

# BUCKSKIN BULLETIN



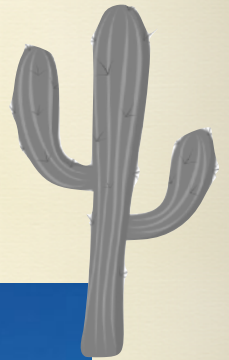
**Y'ALL COME TO TOMBSTONE!**

**FOR THE WI'S FALL GATHER**

**SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2023**

**THE TOWN TOO TOUGH TO DIE!**

DOWNLOAD THE EASY TO USE REGISTRATION FORM AT:  
[HTTPS://WESTERNERS-INTERNATIONAL.ORG/MAILREGFORM.PDF](https://westerners-international.org/mailregform.pdf)  
OR ON PAGE 5



Tombstone Historic Courthouse



(Above) The two-story Cochise County courthouse, designed in the Victorian style, was constructed of red brick in 1882. The courthouse, a splendid example of territorial architecture, continued to serve as a county facility until 1931 when the county seat was moved to Bisbee, Arizona.

(Left photo) The sign marks the spot of the gunfight that put Tombstone in the old west history books.

*photos from <https://tombstonechamber.com>*



## CHAIRMAN'S GREETING



Greetings from the Home Ranch! The heat has continued on the high plains and I'm sure that it's the same for many of you! I hope you've found ways of keeping cool during this long hot spell in the West

As you'll know from elsewhere in the Bulletin, our Gather is coming up in the fun and fabulous Tombstone, Arizona, Sept 14-16, 2023. It's not too late to get y'er ponies legged up, put gas in the tank, or get a last-minute bargain on a plane ticket to Tucson! Doug Hocking and his Ranch Hands in the Cochise County Corral have put together a program **YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!** Hats off to Doug and the crew for all their work! We really hope you can come and know that you won't be sorry. You can find registration information here in the Bulletin; and you'll find the brochure as well as online AND mail-in registration forms on the Westerners website The organizers have planned a fabulous program for us and it will be a grand event!



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

Happy Fall and Happy Trails to all –

**Bonney**

Bonney MacDonald  
Chairman, Westerners International

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## REMINDER TO ALL SHERIFFS AND MEMBERS!

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

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

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



## Western History Association News

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.

## 2023 DUES AND THANKS FROM THE HOME RANCH

COVID lingered a little this year, and some corrals and posses are still being cautious. 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 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, 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 and send in your current contact info for your officers. Without that information, we can't reach you with all the good announcements! 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).





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

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

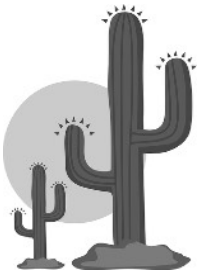
Cochise County Westerners are hosting us this year in Tombstone, Arizona, September 14-16. WE REALLY HOPE YOU WILL COME because it's going to be a great Gather, with wonderful programs and memorable Western fun!

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 also find the full schedule, the registration form, and the full 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!!



**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!!**

*continued on next page*





Registration  
**2023 Gather in Tombstone**

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ Given name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Corral Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_ or None

Westerners Members Registration \$100 X \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Member Registration \$130 X \_\_\_\_\_

Join Cochise County Corral \$ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

**OPTIONAL TOURS:**

Goodenough Mine/Trolley Tour (optional) \$ 30 X \_\_\_\_\_

Or

Trolley Only (optional) \$ 15 X \_\_\_\_\_

Mescal Movie Set Tour (optional) \$ 15 X \_\_\_\_\_

Tombstone Mining Claims Map \$ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: COCHISE COUNTY CORRAL, INC.**

Send Registration form and check to: **Cochise County Corral of the Westerners  
Box 393  
Tombstone, AZ 85638**

*Items delivered at check in*

Questions: Doug Hocking 520 378 1833 or [dhocking@centurylink.net](mailto:dhocking@centurylink.net)

**Westerners Members Registration (any Corral or Posse):** Includes all events and presentations scheduled for Schieffelin Hall, plus ticket to Wyatt Earp's Oriental Saloon Show, ticket to Birdcage Theater, Dinner at Tombstone Monument Ranch (*both bar-b-que chicken and brisket, salad, corn, mac & cheese, cobbler & ice cream, water & tea or vegetarian – salad, corn, mac & cheese*), badge for discount at the Tombstone Epitaph Museum, Rose Tree Museum, Tombstone Courthouse Museum.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S AWARDS AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUBMITTED ENTRIES!

