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OUR 61ST YEAR

ANNUAL TRAIN EDITION

AUGUST 2014

TRUE WEST

HISTORY OF FRONTIER

IN-LAWS & OUTLAWS

Bigfoot Wallace
John Wesley Hardin
Black Jack Ketchum

Could these bad boys really be shirrtail relatives?

*Why is this Apache scout on our cover?
P. 32*



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157

Indian War Heroes

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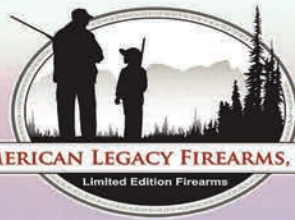
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CARTRIDGE RIFLES



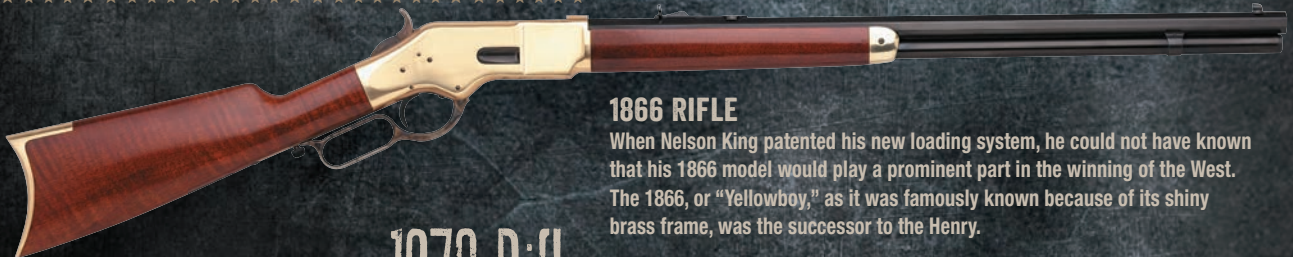
1860 Henry Lever Action



1860 HENRY

In October 1860, B.T. Henry was granted a patent for the design of a new gun, a repeating rifle that used metallic cartridges. With it, one man could load 15 cartridges in eight to ten seconds. It was such an important innovation that the gun was named after its inventor. All models feature a walnut stock with 13-round capacity (Henry Trapper holds 10 rounds).

1866 Lever Action



1866 RIFLE

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.

1873 Rifle



1873 RIFLE – CHECKERED STRAIGHT STOCK

This rifle is an ideal option for any shooter who enjoys the enhanced grip and look of a checkered rifle. A full octagonal barrel, case-hardened frame and checkered straight stock are featured on this 1873.

Taylor's '92



TAYLOR'S 1892 RIFLE

The 1892 Rifle was mechanically stronger and less costly to produce than the '73. A total of 1,004,675 of the 1892s, in both solid and takedown models, were manufactured from 1892 to 1941. Taylor's & Co. is proud to offer reproductions of these favorites.

OPENING SHOT

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BLOOD ON HIS HANDS

James R. Gilliland (Gilliland), holding the tally book, stands with his crew in the slaughter corral operated by rancher Oliver Lee to supply meat to rail workers in Carrizozo, New Mexico. This photograph was taken in 1900, the same year a gruesome discovery was made. Read more on page 8.

— COURTESY STEVE SEDERWALL / C.L. SONNICHSEN PAPERS, MS141, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO —



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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July 2014 Online and Social Media Content



This family might have stopped at Oregon's Wood River to take a picnic break or to glimpse the many species of wildlife before heading to see the majestic caldera of Crater Lake. Find this and more historical photography on our "Travel to the Old West" board.

[Pinterest.com/TrueWestMag](https://www.pinterest.com/TrueWestMag)



Go behind the scenes of True West with Bob Boze Bell and find out more about the new CDV of Billy the Kid (search for "May 27, 2014").

Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com



Join the Conversation

"My grandfather's cousin was in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show. I met him when I was about 14; he had lots of stories to tell!"

-Barbara Blackmore of Troy, Missouri



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22 RELATED TO OUTLAWS

A back trail of in-laws and outlaws along Route 66 connects this magazine's executive editor to cold-blooded killer John Wesley Hardin, notorious train robber Black Jack Ketchum and our cover boy, Bigfoot Wallace.

—Bob Boze Bell

28 ON THE TRAIL OF BIGFOOT

What we know about a giant figure in Texas annals, the legendary Texas Ranger Bigfoot Wallace, whose story remains as mysterious as sasquatch's.

—Mark Boardman

32 ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

A priceless Medal of Honor unearthed around 1980 inspires our journey sharing Arizona Territory's unique tie to the nation's badge of courage.

—John Langellier

72 ROBBERS OF THE RAILS

Follow the tracks of some of our nation's historic train lines to get a feel of those precarious frontier days when some guys decided to take the train... and what was on it.

—Mark Boardman

Watch our videos!

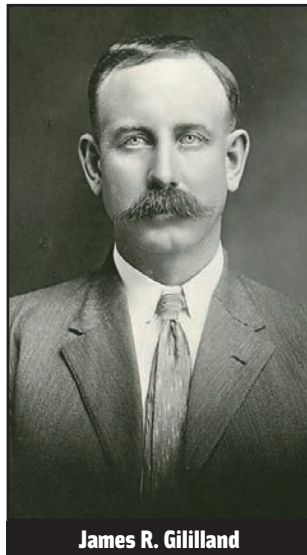
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Bigfoot Wallace photo courtesy
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BLOOD ON HIS HANDS

The photograph in this issue's *Opening Shot* was taken in 1900, the same year charred bones were found in an unmarked grave in James Canyon in New Mexico's Sacramento Mountains, bones some suspected might be the bodies of Albert Fountain and eight-year-old son Henry who disappeared in 1896. The picture belonged to Dick Gililland. Holding the tally book in the photo is his brother, James, head of the slaughter crew for rancher Oliver Lee. How ironic—the same year the bones were found, we had a picture of James with bloody hands.



James R. Gililland

CUSTER'S SABER

As usual you've published another great issue of *True West* with the June issue. The *Opening Shot* of Budweiser's reproduction of Custer at the Little Big Horn is interesting—with a lot of detail. However, I've always wondered why the artist showed Custer holding a saber. From everything I've read, the 7th Cavalry had left all their sabers at the fort.

—Kurt Pare
Fountain Hills, Arizona

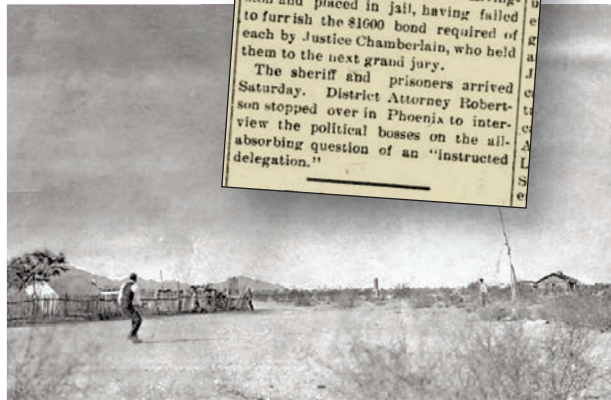
Custer historian Jeff Barnes responds: *The reader is correct—Custer ordered the sabers left behind at the Powder River Depot on the Yellowstone, where they were crated and shipped back to Fort Abraham Lincoln. The column was stripped down for speed, and every item seen as nonessential was left behind. Of course, the artist 2,000 miles away didn't know and didn't care—it wouldn't do to have a cavalier such as Custer without the more elegant weapon of a saber in hand.*

THE EYES HAVE IT

As a lifetime John Wayne fan, I enjoyed Scott Eyman's insightful article on *Stagecoach*, Monument Valley and the interaction on- and off-camera between cast and director [June 2014].

Overlooked in all the reviews and critiques, over the years, is the magnificent performance by Tom Tyler as Luke Plummer, a man who was drawn to aces and eights after hearing of Ringo Kid's arrival. As Eyman relates, Ford's admonition to Wayne to "act with your eyes" was evidenced in Tyler's eyes and expression of a man facing death and retribution, in that critical scene.

William J. Brennan
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



ation.
The Quartzsite Shooting.
The Quartzsite shooting turns out to have been a duel between A. G. Grossman and C. W. Harris. The latter was only slightly wounded. The latter was not hurt. Both men were brought to Yuma by Sheriff Livingston and placed in jail, having failed to furnish the \$1600 bond required of each by Justice Chamberlain, who held them to the next grand jury.
The sheriff and prisoners arrived Saturday. District Attorney Robertson stopped over in Phoenix to interview the political bosses on the all-absorbing question of an "instructed delegation."

The Quartzsite Shooting

True West's visit to the Arizona Historical Society's Polly Rosenbaum State Archives building gave the editors a quality scan of a rare gunfight photograph (above) in news columnist Roscoe Willson's collection, but the notations "1904" and "Quartzsite, AZ," written on the photo were all we had to go by.

When Editor Meghan Saar researched newspapers in the Arizona Digital Newspaper database, she discovered two articles about a duel in Quartzsite—but that duel took place in 1908. Was the notation on the photo off by four years?

"The Quartzsite Shooting turns out to have been a duel between A.G. Grossman and C.W. Harris. The latter was only slightly wounded and Grossman was not hurt. Both men were brought to Yuma by Sheriff Livingston and placed in jail, having failed to furnish the \$1000 bond required of each by Justice Chamberlain, who held them to the next grand jury," reported Yuma's *Arizona Sentinel*, on February 19, 1908.

A later article, dated April 8, 1908, discussed the grand jury charging the two men with "duelling." It revealed that Grossman was a miner who had "worked as a printer on the *Sentinel* at the time of the great flood in 1891."

The editors continued the discussion online, and the July issue featuring this photograph in "The Gunfighters" article went to press. A reader, Gay Mathis of Mayfield, Kentucky, found another article, from the *Mohave County Miner*, dated February 22, 1908 (not yet digitized by the database), that delved more into the 1908 duel:

"A. G. Grossman and another resident of Quartzite [*sic*] are in the jail at Yuma charged with duelling. The men became involved in a dispute and to settle the matter in the code duello a challenge was duly sent and accepted and the men armed in their own way appeared on the duelling grounds and the fray began. Grossman was armed with a shotgun and his opponent with a rifle. When the smoke of battle cleared away Grossman found himself unharmed, while the other fellow had his anatomy perforated with a handful or so of small shot. Grossman was at one time editor of the *Needles Eye*, in which arduous position he learned that a scatter gun well handled was worth a whole arsenal of rifles in the hands of a poor marksman."

If you find evidence of a 1904 duel in Quartzsite, let us know. Otherwise, our bet is that this photo depicts the Grossman-Harris duel in 1908.



Raised on 66

All roads lead true West.

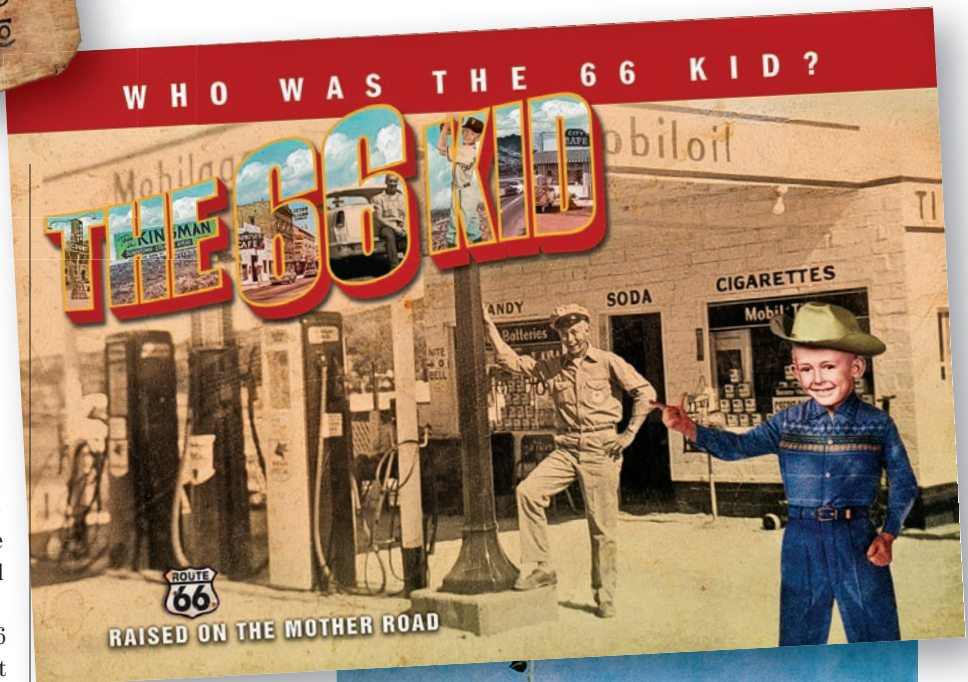
I not only got my kicks on Route 66, I ended up with a lifelong passion for Western history and, in the process, this magazine. The graphic story of just how that happened is the theme of *The 66 Kid*, a book I was born to write and illustrate.

Last year, while on assignment (full disclosure: I assigned myself) for our December 2013 cover feature, “Where is Cowboy Ground Zero?” I stumbled onto something I had never fully realized while growing up on Route 66: the flippin’ road is a big deal all around the world.

That I discovered this when I was 66 years old, and that I had long thought about writing a book about growing up on Route 66, came to a head when I learned, a year ago, that this year’s International Route 66 Festival would be held in my hometown of Kingman, Arizona.

I immediately called up our art director, Dan Harshberger, who also grew up in Kingman. My second call was to another Kingman boy, Charlie Waters, a journeyman editor who has worked all over the country and knows his way around a gas station, to edit the book. Jim Hinkley, also of Kingman, hooked me up with his publisher, Voyageur Press, and we were off to the races.

This August 14, at Kingman’s Route 66 Museum inside the historic Powerhouse building, *The 66 Kid* will premiere, in all its asphalt glory. As my good friend and fellow classmate Trudy Peart puts it, we were all raised a “little bent” on the Mother Road.



My father, Allen P. Bell, goofed for the camera (above) in front of his Mobiloil gas station in Peach Springs, Arizona, in 1947. On a family trip home from Iowa, my father also let me stop at one place, and I chose the Longhorn Ranch Saloon and Museum (center) where I bought an “authentic” photograph of Billy the Kid (see p. 25). This photo ultimately led me and another Bob—McCubbin—to buy *True West* Magazine in October 1999—see my handshake deal with the former owners (from left), Steve Cundiff, Steve Gragert and McCubbin. As you will see, all roads in my life head true West.



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



Quotes

“I created *The Westerner* because of anger; anger at never-miss sheriffs, always-right marshals, whitewashed gunfighters ... anger at TV’s quick-draw tin gods who stand behind a tin star or 10 cents’ worth of righteous anger and justify their skill and slaughter with a self-conscious grin or a minute’s worth of bad philosophy.”

– Director Sam Peckinpah

“The happiest hours of mankind are recorded on the blank pages of history.”

– Historian Thomas Carlyle

“Humor is merely tragedy standing on its head with its pants torn.”

–Humorist Irvin S. Cobb

“Everyone is a genius at least once a year. The real geniuses simply have their bright ideas closer together.”

– Scientist Georg C. Lichtenberg
(yes, he didn’t use an “e” on Georg)



“I’m Barbara Stanwyck in *The Big Valley*.”

– Actress Kim Basinger, when she and other investors bought the town of Braselton, Georgia, in 1989 for \$20 million, only to sell it, reportedly for \$1 million, after she declared bankruptcy four years later (*Stanwyck* shown)

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO



“Harry Carey always wore a good hat, a good pair of boots, and what he wore in between didn’t matter too much.”

–Actor John Wayne on Harry Carey Sr. (shown)

Old Vaquero Saying



“A critic is a legless man who teaches running.”

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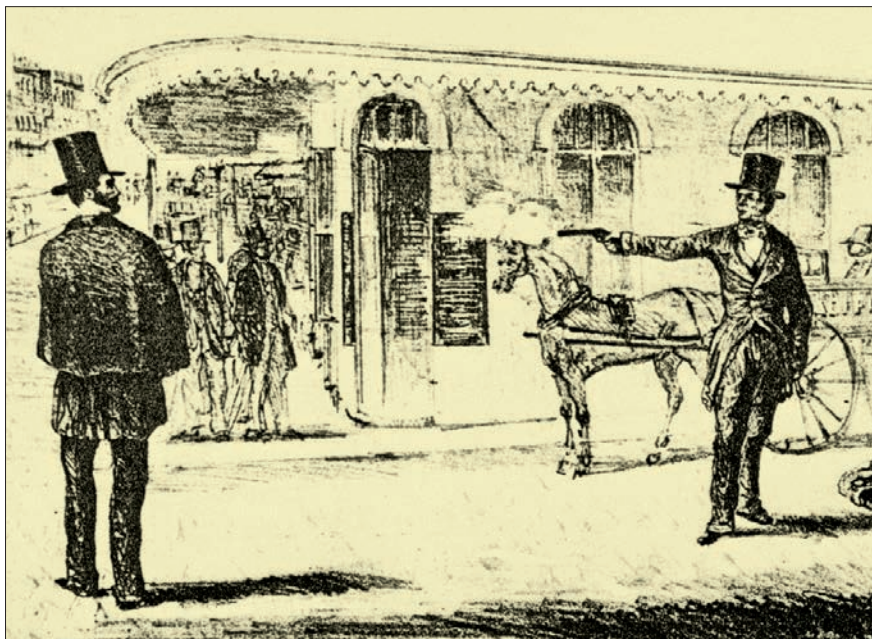
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A Sporting Gunfight

The not-so-bloody truth comes out once again, 150 years later.



A shoot-out for the ages, a bloody battle that left four gamblers dead and another severely wounded, was trumpeted in newspapers around the U.S. and across the globe.

The cause was a horse race in Placerville, California, on June 15, 1864. Sporting man Bill Davis fixed the contest—his horse, the favorite, lost. He won \$4,500 off the other entrant. Four gamblers—called Dutch Abe, Spanish Bob, Ball and Hank Stevens—lost big bucks on the race and came gunnin’ for Davis.

They found him six days later, on Montgomery Street, in San Francisco. Davis was getting his boots shined when Ball and Dutch Abe opened up on him with pistols. According to an account by a correspondent from the New Orleans-based *Picayune*, Davis returned

fire, killing Ball. He chased Dutch Abe onto the sidewalk, saying, “You’ve made a mistake,” as he put a bullet in the man’s chest. Dutch Abe died two days later.

Davis, wounded in the left arm and the right cheek, took the gun from Ball’s hand, went down the street to the Fashion—which isn’t identified, but was

probably a saloon—and called out for the other two gamblers to meet him outside.

When Hank Stevens and Spanish Bob exited, Davis put two bullets into Stevens, leaving him mortally wounded on the sidewalk. Davis and Spanish Bob traded

shots; each was hit several times until they were out of ammunition. The two pulled derringers and began crawling toward each other until they were about five feet distant. Each fired. Spanish Bob died on

“The whole story was a humbug...but the effect abroad was different.”

The classic gunfight between Bill Davis and four gamblers was classic in only one sense—it was a trick San Franciscans understood that left the rest of the world hoodwinked.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

the spot, with Davis proclaiming, “He’s gone, I cooked him.”

Davis, hit six times, was expected to survive. The newspaper reported Davis had laughed through the entire affray.

It’s a great story. Which is all it is.

At the time, none of the San Francisco newspapers carried accounts of the gunfight, which would have merited front page coverage. The many newspapers that did publish it (mostly in the East and Europe, in addition to New Orleans) all printed the story, word for word, from the unnamed *Picayune* reporter.

On October 7, San Francisco’s *Daily Alta California* finally published the story—but with a decidedly sarcastic tone. Six weeks later, on November 22, the paper went further: “The whole story was a humbug, gotten up by a well known sensational Bohemian, of the meanest class, in this city, and was understood here, but the effect abroad was different.”

The “well known sensational Bohemian” was never identified, at least in print. But the paper expressed concern that such stories hurt the reputation of San Francisco, making the city sound more violent than it already was.

A California gambler named Bill Davis did organize a horse race, in April 1864, the *Daily Alta California* reported. But it was not a rigged race nor did it trigger a face off between sporting men.

That’s how legends are made; the print era offers myths to debunk just like the Internet age does today.



Let the Adventure Begin!

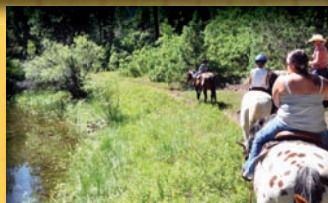


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Barker's Riches

An 1862 gold strike in British Columbia has panned out into a town lavish in its goldfield history.

Barkerville's peak tourism season is mid-May through the end of September, although the site is open year round. Whenever you choose to go, this Cariboo Gold Rush town in Canada's British Columbia offers you the opportunity to walk back into time.

— COURTESY BARKERVILLE HISTORIC TOWN —

They laughed at Billy Barker when he and his crew went off to prospect for gold in the Cariboo region of British Columbia. But they stopped laughing on August 17, 1862, when Barker “struck the lead” and pulled large amounts of gold out of his mine on the first day.

The best part of this British working class man's story is Barker found far more than gold. The town that carries his name became the largest settlement west of Chicago, Illinois, and north of San Francisco, California, in the 1860s. Today, Barkerville is the largest living history museum in western North America—a remarkable feat for a town that has been saved not once, not twice, but three times.

Lying in the long sliver of the town, between the pine forest and Williams Creek, are 140 buildings, more than 187,000 artifacts, two historic cemeteries and the largest collection of pre-railway Chinese buildings in North America.

“When you step through the main gate, you're stepping back into the 1870s,” says Dirk Van Stralen, the marketing and communication specialist for Barkerville Historic Town. “In its day, this was a 24-hour-a-day town, noisy and smelly. But now it's just the opposite—it's pristine, with fresh air and quiet.”

The best part of this British working class man's story is Barker found far more than gold.



Barkerville has not had an easy time. In 1868, just six years after being established, the town burned to the ground—all except the Chinese section. The day after the fire, folks started rebuilding. When the gold dwindled by the 1880s, most of the residents moved away.

Not wanting Barkerville to go the way of most goldfield towns, residents got the town declared a National Historic Site in 1923. Families began preserving stories and artifacts from the town's past.

The library came from the family of John Bowron, an 1862 Overlander. Domestic life during Barkerville's heyday is on exhibit at the Wendle House, an 1890s home built for the town's

blacksmith, Alexander McArthur, and purchased by Joe Wendle in 1904. More history is shared at houses owned by the family of Fred Tregillus, who came here in 1886 and frequently mined the Lightning Creek area.

In 1958, Barkerville became a Provincial Historic Site, thanks to the efforts of Friends of Barkerville. Prominent saviors among that group and today's Barkerville Heritage Trust included Ron Candy, Ken Mather and former historic town CEO Judy Campbell.

Besides giving visitors a hands-on look at life in a late 1800s goldfield town, Barkerville also offers insight into multiculturalism. “It had the largest ethnic Chinese population in Canada, and we had blacks who were fleeing slavery. Despite the social bias of that era, they all did really well here,” Van Stralen says.

The 55,000 visitors who arrive each year often find costumed interpreters giving history tours. Van Stralen does not consider Barkerville to be a ghost town: “In its heyday this valley was home to about 5,000 people, and we still have one semi-permanent resident who spends part of each year here. It's the people of this town who are its saviors.”



Arizona's Journalist of the Year, **Jana Bombersbach** has won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She also cowrote and appeared on the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and is the author of two nationally-acclaimed true crime books and a children's book.

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Ghostly Soldiers March On

Remington comes out on top in this spring's premier Western art auctions.

Frederic Remington's *Thirty Below and a Blizzard Raging* oil on canvas bid in for \$800,000 as the top lot at the Scottsdale Art Auction on April 5.

In the winter of 1866-67, Lt. Keene led cavalymen from Fort Sedgwick, Colorado, on a mission to rescue government wood cutters. After 21 hours without fire or a drink of water, the men marched on. By daybreak, the lieutenant, stopping at a wood chopper's cabin, learned of a camp farther up with plenty of water and started out again.

Frederic Remington chose to illustrate this moment, recounted in W.J. Carney's "With Troop M on the Frontier" in the June 1899 *McClure's Magazine*: "Never was there a greater mistake, for the blizzard came on so severe that we were completely lost, and wandered about on that desolate ridge for two days and a night before we got out, making three days and three nights in the saddle, with the thermometer from ten to thirty-three degrees below zero, and a blizzard raging more than half the time."

That Remington saw these men as heroes is evident in his illustration, which bid in as the top lot at the Scottsdale Art Auction in Scottsdale, Arizona, on April 5. Ghostly soldiers lean into the violent, sustained winds of a blizzard, grimly determined, hugging themselves for warmth that is nowhere to be found, with one trooper even walking beside



his equally steadfast horse to try to improve his circulation. One soldier, second from left, looks with questioning eyes at the leader.

"I told him I would rather be shot for mutiny than die like a dog in a snow-drift."

That soldier could be the author himself. The men were in near mutiny against the lieutenant, and Carney had led the charge. After confronting the lieutenant, who threatened to have them court-martialed, Carney wrote, "I told him I would rather be shot for mutiny than die like a dog in a snow-drift."

Of the 37 cavalymen, only eight made it out unfrozen. Many of the rest, carted away in mule ambulances and wagons, were discharged for disability. Nine men "lost parts of their bodies," Carney wrote.

The lieutenant's name was actually not Keene, but George Armes, and he would point out that Carney's account suited the writer. Even more, Carney left out the fact that the mission was successful. The troops had scared off the Indians and reached the wood camp, where they found the 20 wood cutters starving, but alive. The grateful lumberjacks even went with Lt. Armes on the trail of the Indians, although the snow made it impossible to follow them. When Lt. Armes reached Lewis's ranch on January 24, 1867, he sent for ambulances to transport the bulk of the men, who were too frozen to continue the journey back to the fort. He wrote his captain that the troops had "endured the hardships like true soldiers and men."

Captain John Mix endorsed Lt. Armes's report: "The severe loss in frost-bitten men is to be regretted, but the citizens on Lauren's Fork would doubt have been massacred but for the assistance sent."

