

# BUCKSKIN BULLETIN

Volume LV - issue 3 - September, 2019

**Circle the Wagons and grab the fiddle.  
It's Rendezvous time!**



*from Harper's Weekly, December 23, 1871; artist A.R. Waud*

**WESTERNERS RENDEZVOUS AND GATHER  
Thursday Oct 10 – Friday Oct 11, 2019!!!  
in Canyon, Texas**

*Its not too late to sign up for fun, food, fellowship and entertainment for all  
Westereners, far and wide. More information on the next four pages.*

## CHAIRMAN'S GREETING

It's been a hot, hot summer here in the American West and I hope that you all have found ways of keeping cool in the shade. Here at the Home Ranch, where it's still in the 90s, we're looking forward to the cooler days of fall.

In addition to anticipating cooler weather, we are greatly looking forward to this fall's Rendezvous and Gather at the Home Ranch. We have great things planned and we very much hope that you'll join us in Texas to celebrate Westerners and our shared histories and cultures. It's gonna be fun!!

We had wonderful awards entries this year and want to thank each and every one of you who sent in an entry – be it for a book, an article, a program, poem, or an entry for the Heads Up category. It's just wonderful to see what other corrals and posses are doing and we applaud your active involvement. Some corrals are smaller and some are sizable; but each, with its own signature and personality, takes part in the larger organization. And, we just love to let others know of your accomplishments! We'll be contacting all who submitted awards with the results, and we'll be giving out those awards at the Gather in October. Results will be posted on the next Buckskin Bulletin. Again, thank you all for taking part!!

I'd like to thank corrals and posses for sending in updates on programs and enthusiastically ask you to keep your updates coming. We love to hear about what you are all doing and we love to post it in the Bulletin so other members can enjoy the information as well. Keep us posted!

Enjoy the coming fall and we hope to see you at the October Gather!!

Happy Trails!

*Bonney*



*WI Chairman, Bonney MacDonald  
Photo by Rik Anderson, WTAMU*



### CALL FOR CORRAL AND POSSE UPDATES – Send us your news!!

Please send us your notices and announcements on upcoming or past corral and posse programs and events. We love to spread the good news to other corrals and posses about the activities of their fellow Westerners!

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# WESTERNERS RENDEZVOUS AND GATHER

## Thursday Oct 10 – Friday Oct 11, 2019!!!



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

Canyon was voted the #1 small town in the U.S. by Dish America in 2018. Have a look at our area!  
[www.visitcanyontx.com](http://www.visitcanyontx.com) and [www.visitamarillo.com](http://www.visitamarillo.com)

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 \$85 covers Thurs afternoon reception; Friday breakfast and lunch; history program on Adobe Walls and Red River Wars; cocktails, BBQ, and wonderful concert on Friday night.

For info, contact WI Chairman, Bonney MacDonald: [westerners@wtamu.edu](mailto:westerners@wtamu.edu)



### THURSDAY, OCT 10

- 10-12 am Board of Directors meeting. Lunch provided. Education Classroom, 1<sup>st</sup> fl, Museum (in rear of building entrance at loading dock)
- 1-3 pm All members – Welcome Reception and Awards Ceremony, Education Classroom, 1st fl Museum (in rear of building, entrance at loading dock)  
Afternoon snacks and desserts provided  
Education Room, 1<sup>st</sup> fl, Museum (in rear of building)
- 5:30 pm Dine around: Dinner at local restaurant

### FRIDAY, OCT 11

- 7:00 am Meet at United Bank Center parking lot. Bring your coffee! We'll have breakfast burritos, juice, and fruit all ready for you!  
(4<sup>th</sup> Ave & 38<sup>th</sup> St, Canyon; just east of Canyon's hotels)  
Leave for Adobe Walls Battle Site on Turkey Track Ranch  
Michael Grauer, presenter: Onsite History Program on Red River Wars and the Adobe Walls battles at the battle site where it all took place.
- 3:00 pm Arrive back in Canyon
- 3:30-5:15 Tour museum; freshen up
- 5:30-9:00 Hazlewood Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> fl, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum  
Cocktails and BBQ dinner

**GET Y'ER PONIES READY TO TRAVEL TO THE FRONT RANGE IN FALL 2020!!!**

**ANNUAL WESTERNERS GATHER TO BE HOSTED BY**

**PIKES PEAK POSSE, COLORADO SPRINGS in BEAUTIFUL COLORADO!!!**

**There will be historical programs, tours, great scenery and – of course! – wonderful company**

**A BIG THANK YOU TO BOB DEWITT, Pikes Peak Posse Sheriff, and to ALL the Posse members for arranging to host us for 2020!**

**DON'T MISS IT!!**

# JUNI FISHER CONCERT, FRIDAY NIGHT OF THE GATHER!!

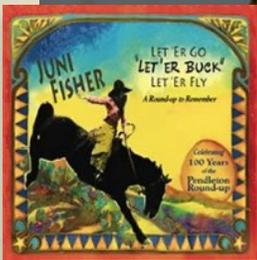


Photo by Jody Griswold

Y'all are in for a rare treat at this year's Westerners Gather. Juni Fisher, award-winning songwriter, entertainer, and writer will be performing a concert just for us during our Friday night banquet. Her voice and lyrics will charm you and keep you humming a tune for days, and her stories will entertain you and keep you close to the legends and histories of the West.

Juni was raised in a California farming family. She took part in 4H and FFA as a youngster, rode sale pens and exercised show horses in her formative years, and sang in big-band orchestras for extra money during school. After college she apprenticed with well-known cow-horse and bridle-horse trainers, winning events as she rose up in the horse world and, eventually, in the cutting horse world.

She sang and played rhythm guitar in California and honed her skills with some of Nashville's finest songwriters. Her first album, "Tumbleweed Letters" came out in 1999 and has been followed by many memorable and award-winning albums.

Juni is one of the nation's top solo Western Music Performers. Her recognitions include 2006, 2009, and 2011 Western Music Association Female Performer of the year; 2011 WMA Entertainer of the Year; 2013 WMA Song of the Year; 2008 Western Heritage Wrangler Award for Most Outstanding Traditional Western Album; and 2012 and 2017 True West Magazine Best Solo Musician.

Juni Fisher tours the country full time, delighting audiences with her original songs, storytelling, and guitar playing. "Juni Fisher's luminous intensity ignites her writing and her performances," notes one journalist. "At the heart of her unique and complex artistry is her ability to bring alive ... unforgettable characters and images." Or, as the famous cowboy poet Waddie Mitchell once put it, "Juni Fisher is the best thing to happen to western music in a long time."

When not touring, Juni rides and trains her beloved horses for cow-horse competitions. In 2012 she won the prestigious National Reined Cowhorse Association Snaffle Bit Futurity and she continues her riding career in NRCHA and other competitions.

Juni Fisher's passion for the West, its legends, and its horses and cattle will leave you grinning, tapping your foot, and feeling glad all over that you joined us for the Gather. We know you'll love it!

Come join us for a grand time with fellow Westerners!  
 Enjoy a wonderful history program on the site of the Adobe Walls battlesite  
 Be part of a memorable concert from Juni Fisher, Western Music Assoc. Entertainer of the Year. Don't  
 miss this 2019 Gather!!



