

BUCKSKIN BULLETIN

Issue Volume LIII - issue 4 - December 2018

2018 WI Rendezvous & Gather

HUGE SUCCESS



Merry Christmas from the Home Ranch!



Greetings, Westerners!



I hope that this December issue of the *Buckskin Bulletin* finds you happily full after a Thanksgiving holiday and anticipating the joys of the Christmas and Holiday season!

As you will see from the photos and coverage elsewhere in this issue, we had a wonderful and successful first Westerners Gather and Rendezvous in Canyon, Texas in September. For our first event, we were modestly expecting around 35 people, but we were delighted to have 70 people register. Members came from states all 'round the West; they enjoyed hearing Western historical programs at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, touring Palo Duro Canyon, and dining under the Lone Star skies at Dove Creek Ranch. We held our fall board meeting on the afternoon of the first day; held programs, tours, and the ranch banquet the second day; and enjoyed meeting fellow members from around the country!

From conversation at Board meetings and with participants at the Gather, we have concluded that WI members would like to experiment with a new model, so here is the plan for the coming few years. Traditionally, at the fall conference of the Western Historical Association, we have had a scholarly panel, an exhibit booth, a board meeting and a reception/awards ceremony. At the September board meeting we voted to keep the WHA scholarly panel and exhibit booth, but to hold the reception and awards ceremony in a more social setting, separate from the WHA.

{continued}

For at least the next three years (through 2021), we will continue with the scholarly panel and exhibit booth at the WHA conference, and will have our board meeting, socializing, and awards ceremony at a WI Gather. The board voted to have the event at the Home Ranch every other year, with other corrals and posses hosting in the off years. The 2018 Gather was at the Home Ranch; the 2019 Gather will be hosted by another corral/posse and is currently in planning stages; the 2020 Gather will be at the Home Ranch; and the 2021 Gather will be hosted by the LA Corral in conjunction with their 75th Anniversary. We feel that this experiment allows us to maintain the historical and scholarly ties with WHA and to foster fun and scholarship in a more extended setting as well. Watch the Buckskin Bulletin for updates for 2019!!

On a more business note: WI has long been straining to keep the budget on track with the \$5-per-member annual dues. The expenses are not small, as dues cover everything from utilities, supplies, merchandise, website labor, administrative labor (officers and production/editing of Buckskin Bulletin), awards/plaques, \$2,000 worth of scholarships, travel/dues/booth expenses for WHA, and much more. If we are to keep on track and not dip into our capital and/or use up our dividend checks, we need to make an adjustment. After considerable discussion, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to increase the per-person dues from \$5.00 to \$9.00 per person per year. This should allow the Home Ranch to keep the doors open and the lights on, keep the officers working, host a Gather and participate in WHA, pay for promotional materials, keep the Buckskin Bulletin production at top-level, and enhance awards and scholarships. We recognize that this is a big decision, but also know that the dues had not been raised in many years. We sincerely hope that sheriffs and WI members will understand; and we are happy to answer questions.

Finally, the Home Ranch of Westerners has five officers who keep the gates tuned up and the range good for grazing – Chairman, Secretary, Bulletin Editor, President and Treasurer. As you will see from articles elsewhere in this issue, we have changes in 2019, as Gregg Bynum is stepping down from the Treasurer’s position and Juti Winchester is stepping down from the President’s position.. Please take the time to read about these change: and please lend your applause and thanks to those stepping down and your welcome to the new folks coming in!

Happy Trails and warm wishes for Christmas and the Holidays --

Bonney

Bonney MacDonald
Chairman, Westerners International



THANK YOU TO DELINDA KING AND JANIE RODARTE!

We want to thank Delinda (WI Secretary) and Janie (incoming Treasurer) for all the behind the scenes work and frontline set-up work at the Gather. From the organizing of the welcome and merchandise table, to the beautiful Western centerpieces and everything else, these two gals made it happen! We're glad that you're on the team; the September Gather at the Home Ranch was a fine success thanks to your efforts!

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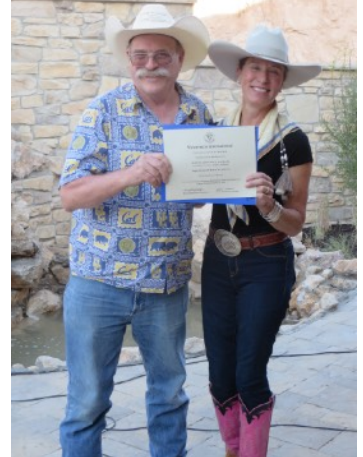
AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL! AT THE 2018 RENDEZVOUS & GATHER



Marie Harris, Cheryl McInnis, & Burnis Argo. Cheryl and Burnis are both past sheriffs.

A sample of images from the "Rendezvous & Gather 2018" at Canyon Texas; the Board meeting of Westerners, International, dinner at the Big Texan Restaurant, the tour of the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum and the awards ceremony at the Dove Creek Ranch.

MORE PHOTOS FROM 2018 THE RENDEZVOUS & GATHER



above from left to right:

Doug Hocking accepting his First Place Award for Co-Founders Best Book

Ed Bathke accepting an award for a fellow corral member

Bob Chandler accepting his First Place Plaque for the "Coke" Wood Award

Brian Dervin Dillon accepting the Heads Up Award for the LA Corral



T. Lindsey Baker, former Chairman of Westerners International



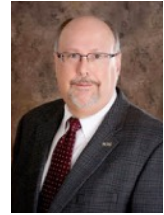
And the Dillon boys invade Palo Duro Canyon. . . Brian (left) and Ross (right). Older brother Brian is asking little brother Ross: "Are those your own legs, or are you breakina them in for a canary?"





Please join us in thanking Gregg Bynum for his service as Treasurer!