Why had the Indians attacked the wood cutters? Citizens told Lt. Arnes that some of the Indians had been armed with Spencer carbines, which they may have gotten from soldiers massacred at Fort Phil Kearny in Wyoming, just the previous month, on December 21. The aftermath of that Indian attack on a wood train had proved deadly for that military relief party; the Indians killed all 81 men under the command of Capt. William Fetterman. It was the worst military disaster ever suffered by the U.S. on the Great Plains (and would remain so until the Battle of the Little Big Horn 10 years later).

Red Cloud had spotted hypocrisy after attending a peace council at Fort Laramie in June. The nation, in disagreement over how to handle the Indians, was allowing Doves to arrange peace treaties at the same time Hawks encouraged the military to build forts. When the Oglala Sioux chief saw forts were still being built, he took defensive action. "Red Cloud's War" would continue against the U.S. military until the treaty at Fort Laramie in 1868, when the Indians legally gained control of the Powder River Country, at least until the Great Sioux War of 1876.

While caught in Red Cloud's War, Fort Sedgwick remained crucial for Union Pacific track building. In the winter of 1866-67, when Lt. Arnes and his soldiers went to rescue the wood cutters, the end of track was then 80 miles east of the post. By July 1867, the railroad reached the fort. For the first time, the Army could transport supplies to its posts west of the Missouri. The Army could now avoid 398 miles of wagon transportation by shipping goods from Omaha, Nebraska, to Fort Sedgwick via the Union Pacific Railroad. To minimize the expense of hauling forage during the winter, the Army posted mounted troops along the Union Pacific's route.

For those courageous men who had endured such a bitter winter to ensure those tracks were built, the train couldn't come quick enough.



A circa 1850 Comanche painted hide shield and two covers hammered in at Sotheby's New York for \$340,000 on May 21. Scholar Mike Cowdrey believes the eight black lines mark the contours of Devil's Tower, a prominent landform seen from the former Comanche homeland in Wyoming. The grizzly bear floating to the right of the red sun on this shield is a motif also seen on a Comanche shield collected in 1840 by Jean Louis Berlandier.

Henry Farny's 1907 gouache on paper, *After Big Game*, hammered in at Cowan's Auctions for \$80,000 on April 4. This was the first time the artwork has been offered on the market since the artist, who died at the age of 69 in 1916, sold it in Cincinnati, Ohio.



The 1981 oil *Approaching Storm* (below) set an artist auction record for Melvin Warren when Altermann Galleries sold it as the top lot, for \$165,000, in its April 3 auction.



UPCOMING AUCTIONS

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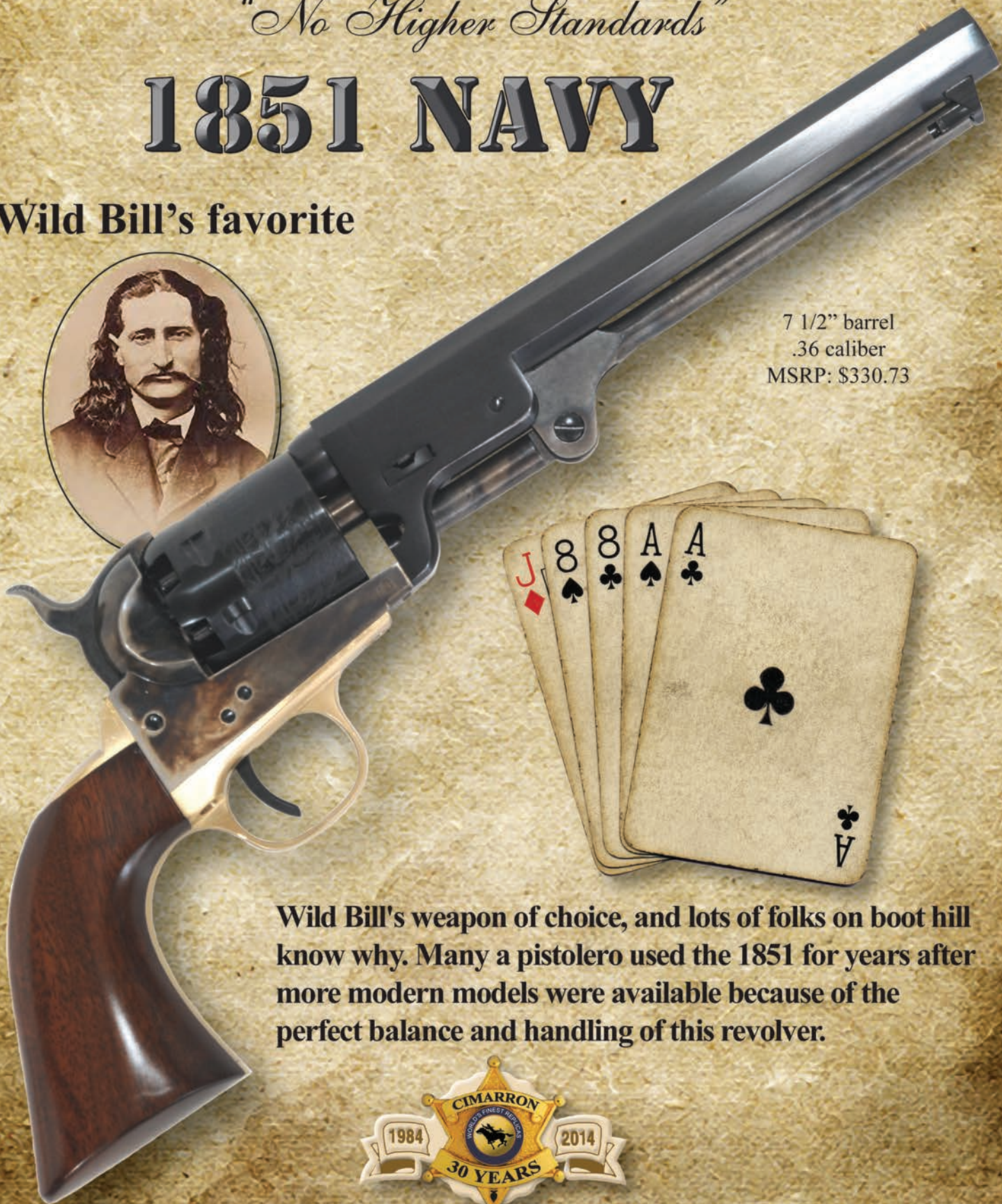
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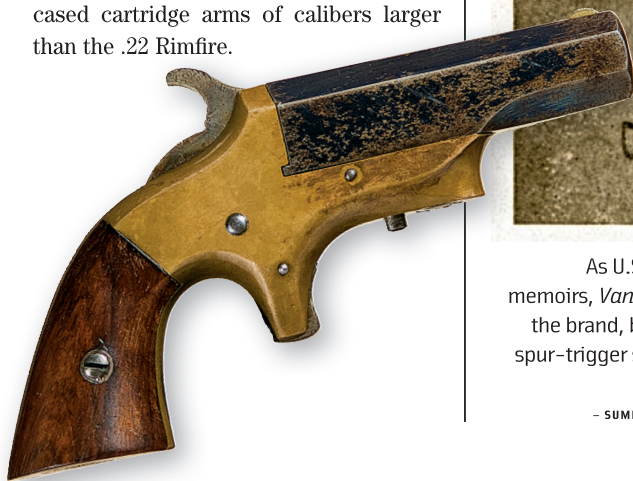
Single Shot of Southern Comfort

The U.S. Army wife and others relied on cartridge derringers like the Southerner for close protection.

In 1875, when U.S. Army wife Martha Summerhayes's Army ambulance was being escorted through Arizona Territory, from Camp Apache to Camp Ehrenberg (and ultimately Camp McDowell), she recalled, "I wore a small derringer, with a narrow belt filled with cartridges. An incongruous sight...it must have been. A young mother, pale and thin, a child of scarce three months in her arms, and a pistol belt around her waist!"

"A young mother, pale and thin, a child of scarce three months in her arms, and a pistol belt around her waist!"

While the exact type of derringer she carried remains unknown, her comment speaks of the felt need to carry some sort of firearm in the untamed West. Most enduring among these small pistols were the single-shot, metallic-cased cartridge arms of calibers larger than the .22 Rimfire.



As U.S. Army wife Martha Summerhayes (above) revealed in her published memoirs, *Vanished Arizona*, she traveled with a derringer for protection. She didn't mention the brand, but she quite possibly could have been carrying a Southerner (left) as these spur-trigger single-shooters were produced between 1867 and 1873, one year before she traveled with her husband to his new post in Arizona Territory.

— SUMMERHAYES PHOTO TRUE WEST ARCHIVES / FIREARM PHOTO COURTESY ROCK ISLAND AUCTION COMPANY —



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Like its romantic sounding name implies, the Southerner derringer conjures up images of riverboat gamblers, smoke-filled saloons and brocade vested “gentlemen,” along the Big Muddy and wherever adventure lay.

— COURTESY PHIL SPANGENBERGER COLLECTION —

A favorite chambering of such derringers, the .41 Short Rimfire round with its 130-grain lead bullet, was the round used in a pocket-type handgun with the romantic sounding name of “Southerner” stamped on top of its barrel. This palm-sized one-shooter was a popular choice for both law-abiding citizens and those who lived in the shady side of society. The rakish name likely gave it special significance to those hailing from Dixie, despite the pistol’s manufacture in the north.

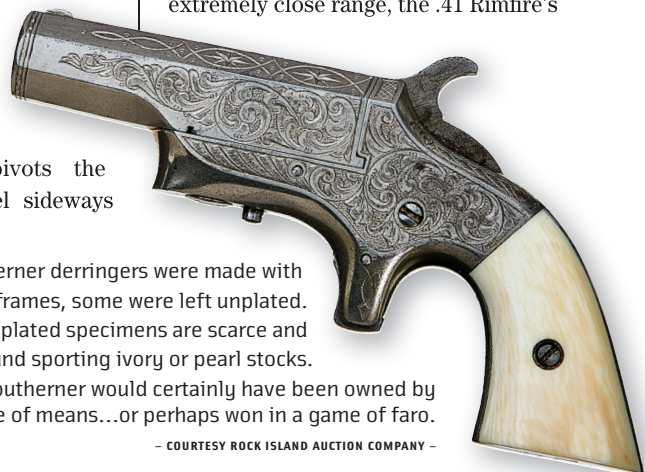
Charles H. Ballard, best known for his military and sporting rifles, designed the Southerner, which was patented on April 9, 1867. The Merrimack Arms & Manufacturing Co. of Newburyport, Massachusetts, produced about 6,500 Southerners between 1867 and 1869. Then Brown Manufacturing Co., also of Newburyport, took over Merrimack. The Southerner’s design remained the same, while the barrel stamping was changed to reflect the new ownership that produced another estimated 10,000 pistols up until 1873.

Depressing a button underneath the frame pivots the Southerner’s octagon barrel sideways

to load, and it is unloaded via a breech-mounted “automatic” extractor. This spur-triggered derringer measured a mere five inches overall and had a blued iron, 2½-inch barrel, although a few were nickel- or silver-plated. Frames were generally silver-plated brass, although some brass frames were left unplated. An estimated 30 percent of Southerners had iron frames. Grips were rosewood or walnut, with a small number turned out with ivory or pearl stocks—generally found on the scarce plated or engraved models.

Most Southerners have square butts, but Brown did produce a limited number with rounded grips (referred to by collectors as “bag handled”) and either 2½-inch or four-inch barrels. Sparking the collector’s interest are the few seconds sold by the manufacturer; these were stamped “Imperfect” on their frames.

Although a derringer like the Southerner could be a handy tool at extremely close range, the .41 Rimfire’s



While most Southerner derringers were made with silver-plated brass frames, some were left unplated. Engraved and fully plated specimens are scarce and are generally found sporting ivory or pearl stocks.

This beautiful Southerner would certainly have been owned by someone of means...or perhaps won in a game of faro.

— COURTESY ROCK ISLAND AUCTION COMPANY —

13-grain blackpowder charge greatly diminished its power beyond a few yards. Nonetheless, the number of specimens found that show significant wear prove these easy to use, small and lightweight cartridge derringers were often carried.

Today, the Southerner is little more than a colorful reminder of the days of smoke-filled saloons and churning riverboats, soiled doves and sporting gents, and everyday pioneers who made their way through the wild West's precarious territory. ❏

Phil Spangenberg 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.



“LAST STAND” SOUTHERNER

The Southerner holds special significance to me, since, in January 1988, long-time friend and founder of Navy Arms Co., the late Val Forgett Jr., presented my then fiancée, Linda, and I with an ornately scroll-engraved, ivory handled, non-firing Southerner replica with our names and two hearts on one side of the frame, and two roses encircled by a wedding ring on the back strap. Beneath the barrel was the date “June 25, 1876” (Custer’s “Last Stand”), while the frame’s right side bore “February 21, 1988” (our wedding date). Forgett laughingly told us that these were the dates of “two famous last stands.” Linda wore the derringier in a holster attached to her leg garter at our wedding.

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RELATED TO OUTLAWS

WORRIED ABOUT THE BACK TRAIL.



I loved to go to my grandmother's house. She loved to cook, and she would sing and hum while she fried up the best potatoes and eggs you have ever tasted. She also made knockout cowboy beans. (Even though she taught each of her five daughters how to do the same, each daughter's pinto beans had a slightly different taste—all good—but my grandma's were the best.)

I also liked to spend the night there because she and my step-grandfather, Ernie, had added on a room in the back, which had no heat. I would pretend I was a cowboy in a line shack way out on the range, and that was a definite plus in spending the night there.

One night, before I went to sleep, I heard cars racing up the street behind us. Then I saw lights raking off the ceiling of the little room, followed by the sounds of sirens, car doors slamming, loud voices and men talking. After a long while, the talking died down and the lights raked back across the ceiling and disappeared.

I found out in the morning that hotrodder T.J. Stockbridge, a shirttail cousin, had eluded the police and was hiding out behind my grandmother's barn. That was very outlaw cool to me.

What was even better, however, was how my grandmother would get out all her old photos from a large box and tell me

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Me at my Grandma Guessie's house on Jefferson Street in Kingman, Arizona.

— ALL IMAGES COURTESY BOB BOZE BELL —



My Grandmother Disses Wyatt Earp

Of all the story times at my Grandma Guessie's house, one would have the most influence on me and my later career. My parents had gone to a dance at the American Legion, and while my grandmother regaled me with stories from the Old West, I was nervously watching the clock. My favorite television show came on at seven, and I didn't want to miss it. I finally asked if I could turn on the TV, and she said I could. I rushed to the TV and turned it on, just in time to hear the lyrics to the theme song:

*Wyatt Earp, Wyatt Earp,
Brave, courageous and bold.
Long live his fame,
And long live his glory,
And long may his story be told.*

Yes, the show was *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp*, starring Hugh O'Brian. I loved the show because Wyatt Earp cleaned up every cowtown in the West; he was a bachelor, he drank milk, and he had a very long pistol with a barrel that went all the way to the ground. He could write his name in the dirt with the barrel of that gun.

Well, right in the middle of that song, my grandmother pointed at the TV and said: "Wyatt Earp was the biggest jerk who ever walked the West."

I was stunned. Here I was looking at the TV, which never lied, and my grandmother, and I thought, "Wow, someone is not telling the truth here."

I didn't know it at the time, but the fuse had been lit. It would take another incident, a few months later, to crystallize my passion for finding out the truth about all the Old West outlaws and lawmen.

And it happened on Route 66.



Bad men never stood a chance against a guy with a glass of milk and a Colt .45 like Hugh O'Brian's Wyatt Earp in *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp* that aired on ABC from 1955 to 1961.

"Wyatt Earp
was the
biggest jerk
who ever
walked the
West!"

—Grandma Guessie

stories about all of our outlaw kin. She told of rustlers and train robbers and all kinds of bad men who resided on the outer edges of the law. Famous outlaws, she said, came in the middle of the night, leaving a winded horse and taking another. Sometimes, the horse they left was better than the one they took.

While all this thrilled me to no end, my mother hated it. And it drove her crazy when I'd tell other people about being related to outlaws. When I said we were related to Bigfoot Wallace, John Wesley Hardin and Black Jack Ketchum, what she heard was Jack the Ripper, the Boston Strangler and Charlie Manson.

The Bug of a Lifetime

For more than two decades, our family hit the road late each summer on the same stretch of road between Kingman, Arizona, and the Bell family farm north of Thompson, Iowa. Every year we followed the same regimen: up at 4 a.m., on the road by 5 a.m., drive for an hour or so, and then stop for breakfast (invariably at the Copper Cart in Seligman). My dad always ordered the same thing: bacon and eggs, coffee and orange juice.

Most cars going west had inner tubes on the top, vacation stuff, and the people were smiling and excited. They were on their way to Disneyland and the beach. We were Norwegians on our way to the family farm, and we were determined to get there so we could eat five times a day and talk about crops.

As the country rolled by, I stood on the transmission hump and gazed over the wraparound windshield at what my friend (and fellow Kingmanite) Jim Hinckley calls “America’s longest sideshow.” Long signs that traversed an entire mesa tempted us with tantalizing come-ons: “World’s Largest Buffalo!”

“Can we stop Dad?” *Zarroooooom.* We blew by there without even slowing down. “Gotta make time,” he’d say gravely.

When we got into New Mexico, I saw the sign “Live Indians.” I was hooked.

“Dad?” *Zarroooooom.*

In Santa Rosa, my heart leaped: “Billy the Kid’s Grave: 54 miles.” *Zarroooooom.*

I finally realized Dad wasn’t going to stop for anything except gas, food and maybe open wounds.

After we got to Iowa—and we’re eating our fifth meal of the day, at the Hauans’s, as I recall—I asked if he’d let me choose just one place to stop at on the way home.

“We will, Kid,” he said, “if we have time.”

I knew what that meant. We were going to blast straight back to Kingman, and he wasn’t stopping for anything.

So I hatched a devious plan.

On the way to Iowa, I had picked out the place: 43 miles east of Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the south side of the road. The Longhorn Museum, it read, and it sat as part of a fantastic mini-street of Old West buildings. After breakfast in Santa Rosa at the Club Cafe, I went into action.

Every father has a weak spot, running from the ear down to the shoulder. You can discover it if you stand behind him



The Longhorn Ranch Saloon and Museum thrived for many years on Route 66 as a must stop for anyone who loved the Wild West. Today, only the sign remains.

while he’s driving and start poking him there, saying repeatedly, “You promised,

Dad. Come on, you promised!”

Dad, of course, kept trying to shake me off, probably because he was in the process of passing 10 trucks. But I would not be denied. Finally, he swung that big, long ’57 Ford (with the continental kit on the back) into the dusty parking lot of the Longhorn Museum. He shut off the engine, turned to look at me in the back seat and said sternly, “Kid, you’ve got 15 minutes.”

The fantastic Longhorn Ranch Saloon and Museum loomed before me.

Those were the most precious minutes of my life. I ran in the museum, and there were all the things I love: saddles, longhorns on the wall, rifles and muskets everywhere. I was in a buying mood because my grandfather, Carl Bell, had given me a shiny quarter when we left the farm and headed west the day before, and told me to buy something special with it.

I asked the man behind the counter how much for a Flintlock rifle hanging on the wall. He said, “\$100.” I said, “I’ll give you a quarter?”

Then I saw it: “An authentic photo of Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid.”

The price? A quarter.

We got back in the car, and my dad blasted back out on Route 66 and floored it. He had to catch all the trucks that had gotten by him while we were in the museum.

Me, I was studying my authentic photo in the back seat. We fought our way through Albuquerque, then cruised around Laguna, Cubero, Grants and on into Arizona.

I was so quiet, my mother was concerned. “Are you alright?”

“Yes,” I assured her. “I am studying this authentic photo of Billy the Kid and Pat Garrett.”

I don’t even remember the rest of the trip through Sanders, Lupton, Holbrook, Joseph City, Two Guns, Flagstaff, don’t forget Winona.

When we got home, I put that photo on the wall by my bedroom door and studied it every day. I made a vow to

“He was the all-American boy and a cold-blooded killer. Of course I immediately loved the guy.”

—Bob Boze Bell



The fake photo of Billy the Kid and Pat Garrett I bought for a quarter at the Longhorn Museum. I didn't realize at the time that it would lead me to eventually own the magazine you are holding in your hands.

someday have a rifle, hat, and vest exactly like the one Billy was wearing.

Two weeks later, I went with my mother to Desert Drug in downtown Kingman. While she was getting a prescription filled, I ran to the front of the store and bought the latest issue of *True West*. I took it out to the car to read, and on page 32, I discovered that the authentic photograph I had paid a quarter

for was a FAKE! It had been taken at a parade in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1937.

I spent the rest of my youth—and a fair share of my adulthood—trying to find the real Billy the Kid. Thus began a lifetime obsession with Old West outlaws and lawmen.

It would take another 25 years to make it to Fort Sumner and the Kid's grave for the first time.

"A typical Westerner will punch you in the face if you call his father a crook, but he'll brag a little when he tells you his granddaddy was an outlaw."

—Good Ol' Ben Rux, a pioneer Mohave County miner and prospector who babysat me



The Ketchum Connection

My grandmother regaled me with stories of our connection to not only Bigfoot Wallace but also Ketchum. That would be Black Jack Ketchum, the notorious train robber and member of the Wild Bunch who was hanged in Clayton, New Mexico, in 1901.

My grandfather Bob Guess came to Arizona's Mohave County in 1912 to visit his grandmother in Hackberry. While there, he met legendary cowman Tap Duncan, who hired Bob to ride for one season with the Diamond Bar cowboys. Later, after a ranching career in the Bootheel of New Mexico and then on the Gila River near Duncan, Arizona, Bob was busted by the Depression. He returned to Mohave County in 1936, and his first stop was Tap's Diamond Bar Ranch.

Bob now had a wife and five daughters. His oldest, Sadie Pearl, married Tap's grandson, and that is how we are related to the Duncans. In 1879, Tap's brother, Bige, married Nancy Ketchum, the sister of Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum. And that's how we are related to the Ketchums.

Our connection to John Wesley Hardin came from my grandmother's mother, Tiny Pickhart. She married a Hardin, in Texas, and they had a daughter named Rosie Hardin. Twisted stuff, but heady just the same for a nine-year-old boy.

That's me, front left, standing in front of Ernie and Grandma "Guessie" Swafford, around the time she told me we were related to outlaws. Next to them are Mary Hamilton, my mother, Bobbie, and Billy Hamilton. In the back is my father, Allen P. (without a hat), and Uncle Choc Hamilton. This photo was taken in 1956, not long after our arrival back in Kingman.

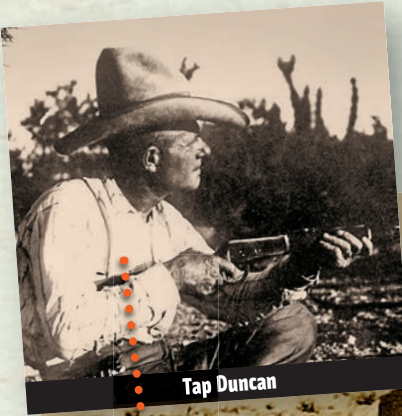


My great-grandparents Henry and Dolce Guess (right) were from Texas. Dolce was originally a Wallace, and through her we claim relations to Bigfoot Wallace, the legendary Texas Ranger and Mexican War hero (see p. 29).

“If you monkeyed with Tap Duncan,
you were monkeying with a
rattlesnake.”

—Uncle Choc Hamilton

Diamond Bar Cowboys



Tap Duncan



Black Jack Ketchum



Bob Guess



Bobbie Guess



Bob Boze Bell

The Line of Fire

Tap Duncan “retired” from Texas after his brother was hanged for allegedly killing a family near Eagle Pass, Texas. After moving to Idaho, Tap worked as a wagon boss until he got in a gunfight with bad man Billy Hayes in Bruneau. Although cleared of the killing, Tap departed for Arizona. Along the way, Tom Ketchum joined him, and Ketchum tried to get Tap to go on a holdup with him. Tap declined. One family story has it that Ketchum once rode up to the Diamond Bar Ranch on a bicycle, thus giving some credence to the much-hated “Rain Drops Keep Falling On My Head” sequence in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*.

Tap survived the Wild Bunch (he was mistaken for gang member Kid Curry) and the Wild West, but in 1944, he was run over by a car just off Route 66 in downtown Kingman. He is buried in Mountain View Cemetery on Hilltop.



The 66 Kid by Bob Boze Bell will premiere on August 14, 2014, at the Powerhouse in Kingman, Arizona. Go to BobBozeBell.net for more details. You can purchase a copy of the book there or at the TWMag.com store.

True West asked me to track down Bigfoot. Huh?

You mean the giant, hairy beast that they do the television documentaries about? What's next—ancient aliens? (Oops. That's the History Channel's area of expertise).

But no, my editor is talking about a different kind of legend, one who strode across 19th-century Texas and left some big shoes to fill (so to speak). A man named Wallace, a rough and tough frontiersman whose exploits have been told for 140 years or so.

Unfortunately, Bigfoot Wallace is just about as mysterious as the sasquatch—lots of stories, but not a lot of hard evidence. He's had three biographies written about him, but Wallace was the main source for the first one in 1870. While he wasn't necessarily a liar, the man was known to embellish the retellings of his own exploits. The second biography, published in 1899, was based on more talks with Wallace, and the stories didn't always match up with the ones in the first book. The third biography, which came out more than 70 years ago, was based on the first two.

His life story has lots of gaps, which is too bad, because Wallace was a giant of a man who accomplished great deeds and was involved in amazing events. His story doesn't need any varnish.

But until the truth is uncovered, we will have to deal with the story as it has been told by these three biographers and others. This is what we know about the man called Bigfoot.

William Alexander Anderson Wallace was born in Lexington, Virginia, on April 3, 1817. Family lore said he was a descendant of another William Wallace—the Scottish warrior known as Braveheart (this family

ON
THE
TRAIL
OF

Bigfoot

Wallace,
that is—
the legendary
Texas
Ranger.

really liked nicknames). Little is known of our Wallace's formative years, but he headed to Texas in November 1837.

