

Buckskin Bulletin

VOL. XLIII No. 1

NEWSLETTER OF WESTERNERS INTERNATIONAL
www.westerners-international.org

ISSUE 1, 2010

LIVING LEGEND #52

Edward J. Fraughton Honored by WI

**By Vern Gorzitze
Utah Westerners**

"He grew up poor in a town built on silver-but his work in bronze made him a solid success" Lynn Anderson

A new arrival came to the home of Clara Jane Ackerlund Fraughton and Ellis Joseph Fraughton, March 22, 1939, in Park City, Utah. The new born would be given the name Edward James Fraughton with which he would proudly sign his creations from then on.

The formative years of his life were spent in Park City and surrounding area, he said:

"...a wonderful place to grow up!...you could walk out back and be on the open mountain-side, a place to ramble around or sit on a rock and watch rabbits."

The Marsac Elementary School fourth grade, in 1949, was the starting point of his future successful career. He was given a box of new, yet to be used, crayons as a prize for his rendering, on brown grocery store paper, of the Union Pacific Depot. Months later, at the end of that school year, during the final assembly, his name was announced as having won the Milton Bradley company's "American the Beautiful" national crayon contest. The art

teacher, Mrs. Alene Gibbons, Park, always finding time to presented young Ed with an inscribed plaque.

While growing up, Ed spent much of his time on local art projects as well as creating stories drawn from his imagination. His early subjects were of a western nature and of horses.

While Ed and his two sisters were very young, his mother and father divorced and a short time later his mother remarried, this time to a singer of ballads and a great story teller named Charles "Zip" Nelson. For a time the family lived at the upper end of Park Avenue in Park City, later moving to small quarters in Diamond Hollow.

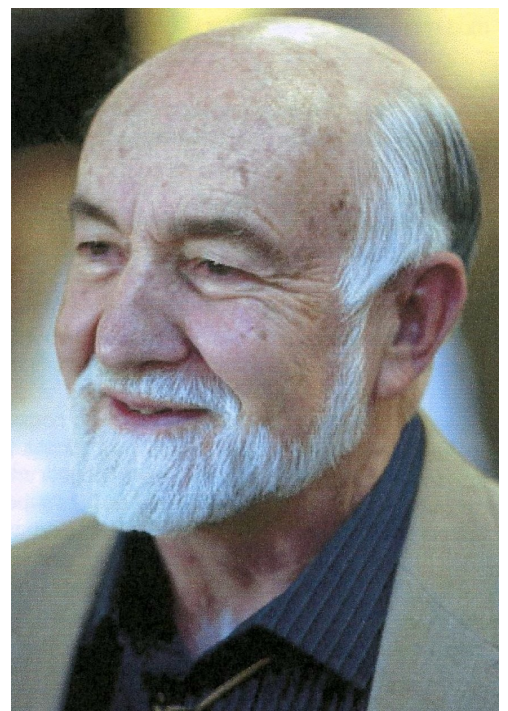
"There were four of us kids by then and there was a small room built off to the side where we all slept...Mom and Dad slept on a fold-out couch in the living room."

Sometime later his mother was able to purchase a small house almost at the top of Empire Street. Ed spent the rest of his Park City years living in that house.

Ed always had a job to go to after school and summers, a paperboy, an assistant to the school caretaker, cleaning type fonts at the printers. Many summers were spent at the Bitner Ranch and winters at Snow

Even though they were poor, Ed's mother Clara made sure her children learned the basics: courtesy mixed with independence and an interest in the arts. As soon as the kids were able to carry a tune they were playing instruments such as the trombone, baritone horn, and drums. Guess who played the drums? He was a member of a band called the "Melody Makers" but had to quit when his mother learned they might have to play in bars. In later years Ed played the baritone horn in the university concert

(Continued on Page 3)



Edward J. Fraughton

From the WI Chairman

Last year at the Western History Association meeting in Denver it was my pleasure to present to **Aaron Wilson**, University of Hawaii, our \$1,000 *Phi Alpha Theta* Scholarship Award. The setting was our Saturday Westerners International breakfast, award ceremony and book auction. I sat next to this award winning PhD candidate and listened to him describe Hawaii's connection to

the West. It brings to mind the evolving definition of what constitutes the old West. What it is today is not what it was for Frederick Jackson Turner more than a century ago. Can we say that the West is ever finally settled? Having circumnavigated the Big Island of Hawaii in 2003, I saw cattle ranches and their cowboys. I observed evidence of an indigenous people in cultural conflict with non-

Hawaiians. The West looked decidedly unsettled in many areas of our 50th state. Dr. Aaron Wilson might agree.

