

# FREMONT STREET MAIL



## November 12, 2024

### Roundup Foreman's Trumpet Gary Smith

Next meeting will be on Thursday, **December 5**, at 7 p.m., at Schieffelin Hall, will be our **Christmas Party** of Cowboy Poetry, Western Music from Carol Markstrom, and short stories and short history. Ranch Hands are invited to bring in Christmas goodies.



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.

January 2 – “Father Eusebio Kino, Padre on Horseback,” by Father Greg Adolf

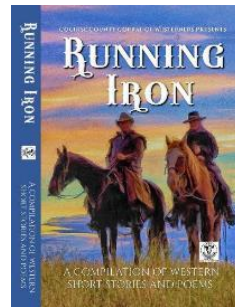
February 6 – “Exploring the Southwest, the Coronado Expedition of 1540,” by Darian Qureshi

March 6 – “Buffalo Soldiers in Bonita Canyon,” by Sharon Kennedy

April 3 – “Hog Ranches & Brothels, Our Houses of Ill Repute,” by Mike Anderson

### Recorder of Marks & Brands Jean Smith

**Get your copy today!**



Available on Amazon in Books as *Running Iron* for \$16 and from the Keeper of the Chips. Contributing authors and retailers may purchase as many as they like for \$10

## November Corral Election Results

- |                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Sheriff –                       | Liz Severin    |
| Deputy Sheriff -                | Jon Donahue    |
| Recorder of Marks<br>& Brands - | Jean Smith     |
| Keeper of the Chips -           | Debora Lewis   |
| Roundup Foreman -               | Gary Smith     |
| Trail Boss -                    | Bob Spahle     |
| Corral Rep -                    | Debbie Hocking |
| Ink Slinger -                   | Doug Hocking   |
| Telegrapher -                   | Deborah Lawson |

### Awards will be presented in December

Each year Westerners International with Corrals all over the globe makes a variety of awards. The Corral has once again won the **Heads Up Award for Best Corral**. Bob Spahle won the **Fred Olds Award for Best Cowboy Poetry**. George Van Otten's article "Indigenous Agriculture in Cochise County Arizona" won the **Coke Woods Award for Best Published Article**. Doug Hocking won second place in **Co-Founders Award for Best Western History** for *Southwest Train Robberies*.

### A Ticket to Ride

The Corral is coordinating with local restaurants and attractions for a ticket to be handed out at the Tombstone Festival of Western Books, March 14, 2025, offering discounts and admission at 10% off with the ticket only available at the event. Visitors will have to come to Schieffelin Hall to get it and that will bring the public to our door.

### Matt Greenway

News has come to the Corral that in August former Sheriff Matt Greenway had a major heart attack and stroke. He is in care in Tucson, paralyzed and unaware of his surroundings. We'll monitor and pass on news as it comes to us

### Keeper of the Chips Debora Lewis

### Dues are \$20 and are coming in for 2025

We have 64 Ranch Hands

We have in Checking - \$ 2216.48

We have in Savings - \$ 1021.15

October Expenses: \$ 281.55 plus 304.80 books bought = 586.35

October Income: \$ 195.10 plus 399.02 books sold plus royalties of \$9.02 = \$594.23

*Running Iron* has made a profit of over \$100 so far.

Encourage your friends to visit, join, and stay with the Corral!

### Trail Boss's Whip Bob Spahle

Mark **Saturday, November 30**, on your calendar.

We're joining the Butterfield Trail Association for a guided tour of Apache Pass. Learn about the Bascom Affair, life at a Butterfield Station, Cochise, and more. We'll visit the Massacre Grounds where a stage was attacked and a wagon train wiped out, the Butterfield Station, Apache Spring, the site of the Battle of Apache Pass, the Chiricahua Agency and more.

Meet at TA travel center on I-10 in Willcox at 8 a.m. for breakfast or 9:30 to depart for the pass. Details on the attached flyer.

**Let Bob know if ideas for next year's trips: (520) 723-1036.**



### Sheriff's Star Doug Hocking

It's been a long run as sheriff and I think a good one. The Corral has won the Heads Up Award for best corral four times and Ranch Hands have won every individual award from best presentation to cowboy poetry, best article and best book of western history. We

hosted the Gather and started the Tombstone Festival of Western Books. We've gone from 25 members to 68, from having almost no money to having a few thousand in the bank. Thanks to Debora Lewis and the contributing authors, we've published *Running Iron*. The Corral has a website, journal and newsletter. We've accomplished a lot including things folks said were impossible.

I'm starting to see friends pass on and others become too old to attend Campfire. We Boomers were a generation who cut our teeth on TV westerns. We were barely a generation away from the frontier west. We need to keep recruiting. More than anything, we need to remember how to have fun. Some will tell you that we need to recruit young people. Others that young folks have no interest in the Wild West. They're out there. I saw them at Helldorado and we need to make them feel welcome.



There are folks who will tell us that Facebook is just for "old folks" and thus we need to recruit on sites like Instagram. We can easily reach 20,000 folks on Facebook without paying for advertising. On Instagram or Spotify you will only reach your followers and you can only build followers slowly by posting interesting content that gets shared. Building a following is hard work. "You've got to go to Instagram because that's where all the young people are" is nonsense unless you can *post content daily* that is interesting to young people, material that will get liked and shared. Fortunately, photos of Roundup at Empire Ranch and Helldorado are getting shared.

On YouTube you can get monetized, that is, have advertising appear with your videos and get paid for your content. You only need to have 20,000 people watch your videos. I'm up to about 1,000 on mine. Only 19,000 to go. The point is that it takes work to develop a following on any of these platforms. Work the ones you can and don't worry about where the young people are. They're everywhere. We just need to be welcoming.

Our biggest challenge for the future is to keep recruiting, keep bringing in more people. The way to do that is to keep being fun.

I've accomplished most of what I'd hoped for. I'd still like to get a writers and historians subsection going as a source of speakers for the Corral and as a source of support and assistance for both. I'd like to see us strengthen ties to other Corrals and develop a speakers' bureau where we can turn for quality speakers and share our speakers with other Corrals. I'll keep editing the *Fremont Street Mail* and the *Border Vidette*, but the new sheriff gets to write this column.

### Deep Thoughts on History

Not long ago, I read that San Francisco sailors in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century would come ashore, spend all their pay and then live on credit in sailor boarding houses. The owners of these properties would routinely contract entire crews to sailing ships providing the sailor no choice on whether to sail or not. I wondered at the mechanisms that made this possible and enforceable.

