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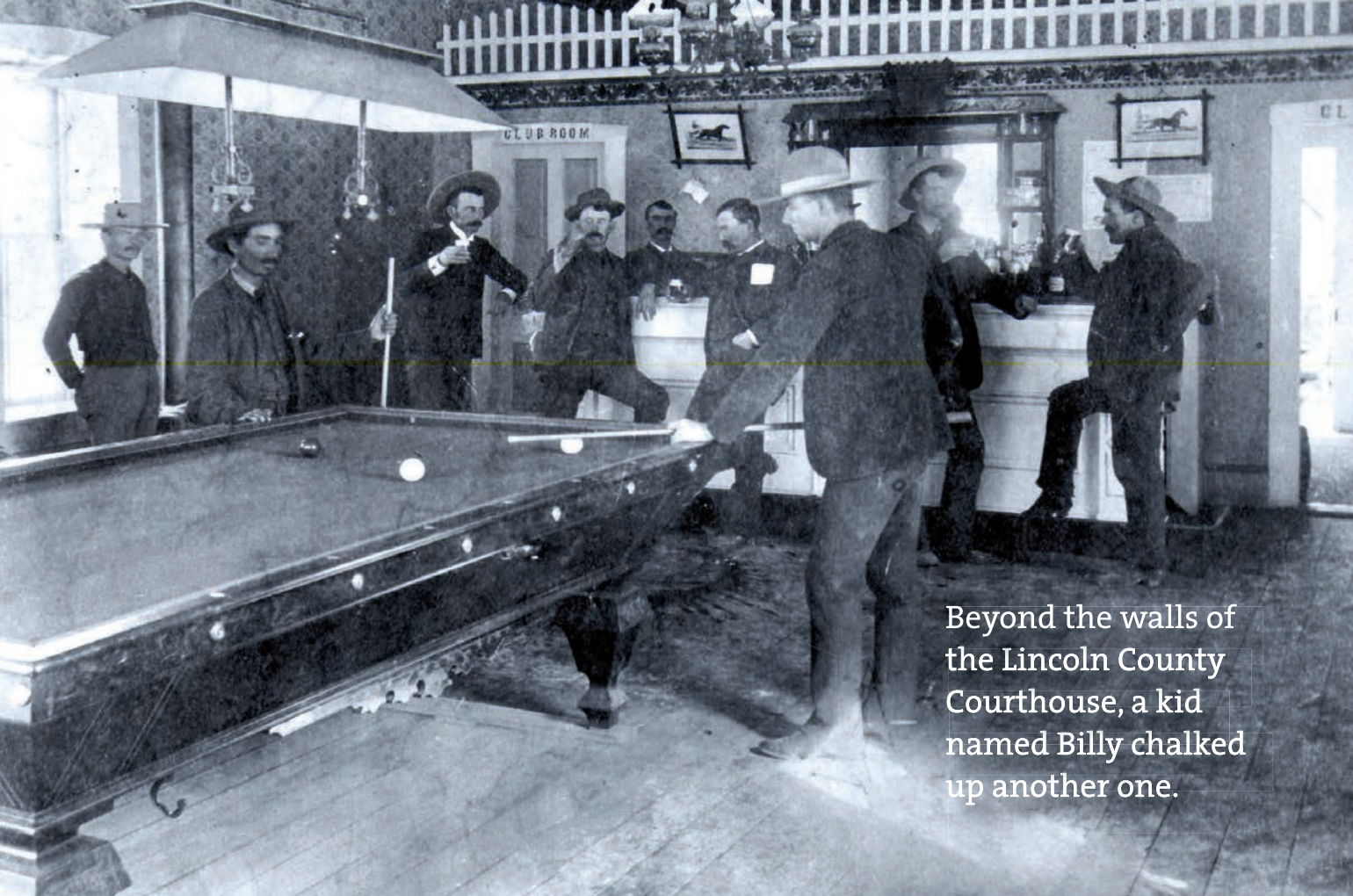
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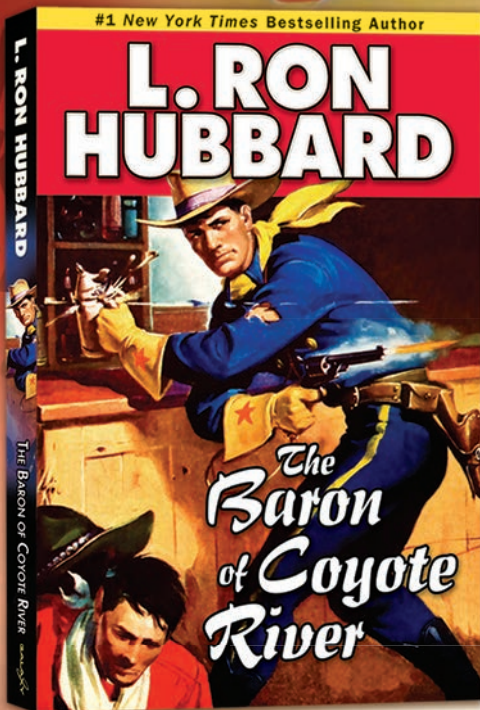
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Swastikas in Sedona? John Sutter's gold discovery inspires the 1936 anti-capitalist Nazi Western *Der Kaiser von Kalifornien*, which was, surprisingly, filmed in America!
 —Joe McNeill

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Pack for excitement! These historical getaways range from paddling through the Grand Canyon to hiking John Ford Country to zipping above the Durango & Silverton rail line.
 —Steve Shaw; Additional Reporting by Ashley Briggs

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Descendants argue over the final resting place of Apache medicine man Geronimo.
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 —William L. McGee

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66 WILD BILL'S GRAND FAILURE AT NIAGARA FALLS

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OUR COVER

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—COVER DESIGN BY DANIEL HARSHBERGER—

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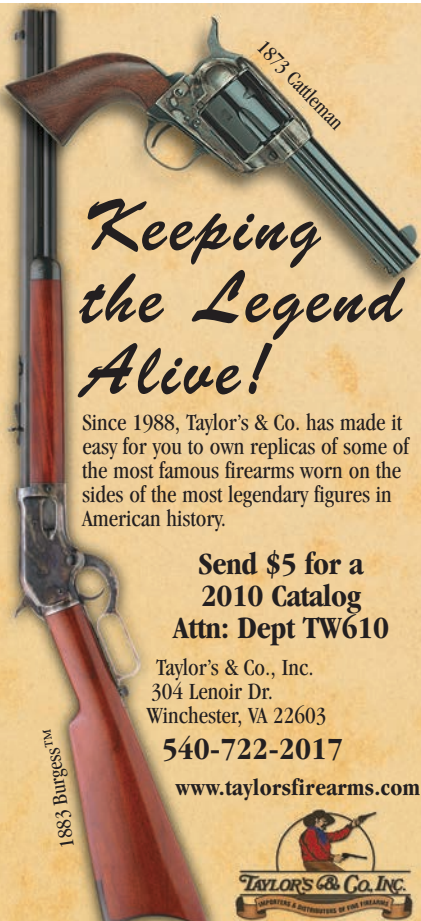
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Cover Boy, Oh Boy!

Taking the hit on Hitler. (Hint: he's still causing problems!)

The Nazis ruined a lot of good things, including the American Indian swastika and my original cover idea (see the cover treatments on this page).

I have lived in Arizona for 55 years and studied our unique history for at least 30 of those years, and I thought I knew a thing or two about movies filmed in Arizona. Yet Joe McNeill's new book *Arizona's Little Hollywood* knocked me right on my butt. I had no idea how much of Arizona's early film history has been mangled and flat out forgotten (when you read the book, I bet you'll agree). The kicker is that I also had no idea a future member of the Nazi party filmed an anti-capitalist propaganda Western here in 1935 (p. 22).

I knew this Nazi Western feature would make a strong cover story but getting this hot potato on the cover was a horse of a different color (to mix a metaphor, or two). For the assignment I tapped talented illustrator Paul Lanquist to create a stop-dead-in-your-tracks, newsstand stunner. The prolific Lanquist worked up several concepts, but when I ran the final cover mock-up (above, at right) by our newsstand consultants, they had a cow. "We strongly recommend you do not put a swastika on the cover."

Never mind that the swastika has Southwestern American Indian origins, and that it was widely seen as a good luck symbol (see the wacky former uses of this demonized symbol, p. 28).

I still put Hitler on the cover, but I toned it way down. This is one of those times when art meets commerce and not only do they not hit if off, commerce sues for divorce—and tacks on a restraining order. (Speaking of divorce,



My original cover idea was to feature a typical 1930s cowboy on a rearing horse, giving a "Sieg heil" salute and parodying the Long Ranger tagline with "Heil Hitler Away!" These mock-ups met with very strong reactions, and even the toned-down version of Hitler pointing a gun at the audience (top and bottom, at left) drew strong negative reactions.

you'll want to turn to p. 50 to read up on the celebrity divorce culture at dude ranches in Reno, Nevada.)

At the same time, the Durango & Silverton train and the Custer re-enactment ride are no shabby second cousins for the cover; I am quite proud of the extreme Western history adventures the crew has gathered for you this year (p. 32). But I still think "Heil Hitler Away!" is a great idea.



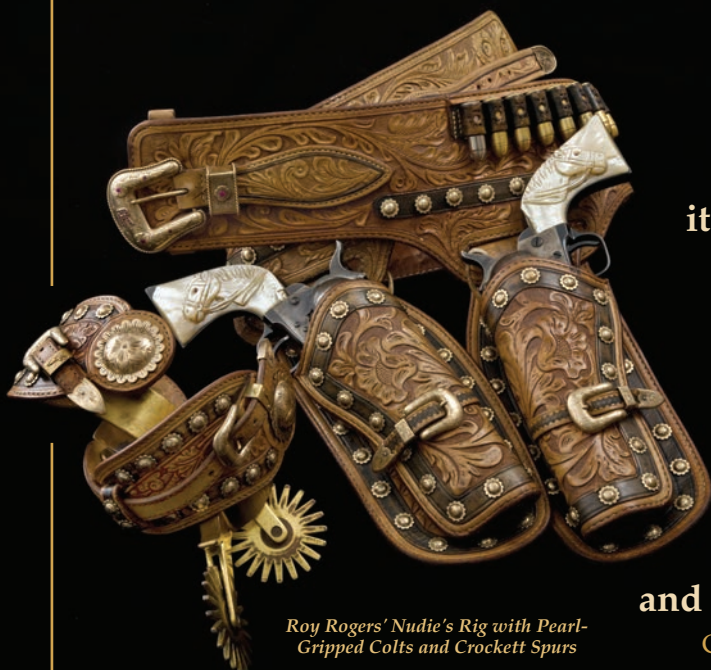
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405-478-2250 • NationalCowboyMuseum.org

Now Through July 31...Amarillo, TX, **Art of the Western Saddle:** Exhibits a rare Loomis saddle, as well as a Bohlin, Keyston and the Visalias.
806-376-5181 • www.AQHHallOfFame.com

Now Through Aug. 29...Tulsa, OK, **The West of Olaf Seltzer:** Western art by Olaf Seltzer who was mentored by Charles Russell.
918-596-2700 • Gilcrease.org

Now Through Oct. 17...Santa Fe, NM, **Sole Mates—Cowboy Boot and Art:** Changing styles of cowboy boots through art and photos.
505-476-5072 • NMArtMuseum.org

Now Through Sept. 6...Cody, WY, **Splendid Heritage—Perspectives on American Indian Art:** More than 140 objects of art from the Woodlands, Plains and Plateau regions.
307-587-4771 • www.BBHC.org

Now Through Sept. 26...Bend, OR, **Sin in the Sagebrush:** Living history of "immoral" frontier saloons, gambling halls and bordellos.
541-382-4754 • HighDesertMuseum.org

Now Through May 8, 2011...Santa Fe, NM, **Wild at Heart:** Shares how one wolf's death inspires boy scout cofounder Ernest T. Seton.
505-476-5200 • NMHistoryMuseum.org

JUNE

1-August 31...Cody, WY, **Cody Nite Rodeo:** Rodeo stars entertain crowds every summer night at the Cody Stampede Rodeo Grounds.
800-207-0744 • CodyStampedeRodeo.com



June 1-August 31, 2010
Riverton, WY, **A Summer of Traditional Dancing:** Dancing, drumming and storytelling from the Northern Arapaho tribe.
866-657-1604 • WindRiverCasino.com

2-6...Douglas, WY, **Douglas Railroad Days:** Celebrates the train in photograph and art, and offers a model rail exposition.
877-937-4996 • DouglasChamber.com

3-6...Elk City, OK, **Route 66 Days:** This classic car showcase celebrates the highway that brought unprecedented freedom to traveling the West.
800-280-0207 • VisitElkCity.com

4-5...Canyon, TX, **Night at the PPHM:** Bring your flashlight to meet historical figures and explore museum exhibits at night.
806-651-2244 • PanhandlePlains.org

4-5...La Junta, CO, **Bent's Old Fort NHS 50th Anniversary:** Movies filmed on site, trail ride of 1830s trappers and 1912 marker re-enactment.
719-383-5023 • Home.NPS.gov

4-Aug. 14...Canyon, TX, **Texas! the Musical:** Outdoor musical at Palo Duro Canyon shares challenges faced by settlers in the Panhandle.
806-655-2181 • Texas-Show.com

4-Aug. 22...La Veta/Alamosa, CO, **Roots & Boots Summer Concert Festival:** Western acts include Michael Martin Murphey and Nanci Griffith.
877-726-7245 • RioGrandeScenicRailroad.com

5...Montrose, CO, **Tribute to Western Movie Days:** John Wayne look-alike Ermal Williamson, plus discussions from those tied to 1969's *True Grit*.
970-240-3400 • MountainWestMuseum.com

5-6...El Cajon, CA, **Western Heritage Days:** Celebrates the life of Olaf Wieghorst, "Dean of Western Art," via crafts, re-enactments and art.
619-590-3431 • WieghorstMuseum.org

5-6...Prescott, AZ, **36th Annual Folk Art Fair:** Learn Territorial Arizona pioneer crafts and skills at this outside celebration at Sharlot Hall Museum.
800-266-7534 • Visit-Prescott.com

11-Aug. 21...Durango, CO, **"The Tavern":** Vaudeville and melodrama return to Henry Strater Theatre with George M. Cohan's classic play.
800-247-4431 • DurangoMelodrama.com

11-12...Prescott, AZ, **Groom's Last Duel:** Story of Prescott founder and Confederacy advocate Robert Groom at the Blue Rose Theatre.
928-445-3122 • Sharlot.org

11-12...Lexington, NE, **Plum Creek Rodeo:** Yearly cattle shows and team penning events lead up to this rodeo which includes youth steering.
308-324-5504 • VisitLexington.org

11-13...Sisters, OR, **70th Annual Sisters Rodeo:** PRCA champs compete at the self-dubbed "Biggest Little Show in the World."
800-827-7522 • SistersRodeo.com

11-13...Trinidad, CO, **Santa Fe Trail Days Festival:** Pan for gold and enjoy Koshare Indian dances and Santa Fe Trail re-enactments.
719-846-9285 • SantaFeTrailCo.com

11-13...San Elizario, TX, **Billy the Kid Festival:** Commemorates the Kid's jailbreak of Melquiades Segura from the El Paso County Jail in 1876.
915-594-8424 • BillyTheKidFestival.com

11-13...Fort Collins, CO, **Extreme Team Mustang Makeover:** Teams compete for \$12,500



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Santa Fe, NM, **Wild at Heart—Ernest Thompson Seton:** Exhibits the Boy Scouts of America founder's impact on conservation. Shown above is *Black Wolf of the Currumpaw* by Ernest Thompson Seton, 1893, courtesy of the Philmont Museum. 505-476-5200 • NMHistoryMuseum.org

with their adopted trained mustangs. 866-687-8264 • WildHorseandBurro.BLM.gov

12-13...Virginia City, MT, George Ives Trial and Hanging: Presents the history of Alder Gulch with the 1863 trial and hanging of George Ives. 800-829-2969 • VirginiaCityMT.com

12-20, 24-26...North Platte, NE, NEBRASKALand Days: Features a Buffalo Bill Rodeo and concert by Darius Rucker. 888-313-5606 • NebraskaLandDays.com

13-18...Hole-in-the-Wall, MT, True West's Butch Cassidy's Hole-in-the-Wall Ride: Ride the outlaw trail to the Wild Bunch hideout. 505-286-4585 • Great-American-Adventures.com

17-26...Reno, NV, 90th Annual Reno Rodeo: The fourth-richest PRCA rodeo, plus cattle drive, rodeo queen pageant and kid's rodeo. 775-329-3877 • RenoRodeo.com

18...Prescott, AZ, Movies on the Square: Concert by the Dixie Chicks before the Friday night movie held in downtown Prescott. 928-445-1754 • PrescottRegulators.org

18...Bismarck, ND, Dinner with General Custer: Lewis and Clark Riverboat fundraiser dinner for Fort Lincoln Foundation. 701-255-4233 • LewisAndClarkRiverboat.com

18-19...Deadwood, SD, Wild Bill Hickok Days: Concerts, a rodeo and a fast draw championship celebrate the famous gunman. 800-999-1876 • Deadwood.org

18-19...Kaycee, WY, Chris LeDoux Memorial Park Dedication: Pays tribute to the late rodeo champ with a bronco rodeo and concerts. 307-738-2444 • KayceeWyoming.com

18-20...Fort Laramie, WY, Fort Laramie Rendezvous: Celebrates mountain men and fur trappers from 1804-1840 with re-enactments. 307-837-2570 • FortLaramieRendezvous.com

18-20...Oklahoma City, OK, Red Earth Festival: Performances by American Indian artists and musicians. 405-427-5228 • RedEarth.org

22-27...Garryowen, MT, True West's Custer Ride: Trace Custer and his 7th Cavalry from



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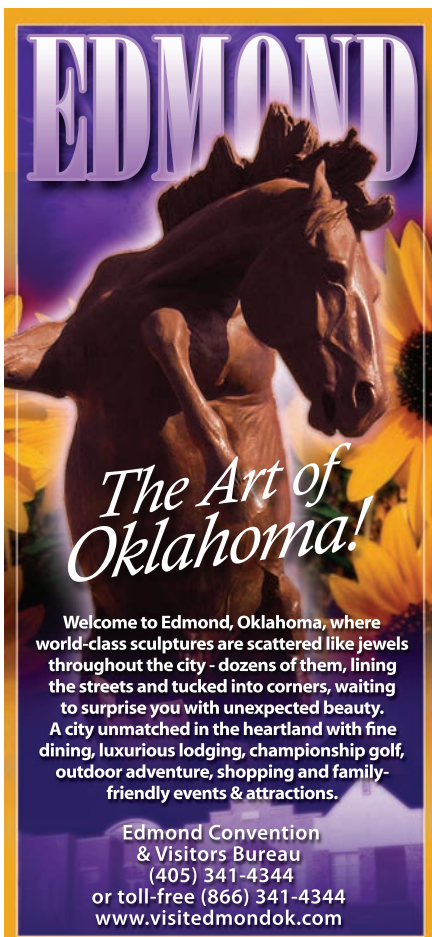


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25-26...Eureka, NV, **Don Edwards Original Cowboy Music:** Listen to Cowboy Balladeer Don Edwards at the Eureka Opera House.
775-237-6006 • EurekaCounty.com

25-27...Prineville, OR, **Crooked River Roundup:** Celebrate the 65th anniversary of all things rodeo at the Crook County Fairgrounds.
800-447-5638 • CrookedRiverRoundup.com

25-27...Hardin, MT, **Custer's Last Stand Re-enactment:** Re-enacts the Battle of Little Bighorn from the perspective of Custer and his men.
888-450-3677 • CustersLastStand.org

25-27...Laramie, WY, **Butch Cassidy Days:** See where Butch was held at the Wyoming Territorial Prison and enjoy Old West baseball games.
800-445-5303 • Laramie-Tourism.org

25-27...Denver, CO, **21st Annual Brian Lebel's Old West Show & Auction:** Features cowboy and Indian artifacts, and Western art and home decor.
307-587-9014 • DenverOldWest.com

25-July 4...Greeley, CO, **Greeley Stampede:** Musical performance by Keith Urban, a western art show and the Big Buckle Ball fundraising event.
970-356-7787 • GreeleyStampede.org

26-27...Meade, KS, **Dalton Days Wild West Fest:** Head to the Dalton Gang Hideout and enjoy a fast draw competition and gunfight re-enactments.
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26-Oct. 24...Prescott, AZ, **Rembrandt of the Rodeo:** Portraits of rodeo performers by Kenneth M. Freeman, known for his Parada del Sol posters.
928-778-1385 • PhippenArtMuseum.org

27...Anaheim, CA, **Antique & Collectible Firearms Auction:** Auction includes 1876 Gatling Gun, Volcanic pistols and Civil War memorabilia.
949-748-4848 • GregMartinAuctions.com

28-July 4...Prescott, AZ, **Prescott Frontier Days:** Fuming broncos and daring cowboys have competed at this rodeo since its inception in 1888.
866-407-6336 • WorldsOldestRodeo.com

30-July 4...Riverton, WY, **1838 Rendezvous:** Knife throwing and blackpowder shooting matches as you camp at this original rendezvous site.
307-765-2401 • 1838Rendezvous.com

JULY

16-Aug. 28...Montpelier, ID, **Journey Stories:** Traveling Smithsonian exhibit that focuses on the historical impact of travel in America.
208-847-3800 • OregonTrailCenter.org

3-11...Laramie, WY, **Laramie Jubilee Days:** Since 1940, offers PRCA rodeo, bull riding, street dances, parade and a concert and fireworks show.
800-445-5303 • LaramieJubileeDays.com

5...Cody, WY, **Cody-Yellowstone Xtreme Bulls:** Forty top bull riders from around the country compete for the \$50,000 purse.
800-207-0744 • CodyStampedeRodeo.com

8-18...The Dalles, OR, **Fort Dalles Days & Rodeo:** Wagon rides and historical re-enactments to celebrate the end of the Overland Trail.
800-255-3385 • TheDallesChamber.com

9-11...Pinedale, WY, **Green River Rendezvous Days:** Fur trade era re-enactment and lectures hosted by Museum of the Mountain Men.
888-285-7282 • MountainManCountry.com

9-11...Fremont, NE, **John C. Fremont Days Festival:** Celebrates explorer and founder John C. Fremont through rodeos and historical tours.
402-727-9428 • JohnCFremontDays.com

9-11...Buffalo, WY, **Big Horn Mountain Music Festival:** Includes music from The Grascals and The Wiyos, and instrumental workshops.
307-672-3325 • BigHornMusicFestival.com

10...Colorado Springs, CO, **Ride for the Brand Ranch Rodeo:** Working ranch rodeo, longhorn cattle drive, chuckwagon cook-off and live music.
719-635-1101 • ChampionshipRanchRodeo.com

10-11...Prescott, AZ, **Prescott Indian Market:** Visit with Southwest Indian artists as they sell their weavings, pottery and jewelry.
800-266-7534 • Visit-Prescott.org

11-23...Winnemucca, NV, **Oregon State Wagon Train:** Travel along the Applegate Trail from Nevada to California on this wagon train journey.
541-558-3827 • OregonStateWagonTrain.com

14-17...Colorado Springs, CO, **70th Annual Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo:** A PRCA rodeo, with proceeds benefitting the armed forces.
719-635-1101 • ColoradoSpringsRodeo.com

15-17...Price, UT, **SASS Utah State Championship:** Cowboy action shooters vie for the championship title in the Castle Gate Robbery shoot.
435-637-8209 • TheCastleGatePosse.net



Now Through Aug. 22, 2010

Los Angeles, CA, **Home Lands:** Artifacts and photographs portray the contributions of women who settled the West. Shown here is the undated "Cheyenne Woman Raising Lodge Poles" by Elizabeth C. Grinnell, which was included in her husband's 1923 book *The Cheyenne Indians: Their History and Ways of Life*.
323-667-2000 • TheAutry.org



July 15-17, 2010

Gunnison, CO, 110th Annual
Cattlemen's Days Rodeo:

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970-641-1501 • CattlemensDays.com

15-18...Salinas, CA, Centennial Celebration

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California rodeo since 1911.

800-771-8807 • CARodeo.com

15-19...Flagstaff, AZ, Wild Horse and Burro

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866-687-8264 • WildHorseandBurro.BLM.gov

19-22...Ruidoso, NM, Wild West History

Association Roundup: Lincoln County War
presentations and guided tours to Fort Stanton.

760-450-4009 • WildWestHistory.org

21-24...Joseph, OR, 65th Annual Chief Joseph

Days: Offers a parade with Nez Perce Indian
Tribal members and four nights of a PRCA rodeo.

541-432-1015 • ChiefJosephDays.com

23-24...Saratoga, WY, Platte River Rodeo:

Amateur rodeo with barrel racing, bronc riding,
team roping, bull riding, plus kid mutton busting.

307-326-8825 • WyomingTourism.org

23-24...Bandera, TX, National Day of the

American Cowboy: Honors cowboys with a ranch
rodeo and dude ranch wrangler championship.

830-796-4447 • FrontierTimesMuseum.org

23-24...Prescott, AZ, Navajo Rug & Indian Art

Auction: Auction of Navajo rugs and Southwestern
Indian pottery, jewelry, baskets and katsina dolls.

928-445-1230 • SmokiMuseum.org

23-Aug. 1...Cheyenne, WY, Cheyenne Frontier

Days: Rodeo established in 1897, with live music,
military re-enactments and Western art show.

800-227-6336 • CFDRodeo.com

24-25...Prescott, AZ, Shoot-out on Whiskey

Row: Local re-enactment groups compete in a
charity shoot-out for Big Brothers & Big Sisters.

928-445-4754 • PrescottRegulators.org

30-Aug. 8...Dodge City, KS, Dodge City Days'

50th Year: Celebrates the cowtown's heritage with
a BBQ contest, PRCA rodeo and bull fry.

620-227-3119 • www.DodgeCityDays.com



Correction

Oops. In May 2010, on p. 84, the actor identified as
Charlton Heston is actually Chuck Connors,
playing the role of Buck Hennessey.

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Bent's Fort's 50th Anniversary

Celebrating the "old" fort's new beginning as a reconstructed site.

In 1833, the Bent brothers—Charles and William—along with partner Ceran St. Vrain were building a trading empire in the Southwest. The plan: to operate mercantile stores and trading posts in what is now Colorado and New Mexico.

