Bisbee Corral Shares Special Program

By Douglas W. Hocking

Bisbee (AZ) Corral

Padre Eusebio Francisco Kino, S.J., passed away 300 years ago after singing the mass in dedication of Capilla San Xavier in Magdalena, Sonora. He was ill during mass but insisted on continuing. Afterward he was offered a bed but declined as he was accustomed to sleeping on the floor. There he quietly passed away. His bones were discovered in the 1960s and are on display today. In recognition of his life—he was born August 10, 1645—the Bisbee Corral of the Westerners invited Father Greg Adolf, an admirer of Kino, to speak at our August meeting.

Padre Greg told us Kino was born in a small town in what is now Italy, but was then Austria. He was educated in Austria and Bavaria and, as a mathematical prodigy, was offered teaching positions there. Kino had other plans. After nearly dying of illness, he promised his life to Christ if he survived. In due time, he was ordained in the Society of Jesus, the Jesuits, and sought a mission station in China. It was not to be. In 1681, the road to the east ran through Mexico to its west coast where one sailed to the Orient on the biannual Manila Galleon. Missing the boat, Padre Kino was sent on an expedition to Baja California. The Vice-royalty in Mexico City found the padre so useful they detained him sending him north to the Pimaria Alta, a region of northern Sonora and southern Arizona that was home to the Sobaipuri Pima and Tohono O’odham.

Padre Kino spent much of the next 24 years in the saddle establishing missions and chapels. The people invited him to come. His philosophy was that one must listen to the natives and learn from them; you can’t teach an adult as if he were a child. He also offered new grains, fruits and livestock that put an end to cycles of starvation. In the course of his travels, mathematician Kino produced accurate maps of Pimaria Alta, an area 200 x 250 miles, and proved that Baja California wasn’t an island as the Spanish up till then believed. Please pray for Padre Kino’s Beatification.

Padre Greg was an animated and effective speaker (Continued on Page 3)
2010 AWARD WINNERS

Co-Founders Best Book Award
1st Place: Jim Hoy, Kansas Corral
Cowboy’s Lament
Texas Tech University Press

2nd Place: John Boessenecker, San Francisco (CA) Corral
Bandido: The Life & Times of Tiburcio Vanquez
University of Oklahoma Press

3rd Place: Paul H. Carlson, Llano Estacado Corral
Lubbock, Texas
Myth, Mystery and Massacre
Texas Tech University Press

Coke Wood Award, Monographs and Articles
1st Place Tie: Robert J. Chandler, San Francisco Corral
1st Place Tie: Barbara Handy-Marchello, Ft. Abraham Lincoln Corral, Bismarck, North Dakota
2nd Place: Paul W. Matthews, Indian Territory Posse
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Philip A. Danielson Award for Best Programs
1st Place: Phil Brigandi, Los Angeles (CA) Corral
2nd Place: Patricia A. Etter, Scottsdale (AZ) Corral
3rd Place: Anna Lee Ames Frohlich, Denver (CO) Posse

Fred Olds Western Poetry Award
1st Place: Paul McClure, San Dimas (CA) Corral
2nd Place: Bernice Landers, Jedediah Smith Corral, Hot Springs, South Dakota

Heads Up Award
For Corrals organized prior to 1973
Los Angeles Corral, Los Angeles, California
L. R. Spitzzeri, Sheriff

For Corrals organized 1973 and later
San Dimas Corral, San Dimas, California
Dave Harbin, Sheriff

Overseas Corrals
Linz Corral, Linz, Austria
Hans Jorg Ratzenboeck, Sheriff

Llano Estacado Corral Holds Westerner Day

The Llano Estacado Corral, Lubbock, Texas, had a Westerner Day in Post, Texas, on July 30.

According to the report “Post was founded in 1911 by cereal Magnate Charles William “C.W.” Post. We met and first toured the OS Museum, full of priceless art and crafts from around the world, collected by Giles McCrary, founder of the OS Ranch Foundation.

“Ceremonial masks from Chokwe and Sanya tribes of central Africa, carved elephant masks from China, authentic artifacts from the jungles of New Guinea where the tribes of Asmato (head hunters) dwell, carvings from Alaska and India are just a few items we saw. Also included are original sculptures from Glenna Goodacre and original photographs by Ansel Adams. Displays are rotated every three months.