## REGISTRATION FORM

(Registration form and Gather information also  
 available on Westerners website)

WESTERNERS INTERNATIONAL RENDEZVOUS AND GATHER  
 HOME RANCH, CANYON, TEXAS  
 THURSDAY AFTERNOON, OCT 10 – FRIDAY NIGHT, OCT 11

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CORRAL/POSSE \_\_\_\_\_

CORRAL/POSSE TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

The fee for the Gather is \$85 per person, which covers the costs of Thursday afternoon snacks, Friday breakfast and lunch; fabulous and expert history programs from Michael Grauer, and Saturday's big evening event – cocktails, dinner, and a memorable concert of music and story from award-winning Juni Fisher. It's gonna be fun!!

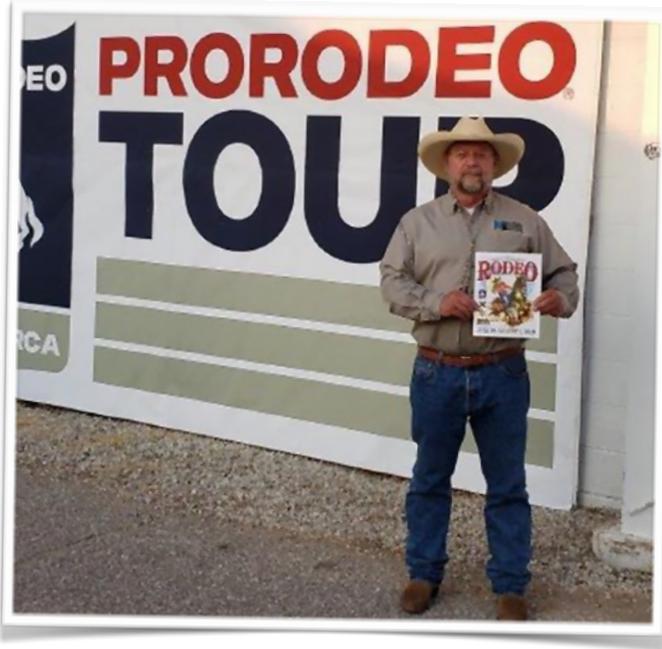
**Please print and complete this form and then send it with your \$85 check to:**

Westerners Gather 2019  
 Westerners International  
 Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum  
 2503 4<sup>th</sup> Ave  
 Canyon, TX 79015

**If you have questions, contact WI Chairman, Bonney MacDonald at  
[westerners@wtamu.edu](mailto:westerners@wtamu.edu)**

# Michael Grauer - presenter

## Featured Rendezvous & Gather event, Friday morning, October 11th



**Michael Grauer**, McCasland Chair of Cowboy Culture/ Curator of Cowboy Collections and Western Art, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma City, OK. Michael will be the presenter for an onsite history program on the Red River Wars and the Adobe Walls battles at the actual battle site where it all took place.

Those traveling to the Adobe Walls battle site will meet at 7:00, Friday morning, October 11th at the United Bank Center parking lot (4th Ave & 38th St, Canyon; just east of Canyon's hotels) Bring your coffee! We'll have breakfast burritos, juice, and fruit all ready for you!

We'll depart for the Adobe Walls Battle Site on Turkey Track Ranch shortly after 7:00am. *Don't be late!*

from the 2019 Dodge City Roundup Rodeo



**Michael Grauer** is a member of of the Chisholm Trail Corral of WI, Oklahoma and a member in absentia of the Goodnight Corral, Canyon, Texas. Photos were taken in Dodge City, Kansas, August 2 and 3, 2019. Michael went to Dodge City, Kansas to speak on cowboys to the Kansas Chapter of the Western Cattle Trail Association at Dodge City Days "What Cowboys Were NOT!" Michael is seen here at the annual longhorn cattle drive during Dodge City Days.

Noting the fear on Michael's face, he was asked if there were any injuries. He stated; "Nobody was injured by any of the longhorns, except for maybe some slobber that got slung on some civilian spectators!"



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BEAUTIFUL COLORADO!!!**

There will be historical programs, tours, great scenery and – of course! – wonderful company  
A BIG THANK YOU TO BOB DEWITT, Pikes Peak Posse Sheriff, and to ALL the Posse members for arranging to host us for 2020!  
DON'T MISS IT!! FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN WINTER *BUCKSKIN BULLETIN*



**Greetings** from your *Buckskin Bulletin* editor, Kenneth Pirtle. It is with pride that I put together these newsletters four times a year for **Westerners International**. I regularly check my email for Corral updates and news to include in the "**BB**" and share with our membership. Please share your **WI** news and activities to me at [kenneth.pirtle@me.com](mailto:kenneth.pirtle@me.com) or the Home Ranch at [westerners@mail.wtamu.edu](mailto:westerners@mail.wtamu.edu) so I can include it in the upcoming issue.

The digital **Buckskin Bulletin** (PDF) is now sent to your Sheriff or Corral representative from the Home Ranch. The Home Ranch is dependent on current email addresses and we ask that you keep your Corral information updated. Hopefully the **Buckskin Bulletin** is getting distributed among your local membership. I would humbly request that you read your "**BB**" and share it when you have the opportunity.  
Happy Trails, KP

### **Warning Westerners! Spam Alert**

Bob DeWitt of the Pikes Peak Posse of Westerners reports that he recently received a suspicious email. He believes this to be a **SPOOFED** email labeled as being from: "Westerners International Celebrates fun". Subject is "Re: For Your View Only" The body reads "You have pending doc shared with you," followed by "Click to VIEW" where the VIEW is a link to a form of some kind. It is signed Westerners International. Also, the from and reply to are different addresses, not that I recognize as associated with WI.

With the upcoming Rendezvous and Gather you might assume that this is communications pertaining to this. Please discard any email that fits this description.

## FROM THE HOME RANCH



### Something I was reading . . .

**Delinda King, WI secretary**

I work in the Special Collections department of the Cornette Library at West Texas A&M University. One particular glass case is home to the old stuff – pre-1900. Of course, this collection would include many books about the places and people of the American West. Between projects I like to look at these relics, finding them informative, enlightening, and sometimes humorous. The following are some excerpts from *Western Wilds and the Men Who Redeem Them*, “an authentic narrative” written in 1878 by John Hansen Beadle.

The American West is often thought of as the abode of men whose lives were just a little “bigger” than the norm. Beadle calls this characteristic a “Western product” of “unconscious greatness” where “many a man, in pursuance of the humblest duties, becomes a hero without knowing it” (25). In the early days of settling the West, even the most mundane task at times took heroic efforts. If the very ground of every state across this country could talk, the stories of humble men and women putting forth extraordinarily heroic efforts would be like grains of sand in the desert. One thing we know for sure is that life was not easy and Beadle, in traveling through the West faithfully details that truth:

Of a city at “7000 feet above sea level” in Wyoming, Beadle relates his first impressions of a January visit:

“I ate my first breakfast there in one [restaurant] where the mercury stood at five degrees below zero! A drop of the hottest coffee spilled upon the cloth froze in a minute, while gravy and butter solidified in spite of the swiftest eater.

