

**DESTINATION: 18 GRAND HOTELS OF THE WEST**

OUR 60TH YEAR

MAY 2013

# TRUE WEST

THE AMERICAN WEST

## TEXAS RANGERS

### DEATH ON THE LINE

**The Apache Wars  
in Apache Words**

**The Wild Ride of  
Hank Monk**

**Glenn Boyer:  
The Icon is Dead**

**The Wild Bunch:  
A Bone-Splitting Shot**



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# THE HARRISBURG AUCTION

JULY 15 - 20\* ★ HARRISBURG, PA

Early in our Nation's history... pioneers considered Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to be the "Gateway to the West". Three decades ago, the then Mayor of the Pennsylvania state capital saw the wisdom in creating a museum paying homage to those pioneering days. To create the magnificent institution he envisioned, the City spent millions for the acquisition of rare artifacts pertaining to the Old West. In the process, the Mayor also saw fit to assemble collections relating to the Civil War, forms of American Folk Art, and other historic collectibles.

For various reasons, the Old West museum that the Mayor dreamt of was never built. The staggering collection he amassed on behalf of the City - consisting of more than 8,000 antiques, artifacts, guns, and rare documents - has languished in Harrisburg's storage facilities. Now, in what is certain to be a massive and glorious event to be held in Harrisburg this July, Guernsey's will be presenting at **Unreserved Auction** this magnificent Collection. Those interested are urged to either follow Guernsey's website ([www.guernseys.com](http://www.guernseys.com)) for auction updates or feel free to contact Guernsey's directly.

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(\* As this is going to press, the Auction is scheduled for July 15 -20. Due to the remarkable number of items to be sold, one or two auction days may be added. Previewing will be July 12-14.)



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# The John Wayne Tribute Rifle

Left side of the barrel features John Wayne's signature, and inset into the stock is a 24-karat gold-plated medallion with John Wayne's portrait. The handsome walnut stocks are checkered and finished to a high gloss, and the hammer and trigger are polished and decorated in 24-karat gold.

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John Wayne stood larger than life on the silver screen, and just as tall in real life. During his long career, he appeared in more than 150 films, and audiences around the world recognized him as the one man who best represented the patriotic spirit of America.

More than 25 years after his death, John Wayne still ranks among the top 10 most popular movie stars in the annual Harris Poll, and his movies continue to be viewed by millions of Americans, ensuring his status as a legendary American icon.

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Now, America Remembers, with authorization from John Wayne Enterprises, LLC proudly announces the John Wayne Tribute



UNDER ATTACK

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Rifle, a handsomely decorated firearm issued in remembrance and tribute to this distinguished American and legendary Western film star.

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the world's premier maker of historical firearms recreations. Every metal surface of the John Wayne Tribute Rifle is finished in a mirror-polished, lustrous deep blue by craftsmen commissioned for this project by America Remembers. The receiver features artwork in 24-karat gold and scrollwork in the tradition of the finest presentation firearms.

Only 3500 John Wayne Tribute Rifles have been authorized for this edition and demand is expected to be very strong. Reservations will be accepted in the order they are received. We will arrange delivery of your working Tribute through a licensed dealer of your choice. If for any reason you are less than satisfied, you may return the Tribute in original unfired condition within 30 days for a complete and courteous refund. Act today to secure your own Tribute before the edition closes.

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The right side of the receiver features a scene familiar to every fan of Western classics. In it, John Wayne leads the U.S. Cavalry through the buttes and dry gullies of desolate Monument Valley. Above the scene flies a banner that reads "John Wayne."



Left side of the receiver features John Wayne as a wagon train scout, leading settlers and a cavalry escort through Apache territory. This scene was taken from the painting, "Under Attack," by famed Western artist Frank McCarthy. And if you look closely, you will see a rifle in John Wayne's right hand! Handsome scrollwork in the tradition of the finest firearms frames the artwork, with all artwork being featured in stunning 24-karat gold.

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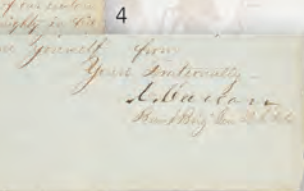
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## LEGENDS OF THE WILD WEST III



Our March True West ad pictured an assortment of outstanding items sold in our December 2012 "Legends of the Wild West II" auction. Here are additional lots from that great event! Please don't miss our May 4th "Legends" auction, which will present another fine selection of vintage Old West collectibles. You may view all lots and bid online starting about three weeks before the auction at [HA.com/Live](http://HA.com/Live), or see the instructions below for ordering a glossy, full-color catalog picturing all items in the auction.

1. Stereoview: Photograph of Indians at the Gallery  
**Realized: \$5,377**
2. California Gold Rush: James Marshall Discovery Relic Brooch  
**Realized: \$35,850**
3. George Armstrong Custer: One of the Most Important Original From-Life Photographic Images Ever to Come to Market  
**Realized: \$83,650**
4. Christopher "Kit" Carson: Monumentally Rare and Important Signed Letter with Great Western Content  
**Realized: \$47,800**
5. Buffalo Bill's Wild West: Sought-After Classic "White Eagle" Poster  
**Realized: \$14,340**
6. George Armstrong Custer: Personal Gun Belt with Holster, Cartridge or Dispatch Box, and Brass Buckle  
**Realized: \$71,700**
7. Fine Single Action Colt Army Revolver, Shipped to Famed El Paso Merchants Ketelson and Degetau in 1888, the Wood Grips with Nine Notches  
**Realized: \$10,755**

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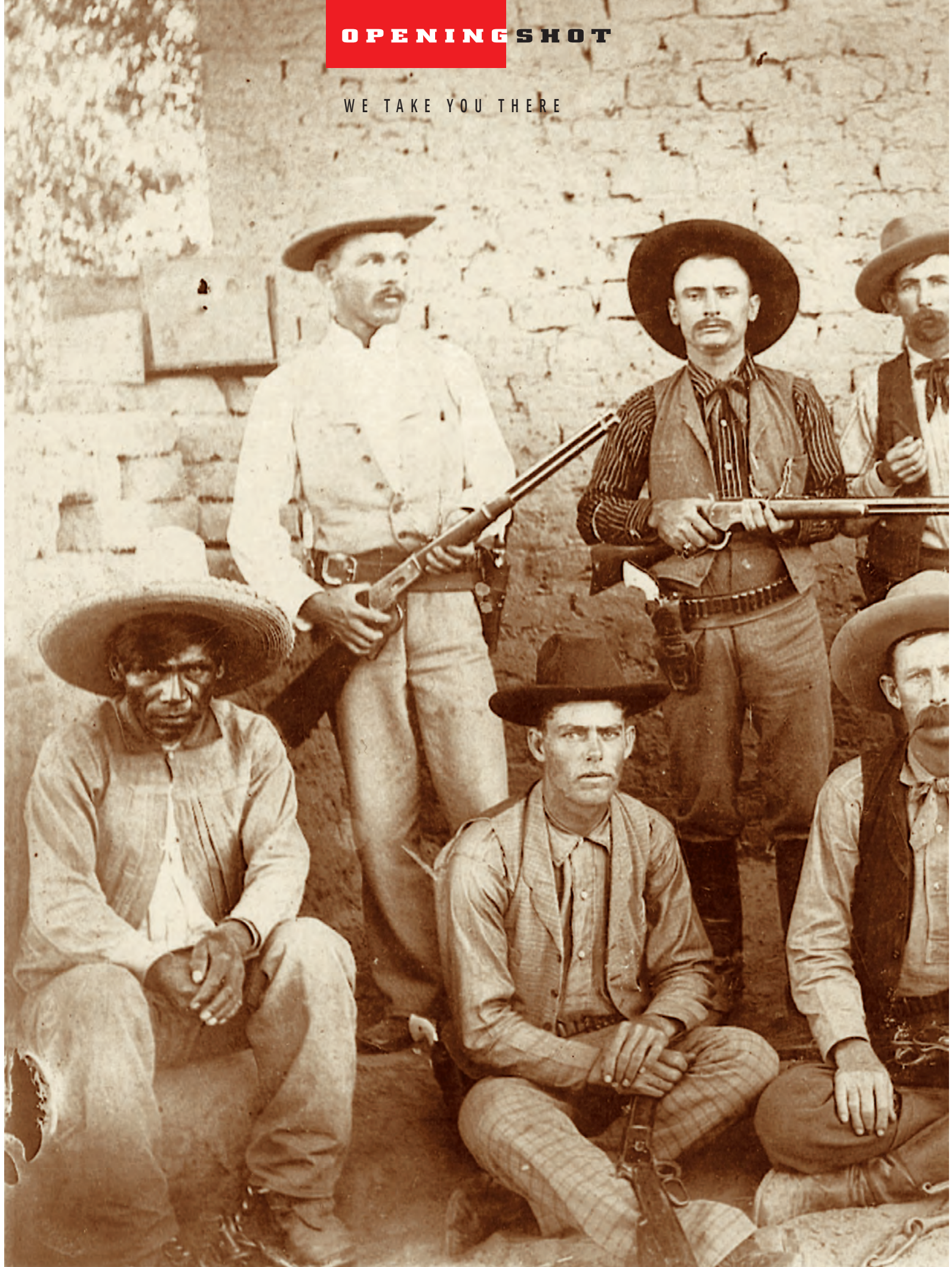
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### **A CHASTENED RANGER**

When Texas Ranger Capt. John R. Hughes saw this photo of him (far right) with his Company D Rangers, he about had a fit. George Tucker, the young man next to the Mexican prisoner at far left, had left his holstered revolver within the prisoner's reach. The furious captain fired Tucker, although he later calmed down and rehired him. As Bern Keating noted in *An Illustrated History of the Texas Rangers*, "The captain gave the Mexican credit for enormous courage (or foolishness) if he thought him capable of drawing a six-shooter against that arsenal of Ranger weapons."



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

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May 2013, Vol. 60, #5, Whole #520. True West (ISSN 0041-3615) is published twelve times a year (January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December) by True West Publishing, Inc., 6702 E. Cave Creek Rd, Suite #5 Cave Creek, AZ 85331. 480-575-1881. Periodical postage paid at Cave Creek, AZ 85327, and at additional mailing offices. Canadian GST Registration Number R132182866.

Single copies: \$5.99. U.S. subscription rate is \$29.95 per year (12 issues); \$49.95 for two years (24 issues).

POSTMASTER: Please send address change to: True West, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327. Printed in the United States of America. Copyright 2013 by True West Publishing, Inc.

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Arizona, Texas and Rocky Mountain: We've got your favorite photos from all three Ranger outfits, at [Pinterest.com/TrueWestMag](http://Pinterest.com/TrueWestMag)



Go behind the scenes of True West with Bob Boze Bell and see the newest round of the artist's daily "Whipped Out" series, at [Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com](http://Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com)



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"Hey city boy, that ain't no lost dog!"  
—Gordon Gruener of Kingman, Arizona—



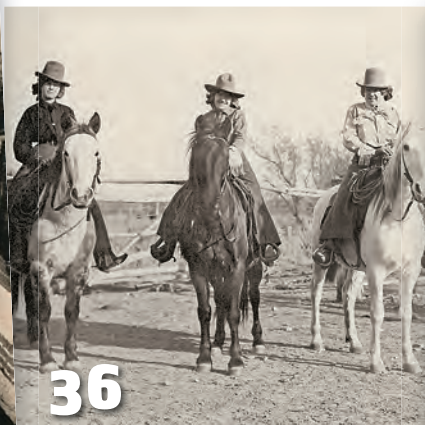
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Composite photo cover image by Dan Harshberger.

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An everyday call to investigate cow stealing results in the first Ranger Force death along the Texas-Mexico border.  
—Bob Alexander

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The Fort Sill Apache chairman looks back 150 years as he marks the centennial release of Apache prisoners of war in Oklahoma.  
—Jeff Haozous

**36 "SERIOUS COW PEOPLE"**

Tracking down the three Montana sisters captured by Evelyn Cameron's camera and admired by Teddy Roosevelt.  
—Sue Hansen

**64 THE "ICON" IS DEAD**

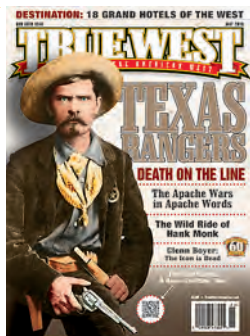
A look back at the controversial Wyatt Earp historian Glenn Boyer, who died this past February.  
—Mark Boardman

**72 GRAND HOTELS OF THE WEST**

Paying tribute to an American invention by highlighting grand hotels you can stay at while visiting our Old West heritage towns.  
—John Stanley

**Watch our videos!**

By scanning your mobile device over any of the QR codes in this magazine, you can instantly stream original True West videos or be instantly transported to our websites.





CELEBRATING OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Western artist Chuck DeHaan's first cover for *True West* was this one, appearing on our February 1967 issue. The rodeo cowboy began getting national attention for his artwork in the 1960s, and by 1984, he earned a Golden Spur from Western Writers of America for "Best Western Cover Art." That cover? It was for our sister publication, *Frontier Times*. DeHaan is still an artist to this day; you can find his prints at Guildhall in Fort Worth, Texas.



"Flip side of the coin is, us old cowboys look in a mirror and see a young kid."

- Dennis Heath of Santa Fe, New Mexico, from Facebook.com/TrueWestMag -

# Grand Destinations

*We not only take you there, we show you where to stay.*

**L**ast summer, I took my family on an extended road trip through Colorado, where we got into the Rockies and had some major fun.

We spent time in historic Creede, where outlaw Robert Ford said “adios” and where this summer’s upcoming film *The Lone Ranger* was filming. We then traveled to Gunnison, Black Hawk, Estes Park, Greeley (where I custom ordered a new hat from Greeley Hat Works), then down to Denver (where we stayed at the historic Oxford Hotel).

At Colorado Springs, I got a personal tour of the Broadmoor Resort from my musician friend Lewis Mock. While we were walking through the historic and elegant halls, I spotted a friend of mine on the wall: Hugh O’Brian (and “friend”) were photographed lounging poolside in the early 1960s. The Broadmoor is a spectacular property, and I love it when history and grandeur collide: Hugh O’Brian played Wyatt Earp and met the TV show’s creator Stuart Lake, who, of course, knew Earp. How’s that for four degrees of Wyatt Earp?

In this issue, we are launching a five-star award for Old West heritage travel destinations in order to help you find and enjoy the best of the West. These

destinations might be a town, a historic site, a museum, a restaurant or even a hotel, like those featured on p. 72. Look for our distinctive plaque when you travel the West. These destinations will also be available on *TWMag.com* (and, in the future, on mobile device applications). Always remember: We take you there.



Hugh O’Brian and “friend,” that’s the caption for this framed photo that hangs in the hallway of the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Of course, our good friend Hugh played Wyatt Earp in the ABC series *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp*, which is showing once again on Encore’s Westerns channel. When I called Hugh and asked him to name the “friend,” he couldn’t remember her name (in his defense, he was a lifelong bachelor, finally marrying at age 81).

— Courtesy Broadmoor Resort —



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

Quotes

“One is Hip or one is Square (the alternative which each new generation coming into American life is beginning to feel), one is a rebel or one conforms, one is a frontiersman in the Wild West of American night life, or else a Square cell, trapped in the totalitarian tissues of American society, doomed willy-nilly to conform if one is to succeed.”

– Norman Mailer, 1957, in an essay on hipsters, titled “The White Negro”

“The manner in which it is given is worth more than the gift.”

– Pierre Corneille, French playwright

**“The facts are always less than what really happened.”**

– Nadine Gordimer, South African novelist

“I am opposed to millionaires, but it would be dangerous to offer me the position.”

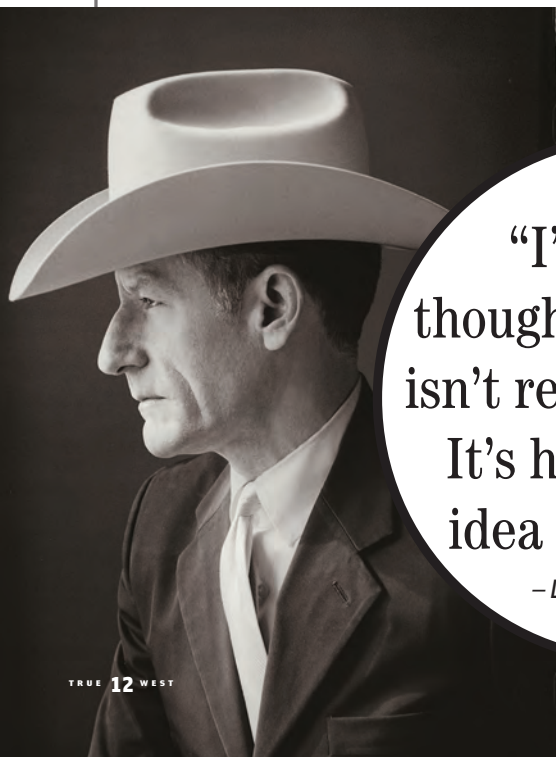
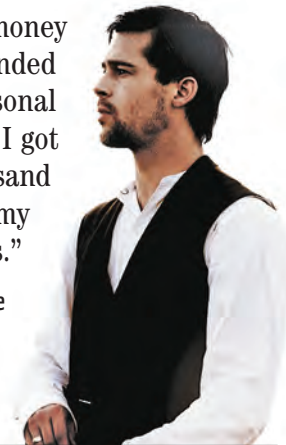
–Mark Twain

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO



“That movie actually cost me money to make! I took peanuts and ended up taking on a lot of my own personal costs, which outweighed what I got paid. I lost a few hundred thousand dollars, but it’s still one of my favorite films.”

–Brad Pitt, on 2007’s *The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*, in *The Hollywood Reporter*



“I’ve always thought that writing isn’t really that hard. It’s having a good idea that’s hard.”

– Lyle Lovett, in *Esquire*

Old Vaquero Saying



“Find what scares you, and do it.”

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# The Fighting Parson's Fallout

*Chivington's actions at Sand Creek lead to acts of repentance from the United Methodist Church.*

**F**or many American Indians, events of the past—even the distant past—are as real and present as something that occurred yesterday.

The Sand Creek Massacre is one of those. For one church denomination, that long-ago tragedy still resonates today.

On November 29, 1864, some 700 Colorado militia attacked a Cheyenne and Arapaho camp. An estimated 150 Indians, about two-thirds of whom were women, children and old men, were killed. Soldiers mutilated the dead and took some body parts as “trophy” for later display in Denver saloons and theaters.

Militia leaders initially proclaimed the incident to be a great battle victory. But press and government investigations soon showed otherwise. Two of the militia officers—who refused to fight at Sand Creek—said the attack was committed against unarmed civilians. The soldiers had even ignored an American flag and a white flag flown over the Indian lodges. (In fairness, Gregory Michno, in his book *Battle at Sand Creek: The Military Perspective*, disputes many of these long-accepted details and states the incident was a real battle—albeit with atrocities committed afterward by the soldiers.)

Sand Creek had ramifications for two principles who lost their positions: Colorado Territorial Gov. John Evans, who authorized the action, and Col. John Chivington, who ordered and led the attack. Evans remained a highly respected Colorado businessman, while Chivington drifted for the remaining 30 years of his life.



Col. John M. Chivington

Under Territorial Gov. John Evans's order, “Go in pursuit of all hostile Indians ... kill and destroy,” Col. John M. Chivington (inset) led the Colorado Volunteers to the massacre at Sand Creek.

— Sand Creek Battle Ground photo courtesy Sand Creek National Historic Site; Chivington photo True West Archives —

## The Methodist church formally expressed regret for the Sand Creek Massacre.

Ever since that terrible day, the event has brought forth theological fallout. That's because “Fighting Parson” Chivington had been an ordained Methodist minister prior to taking up the sword in 1861 to fight in the Civil War. Evans had been a lay leader in the Methodist church in Indiana, Illinois and Colorado. Both had been instrumental in founding the seminary that became the University of Denver.

The church saw its ties with men associated with a massacre as problematic. Practically every time Sand Creek was mentioned, Chivington was identified as a Methodist pastor.

In 1996, at a meeting of the church's global representatives, the now-United Methodist Church formally expressed regret for the Sand Creek Massacre, publicly apologizing for the “actions of a prominent Methodist.”

But within the church, an apology is not enough. The faithful must continually enact repentance—ultimately seeking a reconciliation with those who have been wronged and with God.

Which is why, in 2008, the denomination authorized a \$50,000 donation to the Sand Creek Massacre Learning Center, located at the site of the incident. In 2012, delegates approved a measure that supports the return of the Sand Creek tribes' artifacts and human remains. In 2016, the global conference expects to hear a report disclosing the full Methodist involvement in the Sand Creek Massacre.

The Sand Creek killings still haunt a lot of people; it may do so for a long time yet.

That may not be the end of the church's efforts. Rev. Stephen Sidorak Jr. says, “We will never get a grip on our need for repentance until we grasp the breadth and depth of the historical injuries sustained by indigenous ancestors and the lasting wounds inflicted upon their descendants.”



Mark Boardman is the features editor for *True West* and a local pastor in the United Methodist Church.

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Photo by: John Wheland Photography

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April 19 - 20	Jonesboro, AR	Arkansas State University Equine Center
<b>April 19 - 21</b>	<b>Kingman, AZ</b>	<b>Mohave County Fairgrounds</b>
April 26 - 27	Springfield, OH	Champions Center
<b>April 26 - 27</b>	<b>Powell, WY</b>	<b>NW College Ag Pavilion</b>
May 10 - 11	Murray, KY	Murray State University
<b>May 17 - 18</b>	<b>Decorah, IA</b>	<b>Winneshiek County Fairgrounds</b>
May 22 - June 5	Internet Adoption	See BLM.gov
<b>May 31 - June 1</b>	<b>Hutchinson, KS</b>	<b>Hutchinson Correctional Facility</b>
June 21 - 22	Bentonville, AR	Benton County Fairgrounds
<b>June 21 - 22</b>	<b>Ewing, IL</b>	<b>Ewing Wild Horse Facility</b>

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April 26 & 28	Fort Worth, TX	John Justin Arena
<b>April 27</b>	<b>Burns, OR</b>	<b>BLM Burns Corrals</b>
May 4	Murfreesboro, TN	Tennessee Livestock Center
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Norco, CA</b>	<b>George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center</b>
May 10 & 12	Fort Worth, TX	John Justin Arena
May 11	Elm Creek, NE	BLM Elm Creek Corrals

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# Main Street Dreams

*The Zuni Pueblo governor brings hope to the first American Indian Main Street community.*

**M**ain Street has a particular meaning in America. It's where everything started, and where great memories still live. For Zuni Gov. Arlen Quetawki, Main Street means new life and opportunities for his tribe.

For the Zuni Pueblo of New Mexico, Main Street is Route 53. In July 2012, Zuni Pueblo became the first American Indian community to be designated a Main Street site by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The New Mexico Economic Development Department helped win the honor to commemorate the 47th state's centennial.

Zuni's Main Street isn't much now—a restaurant, a few shops—and it does not provide enough jobs in a community where unemployment reaches as high as 67 percent. Governor Quetawki hopes the Main Street's grants and economic development guidance will change that.

The largest of 19 pueblos in the state, Zuni is about 35 miles south of Gallup, which has been the beneficiary of Zuni's poor business climate. Without their own grocery store or shopping malls, pueblo residents spend their money in Gallup. "We

want money to stay here," the governor says. "We want new businesses that hire our own people, and I think we can do that."

He wants something else, as well: "We want people to know about us and our historical traditions."

The Zunis count themselves as the "first people in this region," the governor says. Traditionally farmers, they were one of the



As part of the New Mexico Main Street Program, Zuni Pueblo members will find support from Zuni Gov. Arlen Quetawki and Jon Barela (inset, from left) to help the community become self-sufficient and create opportunities to share its history with others.

— True West Archives; inset: courtesy New Mexico Economic Development —

few tribes not displaced by the federal government as America expanded westward. The governor says their rich culture includes fascinating social dances, animal fetishes for which they are most famous and turquoise and silver jewelry.

**"We want to bring people home."**

The governor saw the great needs of his people when he came into office in 2011. A Main Street grant appealed to him, and he was surprised to discover the state had

proposed that idea several years ago, only to be turned down by a previous tribal administration. He embraced the idea, and he hopes the tribe will too. "[The government is] here to support the effort, not to dictate it," he says. "The community's going to make it or break it."

He's betting the tribe will make it, as is New Mexico Economic Development

Cabinet Secretary Jon Barela. He notes the initial grant of \$75,000 is just to get things going. The designation of Zuni Pueblo as a Main Street community means ongoing grants to the pueblo for planning, redevelopment and restoration of its Main Street.

"The Main Street project is important to New Mexico," he adds. "It leads to job creation and a rural renaissance of quality of life.... We get back 19 dollars for every dollar we spend."

New Mexico has 22 Main Street programs already and is looking for more. "In 10 years, we've created over 4,000 jobs in rural communities through the Main Street program," Secretary Barela says.

Governor Quetawki is counting on that kind of success to revitalize his entire Pueblo. "We have an enrolled tribal population of 11,000, but a lot of our people are living elsewhere—Phoenix, Albuquerque—because that's where the employment and educational opportunities are. We want to bring people home." ❏

**Jana Bommersbach** has been Arizona's Journalist of the Year and has won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She is the author of two nationally-acclaimed true crime books and a member of Women Writing the West.