We had a banner year in entries for writing and programs done in 2022. The Coke Wood Award for Best Article category alone had twenty entries! So, if you didn't win an award this year, please submit for next year!!

Award entries are submitted each spring for work done in the previous calendar year. Awards are given out or mailed out in the fall.

This year, awards will be given out at the Awards Ceremony at the Westerners Gather in Tombstone, Sept 14-16. If awards are not picked up there, we will mail them from the Home Ranch in October.

### Co-Founders Best Book Award

#### First Place

Gary Turner and Tami Turner-Revel  
Award-Winning Cowboy Poetry, Historical Verse, and  
Rhapsodic Rhymes  
Brand Book 25  
Los Angeles Corral, Westerners International

#### Second Place

William P. MacKinnon and Kenneth L. Alford  
Fact, Fiction, and Polygamy - A Tale of Utah War Intrigue,  
1857-1858:  
"A. G. Browne's The Ward of the Three Guardians"  
Tanner Trust Fund Publishing Series, Marriott Library,  
University of Utah

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

#### First Place

Doug Hocking  
"The High Five Gang and the Death of Shoot 'em Up Dick"  
The Cochise County Historical Journal

#### Second Place

Brian D. Dillon and Richard Dillon  
"Cherokee Miners on the Kern River"  
The Branding Iron, No. 308, Fall 2022, LA Corral

#### Third Place

Caitlin M. Shain  
"Lighting the Fire: Spokane Falls Volunteer Fire Department  
from 1883-1890"  
The Pacific Northwesterner, Vol 66, Issue 1, April 2022

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

#### First Place

Llano Estacado Corral  
Monica Hightower and Kathy Stonum, Sheriffs  
For presentation by Monica Hightower, "Horses in War"

#### Second Place

Garden of the Sun Corral  
Ed Marsh, Sheriff  
For presentation by Brian Dervin Dillon,  
"Old West Shooting Irons, 1542-1923"

#### Third Place

Denver Posse of The Westerners  
Peg Williams, Sheriff  
Presentation by Lee Whiteley, "The Glidden Tour of 1909"

### Heads Up Award -Larger Corral

The Pikes Peak Posse  
Mike Arnett, Sheriff

### Heads Up Award -Smaller Corral

The Jedediah Smith Corral  
Cal Larive, Sheriff

### Fred Olds Award for Cowboy Poetry

#### First Place

Abraham Hoffman  
Boot Hill Anthology  
Keepsake 56  
Los Angeles Corral of The Westerners

#### Second Place

Bob Spahle  
"Christmas Wish," "Poor Cowboy," and "Proud Country Folk"  
Fremont Street Mail  
Cochise County Corral

#### Third Place

Patrick Mulvey "Woe is Me, PBC"  
Keepsake 57  
Los Angeles Corral of The Westerners



# 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 Highlights

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



*The Palo Duro Corral*



*Jeffrey Pirtle, Director of The Texas Collection*

The Palo Duro Corral, Amarillo, TX, hosted Jeffrey Pirtle, Director of the Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, TX for their June meeting. Jeff spoke about the extensive historical collection of artifacts, maps, documents and photographs recognized as one of the largest collections of Texana in the world. The Texas Collection is celebrating its' 100th anniversary this year.

The Ft. Worth Corral's September program was presented by Carol Lipscomb and was based on her book, *The Lady Makes Boots: Enid Justin and the Nocona Boot Company*. In August, the Corral hosted Doug Dinwiddie, Ph.D., who spoke on "Ulzana's Raid: The Real Story." The film of the same title, with Burt Lancaster, was released in 1972 and dramatized the events leading up to the 1885 Apache raid in Arizona. Westerners across the country interested in learning more about the Ft. Worth Corral, or in joining one of the Zoom presentations, can find out more at their website: [www.fortworthwesterners.com](http://www.fortworthwesterners.com) Thanks to **Phil Williams, Corral Rep**, for letting us know about the innovative programs in the Corral!

