

ADVENTURES AWAIT: THE ULTIMATE HISTORIC TRAVEL GUIDE

TRUE WEST

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

LIVER-EATING JOHNSON

How Did He Earn His Terrifying Nickname?

PLUS:

THE LEGENDARY GRIZZLY

8 Feet Tall & 600 Pounds of Fury

Pioneer Pets They Helped Settle the West

OUR 70TH YEAR
DECEMBER 2023

\$6.99 • TrueWestMagazine.com
DISPLAY UNTIL JANUARY 9



READ THIS IN THE TW MOBILE APP



TRUE WESTERN TOWN: GRAPEVINE, TEXAS



Greenville, SC

INAUGURAL FIREARMS & SPORTSMAN'S AUCTION



November 18, 2023



Featuring



JOHN WAYNE'S FAMILY COLLECTION

Firearms previously owned by Patrick Wayne





Pachmayr



A.H. FOX
FE GRADE

Over 150 Highly Engraved Firearms
Collection of High-End Fishing Lures
Over 100 Pieces of Original Advertising Memorabilia



REGISTER NOW for On-Site or Online Bidding
RICHMONDFIREARMS.COM • 864-991-5949



Sheridan

COUNTY, WYOMING, USA.

HISTORY. HERITAGE. CRAFT CULTURE. THE GREAT OUTDOORS.
THE NATURE OF THE WEST.



1.1

million acres of pristine wildland in the Bighorn National Forest, encompassing 1,200 miles of trails, 30 campgrounds, 10 picnic areas, 6 mountain lodges, legendary dude ranches, and hundreds of miles of waterways. The Bighorns offer limitless outdoor recreation opportunities.

101

restaurants, bars, food trucks, lounges, breweries, distilleries, tap rooms, saloons, and holes in the wall are spread across Sheridan County. That's 101 different ways to apres adventure in the craft capital of Wyoming. We are also home to more than 40 hotels, motels, RV parks, and B&Bs.

4

seasons in which to get WYO'd. If you're a skijoring savant, you'll want to check out the Winter Rodeo in February. July features the beloved Sheridan WYO Rodeo. Spring and fall are the perfect time to chase cool mountain streams or epic backcountry lines.

∞

Sheridan features a thriving, historic downtown district, with western allure, hospitality and good graces to spare; a vibrant arts scene; bombastic craft culture; a robust festival and events calendar; and living history from one corner of the county to the next.



THE 34TH ANNUAL BRIAN LABEL'S OLD WEST SHOW & AUCTION

JANUARY 26 & 27, 2024

Gordon Snidow



IN AN EXCITING NEW LOCATION:
WESTGATE RESORT & CASINO
3000 PARADISE RD, LAS VEGAS, NV 89109
WWW.OLDWESTEVENTS.COM

The 2024 Vegas Old West Show will feature hundreds of national dealers of Western art, antiques, apparel, décor, jewelry, collectibles, antique firearms, Native American arts and artifacts, spurs, saddles, photography, textiles, boots, books, and other fine western merchandise in all price ranges.

Show Hours:

Friday, January 26th | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM PST
Saturday, January 27th | 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM PST

Auction Hours:

Friday, January 26th | Time TBD



TO BE OFFERED AT THE JANUARY AUCTION:

Edward H. Bohlin's Personal Gun Rig and Colts, and Roy Rogers' McCabe Chaps

IN CONJUNCTION WITH:

LAS VEGAS
ANTIQUE ARMS
SHOW

LAS VEGAS ANTIQUE ARMS SHOW

Shop one big, top-quality show that brings together the very best dealers from two closely aligned categories, antique firearms and genuine Old West art and relics.

WWW.ANTIQUEARMSHOW.COM



ARMS & ARMOR, CIVIL WAR & MILITARIA

Signature® Auction | December 11

Rare & Documented
Winchester Model 1876,
One of One Thousand
Lever Action Rifle

Early and Scarce
Winchester Model 1873
One of One Thousand
Lever Action Rifle.



View All Lots and Bid at [HA.com/6279](https://www.ha.com/6279)

INQUIRIES: 877-HERITAGE (437-4824)
David Carde | Ext. 1881 | DavidC@HA.com

DALLAS | NEW YORK | BEVERLY HILLS | CHICAGO | PALM BEACH
LONDON | PARIS | GENEVA | BRUSSELS | AMSTERDAM | HONG KONG

Always Accepting Quality Consignments in 50+ Categories
Immediate Cash Advances Available
1.75 Million+ Online Bidder-Members

Paul R. Minshull #16591. BP 15-25%; see HA.com; Heritage
Auctions, Inc.: FFL #5-75-113-01-5C-04412. 73434

HERITAGE
AUCTIONS
THE WORLD'S LARGEST
COLLECTIBLES AUCTIONEER



CINCH

AMERICA'S RODEO BRAND



OPENING SHOT

WE TAKE YOU THERE



GOLD FEVER

In 1897, thousands of men and women from around the world rushed to Alaska to seek their bonanza in Yukon gold. Local Juneau photographers Lloyd Valentine Winter and Edwin Percy Pond were at the landing site of Dyea Flats to capture the arrival of the prospectors and their supplies before the “stampede” began their dangerous trek north on the Chilkoot Trail to the Klondike goldfields in British Columbia, Canada.

Courtesy Beinecke Library, Yale University





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

EDITORIAL

EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Bob Boze Bell

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: Ken Amorosano

EDITOR: Stuart Rosebrook

COPY EDITOR: Beth Deveny

FEATURES EDITOR: Mark Boardman

EDITORIAL TEAM

Firearms Editor: Phil Spangenberg

Western Film & TV Editor: Henry C. Parke

Military History Editor: Col. Alan C. Huffines, U.S. Army

Preservation Editor: Jana Bombersbach

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Robert Ray

ART DIRECTOR: Daniel Harshberger

DIGITAL MARKETING MANAGER: Mariah George

MAPINATOR EMERITUS: Gus Walker

MAP EDITOR: Tom Jonas

HISTORICAL CONSULTANT: Paul Hutton

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS:

Bob Alexander, Allen Barra, Leo W. Banks, Art Burton,

John Boessenecker, Johnny D. Boggs, Peter Corbett, Steve

Friesen, Drew Gomer, Dr. Jim Kornberg, John Langellier,

Sherry Monahan, Candy Moulton, Frederick Nolan, Gary

Roberts, Mary Doria Russell, Lynda Sánchez, Marshall

Trimble, Larry Winget, Linda Wommack, Erik J. Wright

ARCHIVIST/PROOFREADER EMERITUS: Ron Frieling

PUBLISHER EMERITUS: Robert G. McCubbin (1937-2020)

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER EMERITUS: Dave Daiss

TRUE WEST FOUNDER: Joe Austell Small (1914-1994)

ADVERTISING/BUSINESS

PUBLISHER & CEO: Ken Amorosano

PRESIDENT: Bob Boze Bell

BUSINESS MANAGER: Lucinda Amorosano

SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR: Ken Amorosano

REGIONAL SALES MANAGERS:

Sheri Jensen (sheri@twmag.com)

Colorado, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota,

Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Wyoming

Greg Carroll (greg@twmag.com)

Arizona, California, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana,

Nevada, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah, Washington

December 2023 Vol. 70, #10, Whole #639. True West

(ISSN 0041-3615) is published six times per year (January/

February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/

October, November/December) by True West Publishing, Inc., P.O.

Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327. 480-575-1881.

Periodical postage paid at Cave Creek, AZ 85327,

and at additional mailing offices. Canadian GST Registration

Number R132182866.

Single copies: \$6.99. U.S. subscription rate is \$29.95 per year

(6 issues); \$39.95 for two years (12 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 2024 by True West Publishing, Inc.

Information provided is for educational or entertainment purposes

only. True West Publishing, Inc. assumes no liability or responsibility

for any inaccurate, delayed or incomplete information, nor for any

actions taken in reliance thereon.

Any unsolicited manuscripts, proposals, query letters, research,

images or other documents that we receive will not be returned, and

True West Publishing is not responsible for any materials submitted.

SUBSCRIPTIONS, RENEWALS
AND ADDRESS CHANGES

855-592-9943

Follow us on:



True West Archives

GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store

amazon appstore
available for Android



SCAN ME

DOWNLOAD THE TRUE WEST MOBILE APP!

It seems like everyone is jumping on the bandwagon to get a glimpse of the new **True West** Mobile App.

Use your mobile phone or tablet to not only get the latest issues from **True West**, but all the blasts from the past dating back to 2007 that you can handle!

Unlock specific issues, just like purchasing a copy on the newsstand. You can also subscribe, either monthly or annually, unlocking all issues back to 2007.

The new True West Mobile App is a stand-alone subscription product and is not connected to or included with existing True West print or digital subscriptions. A separate and unrelated subscription is required to use the app, and it is managed through the app platform providers Apple App Store, Google Play or Amazon App Store.

6	OPENING SHOT	46	CLASSIC TRUE WEST
10	TRUTH BE KNOWN	50	RENEGADE ROADS
11	TO THE POINT	54	FRONTIER FARE
12	SHOOTING BACK	56	WESTERN BOOKS
14	INVESTIGATING HISTORY	60	WESTERN MOVIES
16	OLD WEST SAVIORS	64	WESTERN TOWNS
18	COLLECTING THE WEST	93	WESTERN ROUNDUP
21	SHOOTING FROM THE HIP	94	ASK THE MARSHALL
44	CLASSIC GUNFIGHT	96	WHAT HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME



24 MOUNTAIN MEN, GRIZZLIES AND CHRISTMAS

For 70 years, stories about legendary fur trappers have been editorial mainstays, but on the cover, they're a rare gift to readers.

—By *The Editors of True West*

26 JOHN "LIVER-EATING" JOHNSON

How did he earn his terrifying nickname?

—By *D.J. Herda*

32 GRIZZLIES OF THE FAR WEST

Before the legendary bear was nearly driven to extinction, *Ursus horribilis* ruled the forest and plains of the Pacific Coast.

—By *James B. Mills*

36 PIONEER PETS

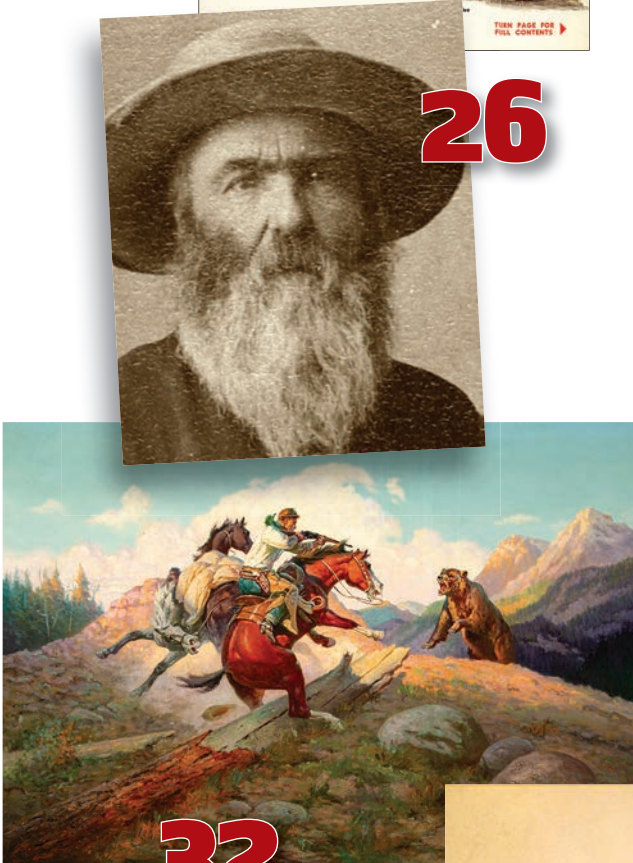
Dogs and cats are as Western as six-guns and Stetsons—and a lot more lovable.

—By *The Editors of True West*

68 INTO THE HEART OF THE WEST

Make your plans, pack your bags and head out for a Western adventure of a lifetime!

—By *The Editors of True West*



32

36

68



Photo Courtesy Thomas E. Minckler
Cover Design by Dan Harshberger



Old Vaquero Sayings

"He who gets close to a good tree is sheltered by good shade."



Few Western artists captured the spirit of Christmas on the Western frontier as well as Charles M. Russell. One of his most popular paintings is his 1904 classic, *Christmas at the Line Camp*.

Courtesy Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, Texas, Amon G. Carter Collection

Quotes

"Human minds are more full of mysteries than any written book and more changeable than the cloud shapes in the air."

—Louisa May Alcott,

The Abbot's Ghost: A Christmas Story

"May your trails be crooked, winding, lonesome, dangerous, leading to the most amazing view."

—Edward Abbey



Edward Abbey spent many years writing about the Four Corners region and the importance of protecting our natural wonders. A unique site in the region, the ancient pueblo of Hovenweep (above), celebrated its centennial as a national monument in 2023.

Courtesy NPS/Jacob W. Frank

"All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen."

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Life is not always a matter of holding good cards, but sometimes, playing a poor hand well."

—Jack London

"My big fish must be somewhere."

—Ernest Hemingway, *The Old Man and the Sea*

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine—and shadows will fall behind you."

—Walt Whitman

"It was only a sunny smile, and little it cost in the giving, but like morning light it scattered the night and made the day worth living."

—F. Scott Fitzgerald

"I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual. It is surprising how contented one can be with nothing definite—only a sense of existence."

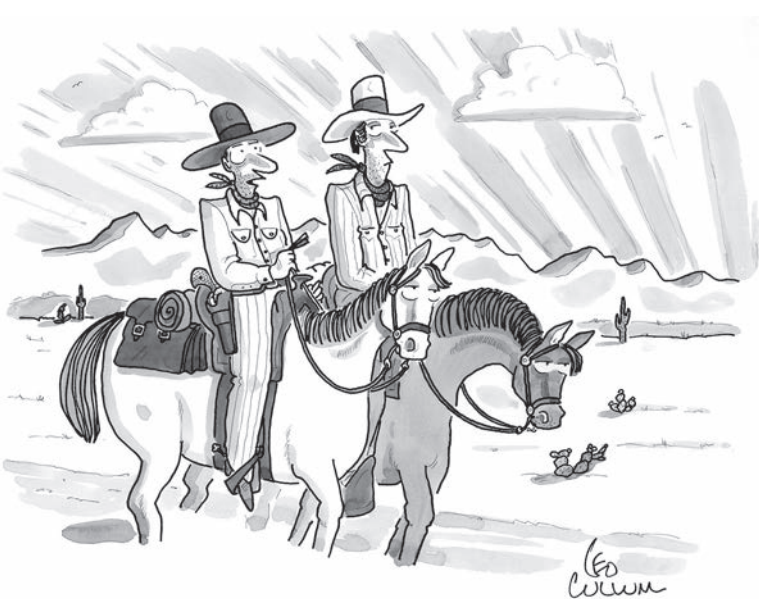
—Henry David Thoreau

"Wonder is the desire of knowledge."

—Thomas Aquinas

"Heap on the wood!—the wind is chill; But let it whistle as it will, We'll keep our Christmas merry still."

—Sir Walter Scott



"It's not so much riding off into the Sunset as it is heading west till my asthma improves."

CartoonStock.com

Finding Truth in All the Noise

Let's celebrate seven decades of lively debate about our imperfect past.

For the past seven decades we have been having a very lively conversation with our readers about the American Frontier. Most of that conversation comes down to this: What really happened in a particular event and what does it mean? Our conclusions are often diametrically opposed to what the storytellers tell us happened. And that includes all the books, all the movies and all the TV shows. What and where is the truth in all that noise? That is our mission, and here is what I believe is our voice:

We do our best to come to the debate armed with three things:

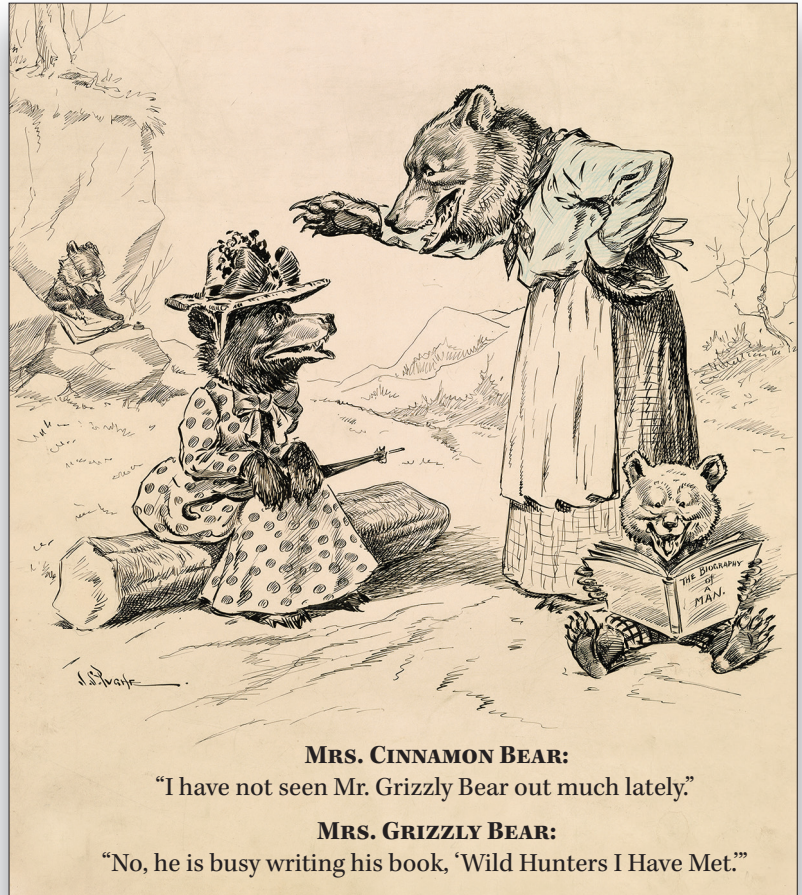
1. Authenticity
2. Honesty
3. Levity

Our writers and contributors are passionate about our history, and they have the scholarship to back it up. We are honest when we get it wrong. (See Jana Bommersbach's mea culpa for our association with Glenn Boyer in the early 1990s.) And, beyond that, the only thing we take seriously, is to not take ourselves too seriously, i.e., levity. We believe if we're not laughing at ourselves a little bit, we are not being authentic—or honest.

In our articles we strive for the three Cs: clarity, context and compassion. With all the blame games going on today, it's sometimes hard to put things in context, much less find compassion for the people involved, not to mention all the people who hate our history.

But we think it's important.

And, as we contemplate our 71st year of publishing the true stories of the American Frontier, we hope you all will be along for the ride.



MRS. CINNAMON BEAR:

"I have not seen Mr. Grizzly Bear out much lately."

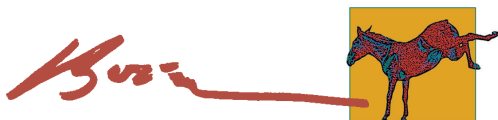
MRS. GRIZZLY BEAR:

"No, he is busy writing his book, 'Wild Hunters I Have Met.'"

Levity Indeed!

This very good example of an archival cartoon that editor Stuart Rosebrook found in his research of grizzly bear art is very authentic to the humor of the times. This is in our wheelhouse and underscores how we need to lighten up and not take ourselves so seriously.

Illustration by John S. Pughe
Puck, April 10, 1901, Courtesy Library of Congress



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

OUR READERS REMIND US OF THE VARIABLES AND VAGARIES OF HISTORIC TRUTHS, “WELL-ESTABLISHED” FACTS, HEADLINES AND HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS.

THE TENACIOUS WEST

Thank you for a thought-provoking Western Books article, “The Tenacity of the West—and the Western,” in the November 2023 issue of *True West*. Like you, these thoughts have come in and out of my mind many times. I like, very much, Stuart Rosebrook’s statement, “...just when it seems the anti-Western movement would succeed, strong winds in favor of Western writers have blown Old West writing and publishing back on course.”

In the mid-1990s, one fellow, an old-time historian and author, called me a “young turk” in the field of Old West/Frontier West history and, most importantly, “True” West history. Recently, one young fellow, an upcoming talented historian and author new to our field, referred to me as a “seasoned gentleman.” I suppose this latter sobriquet is now fitting, so I want to say a word in favor of the “fossils” and “boomers.”

The young build on the accomplishments of the old. Some may want to put us “Boomers” out to pasture, but the credibility of the young turks will be built on time, work, product and accuracy. And, as they say, “Every old song was once a new song,” so “every young author will soon be an old author.” Thank God for both!

—Roy B. Young
Retiring Editor, Wild West History Association Journal
Apache, Oklahoma

We will continue to make room for the voices of all generations in True West.

ASK THE MARSHALL

I believe Marshall Trimble’s column “Ask the Marshall” is the best thing in *True West*. I love the way he is a diplomat with his answers and at the same time a historian with grit.

Thanks for all you do.

—Coy Prather
Anderson County, Texas

We couldn’t agree more.

Marshal Earp and Marshall Trimble, “a historian with grit.”
Courtesy Marshall Trimble



TOMBSTONE, THE SATURATION POINT

Why are you so set on the movie *Tombstone*? It seems like all you have in the magazine is crap about that movie. I don’t know what your hang-up is, but I have decided that if you keep it up, I will not renew my subscription. There are other stories that would be more interesting than shoving that movie down our throats every time you turn around.

—Robert Morgan
Hailey, Idaho

Yes, we get a little misty-eyed about that damn movie, and I can understand why it might stick in your craw. And, yes, we have a ton of great history coming at you this month and all through 2024. Thanks for hanging in and letting us know how cranky you are. (I totally understand. I can be as cranky as you!) You are part of our family, and sometimes families squabble, but in the end, we all love the Old West. Hope you agree. —BBB

MAGICAL REALISM

A recent issue (April 2023) featured an article on Robert Duvall, including a picture of him on the cover as “Gus.” If one notices, Gus is the only character in *Lonesome Dove* who doesn’t have a tie-down on his cowboy hat. The only one. It adds to the magical realism of the character and the movie. It’s part of what makes the character and the movie. Yes, magical realism. It’s part of what makes the show so popular and watchable. Though almost no one notices.

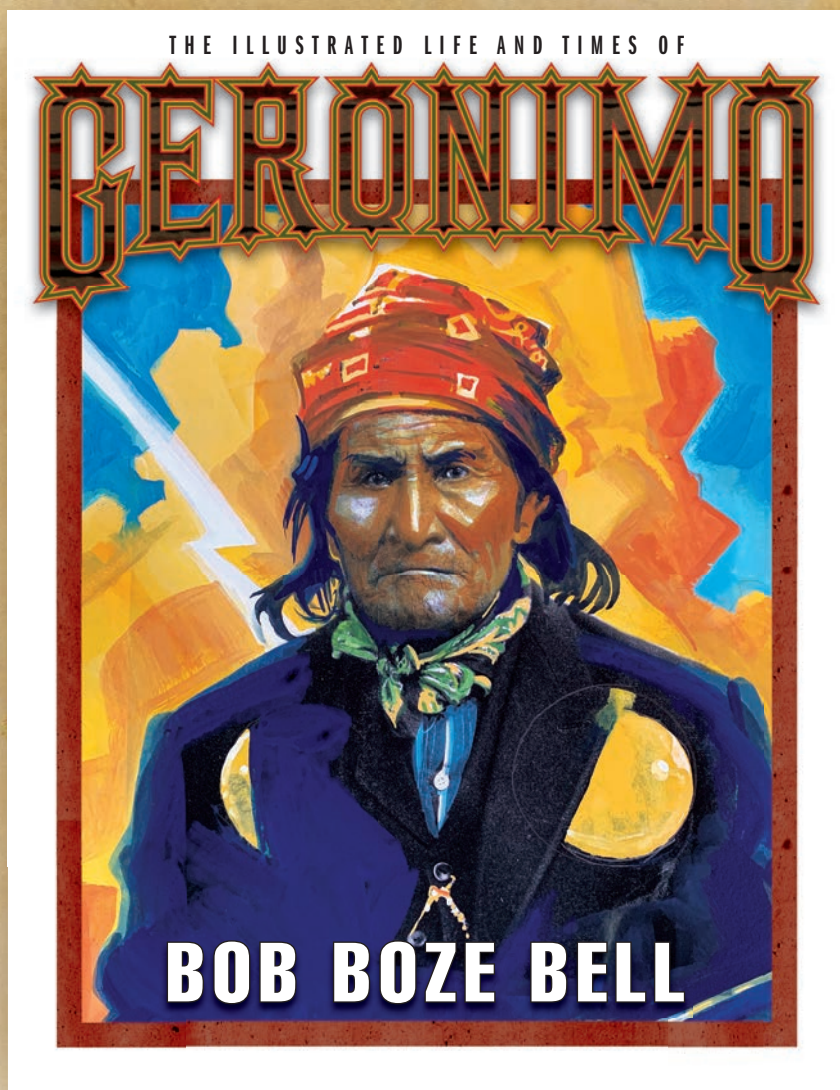
—Will Citta
Estes Park, Colorado

Guaranteed, everyone will notice the next time they watch Lonesome Dove—but I still recommend wearing a stampede string on your cowboy hat because there is nothing magical about losing your hat while riding on a windy day. —SR



*“Fasten your seat belt for this one!
Bell’s trade-mark blend of superb artwork, authoritative research,
and fast-paced prose—always accompanied by a wicked sense of humor
—makes this another masterful, must-have Boze western book.”*

—Paul Andrew Hutton



Hundreds of images never seen before, uncovered facts you’ve never heard before (Geronimo had ten wives?) and a blow-by-blow account of how he became the most famous In-din in the world.



ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!

TrueWestMagazine.com



BY MARK BOARDMAN

The Arrested Travels of Jedediah Smith

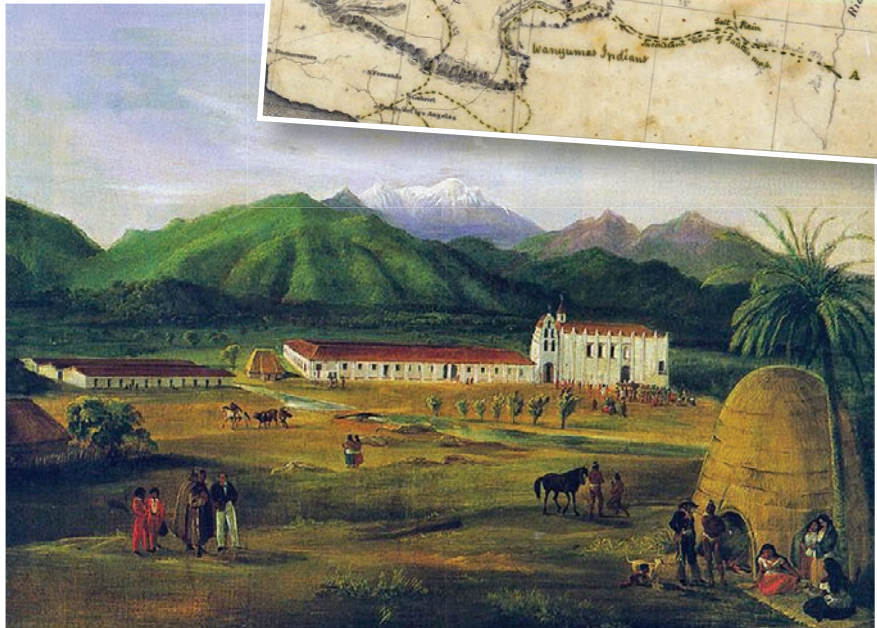
His first trip to California featured an unexpected stop.

December of 1826 should have been a time of triumph for explorer/mountain man Jedediah Smith. He had blazed trails across the West, creating parts of what became the Oregon Trail. The 26-year-old had made his way to California, where he was warmly welcomed at the various Catholic missions. But at the time of Smith's greatest glory, he found himself stuck.

Smith and his 15 men had spent four months traveling from the great Rendezvous in Idaho to the San Gabriel Mission, about 25 miles northeast of present-day Los Angeles. They had gone through parts of Utah and Nevada and become the first U.S. citizens to traverse the Mojave Desert. Despite some hardships on an unknown desert trail, all had gone well.

Until they received an "invitation" from the Mexican Governor of California, José María de Echeandía. Smith and an interpreter were to visit the governor in his San Diego base. Smith could not refuse. So he made the journey—and was placed under house arrest (albeit one of his own choosing).

For a couple of weeks, Smith met with Governor Echeandía and waited for a decision on what came next. He was not exactly impressed with the governor's decisiveness: "My fate depended on the caprice of a man who appeared not to be certain of any thing or of the course his duty required him to pursue and only governed by the changing whims of the hour." Indeed, the governor asked for guidance from his superiors in Mexico



City, and even considered sending Smith to meet with them. It appears they didn't know what to do with Smith, either.

Echeandía requested that Smith turn over his maps and journals; there was concern that the mountain man was a U.S. spy. Smith deftly got out of that by claiming the documents were for his own use only—and that the maps in particular were probably inaccurate.

The governor finally decided to send Smith and his men back the way they'd come. Smith agreed to that...sort of. Once the party got beyond the Mexican settlements, they headed northeast, going through and over the Sierra Nevada, across the Great Basin and on to the Great Salt Lake. Barely surviving their ordeal across the heretofore unknown mountain passes and desert trails, they made their way to the great Rendezvous of

In 1826, the Mexican Mission community of San Gabriel must have seemed an oasis to Jedediah Smith and his trapping party when they arrived from their inaugural crossing of the Mojave Desert. His maps of his travels influenced George Gibbs's *Map of an Exploring Expedition to the Rocky Mountains in the Year 1842, Oregon & North California in the Years 1843-44*, which includes annotations noting Smith's routes.

Painting Courtesy True West Archives/Map Courtesy Library of Congress

Mountain Men, again in Idaho, in July 1827 with stories to tell of their travels.

Smith would later return to California and go farther north to Oregon before being killed by Indians on the Southern Plains en route to New Mexico in 1831. His journals and maps outlived him and were used by countless groups who came after him.



Did somebody say bulletproof investments?

U.S. Minted Gold & Silver Hits The Target



**TEXAS
BULLION
EXCHANGE**

 **The LONE STAR STATE'S**
Most Trusted Dealer!

NO Credit Card Fees!

CALL TODAY! (855) 344-2646

Promo Code: TW1223

FREE shipping to first 100 callers!



Place your order online at www.TexasBullion.com or call us for additional discounts.



**LAST CHANCE 2023
\$5 Gold BU**

Only **\$299**
While supplies last



**LAST CHANCE 2023
\$1 Silver BU**

Only **\$30**
While supplies last



**1 oz. American Flag
Silver Bar**

Only **\$28**

Did you know?

You can easily roll over funds from your current IRA into a Precious Metals IRA tax deferred and without penalty.

- ▶ Precious metals repeatedly outperform the NASDAQ, S&P 500 and the DOW - the three major U.S. Indices.
- ▶ Historically, physical precious metals are a great hedge against inflation and a proven safe haven from economic uncertainty.

Call Texas Bullion Exchange today at (855) 344-2646 for a **FREE** no-obligation evaluation of your retirement account with our in-house Financial Analysts.

**FREE ounce of silver
for every \$1k spent on IRAs!**

Offers valid through 12/31/2023. Prices and availability subject to change due to market consideration. Limit (3) of each item at promo price. Some coins enlarged to show detail. Texas Bullion Exchange, Inc. has a 10-15 day shipping policy. There is a 5-day inspection period upon arrival. Any returns after the 5-day period will be subject to a 20% restocking fee.

BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

A Little Town with a Big Agenda

Trinidad, Colorado, won't let go of this 115-year-old gem.

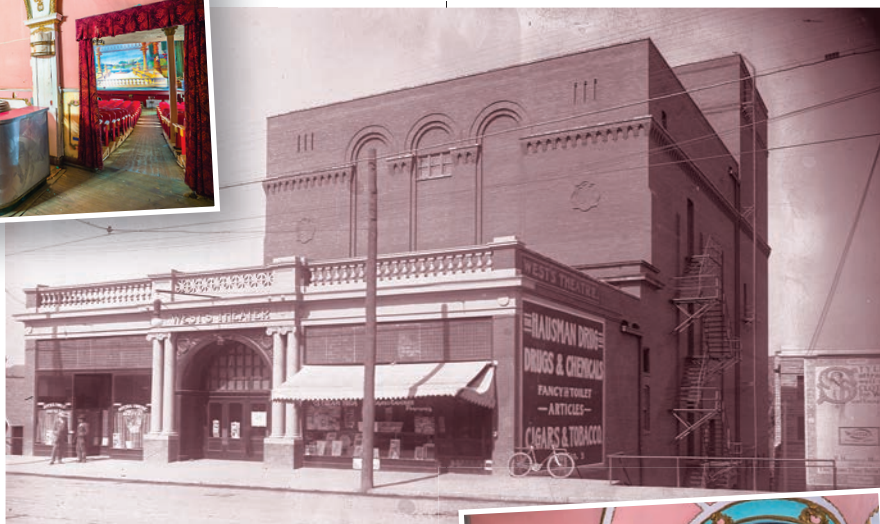
Nobody's still around to remember the "glory days"—John Philip Sousa, Sitting Bull and traveling vaudeville acts appearing on stage—but there's still plenty of folks in Trinidad, Colorado, who remember something just as glorious.