Today the spirit of the West turns full circle. Because of urbanization we see many smaller communities decaying to ghost towns. Their populations flee "west" into the unsettled and often inhospitable lands of the urban interior. America again provides an opportunity for settlers to homestead, but this time in blighted neighborhoods of the inner city or in abandoned communities far from the well worn trail. The story of the "newcomer in town met with hostility" happens every place in America, just as it occurred for our westward advancing ancestors in 1810. To start a new life many Americans lose their identity in a new place, gain a better opportunity in the city, or search for adventure in the asphalt jungle. At heart all Americans are Westerners. Turned inward the spirit of the westward movement still endures.

Kent McAnnis

Program Topic Told

"A Universal Friend and Agent: Wells Fargo and the Development of the West" was the topic of the program presented at the March luncheon meeting of the **Huntington Corral**. Speaker was **Ileana Bonilla**, assistant curator at the Wells Fargo History Museum in downtown Los Angeles. In addition to preserving and interpreting the company's artifacts, Bonilla leads the museum's school tour program.



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
- WI brochures—Free

Edward J. Fraughton is Living Legend

(Continued from Page 1)

and marching bands.

In 1957, after working a summer on the Bitner Ranch and earning \$300, he enrolled in the University of Utah School of Engineering, with tuition of \$275, Ed lived on \$30 a month for room and board his freshman year while carrying as much as 22 hours.

Registering for a second year, he took a sculpting class-GOT HOOKED-and immediately changed his major. Married, with a family on the way, Ed earned his degree and entered graduate school. Not quite finishing his thesis he took a position with the Job Corps. Later, when he applied to finish his graduate degree, he was told his work did not show the maturity to fill the requirements.

"Two years later I became a professional sculptor and two or three years after that I was winning national awards."

His first real commission was in 1967 when he sculpted a bust for the LDS Church. In 1969 he completed a heroic 12-foot bronze of a Mormon Battalion soldier. This sculpture now stands at the highest point of San Francisco's Presidio Park. Many of his works depict men and animals struggling against nature and the elements. They show faces of strength and exhaustion.

Ed and his wife Ann live in an old LDS Church which was renovated to accommodate his private and business needs. The class rooms are now family rooms and the high arching chapel ceiling has easily, until

recently, accepted his largest work. The basement serves as and is the location of the foundry. Ed has been forced into larger quarters since his latest commission, giving him much needed space. This project is the "Pioneer Courage" monument, three and a half blocks long, in Omaha, Nebraska.

He flies an airplane and holds a patent for an anti-collision and tracking device more commonly known as ADS-B. This came about after a tragic air collision over the Salt Lake Valley in 1987 involving two aircraft and taking 10 lives. ADS-B has been announced as the FAA's system of choice to upgrade and replace the outdated radar based air traffic control technology.

Ed restores Model A Fords, plays the piano, enjoys his computer, is a founding member of the National Academy of Western Art, is a member of the National Sculpture Society and holds membership in the well-known and respected San Francisco Bohemian Club.

He is proud of his membership of over 30 years in **Utah Westerners**, joining in 1975, and holding several positions of leadership. He is responsible for creating a Utah Westerners belt buckle, bolo tie and a replica of "Old Joe" which appears on our name tags.

Ed is continually sketching on anything that is handy, be it a place mat, back of a program notice, a pinochle score pad or just an old envelope he might find in his jacket pocket. A small selection of his sketches was included on the pages of Utah Westerners 30th Anniver-

sary Booklet published in 1998.

