

Buckskin Bulletin

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The Home Ranch Bunch had a very special calendar hanging on the office wall all of 2009. It was sent to us by the Indian Corral of the Czech Republic. The pictures featured each month were of Corral activities and it was fun to turn the page and see another scene featuring the group's re-enactment costumes. They strive for accuracy but we aren't really sure how many early Western US Native Americans used umbrellas or parasols. Apparently, it can be as hot in July in the Czech Republic as it usually is in Oklahoma where we are located.

Our First WI Web Page Only Issue

Due to the on-going increases in paper, ink and mailing costs the Home Ranch has been authorized to put one *Buckskin Bulletin* issue a year on our web page, only. We have chosen the last issue of the year to be the one.

Beginning this year, 2010, bulletins will be mailed to our membership in March, June and September. The on-line only issue will be put up in December.

This was not a decision that was made lightly but for the present seemed to be the best thing to do.

Those of you who see this issue and are so inclined, we hope you will print off a copy or two and take it to your next corral or posse meeting. Mention also might be made in your meeting notices that all issues of the BB are on our web site. They will marvel at how great the pictures look in color.

BB Can Use Photos

Buckskin Bulletin and the web page can use photographs of Corral/Posse activities. Be sure to provide the names and accurate identification concerning who and what are in the photo. We like to give the photographer credit so include that name, too.

Send photos to:

Editor, Westerners International
c/o National Cowboy
& Western Heritage Museum
1700 NE 63rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111

Stockton Corral Is Facing a Common Problem

The **Stockton Corral** is facing a problem we have noticed is happening to other WI groups. We still remember the call from a man who had been serving as Sheriff for his Corral for 15 years.

"Surely I must be term-limited by now," he said, only half-joking.

He was tired and so is the Posse of the Stockton Corral. The sheriff is serving his 4th year, the treasurer has served for five years, one man has been finding restaurants for meetings for three or more years and the lady who sets up programs has been doing so since the last ink slinger left town a few years ago.

"We are all tired and cannot seem to summon the energy needed to lead an organization as important as the Westerners," they have written in a letter to their membership.

"It needs vitality so that we may grow and bring in new members. We need ideas, fresh blood and an improved way of doing things," they continued, adding "We are all saddened at having to send this letter, but we have had no luck soliciting anyone to take our places."

So if no volunteers stand up, this Posse is going to stop leading the group as of January, 2011, and the Corral will go into Dry Camp.

A few years ago we read such a letter from another Corral facing the same problem and that group did end up in Dry Camp for a time. Happily, it has since re-activated.

What seems to happen is people get very comfortable showing up at meetings, perhaps enjoying a nice meal, a visit with people they haven't seen since last month and then sitting back to enjoy a good program before going home until the process starts over the next month. Apparently being ignored is that someone has been doing all the work that allows others to have this pleasant experience. We would all like to enjoy a relaxing and fun evening such as this

and not have to do the work.

Does anyone out there have an answer to this problem? One thing that might be considered is job-sharing. Have two people share the various responsibilities of getting the program and finding the restaurant and sending the meeting notice or collecting the money.

Finding programs is a big responsibility and should not be the responsibility of one person. Almost everyone knows someone who could give a good program. Make this a group project with

ideas from everyone. Most members could give a program themselves. When Westerners first began the members gave almost all if not all of the programs.

It is time to put on our thinking caps and try to come up with some ideas of ways to solve this problem. Some people don't mind doing a job year after year after year but other people mind it a lot!

Let us know your thoughts on this and we will share them with everyone in a future *Buckskin Bulletin* article.



Pictured are the items we have for sale or free from the Home Ranch. At the present time we do not have any of the bola ties. While we have the old Joe heads for them, we cannot locate a local supplier for the tips or the lanyards. We are investigating other sources.

- "Old Joe Bolas with leather tie—currently unavailable
- "Old Joe" lapel pins (gold color only)—\$7.50
- Past Sheriff lapel pins/tie tacks—\$6
- Square Lucite paperweight etched with "Old Joe"—\$8
- Round Lucite speakers gift etched with "Old Joe"—\$10
- Wood speaker's gift or past president trophy—\$15
- Westerners International logo decals—10 for \$1.50
- Westerners International bookplates—24 for \$1
- WI membership cards—Free

Southwest Vaqueros held an "Open Forum to Discuss Your Favorite Topic" at the January Meeting.