So when seats at the 1908 Fox West Theatre were offered for sale as a fundraiser to restore the ole girl, plenty jumped at it. Like Councilwoman Karen Griego, who bought two seats for \$500 so she and her husband could always return to the place they'd smooched as high school sweethearts.

That doesn't explain why the City of Trinidad decided to buy the theater in 2018 that had been "modernized" and then abandoned, but it didn't hurt.

"We've heard lots of stories about first kisses in the balcony," reports City Manager Steve Ruger, who said the real reason was because "we recognized this as a tremendous asset for our community."

The Fox West has always been a major landmark in Trinidad—one of its tallest buildings; the only second-story balcony in the whole area; and seating for 650. Originally, the theater was flanked by a saloon on one side and a drug store on the other. "Modernization" converted it from a performing stage to a movie house in 1929. Somewhere along the way, its glorious arched entrance and "storefront" windows were covered up and the interior was painted in a style that can only be charitably called "garish." (Ruger says the pink paint that dominates was



the "cheapest surplus government paint" of its day.)

"We're not the most affluent area," Ruger acknowledges, "but we see ourselves as an outdoor tourist destination, and art, culture and history are a big part of that."

The State of Colorado and major benefactors elsewhere obviously agree, as the Fox West has generated \$7 million so far in grants—another \$20 million is still needed. Historical funds from state agencies and from local groups like Urban Neighborhoods got the ball rolling, along with money from the Boettcher Foundation of Denver.

First up to reuse the building are a tea shop on one end—most of the teas are made from local herbs and plants—and a wine bar on the other. There's now a rooftop terrace with great views of the mountains. The city has just received a grant to upgrade the building's infrastructure, and the town's notable A.R. Mitchell Museum recently hosted a show



of artifacts and documents discovered inside the 115-year-old building.

"We're seeing a lot of interest, and we hope this will become a regional venue," Ruger says.

So, Southern Colorado, get ready! Little Trinidad—about 8,300 residents—is about to make its mark again. Just as it did when Bat Masterson was town marshal in 1882 and when Ina Eloise Young became the nation's first female sports editor in the early 1900s.



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

Photos Courtesy Fox West Theatre Alliance

AR Mitchell Museum of Western Art

ARMitchellmuseum.com



Santa Fe Trail

CanyonsandPlains.org/Attractions



Trinidad History Museum

HistoryColorado.org/

Trinidad-History-Museum



Scenic Highway of Legends

[Facebook.com/people/Highway-of-Legends-](https://www.facebook.com/people/Highway-of-Legends-Scenic-Byway/100067143004026/)

[Scenic-Byway/100067143004026/](https://www.facebook.com/people/Highway-of-Legends-Scenic-Byway/100067143004026/)



A Walk Through Trinidad Audio Tour

VisitTrinidadColorado.com/Walking-Tour



Coal Miners Museum



Sister Blandina Garden

Preserving our
history in

Trinidad



*A True West Town
"Where History Lives"*



**A TOP 10
TRUE WESTERN TOWN**

in 2008, 2017, 2018
and 2023 in *True West*
magazine!



VisitTrinidadColorado.com

BY STEVE FRIESEN

A Merger, Memorabilia and McMurtry

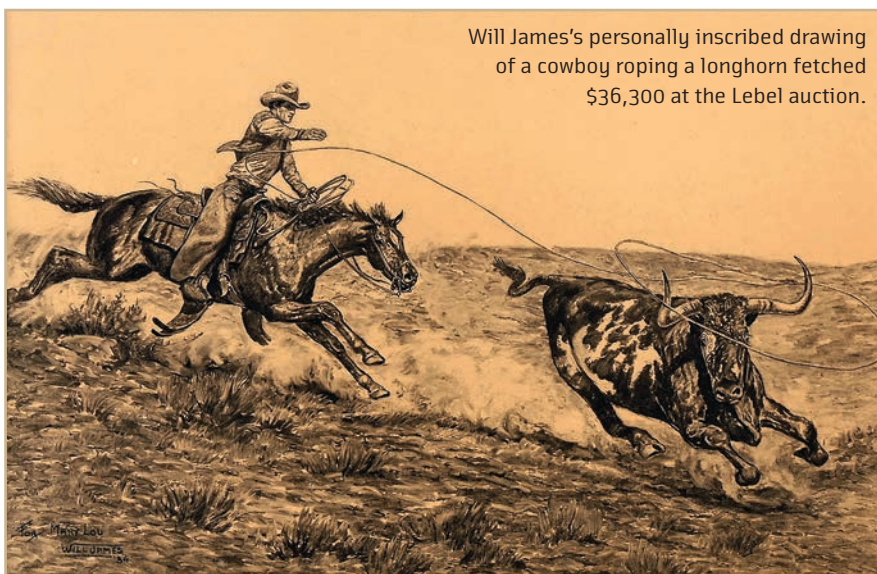
Morphy's acquires Brian Lebel's Auction while Vogt Auctions gavels off a writer's collection.

Since 1989, Brian Lebel's auctions have specialized in artifacts from the American West: art; firearms; spurs and horse gear; clothing and accessories; photographs; documents; furniture and more. This past spring, Lebel's Old West Events, which operates the auctions, combined forces with Dan Morphy's Auctions. With the merger, Morphy Auctions owns Lebel's auctions and shows, while Brian Lebel and his wife, Melissa McCracken, will continue to manage many of the operations.

The merger between the two companies will continue Lebel's emphasis upon the West, as was demonstrated at the latest Lebel Old West Show and Auction, held in Santa Fe June 23-25. The top earner at the auction was a Bohlin saddle with elaborately tooled leather and silver mounts showing Western scenes. It sold for \$50,820. A pair of G.S. Garcia silver-inlaid "rattlesnake" spurs and a nicely decorated hand-braided horsehair bridle made in the Yuma Territorial Prison each sold for \$27,830.

A pair of Tony Lama "El Rey" custom-made boots from 1966, with silver heel and toe caps and rubies, sapphires and diamonds set in the leather, went for \$24,200. Among the American Indian artifacts sold, a beaded Cheyenne cradleboard that dated to the 1870s went for \$22,900.

As in the past, the Lebel auction featured memorabilia associated with those people who have made the Old West legendary. Among the fine art sold at the auction was a signed Will James drawing of a cowboy roping a



Will James's personally inscribed drawing of a cowboy roping a longhorn fetched \$36,300 at the Lebel auction.

longhorn, which went for \$36,300. A final bid of \$5,808 for a door-knob, hinges and a key fob from Buffalo Bill's Irma Hotel in Cody, Wyoming, was testimony to Cody's ongoing popularity. Among the documents sold at the auction was an original Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid wanted poster, issued by Pinkerton's and printed in Denver, which sold for \$19,965.

Another Western legend-maker was writer Larry McMurtry. In May, Texas-based Vogt Auction Galleries sold artwork, memorabilia and personal items from McMurtry's estate. Signed first editions of his books brought the highest bids. A leather-bound first



edition of *Lonesome Dove*, signed by McMurtry and the cast of the 1989 television miniseries, brought \$36,000. Fifteen of his typewriters, ranging in price from \$3,300 to \$7,800, were sold at the auction.

Morphy's Lebel Auction and Vogt's Auction demonstrate that there is plenty of diversity of artifacts available for collectors of the West. Bid away!



Steve Friesen comes to "Collecting the West" with over 40 years of experience in collecting for museums, including evaluating and acquiring artifacts from the American West.

A 1930s Edward Bohlin parade saddle, with scenes of bucking horses, roping and bulldogging hammered in silver, greatly exceeded estimates by selling for \$50,820 at the Lebel auction.

Silver-inlaid rattlesnake decorations encouraged one buyer to pay \$27,830 for a pair of spurs made by G.S. Garcia of Elko, Nevada. Spurs have always been popular at the Lebel auctions.



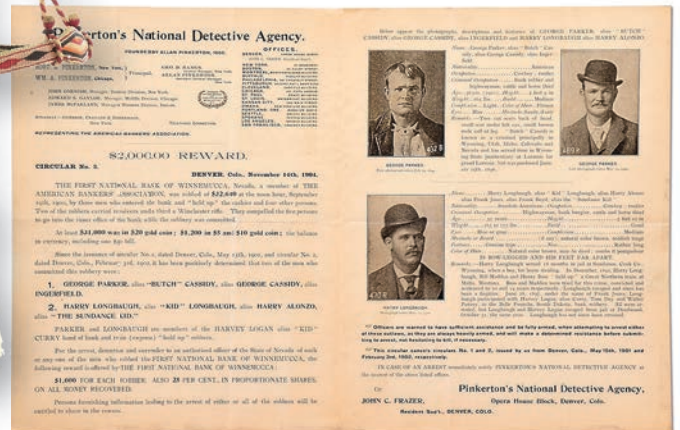
Handmade at the Yuma Territorial Prison, a red, white and blue horsehair bridle brought \$27,830 at Lebel's auction.



Originally purchased in 1966 by the owner of a service station on fabled Route 66, a pair of Tony Lama "El Rey" custom-made boots, elaborately decorated with silver and jewels, went for \$24,200 at the Lebel auction.



A fully beaded Cheyenne cradleboard from the 1870s, made of buffalo hide and wooden slats with brass tacks took \$22,900 at Lebel's auction.



An original Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid wanted poster sold for \$19,965 at Lebel's auction. That was well over twice the amount of the estimated high bid and nearly 10 times the \$2,000 reward price on the poster itself.

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

December 6-8, 2023

Firearms & Militaria
Morphy Auctions (Denver, PA)
morphyauctions.com • 717-335-3435

December 8-10, 2023

Premier Firearms Auction #4090
Rock Island Auction Co. (Rock Island, IL)
rockislandauction.com • 309-797-1500

December 11, 2023

Arms & Armor, Civil War & Militaria
Heritage Auctions (Dallas, TX)
ha.com • 307-587-5002



A doorknob, original hinges and a room key from Buffalo Bill's Irma Hotel, all original to its construction in 1902, went for \$5,808 at Lebel's auction, far exceeding the projected high bid of \$1,500.

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

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

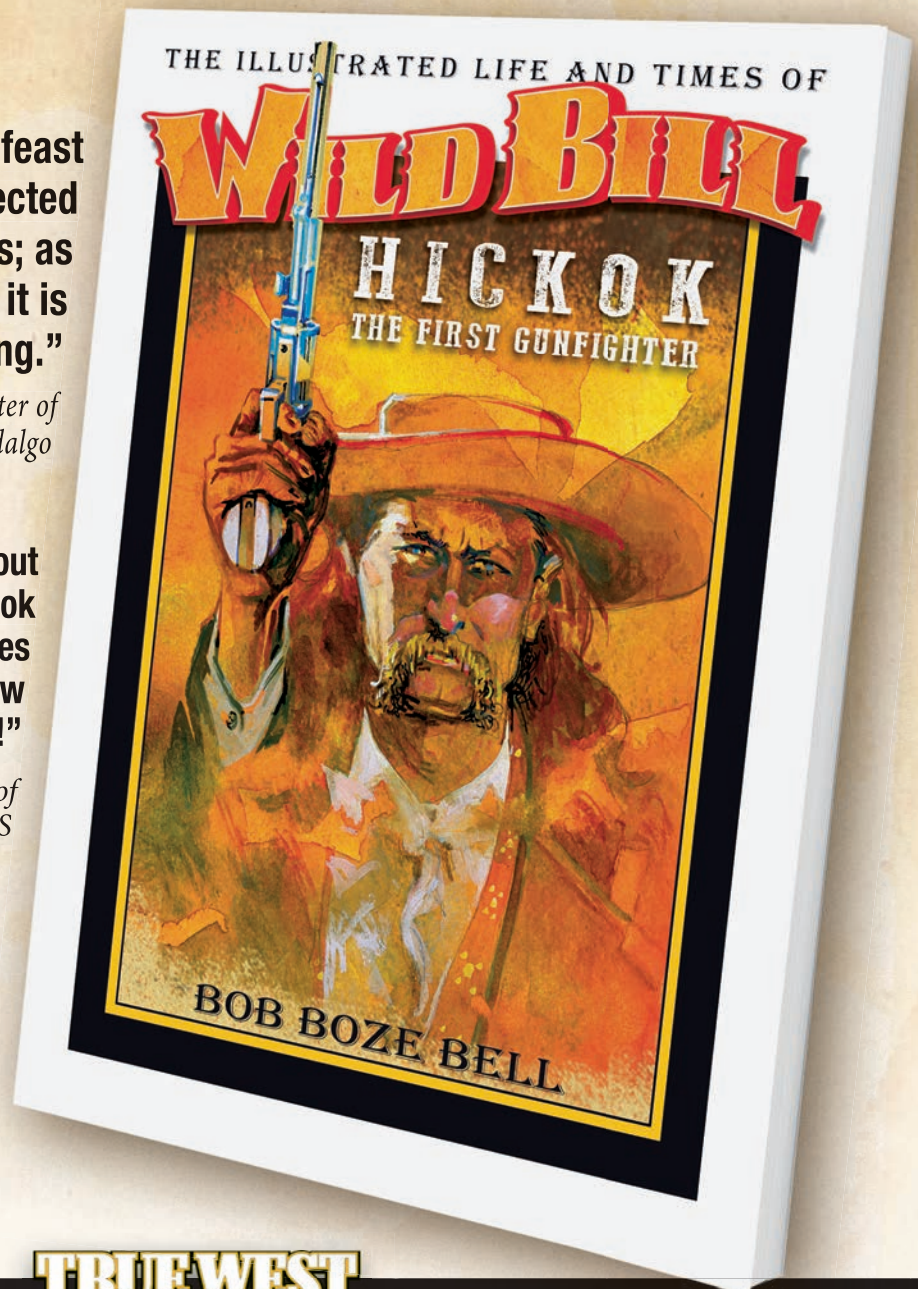
—John Fusco, Screenwriter of
Young Guns, Thunderheart, Hidalgo

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

—Ted Simons, host of
Horizon on PBS

\$19.95

Plus S&H



TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

Shoot Us Your Order Right Now!

Store.TrueWestMagazine.com / Amazon.com

BY PHIL SPANGENBERGER

The Hawken Rifle Turns 200

Just as the Colt revolver and the Winchester rifle are icons of the post-Civil War West, one gun symbolizes the era of the fur trade.

Original Hawkens are scarce, and this circa 1840s half-stock, "J & S Hawken" stamped percussion muzzle loader is the most likely type of Hawken muzzle loader that one might encounter. Sometimes called a "Mountain" or "Plains" rifle, many think of it as a mountain man's gun, but the Hawkens generally encountered today were probably produced in the 1840-62 period, and were used by hunters, scouts and guides, freighters, Indians and other frontiersmen after the fur trade ended in 1840.

All Images Courtesy Rock Island Auction Company Unless Otherwise Noted

The rifle was the primary weapon for sustenance and defense with the early trappers and explorers in the American West. Although specific firearms makers are seldom mentioned in accounts left by these frontiersmen, we do know they initially carried the delicately fashioned, eastern flintlocks. Guns like the graceful, brass-fitted, Kentucky long rifle (44 to 46 inches in length) style with slender curly maple stocks and bore sizes of around .40 to .45 caliber, or the slightly heavier and simpler, unadorned (or iron-mounted) walnut-stocked .45 to .50 caliber southern or Tennessee rifles were the norm. It wasn't long though, before they discovered that these smaller caliber guns were inadequate for the big game encountered in the far West, especially for longer-range shooting which was common in the Western mountains and plains. Gradually, these long rifles were modified by

shortening and strengthening with a thicker stock, stronger lock, reboring the barrel or replacing it with a shorter, heavier one of .50 or greater caliber.

In the burgeoning Western fur trade, the most convenient jumping off locale for these trans-Missouri River traders was St. Louis, which had become the center of all business involved with the frontier. A number of gunsmiths were prospering there, largely through the Indian trade, and by modifying and repairing eastern guns to meet the demands of the rugged mountains. One of them, Jacob "Jake" Hawken, a gunsmith who arrived in St. Louis in 1807, eventually opened his own shop on Main Street in 1815 and by 1819 was evidently partnered with gunsmith James Lakenan. By 1825, with the death of Lakenan, Jake's younger brother Samuel had joined up with him, resulting in the J. & S. Hawken partnership, which lasted for the next 24 years.

The timing and location was perfect for them, since their partnering coincided with the beginnings of the Santa Fe trading and the founding of the major fur companies Ashley & Henry Fur Company, the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, the American Fur Company and others. Initially the brothers kept busy working on individual customers' rifles. They'd shorten and strengthen their older longrifles to suit hard usage in the West. Ultimately, the brothers



Although many gunmakers turned out powerful rifles for the fur trade, Jacob "Jake" Hawken's guns have enjoyed the most lasting fame. He produced the first ruggedly built muzzleloader specifically designed for long-range knockdown power on Western big game. Younger brother Samuel (above) took over the Hawken shop in 1849 when Jacob died and turned out Hawkens until 1862, when he sold the business to employee J.P. Gemmer, who continued making Hawken style rifles for another several years despite the introduction of metallic cartridge breechloaders.

Courtesy Missouri Historical Society

began supplying their own unique big-game rifles to the large outfits, as well as individual "free" trappers. Although these "Hawkins" (as they were referred to in several written accounts of the

Full-stock Hawken rifles, like this caplock example with an unmarked commercial lockplate (possibly by James Golcher) are rare indeed. Regardless of stock length, these sturdily built, powerful muzzleloaders relied on heavy soft-iron barrels with slow twist (1 in 66 rate of twist) rifling for use with patched round lead balls. They were considered among the most accurate, long-range hunting arms of the era.

DOUGLAS & GLENROCK

RAILROAD Adventure!

DOUGLAS RAILROAD MUSEUM & VISITOR CENTER

The Douglas Railroad Museum & Visitor Center is housed in the historic FE & MV Railroad Passenger Depot.

Visitors to the museum are invited to go inside many of the rail cars, including a day coach, a dining car and a sleeper, as well as a little red caboose! And ask to see the model train on display in the back room. **The Jackalope Junction Gift Shop is located inside the depot.**

121 Brownfield Rd. • Douglas
307-358-2950

Wyoming PIONEER MUSEUM

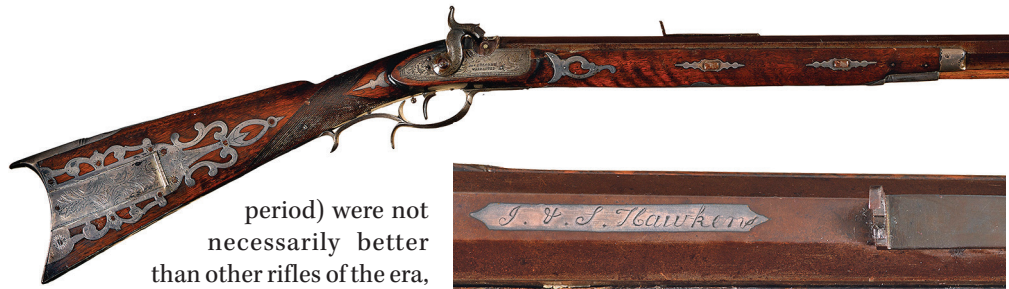
Located on the Wyoming State Fairgrounds in Douglas, the Wyoming Pioneer Museum is a must see for western history enthusiasts.



400 W. Center
307-358-9288

Scan to Discover More!

WYOMING
CONVERSECOUNTYTOURISM.COM



period) were not necessarily better than other rifles of the era, their ruggedness, uniform workmanship and performance soon earned the brothers a reputation as makers of fine “mountain rifles.” The Hawken rifle became the hands-down favorite of frontiersmen like Christopher “Kit” Carson, Jim Bridger, James P. Beckwourth, Jedediah Smith, Hugh Glass and many other mountain men, scouts and traders of the early West.

The early Hawken rifles were believed to be flintlocks with full-length stocks, but without any maker’s stampings, positive identification is difficult, and no guns have turned up that can be definitely verified as Hawken-made. There is a bit of controversy as to whether Hawken ever made flint arms, but many arms scholars believe that quite a number of them were indeed produced, and numerous records of purchases from the Hawkens by these major fur traders as early as the 1820s offers evidence of Hawken rifle production. Due to the hard use and primitive circumstances they endured, coupled with the early timing of their service life, few if any have survived. In the last decade, a heavy mountain rifle that’s been converted from flintlock to percussion and bearing J. P. Beckwourth’s verified engraved signature under the barrel has been found that has the earmarks of what would make an early Hawken... and Beckwourth was known to have favored Hawkens from their earliest production!

It’s believed that Hawken began turning out percussion rifles most likely in the late 1830s, and by this time, with the exception of a few customer requests, the majority of Hawken rifle characteristics were fairly standardized for the rest of their production. When Jake Hawken died of cholera in 1849, Sam took over the business and stamped his guns “S. Hawken St. Louis” (although he reportedly kept the “J & S” lockplate and barrel stamping for a short while after Jake’s death). Sam ran the shop until 1862 when he sold it to



This heavily embellished percussion Hawken is a real rarity. Its fancy iron patchbox, several inlays and escutcheon plates are ornately executed. It also sports a James Golcher lockplate, a single set trigger and a non-Hawken-style iron trigger guard, along with gold bands around the barrel’s muzzle and breech area. Inset reveals the unusual iron inlay “J & S HAWKEN” maker’s engraving on top of the barrel behind the slanted open rear sight.

employee John P. Gemmer, who eventually used his own stamping on his Hawken-style guns.

Original Hawkens we encounter today are largely post-1840 rifles, dating from those years through the 1860s, and saw most of their use out on the plains after the end of the fur trade in the mountains. Briefly, Jake, then J. & S. Hawken supplied the fur trappers with the hardy rifle they needed. The Hawken was the first muzzle loader specifically designed for long-range knockdown power on Western big game. When the beaver market plummeted in 1840, the year of the last Western Rendezvous, the Hawken continued to appeal to a new group of customers. These later produced S. Hawken front loaders, along with several other St. Louis-made, mountain rifle makers, turned out guns along the lines of brother Jacob’s simple, but classic Hawken. Great quantities of them were sold to the next generation of Westerners—the scouts, guides, meat hunters and other adventurers who opened the frontier. Hawkens and their like were now called “Plains” rifles, since they were primarily used out on the plains during the surge of westward emigration in the 1850s-70s. These new frontiersmen—and the Indians too—wanted that same powerful, long-range armament that had earned lasting fame years before in the Rockies. Even for a number of years after the introduction of metallic cartridge breechloaders like the .50-70 Allin conversion Springfield



and the Sharps, the Hawken remained a frontier favorite.

Now celebrating its 200th anniversary, the Hawken rifle has become known as the Mountain Rifle, and possibly enjoys as much fame today as in its past with muzzleloading hunters and sport shooters, in a variety of configurations (some authentic to the originals, others take great license in shape and details). It's no wonder the state of Missouri has recently passed a bill making the Hawken the official state rifle. When one thinks of the mountain man of old, it's often in the image of a rugged and hard-bitten, buckskin and furl-clad trapper of the high country, cradling the classic old-time Hawken rifle in his arms...that's a true icon.



Phil Spangenberg has written for *Guns & Ammo*, appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows, is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor, and is *True West's* Firearms Editor. He's also *True West's* "True West Westerner of 2022."

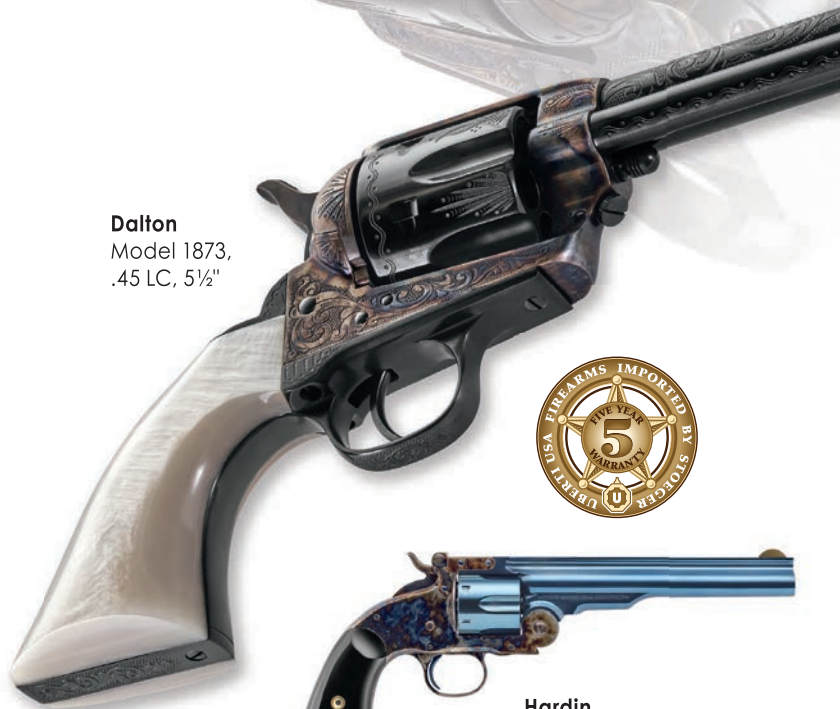
TYPICAL HAWKEN CHARACTERISTICS

A typical Hawken has an octagonal barrel measuring $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches or more across the flats, and could be 34 to 36 inches in length. Originally a browned barrel is held to the stock by a pair of keys. Bore sizes run "32 (round balls) to the pound" (.53 caliber), or greater. All furniture and mountings are iron. A plain darkened maple or walnut half stock with a raised cheekpiece on its left side and a somewhat thick wrist replaces the full-length stock of the earlier guns. The barrel is fitted with an underrib running from the fore stock to the muzzle and holds the ferrules for the ramrod or "wiping stick." Guns are generally devoid of a patchbox or other inlays as seen on the Pennsylvania-style longrifles. It wears a crescent-shaped butt plate, a patent breech and double-set triggers housed inside a unique trigger guard with a curled tang. Buckhorn open sights are standard fare. The barrel or lockplate may or may not be stamped "J & S Hawken," or "S. HAWKEN ST. LOUIS." Weight is around $10\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 pounds.

BECOME PART OF THE LEGEND



Dalton
Model 1873,
.45 LC, 5½"



Hardin
1875 Top-Break,
.45 LC, 7"

OUTLAWS & LAWMEN SERIES

The Outlaws & Lawmen series pays homage to the most legendary names in the Wild West. Each piece in this collection is inspired after revolvers actually carried by famous heroes and villains, undying characters in the riveting drama of American history. Stunning to look at, fantastic to shoot, available in limited quantities through your Uberti USA dealer.

Find us on  Facebook
Uberti-USA.com



MOUNTAIN MEN, GRIZZLIES AND CHRISTMAS



For 70 years, stories about legendary fur trappers have been editorial mainstays, but on the cover, they're a rare gift to readers.

Since 1953, *True West* has been present on American newsstands. Every December, the history magazine has also been a popular holiday “present.” Founding publisher Joe Small experimented with a few Christmas issues in the first two decades, but over time, Small left the holiday covers to his competitors and concentrated on winter adventure stories, including hair-raising tales of fur trappers.

The first mountain man cover was in February 1962, but the first named fur trapper, Bill Williams, didn't make his debut on *TW* until October 1969.

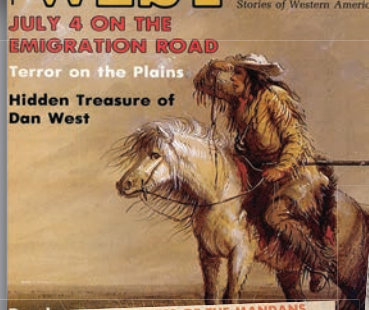
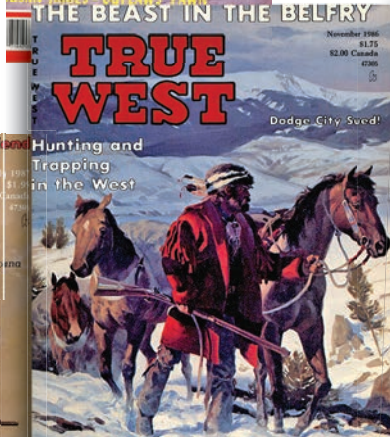
And what of the legendary grizzly bear? Clay McLaughy's painting of a mother bear protecting her cub from a mountain man on the cover of the April 1960 issue is the only one in 70 years.

We expected to find more mountain man covers in the 1970s and 1980s, especially with the popularity of the films *Man in the Wilderness*, *Jeremiah Johnson* and *The Mountain Men*, but during those 20 years, trappers only appeared on the cover eight times. On one of our all-time favorite covers is *The Wayfinder* (opposite page, top left), a painting by Joe Grandee (Special Issue, January 1977).

From August 1987 to June 2010, the mountain man disappeared from the covers of *TW*, reappearing in July 2010.

Gordon Snidow's classic painting of a fur trapper on the February 2015 cover ushered in the greatest era of mountain man covers in *TW*'s history. Since 2019, the legendary men of the Western wilderness—and Western artists—have helped make our December issues some of the best sellers—and presents—of the year.





BY D. J. HERDA

JOHN “LIVER-EATING” JOHNSON

HOW DID HE EARN HIS TERRIFYING NICKNAME?

The sun lay low on the horizon over Battle Mountain in north-western Colorado. The big man on the imposing black stallion veered off the trail and onto the shale and gravel scattered along the hillside and dismounted.

He stood for a moment, sniffing the air. Satisfied that there were no enemies nearby, he unfastened his pack, lifted the load from his horse and threw it like a pillow full of feathers off to one side. It was no problem for the most powerful man who ever strode the Rocky Mountains. Or, at least, so legend said.

The man who had come to be called Liver-Eating Johnson, or Dapiek Absaroka by the Indians and “Crow Killer” by the whites, uncinched and removed the saddle from his horse. The setting sun silhouetted his six-foot-three-inch frame and 240 pounds of muscle below the thick red beard that had become his calling card.

Staking his pack animals in a small patch of greenery among the stones, he whispered to them that all was well and they’d be safe that night. Mountain men often talked to their animals when no

one else was around. Johnson hadn’t seen another soul for weeks.

