my intention to take any prisoners, but that he could accompany me."

On January 22, Connor sent some 70 infantry troops and 15 supply wagons north, under the guise of escorting a wagon train of grain back from Cache Valley. Late in the evening of January 24, Connor led 275 cavalry troops and officers head-on into withering north winds. He drove the column hard, making 68 miles before stopping in Brigham City. Some 75 frostbitten men could not go on when the expedition pushed through the snowbound mountains and into the south end of Cache Valley.

Connor sent the foot soldiers and wagons on a night march north to Franklin, the last

The worst massacre of American Indians by the U.S. Army in the history of the West.

of the Mormon settlements in the valley, just beyond Utah Territory's indistinct border. The Shoshone winter camp lay some 12 miles farther.

Between Franklin and the Bear River bottoms, Connor and the cavalry overtook the wagons, mired in deep snow. Fearing the loss of surprise, Connor sent Maj. Edward McGarry and the cavalry to surround the camp and wait. Crossing the icy Bear River left some troopers unhorsed and drenched, and all cold and soaked.

Sagwitch, with Bear Hunter and other chiefs, readied the Shoshones for battle, but Sagwitch urged caution. He assumed the soldiers would demand the surrender of the men who had attacked the miners. But others would not wait. A few mounted warriors paraded across the snowy flatland between the river and the village, taunting the soldiers.

McGarry, infamous for his hot temper, ordered a charge rather than following orders. Most of the 14 soldiers killed, and 46 soldiers and four officers wounded, likely fell in the initial attack on a Shoshone position protected by the banks of the ravine and thick willows. When Connor arrived, he sent troops to flanking positions, eventually surrounding the village. Then the fighting, and the slaughter, started in earnest.

Connor congratulated his troops upon their return to Camp Douglas, as recorded in *The Deseret News*: "At daylight on the 29th of January, 1863 you encountered the enemy greatly your superior in numbers, and in a desperate battle, continued with unflinching courage for over four hours, you completely cut him to pieces, captured his property and arms, destroyed his stronghold, and burned his lodges."

Fighting did continue for four hours as Connor claimed, but the "desperate battle" ended quickly. Only by including noncombatants could the Shoshones be considered "superior in numbers."

The Butcher & His Volunteers

The Indians had few firearms and little ammunition. "[W]hat was an arrow compared to the muskets of the army," Parry wrote. "The Indians were being slaughtered like wild rabbits, Indian men, women, children and babies were being slaughtered left and right. No butcher could have murdered any better than Colonel Connor and his vicious California Volunteers."

Sixteen days after the fight, while recovering from frostbitten feet at Camp Douglas, Sgt. William L. Beach set down an account and detailed map, outlining the battle that became a massacre.

After orders to attack, the men kept up the fight on their own, as Beach wrote: "no officer was heeded or needed[.] The boys were fighting Indians and intended to whip them. It was a free fight every man on his own hook."

Soldiers rushed "into their very midst when the work of death commenced in real earnest. Midst the roar of guns and sharp report of Pistols could be herd *[sic]* the cry for quarters but their *[sic]* was no quarters that day…. The fight lasted four hours and appeared more like a frolick *[sic]* than a fight...."

The most reliable estimates of Shoshone deaths range from 250 to 350. Soldiers raped, tortured and mutilated women and children. Some of them escaped.

"The Northwestern Shoshones were jumping into the river and trying to escape by swimming across the river," Parry wrote, including women who "swam with babies upon their backs. Most of them died."

Chief Bear Hunter was killed by the thrust of a red-hot bayonet through his head. At the urging of his people, "Chief Sagwitch escaped with a wound in his hand, after having two horses shot from under him," Parry wrote.

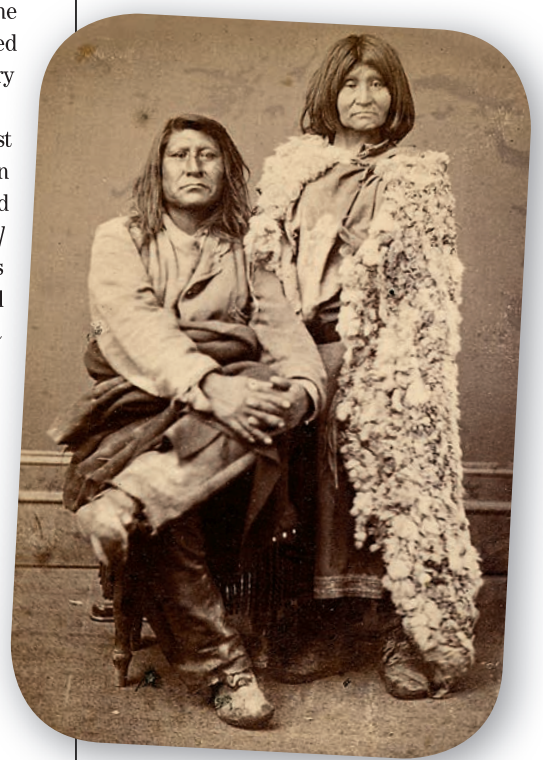
Sagwitch's oldest son, Soquitch, escaped. His youngest, two-year-old Beshup, survived seven gunshot wounds. A 12-year-old son, Yeager, escaped death by playing dead among the corpses. Sagwitch's wife and at least two of his children died.

Surviving Shoshones—some 160 of them, Connor reported—were left to fend for themselves without food or shelter when the military quit the field with their plunder, including about 175 horses.

Declaring Peace

In the months following the massacre, Sagwitch and as many of the scattered Northwestern Shoshones as he could gather raided throughout northern Utah Territory, stealing stock and killing several settlers.

Seeking an end to hostilities, James Doty, Utah territorial governor and superintendent of Indian affairs, sought out Sagwitch and other Shoshone leaders.



Sagwitch Timbimboo, a Northwestern Shoshone chief and survivor of the Bear River Massacre, is shown with his wife. Beawoachee was a widow of Chief Bear Hunter, who was tortured and killed in the massacre.

– COURTESY LDS CHURCH ARCHIVES –

Northwestern Shoshones spent their winter seasons in the vicinity of Promontory and Corinne, Utah Territory. Some were photographed in Corinne (left) by Eadweard Muybridge, while the town's merchants (above) were photographed by William Henry Jackson, in 1869, when Corinne was founded as the unofficial "Gentile Capital of Utah."

Meant to be a Union Pacific Railroad stop, Corinne lost out to Ogden after Mormons built the narrow-gauge Utah Northern Railroad, a spur the Union Pacific purchased in 1877.

– MUYBRIDGE PHOTO TRUE WEST ARCHIVES; JACKSON PHOTO COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION –

On July 30, Doty informed the Army: "A treaty of peace was this day concluded… with the bands of the Shoshones, of which Pocatello, San Pitch, and Sagwich *[sic]* are the principal chiefs. This information is given that these Shoshones may not be injured when met by troops, if they are at the time behaving themselves well."

While agreeing to the treaty's terms, Sagwitch did not sign the agreement, as he was recovering from a bullet wound. Army troops had shot him while he was held captive and on his way to finalizing the treaty.

Connor—since promoted to general, in recognition of his "gallantry" during the Bear River fight—informed his commander on July 31: "Made treaty with remaining bands of Snake Indians yesterday."

Over the next decade, Sagwitch's people struggled, as promised annuities proved insufficient or absent. Mormons continued to settle on traditional tribal lands, the Transcontinental Railroad bisected the Northwestern Shoshone homeland and confusion between Indian agencies in Utah and Idaho Territories complicated life for the wandering bands.

Sagwitch determined that the Mormons, while destroying the Shoshones' traditional way of life, offered the only hope for a future. Spring of 1873 saw hundreds of Northwestern Shoshones join the Mormons in mass baptismal ceremonies. Most assimilated into Mormon society.

The cultural identity of the band waned. For decades, the only land the Northwestern Shoshones owned was a cemetery. The first grave there was reportedly Sagwitch's. His headstone claims he died in 1884, but the few surviving records suggest 1886 or 1887.

His People Survive Still

Sagwitch's descendants have been pivotal in the Northwestern Shoshones' struggle to retain tribal cohesion; they still occupy leadership positions in the band. Today, the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation has achieved federal recognition, operates several programs to assist its members and is involved in business, cultural and historical initiatives, including acquiring the site of the Bear River Massacre.

Each year, the morning of January 29 finds members of the band and scores of supporters congregating at Bear River to honor Shoshone ancestors who had gathered there for centuries—until the slaughter of 1863 bloodied the ground and nearly eliminated the tribe.

But Sagwitch survived the massacre, and his people survive still.

Rod Miller writes history, fiction and poetry about the West. He is a four-time winner of the Western Writers of America Spur Award.

MANHOOD CAME QUICKLY ON THE TEXAS FRONTIER FOR

Pink Higgins survived the outlaws, cattle rustlers and deadly skirmishes that arose as pioneers moved westward and American Indians fought to keep their way of life. He posed for the above photograph with trail hands who drove cattle from Texas to Kansas via the Chisholm Trail. (Front row, from left): Felix Castello, Jess Standard, Bob Mitchell and Pink Higgins. (Back row, from left): Powell Woods, an unidentified cowboy, Buck Allen and Alonzo Mitchell.

– COURTESY BILL O'NEAL AND DOLPH BRISCOE CENTER FOR AMERICAN HISTORY, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, WALTER WEBB PAPERS, DI_11083 –

BY KENYON BENNETT

BOLD AND LETHAL

When does a boy become a man? The age-old question regenerates itself when a proud, but tired, young mother places a gentle kiss on the cheek of her wailing newborn son and prays silently that life will treat him kindly. She envisions her baby will grow into a virile young man, just as handsome as his father.

For John Calhoun Pinkney Higgins, nicknamed Pink, manhood came quickly, much too quickly, on the dangerous, but exciting, Texas frontier.

By the time Pink turned 26, a series of events leading to his participation in the Horrell-Higgins feud would cement his reputation as a deadly gunslinger.

DYING YOUNG

Pink entered this world on March 28, 1851, in Macon, Georgia, as the first son, but third child, of John Holcomb and Hester West Higgins. Three years later, the Higgins family departed for Texas, a relatively new state, as the U.S. had annexed the Republic of Texas into statehood in 1845. The Texas frontier would brand Pink a gunslinger by necessity.

The Higgins family traveled by wagon train to Austin before putting down roots 70 miles northwest in Lampasas County in 1857. The family ranch, Higgins Gap, is now called Izoro, reports Texas State Historian Bill O'Neal, whose Great-Grandfather Jess Standard worked with Pink on the 1870s-80s cattle drives. O'Neal's extensive research informs much of what historians know about Pink.

A teenaged Pink protected his mother and siblings during frequent livestock thefts and Comanche attacks on the open range during the Civil War, while his father performed field duties as a private in the Second Regiment of the 27th Brigade, Texas State Troops.

Pink learned early to deal harshly with thieves. Two heartbreaking massacres of local Lampasas boys emphasized the ever-present danger Pink felt.

On April 10, 1862, James Gracy, 15, was gathering his family's horses about nine miles west of town. He was joined by a younger boy, John H. Stockman, who lived to tell the horrific details of Gracy's fate, as recounted by Stockman's family:

"Stockman was trying to kill a turkey a short distance from Gracy, and in a body of post oaks, he heard a rumbling sound—then shouts, and, on looking, discovered 15 Indians in charge of about a hundred stolen and frightened horses.

"Checking up the herd, three of the savages seized little Gracy, stripped off his clothing, scalped his *[sic]* as he stood upon the ground, then beckoned him to run, and as he did so, sent several arrows through his body, causing instant death."

Stockman survived by quickly shedding his white shirt to make himself less visible. He then lay silently in a ravine. But another danger immediately arose.

An additional companion had tagged along, a creature often characterized as a "man's best friend." Stockman was forced to choke his own dog to death, to keep it from giving away his position, a family descendant wrote.

In 1853, Moses Hughes moved his family to a site containing sulphur springs so his ailing wife, Hannah, could bathe in or drink from the curative mineral waters. Although Comanches posed a major threat to settlers on the western edge of the Texas frontier, other families arrived at this location, later named Lampasas, and built houses near the springs.

– COURTESY DEGOLYER LIBRARY, SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY, LAWRENCE T. JONES III TEXAS PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION –

His friend tortured to death and his dog killed by his own hand, Stockman somehow gathered enough strength to escape. His family reported that "he crawled perhaps half a mile, lacerating his flesh and limbs, and while so engaged, a part of the Indians in preventing a stampede of the horses, rode past without seeing him in the high grass."

Stockman then ran several miles to safety at Thomas Espy's place.

Six years later, on January 30, another 15 year old was killed by Indians, Prince L. Ryan, who had been searching for his family's wandering cow near Lampasas. The Ryans buried their son at Cook's Cemetery, the oldest in Lampasas, where only a few headstones today remain visible.

ENMITY OF A DANGEROUS MAN

After the Civil War ended, too many outlaws stole livestock on the Texas frontier. Not yet enclosed by barbed wire, the open range allowed for expedient thefts and fast getaways.

Pink became a member of the Law and Order League that lynched these rustlers. Pink and the crew rode swift horses, changing mounts when needed, to pursue and execute the outlaws.

At the age of 18, Higgins personally hanged a horse thief. "Rustlers who posed a personal threat to Pink and his property would find that they had incurred the enmity of a dangerous man," reported O'Neal, in his Pink biography.

Cattle theft initiated the notorious Horrell-Higgins feud. Pink achieved local, but prominent, notoriety in 1877 as the leader of the Higgins faction. Pink's smoldering animosity toward Merritt Horrell became volatile and would result in a fatal confrontation between the two men in the Gem Saloon on January 22.

Pink had grown up with the Horrell boys—Merritt, Tom and Mart—and herded cows with them. Then they began to "go wrong," Pink told Clifford B. Jones, manager of the Spur Ranch, from 1913 to 1939, where Pink worked as a stock detective during his later years.

"They [Horrell boys] would steal a bunch of cattle; forge a bill of sale," Jones wrote. "They did this [against] Higgins several times and he finally sent them word 'that they had bill of saled' the last bunch of his cattle; that if they ever stole another animal from him that he would get them."

The Texas frontier would brand Pink Higgins a gunslinger by necessity.

Following a deadly gunfight in Lampasas in 1873 that left four lawmen dead and wounded Mart and Tom, the Horrell brothers went on a killing spree in Lincoln County, New Mexico Territory. Word of their violence must have followed them back to Lampasas, Texas, when they returned in 1874, but Pink wasn't fazed—even after the brothers went to trial for the Lampasas killings, but ended up acquitted.

Shortly after, in April 1876, Pink found one of his cows in a herd departing Lampasas County. The herd's owner said Merritt had sold him the cow. Pink took the matter to court in Lampasas, but authorities released Merritt after examining his copy of the bill of sale for the cow.

"After they left the court Pink told Merrit *[sic]* that if he ever stole any other cow of his he sure would kill him," wrote William R. Wren, one of Pink's allies and a witness to the feud, in a letter to the Rev. L.R. Millican, who counseled the Horrell brothers, written several decades after the Horrell-Higgins dispute ended.

Trouble developed on January 20, 1877. "Jim Cooksey was leaving the county with cattle and Pink was looking it over and found a cow of his and Jim showed him [Pink] a bill of sale to the cow from Merrit *[sic]* Horrell," Wren wrote.

Two days later, Pink and some pals tracked down Merritt. Finding him sitting near the fireplace with a man named Saunders at the back of Jerry Scott's saloon, Pink said, "'Mr. Horrell, this is to settle some cow business,'" and then aimed his Winchester rifle and "shot Merrit *[sic]* in the front and killed him and not in the back," Wren wrote.

"Merritt had on his person concealed a six shooter and bowlegged Saunders swore at Pink's trial Merritt made an effort to draw his guns but Pink got him too quick."

GUNNING FOR THE HORRELLS

The Horrell-Higgins feud escalated, heightened by deadly skirmishes and

A deadly gunfight in Lampasas, Texas, exploded on June 7, 1877, the climax of the Horrell–Higgins feud. The factions shot at each other on Third Street, its alley and Second Street.

– COURTESY DEGOLYER LIBRARY, SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY, LAWRENCE T. JONES III TEXAS PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION –

ambushes. The feud reached its peak on June 7, when a gunfight between the two factions exploded in downtown Lampasas. Pink's wife lost her cousin, Frank Mitchell, to the bullets, while Pink's friend Wren was wounded. On the Horrell side, newcomer gang member Jim Buck Miller was killed.

To help control the violence, Sheriff Albertus Sweet sent for the Texas Rangers. On June 14, Maj. John B. Jones arrived with his men and set up camp along Hancock Springs.

Jones helped the two factions craft letters that served as a peace treaty. Tom, Sam and Mart Horrell signed their declaration of peace on July 30, whereas Pink Higgins, Bob Mitchell and Bill Wren signed theirs on August 2.

The gunsmoke dissipated. The blood dried. The verdict for Merritt's murder wouldn't come until more than a year later. On September 27, 1878, a Lampasas court declared Pink not guilty.

Some historians claim the Horrell-Higgins feud ended not at the time of the treaty, but on December 15, when Mart and Tom were killed while in a Meridian jail.

Arrested as accomplices in the killing and robbing of J.F. Vaughn, a shopkeeper who kept large quantities of cash in his store in Bosque County, Mart and Tom had been no match for the mob that broke into their jail cell and shot them dead.

The last living Horrell brother, Sam, moved his family to another Texas county and then out of the state.

Pink continued to rely upon his firearm during additional confrontations throughout his life, yet no one killed him during a shoot-out. The 62 year old fell dead from a heart attack in his home at Catfish Creek near Spur, in Dickens County, on December 18, 1913.

Pink had used his Winchester so often that the rifle became an extension of him. He frequently shot from his hip, placing his thumb on the trigger, allowing for rapid fire that surprised his victims. He relied on his determination, boldness, wits and his Winchester to survive.

Another Spur Ranch manager, Charles Adams Jones, wrote of Pink: "In view of the time and the circumstances, one must not be too quick to condemn him: it was either kill or be killed."

Kenyon Bennett is the daughter of a cattle rancher in Lampasas County, Texas. One of her sisters lived at the Lampasas home of Pink Higgins's grandson, attorney John Tom Higgins. Bennett interviewed the Higgins family for this article. She highly recommends Bill O'Neal's excellent books *The Bloody Legacy of Pink Higgins* and *Lampasas, 1855-1895*.

Hancock Springs, one of the county's original sulphur springs, became part of a health resort in Lampasas, Texas, during the 19th century.

– COURTESY DEGOLYER LIBRARY, SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY, LAWRENCE T. JONES III TEXAS PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION –

COMMENTARY BY PAUL ANDREW HUTTON

When the West Was True

OUR WESTERN HERITAGE IS UNDER ASSAULT.

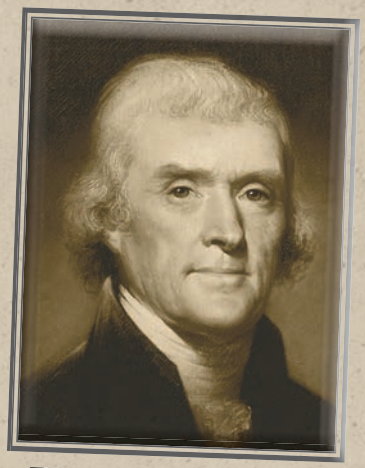
We live in a time of national discord. Americans find themselves adrift in a cultural malaise highlighted by overheated political rhetoric from all sides; a sad resurgence of racial tensions; unrelenting foreign conflict; a distrust of national institutions; and a callous rejection of a once-cherished American past.

We see this in the current dismissal by many (most notably in colleges and universities) of the Anglo-Protestant heritage from the American Revolution and early republic eras; of the once seemingly universal, but now historically bankrupt, "lost cause" nostalgia following the Civil War; and of the grand unifying story of Western expansion.

NO WANTED

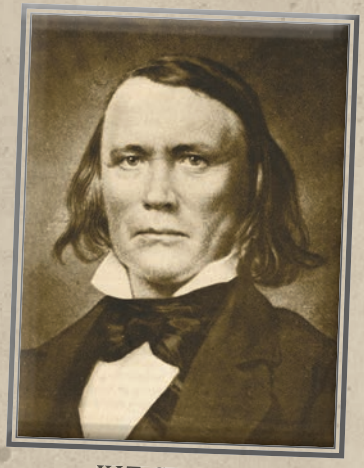
Anymore by the General Public or the Secretary of Posterity. All good citizens are exhorted to aid public justice on this occasion and let the stain of blood be removed from the land by concealing all known references to these now-abhorrent individuals.