Wallace said he went to Texas to avenge the deaths of family members who had died in the Goliad Massacre, when Mexican forces slaughtered more than 300 surrendered Texans on March 27, 1836. Some accounts state Wallace lost a brother and cousin; others aren't so sure. He got to Texas too late for the Texas Revolution. Many years later he told biographer John C. Duval that his account with the Mexicans had been squared.

The young man must have cut an impressive figure—he was said to be about six foot, two inches tall and 240 pounds of muscle. In that era, Wallace was a giant, which may have helped him gain the nickname of "Bigfoot" (see "The Origin of Bigfoot" on p. 30).

Once Wallace got to Texas, though, he was less than impressed. "Such a sight I never saw.... I would rather see a sister of mine in the grave than in Texas," he wrote in his first letter back home.

He must have gotten more comfortable with the place. He would spend almost his entire remaining 62 years there.

Wallace settled in the Hill Country, mostly around San Antonio and Austin. When he had first arrived in Texas, he wandered, with his wife and three boys, living off the land and learning the finer points of being a frontiersman. While hunting alone, he was captured by Lipan Indians, who planned to kill him. Wallace later said that an old Indian woman adopted him at the last moment, sparing his life. Wallace eventually escaped (one account states he was a captive for three months, while another puts it at a week or so).



On the back of this 1872 albumen photo of William Wallace, a note states the hunting pouch Wallace is wearing was "taken from the Indian Chief 'Big Foot' from whom [sic] he derived his name." The photo sold for a \$10,000 bid at Heritage Auctions in 2013.

— COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS —

Bigfoot

Over the next few years, Wallace tried a number of different jobs—farming, hauling rocks and logs, construction. Sometime in the 1840s, he joined up with Texas Ranger Capt. John Coffee “Jack” Hays to fight Indians and outlaws, some of whom were summarily executed, no matter what their crime. The record is not clear as to whether Wallace became an official Ranger in 1840, as the second biography states, or a few years later, as Duval wrote in his Wallace biography.

In 1842, Wallace got his shot at Mexicans when their army invaded Texas, getting as far as San Antonio. He participated in two battles that sent the troops of Antonio López de Santa Anna scurrying south. The Texans followed them into Mexico, a decision that would come back to haunt Wallace. On Christmas Day, he and other troops and Rangers attacked the town of Mier in northern Mexico—only to find that they were outnumbered 10 to one. The Texans surrendered and were held captive in various cities for nearly two years. Conditions were terrible, and many of the captives died from wounds, disease or starvation.

The men tried a mass escape in February 1843, but 176 of them were recaptured, including Wallace. Originally, all were sentenced to death, but the order was modified—one man in 10 would die. A lottery was held to decide who lived and who died. One hundred seventy-six beans were put in a jar; 17 of them were black. Those who drew out the black beans were shot. Wallace “dug deep” and got a white bean. On August 25, 1844, he and four others were released and sent back to Texas; by September, the rest of the prisoners were set free.

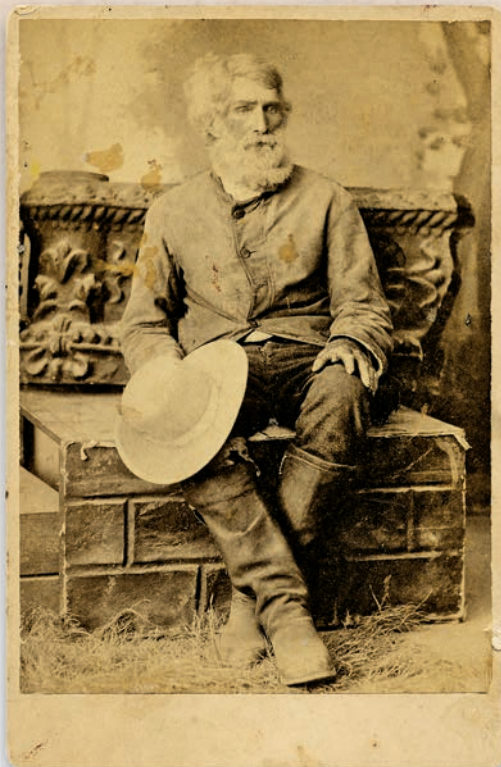
Not long after he got back, Wallace joined the Rangers in combating Indians and criminals. The Rangers became soldiers in 1846 during the Mexican War; Wallace rose to lieutenant before the fighting was done. In 1850, he contracted to carry the mail between San Antonio and El Paso, a distance of around 1,100 miles.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Wallace opposed Texas secession. But he couldn't fight against his own people, so he guarded the frontier against Indian attacks. After the war, he settled in Frio County, southwest of San Antonio, spending most of his time hunting and telling stories of his exploits. In 1883, a nearby town was renamed Bigfoot in his honor.

As the years went by, and his body weakened, Wallace stayed close to home, where he lived alone, his wife and sons having been murdered by Indians soon after the family had moved to Texas. He died on January 7, 1899. The Texas Legislature put up money to move his body to the state cemetery in Austin. A museum dedicated to him was opened in Bigfoot in 1954, and it is still the town's claim to fame.

Bigfoot Wallace remains a giant figure in Texas history, but he's still waiting for a historian to dig deep and determine the truth versus the legend.

As for me, I'm awaiting a call from *True West* about those ancient aliens. ❖



This 1880s photograph of William “Bigfoot” Wallace is owned by the Witte Museum in San Antonio, Texas.

— COURTESY WITTE MUSEUM —

THE ORIGIN OF BIGFOOT

So just where did William A.A. Wallace get his nickname?

His friend and biographer John C. Duval wrote that Wallace got the handle after fighting an oversized Waco Indian called Big Foot.

Biographer Andrew Jackson Sowell's version of that story is that, in 1839, Wallace was accused of some theft that was actually committed by that Indian. The frontiersman proved his innocence by placing his moccasined foot inside the much larger footprint of the real culprit. One of Wallace's friends started calling him Bigfoot as a joke. According to that story, that same friend was later killed by the Waco Big Foot.

Or maybe he just had big feet.

BIGFOOT AND CONAN THE BARBARIAN

One of Bigfoot Wallace's biggest fans was Texas fantasy writer Robert E. Howard, who is best known for his tales of Conan the Barbarian.

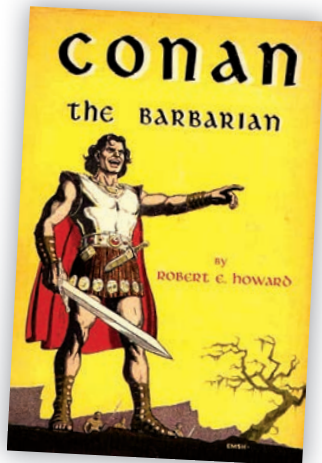
Back in the 1930s, Howard kept up a correspondence with author H.P. Lovecraft, and it's surprising how often the subject of Wallace came up.

"He [Bigfoot Wallace] is perhaps the greatest figure in Southwestern legendry," Howard told Lovecraft. "Hundreds of tales—a regular myth-cycle—have grown up around him. But his life needs no myths to ring with breath-taking adventure and heroism."

Some of Howard's letters recounted those tales in stylized language his readers would recognize.

More than one Howard chronicler has theorized that Wallace was a model for

Conan the Barbarian—huge physically and a rough and tough adventurer with a personal code of honor.



Ed Emshwiller's cover art for Robert E. Howard's *Conan the Barbarian*, published by Gnome Press in 1954, portrays a physically huge hero who some believe may be based on Bigfoot Wallace.

— COURTESY GROVE PRESS —



Frederic Remington painted the *Black Bean Lottery* that condemned 17 of 176

Texas prisoners to death in 1843 after being captured by Mexicans during the ill-fated Mier expedition. After Wallace was released in 1844, he wrote his father, "... my bad treatment while in Mexico compells [*sic*] me to return, for i am determined to fight the Mexicans so long as i live in Texas."

— COURTESY HOGG BROTHERS COLLECTION, GIFT OF MISS IMA HOGG, MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS IN HOUSTON, TEXAS —

TEXAS JOHN—THE FIRST TEXAS MAN OF LETTERS

Bigfoot Wallace's first biographer was just about as colorful as the man himself.

John C. Duval—later known as Texas John—came to Texas from Kentucky in 1835 and got involved in the Revolution. He was one of the few survivors of the Goliad Massacre (his brother died there) on Palm Sunday, 1836.

After studying engineering at the University of Virginia, Duval returned to Texas and joined the Texas Ranger company led by John Coffee Hays—which included Bigfoot Wallace. The two became friends and spent many hours swapping stories.

After serving the Confederacy in the Civil War, Duval turned to writing—mostly about the early days in Texas, including his Goliad escape. Then he penned the story of his pal, *The Adventures of Bigfoot Wallace, the Texas Ranger and Hunter*, which was published in 1870. The book was (and is) the primary source for all future Wallace biographies.

Historian J. Frank Dobie said that Duval's writings provide an important view of early Texas and qualified the author as the "First Texas Man of Letters." But Dobie added a caveat—Duval helped Wallace "stretch the blanket" a bit, so readers had to take his stories with a grain of salt.



Tom Lea illustrated Bigfoot Wallace with John C. Duval for J. Frank Dobie's book *John C Duval: First Texas Man of Letters*.

— ILLUSTRATED BY TOM LEA —

ABOVE AND BEYOND



THE CALL OF DUTY

A

bout 1980, a planchet was discovered near the Arizona community of Wheatfields, just a few miles north of

Miami, about 40 miles east of the old San Carlos reservation. Upon further inspection of the metal portion of the decoration, one could see it was a Medal of Honor. This priceless medal was lying in the midst of a few flat rocks, forming a square and covered by a bit of earth.

Who placed it there, and why did that person do so? We may never know, just as we may never resolve the intriguing story of the man who earned it: Chiquito.

Roughly a decade before Chiquito earned his medal during the 1872-73 campaign in the Tonto Basin, the Arizona Territory became the initial link to the nation's

*Arizona
Territory's
unique tie to
the nation's
badge of
courage.*

highest decoration for valor. Although the American Civil War gave birth to the Medal of Honor, the earliest action revered with the medal was a fire fight in what became Arizona Territory. The soldier who received it was an unlikely martial hero.

Bernard John Irwin received his MD at New York Medical College. Soon after graduation, he signed on as a military surgeon. By early 1861, he

had been practicing for four years in the Southwest, when word came that troops near Apache Pass were surrounded by Indians. With only 14 men, Irwin led a rescue party eastward from Fort Buchanan to link up with besieged troops under Lt. George Bascom.

The doctor-turned-combat leader and his command

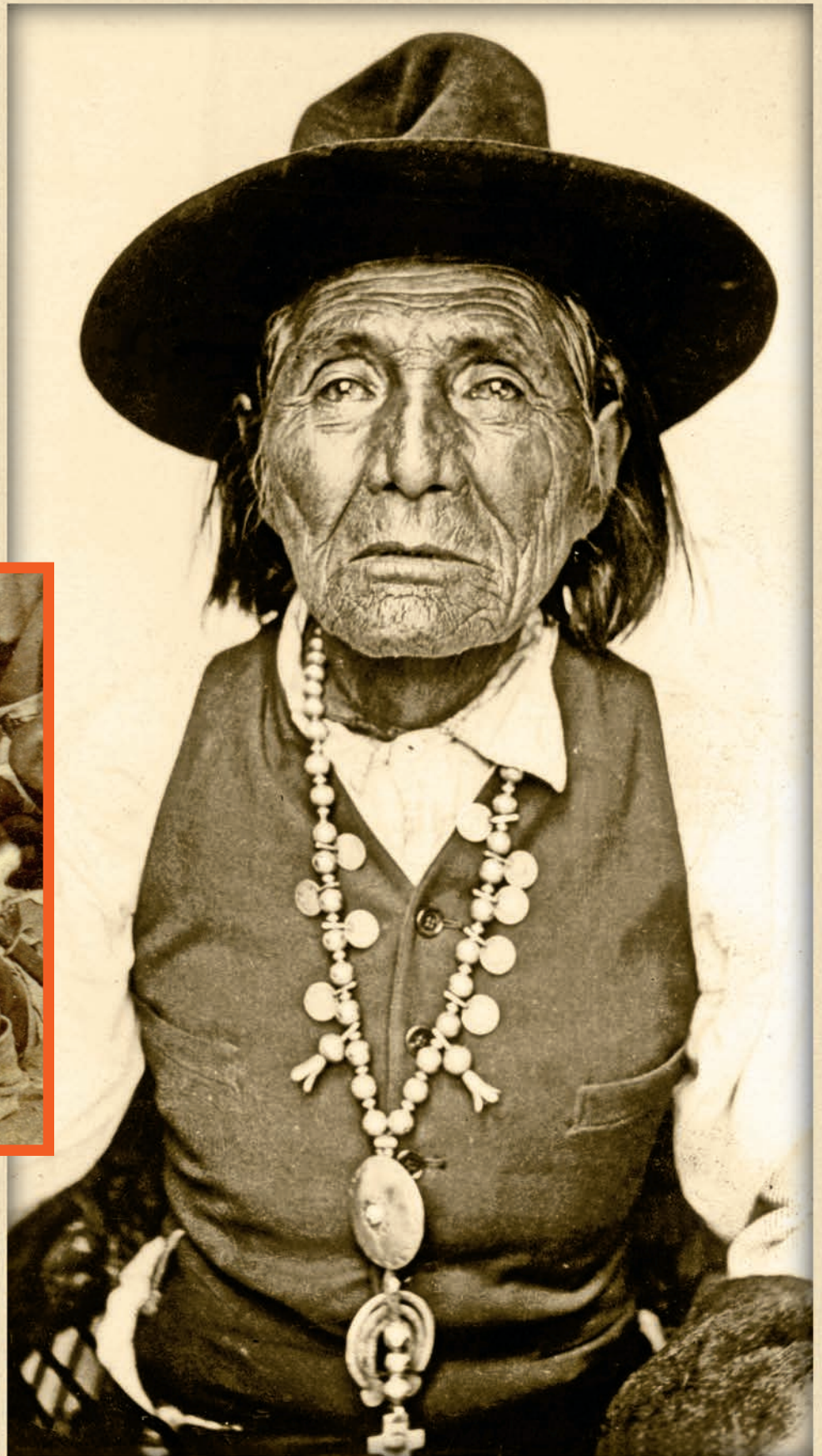
BY JOHN LANGELLIER

After the 1872-73 Tonto Basin Campaign, George Crook posed with some of his key aides and scouts (opposite page), including Chiquito and nine of the Apaches who earned the Medal of Honor for their actions during the intense fighting that took place during this series of engagements. Unfortunately few of these courageous fighters were identified except the men in the front and back rows.

- ALL PHOTOGRAPHS ON THESE TWO PAGES
COURTESY COLLECTION OF JEREMY ROWE
VINTAGE PHOTOGRAPHY, VINTAGEPHOTO.COM -



Cavalry Capt. John Bourke described the warrior Alchesay (above) as a "perfect Adonis in figure, a mass of muscle and sinew, of wonderful courage, great sagacity, and as faithful as an Irish hound." He is pictured at right, in older age, still strong, still striking. Alchesay High School in Whiteriver, Arizona is named for him.



Some of these bravest of the brave achieved prominence; others died in obscurity.

engaged in a fierce fight against Cochise and his warriors. In danger of being overrun, Irwin's column reached Bascom's anxious force in early February. The attack broke off. Decades later, Irwin was presented the Medal of Honor for his daring actions on February 13-14, 1861, the earliest engagement that resulted in the bestowal of this prestigious symbol of courage.

During the three decades that followed Irwin's daring rescue, another 156 men would follow in the doctor's footsteps, displaying extraordinary courage under fire in volatile Arizona. This number accounts for nearly one-half of all the 419 Medal of Honor recipients in the states and territories west of the Mississippi River.

Who were these men who performed so valiantly, often with disregard for their own safety? Military records indicate that the recipients came from a variety of backgrounds and diverse origins, ranging from newcomers from Ireland and other parts of Europe to 11 American Indian scouts who were born in Arizona as members of a people who came to be known as the Apaches. Some of these bravest of the brave achieved prominence; others died in obscurity.

One of those whose name would live on in the Arizona annals served with distinction during 1881, when an Apache holy man and prophet named Noch-ay-del-klinne preached the resurrection of dead warriors and leaders who would restore the ancestral lands of his people. His message eventually triggered a revival that ended in bloodshed, including his death at the hands of troops from the 6th U.S. Cavalry who took him into custody.

As part of the outbreak, a large party of the prophet's followers surrounded Fort Apache. Private First Class Will C. Barnes of the Signal Corps, at great risk to his life, scaled the heights adjacent to Fort Apache to send the message for help to lift the siege. After his military service, Barnes remained in the territory. Among his contributions to his adopted home, Barnes wrote an

important reference work titled *Arizona Place Names*.

Another future author, Lt. Charles King, would emerge as a result of a daring deed. But in King's case, he was the beneficiary of a heroic act in the heat of battle, rather than the performer of a gallant exploit. His hero was 30-year-old, St. Louis, Missouri-born Bernard Taylor, a sergeant in the 5th U.S. Cavalry. One of Taylor's superiors described the sergeant as an "admirable specimen of the Irish-American soldier" and a "daring, resolute, intelligent man, and a non-commissioned officer of high merit."

On November 1, 1874, Taylor set out from Camp Verde, Arizona, with a detachment commanded by King, in pursuit of Apaches. After making camp at Sunset Pass, the party, including a contingent of Yavapai scouts, made for high ground in order to survey the area. As King's men climbed the mesa, Apaches opened fire from ambush and struck the lieutenant in the head and eye. Eventually, another shot shattered his arm. Taylor came to the semi-conscious King's aid, and while under heavy fire, carried him a half mile back to safety. King survived.

On April 12, 1875, Taylor was presented the Medal of Honor for his selfless action. Two days later, Taylor

died of a lung disease. He was buried in the national cemetery at the Presidio of San Francisco in California.

Other enlisted men rose to the occasion, including 11 Apaches. For these Indians, enlisting provided a means to defeat their traditional enemies, continue their warrior traditions, remain on their ancestral lands, provide for themselves and their families, escape the confinement of reservation life, gain status among their people and afford a slightly better way of life than the precarious rations issued by the government. In so doing, they attempted to live within two worlds—that of the white man and that of the traditional ways of their ancestors. Whatever their reasons for joining



Nearly 35 years ago, Dwain Oliver unearthed a planchet (above) while heading to Wheatfields, Arizona. Upon inspecting the writing, he learned it was the Medal of Honor given to Chiquito for his gallant conduct during engagements with Apaches in the early 1870s.

- COURTESY DWAIN AND PEARL OLIVER -



Dr. Bernard Irwin, seen here as a colonel with his Medal of Honor pinned at his collar, would continue a long, distinguished career in uniform; he was laid to rest at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point Cemetery.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

the military, these scouts were a distinguished band of brothers. Which brings us to Chiquito. Surviving official military records tell us little about Chiquito, one of the Apache scouts from Company A who received the Medal of Honor for their actions during the Tonto Basin campaign. What is certain is that the name Chiquito appears on government rolls in reference to many scouts and other Indian males. But the man who was singled out for the Medal of Honor enlisted under Lt. Col. George Crook in 1872, under identification number 204. He was from a part of the Apache people called the Sierra Blanca, or White Mountains, by the U.S. Army. Evidently, he deserted, at least temporarily, after the Tonto Basin operations. We do not know the name by which his family called him. What happened to him after being singled out for his heroic service is also unknown.



Will C. Barnes, attired in a U.S. Army Signal Corps dress uniform, went on to write an important Arizona reference tome after receiving his badge of courage.

- COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION -

Conversely, we know a great deal more about Chiquito's fellow warrior scout, Alchesay, who joined the army probably while in his late teens. He, too, was one of the scouts recruited for the Tonto Basin campaign by Arizona Departmental Commander Crook, and for which he earned his Medal of Honor. Alchesay rose to the rank of sergeant, serving many tours of duty before becoming a headman among his so-called White Mountain Apache people. He twice visited the White House and staunchly



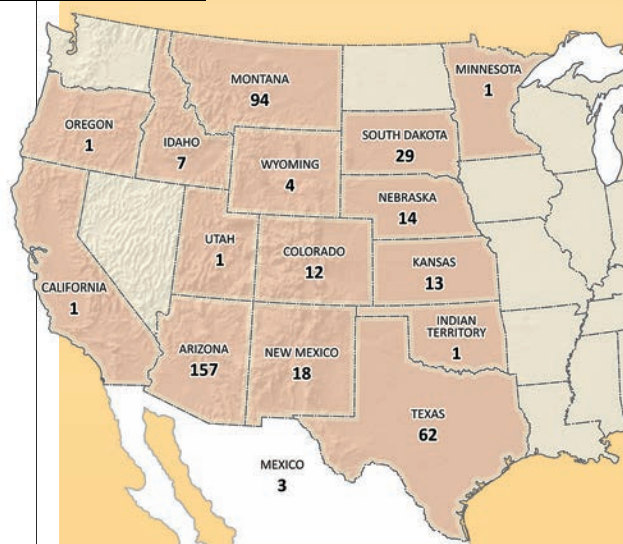
MEDALS OF HONOR

The original design for the U.S. Army's Medal of Honor was a five-pointed bronze star medallion, rimmed by 34 stars that symbolized the number of states in the Union before the Civil War's outbreak. In the center, Minerva, the goddess of wisdom and righteous war, represents America, standing over a crouching male figure symbolizing discord, which she repulses with her shield. The medal's reverse permitted engraving of the recipient's name, rank, unit and date of the action for which he was being recognized for bravery.

The first medals were made of bronze and were suspended from a ribbon that resembled the flag of the United States (top). In 1896, the flag-like ribbon was replaced by one with a center white stripe flanked by blue and red stripes (center).

By 1904, the similarity of the Medal of Honor to badges worn by the Grand Army of the Republic, a Union veterans organization, prompted Maj. Gen. George Gillespie (himself a Civil War recipient) to propose a new style. This second Medal of Honor (bottom) displayed a gold-finished star, tipped by trefoils, superimposed on a green enamel laurel wreath. Medals were awarded only to the living, until 1941, when posthumous medals recognized incredible acts of bravery as well.

- COURTESY ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER -



Map depicts Medal of Honor recipients in territories and states in the West from 1862-91.

- MAP BY TOM JONAS -

ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY



Sergeant Bernard Taylor's daring exploit in saving Lt. Charles King was depicted (left) by military artist Rufus Fairchild Zogbaum in Theo. F. Rodenbough's 1886 book, *Uncle Sam's Medal of Honor*; another version of his rescue (below), from Charles King's *The Medal of Honor*.

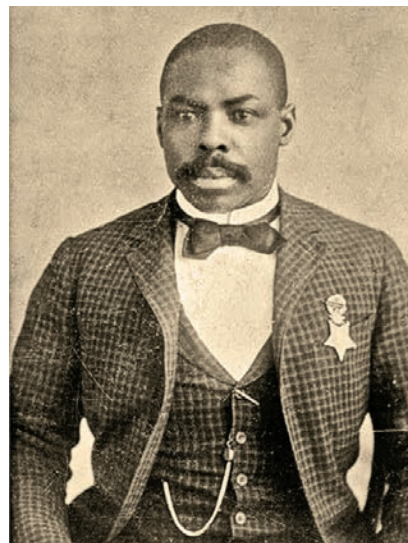
- COURTESY JOHN LANGELLIER -



championed education, stating he wished his young people to “learn the ways of the white people but to stay true to the ways of the Indian.” Bridging the old and new was a lifelong focus for the brave, wise, tireless and resilient leader in peace and war. He died on August 6, 1928, at the age of 73.

These few stories provide only a glimpse into the deeds of valor acted out on the hard fought stage of old Arizona. More of this compelling story unfolds in a new exhibit that premiered at the Arizona Historical Society Museum in Tempe this May and is open through October before it travels the state over the next three years. Some of these heroes became famous, but for most, their life stories have been lost in the midst of time, just as what prompted them to act so courageously under fire never will be known. ❖

John Langellier is the director of Arizona Historical Society's central division at Papago Park in Tempe. See AZMOH.org for more on the exhibit. He previously served as director of Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott.



On May 11, 1889, Cpl. Isaiah Mays (above), of the all-black 24th U.S. Infantry, was one of three members of a detail who remained unscathed while protecting the payroll they were escorting from a dozen or more desperados (popularly known as the Wham Paymaster Robbery); Mays was recognized for having “crawled two miles to a ranch for help.” During a sharp, 30-minute firefight, eight soldiers were hit by their ambushers.

- COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY



While pursuing the Apache to Arizona's Chiricahua Mountains, after a deadly ambush in nearby Cochise's Stronghold, the 1st U.S. Cavalry did battle on October 20, 1869. For bravery in action, First Sgt. Francis Oliver (at left) and Cpl. Thomas Powers (at right) were among the 32 cavalrymen who received the Medal of Honor on Valentine's Day in 1870.

- COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS -



Edward Godfrey was both a survivor of the disastrous 1876 Battle of Little Big Horn and a recipient of the Medal of Honor, for leading his command into action while he was severely wounded in battle at Bear Paw Mountain in Montana during the Nez Perce War of 1877.

- COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS -

Dr. Leonard Wood, the U.S. Army's Chief of Staff from 1910-14, wears his campaign medals from the Indian Wars, Cuba and the Philippines beneath his 1896-pattern of the Medal of Honor. Stationed at Arizona's Fort Huachuca, the contract surgeon was awarded the medal during the Geronimo campaign after bravery in hand-to-hand combat against the Apache in 1886.

- COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION -

Due to his bravery in the 1898 Battle of Sugar Point in Minnesota, Oscar Burkard became the last recipient to receive the Medal of Honor for bravery during Indian campaigns.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

HARPER'S WEEKLY.
JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION.
NEW YORK, SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1886.



RESCUE IN THE MOUNTAINS—THE RESCUE OF CAPTAIN SCOTT—(Done by Frederic Remington—See Page 10.)