Near the belongings he had thrown to the ground lay an oblong pile of stones in the shape of a grave. He removed the two top layers, reached down into a hole, and removed a hinged copper kettle. He loosened its latch and opened it up. Reaching in, he lifted out the skull of a woman followed by a second, smaller one. After that, he removed an eagle’s feather and several mementos, including a necklace and

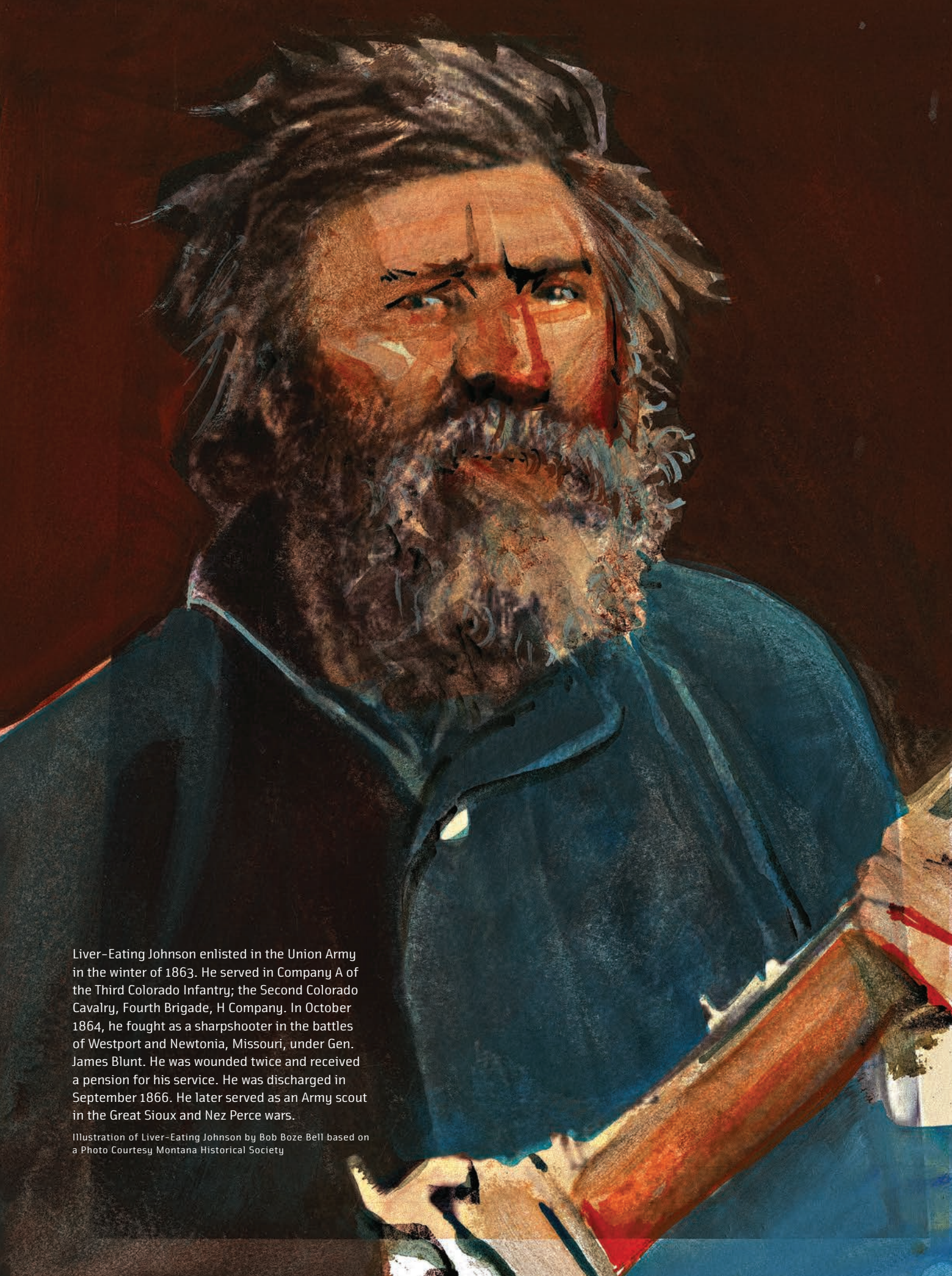
armbands. He checked the items carefully before putting them back in the kettle and returning it to its hiding place. He mortised in the stones and, as darkness settled over the mountain-side, he sat back against a boulder and pulled on his pipe while he watched Battle Mountain shimmer against the twilight.

He thought back four years to the day he had made that monument of rocks. He had returned from a winter’s trapping in the Uintah Range to find his world uprooted. When he neared his cabin on the banks of the Little Snake, he noticed no one there to welcome him home. The previous fall, when he had bid his Flathead wife goodbye, they had exchanged tender words to one another. Now, only stillness greeted his return. The greatest



John “Liver-Eating” Johnson was considered one of the strongest mountain men to trap in the West as well as the most feared Western fur trapper because of his vendetta against the Crow Indians.

Courtesy the Thomas Minckler Collection



Liver-Eating Johnson enlisted in the Union Army in the winter of 1863. He served in Company A of the Third Colorado Infantry; the Second Colorado Cavalry, Fourth Brigade, H Company. In October 1864, he fought as a sharpshooter in the battles of Westport and Newtonia, Missouri, under Gen. James Blunt. He was wounded twice and received a pension for his service. He was discharged in September 1866. He later served as an Army scout in the Great Sioux and Nez Perce wars.

Illustration of Liver-Eating Johnson by Bob Boze Bell based on a Photo Courtesy Montana Historical Society



In the summer of 1847, at the age of 24, mountain man John Johnson went to the camp of his trading partners, the Flathead (Salish) Indians in the Bitterroot Valley south of present-day Missoula, Montana, and received permission to marry Swan, a tribal sub-chief's daughter.

Alfred Jacob Miller's "The Trapper's Bride"
Courtesy The Walters Art Museum Online
Collection

A Man Unmatched in the Mountains

It was 1851 when Johnson found himself again on a layover along the trail to Fort Laramie. His pipe glowed in the darkness as he pondered a plan for revenge. He knocked out the last remaining ashes, climbed to his feet and sniffed the clean, pungent air. Reassured that he was alone (he could smell an Indian a mile away, he insisted), he finally rolled up in his blanket and fell off to sleep face-up on his back.

The wives and daughters of soldiers stationed at the old fort had heard of his coming. So, when he rode in, they closed their shutters and peeked through the cracks at the mighty man of the mountains as he dismounted and strode by, bloody scalps dangling from his belt. They shuddered at the sight of his red beard, thinking of the bloody vendetta and bloodier livers for which he had a reputation of devouring raw, and they pushed their children back behind their skirts. Some of them—the bravest boys of the bunch—wanted to get a closer look at the Crow Killer, but their mothers had caught the cold gray glint in the killer's eyes. One later recounted that she felt the chill of Death in his passing.

Men who had met him before spoke to him in the byways but were repelled by his eyes, which seemed fixed on something afar. He said nothing to anyone—not even to "Bear Claw" Chris

tracker in the mountains knew the danger of silence in the wilderness, so he tethered his animals and sneaked up toward the cabin on foot. Peering from a hiding place, he felt a dead emptiness until, suddenly, the fluttering wings of a huge vulture lifting off startled him. The emptiness turned in an instant into anger.

Cursing, he stepped forward with his Hawken fully cocked and hoping to find an enemy to send to the happy hunting ground. But when he barged through the door, only emptiness greeted him. Emptiness except for two skulls and other bones near the doorway. He shouted as two more vultures lit out. He picked up the small skull and shook his head. He'd had no idea his wife had been carrying his child when he'd last said

goodbye. He knew instinctively what had happened. And if the killers could have seen his eyes at that moment, they would have shuddered in fear.

Stepping back outside, he discovered the spot in the shrubs where the braves had hidden. When he picked up the eagle's feather, he knew the killers were Crow.

Returning to the cabin, he located a heavy wooden box that the Indians hadn't taken, although they had spirited off most everything else of value, including two packhorses from the corral near the house. The red-bearded giant removed from the box a hinged copper kettle, gathered together what remained of his family, and placed their bones in the vessel along with the feather.



After Johnson married his Flathead bride, Swan, they rode back from the Bitterroots in Montana to live in Ol' Jack Hatcher's cabin at the confluence of the Little Snake River and Battle Creek in northwestern Colorado, just south of Wyoming border and Battle Mountain.

Alfred Jacob Miller's "Warrior and His Squaw"
 Courtesy The Walters Art Museum Online Collection

Lapp and Del Gue, his staunchest allies. According to Raymond Thorp, writing of the incident in *The West* in September 1964, Lapp raised his hand and began to speak when Gue suddenly quieted him. "Leave the Liver-Eater alone, he's on a trail."

The mountain man turned into a store, where he bought some salt, sugar and flour, trading several scalps he had taken. Some of the gawkers wondered if he had eaten the livers of those braves, but no one dared to ask. From the man's belt dangled a bowie knife with a twelve-inch blade sheathed beside a Colt Walker revolver, each with rosewood handles.

The man went about his business as silently as the wind as he made up his pack and strode off toward the corral where his horse was quartered. Several men had gathered there and watched him saddle the powerful black before tying on his supplies. The owner had talked about how the animal stood watch over Liver-Eater while he slept, neighing a warning whenever an Indian got within earshot.

Liver-Eater heard the crowd mumbling as he prepared to mount but thought nothing of it, for it was nothing unusual. Finally, he climbed aboard the saddle, placed his Hawken behind the horn, and pointed the beast's flaring nostrils west.

"Wonder whar he goes?" someone asked.

"Wharever ther's Crow Injuns," another answered. "Thet ol' coon is on a death trail."

The stallion threw back, whinnied and broke into a trot.

A Heart Full of Pain

Once safely back home, he went to his sepulcher. The Swan and her baby would sleep better, he knew. With the kettle before him, he took out the skulls and the lone eagle feather which had first told him the identity of his enemies. Now, from the doeskin bag he had brought from his spoils in the Bitterroots, he pulled the scalps, twined together, along with the killer's eagle feather and the body ornaments of the brave.

While he sat there fingering his keepsakes, his nose began to quiver, and he knew live Indians were present. Black eyes glistened from behind the rocks somewhere, but a mountain man was a fatalist with no fear of sudden death. Very slowly and carefully he returned his property to the kettle, closed the lid, and placed it in his family tomb. He took the time to mortise it in, knowing that his observer would have killed him from ambush long ago, had he so chosen. Then, still as carefree as a bird, he got to his feet and ambled



During John “Liver-Eating” Johnson’s years as a mountain man, Fort Laramie on the North Platte River in southeastern Wyoming was a key trading post.

Alfred Jacob Miller’s “Fort Laramie” Courtesy The Walters Art Museum Online Collection

Mountain men like Liver-Eating Johnson spent many solitary hours riding trail and working traps, but the comradery and trust among good friends and trapping partners was key to long-term survival in the mountains. Johnson partnered with his trapping mentor Jack Hatcher and his legendary partner, Del Gue.

Alfred Jacob Miller’s “Trappers” Courtesy The Walters Art Museum Online Collection



back down to the cabin. The word would go forth from Johnson’s Indian stalker that the Crow Killer had a reason for his madness. He had seen Liver-Eater’s two skulls—one tiny and one from a grown woman—two feathers, two scalps, and several ornaments from a successful skirmish. What Indian

wouldn’t make the connection? As for the watcher, was he Arapaho, Sioux, Gros Ventre, Blackfoot, Cheyenne, Piegan? It was impossible to know. Regardless, news traveled ahead to the forts and settlements, the trading posts and encampments—wherever men gathered throughout the wilderness. Why had a man with no sentiment started such a bloody vendetta? He was incapable of love, according to those who knew him, and most certainly he was incapable of loving a Native woman.

But those who knew him had forgotten that the Crow had destroyed not only his wife and his young child but also his property. The woman and baby had belonged to him.

Suddenly, as news of the reason behind the vendetta spread, the lonely white women of the frontier found themselves empathizing with him instead of standing against him. Practically overnight Liver-Eating

Johnson had become their knight in shining armor, their patron saint of retribution.

He had proven his single-handed, single-minded determination to right the wrongs done to him and his family. It was more than a personal vendetta; it was the Code of the West. Little could anyone have known, but Johnson was far from finished. In fact, he was determined to carry on the feud with his archenemies for the rest of his life—or until every last one of them had paid the price. Which meant he would continue waging war against the mighty Crow Nation for close to a quarter century. By then, his victims would total more Crow warriors than there are days in the year.



Born and raised in Chicago, **D. J. Herda** worked for years at the *Chicago Tribune*, as well as at numerous other Chicago-area newspapers and magazines, before becoming an internationally syndicated columnist. He has lived in the Rocky Mountains of the southwestern United States for nearly three decades. “John ‘Liver-Eating’ Johnson: How did he earn his terrifying nickname?” is excerpted from Herda’s latest book *The Never-Ending Lives of Liver-Eating Johnson* (TwoDot).

FACTS ABOUT JOHN "LIVER-EATING" JOHNSON

- He was born either John or William Garrison in 1824 near Hickory Tavern in Hunterdon, New Jersey.

- He was most likely one of seven children, the son of impoverished Scot-Irish or Scot-German parents, Isaac and Eliza-Metlar Garrison.

- In 1838, at age 14, Garrison ran away from his abusive home life and joined a whaling schooner crew.

- He joined the U.S. Navy in about 1843 and served aboard naval and merchant marine ships for maybe a year until he went AWOL in San Francisco.

- He changed his name to John Johnston after deserting the Navy and worked his way east to St. Joseph, Missouri. There is no evidence he fought in the Mexican-American War. He would later drop the *t* in his name.

- Johnson went west to Wyoming's Yellowstone Country in 1844. Within a year, he set out to be a trapper.

- In addition to "Liver-Eating" or "Liver-Eater," Johnson was also known as "Crow Killer."

- He served in the Union Army for two years during the Civil War.

- In the Indian Wars of 1876-77, he served as an Army scout.

- In 1881-82, he lived in Miles City, Montana Territory, and for a short while served as Custer County's justice of the peace.

- In 1884, Johnson was a member of Thomas Hardwick's short-lived *Great Rocky Mountain Wild West Show*.

- He served as the constable of Red Lodge, Montana, for seven years, from 1888 to 1895, until the ailments of old-age prevented him from serving any longer.

- Unable to take care of himself, he moved to the National Soldiers Home in Los Angeles in December 1899 and died on January 21, 1900. He was interred in the Los Angeles National Cemetery.

- Johnson became internationally famous when Robert Redford portrayed him in

Robert Redford starred in the title role of the 1972 film *Jeremiah Johnson*, which was based the real life story of John "Liver-Eating" Johnson. It is still considered one of the finest mountain man movies of all time (see Henry Parke's "Classic True West" article on page 46).

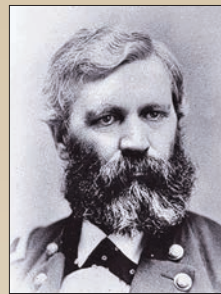
Colorization by Bob Boze Bell/
"Jeremiah Johnson" Still Courtesy Warner Bros.



CHIEF JOSEPH

Liver-Eating Johnson served under Generals Oliver O. Howard, Samuel Sturgis and Nelson Miles as a scout in the Sioux and Nez Perce wars. Johnson was with Miles when Chief Joseph surrendered at the Battle of Bear Paw on October 5, 1877.

Joseph, Howard and Miles Photos Courtesy Montana Historical Society/Sturgis Photo Courtesy Library of Congress



OLIVER HOWARD

Warner Bros.' 1972 film *Jeremiah Johnson*.

- In 1973, Lancaster, California, middle-

school students, inspired by their teacher, helped lead an effort to have Johnson moved from his final resting spot near the 405 freeway in Westwood to Red Lodge, Montana. When Red Lodge citizens balked, the students' teacher Tri Robinson contacted a friend in Cody, Wyoming, who was more than willing to have the fabled fur trapper reburied at Bob Edgar's tourist attraction, Old Trail Town. With approval from Congress, Johnson's remains were moved to Wyoming and reburied. Robert Redford even acted as a pallbearer.



NELSON MILES



SAMUEL STURGIS

All information on Johnson's life is from D.J. Herda's *The Never-ending Lives of Liver-Eating Johnson* (TwoDot).

How Johnson Earned His Nickname

Johnson earned his terrifying moniker during an Indian fight on the Musselshell River in 1868.

A fellow frontiersman named Ross, who Johnson described as "as a squeamish old fellow" saw him stab an Indian to death and part of the warrior's liver came out.

Johnson teased Ross and dared him to eat some and said "it's just as good as antelope's liver. Have a bite! and I kind of made believe to take a bite." Then Ross he threw up his guts.

"And he always swore after that he seen me tear a liver out of a dying Injun and eat it. But that ain't so. I was all over blood and I had the liver on my knife, but I didn't eat none of it. The liver coming out was unintentional on my part. But Ross he vowed 'twas so and I never got rid of the name."



BY JAMES B. MILLS

Grizzlies OF THE FAR WEST

BEFORE THE LEGENDARY BEAR WAS NEARLY DRIVEN TO EXTINCTION, *URSUS HORRIBILIS* RULED THE FORESTS AND PLAINS OF THE PACIFIC COAST.

The American Indians who resided in the Mount Shasta region of northern California believed the Great Spirit had created the grizzly bear to serve as master over all other animals. Many a White man who settled on the West Coast of the United States may have been inclined to agree with them when laying eyes on such a large and dangerous mammal. "In attacking a man, he usually rises on his hind-legs, strikes his enemy with one of his powerful fore-paws, and then commences to bite him," one newspaperman warned in 1863. "His weight and strength are so great that he bears down all opposition before him, and he is very quick. About half a dozen men, on average, are killed yearly in California by grizzly bears, and as many more are cruelly mutilated."

Grizzly Encounters

While many folks did their best to avoid such a potentially gruesome encounter with *Ursus horribilis*, some men would achieve a momentary fame by taking on the frontier's most feared carnivore. Joel Westfall became one of them when hunting a grizzly bear that had recently feasted on one of his prize sows near his home on the Merced River in central



California in early January 1861. The vengeful hog farmer grabbed his blankets and weapons before boldly setting up camp near his slain pig's meaty carcass and awaiting the large predator's return. Westfall waited long into the night until finally deciding to catch a nap. He was soon awakened by some ominous grunting sounds and quickly spotted a large shadow approaching in the moonlight.

Joel Westfall had barely grasped his rifle before a large grizzly bear was merely 10 feet away. When the bruin suddenly raised its head and began curiously sniffing the air, the hog farmer seized the moment and fired a shot into the animal's throat. He then dived under his blankets and lay motionless as the slowly dying grizzly tore up the surrounding underbrush in a desperate rage. The bruin finally succumbed to its wound more than 20 minutes later. Westfall breathed a sigh of relief and emerged from beneath his blankets. He was astonished by the dead animal's girth. "Now if there is any other man in

The sport of roping California grizzly bears is dramatically illustrated in James Walker's 1877 *Cowboys Roping a Bear*.

Courtesy Fred E. Gates Collection, 1955.87
Denver Art Museum

this State, who, ten miles from any accessible human habitation, would camp upon a trail of a grizzly bear going to his midnight repast, and take the desperate chances of a fight with him, we should like to know who he is," the *Costa Contra Gazette* declared on January 19, 1861. The reports of Westfall's successful hunt reached as far as Maryland, Wisconsin, Massachusetts and Georgia.

Benjamin Harrison Baird would not prove as fortunate as Joel Westfall when he encountered a grizzly bear while hunting deer on Grave Creek in Jackson County, Oregon, on October 28, 1864. The 55-year-old farmer was hunting for game that morning when his faithful dog Rover began barking at a female grizzly bear and her two cubs

lying on a bed of grass, leaves and moss near the trail. The foolhardy Baird slowly approached the three mammals rather than wisely backing away and took steady aim with his rifle from a

The grizzly began mauling the screaming farmer, ripping into his left side with her powerful claws, sinking her teeth into his right side and legs, gouging out his right eye, and biting all the flesh from

From the West Coast to its farthest range East, the grizzly bear was both feared and respected for its size, strength and spirit. George Catlin's 1844 *Attacking the Grizzly Bear* depicts a palpable fear in the deadly collision of K'nisteneux Indians, horses and bears on the Great Plains.

Smithsonian American Art Museum, Smithsonian Institution, 1985.66.386,599N



distance of 15 yards. Baird quickly realized his mistake after squeezing the trigger and merely wounding the large female. The farmer was soon running for his life as the protective mother chased after him with a vengeance.

The enraged female grizzly caught up with B.H. Baird after chasing him for 200 yards and knocked the rifle from his grasp. The desperate farmer managed to reach a nearby tree when the bruin began fighting with his dog, but only further angered the large bear when, gathering up his rifle, he shot her a second time. When the grizzly charged at Baird with even more ferocity, the farmer sprinted behind a thicket and drew his knife. He later claimed to have stabbed the animal in the belly before getting struck by several vicious blows.

the right side of his face. The bear then resumed fighting with Baird's dog Rover and the two snarling animals disappeared down a hillside.

B.H. Baird was remarkably still breathing and managed to reach a cabin over a mile away around ten o'clock that morning. "Mrs. Baird was sent for and hastened with all possible speed the distance of eighteen miles, over a very rough, hilly road, but arrived about five minutes too late to see her husband alive," the *Sacramento Bee* later reported. Benjamin Baird had already died from his many wounds around nine o'clock that night, leaving behind his devastated wife, Mary, and their 16 children. His ravaged corpse was then transported back to the family homestead, four miles north of the Rogue River, for burial.

Benjamin's death became a family legend, despite the farmer having crossed the line between bravery and stupidity that fateful morning. In the early 20th century, his remains were eventually moved to the Pioneer Cemetery in Grants Pass.

While B.H. Baird had provoked the aggression of a protective mother that morning in Oregon, the most ferocious grizzly bear to ever leave its paw prints in the California soil was probably the beast that killed three cowboys in a single day near the San Benito Ranch on August 18, 1870. The animal's unique tracks, having lost three of its toes ten years earlier, had long been familiar to those living in the region southeast of San Jose. The horror began after two of the three ill-fated cowboys skipped

The Old World sport of bull and bear pit fighting came to the West Coast with the Spanish, but by 1866 the California state legislature had banned the horrific and cruel game of blood and chance.

True West Archives

breakfast to pursue a stray cow that summer morning. They headed up a ravine and dismounted when they spotted the stray lying among the brush. The two cowpunchers had initially believed the cow was sleeping and barely noticed its wounds when a massive grizzly with three missing toes emerged from behind the carcass.

The bear swatted the closest man to the ground in a flash and ripped his abdomen open. The roaring



beast then chased down the other cowpuncher, sank its teeth into his skull, and tore the wrangler's head completely from his body. The decapitated cowboy's friend managed to drag himself into a nearby brush with his entrails protruding through his blood-soaked shirt. The wounded cowboy then watched helplessly as their cohort arrived from camp a short time later to call them back for breakfast, only to be mauled to death by the particularly aggressive grizzly. The cowhands at the San Benito Ranch eventually realized some of their boys were missing and retrieved the three victims later that morning. The cowboy who had taken refuge in the brush survived long enough to detail what happened, before inevitably succumbing to his wounds later that night. "Three men whose names are unknown, who had been keeping a dairy on the San Benito Ranch, came to their death in a most horrible manner," the *San Francisco Examiner* reported.

Grizzly Sports

For all the horrors endured by those who were killed by a bear on the frontier, the savagery of man was

likewise inflicted upon the grizzlies of California. When bear hunters weren't killing the animals for the price of their furry pelts, some grizzlies were captured alive and subjected to participating in gladiatorial fights against other fearsome creatures in front of a crowd of onlookers. The Spanish conquistadors had brought the practice of bearbaiting to the Americas many years before, and it remained a popular form of entertainment throughout most of the 19th century in California. The grizzly bears were often chained by their necks to an upright post and forced to fight for their lives against the large bulls or dogs pitted against them inside a "pit" or split-board arena. While many enjoyed the cruel spectacle, not all Californians approved of bearbaiting. *The Sacramento Bee* condemned the practice as a "barbarous pastime" and a "travesty" on April 9, 1866.

The most famous Californian fighting bear was Grizzly Joe, who was eventually purchased by businessman William Billings and taken on tour to demonstrate his fighting skills before rabid crowds in the Midwest during the 1860s. The celebrated Grizzly Joe had vanquished bulls in Omaha, Nebraska,

THREE MEN KILLED BY A BEAR —
A telegram to the *Chronicle* says that three men, who keep a dairy on San Benito Creek, near Hollister, in Monterey County, were killed by a bear on the 26th of August. One of the cows failing to make her appearance with the rest of the herd caused two of the men to start in search of her. After traveling up the creek a short distance, they saw the cow lying in the bushes, and, not expecting any danger, advanced with the intention of driving her home. When they got within a few feet of the cow they saw a grizzly, and immediately attempted escape, but were soon overtaken by bruin. He leaped upon the nearest one, crushing him to the ground, and completely disemboweled him. He then seized the other by the head, severing it entirely from the body. The remaining man, thinking that he would go and assist his partners in the search, started after them, and soon discovered the cow; and, on attempting to approach her, the bear sprung upon him, killing him instantly.

San Luis Obispo Tribune Sept. 03, 1870



Robert Farrington Elwell's *Cowboy and a Grizzly* depicts the instantaneous combustion of ferocity and terror created when a grizzly is surprised on a Western trail.

Courtesy Heritage Auctions

and St. Joseph, Missouri, before his most publicized “prize fight” against a bull named Texas Johnny took place in St. Louis, Missouri, on December 25, 1867. A pretentious reporter from the *Daily Missouri Republican* was among the estimated 2,000 people in attendance at the Abbey Track that Christmas afternoon and covered the event and every “round” as if it were the fight of the century:

There was a fight between a bull and a bear; that was enough to set St. Louis agog...Near the judges' stand stood Texas Johnny, rearing his head like a fiery steed, but evidently aware that a stout rope, attached to his right hind leg was a formidable barrier to much locomotion, until a signal from the drum said a “little more slack.” Grizzly Joe was alike an object of great curiosity and no little anxiety among the betting gents, as to how he would come out; whether or not the bear would take too many horns and get “groggy,” or the bull be unable to bear it out. Joe looked as though he was master of the situation as he complacently peeped through the

bars of his cage and stretched out a paw, eager for the attack. Three stalwart men had been previously appointed to see fair play and hold the ropes that kept Joe and Johnny Bull in sage limits from the surveying crowd, the aforesaid referees, though everybody wanted to be “boss,” being also provided with sharp sticks to goad the animals, when necessary, into a frenzy of passion...at precisely half-past 3 o'clock P.M., the band struck up Yankee-doodle and bruin was let out, a moment of suspense to the gaping multitude.

Texas Johnny was declared the winner following the ninth and final “round” that evening. “The bear declined to fight,” the *Burlington Free Press* lamented. “Once he made a frantic rush for a small building just outside the fence and succeeded in climbing through the window in his fright but was speedily hauled back by the rope.” The fighting grizzly had retreated to his cage the moment “the managers of the moral entertainment opened the door.” Grizzly Joe had suffered enough wounds during his vicious exchanges with the Texas Longhorn that

his scheduled fight against two bulldogs in Chicago, the following month had to be postponed. His owner William Billings was also failing to turn a profit. “Grizzly Joe, the fighting bear of St. Louis, has eaten his owner bankrupt,” the *Greenville Advocate* declared on January 9, 1868. “An attachment was served on the latter a few days ago for a debt of \$56, the greater part of the debt for boarding Joe.”

Grizzly Joe had participated in his last “prize fight” that evening in St. Louis, Missouri. William Billings promptly sold the “nine-hundred pound” animal to W.B. Gall of Ohio shortly after. “Yesterday there arrived in our city the great prize-fighting bear,” announced the *Cincinnati Times* on March 24, 1868. W.B. Gall saw that the bear he had purchased was “turned over to his new quarters, in the vicinity of Brighton, where he will be carefully cared for.” Those opposed to animal cruelty in frontier times hoped the famous Grizzly Joe would enjoy his retirement and a peaceful death in the Buckeye State.



James B. Mills is an author and historian residing in Australia. His biography, *Billy the Kid: El Bandido Simpático*, which *True West* has described as “an instant classic,” was published by University of North Texas Press in 2022.

BY THE EDITORS OF *TRUE WEST*

Pioneer Pets

DOGS AND CATS ARE AS WESTERN AS SIX-GUNS AND STETSONS—
AND A LOT MORE LOVABLE.

In the Old West, dogs were common—and necessary. Cats, not at first, but soon were as essential to day-to-day living as fresh water and a cooking fire

Dogs have been roaming North America since at least 10,000 B.C., and were the most important domestic animal on the continent until the Spanish arrived with the horse.

Cats, on the other hand, didn't arrive in the Western Hemisphere until they chased some rats off Christopher Columbus's *Niña*, *Pinta* and *Santa Maria* somewhere in the Caribbean.

Whether chasing rats, raccoons, bears or mountain lions—or pulling a travois, sled or cart—dogs have truly been everyone's best friend in the West for time eternal.

Cats—now they are a different story.

Let's just say the Old World cat became essential because the European invaders also brought rats. So all you cat haters out there—say a little thanks to the toms and tabbies who saved not just the West but the larders and granaries of nations from Canada to Mexico.

If you've got a bit of the humbug about this pet history stuff, sit back and soak in the smiles from all these men, women, boys and girls with their beloved frontier pets. We bet you might soon remember the joy of the season—and the wonder of a brand new puppy or kitten.





A Couple and Their Dog Near the Las Vegas Creek • Las Vegas, Nevada, circa 1904-1905

Helen J. Stewart, Courtesy UNLV Special Collections and Archives



Anna Bracken and Friend Sitting on the Porch With Cats and Dogs
Las Vegas, Nevada, circa 1900-1925
Courtesy UNLV Special Collections and Archives



Woman and Pet Dog
Location Unknown, 1910

Harrison Putney, Courtesy Amon Carter Museum of Art



*Paula Hubbard With Dog
on a Horse Drawn Buggy*
Possibly Nevada, circa
early 1900s

Courtesy UNLV Special
Collections and Archives



Charging Thunder and Dog

Location Unknown,
Buffalo Bill's Wild
West Show, circa
1900

Gertrude Käsebier,
Courtesy Library of
Congress



Two Couples with Dog
Location Unknown,
1880s

Courtesy Amon Carter
Museum of Art



*Private George Hansell, First
Chickasaw Infantry Regiment,
aka "Hunter's Indian
Volunteers," and Unknown
Friend with Two Scouting Dogs*
Location Unknown, 1863

Courtesy Library of Congress



Dogs Pulling a Boy in a Cart
Dawson City, Yukon Territory, circa
1894-1905

M.W. Goetzman, Courtesy Beinecke Library,
Yale University



*Farmer Squirting Milk From
Cow to Mouth of Cat*
Location Unknown, 1900

C.L. Wasson, Courtesy Library of
Congress



Four Men on a Rocky Ledge With a Dog
 Las Vegas, Nevada, circa 1900–1925
 Courtesy UNLV Special Collections and Archives



Yokut Children and Basket Weavers with Puppy
 Tule Reservation, n.d.
 Courtesy Huntington Digital Library



Pioneer Hunter with Dogs
 Location Unknown, n.d.
 True West Archives



Esquimaux Dog and His Master Edward Lind, Alaska Trader
 Bethel, Alaska, 1884
 Courtesy Huntington Digital Library

"Having good time, don't you think?"
 The image of the unknown girl with her dog, donkey and cart was taken by A. Frank Randall, a well-known frontier photographer of the Apache people in Arizona and New Mexico between 1883 and 1887. The location of the photo is unknown, but it was known that there was a tennis court at Fort Apache.
 Courtesy Huntington Digital Library





*General George A. Custer and Mrs. Elizabeth Custer
Camp Headquarters Tent, With Pet Greyhound, Fort Hays, Kansas, 1869*
When it looked blurry in the original image, photographer W.J. Phillips
drew the dog's head onto the negative.

W.J. Phillips, Courtesy NPS.gov



*Schoolteacher, Students and Dog
at Schoolhouse
Springdale, Nevada, 1908*

Courtesy UNLV Special Collections and Archives



*A Man, His Homestead and His Dog
Colorado, 1880s*

W.A. White, Courtesy Amon Carter Museum of Art



*Maurine Hubbard Wilson With Puppy
Colorado or Missouri, circa 1900-1902*

Courtesy UNLV Special Collections and Archives



TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

A BULLET FOR YOUR TROUBLES

TOM HORN VS ISAM DART

A COLD KILLING



Isam Dart gets cut down without a chance.

Illustrations by Bob Boze Bell

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker

Based on the research of John Langellier, Jack McPhee, Larry Ball, Chip Carlson, Grace McClure, Diana Allen Kouris and Linda Wommack

OCTOBER 03, 1900

It's cold, just after dawn in Colorado's Brown's* Park area when Isham "Isam" Dart comes out of his cabin, dressed heavy with long underwear, a couple of shirts and a jacket. That may protect him from the elements—but it won't stop a bullet.

Dart is holed up with six of his friends; all believe they are marked for death by a gunman hired to—depending on your viewpoint—clear the area of rustlers or intimidate small ranchers into abandoning their land. Dart, a former slave, probably qualifies on both counts. He and others have gotten anonymous notes telling them to get out ... or else. And they take the threats seriously. Three months earlier, their pal Matt Rash was shot dead in his cabin after receiving a similar message. You might say everyone is nervous.

**Editor's note:* Historians prefer Brown's Park, while the USGS has adopted Browns Park. *True West* style is Brown's Park.

Dart and George Bassett lead the way as the group heads toward the corral, about 100 yards away. But they don't get far. A single shot rings out, and Dart pitches over, from a bullet to the chest, dead before he hits the ground. The other six men turn tail and sprint back to the cabin. They spend the rest of the day fingering their guns and sneaking peeks outside through peepholes in the log walls.

They finally go outside the next day. Dart's body lies where he fell. They make their way around the area. When they reach a section of fence south of the corral, they find a couple of .30-.30 rifle shells. Farther down, they discover horse tracks. They follow the trail, but not very far. The cowboys have no intention of running into the assassin.

