### FREMONT STREET MAIL



#### October 12, 2021

#### Roundup Foreman's Trumpet Liz Severn

On Thursday November 4, 2021: Ellie English personifies Kate Elder, Doc Holliday's lady A classic performance by actress-historian Ellie English, based on her research into the exciting adventures of Kate Elder. The public is welcomed to this free event. There will be an optional no host premeeting dinner 5:30 at the Longhorn Restaurant on Allen St.



#### In the future:

December 2, 2021: Start thinking about Christmas. Songbird **Carol Markstrom**, acclaimed Western Music star, will sing.

#### But wait, there's more! It's a Party!

We have an Awards Ceremony!

Bring your favorite **Christmas baked goods**, especially from old family recipes!

Bring an antique or two for **Show and Tell!** 

Be prepared with a Southwest Christmas or winter poem or story!

Recorder of Marks and Brands Gary Smith

**Officers for next year. Are you interested? Ink Slinger** (editor of the Fremont Street Mail)

Editor of Border Vidette (Journal)

Statutory Agent

Keeper of the Chips

**Corral Rep** (should travel to the Gather)

Pre-meeting dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Longhorn.

#### **Ranch Hands Passing on:**

During September 2021, two former Ranch Hands passed on:

Dennis Sak Marilyn Anderson



#### Officers

Next month, we elect officers for the coming year. There is still time to let us know that you want to participate.

Someday someone is going to have to learn to edit the Border Vidette. It's not hard if you know how to run Word. It's intentionally kept simple. The tough part is finding folks to contribute. We'll accept any length, any number of photos. We edit gently. We prefer endnotes, but some folks have personal knowledge that doesn't require them.

An Ink Slinger for the Fremont Street Mail is another position that will someday have to be filled. Each of the officers should be contributing news from their department. Ranch Hands should be contributing to Out and About and Places to Visit or to Deep Thoughts on History, Poetry Corner, Epitaph and Blast From the Past. Currently the editor is doing a lot of this, but Ranch Hands should be encouraged to contribute.

Someone could take over as Statutory Agent. It sounds scary but it's simple. Once a year you update the state on who the officers are and provide the state with an address where legal notices can be sent.

We've grown a great deal in the last year. We went from 23 members in December to 67 in August. We've got a Web Site, a newsletter and a journal that are all new and our meetings are broadcast on YouTube. The Corral is evolving faster than we can update the rules. We have three people setting up our audio-visual equipment and our broadcast and another running our snacks. It's almost too much to keep up with.

Think about what talents you have and how you might fit in and we'll try to accommodate you.

#### How the Chips Fall Debbie Hocking

As of October 7, 2021: Accounts have been reconciled. Cochise County Corral of the Westerners has: 71 Ranch Hands We have in Checking - \$810.91 We have in Savings - \$558.64 September Expenses: \$197.14 September Income: \$115.00 The big expense in August was payment for our website (\$216.27). As of the October

## our website (\$216.27). As of the October meeting, we have 71 Ranch Hands!

#### Trail Boss's Whip Ilona Smerekanich

#### Highway 80

**Highway 80 Trail Ride** - We will do it again, in two parts on two Saturdays November. We may be stopping by Sunny's house in Tombstone.

**Mescal**. Near Benson this movie town has been home to many movies including the *Quick and the Dead* and *Tombstone*. We've recently made contact with the people who own the town and they'd like us to visit.

#### **Deep Thoughts on History**

#### Apache Scouts

I saw a message that said that the Yavapai Apache Scouts were sent to Florida. It never happened. Only the Chiricahua Apache Scouts and perhaps one White Mountain (Coyotero) married into the tribe were sent to Florida. The other Apache Scouts were not. They continued to exist as a unit of the U.S. Army until 1947. It sounds like the Chiricahua scouts got a raw deal. They brought their people in and then were made prisoners of war. Actually, they were lucky that they got such kindly treatment. Some of them were right villains before becoming scouts. If they had not been treated as prisoners of war, the alternative would have been to treat them as Mexican (or otherwise) bandits, in which case they would have been hanged. Still, the period of incarceration as PoWs was ridiculously long.

