

Introduction to the Gail Gardner Issue

This is a very special edition of the TERRITORIAL TIMES. Instead of including a number of articles on a variety of topics, this issue concentrates on the life work of a single man: Prescott's legendary "Poet Lariat" Gail I. Gardner—mostly in his own words.

Prescott Corral Historian Bruce Fee rummaged through his storage area to find a number of audiotapes (recorded between 1968 and 1986) of Gail telling stories of an earlier Prescott. Bruce then enlisted Russ Sherwin who transcribed the tapes into MS Word documents.

When Bruce presented this treasure to the editorial committee of the TERRITORIAL TIMES there was instant agreement that we should make this material available by presenting it—in Gail's own words—in this edition of the *Times*. We decided to introduce Gail with a summary of his life written by Dick Bowerman; followed by Gail's stories that Russ pieced together and edited from the tapes; and winding up with a remembrance of Gail by his daughter, Cynthia.

In addition, we decided to produce an audio CD of some of Gail's more interesting lectures and poems, including "The Moonshine Steer." Both the Territorial Times issue and the CD are available now.