Lone Ranger



Captain Jack



Samuel Colt

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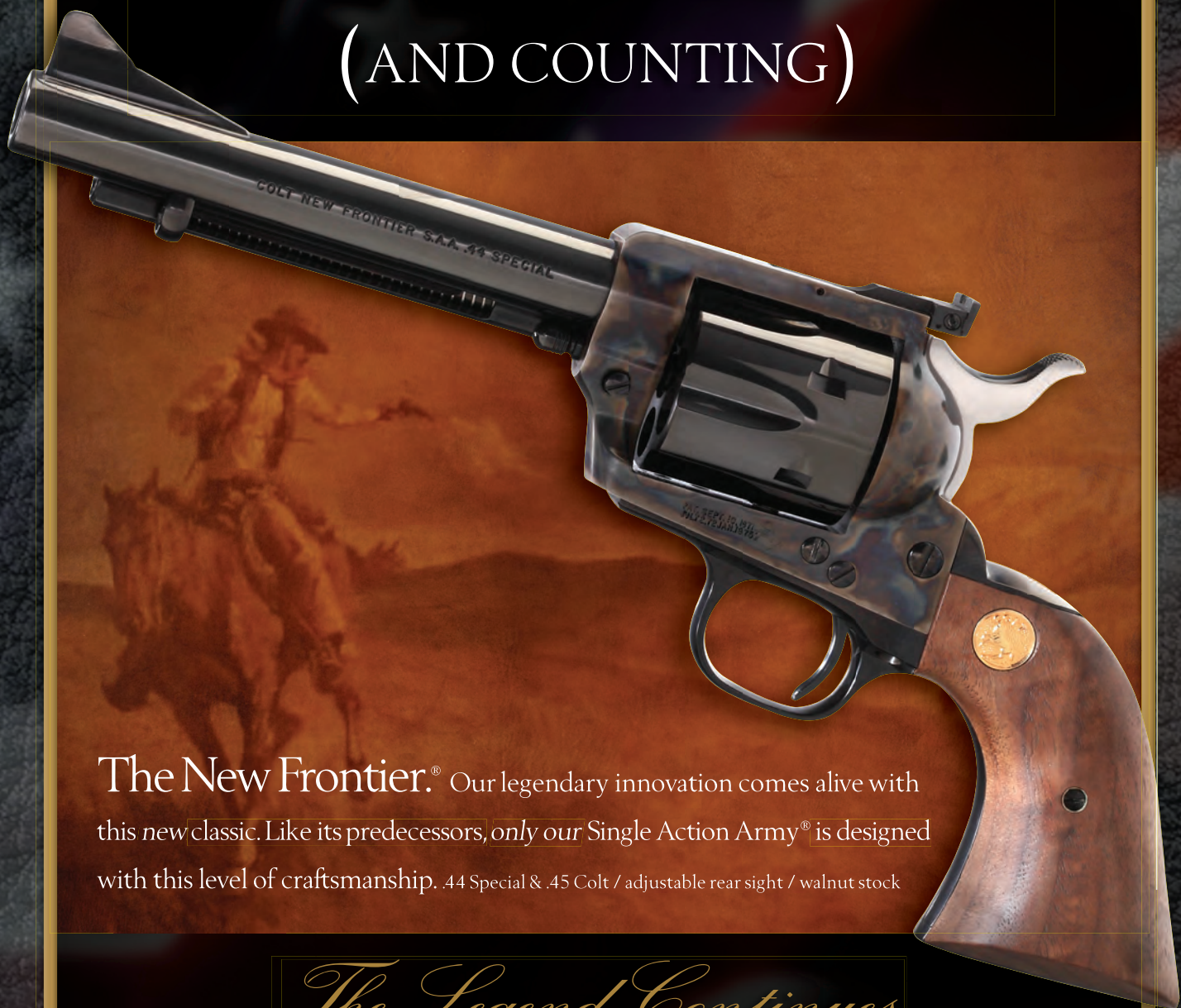
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# The Godfather of Gunleather

*Past a half century of greatness, John Bianchi is the top name in the gunleather arena.*

**F**or firearms enthusiasts, the name John Bianchi is synonymous with quality gunleather, and for good reason.

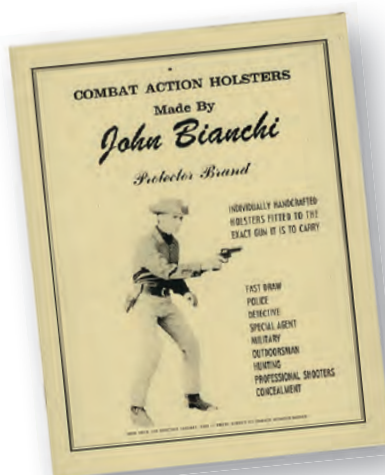
He's truly a living legend, having made gunleather rigs for the motion picture industry and for film stars who include John Wayne, Roy Rogers, Paul Newman and many others.

Space here doesn't permit listing all of Bianchi's accomplishments, but a few highlights would have to include his modest beginnings, over 54 years ago, as a southern California police officer who built a part-time, 10-cent mail order catalog business into the world's largest holster manufacturer.

Holding more than 200 patents, trademarks and copyrights, Bianchi has become one of the most recognizable names in the firearms industry. As the founder and board chairman of Bianchi International, retiring in 1992, he designed, engineered and manufactured more than 40 million holsters, gun belts and accessories. He also personally led the design team that developed the M12 Military Holster, adopted in 1984 as the standard-issue military holster for the U.S. Armed Forces—the first new holster for the force in nearly 70 years.

In 1979, he established the prestigious Bianchi Cup Invitational Pistol Tournament, which he handed over to the NRA in 1985. He's moved on to serve as a consultant on small arms, tactics and equipment to police departments. Those not fortunate to work with him personally can still benefit from his expertise: he's the author of *Blue Steel and Gunleather* and the subject of a biographical work, *John Bianchi, An American Legend: 50 Years of Gunleather*.

A true patriot, Bianchi enlisted in the California National Guard in 1953 and retired in 1997 as a major general and



Inspired by the cowboys and Indians he saw at a Madison Square Garden rodeo in New York City, John Bianchi made his first holster at the age of 12, to fit his cap pistol. Ten years later, in 1959, he published his first sales brochure for his holster company; the above 1963 cover is from his first multiple-page catalog, offering a full line of products.



YOUNG JOHN BIANCHI



John Bianchi creatively dreamed up a "histograph" series of portraits to promote his gunleather products. The above poster was shot in 1980 in Monument Valley as a tribute to 19th-century cavalrymen and the John Ford cavalry films. Phil Spangenberg (seen as the sergeant, center) assembled the characters and equipment.

— All images courtesy John Bianchi Frontier Gunleather —

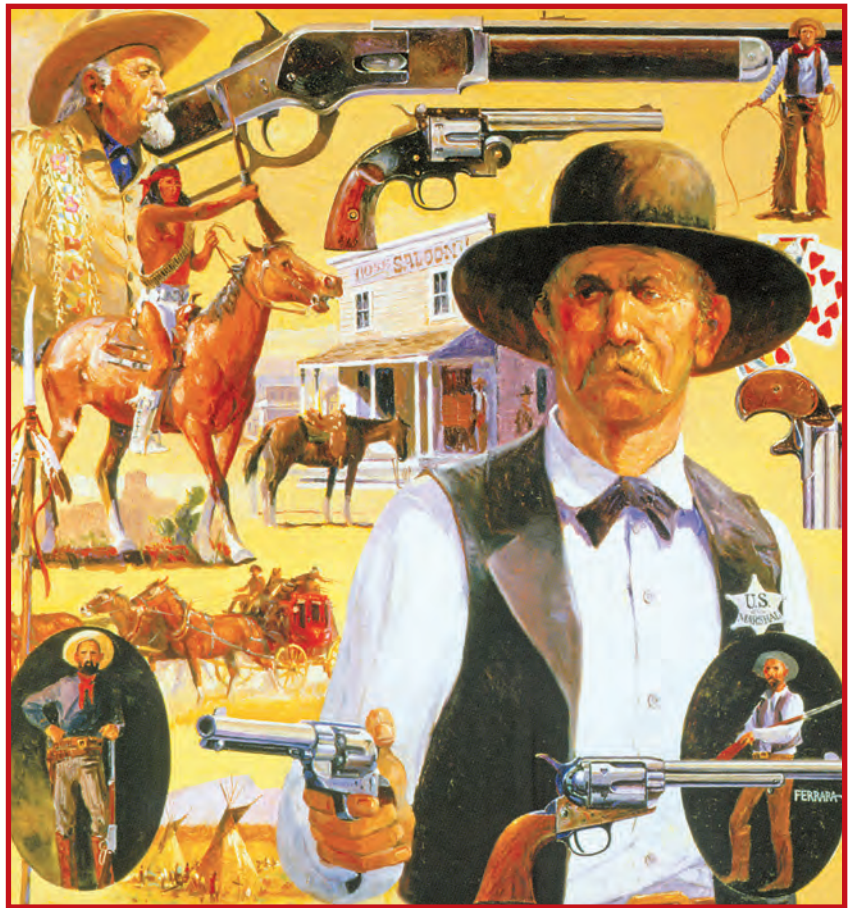
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John Bianchi commissioned Joe Ferrara to paint a poster to promote the Frontier Museum Historical Center that he opened in 1982. The Temecula location didn't draw much traffic, so, four years later, he sold off the collection to Gene Autry and the museum was relocated northwest to Los Angeles to become part of today's Autry National Center.

commanding general of the California State Military Reserve. After the atrocities of 9/11, he was recalled and served his country until his retirement in 2004.

But even in the midst of his military career, he began servicing another passion of his—the Old West. He founded and served as director for the Frontier Museum Historical Center from 1981-86, assembling one of the most impressive collections of Old West firearms and memorabilia, which became the nucleus of the present-day Autry National Center's Museum of the American West in Los Angeles.

Today, John Bianchi Frontier Gunleather offers limited edition custom rigs that range from Old West replicas to modern law-enforcement belt and shoulder holsters for handguns, along with rifle scabbards, custom knife sheaths fitted to your blade, handsome dress belts and concealed carry holsters. Each Bianchi

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## TRAPDOOR SPRINGFIELD GUIDE

As part of its "For Collectors Only" series, North Cape Publications has published *The .45-70 Springfield*, by Joe Poyer and Craig Riesch. Painstakingly researched like other volumes in this series—each dedicated to a particular firearm—this work devotes itself to the study of the various Trapdoor Springfield models. The volume includes a part-by-part analysis of each model, by serial number range, with complete markings, codes, finishes and descriptions of changes to all parts.

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

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# Bigfoot Stands Out

*The fight for Texas independence is enshrined by artifacts tied to Bigfoot Wallace and other Texans.*

**A**t the age of 19, William A.A. Wallace lit out for Texas to avenge the deaths of his brother and cousin who had been killed while fighting for Texas independence from Mexico at the 1836 battle in Goliad.

Two men who had survived that massacre, Hermann von Ehrenberg and John C.P. Kennymore, have ties to artifacts that collectors successfully bid on at Heritage Auction's Texana sale this past March 1-2. Included among those were two notable Wallace lots.

The most striking of the pair, an 1872 albumen photo of Wallace, has a note on the back, possibly written by photographer Michael Miley, that states the hunting pouch Wallace is wearing was "taken from the Indian Chief 'Big Foot' from whom [*sic*] he derived his name." Wallace got that nickname after his 1840 move to Austin, when the six-foot-two-tall, moccasin-wearing frontiersman was mistaken for the chief.

By 1844, Wallace was a changed man, ever more determined to fight the Mexicans. He found himself in New Orleans, Louisiana, writing to his father back home in Lexington, Virginia. A few weeks prior, he had been released from Perote Prison in Veracruz, Mexico.

His letter details his 20-month captivity that began after he and other San Antonio volunteers under Gen. Alexander Somervell had failed to occupy the Mexican town of Mier on Christmas Day in 1842. He shares the events after their surrender, including the men's unsuccessful escape in February 1843 and the resulting punishment, death by execution for 17 in their group of 176, determined by a "black bean" lottery; those who drew the black beans were killed, with Capt. Ewen Cameron executed as well.

Notable Texana Lots Included  
(All images courtesy Heritage Auction)



William "Bigfoot" Wallace's October 8, 1844, letter to his father, which details his experience as a Mexican prisoner after the failed Mier Expedition, hammered in at \$22,000. The 1872 albumen photo of him sold for \$10,000.



Hermann von Ehrenberg was marched out to be executed on March 27, 1836, in Goliad, but he escaped by dashing for the San Antonio River, hidden by the gunsmoke, according to his 1836 German-language account of Texas and the War for independence; \$9,000.

Released from Perote on August 25, 1844, he and four other white bean survivors walked 125 miles to the city of Veracruz; "I came here without a hat, shoes, or shirt, my companions the same situation," he writes, "the citizens of New Orleans gave us clothing and money to pay our way until wee [sic] can get a passage for Texas."

Undeterred after having "undergone more than I had any idea human nature could bear," Wallace tells his father, "...my bad treatment while in Mexico compels [sic] me to return, for i am determined to fight the Mexicans so long as i live in Texas."

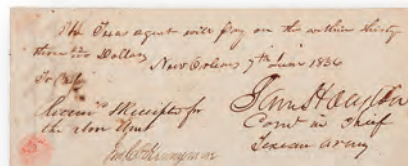
After Perote, Wallace joined the Texas Rangers under John Coffee "Jack" Hays. He fought under Hays until the 1846 outbreak of the Mexican-American War, where he served as a first lieutenant. In 1850, after his discharge, he drove a mail hack some 600 miles from San Antonio to El Paso. When the Civil War erupted, he was still guarding the frontier against Comanches. He spent the latter years of his life in Frio County, dying a few months shy of 82, in 1899.

Texana artifacts at Heritage earned collectors nearly \$240,000.



**HERITAGE AUCTION ARCHIVES**

At Heritage's October 2010 Texana auction, a collector successfully bid on a circa 1845 plan of the Perote Prison where Bigfoot Wallace and nearly 200 Texans were held captive after the Mier Expedition. Wallace was released early on August 25, 1844, while the last of the prisoners were released on September 16. One of the chilling aspects of the map is a cross marked as "Where the Bones of Texians Prisoners are Exposed;" \$1,700.



Goliad survivor John C.P. Kennymore received this \$33 pay order from Sam Houston as the general was recovering from an ankle wound he got in San Jacinto. That battle brought a short-lived peace between Mexico and Texas until Santa Anna resumed power in 1841 and once again ordered raids into Texas, spurring Texas military actions such as the disastrous Mier Expedition; \$5,250.



Among Bigfoot Wallace's most notable victories during the Mexican-American War was helping capture the Bishop's Palace in Monterrey in September 1846. Carl Nebel drew that victorious battle scene, which hammered in at Heritage in 2010 for \$500. It was included among the set of plates up for auction in March, with George Wilkins Kendall's 1851 book, *The War Between the United States and Mexico Illustrated*, but the lot did not sell.

**UPCOMING AUCTIONS**

**May 4, 2013**

Legends of the Wild West  
Heritage Auction (Dallas, TX)  
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**May 18, 2013**

Contemporary Western Art  
Western Art Association (Ellensburg, WA)  
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**May 18, 2013**

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# DEATH ON THE LINE

THE FIRST  
RANGER FORCE  
DEATH ALONG THE  
TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER.

Even an everyday call to investigate cow stealing could spark violence that catapulted a Texas Ranger into the halls of death. This first look at Bob Alexander's latest tome brings you the story of a brave man caught in the crossfire of King Ranch borderland politics—William Emmett Robuck, the first Ranger Force enlistee to be murdered at the Rio Grande's edge.

BY BOB ALEXANDER

PHOTO MONTAGE BY DANIEL ALCOCER

# DEATH ON THE LINE

William Emmett Robuck's genealogical family tree was fashioned from sturdy oak. Service in the Confederacy had claimed the life of his paternal grandfather. Emmett's father, Elias, was a first-rate stockman, having early on gathered and trailed cattle into the faraway Rocky Mountain country while but a lad of 16. Emmett's uncle, Tully Robuck, likewise was a Texas cattleman from Caldwell County southeast of Austin.

Emmett came into the world on July 27, 1877. Tallying the number of Whitetail deer he bagged or weighing the strings of catfish he pulled from the San Marcus River cutting through Caldwell County is unworkable. There are quantifiable truths, however. As he marched toward maturity, Emmett became quite handy with firearms and morphed into a top-hand cowboy, though he preferred calling himself a stockman. As an adult, he stood just under six feet tall, looking out from beneath his sweat-stained Stetson with steel-blue eyes. Emmett sandwiched between whetting his outdoor skills the classroom art of learning to read and write. He also developed the ability to speak Spanish.

His bilingual ability would serve him well in his newfound job. At 23, Emmett became a Texas Ranger—a South Texas Ranger. Emmett had enlisted in the Ranger Force's Company A, captained by James Abijah Brooks, and was assigned to a detachment at the extreme southern tip of Texas near Brownsville, Cameron



Texas Ranger W. Emmett Robuck paid the ultimate price while enforcing the law in the lower Rio Grande Valley, landing him the unfortunate notoriety as the first Ranger to be murdered at the Rio Grande's edge after the 1901 formation of the legendary Ranger Force.

— All photos courtesy Texas Ranger Hall of Fame & Museum Research Center in Waco —

County. Company A headquarters was 100 miles north, in Alice, 45 miles due west of Corpus Christi.

Much of the sparsely populated country between Alice and Brownsville—sometimes called the Wild Horse Desert—was dominion of the legendary King Ranch. There was an extraordinary linkage between South Texas's gigantic King Ranch and the Texas Rangers. The understanding, though not reduced to writing, was reciprocal. The Ranger management team in Austin and its allied elected officials could count on King Ranch hierarchy to come through in times of political or pecuniary crisis. Likewise, when needed or perceived to be needed at the King Ranch, Rangers would answer the call, riding to the rescue, saving the day with Colt's six-shooters at the hip, Winchesters in saddle scabbards and warrants of authority in hand.

The accord was not necessarily inappropriate. Cow stealing was cow stealing, no matter who owned the cow. During the springtime of 1902, most especially in the gargantuan El Sauz (sometimes El Saenz) pasture stretching to near the Cameron County line, sharp-eyed King Ranch bookkeepers and well-seasoned vaqueros noticed the herd was lessening—rather than growing. Cow thieves were about. Rangers were needed.



Texas Ranger Sgt. A.Y. Baker participated in several borderland gun plays, including the one that resulted in the death of Emmett Robuck.

Captain Brooks was in receipt of a telegram—from the governor: "Send three Rangers to the King Ranch and investigate." Riding from camp near Brownsville on May 15, 1902, Sgt. A.Y. Baker and Pvts. Harry J. Wallis and Emmett Robuck sallied forth to make their inquiries and, hopefully, catch some cow thieves.

At the El Sauz pasture, they were joined by cowboy Jesse Miller acting as guide. The Rangers all so soon encountered Reyes Silguero, who claimed to be a King Ranch fence rider working the El Sauz. The Rangers were suspicious. Fence riders were tasked with riding the fence line. In this instance, Silguero was at a loss to explain what he was doing over three miles away from any fence whatsoever. Private Wallis would later swear: "We thought that he was there either as a

Captain J.A. Brooks (far left) stands with some of his Texas Rangers at their Company A headquarters in Alice. At the age of 23, Emmett Robuck joined the Texas Rangers and enlisted in the force under Brooks.



In the front row wearing glasses is famed borderland Capt. W.L. Wright posing with his Company D Rangers. Note that the captain holds an 1895 model Winchester with the barrel sawed off to a point just ahead of the forestock, real handy for up close and personal work in the *brasada*.

spy for thieves or he was there looking out from some big unbranded calves.”

Fearing Silguero would warn any *amigos* carrying running irons and working the *brasada* looking for unmarked cattle to brand and claim, the Rangers were not hesitant with employment of an unsophisticated preventative tactic—a tough one, nevertheless an undeniably helpful technique. They handcuffed one of Silguero’s hands to a “small live-oak tree and went off about a mile looking for thieves.”

Perhaps it was a face saving measure, or perhaps it’s true, but as an afterthought, Ranger Wallis remarked: “Before going we gave



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

Long known was the favorable association between South Texas's legendary King Ranch and the Texas Rangers' hierarchy and everyday lawmen. These unsmiling mounted Texas Rangers pose in front of the Norias Division's main house, some 70 miles north of Brownsville. (From left) Howard C. Craig, Ira J. Heard, Sam P. Chessher, Joe B. Brooks and Lloyd A. David.

him all we had to eat, going without anything to eat ourselves.”

Silguero spent a lonesome and uncomfortable night shackled to the tree. Rangers passed the night elsewhere.

Next morning, shortly after daybreak, the lawmen's suspicions were again aroused. During their scout, they found several calves, all tethered to trees. The sign was easy to read. Cow thieves were roping and tying while they could, intent on returning and burning brands when their supply of catch-ropes was depleted. Then the hunt for unbranded calves to chase and catch would begin anew.

The El Sauz pasture was big and screened in spots by dense undergrowth. The Rangers separated.

Near nine a.m., hell popped. Sergeant Baker, alone, emerged from thick brush nearly riding atop Ramón de la Cerda, a man in his twenties, who was afoot with a hogtied calf on the ground before him. Both men were taken off guard.

Ramón jerked both of his six-shooters, one a .41, the other a .45. Ranger Baker threw up his Winchester. Two shots were fired—at the same instant. An old-time ex-Ranger stabbed at summing up

the gunplay with dry wit: “Cerda killed Baker’s horse by shooting him in the left eye. A.Y. killed Ramón by shooting him in the right eye.”

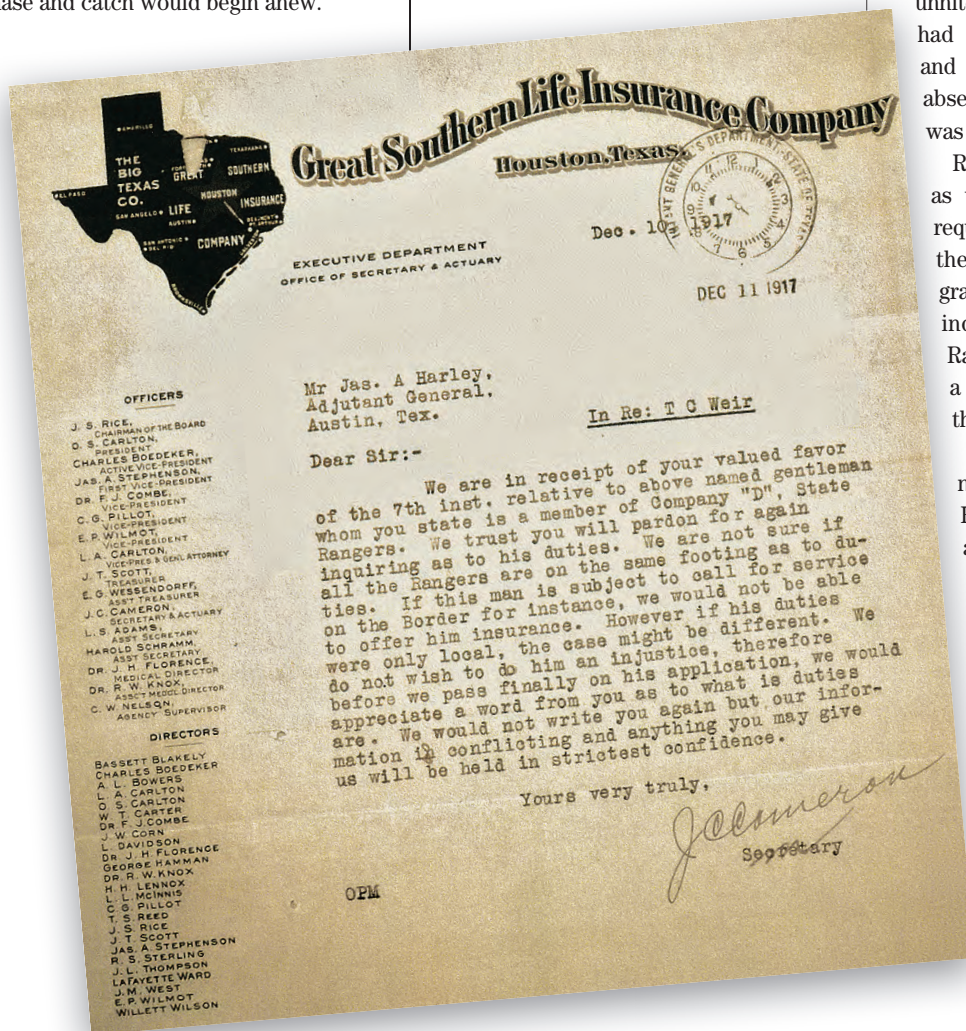
Justice of the Peace Estevan Garcia Ozuña officiated at the inquest. Besides concluding that Ramón was dead, as was Ranger Baker’s horse, the magistrate noted that several unmarked and unbranded calves were tied to trees in close proximity to Ramón’s body.

Thoughtfully, during the after-incident excitement and legal hubbub, someone had the good sense to turn a key and unhitch Silguero from what apparently had proven to be an unbreakable and deep-rooted live-oak tree. In the absence of solid evidence, Silguero was set free.

Rangers Baker, Wallis and Robuck, as well as their guide Miller, were required to post a bond guaranteeing their presence should a county grand jury choose to return formal indictments. Subsequently, the Rangers and Miller were “no billed,” a legal action that miffed much of the Spanish-speaking population.

A not insignificant number of native South Texans, when Texas Rangers were mentioned, raised an eyebrow, cocked their head

That riding Lucifer’s Line was tough business may be drawn by the following extract from an insurance company executive’s letter regarding issuance of a policy to a Texas Ranger: “If this man is subject to call for service on the border for instance, we would not be able to offer him insurance. However if his duties were only local, the case might be different.”





and spit. To them, Rangers were *rinches*, mounted and armed Texans hunting for “Mexicans” to kill. In the Lower Rio Grande Valley, many folks viewed even legit Texas Rangers as but *rinches de la Kinena*—Rangers of the King Ranch. In Brownsville, whether one heartily championed or totally damned Rangers typically split along cultural lines.

One particularly vocal fellow was Alfredo de la Cerda, teenage brother to the deceased Ramón. Alfredo openly threatened to kill Ranger Baker on sight. Alfredo’s heartfelt grief was understandable, though the threat was not smart.

Acrimony, big talk and vitriolic threats were not factors of too much concern to Company A’s Capt. Brooks. He was tougher than the proverbial boot and, in his eyes, so were his Texas Rangers: “My men are crack shots and I am not afraid of them getting the worst of anything.”

The swank was premature.

Secretly, five fellows on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande piled into a skiff, and a handsomely paid boatman piloted the shotgun-wielding men across the river, depositing them on Texas soil. Under the cover of darkness, they surreptitiously worked their way into position along the Santa Rosatia Road, about a mile from downtown Brownsville.

On the night of September 9, 1902, about 10 p.m., Sgt. Baker and Pvt. Robuck, accompanied by cowboy Miller, who had been in Brownsville with them attending court, tightened cinches, stepped into the stirrups and started for their campground sited in a pasture owned by Judge James B. Wells—about a mile from town near the Santa Rosatia Road.

---

**In harmony,  
three shotguns  
had spoken.**

---

Salty sea breezes gently wafted from the nearby Gulf of Mexico. Routine night sounds blended with conversational tones as the three horsemen plodded along, bantering back and forth, recapping the day’s happenings and conjecturing about the morrow’s courtroom agenda.

Suddenly, the white gelding Ranger Robuck was riding jumped sideways in response to the noisy blasts—in harmony, three shotguns had spoken. Miller’s horse stumbled, crumpled and hit the ground dead, throwing Miller, but perhaps saving his life. Sergeant Baker lurched in the saddle and doubled over, wounded in the back—but not mortally. Seemingly unscathed, Emmett sat upright on the horse as it traveled

Patrolling Rio Grande, a forbidding borderland rife with Mexican and outlaw violence, these Texas Rangers were armed and ready for bear.

about 150 yards before he lifelessly toppled from the saddle, a dead man falling. Bushwhackers ran for the river, crossed and then snaked their way back across the Rio Grande into Brownsville.

