

# TERRITORIAL TIMES

Prescott Arizona Corral  
of Westerners International



A publication of the Prescott Corral of Westerners International  
Volume III, Number 1



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*Cover Photo: Noted artist and ethnographer Kate Cory displays one of her paintings based on observation of Hopi ritual during the seven years she lived on the Hopi Reservation in northern Arizona beginning in 1905.*

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"Horse Skull"  
from charcoal drawing

Gary Melvin

# KATE CORY: Hopi historian, artist and photographer

By Sandy L. Moss

As the train steamed into an almost deserted station at Arizona's Canyon Diablo, Kate Thomson Cory saw at once this was a far cry from New York's high society and the Pen and Brush Club. Sagebrush dotted an arid landscape as hot as city pavement on a blistering summer day. The long vista from the train window stretched unbroken for miles in every direction, finding closure only in distant buttes the colors of muted rose and blue that Kate mixed on her artist's palette.

And it was art that brought Kate Cory, in an unlikely turn of events, to this strange new land full of barely known peoples in an exotic setting.

Kate was born in Waukegan, Illinois, February 8, 1861, to an affluent family. Her father, James Young Cory, was born in Canada in 1826, moved to Waukegan in 1842, and eventually bought the Waukegan Gazette and served as its editor until moving to New York in 1880 with his family to become a stockbroker. Kate's mother, Eliza Pope Kellogg, born in 1829, in Thomaston, Maine, was a descendent of the Mayflower pilgrims.

Raised with her only surviving sibling, James Stewart Cory, (four others died in infancy), Kate attended the best schools, including Cooper Union and the Art Students League, probably the finest art school in America at the time. She became a successful commercial artist whose work would find homes in places as far flung as Canada and England, as

well as in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution and at the Arizona Capitol building.



Kate Cory at Oraibi

Although a young woman of breeding and sophistication, relatively little is known about Kate's childhood or life up until her arrival in Arizona at age 44. Apparently, she never married and had no children, though mysteriously, a ring is shown on her wedding finger in a photo taken at Oraibi with women potters and in pos-

session of the Smoki Museum. But one thing is known for sure, though a radical departure from all Kate had previously known, she came to Arizona to be part of an artists' colony.

"It was back in New York on an afternoon at a social gathering of the Pen and Brush Club of which I was a member," Kate wrote. "I was chatting with my good friend, the writer Maude Banks, the daughter of General Banks

of War fame. Suddenly, Maude looked to one side and exclaimed, 'Why Louis Aiken, where have you been all this time?' She introduced me and we sat down on a nearby couch as Aiken answering the query said, 'I've had a wonderful winter out in Arizona on the Hopi reservation.' He then told us of the mild winter in Arizona, of the little rock and adobe houses and ancient villages of those gentle people with their strange ceremonies and customs. Then he added, 'I want to go back there and have a colony of writers, artists and musicians. Why can't you two be of that colony?'"

Louis Aikin was seven years younger than Cory. In 1903, he had resolved to "find himself" by living among the Hopi who were then thought to be the last of the "noble savages." He'd received a commission from the Santa Fe Railroad to paint the Hopi for the railroad's advertising magazine and had moved to Arizona. Aiken was reportedly the first white person to live among the Hopi since the Pueblo Revolt in 1680.

"It sounded attractive and since my parents had both passed away, there was no reason why I could not go," Kate continued. "It blossomed to reality for me when a cousin from Seattle, who was then in New York, invited me to return with her and meet those relatives out in Washington whom I had never seen or known."

Of her adventurous spirit, Charles Franklin Parker wrote, "The Corys and Kelloggs were

people of daring, conviction and adventure. They had not been circumscribed by geographical limits, easy security, political paucity nor family immobility. They traveled as they willed and dared to meet obstacles in a desire to build."

Many of her uncles had gone to sea and one became the territorial governor of American Samoa. Kate's father had been an active abolitionist. Thus with no constraints or prejudice, Kate decided almost on a whim, to leave the comforts of a wealthy city life and immerse herself in the discomforts of living with a primitive society.

It's also possible that, having been an illustrator for *Recreation*, a publication of the Camp Fire Club, a magazine dedicated to wildlife preservation and appreciation and

protection of plant life, Kate most likely concurred with the philosophy.

As later described by Parker, Kate was a wiry, indefatigable bundle of determination, "whose passion for doing good deeds almost exceeds her strength. She is mild of manner, but capable of strong expression and action when motivated by what she considers injustice or indifference. She has a great sense of humor both towards herself and towards the dullness of life in general."

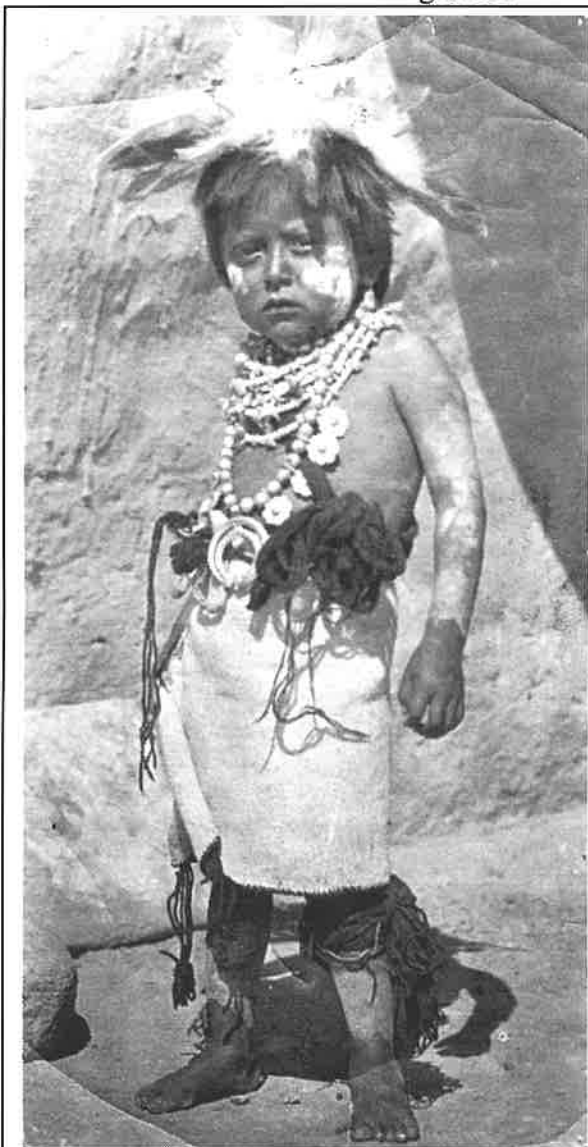
So, it was that on a spring day in 1905, Kate purchased a round-trip train ticket to Seattle and the West Coast to return via Canyon



Kate Cory in later years holding her painting of a Hopi maiden

Diablo, the nearest point of entry to Oraibi on the Hopi Reservation and then back to New York. "My visit completed on the Coast, I entrained for Arizona and the Hopi Reservation." Kate would never use rest of her return ticket.

After riding inland for two days with a trader, William Volz and his wife, in a covered wagon, Kate met her first Indian. "That morning, a young Hopi, stripped of all but a G-string, and with a bundle on his back started out to the north over the ground in his



Kate Cory photo of Hopi boy costumed as a ceremonial snake gatherer.

bare feet. 'Who's that?' I exclaimed to the trader's wife. 'O, that's a Hopi going home, he came down to trade.' 'Why, how can he, it's 65 miles up there?' 'O, that's nothing for a Hopi,' she replied, 'he'll be there by noon.' I gasped. It was to take us two days and a night by wagon and team. I later learned that their corn fields are often located 10 miles from their homes and they run back and forth as it is necessary to care for their crops."

Kate arrived in the government settlement of White Village, just below Oraibi, where she spent her first night. "Well, I was to learn on my first night at Oraibi that 'Early to bed and early to rise' was more than a proverb of Franklin," Kate wrote. "It was a necessity on the reservation and so the discussion between our party and the government people terminated early and at 9 o'clock I was given blankets, loaned by one of the teachers, and ushered to a school room, rather smelly from saliva-washed slates and other odors of school room attributes, where I made my bed on the floor. But I was tired and sleepy and was still sleeping soundly when the morning bell brought me out running and dragging the blankets ready for the first day's experience at Oraibi. One of the teachers invited me to share her bedroom and soon my face was washed, my hair combed, I was ready for 'ham and eggs.'"

Miss Keith, the school matron, helped Kate locate a house there that she could rent. "This was my first real contact with these Indians," Kate continued. "Mu-se-nim-ka, the old woman who owned the house, was in her daughter's home, kneeling at the grinding box and grinding corn on the stone metate. Her eyes were almost closed with that frightful and infectious disease trachoma. The daughter, also afflicted, stood at one side. Miss Keith told of our errand. Mu-se-nim-ka straightened up from her grinding, whipped her eyes clear with a deft stroke of the hand,



and began grinding again while she deliberated. I, too, deliberated. I protested about the entire affair, but hers was the only house available and Miss Keith sealed the bargain, promising thorough fumigation of the house. This was accomplished and all things were removed except the stove, bedstead and springs, and chair. Soon I was living comfortably in this little house in the government village."

It wasn't long before Kate became restless so far from the main village of Oraibi. She had come to study the Hopi, their customs and ceremonies and wanted to become a friend with them, which would not likely happen while she was residing in White Village, so she soon secured another home on First Mesa, as well, on the top floor of the highest house in the village. "You reached it by ladders and little stone steps, and made your peace with the growling dogs on the ascent; but oh! The view when you got there," she said.

Kate soon began to experience the Hopi life. "...as you are awakened in the deep of the night and listen to a soft tread on the steps on up to the roof above you. Then a loud clarion call coming from directly overhead penetrating the stillness. Then again the soft pad, pad

of the moccasined feet on the steps outside as the crier returned either to his house or the clan kiva. Perhaps the call was a summons for the men to gather in the kiva for a ceremony, or possibly to some work in a distant field...these calls always start the dogs (and they vie with the flies in numbers) to barking. The burros never miss a challenge to display their vocal specialties as voice answers voice in the enchanted darkness."

Kate cites her, "insatiable curiosity," as the intrigue for learning about the Hopi, as she listened to "the low solemn chant in the kiva, its strange resonance coming from underground...the men lined up in the plaza, nude figures moving with rhythmic tread to the tempo of the rattles."

For seven years, Kate Cory lived among the Hopi. The artists' colony that Louis Aikins envisioned brought no one but Kate to the reservation, "thus I became the 'colony,'" she wrote. But an excellent colony of one she was. Kate wrote of the Hopi ceremonies, painted them at work and play, and photographed them in their many activities.

She became a well-respected guest of the Hopi people, an unusual thing for a woman,



Photograph of Kate Cory painting of the Bean Ceremony Procession at Oraibi



especially a white woman. They eventually allowed Kate to witness many of their secret rituals and ceremonies and invited her to become a member of the Hopi tribe, which she declined, not wanting to “cramp” their style, she said.

In “Goodbye to Steam-cars,” published in *The Border* magazine in May 1909, Kate wrote that, “their customs and daily life are so different from our own that in their midst one feels transported to another age, and the busy world outside becomes vague and remote.”

Quite early in her stay at Oraibi, Kate was introduced to the sacred Soyaluna, or ceremony of turning back the sun at the winter solstice. “Sacred rites take place in the kivas that would be impossible for us to understand; but also during those eight days in the kiva, much string is spun of native desert-grown cotton, and about four-inch pieces of it attached to hundreds of fluffy feathers for later use,” she wrote. “A feather floats upward and is the symbol of a prayer to the gods of the sky. The forlorn-looking chickens and turkeys in the streets at the time, leave no uncertainty as to where the feathers come from ... at about dusk, the men in their black ceremonial blankets walked slowly along the paths...as they met each other they stopped, exchanged a feather with bent head and a prayer, ‘Um Katchet na wekana um wyo tanic.’ (May you live long, may you have good life.)

“I walked slowly along (white women are a law unto themselves and they didn’t drive me away). Presently a man stopped beside me. ‘Quache, um nawa ken?’ (Friend, do you want one?) ‘O we!’ I gladly answered. He gave me one with the same prayer of good will. ‘Esqually’ (thank you) I said as I received my token and moved on. Another—another—another—and on ... the air was vibrant with a brotherly atmosphere.

