

# BUCKSKIN BULLETIN

Volume LVI - issue 2 - June 2023



H.D. Bugbee, artist  
"The Sorrel Bronc", 1927  
Oil on board, 10 3/8 x 8 3/8 inches  
Published here courtesy of the Panhandle-  
Plains Historical Museum, Canyon, Texas

more Bugbee illustrations and museum news on page 12.







WI Chairman, Bonney MacDonald  
Photo by Rik Anderson, WTAMU



## CHAIRMAN'S GREETING

Greetings from the Home Ranch! Spring is in full swing and summer is around the corner. Here's what that means first and foremost: The Fall Gather is not far off!!

Cochise County Westerners are hosting us this year in Tombstone, Arizona, September 14-16. WE REALLY HOPE YOU WILL COME because it's going to be a great Gather, with wonderful programs and memorable Western fun! Register soon and get your ponies fit for travel. Registration forms are available on the front page of the Homepage website: <https://www.westerners-international.org> You can find the full schedule and scoop on the webpage for the Cochise County Corral of Westerners: <https://www.westerners-international.org/> Don't miss this one, folks, it's gonna be good!!

Thankfully, covid is winding down, even though we all still need to be careful. And corrals and posses report that they are meeting in person again and sharing programs and meals We salute you all! For those of you still getting back on your feet, you can always catch a wonderful program on Zoom with another corral or posse and get your "Westerners fix"! See the Corral and Posse Highlights in this Bulletin for details on the corrals or posses that offer Zoom programs. If you need assistance connecting with one of those groups, just email me and I'll put you in touch with the sheriff of a Zoom-hosting corral or posse: [bmacdonald@wtamu.edu](mailto:bmacdonald@wtamu.edu)

The awards process is moving ahead. We always love receiving your work, and will be contacting the winners by email or phone in July. We will also, of course, email everyone who submitted entries after winners have been contacted.

Finally, in case you missed it in the last few Buckskin Bulletins, the Home Ranch's new phone number is: 806-654-6920

Happy Summer and Happy Trails to all!

*Bonney*

Bonney MacDonald  
Chairman, Westerners International

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# **COME TO TOMBSTONE, SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2023**

## **THE TOWN TOO TOUGH TO DIE!**

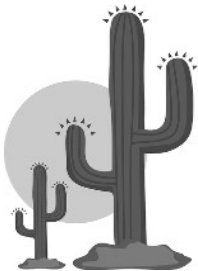
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Don't miss this one, folks, it's gonna be good!!



**THANK YOU TO DOUG HOCKING and all the members of the Cochise County Corral for all you are doing to make a great and memorable Gather!!**

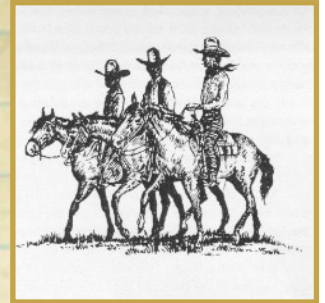


## REMINDER TO ALL SHERIFFS AND MEMBERS!

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

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

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



## 2023 DUES AND THANKS FROM THE HOME RANCH

Even though COVID is winding down, some corrals and posses are still in the process of organizing themselves for in-person meetings. At the Home Ranch we've tried to do all we can to support and encourage you to stay with it and keep the enthusiasm for our great organization. We know that a lot of you weren't able to meet -- or are just starting to again -- and we applaud you for keeping safe and healthy.

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

Please, even if your corral or posse cannot send in dues for the year because you haven't been able to meet, be sure that you have sent in your current contact info for your officers. Those forms are in the Dues and Awards packets sent out by US Mail in February. If you need a new copy, just email Bonney MacDonald, Chairman, WI, at [bmacdonald@wtamu.edu](mailto:bmacdonald@wtamu.edu).

*thank  
you*

## 2022 AWARDS SEASON

Thank you to all who sent in submissions for awards!

It's such a treat to read through all of your programs and written submissions for awards. It reminds us all of the good and enthusiastic work you all are doing in Westerners. The committees will be reading the entries and making decisions, and we will notify award winners in July. We will also contact all who sent in submissions after winners have been notified. Awards will be given out at the FABULOUS GATHER IN TOMBSTONE, September 14-17, 2023.



# CORRAL NEWS



## CALL FOR CORRAL AND POSSE UPDATES

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

## CORRAL AND POSSE HIGHLIGHTS



### The Palo Duro Corral

Several members of the **Palo Duro Corral** were honored recently at the Western Heritage Awards held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. The Western Heritage Awards honors individuals who have made significant contributions to Western heritage through creative works in literature, music, television and film that share stories of the American West. Those honored receive a bronze casting of a cowboy on horseback, created by Cowboy Artist Harold Holden and is called the "Wrangler".

**Jim Jennings** received a Wrangler as script writer for "Red Steagall is Somewhere West of Wall Street," which was named the Outstanding Western Lifestyle TV Program. Jim has received a total of six Wranglers through the years for his writing. Additionally, Jim provides a western themed story for each issue of the Buckskin Bulletin.