Due to District Court being in session, Capt. Brooks was in Brownsville too. He telegraphed Texas Adj. Gen. Thomas Scurry: "Baker and Robuck waylaid on road to camp last night. Baker wounded. Robuck killed."

In but short order—utilizing criminal intelligence furnished by an informant—Capt. Brooks soon had five suspects in the Cameron County jail, including Ramón's little brother Alfredo. There was talk of mobbing the jailhouse and taking the prisoners by force, dispensing extralegal justice at the end of a rope. Stepping up to the best Texas Ranger tradition, Capt. Brooks assured any would-be lynch masters that he and his men felt it their duty to protect the prisoners and "would give our lives in their defense although we were fully satisfied that we had the right parties who were responsible for the assassination of our comrade."

None chanced storming the jail.

Alas, the Blind Mistress of Justice was robbed of adjudicating the matter in a courtroom. An unknown executioner had exhibited his handiwork, murdering Herculana Berbier, the state's star witness and snitch. Berbier's blood and testimony had washed into a bottomless abyss.

Alfredo, after posting bond, continued his ranting about getting the scalp of a particular Texas Ranger. Though it may be politically incorrect to speak of reality, nonetheless there is a hard

truism. In a world where men—good men and bad men—customarily attend to their everyday business carrying guns, it is sheer folly to think threats to kill will be lightly brushed aside as idle boasting. Altogether ignoring the man who says he will kill you, guilelessly thinking he won't, is madness. Chaps spitting out death threats had best follow through—or dare not make a false move.

On October 3, 1902, on Elizabeth Street in downtown Brownsville, Alfredo wiggled the wrong way—or not? Sergeant Baker killed him, declaring he had made a suspicious move, as if grabbing for a six-shooter. *¿Quien Sabe?*

Other reports indicate the dead fellow had been trying on a new pair of gloves. Alfredo was, as it turned out, unarmed.

From their safe quarters in Austin, Texas politicians saw that the wheels had come off in far South Texas, particularly in Brownsville. In the end, Sgt. Baker came legally clear of killing Ramón and Alfredo, but the Grim Reaper's appetite for Texas Rangers had not been sated, not for those riding Lucifer's Line: There were more on the menu.

This edited excerpt is from *Riding Lucifer's Line: Ranger Deaths Along the Texas-Mexico Border* by **Bob Alexander**, featuring a cover painting by Donald M. Yena. Published by University of North Texas Press, the book is due out in May 2013.



## NEW TEXAS RANGER RESEARCH CENTER

Legislatively designated as the Official Repository of the Texas Rangers, the nonprofit Texas Ranger Hall of Fame & Museum in Waco, Texas, recently opened to the public its Tobin and Anne Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center.

One of the premiere events celebrating the brand new research center will be the Lone Star History Conference, held this May 10-11. The affair offers an outstanding program of researchers, writers and the living history guild discussing the legendary history of the Texas Rangers. Bob Alexander will be signing his book, *Riding Lucifer's Line*, at the conference.

After more than three decades of service, the original research center was in need of additional space. Between 2003 and 2005 alone, more than 105,000 items had been added to the collection. Supplemented by the ever growing assemblage of approximately 20,000 artifacts spanning three centuries—badges, firearms, clothing, field gear, forensic investigative equipment—as well as an impressive collection of historic and modern paintings, sculptures and folk art displayed, the Texas Ranger complex is a treasure trove for laid-back sightseers and serious researchers alike.

Each year the research center's staff assists thousands of students, teachers, genealogists, authors, film producers and scriptwriters on a host of historical projects. Many of the well known Texas Ranger books—both popular and academic treatments—trace their genesis to the center. The research capabilities of the staff and the collections of investigative case files have even proved valuable assets for other law enforcement agencies when researching decades-old "cold cases." Dedicated to housing and preserving Texas Ranger service records, criminal case files, period photographs, official Texas Ranger correspondence and books and documents dating back to the 1830s, the research center augments the holdings of the Texas State Records Center and Archives in Austin.

Whether you are traveling through the Waco area as a casual tourist or as a researcher fixed on a mission of uncovering genealogical data regarding an antecedent Texas Ranger, the entire Texas Ranger Research Center staff will extend Old West enthusiasts and *True West* readers the warmest hand of welcome. The institutional philosophy is straightforward and simple: "The collections belong to the people of Texas."

# The Apache Wars in Apache Words

**THE FORT SILL  
APACHE CHAIRMAN  
LOOKS BACK 150  
YEARS AS HE MARKS  
THE CENTENNIAL  
RELEASE OF APACHE  
PRISONERS OF WAR  
IN OKLAHOMA.**

In January 1863, Mangas Coloradas went to Pinos Altos, New Mexico, to seek peace with the United States. Other Chiricahua Apache tribal leaders had tried to talk him out of it, but Mangas persisted.

Perhaps he was confident because he remembered the peace treaty he had signed in 1852 in which the U.S. pledged to “forever cease” its “hostilities” with the Apaches; to maintain “perpetual peace and amity” with them; and to arrest, try and, if convicted, punish any U.S. citizen who would “murder, rob, or otherwise maltreat any Apache Indian or Indians.” That treaty had led to a period of calm, but in 1863, the Apaches and the Americans were again in conflict.

This time, there would be no treaty and there would be no peace. Persuaded to



meet alone with the Americans, Mangas was taken captive, tortured and assassinated.

Mangas Coloradas was chief of the Warm Springs Apaches, one of four bands of the Chiricahua Apache, whose homelands include present-day southwestern New Mexico, southeastern

In his biography of Chief Mangas Coloradas, Edwin Sweeney reported that the chief, the only Chiricahua leader to sign the 1852 treaty at Acoma, signed with the Americans so he could concentrate on the tribe's Mexican enemies, who were encroaching on the New Mexico portion of Apacheria. He wrote, “...throughout his life Mangas never agreed to any treaty that forfeited his rights to his country.” One of the chief's sons, Sethmooda, was killed by Mexicans in the Pinos Altos Mountains; another, Carl Mangus (left), died at Fort Sill in 1901.

— Courtesy National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution P06772 —

Arizona and northern Mexico. I am Mangas's great-great grandson and chairman of the Fort Sill Apache Tribe, the legal successor to the Chiricahua and Warm Springs Apache. I want to share with you the story of our people since Mangas's assassination 150 years ago.

By the late 1860s, the U.S. began establishing reservations to teach Indians to farm and to convert to Christianity. Several reservations were planned for our people; a few were opened, but all of these ultimately closed and our people were moved to the San Carlos Apache Reservation.

The Warm Springs or Ojo Caliente Reservation in southern New Mexico was officially closed in 1877. It was the territory's last to close and its last reservation designated for the Chiricahua Apache until one in southern New Mexico was proclaimed for our tribe in 2011.

# Miles agreed to their terms, knowing that they would never surrender unconditionally.

The Apaches living on Warm Springs, including my grandfather Sam Haozous, were moved to Fort Apache at the San Carlos Apache Reservation in southeastern Arizona and placed in an area that would not sustain farming. My people experienced ration shortages, and they feared being arrested, attacked or killed. Those who most feared for their lives left San Carlos for Mexico.

Seeking to return to their people, tribal leaders Geronimo, Naiche and Chihuahua met with U.S. Gen. George Crook in March 1886 at Cañon de los Embudos in Mexico. They agreed to surrender on the condition that if they were held as prisoners, their families would join them and that they would all be freed after no more than two years. That night Geronimo heard he was to be executed upon his return to Arizona, so he, Naiche and several Apaches fled for their safety. When the others reached Arizona, they were shipped off to Fort Marion in St. Augustine, Florida, as prisoners of war.

After making this agreement, Gen. Crook received word that President Grover Cleveland did not accept the conditions of the Apache surrender. Crook was ordered to resume negotiations to accept only the unconditional surrender of the Apaches. Crook replied that this approach was not possible and asked to be relieved of his command in Arizona. He was reassigned and replaced by Gen. Nelson Miles.

Some of our leaders then went to Washington, D.C. to make sure that they and others who had not left San Carlos would not be punished for the things done by those who had left. They received a

peace medal and boarded a train back to Arizona. Their train was stopped in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where they were held for one month. Then they too were shipped off to Fort Marion as prisoners of war.

In September, Geronimo, Naiche and the remaining group of Apaches who were still in Mexico met with Gen. Miles. They again agreed to surrender on the condition that if they were held as prisoners, their families would join them and that they would be freed after no more than two years.

Despite being ordered to accept only an unconditional surrender, Miles agreed to their terms, knowing that they would never surrender unconditionally. Geronimo and his crew, like those before them, were held captives as prisoners of war. They were stopped at Fort Sam Houston in Texas, while the U.S. investigated the terms of their surrender. After six weeks, the men in the group were sent to Fort Pickens, near Pensacola, Florida. The women and children were sent to Fort Marion.

At the same time, every Chiricahua man, woman and child living at the San

Carlos reservation was assembled and told that they were going to meet the President of the United States. They were taken to Holbrook, Arizona, and instead of meeting the president, they were shipped off to Fort Marion as well.

Displaced but not broken, my people maintained a strong desire and heartfelt hope that they would ultimately return to their New Mexico and Arizona homelands, a desire we still hold today.

Separating tribal families was already unbearable, but when the government took the Apache school-age children away from the women at Fort Marion and shipped them to the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania, the term “prisoner of war” was taken to another level. Against the wishes of the children as well as the parents, children at the Carlisle school were subjected to intense assimilation and indoctrination in the ways of the “white people,” which was assumed to be in their best interest by government officials.

Many of the children became terribly ill and died at the school, hundreds of miles



## Warm Springs Apache Women

### Gouyen

Legend has it that Gouyen avenged the death of her husband who was killed by Comanches. She infiltrated a Comanche camp and spotted a chief dancing a victory dance around a bonfire, with her husband's scalp hanging from his belt. She seduced this man, killed and scalped him and ultimately delivered his scalp to her in-laws. Gouyen later remarried and is shown here with her second husband, Apache warrior Ka-ya-ten-nae, and her son (from her first husband) Kaywaykla. Gouyen died a prisoner of war at Fort Sill and she is buried at the fort's Apache cemetery. Her son, James Kaywaykla, collaborated with Eve Ball to produce the book, *In the Days of Victory*, hailed as a classic in Apache literature.

Apache tribal members as prisoners of war at Fort Marion in St. Augustine, Florida. On October 1, 1886, Lt. Col. Loomis L. Langdon reported that 469 Indians, including adults, children and 14 paid scouts, were confined at the fort.

— Courtesy National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution 09508 —



away from their mothers and fathers, and farther still from their homeland. The Apache deaths at Carlisle began to reflect negatively on the school. For fear of the school's reputation, a plan was devised. The moment an Apache child began to show signs of death from illness, they were put on a train and shipped back to their parents, thus avoiding, at least technically, the record of a child's death at the school.

In 1887, tribal members were moved farther inland and consolidated at Mount Vernon Barracks near Mobile, Alabama. Families were reunited, but many of them were dying of disease, spurring debate in Congress toward the idea that the Apaches should be returned to an area with a more favorable climate.

Politicians in Arizona and New Mexico opposed repatriation of the tribe to any portion of its aboriginal territory (not unlike recent objections by today's politicians). Instead, in 1894, Congress

decided to move the tribe to the Fort Sill Military Installation in Oklahoma. Tribal members were told Fort Sill would be their home from that point forward. They were encouraged to make their lives at Fort Sill, so they started farming and ranching, trying to create a "normal" life, though in their hearts they knew nothing would ever be normal.

My ancestors believed that when Geronimo passed away, the key political reason we were being kept as prisoners of war would pass with him. Any politician who wanted to release these Apaches would have been branded as "soft on crime," as if Geronimo was a criminal. Sure enough, after Geronimo died in 1909, the U.S. had no rationale to keep us as prisoners.

## Our people endured captivity as prisoners of war for 28 years.

Today, Fort Sill Apaches look back on the centennial of the initial release of the Chiricahua Apache prisoners of war in Oklahoma. We had been promised that Fort Sill would be our reservation, a promise broken by the government when it removed the Apaches from Fort Sill. This, after we had become self-sustaining as farmers and highly successful as

ranchers, boasting perhaps the finest herd of cattle in the U.S. at the time.

All told, our people endured captivity as prisoners of war for 28 years. When the tribe surrendered in 1886, the U.S. captured 515 Apaches. By the time of our release in 1913, only 261 of us were left—even though we had families born in captivity.




In 1913, one group left the tribe to join the Mescalero Apaches in southern New Mexico. This was a condition of their freedom. The rest of the tribe, including my grandparents and their first daughter, remained at Fort Sill as prisoners of war, pressing the U.S. to keep its promise. In 1914, they too were removed and were placed on individual allotments in Oklahoma.

In the 1940s, our tribe filed claims with the U.S. for the imprisonment and the loss of our land. The imprisonment claim was rejected under procedural grounds. The land claim was settled in 1973, when federal courts determined that our tribe was the legal successor to the Chiricahua and Warm Springs Apache Tribes, and that our legally defined homelands comprised nearly 14.8 million acres ranging from the Rio Grande in southern New Mexico west into southeastern Arizona.

In order to manage the compensation for this lost land, we were encouraged to

organize under a tribal constitution. The two remaining bands, the Chiricahua and Warm Springs, formed a constitution in 1976 and chose the name Fort Sill Apache.

Although our tribe's current name reflects our people's time as prisoners of war, our hearts resonate with the dreams of our ancestors, the people of Mangas Coloradas, Naiche and Geronimo...the dream of returning to our homeland. 

This shows the last meeting, in 1914, of the Fort Sill Apaches as prisoners of war at the Oklahoma fort.

- Courtesy Fort Sill Apache Tribe -

**Jeff Haozous** is the Fort Sill Apache tribal chairman. Visit [FortSillApacheNewMexico.com](http://FortSillApacheNewMexico.com) and the tribe's facebook and twitter feeds to learn more about Fort Sill Apache history.



## Warm Springs Apache Women

**Lozen**

Chief Victorio's sister, Lozen, who he credited as his "right hand" and a "shield to her people," never made it to Fort Sill from the Mount Vernon Barracks prisoner of war camp in Mobile, Alabama; she died of tuberculosis. She is credited as being with Geronimo and his band when they surrendered in 1886 (bottom row, third from right), but some Apache historians dispute this.

BY SUE HANSEN

# "SERIOUS COW PEOPLE"

TRACKING DOWN THE

THREE MONTANA

SISTERS CAPTURED BY

EVELYN CAMERON'S

CAMERA AND ADMIRED

BY TEDDY ROOSEVELT.



## Yes, these were the cowgirls who had the gall

to turn down President Teddy Roosevelt.

Their faces gleam on pictorial portraits captured by an acclaimed photographer of pioneer life on the eastern Montana plains, Evelyn Cameron. Taken between 1894 to 1928, her images, especially of ranch and farm women, are now famous historical treasures and prized collectibles.

Tom Roosevelt did not know the identities of these three women roping, riding and branding calves on the open range when he first discovered their photographs in a box of photos and postcards at an antique shop in Corvallis, Oregon. Seeking to find out who they were and how this box

of pictorial history from the Big Sky state ended

up in the Pacific Northwest, Roosevelt embarked on a journey that led him to a tiny Montana town still preserving

the memory of these girls and to a grandson who has inherited their adventurous spirits.

In tracking Evelyn's life, Roose learned she had been born in England, but she and her husband, Ewen, must have enjoyed their honeymoon in Montana because they ended up settling outside Terry, Montana, in 1893. Evelyn's love for this land, bordered by the rugged Badlands and mighty Yellowstone River, is reflected in her photographs. Because Terry (population 600) is now the "Official Home of Evelyn Cameron"—with the Cameron Gallery and grave site—Roose contacted the Evelyn Cameron Heritage group, whose members preserve Cameron's photos for public display.

"I was ecstatic to hear about Tom Roose's find of some of Cameron's original photos," says Glenda Ueland, a director at the foundation. "As for the three women, they're well known in Terry's history."



The Buckley sisters mount their horses while wearing the split skirts that photographer Evelyn Cameron introduced to the Terry, Montana, region at the turn of the 19th century.

— All Evelyn Cameron photos courtesy Eric Hansen —

May, Myrtle and Mabel Buckley were the daughters of Franklin and Susanna. They gave birth to Elinor May in 1889, Myrtle, in 1891 and Mabel Pearl, in 1893. Originally from Ellendale, North Dakota, where the family farmed, the Buckleys also ranched 160 acres southeast of Terry, Montana, near Cabin Creek. While their father was busy with the North Dakota farm and other business ventures (he was also a Montana state representative in 1915), the sisters were given the responsibility of running the horse-and-cattle operation in Montana under Mother Buckley's watchful eyes.

Born in the saddle and taught by some of the top cowhands in the area, the Buckley sisters were well-suited to running a ranch. Proficient at roping, riding, breaking broncs and branding calves, their skills were comparable to Montana's best cowboys. Respected by their male counterparts, they earned the nickname "Red Yearlings" because of their strawberry-blond hair and expertise as horsewomen.

Known throughout eastern Montana, the beautiful Buckley sisters were to gain national and international fame during their early twenties when Evelyn photographed them for her article about Montana cowgirls, which appeared in the June 6, 1914, issue of the English publication *Country Life*. Neighbors of Evelyn's, May, Myrtle and Mabel were regular "action models" for the photographer.

Even before Evelyn, folks who recognized the Buckley sisters' talents had tried to showcase them. Wild West shows asked to hire the sisters, but they weren't interested in entertaining audiences. They "never competed in a rodeo or performed with a show," recorded rodeo historian Mary Lou LeCompte in *Cowgirls of the Rodeo*. The Buckley cowgirls even declined an invitation from Teddy Roosevelt, who knew them from his many visits to Terry, to perform at the White House. The sisters were "serious cow people with ranching their only focus," Roose says.

Nearly a century later, Roose has revived the Buckley sisters' Montana legacy. "We have so much history here in Terry," says Trish Harding, of the Evelyn Cameron Heritage group. "It's wonderful to have more on the Buckleys."

In the Cameron Gallery, large original prints feature May, Myrtle and Mabel galloping horses across the open range, lassoing horses inside a corral and posing on horseback alongside cowboys from the Texas-based XIT Ranch. But one image speaks volumes about the Buckley sisters' independent natures. Mounting horses, the sisters are wearing split skirts, introduced to the cowgirls by Evelyn. At the turn of the 20th century, these skirts caused a sensation among women and consternation with men. (Evelyn was once

## In their boots, the Buckley sisters embraced toughness in a tough land.

Buckley's stroke in 1925.] Mrs. Buckley improving."

In the years between, May, Myrtle and Mabel come to life. Take this diary entry, on Thursday, December 31, 1908: "Buckley girls are all sick from too much gaiety Terry & Fallon balls."

Other entries also spoke of Evelyn's photo endeavors with the Buckley sisters. Monday, December 22, 1913: "Arrived Buckleys...[girls] first roped their horses took 2 exposures & 2 of them posing corral bars background. They got 12 head of cattle & I took them



May (in white blouse) and Myrtle Buckley rope horses in a Cameron photo that appeared in *Country Life* magazine.

threatened with arrest in nearby Miles City if she returned wearing the skirt.)

During his journey, Roose met Terry native Wynona Breen, before she passed away at the age of 89 last December. She spent the past three years transcribing all 35 diaries of Evelyn's, from 1894 to 1928. "Evelyn recorded her daily experiences and the people she encountered," Breen told Roose. "The Buckley family was mentioned in 174 diary entries."

The first entry was written on Monday, August 28, 1905: "Mrs. Buckley & 2 daughters & 2 yr old son [Mark] arrived with tub of ice...made ice cream."

The last was penned on Tuesday, January 10, 1928: "Saw Buckley, like May without mustache. Told him malaria mosquito cure for paralysis. [Reference to Mother

roping one. When roped they strung it out & I photographed with May bending over looking for brand. More exposures & then girls galloping toward me & each one separately trotted past. Took 2 of Mr. B's stallion 'Rock' Percheron."

Then a surprising statement on Monday, October 25, 1915: "Myrtle Buckley ran away & married a hired man, named [Dave] Fisher." Married on October 21, the couple would raise two children—Elinor "Snowball" and George—at their ranch near the Wyoming border.

"Later on, Myrtle also married George Straugh and combined her ranch with his," Breen says. "I don't know what happened to Dave Fisher."

As for May, who never married, she continued ranching and took care of



Photographer Evelyn Cameron (middle) poses on her horse with Mabel Williams (front) and Janet Williams (back). Janet inherited Cameron's personal possessions.

Mother Buckley after her stroke. Mrs. Buckley died in 1932, followed by 50-year-old May in 1939. Mother and daughter are buried in Glendive alongside husband and father Franklin, son and brother Mark and his wife Petrena. (The grave site also has a marker for a baby, Joy Susan, though Roose did not locate a birth record for her.) Myrtle was laid to rest in 1964 in Broadus, Montana; Mabel, in 1986 in Tacoma, Washington.

Mabel, who married Milton Gile in December 1915, had a son Selman, who had a son Jay. Jay Gile was the final piece to Roose's puzzle. Jay lived in Corvallis, which answered the question of how Evelyn's photos of the Buckley sisters ended up in Oregon. Jay had inherited the collection, including Mabel's school notebook, her 1905 diploma, a celluloid cowgirl hat-shaped pin and many postcards from enamored suitors.

When he downsized his collection, Jay sold the extra images to the antique shop.

"I have three children who aren't interested in the photos because they don't know the relatives in the pictures," says Jay, who has the Buckley reddish hair and passion for adventure as an international parachutist. "But it's nice Tom Roose and the people of Terry have an interest in my grandmother and aunts."

While he showed his Buckley family photos in his beige velvet photo album to Roose, Jay described the Buckley sisters as "strong women way ahead of their time."

In their boots, the Buckley sisters embraced toughness in a tough land. Land that Roose wanted to see before leaving Terry. Enlisting the help of retired rancher Eddie Gaub, whose mother had conducted the household chores for Evelyn before Roose was born, Roose

drove with Gaub down dirt roads to the Buckleys' former ranch. An old wagon still sits by the entrance.

Walking the hilly property, with cattle enclosed in a nearby corral, Roose reflected on his journey of discovery that had begun with that box of antique photographs. "I wasn't sure what I was going to find, but it's exactly what I was hoping for in Terry and with Jay Gile."

The Red Yearlings have indeed made a lasting historical mark on Montana. ❖

Sue Hansen lives in Corvallis, Oregon, and has contributed articles to *Persimmon Hill* and *Paint Horse Journal*, among other publications.

## BASEMENT TREASURES

**2,700**

Prints

**1,800**

Glass-Plate Negatives

**1**

Graflex Camera

**1**

Pith Helmet

**35**

Diaries

After Janet Williams, who had inherited Evelyn Cameron's possessions, died at age 99, her heirs worked with the Montana Historical Society, Terry's Prairie County Museum/Cameron Gallery and Evelyn Cameron Heritage to share the photographer's contribution to Old West history with the public.



Sisters May, Mabel and Myrtle (from left) pose on their horses in a corral in this unpublished photo originally shot for *Country Life* magazine.

TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

# CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

## TRIANGLE CANYON SHOOT-OUT

### GEORGE SCARBOROUGH VS THE WILD BUNCH

#### A BONE-SPLITTING SHOT



*George Scarborough—the man who killed the man who killed John Wesley Hardin.*

— ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL —

BY BOB BOZE BELL

*Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker*

Based on the research of Jeffrey Burton

APRIL 3, 1900

**L**awman George Scarborough and Triangle Ranch manager Walter Birchfield are trailing cow thieves in the San Simon, Arizona, area. As they pick up the trail of five outlaws heading into the Chiricahua Mountains, they discover dropped .30-40 Winchester cartridges. The two realize they are not dealing with petty smugglers; they are trailing big game.

That afternoon, the two step into a camp where the outlaws recently left a pail of coffee still warm enough to drink. They follow the trail up Triangle Canyon until they reach another camp site, on a rockstrewn hillside, where the trail veers south from the creekbed they have been following.

Birchfield, who knows the area better than Scarborough, suggests they move across a ridge and descend into Dun Springs Canyon to approach the camp from a more advantageous side. Scarborough disagrees. “No,” he replies, “we’re going back down and see who these fellows are.”

The two riders start down the trail when they come across two saddled, but riderless horses about 75 yards in front of them. They pass the horses and dismount, sprinting forward on foot until they are about 200 yards from the camp.

Realizing they need to act quickly and decisively, Scarborough says, “There [is] no use to call on them to surrender,” so they get in position to command the battlefield.

Scarborough fires three or four times with his .30-40 Winchester 1895 and Birchfield, once, with his inferior .30-30 Winchester 1894. None of the bullets hit their targets and the five outlaws scramble for cover in the boulders.

For half an hour, nothing happens. Suddenly a head pops up from behind a boulder and Scarborough fires, then fires twice more to no effect. As minutes go by with no sign of activity, the two men speculate their prey has escaped.

The lawmen sprint back to their horses, sheathe their Winchesters,

draw their revolvers, mount up and ride toward a nearby cluster of rocks. The outlaws open fire on them, and a .30-40 slug knocks Scarborough out of the saddle, an incredible shot at a moving target 350 yards away. One of the outlaws lets out a whoop. (Birchfield later identifies the shooter: “[I]t was old Capehart. I’d a-knowed him anywhere.”)

Birchfield’s horse is so unnerved by the shooting that he bucks, throws his rider and runs away. Luckily, Birchfield corrals Scarborough’s horse, grabs his partner’s .30-40 Winchester from the scabbard and jumps behind a sycamore. The outlaws rain fire into his position, and he is hit by ricochets, breaking the skin of his arms and head; one of the bullets bores through his shoulder.