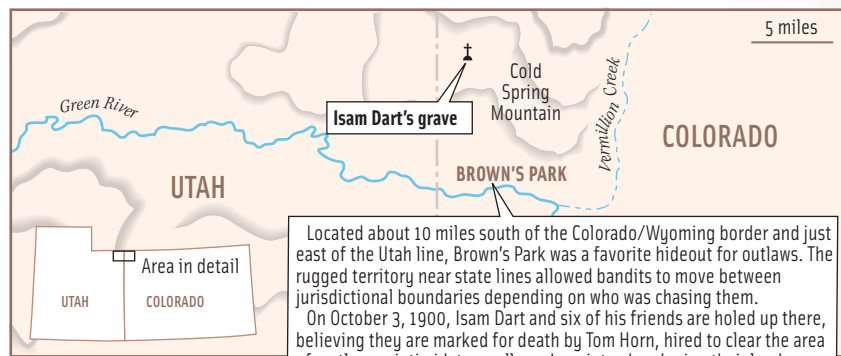
They know who he is: a tall, athletic man with shifty black eyes and no sense of fear. He calls himself Hicks. But a number of folks already know that his real name is Tom Horn. ★



MATT RASH



TOM HORN



The Dart Dossier

■ Isam was born in Guadalupe, Texas, in 1858. It is not known if his parents Cyrus and Indiana were slaves or free Blacks.

■ Considered an excellent horseman and cowboy.

■ Joined a cattle drive as a drover from Texas to Wyoming in 1881.

■ Was indicted in Sweetwater County, Wyoming, in September 1888 on three counts of illegally branding others' cattle. A deputy sheriff traveled to Browns Park and arrested him. Charges were dropped in Sweetwater.

■ Lived with the Bassett family of Brown's Park for several years in the 1890s, despite having his own ranch. He became quite close with the famed Bassett sisters, Josie and "Queen" Ann.

■ Acquainted with Butch Cassidy, Elzy Lay and other members of the Wild Bunch who were frequent visitors to the Bassett place. No evidence supports Dart ever rode with the outlaws.

■ Member of posse that captured outlaw Harry Tracy in February 1898, after Tracy killed Brown's Park rancher Valentine Hoy.

■ Accused of killing pal Matt Rash in July 1900 by the real assassin, Tom Horn. Nobody believed the charge—especially after Horn gunned down Dart.



WHO WAS THE REAL ISAM DART?



ORA HALEY

The Leadup

The Brown's Park conflict was something of an extension of the Johnson County War. Big ranchers took on small cattlemen over control of land—in this case, large tracts of open grasslands in Brown's Park.

The big boys, especially Ora Haley's Two Bar outfit, allowed their cattle to roam into that area, even pushing on to some of the small ranches themselves. The upstarts responded by shooting some of the offending cows—or claiming them as their own. Haley and his cohorts were incensed and accused the small ranchers of rustling (and, in truth, a number of known outlaws roamed Brown's Park). When the big ranchers became convinced that they wouldn't find justice from law enforcement or in the courts, they took things into their own hands—and hired Tom Horn.

Author Chip Carlson's research indicates that the Two Bar provided horses and supplies. Horn was paid \$500 per killing.

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

On October 4, 1900—the day after he was killed—Isam Dart was laid to rest in an isolated spot on Cold Spring Mountain, near his cabin. The grave is still there, surrounded by a wooden fence in a grove of aspen trees, not far from North Highway 72.

The Two Bar Ranch, Tom Horn's employer and one of the last great cattle empires in the U.S., was sold in 1911. In the mid-1960s, its headquarters and several buildings became part of the Brown's Park National Wildlife Refuge. Most of those structures are still standing.

For Horn himself, no bad deed went unpunished. Sure, he was never arrested or tried in the killings of Matt Rash and Isam Dart, but the reputation that came from those murders helped bring him down. On July 18, 1901, teenager Willie Nickell was shot from ambush near his home northwest of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Horn was in the area at the time, and the assassination bore striking similarities to his *modus operandi*. Investigators immediately focused on him. Horn pretty much put the noose around his own neck, drunkenly admitting to the crime to Deputy U.S. Marshal Joe LeFors (and a couple of stenographers) and then talking too much when he was under cross examination during the trial. Even though he recanted the confession, Horn was convicted and went to the gallows on November 20, 1903. More recent research into the Nickell murder—especially by Larry Ball—indicates that Horn was guilty in that case. Tom Horn's road to justice was a bit convoluted, but he finally paid his debt to society.

Recommended Reads: Chip Carlson's *Blood on the Moon* (High Plains Press); Larry D. Ball's *Tom Horn in Life and Legend* (University of Oklahoma Press); Grace McClure's *Bassett Women* (Swallow Press); Diana Allen Kouris's *Nighthawk Rising: A Biography of Accused Cattle Rustler Queen Ann Bassett of Brown's Park* (High Plains Press); and Linda Wommack's *Ann Bassett: Colorado's Cattle Queen* (Caxton Press) and *Growing Up with the Wild Bunch: The Story of Pioneer Legend Josie Bassett* (TwoDot).



CLASSIC TRUE WEST

FROM THE TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

Editor's Note: Screenwriter, author and *True West*'s Western film and television editor Henry C. Parke has been a contributor to the magazine for nearly a decade. If you'd like to read more of Henry's articles, like "The Highest Peak: Best of the Mountain Man Movies" from the December 2015 issue, please go to TrueWestMagazine.com and subscribe for full access to 70 years' worth of exciting issues of *True West*.

BY HENRY C. PARKE

THE HIGHEST PEAK

BEST OF THE MOUNTAIN MAN MOVIES

On the eve of the release of *The Revenant*, inspired by the true story of Hugh Glass's fight for life, the film rights to the character of Grizzly Adams are up for bid and, across the country, hipsters dubbed "lumbersexuals" are sprouting facial hair and sporting flannel and buckskin.

Why the sudden appeal of the mountain man? Maybe because neither Grizzly Adams nor Hugh Glass ever said, "It takes a village."

As Charlton Heston's character says in 1980's *The Mountain Men*, "I can still walk

for a year in any direction with just my rifle and a handful of salt and never have to say 'sir' to nobody. I reckon that's free."

Charlton's son, Fraser, who wrote that film, understands the appeal of the self-confident, independent man: "It's an archetypical Western; prototypical, really. It's an early version of America's drive West, before the country was settled, before there were gunslingers and ranchers and farmers and towns with sidewalks."

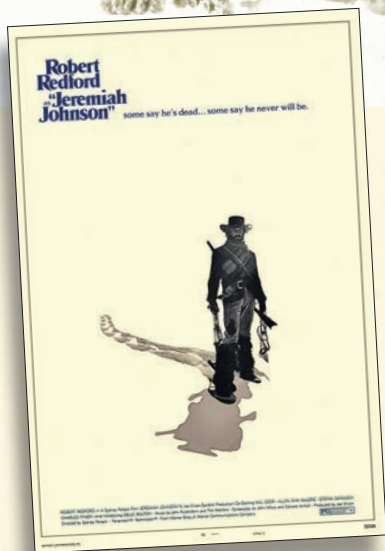
The men who cut the paths that became wagon routes for the pioneers

have long fascinated filmgoers and filmmakers.

Leonardo DiCaprio takes on the role of real-life trapper Hugh Glass in *The Revenant*. He must navigate a brutal, winter, hostile environment, filled with warring American Indian tribes, in his relentless quest to survive and exact vengeance on the men who betrayed him.

Photo and Poster Courtesy Twentieth Century Fox Film





Here are 10 mountain man movies worth seeking out.

#1 The 1971 Western *Man in the Wilderness* (Warner Archive), the first cinematic telling of the ordeal of Hugh Glass, stars Richard Harris as part of a grand trapper expedition. Horribly mauled by a grizzly, sure to die, the expedition's captain (John Huston) leaves two men behind to bury him, but fearing that Indians are coming, they abandon him. Yet he survives, driven by memories of his family, to try and catch up.

Fraser Heston voted 1972's *Jeremiah Johnson* the best mountain man movie. Dan Haggerty concurs: "Robert Redford did such a great job on it; no one could have done it better." In the film, Redford's character (above) learns the basics of mountain survival from an older mountain man who specializes in hunting grizzly bears.

Poster and Photo Courtesy Warner Bros.

#2 *Jeremiah Johnson* (Warner Archive) features Robert Redford as a Mexican-American War veteran determined to make a life in the Rocky Mountains. Sydney Pollack's direction and John Milius and Edward Anhalt's script for the 1972 film create a man who, while speaking rarely, is accessible, romantic and terrifying in his wrath, although the film tactfully skirts why he was known as "Liver-Eating Johnson."

#3 Clint Walker, on hiatus from *Cheyenne*, gave the screen's most clean-shaven mountain man in 1959's *Yellowstone Kelly* (Warner Archive). Supported by fellow Warner Bros. TV stars Edd Byrnes and John Russell's characters, Kelly must protect the Sioux, and his own trap-lines, from dangerously ambitious soldiers. He must also safeguard a beautiful Arapaho captive desired by both the Sioux chief and his ambitious nephew.

#4 *The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams*, a tiny-budget, sound-dubbed-in 1974 film, was such a success that it begat a slew of wilderness family films as well as a TV series for its star, Dan Haggerty. Falsely accused of murder, Adams disappears into the mountains, lives off the land and raises a grizzly. Sometimes dismissed as *Jeremiah Johnson Lite*, the film has great beauty and charm. Haggerty remembers fondly, "A lot of people don't know that the California State flag is a representation of his bear. We did kind of a softened version [of his life]; couldn't do it hard and heavy in those days, the way James Capen Adams [lived], but that's how it was."

#5 The most filmed mountain man portrayal is of Albert Johnson, the "Mad Trapper of Rat River," filmed four times in nine years! (The 1978 comedy went unfinished.) In 1931, Inuits complained that Johnson was meddling with their traps. Mountie confrontations with Johnson led to them leveling his cabin with dynamite. When the smoke cleared, Johnson ran out, guns blazing, and the legendary Yukon manhunt began. The engrossing 1981 actioner *Death Hunt* (Shout! Factory), starring Charles Bronson as Johnson and Lee Marvin as the Mountie determined to catch him, is by far the best. A new version has been announced for 2017.

#6 Charlton Heston and Brian Keith star in the salty and savage 1980 film *The Mountain Men* (Amazon Video), an adventure story with plenty of humor and heart. Screenwriter Fraser Heston recalls, "Our story takes place in the 1830s, at the end of the fur trade era. The heyday was passed, so there's a feeling already of nostalgia for something that is lost." Victoria Racimo plays the Indian woman Heston's trapper character does not want, but grows to love. Stephen Macht is Heavy Eagle, who will not give her up. Among the high points is the trappers' Rendezvous sequence, an event Fraser describes as



Charles Bronson (at far right), at age 59, played a real-life Canadian fugitive, trapper Albert Johnson, in 1981's *Death Hunt*. Old trapper Bill Luce (played by Henry Beckman, at left) warns Johnson that the law is coming for him.

Photo and Poster Courtesy Twentieth Century Fox Film

“part trade-show and part rave, in buckskins.”

#7 In “Wild Bill” Wellman’s 1951 flick *Across the Wide Missouri* (Warner Archive), Flint Mitchell (Clark Gable) bargains for a Blackfoot bride (María Elena Marqués) for trade reasons, assembles a battalion of fellow-trappers, and leads them into rich beaver grounds. Mitchell finds himself loving his wife and her people, and he becomes drawn into a power struggle between her grandfather Bear Ghost (Jack Holt) and Ironshirt (Ricardo Montalban).

#8 Anthony Mann’s 1955 Western *The Last Frontier* (Sony Pictures) is a

fascinating story of three cultures clashing: military, Lakota and mountain man. When Red Cloud forces three trappers out, they scout for the nearby fort. As arrogant Colonel Marston (Robert Preston) drives the two sides inevitably to war, Victor Mature is the savage innocent of the trappers, who naively makes a play for Anne Bancroft’s character, not caring that she’s the colonel’s wife.

#9 In 1969’s *My Side of the Mountain*, Ted Eccles plays a 12-year-old boy obsessed with Henry David Thoreau and science, who runs away to live in the mountains of Canada and tries to create a new food source—from algae! He also catches and trains a Peregrine falcon, skins deer to make his clothes and befriends an itinerant folksinger played by Theodore Bikel.

#10 I’m jumping the gun including *The Revenant* in the top 10 list. As we go to press, I have seen only the trailer,

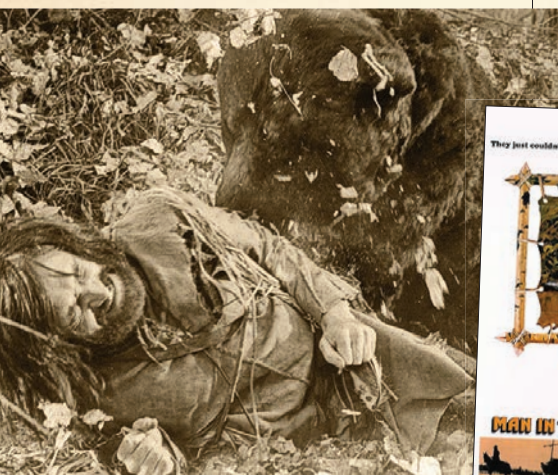
but what a trailer and what a story. Between the celebrated novel by professional diplomat Michael Punke, the direction by last year’s Oscar winner (for *Birdman*) Alejandro González Iñárritu, photography by double-Oscar winner (for 2014’s *Birdman* and 2013’s *Gravity*) Emmanuel Lubezki and performances by Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hardy, it should be on the top of your must-see list. Due out as a limited release this Christmas and then nationwide on January 8, *The Revenant* stars DiCaprio as real-life frontiersman Hugh Glass, who gets mauled by a bear and left to die by his hunting companions. He sets out on a 200-mile trek to avenge this betrayal.



Henry C. Parke, Western Film and TV Editor for *True West* since July 2015, is a screenwriter and blogs for the INSP Channel and at henrywesternroundup.blogspot.com. A book based on his *True West* columns, *The Greatest Westerns Ever Made*, will be published by TwoDot in spring 2024.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

For the first time ever, every issue of *True West* magazine is now online, including Henry C. Parke’s original, unabridged article as it appeared in the December 2015 issue. To learn more about how you can read all of Parke’s articles and subscribe to *True West* Archives, go to TrueWestMagazine.com.
Our past awaits you!



Irish actor Richard Harris (left) starred as Zachary Bass in the *Man in the Wilderness* (1971). Richard Sarafian directed the film entirely on location in Spain from a Jack DeWitt script loosely based on Ashley and Henry’s Rocky Mountain Fur Company and Hugh Glass’s famous fight with a grizzly.

Photo and Poster Courtesy Warner Bros.



In his first feature film, 12-year-old Teddy Eccles (left) embodied the leading role of Sam Gribble in *My Side of the Mountain* (1969). Adapted from Jean Craighead George's award-winning novel, the entire movie was shot by veteran director James B. Clark on location in Quebec, Canada, in 1967.

Photo and Poster Courtesy Paramount Pictures



Television Western star Clint Walker (above, right) was perfectly cast in the title role of *Yellowstone Kelly* (1959). Director William Douglas took his star and crew, including Walker's costar Andra Martin as Wahleeah (above, left), to Northern Arizona to film Burt Kennedy's adaptation of Clay Fisher's novel.

Photo and Poster Courtesy Warner Bros.



James Whitmore (left) joined leading man Clark Gable (center) in MGM's big-budget Western, *Across the Wide Missouri* (1951), adapted from Bernard De Voto's bestseller. William A. Wellman directed his ensemble cast on location in the San Juan Mountains of Colorado.

Photo and Poster Courtesy MGM



From Fraser Heston's original script, Richard Lang directed Charlton Heston (right) and Brian Keith in *The Mountain Men* (1980), one of the most popular of the fur trapper films. *True West's* firearms editor Phil Spangenberg was a historical consultant and an extra in the movie, which was shot entirely on location in Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park.

Photo and Poster Courtesy Warner Bros.



BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

Following Billy the Kid

Tracking the legend across Arizona and New Mexico is still an adventure.

It's easy to start a travel story when you know where your subject was born. Mark Twain? Florida, Missouri. Billy the Kid ...?

"Billy the Kid was reportedly born all over the world," says Melody Groves, author of *Before Billy the Kid: The Boy Behind the Legendary Outlaw*. "First is Ireland, supposedly coming over with his mom—in 1846, like she did? I've read New York City, Indianapolis, and my favorite is Lincoln, New Mexico."

According to the 1880 census, William H. Bonney was born in Missouri. Billy wouldn't, it's argued, lie to a census official. Well, he lied about his name (Henry McCarty).

"Personally and logically," Groves says, "I believe he was born in Utica, New York, May 1861. "All my research points there, and indeed Billy said he thought he was born in 1861."

That's why I'm starting in Silver City, New Mexico.

The Early Years

Yes, Billy can be placed in Anderson, Indiana, and Wichita, Kansas. Sure, his mother, Catherine McCarty, married William H. Antrim in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on March 1, 1873, then traveled with Billy and his brother Joseph

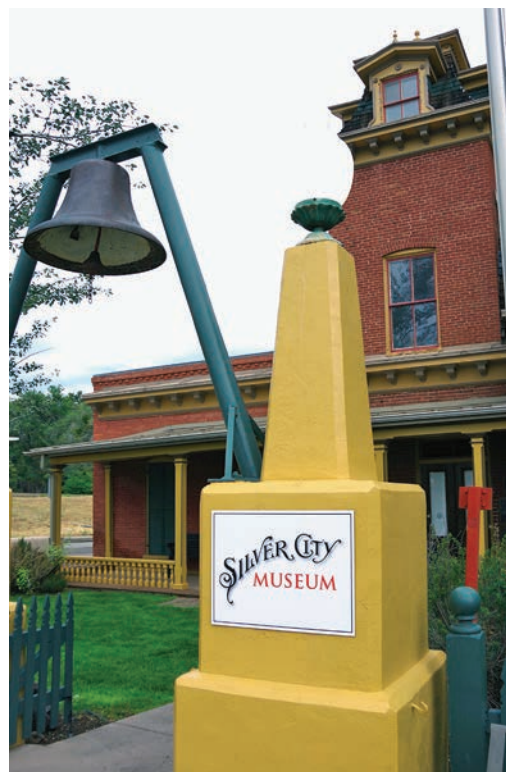
Billy the Kid was dedicated to the memory of his mother Catherine McCarty. A resident of Silver City, New Mexico, described her as "a jolly Irish lady, full of life, fun and mischief." After Catherine's untimely death on September 16, 1874, the Kid's life of mischief, misdeeds and crimes began in earnest.

Illustration by Bob Boze Bell



In 1876 or 1877, Billy the Kid drifted into the hardscrabble settlement that would become known as Bonita, a couple miles outside Fort Grant, Cochise County, Arizona Territory. On August 18, 1877, the Kid fought with Frank "Windy" P. Cahill at Atkins Cantina and killed the ex-soldier in self-defense.

Illustration by Bob Boze Bell/ Camp Grant Photo Courtesy True West Archives



Housed in a circa-1881 three-story home that later became a fire station for 35 years, the Silver City Museum has more than 20,000 objects and more than 20,000 photographs.

All Images by Johnny D. Boggs Unless Otherwise Noted

roughly 300 miles southwest to Georgetown. But by early summer, the Antrims had settled in Silver City (Silver City Museum). And that's where the legend begins.

"Silver City is the liveliest town in the country; is rapidly growing, and will ere long be the metropolis of the Territory," Santa Fe's *Weekly New Mexican* reported on April 1, 1873.

Antrim wasn't much of a miner, carpenter, butcher or gambler. Catherine,



A monument to John Chisum stands in downtown Roswell, New Mexico. Though on the same side during the Lincoln County War, Billy began rustling from Chisum, one reason the cattleman supported Pat Garrett for sheriff in the 1880 election.

John Chisum Photo Courtesy True West Archives

however, worked hard, baking pies and sweetcakes, doing laundry and taking in boarders to keep the family afloat. A good student in school, Billy loved to sing and dance. But things went south when Catherine died of tuberculosis on September 16, 1874.

Antrim sold Catherine's cabin. He farmed the boys out to blacksmiths and butchers. So Billy began running with a petty thief called Sombrero Jack. About a year after his mother's death, clothes stolen from a laundry were found in Billy's room, and he was jailed. But the slender lad escaped through the chimney and fled to Arizona Territory.

He reappeared in history at Fort Grant, Arizona, on August 17, 1877, when he entered a saloon and got into a row with blacksmith "Windy" Cahill. "I had called him a pimp and he called me a son of a bitch; we took hold of each other," Cahill said in his deathbed statement.

One witness said Cahill had Billy pinned on the floor and was slapping his face, and when Billy yelled, "You are hurting me. Let me up," Cahill said, "I want to hurt you. That's why I got you down." But Billy freed one of his hands, pulled a revolver, shot the bully, ran outside, stole a horse and vamoosed.

Entering Lincoln County

Ballets, biographies, screenplays, novels and tourism brochures aren't written about laundry thieves and bully killers. But by the fall of 1877, Billy was cowboying for a transplanted Englishman chasing the American dream.

In addition to ranching, John Tunstall decided to go into business with attorney Alexander McSween, with some assistance from cattleman John Chisum, and opened a store in Lincoln, the sprawling county's seat (17 buildings comprise the outstanding Lincoln Historic Site). The downside of that was that Tunstall's store was competing with The House, a mercantile run by Lawrence G. Murphy and James Dolan that also controlled government contracts and was

backed, many argue, by the powerful (and corrupt) Santa Fe Ring.

What followed is so complicated you have to read everything Bob Boze Bell, Maurice Fulton, William Keleher, Frederick Nolan and Robert Utley have written on the subject, and you'll still be confused.

On February 18, 1878, a posse sent by Lincoln County Sheriff William

Brady caught up with Tunstall—whose hired hands, including Billy, were chasing turkeys—and shot him and his horse dead.

So McSween persuaded John B. "Squire" Wilson, a justice of the peace, to swear in Tunstall supporters as constables—they called themselves "Regulators"—and Lincoln County found itself answering to McSween's law and the law of Brady, i.e., The House.

Regulators caught and killed two members of the posse that murdered Tunstall. Also left dead was a Regulator who protested too much, was thought to be a spy or just had a lousy day. On April 1, Brady and Deputy George Hindman were killed in an ambush in Lincoln. A few days later, Andrew "Buckshot" Roberts was mortally wounded in a gunfight at Blazer's Mill, but he killed Regulator leader Dick Brewer and wounded a few others.

Lincoln County had spiraled deeper into anarchy when the Lincoln County War ended, more or less, after McSween and Regulators returned to Lincoln, fortifying his home and other buildings and beginning the "Five-Day War." That ended July 19 when House gunmen set



Englishman John Henry Tunstall was murdered in what's now Lincoln National Forest near present-day Glencoe, New Mexico.

John Tunstall Photo Courtesy True West Archives



Billy was tried in Mesilla, then the gateway to southern New Mexico, for the murder of Lincoln County Sheriff William Brady. District Attorney William Rynerson had arranged for a change of venue from Lincoln, where the jury pool might have been more sympathetic to the Kid.

After killing James Bell, Billy waited at an upstairs window until Bob Olinger headed to the courthouse, then called out, "Hello, Bob," or something similar, and shot the deputy dead with his own shotgun.

McSween's house afire. Billy and some companions made it out alive, but McSween died with several others. "The Big Killing" was over. So was President Rutherford B. Hayes's patience.

Hayes replaced New Mexico Governor Samuel B. Axtell with Lew Wallace, who thought he had ended the war by declaring amnesty for all parties not facing indictment. Tough luck for Billy, charged with killing Brady and Roberts. But Billy saw a way out.

In short, Billy and Wallace agreed on a deal. Billy would be pardoned if he testified in a court of inquiry at Fort Stanton (Fort Stanton Historic Site) about Col. Nathan Dudley's actions, or lack thereof, during the Five-Day War. Billy lived up to his end of the deal, too. But seeing things weren't going his way in the military court, he skedaddled.

End of the Trail

Billy gambled, rustled and danced with his sweethearts. He killed Joe Grant in a Fort Sumner saloon in 1880. He rode into an ambush led by newly elected Lincoln County Sheriff Pat Garrett on December 19, 1880, and surrendered a few days later at Stinking Springs, having lost two pals, Tom Folliard and Charlie Bowdre, to bullets.

Garrett hauled his prisoners to Las Vegas (City of Las Vegas Museum and Rough Rider Memorial Collection), and took the train to Lamy and the spur to Santa Fe, where Governor Wallace, soon to be famous as *Ben-Hur's* author, ignored Billy's reminders of a promise.

Sent to Mesilla, Billy stood trial for killing Brady, was convicted, sentenced to hang and returned to Lincoln.

But in another plot twist, Billy escaped, killing deputies James Bell and Robert Olinger.

Wallace posted a \$500 reward for Billy's capture. And on July 14, 1881, Garrett was waiting in Pete Maxwell's bedroom at Fort Sumner when Billy entered and Garrett killed him.

GET YOUR FAVORITE TRUE WEST T-SHIRT

\$24.95

Each! Plus S&H

Made of 100% Cotton
(Available in Most sizes)

TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

TrueWestMagazine.com



A WIDE SPOT IN THE ROAD

Killed the young man born in...
wherever. But his legend lives forever.



Johnny D. Boggs's books include the filmography *Billy the Kid on Film, 1911-2012* (McFarland, 2013) and the novel *Law of the Land: The Trial of Billy the Kid* (Signet, 2004).



"We buried them all in a row," said Emerson Hough, quoting Pat Garrett, who told him this during a visit to the Fort Sumner cemetery in October 1905. "The first grave is the Kid's, and then next to him is Bowdre, and then O'Folliard. There's nothing left to mark them!" A flood washed away the markers. Today, the new headstones are caged—due to too many headstone thefts.

FORT BAYARD NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Established in 1866, Fort Bayard had a long life as a military post in southwestern New Mexico. Built to protect miners in the Piños Altos district, the post remained active until 1900, when the structures were transferred to the surgeon general and became the Army's first tuberculosis sanitarium. Later, it was a V.A. hospital. Buffalo Soldiers were stationed here, and so was a second lieutenant named John J. Pershing. Now managed by the Fort Bayard Historical Preservation Society, which has a library/archive facility in the nearby Santa Clara Armory Building, the fort offers guided tours 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, while other tours can be arranged.

historicfortbayard.org

Fort Bayard was named after Gen. George D. Bayard, an 1856 West Point graduate who served in Colorado and Kansas before returning east to fight in the Civil War. He died from wounds sustained at Fredericksburg in 1862.

Fort Bayard Photo Courtesy Joe Burgess, Courtesy National Archives Record Administration, 7722527

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

GOOD GRUB: *La Unica Restaurant and Tortilleria*, Willcox, AZ; *Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery*, Silver City, NM; *The Buckhorn Saloon & Opera House*, Pinos Altos, NM; *La Posta de Mesilla*, Mesilla, NM; *Charlie's Spic and Span*, Las Vegas, NM; *Oso Grill*, Capitan, NM; *No Scum Allowed Saloon*, White Oaks, NM

GOOD LODGING: *Dos Cabezas Retreat Bed & Breakfast*, Willcox, AZ; *Murray Hotel*, Silver City, NM; *Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces*, Las Cruces, NM; *La Fonda on the Plaza*, Santa Fe, NM; *Smokey Bear Motel*, Capitan, NM



Independently owned
and family operated
in the U.S.A.

Buffalo
ARMS CO.
(EST. 1990)

Over 11,000 products!
your source to old,
obsolete, hard to find
reloading accessories,
and shooting supplies.

(208) 263-6953
BUFFALOARMS.COM

JOIN THE REVELRY!

36TH ANNUAL ARIZONA
RENAISSANCE
FESTIVAL™
& ARTISAN MARKETPLACE

NINE FESTIVE WEEKENDS!
FEB. 3-MAR. 31
Saturdays, Sundays & Presidents' Day
10am-6pm

SAVE WITH DISCOUNT TICKETS AT:
**Bashas' &
FOOD CITY**

Directions & Information at
Arizona.Renfestinfo.com

BY SHERRY MONAHAN

Wyoming Cowboy Cuisine

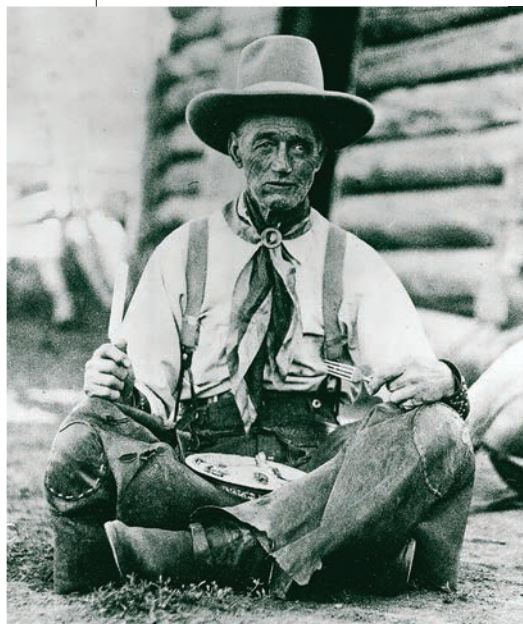
From beef steak to bear sign donuts, the state is well-known for its bunkhouse fare.

Wyoming is known as the Cowboy State, and cattle ranches dotted its landscape. Where there were cows, there were cowboys. They had their own language and culture, and their influence can still be seen all over Wyoming with rodeos, annual events and their food. Cowboys' diets often included beef, biscuits, beans, coffee, and occasionally, a little something sweet.

It was often up to the cowboys to cook their meals in the bunkhouse, but those who lived on small ranches often took their meals with the family in the main house. Cowboys living on the bigger ranches were sometimes invited to the big house, that is, the boss's house, for meals on special occasions like Christmas.

Beef, not surprisingly, was eaten at the ranches, in homes and at hotels and restaurants. Items included boiled beef heart with tomato sauce, roast sirloin *au jus*, boiled ox tongue with mushroom sauce, prime rib, braised sweetbreads, roast beef and a hamburger steak patty. The steak patty was formed into an even round and cooked on a broiler grill and topped with a tomato sauce that included tomatoes, flour, butter, onion, cloves, salt and cayenne pepper. The steak was served on a platter, and it was surrounded by parsley and topped with the sauce.

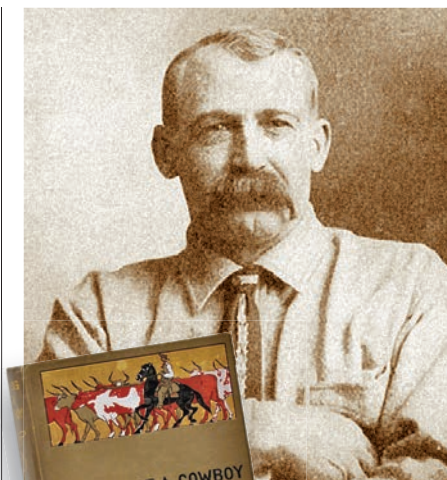
In *The Log of a Cowboy* (1903), Andy Adams recalled his Christmas while he was working on the range in Wyoming: "Well, three days before Christmas, just when things were looking gloomiest, there drifted up from the Cheyenne country one of the old-timers. He had been working out in the Pan-handle



From spring to fall, working cowboys across the West, including Wyoming punchers, spent more time eating on the ground than in the bunkhouse or the owner's dining room.

Courtesy the Getty Online Collection

country, New Mexico, and the devil knows where, since he had left that range." The old-timer recalled his last Christmas when he was taught to make what he called "bear sign" or doughnuts for the ranch hands. He told Andy, "Well, fellows, you ought to have seen them—just sweet enough, browned to a turn, and enough to last a week." They were so impressed with this story that they made him stay on and make bear sign for their outfit through spring. Adams wrote, "After dinner our man threw off his overshirt, unbuttoned his red undershirt and turned it in until you could see the hair on his breast. Rolling up his sleeves, he flew at his job once more. He rolled his dough, cut his dough, and turned out the fine brown bear sign to the satisfaction of all."



Cowboy author Andy Adams drove innumerable herds up the Texas Trail to Wyoming and Montana. His fictional memoir *The Log of a Cowboy* recalls an old-time biscuit-shooter's legendary Bear Sign donuts.

Courtesy True West Archives

BEAR SIGN (DOUGHNUTS)

1 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. flour, sifted
2 tsp. baking powder • $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. baking soda • $\frac{3}{4}$ c. sugar
1 egg, beaten • $\frac{1}{2}$ c. buttermilk
1 tbsp. butter, melted
4 cups oil or lard for frying

Sift the dry ingredients into a large bowl.