“Next our group went to the Garza County Historical Museum. This building was built as a hospital. Here are displays of ranch, cowboy, Boy Scout, Indian and pioneer artifacts housed in a 1912 two-story colonial-style building. They have a dedicated room for Alvin Davis, a member of our Corral. It contains awards and honors from floor to ceiling, beautiful saddles and sculptures by Alvin.

“Next door is the Heritage House built in 1911, which served as living quarters for the medical staff at the hospital. It has recently been remodeled in the bungalow style popular in early 1900s.

“Back at the Garza County Museum we joined County Judge Lee Norman and wife Marsha for a wonderful catered dinner complete with fine china and crystal.

“To wrap up the evening we attended a play at the Garza theater, built in 1913, “Over the River and Through the Woods”. It was indeed a fun day for our group of 27 members and guests.”
From The Editor

It has been a very busy month at the Home Ranch. First there was the getting ready for the Western History Association meeting in Oakland, California, including the printing of the certificates for our award winners, overseeing the making of the first place awards at the trophy company and gathering up of books for the auction at the breakfast, the packing of the boxes to be transported to WHA with supplies for the booth, the board meeting and the breakfast.

The news, at close to the last minute, that family emergencies were going to mean WI Chairman Kent McInnis and his wife Cheryl were not going to be able to attend the WHA meeting caused last minute changes.

Then came the news that the WI office would be moving into new quarters in the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. The new space is just next door but that doesn’t mean less work, just a short distance to travel. The good news was the space is larger and in the same room as the WI library. The bad news was the move was to be made during the time of WHA and Kent’s absence.

With the considerable and much appreciated help of Hall personnel and Fred and Mary Marvel and Jim and Burnis Argo the move has been successfully accomplished and getting everything sorted through, weeded out and put in place almost finished.

Next issue we will have pictures of our new digs. We think all of you will be as proud of our more spacious and spruced up Home Ranch office as are we.

Burnis D. Argo

Bisbee Corral Report

(Continued from Page 1) much influenced by Keno’s life. I on the other hand, returned from a six-week absence at archaeology field school to learn I’d been designated Corral Ink Slinger, instructed to let you know the Bisbee Corral of the Westerners is alive and well meeting the first Thursday of each month at the Bisbee Senior Center.

In Cochise County, Arizona, Benson and Fort Huachuca, once a vibrant corral, are now dry camps. Surprisingly Sierra Vista, which until recently had an active archaeology club and Tombstone—all about history—never had corrals. We see many faces from these nearby towns at our meetings and would like to invite even more to join with us. We have become the only history or archaeology oriented organization southeast of Tucson and would be thrilled to have even more folks from our county and Santa Cruz County participate.

Cochise County was home to Geronimo and Cochise. Over 100 miles square, the county has much more than its share of Wild West history. Through the middle of the county, where I-10 runs today, are a series of passes important to history. This is the first place below South Pass in Wyoming that was passible to wagons and trains. Everyone from Coronado to Col. Philip St. George Cook and the Mormon Battalion, the Butterfield Overland Mail, the Southern Pacific Railroad and the Santa Fe Railroad passed by here. Tombstone, Bisbee, Skeleton Canyon and Galeyville are here. Tombstone, Fort Bowie in Apache Pass and Bisbee are history on parade. Come visit us on the great southern route to California.

Garden of the Sun Corral in Fresno, California, has sent copies of the new brochure they are using to interest others in the Corral and in Westerners International. The inside of the tri-fold contains information about the Corral itself as well as about WI. This seems to be a good idea that may want to be considered by other groups.
The Huntington Westerners in California met in November to hear a talk by Gary Turner, former sheriff of the Los Angeles Corral. His topic was “Jefferson Turner: A Great American Cowboy in the twilight of the American West,” the subject being Gary Turner’s great grandfather.

Among Thomas Jefferson Turner’s adventures were driving cattle to Dodge City, chasing outlaws over the Mexican border and serving as a lawman in Arizona Territory.

“The Scouts Have Always Been Loyal” was the subject of the talk given by John M. Hutchins at the October meeting of the Boulder (CO) Corral. The subject covered the mutiny at Cibicu, attack on Fort Apache and legal retribution in 1881 Arizona Territory.

