Saddlebag Newsletter

July 2024

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A supplement to the WWHA *Journal*
Available On-Line via www.wildwesthistory.org

Welcome to the Saddlebag Newsletter. Here is the latest information from WWHA. Previously posted Saddlebag newsletters will be found by date further down this section in the list of available newsletters. All earlier information will be retained for reference.

If you have Wild West news, please contact the editor at the e-mail address shown at the top of the Saddlebag page. We reserve the right to include or not include any materials submitted to us.

Our YouTube page: https://www.youtube.com/@WildWestHistoryAssociation/videos is now monetized so WWHA gets paid for views**. Please subscribe, watch and like our videos, and you are contributing to WWHA. It is free.**

ROUNDUP 2024 IS ALMOST HERE

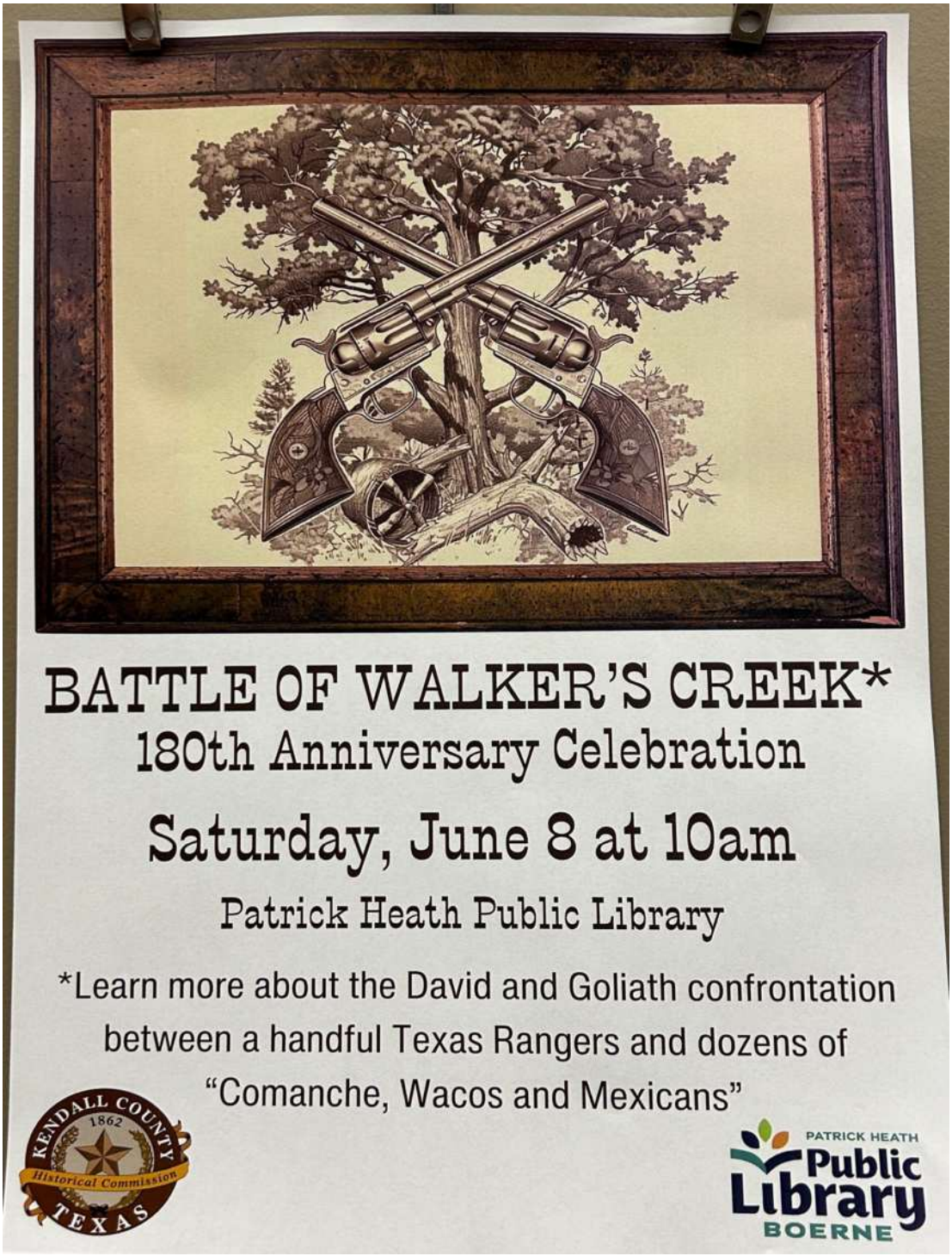
The deadline for registering for the WWHA 17th Annual Roundup was July 1. After that the pricing will increase. However, you are still welcome to register through the Roundup, if you haven't decided until a later date.