As historians we often find the answer in strange places. I had been listening to a sea shanty not realizing that it held the answer. The shanty was strange in that it reflected the sailor paying the first mate as the ship prepared to sail. It seemed the wrong

direction of exchange at the wrong end of the voyage. Here are some lines from the song:

I thought I heard the first mate say  
 Pay me my money down  
 Tomorrow is our sailing day  
 Pay me my money down  
 Pay me, pay me my money down  
 Pay me or go to jail  
 Pay me my money down. . .  
 After forty days and nights at sea  
 Pay me my money down  
 They worked every penny outta me  
 Pay me my money down

At the end of the voyage, the tone changes:

I thought I heard the first mate say  
 Pay me my money down  
 Men lay aft and draw your pay  
 Pay me my money down, pay me  
 Pay me my money down  
 Pay me or go to jail  
 Pay me my money down  
 Soon as my feet touched the shore  
 Pay me my money down  
 I swore I'd go to sea no more

So here is the answer. The notes signed by the sailors for food and lodging were sold to sea captains. The local sheriff was the enforcement if a sailor had “written bad paper,” refused to honor his note.

Some would find the sea captains guilty of taking advantage of people who don't know how to handle credit and become perpetual “debt slaves.” At this point, expand your point of view to consider how much you owe on credit cards or to a college loan. The song of the debt slave is:

I owe, I owe  
 So off to work I go

The other side of this is in the final lines of the shanty:

Soon as my feet touch the shore  
 Pay me my money down  
 I swore I'd go to see no more

Many sailors went to sea on transoceanic voyages, allowed to carry some goods of their own for trade in foreign ports. Food and lodging we not an issue at sea and at the end of the voyage, the sailor had considerable pay due him. With that boon, he was in a position to start a new life ashore.

This led to reflection on the many kinds of sailors there were in the days of sail and even coal fired ships. Transoceanic voyages might take one away for years making raising a normal family difficult. The same applied to whalers whose captains' wives mounted the widow's walk to faithfully await their return. Less well provided for, the ladies of common sailors might have found it more difficult to wait. At the end of a multi-year whale hunt, the common sailor might be quite rich and finding himself with the opportunity to establish himself ashore and go to sea no more.

Fishermen were also sailors and hunters like the whalers. Depending on the type of fish they hunted, trips might last a day or months. Coasters would be away from home a few days or weeks at best and sailors on the Great Lakes had a similar life as did those who sailed our great rivers.

Organizing a sailor's finances, hopes, and family offered unique challenges that may help to explain why some had a lady in every port. The waterfront has long been considered a place of vice including “loose women” and the “debt slavery” of sailors. Sometimes, when seen in light of the

challenges faced the solutions found seem less vile and more understandable.

### Tombstone Epitaph & Arizonian

Altshuler, Constance Wynn. *Latest from Arizona: The Hesperian Letters, 1859-1861*, 1969.

Tucson, January 25th, 1861

“An officer stationed at Fort Buchanan writes that six head of cattle were stolen a few days since from a ranche adjoining the military reservation by Indians, half-starved and on foot, yet the stock was not retaken.

“On the 21st they stole cattle from the the ranche of Mr. John Ward, eleven miles from the post, and seized a lad of twelve years within three hundred yards of the house, whom they carried into captivity. An infantry officer with a small command was sent to rescue the captive as soon as the news reached the post, but the foot soldiery were not adapted to the service, and the unfortunate boy is perhaps destined to the hard fate of long captivity. Several descents have been made upon the San Pedro settlers, and some of them have been compelled to abandon their homes and seek refuge in the more thickly settled districts.”

Note 1: *The Arizonian of Feb. 9 gave the date as Jan. 27 which better fits receipt of the information at For Buchanan on the 28th, as post returns show. This may be an editorial amendment to conform with the letter's Jan. 25 date. Since Turner knew about dispatch of the troops, the letter cannot have been written before the 29th. Perhaps Turner misdated it or perhaps his numerals were misread in the Republican office.*

### Poetry Corner

#### Simple Life

By Bob Spahle

*Read at Campfire November 7*

When you sit and listen to the wind in the  
pines  
They'll tell you a story that's so hard to find  
You won't find it in the city where so many  
reside  
Go up in the mountains but there's rule to  
abide

Clear your head of all politicin'  
Bring up a bucket of deep fried chicken  
Clear your head of all bad ideas  
Sit around a campfire and drink you a beer

Seems like most have been caught up with the  
race for best  
That we work ourselves silly, no time for rest  
Our families come second as we climb the  
chain  
Never knowing the amount of hurt and pain

But come sit under a pine and you will see  
That makin' an extra dollar is not meant to be  
To be home with your family is surly the key  
Instead of working long hours to please the  
king bee

So, opt for the simple life like grampa and  
dad  
And with helps from your children you're  
surely be glad  
To live on four acres with a horse and a cow  
You'll remember all the good times you're  
having right now

#### The Bet

By Mark Finley

Now there's a story I gotta tell ya' before I  
forget



About how the chili plant was created by a  
bet.

It happened when Satan ask the Lord to come  
down to hell

And pull up a hot brimstone and sit for a  
spell.

He said," Now God, I'd like to make you a  
bet

And if you don't take it, it's one you'll regret.  
I know you're right handy creating all kinds  
of stuff,

But I don't believe you can create anything  
this tough.

Since I believe hell is the hottest place believe  
it or not

I want to bet that you can't make anything  
even as hot.

So if you win I'll leave the world alone for a  
full day,

But if I win, I'll take twenty-five souls as my  
pay."

God replied, "Lucifer, I believe this is  
something I'll take on,

But if I win, for a full week, you and the  
demons must leave the world alone."

Satan thought then replied, "I'll take that bet  
for 30 souls for my pay."

So the bet was made and as Satan walked  
away,

He chuckled and said, "I'm as hot at the place  
where I dwell."

But God holds dominion over everything  
including hell.

So, God immediately set to work on his plan.  
He cleared a plot of land along the Rio  
Grande.

Then he planted chili seeds on top of every  
row

And put water in the row to start the plants to  
grow.

He planted Jalapeno, Cayenne, Thai, and  
Ghost peppers too,

Then Habanero, Serrano, and Trinidad  
Scorpion to complete the stew.

In the New Mexico sun the chili peppers  
began to grow

And the red colored heat in the peppers began  
to show.

When the peppers were ready, even God  
couldn't pick them with his hand

Cause He'd placed all that super heat in the  
peppers as a part of his plan.

God fixed up a chili stew like he taught the  
Mexicans to do

And it was so hot it nearly burned the pot  
right through.