"You'll have an opportunity to discuss any topic that may be of interest to you—perhaps even a recent book you would recommend for reading (or one you really hated,)" read the meeting notice.

LaVonne J. Perkins, member of the **Denver Westerners**, was the speaker at the January meeting of the **Boulder Corral**. Topic of her talk was "D.C. Oakes, Hoaxer or Hero? The Gold Rush Years, California, 1849 and Colorado, 1859."

"On the Hoof, Livestock Barons of Nevada and Beyond" was the topic of the program at the January meeting of the **Nevada Corral**. Speaker was **Andrea Rossman**, Photograph Curator of the Churchill County Museum & Archives.

Attached to the meeting notice was a flyer announcing a new illustrated magazine for "everyone interested in Nevada and its colorful past. The quarterly publication will be called "*Nevada in the West*" and will begin printing in March. Featured will be articles by some of the state's best writers and historians. Subscriptions are \$18 and the address is 516 S Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89501.

In December the **Pahaska Corral** held its "Semi-official White Antelope Book Ex-



change." Members were asked to bring a gift wrapped book, preferably of a western theme. They were also advised to bring lots of quarters "if you wear city duds or plan to cuss!"

Last Chance Gulch Corral met in December at the Montana Club—and heard a program about the history of the Montana Club. Speaker was **Patty Dean**, Curator of History for Montana Historical Society.

John G. Neihardt Corral met in December to hear a program by corral member **William E. Berry**. "Everyday Life in Civil War Missouri" as it was lived right here in Boone County, read the meeting notice.

"There was an enormous impact on the civilian population that lived under Marshall Law...here....Learn more about this aspect of the war through letters of those experiencing the ordeal and through the stories of soldier's lives."

South Canadian Cross-Timbers Corral members heard a program recently (we would tell you when but that information wasn't included!) to hear a program by their deputy sheriff **B. Byron Price**. His

topic was "Ranching on Three Continents; The Saga of Richard Walsh."

The **Dakota Midlands Corral** held their annual auction sale in December.

"Clean out your closets, start you ovens and fill your covered wagon with treasures and good food, bring 'em on in and help the group pay the bills and help others through 2010!"

"History of Westerners International" was the topic of the talk given in December to the **Prescott Corral**. Speaker was **Don Shaffer**. We wish we could have been on hand for this program!

BUCKSKIN BULLETIN

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WI Home Ranch Bunch

Kent McInnis, Don Reeves, John Marshall, Leon Nelson, Bill Deupree, Mary Marvel, Cheryl McInnis, Noel Kruger, John & Melvena Heisch, Jerry Burson, Ed Kelsay, Burnis Argo, Fred Marvel, Jim Argo, Sandra and Dennis Noble

Westerner Midge Sherwood Receives Honors

Jackson Peak Publishers are proud to announce that their Author/Historian **Midge Sherwood** has recently been recognized with several honors.

Marquis "Who's Who in the World" has listed her in its publication for 2010, and the International Biographical Society of Cambridge, England, has listed her as one of the 1,000 women of "excellent achievement throughout the world."

Sherwood also has been included in the "International Who's Who in Poetry and Poets' Encyclopedia." She is the founder of the Live Poets' Society of the Huntington Library, San Marino, California, and her work has appeared in several chapbooks.

She is the author of many

American history books including *San Marino Ranch to City*, a salute to the Bicentennial in 1976, and *Days of Vintage*, *Years of Vision*, a three-volume series featuring such great pioneers as James De Barth Shorb, Gen. George S. Patton and Benjamin D. Wilson, for whom Mt. Wilson is named. Her most recent history is *Fremont: Eagle of the West*, the life and times of John Charles Fremont.

Sherwood, who grew up in Ironton, Ohio, was graduated from the University of Missouri with a degree in journalism. Inspired by a student interview with Amelia Earhart just prior to her fatal flight, Sherwood moved to Los Angeles and entered the field of aviation jour-

nalism. As the public relations director of Western Air Lines, she was the only woman in the nation to hold such a position.

After marriage to the late **Jack E. Sherwood**, she turned to history and in 1973 enrolled as a research scholar at the Huntington Library.

Sherwood founded the San Marino Historical Society as well as **Huntington Westerners**.

She is the founding editor of the monthly *Western Journal*, published by **Huntington Westerners**, and she also writes a column on the American frontier, "History 101," which appears in several publications.

And for those of you who don't know, she also is a past editor of the *Buckskin Bulletin*.

Westerners International

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