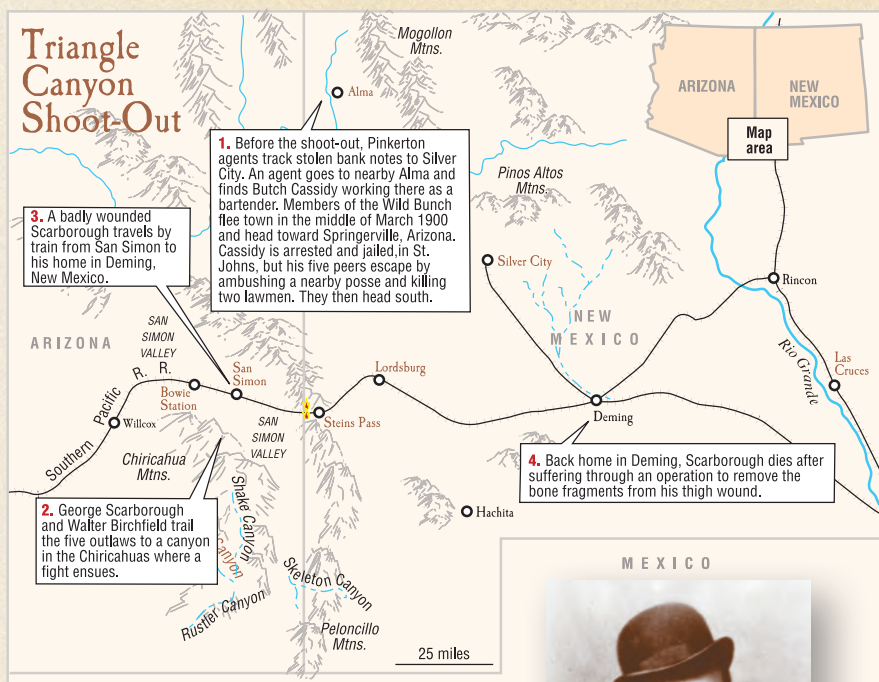
Scarborough’s wound is serious; the bullet broke his leg near the thigh. He is passed out, and Birchfield thinks him dead. Then Scarborough calls out to him. Birchfield crawls over to the fallen lawman’s exposed position, throwing up rocks as a barricade to shield the pair from further gunfire.

The gang members hold their distance (some historians speculate two of the outlaws, Thomas Capehart and Will Carver, know Birchfield and like him.). Finally, Scarborough yells out, “We have one gun between us; I’m wounded, but if you will show yourselves, I’ll fight the whole bunch.”

The outlaws don’t take him up on the offer, but they do continue to fire on them. Their bullets send rock splinters into the lawmen’s position, but do no further damage.

At dark, Birchfield mounts Scarborough’s horse and spurs away. Riding through snow and sleet, he arrives at the San Simon train station at three a.m. He telegraphs for a doctor, then gathers help, leading a rescue team to Scarborough, who is now suffering from a loss of blood and exposure. The rescuers deliver Scarborough to the San Simon train station at two p.m. the next day and place him on a train to Deming, New Mexico. ★

Members of the Wild Bunch robbed a Wilcox, Wyoming, train on June 2, 1899, and escaped with \$30,000 in cash, plus \$3,400 in bank notes (lacking two signatures). The flawed bank notes started showing up in southwest New Mexico, which alerted authorities to the Alma area, where several in the gang, including Butch Cassidy and Harry "Sundance Kid" Longbaugh, were working under assumed names.



By 1900, firepower had improved dramatically. This is Arizona Ranger Bill Foster, who is probably armed with the same array of weapons that George Scarborough was carrying during the Triangle Canyon Shoot-Out.



Will Carver

## Modern Weapons & Smokeless Powder

Nearly a year earlier, in July 1899, Will Carver almost single-handedly defeated an eight-man Cimarron posse at the Battle of Turkey Creek Canyon, in northern New Mexico. Armed with a rifle and smokeless powder bullets, the outlaw rained fire on the lawmen's positions with impunity; one of the posse later dies because of a bullet Carver shot into his thigh.

Author Jeffrey Burton tells *True West* that the outlaws in the Triangle Canyon Shoot-Out were armed with similar superior firepower. Their modern rifles were chambered with .30-40 bullets that had a range of 250 yards. Even so, Burton admits the 350-yard shot that downed George Scarborough was a "lucky hit on a moving target." Nonetheless, the Wild Bunch members proved themselves quite adept at utilizing the latest technology to their advantage.

## Aftermath: Odds & Ends

George Scarborough made it alive back to his home in Deming, New Mexico, but the loss of blood and the long hours of exposure to the cold had weakened him. He died on April 5, after suffering through an operation to remove bone fragments from his shattered thighbone. He left a widow and seven children.

The death of Scarborough came four years to the day after his shooting of John Selman in El Paso, Texas. Selman is the gunfighter who shot John Wesley Hardin in the Acme Saloon.

Three different posses converged in Arizona at San Simon, including one led by Texas John Slaughter. The combined posses trailed the five outlaws into Mexico, but then lost trace of the gang.

The five outlaws probably included Tom Capehart, Tom Hilliard (alias Tod Carver, etc.), Will Carver, Harvey Logan (Kid Curry) and Ben Kilpatrick. Some historians suspect George Kilpatrick, not Ben, participated, but most lean toward the latter brigand.

As time went on, folks started saying Walter Birchfield had led Scarborough into a trap to be assassinated, a story advanced by cattlemen who knew Birchfield. Birchfield's actions, however, belie that motive. If true, why would he have created a breastwork to defend the wounded lawman, then ride through snow and sleet with flesh wounds and head a rescue party in the cold night to bring Scarborough back? Hardly the work of someone who wanted to betray the lawman.

After the shoot-out, the members of the Wild Bunch scattered. Carver returned to Texas, where, a year later, he was gunned down in Sonora, while casing the town for a bank robbery.

**Recommended:** *The Deadliest Outlaws: The Ketchum Gang and The Wild Bunch* by Jeffrey Burton, published by University of North Texas Press.

BY CHAD HAYS

# Hank Monk

HE GAVE A NEW YORK EDITOR THE RIDE OF HIS LIFE.

**“NEARLY** everyone on the coast and directly east of the mountains came to know my brother, either personally or by repute, as early as the sixties, and gradually his reputation crossed the divide, and came through the East,” Henry James “Hank” Monk’s brother, George, recalled to the *Washington Times* in 1903. “He was an adventurous fellow, but he took no chances when his coach was loaded.”

The passenger of Hank’s most famous ride may have disagreed with the assertion that the driver took no chances.

When Horace Greeley, the former *New York Tribune* editor and presidential candidate, was running behind schedule during an 1859 lecture tour and needed quick transport from the vicinity of Carson City, Nevada, to Placerville, California, he found himself in Hank’s coach for what would be the ride of his life.

Hank took off at great speed through the Sierra Nevada, leading Greeley to bounce about the coach, “...his bare head bobbing, sometimes on the

back and then on the front of the seat... holding on to whatever he could grab,” Hank told a writer for San Francisco’s *Golden Era* the following year.

When Greeley expressed his concerns about the breakneck pace, Hank replied, “Horace, keep your seat! I told you I would get there by five o’clock, and by God I’ll do it, if the axles hold!”

Though shaken from the tumultuous journey, Greeley did indeed arrive on time.



Hank Monk got his first break in the Gold Rush state with the California Stage Company, which went out of business in 1865 when its Oregon line failed.

– All images True West Archives –



As a token of gratitude, he awarded Hank with the finest suit Placerville had to offer.

The ride took on a legendary status after Mark Twain caught wind of the tale and included his embellished retelling of it in his 1872 book *Roughing It*.

Born and raised in New York, Hank had begun his career as a stage driver at the age of 12. Some people were born to perform

a particular job, and that seemed to be the case for Hank. In 1852, spurred on by the California Gold Rush, the 26-year-old reached Sacramento, where he initially drove for the California Stage Company. Hank would go on to spend more than two decades in the region, growing his legend as one of the most colorful and adventurous stage drivers ever.

Beyond Hank’s stage driving talents, his colorful retellings of his adventures

endured him to those who crossed his path. In 1878, J.P. Meder composed a song, “Hank Monk Schottische,” about the stagecoach driver. Idaho Meacham Strobbridge wrote in her 1909 book, *The Land of Purple Shadows*, that riding with the “incomparable” Hank was a dream come true; if given the choice, she would rather see, hear and speak to Hank rather than then-President Abraham Lincoln.

When Hank succumbed to pneumonia in 1883, Nevada’s *Virginia City Territorial Enterprise* paid tribute to the folk hero with a fitting obituary: “Hank Monk, the famous stage coach driver is dead. He has been on the downgrade for some time. On Wednesday his foot lost its final hold on the brake and his coach could not be stopped until, battered and broken on a sharp turn, it went over into the canyon, black and deep, which we call death...”



Chad Hays is the assistant editor of *True West Magazine*. Do you know about an unsung character of the Old West whose story we should share here? Send the details to [editor@twmag.com](mailto:editor@twmag.com), and be sure to include high-resolution historical photos.



Dressed for the Sierra Nevada winter, Hank Monk must have looked like this in the 1860s when Idah Meacham Strobridge traveled in his stage. She wrote of traveling "past dark Tahoe (frozen and cold)... Twice had the other stages gained upon us... only to be, in turn, repassed by Hank and his matchless six."

BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

# REMEMBERING THE DAKOTA WAR IN MINNESOTA

From St. Paul, Minnesota, to Santee, Nebraska.



Fresh out of Yale, 22-year-old Adrian J. Ebell had traveled to Minnesota to photograph the Sioux and arrived five days before the surprise attack on the Upper Sioux Agency. Fleeing with the missionaries and their families, Ebell took this photograph when the group paused to eat in August 1862.

– True West Archives –

**A**re you here to see the Dakota War exhibit?" a male worker at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul asks me.

It takes a moment before I can answer. I didn't expect anyone in Minnesota to be broadcasting the 150th anniversary of a war that most people here would just as soon as forget. But, "Yeah," I reply, and head upstairs to take in "The US-Dakota War of 1862," which opened last June and closes on September 8.

This is an impressive, well-balanced exhibit, low on artifacts, but high on historic interpretation. It is a good start on an important *Renegade Roads*.

The Dakota War is said to have started in Acton, about a two-hour drive west. In reality, the war started much earlier.

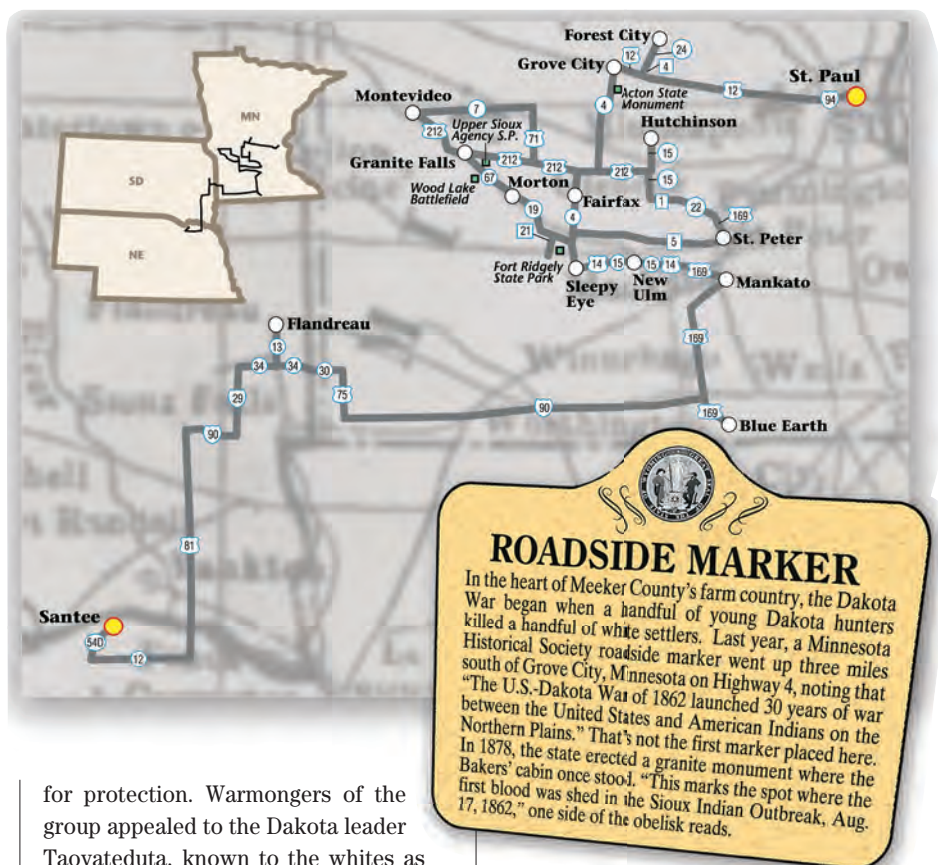
### Bad Times

By the time Minnesota entered the union in 1858, most American Indian lands had been ceded, and the Dakota were living on reservations. The Homestead Act of 1862 would send more white settlers into the state.

Now, stop me if you've heard this story before: Some Indian agents and traders were corrupt! Because of such corruption, annuity payments to the Indians were late. By August 1862, many Dakota were starving.

Months earlier, George E. Day had written his boss, President Abraham Lincoln, about the corruption rampant among Indian Affairs, but Lincoln was preoccupied trying to keep the Union intact. When Indians complained to white trader Andrew Myrick, he said, "Let them eat grass, or their own dung."

On August 17, four young Dakota hunters, pretty much on a whim, murdered five white settlers in Meeker County near Acton Township. The young Indians fled to their village, begging



for protection. Warmongers of the group appealed to the Dakota leader Taoyateduta, known to the whites as Little Crow, to lead the Dakota in a war against the whites.

Little Crow didn't want to, but he did, and Minnesota almost went up in flames.

In about six weeks, an estimated 400 to 600 white settlers and soldiers were killed. Indian casualties are uncertain. The ending of the war is also ambiguous; it ended in September at Camp Release near Montevideo, or maybe in December in Mankato, or maybe on July 3, 1863, when Little Crow was killed while looking for berries in a farmer's field near Hutchinson. Nathan Lamson collected not only a bounty for the dead Indian, but also a \$500 bonus for killing Little Crow.

Or ... maybe ... the war still isn't over.

John Koblas recalls a book signing for the first volume of his history, *Let Them Eat Grass*, when Dakota Indians protested a white man writing about an Indian war: "I told them I thought I was fair, that I told both sides of the story—as I always do—and that I was, and am, very sympathetic to Little Crow," Koblas says.

The Minnesota History Center gives both sides of the story and doesn't sugarcoat one thing.

This is a promising start.

Also in St. Paul, Fort Snelling State Park is a must stop, whether you're following the Dakota War or you just like old forts. Established in 1819 and originally known as Fort Saint Anthony, the post would serve many soldiers fighting against the Dakota. After the war, some 1,600 Dakota were held at the nearby agency. The whites called it an internment camp. The Indians saw it as a concentration camp.

### Loggers and Farmers

From St. Paul, drive to Forest City, a town established by lumberjacks in 1855. After the Dakota outbreak, Meeker County treasurer George Whitcomb arrived with guns and ammunition—a gift from the governor. Of course, by that time, only 13 men and three women remained in the town. Most had fled. In early September, Capt. Richard Strout and his company engaged the Dakota in the Battle of Acton. The Dakota numbered some 200. Strout lost six killed and between a dozen and two



"Never Shall I Forget: Brown County and the Dakota War" is housed on the third floor of the Brown County Historical Society museum in New Ulm. The exhibit only offers part of the story, but an understanding of New Ulm's experience during the 1862 war helps explain why that is.

— All photos by Johnny D. Boggs unless otherwise noted —

dozen wounded. That's why you'll find a reconstructed stockade at Forest City. Within a day after the Acton fight, the Home Guard and other settlers had built the stockade for protection, using timbers that had been cut to build a church. The stockade protected scores of settlers during the war.

This is farm country, and most of the settlers had come there to farm. In fact, the historical markers in Acton are found at a farm, on a dirt road off Minnesota Highway 4, south of Grove City. The plaque on a small rock that marks Little Crow's death is next to a field off a county road about six miles north of Hutchinson.

Yet the Dakota War wasn't just about attacks on farmers or at farms. Let's swing by St. Peter. The

The war that changed  
Minnesota forever.

## THE US-DAKOTA WAR OF 1862

Exhibit on view through Sept. 8.  
[www.usdakotawar.org](http://www.usdakotawar.org)



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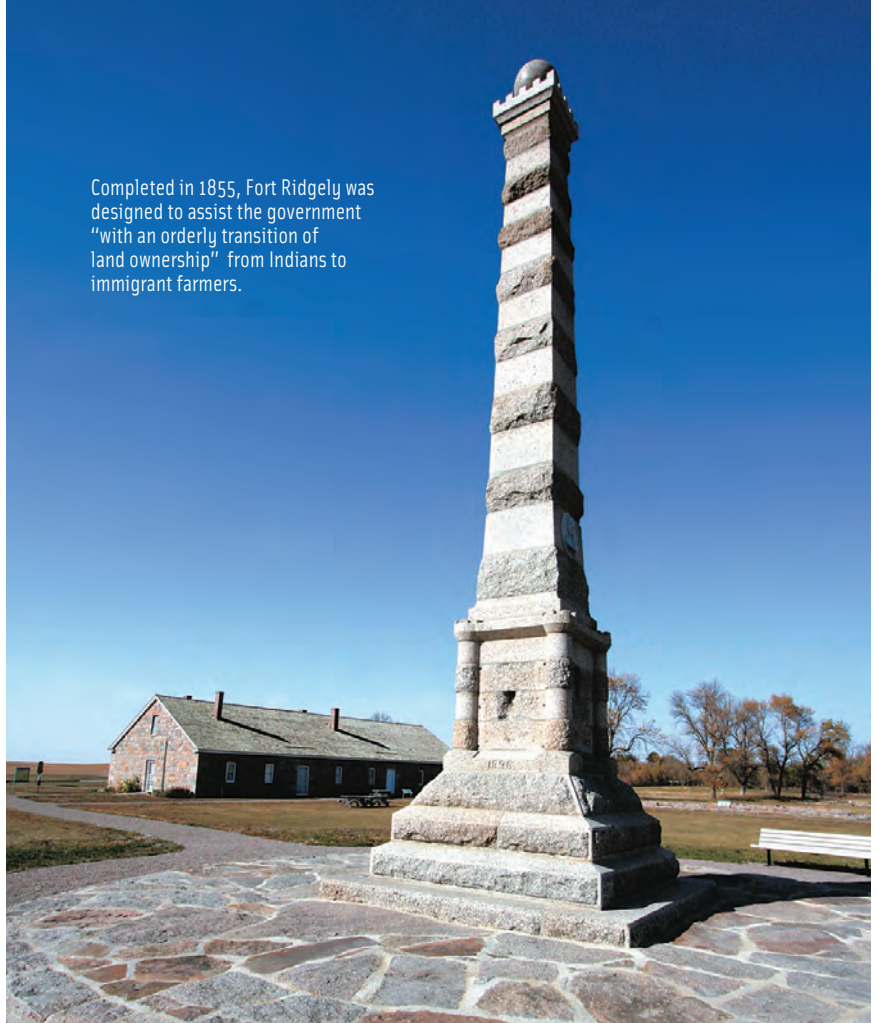
Treaty Site History Center, home of the Nicollet County Historical Society, examines the 1851 treaty in which the Dakota Nation sold 24 million acres—roughly half of Minnesota—to the United States. The museum also covers the fur trade and Dakota culture. You can even hike along Traverse des Sioux, the shallow river crossing that made this an ideal meeting place for U.S. and Dakota officials to meet in 1851.

### Fore! for Forts

From St. Peter, I'm off to Fort Ridgely State Park near Fairfax.

This tour is more along the lines of what I expected to find in Minnesota while touring the Dakota War sites. While I saw a few people at the Minnesota History

Completed in 1855, Fort Ridgely was designed to assist the government "with an orderly transition of land ownership" from Indians to immigrant farmers.



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The Upper Sioux Agency was established about 30 miles up the Minnesota River from the Lower Sioux Agency. Today, both are state parks that offer interpretive trails, with the Upper Sioux featuring a restored agency house.

Center, I have been alone at most of the other spots. Even the McLeod County Historical Society Museum was closed, though the hours said it should be open.

The only person I find at Fort Ridgely is a guy in a golf cart, who seems annoyed that I'm reading the markers, which is interrupting his game.

We think of Indians attacking forts as something out of B-Western movies, but in reality these attacks did happen during the Dakota War. In 1862, the fort, then a training base for Civil War volunteers, was attacked by Dakota Indians—twice, on August 20 and August 22. Some 280 military and civilian defenders held out until Army reinforcements ended the siege. The Dakotas also attacked Lake Shetek, abducting women and children as their hostages.

Ridgely wasn't the only institution the Dakotas attacked. Head over to Morton to visit the Lower Sioux Agency and Birch Coulee Battlefield Site.

Birch Coulee was among the hardest fought battles of the war. On September 2, 1862, Dakotas attacked a burial party of soldiers and kept the Army troops pinned down for 36 hours before Fort Ridgely reinforcements arrived. Today, the self-guided site offers perspectives from both Dakota and white viewpoints.

That's near the end of the war. For a look at the beginning, head to the Lower

Sioux Agency near Redwood Falls. Here, the Dakota War began in earnest when Little Crow's forces killed 18 traders and government employees on August 18.

Among those killed here: Myrick. Remember him? According to reports, grass was stuffed in his mouth.

The Dakotas took their war to the people, attacking settlements and farms in Renville and Brown Counties, killing some 200 settlers and taking more than 200 white and mixed-blood hostages.

Despite such popular outcry, Lincoln told Minnesota Gov. Alexander Ramsey, "I could not hang men for votes."

Today, the Lower Sioux Agency features numerous exhibits and interpretive trails. The same can be said of the Upper Sioux Agency near Granite Falls. The agency was evacuated on August 19. When the warring Dakotas reached the site, they destroyed most of the buildings.

Today, the agency, now a state park, includes several trails, foundations and a restored agency house.

By this time, Gov. Alexander Ramsey had commissioned Henry H. Sibley to lead a volunteer militia against the Indians. As more settlers fled western Minnesota for the safety offered back east, the state was pretty much in panic.

### Two Sides to the Story

The Upper Sioux Agency is a short

drive to Wood Lake, where Sibley's forces defeated Little Crow on September 23. Wood Lake is where I run into people, in fact, students from area high schools on a field trip. I was glad to hear that they were being told both sides of the story of the Dakota War.

Which, even today, doesn't always happen. Because, after quick stops to Montevideo, where Camp Release basically ended the war, and Sleepy Eye (Sleepy Eye's grave), I find myself in New Ulm. Indians attacked this town on August 19 and August 23, burning buildings along the river and destroying practically a third of the town. So I check into the Brown County Historical Society museum in downtown. "Never Shall I Forget: Brown County and the Dakota War" occupies the third floor. This is an amazing, moving exhibit, even if it is told predominantly from the white viewpoint. I have a hard



### GOOD EATS

Pazzaluna (above, St. Paul, MN)  
 Patrick's (St. Peter)  
 Rivers Family Restaurant (Montevideo)  
 Wagon Wheel Café (Mankato)  
 Yesterday's (Yankton)

### GOOD SLEEPS

Hotel 340 (St. Paul, MN)  
 Konsbruck Hotel (St. Peter)  
 Moonstone Farm (Montevideo)  
 Hilton Garden Inn (Mankato)



Tom Miller sculpted this buffalo from a 67-ton block of local Kasota limestone. It symbolizes the "spiritual survival of the Dakota People and honors the Dakota heritage" at Reconciliation Park in Mankato.

time blaming New Ulm for that. After the uprising, the town wasn't reorganized until December.

Having been defeated at Wood Lake, the Dakotas released white and mixed blood hostages at Camp Release on September 26, but that's not the end of this story. That's not why folks feel so much bitterness 150 years later.

To understand that, I'm off to Mankato.

### Reconciliation?

Mankato is the place where, on December 26, 1862, thirty-eight Dakotas were hanged after being convicted by military tribunals of murder and rape during the uprising. The death toll could have been much worse. President Lincoln commuted the sentences of another 264 who had also been condemned to death, with one more, Tatemina, later given a reprieve because the testimony against him was deemed questionable. Still, many white settlers protested this clemency. Despite such popular outcry, Lincoln told Minnesota Gov. Alexander Ramsey, "I could not hang men for votes."

Those 38 Indians who were hanged, on a single platform, would go down in history as America's largest mass execution. Their bodies were buried on the riverbank; grave robbers dug up many of them.

By 1863, thousands of Dakota had been forced to South Dakota and Nebraska reservations. Most Dakota Indians today still live outside of Minnesota, but before taking off for today's Dakota homelands near Flandreau, South Dakota, and Santee, Nebraska, I find myself in Mankato, at a place called Reconciliation Park.

The park is small. Again, I'm the only one here, walking around a 67-ton sculpture of a limestone buffalo as traffic buzzes along Riverfront Drive. The park was dedicated on September 19, 1997, at the site where those 38 Dakotas were executed. It's a place of reflection, to come to terms with what happened 150 years ago, whether you're white or Indian.

As Dakota Elder Amos Owen said in 1997, it is "a reconciliation for all people."



Johnny D. Boggs recommends John Koblas's three-volume history *Let Them Eat Grass: The 1862 Sioux Uprising in Minnesota* (North Star Press of St. Cloud).

## ROAD TRIP Times

**CDs for the Ride:** Hey, this is Minnesota, so you have to listen to Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion: 25th Anniversary Collection* (HighBridge), a collection of highlights from Lake Wobegon, including 25 tunes.  
**Honkytonks Worth the Stop:** Downtown St. Paul is always rocking, but if you want to get away from Country music or earsplitting Rock'n'Roll, head over to downtown's *The Artists' Quarter* for some jazz, located in the Hamm building's basement at 408 St. Peter Street. You're almost always likely to find live music at this club owned and operated by musicians.



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## McLintock! Memories

Fifty years later: Ed Faulkner on Maureen O'Hara and the Duke.



Ed Faulkner (right) gives the inside skinny on the Duke and Maureen O'Hara's famous mud brawl scene in 1963's *McLintock!* (above).

- Courtesy Batjac Production/United Artists -



**"I**t's the movie people always ask me about. 'Oh, I love John Wayne, but *McLintock!* has to be my favorite!'"

Actor Ed Faulkner punctuates this statement with an easy laugh and a degree of earned pride. His role, as the son of Bruce Cabot's character, Ben Sage, triggers the wild mud brawl, which ranks among the most famous of Wayne's movie moments. Audiences loved the knockdown comedy of 1963's *McLintock!*, making the film a major hit, at a time when Wayne needed one, having just come off of the financially distressed film *The Alamo*.

Faulkner first worked with its director Andrew McLaglen on *Have Gun—Will Travel*: "I first met Andy in 1958, when he was a staff director at CBS. Andy became a mentor of mine, and we did a lot of television together. He called and said he had the chance to direct his first Duke film. He had worked on *The Quiet Man* as an assistant, with his

dad, Mr. Vic [Victor McLaglen], playing Maureen's brother."

McLaglen had been a unit production manager on 1953's *Hondo* and a top assistant director on Wayne films such as 1949's *Sands of Iwo Jima*. Wayne's company put McLaglen in the director's chair on several low-budget films, but he had yet to direct Duke himself.