A few of his accomplishments have already been mentioned. Others include but are not limited to a bust of John F. Kennedy in the JFK Memorial Library in Boston, Ronald Reagan Commemorative Medal, Outstanding Utah Artist award in 1979 and 1981, five time gold medal and one silver medal winner for sculpture from the AWA. All of the awards and accolades are cherished by Ed. But the most important thing to him is the respect of his peers.

[On a personal note, members of the **WI Home Ranch** can enjoy his work every day as he created the statue of John Wayne in the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, the location of our office.]

Fraughton shared his philosophy with a group gathered at the annual Ladies Night some time ago:

"Teaching people to see the vision of the artist is important, great music, great literature-there's an emotional and spiritual level of communication that isn't described in words, and that's what the arts are all about."

Award Winner

Utah Westerner Barbara Jones Brown recently received two prestigious, first place writing awards. The first was Utah State University's Leonard J. Arrington Foundation Writing Award. The second was for a paper at the American History lecture session at U SU's Intermountain Graduate Student Symposium.

Chuck Wagon Gathering

One of the most popular events held at the **National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum** in Oklahoma City each year is the Chuck Wagon Gathering and Children's Cowboy Festival. Any Westerners who will be in the area May 29 and 30 will want to put the 20th annual gathering at the top of the "to-do" list. This year the **Chisholm Trail Corral** is happy to sponsor their own Chuck Wagon cooks, members **Trammel** and **Susan Rushing** (pictured here at a festival) who have been participating in the event the past several years. Susan is current corral Sheriff and Trammel a past Sheriff. Authentic chuck wagon crews prepare their favorite cowboy dishes for sampling. There are stage shows, stagecoach and covered wagon rides and demonstrations of skills such as weaving and rope making. There are many hand's-on activities in the children's building at the museum. This event attracts more than 10,000 participants each year and has been listed on the Food Channel's list of Top Food Festivals as well as the American Bus Association's Top 100 Events in North America. Hope to see some of you there.



Notes from the Editor

A Correction: Peggy Sanders of the Jedediah Smith Corral was kind enough to send a correction on the Watson Parker Living Legend article.

In the second paragraph it says "Troy L. Parker and Troy's three brothers joined with Sen. Leland C. Case. The correction is Leland Case was not a senator. It was his brother Francis Case who was a US Senator.

"Francis was born in 1895, Leland in 1900. Their father was a Methodist minister and he

served the church in Hot Springs, SD, from 1913-1916....An additional Hot Springs connection was that Francis owned and published the *Hot Springs Star* from 1925 to 1931. During some of those years Leland worked with Francis. Leland was the editor of the *Rotarian* magazine from 1934 to 1950."

Thanks to Peggy for sharing this information, including a story about one of the Case sisters we hope she submits to us.

Burnis Argo

Trailing The West

By Shebby Lee

Looking for a unique fall tour program but don't want to worry about minimums? The **Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup** fits the bill. You can book as few as one or as many as 40 (space available) on this TAP Guaranteed Departure set September 25-29.

Ever since park rangers started rounding up some 1,500 head of buffalo each fall for the annual branding, sorting and vaccinating, visitors have been fascinated by this Old West tradition.

Our group enjoys a prime viewing location as these pre-historic beasts rumble by. This one-of-a-kind event includes a chuckwagon buffalo cookout, arts festival, buffalo wallow chili cookoff, buffalo chip throwing contest, cowboy poets, musical entertainment and more.

For details contact Shebby Lee Tours, 800-888-8306 or e-mail: info@shebbyleetours.com.

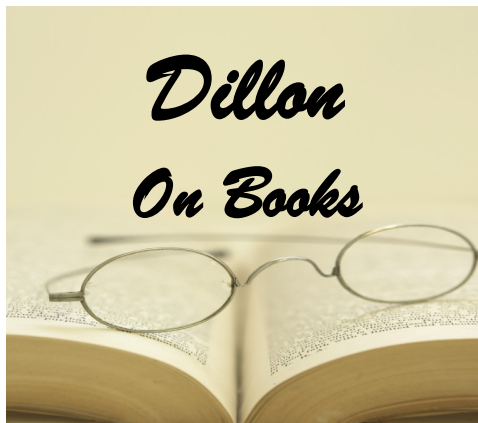
By Richard Dillon

Crooked River Country, by **David P. Braly**, from Washington State University Press (\$24.95) is a detailed and anecdotal history of central Oregon. Its subtitle indicated the author's point of view—"Wranglers, Rogues and Barons." The wranglers were cowboys; the barons big cattlemen. Among the rogues was Chief Paulina of the hostile Paiutes; but also whites. Among the latter were the self-styled vigilantes who were really the local "bad guys." They were composed of real Vigilantes, sometimes mocked as Moonshiners because they rode at night.