**R.W. Hampton**, (photo left) who has been inducted into the Western Music Association's Hall of Fame and has received three Wranglers from the Cowboy Hall for his music, was a presenter during the awards show, and corral member **Lenny Sadler** was a presenting sponsor of the show. Lenny is a member of the board of directors of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum and is a member of the Western Heritage Committee.

### The Indian Territory Posse of Oklahoma Westerners Submitted by Kent McInnis.

The **Indian Territory Posse of Oklahoma Westerners** is proud to announce that former **Sheriff Bill Welge** was inducted into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame. Cheryl and I were there to honor Bill as well as popular former Oklahoma Governor George Nigh and his wife Donna. Bill worked at the Oklahoma History Center for four decades. He was instrumental in shaping the direction of exhibits and the thinking after the Oklahoma History Center moved to their new location. Always accessible to the public, Bill had many admirers who were at the ceremony to honor him. As a leader, **Bill Welge** never gave up his active support of **Westerners International**. With so much stress in the U.S. the past three years, he was instrumental in keeping our posse active. A well earned and deserved recognition.

Left photo **Bill Welge**



### FORT COLLINS CORRAL

**Sheriff Ray Sumner** reports that their April meeting was presented by Sharon Danhauer. The topic was "Mariano Medina : A legend in His Own Time". Mariano Medina was the first permanent settler in the Big Thompson Valley. He was a character, a mountain man, as respected in his day as the famous frontiersmen we know of today. His legacy had been largely forgotten, even in Colorado. Sharon spoke of Mariano's colorful life before and after settling on the Big Thompson, and of the efforts made by the Loveland Historical Society to preserve the last vestige of his settlement from lost to history.

Sharon is a member of the Loveland Historical Society.

### COCHISE COUNTY CORRAL

For the May program, **Becky Orosco** presented on Camp Naco, which was constructed near Bisbee in 1919 during the Mexican Revolution and is the last remaining post created to defend the border during that revolution. The June program was on the "History of the Mescal Studio Set. " Mescal is the child of Old Tucson Studios and has been in use since the 1950s. Many of your favorite movies were filmed there including Judge Roy Bean, The Outlaw Josey Wales, The Quick and the Dead and, best of all, Tombstone. For the July program, they are planning a presentation on the History of the 7th Street Cemetery in Benson.

See the Cochise County Corral's website at [www.CochiseCountyCorral.org](http://www.CochiseCountyCorral.org) for their Fremont Street Bulletin and their quarterly publication, *Border Vidette*.





# more **CORRAL NEWS**

*more Corral news on next page*

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to Doug Hocking and all members of the Cochise County Corral for all the work you're putting in for the **MUCH ANTICIPATED FALL GATHER IN TOMBSTONE, Sept 14-16!!**



## **FORT WORTH CORRAL**

In April, Fort Worth Westerners member, Michael Grauer, presented a program titled "Rounded Up in Glory: Frank Reaugh, Texas Renaissance Man." Michael is Curator of Cowboy Collections and Western Art at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. The Corral's May Zoom Program was presented by Audrey Ladd, Education Programs Manager at the Texas Rangers Hall of Fame and Museum in Waco. She spoke on "Texas Rangers: Legendary Lawmen." Stephen F. Austin established the Texas Rangers in 1823, and this year marks the 200th anniversary. The Corral's June Zoom program will be presented by UNT History Professor Richard McCaslin, who will speak on "Texas Rangers' Shut Down: 'Two-Gun' Dick Herwig."

Thank you to Phil Williams and Bob Saul from the Ft. Worth Corral for keeping us posted on your programs. Please see [fortworthwesterners.com](http://fortworthwesterners.com) for information on other exciting programs and events.

## **SCOTTSDALE CORRAL**

Linda Cravens reports that, in May, Sheriff Jared Smith presented a program on "Forgotten Arizona: A Tour in the Shadows of Our State's History." Jared looked at the lost, the forgotten and less-recognized people, places, events in Arizona's historical past. Please visit the Corral's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Scottsdale-Westerners/122907851122916>

## **PIKES PEAK POSSE**

In May, the Posse hosted a program from Brett Lobello and Jessica Spiker on "A Bird's Eye View of Growth in the Pikes Peak Region from the 'Steward Photo Collection.'"



Thanks to Bob DeWitt and all the Posse members for keeping us up to date and for their fabulous Gather last year in Colorado Springs.

Please check out the Pikes Peak Posse's Newsletter, The Inkspot for interesting stories and updates on Western history and lore!

## **HUNTINGTON CORRAL**

In April, the Corral hosted social historian and novelist, Naomi Hirahara, an Edgar Award-winning author of the Mas Arai mysteries and non-fiction history books for adults and children. She shared an overview of her new research on a forthcoming mystery on Pasadena set in 1903. The May meeting featured Huntington Library Curator, Li Wei Yang, who spoke on "Los Angeles Chinatown: From Exclusion to Inclusion." And in June, Michele Zack, journalist, writer, and Altadena historian, spoke on "The History and Ongoing Legacy of Owen Brown," the son of abolitionist, John Brown. Thank you to Linda Mazur for keeping us updated on your wonderful programs in beautiful San Marino!