William Bent was tasked with finding a central post location, one between their company store in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and their hometown and merchandise suppliers in St. Louis, Missouri. He sought advice from Cheyenne Chief Yellow Wolf, who recommended a place called Big Timbers (modern southeast Colorado, near the Kansas border).

What did William decide to do? He located the place some 40 miles west of that spot. Typical white guy, not listening to the natives.

In time, the adobe structure William built became known as Bent's Fort, a major frontier post, located out in the middle of nowhere. "Why he chose this spot over the other, we have no idea," says Greg Holt, park ranger/interpreter at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site.

Maybe that decision was based on the relatively close proximity of the mountains and the mountain man trade. Or because it was close to the Indians, another trading partner. Or because it was located near the Santa Fe Trail, heading south to Santa Fe. Or all of the above.

For its time, Bent's Fort was quite the place. The 137 feet-by-178 feet building had walls 14 feet high and 30 inches thick. The

post contained carpenter and blacksmith shops, trading rooms, a council room, billiard room, warehouses, a large dining room, trappers' and hunters' quarters, laborers' quarters, as well as accommodations for the resident physician and for the owners and their families.

The fort had a strong run for more than 15 years. But by 1849, the place had been abandoned. Cholera decimated the Indians; the survivors moved away. The days of the mountain man beaver trade were pretty much finished. Overgrazing had driven away the buffalo. William Bent's brother and partner Charles—serving as New Mexico Territorial governor—was killed in the Taos Revolt of 1847. And his other partner St. Vrain wanted to bail out of the business.

Ranger Holt says the Bent brothers did not do a good job of upkeep: "The archaeology studies showed there were beam pockets in the middle of the rooms, and that suggests the idea that the walls were caving in a bit."

William finally listened to Yellow Wolf—who by 1849 was his father-in-law—and moved most of his operation to Big Timbers to build Bent's New Fort. Several reports indicated that he burned the old structure as he was leaving.

For some years, the "old" location was used as a stagecoach stop. Yet for many folks, Bent's Old Fort became a distant memory—especially when the stage line from Denver, Colorado, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, bypassed the fort.

Flash ahead to the 1920s. Colorado entrepreneur A.E. Reynolds donates land containing the fort ruins to the Daughters

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Thanks to some dedicated women at the Daughters of the American Revolution, preservation of this fur trading post actually began nearly 100 years ago.

— ALL IMAGES COURTESY BENT'S OLD FORT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE —

of the American Revolution (DAR), who began floating the idea of reconstructing the old fort. Nothing came of that proposal for some 30 years.

In 1954, the state of Colorado owned the spot. Archaeological digs identified the location of the fort walls, and some adobe bricks were actually laid as part of a reconstruction effort. Yet state officials believed the feds could do a better job on the project, and they pushed for Washington, D.C. to take over. That happened in June of 1960, when President Dwight Eisenhower signed a measure making Bent's Old Fort a National Historic Site.

In 1976, two years after work started, the accurately reconstructed fort was dedicated. In recent years, some 25,000 visitors tour the site each year.

The numbers may well be up this June 4-5. That's because Bent's Old Fort is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its inclusion as a National Historic Site. Ranger Holt is in charge of the event, which will feature a fandango, a trail ride of 1830s trappers and hunters, a re-enactment of the 1912 DAR marker dedication and a presentation of Hollywood films made at the site.

Among the special guests: some direct descendants of William Bent himself, the man who built and later burned the fort. History, as it so often does, will come full circle.



In 1912, ladies from the Daughters of the American Revolution traveled on this Overland stagecoach from the nearest town, La Junta, Colorado, to dedicate a marker at the ruins of Bent's Old Fort. The 2010 anniversary celebration will include a re-enactment of the 1912 marker dedication.



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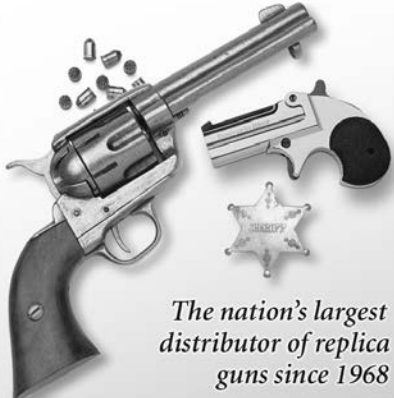
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The Invisible Indian Tribe

Lee Ann Allen is helping a New Mexico tribe gain back its status.

Few people have ever heard of the Piro-Manso-Tiwa tribe that is scattered around Las Cruces, New Mexico.

In fact, the tribe isn't even a "recognized" American Indian tribe, an oversight the members have been struggling to correct with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for the last 40 years.

In those four decades, they've filed mountains of documentation. Yet the tribe is closer to official recognition these days than it has ever been because of the help of a 31-year-old anthropology student who lived with the tribe and organized their archives to satisfy BIA demands. In the process, she has seen her own life changed by this small tribe.

Lee Ann Allen grew up in Baird, Texas, in a working-class family. She never even met an American Indian until 2008, when she was accepted into the Robert E. McNair research program at the University of North Texas. Lee Ann is the first person in her family to attend college—re-entering after an eight-year break.

Thanks to guidance from her mentor, retired anthropology professor Diane Ballinger, Allen decided to help the tribe organize its archives. She had to solve a problem first. "... no non-Indian or non-tribal member has ever had access to their archives," she says.

In the spring of 2008, she met with the tribal members. "We sat around the dining room table at

the cacique's house, and they wanted to be sure of me," she says. "It didn't take long before they said, 'You could help us in the archives.'"

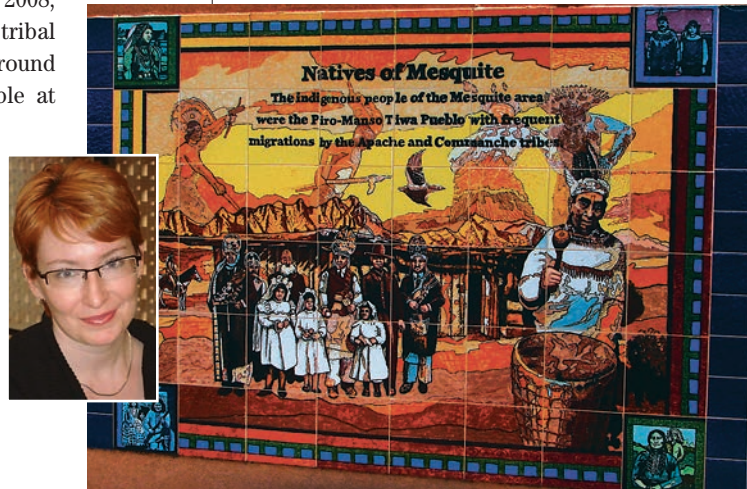
She remembers being thrilled at their acceptance of her. She also remembers the daunting feeling she had when she saw the 20 years worth of unorganized material she needed to categorize.

For the last two summers, she's lived at the home of Edward Roybal Sr.—the spiritual leader or cacique of the tribe—and his wife, and worked six to nine hours a day, sometimes six days a week.

She says the need for recognition as an official tribe is obvious. "Without it, they're invisible," she says. "Without recognition, they don't feel respected. That's one reason this program has become very important to me. It's amazing to see how tenacious they've been."

In April of 2004, the cacique's son and Tribal Gov. Edward Roybal II reminded the Senate Indian Affairs Committee of the pending request for recognition. Ever since 1888, when U.S. Land Commissioner Eugene Van Patten helped the tribe obtain a 120-acre land grant to establish the Town of Guadalupe, the federal government's recognition of the tribe has been evident, he testified. From 1890 to 1910, some 110 children from the pueblo were sent to Indian boarding schools. To this day, Roybal II stressed, the Piro-Manso-Tiwa tribe has been tacitly recognized by the

This mural at Jardin de Mesquite Park, on the original town site of Las Cruces, shows the former cacique of the Piro-Manso-Tiwa tribe, Vicente Roybal, with a drum. Vicente was the uncle of Edward Roybal Sr., who helped mentor Lee Ann Allen (inset) during her archival work for the tribe.



— COURTESY LEE ANN ALLEN —

Indian Health Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the governments of New Mexico, Arizona, California and Nevada.

The tribe's ancestors were the first Pueblo people Spanish explorer Oñate met in 1598 in what is now the Las Cruces area. Fray Garcia de San Francisco later settled some of them at the North Pass (El Paso del Norte)—modern-day Ciudad Juarez in Mexico—where he established the Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission in 1659. After the 1680 Pueblo Revolt against the Spaniards and the 1780-82 smallpox epidemic, the Manso, Piro and Tiwa merged into the Pueblo Indians of Guadalupe under one cacique. The 1844 census notes Guadalupe Indians resettling Mesilla Valley, with the Avalos and Jemente families among the first settlers of Las Cruces.

This long-storied tribe has never shared its religious practices with outsiders, and yet it did so, to comply with the BIA's documentation request. "It's very intrusive," Allen says of the process. "It amounts to a group of Indians having to prove to a group of non-Indians that they're Indians."

Although some larger tribes seeking recognition have been able to hire professionals to put together their petitions, the Piro-Manso-Tiwa tribe is not one of them. "A poor tribe must rely on a grassroots process," Allen says.

Allen's work with the tribe has already been recognized: in 2009, she won the top award from the Society for Applied Anthropology. Her experience has also encouraged her to pursue a career in applied anthropology. "I want to work for human rights and work to improve the lives of others. This gave me the experience to do field work to cultivate a relationship with people who were complete strangers and have become extremely dear to me."

Allen graduated in May and hopes to continue working with the tribe as a graduate student. She seems confident that the long-awaited tribal recognition will either come this year or early in 2011, and she wants to be around for the celebration. ❖

Jana Bommersbach has been Arizona's Journalist of the Year, won an Emmy for her television reporting, has been awarded two Lifetime Achievement Awards and is the author of two nationally-acclaimed true crime books.

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Glacier's Great Artists

Western artists who helped promote Glacier National Park came together at two Great Falls auctions.



After he painted the Crow, Blackfeet and other Indians during his travels and his stay at his studio on the Little Bighorn Battlefield, Joseph Henry Sharp moved on to Taos, New Mexico, to paint oils such as *Hunting Son-Taos Indian* (left); \$110,000.

(Above) Kathryn Leighton's oil, *The Arrow Maker*; \$11,000. After her stay at Bull Head, some of her Glacier work went on exhibit in her home city. The *Los Angeles Evening Herald* reported on February 27, 1926: "The first to bring to galleries here the strange, wild charm of Glacier National Park for an entire exhibit, Leighton has a masculine sweep and strength to her brush. . . ."

"Railway stations and hotels served in a real sense as the first 'art galleries' in the West, at a time before traditional art institutions were envisioned in the region," wrote William Gerdtz in *Art Across America*.

The truth of his statement could not have rang truer when the hammer struck down at the C.M. Russell Art Auction (March 17-20, 2010) and at March in Montana (March 19-20), both held in Great Falls, Montana.

The Great Northern Railway was one of those first "art galleries" in the West. James J. Hill formed the railway in 1889; by 1893, the railway had opened up access to the Blackfeet Reservation, which is located east of today's Glacier National Park. One hundred years ago, the railway convinced Congress to set aside Montana's Glacier wilderness (it was officially designated a national park with the creation of the National Park Service in 1916).

Quite a few of the famous Western artists who traveled the Great Northern rails into

this country were featured at the Great Falls auctions this year. O.C. Seltzer moved from Denmark to Great Falls after his father's death, and from 1893 to 1921, he worked as a locomotive repairman for the Great Northern. He met cowboy artist Charlie M. Russell in Great Falls in 1897; after Russell built his Bull Head Lodge on Lake McDonald in 1907, which would later become part of Glacier National Park, Seltzer would stay with Charlie and his wife Nancy during his rail travels. Encouraged all along by Russell to become an artist, Seltzer finally dedicated himself to his art after the railroad laid him off in 1921. At the C.M. Russell auction, his oil painting *The Mad Cow* sold for a \$31,000 bid.

During 1901 to 1909, Joseph Henry Sharp lived at a studio on the Little Bighorn Battlefield, and he would travel to other Indian reservations in Montana, including the Blackfeet, to paint his subjects. After this period, Sharp moved to Taos, New Mexico, where he would gain his notoriety as one of the founders of the Taos

C.M. Russell, who built his Bull Head Lodge in what would become Glacier National Park, created this bronze, *Indian Head*; \$3,000.



Society of Artists, formed in 1915. His oil painting, *Hunting Son-Taos Indian*, sold at March in Montana for \$110,000.

With the Glacier wilderness set aside in 1910, James Hill's son Louis decided that he should hire artists to attract tourists to Glacier in a "See America First" campaign at the Great Northern's depots and hotels. He hired Austrian John Fery to paint the park's panoramic landscapes from 1910-1913. One of Fery's works from Glacier, the oil *Lake McDermott*, sold at March in Montana for \$11,000.

Kathryn Leighton's chance meeting with Russell at a June 1924 party held at artist John Wilkinson Smith's studio in Los Angeles would lead her to Glacier the following year. Smith and other

artists had recently formed the Painters of the West art group, and its first exhibit was taking place at the Biltmore Salon from May 26 to June 16, at the time of the party. Perhaps the artists were celebrating Maynard Dixon's

gold medal for his painting *The Survivors* (later destroyed, this painting of a line of buffalo in Montana now only exists as a photograph in the Dixon papers). In any case, Russell invited Leighton and her family to stay at Bull Head Lodge, which they did from August 12-26, 1925. After her fortuitous trip, Leighton was hired by Louis to paint the Blackfeet elders during the summer of 1926 for a lecture tour that would promote the Great Northern. Her oil, *The Arrow Maker*, sold at the C.M. Russell auction for \$11,000.

At the same time, Louis was working out a commission for Winold Reiss, perhaps the park's best-known artist. Infected by Karl May's portrayals of the American West, the German artist immigrated to New York City in 1913. Not until the fall of 1919 did he travel on the Great Northern to Browning, Montana, the tribal capital of the Blackfeet Reservation. His brother Hans followed him to the park; while working as a climbing guide, Hans guided Louis Hill in 1925. He introduced Louis to his brother's paintings of the park, and Winold became an official park artist in 1927.

Winold's famous association with Glacier National Park is no doubt connected to the fact that his portraits appeared for more than 30 years on dining car and hotel menus, playing cards, postcards and calendars. In 1943, Winold began creating Blackfeet portraits for Great Northern calendars. At March in Montana, one of these calendars featuring Winold's painting of Many Guns, as well as the actual warshirt the Blackfeet elder was wearing, sold for \$8,500. The calendar is dated December 1954; just that past June, the Blackfeet tribe gathered at Red Blanket Hill to scatter the ashes of the artist, who had died the summer before.

The totals for C.M. Russell Art Auction and March in Montana are a little over \$720,000 and \$1.2 million, respectively.



Piegian Blackfeet man's warshirt, plus Winold Reiss painting of Many Guns wearing this shirt on a 1954 Great Northern Railway calendar; \$8,500.



Great Northern Railway repairman O.C. Seltzer would go on to become a full-fledged artist and paint works such as this oil, *The Mad Cow*; \$31,000.

John Fery's oil of Lake McDermott, which receives its waters from Grinnell Glacier in the national park; \$11,000.



UPCOMING AUCTIONS

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June 26, 2010

Old West Collectibles
Plus Roy Rogers Museum
Firearms Collection
Brian Lebel's Old West (Denver, CO)
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June 27, 2010

Antique & Collectible Firearms
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The Mouse that Roared

The power behind the miniature Deringer pistol that took out a U.S. president.

If any single gun had an impact on the history of the West, it was the palm-sized Deringer pistol that John Wilkes Booth used in 1865 to assassinate President Abraham Lincoln.

The single shot fired from this .41 caliber caplock helped to unleash an unfriendly federal policy on the Southern states, causing great numbers of ex-Confederates to head west in search of a new life.

Our Western territories had long provided an active market for the firearms trade, and Henry Deringer enjoyed much success as an arms maker in the first half of the 19th century. He manufactured everything from military rifles, Indian trade guns, dueling pistols, tomahawks and scalping knives.



This rare 1850s ambrotype from the Memphis, Tennessee, area reveals a formidable-looking "gent," armed with an ivory-handled bowie knife and a brace of belt-sized Deringer pistols. Although Henry Deringer's Philadelphia-made pistols came in a variety of sizes and calibers, his small vest-pocket guns helped coin the generic term "derringer," meaning a small hideout pistol.

— COURTESY HERB PECK JR., COLLECTION —

Although it seems unlikely that such a palm-sized pistol could have much effect in world events, a small, .41 caliber Deringer percussion arm like this changed the course of history when it was used to assassinate President Abraham Lincoln.

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —



Yet he is best known today for his single-shot pocket pistols. Deringer's percussion pistols could be found in a variety of sizes and calibers, ranging from the short 3¾-inch (overall length) .36 caliber pocket models to .41 and .44-bore belt pistols that measured six inches long. He might have produced his famed pistol by the time of the California Gold Rush, if we believe an early California arms merchant who recalled, "I sold the first on this coast in 1849." Nevertheless, Deringer pistols did not gain widespread favor until the mid-1850s.

Interestingly, they garnered much of their reputation in California. Despite the availability of repeating arms such as the pepperbox pistols and Colt's revolvers, the one-shot Deringer pistols were among the most commonly found handguns in and around the gold camps and along San Francisco's wicked Barbary Coast during these tumultuous times of the early 1850s.

Designed along the lines of a dueling pistol, Deringer guns exhibited excellent workmanship and were considered as rugged, reliable sidearms. The guns were intended as close-range defensive weapons and, unlike many other pistols of the era, their accuracy at card table ranges was actually good.

Philadelphia Deringers were made with rifled iron barrels that featured a

separate screw-in breech plug and wore a faux Damascus browned finish. Their back-action locks, which bore the stamping "Deringer, Philadela," were case hardened and engraved. Regardless of size, each gun's furniture—such as the side plates, nose caps, trigger guards and escutcheons—were made of engraved German silver. Their walnut stocks were checkered.

Deringer sold his guns nationally through a number of agents, such as A.J. Plate and N. Curry of San Francisco, W.H. Calhoun of Nashville, Tennessee, and the New Orleans, Louisiana, firm of A.B. Griswold & Co., to name a few. Many of these Deringer agents stamped their own names on the tops of the barrels.

In time, however, as the Deringer pistol's fame grew, so did its imitators, and a number of firms produced copies of Henry's famous pistol. So much so that eventually the Deringer name later became synonymous for virtually all pocket pistols—including those "derringers" (misspelled with a double "r") manufactured today. Such a reverence for the original Deringer is indeed a solid testimony to its quality.



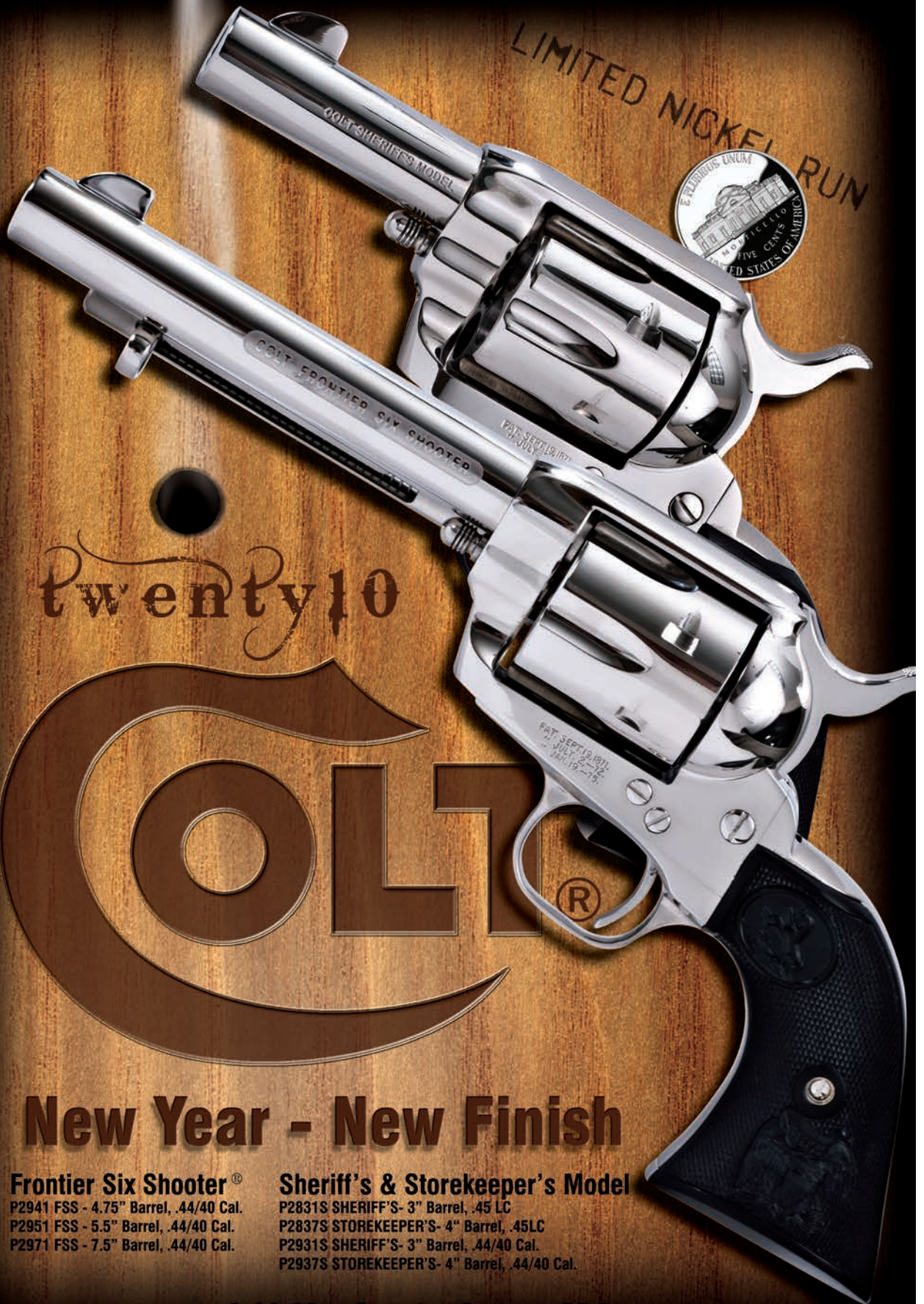
Phil Spangenberg writes for *Guns & Ammo* magazine, appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows, is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor, and is a Field Editor and regular columnist for *True West*.

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BY JOE McNEILL

— ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL LANQUIST —

Heil Hitler away!

Johann Suter's journey of
gold riches to losses
inspires the Nazi Western
*Der Kaiser von
Kalifornien.*

For those of you who may have wondered what book laid on the reading table next to Adolph Hitler's bed, you might be surprised to learn it was likely a Western.

In his 1976 prison memoir *Spandau: The Secret Diaries*, Minister of Armaments and War Production for the Third Reich Albert Speer recorded:

"Hitler was wont to say that he had always been deeply impressed by the tactical finesse and circumspection that Karl May conferred upon his character Winnetou. . . . And he would add that during his reading hours at night, when faced with seemingly hopeless situations, he would still reach for those stories, that they gave him courage like works of philosophy for others or the Bible for elderly people."

On January 18, 1933, Hitler and Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels saw a movie that had premiered in Berlin just the day before, *Der Rebel*, starring Luis Trenker.

Twelve days later, Hitler became chancellor of Germany. The only Nazi Western filmed in America would begin shooting two and a half years later.







The swastika once flew over the American West. Well into the early 20th century, the flag of the U.S. Reclamation Service (renamed the Bureau of Reclamation in 1923) had a swastika as part of its design because the “whirling winds” shape represented life and good luck to many southwestern American Indian tribes.

In Karl May’s *Winnetou* novels, an illustrator incorporated this swastika symbol; some historians suspect May’s books might be where a young Adolf Hitler first became fascinated with the swastika. May (1842–1912) is the most popular author in German history, and his adventures of the fictional Mescalero Apache chief *Winnetou* and his Teutonic companion *Old Shatterhand* in the Wild West remain the German-speaking world’s biggest-selling series of novels.

Hitler often quoted May in his speeches, and he had 300,000 copies of May’s novels distributed to Nazi troops during the war; on June 26, 1944, a Berlin newspaper reported that large numbers of German soldiers were grateful to Karl May—who, ironically, was a pacifist—for providing them with the “best manuals of anti-partisan warfare.”

Although Western movies were made in Germany during the silent era—long before he flapped his wings as *Dracula*, Hungarian-born *Bela Lugosi* played an American Indian in a pair of 1920 James Fenimore Cooper adaptations, *Der Wildtöter und Chingachgook* (*The Deerslayer and Chingachgook*) and *Der Letzte der Mohikaner* (*The Last of the Mohicans*)—none of the *Winnetou* and *Old Shatterhand* tales reached the screen until 1962.

Even so, May’s peculiarly Teutonic vision of the West exerted a strong influence on *Der Kaiser von Kalifornien* (*The Emperor of California*), a 1936 anti-capitalist propaganda diatribe about the rise and fall of German immigrant *Johann Augustus Suter* that was the first Nazi Western film.

Suter (Americanized as *John Sutter*) was an ambitious German-born Swiss trader and farmer who became famous because of the 1848 discovery of gold on his property at *Sutter’s Mill* in California, which inspired the Gold Rush. Squatters would overrun his property, and *Suter* eventually went bankrupt, dying nearly penniless in 1880.

The historical *Suter* (as *John Sutter*) made his first appearance on film in 1924, depicted as, of all things, an action hero, in *Days of ’49*, a silent 15-chapter serial released by the Arrow



(Above) From everywhere gold-seeking adventurers converge on *Johann Suter’s* land, and he is powerless to stop them, in 1936’s *Der Kaiser von Kalifornien*.

Film Corporation. By 1934, Universal had *Howard Hawks* set to direct an epic version of *Suter’s* life based on a treatment written by Nobel Prize-winning novelist *William Faulkner*. Yet *Hawks* walked off the project after growing frustrated by Universal’s budget restrictions. Universal would still make the film, under director *James Cruze*, calling it *Sutter’s Gold*.

The Nazi Western *Kaiser* was written, produced and directed by *Luis Trenker*, who also starred as *Suter*. *Trenker* had made his mark as a leading man in *Bergfilm* (mountain film), the man-versus-nature adventure genre popular in Germany’s pre-Hitler Weimar Republic, but he is a forgotten figure of film history today, especially in America.