Gregg Bynum is President and CEO of Education Credit Union in Amarillo, Texas and has been not only active but incredibly generous with Westerners International. When WI moved to Canyon, Texas, Gregg stepped in to volunteer his time as Treasurer. He has kept our books, filed all the necessary paperwork, and kept us on track. Equally impressive and greatly appreciated, he has also donated generous funds to pay for legal and CPA firms to reestablish our non-profit standing and keep us on track with IRS filings and paperwork. Gregg knows the ins and outs of the process and we remain immensely grateful to him for his generosity and leadership. Gregg will be stepping down from the Treasurer's position as of December 31, 2018. Thank you, Gregg, for all you have done for Westerners.



Please welcome Janie Rodarte as Westerners' new Treasurer

Janie Rodarte is a graduating senior from West Texas A&M University, with a major in English and a great interest in the American West and Westerners. Janie has reorganized the library at the Home Ranch so that it is accessible to students, visitors, and researchers; and she was very successful and generous in her work at the 2018 Westerners Gather, assisting Delinda King, WI Secretary, in the organization of the Gather, and working throughout the whole event. Janie loves animals, Western music, and hiking and camping in the West. She will be a great addition to the staff and the organization. Thank you, Janie for joining the team!



REMINDER TO ALL SHERIFFS AND MEMBERS! from *Bonney*

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

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

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

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

HEARTY THANKS TO MIKE GRAUER FOR HIS PROGRAMS AT THE GATHER!

As we knew he would, Michael Grauer offered us enthusiastic, informed, and memorable presentations at the September Gather at the Home Ranch. For nearly thirty years, Michael worked as Director for Curatorial Affairs and Curator of Art and Western Heritage at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, TX, and as an Adjunct Lecturer in Western American Studies, at West Texas A&M University. While we all miss him here at the Home Ranch, we are delighted that he has taken his new position as the McCasland Chair of Cowboy Culture and Curator of Western Art at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. Despite a busy schedule created by his new position, Michael caught the stage from OKC to Amarillo in September to treat us to tours and lectures that all attending will remember well. He offered a tour of Pioneer Town at the Panhandle-Plains Museum and gave a wonderful talk on the history of the T Cross Ranch in the T Cross headquarters building -- which now stands on the museum lawn. Michael is a specialist in Southwestern Art, has curated many exhibits throughout the country, lectured extensively on Texas and Taos artists, and contributed widely to the culture of the American Cowboy. His authored and co-authored books include *W. Herbert Dunton: A Retrospective*; *The Dictionary of Texas Artists, 1800-1945*; *Frank Paul Sauerwein: The Biography*; and *A Fine Sense of Poetry: The Life and Art of Joseph Amadeus Fleck*. Michael's recent book, *Rounded Up in Glory: Frank Reaugh, Texas Renaissance Man* was published by University of North Texas Press in 2016. Thank you Michael for making the September Gather such a success!



NEWS FROM THE **HOME RANCH**



Juti Winchester steps down as WI President, Dr. Tim Bowman selected as replacement

Thank you to Juti Winchester for her service as WI President!

Dr. Juti Winchester has served as Westerners President and will be stepping down at the end of 2018. Juti is a Professor of History at Fort Hays State University in Kansas. She received her B.A. and M.A. from San Diego State University, and her Ph.D. from Northern Arizona State University. She teaches courses in Western American History and has published on such topics as Buffalo Bill Cody, Revisionist History and Western Conservation. Juti has given wonderful leadership to our organization and is planning on devoting more of her time to her teaching, writing, and administrative work at Ft. Hays State. Thank you, Juti for all you've done for Westerners!



Please welcome new Westerners President, Dr. Timothy Bowman!
Dr. Timothy Bowman is an Associate Professor of History at West Texas A&M University, where his research and teaching focuses on U.S. Borderlands and Southwest History. Tim received his B.A. from Texas Christian University, his M.A. from the University of Texas - Arlington, and his Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University. His recent book, *Blood Oranges: Agriculture and Racial Difference in the Texas-Mexico Borderlands, 1900-1975*, Texas A&M University Press, 2016. Tim lives in Amarillo and enjoys music, pop culture, science fiction, and, of course – since he's Texan – football! He is an active member of the **Goodnight Corral** in Canyon, TX, where he is the corral's Sheriff. Tim has done a great job with the 2018 Western History Association panel for Westerners International and, we know, will be a great addition to the team. Thank you, Tim, and welcome aboard!

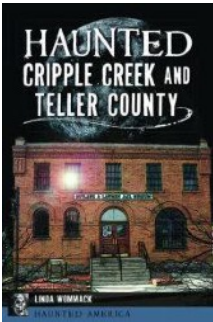


WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR POSSE OR CORRAL SHERIFF FEATURED IN THE BUCKSKIN BULLETIN?

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

CORRAL NEWS

Klaus & Marie Krizanovic, Co-Sheriffs of the **FORT COLLINS CORRAL** send news of their October meeting: **REMEMBER & HONOR**, Presented By Brad Hoopes, a passionate project of interviewing and preserving the stories of veterans. To date he has interviewed 500+ Northern Colorado veterans. Location, Fort Collins Elks Lodge 1424 E. Mulberry Street.



Bob DeWitt, Sheriff and the Pikes Peak Posse met on October 8 Monthly Historical with stories From Teller County's Past by Linda Wommack. Membership in the Pikes Peak Posse of the Westerners is open to all individuals with an interest in Western history. What better way to celebrate than to take a look at Colorado's early pioneers stories through the messages and history found in the smaller, almost forgotten cemeteries? Linda Wommack is an award winning author with eleven books to her credit.

Also, **Bob Dewitt** announces that on November 12 the **Pikes Peak Posse of Westerners** greeted members and guests for a Monthly Historical Presentation: "Father of the National Parks" by President Theodore Roosevelt (as portrayed by Don Moon). This gathering was held at the Colorado Springs Masonic Center.



Greetings from the Secretary

Note from the editor: Delinda King is the Home Ranch Secretary. She has been our office supervisor and has worked hard to make the first ever Rendezvous & Gather 2018 a tremendous success. She wanted to share this note to the membership.