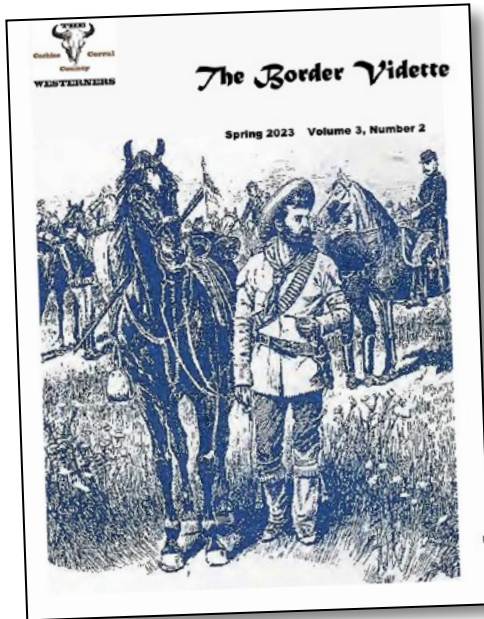


The Cochise County Corral of Westerners sent us their newsletter, *Fremont Street Mail*, which listed interesting programming this season.

In August, the Corral held an event at the Seneca Station and Colossal Cave. It was a chance for members to visit a Butterfield Overland Mail Station, the site of two train robberies. After that visit, they headed up to Colossal Cave to visit the Grotto of Lost Treasures. Sounds like a great day!

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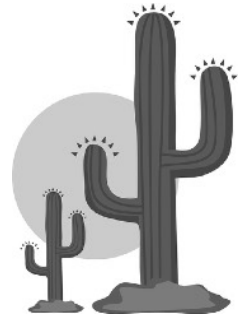
# more **CORRAL NEWS**



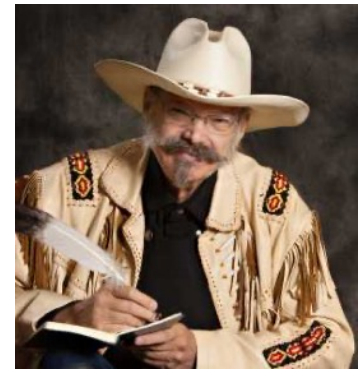
The Cochise County Corral's September program featured Gene Freese, who spoke on "The Western Film History of Arizona."

In addition to their newsletter, the The Cochise County Corral of Westerners has a quarterly publication, called *The Border Vidette*. You can learn more about the Corral's newsletter, quarterly publication – and their YouTube Channel! – at their website:

[www.CochiseCountyCorral.org](http://www.CochiseCountyCorral.org) Thank you, **Doug Hocking**, for keeping us up to date!



thank  
you



Doug Hocking

And we would be remiss if we didn't give a huge THANK YOU in advance to **Doug Hocking** and all the Ranch Hands in the **Cochise County Corral**. Y'all have done so much work in preparing for our upcoming Gather, Sept. 14-16 in Tombstone! See announcements throughout this Bulletin, in the June Bulletin, and on the website for registration and program information!



**Kansas City Posse's** July program featured **David Jackson**, who gave an excellent slide presentation on the early days of Independence, Missouri and on the historic square and buildings that still stand. Thank you for keeping us posted, **Richard Reed**!

The **KC Posse's** August program was from **Deb Buckner** who spoke on "New Women in the Old West," in which she focused on the thousands of men and women who came west in the late 19th century in search of gold and homesteading. The women who came learned skills they never had in the East, and many of them helped to build communities as well as equal standing with men in the West.

**Gerhard Brostrom**, from the **San Francisco Corral**, reported that their June program featured the return of a favorite presenter, John Boessenecker, who spoke on "The Gentleman Bandit: The True Story of Black Bart, The Old West's Most Infamous Stagecoach Robber."