It was a ‘wicked city.’ During its lively existence of three months it established a graveyard with forty-three occupants, of whom not one died of disease” (52). To survive harsh conditions such as this and many others, a person had to be tough.

While in Utah, Beadle sustained injuries from an attack due to his tendency to express opinions in opposition to the majority. His injuries were serious and he considered his recovery in only a month quite remarkable. Beadle states, as “wonderful as his recovery seems,” it did not compare with some he had seen in the “pure air of the Rocky Mountains” (117):

“A blacksmith living in Montana, located on the state-road a hundred miles from the nearest surgeon, had his knee shattered by a pistol-shot. He sharpened two bowie-knives, strapped the leg over a bench, and amputated it halfway between the knee and hip-joint, taking up the arteries with his own hands, and searing them with irons heated by himself in the forge . . . he still lives, to walk pretty well upon a wooden leg, and be known throughout the mountains as ‘Nervy Bill’”(118).

Beadle also included the stories of two more accidents:

“I saw a man in Stockton, California, who had been ‘bodaciously chewed up,’ to use his own language, by a grizzly bear. In the death-hug he had an arm and leg broken, and all the flesh torn

from his forehead and crown, after which he lay two days and nights in the [canyon] before being found. Yet he lived, in good health, and not badly disfigured” (118).

And in Dakota Territory:

Chief-Justice Brooking, late of the Supreme Court of Dakota, broke through the ice in the Big Sioux River, and was held fast for twenty-four hours, his legs crushed by the ice and chilled by the cold water. Both limbs were amputated: but he enjoys good health, walks upon corks, and to use the language of an admiring constituent ‘is able to stump ‘round an’ do a heap o’ devilment” (119).

Of course, not all accidents turned out so well and many tales of those not-so-lucky are included in Beadle’s chronicle; yet, he never wavers in this opinion that the American West tremendously influenced, physically and mentally, the men and women who dared to cross the borders of wildness.

Beadle intersperses his narrative with accounts of the natural wonders of the West. From Oregon where the fog was so thick “one could chew it up and spit it out” (399), through the Sequoias to the Rio Grande, and from The Rockies to Mexico, Beadle is obviously captivated with the beauty and grandeur of a land so big that it defied belief. He seemed particularly interested in the human element of the American west, however, and doesn’t leave out tales of the indigenous peoples.

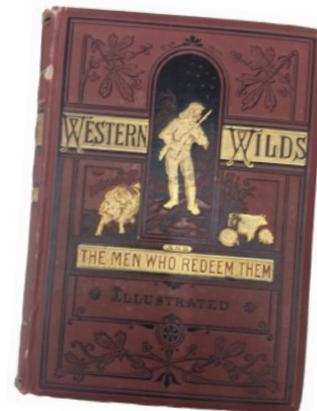
In Oklahoma:

“. . . pure-blooded Aborigines who are something more than hunters and root-diggers,” rather a people with “republican government run on aboriginal principles, with aboriginal official titles, and such a mixture of races as affords a fine field for the ethnologist. One meets with some awkward surprises, with facts that unsettle a great deal we had considered settled” (195). One can hope he was perhaps questioning the opinion that all Native Americans were savages.

In Arizona, happening upon Moqui territory:

“It was a strange sight. I was thrilled at the thought that I was looking upon the chosen stronghold of the most peculiar race of American Indians: a city about which conjecture and romance had taken the place of knowledge, a country vaguely described by hunters, but never by careful writers . . . perhaps the strongest natural fortification in the world . . . where the foot-hills begin, but

*continued on next page*



so far up that most of them can not be reached by horses from below" (267).

The discomfort Beadle initially felt among these high mesa dwellers quickly disappeared with the hospitality and care they provided.

In Texas, Beadle encountered an altogether different breed of people whose language was "the horror of grammarians" (407). These people used "such phrases as 'dun gone,' 'clean clar out,' 'git shet of it,' elevating them to the "dignity of ordinary speech" (408). I wonder if Mr. Beadle from Cincinnati would be appalled that these phrases are still quite popular 141 years later! (Note: Microsoft Word reviewer had a nervous breakdown here.)

Beadle offers further interpretations of Mormons, women's suffrage, and the "Noble Red Man." But his wandering is curtailed as he goes from roving correspondent for the Cincinnati Commercial to editor of the Utah Reporter. The final chapter is titled "Where Shall we Settle?" He begins: "Five million Americans are asking this question. They will take Greeley's advice and go West; but are as yet undecided as to locality. Let us therefore briefly note the good and bad features of various sections. Imprimis, then, there is no paradise in the West; no region where one will not find serious drawbacks in climate, soil or society" (607).

Honest, though opinionated, in his narrative, Beadle presents a sweeping first-hand account of the "Western Wilds" finishing with a poetic reassurance of the future:

"The wild West will continue wild for centuries. There will be a million square miles of mountain, desert, rock and sand, of lonely gorge and hidden glen, of walled basin, wind-swept [canyon] and timbered hills, to invite the tourist, the sportsman and the lover of solitude. The mountain Territories will long remain the abode of romance; and "Western Wilds" will be celebrated in song and story, while generation succeeds generation of 'the men who redeem them.'"

This then is the essence of Westerners International. To continue to celebrate the American West. To preserve the stories of the men and women, of all races, who sacrificed, who lost, who gained, but gave all they had, intentionally or unintentionally. Westerners International is a "hats off" to those who left behind so much that was good, courageous, and meaningful. I am proud to be part of an organization who strives remember and document the triumphs and tragedies of these people.



29 August 2019



#### Jo Tice Bloom 1933 - 2019

Las Cruces, NM - Jo Tice Bloom passed on June 18, 2019, when her strong, lifelong reliable heart gave up after a month of increased medical stress.

Jo was born in downtown Los Angeles on June 7, 1933.

Finishing public-school education in the northwestern suburbs of Chicago and having a brief but memorable introduction to higher education at Reed College, Portland, OR, Jo entered Northwestern University, graduating as BA-Education in 1956. Two years of teaching in secondary schools in eastern Oregon then imbued her with a desire for graduate studies in something else! She chose American history, leading to MA and PhD degrees awarded by the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1963 and 1967, respectively. Her dedication to history and teaching was not lessened, but enhanced, with her marriage and many subsequent residences: (1) University of Wisconsin, Whitewater, assistant professor 1965-68; (2) Bowie State College, Bowie, MD, associate professor 1969-74; (3) University of Maryland, University College, instructor 1973-1981; (4) Fulbright Lecturer, Kabul University, Afghanistan 1977-78; (5) George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, lecturer 1975-1981; (6) California State University, Sacramento, lecturer 1982-1995; (7) New Mexico State University, adjunct associate professor 1996-2003 and (8) NM Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, lecturer 2004-07.