"Andy now had this opportunity to direct *McLintock!*, and he said I want you to come over to meet Duke, because I have a part for you," Faulkner says.

Faulkner drove to Paramount Studios, thinking he'd be put through his paces for the part. "I checked in with the secretary, and all of a sudden these two French doors open, and here's Duke filling both of them, literally," Faulkner says. "He grabbed me and said, 'Come on in, I want you to meet your Pappy!' That was Bruce Cabot, who played my father.

This was a big thrill for me, to be cast in a John Wayne movie, but also Maureen O'Hara? That was something!

"I really didn't have any scenes with her, but I got to observe her, and she was game for anything. She was just gorgeous, with that hair and coloring, but she did her own stunts in that mud fight."

---

"They obviously admired each other, and it was a wonderful, wonderful thing to see that relationship."

---

In the movie, Faulkner's character Ben Sage has taken Jones's [Leo Gordon's] daughter for a romantic ride, but Jones thinks she's been kidnapped by Indians, so he is ready to start a one-man war. That's when Duke steps in as George McLintock. "I ride in on the horse, with Leo's daughter on the back, well, that's when Wayne grabs the shotgun from Leo, hits him, and he goes down into this big pond," Faulkner says. "They built the pond with plaster slides, and we all knew where they were. They were lubricated with bentonite, which was the compound that lubricates an oil drill. Well, Maureen [playing the estranged Mrs. McLintock, who gets knocked into the scuffle], said, 'They're not going to use a double for me!' I think she went down two or three times! We were in Tucson, and had wonderful weather, but when we filmed that scene, the water had a thin layer of ice on top of it, so they had to heat it up. After we'd go down into the mud and fight, then we'd go into a dressing room, and they couldn't get the bentonite off us without being sprayed with a fire hose! That's just an illustration of how game she was."

*McLintock!* was Wayne and O'Hara's fourth film together, and that great *Quiet Man/Rio Grande* chemistry

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## MAUREEN OUT WEST

Maureen O'Hara's amazing career has taken her from Notre Dame Cathedral to the McLintock Ranch, with stops in Wales, Ireland, and 34th Street in between. These DVDs let us ride West with the beautiful redhead, who never backed away from a fight or John Wayne.



### 1944's *Buffalo Bill*

Director William Wellman claimed Darryl Zanuck forced him to make *Buffalo Bill* as a trade-off for *The Ox-Bow Incident*. O'Hara is gorgeous, and Joel McCrea makes a fine Cody, but this is strictly manufactured hokum, and it works just great. (Fox)



### 1950's *Rio Grande*

The only John Ford Western O'Hara appeared in and her first with Wayne. She puts herself in harm's way to bring home their son who has enlisted in Wayne's cavalry outfit. O'Hara is Duke's match at every turn. (Olive Films)



### 1950's *Comanche Territory*

O'Hara's first Western for Universal has her opposite a miscast Macdonald Carey as Jim Bowie. Strictly routine, with O'Hara bringing her energy along, but it's not enough. (Universal)



### 1953's *The Redhead from Wyoming*

Fun Western, with O'Hara managing a saloon during the middle of a range war. Alex Nicol is her leading man, but she dominates with her energy and strength. (Universal)



### 1953's *War Arrow*

O'Hara is the widow of a cavalry officer who's romanced by Jeff Chandler's character while he trains Seminoles to fight the Kiowa. This good-looking Western is as full of clichés as flaming arrows. (Universal)



### 1961's *The Deadly Companions*

In Sam Peckinpah's first feature, O'Hara plays a widow who is determined to transport the body of her murdered son through Apache Territory. It's a dark journey, with the boy's killer (Brian Keith) riding along, trying to assuage his guilt by offering Maureen protection from the Indians. Now available in a new widescreen transfer. (VCI Entertainment/Cary Roan)



### 1963's *McLintock!*

Duke and O'Hara are battling marrieds who still love each other, even while hurling insults and chamber pots. Echoes of *The Quiet Man* ring, but *McLintock!* is its own romp, with pure slapstick that shows off O'Hara and Duke in prat-falling glory. The special widescreen edition features commentary. (Paramount)



### 1966's *The Rare Breed*

O'Hara plays a feisty widow, getting James Stewart to help her bring Hereford cattle to the West. She could play this role in her sleep, but does her best to add some edge. (Universal)



### 1971's *Big Jake*

O'Hara's last feature with Wayne is an uneven mixture of comedy and bloody violence, which Duke himself dubbed a "stuffed turkey." Still entertaining, with a great villain in Richard Boone. O'Hara's role is brief, as Wayne's estranged wife. (Paramount)

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was evident, even when battling each other. "They almost knew what the other one was thinking," Faulkner says. "They obviously admired each other, and it was a wonderful, wonderful thing to see that relationship. She was just crazy about him. I was in absolute awe of her, and I watched every scene she was in. Maureen was very kind to me."

That kindness extended to Faulkner's family as well. "One day, my wife Barbara was in Maureen's dressing room, and it was raining, and they were having a conversation. A reporter showed up to talk to Maureen. Maureen said, 'Tell him he'll have to wait, because I'm having a conversation with a friend of mine.' And he waited."

The film would be Faulkner's induction into the Wayne troupe. "Pat Wayne, Stefanie Powers and I were like a threesome all through the whole show. So we were the 'young uns' of the movie!" Faulkner says.

But Faulkner impressed Wayne most of all, who wanted him in five more films, including 1968's *The Green Berets*: "Duke treated me almost like family, and I just loved him," Faulkner says. "I've never worked with an actor who was any more knowledgeable about the film industry than Duke. He knew it all. He really did. He and I played chess incessantly. I never saw Duke down. Now, if someone wasn't giving 110 percent, he'd tear into them like a madman, because he was putting that effort in himself. Always first man on the set, ready to go.

"When people ask me about a favorite film with Wayne, I'd have to say it was *McLintock!*, because it was the first one I'd done, and I'd never been on a set like that before; his sets, there was a magic about them, and you just wanted to do your best for him."



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



## MAUREEN O'HARA'S FAREWELL TO FANS

At her public farewell to her fans, Maureen O'Hara and her family will be at the John Wayne Birthplace in Winterset, Iowa, on May 24-25 when the John Wayne Birthday Celebration presents "A Tribute to Maureen O'Hara."

The celebration includes multiple screenings of the five movies O'Hara and the Duke starred in together: *Rio Grande*, *The Wings of Eagles*, *Big Jake*, *McLintock!* and their iconic teaming in *The Quiet Man*. Fans of every stripe will enjoy the screenings, as they cover nearly every character Wayne ever played: cavalry, cowboy, WWII and Irish.

In addition, the party will feature a Western Swing dance and barbecue on May 24 and a John Wayne Birthplace Museum fundraising dinner on May 25, with Irish bagpipe music and an auction of Wayne and O'Hara memorabilia.



[JohnWayneBirthplace.org](http://JohnWayneBirthplace.org)

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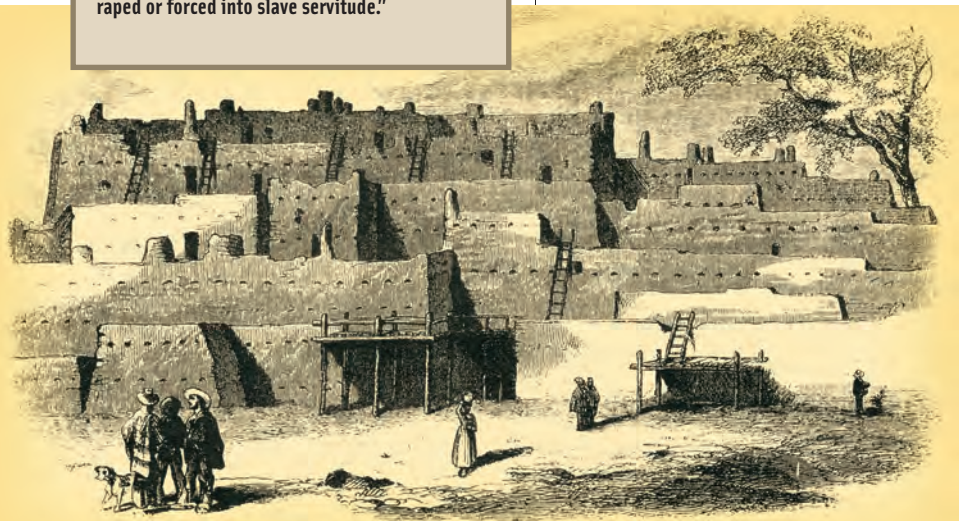
"...Coronado relied on torture and other horrific measures to establish dominance over the people he was sent to quell in Mexico and those he encountered in his two years in North America. Mass murders occurred when his men torched occupied pueblo settlements. Any Indian even suspected of being resistant to Spanish overlordship was often hanged, burned at the stake, or brutally maimed. Indian women were raped or forced into slave servitude."

We are coming up on the 500-year mark since the glory days of the Spanish conquistadors. It was in 1519 that Hernando Cortés mounted his campaign to topple the Aztec empire, a move that would bestow upon him the title of "Conqueror of Mexico." In the aftermath of Cortés were numerous *conquistadors* (conquerors) and, accordingly, numerous *entradas* (forays) into the northern frontiers of New Spain. But for devotees of the

history of the American West, one name stands apart—Francisco Vázquez de Coronado—and only one other name approaches that name in importance—Juan de Oñate. The latter's *entrada* came six decades after Coronado's, but covered much of the same ground.

Today, their explorations seem steeped in the mists of time. Yet we know that in 1541, an astoundingly short 49 years after Christopher Columbus's discovery of the New World, Spaniards plunged deep into the Great Plains, claiming for Spain the midsection of what is now America, encountering human beings who themselves had never seen a human being atop an animal—an animal, in fact, that they'd never seen before.

Author Stan Hoig, in the last work he would ever pen, published posthumously, brought remarkable insight and conciseness to the telling of the Spaniards' tales. His *Came Men on Horses: The Conquistador Expeditions of Francisco Vázquez de Coronado and Don Juan*



PUEBLO OF TAOS—NORTH PUEBLO

In his last book, the late esteemed Western historian Stan Hoig discussed how the Spanish's problems of conquest in present-day New Mexico emerged at the Pueblo of Taos, where the first of a long series of puebloan rebellions occurred.

— Courtesy University Press of Colorado —



*de Oñate* (University Press of Colorado, \$34.95 cloth/\$27.95 ebook) comes out three years after his passing at age 85. Hoig, a respected and prolific author of Western history, also authored *The Battle of the Washita*, *The Chouteaus*, *The Sand Creek Massacre*, *Tribal Wars of the Southern Plains* and *The Humor of the American Cowboy*, his first book. Altogether, he wrote some 25 books while serving as professor of journalism at the University of Central Oklahoma. Before the end of his 22 years there, he attained the status of professor emeritus.

Though his area of academic expertise was journalism, Hoig deemed himself a “journalist historian.” In that respect, he was known for sharing his interest in historical research and the American West with his students, says Dr. Pamela T. Washington, a former dean of the University of Central Oklahoma’s College of Liberal Arts. As Dr. Washington observed three years ago, “[Hoig] always compared historical writing to a kind of archaeological dig where you reveal more and more layers of information the further you dig.”

In his last effort, he dug deep. As Durwood Ball, an associate professor of history at the University of New Mexico, remarked, “After examining Hoig’s account, I will never see the Spanish *entrada* or conquest in the same way.... Parts of this manuscript left me stunned.”

Following in the tradition of Richard and Shirley Cushing Flint, Hoig toppled some long-standing assumptions and demythologized some of the myths. Earlier historians have treated Coronado and Oñate as markedly less oppressive than their predecessors. Hoig debunked those sanitized images in short order.

Yes, their predecessors were cruel. In the 1530s, Nuño de Guzmán led a force that penetrated northward along the western portion of New Spain as far as San Miguel. Called by his later contemporaries the “most foul and evil man” to ever set foot in New Spain, Guzmán “set

a standard for human cruelty by branding Indian natives on the face with heated irons and selling them as slaves to mine operators in the West Indies,” Hoig wrote in his book.

But 70 years later, Oñate was allegedly guilty of “cutting off noses, hands, or feet” to strike fear and establish dominance. Coronado had been equally brutal, burning natives at the stake.

Between tales of such atrocities come interludes of sheer wonder. García López de Cárdenas, one of Coronado’s lieutenants, went in search of water and discovered the Grand Canyon. Coronado, venturing east, found Apaches, a sea of grass and buffalo.

“Moving eastward from the Pecos River, expedition members began to see large numbers of buffalo,” Hoig wrote. He quoted Coronado himself: “...to count them is impossible.

[I say this] because never for a single day did I lose sight of them as I traveled through the plains, until I returned to where I [first] found them.”

Pedro de Castañeda, who was with Coronado, described a hunt when a herd stampeded into a ravine: “so many of the animals fell in that they filled it level and the rest crossed over the top [of them].”

Such images defy imagination. The same applies to Oñate’s 1598 discovery of the Wichita Indians on the Arkansas River in present-day Kansas. His explorers found 1,200 “dome-roofed thatched huts.” Going another five miles up the river, they “counted more than 1,700” additional huts, and “saw many more in the distance.”

Obviously, no one of Hoig’s stature comes to the *conquistador* accounts without something new to say. His analysis of past historical discrepancies due to shifts of the Julian and Gregorian calendars, his knowledge of geology and rivers, his keen analysis of motives and especially his research into primary and secondary sources bring fresh insights and mark *Came Men on Horses* as an essential analysis of this fascinating and neglected epoch. —*Jesse Mullins*

“Parts of this manuscript left me stunned.”

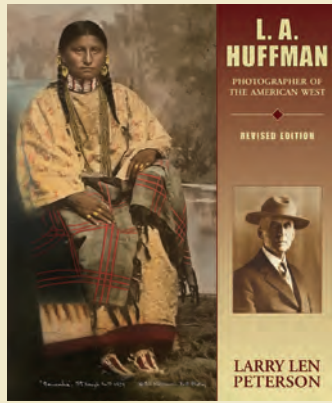
Word has reached us that Oklahoma’s National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum will bestow its prestigious Western Heritage Award for nonfiction book on the 2012 blockbuster *Geronimo* (Yale University Press) by Robert M. Utley. The Western Heritage Awards—also known as the Wrangler awards—will be conferred April 20 in a gala event at the Oklahoma City–based institution. Other winners in the literary category include Jim Logan’s magazine article “The Other Trail,” published in *Oklahoma Today’s* March/April 2012 edition. Logan tells the story of 19th-century cowboys who drove countless herds to new markets hungry for beef. The honor for Outstanding Western Novel will go to D.B. Jackson for *Unbroke Horses* (Goldminds Publishing). Jackson’s tale involves the kidnapping of a young boy by three Civil War deserters—a degenerate band of misfits—who try to conscript the boy into their malevolent ways. The Wrangler for Outstanding Photography Book will go to *National Geographic’s* impressive work *Greatest Photographs of the American West*, edited by Rich Clarkson and James C. McNutt.

\*\*\*

In our next issue, I’ll bring you coverage of the Western Writers of America’s Spur Awards. I hope to see some of you—well, the scribes in our midst, anyway—at the organization’s annual convention, slated this year for June 24–29 at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. The convention will feature panels on the Victorian West, songwriting, cowboys, Great Basin history and more.

—Jesse Mullins





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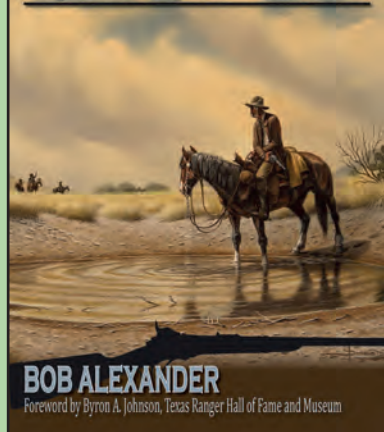
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## RIDING LUCIFER'S LINE

Ranger Deaths along the Texas-Mexico Border



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Foreword by Byron A. Johnson, Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum

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*Lady at the O.K. Corral* includes a possible age progression for Josie Earp, based on forensic analysis. Only the last photograph in this group, of an older Josephine, is fully authenticated.

— Forensic analysis by Cary Lane —

## LADY AT THE O.K. CORRAL

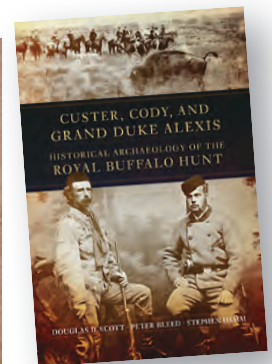
*Lady at the O.K. Corral* (HarperCollins, \$27.99) offers the reader a new perspective of Josephine Sarah Marcus Earp. Author Ann Kirschner mines her own similar ethnic background to grasp and interpret Josephine's thoughts and actions. Beginning with Josephine's life from a young Prussian girl in New York City, the narrative carries through her adult life with her legendary lawman husband. That journey—the adventures of Josephine and Wyatt—transports the reader to some of the Old West's most colorful locales and visits some of its most historical events. Josephine spent

a lifetime trying to hide her past and fighting to ensure her husband's legacy was never tarnished.

—*Sherry Monahan, author of The Wicked West and the upcoming Mrs. Earp: Brides and Lovers of the Earp Brothers*

## CUSTER, CODY, AND GRAND DUKE ALEXIS

Imagine going on a buffalo hunt with Sioux Chief Spotted Tail, Buffalo Bill Cody and Gen. George Custer. Oh, and throw in Col. George Forsyth of Beecher Island fame for good measure. Pure fantasy, except it actually happened in January



Edric L. Eaton photographed the 1872 buffalo hunt held in honor of the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia. Shared in the book is this photo of Buffalo Bill Cody in Eaton's studio in Omaha, Nebraska.

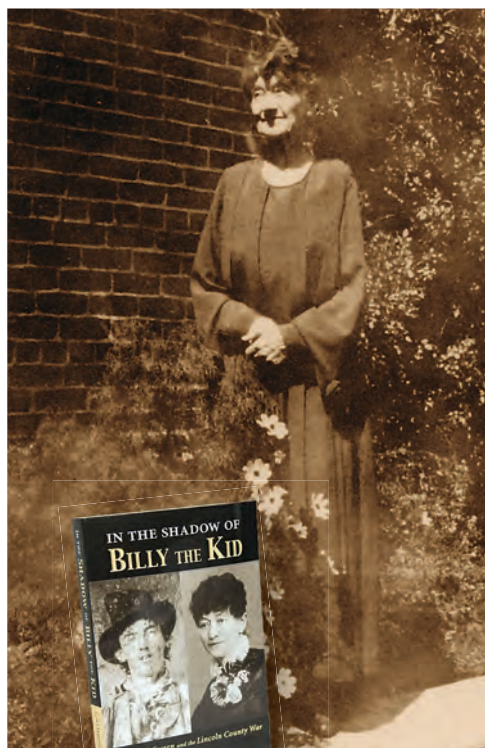
— Courtesy Jim Crain Collection —

1872, when Gen. Phil Sheridan hosted the visiting Grand Duke Alexis of Russia on a “royal buffalo hunt” in Nebraska. In *Custer, Cody, and Grand Duke Alexis: Historical Archaeology of the Royal Buffalo Hunt* (University of Oklahoma Press, \$24.95), authors Douglas D. Scott, Peter Bleed and Stephen Damm combine historical sources (including Russian ones) and findings from an archaeological survey of the hunters’ base camp on Red Willow Creek, all of which now mark this as *the* standard work on an improbable moment in Western history. Readers will be particularly intrigued by the unfamiliar photographs of life at “Camp Alexis.”

—Brian W. Dippie, author of *Custer’s Last Stand: The Anatomy of an American Myth*

### IN THE SHADOW OF BILLY THE KID

Kathleen P. Chamberlain delivers a masterly biography that examines the part that Susan McSween, this “intriguing, frustrating and wonderfully complex” woman, played in the late



*In the Shadow of Billy the Kid* features the late-in-life Susan McSween photographed in her garden by Walter Noble Burns, who wrote *The Saga of Billy the Kid* in 1926.

— Courtesy Arnold Duke Collection of the Ruidoso River Museum —

# Object Matrimony:

The Risky Business Of Mail-Order Match Making On The Western Frontier

by Chris Enss - published by Globe-Pequot Press



Photography by Rainty Jackson Photography

I do not pose as a beauty, but people tell me that I look well. I would like to get married, because I am lonesome. I have a lovable disposition and am always in good humor. I am 52 but don't look or act over 35. Have property worth \$30,000. I have a college education and am highly accomplished in music and voice. Would like to hear from some good business man. Object, Matrimony.



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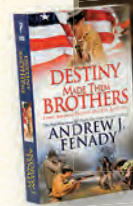
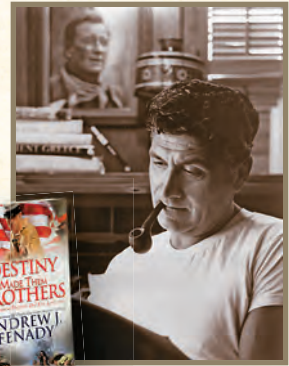
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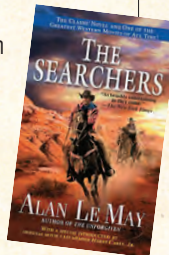
## ANDREW J. FENADY'S POST-CIVIL WAR READS

The man who wrote the classic John Wayne Western *Chisum* has a new novel out featuring his Johnny Yuma character from the 1959 TV show he created, *The Rebel*. His follow-up to *The Rebel: Johnny Yuma is Destiny Made Them Brothers* (Pinnacle), telling the fictional story of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, George Armstrong Custer and Johnny Yuma who meet on a Civil War battlefield. Fenady says, "Each of the following five books in some way made a contribution to *Destiny Made Them Brothers*—and I am grateful!"

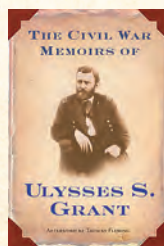


**1. The Hallelujah Trail** (Bill Gulick; Doubleday): I first read *The Hallelujah Trail* when it was published in 1963. Gulick's novel was somewhat overshadowed by the less-than-faithful and somewhat labored 1965 movie version that starred Burt Lancaster and Lee Remick. On its own, it's a hugely entertaining Western about men, Indians, whiskey and the women who didn't approve. I'd been a fan of Gulick's since I first read his 1958 Spur-winning short story, "Thief in Camp," published in *The Saturday Evening Post*, and had the pleasure meeting him at a Western Writers of America convention.

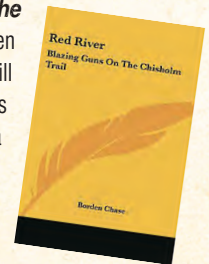
**2. The Searchers** (Alan LeMay; Pinnacle): Amos Edwards (his name was changed to Ethan in the 1956 John Ford movie) is an embittered Civil War vet who spends nearly six years searching for his young niece who has been kidnapped by Comanche. LeMay's novel was, in many ways, ahead of its time with its themes of racism, guilt, love and rage.



**3. The Civil War Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant** (edited by Brian M. Thomsen; Forge): Grant's 1885 autobiography, published by Mark Twain, is certainly one of the most honest and authentic descriptions of the Civil War ever published. One of Ford's unfulfilled ambitions was to do a movie based on the life of U.S. Grant, and it's a pity that he never got a chance to do it.



**4. Blazing Guns on the Chisholm Trail** (Borden Chase; Kessinger): I still remember reading this Borden Chase novella published by *The Saturday Evening Post* some time after WWII—you may know it from the Howard Hawks/John Wayne 1948 movie classic *Red River*. Later, I crossed paths with Chase when he wrote a script for the Chuck Connors TV Western, *Branded*, that I was producing. Interesting man—he was born Frank Fowler in 1900 and in the 1920s was a driver for New York City mafia chief Frankie Yale, who was gunned down by Al Capone's mob in 1928. Had Chase been driving Mr. Yale that day, it's likely he would have been killed as well. Looking for safer work, he ended up in Hollywood and for 30 years wrote some great movies (*Winchester '73*) and TV shows.



**5. Massacre** (James Warner Bellah; Lion Book): Another regular contributor to *The Saturday Evening Post*, Bellah wrote the stories "Mission With No Record" (*Rio Grande*), "War Party" and "Big Hunt" (*She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*) and "Massacre" (*Fort Apache*), all of which became John Ford movies that are today known as "Ford's Cavalry Trilogy." These three are featured in the 1950 Lion anthology of Bellah's *Saturday Evening Post* stories. Bellah was a superb Western writer. For years, *Saturday Evening Post* was the premiere magazine for the best Western fiction ever written. (*Argosy* came close—that magazine gave us Jack Schaefer's *Shane* in 1946.)



1870s Lincoln County War, the unsolved mysteries of her past, her successful career as the “Cattle Queen of New Mexico” and how, late in life, she defined Billy the Kid for writers like Walter Noble Burns (and through them, us). She died in 1931 still worrying that “nobody would ever write an ‘honest’ history of the Lincoln County War and her part in it.” At last, her wish has come true in this long-awaited and engrossingly readable life story, *In the Shadow of Billy the Kid: Susan McSween and the Lincoln County War* (University of New Mexico Press, \$27.95). No one remotely interested in those turbulent frontier years should be without it.

—Frederick Nolan, author of *The Lincoln County War: A Documentary History*

### CENTRAL TEXAS TALES

Award-winning historian Mike Cox is a master of the short article, as he has proved again in *Central Texas Tales* (History Press, \$19.99). Cox is widely known for his two-volume history of the Texas Rangers, but during his career as a reporter and as spokesman for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and for other state agencies, he has written hundreds of short articles. The 50 short pieces in *Central Texas Tales* feature his eye for colorful detail and fascinating characters, from young Will Porter (later O. Henry) to a parade of early Texans. In articles such as “Dead Man’s Hole” and “Hold the

Press for a Hanging,” Cox regales readers with stories of vintage Texana.

—Bill O’Neal, state historian of Texas



In *Central Texas Tales*, author Mike Cox includes some historical photos from his collection, such as this one showing New Braunfels’s old Schmitz Hotel, which opened in 1854.

