

# BUCKSKIN BULLETIN



## TAOS TRANQUIL BY MIKE MAHON EARLY FALL ARRIVES IN TAOS, NEW MEXICO



**MIKE MAHON** IS A NATIVE WEST TEXAN WHO NOW LIVES IN NEW MEXICO. HE PAINTS IN PASTELS AND OILS. MIKE ALSO TEACHES ART WORKSHOPS, IS A PORTRAIT ARTIST, ART COACH, AND AUTHOR. DURING AN ART CAREER OF OVER 50 YEARS, MIKE HAS DEVELOPED A BROAD AND DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THE PAINTING PROCESS. HE CONDUCTS WORKSHOPS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR PRIMARILY IN THE NEW MEXICO / TEXAS REGION BUT PROVIDES ART PROGRAMS, SEMINARS, AND WORKSHOPS FROM CALIFORNIA TO FLORIDA. HE ALSO PROVIDES DEMONSTRATIONS AND WORKSHOPS ONLINE VIA ZOOM. MIKE MAHON IS A SIGNATURE MEMBER OF THE PASTEL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (PSA), THE PASTEL SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO (PSNM) THE PLEIN AIR PAINTERS OF NEW MEXICO (PAPNM) AND FORMER SIGNATURE MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN PLAINS ARTISTS (APA). TO SEE MORE OF MIKE'S PAINTINGS AND PAINTING VIDEOS, CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING AT: [HTTPS://WWW.MMAHON.COM/](https://www.mmahon.com/) ; [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/C/MIKEMAHONFINEARTIST1](https://www.youtube.com/c/mikemahonfineartist1) ; [HTTPS://WWW.PATREON.COM/MIKEMAHONFINEARTIST/](https://www.patreon.com/mikemahonfineartist/)



**THE COVER IMAGE:** A SPECIAL "WESTERNER INTERNATIONAL" THANK YOU TO MIKE MAHON. MIKE HAS GRACIOUSLY AGREED TO SHARE HIS PAINTING IN THIS WAY. LOOK FOR MORE OF MIKE'S ART IN FUTURE BUCKSKIN BULLETINS.

## CHAIRMAN'S GREETING

*Greetings from the Home Ranch! Has anyone else had a hot summer? I hope you've all found ways to stay cool! At my husband's ranch and farm on the high plains in Colorado, we were between mid-90s and low 100s for about 3 weeks. We nearly wilted, but are starting to see signs of fall. The garden yield is big, I see a few yellow leaves in the cottonwoods, and even the horses' coats are showing small signs that autumn can't be far away, despite the 90 degree weather.*

*As all know from the last Bulletin, our next Gather is a year from now in South Dakota and will be hosted by Cal Larive and the Jedediah Smith Corral. From Old West History to Deadwood, we are sure to have a great 2026 Gather. Watch the Bulletins for updates and exciting news!*

*Thank you to all members who sent in entries for this year's awards cycle. We had a lot of entries, so, like last year, the decisions were tough in every category. And we thank each of you who took the time to enter and always love seeing what our fellow Westerners are up to during the year. Winners are announced here in the Bulletin.*

*Happy Fall and Happy Trails to all –*

**Bonney MacDonald**  
*Chairman, Westerners International*



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



### Inside this Issue:

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## 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 always appreciate all of your updates, newsletters, and publications!

**All Members:** Please be sure that your corral and posse 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 always available on the front page of the Westerners website; back issues are accessible on the website through the Buckskin Bulletin link.

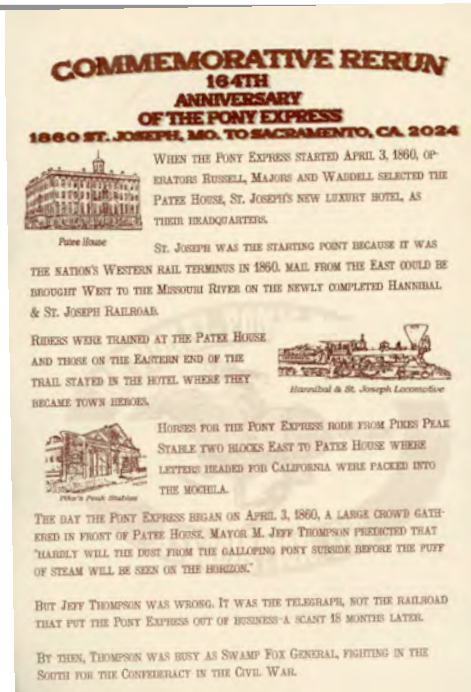
We often send the copy to both the currently listed Sheriff as well as the Rep because – even now in fall – there are some corrals and posses from whom we haven't received contact sheets. Since the sheriffs change yearly and the reps generally do not, this is one of our way of ensuring that corral and posse members get their copies!

### 2024 DUES & THANKS FROM THE HOME RANCH

Some corrals and posses are still being cautious for health reasons and couple of others have had challenges with membership numbers. So, at the Home Ranch we've tried to do all we can to support and encourage you to stay with it and keep the enthusiasm for our great organization.