“Later, some two hours past midnight, comes the crucial part of this ceremony--the symbolic turning back of the sun, when the Star-priest, a great four-pointed star upright at and above his forehead, and holding a big sun symbol before him, swings it rapidly east to west, and west to east, and short swings each way suggesting the long days and the short days, all accompanied by a lively dancing step, amid much singing and shouting by the others in the kiva. Thus, the sun turns back.”

As well as writing about and painting the Hopis, Kate was an, “adept and dexterous photographer at a time when most Americans considered the medium a novelty ... and (she) captured the ‘Hopi Way’—the profoundly spiritual and orderly sense of community,” wrote editor Barton Wright.

After working for seven years in isolation from her contemporaries, Kate left the reservation and moved to Prescott, Arizona, but would always recall her time with the Hopi as, “the highlight of my life.”

Hundreds of photographic negatives chronicling her time on the reservation were in the possession of the Smoki Museum for many years and are now at and preserved at the Northern Arizona Museum in Flagstaff. Many of her paintings are still housed at the Smoki Museum, some at the Prescott Public Library, and a number at the Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott. One of her best known paintings hangs in the First Congregational Church on Gurley Street in Prescott, where she attended.

Church members would later recall Miss Cory as an eccentric, so thin and ragged they thought she couldn’t afford clothes, but indeed she could, Kate simply had no interest in fancy clothes, finding them “frivolous.” Any extra money she may have had, she passed on to others she perceived as needing it more.

She was frugal in other ways as well; cooking on an old wood stove long after electricity was common. A vegetarian, Kate grew most of her own food in her garden. But she did have one avowed extravagance—books. Friends reported that Kate lived with stacks of books like stalks of flowers, rising from miscellaneous locations in her house, which was generally untidy, owing to her preoccupation with creativity and her wide-ranging interests.

During World War I, Kate returned to New York and worked in a war garden project, raising food for the war effort. She also plied her artistic skills designing aircraft wings in New Jersey and painting bombers with camouflage. As soon as the Armistice was signed, Kate returned to Prescott to continue her painting and architectural designing.

In 1930, at the request of the Bureau of Reclamation, Kate traveled to the unspoiled Boulder Canyon and painted its pristine beauty. She also created designs for fine china, as well as wallpaper. Always her designs leaned toward the geometrics of Hopi patterns. In fact, the Hopi were never far from her mind. She remained friends with them and a number of Hopi came to Prescott and helped Kate build her house in the Idylwild tract, which is still standing.

In 1921, Kate gave much of her time and knowledge to the formation of the Smoki People, a group of white men and women who wished to preserve the ancient rites and ceremonies of the southwest Indians. In 1935, she helped design a building for the Smoki Museum to resemble a Hopi pueblo, and assisted in setting up the displays while sharing both her technical and interpretive knowledge of the Hopi.

Kate eventually moved to a studio house near the Arizona Pioneers' Home. Then in 1956, she moved from her "cabin" to the

Home, where she lived until her death at age 97, on June 12, 1958. Eulogized in the *Prescott Courier* as "one of the West's most famed artists and one of the most beloved pioneer citizens ...," Kate was laid to rest next to her long-time friend, Sharlot Mabridth Hall, at the Pioneer Cemetery on Iron Springs Road.



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# **“Oil! Oil! Buy now, while you have the chance”: The Chino Valley Oil Boom**

By Erik Berg

**Y**avapai County was founded on mining booms. Prescott got its start with the Bradshaw Mountain gold discoveries of the 1860s and Jerome brought the region into the industrial age with its rich copper deposits. Even after most of the mines have closed, the by-gone era of prospectors and pick-axes is still an important part of the area’s history, culture and landscape.

But few Arizona residents realize that Yavapai County was also the scene of one of the southwest’s great oil rushes and once heralded as America’s next great oil field. Given the promising geology and other proven mineral deposits, it was perhaps inevitable that Yavapai County would become a target for oil prospecting and even a little surprising that it took as long as it did.

But when the oil craze finally did come to Yavapai, it came with a vengeance.

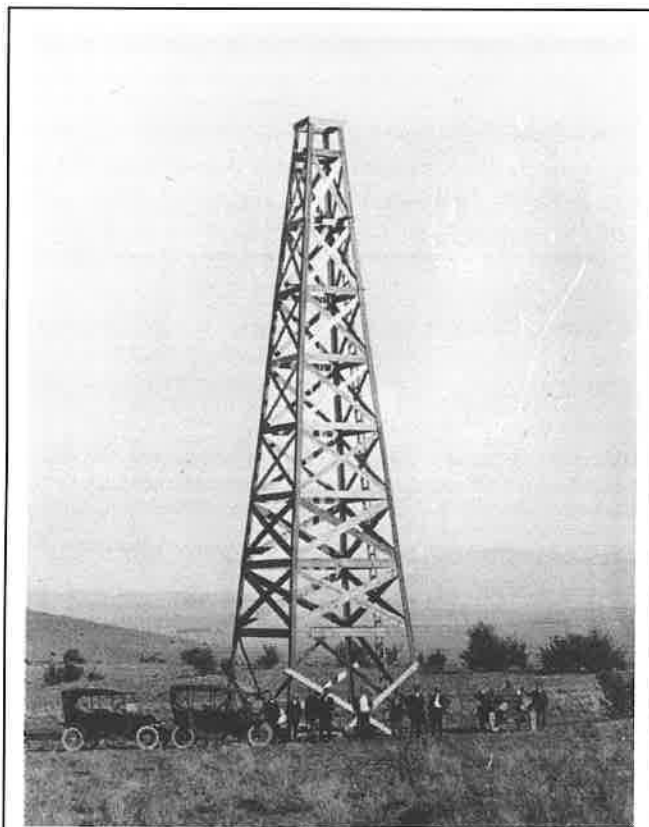
Unlike gold and silver which had been mined and studied for thousands of years, oil prospecting was a relatively new endeavor that started with the world’s first oil well near Titusville, Pennsylvania in 1859.

Through the latter part of the nineteenth century, alternating cycles of over-supply and over-demand pushed oil prospectors westward where they discovered new fields throughout the mid-west and later Texas,

Oklahoma and California.

By the early years of the twentieth century, geologists had recognized that oil was typically associated with sedimentary deposits

like sandstone and shale and was sometimes trapped and concentrated by folds in rock layers called anticlines. But beyond these and a few other basic observations, oil prospecting was a hit-and-miss proposition guided as much by luck and superstition as by science. The geology of one area might look a bit more promising than another, but when oil was in high-demand just about any unexplored region held



Chino Valley Drilling Rig, Circa 1917

a glimmer of possibility.<sup>1</sup>

Throughout the 1800s, Arizona’s isolation and limited transportation kept it as one of those largely unexplored areas. By the start



of the twentieth century, America's increasing industrialization created new demands for oil and again pushed prices toward record highs. The result was a countrywide oil craze that sparked interest in all aspects of the industry from prospecting and drilling to refining and distribution. In Yavapai County alone, over twenty oil-related companies were incorporated between 1900 and 1903. Many of these start-ups intended to focus on distribution or to prospect in known oil fields outside of Arizona, but several efforts also took a more local interest.

Chief among these was the work of Joseph C. Heslet, who would become the pioneer in northern Arizona oil prospecting. Born in Pennsylvania in 1858, Heslet arrived in Jerome in the 1890s where he worked as an engineer for the United Verde Copper Company and spent his free time prospecting the surrounding area.<sup>2</sup> While exploring the upper Verde River, Heslet rediscovered some small oil seeps along the banks that rancher John Brett had first noticed in 1899.

Heslet recognized that the nearby rolling hills of Chino Valley bore some resemblance to the oil-rich regions of his home state and he was soon convinced that they held vast oil fields as well. In 1902, he started drilling what was probably northern Arizona's first oil well just north of today's community of Paulden. Heslet's work attracted relatively little attention and he did not get very far before cave-ins and groundwater flooding forced him to quit.<sup>3</sup>

Over the next ten years, Arizona's oil focus shifted to other parts of the territory. In 1907, the discovery of oil along Utah's Virgin River near the Arizona border sparked a brief flurry of claim filing in northern Mohave County and four years later the discovery of oil film in a rancher's water well initiated another wave of claim-filing and even some limited drilling around Camp Verde and Cottonwood.<sup>4</sup> But these and a few other brief Arizona oil rushes were relatively tame compared to what would take place next in Chino Valley when the start of World War One cre-



Chino Valley Oil Rig Ready to go, with unidentified workers and Investors

ated new demands for oil.

As prices began to climb, Joseph Heslet decided to give drilling another shot and in 1916 he organized the Chino Valley Oil and Mining Company with N. D. Ross of Jerome.<sup>5</sup> They tried reopening Heslet's old well and reported finding traces of oil before water and cave-ins forced them to abandon the hole for a second time. Although their second attempt at drilling did not produce significant amounts of oil, it did attract significant amounts of attention.

In nearby Jerome, war-inflated copper prices were driving the town to new heights of prosperity. In this climate of economic optimism, the possibility of a nearby oil field captured peoples' imaginations. As word spread of Heslet's efforts, other prospectors began filing claims throughout the valley, resulting in a small land rush that did not subside until the following summer.<sup>6</sup> As with many mining booms, the influx of prospectors and investors increased the sense of excitement and activity, which in turn attracted more prospectors and investors, creating a self-inflating sense of expectation that would quickly outpace the actual progress on the ground.

By the end of 1917, promoters had formed over a dozen new companies and were rapidly setting up offices and acquiring land. Among the most prominent of these new efforts were the Arizona Del Rio Oil Company, the Arizona Oil and Refining Company, and the Arizona-Oklahoma Oil and Gas Company. Founded in February of 1917, the Arizona Del Rio Oil Co. quickly acquired rights to some 3,000 acres in Chino valley.<sup>7</sup> They were followed by the Arizona-Oklahoma Oil and Gas Co. which claimed land around Jerome as well as additional holdings in the oil lands of Oklahoma.<sup>8</sup> Probably the most active of the new companies was the Arizona Oil and Refining Co. which controlled 640

acres near Heslet's well. The company was organized in September of 1917 and located its main office in Prescott's St. Michael Hotel.

After the excitement surrounding their initial organization, the early oil companies and their investors quickly learned that the actual drilling of an oil well was a very expensive, time-consuming, and complicated business with which few people in Arizona were familiar. At the time, most oil exploration was conducted using cable drills in which a large metal drill bit was repeatedly raised and lowered in the hole at the end of a steel cable—literally 'pecking' its way through the rock. Once the drill had been started (a process known as 'spudding-in') it required constant supervision to bail out the hole and ensure the cable was the optimum length. To prevent caving or the influx of ground water, the operators needed a good supply of specially designed tubes—called casings—to line the well. Mishaps, delays and broken cables were common. Even under the best of circumstances, a typical cable drill might only dig twenty or thirty feet per day and the total cost of equipping, crewing, and drilling a single well could easily exceed \$20,000 (the equivalent of over \$300,000 today). Faced with these challenges and expenses, by the end of 1917 only a handful of the new companies were actively setting up rigs and none had actually started drilling yet.

To raise funds for the purchase, setup and operation of their drilling rigs, most of the companies turned to selling stock certificates ranging anywhere from a few pennies to several dollars a share. Throughout late 1917 and early 1918, the pages of *Yavapai Magazine* and the Jerome and Prescott newspapers were filled with the often-frenzied advertisements of oil companies offering certain riches. To lure hesitant investors, many made a point of implying that stock prices would soon go through the roof once oil was discov-

ered and now was the time to get in cheap and make a fortune.