"BUFFALO BILL" CODY

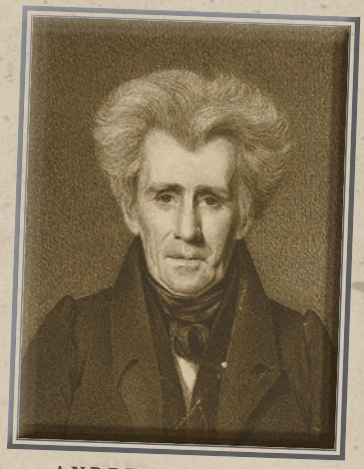


THOMAS JEFFERSON

LAURA INGALLS WILDER



KIT CARSON



ANDREW JACKSON

GEORGE CUSTER

NO REWARD!

That's right, these former American heroes no longer deserve any rewards for their services since our values have changed with time.

When the West was True

On July 3, 2018, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial reopened as Gateway Arch National Park.

Connecting the Mississippi riverfront park with the courthouse site of Dred Scott's lawsuit for freedom from bondage is fitting, for the question of slavery expansion into the Western territories was a flashpoint in bringing on the Civil War. Removing Jefferson's name is more problematic.

The new name shifts the park as a monument to Gateway Arch architect Eero Saarinen rather than to a founding father whose soaring vision of America's continental destiny gave birth to Westward Expansion.

Jefferson crafted the Louisiana Purchase and extended his ambitions to Spanish possessions in the Southwest as well as British Canada in the north, for he envisioned the West as a refuge for oppressed peoples of the corrupt Old World. Yet the author of the Declaration of Independence has recently been roundly condemned for his unenlightened attitude on race.

The public's general acceptance of the "winning of the West" has changed considerably since the park was envisioned in 1933 and opened in 1967. The original Gateway Arch museum celebrated the pioneer spirit that conquered a wilderness and built America into a world power; the new museum questions these achievements. Visitors learn that Europeans murdered innocent natives and illegally seized their lands; that women and minorities suffered when the supposedly more enlightened rule of colonial France and Spain was replaced by American rule; and that territorial acquisition by warfare was both illegal and immoral.

Removed from the story is the glory of Westward Expansion, which gave rise to a new world power that destroyed the twin evils of Nazi fascism and Soviet communism in the next century.

Attacks on Frontier Heritage

The Gateway Arch changes are part of a systematic attack on our frontier heritage that has been ongoing for several years.

In 1991, Congress renamed Montana's Custer Battlefield National Monument as Little Bighorn National Monument. In 2016, South Dakota's Harney Peak, named for Mexican War hero William S. Harney, was renamed Black Elk Peak, in honor of the Sioux warrior.

You can find a quote by Black Elk at the Little Bighorn battlefield visitor's center: "Know the power that is peace." Would a quote from Tojo be fitting on the monument at Pearl Harbor, historian John Carroll asked. A bit extreme, but Black Elk did participate in the 1876 slaughter of Custer's command.

The dismissal of the West by the East is an ancient prejudice.

Kit Carson remains controversial in New Mexico for his 1863 campaign against the Navajos that led to their tragic removal to Bosque Redondo. To defend Carson is "like trying to rehabilitate Adolf Hitler," a historian at Navajo Community College declared. Carson's tombstone in Taos was spray-painted with swastikas and "Nazi" in 1990. Residents recently campaigned to strip his name from the city park where he is buried.

The Arcata, California, city council voted to remove a William McKinley statue because he was a proponent of "settler colonialism." The 25th U.S. President, who was assassinated in 1901, also had his name stripped from the highest peak in North America (now Denali) in 2015. McKinley had served in the Union army during the Civil War, was an advocate of black rights as both governor of Ohio and U.S. President, and is credited with initiating America's rise to world power.

Texas joined the battle to eradicate Confederate commemorations to the point of an Austin committee suggesting the city should not be named after Stephen F. Austin because he supported slavery. In San Antonio, the city council and heritage advocates are in a heated tussle over an Alamo grounds redesign that includes removing a 1936 Cenotaph monument that fronts the "Shrine of Texas Liberty." Academics have denounced the Alamo as a monument for slavery and racism, not liberty.

In June 2018, the American Library Association stripped Laura Ingalls Wilder's name from the title of its prestigious children's book award because her books reflect "dated cultural attitudes toward indigenous people and people of color that contradict modern acceptance, celebration, and understanding of diverse communities."

In July, New Mexico's Fiesta de Santa Fe caved in to Indian protests and dropped the century-old "Entrada" re-enactment of Don Diego de Vargas's 1692 reentry into Santa Fe after the 1680 Pueblo Revolt had expelled the Spanish.

An Ancient Prejudice

The dismissal of the West by the East is an ancient prejudice. During colonial times, frontier folks were disdained as dangerous characters of low breeding, prone to democratic anarchy and fits of violence. Politics were controlled by New England and Virginia elites who were still rather similar to their English forbearers.

During the 1820s, Americans began to search for an identity separate from their European ancestors. The powerfully symbolic deaths of Thomas Jefferson and John Adams on the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence provided a major impetus; the new generation felt keenly the passing of the revolutionary generation, not unlike the present uneasiness at the passing of the WWII generation. Americans turned to the West in search of new figures to lead the country forward—men who were masters of both a hostile environment and their own destiny.

The 1828 election of Andrew Jackson as U.S. President marked a shift in political power to the new West, ushering in the so-called "Age of the Common Man." The martyrdom of Davy Crockett at the Alamo and the celebrated explorations of Kit Carson and John Frémont all served to mark bold frontiersmen as ideal Americans.

Jackson's protégé, James K. Polk, fulfilled Jefferson's "Empire of Liberty" dream by seizing the American Southwest and California from Mexico, acquiring the Oregon country and achieving the nation's continental "Manifest Destiny."

A ghastly Civil War rendered the dream asunder until Abraham Lincoln redeemed it, restored the Union and again turned the nation westward. His Homestead Act and Transcontinental Railroad authorization shaped the new trans-Mississippi West.

Out of this story arose a new epic that united a divided nation and gave a fresh national identity to millions of wildly diverse people coming in from many lands. Dime novels celebrated frontier adventures lived by the first gunfighter "Wild Bill" Hickok, the outlaw James brothers, the frontier Amazon Calamity Jane and Indian fighter "Buffalo Bill" Cody, who took the story on the road in 1883 as a grand Wild West extravaganza that enthralled two generations of Americans and global audiences.

The story of the American frontier offers a powerful truth too valuable for our country to cast aside.

Theodore Roosevelt, author of the magnificent *The Winning of the West*, kept the West front and center as our first cowboy President. The one-time rancher and famed Rough Rider heralded in bold conservation efforts that reflected a growing awareness that, even at a moment of crowning achievement, something important was also being lost.

The West was won—now what?

Frederick Jackson Turner addressed that question with his 1893 essay "The Significance of the Frontier in American History." He refuted the then-prevailing theory that American institutions had evolved from European "germ cells" without regard to environmental factors. Characterizing the frontier as the "meeting point between savagery and civilization," he explained the unique American character as a rejection of class and aristocracy, of established religion, standing armies and other European trappings in favor of adaptation, invention, individualism and a rough-hewn democracy. The frontier was not only a process, but also a state of mind.

Turner revolutionized the teaching of American history. By the time of his death in 1932, some 60 percent of history departments in the country's major universities and colleges taught Western history.

During the 1960s, a new historiography focused on race, class and gender, and obsessed with victimization, came to dominate the academic world and the field of Western history. To these academics, Turner's West is blind to the horrors of colonialism, hopelessly nationalistic and inherently racist.

What Divides Us

Some of the dismissal of Western history is a result of the glossy froth about the frontier produced after 1900, for Buffalo Bill had seemingly made it all show business.

In 1903, Edwin S. Porter's *The Great Train Robbery* became the first American film to tell a complete story, and the first cinematic Western. By the 1920s, a powerful film industry had emerged, with fully a third of stories devoted to Westerns. By the postwar years, Westerns continued to thrive, adding to movies and literature the new medium of television. It all came crashing down during the 1960s.

The Vietnam War, Watergate and rising environmental and civil rights movements led many Americans to question assumptions that made up our national story. While the decade opened with a burst of optimism heralded by President John Kennedy's "New Frontier," it ended with assassinations, racial violence, domestic upheaval, foreign war, bitter political divisions and national despair.

We find ourselves in a similar position today. Emphasizing what divides us allows little room in some circles for a Western story that provides the glue that unites us. That story of struggle, sacrifice and triumph was overly romanticized, but it also made people proud to be Americans, no matter their place of origin. It celebrated the rough democracy that made the rise of a great nation possible. It was a violent story, one that sometimes glossed over injustice, but just as often as not laid bare the sordid truth. The positive far outweighed the negative.

In some ways, this agreed-upon fable was not unlike the tales of Homer, the legends of King Arthur or the epics of Charlemagne that provided identity and pride to a people. Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid became our Achilles and Hector, Jesse James our Robin Hood, while George Custer perfectly played out the part of Roland and the Battle of the Alamo echoed the sacrifice of Leonidas and his Spartans.

The story of the American frontier offers a powerful truth too valuable for our country to cast aside. Embracing that story defines who Americans are as a people. As Pulitzer prize-winning Kiowa novelist N. Scott Momaday wrote: "It has something to do with legend and with the way we must think of ourselves, we cowboys and Indians, we roughriders of the world."

For 65 years, *True West* has labored to keep the story of the American West alive and relevant. That the magazine has survived into this era of dramatic change in the publishing world is a testament to its success. Under the loving care of Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell and his hardworking staff, *True West* has adapted to changing tastes, while remaining ever faithful to its core mission.

That mission is one we must all embrace if we are to keep the unifying spirit of the American West alive—for truly a nation that forgets its past has no future.

A Distinguished Professor of History at the University of New Mexico, **Paul Andrew Hutton** won the Western Writers of America Spur for his most recent book, *The Apache Wars: The Hunt for Geronimo, the Apache Kid, and the Captive Boy Who Started the Longest War in American History*.

TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

65 YEARS &

BY *TRUE WEST* EDITORS

OUR *TRUE WEST* FAMILY'S SATISFYING, AND FRUSTRATING, QUEST TO SEEK THE TRUTH.

I have dedicated a good part of my life to seeking the truth about all the Old West characters, places and incidents covered in the pages of *True West*. Next year will mark my 20th anniversary as an owner and editor.

With a wonderful team behind me, and intelligent fans who support our mission to preserve the history of the American West, the quest has been satisfying and, by turns, frustrating. No one can ever get the history completely correct, and nothing changes more than the past.

For instance, everyone used to believe Billy the Kid was left-handed, based on the only known image of him, showing his holstered pistol on his left hip.

Articles were written to back up this belief. Psychologists claimed the Kid's southpaw contributed to his delinquent behavior, which inspired the 1958 Western *The Left Handed Gun*.

But then someone noticed the buttons on the Kid's vest were on the wrong side. Someone else noticed the loading port on the Winchester was also on the wrong side. Eventually, everyone realized that the Kid's image was a tintype, and thus, it showed a mirror image.

Oops. Scratch all of the above.

The magazine does always strive for accuracy, a complicated task made easier thanks to the dedicated researchers and historians who work with us to share tales of the frontier West. A pal of mine, Arizona attorney William C. Porter, admires not only this aim to present the truth, but also how all of us have a good time fulfilling it.

We do try to keep the history fun and entertaining, as well as expansive and eye-opening. Yet just like the clashes faced by Joe "Hosstail" Small, who launched this publication in 1953, our team struggles with those battles we can't seem to win.

The constant fight for historical accuracy was best described by another lawyer, and a Civil War veteran, Robert Green Ingersoll: "The grandest ambition that can enter the soul is to know the truth."

As the magazine reaches the end of another milestone, its 65th anniversary, our *True West* family not only aims to present the best and most factual stories of the Old West, but also looks ahead to how we can keep this history relevant for a worldwide audience, in all the ways our readers prefer to consume content.

We hope you, and the next generation, stick around for the next 65 years.

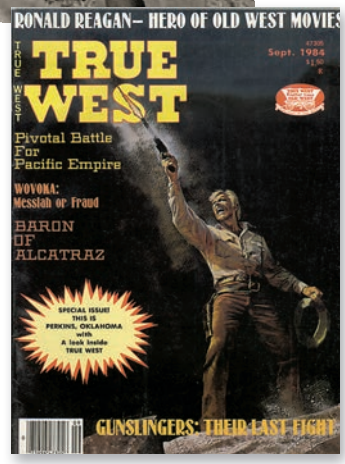
—Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell

Fluid History:
Outlaw Billy the Kid was popularly viewed with a big iron on his left hip (far left), which inspired the 1958 Western *The Left Handed Gun*, starring Paul Newman as the Kid (left). This created a major "oops" since the historical photograph actually showed a mirror image!

COUNTING

In the beginning, the history business had three mainstays, at least in the *True West* firmament: *Old Yeller* author Fred Gipson, open range chronicler J. Frank Dobie and the magazine's founder, Joe Austell Small (from left), shown circa 1955.

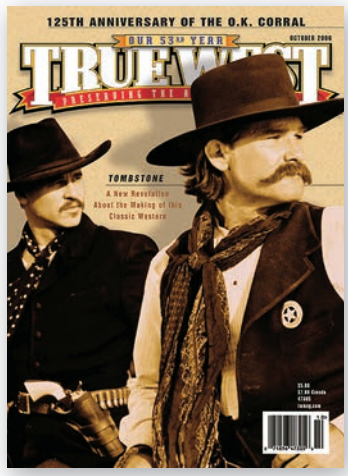
Sept/Oct. 1969
Despite this strong image, sales started to sag with this issue. Some blamed the Vietnam War.



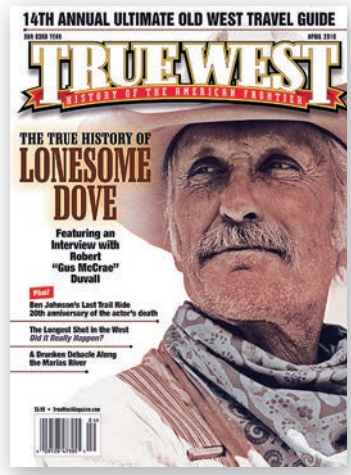
September 1984
This spirited effort attempted to reclaim the glory of the early years.

October 2000
With a new logo and a new direction, this issue marked the first one published by the current owners.

May/June 2002
Actress Jennifer Tilly raved about the magazine on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*.



October 2006
This extremely successful issue celebrated the 125th anniversary of the O.K. Corral gunfight.



April 2016
Our interview with Robert "Gus McCrae" Duvall reignited demand for Western movie and TV coverage.

Historical Twins

The fun side of history.

True West never takes a legend at face value. The magazine aims for all of our frontier West stories to present factual detail and historical context, but these pages are also a place to have fun. American history can be great pop culture. Sometimes the best way to humanize our history is to throw a fun twist on it.

Historical Twins put into print an enduring contemplation: that person looks just like someone famous. Gus "Mapinator" Walker was digging through our photograph archives when he noticed a Pamunkey Indian bore a striking resemblance to the lead guitarist for the Rolling Stones. That pair became our first twins, published in our September 2006 issue.

After several years, our staff had trouble finding duos to pair up and the feature ended. We would love to see what historical twins today's readers can put together!

PAMUNKEY INDIAN
Hunter/Gatherer: Peaceful Faction

KEITH RICHARDS
Rolling Stones: No Satisfaction

Dot
Frontier Prostitute

Bob Dylan
Modern Folk Music Icon

Oscar Wilde
Lecturer Out West, 1882

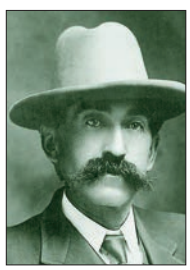
Hugh Grant
Lecher Out West, 1995

Fred Waite
Kid Gang Member

Stacy Keach
SAG Gang Member

Butch Cassidy
Down and Out In Bolivia's Hills

Nick Nolte
Down and Out In Beverly Hills



John Kloehr
You Don't Mess Around With John

Jim Croce
You Don't Mess Around With Jim

Cole Younger
Survived Hanska Slough

Donald Pleasence
Survived *Halloween II*

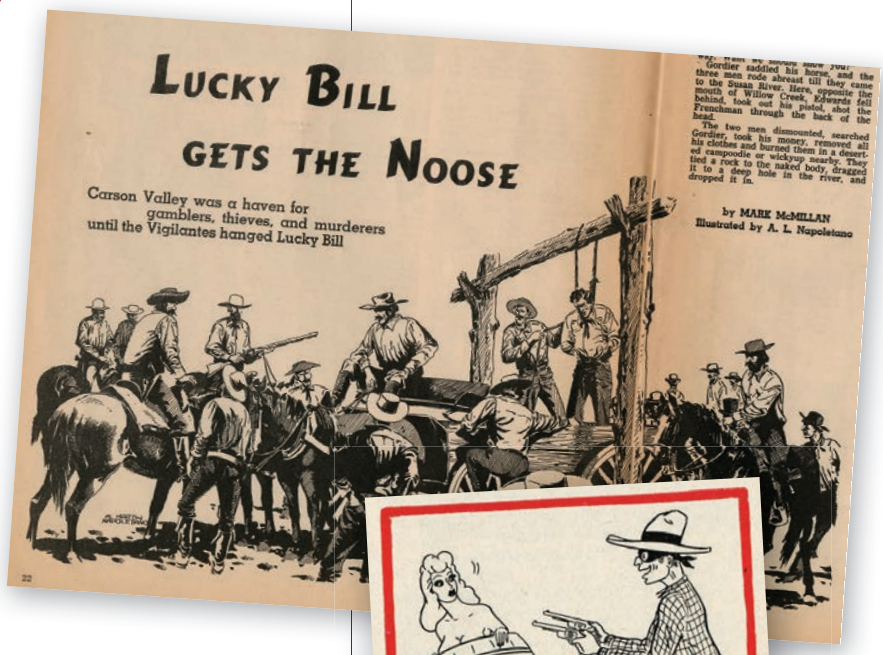
Art History

Bringing the Old West to life.

True West has featured some talented illustrators, including Al Napoletano, whose career spanned five decades (see one example of his work at right). Without artwork by talented artists who range from Andy Thomas to our executive editor, Bob Boze Bell, we would not always succeed in bringing the printed word to life.

We wish we could go back in time and ask artists to illustrate a momentous event as it was happening or ask a photographer to aim his camera this way and that way, but we can't. Quite frankly, even that work might not be up to par compared to the research expended by not only our talented artists, but also our mapmakers and graphic designers.

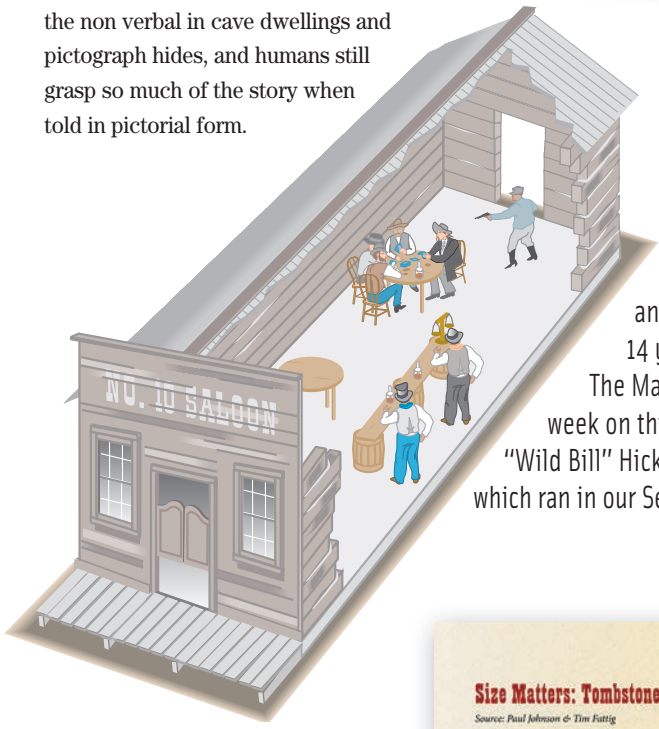
For most of human history, the visual has expressed the non verbal in cave dwellings and pictograph hides, and humans still grasp so much of the story when told in pictorial form.