“The mountain film was to Germany what the Western was to America,” wrote respected film historian *William K. Everson* in 1984’s *Films in Review*, “and *Trenker*, as its leading practitioner, was in a sense Germany’s *John Wayne* and *John Ford* rolled into one.”

Nazis in Hollywood

Incredibly, some of *Kaiser’s* outdoor scenes were actually shot on location in the United States, and in the film, *Sedona, Arizona*, is *Suter’s Valhalla*.

The cash to shoot in America came from

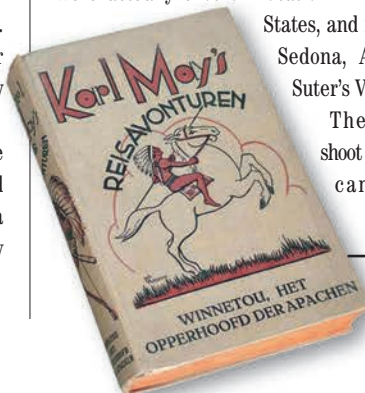
(Opposite page) The poster for the 1955 Austrian release of *Der Kaiser von Kalifornien*. The true beginning of *Suter* as a film character can be traced to the 1925 publication in France of *Blaise Cendrars’s* historical novel, *Gold: The Marvelous History of General Johann Augustus Suter* (translated title). Five years later, German and Nazi dramatist *Eberhard Wolfgang Möller* produced a right-wing stage play about *Suter* called *Kalifornische Tragödie* (*California Tragedy*), the plot of which apparently bore a striking number of similarities to *Luis Trenker’s* film.

— ALL IMAGES COURTESY JOE MCNEILL —

outside Germany, from a *Tobis* subsidiary based in Holland, *Tobis Maatschappij Amsterdam*. What *Trenker* always failed to mention was that in February 1935, *Tobis Amsterdam’s* parent company, *Internationale Tobis NV* (or *Intertobis*), was secretly purchased by the Nazi front company *Cautio GmbH* as part of the Reich’s covert plan to seize control of the German film industry; by 1939, the Nazis would have absolute authority over every division of *Tobis* in Europe.

After *Trenker* and his crew arrived in America, the Germans headed west by train. Their landing in Hollywood made *Variety’s* front page on August 7, 1935: “Nazis in Hollywood on *Kaiser Location*.”

Kaiser filming apparently started in California. *Trenker* wrote of working near



Karl May’s novels had a great influence on many Germans. Those who include themselves as being under May’s spell are: *Albert Einstein*, *Albert Schweitzer*, *Hermann Hesse* and *Adolph Hitler*. *Hitler* reportedly commended *Winnetou* as an ideal of “tactical finesse and circumspection” and endorsed May’s books to his generals. May remains the most widely-read German author to this day.

LUIS TRENKER
VICTORIA v. BALLASKO



VERLEIH
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TIROL-FILM

DER KAISER

von *Kalifornien*

BUCH u. REGIE:
LUIS TRENKER

MUSIK: Dr. GIUSEPPE BECCE





Mount Whitney in *Alles gut gegangen*; that's confirmed by a few quick shots photographed in Lone Pine's easily recognizable Alabama Hills. In one sequence, he rides a horse through the boulder-strewn pass that would soon become B-western hallowed ground: the "Lone Ranger Ambush Site" of Republic Pictures' 1938 serial *The Lone Ranger*. More filming definitely took place in nearby Death Valley.

Trenker distinctly remembered renting a stallion named Sheik from a Kernville, California, rancher for the duration of *Kaiser's* shoot. Sheik was used often in low-budget Westerns, ridden by the likes of John Wayne, William Boyd and Tim McCoy, and he would later face off against Rex in the filmed-in-Sedona *King of the Sierras*. Because Sheik was distinctively marked by heavy mottling on his face, it's easy to spot him in at least two *Kaiser* sequences: the trek through California's Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area and in one of the scenes filmed in Sedona, where he's ridden by actor Reinhold Pasch.

Trenker purchased a secondhand Packard automobile and three used Chrysler limousines in California for the company to

drive to Arizona, where they took rooms in the El Tovar Hotel on the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. German audiences expected mountain climbing in Trenker's films, and in *Kaiser* he obliged spectacularly by scaling the walls and rocks of the Grand Canyon during Suter's quest for California. The long climb climaxes when, through the magic of creative editing, he reaches the top of the canyon only to be overwhelmed by the panoramic view of California—actually Sedona—spread out before him, excitedly exclaiming "California! Hello!" at the breathtaking vision.

This is an unnerving sequence, and not just because of the dizzyingly high views and mixed-up geography. As British arts and culture historian Sir Christopher Frayling pointed out in his book *Spaghetti Westerns: Cowboys and Europeans from Karl May to Sergio Leone*, the music heard during Trenker's ascent of the Grand Canyon and subsequent descent of Schnebly Hill into Sedona is an eerie mix of the Nazi party anthem

While shooting the Nazi Western in Arizona, Luis Trenker scaled the rocks of the Grand Canyon and saw spread out before him a panoramic view of . . . California!

"Horst-Wessel-Lied" and America's national anthem "The Star Spangled Banner."

On September 11, 1935, Trenker, his wife Hilde, cinematographer Albert Benitz and other crew members arrived at Foxboro Ranches in Sedona. Sedona sequences were staged at what is now State Route 89A (near the foot of today's Airport Road), the banks of Oak Creek, Munds Mountain Trail, Schnebly Hill and high atop the Mogollon Rim overlooking Little Horse Park.

As was the usual procedure for European films, the scenes photographed in Sedona were shot without sound. The German-language dialogue ("Look at the soil," Trenker says in one scene, as the red dirt of Schnebly Hill slowly runs through his fingers; "it is like bread") was looped in later during post-production.

Sedona looks exceptionally beautiful in *Kaiser* and has more screen time than in some better-remembered Westerns, like 1949's *Hellfire* (starring "Wild Bill" Elliott) and 1968's *Firecreek* (starring James Stewart and Henry Fonda).



Karl May is shown here dressed as Old Shatterhand, the main character in many of his Western novels. May never visited the U.S. but concocted his stories from books he had read while in prison. The swastika—being a well-known American Indian motif—was illustrated in many of May's novels; some historians believe this is where Hitler first became familiar with the design eternally associated with him.

Albert Benitz's low-angled photography of crisp skies and billowing white clouds seductively shadowing the peaks of the area's massive rock formations provides some of the most heroic (and fascist) images of Sedona ever projected on a movie screen, visuals closer in style to the 1935 Hitler documentary *Triumph of the Will* than 1931's *Riders of the Purple Sage*, shot in Sedona.

Trenker's group spent three days at Foxboro before heading to Yuma, on September 13, where desert scenes were shot in the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area on the California border.

Before sailing back to Germany, the *Kaiser* company made a brief detour to Washington, D.C. to film the master shot of the elderly, almost penniless Suter slumped on the steps of the U.S. Capitol for the film's climactic scene.

Shortly after arriving back in Berlin, Trenker reiterated *Kaiser's* theme of *Lebensraum* to a German reporter, making it clear that he intended *Kaiser* to "capture the expansiveness of the world. We need the world. We are a people without a space, and it is the most important project of our future that we can solve and carry out this problem. . . . Is it not providence that this first real colonizer of California was a German?"

Due to budget cuts and the bitterly cold winters in Germany, most of *Kaiser* was shot in Italy.

Move Aside, Mr. Deeds

Der Kaiser von Kalifornien had its world premiere in Berlin on July 21, 1936, at a gala held at the Reich Ministry for Popular Enlightenment and Propaganda to honor Bernardo Attolico, fascist Italy's newly appointed ambassador to Germany. Hitler and a rogues's gallery of Nazi hierarchy were in attendance, including Goebbels, Reichsführer of the SS Heinrich Himmler and Reich Minister Ambassador-Plenipotentiary at Large Joachim von Ribbentrop.

Kaiser was awarded the Coppa Mussolini (Mussolini Cup), the top prize for best foreign film, at the Venice International Film Festival in 1936. Frank Capra's *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* was also nominated in the best foreign film category in 1936; although it lost to *Kaiser*, it did win an award of "Special Recommendation."

Suter (Luis Trenker) breaks down as his life in America goes up in flames. California's gold fever has cost him the lives of his sons and his wife, and will ultimately leave him both financially and morally bankrupt.

Hard as it is to believe today, the Third Reich repeatedly topped the list for the number of foreign films released in the U.S. during the 1930s. Sixty-nine of 216 imported films in 1937 originated in Germany, including *Der Kaiser von Kalifornien*, which had its American premiere on May 7 at New York City's Casino Theatre.

The New York Times's critic Harry T. Smith was surprisingly enthusiastic after he caught a screening at the Casino, declaring it "justifies the belief of many film patrons that semi-historical pictures can be interesting and entertaining without apocryphal heroines and phony comedians."

But when the film opened in Great Britain in mid-1938 (a year before England and France declared war on Germany), critic A.V. of *Monthly Film Bulletin* raised a warning flag, pointing out that "one may note in passing that whereas Suter and his chief henchman (who gives his life for him) have Teutonic names, the villains of the piece (and they are villains indeed) have English names."

Kaiser's reviews were generally far more favorable than the ones garnered by *Sutter's*

Gold, which finally premiered in late March 1936. *Time* panned *Gold* as "eighty-five minutes of dignified boredom." *Gold* reportedly cost \$2 million to produce and was Universal's biggest box-office flop of the era.

More Westerns were produced in Germany during the Third Reich, including *Wasser für Canitoga* (*Water for Canitoga*, which, despite having a character named Old Shatterhand, is not based on a story by Karl May), *Sergeant Berry* and *Gold in New Frisco*, directed

by Paul Verhoeven, the actor who played Billy in *Kaiser*; all three films were made completely in Europe and released in 1939. After *Kaiser*, no other Nazi features were photographed on location in the United States.

Kaiser was one of the few Nazi films shown extensively in pre-WW II France. In Germany, it was designated one of the "Great National Films" revived to boost morale after Hitler ordered creation of the *Volkssturm* (people's storm) militia of old men and teenage boys in September 1944 in a last-ditch attempt to hold off the advancing Russian army. Despite the almost total destruction of Germany during the war, *Kaiser* exists today in almost pristine condition, in far better shape than almost every other film made in Sedona before it. With the ban on public exhibition lifted long ago, it is readily available on home video in Germany.

Trenker's Epitaph

After 1945, Trenker always denied accusations that he was an opportunistic fellow traveler who embraced Nazism, and instead portrayed himself as a victim of political persecution. "I never paid much mind to politics," insisted Trenker, always saying the Nazis used him for their own diabolical means before suppressing him and his work when they were no longer useful to them.

"When propaganda becomes conscious, it is no longer effective. When however it blends into the background as a tendency, as a character, as a point of view, appearing as propaganda only through persons, through plot, action and juxtaposition, then it can be effective in every respect."

—MARCH 5, 1937, SPEECH GIVEN BY GERMANY'S PROPAGANDA MINISTER JOSEPH GOEBBELS, LATER NAMED BY HITLER AS HIS SUCCESSOR AS REICH CHANCELLOR



Trenker relocated to Rome before the war ended. In 1947 he made scandalous headlines around the world when he sold a diary attributed to Hitler's mistress, Eva Braun, to a German book publisher. His former costar and lover Leni Riefenstahl (whom the diary said danced nude for Hitler's pleasure) claimed libel and joined with Braun's family to win an injunction against the publisher to halt publication. Trenker, who was suspected of forging the diary himself, remained in Italy, safely out of reach of German criminal prosecution, adding yet another incident rarely mentioned by his defenders in accounts of his life.

Trenker returned to his homeland of South Tyrol (which stayed a part of Italy after the war) in 1949 to write and direct short films about the mountains and their inhabitants for his Munich-based production company. Within a few years, he was publicly rehabilitated as a beloved, white-haired, pipe-smoking grandfather figure who appeared regularly in films and on German and Austrian television.

In 1983, the Federal Republic of Germany's Goethe-Institut sent him to the U.S. with prints of *Der verlorene Sohn* (a film he had starred in) and *Der Kaiser von Kalifornien* as part of a series of events celebrating the German immigrant experience in America. The tour culminated with an enthusiastic tribute held in his honor at the 10th annual Telluride Film Festival in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. It would not be until after his death in 1990 at age 97 and the reunification of Germany that a membership card discovered in his file at the Berlin Document Center would prove he'd joined the Nazi party in 1940. "I made my pictures a little with the brain and much with the heart," Luis Trenker told the audience at Telluride in 1983, and perhaps it is this confession that should stand as his true, ignominious epitaph.

The Swastika

THE NAZIS HIJACK A NAVAJO DESIGN

American Indians routinely incorporated the swastika as a graphic element into the patterns of their pottery, rugs and blankets long before the Nazis transformed it into the ultimate symbol of evil, but all Indian nations categorically rejected it after its original positive meaning was perverted. Pre-Nazi American culture also adopted the swastika for its righteous connotation. The Laguna Diversion Dam, built in 1923-24, still spans the Colorado River between Arizona and California, its decorative concrete swastika design motif intact. In 1912, the Swastika Lodge, a resort and golf course, opened at Flagstaff's Lake Mary, and as late as 1932 the main title cards of Harry Carey's Mascot Pictures serial *The Last of the Mohicans* were decorated with a border of swastikas.



The Laguna dam north of Yuma, Arizona, was the first dam built on the Colorado River, as part of the U.S. Reclamation Service's first development project. Many Arizonians refer to it as the "Swastika Dam."



This Boeing P-12 F4B fighter for the U.S. Army Air Corps bears a swastika design. Some of the P-12 aircrafts were used as late as 1941, making it the last double-decker fighter used by American forces.

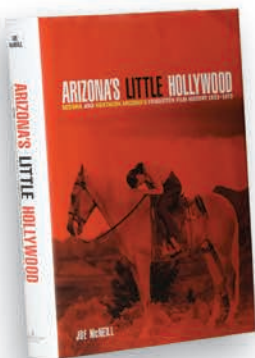
An early 20th-century "good luck" postcard.



This brass "lucky" watch fob was used to promote Coca Cola in 1925. The slogan reads "Drink Coca-Cola, 5¢ in bottles."



A Navajo weaving, circa 1930s, featuring 20 whirling wind logs; sold at March in Montana on March 19-20, 2010, for a \$900 bid.



This edited excerpt is a preview of *Arizona's Little Hollywood: Sedona and Northern*

Arizona's Forgotten Film

History, 1923-1973 by Joe McNeill. You can

purchase your copy at ArizonasLittleHollywood.com, where you can also watch a film clip from *Der Kaiser von Kalifornien*.

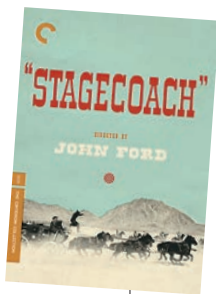
DVD REVIEW

Stagecoach Ride with the Devil

(Criterion Collections; each \$39.95) Criterion has given the Rolls Royce treatment to a pair of great Westerns: 1939's *Stagecoach* and 1999's *Ride with the Devil*, two brilliant pictures 60 years and a million miles apart.

John Ford's *Stagecoach* made John Wayne, who had been around for more than a decade, a star. When Criterion's *Stagecoach* arrives on May 25, it will be loaded with an amazing variety of extras and several cutting-edge technical tweaks. The movie will be released both as a single blu-ray disc and as a two-disc DVD.

Criterion's other Western blu-ray release, *Ride with the Devil*, is one of the best movies of the last 20 years, and one of the least appreciated. Critics gave Ang Lee's picture about the Missouri border gangs high marks. Yet a minor



controversy about the black Confederate character killed its initial momentum and prevented the movie from getting the respect it deserved. That the film demands an extra investment of attention from the audience is also not a help, but, like *The Assassination of Jesse James*, it's all the more rewarding for the effort (plus, the movie also has strong similarities to the James brothers saga).

This new edition restores 10 minutes of unseen footage to the movie and contains a wealth of commentary and features in the extras aisle. Anybody who loves Civil War history, or movies such as *Gettysburg* or *Glory*, or loves actors Tobey Maguire, Jewel or Jonathan Rhys-Meyers, owes it to themselves to get to know this film.

IN THE WORKS

Calling All Clint Fans

Word just came in that Fox/MGM is releasing a "Man With No Name" blu-ray collection in June. Sergio Leone's first and second Spaghetti Westerns, *A Fistful of*

Dollars and *For a Few Dollars More*, are new to blu-ray. With luck, the extras on 2007's terrific Leone box set will climb aboard this collection.



In honor of our German Nazi Western cover story (see p. 22), we show Germany's 1978 re-release posters of *For a Few Dollars More* and *A Fistful of Dollars* (inset).

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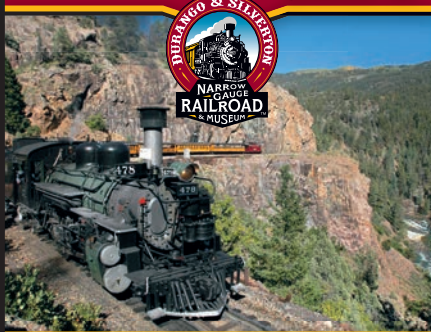
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“Oh my God, Morgan Earp has been killed!”

The cry reverberated through the streets of Tombstone, Arizona. John Clum, town mayor and editor of the *Tombstone Epitaph*, took the stage at the Crystal Palace Saloon to confirm the rapidly spreading rumor. The faction between the Cowboys and the Earps had once again turned deadly. A posse was being organized to hunt the killers.

But the date wasn't March 18, 1882, when Morgan Earp was back-shot at Campbell and Hatch's Billiard Parlor. The date was October 11, 2009, when *True West's* Great American Adventures launched a historic horseback ride of a lifetime. Not since the days of Wyatt Earp has an organized posse followed this bloody trail of retribution—Wyatt Earp's Vendetta Ride.

For five-days this modern posse visited the sites where Wyatt outgunned those responsible for the death of Morgan. From the Chiricahua, Dragoon and Whetstone Mountains through the high country around Tombstone, plenty of history and a lot of ground were covered in a short time.

At several sites *True West* Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell awaited to describe

the events as they unfolded over 125 years ago. Imagine walking the streets of Tombstone with one of the most knowledgeable historians on the subject. Particular importance surrounds the disputed location where Curly Bill Brocius was shot-gunned to death by Wyatt. Based on Wyatt's memoirs, what is now believed by many to be the exact location was recently discovered. A few historians have since visited the site. Yet only one organized horseback group has ridden the area—Wyatt Earp's Vendetta Riders!

The Vendetta Riders also had the privilege, with permission of course, to ride through and visit Mescal Studios, the desolate movie set where parts of the 1993 film *Tombstone* was filmed.

As one of the Vendetta Riders, retired Cincinnati Police Lieutenant Harry Thomas, remarked, “It wasn't at all what I expected ... it was BETTER! A great horse, experienced wranglers, fantastic food, loads of historical information provided by . . . Bell, the opportunity to participate in an historical expedition that actually made a significant discovery about Earpian lore, the hard

Last year's Wyatt Earp Vendetta Riders traversed the ground where legend says Wyatt's riders fought it out with Curly Bill (top). Moments later, *True West's* Associate Publisher Dave Daiss discovered the ruins of a line shack (inset), perhaps the very one mentioned in various tellings of the 1882 gunfight.

riding over open country to Cochise's mountain lair, standing over Johnny Ringo's grave, riding down the middle of Allen Street in Tombstone, impromptu cowboy entertainment around the campfire ... it may sound cliché, but for me, this was a trip of a lifetime.”

For many of us vacationers, a “trip of a lifetime” is precisely what we search for. Something out of the ordinary, an adventure few people will have the opportunity to experience. Whether it's charging Indians at the Little Bighorn, herding cattle or buffalo, or hiking over uncharted terrain, for some of us, that's just our game.

Consider the next few pages a “taste of the extreme,” an impressive array of what awaits the trailblazer. Now, go have fun!



ZIPPING DOWN AN AERIAL RUNWAY

Durango, CO

Children could cling to a pulley-swung handle while inclining down the village green in H.G. Wells's 1897 classic *The Invisible Man*. You too can soar through the air on a zipline tour of the aspen forest canopy of Durango, nestled in the San Juan Mountains. After you build up your appetite, you'll enjoy a four-course gourmet lunch overlooking the flowing Animas River. This eco-tour is only accessible by riding the 1882 Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad (shown above), originally used to transport gold ore from the mountains.

Soaring Tree Top Adventures:

1 day; May 14-October 17, 2010; \$429. 970-769-2357 • SoaringColorado.com

HIKE & RAFT INTO BIG BEND HISTORY

Big Bend National Park, TX

When viewing the majestic canyons carved by the Rio Grande flowing through this Chihuahuan Desert, you'll understand why ranchers like Sam Nail forged a living here in the 1910s. Your hiking adventure will take you to his old ranch site below



Burro Mesa, to Chisos Basin with its "Window" view (some call it the best view in Texas) and end up at the ghost town of Terlingua, where miners discovered mercury in 1888. After Terlingua, you'll feast on dinner at the Starlight Theater. Finish the trip off with a full day of rafting through the winding Rio Grande, as the limestone walls of Santa Elena Gorge stretch 1,500 feet above you.

Hiking Big Bend National Park:

February 28-March 5, 2011; \$1,995. 800-417-2453 • TimberTours.com



BACKCOUNTRY ARCHAEOLOGY WALKABOUT

Cortez, CO, to Utah

Hike for a week with four expert guides through archaeological sites in southeastern Utah, including the Natural Bridges National Monument, Cedar Mesa Plateau and Grand Gulch region. For instance, you'll hike down a switchback trail to the floor of White Canyon to view the Anasazi cliff dwelling, Horsecollar Ruin. At the various sites, you'll be able to compare rock art styles dating from Archaic to the Pueblo III period, as well as examine the

impact the "Chaco Phenomenon" had on the Pueblos who lived there until their exodus in the late 13th century.

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center:

September 26-October 2, 2010; \$2,120. 800-422-8975 • CrowCanyon.org



PLANES, TRAINS & AUTOMOBILES THROUGH THE CANYONLANDS

Utah, Arizona & Colorado

Automobile: You'll drive past Colorado's Rocky Mountains, arches of Utah's Bryce Canyon, sandstone hoodoos of Utah's Zion National Park, Anasazi cliff dwellings in Arizona's Mesa Verde and sandstone hogbacks at Colorado's Garden of the Gods. Plane: You have the option of a heli tour of Grand Canyon, including seeing the majestic Havasu Falls (above). Train: Colorado offers you trips on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad and the Pikes Peak Cog Railway.

Canyonlands of the Great Southwest: September 17-26,

2010; \$1,699.

800-742-7717 • FunToursNE.com

DOWN AND DIRTY CAVING

Glenwood Springs, CO

Ready, Set, Crawl! This extreme caving experience at the Glenwood Caverns & Fairy Caves isn't for the weak of heart as you crawl on your belly through rarely seen majestic formations of the Glenwood Caverns, including stalagmites, stalactites and soda straws, in a living cavern system. Spend an afternoon squeezing your way through areas only 18 square inches wide. In 1895, attorney Charles W. Darrow



Life-sized Billy the Kid tintype at the Old Lincoln Courthouse Museum, Lincoln State Monument, New Mexico.

OUR GUNFIGHTER CAN BEAT UP YOUR GUNFIGHTER.

Ground zero of the Billy the Kid legend is historic Lincoln, New Mexico, site of the Lincoln County Wars. Getaway along the Billy the Kid National Scenic Byway. Plan your escape to a place rich in tales and trails and preserved much like it was in the late 1800's. Golf, gamble, gallop.

..... ATTRACTIONS

- The Hubbard Museum of the American West
- Lincoln State Monument
- Valley of the Fires
- Smokey Bear Museum
- Historic White Oaks
- Sitting on the Porch

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www.ruidosoattractions.com



opened the caves to visitors; it became the first cave to have electricity in 1897—10 years after gunfighter Doc Holliday was laid to rest in nearby Linwood Cemetery.

Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park:
3 hours; Saturdays by appointment; \$60.
800-530-1635

GlenwoodCaverns.com

ARIZONA COWBOY COLLEGE

Scottsdale, AZ

Originally inhabited by the Hohokam tribe from 800-1400 A.D., Scottsdale is now stomping grounds for the Arizona Cowboy College. Learn the ropes and get your degree in the cowboy lifestyle through in-depth courses in cattle, horsemanship, roping and shoeing, before you head out to an assigned working ranch to set up “cow camp” and rustle up some dogies with your new knowledge, skills and a little elbow grease.



Arizona Cowboy College: 5 days;
September 2010-June 2011; \$2,250.
480-471-3151 • CowboyCollege.com

MOUNTAINS, MINERALS & MUSIC

Lolo, MT

The 19th-century copper boomtown of Butte with its red-light district and the 1890 Dumas Brothel (which operated until 1982!) has a small town feel these days. How the city's Wild West heritage marries industrial revolution will be the theme of the cowboy songs and poetry

you'll hear when you ride your horse into Butte's National Folk Festival. Born and raised in Butte, SuzAnne Miller will guide you along the scenic trails of western Montana. She'll help you search for minerals, and she'll lead you to Mount Haggin where you can experience an American Indian drumming ceremony

in a tipi. You'll also soak in the Fairmont Hot Springs as well as hang out with the bighorn sheep at Lost Creek Canyon during a geological tour led by Dr. S. David Webb.



Dunrovin Ranch:
July 5-11, 2010; \$2,250.
877-373-7745

DunrovinRanchMontana.com

APPLEGATE TRAIL WAGON TREK

Winnemucca, NV

Dress up in pioneer garb and retrace a portion of the Applegate Trail from Winnemucca, Nevada, to Cedarville, California, on an authentic covered wagon train. After losing family members on the rugged Oregon Trail terrain, the Applegate family blazed this trail in 1845 as a safer alternative route to the Oregon Trail. Exchange stories and songs with your fellow travelers as you camp out in the changing terrains of the Black Rock Desert to the juniper-coated mountains in High Rock Canyon.

