

FREMONT STREET MAIL



March 7, 2023

**Roundup Foreman's
Trumpet
Gary Smith**

On Thursday, April 6, 2023: **Charles Hancock** will speak about the "*History of the Buffalo Soldiers.*" The Buffalo Soldiers, four regiments of Black soldiers, fought Indians across the American frontier west and went on to serve in World War II and Korea. There will be an optional no host pre-meeting **dinner 5:30 at the Longhorn Restaurant** on Allen Street. The public and guests are welcome.



May 4, 2023: **Becky Orosco** has a presentation 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.

June 1, 2023: **Mescal** will tentatively speak on *History of Mescal Studio Set.*

July 6th, **Bob Nilson** will speak on the *History of the 7th Street Cemetery in Benson.* This is the forever home to a number of famous pioneers and outlaws.

August 3rd, **Allyne McFalls** will speak about *Kathay Williams, the Only Female Buffalo Solider.*

**Recorder of Marks and
Brands
Cindy Lehman**

Dues for 2023 are due. It's only \$20 per person. We have to pay Westerners International the Corrals due by the end of March.

It's awards season and we know of candidates in every category except best book:

Best Presentation – Philip A. Danielson - First and second prize \$150, \$100
Craig McEwan and Bill Cavaliere are norminate.

Best Article – “Coke” Wood Award – best article dealing with original research in western history – First and second prize \$100, \$50. Craig McEwan and Doug Hocking will be submitted.

Best Book on the Frontier West – Co-Founders “Best Book” Award – First and second place \$250, \$100. Do we have one?

Cowboy Poetry – Fred Olds – First and second place \$100, \$50. Bob Spahle's Christmas Wish will be submitted.

Heads Up Award – Best Corral We are looking good for this.

Keeper of the Chips
Jimmy Lehman

As of February 2, 2023:
Cochise County Corral of the Westerners has:

- 89 Ranch Hands
- We have in Checking - \$1579.06
- We have in Savings - \$1020.24
- January Expenses: \$147.14
- January Income: \$135.22

We have filed with the IRS on our taxes. Manuela Schneider of Germany joined us on March 2.

Trail Boss’s Whip
Bob Spahle



We’re planning a trip to the Willcox West Fest - Chuck Wagon Cookoff and Ranch Rodeo on Saturday April 15. Get your tastebuds ready! You get to select which chuck wagon you’re going to buy dinner from. Ranch rodeo is a family event in which regular ranch hands participate.

We’re considering and overnight trip to Hachita, Deming, and Cooke’s Canyon. Cooke’s Canyon was the focal point of many old west adventures, but the road is 4WD

only. We might also do a tour of the Turquoise Mine by Courtland.

A trip to Rancho de la Osa is in the works along with an overnight trip to gaze at a meteor shower.

Sheriff’s Star
Doug Hocking

I spent many years recovering mired tanks and other military vehicles from seemingly impossible situations. I’ve pulled 60-ton tanks from 200 meters down a steep slope covered in mud as slick as greased snot and the track thrown to the inside. One time I actually drove an armored personnel carrier with the assist of a tank recovery vehicle out of a cave, a vertical sinkhole.

The first rule of tank recovery is not “don’t talk about tank recovery.” It is, pull it back out the way it went in. The tank overcame all obstacles on its way in and then something stopped it. An irresistible 60-ton force met an immovable object and that’s what brought it to a halt.

We ought to think of history as important for the same reason. Somehow, we got to where we are overcoming the obstacles along the way. Understanding how we got here likely provides clues to how we can go forward and to what obstacles are impeding us. If nothing else, history lets us know what obstacles to back away from.

I’m not suggesting that we’re stuck. Far from it. All I’m saying is that understanding how we got here is important to going forward. It’s a little frustrating for find that some people aren’t interested in why we are doing something the way we are and what obstacles we had discovered. There are some folks who wake up every morning to a brand new day with nothing learned from the days prior.

By the way, we can be proud. It's awards season at Westerners International and in the past we have had winners in every single category. We look forward to an excellent prospect of winning in every category this year.

Our next big challenge is the annual gather of Westerners International in September. What attractions is it most important to take them to and who shall we have speak?

Deep Thoughts on History

Writing History

I recently read a novel by Greg Hunt, *On Savage Ground*, that although a novel, provides more understanding of life in 1720s New Orleans than most books of history. We can feel the grit and understand the emotions of the characters. We get insights into the complex relationships of slave and slave owner and into the lives of Indian traders and pirates.

The rule for writing a story or filming a movie is "Don't tell me; show me!" We need to consider this in the way we write history. History is a fabulous story that should be interesting but only if we tell it well.

When writing history, we want to stick to the truth as best we can. As historian John Kessel wrote:

"First off let us ignore the postmodernists' claim that none of us can possibly know objectively what actually happened, only objectively what is said to have happened. As historians, that is our business - to say what happened, to pursue historical truth as objectively as possible."

Sticking to the truth, doesn't mean we have to be poor storytellers. A good storyteller imagines himself in the story and absorbs it with all his senses: sight, smell, touch, taste, feelings, sounds. Historians need to communicate this to their readers to bring the story alive. It is legitimate to include the things we know must have been present.

Be positive when you write. We don't want to say "a few" or "four or five." Say that it was five. If you're not quite sure and think the point important, you might explain it in a footnote.

I'm struggling to describe one episode. It might end up like this:

Sheriff Slaughter and deputy Alvord approached the outlaw camp in sock feet and, surprising the crew, ordered them to put up their hands. One of the outlaws responded:

"We will. With guns!"

The shooting commenced and Slaughter killed one outlaw cousin and wounded another with his shotgun. One ran passed Alvord and a wounded outlaw ran into the hills and was pursued.