Thank you, Westerners, for the plant, prayers, and kind thoughts extended at the recent passing of my Mother. I recently took a (second) job in the Special Collections department of the Cornette Library at West Texas A&M University. Beginning January 1, if you need to reach me directly, my new and permanent email is dlking@wtamu.edu. Of course, you can always use the Westerners email: westerners@mail.wtamu.edu. Because I am not in the Westerners office every day, I have the office phone forwarded to my personal phone; however, I am not always able to answer it immediately, so please leave a voice message if you call. I will return your call as soon as possible. We have ordered more membership cards, Bolas, brochures, and stickers. I will fill orders and be ready for new ones as soon as

they have been completed.

TO THOSE WHO ATTENDED THE GATHER: A great big THANKS to all who attended and made the first Home Ranch Gather a success. I was sorry to miss the festivities, but I am looking forward to the next one.

Happy Trails, *Delinda*

Those of us who attended the recent Gather were pleased to meet and shake the hand of the esteemed **Dr. Robert Chandler** of the **San Francisco Corral**. Bob was recently named "A Living Legend" (See the story in the June 2018 Buckskin Bulletin). Not only is Bob a renowned scholar of history, he is a wonderful person to know. Westerners are fortunate to have this gentlemen among our membership.

Ken Pirtle, the Buckskin Bulletin editor.



ARTIST

HARVEY PRATT NAMED LIVING LEGEND

Kent McInnes, past Chairman of Westerners International has nominated Harvey Pratt, member of Oklahoma City's Indian Territory Posse of Oklahoma Westerners as a "Living Legend". Harvey was featured in the September issue of the **Buckskin Bulletin** as the winner of the competition to design the National Native American Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Titled "Circle of Honor," Pratt's design was a unanimous selection by the jury from the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. A Cheyenne-Arapahoe artist and Cheyenne Peace Chief, Pratt lives in Guthrie, Oklahoma, with his fellow Westerner and supportive wife, Gina.

When presenting his proposal to the jury in Washington, Harvey Pratt connected his proposed design to his own experience as a proud U.S. Marine in Vietnam in the early years of that conflict. American Indians have an almost universal tradition of honoring their warriors, he said. He reminded the jury that Native America has the highest per capita participation in our American armed forces. The warrior is honored upon his return from war. Harvey's experience was no exception. The honor of his service is an honor to the whole tribe. Harvey's art is titled "Circle of Honor" and it focuses on the spiritual elements common to Native Americans of all tribes.

Besides being a proud Marine, Harvey Pratt recently retired, after 50 years in law enforcement, from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. Internationally recognized as a forensic artist, Pratt has identified many missing persons through soft tissue postmortem drawings, age progressions, witness description drawings, and skull reconstructions. Harvey served on the Executive Board of Westerners International until the Home Ranch moved to Canyon, Texas. Kent reports that Harvey Pratt is an all-around good guy and great Westerner. Congratulations, Harvey on being named a Westerners International, Inc. "Living Legend".

**Eileen Boardman**

Fort Collins, Colorado - Eileen Boardman passed away surrounded by family Thursday October 11, 2018 at the age of 76. She grew up in Pennsylvania and was valedictorian of her high school. She was the first woman to receive a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from Colorado State University in 1986, focused on solar energy. She is survived by her husband of 54 years Thomas Boardman, her two sons Andrew and Jeffrey, and 5 grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents and sister, Joyce. Eileen and her husband Tom were members of the **Fort Collins Corral**.

WESTERN WRITER JANE PATTIE NAMED LIVING LEGEND

by Elise Reed, daughter



Free-lance writer and photographer, Jane Pattie of Aledo, Texas, is a product of the West. Her ancestors arrived in Texas before the Butterfield Trail's oxbow route cut through the state on its way to California – even before James Birch's first stagecoach lurched across the wilderness in 1857 between San Antonio and San Diego. It is a sure thing that a double-barrel shotgun was placed on pegs over the door of her great grandfather's log cabin.

Jane's late husband, Lyle Pattie, worked for Acme Brick Company, a division of Justin Industries with headquarters in Fort Worth, and for more than 35 years, they also raised both Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds on their place southwest of Fort Worth.

Jane's first magazine article and photographs were published in *Frontier Times* in 1958, and since then, her by-line has appeared on more than 3,000 articles and sixteen books, including the multi-award winning *Cowboy Spurs and Their Makers* published by Texas A&M University Press. It is now in its sixth printing. Jane's first book, *Jasbo*, about the rodeo clown who was first to use a barrel in the arena during the bull riding, was also published in 1958. Her photographs have appeared on numerous magazine covers including *The Cattleman*, *Quarter Horse Journal*, *Horse & Rider*, *Horseman*, and Australia's *Hoofs & Horns*. She has contributed to magazines such as *Cue New York*, *Country Gentleman*, and The National Cowboy Museum and Hall of Fame's *Persimmon Hill*. She has also been a judge in one of the literary categories for the Cowboy Museum's coveted Wrangler Awards.

Jane's book, *Cattle Brands: Ironclad Signatures*, with an introduction by popular Texas author, the late Elmer Kelton, published by Bright Sky Press of Albany, Texas, and New York, is the story of Texas cattlemen and their ranches as told through the late Leonard Stiles's collection of 1,069 branding irons now in the Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers' museum in the Fort Worth Museum of Science & History.

Jane has written the history of the West, of outlaws and gunfighters, Texas Rangers and cattle inspectors, ranches and cattlemen, cow horses and Thoroughbreds, all manner of horse training as well as the schooling of riders. She has told the story of the making of saddles, boots, bits and spurs, of cavalry posts and soldiers, of famous Indians, of the Civil War, and of the Butterfield Trail and the Pony Express. Her subjects have led her across the United States and from Canada to Mexico and Guatemala. She contributed biographical essays on Young Bell and Lanham Riley to the anthology *Cowboys Who Rode Proudly*, published by the Nita Stewart Haley Memorial Library of Midland Texas in 1992, as well as providing an essay on the evolution of the spur to the anthology *Visions of the West*, published by Gibbs-Smith of Salt Lake City in 1999 for TORCH Industries.