LUCKY BILL GETS THE NOOSE

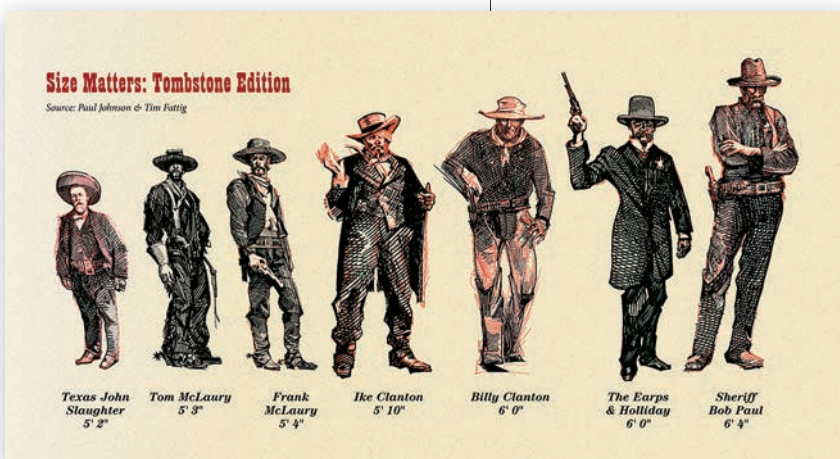
Carson Valley was a haven for gamblers, thieves, and murderers until the Vigilantes hanged Lucky Bill

by MARK McMILLAN
Illustrated by A. L. Napoletano

Some concepts don't travel well. Many of the cartoons from the past (see above example) now leave us scratching our heads. Our *Bizarro* cartoons better reflect today's standards.



Gus Walker produced some amazing maps and graphics during his 14 years with *True West*. The Mapinator spent a good week on this cutaway graphic of "Wild Bill" Hickok's final card game, which ran in our September 2001 issue.



This shows one of our more successful graphics, portraying the different heights of Tombstone legends and how size mattered on the frontier.

Journeys West

Paved with frontier stories.

History buffs enjoy standing in the exact spot where battles happened, in the ruts where settlers rode through the frontier wilderness in covered wagons and in the storied structures and sites where James Bowie, "Texas John" Slaughter, "Buffalo Bill" Cody, Kit Carson, Marcus and Narcissa Whitman, Geronimo and other legendary characters lived their most formative and dramatic moments.

Hitting the road to see where history happened has been a *True West* tradition for 65 years (check out past articles and ads presented here), and we look forward to seeing where the road takes us in the future.


Welcome to Tombstone

Tombstone, Arizona

...the Town Too Tough To Die

By KENT CHRISTY

April 1955: Reading Kent Christy's Tombstone travel feature today helps us imagine the excitement families must have felt as they piled into their new 1955 Chevy Nomad station wagons, filled up the water bags and headed across the Arizona desert to check out the O.K. Corral and Boothill.

August 1955: Water bags were a "cool" item during the 1950s, when people were traveling in desert areas where water was not readily available. This *True West* ad offered readers the option of carrying their water bags in style, via a pole attached to their vehicle's bumper.

April 2010: Highway travel often leaves you driving past history, not through it. In this annual travel issue, Wyoming's Carbon County showed off the majestic views of a two-lane blacktop to encourage folks to get off the highways.

April 1955: You're more likely to see a majestic RV home during your Western travels today, but this Cree Coaches ad deserves a chuckle—the couple appears to be pulling the trailer with a newfangled Corvette!

Campfire Chats

Conversations with our readers.

Talking with our readers has always been important for *True West*, whether the magazine was overseen by founder Joe "Hosstail" Small or today's Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell.

This valuable feedback used to be restricted to letters mailed to the magazine. But thanks to the Internet and Social Media Age, our team has conversations with our readers via numerous mediums. Some readers still prefer to communicate by letter, although many have transitioned from snail mail to e-mail. Many more converse not only with us, but also with other readers, through the magazine's feeds on Facebook, Google, Pinterest, Instagram, YouTube and Twitter.

A fun conversation our staff has during our editorial and design meeting every week is discussing which photographs have attracted the most viewers. Check out our Facebook homeruns! Rodeo clown and actor Slim Pickens takes the lead, followed by Calamity Jane, *Quigley Down Under's* Tom Selleck, "Rattlesnake Jack" McIntyre and Rocky Mountain hunter Augusta Wallihan.

"Awesome and powerful artwork."

– Keith Davis of Charleston, West Virginia

San Antonio, Texas, artist Clay McGaughy's first of two covers for *True West* was this 1958 illustration depicting a cowboy and his horse in seemingly inescapable danger.

Views: 4,009,167

Views: 1,302,132

Views: 425,488

Views: 336,088

Views: 399,006

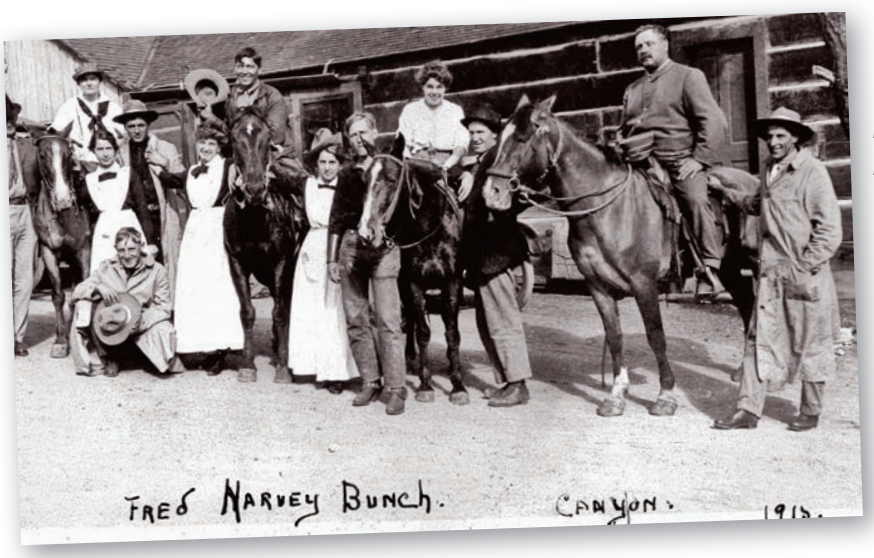
Looking Ahead

Stories to watch for in 2019.

Next year, *True West* will continue to bring you insight into: the Old West's top preservation projects; the latest Western movies and TV programs; grand recipes that allow you to cook up history in your kitchen; the finest frontier art, photograph and artifact collectibles; and the most interesting developments in history investigations that broaden our understanding of the American West.

In addition to the thought-provoking historical nonfiction and heritage travel features we hope will help keep the spirt of the West alive, these upcoming department reads promise to paint a picture of what frontier history says about life, the world and the times we live in.

Old West Saviors: Learn how efforts by AmeriCorps youth helped save Fort Bayard and won the landmark New Mexico's Heritage Preservation Award.



Frontier Fare: As Grand Canyon marks its centennial as a national park in 2019, Sherry Monahan will take readers on a food history tour of the Grand Canyon's grand meals.

Investigating History:
Find out how our nation's views of Juan Cortina have changed since he and his Mexican posse started a war against Texas Rangers and Confederate troops.

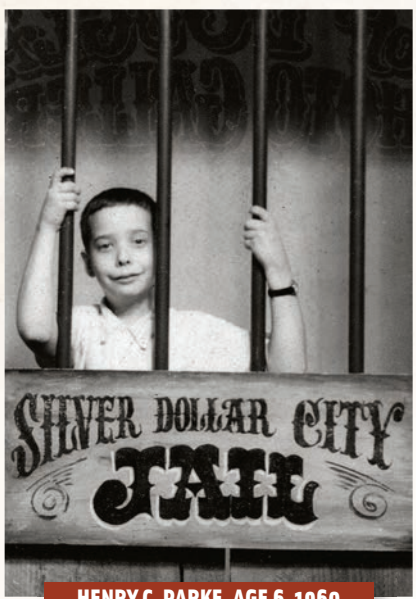
Collecting the West:
The year kicks off with Brian Lebel's auction of the world's largest Old West outlaw and lawman photograph collection, owned by Robert G. McCubbin, one of *True West's* former owners.

Western Movies:
David Milch's script for *Deadwood: The Movie* is finished. Although a release date has not been set for 2019, W. Earl Brown (as Dan Dority, far left) gave his Twitter fans an update after reading the final draft.

TRUE WEST 65 YEARS

OUR GANG

The genesis of the *True West* Class of 2018.



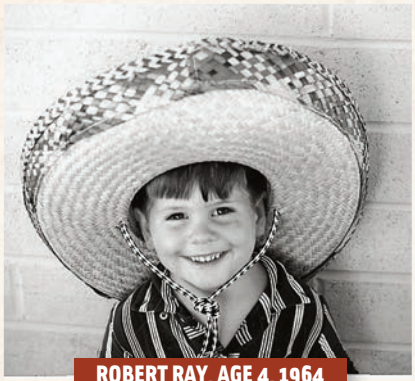
HENRY C. PARKE, AGE 6, 1960

"As a Brooklyn-born kid, I remember being taken to Dodge City, Kansas, visiting my first Boot Hill and eating a breakfast steak at Miss Kitty's Restaurant, which was full of pictures of Amanda Blake, who I was crazy about. The summer that I turned 13, we spent nine days shooting rapids on the Colorado River on a rubber raft. Just before we left, *The River of No Return* played on TV, and all my friends were convinced that if I didn't drown, I'd be scalped by Indians," recalls Henry, *True West's* Westerns film editor, whose first *True West* article was "The Films of Pancho Villa," published in April 2015.

LYNDA A. SÁNCHEZ, AGE 6, 1951

Lynda is shown working with her father, Joe Carithers, on a corral near Arizona's Tucson Mountain Park, where her father worked as superintendent. One of the last members of the cavalry trained at Fort Riley in Kansas in 1944, Joe instilled in his children a love of history and the wild outdoors. "I always loved history, but I became interested in writing history when I worked with Eve Ball in 1973," says Lynda, who lives on a ranch along the Rio Bonito in historic Lincoln, New Mexico. "I published my first article in *True West* in 1978, about Geronimo's wives. Since then, I have published six books and more than 350 articles."

True West Class of 2018



ROBERT RAY, AGE 4, 1964

"I had an Uncle Charlie, who wasn't really my uncle. He bought me the hat I'm wearing here and took me gold panning in the Superstitions." Born in Winchester, Massachusetts, Robert cut his teeth in the printing business at the *Mesa Tribune* and joined the *True West* staff in 1999. In addition to running the magazine's production department, Robert helps produce all of our *True West* books.

TOM JONAS, AGE 6, 1956

"I got interested in history because of its relationship to geography—I have always loved maps. I was curious about how the first Europeans got to Arizona and what they saw at the time. I began seeing *True West* Magazine when I became involved in historical associations and their gatherings. It has been a great way to fill in the gaps in my knowledge of historical people and events," says Tom, a mapmaker who anchored our coverage on the Geronimo surrender and the C.S. Fly photos in our July 2017 issue.

STUART ROSEBROOK, AGE 8, 1971

"My interest in Old West history cannot be separated from my earliest memories growing up in the center of television and film production in North Hollywood, California, and quarterly family trips to Arizona, which included spending part of every summer, from the age of five, riding horses and hiking all over the Orme School's Quarter Circle V Bar Ranch Camp near Mayer, Arizona," says Stuart, who began working as the book editor and senior editor for *True West* in 2013.

SHERRY MONAHAN, 4, 1966

"My dad loved all classic Westerns, and he wore cowboy boots, a Stetson, bolo neckties and a big ol' belt buckle—all in New Jersey! I believe his influence helped shape my interest," Sherry admits. "I visited Tombstone, Arizona, during the early 1990s and became hooked on Western history. I still have my very first check and letter from *True West,* framed in my office today—it's dated July 3, 1997. The 65th anniversary marks my 10th anniversary writing my *Frontier Fare* column!"

MARSHALL TRIMBLE, 7, 1946

"I've always liked Western history, but decided to make it a career in 1968, while working on a cattle roundup along the Tongue River, south of Miles City, Montana. Afterwards, my brother, Dan, his wife, Mary, and I were heading to Fort Collins, Colorado, where he was a vet student. We stopped in Hardin, Montana, for the night and visited a local museum where an elderly lady regaled us with stories of 'Custer's Last Stand.' I was riveted. She suggested, 'Why don't you go see it? It's not far from here.' The next morning, as we drove to the site of the battle, it started to rain and the clouds closed in. I wandered off by myself. It was so still and quiet. Nobody was around, but I could feel the mysterious presence of something beckoning me. The battlefield was enchanting. I was hooked. When we got in the truck to leave, I declared, 'I'm going to be a Western historian.'" Appointed Arizona State Historian in 1997, Marshall Trimble answers questions about the Old West from readers all over the world in our *Ask the Marshall* column.

True West Class of 2018

FRED NOLAN, AGE 3, 1934

"When I was 19, I suffered an injury and was laid up for a long while, and I began to read. I found a reissue of Walter Noble Burns's book *The Saga of Billy the Kid*, and I became fascinated by the story," says Fred, who not only located John Henry Tunstall's birth certificate, but also found and spoke to Tunstall's 82-year-old sister Mabel. Fred went on to write the definitive book on Tunstall, and he has since written numerous books on the Lincoln County War and Billy the Kid. He is considered one of the foremost authorities on the life and times of the Kid. He lives with his wife, Heidi, in Chalfont St. Giles, England. When he visits the colonies, we all rock out!

PHIL SPANGENBERGER, AGE 3, 1943

"This photo was taken in Miami, Florida, on my birthday, in my new—probably my first—cowboy outfit. I guess I've always had an interest in history, but the spark was ignited in 1954, when I watched the Disney television show *Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color*, and the *Davy Crockett* serial that was later made into a Technicolor movie. I was fascinated by the flintlocks used in that program, and that started me on the gunsmoke writing and theatrical trail I've followed since then," says Phil, *True West's* firearms editor.

LINDA WOMMACK, AGE 7 ,1965

"I have been interested in history since my mother told me stories of 'Clear Creek' Annie as we drove through the Colorado rock canyons of Clear Creek Cañon. In third grade, I wrote my first book report on a book about 'Baby Doe' Tabor of Leadville, Colorado. I began reading *True West* in college, and my first article was published in the magazine in 1994," says Lynda, who has also been a staff writer for *The Tombstone Epitaph* since 1995 and for *Wild West* Magazine since 2003. She has published 10 Colorado history books, with the latest being a first-ever biography of Colorado's famous cattle queen Ann Bassett.

GARY ZABOLY, AGE 7, 1957

"My interest in the Old West began when I saw B-Westerns on TV, which were constantly being broadcasted then. They inspired me to draw stories on index cards, each card a scene. 'Rocky' Allan Lane became my favorite B-Westerner. I knew of *True West* from an article in another magazine, and I wrote to them in 1962, seeking info on a subscription. I will never forget the name of the dear kind lady there—Gayle Terbay—who unexpectedly sent me a nice note and two free issues, one of *True West*, the other of *Frontier Times*, and I was ecstatic," recalls Gary, whose Western artwork has illustrated *True West* articles.

JANA BOMMERSBACH, 8, 1953

"Bob Boze Bell is responsible for my interest in history. I was really green when I came to work at *True West* in 2001, but quickly found the new love of my life. I am thrilled every time I learn a new chapter in history. As Harry Truman said, 'The only thing new in the world is the history you don't know,'" says Jana, our *Old West Saviors* columnist who also contributed to the magazine's *Women of the West* series.

True West Class of 2018

REBECCA EDWARDS, AGE 4, 1957

"I was inspired at an early age by my grandfather's love of history. My great-great-grandfather, the Rev. John L. Scripps, and his nephews were prominent in newspaper publishing, and my great-great aunts inspired me with their artistic talents. My mother loved Westerns, and we would watch them together as I grew up. As I look back today, I can see how the stories of the Old West—injustice, good triumphing over evil—along with art and publishing led me to *True West*," says Rebecca, who joined our staff in April 2012 and is the graphic designer of the feature you are reading.

CHRISTINE LAKE, AGE 6, 1975

"My interest in the Old West sprouted when I moved to this funky, artsy, cowboy, biker town of Cave Creek, Arizona, six years ago," says Christine, our administrative assistant. She's the delightful lady who answers our phones and processes all of your orders for books and subscriptions.

RHIANNON DEREMO, AGE 7, 1996

"This photo was taken at a stable somewhere in the Valley of the Sun, Phoenix, Arizona. I have always loved horses and, growing up, I loved watching Westerns with my dad. My favorite is *True Grit* with John Wayne," says Rhiannon, who joined our staff in 2015 as the magazine's social media editor.

GREG CARROLL , AGE 7, 1963

"Celebrating my seventh birthday, on the front porch of my boyhood home in Wichita, Kansas, with my older sister Jan, I am defending the Plains of Kansas, as the lawman Matt Dillon. I was a late bloomer to *True West* Magazine; discovered it through Bob Boze Bell's radio show. I wasn't a very good student of history, but now love it and have a lot of catching up to do," says Greg, our regional sales manager for Arizona, California, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas (his home state!), Nevada and Washington.

GARY L. ROBERTS, AGE 7, 1949

"By the time, I was 12, this Tifton, Georgia, boy was already trying to separate the 'real' Old West. I first subscribed to *True West* Magazine in the summer of 1957. I submitted my first article to *True West* in 1960, my senior year in high school. It was published in the January-February 1961 issue. By then, I was a corresponding member of a half-dozen Westerners International corrals and posses, and keeping the post office in business with letters (to everybody from J. Frank Dobie to Zoe Tilghman) and book orders (Frontier Book Company, W.M. Morrison Books, Guidon Books). Every trip to the mailbox was an adventure," recalls Gary, who went on to specialize in the history of frontier violence, particularly gunfighters and the Indian Wars. He is perhaps the foremost expert on Doc Holliday, and his seminal book, *Doc Holliday: The Life and Legend*, is considered top-notch.

TRUE WEST CLASS OF 2018

CAROLE COMPTON GLENN, AGE 7 ,1956

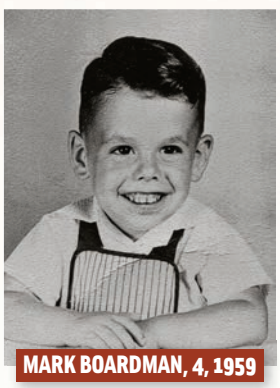
"Growing up in East Texas, my brother—the legendary Bill Compton—and I spent many Saturday mornings watching Westerns at the movies and grew up watching TV Westerns," says Carole, who was the first person Bob Boze Bell hired when he and his partners bought the magazine in 1999. For nearly 20 years, Carole has served as the steadfast business manager. Many consider her the heart and soul of the magazine.

SHERI RILEY, 5, 1963

"When my Dad was in the Navy, he used to love to take me fishing. He had a saying whenever he felt like something cost too much: 'Jesse James rode a horse and carried a gun when he was holding up people.' He loved the Old West and was always telling us stories about Jesse James, 'Buffalo Bill' Cody, etc. My interest in the Westward Expansion and the struggles of living in that time in history made *True West* a perfect fit for me," says Sheri, our regional sales manager for Colorado, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oregon, Tennessee and Texas.

THOM ROSS, 6, 1957

"TV Westerns really grabbed me: *Rawhide* (with that truly great theme song), *Bonanza, Bat Masterson* and *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp* shaped me the most. Then I saw Disney's *Davy Crockett* series, and *there* was my hero. In my second-grade class photo, I am wearing a fringed Disney shirt with Fess Parker's iconic image stamped on a label," says Thom, a *True West* contributing author known for his art installations, including Custer's Last Stand at Medicine Tail Coulee in 2005.

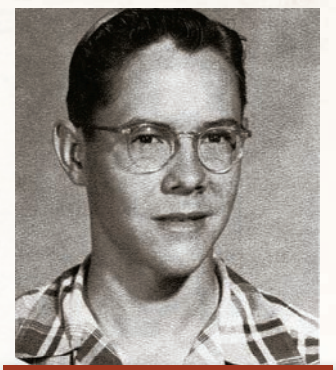


MARK BOARDMAN, 4, 1959

"I was first introduced to the Old West by my dad and grandfather. They watched all the Westerns on TV, and so did I. I was about five; I started reading history a couple of years later," says Mark, *True West's* features editor and *Investigating History* columnist, and also the editor of *The Tombstone Epitaph*.

MEGHAN SAAR, AGE 10, 1990

"My Dad loves Western movies. But since I was born with a hearing loss, none of these made much sense to me until rather recently, as remastered classics caught up with Closed Captioning technology. My love of Old West history has grown from visiting historical sites and from editing this storied magazine! My first *True West* issue was January 2003, which kicked off the magazine's 50th anniversary. I'm super proud to still be here for the 65th year!" says Meghan, who joined *True West* as assistant editor in 2002 and is now the editor.



ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN, 16, 1953

"I got my passion for collecting outlaw and lawmen photos from reading about them. I do not know why they interested me so much. Maybe it was because Oklahoma, my native home, had so many of them. My first original photograph was a cabinet card of Pat Garrett, given to me by his son Jarvis," says Robert, a charter subscriber when *True West* hit the newsstands in April 1953. He is also the world's foremost collector of outlaw and lawman photographs, and *True West's* publisher emeritus.