— Courtesy Mike Cox —

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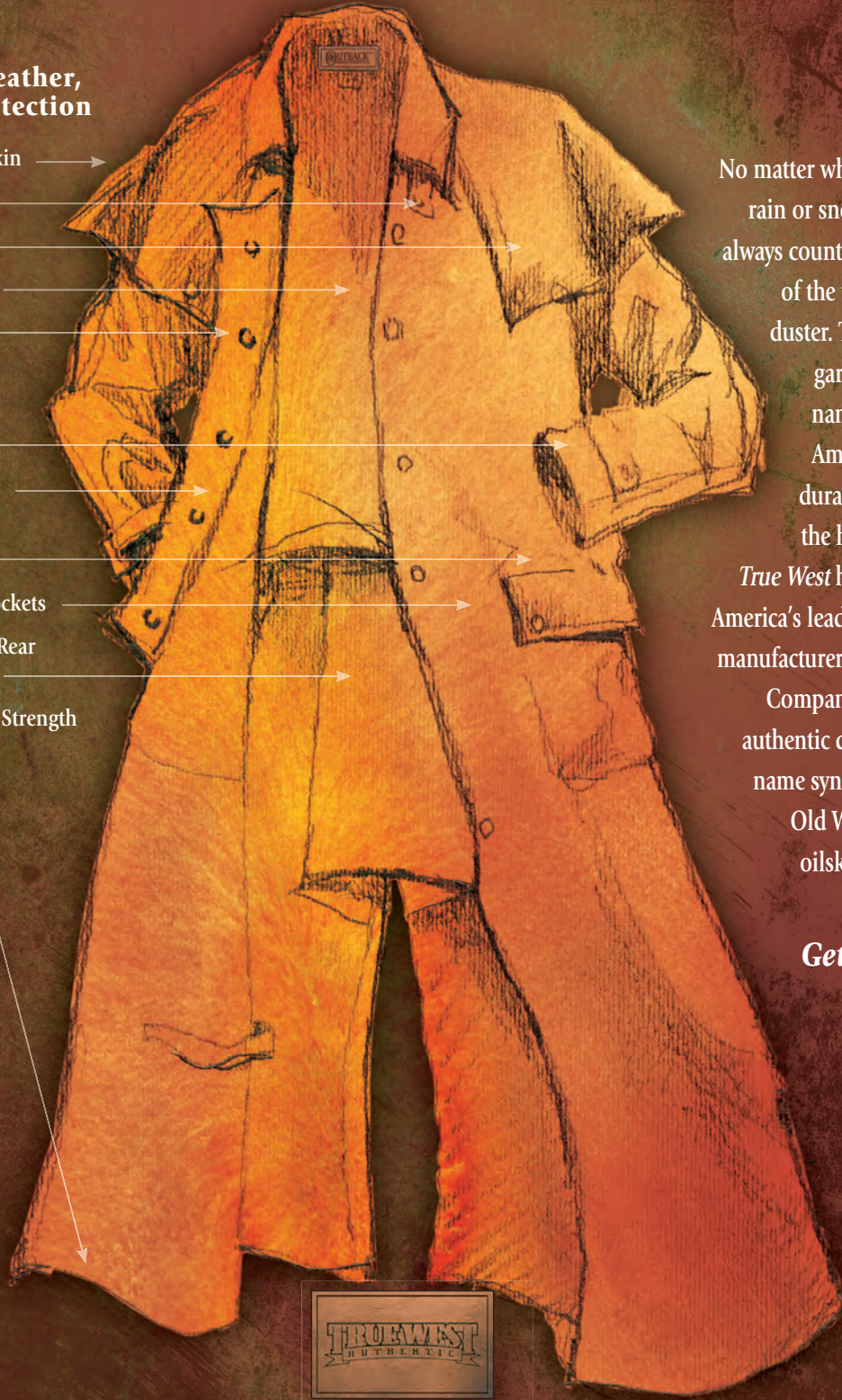
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# The Mexican Hat Dance

*Wider acceptance of straw hats means you can dance sambas on homburgs year round.*

There's a fellow in west Acapulco,  
The most elegant man you could meet.  
He does sambas on homburgs  
To tunes of Sig Romberg's,  
And sometimes "The Nutcracker Suite."

—"Mexican Hat Dance" by Allan Sherman

**T**he elegant Californio gentleman shown in the accompanying photo may or may not have ever danced on his hat, as the fellow did in Allan Sherman's 1963 parody "Mexican Hat Dance" (or "*Jarabe Tapatio*"). Resplendent in his white suit, complete with pinned cravat, watch fob and pearl-handled pistol, he wears a pristine straw sombrero charro that has obviously never been stomped.

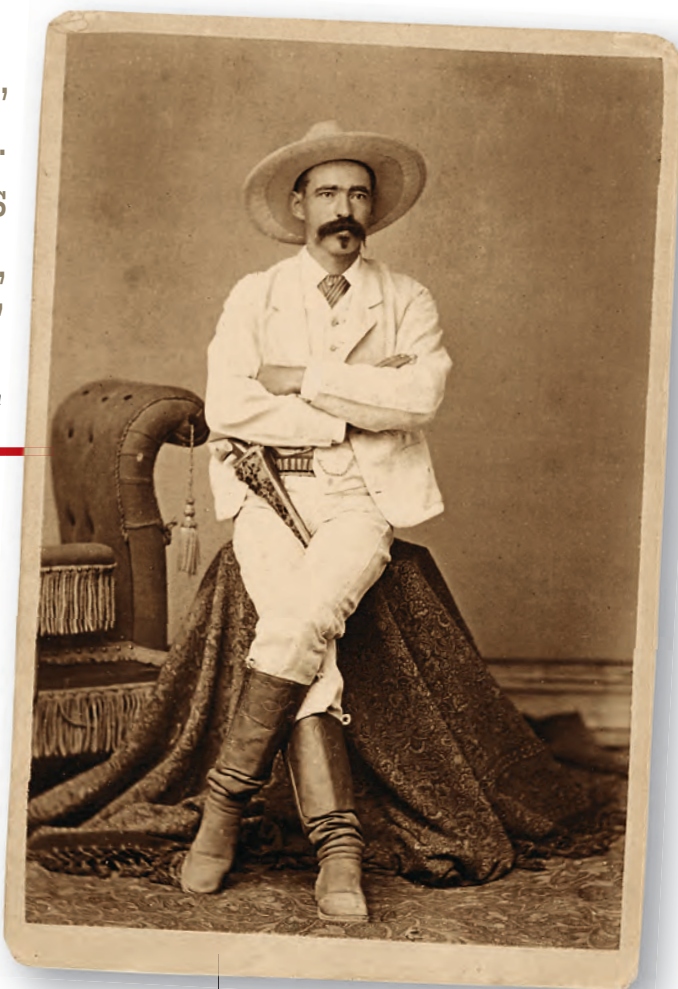
Of course, the straw hat's primary purpose is not to serve as the pivot point

Another popular straw hat style features the Gus crease, named for the *Lonesome Dove* character, with its high crown at the back, as the crease slopes steeply toward the front. The Gus hat by [SunBody Hats](#) is Guatemalan palm leaf and has a 4½-inch brim; \$52.20.



for a folk dance, but to protect someone's head from the elements. Take the Mexican sombrero; its high crown allows more air to circulate above the wearer's head, while the broad brim provides shade for the face and shoulders.

The epitome of the straw hat (actually made from plant fibers) is the Panama hat, which is hand woven in Ecuador. Gold-seeking Forty-niners sailing to California crossed the isthmus of Panama and brought these lightweight hats with them, erroneously calling them Panama hats. The misnomer was further entrenched in the world's vocabulary when newspapers published photographs of Teddy Roosevelt visiting the Panama Canal digs 70 years later and inaccurately described his straw hat as a Panama hat.



Wearing a pristine sombrero charro, this meticulously-dressed gentleman looks typical of well-to-do southern California landowners or businessmen in the late 1800s, says our resident vaquero expert Lee Anderson.

— Courtesy Robert G. McCubbin Collection —

Cultures like Mexico in and between the horse latitudes—about 30 degrees north or south of the equator—wear straw hats year round. Americans have followed the seasonal dictates of northern Europe, where straw hats are acceptable only during summer; Memorial Day and Labor Day have been the cutoff dates for straws.

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Just like with felt cowboy hats, the cattlemen's crease is a popular style on straw hats—it is creased down the center of the crown, with a dent on each side. Shown here is the Guthrie cattleman's crease, with a 4½-inch brim, crafted in Mexican palm leaf by **Atwood Hat Company's** Bob Moorehouse Collection, \$79.95.



Take a horseback ride this summer and enjoy the summer breezes under the protection of **Charlie 1 Horse's** Plume Crazy 10x Shantung straw hat. The silverbelly-dyed straw hat comes with a brown grosgrain ribbon and matching bound edge, plus its signature peacock feather; \$100.

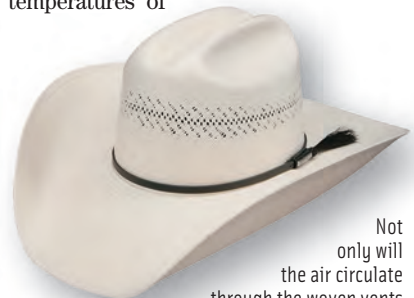
That fashion rule began eroding in America's border states in the mid-20th century, thanks to the refinement of straw hats. Around 1950, American Hat Company introduced cowboy-styled Bangora hats made from Manila hemp. These lightweight, inexpensive straw hats were made more durable yet shapeable with a proprietary lacquer and a piano wire in the brim. The Bangora—and similar versions by other hatmakers—became ubiquitous in south Texas and spread in all directions, including into Mexico. Resistol's Shantung straws, which rival the beauty and weight of fine Panama hats, became the summer standard for dress hats in the 1980s. In the late 1990s, plaited and sewn palm leaf straw hats became the young cowboy's alternative to the Shantungs worn by their fathers. Palm leaf hats are heavier and coarser than sleek Shantungs, but they are also less expensive and more durable.

A perfect storm of economics, climate



**American Hat Company's** original Bangora is shown in a cattlemen's crown with a four-inch brim and a two-cord black ribbon trim; \$69. The company credits its lacquer treatment for ensuring the Bangora straw hat won't lose its shape in one summer of hard use.

change, fashion trends and Kenny Chesney have made straw hats acceptable year round headwear throughout America. This past February, I saw a Shantung straw hat wearer endure the freezing temperatures of



Not only will the air circulate through the woven vents of **Stetson's** Rankin straw hat, but its Drilex sweatband will also keep you cool under the beating sun. The 10x Shantung straw hat features a 4½-inch brim and a leather band with horsehair trim; \$89.



For its straw hats, **Shady Brady** offers numerous hatband options, ranging from thick bone beads to a snake skin inlay. This light-colored Toyo straw is dressed up with a leather scalloped band; \$90.

midwinter Minnesota! A palm leaf hat would have offered some insulation.

Perhaps the popularity of durable Bangora and palm leaf hats will revive the "Jarabe Tapatio." If so, don't forget Sherman's admonition for hat wearers: "So take care! So beware! Or they'll put castanets on, and ruin your Stetson. 'Cause they all think that they're Fred Astaire!"

A good straw hat may just survive such abuse. Ole!



**G. Daniel DeWeese** coauthored the book *Western Shirts: A Classic American Fashion*. Ranch-raised near the Black Hills in South Dakota, Dan has written about Western apparel and riding equipment for 30 years.

**Jaxonbilt Hat Company** offers a Fancy Loops Gus, noted for its double whip stitching on its kettle rolled brim and head band. This Guatemalan palm leaf hat's brim provides five inches of shade, but you can add another inch, if you'd like more protection. The trim color choice is up to you; \$114.



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# THE “ICON” IS DEAD



**GLENN BOYER: JANUARY 5, 1924–FEBRUARY 14, 2013.**

BY MARK BOARDMAN

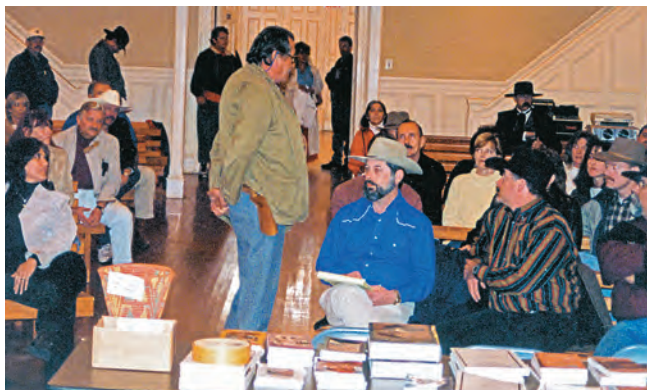
The Icon is dead. Hear the sounds of sadness, relief and ... conflict.

Glenn G. Boyer was the Icon, a nickname given to him by one of his admiring fans. For a number of years, the nickname was close to true; Boyer was *the* acknowledged expert on Wyatt Earp and company...until the walls came tumbling down.

Boyer had first developed an intense interest in Wyatt and Tombstone when he was assigned to an Arizona base after joining the military in 1943. After his 1965 discharge, he befriended Wyatt's niece, Estelle Miller, and other

With the meteoric rise of Glenn G. Boyer's book, *I Married Wyatt Earp*, historians began critically analyzing Boyer's work. A public blowout took place in 2000 in Tombstone. Boyer (shown in inset above) was also seen flashing his pistol as he stood over Earp author Casey Tefertiller (below).

— All images True West Archives —



Earp kin. Miller apparently gave Boyer family documents and memorabilia, a treasure trove he often promised to show researchers such as Gary Roberts and Casey Tefertiller, only to produce nothing when they visited him (his supporters claim they got to see Boyer's materials).

By 1967, he utilized the Earp kin material to write his first book in a trilogy, *The Suppressed Murder of Wyatt Earp*, which was actually about

how other writers had “murdered” the factual details of Wyatt's life and personality. Later came *Wyatt Earp's Tombstone Vendetta* and the blockbuster *I Married Wyatt Earp*, purported to be the remembrances of Wyatt's third wife, Josie Marcus. It became the second all-time best-selling Earp book, after Stuart N. Lake's seminal 1931 *Wyatt Earp: Frontier Marshal*.

The Icon was riding high. But historians began pointing out discrepancies, provable errors and unlikely dialogue in his work, especially in *I Married Wyatt Earp*. That book allegedly shares Josie's conversations with Wyatt and Doc Holliday, despite the fact that she had refused to talk about that time of her life with even her close relatives and friends.

In the 1990s, a group of Old West historians tore Boyer's writings apart with critical

analysis. The Icon responded—usually by questioning his accusers' sexual preferences or dismissing them with colorful language. Up until his death, he surfed Old West message boards, posting comments that impugned the motives and characters of the nonbelievers.

The Icon, you see, was cantankerous, caustic, profane and egotistical. He believed the best defense was a good offense. He frequently threatened his enemies with lawsuits, although he never did sue anyone. Sometimes he intimidated physical violence against his accusers.

He could also be charming and disarming, which helped him cultivate a posse of friends and followers who stood by Boyer and even attacked those who dared to question him or his work.

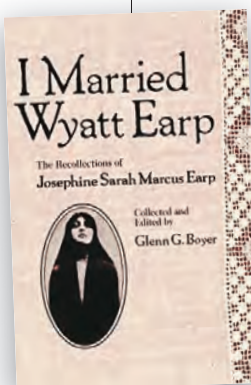
By the late 1990s, with a preponderance of evidence against him, Boyer changed his tune. He claimed he had always written creative nonfiction. What did he think about those who had believed in his Earp trilogy—or, even worse, had used his material in their own books or movies or TV shows? He sneered that they were suckers who should have conducted their own research.

The climax came, appropriately, in Tombstone. On November 4, 2000, the Icon was signing books at Schieffelin Hall when *Inventing Wyatt Earp* author Allen Barra, a particularly strong critic of Boyer's, walked into the hall with his family. Boyer and a few others immediately got into Barra's face, yelling and threatening. Adding to the tension: the Icon and his stepson Danny Coleman were both armed with pistols. Several people feared violence might erupt, but thankfully everyone cooled down.

Not long after, Boyer decided to focus strictly on writing fiction.

Boyer died in Tucson, at 89, on Valentine's Day, an ironic date for a man unloved by so many Earp experts. Even dead, he will likely remain a lightning rod for years to come. He would have had it no other way. He loved the fight; he relished the attention.

For he was, and is, the Icon.



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## Pearl Hart PG?

In 1899, stage robber Pearl Hart was the only female prisoner in the infamous Yuma Territorial Prison. She was given special quarters, and she received many guests and reporters in her mountainside cell, which included a small yard. Three years into her five-year sentence, Hart received a mysterious pardon in December 1902 from Gov. Alexander Brodie. In 1964, after all the principals involved had died, a secretary for the governor revealed Hart had been pardoned because she was pregnant in a manner that would embarrass the prison.

See more True Western Moments:  
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# Grapes vs. Rhubarbs?

*If you want to drink what the pioneers did, the choice is clear.*

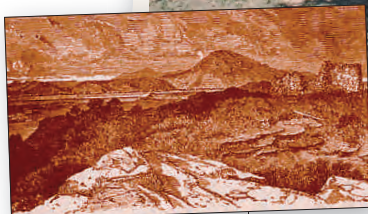
**I** am supposed to be interviewing Andy Sponseller at Ten Spoon Winery in Missoula, Montana, but he had to make an emergency trip up north.

The Flathead cherries are finally in!

Cherry wine? Sweet wines, even made from fruits other than grapes, are becoming popular. I need help, so I turn to Jeff Siegel, Texas's legendary Wine Curmudgeon (seriously, his website is [WineCurmudgeon.com](http://WineCurmudgeon.com)).

"The biggest change in the drinks business in the past decade has been the industry's realization that if they make sweet booze they can sell more of it," Siegel says. "They always seemed a little ashamed of doing that; witness white zinfandel, which was the pink-headed stepchild of the wine business. The recession cured them of their embarrassment. That's why we are seeing flavored bourbon, may anyone who does that burn in Hell."

I'm a wine snob, and while nothing wows me more than an Italian Barolo, the West is becoming great wine country—and not just California, Oregon and Washington. Don't believe it? Drop in for a tasting at Colorado's Creekside Cellars, Guy Drew Vineyards, Plum Creek Winery or Boulder Creek Winery. In 2010, Boulder Creek's 2006 VIP Reserve, a 50-50 cabernet sauvignon/merlot blend, took home a Jefferson Cup as a top vinifera red. That invitational competition pits America's best wineries.



When John Wesley Powell explored Colorado Canyons, with his second tour finished in 1872, his survey included an illustration of the ruins at McElmo Canyon (inset), a region where he noted Navajos were attempting to farm. You can see those same Ute Mountains from Sutcliffe Vineyards at McElmo Canyon in Cortez, Colorado (above).

— Vineyards photo by Johnny D. Boggs; Powell illustration True West Archives —

Wine snob that I am, I'll drink merlot, chardonnay, cabernet sauvignon, riesling, syrah, viognier ... but ... cherries?

"Fruit wine, in particular, has gone from something one made at home to a multimillion-dollar business," Siegel says.

Here's another take. "When the pioneers came West," Bob Thaden says at Tongue River Winery in Miles City, Montana, "they had to use what they had available, what would grow out here." So he pours me ... rhubarb wine.

For me, the best way to ruin a good meal is to serve port. Reluctantly, I sip.

"I'm not a fan of sweet wines," I tell him, "but this isn't bad at all."

"I wouldn't steer you wrong," Thaden says.

Of course not. Before turning to winemaking, he was a preacher. "Far more people are interested in visiting with me as a winemaker than they ever were as a pastor," he says.

Thankfully, wines are still mostly grape products, so I drive to Palisade, Colorado. Two-thirds of Colorado's vineyards and more than a fourth of the state's wineries (including Plum Creek) are found here, while Evergreen's Creekside and Boulder's Boulder Creek grow their grapes here.

Colorado's wine country isn't limited to Palisade. Guy Drew, whose winery is in McElmo Canyon near Cortez, says, "Montezuma Valley might become the best high altitude growing area in Colorado." The Winery at Holy Cross Abbey does a sweet rosé blend, Wild Cañon Harvest, made from grapes picked by more than 100 Cañon City area growers.

That's the spirit of the West. You make due with what's available.

Even if it's, er, dandelion.

Back in Montana, Ken Schultz is giving me the history of mead at Hidden Legend Winery in Victor, Montana. Mead's a honey wine, which dates as far back as 7000 B.C.

---

"When the pioneers came West, they had to use what they had available, what would grow out here."

---

He makes mead from local pure honey, chokecherries and huckleberries. He even makes a dandelion wine.

Well, the weed does grow here, so that's the pioneer spirit.

Besides, Schultz says of his dandelion wine, "It'll help cure you of allergies."

For that, I'll drink anything.



A 2009 Cabernet Franc from Boulder Creek Winery helped **Johnny D. Boggs** finish this article.



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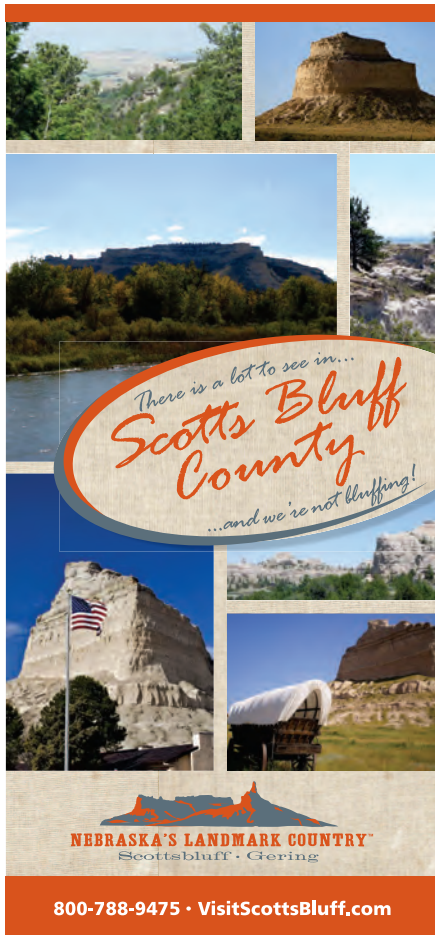
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# Summer Harvest Beer

*The non-alcoholic and gingery kind, that is.*



Who knew ginger ale could get the best of a man? It's true—imbiber E.S. Park of Denver tried to shoot out the stars in front of city hall on New Year's Eve in 1893. He rang in the New Year in jail.

## Who knew ginger ale could get the best of a man?

Ginger beer, bitters and tonics all qualified as temperance drinks, a work-around for beverages known to be spirituous. In 1887, *The American Druggist* magazine released staggering statistics on the amount of alcohol found in temperance drinks. Baker's Stomach Bitters had 42.6 percent alcohol,

while Sherry Wine Bitters had 47.5 percent.

In 1885, Judge Julius Schuetze recalled his ginger pop experiences in Seguin, Texas: "The good old days when the Texas farmer came to town on a Saturday afternoon...with his wife and children... the entire party adjourned to the bakery on the square, where they all indulged in hilarious drafts of ginger pop moistened with cake, or vice versa, and part, to return no more. Thirty years ago there were no beer saloons in Texas.... Those who were really suffering the pangs of thirst, either startled their internal structure with a vile temperance drench of ginger beer, or pop, or they alleviated their sufferings by taking whiskey straight."

The judge also noted, "Every town had its ginger beer emporium, which was simultaneously a bakery."

"Ginger beer is the favorite drink in all parts of the country for use in harvest time, and is probably the very best for such use. It is agreeable to the taste, cooling, very slightly stimulating, and entirely free from harmful effects," wrote Denver, Colorado's *Daily News*.

Ginger beer, pop or ale was quite popular in the Victorian West and originated in England a century before; tavern keepers supplied customers with ground ginger to sprinkle on top of their beer and stir it in with a red hot poker, so as to aid digestion. It started to fall out of favor by the late 19th century as concerned citizens forced the Prohibition issue. A non-alcoholic version replaced it, and the beer was sold at Fourth of July celebrations, bakeries and saloons all over the West.

With gingerbread among the world's first cookies, a baker utilizing its ginger to sell in beverages makes sense. San Diego, San Francisco and Denver had bakeries that sold "ginger pop." The L. Winter & Brother bakery in San Diego advertised its bakery as "...prepared to furnish a superior quality of Ginger Pop."

Making Ginger Beer at home is so simple. Because it's brewed and fermented, unlike the carbonated ginger ale made from water and ginger, you'll notice ginger beer tastes more gingery. According to the papers of the day, drinking some settled the stomach, stimulated the brain and made you mellow. Happy imbibing!

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

## GINGER BEER

- 9 c. water
- 1 T. fresh ginger, sliced
- 1 c. sugar
- 2 slices of fresh lemon
- ½ tsp. cream of tartar
- ¾ tsp. fast-acting yeast

Place the ginger, sugar, lemon and cream of tartar in a large stock pot with three cups of water and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce the heat and let it simmer for five minutes. Add six cups of cold water and sprinkle the yeast over the mixture. Stir. Cover the pan with a lid, and place it in a cool place overnight.

The next day, sterilize plastic bottles in hot, soapy water. Rinse them and set aside. (Use plastic bottles because the fermenting can build up pressure and explode glass ones.) Filter the liquid through a sieve into each bottle. Leave three inches at the top, to allow for gas build-up. Attach the lids tightly and leave bottles in a cool place. Check every few hours, unscrewing the cap a little as the pressure builds up, to allow the gases to escape. Refrigerate and open the bottle daily for pressure release.

The ginger beer is ready to drink when fizzy, which will be within 12–36 hours, depending on the temperature.

Recipe adapted from the Iowa *Daily State Register*, July 14, 1866

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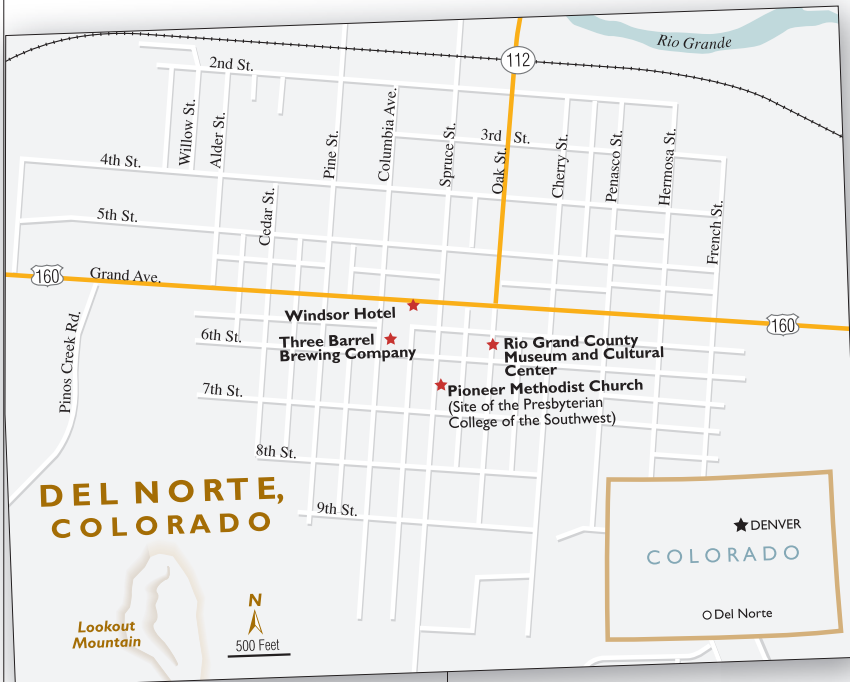
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## Scoping Out Del Norte

An 1880s observatory and a notable stagecoach robbery are just a few nuggets of history you can mine at this gateway to the San Juans.