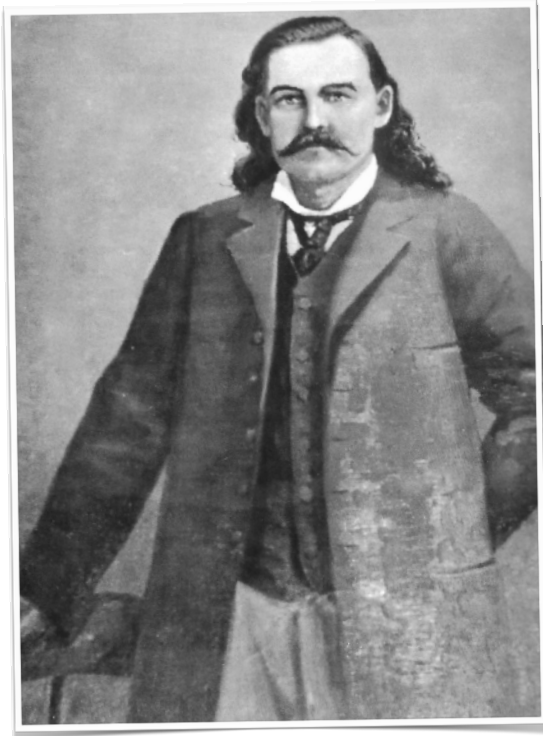
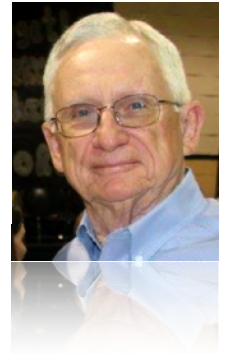
The **S. F. Corral's** April meeting featured a talk from Bill Yenne, a local Western history author, who gave a richly illustrated portrait of the family of George Armstrong Custer. Yenne's book, *The Other Custers*, was the focus of the presentation along with a photo slide show.



Earlier in 2023, their March program featured **Brian Dervin Dillon**, of the **Los Angeles Corral**, who spoke on the history of firearms. The slide show progressed from powder-loaded single-shot rifles to modern, semi-automatic weapons. Brian's father, **Richard Dillon** (1924-2016), was a long-time member of the **San Francisco Corral** as well as a **Westerners Living Legend**.



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."



Billy Dixon, American scout and bison hunter

## THE BATTLE OF ADOBE WALLS

sometime after September 1845, William Bent and Ceran St. Vrain, chief partners in the Colorado trading post, arrived with Mexican adobe makers to replace the log building with Fort Adobe, a structure 80 feet square, with nine-foot walls and only one entrance.

Due to attacks by Indians, occupation of Fort Adobe was sporadic, and by 1848, Indian hostility had resulted in its closure. That fall a momentary peace was effected, and Bent sought to reopen the post by sending Kit Carson, Lucien Maxwell, and five other employees to the Canadian River. Resistance from the Jicarilla Apaches, however, forced Carson's group to cache the trade goods and buffalo robes they had acquired and return to Bent's Fort. Soon after, several Comanches persuaded Bent to make another try at resuming trade at Fort Adobe. However, not everyone was pleased with having him there.

A 13-man party, led by Dick Wootton, encountered some unruly Comanches at the fort, but finally conducted trade through a window cut in the wall. In the spring of 1849, in a last effort to revive the post, Bent accompanied several ox-drawn wagons to the Canadian. After part of his stock was killed by Indians, he blew up the fort's interior with gunpowder and abandoned the Panhandle trade to the Comancheros, who were roaming through the Panhandle out of New Mexico.

During the next 15 years, the Indians pretty well controlled the Texas Panhandle and surrounding areas, so, in 1864, General James Carleton, commander of the military district of New Mexico, decided to punish the Kiowa and Comanche, whom he held responsible for

There is a spot in the northern Texas Panhandle that is one of the more historic spots in the state, even though few people have ever seen it. It's known as Adobe Walls, and although there are no walls or anything else there now, at one time, it was a very busy spot.

Back in 1843, mountain man and trapper William Bent opened a trading post there in order to trade with the Indians. The Indians in this area, primarily the Comanche and Kiowa, avoided the company's main headquarters on the upper Arkansas River near La Junta, Colorado – known as Bent's Fort – because their enemies, the Cheyenne and Arapaho, lived in that area. Bent decided that if they wouldn't come to him, he would go to them.

This new satellite post was situated just north of the Canadian River on a stream that became known as Bent's Creek. Company traders worked originally from tepees and later from log structures, but

*continued*

attacks on wagon trains along the Santa Fe Trail. Carleton put Kit Carson in command of the First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, with orders to proceed against the winter campgrounds of the Comanche and Kiowa. On November 10, Carson started from Fort Bascom in New Mexico with 260 cavalry, 75 infantry and 72 Ute and Apache scouts. He was accompanied by two mountain howitzers, 27 wagons, an ambulance and 45 days rations.