If you were one of the corrals or posses who were not able to send in dues this year because of challenges in membership, we understand and we want to have your back! Yes, we depend on dues to keep the lights on, pay for awards, and many other things; but the MAIN thing is you all as well as the traditions and programs you carry. What we at the Home Ranch hope for most is that you stay healthy and that you are part of this fun and wonderful group of folks.

Please, even if your corral or posse cannot send in dues for the year because you haven't been able to meet, **be sure and send in your current contact info for your officers.** Without that information, we can't reach you will all the good announcements! Those forms are in the Dues and Awards packets sent out by US Mail every February. If you need a new copy, just email Bonney MacDonald, Chairman, WI, at [bmacdonald@wtamu.edu](mailto:bmacdonald@wtamu.edu).



Sadly, we don't get personal letters in the mail very often these days. Just flyers and ads. Recently I received something amazing in the mail. It took me a moment to figure it out. It came by way of **Pony Express!** Yes, no kidding. It traveled in a saddle bag, on a galloping horse mailed from St. Joseph, Missouri traveling through the plains, the rockies, to Salt Lake City, Utah and on to Sacramento, California. From there a modern day USPS postal service truck loaded it along with the other letters and brought mine to my mailbox in Texas via my regular mail man.

This was part of the **164th Commemorative Pony Express Re-ride 2024, St. Joseph to Sacramento.** My good friend and fellow Westerner **Rodney Lauhban** took the trouble to lick a special Pony Express stamp and have this special letter sent to me. Thanks Rodney. Very much appreciated! - Ken Pirtle

For more information check out the National Pony Express Association, INC. at: <https://nationalponyexpress.org/re-ride/current-ride/>





Michael Grauer



An exaggerated depiction of how cattle were driven into Dodge, "Ranchers drive Texas Longhorns through the streets of Dodge City, Kansas, in a sketch by Edward Rapier, 1878—courtesy of the Kansas Historical Society." Most cattle on the Western Trail went way west around Dodge.

## WESTERN CATTLE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

the momentous 150th Anniversary Celebration of the Western Cattle Trail

November 1st and 2nd, 2024

*Preserving the Western Trail: A Historian's Perspective*

Michael Grauer, the McCaslin Chair of Cowboy Culture and Curator of Cowboy Collections & Western Art at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, is scheduled to present at the 150th-anniversary Western Cattle conference at Boot Hill Museum in Dodge City, Kansas, on November 1st and 2nd, 2024.

During the conference, Michael will deliver two presentations. His first presentation will begin with an engaging exploration of the vibrant history and cultural significance of the King Ranch, focusing on its pivotal role in the Western Cattle Trail. One aspect of "Trailing Cattle from the King Ranch in South Texas" will feature a recording of Bob Kinnan, a renowned King Ranch resident historian.

Michael's second presentation will be on The Art of the Cattle Trails, a collection of depictions of trail driving, real and imagined. For those attending this presentation, it will be a unique and privileged opportunity to learn from his extensive research into this collection, which he has dedicated several years. His discussion will focus on this unique and extensive exploration, providing an exciting opportunity for the audience to delve into the depth of Western art.

For additional information contact Michael King at:

[wildwestpodcast@gmail.com](mailto:wildwestpodcast@gmail.com)

or [westerncattletrailassoc.com](http://westerncattletrailassoc.com)



# Western History Association News

## Western History Association Kansas City, Missouri, Oct. 23-36, 2024

Westerners International Sponsored Session  
"Western Expansions and Cultural Resistance:  
Reclaiming Spaces and Identity through Art and  
Literature in the American West"

Chair: Tim Bowman, West Texas A&M University

Rebekka Schlichting, University of Kansas, "Seeds  
and Beeds: Indigenous Persistence in Art and Film"

Margaret Huetll (Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe  
descendant), University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh,  
"Minwaajimo (She Tells a Good Story):  
(Re)inscribing Anishinaabewaki across Generations"

Juan García Oyervides, University of Wisconsin,  
Oshkosh, "Translating Racialized Identities in Xavier  
Tizoc Martinez's Self-Portraiture"

Comment: Jeanette Eileen-Jones, University of  
Nebraska-Lincoln



## WESTERNERS INTERNATIONAL IS PLEASED TO AWARD JIM JENNINGS THE LIVING LEGEND AWARD FOR 2024



Jim has been an active and contributing member of the **Palo Duro Corral** of Westerners International for more than 35 years.

Jim graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Agricultural Journalism. He retired from full-time work in 2008 as Editor and Executive Director of Publications for the American Quarter Horse Association, but even after his retirement, he has continued to serve the **American Quarter Horse Journal** as a contributing writer, photographer, and consultant. Additionally, he currently writes the scripts for the television show *"Red Steagall is Somewhere West of Wall Street,"* which appears weekly on RFD-TV, and he contributes a western themed story for **Westerners International's** quarterly, the *Buckskin Bulletin*.

Jim is a past president of American Horse Publications, the Livestock Publications Council, the Miss Rodeo America Association, and the Amarillo Tri-State Fair. He is a former member of the Texas 4-H Foundation board of directors, and he also served on the Texas A&M Agriculture Leadership, Education and Development board for the College of Agriculture.