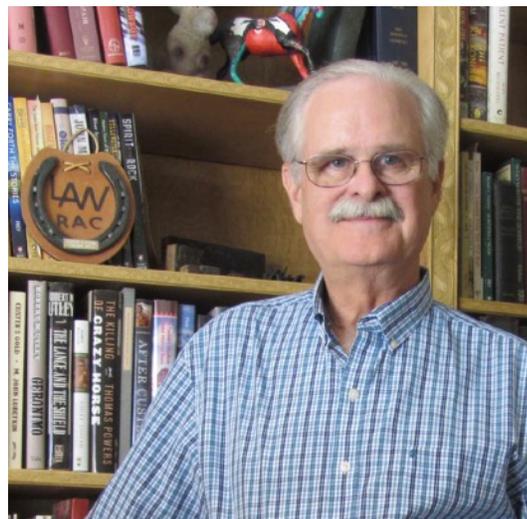
Jo Tice Bloom also had a notable career in the Girl Scouts as a troop leader, volunteer trainer, staff member at events, board member in governing councils of "The Nation's Capital" (Washington, DC) and "Tierra del Oro" (Sacramento, CA).

Moving to New Mexico in retirement was actually to return to a favorite place Jo had loved as a 17-year-old Girl Scout participant in the "Dirty Diggers" summer program of Dr. Bertha Dutton, notable archaeologist and ethnologist in Santa Fe. The "Diggers" were shepherded all over northern New Mexico and Arizona, meeting present-day Pueblo and other Native Americans and examining ruins left by Ancient Ones.

Proud of her Honorary Membership in the Western History Association, Jo was a Life Member of the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, also of the Doña Ana County Historical Society. Jo became a Life Member of the American Association of University Women in 1965 and was a loyal and active supporter of AAUW everywhere she lived. When the state convention of AAUW was held in Las Cruces in New Mexico's statehood centennial year, Jo was chosen to give the main address.

Her articles on many historic topics have appeared in at least a dozen other journals and edited books. Her papers presented at historical conferences and other events comprise a larger list, including a number at meetings of Westerners International, and book reviews were published in at least twenty publications. Jo married a longstanding member of several W.I. corrals and she became that corral's first female Sheriff and later President of W.I.

## Robert A. Clark of the Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners Living Legend #65



Robert A. Clark, distinguished third-generation bookman, publisher, and historian, has had the longest connection with the Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners of any living member, actually dating back to his own infancy. The Arthur H. Clark Company, founded by Bob's grandfather in 1902, has an outstanding record of publication in Western American history that is second to none. Robert A. Clark followed in his father's and grandfather's footsteps as Editor in Chief (1984) and then as CEO (1989) of the Arthur H. Clark Company as it moved and expanded from Glendale, California, to Spokane, Washington, and finally to Norman, Oklahoma.

Paul Galleher, co-owner of the Arthur H. Clark Company, was one of the original 1946 founders of the Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners. Galleher served as the Corral's second Sheriff in 1948, the same year that Robert A. Clark was born in Pasadena, and Bob's father Art Clark soon joined the Los Angeles Corral. While Harry Truman was in the White House a very young Bob Clark not only cruised the lanes between the stacks of his family bookstore on all fours but also later "attended" some of the earliest L.A. Corral Trail Boss meetings as a silent, grade-school-aged observer. This was because during the late 1940s and early 1950s these were held at the A.H. Clark offices/bookstore. In 1953, Bob's father Art Clark became the Los Angeles Corral's lucky 7th Sheriff. Bob Clark reminisces about how the L.A. Corral provided an informal education during the Eisenhower years: "Augie Schatra and Don Meadows would complain and holler, but Ray Billington calmed the waters. . . I watched in awe, and learned a lot about how board meetings worked from these guys."

Bob's formal education was at Humboldt State University, where he earned a degree in history, then joined the family publishing business full-time. He also began attending the Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners meetings, becoming a member in the 1970s. Robert A. Clark served as the head of the Los Angeles Corral in 1988, following in his father's footsteps as the Corral's first-ever second-generation Sheriff. Bob's interests and geographical peregrinations led him to join three other Westerners Corrals: Huntington (California), Spokane (Washington), and Cross Timbers (Oklahoma). Clark may be unique in his memberships in far-flung Westerners corrals separated by 1200+ miles (North-South) and 1200+ miles (East-West). Bob's long-term commitment was recognized by his election to the Westerners International Board, where he served as President (the Sheriff of all Sheriffs), for the years 2000-2002.

Bob Clark was no less active in the Western History Association, which he joined in 1974, attending its conference meetings annually and serving in various capacities. He also served on the board of trustees for the Washington State Historical Society from 1990 to 1999, and was board vice-president from 2000 and 2006. Robert A. Clark has also been active in the Oregon-California Trails Association, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Association, and the Mormon History Association.

Simultaneously with his service to Westerners International and to other historical organizations, while still at the tiller of the most respected scholarly press specializing in Western American history, Bob Clark's output reached its zenith: he was personally

responsible for publishing 400+ works on the American West through the A.H. Clark company and the University of Oklahoma Press. He also somehow found the time to serve as production editor and designer for no fewer than five different scholarly journals on Western American history: the "Southern California Quarterly, California History" (the California Historical Society Quarterly), "Overland Journal" (the California-Oregon Trails Association Quarterly), the "California Mission Studies Quarterly", and "We Proceeded On" (the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Association Quarterly).

Rounding out Bob's 16-hour workdays, week after week, year after year, he continued the family antiquarian book-selling business as part of the A.H. Clark Company's fully-rounded commitment to Western American history. Not only the publisher of works by other leading scholars, including Westerners from many different corrals, Bob has also contributed in his own "write" as well, as the author, co-author, and editor of three books, and several dozen book introductions and articles on Western American history.

After more than eight decades in Glendale, California, Bob moved the Arthur H. Clark Company to Spokane, Washington, in 1989. Then, in 2006, Bob moved both himself and his wife Sheila along with the A.H. Clark Company to Norman, Oklahoma, to function as an imprint of the University of Oklahoma Press under his direction. In 2012 Bob and Sheila moved back west to "Baja British Columbia" where he was honored to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of Washington State University Press. The veteran of more years in scholarly publishing than any other three or four hard-working bibliophiles, Bob finally retired in 2019. He is now reachable by cell phone on the Pullman, Washington, golf course, except during inclement weather.

Few historian-publishers have had a closer and more formative relationship with the Frontier West than Robert A. Clark. For more than half a century just about every member of all 70+ Westerners Corrals have enthused about books published by him. These find places of honor on bookshelves in both public and private libraries alongside earlier volumes published by Bob's father and grandfather. Western historians for more than a century have thanked their lucky stars that three generations of Clarks, and their wonderful Arthur H. Clark Company, have so diligently and outstandingly filled their literary needs for so many decades.

The Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners humbly requests that the Home Ranch of Westerners International, as well as all Westerners around the World, accept Robert A. Clark as our newest Living Legend, an honor as well-deserved as it is overdue.

Brian Dervin Dillon, Ph.D. 08/17/2019

# CORRAL NEWS



## CALL FOR CORRAL AND POSSE UPDATES

Please send us your notices and announcements on upcoming or past corral and posse programs and events. We love to spread the good news to other corrals and posses about the activities of their fellow Westerners!

**Marie & Klaus Krizanovic** of the **FORT COLLINS CORRAL** announce their September 9, 2019 meeting will be "*The Evans Rifle*" presented By David Weddle. David owns Frontier Gallery LLC which has been in business since 1991, specializing in old antique firearms and items from the Old West & Frontier eras.