"Oil! Oil! Buy now, while you have the chance," screamed one advertisement for the Arizona-Oklahoma Oil and Gas Company while the newly formed United Chino Oil and Refining Company proclaimed that "You Owe It to Yourself, To Your Family, To Your Future, To Buy Shares In This Company."<sup>9</sup> Even the locally owned Home Oil Company could not resist a sense of urgency in selling its three-cent stock with a notice reading "It is going fast. Don't wait and pay more. Send your money order today. Buy all you can."<sup>10</sup>

However, the most vocal and unabashed of these promoters were 'Colonel' Fred Bowler of the Arizona-Oklahoma outfit and Dr. E. A. Edwards of Arizona Oil and Refining Co. During a series of presentations in Jerome, Bowler enticed would-be investors with the promise that the almost-certain discovery of oil would produce twenty new millionaires in the area.<sup>11</sup>

But his assertions were tame compared to the flamboyant Dr. Edwards who claimed to have played a major role in the development of the American oil industry and to have personally discovered several of the country's largest oil fields. He used this greatly exaggerated resume to promote both himself and his company. In an interview with the *Arizona Mining Journal*, Edwards predicted that, "from my own personal examination and past experience, the Chino Valley oil fields will become to Arizona what the Whittier, Ventura and Taft fields, with which I was identified, have been and are to California."<sup>12</sup> Edwards would later go on to form his own organization, the E. A. Edwards Oil and Refining Company, where he claimed to have started the Chino Valley boom.<sup>13</sup>

Edwards' claims of being the area's oil pioneer likely came as a surprise to Joseph

Heslet, who after years of working the field alone suddenly found himself being overshadowed by the newcomers as competition intensified for funding and investors. In the November 27, 1917, issue of the *Jerome Sun*, Heslet expounded his company's low capitalization of only 100,000 shares at \$1.50 each. He also reminded readers that his was the first well and it was known to contain oil and thus "the buyer of stock in our company is taking no chances in that particular." Heslet went on to say that, "we are glad to see this great activity and hope all will get busy and start drilling, but it is our idea that this well is the first one that should be put down. It would be better for the district to prove it than to take a chance on a dry hole or two elsewhere."

Visits by well-known oil geologists also brought additional attention and were closely covered by the press and promoters. One of the first to examine the field was E. Ronald Sager, who concluded that, "in my experience covering nearly every oil field on this continent, I have never seen any other untested location that presented so many favorable features as this one."<sup>14</sup>

Despite a lack of drilling—let alone oil—interest continued to increase as the year came to a close and saw the formation of even more companies. Further interest in the area was raised by the proposed formation of several new towns to support the oil fields. In April, *Yavapai Magazine* reported that a new town called 'Heslet' was in the process of forming where the Santa Fe railroad ran through the oil field and a month later the General Securities Investment Corporation started offering lots in the proposed town site of 'Oil City' in exchange for buying shares of Arizona Oil and Refining Company stock.<sup>15</sup>

Despite the promotions, geologist reports, and town founding, very little actual drilling had



occurred in the field as the summer of 1918 approached. In January, the Arizona Oil and Refining Company had spudded-in the first new well followed by the United Chino Oil and Refining Company.<sup>16</sup> But the Arizona Del Rio Company was just starting to assemble its rig, the Home Oil Company was still waiting for equipment to arrive and the Chino Central Oil Company had not even selected a drill site. Heslet's Chino Valley Oil and Mining Company was still in the process of moving its drill to a new location after the collapse of their first well.<sup>17</sup> In an attempt to coordinate their efforts, the oil companies formed the Arizona Chamber of Oil and Mines on May 6 including representatives from fourteen of the field's oil companies. Later that summer, the Arizona Del Rio Oil Co., the United Chino Oil and Refining Co., the Arizona Oil and Refining Co., and the Home Oil Co. decided to join forces for a period of 30 days and focus all their efforts on the United Chino well.<sup>18</sup>

The coordination of efforts during the summer of 1918 helped to reduce expenses and increase efficiency, but it could not produce large quantities of oil where none existed. As the year came to a close, no company had successfully drilled more than a few hundred feet and one by one they quietly started to shut down and disappear. After nearly two years of hype and promotions without a single producing well, investors' patience and wallets were both growing thin and many began to see the boom as a scam.

The Chino Valley had shown some promising geology and it is likely that many of the companies—particularly those owned by local businessmen—had started out with good intentions but a lack of oil drilling experience and the competition to raise funds soon created an atmosphere that thrived on prediction rather than production. A year later, geologist Philip Wilson pointed to Chino Valley as a

cautionary tale about booms driven by speculation, noting that, "The last epidemic of the sort centered in the Jerome district in 1916 and a particularly virulent form of the disease it was. Most of the companies organized at that time are now defunct, many without even having started to develop their properties."<sup>19</sup>

Despite the collapse of the Chino Valley boom and most of its associated companies, sporadic activity would continue in the area for many years. In the late 1920s and early 1930s, the Ari-Copa Drilling and Mining Company started several wells and reported reaching a depth of 3,000 feet without striking oil. They were followed by the Chino Valley Oil Development Company which sank a deep—and unsuccessful—well northwest of Paulden in the late 1930s.<sup>20</sup> Joseph Heslet's faith in the field also remained unshaken. In 1928, he formed the Anthony Oil and Refining Company and continued explorations around Yavapai County, but it proved no more successful than his earlier attempts.

Oil exploration would also continue around the rest of the state, usually in cycles driven by high oil prices or new geologic theories. Even as the Chino activity was starting to subside, a similar combination of promising geology and over-promising stock promoters would trigger another large boom—and ultimately bust—in the Holbrook area that would last into the 1920s. The Tonto Basin around Roosevelt Dam and the upper San Simon Valley near Safford also saw bursts of exploration and speculation around this period without actually producing any oil.

Finally in the 1950s, a team working for the Shell Oil Company did strike a small flow of oil in a test well in the extreme northeast corner of the state. Additional exploration—using better equipment and more detailed knowledge than was available to the early wildcatters—located a number of other

small producing oil pools in the same area. Although these working oil fields have never been major producers, they have perhaps—in a small way—vindicated the dreams of Heslet and the other early oil prospectors.<sup>21</sup>

Today there are still frenzied booms in the Chino Valley, but the emphasis is on the land itself and the drilling tends to be for water. Summer homes and horse property now cover hills where oilrigs once stood. But unlike the large tailings piles, shafts and foundations of the abandoned hard-rock mines, there is relatively little left from the oil booms. In some places around Paulden, you can still find a few of the old well sites with a stub of casing pipe sticking out of the ground like a metal tree stump and sometimes repurposed as a water well. More telling evidence lies hidden away in family papers and archives scattered around the country—faded company prospectus statements and fancy stock certificates worth more today for their historic value than they ever were for oil. These are all that remains from the time when Yavapai County was poised to become, in the words of Dr. E. A. Edwards, “the next great field.”<sup>22</sup>



## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Oil had been used (mostly for lamp fuel) since ancient times, but until Drake's well it had always been gathered at those rare locations where it reached the surface naturally. For an excellent overview of the early history of the oil business, see Anderson, Robert, *Fundamentals of the Petroleum Industry* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1984).

<sup>2</sup> “Joseph Heslet Taken By Death,” *Arizona Republic*, 9 April 1935.

<sup>3</sup> Bowen, R. S., *Oil Romance: New Gold For Arizona*. Promotional brochure. 1939. Located in the Arizona Collection at Arizona State University.

<sup>4</sup> *Mohave County Miner*, 3 August 1907. “Drilling for Oil to be started on Verde,” *Prescott Journal-Miner*, 8 July 1911. “Expert Convinced that Oil Exists in Verde Valley,” *Prescott Journal-Miner*, 11 August 1911.

<sup>5</sup> Articles of incorporation for the Chino Valley Oil and

Mining Company, Articles of Incorporation, Book 14, Yavapai County (1916).

<sup>6</sup> “Oil Operators are Entering Big Chino,” *Prescott Journal-Miner*, 5 September 1917. The paper reported that claims covered more than 12,000 acres of land and that most of the desirable land was taken.

<sup>7</sup> Arizona Del Rio Oil Company. Articles of Incorporation. Arizona Corporation Commission. 1917.

<sup>8</sup> Arizona-Oklahoma Gas and Oil Company. *Yavapai County Articles of Incorporation*. Book 15. pp. 218. The company was organized on October 13 with one million shares at \$1.00 per share. The board of directors included J. H. Anton and Charles McKinley.

<sup>9</sup> “Arizona-Oklahoma Oil and Gas Co.,” *Yavapai Magazine*, December 1917, advertisement. “United Chino Oil,” *Yavapai Magazine*, February 1918, advertisement.

<sup>10</sup> “Home Oil Company,” *Yavapai Magazine*, April 1918, advertisement.

<sup>11</sup> “Jerome And Clarkdale For Oil Project,” *The Jerome Sun*, 5 November 1917.

<sup>12</sup> “Dr. Edwards, Oil Pioneer, Talks,” *Arizona Mining Journal*, April 1918. Although Edwards did have experience in the California and mid-west oil industry, his claims to have discovered the Whittier and Lima oil fields are completely false and most of his other claims are greatly exaggerated or unsubstantiated.

<sup>13</sup> “E. A. Edwards Oil,” *Yavapai*, February 1918, advertisement.

<sup>14</sup> Sager, E. Ronald. *Preliminary Report on Prospective Oil Fields in the State of Arizona*. Unpublished report on file with the Arizona Geological Survey [1917?].

<sup>15</sup> “Oil City, Arizona,” *Arizona Gazette*, 4 May 1918, advertisement. “Oil Activity In Yavapai,” *Yavapai*, April 1918. The April issue of *Yavapai* magazine contained numerous articles on the field including a good summary of the work completed by each company.

<sup>16</sup> “Oil Drilling Started In Chino,” *The Jerome Sun*, 25 January 1918.

<sup>17</sup> “Oil Activity In Yavapai,” *Yavapai*, April 1918.

<sup>18</sup> “Oil Companies Unite,” *Yavapai Magazine*, August 1918. The Home Oil Company withdrew from the group a short time after.

<sup>19</sup> Wilson, Philip D., “Investing in Oil Stocks: A Caution,” *Arizona Mining Journal*, April 1919.

<sup>20</sup> Bowen, R. S., *Oil Romance: New Gold For Arizona*.

<sup>21</sup> Since the first discovery in 1954, Arizona wells have produced more than 20 million barrels of oil and 28 billion cubic feet of natural gas.

<sup>22</sup> “Dr. Edwards, Oil Pioneer, Talks,” *Arizona Mining Journal*, April 1918.

## FORTY-NINERS OVER THE MOGOLLON RIM

By Tom Jonas

**O**n August 17, 1849, James Collier, first Collector of the Port of San Francisco, set out from Santa Fe, New Mexico, bound for California. He had been accompanied to Santa Fe by about thirty staff members along with Army Lt. Edward G. Beckwith, acting as his personal aide. A company of the First Dragoons under command of Capt. Herman Thorn escorted them.<sup>1</sup>

Collier and his assistants were so eager to reach their lucrative government jobs on the Pacific Coast that the Collector decided against following the usual road south down the Rio Grande to join Cooke's Wagon Road to the Gila River. He determined instead to go as directly as possible from Zuni Pueblo to the Gila. Because the proposed route would take him through the little known Mogollon Mountains of western New Mexico, he engaged at Santa Fe an experienced mountain man, John L. Hatcher, as guide. Several groups of emigrants also attached themselves to Collier's train, forming a party of 150 or so. Pack mules carried all the baggage.<sup>2</sup>

Little is known about the trail that Hatcher guided them over, except for a dotted line on Lt. Amiel W. Whipple's 1855 United States Pacific Railroad Survey (USPRRS) map labeled "Lieut. Beckwith in 1849." Whipple put Beckwith's name on this map because that officer took command of the escort near Yuma after Captain Thorn drowned crossing the Colorado River. Regardless of the exact path followed by this group, it is obvious that Collier's party crossed northern Arizona over the Mogollon Rim – the only Gold Rush party known to have taken this route to California.<sup>3</sup>

Whipple's map shows Beckwith's trail beginning at Zuni Pueblo in western New Mexico and coursing directly southwest to the vicinity of modern Phoenix. Rather than following an established trail along the Zuni River on the first few days, Beckwith is shown by Whipple

heading southwest cross-country and reaching the Little Colorado River about four miles below the mouth of the Zuni River.<sup>4</sup>

Apart from the USPRRS map, there are few other sources for Collier's journey across the Rim. Lt. Beckwith kept a diary, as did two civilians with Collier, William Brisbane and Dr. Andrew Randall. (Only the first half of Randall's diary has surfaced and that ends at Santa Fe.)<sup>5</sup> Brisbane's account seems to support the route shown by Whipple. Both Brisbane and Beckwith state that the pack train left the Zuni Valley the first morning, August 17, and describe their heading over the next two days as "more westward" and "southwest." Neither diarist mentions the Zuni River again, which appears consistent with Whipple's map. A closer look at this route, however, presents serious problems.