Jim has written four books: one on the psychology of winning in professional rodeo; one on the first 15 ranches to win AQHA's Best Remuda Award; one on the 75th anniversary of the American Quarter Horse Association; and one on a historic ranch in Wyoming. He is currently working on another one.

Jim is a member of the American Quarter Horse, American Horse Publications and Livestock Publications Council halls of fame, and he has won six Wranglers presented by the **National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum** for that organization's Western Heritage Awards. Those include one for a magazine article that he wrote and five more as part of the production staff for the television show *"Red Steagall is Somewhere West of Wall Street,"* for which he wrote the scripts. He has won numerous other awards for his writing and photography, and he was honored by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association with a certificate of appreciation for Outstanding Journalistic Contributions to Professional Rodeo.

Jim is a longtime member of Western Writers of America.



**West Texas A&M University's Cornette Library, Center for the Study of the American West - Capturing History** Copy by Chip Chandler

CANYON, Texas — A collaborative project between two critical components of West Texas A&M University's research efforts is offering a permanent repository for vital regional history. Cornette Library and the Center for the Study of the American West are working together to flesh out the library's digital archive with photos, oral histories, maps and other articles that help tell the story of the region.

"We are working to protect and preserve our region's history in a digital format so that anyone can find it," said Dr. Alex Hunt, CSAW director, Regents Professor of English and Vincent-Haley Professor of Western Studies.

The partnership also includes Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, whose archives will store physical copies of the items. CSAW interns—funded through grants by such entities as Xcel Energy and the National Endowment of the Humanities—are cataloging items for preservation. Among them are oral histories for CSAW's ongoing Forgotten Frontera project; histories of Barrel and Indian Creek Ranch and Buffalo Lake; and snapshots of the life of Montie Ritchie, the grandson of pivotal area pioneer Cornelia Adair.

"It's not just portraits that are important historically," Hunt said. "These photos are a great view of the everyday life of this significant man." The digital archive also includes the map collection of area history teacher J. Michael Harter—colorful, hand-drawn renderings of the history and geography of the Llano Estacado. For more information see: <https://www.wtamu.edu/news/2024/08/wts-cornette-library-center-for-the-study-of-the-american-west-capturing-history.html>

# CORRAL NEWS



Let us not forget that we have Westerner friends across the pond. According to their informative Facebook page, the **British Westerners Association** had their 2024 Fall Round-up recently and posted lots of great photos showing a "jolly" good time. We can all learn a few things about how to put on a wonderful "cowboy" celebration including a campout, parties, contests and awards. All of this culminating in a publication full of photos of the numerous activities. Thanks to **Mark Firth**, Facebook administrator, photographer **Laycie Beck** and **Astie Crawford**, Round Up editor for sharing.





# more **CORRAL NEWS**



## CALL FOR CORRAL AND POSSE UPDATES

Thanks to all corrals and posses that send us information on your exciting and fun activities and publications. We always love to hear what y'all are doing and encourage members to send updates to us at the Home Ranch. It's always interesting for members in other corrals and posses to see your events!



### **WALKING 'N TROLLEY TOUR OF TOMBSTONE**

**Saturday, September 14th  
\$12 (in Cash) Covers it All!**

**9:30 A.M. Meet at Schieffelin Hall Parking Lot**

**10:00 A.M. Meet at Trolley Tour, Fourth & Toughnut (Only \$12 cash)**

**10:20 A.M. Trolley Tour Begins**

**11:30 A.M. Gunfight Show at Old Tombstone Western Theme Park  
(included in \$12 above)**

**12:20 A.M. Picnic in Tombstone Park**

**1:00 P.M. Walking Tour with Experienced Guides**

**Bring a picnic lunch! And water and a hat.**

**Limited to first 20 to sign up!**



The September meeting of the **Cochise County Corral** will be on Thursday, September 5, at 7 p.m., at Schieffelin Hall, **Doug Hocking** will speak on "Escape from Mesilla". In the spring and summer of 1861, confusion was the order of the day and Apache raids on the rise. For some, escaping from Mesilla was imperative. Dinner will be at 5:30 at the Longhorn Restaurant on Allen Street. The public and guests are welcome.

**Doug Hocking** reports that the **Cochise County Corral** will soon be publishing a book of poems and short stories. Some sample, proposed subject matter includes Tumbleweeds, The Cochise Chronicle, Thunder from Cochise County, The Western Scribe, Thunder in the West and Songs from the Desert,

The **Cochise County Corral of Westerners** sent us their newsletter, *Fremont Street Mail*, which listed interesting programming this season. In addition to their newsletter, the Corral has a quarterly publication, called *The Border Vidette*. You can learn more about the Corral's newsletter, quarterly publication – and their YouTube Channel! – at their website: [www.CochiseCountyCorral.org](http://www.CochiseCountyCorral.org)

The **Los Angeles Corral** just held their annual 2024 Fandango at a local air museum, and had a good turnout with 38 members and guests.