On November 24, Carson's scouts reported that they had found the trail of a large Indian village, so Carson left his infantry behind to guard his supply train and ordered a night march of cavalry and artillery. On the morning of November 25, Carson attacked a Kiowa village of 176 lodges. The Kiowa fled and spread the alarm to some nearby Comanche villages, and Carson marched on to the ruins of Bent's old adobe fort, which by this time was only a few standing walls.

Carson then discovered that there were a lot more Indians in the area than he had thought – one of his lieutenants estimated the number at around 3,000, but due to the number of tepees in the villages there were probably only about 1,500 – and since he had left his infantry with the wagons, he had only 330 men. So Carson had his men dig in behind the walls, dismounting his cavalry and deploying them around the two howitzers. Fierce fighting developed as the Kiowa and Comanche, and some Plains Apache, repeatedly attacked Carson's position. Carson was successful in repelling the attacks only because of supporting fire from the two howitzers.

After six to eight hours of fairly continuous fighting, Carson realized he was running low on howitzer shells – and ammunition in general – and ordered his forces to retreat to the Kiowa village. Carson was also concerned about the fate of the 75 men guarding his much-needed supply train, so when twilight came, Carson ordered his men to burn the lodges of the village, and the weary soldiers continued their retreat to the supply train.

The next day, Carson gave the order to return to New Mexico. During the battle, there were six soldiers killed and about 25 wounded. The U.S. Army declared this, the first Battle of Adobe Walls, a victory. However, the Kiowas strongly dispute that, and it's

recorded in their records as the day the Kiowas repelled Kit Carson.

Although the Second Battle of Adobe Walls wasn't nearly as big as the first one, it's probably better known. And it happened 10 years later, in 1874. This was the time of the great buffalo slaughter, when commercial hunters spread out across the plains and killed millions of buffalo for their hides. When the buffalo were all wiped out on the Kansas plains, the hunters dropped down into the Texas Panhandle. It was estimated that up to 3,000 buffalo were killed per day. One hunter, with the use of his .50 caliber Sharps rifle, could make a stand and kill dozens of buffalo in a few hours, keeping his skinners busy throughout the day and into the evening. And the skins were all they took; the carcasses were left rotting on the prairie. The men hauled their buffalo hides back to Dodge City, Kansas, and sold them to dealers there, who then shipped them back east.

To the Plains Indians, the buffalo was their primary provider, supplying food and more than 100 specific items. Every part of the buffalo was used by the Indians. Hides with hair on were used for bedding and winter clothing, while hides with the hair removed and tanned were used for tepees and clothing. Untanned hides were used for parfleches, quivers and shields. Sinew or tendon was used for bowstrings and sewing thread, and bones were used for hide scrapers, awls, needles, knives and handles. The stomach and large intestines were used for containers and cooking vessels, the brains for tanning hides, and gall bladder and gallstones made yellow pigment for paint.

The buffalo was a virtual grocery, hardware and dry goods store for the Plains Indian, and he needed the animal to survive. Therefore, when Indians saw what the white hunters were doing, they retaliated, and the buffalo hunters had to remain ever vigilant while out on the plains.

In the spring of 1874, a group of merchants came down from Dodge and established somewhat of a village about a mile north of the old Adobe Walls ruins. The merchants called their new complex Adobe Walls, taking the name from the original. The first business opened was the Myers and Leonard Store, which included a corral and eating establishment, and



Kit Carson

*continued*



it was soon joined by a store operated by Charles Rath. Then Rath and James Hanrahan opened a saloon, and Tom O'Keefe started a blacksmith shop. These businesses gave the buffalo hunters the opportunity to sell their hides without taking them all the way to Dodge, and they could stock up on whatever provisions they needed, including ammunition.

On June 26, 1874, there was an unusually large group at Adobe Walls due to the arrival of a wagon train from Dodge City the evening before. Some 28 men were there, including the soon to be well known Bat Masterson, saloon owner James Hanrahan, and buffalo hunter Billy Dixon, along with one woman, the wife of cook William Olds.

Most of the occupants of Adobe Walls were in Hanrahan's saloon that Saturday evening, talking, drinking and playing cards, but eventually everyone either retired to a corner of the room and rolled out their beds or did so outside in the cool evening air. Before long Adobe Walls was completely silent.