### First Camp of the Collier Party

Beckwith and Brisbane cite 18 and 20 miles respectively for the first day's travel out of Zuni. Beckwith describes "fine springs of water in a valley" at their first camp and gives the campsite's name as "deer springs." He also relates that there is another equally good spring named "Coal Spring" four miles farther along on the same trail; that is, 22 miles from Zuni. Brisbane relates simply that they "encamped near fine springs of water under a large rock." A course of march straight southwest from Zuni would have taken them away from the Zuni River and into the watershed of its tributary, Hardscrabble Wash. If



we are to believe Whipple's dotted line, Beckwith's "deer springs" and "Coal Spring" must both be along Hardscrabble Wash.

The USPRRS map shows these two springs seemingly located on different arms of Hardscrabble Wash, with the first one, Deer Spring, about 18 miles from Zuni by Whipple's map scale. To the author's knowledge there are no springs shown on any modern or historic map in the Hardscrabble Wash watershed near the 18-20 mile point from Zuni. There are a few modern wells and stock tanks in the area. The first spring that appears to be significant along this route is Prospect Spring, about 34 miles from Zuni.

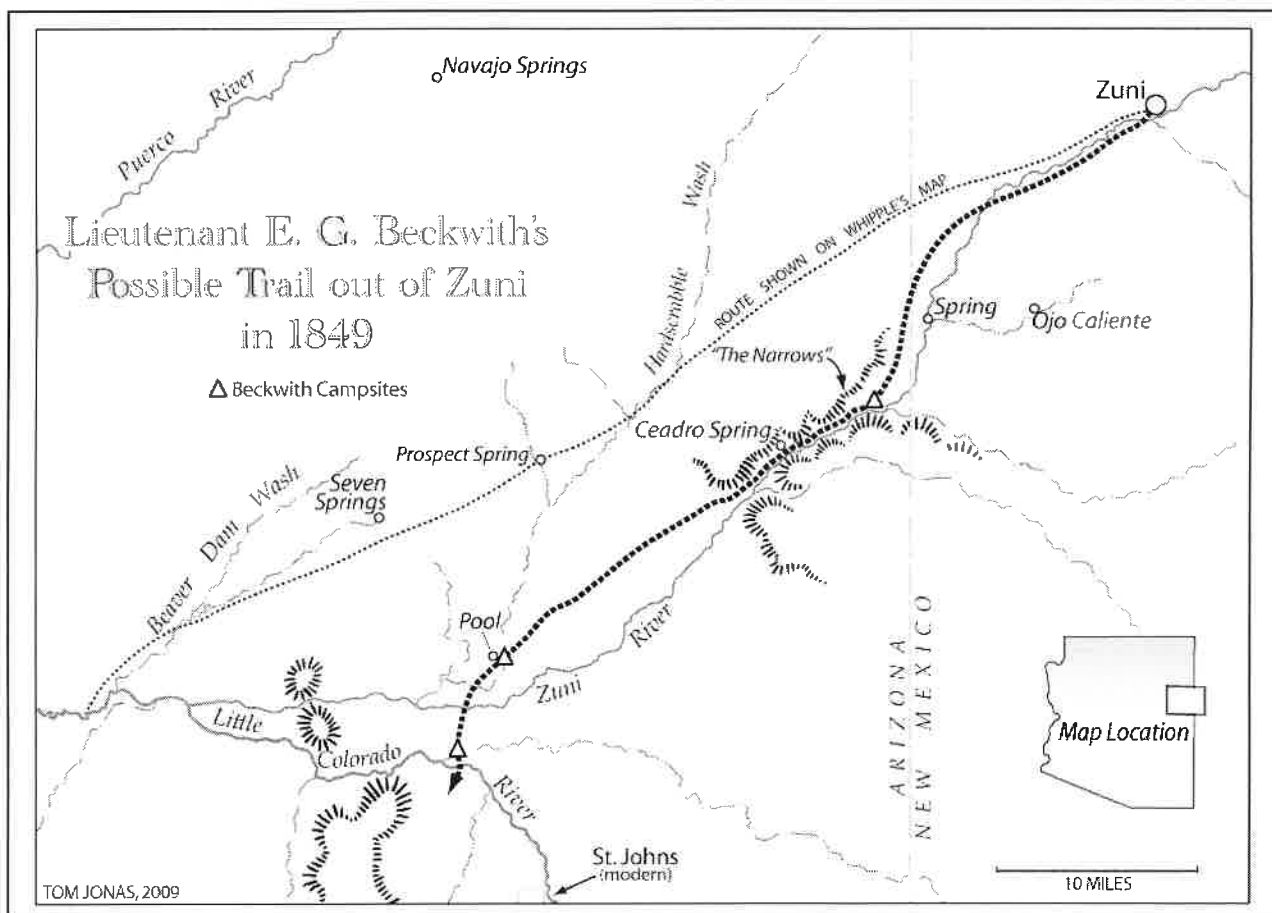
To plot the Collier party's course along Whipple's line, one must assume there were two copious springs in this barren plain at the 18 and 22 mile points that no longer exist and

were never recorded on a map.

### Second and Third Camps

On August 18 Lt. Beckwith notes, "At as late an hour as yesterday [after 10:00 a.m.] we were again on the road & passing Coal Springs struck off southwest for Red River [Little Colorado]." Beckwith's "on the road" comment suggests that they had been following an existing trail here, but beyond Coal Spring they left it to go "southwest." After 24 miles he describes their camp at an ephemeral muddy pond he calls "chocolate pool."

To reach the "chocolate pool" on the USPRRS map would require a march of 35 miles from the Deer Spring according to Whipple's map. Such a long march would not have been impossible but is very unlikely. Two things argue against it. First, the late hour of their departure would have greatly



reduced their available daylight travel time and further hints that they were not expecting to make a long march that day. Second, Beckwith says they "made but [only] twenty four miles" that day. This suggests that he did not consider the journey to be unusually long.

On the third day, August 19, they had an easy walk of six miles from Chocolate Pool to the Little Colorado River, where they remained for two more days. The USPRRS map shows this path following the drainage of Beaver Dam Wash from the pool to the river. This would be about four miles below (west of) the mouth of the Zuni River and not far from where there is a modern bridge over the river on US Highway 180. As the ground upriver from the modern bridge is low and marshy, the bridge site may mark an earlier fording place, an idea that is further reinforced by the nearby place name "Rock Crossing Windmill."

### **Mileage**

A quick look at the mileages given by Lieutenant Beckwith on his previous trip over a well known trail from Albuquerque to Zuni show that his distance estimates are fairly accurate. For the trip from Zuni to the Little Colorado, Beckwith gives a total of 48 miles for the three-day journey. Civilian William Brisbane estimated two more miles than Beckwith on the first day but did not cite distances for the next two days. The distance of the trail as measured on Whipple's railroad survey map is 59 miles. This agrees with a measurement of the same path on a modern map, but is 11 miles more than the distance given by Beckwith. For these reasons, it seems logical to conclude that the line shown on the USPRRS map is in error and the Collier party followed a different route to the little Colorado. But which one?

### **The Old Salt River Trail**

The valley of the Zuni River is part of an old and well-used trading route between Zuni and the Indian Nations to the south along the Salt and Gila Rivers. It was the path used by Capt. Lorenzo Sitgreaves on the first four days of his exploring expedition in 1851. This road is the obvious alternative to the cross-country route considered above.<sup>6</sup>

If Collier's track is plotted along the Zuni River, eighteen miles would bring them near the point where the Zuni River crosses the modern Arizona-New Mexico boundary. Two more miles would take them to the upper end of a canyon sometimes called "the Narrows." This twenty-mile distance is a little over Beckwith's estimate but agrees with Brisbane's.

As noted above, both diarists mention a flowing spring at their first camp. There are no springs shown on modern maps at this point but aerial photos show that pools of water begin to appear here in the Zuni River bed, which is dry further upstream. Beckwith's characterization of this place as "fine springs of water in a valley" may hint that this spring was indeed located at the beginning of the Narrows where there are bluffs with a gradual slope on the east and a steep 350-foot high ridge capped by lava on the west side. Before this point the river is located in the middle of a shallow valley from one to two miles wide. In the Narrows the river bottom is only about a thousand feet wide and the bluffs close in to about one half mile summit-to-summit. This may explain Beckwith's "valley" comment. William Brisbane says they camped "near fine water under a large rock." Perhaps his large rock was the abrupt cliff above them on the east side of the canyon.

About two years later the Sitgreaves Expedition would make their second camp at this

place. Captain Sitgreaves' diary entry will be of interest here as he writes, "We encamped on the banks of the [Zuni] creek, near some abrupt rocks, beneath which gushes out a fine spring. Fragments of packsaddles and broken boxes gave evidence of a former encampment of white men, probably the party of Lieutenant Thorn, who escorted Mr. Collier to California in 1849."<sup>7</sup> It has already been noted that on August 18, 1849, Beckwith recorded in his diary that there was another equally good spring four miles ahead called "Coal Spring." This intelligence was almost certainly provided by his guide, John L. Hatcher, who probably had been on this trail before.

#### **Second Camp on the Zuni**

The following day the Collier party set out again following the narrow canyon that they

had camped at the head of. Before the five-mile point in their march, they would pass an excellent spring named Ceadro Spring on modern maps. An 1883 General Land Office township survey map shows a bed of coal near this spring, making it likely that this was Beckwith's "Coal Spring."<sup>8</sup>

Beyond Coal Spring, Lieutenant Beckwith says they "struck off southwest for Red River." After exiting the lower end of the Narrows they could save a little distance by leaving the river to their left and heading cross-country to the southwest. This would take them up on the gentle ridge that bounds the west side of the Zuni Valley.

Twenty-four miles of travel would bring them to a point about two miles above and northeast of the mouth of Hardscrabble Wash. For



"Coffee Break"  
from graphite drawing

Gary Nelson



several miles in this area, the nearly level Zuni Valley is pockmarked with small intermittent pools. One of these could be Beckwith's "Chocolate Pool." At about the 24-mile point, there is a fairly large depression west of Hardscrabble Wash that appears to contain water on modern aerial photos.<sup>9</sup>

### **To the Little Red**

The modern pool mentioned above is only six miles from the Little Colorado River. On the third day they would have continued southwest, over the ridge that separates the Zuni from the Little Colorado, and arrived at the Little Colorado in the vicinity of modern Zion Reservoir. The entire route proposed to this point conforms rather closely to the one used by the Sitgreaves Expedition in 1851 and to the old Salt River Trail. It would be the most likely route for Hatcher to follow, as it provided a known trail and dependable water sources.<sup>10</sup> The statements by Beckwith and Brisbane that they left the Zuni valley may simply mean that they left the wide area where the pueblo is located. Perhaps they didn't mention the Zuni River afterward because it was a dry and insignificant stream along most of their route.

### **Is Whipple in Error?**

Why is Whipple's 1855 map drawn with the trail reaching the Little Colorado downstream from the mouth of the Zuni? By this time, Lieutenant Whipple had access to Sitgreaves' report and the Richard Kern map that accompanied it. Before 1853 he had only a tracing of the map. In fact, some of Whipple's topography is copied from the Sitgreaves map, with minor changes. Neither Captain Thorn nor Lieutenant Beckwith were assigned to study the country they traveled over, so they took no readings of geographic coordinates and apparently made no map.

A cursory reading of Beckwith's diary will indeed lead a reader to conclude that he did not follow the Zuni River, but struck off

cross-country to the southwest, reaching the Little Colorado below its confluence with the Zuni. It is possible that Whipple's line was based purely on a reading of Beckwith's diary. The first two days of the diary state that the Collier party left Zuni and headed southwest. Perhaps Whipple plotted his line toward the southwest in a general way because he lacked any precise data on the actual route. In this case the dotted line on the map would have little value in determining Beckwith's course between Zuni and the Pima Villages.

A fact that argues against this general line theory is a significant jog in the fairly straight line below the Mogollon Rim. If Whipple was showing an approximate trail to the southwest, what is this jog? It seems to correspond to modern roads in the same area, suggesting that Whipple's mostly-straight line may be more accurate than it first appears. That route would send the Collier party over the Mogollon Rim near Linden and down Limestone Ridge to Carrizo Creek – an extremely rugged and unlikely path.

Another possibility arises if the Collier party actually reached the Little Red near modern Zion Reservoir. From that point they would have been in position to head south along Big Hollow Wash and over the Mogollon Rim closer to modern Show Low.

