

WESTERNERS INTERNATIONAL BUCKSKIN BULLETIN



Volume LI - issue 2 - June 2018

Westerners Rendezvous and Gather



Friday & Saturday, Sept. 14 & 15, 2018 - Canyon, Texas

FRIDAY, SEPT 14

- 2-4 pm Board of Directors meeting
Hazlewood Room, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum
- 4 pm All members - Meet and greet at the museum; snacks provided
- 6:00 Dine around: Dinner at local steak restaurant

SATURDAY, SEPT 15

- 8 - 11:00 Hazlewood Room, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum,
Coffee and muffins provided
Museum Tour and Western History Programs
Westerners International Awards Ceremony
- 11-12:00 Bag lunch in Hazlewood Room
- 1:00-3:00 Tour of Palo Duro Canyon – driving and/or walking tour
- 5:00 -9:00 Dove Creek Ranch Rendezvous!
(www.dovecreekranch.com)
Evening of Texas BBQ, cowboy poetry, and western music!
Silent book auction!

Canyon was recently voted the #1 small town in the U.S. by Dish America. Have a look at our area!

www.visitcanyontx.com and www.visitamarillo.com We highly recommend that you allow yourself an extra day on Thurs or Sun to see the sights!

Canyon motels: Best Western, Holiday Inn, Buffalo Inn, Hudspeth House B&B -Amarillo I-40 motels, convenient for the 20-min drive to Canyon: Hilton Garden Inn, Homewood Suites by Hilton, Drury Inn

Registration fee of \$55 covers snacks, coffee, Sat lunch, and Sat. BBQ/evening event

(Registration deadline July 27; After July 27, fee will be \$65)

For info, contact WI Chairman, Bonney MacDonald:

bmacdonald@wtamu.edu

PACK Y'ER BOOTS AND HAT AND JOIN THE WESTERN FUN!



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Our new contact information:

Westerners International Home Ranch - Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum - 2503 4th Ave - Canyon, TX 79015 - phone 806 651-5247

westerners@mail.wtamu.edu

Grab y'er boots and hat and come to Texas Panhandle this September!!

WESTERNERS RENDEZVOUS AND GATHER



REGISTRATION FORM

This registration form can be downloaded and printed off of the WI website.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER (home) _____ (cell) _____

CORRAL/POSSE _____

CORRAL/POSSE TOWN _____ STATE _____

The fee for the Gather is \$55, which covers the costs of Friday afternoon snacks, Saturday morning coffee and pastries, Saturday's boxed lunch, and Saturday's evening event – BBQ at beautiful Dove Creek Ranch, with WI Awards Ceremony, cowboy poetry with BJ Muncy and old-time Western music with award-winning musician and rodeo announcer, Ed Montana. It's gonna be fun!!

Please print and complete this form and then send it with your \$55 check to:

Westerners Gather 2018
Westerners International
Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum
2503 4th Ave
Canyon, TX 79015

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Here at the Home Ranch, we cannot WAIT to celebrate our wonderful organization and our beloved American West this fall! If you have questions, please contact WI Chairman, Bonney MacDonald at bmacdonald@wtamu.edu

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2018
FEE AFTER JULY 27 will be \$65

LOCAL HOTELS AND SIGHTS NEAR CANYON AND AMARILLO

Canyon was recently voted the #1 small town in the U.S. by Dish America. Have a look at our area! www.visitcanyontx.com and www.visitamarillo.com

The Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, site of the Home Ranch, is located at 2503 4th Avenue, Canyon, TX 79015. Canyon is approximately 20 minutes south of Amarillo and I-40. Our events will take place on the 2nd floor in the Hazlewood Room. But you should definitely set aside ample time to see the museum. It's the largest history museum in Texas and is just filled with fabulous Western materials!

Canyon motels include:

- Best Western
- Holiday Inn
- Buffalo Inn
- Hudspeth House B&B

Amarillo has lots of hotels and motels, mostly along I-40. If you want Western fun, certainly consider the Big Texan on I-40. Motels that are convenient for driving to Canyon are on the east end of Amarillo and include (located along I-40):

- Hilton Garden Inn
- Homewood Suites by Hilton
- Drury Inn

Our **Gather and Rendezvous** will go from Friday afternoon through Saturday night. I suggest that, if you would like to see sights in the area, or enjoy our local scenery, that you take the day on Thursday, Friday morning, or Sunday. There is much to see! Here are a few suggestions:

More time in **Palo Duro Canyon**. You can't go wrong – it's our Grand Canyon!
<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/palo-duro-canyon>

More time at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum! It can take a full day! www.panhandleplains.org

****Canyon tour or horseback riding** (45 min from Canyon). This is a wonderful place on the east side of Palo Duro Canyon – you can go for a horseback ride, arrange a chuck-wagon meal, take a tour of the canyon. It is beautifully hosted and would make a great Sunday outing, if you are staying on Sunday. Highly recommended! www.cowgirlsandcowboysinthwest.com

If you love boots, visit custom maker **Beck's Boots** on Friday: www.beckboots.com 723 S. Georgia, Amarillo

6th Ave/Historic Route 66 in Amarillo is filled with fun antique stores, cafes, and people-watching opportunities
<https://www.theroute-66.com/amarillo.html>

The **town square in Canyon** is delightful, with a mix of fun businesses: a new beer taproom and restaurant; soda shoppe; book store; antiques; and a shop called "**Down Home**," on the north side of the square, that has an impressive collection of over 1,000 handmade spurs and lots of western memorabilia.

Tri-State Fair and Rodeo, Sept 14-21, Amarillo (on the east side of Amarillo, off Grand Ave exit/I-40). www.tristatefair.com

Cadillac Ranch (15 minutes west of Amarillo on I-40) www.roadsideamerica.com/story/2220

Charles Goodnight Historical Center (1 hour drive from Canyon near Clarendon, TX) www.charlesgoodnight.org

XIT Ranch Museum, Dalhart, TX www.xitmuseum.com

Historic **Oliver Saddle Shop** www.oliversaddle.com 3016 Plains Blvd, Amarillo

AQHA Museum, 2601 I-40, Amarillo (on east side of town) www.aqha.com

Amarillo Botanical Gardens 1400 Streit Dr, Amarillo, TX www.amarillobotanicalgardens.org



CHAIRMAN'S THANKS

WE THANK YOU for sending your dues and the needed contact information by the April 1, 2018 deadline! Dues and contact information sheets are vital to the everyday operations of Westerners and we are extremely grateful for your timely responses.

So, at the risk of repeating myself, let me just say it again: **I want to thank each and every corral, posse, and Westerners member for your 2018 dues.** The Home Ranch might seem many miles from your own gathering place, but please know that each corral and posse is close to our hearts here in Canyon, TX! When it comes to loving the American West, we're all in the same place, right?

Your \$5-per-person-per-year dues are put to good use for the good of the organization. Those funds support our awards and scholarships. Furthermore, WI members produce impressive written work, offer memorable programs, and keep our shared traditions alive. We love being able to honor those good efforts with annual awards and certificates. We also have \$2,000 available each year for bringing young people along through scholarships; the future of the West's history will be in the hands of the next generation, so we invest in our common Western legacy.

We are involved with the Western History Association and were part of its founding. We do an exhibit booth and a scholarly panel at the WHA conference each year. Your dues support that participation, as well as the membership fees and events associated with the WHA.

Dues also pay for the Home Ranch staff, merchandise, utilities, publicity and promotional materials for WI, office supplies and repairs, layout and fees for the Buckskin Bulletin, website design, and much more.

So, again, from our ranch to yours, THANK YOU!!

Bonney



from the Westerner International Mercantile



- Lapel pin with pin clasp \$13.00
 - "Past Sheriff" lapel pin \$13.00
 - Bolo Tie with leather band \$25.00
 - Lucite paper weight \$17.00
- (Price includes free shipping!)

If you would like to place an order or send payment, contact:

**Delinda King, WI Secretary,
Westerners International, Panhandle-Plains
Historical Museum,
2503 4th Ave., Canyon, TX 79015**

You can also email her at dlking1@buffs.wtamu or call the office at 806-651-5247



watch for WI belt buckles coming soon!

MORE NEWS FROM THE **HOME RANCH**

Important Reminder to all Sheriffs and Members

Sheriffs: Please remember to forward the Buckskin Bulletin to all of your corral or posse members. And please keep us up to date on your contact information – we want to stay in touch, and we appreciate all of your updates, newsletters, and publications!