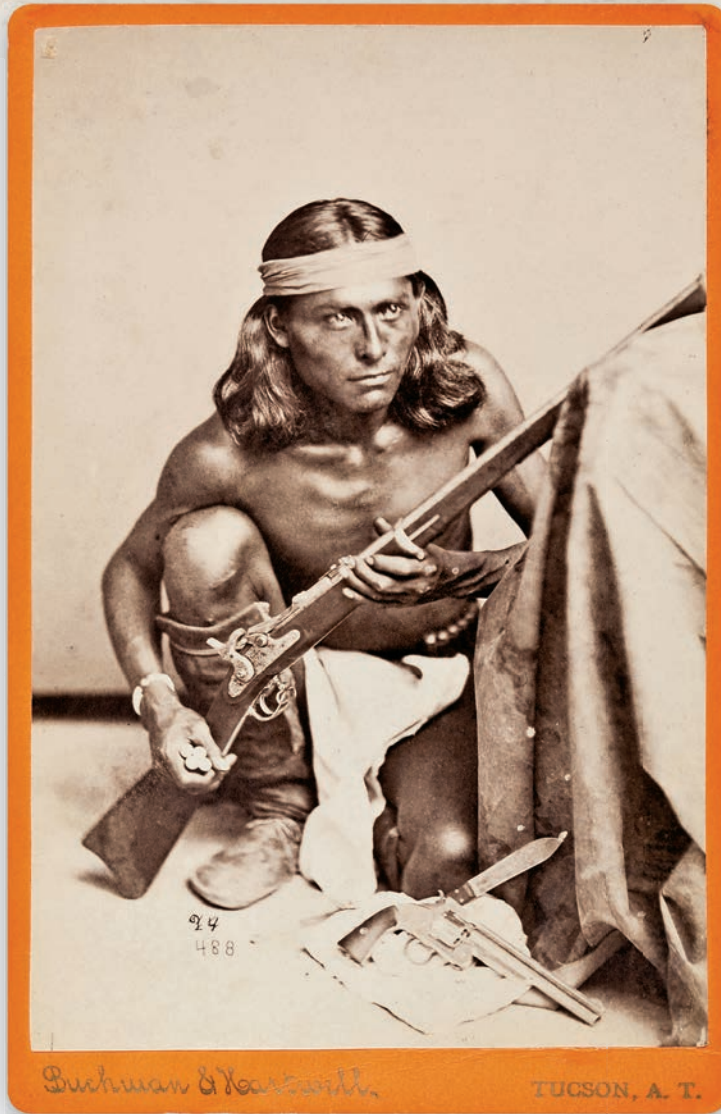
Y.B. Rowdy (standing) evidently lent his Medal of Honor to fellow scout 1st Sgt. Cut-Mouth Moses for this circa 1895 photo session. Rowdy was honored for his bravery in action with Apaches on March 7, 1890, while he was serving as a Company A scout during the Cherry Creek Campaign in Arizona.

- COURTESY ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY -



Frederic Remington depicted Lt. Powhatan H. Clarke's rescue of 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldier Cpl. Edward Scott (above right), who was under heavy fire from Apaches when he led his troops south from Arizona into Mexico. The national magazine account enhanced the artist's career and bringing the young officer to the attention of a major audience. In the circa 1886 photograph (left), Lt. Clarke wears his Medal of Honor for the daring rescue that took place on May 3, 1886, during the Geronimo Campaign.

- HARPER'S WEEKLY / CLARKE PHOTO COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS -



One of the Apache scouts hired to guide Lt. Col. George Crook's expedition during the Apache Wars, Nantaje led sharpshooters to a cave in the Tonto Basin to ambush the Yavapai during Crook's winter campaign of 1872-73. He received his Medal of Honor for saving a Yavapai boy who had been caught in the crossfire during the "Skull Cave" battle that killed 66 Yavapai.

- COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS -

Although we cannot identify many of the Indian scouts shown in the Crook photograph on p. 32, the cabinet card of Nantaje has led to a possible identification of him. The owner of the photograph, Jeremy Rowe, has located a scout who looks like him (see selection and close-up of scout).

- COURTESY COLLECTION OF JEREMY ROWE VINTAGE PHOTOGRAPHY, VINTAGEPHOTO.COM -



TRUE WEST
EXCLUSIVECLASSIC
GUNFIGHTSTHE BLAST AT
STEINS PASSBLACK JACK
KETCHUM'S GANG
VS
THREE EXPRESS
GUARDS

"BOYS, I'M DEAD."



At Steins Pass, Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum bites off a bit more than he, or his gang, can chew.

— ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL —

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker

Based on the research of
Bob Alexander and Jeffrey Burton

This classic Classic Gunfight first appeared in our April 2008 issue.

Two cowboys, Dave Atkins and Ed Cullen, step inside the Steins Pass train depot in southwestern New Mexico a few minutes past 6 p.m. and make small talk with Charles and Daisey St. John. Then the cowboys pull pistols and rob them.

Some time before 8 p.m., the outlaws take their prisoners to the railroad and express office where they are joined by Sam Ketchum, and in a few minutes, Tom Ketchum and Will Carver, who have just finished cutting the telegraph wire.

Tom and Will round up all the horses and ride two miles west of the station where they build a bonfire on either side of the tracks, right below Steins Mountain.

As westbound train number 20 chugs up the grade from Lordsburg, one of the robbers sends St. John out to turn on the red light, signaling the train to stop.

When the train halts and the conductor and brakeman run into the agent's office for their orders, they are met by drawn six-shooters and a command: "Get your hands up and keep quiet."

Three shots are fired, perhaps for effect, as the robbers run out and mount the engine and make their demands on engineer Tom North.

As the train pulls out of the station, leaving behind the conductor and brakemen, the passengers and the express car guards assume the shooting was a prank and relax. Several minutes later, though, the train approaches the bonfires and stops. Finally, it sinks in that the train is in the hands of robbers. The express agents douse the lights, arm themselves and throw open the doors. Luckily, they have the help of two extra shotgun-wielding guards, C.H. Jennings and Eugene Thacker, who were hired because of rumors of a possible robbery.

Engineer North is brought out of the locomotive and ordered to uncouple the express car so the robbers can take it up the tracks and blow the safe. While the engineer works on

the coupling, one of the express guards yells out, "No parleying will be allowed," and fires a shotgun blast for emphasis. The outlaws fire back and North, caught in the crossfire, accidentally sets the air brakes, immobilizing the train.

The outlaws call for the messenger's appearance but the demand is met by another shotgun blast from the express car.

The bonfires have unintentionally made perfect targets out of the bandits, so four of them scramble up on the engine to get out of the line of fire. Ed creeps forward under the tender and peers around the corner at the express car opening, watching his fellow outlaw (believed to be either Will Carver or Sam Ketchum) try to crawl under the express car with dynamite. The dynamite never ignites because expressman Jennings sprays buckshot at the outlaw, hitting him in the lower body.

The fight blazes for a half hour with the firepower of the expressmen's shotguns besting the five outlaws. Sam Ketchum catches two buckshot in his scalp.

Dave Atkins yells, "Sam, I'm shot." Sam inquires, "Where?"

"In the leg," Atkins responds.

A disgusted Sam Ketchum spits, "Well, you white-livered-dude, go on shooting. I'm shot twice in the head."*

All five of the outlaws receive lead from the agents' shotgun fuselage.

By 9:15, the expressmen load their shotguns with the last of the ammunition (said to be "blue whistlers") and no doubt are fretting their options. Peering out into the bonfire-lit night, Jennings spots Ed Cullen reaching into his cartridge belt. Jennings pulls the trigger on his last load, hitting Cullen in the head.

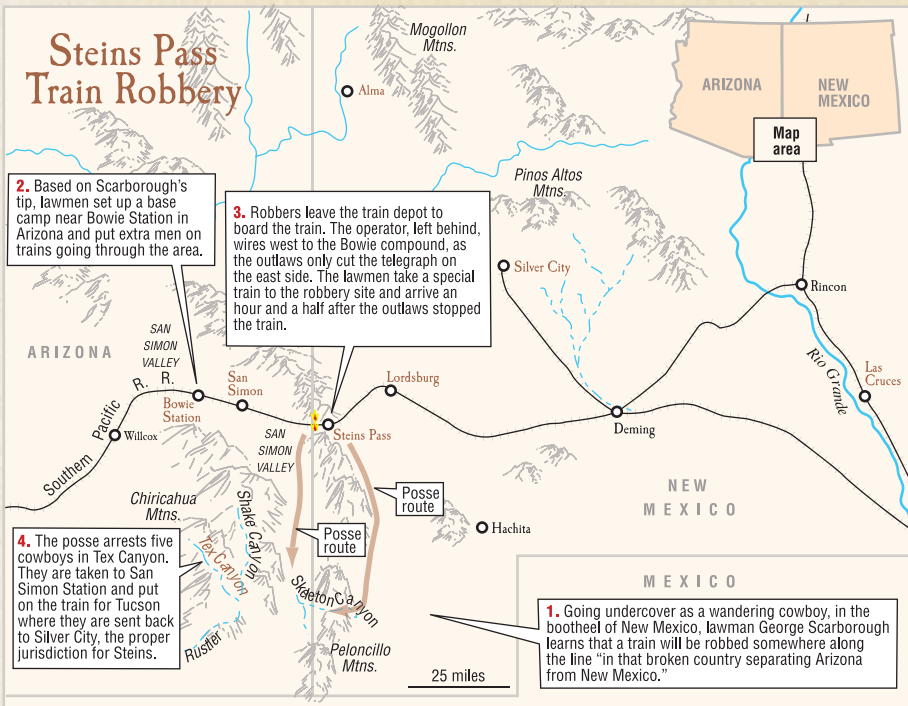
"Boys, I'm dead," moans Cullen, as he crumples to the tracks.

The dramatic and gory shooting takes the heart out of the robbers, and they hobble to their hobbled horses and disappear into the night.



* Attributed to 1901 newspaper reports of Tom Ketchum's statements before his hanging.

Steins Pass Train Robbery



A Damning Trail

Arriving at the holdup scene within an hour and a half, the assembled lawmen clearly see the tracks of the fleeing outlaws, but they decide to wait until daylight to give chase. In the morning, the posse (nine from Arizona and five from New Mexico) follows the trail southwest, then splits into two groups: one group follows the established trail, while the other, led by Jeff Milton, trail southward in a parallel route, coming out through Skeleton Canyon. The groups meet up near Tex Canyon at the south end of the Chiricahua Mountains.

In addition to an abandoned bloody handkerchief with the initials "T.K." found at Steins, the lawmen gather the following clues on the trail: an abandoned horse still saddled and a discarded pair of overalls with a bloody hole in the pants leg.

Some 75 miles from Steins, the tracks enter the mouth of Tex Canyon and lead straight toward a lonely bunkhouse. Around noon, the posse rushes the building and arrests three cowboys: Len Alverson, Walter Hovey and Bill Warderman. When two other cowboys, Tom Capehart and Henry Marshall, ride up, they are also arrested.

The circumstantial evidence is damning: Hovey is nursing a bullet hole in his leg that matches the hole in the discarded overalls and posse members find 1,000 rounds of ammunition in a wagon on the property, in addition to "enough blasting fuse and giant powder to blow up all the trains on the western continent."

Interviewed separately, the suspects give conflicting stories. Hovey claims his leg wound was caused when he and others ambushed Mexican smugglers. Alverson claims they robbed a man of mescal near the border and in a drunken stupor he, Alverson, tripped and his gun went off, the "ball ranging up through the calf of Walter's leg, coming out just below his boot top." (When Tom Ketchum was captured in 1898, the examining doctor noted "a number of scars on left leg above the knee." Were those discarded overalls his? *Quien sabe?*)

Although the eager posse members try to pin the bloody handkerchief on Tom Capehart (desperately mangling his last name to Kapehart to make it fit the T.K. monogram), it is likely the initials stood for Tom Ketchum.

A mile and a half farther up Tex Canyon, at least three of the wounded outlaws who actually did try and rob the train at Steins are waiting and watching from a cave-riddled escarpment known as the Wildcat.

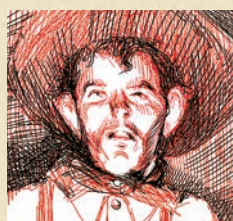


Lit Up and Shot Down

The Black Jack Ketchum gang members probably thought they were doing themselves a big, strategic favor with the twin bonfires: better to see if anyone gets off the train or tries to sneak up on them. They did not count on the express guards throwing open the door and aggressively defending their positions. The tables were turned and the bad guys were exposed, lit up and all shot down by buckshot.

The gang riding at Steins included: **Tom Ketchum** (top right), an orphan, raised by his brothers, who left his Texas home to become a trail driver, but after committing a murder, he fled. Soon after, he and his brother **Sam Ketchum** (beneath Tom) killed two men in New Mexico and hit the Owlhoot Trail for good—and bad. Train robberies and a flurry of lurid crimes followed. Also riding with the Ketchums was sometime Wild Bunch Gang member **Will Carver** (in derby), killer **Dave Atkins** (beneath Carver, some believe he was the leader at Steins) and a relative novice with a goofy handle, **Ed "Shoot'em Up Dick" Cullen** (bottom, sometimes misspelled as Bullen or Bullin), a cowboy and ranch cook for the Erie Cattle Company in Cochise County, Arizona.

Cullen earned his nickname when he told a Chinese restaurant owner, who was ordering him to pay his bill, that he was "Shoot'em up Dick" and he wouldn't take any more guff. Supposedly, the Chinese retrieved a six-shooter and pointed it at Cullen saying, "I 'Shoot'em Up Sam.' You pay."



Close Enough For Government Work

The five cowboys arrested in Tex Canyon—Hovey, Alverson, Warderman, Capehart and Marshall—are taken to San Simon, Arizona, then Tucson. On the first leg of their journey, the posse members and their prisoners pass right by a high canyon hideout called the Wildcat, where the real train robbers watch from their lofty perch.

By Christmas, the Tex Canyon five are in jail in Silver City, New Mexico. By February, all five, plus the owner of the ranch, Mr. Vinnedge (alias Cash), go on trial. The jury evidently decides keeping bad company isn't a crime and, out only 15 minutes, returns with a not guilty verdict.

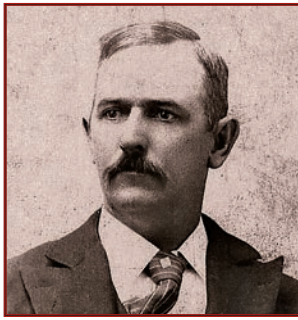
Officials led by U.S. Marshal Creighton Foraker successfully retry the men on separate federal charges (feloniously tampering with U.S. mail during the attack on the post office at Steins). This time, a jury in Las Cruces finds Capehart, Marshall and Vinnedge not guilty (although all three spend another five weeks in jail over bond issues). Warderman, Hovey and Alverson are found guilty and are kept in Pat Garrett's jail. The hard luck trio of cowboys finds itself at the Santa Fe Penitentiary in September 1898, facing ten years in prison, plus a \$500 fine and liable for \$7,000 in court costs.

A year later, as Sam Ketchum lay dying in the Santa Fe Penitentiary, he clears the three of any involvement in the Steins Pass holdup. A year after that, in 1901, an hour before Tom Ketchum walks to the gallows, he confesses his involvement at Steins and also clears the three men of participation.

Yet not until a presidential pardon from Teddy Roosevelt, more than five years after they entered prison, do the men get released.

Many in the territories still believe they are guilty. If guilty of anything, Hovey, and probably the others, did know the Ketchum crew was hiding at the Wildcat, both before and after the robbery. Hovey later says, "I never gave a posse a clue to their whereabouts, and I gained the enmity of officers by my refusal."

Boy, Howdy! Did he ever.



Winners and Losers

The U.S. marshal for New Mexico Territory, Creighton Mays Foraker (left, at top), actively persecuted the case. Express Guard Eugene Thacker (below), the son of Wells Fargo Detective John Thacker, was one of the heroes of the Steins Pass gunfight. He was only 19 at the time of the robbery.

The three Tex Canyon cowboys who served five-plus years in the Santa Fe Penitentiary are sketched at left, from top: Bill Warderman, Leonard Alverson and Walter Hovey.

Jeff Milton (bottom, at left) led one of the posses that rounded up the cowboys in Tex Canyon. He was joined by George Scarborough (bottom, at right), who worked as a range detective out of Deming. Scarborough's undercover work ultimately did in the robbers.

— THACKER: COURTESY JOHN BOESENECKER;
FORAKER: COURTESY BOB ALEXANDER AND MARILYN FORAKER —



Aftermath: Odds & Ends

After the narrow escape from Tex Canyon, the Ketchums and Carver fled back to Texas, where they held up two more trains. After another train robbery, a posse from Cimarron, New Mexico, badly wounded Sam Ketchum during a blazing gunfight in Turkey Creek Canyon. Sam escaped but was captured at a ranch and taken to Santa Fe. Sam died from his wounds in the Santa Fe prison on July 24, 1899.

Tom Ketchum was kicked out of his own gang, then captured after trying to single-handedly hold up the Folsom Flyer near Robber's Cut (so-called because members of the gang stopped trains there on three different occasions). Tom lost his arm in that affair and, subsequently his head, when he was hanged for his crimes in Clayton in 1901.

Will Carver made it to Fort Worth, Texas, in time to appear in the legendary Fort Worth Five photo, but he ended his career in a hail of bullets in Sonora on April 2, 1901.

Of all the known robbers in on the Steins Pass affair, Dave Atkins certainly ranged the farthest. After turning himself in to police in Butte, Montana, he was extradited back to San Angelo, Texas, where he found out his wife had divorced him and remarried. Jumping bail, he joined the Kaffrarian Rifles (a cavalry group) and fought in the Boer War in South Africa in 1900. After a trip home to Texas in 1902, he soon departed for Belize and Honduras, traveling widely in Mexico and South America. He returned home in 1919 and, after serving a prison term, he was judged insane in 1932 and placed in the State Hospital at Wichita Falls, where he remained until his death in 1964. He was 90.

Recommended: *Lawmen, Outlaws And S.O.Bs.: Volume II* by Bob Alexander, published by High-Lonesome Books; and *The Deadliest Outlaws* by Jeffrey Burton, published by Palomino Books.

“Upon a crosstie, where [Cullen] had fallen with the top of his head shot off, lay a lobe of his brain. A raven, following the course of travel for food carelessly tossed out by human beings, as wise old ravens do, spied the morsel on the crosstie and spread his wings to a stop as Jeff [Milton] surveyed the spot. He gobbled up the lobe with evident relish between tolerant glances at Jeff, seeming to him to say, “This is certainly good.”

—J. EVETTS HALEY, RETELLING JEFF MILTON'S STORY IN *A GOOD MAN WITH A GUN*



After the failed Steins robbery attempt, Ed “Shoot'em Up Dick” Cullen's body was taken to Lordsburg, where J.C. Burge took this photograph. A copy was given to U.S. Marshal Creighton Foraker and has only recently been published, first in Bob Alexander's book *Lawmen, Outlaws and S.O.Bs.: Vol. II.* and now here.

— COURTESY BOB ALEXANDER AND MARILYN FORAKER —

BY TOM AUGHERTON

Lewis Kingman

TRACKING A NATION'S DESTINY.

WHEN Lewis Kingman peered down into the wasteland abyss of Arizona's Diablo Canyon, the topography was a world away from the sandy dunes of his native Massachusetts. On that day in 1880, the renowned civil engineer's frustrated focus was measuring inches of rail rather than miles.

The bridge span built off-site was too short to cross the vertical drop. Kingman now faced unplanned construction delays that would soon create the unintended consequence of a legendary railroad boomtown: Canyon Diablo.

The bridge delay turned a moving collection of "small businesses" accompanying the construction into a makeshift settlement on the canyon's eastern edge. Legend has it that Main Street was soon known as "Hell Street," with nearly 2,000 residents roaring through 14 saloons, 10 gambling houses, four brothels and two dance halls 24 hours a day. The New England engineer descended from Puritans had probably never witnessed such mischief and mayhem. When the bridge was finally completed 19 months later, the boomtown slowly disappeared and Kingman's bridge and trestle crew proceeded to his next cross-country obstacle.

During his five-decade career, Kingman constructed 3,800 miles of railroad through the southwestern United States and Mexico.

Born February 26, 1845, in the town of North Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and attending public schools, Kingman's childhood was "common to that of the



While the bridge was being built across Canyon Diablo from 1880 to 1882 (left), Lewis Kingman moved ahead to construct the rail line across Arizona to keep the project on schedule, with the first train arriving at the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Station in Kingman on March 28, 1883, (seen here in 1894).

- COURTESY MOHAVE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ARTS/LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

average Massachusetts farm boy," reported *Santa Fe Magazine* in 1914.

In 1862, his father made arrangements for his son to study and work for the Boston engineering firm Shedd & Edson. The family paid \$100 for instruction and Kingman was paid for work performed.

The firm's design experience was excellent for Kingman: measuring railway inclines from under four feet of snow and lengthening the

Lowell Railroad traversing marshland.

In a few years, Kingman struck out on his own and into the chaotic boomtown of Oil City, Pennsylvania. He drilled wells, and made and lost lots of money until the 1868 Bust. With a former fraction of his savings, he relocated to the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. His first "command" was building 12-miles of railway.

From 1871 to 1873, Kingman surveyed in Colorado and New Mexico, mapping the rail route over Alpine Pass, Platte Canyon and Ute Pass to Colorado Springs.

By 1880, Kingman was surveying road (and bridge) sites for the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad (later known as the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway) across the Arizona Territory, to connect Albuquerque, New Mexico Territory, to Needles, California. Kingman located a railroad siding, which would become the town of Kingman in 1882, strategically near the crossroads at Beale's Springs. Kingman eventually became the Mexican Central Railway's chief engineer from 1895 to 1907, constructing 1,000 miles of railroad lines south of the border. After the Mexican Revolution, the government nationalized the railways, and Kingman left the field for an office position in Mexico City until his death on January 23, 1912.

"The world of ours is very much as we make it," Kingman wrote in a 1907 family history for his descendants. ✦

Tom Aughterton is an Arizona-based freelance writer. Do you know about an unsung character of the Old West whose story we should share here? Send the details to editor@twmag.com, and be sure to include high-resolution historical photos.

"The world of ours is very much as we make it."

Lewis Kingman, the namesake of the Mohave County seat, could not have imagined how his engineering work would be sustained, first by the railroad he worked for, and later, by the engineering of super highways, Route 66 and Interstate 40, parallel to his rail line along the old Beale Wagon Road.

- COURTESY MOHAVE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ARTS -



BY CANDY MOULTON

Love Song to the Plains and the Desert West

On the trail of members of the Western Writers Hall of Fame.



The dramatic nature of life, the climate and the flora and fauna of the Great Plains, including Nebraska's Sandhill Country (above), has inspired American writers for more than 150 years, including Western Hall of Fame authors, Eve Ball, Willa Cather, Angie Debo, Mari Sandoz, C.L. Sonnischen and Glendon Swarthout. Oklahoma writer Angie Debo (below, left) is the newest inductee into the Western Writers Hall of Fame.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/ COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS —



E

ach year Western Writers of America (WWA) adds a distinguished writer to the Western Writers Hall of Fame (HOF).

With the breadth and depth of writers who created "Literature of the West for the World" to select from, the decision is based on a vote of the organizational membership.

Inducted into the HOF this year is Angie Debo, a writer who broke through

boundaries when she departed from the Turner thesis to view the West as a story of conquest rather than settlement. Her first book, *The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic* set the theme of her writing as she developed major histories of the tribes of Oklahoma including *The Road to Disappearance: A History of the Creek Indians*. She also wrote *Tulsa: From Creek town to Oil Capital*; a revisionist biography, *Geronimo: The Man, His Time, His Place*; and, a

“This country was mostly wild pasture and as naked as the back of your hand.”

The Mari Sandoz Heritage Center (right) in Chadron, Nebraska, highlights the work and history of Sandoz.

— COURTESY NEBRASKA TOURISM —

summary of all tribes, *A History of the Indians of the United States*.

Debo is the latest of the important women of Western Literature to be included in the Hall of Fame.

Let’s take a little journey through the writings and the places of some other Hall of Fame members.

Sandoz and Cather write of Nebraska Landscapes

The Sandhills of northwest Nebraska inspired Mari Sandoz, known for her biographies, *Crazy Horse* and *Old Jules*, a story of her father, plus other books drawn from the landscape: *The Buffalo Hunters*, *The Cattlemen* and *The Beaver Men*. Of all her books, the one that is my personal favorite is *Love Song to the*



Plains, a homage to the landscape that shaped her and influenced everything she ever recorded with pen or typewriter.

The Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center at Chadron State College includes details about Sandoz and her work in



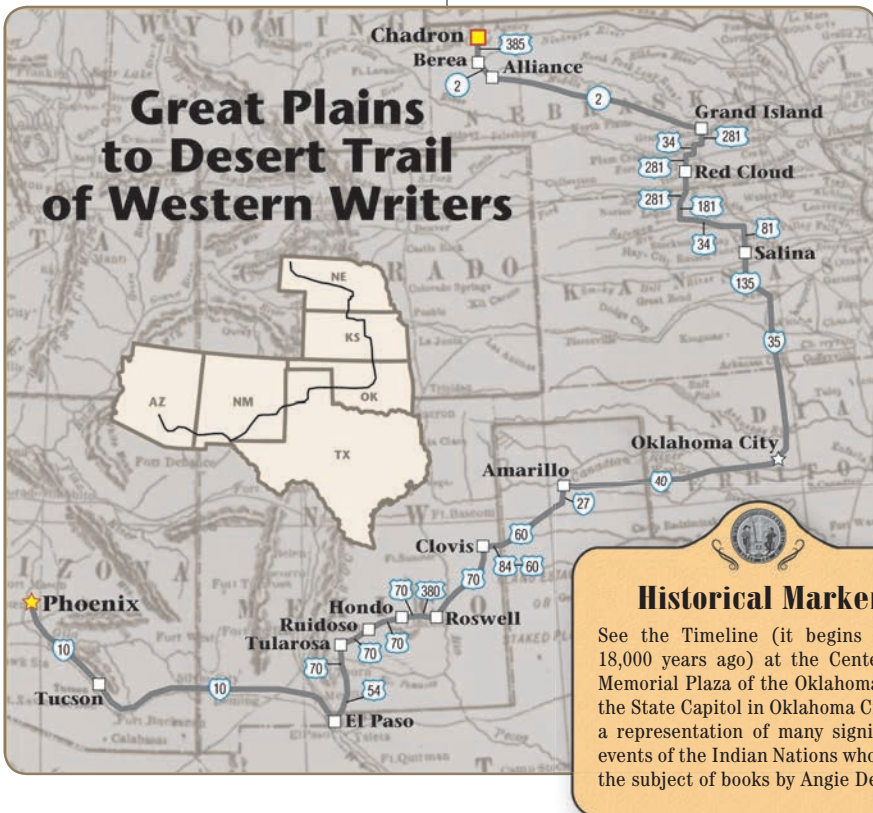
Mari Sandoz

Mari Sandoz (above) wrote the lyrical *Love Song to the Plains*, a literary biography of Crazy Horse, and the story of her father in *Old Jules*.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

the Carmen and John Gottschalk Mari Sandoz Exhibition Gallery. Sandoz won a Spur Award from WWA for her juvenile book, *The Storycatcher* and received the Saddleman Award (now called the Owen Wister Award) given for lifetime achievement from WWA in 1964. She was also inducted into the Hall of Great Westerners at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Also making a name for herself by writing the stories of Nebraska’s pioneers is Willa Cather who spent her early youth in Red Cloud, Nebraska. Although she made her home in the prairie town only six years during her childhood, Cather





Willa Cather

Willa Cather (left) drew inspiration from the Nebraska landscape for her books including *My Antonia* and *O Pioneers!*

- COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

called upon her experiences there, and most of all upon the people she knew there, for scenes and characterizations in the novels that won her critical acclaim. The community is the Sweet Water of *A Lost Lady*, the Frankfort of *One of Ours*, the Haverford of *Lucy Gayheart*, the Black Hawk of *My Antonia* and the Hanover of *O Pioneers!*

Among the individuals she knew who cropped up in her work, the best known character is Antonia, drawn from the real-life Annie Pavelka, while the Harling Family in *My Antonia* is based upon the family of her best friend, Carrie Miner. Similarly Cather used real places for her scenes and settings. The Garber Grove and Garber house in Red Cloud sit within a thick growth of cottonwood, which marks the original site of the Red Cloud Stockade, the Silas Garber House and his earlier dugout. Cather wrote *A Lost Lady* about Lyra Garber, wife of Silas, the man who once served as Nebraska's governor. The homestead of Cather's uncle, George Cather, southwest of Bladen, became the setting for her

Pulitzer Prize winning novel *One of Ours*. Of course the Pavelka farmstead, also located near Bladen, became a setting for *My Antonia*.

The Pavelka homestead is part of a Bohemian settlement in Webster County, and is now included on the National Register of Historic Places, due to its Bohemian influence and also because of Cather's writings. The Republican River itself became a predominant setting—almost a character—in several of Cather's works.

Located just south of Red Cloud is the Willa Cather Memorial Prairie, a 600-acre area now owned by the Nature Conservancy. The prairie characterizes the land Cather and her family found when they arrived in Nebraska, and it had

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Willa Cather spent her childhood in Red Cloud, Nebraska, a town that still has many buildings (right) directly connected to the acclaimed Western writer including this home where she lived with her family.

- COURTESY NEBRASKA TOURISM -



a profound, and lasting influence on Cather. She once wrote: "This country was mostly wild pasture and as naked as the back of your hand. I was little and homesick and lonely and my mother was homesick and nobody paid any attention to us. So the country and I had it out together and by the end of the first autumn, that shaggy grass country had gripped me with a passion I have never been able to shake. It has been the happiness and the curse of my life."

The people of Red Cloud and Webster County call the area Catherland. They promote it with an annual festival the first weekend in May devoted to Willa Cather's work.

The Nebraska State Historical Society has preserved Cather's childhood home.

This route takes us through Oklahoma, the home of the people most central to Angie Debo's books. She is remembered for *And Still the Waters Run*, a controversial assessment of how Indian lands in Oklahoma were taken from the tribes. Debo also wrote two books that fall in the fictional realm, albeit with a large measure of history thrown in: *Prairie City: The Story of an American Community* and *Tulsa: From Creek Town to Oil Capital*.

Southwest History, Novels and Screenplays

From Angie Debo's Oklahoma, I continue south to Texas where Charles Leland Sonnichsen, known to friends and colleagues as Doc Sonnichsen, worked and wrote. This English professor at the University of Texas El Paso also chaired the English Department, served as dean of

Zane Grey

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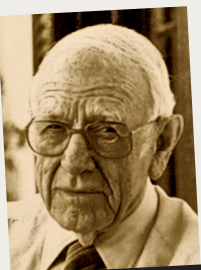
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Charles Leland Sonnichsen

This old relic is located in the little town of Langtry, Texas, which was the abode of Judge Roy Bean--a "Saloon," and also a "Hall of Justice," he being the only Peace Officer west of the Pecos river, at the time this photo was made, about 1900, and shows Judge Bean holding court, trying a horse-thief. Left of the picture is the stolen horse. On horses, guarded by officers are two other horse thieves, supposed partners of the one on trial.

The Lippe Studio, Del Rio, Texas.

the graduate school and became a renowned researcher and writer. Among his 27 books are *Roy Bean: Law West of the Pecos*; *Cowboys and Cattle Kings*; *The Mescalero Apaches*; *Tularosa: Last of the Frontier West*; *Pass of the North: Four Centuries on the Rio Grande* (two volumes); *Colonel Greene and the Copper Skyrocket*; *From Hopyalong to Hud: Thoughts on Western Fiction*; and, his books on Texas feuds, *I'll Die Before I'll Run*, *Ten Texas Feuds* and *Outlaw: Bill Mitchell, Alias Baldy Russell*.

Doc Sonnichsen, too, has Spur and Saddleman Awards from WWA, along with a slew of other recognition.

Eve Ball devoted her life and her writing to the Apaches she came to know while living around Ruidoso, New Mexico. Among her best-known books are *In the Days of Victorio* and *Indeh: An Apache Odyssey*, co-authored by Lincoln County residents Nora Henn and Lynda A. Sánchez. Her use of Indian oral history for both histories was ground-breaking.

Ball earned college degrees in Kansas, and taught there, but during WWII she relocated to Hobbs, New Mexico, and later to Ruidoso, where she bought property near Ruidoso Downs, the famous horse-racing track.

El Paso, Texas, resident C. L. "Doc" Sonnichsen made his mark as a writer of borderlands history, including his biography of Judge Roy Bean (above).

— COURTESY WESTERN WRITERS OF AMERICA —

This was on a route Apaches took when they walked to town from the Mescalero Apache Reservation. The Apaches would stop and visit with Ball, who provided them with cold water, or sometimes a glass of lemonade.

In their first "visits" she would ask questions and get "yes" and "no" answers. But in time she realized "that the fewer questions I asked, the more they would tell me," she once said. The visits became interviews with such individuals as James Kaywaykla, nephew of Warm Springs Chief Victorio and grandson of Nana, and Ace Daklugie, a nephew of Geronimo.

She also wrote articles for Western magazines, including *True West* and *Frontier Times*. Her short subject article, "Buried Money" published by



Eve Ball

In the 1940s, historian Eve Ball moved to Ruidosa, New Mexico, near the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation, and began a 40 year relationship with the tribal members (photographed for the Works Progress Administration by Arthur Rothstein in 1936), earning their trust and recording their oral history.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/LYNDA SANCHEZ —

Zane Grey (right, holding hat) loved spending time at his cabin near Payson, Arizona, and hunting, fishing and riding the wild lands of the Mogollon Rim country, which inspired many of his novels, including *To the Last Man*, based on the Pleasant Valley War.

— COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

True West won her a Spur Award from WWA for 1974.

Zane Grey wrote books strongly rooted in the traditional West. This man who studied dentistry in Pennsylvania, first saw Arizona on a mountain lion hunting trip. The landscape captured him, and he began writing of the Southwest. Grey's *Riders of the Purple Sage*, published in 1912, propelled him to Western writer stardom. He churned out books, writing in a cabin on the Mogollon Rim in Arizona, bringing to readers around the world stories of the Southwest and Manifest Destiny. In 1990, the Dude Fire burned the Zane Grey Cabin, which had been restored and had become a popular tourist destination. In 2003, a replica of the Zane Grey Cabin was rebuilt in Payson on the grounds of the Rim Country Museum. Also, the Zane Grey Museum in Lackawaxen, Pennsylvania, is far from the landscape where he set so many of his books, but it holds collections related to his Western writing career.



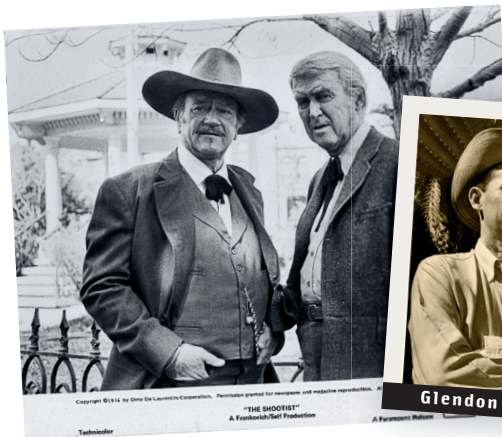
Zane Grey

Glendon Swarthout came from Michigan to Arizona and created characters larger than life, developing storylines that would transcend generations. One of his best-known stories, *The Shootist*, was adapted for film by his son Miles Swarthout, and became the final, powerful film role for John Wayne. Swarthout turned to the Nebraska plains for another of his signature character studies, *The Homesman*, a tough story about Nebraska homesteader women who, unable to deal with the isolation, hard work and sometimes unbearable loss they face in their lives, are sent back east with a man whose job it is to take them to a home where they can be more secure. This novel is now on the big screen in a film released this year starring Tommy Lee Jones, Meryl Streep and Hillary Swank.

Other Swarthout books also became films including *Seventh Cavalry*, *They Came to Cordura* and *Bless the Beasts & Children*, all produced by Columbia Pictures, and *A Christmas to Remember*, which became a CBS movie in 1978. In a departure from the West, his early work as a college professor gave him a unique view of life and led him to write *Where the Boys Are*, a comic account of the spring break ritual of college students from Michigan State, which became an instant beach story classic when filmed by MGM in 1960.

A common theme for all these writers is how the landscape from the Great Plains to the Southwest shaped their work.

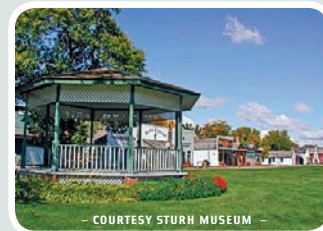
Candy Moulton is the executive director of Western Writers of America.



Glendon Swarthout

Glendon Swarthout's *The Shootist* was adapted for the big screen by his son Miles Swarthout, starring John Wayne and Jimmy Stewart (above).

— COURTESY MILES SWARTHOUT/WARNER BROS —



— COURTESY STURH MUSEUM —

PLACES, CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

Mari Sandoz High Plains Research Center, *Chadron, NE*; Sturh Museum of the Prairie Pioneer, *Grand Island, NE* (used as the set for filming of several films including the Willa Cather stories including *My Antonia*); Willa Cather Memorial Prairie, *Red Cloud*; Marshall, *OK*, a model for Angie Debo's *Prairie City*, is an Oklahoma Literary Landmark, as is the *Oklahoma State University Library*, where Debo's papers are housed; *National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma City*; *Rim Country Museum and Zane Grey Cabin, Payson, AZ*; *National Road/Zane Grey Museum, Zanesville, OH*.

Pilster Great Plains Annual Lecture Series, *Mari Sandoz Heritage Society, Chadron, NE*; *Willa Cather Spring Annual Conference, Red Cloud, NE*; *Zane Grey Day, National Road/Zane Grey Museum, Zanesville, OH*.



GOOD EATS AND SLEEPS

Best Grub: The Chocolate Bar, (*Grand Island, NE*); County Line B-B-Q, (*Oklahoma City, OK*); Blue Goose Café, (*Ruidoso, NM*); El Chorro, (*Paradise Valley, AZ*).

Best Lodging: Best Western West Hills Inn, (*Chadron, NE*); Cather Second Home, (*Red Cloud*); Camino Real, (*El Paso, TX*); Arizona Inn, (*Tucson, AZ*); Hotel Monte Vista, [*Zane Grey stayed here*] (*Flagstaff*).



GOOD BOOKS AND FILMS

Books: *Love Song to the Plains* by Mari Sandoz; *My Antonia* by Willa Cather; *A History of the Indians of the United States* by Angie Debo; *In the Days of Victorio* by Eve Ball; *I'll Die Before I Run* by C. L. Sonnichson; *The Shootist* by Glendon Swarthout

Films: *My Antonia* (USA Network); *Love & Loneliness on the Plains*, on Mari Sandoz and Willa Cather (PBS); "Indians, Outlaws and Angie Debo," *American Experience* (PBS); *The Homesman* (EuropaCorp); *The Shootist* (Paramount Pictures).

WESTERN MOVIES

DVD & TV SERIES
BY C. COURTNEY JOYNER

Bull Doggin'

Screenwriter reveals the original ending for *The Honkers*, a Western caught in a rare rodeo race.



Steve Ihnat (standing at left) and Stephen Lodge (at right) unknowingly found themselves in a rodeo film race when they teamed up to write *The Honkers*.

- ALL THE HONKERS IMAGES
COURTESY STEPHEN LODGE -



aunt and uncle worked for Monogram Pictures,

Lodge had frequently found himself on dusty backlot streets watching Johnny Mack Brown, Andy Devine and Roy Rogers go through their paces. Lodge later found his own place in the industry as a top costumer for TV series that included 1967's *Dundee and the Culhane* and 1968-70's *Here Come the Brides*.

While working in wardrobe, Lodge met Ihnat. "Steve did some shows I worked on, *The Fugitive* and *Here Come the Brides*, and we would talk about a little film he'd just finished directing [*Do Not Throw Cushions Into the Ring*]. I told him about a script I'd written with Dave Cass Sr. that I was happy with, and he wanted to read it. I had no idea what he had in mind, but he took it home, came back and asked if I'd like to work on a rodeo script with him," Lodge says.

The surprise for Lodge was that Ihnat had even less rodeo experience than he did. "It took us four weeks to write the first draft, and then we went to see a rodeo. Steve had never seen one as far as I know," Lodge says, "so that's how we picked up all the color and details."

Their script attracted the attention of Martin Ransohoff, famous for producing *The Cincinnati Kid*, but they couldn't strike a deal. Within days, their project was picked up by TV moguls Arthur Gardner, Jules Levy and Arnold Laven, who were making films for United Artists. "This all happened very quickly, which is highly unusual, as you know," Lodge admits. "I'd seen *The Rifleman* and had worked on the same lot as *The Big Valley*, but hadn't had any contact with them before, but it's how I met Jules and Arthur."

The next step was securing leading man James Coburn. Coburn gives one of his most unaffected performances in the film, but Lodge wasn't even consulted on the casting of his script. "The casting was Jules and Art and Steve, but I ended up doing wardrobe, which actually kept me on the set the entire show, more than just as the writer. So I got to see how everything was going," he says. "But they cut the ending. We had a wonderful ending, originally, with Jim riding the yellow bull. This was after the bull had killed Slim's character, and Jim goes and rides the bull late at night in

When actor and director Steve Ihnat approached Stephen Lodge to work with him on a screenplay that eventually became *The Honkers*, Lodge had no idea he was in a race against Cliff Robertson and Sam Peckinpah.

"Steve's agent heard that rodeo movies were going to be the next big thing, and that's why he wanted Steve to write one. We didn't know that there would be two others around town and made at the same time, *J.W. Coop* and *Junior Bonner*," Lodge says.

Born for Western movies, Lodge was more than equipped for the task of writing *The Honkers*, which would be his first produced film as a screenwriter. An insatiable cowboy fan as a boy, whose

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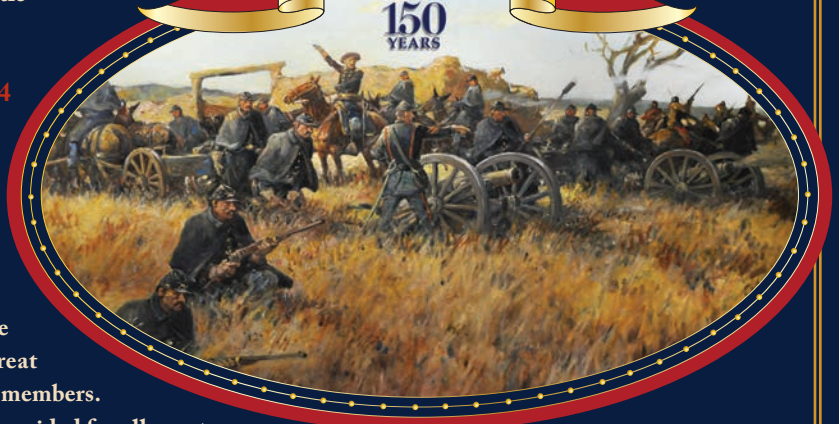
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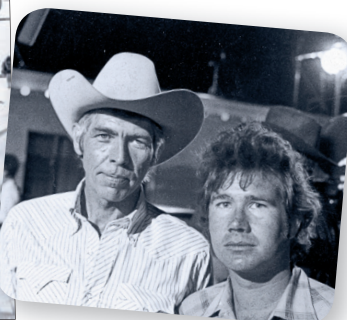
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The *Honkers* crew was close. Slim Pickens even gave cowriter and director Steve Ihnat a neck rub (above). And although cowriter Stephen Lodge almost found himself at odds with James Coburn, he admired the actor's star quality (inset, Coburn and Lodge).

the empty arena, until they're both worn out. He faced it down. It was kind of our *Moby-Dick*, to have that passion of Jim's character to beat that bull."

Even so, *The Honkers* retains a genuine feel of the sport, as well as great affection for its characters, thanks to the writing and the wonderful cast. "I'd never met Slim Pickens before, but you meet him, and it's like you had known him forever," Lodge also has high praise for leading lady Lois Nettleton: "Isn't she great? She's so natural, and just the sweetest thing."

One actor Lodge found himself at odds with was Coburn. "I thought Jim was a bit arrogant, but I loved him on screen," Lodge says. "When we were fitting him for his jeans, he looked in the mirror and thought he looked terrible. Well, he had them up almost to his belly button. Slim was in the trailer too, and he said, 'Let me show ya,' and pulled the jeans down around Coburn's hips, the way the rodeo cowboys wore 'em. He loved that. He was happy as could be, because now he looked the part. Thank God for Slim."

The New Mexico filming lasted six weeks, with a great deal of work going into the naturalistic rodeo sequences. "We had to shoot the rides from two angles, facing the crowd and facing the chutes. Part of the ride was done one day, and the next part, another, and it all cut together just great. We had some great rides from the cowboys," Lodge says.

The cowboys brought more to *The Honkers* than their time in the saddle. "We had a bunch of old rodeo cowboys who I knew from other shows. Between them, the wranglers and the extras, we picked their brains to find out how they felt about things," Lodge says. "We also got a lot from Slim, from his rodeo days.

"Even though Steve and I wrote the thing together, we had totally different ideas about how it was going to look. But we'd get together after a day's work, have a drink and talk over the shooting."

Behind the camera was James Crabe, pre-*Rocky*, and the editor was Tom Rolf, who later cut *Taxi Driver* and won an Oscar for *The Right Stuff*. "I liked James

Crabe, and I worked with his operator on my own short film afterwards," Lodge says. "I thought Tom Rolf was great."

The Honkers was released in 1972, as were *J.W. Coop*, *Junior Bonner* and *When the Legends Die*. These rodeo films

"It was kind of our *Moby-Dick*, to have that passion of Jim's character to beat that bull."

effectively canceled each other out at the box office. They all had remarkable quality and heart, but nobody truly won the "rodeo race."

At its center, *The Honkers* is the most naturalistic in its unblinking portrait of a rough-hewn cowboy and the deep love he gets from his friends and family, even if he can't return it. Coburn is no softie; he is what he is, making few apologies.

But Lodge's Ahab-like finale, with Coburn finally riding the yellow bull—his honker, a rank and hard animal to

ride—would have given *The Honkers* a note of victorious drama, rather than leaving it open-ended. Good or bad, life keeps rolling along, and that, ultimately, could have been the sharpest point of *The Honkers*.

Lodge has gone on to write fine novels, such as *Charley Sunday's Texas Outfit*, and other movies, including the cult classic *Kingdom of the Spiders*, yet he looks back on his first produced script with deserved pride: "I'd do it over again if I could."



DVD REVIEW THE OKLAHOMA KID

(Warner Archive; \$21.99) The mention of the amazing sight of James Cagney and Humphrey Bogart snarling at each other from under 10 gallon

hats, holding six-shooters usually draws a "You're kidding!" from people who have never seen the 1939 film, but this newly mastered release from Warner Archive offers a chance for rediscovery.

Always at war with Jack Warner over roles, Cagney loved the chance to ride west, and his pugnacious personality fills his role as the Kid, strikingly different than the usual laconic Westerner. Cagney's character airs views about the treatment of the Indian tribes that give the Western an additional layer of authority.

But *The Oklahoma Kid's* concern is action, with a superb land rush sequence, huge brawls and that famous 1930s Warner Bros. energy. Cagney even warbles "I Don't Want to Play in Your Yard" before he socks the ever-present Ward Bond for interrupting him.

During all of this, Bogart, dressed in black, makes plans to take care of the Kid. You can't help but smile to see Bogie so out of place, although he's miles ahead of his performance as the Mexican gun runner in 1940's *Virginia City*.

The Oklahoma Kid is fast-paced fun, filmed when Warner Bros. was at its legendary best. This Western is a hoot.



C. Courtney Joyner is a screenwriter and director with more than 25 produced movies to his credit. He is the author of *The Westerners: Interviews with Actors, Directors and Writers*.

A large promotional image for the TV series 'Hell on Wheels'. It features two men in Western attire: one in a black hat and coat holding a revolver, and another in a light-colored hat and coat holding a rifle. The title 'HELL ON WHEELS' is written in large, distressed red letters across the center. Below the title is the AMC logo. In the foreground, there is a Blu-ray/DVD box set for 'The Complete Third Season', which also features the title and AMC logo. At the bottom, text reads 'THE COMPLETE THIRD SEASON COMING TO BLU-RAY™ & DVD JULY 15' and 'HELL ON WHEELS SEASON 4 RETURNS AUG 2 SATURDAY 9/8c AMC'. Logos for Amazon.com, AMC, and eOne are also present.

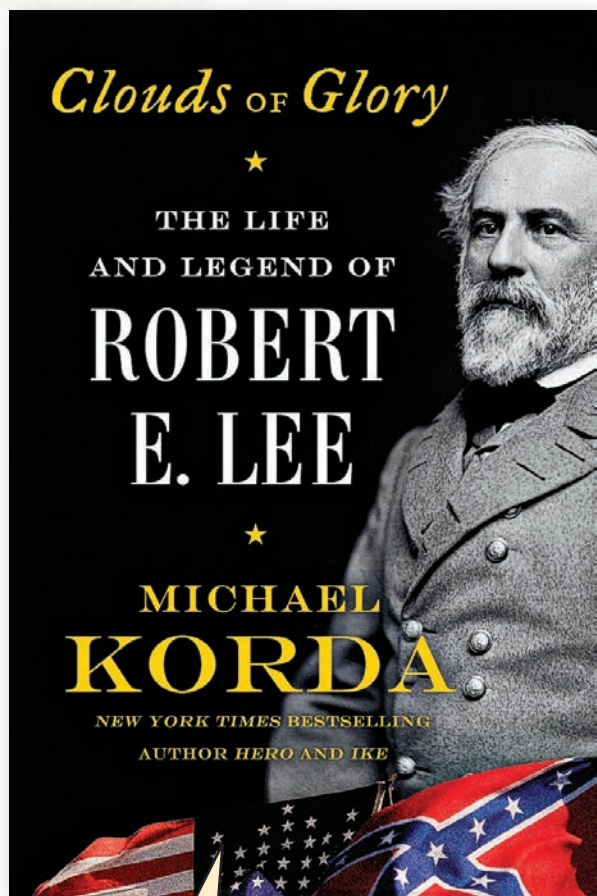
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Robert E. Lee's Legacy East and West

Lee's life 150 years since the Civil War, George A. Custer reconsidered, the fate of a Plains tribe, a fast-paced, classic Western and a retelling of a frontier feud.

As the United States commemorates the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, historians have had an opportunity to revisit the legacy and lives of America's most significant leaders and their roles in shaping American history, North and South, East and West, in the 19th century and beyond. Former editor in chief of Simon & Schuster Michael Korda's latest biography *Clouds of Glory: the Life and Legend of Robert E. Lee* (HarperCollins, \$40) is a seminal, reexamination of the American hero, and how his family, life and actions as a soldier, leader and educator, before and after the Civil War, significantly contributed to the growth and development of the United States, including the American West. Most significantly, Korda enlightens the reader on the duality of Lee's life and his inner conflicts: the fact that Lee spent more of his distinguished military career in the West versus the years leading the Confederate army; his dislike of slavery, but opposition to northern abolitionists; his loyalty to family, friends and home state of Virginia, over his Army commission and



Author Michael Korda's biography of Robert E. Lee provides greater understanding of Lee's military career in the West, including his engineering of the port of St. Louis on the Mississippi River prior to his service in the Mexican-American War.

- COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

"Lee might have been reluctant to go to war to defend an institution that he disliked and thought the South would be better off without, like most southerners he also believed that the Federal government had no business imposing northerners' views on the 'slave states....'"



According to author Korda's book, Capt. Lee's valiant leadership at the Battle of Chapultepec, foreshadowed his generalship of the Confederate army.

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Constitutional oath. According to Korda's book, "Lee might have been reluctant to go to war to defend an institution that he disliked and thought the South would be better off without, like most southerners he also believed that the Federal government had no business imposing northerners' views on the 'slave states. ...' His opinions, in short, were moderate by the southern standards of his time."