## **SAN FRANCISCO CORRAL**

We were delighted to hear from Gerhard Brostrom, Rep for the Corral. Gerhard reported, after two-plus years of not meeting because of covid, that the corral is just getting back to in-person programs. It's great news and we wish you and your members the best! Please continue to keep us posted!

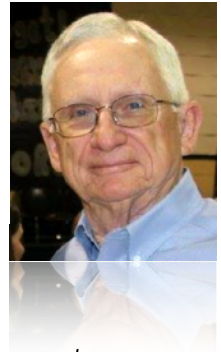
## **KANSAS CITY POSSE**

Richard Reed reports that the Posse hosted Scott Cole on April 11. Scott is a descendant of the James family and talked about family stories and the exploits of Jesse and Frank. The Posse met in May for a program on Poncho Villa by Kevin Makel and, in June, Deb Goodrich talked about ghost towns in western Kansas. Thank you to Richard Reed and to Sheriff "Hoss" Tucker for keeping us posted!





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



## OLIVER LOVING

Texas that he returned to Kentucky, loaded a wagon train with equipment, supplies, slaves and family, and headed for Texas. He also convinced his brother and brother-in-law to bring their families and come with him.

Loving and Susan stopped for a year in Lamar County, Texas, just south of the Red River, and while there welcomed their sixth child to the family. But then they moved on west and joined the Peters Colony, where Loving received 639 acres of land spread over three counties – Collin, Dallas and Parker. By 1850, the family had settled in Collin County, on Rowlette Creek, south of the present town of McKinney, where two more daughters and a son were born. By this time, Oliver and Susan had nine children.

To make a living, Loving began a freighting business, and his wagons, with military escorts, were hauling cargo from the Texas towns of Preston, Houston and Jefferson, and from Shreveport, Louisiana, to Fort Worth, Fort Belknap and other Texas outposts. These trips made him acquainted with the vast buffalo ranges farther west, and in 1855, Loving moved his family to the future Palo Pinto County on the Brazos River frontier.

Loving settled on a thousand acres in Palo Pinto County on Keechi Creek, which is just east of the present town of Graford, and stocked his ranch with cattle. He also opened a general store there on the creek to serve the needs of other ranchers in the area.

Two years later, Loving sent his 19-year-old son William with a herd that included both Loving's and some neighbors' cattle to market in Illinois, up the Shawnee Trail. Those cattle made a profit of \$36 a head, so the next year, he sent another herd, this time partnering with neighbor John Durkee and sending his oldest son, James, to lead the drive.

On August 29, 1860, Loving and another neighbor and friend, John Dawson, left Palo Pinto County with a herd of 1,500 head of cattle, bound for Colorado. Gold had been discovered in those mountains and Loving planned on feeding the miners. Loving and Dawson went northwest out of Texas across the Red River until they hit the Arkansas River, and then turned west, following the Arkansas all the way to Pueblo, Colorado, where they wintered their cattle. When spring came and melted the snow, Loving made his way on up to Denver, sold their cattle to miners and prospectors for gold and then prepared to leave for

***His last name has become etched in the history of the West. However, few people know very much about him.***

Most people's knowledge of Oliver Loving comes from his association with cattleman and trail driver Charles Goodnight, and the fact that the two of them founded what became known as the Goodnight-Loving Trail. But Loving was 45 years old before he ever even met Goodnight, and he already had several years of trail driving experience under his belt.

Oliver Loving was born in Hopkins County, Kentucky, on December 4, 1812. He grew up farming with his father, Joseph, and his mother, Susannah Mary Loving, but on January 12, 1833, he married Susan Doggett Morgan and established his own farm in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky.

Loving farmed there for the next 10 years, during which time he and Susan welcomed five children to the family. But Loving stayed in touch with an uncle, who was down in Texas and had fought for Texas' independence. After the war, the uncle settled at Preston Bend on the Red River, and his letters back home urged his nephew to visit him. In 1843, Loving made the visit. Once there, he was so enthused about opportunities in



home. However, the Civil War had broken out by this time, and Union officials prevented him leaving until Kit Carson and Lucien Maxwell interceded for him. Carson, of course, was a former mountain man and army scout. Maxwell had also been an army scout but by this time he owned the famous Maxwell land grant in northern New Mexico. Both men were well known in the area.

During the war, Loving was commissioned to drive cattle south to help feed the Confederate forces along the Mississippi River, and he made several trips. When the war ended, the Confederate government owed him \$150,000, which, of course, he never received.

In 1866, Loving heard about the need for cattle in Fort Sumner, New Mexico, where the government had imprisoned some 8,000 Indians – mostly Navajo, but with some Apache – on a reservation there. The government needed the beef to feed the Indians.

A few years earlier, Loving had met another rancher there in the Keechi Valley, Charles Goodnight. Goodnight had a lot of respect for Loving, who he considered to be the most knowledgeable cow man in that part of Texas. Like Loving, he had heard about the need for beef in New Mexico and Colorado, and planned to take a herd there.