**Brian Dillon** of the **Los Angeles Corral** is busy of late presenting lectures to various west coast locations. Brian recently spoke to the Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley on **CALIFORNIA, THE IRISH PARADISE: 1795-1898 An Illustrated Presentation**. Additionally Brian will present the same presentation to the **Garden of the Sun Corral** in Fresno, California, Wednesday, September 18, 2024. And if that's not plenty, Brian will present to his own **Los Angeles Corral** in December, 2024, as the final offering in the Corral's yearly cycle of illustrated presentations. Brian will address his life as an Archaeologist in five (5) different New World countries: **A LIFE IN RUINS: 50 YEARS OF NEW WORLD ARCHAEOLOGY**, scheduled for December 11, 2024.

The **LA Corral** came out with its latest issue of *The Branding Iron* this summer. Among other pieces, the issue included "The Machete: Child of Two Worlds?" by **Brian Dervin Dillon** and a piece on California food history called "An Unusual Gold Rush Pudding," by **Tracy L. Johnston**.

# more **CORRAL NEWS**



*The Adobe Walls 1874 battle site near Stinnett, Texas*

*Photo by Kenneth Pirtle*

The **Palo Duro Corral** (Amarillo, Texas) recognized a very special day (see photo above) in the history of the American West by gathering at the Adobe Walls battle site. **Mchael Grauer**, the McCasland Chair of Cowboy Culture/Curator of Cowboy Collections & Western Art of the National Cowboy Heritage Center and Cowboy Hall of Fame, presented the complete saga to the **PD Corral** on the eve of the June 27th, 1874 Adobe Walls battle, 150 years prior.

The **Ft. Worth Corral** had an August program from Shae Nawoj, who spoke on "Honoring Enslaved Ancestors at the Port Sullivan Plantation Home". Westerners interested in learning more about the Corral, or in joining one of the Zoom presentations, can find out more at their website: [www.fortworthwesterners.com](http://www.fortworthwesterners.com) Thanks to **Phil Williams**, Corral Rep, for letting us know about the innovative programs in the Corral!



The **Pikes Peak Posse** had a July program from **Mike Calicrate**, entitled "Cows and Cowboys Can Save the World: Wealth Creation, Food Security, and Soil Health." The Posse had an exciting Rendezvous in August at the Ed Jones residence in Black Forest, Colorado, where the program was entitled "Cannon Collection." The Posse also has a September program on "Cheyenne Mountain: 'Here's Looking at You, Kid'" presented by **P. I. Anderson** and **Patrick Anderson**.

"**Hoss**" **Tucker** from the **Kansas City Posse** sent their newsletter to the Home Ranch. Thank you, Hoss! In May, the Posse hosted a program by **George Pettigrew** on "From Slavery to Buffalo Soldier." They had a program in June from **David W. Jackson** on "Engineered Irony: Crossing Octave Chanute's Kansas City Bridge for Trains and Teams, 1867-1917. In July, their program was presented by **Craig Crease**, "The Wanderer: James Butler Hickok and the American West." In August, they had a presentation in which **Brian Ivlow** spoke on "Guns of the Civil War period and guns of the Jesse James Farm." Their August program was from Bryan Ivlow, on "Guns of the Civil War period and guns of the Jesse James Farm," and their September event is from **Robert C. Jones**, on "The Frontier Towns of Missouri."





## WESTERNERS AWARDS FOR WORK COMPLETED IN 2023 (awarded in Fall 2024)

***Congratulations to all of this year's winners.***

Hearty thanks to the many members who submitted award entries! We exceeded the numbers even from last year! We hope you're looking at your corral's or posse's 2024 accomplishments for submission in early 2025!!

### Co-Founders Best Book Award

#### First Place

Richard E. Turley, Jr. and Barbara Jones Brown  
"Vengeance is Mine: The Mountain Meadows Massacre and Its Aftermath" Oxford University Press 2023  
Utah Westerners

#### Second Place : tie

Paul Carlson  
"Heaven's Harsh Tableland: A New History of the Llano Estacado" Texas A&M University Press 2023  
Llano Estacado Corral

Doug Hocking  
"Southwest Train Robberies: Hijacking the Tracks Along the Southern Border" Two Dot Press / Rowman & Littlefield, 2023  
Cochise County Corral

#### Third Place

Frank Brito  
"Indians, Latinos, and Confederates, A Western Family: 1598-1973" *Brand Book # 26*, 2023  
Los Angeles Corral

### "Coke" Wood Award for Historical Monograph or Published Article

#### First Place

Chuck Lanehart  
"Fort Elliott and Old Mebeetie: The Earliest Settlements on the Texas Plains" *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* Gannet Publishing, 2023  
Llano Estacado Corral

#### Second Place: Tie

Richard Sola and Dean Kiefer  
"Welcome to Our World Professor Bretz" *The Pacific Northwesterner*, 2023  
Spokane Corral

George Van Otten  
"The Omdogempis Agroculture in Cochise County, Arizona"  
*Cochise County Historical Journal*, 2023  
Cochise County Corral

#### Third Place

Renee Jean  
"Nearly 90 Years Later, Mystery of United Airlines Crash Near Cheyenne Still Motivates Wyoming Man"  
*Wyoming State Daily*, 2023  
Cheyenne Corral