The Apache recognized two kinds of warfare: 1) raiding for food and supplies, 2) raiding for Only Cochise revenge. and Mangas Coloradas ever attempted exclude to Americans from the Southwest in a manner that we might consider war and that was only for a brief period during the Civil War. The first Apache form of warfare is highway robbery and the second is the vendetta. Both are punishable under the law. The latter often included rape and torture. These were hanging offenses. We have to seriously distort our definition of war in order to accept these acts as falling within the meaning. We might recall that 38 Sioux prisoners were hanged December 26, 1862, as a result of a Dakota War. President Lincoln commuted the death sentences of 264 prisoners, but nonetheless was heavily criticized for letting 38 executions proceed.

If we had held something like the Nurenburg Trails in the aftermath of the Apache Wars, a great many Apaches would have hanged. One might argue, and some do, that the Nurenburg Trials did not proceed from any existing law but were instead mere revenge. Nonetheless, many of the crimes of the Apache were the same or similar if conducted on a much less grand scale.

Aha, you expostulate, but what about the soldiers who attacked villages and slew the occasional woman and child? What about denying the Indians resources so that they were starved into submission? Weren't those war crimes, too? Perhaps, but one needs to consider how war was conducted among European nations in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and well into the 20<sup>th</sup>. Rape, loot, and pillage were bywords. The bombs that ended the war with Japan in 1945 took out the whole "village," women, children, cats, and dogs. The best argument against their use was that the Japanese had already been starved into submission. In the Civil War, the North starved the South into submission.

Anyone who thinks total war is a new thing, isn't familiar with history. Armies did not agree to go out and meet on vast vacant fields to bash each other's brains out without harming any civilians. They looted to feed themselves, raped, and pillaged to deny resources and killed any civilians who got in the way. It has been like this since the beginning of time. And the Indians were no different. Indian warfare was just as bloody and total. As the Bible says: For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Aha, again, you say, but the Indians were fighting to preserve their (often barbaric) land, homes, and way of life! Who isn't? Few of them recognized any sort of political organization above the village and most had only recently conquered the land they stood upon. Few were actually fighting to defend the land. The Apache were fighting for loot or for revenge – theft and murder.

While having perfected the means to wipe out whole cities and perhaps countries with a few missiles, we have also grown in an awareness that perhaps this isn't a good thing. In 1776, we turned a major corner. Someone concluded that in order to defend their "rights" from the divine right of kings, they would have to name the source of those rights as coming from at least as high a level as the rights of kings and so they announced to the world that they had self-evident God-given rights. Much proceeds from this. To assert my rights, I have to accept that you have rights. From this comes the idea that slavery, that had existed from time immemorial, might be a bad thing. Indians might have rights and thus a right to be treated as soldiers instead of as murderers and thieves. Eventually, a similar thought is applied at Nurenburg. People have rights and there are limits on how one can conduct warfare and treat one's own people.

As historians, we try to judge people, not by our standards, but by the standards of the times. Our ancestors were far from perfect, but it did occur to them that they might act a little better.

#### **Blast from the Past**

Last month we ran an article, *Cowboy vs. Chinaman*, that was provided to us by the Chiricahua Regional Museum (Sulphur Springs Valley Historical Society) in Willcox, which is the sole source for issues of the *Arizona Range News*.

This month we have an exciting October tale from Tombstone.

"A Desperate Street Fight." *Arizona Weekly Citizen*, 20 October 1881.

Marshal Virgil Earp, Morgan and Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday Meet the Cowboys - Three Men Killed and Two Wounded, One Seriously - Origin of the Trouble and its Tragical Termination

#### *Tombstone Nugget*, Oct. 27

The 26th of October will always be marked as one of the crimson days in the annals of Tombstone, a day when blood flowed as water, and human life was held as a shuttlecock, a day always to be remembered as witnessing the bloodiest and deadliest street fight that has ever occurred in this place, or probably in the Territory.