For historians—and aficionados—of the American West, Korda's biography of Lee is essential to understanding his role in shaping the history of the Western United States, both before, during and even, after the Civil War. Second in the class of 1829 at West Point, Lee was trained as an engineer, and spent the first five years of his career building forts along the Eastern Seaboard. In 1835, he had his first venture west, assigned by the Army to survey the border between Ohio and the Michigan Territory to settle a feud between the neighbors that had originated in 1787. While not necessarily enamored with the Great Lakes region, Lee's role in the history of the Midwest and the Mississippi River Valley, and ultimately the Trans-Mississippi West, had just begun. In the spring of 1837, Lee accepted his most important assignment: the engineering of the Mississippi River at St. Louis. Lee did not know it, but his most significant professional work until the Civil War, would

be in the West. Following his success in St. Louis, Lee would begin his first of three tours of duty in Texas: first under the command of Gen. Winfield Scott (serving alongside his future opponent, Ulysses S. Grant) in the Mexican-American War from 1846 to 1848. In 1855, after a tenure as superintendent of West Point, Lee was part of a major Army contingent sent first to Kentucky and Missouri to train troops, and then to Texas to protect the border frontier. His final assignment before the Civil War, which followed his famous capture of John Brown at Harper's Ferry, was first as commander of the Department of Texas and then as regimental commander at the frontier outpost, Fort Mason. After Texas seceded in February 1861, Lee found himself temporarily a prisoner-of-war, before he was called back by Gen. Scott to take command of the Union forces. His refusal over loyalty to Virginia ended Lee's service to his nation, but began his actions that would shape his country forever in war and peace.

Extremely well researched, written narratively for a popular audience with detailed endnotes and extensive bibliography, Korda's biography of Lee should be well-enjoyed by all interested in gaining a greater understanding of one of the most influential leaders in American history, before and after the Civil War, East and West.
—Stuart Rosebrook



The summer is heating up and publishers are beginning to release news on their fall catalogs. One book I've been looking forward to is Max Evans memoir *Goin' Crazy with Sam Peckinpah and All Our Friends* as told to Robert Nott (University of New Mexico Press). Congrats to Max who is also celebrating his 90th birthday in August!

Congratulations to all the 2014 WWA Spur Award Fiction and Nonfiction book winners:

Best Western—Contemporary Novel

Light of the World: A Dave Robicheaux Novel
by James Lee Burke (Simon & Schuster)

Best Western—Historical Novel

Silent We Stood by Henry Chappell
(Texas Tech University Press)

Best Western—Traditional Novel

Crossing Purgatory
by Gary Schanbacher (Pegasus)

Best First Novel

Spider Woman's Daughter
By Anne Hillerman (HarperCollins)

Best Western Nonfiction—Historical

Shot All to Hell: Jesse James, the Northfield Raid, and the Wild West's Greatest Escape
by Mark Lee Gardner (William Morrow/
HarperCollins).

Best Western Nonfiction—Contemporary

Vacationland: Tourism and Environment in the Colorado High Country by William Philpott (University of Washington Press)

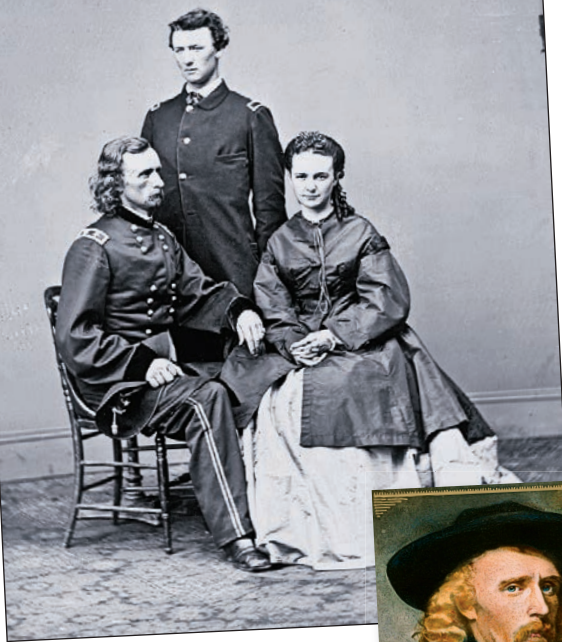
Best Western Nonfiction—Biography

Jack London: An American Life by Earle Labor (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

Go to WesternWriters.com for more information on all the nominees and their books.

—Stuart Rosebrook





In *The Real Custer*, biographer James C. Robbins reveals fresh interpretations of the life of Gen. George A. Custer and his relationship to his wife Libby (above, at right) and his brother Tom (above, center), and how that fateful day at Little Big Horn on June 25, 1876, forever tied their destinies together.

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A Hero Reconsidered

James C. Robbins's *The Real Custer—From Boy General to Tragic Hero* (Regnery History, \$29.99) is a well-written 400-page epic adventure that details the highs and lows of one of America's most controversial figures.

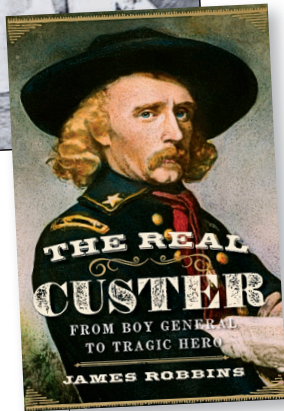
His treatment of Custer is fair and even-handed. The most impressive aspect of the volume is the "Boy General's" cadet years and his fearless exploits during the Civil War. Historians familiar with the

subject will find few new revelations, but for the casual reader who desires a

truly dedicated exploration of Custer the man and soldier placed in the context of his time—this is the real thing. —*Michael Donahue, author of Drawing Battlelines: The Map Testimony of Custer's Last Fight*

Kansas Tribe Reconsidered

Ronald D. Parks engaging account, *The Darkest Period: The Kanza Indians and Their Last Homeland, 1846-1873* (University of Oklahoma Press, \$34.95) tells a familiar story of a tribe struggling to withstand destructive and inconsistent federal policies. Being compelled to accept a reservation, soon to be diminished, that was crossed by the Santa Fe Trail, plagued by white squatters and encompassed by the boomtown of Council Grove, intensified the assault on Kanza lands, culture and livelihood. They also suffered from debts



DEATH OF A TEXAS RANGER

The true story of the murder of a Texas Ranger and his son's quest for justice.



On July 9, 1873, Texas Ranger Private Cesario Menchaca shot and killed his sergeant, John F. Green, during a scout. Award-winning author Cynthia Leal Massey deftly reveals in *Death of a Texas Ranger* the historical intricacies behind this mysterious killing and the victim's son's quest for justice.

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—Chuck Parsons, author of *Pidge, Texas Ranger*.

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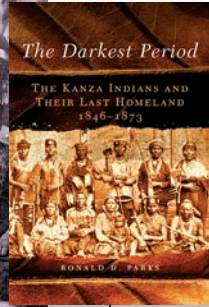
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Ronald D. Parks expertly tells the story of the fate of the Kanza Indians in *The Darkest Period*, including the lives of chiefs (from far left) Allegawaho, Fool Chief and Watianga, and their role as leaders during the Kanza's relocation from central Kansas to the Indian Territory.

— COURTESY KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY —



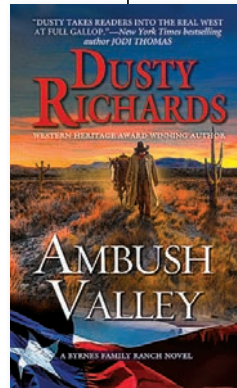
Marshal Chet Byrnes Rides Again!

In Dusty Richards' *Ambush Valley* (Pinnacle, \$6.99), Deputy U.S. Marshal Chet Byrnes moves to Arizona Territory to escape a Texas feud. He wants to

find peace as a rancher, but Mexican bandits are raping women and shooting lawmen, and Byrnes has to confront them. Readers meet Billy the Kid and Tom Horn, and follow action across the Verde Valley, in Prescott's Palace Saloon and other familiar Arizona haunts. With 85 novels to his credit, Richards, a *True West* favorite, gives us snappy dialogue and plenty of action to keep the

story moving along. And it helps to have a strong character like Byrnes who warns a malcontent not to challenge him, saying, "I know where there's cottonwood trees at the base of this mountain that could stretch your neck. ..."

—Leo W. Banks, author of *Manhunts and Massacres*



Deadly Feud Truths Revealed

Historians know that they need sympathetic understanding of the lives they are examining, but also that no one can tell them how or where to find it. Who is telling it true, half-true,

to traders, the whiskey trade and enemy tribal attacks. Although retaining their identity and many cultural ways, they lost their Kansas homeland and were moved to Indian Territory in 1873. Parks relies primarily on Indian Office sources, as well as newspapers, and includes an exceptional number of useful maps. — Wade Davies, author of *Navajo Health Care in the Twentieth Century*

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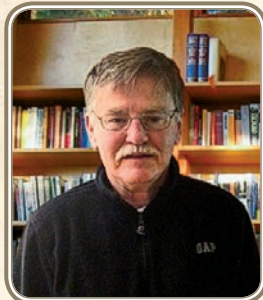
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EDWIN R. SWEENEY'S PASSION FOR THE WEST REVEALED



Cochise biographer Edwin R. Sweeney fell in love with the West like a lot of us: through television and a good school library. Raised in and near South Boston, Massachusetts, he grew up watching the television series *Broken Arrow*, when he wasn't rooting for his hometown Celtics and Red Sox. At 12 years old, after the family had moved to the suburbs, a school friend of his shared with him a biography of Cochise, and the story of the brave, honest Apache chief resonated with young Edwin. Ever

since, Sweeney (an accountant by trade) has spent much of his spare time, and many vacations, researching the life of Cochise. Sweeney's dedication to his Apache hero has resulted in his authoring or editing five books from the University of Oklahoma Press, including his first *Cochise: Chiricahua Apache Chief*, in 1991, and his latest: *Cochise: First Hand Accounts of the Chiricahua Chief*.

❶ **The Frontiersman: A Narrative** (Allan W. Eckert, Little, Brown and Company): This book is a riveting read whose main character, Simon Kenton, was just as important as Daniel Boone (one of my heroes) during the settlement of Kentucky in the 1770s and 1780s. Eckert does painstaking research and masterfully integrates the narrative into the chronology.

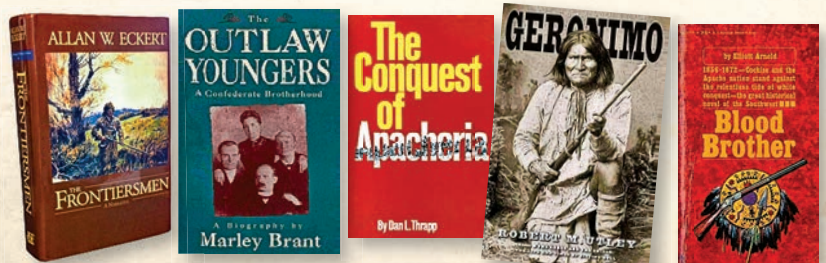
❷ **The Outlaw Youngers: A Confederate Brotherhood** (Marley Brant, Madison Books): I have been an avid reader of the James-Younger material for most of my life and this book quenched my thirst. It examines the myths and legends of the Younger brothers. It is a carefully researched account of their outlaw activities, and provides thorough analysis of their time behind bars in Minnesota after their capture and trial for their failed attempt to rob a bank in Northfield.

❸ **Conquest of Apacheria** (Dan L. Thrapp, University of Oklahoma Press): This is Thrapp's pioneer work on the Apache Wars. It still stands the test of time

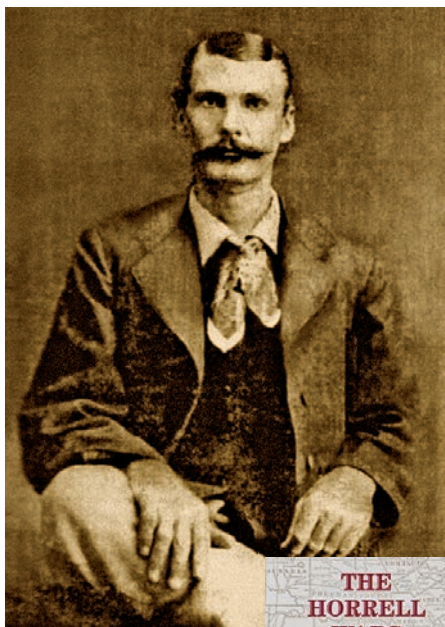
with its seminal content and perspective. Thrapp's research brought forth a wealth of new primary source material from a variety of sources, including the National Archives. He was an example for other historians to follow the right path. He was my mentor and inspiration.

❹ **Geronimo** (Robert M. Utley, Yale University Press): The best biography on Geronimo by the dean of America's Western historians. This well researched biography is the consummate study of Geronimo, the man, with all of his strengths and faults.

❺ **Blood Brother** (Elliott Arnold, Duell, Sloan and Pearce): This is a classic novel that focuses on the unique relationship between Tom Jeffords and Cochise. I read this book as a 12-year-old boy and became fascinated with Cochise. Arnold is attentive to the historical events that shaped Cochise's life, and one of the first writers to address diligently the culture of the Chiricahua Apaches. Thus, his account treats them like human beings instead of barbaric savages.

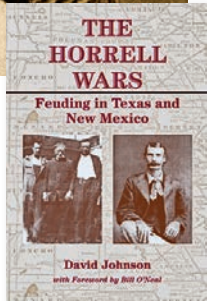


or down and dirty? In surmounting this obstacle, David Johnson offers a tightly-written, fearless look at the bloody "Horrell War" in New Mexico in *The Horrell Wars: Feuding in Texas and New Mexico* (University of North Texas Press, \$24.95), and opens many of the formerly closed doors of the equally murderous Horrell-Higgins feud (and its aftermath) in Texas. As you read it, you'll find yourself wondering: would these reckless men (and women) be surprised by how much we know now, or—perhaps, inevitably—how much we still don't know? —*Frederick Nolan, author of Bad Blood: The Life and Times of the Horrell Brothers*



John Pinkney "Pink" Higgins (above) primary role in the Horrell-Higgins feud, and his active gunplay, is well documented in David Johnson's new history, of *The Horrell Wars*, including Higgins last shooting in 1902, of Bill Standifer, which has been traditionally viewed as the last killing of the Horrell-Higgins Feud.

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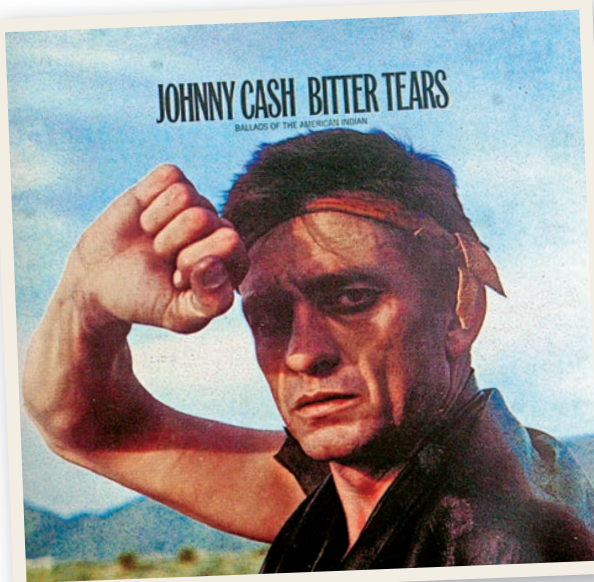
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A TWISTED BIT OF HISTORY BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

Bitter Tears for Little Big Man

HOW JOHNNY CASH AND THOMAS BERGER GAVE US DEE BROWN.



"We are still displacing the American Indian," Hugh Cherry wrote in the liner notes of *Bitter Tears* (left). "This year hundreds of families are being moved from a New York State reservation granted them in a treaty signed by George Washington, to make way for a dam. We are still the invader."

- COURTESY COLUMBIA RECORDS -

What's not to love about the adventures of Jack Crabb, a white

boy who grew up among the Cheyennes and survived Custer's "Last Stand?"

The anti-establishment movie version that followed in 1970 served as an indictment of the Vietnam War.

As much as I enjoy the performances of Jeff Corey as Wild Bill Hickok and Richard Mulligan as an insane George Custer, the film loses focus because of the silly attempts at 1970s comedy.

Berger's novel maintains its vision. It is funny, yet touching, and it treated Indians as human beings, not stereotypes to fit into clichéd plot devices. Often, the book has made me laugh out loud.

On the other hand, you won't find much to laugh at while listening to Cash's Columbia Records album *Bitter Tears: Ballads of the American Indian*.

"With victories he was swimming / He killed children, dogs and women," Cash

Come off it. Everybody gives credit to Dee Brown for changing the way white Americans think about American Indians. Hey, I love

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee today as much as I loved it when I first picked it up in college—and that worn-out 1981 Pocket Books paperback still sits proudly on my bookshelves—but give me a break. The

real heroes of the pro-Indian movement started the cause six years earlier.

Today—50 years later—let us give proper respect to Thomas Berger and Johnny Cash. I'm betting that in 1964, six years before his seminal work was published, Brown was sitting in his study reading *Little Big Man* and listening to *Bitter Tears*.

Berger's *Little Big Man* has earned the author comparisons to Mark Twain.

Everybody gives credit to Dee Brown for changing the way white Americans think about American Indians.

sings of Custer. Those words came from songwriter Peter La Farge, who claimed to be of Indian descent and was the son (Peter said he was adopted) of Pulitzer Prize winner Oliver La Farge.

Peter wrote several songs Cash recorded on the album, including "The Ballad of Ira Hayes"—about the Pima Indian who helped raise the U.S. Marines flag at Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945, and died a drunk roughly 10 years later. The songwriter himself would be dead, probably from an overdose, in 1965.

Think about it. You're Cash in 1964. You're hooked on drugs. Your life and finances are in the toilet. So you release a concept album in which the Indians are the good guys and the white guys are evil. And you want that to be played on white Country stations.

Now that takes guts.

Granted, Brown had guts to write a masterpiece that *The Washington Post* would declare "conveys not how the West was won, but how it was lost."

But, honestly, would Brown have written that book if he hadn't first heard Cash singing the following words? "Ghosts of broken hearts and laws are here / And who saw / the young squaw / They judged by their whiskey law / Tortured 'til she died / of pain and fear / Where the soldiers lay her back / Are the black Apache tears."

Could Brown have written such prose if he had not read Berger's reasoning for why Custer wasn't scalped? In *Little Big Man*, when Crabb tells his Cheyenne grandfather that Custer wasn't scalped because "The Indians respected him as a great chief," Old Lodge Skins corrects him: "They did not scalp him because he was getting bald."

Johnny D. Boggs's favorite exchange in *Little Big Man*: Jack Crabb: "What are you so nervous about?" Wild Bill Hickok: "Getting killed."

"This Tom Berger can write like the very devil," Henry Miller raved about *Little Big Man* (right). "This is an epic such as Mark Twain might have given us."



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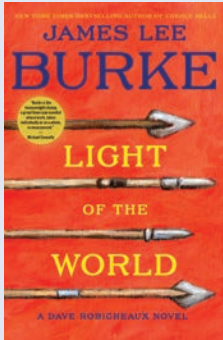
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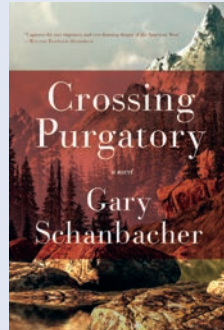
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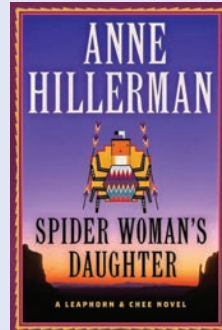
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James Lee Burke (Simon & Schuster)



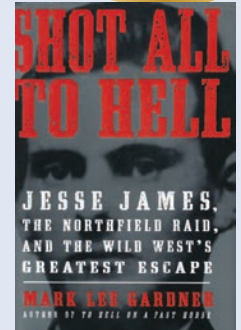
Best Western Historical Novel
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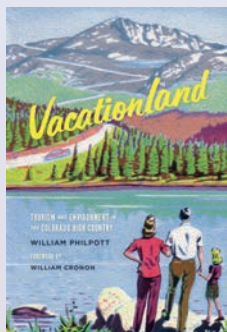
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Crossing Purgatory
Gary Schanbacher (Pegasus)



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Spider Woman's Daughter
Anne Hillerman (HarperCollins)



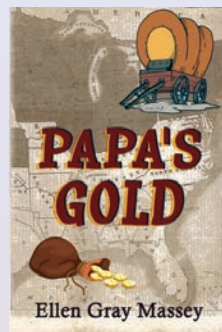
Best Western Nonfiction – Historical
Shot all to Hell: Jesse James, the Northfield Raid, and the Wild West's Greatest Escape
Mark Lee Gardner (William Morrow/HarperCollins).



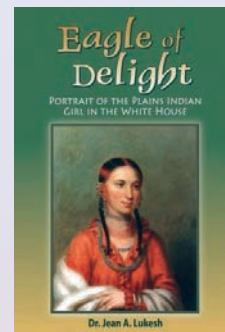
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William Philpott (University of Washington Press)



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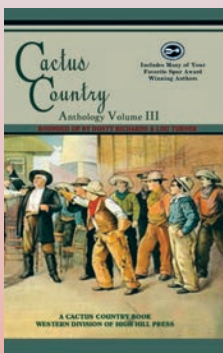
Best Western Juvenile Fiction
Papa's Gold
Ellen Gray Massey (Pen-L)



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Eagle of Delight: Portrait of the Plains Indian Girl in the White House
Jean A. Lukesh (Field Mouse Productions)



Storyteller (Best Illustrated Children's Book)
Yosemite's Songster: One Coyote's Story
Ginger Wadsworth (author) and Daniel San Souci (illustrator) (Yosemite Conservancy)



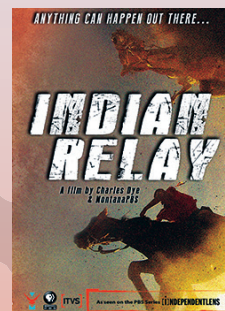
Best Western Short Fiction Story
"Cabin Fever"
Brett Cogburn (High Hill Press)



Best Western Poem
"Chamise"
Amy Glynn (*Orion*)



Best Western Song
"Still There"
Waddie Mitchell and Juni Fisher (Red Geetar Music)



Best Western Documentary Script
Indian Relay
M.L. Smoker (Dye Works Film)



Best Western Short Nonfiction
"The Other James Brother"
Mark Lee Gardner (*Wild West*)

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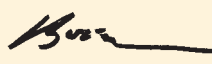
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In Old Hell Paso

Shortly before midnight on August 19, 1892, legendary gunfighter John Wesley Hardin was drinking at the bar of the Acme Saloon in El Paso, Texas when John Selman, Sr. walked up behind Hardin and shot him in the head, killing him instantly. For good measure, Selman pumped three more bullets into him. Charged with murder, Selman claimed self-defense. A hung jury released him on bond, but he was shot down by another gunfighter before he could be retried, thus giving rise to a new nickname for the Texas border town—Hell Paso.



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Going Nuts Out West

Pecans turn into human bones, and a pet cat becomes a nut hunter.



— BY SHERRY MONAHAN

Patients of Dr. J.H. Reeves, who settled in Glen Rose, Texas, in 1869, were often treated to tasty pecans that grew in the area.

"A tow sack of large, delicious pecans was brought out by one of the brothers for the visitors' refreshment," grandson Hogan Reeves recalled. "Then presently another such sack with a similar subdued clatter and rattle to that of the pecans was placed nearby. The visitors, having even bigger pecans in mind, investigated."

They did not find the snack they were expecting. The bag contained "not pecans, bones, human bones!" the grandson said. "A skeleton had been unearthed on the farm, and no one seemed to know whose it had been. Of course, some ill-disposed person might say it was one of the good doctor's mistakes he had buried."

Pecans were among the many nuts that grew naturally and were plentiful, thus

making nuts free treats in many frontier locales. Ladies even used the nuts to make facial cream!

During the 1860s, English walnuts, pecans, hazelnuts and almonds were the most popular and widely sold. By the 1870s, peanuts and pistachios were also available at the local mercantile.

Around the holidays, general stores expanded their selections of nuts to meet the increased demand. In addition to walnuts, pecans and almonds, the shops sold Brazil and Filbert nuts.

Many a pioneer survived by living off the land; some made a living by selling the

nuts. Angie Eddes of Stockton, California, watched over numerous almond trees. She needed the income from the nuts to care for her elderly father and their ranch.

When the almonds were ready to be harvested, Eddes had unusual help, reported *The San Francisco Call*, in 1896. Her cat, Bildad, picked up the almonds

The bag contained "not pecans, bones, human bones!"

from the trees and dropped them into buckets that Eddes had placed beneath the trees. When the buckets were full, he went to Eddes and tugged on her apron string. Bildad also kept the tree rodents away so they didn't steal the nuts.

By the turn of the 20th century, nuts were included in a variety of dishes. Cooks served tony nut salads, featuring a mix of nuts, apples and celery tossed with mayonnaise. They mixed chopped nuts with mayonnaise to spread between two slices of bread for a sandwich. They made Italian chestnuts into soup and turned almonds and walnuts into biscuits. They incorporated a variety of nuts into their tarts and cakes. Stores even touted nuts and fruits as a healthy alternative to bread and vegetables.

For a sinfully sweet San Francisco treat, try out the 1877 recipe for the nutty and delicious Almond Custard Cake.



Sherry Monahan has penned *Mrs. Earp: Wives & Lovers of the Earp Brothers*; *California Vines, Wines & Pioneers*; *Taste of Tombstone*; *The Wicked West* and *Tombstone's Treasure*. She's appeared on the History Channel in *Lost Worlds* and other shows.

ALMOND CUSTARD CAKE

- 1 c. sour cream
- 4 c. almonds, chopped fine
- 4 c. sugar
- 2 sticks butter, room temperature
- 5 eggs
- ½ tsp. lemon extract
- 1 c. milk
- 3 ½ c. all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder

Make the custard first by whipping the sour cream and two cups of sugar for two minutes. Stir in the nuts and refrigerate.

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Whip two cups of sugar and the butter until creamy. Add the eggs, one at a time, and mix. Beat for an additional three minutes. Add the lemon extract and then the milk. Combine the flour and baking powder in a small bowl and then add to the egg mixture. Mix only until blended. Grease and flour three nine-inch cake pans and divide the batter into them. Bake for 25-35 minutes.