We still have room for vendor tables, priced at $100 for each table.

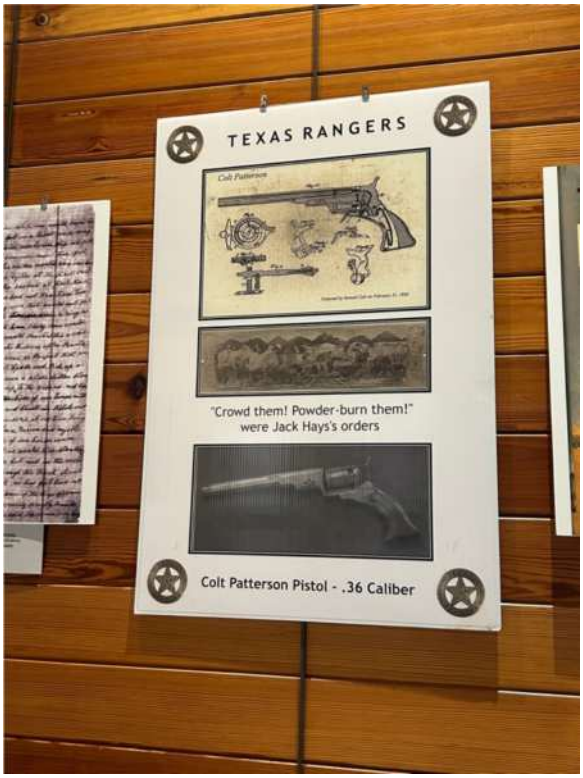
The Smiths (Chuck & Jean) are donating another 10 Challenge Coins to be auctioned off at only $5 per ticket. This year it is a beautifully colored coin from the United States Marshals Museum with an Eagle on one side & Fort Smith, Arkansas with a flag on the other side. The drawings for the 10 coins will be held at the Saturday Night Banquet. A great remembrance from the 17th Annual WWHA Roundup!

We encourage everyone to support the WWHA Merchandise Tables, which will be set up during the Roundup. Your purchases will help with the Roundup expenses. This year we will have some new merchandise, including new colors in men's & women's t-shirts & pocketed polo shirts, a new look in caps, & Polar 12 oz & 20 oz tumblers & coffee mugs, all in various colors. Everything will have our WWHA logo on it. Your help in continuing to support our organization is needed!

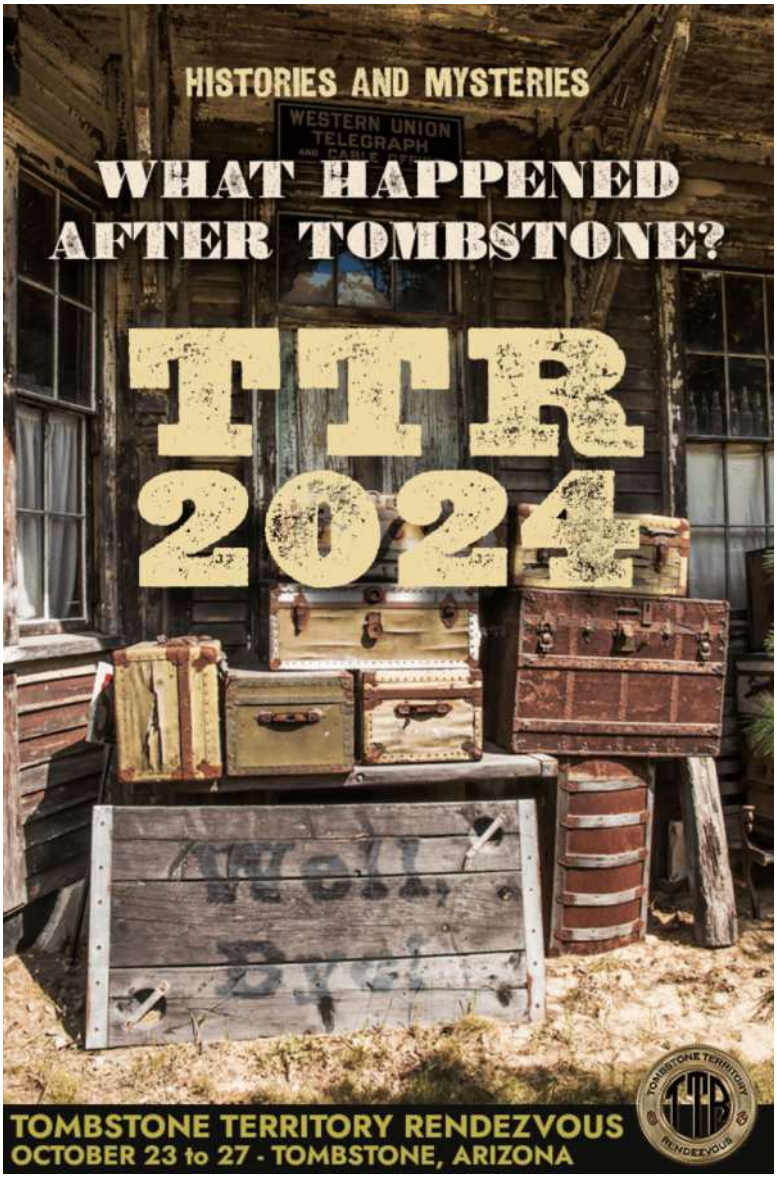
Several members of WWHA attended this event in June, in Boerne, Texas.