True West Class of 2018

GUS WALKER, 8, 1951

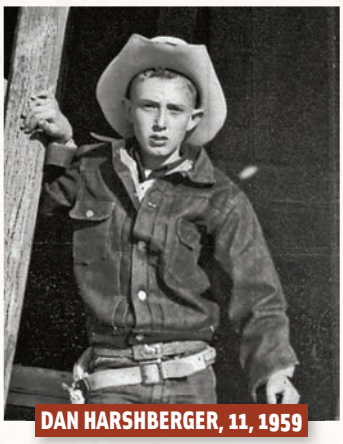
Born in Batesville, Arkansas, Gus made his way to Phoenix, Arizona, at the age of five and grew up during the Golden Era of Western film. Known as the "Mapinator," he brought so many to the "exact spot" through his 38 years at *The Arizona Republic* and his 14 years illustrating historical maps for *True West*, before he died in 2014. He was more than a mapmaker to our readers. A lifelong musician, he played guitar and sang "Lorena," the song that inspired many Confederate soldiers to desert, for a reader who had never heard the tune. And he entertained our staff with his humorous historical twins—his first was pairing a Pamunkey Indian with Rolling Stones's lead guitarist Keith Richards; it turned into a department in the magazine during the mid-2000s. He left a mark in all of our hearts.

KEN AMOROSANO, AGE 12, 1973

A "tough little monkey," by his own admission, Ken moved west in 1981, landed in Hollywood and cut his teeth in the entertainment industry. After a successful stint as a publicist and personal manager, and then marketing director and owner for the Single Action Shooting Society, he bought stock in *True West* in 2007 and became our publisher in 2010.

PAUL ANDREW HUTTON, 10, 1960

"The photo for my military dependent ID card was taken in July 1960 when my Air Force family was transferred to Taipei, Taiwan. After four years in San Angelo, Texas, I had fallen in love with school tales of Davy Crockett and the Alamo. From those days grew my obsession with Western history. When we returned to the states in 1963, I bought my first issue of *True West*—the colorful Edgar S. Paxson painting of Custer's Last Stand on the October 1963 cover enthralled me. Many years later, I asked my friend Bob Boze Bell, now the president and executive editor of *True West,* to assign me to the same position once held by Dr. Walter Prescott Webb. He did, and I became the magazine's historical consultant."



DAN HARSHBERGER, 11, 1959

Dan grew up in the windy tourist town of Kingman, Arizona. On Sundays, his family would go on picnics to the nearby ghost towns of Oatman, Goldroad, Mineral Park and White Hills. Dan's parents allowed him to invite a friend on these outings, and he often called on Robert Bell, a classmate and nearby neighbor, to join. The two would play with toy guns and frolic in the tailings of numerous abandoned mines. Looking back, Dan says, "We were lucky we didn't fall into some of those deep shafts, but we were fearless and somehow survived." Dan has been the art director for *True West* since Bell bought ownership in the magazine in 1999.

BOB BOZE BELL, 8, 1953

"I asked for and got a Lone Ranger outfit (shown) for Christmas in 1953. My grandmother Louise Guess Swafford told me how we were related to outlaws and that got me excited. I first saw *True West* in the front window of Desert Drugs in downtown Kingman, Arizona, and I was hooked. On our annual road trips back to Iowa, I bought an alleged photo of Billy the Kid that turned out to be fake. Later on, during my college years, I would see *True West* on the newsstand and think to myself, 'You know, I could do something with that magazine.'" Bob Boze Bell has been an owner of *True West* since 1999.

TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

THE TUNNEL SALOON FIGHT

PETE GABRIEL VS FORMER DEPUTY JOE PHY

Pete Gabriel loses a lung and takes a shot in the gut, but he doesn't go down.

– ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL –

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Based on the research of John Boessenecker

MAY 31, 1888

Pete Gabriel, accompanied by his friend Mike Rice, leaves in a buggy from his Riverside gold mines, headed for Florence, Arizona Territory.

"As was usual with Gabriel on such trips he had a quart of devil water along and imbibed freely of its contents. When we arrived in Florence, Gabriel was practically all in," Rice comments.

After arriving in town, Pete is warned that Joe Phy, his former deputy, is looking to pick a fight.

Pete pays no heed to the threat. The former Pinal County sheriff retires to the Tunnel Saloon for drinks with owner John Keating.

When Sidney Bartleston sees Pete enter the saloon, he rushes to tell his friend Phy that the ex-sheriff is in town. Phy buckles on his gun rig, grabs a bowie knife and heads for the Tunnel Saloon.

Pete spots Phy peering in the window. He reaches for his gun, but Phy disappears. As patrons enter the saloon, Pete drops his hand to his six-shooter, which is tucked into his waistband.

At 8 p.m., Phy returns, coming through the doors with his pistol drawn (one witness claims Phy didn't have his gun out).

Pete yells out "Joe!"—perhaps both as a taunt and a greeting—and both men open fire.

One shot snuffs a lamp. The former lawman partners exchange 11 shots as Pete works his way down the bar to the door.

Phy lunges forward, a six-shooter in his right hand and bowie knife in his left, and fires point-blank into Pete's chest. The bullet tears into Pete's right lung.

Another slug from Phy's gun pierces Pete's intestines. Incredibly, Pete stays on his feet as he backs out the door, returning fire.

One of Pete's bullets hits Phy in the left thigh, shattering the bone; another slams into his belly. As Phy buckles over in pain on the sidewalk, Pete fires point blank, hitting Phy in the right shoulder and slashing through both lungs.

"Oh, my God, I'm down!" comes Phy's gasping response.

When a bystander tries to help Phy, he swings his Bowie knife, slashing the gambler's leg and gasping out, "You murdering son of a bitch!"

Shooting at Ghosts in the Tunnel Saloon: When Pete Gabriel and Joe Phy face off in the Tunnel Saloon, the first exchange of gunfire snuffs out the lights (some reports state a lone light). As Pete moves down the bar to confront his adversary, he keeps firing through the smoke and darkness.

Prelude to the Tunnel Fight

John Peter Gabriel is born on November 17, 1838, in Kruft, Germany, the fourth of six children. When Pete is nine, his parents emigrate to the United States. After Pete's 62-year-old father dies, Anna can not support her family, so the 12-year-old boy is taken in by a prominent lawyer who soon joins the California Gold Rush.

There, 16 miles north of Marysville in the Yuba River region, Pete grows up among the rough gold miners and gamblers. In his early 20s, he becomes, by turns, a gold miner, a muleskinner and a guide.

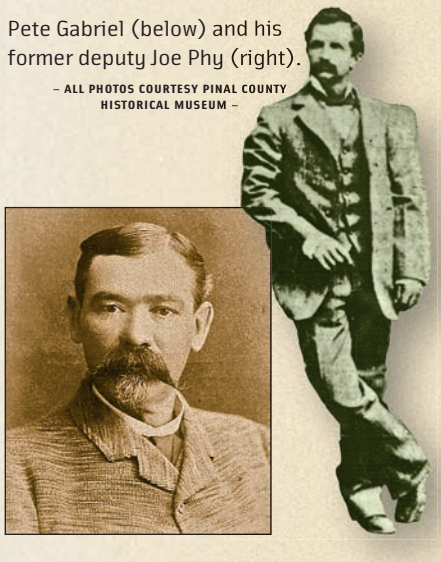
The only knock against Pete is that he suffers from severe mood swings, which are exacerbated by his drinking, which he tends to do a lot (his two ex-wives confirm).

Pete soon gravitates to being a lawman in Arizona Territory. Several times he will be elected sheriff (during one election, the vote ties, and the two candidates roll dice to determine who will serve; Pete loses, taking it all with grace and humor).

In November 1884, Pete is elected by a 130-vote majority to his third and last two-year term as Pinal County sheriff. He appoints 39-year-old Josephus Phy as his deputy.

A miner and freighter, Phy is born in Platte County, Missouri, on May 22, 1844. At age 15, he runs away from home, eventually landing in Arizona Territory, where he is taken in by attorney Granville Oury and his wife.

Phy unsuccessful runs for Phoenix sheriff, in 1872. He later serves as a Maricopa County deputy sheriff. In 1878, he is appointed a deputy U.S. marshal.



Pete Gabriel (below) and his former deputy Joe Phy (right).

– ALL PHOTOS COURTESY PINAL COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM –

Owner John Keating stands in the doorway of the Tunnel Saloon, site of the gunfight. The name of the saloon came from the tunnel-like cellar where patrons could escape the extreme summer heat.

Phy neither drinks or smokes, but he has one trait he shares with Pete: he too has a bad temper.

In 1886, Pete plans to retire from lawing, so he throws his support behind his deputy. But then, in Casa Grande, Phy pistol-whips a teamster who claimed Pete had disparaged his opponent in the sheriff race; Phy also swings at a woman who tries to intercede. Pete is forced to arrest his deputy and then fire him. That starts the bad blood between the two former friends.

By the spring of 1888, Pete is working his Monitor Mine at the head of Mineral Creek in the Dripping Springs Mountains, northeast of Florence.

When Pete arrives in Florence on May 31, he hears that Phy is gunning for him.

Against all odds, Pete survives his serious wounds from the gunfight against Phy. Within a month, he is up and running. But the fight haunts him.

"...the killing of Phy preyed on [Pete] as long as he lived," Mike Rice recalls. "He expressed his regrets to me on many occasions. It worried him in his waking and sleeping hours to the extent that he was often irrational on the subject. Once on the desert, while we were occupying the same blankets, he dreamt of his encounter with Phy and in a somnambulistic condition fired off every shot in his gun, at the same time exclaiming, 'Joe, Joe, Joe!'"

Pete is still shooting at ghosts in the Tunnel Saloon.

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

After the shoot-out, bystanders carried Joe Phy to the stage company corral. A doctor removed one of the bullets, but couldn't do much more. Phy died from internal bleeding at 12:30 a.m.

Friends carried Pete Gabriel to an adobe house next to the Pinal County sheriff's office. Hearing the news that the doctor would first treat Phy, Pete allegedly screamed, "What! My family physician treating my enemy before coming here? Tell him I won't have his services. I don't want him here."

Another doctor, Thomas Sabin, was summoned from his residence 18 miles away. After traveling four-and-a-half hours, the doctor reached Pete's bedside and told the ex-sheriff the bad news: "You are shot through the intestines and right lung, and your condition is hopeless."

Pete supposedly replied, "Well, I had one lung shot away in Los Angeles years ago, but, by God, I will beat you to it and be without lungs, and still be a better man than any of my enemies."

A tough old bird and true to his word, Pete was back on his feet within a month. Six months later, he was in the saddle as a deputy sheriff, hunting Southwestern stage robber Ham White.

A year later, Pete took part in the manhunt for the Apache Kid, who, with three companions, had killed a sheriff and a guard on the way to being locked up at the prison in Yuma.

Pete retired from the law, once again, to pursue mining.

On July 30, 1898, the former lawman died after drinking poisonous water, probably cyanide, at his mine in the Dripping Springs Mountains.

Recommended: "Pete Gabriel: Gun-fighting Lawman of the Southwestern Frontier" by John Boessenecker, *The Journal of Arizona History*, Spring 2012. Look for his latest book, *Shotguns and Stagecoaches*.

BY PATTY CAMPBELL

LITTLE KNOWN CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

Robber's Roost Defender

Daniel Boone May's remarkable career protecting the Black Hills.

Outside the mining camps of Deadwood, Dakota Territory, particularly on the road leading to Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, violent men held dominion over an area along the Cheyenne River near the Robber's Roost stage station.

The Cheyenne-Black Hills Stage & Express hired 24-year-old buffalo hunter and freighter Daniel Boone May to protect stagecoach passengers. Sometimes he rode inside the stagecoach as an undercover detective. Other times, he scouted ahead or behind the stage. In both scenarios, he was ready to surprise any robbers who suddenly commanded "Halt!"

Born May 21, 1852, in Platte County, Missouri, Boone went by his middle name. The family moved to Kansas Territory, but was forced out during the Civil War. Boone and family drifted during the war, living briefly in Arkansas, Oklahoma Territory and Texas. By age 14, Boone was living in his saddle, driving longhorn cattle.

In 1875, Boone worked as a muleskinner, under freighting contacts obtained by his older brother, James, who owned Lone Star Livery in Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, marking the Mays among the first freighters in Custer City, Dakota Territory, when the Black Hills gold rush began.

Boone also cleared timber off town lots in Deadwood Gulch about the same time Wyatt Earp did. Earp knew Boone's name, crediting him as one of Deadwood's leading gunmen, in the Stuart Lake biography.

The May family of freighters teamed up with Scott Davis, Gen. W.B. Hazen's step-nephew, to deliver a beef herd to Gen. George Crook's starving troopers after the Battle of Slim Buttes in September 1876. The family had come to the attention of Fort Laramie officers for withstanding an American Indian attack on May 2, 1876, north of Camp Hat Creek.

After the Black Hills gold rush began, Daniel Boone May helped guard the Cheyenne-Deadwood stagecoach (May is shown with one on the opposite page). To protect passengers from robberies, he rode out from his base at the Robber's Roost stage station in Wyoming Territory (see above 1885 photo by Thomas Dalgleish).

– ALL PHOTOS COURTESY WYOMING STATE ARCHIVES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE PARKS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES EXCEPT OPPOSITE PAGE STAGECOACH PHOTO COURTESY CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTION AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LIBRARIES –

Their mettle earned the Mays employment as shotgun messengers to guard the treasure coach for the Cheyenne-Deadwood stage. Infiltrating the family would prove difficult if someone schemed to rob the coach from within the ranks.

> He was ready to surprise any robbers.

When stage robberies increased in 1877, U.S. Marshal Gus Schnitger deputized Boone and others to control the road agent problem. Although considered the most active gunslinger between 1876-1880, Boone killed fewer than the 13 robbers credited to him. An accurate tally is unknown, but some of the men he shot, including Tom Price and Prescott Webb, did not die. Others, including Cornelius "Lame Johnny" Donahue and Archie McLaughlin, were hanged by vigilantes.

The most publicized men Boone killed were Frank Towle and "Curly" Grimes. He took Towle's head to Cheyenne and then to Carbon County Courthouse, trying to claim a reward, without success.

In 1881, after almost a year of loafing around and hunting buffalo with his pards, he traveled to Gunnison, Colorado, then to Las Vegas, New Mexico Territory, and boarded a ship to South America to stop in Chile, Peru, Bolivia and Nicaragua. He disappeared in South America, still alive as late as 1900, and never returned to the Black Hills.

Patty Campbell is the author of the two-volume *Deadwood in My Blood: Boone May, Gale Hill, Shotgun Messengers on the Deadwood Stage, and Their Historic Families.*

BY CANDY MOULTON

Following the Bent Brothers

History abounds on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail from Missouri to New Mexico.

So much of the Western story begins in St. Louis, and the tale of William and Charles Bent is no exception. From a family of eleven children, the brothers joined forces in about 1826 with Ceran St. Vrain, also a resident of St. Louis. They traveled west and began carving a fur trade empire. They trapped along the upper Arkansas River in southern Colorado, but soon began trading enterprises that took them throughout Colorado and into New Mexico and Texas.

From St. Louis our route heads west along the Missouri River to Westport, Missouri, where William Bent and his third wife lived in a small brick house late in his life when he was an agent to the Arapaho and Cheyenne people, and also operated his trading and freighting business.

Like the Bents, though, we head west on the Santa Fe Trail as it traverses Kansas. This route connected Missouri River communities with the old trading center at Santa Fe and was a major commerce trail during the early 19th century.

Initially four Bent brothers (Charles, William, George and Robert) had traveled west and become involved in the fur trade, but Charles and William quickly rose to prominence when they partnered with St. Vrain to build a trading post along the Arkansas River, not far from the present town of La Junta, Colorado.

Bent's Old Fort, one of the most important posts in the region, was large enough

A tour of the new Gateway Arch National Park Museum at Gateway National Park will provide travelers retracing the history of the Bent Brothers with a great introduction to the ideals of Manifest Destiny and the men and women who dared to go West and build a transcontinental nation.

– COURTESY ARCH PARK FOUNDATION –

to house some 200 people, and served traders and other travelers on the Santa Fe Trail. It also became a gathering place and trading post for Arapaho and Cheyenne Indians, particularly after William Bent married into the Cheyenne tribe. The privately owned and fortified fort was a place for trading furs, but horse and mule trading also took place on a regular basis. Charles and William, along with Ceran St. Vrain, also built a trading post farther west, in the area of present-day Pueblo.

Expanding their fur trading operations, the partners built Fort St. Vrain along the South Platte in northern Colorado near what is now the city of Greeley. They soon constructed another post in northern Texas at Adobe Walls.

William Bent headquartered his operations along the Arkansas, first at Bent's Old Fort, and later at a new location called Bent's New Fort (or Fort Wise). Charles Bent moved on west and south, ultimately becoming the first governor of New Mexico Territory, appointed by Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny in September 1846. He settled in Taos and his leadership lasted until January 19, 1847, when he was killed during the Taos Revolt.

Our route from Bent's Fort on the Arkansas heads west to Pueblo, then south to Trinidad following the Santa Fe Trail. The trail itself continues on south into New Mexico to Fort Union and then to Santa Fe. There are two routes from Trinidad to Taos. One crosses Raton Pass and then turns west on US 64 through Cimarron and then west to Taos. The other is north to Walsenburg, Colorado, on Highway 160 to Fort Garland before traveling south on Highways 159 and 522 to Taos. From Taos continue south on Highway 68 and US 285 to Santa Fe.

Before heading out across Kansas on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, visit the National Frontier Trails Museum in Independence, Missouri, for a great primer on the trail's importance to Missouri and national history.

– COURTESY MISSOURI DIVISION OF TOURISM –

A unique stop on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail is the Last Chance Store in Council Groves, Kansas, the oldest commercial building in the frontier crossroads community. Santa Fe Trail wagon train merchants would stock up at the emporium before heading West, knowing that the next stop for supplies was over 37 days and 400 miles away at Bent's Fort on the north side of the Arkansas River near modern-day La Junta, Colorado.

– COURTESY KANSAS TOURISM –

Fifty years before Bat Masterson and Wyatt Earp called Dodge City home in the 1870s entrepreneurs Charles, William, George and Robert Bent traveled across Kansas past the future site of the infamous cowtown.

– COURTESY KANSAS TOURISM –

Charles Bent spent just over 20 years in the West, making a name as a trader and government leader before his death in Taos.

As a trader, William Bent routinely met and worked with local tribes, and the relationships improved when he married Owl Woman, the daughter of Cheyenne leader White Thunder. William and Owl Woman had four children. This family alliance served him well in trading, and Bent's Fort became a routine camping and trading location, with hundreds to thousands of Indians coming in for goods and to trade their furs each year.

Travelers, traders and tribespeople spent time at Bent's Old (and later New) Fort. As a result, the Bent children were exposed to many different languages—Cheyenne, Arapaho, Comanche, Kiowa, English, Spanish and French. Son George was soon fluent in most of those languages, living a life that took him easily from his

In honor of America's Bicentennial, the Interior Department rebuilt the Bent Brothers' famous outpost from the original blueprints of Bent's Old Fort. Today, visitors to Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site will be greeted by docents dressed in period costume who offer tales of the Bent Brothers' glory days at their Western outpost on the edge of the American and Spanish empires.

– COURTESY GATES FRONTIERS FUND COLORADO COLLECTION WITHIN THE CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVE, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

The Bent Brothers' influence on trade in the West was not restricted to their fort or the trading of goods between New Mexico and Missouri. In 1835, Charles Bent married Taos native Maria Ignacia Jaramillo (her sister was later the wife of Kit Carson) and rose to prominence in his adopted home. In 1846, he was named first territorial governor of New Mexico, but was killed in the Taos Pueblo uprising of January 1847.

– COURTESY NEW MEXICO TOURISM DEPARTMENT –

At the corner of Lejo and Old Santa Fe Trail, adjacent to Museum Hill, stands Reynalda "Sonny" Rivera's 2003 life-size, multi-piece bronze sculpture *Journey's End* depicting a Santa Fe Trail caravan as it approaches the city.

– COURTESY NPS.GOV –

father's commercial enterprises, to his mother's native sensibilities. As George Bent later said, "Something was always going on, and we children had no lack of amusements. In the fall and winter there was always a large camp of Indians just outside the fort—Cheyenne and Arapahos, and sometimes Sioux, Kiowas, Comanches and Prairie Apaches."