So, God said, "Lucifer to come up to heaven  
it's supper time

And I've fixed you a special meal so it's time  
to dine.

I've got a bowl of stew for you to try as my  
part of our bet

And I'm sure it's a meal that you'll never  
forget."

Satan sat down and ate a bowl full of that  
stew,

Looked at God and said, "That's right tasty,  
thank you."

But he didn't know the chili peppers had a  
heat delay

And if you ate a big bowl full, you were going  
to pay.

Those chilis started to burn and get hotter and  
hotter.

Then the Devil hollered, WATER, WATER,  
GIVE ME WATER!

Oh God you've won this bet, there's no doubt  
Cause I 'm hotter on the inside than I am on  
the out!!!"

## **Common Sense**

By Mark Finley

Donnie graduated from college with a  
Political Science degree,

But he had no common sense so my cousin  
sent her son to me.

Now all cowboys know that on the ranch,  
common sense must prevail.

It doesn't matter how smart you are or if you  
have a degree from Yale.  
Because you have to use common sense to  
keep from getting in a plight,  
Like always carry a light with you when goin'  
out in the dark of night.  
And put your hand on a horse's rump when  
walkin' behind so he knows you're  
there.  
Otherwise, if you startle him, he might kick  
you about five feet up in the air.

Donnie told us how he graduated from Yale  
with a prestigious Political Science  
degree  
And how graduating at the top of his class  
showed how smart he could be.  
He said he didn't believe we could teach him  
anything cause we were all a bunch of  
hicks,  
And since he had four years of college, he  
was aware of all our silly tricks.  
So I took Donnie out the first day in my pick-  
up truck to git a look at the ranch.  
First thing he did was git his shirt tangled up  
in the thorns on a mesquite tree  
branch.  
So I told him don't walk too close to anything  
that has thorns or spines.  
He said that was a dumb instruction just as he  
tripped over two porcupines.

With his shirt sleeve torn to shreds and a few  
quills stickin' in one boot,  
Donnie said that since I wasn't a professor,  
anything I had to tell him was moot.  
I said, "We'll see, so let's stretch this top  
strand of barbed wire over 200 feet of  
fence."  
He stated, "Now a college education makes  
this a matter not requiring common  
sense."  
So he grabbed the come along and started to  
crank the wire up tight.  
I said, "Be careful, only stretch the wire until  
it feels just right".

About that time, the wire broke and wrapped  
around him fifty times or more,  
Until he looked just like a roll of wire on sale  
at the hardware store.  
We spent the rest of the morning getting him  
unwound and all patched up  
Then I made a pot of coffee and handed him  
a clean tin cup.  
I said," Hold it by the handle as I pour the hot  
coffee in."  
But he said, "No I'll hold it with both hands  
'cause it's made of flimsy tin."  
The hot coffee began to burn his hands and  
he spilled that cup full in his lap.  
So he stood up real quick, spread his legs and  
began to fan between the gap.  
He danced backwards, stumbled over a big  
rock and sat down in the fire.  
Now he was quick in getting' up, but his  
voice pitch seemed a little higher.

I began to see how this chore might be more  
than I expected,  
Cause in this school of hard knocks, this  
student would be rejected.  
So I caught two horses and said, 'Saddle up  
and lets go for a ride.'  
"Now this is something I'm sure I can do, an  
easy task," he replied.  
But when I looked around, no saddle blankets  
on the horse could be found.  
And further observation found them not on  
the horse but laying on the ground.  
Then I said, "I don't mean to really be critical  
and so very blunt,  
But the saddle goes on the horse with the  
saddle horn to the front."

I begin to realize this was too much for me  
and I needed help from up above,  
And I knew that I can always call upon my  
Savior and he will answer me with  
love.  
So I begin to pray saying Jesus I need your  
help to show me which way to go.

Then Donnie replied, "Hey, I know Jesus, he was a college student from Mexico!"  
So this is how my prayer is answered, all I had to do was introduce him to the Lord.

Seems Donnie liked book learning and this never left him bored.

So I took out my Bible and explained that this was the text for a special class

And he would have to study the book real hard if he expected to pass.

He wanted to know if this special class would lead to some kind of a degree.

And I told him yes, the local Bible college offered a degree in Theology.

He asked, "Does the book offer common sense advice in its core?"

I answered, "Yes, and history, and prophecy, and a whole lot more.

When he read the first chapter of Genesis, he looked straight at me

And said, "Wow, I just discovered how this world came to be."

As we rode out to our camp for the night, I told Donnie what the Bible was all about

And Donnie kept on reading the Bible into the night until the fire went out.

I thanked God for helping me to get through Donnie's defense

So that now we may be able to teach him some common sense.

We got up at daylight and Donnie tried to pull his boot on but it wouldn't fit

He exclaimed, "I know this boot will fit, I put it on yesterday and only pulled a little bit.

I said, "When you spend the night out on the range and are sleepin' on the ground,

Before you put your boots on, turn them upside down and shake them around.

Now I know you're tired of my preachin', so what I say, you don't give a hoot.

But it would really help to dump the PACK RAT out before you put on YOUR BOOT.

### Hollywood Trivia

Early westerns were mostly filmed in studio. But when location shooting became more common in the 1930s, producers of westerns used desolate corners of Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, or Wyoming. These settings gave film makers the ability to depict vast plains, looming mountains and epic canyons. Often the vast landscape became more than a vivid backdrop. It became a character in the film.



John Ford use of Monument Valley as an expressive landscape from *Stagecoach* 1939 to *Cheyenne Autumn* 1965 present us with a mythic vision of the plains and deserts of the American West. Other famous locations include Moab, Utah, and Lone Pine, California, including Alabama Hills.

The limitations of film in terms of speed meant that early on fair weather was a must. Proper lighting could often only be achieved in the studio. Outdoor sequences, well into the 1970s, were often filmed mute and voices and soundtrack added later as wind interfered with microphones. A sound stage with corny backgrounds was often used well into the 1960s when there was to be extended dialog.





### Blast From the Past

*Your Sheriff has been asked to speak on the radio (November 7) about Train Robberies as Arizona is said to have had it first in over 100 years. They're overlooking the 1942 incident in Benson when someone broke into a boxcar and stole three cases of Spam. Nonetheless, here are the news stories about our recent train robbery.*

#### **Arizona train robbery in Seligman may be first reported in over 100 years**

Arizona Republic Oct 21, 2024

Train robberies are back in Arizona, after Yavapai County officials reported what may be the first reported train robbery [in over 100 years](#).