All Members: Please be sure that your sheriffs have your current email address so they can forward the Buckskin Bulletin to you! We want to be sure you're in the loop!

The Buckskin Bulletin comes out four times a year. It's emailed to all sheriffs so that they can email it to their posse or corral members. The current Bulletin is also available on the front page of the Westerners website; back issues are always accessible on the website through the Buckskin Bulletin link.

We hope you're enjoying the new format – especially the enhanced color production and extended length for more articles, photos, and announcements!

Mark your calendars for this year's WHA:

WESTERN HISTORY ASSOCIATION MEETING OCTOBER 17-20, 2018 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

See www.westernhistoryassociation.wildapricot.org for registration

WESTERNERS INTERNATIONAL's panel will be on

“Re-imagining Twentieth-Century West Texas:
Race, Politics, and Space in the Giant Side of the State”

Session Chair: Tim Bowman, West Texas A&M University, with Chair's Commentary from Jeff Roche, The College of Wooster, and presentations from Brian Ingrassia, West Texas A&M University, and James Vice, Texas Tech University



DO YOU HAVE A LIVING LEGEND IN YOUR CORRAL OR POSSE?

If your corral has a member who has long been active in your corral or posse, and has contributed over many years to the well-being, fun, and general “Westernness” of your group, please let us know. We would like to offer tribute to those members and honor all that they have done for the organization. Here's what we need: a photograph and one typed page describing your nominee's engagement and work with your corral or posse, and telling us a little bit about his or her life, interests, and hobbies.

MORE NEWS FROM THE **HOME RANCH**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR POSSE OR CORRAL SHERIFF FEATURED IN THE BUCKSKIN BULLETIN?

We want to let other corrals and posses know about the successful leadership throughout the organization – and let others know a little bit about the guy or gal behind the sheriff's badge! If you would like to have your sheriff in the Buckskin Bulletin in a Featured Sheriff section, please let us know. Here's what we need: one or two photos and a paragraph describing any of the following – details about the corral or posse, a little bit about your sheriff's work with the corral or posse, and a few details about hobbies and interests. Let us know about your leadership!



Our mission is to promote the study of the American West both as a region culturally unique and as a product of broad historical forces. CSAW envisions becoming a center that is dedicated to cultivating a critical sense of region and place in a globalized era.

The Center for the Study of the American West is under the leadership of **Dr. Alex Hunt**, Professor at West Texas A & M University. The **Home Ranch of Westerners International** is proud to be "neighbors" with CSAW at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum. CSAW promotes scholarly research and hosts lectures and seminars such as the Garry Nall Lecture Series.

Events at CSAW

On Saturday, May 26, CSAW sponsored a tour on private ranch land just northwest of Amarillo, Texas of the rock ruins of Sandoval Plaza, the home and headquarters of Agapito Sandoval, near the Canadian River. This family migrated from New Mexico in the 1870's bringing thousands of sheep to vast unoccupied open range land. This exclusive tour, hosted by rancher Jay O'Brien and guided by Joel Zapata, also included a trip to the museum at Cal Farley's Boys Ranch. The group of about 25 enjoyed a lunch cookout featuring burgers, beans and all the fixings served at Boys Ranch.

Photo below: Goodnight Corral members, Michael Grauer and Dr. Alex Hunt, Director of CSAW.
for more information about CSAW: <http://www.wtamu.edu/museum/csaw-home.aspx>



Photos courtesy Kenneth Pirtle, your Buckskin Bulletin Inkslinger



HOW TO GROW YOUR POSSE OR CORRAL

.....AND KEEP IT FUN!

By Bob DeWitt, Sheriff – Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners

Overview

While I hope the following paper will benefit our fellow [Westerners International](#) chapters worldwide, these guidelines could be of help to most organizations. As a current member of over two-dozen historical organizations, generally in Colorado, I have seen the demise (or near demise) of some groups. It often can be avoided, but now and then politics get in the way or maybe is just a lack of interest or dedicated volunteers willing to keep things rolling.

I hope that you will find some beneficial tidbits here to help your organization to help your organization survive and prosper. Yes, it is possible, it **CAN** be done and **YOU TOO** can help make it happen. In the fifteen years we have been members of our Posse, we have seen our *minimum* attendance at dinner meetings increase more than 300%! We even had an all time record attendance in September of 2016 totaling 154 persons dining with another dozen seated in the overflow section. Nowadays, when we have a lower turnout during our regular monthly meetings, we have around 80 in attendance, each paying \$17 for dinner. If you are intrigued...please read on.

Corral Summary

It is interesting to put things into perspective. According to the WI website as of December 17, 2017, there were 77 Active Corrals worldwide, with 61 within 18 US states. There are 16 Corrals in 8 foreign countries, of which, remarkably, 7 are located in the Czech Republic!

Now when we look at the number of "Dry Camps" (inactive Corrals) there are a depressing number of these on the list. They total 76 worldwide, with 57 in the US from 26 states. 19 Corrals in 9 foreign countries are no longer active. Countries without even a single Corral now include: Finland, France, Mexico (had 4 once), Norway and Switzerland.

What happened to all those formerly 'interested' members in all those Corrals? Why did they go away? Did they lose interest? Did things get too boring, too "stuffy"? Did those Corrals fail to adapt to a more modern way of doing business? This would indeed be an interesting study for another paper and another day. I'll focus here on what I know works and helps to keep things ACTIVE.

Background

Some fifteen years ago, Dorothy and I went to our first meeting of a Westerners group, the Pikes Peak Posse. I previously had heard about this elusive local-history group. Why do I say 'elusive'...well, because it was an organization without much name recognition. Finally, at the prodding of a friend, we attended our first meeting as guests. As we love Colorado history and liked the casual atmosphere we found, we figured we would join. They requested a letter from us. At the next meeting, I submitted the letter and was asked leave the room...oh boy, were we even qualified? After the letter was read, we were approved and put on the membership rolls.

Back in 2003, the typical makeup of the Posse consisted of about thirty attendees of mixed gender, generally more of an older retired crowd. There were even a few charter members in attendance, as this Corral (#76) formed in 1976. Varied backgrounds included authors, educators, railroad historians, housewives, and armchair historians. As in many Corrals, dinner was served, some business was conducted and a Western historical program was presented.

Tradition

Tradition is good at times, but don't be afraid to buck the tradition, when it impedes progress and growth. It can help you grow your posse or corral. Case in point: the requirement for a letter to join our posse was a little archaic if I may say so! Let's get with the times. We now use an application method with downloadable forms and email processing as needed. Down the road, we may have them available on a website.

Avoid Stuffiness and Politics

If your Posse is to grow, it's best if stuffiness and politics stay at home. This should be common sense, but it still surfaces at times. Also when newbies first attend any organization, they might feel out of place since they don't know the membership. Officers and members should make a concentrated effort to go out of their way and interact with the newcomers. A newcomer liaison can be the membership person or another volunteer. Help newcomers feel at ease by visiting with them.

During my long term as President of a hobby organization, I kept politics out of the meetings. Dorothy and I purposely choose to sit with different people at meetings to promote interaction with other members and new members. While it may feel more comfortable to sit with those same folks time and time again, don't miss out on the opportunity to get to know that newcomer across the room who just happens to be from your home town!

FREE Entertaining programs

As a three-time Deputy Sheriff (programs person) for our Pikes Peak Posse, I thoroughly enjoyed the task of finding entertaining and historical programs. I strongly encourage others to volunteer for this, as it is a lot of fun. I realize being in the book trade, as a bookseller, it may be easier for me, but there really isn't too much to it. Perhaps those two words "entertaining" and "historical" seem not to go together. And while some presenters don't always combine them, it's certainly possible.

With our Posse, only a small number of our presenters are members. Most will be authors, historians or even entertainers on some aspect of local, regional or Western history. A local cartoonist once presented on his well-known artwork. By the way, this may come as a shock to some, but we never pay a monetary honorarium to presenters. The meal charge (\$17) for the presenter and up to one additional guest is complimentary. We also present them a copy of our latest publication after the program. In the process of soliciting speakers not only for our Posse, but also for other groups, I only recall being turned down twice due to lack of an honorarium. For authors, we do let them sell their books at the meetings. FREE is good, don't be afraid of it!

If you feel a void in finding programs other historical groups are a great source for future programs! Usually this information can be found via a bit of sleuthing on internet websites, social media, and at your local library. Don't forget some of the best possibilities for presenters are your local authors.