Frontier Gallery LLC focus's on Old West and Frontier firearms up to and including WWII. Dave has been involved with old guns for over 30 years. He has had many rare firearms through the years but one of his favorite rifles is the Evans rifle. The Evans Repeater is often considered to be one of the oddest rifles to ever be manufactured in the United States. The "Evans" was invented by Warren R. Evans, a dentist from Thomaston, Maine. With the help of his brother George, they perfected the rifle and started the "Evans Rifle Manufacturing Company" of Mechanic Falls, Maine in 1873.

A total of almost 15,000 Evans repeating rifles were produced between 1873 and 1879. The rifle was the only firearm mass-produced in the State of Maine in the 19th century. The Evans rifle also had the greatest magazine capacity of any rifle mass-produced in the 19th Century.



**Bob DeWitt** of the **Pikes Peak Posse** reports that their monthly historical presentation will be "Cody and the Battle of Summit Springs" by Jeff Broome, PhD. The gathering will be Monday, September 9, 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the Colorado Springs Masonic Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Before Buffalo Bill Cody became famous, he was the chief scout in Brevet Major General Eugene Carr's 5th Cavalry Republican River Expedition that culminated in the last battle in Colorado between the Cheyenne and whites on July 11, 1869, near present-day Sterling. In the Dog Soldier village were two white female captives taken in Kansas six weeks earlier. Publications on this Cody experience, as well as the battle, have today been mired in much false history, "fake news" as it is popularly called now. This talk will highlight the extent of this "truth decay" and set the historical record straight, or at least, as straight as it can be maintained 150 years after the events.

**PIKES PEAK POSSE** met on September 9 in Colorado Springs to host program speaker, Jeff Broome, Ph.D. Dr. Broome gave a program on "Cody and the Battle of Summit Springs." Before Buffalo Bill Cody became famous, he was the chief scout in Brevet Major General Eugene Carr's 5th Cavalry Republican River Expedition that culminated in the last battle in Colorado between the Cheyenne and whites on July 11, 1869, near present-day Sterling. In the Dog Soldier village were two white female captives taken in Kansas six weeks earlier. Publications on this Cody experience, as well as the battle, have today been mired in much false history, "fake news" as it is popularly called now. This talk will highlight the extent of this "truth decay" and set the historical record straight, or at least, as straight as it can be maintained 150 years after the events.

Jeff is a fifth generation Coloradan, whose great-great grandfather first visited Colorado in 1859, permanently calling it home in 1863, and then settling in Wetmore in 1869. For many decades, his family owned the Broome Brothers camera stores in Pueblo, as well as Shewmakers during the 1950's and 1960's. Jeff is a retired philosophy professor at a state college in Metro Denver, and now lives in Beulah. He has a BS from Southern Colorado State College in Pueblo, an MA from Baylor University and a PhD from CU, Boulder. He is the author of three books on the Indian wars as well as numerous articles and pamphlets. He is also an accomplished instrumental steel-string fingerstyle acoustic guitarist and has recorded three albums along the way.

The **Pikes Peak Posse's** March meeting was about "Pikes Peak Trolleys, Past, Present and Future" by John Haney. John will share knowledge about the history of the Colorado Spring's streetcar systems, what is going on in today's world (mostly centered around the Pikes Peak Trolley Museum and Restoration Shop) along with the prospects and considerations regarding an operating streetcar system for our city. John is co-author with Morris Cafky of two books on trolleys, Pikes Peak Trolleys and Pueblo Steel Town Trolleys.

### PRESCOTT CORRAL

Linda Cravens from the Prescott Corral reported on a whopper of a program in August. They had six informative presentations on a variety of subjects relevant to our western heritage – all in one day! The morning featured programs on Geronimo and Wyatt Earp, a Southwest dude ranch, and the afternoon had presentations on a local frontier playhouse, the Great Fire of 1900, and the Lost Dutchman Mine. The event was followed by dinner and a presentation on Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid. What a grand day!

### SILVER CITY CORRAL

During the spring, the Silver City Corral had Doug Dinwiddie offering a program on "From the Southwestern Frontier to the Jungles of Asia: One Officer's Experience Leading the Buffalo Soldiers." The program was followed by a tasty dinner and was enjoyed by all.

### NORTHWEST MONTANA POSSE OF WESTERNERS

had their September meeting at Red Lion with a Grab and Greet, Dinner and Program. Their speaker was Ellen Baumler of Helena Montana and she spoke on "Montana's Chinese: Our Forgotten." Thanks for keeping us in the loop!





**Bob Dewitt** of the **Pikes Peak Posse** of the Westerners shares the news of their monthly historical presentational their 4th Annual Rendezvous. The Corral met on August 4 at the Union Printers Home in Colorado Springs, CO. Participants enjoyed a catered Dickey's Barbecue Pit luncheon served. Westerner Ed Bathke shared a slide show and demonstration using his vintage 1915 Keystone lantern slide projector. For information on the Pikes Peak Corral check out:

<https://www.colorado.com/history-museums/pikes-peak-posse-westerners>



*Bathke's 1915 antique lantern slide projector and vintage slides*



*Edmondson - Ft. Worth Westerners*

**Bob Saul**, Sheriff of the **Fort Worth Westerners** announces their Sept. 17 meeting. : **Jack Edmondson, "Colonel Bowie's Knife—The History of a Legend Forged in Steel"**

Like the man who wielded it with such deadly effect on a Mississippi sandbar, the Bowie knife is enshrouded in far more romantic mythology than in documented fact. Who really made it? What did it look like? These and other questions have puzzled historians since before the fall of the Alamo.

In both of Edmondson's writings and his "living history" presentations, the author views himself in the role of historian as storyteller. The retired history teacher has authored several books and over fifty magazine articles, most on aspects of Texas history. His book, *The Alamo Story—from Early History to Current Conflicts*, has been praised by reviewers as the "best" and "most readable" of all historical accounts devoted to the Texas shrine. Edmondson was a featured author at the 2000 Texas Book Festival and a member of C-Span's "Ultimate Alamo Panel," where his book was described as the "new standard on the Alamo." In 2010, the Alamo Studies Forum selected *The Alamo Story* as #1 of the "Five Essential Alamo Books." Nearly a decade later, in a list of "must read" books compiled by more than 600 members of the Alamo Society, *The Alamo Story* again fell into the #1 slot.

A native Texan, Edmondson graduated from Fort Worth Country Day School. He received his B. S. from the University of Texas at Austin and his M. S. from Texas Christian University. In appreciation for his contributions to Texas history, Edmondson was elected an honorary member of the Sons of the Republic

of Texas, and Governor Rick Perry commissioned him an Admiral in the Texas Navy. Edmondson is a member of the Fort Worth Corral and currently serves on the Tarrant County Historical Commission. He also is on the board of directors for the Texas Trail of Fame, the Friends of the Fort Worth Herd, and Log Cabin Village. Edmondson resides in Fort Worth, Texas, with his wife, Susan, and their two dogs and three horses.

**Phil Williams** of the **Fort Worth Westerners** reports that, eight members from the **Fort Worth Westerners Corral** were among the approximately 90 attendees for the third annual **Real West Symposium in Saint Jo**. This year's Symposium was held in the newly renovated Texas Theater on the Square. The event was sponsored by The Saint Jo Historical Society, The Museum of the Stonewall Saloon, and The Saint Jo Chamber of Commerce.