The acrid smoke of battle gets in one's eyes fogging the scene while stinking of hellfire and sulfur. Confusion reigns! The newspapers add to it making such a hash of Mexican names that it's difficult to say exactly "who shot Juan" and "which Juan lay dead." In the end, one was dead, one wounded and died on the train to Nogales. Subsequent events make it clear that Federico and Geronimo remained at large to bedevil Slaughter for years to come.

Was one of them wounded? Did another die to be left on the trail? I can't say.

Some history teachers and writers think it's all about dates and factoids, these latter being insignificant facts. Dates are important only to provide context. What else was going on? What tools, inventions, roads, towns, and so forth were available.

A friend, who in fairness may have been joking, asked, "Why did they put the Butterfield Station so far from town at Dragoon Springs?" In 1858, the nearest town was 70 miles away at Tucson. The date in and of itself means nothing. The context is what's important.

The world has changed dramatically since World War II. Before the war, except for metals virtually everything we used and wore had an organic source. We used hide, rubber, felt, wool, and wood. In the 1830s and 40s, California shipped cowhides discarding the rest of the animal which could not be shipped by sea economically. This sounds a bit like what happened later with the buffalo though we also used their bones for fertilizer and in the 1950s were still using buffalo hide as industrial drive belts.

Long quotes from old sources can be interesting and add flavor. These were folks who were there and experienced the events firsthand.

Focus on the point you are trying to communicate. Even the seemingly insignificant, if it supports the point you're making, should be included. Other facts can be left out. I'm not encouraging cherry picking. Quite the contrary. Include that which will add to the reader's understanding. Remember, too, that things that were commonplace a century ago were often left

out by people living in those times as they seemed as mundane as the sun rising in the morning. We may need to include them for the benefit of modern readers.

Quote from Kessell, John L. "So What's Truth Got to Do with It? Reflections on Oñate and the Black Legend." *New Mexico Historical Review* 86 (Summer 2011): 377-384.

Blast from the Past

Field, Matthew C. *Matt Field on the Santa Fe Trail*, ed. John E. Sunder. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1960, pp 190-192.

Since we've done a Field poem, we might as well include one of his news stories for the New Orleans Picayune published Feb. 22 and March 2, 1840. The Apachus in question were the Jicarilla Apache pronounced Hickory-ah.

Feb 22, March 2, 1840

Battle of the Ranch

The people of that part of Mexico known as the "Department of Santa Fe," have for many years been harassed and annoyed by the depredations of the Apachus Indians. An American by the name of Kurker [sic], at the time of our visit, had just entered into a contract with the Government to whip the Indians and bring them to a permanent treaty, for the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, five thousand dollars of which was paid to him in advance to commence operations.⁸⁴ Kurker is now carrying on the war, and his first skirmish occurred while we were in Taos, within two miles of the town in which we were sojourning. He is a man of daring and reckless disposition, who has himself suffered from the villainy of the Indians, and he now hunts them as much in revenge for the injuries they have done him as in prospect of emolument.

The battle which forms the subject of the present sketch, occurred close under the black mountain of Taos, in the valley of the same name, near a small town called the "Ranch."⁸⁵

85 Max Moorhead, in his recent New Mexico's Royal Road (Norman, 1958) estimates there were about one hundred hunters, teamsters, and civilized Indians in James Kirker's employ. Kirker came originally to the United States from Ireland in 1810, at the age of seventeen. Several years later he moved to St. Louis, drifted into the fur trade on the Upper Missouri, and in the mid 1820s was in Santa Fe. . . .

85 Ranchos de Taos, located four to five miles south-southwest of Taos, was the Indian agricultural community and, in its early days, was subject to attacks by marauding tribes. . .

[Kirker] with about fifty men, was here encamped, when a party of the thieving Apachus crept upon them in the night and stole a number of their horses. The Indians were not aware that Kurker's party were prepared for war, but supposed they were stealing from an encampment of traders, who would not dare to pursue them. The robbery had scarcely been committed when it was discovered, and a very few moments more Kurker and his fifty men were in close pursuit of the Indians. Knowing that the thieves would endeavor to escape over the mountains, by ascending a ravine that opened into a valley near the spot where the robbery was committed, Kurker led his men quickly around a bypath[sic] up the mountain side, and as the grey light of morning spread over the valley, the pursuers found themselves upon an eminence commanding the ravine up which the Indians were hurrying, mounted upon the stolen horses. The marauders

numbered about a hundred and twenty, more than doubling the force of the pursuing party; but although these vagabonds hold the Spaniards in great contempt, they are the vilest cowards when opposed by the Americans. Cunning as they were they did not discover their danger until fifty American rifles were levelled, [sic] each with deadly aim, at a separate victim. The first cry of alarm from the Indians was the signal to fire, and as the early sunbeam penetrated the ravine, echo started suddenly from slumber, bounding wildly from cliff to cliff, and away among the distant crags, like the spirit of fear speeding from death and danger. Twenty Indians fell from their horses at that fire, some with a single frightful yell expiring on the instant, while others with clenched teeth, and with the desperate energy of departing life, clung to the reins, and were dragged about and trod upon by the alarmed horses. The Indians ride like devils, and without pausing an instant they turned and fled towards the valley. Some that were wounded fell from the frightened animals while they were in full speed down the ravine. Kurker and his men followed without reloading their rifles, and chased the Indians until they emerged from the ravine, and took refuge within the walls of the Ranch.