WWHA member Dave George, reading the exhibit.



We would like to thank Linda Wommack for her several years as our “Blast” volunteer. She kept members informed when the Saddlebag was available and other news, needing to go directly to the members via email. Catherine Marquez will continue the “Blasts”. If you are not receiving them, then it means we do not have your email address. Please contact or membership chair Alan Blanchette at alanb101@hotmail.com to be sure we have your email.



tombstoneterritoryrendezvous.com

The annual Tombstone Territory Rendezvous will be held October 23 - 27 in the famous Schieffelin Hall in Tombstone, Arizona. Saturday is the WWHA Regional Roundup Day. The theme this year is "Histories & Mysteries: What Happened After Tombstone". There will be a full lineup of speakers, as well as panels, cowboy poetry, snacks, Meet & Greet Luncheon, lunch at the Bird Cage, dinner at the Tombstone Monument Ranch, an evening at the historic St Paul's Episcopal Church, book signing, auctions, & other surprises. An agenda & registration will soon be available at the WWHA Roundup & on the TTR website & TTR Facebook page. This is a really fun event filled with camaraderie and a love for the Old West. https://

Some of our members may want to submit a proposal to OCTA for their convention in September of **2025.**

CALL FOR SPEAKERS

Oregon-California Trails Association

42nd Annual National Convention

By Colorado-Cherokee Trail Chapter

Pueblo, Colorado

September 7-12, 2025

Send one page abstract or presentation video link by December 1, 2024, to:
Ethan Gannett
egannett@comcast.net
970-219-0590

THEME: Colorado's Historic Trails: A Journey through Time

TOPICS

Diverse Perspectives on 19th Century Western Emigration via Trappers/Cherokee/Goodnight-Loving Trails
Cultural Conflict and Cooperation along the Arkansas River Borderlands
Native American, Multi-Cultural Trapper/Trader, Hispanic, Black, Mormon, Emigrant, Military, Cattle Driver, and Settler Experiences both men and women
Pueblo, Colorado 19th Century History
From Early Explorers up to Steam Trains

The convention will feature tours of Cherokee Trail ruts and encampments, historic trading and military forts, and historic museums, cemeteries, and settlements of the southern Colorado area. The Sand Creek Massacre is included in the speaker topics. Workshops will include hands-on opportunities for trail-finding, artifact detection and identification. An author's night will be open to the community for book selling. 45-minute presentations will interpret life and events of the Emigrant period. The El Pueblo Museum and Trading Post, Bent's Old Fort, Fort Garland, Boggsville Historic Site and Jimmy Camp are just a few of the sites to be covered in tours and presentations. While presentations related to the above topics are preferred, any submissions related to the cross-continent emigrations in the 19th Century will be considered. Selected speakers will be assessed on topic area, historic research, diverse perspective, and educational and entertaining presentation style. Other historic trail, mapping, and cultural historical organizations will be invited to attend. **Come join our convention for an active, engaging, and memorable experience meeting fellow historians!**

GREAT WESTERN TR

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WWHA found a Great Western Trail Marker in Menard, TX at a turn-out on Hwy 83. This one was not on any record we had found, just observed by a keen- eyed member driving by. Nature had returned it to it's original state, without the signature red and white color that makes them stand out. Some WWHA volunteers, grabbed their paint, brushes and sanding tools and returned to the scene to bring the marker back to life. What a difference a fresh coat of paint makes. This is about the 15th marker WWHA has repainted in Texas.