She has interviewed many well-known personalities, including motion picture celebrities Robert Redford and Walter Matthau. Her books on legendary actor John Wayne were a result of

her association with Australian publisher Wilma Russell. In the 1990s Wilma established offices in the Exchange Building in Fort Worth's historic stockyards district and Jane became a contributor to her magazine, *Cowboys and Country*. On a trip to California, Wilma met Michael Wayne, the eldest son of actor John Wayne and the executor of Duke's estate. After Wilma asked Jane to do the writing, while Wilma designed and published the book, Michael submitted to interviews and provided access to and use of his father's papers and photos. This resulted in *John Wayne - There Rode A Legend* and several others.

A long-time member of Western Writers of America and a past board member, and she and Lyle were also founding members of the **Fort Worth, Texas Corral of Westerners International**. They were named lifetime members of **Westerners International**. Jane's books and articles have earned numerous awards from these and other organizations. The San Antonio Conservation Society presented her with a citation in recognition of the preservation of the history of Texas. She is named by the International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England, in *The World Who's Who of Women* and in *The International Authors and Writers Who's Who*.

In 2006, Jane was named Pioneer Woman and given the American Cowboy Culture Award at the National Cowboy Symposium. In 2015 she was inducted into the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame, and the following year into the Texas Literary Hall of Fame. She continually acknowledges the many people she has been privileged to talk to, work with, and interview during her 60+ years of writing. A trip with her to the Cowgirl, Cowboy, Rodeo, and/or Texas Ranger Halls of Fame is a journey down memory lane.

Writing has made it possible for her to see the world—from China in the west to Istanbul and the Spice Islands in the east, and from the Arctic Circle on the north to Africa's Cape of Good Hope across to Argentina and on to the Tasman Sea to the south. Her travels have taken her to Africa on numerous trips to photograph the animals, and one trip with Game Conservation International was made to record the capture and return via a Lufthansa 747-combi aircraft of ten rare black rhinos from Zimbabwe to Texas ranches and zoos across the United States.

Jane grew up in Fort Worth, one of two children of Juanita and Robert Rogers. Shortly after her marriage to Lyle Pattie in 1955, they bought two mares of 6666 Ranch breeding and they were off and running. Lyle left this life in 2008. They have two children, Elise and Roger.

Jane says, "My life has been unbelievable! It has been better than my childhood dreams. It's been quite a ride."

Thanks to Phil Williams, Fort Worth Corral Representative for this submission.

more **CORRAL NEWS**

current and former sheriffs attend the 2018 "Gather"



Front Row: Jim "Hoss" Tucker, Sue Chandler, Cheryl McInnis, Melody Kruger
Standing: Kent McInnis, Rodney Lauhban, Brian Dillon, Sara McKee, Will Jones, Ed Bathke, Bob Chandler, Bob DeWitt, Vi Jones, Paul Matney, James Crowder, Noel Kruger, Bob Saul, Michael Grauer, Doug Hocking.

FT. WORTH WESTERNERS ATTENDED WEST TEXAS TRAILS ASSOCIATION MEETING IN OCTOBER

Bob Saul, the new Ft. Worth Westerners Sheriff, is also President of the West Texas Trails Association. The Ft. Worth Corral notified us that many of their members were going to attend the exciting West Texas Trails Annual Meeting, Oct. 19-20 in Quanah, Texas.

The town of Quanah has a long history of association with trails. In 1875, Quanah Parker camped at a small creek just southwest of the current-day town, with the last of the Quahadah band of Comanches coming into the reservation at Fort Sill. Just four years later, a stage line ran through the area to Mobeetie, Texas. The city, located on U.S. Highway 287 between the Red and Pease rivers in central Hardeman County, was named for Comanche chief Quanah Parker. W.J. Jones, who arrived in 1884, was the first settler. The Fort Worth and Denver City Railway surveyed the townsite in 1884 and began selling lots a year later. Between 1886 and his death in 1911, Quanah Parker visited his namesake city many times, and his descendants have continued to visit. Several were scheduled to attend the October meeting of the association, where programs and speakers covered topics from Indian and cattle trails to stagecoach and railroad routes. Westerners interested in the association can view the website at: <http://westtexastrails.com/meetings/>



Linda Craven from the **Scottsdale Corral** reported that their September meeting combined a pizza party and a program on historic Arizona travel postcards. The program was entitled "Greetings from Tempe: Quite a Little Town Here," and was delivered by Joe Nucci, a retired Tempe Historic Preservation Office from Tempe who holds a degree in architecture and is currently the Chair of the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation. They will meet on December 19 for their annual holiday party and election of officers. Throughout the season they collected new, unwrapped toys for donations and will distribute them to children this month.

more



CORRAL NEWS

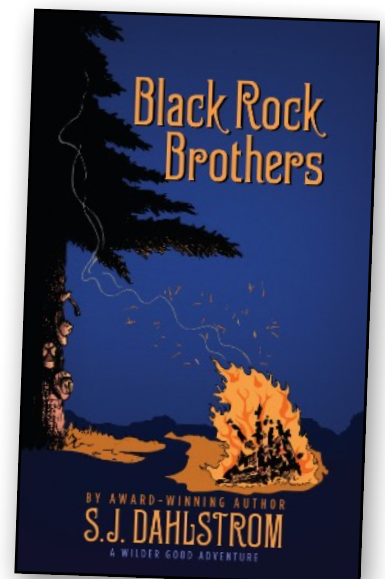
Introducing Nathan Dahlstrom teacher, historian, author and Westerner *Llano Estacado Corral, Lubbock, Texas*