When his outfit was ready, Goodnight hurried to nearby Weatherford to buy flour and other necessary supplies, and on the way, passed Loving's camp. Loving flagged him down, and asked him about his proposed drive. After Goodnight told him his plan to take the old Butterfield Trail to the southwest and then turn up the Pecos to the Rockies, Loving said, "If you will let me, I will go with you." Goodnight replied, "I will not only let you, it is the most desirable thing of my life. I not only need the assistance of your force, but I need your advice."

At this time, Loving was 54 years old, and the young Goodnight was only 30. Loving had had several years' experience driving cattle long distances, and Goodnight, although he was somewhat familiar with the trail due to the time he spent fighting Indians as a Ranger, had no experience as a trail driver.

Between the two of them, they had about 2,000 head of Longhorns. They joined herds 25 miles south of Belknap, and with an outfit of 18 men, all of whom were armed, they left on June 6, 1866. Goodnight insisted Loving take charge of the drive, but they did take Goodnight's advice about going the long way instead of cutting across the high plains of Texas, which at that time was pretty much controlled by the Comanches. They headed southwest via the Middle Concho River and through Castle Gap to Horsehead Crossing on the Pecos River. From there, they followed the Pecos north to Fort Sumner.

When Goodnight and Loving arrived at Fort Sumner with their 2,000 head of cattle, the army offered them eight cents a pound for all the steers. That amounted to \$12,000 in gold, and the two cattlemen were elated, even though the army refused to take 800 head of cows and calves that were in the herd. They had never sold cattle for so much money.

Loving then went on to Colorado with the cows and calves, and sold them in Denver, while Goodnight returned to Texas with the gold to put together another herd. The route they had taken from Fort Belknap to Horsehead Crossing and up through New Mexico became known as the Goodnight-Loving Trail.

In a short time, Goodnight put together another herd and drove it over the same trail to Bosque Grande, about 40 miles below Fort Sumner. There Loving rejoined him, and they went into winter camp. But each month during the winter, they made deliveries of cattle to the reservation at Fort Sumner.

In the spring of 1867, Loving and Goodnight returned to Texas, ready to start a new drive. By the latter part of June, they had already hit the Pecos, and after going north about a hundred miles, the partners decided to send Loving ahead to bid on the contracts that were to be let in July. Goodnight, in an article he wrote in the book "The Trail Drivers of Texas," said, "Loving was a man of religious instincts and one of the coolest and bravest men I have ever known, but devoid of caution. Since the journey was to be made with a one-man escort, I selected Bill Wilson, the clearest headed man in the outfit, as his companion."

Goodnight told the men to travel only at night so as not to be seen by the Indians, and for the first two nights, they followed Goodnight's instructions. On the third day, Loving became impatient and decided to go on during the daylight hours. At about two in the afternoon, they were spotted by the Comanches and had to make a run for the Pecos River, which was about four miles away. When Loving and Wilson reached the river, they turned their horses loose and took cover in some sand dunes. When the Indians attacked, Loving was shot, with the bullet passing through his wrist and into his side. But still the two men were able to hold off the Indians.

About midnight, Loving, who thought he was going to die from his wound, asked Wilson to leave him and try to find Goodnight. Loving wanted his family to know what had happened to him. Wilson, after stripping down to his underwear and giving Loving all their weapons except one rifle, slipped into the water and was able to float down the river past the Indians. Goodnight was about a hundred miles south with the herd, and Wilson headed that way. He later related that he made a three-day's march barefooted before he finally gave out and crawled into a hole. That's where Goodnight's men found him.

Wilson told Goodnight what had happened, and Goodnight took 14 men and headed to where Wilson had left Loving. They found the place, but he wasn't there, and Goodnight assumed the Indians had killed Loving. However, the third night after Wilson had left, Loving had crawled into the river and was able to float past the Indians to a trail crossing, where he crawled upon the river bank to wait for someone to come by. Three days later, some traders with a wagon drawn by oxen found him and took him to Fort Sumner.

About two weeks later, the trail herd met someone coming from Fort Sumner who told Goodnight that Loving was there. Goodnight immediately rode the 110 miles into the fort to find his



partner, who he discovered was not doing well, and due to the gangrene in his arm was not likely to live. Loving asked Goodnight to continue the partnership for another two years so that his family would be cared for, and then he said, "I regret to have to be laid away in a foreign country." Goodnight assured him that he would be buried in the cemetery at home.

When Loving died, he was buried temporarily at Fort Sumner while Goodnight delivered their cattle. When he returned, Goodnight had his men gather scattered oil cans around the fort, flatten them out, solder them together and make a tin casket for Loving's body. They placed the rough wooden one inside, packed several inches of powdered charcoal around it, and sealed the tin lid. The casket was then loaded into a wagon, and the



cowboys once again set out down the Goodnight-Loving Trail to take Loving home.

Oliver Loving died September 25, 1867. After he was brought back to his home, he was buried in the cemetery in Weatherford, Texas. I'm sure a lot of you have recognized the fact that Larry McMurtry's book and television mini-series "Lonesome Dove" was based on Loving's and Goodnight's partnership. And, as is depicted in the book and television show, the two men were very close. According to J. Evetts Haley in his book "Charles Goodnight, Cowman and Plainsman," Goodnight, until his own death 63 years later, "never spoke of Loving except in utmost tenderness, and his vibrant voice mellowed with reverence as he would slowly say, 'my old partner,' and raise his eyes to the picture that hung on the ranch house wall."