The suspected robbers weren't riding mustangs or broncos but driving trucks in an incident near Seligman.

That's where people on a BNSF train near Seligman reported they were being burglarized by someone driving a white box truck at around midnight on Friday, Paul Wick, a spokesperson for the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office, said.

Wick said a sheriff's deputy responded to the area within minutes when the truck, along with another vehicle, began heading west on Interstate 40.

Wick said the deputy tailed the two vehicles for miles as they awaited backup from other deputies with the Sheriff's Office and the Mohave County Sheriff's Office as well as

state troopers with the Arizona Department of Public Safety. DPS troopers and officers with Kingman police attempted a traffic stop as the two vehicles entered Kingman, with troopers deploying stop sticks after the truck's driver refused to yield.

Wick said the truck's driver ran away after the vehicle was immobilized but troopers caught and arrested him. They also arrested the other vehicle's driver.

Wick did not identify either driver as of Monday afternoon nor say what charges officers would recommend to prosecutors, but said robberies involving trains had seen a sharp uptick.

#### **Yavapai County Sheriff's Office Deputy Tracks Down Thieves After an Intense Train Heist**

Prescott eNews October 19, 2024



Around midnight Friday, a BNSF Train near Seligman reported they were actively being burglarized by a white box truck. A YCSO Deputy was in the area and arrived within minutes while the burglary was in progress. The truck, along with another vehicle it was traveling with, started heading west onto Interstate 40. The deputy followed the suspects as he waited for backup from YCSO, DPS, and the Mohave County Sheriff. The deputy exhibited great patience, even after trailing the suspects for miles.

DPS and Kingman Police Department attempted a traffic stop of the suspect's truck as it arrived in Kingman, but when the truck failed to yield, DPS deployed stop sticks forcing the truck to come to a stop. The driver as the only occupant of the truck, took off on foot but was quickly apprehended by DPS. The suspect driving the other vehicle was also arrested. YCSO deputies did an amazing job showing patience in following the suspects and organizing this multi-agency pursuit.

Train burglaries have skyrocketed over the last year, resulting in millions of dollars in goods being stolen. YCSO will continue to partner with law enforcement and railroad agency partners in an attempt to prevent these potentially dangerous crimes from occurring, and in apprehending the criminals.

### **Train Robbery at Seligman**

SELIGMAN, AZ (*AZFamily*) Oct. 21, 2024 — Three people are in custody after investigators said they stole from a train in northern Arizona and were tracked down by multiple agencies last week.

The Yavapai County Sheriff's Office said workers on a BNSF train near Seligman, 70 miles west of Flagstaff, called 911 just before midnight on Friday to say they were being burglarized by those in a white box truck.

A deputy arrived while the burglary was still in progress.

One suspect was eventually caught in the Kingman area.(Yavapai County Sheriff's Office)

The truck driver and another driver of a different vehicle headed west on Interstate 40, with the deputy following them, according to YCSO.

The deputy waited for backup from YCSO, the Arizona Department of Public Safety and the Mohave County Sheriff's Office.

YCSO said the deputy followed the suspects for miles before DPS and Kingman Police tried to pull the box truck driver over in Kingman, about 67 miles west of Seligman, but the driver didn't stop.

DPS then used spike strips twice to get the truck driver to stop. They said the driver crossed the median and went into oncoming traffic.

A trooper then used a [PIT maneuver](#), which stopped the truck.

The driver then ran off but was quickly arrested, YCSO said.

DPS said they chased another vehicle that had been involved in the heist for "a number of miles" until five people bailed out and ran into the desert.

Two of them were arrested. DPS said that three of the six suspects are still on the run.

No names have been released.

It's unclear what the suspects stole from the train.

The investigation is ongoing.

YCSO says the number of train heists has "skyrocketed" in the county over the past year and estimates millions of dollars in goods have been stolen as a result.

"It seems like this is trending now. It's becoming more often and I think it's obviously a huge problem," said Arizona state legislative director for SMART Transportation Division Scott Jones.

In the second quarter of this year, [cargonet.com](http://cargonet.com) says there were 771 reported incidents of theft from a train across the country, a 33% increase from the same time period in 2023.

Jones believes that part of the reason for the spike in train thefts is a reduction in railroad police officers and an increase in train length. “It’s just going to get worse until they do hire more police officers, I believe, shorten these trains up where they can control them in and out of their yards and not park them out in the middle of the desert,” said Jones.

<p><b>Coming Events – Telegrapher</b> <b>Deborah Lawson</b></p>
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### November

November 14, **Brown Bag Lunch Escape From Mesilla, Doug Hocking** Elsie Hogan Library, Willcox

November 16, **2-3:30 pm**  
**\$5/person. Our Salon & Saloon Lecture** this month is **Mountain Bikers of the Western Plains**. The story of the 25th Infantry Buffalo Soldier's epic bicycle ride from Missoula, Montana to St. Louis, Missouri in 1897.

November 17, 1 p.m. special lecture and book-signing by Archaeologist and historian **Homer Thiel *Saloons of Territorial Tucson*** in the **Monsoon Room at JoJo’s Restaurant** **\$10/person**. pre-register at <https://tucsonpresidio.com/civicism/event/info/?reset=1&id=739>.

November 23, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. **History in the Park: Salute the Troops – The Military History of Arizona** Fort Lowell Park, Tucson. Re-enactors will portray the various garrisons that have been stationed in Arizona from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries

### December

December 14, **Christmas at the Ranch,** Empire Ranch. Book signing

## 2025

### January

January 25, 2025, **Gerald Ahnert**, Yuma, Arizona. Book signing at Yuma “**Wild West Days.**”

### February

February 1, 2025, **Gerald Ahnert**, Vail, Arizona. The Vail Preservation Society movie premiere about the **Butterfield Trail** through vicinity of present-day Vail and the history of Seneca Stage Station. I narrated the film along with Doug Hocking and Bob Nilson. I will also be signing my new book.

February 3, 2025, **Gerald Ahnert**, Maricopa, Arizona. **Butterfield Trail presentation** and book signing for the Maricopa Historical Society.

February 16, **Doug Hocking**, Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, **Incident at Apache Pass**. tentative

February or March, 2025, **Gerald Ahnert** presentation and Book signing at the **Colorado River State Historic Park**.