Oregon State Wagon Train: July 11-23, 2010; \$46 per day for adults, \$21 per day for kids 12 and under.
541-558-3827

OregonStateWagonTrain.com





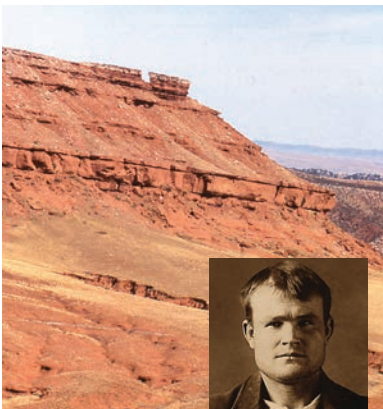
PADDLE THE COLORADO RIVER
Flagstaff, AZ

No motor? No problem! Float down the Grand Canyon's Colorado River as pioneer John Wesley Powell successfully did in 1869. Embark on *Sandra*, a fully restored Cataract boat built by Norm Nevills, who started the Grand Canyon's first commercial rafting company in 1936. This oar-powered tour, called "All the Grand," runs throughout the entire canyon, stopping at roaring waterfalls and scenic side canyons.

Canyon Oars All the Grand: 14 days; June, July & August 2010; \$3,250. 800-525-0924 • Canyoneers.com

BUTCH CASSIDY'S HOLE-IN-THE-WALL RIDE

Kaycee, WY



This five-day ride starts near Kaycee, Wyoming, and traverses territory where Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch rode, ending up at one of the foremost strongholds along the Outlaw Trail. Surrounded by massive, red sandstone-walled cliffs, the Hole-in-the-Wall hideout could not even be penetrated by famous "super" posse leader U.S. Marshal Joe LeFors. The ride includes horses, tack, food and lodging.

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Wild Rivers Expeditions www.riversandruins.com
800-422-7654

Dubois Museum Wind River Historical Center

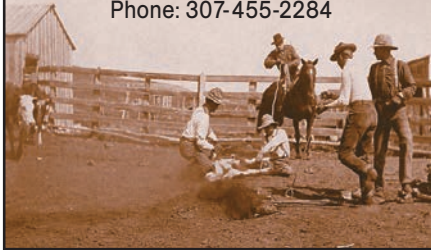
A living history museum



Preserving and interpreting the history of Wyoming's Upper Wind River Valley



909 West Ramshorn,
P.O. Box 896,
Dubois, Wyoming 82513
Website: duboismuseum.org
email: dmuseum@dteworld.com
Phone: 307-455-2284



River Crossing



Michael J. Guli
Old West Custom
Leather Clothing
970-221-2992
www.rivercrossinginc.com

True West's Great American Adventures:

June 13-18, 2010; \$1,850.

505-286-4585

Great-American-Adventures.com

RIVERS, RAILS, TRAILS 'N' MESA VERDE

Durango, CO



Take a ranger-guided hiking tour of Mesa Verde National Park's ancient Pueblo dwellings, including Cliff Palace featuring more than 150 rooms and ceremonial kivas dating from 550 to 1300 A.D. Two cowboys looking for stray cattle in 1888 found this archaeological haven. Then raft the Lower Animas River through rapids like "sawmill" and "smelter." Take an open-air Jeep tour through the Animas Forks ghost town that started as a prosperous mining town in 1876 but was abandoned by the 1920s. Lastly, board the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad steam locomotive for a scenic tour of the San Juan Mountains before returning to Durango.

Rivers, Rails, Trails 'n' Mesa Verde:
2 days; May-Labor Day 2010; \$244 for adults, \$193 for kids 11 and under.

800-567-6745

Mild2WildRafting.com



BOND WITH BISON

Townsend, MT

Spend some time with the relatives of wooly giants that once supported American Indians as well as frontiersmen during the 19th century. In private groups at the Wild Echo Bison Preserve, you can participate in bison behavioral studies with expert wildlife biologists, eat organic home-cooked meals at campfire cookouts, cruise down the Missouri River following the route that Lewis and Clark took in 1805 and get a new perspective on life in a sweatlodge ceremony.

Bison Quest Adventure Vacations:
4 days; Year-round; \$2,400.

406-202-1584 • BisonQuest.com

HIDDEN PASSAGES ADVENTURE

San Antonio, TX

Travel 1.25 miles underground through Natural Bridge Caverns (celebrating 50 years in 2010) using the same route the discoverers took in the 1960s on this afternoon adventure. Rappel down 230



feet below surface level to the Fault Room, home to a 14-foot soda straw formation before beginning the caving and crawling experience. After the tour, you could also head to nearby Round Rock, where, after the Texas Rangers and local lawmen foiled his bank robbery plan, Sam Bass met his birthday demise in 1878 (read the *Classic Gunfight* on p. 54). The train robber's grave site is marked at the Round Rock Cemetery.

Natural Bridge Caverns: 3 hours; Year-round; \$99.95.
210-651-6101
NaturalBridgeCaverns.com

SPIRIT OF KAMLOOPS

Kamloops, BC, Canada

Steampunk fans, we've got a trip for you! This living history rail tour departs from a restored 1927 train station in Kamloops, British Columbia, aboard a 2141 steam-powered heritage train. You'll relive Bill Miner and his gang's planned robbery of gold heading via the train to San Francisco in 1906. The gang



members later discovered the loot they grabbed was actually liver pills and \$15, instead of riches. They escaped on horseback, but not with their dignity. To add insult to injury, the Mounties arrested them three days later.

Spirit of Kamloops: 1.5 hours, July 3-August 31, 2010; \$20 for adults, \$12 for kids 11 and under.
800-662-1994
TourismKamloops.com

FORTY-NINER COVERED WAGON TRAIN ADVENTURE

Elverta, CA

Relive the history of northern California's gold territory aboard a covered wagon only 13 miles north

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Photo by Linde Waidhofer

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tom@monumentvalley.com

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www.kaneutah.com

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- Join us in Southern Utah for year-round recreation. Kane County averages over 320 days of Sunshine each year!



Vacation in the True West...

Kane County, Utah is central to Zion, Bryce and Grand Canyon National Parks, Lake Powell and Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park!

1-800-SEE-KANE

Akta Lakota MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER



Akta Lakota, meaning "to honor the people" was chosen because the museum is truly intended to honor and preserve the rich culture of the Lakota people. The museum has beautifully preserved displays and stunning artwork. Shop the gift shop and collector's gallery for unique gifts authentically produced by Native American artisans.

- Free Admission
- Open Year Round
- Interactive displays
- Gift Shop and Collector's Gallery



Akta Lakota Museum & Cultural Center

St. Joseph's Indian School
 1301 North Main Street
 Chamberlain, SD
 800-798-3452
 www.aktalakota.org





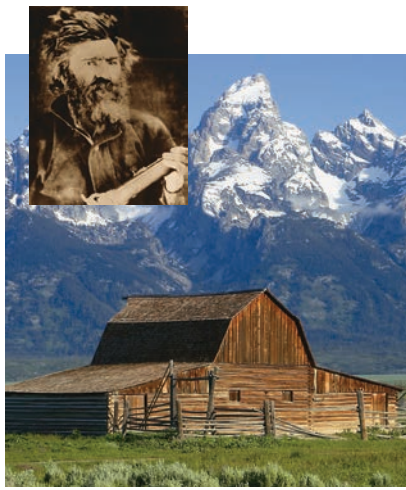
of Sacramento, home to the California Gold Rush of 1849 and the First Transcontinental Railroad. Camp under the stars after a long day in the saddle and relax around an open campfire. Bring your guitar for cowboy sing-a-longs.

JB Ranch: 5 days; May, June & August 2010; \$500.

916-991-9500 · JBRanch.com

JEREMIAH JOHNSON'S JACKSON HOLE WILDERNESS RIDE

Jackson, WY



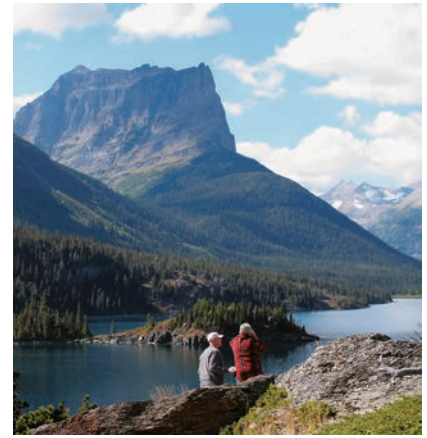
Travel by horseback, starting off near Jackson, Wyoming, and riding through the splendor of the scenic Grand Teton Mountains where mountain men like Jeremiah "Liver-Eating" Johnson (inset), cowboys and rustlers now haunt the aspen- and pine-filled pastures. Horses, tack, food and campsite are provided for this wilderness ride.

True West's Great American Adventures:

August 15-20, 2010; \$1,850.

505-286-4585

Great-American-Adventures.com



NATIONAL PARKS ESCAPE

South Dakota, Montana & Wyoming

Visit a few of America's most pristine national parks on this family-oriented vacation. Plunge into adventure with guided whitewater rafting down the Flathead River in Montana. Head to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center for entrance to five different museums in Cody, Wyoming. Channel your inner explorer on a candlelight tour of the Wind National Park in South Dakota in a cave discovered by the Bingham brothers in 1881. During the trip eat

Humboldt Museum

Just above the site where thousands of wagon trains forded the Humboldt River on the long trek to California, sits the Humboldt Museum. The modern brick building mirrors its historic predecessor, a church turned museum.

Together, the buildings house the story of the community. Remains from the ice age of 13,000 years ago, wonderful beaded and quilled regalia from an American Indian collection, vintage automobiles, keepsakes from Winnemucca's "art nouveau" period and a charming rural parlor from the early days of nearby Paradise Valley are among the treasures awaiting your visit.

The Humboldt Museum located on the corner of Jungo Road and Maple Ave.
PO Box 819, Winnemucca, Nevada 89446 – 775-623-2912
email: museum@winnemucca.net Website: www.humboldtmuseum.com

hearty cowboy cooking served up with a Western music variety show.

Black Hills, Yellowstone, Grand Tetons & the Black Hills Family Vacation: 15 days; May-Sept. 2010; \$4,875 for 2 adults & 2 kids (12 & under). 888-237-9378
WildWestVacationsAndTravel.com

GET ROPIN' READY

Mosca, CO

Duke Phillips teaches you that "low stress" is a roping technique, not a spa treatment. Your classroom is the open range on this roping and horsemanship adventure clinic. Raised on a ranch in Mexico, Phillips is the general manager at Zapata Ranch, with decades of grassroots ranching and big loop roping experience. He works



closely with you and your mount (or you can use one of the ranch horses) to strengthen your timing, balance and patience, with a focus on teaching time-tested Vaquero techniques. The adventure clinic offered in June is for novice riders, while the clinic offered in August is open to guests of all experience levels.

Zapata Ranch: June 13-19, 2010, and August 29-September 4, 2010; \$1,800. 888-592-7282 • **ZRanch.org**

HORSEBACK WINE TOUR

Zillah, WA

Experience the fruits of Yakima Valley's labor with horseback tours of the surrounding wineries. Yakima County is rich in history, most notably for the Yakama Indian Wars of 1855, resulting from conflicts between settlers and native tribes. Nearby, the Yakama Indian Reservation is the 15th largest reservation in the United States where many Yakamas



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Deadwood Experience Package

Starting at:

\$190

Per Person
(double occupancy)

Experience this unique mountain gulch setting where the outlaws and gunslingers roamed the dusty streets of Deadwood, plus visit three national monuments just a short drive away. Three nights lodging, admission to five attractions and \$350 in gaming and entertainment coupons.

Call 1-888-945-7676 Valid 5/1/10 - 9/30/10

Visit the Real Wild West! It's no brag. The Black Hills of South Dakota are home to an unmatched brand of Old West history. Visit sites of frontier Indian wars, the last great gold rush in the continental United States, and notorious places like Deadwood, Wounded Knee and The Badlands.

www.blackhillsroadtrip.info

were moved in 1858 after the U.S. Calvary established Fort Simcoe. During your horseback wine tour, you'll stay in luxury Indian tipis updated with modern amenities and providing guests with a balance of history and comfort.

Cherrywood Bed, Breakfast & Barn:
Afternoon; Year-round (weather permitting); \$160.
509-829-3500
CherrywoodBBandB.com

HIKE JOHN FORD COUNTRY

Kayenta, AZ

Everyone tells us the ultimate Navajo guide for hiking Monument Valley is Tom Phillips. He won't rush you from site to site. You'll be immersed in the



beauty of the natural arches, Anasazi dwellings and the purple sage popularized by Zane Grey's novel *Riders of the Purple Sage*. This is the ultimate adventure for fans of John Ford, as Monument Valley served as the backdrop for 1939's *Stagecoach*, 1950's *Wagon Master* and 1956's *The Searchers*. While on your tour, you also have the option of visiting Susie Yazzi's hogan for a demonstration in the art of Navajo rug weaving, before heading to Yei-Bi-Chei rocks.

Kéyah Hózhóni Monument Valley
Tours: 2.5 hours; Year-round; \$65.
928-309-7440 • MonumentValley.com



NATIONAL TREASURE TREK

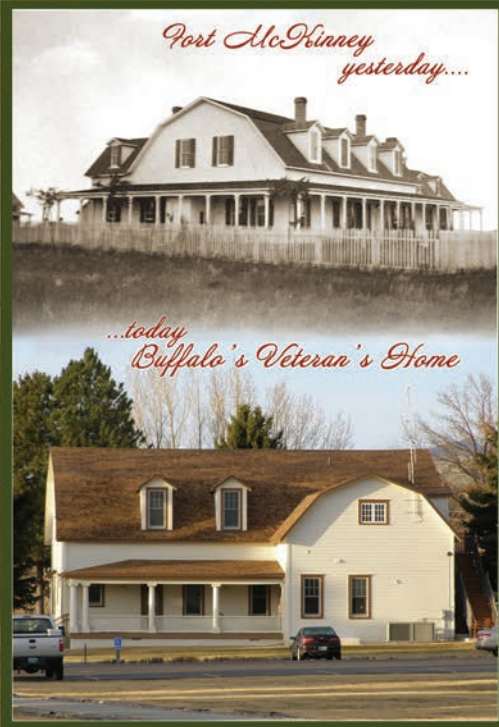
Hill City, SD

Once known for gold in 1875 the Black Hills and the Badlands of South Dakota offer up six national treasures and other historic attractions on this educational family journey. You'll see these national treasures: Crazy Horse, the largest sculpture paying homage to Lakota Chief Crazy Horse; Devils Tower, known as Bears Lodge by Plains Indians who deem it a sacred site; Badlands park, containing fossils from horses more than 27 millions years old; Wind Cave, home to one of the world's longest cave systems; Custer park, with its free-roaming herd of buffalo; and the monumental carvings of Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and T. Roosevelt at Mount Rushmore.

The Old West Comes Alive



IN BUFFALO & KAYCEE WYOMING



Experience the Old West:

- Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum
- Occidental Hotel & Saloon
- The Bozeman Trail
- Hole-in-the-Wall
- Home of Butch Cassidy & the Sundance Kid
- Outlaw Cave
- The TA Ranch - Johnson County Cattle War
- Hooftprints of the Past Museum
- Fort Phil Kearny
- Mountain Plains Heritage Park
- Historic Main Street Walking Tour
- Crazy Woman Battlefield

Explore the New West:

- Big Horn National Forest
- Crazy Woman Canyon
- Horseback Riding
- Country Rodeos
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- Lake DeSmet Recreation Area
- Tie Hack Dam & Recreation Area
- Fishing-Lake & Stream

1-800-227-5122

www.buffalowyo.com

www.kayceewyoming.org

Other fun attractions include a ride on the 1880 train and a tour of Deadwood, which includes the re-enacted Trial of Jack McCall (McCall killed Wild Bill Hickok in 1876).

Great American Road Trip: 4 days; May-August 2010; \$755 for 2 adults & 2 kids (12 and under). 866-601-5103 BlackHillsVacations.com

SHEEP EATER TOUR

Dubois, WY

In 1890 Butch Cassidy laid down roots by purchasing a ranch in the



Dubois area, but he wasn't the first. Inhabited by the Mountain Shoshone Indians and then by the Scandinavian tie hacks that cut logs for the nation's railroad, this day hiking (or driving) tour offered by the Dubois Museum focuses on the remnants of history that shaped the region—from Sheep Eater Indian sheep traps and petroglyphs to tie hack ruins in the forests.

Dubois Museum: Afternoon; May-October 2010; \$5. 307-455-2284 · DuboisMuseum.org

CUSTER'S RIDE TO GLORY

Hardin, WY

Ride Custer's last trail, as if you were one of his famed 7th Cavalry troopers, heading to the Battle of the Little



Bighorn in 1876. Starting near Hardin, Wyoming, the trip will stretch from Crow's Nest to Medicine Tail Coulee, allowing you to trace the cavalry's movements and participate in Real Bird's annual battle re-enactment. Horses, tack, chuckwagon food and blanks are provided for this adventure.

True West's Great American Adventures: June 22-27, 2010; starting at \$1,675. 505-286-4585 Great-American-Adventures.com

MAKE VACATION HISTORY WITH US!



Catch action-packed Deer Creek Days Aug. 6-8 in Glenrock.



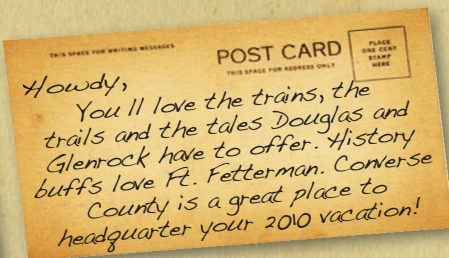
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RIVERS AND RUINS

Bluff, UT

Raft 26 miles from Bluff, Utah, to Mexican Hat on the San Juan River, making a stop at the Butler Wash pictographs—images etched in sandstone from the Anasazi who dwelled there 1,500 years ago. Continue through Pennsylvania limestone canyons dating 300 million years old, and search for fossils as the Mexican Hat slab formation signals the end of the journey.

Wild Rivers Expeditions: 1 day (8 hours); March-October 2010; \$165 for adults, \$123 for kids 12 and under.

800-422-7654

RUSTLE UP A BUFFALO HERD

Antelope Island State Park, UT

Become a volunteer wrangler for a weekend and help move 600 bison from the southern portion of Salt Lake City's Antelope Island to corrals



in the north. Four bulls and four female bison were ferried to the island in 1893 by William Glassman and John Dooley, providing the basis for today's herd. Antelope Island is also home to the Cowboy Legends Memorial Day Celebration featuring cowboy poetry musical performances.

Utah Parks: October 31-November 2, 2010; \$784. 801-773-2941
StateParks.Utah.gov

FOUR-WHEELING TO COCHISE

Tombstone, AZ

Hop into this four-wheel afternoon adventure into the Dragoon Mountains.



Chiricahua Apache Chief Cochise moved to this hideout after the Bascom Affair of 1861 at Apache Pass, in which the Army lured the chief out there in an act of betrayal that led to warfare. He lived there until his death in 1874, and legend

says he was buried near the stronghold named after him. At Council Rock, you'll get the inside scoop on Apache and Mogollon tribal history as you view pictographs and primitive metates (a version of mortar and pestle used for processing grains) they left behind.

Into the West Jeep Tours:
Afternoon; Year-round; \$65.
520-559-2151
IntoTheWestJeepTours.com

**175TH ANNIVERSARY
 ALAMO TOUR**

San Antonio, TX

In San Antonio, Texas, this custom tour celebrates the 175th anniversary of the fall of the Alamo. You'll get a taste of south Texas history while visiting Austin and San Antonio and its Riverwalk. Then the legend of Davy Crockett (inset) and his fellow patriotic defenders will follow you on narrated tours of the Alamo mission and John Wayne's movie set in Brackettville, offering you real and reel glimpses of the Alamo's 13 days of glory. Lodging, tour bus, most meals and historians are provided for this 175th Anniversary Alamo Tour.

**True West's Great American
 Adventures:**
March 6-10, 2011; \$1,836.
505-286-4585
Great-American-Adventures.com



FALL CATTLE DRIVE
 Bucklin, KS

It's no mistake this cattle drive takes place at working Moore Ranch in Kansas; nearby is Dodge City, dubbed the "Queen of Cowtowns" by cowboys moving stock along the 1874 Great Western Trail to markets in the East. Get acquainted with your mount, then head off moving 90 longhorn cattle to their new seasonal

Where the roads to the past and future meet!

ROUTE 66 MUSEUM COMPLEX
 Old Town Museum
 National Route 66 Museum
 Transportation Museum
 Farm & Ranch Museum
 Blacksmith Museum

ACKLEY PARK
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A dead ringer for Billy the Kid, William H. Cox poses on the rocks above historic Lincoln, New Mexico, in 1991.

correspondent for the History Channel's *Wild West Tech* and has authored *Heroes and Villains of the Lincoln County War*. Get the expert's take on 1878's Lincoln County War and how outlaws such as Billy the Kid made the streets of Lincoln so deadly. Sheriff Pat Garrett had his work cut out for him.

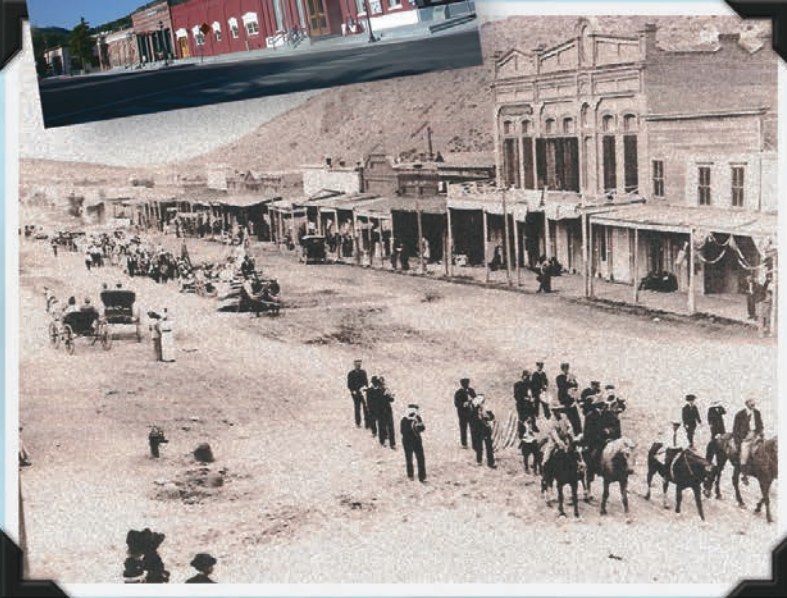
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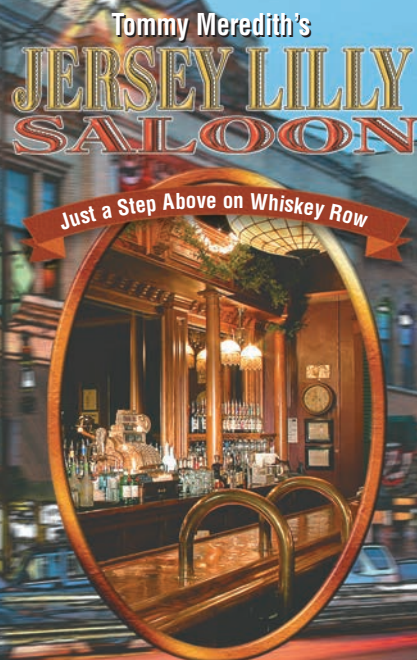
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Fighting for Geronimo's Remains

Geronimo descendants are on opposing sides of where the famed medicine man's body should rest.

"It is my land, my home, my fathers' land, to which I now ask to be allowed to return. I want to spend my last days there, and be buried among those mountains."

Geronimo's mournful words published in his autobiography have touched off a furor spanning a century and thousands of miles, with a cast including his living relatives and the uppermost echelons of U.S. politics and society.

On the 100th anniversary of the Apache medicine man's death in 2009, Harlyn Geronimo, of Mescalero, New Mexico, claiming to be a great-grandson, filed suit at the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. He wants to repatriate Geronimo to that rugged landscape of rolling hills and Ponderosa we now call the Gila Wilderness, just west of Silver City.

If no authoritative lineal descendant emerges, Geronimo will stay where he's rested for the last century—buried in Oklahoma beneath a stone monument at Fort Sill, in the Apache Prisoner of War Cemetery.

Harlyn declined to comment for this story, but his friend Carlos Melendrez of Las Cruces says it's time the government makes good on its pledge to free the Apache warrior.

In his autobiography Geronimo claimed he was promised eventual freedom as a condition of his surrender in 1886. Yet he remained a prisoner for the rest of his life, dying of pneumonia at Fort Sill in 1909.

"We're just here to bring Geronimo home," says Melendrez, adding the case is motivated by that "essential promise of freedom."

The lawsuit cites the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, legislation created in 1990 requiring federal agencies to return artifacts and burial remains to their original tribes. In addition to Geronimo's remains, the lawsuit calls for unspecified monetary damages.

Harlyn has named as defendants President Barack Obama, Secretary of

This first edition copy of Geronimo's autobiography, owned by our Emeritus Publisher Robert G. McCubbin, is signed by the Apache leader (see signature above right).

—COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN—

Defense Robert Gates and former Secretary of the Army Pete Geren—the men in charge of all things military, including that single grave at Fort Sill.

Harlyn wants all of his great-grandfather, so the suit also names Yale University and Skull and Bones, a fraternal society that's operated on the Ivy League campus since 1832. The rumor goes that in 1918 society member Prescott Bush—father and grandfather of U.S. Presidents and fellow Bonesmen George H.W. and George W. Bush—removed from the grave Geronimo's skull, two femurs and the Apache's prized bit and saddle horn.

A spokesman for Yale denied the university has any remains, and noted Skull and Bones operates independently of the school.

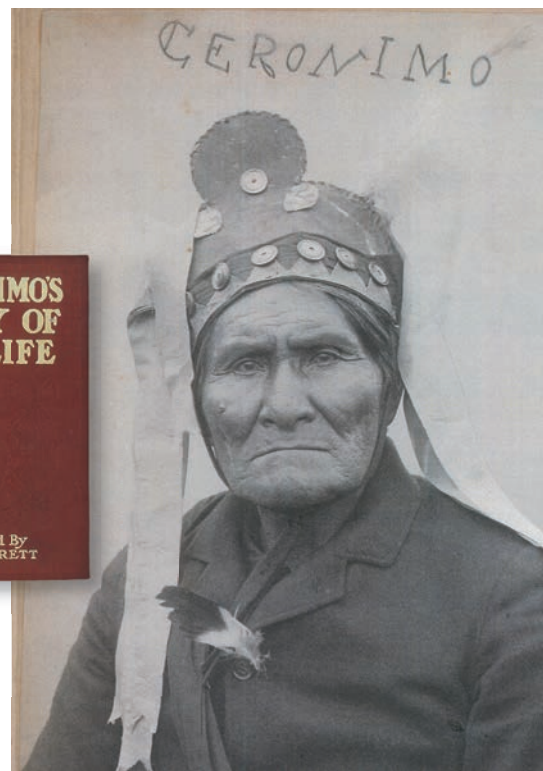
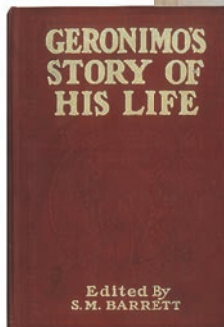
Three months after Harlyn filed suit, two separate groups of his fellow Apache emerged to oppose him.