This town called the Ranch lies at the base of a gigantic mountain, and is watered by a swift stream that rushed from the ravine we have mentioned. It contains about three hundred houses, and these are built compactly together, forming a wall, and enclosing a large square, in the center of which stand the church. Into this square the Indians rushed and endeavored to force their way into the church, having been taught to believe that the sacred roof is protection against all danger. But Kurker's men felt no disposition to let the savages off so easily, and reloading their rifles they resumed the attack within the walls of the town. It was still early morning, and the

inhabitants sprang from their beds in the wildest confusion and alarm. First was heard the thronging of the Indians into the town - their murmurs of fear and terror; then the shouts of the pursuers; children screamed with the dwellings, and there was a rapid closing and barring of doors and windows. Then came the report of firearms, followed by the most fiendish screams and yells from the victims, over which again rose the loud hurrahs of the Americans, as wild and savage as the dreadful war whoop of the Indian. The men seemed to grow delirious with the excitement, and to become inspired with the savage nature of their enemies. One man after discharging his rifle and pistols rushed madly among the Indians with his knife, and actually succeeded in taking a scalp before he was killed. The fight lasted but half an hour, when the Indians begged for mercy and were suffered to depart.

Kurker's men are mostly robust, daring fellows from Kentucky and Missouri, wagonners, speculators who yielded to the seductions of the Monte Bank and were ruined; men of rough, yet chivalrous and romantic natures, who love the wild life they are leading. Their pay from Kurker is a dollar a day and half booty, so that their interest as



well as their love of excitement leads them to make battle whenever opportunity occurs. In this battle forty Indians were killed, and of Kurker's party but one American and on half breed.

*You can read more about this event and its aftermath in the history of the Jicarilla Apache **Terror on the Santa Fe Trail: Kit Carson and the Jicarilla Apache** by Doug Hocking (TwoDot 2019).*

Poetry Corner

Bob read us his latest poem at Campfire.

Sittin' by the Fire

By **Bob Spahle**

Sittin' by the fire with snow comin' down,
Not a worry in the word, not even a frown.
Crops are in and the cattle are fed.
Time to jump in a nice warm bed.

It's time to enjoy the seeds you have sown,
And your two little boys now nearly grown.
Your wife grows prettier day by day.
You still remember the first time in the hay.

It took a lot of sweat to build the place up
Paryin' to God and wishin' for luck
Through the lean years you put up a fight
To make this a workin' ranch with all your might.

You'll pass it on to your sons next year,
And you hope your stories have made it clear,
That this land is more than you ever thought
And gave back more things than ever bought.

Crossing the Little Arkansas

By **Matt Field**

Matt Field was a reporter for the New Orleans Picayune who went over the southern trail in 1839.

The Sun is sixty minutes high
 The wet grass is getting quickly dry
 The mules, unstaked, are running loose –
 Except the poets, silly goose!
 Who dreamt so sound he couldn't wake
 But slept and left his horse at stake.
 Now they are bridging o'er the stream
 To pass across each loaded team
 Throwing in heavy brush and grass
 To bear the wagons as they pass,
 To keep the skittish mules from falling
 And guard the sinking wheels from stalling,
 And Double teams they still require
 To drag the Waggon through the mire.
 Behold with what a fearful pitch
 The lumbering wagon jumps the ditch.
 See how the frightened mules are staring
 Hear the whips crack, and Drivers swearing.
 "Get up! Go on! Damn you, haw!"
 Crossing the Little Arkansas.

Passing Stranger

By Garth Gould

Sit down passing stranger
 Sit down and reflect
 By this time tomorrow
 You'll be hung by the neck
 It's a bad patch of country
 Shoulda left when you could
 Cuz we're all rattlesnakes
 'Round this neck of the woods.

Departments of Our Publications

Here are some of the Departments of the Fremont Street Mail to which you are invited to contribute:

Blast from the Past (a piece of interesting history or an old newspaper article) If you find something good, send it to the Ink Slinger.

Poetry Corner (Cowboy and 19th Century Poetry especially if you wrote it) We'd like to see some of yours and

this counts as publication for **the Fred Olds Award.**

Deep Thoughts on History (Philosophy of how to do history) If you have thoughts on how to do history, send them in.

Tidbits from History (small items stumbled upon that answer some question) There are all kinds of things out there.

Tombstone Epitaph (a story from the Epitaph) We try to pick one from the current month, but we don't have the morgue for all early editions.

Places to Visit (Interesting museums, parks and places) Which places do you like.

Hollywood Trivia (fun stuff from the TV and Movies)

Corral Members at Large, Out and About (stories from Ranch Hands who have visited or hiked to some place of historical interest, or received recognition or participated in telling the world about Frontier History)

Photo Album (Photos submitted by Ranch Hands)

Local Events (flyers and notices of events of historical interest in southeast Arizona and southwest New Mexico)

Departments of the *Border Vidette*

Long Articles (about the Frontier West, with special attention to the local area; reprints are acceptable if the author has the rights)

Short Articles (little stories that might otherwise be lost or forgotten; some bit of history the author has stumbled across)

Reviews & Book Reports (both long and short, history and historical fiction about the Frontier West)

Recommended Books & Articles

Timelines

Send STUFF to the Ink Slinger, Doug Hocking, at dhocking@centurylink.net or InkSlinger@CochiseCountyCorral.org

Photos, historical tidbits you've found, Corral news, news of places to visit and events of historical interest. You can have fun mining old newspapers for stories at:

Our website and how to get there:

<https://cochisecountycorral.org/>

What you'll find there:

The Fremont Street Mail (monthly):

<https://cochisecountycorral.org/fremont-street-mail>

The Border Vidette (quarterly):

<https://cochisecountycorral.org/the-border-vidette>

Our Scrapbook:

<https://cochisecountycorral.org/scrapbook>

Tombstone Epitaph

“The Earp Party,” *Tombstone Epitaph*, 10 April 1882

Journal of Their Adventures and Wanderings,

As Jotted Down by One of Them for the Benefit of the Epitaph's Readers

The following letter was received by mail today, written upon detached leaves from an account book, and post-marked Willcox. It may be genuine and may not be; each reader may judge for himself.

In Camp, April 4, 1882.