# Western History Association News

Western History Association  
October 25-28, 2023,  
Westin Bonaventure Hotel  
Los Angeles, California

## Westerners International Sponsored Session

"Back on the Frontier Again: Frontier Nostalgia in the West"

Chair: John Flynn, University of Utah

Julie Haltom, California State University, Long Beach, "Reinventing the Frontier: Jackrabbit Homesteaders as New Pioneers"

Brian James Leech, Augustana College, "Vice-talgia: Gambling, Drinking, Prostitution, and Violence as Mining Town Tropes in HBO's 'Deadwood' and Beyond"

Laura J. Beard, University of Alberta, "Pioneer Days in the Black Hills: Frontier Nostalgia in 'Historic Deadwood'"

Comments: Marc James Carpenter, University of Jamestown.

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

Look what's new!

#### New items, left

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

#### Items, right & below

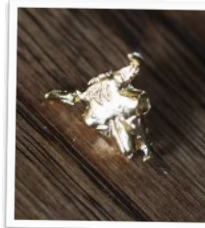
- Lapel pin with pin clasp..... \$13.00
- "Past Sheriff" lapel pin..... \$13.00
- Bolo Tie with leather band..... \$25.00
- Lucite paper weight..... \$17.00
- T-Shirts/round or v-neck..... \$25.00
- Polo Shirt..... \$45.00
- Bandanas..... \$7.00
- Decal 3"..... \$4.00
- Cap -adjustable size..... \$30.00

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

If you would like to place an order or send payment, contact:

**Delinda King, WI Secretary,  
 Westerners International, Panhandle-  
 Plains Historical Museum,  
 2503 4th Ave., Canyon, TX 79015**

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



lapel pin



past sheriff's pin pin



bolo tie



lucite paper weight



tee shirt



white v-neck



3" Decals



Westerner cap



Polo shirt



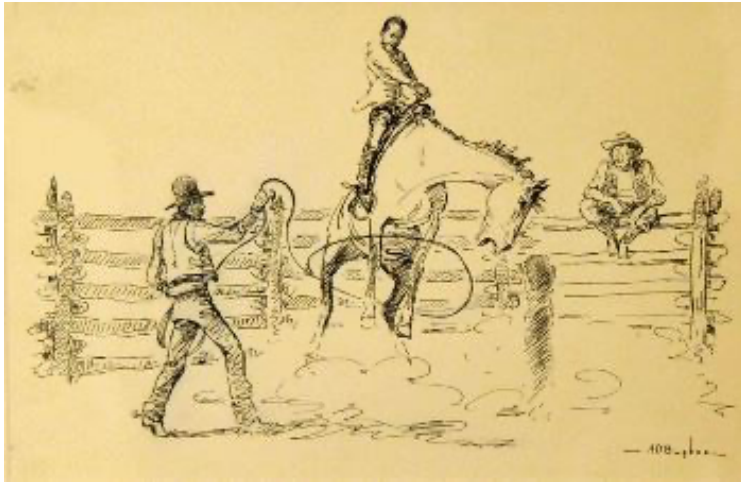
white bandana



# PPHM

PANHANDLE-PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

## Canyon, Texas



"Billy Freeman" by H.D. Bugbee

During the 1920s, Bugbee exhibited in galleries in Denver, Chicago, Kansas City, and New York but turned to magazine work when sales declined during the Great Depression. It was during this period that his illustrations began to appear in publications like *Western Stories*, *Country Gentleman*, and *Field and Stream*, as well as Western history books including Charles Goodnight: **Cowman and Plainsman** by **J. Evetts Haley**.

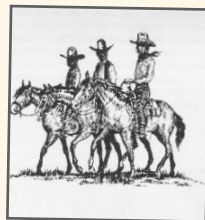
In 1951, Bugbee became curator of art at PPHM. He contributed five murals in Pioneer Hall and eventually gave 200 of his works to the PPHM permanent collection. In 1961, Bugbee married Olive Vandruff, a successful wildlife painter from Kerrville, Texas, who succeeded him as art curator after his death in 1963.

The H.D. Bugbee Gallery showcases rotating exhibition and includes a detailed reconstruction of Bugbee's studio.

## H.D. BUGBEE GALLERY in the Panhandle- Plains Historical Museum

Though he spent his childhood in Lexington, Massachusetts, Harold D. Bugbee (1900-1963) came of age in the Texas Panhandle after his family moved to Clarendon, Texas in 1914. There, they joined a cousin—cattleman T.S. Bugbee—on his ranch outside town. A budding artist, Bugbee began sketching life on the ranch, a childhood talent which blossomed into a career. He spent summers at the Taos Art Colony and graduated in 1921 from the four-year Cumming School of Art in Des Moines, Iowa after only two years as a student.