The Origin of the Trouble

Dates back to the first arrest of Stilwell and Spencer for the robbery of the Bisbee state. The co-operation of the Earps with the Sheriff and his deputies in the arrest causing a number of the cowboys to, it is said, threaten the lives of all interested in the capture. Still, nothing occurred to indicate that any such threats would be carried into execution. But Tuesday night Ike Clanton and Doc Holliday had some difficulty in the Alhambra saloon. Hard words passed between them, and when they parted it was general understood that the feeling between the two men was that of intense hatred. Yesterday morning Clanton came on the street armed with a rifle and revolver, but was almost immediately arrested by Marshal Earp, disarmed and fined by Justice Wallace for carrying concealed weapons. While in the Court room Wyatt Earp told him that as he had made threats against his life he wanted him to make his fight, to say how, when and where he would fight, and to get his crowd, and he (Wyatt) would be on hand. In reply Clanton said:

#### Four Feet of Ground

Is enough for me to fight on, and I'll be there." a short time after this William Clanton and Frank McLowry came in town, and as Thomas McLowry was already here the feeling soon became general that a fight would ensue before the day was over, and crowds of expectant men stood on the corner of Allen and Fourth streets awaiting the coming conflict. It is now about two o'clock, and at this time Sheriff Behan appeared upon the scene and told Marshal Earp that if he disarmed his posse, composed of Morgan and Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday, he would go down to the O.K. Corral, where Ike and James Clanton and Frank and Tom McLowry were and disarm them. The Marshal did not desire to do this until assured that there was no danger of an attack from the other party. The Sheriff went to the corral and told the cowboys that they must put their arms away and not have any trouble. Ike Clanton and Tom McLowry said they were not armed, and Frank McLowry said he would not lay his aside. In the meantime the Marshal had concluded to go and, if possible, end the matter by disarming them, and as he and his posse came down Fremont street towards the corral, the Sheriff stepped out and said:

"Hold Up Boys.

Don't go down there or there will be trouble; I have been down there to disarm them." But they passed on, and when within a few feet of them the Marshal said to the Clantons and McLowrys: "Throw up your hands, boys, I intend to disarm you." As he spoke Frank McLowry made a motion to draw his revolver, when Wyatt Earp pulled his and shot him, the ball striking on the right side of his abdomen. About the same time Doc Holliday shot Tom McLowry in the right side, using a short shotgun such as is carried by Wells, Fargo & Co.'s messengers. In the meantime Billy Clanton had shot at Morgan Earp, the ball passing through the point of the left shoulder blade across his back, just grazing the backbone and coming out at the shoulder, the ball remaining inside of his shirt. He fell to the ground, but in an instant gathered himself, and raising in a sitting position fired at Frank McLowry as he crossed Fremont street, and at the same instant Doc Holliday shot at him, both balls taking effect, either of which would have proved fatal, as one struck him in the right temple and the other in the left breast. As he started across the street, however, he pulled his gun down on Holliday saying, "I've got you now." "Blaze away! You're a daisy if you have," replied Doc. This shot of McLowry's passed through Holliday's pistol pocket, just grazing the skin. While this was going on

#### Billy Clanton Had Shot

Virgil Earp in the right leg, the ball passing through the calf, inflicting a severe flash wound. In turn he had been shot by Morg Earp in the right side of the abdomen, and twice by Virgil Earp, once in the right wrist and once in the left breast. Soon after the

shooting commended Ike Clanton ran through the O.K. Corral, across Allen street into Kellogg's saloon, and thence into Toughnut street, where he was arrested and taken to the county jail. The firing altogether didn't occupy more than twenty-five seconds, during which time fully thirty shots were fired. After the fight was over Billy Clanton, who, with wonderful vitality, survived his wounds for fully an hour, was carried by the editor and foreman of the Nugget into a house near where he lay, and everything possible done to make his last moments easy. He was "game" to the last, never uttering a word of complaint, and just before breathing his last he said, "Goodbye, boys; go away and let me die." The wounded were taken to their houses, and at three o'clock morning were resting this comfortably The dead bodies were taken in charge by Coroner, and an inquest will be held upon them at 10 o'clock to-day. Upon the person of Thomas McLowry was found between \$300 and \$400, and checks and certificates of deposit to the amount of nearly \$3000.

#### During the Shooting

Sheriff Behan was standing near by commanding the contestants to cease firing but was powerless to prevent it. Several parties who were in the vicinity of the shooting had narrow escapes from being shot. One man who had lately arrived from the east had a ball pass through his pants. He left for home this morning. A person called "the Kid," who shot Hicks at Charleston recently, was also grazed by a ball. When the Vizina whistle gave the signal that there was a conflict between the officers and cowboys, the mines on the hill shut down and the miners were brought to the surface. From the

Contention mine a number of men, fully armed, were sent to town in a four-horse carriage. At the request of the Sheriff the "vigilantes," or Committee of Safety, were called from the streets by a few sharp toots from the Vizina whistle. During the early part of the evening there was a rumor that a mob would attempt to take Ike Clanton from the jail and lynch him, and to prevent any such unlawful proceedings a strong guard of deputies was placed around that building, and will be so continued until all danger is past. At 8 o'clock last evening, Finn Clanton, a brother of Billy and Ike, came in town, and placing himself under the guard of the Sheriff, visited the morgue to see the remains of one brother, and then passed the night in jail in company with the other.