This corral seems to be passing around the job of taking meeting reservations. A good idea for sharing some of the work of keeping an organization functioning. Too often members of a group are content to set back and let others do the chores.

In October members of the Omaha (NE) Corral heard a talk by Dennis Vosberg, a retired IRS employee who now focuses on writing about subjects in the Northeast Nebraska area. His first book was “Hector Bliss, Black Homesteader at Goose Lake, Nebraska.” His most recent book, “Santee Sorrow,” traces the the journey of a group of Sioux Indians to their new home in Northeast Nebraska.

The Chicago (IL) Corral’s October program, “The Last Cavalry Charge,” was given by Jeff Fiddler. The intriguing “come on” to interest corral members was “The last cavalry charge by the U.S. Army (sort of), to be explained. With many humorous slides (he hopes) and diverse observations!” We imagine that drew the crowd! Also to be a sure crown-pleaser will be the future program in which Sheriff Ken and Jean Schiffer recount their adventures with 19 other horsemen on a roundup of 1500 buffalo “up close and personal” in South Dakota.

At the November meeting of the Chisholm Trail Corral, Oklahoma City, members heard a very interesting talk by Bill Corbett, professor at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, entitled “Stalag Sooner: World War II Prisoner-of-War Camps in Oklahoma.” Members were surprised to learn there had been 35 temporary and permanent POW camps in the state during World War II.

Santa Barbara (CA) Corral members heard a talk in October by Peggy Lobnitz. Her topic was “Alice Eastwood, Pioneer Western Botanist.” One of the perks of the job of Editor is getting to read all the meeting notices and seeing what our members are having to eat at their meetings. How about this menu from the Santa Barbara dinner: Curry-Butternut Squash Soup with apple crispy wonton, choice of Filet of Trout sautéed and served with citrus-fennel watercress salad and cilantro-lime sauce OR Grilled Duck Breast served with Anaheim chili relleno stuffed with goat cheese and poblano sauce and for dessert—Chocolate Mousse Cake with raspberry and espresso sauce. Your editor would go to the meeting for the dinner alone!

“Early Fur Traders” was the topic of the October meeting of the Fort Abraham Lincoln Corral, Bismarck-Mandan, North Dakota. Speaker was Earl Holland, Curator of Education at the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

“Samuel H. Colt—An American Icon” was the title of the November meeting of the Los Angeles Corral. Speaker Ken Pauley is a former Sheriff of the corral and the editor of Brand Book 20.

The meeting notice stated it would be “Hat Night” at the November meeting. There are no rules on what a person might want to wear—“serious or not so serious is the norm.” Pictures of this occasion wanted.

Fort Collins (CO) Corral met in October for a program titled “Myth of the Hanging Tree.” Speaker was Robert J. Torrez who served as the New Mexico State Historian from 1987 until his retirement in 2000. In his talk he examined “the documentation found in New Mexico’s collection of judicial and criminal records to reveal some of the myths and often harsh realities of how the judicial system worked (or often did not).”

“Charles Weitfle, Photographic Entrepreneur” was the topic of the program presented by Ed & Nancy Bathke at the October meeting of the Denver (CO) Posse.

Pine Ridge Corral, Chadron, NE, met in October for a program by Mary Frances Waldron. She talked about the art and history of basket weaving.
By Phillip Young

Dewey-Berry Feud Information Wanted

On October 11th Lawton R. Nuss, Chief Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court came to Kansas City to speak to the Kansas City Posse about the Dewey-Berry feud at Atwood, Kansas.

I am program chairman for the Posse and in September, 2010, the Norcatur News printed my request for anyone who might know something about the Dewey-Berry Feud, near Atwood, Kansas, one bit of Kansas history that is as exciting as any of the lawlessness and gun slinging lore of Dodge City.

From that request I heard from several people in Western Kansas. As I continued my research I kept hearing that I needed to contact Lawton R. Nuss about the feud.

By December I had contacted Justice Nuss, who has authored an article on the conflict entitled “The Courts of Heaven.” We worked out a time for him to speak to the Posse. As it turned out, one person at the meeting once lived in Brewster, Kansas, and his father carried mail to the Dewey ranch. He told about knowing several people who were related to individuals involved in the feud and the civil court cases that followed.

Now about the feud. By September of 1872 the shiny steel rails of the brand new Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad stretched into Dodge City initiating a tremendous growth for many years. On this lawless prairie the “sod busters” continued to settle the land and build homes.