Allow the cake to cool. Then spread the custard on top. Keep refrigerated.



Recipe adapted from *Daily Evening Bulletin*, San Francisco, California, May 19, 1877

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Let Freedom Ring!

Lawrence, Kansas, is a symbolic center of frontier civil rights.

Kansas Sen. James Henry Lane (right) was an abolitionist "Jayhawker" who led raids against pro-slave Missourians before the war, including a massacre at Osceola, Missouri, that was a Quantrill Raider rallying cry when they burned Lawrence.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



Harper's Weekly brought national attention and shame to Quantrill's Raiders' destruction of Lawrence and the wanton massacre of hundreds of men and boys, many unarmed, on August 21, 1863.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

William Quantrill addressed his ragtag army on the evening of August 20, 1863. "Boys, this is a hazardous ride, and there is a chance we will all be annihilated." A few men slunk away, but the rest rode through the night with their 25-year-old commander. Their mission—vengeance.

Not long before, military commander Thomas Ewing Jr. had taken several of Quantrill's female relatives prisoner, housing them in a makeshift jail. On August 14 the building collapsed, killing five and injuring several others. Quantrill, convinced the deaths were no accident, was livid.

Shortly after sunrise on August 21, the mob of nearly 450 men reached Lawrence. After smashing a camp of the 14th Kansas Regiment, Quantrill led the main body of his guerrillas down Massachusetts Street to the Eldridge

House. The provost marshal of Kansas, a guest there, surrendered the hotel. Quantrill accepted, then ordered his men to take the city, wheeling his horse as he cried out: "Kill! Kill and you will make no mistake! Lawrence should be thoroughly cleansed, and the only way to cleanse it is to kill! Kill!"

"Boys, this is a hazardous ride, and there is a chance we will all be annihilated."

The massacre was on. The brutality, carnage and devastation can hardly be imagined. Nearly 200 men—representing around 20 percent of the male population of Lawrence—were killed during the attack, many murdered in front of their families.

Dozens of homes and businesses were burned to the ground. By the time it was over, the city had

85 new widows and about 250 fatherless children.

Lawrence had been founded nearly a decade earlier by settlers from the New England Emigrant Aid Company, determined to see the territory enter the Union as a Free State. From its inception, the town was a hotbed of abolitionist sentiment. But clashes occurred all along the Kansas-Missouri border area. In 1856, John Brown led an attack on Missouri raiders at the Battle of Black Jack. As this was the first armed conflict between abolitionist and pro-slavery forces, some historians maintain that this was the real beginning of the Civil War.

The assault on Lawrence didn't end the way the Quantrill's Raiders expected. "Rather than scaring people into heading back East, the raid actually strengthened the resolve of the people living here," says Julie McPike, managing

director of Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area, which oversees historical sites in 41 counties along the Kansas-Missouri border.

"The town was founded by hardy abolitionist settlers, and they didn't take the Quantrill Raid sitting down," notes Keith Manies, assistant manager of the Lawrence Visitor Information Center. "If anything, it made them more determined to rebuild."

And rebuild they did, aided by the arrival of the rail lines in 1864 and 1867. Lawrence's population, which had been 1,645 in 1860, soared to 8,320 by 1870.

Today's Visitor Information Center, located in Lawrence's restored Union Pacific depot, holds a slew of exhibits on the Border War. The center also offers several tours, one along the route of Quantrill's Raid, others on segments of the Oregon and Santa Fe Trails.

Much of the town's post-raid, 19th-century architecture has been preserved in the Old West Lawrence Historic District. The Plymouth Congregational Church, which stands nearby, has been described as a "vision of spires, buttresses and stained glass."

Even now the city's seal shows a Phoenix rising from the ashes. "People here were very proud of that heritage back then, and still are today," Manies says. "The Raid has been a rallying point for the town for 150 years."

John Stanley, the Arizona Wildlife Federation's 2007 Conservation Media Champion, is a former travel reporter and photographer for *The Arizona Republic*.



WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY

Last August the Watkins Museum in Lawrence unveiled a new exhibit on Quantrill's Raid, marking its 150th anniversary. And every year organizations throughout Lawrence honor the town's bloody past with the Civil War on the Western Frontier commemoration. This year it runs August 16-23. Be sure to stop by the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area headquarters, located in the town's Visitor Information Center (above).

FreedomsFrontier.org

LECOMPTON

This little town served as the capital of the Kansas Territory from 1855 to 1861. The Lane University & Territorial Capital Museum holds many fascinating items from those turbulent times. Constitution Hall, which hosted the 1857 convention that drafted a pro-slavery constitution, is now a State Historic Site.

LecomptonKansas.com

OSAWATOMIE

John Brown's body may be a-mouldering in the grave, but the John Brown State Historic Site tells all about the life of the abolitionist zealot.

KSHS.org

ATCHISON

The fabled Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway was founded here in 1859. Today the town's 1880 depot houses the Atchison County Historical Society Museum; the Atchison Rail Museum is just across the street.

AtchisonKansas.net

TOPEKA

Exhibits at the Kansas Museum of History include a Southern Cheyenne buffalo-hide tepee, Civil War battle flags and an 1868 stagecoach.

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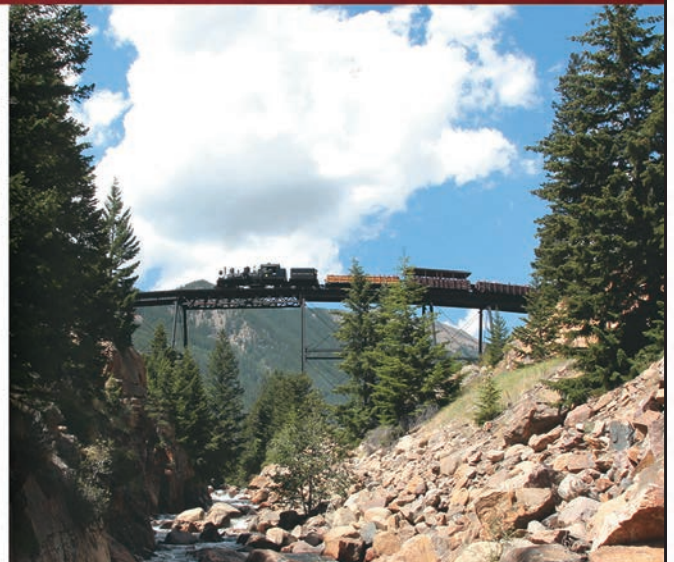
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BY MARK BOARDMAN

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Take the first train stick-up in U.S. history, nearly 150 years ago—which didn't happen in the West.

It was just after 8 p.m. on May 5, 1865, and the Ohio & Mississippi train was a few minutes out of Cincinnati, headed for St. Louis. At a remote location near North Bend, Ohio—in sight of the Ohio River and almost to the Indiana line—the train went off the tracks; somebody had pulled one of the rails.

The engine, express and baggage cars tipped over. The passenger cars stayed upright but several of the riders were injured. An estimated 15 to 20 desperados jumped aboard, firing their pistols and ordering everyone to shell out. Five of the outlaws went to the express car and used gunpowder to blow open the safes.

After about an hour, the robbers left—taking skiffs to cross the Ohio into Kentucky, where they mounted horses and rode away. Nobody knows the exact

take, although some reports said they got up to \$30,000 in government bonds and bank notes and several thousand dollars in cash and valuables from the passengers.

Federal troops pursued the thieves (technically, the Civil War was still on and civilian authorities lacked the power to cross state lines, especially into a border territory like Kentucky). For some reason, though, they didn't head out for eight hours; some stories say the Union officer in charge had to be sobered up before they could start the chase.

When the posse got to Verona, Kentucky, they found that the robbers had celebrated with wine, women and song—there were even some stolen bank notes dropped in the streets. But the gang was never caught; the crime remains unsolved.

The North Bend train robbery set the standard for the countless railroad stick-ups that took place over the next 60 years.

Some of those historic train lines are still in operation (as well as several that never suffered the indignity of a hold-up). They keep the Old West alive in interesting, informative and fun fashion.

Seeing as we're talking about some of those railroads, it seemed appropriate to tie those in with some of the more interesting train robberies in Old West history.

So climb aboard—and hide your valuables!

Robbing the Rails from the Mountains to the Plains

IOWA

The first train robbery by the James-Younger Gang had some success and some failure—and showed just how little the outlaws knew about gold and silver bars.

It happened on July 21, 1873, and involved the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway about three miles east of Adair. As the train went around a bend, an unseen hand pulled one of the rails. The engine, tender, baggage and express cars went off the track and rolled down an embankment, killing the engineer and injuring several passengers.

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— COURTESY DURANGO CVB —

The legend being that it was the first big criminal act by Butch Cassidy (along with pals Tom McCarty and Matt Warner).

Nice story. But here's what happened.

The train was about five miles east of Grand Junction when it ran into a pile of rocks blocking the tracks. When the locomotive stopped, three

masked men entered the express car, while another held a gun on the engineer.

Express messenger Dick Williams had guts. The robbers gained easy entry to a small safe (with almost nothing in it). But when they ordered him to open the larger safe, Williams told them he couldn't, that it could only be unlocked at the destination. They threatened to kill him; he continued his bluff.

The outlaws finally accepted his ruse and left, getting only about \$150 in change and jewelry.

The railroad put up a \$3,000 reward for capturing the outlaws, and the U.S. government tossed in another \$1,000—a very big total for the time. It had the desired effect, pushing several lawmen to go after the robbers. Gunnison County Sheriff Doc Shores, who had a reputation as a dogged pursuer, was among them.

Eventually, Shores and his deputies caught up with the four men in Utah; they confessed and did prison time for the job.

But Bob Smith, Bob Boyd, Ed Rhodes and Jack Smith were definitely not Butch Cassidy and the Wild Bunch. The Hole-in-the-Wall guys were still a few years away from troubling the trains.

WYOMING

You've seen the movie: Butch and Sundance rob the Union Pacific Flyer near Wilcox, Wyoming, but in trying to open the safe they blow the express car to smithereens.

It's a great scene, but it didn't exactly happen that way.

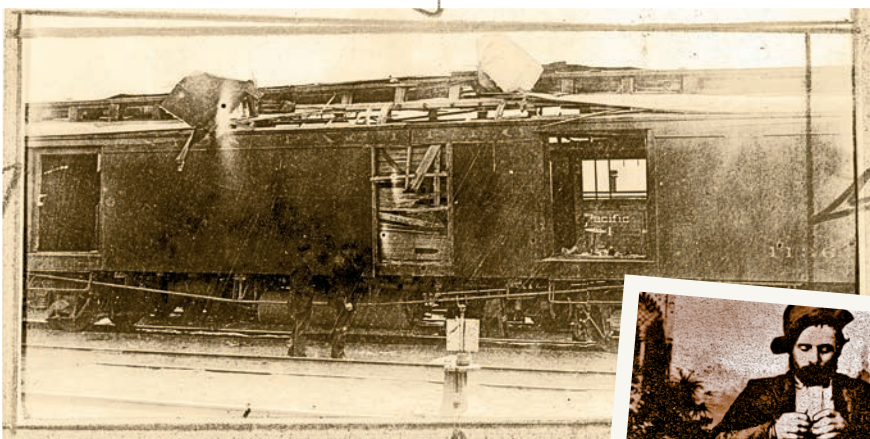
Three masked outlaws jumped into the express car, while two others held guns on the passengers and crew. The leader (who yanked off his mask) got into the safe and removed its contents, but kept asking, "Where's the bullion?" The postal clerk pointed to more than a ton of gold and silver bars underneath ... but it didn't compute with the bandit chief, who apparently thought bullion was coinage. It wouldn't have done much good if he had understood what the term meant—the gang hadn't brought a wagon to haul the bars away.

So the outlaws got about \$2,300, not millions. They didn't rob the passengers (which they would do in a couple of later train jobs). As they left, the leader expressed regret over the death of the engineer. The gang mounted horses and headed for Missouri. There were no arrests, although the St. Louis police identified the robbers as Frank and Jessie James, Cole Younger, George Sheppard and Arthur McCoy.

Descriptions of the outlaw chief matched Jessie James to a "t."

COLORADO

The November 3, 1887, robbery of a Denver & Rio Grande train near Grand Junction, Colorado, is the stuff of legend.



Harvey "Kid Curry" Logan (right) and the Wild Bunch's robbery and destruction of a Union Pacific express car near Wilcox, Wyoming, in 1899, is one of the most infamous and most re-created (by film and television) events in train robbery history.

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —



Sure, members of the Wild Bunch did stick up that train on June 2, 1899. And a bit of mayhem ensued. But Butch wasn't there—Harvey Logan (Kid Curry) led the Sundance Kid and George "Flatnose" Currie in the heist.

It started at 2:18 a.m., when two masked men, using red lanterns, flagged down the train. They forced the engineer to take the locomotive, tender, and express and mail cars down the track while they dynamited a trestle behind them. They then blew open the door of the express car, knocking the messenger unconscious (a third outlaw had joined them at this point).

That was when they tried to open the safes. And they used too much explosive. And the express car was blown to pieces. The robbers then grabbed an estimated \$50,000 in bank notes and currency—all of which were damaged in the blast, making them easy to identify.

What followed was one of the largest manhunts in the history of Wyoming, with dozens of lawmen in various poses going after the robbers (and attracted by rewards totaling more than \$18,000). During the pursuit, the outlaws shot and killed Converse County Sheriff Josiah Hazen. But they eluded capture; justice would have to wait for the three bad men.

Stealing the Southwest

ARKANSAS

The Burrow Gang walked their way to and from a train holdup on December 9, 1887, at Genoa, Arkansas. Jim Burrow and Bill Brock boarded the St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Railroad train just as it was leaving the station, ordering the engineer to stop a short distance away. That's where gang leader Rube Burrow joined in.

The boys tried to get in the express car, but a Southern Express messenger wouldn't let them in—even after they shot the door full of holes. He finally

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The Arkansas & Missouri Railroad provides passengers with a taste of yesteryear on its historic train line in which riders can imagine the ill-fated outlaws Rube (right) and Jim Burrow (far right) holding up the train as they did in 1887.

—COURTESY ARKANSAS & MISSOURI RAILROAD/MARK BOARDMAN—

changed his mind when they started battering the door with a coal pick.

Inside, the bandits gathered up more than \$3,000 in currency and silver before walking away with the loot—reportedly, some of it was from the Louisiana lottery. On this day, the Burrow outfit had the winning ticket—but only briefly. The trio hoofed it for Texarkana, Texas, about 30 miles away.

But en route, they got into a gunfight with a posse. The outlaws escaped,

but left behind slickers and a hat. Pinkerton detectives traced one set of rain gear back to Bill Brock—and when he was arrested, he blew the whistle on his compatriots. Jim Burrow was arrested in his native

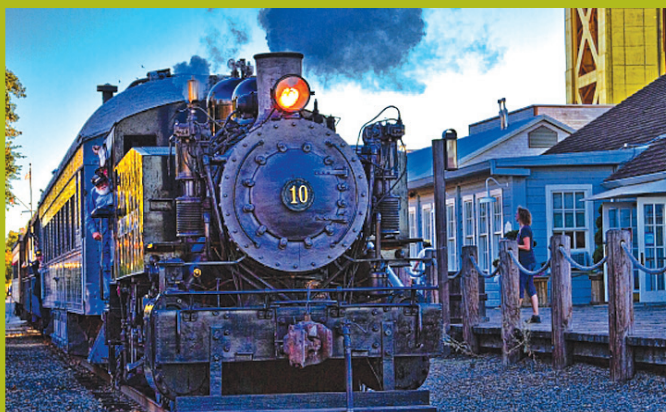
Alabama and would die of tuberculosis in jail the next October. Rube continued down the outlaw trail for another couple of years. He was arrested in October 1890 and gunned down during an escape attempt on December 8—one day short of the third anniversary of the Genoa holdup.

OKLAHOMA

The Jennings Gang was probably the most idiotic criminal enterprise in the history of the West. Or East. Or South. Or North.

Al Jennings was a lawyer and former prosecutor, but in 1897—after some

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CALIFORNIA BEGINS HERE

Outlaw Al Jennings (right), with his brother Frank, (starring as themselves in the 1918 film, *The Lady of the Dugout*) created a second career for himself as an advisor and actor in Western films in Hollywood after being paroled from prison in Oklahoma.

— COURTESY MARK BOARDMAN —



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O. Winston Link Museum, Roanoke, VA
LinkMuseum.org • 540-982-5465

Douglas Railroad Interpretive Museum, Douglas, WY
ConverseCountyTourism.com • 307-358-2950

setbacks—he and his brother Frank went to the dark side. It did not go well.

On August 16, 1897, a couple members of the gang boarded the Santa Fe train at Edmond. They forced the engineer to stop about a mile away, where three of their compadres were waiting.

The gang went to the express car but had no idea how to get into the safe. They tried to shoot it open; they tried to blast it open. Nothing worked. They

finally started robbing the passengers, but most of those folks had already hidden their money and valuables. The gang came away with just a few dollars.

It didn't get any better after that. On two occasions, they attempted to flag down trains targeted for robbery, only to have the engineers try to run them down. They hit a small store and got \$15. Overall, it is estimated the total haul for the Jennings Gang was less than \$1,000.

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Train aficionados who enjoy heritage railways should schedule a ride on the Texas State Railroad, in Rusk, Texas, and then enjoy one of the best Western train robbery movies of all time, John Wayne's *The Train Robbers*.

— COURTESY TEXAS STATE RAILROAD/WARNER BROS. —

The outfit quit the owlhoot trail around November of that year. Lawmen tracked them down and arrested the Jennings brothers—Frank got five years, Al was given life (!) but was pardoned a few years later.

Al then headed to Hollywood, where he wrote some books and made a few movies and consulted on others. And he told tall tales about his exploits as an Oklahoma outlaw.

TEXAS

In the Old West, sometimes the good guys were also the bad guys.

Jim Garlington was a bank robber who wanted to diversify. So he decided to hit the Santa Fe Railroad train at Saginaw, Texas, about 12 miles north of Fort Worth.

For whatever reason, Garlington decided to share his plans with Fort Worth's Assistant Police Chief H.D. Grunnells. The cop seemed to be going along with the plot, although in reality he was setting up the old double-cross; he was going to arrest the gang during the robbery. Grunnells would be the hero in that scenario, of course, and be honored and feted for his master police skills.

It didn't work out that way.

It was the evening of July 21, 1898, when the outfit boarded the train at Saginaw. A little farther on, Garlington—trying to get into the engine cab—accidentally fired his pistol. Other gang members opened up at the sound of the shot, killing the fireman and mortally wounding the engineer.

At that point, Grunnells and the police showed up, driving off the outlaws. Three of the bad guys were later arrested and one of them turned state's evidence.

As a result of his testimony, Jim Garlington went to the gallows a year and a day after the botched holdup, convicted of killing the train crew members. Assistant Chief Grunnells was fired, then indicted by a grand jury for his role in the affair. But he went on the lam and never faced trial.

Pillaging in the Pacific Northwest

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Bill Miner was 57 years old in 1904, a career criminal who'd spent a lot of years behind bars. But he just couldn't give the life up.

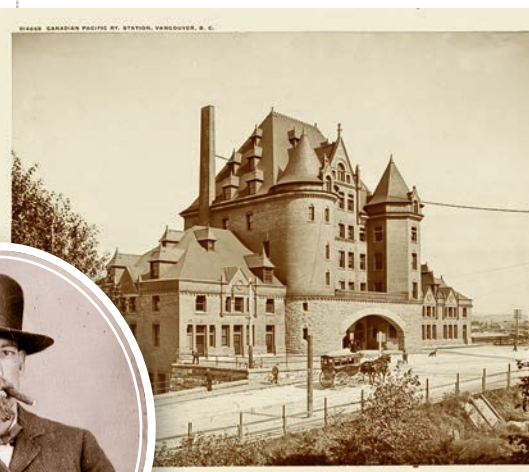
He had relocated to British Columbia, and at about 9:30pm on September 10, he and two pals held up the Canadian Pacific Railway train some 40 miles east of Vancouver. In the express car they got \$7,000 in gold dust and cash—and \$50,000 in U.S. bonds and \$250,000 worth of Australian securities. It was a huge score. And Wild West train robbery had come to Canada.

Despite being a suspect in the job, Old Bill stayed in Canada, taking it easy for a couple of years except for one foray to Washington State for another train holdup in 1905.

But in 1907, he decided to pull another job north of the border. He and two men held up a Canadian Pacific train about 16 miles east of Kamloops at 1am on April 30. This one didn't go well. Miner and co. only got \$15.50—and hot pursuit from the law.

The three were arrested on May 14. Miner was eventually sentenced to life behind bars, but he told the court that “no prison can hold me.” And he did escape that August, heading to the U.S. for more crime and jail time.

Interestingly, Bill Miner became something of a folk hero in Canada, noted for his kind and gentle ways as well as his anti-authoritarian attitude.



Outlaw Bill Miner (inset) became a legend for his kindness to his victims in British Columbia, including his biggest haul—more than \$300,000 in loot—of a Canadian Railway train less than an hour from the grand, Vancouver train station (right).

— COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

SIDE TRACKS

ESSENTIAL STICK-UPS

You must have these books on train robbers!

The Train Robbery Era: An Encyclopedic History (Richard Patterson, Pruett Pub. Co.): A great listing of the robbers and their greatest hits.

He Rode with Butch Cassidy: The Story of Harvey "Kid Curry" Logan (Mark Smokov, University of North Texas Press): The author says Curry was the real brains and leader of the Wild Bunch train holdups—and makes a strong case.

Frank and Jesse James: The Story Behind the Legend (Ted Yeatman, Cumberland House): The best book written about America's most famous outlaws.



WASHINGTON STATE

In many cases, professional train robbers stayed away from holding up passengers. It took too much time and didn't result in much loot. Leaving the passengers alone was also a good public relations move, allowing the outlaws to say they robbed the railroads or express companies but not average folks.

For whatever reason, the guys who pulled the first train stick-up in Washington did just the opposite.

On November 24, 1892, three masked men boarded a Northern Pacific sleeper pulling out of Green River Hot Springs, a tiny resort burg east of Seattle. One of the outlaws fired a shot through the ceiling of the car, adequately getting the attention of the passengers. When one of the male passengers protested, the same robber clubbed him over the head.

The bandits went through the car while the train continued on its way, demanding money and valuables. It's estimated the take was worth about \$2,000. But they had some compassion.

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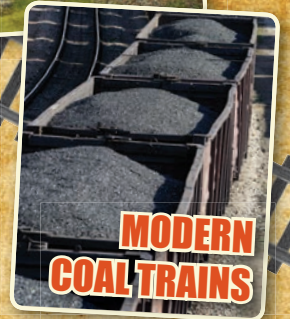
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Visitors to Oregon can enjoy a peaceful ride on the Mount Hood Railroad (far right) without fear of the bungling D'Autremont Brothers, whose trial (right) for their failed 1923 train robbery and killings made national headlines.

— COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/PETER MARBACH —

T.C. Taylor asked for his 70 cents back, saying it would pay for his breakfast; one of the robbers handed him the change.

When they finished, they pulled the bell cord twice, which was the signal for the engineer to stop the train. They jumped off and ran into the night.

Some of the victims suspected that at least one of the robbers had worked on a railroad, but that was not confirmed. In fact, there's no evidence anyone was ever arrested in the case.



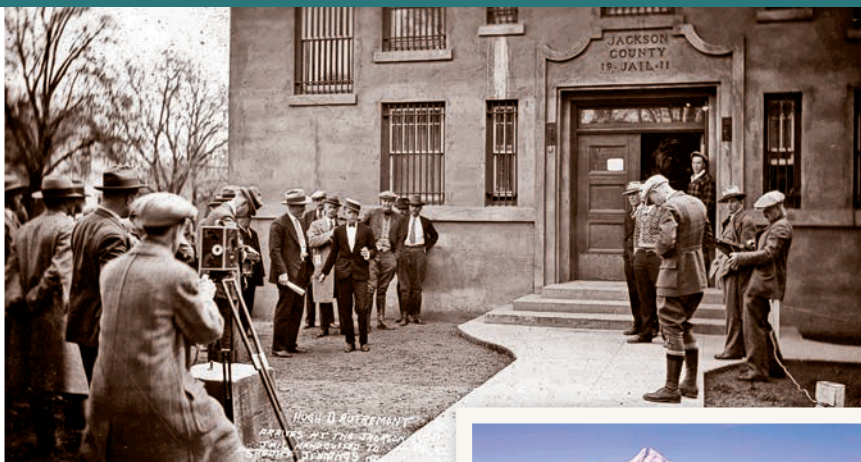
The Mount Rainer Scenic Train in Mineral, Washington, thrills today's heritage train riders more than the masked bandits who robbed the Northern Pacific passengers not too far from the historic rail line.

— COURTESY HILARY MERTCHER —

OREGON

The D'Autremont brothers—Ray, Roy and Hugh—were amateur criminals. That cost the lives of four railroadmen in what may have been the last “Old West style” train stick-up.

The boys decided to hold up the Southern Pacific near Ashland, Oregon, on October 11, 1923. They had a plan—jump on the train while it slowly made its way through a tunnel in the Siskiyou Mountains, then blow the express safe and take the estimated \$40,000 inside.



The first part of the plan went okay. The outlaws got on the train, forced the crew to stop and then prepared to get the money. But the express messenger wouldn't let them in his car, so they used dynamite—blowing the car and messenger to kingdom come.

Then the train brakeman walked up to the outlaws, surprising them in the smoke from the explosion, and they shot him to death. The D'Autremont's panicked, decided they couldn't leave any witnesses, so they brutally killed the engineer and fireman. They then went on the run; they got not money from the disastrous incident.

And they stayed free for four years, until someone recognized Hugh D'Autremont on an old wanted poster. All three brothers were arrested, convicted of murder and sentenced to life in the Oregon prison. Hugh, Roy and Ray were each paroled at various points in their later years.



Their story and the account of the holdup were the subject of a book with a too right title: *All for Nothing*.