#### Ominous Sounds.

Shortly after the shooting ceased the whistle at the Vizina mine sounded a few short toots, and almost simultaneously a large number of citizens appeared on the streets, armed with rifles and a belt of cartridges around their waists. These men formed a line and offered their services to the peace officers to preserve order, in case any attempt at disturbance was made, or any interference offered to the authorities of the law. However, no hostile move was made by anyone, and quiet and order was fully restored, and in a short time the excitement died away.

#### At the Morgue.

The bodies of the three slain cowboys lay side by side, covered with a sheet. Very little blood appeared on their clothing, and only on the face of young Billy Clanton was there any distortion of the features or evidence of pain in dying. The features of the two McLowery

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boys looked as calm and placid in death, as if they had died peaceably, surrounded by loving friends and sorrowing relatives. No unkind remarks were made by anyone, but a feeling of unusual sorrow seemed to prevail at the sad occurrence. Of the McLowry brothers we could learn nothing of their previous history before coming to Arizona. The two brothers owned quite an extensive ranch on the lower San Pedro, some seventy or eighty miles from this city, to which they had removed their band of cattle since the recent Mexican and Indian troubles. They did not bear the reputation of being of a quarrelsome disposition, but were known as fighting men, and have generally conducted themselves in a quiet and orderly manner when in Tombstone.

It has been noted that Sheriff John Behan is the likely source of much of this material and that this account is relatively favorable to the Earps.

#### **Poetry Corner**

John Buford was promoted to Major General on his deathbed. He was the true hero of the Battle of Gettysburg. As a cavalry commander he was first on the scene and selected the ground on which the battle would be fought. He recognized the importance of holding Cemetery Ridge and thus, against overwhelming odds, held Seminary Ridge until the infantry could come up behind him and occupy the high ground. Previously he had served as a cavalry commander in the West with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Dragoons. He is buried at West Point next to Alonzo Cushing, brother of Lt. Howard Cushing, who was slain by Apache Indians in the Mustang Mountains May 5, 1871. Alonzo was also a Gettysburg hero.

*Philadelphia Enquirer* December 21, 1863, ran the poem:

No more to follow his daring form Or see him dash through the battle's storm No more with him to ride down the foe And behold his falchion's crushing blow Nor hear his voice, like a rushing blast As rider and steed went charging past ... Buford is dead!

Died December 16, 1863

#### **Call for Input**

We have the equipment. We need a videographer. Is anyone interested? We have folks in Texas, Pennsylvania, France, Germany, and California who would like to listen in to our presentations.

Jon and Fred have done a wonderful job of getting Sunny's presentation up on YouTube. You can see it here: <u>https://youtu.be/a3AauJdkr10</u>

#### 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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** (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 <u>dhocking@centurylink.net</u> 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**

Our website and how to get there: https://cochisecountycorral.org/

https://cocmsecountycorrai.org

What you'll find there: The Fremont Street Mail (monthly): <u>https://cochisecountycorral.org/fremont-</u> street-mail

The Border Vidette (quarterly):

https://cochisecountycorral.org/the-bordervidette

Our Scrapbook:

https://cochisecountycorral.org/scrapbook

#### Last Campfire

On Thursday October 7, 2021 our own Kathy Klump presented *The Vin Fiz Lands in Willcox*. The Vin Fiz was the first aircraft to make the trans-continental flight and it only took 45 days and 19 crash landings. Doug presented slides of the Nevada, Doug & Debbie trip to the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail at Bent's Fort and their ride on the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad. Jon Donohue (Juan O'Donahu) explained the origin of his name and Karen P. read a cowboy poem. A good time was had by all.