### March

March 14, **Tombstone Festival of Western Books**

March 15-16, 2025, **Tucson Book Festival. Of Books**, Book signing

**Amigos & Ladies of the West**, Doug and Debora

**Eco Press**, Gerald Ahnert

Sources:

TTR <https://tr2022.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/>



### Chiricahua Regional Museum

127 E. Maley St., Willcox, AZ 85643

520 384-3971

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### 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](mailto:luego@mac.com)

### Last Campfire & YouTube

At the October Campfire, Chuck Smith spoke on *Debunking the Myth of Indian Charlie*. Two men of Mexican-Indian descent participated in killing Wyatt's brother, Morgan Earp. Or was it only one? Wyatt killed one of them during the Vendetta Ride. Chuck explained which and you can view it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/Pq2bU3zOEPM?si=4ZfRD3jIvqOZISuj>



At November Campfire Ron Woggon and Jean Smith put on a great presentation playing Wells Fargo Agent, Fred Dodge, and his biographer, Carolyn Lake, conducting an interview over his Fred's recollections of the Midnight Murder Plot. Unfortunately, due to the inclusion of some sensitive material, we could not make a recording.





Here are some other videos you might enjoy:  
**Stagecoaches in the Wild West**

[https://youtu.be/Qx\\_-0iRdLIM?si=WfvUxmZerlhoCBQH](https://youtu.be/Qx_-0iRdLIM?si=WfvUxmZerlhoCBQH)

**Finding the Oregon Trail**

[https://youtube/bUAwpZGlpQo?si=fmbH2tE\\_xnC2y0ym](https://youtube/bUAwpZGlpQo?si=fmbH2tE_xnC2y0ym)

**The Alamo Podcast Explores The Mexican Constitution Of 1824**

Now available on your favorite podcast app, Episode 55 of "[Stories Bigger Than Texas](#)" marks this month's 200th anniversary of the Mexican Constitution of 1824, a pivotal document that set into motion the events that led to the Texas Revolution.

**Filming on Federal Land:** BLM, Park Service and Forest Service all have rules that violate First Amendment Rights.

[https://youtu.be/XmnN-EuFSDI?si=2sBdwYugoF65Aq\\_A](https://youtu.be/XmnN-EuFSDI?si=2sBdwYugoF65Aq_A)

**What is History? Frontier Encounters in Northwest Nebraska**

<https://youtu.be/jWmZs02RovE?si=QsPCZAsvrv-r-U2N>

**Marie St. Vrain - the Mysterious Santa Fe Trail's Female Traveler of 1839**

<https://youtu.be/Ya2RbScFW0k?si=zNTYRxU-y1Y7UWq9>

Ceran St. Vrain was a partner to the Bents, mountain man and businessman. That's Marie's family. The editing leaves something to be desired. Please ignore the strange guy clearing his throat for the first two minutes.

### Out & About

Matt Greenway, longtime Ranch Hand and past Sheriff, is in care in Tucson. We have learned that in August he had both a massive

heart attack and stroke. He's being cared for but we don't have much information.



Longtime Ranch Hand and Corral Rep, Christine Rhodes, received the Cochise County History Keeper Award from the Cochise County Historical Society. It was presented by Ranch Hands Craig McEwan and Bill Cavaliere, who also happen to be vice president and president of the aforementioned organization.



Doug and Debbie Hocking represented the Corral at Art in the Park, Sierra Vista, and Patagonia Fall Fest, selling the Corral's first book *Running Iron*.



Ranch Hands Doug Hocking, Chuck and Jean Smith, Ron Woggon, and Heather Rose all spoke at Tombstone Territory Rendezvous,



which was a great success, partly because of these great talks and westerners.



Photo by Bob Block

Doug ran over to Columbus, New Mexico, to speak on Southwest Train Robberies to their historical society at Poncho Villa State Park.



Doug and Debbie Hocking, Debora Lewis and Deborah Lawson represented the Corral at Empire Ranch Fall Roundup selling their



books and *Running Iron*.

The Three Debbies and Doug were on hand during Helldorado selling books including, *Running Iron*. Helldorado and the mythical Wild West are fun and we ought to encourage and participate while offering folks Cowboy Poetry and real history.



We're picking up sponsors for the Tombstone Festival of Western Books. They are offering 10% discounts to customers on the day of the festival if they present a coupon they have to come to Schieffelin Hall to get. Our biggest problem last year was getting people to realize that something was happening in Schieffelin Hall. Mescal Movie Set is going to try to provide some folks in costume. Marty Stout has kindly offered to let us borrow the **Big Red Chair** and her donkey, but we'll need help moving them. We're still looking for ideas, for folks and things to be outside the doors attracting attention and we need to get more stores and attractions to add to the list of sponsors.



**Places to Visit**

**White Oaks, NM.**

White Oaks, New Mexico, is in Billy the Kid Country a few miles north of Carrizozo. It is also near the birthplace of Smoky the Bear who has fallen out of favor with the Forest Service since he indiscriminately put out fires and these days the Service is more likely to start them. "Let it burn! It renews the forest!"



White Oaks is also close to Lincoln, Ruidoso, Roswell, and Alamogordo so you can do the full "Billy Circuit" as Billy has not fallen out of favor with the State of New Mexico being their principle cultural hero. They rejected Oñate who slaughtered Pueblo Indians and Popé who slaughtered Spaniards. They even passed over Kit Carson.



White Oaks was gold mining country, probably why Billy visited, and has a surprising number of Victorian era buildings.

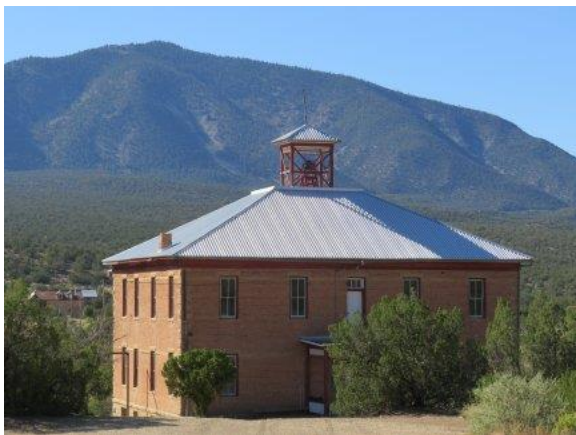


There is also a No Scum Allowed Saloon and a nifty museum manned by ghosts of the past.





There's also a school.



**Departments of  
*Fremont Street Mail & Border Vidette***

If you have something to share with the Corral, we'll find a place for it!!

**The following Departments of the *Fremont Street Mail* are open to your contributions. We can stretch them or add to them if you have an idea:**

**Blast from the Past**, a old newspaper article.  
**Poetry Corner**

**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**

**Tombstone Epitaph**, an article from an historic Arizona newspaper

**Places to Visit**

**Hollywood Trivia**

**Corral Members at Large, Out and About:**

If you did it, we only know about it if you tell us and send photos.