Lariat Geronimo, 40, of the Mescalero Apache Reservation, also claims to be a great-grandson. He opposes reburial because he says it's more important that the grave stays undisturbed. "Once you're in the ground that's it. You got to move on," Lariat says. "It's more traditional."



Who will determine the final resting place of the great Apache medicine man Geronimo? Shown here is his grave monument at Fort Sill in Oklahoma.

—TRUE WEST ARCHIVES—



In May 2009 the court granted a motion to equally weigh Lariat's position that the remains stay put.

The Fort Sill Apache Tribe filed a similar motion, which the court is now considering. Jeff Houser, chairman of the tribe, says all relatives must agree before the remains go anywhere. "Since the entire Geronimo family does not want the remains to be moved, we believe they should remain undisturbed," Houser says.

Also threatening the suit is a motion the federal defense filed in June to dismiss the case, claiming the laws don't apply to the remains at Fort Sill.

But for Ramsey Clark, the plaintiff's attorney, the heart of the matter defies legalese. "It certainly has a heavy spiritual element," Clark says. "It's a combination of common human emotions, after being exiled by force, to want to return home."

Clark, 83, a former U.S. attorney general under President Lyndon Johnson, has defended Saddam Hussein and Slobodan Milošević, both tried for war crimes.

Perhaps Geronimo himself foresaw the events that would unfold a century later, stating in his autobiography:

"But we can do nothing in this matter ourselves—we must wait until those in authority choose to act."



Art Martori is a former newspaper reporter for the *East Valley Tribune* and *Arizona Republic*. He works as a freelance journalist and writes short fiction in his native Phoenix.

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THE DIVORCE SEEKERS

An old-time wrangler recalls Reno, the “city of broken vows,” through his days at the Flying M E ranch.

By William L. McGee



AFTER gambling away my earnings from wrangling horses at the notorious Cowboy Bar in Jackson, Wyoming, I shipped my footlocker and saddle freight collect, and thumbed my way to Reno, Nevada.

The year was 1947, the heyday of the Nevada six-week divorce, when Reno was the place to go if you wanted to get unhitched. When I arrived in Reno, I dropped in at the Round Up Bar on West Second Street, the city’s unofficial hiring hall for cowboys. Lena Geiser, a cowboy’s widow with a warm heart and whiskey voice, ran the Round Up. Lena lent me the money to claim my saddle and footlocker, and she lined up a job for me as a backcountry trail guide at Lake Tahoe. When Lena later heard that the Flying M E needed a new dude wrangler, she set up an interview, and I got hired.

At 22, I was mature for my age. Growing up on a ranch during the Great Depression in Montana, I had been farmed out at age nine to help make ends meet. I rode the rails to see the American West. At 17, I joined the Navy and fought in the Pacific during World War II. I possessed good manners, thanks to my mother, and I was

The interior of the Cowboy Bar in Jackson, Wyoming, in the 1940s. The classic, burlled pine woodwork and painted murals remain a trademark today. Among the updates to this bar: the name is now Million Dollar Cowboy Bar, and the stools have been replaced with saddle seats.

— COURTESY COLLECTION OF THE JACKSON HOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM, NEAL RAFFERTY ALBUM —

comfortable around people, both good skills for a dude wrangler.

The Flying M E

Twenty miles south of Reno, the Flying M E was an exclusive dude ranch that catered to wealthy Easterners and Hollywood film stars seeking a “quickie” divorce. The owner was Emily Pentz Wood, a petite lady my mother’s age and already a Nevada legend. “Emmy” and her husband Dore, both Eastern bluebloods, visited Nevada in the 1930s and fell in love with Washoe Valley. They purchased the 1861 Franktown Hotel and turned it into an exclusive dude ranch with the comforts their Eastern friends desired. In 1943, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt vacationed at the ranch and wrote about the “luxury dude ranch out West” in her “My Day” syndicated newspaper column. The

ranch and the Woods were thrust into the national and international spotlight.

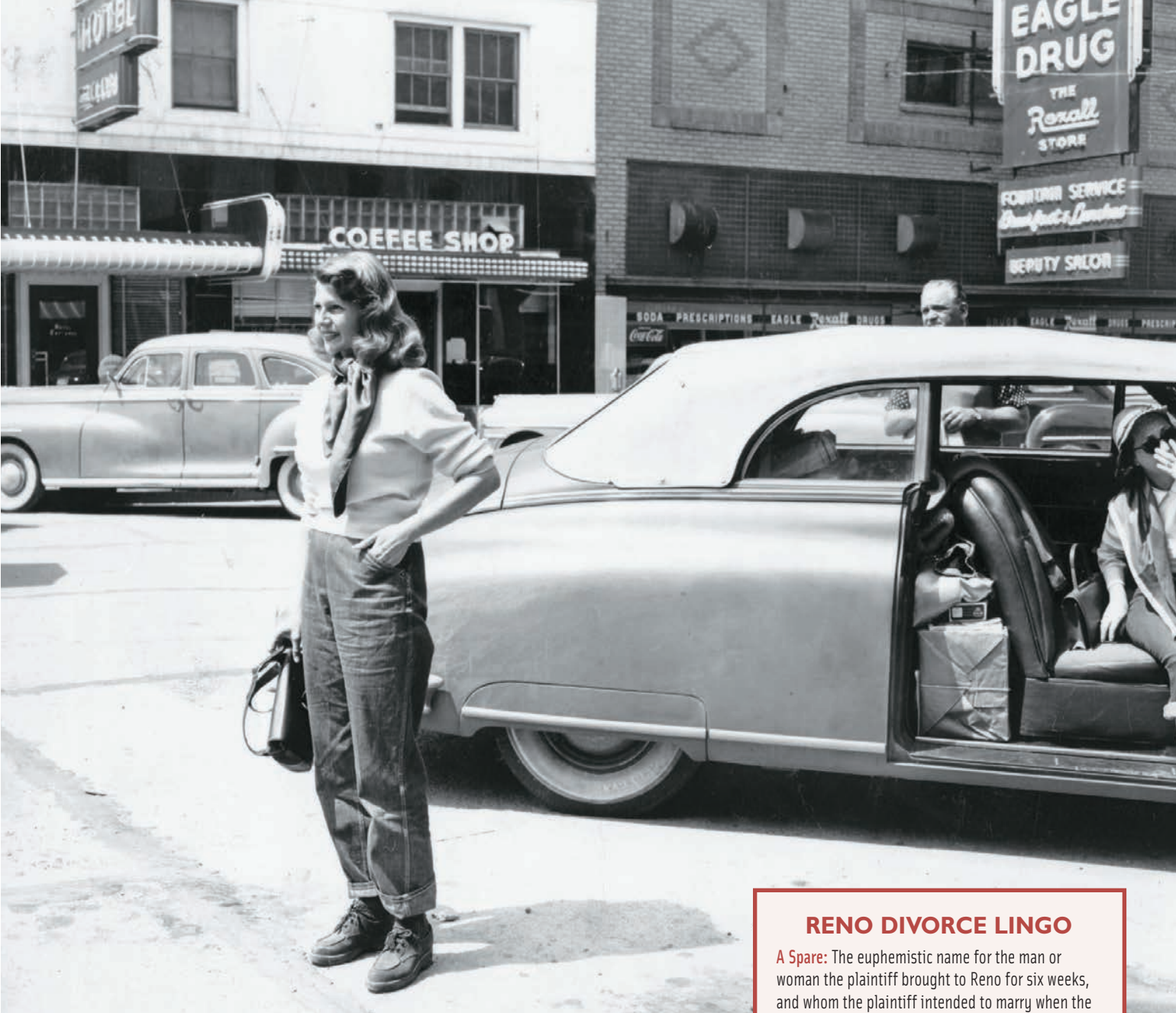
Dore eventually ran off with a wealthy guest, but Emmy continued to run the Flying M E with the help of a ranch hostess and head dude wrangler. Emmy knew her clientele and their needs. With names like du Pont and Astor, they wanted privacy from the press. When film stars such as Clark Gable, Ava Gardner and Rita Hayworth visited to get away from Hollywood, Emmy made sure her staff didn’t leak their names to the local stringers or society photographers.

“I’d Died and Gone to Heaven”

My first week at the Flying M E, I thought I’d died and gone to heaven. Most of the guests were women. Most were happy to be there. Some had their



Emmy Wood and Clark Gable at the Flying M E. After Gable met Ava Gardner while making *The Hucksters* in 1947, the two used to vacation at this ranch. Gable never got over the death of his wife, Carole Lombard, who died at the age of 33 in an airplane crash in 1942. The two had gotten married in 1939, while Gable was taking a break from his role of Rhett Butler in *Gone with the Wind*. (Lombard had gotten divorced from actor William Powell in Carson City in 1933, while Gable divorced Houston socialite Ria Langham in Las Vegas in 1939.)



Rita Hayworth left her film career and divorced director Orson Welles in December 1948 so she could marry Prince Aly Khan. Three years later, she left the prince (ultimately divorcing him in Minden, Nevada, in 1953) and returned to the big screen, starring in 1952's *Affair in Trinidad*. The actress remarried in 1953, in Las Vegas, to crooner Dick Haymes (who, himself, had gotten divorced in Nevada the day before).

— AP WIRE PHOTO, COURTESY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO LIBRARY —

next husband waiting for them at the Riverside Hotel.

I really had two jobs. My day job was matching the guests up with horses and taking them on trail rides. I also served as the tour guide, showing guests around Virginia City, Pyramid Lake and Lake Tahoe. My night job entailed taking the guests in the ranch's Buick wagon to the local watering holes for some gambling and entertainment. We'd avoid Reno and

frequent Ella Broderick's Old Corner Bar in Carson City (today the site of the Carson Nugget). The local men might hit on the ladies, but the ladies mostly enjoyed the attention. Occasionally a romance would develop, such as the case between Tony Green, the curator of the Nevada State Museum, and Maggie Astor. After serving her six weeks, Maggie broke off her engagement to her next-intended and ran off with Tony to La Jolla, California.

Running a dude ranch for divorce seekers was not easy. It helped to have broad shoulders and be a good listener. Emmy had two strict rules for me. "Bill," she said, "If you go into town with six guests, you return with six guests. And you don't fraternize with the guests." It's been my policy

RENO DIVORCE LINGO

A Spare: The euphemistic name for the man or woman the plaintiff brought to Reno for six weeks, and whom the plaintiff intended to marry when the divorce decree was granted.

Alimony Park: The park across the street from the Washoe County Courthouse, where the divorce decree was granted.

Bridge of Sighs: Virginia Street Bridge; so-dubbed because of the popular myth that the recently-divorced would toss their wedding rings from this bridge into the Truckee River.

Heyday of Divorce: 1930-1960.

Quickie Divorce: Six weeks in Nevada.

Reno-vation: A term coined by journalist Walter Winchell for the change that despondent spouses went through in Reno.

Take the Cure: Get a divorce.

The Separator: Washoe County Courthouse.

Widow's Corner: Corner bar at the Riverside Hotel, virtually next door to the Washoe County Courthouse; a meeting place for locals and the Reno Divorce Colony.

NEVADA'S DIVORCE SEEKERS



Jack Dempsey

The heavyweight champion during 1919–26 divorced silent film actress Estelle Taylor in Reno in 1931.



George Putnam and Amelia Earhart

Dorothy Putnam divorced George in Reno in 1929 after he met aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart, whom he married in 1931. Dorothy remarried a month after the divorce.



"Joltin'" Joe DiMaggio

Dorothy Arnold threatened divorce in 1942, telling the Yankee center fielder she would only stay with him if he enlisted in the Army. Yet after Joe enlisted in 1943, she returned to Reno and divorced him.



Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks

Actress Mary Pickford divorced actor Owen Moore on March 2, 1920; 26 days later, she married actor Douglas Fairbanks. Her divorce (although granted in Minden) helped establish Reno as the Divorce Capital.



Boris Karloff

Frankenstein's Monster lived in Boulder Dam Hotel in Boulder City to establish residency for divorce in 1946. He said his wife, former librarian Dorothy Stine Pratt, was cruel to him; on April 22, he married thespian Evelyn Helmore.



Pearl Buck

Author Pearl Buck—best known for 1931's *The Good Earth*—divorced John Lossing Buck, an agricultural economist, in Reno in 1935. Three years later, she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.



Arthur Miller and Marilyn Monroe

While the playwright was waiting on his Reno divorce from his college sweetheart Mary Slattery in 1956, he wrote *The Misfits*, starring Marilyn Monroe as divorcee Roslyn Taber. The actress married Miller in June.



Edgar Rice Burroughs

The Tarzan creator divorced Emma Hulbert in Las Vegas in 1934. Meanwhile his sweetheart, Mrs. Florence Dearholt Jr., was awaiting her divorce from Ashton, Burroughs's producer. She and Ed married on April 1, 1935.



Sherwood Anderson

The author—famous for his collection of related short stories, *Winesburg, Ohio*, published in 1919—divorced sculptor Tennessee Mitchell in Reno in 1924.



not to kiss and tell, but I had offers—a ranch in Colorado, a casa in Acapulco. Mostly I knew the women behind these offers were infatuated with me, though I was seriously smitten on a few occasions. I tried not to break Emmy's second rule out of respect for Emmy, but what was I to do if there was a knock on my bunkhouse door?

Most of the guests were Eastern social register types. A former New York debutante came to the ranch to divorce her banker husband and met a Virginia City saloon owner. She married him and happily spent the rest of her life in Virginia and Carson Cities. Yet Emmy also had to watch out for problem guests, arranging for them to stay elsewhere if they had drunk too much or were too loud. Male guests were also welcome at the ranch, to help break up the female chatter.

If you had the money and the need for privacy, a divorce ranch was where you wanted to stay. Other leading dude ranches in the area were the Pyramid Lake Ranch, Donner Trail Ranch and Washoe Pines—the latter best-known for its original resident, the cowboy artist and writer Will James, and also as the site for the film version of Clare Boothe Luce's 1936 play *The Women*.

Why Reno?

Reno's divorce boom started in the days of the Comstock when, in 1871, state courts established a six-month residency period and allowed divorces without proof of adultery. Three sensational divorce cases followed: those of Lord John Russell in 1899;

With Reno recognized widely as the divorce capital of the United States, the guest ranches and their cowboy culture inspired large attendances at popular local events, such as the Reno Rodeo parade, shown here, circa 1940s. The community first organized the rodeo in 1919; now on the PRCA circuit, the rodeo will be held this year on June 17–26.

— COURTESY NEAL COBB COLLECTION, ERNIE MACK PHOTOS —



Will James and his classically lovely wife Alice turned heads wherever they went. The 28 year old married the 16-year-old daughter of a Reno rancher in 1920. With magazines buying Will's illustrated short stories, the couple was able to purchase some acres in Washoe Valley, between Reno and Carson City. The four-room cabin he built in the pines would become Washoe Pines, a divorce ranch in the 1930s.

— COURTESY WILL JAMES ART COMPANY —



Jean Taylor and Bill McGee enjoying a beer break on a trail ride in Wahoe Valley in 1948. Jean had actually come to the Flying M E to support her best friend, TV writer Terry Robinson (her pen name was Therese Lewis). Terry was getting a divorce from Hubbell Robinson, the vice president and program director for CBS. (He married singer Margaret Whiting a month after the divorce; ironically, she'd sing the next year's number-one hit, the cheating song "Slipping Around," with Jimmy Wakely.)

— ALL IMAGES COURTESY WILLIAM L. MCGEE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED —

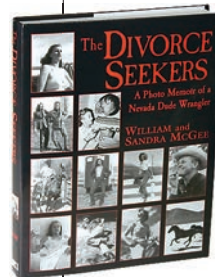
Mrs. William Ellis Corey in 1906; and "America's Sweetheart," the Hollywood actress Mary Pickford, in 1920. Though only the Corey divorce took place in Reno (Russell and Pickford divorced in Genoa and Minden respectively), these sensational cases, followed by others, put Reno on the map as catering divorces to the wealthy and famous.

In 1931, in the teeth of the Great Depression, the Nevada legislature legalized gambling and reduced the residency period for a divorce to six weeks. The floodgates opened, and divorce seekers came running to Reno by the thousands. Reno became known as the "divorce capital of the world." Publicity about the Reno divorce created its own jargon, such as the "Reno cure" and "getting Reno-vated."

A Virginia & Truckee Railroad train, steaming south, past the Flying M E. The engines were converted to oil burners in 1902, so they no longer needed to take on cord wood, but they still stopped at the red water tower in Franktown to refill their water tanks. That is, until the early 1940s, when the station house shut down; after the 1937 death of Ogden Mills, who had kept the trains running, the tracks closed. Today, the Carson-Virginia City branch of the V&T is being renovated, with the line open to Gold Hill; it will reach Carson City by 2012.

In the 1950s, Nevada's divorce ranch culture began to fade away with the liberalization of divorce laws elsewhere in the nation; today, little remains from the era.

I never planned on being a dude wrangler. Looking back, however, I consider myself lucky to have been in the right place at the right time to experience this epoch of the contemporary American West. At age 84, I may be the only



dude wrangler "still above ground" who experienced this colorful era. ❖

In 1950, William L. McGee left the Flying M E and made a successful transition into the film, radio and TV industry. Bill and his wife Sandra are authors of *The Divorce Seekers: A Photo Memoir of a Nevada Dude Wrangler*.

They live in Tiburon, California, but can often be spotted at Adele's in Carson City. Visit BMCPublications.com for video clips and book details.



TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

BAD DAY AT ROUND ROCK

SAM BASS GANG VS TEXAS RANGERS

TRAITOR IN THE GANG

WORLD GOES BOBBING ON BASS'S BIRTHDAY



"Oh Lord!" cries Bass, after being shot while mounting his horse.

— ILLUSTRATION BY BOB BOZE BELL —

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker

Based on the research of Rick Miller. This "classic" Classic Gunfight originally appeared in the July 2002 *True West*.

Sam Bass has a bold plan. He and his outlaw band will case the bank in Round Rock, Texas, one more time and then strike tomorrow, a Saturday, when the farmers make their weekly deposits.

The air is hot and muggy as three of the gang, including Bass, rein up in an alley behind the bank, tie off and walk around to Georgetown Avenue for one more look around. A fourth outlaw, Jim Murphy, has stopped at a store on his way into town, supposedly to quiz locals about the presence of lawmen. (He is actually an informant and has warned the Texas Rangers of the gang's plans.)

It's about 4 p.m. as Bass, Seaborn Barnes and Frank Jackson walk west along the north sidewalk, making mental notes as they survey the town. Two of the men carry saddlebags. Hoping to avoid suspicion, they cross the street and approach Koppel's store to buy tobacco.

Two local lawmen, Ahijah "Caige" Grimes and Maurice Moore, spot what they believe to be concealed weapons on the Bass boys and start following the trio. (Although officials have received advance warning from Murphy, it is unclear whether these lawmen suspect the trio of being members of the Bass Gang.)

After entering Koppel's, Bass and company step to the counter and engage the clerk. Seconds later, Deputy Grimes walks in and puts his hand on Bass (feeling for the weapon), asking at the same time

if he is armed. The outlaw actually says "Yes," and the three bandits spin and fire as one. Hit five times, Grimes staggers to the door, calling out, "Boys, don't!"

Standing in the doorway, Deputy Moore takes a bullet in the chest and jerks his pistol, firing into the smoke. As the shooting continues, he staggers backwards out of the hornet's nest.

Bass grimaces in pain as he and his men scramble for the street. Moore has shot off Bass's middle and ring fingers.

Texas Ranger Dick Ware is in the barbershop when he hears the shooting. He runs into the street to join the fight, ducks behind a hitching post and fires at the fleeing outlaws as they cross Georgetown. The outlaws fire back, hitting the hitching post and sending splinters flying.

At Highsmith's livery stable, owner Albert Highsmith and Rangers George Herold and Chris Connor run through the stalls to head off the outlaws as they come down the alley.

Barnes, Jackson and the wounded Bass enter the alley and make a beeline for their horses. A saloon keeper fires at the fleeing bandits from his rear doorway, and the outlaws slow their advance, warily eyeballing every window and door.

When the gang approaches the rear of the stable, Highsmith and the Rangers open fire (although Highsmith's rifle jams), just as Ranger Ware and two others enter the alley behind the outlaws. Now Bass and company are in a crossfire, but in spite of the zinging bullets, Barnes, Jackson and Bass reach their horses.

Concealed in the back of the stable, Ranger Herold steps out and points his Winchester at Bass, ordering him to surrender. A mere 15 feet away, Bass clicks his empty pistol (in his good hand) at Herold and tries to mount his horse. Herold cuts loose with his rifle, and Bass is hit near the spine, the bullet exiting through his cartridge belt and disintegrating. "Oh, Lord!" cries Bass, as he sags and crashes against the stable fence.

From the west end of the alley, Ranger Ware peeks out and draws a bead on Barnes, who is on his horse. Ware fires; the bullet hits Barnes just behind the left ear, exiting his right eye. Barnes topples from his horse, dead.

Hit twice and in pain, Bass retrieves Barnes's saddlebag and remounts with Jackson's help. The two then spur their steeds and gallop north out of town. Incredibly, Jackson escapes without a scratch.

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

Even more absurd, the Rangers can't find enough good horses for a decent posse. (They're standing in a stable, but for some reason, only "one plug" is on the premises.) One Ranger does commandeer Barnes's horse. After feebly pursuing Bass and Jackson, however, the makeshift posse gives up and returns to town.

Shortly thereafter, Murphy shows up and identifies Barnes. (Barnes was shot in the legs in a previous shoot-out, and Murphy correctly identifies the scars.) The townspeople suspect Murphy of being one of the robbers, but he confesses his informant role, and the Rangers protect him from harm.



(At left) Williamson County Deputy Sheriff Ahijah W. "Caige" Grimes, killed in Koppel's store in Round Rock on July 19, 1878; (Center) Close-up of Sam Bass taken from a group portrait. It is the only authenticated photograph of the outlaw, and it was taken in Dallas, circa summer 1876; (At right) Major John B. Jones, commander of the Frontier Battalion and Murphy's contact for informing the Texas Rangers of the Bass Gang's plan.

— COURTESY ROBERT W. STEPHENS, RICK MILLER AND TEXAS STATE ARCHIVES RESPECTIVELY —

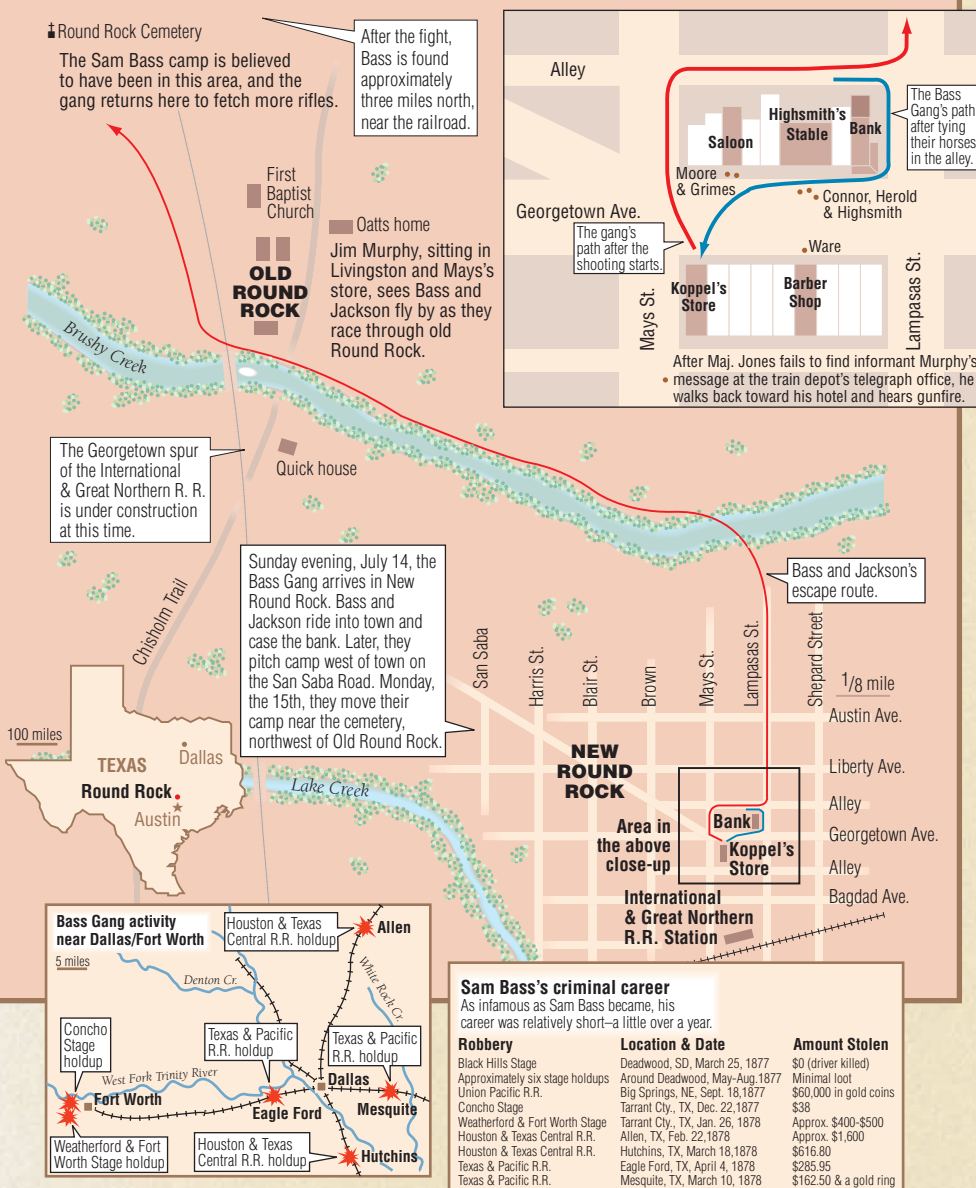
Too weak to ride, Sam Bass was found the next day under a tree about three miles north of town. He was loaded into a wagon and brought back to Round Rock, where doctors pronounced his wounds as fatal. A stenographer was brought in to write down any confession, but while the young outlaw admitted his involvement in the Union Pacific robbery, he was mum about any of his recent Texas crimes, saying, "It is agin my profession to blow on my pals." He also informed the Ranger commander, "If I killed Grimes it was the first man I ever killed." At 3:55 p.m., Sunday, July 21, Bass uttered his now famous last words: "Let me go . . . the world is bobbing around." It was his 27th birthday.