The Ideal Soft Drink and the most expensive advertising campaign





May the bottle be unbroken

#### **Tombstone Epitaph**

#### "Was it Murder?" *Tombstone Weekly Epitaph*, 7 October 1882

Mr. E. M. Benson, of the O.K. Corral on Allen street, arrived in town last Saturday from Soldiers' Holes, and brought intelligence of finding the dead body of a man about five miles east of that place, the particulars of which are about as follows: While returning from the Chiricahua mountains, whither he had been on business, he came upon the camp of an acquaintance, Captain Jack Shearer, who insisted that he should join him in a cup of tea, to which Mr. Benson consented. While partaking of supper, Mr. Shearer, who has several on the road freighting lumber, stated that he would have to go back about two miles and drive in a couple of his teams, as he had found them deserted by their drivers, Indian Joe and a man by the name of Thomas. Mr. S. remarked that they had a bottle of whisky with them, but did not think it a sufficient quantity to intoxicate them. One of the men in the camp stated that he had heard three gunshots, but as there did not appear to be any ill-feeling between Joe and Thomas, this information did not appear to create any suspicion. After Mr. Benson had rested himself and team, he drove towards Soldiers' Holes, at which place he was to stop for the night. When a few miles from the camp he discovered a man lying in the middle of the road, with his hands folded across his face as though asleep. He supposed he was merely sleeping, and got out and attempted to awaken him. He shook him several times but received no response, and he struck a match, which revealed to Mr. B. the lifeless form of Thomas. He raised his

head and found that the back of his neck was still warm, giving evidence of his having died but a short while previous. Mr. Benson could do naught but drive on to the ranch, where he arrived about 10 o'clock that evening, and stopped until 3 o'clock in the morning. when he started for this city, arriving here about 9 o'clock, a.m. Mr. Ritter, the undertaker, upon learning of the facts employed Mr. C. H. Mank, the expressman, to bring the body. Since receiving this intelligence it was currently rumored on the street that Thomas was not murdered, but fell from the wagon, the wheels passing over his neck, causing his death as above stated. The mystery involved in the case is the nonappearance of Indian Joe, and as Sheriff Behan had received no intelligence of the matter up to a late hour last night, there has been no effort made to arrive at the true inwardness of the case. The expressman will arrive with the body about 10 o'clock this morning, when an inquest will be held, when it is expected more light will be brought to bear on the case.

#### **Places to Visit**

#### **Canyon**, Texas

Canyon, Texas, is home to the Home Ranch of Westerners International at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum. The museum houses an incredible collection of dinosaurs and megafauna along with Indian and cowboy artifacts. It is well worth a visit. Palo Duro Canyon is nearby. It was once winter home to the Comanche and Kiowa and was also the only source of lumber for building in the Llano Estacado. In scenic beauty the canyon is right up there with some of Arizona's finer arroyos. A little to the north is Amarillo (mispronounced ah-mah-rill-oh by Texians) where you can get a 72-ounce steak for free at Big Tex if you can finish it in an hour. A bit further north is the Canadian River site of the first and second Battles of Adobe Walls and of Billy Dixon's famed long-shot.



Docent at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum



Palo Duro Canyon



Up there with some of Arizona's better arroyos



First Battle of Adobe Walls – Kit Carson and Jicarilla Apache Scouts Against the Kiowa and Comanche