Coming Soon to the WWHA YouTube Educational Channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo36_i0ww29jlSZ8w99QgwA

July 4th: A Visit to the Grave of Robert Casey in Lincoln Co., NM.
July 10th: Wyatt Earp. An American Legend. Why was Wyatt fearless and what made him Tick?" It all came to a head in Tombstone. Filmed live in Tombstone at the Tombstone Territory Rendezvous.
July 18th: Tombstone Hills, Clanton Ranch, Aerial Photography. WWHA members explore the Mining District of the Tombstone Hills, just west of Tombstone, and visit the site of the Clanton Ranch. Frank McLaury, Wyatt Earp, Virgil Earp, James Earp and Doc Holliday all owned mines in this area.
July 25th: Ash Upson Grave. Travel with the WWHA to the grave of Ash Upson, the man who invented Billy the Kid.
Future videos will include:

Buffalo Jump

The true story of Robert McGee, scalped at age 13

Visit the grave of Andrew Jackson Sowell

Author and WWHA member, Corey Recko, will be participating in book signings in New Mexico for his book The Colfax County War. Here is the schedule.

July 12, 6:00pm: Presentation about The Colfax County War and book signing: Taos Public Library, 402 Cam De La Placita, Taos, NM 87571.

July 13, 11:00am: Presentation about The Colfax County War and book signing; Carnegie Public Library, 500 National Ave, Las Vegas, NM 87701.

July 16, 7:00pm: Presentation about The Colfax County War and book signing: Raton Museum, 108 S 2nd St, Raton, NM 87740.
http://coreyrecko.com/appearances

Ethel Macia - Tombstone, Arizona history's most important woman

Don Chaput and David D. de Haas, MD

(Drawn from and supplementing their new book Tombstone, Arizona Mystique, and a preview of their upcoming extended article in the September 2024 issue of the WWHA Journal)

No Tombstoner could rival the many ways for which Ethel Macia became the embodiment of Tombstone's history. She had been born there in 1881 to Chris and Alice Robertson and attended the local school. During Tombstone's era 2 decline, her widowed father moved the family to Pearce in 1898 where he operated a saloon and livery business. Chris was callously murdered by an indebted lawman over some of the unsavory lawman's unpaid livery bills. As the new head of the family, Ethel moved her younger brothers and sisters back to Tombstone. She served as a witness in the ensuing trial after this brutal murder, testifying that a gun "found" at the murder scene by the defense, did not belong to her father, i.e., he was unarmed at the time of the "gunfight"/his brazen murder.

An incident which occurred in December 1899 puts Ethel's gumption/"true grit" on full display. Ed Tarbell, her neighbor, very early in the morning, had just left home when Mrs. Tarbell spied a "prowler" behind the house and obviously up to no good. Home alone in the dark, Mrs. Tarbell screamed for help. Darting from next door to assist came gun wielding 18 year old Ethel Macia to "save the day," firing off a warning shot to "magical" effect as the intruder wisely departed the scene posthaste and was not heard from again.

Miss Macia worked as a clerk in the tax office, attended the University of Arizona for a year, then in 1904 married mining engineer James "Bert" Macia. In the 1st mining revival (era 3) and its subsequent decline (borrasca), Bert served as an engineer, foreman, superintendent, and consultant of several properties in the district.

In 1919 the Macias bought the Arcade Hotel, the former Cochise House on the Vizina Mine property, the northeast corner of Fourth and Toughnut Streets in town. The name was changed to Rose Tree Inn in 1936 and continues today as the Rose Tree Museum. Ethel was a participant

and leader in many social and cultural causes and had important impact on historic conservation and preservation projects, also serving as an officer in Cochise County and Arizona historical agencies. She was a member of the Tombstone Restoration Commission and the first Helldorado committee in 1929, becoming a leading local consultant, and known as the "First Lady of Tombstone." Ethel died there on August 3, 1964.

It is impossible to exaggerate her role over half a century as Tombstone's leading personality, perennial consultant, and officer not only for historical groups but also for the Arizona Children's Home, Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society, University of Arizona, and boards of several local hospitals. In addition to her long (1881-1964) association with the town of Tombstone, she had been intimately intertwined with the local mining community where her husband was a leading figure. Her family still owns and runs the Rose Tree Museum and has extensive real estate holdings in town to this day.1

1Sources abound about her. A good starting place is the Arizona Daily Star, July 16, 2017, 1hich also includes a photo of her at the Rose Tree Inn. See also Dorothy Devere, The Lady of the Rose: Ethel Robertson Macia (Tombstone: Devere Publications, 1993). For "intruder" please see AZ D. Orb Dec 30, 1899. For Ethel in court please see Tombstone Weekly Epitaph, July 1, 1900, p1. Co-author de Haas tours about town with Macia relative Robert Devere in ~1998 and multiple conversations over the past ~30 years regarding the Pioneer Robertson/Macia/Devere family. Please see also the Rose Tree Museum website and thank you to owner Jeff Devere (Robert's Cousin and son of Burton Devere, Jr) for use of site/photos …. - Robertson - Macia Family · Rose Tree Museum (tombstonerosetree.com).

Ethel Macia

SEE YOU AT THE ROUNDUP