Editor Epitaph: - In reply to the article in the Nugget of March 31, relating to the Earp party and some of the citizens of Graham and Cochise counties, I would like to give you the facts in this case during our trip in Cochise and Graham counties. Leaving Tombstone Saturday evening, March 25,

WE WENT INTO CAMP

six miles north of town. Next morning we were overtaken by three prospectors on their road from Tombstone to Winchester district,

who asked us to partake of a frugal meal, which we ate with relish, after which we traveled in company with them on the main road to Summit station, where we had dinner and awaited the arrival of the passenger train from the west, expecting

A FRIENDLY MESSENGER.

From here we continued our journey on the wagon road to Henderson's ranch where we had refreshments for ourselves and horses. Here we were informed that a gentlemanly deputy sheriff of Cochise county, Mr. Frank Hereford (for whom we have the greatest respect as a gentleman and officer) was at the ranch at the time of our arrival and departure, and have since learned the reason for not presenting himself, was fears for his safety, which we assure him were groundless. Leaving this ranch we went into camp on good grass one mile north. At seven, next morning, we saddled and went north to

MR. H.C. HOOKER'S RANCH,

in Graham county, where we met Mr. Hooker, and asked for refreshments for ourselves and stock, which he kindly granted us with the same hospitality that was tendered us by the ranchers of Cochise county. As regards to Mr. Hooker outfitting us with supplies and fresh horses, as mentioned in the Nugget, it is false and without foundation, as we are riding the same horses we left Tombstone on, with the exception of Texas Jacks horse, which was killed in the

FIGHT WITH CURLY BILL.

and posse, which we replaced by hiring a horse on the San Pedro river. In relation to the reward offered by the Stock Association, which the Nugget claims Mr. Hooker paid to Wyatt Earp for the killing of Curly Bill, it is also false, as no reward has been asked for or tendered.

Leaving Hooker's ranch on the evening of that day, we journeyed north to within five

miles of Eureka Springs. There we camped with a freighter and was cheerfully furnished the best his camp afforded. Next morning, not being in a hurry to break camp, our stay was long enough to notice the

MOVEMENTS OF SHERIFF BEHAN

and his posse of honest ranchers, with whom, had they possessed the trailing abilities of the average Arizona ranchman, we might have had trouble, which we are not seeking. Neither are we avoiding these honest ranchers as we thoroughly understand their designs.

At Cottonwood we remained overnight, and here picked up the trail of the

LOST CHARLEY ROSS,

“and a hot one.” We are confident that our trailing abilities will soon enable us to turn over to the “gentlemen” the fruit of our efforts, so they may not again return to Tombstone empty-handed. Yours respectfully, ONE OF THEM.

HEARD FROM

The Earp Party Arrest a Desperado from Texas

And Turn Him Over to Detective Jack Duncan

The following telegram which was published in the Epitaph on Wednesday, March 29th, elicited considerable comment in detective circles, and the knowing ones have kept their weather eye open looking for that \$2,500 reward for Frank Jackson:

DALLAS, Tex., March 29. - Detective Jack Duncan left to-day for Arizona, to secure Frank Jackson, the most desperate member of Sam Bass' gang of train robbers. Jackson has been at large since his fight at Round Rock in

1878, in which Sam Bass, Seth Barnes and others were killed. Positive information has been received that Jackson has been lurking between Las Vegas, Tucson, Tombstone and Prescott since November, at the head of a gang of desperadoes. There is a standing reward of \$2,500 for the arrest of Jackson.

CAPTURED AND TURNED OVER.

From a reliable gentleman, a reporter on this paper learned this morning that on Monday last the Earp party arrested a man that answers to the description of Frank Jackson, and turned him over to detective Jack Duncan at San Simon station, and that Duncan, who was satisfied with the prisoner's identity, took him aboard the train and started for Texas that night. It appears from what could be learned that Wyatt Earp had been in correspondence with the

TEXAS DETECTIVES

for several months about this man Jackson and other Texas criminals, and had been notified to expect their advent into southeastern Arizona sooner or later, from the fact that they were so hard pressed by the law officers and detectives of Texas and New Mexico that they must surrender or else seek this country for shelter. In the party's wanderings they came upon this man, who answering the description of Jackson, they cultivated his acquaintance until Duncan was notified and arrived, when he was arrested and turned over and shipped east. It is said they have trace of several other notorious men whom they will turn over to the authorities when the time arrives.

Last Campfire & YouTube

Last Campfire, March 3, Doug Hocking talked about *Mining and Prospecting* as Soapy Smith was snowed in at Williams. If you couldn't be there, Fred recorded the talk which was well received.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zxzxcGWE5mw> Show starts 8 minutes in.



Dan Judkins recorded a talk for Southern Trails Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association about the importance of water to travelers passing Slaughter’s San Bernardino Ranch. You can see it here:

<https://youtu.be/0TenwTzNNho>

Susan Dragoo on the Overland Mail Trail in Oklahoma from the Trail Gathering in Tombstone of the Southern Trails Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2e9g6M-BGBc>

Ranch Hand Gerald T. Ahnert recorded a video at Dragoon Springs about the Overland Mail and was interviewed by the newspaper about the designated of the Butterfield Overland Trail as a National Historic Trail. You can read about it here:

https://www.myheraldreview.com/butterfield---gerald-ahnert-01/image_03d4948a-a736-11ed-9a28-1fa7ecf97cd5.html

Doug Hocking spoke to a crowd at the Sierra Vista Library about *Southwest Train Robberies*. You can see the video here:

<https://www.facebook.com/SierraVistaLibraryRecreationandCulturalServices/videos/662061532342986>

Tom Jonas talks about General Kearny’s route with the Army of the West from Santa Fe to the Gila

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_FHaPhr9RI

Please go to YouTube and Subscribe to our Channel. Here’s the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1BTjvu enIqU>

Odd Bits

Ranch Hand Mike Eberhardt is working on **Medal of Honor "Killed/No Medal" Project**

There have been courageous soldiers for whom the Medal of Honor was approved but who were denied it on the technicality that the medal was to be “presented in person” and since they were dead, this could not be done.