A mile or so across the pasture, however, there was plenty of activity. A few days before, a group of Southern Cheyenne, Comanche and Kiowa had met to decide how they could rid the plains of the white hunters. Leaders of the group were Quanah Parker for the Comanche, Stone Calf for the Cheyenne and Lone Wolf for the Kiowa, but there were other notable Indians present, including Moway, Satanta, Little Robe, White Shield and Isa-tai.

Isa-tai claimed to have unusual powers, and most believed him when he said that they should first attack the white man's village known as Adobe Walls, and that his medicine would protect them. And so that evening, while the hunters were rolled up asleep in their buffalo robes, the Indians on a nearby ridge were painting their bodies and their horses in preparation for battle, waiting only for dawn.

Inside his saloon, Hanrahan was uneasy. He had been talking to Amos Chapman, an army scout and interpreter who was of mixed white and Indian parentage. Chapman was married to Stone Calf's daughter, and he had heard while in Camp Supply in Oklahoma, that an attack on Adobe Walls was planned for the next day. Hanrahan hadn't said anything because he was afraid everyone would leave, and he needed those hunters there for protection. So, very early the next morning, a sharp cracking sound was heard, and Hanrahan shouted, "Clear out, the ridgepole is breaking!"

Actually, what had happened was that Hanrahan had fired his pistol to wake everyone up, and blamed the noise on a cracking ridgepole. Although no one could see a crack in the ridgepole, they all went to work

propping it up, and then the hunters prepared to leave, wanting an early start back out to the hunting ground. Billy Dixon walked outside to his wagon. He was preparing to load up and head out, but then, thinking he heard horses, he peered out through the early morning mist. His hearing was accurate. There coming at a dead run were hundreds of mounted Indians.

Billy fired his rifle and ran back inside the saloon just as Indian bullets and arrows began to hit all around him. Right behind Billy was William Olds, who had been outside saddling a horse. Both of them made it to safety, but the Shadler brothers had been sleeping outside in their wagon and hadn't heard Hanrahan's pistol shot. Both were killed and scalped before they hardly knew what was going on.

Almost everyone else made it to safety. However, Billy Tyler was shot while hurrying through the doorway of one of the buildings, and he later died. After their initial attack, the Indians made several more attempts at gaining entrance into the buildings, but the hunters' accuracy with their Sharps .50 caliber rifles made that impossible.

The only other casualty during the fighting was William Olds, who was accidentally killed by his wife when she handed him a loaded rifle.

After three days of being under siege, some of the hunters emerged from the buildings and were observing a group of Indians sitting on their horses on a ridge almost a mile away. According to legend, after urging from his friends, Billy Dixon fired his rifle at one of the Indians. A few seconds after the boom of the shot had died away, the Indian fell from his horse. That shot was supposedly later measured at 1,583 yards, roughly seven-eighths of a mile.

After the long distance shot, and probably since Comanche chief Quanah Parker had been wounded in the attack, the Indians decided that Isa-tai's medicine wasn't so strong after all, and they abandoned their attempts on Adobe Walls.

Word of the Battle of Adobe Walls spread throughout the country, and soon the government decided it had had enough. U.S. Secretary of War W.W. Belknap ordered the punishment of guilty Indians wherever found, and the army began a relentless campaign in the Texas Panhandle known as the Red River War. A series of battles ensued, but in late September 1874, at the Battle of Palo Duro Canyon, the Comanche and Kiowa were defeated and the Indian wars in Texas were over.



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

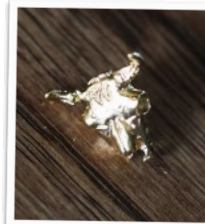
#### Items, right & below

- 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.edu](mailto:dlking1@buffs.wtamu.edu) 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



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



### PORCH TALK, AN EVENING WITH DOUGLAS K. BOYD AND JOHN R. ERICKSON

Thursday, October 19th from 6:00-8:00 pm    RSVP requested, details coming soon

When John Erickson, author of the Hank the Cowdog book series, saved up and purchased a tract of Panhandle property near Perryton, it set off a chain of discovery. Who lived in Texas over a thousand years ago? In Porch Talk, John Erickson and his archaeologist friend Doug Boyd investigate this question while explaining the art and science of archaeology for middle readers.