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**EXPERIENCE A GREAT TIME IN N.E. OREGON**

**E**very Old West town had saloons and bawdy houses. How many, though, had an observatory?

Del Norte, the southern Colorado mining town near the San Juan Mountains, was home to an 1885 observatory built on Lookout Mountain by the



JJ Cornish snapped this photo of the Pond Brothers after their lynch mob hanging on May 23, 1881.

Presbyterian College of the Southwest. Its telescope—9.5 inches in diameter—was one of the largest west of the Mississippi. The *San Juan Prospector* described it as a “monster in comparison to those of other observatories.”

Today’s Lookout Mountain Observatory Association is working to locate the original telescope and rebuild the observatory, which fell into disrepair after the college closed in 1901.

### HISTORIC EVENT

Arthur Pond was a stagecoach robber. Not, it seems, a particularly accomplished one, but a nuisance to the region nonetheless.

On May 18, 1881, Arthur, his brother, Sam, and another man held up the Barlow & Sanderson stage near Clear Creek Station.

Rio Grande County Sheriff Lew Armstrong led a posse that captured Arthur (widely known as Billy LeRoy) and his brother. The third outlaw, never identified, escaped.

In the early morning hours of May 23, a mob broke into the Del Norte jail, and

– True West Archives –



To reach Col. Pfeiffer's grave site, head west from Del Norte on Highway 160 and turn right onto Rio Grande County Road 18, then left on 15.

- Courtesy San Luis Valley Heritage -

before you could say "vigilante justice," the brothers were swinging from a nearby tree.

### ACTIVITIES

The Rio Grande County Museum and Cultural Center holds a slew of exhibits on the region's early history, including the fringed buckskins of Col. Albert Pfeiffer, who fought Indian campaigns under his commander Kit Carson. Afterwards, head to his grave site; the folks at the museum should be able to point you in the right direction.

Hikers will enjoy the trails around Lookout Mountain. A few miles east of Del Norte, you can walk a branch of the Old Spanish Trail, which served as a major trade route between Santa Fe and Los Angeles from 1830 to 1848.

### HOTEL

The 1874 Windsor Hotel occupies nearly half a city block on Grand Avenue. The landmark hotel, one of Colorado's oldest, has 20 renovated rooms.

### RESTAURANTS

Drop by the Three Barrel Brewing Company for a smoked salmon pizza; wash it down with a Trashy Blonde ale or another of the microbrewery's many selections. For locally produced bison and organic cheeses, try the Dining Room at the Windsor.

### NOTABLE EVENT

Del Norte celebrates Covered Wagon Days every August with a parade featuring historic wagons and buggies.



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

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# GRAND



**Y**ou might think an institution as posh and highfalutin as a grand hotel surely had its origins in Europe, serving the gentlefolk on their travels.

You might think so, but you'd be wrong.

Sure, the old country had inns and taverns and public houses aplenty, but hotels in general, and the "Grand Hotel" in particular, are uniquely American inventions, states A.K. Sandoval-Strausz, a professor of history at the University of New Mexico.

"In the first decade of the republic, Americans began to design and build a new generation of public houses," Sandoval-Strausz wrote in his 2007 monograph, *Hotel: An American History*. By the third quarter of the 19th century, he claims, travelers around the world agreed that American hotels were setting the standard for hotels everywhere.

English journalist George Augustus Sala even wrote in 1861 that the "American hotel is to an English hotel what an elephant is to a periwinkle."

Hotels sprang up in frontier boomtowns, of course, providing ostentatious accommodations for the nouveau riche. As Americans embraced tourism in the decades after the Civil War, some hotels—such as the Old Faithful Inn—became destinations in and of themselves.

Here's a sampling of some of the grandest of the Grand Hotels of the American West. Some offer rooms for about \$50 a night; in others, you can spend \$1,000 or more for a suite. For our coverage, we share the summer 2013 rates ranging from the most affordable room to the most expensive suite.

Each, though, is a treasured piece of our past.

# HOTELS

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BY JOHN STANLEY



Buffalo Bill Cody poses in front of his hotel in Cody, Wyoming, which he named after his youngest daughter, Irma. The renowned frontiersman and showman co-founded the town of Cody in 1895. His hotel is a few blocks from the world's top collection of Buffalo Bill artifacts and photos, housed at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center.

— Courtesy Buffalo Bill Historical Center P.6.147 —



## PALACE HOTEL

San Francisco, California

Close your eyes and imagine a Grand Hotel, and you've likely envisioned a place much like the Palace Hotel, which has 553 rooms and suites spread over nine floors.

This Beaux-Arts gem has been consistently ranked among the world's top luxury hotels ever since the Palace opened its doors in 1875. It's easy to see why. The Garden Court, with its celebrated glass dome, unveiled in 1909, became the place to host weddings, dances and parties. Dining there today provides a taste of the opulence and grandeur of that time.

The dome (really more of a curved ceiling) consists of 72,000 individual glass pieces, which take on different hues throughout the day, from delicate ambers to rich cobalt blues. "It's so beautiful," spokeswoman Renee Roberts says. "You walk in the door, and you feel that history right away."



The Garden Court is famous for its Sunday brunches. Its Dungeness crab salad, served with the hotel's signature Green Goddess dressing, has been on the menu since the early 1900s. (Executive chef Phillip Roemer invented the dressing in 1923 for a banquet to honor George Arliss, the lead actor in William Archer's hit play "The Green Goddess.")

A Who's Who of notables—among them adventurers Richard Byrd and Amelia Earhart, entertainers Enrico Caruso and

This historical view offers a glimpse of the tropical atmosphere at the Palace Hotel prior to its destruction in the 1906 earthquake and fire.

The grand hotel reopened in December 1909, reminding guests, like in this 1911 ad, how even the "new" Palace remains the "hotel without a counterpart in the world."

- All historical photos True West Archives unless otherwise noted -

**PALACE HOTEL**  
San Francisco, California

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**IRMA HOTEL**  
Cody, Wyoming

Sophia Loren, writers D.H. Lawrence and Oscar Wilde, inventors Thomas Edison and Bill Gates, politicians Winston Churchill and Nikita Khrushchev, and a host of American presidents—have stayed at the Palace Hotel.

The Pied Piper Bar & Grill, named for the Maxfield Parrish mural that hangs in the restaurant, is noted for its truffle fries and its martinis. You gotta love any place as stylish as the Pied Piper that serves fried chicken with buttermilk biscuits.

For a taste of Palace history, try the hotel's Historic Tour and Lunch package, offered three times a week.

**\$189-\$2,900**

## **IRMA HOTEL** Cody, Wyoming

In his day, Buffalo Bill Cody was arguably the most famous American in the world.

No surprise, really, considering the former soldier and frontiersman formed his Wild West show in 1883 and toured the U.S. and Europe for three decades.

In 1895, between tours, he helped found the town of Cody, where, in 1902, he opened the Irma Hotel, which he named after his beloved daughter. Cody was particularly proud of the Irma, calling it the "sweetest hotel that ever was."

Some exterior walls are made of sandstone from nearby Beck Lake, while the fireplace is an assemblage of rocks, ores, minerals and fossils from the Bighorn Basin. The old part of the hotel holds 15 rooms, while another 24 are available in various additions.

"The Irma is the anchor of our town's main road, Sheridan Avenue," owner John Darby says. "When it was built, there was nothing like it in the area."

Old West artist Frederic Remington, sharpshooter Annie Oakley and scout Calamity Jane have allegedly stayed at the Irma.

In addition to the notables of the past, musicians such as Trace Adkins and film and TV stars like Tom Selleck and Robert Duvall have stayed at the Irma. Wilford Brimley, who lives in the region, is a regular visitor, Darby says.

The Irma Restaurant is renowned for its prime rib. Be sure to check out the cherrywood back bar at the Silver Saddle Saloon. It was a gift to Buffalo Bill from Queen Victoria, one of his many admirers.

If you stay here during the summer months, you can catch a performance by the Cody Gunfighters next door. Of course, no trip honoring Buffalo Bill would be complete without

viewing artifacts and photos of the showman at the prestigious Buffalo Bill Historical Center, a few blocks from the hotel.

Those who plan ahead might be lucky enough to reserve Buffalo Bill's private suite, which Darby calls the most rented room in Cody. "People are really impressed with its history," he says.

So are we.

**\$112-\$190**

## **HOTEL ALEX JOHNSON** Rapid City, South Dakota

Sure, most grand hotels have fancy chandeliers, but we'll wager none have one quite like the Alex Johnson's—nearly eight feet across and made of Sioux war spears.



**HOTEL ALEX JOHNSON**  
Rapid City, South Dakota

Alex Carlton Johnson, the vice president of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, was a great admirer of Sioux culture. So when he decided to build his hotel,

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This 1908 postcard boasts of the hot springs attractions surrounding the 1893 Hotel Colorado, which is across the way from the world's largest hot springs pool.



which opened in 1928, he insisted his designers incorporate native symbols throughout the lobby, guest rooms and hallways.

The lobby's travertine floor with its inlaid brass tipi, its unique chandelier and the hand-carved Indian visages in the beams of the great room all contribute to the hotel's Old West charm.

Six sitting presidents, from Calvin Coolidge to Ronald Reagan, have stayed at the 140-room hotel over the years, along with a slew of filmmakers and movies stars, including Cary Grant and Kevin Costner. Director Alfred Hitchcock was so taken with the Alex Johnson while shooting *North By Northwest*, that he incorporated a few shots of the hotel into the film.

Paddy O'Neill's Irish Pub offers a grand assortment of imported beers, while the pub's dark wood furnishings and copper-topped bar create an old country feel.

Be sure to check out the art deco style of the Vertex Sky Bar on the hotel's top two floors, a great place to enjoy seasonal patio seating, warming your outsides by the fire pit and your insides with a signature cocktail.

**\$159-\$429**

## **HOTEL COLORADO**

Glenwood Springs, Colorado

The Utes were almost certainly the first to enjoy the hot mineral baths at what is now Glenwood Springs, but they would not be the last.

Railroad tycoon and silver magnate Walter Devereux purchased 10 acres around the springs in 1887 for \$125,000, then sunk an additional \$850,000 into the



**HOTEL COLORADO**  
Glenwood Springs, Colorado

construction of his hotel, patterned after a 16th-century Italian villa.

When the "Grande Dame of the Rockies" opened in 1893, she was very grand indeed: three million bricks were used for the hotel, which had 170 open fireplaces; more than 2,000 rose bushes were planted on the grounds; a Florentine fountain purportedly shot water 180 feet into the air; and the hotel featured not one, but two, grand staircases, as well as a 25-foot waterfall in the interior courtyard.



**GOVERNOR HOTEL (Portland, Oregon)**  
Established: 1909.

**Accommodations:** 100 rooms, including a dozen penthouse suites; \$129-\$439.

**History:** Originally called the Seward Hotel, the Governor has been painstakingly restored, especially the stained glass dome in Jake's Grill (the hotel's original entrance).

**Design Details:** Many of the ornate art deco gargoyles in the original façade can still be seen. The west wing of the hotel, built in 1923, was loosely modeled on the Farnese Palace in Rome.

**Film & TV:** Scenes for the NBC series *Grimm* have been shot at the hotel, which was also used in the 1991 film *My Own Private Idaho*.

**Dining & Drinking:** Jake's Grill features fresh seafood, steaks, poultry and pasta.

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#### COPPER QUEEN HOTEL

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### CRESCENT HOTEL & SPA Eureka Springs, Arkansas



Today, the hotel, renowned for its antique furnishings, rich fabrics and ornate fixtures, has 130 Victorian-themed rooms and suites. "People just love the lobby with its high ceilings, columns and grand staircases," general manager Larry Welch says.

Baron's Restaurant specializes in authentic Italian dishes, while the Polo Wine and Martini Lounge offers pub fare and cocktails in a casual atmosphere.

Theodore Roosevelt stayed at the hotel many times. A local story—much disputed elsewhere—claims that the Teddy Bear was invented at the Hotel Colorado.

Molly Brown (of the unsinkable reputation) also stayed at the hotel. Guests today can reserve the Molly Brown Suite, which holds family photos and an assortment of memorabilia.

President William Howard Taft visited in 1909 and was offered exclusive use of the hot springs pool. But the portly Taft demurred, saying, "I've found it's much better for a man of my size not to bathe in public."

**\$99-\$239**

### CRESCENT HOTEL & SPA Eureka Springs, Arkansas

Perched high on a crest of the Ozark Mountains, the four-story Crescent Hotel stands like a storybook castle.

The Frisco Railroad and the Eureka Springs Improvement Company joined forces to build the "Grand Old Lady of the Ozarks." James G. Blaine, the 1884

Republican presidential nominee, and his wife, Laura, attended the ball at the hotel's opening in 1886.

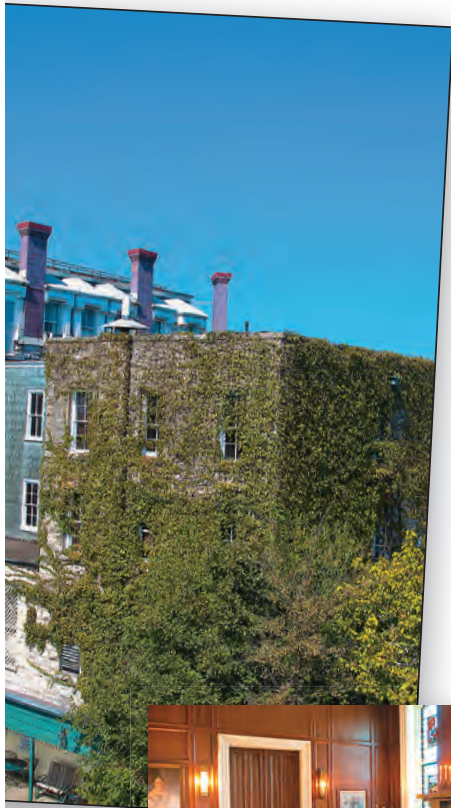
The hotel presently offers 72 rooms and four cottages, set amid 15 acres of manicured gardens and lovely woods laced with hiking trails.

Guests at the Crescent may dine at the 1886 Steakhouse in the Crystal Ballroom, an elegant space featuring high ceilings, walnut walls and crystal chandeliers. Huge windows offer expansive views. Guests can also enjoy the vistas from the hotel's fourth floor veranda.

While the hotel catered to the "Carriage Set" in its early years, it served as the Crescent College and Conservatory for Young Women from 1908 to 1924, hotel spokesman Bill Ott says.

In 1937, Norman Baker turned the hotel into a "cancer curing hospital." It closed two years later, but the quack doctor's legacy lives on in Dr. Baker's Bistro & Sky Bar, where guests can enjoy delicacies that include a huckleberry cobbler. It may not cure what ails you, but it'll take care of your hunger pangs in a mighty tasty way.

Guests can learn more about the heritage of the Crescent at one of the



**ST. JAMES HOTEL (Red Wing, Minnesota)**  
Established: 1875.

**Accommodations:** 62 rooms;  
\$179-\$339.

**History:** Local businessmen thought that Red Wing, the wheat-trading center of the world, needed a first-class lodging.

**Design details:** When it opened, this four-story Italianate structure featured up-to-the-minute technology such as steam heat, hot and cold running water and gas on every floor.

**Famous Guest:** President Rutherford B. Hayes.

**Dining & Drinking:** Guests today can dine at the Port, which features, among many classic menu items, delicacies such as grilled bison ribeye. Or you can relax at Jimmy's, a British-style pub on the hotel's fifth floor.



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# LAST STAND

Fort Stanton is the last surviving Indian territory pre-Civil War military fort in New Mexico. Supplying beef to the fort is what started the Lincoln County War and gave birth to the legend of Billy the Kid. During WWII it was an internment camp for non-combatant German prisoners of war. While open daily, the biggest weekend of the year is July 12-14 when "Fort Stanton Live!" brings reenactors, food, fun and even an Officer's Ball. Plan on it.

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# The Historic DOW HOTEL

Established 1923

Lone Pine, California



**T**he Dow Hotel was built in the early 1920s. Even then Hollywood was looking for movie locations where there was a variety of scenery. Where better than the Owens Valley, with its snow-capped Sierra, its ancient Alabama Hills, its deserts and mountain lakes and streams. And when they came on location, they needed lodging. Mr. Walter Dow, a Lone Pine resident, could see ahead and knew what it could mean to the valley to have the big movie business, so he built the Dow Hotel.

The Dow Hotel still bears that refined, graceful air of its Hollywood heyday. It is constantly being restored to its original charm. It is well known throughout Europe and the Far East for its history, cozy quaintness, fair prices and friendly service.



## The Dow Hotel

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**COPPER QUEEN HOTEL**  
Bisbee, Arizona

hotel's morning history talks. For those hoping for a close encounter of the haunted kind, you will want to go on one of the Crescent's nightly tours. "One of the highlights," Ott says, "is a visit to the basement, where Dr. Baker had his morgue. His autopsy table is still there."

**\$130-\$300**

## COPPER QUEEN HOTEL

Bisbee, Arizona

Arizona's oldest continuously operated hotel, built by the Phelps Dodge Mining Company as a place where dignitaries and investors could relax in luxury, opened its doors in 1902.

"It's one of the true landmarks of Arizona," says Dan Finck, who owns the hotel with his wife, Connie, and his in-laws Kevin and Kathy Feil. "People come here to go back in time, relax and get away."

The Copper Queen was one of the fanciest hotels in the West in its time, sporting mosaic tile from Italy throughout the first floor, a tiger oak front desk and—supposedly—a cathedral ceiling fitted with Tiffany glass.



## OCCIDENTAL HOTEL (Buffalo, Wyoming)

Established: 1880.

**Accommodations:** 17 rooms, each furnished with antiques; \$75-\$185.

**History:** The hotel started as a barn-shaped building with six rooms near the Bozeman Trail.

**Design Details:** The lobby and saloon still have their original embossed ceilings.

**Famous Guests:** Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Tom Horn, Calamity Jane.

**Dining & Drinking:** The specialty of the Virginian Restaurant, named after Owen Wister's famous novel, is buffalo steak. Check out the ceiling in the Occidental Saloon—you can still see nearly two dozen bullet holes.



**HASSAYAMPA INN (Prescott, Arizona)**  
Established: 1927.

**Accommodations:** 67 rooms and suites; \$149-\$239.

**History:** Hundreds of local residents bought \$1 shares to help the town finance this first-class hotel.

**Design Details:** Traditional red bricks were used to appeal to the town's Midwestern roots. The building still retains its original painted wood ceilings, etched glass and embossed copper panels.

**Famous Guests:** Tom Mix, Tom Selleck, Sam Elliott.

**Dining & Drinking:** The Peacock Room, with its prominent floor-to-ceiling windows, offers inspired dining in an Art Deco setting.

Today, the hotel offers up 48 rooms furnished with Victorian charm. A bed and breakfast acquired by the hotel in 2006 added four guest rooms to the total.

The owners have fun with their guests by offering a "ghost hunt" every Thursday night. Guests seek out the hotel's spirits such as a former lady of the evening who allegedly hanged herself in the hall outside Room 315.

More corporeal guests include actor John Wayne, who, after enjoying himself in the saloon, frequently spent the night in the room that now bears his name. Arizona author J.A. Jance, who often mentions the Copper Queen in her books, also has a room named after her. Other notable past guests



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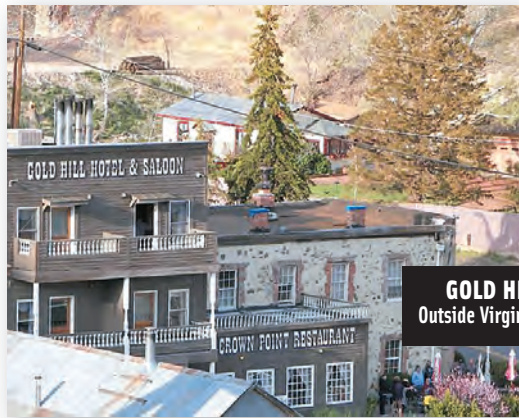
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**GOLD HILL HOTEL**  
Outside Virginia City, Nevada

include Harry Houdini, Marlon Brando and Lee Marvin.

The Copper Queen Saloon's patio is a fine place to take in the sweeping views of downtown while you enjoy a Bisbee Blue Margarita or a cold glass of Dave's Electric beer. Be sure to check out the saloon's painting of 19th-century English actress Lillie Langtry.

Angela's Restaurant features Jack Daniels salmon, pork tenderloin and an assortment of Italian dishes. We give the hotel special kudos for offering chicken fried steak for breakfast.

**\$89-\$197**

## **GOLD HILL HOTEL** Outside Virginia City, Nevada

A grand hotel doesn't necessarily mean palatial buildings, Italian marble and glittering chandeliers. Some hotels, like people, are modest in appearance, but grand in character.

Consider the Gold Hill Hotel, a mile south of Virginia City. Ornate, it is not. Fancy? Nope. But the oldest operating hotel in the state, set against the sweeping backdrop of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, is a grand hotel nonetheless.

"It's one of the few original structures left in Gold Hill," manager Mandy Manyose says. "There's very little left here [of the original town]."

The hotel was built sometime before 1862. Horace Vesey acquired the building and changed the name to the Vesey Hotel, which appears in several historic photos. It became the Gold Hill Hotel in the 1950s. For more information about the hotel and general Nevada history, check out the hotel's bookstore.

It's easy to imagine the past while staying at the Gold Hill. Four of the hotel's 16 rooms date from its construction.

Two of those original rooms have brass beds, while the third's bed is sleigh-shaped. The remaining original



*By Greg Lehman Photography / Marcus Whitman Hotel*

**MARCUS WHITMAN HOTEL**  
(Walla Walla, Washington)  
Established: 1928.

**Accommodations:** 127 rooms;  
\$139-\$349.

**History:** The hotel was named after Marcus Whitman, an Oregon Trail pioneer who started a Cayuse mission near Walla Walla in 1836.

**Design Details:** The lobby, with its stately pillars and elaborate cornices, looks much as it did when the hotel opened.

**Famous Guests:** President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Louis Armstrong, Shirley Temple.

**Dining & Drinking:** The wine list at the Vineyard Lounge offers spirits from southeastern Washington vineyards.

room has a canopy bed and a large, claw-foot antique bathtub.

The Crown Point Restaurant offers a fine selection of game dishes, such as buffalo, antelope and wild boar. Pianist Squeek Steele, noted for her remarkable repertoire of ragtime music and Old West tunes, plays in the dining room on Fridays and Saturdays.



**PEERY HOTEL**  
Salt Lake City, Utah

The Gold Hill Saloon offers an extensive selection of spirits, including more than 50 kinds of beer. It's a fine place to sit and ponder the twists and turns of history.  
**\$55-\$225**

**PEERY HOTEL**  
Salt Lake City, Utah

The state's only hotel on the National Register of Historic Places opened

its doors in 1910 and has been in continuous operation ever since.

Like many a Western hotel, the Peery, commissioned by brothers David and Joseph Peery, was built primarily to serve the region's rapidly expanding

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**AMBASSADOR HOTEL**  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

business community. The Peery brothers were members of a prominent railroad family, says Kristofer Watson, the hotel's director of marketing.

The hotel, a fine example of Prairie Style architecture, consists of three three-story wings connected by a spacious ground floor gallery that holds the establishment's restaurants and its grand lobby.

The regionally renowned lobby is noted for its elegant staircase, classically carved railings, lathe-turned balusters and columns topped by intricate cornices. It has an air of understated Edwardian-era grandeur, which is why it's such a popular place for weddings and other formal occasions. Over the years, many a debutante has descended that staircase on the arm of her proud father.

Each of the hotel's 73 guest rooms, 10 of which are suites, have high ceilings, adding to the air of luxury, while the large windows provide unobstructed views of the Salt Lake City skyline and the majestic Wasatch Mountains.

Comedian Bill Cosby is among the notable guests who have stayed at the Peery over the years.

In addition to the Macaroni Grill, the Peery opened Virdene's Restaurant Bar & Grill this spring. The casual eatery features gourmet burgers, salads and an assortment of appetizers. "It has kind of an old fashioned malt shop atmosphere," Watson says, adding that the 60-inch plasma TVs make it a nice spot to watch sporting events.

The Peery Pub, a local landmark that operated in the hotel for decades, also recently re-opened.

**\$79-\$189**



**COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL**  
(San Diego, California)

**Established:** Built 1829; opened as a hotel in 1869.

**Accommodations:** 10 rooms, each with Victorian-era furnishings; \$150-\$215.

**History:** Juan Lorenzo Bandini built what was then the largest home in Old Town. Later owners added a second floor and turned the home into a hotel. In 1968, it became part of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.

**Design Details:** A grand balcony wraps all the way around the second story.

**Famous Guest:** Kit Carson was among the early visitors to Old Town.

**Dining & Drinking:** Try an "Uncle Toby," a punch made with lemon, brandy and rum at the Cosmopolitan Restaurant.

## **AMBASSADOR HOTEL**

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Oklahoma's first apartment-hotel was built by Patrick J. Hurley, who went on to become secretary of war under President Herbert Hoover and, later, an emissary to Russia and ambassador to China.

The Ambassador Hotel, which opened its doors in 1929, was built mostly to serve as temporary quarters for some of the state's newly wealthy oil barons while their mansions in the nearby Maple

Ridge neighborhood (now a historic district) were under construction. Today, the hotel offers 55 rooms, eight of which are suites.

**CROCKETT HOTEL  
San Antonio, Texas**



The Ambassador is still noted for its “seamless marriage of historic splendor and modern luxury,” says sales administrator Tiffany Shepard, who cites its European-inspired décor and Mediterranean-style architecture, particularly in the lobby, which features high ceilings and a handsome fireplace.

Many notable guests have stayed at the Ambassador over the years, including former Beatle Paul McCartney, news anchor Tom Brokaw and Tony award-winning actress Kristin Chenoweth.

The Chalkboard Restaurant, in the lower level of the hotel, features a European-style bistro atmosphere. The menu, which changes seasonally

to take advantage of the freshest meats and produce, is complemented by an extensive wine list. Beef Wellington is a specialty at the Chalkboard, along



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with steelhead trout and Colorado rack of lamb. Shepard particularly recommends the White Chocolate Bread Pudding. The bar is noted for its special holiday drinks, such as peppermint martinis.