Membership and Guests

Our annual membership dues are \$10 per person - the same as in 1976 when our Posse was established. Of this amount, \$5 per member goes to WI. Recently, we did away with our family membership level. And we always welcome guests. While, compared to other posses, we might have a higher percentage of guests at a given meeting, what's wrong with "the more the merrier"? A member brings a friend; they enjoy the meal, program, camaraderie, and have a good time. Perhaps down the line, they even become a member? Welcome all guests.

Brochures

One very important way to propagate news of your posse or corral is via the old-fashioned and essential printed brochure. We hand them out like crazy and perhaps even go through a thousand each year. We have them at the check-in table and on each dining table. We also distribute brochures to a

number of local and regional historical entities such as libraries, societies, museums, and even a local coin store. Each meeting notice has a digital link to our brochure (in PDF format), so that interested parties can download and print at their leisure. We try to make it as easy as is feasibly possible for newcomers. And most importantly, as part of the two-sided, tri-fold, 8½ x 11" brochure, we created the Membership Application on one of the panels. This section can be completed and remitted, while hanging on to the informational part. Please feel free to borrow and build on what we did here. Here's what our current Brochure / Application looks like: <http://goo.gl/Zvnju9>

FREE Publicity / Advertising

While some corrals and posses may not advertise their upcoming programs with local media, it is very important to publicize these events. We never did this before I took on the task, and, as a result, we had very poor name recognition. I even established a new and appropriate Westerner title for this chore, Media Wrangler.

Public service announcements can be regularly submitted to your local media at no charge for non-profit causes. Some (not all) of the media will routinely air or publish these events. While this process is FREE in terms of avoiding paying advertising dollars, it is not free in the sense of labor. One must diligently take the time to submit the information and do so early enough so that reservations can be received before the RSVP deadline. Typically, I start working on publicity about 2 to 3 weeks ahead of time. Every month, I submit our upcoming program details to various print and radio media as well as to online listing services. I have text templates on the computer, which simplifies this task.

Sometimes, local papers will even publish a story on your upcoming program. For a given program on Custer and the Little Bighorn, the *Gazette* ran the story. I fielded thirty-seven calls and emails for that event. Sometimes, your corral or posse might be contacted by the local media about an upcoming talk. Invite them to dinner and be sure your corral/posse picks up the tab. If you find any of your local radio stations that like to cover historical events, see if they'll have you in the studio for an interview. I've done this myself a number of times, as have many of our presenters. The end result is typically a five-ten-minute audio segment that airs once or twice a week prior to the program. I would stay away from paying for any advertising. FREE is good...and there is plenty FREE media to be had!

Evite

It helps to have an idea of how many people will show up for your program. This becomes even more important when a meal is being. Many organizations use "old school" methods, such as snail mail, email, or phone notification. Some years ago, I implemented the use of Evite. Evite is one of the better social-planning websites founded in 1998 for the purpose of creating, sending, and managing online invitations. The "Host" can send out notices of events, generally to emails; however they recently added 'text' invitations as well. The Host can also keep a close eye on reservations as they roll in. There is more to this, which I will not get into here. The recipients can RSVP, post comments, etc. This great tool is absolutely FREE, so just ignore the various ads and whatnot. Once you join the world of electronic invitations and reservations...you won't go back! Here's the link: <https://www.evite.com>

Accepting Credit Cards

About a year ago, our Pikes Peak Posse started accepting Credit Cards as an alternative payment method intended primarily for our online reservations, though we do have the ability to accept CC's on site at the function as well. We chose to include the cost incurred to the Posse for processing fees. Therefore, whether paying by cash, check or credit card all, attendees pay exactly the same amount. This has been extremely successful for a number of reasons. It saves time when arriving at check-in, as we have a separate "Pre-paid" line. We don't have to handle as much cash at the event. If the party has paid by credit card and doesn't show up, now we don't have to collect from them. If the reservation is cancelled in a proper and timely manner prior to our RSVP deadline, it's a breeze to refund their payment. No need for the Tallyman to issue a check.

Maybe this sounds complicated, but it's not. Let's assume your Corral does not currently accept credit card. There are several ways to go about setting this up. For my private business, we already accept two types of electronic payment via Square: <https://squareup.com> and PayPal: <https://www.paypal.com/us/home>. For our Posse, we use Square. While the fee percentages when using these type of payment acceptance companies tend to be higher than if your corral were to set up a typical Merchant Account, the ease and other benefits far outweigh the slight cost savings in percentage (also known as discount rate.) Not to mention, you won't have those pesky monthly fees and sales dollar requirements.

Square is handy because they allow one to create a basic website of sorts. Each month I only have to change the "Event" description; and as long as the price stays the same, we're good to go. We also added the ability to accept payments for new and renewing memberships. BTW, remember that business about using Evite? Each invitation that goes out has a simple link that allows the person to initiate the credit card payment process using a secure method. We never even see or "handle" the attendees' credit card numbers.

Website

Ideally every organizational or business entity should have a website of some kind; it just makes sense. Having said this, nothing is ever ideal. Many of us have jobs; work gets in the way. We have families and all kinds of historical commitments -- not to mention, there is some learning necessary to figure out all this website stuff, unless one does it for a living. So I have to admit, this is one of the areas our Posse still has work to do. While we have a basic website of sorts, there is still much room for improvement. I setup the website for the primary purpose of providing an "interface" for the payer, allowing them to make their selections and CC payments. Down the line, I see us building a more robust website which will provide greater flexibility. If you would care to see it in its current basic state, here's the link to our Posse payment website: <https://squareup.com/store/pppw>

Social Media

At present, our Posse is not very active with Social Media. Again, this is an area where we could and likely should do more. The use of Evite does, in a sense, enter into the realm of Social Media. In this regard, it is very beneficial for when one receives their Evite, perhaps they'll see that their good friend has replied with an RSVP and will decide to follow suit. Messages and photos can be posted as well.

While we are not on Facebook, Instagram or Pinterest nor do we have a Twitter account, one of our members established a Facebook Group page for us: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/326037387733868>. Our monthly programs are also posted there.

Conclusion

There is always more that each and every one of us can do to "**Grow your Posse or Corral...and Keep it Fun!**" It is my true hope that you will have found a few items within this lengthy read that will enlighten and drive you to bring some change and perhaps new life to your Posse. Don't let it die; don't let it stagnate. You too can be part of a Corral, whose growth and resurgence can excel beyond what anyone would have ever thought possible. In all honesty, when becoming members fifteen years ago, I never planned to do any of this. I didn't have any clever, creative, long-term master plan... it just happened. I sincerely hope, and in my heart know, that you too can help do the same for your group.

Contact info.

I welcome questions and comments in regards to any of this. Naturally, a lot of detail could not be included here due to space restraints. I attempted to include the most crucial of tips and traps that I've observed during my fifteen years with the Pikes Peak Posse and my collective years with other organizations. While admittedly I was the driving force in these projects, I had a whole lot of help from fellow Westerners and especially that special person in my life, Dorothy. I can best be reached by email: posse@dewittenterprises.com or by phone:

(719) 473-0330. Our private business is one that revolves around our local history. As the owner of DeWitt Enterprises, we are the Home of the "Secret Bookshop," specializing in Colorado history. We deal in books & collectibles mostly online, but also have an open bookshop by appointment. So if you are ever in the Colorado Springs area, please drop us a note -- we would love to visit with a fellow Westerner!

CORRAL NEWS



Linda Cravens of the **Scottsdale Corral** reports that their March meeting was based around a documentary produced by fellow Scottsdale Corral member, Pamela Stevenson, whose "NAVAJO" was produced for a TV station in 1980. Pam had spent much time traveling the Navajo reservation with a Navajo artist, a publicity team, and a photographer. During her time there, she advanced her knowledge of the Code Talkers and interviewed Peter McDonald, who was tribal chairman at that time. Her documentary won a national Public Service Emmy Award. Pam Knight Stevenson has been researching and writing about Arizona for over thirty years; she is a Los Angeles native who received her History degree from UCLA and moved to Arizona in 1972. She was awarded numerous Emmy and Arizona Press Club awards for documentaries and served as Managing Editor of the Phoenix CBS TV news department and worked with Phoenix PBS. She is co-author of books on Arizona quilts and on Arizona writers and journals in the 20th century.