Which way did they go? More study of Whipple's diary while he prepared his railroad survey report in 1855–1858, and some reconciliation of the USPRRS map with the map published by Sitgreaves in 1853, may yield a more definitive trace on the ground. But is it possible that Captain Thorn, as commander of the escort, kept a diary of this journey? Perhaps it was lost when he drowned in the river crossing in October 1849, but maybe it is filed in an archive somewhere waiting to be found. There may be as yet undiscovered diaries kept by other soldiers or civilians, per-

haps even the second part of Dr. Randall's diary. Until more documentation of this trip comes to light, many questions must remain unanswered.



## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Grant Foreman, *The Adventures of James Collier*, First Collector of the Port of San Francisco (Chicago: Black Cat Press, 1937) 23. Lt. Edward G. Beckwith (1818–1881) fought with the 3d U.S. Artillery regiment in the Mexican War. Still recovering from yellow fever caught two years earlier in Mexico, he was on extended sick leave and assigned to assist Collier to San Diego. Lt. Herman Thorn (1823–1849) received a brevet promotion to captain in the 3d Dragoons for his conduct in the Mexican War in 1847, but next year when his regiment was disbanded he reverted to being a lieutenant of the 2d Infantry. He arrived in Santa Fe with a column of troops en route to New Mexico, just ahead of Collier and Beckwith, whereupon he took command of 25 men of the 1st Dragoons to escort the Collier party. Michael J. Brodhead, "Edward Griffin Beckwith: Explorer of the Central Routes," in *Kansas and the West* (Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society, 1976) 35–36. George A. McCall, *New Mexico in 1850: A Military View*, ed. R. W. Frazer (Norman: Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1968) 152–53.

<sup>2</sup> James Collier (1789–1873) served in the War of 1812 and later became a lawyer in Ohio. Nominated in Feb. 1849 by President Zachary Taylor to be Collector, and quickly confirmed in the Senate, Collier probably set out in May from Ft. Leavenworth behind Thorn's marching column of infantry. He arrived in Santa Fe on July 11. Grant Foreman, *Marcy & the Gold Seekers* (Norman: Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1939) 314. Foreman, *Adventures of James Collier*, 25–26. Patricia A. Etter, *To California on the Southern Route, 1849: A History and Annotated Bibliography* (Spokane, Wash.: Arthur H. Clark, 1998) 65.

<sup>3</sup> Until diary accounts of the journey emerged a few years ago, there was no clear evidence that Collier's party went through northern Arizona. As late as 1940 Grant Foreman believed they had gone from Zuni south to Cooke's Road. See below, note 5. John Hatcher, Collier's guide, was born about 1812 in Virginia and went west as a young man to trap beaver. In the 1840s he worked for Bent's Fort and at other enterprises in southeast Colorado. It seems likely that he previously traveled the trail on which he proposed to lead Collier, possibly as a trapper with Ewing Young before 1834. Amiel Weeks Whipple (1817–1862) served on the U.S. and Mexico Boundary Survey in

1848–51 and later commanded the expedition that conducted the 35th Parallel survey of the USPRRS in 1853–54. Beckwith later served with Whipple on the boundary survey in 1852 and on the railroad surveys where he was with the 41st Parallel expedition. The map discussed here is "Map No. 2, From the Rio Grande to the Pacific Ocean" in Vol. 11, *Explorations and Surveys for a Rail Road Route from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean* (War Department, 1855–60).

<sup>4</sup> A glance at the map drawn by Richard H. Kern in 1852 for the Sitgreaves report reveals that Whipple (who had a copy of this map with him during the 35th Parallel survey) copied Kern's topography covering the Mogollon Rim and White Mountains. This suggests that Beckwith did not communicate anything to Whipple after the latter returned to Washington in 1854. I believe, however, that he had access to Beckwith's diary; see note 5 below. As for Hatcher, he had moved permanently to California by 1853. Harvey L. Carter, "Kit Carson," in Leroy R. Hafen (ed.) *Mountain Men and the Fur Traders of the Far West: Eighteen Biographical Selections* (Lincoln: Univ. of Nebraska Press, 1982) 185.

<sup>5</sup> The diaries of William Brisbane (1823–1880) and Dr. Andrew Randall (c. 1816–1856) have not been published. They are in the Princeton Univ. Library and the California State Library, respectively. Beckwith's unpublished journal is in the Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal. Dr. David H. Miller, emeritus professor of history at Cameron University, kindly loaned me his typescripts of the Beckwith and Brisbane diaries. Etter, *To California on the Southern Route*, 62, 65, 97–98.

<sup>6</sup> Capt. L. Sitgreaves, *Report of an Expedition down the Zuni and Colorado Rivers* (Washington, 1853; reprint by Rio Grande Press, Chicago: 1962) 5–6.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, 6.

<sup>8</sup> General Land Office map of Township 17 North, Range 30 East, Gila and Salt River Meridian [Arizona], 1883. Ceadro Spring is located at N34°49' 16" W109° 9' 4."

<sup>9</sup> A candidate for Beckwith's Chocolate Pool is visible on Google Earth (USDA Farm Services Imagery, 2007) at geographic coordinates N34° 40' 42" W109° 25' 00." See <http://earth.google.com/>.

<sup>10</sup> Andrew Wallace and Richard Hevly, *From San Diego to Texas in 1851: The Overland Journal of Dr. S. W. Woodhouse, Surgeon-Naturalist of the Sitgreaves Expedition* (Lubbock: Texas Tech University Press, 2007) 102–103.

# Ben Daniels: Felon, Rough Rider and Arizona Marshal

By Jay W. Eby

In 1900, the most important goal of Arizonans was that the territory would become a state as soon as possible. Conversely, the worst thing that could happen was any event that could conflict with that goal.

At the same time, there was extreme distrust of any intrusion of Federal law on a territory that had fewer rights than any of the states within the Union. States rights and local control were the goals, and Federal interference was anathema.

Thus when it was discovered that the newly appointed US Marshal for Arizona—one of the few but powerful federally appointed territorial officials—was a convicted (but undisclosed) felon the clamor for his removal was immediate and intense.

The men caught in the middle of this brouhaha were Ben Daniels a former trooper in the Spanish-American War's "Rough Riders" and President "Teddy" Roosevelt his former commander who had appointed him as U. S. Marshal over the objections of Arizona politicians who supported the popular incumbent, Myron McCord.

Benjamin Franklin Daniels had, at age 48, an almost unblemished record—except for a single misstep that had won him a three-year term in a federal penitentiary. Unfortunately, he failed to reveal that information to his patron 40 years later, and when that information

became public all hell broke loose.

President Roosevelt was disappointed to say the least and asked Daniels for his resignation, writing: "You did a grave wrong to me when you failed to be frank ... and tell me about this one blot on your record." Daniels

dutifully resigned, but that wasn't to be the end of the story.

Ben's boyhood was not easy. Born in Illinois, November 4, 1852, to Aaron and Mariah Sanders Daniels, he lost his mother, two brothers and four sisters to cholera when he was very young. At age 11 he moved with his father and stepmother to Kansas. By 16 he was on his own, cowboying in Texas for two years before returning to Kansas as a buffalo hunter.<sup>1</sup>



Benjamin Franklin Daniels

His next stop was in Montana where he made his only recorded misstep when he was convicted of stealing army mules and was sentenced to three years in the US penitentiary at Laramie City, Wyoming.

His record from then on was clean, and by the time he was in his mid-thirties he had married and had carved out a career in law enforcement. He had served as Deputy Marshal for

Marshal Bat Masterson of Dodge City, Kansas; as a deputy sheriff in Bent County, Colorado; as town marshal in Guthrie, Oklahoma; and as town marshal in Cripple Creek, Colorado.

In 1898, at age 46, Daniels got caught up in country's war fever after the sinking of the American battleship *Maine* in Havana harbor and decided to volunteer to serve in the war against Spain, a fading colonial power that was desperately holding on to its few remaining overseas holdings. Colonel Leonard Wood and his second in command, Lt. Col. "Teddy" Roosevelt were forming a Cavalry unit composed of "rough riding" westerners and were assembling the volunteers at San Antonio, Texas.

Daniels left his home at Colorado Springs and reported to San Antonio as a trooper and was assigned to the machine-gun crew in Troop K. Unlike most of his contemporaries Daniels was not superstitious as evidenced by a story told of him while a Rough Rider.

"While his Troop was in camp at San Antonio, numbers were given to each [member] of the company, but no one could be found who would accept No. 13. Mr. Daniels, however, took the number and out of the twenty men in his company was the only one not killed, crippled or injured in the battle, and returned home with an added disbelief in an old and time honored superstition."<sup>2</sup>

After San Juan, Ben came to Arizona, first at Yuma and then to Nogales and had mining interests in southern Arizona. He also was employed as a guard for Wells Fargo before his appointment as U.S. Marshal for Arizona. This political appointment created a storm among Arizona Republicans who resented this intrusion of the Federals in local politics because Roosevelt was replacing a popular ex-territorial governor, Myron McCord who

had been appointed Marshal in 1901 by the late President William McKinley.<sup>3</sup>

After Ben was reluctantly confirmed, the revelation of his past misstep was revealed and Roosevelt was forced to ask for and accept his resignation, but he did not abandon his wartime friend completely. In 1904 Roosevelt appointed a new Territorial Governor for Arizona, Alexander Brodie, another former Rough Rider. Brodie then appointed Daniels to superintend the Territorial Prison at Yuma.

Two years later Roosevelt again appointed Daniels as U.S. Marshal for Arizona Territory, again over ferocious local opposition. After a delay of five months Daniels finally won confirmation on April 25, 1906, with the help of Speaker of the House Joe Cannon and testimony by Bat Masterson as to Daniels' reputation.

Daniels' 40 months on the job involved him with several noteworthy events. Just to start things off for the new Marshal, a Prescott Federal Grand Jury indicted Bishop David K. Udall of Apache County and several others on charges of polygamy, a violation of the Edmunds Act. The warrant was handed to the new Marshal, which he dutifully served. Bishop Udall and the others came to Prescott, paid their fines of \$100 and went home.

Personal tragedy struck early in Daniels' term as U. S. Marshal when his wife died while visiting relatives in Kansas. He remarried two years later to a widow schoolteacher. He was noted for one of his failures. Burt Alvord who had been a deputy sheriff for John Slaughter in Cochise County had been convicted of mail robbery and sentenced to the Territorial Prison while Daniels was the warden. Later when Ben was finally U.S. Marshal the Mexican officials asked that Alvord be extradited to face charges in Sonora and



Daniels had planned to serve the warrant on the prisoner's release. That didn't work since friends of Alvord in Douglas arranged for his early release and he quickly fled the jurisdiction. Although the event was embarrassing to two governments, this could well have been a good thing for Ben Daniels' reputation when a later extradition went sour.

Mexican revolutionaries were congregating along the Arizona border causing havoc on both sides, and by September of 1906 he was responsible for rounding up for trial a number of southern Arizona resident Mexican nationals who were accused of violating the neutrality of the United States. Those who were extradited to Mexico were "Dobie Walled" (summarily brought before a firing squad) by the Rurales. This incident caused a good deal of bad press but the primary fault was laid to Tom Rynning, captain of the Arizona Rangers. This caused Rynning to comment that Daniels was fortunate that Alvord had eluded Marshal Daniels.<sup>4</sup>

Another colorful event in his service as marshal came in 1906, shortly after the San Francisco earthquake. Daniels was escorting 21 Chinese deportees to a ship in San Francisco harbor when the train he was riding in struck a sinkhole and wrecked. He was lucky to be in the dining car finishing breakfast and was thrown about but not injured. The car in which his deputies and the deportees were riding overturned and they were all injured to some extent. None were killed, but injuries to four of the Chinese were serious enough that they had to be carried on board the ship on stretchers.

The coordination in law enforcement provided by the former Rough Riders in Arizona—US Marshal Daniels, US Attorney J. L. B. Alexander, Governor Alexander Brodie, and Captain Thomas Rynning—did indeed help in dispelling the image of lawlessness

that Arizona Territory had deservedly earned.

The U. S. Marshal job was a political plum, and, several months after the end of Roosevelt's term in the presidency, Daniels was summoned to Washington D. C. and "asked" to resign so that President Wilson could appoint one of his supporters. Ben was offered the position as Indian Agent for the Menominee tribe in Wisconsin but he chose to return to business interests in Tucson. James McClintock later wrote of Daniels: "He is today one of the most respected and esteemed men of Tucson."<sup>5</sup>

He remained involved in Arizona politics and in 1912 was, with John C. Greenway, a delegate to the fractious Republican Presidential Convention. They were both supporters of Roosevelt over Taft and were not seated at the convention. Later Lt. Greenway, Sgt. Daniels, Capt. J. L. B. Alexander, and Capt. George Wilcox would rally around their Col. Roosevelt, the "Bull Moose," to form the nucleus of Arizona's Progressive Party.<sup>6</sup>

Ben Daniels died in 1923 and is buried at Tucson's Evergreen Cemetery.



## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Wagoner, Jay J.; *Arizona Territory 1863-1912: A Political History*; Tucson: The University of Arizona Press, 1970.

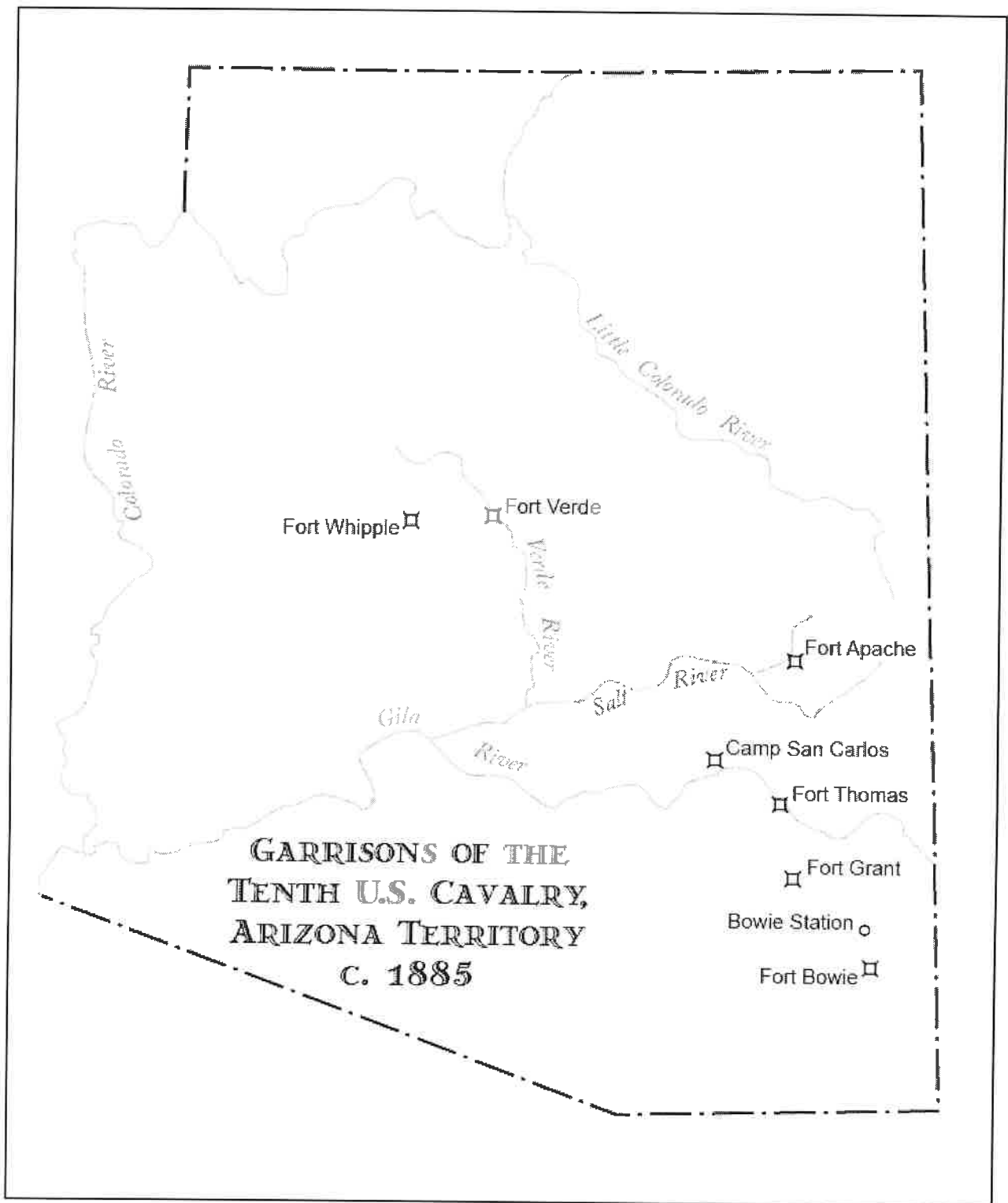
<sup>2</sup> McClintock, James; *Arizona Vol. III*, The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1916, pages 798-799.

<sup>3</sup> Larry D. Ball; *The United States Marshals of New Mexico & Arizona Territories 1846-1912*, University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1978, p 217.

<sup>4</sup> Rynning, Thomas H.; *Gun Notches: The Life Story of a Cowboy-Soldier as told to Al Cohn and Joe Chisolm*, New York, A. L. Burt Company Publisher, 1931.

<sup>5</sup> McClintock

<sup>6</sup> Feess, Marty F., *Theodore Roosevelt's Arizona Boys: Cowboys and Politice in the Old West*, Writers Club Press, 2001.



# THE TENTH U.S. CAVALRY IN PRESCOTT, A.T.

By John P. Langellier

Many African Americans made great sacrifices while fighting for freedom in the Civil War that tore the United States asunder between 1861 and 1865. Nearly 180,000 blacks served the Union cause in uniform during that conflict. In 1866, shortly after the end of this national tragedy, African Americans, for the first time, were allowed to enlist in the regular army during peacetime.<sup>1</sup> These black regulars would be assigned to the American West chiefly from Kansas to Texas, but not until the spring of 1885 did black troops report for duty in today's Arizona.

In that year the Tenth U.S. Cavalry regiment "moved from the Department of Texas to the Department of Arizona, marching along the Southern Pacific Railroad." As the column took up its march from Fort Davis it comprised eleven troops and the band. At Camp Rice Troop I joined the entourage. From that point to Bowie Station, Arizona, the twelve troops continued together in a rare reunion because the regiment had not been together since its establishment after the Civil War. Then, the short-lived gathering ended at Bowie where "the troops separated to go to their several stations."<sup>2</sup>

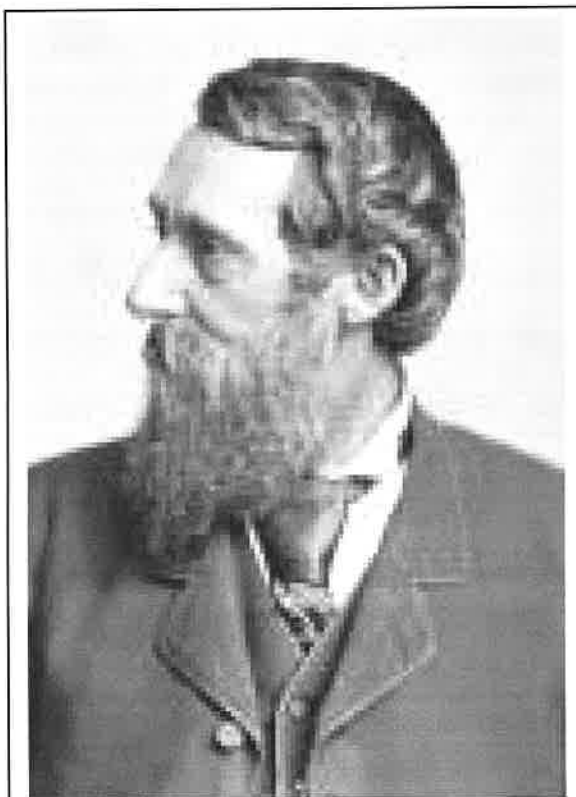
So it was that regimental headquarters under Colonel Benjamin F. Grierson, a Civil War veteran best known for his raid deep into the South, reported to Fort Whipple outside of Prescott. With Grierson and his headquarters

contingent, came both the regimental band and Company B, the three contingents totaling about 92 non-commissioned officers, troopers, and bandmen. The other elements

of the Tenth fanned out to Fort Apache (Company A), Fort Thomas (Companies C, F, and G), Fort Grant (Companies D, E, H, K, and L), and Fort Verde (Companies I and M).<sup>3</sup>

At this time few residents of Arizona Territory—as was the case with most nineteenth century Americans—knew little about the valuable service performed by these stalwart blacks in Army Blue. As yet the "buffalo soldiers" were far from household names.<sup>4</sup> In fact early references about the Tenth Cavalry in the

Prescott press possibly were some of the first references to black troopers read by a majority of white residents of the area. For example, the initial coverage in the *Weekly Arizona*



Benjamin F. Grierson

*Miner* noted the Tenth Cavalry had reached Arizona and was heading to several garrisons in throughout the territory. This inaugural article carried an unimpressive opinion that, "The Apaches do not fear the colored troops but have a contempt for them. They have received this idea from the New Mexico Indians...."<sup>5</sup>

Soon after the African Americans took up their post at Fort Whipple, however, Prescott residents were able to form their own views about their new military neighbors. These conclusions were more favorable than the *Miner's* preliminary announcement, which had been based on second hand information. The paper now indicated "the unenviable reputation given the Tenth Cavalry by certain journals in Southern New Mexico and Arizona" were unfounded. In fact, these cavalymen showed "no disposition to rival the legendary 'Bloody Fourteenth'" Infantry, a unit manned by white soldiers who had garrisoned Whipple previously. Instead, the troopers of the Tenth Cavalry were "well behaved and as soldierly looking set of men that have ever been stationed at Whipple."<sup>6</sup> Indeed, one of Prescott's few African American residents was so inspired about the announcement of the Tenth Cavalry's posting at Fort Whipple that supposedly "as soon as the 'colored sojers' arrived he was 'qwine to jine de army.'"<sup>7</sup>

Perhaps the town's saloonkeepers were not as impressed with the black soldiers as was the local African American townsman who intended to enlist. The reason for this possible disappointment among the town's bar owners was based on a contention that the Tenth's troopers spent "less money on ardent spirits than any other troops stationed at Whipple." Instead, allegedly: "Their special weakness" was "swell clothing in the ultra dude design."<sup>8</sup> Given the fact that most of the men previously had served in relative isolation in Texas

for a long period the easy access to fashionable civilian attire for off duty wear probably was a welcome luxury.

Another motivation for acquiring this new sartorial splendor may have stemmed from a desire to please the women who were the wives, daughters, laundresses, and others of the fairer sex who would be joining the cavalymen at their new assignments in Arizona. Among these ladies four arrived in advance of the troopers on May 14 via stagecoach. They were Mrs. George Washington Lafayette Johnson, Mrs. John Quincy Adams Jefferson, Mrs. Patrick Henry Andrew Jackson, and Mrs. George Trumbull Buchanan.<sup>9</sup>

The status of women in the U.S. Army at this time was precarious at best. For example, starting in 1802 laundresses were permitted to perform washing services for troops and eventually were given transportation to new posts. These women often were married to soldiers even though military customs of the mid to late nineteenth century were such as to discourage married men in the ranks. By 1878 the practice of transporting laundresses to new posts with the company they served began to phase out and around 1883 supposedly had ceased. Thus the fact that the four women came to Prescott on the stagecoach was in keeping with the revised practice of transporting laundresses and other civilian women.<sup>10</sup>

While the news of these women brought brief a wry remark in the press about their husbands' names, one history of the black soldier succinctly explained the importance of "Taking a hero's name...in the days after emancipation." For instance, enlistments of African American men between September 1866 and August 1867 included "twenty-four men named George Washington." In fact, "Every president—even Martin Van Buren—had a namesake among the black regulars."<sup>11</sup>