Saint Jo, located about 15 miles south of the Red River and northwest of Fort Worth, was the last stop in Texas for supplies during the cattle drive era. An estimated 6 to 10 million Texas Longhorns traveled from South Texas by way of Fort Worth and Saint Jo to cross the river at the famous Red River Station Crossing in route to Abilene, Kansas.

The Symposium topic this year was "**Gunslingers and Outlaws**". Check the website for Speaker and Program details. [www.TheRealWest.org](http://www.TheRealWest.org)

Symposium Programs and Speakers:

**What Cowboys Were Not** - Michael Grauer, McCasland Chair of Cowboy Culture/Curator of Cowboy Collections and Western Art at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**Gunfight at the Okay Corral** – Marshall Trimble, the "Will Rogers of Arizona" and author of over 25 books on Arizona history

**White Elephant in the Room: A Deep Dive into the Life and Times of Luke Short and Timothy Isaiah "Longhair Jim" Courtright** – Dawn Youngblood, Phd, Director of Historic Preservation and Archives for Tarrant County in Fort Worth, Texas and Fort Worth Westerners Corral member

**The Fracas at Daileyville** – Sue Butler Carter, Butler Family Historian and Karnes County, Texas Historical Society member

**Texas Ranger Stories: John Wesley Hardin, Texas Most Notorious Outlaw** – Joe Davis, Past President of the Former Texas Rangers Association and current President of the Former Texas Rangers Foundation

The Symposium, Stonewall Saloon Museum, and buffet lunch at the Lazy Heart Grill were all excellent!!

Plan to check the website next year for the 2020 The Real West Symposium and Speaker line up. You won't be disappointed!! Phil Williams, Ft. Worth Westerners Representative.

**Klaus & Marie Krizanovic**, Co-Sheriffs of the **Fort Collins Corral** (Colorado) announced that they held a "Show and Tell" for their March meeting. Westerners were encouraged to bring to the meeting books, antiques, art that have a special historical meaning.





THE 59TH ANNUAL WHA CONFERENCE Wednesday, October 16, 2019 • Las Vegas, Nevada  
for additional information: <https://www.westernhistory.org/registration>

# Western History Association News

**Thanks to Matt Despain for organizing the panel for the 2019 Western History Association in Las Vegas!**

## **Landscapes of Violence and Sacredness: Native Reclaiming and Reinterpretation of Historic and Hallowed Spaces**

Matthew Despain, Rose State College (Chair)  
Donald Fixico, Arizona State University (Commentator)

### **First Presentation:**

**"Shadows of Sand Creek: The Massacre As A Pivotal Moment in the American West"**

**Presenter: William Winslow Carroll, Austin Peay State University**

Abstract: The Sand Creek Massacre was a momentarily brief attack perpetrated by Colorado militiamen against Cheyenne and Arapaho villagers with repercussions far beyond that fateful November morning. Sand Creek represents a turning point in the history of the West as it brought an end to the Borderland society that had existed in Colorado and simultaneously laid the foundations for Federal Reconstruction. Beginning with a brief overview of this society built by the Bent family, the presentation will observe contemporary reactions to news of the Massacre and how these reactions became a template for Greater Reconstruction. All the while placing these overviews into the context of the preexisting historiography of both Borderlands and Greater Reconstruction. Having achieved this, recommendations will be made on incorporating this perspective into the current interpretive efforts at the site of the Massacre in order to widen both the scope and appreciation of the event for future visitors.

### **Second Presentation:**

**"Voices From the Dust: A Shoshone Perspective of the Bear River Massacre"**

**Presenter: Darren Parry, [dparry@arrowpoint.us](mailto:dparry@arrowpoint.us); Tribal Chairman**

Abstract: From shortly after the final shot in 1864 to the present, the process of remembering and interpretation have been inextricably linked to the landscape where the Bear River Massacre occurred. In 1932, the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers erected a monument calling the massacre a "battle" and commemorating the actions of soldiers and saints as heroic. This presentation addresses this process of colonizing history and memory, of Native erasure, and recent efforts of the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation to reclaim more than 700 acres of hallowed ground and reinterpret the narrative of the Massacre from Shoshone perspectives. Such reclaiming and rebalancing of history utilizes the past in the process of forging new understandings and relationships with hopes of reconciliations of Native with non-Native worlds.

### **Third Presentation:**

**Reclaiming and Decolonizing the Land: Modern Plains Tribe Consortiums and Bear Butte**

**Presenter: Daryl Max Bear, [mbear@c-a-tribes.org](mailto:mbear@c-a-tribes.org); Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma**

Abstract: Recent efforts by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe of Oklahoma, in partnership with other Northern Plains tribes, to purchase lands near the sacred Bear Butte near Sturgis, South Dakota, is part of a grander indigenous effort of decolonizing the past, reclaiming and protecting sacred lands, redefining human relationships with such location, and rebalancing the narrative and place of Native peoples in the West. This presentation explores the sacred significance of Bear Butte to certain Plains tribes and the history and process of regaining Native management of lands adjacent to it. The presentation also explores the differing relationship and interpretation of tribes, particularly the Southern Cheyenne, with such sacred landscapes as compared to landscapes associated with

*Jim Jennings grew up in Sweetwater, Texas and graduated from Texas A&M University. Jim and his wife Mavis reside in Amarillo, Texas. He is a member of the Palo Duro Corral and serves the Corral as Keeper of the Chips. Jim is a renowned western writer and a long-time western historian. Jim is retired as Executive Director of Publications for the American Quarter Horse Association and continues to write and is currently writing the scripts for Red Steagall's television show "Somewhere West of Wall Street."*



*by Jim Jennings, Palo Duro Corral*

The

# XIT Ranch



In the 1870s, the state of Texas didn't have a lot of money. The Civil War had been costly, and although the new state government was up and running, law makers found themselves cramped and uncomfortable in their old capitol building. One thing they did have, though, was a lot of land. So, in 1879, the Texas Legislature appropriated three million acres of land to finance a new state capitol building.

That land was to be located in the Texas Panhandle, beginning at its northwest corner and extending south through 10 counties for more than 200 miles. Then, of course, someone had to be found that would agree to build the capitol in return for three million acres of land. In November 1881, a need that was imperative became one that was urgent when the current capitol building burned. On January 1, 1882, bids for the new building were opened. Only two bids had been received, and the state selected Mathias Schnell of Rock Island, Illinois. Schnell accepted the contract in return for the land, but then transferred his interest to Taylor, Babcock and Company of Chicago, which organized what they called the Capitol Syndicate. The principal investors in the syndicate were Charles B. Farwell, John V. Farwell, Colonel Amos C. Babcock, and Colonel Abner Taylor of Illinois.

The syndicate's plan was to sell the land for more than enough money that it would take to build the capitol building. But since the land that the syndicate was to receive as payment was in the unsettled Panhandle area, the group decided to establish a ranch to utilize the land until it could be sold.