Marie & Klaus Krizanovic of the **Fort Collins Corral**, report that their April meeting included *CIVIL WAR LIVING HISTORY* presented by local Rocky Mountain High School students. The Civil War Living History Independent Study class, under the supervision of Kurt Knierim, social studies teacher. The class affords high school students the opportunity to participate in living history activities pertaining to the Civil War. The group does presentations to various schools and various local groups. The students will have several stations set up with various presentations and will answer questions.

The **Cheyenne Corral** reports that their April program was delivered by Alan Kirkbride, "Bonanza on the Range, The development of the cattle industry in the West." Alan is a life long rancher from a highly regarded and very well respected Wyoming ranching family. He is knowledgeable on many historical topics and was one of the specially selected speakers for the "History Comes Alive" program during Cheyenne's 150th Year Celebration.

The **Fort Worth Westerners** April meeting featured Jim Hodgson, Executive Director of the Fort Worth Aviation Museum, who presented an excellent program on the impact of WWI on the Fort Worth area, with focus on the WWI pilot training air fields and on WWI aircraft. The Fort Worth Westerners also sent information regarding their upcoming meeting of the **West Texas Trails Association**, Oct 19-20, 2018 in Quanah, Texas. It looks to be a great meeting. For additional information see the website at westtexastrails.com You can also email westtexastrails@gmail.com or robert.j.hall@ttu.edu. or call the event coordinator Robert Hall at 903-261-1044.



In the spirit of corral and posse partnerships, Brian Dervin Dillon, of the Los Angeles Corral, gave an enlightening presentation to the Fresno Corral in April. Next stop on the LA Corral's presentation circuit will be the San Francisco Corral in October.

Mutiny on the Clan Buchanan, An Illustrated Presentation to the Fresno Corral of the Westerners by Brian Dervin Dillon, Ph.D.

Thirty years after steam began making sailing ships obsolete, square-riggers were still being built, blending old and new technologies. The last sailing ships, the Windjammers, were also the most efficient. Called "grain racers" for their speed and the large capacity of their iron hulls, most were made in Scotland, for the California trade. One of the most famous was the four-masted *Clan Buchanan*. She had perhaps the most unique history of any grain racer: a mutiny on the high seas, racing, and beating, other square-riggers from Europe around the Horn and also across the broad Pacific to California, and meeting her end through cannon fire from a German submarine in 1917. Speaker Brian Dervin Dillon's great-grandfather sailed around the Horn aboard the *Clan Buchanan* in 1888: his diary provides an exciting, eye-witness, account of what may have been the last-ever mutiny aboard a full-rigged sailing ship. Brian Dervin Dillon is a 5th generation Californian with Gold Rush ancestors. An archaeologist, he is both the son and the father of historians. A Phi Beta Kappa and Fulbright Fellow, at age 25 he was the youngest-ever U.C. Berkeley Ph.D. in Archaeology. Dr. Dillon has done archaeology in California since 1972, in Guatemala and three other Central American countries since 1974. Widely published in Mayan and California archaeology and in California history, he was just honored with his 6th consecutive Coke Wood Award for historical writing by Westerners, International. Brian was the 2017 Sheriff of the **Los Angeles Corral** of Westerners. For an electronic copy of Brian's 2017 Westerners publication on the *Clan Buchanan*, Email him at: briandervindillon@gmail.com



more **CORRAL NEWS**

In May the **Pikes Peak Posse** of Westerners hosted members and guests for our Monthly Historical Presentation: **Forgotten Fortune: The Story of Sam Strong, Cripple Creek's Notorious Millionaire** by Angel Strong Smits. Sam Strong came to Colorado seeking his fortune, but found much more. Indeed, he became one of the first millionaires born out of the Cripple Creek gold boom of the 1890s. His life ended with a blast from a shotgun in a Cripple Creek barroom—but that's not where the story ends. Angel Strong Smits, is Sam Strong's great-great niece and as a writer of 10 novels she loves to tell stories. Book signing follows.

Membership in the **Pikes Peak Posse** of Westerners is open to all individuals with an interest in Western history.

The **Fort Collins Corral** hosted author Rob Kresge at their May gathering. Rob is a transplant from Albuquerque to Fort Collins. Since retiring from a 30-year career as a foreign affairs analyst in 2002, Rob has written six volumes in an historical mystery series, featuring alternating chapters between his male and female protagonists. His standalone Civil War spy thriller, **Saving Lincoln**, won a Tony Hillerman Award for best fiction in 2014. Rob presented "Who's Writing Westerns Now?" There are more Western novels being written than you think, both historical and contemporary. Rob has come to know many of the authors and will let you know about their works and briefly about his own, including several coincidences that arose from his choices of location.



The **Northwest Montana Posse** of Westerners hosted a June program on the 1850s military wagon road designed by Lt. John Mullan. The talk was delivered by Ken Robinson, preservationist and historian at the Overholser Historical Research Center in Fort Benton.

Marie & Klaus Krizanovic of the Fort Collins Corral sent along news of
The 39th (2018) Annual Order of Indian Wars Assembly
 Amarillo, Texas
"The Plains on Fire"
 September 27-30, 2018

Mark your calendar, or better yet, make your reservations -- the 39th Annual OIW Assembly will headquarter in Amarillo, Texas. We'll visit some of the most famous Indian wars battlefields and learn more about some of the most famous Indian wars participants; Kit Carson, Nelson Miles, Randal Mackenzie, James Baldwin, Billy Dixon, Bat Masterson, Quanah Parker, Black Kettle, Satanta, just to drop a few names.

Included in our proposed itinerary is the Adobe Walls I (1864) site, which is on private property and is not open to the public. This may be your only chance to visit this very important Indian wars site. We'll also visit Adobe Walls II (1874), Palo Duro Canyon (1874) and the Washita (1868), plus museums at Borger, Texas, The Panhandle Plains Museum at Canyon, Texas, Palo Duro Canyon Museum, and the NPS Washita Museum at Cheyenne, Oklahoma. Neil Mangum will be our lead tour guide. Get on board now!

THE WEST AND WESTERN ART IS ALIVE AND WELL AT THE PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Many of you know the **Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum** is the base for the Home Ranch. We are proud to announce that it has recently added more Western fame to its reputation. The museum is not only the largest history museum in Texas, it is also home to an amazing collection of Western art, overseen and curated by fellow Westerner, **Michael Grauer**. Michael is the Director for Curatorial Affairs and Curator of Art and Western Heritage at the museum, as well as Adjunct Lecturer in Western American Studies at West Texas A&M University. Michael and the museum staff were recently informed that the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum has been selected by **True West Magazine** as the "*Best Western Art Collection*" and "*Best Pioneer History Collection*" for 2018. We're immensely proud of the museum, of Michael, and of the Western art you will be able to see September 14-15 at the **Westerners Rendezvous and Gather!**



more **CORRAL NEWS**



Living Legend

Dr. Robert Chandler, San Francisco Corral



Dr. Robert J. Chandler, an Army brat, was born in Utah. Bob has lived in Hawaii and Southern and Northern California. Recruited by Dick Olson, Bob joined the San Francisco Corral of Westerners in 1987.

Thirty years later, in 2017,

during a moment of weakness, he allowed himself to be persuaded by Brian D. Dillon to also join the Los Angeles Corral. Chandler is the once and future Sheriff of the San Francisco Corral, having served in this capacity in 1992, 2002, and most recently from 2016 through 2017. He has made over a half-dozen presentations to the San Francisco Corral during the past three decades, and has also (in 2016) begun to grace the Los Angeles Corral with his benign presence as a scholarly presenter.

Dr. Chandler is an historian of international repute, specializing in California history, political history, economic, monetary and banking history, historical ephemera, printing and lithography, and the history of California minorities. Bob earned his Ph.D. in history in 1978 at U.C. Riverside: his dissertation was *The Press and Civil Liberties in California During the Civil War*. Chandler then spent 32 years as Senior Research Historian for Wells Fargo Bank, based in San Francisco. Bob has written more than 60 articles on California during the Gold Rush and Civil War periods on civil rights, commerce, finance, gold, journalism, politics, military suppression, numismatics, philately, printing, stagecoaching, steamships, and Wells Fargo generally. He has served as an editorial advisor to the *California Territorial Quarterly* since 1996 and is one of that journal's most consistent contributors.