Deputy Ahijah "Caige" Grimes's widow was given a Bass Gang outlaw's horse and \$250 from the railroad. Deputy Maurice Moore survived his chest wound, only to die in another gunfight in 1887.

The Texas Rangers continued to search high and low for Frank Jackson, but he escaped justice. Some say he lived out his days on a cattle ranch in New Mexico.

Jim Murphy had infiltrated the Sam Bass Gang to get his father and brother cleared for their alleged involvement in aiding and abetting the gang. Forever labeled a rat, Murphy committed suicide in June 1879, according to popular legend. Bass biographer Rick Miller claims that Murphy "inadvertently swallowed" a wash containing "toxic belladonna." Miller concludes, "there is no evidence, as was claimed, that he committed suicide out of remorse or fear."

Recommended: *Sam Bass & Gang* by Rick Miller, published by State House Press.



THE EVOLUTION OF
WESTERN WEAR

WHAT TO WEAR THIS SUMMER

I wear a sombrero, silk neckerchief, fringed buckskin shirt, sealskin chaparajos or riding trousers [sic]; alligator hide boots; and with my pearl hilted revolver and beautifully finished Winchester rifle, I shall feel able to face anything."

—THEODORE ROOSEVELT

In the above portion of his letter to his older sister Anna, 25-year-old Teddy Roosevelt enthusiastically described his outfit for an extended hunting trip into Montana in August 1884. Although Western apparel as a style category would not fully emerge for another 60 years, Roosevelt expressed the essential elements of Western style to his sister.

He wrote the letter at the Chimney Butte Ranch near Medora in the Dakota Badlands. He had bought into that ranch the previous year while staying as a guest at the nearby Custer Trail Ranch. Roosevelt had fled west—abandoning his newborn daughter Alice and a budding political career—to deal with his grief over the deaths of his first wife and his mother within hours of each other in his New York home. He ended up spending much of the next few years living the life of a cowboy and rancher. He embraced the cowboy way of life, right down to the spurs and the cattle.



During Teddy's first trip to the West, he had a buckskin shirt custom made by a widow who lived near Medora, North Dakota. In the first photographic portrait, he was decked out entirely in his Leatherstocking outfit. In subsequent portraits, he shed most of the mountain man apparel in favor of stock cowboy garb of the day, including a wide-brimmed hat, an oversized bandanna, wool pants and cowboy boots. In this 1885 image, he also sports a leather belt and holster to carry his pistol. He does not even wear his glasses, without which he could see poorly. Only the fringed buckskin shirt remained from his Leatherstocking outfit.

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

From his first leather-and-buckskin attire, which he dubbed his Leatherstocking outfit, to his pairings of a buckskin shirt with other cowboy garb of the day, Roosevelt was a big fan of the soft, grayish-yellow leather made from the skins of deer or sheep. Buckskin represented America's "most picturesque and distinctively national dress," Roosevelt wrote a friend. It was the attire worn by Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett, and by the "reckless, dauntless Indian fighters" who led the "white advance throughout all our Western lands."

While Roosevelt's cowboy phase lasted just a few years, partly due to the financial hit he took when he lost 60 percent of his cattle in the harsh winter of 1885-86, his experiences in the West shaped his hard-charging politics and he went on to become the "cowboy president." In turn, he helped shape and

develop the environmental and cultural attributes of the West as we now know it. The publicity of his experience alone encouraged Americans and Europeans to flock to the West to see its beauty and experience the unique culture that grew out of cowboy customs and mythology. One of the results of that interest in the West was the development of guest ranches, also known as “dude” ranches—an unflattering reference to the young Teddy Roosevelts in the world.

Ironically, Custer Trail Ranch, Roosevelt’s point of entry into the West, may have been the first ranch to charge guests a fee to stay there. Custer Trail Ranch was also hit hard by the winter of 1885-86. To help make up the lost income, the owners began charging guests \$10 a week to stay with them. The idea caught on, and guest ranches began popping up all over. By the 1920s, guest ranches were



This shirt and knit top combination from Cruel Girl will look as good on horseback as it will at the barbecue after the ride. The all-cotton shirt is a beige print on a plain weave with matching logo buttons. The shirt’s contrasting pink neck tape, collar and cuff facing, and Cruel Girl logo detailing match the fitted Jersey knit top with Cruel Girl screen print and foil. The shirt is \$50; the top is \$32.

Cattle Kate has the clothes and accessories that look and feel right at home on the range. Her fitted Walking Vest is lightweight homespun cotton flannel in wine with iridescent natural shell buttons; \$86. The Swisher Skirt, also all cotton in a tan-and-wine check, has eight gores and layered ruffles at the bottom, an elastic waist in back and inseam side pockets; \$175. Her multi-colored accessories are made from various kinds and sizes of beads, such as turquoise, wood, jasper, abalone and coral. Shown here are: one-inch long raindrop earrings (\$39), the elastic band bracelet (\$45) and the watch, also on an elastic band (\$175).

His plaid Cattleman shirt by Cattle Kate is made from breezy homespun cotton and features front flap pockets and a back yoke; \$128. The 1½-inch basket weave stamp belt (\$45) will take a trophy buckle or a buckle set. His Cattle Kate signature wild rag is 36-by-36-inch solid silk; \$24. The lightweight, crushable hat, available for men or women, is a wool-and-felt blend, and features a removable stampede string; \$47.

one of the most popular vacation choices in the United States. Vacationers flocking to guest ranches, the popularity of cowboy movies and music as well as Wild West shows and rodeos augmented the growing population in the West and helped to set the stage for America's only homegrown apparel category—Western.

The Western style did not fully emerge until after WWII. That's when a new group of manufacturers began making shirts for the real ranchers and cowboys who wanted to look like the ranchers and cowboys they were seeing in movies from Hollywood and in rodeo arenas. Big hats, fancy boots, bandannas and denim jeans were already universally recognized as parts of the cowboy's work attire; cowboy shirts were intentionally designed to complete the look.

All these idiosyncratic cowboy clothes and accessories were more than mere affectations—they were part of the cowboy's work uniform. Every part of a cowboy's wardrobe addressed some aspect of his job or his environment, and his shirts were no exception. Yokes were a second layer of cloth meant to provide additional protection from the elements. Visually, yokes also broaden the shoulders and enhance the wearer's physique. Barrel cuffs protected the wrists and replaced leather cuffs worn by many cowboys working in brushy country. Snap buttons were a break-away safety feature if a cuff or shirt body was caught on a branch or bull's horns.

Just like young Teddy Roosevelt, tourists who went West to the dude ranches adopted the basic cowboy attire not only as a practical

matter, but also to emulate their Western heroes. Ditto the movie and rodeo fans crowding into theaters and onto arena benches to thrill at the exploits of their cowboy heroes. The rapid development of Western apparel from work wear to sportswear established Western as bona fide lifestyle attire that continues to be worn throughout the West, especially at Country and Western music festivals and clubs, poetry gatherings, rodeos and barbecues around the world.



You can bet you'll see this rockin' look on some of the cowboy poets or festival attendees this summer. This eye-catching floral print on the blue poplin long sleeve shirt from 20X by Wrangler features contrast chain stitching, logo-stamped metal snaps, flap pockets and yokes; \$40.



Summer rodeos are all the rave across the West; and most of the stylishly-smart gentlemen at the arena will look something like this cowboy. Nothing is buttoned down about the shirt he is wearing from Cinch except the collar. The orange pattern print on plain weave fabric is guaranteed to stand out in the arena or in the crowd. The shirt features dyed-to-match Cinch logo buttons, logo neck tape and logo embroidery on the matched patch pocket; \$56.



THE EVOLUTION OF
**WESTERN
 WEAR**



Cool vibes emanate from this snap shirt from Southern Thread. This \$58 shirt has a wallpaper stripe on a twill weave in cream, with contrast stitching where it counts. The pocket and front snap plackets are a tortoise shell pattern; the neck and sleeve are closed with color-matched metal buttons.

Heading over to the "Roots and Boots" summer music festival hosted by Rio Grande Scenic Railroad in Colorado (held every weekend from June 4 to August 22)? If so, dance to the tunes of Michael Martin Murphey, Nanci Griffith and Ian Tyson by donning this chocolate cotton Jersey knit dress from Stetson, which comes alive with magenta and vine green floral in oversized crewel embroidery. This new silhouette has princess seams and smocking details front and back. The bell sleeves complete the look for \$100.



Chocolate is hot for summer fun, as proven by this all-cotton embroidered shirt from Acorn Shirts. The embroidery, called "Harvest," is the same shade of turquoise as the hexagonal snap buttons. The shirt is designed with a contemporary fit; \$90.

— BY STEVE THORNTON —

We think Billy the Kid's sweetheart Paulita Maxwell could have made the outlaw's heart skip a beat in this Vintage Collection garb. Drop waist panel skirt in black mesh features hand-embroidered goldenrod flowers based on flowers on an antique kimono worn by the Empress of China; \$419. The skirt is paired with a classic knit ballet top, can be worn on or off the shoulder, with a versatile three-quarter sleeve that can be worn below or above the elbow; \$129.

— BY STUDIO 7 PRODUCTIONS —



THE EVOLUTION OF
WESTERN WEAR



This t-shirt would make a big splash at Red Earth Festival's popular powwow in Oklahoma City (held this year on June 18-20). Vintage tinted photo images of American Indian women and warriors, and other ethnic women are printed on Double D Ranch's India ivory-colored tee made from a 95-percent cotton and five-percent Spandex blend. Floral embroidery—accented with rhinestones, crystals and metal studs—enhance the cosmic message of the "We are the World" t-shirt; \$130.

"Get Aho!" is good advice for the bronc-busting cowboy depicted on this burnout tee from Ranch Royalty Clothing Company. Turquoise message, image and logo are over a black filigree design. The 50-percent cotton and 50-percent poly blend tee has a vintage look and a soft, worn feel. Swarovski crystals add a little bling to the "Double Pistol" long-sleeved t-shirt. Its graphics are printed in purple on the preshrunk, all-cotton, lilac tee. Both t-shirts retail for \$36. All accessories shown are from Sissie & Me.

Western t-shirts can be dressed up for a breezy summer night out on the town, as shown here with the "Lucky in Love" poly and cotton tee with burnout sleeves (\$37) matched with a dark charcoal, eight-panel, moleskin skirt (\$50) from Red River Clothing's Cowgirl Brand. Complete the look with the "Black Bit" handbag from Cowgirl Brand (\$40).





OLD WEST WEDDING

June is the traditional month for weddings, and nuptials in the Old West hewed as much as possible to the Victorian standards of the day. According to an 1882 guidebook on wedding etiquette for refined society, the blushing bride was to wear white silk and tulle for the dress, and a veil accessorized with maiden-blush roses and orange blossoms. The groom and groomsmen wore frock or cutaway coats and light trousers. Given the often remote locales and limited access to proper wedding attire and accessories, wedding trousseaux out West were often just the best and cleanest clothes available—with the bride wearing gingham, while the groom wore a nervous grin.

Groom and Groomsmen: In outfits from Old Frontier Clothing Co., the groom and groomsmen can still look great in their favorite jeans and boots. The frock coats, shown in black and grey, are both satin-lined worsted wool and cost \$285 apiece. The silk brocade vests in black, brown, gold and gunmetal grey paisleys have notched lapels; \$85. The all-cotton tuxedo shirts feature tall stand-up collars and French cuffs, and are available in white and blue; \$60. Both ties are silk jacquard wild rags; \$40 each.

Bride: The bride can wear silk, or she can opt for a dress custom made from soft, ivory white deer skin by Montana Dreamwear. The dress has both raw and finished edges, and features hand lacing, freshwater pearls, hand-cut leather "lace" and strategically-placed cascades of hand-cut fringe. The lace closes the asymmetrical bodice in back. This one-of-a-kind dress costs \$2,800. In her hand, the bride holds Montana Dreamwear's Victorian Riding Hat; \$600.



Acorn Shirts: 718-433-0009 • AcornShirts.com

Cattle Kate: 800-332-5283 • CattleKate.com

Cinch: CinchJeans.com

Cowgirl Brand: 800-595-3839 • Cowboy-Brand.com

Cruel Girl: CruelGirl.com

Double D Ranch: DDRanchWear.com

Montana Dreamwear: 406-225-3909 • MontanaDreamwear.com

Old Frontier Clothing Company: 323-643-0000 • OldFrontier.com

Ranch Royalty Clothing Company: 575-485-0026 • RanchRoyaltyClothingCo.com

Sissie & Me: 940-474-3250 • SissieAndMe.com

Southern Thread: SoThread.com

Stetson: 303-571-2296 • StetsonApparel.com

Vintage Collection: VintageCollectionDesign.com

Wrangler: Wrangler.com

G. Daniel DeWeese co-authored the book, *Western Shirts: A Classic American Fashion* (Gibbs Smith, 2004). Ranch-raised near the Black Hills in South Dakota, Dan has written about Western apparel and riding equipment for more than 25 years.

Ranch Style on a Budget

Texas home designed on a limited budget, yet with unlimited imagination.

Jodi Finkenbinder did not just imagine what her new home could be, but she actually rolled up her shirt sleeves and helped create it.

Starting with ideas from previous homes she has worked on as an interior design consultant and with inspiration from magazine photographs, Jodi utilized a computer program to create the floor plan for the home near Gainesville, Texas, that she shares with husband Tim and their 15-year-old son Trent.

Jodi envisioned the house and then worked side-by-side with builder Gary Patterson to construct it in 2009. After selling a larger house and ranch, the family downsized to 2,650 square feet of living space. Situated on a hill under large, old oak trees, the home features green design elements, including foam insulated walls and instant hot-on-demand hot water. Jodi also installed windows rated for the cold temperatures of Minnesota to improve energy efficiency, even though the family lives in

a humid subtropical climate typical of northeastern Texas.

Exterior features include rock and stucco patterned to make the structure look much older than it actually is. A sun design at the front door is carried inside the home with a half-round soffit (the covering on the underside of the overhang) in the living room that comes down to make a sun.

Yet as artistic as this ranch home looks, it also is practical, as the Finkenbinders raise and train horses on the property. A great example of how Jodi has created a functional, yet stylish, environment is evident in the poured concrete floors, enhanced with grooves and stained to give them color. That is sensible on a ranch where men and boys don't always remove their shoes when returning from the barn.

To encourage people to look up at the ceilings, Jodi left the floors as simple as possible, with few rug coverings. Beyond the sun design on the living room ceiling, the kitchen ceiling is concave and Jodi used joint compound and custom mixed stain to replicate the old brick and stucco



Cedar posts provide stylish support for the porch awning at the Finkenbinder home.

look that is found on the exterior walls of the home.

Nooks and niches in the living room and foyer area are a design element that provide space for a collection that includes artwork and artifacts, such as an Indian war shirt (Jodi is not certain whether it is Modoc or Klamath). One nook is a water feature that includes three different copper looks: tarnished copper, burnished copper and copper aged to a green patina. Jodi is herself an artist, working with organic media such as steer heads and gourds; she creates mosaics on the former and paints on the latter. She also sculpts bronzes, working in her La Mujer Studio, which adjoins the house just off the hacienda carport and boasts its own Southwestern front.

Jodi admits she did not have an unlimited budget for the home, but

Niches and cubby holes of all shapes and sizes provide plenty of space in the living room for collectibles. Even the wood heating stove is set into a niche. An Indian war shirt traded in the Pacific Northwest is displayed in the niche above and to the right of the stove, while it is carefully protected from the elements by glass. Jodi Finkenbinder designed, and Steve Ellsworth of Oak Reflections built, the square pine coffee table; she paid for it by trading some of her own artwork.

(Opposite page) The light above the island is created from saddle trees by Rustic Ranch Furniture in Sanger, Texas. It sets off the faux brick design of the ceiling.





NEAT DESIGN TRICK!

The kitchen ceiling in the Finkenbinder home may appear to be brick, but it is actually faux brick. Jodi created this three-dimensional look by spreading joint compound. She first placed a grid of masking tape and covered it with the drywall mud. When she removed the tape, the depth of the mud was left behind, which, when painted red, gave the appearance of true brick.



The skull above the doorway in the foyer of the home is a piece of art Jodi created that features turquoise, black glass, white glass and, although not visible in this photo, the design of two dragonflies. Shown on the table and in the many niches and nooks on the wall are examples of her painted gourd art. Her Southwestern designs are woodburned and carved into the gourd, and can feature inlays such as turquoise, feathers, horsehair and leather.

she did have an unlimited imagination. She stretched her finances by innovation, doing much of the work herself. Her “cowboy bathroom” has a shower head extending from beneath a barrel. “I detest those white fiberglass shower units,” says Jodi, admitting she did not have enough money in the budget for a rock-and-tile shower in that bathroom. So she decided to use galvanized metal for an enclosure, forming it to represent a barrel, complete with galvanized strips that look like barrel staves that carry the design element of the barrel from top to bottom. The vanity top is a salvaged piece of ironwood, while the sink itself was made from an old pot that Jodi owned.

For the master bath she did have the budget for tile and rock, but she also saved on construction costs by doing the work herself. The master bedroom also benefited from her work ethic. Wanting a “lodge” look, she found some two-by-12 boards in a pile at a salvage yard. Although they were extremely weathered and even moldy in places, Jodi hauled them home, cleaned them up, sealed them to preserve the wood and then placed them on the wall of the bedroom, leaving space between each board and adding grout or “chinking” to make it appear like an old homestead cabin made of logs.

The open kitchen features a dark wood center island and cabinets that Jodi created and stained with a custom mix that gave her the rich reddish color she sought. The concave ceiling is accented by unique lighting fixtures, including one made from two saddle trees. Not able to lay brick on the ceiling, she created her own faux brick look. Although Jodi admits her arms ached following that effort, she successfully achieved the look she wanted.



Jodi Finkenbinder created a home for her family that is several parts hard work mixed with a hefty dose of imagination. She utilized organic materials like wood, added angles and shapes to create unique rooms, and decorated with the touch of an artist.



The “cowboy bathroom” includes a sink made from an old pot, an antique lantern and a mirror formed from horse hames. The shower in this bathroom has been designed like a barrel (see opposite page).





Salvaged boards on the angled wall of the bedroom were placed to represent the log construction of a homestead house and provide a feel of being in a lodge. The massive oak bed with its cowhide inlay fits well in this ranch home. It was built by Steve Ellsworth of Longview, Texas. The painting above the bed is a "cave art" print, while the pencil drawing on the wood wall is by Don Bell of Whitesboro, Texas. Bell is a friend of Jodi's who encouraged her to become an artist.



Rachel by Dana Hassett of Topeka, Kansas, is a painting of what the artist says is the "perfect" woman.

But because nothing is truly perfect, Hassett has added a wilted rose. Jodi traded some of her own artwork for this painting done by Hassett, who Jodi knows through horse show connections.



YOUR TRUE WEST HOME

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Antique Stoves

- **Good Time Stove Company**
GoodTimeStove.com
413-268-3677

Art

- **Dana Hassett Art**
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PhnxGallery.com
785-272-3999
- **Don Bell Galleries**
DonBellGalleries.com
903-651-5615
- **La Mujer Studio**
LaMujerStudio.com
903-814-4096

Home Décor & Accessories

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AllThatCowboy.com
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- **Rustic Ranch Furniture**
RusticRanchFurniture.com
888-378-7842

Furniture

- **Allure of the West**
AllureOfTheWest.com
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- **Lorec Ranch**
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405-948-0018
- **Northwest Native Designs**
NorthwestNative.com
800-322-3599
- **Oak Reflections**
OakReflections.com
800-283-0335

Lighting

- **Peter Fillerup Wild West Designs**
WildWestDesigns.com
435-654-4151
- **Rocky Mountain Antler Co.**
RockyMountainAntler.com
303-688-5213

Wild Bill's Grand Failure at Niagara Falls

Hickok's embarrassing moment likely planted the seeds for Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West show.

Buffalo Bill Cody is famous for his Wild West show, which brought the frontier alive for awestruck audiences throughout the East. What few realize is that the formula for Cody's success was laid years earlier in a little remembered event in Niagara Falls, Ontario, an event starring none other than Wild Bill Hickok.

Thomas Barnett, a Niagara Falls native, was always a showman, but in the late 1860s he began to envision his greatest spectacle yet: a Wild West show with live animals and frontier personalities. People in the cities of the East were fascinated with all things related to the frontier, and so he was convinced a show that brought the West to life for Eastern viewers would be a resounding success. Certainly nothing like it had yet been seen.

The "Grand Buffalo Hunt," staged just above the Falls, was scheduled for August 28, 1872. The highlight was to be a roundup by four American Indians, four Mexican vaqueros and the eagerly-awaited Wild Bill Hickok, one of the most daring and dashing scouts in the West.

The first animal to be released was the Texan Longhorn, but it simply grazed. A buffalo cow was then brought out, but she, like the longhorn before her, didn't seem inclined to play its role. She lay down in the grass, lazing in the sun, and had to be coaxed to even rise to her feet. She stood there, unmoving and unconcerned, as the Mexican cowboys took turns lassoing her. Next, a "rather mangy looking" bull buffalo was ushered out of the pen. He was in no hurry, strolling as "leisurely as a deacon from church." The animal was eventually prodded into half-heartedly running around the pen while the Indians gave chase. The crowd was restless and unenthused.

The only moment of drama came when Hickok attempted to rope and capture the buffalo from horseback. He succeeded in lassoing the bull, but rather than tighten around the neck, the rope slipped over the animal's hump. This gave all the



A year after a buffalo got the best of him at Niagara Falls, Wild Bill Hickok (at left) joined Texas Jack Omohundro (center) and Buffalo Bill Cody (at right) to star in the spectacle "Scouts of the Prairie."

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

advantage to the buffalo. When it bolted, it caused Hickok's horse to flip head over heels. Hickok, the greatest gunfighter in the West, was thrown face first into the dirt and watched as his horse was dragged away by the 1,000-pound buffalo. The crowd roared with laughter; Hickok was red-faced with humiliation.

The show ended on that sour note, and most witnesses left their seats deeply disappointed in the performance. A second showing, two days later, was hardly more entertaining. Barnett's reputation was tarnished.

The "Grand Buffalo Hunt" had been a disappointment and embarrassment to Hickok as well, but he wasn't ready to give up on showbiz yet. The very next year he joined Buffalo Bill Cody and a troupe of

actors in a stage performance that drew massive crowds. Hickok, however, was a poor actor who never seemed comfortable with all the make believe, and after a single season on the stage, he returned to the frontier.

Thomas Barnett's much anticipated "thrilling spectacle" was anything but, and it left a sour taste in the mouth of almost all involved. Nevertheless, despite unsatisfying entertainment and financial ruin, it created the formula for Wild West shows to follow. Buffalo Bill Cody perfected the concept a decade later, providing the public with an entertaining event complete with cowboys, Indians, buffaloes and Western icons.

It's likely that Hickok shared his experiences at Niagara Falls with Cody and thereby planted the seeds that would eventually germinate into Buffalo Bill's Wild West. In that light, perhaps Thomas Barnett's 1872 production wasn't such a failure after all.



Andrew Hind and Maria Da Silva live in Bradford, ON, Canada, and are the authors of *Niagara: Daredevils, Danger and Extraordinary Stories*.



Well-known theatrical poster artist Alick P.F. Ritchie created this circa 1890 portrait of Buffalo Bill composed of guns, rope, the head of a buffalo, a tipi and other Western items.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

Reno, Nevada

How the locals cowboy up, beyond the town's top rodeo event.

When Mella Rothwell Harmon wrote her thesis for the University of Nevada in Reno in 1998, she tackled Reno's divorce trade at dude ranches during the Great Depression. "Nevada's 20th-century cowboys got to wrangle women instead of cows," she jokes. (See p. 50 for a related photo essay.)

Yet long before these divorce seekers came to Reno (current population 217,091), the city attracted emigrants traveling the California and Pony Express Trails. In fact, the Donner Party lingered too long in the Truckee Meadows of present-day Reno and got trapped by snow in the Sierra Nevada Mountains during the winter of 1846-47.

The townsfolk pay tribute to the Old West every year at the Reno Rodeo, celebrating 90 years this June 17-26. Harmon tells us folks here are especially excited about the Nevada State Fair, held at the Reno Livestock center this August 25-29. This year, Gov. Jim Gibbons declared that "in honor of our glorious past," the state fair will now be known as the Nevada Territory Wild West Fair.

Locals best experience Reno's brand of the Old West at these colorful spots.

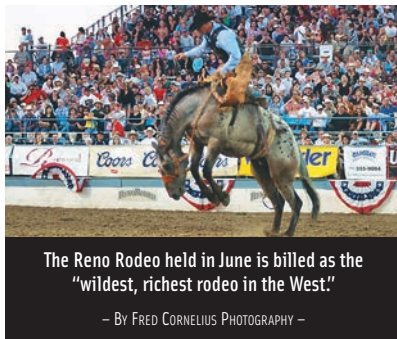
Popular Local Hangout: Whitewater Park, where you can kayak in the beautiful Truckee River.

Favorite Local Cuisine: The Awful Awful Burger at the Little Nugget Casino.

Local Film Screenings: Monthly documentaries are shown from the "Exploring Nevada" series at the Nevada Historical Society Museum in Reno.

Best Bookstore of the West: Sundance Books carries outstanding local and regional history books.

Good Cowboy Bar: We usually venture to nearby Virginia City to pass our time at the Bucket of Blood Saloon.



The Reno Rodeo held in June is billed as the "wildest, richest rodeo in the West."

— BY FRED CORNELIUS PHOTOGRAPHY —

What historic site do most of the schoolchildren visit? The 1877 Lake Mansion, home of W.J. Marsh and sold two years later to Myron Lake, who is often considered the founder of Reno.