2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Adobe Walls

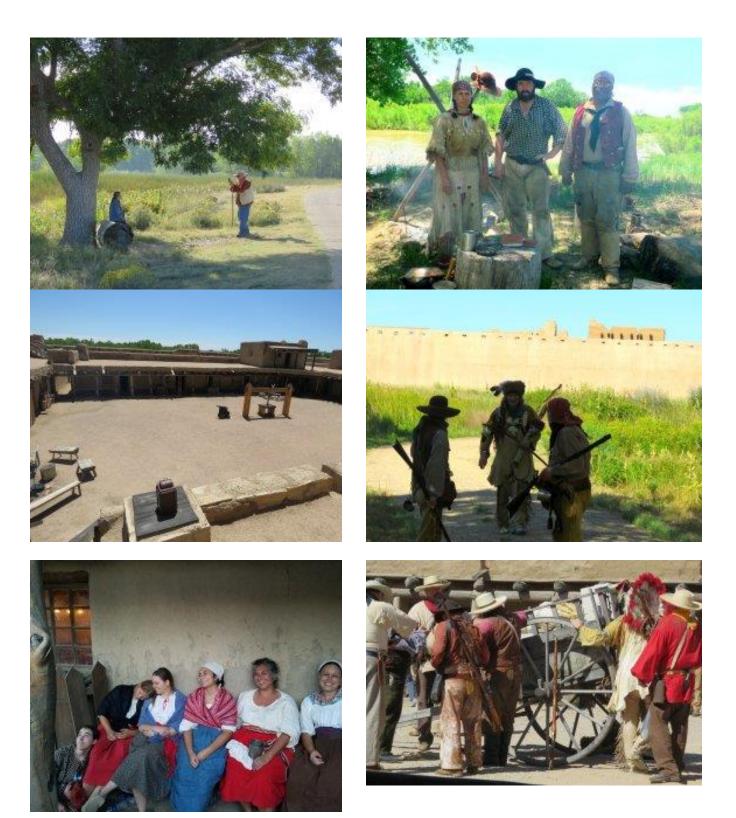


**Out and About** 

#### Bent's Fort, 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail, Great Sand Dunes and the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad

Debbie and Doug Hocking and Nevada Smith journeyed to Bent's Old Fort for the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Santa Fe Trail. There were many Living Historians in evidence as well as scholars presenting on numerous topics related to America's first commercial road. In 1821, William Becknell and seven others journeyed to Santa Fe with pack-loads goods. They made such an astounding profit that others soon followed suit. The Bent brothers set up on a branch of the trail to trade with Indians, primarily Chevenne, and trappers, building the fort in 1832. Inside the fort, it is always 1846, the year General Kearny and the Army of the West arrived to make the southwest part of the United States. Our travelers went on to Great Sand Dunes and to ride the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad.







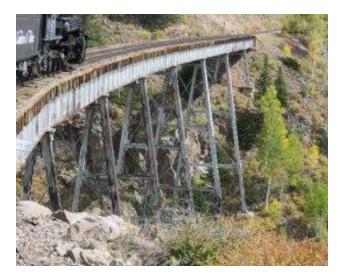
















#### **Coming Events**

#### Zoom Event:

The Carlin 13: What They Reveal About the Treatment of Chinese Immigrants in the Western U.S.

### When: Thursday, October 21st, 5 PM PST/8 PM EST

Charlie Dodge will present on The Carlin 13; Chinese immigrants, some of the oldest settlers in Carlin, whose graves were accidentally disturbed in 1996. After being studied for 21 years, they were given a traditional Chinese re-burial in 2018 - an effort spearheaded by a current Chinese citizen in Carlin. The Carlin 13 give insight into the treatment of the Chinese at the time of their death, and how traditional Chinese burial and funerary practices have evolved through time and immigration. Organized by the Southern Trails Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association.

#### Register Here: tinyurl.com/TheCarlin13

At 5 p.m. on November 18, Gerald Ahnert Arizona's Pima-Maricopa Nation: An Oasis of Safety on the Southern Overland Trail

#### **Tombstone Helldorado Days**

October 15 @ 10:00 am - October 17 @ 4:00 pm Downtown Tombstone 311 E. Allen Street Tombstone, AZ 85638

#### Tombstone Territorial Rendezvous, Tombstone

Wednesday, October 21 to Sunday, October 24

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San Pedro RV Resort Clubhouse 1110 S. Hwy 80, Benson Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

#### Empire Ranch Cowboy Festival, November 6-7, 2021

https://www.empireranchfoundation.org/ranchevents/cowboy-festival/

We're busy planning for the 20th Empire Ranch Cowboy Festival scheduled for **November 6-7, 2021.** This year it will be a two-day event filled with Western heritage demonstrations, arena and livestock exhibits, cowboy cooking and Western entertainment.



#### **Chiricahua Regional Museum**

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



Wells, Fargo & Co. Strongbox at the museum

Hollywood Trivia Deputy Sheriff Nevada Smith Nick Adams had the lead role for this series titled *"The Rebel"* portraying which character?

"Death Valley Days" was a syndicated western that ran from 1952 to 1975. A 'host' introduced each episode and there were several in the run of the show. Who was never a 'host' of "Death Valley Days?"