William Bent often stood between the Cheyenne people and the encroaching settlers and travelers who used the trail between Missouri and Santa Fe. Following the Pikes Peak Gold Rush in 1858, he made efforts to negotiate a peace treaty involving Cheyenne Chief Black Kettle. While it appeared Bent would be successful, in 1858 Colonel John Chivington brought Colorado Volunteer troops to the region and attacked Black Kettle's camp at Sand Creek. At the time Bent's children, George, Julie and Charles, were in the Black Kettle Camp.

George Bent later recalled: "In the camps…all was confusion and noise—men, women and children rushing out of the lodges partly dressed; women and children screaming at the sight of the troops; men running back into the lodges for their arms…Black Kettle had a large American flag tied to the end of a long lodgepole and…kept calling out not to be frightened; that the camp was under protection and there was no danger."

The grown children of William Bent and Owl Woman survived the attack, but of course many others did not. Owl Woman died around 1847. William Bent had followed Cheyenne custom and took as second and third wives Owl Woman's sisters, Island and Yellow Woman. Later he married again to Adaline Harvey, the daughter of a fellow trader from Kansas City. William lived until 1869 when he contracted pneumonia and died. Because he had ranched near Las Animas, Colorado, he was buried in the Las Animas Cemetery. Two years after his death, Adaline sold their farm in Westport, Missouri, to Seth Ward, who built his own house on the property.

Candy Moulton recommends membership in the Santa Fe Trail Association, and attending a living history re-enactment at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site.

Side Roads

PLACES TO VISIT

The Gateway Arch National Park, *St. Louis, MO*; **Kaw Mission**, *Council Grove, KS*; **Santa Fe Trail Center**, *Larned, KS*; **Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site**, *La Junta, CO*; **Koshare Museum**, *La Junta, CO*; **Trinidad History Museum**, *Trinidad, CO*; **A.R. Mitchell Museum of Western Art**, *Trinidad, CO*; **Taos Pueblo**, *Taos, NM*; **Palace of the Governors**, *Santa Fe, NM*

CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

Bent's Old Fort Traditional Holiday Celebration, Dec. 7-8, 2018, *Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site*; **Santa Fe Trail Association**, Sept. 2019, *Symposium "St. Louis: Gateway to Santa Fe"*

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

GRUB: Jack Stack Barbecue, *Kansas City, MO*; **Copper Kitchen**, *La Junta, CO*; **Bella's Mexican Grill**, *Taos, NM*; **Bobcat Bite**, *Santa Fe, NM*; **Tia Sophia's**, *Santa Fe, NM*

LODGING: Drury Plaza at the Arch, *St. Louis, MO*; **Intercontinental at the Plaza**, *Kansas City, MO*; **Historic Taos Inn**, *Taos, NM*; **La Posada de Santa Fe**, *Santa Fe, NM*

GOOD BOOKS, FILM & TV

GOOD BOOKS: ***Tragedy at Taos*** by James A. Crutchfield; ***Bent's Fort*** by David Lavender; ***At the Conflict of Two Cultures: William and George Bent Confront Manifest Destiny, 1829-1918*** by Camilla Kattell; ***The Santa Fe Trail: Its History, Legends and Lore*** by David Dary

BEST FILM & TV: ***Santa Fe Trail*** (Warner Bros., 1940); ***Little Big Man*** (National General, 1970); ***Soldier Blue*** (Embassy Pictures, 1970); ***"Empire Upon the Trails," The West*** (PBS, 1996)

RV PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS

Fort Dodge RV Resort, 701 Park Street, *Dodge City, KS, FortDodgeRVResort.com*, (913) 220-2652; **Gunsmoke Campground**, 11070 108 Rd., *Dodge City, KS* (3 miles west of Boot Hill), *GunsmokeRVPark.com*, (620) 227-8247 (Voice)(800) 789-8247 (reservations); **La Junta KOA Journey**, 26680 Highway 5 (Near Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site), *La Junta, CO, KOA.com*, (719) 384-9580; **Raton Pass Camp & Cafe**, 46020 Interstate 25, *Raton, NM* (12 miles away), *RatonPassCamp.com*, (575) 445-8500; **Ojo Caliente Mineral Springs Resort & Spa**, 50 Los Banos Drive, *Ojo Caliente, NM, OjoCaliente.sjospa.com*, (888) 939-0007; **Taos Canyon Stop**, 7 Valle, Escondido, *Taos, NM*, *RVTaosCanyonStop.com*, (575) 758-3338

BY SHERRY MONAHAN

The Boss Drink

America's craze for ice cream sodas.

Pioneers were sipping ice cream soda waters as early as the 1860s, but ice cream sodas wouldn't come along until the next decade.

Ice cream soda waters were made with cold ingredients: cream, flavored syrups and soda water. Soda water machines were needed to create the drink, so patrons had to visit a confectionery or drugstore to get them. Around 1874, ice cream started being substituted for cream to create the new ice cream soda concoction.

"The boss new summer drink is ice cream soda.... It is just immense," advertised Julius Cohn, in 1879, owner of a confectionery in Fort Scott, Kansas.

Utah agreed, and, in 1882, *The Placer Herald* described the ice cream soda as, "ice cream and one soda in a moonlight sonata of perfect harmony."

Some thought that ice cream and ice cream sodas should be served only in the summer. "Any man who will paint an 'ice cream soda' sign in four-foot letters on his sidewalk [in] this weather ought to get six months at the North Pole without an overcoat," reported Kansas's *The Russell Record* on October 27, 1887.

But come fall, Bert Shoemaker and A.N. Miller were advertising their hot sodas. The Corner Pharmacy merchants boasted theirs was the only hot soda fountain in Junction City, Kansas. Their soda fountain had arrived in May 1899.

Merchants, including W.A. Benson, in Salem, Oregon, competed to attract

When the soda fountain arrived in 1899 at the Corner Pharmacy (shown above), operated by A.N. Miller & Bert Shoemaker, it made the newspapers in Junction City, Kansas. Built of Mexican onyx, the fountain carried 16 glass and hard rubber syrup cans, and towered nearly 11 feet above the floor.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

customers. He claimed his rivals used skim milk and stale fruit in their ice cream sodas, while he served only first-class drinks. His competition, Jones & Bernardi, claimed many in town, including the Democratic Club, preferred their sodas over everyone else's. Jones touted his French ice cream soda as a "masterpiece of palatable luxury."

The soda portion relied on fresh fruit and extracts to create flavors that included root, birch and spruce beers, ginger ale, nectar, mead, lemonade, pineapple, lime, coffee, chocolate, raspberry and strawberry.

Women loved the drink, so businessmen, including C.B. Smith in Astoria, Oregon, offered private parlors where ladies could enjoy their ice cream plates and sodas.

Merchants knew how to work the women's desire for this frosty drink. "Our chocolate ice cream soda beats them all. That's what the ladies say, and they know," Fehringer & Ash advertised in Ogden, Utah, in 1894.

Women were so taken with this drink that jokes were made about it. *The Weekly Kansas Chief* reported a tale in 1896 about a man who asked his girlfriend if the weather was too hot, to which she said, yes. He then asked her if she would feel better if he proposed to her. She replied, "Oh, yes. Do propose ice cream soda and a drive."

Join the 19th-century craze and make this cool drink, even if it's the fall!

Sherry Monahan kicked off her journey into Old West cuisine, spirits and places by authoring *Taste of Tombstone*. Visit *SherryMonahan.com* to learn more about her books, awards and TV appearances.

ICE CREAM SODA

1 to 3 tbsp. real fruit syrup
1 cup club soda
1 scoop ice cream

Combine syrup and club soda in a cup or bowl to make your flavored soda. The amount of syrup added depends on your taste. Gently whisk together. Place ice cream in a tall glass and top off with the flavored soda. Add a tall spoon and paper straw to garnish in the 19th-century style.

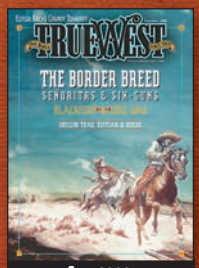
Recipe adapted from *Saxe's New Guide*, 1894

GET 'EM WHILE THEY LAST!

Order yours before they are gone!

True West is one of the most collectible history magazines in the world. (Back issues have sold for as high as $300!) Collect your favorites now, as the love for history will never go out of date!

Jan-2000
Wild Bill



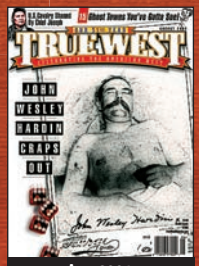
Sep-2000
Border Breed

May/Jun-2001
Doc Holliday

Aug/Sep-2001
Wild Bill

Aug/Sep-2002
Defeat of Jesse James

Jul-2003
Doc & Wyatt



Aug-2004
John Wesley Hardin

Jan/Feb-2005
Rare Photos

Mar-2005
Deadwood/McShane

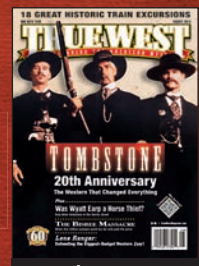
Dec-2006
Buffalo Gals & Guys

May-2007
Billy The Kid

Nov/Dec-2008
Mickey Free

Nov/Dec-2010
Black Warriors of the West

Mar-2013
Arizona Rangers



Aug-2013
Tombstone-The Walk Down

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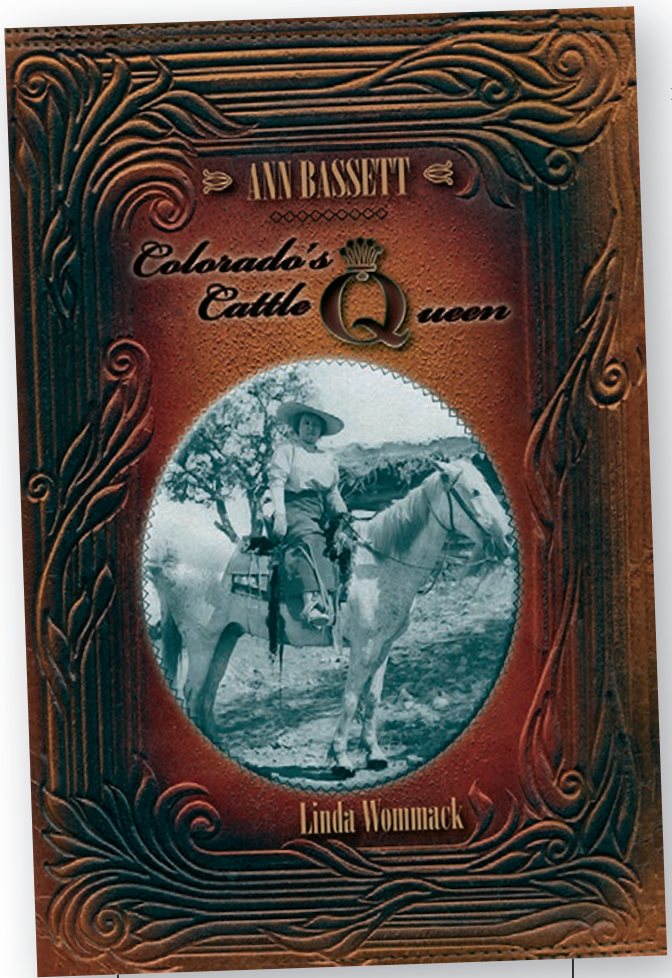
Cattle Queen of the West

A new biography of Ann Bassett, the third volume in the Mason and Hickum series, a new biography of Apache leader Victorio, a novel of the Alamo, and leadership lessons from Western posses.



For the past few decades Western historians have worked diligently to uncover, research and write a more comprehensive history of the West—a broader Western story from the bottom up chronicling the true stories of laborers, women, minorities, immigrants, homesteaders and marginalized members of society. Historian Linda Wommack is one of those writers who has been pursuing the truth about underappreciated and lesser-known Westerners. Her latest, *Ann Bassett: Colorado's Cattle Queen* (Caxton Press, $17.50), is a fine example of undeterred detective work and scholarship in the archives, including deciphering Bassett's own writings and that of many of her peers, leading to an enlightened understanding of an underrepresented character in Western American history. Wommack says, "This account of the life of Anna M. Bassett is particularly enhanced by Ann's own words.…Through her prism, we learn of the rugged pioneers building a life in an isolated corner of Northwestern Colorado, and the many trials and tribulations they faced and overcame."

Illustrated with more than two dozen rare historical photos, many from the archives of the Museum of Northwest Colorado, the biography illuminates Bassett's legendary story with detailed research of primary sources and concise, convincing conclusions. Wommack entertains the reader with Bassett's extraordinary early years and the cast of famous characters —including Tom Horn and Butch Cassidy—who shaped her life. She writes of the cattle business, range wars, outlaws and the law-abiding citizens who struggled, worked and fought for their piece of the West in the 19th and 20th centuries.

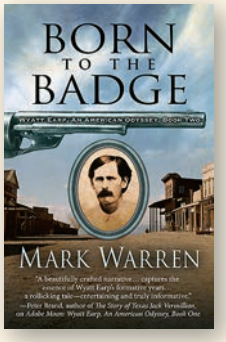
In addition, Wommack's detailed notes and investigative research have proved once and for all that Ann Bassett was not a prostitute and that she and Etta Place (best known as the girlfriend of the Sundance Kid) were not actually the same person. Just as important as Wommack disproving these falsehoods—as well as recounting Bassett's sensational trial and acquittal that overshadowed her legendary life story—is her telling us that Bassett lived a very 20th-century life until her death at 78 in Brown's Park in 1956.

Native Coloradan Wommack, an accomplished historian who has been a contributing editor for *True West* since 1995, has published eight other books on her home state's history, including *Haunted Cripple Creek* and *Teller County, Murder in the Mile High City: The First Hundred Years* and *Our Ladies of the Tenderloin: Colorado's Legend in Lace.* Wommack's dogged determination to uncover the truth about Ann Bassett's life—which had been blanketed by legend, lore and misinformation for the past century—elevates the cattle queen from Brown Park, Colorado, to the status of other legendary Western women of her time, including Mary Ann Goodnight, Calamity Jane, Josephine Marcus and Etta Place. All of us who enjoy Wommack's detective work eagerly wait to be enlightened and entertained by her next biographical bonanza.

—Stuart Rosebrook

ROUGH DRAFTS

Like film and television producers and screenwriters, Western book publishers and authors love to mine the lore and lives of historical lawmen and outlaws for their novels. Fans of some of the Old West's greatest legends will enjoy the following recent novelizations of the thrilling lives of their favorite heroes (or villains) of yesteryear:



Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday and the Earp Brothers

Black Hats by Max Allan Collins (Brash Books, $16.99)

Born to the Badge: Wyatt Earp: An American Odyssey, Book Two by Mark Warren (FiveStar, $25.95)

Adobe Moon: Wyatt Earp: An American Odyssey, Book One by Mark Warren (FiveStar, $25.95)

The Long-Lost Lover Letters of Doc Holliday by David Corbett (Black Opal Books, $15.49)

Nemesis: A Novel of Old California by Joe Yogerst (Blank Slate Press, $16.95)

The James-Younger Gang

Hard Way Out of Hell: The Confessions of Cole Younger by Johnny D. Boggs (Blackstone, $14.95)

I am Mrs. Jesse James: A Novel by Pat Wahler (Blank Slate Press, $15.95)

Shot All to Hell: A Graphic Novel by Nate Olson, Mark Lee Gardner and Nic Chapuis (Insight Comics, $24.99)

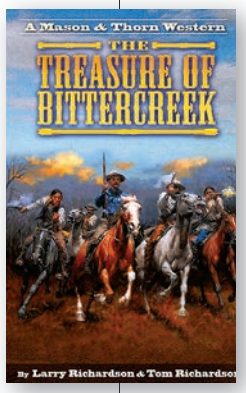
Billy the Kid

The Kid and Me: A Novel by Frederick Turner (University of Nebraska Press, $19.95)

Billy "The Kid": Peter Pan of the Old West: A Historical Novel by Red Johnson (CreateSpace, $16.99)

–Stuart Rosebrook

WESTERN SHOWDOWN



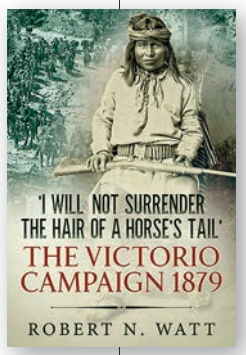
The Treasure of Bittercreek is Larry Richardson and Tom Richardson's third installment in their Montana lawmen C. J. Mason and Thorn Hickum series, following *The Big Horn* and *The Showdown at Yellow-stone*. The Richardsons give us an explosive mix of a villainous mining company, a vengeful federal mine inspector and a preacher who is as evil as they come. Set in 1905, when the Old West was coming to an end, modern inventions—such as the automobile—are sprinkled throughout the story. Mason and Thorn are tossed right into the middle of this powder keg.

—James J. Griffin, author of Blood Ties: A Texas Ranger Will Kirkpatrick Novel

AN ALAMO ALLEGORY

Line of Glory by Thomas D. Clagett (Five Star Publishing, $25.95) tells the story of the Alamo through the unique perspective of lesser-known participants and by focusing the action on the last two days of the Alamo siege. On the Texan side we have the three Taylor brothers and Susannah Dickinson, while the Mexican view comes through the eyes of Col. Juan Morales. The telling is a masterful blend of Alamo fact, fiction and myth. Books about the Alamo can only end in one way and Clagett's final battle is particularly harrowing and well written. You actually hold out hope for the doomed defenders. A good read!

—William Groneman, author of David Crockett: Hero of the Common Man



VICTORIO RIDES AGAIN

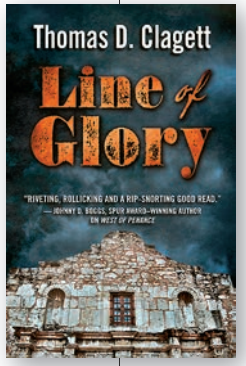
Chiricahua Apache leader Victorio was so determined to maintain the freedom of his people that he proclaimed that not one hair from a horse's tail would be surrendered. In Dr. Robert N. Watt's stunning new 504-page richly illustrated book *I Will Not Surrender the Hair of a Horse's Tail: The Victorio Campaign 1879* (Helion and Company, $49.95), the lecturer at the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom, brings decades of research and expertise to the table. Watt not only aptly covers the cultural, political and social conditions that engendered the Victorio Campaign of 1879-1881, but also takes great strides in exploring the tactics of the Apache leader and his band.

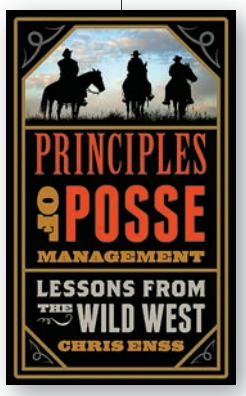
—Erik Wright is assistant editor of The Tombstone Epitaph: National Edition

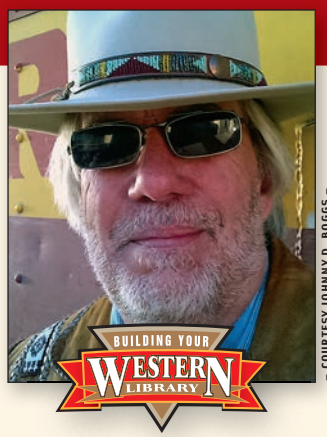
LIFE LESSONS FROM WESTERN LAWMEN

Weaving together a fascinating series of Western manhunts, author Chris Enss in *Principles of Posse Management: Lessons from the Wild West* (TwoDot, $16.95) reveals the universal leadership tools that worked well yesterday and work even better today. Taken from newspaper and other factual accounts, with plenty of historical photos, these tales document effective management techniques. For example, after outlaw Sam Bass slipped slipped through his posse's fingers, Texas Ranger Capt. Junius W. Peak decided to regroup and rethink. Other lawmen joined him, put their heads together and nine months later, caught Bass. Not only are the stories heart-pounding, they're highly enjoyable. A must-read for fans of Western adventures.

—Melody Groves, author of the Colton Brothers Saga series







– COURTESY JOHNNY D. BOGGS –

READING ABOUT RIDING WITH JESSE JAMES & CO.

Seven-time Spur Award-winner Johnny D. Boggs has written volumes about Jesse James and "the boys," including ***Northfield*** (Five Star, 2007), ***Jesse James and the Movies*** (McFarland, 2011) and *Hard Way out of Hell*, a novel due out next month in trade paperback and audiobook from Blackstone. Boggs's Top Five:

❶ ***Jesse James Was His Name: Or, Fact and Fiction Concerning the Careers of the Notorious James Brothers of Missouri*** by William A. Settle Jr. (University of Nebraska Press): Originally published in 1966, this was the first serious, scholarly and objective study of Jesse. Start with it.

❷ ***Frank and Jesse James: The Story Behind the Legend*** by Ted P. Yeatman (Cumberland House): The consummate researcher picked up where Settle left off, dug up lost facts and filled in many holes.