As I read and learn exactly who Westerner **Nathan Dahlstrom** is, I find it difficult to say whether he is a teacher or a writer first. He is an outdoorsman, a prolific reader and a great story-teller. His day job is as a popular teacher at Hutchinson Middle School in the Lubbock Independent School District. If you are lucky enough to get your kids in his class, you can expect their imaginations to soar immensely with the reading of a few of Nathan's awarding books (under the name S.J. Dahlstrom) such as "**The Green Colt**" and "**Black Rock Brothers**". To date he has published five interesting and fun books. Nathan lives in Lubbock, Texas with his wife and children. He has spent much of his life bouncing around the outdoors from New Mexico and Texas, north to Colorado and Montana, not the mention Michigan and New York. He is interested in all things outdoors and creative. He writes poetry and bow hunts deer. Nathan plants native wildflowers and breaks horses; he also reads Ernest Hemingway, Emily Dickinson, and C.S. Lewis. Nathan's writing draws on his experiences as a cowboy, husband and father -and as founder of the Whetstone Boys Ranch in Mountain View, Missouri. Nathan is quick to acknowledge the influence of the "**Hank the Cowdog**" series author, John R. Erickson. Although Nathan's books are written for teens and pre-teens, adults admit the pleasure that his books bring. You can find book ordering information and learn more about the writings of S.J. Dahlstrom at www.wildergood.com - plus some great photography. Nathan is a member of Lubbock's **Llano Estacado Corral**.

Ken Pirtle, Buckskin Bulletin Editor

Thanks to Sheriff Sara McKee for sharing this information.



more **CORRAL NEWS**

The **Coshise County Corral's** November meeting hosted Sallie Lovorn who spoke about the Battle of Ambos Nogales, a WWI land battle fought across the Arizona-Mexico border at Nogales, "in part by troops of the 10th Cavalry" which was headquartered at Ft. Huachuca. The presentation focused on the local aspects of the story and some of the Americans who participated in it.

Northwest Montana Posse of Westerners reports that their September meeting was on "The Glacial Lake Missoula in the Flathead Valley." Presenter, Jim Sheldon, is President of the Glacial Lake Missoula Chapter of the Ice Age Flood Institute. Educated in geology at the University of Idaho, over his career he worked with the U. S. Bureau of Land Management and the U. S. Forest Service (USFS) spending time on stability landslides, soil lab-geophysics, mineral law, permits regulation for environmental requirements for coal, oil and gas, caves, groundwater, and paleontology. He retired in 2009 from the US Forest Service. The Posse's October meeting was on the "Adventures and Stories of James Willard Shultz," from Greg Smith of Bozeman; and their November program was on "James Talbot: Man of Mystery" from Posse member Jan Hardesty of Hungry Horse, Montana. You can visit their website to see more about their programs and about their publication, Pony Tracks: <https://northwestmontanaposseofwesterners.wordpress.com>

In October, **Fort Worth Westerners** member, Sylvia Mahoney, presented a program on the Great Western Cattle Trail, which was used in the 1800s for moving cattle to market. Running parallel to the Chisholm Trail, the Great Western Trail began at Bandera, TX and ended in Dodge City, KS. It saw over seven million cattle and horses pass through Texas and Oklahoma to the railheads in Kansas and Nebraska, and helped in developing the cattle industry as far north as Wyoming and Montana.

Frank Gibson of **Fresno Corral** of Westerners has scheduled **Dr. Brian Dillon** of the **Los Angeles Corral** to lecture in April 2019 on the "Pig War" or "Furs, Gold and Pigs on the Salish Sea".

CORRECTION ON ITEM IN SEPTEMBER BULLETIN:

Marie and Klaus Krizanovic of the **Ft. Collins Corral** kindly sent in a correction on the September 2018 Buckskin Bulletin. On page 8, in the piece about the 1908 Re-enactment of the cross-country drivers, Marie and Klaus are incorrectly listed as members of the Cheyenne Corral. They have occasionally attended meetings but are not members in the Corral. Thank you Marie and Klaus!



The Palo Duro Corral tours the Washita Battle Site

Be sure and read the previous article written by Jim Jennings to learn a little more about the Battle of the Washita.



On October 16th the **Palo Duro Corral** (Amarillo, TX) visited the Washita Battlefield National Historic site near Cheyenne, Oklahoma. The event that made this place historic was the attack on a cold, snowy, November morning in 1868 by Colonel George A. Custer and about 700 7th US Cavalry troopers on a sleeping village of Cheyenne. Nearby along the Washita River were other villages of Arapaho and Kiowa. Chief Black Kettle and his wife were killed along with 30-60 Indians, including women and children. Major General Philip H. Sheridan ordered the attack in a frustrated effort to control the bands of warriors that refused to settle on reservations.

For additional information check out the National Park service website: <https://www.nps.gov/waba/index.htm> or see [Jim Jennings story on the next page.](#)

Westerners on the tour included (kneeling) left to right, Lenny Sadler, Ken Pirtle, Rodney Lauban, (standing) left to right, Jim Jennings, Dale Williams, Bill Faubion, Joe Faulkenberry, Jim Uselton, Park Ranger Joel Shockley, Paul Matney and Stan Cosby.



Battle of the Washita

by Jim Jennings, Palo Duro Corral Amarillo,

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."



In 1867, when the Southern Cheyenne and the Arapaho signed what became known as the Medicine Lodge Treaty, it forced them to leave their native homelands and move to Indian Territory, or what we know today as Oklahoma. They were not happy, and the treaty didn't last. In the summer of 1868, war parties of Southern Cheyenne and allied Arapaho, Kiowa, Comanche, Northern Cheyenne, Brule, Oglala and Pawnee warriors attacked white settlements in western Kansas, southeast Colorado and northwest Texas. It became evident that it was going to take force to stop the marauding Indians, and Major General Phillip H. Sheridan, who had been named commander of the Department of Missouri in the spring of 1868, began making plans. The Department of Missouri included Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and Indian Territory – right in the heart of the current Indian problems – and since a campaign during the summer had proved ineffective, Sheridan devised a plan to attack the tribes in the winter months, when they would be at their most vulnerable. He knew it would be difficult, but if the Indians' shelter, food and livestock could be destroyed or captured, they would be forced to surrender.