Big ranchers not only drove out homesteaders, along with cowboy-rustlers, they opened up a reign of terror on sheepmen, actually forming a Sheep Shooters Association! After Prohibition, wild and wooly central Oregon became a haven for real moonshiners and bootleggers.

The WSU Press at Pullman produces fine extra-illustrated books, indeed "pictorials" like **Palouse Country** by **George Bedirian**. The volume is almost all photos, with very little text. The more than 100 duotone black and white pictures are well reproduced on the book's coated stock. (The oversized volume was originally priced at \$32.95, but at the time of reviewing it was marked down to an extra-reasonable \$9.98.)

Bedirian is a first-rate photographer whose sometimes moody pictures beautifully evoke the rolling, almost treeless, dune-like landscape of southeast



Washington. Wheat fields are balanced with close-ups of old banks, schools, churches, hotels, grain elevators and, especially, barns. There are pictures of the rare wooded spots, like Steptoe Butte, site of an Indian Wars battle. Many of the old buildings are abandoned now, thanks to changes in the pattern of settlement during the automobile era.

Massacre At Camp Grant, by **Chip Colwell-Chanthapoh**, from the University of Arizona Press (\$50/\$17.95) recalls one of the most shocking atrocities in the entire history of the West. The massacre (1871) was also one of the strangest because it was carried out by a mix of enemies of the Apaches, Anglos, Mexicans and Papagos (or Tono o'Odham). And the Apaches were supposedly under the protection of the Army at Camp Grant.

The allied attackers, who did not even have a man hurt in the action, killed more than 100 Apache men, women and children, then kidnapped surviving children for servitude in Tucson or near-slavery in Mexico.

The Camp Grant Massacre, here told in detail from all

pertinent points of view, including Apache oral tradition, is an example of our "erased" history, although a ringleader in the assault was the well-known William S. Cury. The incident serves the author as a departure point to remark on the larger issue of historical memory—and what we might call "historical amnesia."

Note: Penguin Press has recently published a book on the Arizona massacre, **Shadows at Dawn**, by **Karl Jacoby** (\$32.95).

Daniel Lewis' **Iron Horse Imperialism** (\$35), from the University of Arizona Press, is an excellent choice to shelve alongside **Richard Orsi's** history of the Southern Pacific Railroad, **Sunset Limited**. This is the story of its subsidiary, the SP de Mexico.

Mexico, although always wary of Gringo intentions, tolerated this U.S.-owned railway from Nogales to Guadalajara, from 1880 till it was nationalized in 1951. It carried thousands of passengers (like this reviewer, right after World War II) as well as innumerable tons of freight. Most surprising is the author's discovery that the line, for all its traffic, seldom turned a profit. Lewis contends that the parent company kept it going out of concern for an economic "imperialism" that was encouraged by our press.

America's 100th Meridian, by **Monte Hartman** from Texas Tech University Press (\$39.95), is a handsome, oversized photo essay subtitled "A

(Continued on Page 7)

VP Program Is on Track

Since taking on the task of International President of Westerners International it has been a goal of **David Carter** to get the vice-president program restarted.

Over the years many of the vice-presidents of our nine districts have moved on, leaving several corrals and posses adrift with no person in their area to turn to with questions or for advice. Of course, with the convenience of the internet and e-mail, it is very easy, these days, to reach the **Home Ranch**, but still we feel it is nice to have someone in the more immediate area to take an interest.

The job of a Westerner VP is easy: that of a Goodwill Ambassador for the most part. The VP is a member of the full board of WI. The VP makes an effort to check in with the corrals and posses in his or her area by mail or e-mail or telephone. The VP makes an effort to visit corrals in the area if possible.