❸ ***Jesse James: Last Rebel of the Civil War*** by T.J. Stiles (Alfred A. Knopf): Sure, T.J. puts Jesse inside Northfield's bank, but his fascinating Civil War-era research makes this impossible to put down.

❹ ***The Great Cole Younger & Frank James Historical Wild West Show*** by John Koblas (North Star Press): The late Minnesota contrarian examined Frank and Cole's ill-fated venture into show business in the early 1900s. It often reads like tragic comedy.

❺ ***Shot All to Hell: Jesse James, the Northfield Raid, and the Wild West's Greatest Escape*** by Mark Lee Gardner (William Morrow): You need at least one study of the Northfield, Minnesota, raid, and this remains the definitive account of that bad career move.

Sitting Bull's Gal

Was Caroline Weldon a heroine or the Victorian "Hanoi Jane?"

The primary job of the biographical Western *Woman Walks Ahead*, starring Jessica Chastain, Michael Greyeyes and Sam Rockwell, is to entertain. It succeeds admirably: the largely unknown story of Caroline Weldon (frequently misidentified as Catherine), the Brooklyn widow who became Sitting Bull's friend and advisor, is beautifully told.

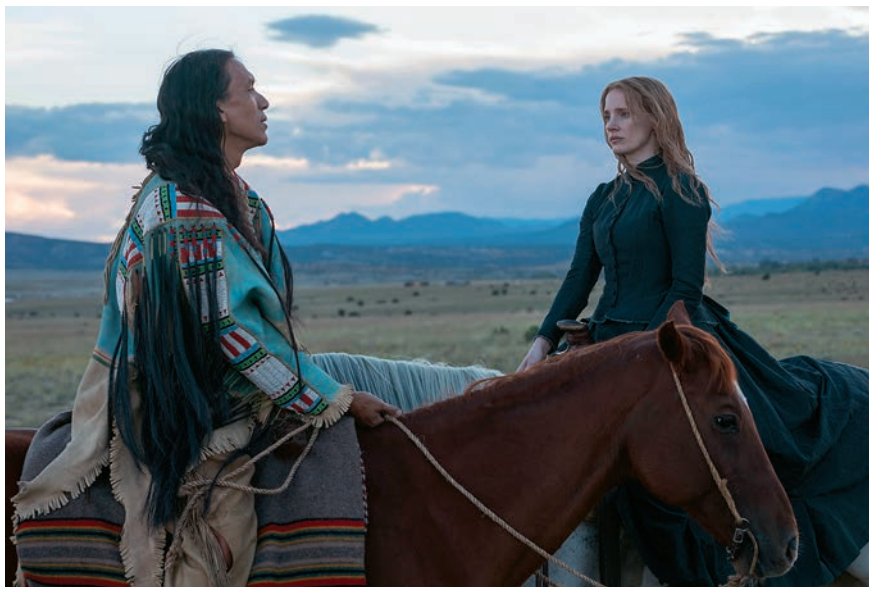
But how close is the movie to the truth, and does that matter? People nowadays seem to learn history more from fictional depictions than nonfiction and schoolkids learn less history than any previous generation. Accepting what's presented as unvarnished truth is far too easy for folks today. After all, Wyatt Earp may have been a hero or a villain, but he's popularly considered a hero because his history is based on a book he helped shape.

Was Weldon truly the heroine the film portrays? "She was crazy as hell at Standing Rock," historian Robert Utley tells *True West*. The author of 22 volumes, including his *Sitting Bull* biography, adds, "She was certainly not helpful in his relations with white officialdom. Whether she was harmful in the attitudes of his own people toward his liaison with a white woman is unknown. I suspect they didn't like the idea."

Eileen Pollack, whose *Woman Walking Ahead* book was the basis for the film, doesn't consider Weldon crazy or, even worse, a traitor in the Victorian era akin to "Hanoi Jane" Fonda in the Vietnam War era.

"This white woman had given up everything to trek from Brooklyn to the Dakotas to be an ally for people she felt had no allies and deserved them. I thought the movie captured much of that," Pollack says.

Not that Pollack isn't dismayed at some points the film got historically wrong. "They have her going there very naively, to paint Sitting Bull's portrait, and then becoming politically aware and active. Weldon went there primed to help Sitting Bull fight the Dawes Act [of 1887]," which divided tribal lands into individual farms and sold the "excess" to whites.



From coast-to-coast, critics have raved about Michael Greyeyes's portrayal of Sitting Bull (he is shown with Jessica Chastain). "A miracle of intelligence and dignity" reported *The New York Times,* followed by the *Los Angeles Times* calling attention to his "wry wit and quiet gravity."

– ALL *WOMAN WALKS AHEAD* PHOTOS COURTESY A24 –

"She'd already been sending him lists of prices for land and translating for him," Pollack says, "being his lobbyist in Washington, D.C., working with the NIDA [National Indian Defense Organization]."

Weldon, 52, traveled to Standing Rock reservation in June 1889 and May 1890. She did paint four portraits of Sitting Bull, but the point of her visits was to act as the Hunkpapa Lakota chief's advocate and translator.

Casting made Weldon and Sitting Bull much younger than they were, probably to create a potential romance more appealing to audiences. The movie does not include Weldon's 14-year-old son, Christie. "She brought him out; they intended to live on Sitting Bull's homestead," Pollack says.

"What they leave out [when we see Weldon moving in] is that [Sitting Bull's] wives and kids were there. You see them running around, but you don't really get who they are."

Tragically, Christie stepped on a rusty nail, contracted lockjaw and died. "He was very close to Sitting Bull," who had taught the boy to ride, Pollack says. "If I'd written the movie, it would have been 40 hours long and 20 times

Jessica Chastain stars as Sitting Bull's advocate (top). The real-life Caroline Weldon is shown above, seated next to Aline Estoppey, in an Easter 1915 snapshot taken by Aline's daughter, Laura Sauerland.

– WELDON PHOTO COURTESY DANIEL GUGGISBERG COLLECTION –

sadder. As it was, it was so sad that you could barely stand it."

Yet the movie gets much of the history right. "The part that I thought was most effective was showing how much the whites hated Weldon for talking with the Indians, for going to live with them," Pollack says. "The scene in which she gets beaten so badly, even though not literally true, was so emotionally true and historically true. That was a very effective [way] to portray something that I needed lots of pages to get across."

The movie shows the extremes of white views about Indians at that time, and how far beyond the extremes Weldon stood. "The conservative position was: kill them all. The liberal position was: help them assimilate, divide up the

This photograph, labeled "Sitting Bull and his favorite squaw," shows a white woman, seated at the far right next to Sitting Bull, who is frequently misidentified as Caroline Weldon. The woman is Sallie Battles, the niece of a U.S. Army officer and a friend of Sitting Bull's daughter Standing Holy.

– COURTESY NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY –

reservations," Pollack explains. "Weldon was one of a handful of people who had the belief that the Indians should just be allowed to be Indians."

Indian Agent James McLaughlin is one of the more controversial real people in the story. "McLaughlin was probably the best agent in the service, his influence enhanced by marriage to an Indian woman," Utley says. "But best agent means best at advancing civilization and best at controlling his charges."

"I was impressed with how they portrayed McLaughlin, because he wasn't really a villain," Pollack says. "I've spoken to his grandson, who considers himself Lakota. [McLaughlin] really thought that he knew what was best for the Indians. He saw Sitting Bull as an old fuddy-duddy who was clinging to the old ways and keeping the more progressive members of the tribe from becoming assimilated."

The best part of the story that isn't in the movie is what Pollack learned after the book's 2002 publication. Daniel Guggisberg, inspired by Pollack's book, conducted research that is shared in the e-book edition of *Woman Walking Ahead*: "Weldon wasn't a widow. She'd had a terrible marriage to a doctor, ran off with some guy. [Her husband] divorced her very publicly and shamefully; she was prohibited from remarrying. She was a divorcee with an illegitimate son," Pollack says, adding that was the reason she changed her name from Susanna Karolina Faesch Schlatter to Caroline Weldon.

"So, she was just remarkable in about every way, shape and form."

DVD REVIEW

THE HANGING TREE

(Warner Archive; $19.99)

"Sluice robber!" With that bellow, and a well-aimed shot, Frenchy (Karl Malden) and a Montana boomtown mob take after the thief (Ben Piazza). He's hidden, healed and all but enslaved by sinister, violent Doc Frail (Gary Cooper), a man with an ugly past—and a yen for a recuperating patient, played by Maria Schell. This final, enthralling 1959 Western from Director Delmer Daves brims with uncommon history and unfamiliar, yet engaging, characters.

Henry C. Parke is a screenwriter based in Los Angeles, California, who blogs about Western movies, TV, radio and print news: *HenrysWesternRoundup.Blogspot.com*

BY LEO W. BANKS

True West's Hometown

Cave Creek, Arizona, celebrates the Old West 365 days a year.

In October, some 8,000 people converge on Stagecoach Village to browse booths set up by local restaurants. Eat yourself happy in an outdoor party atmosphere that includes live music and a beer garden.

– TASTEOFCAVECREEK.COM –

Residents of Cave Creek revere the town's frontier beginnings and love the way it blends with the bohemian present. The two combine to make a community where locals—loud, proud and ready to buy a round—call themselves Creekers.

Located 33 miles north of Phoenix, the settlement of 5,500 landed on military maps as early as 1870, when it was a cavalry remount station on the road from Fort McDowell to Fort Whipple, 116 miles north.

"It was a sleepy place with fresh horses and few people, mostly miners scratching out a living," says Evelyn Johnson, executive director of the Cave Creek Museum. "We've retained a strong sense of our history."

The Old West comes alive the first weekend of November with Wild West Days. The three-day bash draws 10,000 people and features the Battle of the Bars bull-riding competition, a parade, pig races, gunfight re-enactments and quick-draw competitions at Frontier Town.

The latter has original wagons and antiques, and several small shops, including Cave Creek Candles & Gifts, which ships across the world, and Debra Ortega's Native American Jewelry & Arts.

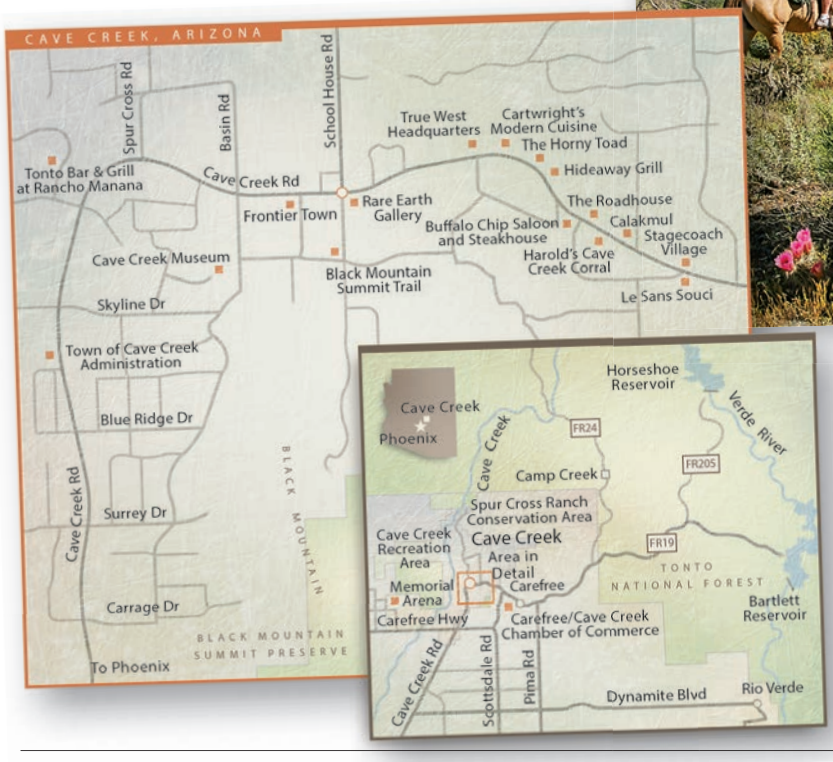
One of the most popular Wild West Days events is the Mutton Bustin' competition at Buffalo Chip Saloon & Steakhouse. Watch kids ages 4 to 7 ride sheep, just like grown-up cowboys ride bulls.

The Chip also offers adult bull-riding on Wednesday and Friday nights, if you dare. Once owned by Green Bay Packers star Max McGee, the saloon is headquarters for Packers fans watching NFL games.

Two spring events demonstrate the town's unique blend of eras and interests. Cave Creek Rodeo Days offers a week of excitement, including a PRCA rodeo at

Ancient petroglyphs can be found on foot or horse in the Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area north of Cave Creek. Trek to the top of a mesa to see a prehistoric Hohokam compound and enjoy the view across miles of pristine desert.

– MARICOPACOUNTYPARKS.NET –



One of the oldest and biggest mining operations in the Cave Creek area, the Golden Star Mine/ Golden Reef Mine on nearby Continental Mountain, began in the 1880s. Today, the mine's famous stamp mill has been restored and operates once a month at its permanent home on the grounds of the Cave Creek Museum.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

Memorial Arena, and Arizona Bike Week generates a wild kind of fun as thousands of motorcyclists converge on two local institutions, the Hideaway Grill and The Roadhouse.

"It's quite a sight to see one lane of Cave Creek Road closed to accommodate the cyclists riding into town," says Patty Villeneuve, president and CEO of the Carefree/Cave Creek Chamber of Commerce.

Visit the Cave Creek Museum to inspect its 17½-foot tall Golden Reef Stamp Mill, the only fully operational 10-stamp mill in its original mining district in Arizona. And see the last remaining tuberculosis treatment cabin, built in the 1920s and furnished with period items, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The museum also showcases an extensive pottery collection dating from the Hohokam and Puebloan people to the present. "We have quite a few historical and archaeological items," says Johnson. "People are surprised by the magnitude of our collections."Visitors find the town's restaurant options surprising, too. "You can get anything you want here and that includes places catering to foodies," says Villeneuve.

Among them are the Tonto Bar & Grill at Rancho Manana, Le Sans Souci, Cartwright's Modern Cuisine and Calakmul, specializing in Mexican and Latin American dishes.

For those who like to eat as opposed to dine, there's barbecue at Harold's Cave Creek Corral, which opened in 1935 as the Corral Bar to serve the workers building Bartlett Dam. The Horny Toad slings great fried chicken and its strawberry shortcake has won awards.

Creekers show their creative side with arts and crafts events almost every winter weekend. Don't miss the Hidden in the Hills Studio Tour & Sale, hosted by the Sonoran Arts League. Held over two weekends in November, the event allows visitors to meet artists in their studios and buy their work. Last year's tour featured 173 artists in 44 studios in Cave Creek, Carefree and North Scottsdale, making it Arizona's largest studio tour and sale.

For a scenic trip, drive 24 miles to Bartlett Lake Reservoir in Tonto National Forest. Few sights match the beauty of a glittering-blue desert lake surrounded by saguaro-studded mountains.

Leo W. Banks is an award-winning writer based in Tucson. He is the author of the mystery novel, *Double Wide*.

WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY

TRUE WEST HEADQUARTERS

When visiting the town of Cave Creek, stop in and get the tour at the *True West* World Headquarters, 6702 E. Cave Creek Road.

TrueWestMagazine.com

BUFFALO CHIP SALOON & STEAKHOUSE

There is something for everyone at The Chip. If you like to dance you can come spin your partner to the toe tappin' sounds of live music. Wednesday and Friday nights feature live amateur and pro bull riding out back.

BuffaloChipSaloon.com

DESERT FOOTHILLS LAND TRUST

Take one of up to six guided tours a year to Cave Creek's namesake cave. It measures 60 feet wide and 50 feet high and deep. Historians believe a battle took place there on Christmas Day 1873 between Tonto Apaches and the U.S. Cavalry, leaving nine Apaches dead. During Prohibition, bootleggers used the cave to make hooch, and mountain lions cache food there

DFLT.org

FRONTIER TOWN

Located in the heart of Cave Creek, you'll be taken back in time. Stroll through the authentic 1870s Western town and enjoy the most unique shopping experience in Cave Creek. You'll see a gallows, boot hill cemetery and many special gifts at one of the shops.

FrontierTownAZ.com

PRICKLY PEAR INN

Tucked within the desert foothills of the beautiful Cave Creek is Prickly Pear Inn, a tranquil little hotel that pays homage to the heritage and history of the American Southwest while treating visitors to an upscale taste of local flavor in historic Cave Creek.

PricklyPearInnAZ.com

RV PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS

Cave Creek Regional Park, 37019 N Lava Ln, Cave Creek, AZ, *MaricopaCountyParks.net*, (623) 465-0431; **Pleasant Harbor Marina & RV Resort**, 8708 W. Harbor Blvd., Peoria, AZ *PleasantHarbor.com,* (800) 475-3272

THE METICULOUS REBIRTH OF OLD WEST GUNS

A SASS competetor takes aim with a Taylors & Company "Smoke Wagon" during the Winter Range SASS National Championships.

– COURTESY OF TAYLORS & COMPANY/PHOTO BY STEVE THORNTON –

By Ken Amorosano

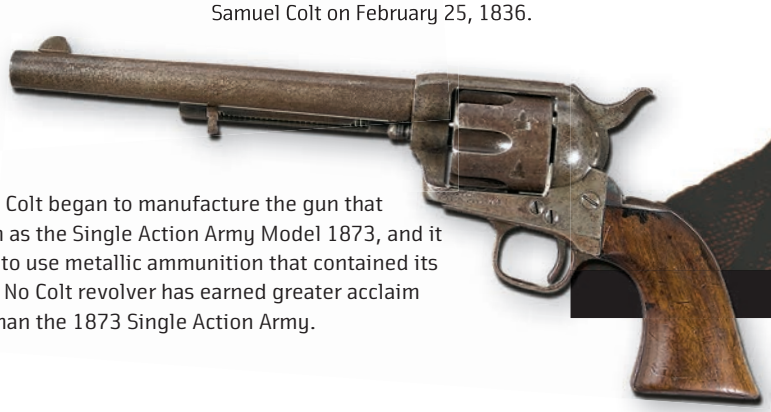
The greatest Old West firearms are kept alive by a new breed of gunmakers.

No two firearms in Old West history stand out more than the Colt Single Action Army and the Winchester lever action rifle. These were the quintessential tools of what our generation remembers as the guns that tamed the Wild West in movies and literature. Many firearms played a role in the settling of this great country out West in the late 1800s and early 1900s—from Samuel Colt's introductions of the cap and ball Navy and Army revolvers, to the ingenious Paterson and Walker 47, and the workhorse 1911—but the iconic and ever-popular Colt Single Action Army and Winchester lever action repeating rifles are very much in service today.

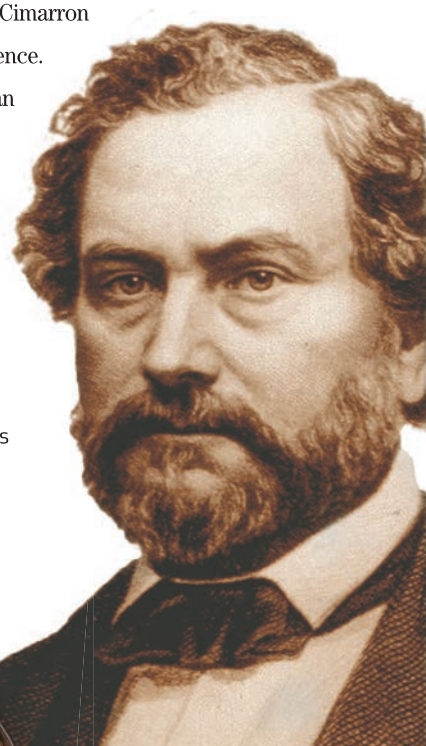
The world of reproduction firearms has come a long way in meticulously re-creating these standard bearers of American history with precision down to the last screw. The designers and manufacturers, having gotten to the point of perfection in their custom and unique designs, have more than satisfied collectors and everyday users of these incredibly reliable reproductions.

It all started with the "Godfather" of the Colt clone, Aldo Uberti. Seeing a need for a low-cost reproduction of the famous gun that tamed the American West, Uberti sought to create an exact replica of the Colt. And he was successful. He frequently supplied his new guns to filmmaker Sergio Lione for the early Spaghetti Westerns. The company, now owned by Beretta, produces an incredible copy of the Colt Single Action Army. Companies like Uberti USA, Cimarron Firearms, EMF Company, and Taylors & Company import these guns—but, if you think they are all the same, think again. Guns imported to these fine American companies have different finishes and features exclusive to the individual importers. Hold a Taylors Smoke Wagon next to a Cimarron Model P and you will see a difference. Not that one pistol is better than the other, but one will certainly catch your eye and feel.