Just a little more than a mile away, you can view Indian artifacts and works of art collected by Eugene B. Adkins, including those created by Maynard Dixon, Charles M. Russell, Joseph Henry Sharp and Maria Martinez, at the remarkable Philbrook Museum of Art.

**\$239-\$359**

## CROCKETT HOTEL

San Antonio, Texas

Talk about historic.

This venerable hotel stands just behind the Alamo, where, in 1836, Col. William B. Travis, Jim Bowie, Davy Crockett and a ragtag band of settlers, Texians and Tejanos fought valiantly for 13 days before being slaughtered by the vastly superior forces of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

You can practically smell blackpowder and hear the roar of cannons from the aptly named Crockett Hotel in downtown San Antonio.

“Just 19 steps and across the street and you’re at the back entrance of the Alamo,” says Ernesto Malacara, spokesman for both the Crockett and Menger hotels.

Although the land on which the Crockett would eventually be built was converted from agricultural to commercial use after the Texas Revolution, the Order of Odd Fellows did not build the six-story hotel until 1909, utilizing the top two floors for lodge purposes. The building’s seventh-story west wing was added in 1927. The hotel and its 138 guest rooms were completely renovated in 2007.

One of the most striking features of the Crockett today is its seven-story-high atrium, created when the hotel enclosed its outdoor courtyard in the 1980s.



### STRATER HOTEL (Durango, Colorado)

Established: 1887.

**Accommodations:** 93 rooms, noted for their Victorian charm; \$177-\$287.

**History:** Cleveland pharmacist Henry Strater, his brothers Fred and Frank, and their father, Antone, built the hotel.

**Design Details:** Builders used 376,000 red bricks for the hotel, which features hand-carved sandstone cornices and sills.

**Famous Guest:** Western author Louis L'Amour always asked for Room 222, directly above the Diamond Belle Saloon, claiming the honky-tonk music helped him write.

**Dining & Drinking:** Relax at the “Office Spiritorium,” or enjoy the costumed dance hall girls at the Diamond Belle Saloon.

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Lyndon Baines Johnson and his bride, Lady Bird, spent their honeymoon night at the Crockett in 1934, general manager Bill Brendel tells *True West*. Today, the Lady Bird Johnson Fountain splashes merrily on Crockett Street, just outside the hotel’s windows.

Ernie’s Bar offers a selection of Texas-made beers, including the popular Ziegenbock, made “for Texans by Texans.” The bar also features two made-in-Texas vodkas: Enchanted Rock and Tito’s. But the bar’s signature drink, Malacara says, may well be its mango pineapple

martini, made with Haagen-Dazs mango sorbet.

After you’ve thrown back a few of those, head a block away for a stroll along San Antonio’s renowned River Walk and its many restaurants.

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### TAOS INN (Taos, New Mexico)

Established: 1936.

**Accommodations:** 44 rooms, most with pueblo-style fireplaces; \$105-\$250.

**History:** Dr. Thomas Paul Martin came to Taos in the 1890s. His widow, Helen, bought several surrounding houses and had them enclosed to make a hotel.

**Design Details:** A stained glass cupola stands high above the plaza’s courtyard.

**Famous Guests:** Greta Garbo, Pawnee Bill, Robert Redford.

**Dining & Drinking:** Doc Martin’s Restaurant serves meals with a Southwestern twist, such as scallops with red chile pesto and posole. The Adobe Bar’s El Chupacabra Margarita, made with pepper-infused silver tequila, is deliciously beastly.

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

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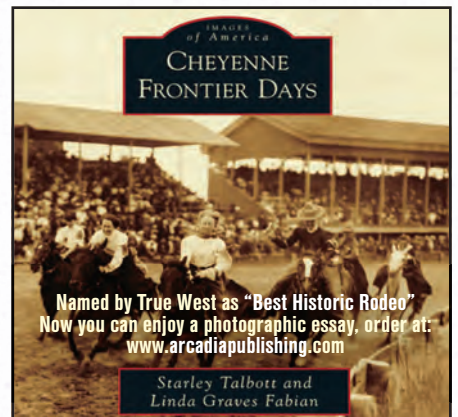


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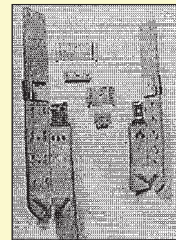
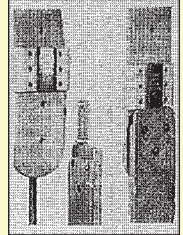
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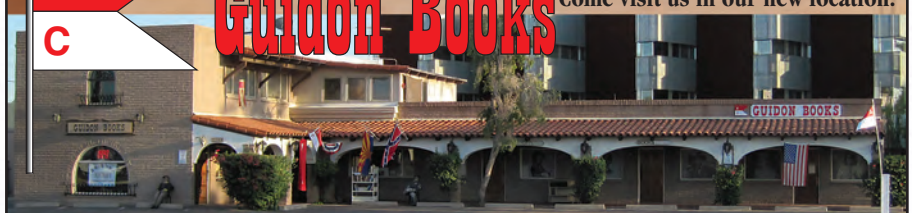
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# WESTERN ROUNDUP

FOR MAY 2013



## FORT CHADBOURNE DAYS

Bronte, TX, May 4: Historians bring 1852 Fort Chadbourne back to life with re-enactments and artillery and cavalry drills, plus folks can enjoy hay rides around the fort. 325-743-2555 • [FortChadbourne.org](http://FortChadbourne.org)

## ADVENTURES

### GREAT AMERICAN HORSE DRIVE

Craig, CO, May 1-6: Ride on a thrilling and authentic trail drive that moves a large horse herd across 62 miles of open Colorado range. 970-586-4577 • [Sombrero.com](http://Sombrero.com)

### WOOLAROC SPRING TRAIL DRIVE

Bartlesville, OK, May 4: On this 15-mile trail ride along a former oilman's retreat, you'll likely see buffalo, elk, deer and longhorn cattle. 888-966-5276 • [Woolaroc.org](http://Woolaroc.org)

## ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

### WILD HORSE AND BURRO ADOPTIONS

Kanab, UT, May 3-4: Wild horses and burros from Western states are offered up for adoption to folks who will provide long-term care. 801-539-4057 • [BLM.gov](http://BLM.gov)

### MILES CITY BUCKING HORSE SALE

Miles City, MT, May 16-19: Watch rodeo action originating from southeastern Montana, along with bucking horse sales and street dances. 406-234-2890 • [BuckingHorseSale.com](http://BuckingHorseSale.com)

### JACKSON HOLE ELK FEST

Jackson Hole, WY, May 18-19: Bid on the harvested antlers of migrating elk to help Boy Scouts raise funds for improvement projects. 307-733-5935 • [ElkFest.org](http://ElkFest.org)

## ART SHOWS

### RETURN TO THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY

Grand Island, NE, Starts May 11: The Stuhr Museum celebrates the 100-year history of the Lincoln Highway with photos, artifacts and more. 308-385-5316 • [StuhrMuseum.org](http://StuhrMuseum.org)

### RITZVILLE WESTERN ART SHOW

Ritzville, WA, May 24-26: Artwork by sculptors Ron Adamson and Gabe Gabel, painter Marti Bennett, photographer Richard Bennett and more. 509-660-0654 • [RitzvilleWesternArt.com](http://RitzvilleWesternArt.com)

### TRAIL OF TEARS ART SHOW & SALE

Park Hill, OK, Closes May 27: Features authentic American Indian art and competitions in several categories at one of Oklahoma's oldest art shows. 888-999-6007 • [CherokeeHeritage.org](http://CherokeeHeritage.org)



## TEMECULA WESTERN DAYS

Temecula, CA, May 18-19: Watch the Temecula Gunfighters and other re-enactors perform shoot-outs and skits as you enjoy live Western music. 951-694-6444 • [CityOfTemecula.org](http://CityOfTemecula.org)

## CHUCKWAGON SUPPER

### BAR D CHUCKWAGON SUPPERS

Durango, CO, Starts May 25: Enjoy the sounds of the famous Bar D Wranglers stage show while enjoying a chuckwagon supper amongst the pines. 970-247-5753 • [BarDChuckwagon.com](http://BarDChuckwagon.com)

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# WESTERN ROUNDUP

FOR MAY 2013

## FILM FESTIVAL



### BLACK HILLS FILM FESTIVAL

Hill City, South Dakota, May 1-5: Showcases independent films, including *The Buffalo King*, sharing the story of a frontier cattleman's success in saving the buffalo from extinction.

605-574-9454 • [BlackHillsFilmFestival.org](http://BlackHillsFilmFestival.org)

## HERITAGE FESTIVALS

### PENDLETON CATTLE BARONS WEEKEND

Pendleton, OR, May 9-11: The legacy of the region's cattlemen and ranchers are honored with bronc riding and a cowboy collectibles auction.  
541-377-6834 • [CattleBarons.net](http://CattleBarons.net)

### FRONTIER FORTS DAYS

Fort Worth, TX, May 10-11: The Texas frontier comes to life with fort camps, military parades, American Indian exhibitions and more.  
817-625-9715 • [StockyardsStation.com](http://StockyardsStation.com)

### WILD WILD WEST FESTIVAL

Pueblo, CO, May 17-19: Live music, an International Chili Society-sanctioned cook-off, street vendors and carnival rides.  
800-233-3446 • [Colorado.com/Events](http://Colorado.com/Events)

### DEPOT DAYS

Cheyenne, WY, May 18-19: Train lovers can enjoy a live miniature steam train, a rail art show and sale, model displays and a steam shop.  
307-632-3905 • [CheyenneDepotMuseum.org](http://CheyenneDepotMuseum.org)

### ROUTE 66 FESTIVAL

Clinton, OK, May 24-25: This 1899 town celebrates its Route 66 heritage with a car show, poker run, battle of the bands and more.  
580-323-2222 • [ClintonRoute66Festival.com](http://ClintonRoute66Festival.com)

### CHUCKWAGON GATHERING & CHILDREN'S COWBOY FESTIVAL

Oklahoma City, OK, May 25-26: Sample chuckwagon fare and Western music, plus hands-on educational activities for the kids.  
405-478-2250 • [NationalCowboyMuseum.org](http://NationalCowboyMuseum.org)

### WYATT EARP DAYS

Tombstone, AZ, May 25-27: Gunfights, hangings and skits re-enacted in the streets of Tombstone, a chili cook-off and an 1880s fashion show.  
520-457-3511 • [TombstoneChamber.com](http://TombstoneChamber.com)

### ROUTE 66 DAYS

Elk City, OK, May 30- June 2: This 1901 town along the Great Western Trail celebrates its heritage with a classic car show and races.  
580-225-0207 • [VisitElkCity.com](http://VisitElkCity.com)

## HORSE SHOW

### SONOITA QUARTER HORSE SHOW

Sonoita, AZ, May 9-12: The world's longest-running AQHA show features a variety of events and competitions for all skill levels.  
714-444-2918 • [AZQHA.org](http://AZQHA.org)

## MOVIE TRIBUTE

### JOHN WAYNE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Winterset, IA, May 24-25: Benefit dinner at John Wayne Birthplace Museum features a tribute to Duke's friend and fellow actor Maureen O'Hara.  
515-462-1044 • [JohnWayneBirthplace.org](http://JohnWayneBirthplace.org)

## MUSIC FESTIVALS

### RAMONA BLUEGRASS & OLD WEST FEST

Ramona, CA, May 4-5: Hot Club of Cowtown, Head for the Hills and more Bluegrass performers, plus a historical re-enactment encampment.  
760-789-6173 • [RamonaBluegrassFest.com](http://RamonaBluegrassFest.com)

### MONUMENTAL FIDDLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Beatrice, NE, May 25: Fiddling workshops and competitions will reveal the winner of the NEASTA Fiddle Tune Composition Contest.  
402-223-3514 • [NEASTA.org](http://NEASTA.org)



### DURANGO BLUES TRAIN

Durango, CO, May 31- June 1: Ride the rails of the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad with live Blues bands performing each night.  
970-247-2733 • [DurangoTrain.com](http://DurangoTrain.com)



**ELKS HELLDORADO DAYS**

Las Vegas, NV, May 16-19: In addition to the rodeo, events for young and old alike include mutton bustin', a parade and a carnival. 702-870-1221 • [ElksHelldorado.com](http://ElksHelldorado.com)

**PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT**

**THE UNQUIET UTES**

Casper, WY, Closes May 21: The Fort Caspar Museum exhibits 30 photos of a 1906 gathering of Utes, U.S. Cavalry members and more. 307-235-8462 • [CasperWY.gov](http://CasperWY.gov)

**POW W O W**

**INDIAN MARKET AND POWWOW**

Morrison, CO, May 18-19: Enjoy multi-region powwows and an authentic native market inspired by Old Bent's Fort's tribal history. 303-839-1671 • [TesoroCulturalCenter.org](http://TesoroCulturalCenter.org)

**RENDEZVOUS**

**JACKSON HOLE OLD WEST DAYS**

Jackson Hole, WY, May 24-27: Celebrates area's rich mountain man heritage with rendezvous and pre-1840 traders row. 307-733-3316 • [JacksonHoleChamber.com](http://JacksonHoleChamber.com)

**RODEOS**

**CHISHOLM TRAIL STAMPEDE PRCA RODEO**

Duncan, OK, May 3-5: Professional cowboys compete in bull riding, calf and team roping, steer wrestling and saddle bronc riding. 580-252-2900 • [TravelOK.com](http://TravelOK.com)

**RAM PRCA PRO RODEO**

Bandera, TX, May 24-26: The rodeo includes PRCA-sanctioned bareback riding, steer wrestling, calf roping and bull riding. 830-796-7207 • [BanderaRodeo.com](http://BanderaRodeo.com)

**TRADE SHOWS**

**COLORADO GUN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION**

Denver, CO, May 18-19: The show offers more than 1,000 tables of antique and modern collectible firearms and cowboy artifacts. 720-482-0167 • [CGCA.com](http://CGCA.com)

**TEXAS TOY SOLDIER SHOW**

San Antonio, TX, May 25-26: At the 1859 Menger Hotel, you can admire the latest toy soldier collectibles made around the world. 210-226-7000 • [KingsX.com](http://KingsX.com)



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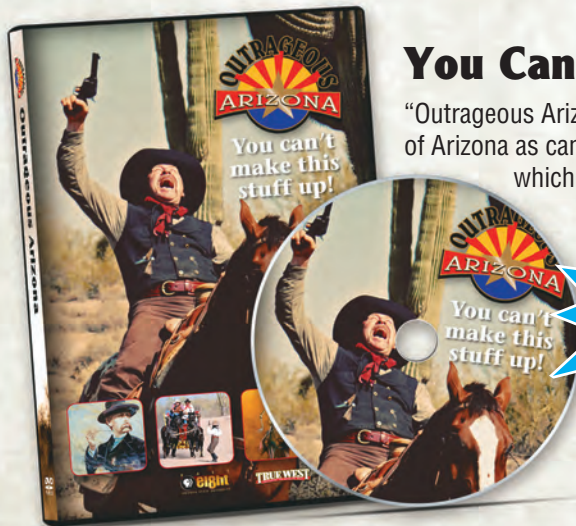
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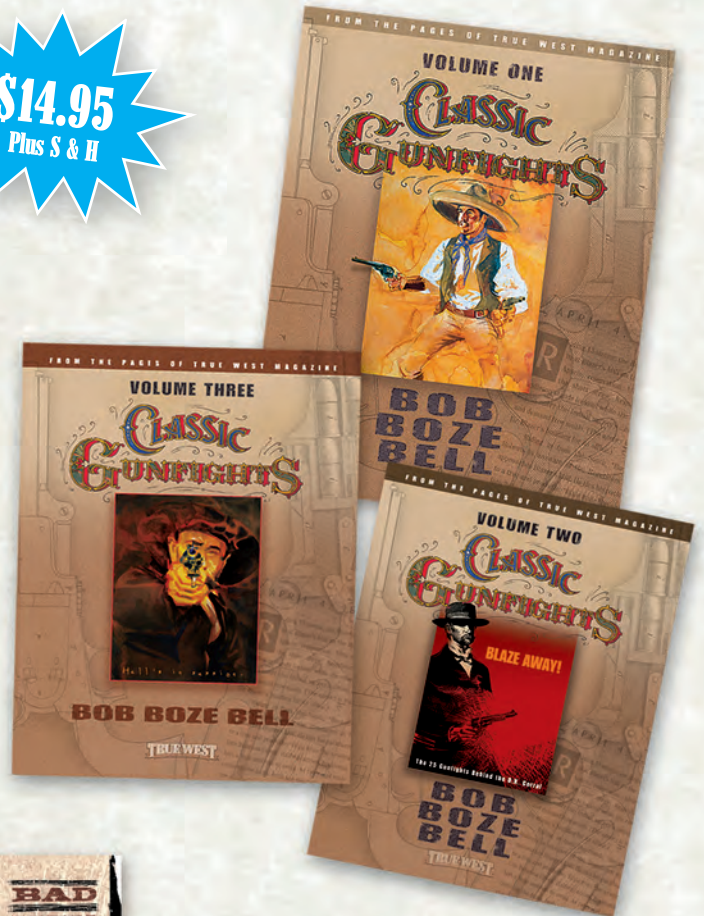
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# Big River Bushwhacker

## What is Missouri outlaw Sam Hildebrand's story?

Orville Turner  
Richwoods, Missouri

This so-called "Big River Bushwhacker" was a mighty bad man, and an angry one too. Confederate sympathizers called Sam Hildebrand a Rob Roy, a freedom fighter; Union supporters vilified him as a ruthless murderer.

Sam went from being a farmer and father of six children to one of the most notorious Confederate bushwhackers. When Missouri vigilantes, with the help of the Union home guard, lynched his brother Frank in 1861, Sam got revenge against his brother's killers. In retaliation federal troops burned the family home and shot and killed several of his relatives, including his 13-year-old brother.

Sam declared his own war on the North. He joined the Confederate army, but gained notoriety as a rebel guerilla fighter. He reportedly had 80 notches carved in the stock of his rifle, which he had nicknamed "Kill-Devil."

In his book *Sam Hildebrand Rides Again*, Henry C. Thompson states a partial list of Sam's victims, including 26 civilians and an undetermined number of federal soldiers. Many of his victims were hanged. His reign of terror in southeast Missouri lasted until he died while resisting arrest in 1872.

Two years earlier, the illiterate bushwhacker dictated his experiences

to two journalists, and his life story was published as *Autobiography of Samuel S. Hildebrand*; Civil War historian Kirby Ross edited a 2005 edition.

Sam's own words aptly sum up his violent life: "I make no apology to mankind for my acts of retaliation; I make no whining appeal to the world for sympathy. I sought revenge and I found it; the key of hell was not suffered to rust in the lock while I was on the war path."

## Western movies frequently show someone "slappin' hot iron on a wound." Was this common?

Jerry Chilton  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Yep, folks did use a hot iron, such as a heated knife blade, to cauterize wounds and stop the bleeding. Sometimes they put blackpowder on the wound and lit it. The alternative was worse; if the wound wasn't cauterized, the victim could bleed to death.

I wouldn't recommend cauterizing with blackpowder except as a last resort. You might wind up blowin' your arm off.

## What can you tell me about nickel-plated revolvers in the Old West?

John Redshaw  
Beaumont, Alberta, Canada  
True West Maniac #776

*True West's* resident firearms expert Phil Spangenberg says that nickel-plated pistols came out in the 1860s. They became popular because they didn't rust



Ask The Marshall

BY MARSHALL TRIMBLE

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

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



Doc Holliday's weapon of choice was a nickel-plated 1877 Colt Lightning. The .38 caliber Lightning and .41 caliber Thunderer (shown here) were Colt's first double-action revolvers. Additional notable fans of the '77 Colts included outlaws Billy the Kid, John Wesley Hardin and Cole Younger.

- All images True West Archives unless otherwise noted -

easily, and they resisted the corrosive effects of blackpowder better than pistols with blued finish. If one could afford the higher cost, they were also somewhat flashy. On the down side, they could get scratched with rough wear.

Stainless steel didn't come along until the 20th century. It's made of a stronger, more durable metal capable of resisting stains and corrosion even under the worst conditions.

## Were the Molly Maguires ever active in the West?

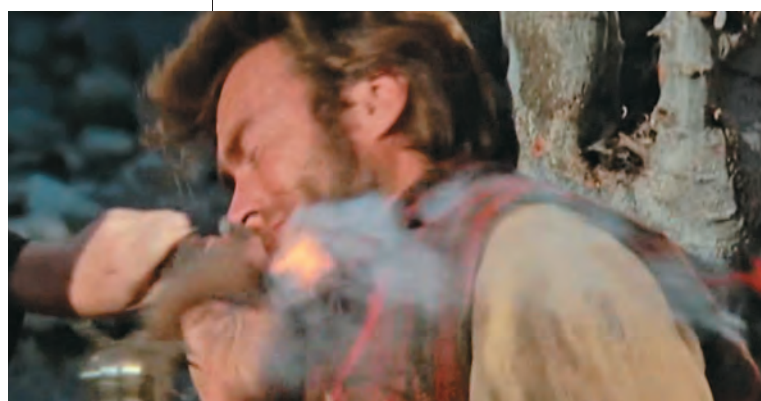
Margaret-Anne Moore  
Wilmington, California



I don't know of any evidence that this secret society of Irish-American miners

In the 1970 Western, *Two Mules for Sister Sara*, Shirley Maclaine dislodges an arrow from Clint Eastwood's shoulder while Clint simultaneously cauterizes the wound by igniting blackpowder with his cigar.

- Courtesy Universal Pictures -





Although the Molly Maguires never made it out West, Pinkerton agent James McParland, who infiltrated the group, did. In 1887, he became superintendent of the Pinkerton's Denver office; his work included disrupting laborer strikes in Colorado.

ever expanded its operations out West. Major strife between mine owners and unions didn't appear on the frontier until the late 1880s, a decade past when the group ceased its battles, which mainly took place in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Yet some radical union groups in places like Cripple Creek, Colorado, were sometimes referred to as the Molly Maguires.

Historians disagree on whether the group even existed. The Maguires allegedly committed acts of terrorism against mine owners and their employees in response to terrible labor conditions, bad pay and so forth.

Pinkerton detectives supposedly broke up the group in the mid-1870s. Agent James McParland had infiltrated it. His investigation led authorities to hang 10 alleged members of the Maguires, who had been convicted of murder.

### How many times was Marshal Matt Dillon shot on *Gunsmoke*?

Sheila Givens  
Lewisburg, Kentucky

Near as I can figure, Marshal Dillon was shot 56 times, but I've heard the count could be higher.

My figure includes: eight shots in the left arm, six in the left shoulder, four in the left side, one in the left leg, five in the right arm, five in the right shoulder, six in the right side, three in the right chest, four in the right leg, three forehead grazes, five in the back and several creases. The poor marshal was also knocked unconscious 29 times, stabbed three times and poisoned once.

That's a lot of blood loss!



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# What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

**“If guns could talk”** is a popular adage in our business. One that gets pretty close is the Colt Single Action “Couch” gun up for bid at our April 19-21 auction. We have at least 500 pages of correspondence, journal entries and family photos of Texas immigration officer Bertrand M. Couch, a.k.a. Frisco Bert. This gun rivals the Bob Dalton Single Action we sold last year, which was documented to Bob’s body at the failed Coffeyville raid. The guns actually have a connection because Emmett Dalton befriended Couch; their correspondence is with the gun.

**As an investment,** historically, firearms have consistently outperformed “traditional” portfolio holdings.

**I fell in love with the West when** I visited the battlefield at Little Big Horn, as a child.

**For my money** the best Western movie ever is 1948’s *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*.

**When people ask me what to collect** I tell them collect what you like and collect the best condition you can afford. When you want to talk about the real “blue chips” of firearms collecting, those are the Colts and Winchesters. But don’t ask my son; he and I are avid Smith & Wesson collectors.

**Nobody told me** that it is just as important to know who you buy a gun from, as what the gun is.

**Don’t get me started on** people selling fakes to buyers.

**History has taught me** that ordinary people are capable of extraordinary achievements.

**I learned** everything I know from fellow collectors.

**The most fascinating part of** collecting for an auction is the diversity of firearms.

**I knew I’d be good once** I got over my apprehension of actually calling an auction.

**My daddy always told me** never call your mother “she.”

**The biggest change** in the collector’s world happened when the Internet became mainstream.



Find out the winning bid for the Colt owned by “Frisco Bert” Couch (shown) and meet the father-son auctioneer team at the Colorado Gun Collectors Annual Gun Show on May 18-19 in Denver. Then stay tuned for more opportunities to bid on historic firearms at Rock Island’s June 28-30 auction.



## PATRICK HOGAN, ROCK ISLAND AUCTION CO. PRESIDENT

Born and raised on Chicago’s south side in a family of eight children, Patrick Hogan joined the Navy in 1974 as a machinist mate in charge of a submarine’s nuclear reactor. He followed up his Navy career by owning a series of gas stations and then a video store and film processing firm. While helping two auction firms produce their catalogues, he saw the opportunity to go into the business himself and opened Rock Island Auction Company in 1993. Last year, his auction house broke an industry record by posting \$47 million in sales (the shown Bob Dalton Colt, realized at \$322,000, was part of that record). In 2011, his son, Kevin, shown with him in the picture, joined the business to help auctioneer.

**Most people get tripped up on** original or refinished.

**What the heck is up with** calling an AR-15 a military weapon?

**Wish I had a dollar for every time** a seller told me he had someone else interested in a gun I was trying to buy.

**I can’t imagine living in** Chicago, with its gun laws.

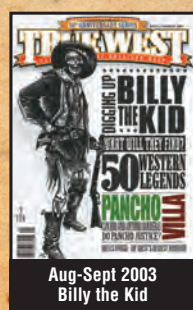
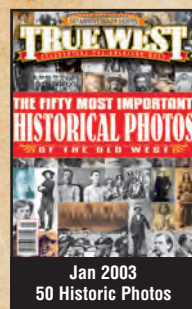
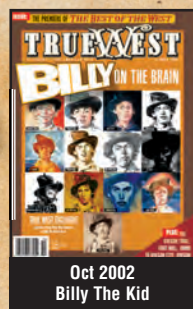
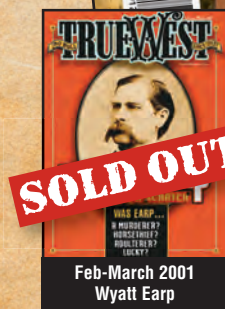
**My only regret is** I did not buy guns sooner.



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