It is not the job of a VP to tell any group what they should be doing or make any other suggestions, unless they are asked for. It is their job to make other Westerners feel that our organization really cares about them and are willing to help if needed.

So if David approaches you about being a WI vice-president, please consider it. If this sounds like something you would like to do, ask for further details.



Jedediah Smith Corral member Bernice Landers is new vice-president for Westerners International District Seven.

Bernice Bettcher Landers, since.

our newest vice-president, After Ralph's death in February of 2003, our four kids, David, Kimberly, Dan and Alan have been working to keep the ranch running for the next generation.

I ranch 20 miles outside of Hot Springs, South Dakota. The ranch is on the edge of the Black Hills, so we have the beautiful Hills on one side and the beauty of the prairie on the other.

We will be celebrating the ranch's 125th birthday this summer. That it is still in the Landers family is something we are very proud of.

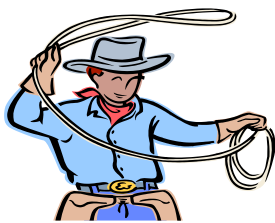
I was reared on a farm at Gregory, SD, and moved with my parents to Hot Springs when I was in high school. I attended summer school after graduation for six weeks and taught a rural school for two years. You can't do it that way any more.

Ralph and I were married in 1958. It was then I came to the ranch and have been here

I belong to the Catholic Church, the Seekers, am president of the Southern Hills Cattlewomen and have been a member of the Jedediah Smith Corral since it was organized in 1974.

I enjoy the country life, the area where I live, doing what I do and I look forward to working with the corrals in District Seven.

(Editors Note: Bernice also writes poetry and was the first to respond when WI added the **Fred Olds Poetry Award** to our annual award program. She has placed either first or second several times.



CORRAL ROUNDUP

Program topic at the March meeting of the **Pine Ridge Corral** was "African American Pioneers and Cowboys in Nebraska." Speaker was **Vicki Troxel Harris**.

>>>>>

"Arizona's Ghost Towns of the Second World War" was the subject of the March meeting of the **Scottsdale Corral**. Speaker, Erik Berg, based his talk on research done while writing a traveler's guide to Arizona's World War II historic sites for the book Arizona Goes to War: The Home Front and the Front Lines During World War II.

>>>>>

San Diego Corral enjoyed a program by **Richard K. Smith** in March. Topic was "History of Water in San Diego's East County." Smith is the Corral "Rep."

>>>>>

Nevada Corral met in March to hear a program by **Alicia Barber**, assistant professor of the University of Nevada Department of History and director of the U of N Oral History Program. Subject of her talk was "Importance of Remembering, Preserving and Presenting the Past."

>>>>>

Thomas C. Danisi was the speaker at the March meeting of the **John G. Neihardt Corral**. His topic was "The mysterious Death of Meriwether Lewis." The speaker is co-author of a recent book, **Meriwether Lewis**.

Dillon on Books

(Continued from Page 5)

A Plains Journey. Actually, photographer Hartman made six journeys down the 1,900 miles of the 100th Meridian, from North Dakota to Texas, in order to capture its essence with his camera lens. His splendid color photos are accompanied by two essays, one by **William Kittredge** and the other by Hartman, himself. Both suggest the immensity of space along this invisible line dividing the West from the rest of the U.S. Text and illustrations both stress how lonely, under-populated, still, is this midsection of our continent.

Arrangement of the pictures, 120 or so, is north-to-south, "against the grain" of our westward movement. The images evoking the isolation of the Plains include shots of its weathered (and, often, withered) settlements. Here are views of vacant, wind-blasted stores, abandoned trucks, shuttered movie houses, close-ups of rusting machinery. Not all of the towns are dying, of course, and while some are gloomy places, there is yet a haunting beauty about these raw relics of settlers' one-time hopes.

Sophie A. H. Osborne's Condors in Canyon Country (\$29.95/18,95) is from the Grand Canyon Association, but distributed by the University of Arizona Press.

By the 1980s, the great California condors were on the brink of extinction; down to only 22 survivors of the species, all of them in one small section of California's Coastal Range. Once, they had flown

Lewis collected a specimen in the Pacific Northwest in 1806, and they did not disappear from Arizona skies till the 1920s.