Colonel Babcock went to Texas to conduct a survey of the property. From Buffalo Springs, which was near the northern boundary, to Yellowhouse Creek in the south, his group took 36 days to inspect the wide-open country, during which time they traveled more than 950 miles. Babcock returned to Chicago to report that claims for the spread, which extended some 220 miles north to south on the New Mexico border, were accurate in regard to soil, grass, water, timber, rock, and shelter. He recommended that it be immediately fenced and stocked with cattle. To secure the enormous amount of finances necessary for developing the ranch, John Farwell went to England, and late in 1884,

succeeded in forming the Capitol Freehold Land and Investment Company of London. Farwell returned with the equivalent of roughly \$5 million in American currency.

The Capitol Syndicate intended to run cattle only until the land could be utilized for farming -- long-range goals were to promote settlement, eventually subdivide the acreage, and gradually sell it off piecemeal. But, on the strength of Babcock's suggestions, it was decided to fence the entire range and erect windmills for stock water. B. H. (Barbecue) Campbell of Wichita, Kansas, was chosen by John Farwell to be the ranch's first general manager. Campbell was an experienced rancher and cattle breeder, and longtime friend of Taylor and the Farwells. He received his nickname from the Bar BQ brand he used at his ranch on Medicine Lodge Creek in Indian Territory. Under his direction, a fence line was surveyed for a horse pasture at Buffalo Springs, which was the ranch's first designated headquarters, and late in the spring of 1885 the first pasture fence was completed.

Campbell, in the meantime, set about contracting for longhorn cattle in central and south Texas. On July 1, 1885, the first herd of 2,500 head arrived at Buffalo Springs. They had been driven from the Fort Concho area, near present day San Angelo, by Ab Blocker. As the two men stood on the ground discussing the cattle,

Campbell told Blocker that he needed a brand that could not be easily changed. After a moment's thought, Blocker picked a stick off the ground and drew the letters XIT in the dirt between them. The XIT Ranch was born.

Although legend persists that the brand signified "ten in Texas" since the land covered all or portions of 10 counties, that's probably not right. It originated strictly because it was a brand that was easily made with one five-inch bar, and one that would be hard to alter by rustlers. Within the next year, 781 miles of XIT range was fenced, and by November 1886 some 110,721 cattle valued at \$1,322,587 had been purchased.

When the fencing was all done, cross fences cut the XIT into 94 pastures, making a total of about 1,500 miles of fence. All that fence, in a single strand, would have stretched for more than 6,000 miles. Besides the wire, more than 100,000 posts, five carloads of wire stays and one carload of staples were required. After 1887, large-scale buying ceased. At that time, there were 150,000 head of cattle on the ranch. During Campbell's tenure as general manager, contracts for water wells were made with drillers, fencing projects were continued, and the first ranch house was built in 1886. For convenience the ranch was cut into eight different divisions, which were known as Buffalo Springs, Middle Water, Ojo Bravo, Alamasitas, Rita Blanca, Escarbada, Spring Lake, and Casa Amarillas, or Yellow House. All steers raised on the other divisions were trailed to Buffalo Springs as yearlings, while Middewater was reserved for culls and undesirables until they were ready for shipment. The better cattle were grazed on Ojo Bravo -- considered to be the prettiest part of the ranch -- and on Rita Blanca until they were ready for shipment. Escarbada, Spring Lake, and Casas Amarillas were breeding pastures.

Each division had a section headquarters, a foreman, and its quota of employees and horses. When the Fort Worth and Denver City Railway built through the Panhandle in 1887, the new town of Channing emerged as a major shipping point. As a result, it became the center of ranch activities, and the main XIT headquarters was established there. The house contained 22 rooms, and another building housed the offices. The eighth division, Alamasitas, which came about with the building of the Pecos and North Texas line in 1898, was centered at Bovina, a small community southwest of Hereford. Bovina was originally called Bull Town, but the railroad said the name was too vulgar so they wrote Bovina on their maps. Another railroad shipping point was Perico, near the Farwell Park line camp in the Buffalo Springs division.

On January 1, 1888, Albert G. Boyce came in as the new general manager. Like his predecessor, Boyce insisted on strict adherence to the ranch laws as set up by the syndicate. These included prohibitions against gambling, drinking alcoholic beverages, abusing stock, and killing beef without permission. Even so, under his rule, the XIT reached its peak with 150 cowboys who rode 1,000 horses and branded 35,000 calves in one year.

Beginning in 1889, a program of breeding and herd improvement was launched, with the introduction of Hereford, shorthorn, and Aberdeen-Angus cattle.

In addition to its vast Panhandle acreage, the XIT maintained ranches in the northern Plains, first in South Dakota and later, in 1889, on a range north of Miles City, Montana. For 11 consecutive years, 12,500 cattle were driven annually to these northern pastures and fattened for the Chicago markets.

By the turn of the century, 325 windmills and 100 dams had been erected on the XIT ranges, all at a cost of around \$500,000. Cowhands were paid from \$25 to \$30 a month. Although dances and other social gatherings were commonplace at Channing during holidays and special occasions, other extracurricular diversions could easily be found in the rail towns springing up outside the ranch boundaries.

Of course, the operation of such a huge spread meant coping with unceasing problems. Instances of fence cutting and cattle rustling increased as smaller ranchers moved into the Panhandle and the adjacent New Mexico Territory. Consequently, the XIT men, along with a few "hired guns," often formed vigilante posses that struck back at known rustler hideouts. Also, wolves and other wild animal predators took a terrible annual toll among cattle, particularly during the calving season. Many cowboys earned extra money by "wolfing" to obtain the high bounties established for wolf pelts.

And it wasn't just the rustlers and wolves, there were also frustrating delays in drilling wells, especially during XIT's earlier years. These delays sometimes resulted in cattle dying from lack of sufficient water. Because of such difficulties -- in addition to droughts, blizzards, prairie fires, and declining markets -- the XIT operated largely without profit throughout most of its lifespan. But, by the late 1890s, the British creditors were wanting their money, and the Capitol Syndicate began the gradual process of selling out. George W. Littlefield was the first large purchaser, buying 235,858 acres. William E. Halsell started his Mashed O Ranch out of the old Spring Lake division by buying 184,155 acres, and John M. Shelton developed the Ojo Bravo division as the Bravo and JJ ranches.

As homesteaders began pouring in, a land rush occurred during the early 1900s. To better promote its real estate, the Syndicate established the office of land commissioner in 1905, and then set up what the cowboys called experimental "poor farms." There was one about seven miles south of Channing and another near Bovina. By the time Henry S. Boice succeeded A. G. Boyce as general manager in 1905, much of the XIT land was already being divided into small tracts and sold to farmers. In 1909, nearly all of the British bonds that had helped start the enterprise were redeemed in full, much to the satisfaction of the English investors.

Total cost of erecting the state capitol, which was completed in April 1888, turned out to be \$3,744,630.60. Of this amount, the Capitol Syndicate's expenditures were \$3,224,593.45 because about \$500,000 of the total was assumed by the state. The original projection to build the capitol was \$1,500,000, but by selling off the ranch like they did, the corporation was able to fulfill its contract.

The last of the XIT cattle were sold on November 1, 1912, and land sales subsequently increased through the Capitol Reservation Lands, the new trust formed by the Farwell Estate in 1915. R. L. (Bob) Duke, who had served as foreman for the Buffalo Springs division and then as assistant general manager under Boice, became the last XIT cowboy to actually work for the estate when he was retained to oversee that portion of the range leased to the Shelton-Trigg partnership. By 1929 some 450,000 acres were still owned by XIT Ranch, but by 1943 that acreage had been reduced to around 350,000. The last parcel of XIT land was sold in 1963.