In November 1868, three columns of U.S. Army cavalry and infantry troops set out from Fort Bascom in New Mexico, Fort Lyon in Colorado, and Fort Dodge in Kansas, with orders to converge on the Indian Territory and strike the Southern Cheyenne and the Southern Arapaho. The main force was the Seventh Cavalry led by Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer. Custer's troops marched from Fort Dodge and established Camp Supply in the Indian Territory, where they were to rendezvous with the Nineteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. The



Nineteenth Kansas was advancing from Topeka; however, they were slowed by a very early – and unusual – severe snowstorm, and they were unable to reach the post in time. So, Custer and the Seventh set out alone on November 23.

As Custer's main body of troops and supplies advanced -- in snow 18 inches deep -- south toward the Canadian River and the Antelope Hills, he sent out a detachment of scouts with Major Joel Elliott. Elliott and his troops found an Indian trail further south, near the Washita River. About 150 warriors, the day before, had returned to their camps from raiding white settlements on the Smoky Hill River in Kansas, and it was their trail that Elliott found. Custer decided to follow the Indians' path down the Washita.

Custer's troops followed this trail all day without a break. At nightfall, they rested briefly until there was sufficient moonlight to continue. Then, traveling through the night, with the only sound being the horses' hooves as they crunched through the deep snow, the Seventh arrived on a ridge behind an Indian camp shortly after midnight on November 27. After moving forward with his Osage scouts and surveying the area, Custer divided his force into four parts, each moving into position so that at first daylight they could simultaneously converge on the village (continued)

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Chief Black Kettle

of Southern Cheyenne. Black Kettle had survived the Sand Creek Massacre in 1864, when a 675-man force of Colorado U.S. Volunteer Cavalry attacked and destroyed a village of Cheyenne and Arapaho in southeastern Colorado. Probably because he recognized the superior force of the soldiers, he was ready for peace. On November 20, Black Kettle had been at Fort Cobb in the Indian Territory seeking protection and supplies for his band. Brevet Major General William B. Hazen, who was commander of the military's Southern Indian District, warned Black Kettle then that the military was pursuing the Cheyenne and Arapaho and that he would have to deal with the army's field

commanders if he wanted peace.

In a council held the evening that Custer was advancing to their camp, Black Kettle and the principal men of his village decided that as soon as the snow melted, they would send out runners to talk with the soldiers and make it clear to them that Black Kettle's people wanted peace. They also decided that the next day they would move their camp downriver to be closer to the other Indian camps that were on the Washita, hoping to find safety in numbers. Black Kettle's village was the westernmost of a series of camps that ran 10 to 15 miles along the river. The other camps belonged to the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa, Comanche and Kiowa-Apache bands.

The Indians in Black Kettle's village had no idea that Custer and the Seventh Cavalry were on the ridge above them, waiting only on daylight to attack. There were rumors that soldiers had been seen in the area, but no one really believed that the soldiers would be out in this kind of weather. However, Black Kettle's wife, Medicine Woman, had stood outside the lodge during the council, and was angry that the camp was not moving that night. Also, one of the warriors, White Shield, tried to persuade Black Kettle to move the camp immediately. He was unsuccessful, but five of Black Kettle's children did move to the camp of Black Kettle's nephew, Whirlwind, which was 10 miles downriver.

As Custer waited in the quiet darkness, he had no idea whose camp it was that he was about to attack. Neither did he know that Black Kettle intended to petition for peace. He had orders to attack Indian camps and he meant to follow those orders.

At dawn, Custer gave the order to attack, and all four columns descended into the village. The first to awaken was Double Wolf, who fired his gun to alert the village, but he was the first to die in the charge. Within 10 minutes the village had been overrun, but many Cheyenne warriors hurriedly left their lodges and, taking cover behind trees and in deep ravines, returned fire. Black Kettle and his wife, Medicine Woman, were killed while trying to escape on a horse, but soon Indians from the camps downstream – which Custer didn't even know existed – rushed up the valley to aid the fallen chief and his band. As a result, fighting continued until about three o'clock in the afternoon.

At one point, Major Elliott shouted, "Here goes for a brevet or a coffin," and led his detachment of 17 men up a small creek in pursuit of some fleeing Indians. They quickly ran into a mixed party of Cheyenne, Kiowa and Arapaho warriors who were rushing up the river to help Black Kettle's camp, and the soldiers were overwhelmed in a single charge. Elliot got his coffin; none of the men were ever seen alive again. Their bodies were recovered two weeks later, one mile from the village.

Following the capture of Black Kettle's village, Custer found himself in a precarious position. As the fighting began to subside, he saw large groups of mounted Indians gathering on nearby hilltops and

that's when he learned that Black Kettle's village was only one of many Indian encampments along the river. Fearing an attack, he ordered some of his men to take defensive positions while the others were to seize the Indians' belongings and horses. They destroyed what they did not want or could not carry, including about 675 ponies and horses. They spared 200 horses to carry prisoners.

Then, near nightfall, fearing the other Indians would find and attack his supply train, Custer returned to the supply train. His abrupt withdrawal without determining the fate of Elliott and the missing troopers darkened Custer's reputation among his peers. As a matter of fact, there was deep resentment within the 7th Cavalry that never healed. In particular, Elliott's friend and H Company captain Frederick Benteen never forgave Custer for what he called "abandoning" Elliott and his troopers. Eight years later, when Benteen failed to race to Custer's aid at the Battle of the Little Bighorn, his actions were closely examined in light of his long-standing anger toward Custer for the events at the Washita River.

However, by the time Elliott's absence was discovered, it was late in the day. Custer sent Captain Myers to look for Major Elliott and his men, but they found no signs of them anywhere, and as late as it was, Custer knew he had to withdraw because of the large number of warriors downriver. Flankers did keep watch for any sign of Elliott during the march back to Camp Supply.