To learn more, go to:

<http://medalofhonorkillednomedal.com/>

Out & About

On February 21, Bill Cavaliere spoke to the Silver City Corral of the Westerners on “Death in the Depths,” a presentation on early mining.



On February 7, Sheriff Doug Hocking spoke to a crowd of 113 at the Sierra Vista Library on *Southwest Train Robberies*. Here’s the link to the video the library made:

<https://www.facebook.com/SierraVistaLibraryRecreationandCulturalServices/videos/662061532342986>



On March 1, many of us participated in the First Annual Tombstone Festival of Western Books. We got a great write up in the Sierra Vista Herald. You can read it here. And many thanks to Dana Cole.

https://www.myheraldreview.com/news/tombstone/tombstone-hosts-first-ever-festival-of-western-books/article_4e8ef1e8-b53f-11ed-b967-0f2af7aea0e1.html?fbclid=IwAR20TPHUsZWm9XG_FzBzmJRNlIXR7ZuGGHCxSVpdsFfeyl0yhDvUMFOOR_g

We were also featured on NPR with Tony Paniagua. You can listen at:

<https://www.azpm.org/p/headlines/2023/2/27/215046-the-first-ever-tombstone-festival-of-western-books-to-be-celebrated/>

In February, Ranch Hand Gerald Ahnert made a video about the newly established Butterfield Overland Mail National Historic Trail at Dragoon Springs. It's called Massacre at Dragoon Springs and can be seen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IsIokbEKX2o&t=45s>

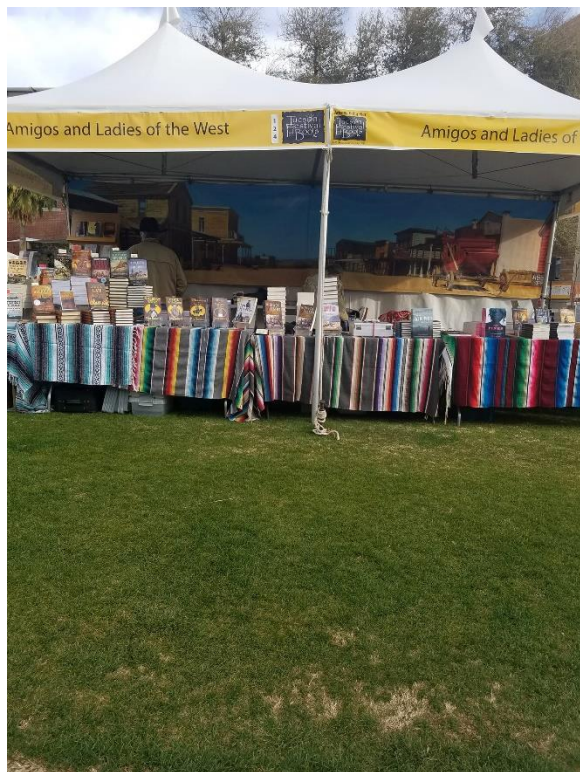
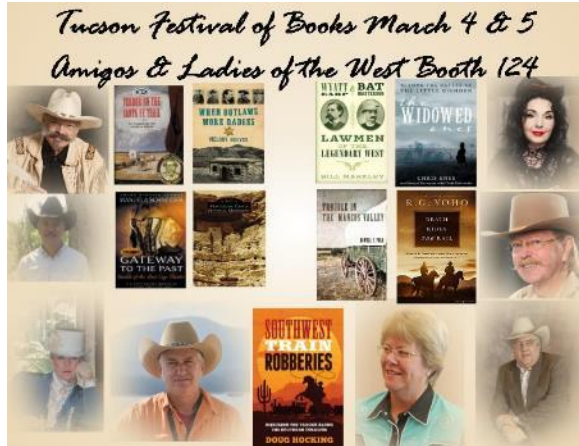
Craig McEwan is out there somewhere giving a talk, maybe to the Sulphur Springs Valley Historical Society.

Meanwhile, we had a huge success with our first ever Annual Tombstone Festival of

Western Books. Many, and I've probably forgotten a few, turned out to help set up and break down – Bob Spahle, Jon Donahue, Debbie, Gary Smith, Mike Costello, and others – and even the authors cheerfully chipped to help with setup and breakdown. The American Legion loaned up tables and the city let us use Schieffelin Hall. We had coffee and lunch for the authors on the stage. Bob Boze Bell and the True West gang including Jana Bommersbach and Stuart Rosebrook were there as well as many representatives of Western Writers of America. Bunker Defrance and Harry Alexander brought the podcast Voices of the West to our stage and interviewed our authors. Sunny and Derrick came in costume. Heather Rose was there from the Episcopal Church and we had representatives from Empire Ranch, Cochise County Historical Society, Mescal Movie Set and Empire Ranch. Even Faro Phill Gessert was there teaching people the game and Carol Markstrom and Manuela showed their movie and sang their Miner's Candle song.



On March 4 & 5 several members of the Corral participated in the Tucson Festival of Books



Places to Visit

Old Hachita and Hachita

Hachita is on New Mexico State Road 9 close to the Mexican border about 40 east of

Rodeo, NM. It was founded around 1903, taking its name from Old Hachita, as the junction of two branches of the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad. One branch came from Clifton-Morenci and the other from Douglas. It is now a ghost town with perhaps as many as 8 remaining residents although it once had a church and high school.