- 1. Stanley Andrews
- 2. The Old Ranger
- 3. Tyrone Power
- 4. Ronald Reagan
- 5. Robert Taylor

**Tid Bits from History** 

### Kit Carson's Romance with Marie Felicite St. Vrain

Sabin first wrote in 1914 and undated his account about 1935. The 1995 date is a reprint. Sabin was one of Kit's first biographers. Writers since have doubted some of the stories and legends he included. Was Kit at Bent's Fort as early as 1839? Subsequent research makes it very clear that he was. And so, the story of the romance with 16-year-old Felicite is well founded. What's more, the St. Vrain family believes it and says that Felicite (Mary, as she liked to be called) was still telling the story to her grandchildren in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The link below will allow you to view a talk by Christine St. Vrain Fischahs on this subject.

Sabin, Edwin L. *Kit Carson Days*, 1809-1868. Adventures in the Path of Empire. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1995, pp 283-84. "A large portion of these retired mountainmen were in their prime. Joe Meek was twenty-eight, Jim Bridger was thirty-eight, Robert Newell was not thirty, Joe Walker was forty-two. Kit Carson was verging upon twenty-nine when he purposefully shaped his course for Bent's Fort and Taos of the lower country.

"That Kit Carson, however, was a name and a figure of pretensions already recognized at Taos and Bent's Fort before the opening of the Forties, may be accepted. The post precincts and the New Mexico of Taos and vicinity saw him as a familiar, in and out. Reports that are not all tradition plunge him into a romance of the latter Thirties - perhaps while he was still of the mountains, perhaps while he was engaged at the fort - with a young French girl, Felicite St. Vrain of St. Louis, relative and protégée of his good patron Ceran St. Vrain, partner in Bent. St. Vrain & Co.

"The romance, broken when Felicite was presumably whisked away, back to St. Louis, argues that Carson may have been at Bent's Fort and on the Taos Trail more frequently and of earlier date than his bare statement shows. <sup>241</sup>

"Moreover, Captain Samuel Hobbs (*Wild Life in the Far West*) relates that as a captive with the Comanches he met him in the summer of 1837, trading on the plains near Bent's Fort; and speaks of expeditions with him, Peg-leg Smith, John McIntyre, an Irishman O'Neil, the Shawnees Spiebuck and Shawnee Jake, and others, in 1839 as well as in 1840, up the Purgatory, into the New Mexican mountains, to Santa Fe, etc.

"241 The love match was dampered, it is because of Carson's alleged. Indian connection. That the girl sought forgetfulness in a convent is only a conclusion by rote. But the reports of the romance itself are well based. There is a fugitive item in the presss of the early Forties referring to it. It is a tradition handed down in the Robidoux family of St. Joseph and St. Louis. It was mentioned in an early-day letter (in evidence a few years back) to the late Mrs. Tracy of St. Joseph from a sister in St. Louis. It was recited to J.W. Gibson of Agency, Mo., out upon the Oregon Trail, by a young Frenchman cousin of Felicite, and Carson, present in the camp rebuked the breach of confidence."

#### Topic: Marie Felicite St. Vrain - the Santa Fe Trail's Mysterious Female Traveler of 1839

Date: Sep 16, 2021 04:46 PM Arizona

Meeting Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/dW0wymzt-3EbVMRe3ucNHmSjmHO04n-JDLscFTDWTSSGSxEX2AEtzgK4lruFepq. bMIPGF5w6KKZ10dp

<sup>•••</sup> 

# **COWBOY FESTIVAL**

# November 6th & 7th, 2021 10am to 4pm EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION

## Fun for the Whole Family

Located off Scenic Hwy 83 Empire Ranch Rd, Sonoita AZ

www.empireranchfoundation.org

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Western Music & Entertainment History & Culture Demonstrations Ranch Life Exhibits Kid's Activities Skilled Artisans & Speakers Silent Auction & Food ATM Available

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# JOIN US!

