Saddlebag Newsletter

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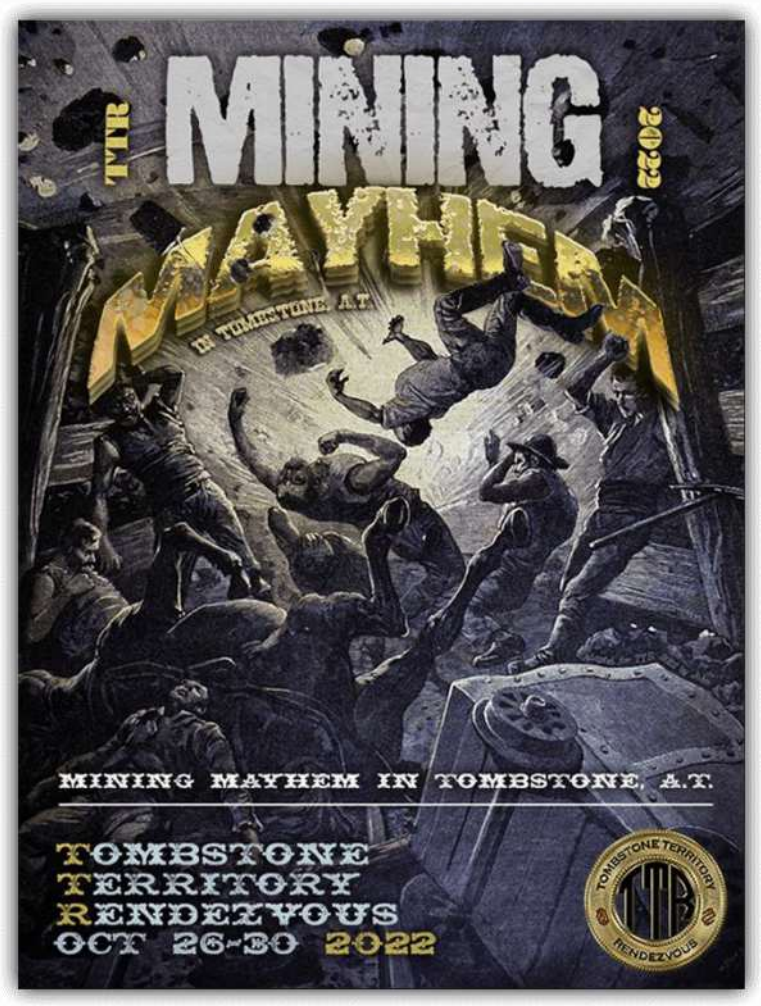
A supplement to the WWHA *Journal*
Available On-Line via www.wildwesthistory.org

Welcome to the *Saddlebag* Newsletter. The latest information is headed by the date of posting. Previously posted information will be found by date further down on this page in the list of available newsletters. All 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.

September 9, 2022



Tombstone Territory Rendezvous and WWHA Regional Roundup, October 26-30, 2022

Theme: Mining Mayhem in Tombstone A.T. "Pickaxes, Pistols, & Prostitutes"

Emcee: Eric Erdman

Presenters:
Bill Cavaliere - "Mining: Death in the Depths"
Doug Hocking - "Mining from Prospecting Color to Sinking a Shaft"
Chuck Hornung - "Tracking the Trackers"
Paul Johnson and Mike Mihaljevich - "Frank McLaury, Miner"
Kurt House - "Guns of the Outlaws and Lawmen"
Craig McEwan - "California Mining District & Its Relation to Tombstone"
Bob Palmquist - "Case of the Last Decision Mine" Arizona Justice Forum
Pam Potter and Company - "You Are There at the OK Corral"
Chuck Smith - "Mining, Milling, & Metallurgical Practices"
Jean Smith - "Robert Winders: A Mexican War Veteran to a Tombstone Miner"
Nancy Sosa - "Tombstone's First Explorer"
Gil Storms - "George Parsons, Tombstone Miner"
Ron Woggon - "Murder in the Tombstone Mining District: Before the Earps" and "Tombstone Miners Strike - 1884"
Roy Young - "George Hearst - Wyatt Earp: Another 'Wyatt Whopper?'"