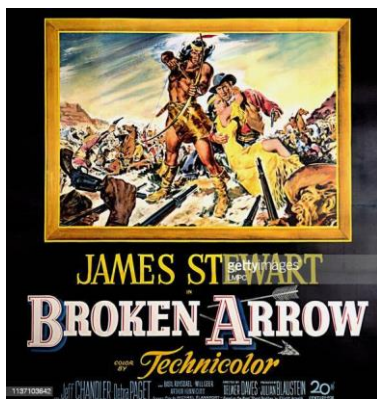
Old Hachita was founded in 1877 as a mining camp called Eureka and in 1884 the Post Office changed its name to Hachita. You might recall the “Hachita Country,” New Mexico’s bootheel, as the setting for the Sam Elliot movie based on the Louis L’Amour novel *Conagher*. Like all L’Amour novels, this one featured a strong, lonely guy and a beautiful, inaccessible women (she already had a husband) and a lot of bad guys in the way.





Finding Old Hachita is not easy. A very rough ranch road about 3 miles west of Hachita leads south about 3 miles to the town. Stick with the “best,” most traveled road the leads to the right, southwest. The town is spread out considerably and the oldest part is the farthest south and hard to get to by road due to a deeply cut wash.

Hollywood Trivia



Hollywood vs the Bascom Affair
By Angela Aleiss, PhD

Recently, I came across an amusing anecdote while researching production information for my book on *Broken Arrow*, the 1950 movie starring James Stewart as Tom Jeffords and Jeff Chandler as Cochise. Buried within the files of the American Heritage Center in the University of Wyoming are notes by the movie’s producer Julian Blaustein suggesting a scene about Lt. George Bascom. Recall that in *Broken Arrow*, the Jeffords’s character mentions the infamous Bascom affair only when he’s arguing with white ranchers in Tucson’s Scatfly Hotel. The Bascom issue then disappears.

But Blaustein initially wanted to add a scene in which Bascom had a conference with Cochise, Jeffords, and General Howard over the kidnaped boy, 12-year-old Micky Free. Bascom was supposed to threaten Cochise, who would manage to escape. Somehow, Blaustein had included Jeffords’s (fictitious) love interest Sonseeahray in the same scene in which she was to be shot and killed. Howard would then promise to court-martial Bascom, and Jeffords would become Apache agent of the reservation. Anyone familiar with the Cochise/Jeffords’s story will notice that the producer imagined his own bizarre timeline of the historical events.

Of course, the movie created another ending that although fictional thankfully dispensed with Blaustein’s rather farcical version. Meanwhile, Hollywood recreated the Bascom affair in 1952 for *The Battle at Apache Pass* in which Chandler reprises his role as Cochise. But artistic license prevailed: That movie blamed Geronimo (Jay Silverheels) for kidnapping the boy. The story’s evil Indian Agent Neil Baylor (Bruce Cowling), whose character was based upon confederate officer John R. Baylor, dies at Apache Pass. But in real life Baylor lived until 1894 and was a Texas politician and first

Governor of the Arizona Territory, CSA. What's more, studio publicity boasted that the story was filmed in southern Utah, "the actual site of Apache Pass!"

For a more reliable account of the Bascom affair, see Doug Hocking's *The Black Legend: George Bascom, Cochise, and the Start of the Apache Wars*. (TwoDot, 2019). Perhaps Hollywood should take a closer look, too.



Coming Events
Debbie Hocking

Film scholar and author Angela Aleiss is a native of Arizona and currently lives in Los Angeles.

March 12 @ 4-6pm **Huachuca Museum Society General Membership Meeting** at the Elks, Sierra Vista. No cost to members, \$10 for non-members, includes dinner.

March 17-19 **March March of the Gunfighters** TTR
<https://tombstoneterritoryrendezvous.com/>

March 18 @ 10:00 am - March 19 @ 3:00 pm
Tombstone's Wild West Days
Downtown Tombstone 311 E. Allen Street, Tombstone, AZ

April
April 7 @ 5:00 pm - April 9 @ 4:00 pm
Tombstone Rose Festival

April 13 & 14 Arizona Hybrid History Convention. <https://arizonahistory.org/2023-convention> Friday the 13th on line, Saturday the 14th in Tempe.

April 14-16 **Willcox West Fest, Chuck Wagon Cook-off & Ranch Rodeo**, Quail Park, Willcox

May
May 5 @ 10:00 am - May 7 @ 7:00 pm
First Annual Tombstone Wild West Paracon That's some spooky stuff right [there](#).

May 27-28 **Wyatt Earp Days**, Tombstone

September
September 14-17 **The Gather of Westerners International** in Tombstone. Cochise County Corral is the host.

Sources:
TTR <https://ttr2022.carrd.co/>
BJ Bulletin board for TTR Schedule <https://nediscapp.com/indices/39627?page=1>
<https://www.empireranchfoundation.org/ranch-events/calendar/>
<https://saintdavidheritage.org/events/>
<https://tombstoneweb.com/coming-events/>
<https://tucsonfestivalofbooks.org/>
<http://sonoitafairgrounds.com/labor-day/>

<https://southerntrails.thetaleofthetrail.org/>
<https://visitwillcox.az.gov/local-events>
<https://www.mescalmovieset.com/upcoming-events>
<https://www.tubacpresidio.org/events>
<https://tucsonpresidio.com/calendars/>

The **Fort Huachuca Museum Society** is looking for new members and the cost is only \$20 per year. The society runs the museum store and members get a 10% discount. To join contact Casey Jones at:

HMS
 P.O. Box 673
 Sierra Vista, AZ 85636-0673

Or call 520-450-0208
 Or write luego@mac.com
 Or Michelejeanmary@gmail.com

If you don't have military ID, it may take a little effort at the gate to get on Fort Huachuca, but the effort is worth it.