**Photo Album**

**Local Events**

Departments of the *Border Vidette*

**We really need some articles right now to get out another edition!!!!**

**Long Articles**

**Short Articles**

**Reviews & Book Reports**

**Recommended Books & Articles**

**Frontier Recipes**

Send STUFF to the Ink Slinger, Doug Hocking, at [dhocking@centurylink.net](mailto:dhocking@centurylink.net) or [InkSlinger@CochiseCountyCorral.org](mailto:InkSlinger@CochiseCountyCorral.org)

We ask that material be in Word, Times New Roman, 12 pitch, without indentation, single space between paragraphs. Please do not embed photos in text. Photos should be jpgs. Do not send pdfs.

**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>

**Facebook:**

Cochise County Corral Deborah Lea is on board as Telegrapher. She can post and highlight, share, and create events. If you want to know what's happening, the information is on our page.

<https://www.facebook.com/CochiseCountyCorral>

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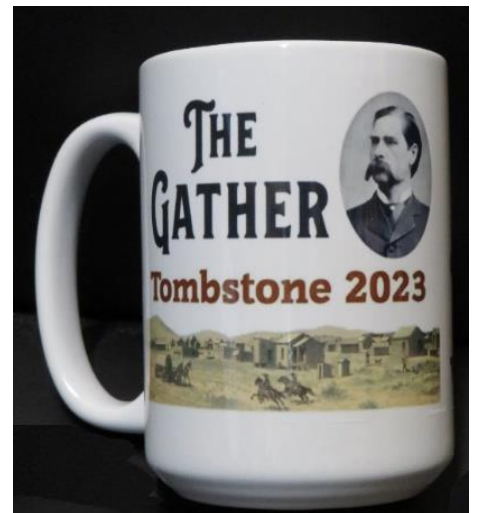
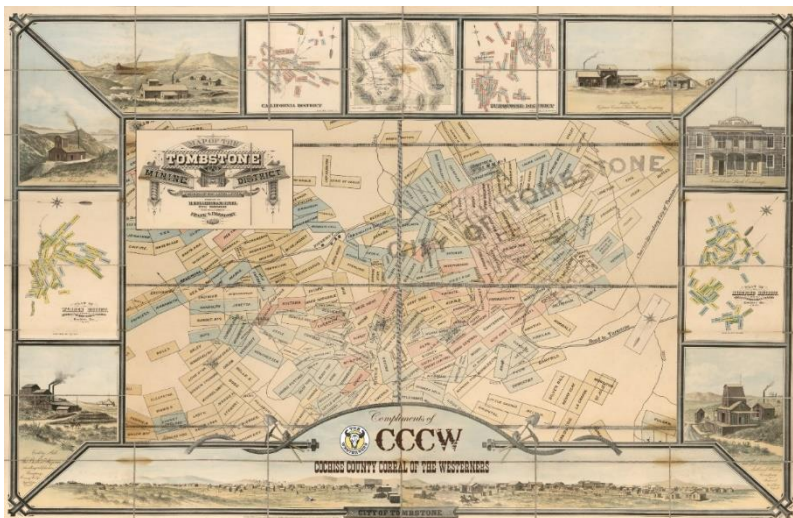
### **General O.O. Howard-Cochise Peace Agreement of 1872 Commemorative Coins**



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**

**The Gather Commerative Mug Only \$12**



### **Map of the Tombstone Claims And Surrounding Communities**

**Only \$5**

**Get yours from Debora, Keeper of the Chips  
Or Faro Dealers Mike & Anne at the next meeting**



# COCHISE COUNTY CORRAL TRAIL RIDE TO BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND MAIL AT APACHE PASS Saturday, November 30, 2024

Learn about the first transcontinental mail operated in the United States, about life serving on that mail, and about the important events at Apache Pass.

Join Author/Historian **Doug Hocking** of the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail Association on a 3-mile hike to Overland Mail Sites in Apache Pass on **Saturday, November 30, 2024**. Doug has written well-received books and articles on the 1861 Incident at Apache Pass and on Butterfield operations in eastern Arizona.

Talks will be presented at:

- The site of the February 1861 Wagon Train Massacre and Hanging
- The trail in Siphon Canyon
- Lieutenant George Bascom, Co C Campsite
- The Overland Mail Station
- Tom Jeffords Chiricahua Agency
- Site of 1862 Battle of Apache Pass
- Apache Spring

Schedule:

- 8 a.m. - Meet for breakfast at TA Travel Center, I-10 at Rex Allen Dr., Willcox
- 9:30 a.m. - Depart for Apache Pass
- 10 a.m. - Arrive Apache Pass
- 10:30 a.m. - Depart for lower parking area
- 11 a.m. - Siphon Canyon on the Overland Trail
- 11:20 a.m. - Bascom Campsite
- 11:45 a.m. - Overland Mail Station, life at the station
- 12:00 p.m. - Picnic Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. - Talk on 1861 Incident at Apache Pass
- 1:15 p.m. - Grave Yard - Graves of O.O. Spence and Geronimo's son
- 1:45 p.m. - Chiricahua Agency and Battle of Apache Pass
- 2:15 p.m. - Apache Spring
- 2:30 p.m. - Return to Parking Area
- 3:30 p.m. - Depart for home

What to Expect and to Bring


3-mile hike over easy to some moderate terrain

Bring:

- Picnic Lunch
- Water, 2 quarts
- Strong walking shoes
- Hat

**CONTACT TRAIL BOSS  
BUZZARD BOB SPAHLE  
(520) 732-1036**





**COCHISE COUNTY CORRAL OF THE WESTERNERS**

First Thursday of the month, 7PM at Schieffelin Hall

**FREE**

Upcoming Presentations in 2025:

**January 2nd “Father Eusebio Kino-Padre on Horseback” by Father Greg Adolf**

**February 6th “Exploring the Southwest; the Coronado Expedition of 1500” by Darian Qureshi**

**March 6th “Buffalo Soldiers in Bonita Canyon” by Sharon Kennedy**

**April 3rd “Hog Ranches & Brothels: Our Houses of Ill Repute” by Mike Anderson**

*See You at Schieffelin Hall  
4th and Fremont in Tombstone*

Regular meetings at 7 PM on the first Thursday of each month  
Join a Renowned Corral winner of Heeds Up Award  
for Best Corral 2013, 2014 & 2021