### Phillip A. Danielson Award for Best Presentation or Program (award goes to the hosting corral or posse)

#### First Place

Palo Duro Corral, Amarillo, Texas  
For program by Laurel K. Vartabedian, "Northern Trails and Western Tales"  
March 8, 2023

#### Second Place

Spokane Corral, Spokane, Washington  
For program by Robert Heacock, "Early Missionaries of the Pacific Northwest"  
December 21, 2023

#### Third Place

Denver Posse, Denver, Colorado  
For program by Jeff Broome, "The Walnut Creek Massacre"  
November 15, 2023

### Heads Up Award -Larger Corral

Cochise County Corral  
Sheriff, Doug Hocking  
Hosts of Westerners International Gather, Tombstone, Tombstone, Arizona 2023

### Heads Up Award -Smaller Corral

El Paso Corral, Sheriff, Dale Owen  
El Paso, Texas

### Fred Olds Award for Cowboy Poetry

#### First Place

Bob Spahle  
Cochise County Corral  
"The Ride," "Harry the Rooster," and "The Cowboy Way"  
*Fremont Street Mail*, 2023



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 the Executive Director of Publications for the American Quarter Horse Association and continues to write. He is currently writing the scripts for Red Steagall's television show "Somewhere West of Wall Street."

## The Abernathy Boys

**Two of the bravest kids  
you have ever seen**



In 1909, life for the average person in the southwestern United States hadn't changed a whole lot in the last 25 or 30 years. Yes, the automobile had been invented, and it was estimated that there were approximately 200,000 automobiles in the country at that time. However, nearly all of those were in the cities, and many people living in Oklahoma and Texas had never seen one. The Wright Brothers had made their famous flight at Kittyhawk, North Carolina, in 1903, and although the Wrights had opened a plant to build airplanes, it's doubtful that anyone in the Southwest had ever seen one fly.

Now my point in bringing all this up is so you will understand why, when nine-year-old Louis "Bud" Abernathy and his five-year-old brother Temple decided to go from their home in Frederick, Oklahoma, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, they rode their horses.

But, of course, to understand this trip and the ones that were to follow, you need a little background. Bud and Temple Abernathy were the sons of Jack "Catch'em Alive" Abernathy. Jack received that nickname due to his ability

to dive off a running horse onto a similarly running wolf and thrust his gloved hand into the back of the wolf's mouth, which left the animal unable to bite him. He would then tie the wolf's jaws shut and tie the legs.

In 1904, U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, who loved to hunt, heard about Jack's method of catching wolves and decided he needed to see it for himself. A hunt was organized and hosted by Burk Burnett and his son Tom, of the Four Sixes Ranch, and W.T. Waggoner and his son Guy of the Waggoner Ranch. Also invited was the legendary Comanche Indian chief Quanah Parker. The hunt was to be in the Big Pasture in southern Oklahoma, land that was owned by the Indians but leased for grazing by both the Burnetts and the Waggoners.

After Jack had caught a wolf alive, President Roosevelt rushed up to congratulate him and said, "This beats anything I've ever seen, and I've seen a great deal. When you get your hand free, I want to shake it."

Roosevelt and Jack became great friends, and in 1906, the president appointed Jack U.S. Marshall of the Western District of Oklahoma Territory. Jack also did a



good bit of traveling, including a trip to Santa Fe, New Mexico, and when he would get home, he would tell the boys stories of the things he had seen. So, in the spring of 1909, when Bud was nine and Temple was five, they decided they needed to see all those things, too, and devised a plan to ride their horses to Santa Fe.

They approached their father with their idea one evening when he got home from work, and after thinking about it for a couple of days, he agreed to let them go. He opened a hundred dollar checking account for each of them, and told them to use the money for food and lodging, and any emergencies they might encounter along the way. He also told them not to push their horses, and as he handed Bud a

copy of the New Testament, he told both of them to say their prayers every night. They replied that they would.

Bud rode his dad's Arabian that he called Sam Bass, and Temple rode a half Shetland named Geronimo. The first part of their ride was from their home in Guthrie to the family ranch in southwestern Oklahoma, near Frederick. That took four days, and Jack waited on them there, expecting them to decide that was enough. However, both boys were raring to see New Mexico, and left early the next morning. They made it to Estelline, Texas, on the first day, although they arrived late at night, and from there they continued riding west, across the flat plains of the Llano Estacado and the Texas Panhandle.

In New Mexico, they went first to Portales and then dropped south to Roswell before turning north through the mountains toward Santa Fe, where they rode into the Plaza just two weeks after leaving their home in Oklahoma.

Their first stop was the governor's mansion, which their father had told them about. Governor George Curry was a former Rough Rider, which, under the direction of Teddy Roosevelt had stormed San Juan Hill in Cuba during the Spanish American War. When the kids told him that their dad was a friend of President Roosevelt, he made them welcome and showed them through his home and the capital building. Then he wired Jack and told him that his kids were there, and invited him out. Jack caught the next train to Santa Fe.