The WI Home Ranch is proud of its affiliation with the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, Texas. PPHM is the largest historical museum in Texas. For current and upcoming exhibitions, lectures, and special events please check the museum's web page at: <http://www.panhandleplains.org>



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

- S. C. Gwynne



*Come experience TEXAS in beautiful Palo Duro Canyon*

May 18th through August 5  
PIONEER AMPHITHEATER - 11450 STATE PARK HWY RD 5,  
CANYON, TX 79015

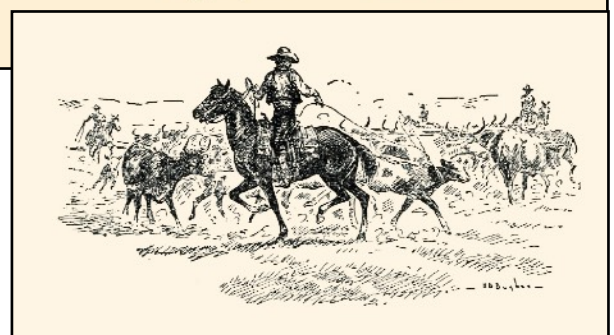
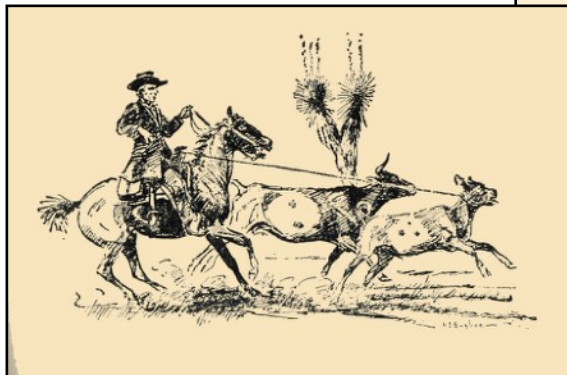
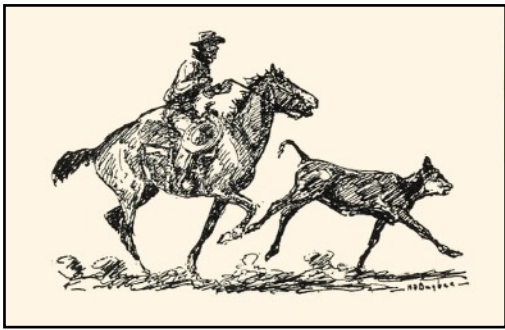
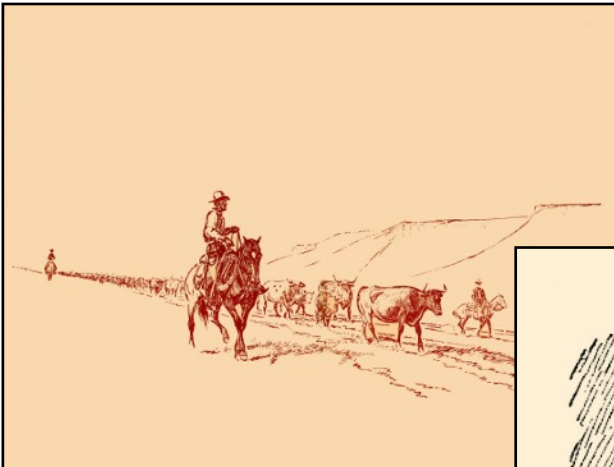
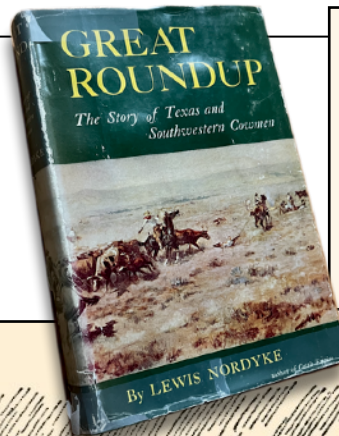
# A SAMPLE OF H.D. BUGBEE WESTERN ART

There is something special about an old book. A book well travelled, one with a frayed cover and someone else's name in it from decades past. While attending last fall's Westerners International Gather in Colorado Springs, I had the pleasure of visiting Bob DeWitt's wonderful book store full of western history and art. One book caught my eye, **Great Roundup, The Story of Texas and**

**Southwestern Cowmen** by Lewis Nordyke of Amarillo, Texas and published in 1955 by William Morrow & Company of New York (now, Harper Collins). The book has a great story about the cowboy way of life but the real treat that I discovered were the beautiful H.D. Bugbee illustrations throughout. I would like to share a few of these drawings and hope that you will enjoy them as much as I have.

A Bugbee painting, "The Sorrel Bronc, 1927" is the cover of this Buckskin Bulletin. It comes to you courtesy of the **Panhandle Plains Historical Museum**, Canyon, Texas. The PPHM building is beautifully embellished with Bugbee wall murals and houses 200 of his paintings and sketches.