In his first report of the battle to General Sheridan, Custer reported that 103 warriors had been killed. In fact, there were probably less than 50, and about that many more wounded. The 7th Cavalry had 21 officers and men killed and 13 wounded. Besides Elliott, the other officer killed in the battle was Captain Louis Hamilton, who was a grandson of one of our country's founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton.

Custer took 53 women and children captive and used them as hostages to ensure that the Indians from the other villages wouldn't attack his command as they withdrew back to Camp Supply. He was basically following General Sheridan's orders to the letter. The orders were to destroy Indian villages and ponies, to kill or hang all warriors and to bring back all women and children survivors.

The number of Indian casualties as reported by Custer has always been controversial. The Cheyenne prisoners that were interviewed by General Sheridan at Camp Supply, reported 13 Cheyenne men, two Sioux, and one Arapaho had been killed at the Washita. However, after Custer and Sheridan visited the battlefield in December, Custer revised his initial estimate of 103 warriors killed upward. He wrote from Fort Cobb that the Indians admit a loss of 140 killed, besides a heavy loss of wounded. This, he said, with the Indian prisoners we have in our possession, makes the entire loss of the Indian in killed, wounded, and missing not far from 300. If that were true, the number would mean that virtually everyone in Black Kettle's village was killed or captured, which is not correct.

Following the event, a controversy arose as to whether it was best described as a military victory or as a massacre, and this discussion still goes on among historians to this day. The Indian Bureau described the event as a "massacre of innocent Indians." Modern Cheyenne also consider the event a massacre. And some historians say the destruction of the village was too one-sided to be called a battle. However, other historians say that although the fight was most assuredly one-sided, it was not a massacre. Black Kettle's Cheyennes were not unarmed innocents living under the impression that they were not at war. Several of Black Kettle's warriors had recently fought the soldiers, and the chief had been told that there could be no peace until he surrendered to Sheridan.

In 1996, Congress declared the Washita Battlefield as a National Historical Site. The site, managed by the National Park Service, includes 315 acres and is located about 150 miles west of Oklahoma City, near the town of Cheyenne.

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Upcoming Events at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum, Canyon, Texas

CATTLE, COWBOYS AND CULTURE OPENING RECEPTION

Date: Feb 22, 2019

Reception opening the Cattle, Cowboys and Culture exhibition. More information coming soon.



CSAW LECTURE WITH DOUG RICKETTS

Date: Feb 28, 2019

Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location(s):
Hazlewood Lecture Hall

Ricketts resides near Lipscomb, TX where he creates his unique work at his workshop, Prairie View Furniture. Ricketts' design is the cutting edge of new regional aesthetics, combining modern and regional forms, materials, and designs. <https://www.dougricketts.com/>
PPHM Hazlewood, 7pm, free

THE GARRY NALL LECTURE FEATURING NOVELIST STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES

Date: Apr 09, 2019

Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Location(s):
Legacy Hall West Texas A&M JBK Student Center

Garry L. Nall Lecture in Western American Studies, featuring novelist Stephen Graham Jones "Growing Up Dead in Texas". Jones grew up in West Texas and is now a professor of literature and creative writing at UC Boulder. He has written more than 20 novels, fascinating works that combine elements of the Native American novel with genres including crime thriller, horror, and sci-fi. You might check out Growing Up Dead in Texas or Mongrels to get a taste for Jones' work.

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

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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>





BOOK NEWS *OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS*

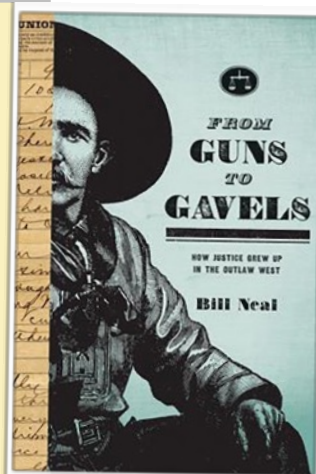
From Guns to Gavels -How Justice Grew Up in the Outlaw West

By Bill Neal

- Publish Date:9/15/2016
- Product Number:9780896729827
- ISBN978-0-896-72982-7

Price:\$ 18.95

Our criminal justice system--and how it evolved on the frontier--is often overlooked in many histories of the West. In this volume, Bill Neal cleverly weaves detailed facts about actual isolated incidents into an adventure told through the drama of the yarns of those bygone days. Neal narrates the story of a 13-year-old boy, who, in 1885, strikes out on his own, becomes an outlaw and dies by the gun many years later--well into the 20th century. This interesting book offers the historian a rich read that is enhanced by period photos of the actual subjects and locator maps of the anecdotal tales. You'll find this a fascinating take on Old West history. --True West



First Impressions -A Reader's Journey to Iconic Places of the American Southwest

David J. Weber and William deBuys

Price \$30.00

- August 22, 2017
- 368 pages, 6 1/8 x 9 1/4
- 12 color + 52 b/w illus.
- ISBN: 9780300215045

Hardcover

This unique guide for literate travelers in the American Southwest tells the story of fifteen iconic sites across Arizona, New Mexico, southern Utah, and southern Colorado through the eyes of the explorers, missionaries, and travelers who were the first non-natives to describe them. Noted borderlands historians David J. Weber and William deBuys lead readers through centuries of political, cultural, and ecological change.

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First Impressions



A Reader's Journey to Iconic Places of the American Southwest

DAVID J. WEBER AND WILLIAM DEBUYS

The Santa Fe Trail

By: R. L. Duffus

Price \$24.95 Hardcover

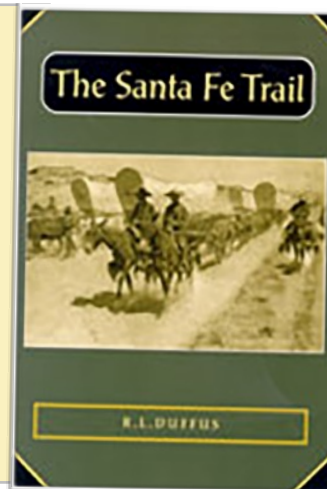
- Published in association with The University of New Mexico Center for the American West
- 5.375 x 8 in. 296 pages 1 maps, 2 tables

Originally published in 1930 and now considered the standard work on the subject, this lively history is now available only from the University of New Mexico Press.