Both boys had really enjoyed the trip, although they did learn the perils of drinking the gypsum water that



they found at a windmill in the Texas Panhandle, and one night they had had to scare some wolves away from their camp. And the stretches between water holes in the arid land of eastern New Mexico had worried them some until they started planning their route more carefully by using their map.

After a few days in Santa Fe, the boys headed back home, but this time by a more direct route. They went east across Glorieta Pass, and their dad rode with them through there and as far as Las Vegas, New Mexico, where he sent his borrowed horse back to Santa Fe and caught the train to Oklahoma. They then rode to Tucumcari, New Mexico, on the way to which they were befriended by a group of cattle rustlers, although they didn't know the men's profession until later. From there it was to Amarillo, Texas, and then into Oklahoma and home.

A marching band and parade met them on the outskirts of Oklahoma City, but not everyone was happy about their trip. A group of women were really upset that their father had allowed them to do such a thing, and when one of them grabbed 5-year-old Temple and held him tight in her arms, he later said that was the most scared he was on the whole trip.

The next year, with the ride to Santa Fe under their belts, Bud and Temple set their sights on New York City. It was 1910, and Jack was going to New York to meet Teddy Roosevelt's ship on his return from a safari in Africa. The boys talked their dad into letting them ride their horses up there and meet the boat too.

They left Frederick around the first of April, both wearing new boots and hats and riding new saddles. Strapped to the back of their saddles were bed rolls, bacon and oats for the horses. Riding north into Indian Territory, their first stop was the Star House where Comanche chief Quanah Parker lived with his wives. Quanah, who was a friend of their dad's, was standing on his porch when the boys arrived, and he welcomed them in. Further north in Oklahoma, near Hominy, disaster struck. Temple's horse Geronimo foundered, and Temple was forced to buy another horse to make the trip. Temple named him Wylie Haynes, in honor of the man who agreed to take care of Geronimo.

They rode on north, through Missouri, and then took a ferry across the Mississippi River into Illinois. In Ohio, they visited the Wright Brothers Aeroplane Factory in Dayton, and were even shown through the factory by Wilbur Wright himself. During the tour, Wilbur let both

boys sit behind the controls of a nearly completed aeroplane, which is what they were called at that time.

In Wheeling, West Virginia, they saw Halley's Comet as it streaked across the sky, and then rode on into Washington, D.C. They visited President Taft at the White House—he had succeeded Teddy Roosevelt to the office—and for a week they toured all the sites in the city, including the national zoo and all the monuments.

From there, they rode on to Trenton, New Jersey, where their dad met them, and then on to Jersey City, where they took the ferry to New York.

Throughout their trip, word of what they were doing had spread in front of them, and there were crowds to greet them in almost every town. New York was no different, but once the police chief arranged for a livery stable to take care of their horses, they wanted to tour the city. They met the mayor of New York, went to a Broadway show and then, along with their dad, met Teddy Roosevelt as he returned from his African safari.

Roosevelt was honored by a parade in New York, and the boys got to ride their horses in the parade, right behind Roosevelt's carriage and in front of the Rough Riders, Roosevelt's old cavalry unit from the Spanish American War.

When it came time to go home, Jack intended for all of them, including the horses, to return to Oklahoma by train. However, the boys had fallen in love with the automobiles that were working up and down the streets of New York, and told their dad they wanted to drive one home. He agreed, but told them they had to find one small enough that they could drive it, and they had to stay within a budget that was far below the cost of most automobiles. Jack thought he was safe, that there was no way the boys could find anything that would stay within his restrictions. However, he was fooled. Bud and Temple found a Brush Runabout, which was a light two-passenger automobile that used a single cylinder 12 HP engine with chain drive and solid tires. And they could

buy it for \$485. Jack was beaten.

But Jack had gotten the car fever, too, and he bought a larger automobile and hired a chauffeur to drive him back to Oklahoma, following the boys in their Brush Runabout. They arrived in Oklahoma City 23 days after leaving New York.

The boys' next trip was even more challenging. A couple of promoters in New York offered them \$10,000 if they could ride their horses from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific in 60 days. That would be averaging 60 miles per day, and they were not allowed to sleep or eat under a roof at any point during the trip. The boys were sure that their horses, Sam Bass and Wylie Haynes, could make the trip, so they accepted the challenge. The starting point was knee deep in the Atlantic Ocean at Coney Island, and the goal was the water of the Pacific at San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. On August 11, 1911, they rode their horses out of the water at Coney Island and headed west.

Things went well all the way to Wyoming, and as always, their reputation had preceded them. Most of the people they met along the way knew who they were and what they were doing. However, near Cheyenne, hard luck hit the duo. Sam Bass got into a field of alfalfa one night, foundered and died the next day. Bud had to buy a new horse, which they named Big Black.

The boys continued across Wyoming, crossing the Rocky Mountains, and then in Utah they rode by the Great Salt Lake. Finally, they reached San Francisco, and they rode knee-deep into the Pacific. However, they missed their goal by two days and didn't get the \$10,000.