*Ken Pirtle, Editor*





# BOOK NEWS

OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS

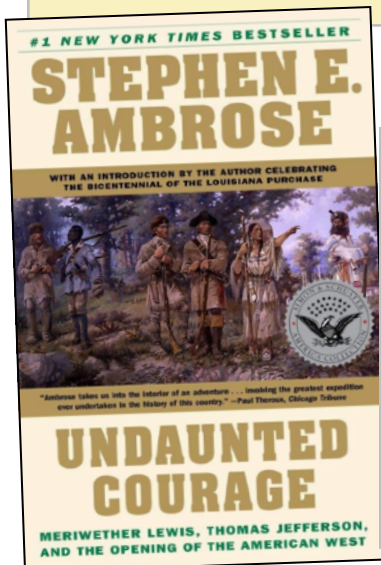
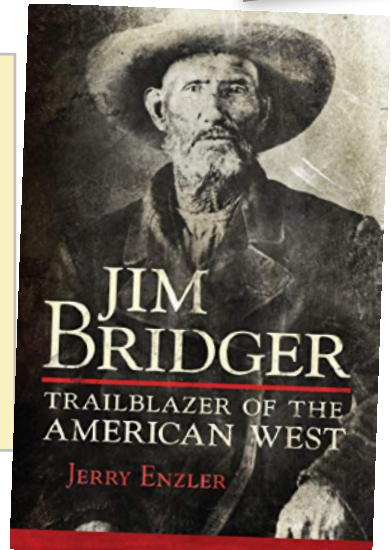


## **Jim Bridger: Trailblazer of the American West** by Jerry Enzler

paperback - 2021 price \$21.95 amazon books

Even among iconic frontiersmen like John C. Frémont, Kit Carson, and Jedediah Smith, Jim Bridger stands out. A mountain man of the American West, straddling the fur trade era and the age of exploration, he lived the life legends are made of. His adventures are fit for remaking into the tall tales Bridger himself liked to tell. Here, in a biography that finally gives this outsize character his due, Jerry Enzler takes this frontiersman's full measure for the first time—and tells a story that would do Jim Bridger proud.

from the The University of Oklahoma Press [oppress.com](http://oppress.com)



## **Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West** Paperback – June 2, 1997 by Stephen Ambrose

paperback price \$21.95 amazon books

A classic western historical account, worthy of revisiting.

In 1803 President Thomas Jefferson selected his personal secretary, Captain Meriwether Lewis, to lead a voyage up the Missouri River to the Rockies, over the mountains, down the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean, and back. Lewis and his partner, Captain William Clark, made the first map of the trans-Mississippi West, provided invaluable scientific data on the flora and fauna of the Louisiana Purchase territory, and established the American claim to Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

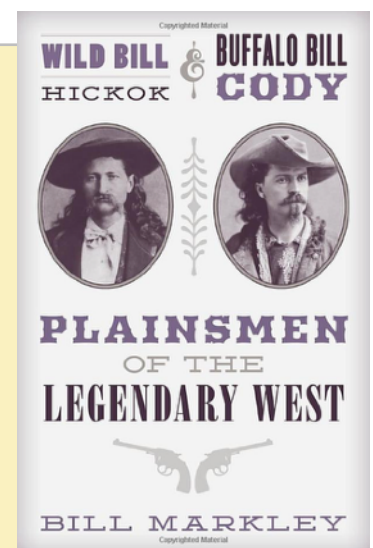
Simon & Schuster publisher

## **Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody Plainsmen of the Legendary West**

by Bill Markley Paperback - 2022 \$15.59 amazon books

Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody were considered heroes and the greatest plainsmen of their time. They were larger than life, legendary characters. They knew where to locate water, good grass for livestock, sheltered campsites, and game for hunting. They knew how to survive the blistering heat and terrific thunderstorms of summer and the subzero blizzards of winter. They could avoid Indians or act as trackers following the trails of Indians as well as desperados. They were expert marksmen and did not back down from a fight. They rushed in where others held back. Hickok, a frontier wagon and stagecoach driver, became a Union spy during the Civil War, furthering his reputation after the war as a frontier Army scout, gunfighter, and lawman. Cody, who claimed to ride for the Pony Express, served in the Union Army, and became legendary as an expert buffalo hunter and Army scout. Hickok and Cody were good friends and experienced a series of adventures together.

TwoDot publisher



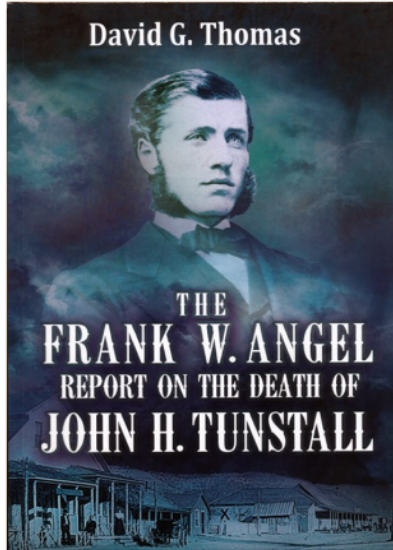
If you've read a particularly fascinating book that you think might be of interest to other Westerners, please share it with your Buckskin Bulletin inkslinger at: [kenneth.pirtle@me.com](mailto:kenneth.pirtle@me.com) so I can add it to the Book

# BOOK & PUBLICATION NEWS

## OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS



Thomas, David G. *The Frank W. Angel Report on the Death of John H. Tunstall*, Mesilla Valley History Series, Volume 9, Doc45 Publishing, Las Cruces, NM, 2022. 237 + 6 pages, illustrations, notes, appendices, index. Softcover: \$29.95, hardbound: \$34.95. Available through Amazon.com. Reviewed by Brian Dervin Dillon.