Bob was the co-editor (with Bob Schoeppner) of the very first two Brand Books published by the San Francisco Corral (BB 1: 1996; BB 2: 2001). He is also the recipient of three prestigious Westerners International Coke Wood Awards, the first (for 2001) for *California Stagecoaching: The Dusty Reality* (*Dogtown Territorial Quarterly* 47, Fall, 2001: 4-24, 34-40); the second (for 2005) for his co-authored article with Steve Potash *The Pacific Mail: Pioneering U.S. Flag Steamship Company* (*The Argonaut*, 16, Summer, 2005: 54-106), and the third (for 2010) for his three articles on the Pony Express (*California Territorial Quarterly*, 81, Spring 2010: 4-27; 28-41; 42-49). Chandler's books include *An Illustrated History of California* (2004); *Arcadia's Wells Fargo* (2006); *Gold, Silk, Pioneers & Mail: The Story of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company* (co-authored with Stephen J. Potash, 2007); and *San Francisco Lithographer: African American Artist Grafton Tyler Brown* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2014). Bob's most recent book *An E Clampus Vitus Hoax Gone Awry: Sir Francis Drake's 1579 Plate of Brasse* has just been published by the Grand Council of the ECV this year, 2018.

In addition to being one of the most active of all Westerners, Dr. Chandler is a member of the bibliophilic Roxburghe Club of San

Francisco. Since 2014 Bob has been on the Council of the Friends of the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley. He is also presently the Director of the San Ramon Valley Museum. Chandler is the past President (2003-2011) of the Western Cover [Philatelic] Society and presently its secretary. He is the past President (2005-2007) of the Book Club of California, and was the long-time (1996-2013) editor of its *Quarterly News-Letter*. Bob is the past President (1981-82) of the San Francisco Civil War Round Table, an honorary Kentucky Colonel and the past President of the Fighting '49ers Toastmasters (1980, 1982, 1984, 1992). He is the X-Noble Grand Humbug, of Yerba Buena #1, the Mother Lodge, of E Clampus Vitus, holding this exalted position in 2005-2006.

Bob "Clamper" Chandler is the living embodiment of his alter-ego, Norton I, Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico. In his few remaining minutes of spare time over the past four decades Bob has also been a devoted husband to his long-suffering wife Susan and a loving father to his three adult children, all of them serving out life sentences as his closest relatives without possibility of parole.

In recognition of Dr. Robert Chandler's exemplary service to the San Francisco Corral of the Westerners, to the advancement of California History, and of his many contributions to Western Civilization, especially his valiant efforts in stemming the rising tide of illiteracy on the Pacific Littoral, we are pleased and proud to nominate him as a Living Legend of the San Francisco Corral. We believe this honor to be richly merited, long overdue, and appropriate since the most recent San Francisco Corral Living Legend, Bob's good friend Richard H. Dillon, so designated 15 years ago in 2003, like Bob, also a member of the Los Angeles Corral, has recently (2016) passed on to his reward. We ask most humbly and respectfully that the Home Corral in the Sovereign State of Texas give the present nomination of Dr. Robert J. Chandler its most favorable consideration, so that the San Francisco Corral of the Westerners may count at least one Living Legend amongst the Living.

Nomination prepared by: **Brian Dervin Dillon**, Ph.D. -Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners -2017 Sheriff, 2018 Westerners International Representative

On behalf of, and with the enthusiastic written support of, San Francisco Corral of the Westerners Members:

Robert Lawhon
Dr. Thomas O. McLaughlin
Michael Ponting
Steven Marshall Rieden
Judith Robinson
Judy Van Austen
Robert Van Austen
Caroline Weber
Edgar Weber
Jennifer Weber
Judy Wong



Featured Sheriff

**LINDA WHEELER, SANTA CATALINA CORRAL,
TUCSON, AZ**



Linda Wheeler is the Sheriff of the Santa Catalina Corral in Tucson, Arizona. She made her way to the American West in stages and is happy to be in Arizona and involved with Westerners. Linda grew up in upstate New York and became a Midwesterner during her college years at the University of Iowa. She spent over twenty-five years in Operations Management, as well as in System Consulting and Compliance, in the insurance and banking industries. Those years were followed by six years as the Director of a private career-college of over one-thousand students. She retired in 2006. Her husband, Arnie, is a CPA who retired in 2014 from his position as Vice-President and Treasurer for Bartlett and Company in Kansas City. Linda reports that she and Arnie love being retired in Tucson, a place they visited many times during their working years. She adds that Westerners International is a relatively new activity for them both and that they enjoy the opportunity, with the Santa Catalina Corral, to be with friends and learn so much about the American West.

Santa Catalina Corral members gather to attend the Tucson Rodeo



Greetings from the Santa Catalina Corral in Tucson, Arizona

It was a wonderful year for our corral....we are small but mighty!!
February was Rodeo time in Tucson and what better place to dress for it than at the meeting of the Santa Catalina Corral. The Tucson Rodeo is one of the top twenty-five rodeos in the country, a tradition started back in 1925 when cowboys were asked "Not to shoot up the town." A popular Tucson event, with school age-children on holiday, it draws thousands to our town. Thirty-two members were present and decked out in their finest for this event to hear a member talk about the Empire Ranch, home to many western movies such as *Duel in the Sun* with Gregory Peck, *Hombre* with Paul Newman and *The Outlaw Josie Wales* with Clint Eastwood. Rodeo decorations and rodeo trivia completed the social hour time. Our Historian, Bill Hallett, and "Old Joe" begin each meeting with "Hello Joe, You Old Buffalo" and close with "So Long Joe, You Old Buffalo". "Old Joe" has been a part of our Corral for many years and temporarily retired but recently resurrected from the porch of his last "handler" to join us again!
We began our year in October with a Brushfire Barbeque at the home of two of our members. We enjoyed the beauty of the setting sun and the evening lights of the desert. We were welcomed by our new Sheriff, Linda Wheeler, and reestablished Corral friendships for the coming year. It is one of the most well-attended events given the opportunity to just socialize and catch up with everyone's comings and goings from the summer. Our Second Deputies have presented spectacular programs all year, revolving around the history of Arizona. In November, Diane Dittmore, a curator at the Arizona State Museum, told us about the new Basket Exhibit and Basketry Collection at the Museum. We have a much greater understanding and appreciation of the basketry tradition in the culture of the tribal communities, thanks to her efforts.
We took time off from speakers in December to hear a group of old-time Banjo Players and their Christmas music (and hi-jinks)....it was a good push for us through the Holiday Season.
January found us again enjoying more history of Arizona with local author and historian, Jan Cleere, speaking about the "Desperado Trails: Outlaws of the Arizona Frontier." She scared us with the details of several desperados such as a cattle/horse rustler and murderer and a petite "lady" who was everyone's darling as well as a horse- and cattle-thief and stagecoach robber.
One of our members, Van Flowers, in February gave us history and stories regarding "The Empire Ranch" which is in Southeast Arizona near Sonoita. It is well-known and one of the most spectacular and successful ranches in the Southwest.
At the March meeting we heard from Hawaiian born Japanese American, Min Yanagihashi, a retired professor of several universities, about Japanese American Internment Camps during WWII, especially the largest one in Arizona near Parker.
April is always the month for our "away trip", and this year was no exception. We went to Douglas, Arizona, with visits to the Border Air Museum, dinner and talk about The Gadsden – Military and Mexican History of Douglas and a visit to the John Slaughter Ranch, a national historic landmark. We concluded our year in May with special guest, Alan Day, brother of Supreme Court Justice, Sandra Day O'Connor (retired), who will speak about "Life on the Ranch as Lived by an American Cowboy."

Submitted by Linda Wheeler, Sheriff 2017 - 2018

News from Arizona Westerners

right photo: The **Tucson Corral** joined with the **Cochise Corral**, on a May field trip to the Slaughter Ranch east of Douglas, Arizona. A good time was had by all!



left photo: Bernard Siquieros, Ph.D., and his wife, Regina. Bernard spoke at the May **Tucson Westerners** meeting, addressing the subject of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Dr. Siquieros is the Curator of the Nations Cultural Museum in Sells, Arizona.



Thirty-five members of the **Fort Abraham Lincoln** met on April 9 at the Bismarck Elks Lodge, with Sheriff Bob Luebke presiding. Dean Conrad shared four Native American poems by Chiefs Seattle, Sitting Bull and Black Elk. Judy Fried shared a Bismarck Tribune Obituary dated March 3, 1976, of Chief Red Fox, who was 105 years old. Lynn Bueling gave a book review on "Just Before Sunset." And Diane Bolt, the evening's presenter, gave a program on her newspaper column, "Those Days," which she has been writing since 2002.