The boys took one last ride, in 1913, which was a trip from Frederick, Oklahoma, to New York City on a motorcycle. That one was a success, too, and that ended the travels of the Abernathy boys.

Both boys grew up and became successful. Louis, or Bud, became a lawyer in Wichita Falls, Texas. He died in 1979. Temple worked in the oil and gas business, and he died in 1986. Although they were celebrities at the time of their travels, they have almost disappeared from history. Frederick, Oklahoma, celebrates their Santa Fe ride each year and has erected a statue of the boys in their memory.





# from the Westerner International Mercantile your store just got a little bigger with more merchandise!

Look what's new!

### New items, left

- Five Panel Twill Cap, adjustable.....\$25.00
- 7x9" Rawhide Portfolio with stamped logo.....\$38.00
- Notepads w/Western logo..... \$4.00

### Items, right & below

- 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
- T-Shirts/round or v-neck..... \$25.00
- Polo Shirt..... \$45.00
- Bandanas..... \$7.00
- Decal 3"..... \$4.00
- Cap -adjustable size..... \$30.00

(Price includes free shipping!)  
shirt sizes available in small, medium, large and extra large

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

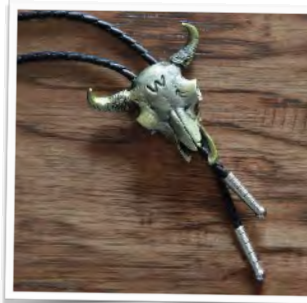
You can also email her at [dlking1@buffs.wtamu](mailto:dlking1@buffs.wtamu) or call the office at 806-651-5247



lapel pin



past sheriff's bin pin



bolo tie



lucite paper weight



tee shirt



white v-neck



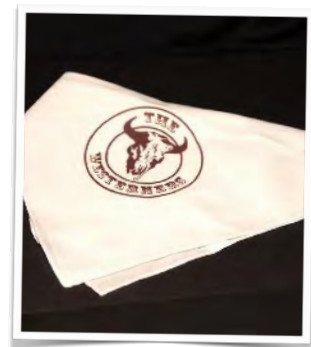
3" Decals



Westerner cap

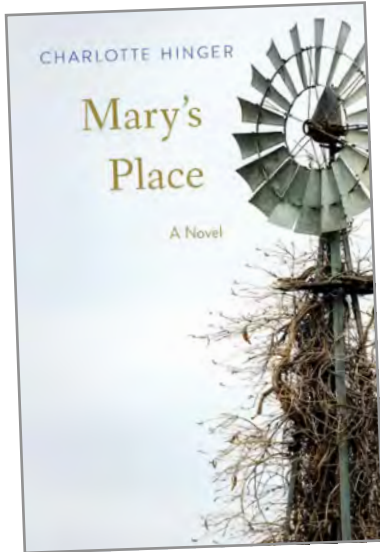


Polo shirt



white bandana

# BOOK NEWS OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS



**Mary's Place** A Novel **by Charlotte Hinger**

Published by: Bison Books  
 306 Pages EBOOK (EPUB) 9781496239884 PUBLISHED: JULY 2024 \$24.95

Charlotte Hinger's new historical novel, *Mary's Place*, was released this month by the University of Nebraska Press. Set in Western Kansas in the 1980s when rural communities were devastated by bank closures, it is a tribute to the families who weathered one of the worst agricultural disasters in American history.

Hinger is the award winning author of a number of historical and mystery novels, including *The Healers Daughter* which won a Kansas Notable Book Award and the non-fiction book *Nicodemus: Post-Reconstruction Politics and Racial Justice in Western Kansas*, published by Oklahoma University Press which won second place in the Westerners International book contest.

<https://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/bison-books/9781496239884/>

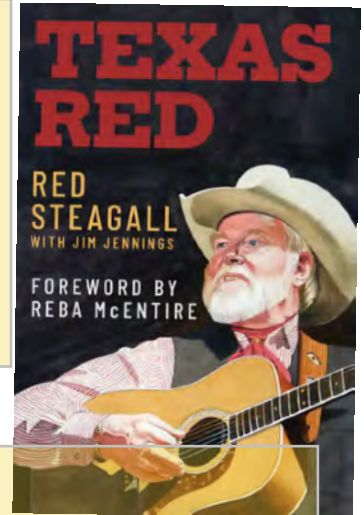
**Westerners International**  
*is proud to recognize  
 books by Westerners*

**Texas Red** by **Red Steagall** with Jim Jennings

Foreword by Reba McEntire - Published by: Texas Tech University Press

Now a bona fide global star, Red was raised in a small oil field town in the Texas Panhandle. Before wrangling with polio at age 15, he was already a fixture on the rodeo bull-riding circuit. Music was his rehabilitation therapy. This is a story of how Western culture permuted through twentieth-century America. In 1985, when country music changed, Red changed too. He began writing cowboy poetry and cowboy songs, with his music emphasizing the Western lifestyle that he loves. As a producer, as a host, as a broadcaster, and as an award-winning artist, he never forgot his roots and he never failed to bring the West to everyone he encountered.