The 1836 Colt Paterson 5-shot revolver was the first commercial repeating firearm employing a revolving cylinder with multiple chambers aligned with a single, stationary barrel. Its design was patented by Samuel Colt on February 25, 1836.

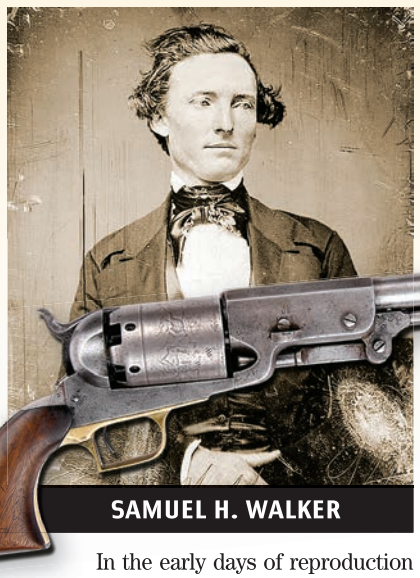


In 1872, Colt began to manufacture the gun that became known as the Single Action Army Model 1873, and it was designed to use metallic ammunition that contained its own primer. No Colt revolver has earned greater acclaim than the 1873 Single Action Army.



SAMUEL COLT

"Abe Lincoln may have freed all men, but Sam Colt made them equal." This post-Civil War slogan would have been music to Sam Colt's ears had he lived long enough to hear it. Yet, even before his death at the age of 47, he knew that his invention of a weapon capable of firing without reloading was a tremendous success throughout the world.



SAMUEL H. WALKER

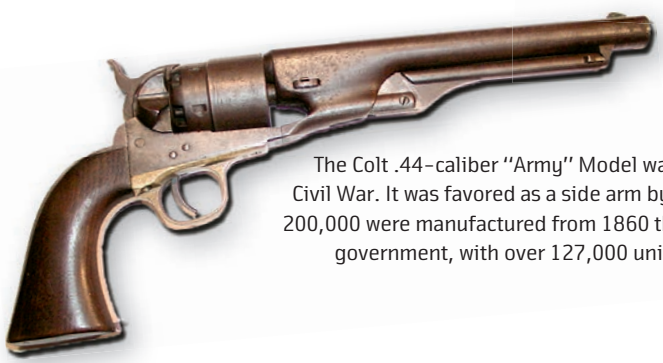
U.S. War Department officials reportedly were favorably impressed with the 1836 Paterson. As a result, when the Mexican War began in 1846, Capt. Samuel H. Walker, U.S. Army, traveled east, looked up Sam Colt, and collaborated on the design of a new, more powerful revolver. The result was the 1847 Walker, the largest and most powerful black powder repeating handgun ever made. Samuel Walker carried two of his namesake revolvers in the Mexican–American War.

In the early days of reproduction firearms manufacturing, one could say the products were rough replicas of the early originals. Today that is not the case. The current crops of replicas have been perfected so that they are not only considered by many to be just as accurate and functional as the originals, but even better in some cases.

With the onslaught of Cowboy Action Shooting born of the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) from the early 1990s to this day, tens of thousands of Old West aficionados overwhelmed the market, forcing manufacturers to step up their games. As the competition continued to grow, not only among the shooters themselves but between the companies bringing the firearms to the market, so has this industry of quality replica firearms to satisfy even the most particular gun collectors.

On the following pages we have featured only a handful of the current crop of replica firearms from the most prominent manufacturers representing this highly tuned and meticulously groomed gang of single action revolvers and lever action rifles. To even attempt to show all of the guns in the replica reproduction industry would require a book of its own. Here we narrow our focus to a subset of the most popular guns in the Colt and Winchester category widely used and collected today.

Samuel Colt designed the Colt Revolving Belt Pistol of Naval Caliber, later known as the Colt 1851 Navy, between 1847 and 1850. The cylinder was engraved with a scene of the victory of the Second Texas Navy at the Battle of Campeche on May 16, 1843. Famous "Navy" users included Wild Bill Hickok, John Henry "Doc" Holliday, Richard Francis Burton, Ned Kelly and Robert E. Lee.



The Colt .44-caliber "Army" Model was one of the most widely used revolvers of the Civil War. It was favored as a side arm by cavalry, infantry and artillery troops. More than 200,000 were manufactured from 1860 through 1873. Colt's biggest customer was the U.S. government, with over 127,000 units being purchased and issued to the troops.

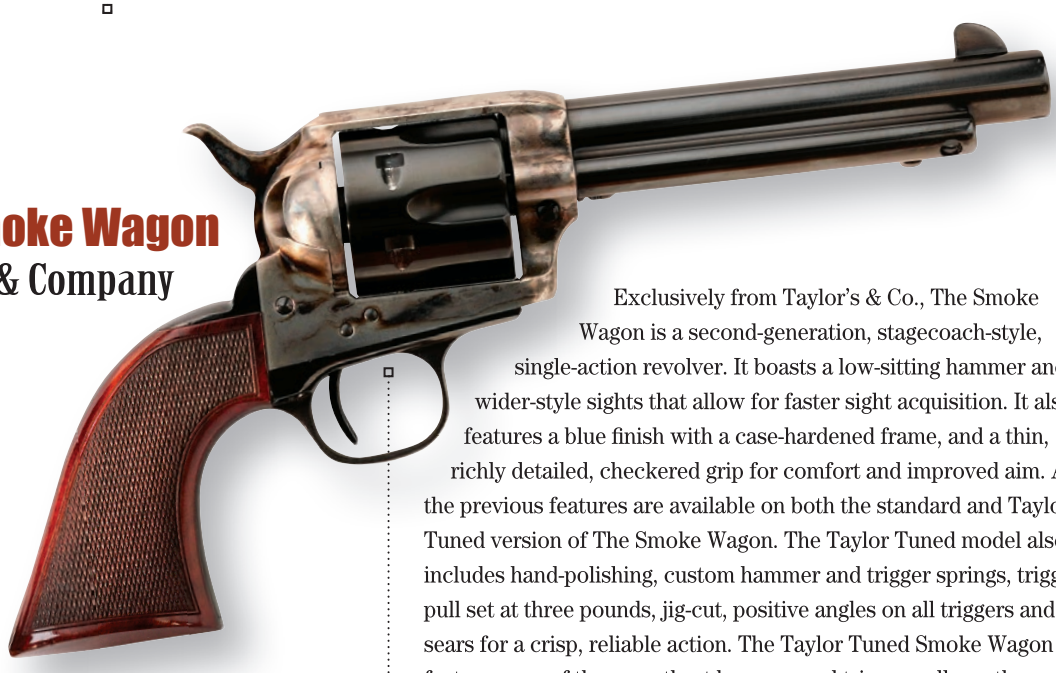
The "Yellowboy" '66 Winchester .44 caliber lever-action succeeded the Henry rifle as a favorite rifle on the frontier after the Civil War. Gen. George Custer's Arikara scout Bloody Knife rode with his '66 Winchester into the Battle of Little Big Horn, as did his Indian enemies, who used tack-adorned lever actions, similar to the carbine shown here (below), to help defeat the 7th Cavalry.

– PHOTO & FIREARM-COURTESY GLEN SWANSON COLLECTION –

1866 Yellowboy
Taylor's & Company

When Nelson King patented his new loading system, he could not have known that his 1866 model would play a prominent part in the winning of the West. The 1866, or "Yellowboy," as it was famously known because of its shiny brass frame, was the successor to the Henry. Production began in 1866 and continued through 1898, a period when both rifles and carbines were introduced. Taylor's produces an honest and meticulous reproduction of the famed long gun.

TaylorsFirearms.com



The Smoke Wagon
Taylor's & Company

Exclusively from Taylor's & Co., The Smoke Wagon is a second-generation, stagecoach-style, single-action revolver. It boasts a low-sitting hammer and wider-style sights that allow for faster sight acquisition. It also features a blue finish with a case-hardened frame, and a thin, richly detailed, checkered grip for comfort and improved aim. All of the previous features are available on both the standard and Taylor Tuned version of The Smoke Wagon. The Taylor Tuned model also includes hand-polishing, custom hammer and trigger springs, trigger pull set at three pounds, jig-cut, positive angles on all triggers and sears for a crisp, reliable action. The Taylor Tuned Smoke Wagon features one of the smoothest hammer and trigger pulls on the market.

TaylorsFirearms.com

After Buffalo Bill Cody took Paris by storm in 1889, the Wild West showman posed for a French photographer during a return visit to Paris the following year.

– COURTESY BUFFALO BILL MUSEUM & GRAVE IN GOLDEN, COLORADO –

Centennnial 1873 Winchester Presentation Model

Navy Arms

To celebrate the Buffalo Bill Center of the West's Centennial in 2017, Navy Arms got together with Winchester to create a replica reminiscent of those high-quality hand-finished Winchesters so proudly given by Buffalo Bill and to his many amazingly talented performers. The Presentation Model features a stock and forend carved from Grade 1 American walnut, checkered at the wrist and forend, following the original Winchester patterns. The dust cover and trigger are bright blue finished and the crescent buttplate, receiver, nosecap, hammer and lever are color case-hardened using the original bone charcoal process, all done by Turnbull Restorations, pioneers in the rebirth of this centuries-old technology. The barrel is a 24 ¼-inch full octagonal, chambered in .44-40, and beautifully embellished with a nickel-silver muzzle ring.

Using a unique, patented system of 360-degree roll marking and deep-laser techniques to achieve near-hand-engraving quality and appearance, Baron Technology has expertly embellished each rifle. The pattern follows the Winchester Custom Shop style—made famous by engravers like Herman Ulrich—of engraving on the receiver with further embellishments on the buttplate, lever, tang, lifter, dust cover and nose cap. The barrel bears scrollwork with the "Centennial Rifle" marking, similar in style to the famed "One of One Thousand" rifles marking. A Wyoming bison is engraved on the left sideplate, while a representation of Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney's monumental sculpture, the timeless classic *The Scout*, depicting Buffalo Bill Cody on horseback, is on the rifle's right sideplate. Created in Bulino bank-note style, both images pay homage to the Center's namesake and to the organization's century-long effort to preserve and promote the "Spirit of the West."

NavyArms.com

In 2002, Boyd Davis, CEO/president of EMF Company, turned to Knight Giuseppe Pietta to manufacture EMF's Great Western II single action revolvers. The joint efforts of the two companies resulted in single action revolvers that remain in robust demand.

EMF's 1873 Great Western II "Californian" guns feature hammer forged steel barrels and frames that are drop forged and then CNC machined. Additionally, they have wider rear and larger front sights for faster sight acquisition, aimed to please the competitive shooter. Just like the original Colts, these "period correct" revolvers have a floating firing pin in the hammer and case-hardened frames. This combination of traditional aesthetics with advanced modern technology makes the Great Western II a sought-after, durable and reliable single action revolver.

EMF-Company.com

1873
Great Western II
EMF Company

Most historical cowboy photos record unknown individuals who posed in studio shots that reflected their pride in the lifestyle. Showing one Colt Single Action in his hand and another holstered, this typical cowboy is decked out in genuine cowboy boots, chaps, hat, bandanna and holster.

– COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

1873 Cattleman El Patron

Uberti

The Uberti 1873 Cattleman El Patron revolver is specifically designed for Cowboy Action and Mounted Shooting competition and is a well-designed replica that adheres to the needs of today's competitive shooter. The El Patron features the choice of barrel lengths from 3 ½ to 5 ½ inches. It is also fitted with high-grade, U.S.-manufactured Wolff springs and tested and certified for fit and function by Uberti gunsmiths.

All new models feature color case-hardened or stainless steel frames, steel backstraps, steel trigger guards, new checkered walnut grips and wide, easy-view front and rear sights. Calibers offered include .45 Colt and .357 Mag.

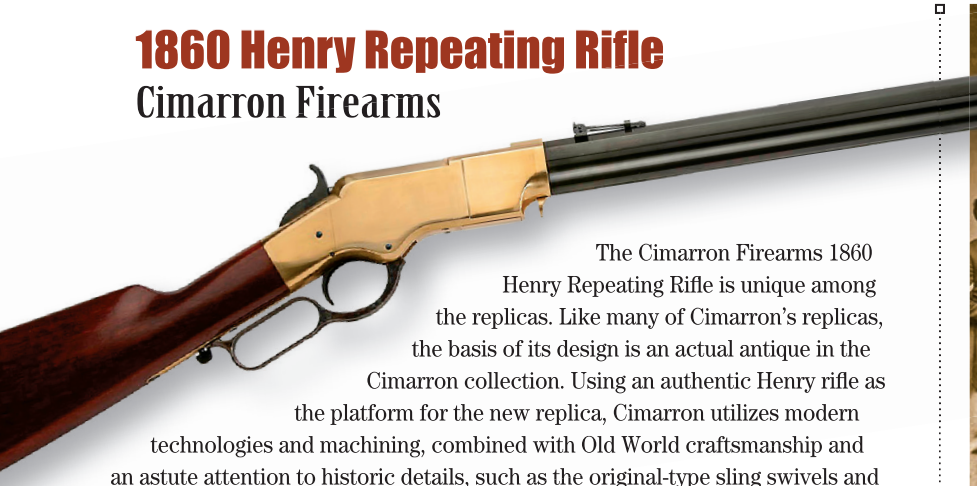
Uberti.com

The Goingsnake District saw a major manhunt, when Deputy U.S. Marshal Paden Tolbert (front row, center) led his 16-man posse (some of the deputy marshals are shown here) into the district to force out Ned Christie, killing him on November 3, 1892.

– COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

1860 Henry Repeating Rifle

Cimarron Firearms



The Cimarron Firearms 1860 Henry Repeating Rifle is unique among the replicas. Like many of Cimarron's replicas, the basis of its design is an actual antique in the Cimarron collection. Using an authentic Henry rifle as the platform for the new replica, Cimarron utilizes modern technologies and machining, combined with Old World craftsmanship and an astute attention to historic details, such as the original-type sling swivels and the C.G.C. inspector's stampings. Out of all reproductions and replicas available today, the Uberti-produced Cimarron Firearms Henry Repeating Rifle is the closest to the original Henry 1860 Model chambered in .44 Winchester or .45 Colt. Available as either the brass-framed model or the early-type Henry with a beautifully colored case-hardened frame, sporting an authentically styled 24-inch octagonal barrel with the distinctive front-loaded tubular magazine integrated into the shrouded barrel. It's truly a museum-quality replica of a pivotal American firearms design for those who want to experience authenticity unlike anything else available today.

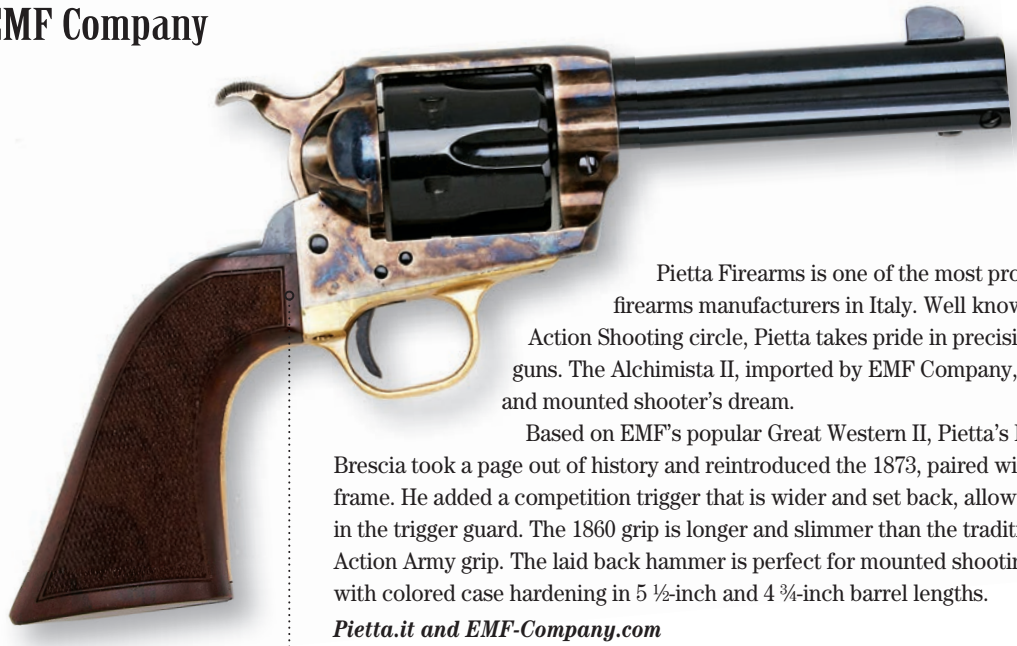
Cimarron-Firearms.com

Although few Henry rifles produced by the New Haven Arms Co. (later Winchester) were officially issued, many of these privately purchased repeaters, according to author Laura Trevelyan, had an impact on the battlefield against Confederate and Indian tribes at war with the U.S.

– COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS –

F.A.P. F.LLI Pietta Alchimista II

EMF Company



Pietta Firearms is one of the most prominent Single Action firearms manufacturers in Italy. Well known in the Cowboy Action Shooting circle, Pietta takes pride in precision-made cowboy guns. The Alchimista II, imported by EMF Company, is a cowboy action and mounted shooter's dream.

Based on EMF's popular Great Western II, Pietta's Italian craftsmen in Brescia took a page out of history and reintroduced the 1873, paired with the 1860 Army grip frame. He added a competition trigger that is wider and set back, allowing for a larger finger in the trigger guard. The 1860 grip is longer and slimmer than the traditional 1873 Single Action Army grip. The laid back hammer is perfect for mounted shooting and the gun comes with colored case hardening in 5 ½-inch and 4 ¾-inch barrel lengths.

Pietta.it and EMF-Company.com

These five Texas Rangers at camp near Alice most likely investigated cattle rustling claims from the legendary King Ranch, which, as Emmett Robuck's story shows, could bring an early visit from the Grim Reaper, with their myriad single action revolvers.

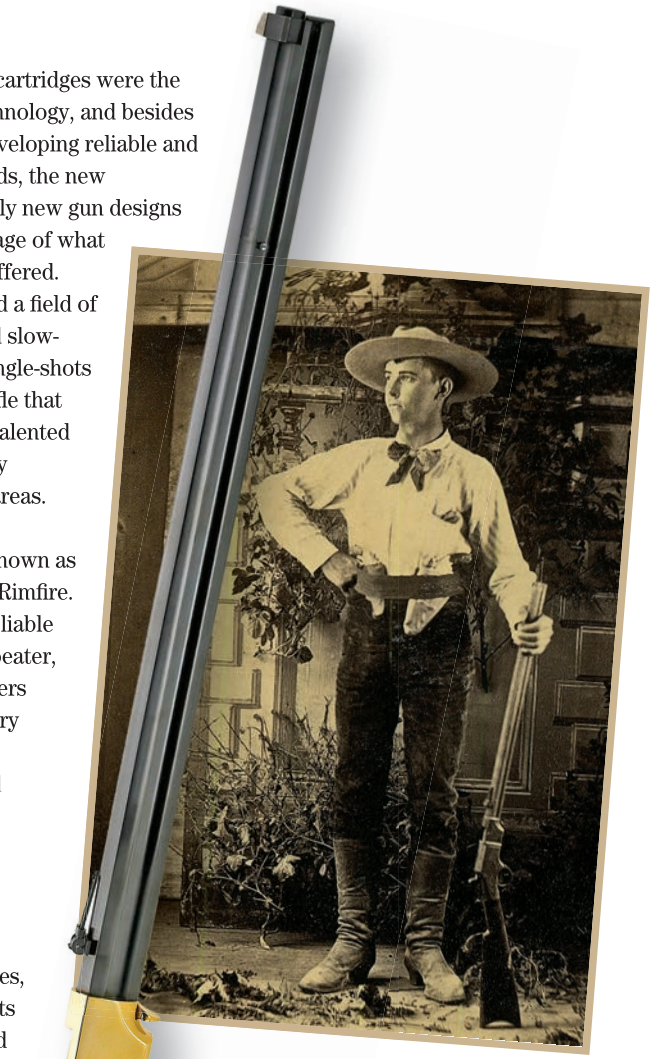
– COURTESY TEXAS RANGER HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM RESEARCH CENTER IN WACO –

In the late 1850s, metallic cartridges were the coming wave of firearms technology, and besides the difficulties inherent in developing reliable and effective self-contained rounds, the new ammunition demanded equally new gun designs capable of taking full advantage of what the quick-loading cartridge offered. Cartridges that revolutionized a field of slow-loading, slow-firing, and slow-reloading powder and ball single-shots freed designers to create a rifle that could keep up, and the very talented Benjamin Tyler Henry quickly stepped to the front in both areas. The result was the legendary repeating rifle that became known as the 1860 Henry, in .44 Henry Rimfire.