The May meeting of the **Scottsdale Corral** featured Dr. Heidi Osselaer speaking on "Arizona's Deadliest Gunfight: Solving the Mysteries of the Power Cabin Shootout." Dr. Osselaer was the historical consultant for the documentary, "Power's War," and is the author of an Oklahoma University Press book by the same title as the evening's presentation as well as *Winning Their Place: Arizona Women in Politics*, with University of Arizona Press.

The **Casper Posse** took their first field trip in June to the Fort Fetterman State Historic Site and the Camp Douglas POW Camp, where they had a tour from Site Manager and fellow posse member, Mel Glover. They were glad for their first posse field trip, and included lunch along the way and a stop at the College Bar Inn at the end of the day. Future program plans include a July meeting on Women in the Frontier Army, a meeting on Wyoming Medal of Honor winners, a tour of the Fort Casper Museum, and a talk on Susannah Dickinson. Thanks to Sheriff **Douglas Cubbison** for sending in this information!

Klaus & Marie Krizanovic, Co-Sheriffs of the **Fort Collins Corral** held their annual 2018 Westerners picnic on June 10th at host Rose Brink's home. The menu included Brats, Burgers, and Hot Dogs.



Professor Bonney MacDonald



Those of us at the Home Ranch would like to brag a little about our Westerner International Chairman **Dr. Bonney MacDonald**. She was recently named recipient of the West Texas A&M University Instructional Excellence Award for 2017-2018.

Dr. MacDonald, professor of English, joined the faculty in 2008 and received the University Instructional Excellence Award in recognition of her outstanding pedagogical performance. She is passionate about teaching and shares that passion in every undergraduate and graduate course she teaches. Students give her high marks on teaching evaluations and praise her enthusiasm, expertise and love of learning. One student said her only complaint was that she couldn't take every one of MacDonald's courses.

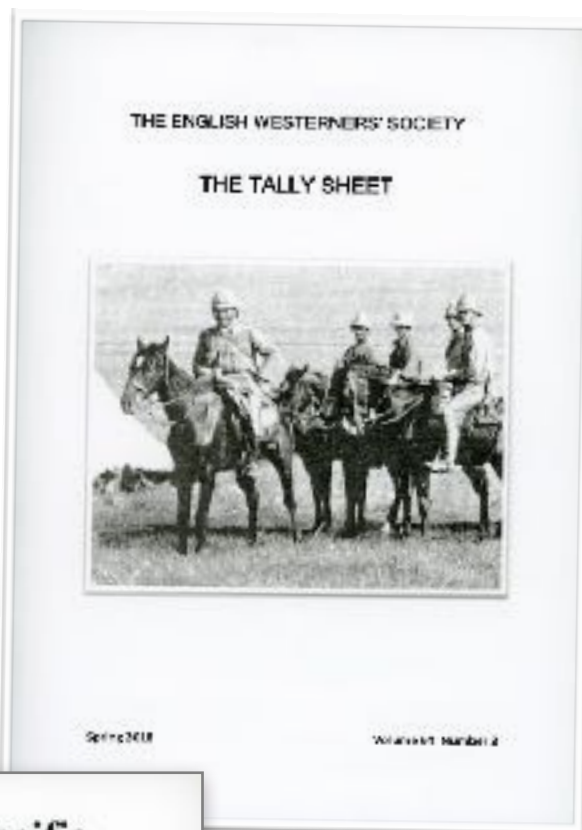
At the Home Ranch she is better known as "Bonney" and has provided great leadership and initiative in her first year running the "Ranch." We know her better in her hat and western attire. Bonney is best known in our circle as being passionate about the West and cowboy lore. In addition to being an excellent professor, she is an active member of the Canyon, Texas Goodnight Corral and spends weekends and the summer at her fiancée's ranch near Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Congratulations Bonney!

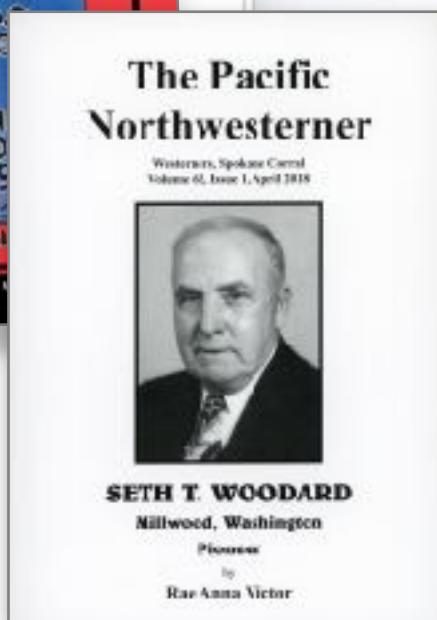
CORRAL *Publications* NEWS

The Buckskin Bulletin is pleased to receive these impressive scholarly bulletins, written and produced by various Corrals and Posses. These have wonderfully fascinating stories from the past. Here are a few samples. If your Corral or Posse produces bulletins or publications, we'd love to see and share what you are doing.

The LA Corral continues to publish its engaging series of Keepsake publications, collections of occasional articles of interest to Westerners. Here is the cover for Keepsake #48, which is also available through Amazon. Thanks to the LA Corral for another fine collection!



The English Westerner Society publishes The Tally Sheet, edited by Francis Taunton.



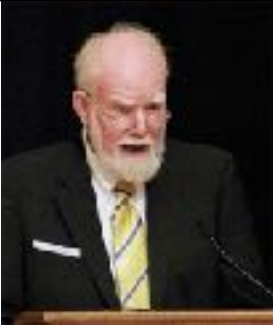
The Pacific Northwestern comes to the Home Ranch from the Spokane Corral. Sheriff is **Dick Jensen**

The Home Ranch is always pleased to receive correspondence and publications from our overseas friends.

WESTERNERS IN MEMORIAM

WE FONDLY REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS

The **Buckskin Bulletin** has received news and information of the passing of some of our Westerner friends. We would like to take this method of honoring their memory and remembering them. If your Corral or Posse would like to honor the life and contributions of a Westerner who has ridden their final roundup, please send that information to the **Buckskin Bulletin** at kenneth.pirtle@me.com or to the Home Ranch at: westerners@mail.wtamu.edu



David Dary died in March, 2018

David served as President of Westerners, International while living in Kansas. He was noted scholar on the American west. David and his wife Sue were founding members of **Chisholm Trail Corral** in Oklahoma City. When a chapter formed in Norman, Oklahoma, he joined the **South Canadian Cross-Timbers Corral**.

David Dary is a respected journalist and educator, and a prize-winning historian of the Old West. He has written 15 books and more than 200 articles for newspapers and magazines. He is emeritus professor of journalism at the University of Oklahoma. He retired in 2000. He lived in Norman, Oklahoma.

Dary was born in Manhattan, Kansas, in 1934. After graduating from Kansas State University, in 1956, and completing a stint in the Army Reserve, a newly-wed Dary went to work in the radio business in Texas. In the 1960s Dary worked in production and administration for CBS and NBC News in Texas and Washington D.C. In 1967, while at NBC, Dary wrote his first book, *Radio News Handbook*.

In the late 60s, after returning to Kansas for family reasons, Dary helped plan and build a new NBC television station in Topeka. In 1969, he joined the faculty of the journalism school at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. He earned his master's degree in journalism during his first year of teaching. Over the next 20 years at KU, Dary rose to the rank of full professor.

In 1974, Dary completed *The Buffalo Book*. It became a Book-of-the-Month selection. During this time he also began writing stories for the Kansas City Star's Sunday supplement—collected in *True Tales of the Old-Time Plains* (1979). In 1981, Dary wrote *Cowboy Culture: A Saga of Five Centuries*. Published by Alfred A. Knopf of New York, *Cowboy Culture* won several awards and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. The books that followed—including *Seeking Pleasure in the Old West*, *Entrepreneurs of the Old West*, *The Santa Fe Trail: Its History, Legends and Lore*, and *The Oregon Trail: An American Saga*—confirm his place as a leading authority on the American West. Dary has received the Cowboy Hall of Fame's Wrangler Award, two Western Writers of America Spur Awards, the Westerners International Best Nonfiction Book Award, and the Owen Wister Award for lifetime achievement from the Western Writers of America.