Popular Local Event: Artown, the month-long art festival held every year in July, with more than 400 events and attracting 350,000 people annually.

Best Time of Year: Fall. We have the bluest skies, the sunniest days and the most beautiful aspen trees, which turn color in the fall.

Average House Cost: \$220,000.

Average Temperatures: Winter averages 30s to 40s; spring, 40s to 50s; summer, 80s to 90s; and fall, 60s to 70s.

Who knows Reno's history best? Neal Cobb knows just about every building in town. Back in 2008, he worked with Jerry Fenwick on an oral history program for the University of Nevada and on a coffee-table book, both titled *Reno Now and Then*.

Best-Kept Secret: If you drive east on Highway 50 (the Loneliest Highway) you will pass through small towns and ranches that exemplify Nevada's Old West past. The highway parallels the 1860-61 route of the Pony Express. From this road you can get a feel of Nevada's basin-and-range topography, and its wide-open spaces.







Special thanks to Mella Rothwell Harmon, principal investigator and architectural historian for Kautz Environmental Consultants, for sharing her love of the town with us.

twmag.com extra

Miss a profile of a True Western town? Visit the Travel section in our online archives.

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Frontier Wedding Menus

Tying the knot with traditional fare, including a chicken salad recipe.



CHICKEN SALAD

2 c. cooked chicken
 ½ c. celery, diced
 ¼ to ½ c. mayonnaise*
 Lettuce leaves
 Capers, optional for garnish

Boil a chicken and remove the meat. Cut or tear into bite size pieces. Add the celery and mayonnaise and stir to combine. Place a scoop of the salad into a lettuce leaf and garnish with a few capers.



Recipe from the July 1, 1895,
Omaha World Herald

***TWMag.com Extra:** Visit the online article for an 1895 mayonnaise recipe.

“One of the prettiest home weddings of the season was that of Miss Etta Scofield and Roy H. Tracey, Wednesday evening at 8 o’clock at the home of the bride’s parents.

“The house was profusely decorated—smilax and carnations predominated in the parlors and roses prevailed in the dining room. After congratulations had been showered on the happy couple an elaborate supper was served. The table was handsomely decorated,” reported the *Iowa State Reporter* on January 4, 1898.

Wedding ceremonies in the Victorian era varied from simple home services to lavish grand affairs. Geography, social status, religion and cash flow often dictated which type of wedding was held. Gifts given to the blushing bride and groom ranged from money to tangible items, such as blankets, crockery, dishes, furniture and livestock.

Many Old West weddings were simple affairs—some with meals and some without. Couples were often married in the bride’s parents’ home, received gifts and then left for their honeymoon or their new home. Alma Miles recalled her wedding day at her parents’ house, where, at 16, she married 21-year-old Jack Miles of San Angelo, Texas, on

March 20, 1887: “. . .we married at the old Bailey home on the T&F Ranch. A big dinner followed the ceremony, and the festivities ended in a big square dance that night. Each friend took a piece of my wedding veil as a souvenir, and my husband and I came to San Angelo the next day in grand style. . . .”

Some people used marriage as a means to an end. In Reno, Nevada, a couple showed up on a preacher’s doorstep on the evening of February 18, 1880. The nicely dressed man and his bride-to-be produced a marriage license and asked the preacher to marry them on the spot. The preacher saw no harm in this since they looked legitimate. The new groom was so thankful that he wanted to give the preacher \$10. The groom handed the preacher a \$50 bill and asked him to deduct the \$10 from that. The preacher rounded up the \$40 in change and gave it to the man. The poor preacher found out the next day that no couple was honeymooning in Reno and the \$50 bill was counterfeit.

Wedding breakfasts were the most popular post-wedding ceremony event. As the 19th century neared its end, wedding suppers or receptions began replacing breakfasts. Only the time of day and location changed; the food served was not much different. Breakfasts were served early in the day in the parlor at a private

residence, while a reception was more elaborate, held in the afternoon or later, in the dining room or library. The wedding cake was cut and placed in small boxes so the guests could take their piece home as they left.

Chicken frequently appeared on the wedding menu, as was the case at Clarence Lowry and Carrie Hart’s reception in September 1889 in Dewitt, Iowa. Yet their pressed chicken supper offered a nasty surprise. The next morning, the newlyweds, the bride’s mother and others made a breakfast of the leftover chicken. Within hours, the groom became violently ill. The others soon followed, but all recovered. The *Omaha Daily Bee* wrote, “It is thought that some poisonous quality was attached to the chicken which was brought out by chemical changes after it had been exposed to the air.”

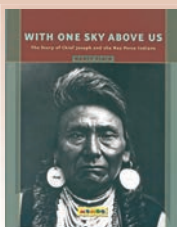
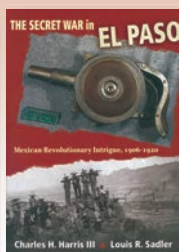
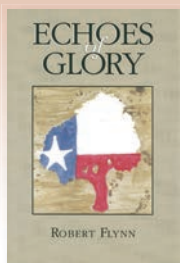
The menu items were as varied as the services and parties themselves. The *Ft. Worth Daily Gazette* suggested these items for an October wedding in 1887: Ham, turkey, scalloped oysters, shrimp and chicken salad, hot rolls, pickles, olives, cheese, caramel, angel food, fig, ice cream cakes and foreign and domestic fruits. The *Kansas City Star* printed a similar menu in its June 1893 paper. Shared here is a recipe for chicken salad, from the July 1, 1895, *Omaha World Herald*.



Sherry Monahan has penned *Taste of Tombstone*, *Pikes Peak: Adventurers, Communities and Lifestyles*, *The Wicked West* and *Tombstone’s Treasure: Silver Mines and Golden Saloons*. She’s appeared on the History Channel in *Lost Worlds*, *Investigating History* and *Wild West Tech*.



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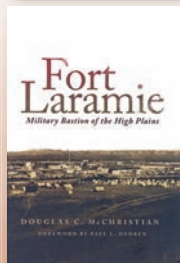
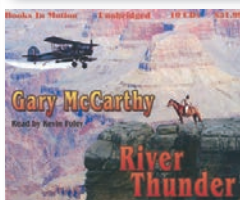
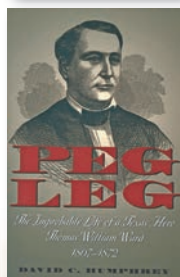
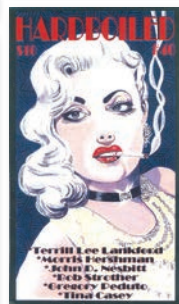
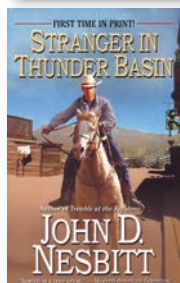
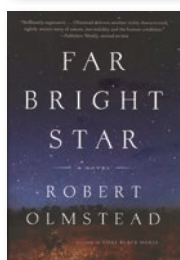
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Meet Robert J. Conley

The incoming president of Western Writers of America.

I knew Robert J. Conley was not your typical Western writer when he came up to me and fellow author John D. Nesbitt at an Albuquerque bar and started quoting—not Louis L'Amour or Larry McMurtry (don't get Bob started on McMurtry, by the way)—Lord Byron.

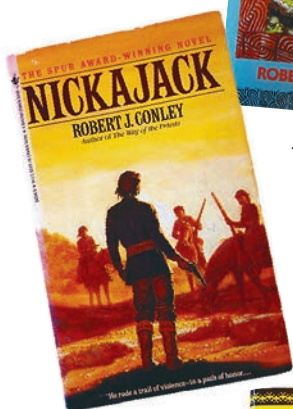
The taciturn Conley, born in Cushing, Oklahoma, in 1940 is a genius. He takes over as president of Western Writers of America in June in Knoxville, Tennessee, becoming the first American Indian—he's an enrolled member of the United

Mountain Windsong was nominated by the PEN Center USA West for the 1992 USA West Literary Award in fiction.

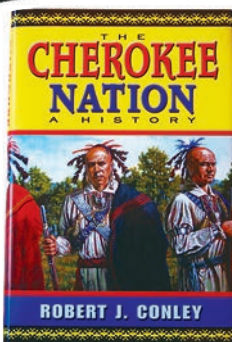
— ALL IMAGES COURTESY JOHNNY D. BOGGS —



The Spur-winning *Nickajack* was also nominated for the American Library Association's Best Book for Young Adults award.



Even though the University of New Mexico Press published Conley's *The Cherokee Nation: A History*, the book contains no footnotes. Instead, each chapter is followed by a source list, suggestions for further reading and a glossary.



Keetoowah Band of Cherokees—to serve as the organization's prez. He also brings to it a certain wit and dry sense of humor.

Some samplings:

On the Little Bighorn: "There was a BAE [Bureau of American Ethnology] ethnologist with Custer. He didn't turn in his report."

On his goals for WWA: "To not get impeached."

On when he knew he wanted to write: "I never did. I've never made up my mind yet what I want to be."

Actually, Ned Christie, the famous Cherokee statesman-turned-"outlaw," decided Conley's career path—or rather a bunch of white writers who tried to write about Christie did. "I got pissed off at some of the stuff written about Ned Christie, and I decided I'd write something and fix it. That's all I was thinking: I'll get those sons of bitches. Boy, I killed a lot of marshals."

His first novel *Back to Malachi* was published in 1986. He won his first Spur Award for his 1988 short story, "Yellow Bird: An Imaginary Autobiography," and picked up Spurs for his 1992 novel *Nickajack* (for my money, one of the best novels about Cherokees ever written) and 1995's *The Dark Island*. He also wrote the novelization of *Geronimo: An American Legend*, the 1993 film that starred a good friend of Conley's, fellow Cherokee Wes Studi. Other titles include *Ned Christie's War*, *The Dark Way*, *Mountain Windsong* and *The Long Way Home*, but he doesn't write just about Cherokees.

His 1990 novel *Quitting Time* features hired gunman Oliver Colfax taking a job so he can catch a performance of Shakespeare's "Titus Andronicus." In 2000, Conley introduced a character who could best be considered the anti-Marshall Matt Dillon of *Gunsmoke* fame in *Barjack*, a novel best described as "High Noon on acid." He has also written poetry.

In 2005, the American Library Association selected his nonfiction *The Cherokee Nation: A History* as one of that year's Outstanding Academic Titles.



Robert J. Conley gets around. His fiction and nonfiction have been published in Germany, France, Belgium, New Zealand and Yugoslavia, while his poems have been published, not only in English and Cherokee, but even Macedonian.

"Anything I ever learned I think I learned in spite of school," he says. "I was always on the verge of getting kicked out of school."

In fact, he was kicked out for a semester at Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, Texas, for refusing to attend compulsory Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) in the late 1950s. But he won that battle. "I got compulsory ROTC kicked off of campus," he says.

He went on to earn a bachelor's degree in drama and a master's in English from Midwestern, and he has taught at a number of colleges.

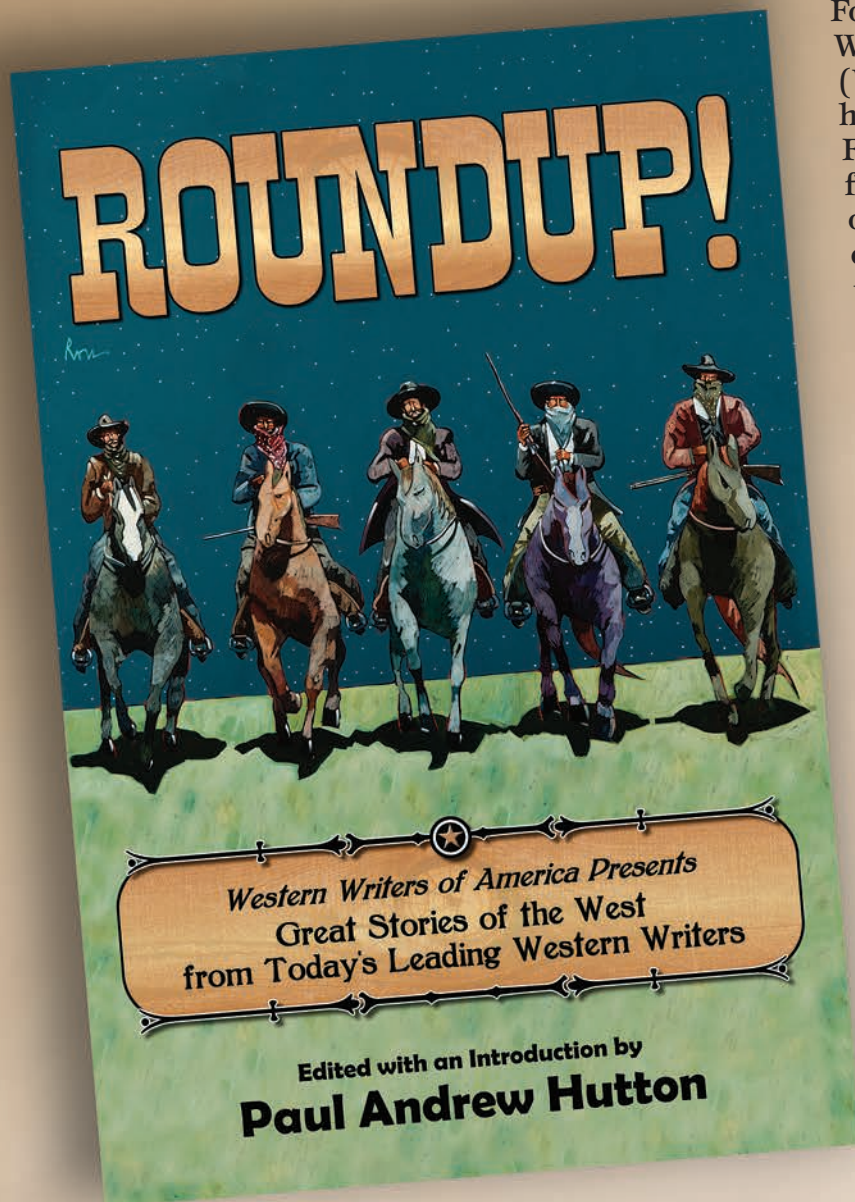
Yet don't call Conley an academic, even though he's the Sequoyah Distinguished Professor in Cherokee Studies at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina. "For years I was a member of Academics Anonymous," he says, "but they made me resign when I became the Sequoyah Distinguished Professor in Cherokee Studies. I still have never written any footnotes, and I'm not planning to."

Get ready, Western Writers of America. It's gonna be a fun ride.



Johnny D. Boggs, the outgoing president of Western Writers of America, thinks Robert J. Conley's wife Evelyn is lovely and gracious, and could kick Bob's butt in a second.

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—Paul Andrew Hutton, *Roundup!* editor, WWA Past President and four-time Spur Award winner, noted television personality, and True West Historical Consultant

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Rich Riding in Cooper Landing

Trailing Alaskan Klondike prospector Charles E. Chapman.

I feel rather adventurous while horse riding in the Cooper Landing area on Alaska's Kenai Peninsula, but I have nothing on Charles E. Chapman, who set out to find gold here in 1898 and 1899.

While I am dealing with extreme terrain and the possibility of a bear encounter, I am also riding in July, blessed with almost 24 hours of sunlight. Time is certainly on my side as I ride my Paint horse Harley, aptly named, alongside a modern highway toward Kenai Lake.

Chapman began his Cooper area journey in early spring of 1898, according to a series of letters owned by Chapman's California relatives. Mona Painter, a local historian with the Cooper Landing Historical Society Museum who has been studying Cooper Landing's history for more than 50 years, shares this correspondence with me. While sluicing for gold for the Towle and Stetson Mining Company, Chapman and his team dealt with harsh weather and terrain, competitive mining bandits, dangerous accidents and little food.

Joseph Cooper discovered gold here in 1884. Russian prospectors had found gold back in 1848. By 1896, the Kenai Peninsula was a hot spot for gold seekers, many from the American West and Canada. Two years later, the men from the Towle and Stetson Mining Company traveled to Seward, Alaska, by train from California and boat from Seattle, Washington, bringing horses, equipment and supplies with them. Their destination was Cooper Creek, but traveling inland was no small feat.



WYATT EARP'S GOLD SEARCH

After the *SS Excelsior* reached San Francisco, California, with a ton of Alaskan gold in July 1898, Wyatt Earp scraped together money for a prospecting expedition and headed to the Klondike with Josie, starting off a two-year journey that would stretch from Juneau to Nome. Shown here is a photo of (from left) postmaster Edwin Engelstad, Wyatt Earp and former Tombstone mayor and *Tombstone Epitaph* editor John Clum, standing on the beaches of Nome in 1900. At the time, Wyatt and his partner C.E. Hoxie were running the Dexter Saloon.



Michelle Donahue and Darley Newman ride deeper into Cooper Landing, an area which George Washington Towle enthusiastically wrote home about in April 1898: "I think there is going to be some big discoveries here this season. I believe Cooper Creek is rich. This is the first year there has been any mining on it!"

— COURTESY DARLEY NEWMAN —

They had a five-to seven-day journey after they landed in Resurrection Bay, and they began their trek across snowy land. Horses pulled heavy sleds, carrying piping and bales of hay—supplies they would need that they couldn't obtain in Alaska's wilds. Once they reached the south end of the frozen Kenai Lake, they encountered one of the most dangerous parts of the trip. Traveling across the treacherous ice, they slowly relayed supplies in the horse-drawn sleighs. The team wasn't always sure about the amount of weight the ice could hold; men carried lifelines, so that if they broke through, they could be salvaged from the icy waters. According to Chapman's letters, men and horses from his team did fall through the ice, but fortunately none were lost.

On my Cooper Landing ride, my guide Michelle Donahue and I stop along the shores of Kenai Lake. Standing along the banks I stare across its milky turquoise waters to the jagged, snow covered peaks, which quickly rise to the sky.

After crossing Kenai Lake, the miners would have gotten a boat in Cooper Landing and headed down the Kenai

River. Chapman's letters report that the miners lost everything except a surcingle (strap that goes around a horse's girth) and teaspoon when their boat capsized along the river. Their problems didn't end there. Once Chapman and his team reached the Towle and Stetson Mine, they found that their camp had been ransacked by a team of competitive miners from the nearby Sunrise settlement. Even amid all of these setbacks, the miners never gave up. The pull of the gold was too great.

Donahue and I continue our trek up through the Chugach National Forest along the Russian Gap Trail, a route that gold seekers from Russia traversed during the 1850s. Riding through the forest, we climb up uneven terrain, getting farther and farther away from civilization and seeing more of what Chapman might have seen as he hunted for food in this area of alpine tundra.

I stick out my hand to feel the sections of the tall thin trees where the back is missing. In the winter, when food is scarce, moose sometimes eat the bark off the trees. The miners too ate anything they could find, including porcupine, which Chapman wrote that he didn't like because it looked too much like skunk. Bear, grouse and, if they were lucky, moose were also on the menu. Chapman once trailed a moose for three days, only to lose him.

Life was hard for the miners. Not only was meeting their everyday needs a challenge, but searching for gold was backbreaking work. Miners used picks and shoveled gravel into sluice boxes, while slapping away the mosquitoes. Chapman wrote in one letter that the bugs had caused his skin to erupt into welts. In what's thought to be his last letter from the expedition, written in August, he stated that he hoped to be back to California by October 25th. He wrote, he would "enjoy living in civilization again."

While I am not seeking gold on my ride, I do see a bear, thankfully in the distance. As we rest at a lookout point, I daydream about all the modern-day prospectors who are still searching for gold in Cooper Landing.



Darley Newman is the host and producer of the Emmy-winning Public Television series *Equitrekking*® and the founder of Equitrekking Travel, offering diverse equestrian vacations. Watch video clips at Equitrekking.com and EquitrekkingTravel.com.

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The Old Snake Trade Route

Traveling a little-known route from Santa Fe, New Mexico, to Bismarck, North Dakota.

Indian trade routes crisscrossed the country generations before any Euroamerican travelers arrived on foot, horseback or via covered wagons.

The native people used the trading routes to exchange goods predominant in one area but rare or harder to obtain in another area. One of the common routes in the West linked the Pueblo Indian communities in present-day New Mexico with the Northern Plains tribal areas along the Missouri River in present-day North Dakota.

This route—known by some as the Old Snake Trade Route—provided a conduit between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and other Spanish/Indian towns, and the Mandan Villages in the Dakota Territory. Once in what is now Wyoming, the route branched off to the west to other trade centers, including one near the site of what would become Fort Bridger and others as far west as Ceilo Falls and The Dalles on the Columbia River in Oregon.

The first reference I ever saw to this route was in a history of Wyoming written by C.G. Coutant, who said trapper Ezekiel Williams traveled it in 1807. I saw later references in materials researched and written by another Wyoming historian, Lola Homsher, who said the first documented use by a white traveler was Williams, but that he went over the route in 1810 or 1811. Both agreed native people had used it long, long before that.

In a sense I feel a bit of kinship with this particular route, since it passed through the valley I call home and, in all likelihood, people using it would have gone very near my house, located near Encampment, Wyoming. Even so, to make this a more linear trail, I'll begin this journey over the Old Snake Trade Route in Santa Fe and travel north.

Happy Birthday, Santa Fe!

Celebrating its quadricentennial (400 years of existence as a city) this year,



Indian traders from Santa Fe and Taos, New Mexico, traveled with their wares on the Old Snake Trade Route to the Mandan villages in Dakota Territory. Above, a Mandan woman cuts down rushes near a stream in 1908. Historically, the women in her tribe likely used such rushes to weave baskets, which they perhaps traded for the silver and turquoise brought to them from New Mexico.

(Right) The Swiss artist Karl Bodmer painted these Mandans during his 1832-33 expedition tracing Lewis & Clark's route. (He was the last artist to paint them before the 1837 smallpox epidemic that nearly obliterated the tribe.) You can tell that these Mandans have been paid a visit by traders traveling along the Old Snake Trade Route; turquoise and silver abound in their garbs.

— TOP: BY EDWARD CURTIS; RIGHT: BY KARL BODMER —



Santa Fe is one of the oldest communities on this particular route, though, of course, some of the Indian pueblos have been in place far, far longer.

Visitors to Santa Fe can experience the trading culture at the 1610 Palace of the Governors, where native artisans spread their wares on blankets and rugs, selling everything from necklaces, bracelets and hair barrettes to knives. If you want to engage in some serious

trading, attend the Santa Fe Indian Market (held this year on August 21 and 22), which attracts hundreds of Indian vendors. At other times of the year, and all around the plaza, you'll find numerous shopping, dining and lodging opportunities. Then get back on the road, where you'll travel north on U.S. 84 through Espanola and follow Highway 68, heading toward Taos.



BEST OF THE ROAD

Lodging: Taos Inn (above, Taos, NM); Antlers Inn & River Rock Café (Walden, CO); Spirit West River Lodge (Riverside, WY); Wolf Hotel (Saratoga, WY); Irma Hotel (Cody, WY); Northern Hotel (Billings, MT); Rough Riders Hotel (Medora, ND).

Dining/Watering Holes: Doc Martin's Restaurant and the Adobe Bar (above, Taos, NM); Lisa's Restaurant (Greybull, WY).

The Road Less Traveled

Before you go to Taos, you should first make a stop at Chimayo to visit Ortega Weavers, so travel west from Espanola to Highway 76. At Ortega, you can find some of the top quality products of the region, ranging from rugs and wall hangings to clothing items like coats or vests.

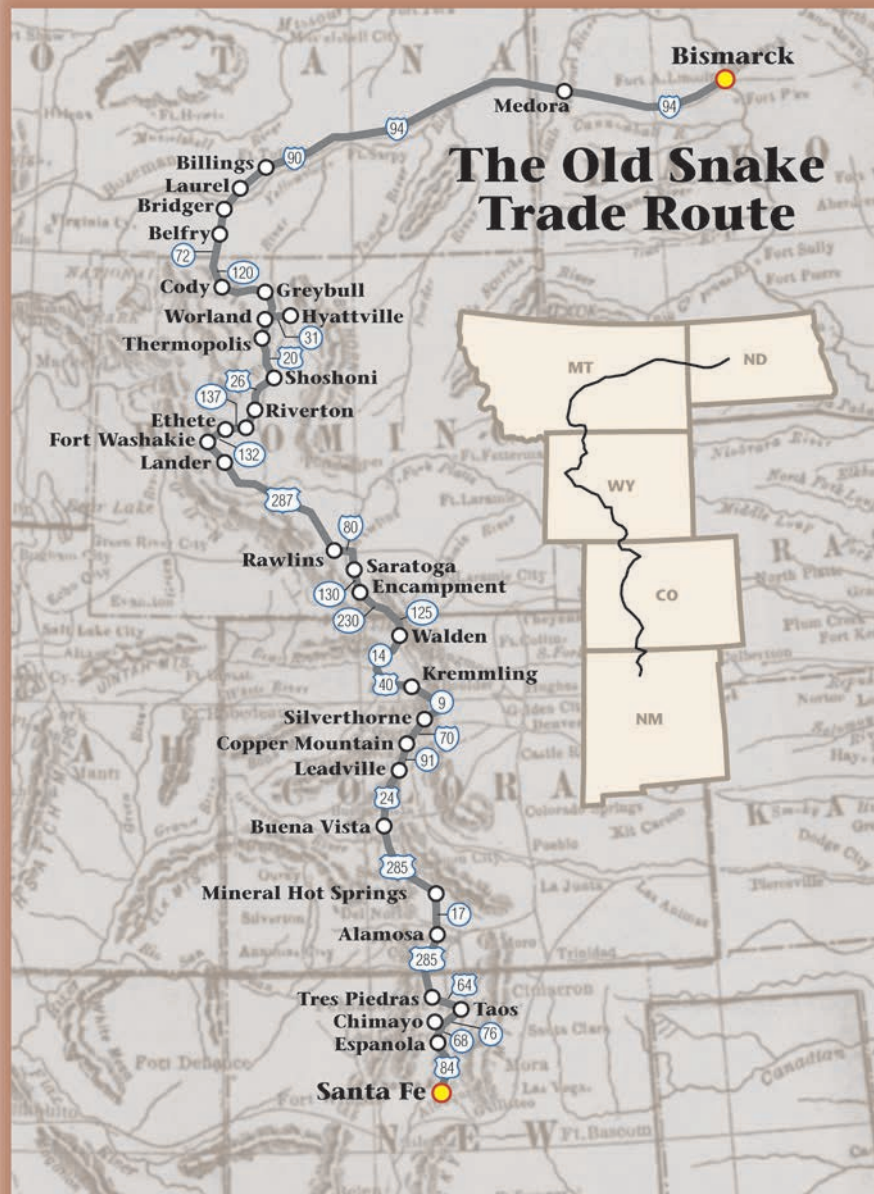
From Chimayo, take the High Road (Highway 76), driving through Cordova, Truchas and Las Trampas. This diversion connects with Highway 75, which you can either drive east to Highway 68 or continue west to Highway 518, following the road north toward Taos. The drive takes longer, since it is a mountain route, but the varied scenery is well worth the detour.