A pioneering design in a reliable and practical lever action repeater, and adopted in limited numbers during the Civil War, the Henry was the 16-shot rifle referred to as "the rifle you could load on Sunday and shoot all week long."

Henry, the manufacturer, has brought back the Original Henry Rifle, made entirely on U.S. soil. As the company states, this Henry Original is true to its 1860 patterns and patents, and virtually identical, aside from concessions necessary to adapt to the .44-40 and .45 Colt centerfire rounds that replaced the long-obsolete rimfires. Their models H011 and H011C use a specially formulated hardened brass receiver with the same tensile strength as steel and they are fitted with a one-piece octagonal barrel and magazine, fancy grade American walnut stocks, a classic folding ladder rear sight and blade front, traditional half-cock safety hammer notch, and no modernized manual safeties. Both calibers share a 24 ½-inch barrel with a 13-round capacity.

HenryUSA.com



This young cowboy (dude) proudly displays his Henry .44 rimfire rifle.

– COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

New Original Henry

Henry USA

These outlaw cowboys are identified only as "New Mexico Rustlers" on this circa 1880 cabinet card. Historians suspect the man standing could be John Kinney, who led a gang of horse thieves and cattle rustlers in New Mexico Territory during the 1870s–'80s.

CIMARRON FIREARMS COMPANY
105 Winding Oak Road
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830-997-9090
CimarronFirearms.com

E.M.F. COMPANY
1900 Warner Avenue, Suite 1-D
Santa Ana, CA 92705
949-261-6611
EMF-Company.com

HENRY REPEATING ARMS
59 East 1st Street
Bayonne, NJ 07002
201-858-4400
HenryUSA.com

NAVY ARMS
54 Dupont Road
Martinsburg, WV 25404
304-274-0004
NavyArms.com

F.A.P. DI PIETTA
1900 Warner Avenue, Suite 1-D
Santa Ana, CA 92705
949-261-6611
Pietta.it

TAYLOR'S & COMPANY
304 Lenoir Drive
Winchester, VA 22603
540-722-2017
TaylorsFirearms.com

UBERTI USA
901 Eighth Street
Pocomoke, MD 21851
301-283-6981
Uberti-USA.com

TRADING POST

Western Roundup

FOR NOVEMBER 2018

ART SHOWS

GRAND CANYON CELEBRATION OF ART EXHIBIT & SALE
Grand Canyon, AZ, through November: Artists paint "en plein air" along the Grand Canyon's rim for an exhibit at the Kolb Studio.
928-638-2481 • *GrandCanyon.org*

CAREFREE FINE ART & WINE FESTIVAL
Carefree, AZ, November 2-4: Arizona's largest wine tasting event offers an unparalleled ambience of fine art, wine and live music.
480-837-5637 • *ThunderbirdArtists.com*

AMERICAN ART
Dallas, TX, November 8: Art by Frank Tenney Johnson, Walter Ufer, Norman Rockwell, Albert Bierstadt and other collectible art.
877-437-4824 • *HA.com*

ARTWALK ALPINE
Alpine, TX, November 15-18: View historical and contemporary life in West Texas art, while local musicians serenade with live music.
432-837-3067 • *ArtwalkAlpine.com*

ENCAMPMENTS

DEATH VALLEY '49ERS ENCAMPMENT
Furnace Creek, CA, November 4-11: Honors the spirit of the 1849 Gold Rush through music, an arts and crafts show, cowboy poetry and parades.
866-683-2948 • *DeathValley49ers.org*

FRONTIER FARE

CHANDLER CHUCK WAGON COOK-OFF
Chandler, AZ, November 10: Authentic 1880s chuckwagons from around the Southwest compete to cook up the best meals fit for the trail.
480-782-2751 • *PardnersofTumbleweedRanch.org*

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

RANCH HAND FESTIVAL
Kingsville, TX, November 17-18: This festival honors Kingsville's rich cultural heritage as one of the mainstays of the Texas ranching industry.
800-333-5032 • *RanchHandFestival.com*

22ND ANNUAL HIDDEN IN THE HILLS STUDIO TOUR 2018
Cave Creek, AZ November 16,17,18 and November 23, 24, 25: Visit 174 artists at 44 host studios on this free self-guided artist studio tour held the last two weekends in November.
SonoranArtsLeague.org

HOLIDAY FESTIVALS

CHRISTMAS IN LECOMPTON
Lecompton, KS, November 1-30: View the roughly 120 Christmas trees featuring vintage decorations at the Territorial Capital Museum.
785-887-6148 • *LecomptonKansas.com*

COLORADO COUNTRY CHRISTMAS
Denver, CO, November 2-4: Shop Colorado Country Christmas to find Old West offerings for the cowboy and cowgirl on your gift list.
800-521-7469 • *ColoradoChristmasGiftShow.com*

HASTINGS CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS
Hastings, NE, November 15: The streets of downtown Hastings fill with carolers, entertainers and families taking carriage and pony rides.
800-967-2189 • *HastingsDowntown.com*

THE POLAR EXPRESS
Durango, CO, Opens November 15: This 1879 railroad offers kids a train ride that shares the classic Christmas tale on the way to Santa.
970-247-2733 • *DurangoTrain.com*

NORTH POLE FLYER
Austin, TX, Opens November 17: Ride from Cedar Park to Bertram inside train cars decorated for the winter holiday season.
512-477-8468 • *AustinSteamTrain.org*

COWBOYS ON MAIN
Bandera, TX, November 3,10, 17 & 24: See and interact with a sample of the old west cowboy lifestyle on Bandera's Main Street.
830-796-3045 • *BanderaCowboyCapital.com*

POLAR EXPRESS
Rusk, TX, Opens November 17: Kids can read the story on this steam train journey from the Palestine depot to "North Pole" to meet Santa.
855-632-7729 • *TexasStateRR.com*

SANTA'S LIGHTED FOREST AND NORTH POLE ADVENTURE
Georgetown, CO, Opens November 17: Enjoy hot cocoa, cookies and candy canes from Santa and his helpers aboard decorated train coaches.
888-456-6777 • *GeorgetownLoopRR.com*

CHRISTMAS AT UNION STATION
Omaha, NE, November 23: A tradition since Union Station's earliest years, this tree lighting ceremony includes a visit from Santa.
402-444-5071 • *DurhamMuseum.org*

SISTERS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION & PARADE
Sisters, OR, November 23-24: Kick off the holiday season with a tree lighting ceremony and parade that features Santa and Mrs. Claus.
866-549-0252 • *SistersCountry.com*

STARLIGHT PARADE
The Dalles, OR, November 23: This former fur trade town brings Cowboy Christmas to life with lighted parade floats and merry jingles.
541-296-2231 • *TheDallesChamber.com*

FAROLITO LIGHTING AND PINE CONE CEREMONY
Morrison, CO, November 25: Experience the Southwestern tradition of lighting farolitos (paper lanterns) at Tesoro Cultural Center.
303-839-1671 • *TesoroCulturalCenter.org*

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AND FIREWORKS
Pecos, TX, November 27, 2018: Get in the spirit of the season with Christmas tree lighting, caroling, fireworks, hot chocolate, and cookies.
432-445-2406 • *VisitPecos.com*

MUSIC FESTIVAL

WICKENBURG BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL
Wickenburg, AZ, November 9-11: Cowboys and cowgirls from across the country gather for outside performances of Bluegrass music.
928-684-5479 • *WickenburgChamber.com*

RODEOS

WRCA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RANCH RODEO
Amarillo, TX, November 8-11: Top ranch teams compete in the world championship hosted by Working Ranch Cowboys Association.
806-374-9722 • *WRCA.org.*

TWMag.com:
View Western events on our website.

Gunfighters Preferred .44s

BY MARSHALL TRIMBLE

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian and the Wild West History Association's vice president. His latest book is 2018's *Arizona Oddities: A Land of Anomalies and Tamales*. Send your question, with your city/state of residence, to marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu or Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327.

Did Old West gunmen prefer .44 or .45 caliber pistols?

Bruce Newmark
Glendale, Arizona

Lawman Pat Garrett carried a Colt Frontier Model single action .44-40 exemplified by this pistol.

– ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

"According to factory records from Colt, and based on the number of well-documented gunfighter's firearms, the .45 was far more popular in the cartridge era than the .44. caliber," *True West*'s Firearms Editor Phil Spangenberger says.

"Colt alone produced about 40 percent of its 1873 Single Action Army revolvers (the Peacemaker) in .45 Colt caliber between 1873 and 1940, with around 200,000 made by 1900, while only about 25 percent were turned out in .44-40 caliber (which, starting in 1878, could be matched up to the 1873 Winchester). Other firearm companies, such as Smith & Wesson, also produced great numbers of .45 Colt caliber six-guns.

"Remington, Merwin, Hulbert & Co. and some other less popular six-shooters were largely made in .44 caliber, but their total output is considerably lower than Colt and Smith & Wesson's.

"During the percussion years, the .44 was quite popular, along with the .36 caliber (which is equivalent to a modern-day .32 Smith & Wesson round). However, once the .45 Colt cartridge was introduced, it became the best-selling big-bore handgun cartridge during the frontier years.

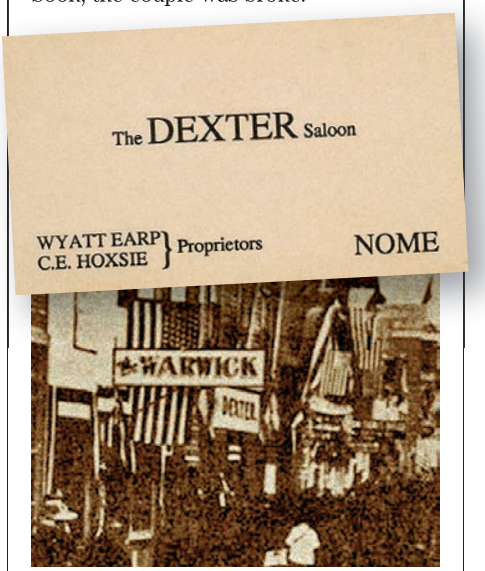
"Among the gunmen who packed and preferred the .45: the Texas Rangers, Bat Masterson, the Dalton Gang, Jesse James, Billy the Kid and Harvey "Kid Curry" Logan.

"The choice between .44 and .45 had a lot to do with the time period involved, as well as with personal preferences."

Did Wyatt Earp own any saloons in Alaska?

Brett Carls
Prescott Valley, Arizona

I just re-read Ann Kirschner's *True West* article about Wyatt Earp's time in Nome, Alaska. His only saloon ownership was a partnership with Charlie Hoxsie at the Dexter. Wyatt sold out to Hoxsie in the fall of 1901 and returned home with $80,000, equivalent to $2 million. What happened to the money? His wife, Josie, spent a tidy sum gambling, while Wyatt invested in worthless mines and friends. Soon, the couple was broke.



The Dexter Saloon is shown in this 1901 street scene in Nome, Alaska. The business card names proprietors Wyatt Earp and C.E. Hoxsie.

– CARD COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

A historical photo shows a group of cowboys with pipes upside down in their mouths. What's that about?

Irv Ferguson
Coolidge, Arizona

Yep, I've seen that one before. The cowboys might have been clowning for the camera, but carrying your pipe upside down in your mouth was common in wet climates. If the tobacco's packed right, the ashes won't fall out.

When did Navajos arrive in Arizona?

Dr. James Collins
Portland, Oregon

In July 1960, scientists tested tree rings on a Navajo three-fork dwelling and found it dated to 1389 C.E. That's the earliest confirmed arrival in Arizona, in the Four Corners area, to date.

Navajos and Apaches are the only Arizona Indians to be classified in the Athabaskan linguistic group. Archaeologists and anthropologists theorize this group began migrating south from Canada and Alaska around 1100 C.E.

Did frontier women own property during the Old West era?

Patrick Powell
Boston, Massachusetts

Yes, many frontier women owned land and property. A top example: Nellie Cashman, Arizona's Angel of Tombstone, who owned and ran hotels and restaurants in various towns.

The West provided a font of opportunity for free-spirited women. They ran the gamut of characters from wild and woolly to the stalwart, calico-clad women who made history along with the men. Their stories are of humor, romance, poignancy, hardship, tragedy and triumph.

Born in 1845 and dying in 1925, Nellie Cashman found opportunity in mining towns across the frontier American West: in Nevada, New Mexico Territory, California and Arizona Territory.

The East was far more conservative and suppressed, which is why the West attracted a legion of mavericks, loners, adventurers and non-conformists. These ladies straddled horses, wore pants and divided skirts, drove teams, prospected for gold, proved up on homesteads, ranched and did a host of other jobs usually reserved for men. Their behavior shocked Eastern sisters.

I've been reading *Hard Knocks: A Life Story of the Vanishing West* by Harry Young, the bartender who allegedly served "Wild Bill" Hickok his last drink. Is it accurate?

Brandon Rosenberg
Tustin, California

Records show that Harry "Sam" Young was a bartender at Nuttall & Mann's saloon in Deadwood, Dakota Territory, and he did pour "Wild Bill" Hickok's last drink. He was one of the men Jack McCall misfired at as he ran out of the saloon after killing Hickok. Young testified at McCall's trial.

Hickok researcher James McLaird wrote an introduction to a reprint of Young's book that clarifies how readers should interpret the book. McLaird stated, "Although his story cannot be substantiated, it may be true," and added that many events told by Young were "fanciful tales."

What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

Myron R. Deibel is most proud of helping negotiate the deal that convinced the San Francisco Giants baseball team to come to Phoenix, Arizona, for spring training. The team was founded in 1883 as the New York Gothams (shown).

MYRON R. DEIBEL, BANKER

After earning a masters in business administration, Myron R. Deibel began his banking career in 1961 at Southern Arizona Bank in Tucson, Arizona. He transferred to the Phoenix Valley in 1968, working at Arizona Bank and United Bank, and serving as president of the Bank of Scottsdale before retiring in 1992. He also served on the Scottsdale City Council from 1986-1991 and was active in the Scottsdale Charros. Having sold the Super 8 Motel, Myron and his wife, Betsy, are enjoying their retirement in Wickenburg.

My most expensive wagon is a Wells Fargo stagecoach for which I paid $45,000. Crowds at parades love it. Usually the mayor or grand marshal rides in it.

I own a dozen wagons, including an 1840 Conestoga wagon and two wagons I inherited from my father, who lives 80 miles north of Miles City, Montana. He wanted to donate them to a museum, but I talked him into letting me have them.

I usually bring my trail wagon, chuckwagon and sometimes a stove cart to Arizona events, including Prescott's cowboy poetry gathering as well as Wickenburg's gold rush parade, where *True West* crew joins me in my wagons.

In a parade, people love to see the stagecoach. But if it's a ranch event, like a horse sale, we bring chuckwagons and serve drinks off the chuckbox.

I met the love of my life at 4-H. I was seated next to Betsy in our 1957 high school class of 17.

It's a bear loading the wagons with a winch. My wife, Betsy, helps me drive them to events. I have a 30-foot trailer, a Freightliner with a sports chassis, and then I have a 16-foot trailer, which we pull with my GMC extended cab pickup. It's a long haul, but I love it.

I love the cowboys and the trail drives. Betsy and I help preserve Western heritage by supporting local museums: The Phoenix Art Museum (50-year member), Desert Caballeros Museum (15-year member), Phippen Museum (on the board) and Scottsdale's Museum of the West (I'm one of the founders).

I attended the first Cowboy Artists of America show, and I'd like to get the art show back to Arizona before I die.

My favorite John Wayne Western is 1967's *El Dorado*. I like all the John Wayne movies, but Olag Wieghorst's art was in *El Dorado*, and the artist was a friend of mine.

The best town in Arizona is Wickenburg. Betsy and I started visiting in 1961 and bought land in 1979. We moved there in 1996 and built the Super 8 Motel.

Owning a motel has taught me about dealing with the public. I financed a couple people in the motel business during my banking experience, so I knew the ropes pretty well.

The one thing I have never forgotten is to never jump off your horse in a bad spot.

My favorite Western artist is Charlie Russell, and I own a couple small sculptures by him.

I wish people would understand that they can't spend more than they take in.

My favorite place in all the world is Prince of Wales Hotel in Waterton Park, Alberta, on the Canadian side of Glacier National Park. The hotel is the only one of Canada's grand railway hotels built by a U.S. railroad—Great Northern Railway.

The American West is great because it has a diverse environment and lesser population.

History has taught me to follow upon the positive and don't repeat the bad.

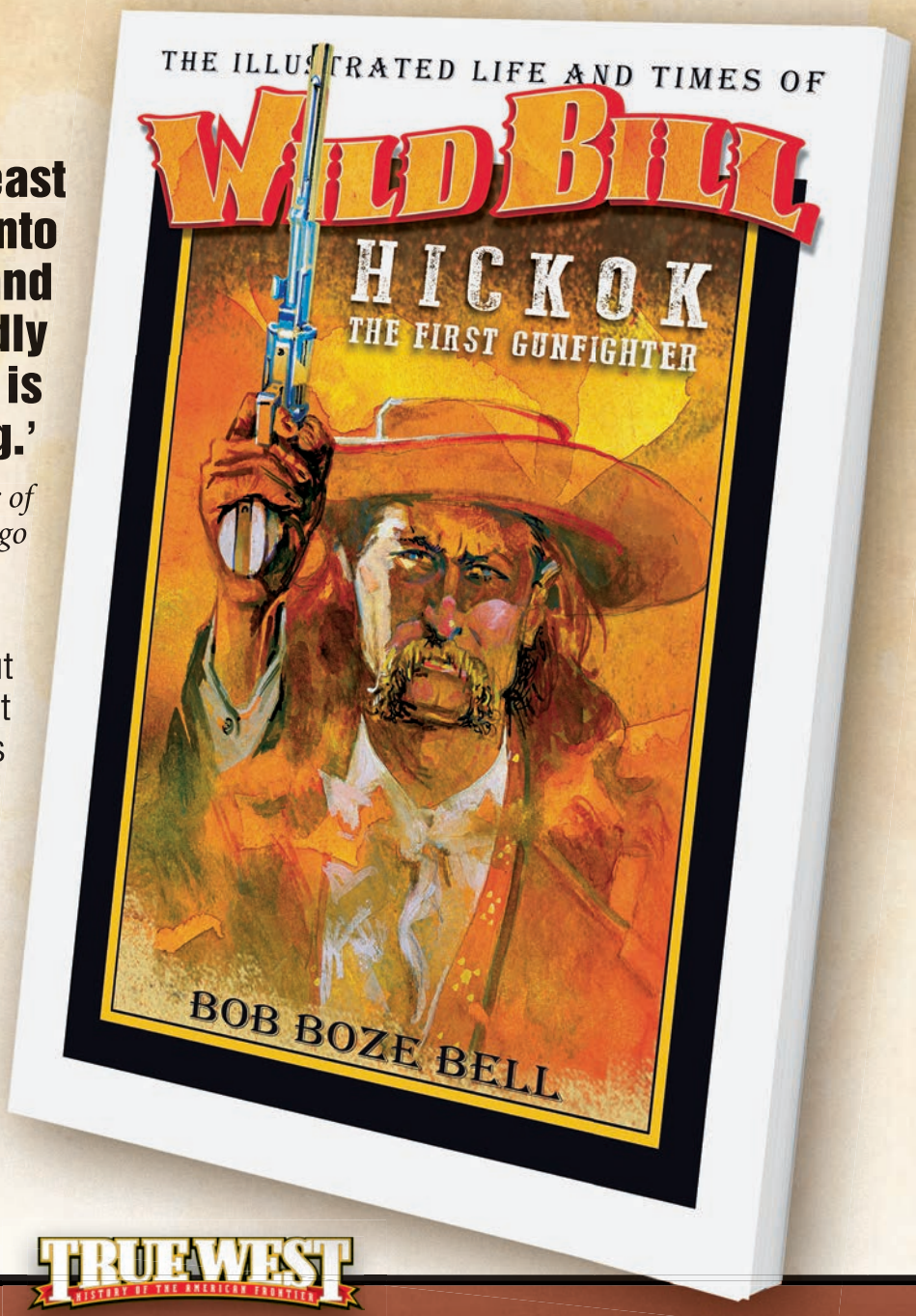
COME FACE TO FACE WITH THE WEST'S MOST DEADLY GUNFIGHTER

"A highly-readable feast that takes one into unexpected nooks and crannies; as wildly entertaining as it is revealing.'

—John Fusco, Screenwriter of Young Guns, Thunderheart, Hidalgo

"It's one thing to read about history. It's another to have it look back at you through the eyes and art of a true storyteller. Now this is a history book!"

—Ted Simons, host of Horizon on PBS



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