In a separate bowl, beat the egg and sugar until blended. Add the milk to the egg and sugar and then the melted butter.

As you mix, the dough should become firm enough to roll. Do not overmix the dough or it will become tough.

Lightly dust the rolling surface with flour and roll out part of the dough into about $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch thick. Cut with a doughnut cutter or shape into doughnuts.

Heat the oil in a deep pot and add enough oil or lard so the doughnuts will float. The oil should be 350–375°F.

Gently drop the doughnuts into the fat and allow to rise, flip and cook for about 1–2 minutes longer.

Remove to paper towels and allow to cool.

Frost with your favorite topping or dip into powdered sugar or cinnamon sugar.



Adapted from Wyoming's
The Sundance Gazette, September 20, 1889.



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

— Experience —

THE SPIRIT OF THE WEST IN EVERY BITE.

"Our beef is among the finest in the world with a 153-year-old mission of excellence through careful stewardship of both land and animal."

TAYLOR SHERIDAN, PRESIDENT, 6666 RANCH



SCAN TO SHOP.
SAVE 25% WITH CODE WEST.
WWW.6666STEAK.COM

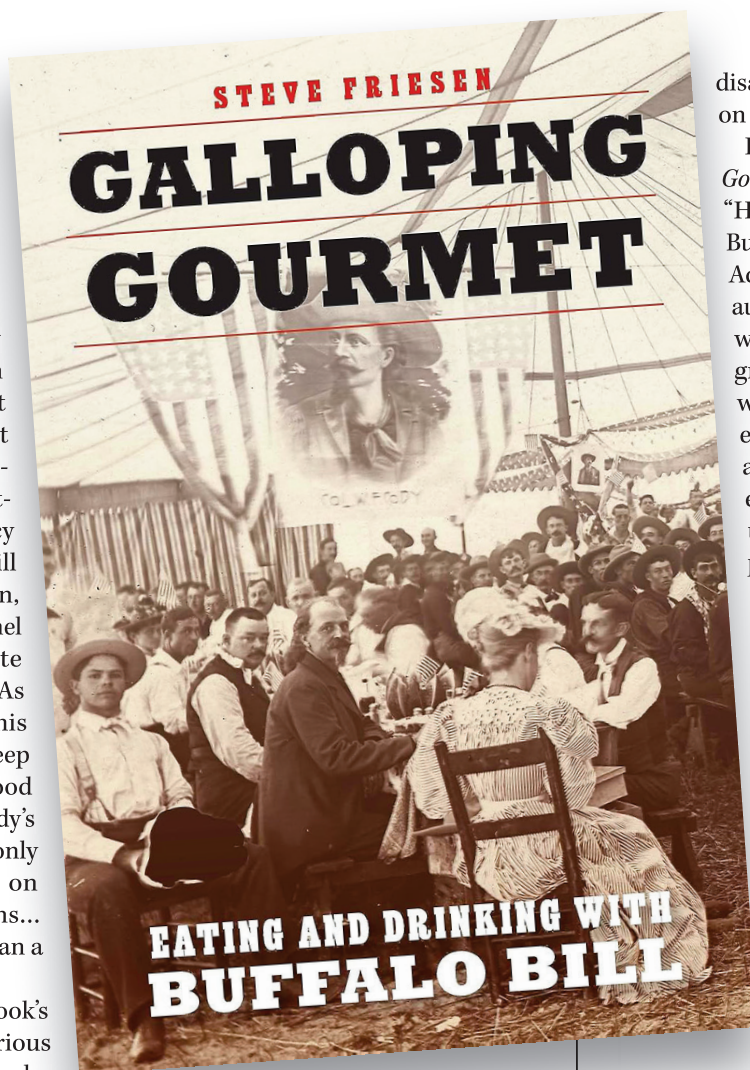


The Man, The Myth, The Meal

A culinary biography of Buffalo Bill, plus a new bio of Newton Earp, a range-war Western, a classic rediscovered and a dramatic debut Old West novel.

T rue West's Collecting the West columnist and William F. Cody historian Steve Friesen has just released his latest book about his favorite Western hero, *Galloping Gourmet: Eating and Drinking with Buffalo Bill* (Bison Books, \$24.95), and without any doubt from this historian, I can guarantee it is one of the most innovative and creative looks at the great showman ever published. And Steve's years curating and caretaking Cody's legacy as the curator of the Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave in Golden, Colorado, inspired him to channel his inner-showman and create this one-of-a-kind biography. As the Cody historian notes in his Introduction, "This book is a deep dive into the different roles food and drink played in William Cody's life. It is my hope that it not only provides a new perspective on Buffalo Bill but also entertains... and makes the reader more than a little hungry."

But don't be fooled by the book's title, Friesen has written a serious history book that provides the reader with an insightful and fresh look at the life and times of America's greatest Victorian Era Western showman. We also discover that Cody never strayed too far from his frontier roots, even though the *Wild West* producer, while



on the road, never missed an opportunity for a good meal in a fancy, city restaurant. "Dining in the fanciest hotels continued as a theme for the rest of his life, but so would eating in tents," Friesen says. "And even as the West that he knew

disappeared, he would live it on a daily basis."

Friesen concludes *Galloping Gourmet* with an Appendix of "Historical Recipes from Buffalo Bill's Life and Times." According to the Colorado author, "the recipes, offered with their historical backgrounds, represent foodways of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Many are typical of those times, even if they might be unusual to 21st-century palates." I myself will be attempting to make the Cornbread, Buffalo Bill's Favorite Beef, *Pommes Parisienne*, Bean Soup (which Bill said "You've got to eat...if you live in camp") and to top it off, Banana Fritters. To drink, I am sure I will try the Old-Fashioned, but also on a hot Arizona day, the Red Lemonade and the Horse's Neck.

What's up next for the engaging and creative Colorado historian? I'm not sure, but while I'm enjoying both his prose and inspired historic recipes, I'll be hoping he's got another culinary biography in the works.

—Stuart Rosebrook



Photo by Robert Ray

'Tis the season for giving, and why not give the gift of a Western book?

Here are five books sure to bring a smile to the face of a friend or loved one this holiday season. (Some might also make you hungry or thirsty.)

Corn Dance: Inspired First American Cuisine by Loretta Barrett Oden (University of Oklahoma, \$34.95): The Potawatomi chef and food historian's *Corn Dance* is beautiful and inspiring—especially if you like to cook!

The 7 Up Ranch Cookbook: The Story of Arizona's Historic Ranch with Recipes and Photos by Kathy McCraine (Burro Creek Publishing, \$35): This very personal history of one of Arizona's legendary cattle ranches is a true collectible for anyone who loves ranching, cowboys and cooking.

The Last Ride of the Pony Express: My 2,000-mile Horseback Journey into the Old West by Will Grant (Little, Brown and Company, \$30): Cowboy-journalist Will Grant likes to immerse himself in the subject he is writing about, so he decided to ride the whole length of the historic Pony Express Trail. His writing is infectious and inspiring.

The Forsaken and the Dead: The Bass Reeves Trilogy, Book Three by Sidney Thompson (Bison Books, \$19.95): Thompson's final entry in his fictional trilogy of the legendary lawman in Oklahoma Territory and Arkansas is timed perfectly with the debut of Taylor Sheridan's new Paramount+ series, *Lawmen: Bass Reeves*.

Heaven's Harsh Tableland: A New History of the Llano Estacado by Paul H. Carlson (Texas A&M University Press, \$42): If you loved Larry McMurtry's *Lonesome Dove*, then you need to read Carlson's history of the legendary Llano Estacado.

—Stuart Rosebrook

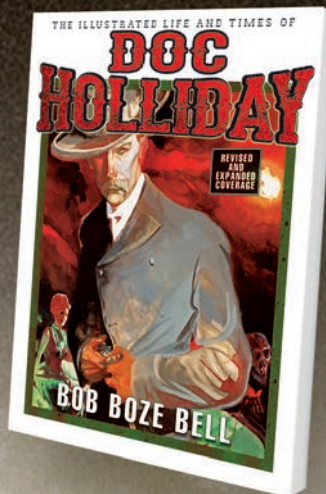
GET YOUR TRUE WEST GERONIMO T-SHIRT

\$24.95

Each! Plus S&H

Made of 100% Cotton
(Available in Most sizes)

Store.TrueWestMagazine.com



THE AMERICAN WEST'S MOST BELOVED GUNSLINGER

\$19.95

Order your's today at
TrueWestMagazine.com



SUBSCRIBE NOW!

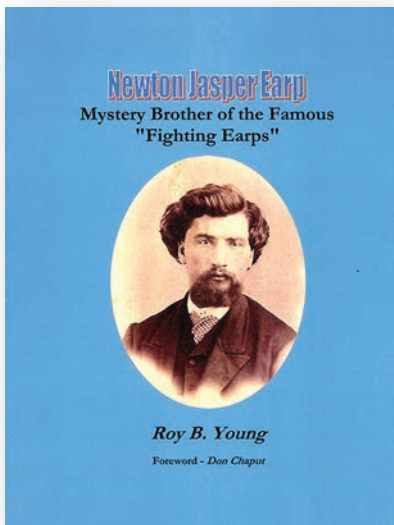
10 ISSUES FOR \$39.95

TRUE WEST
STORE.TRUEWESTMAGAZINE.COM

An Earp Gets His Due

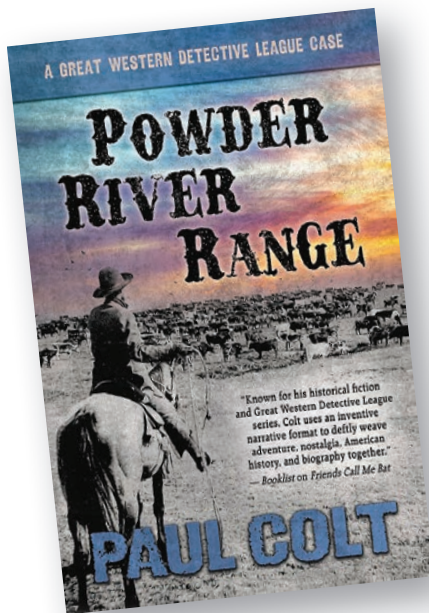
Roy Young's newest book, *Newton Jasper Earp, Mystery Brother of the Famous "Fighting Earps"* (Young & Sons Enterprises, \$24.95), focuses on the oldest of the Earp boys, Newton Jasper Earp, the half-brother to the infinitely more famous Wyatt and Virgil. This isn't "fill in a blank" history, but the biography of an impressive man who followed his own proclivities and creed. Newton possessed that Earp "lawman gene," and served as a law-enforcer longer than them all. The much-respected Don Chaput even noted, "[Newton's] years as a lawman in Garden City, Kansas, could serve as a textbook for frontier law enforcement." Additionally, Newton's Civil War experience was extensive, which included participation in four battles and numerous skirmishes. Thanks to Roy Young, one of the most influential historians regarding the Earps and those historically connected to them, Newton Earp no longer has to be the "mystery brother" to Earpiana historians and aficionados.

—Bradley G. Courtney, author of *The Whiskey Row Fire of 1900*



Range War

Paul Colt has an interesting way of presenting his story in his latest novel, *Powder River Range* (Thorndike Press, \$26.99). Robert Brentwood is an author who writes the story about Beau Longstreet, a member of the Western Detective League, told to him by Briscoe Cane. Briscoe was with Beau in Johnson County, Wyoming, as they worked to stop the Wyoming Stock Growers Association from running the



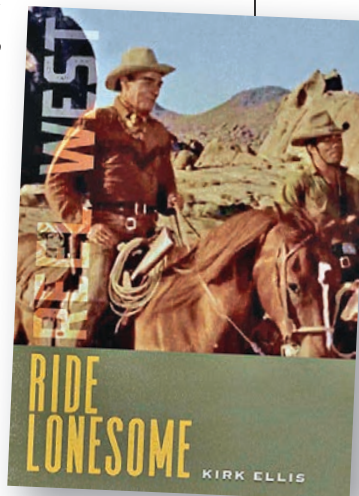
homesteaders off their land that used to be free range. The book goes back and forth between Robert talking to Briscoe and the story of Longstreet. I found it to be delightful and entertaining to read. I would recommend it.

—Lowell F. Volk, author of *the Luke Taylor Trevor Lane series and Milo Ryder U.S. Marshal series*

A Classic Rediscovered

Between 1956 and 1960, star Randolph Scott, writer Burt Kennedy, director Budd Boetticher, and producer Harry Joe Brown co-created a fistful of starkly beautiful, unsentimental second features that were collectively the high-point of each man's career. Known as the *Ranown* films, there is no consensus on the single best film, but no argument over the quality of the group. Kirk Ellis, while examining them all, makes a compelling case for *Ride Lonesome* (University of New Mexico Press, \$19.95). And Ellis knows filmmaking:

he was writer/producer on *Into the West* and *John Adams*—he won two Emmys for the latter. And he was a friend to both Kennedy and Boetticher; he tried to find financing for Boetticher projects for years. Ignoring the auteur theory,



Ellis credits writer over director, and acknowledges the contributions of the normally ignored producer. It's about time

—Henry Parke, *True West Film and Television Editor*

Saddle Up!

Rod Timanus's debut novel, *The Penitent Gun* (Thorndike Press, \$29.95), profiles an ex-bounty hunter, ex-soldier, ex-lawman desperately trying to make amends for his violent past. Zeke Smith drifts across Arizona, stopping to help people in need, whether it's a fence needing mending, or eggs gathered. In Pleasant Grove, which is anything but, he goes to work for Nana, Rebecca and



her son, Willie. The Stevens instantly fall in love with Zeke, who teaches young Willie to become "the man" of the family. Zeke uncovers mysterious deaths and the sheriff's stranglehold on the town. Zeke sets out to right the wrongs. A violent confrontation between Zeke, the residents and the

lawmen define the drifter. This is a terrific story, told in detail, slowly unraveling the characters' lives. *The Penitent Gun* is the quintessential Western.

—Melody Groves, author of *Showdown at Pinos Altos: The Colton Brothers Saga*





Courtesy Glenn-Kimbro Family

ARIZONA RANCHER SHARES HER FAVORITES

Mackenzie Kimbro is a sixth-generation cattle rancher continuing her family's legacy, while authoring a coffee table cookbook, *Roots Run Deep, Our Ranching Tradition*, which shares stories, recipes and colorful photos, offering a glimpse into her family's livelihood. She also is a social media influencer/content creator specializing in

Western fashion and lifestyle and works in television as a producer, director, host and media personality, including her own live on-stage talk show, which has run for five years during the National Finals Rodeo events and expanded to be included in the Cowboy Channel programming for December 2023. You can follow all her adventures on social media. Here are her favorite Western books:

- ❶ ***A Hundred Years of Horse Tracks, The Story of the Gray Ranch*** by George Hilliard (High Lonesome Books): Hilliard's chronicle of the famous ranch in New Mexico's boot heel is a must-read for Western history enthusiasts.
- ❷ ***Cowboy Island, Farewell to a Ranching Legacy*** by Gretel Ehrlich, edited by Nita Vail (Santa Cruz Island Foundation): This is a look at the importance of ranching legacies and the realities of what monumental loss is felt when they are lost.
- ❸ ***Watt Matthews of Lambshead*** photographs and text by Laura Wilson (The Texas State Historical Association):

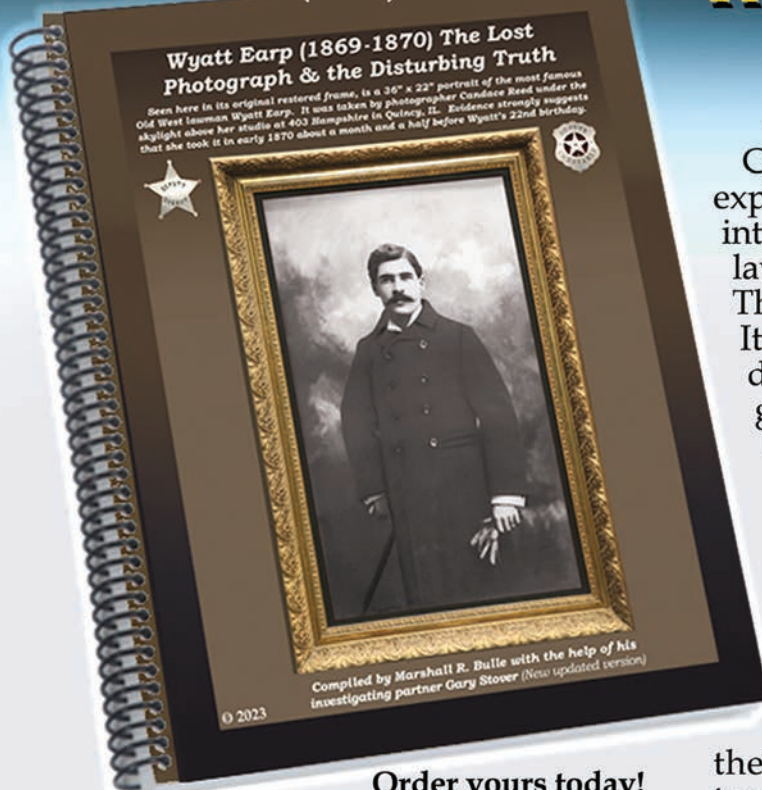
This is a touching tribute to a man and his legacy in ranching.

❹ ***Cowgirls, Commemorating the Women of the West*** photography by David Stoecklein (Stoecklein Publishing, LLC): This tribute to cowgirls across the West includes ranching, riding, roping and setting the bar in all aspects of Western cowgirl life.

❺ ***Ranching West of the 100th Meridian: Culture, Ecology & Economics*** edited by Richard L. Knight, Wendell Gilgert and Ed Marston (Island Press): This book combines a collection of writings from ranchers, conservationists, poets, ranching advocates and public land advocates, all expressing the importance of responsible land stewardship. Contributors include Paul Starrs, Linda Hasselstrom, Bob Budd, Drummond Hadley, Mark Brunson, Wayne Elmore, Allan Savory, Luther Propst and Bill Weeks.

Editor's Note: Want to follow Mackenzie on social media? Check her out on: Instagram: @kenziegk; Facebook: "Roots Run Deep, Mackenzie Kimbro"; and online to order her book and watch previous seasons of *Roots Run Deep*: rootsrundefepaz.com.

118 pages Tel (719) 676-5555



Order yours today!
\$39.00 (Includes shipping U.S.)

Frontiershadows.com

PO Box 340 Rye, CO 81069

New revised addition!

Call or write today and order the explosive book that everyone with an interest in the most famous Old West lawman Wyatt Earp is talking about. This book makes claims it backs up. It contains evidence that reveals the disturbing truth that an elite small group hopes you will not read. It has upset a few writers who think their early published work will be adversely affected by its revelations. Nevertheless, it convinced a lot of historians who read it in its entirety, that this circa. 1870 portrait photo of Wyatt Earp is real. It has also persuaded many, or in some cases confirmed their long-held suspicions, that the two widely printed Charles Dearborn photographs are not Wyatt Earp.

Jack London at the Movies

For nearly 120 years, filmmakers from around the world have adapted the American adventurer's novels into captivating films and television.

Read chapter one of any Jack London novel and you'll understand why, over a century after his death at age 40, he's still one of the world's most beloved, and read, authors. London's ability to plunge the reader into the mind of fascinating, completely believable people—and dogs—in life-and-death situations has rarely been equaled. Little wonder that over 170 films have been made from his writings, from as long ago as a 1907 version of *The Sea Wolf*, to the 2020 Disney version of *The Call of the Wild*. Those two novels and *White Fang* have each been filmed more than a dozen times.

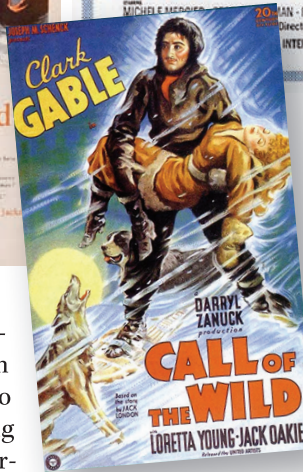
A socialist whose writing celebrated the individual—drawing and repelling the left and the right—London loved to own things, like his ever-expanding ranch in Glen Ellen, California, and worked like the devil, writing a thousand words a day to finance it. Royalties for his film rights gave him a much-needed financial cushion.

A few short films had been made, three by D. W. Griffith. But London's film career didn't truly begin until 1913, when he met leading man/director Hobart Bosworth, who would film nine of London's novels, beginning with *The Sea-Wolf*. London wrote in *Motion Picture News*, "It was the beginning of the picturing of my stuff, and the first time I've ever seen motion pictures being made, and I had one of the best



times of my life." After watching the filming of a scene in San Francisco Bay, where two ships collide in fog, sinking one, and observing the 60 performers, "jumping into the cold water time and time again, and falling down a dozen times," it's no surprise he concluded, "I'd rather see a motion picture actor than be one." Still, he ended up playing a sailor in the film.

Imagine London's and Bosworth's fury when, a few weeks before the premiere, they learned that a competing version of *The Sea Wolf* was coming out! The Balboa Amusement Company had a 30-minute film competing directly with London's feature. Balboa



Since 1923, *The Call of the Wild*, one of the most beloved of Jack London's novels, has been adapted for film and television more than 12 times.

Courtesy Hal Roach Studios (1923) United Artists (1935), Int. Releasing Corps (1972)

briefly had control of several London properties, but lost it when they breached their contract, as London explained in a telegram printed in the trades:

WHEN YOU RECEIVE Balboa General Manager HORKHEIMER COPY OF CONTRACT, PLEASE NOTE FIRST FOUR FILMS MUST BE COMPLETED ON STIPULATED DATE. NOT EVEN THE FIRST FILM WAS COMPLETED. HORKHEIMER HAS LEGALLY THROWN, TIED AND BRANDED HIMSELF.

JACK LONDON.

In the Silent Era of films, Hollywood producers adapted Jack London's *The Sea-Wolf* and *White Fang* multiple times, including *The Sea Wolf* in 1913 and *White Fang* in 1925.

"The Sea Wolf" courtesy W.W. Hodkinson/"White Fang" Courtesy FBO Pictures

The Authors League successfully lobbied Congress to change copy-right laws in favor of authors, protecting London and many others. Bosworth's *The Sea Wolf*, and all of his films based on London novels each began with London's signature on-screen and footage of him writing at his desk to prove that they were genuine. In a twist much more like an O. Henry story than a London, Bosworth's, Horkheimer's, the 1920 version and 1926 version of *The Sea Wolf* are all lost films.

London told *Motion Picture World*, "I did not believe at first that such power resided in the screen... Of its real might I had no idea. When I wrote *The Sea-Wolf*, the conception of Larsen dwelt in my mind in more or less a vague outline... After I saw Mr. Bosworth's representation of the part, my own vision disappeared and was merged in the personification of Bosworth. In the portrayal of action, which often is fight, the motion picture is supreme as a medium of expression and it carries the underlying motive, perhaps, better than the alphabet could."

Beyond serving as his own photographer while working as an international journalist, London's interests grew to include cinematography. Noted *Motion Picture World*, "Jack London has just sent...from the Pacific, 10,000 feet of undeveloped film illustrating savage life in the Islands."

While the London silents are difficult to obtain, most of the talkies are available on streaming services. The 1941 *Sea Wolf*, starring Edward G. Robinson, John Garfield and Ida



In the 1930s and 1940s, Hollywood Studios lavished money and big-name casts on Jack London productions, including Warner Bros. in 1941 for *The Sea Wolf* (above).

Courtesy Warner Bros.

Lupino, an ocean-going claustrophobic masterpiece from director Michael Curtiz, is the one by which all other versions are judged. Other fine actors who have played Wolf Larsen include Barry Sullivan, Charles Bronson, Stacy

Keach, and Chuck Connors in a spaghetti Western-ish version.

There is no classic version of *White Fang*, but the 1991 Disney film directed by Randal Kleiser, starring 19-year-old Ethan Hawke, is quite good, with the

Western Nebraska like you've never seen it.

Visit Nebraska's Landmark Country.

Bob Wagner Photography

NEBRASKA'S LANDMARK COUNTRY
Scottsbluff • Gering

800-788-9475 | NebraskaLandmarkCountry.com

THE OCCIDENTAL HOTEL
Where the Real Old West Still Lives
Over 140 Years of Hospitality

Hotel Lobby

Pres. Hoover Suite

Saloon

A multiple award winning fully restored frontier Hotel is waiting for you in Buffalo, Wyoming. Butch Cassidy & The Sundance Kid stayed here, now you can too!

Founded in 1880, and still the best Hotel on the Frontier!

10 N. Main St., Buffalo, WY 82834
307-684-0451 | OccidentalWyoming.com

Historic Occidental



The Coen Brothers' 2018 episodic film *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs* included their adaptation of Jack London's short story "All Gold Canyon," starring Tom Waits as the prospector.

Courtesy Netflix

2018, remarkably beautiful animated French version a close second. The 1973 Franco Nero version is a distant but watchable third place.

Of all the *Call of the Wilds*, William Wellman's 1935 take is undoubtedly the best film, although not the truest to the source. Mostly shot around freezing Mt. Baker, Washington, the must-include sequence of Buck, the Saint Bernard, pulling a 1,000-pound sled to win a bet for his owner, this time Clark Gable, was shot at the height of summer at RKO's Western Ranch in the San

Fernando Valley. Buck, hot and miserable, refused to pull the sled. In desperation, Wellman sent for a dog in heat, for motivation. A Pekinese and a French poodle were located. Wellman wrote, "Buck saw the girls, forgot about the hot summer's day; the real heat began to boil in him, and he hurried after them. The property men had to hold back on the sled to keep Buck from breaking into a gallop."

There were high hopes for the 2020 Disney version, because CGI was expected to make dogs do exactly what

Clark Gable's reprise of Jack Thornton—and his love for his dog, Buck—in the 1935 version of *The Call of the Wild* may never be equaled.

Courtesy United Artists



was in the script. Unfortunately, the fake dogs often have cartoonish expressions, and are unconvincing. Despite its limitations, the Ken Annakin-directed, Norway-shot 1972 film is closest to the spirit of the book, although star Charlton Heston later wrote, "For the record, it's probably the worst film I ever made. I'm embarrassed to have screwed up Jack London."

Among the less-known but highly entertaining London films are 1969's *The Assassination Bureau*, starring Diana Rigg and Oliver Reed; Robert Aldrich's 1973 film *Emperor of the North*, starring Ernest Borgnine and Lee Marvin; and 2018's Coen Brothers' *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs*.

BLU-RAY REVIEW

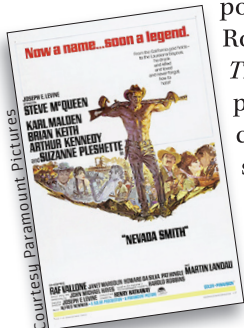
NEVADA SMITH

(Blu-ray, Kino Lorber; \$24.95, Audio Commentary by Henry Parke, Courtney Joyner and Mark Jordan Legan) Largely forgotten today, best-selling 1960s potboiler author Harold Robbins was so hot that *The Carpetbaggers* movie producer Joseph E. Levine commissioned Hitchcock screenwriter John Michael Hayes to create a prequel around Alan Ladd's supporting character, Nevada Smith. The result is the story of a teenage

half-Kiowa, who doesn't drink or gamble or read, tracking down the men who murdered his parents; it's intensely believable and full of surprises. Though too old and too white, Steve McQueen gives one of his best performances, with powerful direction of both emotion and action by Henry Hathaway, and glorious photography by Lucien Ballard. As hateful villains, Martin Landau, Karl Malden and Arthur Kennedy are revelations. And Suzanne Pleshette, Janet Margolin, Josephine Hutchinson and Johanna Moore play fresh, original female characters.



Henry C. Parke, Western Film and TV Editor for *True West*, is a screenwriter, and blogs for the INSP Channel, and at HenrysWesternRoundup.blogspot.com. A book based on his *True West* columns, *The Greatest Westerns Ever Made*, will be published by TwoDot in spring 2024.



CIMARRON F.A. CO.

THE PREACHER™

.45 Colt/.44 Cal dual cylinder, 8"

The Preacher™ is a Model 1858 Navy with an 8" octagon barrel, chambered in .45 Colt with an additional .44 Cal. cylinder included to replicate the dual cylinder rig of the Preacher in the classic *Pale Rider*. Tell your dealer, "I want a Cimarron!"

www.cimarron-firearms.com Fredericksburg, TX U.S.A. 1877-SIXGUN1

**IT'S MORE THAN A RIFLE,
IT'S HISTORY!**

Genuine S. Hawken
Classic Plains Rifle
Made in the USA

FREE CATALOG

THE HAWKEN SHOP
ST. LOUIS

THEHAWKENSHP.COM
The Hawken Shop®-Oak Harbor, WA

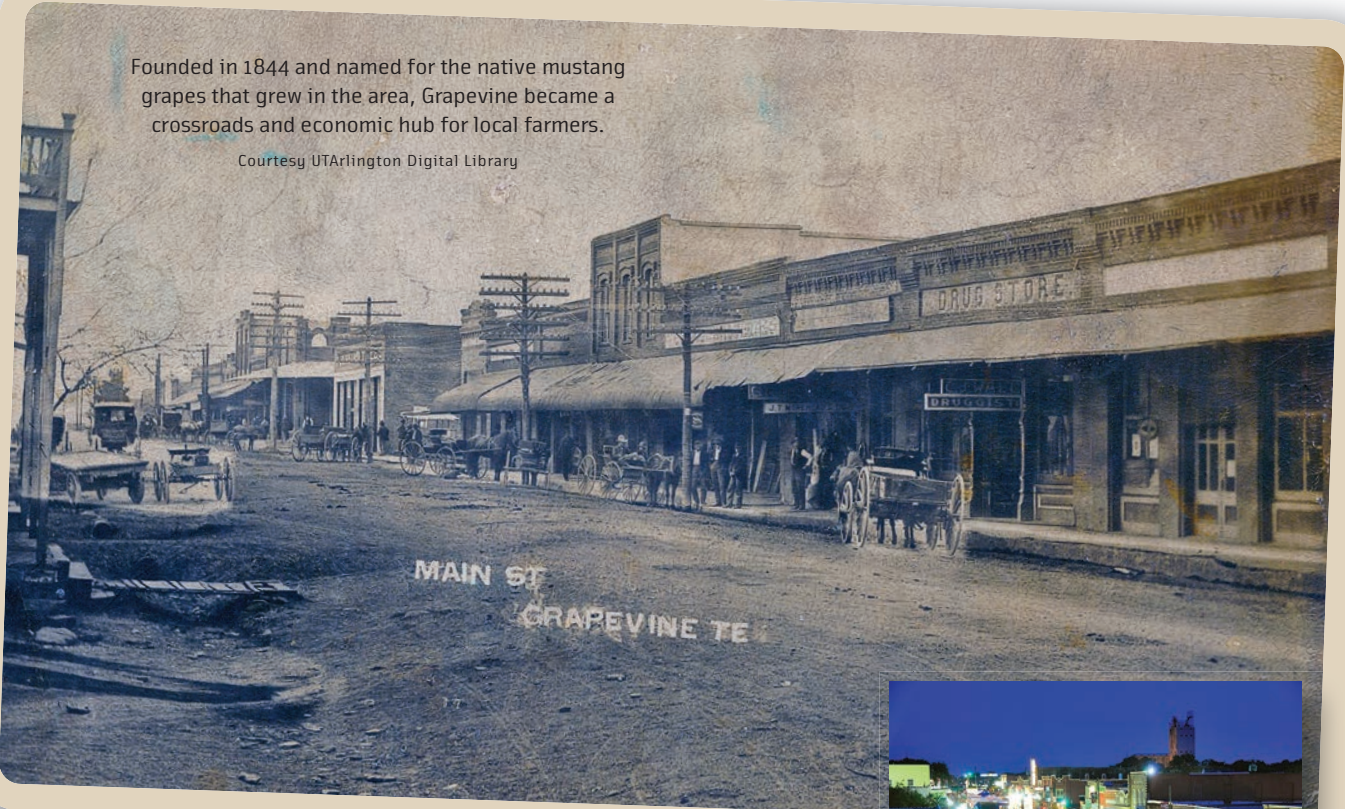
BY PETER CORBETT

Grapevine, Texas

An historic Lone Star State town shines amid big-city lights.

Founded in 1844 and named for the native mustang grapes that grew in the area, Grapevine became a crossroads and economic hub for local farmers.