Chiricahua Regional Museum
 127 E. Maley St., Willcox, AZ 85643
 520 384-3971
 Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Photos
 By Gary Smith



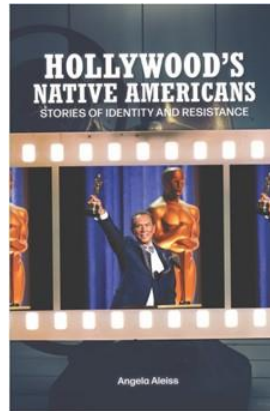
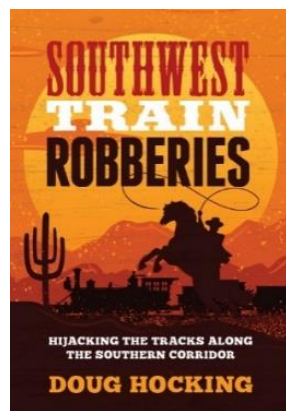
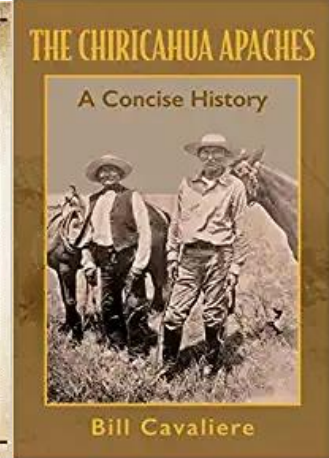
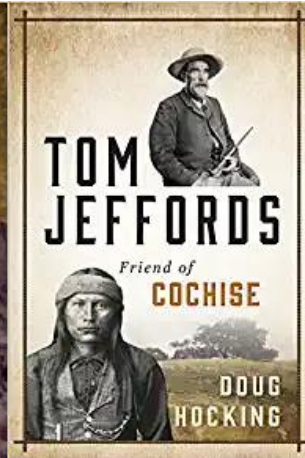
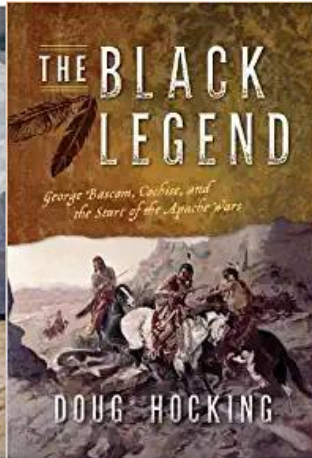
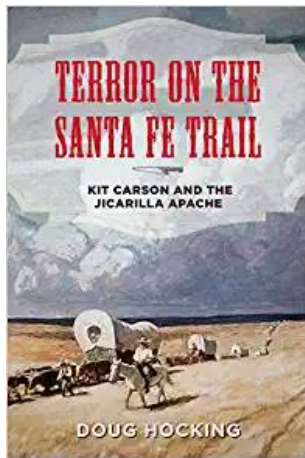
General O.O. Howard-Cochise Peace Agreement of 1872 Commemorative Coins

Kathy Klump of the Sulphur Springs Valley and Bill Cavaliere of the Cochise County Historical Societies had coins struck commemorating the General O.O. Howard – Cochise Peace Agreement of 1872 on its sesquicentennial.

**These are available for \$5
And make excellent Christmas Gifts.**



Ranch Hands who are authors, if you'd like your book to appear here, send me a photo of the cover



MARCH MARCH

of the Gunfighters

A TTR SPECIAL EVENT
FRIDAY MARCH 17 - SUNDAY MARCH 19

Destinations...

- John Ringo's Grave!*
- Des Cabezas!*
- Brundage Cabin!*
- Wilkeson (with Lunch)!*
- Millville (and Tailgate Picnic)!*
- Fairbank Depot!*

And More More Fun Fun!

TOMBSTONE TERRITORY RENDEZVOUS
MARCH MARCH FRIDAY MARCH 17 - SUNDAY MARCH 19 2023

Tombstone Territory Rendezvous Presents
2023 March March
March March of the Gunfighters
Friday March 17 through Sunday March 19

Friday March 17 Destinations:

Johnny Ringo's Grave, Dos Cabezas, Willcox (Lunch will be at the train car restaurant Big Tex BBQ)

Saturday March 18 Destinations:

Brunckow Cabin, Millville (Just enjoy the view or you can Hike the trail. A tailgate picnic will be provided)

Sunday March 19 Destination:

Fairbank Depot

Important Information

At each destination there will be a discussion and walk about for various gunfights that occurred in those areas or locations. Be advised to wear appropriate footwear, and clothing. March temperatures in the area can vary from cold and breezy to mild/warm. Dressing in layers is suggested.

Also, there will be a tailgate picnic on Saturday, if you have camp chairs bring them along, we will round up as many as we can while still making room for the goodies!

There is just a bit more to the schedule, but we want you to be surprised! The full schedule will be available closer to the event and of course as always you will receive a copy when you register, be sure to provide an email address.

Please register as early as possible! This is not like our Annual TTR registration, we do not have an opening tailgate/registration luncheon. Of course you may pay on Friday Morning, HOWEVER we really need registrations to be in on or before February 28th.

As with previous March March events, this is a carpool event. Grab your car pool buddy or buddies and be ready to have some fun! We are looking forward to seeing everyone!

**2023 TOMBSTONE TERRITORY RENDEZVOUS
MARCH MARCH
REGISTRATION
March 17 - 19, 2023**

Please confirm attendance before MARCH 1, as we need to have an accurate count for event arrangements and the picnic lunch. Registration is \$40 for each person attending. The fees cover one picnic lunch, water & snacks, tour booklet, & any other incidentals.

Please mail registration form with a check or money order payable to:

Jean E Smith - Tombstone Territory Rendezvous

The mailing address is:

Jean E Smith - 993 E Jennings Street - Safford, AZ 85546

If you prefer, you may pay at the event, but please mail the registration form to the above address, or email it to:

tombstonerendezvous@gmail.com before March 1.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Name (s) Attendees: _____

Questions, please email tombstonerendezvous@gmail.com

For more information check BJ's Tombstone History Discussion Forum online, Tombstone Territory Rendezvous Facebook page, or www.tombstoneterritoryrendezvous.com website.