In 1989, the University of Oklahoma recruited Dary to head the School of Journalism. In 2007, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

Ken McInnis, past WI Chairman reports that he once asked David to present a program from his book on the American Bison. When Kent did some research in order to introduce him, he went to the World Book Encyclopedia to get a summary of bison on the plains. At the bottom of the subject was a footnote: "For further information consult *"The Buffalo Book"* by David Dary.



John W. Robinson July 8, 1929 - April 24, 2018

We regret to announce the passing of one of the most distinguished Westerners of all time, John Wesley Robinson. John taught history for 35 years, and for the final 32 in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District in Orange County. Robinson was the Hiking Historian, a modern-day John Muir. As a writer John was most celebrated for his natural and cultural histories of the San Gabriels, the San Bernardinos, and the San Jacintos mountain ranges: all three remain the standard works on each range. Robinson knew the precise elevations of the major peaks of every Southern California mountain range because he had climbed them all, then sat down atop them and recorded his impressions in his field notebooks. He subsequently piloted legions of fans to such lofty heights both in person and through his wonderful, profusely-illustrated, "Mountain Trilogy" and hiker's guidebooks.

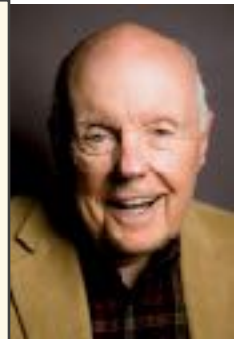
Robinson was also incredibly prolific as a writer of journal articles, contributing dozens to the Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners Branding Iron, and to other scholarly quarterlies. He was also a mainstay of the California Territorial Quarterly and its predecessor, the Dogtown Territorial Quarterly, their most prolific contributor on Southern California topics, publishing an amazing and so-far unsurpassed 41 articles between 1995 and 2013.

John W. Robinson was, most of all, a kind, gentle, and generous soul. Modest, humble, and immensely likeable, he was always willing to share his knowledge and his insights with those younger than him. John made certain that his remarkable collection of books, maps, photographs, and manuscripts went to the Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners/University of Southern California Archive, where much of it has already been catalogued.

John may now be gone, but his writing lives on. There is no doubt whatsoever that it will continue to enchant hikers, historians and readers, even those not yet born. For years to come people will still turn to his books and articles as the best source of information on that other Southern California, those wonderful wild lands that claustrophobic urbanites must continue to escape to, if only to preserve and renew their sanity, generation after generation. John W. Robinson was, is, and will forever be, our guide. R.I.P. John, and thanks.

By Brian Dervin Dillon, Ph.D.

Los Angeles Corral Westerners International Representative





The Home Ranch is proud of its affiliation with the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, Texas. PPHM is the largest historical museum in Texas. For current and upcoming exhibitions, lectures, and special events please check the museum's web page at: <http://www.panhandleplains.org>



Cow-Man
Texas Gallery RUSSELL VERNON HUNTER
(1900-1955) Cow-Man, 1928 Oil on canvas, 38 x 28 in.



The Master Of Ceremonies--Santa Clara
Southwestern Gallery GERALD CASSIDY The Master of Ceremonies--Santa Clara, 1925 Oil on canvas, 18 x 18 1/8 in. Johnie Powelson Griffin Collection, 1501/63



A Rope Full
BUGBEE GALLERY H. D. BUGBEE (1900-1963) A Rope Full, 1958 Oil on canvas, 22 x 28 in. Museum Acquisition



These paintings are a sample from the Museum's permanent collection. Thanks to the **Panhandle Plains Historical Museum** and Michael Grauer for allowing us to showcase these paintings.

"The PPHM is my single favorite museum and has been a huge source of inspiration to me as a historian. Touring it is an amazing learning experience. For almost 20 years now I have been recommending the place to travelers. You can do whatever you like, I tell them, but don't miss the PPHM!"
- S. C. Gwynne



Where The Buffalo Roam

by Jim Jennings, Palo Duro Corral Amarillo,



Probably nothing is more indicative of the American West than the buffalo. Buffalo have appeared in dozens of western movies, and there have been hundreds of oil paintings depicting an Indian, with an arrow notched in his bow string, riding alongside a buffalo. The animal is truly a symbol of the West. So much so that in 1913, the U.S. government changed the nickel to show a buffalo on one side and an Indian's head on the other. The coin was immensely popular.

But, when you get right down to it, there are no buffalo on the American continent, and there never has been. The animal that we're talking about is the American bison, and it's only distantly related to either of the two true buffalo, the Asian water buffalo and the African buffalo.

The term buffalo originated in America as a corruption of the French word *boeuf*, pronounced as *buff*. That's what the early French fur trappers called the animals when they first encountered them because *boeuf* is a French word meaning ox or bullock. And with its pronunciation, it's easy to see how the term buffalo came into being. So he became buffalo to those early western explorers and that's what most people call the



animal yet today. And, that's what we're going to call them.

Although the buffalo has been around for thousands of years, one of the earliest sightings that was recorded on paper was by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as they worked their way across the continent in 1804. When their party, while still out on the plains, happened upon a buffalo herd, they wrote, "We discovered more buffalo than had ever been seen at one time; and if it be not impossible to calculate the moving multitude, which darkened the whole plains, we are convinced that 20,000 would be no exaggerated number."

Probably, at that time, there were 30 million buffalo scattered across the North American continent in two major herds, the northern herd and the southern herd. They grazed on short grasses and migrated to follow food and water.

To the Plains Indians, the buffalo was their primary provider, supplying food and more than 100 specific items. Every part of the buffalo was used by the Indians. Hides with hair on were used for bedding and winter clothing, while hides with the hair removed and tanned were used for tepees and clothing. Untanned hides were used for parfleches, quivers and shields. Sinew or tendon was used for bowstrings and sewing thread, and bones were used for hide scrapers, awls, needles, knives and handles. The stomach and large intestines were used for containers and cooking vessels, the brains for tanning hides, and gall bladder and gallstones made yellow pigment for paint.

The buffalo was a virtual grocery, hardware and dry goods store for the Plains Indian, and he needed the animal to survive.

But immediately following the Civil War, as our country began to rebuild itself, both in the North and the South, the Industrial Revolution spread to the United States. There was a tremendous demand for huge amounts of leather from which to make belts to turn the big machines. And the greatest amount of leather in the country was out on the Great Plains, free for the taking.

Hundreds of men, many of them veterans of the war, headed west, and in the beginning, they headquartered around Dodge City, Kansas. The railroad had reached Dodge, which made it easy to ship products such as buffalo hides back East. Hunters spread out across the Plains, and in 1872 to 1874, 3.1 million buffalo were killed in the area around Dodge City. In the next three years, in southern Kansas and in the Texas Panhandle, another 3.7 million were killed.

It was estimated that up to 3,000 buffalo were killed per day. One hunter, with the use of his .50 caliber Sharps rifle, could make a stand and kill dozens of buffalo in a few hours,

keeping his skinners busy throughout the day and into the evening. And the skins were all they took; the carcasses were left rotting on the prairie. The men hauled their buffalo hides back to Dodge and sold them to dealers there, who then shipped them back east.

This had an immediate effect on the Plains Indians, and they retaliated against the hunters, many of whom lost their lives as a result of a Comanche or Kiowa arrow or bullet. In 1874, a group of Comanche led by war chief Quanah Parker attacked the Adobe Walls trading post in the Texas Panhandle. Adobe Walls was a gathering place for the buffalo hunters, a place where they could stock up on supplies as well as sell whatever hides they had accumulated. When the Comanches attacked, there just happened to be a group of buffalo hunters there, and the Indians' weapons were no match for the big Sharps 50s. At one point, buffalo hunter Billy Dixon supposedly stepped outside the trading post and shot an Indian off his horse at a distance of almost a mile. Not only did that convince the Indians to retreat, but it also demonstrates the long-range killing power of the buffalo gun, the .50 caliber Sharps.

Later that year, mostly as a result of the battle of Adobe Walls and some other Indian attacks, General Phil Sheridan decided he had had enough and ordered several different U.S. Cavalry units to converge on the Texas Panhandle and either exterminate or force the surrender of the Indians. This became known as the Red River War and resulted in the surrender of all Indians in the area. It was said that General Sheridan encouraged the slaughter of the buffalo so as to starve the Indians into surrendering.

The slaughter continued for several years, and the buffalo were obliterated. By 1895, there were 541 buffalo left in the world -- all that remained of the 30 million that had once wandered across the Plains.