Now a 2-Day Event Saturday & Sunday

## San Pedro RV Resort PRESENTS Carol Markstrom

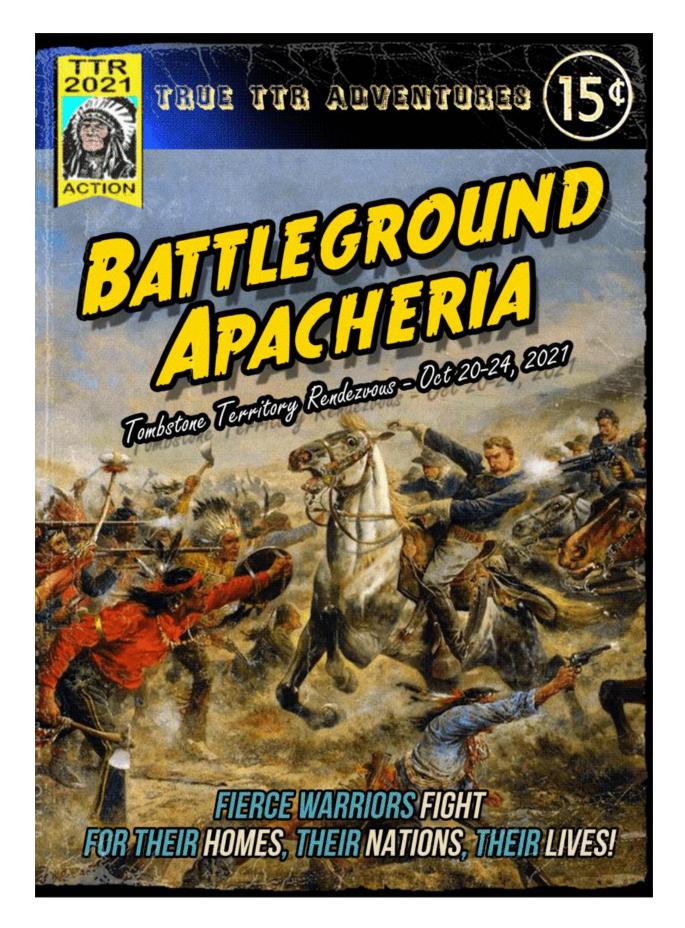
Western Female Vocalist of the Year! Academy of Western Artists

Desert Rose: C&W CD of the Year Crossing Borders: Western CD of the Year Rural Roots Music Commission

Carol's music spans Folk, Americana, Country & Western Roots. She just released her 4<sup>th</sup> album, Mile After Mile, to great reviews. Carol sings of noteworthy people, places, and events of the West; some based in Native American cultures. Her songs and performances have been recognized by the Native American Music Assn, the Int'l Western Music Assn, and beyond. Carol calls Tucson home but tours throughout the West.



San Pedro RV Resort Clubhouse 1110 S Hwy 80 - Benson, AZ Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021 – 6:30-8:30 pm www.carolmarkstrommusic.com



### The Carlin 13:

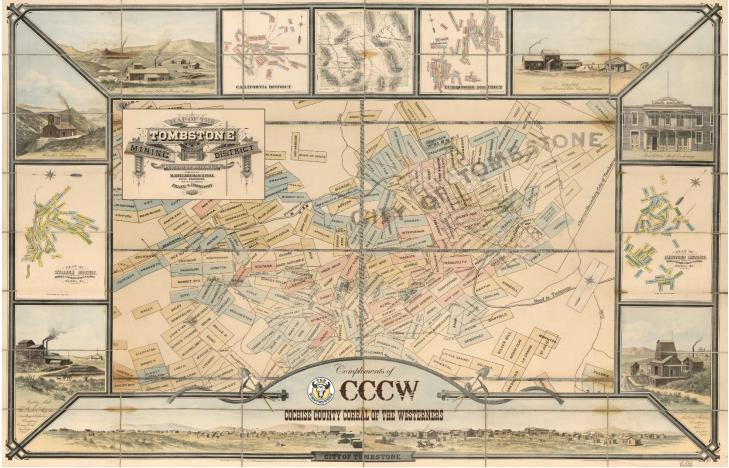
What They Reveal About the Treatment of Chinese Immigrants in the Western U.S.



### **Third Thursday History Zoom Event:** Thursday, Oct. 21st, 5 PM PST/ 8 PM EST Register here: tinyurl.com/TheCarlin13

Charlie Dodge will present on The Carlin 13; Chinese immigrants, some of the oldest settlers in Carlin, whose graves were accidentally disturbed in 1996. After being studied for 21 years, they were given a traditional Chinese re-burial in 2018 - an effort spearheaded by a current Chinese citizen in Carlin. The Carlin 13 give insight into the treatment of the Chinese at the time of their death, and how traditional Chinese burial and funerary practices have evolved through time and immigration. Organized by the Southern Trails Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association.

### Map of the Tombstone Claims And Surrounding Communities



Done on heavy paper, 11 inches by 17 inches

### Only \$5 Get yours from Debbie, Keeper of the Chips, or Jon At the next meeting