224 Pages, 6.00 x 9.00 in Hardcover 9781682832257 - Publish date:: November 2024 - \$26.95

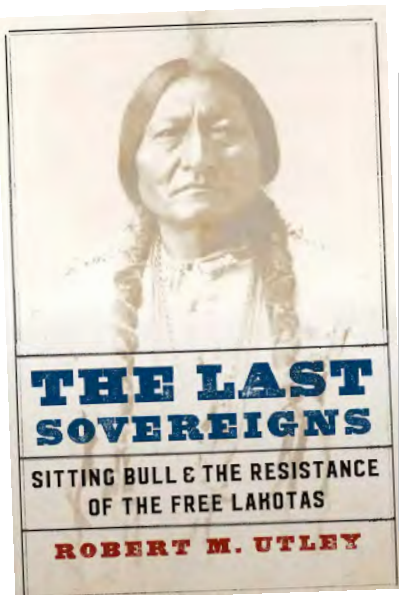


**The Last Sovereigns**  
**Sitting Bull and the Resistance of the Free Lakotas**

by Robert M. Utley - Published by: Bison Books - 200 Pages, 13 photos, 5 illustrations, 3 maps, index  
 2021 Spur Award Winner for Best Historical Nonfiction from the Western Writers of America  
 True West Magazine's 2020 Best Author and Historical Nonfiction Book of the Year

*The Last Sovereigns* is the story of how Sioux chief Sitting Bull resisted the white man's ways as a last best hope for the survival of an indigenous way of life on the Great Plains—a nomadic life based on buffalo and indigenous plants scattered across the Sioux's historical territories that were sacred to him and his people.

224 Pages, 6.00 x 9.00 in Hardcover 9781682832257 - Publish date:: November 2024 - \$26.95



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.





# BOOK & PUBLICATION NEWS

OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

**The Pikes Peak Inkspot**  
The Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners

May 6, 2024 Volume 3 Number 3

They said they were "only" going to stay for two weeks this year. But the last time they visited, they saw most of the big attractions. So, how are you going to entertain those flatland cousins?

**IN THIS ISSUE!**

Page	Title
1	Introduction
2	May Program
3	Spotlight - Boone Kital
4	Old "May" News
5	More Old "May" News
6	Around Town & Region
7	Summit in Pikes Peak area
8	Pikes Peak's history
9	The Inkspot HELPS YOU!

<http://www.pikespeakwesterners.org/inkspot/>

The Inkspot - Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners

The Pikes Peak Corral publishes the "Inkspot"

**WESTERNERS CORRAL**  
LOS ANGELES  
McGardner Iron

SUMMER 2024 LOS ANGELES CORRAL NUMBER 315

**The Machete: Child of Two Fathers?**

By Brian Derrin Dillon

**Introduction**

Just about every Californian Boy Scout in the 1950s and early '60s had his official, BSA-approved, folding pocketknife and hatchet in its own belt sheath. Marching to a different drummer, I was probably the only Scout who instead carried a folding bowie-type knife, formerly a Raton, New Mexico, murder weapon, and a big, heavy, U.S. Marine Corps Spanish-American War Collins No. 17005 machete. This tool was brought back from the Philippines by my Grandfather, a Sergeant in

(Continued on Page 3)

The Los Angeles Corral's latest "Branding Iron" no. 315

**COCHISE COUNTY CORRAL**  
WESTERNERS

**The Border Vidette**

Summer 2024 Volume 4, Number 2

**FREMONT STREET MAIL**

August 6, 2024

**Roundup Foreman's Trumpet**  
Gary Smith

Next meeting will be on Thursday, September 5, at 7 p.m., at Schaffel's Hall. Doug Hecking will speak on *Escape from Mesilla*. In the spring and summer of 1864, confusion was the order of the day and Apache raids on the rise while the Army did nothing. For secure escaping from Mesilla was imperative. There will be an optional no-host pre-meeting dinner 5:30 at the Longhorn Restaurant on Allen Street. The public and guests are welcome.

October 1 - *Debanking the Myth of Indian Charlie* by Chuck Seiff.

November 7 - *Fred J. Dodge: Gambler, Lawman and Wild West Detective* by Ken Weggan & Jens Seiff.

December 5 - *Poetry and Music for Christmas*.

**Recorder of Marks and Brands**  
Jenn Smith

Debra Lewis continues work on the Corral's book of *Short Stories and Poetry!* It will be called *Running Iron*. We're up to over 300 pages. Thank you all!

The first \$300 made on the book, which will sell for about \$15, will go to supporting the Teahouse Festival of Western Books which will be held on Friday, March 18, 2025. We need volunteers for the committee.

**Craig Johnson** is coming to our festival! Have you seen the *Longmire* TV series on read the books? He wrote them. This is major good news.

Bonnie Baker delivered a moving eulogy to her husband Gene, a longtime member of the Corral who was a major part of making us great.

We also need an assistant Videographer to work with Fred learning how to set up and tripod CamPlex.

Fare Dealer **Mike Costello** is recovering with heart issues.

**Keeper of the Chips**  
Debra Lewis

As of August 1, 2024:

The Cochise County Corral publishes the The Border Vidette and the Fremont Street Mail