On the Perryton ranch, John and his friends unearthed a ghost town that dated back to around 1300 CE. They found a sprawl of widely spaced pit houses occupying an area of 300 acres in John's West Pasture. It is unclear how many people lived there, but it was a place where babies were born and the elderly died and were buried. Women nursed children, made cornmeal in stone metates, and stitched clothes of leather while the men hunted bison using arrows tipped with points made from Alibates flint.

Porch Talk features the kind of conversation John and Doug might have on the porch after a day of work in the field.

 West Texas A&M University.

# C&W

CENTER FOR THE STUDY  
OF THE AMERICAN WEST



#### Fall 2023

Forgotten Frontera Lecture with Dr. Valerie Martinez

Lecture at the FAC Recital Hall, "Building the Southern Plains: Migrants and Mexicanidad

Thursday, September 21    cookies and beverages provided

Community Conversation event at the Wesley Center, Amarillo, Texas

Wednesday, September 20, 6:30 pm    Reception 5:30 pm, catered

**Dr. Bonney MacDonald Award** for Best Western Book Event – more information to come

Garry L. Nall Lecture in Western Studies with Dan Flores, Lecture "Wild New World"  
Thursday, November 2

#### Spring 2024

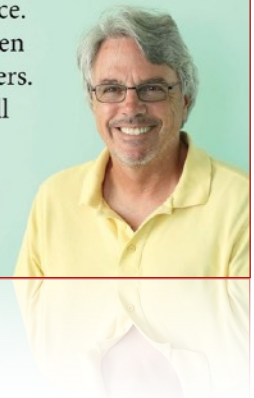
Garry L. Nall Lecture in Western Studies with George Saunders Lecture "Wild New World" Thursday, April 4, JBK Legacy Hall, 7

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



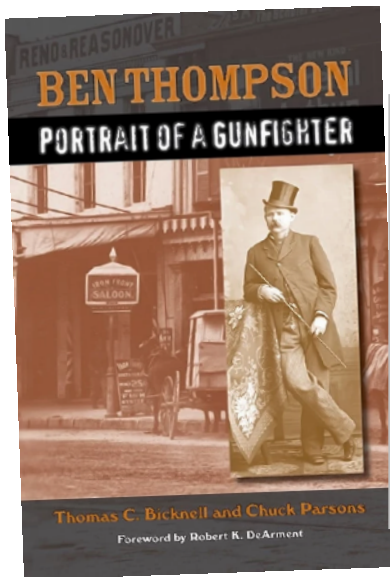
"The PPHM is my single favorite museum and has been a huge source of inspiration to me as a historian. Touring it is an amazing learning experience. For almost 20 years now I have been recommending the place to travelers. You can do whatever you like, I tell them, but don't miss the PPHM!"

- S. C. Gwynne



# BOOK NEWS

TO WESTERNERS OF INTEREST



## **BEN THOMPSON: PORTRAIT OF A GUNFIGHTER**

VOL. 20: A. C. GREENE SERIES

Thomas C. Bicknell, Chuck Parsons — authors

*Ben Thompson was a remarkable man, and few Texans can claim to have crowded more excitement, danger, drama, and tragedy into their lives than he did. He was an Indian fighter, Texas Ranger, Confederate cavalryman, mercenary for a foreign emperor, hired gun for a railroad, an elected lawman, professional gambler, and the victor of numerous gunfights.*

**University of North Texas Press** <https://untpress.unt.edu/catalog/bicknell-ben-thompson/>

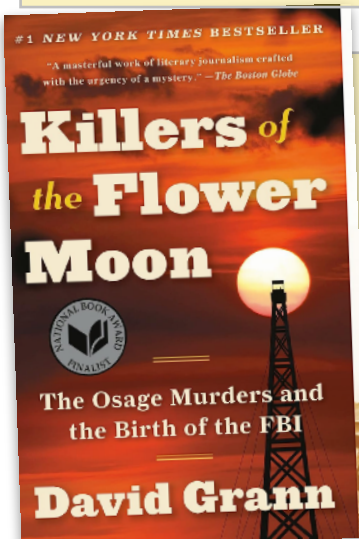
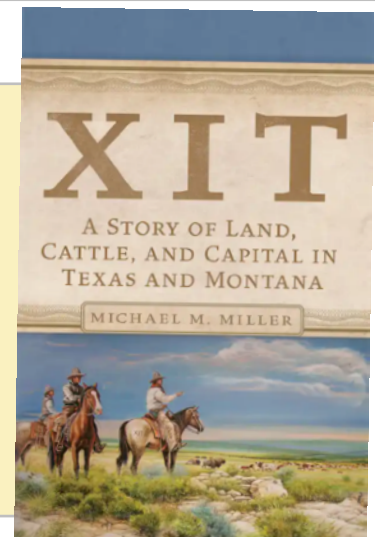
## **XIT A Story of Land, Cattle, and Capital in Texas and Montana**