From California to New Mexico, Outlaws Rode the Rails

CALIFORNIA

The Dalton Gang's first foray into major crime was a major bust. On February 6, 1891, the boys tried to hold up the Southern Pacific train near Alila (now Earlimart), California, about 40 miles north of Bakersfield. Tried is the operative word.

It was dark when three men climbed onto the train and made their way to the locomotive, where they forced the engineer and fireman to stop the train. The masked outlaws then ordered the crew to go with them to the express car, where they tried to get the messenger to open the



Re-enactors on the Fillmore and Western Railway (right) are ready to protect passengers from would-be train robbers like unlucky bandit, Grate Dalton.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/BOB CRUM, FILLMORE, CA —



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door. Charles C. Haswell refused, and he punctuated that with some blasts from a sawed-off shotgun. The bandits responded in kind, shooting through the closed door. During the firefight, the fireman was fatally wounded. But the messenger never did open the door.

The frustrated bandits finally gave up and left.

Southern Pacific Detective Will Smith believed that the Daltons were involved—even though they lacked major criminal records at the time. He went after them, but Bob and Emmett Dalton had already headed back to Oklahoma/Kansas. Bill and Grat Dalton both faced juries; the former, an upstanding California citizen, was acquitted while the latter was convicted (on pretty flimsy evidence). Grat escaped before getting to prison and rejoined Bob and Emmett—the Daltons always denied any involvement in the attempted holdup and claimed that the false charges drove them to a life of crime.

Surprisingly, Express Messenger Haswell—who drove the gang off—was tried as an accomplice, but he was found not guilty.

NEVADA

“Gentleman” Jack Davis had the wrong nickname. He was a professional hardcase who specialized in robbing stagecoaches. On November 5, 1870, he turned his attention to trains—the first train stick-up west of the Mississippi.

On that night, he led five others aboard the Central Pacific train at Verdi, Nevada, just west of Reno near the California border. They stopped the locomotive a few miles away, forcing the crew to uncouple the engine and express car from the rest of the train. Then the outlaws made their way to the express safes.

Somebody in the crew had experience in that area, for they picked the locks and quickly got to the cash—about \$41,000 in gold coins. The outlaws then lit out, but they somehow overlooked thousands of dollars more in silver, gold bars and bank notes.

Several of the bad guys were eager to live the high life, and their big spending habits caught the attention of Wells Fargo detectives. They questioned one of the suspects and he spilled everything, including the names of his confederates. They were all arrested—including the mastermind, a former Sunday school teacher named John Chapman who was a novice in the art of crime. Chapman just planned things; he was not at the robbery.

Almost all of the loot was recovered, and all six bandits did long stretches in prison.

NEW MEXICO

Tom Ketchum was crazy. Unpredictable, violent, reckless, self-destructive. Other outlaws knew it; many, including Butch Cassidy, refused to ride with him.

So Tom decided to go it alone on August 16, 1899. His plan was to hold up the southbound Colorado and Southern train near Folsom, New Mexico. It was a good plan; the train slowed to a crawl at a switchback, and a man could literally walk up and board it.

That’s why the train had been robbed several times at that

place, including just a month before by Tom’s brother Sam. As a result, the crew was going armed.

It was around 8 p.m. when Tom stepped on the train. He threw down on the crew, cursing, threatening and actually shooting the express messenger in the jaw. Conductor Frank Harrington got angry—and got a shotgun. And he put a load of buckshot in Tom’s right arm. Tom fell away, and the train continued on.

The next morning, the northbound train passed the site and found Tom, near death from blood loss. But he was still crazy; he pulled a gun on the men who came to rescue/arrest him. He didn’t have the strength to pull the trigger.

Tom lost his right arm, but he would lose much more. He was convicted of train robbery, a capital offense in New Mexico, and sentenced to hang. The authorities didn’t know how to do it, and the drop tore off Tom’s head.

Oh, and that nickname of “Black Jack?” Folks at the time confused him with another outlaw who went by that moniker and began calling him that. Yet his crew never called Tom “Black Jack.”



Mark Boardman is the features editor at *True West*, and he’s spent way too much time (and money) on the Reno Gang of Indiana, the outfit that perfected the art of train robbery. He’s also a pastor at two United Methodist churches in the Hoosier state.




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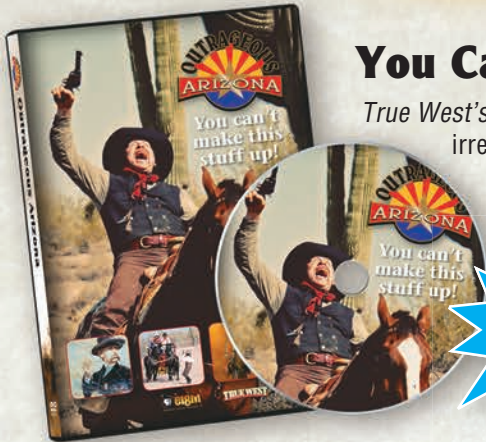
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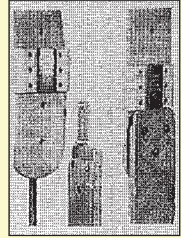
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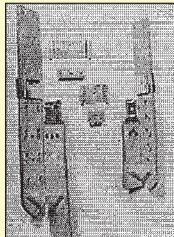
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888-872-4607 • DurangoTrain.com

ADVENTURE

WILD WEST BALLOON FESTIVAL

Cody, WY, August 1-3: Balloonists take off and participate in competitions such as the "Hound and Hare" race and "Pole Grab."

307-527-7424 • IrmaHotel.com

PRAIRIE SLUDGE TRUDGE

Grand Island, NE, August 9: Endure all that the prairie has to offer by challenging an obstacle course covered in mud, muck and mayhem.

308-385-5316 • StuhrMuseum.org

WARRIOR & WARRIOWETTE HIGH PLAINS HORSE RACE

New Town, ND, August 10-11: Men and women compete in an endurance race that includes a three-mile run, canoeing and a three-horse relay.

701-627-2243 • MHANation.com

WAGON TRAIN

Kanab, UT, August 18-21: Travel southern Utah by covered wagon with Darby Hinton, who acted in ABC's *Wagon Train* and NBC's *Daniel Boone*.

435-644-3444 • WesternLegendsRoundup.com

ART SHOWS

PRIX DE WEST

Oklahoma City, OK, Closes August 3: Last chance to see more than 300 Western paintings and sculptures by contemporary Western artists in the nation.

405-478-2250 • NationalCowboyMuseum.com

BUCKAROO HERITAGE WESTERN ART ROUNDUP

Winnemucca, NV, August 29-31: View buckaroo paintings, sculptures and cowboy gear at Buckaroo Hall of Fame founded by artist Carl F. Hammond.

541-573-2921 • BuckarooArtist.com

AMERICAN WEST IN BRONZE

Denver, CO, Closes August 31: Showcases sculptures by Frederic Remington, Charles M. Russell, Paulanship and works by about 20 other artists.

720-865-5000 • DenverArtMuseum.org

AUCTIONS

HISTORIC FIREARMS

Manchester, NH, August 2: Historic firearms on the auction block could include Winchesters, Colts, sporting rifles and flintlock pistols.

603-627-7383 • Amoskeag-Auction.com



HIGH PLAINS POWWOW

Rawlins, WY, August 30: Experience a significant event in American Indian culture and watch men, women and children share their ancient dance.

307-328-2740 • CarbonCountyMuseum.org



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FOR AUGUST 2014



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916-808-7777 • SacramentoGoldRushDays.com

AUCTION IN SANTA FE

Santa Fe, NM, August 17-18: Manitou Galleries auctions off Southwestern art, antique firearms and American Indian and cowboy collectibles.
307-635-0019 • AuctionInSantaFe.com

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

DODGE CITY DAYS

Dodge City, KS, July 25-August 3: Celebration includes a PRCA rodeo, barbecue contest, chuckwagon breakfast and Western art show.
620-227-3119 • DodgeCityDays.com



BUFFALO BILL INVITATIONAL SHOOT-OUT

Cody, WY, August 7-9: Shooters compete in skeet, wobble skeet, trap, wobble trap, five stand and sporting clays shooting contests.
307-587-4771 • CenterOfTheWest.org

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY FAIR

Scotts Bluff, NE, August 1-9: Held since 1887, this county fair continues to celebrate the people, culture and traditions of Scotts Bluff County.
308-623-1828 • ScottsBluffCountyFairgrounds.com

SALUTE TO BUFFALO SOLDIERS DAYS

Tombstone, AZ, August 2-3: A celebration to salute the Buffalo Soldiers includes street

entertainment, a parade and a car show.
520-457-3511 • ExploreCochise.com

SHOSHONE-BANNOCK FESTIVAL

Fort Hall, ID, August 7-10: Powwow competition, hand games, parade and feast are all hosted at reservation established by 1868 Fort Bridger treaty.
208-238-0680 • ShoshoneBannockTribes.com

UMATILLA COUNTY FAIR

Umatilla, OR, August 7-11: Celebrates a 1912 tradition with livestock auction and a parade that is themed "Fun for the Whole Herd."
541-567-6121 • Co.Umatilla.OR.US

KOOL-AID DAYS FESTIVAL

Hastings, NE, August 8-10: Celebrates the 1927 invention of Nebraska's official soft drink, featuring the world's largest Kool-aid stand.
402-461-8405 • Kool-AidDays.com

TURQUOISE BUYING SEMINAR

Santa Fe, NM, August 9: A demonstration of what to look for when buying authentic turquoise, held at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture.
505-476-1250 • IndianArtsAndCulture.org

WASCO COUNTY FAIR

Tygh Valley, OR, August 14-17: Held since 1914, this county fair offers livestock exhibits, carnival rides, live entertainment and food vendors.
451-483-2288 • WascoFair.com

JOHN WESLEY HARDIN SECRET SOCIETY

El Paso, TX, August 16: John Wesley Hardin's death in 1895 is re-enacted at historic Concordia Cemetery where the gunfighter is buried.
915-842-8200 • ConcordiaCemetery.org

CELEBRATE BANDERA

Bandera, TX, August 29-31: Bandera comes alive with music, gunfights, an intertribal powwow, a Wild West show and a mutton busting rodeo.
830-796-4447 • CelebrateBandera.com



AMERICA'S HORSE IN ART

Amarillo, TX, Opens August 16: Benefit sale of horses depicted in pencil, paintings and sculptures, with signature piece by Edgar Sotelo. 806-376-5181 • AQHAHallOfFame.com

MUSIC & POETRY

ARIZONA COWBOY POETS GATHERING

Prescott, AZ, August 7-9: Performers, including Dave Stamey, Mary Kaye and Kristyn Harris, bring their cowboy poetry to the stage. 928-713-6323 • AZCowboyPoets.org

MONTANA COWBOY POETRY GATHERING & WESTERN MUSIC RENDEZVOUS

Lewistown, MT, August 14-17: Celebrate Western heritage with poetry and music from Sons of the San Joaquin, Bob Petermann and others. 406-538-4575
MontanaCowboyPoetryGathering.com

WESTERN LEGENDS ROUNDUP

Kanab, Utah, August 21-24: Pays tribute to *Cheyenne* and other Westerns, plus you can meet movie stars Clint Walker and James Drury. 435-644-3444 • WesternLegendsRoundup.com

RE-ENACTMENT

ACTION SHOOTERS

Kanab, UT, August 21-23: This 10-stage cowboy action shoot-out has Old West re-enactors demonstrate Old West law and order in Kanab. 435-644-3444 • WesternLegendsRoundup.com

RODEOS

DODGE CITY ROUNDUP RODEO

Dodge City, KS, July 29-August 3: This PRCA rodeo features saddle bronc, bull riding, calf roping, steer wrestling and barrel racing. 620-225-2244 • DodgeCityRoundup.org

SHEEPHERDERS RODEO

Kaycee, WY, August 9: Crowd members participate in men's hooking, women's team hooking and kids mutton busting. 307-738-2444 • KayceeWyoming.org

WORLD'S OLDEST CONTINUOUS RODEO

Payson, AZ, Aug. 15-16: This rodeo, established in 1884, features steer wrestling, barrel racing and bronc riding, to benefit Rim Country charities. 928-474-9440 • PaysonProRodeo.com

ELLENSBURG RODEO

Ellensburg, WA, Aug. 29-Sept. 1: Rodeo hosts the world finale of PRCA's Extreme Bulls Tour and a Western parade at the city's rodeo fairgrounds. 800-637-2444 • EllensburgRodeo.com

TWMag.com:

View Western events on our website.



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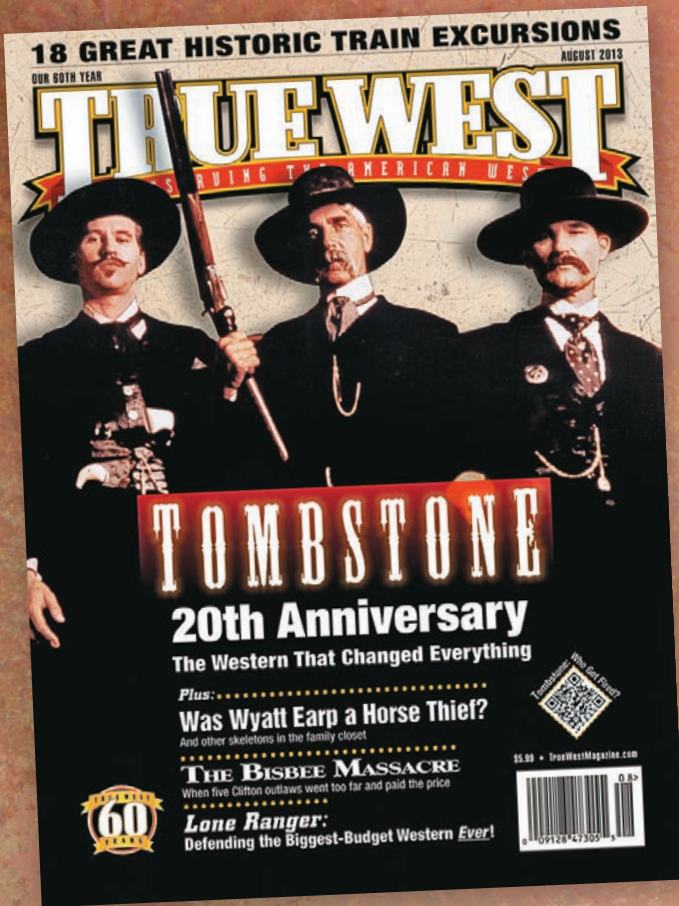
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500 Yrs Before Cowboys



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- Aug: John Wayne
- Sep: Border Breed
- Oct: Halloween Issue
- Nov: Apache Scout
- Dec: Mountain Men

2001

- Jan: Topless Gunfighter
- Feb/Mar: Wyatt Earp
- Apr: Geronimo Smiling
- May/June: Custer
- Jul: Cowboys & Cowtowns
- Aug/Sep: Wild Bill
- Oct: Redman
- Nov/Dec: Doc Holiday

2002

- Jan: Uncommon Men
- Feb/Mar: Alamo
- Apr: The Scout
- May/June: Wayward Women
- Jul: Texas Rangers
- Aug/Sep: Jesse James
- Oct: Billy On The Brain
- Nov/Dec: Butch & Sundance

2003

- Jan: 50 Historical Photos
- Feb/Mar: 50 Guns
- Apr: John Wayne
- Spring: Jackalope Creator Dies
- May/June: Custer Killer
- Jul: Doc & Wyatt
- Aug/Sep: A General Named Dorothy
- Oct: Vera McGinnis
- Nov/Dec: Worst Westerns Ever

2004

- Jan/Feb: Six Guns
- Mar: Fakes/Fake Doc
- April/Travel: Visit the Old West
- May: Iron Horse/Sacred Dogs
- Jun: HBO's Deadwood
- Jul: 17 Legends
- Aug: JW Hardin
- Sep: Wild Bunch
- Oct: Bill Pickett
- Nov/Dec: Dale Evans

2005

- Jan/Feb: Rare Photos
- Mar: Deadwood/McShane
- Apr: 77 Sunset Trips
- May: Trains/Collector's Edition
- Jun: Jesus Out West
- Jul: All Things Cowboy
- Aug: History of Western Wear
- Sep: Gambling
- Oct: Blaze Away/Wyatt
- Nov/Dec: Gay Western? Killer DVDs

2006

- Jan/Feb: Mexican Insurgents
- Mar: Kit Carson
- Apr: I've Been Everywhere, Man
- May: The Racial Frontier
- Jun: Playing Sports in the OW
- Jul/Aug: Dude! Where's My Ranch?
- Sep: Indian Yell
- Oct: Tombstone/125th Ok Corral
- Nov: Gambling
- Dec: Buffalo Gals & Guys

2007

- Jan/Feb: Cowboys Are Indians
- Mar: Trains/Jim Clark
- Apr: Western Travel
- May: Dreamscape Desperado/Billy
- Jun: Collecting the West/Photos
- Jul: Man Who Saved The West
- Aug: Western Media/Best Reads

- Sep: Endurance Of The Horse
- Oct: 3:10 To Yuma
- Nov/Dec: Brad Pitt & Jesse James

2008

- Jan/Feb: Pat Garrett/No Country
- Mar: Who Killed the Train?
- Apr: Travel/Geronimo
- May: Who Stole Buffalo Bill's Home?
- Jun: The Last Cowboy President?
- Jul: Secrets of Our Nat'l Parks/Teddy
- Aug: Kendrick's Northern CBs/Photos
- Sep: Saloons & Stagecoaches
- Oct: Charlie Russell
- Nov/Dec: Mickey Free

2009

- Jan/Feb: Border Riders
- Mar: Poncho Villa
- Apr: Stagecoach
- May: Battle For The Alamo
- Jun: Custer's Ride To Glory
- Jul: Am West, Then & Now
- Aug: Wild West Shows
- Sep: Vaquero/500 Yrs Before CBs
- Oct: Capturing Billy
- Nov/Dec: Chaco Canyon

2010

- Jan/Feb: Top 10 Western Towns
- Mar: Trains/Pony Express
- Apr: OW Destinations/Clint Eastwood
- May: Legendary Sonny Jim
- Jun: Extreme Western Adventures
- Jul: Starvation Trail/AZ Rough Riders
- Aug: Digging Up Billy the Kid
- Sep: Classic Rodeo!
- Oct: Extraordinary Western Art
- Nov/Dec: Black Warriors of the West

2011

- Jan/Feb: Sweethearts of the Rodeo
- Mar: 175th Anniv Battle of the Alamo
- Apr: Three True Grits

- May: Historic Ranches
- Jun: Tin Type Billy
- Jul: Viva, Outlaw Women!
- Aug: Was Geronimo A Terrorist?
- Sep: Western Museums/CBs & Aliens
- Oct: Hard Targets
- Nov/Dec: Butch Cassidy is Back

2012

- Feb: Az Crazy Road to Statehood
- Mar: Special Entertainment Issue
- Apr: Riding Shotgun with History
- May: The Outlaw Cowboys of NM
- Jun: Wyatt On The Set!
- July: Deadly Trackers
- Aug: How Did Butch & Sundance Die?
- Sep: The Heros of Northfield
- Oct: Bravest Lawman You Never
- Nov: Armed & Courageous
- Dec: Legend of Climax Jim

2013

- Jan: Best of the West/John Wayne
- Feb: Rocky Mountain Rangers
- Mar: Arizona Rangers
- Apr: US Marshals
- May: Texas Rangers
- Jun: Doc's Last Gunfight
- Jul: Comanche Killers!
- Aug: Tombstone 20th Annv
- Sep: Ambushed on the Pecos
- Oct: Outlaws, Lawmen & Gunfighters
- Nov: Soiled Doves
- Dec: Cowboy Ground Zero

2014

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- Feb: Assn. of Pat Garrett
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Stace Webb
Wenatchee, Washington

Mail service was infrequent and slow. From 1858 to 1861, the Butterfield Overland Mail transported the mail twice a week from St. Louis, Missouri, to San Francisco, California, in about 25 days. During its brief history, from April 1860 to October 1861, the Pony Express delivered a letter from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, in about 10 days. Trans-Western mail service continued to operate with Wells Fargo, Ben Holladay and Overland Mail lines. The U.S. government canceled its last overland mail contract on May 10, 1869, the day the Transcontinental Railroad was completed from Omaha, Nebraska, to Sacramento, California, reducing the time in transit for mail to a week or less.

What is the Halderman case?

Tom Todd
Scottsdale, Arizona

The Halderman brothers, Bill and Tom, were hanged for the killing of Constable Chester Ainsworth and Teddy Moore in Arizona's remote Chiricahua Mountains of Cochise County on the morning of April 7, 1899. Some curious circumstances surrounded the affair.

Sometime in 1898, a feud developed between 18-year-old Moore and the Haldermans that involved two sisters, Rena and Mary Wilson. Over the next few months, Moore made threats to kill Bill.

On April 6, 1899, Cochise County rancher Buck Smith accused the Haldermans of stealing cattle. Constable Ainsworth of Pearce headed to the Halderman ranch in Turkey Creek Canyon to serve the warrant. He deputized Moore on the way.



Ask The Marshall

BY MARSHALL TRIMBLE

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian. His latest book is *Wyatt Earp: Showdown at Tombstone*.

If you have a question, write: Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu



Butterfield stagecoach lines contracted to carry the mail across the country for \$600,000. The company selected the southern route to avoid the mountains (and snow)—choosing to travel hundreds of miles across barren deserts instead.

— ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

The two found the boys at John Wilson's ranch. At first, the Haldermans did not resist arrest, but they became suspicious that Moore was out to get them, so they armed themselves with rifles. The brothers claimed that once the lawmen saw them armed, the officers opened fire. The two lawmen were killed in the gunfight. Before he died, Moore claimed the Haldermans had fired first.

John, fearing how his neighbors might react, ordered his daughters, who had witnessed the gunfight, to back up Moore's story. They did, and the Halderman brothers were tried and found guilty. After the boys were sentenced to die, the Wilson girls admitted they had lied. Even so, the Halderman brothers were hanged on November 16, 1900.

How did American Indians view Gen. George Crook, who fought so many of them during the Indian Wars?

Paul Gordon
St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada

General William Tecumseh Sherman called Gen. George Crook the "greatest Indian-fighter and manager the army of the United States ever had," Crook's aide John

Gregory Bourke remembered. Indians also highly regarded Crook, both as a warrior and a peacemaker.

Crook was a brilliant strategist, whose knowledge of individual tribes improved his chances of victory. For example, in Arizona, he employed Apache scouts to track down Geronimo and others.



RED CLOUD 1822-1909



Marion Robert Morrison, later known as the actor John Wayne (at left), got a new middle name, Mitchell, when his parents named their second child Robert (at right).

In his last years, Crook spoke out against injustices suffered by his former Indian enemies—including the deportation and imprisonment of Apache scouts who had served him well.

In my opinion, Crook's greatest tribute came from Sioux Chief Red Cloud who, upon learning of his death in 1890, said, "He, at least, had never lied to us. His words gave the people hope."

Did John Wayne's brother, Robert, appear in any of his movies?

Mike Mitchell
Ute, Iowa

John "Duke" Wayne's younger brother, Robert Morrison, was a producer, assistant director and production associate during the 1940s-60s. He worked on three of his sibling's Westerns, including *McLintock!*, *The Alamo* and *The Fighting Kentuckian*. But as far as I know, he didn't appear in any of Wayne's films.

A constable testified that a man he killed on a railroad platform in Willcox, Arizona, in 1881 had been "skylarking." What is that?

Jack Allen
Phoenix, Arizona

"Skylarking" refers to someone engaged in horseplay. It could also describe a person who plays practical jokes or commits shenanigans. In this case, the constable shot the man for messing around. Willcox was indeed a tough Arizona town.



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What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

I fell in love with trains when my dad gave my brothers and me a Lionel train set when I was eight.

My favorite train memory is seeing my first steam engine when I was a small boy. I loved standing next to the drive wheels, which were taller than me.

You haven't lived until you've ridden on the "High Line" aboard the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. It not only shows you what man's ingenuity can produce, but also lets you witness firsthand the glory of all that God has made.

When I bought the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad in 1998, my biggest challenge was convincing the employees that, "We have always done it this way," is not necessarily the right way today.

The trick to running a successful railroad is to maintain the historical importance of a line, while using modern innovation, like train stories from children's books, to attract a new audience of families with young children.

I learned everything I know from experience. Sometimes I feel I got a doctorate in mistakes!

I wish train passengers understood that every day is a new day in history. We must preserve the old and blend with the new. It is a motion picture, not a photograph.

Don't get me started on tourist and scenic railroads owned by government and administrated by volunteer boards.

Steam rail adventures are so rare because they are so expensive to operate. It costs three to four times more to operate a steam locomotive versus a diesel locomotive.

The best Western ever is *Dances With Wolves*, although I love all John Wayne and Clint Eastwood Westerns.

Nobody can touch Louis L'Amour. His Westerns and characters have touched more people in books, movies and television than any other writer's.

Jesse James interests me. Having been raised in Missouri, he was part bad guy, part legend and part hero.

My teenage daughter's incurable formaldehyde poisoning has made me appreciate how precious every day of



Gold diggers and dance hall girls will bring history to life for the whole family at this year's Railfest, held August 14-17, in Durango, Colorado. Visit DurangoTrain.com for more information on this True West-sponsored event.



AL HARPER, RAILROAD OWNER

Born in the farm country of southern Illinois and earning a finance postgraduate at University of Missouri in St. Louis, realtor Al Harper headed west to operate the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, on a line built in 1881, after he purchased the railroad in 1998. Through American Heritage Railways, Harper continues his commitment to history by also operating North Carolina's Great Smoky Mountains Railroad, established 1891, and coordinating rail events throughout the U.S. and Canada.

our lives is and that each moment is an experience you shouldn't lose. My daughter missed her entire high school years. It can never be recaptured. You just have to move on.

My daddy always told me to do your "highest sense of right" at home, at work and with all people.

Wish I had a dollar for every time someone told me I would never make it. Those people were great motivators.

Nobody knows that although I absolutely love trains, I know nothing about the technical side of how they work.

I'm working on a railroad-themed hotel in Durango, Colorado, and on more events to attract children to ride our historic railroads.

History has taught me that the past is the road map to the future. If only our politicians understood that!



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