Registration, Luncheon, Gunfights & More at the
World Famous Oriental Saloon
"Home to the Legends of Tombstone"

- **Presentation will be held in the 1881 Schieffelin Hall.**
- **Hand Drilling & Assaying Demonstrations at the Goodenough Mine.**
- **Book Panel with Roy Young, Bob Palmquist, and Garth Gould.**
- **Lunch with Jose Torres & Debbie Ramsey, "Feeding Miners in the 1880s."**
- **Arizona Territorial Justice Forum - "Bidwell Heirs vs Richard Gird.**
- **Field trip to Fairbank and Grand Central Mill Ruins, led by Gil Storms.**
- **Special Movie Presentation.**
- **Saturday Night Dinner at the Tombstone Monument Ranch.**
- **Sunday Cowboy Church**
- **DRAWINGS, SNACKS CAMARADERIE & MUCH MORE!**

Registration Forms Available on BJ's Tombstone Discussion Board
https://nediscapp.herokuapp.com/Indices/39627.html
October 1st - Registration Deadline

September Edition of WWHA *Journal*

The September edition of WWHA *Journal* was mailed to the membership on Tuesday, September 6th. Look for it in your mailbox, soon!

The next issue will be December and will feature some great articles: Daniel Buck and Anne Meadows, "The Sundance Kid in Chile: Boyds Will Be Boyds," Robert J. Stahl, The Last Years and Death of John William Poe, Anastasia Sitnina, "Becoming Doc: John Henry Holliday and his classmates at the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery," Roger Myers, "'Catch and Release,' The Captures and Escapes of 'Dutch Henry' Born - 'The Most Noted Horse Thief on the Border.'"

Annual Roundup Report

Lewis Harrell, WWHA Advisory Board

In July of 2022, the Wild West History Association met for its fifteenth annual Roundup (counting the two cancelled meetings in Fort Smith). After a two-year break due to COVID restrictions, it was great to see everyone again. My family and I arrived on Tuesday, July 19th, at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center, a large, comfortable hotel which hosted the conference this year. Sam and Elizabeth Weathers hosted an informal reception in the evening, with some hors d'oeuvres and drinks for the officers, board members, speakers, early arrivals, etc.

The next day, WWHA held its pre-conference board meeting. In this meeting, the board addressed its social media presence and general advertisement of the organization, the re-election of officers and board members, and other pressing issues. The opening reception took place in the evening, and we enjoyed a buffet-style dinner prepared by the hotel catering staff. This was a great opportunity to talk with old friends and meet new people. During this time, the Bill Hunley family presented a special memorial in remembrance of the WWHA members we lost within the three few years.

On Thursday, we began the conference with a welcome from the Pennington County Sheriff and the Mayor of Rapid City. Most of the rest of the day, many authors and historians gave presentations on the rich history of South Dakota and some of its famous and infamous characters. In between these presentations, we were encouraged to visit the many vendors in the conference room. Many of these vendors sold books about the Old West, such as Roy Young, Tim Hagaman, Bill O'Neal, Mark Gardner, Victoria Wilcox, Doc Shores, and Kurt House. Some other vendors attending were Ron Woggon and Jean Smith advertising Tombstone Territory Rendezvous, that includes a Regional Roundup and is held every October in Tombstone, Arizona; Peg Aplan displaying her personal collection, Richard Carlson representing the Historic Black Hills Studios in Deadwood, and the WWHA silent & live auction, including items donated by the families of Bob McCubbin, Bob DeArment, as well as WWHA members Bob Sobba and Paul Marquez, to name only a few.

Friday started off with an early breakfast as this was the day on which we would have our bus trip. First, we went to the majestic sculpture that is Mount Rushmore. While we were admiring it and taking photos, John Boessenecker recommended that we check out the museum below the visitor center. The museum showcased the process the sculptor used to carve the faces. After Mount Rushmore, we went to the Crazy Horse Memorial. Despite the fact that the sculpture was started 70 years ago, the memorial will most likely not be finished for many, many years, as it is a highly ambitious project set to take up the entirety of a mountain. The part which has been completed, the face, is highly detailed, and sets a standard to which future construction will cohere. After a nice lunch at the restaurant which sits on-site, we moved on to Deadwood. Deadwood is a famous old town in South Dakota where "Wild Bill" Hickok was shot and killed. When we arrived, there was an option to join a city bus tour which we unfortunately missed. Instead, we walked around the town, where there were a number of museums, shops, and casinos in town. In particular, we visited the Adams Museum, which had many artifacts illustrating life in Deadwood. We left Deadwood to go to dinner at Fort Hayes's dinner theater. There, we ate a chuck wagon dinner, accompanied by a 5-piece band playing well-known songs from many ages, specifically the 1950s through the late '90s. Many members of the audience joined in and enjoyed the variety of music. We returned to the hotel to get some much-needed rest.