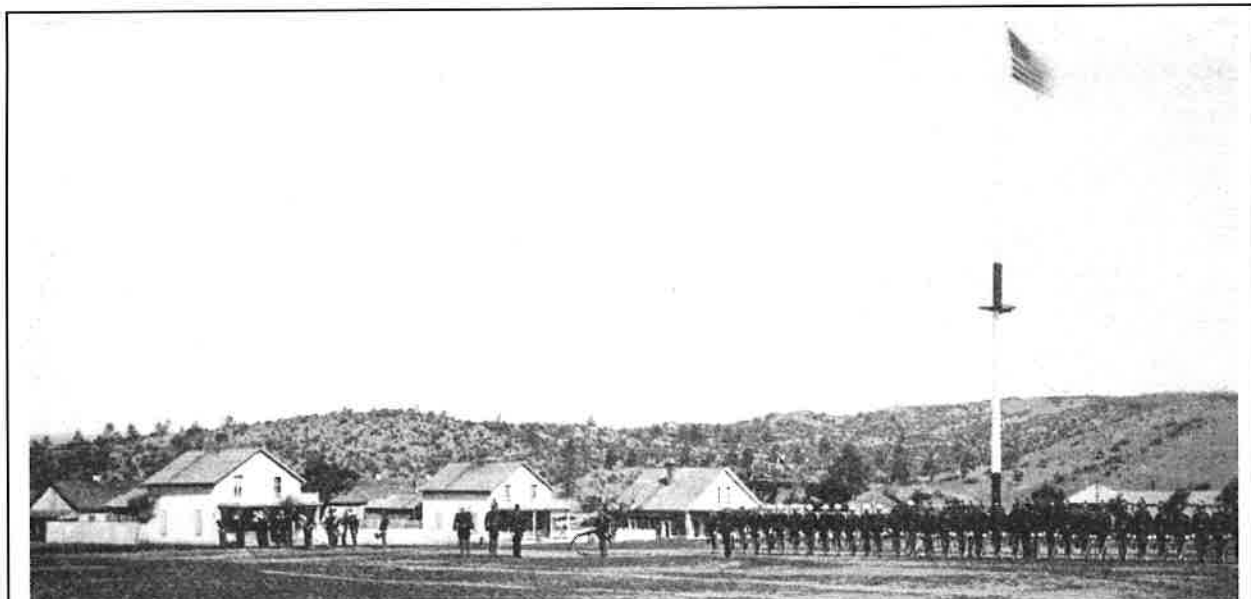
In the case of Mrs. George Washington Lafayette Johnson, her husband probably was Corporal George Johnson of the regimental band, which "Papers of Southern Arizona" praised for their talent.<sup>12</sup> Indeed, these martial music makers had developed an impressive library of musical scores and gained a reputation for excellence. Little wonder given the fact that the Tenth Cavalry's colonel in early life had been a music teacher.<sup>13</sup>

Prescottonians quickly had the opportunity to judge for themselves about the quality of these bandsmen. Just over a week after the Tenth Cavalry arrived they were called on to lead the Decoration Day (now known as Memorial Day) observances "to decorate the graves of Comrades who lie buried in the Citizens, Masonic, and Military [Fort Whipple] cemeteries" under a grand marshal who was one of their regiment's young officers, Troop B's commander Robert Geno Smither.<sup>14</sup> The band headed the procession, and after the ceremonies in the Courthouse Plaza returned to the fort in a wagon. Unfortunately a wheel broke along the way injuring

some of the bandsmen—"one so severely as to cause a doubt to whether he would recover or not."<sup>15</sup>

But this mishap did not deter local interest in the band. One of the community's militia companies lost little time in securing the group to perform for their benefit. In early June residents were informed of "the Promenade Concert given by the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Band, under the auspices of the Prescott Rifles, at the new City Hall..." Tickets were available for gentlemen and ladies at \$2.<sup>16</sup> Such popular performances prompted the *Miner* to exhort: "The excellent band of the Tenth Cavalry would confer a favor on the citizens of Prescott by following the example of the musicians of the Third [Cavalry] by giving a weekly concert in the Court House Plaza."<sup>17</sup>

It is not clear from existing sources whether this suggestion was acted on, although near the end of their stay at Fort Whipple the band evidently did play for Company B before the troopers departed for San Carlos in May 1886. To commemorate this event: "The colored soldiers gave a farewell dance at Whip-



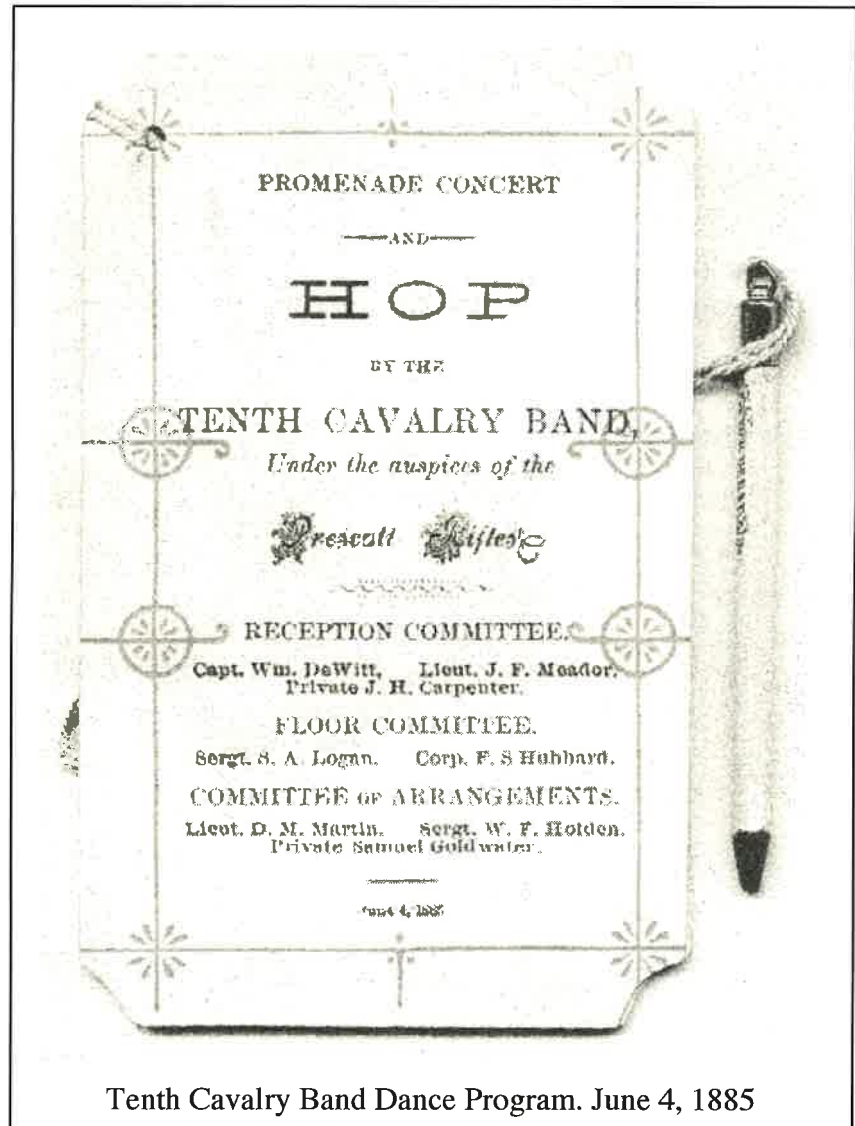
The Tenth Cavalry band forms on the left and Troop B on the right for a dress parade at Fort Whipple c. 1885.

ple last evening prior to taking their departure today.”<sup>18</sup> Moreover, as part of this farewell the regimental adjutant Lieutenant Samuel Woodward “had the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry band out today for mounted drill with their instruments and favored our town with a general serenade. The entire band was mounted on white steeds and presented a fine appearance, while they discoursed sweet strains of music.”<sup>19</sup> And again later in the month the musicians of the Tenth did the honors at Decoration Day observances for 1886 much as they had the prior year all under the baton of English-born Chief Musician Charles Goldsbury who had risen to head the regimental band nearly three years after his enlistment in the Tenth Cavalry on May 3, 1883.<sup>20</sup>

While Goldsbury’s name did not appear in the Prescott press, occasional references to black soldiers could be found in print. In one instance a report about a trooper named Jones indicated that he had inflicted a mortal wound on himself, but an addendum in the same issue of the *Miner* stated that the death may have been the result of a stabbing by a Chinese man.<sup>21</sup> Regrettably, no follow up appeared providing accurate details about this violent incident. Another similar article told of a “colored soldier, belonging to the tenth cavalry [who] attempted suicide at the regimental corral at Whipple this afternoon, by shooting himself through the head with a carbine.” Although the unnamed trooper lost a portion of his

nose, “he did not inflict serious injury.”<sup>22</sup>

Of course, not all deaths or wounds occurred at Fort Whipple. An intriguing story ran in the January 9, 1886, *Arizona Journal Miner* about a Tenth Cavalry detachment from another Arizona fort, which alleged that two black soldiers had been killed. Supposedly, “On the evening of the 3d instant, just after a detachment of Troop C, 10<sup>th</sup> cavalry, had lett (sic) camp at Cave Cañon, a scout, who was accompanying the soldiers, fired on and killed the sergeant of the company and one soldier....”<sup>23</sup> No reason was given for this purported incident, although a subsequent reference contended the scouts from this patrol



Tenth Cavalry Band Dance Program. June 4, 1885

were dismissed, and their leaders were to stand court martial for the part they supposedly played in the affair.<sup>24</sup>

Black soldiers from other garrisons in Arizona likewise received mention such as a pair of troopers who were granted leave. One of these men was Sergeant L.M. Smith of Troop E, Tenth Cavalry who was permitted by the commanding officer at Fort Grant to receive a furlough for two months "to take effect after his re-enlistment" and the other cavalryman was Sergeant Joseph Jenkins from Troop A who likewise was permitted to take a two month furlough by the commanding officer of Fort Apache.<sup>25</sup>

Just as the papers occasionally referenced black troopers in their pages, their white officers also were the subjects of several short accounts. Many of these terse descriptions had to do with Colonel Grierson such as the Prescott's *Weekly Courier* indication that he was permitted to purchase a horse from a public source.<sup>26</sup> Later, speculation about his promotion was a matter of interest in that: "Barring casualties in the Army during the next ten years" Grierson should become a brigadier general on February 14, 1888 with the retirement of Alfred Terry.<sup>27</sup> Later the paper indicated "Colonel Grierson, post commander at Whipple," was thought "to be the senior Colonel of Cavalry, and in case promotions to Brigadier General are made from this branch of service will receive promotion to fill vacancies shortly to occur."<sup>28</sup>

Predictions of advancement proved premature, but information about some of Grierson's other activities were accurate such as his departure for "Fort Bayard, New Mexico, as president of a court martial to convene there shortly to try an officer."<sup>29</sup> Grierson soon returned from court martial duty, and shortly thereafter departed the Prescott area once again.<sup>30</sup> In this instance the colonel took

leave to visit his business in the vicinity of Fort Davis, Texas where he had cattle and land.<sup>31</sup>

When he came back to Arizona Grierson received orders calling him "to Fort Mojave and other posts in that vicinity as he may deem necessary, to fully investigate the conditions of affairs" in the area relative to unrest among the local Indians. After his investigation he was to return to Whipple.<sup>32</sup>

Such snippets about Grierson were typical of the reporting about the many other former Union leaders who served in Arizona in post Civil War Arizona. As was news about other white officers in the regiment serving at Fort Whipple likewise a matter of interest from time to time. Examples included Tenth Cavalry First Lieutenant Mason Marion Maxon, the regimental quartermaster, who left Fort Whipple with the regimental veterinary surgeon on a temporary assignment. The two men proceeded to Tucson to inspect cavalry horses and eventually purchased suitable stock.<sup>33</sup>

In May 1886, when it came time for Company B to depart for a new posting at San Carlos Agency, one of the newspapers lamented the loss of the troop's young Lieutenant James Hughes, who was going to be missed by "Prescott society" because he was "a very popular young officer...."<sup>34</sup> Two brother officers from Company B would join Hughes in the reassignment.<sup>35</sup>

In due course the remainder of the Tenth Cavalry regiment's officers and enlisted men would depart the Prescott area as was indicated by "a rumor...that orders have been issued for the removal of the regimental headquarters of the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry to Ft. Thomas. A Troop of the 2d Cavalry or a company of the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry is expected to be ordered to Whipple."<sup>36</sup> In fact, by June 1886 the black

cavalrymen and their officers including Grier-son would quit Fort Whipple for other stations. In so doing, their short-lived presence at that post would close another page in the area's colorful history.



## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> William A. Gladstone, *United States Colored Troops 1863-1867* (Gettysburg, Thomas Publications, 1990), 9-11; and William A. Dobak and Thomas D. Phillips, *The Black Regulars 1866-1898* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2001), xi and 3.

<sup>2</sup> E.L.N. Glass, *The History of the Tenth Cavalry* (Ft. Collins, CO: Old Army Press, 1972), 24.