Willcox West Fest

Chuck Wagon Cook-Off & Ranch Rodeo

EVENT SCHEDULE April 14-16, 2023

We are excited for all the events this year. We have 8 chuckwagons cooking lunch, 20+ vendors and jam packed contestant roster!

Free parking & admission by donation

FRIDAY April 14

- 12noon - Chuckwagons setting up
- 12noon - Concession opens
- 3pm - Vendors on site
- 3pm - Chuckwagon Judging
- 6pm - Visit with the Chuckwagon crews
- 6pm - Pee Wee, Youth 3-D & Open 4-D Barrel Race
- 6pm - Hot Dogs and S'mores by the campfire
- 6pm-7pm Guitar pickin & singing by the campfire
- Enjoy sitting under the stars!



SATURDAY April 15

- 8am - Gates opens
 - 8am - Concession stand opens
 - 9am - Vendor's on site
 - 9am - Beer/wine garden opens
 - 10am -Team Tying Competitions
 - 10am - Chuck wagon lunch tickets go on sale under the Pavilion
 - 12noon - Lunch served (cooked by the chuckwagons)
 - 1pm - Kids boot scramble in arena sponsored by the EXPO Youth
 - 1:30pm -Calcutta Ranch Rodeo Teams
 - 2pm - Opening Ceremony
- Following opening ceremony, Jr & Adult Ranch Rodeo & Wild Horse Race
- Intermission:Chuck Wagon awards presented, Hall of Fame honorees announced & gate drawing
- 5pm - Steak dinner served (until gone)
 - 6pm - Calcutta Wild Horse Race Finals (tentive)
 - 7pm - Drawing for Rifle



Live 9am-1pm Saturday

Sunday April 16

- 8am - Breakfast (cooked by the chuckwagons)
- 9am - Cowboy Church
- 9:30am - Concession stand opens
- 10am - Vendor's on site
- 10am - T.O. Run
- 12noon - Pee Wee, Youth 3-D & Open 4-D Barrel Race



Come join us for a family fun weekend.

Contact Information

willcoxwestfest@gmail.com

Ron 505-220-5842

Cheryl 520-384-4688

Eddie 520-282-2101





Autograph Signing

Actors Symposium

and MORE...

Parade

Mescal Movie Set
/Buckaroos Night

ARE YOU IN?
JUNE 23RD TO **25TH**
2023
• MEET THE STARS •



DANA WHEELER-NICHOLSON



Michael Biehn
(Sat & Sun)



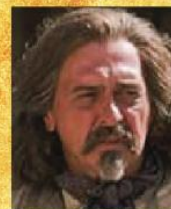
JOANNA PACULA



ROBERT JOHN BURKE



JOHN PHILBIN



PETER SHERAYKO



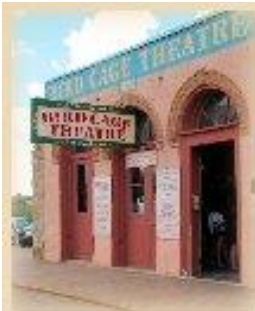
MORE STARS to come...

Follow us on Facebook:
Tombstone 30th Cast Reunion

Special Thanks to
THE MILJEVICH FAMILY

TOMBSTONE FORWARD EVENT 501c3

*STARS SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



The Gather at Tombstone



The Town to Tough to Die

Welcomes You

September 14 to 17, 2023



More than a gunfight. Conquistadors in 1540 to the Butterfield Overland Mail in 1858. Cochise's Stronghold is nearby. Mining, Apaches, Cavalry, the Southern Emigrant Trail Stagecoach and Train Robberies.

Tombstone Has it All!

You'll visit Boothill, the Tombstone Epitaph, Ghost Towns, the Birdcage Theater, the largest Rose Tree in the World, the Goodenough Mine, Wyatt Earp's Oriental Saloon.



Membership Form November 2022



The Cochise County Corral of the Westerners

invites you
to renew a fun, informal group of people
2023 RENEWAL

Every First Thursday of the Month

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

At Schieffelin Hall

On Freemont Street

Dinner 5:30 at the Longhorn Restaurant

Membership Benefits:

- ❖ Enjoy learning about Western Frontier History in a fun, informal environment
- ❖ Historians will find this a place to present their new research, make contacts and swap ideas
- ❖ Enjoy monthly meetings with presentations of Cowboy Poetry, Short History and Western Frontier History
- ❖ Pre-meeting dinners and fellowship at a local restaurant; post meeting snacks
- ❖ Four exciting Trail Rides (field trips) to visit places important in our history
- ❖ Support local historical and educational activities
- ❖ Subscription to the *Buckskin Bulletin*
- ❖ The Cochise County Corral is affiliated with Westerners International which represents over 148 local Corrals around the world
- ❖ Monthly newsletter – *Fremont Street Mail* – Quarterly journal – *Border Vidette*. www.CochiseCountyCorral.org
- ❖ **Join the Corral that has twice won the coveted Heads Up Award for Best Corral 2013 & 2014 & 2021**



Membership only \$20 per person per year

(Feel free to visit a few times before you join)

My name and changes renewing member of the Corral - Membership \$20 for 2023
Cochise County Corral of the Westerners, P.O. Box 393, Tombstone, AZ 85638

Name _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

The Cochise County Corral meets at Schieffelin Hall, Tombstone, AZ
Information contact: Sheriff Doug Hocking (doug@doughocking.com) or Nevada Smith at (520) 642 7601

Send Completed Application and check for \$20 to:
Cochise County Corral of the Westerners
P.O. Box 393
Tombstone, AZ 85638