The final day of the roundup began with a business meeting and the election of board members and officers. Roy Young and Doc Shores then began our memorial service, known as "The Last Roundup". Afterwards, Bill Hunley's granddaughter Arabella played the piano and sang a few songs in a moving tribute to all those we have lost in the last few years. After a few presentations, we got to view a rough cut of the movie made by the board of directors at Bill Koch's ranch, depicting the capture of John Wesley Hardin. This was a fun experience and it was nice to finally see it on video. Later on, Mark Gardner and his son, Vance, played the banjo and fiddle. Mark explained the origins of the "Ballad of Jesse James." The formal presentations ended and the "Gunfighter" group met for lunch. Here, we shared gifts we all brought from our home states with the other members. We concluded our Roundup with an exquisite banquet, followed by a live auction. Our night ended with live entertainment from a 5-piece western swing band called 3 Trails West. The Roundup was a fun and entertaining way to spend time with friends, make new friends, and above all, to learn history.

"Windy" Cahill, First Man Killed by Billy the Kid, Receives New Headstone

By *Doss Boot* with contributions from *Josh Slatten*

On Friday, August 17, 1877, Francis "Windy" Cahill was in George Atkins Cantina, set just outside the military reservation of Fort Grant, Arizona. While playing cards, Cahill had words with Henry Antrim, also known as "Kid" Antrim. Cahill called Antrim a "pimp." Antrim returned the insult by calling "Windy" a "sonofabitch." At that, the two became engaged in a physical altercation. Cahill threw the skinny teenager to the floor, pinned his arms with his knees, and began slapping the young Antrim. Despite being pinned down, the "Kid" squirmed his arm free, retrieved the pistol from his trousers, and fired point blank into Cahill's side. He was taken to nearby Fort Grant, but nothing could be done to save his life. Cahill died that day, August 18, 1877. (Source: Nolan, Frederick. "West of Billy the Kid." University of Oklahoma Press. 1998.) "The Records of Internments made in the Post Cemetery" show that "a citizen," description unknown, was buried in grave no. 12 on August 19. It would seem likely this could have been

Cahill." Even should it be the remains of another person, Cahill, at long last, has a marker to remember him by.

This cemetery is now known as the Bonita Cemetery, but in an interesting twist, the land was never deeded or surveyed as a cemetery. As far as the state of Arizona is concerned, it doesn't even exist. The current landowner will allow visits only from people who are either relatives, or have a local tie to the community and plan to be buried there. The landowner family has spent quite a sum of money with the upkeep, and twice a year, the prison work crew comes and cleans out the weeds.

Over the last two years, the Billy the Kid's Historical Coalition has been on a journey to mark the graves of known Billy associates and forgotten players of the Lincoln County War. In 2021, they successfully installed a new headstone for Regulator Jose Chavez y Chavez, and during "Old Lincoln Days" on August 5, 2022, they installed the first-ever headstone for Deputy James Carlyle. The new "Windy" Cahill headstone was funded by Coalition Board member Jerry Prather, and on September 2, 2022, it was personally placed by Coalition member Michael Anthony Giudicissi.

WWHA Social Media Report

By *Pam Potter*

Our YouTube Channel has had 10,700 views in the last 28 days. Chasing Billy the Kid, Roy and Kurt's video has had the most views during that time. It has received 9,330 views since it was published. Jack Hays video is still our most viewed at 88,139.

Our Instagram account which has only been up 3 weeks, has tripled in size over the last week. And, the WWHA Facebook page has over 13,000 members.

We are now posting weekly blogs. On our website, click on the Blog tab to read our informative posts.