Courtesy UTArlington Digital Library



Any traveler who's changed planes at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport has been to Grapevine, Texas.

DFW's five massive terminals are within the city of Grapevine. But only a fraction of those millions of airline passengers ever make it to see Grapevine's historic district and its many attractions.

That's a shame, especially since a commuter train connects Terminal B with Grapevine Main Station, designed to resemble a grand 19th-century depot. It includes Harvest Hall, with seven dining options, and a 150-foot observation tower. Peace Circle on the plaza features bronze statues of Sam Houston and 10 Indian chiefs who negotiated a peace treaty in 1843.

Main Street Station is across the tracks from the home depot for the Grapevine Vintage Railroad. The heritage train operates out of an 1888 depot of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, commonly known as the Cotton Belt Route.

The Vintage Railroad, with restored 1920s coaches, runs weekends to the Fort Worth Stockyards, where a daily cattle drive is staged. A Short Line run of 30 minutes is suited for families with young children.

There's no shortage of top-notch lodging in Grapevine. That includes the elegant Hotel Vin, Great Wolf Lodge and the Gaylord Texan Resort with its massive atrium.

Grapevine, a city of 50,000, touts its historic roots. In 1844, the first settlers



Downtown Grapevine, Texas, is a fun place to enjoy a weekend of entertainment, restaurants and local history. Public events are held throughout the year, including Main Street Festivals and the ever popular Christmas parade.

All Images Courtesy Grapevine CVB

ALL ABOARD FOR FUN!

2024 SEASON BEGINS FEBRUARY 17!

FIRST CLASS



GET THE NEW YEAR ON THE RIGHT TRACK WITH THE GRAPEVINE VINTAGE RAILROAD IN GRAPEVINE, TEXAS!

Grapevine Vintage Railroad offers excursions most weekends in addition to its much-loved special event trains throughout the year. Conveniently located between Dallas and Fort Worth and host to DFW International Airport, Grapevine is easily reached by car, plane or rail. Find out more at GVR.com.

GRAPEVINE
VINTAGE * TEXAS

Book your stay at
GrapevineTexasUSA.com



One of Grapevine's most popular annual events is the New Vintage Wine and Gallery Trail & the Blessing of the Vines Weekend, which in 2024 will be April 12-13.



Nash Farm (right), founded in 1859, is open daily and guests are admitted free of charge during the farm's operating hours. Visitors of all ages will enjoy learning about the history of agriculture at the historic working farm on the Grape Vine Prairie.



planted grapevines on the Texas prairie. The Torian Cabin, built a year later in the nearby town of Lonesome Dove, was restored and moved to Grapevine's Main Street in 1976.

Naturally, Grapevine and wine go together. An Urban Wine Trail includes seven tasting rooms.

A self-guided walking tour on Main Street takes visitors to spots in Grapevine's National Register Historic District with a row of buildings built around 1900. The walkable district has plenty of shops, galleries and restaurants with outdoor dining. Try Tolbert's for its Texas red chili and Willhoite's, which serves a buffet and burgers in a 1914 building that formerly was a dry goods store and garage. Both have live music.

Another key attraction is Nash Farm, the oldest farmstead in North Texas, said Elizabeth Schrack, Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau spokeswoman.

"You can see what life was like on the Grape Vine Prairie," she said.

In 1859, Thomas Jefferson Nash bought 110 acres of farmland on the Grape Vine Prairie and built a farmhouse a decade later. He and his wife, Elizabeth, raised six children on the farm. Their home was

restored in 2008 on a 5.2-acre site with a barn and the family cemetery.

Nash Farm hosts seasonal special events, a pumpkin patch, pony rides and interpretive programs to connect visitors to Grapevine's agricultural past.

"It's a really nice ambiance here," Schrack said. "We're vintage Texas. We celebrate history."

A few folks in Grapevine remember a robbery of the Grapevine Home Bank on December 30, 1932. Two gunmen, said to be associates of Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow, stole \$2,850 and locked six bank workers and customers in the vault. They were quickly apprehended.

That Main Street bank building is now Bermuda Gold & Silver Fine Jewelry, and the proprietor has news clippings of the infamous bank robbery.

History buffs won't want to miss the Settlement to City Museums. A plaza includes two 19th century pioneer homes, a schoolhouse and the Grapevine Cotton Ginner's Museum.

And for pure entertainment, visitors should take time to see the 127-foot Grapevine Glockenspiel Clock Tower. It features two nine-foot animated cowboys—Nat and Willie. They emerge from the clock tower 75 feet above the plaza for a simulated shootout as they argue over robbing a train.



Peter Corbett has been exploring the West for the past half century and spent 35 years as an Arizona journalist.

Located at the corner of Main and Dallas streets, the Peace Circle Peace honors a meeting of 10 American Indian chiefs/captains and Republic of Texas President Sam Houston on the Grape Vine Prairie in 1843. Grapevine artist-in-residence Linda Lewis was commissioned to sculpt the 11 larger-than-life statues, which were locally forged.



WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY



The Grapevine Vintage Railroad is located downtown and has special events and train packages throughout the year. During the holiday season, the North Pole Express is popular with all generations.

FIRST STOP

Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau, 636 S. Main Street.
grapevinetexasusa.com

RIDING THAT TRAIN

Grapevine Vintage Railroad offers trips on weekends to the Fort Worth Stockyards or a 30-minute Short Line excursion that's just right for families with young children.
gvrr.com

STRAIGHT FROM THE VINE

One simply must taste the wine in Grapevine, Texas. There are seven tasting rooms on this Urban Wine Trail, including the Messina Hof Winery in the Wallis Hotel.
messinahof.com

GET A BEER HERE

Hop & Sting Brewing Co. features a taproom with outdoor seating. Sample these beers: Aluminum Cowboy, Northeast Texas IPA and Miracle Blood Orange Wheat. If you're hungry, get some barbecue from the acclaimed Vaqueros Texas Bar-B-Q food truck that posts up here.
hopandsting.com

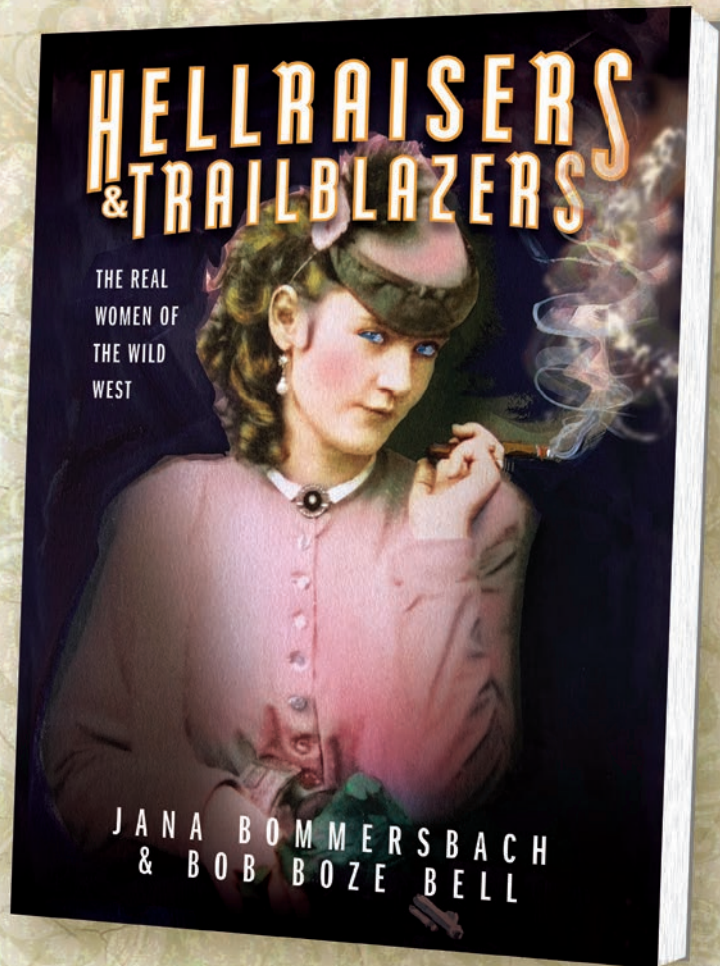
ORIGINAL TEXAS BOWL OF RED

Try a bowl of Frank X. Tolbert's World Famous Chili. He's the guy who founded the Terlingua Championship Chili Cook-Off in 1967 and wrote a definitive book on chili—*A Bowl of Red*.
tolbertsrestaurant.com

“GROUND BREAKING AND ABSOLUTELY ENTHRALLING!”

—JOHN FUSCO

Writer and Producer of Young Guns



*Finally, An Honest Book About
The Real Women Of The Wild West.*

ORDER YOURS TODAY

\$24.95 +S&H

TRUEWESTMAGAZINE.COM / AMAZON.COM

BY THE EDITORS OF *TRUE WEST*

Into the Heart of the West

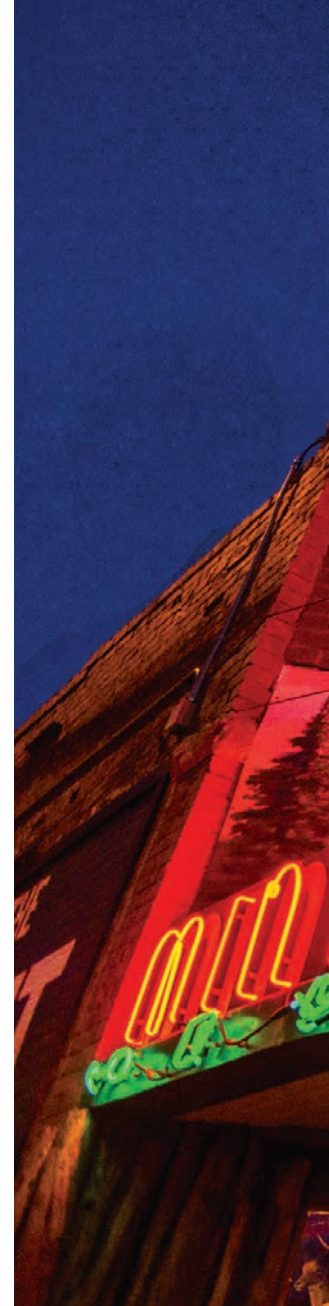
Make your plans, pack your bags and head out for a Western adventure of a lifetime!

Whether you live in rural North Dakota or urban Texas, an annual trip into the heart of the West should be on everyone's annual bucket list of adventures.

With so many choices across the Western United States, deciding where to start or go is always difficult, but we believe that if you get off the interstate, immerse yourself in a historic small Western town for a few days—or even a week—you will discover the magic of the West and enjoy a real Western experience.

In the May 2023 issue, we published our first annual guide to Western saloons, and because of the enthusiastic response from our readers, we have updated it for the *True West Ultimate Travel Guide*. In each of our five travel regions we recommend four of our favorite Western towns where you can hang your hat, put up your boots, relax and enjoy the best Old West hospitality and local history.

We look forward to hearing about your adventures into the heart of the West in 2024!



The Mint Bar in Sheridan, Wyoming, stands out for its famous bucking bronco neon sign. Inside, see buck and ram heads mounted on cedar walls and a period newspaper listing casualties from Custer's Last Stand.

Courtesy Sheridan County, Wyoming



Built as a strategic U.S. Army outpost during the post-Civil War conflict with the Southern Plains tribes, Fort Concho served its purpose effectively until it was closed in 1889. Today, the City of San Angelo operates the historic landmark, museum and the staffing and preservation of 23 fort buildings.

Courtesy San Angelo CVB



The Pacific Coast



Travelers to the Pacific Coast will quickly discover the beauty of its mountain ranges, coastal lands, vast deserts and expansive valleys. The region is dominated by some of America's largest cities, but also important historic sites and towns, national parks, wildernesses and forests.

When planning a trip to the Pacific Coast, we recommend contacting the state office of tourism and then checking online or calling ahead directly to the museum, restaurant, saloon or hotel you want to visit to ensure it is open or has a room available when you arrive. And don't forget to schedule extra travel time to enjoy spontaneous stops in this history-rich region.

Here are some Pacific Coast communities where you can immerse yourself in Old West history and visit some classic Western saloons.

California

Old Sacramento

A national historic landmark district and state historic park, Old Sacramento is a living history center on the banks of the Sacramento River.

Visitors can tour the California State Railroad Museum, The Delta King Riverboat, Huntington & Hopkins Hardware, Old Sacramento Schoolhouse Museum, Sacramento History Museum and the Wells Fargo History Museum. Passenger train rides can be enjoyed on the California State Railroad Museum's Sacramento Southern Railroad, which departs from the reconstructed Central Pacific Freight Depot.
2nd St & Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-808-7059 • OldSacramento.com

Idaho

Wallace

Located in the richest silver district in American history, Wallace is in the Silver Valley of Shoshone County in Idaho's northern panhandle. Start your walking tour of the Wallace Historic District at the Wallace District Mining Museum, and continue on to the Oasis Bordello Museum and the Northern Pacific Depot Museum. Don't leave town without taking the Sierra Silver Mine Tour.
10 River St, Wallace, ID 83873
208-753-7151 • WallaceID.fun

George Hearst built the Mackay Mansion in Virginia City, Nevada, in 1860 as the headquarters of the Gould & Curry Mining Company Office and later purchased by John Mackay, one of the "Silver Kings."

Courtesy TravelNevada

Nevada

Virginia City

In the desert hills between Reno and Carson City, one of the richest silver strikes in U.S. history, the Comstock Lode, rocketed Nevada from territory to statehood. Today, Virginia City is a virtual Victorian-era heritage center, with historic sites, museums and buildings. Don't miss the Storey County Courthouse, Piper Opera House, Virginia & Truckee Railroad, the Comstock Mill, Ponderosa Mine Tour, Mark Twain Museum and the Comstock Fire Museum. A great way to see the historic mining camp is aboard the Virginia City Trolley tour.
86 C St, Virginia City, NV 89440
775-847-1114 • VirginiaCityNV.com

EXPERIENCE THE LEGENDARY OLD WEST TOWN OF
TOMBSTONE ARIZONA
WHERE HISTORY MEETS FAMILY FUN!



DISCOVER WILD WEST FUN
DISCOVER UNIQUE SHOPPING
AND DINING EXPERIENCES
DISCOVER SPECIAL EVENTS

Need more time to explore in and around Tombstone?
Discover Tombstone's lodging facilities
and settle in for a few days!

DISCOVERTOMBSTONE.COM ~ DISCOVERBOOTHILL.COM
VISITOR CENTER AT 4TH & ALLEN STREETS ~ (520) 457-3929
COOLER TEMPS THAN PHOENIX OR TUCSON - WE'RE DOG FRIENDLY TOO!





Oregon

Pendleton

Pendleton is world famous for the Pendleton Round-Up, a rodeo equally known for its action in

the arena as well as its dedication to the local Indian cultures and the history of the Umatilla River Valley. Visitors will enjoy touring the Pendleton Woolen Mills, Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame Museum, Heritage Station Museum and Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute. Before leaving town, don't miss Hamley's & Co., a famous saddle, Western wear shop, steakhouse and saloon in business since 1883. 501 S Main St, Pendleton, OR 97801 541-276-7411 • TravelPendleton.com

Saloons

California

Almost Historical River City Saloon

916 2nd St, Old Sacramento, CA 95814
916-443-6852 • TheRiverCitySaloon.com

The Buena Vista

2765 Hyde St, San Francisco, CA 94109
415-474-5044 • TheBuenaVista.net

Columbia City Hotel & What Cheer Saloon

22768 Main St, Columbia, CA 95310
209-532-5341 • CityHotel.com

Comstock Saloon

155 Columbus Ave, San Francisco, CA 94133
415-617-0071 • ComstockSaloon.com

The Hamley Steak House and Saloon should not be missed when visiting Pendleton, Oregon. In addition to its historic bar and famous steaks, it is also home to a museum chronicling the history of the adjacent Hamley & Co. Saddle Shop, which opened in 1905.

Stuart Rosebrook

Cosmopolitan Hotel

2660 Calhoun St, San Diego, CA 92110
619-297-1869 • OldTownCosmopolitan.com

The Cowboy Palace Saloon

21635 Devonshire St, Chatsworth, CA 91311
844-426-9725 • CowboyPalace.com

Elixir

3200 16th St, San Francisco, CA 94103
415-552-1633 • ElixirSF.com

The Historical Iron Door Saloon

18761 Main St, Groveland, CA 95321
209-962-8904 • IronDoorSaloon.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1852.

The Holbrooke Hotel & Golden Gate Saloon

212 W Main St, Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-460-1945 • Holbrooke.com

Jack's Bar and Grill

1743 California St, Redding, CA 96001
530-246-2190 • JacksGrillRedding.com

Long Branch Saloon

907 N Chester Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93308
661-829-5832 • No website

The Murphys Historic Hotel & Saloon

457 Main St, Murphys, CA 95247
209-728-3444 • MurphysHotel.com

The National Exchange Hotel & Bar

211 Broad St, Nevada City, CA 95959
530-362-7605
TheNationalExchangeHotel.com

The No Name Bar

2102, 757 Bridgeway, Sausalito, CA 94965
415-332-1392 • TheNoNameBar.com

Old Western Saloon

11201 CA-1, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956
415-663-1661 • No website

Rusty's Saloon & Grill

113 N Main St, Bishop, CA 93514
760-873-9066
Rustys-Inc-Bishop.edan.io

The Saloon

1232 Grant Ave, San Francisco, CA 94133
415-989-7666 • SFBlues.net

Smiley's Schooner Saloon

41 Wharf Rd, Bolinas, CA 94924
415-881-1851 • SmileysSaloon.com

Idaho

Ace Saloon

103 Illinois Ave, Council, ID 83612
208-253-4469
Ace-Saloon.Business.site

Historic Smoke House & Saloon

424 Sixth St, Wallace, ID 83873
208-659-7539
CogsPub.com

The Cowboy's Pastime

32524 Belle, Bruneau, ID 83604
208-845-2116 • No website

The Gold Mine Grill & Saloon

3867 Highway 21, Idaho City, ID 83631
208-392-4787 • TheGoldMineHotel.com

Pengilly's Saloon

513 W Main St, Boise, ID 83702
208-345-6344 • No website

Pioneer Saloon

320 N Main St, Ketchum, ID 83340
208-726-3139 • PioneerSaloon.com

The Snake Pit

1480 Coeur d'Alene River Rd
Enaville, ID 83839
208-682-3453 • SnakePitIdaho.com

White Horse Saloon, Hotel and Café

6248 W Maine St, Spirit Lake, ID 83869
208-623-2353
TheWhiteHorseSaloon.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1907.

Cody
YELLOWSTONE
WYOMING

WILD



WYO  USA

EXPERIENCED BY FEW.
REVERED BY MANY.

CodyYellowstone.Org



[/CodyYellowstone](https://www.facebook.com/CodyYellowstone)



[/CodyYellowstone](https://www.instagram.com/CodyYellowstone)

EST | 1896

Nevada

Bucket of Blood Saloon

1 S C St, Virginia City, NV 89440
775-847-0322
BucketOfBloodSaloonVC.com

Cowboy Bar and Café

443 Front St, Montello, NV 89830
775-776-2466 • No website

Genoa Bar and Saloon

2282 Main St, Genoa, NV 89411
775-782-3870 • GenoaBarAndSaloon.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1853.

International Café & Bar

59 Main St, Austin, NV 89310
775-964-1225 • No website

Lucky Spur Saloon

306 Kingston Canyon Rd
Austin, NV 89310
775-964-2000 • LuckySpurSaloon.com
Check the website for directions.

The Martin Hotel, Restaurant and Bar

94 W Railroad St, Winnemucca, NV 89445
775-623-3197 • TheMartinHotel.com

Paradise Valley Saloon Bar & Grill

95 Main St, Paradise Valley, NV 89426
775-578-3090 • No website

Pioneer Saloon

310 W Spring St, Goodsprings, NV 89019
702-874-9362 • PioneerSaloon.com

Ponderosa Saloon

106 S C St, Virginia City, NV 89440
775-847-7210 • No website

Red Dog Saloon

76 N C St, Virginia City, NV 89440
775-847-7474 • RedDogVC.rocks

Silver Dollar Club

400 Commercial St, Elko, NV 89801
775-738-4834 • No website

The Star Hotel & Bar

245 W Silver St, Elko, NV 89801
775-738-9925 • ElkoStarHotel.com

Oregon

Dan and Louis Oyster Bar

208 SW Ankeny St
Portland, OR 97204
503-227-5906 • DanAndLouis.com

Hamley's Steakhouse & Saloon

8 E Court Ave, Pendleton, OR 97801
541-278-1100
HamleySteakHouse.com

Huber's

411 Southwest 3rd Ave
Portland, OR 97204
503-228-5686 • Hubers.com
The oldest restaurant and saloon in the state was founded in 1879.

The Pioneer Saloon and Restaurant

327 Main St, Paisley, OR 97636
541-943-3289 • No website

Shamrock Cardroom Bar

17 SW Emigrant Ave, Pendleton, OR 97801
800-226-6398
PendletonUndergroundTours.org

Sisters Saloon & Ranch Grill

190 E Cascade Ave, Sisters, OR 97759
541-549-7427 • SistersSaloon.net

Terminal Gravity Brewery & Pub

803 School St, Enterprise, OR 97828
541-426-3000
TerminalGravityBrewing.com

Washington

Bluebird Inn

121 Goldendale, Bickleton, WA 99322
509-896-2273 • Bickleton.org/Bluebird-inn

The Brick Saloon

100 W Pennsylvania Ave
Roslyn, WA 98941
509-649-2643 • BrickSaloon.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1889.

Frontier Tavern

111 W 4th Ave, Ellensburg, WA 98926
509-925-9229 • No website

Olympic Club

112 N Tower Ave, Centralia, WA 98531
866-736-5164 • McMenamins.com

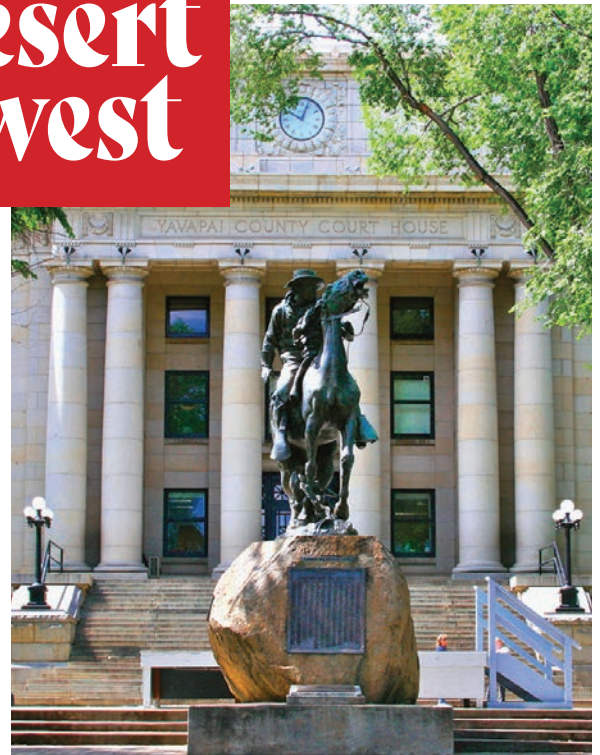
Rhein Haus Seattle

912 12th Ave, Seattle, WA 98122
206-325-5409 • RheinHausSeattle.com

The Desert Southwest

Travelers to the American Southwest will quickly discover the beauty and diversity of its geography, cultures, heritage-rich small towns and large, modern cities, out-of-the-way historic sites and blue highways crisscrossing expansive vistas. We recommend that when planning a trip in the Southwest you contact the state office of tourism and then check online or call ahead to the restaurant, saloon or hotel you want to visit to ensure it is open or has a room available when you arrive. And don't forget to schedule extra travel time to enjoy spontaneous stops at the many fine museums in this history-rich region.

Here are some Desert Southwest communities where you can immerse yourself in Old West history and visit some classic Western saloons.



Solon Borglum's *Rough Rider* Monument greets visitors to the historic Yavapai County Courthouse Plaza in Prescott, Arizona.

David Veatch, Courtesy City of Prescott



**EXPERIENCE
WILLIAMS**
GATEWAY TO THE GRAND CANYON®

**Experience outdoor fun, incredible attractions,
Historic Route 66, and so much more.**

experiencewilliams.com

ARIZONA
THE GRAND CANYON STATE

Arizona

Prescott

The historic and picturesque Territorial capital of Arizona, Prescott is the perfect town in which to take a walk through state history. Start at Sharlot Hall Museum, the living history center with several historic buildings, including the Territorial Governor's Home, and walk down Gurley Street to Prescott's historic Yavapai County Courthouse Plaza, where Solon Borglum's Rough Rider bronze greets visitors to the park. Across the street, take a walk down Montezuma Avenue, known as Whiskey Row, and visit the historic Palace Restaurant & Saloon. 117 W Goodwin St, Prescott, AZ 86303 928-445-2000 • Prescott.org

Tombstone

"The town to tough to die," Tombstone is Arizona's most infamous Territorial mining camp and is known internationally for the Earp-Clanton gunfight behind the O.K. Corral. Tour the Tombstone County Courthouse State Historic Park, take a walk through Boothill Graveyard, and park at one end of Allen Street and walk into history. In the National Historic District, don't miss visiting Big Nose Kate's Saloon, the Crystal Palace, C.S. Fly's, O.K. Corral, the Bird Cage Saloon, Rose Tree Museum, Good Enough Mine Underground Tour and the Tombstone Epitaph Museum. 109 S 4th St, Tombstone, AZ 85638 888-457-3929 TombstoneChamber.com

New Mexico

Mesilla

Founded in 1848, Mesilla is one of the oldest settlements in the southern Rio Grande River Valley in New Mexico. Mesilla's historic plaza is where U.S. troops from Fort Fillmore raised the American flag after the conclusion of the Gadsden Purchase in 1853. The town served as the short-lived capital of the Confederacy in New Mexico during the Civil War. In the 1870s and 1880s, Mesilla's popular saloons and dance halls attracted law-abiding citizens and outlaws, including Billy the Kid.



Visitors should tour the historic plaza (the Kid was tried and sentenced to die in the historic building that is home to today's Billy the Kid Giftshop), the local Gadsden Museum and the New Mexico Ranch & Farm Museum in nearby Las Cruces. 2231 Avenida de Mesilla, Mesilla, NM 88046 575-524-3262 • OldMesilla.org

Texas

Bandera

Small-town Bandera is big for its britches and proudly wears the title of the Cowboy Capital of the World. This is where cowboys converged for longhorn cattle drives on the Western Trail to Dodge City and beyond from 1874-94. It's where rodeo thrives today in the town's century-old Manchester Park arena. Cowboy Mardi Gras is a very popular annual event in Bandera, with three days of festivities centered around the 11th Street Cowboy Bar. Don't miss a tour of the Frontier Times Museum or a stay at the Dixie Dude Ranch. 126 State Highway, 16 S, Bandera, TX 78003 830-796-3045 BanderaCowboyCapital.com

The Bandera, Texas, Mardi Gras is one of the biggest annual celebrations on horseback in the Lone Star State.

Courtesy Library of Congress

Saloons

Arizona

Antlers Café & Bar

46788 AZ-288, Young, AZ 85554
928-462-3265 • No website

Big Nose Kate's Saloon

417 E Allen St,
Tombstone, AZ 85638
520-457-3107 • BigNoseKate.com

Black Cat Bar

114 Chino St, Seligman, AZ 86337
928-442-3451 • BlackCatBarSeligman.com

The Crown King Saloon and Café

7219 Main St, Crown King, AZ 86343
928-632-7053 • CrownKingSaloon.com
Only accessible by unpaved roads; go to CrownKing.com for directions.

Crystal Palace Saloon

436 E Allen St, Tombstone, AZ 85638
520-457-3611 • CrystalPalaceSaloon.com

Handlebar J BBQ Restaurant & Bar

7116 E Becker Ln, Scottsdale, AZ 85254
480-948-0110 • HandlebarJ.com

Longhorn Grill and Saloon

28851 S Nogales Hwy, Amado, AZ 85645
520-398-0700
LonghornGrillAndSaloon.com

Matt's Saloon

112 S Montezuma St, Prescott, AZ 86303
928-776-2974 • MattsSaloon.com

The Maverick King of Clubs

6622 E Tanque Verde Rd
Tucson, AZ 85715
520-298-0430 • TucsonMaverick.com

The Museum Club

3404 E Rt 66, Flagstaff, AZ 86004
928-440-4331 • MuseumClub.net

1902 The Spirit Room at the Copper Queen Hotel

11 Howell Ave, Bisbee, AZ 85603
520-433-2216
CopperQueenHotel.com

Experience Prescott

True West. Real Adventure.



EXPERIENCE PRESCOTT

One of Arizona's Most Beautiful & Historic Destinations. Prescott's perfect weather provides an average temperature of 70 degrees, with four beautiful and distinct seasons, breathtaking landscapes complete with granite mountains, lakes, streams, and rolling meadows filled with wildlife. Visit [experienceprescott.com](https://www.experienceprescott.com) for more details.

ARIZONA
THE GRAND CANYON STATE

Palace Restaurant & Saloon

120 S Montezuma St, Prescott, AZ 86301
928-541-1996 • HistoricPalace.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded as the Cabinet Saloon in 1874.

The Rusty Spur

7245 E Main St, Scottsdale, AZ 85251
480-425-7787 • RustySpurSaloon.com

Saddle and Spur Tavern at the Gadsden Hotel

1046 G Ave, Douglas, AZ 85607
520-364-4481 • TheGadsdenHotel.com

Saddlehorn Saloon

6300 E Tanque Verde Rd, Tucson, AZ 85715
520-722-9253 • No website

Spirit Room

166 Main St # 155, Jerome, AZ 86331
928-634-8809 • SpiritRoom.com

Sultana Bar

301 Historic Rt 66, Williams, AZ 86046
928-635-2021 • No website

XA Bar & Grill

18 W Main St, Springerville, AZ 85938
928-333-0333 • No website

New Mexico

The Alley Cantina

121 Teresina Ln, Taos, NM 87571
575-758-2121 • AlleyCantina.com

Annex Bar and Grill

101 US-54, Logan, NM 88426
575-487-4745 • AnnexBarAndGrill.com

Buckhorn Saloon and Opera House

32 Main St, Pinos Alto, NM 88053
575-538-9911
BuckhornSaloonAndOperaHouse.com

Caballo Tavern

NM-187, Arrey, NM 87930
575-267-5535 • No website

Capitol Bar & Brewery

110 Plaza St, Socorro, NM 87801
575-835-1193
CapitolBarAndBrewery.com

The Eklund Hotel and Restaurant

15 Main St, Clayton, NM 88415
575-374-2551 • HotelEklund.com

El Farol

808 Canyon Rd, Santa Fe, NM 87501
505-983-9912 • ElFarolSantaFe.com
The oldest restaurant and saloon in the state was founded in 1835.

El Patio Bar

2171 Calle de Parian, Mesilla, NM 88046
575-526-9943 • No website

The 49ER Lounge, El Rancho Hotel

1000 E Hwy 66, Gallup, NM 87301
505-722-2285 • ElRanchoHotelGallup.com

Golden Spur Saloon

US Hwy-60, Magdalena, NM 87825
575-854-2554 • GoldenSpurSaloon.com

La Posta de Mesilla

2410 Calle De San Albino
Mesilla, NM 88046
575-524-3524 • Laposta-De-Mesilla.com

No Scum Allowed Saloon

933 White Oaks Rd, White Oaks, NM 88301
575-648-5583 • NoScumSaloon.com

Silva's Saloon

955 S Camino Del Pueblo
Bernalillo, NM 87004
505-867-9976 • No website

Tinnie Silver Dollar

28842 US-70, Tinnie, NM 88351
575-653-4425 • TinnieSilverDollar.com

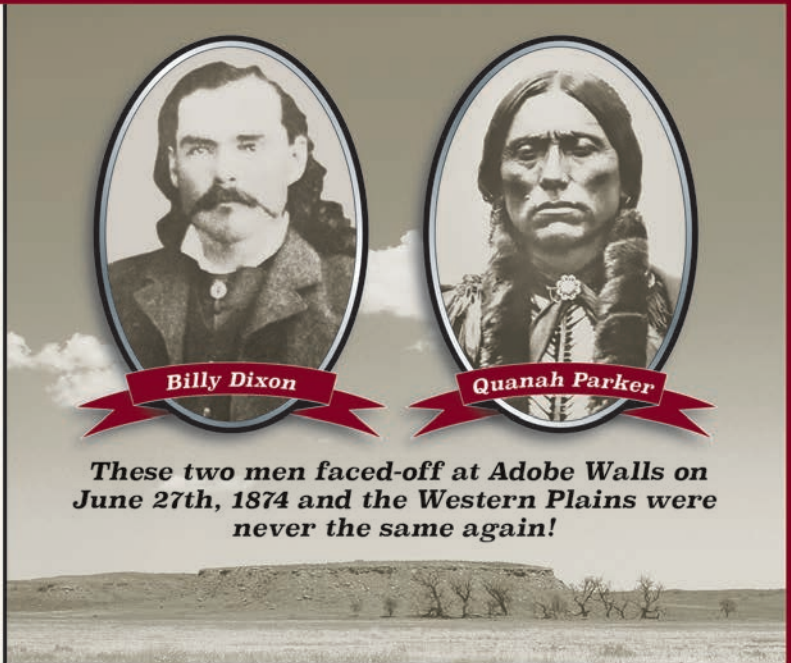
TJs Bar, St. James Hotel

617 S Collision Ave, Cimarron, NM 87714
575-376-2664 • EXStJames.com

HUTCHINSON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The 1874 Battle at Adobe Walls – and the long shot that ended it changed the history of the West!