Daniel Berry and his younger brother Edwin arrived with their families to Rawlins County in 1885. During the years that followed the Berrys weathered blizzards, droughts and crop lures. While many homesteaders gave up and left, the Berrys held on even after they encountered the opposition of the cowboys from the mighty Oak Ranch.

About the same time the Berrys came to Kansas another pair of brothers were investing in real estate in the northwest part of the state. Unlike the Berrys, A.B. and C.P. Dewey of Chicago had more money than they knew what to do with and they put some of it into more than 550,000 acres of Kansas ranchland.

In 1899 C.P. Dewey sent his 22-year-old son Chauncey to Rawlins County to learn ranching. Owning a ranch out West was a fad among wealthy Easterners in the late 1800s and a number of “dudes,” including future resident Theodore Roosevelt among them, invested in ranch land. Frank Rockefeller, younger brother of multimillionaire John D., owned a ranch adjacent to the oak Ranch. But the ranching business was no fad to Chauncey Dewey. His dream of an empire covering endless miles of short grass prairie soon collided with Daniel Berry’s vision of a landscape dotted with small family farms.

Chauncey accused the Berrys of cutting fences, rustling his cattle and vandalizing ranch buildings and wells. Daniel accused the Oak Ranch of allowing its cattle to devour his crops. While Daniel took his complaints against the Oak Ranch to the governor and the secretary of the interior, his sons, Burch and Beech and their cousin Roy turned to firearms for protection. In the Spring of 1902 the conflict reached fever pitch when Daniel and his nephew were jailed in the Rawlings County seat of Atwood. They were charged with assaulting Dewey employees who were planting barley in a field previously owned by the Berrys. Warrants were issued for Burch and Beech but the two brothers made themselves scarce.

Later in a gunfight at the Berry place some Dewey ranch hands shot and killed 3 people. Within minutes Daniel, Alpheaus and Burch Berry were dead from gunshot wounds. Nearby, Roy Berry lay unconscious, having been hit in the face by one of the first shots, and Beech Berry hid behind a barn where he had run for cover.

The following day a Justice of the Peace found there was enough evidence to proceed with a trial. After a change of venue was granted, one of the most controversial and widely publicized trials in Kansas history took place in Norton in February and March of 1904. Everyone feared the wrath of the Dewey Ranch cowboys.

After deliberating for nearly 29 hours, on March 19, 1904, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty to the Dewey ranch hands. Some of the outraged Berry supporters hanged the jury in effigy on the grounds of the Norton County Courthouse.

My grandfather, Frank Young, was called to serve on the jury in Norton which is why the Dewey-Berry feud is so interesting to our family.

We have received information and help from people about this feud but are still seeking more and look forward to hearing from any of your readers who might know more about the feud.
Program is Presented

"Dakota Daughters" was the title of a special program presented last Spring by the Jedediah Smith Corral, Hot Springs, South Dakota. Attending the event, which was held in conjunction with the South Dakota Humanities Council, were more than fifty members and guests.

According to Carol Sides, corral "Rep", Lillian Witt, Geraldine Goes, and Joyce Jefferson portrayed three imaginary characters who described actual events in the west from 1865 to 1890 from three different view points—white, Native American and Black. Each act in the seven-act play was a span of time, concluding with the aftermath of Wounded Knee. In the acts the women described what was going on at that time in their own lives from their own perspective, said Sides.

The interesting and thought provoking presentation showed the women's love of family, their joys, sorrows and fears in that perilous time in the history of the Dakotas and how each may have coped. The play ended with a blessing and image of reconciliation.

John Wayne Birthplace News

Brian Downes, member of the Chicago Corral and Director of the John Wayne Birthplace in Winterset, Iowa, has sent a progress report on the birthplace museum. An architectural firm has been selected to design a new building. At present the facility comprises only the small home where the motion picture star was born and a magnificent larger-than-life statue, gift from the family, set in a park-like area. The new planned museum will include a 50-seat theater and room for the expansive collection of rare Wayne memorabilia.

"Each year tens of thousands of first-time visitors from throughout the world tour our grounds and this past summer we far surpassed past attendance records," says Downes.