Taos Pueblo reflects very well the longevity of indigenous people along this trade route; the pueblo has been inhabited for more than 1,000 years. The crumbling walls of the church, where residents of the pueblo sought refuge during the 1847 Taos Revolt, and the nearby burial ground are tangible reminders of not only the longevity, but also the trials and tribulations of the people who have called this area home.

Like Santa Fe, today's Taos is a vibrant community with plenty to entice travelers and shoppers. You'll find anything from a good book to a drum to a pair of knee-high leather moccasins. For an overnight stay or refreshment break, you should visit the 1936 Taos Inn and its Adobe Bar.

Colorado Cruisin'

Leaving Taos, you should head northeast on U.S. 64 to Tres Piedras and continue northwest on U.S. 285 to Alamosa,



Colorado. This route will take you due north through the San Luis Valley on Highway 17 to Mineral Hot Springs, where the route reemerges with U.S. 285, taking you to Buena Vista. The drive through this section of Colorado—from Alamosa all the way to Buena Vista—is a visual treat from the open country of the San Luis Valley to the spectacular peaks that form the Continental Divide west of Buena Vista.

Continue north on U.S. 24 to Leadville, one of the highest elevation towns in the country. This historic silver boomtown is a must-see stop on the route. I recommend visiting the Heritage Museum, the National Mining Museum and Hall of Fame, and taking in a performance at the 1879 Tabor Opera House.

Highway 91 will take you out of Leadville and over Fremont Pass to merge with Interstate 70 at Copper Mountain. You won't find much Indian heritage at this popular ski resort or at any of the Colorado towns you'll be driving through to get to Wyoming. Yet history buffs might want to check out Fremont Pass, if you have the time. Guided by Kit Carson, explorer John C. Fremont discovered this Rocky Mountain pass in 1844 during his own travels in present-day Colorado.

Looking for Peace at the Hot Springs

Your next destination—Wyoming, my home state! Colorado's Highway 125 becomes Highway 230 when it enters Wyoming. This highway follows very near the Indian trade route, which also



became a part of the Cherokee Trail to California after 1850.

I'd be remiss if I did not invite you to stop at the Grand Encampment Museum. Its collection of Indian artifacts ranges from beadwork to stone points and tools. You can visit the museum from Memorial Day through Labor Day and on weekends in September. Admission is free, but like most museums, it will gladly accept donations.

From Encampment, you should resume your trip north on Highway 230, which turns into Highway 130 just 10 miles north of Encampment, and head into Saratoga. Indians from the Northern Ute, Arapaho, Shoshone and Sioux tribes originally camped near here, taking advantage of the hot mineral springs that are now a part of the Saratoga Hot Springs Hobo Pool (open free of charge around the year). Although the tribes occasionally fought battles with each other, historical reports confirm that, in the vicinity of the warm springs, the various tribes set aside their weapons, considering the mineral pools to be neutral ground.

During your visit, you should also soak in the hot mineral pools at the Saratoga Inn Resort. After your relaxing dip, you should go shopping, picking up some

good cowboy duds at Hat Creek or artwork at the Blackhawk Gallery (which I started with a friend back in 1982!).

Wind River Indians

Next up is Fort Washakie, the headquarters of the Shoshone tribe, which shares its Wind River Reservation with the Northern Arapahos. From Saratoga, you'll want to head north on Highway 130 to Interstate 80. Then you should travel west to Rawlins, before you turn north on U.S. 287 to Lander and Fort Washakie.

One of my favorite stops at the fort is the Gallery of the Wind, which offers a remarkable, museum-quality collection of Shoshone tribal items ranging from weapons to clothing. To learn more about Shoshone heritage, head east to Ethete and visit the Shoshone Tribal Interpretive Center.

To get a good dose of Northern Arapaho culture, I recommend you visit the Heritage Museum and the St.

What is now Medicine Lodge State Park was formerly a ranch near Hyattville. The rock wall near the park headquarters is literally covered with petroglyphs (see opposite page). During the ranching era, these walls served as a protective area at the edge of the corrals.

When excavations were undertaken at the site, archaeologists first had to remove years of accumulated cow manure before uncovering all of the rock art.

— ALL IMAGES BY CANDY MOULTON UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED —

Stephens Mission, which, since 1884, has had charge of the Arapaho Indians occupying the southeastern part of the Wind River Reservation. You'll find both Arapaho cultural sites by taking Highway 137 to St. Stephens.

Heading to Some Rockin' Art

With the Wind River Basin behind you, head into the Bighorn Basin by traveling northeast on U.S. 26 through Riverton to Shoshoni, and then north on U.S. 20 to Thermopolis.

The Shoshone Indians ceded a portion of their reservation in an event



CDs for the Ride: *Come Ride With Me* by Dave Stamey (Horse Camp Music); *Roads to Colorado* by Liz Masterson (Western Serenade Music); *Unwired: Western Jubilee Warehouse Live* by Wylie & the Wild West (Western Jubilee). **If You're in the Neighborhood:** In Medora, North Dakota, the Medora Musical plays nightly June 2 through September 5, 2010. In Grand Encampment, Wyoming, you can hear Juni Fisher, Western Music Association Vocalist of the Year, plus Al "Doc" Mehl and Washtub Jerry (see the tub bass player with his ukulele at right) on July 16-18, 2010, at the Grand Encampment Cowboy Gathering.



recognized annually in Thermopolis as the Gift of the Waters, to be held August 7, which memorializes their transfer of lands that included hot mineral pools. Like in Saratoga at the Hobo Pool, you can enjoy a free soak in Thermopolis at the Wyoming State Bathhouse. If you're looking for a more multi-faceted hot water experience, check out one of the commercial pools in the community.

You'll definitely want to make a stop at Worland, north on U.S. 20, as a new museum just opened up in May. While much of the Washakie Museum and Cultural Center will involve exhibits



Hundreds of images have been carved into the stone wall at Medicine Lodge State Park near Hyattville, Wyoming. Early travelers along the Old Snake Trade Route possibly carved these petroglyphs into the rock walls.

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related to paleontology, some exhibits share the stories of indigenous people, interpreted from discoveries made by archaeologists working in the region.

As you head north out of Worland on U.S. 20, I highly recommend a detour on Highway 31 east to Hyattville to visit Medicine Lodge State Park. At Medicine Lodge, you can take in more than 600 outstanding petroglyphs, "including some of the largest carved shields and animals on the Northwestern Plains," note authors James D. Keyser and Michael Klassen in their 2001 book *Plains Indian Rock Art*.

After a respite at Medicine Lodge, return to Greybull and drive west across the Big Horn Basin to Cody for a must-stop visit to the Plains Indian Museum at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. While at the historical center, you should also take the time to visit the Whitney Gallery of Western Art, where you can view impressive Western artworks by historic artists Karl Bodmer and Frederic Remington, and contemporary artists Arthur Amiotte, Kevin Red Star and James Bama.

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Experiencing Mandan Traditions

The Old Snake Trade Route continues north on Highway 120 to cross into Montana, where the highway changes to Montana 72, as you drive through Belfry and Bridger. For this *Renegade Road*, you're just going to be driving through this beautiful state, as the next stop is the North Dakota ranch that Teddy Roosevelt once owned.

At Laurel, you'll want to turn east on Interstate 90 through Billings, and take Interstate 94 to Medora, North Dakota, home to the Teddy Roosevelt National Park. Wild horses run in this natural range, so you won't want to miss seeing them at the park, before you head east to Bismarck and Mandan.

This region of North Dakota was home to Fort Mandan, where Ezekiel Williams returned Sha ha ka or Big White, the chief of the Mandans, after his travels to Washington, D.C. with Meriwether Lewis in 1806. The captain had made the offer to take Sha ha ka to Washington in gratitude for the aid the chief gave him and



William Clark when they first reached the area in 1804.

Centuries ago, Indian traders would travel the Old Snake Trade Route to Fort Mandan to exchange the turquoise and silver they brought with them from the region around Santa Fe and Taos, New Mexico, for corn, squash, beans, buffalo hides and other products common on the Northern Plains and among the Mandan tribe.

On-a-Slant Village—west of the Missouri River in Mandan at the historical site of Fort Abraham Lincoln—offers reconstructed lodges that allow visitors to experience what the Mandan village would have been like when occupied by the original inhabitants beginning in about 1575. After you experience the Mandan traditions at the village, I know of no better way to wrap up your journey than with a visit to Five Nations Gallery and Gifts in Mandan, where there are oh so many choices of trade goods you can take home.



Edward Curtis captured this photograph of a Mandan earthen lodge, with a bull boat resting by the doorway, in 1908. You can find a replicated Mandan earthen lodge at On-a-Slant Village inside Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park, near Washburn, North Dakota.

— INSET: BY EDWARD CURTIS —



Hot off the press.

SUMMER FICTION:

Cotton Smith's *Ride for Rule Cordell* (Leisure, \$6.99) rings with the clash of justice against Texas's greatest land grab. England's Lady Holt orders her gunslicks to kill the hold-out ranchers, while she buys off the governor and plans to replace the Texas Rangers with her henchmen. Though stubborn Ranger John Checker and poetic partner A.J. Bartlett get unexpected help from former savvy outlaw Rule Cordell, can the three still destroy that larcenous lady? As Bartlett's misquoted Tennyson says: "Theirs is but to do or die!"

Snake River Slaughter (Pinnacle, \$6.99) by W.W. and W.E. Johnstone has mountain man Matt Jensen riding to help a childhood friend. The beautiful and spunky Kitty Wellington has inherited a 20,000-acre ranch with a stampeding mortgage. To cancel this and make a profit, she wants to sell 500 thoroughbreds to the U.S. Army. But someone else wants the ranch and has hired 20 killers, posing as Idaho peace officers, to dry-gulch and rustle Kitty out of business. Jensen may be one of the best pistol fighters alive, but any gambling house boss will lay Jensen's chances at wiping the unknown's slate clean at 10 to one. —WILLIAM GARWOOD

In Tim Champlin's *Beecher Island* (Five Star, \$29.95), Matt Talbot, itinerant typesetter and reporter, becomes embroiled in the 1868 siege of 50 army scouts by hostile Cheyenne on Beecher Island in Colorado's Arikaree River. The situation



is desperate, so Talbot sneaks off to save his own life. He survives, yet he has to escape the charge of cowardice and betrayal. Despite the initial shallow portrayal of the Indians as ruthless savages, the novel draws us into Talbot's

redemption through a series of other adventures that demand his courage.

In an intriguing novel of post-Civil War history, *Sixteen Brides* (Bethany House, \$14.99) by Stephanie Grace Whitson, a group of 16 Midwestern widows heads to Nebraska, with kids in tow, to homestead. None of them desire a new husband, but at the Plum Grove station, they face a parade of lonely men looking for wives. Each one of the distinct, multi-layered women handles the pressures from the men and homestead life with personal grit. They tackle the trials and earn the respect of their children, as well as the men they come to love. —CYNTHIA GREEN



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—PHYLLIS MORREALE-DE LA GARZA

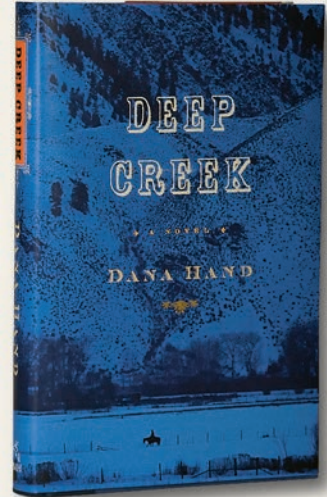
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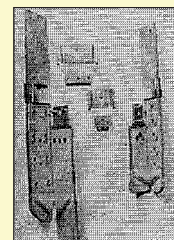
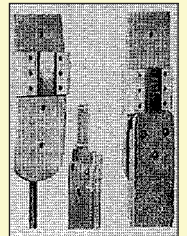
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Feel Lucky, Clint?

A wound of wonder in Two Mules for Sister Sara.

During the medically captivating scene in 1970's *Two Mules for Sister Sara*, Hogan (Clint Eastwood) lay in pain for about 70 minutes after being shot through the shoulder by a Yaqui Indian arrow.

Hogan is attended to by Sister (actually, prostitute) Sara (Shirley MacLaine), whom the gunfighter has asked to embark upon the critical task of removing the arrow. The head of the arrow passed completely through his clothing and shoulder, and is sticking out his back.

At the request of Hogan, Sara gathers some river moss that he says will “stop his flesh from putrefying.” The arrow appears to have entered Hogan’s shoulder just below and at about the midpoint of the clavicle (collarbone). Consuming whiskey by the gulp, Hogan asks Sara to cut a groove in the arrow shaft “deep enough for a good pinch of gunpowder.” He says, when lighted and pushed into the wound, the burning powder “. . . will cauterize the inside, they tell me.”

After Sara fills the groove with gunpowder, Hogan tells

her to cut and then break off the arrow shaft. Still somewhat cognitively intact, Hogan then slurs, “Now comes the hard part, ‘cause we got to time this perfect. As soon as I light the powder [with the famous “Eastwood” cigar], you drive the arrow through me and pull it out the other side.”

Sara asks, “What do I do it with?”

Hogan replies, “Take the knife and put the flat part over the end and hit it with [my] gun . . . and please Sister Sara . . . please hit it a straight blow, not a glancing one.”

“What if I don’t hit it straight?” asks Sara, to which Hogan groans, “The arrow will break off inside me.”

Then Sara asks, “What do I do with the moss?” Hogan replies: “Plug the holes, both sides. Push it in about half an inch.” He then mutters, “All right, one last swallow, and it’s up to you Doc.”

At the moment Hogan lights the powder, Sara, with unexpected skill and a single blow, punches the flaming powder into the wound, causing both Hogan and undoubtedly some members of the audience to lapse into unconsciousness. As instructed, Sara then scrambles behind Hogan and pulls the entire shaft through his shoulder.

The Yaqui arrow she pulls out of him appears to have a small, sharply acute, v-shaped, unbarbed head.

Anatomically, Hogan is very fortunate, since the arrow miraculously missed any vital structures. The latter is surprising, since the arrowhead should have easily hit bone, nerves and vessels. Especially at risk should have been the brachial nerves to the left arm, perhaps the subclavian vein and/or artery, a portion of the second rib or the top of the scapula (shoulder blade). The head of the arrow could have also easily caught the apex (top) of the upper lobe of the left lung causing a pneumothorax (collapsed lung) and a lethal outcome with bleeding into the chest cavity.

Hogan’s request that his wound “holes” be packed with “moss,” however, adds a medically accurate, important treatment dimension to his ordeal. Although the type of moss is not specified, there is a reasonably high probability that using almost any moss as described may have helped to prevent infection. Some modern researchers have concluded that certain moss-associated molds (e.g. penicillium) or even bacteria may be the real source of antibacterial activity in some of the moss species found in the dry climate of northern Mexico where Hogan was wounded.

This dramatic depiction of treating a seemingly uncomplicated arrow wound, in the absence of formal medical attention, is fairly realistic. I give the scene a medical “B-plus,” for two reasons. Two markdowns (from perfect A-plus) are earned because Hogan was spared injury to anything anatomically important, an unlikely scenario given the size and trajectory of the arrowhead, not the shaft. Another markdown is earned by his not unexpected, unrealistically rapid recovery. After all, within hours, he blows up a bridge trestle, wrecks a train and kills a dozen “bad guys,” before he jumps, fully clothed, into a bathtub with “Sister” Sara, once her clerical ruse has been discovered.



Dr. Jim Kornberg holds an MD and an ScD. He is an environmental medicine physician and an engineer. He lives with his wife Sally on their ranch in the mountains of southwestern Colorado.



Hogan downs whiskey to deal with the tremendous pain from his arrow wound (see his facial expression below). When Sister Sara carves a niche in the shaft of the arrow that is lodged through Hogan’s shoulder, the impressed gunfighter says to her, “That’s right, you are married to a carpenter,” referring to Jesus. Read the article to find out if her treatment is up to Frontier Doc’s standards.

– COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES –



In a six-team stagecoach you had the leaders (front two animals) and the wheelers (ones closest to the coach). Do you know what the middle team of horses or mules was called?

Troy Kelly
Johnson City, New York

The middle pair is known as the swing team; these horses help a six-horse hitch round the corners. The swings are generally bigger than the leaders, but not as big as the wheelers. The wheel team is responsible for most of the pulling and actually steers the stagecoach.

I've been watching the miniseries *Comanche Moon*, which features an Indian attack on a town. Did that ever really happen?

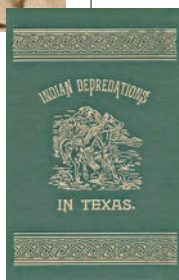
John Redshaw, True West Maniac 776
Beaumont, AB, Canada

Comanches did raid towns, especially before 1865. The classic instances were the raids in Victoria and Linnville, Texas. Under the Comanche moon of early August 1840, some 400 to 1,000 warriors under Buffalo Hump cut a swath of destruction through the area.

First, they swarmed over the town of Victoria, looting and killing. Next, they



Comanche warriors like these may have fought in the "Great Raid of 1840." After Republic of Texas officials attempted to capture 33 Comanche chiefs who had come to negotiate a treaty, the Comanche, under Buffalo Hump, raided southeast Texas. J.W. Wilbarger compiled stories of more than 250 Indian attacks from the 1820s-70s in his blatantly biased yet classic book *Indian Depredations in Texas* (right), published in 1890.



In 1889, photographer John C.H. Grabill captured two six-horse hitch teams as the Cheyenne and Black Hills Stageline stagecoaches crossed a bridge. Notice the men are waving and tipping their hats to the photographer.

— ALL IMAGES TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED —

hit the seaport town of Linnville. Parson Joel Ponton was captured; the Indians cut off the soles of his feet and forced him to walk for miles before scalping him. While the Comanche looted and burned the town, Linnville citizens escaped in boats and floated offshore. Judge John Hays was so mad at the pillaging, he came back and shouted at the Comanches, while waving an empty shotgun. Believing him to be crazy, the warriors ignored him.

Texas Rangers under Capt. Ben McCulloch, Mat "Old Paint" Caldwell and Ed Bureson pursued the Comanche, who were pushing 2,000 stolen horses and packing plenty of booty, which slowed them down. The warriors began discarding their loot, thus leaving an easy trail to follow. Rangers caught up with them at Plum Creek. In a running fight that tracked for some 15 miles, the Rangers gave the raiders a sound beating.

In many Westerns, the women have long hair or long hair pulled back in a bun. Was that the fashion of the day?

Sydna Lefebvre
Tacoma, Washington

Women's hairstyles varied just like they do today. Looking at Old West photos you'll see a pretty wide variety—in a bun, curled, straight and parted in the middle.

Most women wore their hair long and kept it pulled up and off their shoulders. Short cuts didn't really become the rage until the 1920s flappers bobbed their hair.

In general, women on the frontier had to style their own hair—or perhaps get some help from a family member or friend. With the exception of big cities like San Francisco the indulgence of a hairstylist would not have been found in Old West towns.

Do you know anything about lawman Commodore Perry Owens and his missing loot? I read about it in a 1978 issue of *Lost Treasure* magazine.

Darin Lee
Florence, Arizona

Supposedly, during the 1880s, a dozen bandits buried their loot in caches at Mexican Pocket, an area south of Flagstaff, Arizona. Legend has it several caches were found, but another \$80,000 is still missing.

Jo Baeza, a writer-historian who knows that area as well as anyone, tells me: "I never heard the story, but Owens stories abound. My guess is the author was told this story by some old-timer, and he printed it as fact without any backup." She suggests anyone with a serious interest may ask for more information from the Cline Library in Flagstaff.

These old tales often have some basis for truth. To lend credence to their tales, storytellers frequently name-dropped famous places and people, like Owens. These stories take one down the path of plausibility, but the reader has to figure out when to get off.

I have reviewed a number of lost treasure books, and I believe they are about 90-percent fantasy. Still, lost

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, PO Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at marshall.trimble@sccmail.maricopa.edu

treasure stories make up some of the best folklore we have in the West.

Why do cowboys always mount the horse from the left side?

Oscar Trusty
Alexandria, Louisiana

The custom of mounting a horse from the left side dates back at least to medieval times. Most warriors were right-handed and carried their weapons on the right side. Naturally, they preferred to mount from the left.

Why do we have so few photos of Tombstone from the Fly studio? Supposedly, C.S. Fly and his wife took thousands of shots during their time in Arizona.

Mundo Osterberg
Peoria, Arizona



Actually, quite a few of the Fly prints have survived, but the glass plate negatives were reportedly destroyed in a fire at the Phelps Dodge Mercantile Company warehouse in Bisbee during the early 1900s. Other plates were destroyed through improper storage. Still other works were lost sometime around 1912 when flames engulfed Fly's Photo Gallery in Tombstone. We just don't know exactly what all was lost to history.

Fortunately for us, some negatives were purchased for \$105 from Mollie Fly just before the gallery burned. Many of those photos were later published in a booklet called *Geronimo the Apache Chief*.

To learn more about C.S. Fly, Jeremy Rowe's book *Photographers in Arizona 1850-1920* has some information and James Serven wrote a story about him in the February 1970 *Arizona Highways* Magazine.



The rider in the center foreground is alleged to be Camillus S. Fly, Tombstone's famous photographer, although we know of little provenance for the claim.

- COURTESY ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY -

UPCOMING Wild Horse and Burro ADOPTIONS



Peter Robbins Photo

June 5	Lakeport, CA
June 10 -12	Artesia, NM
June 11 - 12	Longview, WA
June 18 - 19	Swanzey, NH
June 26	Catlett, VA
June 25 - 26	Fort Smith, AR
July 8 - 10	Rosenberg, TX
July 15 - 19	Flagstaff, AZ
July 16 - 17	Harrington, DE
July 16 - 17	Gainesville, GA
July 23 - 24	Versailles, KY



Fort Collins, Colorado
June 11-13

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What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

The Artist Ride is going stronger than ever after 26 years. It is held once a year at the Shearer Ranch, 20 miles north of Wall, South Dakota. About 150 authentic Old West models provide scrap for the artists. The ride is so popular that we now have to set limits on how many artists can come each year. Right now we have slots for 50 artists.

I prefer my manual film camera for the rich darks and lights (thanks to back lighting). Also, digital cameras have a sensor that corrects the “mistakes” it thinks I am making in my images.

My daddy always told me work hard and show up on time. Also, wear comfortable shoes.

I got the history bug at a very early age. I was tutored by my great-great aunt (born in 1879), who used to tell me stories of her mother feeding the Indians in her backyard in Illinois. I also grew up hearing war stories. My father’s cousin, Leslie Short, was credited by Admiral Nimitz with shooting down the first Japanese aircraft at Pearl Harbor. My father Boyd was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross for his service in a B-24 Bomber in WW II. And my uncle Jack Flavin served with Gen. Patton.

What most people don’t know about me is I was offered a job as a cartoonist for *Mad Magazine* by Al Feldstein in 1997. I turned the job down because it meant moving to New York City.

The first time I visited the Little Bighorn Battlefield I was hitchhiking during the summer of 1975. I got a private tour from one of the park rangers. The next day I ran into the film crew for 1976’s *The Missouri Breaks* in Billings. I eventually went on to work at the battlefield as a seasonal park ranger for two summers.

The aspect of the battle that intrigues me most is the Lakota/Cheyenne ledger drawings completed just after the battle. This is eyewitness testimony, by the participants, of precise action between soldier and native.

Don’t get me started on the whole Custer-Benteen-Reno thing! Too many people have a “dog in the hunt!”

I have been working in movies since August of 1989. I consider my first film, *Dances With Wolves*, to be the Western version of *Avatar*.

I have done some 70 shows, and my favorite work was on TNT’s 1997 movie *The Rough Riders*. I served as one of 20 technical advisors and military trainers. We worked from pre-production to the wrap party. The camaraderie was



JIM HATZELL, ARTIST

Jim Hatzell is a graduate of the American Academy of Art from his native Chicago. He moved to Rapid City, South Dakota, in 1981 and works as a freelance artist, photographer and stage hand, and on assorted film crew jobs. He worked on *Dances With Wolves*, *Far and Away*, *Gettysburg*, *Ride with the Devil*, *Wyatt Earp*, *Hidalgo* and, most recently, *America Before Columbus*. Since 1997, he has directed the annual Artist Ride (held this year on August 20-22). The ride is invitation only, but people can visit ArtistRide.com for more information on how to participate. Jim lives with his patient wife Jacqui, who makes it all possible.

excellent, much like being in the military, and Director John Milius made you want to do your best work. It was a big party, with a terrific group of dedicated guys!

The biggest problem with getting an authentic look in Westerns is some people in authority don’t know any better . . . and don’t care. I still can’t believe that the 1994 film *Maverick* got an Academy Award nomination for costume design! It costs just as much to get it right.

The Western I would love to see is a miniseries remake of the book *The Searchers*, done in the same style as 1989’s *Lonesome Dove*. A lot was left out of the two-hour 1956 film. I would also like to see the movie script *Bitterroot* finally come to the screen. John McTiernan almost got to make it back in 1993. It’s about the flight of the Nez Perce to Canada in 1877.

History has taught me when you are walking down a road, and you come to a fork in that road, take it!



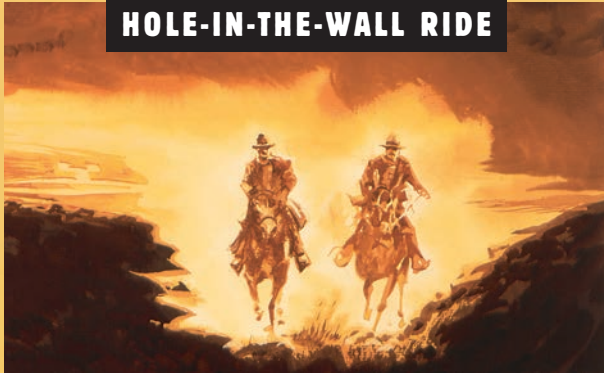
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