Cheyenne, Kiowa, Arapaho and Comanche warriors attacked the buffalo hunters camp near Adobe Walls in 1874 and the battle lasted three days. They fought to a draw. Warriors from four Plains Indian tribes led by Comanche chief Quanah Parker, retreated to a nearby bluff which overlooked the ruins of the Adobe Walls trading post to regroup. The day before the battle began, experienced scout and hunter Billy Dixon had lost his rifle, two wagon loads of hides and all his supplies trying to cross the Canadian river when it suddenly flooded. Billy took shelter in the Rath & Wright store during the battle. The Indians gathered atop the nearby bluff, and one of the other hunters dared him to take a shot. Billy did just that - *and made history!* From inside the post, Dixon fired a round from a borrowed "Big Fifty" Sharps rifle that knocked a warrior off his horse 7/8ths of a mile away! The native Americans withdrew and the battle ended. This battle brought about the Red River War and the dominance of the Southern Plains Indian tribes quickly came to an end.



These two men faced-off at Adobe Walls on June 27th, 1874 and the Western Plains were never the same again!



Visit the Museum and learn more . . .

Find us on

The Museum is open:
Tuesday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday 1 pm to 4:30 pm
Free Admission, Kid-friendly

618 North Main Street
Borger, Texas 79007
806 • 273 • 0130
hutchinsoncountymuseum.org



This ad is sponsored by the Friends of the Hutchinson County Historical Museum

Western Bar & Café
304 Burro St, Cloudcroft, NM 88317
575-682-2445 • WesternBarAndCafe.com

Oklahoma

Blue Belle Pizza Parlor & Saloon
224 W Harrison Ave, Guthrie, OK 73044
405-877-3205 • No website

Bob's Cowboy Bar & Rodeo Room
132 N Ellison St, Guymon, OK 73942
580-468-3110 • No website

Cattlemen's Steakhouse
1309 S Agnew, Oklahoma City, OK 73108
405-236-0416
CattlemensRestaurant.com

Dry Hollow Bar
517 Kihekah Ave, Pawhuska, OK 74056
918-604-8775 • No website

Eischen's Bar
109 S 2nd, Okarche, OK 73762
405-263-9939 • Eischensbar.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1896.

Ironhorse Saloon
13573 US-169, Oologah, OK 74053
918-443-2622 • No website

McClintock Saloon & Chop House
2227 Exchange Ave
Oklahoma City, OK 73108
405-825-1359 • McClintockSaloon.com

Texas

Albert Ice House
5435 Ranch Rd 1623, Stonewall, TX 78671
830-644-2042 • AlbertTexas.com

Arkey Blue's Silver Dollar
308 Main St, Bandera, TX 78003
830-796-8826 • No website

The Big Texan Steak Ranch & Brewery
7701 I-40, Amarillo, TX 79118
806-372-6000 • BigTexan.com

Billy Bob's Texas
2520 Rodeo Plaza, Fort Worth, TX 76164
817-624-7117 • BillyBobsTexas.com

Broken Spoke
3201 S Lamar Blvd, Austin, TX 78704
512-442-6189 • BrokenSpokeAustinTX.net

Cattleman's Club & Café
3803 E Amarillo Blvd, Amarillo, TX 79107
806-383-1707 • No website

11th Street Cowboy Bar
307 11th St, Bandera, TX 78003
830-796-4849 • 11thStCowboyBar.com

The Esquire Tavern
155 E Commerce St, San Antonio, TX 78205
210-222-2521 • EsquireTavern-SA.com

Gruene Hall
1281 Gruene Rd, New Braunfels, TX 78130
830-606-1281 • GrueneHall.com

The Little Longhorn Saloon
5434 Burnet Rd, Austin, TX 78756
512-524-1291
TheLittleLonghornSaloon.com

Lou's Landmark Saloon
5101 Leopard St, Corpus Christi, TX 78408
361-882-9300 • No website

Luckenbach Texas
413 Luckenbach Town Loop
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830-997-3224 • LuckenbachTexas.com

Menger Hotel
204 Alamo Plz, San Antonio, TX 78205
210-223-4361 • MengerHotel.com

Neon Cowboy
10420 C F Hawn Fwy, Dallas, TX 75217
972-557-5102 • Neon-Cowboy.business.site

"ALL ABOARD!"

The Far-Famed Georgetown Loop Historic Mining & Railroad Park

A partnership of

History Colorado
and
Historic Rail
Adventures



Join us for
our Holiday
Trains!

A Train for all Seasons & Occasions

GeorgetownLoopRR.com
888-456-6777

Ole Crystal Bar

410 E Holland Ave, Alpine, TX 79830
432-837-4800 • No website

Papa Joe's Texas Saloon

1505 N Interstate 35 Frontage Rd
Lorena TX 76655 • 254-857-4717
PapaJoesTexasSaloon.com

Ricky D's

10780 Pebble Hills Blvd D, El Paso, TX 79935
915-222-8407 • RickyDs.com

Riley's Tavern

8894 FM1102, New Braunfels, TX 78132
512-392-3132 • RileysTavern.com

Rosa's Cantina

3454 Doniphan Dr, El Paso, TX 79922
915-833-0402 • No website

Scholz Garten

1607 San Jacinto Blvd, Austin, TX 78701
512-474-1958 • ScholzGarten.net
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1866.

Starlight Theatre Restaurant & Bar

631 Ivey Rd, Terlingua, TX 79852
432-371-3400 • TheStarlightTheatre.com

Texas Café & Bar: "The Spoon"

3604 50th St, Lubbock, TX 79413

806-792-8544

TexasCafeAndBarTheSpoon.com

White Elephant Saloon

106 E Exchange Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76164
817-624-8273 • WhiteElephantSaloon.com

Great Basin and Rocky Mountains

The Great Basin and Rocky Mountains region is home to some of the West's largest national parks—including Yellowstone, Glacier, Grand Teton, Rocky Mountain, Zion and Bryce—and some of the West's most historical mining towns, ranching communities and battlefield sites—including Little Bighorn and Big Hole in Montana. Touring by car or RV is the best way to enjoy this vast section of the West, with plenty of scenic highways to choose from in all four states. Don't forget to schedule extra



Fort Smith ARKANSAS

STAR of the WESTERN FRONTIER



FORT SMITH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



MUSEUM OF HISTORY



MURAL BY HOXXOH



MISS LAURA'S VISITOR CENTER

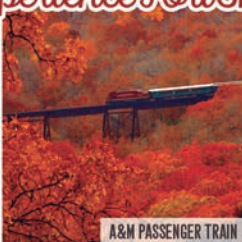
#ExperienceFortSmith



FORT SMITH TROLLEY



CHAFFEE BARBERSHOP MUSEUM



A&M PASSENGER TRAIN



U.S. MARSHALS MUSEUM

Relive a history that inspired the iconic tale of *True Grit* at **Fort Smith National Historic Site**, tour a former bordello turned visitor center at **Miss Laura's**, rediscover America through the lens of its oldest law enforcement agency at the **U.S. Marshals Museum**, and more in Fort Smith!



Learn more at **EXPERIENCEFORTSMITH.COM**



@ExperienceFortSmith



@ExpFortSmith



The historic Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad operates throughout the year, including its popular Polar Express and Winter Photographers' Special trains.

Courtesy D&SNGRR

travel time—especially during the winter months—to enjoy spontaneous stops in this history-rich region.

Here are some Great Basin and Rocky Mountain communities where you can immerse yourself in Old West history and visit some classic Western saloons.

Colorado

Durango

In the heart of the San Juan Mountains on the banks of the Animas River in Southwest Colorado, Durango is home to the world-famous Durango-Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. Visitors who love Victorian inns will enjoy staying at the Historic Strater Hotel in the downtown district before taking a round-trip ride into history on the narrow-gauge railroad to Silverton and back. The train runs year 'round, with special excursions in the heart of winter. 802 Main St, Durango, CO 81302 800-463-8726 • Durango.org

Montana

Great Falls

Upriver from Fort Benton, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail leads to Great Falls, a key stop for heritage travelers to view and tour the site of the Corps of Discovery's portage of the five waterfalls on the

Missouri River. Travelers should visit the C.M. Russell Museum, Giant Springs State Park and the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and enjoy a short or long walk, run or bike ride on the 48-mile River's Edge Trail. 1106 9th St S, Great Falls, MT 59405 406-771-1180 VisitGreatFallsMontana.org

Wyoming

Buffalo

Visitors who walk the downtown district of Buffalo, Wyoming, should consider spending the night and dining at the Occidental Hotel, where Owen Wister might have written part of his famous novel, *The Virginian*. The Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum's exhibits chronicle local history, including the Johnson County War. Just outside town is the TA Ranch, a historic guest ranch that was the site of a major conflict during the cattle war. Don't miss Longmire Days every July in celebration of writer Craig Johnson's *Walt Longmire* mystery



Come Discover the Sonoran Desert in the **TOWN OF CAVE CREEK**

- 5,000 Acres of Open Space
- Conservation Areas
- Rodeo Grounds
- Hiking
- Parks & Preserves
- Cave Creek Museum
- Biking
- Art Galleries
- Tourism Bureau
- Horseback Riding
- Boutique Retail
- Desert Foothills Library
- Golfing
- Dining & Night Life
- And so much more!



For more information visit CaveCreekAZ.gov

novels and television series set in Big Horn Country.
55 N. Main St, Buffalo, WY 82834
800-227-5122
BuffaloWyoming.org

Sheridan

In 1882 John D. Loucks founded Sheridan, which he named in honor of his commanding officer in the Civil War. The gateway city to the Big Horn Mountains and Little Bighorn country of Montana, Sheridan became an economic center for the bi-state region after the railroad arrived in 1892. Today, visitors can stay at the fully restored Sheridan Inn, stroll historic downtown and tour the Brinton, Sheridan County and Bozeman Trail museums.
1517 E 5th St, Sheridan, WY 82801
307-673-7121 • SheridanWyoming.org



William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody and a group of investors, including the Burlington and Missouri Railroad and the Sheridan Land Company, built the Historic Sheridan Inn in 1893. The First Peoples' Pow Wow and Dance is held annually on the lawn of the inn every July during Sheridan's famous WYO Rodeo Week.

Courtesy Sheridan CVB

Saloons

Colorado

The Buckhorn Exchange
1000 Osage, Denver, CO 80204
303-534-9505 • Buckhorn.com

Buffalo Rose Saloon
1119 Washington Ave, Golden, CO 80401
303-278-6800 • BuffaloRose.net
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1859.

STRATER HOTEL

TRUE

DURANGO'S AUTHENTIC WESTERN EXPERIENCE

- Iconic landmark historic hotel in downtown
- 88 unique guest rooms for a relaxing sleep
- Authentic Diamond Belle Saloon for bellying up to the bar
- The Office Spiritorium for cocktails/small plates
- The Mahogany Grille for casual fine dining

BOOK DIRECT
strater.com | 800.247.4431

"BEST HISTORIC HOTEL"
— True West Magazine

As seen on *Yellowstone*

TRUE WEST

RODEO PATTERN, undeniably the #1 best seller in classic cowboy china!

Texas based TRUE WEST faithfully recreates the original heavy roll rim design featuring Till Goodan's art from the 1940's. CHRISTMAS, BOOTS & SADDLE & LONGHORN patterns also available.

- ★ HEAVY ROLL RIM DESIGN
- ★ MICROWAVE SAFE

As always . . . MADE IN THE USA

Dealer inquiries welcome. Call, fax, write or email for color brochure, complete pricing and details.

Box 441 • Royce City 75189
Ph: 888-636-7922 Fax: 972-635-2059
e-mail: truewesthome@aol.com

WWW.TRUEWESTHOME.COM

**The Diamond Belle at
The Strater Hotel**
699 Main St, Durango, CO 81301
970-375-7123 • Strater.com

Gold Pan Saloon
103 N Main St, Breckinridge, CO 80424
970-453-5499 • TheGoldPanSaloon.com

Grand Imperial Hotel Bar
1219 Greene St, Silverton, CO 81433
970-387-5527 • GrandImperialHotel.com

Gray's Coors Tavern
515 W 4th St, Pueblo, CO 81003
719-544-0455 • No website

Historic Bar in the New Sheridan Hotel
231 W Colorado Ave, Telluride, CO 81435
970-728-4351 • NewSheridan.com

Historic Western Hotel Bar
206 & 210 7th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427
888-624-8403 • HistoricWesternHotel.com

J-Bar in the Hotel Jerome
330 E Main St, Aspen, CO 81611
970-429-7674 • AubergeResorts.com

Kochevar's Saloon
127 Elk Ave, Crested Butte, CO 81224
970-349-7117 • No website

The Legendary Silver Dollar Saloon
315 Harrison Ave, Leadville, CO 80461
719-486-9914
LegendarySilverDollarSaloon.com

The Historic Mint
347 Blue River Pkwy, Silverthorne, CO 80498
970-468-5247 • MintSteakhouse.com

My Brothers Bar
2376 15th St, Denver, CO 80204
303-455-9991 • MyBrothersBar.com

New Sheridan Historic Bar
231 W Colorado Ave, Telluride, CO 81320
970-728-4351 • NewSheridan.com

740 Front
740 Front St, Louisville, CO 80027
720-519-1972 • 740Front.com

Town Pump
124 N College Ave
Fort Collins, CO 80524
970-493-4404 • No website

**The Whiskey Bar at
The Stanley Hotel**
333 Wonderview Ave
Estes Park, CO 80517
800-976-1377 • StanleyHotel.com

Montana

Bale of Hay Saloon
344 W. Wallace St, Virginia City, MT 59755
406-843-5700 • BaleOfHaySaloon.com
*The oldest saloon in the state was founded
in 1863.*

The Blue Moon Saloon
3793 US-287, Cameron, MT 59720
406-682-4555 • BlueMoonSaloonMt.com

Cowboys Bar and Museum
311 3rd St NW, Great Falls, MT 59404
406-453-0651 • CowboysBarsMCA.com

Gold Bar and Western Bar
400 North Last Chance Gulch Street
Helena, MT 59601
406-442-2250 • No website

The Historic Montana Bar
612 Main St, Miles City, MT 59301
406-234-5809 • TheMontanaBar.com

Long Branch Saloon
124 Main St, Ennis, MT 59729
406-682-7370 • No website

The Mint Bar and Grill
102 N Main St, Livingston, MT 59047
406-222-4759 • TheMintBarAndGrill.com



75TH ANNUAL
**GOLD RUSH
DAYS**
CELEBRATION & RODEO
FEB 9-11, 2024
WICKENBURG, ARIZONA

It's back! Wickenburg celebrates its origins
as a historic ranching and gold mining center
in this legendary heritage event. Join us!

**SENIOR PRO RODEO • CARNIVAL
ARTISAN FAIR • WESTERN STUNTS
CLASSIC CAR SHOW • GOLD PANNING**

Wickenburg

LET'S RIDE

OUTWICKENBURGWAY.COM

928-684-5479

FACEBOOK.COM/WICKENBURGAZ



Upper photo: ©Craig W. Cutler Fine Art • Lower photos: ©Seth Joel Photography

The New Atlas Bar

528 E Pike Ave, Columbus, MT 59019
406-322-9818 • No website

The Old Saloon

210 Railroad Ln, Emigrant, MT 59027
406-333-4482 • OldSaloonMt.com

The Oxford Saloon & Café

337 N Higgins Ave, Missoula, MT 59802
406-549-0117 • The-Oxford.com

The Silver Dollar Saloon

133 S Main St, Butte, MT 59701
406-782-7367 • ButteAmerica.com

Stacey's Old Faithful Bar & Steakhouse

300 Mill St, Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730
406-763-4425 • StaceysBar.com

Utah

Bit & Spur Restaurant & Saloon

1212 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale, UT 84767
435-772-3498 • BitAndSpur.com

Gateway Saloon & Café

733 E Main St, Vernal, UT 84078
435-789-9842 • No website

The Outlaw Saloon

1254 W 2100 S St, West Haven, UT 84401
801-334-9260 • OutlawSaloon.com

Ray's Tavern

25 S Broadway, Green River, UT 84525
435-564-3511 • No website

The Swingin' Steaks at Mexican Hat Lodge

100 Main Hwy 163, Mexican Hat, UT 84531
435-683-2222 • MexicanHat.net

Shooting Star Saloon

7350 East 200 S, Huntsville, UT 84317
801-745-2002 • ShootingStarSaloon.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1879.

Thunderbird Restaurant

4530 State St, Mt Carmel, UT 84755
435-648-2262 • ThunderbirdUtah.com

Wyoming

The Albany Bar and Restaurant

1506 Capital Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-638-3507 • AlbanyCheyenne.com

The Bar at Buffalo Bill's Irma Hotel

1192 Sheridan Ave, Cody, WY 82414
307-587-4221 • IrmaHotel.com

The Bunkhouse Bar & Grill

1064 Happy Jack Rd, Cheyenne, WY 82009
307-632-6184 • BunkHouseBar.com

Buffalo Bill Bar, Sheridan Inn

856 Broadway St, Sheridan, WY 82801
307-655-7861 • SheridanInn.com

Cowboy Bar

104 W Pine St, Pinedale, WY 82941
307-367-4520 • No website

Cowboy Bar and Café

1936 State St, Meeteetse, WY 82433
307-868-2233 • No website

Cowboy Saloon

108 S 2nd St, Laramie, WY 82072
307-200-8343 • TheCowboySaloon.com

Invasion Bar & Restaurant

343 Nolan Ave, Kaycee, WY 82639
307-738-2211 • InvasionBar.com

Lander Bar and Grill

126 Main St, Lander, WY 85250
307-332-8228 • LanderBar.com

Million Dollar Cowboy Bar

25 N Cache St, Jackson, WY 83001
307-733-2207
MillionDollarCowboyBar.com

TOUGHEST TOWN
SIDNEY
ON THE TRACKS

Cheyenne County Visitors Center
658 Glover Road - Sidney, NE
www.VisitSidneyNE.com - 308-254-4030

SALMON RUINS
Museum, Library, & Research Center

Experience the ancients... in the heart of Indian Country

11th CENTURY PUEBLO
PIONEER HOMESTEAD
GUIDED TOURS
• GIFT SHOP, PICNIC AREA

OPEN: MON-FRI 8-5 • SAT-SUN 9-5
NOV-APRIL SUNDAY HOURS: 12-5

505-632-2013
www.SalmonRuins.com

2 Miles West of Bloomfield, NM on Hwy 64

**Miner's & Stockmen's
Steakhouse**

608 Main St, Hartville, WY 82215
307-836-2008 • WyomingsOldestBar.com
*The oldest saloon in the state was founded
in 1862.*

The Mint Bar

151 N Main St, Sheridan, WY 82801
307-674-9696 • MintBarWyo.com

Outlaw Saloon

312 S Greeley Hwy, Cheyenne, WY 82007
307-635-7552
CheyenneOutlawSaloon.com

Rustic Pine Tavern

119 E Rams Horn, Dubois, WY 82513
307-455-2430 • RusticPineTavern.com

The Saloon at the Occidental Hotel

10 N. Main St, Buffalo, WY 62834
307-684-0451 • OccidentalWyoming.com

Senator's Steakhouse & Saloon

Terry Bison Ranch
51 I-25 Frontage Rd, Cheyenne, WY 82007
307-634-4171 • TerryBisonRanch.com

Shelly's Cowboy Bar

486 Washington St, Afton, WY 83110
307-885-9890 • No website

**Shiloh Saloon at The Historic
Virginian Hotel**

404 Lincoln Hwy, Medicine Bow, WY 82329
307-379-2377
TheHistoricVirginianHotel.vpweb.com

Stagecoach Bar

5755 W WY 22, Wilson, WY 83014
307-733-4407 • StagecoachBar.net

**Northern
Prairie and
Plains**

Travelers to the Northern Prairie and
Plains will discover the beauty of the
Great Plains' endless vistas rolling on
beyond the horizon, the timelessness
and sacredness of the Black Hills, the
badlands of North and South Dakota,
the prairie, forest and lakes of
Minnesota, and the many rivers that
define the region: the Missouri,
Mississippi, Red, Big Sioux, Des Moines,



The *Medora Musical*, an annual pageant held every summer in the historic western North Dakota town, celebrates America and President Theodore Roosevelt.

Courtesy Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation

ROAM.
True History, Johnson County Cattle War!

BUFFALO KAYCEE WY

WWW.JOHNSONCOUNTYWY.COM

Iowa, Cedar and Minnesota. Don't forget to schedule extra travel time—especially during the winter months—to enjoy spontaneous stops in this history-rich region.

Here are some Northern Prairie and Plains communities where you can immerse yourself in Old West history and visit some classic Western saloons.

Minnesota

Northfield

Founded in 1855, Northfield entered the history books permanently as the legendary site of the James-Younger Gang's failed robbery of the First National Bank on September 7, 1876. Visitors to Northfield should tour the historic downtown after touring Northfield's Historical Society and Museum, in the restored original bank building. The annual Defeat of Jesse James Days is held every Labor Day Weekend and is one of the premiere Old West reenactment events in the region. 205 Third St W, Suite B Northfield, MN 55057 507-645-5604 • VisitingNorthfield.com

North Dakota

Medora

Among the most beautiful—and entertaining—places in North Dakota are the inexorably connected restored historic village of Medora and Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Every summer the town of Medora comes alive as the community celebrates the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt at the Medora Musical. Frenchman Marquis de Mores founded the town in 1883 and named it for his wife. The Marquis's settlement also attracted another New Yorker, Teddy Roosevelt, who built a cattle ranch nearby in 1883. Roosevelt's experiences in the Dakota Territory would forever shape his life and political career, and the adjacent national park encompasses the land he so loved. 330 Pacific Ave, Medora, ND 58645 701-623-4830 • MedoraND.com

South Dakota

Deadwood and Lead

The epicenter of the Gold Rush of 1874-76 that transformed the Black Hills, Deadwood was founded to supply the rush of miners everything they needed to survive: supplies, saloons and soiled doves. Visitors who walk the streets of Deadwood today should start at the visitors center in the restored railroad station for a map of the city, directions to local museums, daily events, historic sites and the Mt. Moriah Cemetery, where Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane are buried side by side. After touring Deadwood, drive up the mountain to tour the historic gold mining town of Lead. 501 Main St, Deadwood, SD 57732 800-344-8826 160 W Main St, Lead, SD 57754 605-584-1100 Deadwood.com / LeadMeThere.org



BOB BOZE BELL BOOKS BIG BOOK SALE

Factual, lively, and irreverent... History as it should be presented.

—Garry James, *Guns & Ammo*

ON SALE NOW! \$19.95

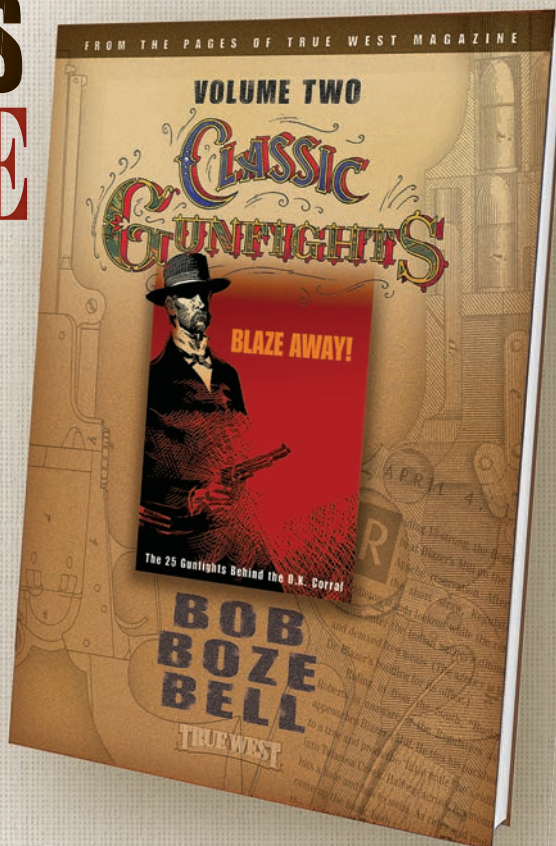
Soft Cover Only/Plus S&H [each]

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

Store.TrueWestMagazine.com



**CLASSIC
GUNFIGHTS
V. I, II & III**





Saloons

Iowa

Breitbach's Country Dining

563 Balltown Rd, Balltown, IA 52703
563-552-2220

BreitbachsCountryDining.com

Iowa's oldest bar & restaurant opened in 1852. Six generations of Breitbachs have managed the tavern.

Dave's Fox Head Tavern

402 E Market St, Iowa City, IA 52245
319-351-9824

IowaCitysOldestBars-Blog.tumblr.com

The Old Style Saloon No 10 in Deadwood, South Dakota, celebrates the mining boomtown's founding and the last days of James Butler Wild Bill Hickok in 1876.

Deadwood Tavern

6 S Dubuque St, Iowa City, IA 52240
319-351-9417 • No website

General Store Pub

12612 Stone City Rd
Anamosa, IA 52205
319-462-4399 • GeneralStorePub.com

Frick's Tap

1402 W 3rd St, Davenport, IA 52802
563-594-8657 • FricksTapIA.com

The Twisted Tail Steakhouse & Saloon

2940 335th St, Logan, IA 51546
712-644-3942 • TwistedTailBBTown.com

Minnesota

Cowboys Saloon

3801 Restwood Rd, Lexington, MN 55014
763-784-6560 • CowboysSaloon.co

The Midway Saloon

1567 University Ave W, St Paul, MN 55104
651-645-8472 • MidwaySaloon.com

Neumann's Bar & Grill

2531 E 7th Avenue, North St Paul, MN 55109
651-770-6020 • NeumannsBar.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1887.

New Ulm Turner Hall

102 S State St, New Ulm, MN 56703
507-354-4916 • NewUlmTurnerHall.org

Red Wing Barrel House

223 Main St, Red Wing 55066
651-327-2300 • RedWingBarrelHouse.com

Spot Bar

859 Randolph St, St Paul, MN 55102
651-224-7433 • No website

North Dakota

Hanson's Bar

123 Main St, Robinson, ND 58478
701-390-9896 • Hansons-Bar.business.site

Lonesome Dove Saloon & Dance Hall

3929 Memorial Hwy, Mandan, ND 58554
701-663-2793 • No website

Old 10 Saloon

407 Main St, Buffalo, ND 58011
701-633-5317 • No website



10+ Museums & Historic Sites

DISCOVER 
**CARBON
COUNTY**
WYOMING

ADVENTURE. OUT.

wyomingcarboncounty.com

Discover the scenic side on the road less traveled. Find your next adventure out west.

Sponsored by the Carbon County Visitors' Council

Start planning
your outdoor
escape!



Peacock Alley

422 E Main Ave, Bismarck, ND 58501

701-221-2333 • Peacock-Alley.com

The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1933.

The Round Up Saloon

4501 Urban Plains Dr S, Fargo, ND 58104

701-499-1397

RoundUpSaloonFargo.com

South Dakota

Badlands Saloon & Grille

509 Main St, Wall, SD 57790

605-279-2210 • VisitBadlandsSaloon.com

Brass Rail Lounge

624 St Joseph St, Rapid City, SD 57701

605-341-1768 • BrassRailRapidCity.com

Buffalo Bodega Restaurant & Saloon

658 Main St, Deadwood, SD 57732

605-578-9993 • BuffaloBodega.com

The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1877.

Bullwacker's Saloon

1010 Meade St,

Whitewood, SD 57793

Southern Prairie and Plains

605-717-1888

Bullwackers1888Saloon.com

The Knuckle Saloon

931 1st St, Sturgis, SD 57885

605-347-0106 • TheKnuckle.com

R Bar

116 Main Ave, Lemmon, SD 57638

605-374-7227 • No website

Red Garter Saloon

124 Winter St, Keystone, SD 57751

605-666-4274 • RedGarterSaloon.com

Saloon No. 10

637 Main St, Deadwood, SD 57732

800-952-9398 • Saloon10.com

Wagon Wheel Bar & Grill

115 Main St, Interior, SD 57750

605-433-5331 • No website



The Southern Prairie and Plains region is a historically rich crossroads where America's greatest Western trails originated and its biggest rivers defined the nation's commercial, settlement and military history. The historic routes along the Mississippi and Missouri, Red and Arkansas, Kaw and Platte rivers can all be followed and explored.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

True West Magazine's newest T-shirt edition is now available online!

Most Sizes

\$24.95

Plus S&H

Silk screened / 100% Cotton

Order yours today!

Store.TrueWestMagazine.com



SUBSCRIBE NOW!



10 ISSUES FOR \$39.95



Store.TrueWestMagazine.com



In Dodge City, Kansas, gun smoke fills the air twice daily on recreated Front Street at the Boot Hill Museum as reenactors show how local lawmen served up frontier-style justice.

Courtesy Boot Hill Museum

Beginning in St. Louis and the Kansas City area, travelers can follow National Historic Trails, including the Lewis and Clark, Santa Fe and Oregon, westward. The recently rededicated and

renovated Gateway Arch National Park in St. Louis is a great place to start a tour in the region.

Here are some Southern Prairie and Plains communities where you can immerse yourself in Old West history and visit some classic Western saloons.

Arkansas

Fort Smith

In the annals of American Trans-Mississippi history, Fort Smith, founded in 1817, was an important gateway city to the West. The National Park Service's Fort Smith National Historic Site is one of the largest, best-preserved interpretive centers of a historic 19th-century federal post west of the Mississippi. Fort Smith may have been best known as the court of Judge Isaac Parker, the hanging judge. Visitors can tour the 37-acre grounds of Fort Smith on a 1.4-mile self-guided tour of all the key historic structures and sites, including the Gallows, Commissary and Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Overlook. In July 2023, the U.S. Marshals Museum had its grand opening, and it is a must-see in historic Fort Smith.

2 North B St, Fort Smith, AR 72901
479-783-8888 • FortSmith.org

Kansas

Abilene

Abilene was founded in 1857, but it was the arrival of the Kansas Pacific Railway in 1867 that transformed Abilene into the legendary town at the end of the Chisholm Trail from Texas. Old Abilene Town is dedicated to promoting and preserving the colorful and popular heritage of the "wickedest and wildest" cow town of all the Kansas cow towns. Three other notable museums not to miss when visiting Abilene, Kansas are the Dickinson County Heritage Center, the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum and Boyhood Home and the Historic Seelye Mansion.