"A vivacious and accurate chronicle of one of the great highways of commerce."--Henry Steele Commager

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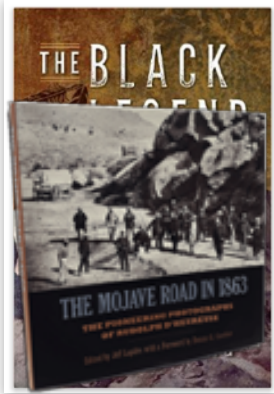
from the The University of New Mexico Press (<http://unmpress.com/index.php>)



A must read for Westerners (recommended by your "Ink Slinger") Blood Passion: The Ludlow Massacre and Class War in the American West, First Paperback Edition by Mr. Scott Martelle

BOOK & PUBLICATION NEWS

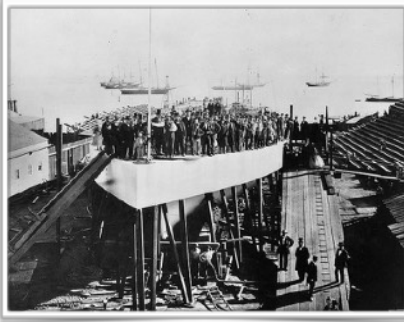
OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS



Doug Hocking's Black Legend: George, Bascom, Cochise, and the Start of the Apache Wars released this fall

Westerner, Doug Hocking, had his book, *Black Legend: George Bascom, Cochise and the Start of the Apache Wars* released in September. The historical volume details how, in 1861, Lieutenant George Bascom confronted Cochise concerning the return of a stolen boy, Felix Ward, and his step-father's livestock. In 1869, a self-promoting officer, Reuben Bernard, started the story that Bascom had done something wrong and that he, Bernard, was a hero who had tried to prevent it. Since then "popular historians" have blamed Bascom for eleven years of warfare with the Apache. The real story is much more interesting and kinder to Bascom. It includes the tale of a flying stagecoach, the first Medal of Honor, and of Felix Ward who returned to notice in 1872 as an Apache Scout, Mickey Free. Doug's book is released by TwoDot, which is an imprint of Rowman & Littlefield (GlobePequot.com). ISBN 978-1-4930-3445-1 Available through Amazon.com in print and ebook.

Doug is an award-winning historian who has twice won the Philip A. Danielson Award for Best Historical Presentation from Westerners International. He is a Road Scholar for AZ Humanities. His 2017 biography, *Tom Jeffords: Friend of Cochise*, won Spur Award Finalist from Western Writers of America and the Co-Founders Award for Best Book from Westerners International. He is an independent scholar who has completed advanced studies in American history, ethnology, and historical archaeology. Doug, who served as an NCO in Military Intelligence and retired as an armored cavalry officer, grew up among the Jicarilla Apache and *paisanos* of the Rio Arriba (Northern New Mexico). His novels include *Massacre at Point of Rocks*, *Mystery of Chaco Canyon*, *Wildest West*, and *Devil on the Loose*. His work has appeared in *True West*, *Wild West*, *Buckskin Bulletin*, *Roundup Magazine*, *Desert Tracks*, and the *Journal of Arizona History*.

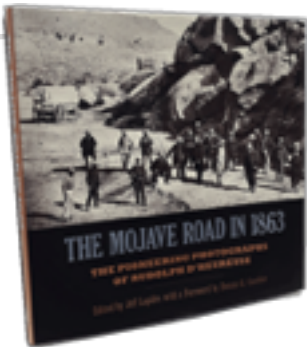


(left) The USS Camanche on November 14, 1864, launch day, at Peter Donahue's Union Iron Works shipyard. Steamboat Point, Third and King Streets, San Francisco. Carleton Watkins photo, courtesy of the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Our Westerner friend Dr. Brian Dillon reports that he will be published in "Ocean Times" magazine. His submission will come out in the January, 2019 issue. This is the story of "CAMANCHE, SAN FRANCISCO'S CIVIL WAR IRONCLAD". Congratulations, Brian. (left image)



Dr. Brian Dillon sends along the summer '18 issue of *The Branding Iron*, produced by the Los Angeles Corral. Thanks Brian.



The Mojave Road in 1863: The Pioneering Photographs of Rudolph d'Heureuse

Edited by Jeff Lapidés with a Foreword by Dennis G. Casebier

Rudolph d'Heureuse was "an accomplished engineer and architect" who was "enlisted to scout the new mines of Eldorado Canyon on the Colorado River of the Arizona Territory" from Los Angeles east across California. The book features reproductions of glass plate images, period newspaper anecdotes and letters, and hand-drawn maps of traveled territory.

From Mormon settlement, and abandonment, of San Bernardino, to Fort Mojave and the Colorado River mining camps, d'Heureuse preserves the activities and lives of indigenous, military, and mining cultures in a California. I found the photographs fascinating in their ability to truly stop time and allow me to step into the landscapes seen through the artist's eyes. In several of the photographs, d'Heureuse displays an uncanny ability to capture the essence of life in his subjects, prompting a type of emotional connection to real people rather than merely interesting pictures of a disconnected past. The newspaper accounts offer an additional personal look into the reality of the hardships and happenings of 1863 California.

Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association has published a *Tales of the Mojave Road* series, of which *The Mojave Road in 1863* is the 30th. The Editor, Jeff Lapidés, and other contributors to the project are members of the Los Angeles Corral of Westerners. The book can be purchased from the online store at mdhca.org.