Everybody has heard of Billy the Kid, but few are familiar with Frank W. Angel. Angel was a well-educated, well-connected, Easterner. He was sent by nervous Washington D.C. politicians out to New Mexico, America's least-populated and least-civilized Territory, to keep a *national embarrassment* from blowing up into an *international incident*. John H. Tunstall, a young, upper-crust British Citizen, only five years older than his most volatile and homicidal employee Billy the Kid, recklessly challenged a rough-and-tumble group of New Mexico Irish potato famine refugees, almost all of them former Union Army Civil War veterans, and in 1878 was murdered for his efforts. Territorial officials, by virtue of their relative inaction, seemed to have taken the position that the spoiled young English upstart had *gotten what he deserved*. Hibernian ants had risen up, so to speak, and killed the *English anteater* that had taken up residence within their *Irish ant colony* in far-off New Mexico.

Tunstall's outraged English millionaire father, was now howling for blood. Tunstall Senior demanded satisfaction from the U.S. Government and rallied his fellow British businessmen to his side, threatening to make economic trouble for America. So Frank Angel was the investigator who was directed to determine what had happened to young Tunstall, enquire why justice had not been served, and, last but not least, decide whether or not a "coverup" had occurred. His most important, albeit unwritten, duty was to placate Tunstall Senior and diminish the possibility of any transatlantic economic war.

Special Agent Angel was equal to these manifold tasks, and put all of New Mexico "under the microscope." He discovered that some of the U.S. Army officers officers investigated were neutral, while others were blatantly partisan. He also proved that dishonesty and corruption went all the way up the food chain of civil authority from the municipal, to the county, to the territorial level. In fact, the New Mexico Territorial Governor lost his job directly as a result of Angel's report. So heads did roll, with Angel sending the victims to the chopping block. Tunstall Senior, back in England, was satisfied that due diligence in getting to the truth of his son's murder, had indeed taken place. Angel was, in fact, so effective

that his report was suppressed by those most at risk of exposure. This is why so few people interested in New Mexico history, and specifically the Lincoln County War, have been aware of it, until now. *Now* is, of course, ever since David G. Thomas did such an outstanding job of historical research and writing culminating in his *Frank W. Angel* book.

The Lincoln County War and Billy the Kid have provided plot elements for dozens of Hollywood *horse-operas* for more than a hundred years. Such *Old West Mythology* is taken as gospel by far too many Americans, owing to the perceived lack of historical documentation proving it to be completely fictional, with only the most tenuous connection with chronological, geographical, and biographical facts. David G. Thomas debunks the *Tinseltonian* pseudo-history that has swirled around Billy the Kid and the Lincoln County War for far too long, and goes farther than any previous historian in setting the record straight. Every official document generated at U.S. Government request bearing upon the causes, the actions, and the after-effects of the bloody New Mexico conflict are reproduced in *The Frank W. Angel Report*. Thomas doggedly traced every documentary thread bearing on the Lincoln County War back to its source, and offers thoughtful conclusions about the significance of each bit of evidence. Nobody knows the documentary sources relating to southern New Mexico history better than Thomas, and his *Frank W. Angel* book is the most recent of a great many equally-valuable publications exploring this fascinating Old West region. His 2022 *Frank W. Angel* book presently stands, and probably will stand far into the future, as the best and most up-to-date study of the Lincoln County War.

Myth-buster David G. Thomas has single-handedly demolished the falsehoods and fabrications swirling around the time and place that made Billy the Kid famous. For the very first time in 140 years all of the documentary evidence for this compelling episode of New Mexico history is presented between two covers, and the vivid testimony of all the participants still living when Frank W. Angel arrived *way out west* provides answers to most of the questions raised by past generations of historians about the Lincoln County War. Thomas has raised the bar for Western American historical writing. For serious scholars as much as old west aficionados interested in Billy the Kid and Southern New Mexico history, this book is the very best place to start reading. The remarkable *Frank W. Angel Report* merits a place of honor on every westerner's bookshelf. Highly recommended.

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

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



# CORRAL PUBLICATION NEWS

OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS



## From the Los Angeles Corral



### Brand Books Freely Available on our Website!

<http://www.lawesterners.org/brand-books/>

Huzzah! You can now read our older catalogs of Brand Books online our website for free, so long as you aren't illegally distributing copies or selling the PDF. You can see a list of all the Brand Books from the above link. Alternatively, check the links below to be sent directly of your choosing.



The **LA Corral** is soon to unveil the latest "Branding Iron". Shown here is a sneak peak at the cover. Edited by John Dillon.



The **Pikes Peak Corral** puts together a great looking and information newsletter. Thanks to **Bob DeWitt**, Roundup Foreman, Membership & Media Wrangler, for sharing.