By Michael M. Miller

284 PAGES Paperback \$21.95 PUBLISHED: MAY 2023

*The Texas state constitution of 1876 set aside three million acres of public land in the Texas Panhandle in exchange for construction of the state's monumental red-granite capitol in Austin. That land became the XIT Ranch, briefly one of the most productive cattle operations in the West. The story behind the legendary XIT Ranch, told in full in this book, is a tale of Gilded Age business and politics at the very foundation of the American cattle industry.*

**OU Press** PLACE YOUR ORDER BY PHONE AT 800-848-6224.



## **Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI** by David Grann

hardcover price \$17.00

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A twisting, haunting true-life murder mystery about one of the most monstrous crimes in American history, from the author of *The Wager* and *The Lost City of Z*, "one of the preeminent adventure and true-crime writers working today."—*New York Magazine* • NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • SOON TO BE A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE

"A masterful work of literary journalism crafted with the urgency of a mystery." —*The Boston Globe*

Thanks to **Lynn Kirst** of the **Santa Barbara (California) Corral of Westerners** for recommending this book to all **Westerners**.

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



# BOOK & PUBLICATION NEWS

OF INTEREST TO WESTERNERS



## The successful literary efforts of the Los Angeles Corral continue!

### **Brand Book #26: *Indians, Latinos, and Confederates, A Western Family: 1598-1973* by Frank J. Brito**

Los Angeles Corral Brand Book 26, *Indians, Latinos, and Confederates, A Western Family: 1598-1973* has just been published. By Frank J. Brito, it is the story of what must be the most remarkable and unique Western American family any present member of any of the 70+ Westerners International Corrals around the world is descended from.



INDIANS, LATINOS, AND CONFEDERATES,  
A WESTERN FAMILY: 1598-1973  
Frank J. Brito

Brand Book 26, Los Angeles Corral,  
Westerners International

Within the old Spanish Colonial borderlands of New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, Chihuahua, Sonora and both Californias, Brito's diverse family incorporated Native Americans from three different Pueblo Tribes and Apaches as well as Irish, Polish, Dutch, Spanish and other Europeans. At a single time one of Brito's great-grandfathers was a bugler in the Mexican Army, while another great-grandfather was a bugler in the Confederate States Army. Brito antecedents were on a first-name basis with historical figures as different as Teddy Roosevelt, Pat Garrett, and Pancho Villa.

Price: \$30.00 (includes tax and postage). Make your check out to: **Westerners, Los Angeles Corral**, and send your order, with your return address clearly printed to:

**Southern California Orders:** Brand Book 26,  
16007 LeMarsh St., North Hills, CA 91343  
**Northern California Orders:** F. Brito, BB 26,  
142 Hazel Dr., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523-2916

## and The Branding Iron # 311

summer 2023 issue

**Congratulations to the Los Angeles Corral and Thanks for sharing!**



The Los Angeles Corral is one of the oldest, largest, and most active of the 70+ corrals of Westerners International in the United States, Europe, and Asia. For seventy-seven years we have hosted monthly round-ups featuring speakers on western American history and allied topics such as archaeology, ethnology, and geography.

We are also very proud of our three publication series: Brand Books, full-length, hard-cover books, with *Indians, Latinos, and Confederates, A Western Family: 1598-1973* being the 26th published since our founding in 1946; *Keepsakes*, shorter-length occasional papers, of which 58 have appeared; and our quarterly *Branding Iron*, of which the 310th issue has just been published. For more information about us, our activities and publications, please log onto our website: [www.lawesterners.org](http://www.lawesterners.org)