While major contributions are being sought from individuals and foundations, grassroots support also is needed with contributions of any size being welcome. More information can be found by writing 216 S. Second Street, Winterset, Iowa, 50273 or at the website: www.Johnwaynebirthplace.org.

Did You Know?

Most of the illustrations in the Bulletin are in color? While it is printed in black & white because of budget restraints it appears with color intact on our website: www.westerners-international.org And it goes on the web as soon as it is completed, no waiting for the printing, addressing and traveling through the sometime slow mail. So check our webpage often for a new view of the BB.
By Richard Dillon

Jay O’Connell tells the story of California badmen John Sontag and Chris Evans by way of a biography of the latter’s daughter. Train Robber’s Daughter is subtitled “The Melodramatic Life of Eva Evans. The book ($18.95) comes to us from a new publisher, Raven River Press in Northridge, California. Banditry experts John Boessenecker and William B. Secrest vouch for the value of new information in this volume. Melodramatic is the right adjective for Eva, a teenager who played herself on stage as she converted her loyalty to her father and Sontag into a drama of a sort. Eva held up no trains, but was present, at least, as a messenger to her father, when he was a fugitive.

Neither Sontag or Evans was a Robin Hood, but since they raided the bullying, hated, Southern Pacific Railroad, they enjoyed plenty of public sympathy. The melodrama, itself, was popular for a time. About half the book is really about the exploits of the bandits, their pursuit and capture. The rest is on Eva and her little-membered play, “Evans and Sontag: the Outlaws of Visalia,” advertised as a real-life play.

*****

Volume 8 of the Arthur B. Clark series, Kingdom In the West, the story of Mormons on the frontier, is titled On the Way to Somewhere Else ($39.50). It is edited by Michael W. Homer and covers the years 1835-1930. Homer explores a relatively neglected aspect of American frontier history, the story of sojourns in Mormondom by Europeans on their way to California—or somewhere else.” Here are interesting descriptions of the new religion of the “Saints” by almost anonymous travelers whose accounts bolster those of better-known American travelers.

The Europeans were fascinated by the Mormon “Pope,” Brigham Young, and were not as hostile to the new religion as were most American “Gentiles.” Most of these Europeans paused at Salt Lake City, of course, but a few reported on the early Church in Nauvoo.

*****

One of the great Western photographers of the olden days was Charlie Russell’s pal, L.A. Huffman. He specialized in cowboy scenes, but also made excellent portraits of Indians. And he shot Miles City, Yellowstone, the Custer battlefield and buffalo, cattle and horses.

Larry Peterson has done a good job on the photographer with his L.A. Huffman: Photographer of the American West ($45), an extra-large format pictorial from Missoula’s Mountain Press. Some of Huffman’s ranching scenes inspired art by Fred Remington in Century Magazine. Huffman also made stereo views and picture postcards of the Western scene.

Looking for an interesting holiday gift? Mary Pappas, member of the Chicago Corral and Administrative Director of Fur Trade Press has a great idea. Sam Arnold’s “Frying Pans West” DVDs, from his TV series 1969-1983, and companion cookbook are back and for $34.95, an excellent, interesting and entertaining duo for food lovers and history buffs. Your editor took it home and read the recipes, watched the DVDs and enjoyed every minute of the experience. Afraid you can’t find the ingredients or utensils mentioned? There is a source list. More info? Call Mary 303-697-4771, ext 129 or email furtradpress@yahoo.com

BUCKSKIN BULLETIN
Issued quarterly by Westerners International, a Foundation to stimulate interest and research in frontier history. Send correspondence to:

Westerners International
C/O National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum
1700 NE 63rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
Phone: 1-800-541-4650
E-mail WIHomeRanch@gmail.com

Annual Dues
$5 per member

WI Home Ranch Bunch
TRUE WEST from WSU PRESS

Made in Hanford
The Bomb that Changed the World
Hill Williams

In an amazingly complex and secret operation, Hanford became the world’s first plutonium factory. Hill Williams offers scientific explanations and his own reminiscences as he traces the story of the plutonium bomb.

Paperback • ISBN 978-0-87422-307-1 • $22.95

Snowbound
Ladd Hamilton

Snowbound is the scandalous, true tale of the Carlin party in 1893, whose adventure of a lifetime turned tragic.

Paperback
$19.95

Available at bookstores, on-line at wsupress.wsu.edu, or by phone at 800-354-7360.