<sup>3</sup> Glass, *The History of the Tenth Cavalry*, 24. Besides the garrisons listed above elements of the regiment also would report to Camp San Carlos on the reservation of that name, and "a series of semi permanent Tenth Cavalry camps...established near springs and passes within the major north-south trending valleys of southern Arizona." These outposts included Ash Spring, Bonita Cañon, Pinery Canyon, and Tonto Creek. Martyn D. Tagg, *The Camp at Bonita Cañon: A Buffalo Soldier Camp in Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona* (Tucson: Western Archeological and Conservation Center, 1987), 36 and 39.

<sup>4</sup> Supposedly soon after the formation of the regiments manned by black soldiers American Indians bestowed the name "buffalo soldiers" on their black adversaries. There are many versions of the origins and meanings of this term that appeared relatively early in print in such periodicals as the Sidney, Nebraska *Telegraph* (September 21, 1878); "The Comanches and the Peace Policy", *The Nation* 17, no. 245 (October 30, 1873): 286-7; *Army and Navy Journal* (November 8, 1873), (April 3, 1880), and (August 25, 1894); and most notably the headline of the article written and illustrated by Fredric Remington, "A Scout With the Buffalo Soldiers", *The Century A Popular Quarterly* 27, no. 6 (April 1889): 889. Recent scholarship, however, indicates while white periodicals "used the phrase to refer to any black soldier", African American enlisted men of the Victorian era considered 'buffalo' was an insult.... Dobak and Phillips, *The Black Regulars 1866-1898*, xvii, 231, and 287. Another prominent source underscored a similar perspective, stating: "There is no contemporaneous evidence that the soldiers themselves actually used or even referred to this title.... any claims concerning their views of the usage remained unproved suppositions." Frank N. Schubert, comp. and ed., *Voices of the Buffalo Soldier*

(Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2003), 47 and 261.

<sup>5</sup> "The Colored Troops", *Weekly Arizona Miner* 21, no. 9 (May 8, 1885): 4.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid. 21, no.11 (May 22, 1885): 3. As noted in, Dobak and Phillips, *The Black Regulars 1866-1898*, 226: "Merchants, saloonkeepers, and owners of gambling halls and brothels usually ignored a soldier's race." Simply put: "The color of a man's money was more important than that of his skin...."

<sup>7</sup> Prescott *Weekly Courier* 4, no. 20 (May 21, 1885): 4. The troopers had a number of mercantile establishments to choose from when selecting their civilian finery including J.W. Wilson & Co., which purportedly was: "The cheapest place in town to buy clothing...." *Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner* 22, no. 14 (June 30, 1886): 3.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid. 21, no 13, (June 5, 1885): 3.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid. 21, no. 9 (May 15, 1885): 3.

<sup>10</sup> Patricia Y. Stallard, *Glittering Misery: Dependents of the Indian Fighting Army* (Fort Collins, CO: Old Army Press, 1979), 53-65.

<sup>11</sup> Dobak and Phillips, *The Black Regulars 1866-1898*, 335 n14.

<sup>12</sup> Prescott *Weekly Courier* 4, no. 20 (May 21, 1885): 4. Frank N. Schubert, comp. and ed., *On The Trail of the Buffalo Soldier: Biographies of African Americans in the U.S. Army, 1886-1917* (Wilmington, DL: Scholarly resources Inc., 1995), 232.

<sup>13</sup> John P. Langellier, *Men A-Marching: The African American Soldier in the American West, 1866-1896* (Springfield, PA: Steven Wright Publishing, 1995), 33. Second Lieutenant Robert Smither may well have understood his regimental commander's interest in music when he sought permission to recruit musicians from the Lexington, Kentucky area so they could report directly to the Tenth Cavalry rather than risk the men being assigned to the Ninth Cavalry. Dobak and Phillips, *The Black Regulars 1866-1898*, 11 and 155.

<sup>14</sup> Prescott *Weekly Courier* 4, no. 21 (May 30, 1885): 3. "Observances of the national holiday passed pleasantly" according to the *Weekly Courier*, as "hundreds of spectators saw, from sidewalks, balconies and other places, a procession as the people of no other frontier town ever witnessed." And as indicated in the previous edition of the paper Captain Smither served as grand marshal while the Tenth Cavalry band followed by their comrades of Troop B and Company F, First U.S. Infantry Decoration Day", ibid, 4, no. 22 (June 5, 1885): 4. Altshuler, *Cavalry Yellow & Infantry Blue*, 331.

<sup>15</sup> *Weekly Arizona Miner* 21, no. 13 (June 5, 1885): 4.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.: 3.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid 21 no. 18 (July 17, 1885): 3. Such remarks were typical in that "For many officers and men, especially



for Colonel Grierson..., the band was a vital part of the regiment." Among other things: "The regimental band usually performed at least twice a day; at 'Guard Mount,' when the new guard formed to relieve the men of the previous day's guard; and at 'Retreat,' the evening dress parade during which colors were lowered. Bands usually offered open-air concerts once or twice a week as weather permitted.... Concerts often drew a crowd of civilian listeners from nearby towns. Bandmen, on their own time, also played at dances." Thus, "The regimental bands were in great demand among western towns, particularly on national holidays." In other words, to local communities such bands also were "looked to as a source of entertainment." Dobak and Phillips, *The Black Regulars 1866-1898*, 11, 155, and 226.

<sup>18</sup> *Weekly Arizona Miner* 23, no. 112 (May 7, 1886): 3.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.* This article concluded with a mention that:

"The troop of the Tenth stationed at Whipple will leave to-morrow for San Carlos, but the band will remain here for the present. Major Woodward, who is the adjutant of the regiment, will remain until orders are issued for a change in the regimental headquarters."

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.* 22, no. 9 (May 31, 1886): 2. Biographical information related to Chief Musician Goldsbury was taken from, *Roster of Non-Commissioned Officers of the tenth U.S. Cavalry, with Some Regimental Reminiscences, Appendixes, Etc., connected with the Early History of the Regiment* (n.p.: n.d., 1897), 3. Another contemporary member of the band who served alongside Goldsbury was Texas born 5'9" Private Henry C. Jones whose varied military record also indicated service in the Twenty-fifth U.S. Infantry and the U.S. Army Hospital Corps, as well as duty with the Tenth Cavalry in Cuba during the Spanish American War. In many respect his long years of service (at least twenty) and transfers to other units within the U.S. Army in and out of the Tenth Cavalry were characteristic of many of the rank and file black regulars in the late nineteenth century. Schubert, *On The Trail of the Buffalo Soldier*, 244.

<sup>21</sup> "Killed Himself", *Weekly Arizona Miner* 21, no. 20 (August 7, 1885): 4.

<sup>22</sup> *Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner* 23, no. 62 (March 8, 1886): 3.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.* 21, no. 275 (January 9, 1886): 2.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.* 21 no. 279 (January 15, 1886): 3.

<sup>25</sup> *Prescott Weekly Courier* 4, no. 21 (May 30, 1885): 4. As Dobak and Phillips, *The Black Regulars 1866-1898*, 60, indicates: "In order to receive credit for continuous service, and a dollar-a-month additional pay that went with each reenlistment, a soldier had to sign on within thirty days of his discharge." Further, veterans typically "took advantage of this month-long period to go home, visit family and friends, and sample civilian life before

they made up their minds to enlist again." This possibly was the case with the two sergeants mentioned in the *Weekly Courier*.

<sup>26</sup> *Prescott Weekly Courier* 4, no. 21 (May 30, 1885): 4.

The paper also announced that the garrison had just been visited by the paymaster and received their pay.

<sup>27</sup> *Weekly Arizona Miner* 21, no. 19 (July 31, 1885): 3.

<sup>28</sup> *Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner* 23, no. 47 (February 15, 1886): Grierson did not receive his star until April 5, 1890, and only briefly enjoyed his status as a brigadier general in that he retired on July 8, 1890. After a long illness he died on August 31, 1911. Altshuler, *Cavalry Yellow & Infantry Blue*, 146-7

<sup>29</sup> *Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner* 23, no. 112 (May 7, 1886): 3.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.* 22, no. 10 (June 2, 1886): 3.

<sup>31</sup> *Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner* 22, no. 11 (June 9, 1886): 3. As noted in Dobak and Phillips, *The Black Regulars 1866-1898*, 94-5, the long posting to Texas drew criticism from at least one commanding general of that department who "remarked that the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry 'had become localized to such an extent' during its stay" in that area "that its discipline and morale had been impaired—probably a reference to Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson's land and cattle interest in the neighborhood of Fort Davis.

<sup>32</sup> *Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner* 22, no. 13 (June 23, 1886): 3.

<sup>33</sup> *Arizona Weekly Journal-Miner* 22, no. 11 (June 9, 1886): 3. Maxon eventually "examined and accepted...over thirty head—offered for sale for cavalry purposes by Marion McCann." *Ibid.* 22, no. 13 (June 23, 1886): 3.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.* 23, no. 112 (May 7, 1886): 3.

<sup>35</sup> Returns for US Army Posts, 1800-1916, Ft. Whipple, Arizona (May 8, 1886) Microcopy 617, Roll 1426, indicated "Troop 'B' 10" Cavalry Capt R.G.S Smither commanding left Post at 8 o'clock a.m. May 8" 86 en route for San Carlos Agency" as ordered by the Department of Arizona's commanding general. According to *Arizona Journal Miner* 23, no. 113 (May 8, 1886): 3, "Troop B, 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Captain [Robert] Smither, and Lieutenant [Thaddeus] Jones and [James] Hughes left Whipple this morning at 8 o'clock for San Carlos." Smither departed separately from his troop according to *Ibid.* 23, no. 113 (May 8, 1886): 3, which stated: "Captain Smither will leave Whipple on the stage tomorrow morning, and join his troop at Big Bug."

<sup>36</sup> *Arizona Journal Miner* 23, no. 124 (May 21, 1886): 3.



"Coyote"  
from oil painting

Gary Melvin

## **ABOUT US**

The award-winning Prescott Corral was founded in 1962 as an affiliate of Westerners International, an organization dedicated to the preservation of the real history of the American West. Most recently the Prescott Corral has been honored as the top Corral for WI for 2008, among corrals chartered prior to 1973. This is the seventh time the Prescott Corral has won this honor.

## **ABOUT OUR CONTRIBUTORS**

**Erik Berg** was raised in Flagstaff, Arizona and works in Phoenix as a software engineer. He has had a life-long interest in the history and culture of the southwest with a special focus on science and industry in the early twentieth century. Erik is an active member of the Scottsdale Corral of Westerners, current president of the Grand Canyon Historical Society and a regular contributor to both the Arizona History Convention and the *Journal of Arizona History*.

**Jay W. Eby** is a retired US Forest Service District Ranger and a long-time student of Arizona's involvement in the Spanish-American War. He was instrumental in the founding of "Troop 1/A of the Arizona Rough Riders" a ceremonial and re-enactment unit that is dedicated to the historically accurate portrayal of the life and times of the original Arizona Rough Riders.

**Tom Jonas** is a native of Arizona who has always had a curiosity about the history and geography of the state. Several years ago he began studying early American explorations of the southwest, eventually building a website ([www.southwestexplorations.com](http://www.southwestexplorations.com)) to publish some of his discoveries. Lately he has combined his interest in geography with a talent for graphic design and is now making custom maps for history books, journals, websites and brochures.

**John Langellier** received his BA and MA in history from the University of San Diego and his PhD with an emphasis in military history from Kansas State University. He is the author of dozens of books, monographs, and articles on various historical topics and is a long time consultant to film and television. His career in public history began with the United States Army in 1973 and continues to the present with his most recent position as the executive director of Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott, Arizona.

Artist **Gary Melvin** planned a career in art after graduation from the University of North Dakota, but was sidetracked by the Vietnam War. After US Navy service as a hospital corpsman he graduated from medical school and went on to a 35-year career as a physician. He now is a full-time and prolific artist working from his studio in Prescott. To see more examples of his work please go to his web page: [garymelvinart.com](http://garymelvinart.com).

**Sandy Moss** was a newspaper reporter for more than a dozen years, both in Utah and in Prescott. She has worked as a broadcaster for more than six years at the Arizona Hometown Radio Group stations. She is also a staff writer for Prescott Woman Magazine. Sandy has a strong connection with Kate Cory, having portrayed her on stage in Chatauquas many times with the Blue Rose Theater, at the Westerners, Yavapai College, and at the Smoki Museum.