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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>

## Upcoming Events at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum,



Jason Roselius



### FOX F GRADE SHOTGUN OWNED BY THEODORE ROOSEVELT ON DISPLAY AT PPHM

President Teddy Roosevelt's favorite shotgun is now on display at the **Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum**. The firearm is on loan from the Jason Roselius Trust.

Roselius, a native of Panhandle, graduated from West Texas A&M University with degrees in history and political science and later from the University of Oklahoma Law School. He purchased the shotgun in 2010 for \$862,500, setting a record for the most expensive shotgun ever sold at auction.

According to Roselius family, it was Jason's intention the shotgun be displayed where the residents of the Texas

Panhandle would be able to see and enjoy it. Following Roselius' death in an accidental drowning in January 2018, members of his family initiated efforts for the shotgun to be placed on display at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, on the campus of the university he loved, according to his father, Jay Roselius. The Fox "F" Grade double barreled shotgun was presented to President Roosevelt by the president of the Fox Gun Company and bears the inscription "Made Expressly for Hon. Theodore Roosevelt."

Roosevelt used the shotgun on his well-documented 1909 African safari, the most famous of all African safaris, and told friends it was "the finest and most beautiful gun" he'd seen. The shotgun features intricate scroll work, oak leaves and a gold inlaid hunting dog on each side of the frame.

"We are extremely excited to have this shotgun on loan to the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum," museum director Carol Lovelady said. "PPHM has long been known for having the best gun collection in Texas, but with the arrival of Teddy Roosevelt's shotgun – considered a national treasure – the museum has become a destination for history buffs, gun collectors and Roosevelt scholars."

In the book *Theodore Roosevelt, Outdoorsman* by R. L. Wilson, Roosevelt is described as "one of the greatest of American Presidents, and one of the most versatile and accomplished individuals ever to hold that office. His public and private record of achievements during his sixty years of life (1858-1919) is remarkable. He was a social reformer and trust-buster, statesman and diplomat, rancher and hunter, naturalist and conservationist. In addition, he was a soldier, explorer and author. He also held the offices of Vice President and Governor of New York. He was a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, co-organizer of the Rough Riders, builder of the Panama Canal, and founder of the Boone and Crockett Club. Roosevelt's colorful and forceful personality endeared him to the people of his time. To all Americans, he was a great exemplar of courage, hardihood, and self-reliance."

Visitors can see the shotgun for themselves in Pioneer Hall for the summer and possibly longer, per the terms of the loan agreement with the Roselius family.

Thursday, Oct. 24—Garry Nall lecture, José Limón, "Streets of Laredo":

3-4 p.m. author Q&A (Cornette Library)

7:30 p.m. "Streets of Laredo" lecture (JBK Legacy Hall)

8:45-9:30 p.m. dessert reception and book signing (JBK Legacy Hall)

Tuesday, Nov. 12—Brownbag Colloquium with Dr. Tim Bowman, 12:30-1:15 p.m., Classroom Center room 316 (WT Campus)

Monday, Nov. 4—Brendan Rensink lecture, "Disrupting Western, Indigenous, and Borderlands Histories," 7 p.m., (Hazlewood Room, PPHM)

West Texas A&M University.

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# BOOK NEWS

OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS



## **Wyoming Range War The Infamous Invasion of Johnson County**

By **John W. Davis** paperback \$19.95

Wyoming attorney John W. Davis retells the story of the West's most notorious range war. Having delved more deeply than previous writers into land and census records, newspapers, and trial transcripts, Davis has produced an all-new interpretation. He looks at the conflict from the perspective of Johnson County residents—those whose home territory was invaded and many of whom the invaders targeted for murder—and finds that, contrary to the received explanation, these people were not thieves and rustlers but legitimate citizens.

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384 3PAGES

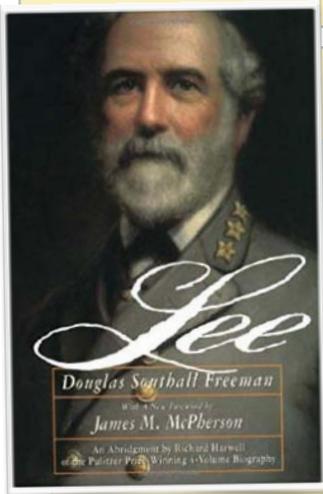
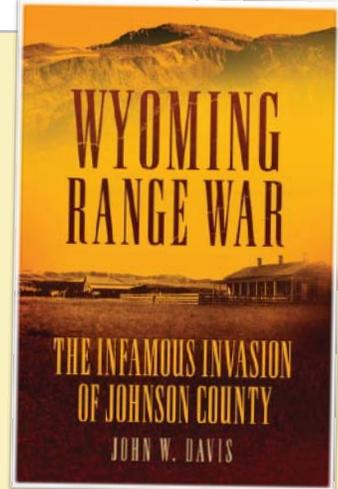
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PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 2011



## **Lee – Abridged, August 1, 1997**

by **Douglas Southall Freeman** paperback \$17.18 ([amazon.com](http://amazon.com))

Douglas Southall Freeman's Pulitzer Prize-winning biography of Robert E. Lee was greeted with critical acclaim when it was first published in 1935. This reissue chronicles all the major aspects and highlights of the general's military career, from his stunning accomplishments in the Mexican War to the humbling surrender at Appomattox. More than just a military leader, Lee embodied all the conflicts of his time. The son of a Revolutionary War hero and related by marriage to George Washington, he was the product of young America's elite.

Paperback: 656 pages

Publisher: Scribner; Touchstone ed. edition (August 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0684829533

ISBN-13: 978-0684829531

## **Bent's Fort By David Lavender**

price \$22.46 paperback ([barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com))

Bent's Fort was a landmark of the American frontier, a huge private fort on the upper Arkansas River in present southeastern Colorado. Established by the adventurers Charles and William Bent, it stood until 1849 as the center of the Indian trade of the central plains. David Lavender's chronicle of these men and their part in the opening of the West has been conceded a place beside the works of Parkman and Prescott.

ISBN-13:

9780803257535

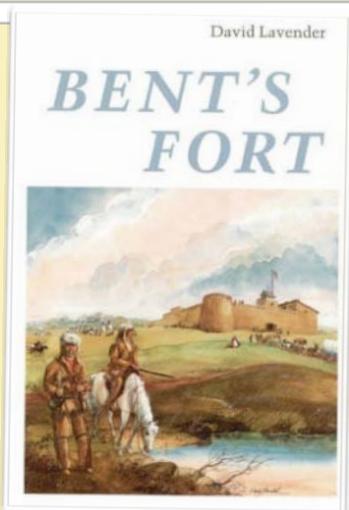
Publisher:

UNP - Bison Books

Publication date: 1972

03/28/1972

Pages: 478



If you've read a particularly fascinating book that you think might be of interest to other Westerners, please share it with your Buckskin Bulletin inkslinger at: [kenneth.pirtle@me.com](mailto:kenneth.pirtle@me.com) so I can add it to the Book News section of the next BB.