Pre-meeting dinner, 5:30 PM at the Longhorn Restaurant, 5th & Allen



- ★ Enjoy learning about Western Frontier History in a fun, informal environment
- ★ Enjoy Monthly meetings with presentations of Cowboy Poetry, Short History and Western History

- ★ Exciting Trail Rides (field trips) to visit places important in our Western history
- ★ Read the interesting *Border Vignette* and the *Fremont Street Mail*

For more information [www.CochiseCountyCorral.org](http://www.CochiseCountyCorral.org)  
Or contact Doug Hocking at 520 378-1833 or [InkSlingshot@CochiseCountyCorral.org](mailto:InkSlingshot@CochiseCountyCorral.org)

*The Cochise County Corral of The Westerners is a 501c3 organization.*

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### Mescal Movie Set Announces its "YEAR END" Historical Film Tours

*Experience walking in the footsteps of Western film legends!*

BENSON, ARIZONA, UNITED STATES



Cooler weather is finally around the corner, making it an excellent time to dust off your boots, throw on your cowboy hat, and mosey down to the Mescal Movie Set. We're thrilled to announce that despite our busy film and renovation schedule, we can open ten dates for our Historical Film Tours.

The set has been used in over 100 film productions, including many of your favorite classic Westerns. Guests taking a Historical Film Tour will have the unique opportunity to visit buildings and street locations where memorable scenes from *Tombstone*, *Outlaw Josey Wales*, *The Quick and the Dead*, *Tom Horn*, and many more were filmed. Walk in the footsteps of iconic Western stars! Stopping spots and photo opportunities on the tour include:

- The Mercantile Store built by Clint Eastwood for *The Outlaw Josey Wales*.
- The OK Corral and Oriental Saloon Doc (Val Kilmer) made famous in *Tombstone*.
- Virgil's (Sam Elliott) and Wyatt's (Kurt Russell) cottages from *Tombstone*.
- The Redemption Saloon that Sharon Stone frequented in *The Quick and The Dead*.
- The Livery where Steve McQueen boarded his horse in *Tom Horn*.
- Paul Newman's "Jersey Lily" from *The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean*.
- The hotel used by Tom Selleck, Ben Johnson, Glenn Ford in *The Sacketts*.
- Plus, many more iconic movie scene locations! Too many to list!

#### **DAYTIME HISTORICAL TOURS SCHEDULE**

• **October** – 18, 19, 25, 26

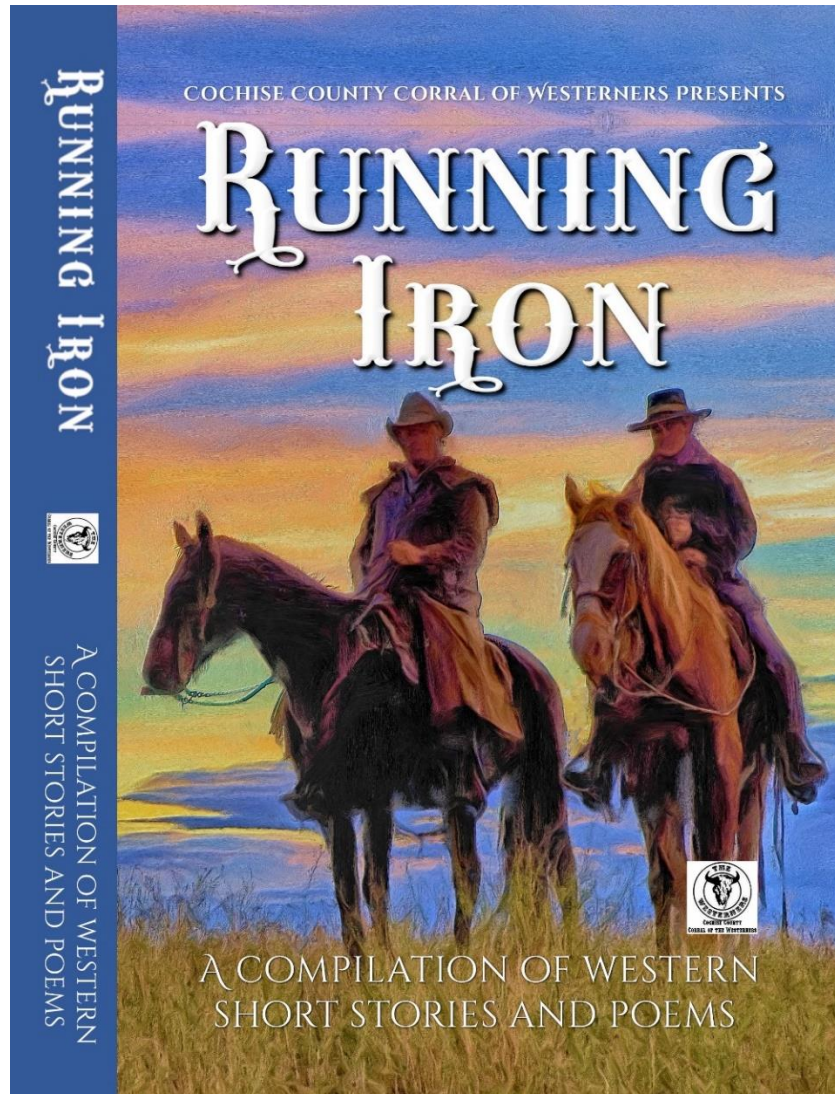
• **November** – Closed for filming. No tours available

• **December** – 5, 7, 13, 14, 27, 28

• Tours run on the hour at 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, & 1:00

The walking tour is a quarter mile long and lasts about one hour. The cost is only \$20 per person with children 17 and under free. All proceeds are used to renovate the set to attract future film productions. Please, no pets, smoking, or weapons on set. Future dates are subject to change because of film productions. The set has a busy film schedule in 2024 but remains committed to hosting tours between film productions.