This is a brief history of the re-introduction of the ancient (Pleistocene) birds to Arizona skies, and their remarkable come-back. Mrs. Osborne helped the rare critters to a presence in and over the Grand Canyon.

Like our "buzzards" (turkey vultures), condors are not predators but scavengers of carrion. The great soarers do not have many enemies, but are susceptible to lead poisoning from ingesting shot (shotgun pellets) in the carcasses of dead game.

BUCKSKIN BULLETIN

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

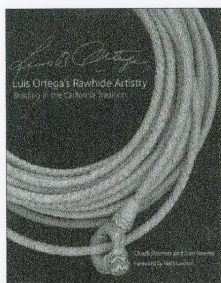
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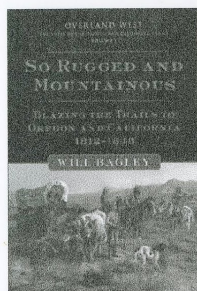
WI Home Ranch Bunch

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



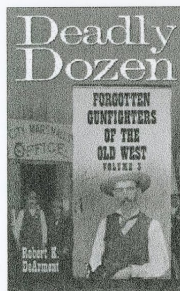
LUIS ORTEGA'S RAWHIDE ARTISTRY
Braiding in the California Tradition
 By Chuck Stormes and Don Reeves
 \$55.00 HARDCOVER
 \$29.95 PAPERBACK
 160 PAGES, 31 B&W ILLUS.,
 71 COLOR PHOTOS

An acclaimed rawhide braider of horse gear, Luis Ortega elevated his craft to collectible art and influenced a generation of gear makers. This book is the most comprehensive overview of his life, art, and career and the first book-length work on rawhide braiding in North America, charting changes in horse gear over five decades.



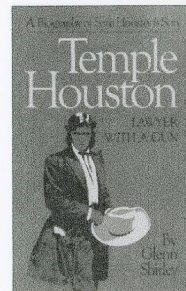
SO RUGGED AND MOUNTAINOUS
Blazing the Trails to Oregon California, 1812-1848
 By Will Bagley
 \$45.00 HARDCOVER
 \$150.00 SPECIAL EDITION
 480 PAGES, 21 B&W ILLUS.,
 4 COLOR PHOTOS

The story of America's westward migration is a powerful blend of fact and fable. Over the course of three decades, almost a million eager fortune-hunters, pioneers, and visionaries transformed the face of a continent—and displaced its previous inhabitants. The people who made the long and perilous journey over the Oregon and California trails drove this swift and astonishing change. In this magisterial volume, Will Bagley tells why and how this massive emigration began.



DEADLY DOZEN
Forgotten Gunfighters of the Old West, Volume 3
 By Robert K. DeArment
 \$29.95 HARDCOVER
 408 PAGES, 18 B&W ILLUS.

For every Wild Bill Hickok or Billy the Kid, there was another western gunfighter just as deadly but not as well known. Robert K. DeArment has earned a reputation as the premier researcher of unknown gunfighters, and here he offers twelve more portraits of men who weren't glorified in legend but were just as notorious in their day. The product of iron-clad research, this newest *Deadly Dozen* delivers the goods for gunfighter buffs in search of something different. Together the *Deadly Dozen* volumes constitute a Who's Who of western outlaws and prove that there's more to the Wild West than Jesse James.



TEMPLE HOUSTON
Lawyer with a Gun
 By Glenn Shirley
 \$19.95 PAPERBACK
 352 PAGES, 48 B&W ILLUS.

The youngest son of General Sam Houston and Margaret Lea Houston, Temple Lea Houston lived his comparatively short life fast and hard. From 1881 to 1905, he was one of the Southwest's most brilliant, eccentric, and widely known criminal lawyers. This is the story of Temple Houston's decision to give up a political future in Texas, escape the shadow of his famous father, and seek fame and fortune in Oklahoma Territory.



UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS

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 TEL 800 627 7377 · OUPRESS.COM



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 c/o National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum
 1700 NE 63rd St.
 Oklahoma City, OK 73111

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