100 SE 5th St, Abilene, KS 67410
785-479-0952 • AbileneCityHall.com

Dodge City

"The Queen of the Cow Towns," Dodge City's iconic status stands equally with that of Deadwood, Lincoln and Tombstone. A tour of Dodge City should begin at the Visitor

Stay Awhile in
Wild Wyoming

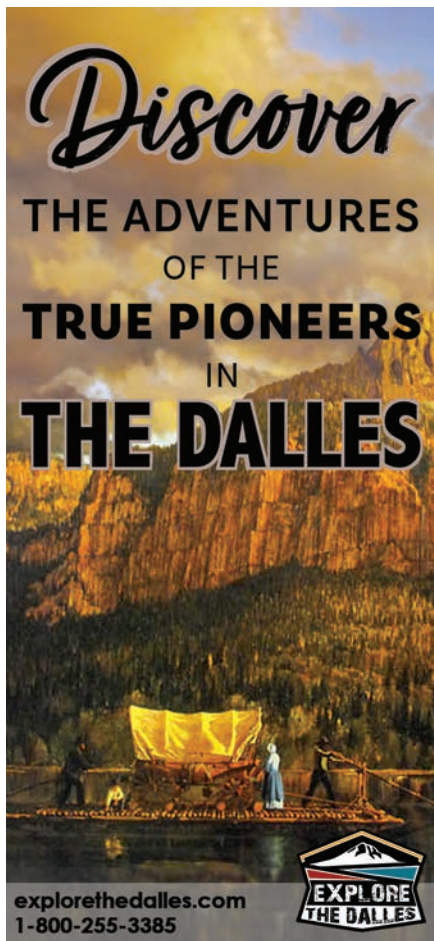
Cozy Cabins & Dude Ranches

SCAN HERE TO EXPLORE WINTER


VISIT LARAMIE
Adventure Awaits

Albany • Centennial • Rock River • Woods Landing
VISITLARAMIE.ORG • 307-745-4195


Discover
THE ADVENTURES
 OF THE
TRUE PIONEERS
 IN
THE DALLES



explorethedalles.com
 1-800-255-3385



The Official
LOUIS L'AMOUR
TRADING POST
 Exclusive Louis L'Amour products plus all of his novels, short stories, non-fiction, poetry, audio books & CDs, branded clothing, MP3's, DVD movies and more!



WWW.LOUISLAMOUR.COM
 The Home of America's Favorite Storyteller

LOUIS L'AMOUR'S LOST TREASURES
LOUIS L'AMOUR
 AND BEAU L'AMOUR
NO TRAVELLER RETURNS

Louis L'Amour's First Novel, Never Published UNTIL NOW! Faithfully Completed by Beau L'Amour

\$23.80
 Hardcover

Fate is a Ship ... a tanker west-bound on the eve of WWII. Aboard, thirty-three officers and crew. A deadly mixture of personalities made all the more explosive by the dangerous nature of their cargo.

1-800-532-9610

Information Center for an orientation and guide to the city. Take the Historic Trolley Tour (operating Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day), pick up a map of the Dodge City Trail of Fame and visit the acclaimed Boot Hill Museum. While in Dodge City, don't miss a visit to the Gunfighters Wax Museum and the Wild West Heritage Foundation's Buffalo and Longhorn Exhibit.
 400 W Wyatt Earp Blvd
 Dodge City, KS 67801
 620-225-8186 • VisitDodgeCity.org

Missouri

St. Joseph

Known best as the trailhead for the Pony Express, St. Joseph's historic district will inspire the imagination and remind visitors of the importance to American history of Missouri's Western frontier towns. Begin tours of historic St. Joseph at the Pony Express Museum, followed by a visit to the extraordinary St. Joseph Museum with its extensive displays on the culture and history of the region, including American Indian and Civil War exhibitions. Also, don't miss the Patee House Museum, Jesse James Home, Robidoux Row Museum and Pony Express Monument.
 109 S 4th St, St. Joseph, MO 64501
 800-785-0360 • StJoMo.com

Saloons

Arkansas

The Ohio Club

336 Central Ave, Hot Springs, AR 71901
 501-627-0702 • TheOhioClub.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1905.

Kansas

Bourbon Cowboy

605 Commercial St, Emporia, KS 66801
 620-481-9404
 BourbonCowboyBar.com

Buffalo Bill's Bar and Grill

207 Center Ave, Oakley, KS 67748
 785-671-1287 • No website

Central Station Bar & Grill

207 E Wyatt Earp Blvd
 Dodge City, KS 67801
 620-225-1176 • CentralStationDC.net

Cowboy Inn

642 N St Paul St, Wichita, KS 67203
 316-201-6447 • No Website

Hays House Restaurant & Tavern

112 W Main St, Council Grove, KS 66846
 620-767-5911 • HaysHouse.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1857.

Last Chance Bar & Grill

2 E 1st Ave, Caldwell, KS 67022
 620-845-3434 • No website

Outlaws

1676 State St, Salina, KS 67401
 785-827-3290 • No website

Western Kansas Saloon and Grill

121 N Main St, WaKeeney, KS 67672
 785-743-2050 • No website

Louisiana

Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop Bar

941 Bourbon St, New Orleans, LA 70116
 504-593-9761
 LafittesBlacksmithShop.com
The oldest tavern on the Mississippi River opened in 1772!

Missouri

Concert Hall and Barrel Tavern

206 E 1st St, Hermann, MO 65041
 573-486-5065
 ConcertHallAndBarrel.com

The Honky Tonk STL

756 S 4th St, St. Louis, MO 63102
 314-925-8868 • TheHonkyTonkStL.com

J Huston Tavern

304 Main St, Arrow Rock, MO 65320
 660-837-3200 • No website

Kelly's Westport Inn

500 Westport Rd, Kansas City, MO 64111
 816-561-5800
 KellysWestportInn.com

Lindberg's Tavern

318 W Commercial St
 Springfield, MO 65083
 417-868-8900 • LindbergsBar.com

O'Malley's Pub

540 Welt St, Weston, MO 64098
 816-640-5235 • WestonIrish.com
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1842.

Paddy Malone's Pub

700 W Main St, Jefferson City, MO 65101
 573-761-5900 • PaddyMalonesPub.com

Nebraska

Buck's Bar and Grill

27849 W Center Rd, Venice, NE 68069
402-515-6212 • BucksBarAndGrill.com

Bunkhouse Restaurant & Saloon

109 US-20, Valentine, NE 69201
402-376-1609 • No website

Dude's Steakhouse & Brandin' Iron Bar

2126 Illinois St, Sidney, NE 69162
308-254-9080 • No website

Glur's Tavern

2301 11th St, Columbus, NE 68601
402-564-8615 • No website
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1876.

Joe's Honky Tonk

2023 1st Ave, Kearney, NE 68847
308-455-1194 • No website

L Bow Room

102 Main St, Johnstown, NE 69214
402-722-4481 • No website

Murphy's Wagon Wheel

107 N Lincoln Ave, Hastings, NE 68901
402-463-3011
MurphysWagonWheel.com

77 Longbranch Saloon

115 Main St, Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-3380 • No website

Alaska

B&B Bar

326 Shelikof St, Kodiak, AK 99615
907-486-3575 • No website
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1908.

The Red Onion

201 Broadway, Skagway, AK 99840
907-983-2222 • RedOnion1898.com

Salty Dawg Saloon

4380 Homer Spit Rd, Homer, AK 99603
907-235-6718 • SaltyDawgSaloon.com

Hawaii

Smith's Union Bar

19 N Hotel St, Honolulu, HI 96817
808-538-9145 • No website
The oldest saloon in the state was founded in 1935.

Wranglers Steakhouse & The Saddle Room

9852 Kaumualii Hwy, Waimea, HI 96796
808-338-1218
WranglersSaddleRoom.com

Discover San Angelo's
Winter Wonders 
This Holiday Season



A promotional graphic for Discover San Angelo's Winter Wonders. It features a large gold Christmas ornament with the 'DISCOVER SAN ANGELO' logo and a pine tree. Below the ornament are several framed photos of holiday events: a parade float with Santa Claus, a street scene with a house, a night view of a building with lights, and a person in a Santa suit sitting on a bench. A red bow and a pinecone are also visible. At the bottom, a blue banner says 'Plan your trip today at DiscoverSanAngelo.com'. To the right, there's a 'Follow us!' section with social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and YouTube, the handle '@DiscoverSanAngelo', and a QR code.



A promotional graphic for the Wild, Wild West Fest in Andrews, TX. The background is a dark wood texture. At the top, the text reads 'Wild, Wild West Fest Andrews, TX' in a stylized font. Below that, it says 'Celebrating the diverse culture of the Wild, Wild West!' and 'APRIL 19, 20, & 21'. The main text describes the event: 'Roll into Andrews, TX for the Wild, Wild West Fest, offering everyone a slice of pure Texas fun. The night skies will be filled with music and dancing under the stars to some of the best Texas Country and TexMex music in the Lone Star State!'. There are four small photos: a cowboy on a horse, a band performing, a cowboy in a hat, and a woman in a costume. At the bottom, it says 'There will be plenty of family activities, from Wild West entertainment, to a goat roping and a Chareada, mud bogs, antique tractor show, gun show, car show, carnival and vendors. And, we're rustlin' in the best cooks in these parts, so come take in the aroma of the State Championship Texas ShootOut BBQ Cook-off and Kids Q! From Cowboys to Buffalo Soldiers and Comanche Dancers, experience the living history of the west!'. The bottom left has the 'ANDREWS Texas Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center' logo. The bottom center says 'ACE Arena, Andrews, TX For More Information 432-523-2695 • www.andrewstx.com'. The bottom right has the 'SEWELL' logo, a Chevrolet logo, a GMC logo, and the website 'SewellAndrews.com'.



TRADING POST

GOLDEN GATE WESTERN WEAR

Old west and contemporary hats, apparel, boots, and accessories for the whole family. Our Custom hats are hand-formed by Bill Knudsen, 9-time winner of True Wests magazines Reader's Choice award for Best Hatmaker.

See our online catalog at www.KnudsenHats.com
ORDERS: (510) 232 - 3644

Historic EyeWear Company

Keeping History in Sight

The Best Old West EyeWear

Its time for period correct eyewear!
 When you are ready to complete your impression, visit us at
www.HistoricEyeWearCompany.com
 862-812-4737
 Prices start at \$139.95

Thomas Valenza, Proprietor of Historic EyeWear is wearing our 1835-80 Oval Large in Tombstone Silver Dust finish with custom tinted lenses.

LONGHORNS HEAD TO TAIL STORE

Texas Longhorn Skulls

The ultimate western decor. Real, authentic, home-grown Texas Longhorn skulls for a true Western flavor. Polished - ready to hang. Photos and data at: www.head2tail.com - Priced from \$225

35000 Muskrat rw - Barnesville, OH 43713
 740 758-5050

Handmade. Hand Carved. One At A Time.

Slickbald Customs

@SLICKBALD
Slickbald@Slickbald.com

CATALENA HATTERS

Fits Right. Looks Right. Feels Right.

The Gus
 Telescope

800-976-7818
www.catalenahats.com

ELECTROSCOPES

by Thomas

FREE OFFER

Cover More Ground, Save Time, Increase Finds!

For Your Prospecting, Relic, Coin & Cache Hunting Needs!

Call Today! 1-800-245-9276

www.electroscopes.com

WESTERN ROUNDUP

FOR DECEMBER 2023

GUN SHOWS

THE ORIGINAL FORT WORTH GUN SHOW

Fort Worth, TX, December 30-31: With more than 1,000 tables at the Will Rogers Center, the show will have what you are looking for. The public is invited to buy, sell or trade. 817-732-1194 • premiergunshows.com

MUSIC & STORYTELLING

COWBOYS ON MAIN

Bandera, TX, December 3-31: Enjoy live music and storytelling at the Frontier Times Museum with Kenny James. 760 786-3200 (DVNP) deathvalley49ers.org

HOLIDAY FESTIVALS & RAIL ADVENTURES

SANTA'S LIGHTED FOREST AND NORTH POLE ADVENTURE

Georgetown, CO, Through December 24: Enjoy hot cocoa, cookies and candy canes from Santa and his helpers aboard decorated train coaches. 888-456-6777 georgetownlooprr.com

CHRISTMAS IN DODGE CITY: PARADE OF LIGHTS, CHILI COOK-OFF AND MORE

Dodge City, KS, December 1-31: Christmastime in Dodge City is celebrated with holiday concerts, tree-lighting ceremonies, light parades, decorating contests and several visits from ole Saint Nick. 800-OLD-WEST • visitdodgecity.org

CHRISTMAS AT OLD FORT CONCHO

San Angelo, TX, December 1-3: This 1867 fort celebrates the different cultures of Texas with three days full of Christmas cheer, including shopping, living history and much more. 325-481-2646 • fortconcho.com

CHRISTMAS PAST AND PRESENT

Grand Island, NE, December 1-3 & 8-9: This lamp-lit tour of Railroad Town offers live music in a festive celebration of the spirit of Christmas. 308-385-5316 • stuhmuseum.org

HIGH PLAINS CHRISTMAS

Gering, NE, December 2: This High Plains holiday gathering features hayrides, marshmallow roasts and bonfire cowboy coffee. 308-436-1989 • legacyofthepains.org

69TH ANNUAL PRESCOTT COURTHOUSE PARADE & LIGHTING

Prescott, AZ, December 2: Festive and fun for the entire family, the parade begins



Courtesy Grand Canyon Railway

GRAND CANYON RAILWAY POLAR EXPRESS

Williams, AZ, December 1-30: Every winter the Grand Canyon Railway's Polar Express comes to life on a journey from the nighttime wilderness of Williams, Arizona, to the enchanted beauty of "the North Pole"—where Santa Claus and his reindeer are waiting with a jingle bell for every good boy and girl. thetrain.com • 800-843-8724

at 1 p.m.—and the lighting of the plaza ceremonies begin at 6 p.m. 928-777-1100 • visit-prescott.com

LIGHT OF THE WORLD CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Minden, NE, December 3-10: Minden celebrates "108 Years of Lights" with 15,000 lights strung throughout downtown. 308-832-1811 • mindenne.org

A FRONTIER ARMY CHRISTMAS AT FORT LARNED

Larned, KS, December 9: The fort's annual Christmas Past celebration will feature pictures with Santa in the North Officers' quarters, 1860s holiday food in the Barracks Mess Hall, carriage rides around the fort grounds and 19th-century crafts and games for the children. 620-285-6911 • nps.gov

WICKENBURG CHRISTMAS PARADE OF LIGHTS

Wickenburg, AZ, December 8: Enjoy the beauty of the holiday season amid the glittering lights of the 29th Annual Christmas Parade of Lights "Out Wickenburg Way." 928-684-5479 • wickenburgchamber.com

ANNUAL TOMBSTONE CHRISTMAS BALL

Tombstone, AZ, December 9: Join an evening of dancing and mingling in Tombstone's

historic Schieffelin Hall for the annual Tombstone Christmas Ball. All proceeds from this event go to the Tombstone Children's Fund to help ensure every child has an amazing Christmas. 520-457-9317 • discovertombstone.com

TOMBSTONE'S ANNUAL LIGHT PARADE

Tombstone, AZ, December 9: Enjoy the sound of caroling in the streets, the glow of a thousand twinkling lights and the "Ho-Ho-Ho" of Santa and his sleigh. Great Old West fun for the entire family. 520-457-9317 • tombstonechamber.com

CHRISTMAS AT THE CODYS'

North Platte, NE, December 15-20: Celebrate the holidays in Buffalo Bill Cody's 1886 mansion with caroling and horse-drawn rides. 308-535-0835 • visitnorthplatte.com

RODEO

WRANGLER NATIONAL FINALS RODEO & COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Las Vegas, NV, December 7-16: The Wrangler NFR is the richest and most prestigious rodeo in the world and an event like no other, an extravaganza for fans to enjoy the roping and riding activity of today's cowboys. 702-260-8605 • nfrexperience.com

TWMag.com:

View Western events on our website.

Brushy Bill, Winchester and Whiskey Row

Did the U.S. Army find out who was selling rifles to the Lakota and Cheyenne Indians prior to the Battle of Little Big Horn?

*Joe Manriquez
Whittier, California*

I ran this by Lee Noyes, former editor of *The Custer Battlefield Historical and Museum Association*. He writes, "To my knowledge, the federal government never prosecuted anyone for providing repeating (or any other) firearms and ammunition to the Lakota or Cheyenne tribes. This question has apparently not been researched. Nor have the sources of these repeating firearms possessed by Native American warriors. What we do know is that many warriors possessed Henry and Model 1873 Winchester rifles at Little Big Horn, based on archaeological surveys at the national monument since the 1980s.

"The data cited in my response were from Douglas D. Scott, Richard A. Fox, Melissa A. Connor and Dick Harmon, *Archaeological Perspectives on the Battle of the Little Bighorn* (Norman & London: University of Oklahoma Press, 1989).

"Recommend reading includes, for example, Douglas D. Scott and Richard A. Fox, Jr., *Archaeological Insights into The Custer Battle: An assessment of the 1984 Field Season* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1987)."



Lakota Rain-in-the-Face posed with his favorite '73 Winchester and photographer David Barry in 1880. The well-respected Sioux chief is credited as one of the leaders who orchestrated the strategy to defeat Lt. Col. George A. Custer and the 7th Cavalry at the Battle of Little Big Horn.

Courtesy NPS.org

What do we know about Wyatt Earp's first wife, Urilla Sutherland?

*Lisa Walker
Birmingham, Alabama*

Wyatt never talked about her. He probably met her in late 1869, just after he turned 22. Her gravestone

indicates she was born in 1849. She was the daughter of a Lamar hotelkeeper. She died about nine months after the wedding, probably in childbirth and perhaps of typhus. She's buried in Milford, Missouri.

If I walked into a bar on Whiskey Row in Prescott, Arizona Territory, in the late 1800s, what libations could I indulge in?

*Greg Williams
Apache Junction, Arizona*

I ran this by *Prescott's Original Whiskey Row* author Brad Courtney, and here is what he had to say: "At first blush, my thought is: Obviously

From 1874 to 1900, the Cabinet Saloon served the best available beer, cocktails, imported water and whiskey to the patrons of the Whiskey Row establishment.

True West Archives



Ask The Marshall

BY MARSHALL TRIMBLE

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian and vice president of the Wild West History Association. His latest book is *Arizona Oddities: Land of Anomalies and Tamales*; History Press, 2018. 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. Please always include your name, city and state.

whiskey, but it was the source of much law-and-order trouble. So, Prescott became a beer mecca, and was producing over one-third of the territory's beer. There was even talk of Prescott becoming the 'St. Louis' of the West.

"In another direction, the Cabinet Saloon was creative at that time. In *Prescott's Original Whiskey Row* I wrote: "The Cabinet offered "fancy drinks." There was Gold Lion whiskey, Mountaineers, brandy smashes, wine on ice, Cabinet punches, milk punches, imported ginger ale and Apollinaris water—spring water from Bad Neuenahr, Germany. Kentucky Whiskey was also the rage at that time."

What are your thoughts on the claims that Brushy Bill Roberts was Billy the Kid? Was he?

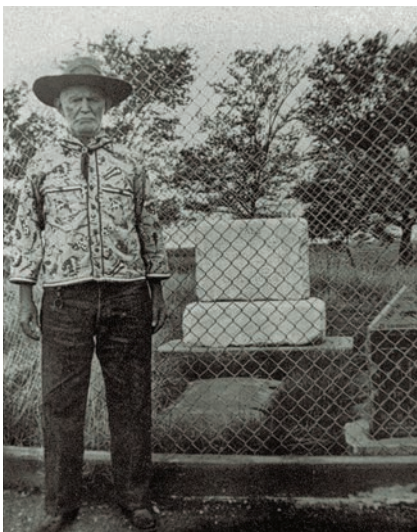
Roseanne Stone
Biloxi, Mississippi

In a word, no. The evidence is overwhelming that Billy was shot and killed by Pat Garrett at Fort Sumner, New Mexico. Brushy had gray eyes with yellow specks while the Kid had clear blue eyes; Brushy had a square-shaped jaw while the Kid's was rounder; the ears were completely different. Lastly, Billy's shoulders were much more sloped and narrower. Brushy was illiterate; the Kid was not. Lastly, Brushy's niece, Mrs. Geneva Pittmon, said that Brushy's birth date, recorded in the family Bible, was 1879. Billy was in his teens by that time.



At 70 years old, Brushy Bill Roberts posed at Billy the Kid's gravesite at Fort Sumner, New Mexico.

True West Archives



ATTENTION READERS

Thanks to our advertisers for their support of True West and helping to preserve the history of the American Frontier. If you would like more information, please visit their websites shown below.

6666 Steak <i>6666Steak.com</i>	<i>p. 55</i>	Longhorn's Head to Tail <i>TexasLonghorn.com</i>	<i>p. 92</i>
Andrews, TX <i>AndrewsTX.com</i>	<i>p. 91</i>	Louis L'Amour Trading Post <i>LouisLAmour.com</i>	<i>p. 92</i>
Heritage Auctions Arms & Armor Auction <i>HA.com</i>	<i>p. 4</i>	Morphy Auctions LLC <i>MorphyAuctions.com</i>	<i>p. 3</i>
Buffalo Arms Co. <i>BuffaloArms.com</i>	<i>p. 53</i>	Outlaws & Lawmen Series Uberti USA <i>Uberti-USA.com</i>	<i>p. 23</i>
Carbon County, WY <i>WyomingCarbonCounty.com</i>	<i>p. 87</i>	Prescott, AZ <i>VisitPrescott.com</i>	<i>p. 77</i>
Catalena Hatters <i>CatalenaHats.com</i>	<i>p. 92</i>	Arizona Renaissance Festival & Artisan Marketplace <i>RenFestInfo.com</i>	<i>p. 53</i>
Cave Creek, AZ <i>CaveCreek.org</i>	<i>p. 81</i>	Salmon Ruins Museum <i>SalmonRuins.com</i>	<i>p. 84</i>
Cimarron Firearms <i>Cimarron-Firearms.com</i>	<i>p. 63</i>	San Angelo, TX <i>DiscoverSanAngelo.com</i>	<i>p. 91</i>
Cinch Brand Western Wear <i>CinchJeans.com</i>	<i>p. 5</i>	Scottsbluff/Gering, NE <i>VisitScottsbluff.com</i>	<i>p. 62</i>
Cody, WY <i>CodyYellowstone.org</i>	<i>p. 73</i>	Sheridan, WY <i>SheridanWyoming.org</i>	<i>p. 2</i>
Converse County, WY <i>ConverseCountyTourism.com</i>	<i>p. 22</i>	Sidney, NE <i>VisitSidneyNE.com</i>	<i>p. 84</i>
Electroscopes <i>Electroscopes.com</i>	<i>p. 92</i>	Slickbald Customs <i>Slickbald.com</i>	<i>p. 92</i>
Fort Smith, AR <i>FortSmith.org</i>	<i>p. 80</i>	Strater Hotel <i>Strater.com</i>	<i>p. 82</i>
Georgetown Loop Railroad <i>GeorgetownLoopRR.com</i>	<i>p. 79</i>	Texas Bullion <i>TexasBullion.com</i>	<i>p. 15</i>
Golden Gate Western Wear/ Knudsen Hat Co. <i>GoldenGateWesternWear.com</i>	<i>p. 92</i>	The Dalles, OR <i>TheDallesChamber.com</i>	<i>p. 90</i>
Grapevine, TX <i>GrapevineTexasUSA.com</i>	<i>p. 65</i>	The Occidental Hotel <i>OccidentalWyoming.com</i>	<i>p. 62</i>
Hawken Shop <i>TheHawkenShop.com</i>	<i>p. 63</i>	Tombstone AZ <i>DiscoverTombstone.com</i>	<i>p. 77</i>
Historic Eyewear Co. <i>HistoricEyewearCompany.com</i>	<i>p. 92</i>	Trinidad, CO <i>HistoricTrinidad.com</i>	<i>p. 17</i>
Hutchinson County Museum <i>HutchinsonCountyMuseum.org</i>	<i>p. 78</i>	True West Home <i>TrueWestHome.com</i>	<i>p. 82</i>
Inaugural Firearms & Sportsman's Auction Featuring John Wayne's Family Collection <i>RichmondAuctions.com</i>	<i>p. IFC-1, BC</i>	Wickenburg, AZ <i>OutWickenburgWay.com</i>	<i>p. 83</i>
Johnson County, WY <i>JohnsonCountyWY.com</i>	<i>p. 85</i>	Williams, AZ <i>ExperienceWilliams.com</i>	<i>p. 75</i>
Laramie, WY <i>VisitLaramie.org</i>	<i>p. 89</i>	Wyatt Earp: The Lost Story <i>FrontierShadows.com</i>	<i>p. 59</i>

What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

Growing up: Warner grew up on the family's J Bar A Ranch, cowboying, riding colts, dry ground lion hunting, rough country ranching, playing the guitar and the fiddle with his dad, Marvin. Kelly grew up on the Malpai and J Bar A ranches, cowboying, dry ground lion-hunting and contributing to all other ranch tasks.

Nature, the land, cattle, our horses, mules and hounds have been some of our best teachers. If you "see" what is happening before your eyes, you will learn.

Life on the U.S.-Mexico border was simple until about 40 years ago. Undocumented migrants, drug trafficking, border wall variations, politics and a Border Patrol presence are now part of our everyday life.

We learned to handle cattle as gently as possible, to "give them some air" in tight places, whether it was a close-sided mountain trail or a gate, and to ride rock-footed horses or good-handling mules so you could make a hand.

Roping with your granddaughter: "Mackenzie is a good hand and a good one to rope with in the branding corral," says Warner.

Ranching with your daughter "is a joy. Mackenzie is a hard worker, compassionate about the livestock, the landscape, the traditions and her heritage," says Kelly.

Warner and Wendy Glenn bought the Malpai Ranch in 1961, and Warner, Kelly and Mackenzie are still ranching it. "Malpai" is a volcanic land with fertile soil and lots of rocks!

A good rain "is worth its weight in gold and substantial enough to grow the grasses and forage that we need to continue ranching on the land without harming the natural resources," says Warner.

Warner photographed the first jaguar the Glens encountered in 1996 and then a second jaguar in 2006.

"A good mule is hard to pass up!" says Warner. "In rough country, they take care of themselves and in turn, you. They have stamina and endurance and when treated right, they are faithful! Mountain-raised rock-footed horses can hold a candle to a good mule now and then."

Warner and his dad raised and trained their own colts with a gentle hand, firm follow-through, respect and a lot of miles under a saddle.

You try to train dogs to be good tracking/trailing/treeing hounds. It's in their blood and their breeding, but sometimes it's hard to channel in the right direction!

Our method of lion hunting is "dry ground." Ninety-five percent of all tracking, trailing and scenting conditions are done in the dirt and dust or on rock surfaces. Glens have always responded to livestock kills in the ranching community and controlled depredating lions.

Three generations of the Glenn-Kimbro ranching family (l.-r.): Mackenzie Kimbro, Warner Glenn and Kelly Glenn Kimbro



Photo Courtesy: Glenn-Kimbro Family

WARNER GLENN AND KELLY GLENN KIMBRO, RANCHERS

Warner Glenn and Kelly Glenn Kimbro are fourth- and fifth-generation cattle ranchers and second- and third-generation dry ground lion hunters in southeastern Arizona. They ranch the Malpai, J Bar A and Buckhorn Ranches in the San Bernardino Valley, Chiricahua and Pedregosa Mountains. They raise Black Angus cattle; they ride mules and good rough country horses; and hunt with Walker, black and tan and blue tick hounds.

They carry on a ranching tradition started in 1896 in the region and have been acknowledged by their peers for their course in conservation and will pass it all on to Kelly's daughter, Mackenzie, the sixth generation.

Sunrise... "I use this phrase a lot: 'as I stepped into the sunrise...'" says Kelly, "which is exactly what we do every day of our life and meet what is dealt to us that day... sometimes planned and sometimes a surprise!"

Wendy Glenn was a port in a storm, the rock we all leaned on, the hub in all that we did. She was a good cowgirl, a ranch woman extraordinaire, a wife who played a strong role in Warner's success in life, an amazing mom and grandmother. Her love of the landscape, conservation, archeology, history, the wildlife and the animals we raised was intense and humbling.

"History is what builds us and makes us better, shows us a route to the future, gives us a resource to draw from for answers," says Kelly. "History is worth recovering and preserving, respecting and saluting."

Discover Where History Happened in the Old West

True West magazine has inspired travelers to take the road less traveled and explore the historic sites and towns of the American West. The Third Edition of the True West Ultimate Historic Travel Guide has been carefully updated with recommendations on the essential museums of the Old West. Anyone who wants to discover a region from the ground up—and immerse in its local history—will be inspired to visit a Western museum and experience the dynamic, enthralling history of the American West.

INCLUDED IN TRUE WEST'S ULTIMATE HISTORIC TRAVEL GUIDE

- Hundreds of places expertly and succinctly described to inspire and guide your tour of the West
- Dozens of historic and color photos of Western historic sites
- 22-colorfully, illustrated state maps
- Easy-to-use listings with addresses, phone numbers and websites
- Eight of Bob Boze Bell's best Classic Gunfights of the Old West
- True West's favorite Historic Trails, National State Parks, Monuments, Battlefields, Site and Memorials where Old West history happened.
- And, so much more!

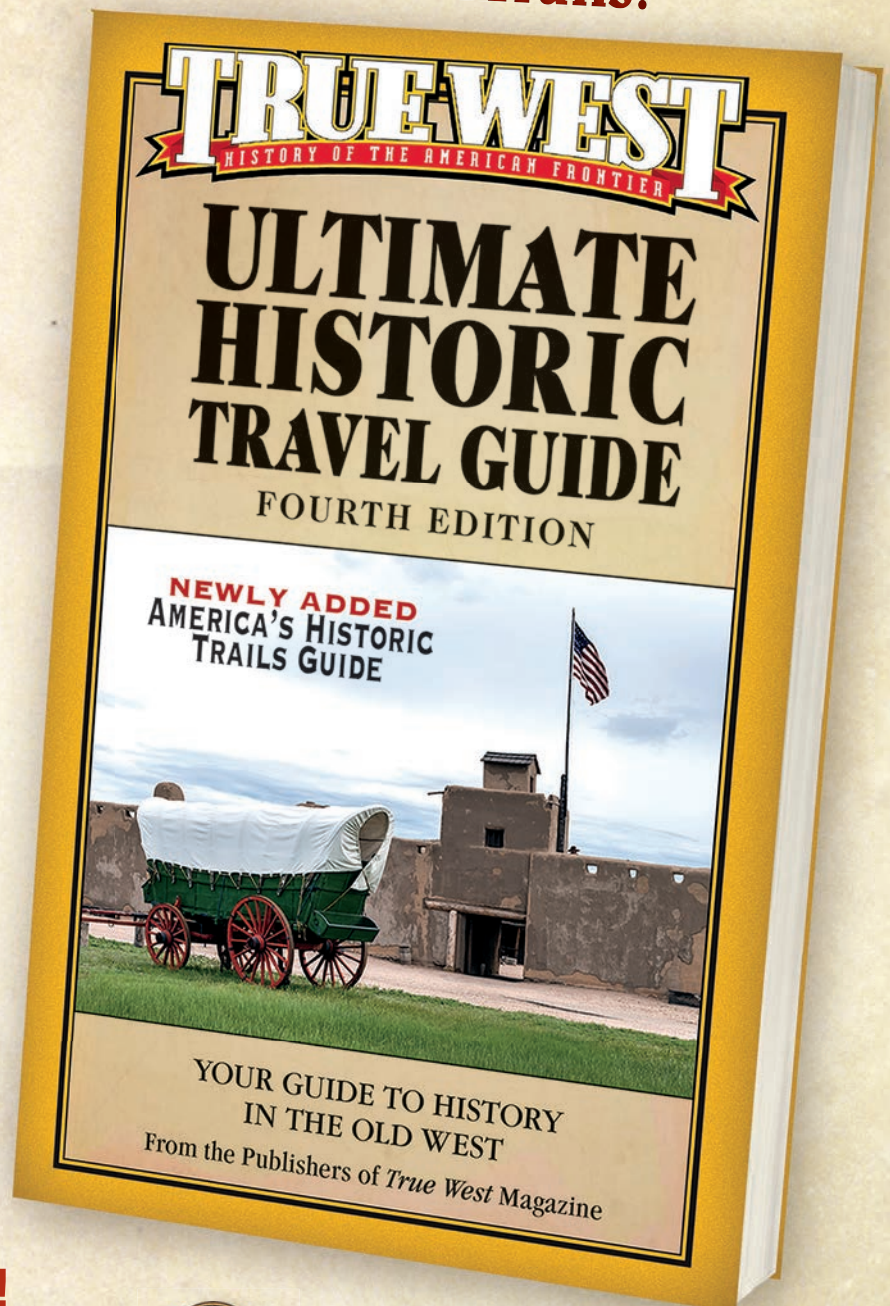
ON SALE NOW!

\$19.95

ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!

TrueWestMagazine.com

NEW 4th EDITION
Now Including Our National Historic Trails!



SC FIRM #4192



Greenville, SC

INAUGURAL FIREARMS & SPORTSMAN'S AUCTION



FEATURING
JOHN WAYNE'S FAMILY COLLECTION
Firearms previously owned by Patrick Wayne



November 18, 2023



RICHMONDFIREARMS.COM • 864-991-5949