**Available on Amazon or  
from the Keeper of the Chips  
Only \$16**

**GET YOURS TODAY!**

**Participating Authors can get a copy for \$10  
Available to retailers for \$10**



# 2025 Tombstone Festival of Western Books

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

**Schieffelin Hall, Tombstone, AZ**

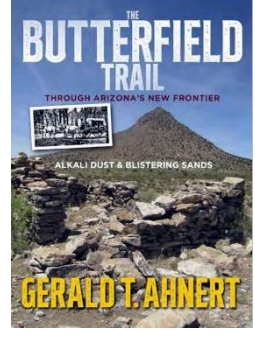
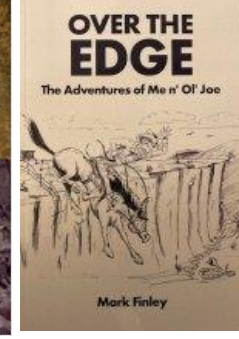
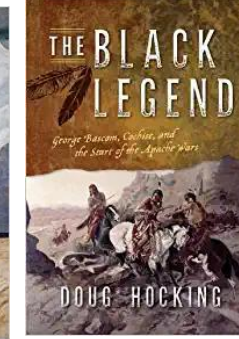
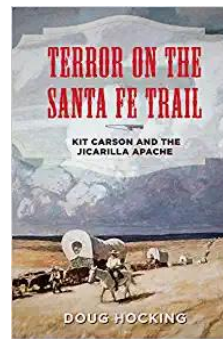
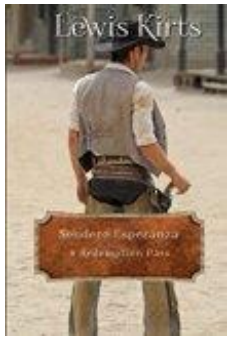
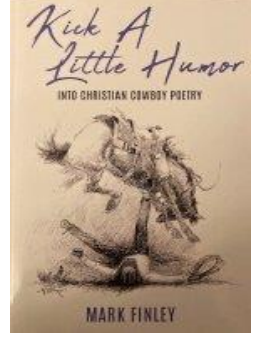
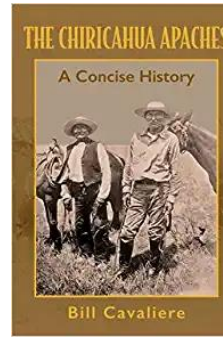
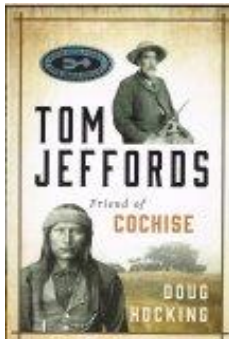
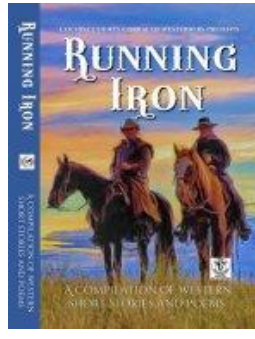
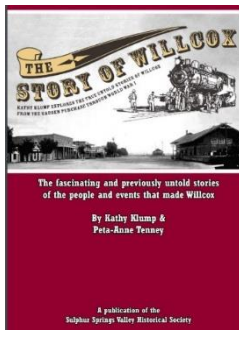
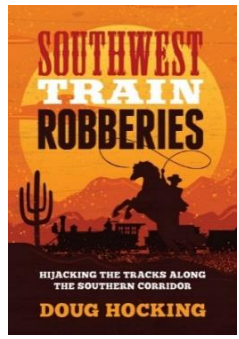
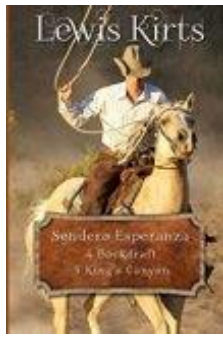
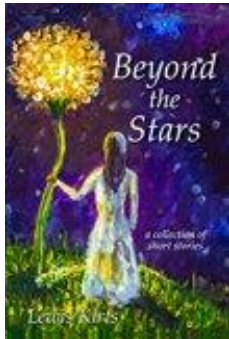
**The day prior to the Tucson Festival of Books**

**Authors & Exhibitors Contact**

**[InkSlinger@CochiseCountyCorral.org](mailto:InkSlinger@CochiseCountyCorral.org)**







**RUNNING IRON**

A running iron is a branding iron with which a brand is drawn fresh on the hide of an animal. That's a pretty apt description of the slice of the Old West within. There's a bit of Cowboy Poetry as well as a thick slice of short stories about what once was. It's been done freehand by members of the Cochise County Corral of the Westeners and some of their friends. Although the running iron was often a tool of the rustler used to redraw existing brands, we can promise you that nothing within came from anyone else's herd. These are our stories and poems arising from the Southwest borderlands where Tombstone is our home, Boot Hill just around the corner, and Mexico an easy ride to the south. Cochise County was once home to Cochise and Geronimo. We can look up to Cochise's Stronghold in the Dragoon Mountains, visit the spot where Geronimo surrendered, and walk where Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday fought in the street with Curly Bill and Ringo. This was home to Apaches, rustlers, the cavalry, gamblers, outlaws, and train robbers. We export gold, silver, copper, beef, and now poetry, and tales too tall to keep at home. This is your chance to join the adventure!

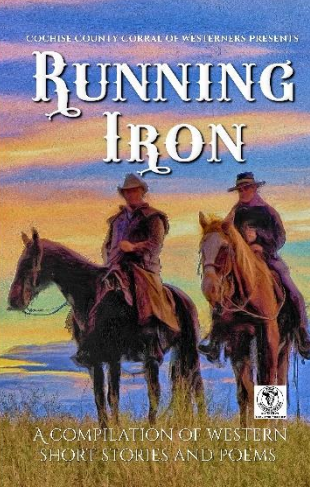
[www.CochiseCountyCorral.org](http://www.CochiseCountyCorral.org)

**RUNNING IRON**

COCHISE COUNTY CORRAL OF WESTENERS PRESENTS

**RUNNING IRON**

A COMPILATION OF WESTERN SHORT STORIES AND POEMS



A COMPILATION OF WESTERN SHORT STORIES AND POEMS



Membership Form October 2021



## The Cochise County Corral of the Westerners

invites you  
to join a fun, informal group of people

**Every First Thursday of the Month  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
At Schieffelin Hall  
On Fremont Street  
Dinner 5:30ish 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 and the **Tombstone Festival of Western Books**
- ❖ 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](http://www.CochiseCountyCorral.org)
- ❖ **Join the Corral that has thrice won the coveted Heads Up Award for Best Corral 2013 & 2014 & 2021 and awards for Poetry, Presentation, Best Article & Best Book**



### Membership only \$20 per year

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

Yes, I would like to become a member of the Corral - Membership **Only \$20** –  
**Cochise County Corral of the Westerners, P.O. Box 393, Tombstone, AZ 85638**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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The Cochise County Corral meets at Schieffelin Hall, Tombstone, AZ  
Information contact: Sheriff Doug Hocking [InkSlinger@CochiseCountyCorral.org](mailto:InkSlinger@CochiseCountyCorral.org) or (520) 378-1833

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