When Charles Goodnight arrived in the Panhandle in 1876 to establish his and partner John Adair's JA Ranch in Palo Duro Canyon, he drove an estimated 10,000 buffalo out of the canyon to make room for his cattle. He and his wife Molly witnessed first-hand the destruction of the great herds, and in 1878, Molly told Goodnight that they had to do something to save the animal from extinction.

At his wife's urging, Goodnight began to rope a few calves and pen them up until his small herd reached seven head. By 1887, he had 13. By 1905, there were 50, and in 1910, he had 125. At the time of Goodnight's death in 1929, the herd numbered 200.

A few other ranchers -- in Canada, the Dakotas, Montana and Kansas -- also captured a few head, and it was through the efforts of these ranchers that the animals were saved from extinction.

Goodnight's herd, although small, played a part in preserving the buffalo nation-wide. He sold some to the New York Zoological Society in the Bronx, New York, which, in turn, shipped 15 head by rail car to the Wichita Mountain National Wildlife Refuge near Lawton, Oklahoma, in 1907, to start that herd.

Today, the Wichita Mountain herd has been in existence more than 100 years and numbers approximately 600 head. There have been as many as 1,000 head on the 59,000-acre refuge, but only about half of the 59,000 acres is open grass land, and the buffalo share the range with a herd of Texas Longhorns and a herd of elk. Numbers of all three species are governed by annual rainfall and the condition of the pastures.

To maintain their numbers, the Wichita Mountain refuge holds an annual auction of adult buffalo, both bulls and cows. Through the years, numerous buffalo herds have had their beginnings from the purchase of seedstock at the refuge auction.

Another well-known herd of buffalo is in Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. Yellowstone buffalo have always been there. In 1872, when the park was established as the country's first national park, some estimates say that there might have been as many as 2,500 to 3,000 head within its boundaries. However, the slaughter of the 1870s and 1880s affected that herd, too, as poachers illegally hunted the animals within the park. In 1880, the park superintendent estimated that there were approximately 800 buffalo left, and by 1902, the number had been reduced to as few as a couple of dozen.

At that time, the U.S. Army brought 21 bison from private herds -- including three bulls from Goodnight's herd -- to the park and set about building the herd back. Today, there are approximately 4,000 head of Yellowstone buffalo that roam at will throughout the more than 2 million acres in the park.

In 1997, there were approximately 40 buffalo remaining on the JA Ranch, all descendants of Goodnight's original herd. That year the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department moved 32 of them to the Caprock Canyons State Park, where they are pastured on approximately 12,000 acres.

The buffalo in America is no longer a threatened species. Today, there are approximately 500,000 buffalo in the United States, with all but about 20,000 being in private herds. Buffalo are being produced as a food animal, and it's easy to see why. Buffalo meat is significantly higher in protein, yet lower in fat, cholesterol and calories than most other meats, including poultry and many kinds of fish. So, the next time you're in a restaurant that serves it, try the buffalo burger. It's actually pretty good.





CALL FOR PAPERS FOR ALL WESTERNERS!!
WESTERN HISTORY ASSOCIATION, LAS VEGAS, NV
OCT 16-19, 2019

Each year, Westerners International has a scholarly panel at WHA, during which panelists deliver a 10-minute scholarly presentation on the West, according to that year's theme. We'd like to open up the corral gates and invite all members to submit abstracts for the Westerners' panel at the WHA in Las Vegas!

Send a one-page abstract (a description of your research presentation) BY EMAIL only to WHA 2019 Panel Committee Chair, Matt Despain, sdespain@rose.edu Deadline: August 1, 2018.

Proposal must include your abstract, name, email, phone, corral/posse name, and any organizational/academic affiliation.

Abstracts will be judged this summer and selected participants will be notified by Oct 1, 2018. If you're interested in attending the 2019 WHA and would like to participate in WI's annual scholarly panel, send us your proposal!

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BOOK NEWS

OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

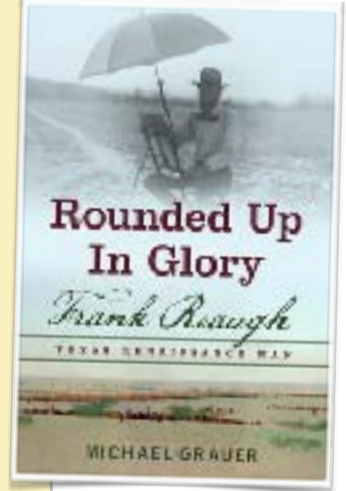
***Rounded Up in Glory: Frank Reaugh, Texas Renaissance Man* -by Grauer, Michael**

Hardcover Price: \$39.95

- Hardcover ISBN-13: 9781574416336
- Physical Description: 6x9. 480 pp. 20 color and 20 b/w illus. Notes. Bib. Index.
- Publication Date: August 2016

Frank Reaugh (1860–1945; pronounced “Ray”) was called “the Dean of Texas artists” for good reason. His pastels documented the wide-open spaces of the West as they were vanishing in the late nineteenth century, and his plein air techniques influenced generations of artists. His students include a “Who’s Who” of twentieth-century Texas painters: Alexandre Hogue, Reveau Bassett, and Lucretia Coke, among others. He was an advocate of painting by observation, and encouraged his students to do the same by organizing legendary sketch trips to West Texas. Reaugh also earned the title of Renaissance man by inventing a portable easel that allowed him to paint in high winds, and developing a formula for pastels, which he marketed. A founder of the Dallas Art Society, which became the Dallas Museum of Art, Reaugh was central to Dallas and Oak Cliff artistic circles for many years until infighting and politics drove him out of fashion. He died isolated and poor in 1945.

From the University of North Texas Press <https://untpress.unt.edu/catalog/3696>



***Frederic Remington -A Catalogue Raisonné II* Edited By: Peter H. Hassrick, Foreword By: Bruce B. Eldredge**

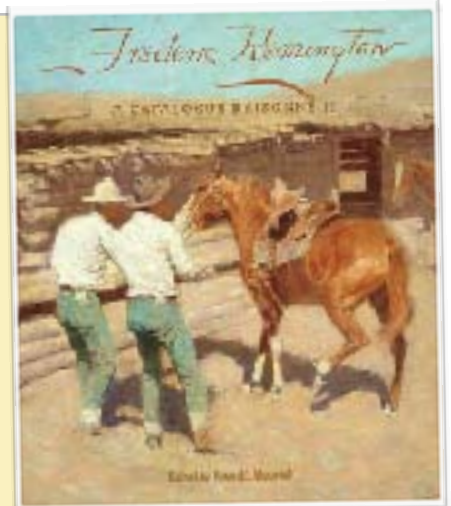
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***Tascosa Its Life and Gaudy Times* by Frederick W. Nolan**

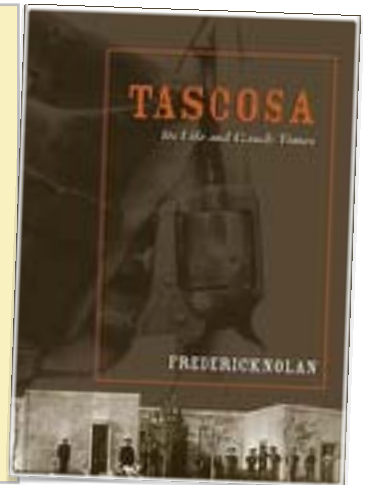
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- ISBN978-1-682-83028-4

Here, for the first time, is the true, detailed, down-and-dirty story of Tascosa: here at last are the facts that connect the stories of the “beef bonanza,” Pat Garrett’s “Home Rangers,” the 1883 Cowboy Strike and the relentless, undeclared war that ensued between the corporation ranchers--Charlie Goodnight, “Alphabet” Lee, Al Boyce of the XIT and the rest of them--and the tough, dangerous fraternity of rustlers manipulated by Tascosa town boss Jesse Jenkins.

As well as being the center of ranching activity in the Panhandle, Tascosa also became the last best hiding place in Texas for killers on the run, horse thieves, tinhorn gamblers, hair-trigger shootists or anyone else with a past he wanted to get away from. Billy the Kid, “Poker Tom” Emory.

from The Texas Tech University Press <http://www.ttupress.org>



A must read for Westerners (recommended by your “Ink Slinger”) **High Noon in Lincoln, Violence on the Western Frontier, by Robert M. Utley.** This is the story of the Lincoln county wars that inspired the movie “Young Guns” 1988. From the University of New Mexico Press, 1987.

